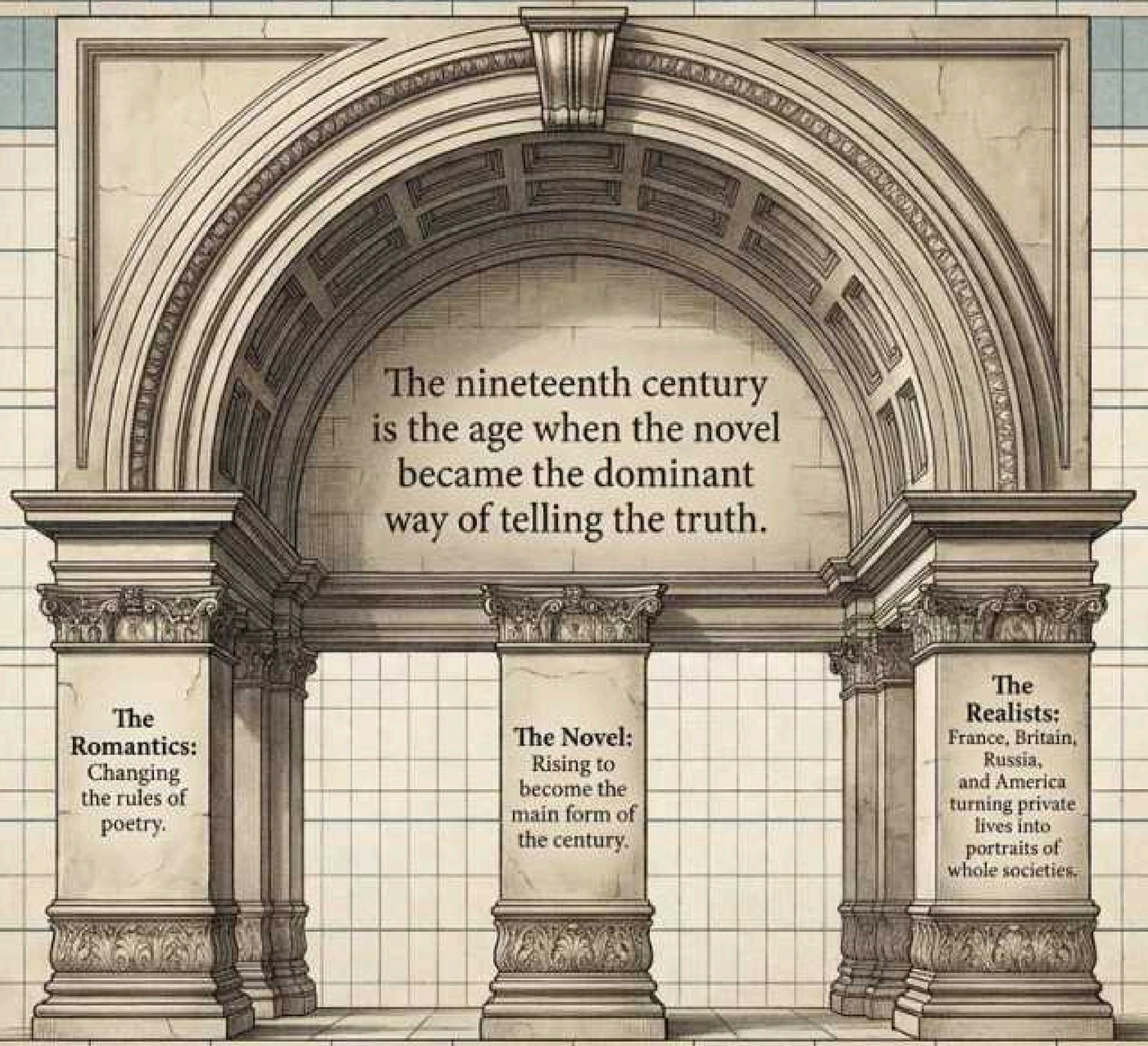
4.1



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4.2

The Past

Cold Reason & Strict Rules

1798: Lyrical Ballads

Wordsworth and Coleridge aim to use the language of ordinary speech.

Romanticism - Late 18th Century

Feeling, Nature, Imagination, and the Individual

> *the spontaneous overflow of powerful feelings recollected in tranquility.*
>
> William Wordsworth

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4.3

John Keats
Died at age 25. Odes of intense beauty.

Percy Shelley
Ozymandias: The ruins of a mighty king.

