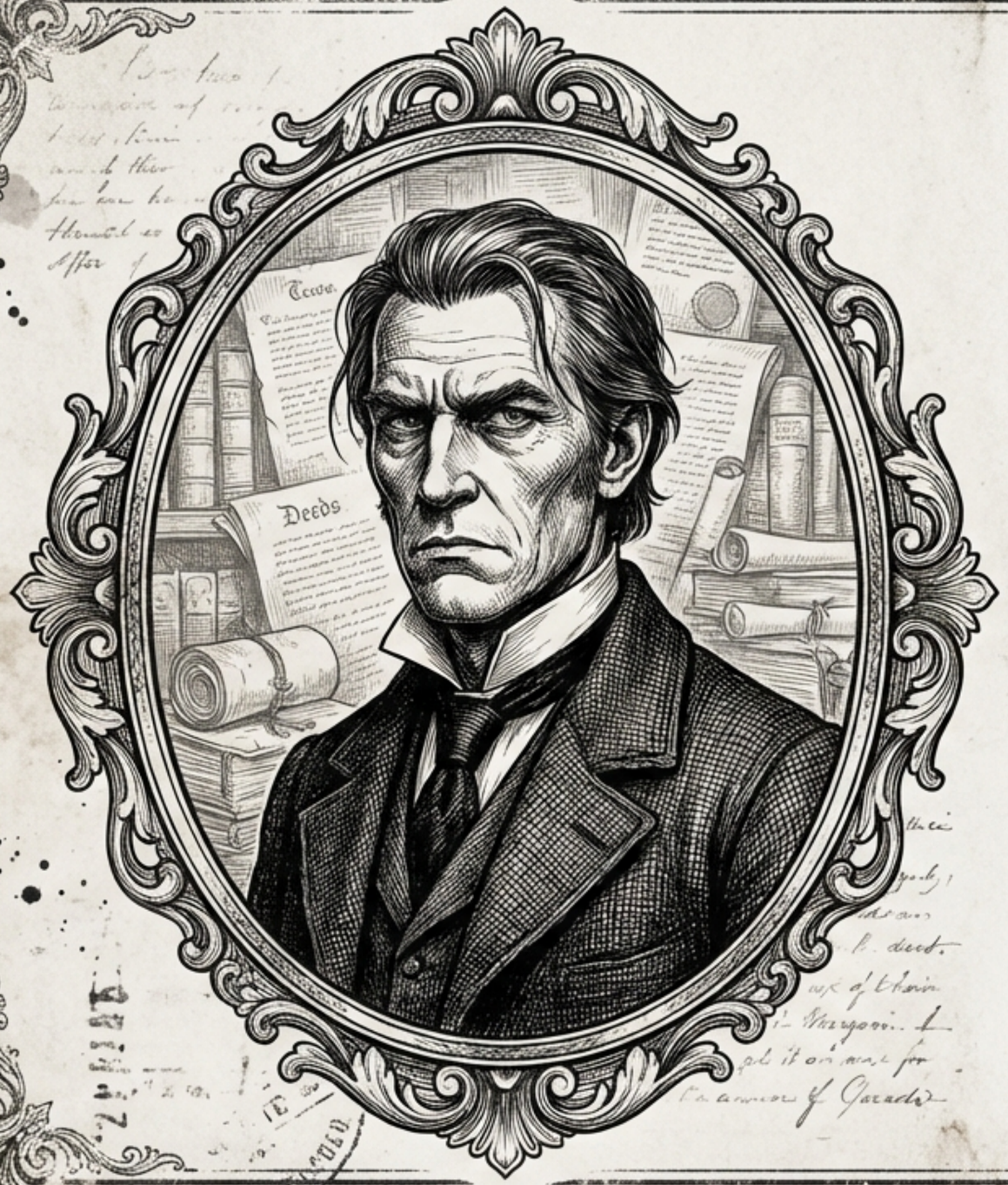
THE STRANGE CASE OF DR. JEKYLL AND MR. HYDE

A Study in the Duality of Man

"I incline to Cain's heresy… I let my brother go to the devil in his own way." — Gabriel John Utterson



THE OBSERVER:
GABRIEL JOHN UTTERSON

The Man: A lawyer of rugged countenance, austere with himself (drinking gin to mortify a taste for vintages) but tolerant of others. He is undemonstrative, lean, dusty, and dreary, yet somehow lovable.

