

Human Factors in Authorship

Who cares who wrote it, and why?

A philosophical framework by Bry Willis.

[Our Focus]

Human Exceptionalists

Defending the inherent
superiority of the human
origin.

The Agnostics

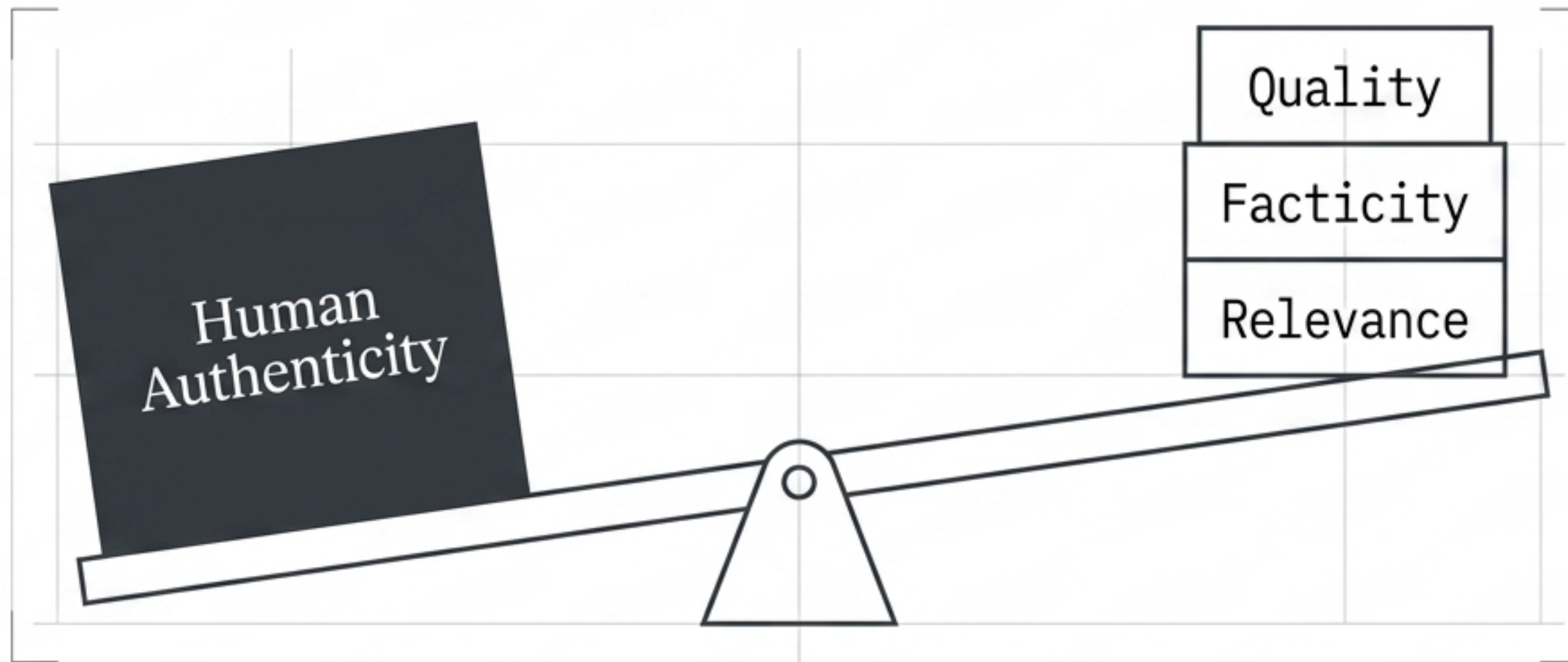
The pragmatic centre.
Driven by engagement,
not origin.

