

*For Jonathan and Fran*

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## A C K N O W L E D G M E N T S

When Academic Studies Press asked me to put together a collection of my theoretical essays, I thought the task would be easy: just pick out the ones that have (or in my view should have) attracted the most interest. But when I sat down to do so, I found that my method of thinking through a problem—keep approaching it from different angles and see what ideas emerge—created a lot of overlap from essay to essay. I eventually decided to combine different essays into a single coherent statement, drawing on already published ideas while making connections between them and tracing new implications.

And so the only essay that can could arguably called a reprint of one that appeared earlier is “Contingency, Games, and Wit,” which originally appeared in *New Literary History*’s special issue on play, vol. 40, no. 1 (Winter 2009). Alicia Chudo published a version of “An *Onegin* of Our Times” in *Formations* vol. 6, no. 1 (Spring 1991).

\* \* \*

Developing ideas that have been with me since the early 1980s, this book reflects debts of many kinds to several people. It owes most to my wife Katharine Porter, who read every line and was there for me every moment. Emily Morson and Alexander Morson were always in my thoughts. Jane Morson helped me develop many primitive insights.

David Bethea suggested I do this volume and was tireless in guiding it through; Caryl Emerson encouraged me; and Sharona Vedol made it all happen.

I often discussed time, contingency, and the unpredictable with the late Aron Katsenelinboigen, who remains one of the great intellectual

influences of my life. The same is true of the late Stephen Toulmin, with whom I co-taught three courses at Northwestern University.

Elizabeth Allen, Nava Cohen, the late Helen Brenner, and Gayle Washlow-Kaufman helped many times in ways far beyond what I had any right to expect.

As a graduate student at Yale and long after, I learned from the late Victor Erlich and Martin Price, and from Robert Louis Jackson and Michael Holquist. I did not meet the late Thomas Greene until I was an assistant professor, when his ideas about anachronism helped direct my thinking. At the University of Pennsylvania, Alfred Rieber contributed to my awareness of the ways in which disciplinary presuppositions can blind one. The late Elliot Mossman's encouragement kept me going at dark moments. At Northwestern I profited much from dialogues with Leonard Barkan, Sanford Goldberg, Robert Gundlach, Gerald Graff, Lawrence Lipking, Barbara Newman, Mark Ratner, Kenneth Seeskin, and my colleagues in the Slavic department.

Time and again, I looked to Robert Alter and Frederick Crews of Berkeley for their corrections of my work. They suggested changes that made my books better than they would have been, and did so with grace as well as wisdom.

I owe a special debt to Joseph Epstein, who not only commissioned my first extended meditations on prosaics but also inspired me through years of conversation. Ralph Cohen and Herbert Tucker provoked me to write several articles for *New Literary History* which initiated extended creative projects. With Caryl Emerson I thrashed out theme after theme.

Over the past three years I have had the singularly illuminating experience of co-teaching an interdisciplinary course with Morton Schapiro. His relentless sharpness and unfailing broadmindedness made learning about economics, education, and many other topics an adventure.

The late Michael André Bernstein not only inspired me with his amazing erudition and intellect but was also an incomparable friend since we met as students at Oxford in 1969. Not a day goes by when I do not miss him.

I dedicate this book to Frances Padorr Brent and Jonathan Brent, not only for their guidance, editorship, and wise readings, but also for a deep personal understanding that has made all the difference.

