

## **Snakes and Adders** (for my statistician friends)

In the beginning was the Assumption  
And the Assumption was Randomness  
Of selection  
Within a Population  
Targeted  
For Data carefully collected  
As from an apple tree  
That looks at God all day  
And there are the differences between trees  
In their apples  
And we can infer from this that  
**WE HAVE SINNED**  
Else why the thousand ills besetting flesh?  
Else why this random striking down  
By genocidal Providence?  
Or if the conniving eyes of Justice blink at this,  
Can we reject the existential null hypothesis?

Don't ask me,  
I'm a stranger here myself.

*Edward Siemens*