

## Professor Kant's Incredible Day (Plato Co )

A brilliant and concise account of the lives and ideas of the great philosophers—Plato, Aristotle, Bacon, Spinoza, Voltaire, Kant, Schopenhauer, Spencer, Nietzsche, Bergson, Croce, Russell, Santayana, James, and Dewey—The Story of Philosophy is one of the great books of our time. Few write for the non-specialist as well as Will Durant, and this book is a splendid example of his eminently readable scholarship. Durant's insight and wit never cease to dazzle; The Story of Philosophy is a key book for any reader who wishes to survey the history and development of philosophical ideas in the Western world.

Included in this volume are "Euthyphro," "Apology," "Crito," and the Death Scene from "Phaedo." Translated by F.J. Church. Revisions and Introduction by Robert D. Cumming.

Here's an accusation - Sherlock Holmes never deduced anything. When it comes to language, it all depends on what your definition of 'is' is. And one for the existentialists - you haven't lived until you think about death all the time. Daniel Klein and Thomas Cathcart take philosophy to task with flair and gusto in this wise and hilarious treasure of a book. Lively, original, and powerfully informative, Plato and a Platypus Walk Into a Bar... is an irreverent crash course through the great thinkers and traditions. It's philosophy for everyone, from the curious layperson to the professor who's seen it all. Klein and Cathcart have the knack of getting to the core of an issue in a crystal clear line, meaning there's more room for jokes - good jokes, clever jokes, jokes that'll have you laughing so hard the people nearby will shoot you strange looks. It's the philosophy class you wish you'd had and finally, it all makes sense!

For all the deep thinkers with questions about the world, this encyclopedia holds the answers you have been searching for. What is the meaning of life? What is the Universe made of? Read what our eminent philosophers thought about the nature of reality, and the fundamental questions we ask ourselves. To help you understand the subject and what it is about, The Philosophy Book introduces you to ancient philosophers such as Plato and Confucius. But it doesn't stop there, read about our modern thinkers such as Chomsky and Derrida too. Short and sweet biographies of over a hundred philosophers and their profound questions. Work your way through the different branches of philosophy such as metaphysics and ethics. Understand how philosophical questions have led to breakthroughs in maths and science. Get to grips with how the history of philosophy informs our modern lives, exploring topics such as how science can predict the future and how language shapes our thoughts and decisions. Your Philosophical Questions Explained If you thought philosophy was full of difficult concepts, The Philosophy Book presents the key ideas in an easy to follow layout. Explained in simple terms with visual guides such as mind maps, diagrams, and timelines for the progression of ideas. Enjoy the stunning graphics that add a little wit to the serious subject. Travel from ancient philosophers to contemporary thinkers: - The Ancient World 700 BGE - 250 CE - The Medieval World 250 - 1500 - Renaissance and the Age of Reason 1500 - 1750 - The Age of Revolution 1750 - 1900 - The Modern World 1900 - 1950 - Contemporary Philosophy The Series Simply Explained With over 7 million copies sold worldwide to date, The Philosophy Book is part of the award-winning Big Ideas series from DK Books. It uses innovative graphics along with engaging writing to make complex subjects easier to understand.

The Philosophic Quest

Professor Kant's Incredible Day

How the Great Books Changed My Life and Why They Matter for a New Generation

From Common Curiosity to Logical Reasoning

The Philosophy Book

Closing of the American Mind

**Originally published in French as "La Philosophie, une Ecole de la Liberte. Enseignement de la philosophie et apprentissage du philosophe : Etat des lieux et regards pour l'avenir." - This study is dedicated to all those who engaged themselves, with vigour and conviction, in the defence of the teaching of philosophy a fertile guarantor of liberty and autonomy. This publication is also dedicated to the young spirits of today, bound to become the active citizens of tomorrow.**

**Harness the power of ideas to overcome the hurdles of daily life, with advice from the greatest Western philosophers. This international bestseller will introduce you to twelve thinkers who can help you to keep it together, even when everything in your life seems to be falling apart. You'll get advice from Epicurus about how to disconnect from digital media, Aristotle's help with curing hangovers, Nietzsche's take on getting in shape, John Stuart Mill's tips for dealing with nightmare social occasions, and many other classic insights to help you navigate life today. This is philosophy for the real world: the key ideas that can guide you through life's difficult times, when you're angry, embarrassed, scared, or confused. It turns out that many of our contemporary crises are far from new. As teacher and philosophy professor Marie Robert shows, sometimes the best solutions to modern problems are timeless.**