## P R E F A C E

*David M. Bethea*

In her inspiring TED Talk ([http://blog.ted.com/2008/03/12/jill\\_bolte\\_tayl/](http://blog.ted.com/2008/03/12/jill_bolte_tayl/)), Harvard neuroanatomist Jill Bolte Taylor reprises how it feels to experience a stroke “from the inside out.” As someone who had deep personal reasons for dedicating her life to brain science—her brother had suffered from schizophrenia and had not been able, in her words, “to attach his dreams to a common, shared reality”—Taylor knew exactly what was happening when she awoke on the morning of December 10, 1996, with the symptoms of a serious stroke. She had a blinding pain above her left eye and her body was having difficulty obeying simple commands. The right and left hemispheres of her brain, which normally communicate with each other through the 300 million axonal fibers of the corpus callosum, were experiencing a kind of power outage in their back-and-forth circuitry. “Reality” was entering Taylor’s consciousness more and more through her right hemisphere, which can be likened to a “parallel processor” that operates exclusively in the present moment. Her body belonged, suddenly and weirdly, yet pleasantly, kinesthetically, to the energy flow of the universe; she sensed that her extremities were permeable edges where her molecules were intermingling with the molecules of the larger world in a massive oneness, and the pictures, the sounds and smells, that attended on this euphoric merging were beautiful.

At the same time, the left hemisphere, the “serial processor” that provides the sense of “I am” and that “thinks in language,” was in deep trouble. Without this left-hemisphere serial functioning Taylor literally could not picture herself as a discrete body in time and space, as a separate mind that could cast back into the past and project into the future. The left hemisphere’s “chatter,” which is to say its mode

of linking the individual to the external world (our proverbial “to-do” lists), was falling silent, surfacing only rarely and spasmodically amid the otherwise overflowing feeling of “Nirvana.” Fortunately, Taylor was ultimately able to dial the phone and communicate to a colleague her distress, after which she was rushed to Mass General and stabilized. Two and a half weeks later the surgeons removed a golf-ball size blood clot that was pressing on her language centers; it then took her eight years and Himalayas of pain and patience to be restored to her pre-hemorrhage state, although truth to tell, with her story, the state to which she was ultimately returned was in many ways a new world. As she says in her talk,

So who are we? We are the life force power of the universe, with manual dexterity and two cognitive minds. And we have the power to choose, moment by moment, who and how we want to be in the world. Right here right now, I can step into the consciousness of my right hemisphere where we are—I am—the life force power of the universe, and the life force power of the 50 trillion beautiful molecular geniuses that make up my form. At one with all that is. Or I can choose to step into the consciousness of my left hemisphere, where I become a single individual, a solid, separate from the flow, separate from you. I am Dr. Jill Bolte Taylor, intellectual, neuroanatomist. These are the “we” inside of me.

I begin my comments here with Jill Bolte Taylor’s story because it seems to me that to read this splendid collection of essays by Gary Saul Morson is to experience in a particularly vivid verbal form the two-cognitive-mind dialogue that lies at the center of Taylor’s amazing “aha” moment. Also, because Taylor’s story is actually many stories in one, and because it is all about narrating one’s position in time and space at a given moment, it is Saul Morson’s special province and intellectual homeland. The only individual in our rather small and often insular Slavic/Russian studies discipline who is a true public intellectual, and someone whose very substantial body of written work and pedagogical performance speaks uniquely to the larger world of ideas and contemporary culture, Morson is one of the most advanced “serial processors” of ideas of our generation. His passion is to place ideas in a series, but that series is not closed, and it merges palpably with the external world and a future that contains multiple options. “Contingency” is his best ideational friend. Fierce in his own

reading of things and ever eager to go against the grain of received thought, Morson also celebrates *what works*, so to speak, which is a most refreshing turn in today's academic landscape. He is willing to stand on the shoulders of giants, but he insists that they *be* giants. Thus, he is willing to celebrate when the occasion demands; however, that celebration will normally be expressed in a rather unorthodox, "misanthropological" (as he would put it) way.

In my remarks to follow I highlight ideas that are central to Saul Morson's approach to the study of literature, culture, and, more pointedly, the seam separating the social sciences and the humanities. These ideas, I would like to suggest, are not just compelling in their own right, which they are, they are also heuristic "therapies" for dealing with the discursive "stroke" that, à la the story underlying Taylor's TED Talk, has virtually paralyzed discussion (as in productive dialogue) in our time between the worlds of "scientific thinking" and—for lack of a better word—"spirituality." Whether what happened to Taylor on that December day in 1996 took place inside her head or outside of it makes no difference to Morsonian thinking. The human brain contains something like 100 billion neurons, of a thousand varieties or more, and those nerve cells are capable of making at least 100 trillion connections. In the modern world we have established that neurons fire and are connected, but how exactly they act in concert to govern behavior remains a mystery. Reading Morson and following him through the epistemological thickets of contemporary thought is, while perhaps not the same as reading neuroscience, a very good place to go to frame correctly the mystery of consciousness as it happens. Few thinkers are better at addressing the "'we' inside of 'me'."

