

Aristotles Nicomachean Ethics Focus Philosophical Library Series

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first published in 1961 forrest e baird s revision of philosophic classics continues the tradition of providing generations of students with high quality course material using the complete works or where appropriate complete sections of works this anthology allows philosophers to speak

directly to students esteemed for providing the best available translations philosophic classics ancient philosophy features complete works or complete sections of the most important works by the major thinkers as well as shorter samples from transitional thinkers

growing up in singapore in the 80s has been challenging i didn t know much about life or economy i didn t know what i want to do apart from playing i know i had to study and get a job in school we had to write composition about our profession when we grow up i had never wanted to be a philosopher let alone writing about social philosophy it is just that growing up with a single parent is tough it is tougher when she is uneducated and i had to learn most things by myself after my national service i decided to further studies that was when i was exposed to philosophy and psychology in the uk after graduation in 1999 with a degree in electronics i came back home to resume my national service i disrupt it and had about 2 months left the life in uk exposed me to something that i did not notice when growing up in singapore i find local social scene unsatisfactory they are confucians muslims christians freethinkers and humanists most time they are preoccupied with how to earn more money religion does not give me the fulfillment that it promised in addition most were based on singaporeans interpretation of the bible and buddhism s dharma most times i feel that everything that singaporeans do has got to do with wealth creation or at least with the expenditure of it it end up like what pope francis referred to as the cult of money organised religion involves more fear mongering than cultivating an inner grace and peace hence this book is about how i relate an ancient thinker s ethics aristotle to the present day i find aristotle s ethics to most suit my needs as a man and lover it does not pretend to be more than what it seek the golden mean it does require us to think and explore the values to find balance and achieve wisdom with intellectual and moral virtues i also find other philosophers french or not particularly insightful and thought provoking they offer me explanation and exploration on subjects like love sex and death freudian psychoanalysis are also very penetrating in their findings and insights moreover i needed some contemporary psychological theory not in depth psychoanalysis to back aristotle s model of ethics intellectual and moral virtues hence the psychological background of my book i got acquainted with these psychological theories when i was preparing myself to be a financial consultant i later found out more about them and they became useful in my work and life hence i would like to share it with

people in asia so that they can ask the right kind of questions in life in order to learn more about themselves and the social milieu they are living in because everyone of us are affected by the social sciences politics economics and sociology this book will i hope allow us to understand why we are irrational and how we can make rational changes through reasonings in their life and achieving eudaimonia my wish is simply to share what i enjoy doing apart from creating useful ideas to improve the world through my book i hope to make others understand religion science and philosophy and how they play an increasingly integral part in the asian century

this is an english translation of four of plato s dialogue protagoras euthydemus hippias major and cratylus that explores the topic of sophistry and philosophy a key concept at the source of western thought includes notes and an introductory essay focus philosophical library translations are close to and are non interpretative of the original text with the notes and a glossary intending to provide the reader with some sense of the terms and the concepts as they were understood by plato s immediate audience

socrates and alcibiades four texts gathers together translations our four most important sources for the relationship between socrates and the most controversial man of his day the gifted and scandalous alcibiades in addition to alcibiades famous speech from plato s symposium this text includes two dialogues the alcibiades i and alcibiades ii attributed to plato in antiquity but unjustly neglected today and the complete fragments of the dialogue alcibiades by plato s contemporary aeschines of sphettus these works are essential reading for anyone interested in socrates improbable love affair with athens most desirable youth his attempt to woo alcibiades from his ultimately disastrous worldly ambitions to the philosophical life and the reasons for socrates failure which played a large role in his conviction by an athenian court on charges of impiety and corrupting the youth focus philosophical library translations are close to and are non interpretative of the original text with the notes and a glossary intending to provide the reader with some sense of the terms and the concepts as they were understood by plato s immediate audience

the new yearbook for phenomenology and phenomenological philosophy provides an annual international forum for phenomenological research in the spirit of husserl s groundbreaking work

and the extension of this work by such figures as scheler heidegger sartre levinas merleau ponty and gadamer

preliminary material introduction life of plato thought of plato works of plato euthyphro apology crito phaedo conclusion works cited bibliographic guide to further study about the author index of names index of subjects vibs

this book is a wittgensteinian study of concept possession and conceptual investigation in philosophy it offers advanced introduction to wittgenstein s philosophy and original treatment of its most crucial regions written as a socratic dialogue with a glance to plato it makes a bold claim about wittgenstein s place in western philosophy