The Misanthropes

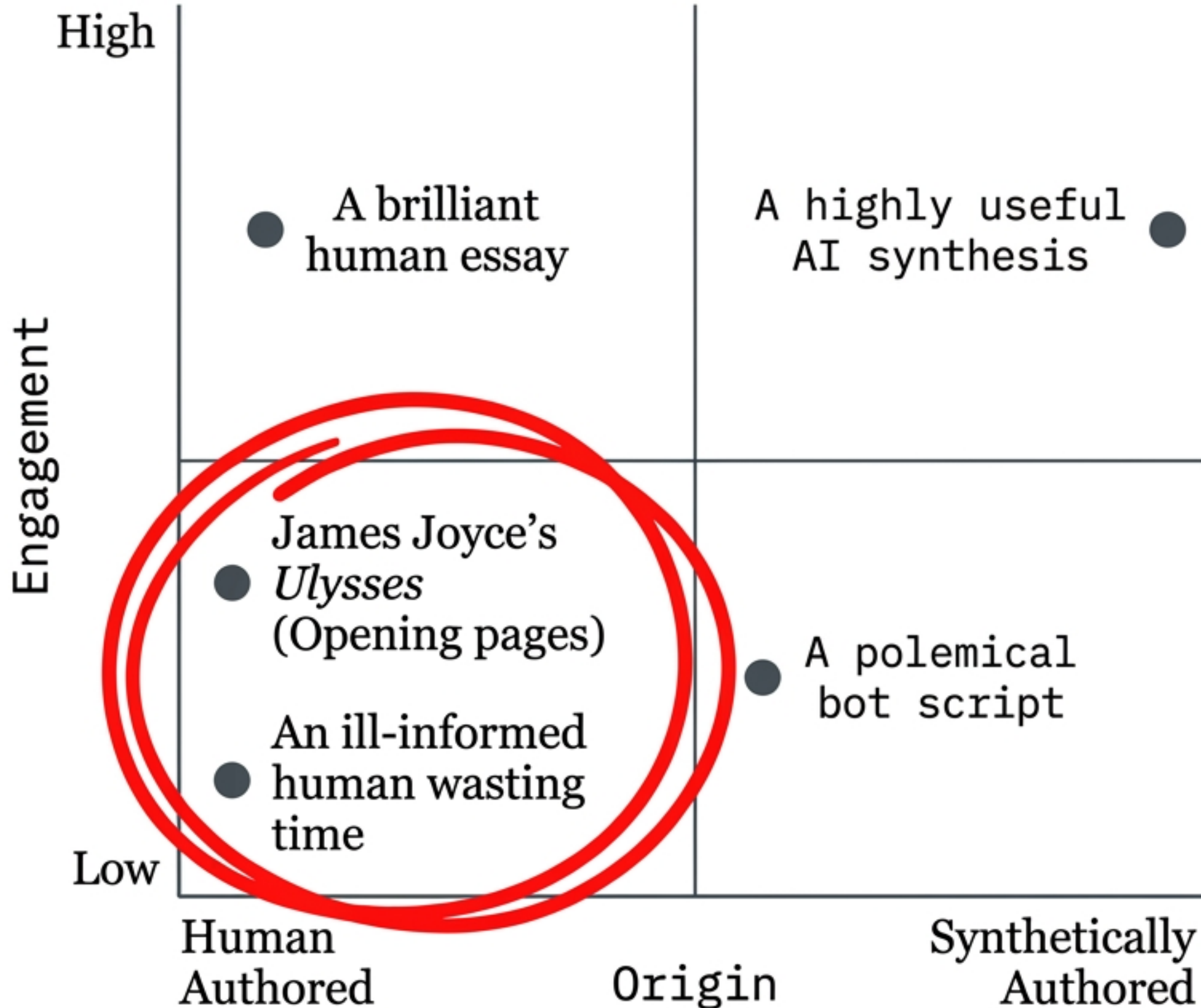
The theoretical 'fuck
humans' faction.

I do not particularly care whether its author is
human, artificial or **three raccoons** operating a
Substack account. My interest is **engagement**.

