

Rational Mysticism Spirituality Meets Science In

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Zen and the Art of Wholeness Charles McCauley 2005-04 As a spiritual seeker, you are on a quest for truth. This journey to find your truth has many names: becoming whole, self-actualized, enlightened, individuated, or authentic. All roads lead to the same destination: your essence, being, true nature, or original face. Here you will find your source of meaning, purpose, and fulfillment. In our Western culture, our need for wholeness expresses itself through its greatest obstacle - the tension between survival and meaning. Resolving this tension is a large part of finding happiness and fulfillment in life. We need to achieve a harmonious balance between the objective goal-oriented world and the subjective intuitive world - a union between the mind and the heart. Much like the Zen tradition of pointing the way, author Charles McCauley points the way for you to navigate your unique quest for wholeness. He guides you on a spiritual and psychological journey that is, above all, a personal experience. By using a unique synthesis of Eastern and Western spiritual and psychological wisdom that addresses contemporary issues, *Zen and the Art of Wholeness* leads you towards discovering and fully experiencing the whole life you were born to have.

Embracing Mind B. Alan Wallace 2008 Examines the integral link between science and spirituality in the two areas' quest for "ultimate truths," arguing that science hampers its search by ignoring the human mind as the ultimate source of inspiration and the separation between the fields is unnecessary. 15,000 first printing.

The End of Faith: Religion, Terror, and the Future of Reason Sam Harris 2005-09-17 "The End of Faith articulates the dangers and absurdities of organized religion so fiercely and so fearlessly that I felt relieved as I read it, vindicated....Harris writes what a sizable number of us think, but few are willing to say."—Natalie Angier, *New York Times* In *The End of Faith*, Sam Harris delivers a startling analysis of the clash between reason and religion in the modern world. He offers a vivid, historical tour of our willingness to suspend reason in favor of religious beliefs—even when these beliefs inspire the worst human atrocities. While warning against the encroachment of organized religion into world politics, Harris draws on insights from neuroscience, philosophy, and Eastern mysticism to deliver a call for a truly modern foundation for ethics and spirituality that is both secular and humanistic. Winner of the 2005 PEN/Martha Albrand Award for Nonfiction.

Roads of Excess, Palaces of Wisdom Jeffrey J. Kripal 2001-12 William Blake once wrote that "The road of excess leads to the palace of wisdom." Inspired by these poetic terms, Jeffrey J. Kripal reveals

how the works of scholars of mysticism are often rooted in their own mystical experiences, "roads of excess," which can both lead to important insights into these scholars' works and point us to our own "palaces of wisdom." In his new book, Kripal addresses the twentieth-century study of mysticism as a kind of mystical tradition in its own right, with its own unique histories, discourses, sociological dynamics, and rhetorics of secrecy. Fluidly combining autobiography and biography with scholarly exploration, Kripal takes us on a tour of comparative mystical thought by examining the lives and works of five major historians of mysticism—Evelyn Underhill, Louis Massignon, R. C. Zaehner, Agehananda Bharati, and Elliot Wolfson—as well as relating his own mystical experiences. The result, Kripal finds, is seven "palaces of wisdom": the religious power of excess, the necessity of distance in the study of mysticism, the relationship between the mystical and art, the dilemmas of male subjectivity and modern heterosexuality, a call for ethical criticism, the paradox of the insider-outsider problem in the study of religion, and the magical power of texts and their interpretation. An original and penetrating analysis of modern scholarship and scholars of mysticism, *Roads of Excess, Palaces of Wisdom* is also a persuasive demonstration of the way this scholarly activity is itself a mystical phenomenon.