### **Prosaics, Bakhtin, Misanthropology**

More a philosopher than a literary critic/scholar, Mikhail Bakhtin made a career out of developing terminology that took on a life of its own and spoke with particular authority to the modern condition. Heteroglossia, chronotope, dialogism, polyphony, carnival, "outsideness," "unfinalizability," "word with a loophole"—these terms inevitably opened speech acts that had seemed closed, made fluid narrative hierarchies that had seemed fixed. Morson has not only analyzed Bakhtinian thought, often and to great effect, he has also built on the master's terminology, and in the process coined a powerful vocabulary of his own. Prosaics is, broadly speaking, the

methodology Morson has developed over the years as an antidote to “poetics” and “structuralism,” which latter tend to look at a literary artifact as constructed “from the end” in such a manner that every part fits tidily into the whole and that when the work is completed, it seems to be held in mind almost spatially (the late Joseph Frank’s term), all at once, beginning to end. It is in this sense that he means “structure is the literary counterpart of providence” and “in God’s world and the literary masterpiece, optimality—the best state of affairs or the best structure—reconciles free will and providence.” From the structuralist perspective, all detours along the way to the final product, all rough drafts and resets, serve as a kind of hologram that the creative brain holds in limbo until the finished product presents itself. The reader who applies this approach casts himself or herself in the role of the author’s implied psyche, foregrounding details and selecting out thematic and semantic parallels of which the originating creating mind may not be aware. In other words, in Morson’s version of a careful structuralist reading of a poem or a play or a novel (it is clear he prefers novels, following Bakhtin, as the form most accommodating to process) there is an engulfing intentionality that is always present, even subconsciously, as the writer composes his work. No afterthoughts, only forethoughts.

The problem with this view is that it doesn’t accurately reflect how the mind operates as it interacts with recalcitrant reality. Reality throws curve balls. For Morson, whether we are looking at the reality of a verbal artifact or the reality of the three-dimensional world, the puzzle is not Leibnizian (the contingent is possible, but only if it implies no logical contradiction), but Tolstoyan (the contingent is so unexpected and so inherently contradictory that to claim God can “foresee” it is to attenuate the divine mind out of existence, which may be the point to some believers). What is needed to understand Tolstoyan reality is “not a poetics of structure but a prosaics of process.” Here I would only say, not necessarily disputing Morson’s underlying thesis but engaging it along a slightly broader spectrum, that a very tightly constructed lyric poem, say Pushkin’s “I recall a wondrous moment” (*Ia pomniu chudnoe mgnovenie*), does *tend more* to a spatial arraignment of part to whole, where the interplay between and among sound, grammar, meter, rhyme scheme, stanzaic form, subtextual allusion, and so on strongly suggest, if not a completely closed, then a “closing” structure.

If we take prosaics and translate it into the moral realm we get “misanthropology,” Morson’s witty term for the study of the “cussedness of human nature.” It is clearly, as the name implies,

a turning on its head of anthropology and the cultural relativism that often attends on that discipline. Here Morson examines the, in this case, social scientist's tendency to present the other that is distant in time or place with a phony neutrality, as in Margaret Mead's famous study of Samoans who in their sexual mores seem to have found a way out of western bourgeois repression. "Misanthropology," writes Morson, "focuses on human evil, and so by its very nature rejects relativism." Evil is fundamental to our nature, as is good. We develop as social animals, our identities being formed through speech with others that is internalized into thought (Vygotsky) or composed of innerly persuasive voices that become "accented" into personhood (Bakhtin). There is no state of human cognition or consciousness that is not already social. The difference between the misanthrope and the misanthropologist is that the former, say Jonathan Swift, is a "reverse sentimental" and a frustrated utopian—believing that humanity is simply perverse, like the Yahoos—while the latter, say Dostoevsky, sees "both the evil and good in human nature as 1) irreducible to each other, 2) ineradicable, and 3) fundamentally social." The process that brings one to view humankind misanthropologically is in effect the same process that brings one to read a novel dialogically, as a series of events involving human beings who can, in their present, evolve in different directions depending on the specific context and the choices that are made.

