



Tell the Story You Want To Tell

Presentation by Ken Liu

Story

From Old French *estorie*, *estoire* "story, chronicle, history," from Late Latin *storia*, shortened from Latin *historia* "history, account, tale, story"

Meaning "recital of true events" first recorded late 14c.; sense of "narrative of fictitious events meant to entertain" is from c. 1500. **Not differentiated from *history* until 1500s.**

Compare with Old English *spell* "story, saying, tale, history, narrative, fable; discourse, command" ... meaning "set of words with supposed magical or occult powers, incantation, charm" first recorded 1570s

-- Etymonline.com



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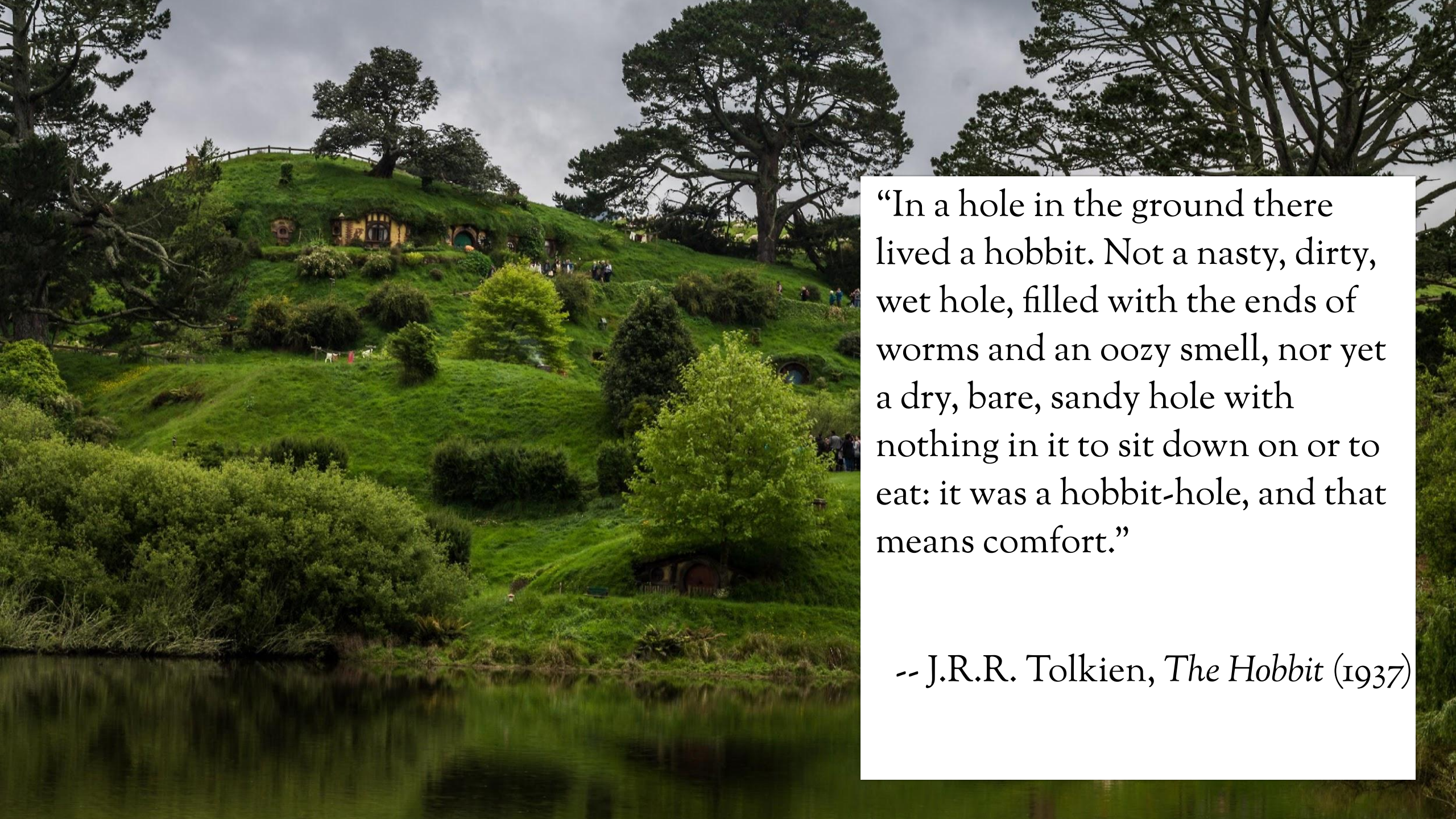
A₁

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F₄

B₃

B



“In a hole in the ground there lived a hobbit. Not a nasty, dirty, wet hole, filled with the ends of worms and an oozy smell, nor yet a dry, bare, sandy hole with nothing in it to sit down on or to eat: it was a hobbit-hole, and that means comfort.”

