



# ***Moby-Dick***

ECL 522: American Lit 1800-1860

Professor Jessica Pressman

Fall 2025

Day 22: Chapters 133-epilogue



# ADMIN

- **Essay 2:**  
some great improvement in writing and thesis-based explication!
- Doing 522 first— trying to get feedback to you so you have plenty of time to revise—so should have grades emailed to you by Wednesday.
- **Revisions due 11/30 (email them to me)**

# ADMIN

- Questions about your grades at this point?: email me
- **REMINDER—See Participation grading rubric**

- **Final project proposal AND Essay 2 revisions due 11/30**

## More blog opportunities (some of you need them): on Reading Schedule

- Blog for next week (if you choose to write one): What you need to learn/do in order to complete your final project
- Final week 16: What you learned in this class

# ADMIN

- **NEXT WEEK:**

- **No class meeting on Tuesday— asynchronous peer review in Google doc.**

We will not meet during class, but this work can be done during class time. Here are the directions:

1. Post a draft of your thesis and plan for the final essay; thesis statement (2-3 sentences) before our class time (before 12:30 pm). You can add more content about your planned media format, if you want feedback on that too!
2. During class time, add comments on at least one peer's abstract— but hopefully every one— by Tuesday, November 25 at midnight.

NOTE: Do not change the content of anyone else's content. Add comments in Track Changes or below the thesis (in italics or a color, or something to denote your editorial presence) and add your name.

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# Discussion

- There she blows! What say ye to our novel's ending?
- How do you feel about out the ending of the great book??

# From your blogs— lessons imparted

- KIT: I include learning in my analysis because Ahab never took the time to learn about anyone – he assumed that all he knew was all he needed to know, allowing his monomaniacal focus to hold sway over all aspects of his life.
- LIXIA: The book has been demanding that we learn to read and in reading these very physical sentences we can appreciate the lesson being imparted on us; Revenge can draw humans to a more baser nature that requires a certain loss of humanity.

