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*Klemke Meaning Of
Lifemeaning Of
Life Book*

We have all wondered about
the meaning of life. But is

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there an answer? Terry Eagleton takes a stimulating look at this most compelling of questions, and suggests that the problem of the meaning of life arose with modernity. He looks at the cultural and philosophical

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reasons for this, and examines the meaninglessness that appears to plague our times. After surveying a variety of possible candidates, Eagleton suggests his own surprising conclusion.

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For over thirty years Susan Wolf has been writing about moral and nonmoral values and the relation between them. This volume collects Wolf's most important essays on the topics of morality, love, and meaning, ranging

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from her classic essay "Moral Saints" to her most recent "The Importance of Love." Wolf's essays warn us against the common tendency to classify values in terms of a dichotomy that contrasts the personal, self-

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interested, or egoistic with the impersonal, altruistic or moral. On Wolf's view, this tendency ignores or distorts the significance of such values as love, beauty, and truth, and neglects the importance of meaningfulness

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as a dimension of the good life. These essays show us how a self-conscious recognition of the variety of values leads to new understandings of the point, the content, and the limits of morality and to new ways

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of thinking about happiness
and well-being.

Arthur Schopenhauer
(1788-1860) is remembered as
an atheist, a pessimist, and
the first Western
philosopher to incorporate
Eastern thought into his

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work. Iconoclastic in his time, his ideas remain provocative and insightful today. The ten essays collected in this volume demonstrate his brilliance as both a scholar and a stylist. They serve as an

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ideal introduction to his work, as well as an illuminating supplement to his magnum opus, *The World as Will and Representation*. This Element critically explores the potential relevance of God or a soul

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for life's meaning as discussed in recent Anglo-American philosophical literature. There have been four broad views: God or a soul is necessary for meaning in our lives; neither is necessary for it;

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one or both would greatly enhance the meaning in our lives; one or both would substantially detract from it. This Element familiarizes readers with all four positions, paying particular attention to the

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latter two, and also presents prima facie objections to them, points out gaps in research agendas and suggests argumentative strategies that merit development.

The Variety of Values

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A Guide to Finding Your
Life's Purpose
Life Without Illusions
Philosophy in a Meaningless
Life
In Search of the Human Voice
Death, Immorality, and
Meaning in Life

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What is the meaning of life? In the post-modern, post-religious scientific world, this question is becoming a preoccupation. But it also has a long history:

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many major figures in philosophy had something to say on the subject, as Julian Young so vividly illustrates in this thought-provoking book. Part One of the

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book presents an historical overview of philosophers from Plato to Hegel and Marx who have believed in some sort of meaning of life, either in some supposed

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***'other' world or in the
future of this world.
Part Two looks at what
happened when the
traditional structures
that provided life with
meaning ceased to be***

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***believed. With nothing
to take their place,
these structures gave
way to the threat of
nihilism, to the
appearance that life is
meaningless. Julian***

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Young looks at the responses to this threat in the work of Nietzsche, Heidegger, Sartre, Camus, Foucault and Derrida. This compelling and highly

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***engaging exploration of
fundamental values will
captivate anyone who's
ever asked themselves
where life's meaning (if
there is one) really
lies. It also makes a***

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***perfect historical
introduction to
philosophy.***

***There is one thing we
can be sure of: we are
all going to die. But
once we accept that***

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***fact, the questions
begin. In this thought-
provoking book,
philosophy professor
Shelly Kagan examines
the myriad questions
that arise when we***

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confront the meaning of mortality. Do we have reason to believe in the existence of immortal souls? Should we accept an account according to which people are just

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*material objects,
nothing more? Can we
make sense of the idea
of surviving the death
of one's body? If I
won't exist after I die,
can death truly be bad*

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*for me? Would
immortality be
desirable? Is fear of
death appropriate? Is
suicide ever justified?
How should I live in the
face of death? Written*

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in an informal and conversational style, this stimulating and provocative book challenges many widely held views about death, as it invites the reader

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to take a fresh look at one of the central features of the human condition—the fact that we will die.