-- J.R.R. Tolkien, *The Hobbit* (1937)

“HALF-WAY between Pooh’s house and Piglet’s house was a Thoughtful Spot where they met sometimes when they had decided to go and see each other, and as it was warm and out of the wind they would sit down there for a little and wonder what they would do now that they had seen each other.”

-- A. A. Milne, *The House at Pooh Corner* (1928)



One morning Toad sat in bed.

"I have many things to do," he said.

"I will write them all down on a list so that I can remember them."

-- Arnold Lobel, *Frog and Toad Together* (1971)

Eat Breakfast

Get Dressed

Go to Frog's House

Take walk with Frog

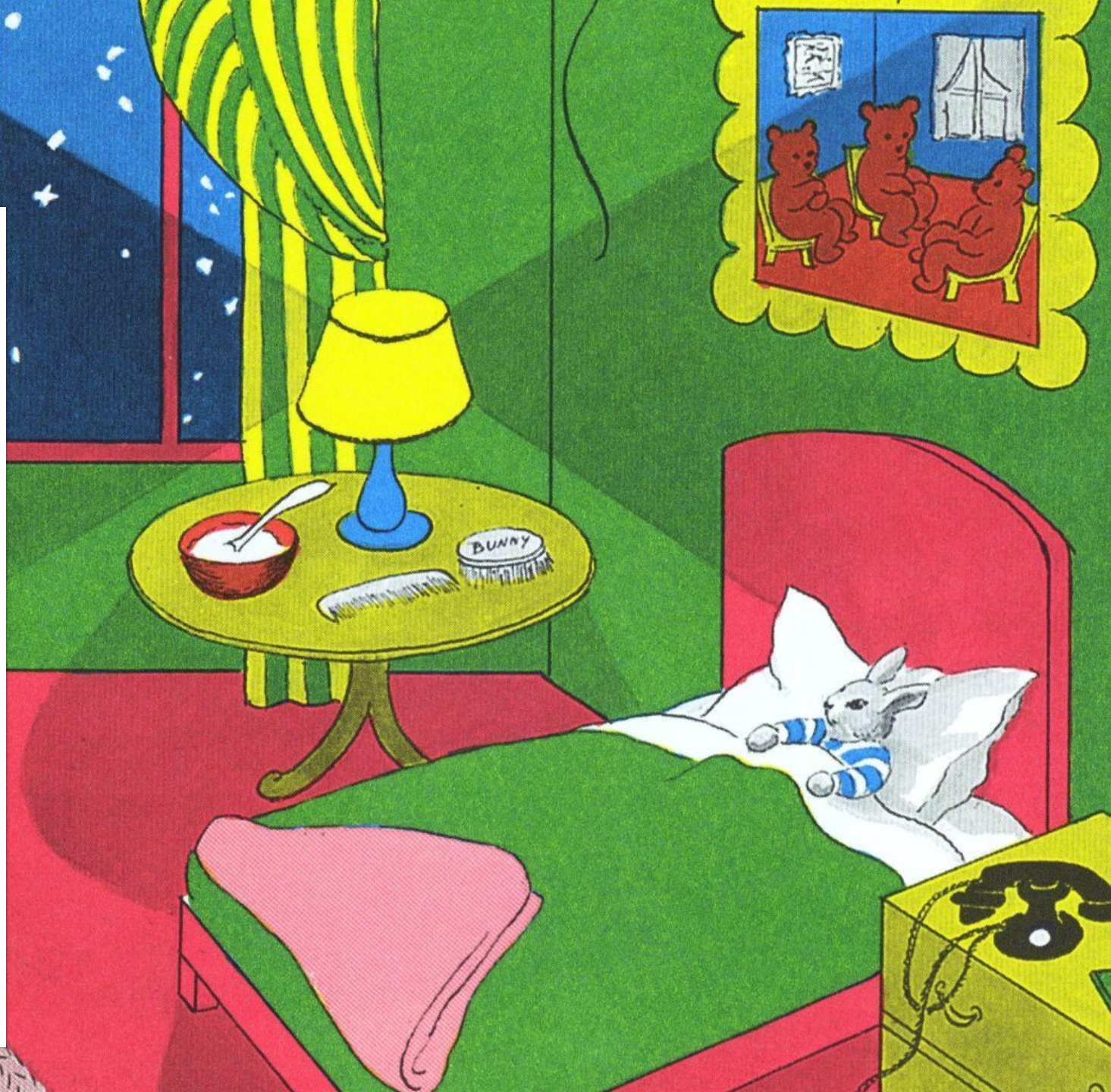
Eat lunch

Take nap

Play games with Frog

“Goodnight room
Goodnight moon
Goodnight cow jumping over the
moon
Goodnight light
And the red balloon
Goodnight bears
Goodnight chairs
Goodnight kittens
And goodnight mittens”

-- Margaret Wise Brown, *Goodnight
Moon* (1947)



Robo_Ken

A notebook using deeplearning (LSTM networks) to generate text in my style.

```
# set things up
import tensorflow as tf
import tensorflow.keras.backend as K

import numpy as np
import os
from os import path
import time
import pickle
import glob

from google.colab import drive
drive.mount('/content/drive')

basepath = '/content/drive/My Drive/colab_data/'

### Configuration
# name of the author (and the data file to train on)
author = 'ken'

# global flag for whether to train the model or to generate new
train_or_generate = 'generate'

datapath = basepath + 'datasets/{}.txt'.format(author)
picklepath = basepath + 'pickles/' + '{}.pickle'.format(author)
saved_model_path = basepath + 'saved_models/' + '{}.h5'.format(author)
reload_model_flag = basepath + 'saved_models/' + '{}-model-reload'.format(author)
# Directory where the checkpoints will be saved
checkpoint_dir = basepath + 'checkpoints'

# Here batch size == 1
model.reset_states()
for i in range(num_generate):
    predictions = model(input_eval)
    # remove the batch dimension
    predictions = tf.squeeze(predictions, 0)

    # using a categorical distribution to predict the character returned by the model
    predictions = predictions / temperature
    predicted_id = tf.random.categorical(predictions, num_samples=1)[-1,0].numpy()