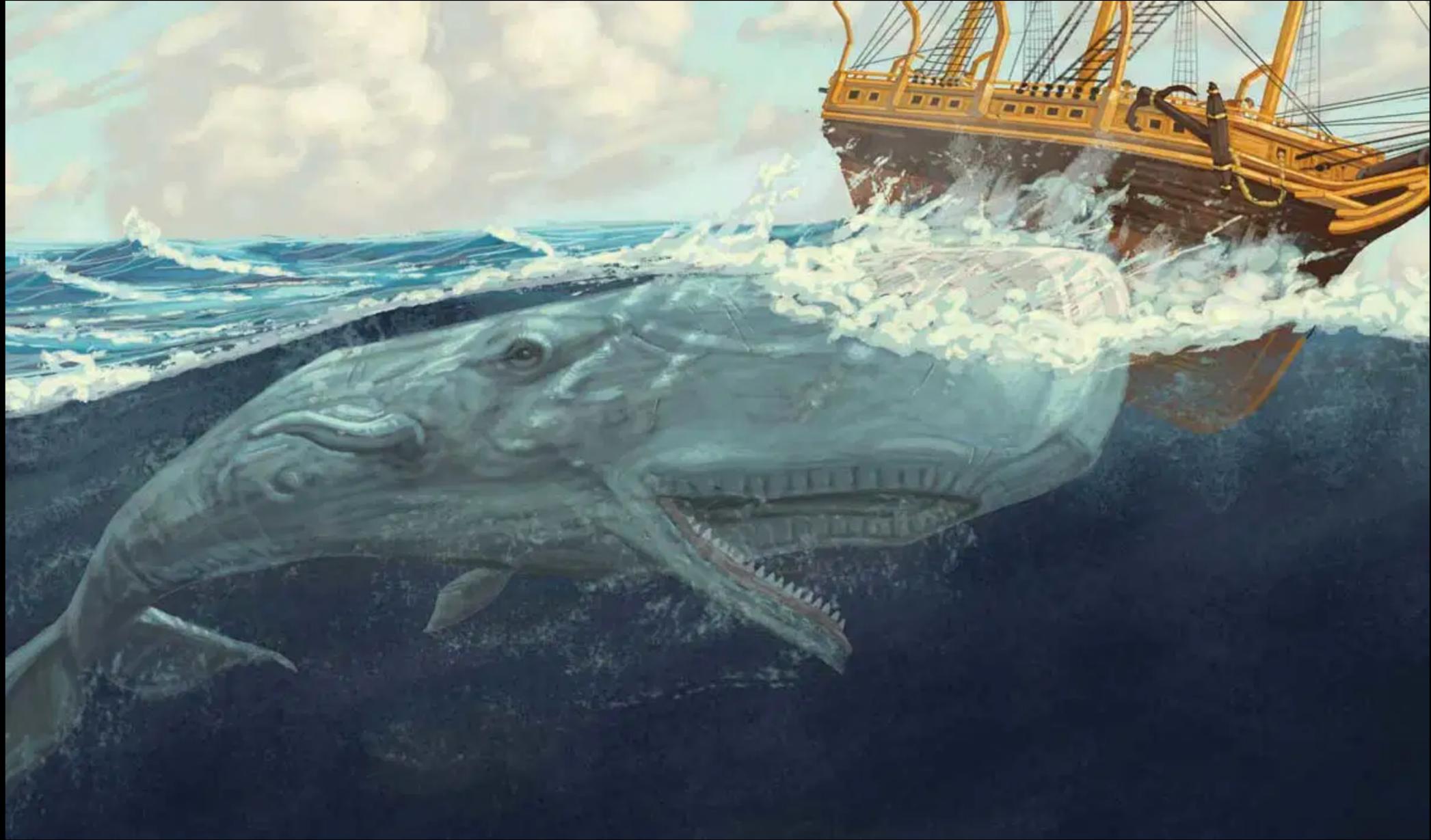
# From your blogs

- ALYSSA N: This novel went by so much faster than I ever expected and I am both relieved and sad to be done with it. It was such a wonderful time reading through this book and being able to close read together in class, it is definitely a unique experience that I am extremely grateful for! Reading through the last three chapters, I did not know what to expect, but it was much better than I could have imagined. Truthfully, I found it shocking how little of an appearance Moby-Dick makes throughout the entire novel. However, it also makes sense that these moments between Ahab and Moby-Dick only lasted three chapters and three days. Ahab's obsession with vengeance against the white whale has been one of the main focuses throughout this novel. It would be expected to have this crazy adventure book ending, but Ahab being killed in the matter of one sentence was something unexpected but perfectly written.

