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THE YET TO BE

JOSEPH B. DOYLE, M.D.*

Great men of science, see yourselves as we,
The unconceived—the yet to be.
Have you forgotten that as we
You, too, were once unknown except to Him from time's first dawn?

Two living cells apart, an egg afloat in Nature's nutrient stream,
Your other half—the sperm—that one alone
From half a billion drawn together by merest chance?
Or what design? . . .

What great Designer planned that fluid tryst?
Who stocked its stream for those six days
When fused at last, you floated in
The lonely darkness of beginning life?

Your vaunted brain—12 billion cells began as one.
Would you now crush *my* chance for life before it has begun?
Boast not your transient orbit here in time or space.
You too will die. Another takes your place.

Can you predict or plan your fleeting race,
Your proud intelligence, in history's place?
One great tomorrow and your Maker you must face.
As years speed gaily by, can you set your pace?

The greatest gift of God to man is oft denied to some.
To pass the torch of life through love is gift, not something won.
Slam shut my door to life—call not *this* love!
Destroy my heritage and destiny? Jest not that this enkindles love.

To be or not to be—you plan for me? A noble task?
Will there be room for me—not loving care—is all you ask?
From humble loins great geniuses may spring unless,
By lethal pill, tomorrow's girl you warp to be like man—a harmless thing.

How can you be so sure I am unworthy ere I breathe—or laugh, or love,
Or start my family tree?
Had your folks planned your own demise
Then gone without their love would be your life—its transient agonies
Yet glorious ecstasies.

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