

FINAL REVIEW

ENGL 222

SUMMER COURSE

Uncle Tom's Cabin

1) Why did slavery grow in the South? What did Southerner's call slavery?

- “Economic reasons”, increase in tobacco, sugar, rice, and cotton.
- The southerner called slavery “That Peculiar Institution”.

2) What did Abolitionists want?

- They sponsored lecture circuits and published literature both fiction and biography to have “political change” to stop slavery.

3) What were Slave Narratives? Why were they important?

- They began to add their voice to the tradition of American autobiography.
- They built on the emotional power of captivity narratives and used the authority of the bible. “a chosen people delivered from bondage”.

4) In what year was Uncle Tom's Cabin published?

- 1852.

5) It was the second-best seller in America in the 19th Century. What was the first?

- The Bible.

6) How was the novel “Sensational”?

- More dramatic, unrealistic.

7) How did Stowe use “Sentimentalism” in her novel?

- Appeal to emotions to give the novel its power. to make you feel another person's pain, such that you want to do something about it.

8) Why and how does Eliza escape?

- To save her young son.
- By crossing a river.

9) How does Stowe address the reader directly in the text? Who is her implied reader?

- She switches to 2nd narrative.
- White mother.

10) What did Abraham Lincoln say to Harriet Beecher Stowe when he met her?

- “So here’s the little lady that started this big war.”, revelation of slavery.

11) In what was is the novel racist?

- Black people were being abused.
- White girl is described as an angel.

Uncle Tom's Cabin & Domestic Fiction

- **The 19th century authorship:**
 - Not a true profession.
 - Ideology on “The Angel in The House” & “True Womanhood” kept women out of the public sphere and in the private sphere.
 - To step outside domesticity for reasons of ambition threatened one's reputation as a “womanly woman”.
 - Writing for necessity—to earn a living—was acceptable for women authors.
- **It was only acceptable for woman to be an author in these cases:**
 - Writing for church papers.
 - Writing for reform (abolitionist tracts, prison reform, temperance).
 - Writing on domestic issues.
 - Women's fiction. (“Domestic fiction”, “sentimental fiction”)
- **Uncle Tom's Cabin is seen as a Domestic Heroine.**
- **Domestic Fiction:**
 - Immersion in feeling (rather than reason) a danger.
 - Marriage. (reforming the bad make. Marrying the solid make who already meets her qualifications.)
 - The novels may use a “language of tears” that evokes sympathy from the readers.
- **Hawthorne's Reaction:**
 - He was frustrated because women writers were selling books more than he is.
- **The explosion of literary marketplace (1850s):**
 - Fiction was seen as reading material of choice.

- Spectacular boom of Sentimental Fiction: fiction written largely by women, about women, for women.
- **What role did Uncle Tom's Cabin play in the slavery debate?**
 - The book stressed the moral evil of slavery.
 - Southerners protested that it did not portray slavery accurately.
 - Abolitionist protests increased.
 - Increased protest in north.
 - Pushed more people into abolition (care about slavery).
 - Showed how badly slaves were treated in the south.
 - They came with "The Fugitive Slave Act", which was against slaves.
- **Plot of the story:**
 - Slave owner sells Uncle Tom and Eliza to keep land.
 - Eliza runs away with her son. escapes capture by crossing the frozen Ohio River.
 - Uncle Tom is taken on riverboat down Mississippi River.
 - Tom bought and taken to New Orleans.
 - Tom is beat to death just as one of his previous owners come to buy him back.
 - New family moves to France then Liberia.
- **Why did Northerners resent to Fugitive Slave Act?**
 - It required Northerners to recapture slaves.
 - It placed fines on people who would not cooperate and jail terms on people who helped fugitives escape.
 - Slave catchers roamed the North, which brought home the issue of slavery to Northerners.
 - It made them feel they had to support slavery.

Uncle Tom's Cabin Chapter 7

1) Who is Eliza thinking of when she decides to run?

