

**Notes for
The Science of Myths
and Vice Versa**

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Page numbers:

- 4-5. "A critical attitude..." Popper 2002, 66-67.
10. "The Lord that delivered me..." I Samuel 17:37.
10. "And I will take you..." Exodus 6:7.
11. King David as youngest: Frazer 1988, 175.
12. "There is an important..." Gladwell 2015, 15.
13. "tells the story..." Gladwell 2015, 5.
13. "we've been telling..." Gladwell 2015, 15.
13. "improbable" Gladwell 2015, 9.
14. "everything I thought..."
www.ted.com/talks/malcolm_gladwell_the_unheard_story_of_david_and_goliath Accessed 11 April 2016.
14. stopping power of handgun: Gladwell 2015, 11.
14. barium sulphate:
www.ted.com/talks/malcolm_gladwell_the_unheard_story_of_david_and_goliath Accessed 11 April 2016.
 (Transcript of talk is found at www.ted.com/talks/malcolm_gladwell_the_unheard_story_of_david_and_goliath/transcript Accessed 11 April 2016.)
14. Goliath's acromegaly, impaired vision: Gladwell 2015, 14.

15. "unconventional or guerilla tactics," "Underdogs win..." Gladwell 2015, 22.

16. statistics and inspirational messages: See my discussion of the late Stephen Jay Gould's and Leonard Mlodinow's respective attempts to offer self-help strategies through novel statistical analyses (Schrempp 2012, chapter 3).

16. "powered by courage..." Gladwell 2015, 15. In an interview with Sarah Pulliam Bailey for *Religion News Service* (October 9, 2013), Gladwell says that he rediscovered his religious faith while writing *David and Goliath*. In the course of the interview, he repeatedly attests to the power of belief in individuals' lives, but even in this context he makes no unambiguous claim about divine causation actually operating in the world. www.religionnews.com/2013/10/09/interview-malcolm-gladwell-return-faith-writing-david-goliath/ Accessed 11 April 2016.

18. Livy's rationalizing of myth: The first book of Livy's *Ab Urbe Condita* offers numerous examples; for example, Romulus and Remus being raised by a wolf is a story that may have arisen from their being raised by a common whore nicknamed Wolf.

23. *Lucretius Swerves Back Around*: The analysis presented in this essay is a follow-up to my earlier reflections on Lucretius in relation to contemporary popular science writing, "Is Lucretius a God?" (Schrempp 2014, chapter 10).

25. transformation myths: Boas' views on transformers and transformation myths are found in many of his writings on Native American mythology; a particularly good summary is found in Boas 1905, 1906.
26. "change from one way..." Greenblatt 2012, 10.
26. "the act of discovery..." Greenblatt 2012, 13.
26. "permanently changed the landscape..." Greenblatt 2012, 218.
26. "When human life lay..." Lucretius 1994, 11.
27. "forgettings," "recoveries" Greenblatt 2012, 6.
27. "vivid symbol," "fall of the Bastille" Greenblatt 2012, 11-12.
27. "if he [Poggio] had..." Greenblatt 2012, 12 (see also 182-83).
28. "saviour," "hero," "messiah," "culture hero" Greenblatt 2012, 52, 72, 181.
29. Copernicus as hero for popular science writers: See my earlier discussion (Schrempf 2012, Chapter 6).
30. "intellectual daring" Greenblatt 2012, 10.
30. "epitomized the Lucretian embrace..." "suffused" Greenblatt 2012, 8.
31. "Apart from a few..." Greenblatt 2012, 7.

31. Malinowskian myth-as-charter: Malinowski 1984, 199.
31. "The atoms of Lucretius..." Greenblatt 2012, 263.
32. "voyaged in mind..." Lucretius 1994, 12.
32. "the world swerved..." Greenblatt 2012, 11.
32. "manipulative and cruel" Greenblatt 2012, 5.
32. "brilliant book hunter" Greenblatt 2012, 13.
32. "odd paperback cover" Greenblatt 2012, 1. A less exotic cover, a differently organized display, a momentary distraction, and the contemporary popular discovery of Poggio and rediscovery of Lucretius might have been forestalled.
- 32-33. "Hidden behind the worldview..." Greenblatt 2013, 7.
33. "Of all the ancient masterpieces..." Greenblatt 2012, 7.
33. "Ceres, it is said..." Lucretius 1994, 129.
38. "While physical science arises..." Boas 1982, 644 (reprint of 1887 article).
41. "I want to clarify..." Tyson in interview with io9. www.io9.com/neil-degrasse-tyson-explains-why-the-new-cosmos-matters-1534876280 Accessed 11 April 2016.

