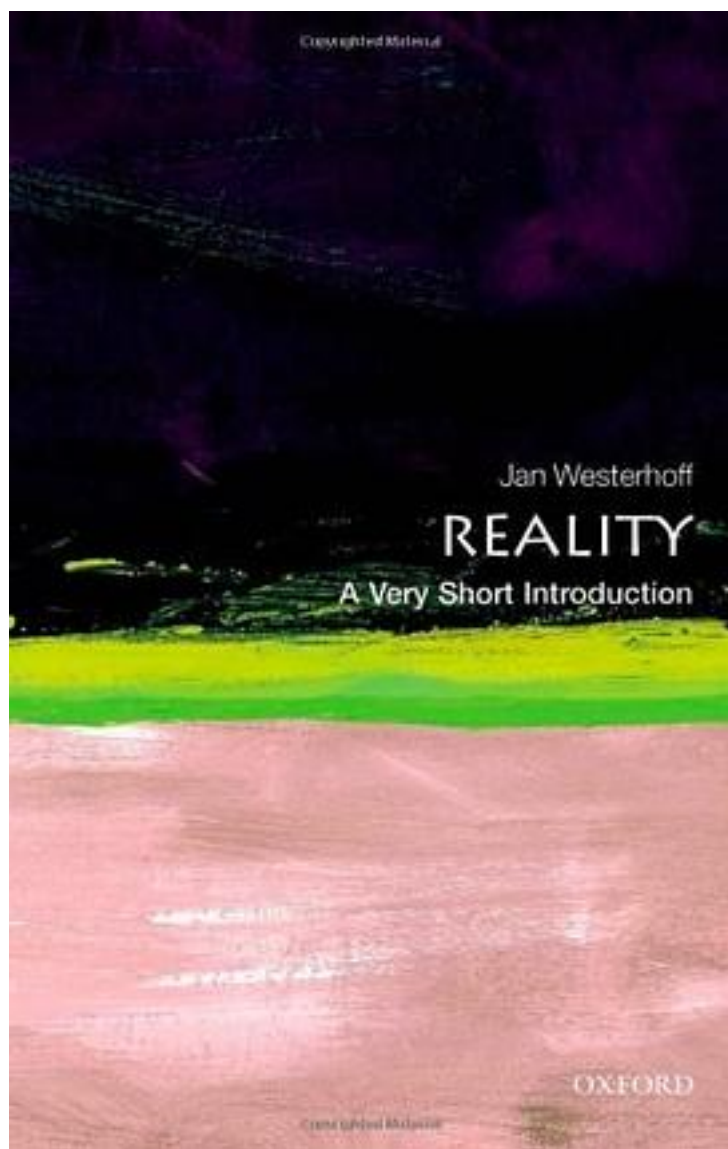


Reality



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出版者:

出版时间:2009-12

装帧:

isbn:9780776607085

In "Reality: Fundamental Topics in Metaphysics", Peter Loftson argues for a conception of metaphysics as the most general or comprehensive method of inquiry. Working from a broadly analytic and naturalist perspective, he confronts positions that claim metaphysics to be impossible, as advanced in ancient, Kantian, post-Kantian, and contemporary philosophy, showing them to be unsuccessful. He draws the topics of his selective investigation of metaphysics partly from the work of Kant, whom he conceives as a primary guide to what metaphysical enquiry seeks to know. Loftson provides accounts of basic categories of what is real and outlines major historical metaphysical systems. He then goes on to explore aspects of existence, essence, substance, universals, space, time, causality, mind, freedom, and other topics. This important contribution to metaphysics offers both sustained arguments on all aspects of the subject and important insights into the major metaphysical systems from the history of philosophy. The first edition of Reality appeared in 2001 to great acclaim. For this new edition, the author has augmented the work's original arguments and extensively enlarged its scope and engagement with current stances and debates.

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