

**WELCOME
TO
HELL**





Sinners in “Inferno”

- All sinners that Dante encounters in “Inferno” are unrepentant, so their stories are skewed and not 100% truthful
- Represent 3 different types of sin:
 - **incontinence:** no control of oneself
 - **violence:** violence against self, neighbor, or God
 - **fraud:** intentional deceit



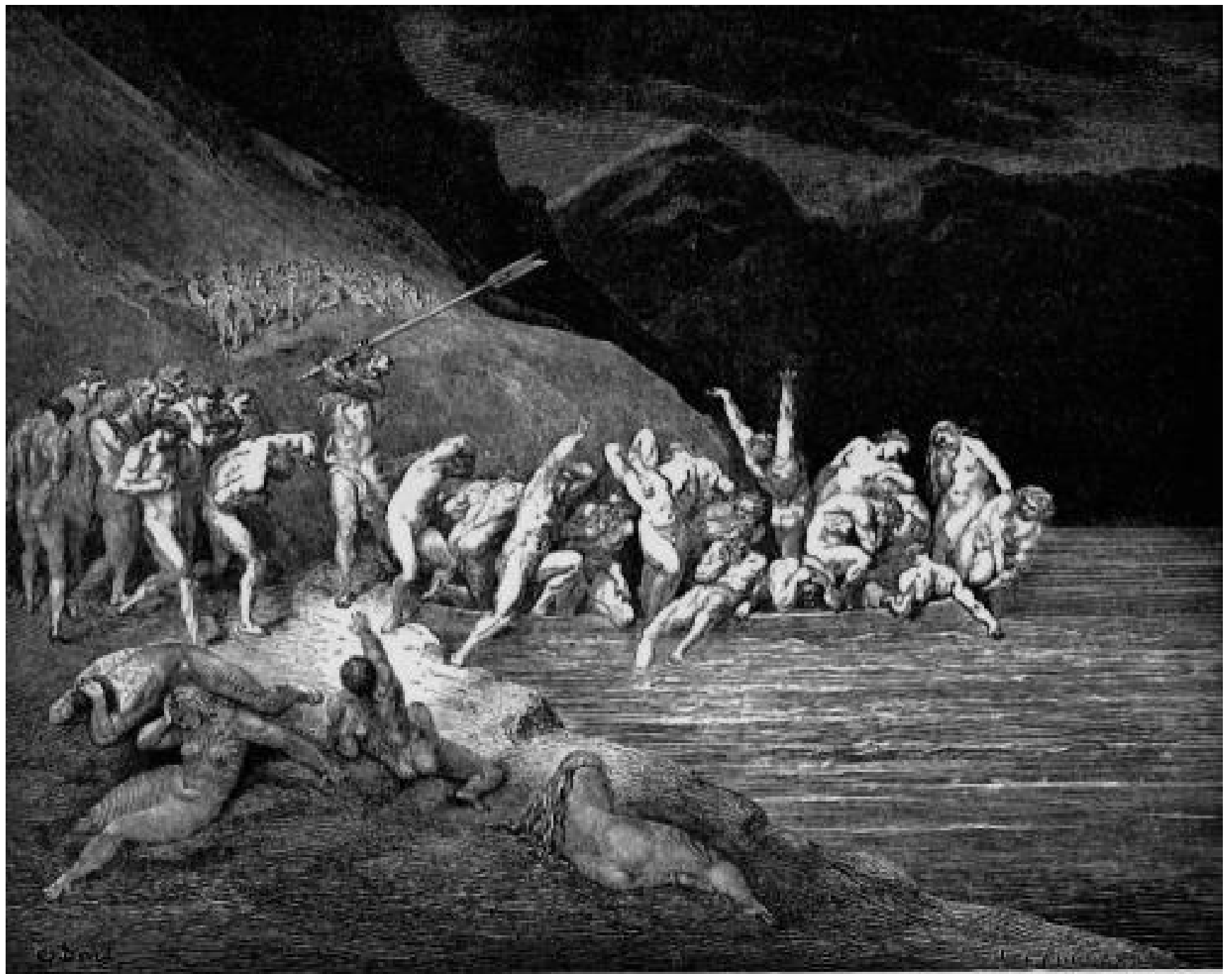
Circle 5: The Wrathful & Sullen

In your group of 2 or 3 students sitting next to you, come up with the rationale for the wrathful and sullen being placed in the she-wolf division of sin as “incontinent.”

Leaving the She-Wolf, Finding the Lion

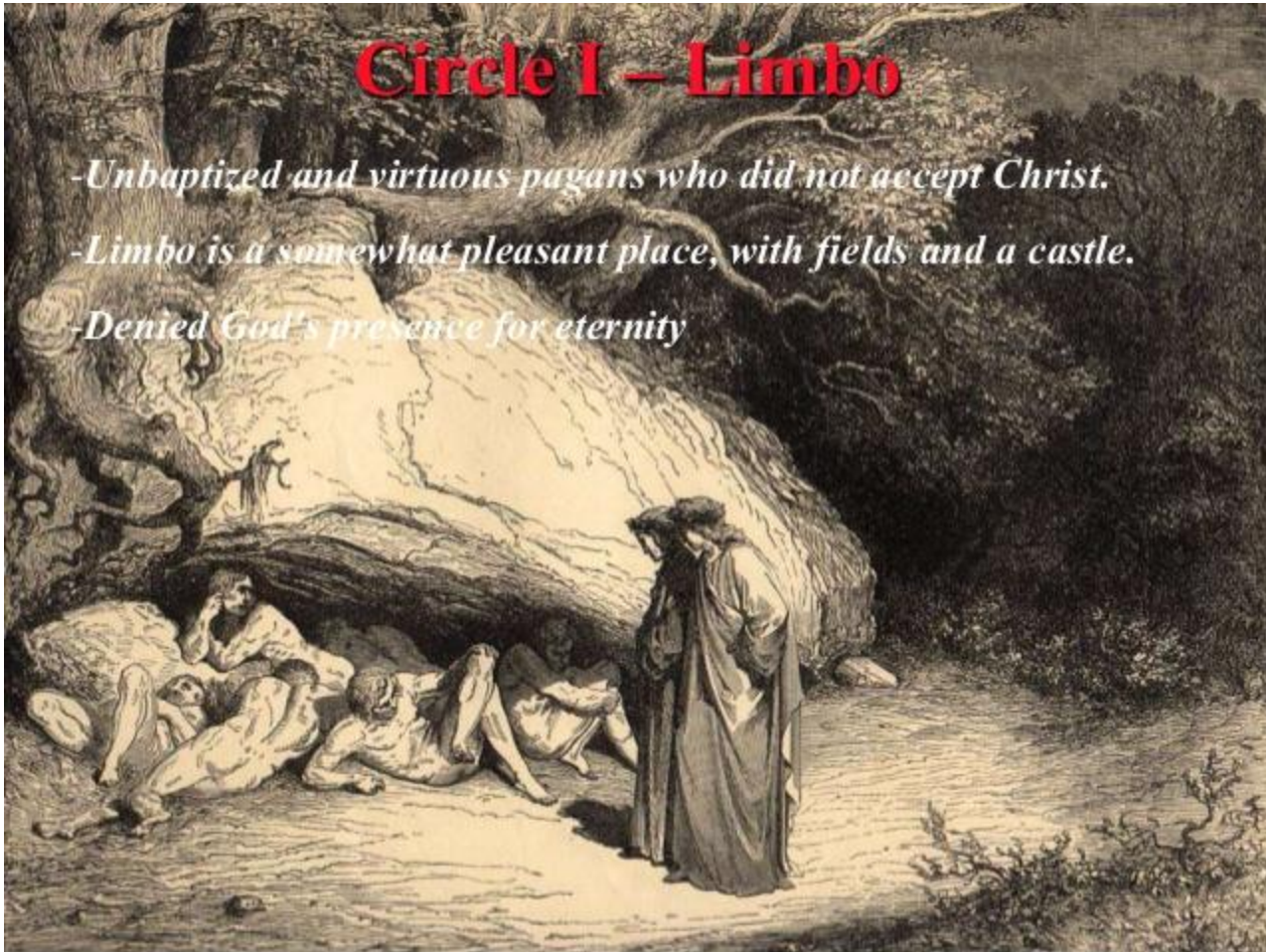


- Once Dante and Virgil pass through the Styx river, they have left the Incontinent layer of Hell (the She-Wolf)
- The Incontinent division of Hell is considered Upper Hell, and beyond the gates of the City of Dis is Lower Hell, the layers of Violence and Fraud (the Lion and Leopard, respectively)



Circle I – Limbo

- Unbaptized and virtuous pagans who did not accept Christ.*
- Limbo is a somewhat pleasant place, with fields and a castle.*
- Denied God's presence for eternity*





Journal #23

Reflecting on Canto I of Dante's *Inferno*, what challenges in your own life present themselves as The Dark Wood of Error? Are there instances in your life where you have sinned, felt guilty, doubted yourself in a particular situation, or perhaps found yourself lost either figuratively or literally? Explain how your own experiences either are similar to or different than Dante and his own experience of self doubt? Use textual evidence. *One whole page.*

Journal #24

After you read Canto III of Dante's "Inferno," reflect on the sinners and punishment of The Opportunists/The Indifferent. As you consider how intentional Dante punishes these sinners, create your idea about who would be in this realm of Hell if you were Dante.

