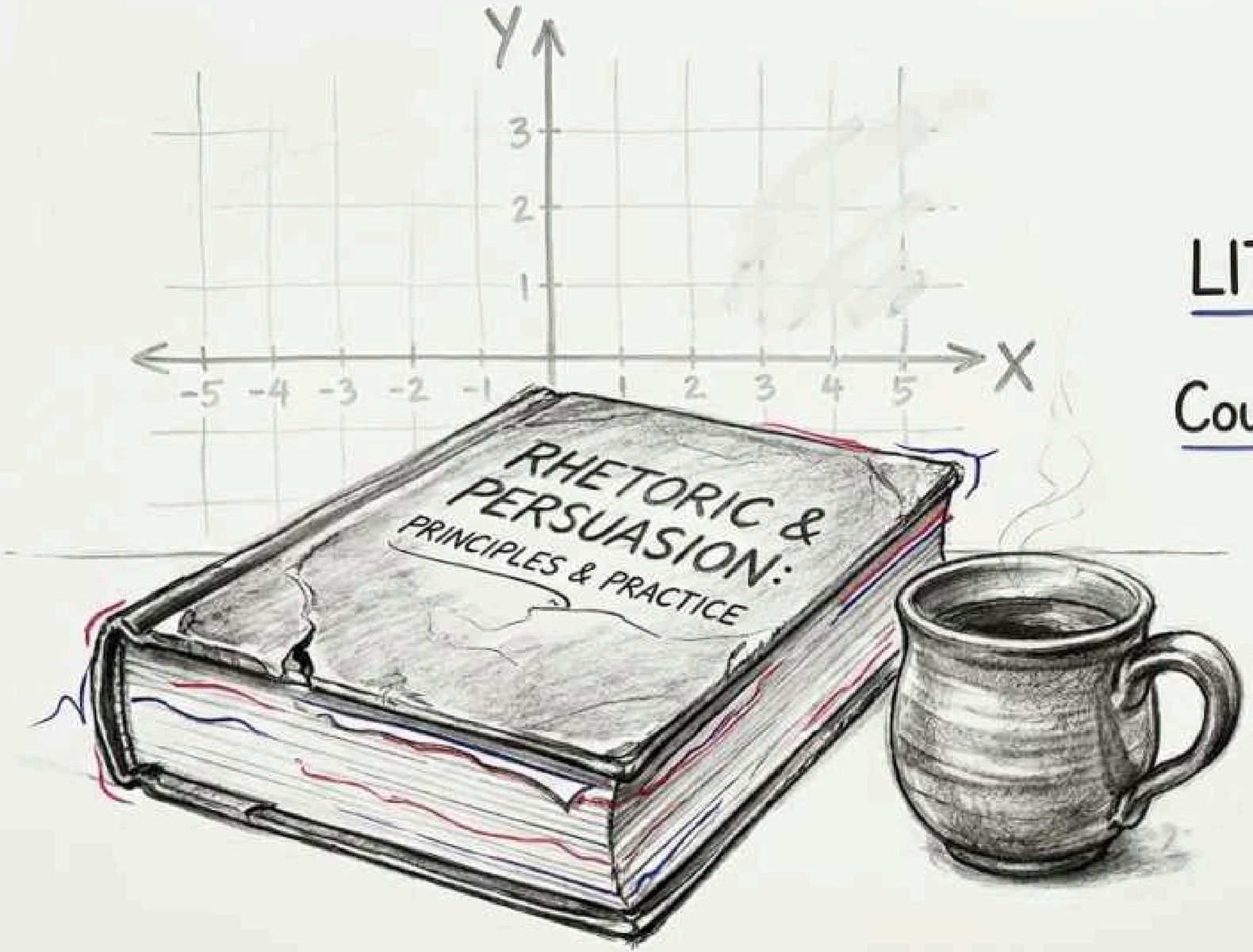


LIT 490 B — Lecture 0

Course Overview: Scott Adams

Course Overview: A Life of Persuasion and Principle

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¶ 0.1



Open Channels for Feedback

Direct your questions and course feedback to the instructor:

Email: garyanderson@mail.grokbot.com

X (Twitter): @garyanderson

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¶ 0.2

Anderson Academy

(A four-year library of university-level courses)

1.

$$\int_{\text{Intro}}^{\text{Final}} (\text{LIT 490 B})\, dt \approx 1 \text{ Hour}$$

2. Postgraduate Literature

(Focusing on Scott Adams: A Life of Persuasion and Principle)