### **Aristotle, Part to Whole**

One of the reasons prosaics is a potentially productive approach to a variety of topics from the humanities to the social sciences is that it looks at culture as an evolutionary process with "intelligent feedback loops." Of course, the "misanthropological" optic means that the feedback does not always happen and is not always intelligent.

As with all genuinely original thinkers, the originality of prosaic thinker is itself firmly contextualized, growing out of something and toward something else. What is fresh about such thinking is not that it takes place in a vacuum, but that it uses what has come before in ways commensurate with, and sometimes exceeding, the power of the precursor. One senses this especially keenly in Morson's case, with his comments about Aristotle, which eventually lead to analogous comments about Darwin, which are then themselves leveraged into forays into the social and psychological. Microeconomic theories about how an individual's choices in the marketplace are part of larger

patterns of consistency, or Freud's argument that the mind doesn't simply make mistakes but creates "slips" that are still meaningful, are precisely what is wrong, in Morson's opinion, with a modern scientific episteme that claims to follow Darwinian logic but in fact does not.

First, Morson's summation of Aristotelian versus Platonic thinking:

For Aristotle, form is inseparable from matter, because it inheres in matter and gives it shape. Form does not exist on its own, any more than there can be color or shape without a thing that is colored or shaped. Believing in the independence of forms, as Plato did, is like supposing that because we can mentally abstract the properties of color, somewhere, in absolute purity, color must exist by itself.

For Aristotle, soul shapes the matter of living things. Psyche is Aristotle's term for the form of the living object, and psychology is the study of the formal factor that makes a living object what it is. Psyche is therefore not separable from body. More accurately, form (or soul) is a shaping power, an entelechy, that is in the process of shaping matter. Thus, in nutrition (performed by the "digestive" soul), food becomes assimilated into flesh. Living involves not just form but forming.

This is an elegant encapsulation of the ancient philosopher's understanding of the origins of intelligent life: Aristotle's psyche is the feedback loop that joins form to function, organ system to consciousness (voluntary/involuntary response), without separating them from each other, since to do so is to end life. Disgust, on the other hand, as Morson argues elsewhere, is that moment when we see this living ensemble compromised: the guillotined head that blinks and stares, the compound fracture where the bone pierces the tissue.

### **Darwin, Solov'ev, William James**

Darwin enters the picture by placing Aristotle's form/function correlation into at least two important nineteenth-century intellectual frames of reference: Thomas Malthus's views of the dangers of population growth (hence the "survival of the fittest" terminology) and Charles Lyell's discoveries about geological formations (including fossils) and their relations to continuous change over time (uniformitarianism vs. catastrophism), from which Darwin would extrapolate his ideas about species formation and natural selection. The distance from Aristotle to

Darwin is that between a “soul” which “shapes the matter of living things” and a panda’s thumb (made famous by Stephen Jay Gould), which is not really a thumb at all but an extension of the radial sesamoid that is *good enough* to function as an opposable digit and help the panda eat its bamboo. It is the logic of this “good enough” that is everything. It is also this same logic to which Morson keeps returning in his essays. Prosaics are, one might say, Morson’s “panda’s thumb.”