Argues that any adequate neo-Aristotelian virtue

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***ethic must account for
our distinctive nature
as the meaning-seeking
animal.***

***No significance or
purpose.***

The Human Predicament

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***The Good Life Method
Death***

Notebooks, 1914-1916

An Introduction to

Philosophy of Love

What's It All About?

Are human lives

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ultimately meaningless?
Is our inevitable death
bad? Would immortality
be better? Should we
hasten our deaths by
taking our own lives in
acts of suicide? Many

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people ask these big questions and many are plagued by them.

Surprisingly few analytic philosophers have spoken to these important questions.

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When they have engaged the big existential questions they have tended, like more popular writers, to offer comforting, optimistic answers. The

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Human Predicament offers a less sanguine assessment. David Benatar invites readers to take a clear-eyed view of our situation, defending a

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substantial, but not
unmitigated, pessimism
about human life.

Benatar argues that
while our lives can have
some meaning, cosmically
speaking we are

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ultimately the insignificant beings that we often fear we are. A candid appraisal reveals that the quality of life, although less bad for some people than

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for others, leaves much to be desired in even the bestcases. But death, David Benatar argues, is hardly the solution. Our mortality exacerbates rather than

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mitigates our cosmic
meaninglessness. It can
release us from
suffering but even when
it does it imposes
another cost -
annihilation. This

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unfortunate state of affairs has nuanced implications for how we should think about immortality, about suicide, and about the aspects of life in which

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we can and do find deeper meaning. Engaging profound existential questions with analytic rigor and clarity, *The Human Predicament* is clear eyed,

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unsentimental, and
deeply provocative to
some of our
mostcherished beliefs.
What is the point of
living? If we are all
going to die anyway, if

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nothing will remain of
whatever we achieve in
this life, why should we
bother trying to achieve
anything in the first
place? Can we be mortal
and still live a

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meaningful life?

Questions such as these have been asked for a long time, but nobody has found a conclusive answer yet. The connection between death

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and meaning, however,
has taken centre stage
in the philosophical and
literary work of some of
the world's greatest
writers: Fyodor
Dostoyevsky, Leo

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Tolstoy, Soren

Kierkegaard, Arthur

Schopenhauer, Herman

Melville, Friedrich

Nietzsche, William

James, Ludwig

Wittgenstein, Marcel

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Proust, and Albert Camus. This book explores their ideas, weaving a rich tapestry of concepts, voices and images, helping the reader to understand the

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concerns at the heart of those writers' work and uncovering common themes and stark contrasts in their understanding of what kind of world we live in and what really

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matters in life.

Expands the search for
the origins of the
universe beyond God and
the Big Bang theory,
exploring more bizarre
possibilities inspired

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by physicists,
theologians,
mathematicians, and even
novelists.

Many writers in various
fields--philosophy,
religion, literature,

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and psychology--believe that the question of the meaning of life is one of the most significant problems that an individual faces. In *The Meaning of Life, Second*

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Edition, E.D. Klemke
collects some of the
best writings on this
topic, primarily works
by philosophers but also
selections from literary
figures and religious

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thinkers. The twenty-seven cogent, readable essays are organized around three different perspectives on the meaning of life. In Part I, the readings assert

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and defend the theistic view that without the existence of God--or faith in God--life has no significance or purpose. In Part II the selections deny this

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thesis, defending
instead the humanistic
alternative--that life
has or can have meaning
and worth without any
theistic beliefs or
commitment. In the final

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group of readings, contributors ask if the question of the meaning of life is in itself legitimate and significant. The volume also includes an

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introduction by the editor and a selected bibliography. This new edition adds essays by A. J. Ayer, Hazel Barnes, William Lane Craig, Owen Flanagan,

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Antony Flew, Thomas
Nagel, Kai Nielsen,
Philip L. Quinn, Arthur
Schopenhauer, and Walter
T. Stace. The only
anthology of its kind,
The Meaning of Life,

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Second Edition, is ideal for courses in introduction to philosophy and human nature. It also provides an accessible and stimulating introduction

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to the subject for
general readers.