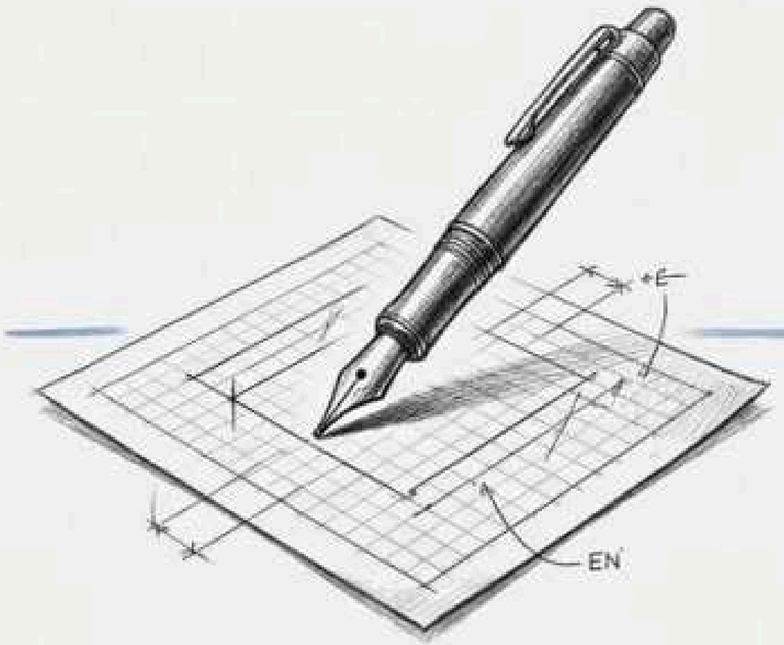
3. "B" indicates Brief

(An overview plus six short lectures, designed to be completed in roughly 60 minutes)

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The Foundational Text: Scott Adams: A Life of Persuasion and Principle, by Joel B. Pollak (Published 2026, the year of Adams's death).

¶ 0.3



Comic Creator
(Dilbert)



Bestselling Author
(Success and Persuasion)



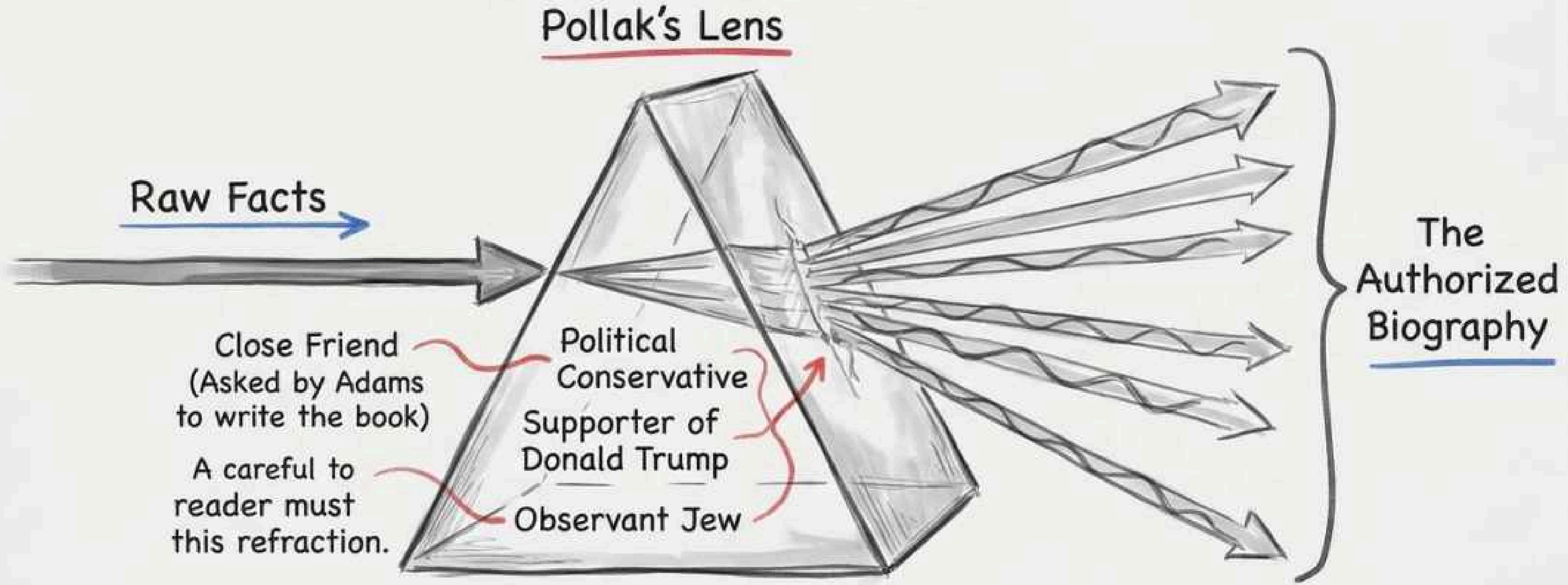
Daily Political Commentator
(Livestreaming to thousands)