    # We pass the predicted character as the next input to the model
    # along with the previous hidden state
    input_eval = tf.expand_dims([predicted_id], 0)

    text_generated.append(idx2char[predicted_id])

return (start_string + ''.join(text_generated))

if train_or_generate == 'generate':
    # modify this to generate the string you want
    print(generate_text(pred_model, start_string=u"50 things every ai working with humans should know"))
```


I watched as soon as I did, died.

She was clasting, "I should feel my smirk."

I switch through, barely more than a decade.

who he began to complicate.

girl was a little truck.

said after a moment, as well as a scammer, enthusiasion,



50 Things Every AI Working with Humans Should Know

-- by Ken Liu, first published in *Uncanny*, November 2020

1. The vector space of all usages of all words in all human languages.
2. The lacunae that nonetheless remain, and the ghosts that haunt them.
3. How great is the distance between any two individuals using the same language.
4. How vanishingly small is the gap between any two languages.



“They think an artist is like a roll of photographic film, you expose it and develop it and there is a reproduction of Reality in two dimensions. But that’s all wrong, and if any artist tells you ‘I am a camera’, or ‘I am a mirror’, distrust them instantly, they’re fooling you, pulling a fast one. Artists are people who are not at all interested in the facts — only in the truth. You get the facts from outside. The truth you get from inside.”

-- Ursula K. Le Guin, “Talking About Writing”

Credits

- ◆ “Bosco verticale, Green in the city, Milan, Italy” by [Chris Barbalis](#) on [Unsplash](#)
- ◆ “Stay Home” by [Priscilla Du Preez](#) on [Unsplash](#)
- ◆ “Hobbiton” by [Tobias Stonjeck](#) on [Unsplash](#)
- ◆ Winnie the Pooh illustration by E. H. Shephard
- ◆ *Goodnight Moon* illustration by Clement G. Hurd
- ◆ *Frog and Toad* illustration by Arnold Lobel
- ◆ “Circuit Board” by [Michael Dziedzic](#) on [Unsplash](#)
- ◆ “List” by [Glenn Carstens-Peters](#) on [Unsplash](#)
- ◆ “Balloons” Photo by [Kyle Hinkson](#) on [Unsplash](#)
- ◆ “Camera” by [Ethan Hoover](#) on [Unsplash](#)