Would a specific group of people be there (Democrats, hippies, etc.) or would there be individuals who would fit the bill? You are free to choose any person you like from popular culture, history, or contemporary society. Then, write a one page explanation of who you would place in the Vestibule of Hell as the Indifferent/Opportunists and what their punishment would be. *This is for my eyes only so get creative!*

The City of Dis – Pluto's Lair





The City of Dis – Pluto's Lair

- Dante and Virgil meet PHLEGYAS, the Boatman of the Styx river. He is characterized as a madman, as he is in charge of the Wrathful sinners and a link to the fallen angels of Dis
- Known in mythology as angry at the god Apollo for raping his daughter, he set the god's temple on fire and was sentenced with eternal torment on the Styx river (known as the river of the Underworld); think RATIONALE here!

PHLEGYAS- The Angry Boatsman





„Fort Wegent, dorthin zu den andern Qunden!“ — Der Fährmann Phlegyas.

Circle 7 Round 1: Violent against Neighbors



Journal #23

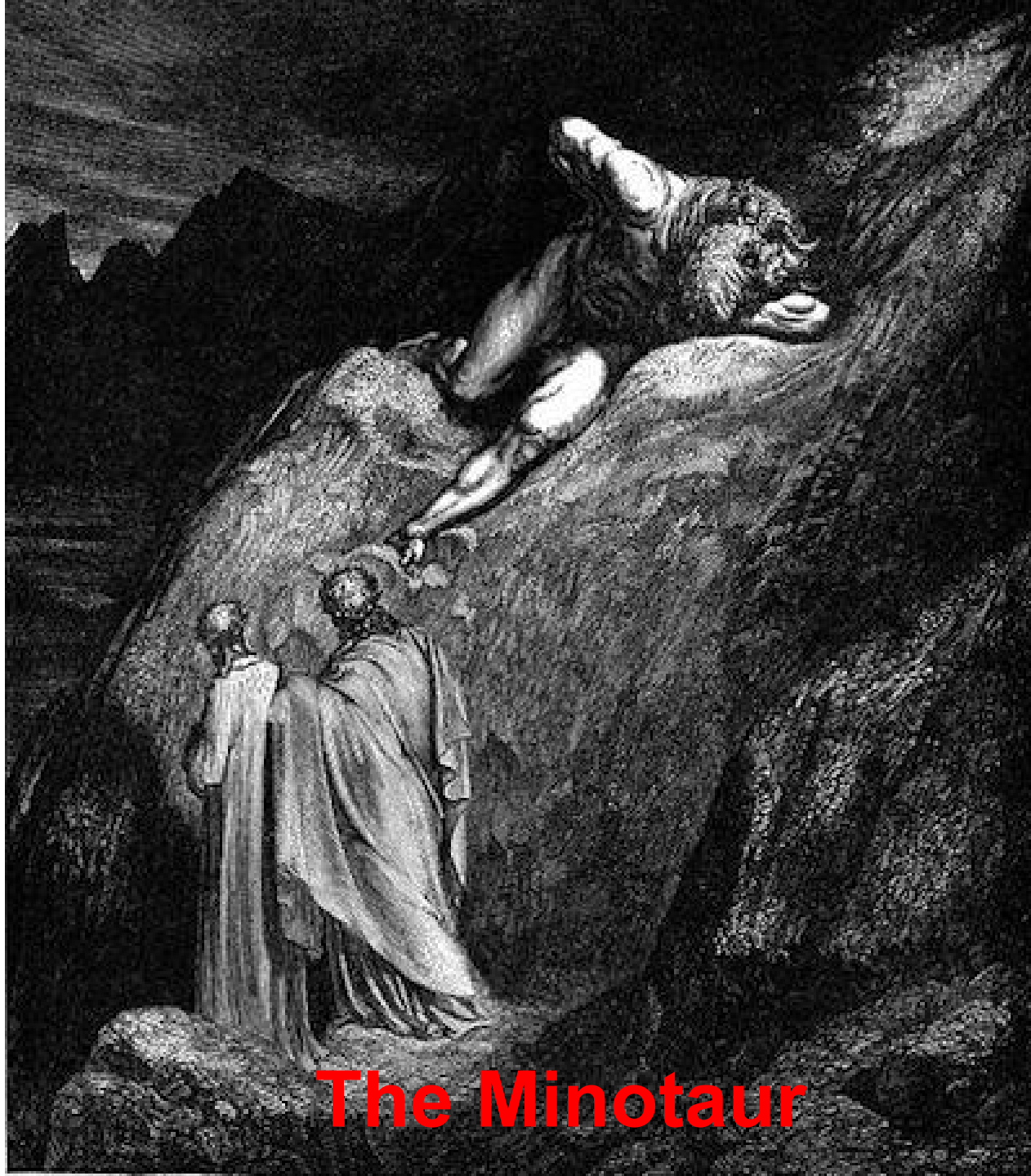
As we encounter various levels of violence in Circle 7, ponder the intentions of Dante Alighieri. In Round 2, we see violence against self, namely suicide. Do you believe that ALL people who commit suicide would be found here? If not, why? Think about religion, age, intention, motivation, etc. *Use 3 pieces of textual evidence. Two pages long.*

Journal #29

Thinking about the sinners in the 3rd round of Circle 7, how can you apply the idea of usurers, blasphemers, and sodomites to contemporary society? Do you think that there would be any current usurers, blasphemers, or sodomites in hell from our society? What kinds of people do you think are here? What kinds of connections can we make to sinners in our society compared to those sinners we encounter in Circle 7 Round 3 of Dante's "Inferno?" *Two pages long; 3 pieces of textual evidence.*

Journal #25

In Circle 4 of Dante's "Inferno" we encounter the Hoarders and the Wasters. Using this as the basis of your discussion, think about the Greek philosophy that "moderation in everything" is the key to a successful lifestyle. Study page 39 of Dante's "Inferno" and look at the means of Excess. When you think about the Mean of Extremes, how does this come to fruition in your own life? Think about extremes and use pg. 39 as the basis for your entry. *One whole page.*



The Minotaur









Chiron



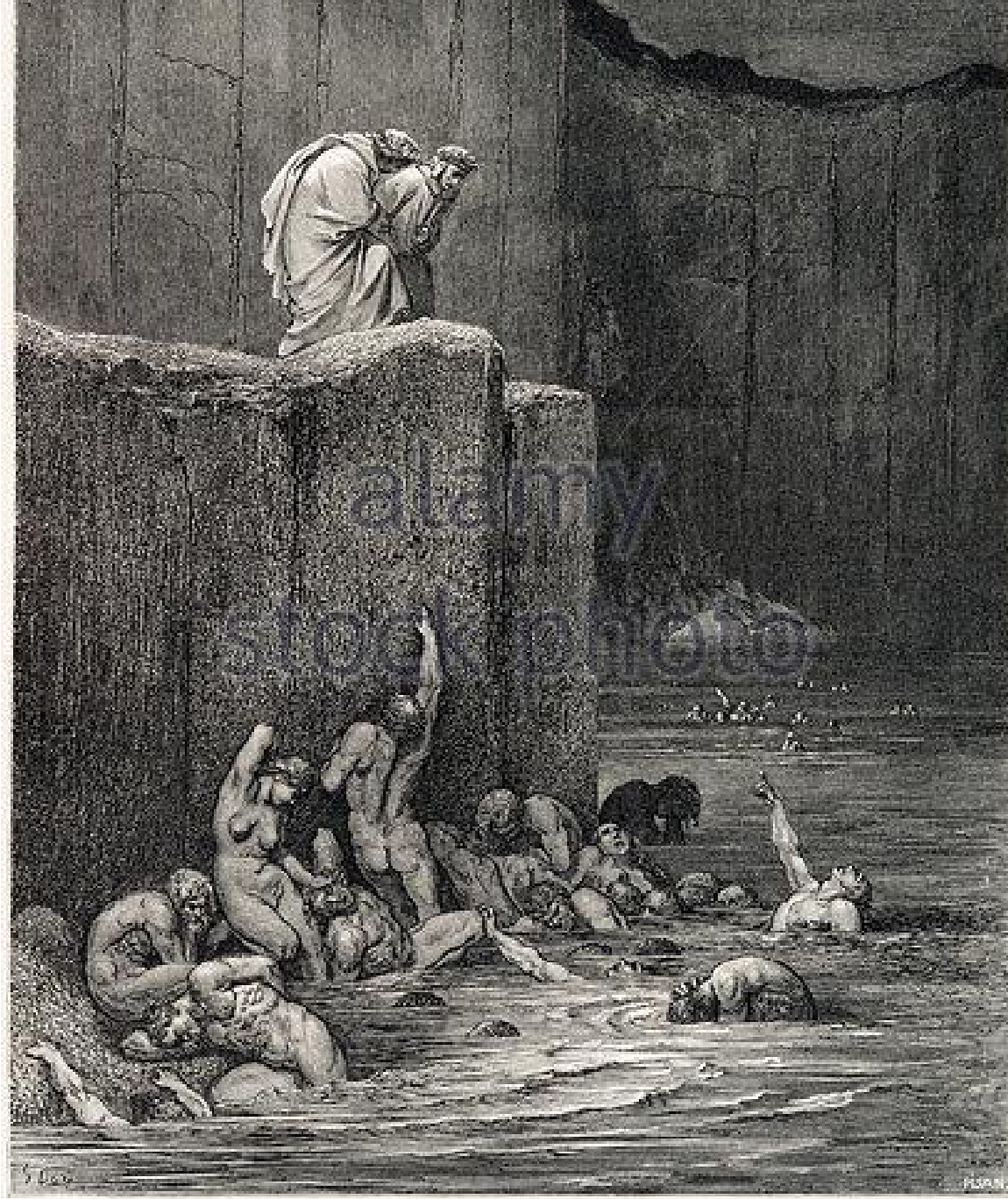
On Your **Yellow** Post-It Note...

