

Less analytical than synthetic
a fascination not to say obsession with the past
the center shifted from rational inquiry
to imaginative pursuit through speculative
philosophy and all the arts and sciences

living on willpower and good credit,
whatever we do or know the words of the apostle
hold true *We live. . .by faith* and that differs
in kind from brute creation, for knowledge is
more than *coincidence of an object with a subject.*

scriptural history in nothing more
contrasted with the histories of highest note
in the present age than in its *freedom from
the hollowness of abstraction, the shadow-fight
of things and qualities* which partake

of the general contagion of mechanical
philosophy that product of an unenlivened
generalizing rather than true knowledge
*for nothing great was ever achieved without
the swallowing up of the self in enthusiasm*

yet love that is not a deliberate *act of will*
a primary expression of our highest nature
is no more than *a romantic Hum*
a mere desire appropriated to a form
by accident of an irresistible impulse

*I would make a pilgrimage to the deserts
of Arabia to find the man who could make me
understand how the one can be many.
It is the co-presence of feeling and life.
A contradiction in terms, and only in terms.*