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**Type:** Article in Journal  
**Author:** Kaag, John  
**Title:** Chance and Creativity: The Nature of Contingency in Classical American Philosophy  
**Year:** 2008  
**Journal:** Transactions of the Charles S. Peirce Society  
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**Keywords:** Tychism, Chance, Creativity, Ethics, Ella Lyman Cabot, Josiah Royce  
**Abstract:** The article examines the relationship between chance, creativity and ethics in the thesis by Charles Sanders Peirce on the development of tychism. It discusses the ethical implications of Peirce's suggestion, that chance should be understood as a type of agency or as psychical action upon matter. It mentions the work of Ella Lyman Cabot, an active interlocutor with Josiah Royce between 1888 and 1916, to extend Peirce's metaphysical speculations. It is inferred that Cabot believed that a specific orientation to chance events can change the course of human conduct which she made clear in her unpublished papers from 1902 and in her book, "Everyday Ethics".  
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