What is **deceit**? On your **yellow** post-it note, define the word **deceit** and then tell of a time when you were deceived or how you were deceived. When you are finished, **BRING IT TO THE FRONT WHITEBOARD!**



What is Graft?

Graft is a bribe, usually involving the giving or receiving of money. It can also include other mediums, like drugs or sexual favors.



Why does Dante spend so much time here in Bolgia 5?



One explanation of why Dante spends so much time in the canto explaining the surroundings is that he was falsely accused of graft, which led to his exile.

Describe the terrain here in Bolgia 5.

There are no bridges intact here since the earthquake that shook Hell during the Great Harrowing.

Who is Malacoda and who are the Malebranche?

Malacoda is the leader of the guard devils here. His name means *evil tail*.

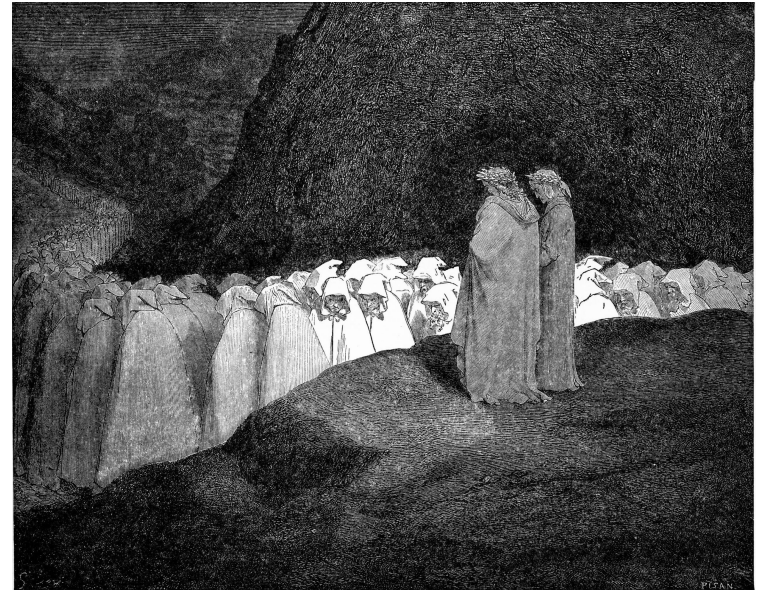
The Malebranche are the devils who guard this bolgia. They also engage in graft while they are here. They try to catch sinners and torment them. Malebranche means *evil claws*.



The Hypocrites

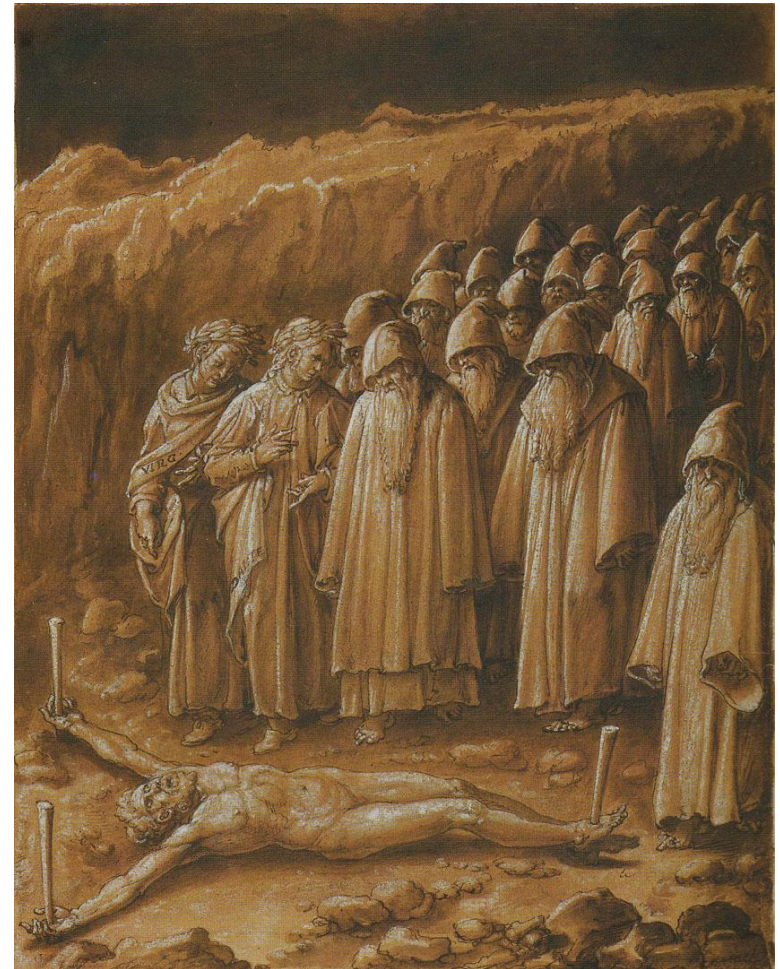
Hypocrisy is making a show of holding beliefs that you do not actually hold. These are the only sinners who wear clothing. The heavy cloaks make them walk very slowly.

Caiaphas, the High Priest of the Sanhedrin, allow Jesus to be crucified although he believed in his innocence, thus making him a hypocrite.



Main Sinners in Circle 8 Bolgia 6

Caiaphas and the other members of the Sanhedrin are punished in the same way here: crucified to the ground with 3 great stakes while the hypocrites walk slowly over them with their heavy robes.







