

Ana Pena
Fictions of Disability
Prof. Julia Rodas
April 9, 2018
Response #8

Today I read the story *Bartleby The Scrivener* by Herman Melville. This story was very confusing for me at the beginning. When I continued reading I started to get very frustrated with Bartleby. I do not understand why he always replied with the same phrase "I prefer not to." I could not identify what kind of disability he had. I was very intrigued about Bartleby's life and background. At some point in the story I felt the narrator frustration toward Bartleby position of staying at the offices even though he was not being productive in any way. However, I could not resist myself from feeling pettiness and sadness for Bartleby. While reading I had the hope of having Bartleby's reasoning for his behavior, but that never happened. When I was getting to the end of the story I could not stop thinking What would I do in the position of the narrator? And to be honest I do not know. I would prefer not to be in his position ever. To conclude, I think that this story has a little bit of mystery, intrigue, confusion, and a lot of frustration and desire of helping and doing the right thing, but What was the right thing to do? I think that the right thing to do was getting Bartleby help.

Now, I know that Bartleby had autism and that was the reason behind his behavior. I still don't know what to do in the position of the narrator, I think I might get him the help of a psychologist or a social worker in order to look for the best solution for Bartleby.