

Sceptical Essays Routledge Classics

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these propositions may seem mild yet if accepted they would absolutely revolutionize human life with these words bertrand russell introduces what is indeed a revolutionary book taking as his starting point the irrationality of the world he offers by contrast something wildly paradoxical and subversive a belief that reason should determine human actions today besieged as we are by the numbing onslaught of twenty first century capitalism russell s defence of scepticism and independence of mind is as timely as ever in clear engaging prose he guides us through the key philosophical issues that affect our daily lives freedom happiness emotions ethics and beliefs and offers no nonsense advice

i have come to think that one of the main causes of trouble in the world is dogmatic and fanatical belief in some doctrine for which there is no adequate evidence bertrand russell portraits from memory portraits from memory is one of bertrand russell s most self reflective and engaging books whilst not intended as an autobiography it is a vivid recollection of some of his celebrated contemporaries such as george bernard shaw sidney and beatrice webb and d h lawrence russell provides some arresting and sometimes amusing insights into writers with whom he corresponded he was fascinated by joseph conrad with whom he formed a strong emotional bond writing that his heart of darkness was not just a story but an expression of conrad s philosophy of life there are also some typically pithy russellian observations h g wells derived his importance from quantity rather than quality whilst after a brief and fraught friendship russell thought d h lawrence had no real wish to make the world better but only to indulge in eloquent soliloquy about how bad it was this engaging book

also includes some of russell s customary razor sharp essays on a rich array of subjects from his ardent pacifism liberal politics and morality to the ethics of education the skills of good writing and how he came to philosophy as a young man these include a plea for clear thinking a philosophy for our time and how i write portraits from memory is russell at his best and will enthrall those new to russell as well as those already well acquainted with his work this routledge classics edition includes a new foreword by the russell scholar nicholas griffin editor of the selected letters of bertrand russell

first published in 1961 fact and fiction is a collection of bertrand russell s essays that reflect on the books and writings that influenced his life including fiction essays on politics and education divertissements and parables also broaching on the highly controversial issues of war and peace it is in this classic collection that russell states some of his most famous pronouncements on nuclear warfare and international relations it is a remarkable book that provides valuable insight into the range of interests and depth of convictions of one of the world s greatest philosophers

excerpt from philosophical essays postscript the death of william james which occurred when the printing of this book was already far advanced makes me wish to express what in the course of controversial writings does not adequately appear the profound respect and personal esteem which i felt for him as did all who knew him and my deep sense of the public and private loss occasioned by his death for readers trained in philosophy no such assurance was required but for those unaccustomed to the tone of a subject in which agreement is necessarily rarer than esteem it seemed desirable to record what to others would be a matter of course about the publisher forgotten books publishes hundreds of thousands of rare and classic books find more at forgottenbooks.com this book is a reproduction of an important historical work forgotten books uses state of the art technology to digitally reconstruct the work preserving the original format whilst

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between 1931 and 1935 bertrand russell contributed some 156 essays to the literary pages of the american newspaper new york american these were often fun humorous observations on the very real issues of the day such as the depression the rise of nazism and prohibition to more perennial themes such as love parenthood education and friendship available for the first time in the routledge classics series in a single volume this pithy provocative and often personal collection of essays brings together the very best of russell s many contributions to the new york american and proves just as engaging for today s readers as they were in the 1930s

this anthology of readings in the survey of western philosophy from the ancient greeks to the 20th century is designed to be accessible to today s readers striking a balance between major and minor figures it features the best available translations of texts complete works or complete selections of works which are both central to each philosopher s thought and are widely accepted as part of the canon the selections are readable and accessible while still being faithful to the original includes introductions to each historical period and to each philosopher and an abundance of drawings diagrams photographs and a timeline this combined volume contains the most important works from baird s philosophic classics volumes i v ancient greek philosophy plato aristotle hellenistic philosophy epicurus epictetus plotinus medieval philosophy augustine boethius anselm and guanilo moses maimonides thomas aquinas william of ockham pico della mirandola modern philosophy ren descartes thomas hobbes blaise pascal baruch spinoza john locke gottfried leibniz

george berkeley david hume immanuel kant nineteenth century philosophy g w f hegel john stuart mill soren kierkegaard karl marx friedrich nietzsche twentieth century philosophy edmund husserl bertrand russell martin heidegger ludwig wittgenstein a j ayer jean paul sartre willard van orman quine jacques derrida for anyone interested in philosophy history of philosophy or history of intellectual thought

bertrand russell s writings on logic metaphysics philosophy of language and epistemology are among the most influential of the twentieth century logic and knowledge presents russell s very best and most important work on these topics in a single volume which by placing philosophical logic at its core was of monumental importance in shaping the path of analytical philosophy it includes classics such as on denoting one of the founding pieces of philosophy of the twentieth century as well as chapters on logical atomism a term coined by russell himself to describe his view that the world consists in a plurality of independent entities which by coming together form facts along with other essays on fundamental philosophical problems including the logic of relations universals and particulars and propositions logic and knowledge shows why russell remains one of the most important philosophers of the last century this routledge classics edition includes a new foreword by graham stevens

this fascinating anthology of classic philosophical readings provides clear translations of the most important greek philosophers and some of their roman followers key influences on the development of western civilization this book begins with the fragmentary statements of the pre socratics moves through the all embracing systems of plato and aristotle and culminates in the practical advice of the hellenistic writers for anyone interested in owning a collection of clearly translated philosophical works

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