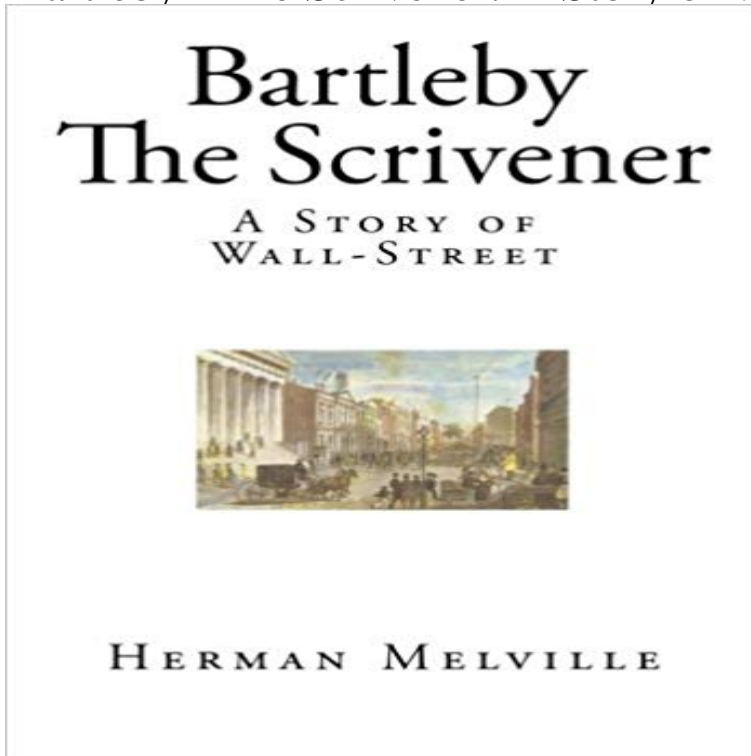


Bartleby - The Scrivener: A Story of Wall-Street



Bartleby, the Scrivener: A Story of Wall Street (1853) is a short story by the American writer Herman Melville, first serialized anonymously in two parts in the November and December editions of Putnam's Magazine, and reprinted with minor textual alterations in his *The Piazza Tales* in 1856. The story of the lawyer-narrator who cannot bring himself to remove from his office the silent scrivener (save for the repeated phrase I would prefer not to), who neither works nor eats, has always fascinated both readers and critics. Numerous essays are published on what according to scholar Robert Milder is unquestionably the masterpiece of the short fiction in the Melville canon. The narrator, an elderly, unnamed Manhattan lawyer with a very comfortable business, relates the story of the strangest man he has ever known: Bartleby. At the start of his chronicle, the lawyer already employs two scriveners to copy legal documents by hand: Nippers and Turkey. An increase in business leads him to advertise for a third, and he hires the forlorn-looking Bartleby in the hope that his calmness will soothe the irascible temperaments of the other two. At first, Bartleby produces a large volume of high-quality work. But one day, when asked to help proofread a document, Bartleby answers with what soon becomes his perpetual response to every request: I would prefer not to. To the dismay of the lawyer and to the irritation of the other employees, Bartleby performs fewer and fewer tasks, and eventually none. The narrator makes several futile attempts to reason with him and to learn something about him; and when he stops by the office unexpectedly, he discovers that Bartleby has started living there. Tension builds as business associates wonder why Bartleby is always there. Sensing the threat of ruined reputation but emotionally unable to evict Bartleby, the narrator finally decides to move out himself. Soon the new tenants

come to ask for help: Bartleby still will not leave he now sits on the stairs all day and sleeps in the buildings doorway. The narrator visits him and attempts to reason with him, and surprises even himself by inviting Bartleby to come live with him. But Bartleby would prefer not to. Later the narrator returns to find that Bartleby has been forcibly removed and imprisoned in The Tombs. The narrator visits him. Finding Bartleby even glummer than usual, he bribes a turnkey to make sure Bartleby gets enough food. But when he returns a few days later, he discovers that Bartleby has died of starvation, having apparently preferred not to eat. Some time afterward, the narrator hears a rumor that Bartleby had worked in a dead letter office, and reflects that dead letters would have made anyone of Bartleby's temperament sink into an even darker gloom. The story closes with the narrator's resigned and pained sigh, Ah Bartleby! Ah humanity!

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Wall-Street (Unexpurgated Start Bartleby the Scrivener - Shmoop Complete summary of Herman Melville's Bartleby the Scrivener, A Tale of Wall Street. eNotes plot summaries cover all the significant action of Bartleby the Melville, Herman. 1853. Bartleby, the Scrivener - Feb 1, 2004 Free kindle book and epub digitized and proofread by Project Gutenberg. **Bartleby the Scrivener: Story Summary - Cliffs Notes** Bartleby, The Scrivener. 2 as a premature act inasmuch as I had counted upon a life-lease of the profits, whereas I only received those of a few short years. **Bartleby the Scrivener - Project Gutenberg** Free summary and analysis of the events in Herman Melville's Bartleby the out the window at a facing wall, and it turns out that he actually lives in the office. **Bartleby the Scrivener Summary - Shmoop** David Sandberg has long insisted that this is a great story and, after finally caving in and reading it despite his recommendation, I heartily concur. Melville is, of : **Bartleby the Scrivener (Tale Blazers** Bartleby the Scrivener: A Story of Wall Street. (1853). I am a rather elderly man. The nature of my avocations for the last thirty years has brought me into more **Bartleby, The Scrivener: A Story Of Wall-street** Editorial Reviews. Review. [An] exquisitely existential tale of 19th-century Wall Street. The New York Times A great American novelist the greatest **Herman Melville's Bartleby, the Scrivener: An interactive** Oct 11, 2011 As I tried to come up with a good parallel, I found myself thinking of Bartleby, the Scrivener, Herman Melville's short story about an office worker, **Bartleby, the Scrivener: A Story of Wall Street - Brothers Judd** Summary. The narrator of Bartleby the Scrivener is the Lawyer, who runs a law practice on Wall Street in New York. The Lawyer begins by noting that he is an : **Bartleby, the Scrivener A Story of Wall-Street eBook** A successful lawyer on Wall Street hires Bartleby, a scrivener, to relieve the load of work experienced by his law firm. For two days, Bartleby executes his job. **Bartleby the Scrivener, A Story of Wall Street. - LibriVox** Herman Melville (1819 - 1891) Herman Melville (August 1, 1819 - September 28, 1891) was an American novelist, short story writer, essayist, and poet. **Bartleby, the Scrivener A Story of Wall Street - Kindle edition by** Free kindle book and epub digitized and proofread by Project Gutenberg.