

Alternate texts by chapter

Chapter 1: How Arguments Begin

- [Elizabeth Cady Stanton "The Solitude of Self";](#)
- "The Death of the Moth" by Virginia Woolf;
- ["Why Facts Don't Change Our Minds" by Elizabeth Kolbert;](#)
- ["The Backfire Effect" – David McRaney \(You Are Not So Smart blog or podcast\)](#)
- ["Consider the Lobster" – David Foster Wallace](#)
- ["The Danger of a Single Story" by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie;](#)
- ["What the Measles Epidemic Really Says About America" by Peter Beinart](#)

Chapter 2: Formal Logic and Its Limits

- ["On Bullshit" – Harry Frankfurt](#)
- ["A House Divided" – Abraham Lincoln](#)
- ["Politics and the English Language" – George Orwell](#)
- ["Killing, Letting Die, and The Trolley Problem" – Judith Jarvis Thomson](#)
- ["Logic and Conversation" – H.P. Grice](#)
- ["The Moral Logic of Survivor Guilt" – Nancy Sherman](#)
- ["There Is No Hierarchy of Oppression" – Audre Lorde](#)

Chapter 3: The Basic Building Blocks of Arguments

- ["We Must Make Public Colleges and Universities Tuition-Free" – Bernie Sanders](#)
- ["The Climate Crisis Is a Human Rights Crisis" – Alicia Joost](#)
- ["The Case for Reparations" by Ta-Nehisi Coates](#)
- ["Why I Changed My Mind" – Diane Ravitch](#)
- ["If Black English Isn't a Language, Then Tell Me, What Is?" – James Baldwin](#)

Chapter 4

- "The Singer Solution to World Poverty" – Peter Singer
- "Why You Will Marry the Wrong Person" – Alain de Botton (NYT)
- "We Should All Be Feminists" – Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie
- "No Name Woman" – Maxine Hong Kingston
- ["Science Is Often Flawed. It's Time We Embraced That." – Julia Belluz and Stephen Hoffman](#)
- ["The Myth of the Ethical Shopper" – Michael Hobbes](#)

Chapter 5

- ["In Defense of Looting" – Vicky Osterweil \(Intro\)](#)
- ["The Tyranny of Structurelessness" – Jo Freeman](#)

- "Teaching Men to Be Emotionally Honest" – Andrew Reiner
- Notes of a Native Son – James Baldwin
- ["U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell Addresses the U.N. Security Council"](#)

Chapter 6

- "Letter from Birmingham Jail" – Martin Luther King Jr.
- [A More Perfect Union](#) - Barack Obama
- "On Being White and Other Lies" – James Baldwin
- "College Is a Waste of Time and Money" – Caroline Bird (from *The Case against College*)
- "Why Privacy Matters Even If You Have Nothing to Hide" – Daniel Solove

Chapter 7

- ["The Truth about the Gender Wage Gap"](#) – Sarah Kliff (Vox)
- "Why Facts Don't Change Our Minds" – Elizabeth Kolbert
- "The Trouble with Medicine's Metaphors" – Dhruv Khullar (Atlantic)
- "The Epidemic of Facelessness" – Stephen Marche (NYT)
- ["Why Women Aren't Welcome on the Internet"](#) – Amanda Hess (Trigger warning? Includes graphic and disturbing threats against Hess)
- ["Why It's So Hard to Talk About the N-Word"](#) – Elizabeth Stordeur Pryor (TED Talk)

Chapter 8

Photographs

"Napalm Girl" (1972)

"Tank Man" (1989)

"The Water Is Rising" (2006) Smiley Poole

"Crying Girl" (2019) – John Moore

Public/Street Art

Banksy's "Rage, The Flower Thrower"

George Floyd mural (2020)

Shepard Fairey's "Hope" poster (2008 Obama campaign)

JR's "Inside Out" portraits (global project)

Political Cartoons

"Leadership Please" Scott Stantis, The Birmingham News, September 5, 2005

Cartoon of the Earth wearing a mask during COVID (various artists)

Advertisements and Commercial Visuals

Dove "Real Beauty" Campaign (2016)

PETA "Eating Meat Kills More Animals" (2019)

Apple's 1984 Super Bowl Ad

McDonald's "The Showdown" (1993)

Contemporary Media and Memes

COVID-19 infographic flattening the curve (2020)

Greta Thunberg at UN, staring down Trump (2019)

"This is fine" dog meme by KC Green (2014) (Not all visuals start as arguments, but can become them through viral context.)

