

Homework: Destiny

This session focuses on the concept of *destiny*. Definitions: a preordained future; an inner realizable purpose of life. Synonyms: fate, fortune, kismet, lot in life.

The fault, dear Brutus, is not in our stars,
But in ourselves, that we are underlings.

—*William Shakespeare*

We are merely the stars' tennis-balls, struck and bandied [about]
Which [ever] way please them.

—*John Webster, The Dutchess of Malfi*

The spring is wound up tight. It will uncoil itself. That is what is so convenient in tragedy.
The least little turn of the wrist will do the job. Anything will set it going.

—*Jean Anouith*

The bad end unhappily, the good unluckily. That is what tragedy means.

—*Tom Stoppard*

Questions to Ponder

- Which one of the following statements most closely matches your core belief about your own destiny? Change it as needed until it reflects your personal philosophy.
 - The circumstances of your birth set your destiny.
 - Your character creates your destiny.
 - God decides your destiny.
- If you were to change your destiny, how would you go about it?
- Think of someone you love who seems destined for some sort of trouble. How might you help them create a better fate?