The Role: He serves as the "last reputable acquaintance and the last good influence in the lives of downgoing men." He represents the anchor of Victorian societal order.

The Routine: His Sunday walks with Mr. Enfield are the "chief jewel of each week," performed in companionable silence.

Key Insight: Utterson represents the "Public Face" of London—rational, loyal, and unwilling to gossip. He is the lens through which we view the breakdown of order.

THE STORY OF THE DOOR

The Street: A thriving trade.

Rows of smiling saleswomen. Air of invitation.
Cleanliness and gaiety.

The Entry: A blind forehead.

Marks of prolonged and sordid negligence.
Blistered and distained.

The Incident: On a black winter morning, a man and a young girl collide. The man, like a "damned Juggernaut," tramples calmly over the child and leaves her screaming.

The Payment: To avoid a scandal, the man enters the blistered door and returns with £10 in gold and a cheque for £90 signed by the respectable Dr. Henry Jekyll.

THE ANTAGONIST: EDWARD HYDE

Witness Testimonies:

- **Mr. Enfield:** "There is something wrong with his appearance; something displeasing, something down-right detestable. I never saw a man I so disliked, and yet I scarce know why."
- **The Physicality:** Described as "pale and dwarfish" with a "husky, whispering and somewhat broken voice."
- **The Reaction:** He gives a strong feeling of deformity, though no specific point can be named. His presence causes a physical biological repulsion—"sick and white with the desire to kill him."
- **The Aura:** "Satan's signature upon a face."

THE HOLOGRAPH WILL

Legal Will

From will an antarnentive the ead of Dr. Jekyll's awan, and absence, with enclldent and demonacr, into fhe auwil of wills and matters of the wruming ramlsl.

All possessions to pass into the hands of my friend and benefactor Edward Hyde.

In case of Dr. Jekyll's disappearance or unexplained absence for any period exceeding three calendar months, in the said Dr. Jekyll's shows the unvition nevell the praparation of the more comnision ms tiene them that, the said Edward Hyde should step into the said Henry Jekyll's shoes without further delay.

Utterson's Analysis

- **The Stakes:** This document offends Utterson as a lawyer and a lover of the customary.
- **The Suspicion:** Originally thought to be madness, Utterson now fears it is evidence of blackmail ("Disgrace"). It legally binds the respectable Jekyll to the troglodytic Hyde.

THE CAREW MURDER CASE

The Crime (October)

- An aged, beautiful gentleman, Sir Danvers Carew, is accosted by Hyde. Hyde breaks out in a “great flame of anger,” clubbing the victim to the earth with “ape-like fury.” The bones are audibly shattered.

The Evidence

- The weapon is a heavy cane made of rare wood, broken in the middle under the stress of insensate cruelty. Utterson recognizes it—he gave it to Henry Jekyll years ago.
- A burnt cheque book butt is found in Hyde’s Soho fireplace.

THE INCIDENT OF THE LETTER

JEKYLL'S HAND

I have lost confidence in myself.

HYDE'S HAND

I have means of escape on which I place a sure dependence.

- **THE EXPERT:** Mr. Guest, head clerk and student of handwriting.
- **THE ANALYSIS:** *"The two hands are in many points are in many points identical: only differently sloped."*
- **THE CONCLUSION:** Utterson locks the note in his safe, his blood running cold at the realization: "Henry Jekyll forge for a murderer!" This is the first concrete, scientific link between the two men.

THE TERROR OF DR. LANYON

THE HEARTY GENTLEMAN (JANUARY 8TH)

THE DOOMED MAN (JANUARY 15TH)

- **The Catalyst:** On January 8th, Lanyon was inseparable from Jekyll. By January 15th, he is a doomed man.
- **The Shock:** He declares he has had a 'shock' and will never recover. He refuses to speak Jekyll's name, regarding him as dead.
- **The Legacy:** Lanyon dies within a fortnight, leaving a sealed letter: 'Not to be opened till the death or disappearance of Dr. Henry Jekyll."

THE LAST NIGHT

The Summons:

Poole, the butler, fetches Utterson in terror. The servants are huddled in the hall, pale with fear.

The Vigil:

Utterson waits outside the laboratory door, listening intently.