**Imagine that Plato came to life in the twenty-first century and embarked on a multi-city speaking tour. How would he mediate a debate between a Freudian psychoanalyst and a 'tiger mum' on how to raise the perfect child? How would he handle the host of a right-wing news program who denies there can be morality without religion? What would Plato make of Google, and of the idea that knowledge can be crowdsourced rather than reasoned out by experts? Plato at the Googleplex is acclaimed thinker Rebecca Newberger Goldstein's dazzling investigation of these conundra. With a philosopher's depth and erudition and a novelist's imagination and wit, Goldstein probes the deepest issues confronting us by allowing us to eavesdrop on Plato as he takes on the modern world; it is a stunningly original plunge into the drama of philosophy, revealing its hidden role in today's debates on religion, morality, politics and science.**

**This book meets the need to revise the standard interpretations of an apparently aporetic dialogue, full of eloquent silences and tricky suggestions, as it explores, among many other topics, the dramatis personae, including Plato's self-references behind the scene and the role of Socrates on stage, the question of method and refutation and the way dialectics plays a part in the dialogue. More specifically, it contains a set of papers devoted to perception and Plato's criticism of Heraclitus and Protagoras. A section deals with the problem of the relation between knowledge and thinking, including the aviary model and the possibility of error. It also emphasizes some positive contributions to the classical Platonic doctrines and his philosophy of education. The reception of the dialogue in antiquity and the medieval age closes the analysis. Representing different hermeneutical traditions, prestigious scholars engage with these issues in divergent ways, as they shed new light on a complex controversial work.**

**The Cave and the Light**

**A Little History of Philosophy**

**Kant: A Very Short Introduction**

**Plato's ›Theaetetus‹ Revisited**

**Keep It Together**

**Rescuing Socrates**

At its most basic, philosophy is about learning how to think about the world around us. It should come as no surprise, then, that children make excellent philosophers! Naturally inquisitive, pint-size scholars need little prompting before being willing to consider life's "big questions," however strange or impractical. Plato & Co. introduces children--and curious grown-ups--to the lives and work of famous philosophers, from Socrates to Descartes, Einstein, Marx, and Wittgenstein. Each book in the series features an engaging--and often funny--story that presents basic tenets of philosophical thought alongside vibrant color illustrations. Kierkegaard and the Mermaid takes a "leap into the absurd," exploring the existential philosophy of Søren Kierkegaard from the bottom of the sea, through the eyes of a princess with a fish's tail. Though living in a coral palace and betrothed to the handsomest and tenderest of all the water sprites, our heroine soon finds herself heartbroken. She must look deep into the world of the spirit to find out what it all means.

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Kant's Critique of Pure Reason is arguably the single most important work in western philosophy. The book introduces and assesses: \* Kant's life and background of the Critique of Pure Reason \* the ideas and text of the Critique of Pure Reason \* the continuing relevance of Kant's work to contemporary philosophy. Ideal for anyone coming to Kant's thought for the first time. This guide will be vital reading for all students of Kant in philosophy.

The international bestseller about life, the universe and everything. When 14-year-old Sophie encounters a mysterious mentor who introduces her to philosophy, mysteries deepen in her own life. Why does she keep getting postcards addressed to another girl? Who is the other girl? And who, for that matter, is Sophie herself? To solve the riddle, she uses her new knowledge of philosophy, but the truth is far stranger than she could have imagined. A phenomenal worldwide bestseller, SOPHIE'S WORLD sets out to draw teenagers into the world of Socrates, Descartes, Spinoza, Hegel and all the great philosophers. A brilliantly original and fascinating story with many twists and turns, it raises profound questions about the meaning of life and the origin of the universe.

