

# Last Week This Week 9-25-16

Wrath /ræθ/ *noun*

1: strong vengeful anger or indignation  
(chiefly used for humorous or rhetorical effect)

2: retributory punishment for an offense or a crime: divine chastisement

## On WBT

David's review of Mark Thompson's *The White War* and the [particular stupidity](#) of the Italian front in World War One.

With the murders of unarmed black men by police happening over and over and over, with no apparent consequences, it's time to revisit Matt's [Letter to America](#) from one year ago, which specifically addresses the murder of young boy Tamir Rice, but is sadly still relevant.

## Editor's Recommendations

### American Politics

Whatever your views on Barack Obama, it is hard to argue that he has been one of our most dignified, thoughtful, and well-read presidents. [This interview](#) with the historian Doris Kearns Goodwin shows why.

Yet another metaphor for the Donald Trump rolling fiasco: it's like a low-brow piece of [punk rock-inspired](#) performance art.

### World Politics

Professor Timothy Snyder writes about the long-dead [Russian fascist](#) ideologue who provides Vladimir Putin's favorite

bedtime reading, and how this relates to the undermining of democracy around the world as Putin's main aim. This involves Trump, obviously.

Alex Tabbarok in *The Atlantic* makes the strong case for the [moral failure](#) of the current system of closed international borders.

## War and Art

[According to Bryan Doerries](#), the founder of *Theatre of War*, Greek tragedies "Don't mean anything. They do something." Is he right? Should returning veterans privilege the emotional over the intellectual?

## Free Speech

David Bromwich with an [illuminating](#), original and exhaustive take on the problem of innocence and censorship (a topic often discussed at WBT).