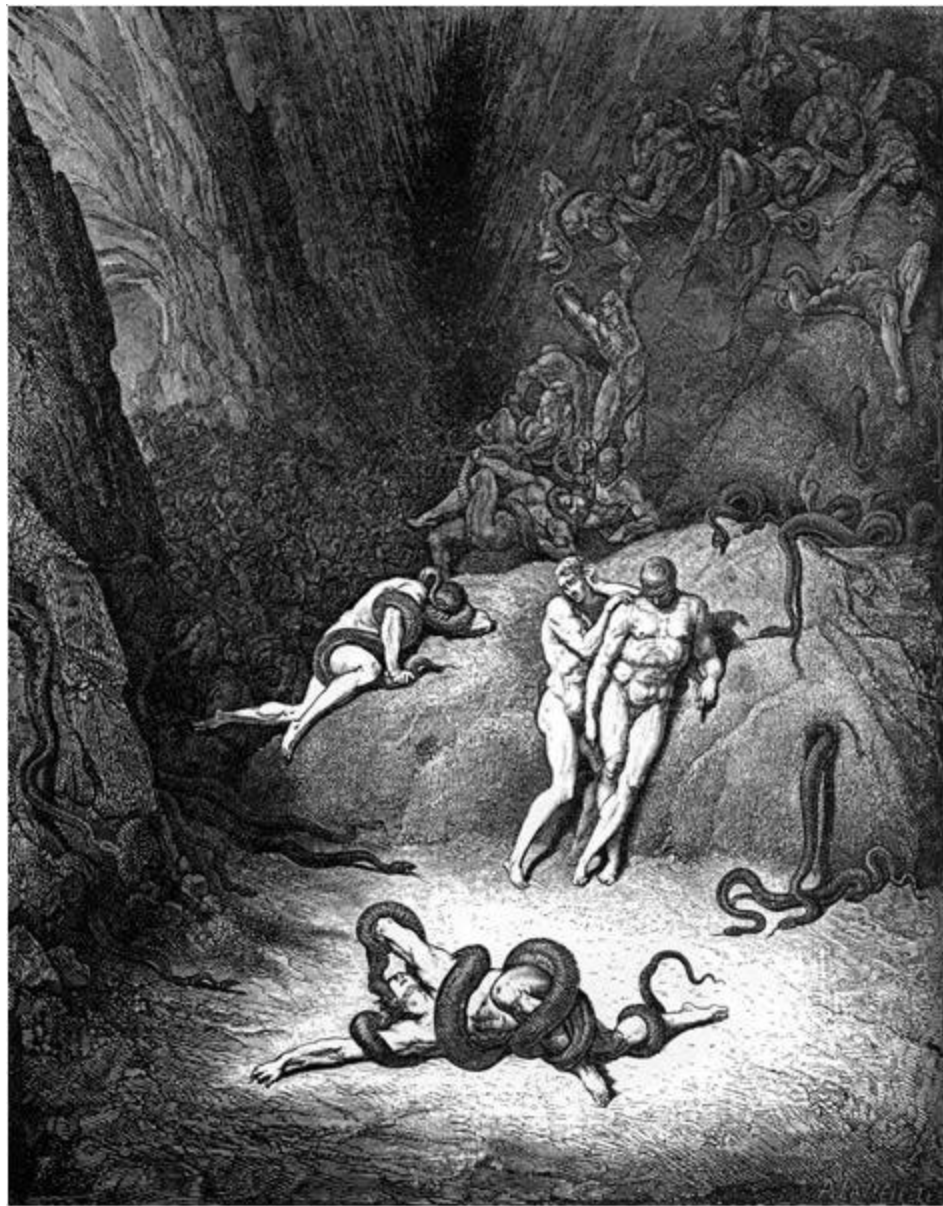
The Thieves in Bolgia 7

Thievery is stealing someone else's property.

Some common examples are identity theft, plagiarism, and dishonesty.

Their punishment involves a transformation: the serpents bite the sinners who then is consumed by flames, but whose ashes immediately reconstitute again into the Thief. They keep switching places.







Main Sinner in Bolgia 7

Vanni Fucci is the main sinner here. He once stole religious items and an innocent person was blamed for the theft. Instead of owning up to his actions, the innocent person went to jail for a year and Fucci left the area to avoid paying the penalty.

Although Vanni Fucci has committed more than one sin here, Minos judges him and determines which circle the worst sin merits for a punishment.

The prediction he makes to Dante is that the White Guelfs will be expelled from Florence by the Black Guelfs.



How is this punishment fitting?

Thieves stole things that belonged to other people, and in this bolgia, the only thing they have—their identity—is stolen by other thieves.

Since they use their limbs to steal from other people, they are now limbless as serpents.

One of 3 things can happen in this punishment:

1. The thief is consumed by fire and reduced to ashes and reforms
2. The thief and the snake can unite into one body
3. The thief can become a snake or reptile while the snake becomes the thief



Uncertainty

There is a lot of uncertainty here in thievery, much like the crime committed on earth.

The guard of the thieves here is Cacus, who is a centaur who once stole cattle from Hercules.

He dragged them by the tails into the cave so that he could lure Hercules there, but Hercules heard the sound of the stealing and tore off the top of the mountain and hurled down boulders to kill Cacus.

Cacus arrives to punish Vanni Fucci by carrying snakes on his back.

Journal #34/26

Reflecting on Circle 8 Bolgia 8 and the Evil Counselors, consider Ulysses and Diomedes. Why does Dante Alighieri put these two sinners here? How do they constitute as Simple Fraud abusers? Explain their contributions to this layer of Hell and use textual evidence to thoroughly explain their punishments. Include how their ambition, quest for knowledge, forbidden experience in their quest leads them to this Circle of Hell. Identify how simple fraud comes to fruition in this bolgia. *One WHOLE page and include 5 pieces of textual evidence.*

Who's Who in Circle 8 Bolgias 1 & 2

- Venedico Caccianemico
- Thais
- Alessio Interminei from Lucca
- Simon Magus
- Pope Nicholas III
- Constantine

Venedico Caccianemico

- Nobleman of Bologna
- Tried to win the favor of the Marquis da Este of Ferrara and used his sister to do so; he allowed him to sleep with her, making himself a Panderer
- “That whipped soul thought that he would hide from me/ by lowering his face” lines 46-47

Thais

- A prostitute who flattered her clients
- She used her body and words to get what she needed in prostitution
- She is punished by being immersed in excrement
- She is a Flatterer
- Fictional character from the play *Eunuchus*

Alessio Interminei from Lucca

- A Flatterer who is in a ditch filled with excrement with the other Flatterers
- The slime on his forehead is excrement
- He is barely famous but his fame is derived from *Inferno*
- Mentioned in a few historical documents from Italian Renaissance

Simon Magus

- Convert to Christianity
- Often accused of lawlessness and paid for his position in the church
- Paid church officials to be in a place of power
- Simony- the selling or buying of church offices or spiritual benefits

Jason and the Argonauts

- Jason and the Argonauts sailed in search of and found the Colchian Golden Fleece
- He seduced many women to get closer to his quest
- Slept with Hypsipyle who had twins, then abandoned her
- He married and had children with Medea and abandoned her from Creusa, daughter of the King of Corinth, Creon! Medea then killed their children
- Jason is a proud sinner and rebellious:
“Said to me: See that tall one who is coming,
And for his pain seems not to shed a tear.” (82-84)

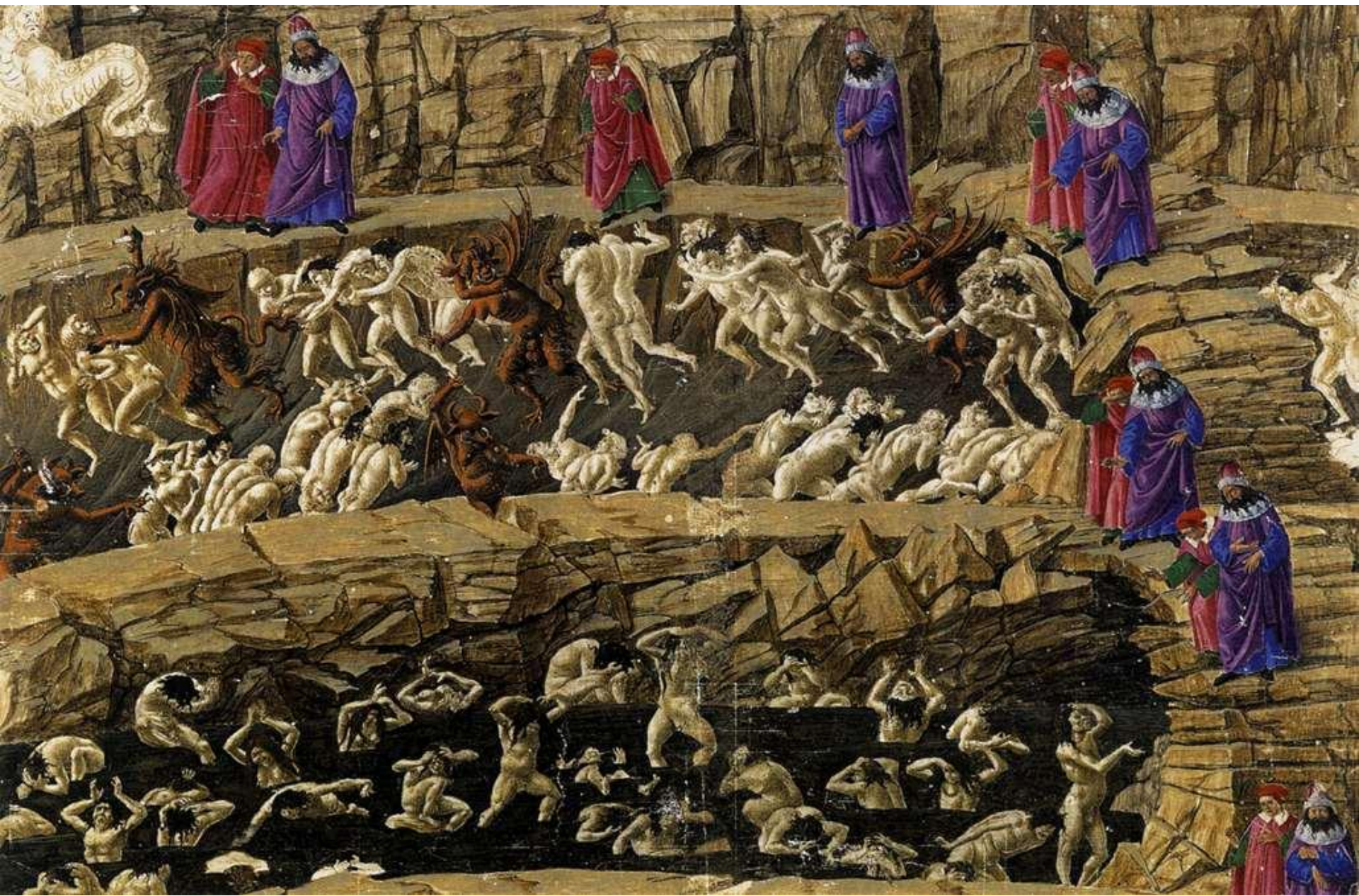


Pope Nicholas III

- Pocketed money sinfully gained
- He carelessly pocketed money, just like his money is stuffed in a pocket so we see him carelessly tossed in this round of sin
- Pocketed money and is pocketed in this round of Hell