philosophy for everyday emergencies

Sophie's World

Plato: Meno and Phaedo

Examined Lives

Big Ideas Simply Explained

Plato's Republic

*Provocative Form in Plato, Kant, Nietzsche (and Others) seeks (1) to liberate form from its primary affiliation with intellect and with its putative structural function; and (2) to relocate it as the correlate of imagination and desire. Through careful analyses of key texts in Plato, Kant, Nietzsche, Schelling, and others, the originary (but largely concealed) sense of form presents itself as shot through with darkness and play even as it illuminates and orders experience. Far from being secondary or settled, philosophical form is provocative by its very nature.*

*At first sight, Karl Marx and Ludwig Wittgenstein may well seem to be as different from each other as it is possible for the ideas of two major intellectuals to be. Despite this standard conception, however, a small number of scholars have long suggested that there are deeper philosophical commonalities between Marx and Wittgenstein. They have argued that, once grasped, these commonalities can radically change and enrich understanding both of Marxism and of Wittgensteinian philosophy. This book develops and extends this unorthodox view, emphasising the mutual enrichment that comes from bringing Marx's and Wittgenstein's ideas into dialogue with*

one another. Essential reading for all scholars and philosophers interested in the Marxist philosophy and the philosophy of Wittgenstein, this book will also be of vital interest to those studying and researching in the fields of social philosophy, political philosophy, philosophy of social science and political economy.

Plato is perhaps the most significant philosopher who has ever lived and *The Republic*, composed in Athens in about 375BC, is widely regarded as his most famous dialogue. Its discussion of the perfect city - and the perfect mind - laid the foundations for Western culture and, for over two thousand years, has been the cornerstone of Western philosophy. In this book, Simon Blackburn explains the judicial, moral and political ideas in the *Republic* and examines its influence on the modern world. He shows why, from St Augustine to twentieth-century philosophers such as Whitehead and Bergson, Western thought is still conditioned by this most important of books. In this infectiously exciting book, Bryan Magee tells the story of his own discovery of philosophy and not only makes it come alive but shows its relevance to daily life. Magee is the Carl Sagan of philosophy, the great popularizer of the subject, and author of a major new introductory history, *The Story of Philosophy*. *Confessions* follows the course of Magee's life, exploring philosophers and ideas as he himself encountered them, introducing all the great figures and their ideas, from the pre-Socratics to Bertrand Russell and Karl Popper, including Wittgenstein, Kant, Nietzsche, and Schopenhauer, rationalism, utilitarianism, empiricism, and existentialism.

*Why Philosophy Won't Go Away*

*Plato and a Platypus Walk Into a Bar*

*Russia's Plato*

*From Socrates to Sartre*

*Plato at the Googleplex*

*Doing Philosophy*

What are philosophers trying to achieve? How can they succeed? Does philosophy make progress? Is it in competition with science, or doing something completely different, or neither? Timothy Williamson tackles some of the key questions surrounding philosophy in new and provocative ways, showing how philosophy begins in common sense curiosity, and develops through our capacity to dispute rationally with each other. Discussing philosophy's ability to clarify our thoughts, he explains why such clarification depends on the development of philosophical theories, and how those theories can be tested by imaginative thought experiments, and compared against each other by standards similar to those used in the natural and social sciences. He also shows how logical rigour can be understood as a way of enhancing the explanatory power of philosophical theories. Drawing on the history of philosophy to provide a track record of philosophical thinking's successes and failures, Williamson overturns widely held dogmas about the distinctive nature of philosophy in comparison to the sciences, demystifies its methods, and considers the future of the discipline. From thought experiments, to deduction, to theories, this little book will cause you to totally rethink what philosophy is.

Plato's *Meno* and *Phaedo* are two of the most important works of ancient western philosophy and continue to be studied around the world. The *Meno* is a seminal work of epistemology. The *Phaedo* is a key source for Platonic metaphysics and for Plato's conception of the human soul. Together they illustrate the birth of Platonic philosophy from Plato's reflections on Socrates' life and doctrines. This edition offers new and accessible translations of both works, together with a thorough introduction that explains the arguments of the two dialogues and their place in Plato's thought.