- Her child and her husband.

2) Is she glad to leave the slave plantation?

- Yes, but she was frightened.

3) What 2 things give her extra strength?

- Her connection to her child, and her faith in God.

4) How does Stowe address the reader directly on p.782?

- To put the reader in the slave's position to show empathy.

5) What is the "spirit within" that helps her?

- Her child.

6) What is Chloe's attitude towards Haley, the slavecatcher? In what way does she help Eliza?

- She says that Mr. Haley is going to hell with Jake, one of the other slaves.
- Delay Mr. Haley in his pursuit of Eliza.

7) Does the use of dialect enhance the story?

- It shows how black people talk by exaggerating it.

8) What is Chloe's status among the slaves?

- She was crying and telling them the kind of suffering a slave goes through by separation.

9) Summarise Tom's discussion with Chloe (p.785). What do we learn about Tom here?

- He tries to give her hope by saying that her situation is far more better than Haley's.

- He is a very patient man.

10) Why does Tom “pity” Haley?

- Because he knows that she done a bad thing in her life and that she would be punished for by god.

11) What is Tom’s attitude to his master (p785)?

- He feels sad that he had to leave him because he known him since he was a baby.

12) Why is Tom so loyal? Is his loyalty a virtue?

- He helps raising his master since he was a baby.
- Yes, it is.

13) How does Mr and Mrs Shelby feel about Haley?

- They were annoyed by her.

Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass (1845).

- **His mother was black, his father was white.**
- **He never met his father; rumours say that his father was a master.**
- **He was taken away from his mother at a very early age.**
- **He only saw his mother 4 times in his life, all were short duration and at night.**
- **She died from illness.**
- **Frederick Douglass emotions toward his mother:**
 - *“For what this separation is done, I do not know, unless it be to hinder the development of the child's affection toward its mother, and to blunt and destroy the natural affection of the mother for the child. This is the inevitable result”.*
 - *“I received the tidings of her death with much the same emotions I should have probably felt at the death of a stranger”.*

Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass (1845).

Chapter 2

1) Why do the slaves sing in this passage?

- They would sing to reveal at one the highest joy and the deepest sadness.

2) How does Douglass correct some misconceptions about slavery that his (white) readers might have here?

- He explained how slaves react to their situations by singing and praying.
- The word that they sing is full of meaning to themselves.
- **Further Explanations *Not important:** From a slave understanding, the tones were loud, long, and deep; they breathed the prayer and complaint of souls boiling over with the bitterest.
- *“Every tone was a testimony against slavery, and a prayer to God for deliverance from chains”.*

3) Douglass did not understand the meaning of these songs at the time. Why?

- He thought that these songs were to *“impress some minds”* with the horrible character of slavery, then reading of whole volumes of philosophy on the subject could do.

Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass (1845).**Chapter 6**

1) This scene has been described as an “epiphany” for Douglass. What does he realize in this paragraph?

- *“I understood the pathway from slavery to freedom”.*

2) How does Douglass react to his master’s decision not to educate him?

- He was calm, he let his master’s words sink in and he realize a special revelation, *“I understood the pathway from slavery to freedom”.*
- *“I was gladdened by the invaluable instruction which, by the merest accident, I had gained from my master”.*

3) What does this event teach the narrator about the nature of his master’s superiority and his inferiority?

- The master had control of his slave because he didn’t know how to read or write, the master was afraid that if the slave learned how to write and read, he would fight for other rights for himself.
- Making the slave weak and disabled is the only way to control him.

Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass (1845).

Chapter 9:

- **Mr Thomas (Fredrick's master), thought that Fredrick was unsuitable to his purpose as a slave.**
- **He decided to send Fredrick to Edward Covey.**
- **Mr. Covey was a poor farmer who had a reputation for breaking slaves, and to train them.**

Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass (1845).