The Evidence of the Ear:

1. **The Footsteps:** A "light, odd swing" pacing all day, unlike Jekyll's heavy creak.
2. **The Voice:** When hailed, a voice answers: "Tell him I cannot see anyone."
3. **The Testimony:** Poole asks, "Have I been twenty years in this man's house, to be deceived about his voice?" He has heard the creature "weeping like a woman or a lost soul."

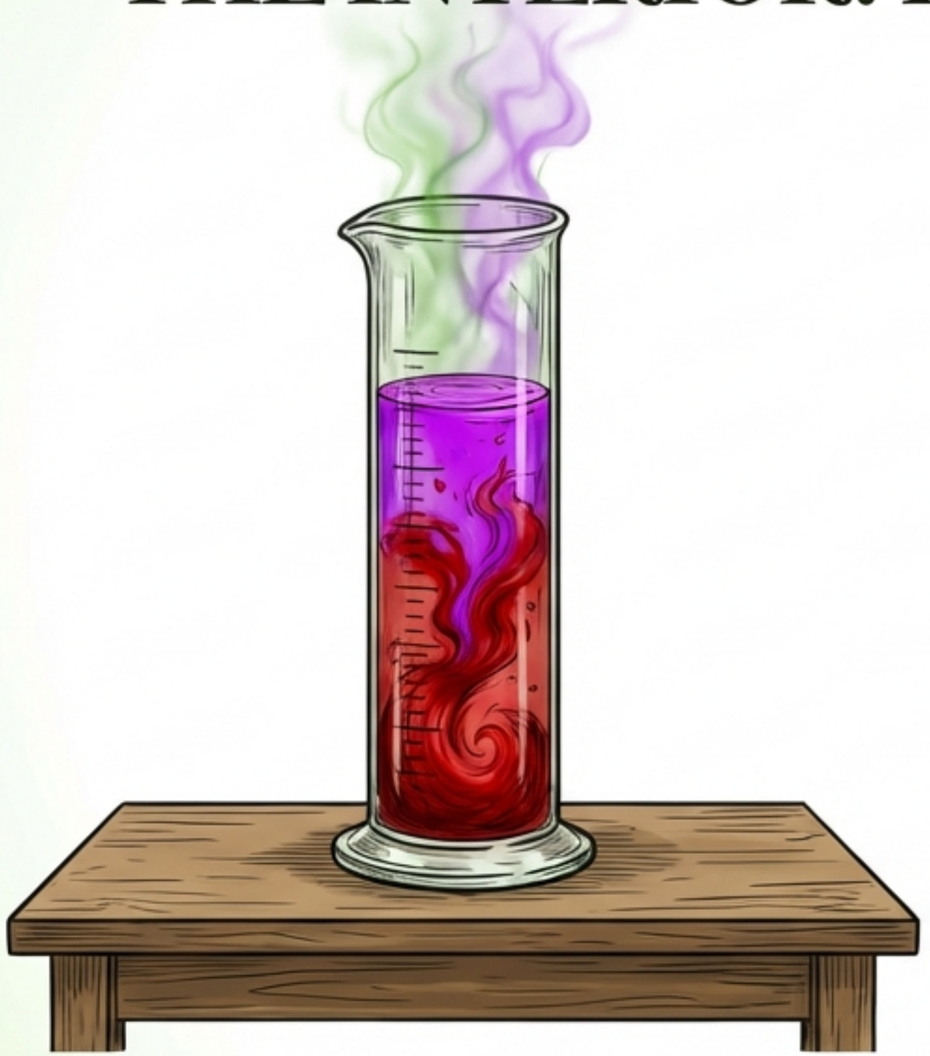
“BREAKING THE CABINET”

The Breach: “Utterson, for God’s sake, have mercy!” screams the voice of Hyde as the axe falls.

The Discovery:

- **The Body:** Edward Hyde, twitching, dead by suicide (a crushed phial in hand).
- **The Clothes:** He is dressed in Dr. Jekyll's clothes, which are "far too large for him."
- **The Missing Man:** No trace of Henry Jekyll is found anywhere.
- **The Documents:** A large packet containing a new will (beneficiary: Utterson) and Jekyll's "Full Statement."