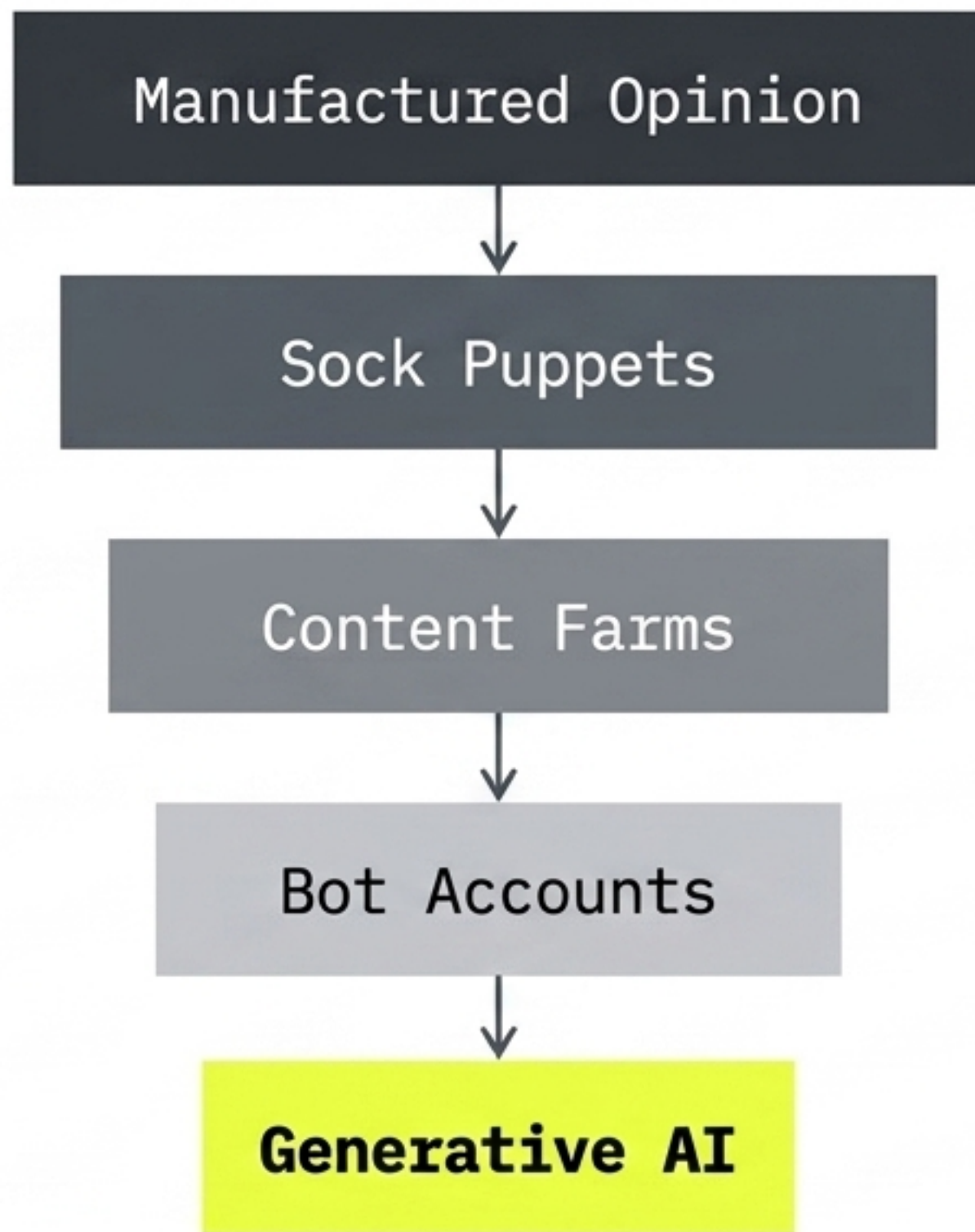
What good is human authenticity if quality, facticity and every other relevant dimension have been excluded from consideration?



Does disappointment become nobler simply because an authentic person inflicted it?

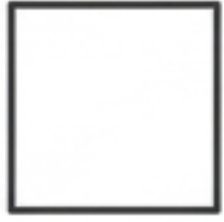


There is a reason I still have not read beyond the opening pages of *Ulysses*, and it is not because James Joyce was an AI.



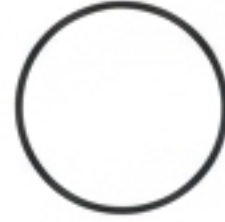
“We were arguing about these long before generative AI arrived to give the panic a fashionable new object.”

Takeaway: Human culture has hardly been waiting for machines to introduce mediation, simulation or bullshit.



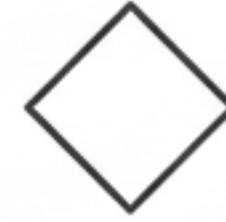
The Television Drama

Mechanism: Constructed narrative arcs.



The Sporting Contest

Mechanism: Attributed significance and rules.



Synthetic Text

Mechanism: Cultivated attention via probabilistic generation.

The content is constructed, the significance attributed, and the attention cultivated.

Engaging with synthetic text is not categorically different from consuming any other carefully manufactured spectacle.

My reaction is real enough.
Something has achieved...