in without the least tremor m ross romero considers the death of socrates as a sacrificial act rather than an execution and analyzes the implications of such an understanding for the meaning of the phaedo plato s recounting of socrates s death fits many of the conventions of ancient greek sacrificial ritual among these are the bath the procession socrates s appearance as a bull the libation the offering of a rooster to asclepius the treatment of socrates s body and corpse and phaedo s memorialization of socrates yet in a powerful moment socrates s death deviates from a sacrifice as he drinks the pharmakon without the least tremor developing the themes of suffering and wisdom as they connect to this scene romero demonstrates how the embodied socrates is setting forth an eikôn of the death of the philosopher drawing on comparisons with tragedy and comedy he argues that socrates s death is more fittingly described as self sacrifice than merely an execution or suicide after considering the implications of these themes for the soul s immortality and its relationship to the body the book concludes with an exploration of the place of sacrifice within ethical life

inspired by machiavelli modern philosophers held that the tension between the goals of biblical piety and the goals of political life needed to be resolved in favor of the political and they attempted to recast and delimit traditional christian teaching to serve and stabilize political life accordingly this volume examines the arguments of those thinkers who worked to remake christianity into a civil religion in the early modern and modern periods beginning with

machiavelli and continuing through to alexis de toqueville the essays in this collection explain in detail the ways in which these philosophers used religious and secular writing to build a civil religion in the west early chapters examine topics such as machiavelli s comparisons of christianity with roman religion francis bacon s cherry picking of christian doctrines in the service of scientific innovation and spinoza s attempt to replace long held superstitions with newer progressive ones other essays probe the scripture based anti christian argument that religion must be subordinate to politics espoused by jean jacques rousseau and david hume both of whom championed reason over divine authority crucially the book also includes a study of civil religion in america with chapters on john locke montesquieu and the american founders illuminating the relationships among religious and civil history acts and authority the last chapter is an examination of toqueville s account of civil religion and the american regime detailed thought provoking and based on the careful study of original texts this survey of religion and politics in the west will appeal to scholars in the history of political philosophy political theory and american political thought

this is the second of a projected trilogy of dialogues in which an unnamed stranger sets out to satisfy socrates desire for an account of sophist statesman and philosopher the third was never written focus philosophical library s statesman includes a faithful clear and consistent translation to english with notes it also includes an exploratory essay glossary of crucial greek terms supplemental diagrams illustrating diairesis the divisions of the statesman and an appendix on the paradigm of weaving

bourdieu and literature is a wide ranging rigorous and accessible introduction to the relationship between pierre bourdieu s work and literary studies it provides a comprehensive overview and critical assessment of his contributions to literary theory and his thinking about authors and literary works one of the foremost french intellectuals of the post war era bourdieu has become a standard point of reference in the fields of anthropology linguistics art history cultural studies politics and sociology but his longstanding interest in literature has often been overlooked this study explores the impact of literature on bourdieu s intellectual itinerary and how his literary understanding intersected with his sociological theory and thinking about cultural policy this is

the first full length study of bourdieu s work on literature in english and it provides an invaluable resource for students and scholars of literary studies cultural theory and sociology

in politics money and persuasion distinguished philosopher john russon offers a new framework for interpreting plato s the republic for russon plato s work is about the distinctive nature of what it is to be a human being and correspondingly what is distinctive about the nature of human society russon focuses on the realities of our everyday experience to come to profoundly insightful assessments of our human realities the nature of the city the nature of knowledge and the nature of human psychology russon s argument concentrates on the ambivalence of logos which includes reflections on politics and philosophy and their place in human life how humans have shaped the environment our interactions with money the economy and the pursuit of the good in social and political systems politics money and persuasion offers a deeply personal but also practical kind of philosophical reading of plato s classic text it emphasizes the tight connection between the life of city and the life of the soul demonstrating both the crucial role that human cognitive excellence and psychological health play in political and social life

what is left to say about death after we have affirmed that it is the great negation of life how shall we speak of our desire for life once we realize that this desire is crossed just as anything else in us by the negativity of death if love is self gift is the self negation of love analogous in any way to the negation of death and what about the fact that it seems obvious to us that death is nothing other than a problem to be dealt with technoscientifically material kenosis attempts to answer these questions by articulating a metaphysics of death based on the notion of material kenosis and through a close engagement with a broad variety of philosophical and theological positions

john colman has presented us with a profound and scrupulously detailed inquiry into how lucretius understood the tensions between the philosophic life and the requirements and characteristics of the life of political action tensions with which lucretius had to deal in his endeavor to bring philosophy into rome james h nichols jr professor of government claremont mckenna college usa lucretius has been drawing renewed attention for both the depth of his