Why God Won't Go Away Andrew Newberg, M.D. 2008-12-10 Why have we humans always longed to connect with something larger than ourselves? Why does consciousness inevitably involve us in a spiritual quest? Why, in short, won't God go away? Theologians, philosophers, and psychologists have debated this question through the ages, arriving at a range of contradictory and ultimately unprovable answers. But in this brilliant, groundbreaking new book, researchers Andrew Newberg and Eugene d'Aquili offer an explanation that is at once profoundly simple and scientifically precise: the religious impulse is rooted in the biology of the brain. Newberg and d'Aquili base this revolutionary conclusion on a long-term investigation of brain function and behavior as well as studies they conducted using high-tech imaging techniques to examine the brains of meditating Buddhists and Franciscan nuns at prayer. What they discovered was that intensely focused spiritual contemplation triggers an alteration in the activity of the brain that leads us to perceive transcendent religious experiences as solid and tangibly real. In other words, the sensation that Buddhists call "oneness with the universe" and the Franciscans attribute to the palpable presence of God is not a delusion or a manifestation of wishful thinking but rather a chain of neurological events that can be objectively observed, recorded, and actually photographed. The inescapable conclusion is that God is hard-wired into the human brain. In *Why God Won't Go Away*, Newberg and d'Aquili document their pioneering explorations in the field of neurotheology, an emerging discipline dedicated to understanding the complex relationship between spirituality and the brain. Along the way, they delve into such essential questions as whether humans are biologically compelled to make myths; what is the evolutionary connection between religious ecstasy and sexual orgasm; what do Near Death Experiences reveal about the nature of spiritual phenomena; and how does ritual create its own neurological environment. As their journey unfolds, Newberg and d'Aquili realize that a single, overarching question lies at the heart of their pursuit: Is religion merely a product of biology or has the human brain been mysteriously endowed with the unique capacity to reach and know God? Blending cutting-edge science with illuminating insights into the nature of consciousness and spirituality, *Why God Won't Go Away* bridges faith and reason, mysticism and empirical data. The neurological basis of how the brain identifies the "real" is nothing short of miraculous. This fascinating, eye-opening book dares to explore both the miracle and the biology of our enduring relationship with God.

[The End Of Science](#) John Horgan 2015-04-14 As staff writer for *Scientific American*, John Horgan has a window on contemporary science unsurpassed in all the world. Who else routinely interviews the likes of Lynn Margulis, Roger Penrose, Francis Crick, Richard Dawkins, Freeman Dyson, Murray Gell-Mann, Stephen Jay Gould, Stephen Hawking, Thomas Kuhn, Chris Langton, Karl Popper, Stephen Weinberg,

and E.O. Wilson, with the freedom to probe their innermost thoughts? In *The End Of Science*, Horgan displays his genius for getting these larger-than-life figures to be simply human, and scientists, he writes, "are rarely so human . . . so at their mercy of their fears and desires, as when they are confronting the limits of knowledge." This is the secret fear that Horgan pursues throughout this remarkable book: Have the big questions all been answered? Has all the knowledge worth pursuing become known? Will there be a final "theory of everything" that signals the end? Is the age of great discoverers behind us? Is science today reduced to mere puzzle solving and adding details to existing theories? Horgan extracts surprisingly candid answers to these and other delicate questions as he discusses God, Star Trek, superstrings, quarks, plectics, consciousness, Neural Darwinism, Marx's view of progress, Kuhn's view of revolutions, cellular automata, robots, and the Omega Point, with Fred Hoyle, Noam Chomsky, John Wheeler, Clifford Geertz, and dozens of other eminent scholars. The resulting narrative will both infuriate and delight as it mindlessly Horgan's smart, contrarian argument for "endism" with a witty, thoughtful, even profound overview of the entire scientific enterprise. Scientists have always set themselves apart from other scholars in the belief that they do not construct the truth, they discover it. Their work is not interpretation but simple revelation of what exists in the empirical universe. But science itself keeps imposing limits on its own power. Special relativity prohibits the transmission of matter or information as speeds faster than that of light; quantum mechanics dictates uncertainty; and chaos theory confirms the impossibility of complete prediction. Meanwhile, the very idea of scientific rationality is under fire from Neo-Luddites, animal-rights activists, religious fundamentalists, and New Agers alike. As Horgan makes clear, perhaps the greatest threat to science may come from losing its special place in the hierarchy of disciplines, being reduced to something more akin to literary criticism as more and more theoreticians engage in the theory twiddling he calls "ironic science." Still, while Horgan offers his critique, grounded in the thinking of the world's leading researchers, he offers homage too. If science is ending, he maintains, it is only because it has done its work so well.

