

Fate, chance, and free will literature review

[Philosophy](#), [Freedom](#)



According to the Exodus story and Gilgamesh Man is given free will, however they are rules to that freedom; his life is not a chance happening but choices he makes will determine his fate.

When a baby is born he has freedom but its ability to reason is limited, yet that baby can choose to cry or not to cry. I spent all my adult life around babies and whether or not it is a conscious decision after realizing that he or she will not be picked with excessive crying almost always that baby decides to entertain his or herself Adults, despite their maturity act as if they are still babies, and refuse the rules. Everything in life is governed by rules. If one stays in the sun too long, sunburn is the direct result and he or she has no right to complain that his or her sunburn is fate. He or she took a chance by not following the rules and the consequences are inevitable. As long as Man abide by the rules his freedom is certain.

There are guideposts to freedom. We are free to drink or not to drink water, however when the body dehydrates death might be the result. Can one say that this is that person's fate? No, there are laws of health and death caused by dehydration cannot be termed one's fate. And chance only figure in this equation because in exerting freedom the individual makes the wrong decision. Just like the Israelites who defied the rules several times in their wilderness trek; the fact that only their children and grand children got to the Promised Land was not a chance encounter it was the result of their disobedience. "Take a chance" is used frequently and when one does that he or she cannot blame fate when the expected outcome is not received. Defiance of freedom is not chance or fate, life will only give back what is asked of it.

Walking down the street or going to the store for essentials and getting robbed is fate. When the decision was made to perform these activities it was not chance or an abuse of freedom; it was a valid resolution with an unpredictable conclusion. In some instants we are masters of our lives nonetheless; it does not mean we will not be held responsible for living carelessly. We all carry genetic destiny which is our fate, but we can choose to hasten or lessen our life-span if control of our lives is left to chance.

Making sensible choices is taking control of our lives.

Free will, fate, and chance are not absolute abstracts; as the Exodus story and Gilgamesh depict, careful application of choice more often than not, can make us masters of our lives.