Life, Death, and Meaning
On the Basis of Morality
Virtue and Meaning
Why Does the World
Exist?: An Existential

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Detective Story

Essays on Morality,

Meaning, and Love

Philosophers Take on

Hollywood

***What makes a person's life
meaningful? Thaddeus Metz***

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offers a new answer to an ancient question which has recently returned to the philosophical agenda. He proceeds by examining what, if anything, all the conditions that make a

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life meaningful have in common. The outcome of this process is a philosophical theory of meaning in life. He starts by evaluating existing theories in terms of the

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*classic triad of the good,
the true, and the
beautiful. He considers
whether meaning in life
might be about such
principles as fulfilling
God's purpose, obtaining*

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*reward in an afterlife for
having been virtuous,
being attracted to what
merits attraction, leaving
the world a better place,
connecting to organic
unity, or transcending*

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oneself by connecting to what is extensive. He argues that no extant principle satisfactorily accounts for the three-fold significance of morality, enquiry, and

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creativity, and that the most promising theory is a fresh one according to which meaning in life is a matter of intelligence contoured toward fundamental conditions of

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human existence.

"What is the meaning of life?" Throughout history, people have spent much of their lives trying to explain how the world works and why. Initially,

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*they seek to live better
lives and thrive.*

*Ultimately, they seek to
find purpose and
significance in their
existence. Experience the
scientific and*

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*philosophical journey
billions of years in the
making to answer the
question that all living
beings capable of rational
thought will ask
themselves: why are we*

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here? Over the course of that journey, you will come to understand how humans determine their meaning and, with some of your own analysis, discover your own purpose

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along the way.

*Most people, including
philosophers, tend to
classify human motives as
falling into one of two
categories: the egoistic
or the altruistic, the*

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self-interested or the moral. According to Susan Wolf, however, much of what motivates us does not comfortably fit into this scheme. Often we act neither for our own sake

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*nor out of duty or an
impersonal concern for the
world. Rather, we act out
of love for objects that
we rightly perceive as
worthy of love--and it is
these actions that give*

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meaning to our lives. Wolf makes a compelling case that, along with happiness and morality, this kind of meaningfulness constitutes a distinctive dimension of a good life. Written in a

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*lively and engaging style,
and full of provocative
examples, Meaning in Life
and Why It Matters is a
profound and original
reflection on a subject of
permanent human concern.*

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This book offers an in-depth exploration of the burgeoning field of meaning in life in the psychological sciences, covering conceptual and methodological issues,

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*core psychological
mechanisms, environmental,
cognitive and personality
variables and more.*

*God, Soul and the Meaning
of Life*

How Evolutionary Theory

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*Undermines Everything You
Thought You Knew*

On the Meaning of Life

The Meaning of Life

*A Dialogue on Personal
Identity and Immortality*

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**The Meaning of LifeA
ReaderOxford University
Press, USA**

**Does human life have any
meaning? Does the question
even make sense today? For
centuries, the question of the**

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meaning or purpose of human life was assumed by scholars and theologians to have a religious answer: life has meaning because humans were made in the image of a good god. In the 19th century,

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however, Charles Darwin's theory of evolution changed everything-and the human organism was seen to be more machine than spirit. Ever since, with the rise of science and decline of religious belief,

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there has been growing interest - and growing doubt - about whether human life really does have meaning. If it does, where might we find it? The historian and philosopher of science Michael Ruse

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investigates this question, and wonders whether we can find a new meaning to life within Darwinian views of human nature. If God no longer exists- or if God no longer cares- rather than promoting a bleak

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nihilism, many Darwinians think we can convert Darwin into a form of secular humanism. Ruse explains that, in a tradition going back to the time of Darwin himself, and represented today by the

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**evolutionist E. O. Wilson,
evolution is seen as progress
-- "from monad to man" - and
that positive meaning is found
in continuing and supporting
this upwards path of life. In A
Meaning to Life, Michael Ruse**

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**argues that this is a false turn,
and there is no real progress
in the evolutionary process.
Rather, meaning in the
Darwinian age can be found if
we turn to a kind of Darwinian
existentialism, seeing our**

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evolved human nature as the source of all meaning, both in the intellectual and social worlds. Ruse argues that it is only by accepting our true nature - evolved over millennia - that humankind can truly find

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what is meaningful.