message and the beauty of his poem nevertheless only a few commentators are attentive to the paradox of a philosophic teaching that reduces everything to matter in motion in the form of a beautiful poem john colman represents the even more rare case of someone who sees this paradox and explains it intelligently he is able to show the way lucretius addresses those interested in beauty and those interested in politics in a work that appears to reject both christopher kelly professor of political science boston college usa a careful study of lucretius by a notable young scholar showing not just assuming that he had a politics the result is to reveal how his politics compares with that in the socratic tradition and how he was distorted by his modern students and interpreters harvey c mansfield professor of government at harvard senior fellow at the hoover institution stanford usa lucretius as theorist of political life is an interpretation of lucretius poem on the nature of things as a defense of philosophy given the irremediable tension between the competing claims of the philosophic and political life the central issue is the need for and attempt by philosophy to justify and defend its way of life to the political community this work uncovers how lucretius conception of the philosophic life and the reaction to the human religious and political implications of the discovery of nature distinguish his intention from the anti theological animus that drives the politically and scientifically ambitious project of his modern appropriators

this is an english translation of plato s dialogue concerning speculation on the nature of the physical world and human beings an extensive introduction provides careful insights to the reading of the work the nature of platonic dialogue and the cultural background of the timaeus appendices on music astronomy and geometry further provide guidance to the central thoughts of the dialogue the glossary provides cross references and discussion for key words in the dialogue functioning as springboards into the various concepts and ideas that are central to this and other platonic dialogues and are useful starting points for any classroom discussion or personal thought focus philosophical library translations are close to and are non interpretative of the original text with the notes and a glossary intending to provide the reader with some sense of the terms and the concepts as they were understood by plato s immediate audience

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providing generations of students with high quality course material using the complete works or where appropriate complete sections of works this anthology allows philosophers to speak directly to students esteemed for providing the best available translations philosophic classics from plato to derrida features complete works or complete sections of the most important works by the major thinkers as well as shorter samples from transitional thinkers

plato and xenophon apologies compares two key dialogues on the death of socrates socrates was accused of impiety and corrupting the youth of ancient athens and was tried convicted imprisoned and executed both plato and xenophon make clear that the charges were not brought forward in the spirit of true piety and that socrates was a man of real virtue and beneficence to this day his trial and execution remain a mark upon the democracy that put him to death these dialogues underscore the limitations of democratic relativism and emphasize the nature of philosophy or the free mind plato s apology of socrates is both poetry and an act of reformation justifying the life of philosophy challenging the authority of the pagan gods and heroes and introducing socrates as a heroic and even divine figure in contrast xenophon s socrates is not dialectical and otherworldly but makes a different appeal for philosophy from xenophon emerges the heroic tradition of plutarch with its reflections on the virtues and vices of great historical men focus philosophical library translations are close to and are non interpretative of the original text with the notes and a glossary intending to provide the reader with some sense of the terms and the concepts as they were understood by plato and xenophon s immediate audience

philosophy aesthetics and cultural theory is an interdisciplinary series in continental philosophy cultural theory and the arts edited by hugh j silverman stony brook university new york usa this is a compelling study of the intimate complex and often unexpected aspects of the relationship between philosophy and myth this is an eloquent forceful and altogether timely contribution in a world in which new myths purport to be unquestionable while philosophy bides its time in self absorbed conceptual retreat its publication marks a new step in deconstructive thinking after which deconstruction will never again be the same this book is a gift precisely in the derridean sense described within it its gift is that it is a tour de force the book leads its reader on a

profound and clear even if complex exploratory voyage into and out of the maze of jacques derrida s web of deconstructive thought while making this trip the book weaves a radical argument against the notion that philosophical logic transcends mythic qualities of understanding it shows compellingly that philosophy s knowledge of truth is inescapably embedded in myth bombarded by narratives that terrorize and repress we may often consider myth to be constrictive dogma or at best something to be readily disregarded as unphilosophical and irrelevant however such dismissals miss a crucial aspect of myth harnessing the insights of jacques derrida s deconstruction and mark c taylor s philosophical reading of complexity theory derrida myth and the impossibility of philosophy provocatively reframes the pivotal relation of myth to thinking and to philosophy demonstrating that myth s inherent ambiguity engenders vital and inescapable deconstructive propensities exploring myth s disruptive presence spitzer shows that philosophy cannot separate itself from myth instead myth is an inevitable condition of the possibility of philosophy

the interpretation of spinoza s theologico political teaching remains a matter of controversy is spinoza simply addressing contemporary difficulties in the netherlands of the late 1660s or is he attempting to solve a more basic and enduring human problem in this book it is argued that against the background of contemporary concerns spinoza treats the more fundamental natural problem of reconciling those who live by the dictates of reason with those who live by the urgings of the passions based upon his accounts of theology human nature and politics spinoza fashions a theocratic or theologico political solution to the natural problem by holding that the universal religion and the democratic liberalism of the treatise share a common purpose thus spinoza becomes a new moses

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