

The Vivarium

By Jeremy Gadd



The fish swim; some along the length,
some across the width or around the rim of the
tank confining them within their watery world.
Others seem to make conscious decisions:
staying still or darting about without
the slightest indication of fear or self-doubt.
Is there a dilemma of determinism here?
Do those, swimming nonchalantly, believe
in their own volition and have free will?
Do others swim thinking they are in control,
like attendees at Davos or the Hollywood Bowl?
Are they aware of other worlds, forces
beyond their small pond – that their universe
has the security and permanence of a junk bond?

Image: "[My Gold fish fish tank6](#)" (CC BY 2.0) by [Moorthy Gounder](#)