Quantum Paranormal patrick jackson 2020-10-02 Introducing "Quantum Paranormal, A 21st Century Analysis of the Paranormal Phenomena" A book that cuts away the dogma, and cuts away the myths...Explaining a whole new analysis that identifies the root cause of global poltergeist activity. A book that includes hard data - explains behaviour patterns and physical effects...Said to be the biggest leap in paranormal research in the last 300 years, Written by I.T Reverse Engineering Specialist Patrick Jackson, The only paranormal book in the world that engineers & technical specialists agree with. * Colour Version *

Rational Mysticism John Horgan 2004-03-22 The author of *The End of Science* chronicles the most advanced research into such experiences as prayer, fasting, and trances in this "great read" (*The Washington Post*). How do trances, visions, prayer, satori, and other mystical experiences "work"? What induces and defines them? Is there a scientific explanation for religious mysteries and transcendent meditation? John Horgan investigates a wide range of fields—chemistry, neuroscience, psychology, anthropology, theology, and more—to narrow the gap between reason and mystical phenomena. As both a seeker and an award-winning journalist, Horgan consulted a wide range of experts, including theologian Huston Smith, spiritual heir to Joseph Campbell; Andrew Newberg, the scientist whose quest for the "God module" was the focus of a *Newsweek* cover story; Ken Wilber, prominent transpersonal psychologist; Alexander Shulgin, legendary psychedelic drug chemist; and Susan Blackmore, Oxford-educated psychologist, parapsychology debunker, and Zen practitioner. Horgan explores the striking similarities between "mystical technologies" like sensory deprivation, prayer, fasting, trance, dancing, meditation, and drug trips. He participates in experiments that seek the neurological underpinnings of mystical experiences. And, finally, he recounts his own search for enlightenment—adventurous,

poignant, and sometimes surprisingly comic. Horgan's conclusions resonate with the controversial climax of *The End of Science*, because, as he argues, the most enlightened mystics and the most enlightened scientists end up in the same place—confronting the imponderable depth of the universe.

Spiritual Atheist Nick Seneca Jankel 2018-09-20 For the millions who want to find peace, love, and purpose without religion, Cambridge-educated leadership guru and philosopher Nick Jankel sets out a radical new life philosophy that reunites cutting-edge science with timeless spiritual wisdom to help us make better life choices and transform our life, love, and leadership challenges so we thrive.

A God That Could be Real Nancy Ellen Abrams 2016-03-08 A paradigm-shifting blend of science, religion, and philosophy for the agnostic, spiritual-but-not-religious, and scientifically minded reader. Many people are fed up with the way traditional religion alienates them, perpetuates conflict, vilifies science, and undermines reason. Nancy Abrams—a philosopher of science, lawyer, and lifelong atheist—is among them, but she has also found freedom in imagining a higher power. In *A God That Could Be Real*, Abrams explores a radically new way of thinking about God. She dismantles several common assumptions about God and shows why an omniscient, omnipotent God that created the universe and plans what happens is incompatible with science—but that this doesn't preclude a God that can comfort and empower us. Moving away from traditional arguments for God, Abrams finds something worthy of the name "God" in the new science of emergence: just as a complex ant hill emerges from the collective behavior of individually clueless ants, and just as the global economy emerges from the interactions of billions of individuals' choices, God, she argues, is an "emergent phenomenon" that arises from the staggering complexity of humanity's collective aspirations and is in dialogue with every individual. This God did not create the universe—it created the meaning of the universe. It's not universal—it's planetary. It can't change the world, but it helps us change the world. A God that could be real, Abrams shows us, is what humanity needs to inspire us to collectively cooperate to protect our warming planet and create a long-term civilization.