**English philosopher George
Edward Moore (1873-1958)
developed the chief modern
theory of ethics, Ideal
Utilitarianism. A Defense of
Realism examines Moore's**

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conception of philosophy and his views on the importance of metaphysics, presenting and evaluating the Principia Ethica author's criticisms and refutations of certain philosophical positions,

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especially idealism, naive realism, phenomenism, and pragmatism. Klemke gives a detailed analysis and an appraisal of Moore's defense of common sense, and concentrates on Moore's

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**realism, beginning with the
reality of entities in the
natural universe, and proofs of
the external world. Finally,
Klemke analyzes and enhances
through personal argument
Moore's views on the reality of**

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**various nonnatural entities
crucial to Moore's defense of
philosophical realism.
“Secular-minded readers
seeking an alternative to The
Purpose-Driven Life have an
excellent starting point**

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here.”—Publishers Weekly For readers who are serious about confronting the big issues in life—but are turned off by books which deal with them through religion, spirituality, or psychobabble, this is an

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**honest, intelligent discussion
by a philosopher that doesn't
hide from the difficulties or
make undeliverable promises.
It aims to help the reader
understand the overlooked
issues behind the obvious**

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questions, and shows how philosophy does not so much answer them as help provide us with the resources to answer them for ourselves. “Useful and provocative.”—The Wall Street

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Journal “Looking for a clear guide to what contemporary philosophy has to say about the meaning of life? Baggini takes us through all the plausible answers, weaving together Kierkegaard, John

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Stuart Mill, Monty Python, and Funkadelic in an entertaining but always carefully reasoned discussion.”—Peter Singer, author of How Are We To Live
“The question of the meaning of life has long been a byword

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for pretentious rambling. It takes some nerve to tackle it in a brisk and no-nonsense fashion.”—New Statesman
Impartial Reason
The Death of God and the Meaning of Life

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**Meaning in Life and Why It
Matters**

The Meanings of Love

Exploring the Meaning of Life

**The Cambridge Companion to
Life and Death**

If you accept evolutionary

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theory, can you also believe in God? Are human beings superior to other animals, or is this just a human prejudice? Does Darwin have implications for heated issues like euthanasia and

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animal rights? Does evolution tell us the purpose of life, or does it imply that life has no ultimate purpose? Does evolution tell us what is morally right and wrong, or does it imply that ultimately

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'nothing' is right or wrong? In this fascinating and intriguing book, Steve Stewart-Williams addresses these and other fundamental philosophical questions raised by evolutionary theory

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and the exciting new field of evolutionary psychology. Drawing on biology, psychology and philosophy, he argues that Darwinian science supports a view of a godless universe devoid of

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ultimate purpose or moral structure, but that we can still live a good life and a happy life within the confines of this view.

In the Fall of 1930 Will Durant found himself outside

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his home in Lake Hill, New York, raking leaves. He was approached by a well-dressed man who told him in a quiet tone that he was going to kill himself unless the philosopher could give

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him a valid reason not to.
Not having the time to wax
philosophic on the matter,
Durant did his best to furnish
the man with reasons to
continue his existence.
Haunted by the encounter

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with the despondent stranger, Durant contacted 100 luminaries in the arts, politics, religion and sciences, challenging them to respond not only to the fundamental question of

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life's meaning (in the abstract) but also to relate how they each (in the particular) found meaning, purpose and fulfillment in their own lives. Durant turned their answers and his

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own into a book entitled "On The Meaning Of Life," which was released to the general public in 1932. Unpromoted, the litte treasure found its way into few hands, and almost no copies of the book

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exist today. Now available for a new generation through Prometheus Press, "On The Meaning Of Life" is a powerful book on a very powerful topic. In this book Will Durant has fashioned an

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unprecedented "dream team" of luminaries that is both profound and diverse: poets, philosophers, saints, inmates, athletes, Nobel Prize winners, college professors, psychologists,

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entertainers, musicians, authors and leaders. Within their varied insights, despite their uniqueness as individuals and the very different lives they led, the reader will note a consistent

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thread running through their viewpoints, revealing a commonality among human beings who not only seek meaning in life, but who actually achieve it.