*Publisher Description*

*Professor Kant's Incredible Day*

*A Personal Journey Through Western Philosophy from Plato to Popper*

*Teaching Philosophy and Learning to Philosophize: Status and Prospects*

*Mister Descartes and His Evil Genius*

*Plato Versus Aristotle, and the Struggle for the Soul of Western Civilization*

*My Wild Family*

*Philosophy a School of Freedom*

Enough! Why don't you play outside? An exasperated mother sends her boisterous children outside—but their games take them further than she could have imagined! Brother and sister soon leave their garden behind, venturing through breathtaking landscapes, crossing deserts, climbing mountains, sailing the seas, and exploring jungles. Along the way, they encounter animals from black bears and scorpions to barracudas and orangutans, and many that are endangered or nearly extinct. Blending storytelling, adventure, and information, *Play Outside!* highlights the beauty and fragility of the natural world and celebrates our human connection to it. Readers can search for more than 250 animal species hidden in the art, each one featured in an illustrated index that shows where in the world they can be found and highlights their level of vulnerability to extinction.

At its most basic, philosophy is about learning how to think about the world around us. It should come as no surprise, then, that children make excellent philosophers! Plato & Co. introduces children—and curious grown-ups—to the lives and work of famous philosophers, from Socrates to Descartes, Einstein, Marx, and Wittgenstein. Each book in the series features an engaging—and often funny—story that presents basic tenets of philosophical thought alongside vibrant color illustrations. On a peaceful winter night while the rest of the town sleeps, Mister Descartes stays up late reading the great books of the world. Suddenly, by the light of the moon, he sees a strange and fearsome shape in the shadow of his pet parrot, Baruch. Is it an illusion, or could it be that his faithful pet is but a figment of his imagination? Could the

same be true of his room and all of sleepy Holland? Quite obviously, he cannot rely on his senses, so how can Mister Descartes arrive at any certainty about the world around him? How will he determine what is a clever trick and what is real? Plato & Co.'s clear approach and charming illustrations make this series the perfect addition to any little library.

*The Closing of the American Mind*, a publishing phenomenon in hardcover, is now a paperback literary event. In this acclaimed number one national best-seller, one of our country's most distinguished political philosophers argues that the social/political crisis of 20th-century America is really an intellectual crisis. Allan Bloom's sweeping analysis is essential to understanding America today. It has fired the imagination of a public ripe for change.

A Dominican-born academic tells the story of how the Great Books transformed his life—and why they have the power to speak to people of all backgrounds. What is the value of a liberal education? Traditionally characterized by a rigorous engagement with the classics of Western thought and literature, this approach to education is all but extinct in American universities, replaced by flexible distribution requirements and ever-narrower academic specialization. Many academics attack the very idea of a Western canon as chauvinistic, while the general public increasingly doubts the value of the humanities. In *Rescuing Socrates*, Dominican-born American academic Roosevelt Montás tells the story of how a liberal education transformed his life, and offers an intimate account of the relevance of the Great Books today, especially to members of historically marginalized communities. Montás emigrated from the Dominican Republic to Queens, New York, when he was twelve and encountered the Western classics as an undergraduate in Columbia University's renowned Core Curriculum, one of America's last remaining Great Books programs. The experience changed his life and determined his career—he went on to earn a PhD in English and comparative literature, serve as director of Columbia's Center for the Core Curriculum, and start a Great Books program for low-income high school students who aspire to be the first in their families to attend college. Weaving together memoir and literary reflection, *Rescuing Socrates* describes how four authors—Plato, Augustine, Freud, and Gandhi—had a profound impact on Montás's life. In doing so, the book drives home what it's like to experience a liberal education—and why it can still remake lives.

*Plato and the Platonic Tradition in Russian Education, Science, and Ideology (1840–1930)*

*The High Tide of Prophecy*

*Imagination and the Bodhisattva Path*

*The Ghost of Karl Marx*

*Play Outside!*

*Understanding Philosophy Through Jokes*

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Sometimes there's more to family than meets the eye.... Animals of all kinds take center stage in this unique exploration of a very unusual family. An older brother is strong and respected, just like an elephant. A mother is stately and beautiful, but she prefers not to stand out—a tall feat for a giraffe! How are animals like humans, and humans like animals? Readers of all ages will delight in Laurent Moreau's richly rendered, thought-provoking illustrations, and then they will entertain perhaps the most wildly illuminating question of all: What makes you special? Plus, this is the fixed format version, which will look almost identical to the print version. Additionally for devices that support audio, this ebook includes a read-along setting.