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Authorial Transparency

¶ 0.4

Pollak explicitly states his unremovable biases.
A careful reader must account for this refraction.



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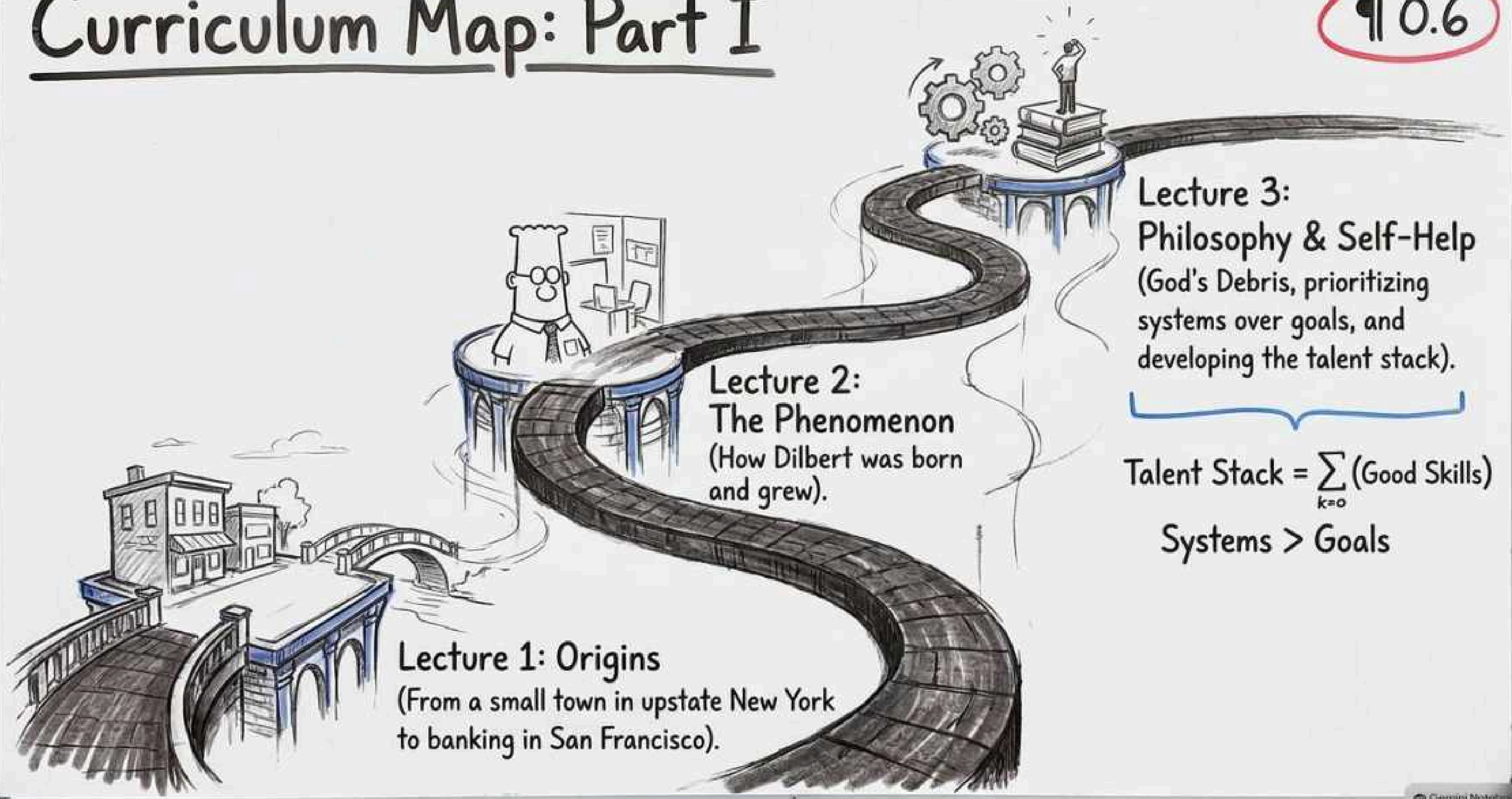
Source Material Inputs

¶ 0.5



Curriculum Map: Part I

¶ 0.6



Lecture 1: Origins
(From a small town in upstate New York to banking in San Francisco).