THE INTERIOR: LANYON'S NARRATIVE



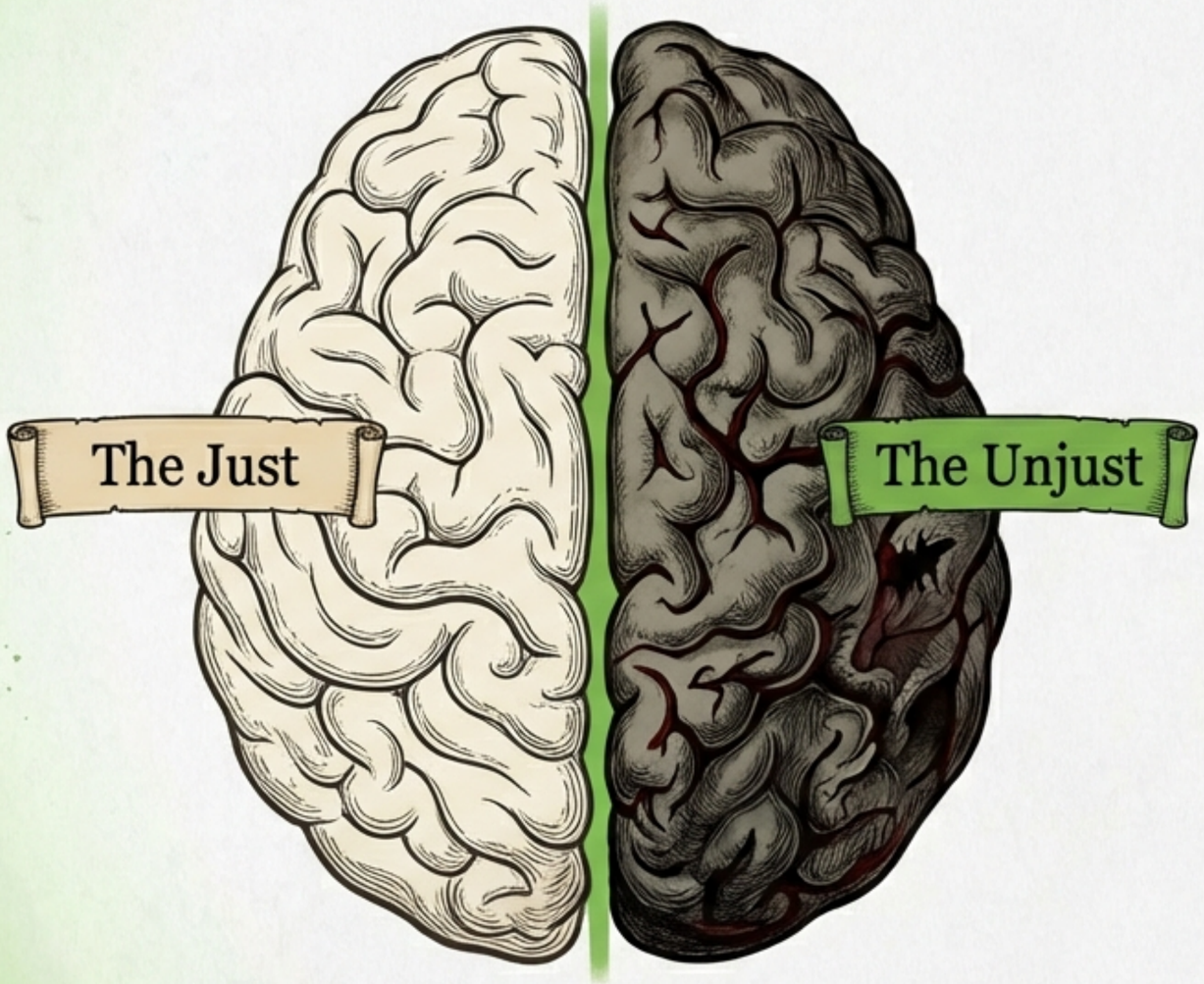
The Midnight Visitor: Lanyon follows Jekyll's desperate instructions to retrieve chemicals. A small, impatient man in baggy clothes arrives to collect them.

The Ultimatum: The visitor offers a choice: remain ignorant or 'behold a prodigy to stagger the unbelief of Satan.'

The Transformation: The visitor drinks. A cry, a reeling, a gasping. His face turns black. The features melt and alter.

The Reveal: Standing before the terrified Lanyon is Henry Jekyll. The shock of this 'moral turpitude' kills Lanyon.

THE THEORY OF DUALITY



The Premise: “Man is not truly one, but truly two.”

The Struggle: Jekyll describes the “agonized womb of consciousness” where the “polar twins” (Good and Evil) continuously struggle.

