

# WHEN A DIALOG BECOMES A MONOLOGUE

A debate on custom-made literature with generative AI

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An interdisciplinary discussion between a computer linguist and a cultural anthropologist: what are the likely effects that fiction written by AI will have on the users prompting it?

## HOW WE GOT HERE

Reading is both a popular hobby and a key component of modern society, while generative AI has revolutionized the ways in which we create novel texts. Most indicators point towards an explosion in the number of written works created with AI across all forums. "When we read a literary text we enter a relationship with its creator that is closely analogous to a conversation". But what happens when the creator is an AI following a prompt?

## READING FICTION...

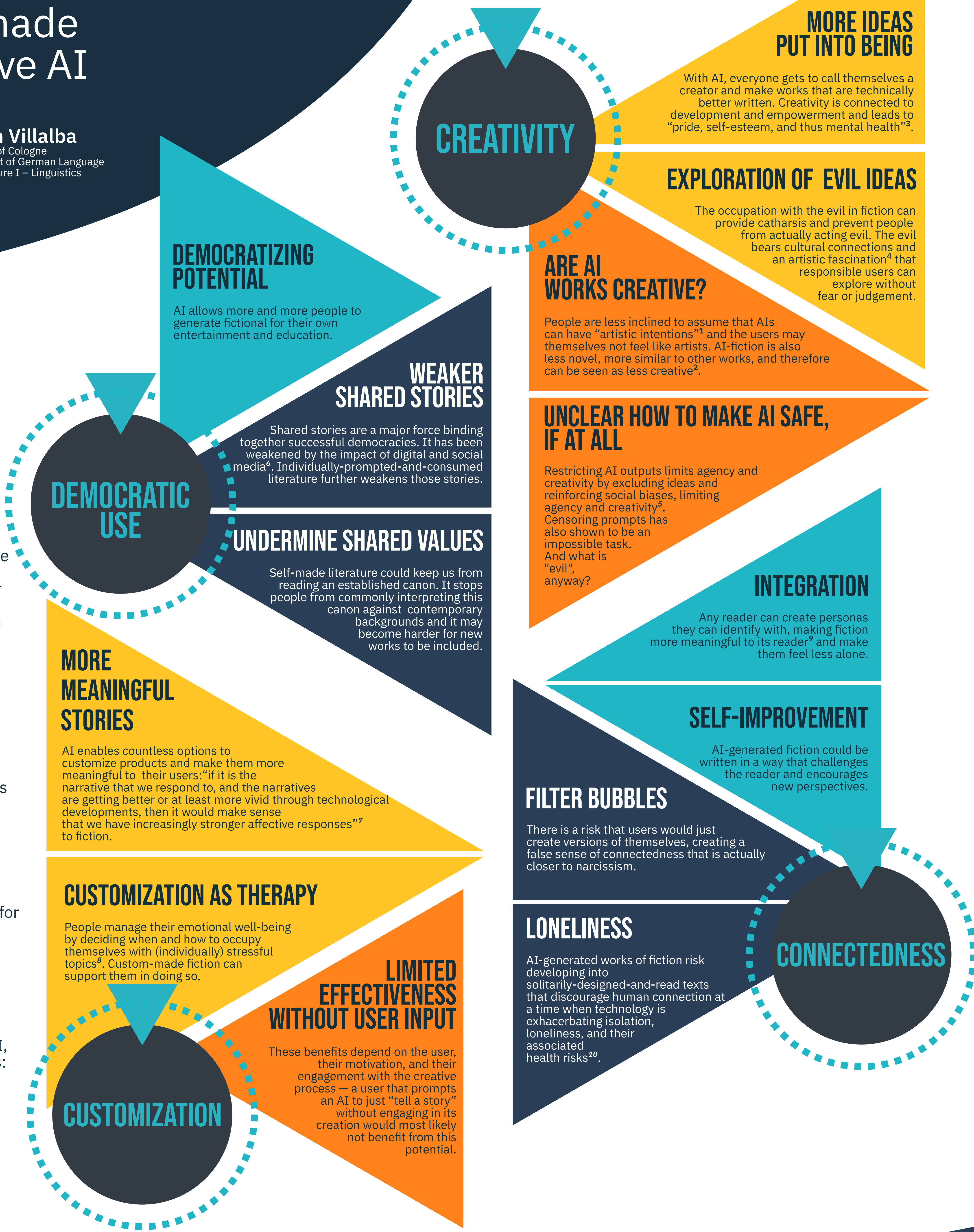
- ... helps us make sense of the world
- ... improves positive emotions and decrease negative ones
- ... helps the development of the own character
- ... increases people's willingness to help
- ... improves the ability to express emotional states and decreases discriminatory behavior
- ... enables a safe space to confront difficult topics

So what happens when we read fiction created by us and for us with the help of AI?

## DYNAMICS OF READING FICTION

Our discussion focuses on four specific dynamics of reading and authoring fictional works of literature with AI, centering on works created for the individuals themselves: **Democratic use, Creativity, Customization and Connectedness.**

## FOUR DYNAMICS OF READING FICTION



## OUTLOOK

**THE FIGURE OF THE AUTHOR...**  
... may become less important because AI tools will lower the technical barrier of entry.  
... may at the same time, depending on the literature, the marketing and the individual author, become increasingly important.

**AI IS HERE TO STAY...**  
... and we need to adapt to life with it. But we also need to decide in which role before someone decides for us.

**LITERATURE WRITTEN WITH AI...**  
... could ideally reflect more diverse opinions, allowing more and more users to express their ideas in better-written texts. But there is the danger that it will include less diverse opinions, reinforcing own biases and showing users only a mirror of themselves.

**EDUCATION SHOULD FOCUS ON...**  
... dealing critically with content regardless of who created it. We should also teach how to leave our "bubbles".  
... understanding what these technologies can and cannot do, in order not to trust them blindly.  
... helping people use them for their own and their society's benefit.

**INCREASE TRANSPARENCY...**  
... as we need tools to reliably identify AI-generated texts.

**CENSORING LLMS...**  
... may never work right — and we shouldn't even try. Artists should be free to take responsibility for their work and explore freely. But there is still value in protecting society at large from stumbling into disturbing or dangerous content. It will be a societal task to constantly evaluate.

## TO-DO

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