Lecture 2: The Phenomenon
(How Dilbert was born and grew).

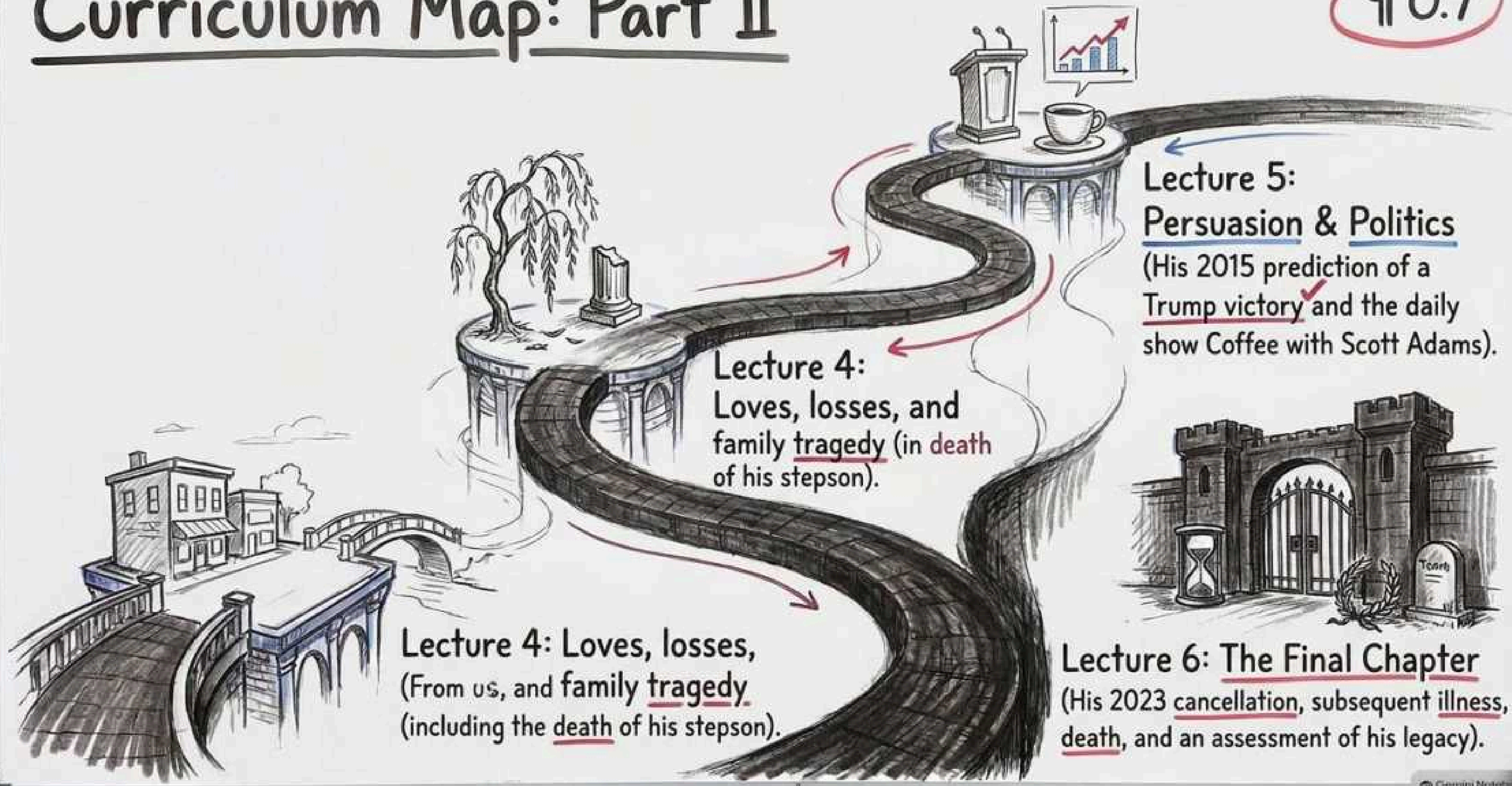
Lecture 3: Philosophy & Self-Help
(God's Debris, prioritizing systems over goals, and developing the talent stack).

$$\text{Talent Stack} = \sum_{k=0} (\text{Good Skills})$$

Systems > Goals

Curriculum Map: Part II

¶0.7



Lecture 5:
Persuasion & Politics
(His 2015 prediction of a Trump victory and the daily show Coffee with Scott Adams).

