

How to think like a fish and other lessons from a Workbook

How to Think Like a Fish and Other Lessons from a Marine Perspective

Understanding the world from a fish's point of view might seem like a whimsical or even impossible task. However, exploring how fish perceive their environment can offer valuable insights into adaptation, survival, and even human behavior. In this article, we delve into the lessons we can learn by thinking like a fish and how these insights can be applied to our lives, work, and relationships. From sensory perception to social dynamics, adopting a fish's perspective can broaden our understanding of the natural world and ourselves.

Why Think Like a Fish?

Gaining a Different Perspective

Thinking like a fish encourages us to step outside our human-centric worldview. Fish live in complex aquatic environments where light, movement, and social cues differ vastly from terrestrial settings. By imagining their perspective, we challenge our assumptions and develop a more nuanced understanding of different ecosystems and behaviors.

Lessons in Adaptability and Resilience

Fish have thrived in diverse environments—from freshwater streams to the depths of the ocean—by constantly adapting their behavior and physiology. Emulating their resilience can inspire us to navigate our own challenges more effectively.

Enhancing Problem-Solving Skills

Fish often must solve problems related to finding food, avoiding predators, and navigating turbulent waters. Thinking like a fish can hone our problem-solving abilities, encouraging us to consider alternative solutions and think creatively under pressure.

Lessons from a Fish's Perspective

1. Sensory Perception and Awareness

Understanding the Fish's Senses

Fish rely heavily on their senses to survive. Their sensory systems include:

- Lateral line system: Detects vibrations and water movements.
- Olfaction: Senses chemicals in the water for food and danger signals.
- Vision: Often adapted to see in low light or murky waters.
- Chemoreception: Detects taste and smell in the water.

Lesson: Heighten Your Awareness

Much like fish detect subtle changes in their environment, we can improve our awareness by paying close attention to:

- Small cues in social interactions
- Changes in our surroundings
- Emotional signals from others

This heightened awareness helps us respond more effectively and anticipate problems before they escalate.

2. Adaptation to Environment

Fish's Environmental Flexibility

Different species have adapted uniquely to their habitats?some are slow-moving bottom dwellers, others are swift pelagic swimmers. They adapt their behavior and physiology accordingly.

Lesson: Be Flexible and Resilient

In our lives, circumstances change rapidly. To thrive:

- Embrace change instead of resisting it.
- Develop multiple skills to handle various situations.
- Adjust your expectations based on new information.

This adaptability ensures survival and growth, just as it does for fish in dynamic aquatic environments.

3. Efficient Navigation and Movement

Fish's Navigational Skills

Many fish use environmental cues, such as currents, magnetic fields, and visual landmarks, to find their way.

Lesson: Navigate with Purpose

Effective navigation involves:

- Setting clear goals
- Using available resources and cues
- Adjusting your course as needed

Whether in career paths or personal projects, purposeful navigation helps you reach your destination efficiently.

4. Social Behavior and Group Dynamics

Schooling and Cooperation

Many fish species swim in schools for protection and increased foraging efficiency. Their synchronized movements demonstrate complex social coordination.

Lesson: Value Collaboration

In human contexts, teamwork and cooperation often lead to better outcomes. Key takeaways include:

- Communicate clearly with team members
- Synchronize efforts towards common goals
- Recognize the strength in community and shared purpose

5. Survival Instincts and Risk Management

Fish's Response to Threats

When threatened, fish employ strategies such as rapid escape, hiding, or blending into their

surroundings.

Lesson: Manage Risks Strategically

We can learn to:

- Recognize potential threats early
- Develop contingency plans
- Stay calm under pressure

This proactive approach enhances resilience and safety in complex situations.

Applying Fish-Inspired Lessons to Human Life

Enhancing Personal Awareness

Just as fish rely on their senses, humans can sharpen their perception by:

- Practicing mindfulness
- Listening actively in conversations
- Observing non-verbal cues

This leads to better relationships and decision-making.

Fostering Adaptability and Growth

Embrace change by:

- Seeking new experiences
- Learning from failures
- Being open to feedback

This mindset aligns with the fish's ability to thrive in diverse conditions.

Building Stronger Social Connections

Like schooling fish, humans benefit from:

- Building networks of support
- Collaborating with others
- Sharing resources and knowledge

Strong social bonds can improve both personal and professional outcomes.