Don these pop-out masks and plunge into make-believe adventures in an enchanted forest. In an enchanted forest of paper, paint, and whimsy, a hapless hunter bumbles after creatures large and small, from a mother fox and her pups to forest giants and vivid birds. Bold illustrations with dream-world colors bring the woodlands to life. Nine pre-cut pop-out masks allow children to act out the story with family and friends. Slipping into the roles of the book's creatures, they can also create delightful tales of their own and lose themselves in a land of make-believe.

Philosophy begins with questions about the nature of reality and how we should live. These were the concerns of Socrates, who spent his days in the ancient Athenian marketplace asking awkward questions, disconcerting the people he met by showing them how little they genuinely understood. This engaging book introduces the great thinkers in Western philosophy and explores their most compelling ideas about the world and how best to live in it. In forty brief chapters, Nigel Warburton guides us on a chronological tour of the major ideas in the history of philosophy. He provides interesting and often quirky stories of the lives and deaths of thought-provoking philosophers from Socrates, who chose to die by hemlock poisoning rather than live on without the freedom to think for himself, to Peter Singer, who asks the disquieting philosophical and ethical questions that haunt our own times. Warburton not only makes philosophy accessible, he offers inspiration to think,

argue, reason, and ask in the tradition of Socrates. A Little History of Philosophy presents the grand sweep of humanity's search for philosophical understanding and invites all to join in the discussion.

Masks in the Forest

Confessions of a Philosopher

Plato: A Very Short Introduction

Four Dialogues

Leibniz, Or the Best of All Possible Worlds

This lively and accessible introduction to Plato focuses on the philosophy and argument of his writings, drawing the reader into Plato's way of doing philosophy, and the general themes of his thinking. This is not a book to leave the reader standing in the outer court of introduction and background information, but leads directly into Plato's argument. It looks at Plato as a thinker grappling with philosophical problems in a variety of ways, rather than a philosopher with a fully worked-out system. It includes a brief account of Plato's life and the various interpretations that have been drawn from the sparse remains of information. It stresses the importance of the founding of the Academy and the conception of philosophy as a subject. Julia Annas discusses Plato's style of writing: his use of the dialogue form, his use of what we today call fiction, and his philosophical transformation of myths. She also looks at his discussions of love and philosophy, his attitude to women, and to homosexual love, explores Plato's claim that virtue is sufficient for happiness, and touches on his arguments for the immortality of the soul and his ideas about the nature of the universe. ABOUT THE SERIES: The Very Short Introductions series from Oxford University Press contains hundreds of titles in almost every subject area. These pocket-sized books are the perfect way to get ahead in a new subject quickly. Our expert authors combine facts, analysis, perspective, new ideas, and enthusiasm to make interesting and challenging topics highly readable.

What can I know? What should I do? What may I hope? What s for dinner? More than two hundred years ago, on a day that takes quite a peculiar course, Professor Kant is working hard to give an answer to all these questions. Not only the morning papers, but also a slightly perfumed letter get in his way however. As a result, he even forgets to go out on his regular digestive walk and everything goes off the rails Light-hearted without being flippant, funny and ironical, and accompanied by congenial artwork, this book tells the story of a day in the life of the great stylite and ancestor of Enlightenment philosophy, Immanuel Kant, sketching some of his major thoughts (without omitting his seemingly minor ones, like the inhabitants of Jupiter have marvelously light-weight bodies which teases readers to develop a historical understanding). The result is a wondrously easy and articulate approach to Kant s important construct of ideas. "

A challenging new look at the great thinkers whose ideas have shaped our civilization From Socrates to Sartre presents a rousing and readable introduction to the lives, and times of the great philosophers. This thought-provoking book takes us from the inception of Western society in Plato's Athens to today when the commanding power of Marxism has captured one third of the world. T. Z. Lavine, Elton Professor of Philosophy at George Washington University, makes philosophy come alive with astonishing clarity to give us a deeper, more meaningful understanding of ourselves and our times. From Socrates to Sartre discusses Western philosophers in terms of the historical and intellectual environment which influenced them, and it connects their lasting ideas to the public and private choices we face in America today. From Socrates to Sartre formed the basis of from the PBS television series of the same name.