Lord Byron
Died young.

Mary Shelley

Masterpiece: Frankenstein

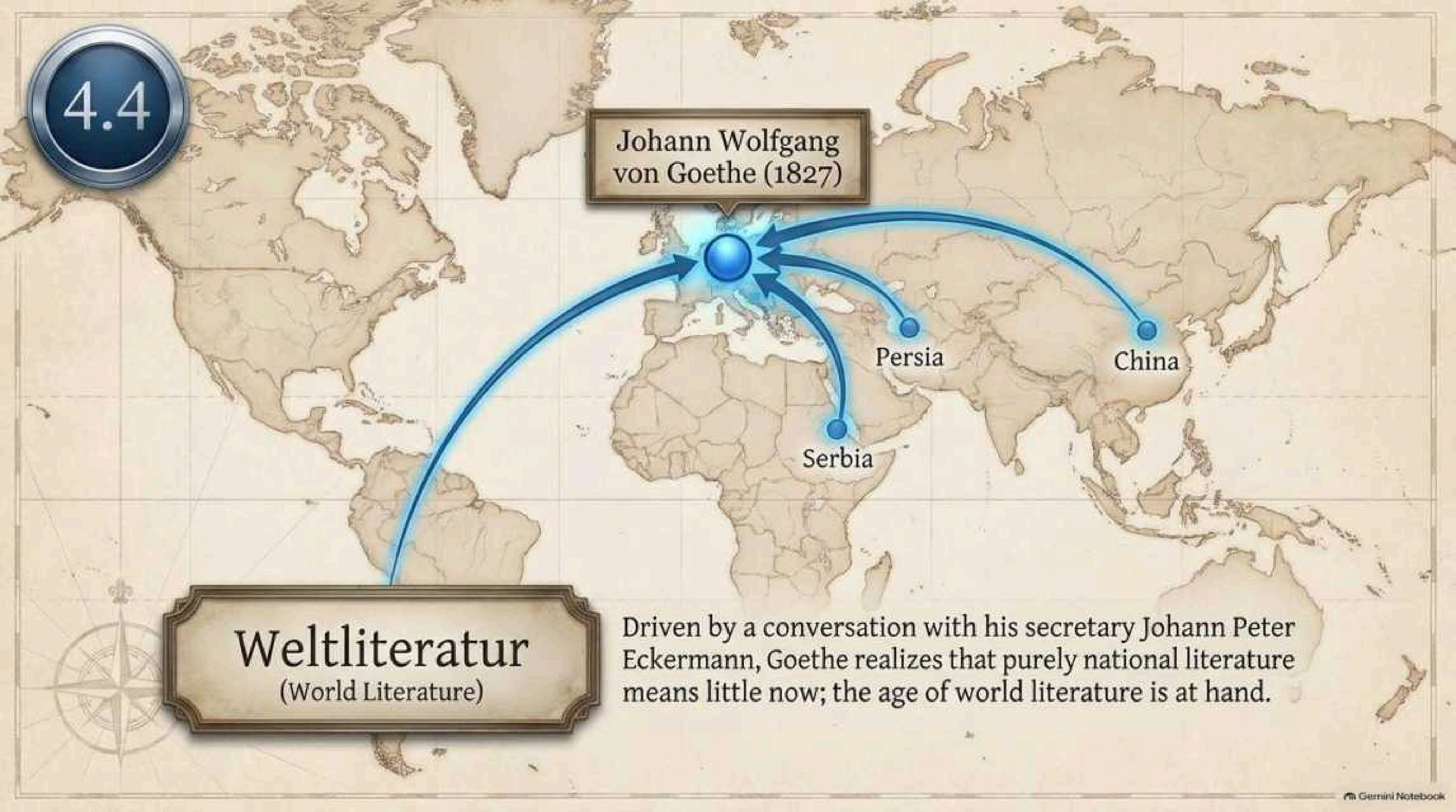
Began in 1816 at a villa near Lake Geneva, at age 18. Published in 1818.



?

What do we owe to what we create?

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4.4
Johann Wolfgang von Goethe (1827)
Persia
China
Serbia
Weltliteratur
(World Literature)
Driven by a conversation with his secretary Johann Peter Eckermann, Goethe realizes that purely national literature means little now; the age of world literature is at hand.

4.5

Jane Austen
Pride and Prejudice (1813)

Published without her name. Focused on young women, marriage, money, and country circles with exact irony and sharp views of society.