Two other thinkers with whom Morson is in constant, though largely implicit, dialogue are the Russian philosopher Vladimir Solov’ev and the American philosopher-psychologist-humanist William James. Once again I suspect the touchstones are Aristotle and Darwin, with Bakhtin’s leitmotifs of structure as open-ended (i.e. *evolving*) and consciousness as dialogic (i.e. always already *socially situated*) added in. In his amazing 1889 study of Darwin (“Beauty in Nature”), Solov’ev fully endorses the great naturalist’s argument that species adapt and change through time and therefore are not created once and forever by an omniscient deity. The aesthetic, which is also one of Morson’s favorite topics, arises in nature when matter is “enlightened” by spirit into something potentially new and beautiful. A lump of carbon is pure matter and light by itself is pure air, but rearrange the carbon molecules through intense heat and shine light on the result and you get a diamond. In the animal world we hear the aroused tomcat caterwauling on the rooftop and the nightingale singing its song. For Solov’ev, these are not the same thing. The sex drive, the explanation from origins, is insufficient to capture the full charm of the notes produced by the nightingale. There is something extra there, something more than a mating call.

On the other hand, a worm (say, an acanthocephalan) appears “ugly” (*bezobraznyi*, “lacking form”) because it is all feeding (endosmosis, *vsasyvanie*: i.e. it sucks nutrients along its entire surface into the hollow cavity inside) and reproducing (the “complex structure” of what Claus terms its “mighty genitalia”). The other parts of an organ system that might constitute a complex configuration of form and function are not found here, and thus the aesthetic as a potentially transfiguring element has not yet done its work. (To be fair to Solov’ev, messiness does happen and all is a work in progress.) Indeed, the aesthetic for Solov’ev is most present, most seen and felt, when the sex and feeding drives are not, when the latter have moved into the background and appear veiled: e.g., the elaborate design on a tortoise’s shell that hides and protects the unprepossessing and vulnerable creature underneath.

These ideas in turn find stimulating parallels in Morson's statements about disgust and voyeurism.

One also imagines inviting William James to this symposium-like roundtable led by Morson and joined in by Aristotle, Darwin, and Solov'ev. "By their fruits ye shall know them, not by their roots," writes James in *The Varieties of Religious Experience* (1902). With the first part of this sentence James quotes Matthew 7:20, while with the second part he makes the case for a spirituality worthy of the name and endorsed by the exacting standards of American pragmatism. "The *roots* [James's emphasis] of a man's virtue are inaccessible to us," and so why try to define that virtue by those roots? Curiously (is this the intellectual world absorbing Darwin deeper and deeper into its consciousness?), Solov'ev had argued exactly the same thing a decade earlier: "The question '*What is* a known object?' never corresponds to the question '*From what* or whence *came* this object?'" James, however, trained in medicine at Harvard and fascinated with the discipline of psychophysiology, moves discussion into the area of personal spirituality. As opposed to a Richard Dawkins, he does not want to deny from the outside the validity of an individual's experience of the divine, but he also wants to argue that that experience does exist in time, regardless of the protestations of the prophet or the saint. There is a "before" and "after," the serial processing of which Morson often reminds his reader. James tells us matter-of-factly how notions of the "deity" have been historicized, and his tone, almost magically, manages to be both urbane and compassionate:

In any case, they [i.e. the founders of different religions—DB] chose him [the deity] for the value of the fruits he seemed to yield. So soon as the fruits began to seem quite worthless; so soon as they conflicted with indispensable human ideals, or thwarted too extensively other values; so soon as they appeared childish, contemptible, or immoral when reflected on, the deity grew discredited; and was ere long neglected and forgotten.

Is this not Darwinian logic, the "good enough" of the panda's thumb, as applied to religious experience? Is this also not what Morson brings to the contemporary discussion of how the God of the Old and New Testaments (i.e. His scribal traces) *changed over time* and was therefore *not outside it*. Thus, concludes James, "it is the voice of human experience within us, judging and condemning all gods that stand athwart the pathway along which it feels itself to be advancing."

