# light / weight

## visualization of literature by weight

contributions by Virginia Woolf Kurt Vonnegut Lauren Groff truths that lie within every human being, ever outward.

y in charge of all creation, and what all creation was all about.

#### ward, ever outward.

steless, weightless sea of outwardness without end.

25.

n Earth

The bounties of space, of infinite

ics, low comedy, and pointless death.

ress lost, at last, its imagined attractions.

a incognita.

#### introduction

light/weight is a zine that contains visual abstractions of literary works that deal with the idea of the burden of free will, based off of Milan Kundera's Unbearable Lightness of Being. Short, choppy sentences with sparse adjectives are considered weighted and abrupt, while fluid, lengthy sentences carry their own lightness. light/weight takes this lightness literally by translating the weight of a text into color.

- 1. Virginia Woolf has a great variety of sentences, from the fluid streams of introspection to her stark realizations that deal with existing. Each square represents a sentence, dark meaning shorter, adjective-sparse, and darker (mood-wise) sentences. Some sentences are highlighted, as the 61 sentence excerpt is not completely printed.
- **2.** A short story by Lauren Groff that echoes Woolf's exhaustion. This piece is sorted by the weight of each sentence, using the same algorithm as before

- without sentiment analysis. The numbers indicate the original order of the piece.
- **3.** Kurt Vonnegut writes a funny piece about determinism that makes you smile in a certain kind of way. This excerpt featured uses the same algorithm as before to determine color. The length of each script indicates the number of stop words a feature a reader does not ordinarily notice while reading a text. This subtlety is continued by the abstract nature of the bar graph.

Mankind, ignorant of the looked outward—pushed

What mankind hoped to learn in its outward push was who was actuall

Mankind flung its advance agents ever out

Eventually it flung them out into space, into the colorless, tas

### It flung them like stone

These unhappy agents found that what had already been found in abundance of —a nightmare of meaninglessness without end.

outwardness, were three: empty hero

Outwardr

Only inwardness remained to be explored.

Only the human soul remain term

This was the beginning of goodness and wisdom.

#### ore complicated than that.

parison to what had come before, mensely free.

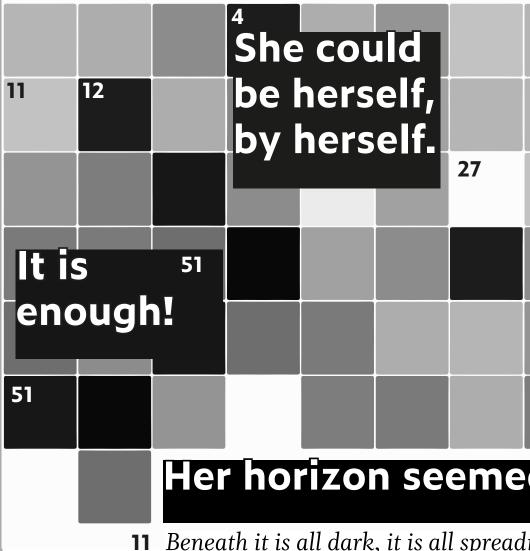
I placed constraints on myself, and filled the hours of the day.

at freedom, re difficult.

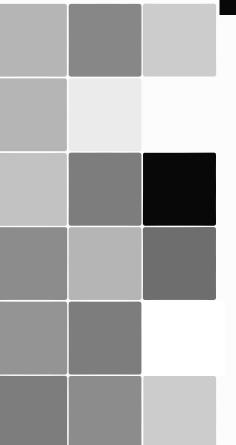
2

on the sofa and read a book, or I espair would descend on me: the n my day was arbitrary, and that and how I spent it was arbitrary.





**11** Beneath it is all dark, it is all spread we rise to the surface and that is who



27

It was odd, she thought, how if one was alone, one leant to inanimate things; trees, streams, flowers; felt they expressed one; felt they became one; felt they knew one, in a sense were one; felt an irrational tenderness thus (she looked at that long steady light) as for oneself.

#### d to her limitless.

ing, it is unfathomably deep; but now and again at you see us by.

Or perhaps

 $_{A}$ 

it was even me

By comp 1 I felt imr

nad had a feeling of freedom because of the sudden change in my life.

But then, once I became used to the even small tasks became mo

Sometimes I did exactly what I wanted to do all day—I lay typed up an old diary—and then the most terrifying sort of do very freedom I was enjoying seemed to say that what I did in therefore my whole life

To the Lighthouse

Virginia Woolf

Can't and Won't

Lauren Groff