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# Show clip

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ssBky3dTPRg>







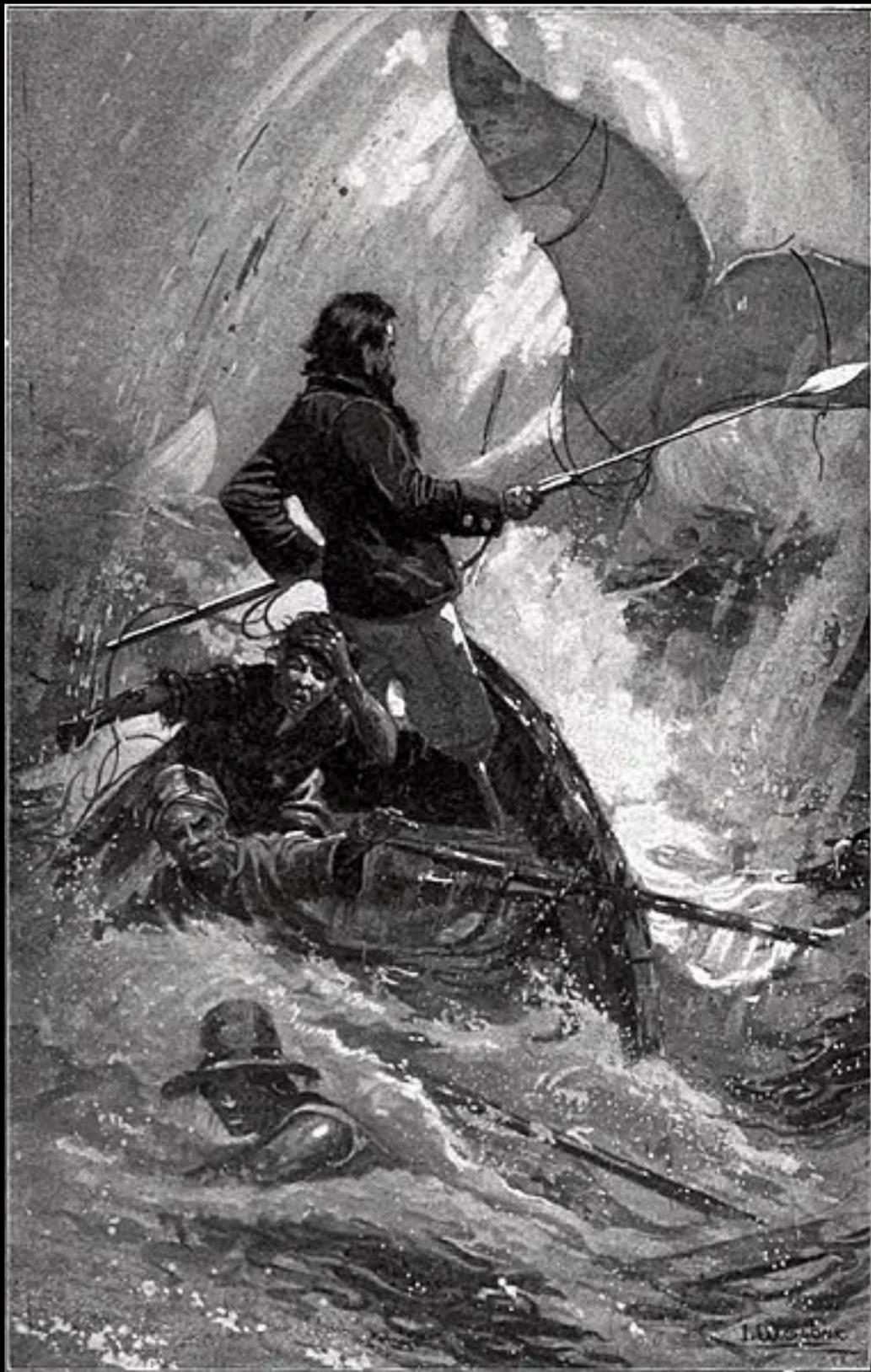




EVAN DAHM - MOBYDICKILLUSTRATED.TUMBLR.COM



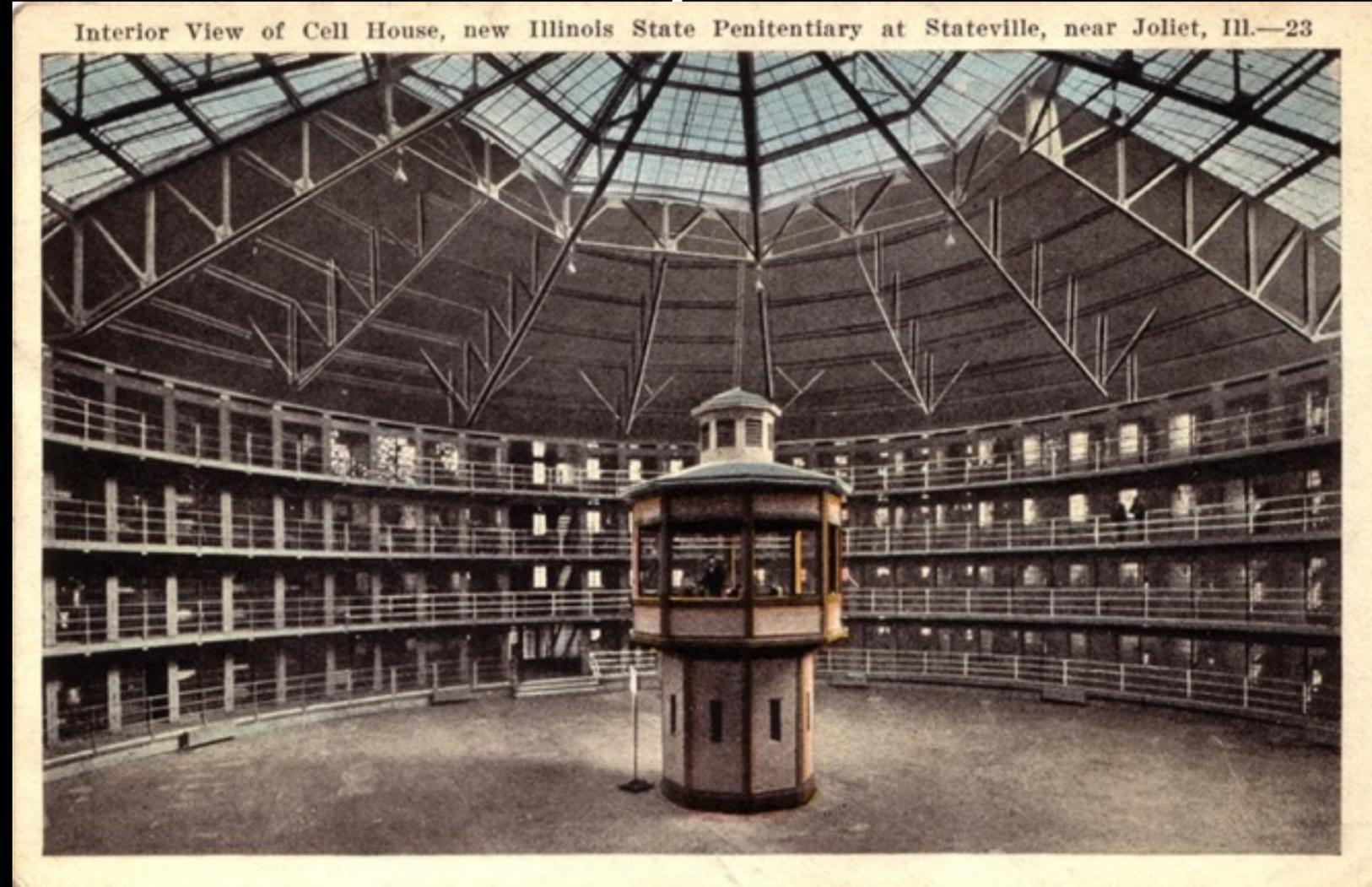
LANCING A WHALE



- Rockwell Kent (1930)



