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Gilgamesh 6-11 Reflection

“How can I bear this sorrow that gnaws at my belly, this fear of death that restless” (Stephen 80)

“All day, ceaselessly, the storm winds blew, the rain fell, then the Flood burst forth, overwhelming the people like war” (Stephen 88)

A couple of weeks ago, I watched the movie *Puss in Boots: The Last Wish* (2022), which had a similar theme regarding death. The main character of the film, Puss in Boots, comes to the realization that death may be around the corner. In the film, he laments the life he used to live before Death came to claim his ninth and final life. I found his situation similar to how Gilgamesh started to fear death. After the death of Enkidu, the reality of death and mortality overwhelmed Gilgamesh to the point where he searched for immortality. Both stories have a similar message for viewers; life is short, and we should spend time enjoying every moment and be grateful for everything we have. The fear of death is still widespread today, and it is fascinating to see how the inevitability of death has been on the minds of humans for more than 4000 years.

Another thing I noticed about these chapters is the similarities between the story of Utnapishtim and the biblical story of Noah. The similarities between these two stories are uncanny. Both Noah and Utnapishtim were tasked with building an ark. In addition, they both were told to bring animals and their families to survive a great flood that would wipe out

everyone else. These similarities make me think that it adds credibility to the story of Noah. If two old stories have such similar aspects, there could have been an event that really occurred.