

ARNOLD, HARMON, JONES,
MARANTO, SKILLEN

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ENG 1102
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SCIENCE: EXPERIMENTAL INDEX



alphabet by
Inger
Christensen

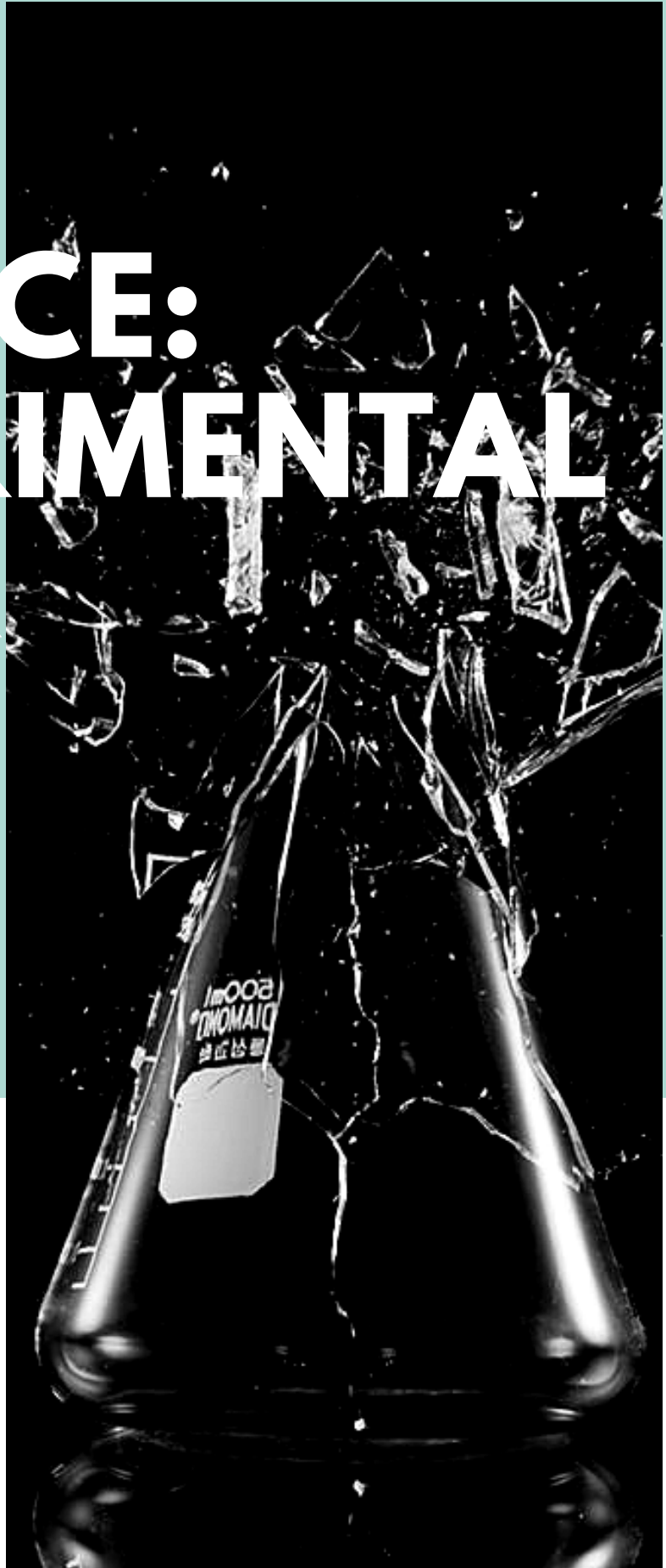


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AN INTRODUCTION

In the decisions to take up "Science" as our category for experimental indexing, we noted the challenges that would face us during our stretch of research. When discussing the realm of possibilities of indexing, Mr. Skillen summed it perfectly: "Gosh, science is big!" And it is indeed *big*. When considering science, one must consider *all* of the sciences including but not limited to: forensics, biology, chemistry, psychology, meteorology, astronomy, botany, ecology, and taxonomy.

We believe that this experimental index is both well-compiled in its attempt to bring to light the references to the scientific world in Christensen's literature, as well as essential in grasping a well-rounded comprehension of the poem as a whole.

