

Midcoast Senior College  
Fall 2025  
Four Quartets, Flanders

Additions to website: Dry Salvages

Ralph Fiennes Reading The Dry Salvages:  
[https://youtu.be/eWtYG03krdk?si=KHDf-2ys-dg\\_O3HH](https://youtu.be/eWtYG03krdk?si=KHDf-2ys-dg_O3HH)

Eads Bridge, over the Mississippi River at St. Louis.

Eads Bridge is the world's first steel-truss bridge, and an engineering marvel.



After the Civil War and the expansion of the nation's railroad system, it became apparent that for St. Louis to survive, a bridge across the Mississippi River was essential. In 1867, the St. Louis Bridge and Iron Company, made up of a group of City bankers and businessmen, hired James Buchanan Eads (1820-1887) to build one.

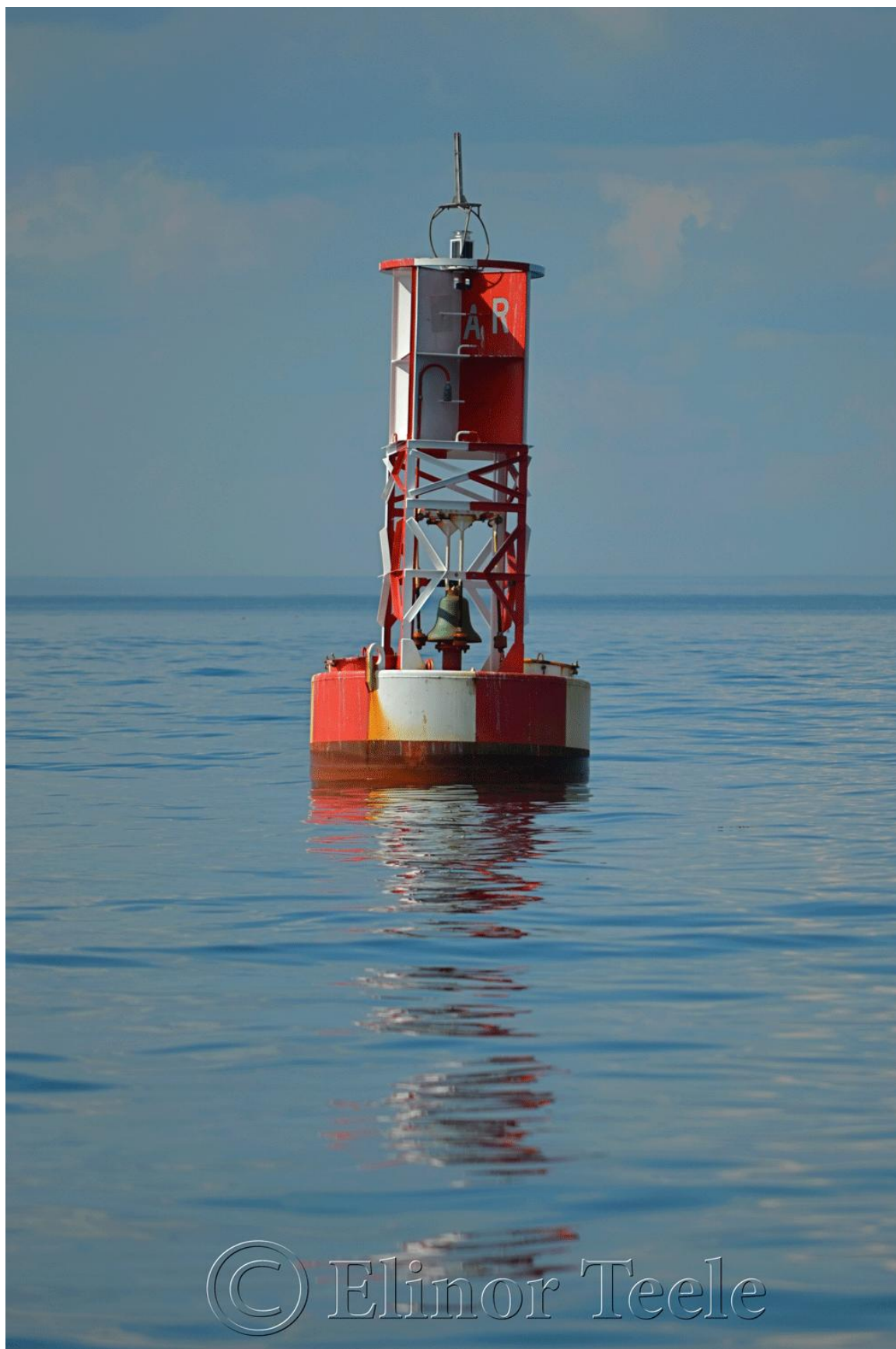
## Yin and yang



A [taijitu](#) of a particular style that is often named a "yin and yang symbol", the black area representing yin, with the opposite white side representing yang. The dots are representative of one within the other.

The Dry Salvages:





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The Mississippi River will always have its own way; no engineering skill can persuade it to do otherwise; it has always torn down the petty basketwork of the engineers and poured its giant floods withersoever it chose, and it will continue to do this.

- *Mark Twain in Eruption*

# Ma Ganga is more than a river, she's a goddess

By [Sivagami Natesan](#) | January 26, 2021





Fishing on the Grand Banks

The Annunciation, where the Archangel Gabriel tells the Virgin Mary that she will bear the Son of God:



From the *Bhagavad Gita*, i.e., the Song of God. Arjuna, the great general, looks out over the vast army of his enemy, filled with teachers, friends, and family members. He is



heartsick at the thought of having to enter into battle and kill his friends. His chariot is driven by the god Krishna, and Arjuna speaks to the god:

[TEXT 31:](#) I do not see how any good can come from killing my own kinsmen in this battle, nor can I, my dear Kṛṣṇa, desire any subsequent victory, kingdom or happiness.

