



3-1-2000

Space

William DeFord

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Recommended Citation

DeFord, William (2000) "Space," *Inscape*: Vol. 20 : No. 1 , Article 24.
Available at: <https://scholarsarchive.byu.edu/inscape/vol20/iss1/24>

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SPACE

WILLIAM DEFORD

In the universe, between galaxies, each atom is at a distance of about one meter from its next neighbor. Still, the space between those atoms is not empty; it is bright with light and other radiation from very different sources.

Henning Genz

You didn't thug
the armrest on
the far end
of the couch:
In the middle,
you sat easy.
I didn't talk much.
I stayed to my side.

I'm a skeptic
outside your bright
world: your sphere
a nucleus I orbit.
An atom, I hear,
is mostly space,
electrons bouncing
farther toward the out-
er rings, out
in the dark, out

in the spaces.
Wish I could fight
entropy and struggle
to the center
where you are—
bound into a core,
opposites in un-
ion, balanced . . .

But I still spin
outward, out:
Empty space between us
on the couch.