

2019

Nature v Nurture and the Nature of Astrology

Survey: Let us know how this paper benefits you.

Recommended Citation

(2019) "Nature v Nurture and the Nature of Astrology," *The Tuxedo Archives: Vol. 2013* , Article 15.

Available at: <https://scholar.dominican.edu/tuxedolit/vol2013/iss2/15>

This Poetry is brought to you for free and open access by the School of Liberal Arts and Education at Dominican Scholar. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Tuxedo Archives by an authorized editor of Dominican Scholar. For more information, please contact michael.pujals@dominican.edu.

Nature v Nurture and the Nature of Astrology

*These late eclipses in the sun and moon portend no good to us.
(Gloucester in King Lear 1.2.103)*

The stars are faraway and still we would
stand under them day and night believing
in the fluke of our births, the month, the year,
the hour the stars rained down on us, they
took control of our souls, their luminescence
distilling and augmenting the features
and inclinations of our personalities—
or that the constellations are effulgent udders
sustaining us, a glistening feast of good,
or iridescent beverage of evil.

How infinitesimal is mankind among
the hundred billion galaxies! How
Lilliputian one individual must feel
standing on a veranda at two
in the morning under Ursa Major!
Is it any wonder that in this century
there are those among us who still believe
the silhouettes of certain star clusters
spell out their destinies, describe their
individuality: “Oh, I’m so sorry
I behaved that way! Please accept
my apology,” said laughingly, “after all,
I’m a Taurus—stubborn and implacable.”
As if we need excuses to redeem ourselves!
As if on the day we were born we weren’t
allowed any authentic innocence
but instead were full of sin, degenerate.
As if Nature had a mind all its own.
As if each of us were infants abandoned,
left to fend for ourselves in a raging storm.