1829: The Metropolis Police Improvement Bill

Handwriting Analysis (1666)

Penny Post: Uniform Penny Post came into force on 10 January 1840. However, the stamps and the printed envelopes and covers were not available until 6 May 1840.
Arthur Schopenhauer’s Philosophy (1788-1860)

"Ding an sich" perceived as knowable directly in one's own self as volitional activity (will).

The Will

Not the individual psychological will, but a universal metaphysical principle: spaceless, timeless, uncaused.

Manifests itself in the individual as impulse, instinct and craving.

Appears as consciousness and body.

Everything in the world becomes an expression of the Will.

The world is Will and Idea

No independent material existence.

Right from unconscious matter up to the self-conscious man, the Will alone reigns supreme.

Will appears unconscious in something and conscious in another; it’s the strife, activity, yearning observed everywhere.

Desire (yearning) is the cause of all things.

Nietsche’s Dionysian and Apollonian Forces in Art and Society

Stevenson

"...the work of fiction, reminding us, that is, of the truly mingled tissue of man’s nature, and how huge faults and shining virtues cohabit and persevere in the same characters."

Two-faced morality (1675-76)

- Chronotopes function as “materialized history,” where temporal relationships are made literal by the objects, spaces, or persons with which they intersect (Baltria 247).
- Mirrors are a threshold chronotope, a doorway between imagination and reality.
- The Cheval Mirror (1658, 1670)
- Creates the grotesque fear of life (1661)

Symbol of the two doors. (1655)

- Irony: key to one door opens door to both (as a symbol). (1648, 1669, 1678)
- Predictive irony: Jack the Ripper begins his “career” two years later.
Literary Devices & Structures

Gothic Devices
- CRYPTIC MESSAGES, handwriting (1660), plethora of sealed letters (1670-71), Jekyll’s lab notes
- GOTHIC DREAD: language of terror, Lanyon’s mysterious death, Jekyll’s “illness” (1663)
- FEMME/HOMME FATALE: Hyde’s murder’s Carew (1656)
- THE GRISLY OR BIZARRE: tramples little girl (1646), Utterson’s dream of the faceless man / Hyde’s actual face (1650-51), Jekyll’s transformation into Hyde (1680, 1683)
- GOTHIC REVENGE (Jekyll’s suicide)

Humorous rhyme: Hyde died by cyanide. (1669)

Detective fiction: Utterson becomes a detective in his pursuit of understanding.

Pop-Culture Influences

Blackwood Magazine’s Tales of Effect
Relate the experience of a protagonist caught in a terrifying predicament.
- Utterson’s personality (1645, 1649)
- Situation is so terrifying the protagonist has hallucinatory or nearly so experience.

But the action is always dual in Effect tales.
- The explanation acts as a counterpart, a second telling, displacing the “fiction” or the “delusion” with the “truth.”
- The Blackwood sensationalist was fascinated with error & delusion, but the effect is to exercise irrational states of mind (madness) & confirm authority of reason & fact.

Stevenson INVERTS this effect.
- Utterson’s misunderstanding is multi-layered, but stems from the reasonable assumption that Jekyll & Hyde must be two distinct people.
- Lanyon and Jeckyll dispel reason in their letters relating the facts. (1676)
Science and Pseudo-Scientific Influences

Two Victorian Questions:
Does Nature change by itself? Where does the agency for change occur?

- Darwin, Descent of Man (p. 1544)

Herbert Spencer and Social Darwinism

- Galton: Eugenics (Greek for good birth) is a study of methods to "improve" the human race by controlling reproduction.
- Agency (1658, 1681)
  - Where did Hyde come from? (1660)
  - "...a stranger in my own house" (1677)


- The "rise and fall of the theory known as eugenics is in every respect a cautionary tale. The early eugenicists were usually well-meaning progressive types. They had imbibed their Darwin and decided that the process of natural selection would improve if it were guided by human intelligence. They did not know they were shaping a rationale for atrocities."

Social Darwinism

Lombroso’s Theory of Innate Criminality.

- He classified personalities & behavior of soldiers.
- By relating these traits to their physical features, he hoped to establish a biological basis for mental health & disease.
- “unknown impurity” (1685)

Hyde embodies fear that moral behavior causes atavism. (1651, 1655, 1667)
- Soho and theories about the moral effects of environment. (1656)
- Moral insanity. (1672, 1681)
- Troglodytes & Hairy knuckles… (1652, 1679, 1684-1685)

Decadence: the state of being degenerate in mental or moral qualities.

Mr. Hyde (1677)

“Sloped differently”: Jekyll and Hyde (1660)
Dionysian and Apollonian Duality

**Apollonian**
- Principle of individuation; the basis of all analytic distinctions; pure form.

**Dionysian**
- Corresponds roughly to Schopenhauer’s conception of Will & it is directly opposed to the Apollonian. All forms of enthusiasm and ecstasy are Dionysian because in these states man surrenders individuality and submerges himself in a greater whole.