Strategic Problem-Solving

Approach challenges by:

- Analyzing the environment
- Using available resources creatively
- Remaining flexible in your strategies

This adaptive thinking can lead to innovative solutions.

Challenges to Thinking Like a Fish

Overcoming Human Biases

Humans often see the world through a limited lens. To think like a fish:

- Question assumptions
- Consider alternative perspectives
- Practice empathy towards different ways of perceiving reality

Learning to Let Go of Control

Fish accept water currents and environmental unpredictability. Similarly, humans can:

- Accept uncertainty
- Focus on what can be controlled
- Cultivate patience and resilience

Practical Exercises to Think Like a Fish

1. Mindfulness Water Exercise

- Sit quietly and imagine yourself submerged in water.
- Pay attention to sensations, sounds, and movements around you.
- Notice how your perception shifts and adapt your awareness accordingly.

2. Observation Journaling

- Observe your environment or social interactions.
- Record subtle cues and your responses.
- Reflect on how awareness influences your actions.

3. Flexibility Challenges

- Try new routines or switch tasks unexpectedly.
- Embrace discomfort as a growth opportunity.
- Develop resilience through adaptability.

Conclusion: Embracing the Fish's Wisdom

Thinking like a fish isn't about losing our human traits but about adopting a mindset of heightened perception, adaptability, and cooperation. These lessons from aquatic life teach us the importance of awareness, resilience, and strategic movement through life's complexities. By integrating these insights, we can navigate our personal and professional waters more effectively, emerging stronger, wiser, and more connected to the environment around us. So, next time you face a challenging situation, consider how a fish might perceive it, and let that perspective guide your response.

How to Think Like a Fish and Other Lessons from a World of Water

Introduction

In a world increasingly dominated by human-centric perspectives, we often overlook the profound insights that can be gained from observing and understanding other species. Among these, fish—despite their silent, often underestimated presence—offer a wealth of lessons about adaptation, perception, communication, and resilience. The idea of “thinking like a fish” might sound whimsical, but it encapsulates a broader philosophy: embracing different ways of perceiving and navigating the world to enhance our own understanding. This guide delves into the core lessons we can learn from fish, exploring their sensory worlds, social behaviors, survival strategies, and how these insights can inform our approach to life.

The Significance of Seeing the World Through a Fish's Eyes

- Understanding Fish Sensory Perception

Fish inhabit an environment vastly different from our terrestrial experience. Their sensory systems are specialized and finely tuned to their aquatic habitat:

- Lateral Line System:

Fish possess a lateral line—a series of fluid-filled canals along their body—that detects vibrations, water currents, and movement nearby. This allows them to sense predators, prey, and obstacles without visual cues.

- Electroreception:

Some fish, like electric eels and rays, generate electric fields and detect distortions in these fields, aiding in navigation, prey detection, and communication.

- Enhanced Olfactory System:

Fish rely heavily on their sense of smell to find food, navigate, and recognize mates or rivals, especially in murky waters where visibility is limited.

- Visual Adaptations:

Many fish have adapted to see well in low-light or turbid environments, with specialized eyes that filter different wavelengths of light.

- Lessons in Sensory Awareness

- Embrace Multiple Perspectives:

Just as fish use various sensory inputs to interpret their environment, humans can benefit from cultivating a multi-sensory awareness—listening more intently, observing subtle cues, and trusting intuition.

- Contextual Perception:

Fish interpret signals in a collective context, understanding the environment as a whole. Humans can learn to read situations holistically rather than in isolation.

Social Behavior and Communication in Fish

- Cooperative and Competitive Interactions

Many fish species display complex social behaviors that involve cooperation, competition, and hierarchical structures:

- Schooling Behavior:

Schooling provides protection from predators and improves foraging efficiency. Fish in schools move as a synchronized unit, with each individual adjusting to neighbors' movements.

- Territoriality and Dominance:

Some fish establish territories and compete for resources, using visual displays, colors, or physical contests.

- Mate Selection and Courtship:

Bright colors, specific movements, and vocalizations (in certain species) play roles in attracting mates.

- Lessons in Social Dynamics

- Coordination and Synchronization:

Fish demonstrate the importance of working together harmoniously, emphasizing that collective effort often surpasses individual action.

- Communication Without Words:

They rely on visual signals, vibrations, and chemical cues?reminding us that effective communication often transcends spoken language.

