

increase to such a high value that life on the earth will be impossible. After all its nuclear fuel has been used up, the sun will begin to collapse to become a white dwarf, no larger than the earth in size. With further passage of aeons of time, the sun will cool from a white dwarf to a dull red one and finally will fade completely away.

The theory of stellar evolution outlined above meets all the tests of a great scientific theory: relative simplicity, fruitful in its predictions and explanations, and intellectually satisfying. It gives the astronomers a broad framework to view the way we have come during the last fifty years of stellar research and points the direction we must go in the future. Like many scientific theories, part will prove to be wrong, but an appreciable part is almost certainly correct. Only a future generation of astronomers will be able to sift out the errors that are now undetected.



Innocence

NAOMI-RUTH*

The faint flutter of heart
Believes the soul is,
And would I inform the mystery
Of its own understanding—
Or be the partaker.
If only the pastime were sure
And replenished in marvel,
For secrets are but the known
Enrobed in innocence.

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