**Textual analysis** **pag.224**

The intention of the author is to make the reader understand the mood of Ethan and Mattie, are very sad and melancholy, because that day would be the last day that they would spend together. They were already late one day, but Ethan wanted to postpone again the moment when he would have to abandon it, and therefore decided to make her go down with sledding, just because they had never come down together if not once. They wanted to catch up on lost time, even though it was too late.

The narrative technique consists of a dialogue between the two, where Ethan proposed his idea to Mattie. There is also a description of the place, of the cheerful mood of the children, as opposed to their moods. The children had returned from school, so they were quiet, free, instead Ethan and Mattie were distressed.

The function of the chapter is to warn the reader of Ethan's desire to spend time still with Mattie. The children are also allegorically Ethan and Mattie because the two characters have a personality very similar to that of a child: they are impulsive, they are subjected by society or other people, they are incapable of taking initiatives, they are incapable of make serious decisions. The problem is that they are adults and therefore their behavior is not as justified as that of children. Once again Ethan acts without thinking much, listening only to his feelings of the moment and Mattie induls him, because she is very naïve too.

The setting is warm, the text is told that “Lights had begun to shine”. The light is as if it represented allegorically their joy of living of the moment. Even the sky is described as mild and again therefore the climatic conditions represent the mood of the characters.

Ethan doesn't look like a grown man looking at his behavior, he looks a lot more like a young boy. Does impulsive actions without thinking about the consequences. Because at that time was only with Mattie and therefore wanted to be seen as a man who loves the danger, able to make decisions. They were alone, no one was looking at them and so no one could reproach their behavior. Similarly Mattie does not reason as an adult, does not try to reason Ethan, but supports him. Even she thinks of the consequences, she lives too lightly.