The Goal: To separate these identities.

- If separated, the Just could walk steadfastly on the upward path.
- The Unjust could go his way, delivered from the aspirations and remorse of his upright twin.

The Hope: To relieve the suffering of the dual nature.

THE TINCTURE & THE TRANSFORMATION

(Start) (Reaction) (Result)

The Mechanics: The drug shakes the "fleshly vestment" and the "fortress of identity."

The Experience:

- **The Agony:** "Grinding in the bones, deadly nausea, a horror of the spirit."
- **The Aftermath:** "Something indescribably new and... incredibly sweet." A heady recklessness and a current of disordered sensual images.
- **The Result:** The drug does not create evil; it simply releases the prisoner.

THE FACE OF PURE EVIL

The Logic of Size: Jekyll's life was nine-tenths effort and virtue. His evil side was "less robust and less developed." Therefore, Hyde is smaller and younger.

The Aura of Deformity:

- Evil had left "an imprint of deformity and decay" on the body.
- **Why he is repulsive:** Ordinary humans are a commingling of good and evil. Edward Hyde is the only person in the world who is **pure evil**.

The Reaction: Jekyll felt no repulsion in the mirror, only a "leap of welcome."

THE SEA OF LIBERTY

The Disguise: Jekyll hires Hyde as a mercenary to enjoy his vices. He sets up the Soho house and gives Hyde "full liberty."

The Privilege: Jekyll is the first man to

- "plod in the public eye with a load of genial respectability," and then "strip off these lendings and spring headlong into the sea of liberty."

The Safety: No matter the crime, Hyde could disappear into the laboratory, drink the cup, and vanish "like the stain of breath upon a mirror."

THE LOSS OF CONTROL

The Incident: Jekyll goes to sleep in his own bed in the square. He wakes up feeling strange. He sees the hand of Edward Hyde.

The Horror: He had gone to bed as Jekyll and awakened as Hyde—Hyde—**without the drug.**

The Realization: The balance is overthrowing. He is "slowly losing hold of his original self and becoming slowly incorporated with my second and worse."

THE FINAL FALL

The Trigger: Jekyll sits on the bench, indulging in a "vainglorious thought," comparing his active goodwill to the lazy cruelty of others.

The Change: Instantly, the "spiritual side" drowses. A "horrid nausea" strikes. His clothes suddenly hang formlessly on shrunken limbs.

The Nightmare: He is Hyde. In broad daylight. A known murderer.
The Consequence: He cannot return home. He is forced to write the desperate letter to Lanyon (Slide 11) to retrieve his drugs.

THE INORGANIC SLIME

The Mutual Hatred:

- **Jekyll's View:** He views Hyde as "hellish but inorganic"—the "slime of the pit" that utters cries. The horror is that this thing is "knit to him closer than a wife."
- **Hyde's View:** Hyde hates the despondency of Jekyll. He plays "ape-like tricks"—scrawling blasphemies in pious books, burning letters, destroying the father's portrait.

The Bond: Hyde only refrains from suicide because of his terrifying love of life. Jekyll pities him even as he loathes him.

THE IMPURITY

The Supply Run: The original salt runs out. Poole scours London for more.
The Failure: Every new batch is "without efficiency." The ebullition does not happen.
The Conclusion: The first supply was **impure.** It was that unknown impurity that allowed the transformation. The discovery was an accident; it cannot be repeated.
The End: Jekyll writes his statement under the influence of the last of the old powders. When it fades, he will be Hyde forever.

THEME: REPRESSION & REPUTATION

The Victorian Double: Society demanded a “grave countenance.” Public reputation was paramount.

Jekyll’s Flaw: His fault was not that he was evil, but that he was *impatient* with the restrictions of his class. He concealed his pleasures until they festered.

The Insight: Repression didn’t eliminate the “evil”—it concentrated it. Hyde is the explosive result of everything Jekyll forced himself to hide.

THE MIRROR AND THE WHOLE

The Synthesis: Jekyll and Hyde are not opposites.

- **Jekyll:** A composite of good and evil (like all men).
- **Hyde:** Pure evil (a fragment extracted from the whole).

The Tragedy: Jekyll sought freedom from the duality, but found that the "evil" side, when liberated, had no restraints and eventually consumed the host.

Final Quote: "I bring the life of that unhappy Henry Jekyll to an end."