

John Milton, one of the most educated men in western history, appropriated the Bible, Homer's *Iliad* and *Odyssey*, Virgil's *Aeneid*, and hundreds of other classical texts when writing his poetry and prose. And since Milton's death, hundreds of artists, writers, musicians, film directors, and even video game designers have appropriated his themes, language, and imagery for their own work. But what is Milton doing in these other artists' work? As Gregory Semenza and Laura Lunger Knoppers ask in the introduction to *Milton and Popular Culture*, "why quote Milton, instead of Shakespeare or Charles Dickens or Jane Austen? . . . Is 'Milton' an authority to be imitated or challenged, endorsed or refuted, perhaps by using his own materials?" (4).

Please choose an appropriation of Milton's work and ask yourself Semenza's and Knoppers' question. Then do the following:

1. Begin with an image or link to the appropriation so your peers can access it
2. Briefly summarize it in 2-3 sentences
3. Explain how Milton's work is adapted or appropriated – does he intimidate or inspire?
4. Post on Canvas

Everyone needs to write one post and to comment on all of the other posts. Your comments should be substantive and at least two sentences long.

Important: please keep a single document of your post and all of your comments to turn in to me by Thursday, April 19.