Free Indirect Discourse



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4.6

1847

A

Charlotte Brontë

Pseudonym: Currer Bell

Jane Eyre

A governess insisting on her own dignity and voice.

B

Emily Brontë

Pseudonym: Ellis Bell

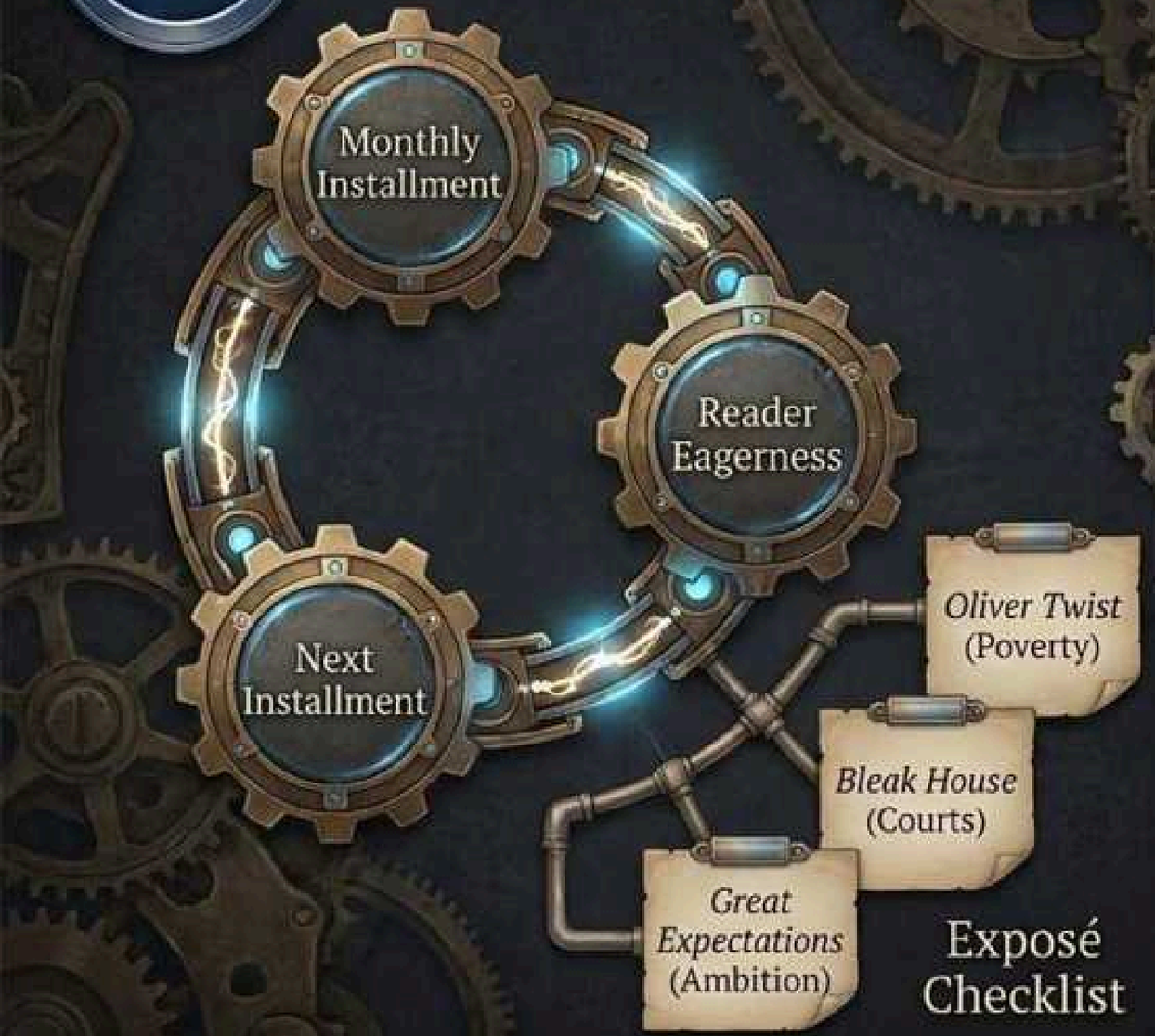
Wuthering Heights

A story of obsession and revenge.

Both works were initially received with shock, yet both evolved into enduring modern classics.