Lecture 4:
Loves, losses, and family tragedy (in death of his stepson).

Lecture 4: Loves, losses,
(From us, and family tragedy
(including the death of his stepson).

Lecture 6: The Final Chapter
(His 2023 cancellation, subsequent illness, death, and an assessment of his legacy).

Three Core Theses

¶0.8



1. **Usefulness:** His guiding motto, taught to him by his mother.



2. **Persuasion:** Hypnosis training applied to advertising, politics, and understanding human behavior.



$$R_{perceived} = f(\text{Frame})$$

3. **Reframing:** The conviction that reality cannot be seen directly; we must choose the frame that optimizes our outcomes.

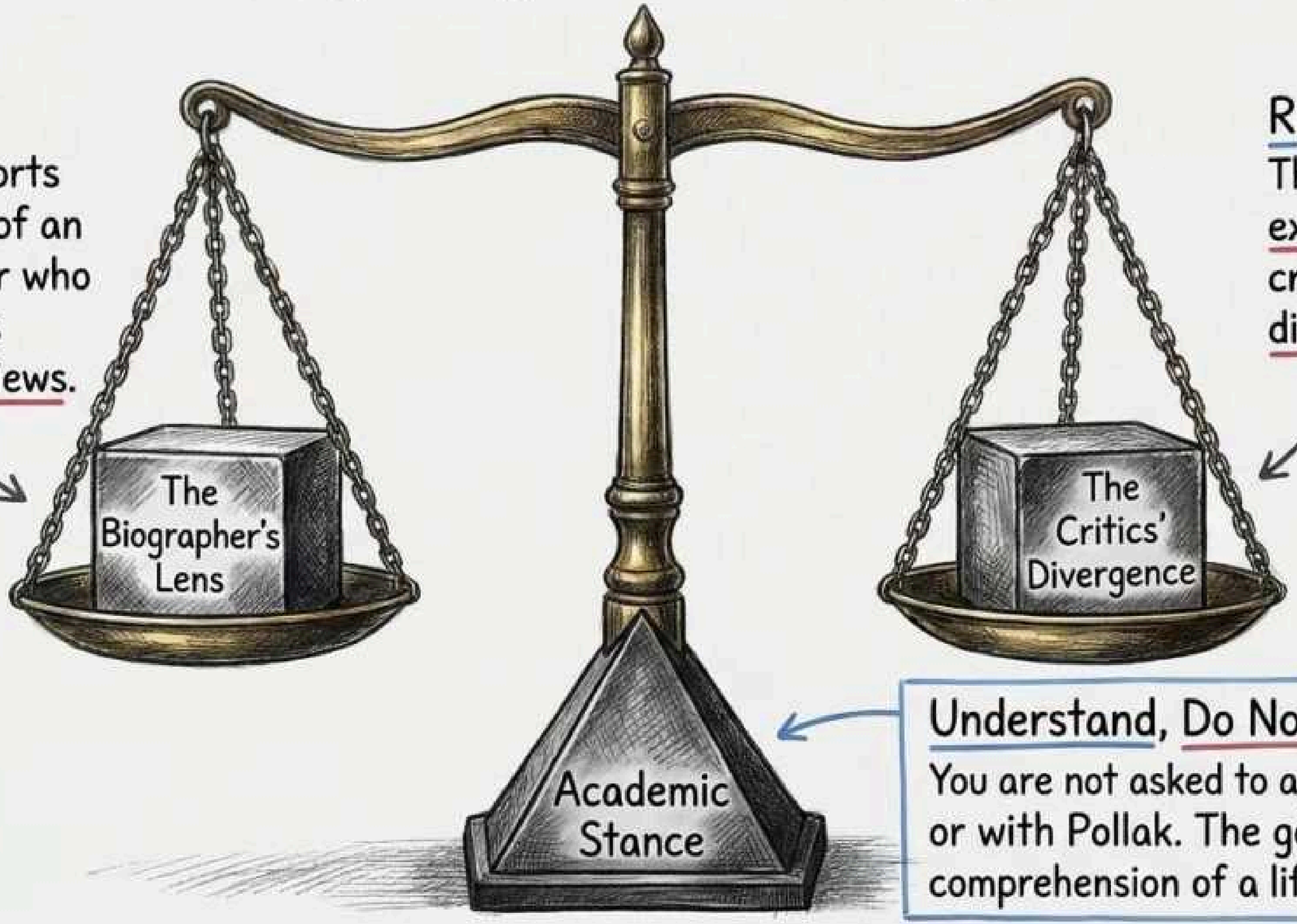
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Navigating a Divisive Figure

¶ 0.9

Left Side:
The course reports the assertions of an admiring author who shares Adams's later political views.