Constantine the Great

- First Christian Roman emperor
- He named Rome the new capital of the Holy Roman empire and the birthplace of Christianity
- Too much power and \$









WPT

Journal #32

In Circle 8 Bolgia 4, Dante encounters the Fortune Tellers and Diviners. These people committed simple fraud by trying to foresee the future. In modern times, we see this similarly in astrology, and even in a stretch, in fiduciary marketing and advice given by financiers about futures and stocks. Compare and contrast these sinners in the text with contemporary versions and discuss if they commit the same type of sin, and if their sins are justified. Give examples of people in contemporary society who may also commit this type of fraud. *At least 3 pieces of evidence from the text; you may use the handout provided 2 full pages long.*

Modern Day Examples of Soothsayers

- Weathermen
- Soldiers
- Sports Analysts
- Business Financier
- Wolf of Wall Street
- Horse/turtle/crab (?) racing
- Doctors
- Doomsday preppers
- Gamblers
- Sales person
- Bull riding
- Presidents
- First responders
- Mayan Calendar



Circle 8 Bolgia 8: Evil Counselors

The Evil Counselors here in Bolgia 8 are endlessly hidden from view inside great flames.

Their sin was to abuse the gifts of the Almighty, to steal His virtues for low purposes. As they stole from God in their lives and worked by hidden ways, so are they stolen from sight and hidden in the great flames which are their own guilty consciences.

Since they used their tongues to manipulate others, they are stuck in tongues of flame.



Major Sinners in Circle 8 Bolgia 8

Ulysses and Diomedes are both punished here jointly.

Ulysses (also known as Odysseus) narrates his tale to Dante and Virgil. Ulysses was a legendary Greek king of Ithaca who was the Greek hero in Homer's *The Iliad* and *The Odyssey*.

Ulysses and Diomedes created the wooden Trojan Horse, which allowed the infiltration of Troy. They manipulated his men to do what he wanted, although it led to their ultimate demise.



Simple Fraud: What's It Mean?

There is a lot of simple fraud here in this bolgia:

The idea of simple fraud comes to fruition here by the manipulation and deceit of people to whom you owe nothing.

My question for you is that do you think that Ulysses deserves to be in Circle 8? Why isn't he in Circle 9 in your opinion where the others who have committed complex fraud lay for eternity?



Is Ulysses guilty of fraud?

He manipulates other people to do what he wants. He is a master of rhetoric, which includes the glibness of tongue that allows others to do what you want by persuading them orally (by speaking.)

Ulysses gives men bad advice, like sailing in pursuit of fame even though the journey is fated to doom.

Ulysses misrepresents himself. He doesn't trust anything other than his own knowledge or experience. No one can tell him not to experience the world.

What is a schism?

A schism is a break. It is especially a break within a church, as between Catholics and Protestants, or between the Roman Catholic Church and the Eastern Orthodox Church, or between Islam and Christianity. Schisms can also occur in politics when rivals, often hate-filled political parties are formed. Sometimes, schisms occurs within families.

Why is the punishment fitting?

In the 9th bolgia, the sinners are punished for causing divisions, whether within religions, politics, or families. They are punished by eternally walking around in a circle and being sliced by a devil with a sword.

The sinners slowly heal as they walk around the Circle. They are fully healed by the time they reach the devil, who slices them again.

Who's Who in Circle 8 'Bolgia 9'?

Sowers of Religious Discord:

Muhammad was the founder of Islam; he is the prophet of Allah; split from his chin to his anus, with his intestines hanging out.

Ali- son-in-law to Muhammad who wanted to take over after Muhammad; those who accepted him as the head of Islam are the **Shiites** and those who rejected him as the head of Islam are the **Sunnis**. We still see this factionalism in modern day Iraq; split from his chin to his brow; this wound is what caused the death of his mortal body while he was praying

Fra Dolcino-head of the Apostolic Brother, who preached about the community of property and of women. They hid in the hills until they were ordered to be found by Pope Clement V. They captured him and burned him at the stake.

Who's Who in Circle 8 Bolgia 9?

Sowers of Political Discord:

Pier Dia Medicina- from Romagna, he caused rulers to turn against themselves; he caused discord between the Polenta and Malatesta families.

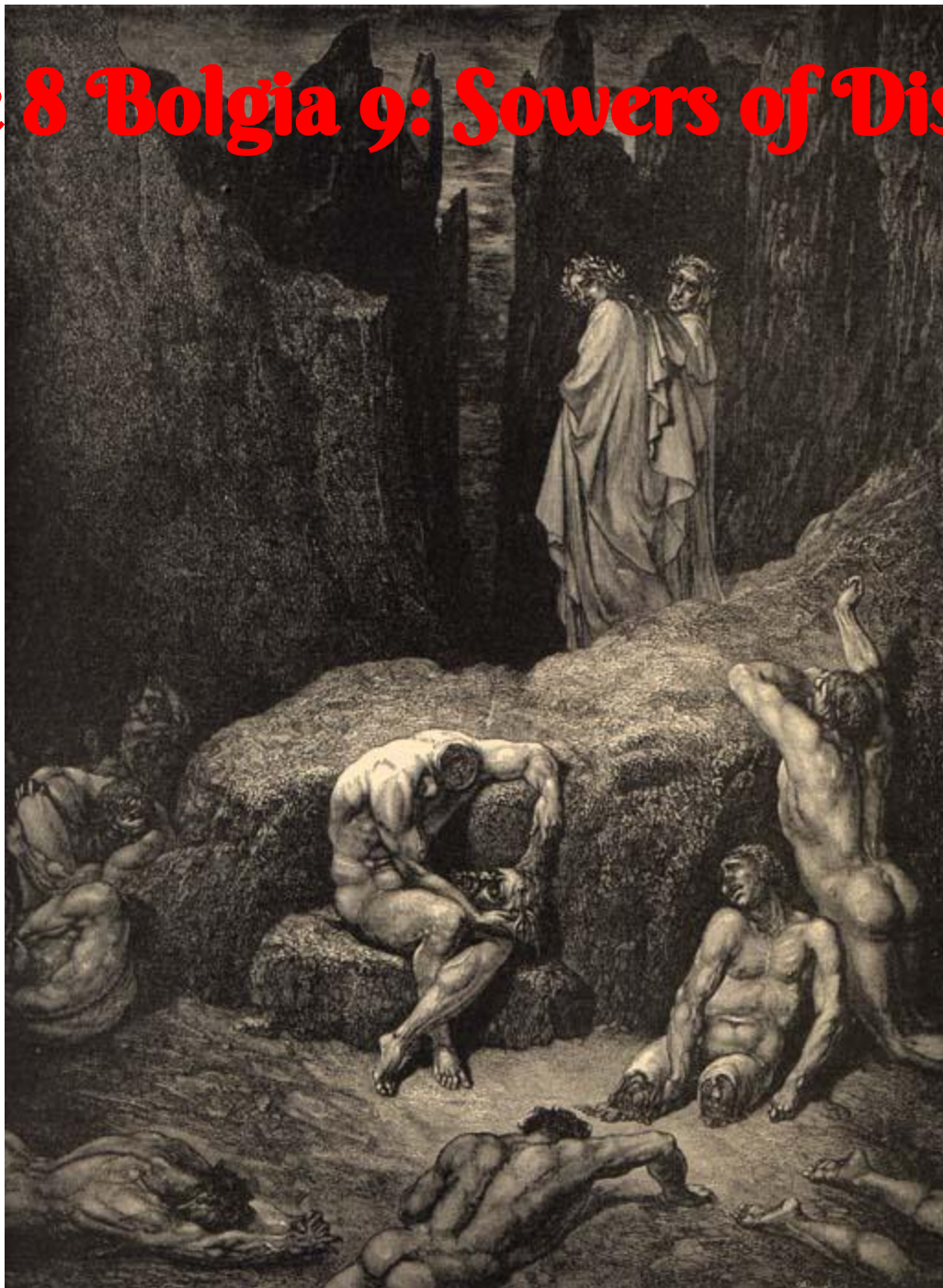
Curio is the man who urged Caesar to cross the Rubicon, declaring war on the Republic.

