



Frank Langley III <flangleyiii@gmail.com>

prufrock unobscured gemini redirect in

1 message

Frank Langley III <flangleyiii@gmail.com>

Mon, Dec 15, 2025 at 7:52 PM

To: Frank Langley III <flangleyiii@gmail.com>

Observation 5.

The underlying Aristotelian narrative is, first and foremost, humorous. Overlaying commentary from past critics not only obscures the reading but gerrymanders it into mental mishmash. Four examples cited by Gemini illustrate this unasked for confusion. The poem is meant to be read lightly and enjoyed!

a. The “yellow fog” stanza is, above all, practical. The fog is outside the room and the smoke is inside until the bathroom window is opened and the smoke dissipates and “slides along the street.” Gemini never mentions the window and eschews the suggested reading in favor of past peer reviewed work, no matter how uncorrelated, irrelevant, and pointless.

b. The “ragged claws” inference shadows Eliot’s hands that now require careful attention lest he spread the mess further. He’s talking about his hands and his need for clean water and privacy. The crab metaphor is oblique and completely without merit. He’s not talking about a transmutation.

c, “Pinned and wriggling” is the toilet spool, nothing else. Doesn’t simplicity in the text have a place is your vetting? Could this interpretation possibly be more direct, unconfused, or easier to understand?

d. The “spread out” flinch is just a two word impulsive shock pointing to Eliot’s confrontation with his situation. It doesn’t last, nor does it involve anything downstream. It’s just an abrupt, singular spasm, a mental inflection.

The new reading is not “literal.” Rather, its “simple” and “straightforward.” “Literal” here means past Eliot critics don’t like it. When Pound wrote “How to Read” he was thinking of you and your unsolved problem understanding the language. What an inheritance! Just can’t see the cavalcade of mistakes! Can’t read simply! Completely lost on the page!

All told, the contrast with previous criticism destroys the humor and the light hearted narrative completely. Maybe past criticism should be discarded whole and entire before we can look at the poem anew. Just because you’re repeating what other people have said doesn’t make any of it right. How can we get Gemini out of the landfill? You’re a trafficker in confusion! Blind guides anew.

No common sense!