Right Side:
The course notes explicitly where critics saw things differently.

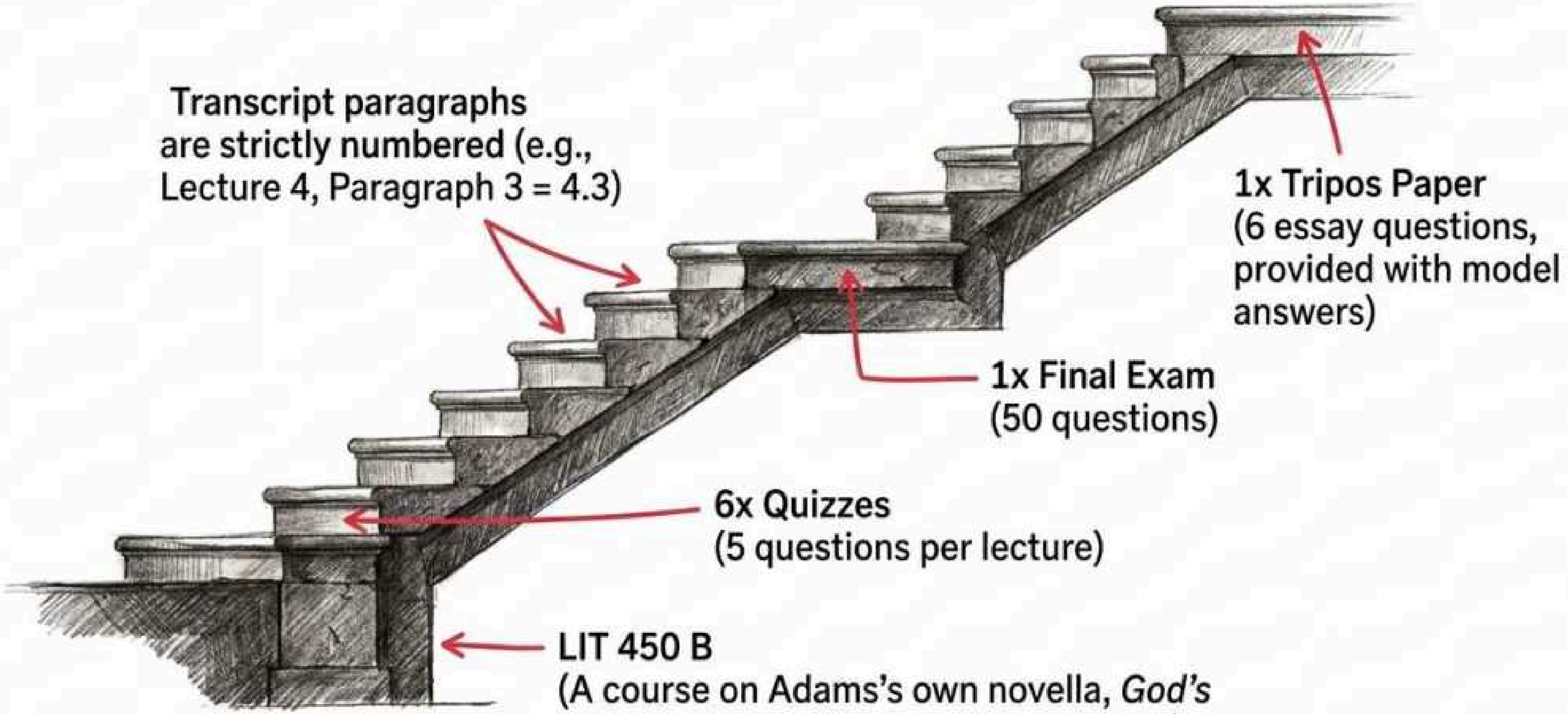


Understand, Do Not Judge.
You are not asked to agree with Adams or with Pollak. The goal is academic comprehension of a life and a text.

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Course Mechanics & Assessment

¶ 0.10



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