Kant is arguably the most influential modern philosopher, but also one of the most difficult. Roger Scruton tackles his exceptionally complex subject with a strong hand, exploring the background to Kant's work and showing why the Critique of Pure Reason has proved so enduring. ABOUT THE SERIES: The Very Short Introductions series from Oxford University Press contains hundreds of titles in almost every subject area. These pocket-sized books are the perfect way to get ahead in a new subject quickly. Our expert authors combine facts, analysis, perspective, new ideas, and enthusiasm to make interesting and challenging topics highly readable.

A Biography (A Book that Shook the World)

The Legacy of Idealism

Provocative Form in Plato, Kant, Nietzsche, and Others

The Death of Socrates

The Open Society and Its Enemies Vol. 2

Marx and Wittgenstein

*Vienna, 1714: Late in life, Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz, the universal genius of his time, puts down his pen and declares his description of the universe to be complete. In the evening, he sits in his study room among letters, books, and manuscripts as his young friend Theodor comes for a visit. Theodor is bothered by one question: Why is there evil? And why do people commit crimes? With an example from ancient Greek mythology, Leibniz develops his theory about the best of all possible worlds. With this vivid "story within a story" Jean Paul Mongin successfully imparts the complex philosophical ideas of Leibniz to young readers. At its most basic, philosophy is about learning how to think about the world around us. It should come as no surprise, then, that children make excellent philosophers! Naturally inquisitive, pint-size scholars need little prompting before being willing to consider life's "big questions," however strange or impractical. Plato & Co. introduces children--and curious grown-ups--to the lives and work of famous philosophers, from Socrates to Descartes, Einstein, Marx, and Wittgenstein. Each book in the series features an engaging--and often funny--story that presents basic tenets of philosophical thought alongside vibrant color illustrations.*

*Why is a horse called a horse and not a giraffe or a flapdoodle? Why did Plato go from being called Aristocles, after his grandfather, to being called Plato, which means muscleman? Where do any names come from? In this delightful book, readers young and old will explore with Plato and ponder why anything or anyone has a name at all. Do readers know where their own name comes from? At its most basic, philosophy is about learning how to think about the world around us. It should come as no surprise, then, that children make excellent philosophers! Naturally inquisitive, pint-size scholars need little prompting before being willing to consider life's "big questions," however strange or impractical. Plato & Co. introduces children--and curious grown-ups--to the lives and work of famous philosophers, from Descartes to Socrates, Einstein, Plato, and Wittgenstein. Each book in the series features an engaging--and often funny--story that presents basic tenets of philosophical thought alongside vibrant color illustrations.*

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A *New York Times* Notable Book for 2011 We all want to know how to live. But before the good life was reduced to ten easy steps or a prescription from the doctor, philosophers offered arresting answers to the most fundamental questions about who we are and what makes for a life worth living. In *Examined Lives*, James Miller returns to this vibrant tradition with short, lively biographies of twelve famous philosophers. Socrates spent his life examining himself and the assumptions of others. His most famous student, Plato, risked his reputation to tutor a tyrant. Diogenes carried a bright lamp in broad daylight and announced he was "looking for a man." Aristotle's alliance with Alexander the Great presaged Seneca's complex role in the court of the Roman Emperor Nero. Augustine discovered God within himself. Montaigne and Descartes struggled to explore their deepest convictions in eras of murderous religious warfare. Rousseau aspired to a life of perfect virtue. Kant elaborated a new ideal of autonomy. Emerson successfully preached a gospel of self-reliance for the new American nation. And Nietzsche tried "to compose into one and bring together what is fragment and riddle and dreadful chance in man," before he lapsed into catatonic madness. With a flair for paradox and rich anecdote, *Examined Lives* is a book that confirms the continuing relevance of philosophy today--and explores the most urgent questions about what it means to live a good life.