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4.7 The Serial Loop (Dickens)



Exposé Checklist

The Identity Strategy

Mary Ann Evans
(Real Name)

→

George Eliot
(Male pen name to be taken seriously)

Middlemarch (1871-72)

The ultimate macro-portrait of a whole provincial town.

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4.8

Macro (Society)

Honoré de Balzac
The Human Comedy

An immense planned cycle to portray all of French society.

Micro (The Word)

Gustave Flaubert

Intense care for precise style and the search for the exact word.

Prosecuted by the government for offending public morals, ending in his acquittal.

The Crisis

Madame Bovary (1857)

The story of a doctor’s wife ruined by romantic dreams.

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4.9

Hugo (1862):

Melodrama + Plea for the poor = Les Misérables

Following Jean Valjean through the barricades of Paris.

Zola (Naturalism):

Heredity × Environment = Human Fate

Germinal: A study of a miners' strike.

The novel transitions into a tool for rigorous social investigation.

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Elegant Exhibit

4.10

Fyodor Dostoevsky

1849: Death sentence, reprieved before the firing squad, exiled to Siberia.

Masterworks:
Crime and Punishment (1866)

The Brothers Karamazov (1880)



Thematic Core:
Probing guilt, doubt, and faith.

Polyphony (Mikhail Bakhtin)

Characters speaking in competing voices rather than echoing a single authorial truth.

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Elegant Exhibit

4.11

His novels outlived his choice.

The Epics

War and Peace (1869):

Families navigating Napoleon's 1812 invasion of Russia.

Anna Karenina (1878)

"Happy families are all alike; every unhappy family is unhappy in its own way."

The Renunciation

An abrupt pivot away from literature toward moral teaching.

Leo Tolstoy

(Veteran of the Crimean War)

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Elegant Exhibit

4.12

Henrik Ibsen
A Doll's House (1879)

The heroine Nora walks out of her marriage.

Audiences quarreled fiercely over duty and truth in men modern marriage and society.



Drama transitions from verse to ordinary speech and everyday dilemmas.

The slam of the door sounded across Europe.

Gemini Notebook

Elegant Exhibit

4.13

Prose / Contemporary

Nathaniel Hawthorne

The Scarlet Letter (1850)

Prose / Recognized Later

Herman Melville

Moby-Dick (1851)

A whaling story that turns into a study of obsession; sold poorly, recognized as a masterpiece only after the 1920s.

Poetry / Expansive

Walt Whitman

Leaves of Grass (1855)

Celebrating democracy in free verse.

Poetry / Intimate

Emily Dickinson

Short, original poems published posthumously, among the most original in English.

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Elegant Exhibit

4.14

Frederick Douglass
Narrative (1845)

Lived truth.

Mark Twain
Adventures of Huckleberry Finn (1884)

Written in youth speech, grappling with slavery through friendship with Jim.

Harriet Beecher Stowe
Uncle Tom's Cabin (1852)

Abolitionist fiction.

American writing taking up its central moral problem (slavery) and weaponizing the form of the book for a mass readership.

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Elegant Exhibit

4.15

An explicit attack on Spanish colonial rule.

Machado de Assis
The Posthumous Memoirs of Brás Cubas (1881)

Brazil

Philippines

José Rizal
Noli Me Tangere (1887)
An explicit attack on Spanish colonial rule.

Executed by Spanish authorities in 1896.

Novels were now arguments in the politics of nations.

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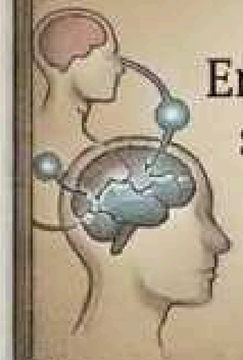
Elegant Exhibit

4.16

The Core Idea

Ordinary life deserves serious attention.

The Empathy Engine vs. The Dark Side



Entering other minds led to rising sympathy and political reform.

However, critics note the form could also serve empire.



The Benchmark



The 19th-century novel set the standard that all later writers had to meet or break.

The Mechanics of Power

Length: Readers living with characters for weeks.

Serialization: Whole communities waiting together for the next part.

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Elegant Exhibit

4.17

- [ ] Read the first chapter of *Pride and Prejudice* or *Anna Karenina*.
- [ ] Mark every sentence that tells you something about class.
- [ ] Ask: What did the author assume about the reader?

Next in Lecture 5: How writers broke the nineteenth-century mold.

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