42. “Host: ‘Why are we rebooting...’”
www.space.com/24243-cosmos-tv-series-neil-degrasse-tyson.html Accessed 11 April 2016.
42. “Host: ‘So why *Cosmos*...’”
www.youtube.com/watch?v=ixhQoG2fPzQ Accessed 11 April 2016.
43. “The cosmos is all...” (Sagan), “It’s time to get going...” (Tyson)
www.youtube.com/watch?v=_erVOAbz420 Accessed 11 April 2016.
44. “If you wish to make...” Sagan, *Cosmos* (2000), Episode IX (“The Lives of the Stars”).
44. “A generation ago...,” “This adventure is made possible...,” “Accept the terms...” Tyson, *Cosmos* (2014), Episode 1 (“Standing Up in the Milky Way”).
44. Sagan on cosmic kinship/diaspora: See my discussion in Schrempf 2012, 207-13.
45. “Like the choice between...” Kuhn 2012, 94.
46. 34 years for a mythoscientific cosmos₁: It would be tempting to conclude that the life expectancies of future mythoscientific makeovers will continue to decline (to the proverbial 15 minutes of fame, if not to infinitesimals). However, to the extent that such makeovers are keyed to *generations* of viewers, as Tyson (above) and others imply, the 34 years may actually mark a point of relative stabilization. In a fascinating, cross-culturally based survey (“How long is a generation? Science

- provides an answer”), genealogist Donn Devine challenges the 25 years-per-generation rule of thumb and advances 33-35 years for male-line generations. Female-line generations are several years shorter; but in the case before us the line (Sagan to Tyson) as well as the rhetoric about “generations” stem from males; and by most accounts Astronomy is still a male-dominated occupation, as is mass-media Entertainment. For final confirmation of his years-per-generation revision, Devine examined his own family lines. “For a total of 21 male-line generations among five lines, the average interval was 34 years per generation.”
isogg.org/wiki/How_long_is_a_generation%3F_Science_provides_an_answer Accessed 18 May 2016.
50. “perception and the imagination,” “at a remove” Lévi-Strauss 1970, 15.
51. “cold,” “hot” Lévi-Strauss 1970, chapters 8, 9.
52. “On intuitive grounds...” Lévi-Strauss 1970, 12.
54. “The fact that modern science...” Pollan 2013, 12 (see also 5, 110, 120-21).
54. “reductive lens...” Pollan 2013, 337.
54. “creation of science...” Pollan 2013, 50.
55. “synergies,” “X-factor,” “that a whole food...” Pollan 2013, 262.
55. “the idea of *meat*...” Pollan 2013, 39.

56. “Corn kernels...” Pollan 2013, 386 (see also 88-89, 126, 144-45, 224, 229-30).
58. cheese-making nun: Pollan 2013, 346.
59. “on behalf of the senses...” Pollan 2013, 414.
60. “a big gut...” Pollan 2013, 59.
60. “Wrangham’s most convincing...” Pollan 2013, 60.
60. “dismiss it...” Pollan 2013, 62.
61. “But, really...” Pollan 2013, 62.
61. “that coincidence...” Pollan 2013, 62.
63. “has always been better...” Pollan 2013, 337.
64. “new mythos,” “Material reality discovered...” Wilson 1998, 265.
65. Pollan on the value of world food traditions: Pollan 2013, 163-66.
66. Pollan on molecular gastronomy: Pollan 2013, 120-21.
66. Wrangham’s fire myth: for my analysis see Schrempp 2011.
67. Annaud’s fire myth: for my analysis see Schrempp 2014a.

67. Barrow’s fire myth: for my analysis see Schrempp 2012, Chapter 2 (“It Had to be You! Fire Without Prometheus”).
67. “nice coincidence...” Barrow 1995, 66.
70. Wilson on Campbell: Wilson 1998, 300n28.
70. Lévi-Strauss *vis-à-vis* Propp: See Lévi-Strauss 1977.
74. “our doctrine often seems...,” “That is why...” Lucretius 1994, 33.

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