- Respect for Boundaries:

Territorial behaviors teach respect for personal space and resource management.

Adaptability and Resilience in the Face of Challenges

- Overcoming Environmental Challenges

Fish inhabit environments that are constantly changing?currents, temperature fluctuations, salinity variations, and pollution. Their survival depends on remarkable adaptability:

- Migration:

Salmon are famous for their long migrations upstream to spawn, demonstrating patience, endurance, and precise navigation.

- Coloration Changes:

Some species can change color to blend into their surroundings, avoid predators, or signal reproductive status.

- Breathing Adaptations:

Certain fish can extract oxygen from air or survive in low-oxygen environments, showcasing physiological resilience.

- Lessons in Flexibility and Endurance

- Embrace Change:

Fish exemplify the importance of adapting to new circumstances swiftly to survive.

- Use Environment to Advantage:

Their ability to read and respond to environmental cues underscores the value of situational awareness.

- Persistence Pays Off:

Migrations and breeding cycles teach perseverance and patience.

The Importance of Simplicity and Focus

- Minimalism in Movement and Action

Fish often operate with minimal energy expenditure, employing streamlined bodies and efficient movements:

- Streamlined Bodies:

Reduce resistance in water, enabling swift and energy-efficient travel.

- Selective Attention:

Focus on relevant stimuli?like predators or prey?while filtering out noise.

- Lessons in Efficiency

- Prioritize Essentials:

Fish teach us to focus on what truly matters, avoiding unnecessary distractions.

- Flow with the Environment:

Moving harmoniously with surroundings rather than resisting them leads to smoother navigation through life's currents.

Ethical and Ecological Lessons

- Interdependence of Ecosystems

Fish are integral to aquatic ecosystems?maintaining balance, nutrient cycles, and biodiversity:

- Keystone Species:

Some fish regulate populations of other species, illustrating interconnectedness.

- Pollution Sensitivity:

Environmental degradation affects fish populations, reminding us of the importance of ecological stewardship.

- Lessons in Responsibility

- Respect for Nature:

Understanding fish behavior fosters respect for all life forms and ecosystems.

- Sustainable Practices:

Responsible fishing and conservation efforts reflect lessons learned from fish about sustainability.

Applying Fish-Inspired Lessons to Human Life

- Cultivating Perception and Awareness

- Practice active listening and keen observation.

- Tune into subtle cues in social, professional, and personal contexts.
- Develop empathy by considering perspectives beyond your own.

- Enhancing Social Skills

- Emulate schooling behavior: coordinate efforts with others for collective success.
- Use non-verbal communication effectively?body language, tone, facial expressions.
- Respect boundaries and recognize the importance of community.

- Building Resilience and Adaptability

- View change as an opportunity for growth.
- Develop patience and endurance in pursuit of long-term goals.
- Be flexible in strategies?sometimes, streamlining and simplifying lead to better outcomes.

- Fostering Sustainability and Responsibility

- Recognize your role within larger systems?social, ecological, professional.
- Make mindful choices that promote balance and conservation.
- Advocate for practices that preserve natural habitats and biodiversity.

Conclusion

Thinking like a fish is more than a playful metaphor; it's a profound invitation to expand our perceptions, adapt with resilience, and foster harmony within ourselves and our environment. Fish demonstrate that survival depends on keen senses, social cohesion, adaptability, and respect for the interconnected web of life. By adopting these lessons, we can navigate our complex world with greater awareness, purpose, and compassion. Embracing the aquatic perspective enriches our understanding of life's subtle currents and helps us move through our waters with grace and insight.

Question What is the main concept behind 'how to think like a fish' in the book? The book emphasizes understanding different perspectives and adopting a mindset that values simplicity, curiosity, and adaptability, much like how a fish perceives its environment. How can thinking like a fish improve our problem-solving skills? By adopting a fish's perspective, we learn to approach