[TEXTS 32-35:](#) O Govinda, of what avail to us are a kingdom, happiness or even life itself when all those for whom we may desire them are now arrayed on this battlefield? O Madhusūdana, when teachers, fathers, sons, grandfathers, maternal uncles, fathers-in-law, grandsons, brothers-in-law and other relatives are ready to give up their lives and properties and are standing before me, why should I wish to kill them, even though they might otherwise kill me? O

maintainer of all living entities, I am not prepared to fight with them even in exchange for the three worlds, let alone this earth. What pleasure will we derive from killing the sons of Dhṛtarāṣṭra?

Arjuna, having thus spoken on the battlefield, cast aside his bow and arrows and sat down on the chariot, his mind overwhelmed with grief.

Seeing Arjuna full of compassion, his mind depressed, his eyes full of tears, Madhusūdana, Kṛṣṇa, spoke the following words.

[TEXT 2:](#) The Supreme Personality of Godhead said: My dear Arjuna, how have these impurities come upon you? They are not at all befitting a man who knows the value of life. They lead not to higher planets but to infamy.

While speaking learned words, you are mourning for what is not worthy of grief. Those who are wise lament neither for the living nor for the dead.

[TEXT 12:](#) Never was there a time when I did not exist, nor you, nor all these kings; nor in the future shall any of us cease to be.

[TEXT 13:](#) As the embodied soul continuously passes, in this body, from boyhood to youth to old age, the soul similarly passes into another body at death. A sober person is not bewildered by such a change.

[TEXT 47:](#) You have a right to perform your prescribed duty, but you are not entitled to the fruits of action. Never consider yourself the cause of the results of your activities, and never be attached to not doing your duty.

[TEXT 48:](#) Perform your duty equipoised, O Arjuna, abandoning all attachment to success or failure. Such equanimity is called yoga.

[TEXT 49:](#) O Dhanañjaya, keep all abominable activities far distant by devotional service, and in that consciousness surrender unto the Lord. Those who want to enjoy the fruits of their work are misers.