Chapter 10:

- **At first, Fredrick was feeling awkward living with Mr. Covey.**
- **In his first day he was tortured by Mr. Covey.**
- **Mr. Covey had a way of taking control of the slaves that he would sneak up on them by a surprise. He was called "The Snake".**
- **Mr. Covey would spend his time in his bed, and he would wake up in the evening to urge the slaves at to torture them.**
- **Mr. Covey devoted his life to planning and perpetrating the grossest deceptions.**
- **In a few months of Mr. Covey's discipline, he succeeded in breaking him. *"I was broken in body, soul, and spirit"*.**
- **Mr. Covey bought a female slave and he forced her to get pregnant by another slave just to add to his wealth.**
- **Fredrick had thought many times in taking his own life but was prevented by a combination of hope and fear.**
- **He decided to go to his master seeking his protection, but the master told him that he expected to deserve the whipping, and that Mr. Covey was a good man and he asked him to go back to Mr. Covey in the morning.**
- **As he was hiding from Mr. Covey beating, he met with a slave Sandy Jenkins who had a free wife. He invited him to his house.**
- **He then advises Fredrick to go back but he had to take a *root* which would protect him from beating.**
- **Mr. Covey tried to tie his legs, but Fredrick fought back.**
- **After fighting back, Mr. Covey never laid a finger upon him.**

- *“This battle with Mr. Covey was the turning-point in my career as a slave”, “and inspired me again with a determination to be free”.*

Ralph Waldo Emerson

and American Transcendentalism

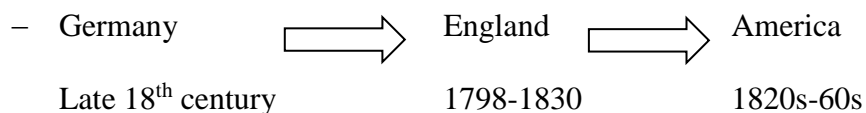
- **Transcendentalism:** a philosophy emphasizing the intuitive and spiritual above the empirical (climbing or going beyond).

- Seeing God in nature.

- **American Exceptionalism:** the idea of manifest -destiny- they believe that America is an ideal nation/society.

- **Romanticism:** spontaneous overflow of feelings.

- **Roots in European Romanticism:**



- **Romanticism thoughts:**

- Reaction again “overly-rational” [enlightenment philosophy, art, religion, literature].
 - (Poetry & art) not a thing of logic, strict rhyming, strict meter, highest classes.
 - Art-inspiration, spontaneity, “naturalness”.
 - In NATURE and CHOLDHOOD we see universal, spiritual truths.
 - Nature is the key to self-awareness.
 - Open self to nature & you may receive its gifts: a deeper, more mystical experience of life.
 - Nature offers a kind of “grace- Salvation” from mundane evil of everyday life.

- **Nature and Romanticism:**
 - External world of nature actually reflects invisible, spiritual reality.
 - Self-reliance: seek the truth in immediate perceptions of the world.
 - Then one can reconcile body and soul (which is part of “Universal Soul” or “oversoul”, source of all life).
- **The sublime:** (mystical weird feeling)
 - Heightened psychological state.
 - Overwhelming experience of awe, reverence, comprehension.
 - Achieved when soul is immersed in grandeur of nature.
 - Sense of *transcendence* from everyday world
 - *Is the scene of having your breath taken away for one second. You lose yourself and when you try to explain, you cannot.*
- **Romanticism in America:**
 - Arrives in 1820s.
 - Centre around concord, Massachusetts-kind of artists’ colony.
 - “Transcendentalist Club” 1836 (writing, reading, reform projects).
 - Utopian communities-groups to escape American materialism. (there are things more than being materialistic)
- **Rises out of two key intellectual and spiritual traditions:**
 - European Romanticism.
 - American Unitarianism.
- **Spiritual Revival (Ralph Waldo Emerson, Nature):**
 - *“Standing on the bare ground...my head bathed in the blithe air and uplifted into infinite space...all mean egotism vanishes. I become a transparent eye-ball; I am*

nothing; I see all; the currents of the Universal Being circulate through me; I am part or particle of God.”