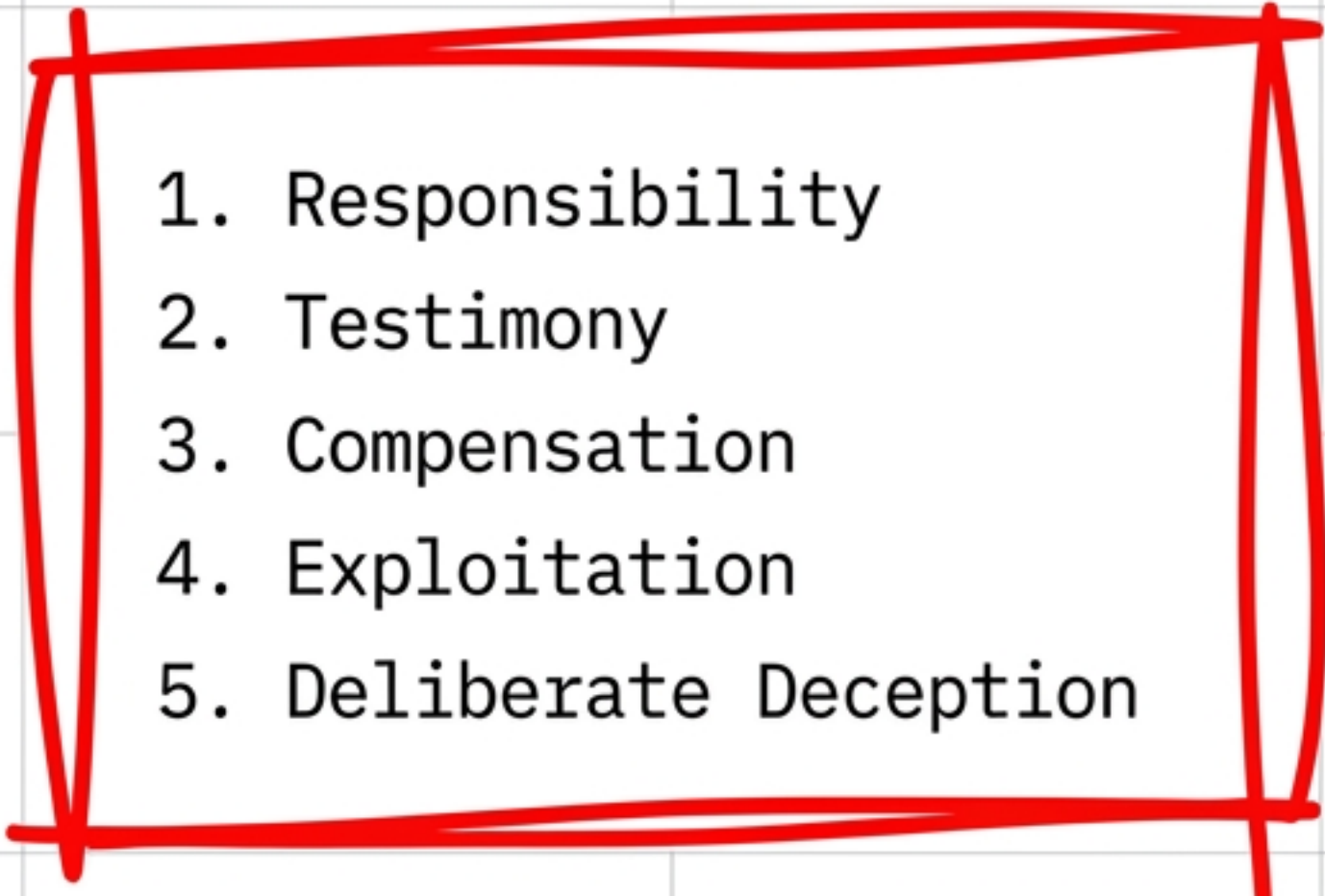
SALIENCE

The state of catching attention, provoking thought,
and demanding a real reaction—regardless of
the prompter's origin.

[If a piece gets me to think, the origin of the prompt is strictly secondary.]

The Boundary Conditions

Subtitle: Authorship is not irrelevant; its relevance is just highly specific.

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1. Responsibility
 2. Testimony
 3. Compensation
 4. Exploitation
 5. Deliberate Deception



Reality Check: These are specific ethical and legal concerns, not evidence of some sacred human residue embedded in every sentence.

<u>Evaluative Dimension</u>	<u>The Metric</u>	<u>Does Origin Matter?</u>
Aesthetics & Quality (Reading for Insight)	Facticity, Relevance, Effect, Salience.	NO.
Ethics & Accountability (Establishing Trust)	Testimony, Compensation, Exploitation, Deception.	YES.

