

On the Cult of Books (1946)

Jorge Luis Borges

Critical Publishing II

An Insight by
Ana María
Peña Cardona

About the A



Jorge Luis Borges (1899–1986) was an Argentine writer, poet, and essayist. His most famous works include *Ficciones* (1944) and *El Aleph* (1949), collections of short stories that blend fiction with philosophy, mythology, and metaphysics. He was also a director of Argentina's National Library, despite gradually losing his sight throughout his life.

Books as Sacred Objects

In many religious and philosophical traditions, books are considered sacred. For instance, the holy texts of major religions—the Bible, the Quran, the Torah—are not only spiritual guides but also revered objects.

The Philosophical Perspective

Philosophers like Plato expressed skepticism about the written word, concerned that writing could weaken memory and understanding.

The Universal Library Metaphor

The world as a book, the universe and existence itself can be read and interpreted, much like a text filled with symbols and meanings waiting to be deciphered.

The Cult Of Books: Overview

The concept of the "Cult of Books" refers to the profound reverence and almost sacred status that books have held across different cultures and eras. Throughout history, books have been more than mere vessels of information; they have symbolized knowledge, power, and the human spirit's quest for understanding.

1. Written Words
2. Cultural and Religious importance
3. "The Silent Reading Revolution"
4. Philosophy
5. The Book as a Metaphor for the Universe

