

25/26 September 2016



Washington Irving, ... or Geoffrey Crayon?
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Greetings, AmLit Scholars—

Here's how we'll roll today:

I. WEDGE— With our new bit of text from the pen of Washington Irving (?) fresh in our minds, let's engage in a little bit of travel writing of our own. Following the template offered

by the oh-so-sincere narrator of “The Author’s Account of Himself,” consider a moment from your own travels by recalling the reasons for your journey, your expectations for the trip, and whether those expectations set by your *imagination* were met by your actual *experience*.

2. Decentered Discourse—We’ll quickly review our understanding of effective collaborative discussion strategies and return to our questions about the static or dynamic nature of the protagonist and setting in “Rip van Winkle.” With any luck, we should be able to make a transition to a consideration of “The Author’s Account of Himself.” Ultimately, we will grapple with the reasons why Washington Irving is often referred to as “The Father of American Literature.”

3. Preview of Assessment Criteria for Decentered Discourse—While we will not assess class participation today, we will often engage in this type of reflection/assessment. To prepare for those exercises, we will consult a document posted to our Moodle page to preview the criteria against which you will assess yourselves and also be assessed by the paid professional in the room.

Tappa! Tappa! Tappa!—
Mr Chalkstick, Esq.

Homework:

Actively read “The Legend of Sleepy Hollow.”