**Points to Ponder on Tennyson’s “The Lady of Shallot” and “Palace of Art”**

A picture containing text, tree, outdoor

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John William Waterhouse, *The Lady of Shallot*, 1888

Based on its opening, what kind of poem do you expect this to be?

What do you make of the fact that we begin, not with the “Lady” of the title, but with a landscape? What meanings are inscribed in the setting?

How and what does the Lady weave? What are the implications of that fact? Why does she become “half-sick of shadows”?

How is Lancelot described?

What do you make of the poem’s ending?

Tennyson described “The Palace of Art” as an allegory. What story does it tell, and why does it tell it in allegorical fashion?