Does life have meaning? Is it

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possible for life to be meaningful when the world is filled with suffering and when so much depends merely upon chance? Even if there is meaning, is there enough to justify living?

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These questions are difficult to resolve. There are times in which we face the mundane, the illogically cruel, and the tragic, which leave us to question the value of our lives. However, Iddo Landau

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argues, our lives often are,
or could be made,
meaningfulwe've just been
setting the bar too high for
evaluating what meaning
there is. When it comes to
meaning in life, Landau

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explains, we have let perfect become the enemy of the good. We have failed to find life perfectly meaningful, and therefore have failed to see any meaning in our lives. We must attune ourselves to

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enhancing and appreciating the meaning in our lives, and Landau shows us how to do that. In this warmly written book, rich with examples from the author's life, film, literature, and history,

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Landau offers new theories and practical advice that awaken us to the meaning already present in our lives and demonstrates how we can enhance it. He confronts prevailing nihilist ideas that

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undermine our existence, and the questions that dog us no matter what we believe. While exposing the weaknesses of ideas that lead many to despair, he builds a strong case for

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maintaining more hope.
Along the way, he faces
provocative questions:
Would we choose to live
forever if we could? Does
death render life
meaningless? If we examine

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it in the context of the immensity of the whole universe, can we consider life meaningful? If we feel empty once we achieve our goals, and the pursuit of these goals is what gives us

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a sense of meaning, then what can we do? Finding Meaning in an Imperfect World is likely to alter the way you understand your life.

"The meaning of life is the

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most urgent of questions,"
said the existentialist
thinker Albert Camus. And
no less a philosopher than
Woody Allen has
wondered:"How is it possible
to find meaning in a finite

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world, given my waist and shirt size?" "Movies and the Meaning of Life" looks at popular and cult movies, examining their assumptions and insights on meaning-of-life questions: What is reality

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and how can I know it? (The Truman Show, Contact, Waking Life); How do I find myself and my true identity? (Fight Club, Being John Malkovich, Boys Don't Cry, Memento); How do I find

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meaning from my
interactions with others?
(Pulp Fiction, Shadowlands,
Chasing Amy); What is the
chief purpose in life?
(American Beauty, Life is
Beautiful, The Shawshank

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Redemption); and How ought I live my life? (Pleasantville, Spiderman, Minority Report, Groundhog Day).

The Brain and the Meaning of Life

Reflections on the

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Philosophy & the Meaning of
Life

A Defense of Realism
Darwin, God and the
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An Anthology and Guide

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First published in 1995, this revised translation by E.F.J. Payne of Schopenhauer's *Über das Fundament der Moral* is based on the venerable Huabscher edition (seven volumes, Wiesbaden, 1946-1950).

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This edition includes Schopenhauer's prefaces to the first and second editions, as well as an introduction by David E. Cartwright (philosophy, U. of Wisconsin-Whitewater).
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Why is life worth living? What
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Meaning of Life draws on research in philosophy, psychology, and neuroscience to answer some of the most pressing questions about life's nature and value. Paul Thagard argues that evidence requires

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the abandonment of many traditional ideas about the soul, free will, and immortality, and shows how brain science matters for fundamental issues about reality, morality, and the meaning of life. The ongoing

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Brain Revolution reveals how love, work, and play provide good reasons for living.

Defending the superiority of evidence-based reasoning over religious faith and philosophical thought experiments, Thagard

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argues that minds are brains and that reality is what science can discover. Brains come to know reality through a combination of perception and reasoning. Just as important, our brains evaluate aspects of reality through

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emotions that can produce both good and bad decisions. Our cognitive and emotional abilities allow us to understand reality, decide effectively, act morally, and pursue the vital needs of love, work, and play. Wisdom

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consists of knowing what matters, why it matters, and how to achieve it. The Brain and the Meaning of Life shows how brain science helps to answer questions about the nature of mind and reality, while alleviating

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anxiety about the difficulty of life in a vast universe. The book integrates decades of multidisciplinary research, but its clear explanations and humor make it accessible to the general reader.

