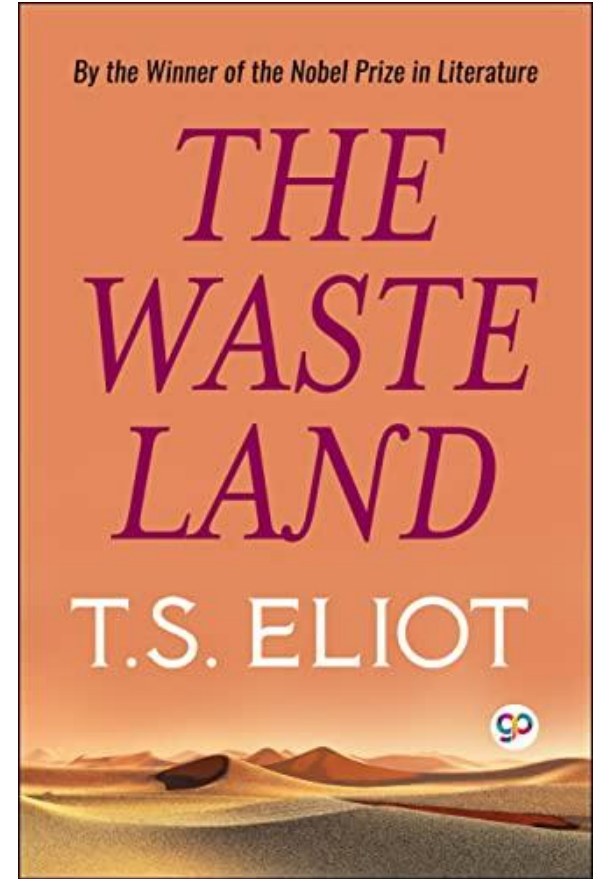
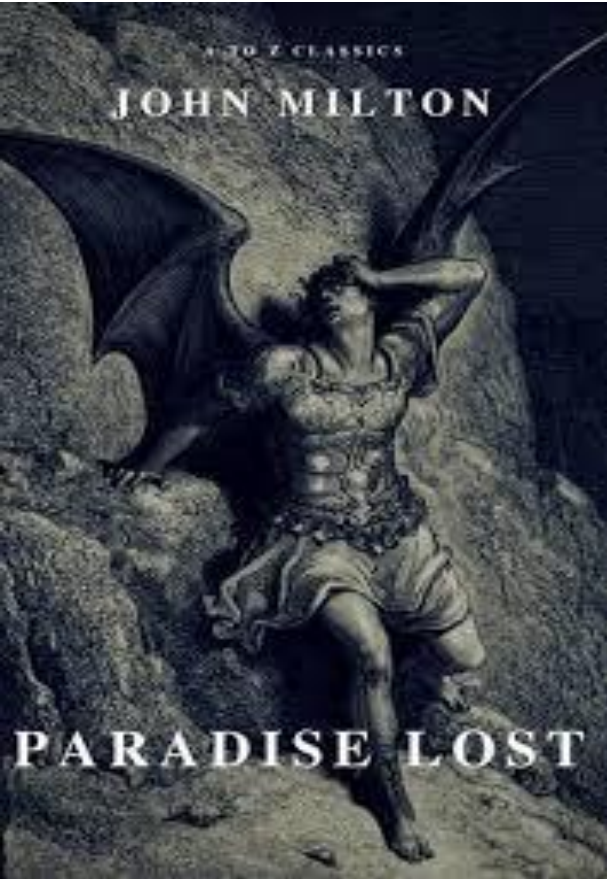


The Eye as a Tool in the Pursuit of Knowledge

By: Anna Brown

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“The eye, the window of the soul, is the chief means whereby the understanding can most fully and abundantly appreciate the infinite works of Nature.” (Da Vinci)



Milton's Own Blindness through Adam and Eve (1650)

- “So much the rather thou celestial Light / **Shine inward, and the mind through all her powers / Irradiate, there plant eyes,** / all mist from thence / Purge and disperse, that I may see and tell/ Of things invisible to mortal sight” (Milton 3.51-55).
- “there I had fixed/ **Mine eyes till now, and pinned with vain desire,/ Had not a voice thus warned me, What thou seest,/ What there thou seest fair creature is thyself,**” (Milton lines 465-468).

Continued

- Stand fast! To stand or fall/ **Free in thine own arbitrement it lies. / Perfect within, no outward aid require,**” (Milton lines 640-642)
- “Our second Adam, in the wilderness,/To shew him all Earth’s kingdoms and their glory./ **His eye might there command wherever stood / city of old or modern fame,**” (Milton 383-386).

Renaissance Sight



The World of Perception Maurice Merleau-Ponty (1948)

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- **Subjective:** “Perception is not a fact within the world, since it is the ‘flaw’ in this ‘great diamond,’ the world; because perception is the capacity whereby there is a world it cannot be just another fact within this world” (Ponty 10).
- **Unify:** “The unity of the object does not lie behind its qualities, but is reaffirmed by each one of them: each of its qualities is the whole” (Ponty 48).
- **Incomplete:** “In the short term, the loss of quality is evident, yet this cannot be remedied by restoring the narrow humanism of the classical period” (Ponty 83).

The Wasteland (1922)

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- “A heap of broken images, where the sun beats,/ And the dead tree gives no shelter, the crickets no relief,” (Eliot lines 22-23).
- “What is the city over the mountains/ Cracks and reforms and bursts in the violent air/ **Falling towers/ Jerusalem Athens Alexandria/ Vienna London/ Unreal** (Eliot lines 371-376).
- **Give: “Da/ Datta:** what have we given” (Eliot lines 400-401)?
- **Sympathize: “Da/ Dayadhvam:** I have heard the key/ Turn in the door once and turn once only/ We think of the key, each in his prison/ Thinking of the key, each confirms a prison” (Eliot Lines 412-416).
- **Control: “Damyata:** The boat responded/ Gaily, to the hand expert with sail and oar/ The sea was calm, your heart would have responded/ Gaily, when invited, being obedient/ To controlling hands” (Eliot Lines 420-424).

Continued

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“These fragments I have shored against my ruins/ Why then Ile fit you.

Hieronymo’s mad againe./ Datta. Dayadhvam. Damyata./ **Shantih shantih**

shantih” (Eliot Lines 430-435).

What Now? (Modern Era)

