

OXFORD

The Quest for the Good Life

Ancient Philosophers on Happiness

edited by

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Quest Good Life Philosophers Happiness

Richard Kraut



Quest Good Life Philosophers Happiness:

Pleasure and the Good Life Fred Feldman, 2004-03-25 Fred Feldman's fascinating new book sets out to defend hedonism as a theory about the Good Life. He tries to show that when carefully and charitably interpreted, certain forms of hedonism yield plausible evaluations of human lives. Feldman begins by explaining what we mean when we ask what the Good Life is. He argues that this should not be taken to be a question about the morally good life or about the beneficial life. Rather, the question concerns the general features of the life that is good in itself for the one who lives it. Hedonism says roughly that the Good Life is the pleasant life. After showing that the usual formulations of hedonism are often confused or incoherent, Feldman presents a simple, clear, coherent form of sensory hedonism that provides a starting point for discussion. He then considers a catalogue of classic objections to hedonism coming from sources as diverse as Plato, Aristotle, Brentano, Ross, Moore, Rawls, Kagan, Nozick, Brandt, and others. One of Feldman's central themes is that there is an important distinction between the forms of hedonism that emphasize sensory pleasure and those that emphasize attitudinal pleasure. Feldman formulates several kinds of hedonism based on the idea that attitudinal pleasure is the Good. He claims that attitudinal forms of hedonism, which have often been ignored in the literature, are worthy of more careful attention. Another main theme of the book is the plasticity of hedonism. Hedonism comes in many forms. Attitudinal hedonism is especially receptive to variations and modifications. Feldman illustrates this plasticity by formulating several variants of attitudinal hedonism and showing how they evade some of the objections. He also shows how it is possible to develop forms of hedonism that are equivalent to the allegedly anti-hedonistic theory of G. E. Moore and the Aristotelian theory according to which the Good Life is the life of virtue or flourishing. He also formulates hedonisms relevantly like the ones defended by Aristippus and Mill. Feldman argues that a carefully developed form of attitudinal hedonism is not refuted by objections concerning the shape of a life. He also defends the claim that all of the alleged forms of hedonism discussed in the book genuinely deserve to be called hedonism. Finally, after dealing with the last of the objections, he gives a sketch of his hedonistic vision of the Good Life.

The Quality of Life

Richard Kraut, 2018-08-23 *The Quality of Life* Aristotle Revised presents a philosophical theory about the constituents of human well-being. The principal idea is that what Aristotle calls external goods—wealth, reputation, power—have at most an indirect bearing on the quality of our lives. Starting with Aristotle's thoughts about this topic, Kraut increasingly modifies and occasionally rejects that stance. He argues that the way in which we experience the world is what well-being consists in. A good internal life comprises, in part, pleasure, but far more valuable is the quality of our emotional, intellectual, social, and perceptual experiences. These offer the potential for a richer and deeper quality of life than that which is available to many other animals. A good human life is immeasurably better than that of a simple creature that feels only the pleasures of nourishment, even if it felt pleasure for millions of years. Human life would be superior. In opposition to contemporary discussions of well-being, which often appeal to a thought experiment devised by Robert Nozick, Kraut concludes that the

quality of our lives consists entirely in the quality of our experiences While others hold that we must live in the real world to live well and that one's interior life has little or no value on its own Kraut's interpretation of this thought experiment supports the opposite conclusion Pursuing the Good Life Mark J. Britzman Ed.D.,2015-05-15 Pursuing the good life has been a quest for philosophers throughout recent human history as life became more than just surviving the many dangers of the day A central question that has become even more important is What makes life worth living In Pursuing the Good Life author Dr Mark J Britzman presents strategies to help you gain a more satisfying life experience Offering more than psychological sound bites Pursuing the Good Life shows you how to explore a new path by developing a plan that fulfills the need for love and belonging empowerment fun and enjoyment freedom and independence and higher states of good health and wellness Britzman addresses how to Live well Gain integrity with relationships Find meaningful work Experience a sense of purpose In this self improvement book Britzman provides an opportunity to self evaluate and help you seize opportunities to make choices that are more life enriching leading to a better present and future Pursuing the good life entails clarifying your hopes and dreams finding an optimal direction that moves you closer to what you want self evaluating the consequences of your choices and consistently developing a plan that is need fulfilling On Love Luc Ferry,2013-08-27 All the great ideals that gave life meaning in earlier societies God the nation revolution freedom democracy are in disarray today questioned by many and rejected by those who have lost faith in them But there is another value rooted in the birth of the modern family and in the passage from traditional to modern marriage that has transformed our lives in profound and often unrecognized ways love It affects not only our personal lives but many aspects of our social and collective life too from art and education to politics In this book Luc Ferry shows how the quiet rise of love as the central value in modern societies has created a new principle of meaning and a new definition of the good life that requires a completely different kind of philosophical thinking It forms the basis for a new philosophy for the twenty first century and a new kind of humanism for the modern world not a humanism of reason and rights but a humanism of solidarity and sympathy The ideal that this new humanism realizes is no longer that of nationalisms and revolutions of the perpetrating of organized violence in the name of deadly principles that are pursued over and above humanity Rather it is about preparing and ensuring a future for those we love most our future generations **Negotiating the Good Life** Mark A. Young,2017-07-05 For centuries philosophers have wrestled with the dichotomy between individual freedom on the one hand and collective solidarity on the other Yet today there is a growing realization that this template is fundamentally flawed In this book Mark Young embraces and advocates a more holistic concept of freedom one which is not merely defined negatively but which positively provides the preconditions for individuals to actively exercise their autonomy and to flourish as human beings in the process Young posits the idea of freedom in community and traces its origin back to Aristotle Taking as his premise that humans are deeply social beings who live their lives intricately interwoven with each other he examines what type of political community is relevant for

us in this post Classical post Enlightenment and indeed post Existential world Identifying the failure of traditional statist models of politics Young instead argues for a civil society a globally interlinked and free set of liberal communities as the best context for nourishing human flourishing In this way we can achieve a proper setting for Eudaimonia in a modern sense

