

**Title:** Boxing the Modern Day Compass: How Technology Impacts Human Agency in Today's World

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Sandy Florian's novella *Boxing the Compass* dramatizes humanity's struggle to confront climate change in the context of personal experience, tragedy, and agency. The novella claims access to agency happens via engagement with technology. Those with greater agency can have a greater impact on society when compared to those who have less control over their daily lives. For instance, those in the top one percent of power have far more resources to combat climate change when compared to those residing in developing countries, people often struggling to sustain basic living conditions. In Florian's novella, the compass present in the plot acts as a metaphor for technology's interrelation with human agency. The story undoubtedly sends the message that widespread technology utilized optimally is extremely beneficial for everyone involved. Capitalist ideals have resulted in the improvement of technological and human interactions, whether for education, medicinal purposes, or social interactions (Sutton 13). Will the same be true with climate change? As the novella continues, it becomes evident Florian is giving the reader all points to box the compass, representing the compass' ability, as a form of technology, to give agency in human life. Throughout Sandy Florian's *Boxing the Compass*, humanity's fate is discussed, primarily through tragedy, mourning, and the ability to control the flow of one's life. With technology today soliciting human agency at the scale of the human species, Florian's novella dramatizes the access to agency via technology critical for modern society in the context of climate change.

## Works Cited

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