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Featuring nine new articles chosen by coeditor Steven M. Cahn, the third edition of E. D. Klemke's *The Meaning of Life* offers twenty-two insightful selections that explore this fascinating topic. The essays are

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primarily by philosophers but also include materials from literary figures and religious thinkers. As in previous editions, the readings are organized around three themes. In Part I the articles defend the view that

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without faith in God, life has no meaning or purpose. In Part II the selections oppose this claim, defending instead a nontheistic, humanistic alternative--that life can have meaning even in the absence of theistic commitment.

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In Part III the contributors ask whether the question of the meaning of life is itself meaningful. The third edition adds substantial essays by Moritz Schlick, Joel Feinberg, and John Kekes as well as

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selections from the writings of Louis P. Pojman, Emil L. Fackenheim, Robert Nozick, Susan Wolf, and Steven M. Cahn. The only anthology of its kind, *The Meaning of Life: A Reader*, Third Edition, is ideal for courses

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in introduction to philosophy, human nature, and the meaning of life. It also offers general readers an accessible and stimulating introduction to the subject.

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has far reaching implications for the ways theorists approach an ancient question: 'How shall one live?'

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book is shorter, and less elaborate, than Kagan's Death. And it goes into more depth about a selection of central issues related to death and immortality than May's book. It gives an original take on various basic puzzles pertaining to death,

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and integrates a discussion of these philosophical issues with an analysis of near-death experiences, as well as an exploration of contemporary efforts to extend life by heroic medical means"--

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seekers of all stripes, philosophy is timeless self-care. Notre Dame philosophy professors Meghan Sullivan and Paul Blaschko have reinvigorated this tradition in their wildly popular and influential undergraduate course “God and

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the Good Life," in which they wrestle with the big questions about how to live and what makes life meaningful. Now they invite us into the classroom to work through issues like what justifies our beliefs, whether we should

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practice a religion and what sacrifices we should make for others—as well as to investigate what figures such as Aristotle, Plato, Marcus Aurelius, Iris Murdoch, and W. E. B. Du Bois have to say about how to live well.

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Sullivan and Blaschko do the timeless work of philosophy using real-world case studies that explore love, finance, truth, and more. In so doing, they push us to escape our own caves, ask stronger questions, explain our

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deepest goals, and wrestle with suffering, the nature of death, and the existence of God. Philosophers know that our “good life plan” is one that we as individuals need to be constantly and actively writing to achieve some meaningful

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control and sense of purpose even if the world keeps throwing surprises our way. For at least the past 2,500 years, philosophers have taught that goal-seeking is an essential part of what it is to be human—and crucially that we

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could find our own good life by asking better questions of ourselves and of one another. This virtue ethics approach resonates profoundly in our own moment. The Good Life Method is a winning guide to tackling the big questions

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*of being human with the wisdom
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*751 and "About Death" No. 752)
compiled by Tolstoy comprising
quotations from various
philosophers explaining the
meaning that death gives to life;
essays explaining the actions that
Tolstoy thought must be taken to*

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grow spiritually; and finally, diary entries (translated here for the first time in English) pertaining to spiritual themes made during the last year of Tolstoy's life.

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death, and the ethics of

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account of the nature of philosophy

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which is rooted in the question of the meaning of life. It makes a powerful and vivid case for believing that this question is neither obscure nor obsolete, but reflects a quintessentially human concern to which other traditional philosophical problems can be

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readily related; allowing them to be reconnected with natural interest, and providing a diagnosis of the typical lines of opposition across philosophy's debates. James Tartaglia looks at the various ways philosophers have tried to avoid the conclusion that

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life is meaningless, and in the process have distanced philosophy from the concept of transcendence. Rejecting all of this, Tartaglia embraces nihilism ('we are here with nothing to do'), and uses transcendence both to provide a new solution to the

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problem of consciousness, and to explain away perplexities about time and universals. He concludes that with more self-awareness, philosophy can attain higher status within a culture increasingly in need of it.

A System of Nihilism,

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