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The motif of the water journey as a metaphor for philosophical enquiry in selected novels of Herman Melville and Joseph Conrad

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NOTE ON THE TEXTS USED

Except where there are indications to the contrary, I have used the Norton Critical Editions of the four Melville and Conrad texts which form the basis of my study. The Norton edition of Moby-Dick prints what is generally regarded as the standard text of the novel – that published by Northwestern University Press and the Newberry Library. The text of Billy Budd, Sailor is the reading text which was established by Harrison Hayford and Merton Sealts after a careful study of Melville's manuscript. The copy-text for Heart of Darkness is the authoritative 1921 Heinemann edition; minor alterations have been made to it by the editior of the Norton edition on the basis of his examination of Conrad's manuscript and typescript. For Lord Jim, the copy-text is the first English edition, which is now thought to be the most reliable edition of the novel. The Norton editions of the Conrad novels have the added advantage of printing the most important textual variants.

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