- When he stands on the top of the mountain, he abandons the materialistic life and he becomes one with nature (God)
- **Reading Nature:**
 - Easier to see Emerson clearly from a distance, but everything gets foggy if you get too close.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Self-Reliance

1) What do you think the kind of impact the essay has?

- To rely on ourselves.

2) Which does Emerson value more original thought or traditional wisdom?

- He values original thought.
- *“imitation is suicide”*
- *“Whoso would be a man, must be a nonconformist”*

3) According to Emerson, which virtue does society demand most, truth, conformity, creativity, or self-reliance?

- Conformity
- *“For nonconformity the world whips you with its displeasure”*

4) What is the only law that Emerson says can be sacred to him?

- His own nature
- *“No law can be sacred to me but that of my nature”*
- Emerson believed in the basic goodness of humans, that they would do the right thing if given the chance to make their own decisions.

5) Summarize Emerson’s main ideas

- Do your own thing
 - *“imitation is suicide”*
- Trust your own ideas
 - *“Trust thyself”*
 - *“Whoso would be a man must be a nonconformist”*

- *“No law can be sacred to me but that of my nature”*
- *“What I must do is all that concerns me”*
- It’s hard to be a nonconformist
 - *“For nonconformity the world whips you”*
 - *“the great man is he who in the midst of the crowd keeps with perfect sweetness the independence of solitude”*
- Don’t let consistency keep you from trusting yourself
 - *“A foolish consistency is the hobgoblin of little minds”*

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Self-Reliance “Essay”

1) Explain Emerson’s definition of genius:

- Create your own experience, “believe your own thoughts”.
- Habit of thinking.

2) Rephrase the text below:

Great works of art teach us to abide by our spontaneous impression with good-humoured inflexibility, otherwise to-morrow a stranger will say with masterly good sense precisely what we have thought and felt all the time, and we shall be forced to take with shame our own opinion from another.

- You should stick to your own opinion first, and not relate to other’s.

3) When is a man happiest according to Emerson?

- When he has put his heart into his work and done his best.
- Enjoy the process of thing.
- You don’t depend on other people’s reaction.

4) What is the thing that society most loves?

- Conformity of rules. (follow society’s rules)
- “*the greatest virtue is conformity*”.

5) Explain:

“It loves not realities and creators, but names and customs”

- Sometimes we misrecognized a true genius.
- We have such a respect for certain kind of logos and badges.

- **He likes nonconformities:** people do what they want and not to be affected by other people's opinion.

6) Does Emerson worship the devil?

"They do not seem to me to be such; but if I am the Devil's child, I will live then from the Devil."

- No, he was stating that if people thought that his ideas were coming from the devil then be it. It is not necessarily good or bad.

7) Explain:

badges and names, to large societies and dead institutions.

- Example: Traditions: things that are said by people in the past and we still follow them.
- He didn't like how religion is organized.
- Nobody could teach you religion, it has to come from yourself.

8) Why does Emerson think that giving to popular charities is wicked?

- He thinks that charity makes people reliant on charity.
- They go further from what they are supposed to do which is being self-reliant.

9) Explain:

It is easy in the world to live after the world's opinion; it is easy in solitude to live after our own; but the great man is he who in the midst of the crowd keeps with perfect sweetness the independence of solitude.

- It is easy to live with society's rules, and it is easy to live by your own rules.
What's hard is living in society with your own rules.

10) Explain:

A man must consider what a blind man's-buff is this game of conformity.

- Living in society is like being blind folded and you are performing all the time.

Edgar Allan Poe

- **What is an American Gothic:** it disturbs the reader.
 - **Edgar Allan Poe never wrote a novel, only poems or short stories, he believed in *unity of effect*.**
 - **He had a dark mind.**
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- **Poe's "The Philosophy of Composition:**

"having conceived, with deliberate care...if his very initial sentences tend not to the outbringing of this effect, then he has failed in his first step. In the whole composition there should be no word written, of which the tendency, direct or indirect, is not to the one pre-established design."