*Why Do Things Have Names?*

*Routledge Philosophy GuideBook to Kant and the Critique of Pure Reason*

*The World Could Be Otherwise*

*Story of Philosophy*

*Hannah Arendt's Little Theater*

*Diogenes the Dog-Man*

**It is generally acknowledged by historians of ideas that Plato and the tradition he inspired occupied a privileged place in Russian nineteenth century culture. But that this situation changed dramatically after the October Revolution when the Bolsheviks declared their preferences for the 'materialists', Aristotle and Democritus. Russia's Plato examines how Russian intellectuals, professionally engaged as historians, philosophers, philologists, and teachers of law, read, taught, and interpreted the Platonic dialogues. Bridging intellectual and institutional history, the book shows that attitudes towards Plato were far more wide-ranging than usually thought. Through the prism of Plato's reception in Russian universities, Nethercott also explores broader issues such as: the phenomenon of rupture and continuity with Russia's past traditions, and the age-old problem of Russia's relations with West European culture. Addressing such issues in light of Plato's thought, the common property of European culture as a whole, this book presents an illuminating challenge to a number of accepted opinions not only on Plato and the Platonic tradition, but also on the nature of Russia and early Soviet culture.**

**The definitive sequel to *New York Times* bestseller *How the Scots Invented the Modern World* is a magisterial account of how the two greatest thinkers of the ancient world, Plato and Aristotle, laid the foundations of Western culture—and how their rivalry shaped the essential features of our culture down to the present day. Plato came from a wealthy, connected Athenian family and lived a comfortable upper-class lifestyle until he met an odd little man named Socrates, who showed him a new world of ideas and ideals. Socrates taught Plato that a man must use reason to attain wisdom, and that the life of a lover of wisdom, a philosopher, was the pinnacle of achievement. Plato dedicated himself to living that ideal and went on to create a school, his famed Academy, to teach others the path to enlightenment through contemplation. However, the same Academy that spread Plato's teachings also fostered his greatest rival. Born to a family of Greek physicians, Aristotle had learned early on the value of observation and hands-on experience. Rather than rely on pure contemplation, he insisted that the truest path to knowledge is through empirical discovery and exploration of the world around us. Aristotle, Plato's most brilliant pupil, thus settled on a philosophy very different from his instructor's and launched a rivalry with profound effects on Western culture. The two men disagreed on the fundamental purpose of the philosophy. For Plato, the image of the cave summed up man's destined path, emerging from the darkness of material existence to the light of a higher and more spiritual truth. Aristotle thought otherwise. Instead of rising above mundane reality, he insisted, the philosopher's job is to explain how the real world works, and how we can find our place in it. Aristotle set up a school in Athens to rival Plato's Academy: the Lyceum. The competition that ensued between the two schools, and between Plato and Aristotle, set the world on an intellectual adventure that lasted through the Middle Ages and Renaissance and that still continues today. From Martin Luther (who named Aristotle the third great enemy of true religion, after the devil and the Pope) to Karl Marx (whose utopian views rival Plato's), heroes and villains of history have been inspired and incensed by these two master philosophers—but never outside their influence. Accessible, riveting, and eloquently written, *The Cave and the Light* provides a stunning new perspective on the Western world, certain to open eyes and stir debate. Praise for *The Cave and the Light* "A sweeping intellectual history viewed through two ancient Greek lenses . . . breezy and enthusiastic but resting on a sturdy rock of research."—*Kirkus Reviews* "Examining mathematics, politics, theology, and architecture, the book demonstrates the continuing relevance of the ancient world."—*Publishers Weekly* "A fabulous way to understand over two millennia of history, all in one book."—*Library Journal* "Entertaining and often illuminating."—*The Wall Street Journal***

**An imaginative approach to spiritual practice in difficult times, through the Buddhist teaching of the six paramitas or "perfections"--qualities that lead to kindness, wisdom, and an awakened life. In frightening times, we wish the world could be otherwise. With a touch of imagination, it can be.**

**Imagination helps us see what's hidden, and it shape-shifts reality's roiling twisting waves. In this inspiring reframe of a classic Buddhist teaching, Zen teacher Norman Fischer writes that the paramitas, or "six perfections"—generosity, ethical conduct, patience, joyful effort, meditation, and understanding—can help us reconfigure the world we live in. Ranging from our everyday concerns about relationships, ethics, and consumption to our artistic inspirations and broadest human yearnings, Fischer depicts imaginative spiritual practice as a necessary resource for our troubled times.**

*From Socrates to Nietzsche*

*Kierkegaard and the Mermaid*

*Knowledge, Morality and Politics*

*German Philosophy 1760-1860*

*A Story Told with Masks*