

Student Essay on One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest

One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest by Ken Kesey

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Essay

The novel *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* is narrated in the first person point-of-view by Chief Bromden. This is important because Chief Bromden tells the story as it appears to him through a hallucinated fog.

Chief Bromden pretends to be dead throughout the novel, and because of this Nurse Ratched allows him to sweep during the staff-only meetings. This gives him access to secret staff-only conversations that are kept from the other patients, thus allowing a greater understanding of what goes on in the Combine. Chief Bromden isn't only telling the story about Randle McMurphy, but also about his own path to sanity.

Chief Bromden is the son of Chief Tee Ah Milltoona, a previous leader of a Columbian tribe. Chief Bromden tends to tie his own history with the story; In one page he compares his father to McMurphy.

It is obvious he isn't telling things from your average perspective, but more of an odd view on things. In one chapter, Bromden describes Nurse Ratched transforming into a machine.

In another one of Bromden's experiences three government officials come to talk with Bromden's father. Bromden tries speaking to the officials; however, all of them act as if he doesn't exist. From this point on he begins to see people differently.