The Pursuit of Happiness Sarah Heaner Lancaster,2010-12-08 People want to be happy Nothing could be more obvious and yet this common and evident goal is not as easy to achieve as it is to desire The Christian tradition has understood happiness to be gained through relationship with God and it has much to say about what will make us truly happy and what will not This book examines happiness from a Christian perspective using John Wesley as the focus of study because he understood happiness with God to be the very goal of Christian life He also understood that Christian happiness needed to acknowledge the difficulties of life This book seeks to learn from the wisdom of the past in order to imagine how Christians today might talk about happiness in a way that is faithful to the tradition and engages the world as well **Oxford Studies**

in Medieval Philosophy Volume 8 Robert Pasnau,2020-09-16 Oxford Studies in Medieval Philosophy showcases the best scholarly research in this flourishing field The series covers all aspects of medieval philosophy including the Latin Arabic and Hebrew traditions and runs from the end of antiquity into the Renaissance It publishes new work by leading scholars in the field and combines historical scholarship with philosophical acuteness The papers will address a wide range of topics from political philosophy to ethics and logic to metaphysics OSMF is an essential resource for anyone working in the area **The**

Life Worth Living in Ancient Greek and Roman Philosophy David Machek,2023-04-27 Offers a fresh narrative of ancient ethics that does justice to neglected perspectives on the value of human life Moral Psychology in History: From the

Ancient to Early Modern Period Virpi Mäkinen,Simo Knuuttila,2024-10-09 This book provides a comprehensive study of major issues of moral psychology throughout history from ancient to early modern philosophy The volume focuses primarily on the Western history of philosophy but also deals with Jewish and Islamic heritage The Introduction chapter lays out the historical background in broad strokes giving the reader the lay of the land when it comes to the terms of analysis and their overall development within the Western tradition of moral psychology The book continues by studying and analyzing moral anthropology moral agency and motivation virtues and social and political commitments taking a thematic approach in a specific time period and focus on the most unique and or fruitful discussions about a particular historically situated discussion when it comes to thinking about questions and or problems in the field of moral psychology Aimed at both a layman and academic audience this book is of great interest to a broad readership **Well-being, Personal Wholeness**

and the Social Fabric Doru Costache,Darren Cronshaw,2017-05-11 Well being is a familiar term in academic literature and public discourse It captures the imagination by addressing issues related to the social good and the quest for personal happiness It embraces a wide variety of concerns age gender sexuality ethnicity self esteem health class education institution and ecosystems among many issues Well being studies focus on the welfare of the world and its inhabitants bringing holistic

and transformative perspectives to bear The Christian faith has been a powerful contributor to this tradition over the centuries Human beings made in the image of God are called to live transformed lives through the Spirit of Christ in communities of grace and reconciliation for the benefit of others caring for our planet in the expectation of God's new creation What difference does the study of well being from a Christian perspective make

Quest Good Life Philosophers Happiness: Bestsellers in 2023 The year 2023 has witnessed a noteworthy surge in literary brilliance, with numerous engrossing novels captivating the hearts of readers worldwide. Lets delve into the realm of top-selling books, exploring the fascinating narratives that have charmed audiences this year.

Quest Good Life Philosophers Happiness : Colleen Hoover's "It Ends with Us" This heartfelt tale of love, loss, and resilience has captivated readers with its raw and emotional exploration of domestic abuse. Hoover skillfully weaves a story of hope and healing, reminding us that even in the darkest of times, the human spirit can prevail.

Quest Good Life Philosophers Happiness : Taylor Jenkins Reid's "The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo" This captivating historical fiction novel unravels the life of Evelyn Hugo, a Hollywood icon who defies expectations and societal norms to pursue her dreams. Reid's captivating storytelling and compelling characters transport readers to a bygone era, immersing them in a world of glamour, ambition, and self-discovery.

Quest Good Life Philosophers Happiness : Delia Owens' "Where the Crawdads Sing" This evocative coming-of-age story follows Kya Clark, a young woman who grows up alone in the marshes of North Carolina. Owens spins a tale of resilience, survival, and the transformative power of nature, entrancing readers with its evocative prose and mesmerizing setting.

These popular novels represent just a fraction of the literary treasures that have emerged in 2023. Whether you seek tales of romance, adventure, or personal growth, the world of literature offers an abundance of compelling stories waiting to be discovered.

The novel begins with Richard Papen, a bright but troubled young man, arriving at Hampden College. Richard is immediately drawn to the group of students who call themselves the Classics Club. The club is led by Henry Winter, a brilliant and charismatic young man. Henry is obsessed with Greek mythology and philosophy, and he quickly draws Richard into his world. The other members of the Classics Club are equally as fascinating. Bunny Corcoran is a wealthy and spoiled young man who is always looking for a good time. Charles Tavis is a quiet and reserved young man who is deeply in love with Henry. Camilla Macaulay is a beautiful and intelligent young woman who is drawn to the power and danger of the Classics Club. The students are all deeply in love with Morrow, and they are willing to do anything to please him. Morrow is a complex and mysterious figure, and he seems to be manipulating the students for his own purposes. As the students become more involved with Morrow, they begin to commit increasingly dangerous acts. The Secret History is a masterful and thrilling novel that will keep you wondering until the very end. The novel is a cautionary tale about the dangers of obsession and the power of evil.

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Quest Good Life Philosophers Happiness Introduction

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