Chapter 9

- "The Dark Power of Fraternities" – Caitlin Flanagan (The Atlantic)
- ["The Logic of Stupid Poor People" – Tressie McMillan Cottom](#)
- ["Why I Changed My Mind" – Diane Ravitch](#)
- "No Name Woman" – Maxine Hong Kingston
- "College Is a Waste of Time and Money" – Caroline Bird (from *The Case against College*)

Chapter 10

- "The Singer Solution to World Poverty" – Peter Singer
- ["Why America's Obsession with STEM Is Dangerous" – Fareed Zakaria](#)

- ["The Problem with Facts" – Tim Harford](#)
- "We Should All Be Feminists" – Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie
- ["Why you think you're right, even if you're wrong" – Julia Galef](#)
- "Why Privacy Matters Even If You Have Nothing to Hide" – Daniel Solove
- The Death of the Moth – Virginia Woolf

Chapter 11

- ["The Belief in Meritocracy Is Harmful" – Clifton Mark](#)
- "Why Facts Don't Change Our Minds" – Elizabeth Kolbert
- "The Overprotected Kid" – Hanna Rosin
- ["Isn't It Outrageous?" – Tim Kreider](#)
- "The Stickiness Factor" – Malcolm Gladwell *(excerpt from The Tipping Point)
- ["We Are All Confident Idiots" – David Dunning](#)

Chapter 12

- "Just Walk on By: Black Men and Public Space" – Brent Staples (Harpers)
- The Danger of a Single Story – Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie
- [Rain Yet to Come](#) – Aratus
- Why Women Still Can't Have It All – Anne-Marie Slaughter
- The Epidemic of Facelessness – Stephen Marche
- [The Logic of Stupid Poor People – Tressie McMillan Cottom](#)

Chapter 13

- [Among the Post-Feminists: From revolutionaries to realists by Grazie Sophia Christie](#)
- Men Explain Things to Me – Rebecca Solnit
- A Modest Proposal – Jonathan Swift
- The Singer Solution to World Poverty – Peter Singer
- Wedlocked (from Foreverland) – Heather Havrilesky
- Should Prostitution Be a Crime? – Emily Bazelon

Chapter 14

- How Propaganda Works (Esp. Chs 2-5) – Jason Stanley
- Weapons of Math Destruction (Ch 5) – Cathy O'Neil
- Bad Arguments – Ali Almosawi
- [Viral BS: Medical Myths and Why We Fall for Them \(excerpt\) – Seema Yasmin](#)
- [The War on Science \(excerpt\) – Shawn Otto](#)
- "Tuning In, Tuning Out: The Strange Disappearance of Social Capital in America" – Robert D. Putnam

- [“I Believe In Evolution, Except For The Whole Triassic Period” \(Or another commentary from The Onion\) – The Onion](#)
- Thank You for Smoking (excerpt) – Christopher Buckley

Chapter 15

- [“This Is Water” – David Foster Wallace](#)
- Fun Home (excerpt) – Alison Bechdel
- [The Argument Culture \(essay\) – Deborah Tannen](#)
- ["Why Rational People Buy Into Conspiracy Theories" – Maggie Koerth-Baker](#)
- [On Dialogue \(excerpt\) – David Bohm](#)
- [Justice: What’s the Right Thing to Do? \(Lecture series\) – Michael Sandel](#)
- “Personal Freedom and Others” from The Ethics of Ambiguity (excerpt) – Simone de Beauvoir
- Freedom Is a Constant Struggle (Ch 2 “Ferguson...” or Ch. 5 “Closures...” or video lecture) – Angela Davis

Chapter 16

Humanities

- Orientalism (Introduction) – Edward Said
- “Gender: A Useful Category of Historical Analysis” American Historical Review (1986) – Joan Scott

Social Sciences

- “Social Capital in the Creation of Human Capital” *American Journal of Sociology* (1988) – James S. Coleman
- The Managed Heart: Commercialization of Human Feeling (Introduction or Ch. 1) – Arlie Hochschild

Natural Sciences

- “Molecular Structure of Nucleic Acids” (1953, Nature) – James Watson & Francis Crick
- Chapter 2 “The Obligation to Endure” in Silent Spring (1962) – Rachel Carson
- “A Mathematical Theory of Communication” (1948, Bell System Technical Journal) – Claude Shannon
- “Computing Machinery and Intelligence” (1950, Mind) – Alan Turing

Arts

- “Against Interpretation” (1964) – Susan Sontag
- “Why Have There Been No Great Women Artists?” (1971, ARTnews) – Linda Nochlin

Chapter 17

- “Truth and Politics” – Hannah Arendt
- “Rethinking the Public Sphere” – Nancy Fraser
- “It’s the (Democracy-Poisoning) Golden Age of Free Speech” – Zeynep Tufekci
- A Talk to Teachers – James Baldwin
- “The Loneliness of Donald Trump” – Rebecca Solnit
- [Talking to Strangers \(excerpt\) – Danielle Allen](#)