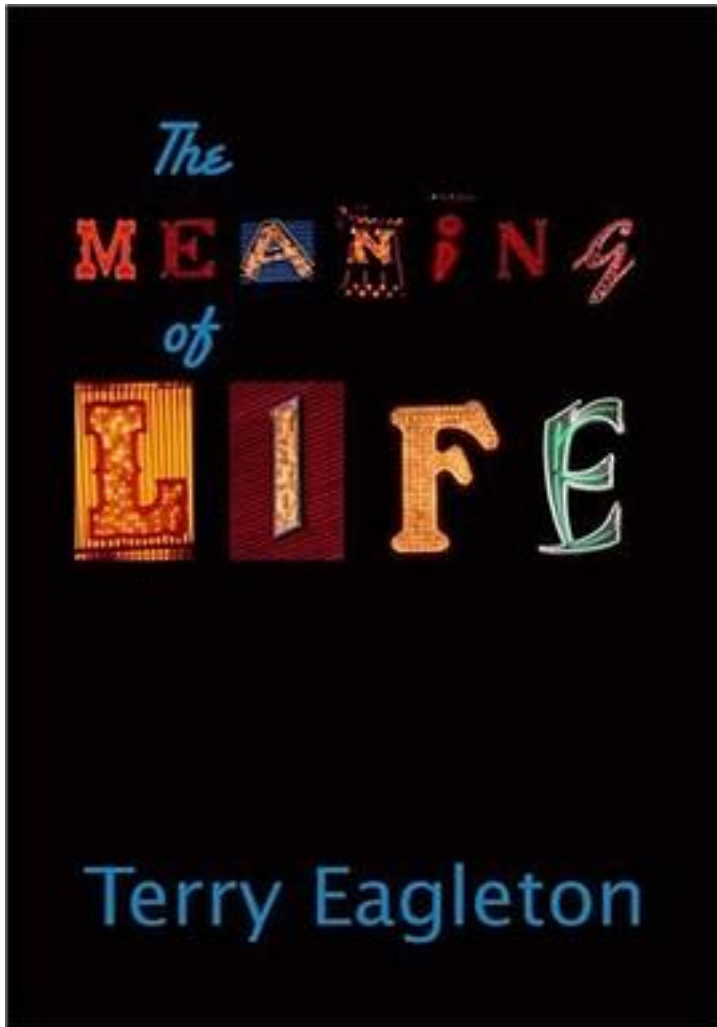


The Meaning of Life



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

作者介绍:

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标签

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评论

大部分文章是通识课的阅读材料。我对人生的看法是很悲观的。我觉得人类的生存处境就如西西弗斯：我们徒劳而无止境地重复着痛苦、压力和欲望。叔本华把人比做鼹鼠，“用它硕大的爪子使劲挖洞是它一生唯一的事业……它经历充满困难、毫无乐趣的一生又获得了什么呢？只是食物和繁殖，即在新的个体中继续和重新开始悲惨一生所依赖的途径。”是啊，我们延续父辈的繁殖本能，在社会这台机器中扮演一些角色来维持它的运转。比西西弗更惨的是，mortal人类为追逐目标所付出的一切也会在我们死去的那一刻化为乌有。但我觉得，人类还是高于鼹鼠的。诚然一切都是荒诞的，世界盲目而复始地转动，但是心灵可以照见美的身影。像罗素所说：“生命虽然短暂，人却可以自由地审视，自由地批评，自由地求知，自由地发挥创造性的想象力。”让我们想象西西弗是快乐的。

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