

1.1 Seeking to know

Archimedes - Eureka

Opening - Cabin security

We were chased into the cabin in the woods by the bullies of the neighborhood. There she and I were looking to be safe in the cabin without door locks. In this dream there was a chair that became the wedge that prevented the threat, keeping here and I save. Saving my sweetheart from threats using a simple machine was a pattern I found useful. Wedging the chair under the doorknob was an effective use of a simple method. Much like the simple machines of Archimedes the chair provided an advantage of thwarting the bullies' force. Give me a chair to wedge the door and I will save the girl.

Simple ideas that bring clarity

Simple ideas bringing form and utility to address common challenges is a valuable tool. Descartes' general rule was that whatever he perceived very clearly and distinctly is true.

Wise man creates order

Creating order of the flux that confronts us everyday provides effective methods. The wise man creates order. Sapientis est ordinare, It belongs to the wise person to order [Aristotle in Metaphysics 1.2 (982a18)]. Aristotle continues in Metaphysics 1.2 (982a18): for the wise man must not be ordered but must order. [Thomas Aquinas: Summa Theologiae 1, ques. 1](#): For since it is the function of the wise man to order and to judge, and since judgment is made about lower things in light of a higher cause, the wise man with respect to any given genus is the one who carefully considers the highest cause in that genus. Durant Age of Faith XXXVI --p.978: Aquinas covered a wider range than any thinker except Spencer has dared to do again; and to every field he brought the light of clarity, and a quiet temper that shunned exaggeration and sought a moderate mean.

[Sublime \[main\]](#)

We stand in awe of faith of Aquinas and see other's with a similar yearning for the sublime the beauty of form and order.

[Wordsworth and the sublime - The British Library](#)

Wordsworth: Prelude, [Tintern Abbey](#)

Lines Composed a Few Miles above Tintern Abbey, On Revisiting the Banks of the Wye during a Tour

While with an eye made quiet by the power
Of harmony, and the deep power of joy,
We see into the life of things.

Feelings too
Of unremembered pleasure: such, perhaps,
As have no slight or trivial influence
On that best portion of a good man's life,

A presence that disturbs me with the joy
Of elevated thoughts; a sense sublime
Of something far more deeply interfused,
Whose dwelling is the light of setting suns,
And the round ocean and the living air,
And the blue sky, and in the mind of man:
A mysterious presence which provokes investigation.

[Prelude - Wordsworth](#)

[Burke](#) like others in the romantic period was concerned with the relation of the to nature. Burke's basic ideas equating the sublime with astonishment, fear, pain, roughness, and obscurity and the beautiful with a set of opposite qualities (calmness, safety, smoothness, clarity, and the like) pervade thinking and phrasings in everybody's nature writing

[Unpublished fragments on aesthetics by S. T. Coleridge](#)

No object of Sense is sublime in itself; but only as far as I make it a symbol of some Idea. The circle is a beautiful figure in itself; it becomes sublime, when I contemplate eternity under that figure. - Coleridge

Consilience / Ionic Enchantment

- Ionian Enchantment
 - (a belief that the world is orderly and can be explained by a small number of natural laws.)
 - Augustine's Confessions. [Augustine's Confessions - SJC \[main\] Summer 2021](#)
 - • Book 3 - Ionian Enchantment
 - (a belief that the world is orderly and can be explained by a small number of natural laws.)
 - Cicero's Hortensius - set me on fire for Philosophy / Love of wisdom (B3, C4, p40; pg81)
 - Hortensius describes Otium § 'peaceful leisure full of studies'
 - On the Nature of the Gods - Cicero:
 - § There never was a great man unless through divine inspiration.
 - § We think a happy life consists in tranquility of mind
 - the rational mind, the nature of truth, and the nature of the highest good lay in that unity (of virtue) (B4, C15, p68; pg 108)
 - [Consilience \[main\]](#)

How will this affect my writing

- Eternal life spiritual moment (1982)
 - individual will can glimpse eternity
 - Sufficient that our life glimpses eternity, endless duration not needed
 - Comprehending eternity is sufficient for eternal life
- The useful application of god concept
 - Thomism after science
 - Pragmatics
- Awe as part of study plan
 - Awe in art and nature