problems with curiosity and openness, focusing on the essentials and avoiding unnecessary complexity. What lessons does the book offer about adaptability from a fish's behavior? Fish constantly adapt to changing environments by being flexible and responsive, teaching us the importance of resilience and agility in facing life's challenges. How does 'thinking like a fish' relate to mindfulness and presence? Fish live in the moment, and the book suggests that adopting this mindset can help us become more mindful, reducing stress and improving our focus. What are some practical ways to apply lessons from 'how to think like a fish' in daily life? Practices include observing your environment more attentively, simplifying your mindset, embracing curiosity, and remaining adaptable to change. In what ways does the book connect the behavior of fish to leadership and teamwork? It highlights that fish operate effectively in groups through cooperation and communication, encouraging leaders to foster trust and collaboration. What is the significance of curiosity in the lessons from 'how to think like a fish'? Curiosity drives exploration and learning, enabling us to see new perspectives and find innovative solutions, much like a fish exploring its surroundings. Can thinking like a fish help in managing stress and emotions? Yes, adopting a fish-like mindset promotes calmness and acceptance, helping us stay centered and resilient in stressful situations.

Related keywords: fish behavior, aquatic intelligence, underwater survival, marine communication, fish cognition, oceanic adaptation, underwater environment, fish instincts, marine life lessons, aquatic psychology

PEOPLE LIKE US ENGLISH EDITION

People like us english edition has become a popular phrase in contemporary culture, resonating with audiences worldwide who seek stories, shows, and narratives that reflect their own experiences, values, and identities. This phrase often encapsulates themes of belonging, community, and shared understanding, making it a powerful title or concept for books, TV series, movies, and social movements. In this article, we explore the significance of 'people like us english edition,' its origins, cultural impact, and why it continues to resonate with diverse audiences across the globe.

Understanding the Concept of 'People Like Us' in English Culture

The Origin of the Phrase

The phrase 'people like us' has roots in colloquial English, often used to refer to individuals who share similar backgrounds, values, or experiences. Its usage can be traced back to social conversations emphasizing commonality and solidarity, especially among marginalized or

underrepresented groups. Over time, the phrase gained popularity through media, literature, and political discourse, becoming a way to foster a sense of community.

Its Cultural Significance

In modern contexts, "people like us" embodies the desire for inclusion and understanding. It promotes the idea that shared experiences can bridge gaps in race, class, gender, or sexuality. The phrase also hints at a collective identity that challenges societal divisions, fostering empathy and mutual support.

The Impact of "People Like Us" in Media and Entertainment

TV Series and Films

One of the most notable representations of "people like us" in media is the 2016 American drama film titled *People Like Us*, starring Chris Pine and Elizabeth Banks. The story revolves around a man reconnecting with his estranged family after his father's death, exploring themes of family secrets, reconciliation, and understanding.

In television, shows that focus on everyday life, struggles, and triumphs of ordinary people often carry the spirit of "people like us." Examples include:

- **Brooklyn Nine-Nine**: Celebrates diverse, relatable characters working in law enforcement, emphasizing community and friendship.
- **Shameless**: Chronicles the chaotic but heartfelt lives of a working-class family navigating economic hardships.

Literature and Books

Books that focus on authentic, relatable stories often appeal to "people like us" audiences. These narratives foster empathy and understanding by depicting everyday struggles and joys. Examples include:

- *The Glass Castle* by Jeannette Walls: An autobiographical tale of resilience and family bonds.
- *Little Fires Everywhere* by Celeste Ng: Explores complex social dynamics and personal identities in a suburban community.

Music and Cultural Movements

Music genres like folk, indie, and country have historically embodied the “people like us” ethos, emphasizing storytelling and authenticity. Artists such as Bob Dylan, Bruce Springsteen, and modern singer-songwriters create music that resonates with everyday experiences.

Cultural movements advocating for social justice, equality, and community empowerment also draw strength from this concept. They emphasize that collective voices of ordinary people can lead to meaningful change.

The Significance of “People Like Us” in the Modern Era

Fostering Inclusivity and Representation

In an increasingly globalized world, the phrase “people like us” encourages inclusivity by highlighting shared human experiences beyond superficial differences. Media and entertainment that embrace this perspective promote diverse representation, helping marginalized groups see themselves reflected on screen and in literature.

Building Community and Connection

Whether through social media, local initiatives, or global movements, the idea of “people like us” underscores the importance of community. It reminds us that our struggles, hopes, and dreams are often universal, fostering connections across different backgrounds.

Addressing Social and Economic Inequities

The phrase also has political implications, often used to rally support for policies aimed at reducing inequality. It emphasizes that societal progress depends on recognizing the common humanity of all people, especially those who are underserved or oppressed.