# Panopticon



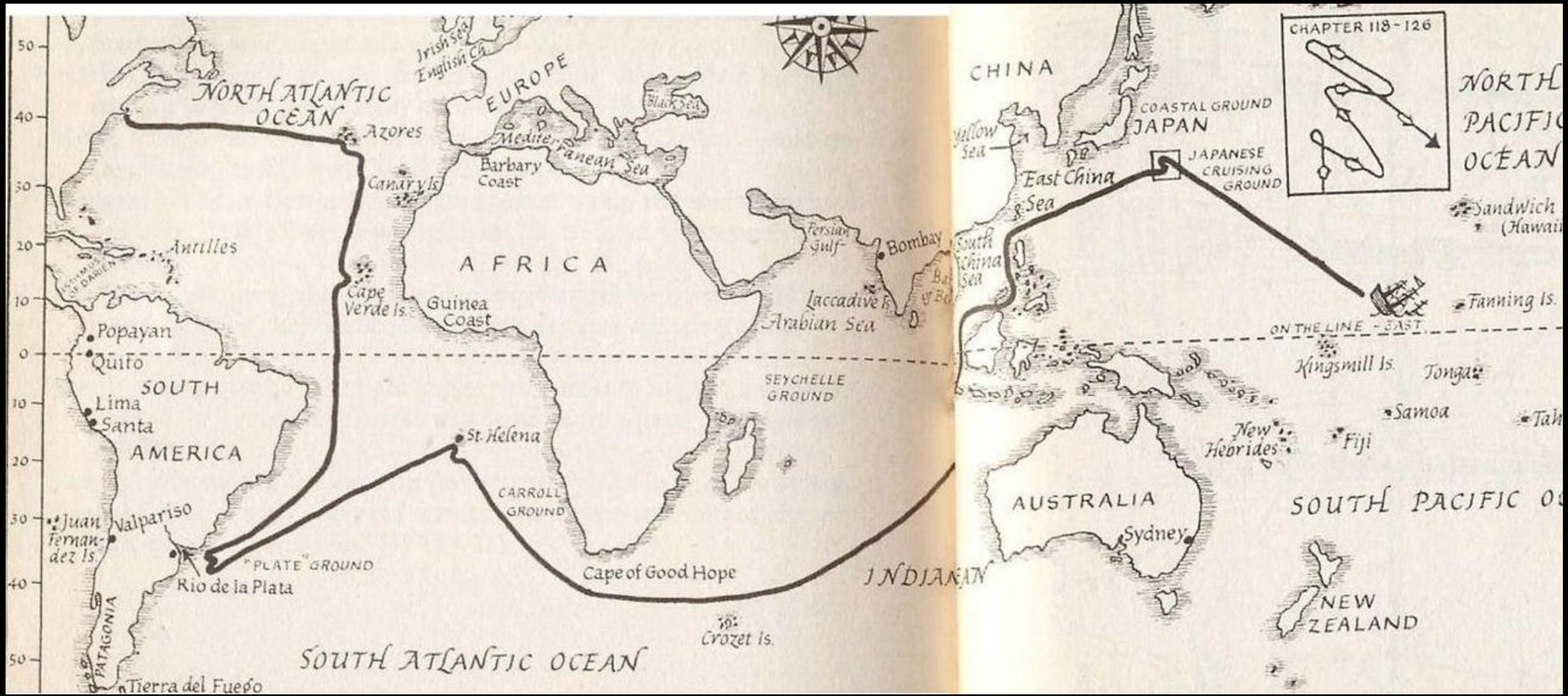
**“He who is subjected to a field of visibility, and who knows it, assumes responsibility for the constraints of power; he makes them play spontaneously upon himself; he inscribes in himself the power relation in which he simultaneously plays both roles”**  
(Foucault, *Discipline and Punish*, 202)

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# Cruising with Ahab

The voyage of the *Pequod* in "Moby-Dick"





50  
40  
30  
20  
10  
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10  
20  
30  
40  
50

NORTH ATLANTIC OCEAN

EUROPE

AFRICA

SOUTH AMERICA

SOUTH ATLANTIC OCEAN

INDIAN OCEAN

CHINA

COASTAL GROUND JAPAN

AUSTRALIA

SOUTH PACIFIC OCEAN

NEW ZEALAND

CHAPTER 118-126

A diagram showing a route with arrows indicating direction. A ship icon is positioned on the route. The diagram is enclosed in a rectangular box.

NORTH PACIFIC OCEAN

JAPANESE CRUISING GROUND

ON THE LINE - EAST

Sandwich (Hawaii)

Fanning Is.

Kingsmill Is. Tonga

Samoa

Fiji

New Hebrides

Sydney

Popayan

Quito

Lima

Santa

Valpariso

Juan Fernandez Is.

Rio de la Plata

St. Helena

CARROLL GROUND

Cape of Good Hope

Crozet Is.

Bombay

Arabian Sea

SEYCHELLE GROUND

Persian Gulf

Mediterranean Sea

Barbary Coast

Canary Is.

Cape Verde Is.

Antilles

Irish Sea

English Ch.

Black Sea

Yellow Sea

East China Sea

South China Sea

Tahiti

# Take Aways?

- So...???

**CONGRATULATIONS!!**