



Derek's Theory of Quantum Stiles

Einstein phoned the other day.
Wanted to speak quite urgently
with my dog, Derek:
said that Derek's theory of 'quantum stiles'
was interesting but lacked empirical evidence
and wasn't supported by the mathematics.
Derek disagreed:
described the process of walking with me,
taking the early morning river route
along the side of the Kent under Cumbrian skies.
Every gate and stile a quantum barrier,
separating countless possibilities
of constantly branching parallel universes:
facts on the far side of each wall blurred,
until the stile is crossed
with a new reality created through observation
... and sometimes rewarded with a biscuit.

by Jonathan Humble

