The Republic: the most famous single passage.

Plato ~380 BC

Socrates - Primary Character

- No reason to believe historical Socrates had this conversation.

* Overarching Question: What is justice?
- Clear up why justice is good.

Allegory: Kind of a story, characters symbolize something else.

The prisoners are like us. You are a prisoner in a cave looking at only shadows

Naming → Identifying things, rendering world intelligible
- Desire to understand, natural impulse to render intelligible

Problem is people think prisoners are many times removed from real things.
- Becomes wise, has knowledge.

Sun = truth, 1st principle

Prisoners = us → Judge each other.

Men behind wall: Those in power, govt, teachers, parents, religious leaders, media

Shape people's opinions.

2 worlds

Base of the cave: society, physical world, conventional opinion

Outside cave: intellectual world → Things come & go.

More real than the physical world.

Things are always there as long as there is someone to think it.

*between the two worlds is the process of getting educated*

*THINK*
Education

- Lack of clarity ⇒ clarity of
  - Don't be too quick to laugh.

Banking Model: teacher has capital and makes deposits (knowledge) into student accounts. Passive, receives knowledge.

- Passive learning is wrong. We want: **ACTIVE** learning.
- Turn the **whole** soul around.

- Capacity to get an education is based on your desires.
- Desire education with your whole person.

**ACTIVE** learning can be painful.

Those who release us from the cave are teachers, similar to midwives (it's not their pain but they lead, although no one can lead where you don't want to go.)