Mosca Dei Lamberti said that one of the Buondelmonti should be murdered, which caused conflict between the Ghibellines and Guelphs.

Sower of Discord Between Kinsmen:

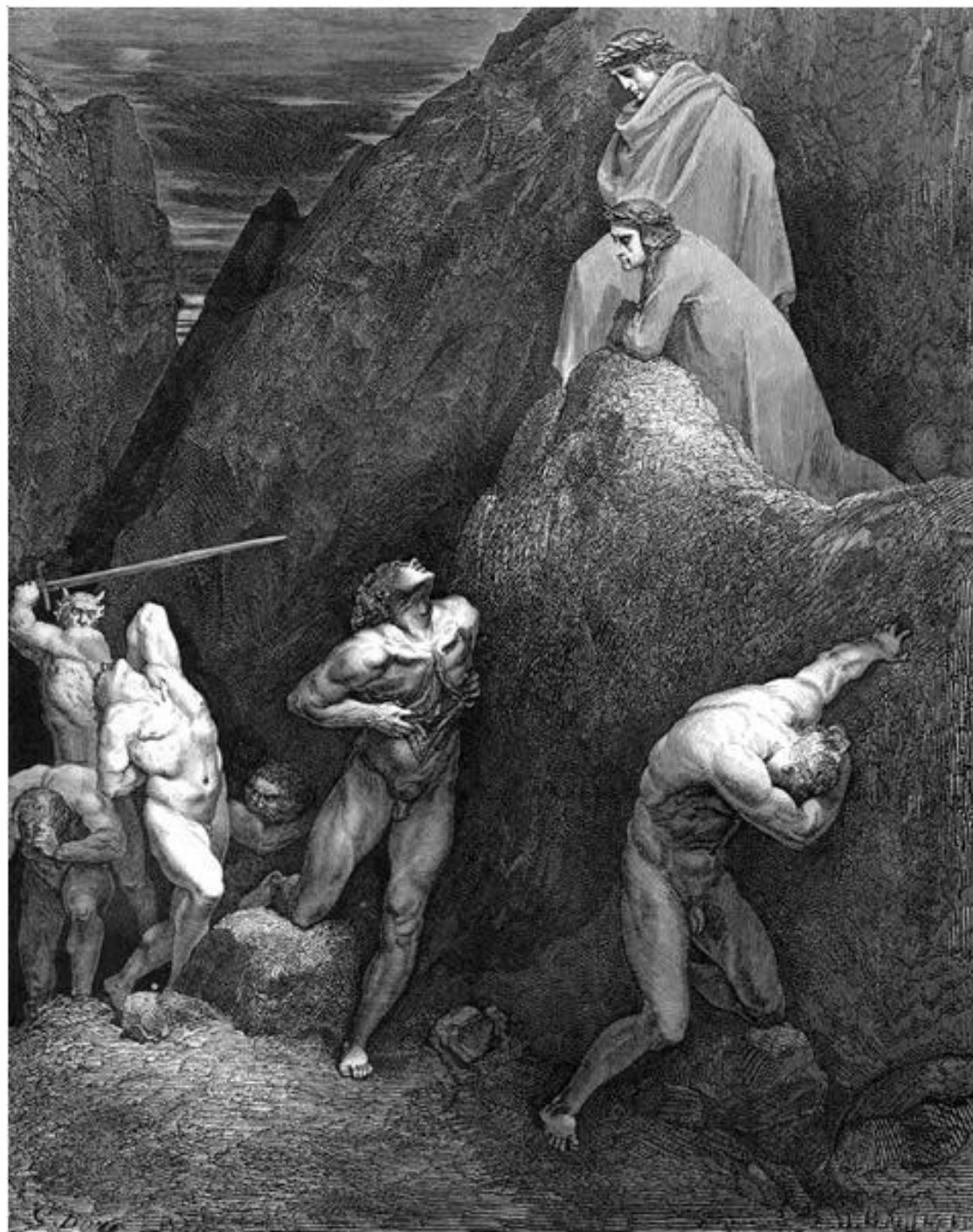
Bertran de Born- separated father (Henry II) from son, which for these actions, Dante forces him to carry his head decapitated from his body.

Circle 8 Bolgia 9: Sowers of Discord



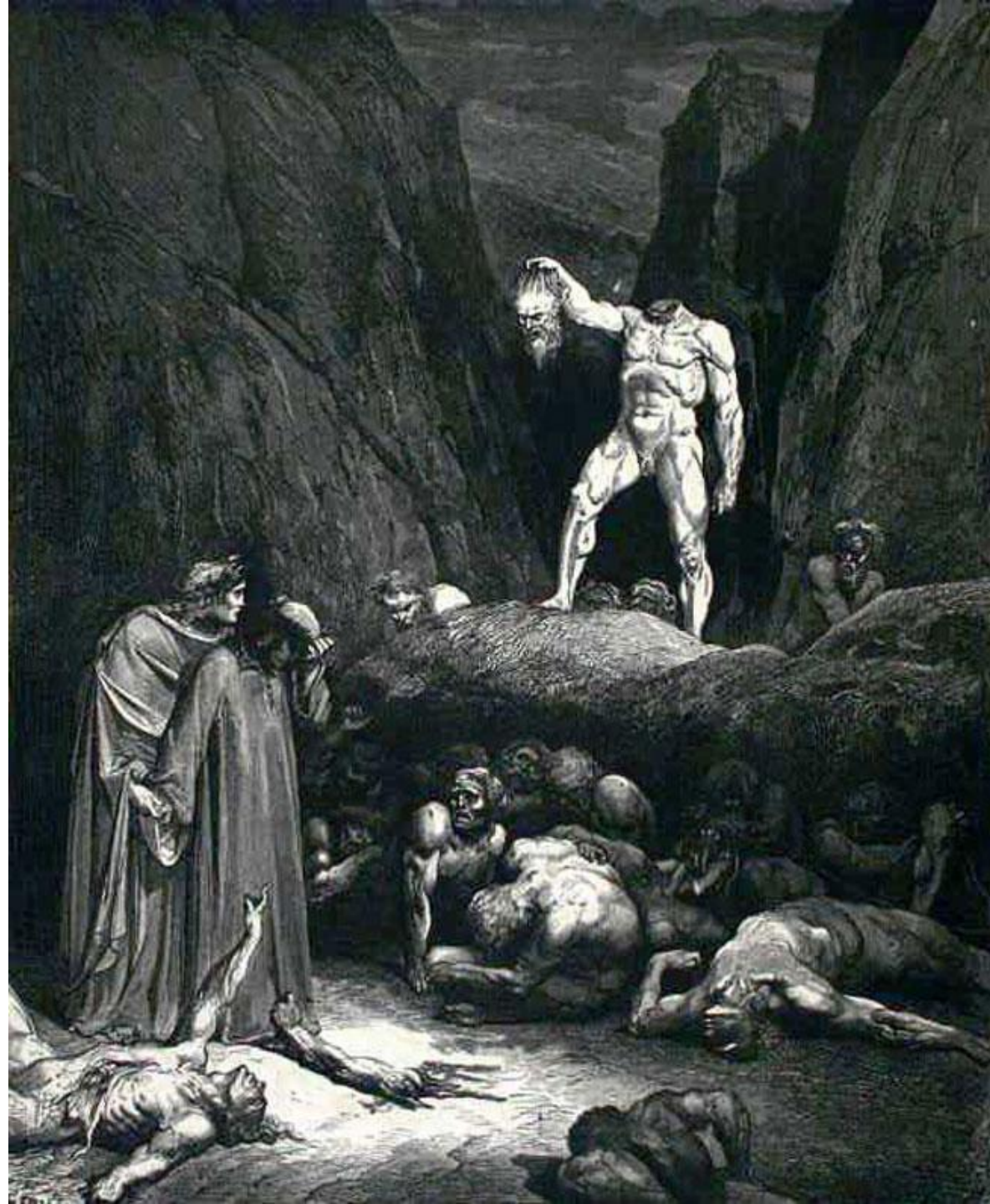
Circle 8 Bolgia 9: Sowers of Discord





Who's Who in Circle 8 Bolgia 9?







*Welcome
Back
to
School!*

Circle 8 Bolgia 10: The Falsifiers

Who are the sinners and what are their punishments?

Unlike all other sinners in Hell, the Falsifiers are tortured from within themselves rather than from without.