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5. The Book

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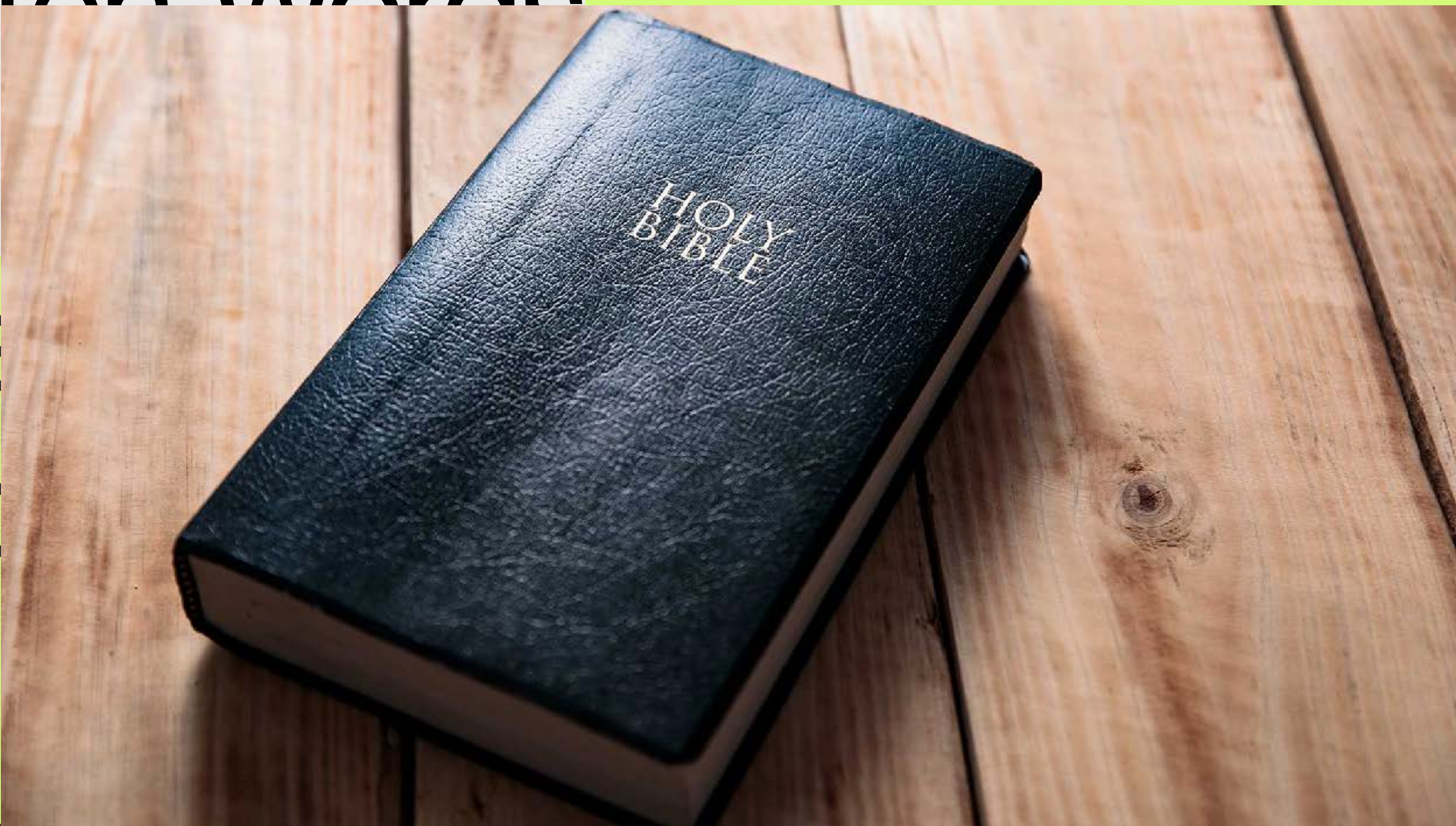
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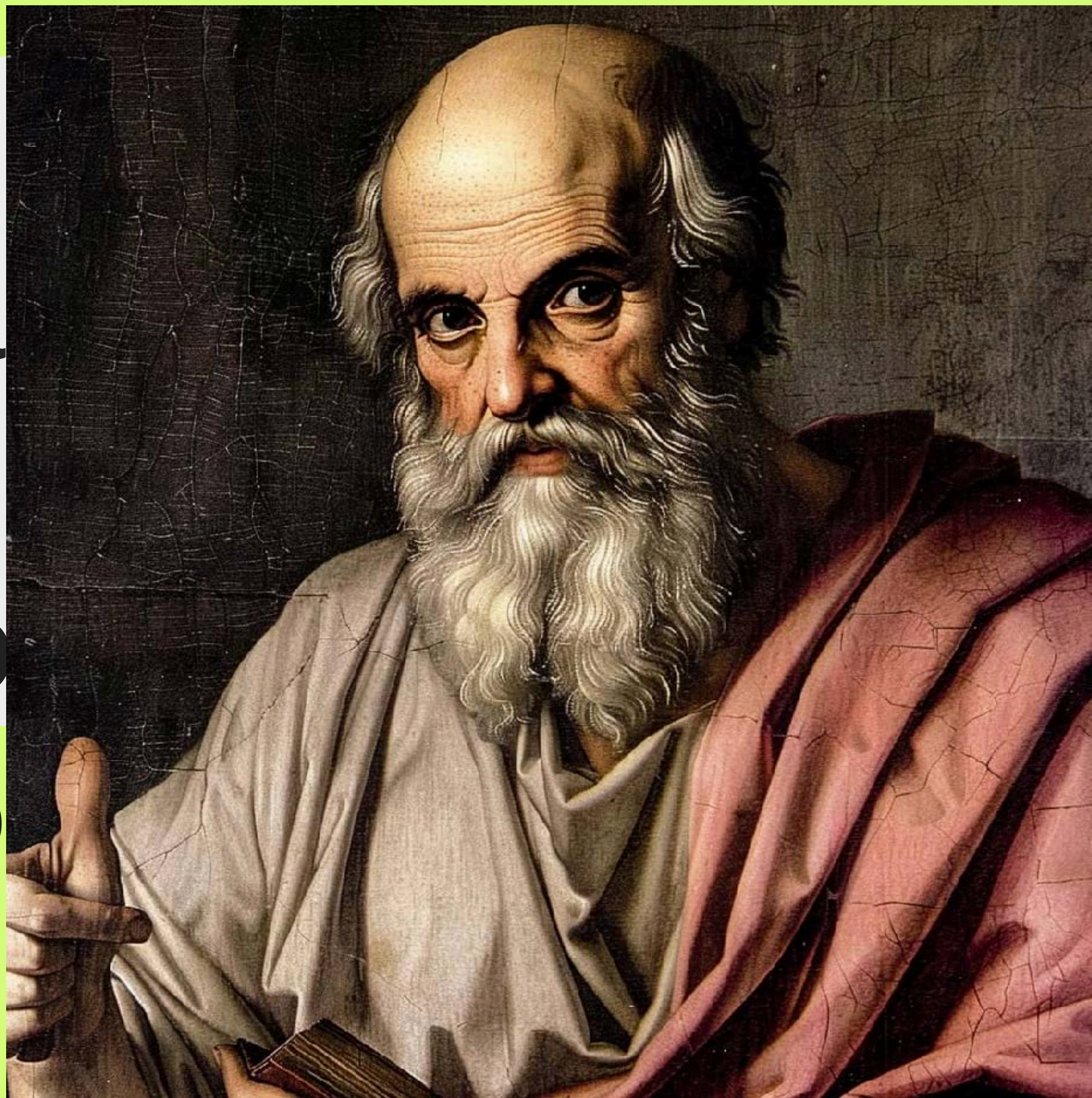


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books are more than just collections of words; they are gateways to different worlds, ideas, and perspectives, like “the world as a book” metaphor

Books preserve the thoughts and experiences of previous generations, allowing us to learn from the past while inspiring future innovation. They connect people across time and space.

The "Cult of Books" is not about idolizing the physical object but recognizing the profound impact that the written word has on individuals and societies.

Conclusion

Situating the Manifesto.

Jorge Luis Borges explores humanity's profound admiration for books. He situates books as sacred objects throughout history, like in religion. Borges himself, a lifelong bibliophile, reflects on their timeless importance.

What are its core proposals?

He Challenges the idea of books as only containers of information, stating that books represent the limitless pursuit of knowledge. He highlights their sacred, almost mystical, value across civilizations.

How is the manifesto structured?

Sort of like a dream, a meditation . It includes historical references like Plato.

What's the style of the writing?

Poetic and philosophical, with deep introspection. The tone is controlled and reflecting, could feel sort of nostalgic.

is it still relevant today?

In today's digital age, even more, especially as conversations about the future of printed books intensify. While the world shifts toward e-books and digital media, Borges' reflections makes you think about th importance of books.

So, in short

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Thank you :)

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