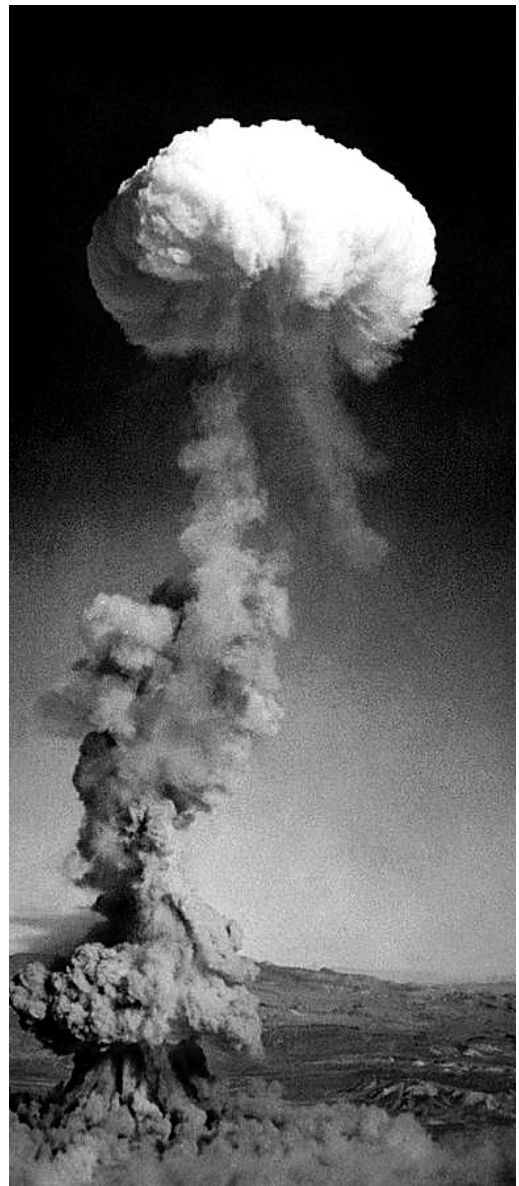


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READING REFLECTION

Frequency of Scientific Reference

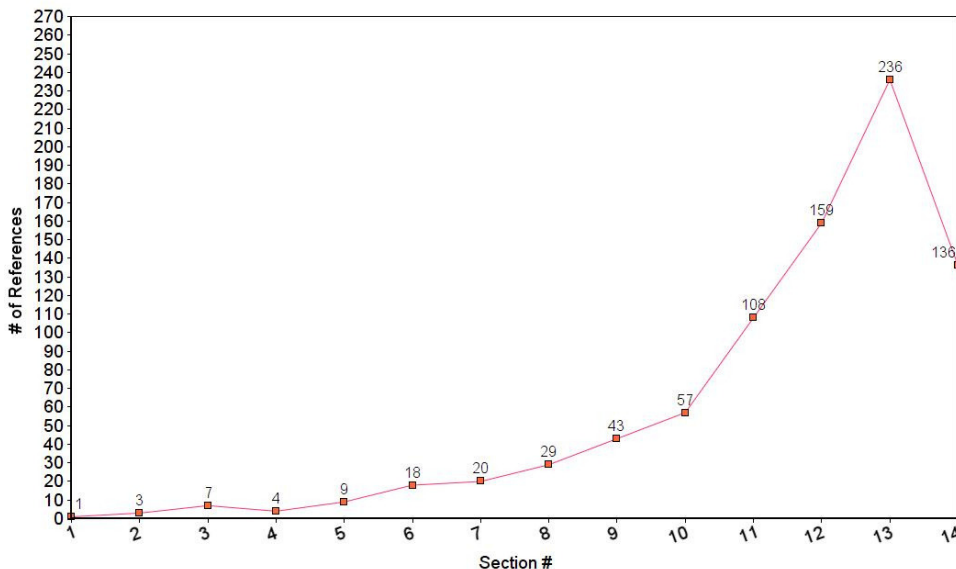


FIGURE 1.

The figure reflects the amount of scientific words indexed on each page in Christensen's *alphabet*.

Reading through the lens of science puts a completely new twist on viewing this poem. As students at Georgia Tech, many of us have come to this university with a mindset of research and the study of scientific fields. Reading into a poem with the express purpose of discovering science helped create comfort with a work of literature and a place where we could find ourselves in our element. We have learned that there is most certainly

science in everything. There are a plethora of scientific references in and throughout this poetry. A healthy knowledge of the sciences in this poem, most notably the field of taxonomy, gave us all a better grasp of the huge array of animals and species within this poem. Bill Nye once said, "Science is the key to our future," but we have discovered that science, in the light of Christensen's thoughts of its effects on nature and our world, is the key to so much more.

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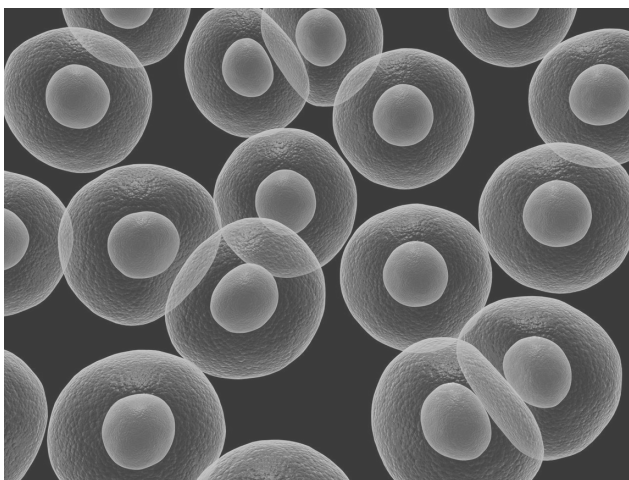


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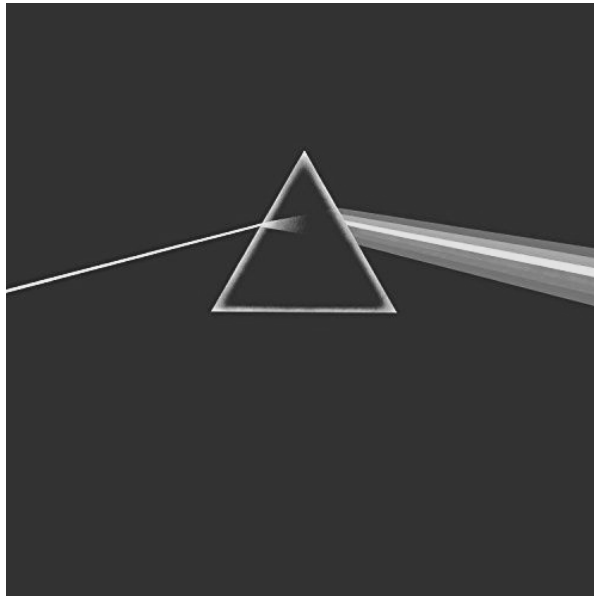


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