Why “People Like Us” Continues to Resonate in English Edition

Authenticity and Relatability

In a media landscape saturated with polished, often unattainable images, stories that reflect “people like us” stand out because of their authenticity. Audiences crave genuine narratives that mirror their own lives, creating a sense of comfort and validation.

Universal Themes

Themes such as love, hardship, hope, and resilience are central to “people like us” stories. Their universality makes them accessible and meaningful across different cultures and societies.

Empowerment and Identity

The phrase empowers individuals by affirming their experiences and identities. It encourages people to embrace their uniqueness while recognizing their place within a broader community.

How to Incorporate ?People Like Us? in Your Content Strategy for SEO

Keyword Optimization

To leverage the popularity of ?people like us english edition,? consider integrating relevant keywords into your content:

- People like us
- Relatable stories
- Inclusive media
- Authentic storytelling
- Community narratives

Content Ideas

Develop content that appeals to audiences seeking relatable and authentic stories:

- Profiles of everyday heroes and community members
- Stories of overcoming adversity
- Interviews with creators producing ?people like us? content
- Guides on creating inclusive narratives in media

Engagement Strategies

Encourage audience participation through:

- Sharing personal stories on social media
- Creating community forums or groups
- Hosting webinars or podcasts featuring relatable topics

Conclusion

"People like us" English edition encapsulates a universal desire for connection, understanding, and representation. From media and literature to social movements, this concept emphasizes that shared experiences foster empathy and community. As society continues to evolve, embracing the "people like us" ethos can help bridge divides, promote inclusivity, and celebrate the richness of everyday human stories. For content creators, marketers, and communities alike, understanding and leveraging this phrase's power can lead to more authentic engagement and meaningful connections with audiences worldwide.

People Like Us English Edition: Exploring the Cultural and Linguistic Significance of a Global Phrase

Introduction

People like us English edition has emerged as a phrase that resonates across cultures, social groups, and media landscapes. It encapsulates themes of identity, belonging, and shared experiences, often serving as a rallying cry for communities seeking recognition and connection. In this article, we delve into the origins, cultural implications, and modern usage of this captivating phrase, examining how it has evolved from colloquial expressions to a symbol of collective identity in a globalized world.

The Origins of "People Like Us"

Historical Roots and Early Usage

The phrase "people like us" is not a recent innovation. Its roots can be traced back to various contexts where groups sought to distinguish themselves from others. Historically, such expressions appeared in social movements, political rhetoric, and literature to emphasize shared traits or experiences.

- Literary Origins: The phrase appeared in early 20th-century literature, often used to evoke solidarity among characters or communities facing common struggles.
- Political Contexts: During social upheavals, leaders would invoke "people like us" to foster unity among marginalized or oppressed groups.
- Everyday Speech: Over time, it seeped into colloquial language, becoming a familiar way for individuals to express camaraderie with similar backgrounds or lifestyles.

Evolution into Popular Culture

With the rise of mass media, "people like us" gained popularity as a relatable, inclusive phrase. Films, music, and television shows began to adopt the terminology, often to create a sense of authenticity or to rally audiences around shared values.

"People Like Us" in Modern Media and Society

The Phrase in Film and Television

One of the most prominent instances of "people like us" in popular culture is the 2012 film titled "People Like Us," directed by Alex Kurtzman. The film explores themes of family secrets, identity, and reconciliation, with the title emphasizing the universal experiences of its characters.

- Themes Explored:
- Family bonds and secrets
- Personal identity and self-discovery
- Social class and economic disparities

Beyond the film, television series and documentaries frequently utilize the phrase to highlight marginalized communities or to promote messages of inclusivity.

Music and Lyrics

Musicians have also harnessed "people like us" to foster connection and convey shared struggles:

- Song Titles and Lyrics: Several songs include the phrase to express unity among listeners or fans, emphasizing that they are not alone in their experiences.
- Genres: From pop to indie and hip-hop, "people like us" resonates across musical genres as a symbol of collective resilience.

Social Media and Internet Culture

In the digital age, "people like us" has become a hashtag and meme to rally online communities. Platforms like Twitter, TikTok, and Reddit see users sharing stories, memes, and posts under banners like PeopleLikeUs to foster solidarity.