Alchemists- They have leprosy (the Alchemists tried to change lead into gold, and now their skin turns from healthy to diseased)

Evil Impersonators- They are insane (the Evil Impersonators made other people confused about who the Impersonators were; now they are insane, making them confused about who they are)

Counterfeiters- They made what they had bigger than it should be- have dropsy, which makes parts of their body swell up and be bigger than it should be; they suffer from eternal thirst

Liars- They lied with their testimony (their words stank) so they are feverous and stink

Circle 8 Bolgia 10: The Falsifiers

Most of the punishment for this Bolgia comes from within; think of their sins as internal, so now their punishments will mirror that idea.

Gianni Schicchi- an evil impersonator who used his acting ability to imitate the voices of other people. He dictated a new will from a wealthy Florentine patriarch to be given to Gianni Schicchi (himself)

Master Adamo- a counterfeiter who made 21-carat coins instead of the standard 24-carat coins, thus creating a currency crisis in Northern Italy in the 1200s

Potiphar's Wife- the wife of Potiphar fell in love with Joseph (think Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat!) and wanted to have an affair with him; he declined and she told her husband that Joseph hit on her; told in Genesis chapter 39

Circle 8 Bolgia 10: The Falsifiers

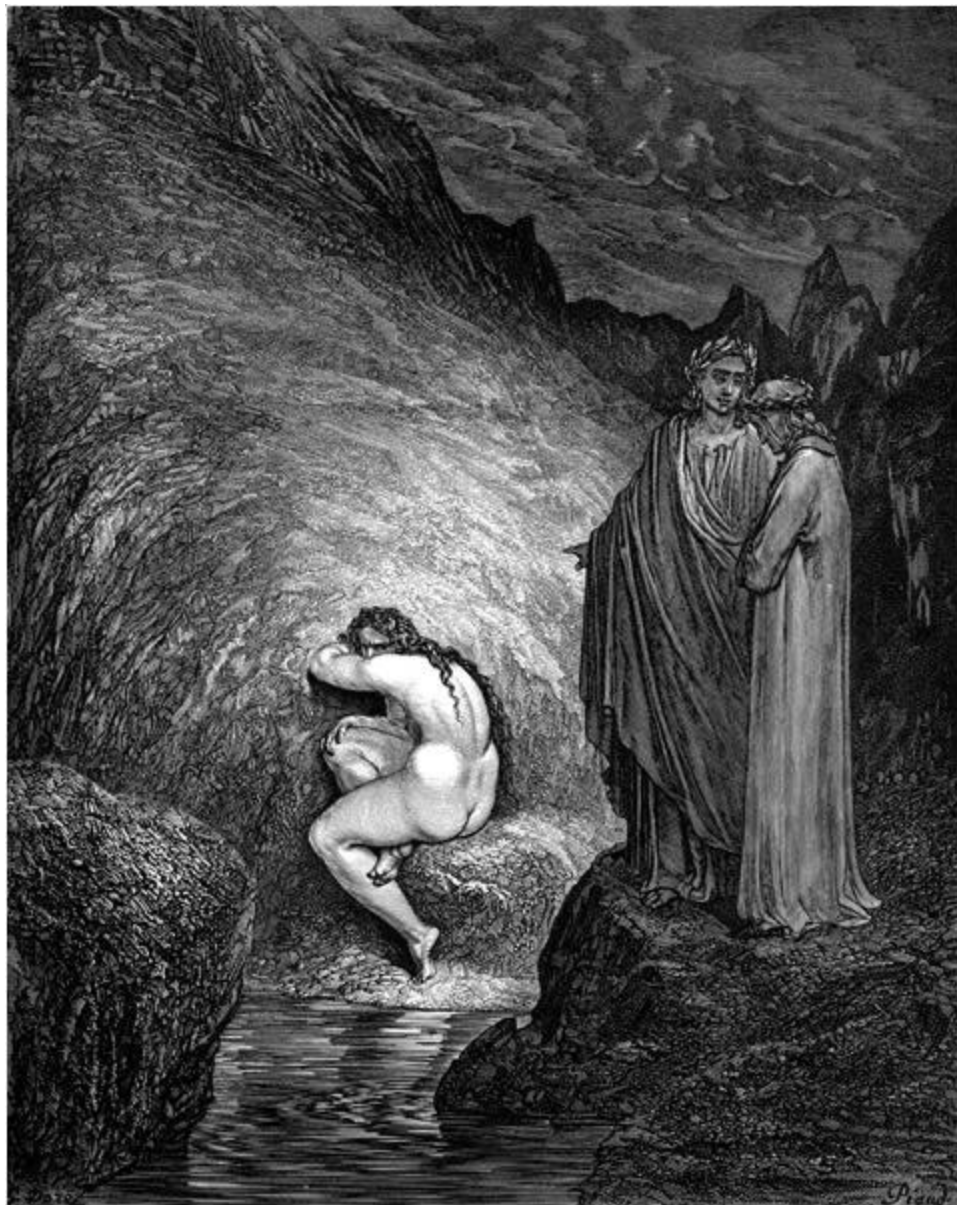
At the end of Circle 8 Bolgia 10, Dante intently listens to the sinners telling their stories. Virgil becomes frustrated with him:

Canto XXX line 130:

I was still standing, fixed upon those two/ when the Master said to me:
“Now keep on looking/ a little longer and I quarrel with you.”

Dante is instantly contrite, and Virgil stops being so angry with him. From this little instant, we can learn that we ought not to get so emotionally tied to the sinners and listen to Human Reason instead. We should not listen to petty wrangling between sinners.





Journal #35

In Circle 9 of Dante's "Inferno," we see the idea of complex fraud come to fruition. Reflecting on this theme, where in your own life have you experienced any sort of Complex Fraud? What exactly did that entail? Did you feel slighted by someone close to you, such as a family member or friend? Perhaps it was in school, or in an extracurricular activity. Even more aggressive, have you ever felt slighted by a benefactor or coach, or perhaps, God? What lead to this feeling of betrayal? Is it similar to or different than the sinners who encounter in Circle 9? Use the text to cite 5 pieces of textual evidence from "Inferno" to support your claim. *Two whole pages; 5 pieces of textual evidence.*

Towering Giants

Many giants were guilty of the sin of pride, and they rebelled against their ancient gods just like the angels of Christian mythology rebelled against God.

Dante believes that he sees huge towers in the distance, but Virgil tells him that these are giants. The giants are immersed halfway into the ground. Most of the giants are chained to keep them immobile.

This is a lethal combination; a being of great intellect and great strength who wishes to do great evil can cause much destruction. We prefer that criminals who wish to do great evil be stupid and weak, but alas, this does not always happen.

The Towering Giants

- The Giant, Antaeus, while not chained like the other Giants because he did not participate in the assault upon the Greek gods, has a savage reputation in classical tales and is just as dumb as the others in this circle.
- Virgil promises the Giant that Dante will spread Antaeus's fame back on Earth in exchange for the vain Giant to lower them in the palm of his hand to floor of the 9th circle (the pit) of Hell.
- **punishment-** chained inside the stone well just before 9th circle of Hell as guardians of the Pit of Hell. Chained here to be kept immobile.

The Towering Giants

Nimrod- the builder of the Tower of Babel. The Old Testament does not identify Nimrod, the first king of Babylon, as a giant.

Ephialtes and Briareus- both warred against the ancient gods

Tityos and Typhon- both insulted Jupiter (Zeus)