"And by such means, with such care and skill, a picture is at length painted which leaves in the mind of him who contemplates it."

- **Unity of effect:**
 - Before writing a story, he knows the exact emotion he wants to pull out of the reader, and everything within that story has to create that emotion.
 - it has to be limited in term of length because the reader is not allowed to put the book down intel it concluded.
 - Story often take place all in the same set, (makes the reader feels like he is trapped in one place [the narrator's head]), it creates a sense of terror.

- **Unreliable Narrator:**
 - **He uses mad men or murderers or men with extreme personalities which led his gothic into a very psychological territory.**
 - You can't trust the narrator; he is not steady.
 - They can victimise themselves.
 - They are not in control of the narrative in some way, they can seem like they are lying.

Edgar Allan Poe**“Annabel Lee”**

- **When a woman dies, the man who is in love with her is supposed to write her story.**
- **It is reliable source**
- **The structure:**
 - A lot of reputation. (Even within the line)
 - Music structure.
 - The subject matter is quite dark, but the way of writing is very pure.
 - The poem is like a fairy tale (very childish).
- **The content:**
 - The lover is the speaker in the poem.
 - He is talking about his love.
 - Is an old man, who is looking way back in their youth.
 - He is grieving.
 - He doesn't identify himself.
 - He is trapped in the moment.
 - He is excited and spontaneous (unreliable narrator).
 - Annabelle was young and beautiful
 - She was devoted to him.
 - They knew each other since they were children.
 - Annabel got sick. The angels were jealous of their love.

Edgar Allan Poe***“The Black Cat”*****• Plot:**

- He loved having pets in his house with his wife.
- The latest pet was a black cat named Pluto it followed him around in the house.
- He started drinking alcohol and abused his wife and the pets, except for the cat.
- Then, he started to get annoyed by the cat, so he abused it and cut the cat's eye out.
- He then killed the cat by hanging it from a tree.
- In the same night, his house was on fire.
- He saw a figure of a gigantic cat in his wall, and there was a rope about the animal's neck.
- He figured that someone saw the cat hanged and throw its corpse through the window.
- He found a new cat that was similar to his old one, except that it had a white hair covering nearly the whole region of the breast.
- He liked the cat at first, but then he got annoyed by it.
- His hatred rose and he thought of killing the cat, as he was aiming his axe to the cat, his wife tried to stop him so he *“buried the axe in her brain”*.
- He hid his wife's dead body behind a wall in the cellar.
- He started to look for the cat to kill it but couldn't find it.
- He was relieved that the cat was gone.

- After four days, the police came by to investigate the disappearance of the wife.
- Before they could leave, he suggested to show them how well his walls were, and they heard the cat noise behind the wall.
- When they took down the wall, they found the dead wife's body and the cat was sitting near her head and the police arrested the husband.
- The spirit of "PERVERSENESS" (stubbornness)
 - what makes people do things they know will be bad for themselves and others.
 - The reason that we do thing we know it is bad for us.

1) Why did the narrator wanted to tell his story?

- Because he was going to be hanged the next day.
- He is wishing that he could reduce his phantasm. (او هام)

● **He states that there are no evidence or explanations in his text.**

● **His purpose was to place a series of events.**

2) Why do you think the narrator was able to sleep well after he conceals the body?

- He feels as if he is accomplished and nobody is bothering him anymore.

3) What might the black cat(s) represent or symbolize?

- A black cat can represent a bad luck, or "*witches in disguise*".
- The second cat represent a second chance.

4) From where do you think this narration is being written?

- 1st person. The use of (I).

5) How would you describe the narrator physically, mentally, emotionally?

- He was mad, mentally unstable, he feels many negative emotions that makes him think that the only relief is by killing. He is physically ill by drinking to many alcohols.