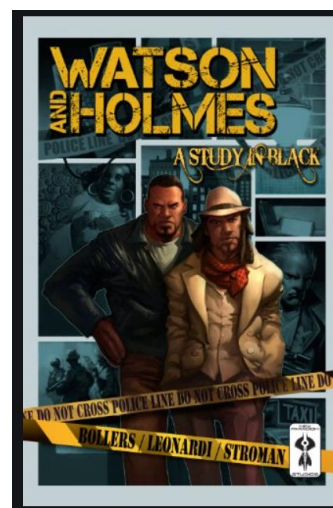
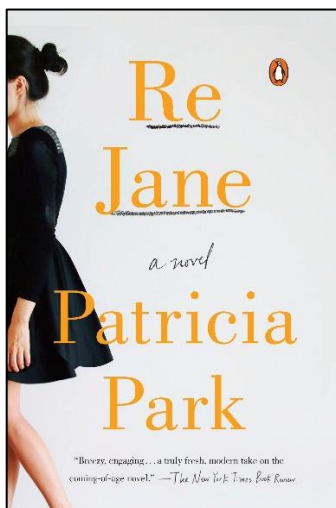
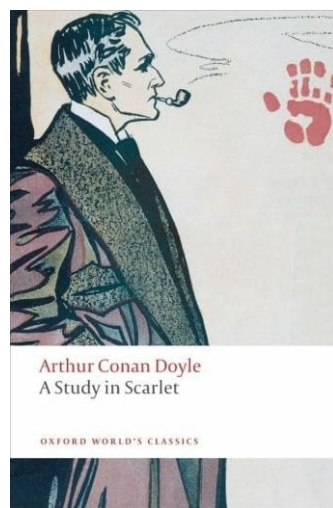
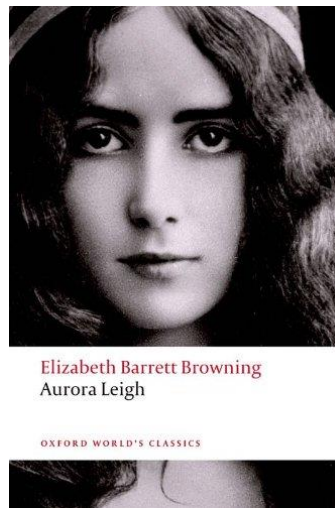
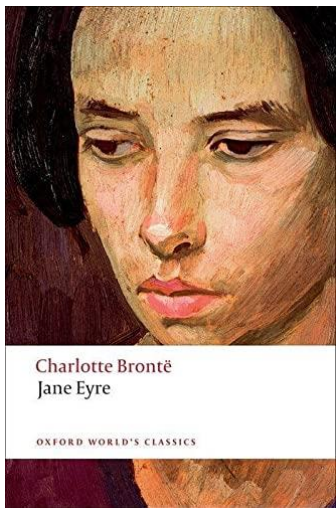


## Twice-Told Tales (ENGL 630TTT)

Wednesdays 4:00-6:45

Spring 2025

Professor Byler



Why do some stories and literary characters persistently capture readers' imaginations, reappearing in various adaptations, spin-offs, and modern guises? What does or doesn't make a literary work translatable from one age and place to another? Why do certain narratives endure in spite of differences between the cultures that tell them and even in spite of cultural violence done by these narratives? This class will examine several popular texts published in England during the nineteenth century and explore their afterlives in twenty-first-century American and British adaptations. We will consider the politics of retelling tales, considering whether affection, appropriation, resistance, interpretation, or critique drives each reimagining. Texts may include Charlotte Brontë's *Jane Eyre* (1847), Patricia Park's *Re Jane* (2015), Elizabeth Barrett Browning's *Aurora Leigh* (1856), Elizabeth Acevedo's *The Poet X* (2018), Arthur Conan Doyle's *A Study in Scarlet* (1887), Steven Moffat's and Mark Gatiss's television series *Sherlock* (2010-2017), and Karl Bollers's, Rick Leonardi's, and Larry Stroman's graphic novel *Watson and Holmes: A Study in Black* (2013). We will also engage critical work by scholars such as W.E.B. du Bois, José Esteban Muñoz, Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak, and Saidiya Hartman.