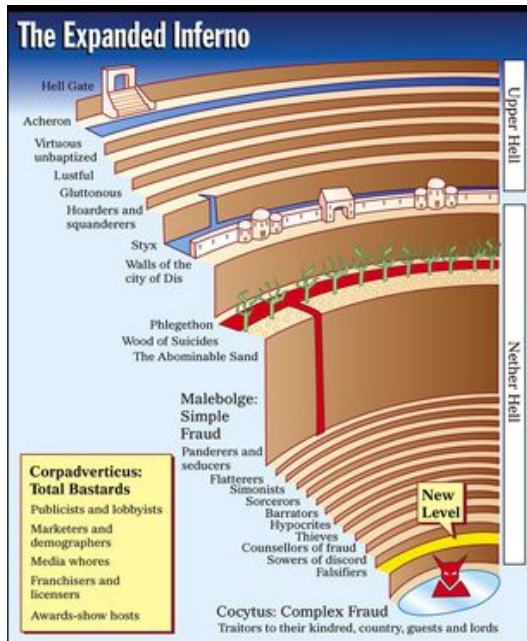


ITT3114: Dante's *Inferno* · E. Coggeshall · Creative Essay

From *The Onion* News Desk, Vol. 34, No. 08 (September 23, 1998):

Tenth Circle Added To Rapidly Growing Hell



CITY OF DIS, NETHER HELL—After nearly four years of construction at an estimated cost of 750 million souls, Corpadverticus, the new 10th circle of Hell, finally opened its doors Monday.

The Blockbuster Video-sponsored circle, located in Nether Hell between the former eighth and ninth levels of Malebolge and Cocytus, is expected to greatly alleviate the overcrowding problems that have plagued the infernal underworld in recent years. The circle is the first added to Hell in its countless-millennia history.

[...]

For this assignment, you will create your own “Tenth Circle of Hell.” You should consider the following questions: what class of sinners would be placed there? What would their special *contrapasso* be? How would this *contrapasso* appropriately reveal, demonstrate, and/or externalize the choice these sinners make?

You might also consider the following questions, to help you design your *contrapasso*: What would the landscape look like? Where would this additional circle be located in Dante’s scheme? What would it be called? What famous/notorious people might we encounter there? How would they tell their stories? How might the pilgrim respond to their plight?

Submissions should be approximately 800-1000 words. They may take the form of essays, dialogues, additional cantos (rhymed and metered?), news reports, etc. You may wish to accompany your submission with visual aids (maps, sketches, paintings, cartoons, etchings) or with audio recordings.