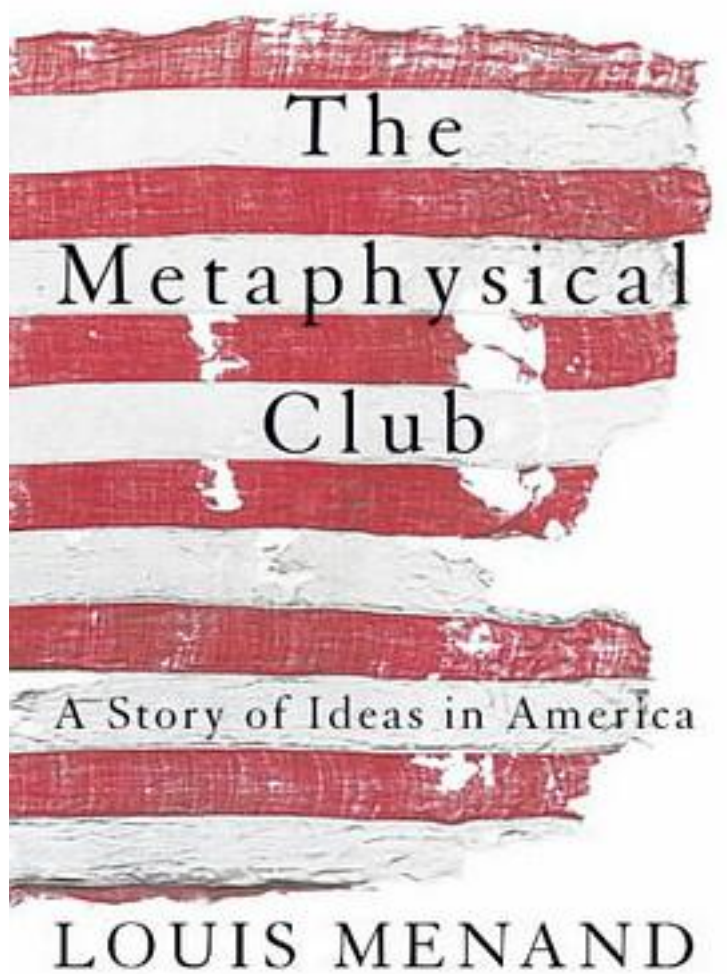


Metaphysical Club



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著者:Louis Menand

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A riveting, original book about the creation of the modern American mind. The Metaphysical Club was an informal group that met in Cambridge, Massachusetts, in 1872, to talk about ideas. Its members included Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr., founder of modern jurisprudence; William James, the father of modern American psychology; and Charles Sanders Peirce, logician, scientist, and the founder of semiotics. The Club was probably in existence for about nine months. No records were kept. The one thing we know that came out of it was an idea -- an idea about ideas. This book is the story of that idea. Holmes, James, and Peirce all believed that ideas are not things "out there" waiting to be discovered but are tools people invent -- like knives and forks and microchips -- to make their way in the world. They thought that ideas are produced not by individuals, but by groups of individuals -- that ideas are social. They do not develop according to some inner logic of their own but are entirely dependent -- like germs -- on their human carriers and environment. And they thought that the survival of any idea depends not on its immutability but on its adaptability. 'The Metaphysical Club' is written in the spirit of this idea about ideas. It is not a history of philosophy but an absorbing narrative about personalities and social history, a story about America. It begins with the American Civil War and ends with World War I. This is a book about the evolution of the American mind during the crucial period that formed the world we now inhabit.

作者介绍:

路易斯·梅南 Louis Menand

哈佛大学英文系教授，《纽约客》特约撰稿人。2002年，他的第一本面向大众的著作《形而上学俱乐部》荣获普利策奖最佳历史类图书，以及美国历史学会的帕克曼奖。2016年，梅南获得了奥巴马总统授予的美国国家人文勋章。

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书评

1907年，查尔斯·皮尔士在一份从未公开过的手稿中写道：“那是70年代的头两年，我们这群在老剑桥的年轻人开始管自己叫‘形而上学俱乐部’，这里面半是讽刺，半是玩世不恭——因为那时候不可知论甚嚣尘上，对任何形而上学都嗤之以鼻。”
这个俱乐部是本书四位主要人物——小奥立...

这本书对没有什么基础的读者（是我）也算友好，因为它不光讲思想，还讲故事，或者用作者的话说，这就是一部讲述思想的奇妙故事。如果抛开他们本身的经历、所处的时代背景不谈，仅仅将这些观点铺陈罗列，想必理解起来要困难许多，而当这些璀璨的名字忽然有了鲜活立体的形象，你...

The greatest enemy of any one of our truths may be the rest of our truths. —William James

你打算出远门。考虑当地天气自然要紧。你准时打开电视机，调到固定频道。遵循那个一五一十的声调，你记住了“无需带伞”。然而，迎接你的却是暴雨与寒风。你决心吸取教训。一天...

第十五章 自由 1

抑制是天生的；自由才是人为。自由是由社会设计出来的空间，群体可以在其中追求自己的特定目标，同时又受到保护，否则其他群体自然而然就会想要干涉这一群体的追求。因此，个人自由总是意味着限制他人：
如果不存在抑制这一现实，我们甚至都不会有自由的概念。...

1. The Metaphysical Club是Pierce在John Hopkins University成立的； 2.
这本书还花了大量的篇幅记录著名的最高法院大法官Oliver Wendell Holmes Jr；

（对相关背景了解不多，记录一下初步的读书笔记，以后有时间好好完善）
6月10日，在弗吉尼亚州首府里士满，美国内战时南方邦联“总统”杰斐逊·戴维斯的雕像在欢呼声中轰然倒地。这是由乔治·弗洛伊德之死引起的抗议浪潮中的一朵水花，既是多元主义对种族主义的愤怒回击，也代...

[https://athenacool.wordpress.com/2020/06/15/%e5%bd%a2%e8%80%8c%e4%b8%8a%e5%ad%a6%e4%bf%b1%e4%b9%90%e9%83%a8/]

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