Once more it is what works in the here and now and what makes sense for our existential choices that is James's quarry, but also Morson's. Culture, including the spiritual side of human nature, moves forward the same way that Lyell's work moved forward and Darwin's work moved forward. We need to be cautious about those James called the "medical materialists," who today would be in the camp of Dawkins and the hard science atheists. If Saint Teresa's experience of revelation is too vague, too ecstatic to be taken seriously nowadays, then we should look more carefully at Tolstoy's conversion experience, which James certainly does and which Morson, one of our most eloquent students of the Russian author, might see as a process, an unfolding story, rather than a one-off turning point. In a word, our understanding of spirituality needs to be more intelligent.

## Teaching

It is probably no exaggeration to say that Saul Morson is one of the great teachers in the history of Northwestern University. He has won awards for his brilliant presence at the podium, his classes routinely attract some of the highest humanities enrollments in the country, and he has been known to team-teach a course with the university president himself. This is all doubtless laudable, but is not really the point. It (the teaching "aura") is not a cause of anything, except perhaps local accolades; instead it is the byproduct of other choices, of "walking the walk" and living Prosaics in one's professional life with students. To fully absorb the lessons of Mikhail Bakhtin is to become at some basic level the intelligent anti-theorist. College students are not trained in theory and will in all likelihood never "apply theory" in their future lives. Reaching them and turning them on is, or should be, the goal of our pedagogical travails.

In his spirited chapter entitled "What is a Literary Education?" Morson explains why great literature, especially great novels, are needed on our campuses (and in our society for that matter), and why that literature is not being done any favors by the widely held practices of today's academy. It is not for the professor to "tell" Shakespeare what he "meant" to say with the help of Freud. Better to turn the tables and imagine how the creative genius Shakespeare might read the overreaching Freud. Going line by line through George Eliot or Tolstoy creates, as it were, organs of empathy in the individual who "lives into" each character's story. Morson encourages his charges to view unfolding

events as containing various possible futures. Novelistic characters are neither literary constructs (the formalist view) nor real persons (the so-called pathetic fallacy); they are rather “possible people.” Thus, Mary Garth of *Middlemarch* may share personal qualities with Mary Anne Evans, which is interesting and relevant in and of itself, but the more important exercise is “practicing empathy” by living with Mary as she experiences the ups and downs of her relationship with Fred Vincy. Each event in their lives presents a series of choices. How does Mary remain Mary while making those choices? How does Fred improve on Fred by coming under Mary’s influence? Here we see a glimpse of Tolstoy’s famous idea that great literature “infects.” Morson wants his students to “feel ideas” and to enjoy fully the process of “first-time reading” (not the “re-reading” of the literary critics). He encourages them to make use of the right hemisphere (*Anna Karenina*’s Levin mowing with the peasants) and the left hemisphere (that same Levin undergoing confession prior to marriage) and the chatter between them that tries to make meaning in our time.

## Quotations

Last but not least, Saul Morson is a student of quotations and sayings as well as a uniquely talented producer of them. There is a distinct pleasure in reading Morson, not only because his thoughts are inherently stimulating, but also because they turn out to be eminently quotable. I close with some of my own favorite quotes from these essays, as, saying more with less, they capture the texture of his thinking better than a long-drawn-out argument.

- “Men’s work becomes meaningful when it partakes of the spirit of women’s work.”
- “Sinners love fatalism.”
- “Prosaics assumes that the natural state of the world—at least, the human world—is mess, and that it is order, not disorder, that requires an explanation.”
- “History is not a riddle with a hidden solution.”
- “True holiness, which never fits a pattern, grows out of the particular situations of daily life.”
- “One has a science when one no longer needs a story.”
- “Darwin offers us an example of non-Newtonian science, one that requires narrative.”
- “Social scientists practice Leibnizism without God.”

- “Re-reading almost inevitably diminishes suspense. . . . Literary critics are by necessity re-readers.”
- “Modern atheists are haunted by a theology they do not recognize as such.”
- “Superstition is the social science of others.”
- “By process I mean not just a sequence of events extending over time but a sequence in which multiple paths are open at multiple moments.”
- “One becomes a genuine ‘personality,’ rather than a thing, when one is not just the sum of one’s experiences and qualities. A personality retains the capacity to surprise.”

Now, find your own favorites and enjoy!