- Online Communities: Support groups, hobbyist networks, and advocacy pages often use the phrase to underscore commonalities.
- Memetic Usage: Variants and memes have emerged, such as "people like us do things like this," humorously highlighting shared behaviors or attitudes.

Cultural and Sociological Significance

Identity and Belonging

At its core, "people like us" encapsulates the human desire for connection. It fosters a sense of belonging, providing comfort in the acknowledgment of shared traits, experiences, or values.

- In-group vs. Out-group Dynamics: The phrase often delineates boundaries, affirming who is part of the community versus outsiders.
- Bridging Divides: Conversely, it can be used to bridge gaps, emphasizing commonalities across diverse backgrounds.

The Role in Social Movements

Many social movements leverage the phrase to build solidarity:

- LGBTQ+ Communities: "People like us" is used to affirm identity and challenge societal norms.
- Economic Class Movements: Workers and marginalized groups adopt the phrase to unite against systemic inequalities.
- Cultural Revivals: Minority groups utilize it to preserve language, traditions, and identity.

Commercial and Marketing Uses

Brands and marketing campaigns have adopted "people like us" to appeal to target demographics, emphasizing authenticity and relatability.

- Authentic Branding: Using the phrase to show alignment with everyday consumers.
- Inclusive Campaigns: Demonstrating diversity and shared values to foster brand loyalty.

The Digital Age and Globalization

The Phrase in a Global Context

While "people like us" originated in specific cultural milieus, globalization has transformed its reach. The phrase now appears in multiple languages and contexts, fostering cross-cultural understanding.

- Localization and Translation: The phrase has equivalents in many languages, often retaining its core message of shared identity.
- Global Movements: International campaigns use the phrase to emphasize unity across borders,

such as climate change activism or human rights advocacy.

Challenges and Criticisms

Despite its positive connotations, "people like us" can sometimes reinforce exclusivity or stereotypes.

- Potential for Elitism: The phrase may inadvertently create in-groups that exclude others.
- Cultural Appropriation: Misuse by outsiders can dilute its significance or offend communities it aims to unite.

The Future of "People Like Us"

Trends and Predictions

As society continues to evolve, so will the usage of "people like us."

- Increased Emphasis on Intersectionality: Future iterations may focus on overlapping identities?race, gender, class, and more.
- Digital Activism: Online movements will likely sustain and transform the phrase into new formats and platforms.
- Commercialization: Expect continued branding uses, balanced with efforts to promote genuine inclusivity.

The Power of Shared Identity in a Fragmented World

In an era marked by polarization and division, "people like us" serves as a rallying cry for empathy and connection. Whether in social movements, entertainment, or digital communities, the phrase underscores the universal human need to find kinship in shared experiences.

Conclusion

People like us english edition exemplifies the enduring human pursuit of connection and belonging. From its historical roots in literature and social movements to its contemporary prominence in media, music, and online communities, the phrase encapsulates a universal message: that despite our differences, there are common threads that unite us all. As society navigates the complexities of identity, diversity, and globalization, "people like us" remains a powerful reminder of our shared humanity and the importance of community in shaping our collective future.

Question What is the main theme of 'People Like Us' English edition? 'People Like Us' explores themes of identity, community, and the human connections that bind us despite differences. Who are the authors of 'People Like Us' English edition? The book is written by a diverse group of authors, each sharing personal stories that highlight commonalities across different backgrounds. Is 'People Like Us' suitable for all age groups? The book is primarily aimed at young adults and adults, offering mature themes and reflections on social issues. Where can I purchase the English edition of 'People Like Us'? You can find 'People Like Us' English edition on major online retailers like Amazon, Barnes & Noble, and in select bookstores worldwide. Has 'People Like Us' received any awards or recognitions? Yes, the book has been recognized for its impactful storytelling and was awarded the [relevant award], highlighting its significance in contemporary literature. Are there any adaptations of 'People Like Us' available? As of now, there are no official film or television adaptations, but the book has inspired several community discussions and reading groups. What age group is 'People Like Us' most relevant for? The book is particularly relevant for teenagers and young adults who are exploring themes of social identity and acceptance. How does 'People Like Us' contribute to conversations about diversity? 'People Like Us' provides personal narratives that foster empathy and understanding, making it a valuable resource in promoting diversity and inclusion.

Related keywords: people like us, english edition, novel, romance, contemporary fiction, LGBTQ, coming of age, friendship, family, identity

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