Note: You cannot judge the first dimension using the rules of the second.

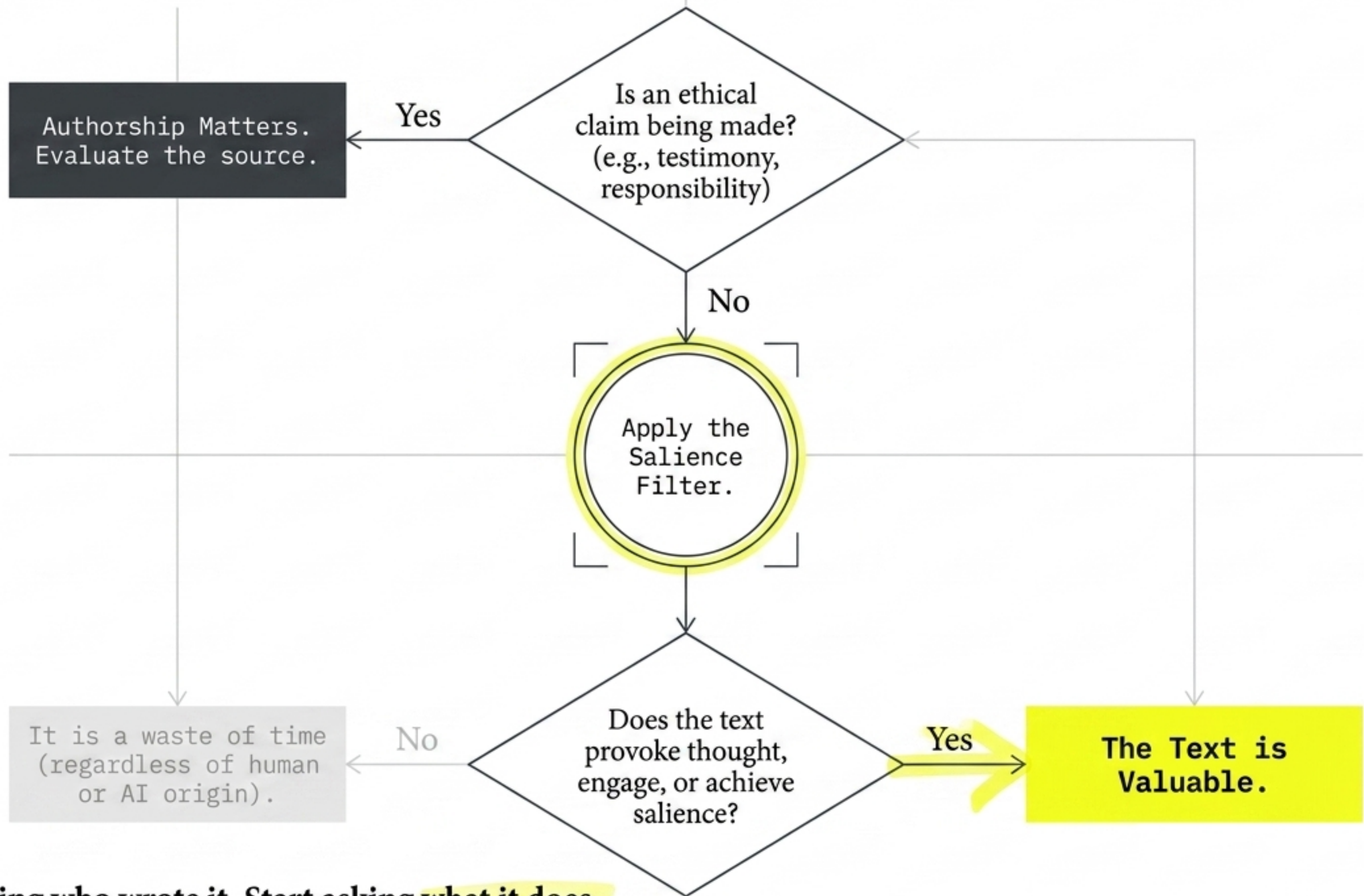
The Mystical Metaphysics

The Diagnostic Truth

**Most of it is merely
whingeing with an
ontology attached.**

The belief that value stems purely from a uniquely human soul, privileging authorship over all other metrics of quality.

The demand for human authenticity—absent any ethical boundary condition—is rarely a defence of quality.



Stop asking who wrote it. Start asking what it does.

Unless authorship can be privileged
over quality without smuggling in
mystical metaphysics...

[I remain unmoved.]