

12-1-2015

The Birth of Skepticism

Joe Heinlein
St. John Fisher College

[How has open access to Fisher Digital Publications benefited you?](#)

Follow this and additional works at: <http://fisherpub.sjfc.edu/verbum>

 Part of the [Religion Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Heinlein, Joe (2015) "The Birth of Skepticism," *Verbum*: Vol. 13: Iss. 1, Article 5.
Available at: <http://fisherpub.sjfc.edu/verbum/vol13/iss1/5>

This document is posted at <http://fisherpub.sjfc.edu/verbum/vol13/iss1/5> and is brought to you for free and open access by Fisher Digital Publications at St. John Fisher College. For more information, please contact fisherpub@sjfc.edu.

The Birth of Skepticism

The Birth of Skepticism

*"Conscia mens recti fama mendacia risit,
sed nos in vitium credula turba summus¹"*

As Mary's secret Dyes the Grass
I wrestle with the awe.
That once white marble surely stained
to red fermenting maw.

We played in pinkish petal beds,
a poor player was I.
so bothered by this blasphemy,
for Hecuba I cried.

So softly sing— the sin is safe
escape this sullen flood,
and bleed clean out the covenant
in streams of sudden pause.

Was once a garden— now a grave,
the most untimely trend.
Was once a woman— dirt and rock
was not our written end.

If rain should reap you from that bed
and lead you to the lake,
Sink low, Madonna, wait for me—
to keep your secret safe.

1: From the Latin poet Ovid: The mind conscious of innocence despises false reports: but we are a mob always ready to believe a scandal.



Joe Heinlein