## A B B R E V I A T I O N S

Where no source of a biblical quotation is given, it is drawn from the King James version.

1984 George Orwell, 1984 (New York: Harcourt Brace, 1961).

AA M. M. Bakhtin, *Art and Answerability: Early Philosophical Essays*, ed. Michael Holquist and Vadim Liapunov (Austin: University of Texas Press, 1990).

APA Aristotle, "Poetics" in *Critical Theory Since Plato*, ed. Hazard Adams (New York: Harcourt Brace, 1971), 47-75.

AWD1 Fyodor Dostoevsky, *A Writer's Diary*, volume 1, 1873-1876, trans. Kenneth Lantz (Evanston: Northwestern University Press, 1993).

BKFyodor Dostoevsky, *The Brothers Karamazov*, trans. Constance Garnett (New York: Random House, 1950).

BoG Gary Saul Morson, *The Boundaries of Genre: Dostoevsky's "Diary of a Writer" and the Traditions of Literary Utopia* (Austin: University of Texas Press, 1981).

BWA *The Basic Works of Aristotle*, ed. Richard McKeon (New York: Random House, 1941).

C&G John B. Cobb, Jr., and David Ray Griffin, *Process Theology: An Introductory Exposition* (Philadelphia: Westminster, 1976).

C&P Fyodor Dostoevsky, *Crime and Punishment* (New York: Random House, 1950).

CAID Sigmund Freud, *Civilization and Its Discontents*, ed. and trans. James Strachey (New York: Norton, 1961).

CWA2 *The Complete Works of Aristotle: The Revised Oxford Translation*, vol. 2, ed. Jonathan Barnes (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1984).

DLDiogenes Laertius, *Lives of Eminent Philosophers*, vol. 2, trans. R. D. Hicks (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1995).

DD Ambrose Bierce, *The Devil's Dictionary* (New York: Doubleday, n.d.).

DJ Lord Byron, *Don Juan*, ed. Leslie A. Marchand (Boston; Houghton Mifflin, 1958).

EAHB Gary S. Becker, *The Economic Approach to Human Behavior* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1992).

FTOS Alexander Herzen, "From the Other Shore" and "The Russian People and Socialism," trans. Moura Budberg and Richard Wollheim (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1979).

GDR Katie Salen and Eric Zimmerman, *The Game Design Reader* (Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 2006).

GPR Elie Halévy, *The Growth of Philosophic Radicalism*, trans. Mary Morris (Boston: Beacon, 1955).

GTThe Portable Swift, ed. Carl Van Doren (New York: Viking, 1963), 489.

HC *The HarperCollins Study Bible*, ed. Wayne A. Meeks (New York: HarperCollins, 1993).

HIPV Gary Saul Morson, *Hidden in Plain View: Narrative and Creative Potentials in "War and Peace"* (Stanford: Stanford University Press, 1987).

HIQ M. J. Cohen and John Major, *History in Quotations* (London: Cassell, 2000).

HoD Fyodor Dostoevsky, *The House of the Dead*, trans. Constance Garnett (New York: Macmillan, 1959).

I Fyodor Dostoevsky, *The Idiot*, trans. Constance Garnett (New York: Modern Library, 1962).

L&S Gary Saul Morson, *The Long and Short of It: From Aphorism to Novel* (Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2012).

LaR *The Maxims of La Rochefoucauld*, trans. Louis Kronenberger (New York: Random House, 1959).

M George Eliot, *Middlemarch* (New York: Modern Library, 1984).

MB:CP Gary Saul Morson and Caryl Emerson, *Mikhail Bakhtin: Creation of a Prosaics* (Stanford: Stanford University Press, 1990).

MDQ *The Macmillan Dictionary of Quotations*, ed. John Dainith et al. (Edison, New Jersey: Chartwell, 2000).

N&F Gary Saul Morson, *Narrative and Freedom: The Shadows of Time* (New Haven, CT: Yale University Press, 1994).

NFP Martha C. Nussbaum, *Not for Profit: Why Democracy Needs the Humanities* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2010).

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