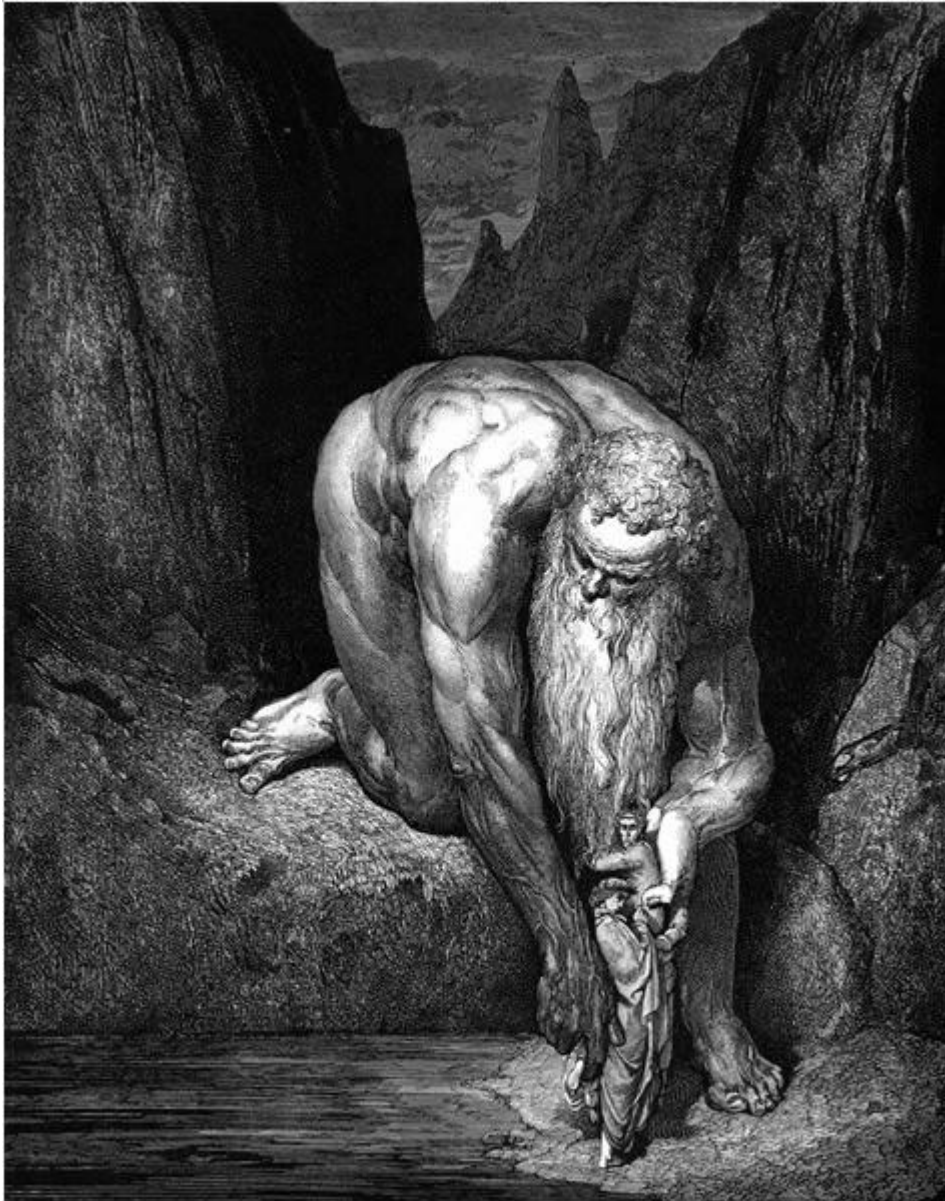
Antaeus- He refrained from warring against the gods; because he refrained, the gods were able to resist the giants. He is not bound, unlike the giants. Not all the guards in the Inferno have been evil. e.g. Minos, Chiron the Centaur; helps Virgil and Dante get to the 9th Circle

Virgil disrespects Nimrod and calls him a “blathering idiot.”

The Towering Giants



The Towering Giants



Circle 9

- 9th circle is divided into 4 rings
- Each ring punishes one kind of traitor: traitors against kin/family, traitors against government, traitors against guests, and traitors against benefactors, including God
- **punishments:** frozen in ice, reflecting the idea that being a traitor is a sin committed in cold blood.
- “all warmth of love for God and for their fellow man has been extinguished” --pg. 384, Mark Musa translation
- Because they are frozen in ice, they can do nothing should someone- such as Dante- kick one of them in the head. Dante feels no remorse whatsoever!

Circle 9

What is Dante's initial reaction to seeing the Pit of Hell?

He looks around and wonders whether he can find the words to describe how harsh and grating the entire scene is.

Napaloene and Alessandro: brothers and rivals; Guelph and Ghibelline, respectively. Murdered each other over inheritance, not politics. They are frozen together in the ice and still fighting.

These sinners have sinned greatly, and do not want to be remembered. None of the sinner want to tell their own stories, so they are traitors to each other instead and tell Dante about the other sinners and their stories.

What is Cocytus?

A river has been flowing throughout Hell. At various places it has different names. Here it is called Cocytus (which means “Lamentation”) and it is a frozen lake. The traitors are frozen in the lake.

Why ice?

- We have seen fire used in the Inferno, such as with the Simonists as a parody of Pentecost, but here, Dante is intentional with the use of ice.
- Both extremes--hot and cold-- are painful. Here, some sinners are completely encased in ice, and Dante is not able to speak to them.
- We speak of someone murdering someone else in cold blood, so perhaps that was Dante's intention here with ice in Circle 9.

Ugolino and Ruggieri

CANNIBALISM IN ACTION!

Ugolino is gnawing on the face of Ruggieri. The two are frozen in the ice, but their heads are above the ice, and allows this take place.

Both Guelphs and Ghibellines are in Hell; intentional on Dante's part.



Circle 9- Complex fraud

Caina- treachery against kin (family)

- Cain killed Abel, his brother in the Old Testament
- Here are punished those were treacherous to kin/family. They are frozen “in ice/ up to where a person’s shame appears.” The traitors have their heads sticking out of the ice, and they are able to bow their heads down towards the ice.

Advantage: their tears fall to the ground instead of freezing their eyes shut. They perpetually cry.

Alessandro and Napoleone are major sinners here fighting each other just like they did on earth

Circle 9

Antenora- treachery against country

- named after a Trojan who betrayed his city, Antenor
- These sinners are also frozen up to their necks in ice without the ability to drop their heads
- Dante accidentally kicks Bocca Delgi Abbati, then treats him with a savagery that we have never seen before in “Inferno” by ripping his hair when he refuses to identify himself
- Some sinners we see Count Ugolino and Archbishop Ruggieri gnawing each other’s necks



Circle 9

Ptolomea- treachery against guests

- Named after Ptolomee, who murdered his father-in-law and his father-in-law's two sons after inviting them to a feast, are punished those who were treacherous against guests
- These sinners are covered in ice up to their eye sockets so that their tears don't even comfort the sinners; their sins are so great that even before they die, they leave their bodies on earth to be inhabited by Demons
- Friar Alberigo had his guests killed while at dinner
- Dante doesn't help him clear his tears; he has become hardened against the sinners



Circle 9

Judecca- The very bottom of the Inferno is reserved for the worst sins of all

- In this fourth and final ring of the ninth Circle of the Inferno, Judecca, which is named after the apostle Judas, who betrayed Christ
- These sinners punished here are those who were treacherous against their benefactors, and especially God.

Circle 9

- Lucifer, the angel who led the rebellion against God, is punished here by being buried in the ice with his head and wings outside the ice
- He has one head, but 3 faces, and 3 mouths. In each mouth, he chews a great sinner. In the middle is Judas, and in the other mouths are Brutus and Cassius.
- Lucifer chews on these great sinners in a parody, or mockery, of the Holy Sacrament of Eucharist.

Circle 9

The Ultimate Evil: Judas Iscariot, betrayer of Christ, is seen at the pit of Hell.

In Judecca, Dante sees sinners under the ice; they remain nameless and Dante cannot speak to them. He is silent when he sees ultimate evil, as he also will be when he sees ultimate goodness.

The sinners frozen in ice are and unable to speak. They have been frozen in grotesque positions.

“Some prone are lying, others stand erect, / This with the head,
and that one with the soles,/ Another, bow-like, face to feet iners.



Lucifer

Who is Lucifer? What was his sin and what is his punishment?

Lucifer, or Satan, rebelled against God, his spiritual benefactor. For this reason, he is guilty of the ultimate evil. He is frozen in the ice, although his head and wings are free. The wings flap perpetually, creating a breeze that freezes all of the Pit of Hell.

Lucifer is the opposite of God: God is a Trinity: The Father, The Son, and The Holy Spirit. He has 3 mouths, each of which is chewing on a very evil sinner, so we cannibalism again at the very bottom of Hell.





Lucifer

- Once described as the most beautiful of angels, now Lucifer is the ugliest:

“The Emperor of the kingdom dolorous/From his med-breast forth issued from the ice;/And better with a giant I compare/Than do the giants with those arms of his;/Consider now how great must be that whole/Which unto such a part conforms itself.”

- From his six eyes flow tears, and in each of his 3 mouths he chews on a sinner.



The Sinners of Lucifer

- **Judas Iscariot-** Judas is being chewed in the central mouth, making him the worst sinner of all time. Since he betrayed Jesus, he is one of the worst sinners of all time, according to Dante. Judas's head is in Lucifer's mouth and his feet are sticking out. In contrast, the bottom half of the bodies of Cassius and Brutus are in Lucifer's mouth.
- **Cassius and Brutus-** Dante believed that God supported the Roman Empire and that it was divinely willed.
- By opposing the formation of the Roman Empire through the assassination of Julius Caesar, Brutus and Cassius were traitors to God. They were traitors to their spiritual and temporal benefactors. Also, by assassinating Julius Caesar, they ensured that more power struggles would come into existence and more people who be killed before the Roman Empire came to fruition.

How Do They Leave?

- Dante and Virgil get out of the Inferno by climbing on Lucifer. They go to a hole in the ice where Lucifer is encased and they climb along his hairy side and hairy legs.
- Suddenly, Dante realizes that they are going up, not down-- they have passed the center of the Earth. The last sight that Dante has of Lucifer is of his legs sticking up--thus connecting him with the Simonists in Circle 8, with their legs sticking up.
- Virgil and Dante then reach a cavern and climb a winding path until they reach the surface of the Earth.

