

Consolations of Quantum Mechanics

by David Ackley

For Clancy

In the “Many Worlds” theory, we inhabit only
one of the possible worlds in all possible universes
among which, every event that has ever occurred,
or will ever occur
(not to speak of those presently occurring)
leads at every moment
to some other outcome
than the one you could have done without
until all infinite possibilities are enacted,
somewhere,
which means that
the big-bellied grey cat with a weepy right eye
who failed to come back from a stroll
last October
is right now, in some other world,
sitting on our back stoop
waiting for the door to open
and welcome him home.