The Undiscovered Mind John Horgan 2000-11-14 A respected journalist explores the fields of science that try to explain the mysteries of the human mind, arguing that science has done little to plumb the depths of our minds and cannot ever rationally explain all of human behavior. 50,000 first printing.

Mystics William Harmless 2008 In *Mystics*, William Harmless, S.J., introduces readers to the scholarly study of mysticism. He explores both mystics' extraordinary lives and their no-less-extraordinary writings using a unique case-study method centered on detailed examinations of six major Christian mystics: Thomas Merton, Bernard of Clairvaux, Hildegard of Bingen, Bonaventure, Meister Eckhart, and Evagrius Ponticus. Rather than presenting mysticism as a subtle web of psychological or theological abstractions, Harless's case-study approach brings things down to earth, restoring mystics to their historical context.

The Big Book of Christian Mysticism Carl McColman 2021-11-16 In popular usage, "mysticism" typically refers to New Age or Eastern forms of spirituality. However, the mystical tradition is also an important component of the Christian tradition. At its heart--and much like its expression in other faith traditions--Christian mysticism is an ancient practice that incorporates meditation, contemplation, worship, philosophy, the quest for personal enlightenment, and the experience of Divine presence. This volume is a comprehensive introduction and guide to Christian mysticism. It is a big book about a big possibility: the hope of achieving real, blissful, experiential unison with God. Among the topics covered here are a general introduction to mysticism, the Bible and mysticism, the history and types of Christian mysticism, biographical sketches of leading Christian mystics, and practical instructions about

practicing mysticism today. This is a breathtaking work that explores a form of spirituality that has changed lives over the course of 2,000 years. Learning about Christian mysticism and how it has been articulated through the centuries will prove inspirational for today's seekers, regardless of the faith tradition. "The mystic is not a special kind of person; every person is a special kind of mytic." --William McNamara

Religion and Science Bertrand Russell 1974

Exploring Unseen Worlds G. William Barnard 1997-03-06 Demonstrates convincingly the extent to which James's psychological and philosophical perspectives also continue to be a rich resource for those specifically interested in the study of mysticism. A critically-sophisticated, yet gripping, immersion into the inner worlds of one of America's foremost thinkers.

Birding and Mysticism Volume 2 George E. Lowe 2009-09-29 In volume 2 of *Birding and Mysticism: Enlightenment Through Bird Watching*, there is no traditional table of contents; rather, there are the five main parts and their sections and subsections, which contain the substantive ideas and memes of volume 2, followed by six appendices. The main thrust of volume 2 concerns the many aspects, faces, and forms of mysticism: religious, spiritual, rational, scientific, personal, and practical.

Pay Attention John Horgan 2020-12-01 A day in the inner and outer lives of a college professor, blogger, divorced father, thinker, and yearner. What would it feel like to wake up inside the head of someone who writes about science for a living? John Horgan, acclaimed author of the bestseller *The End of Science*, answers that question in his genre-bending new book *Pay Attention*, a stream-of-consciousness account of a day in the life of his alter ego, Eamon Toole--a blogger, college professor, and divorced father. This work of fact-based fiction, or "faction," follows Toole as he wakes up in his rented apartment in upstate New York, meditates with the mantra "Duh," commutes via train and subway to an engineering school in New Jersey, teaches a William James essay on consciousness to freshmen, squabbles about Thomas Kuhn with colleagues over lunch, takes a ferry to Manhattan and spends the evening with his bossy, Tarot-reading girlfriend, Emily, on whom he plans to spring a big question. Throughout the day, Toole struggles to be rational while buffeted by fears and yearnings. Thoughts of sex and death keep intruding on his ruminations over quantum spookiness, the neural code, the Singularity, and free will. *Pay Attention* is a profane, profound meditation on the entanglements of our inner and outer worlds and the elusiveness of truth.

Energetic Awakening: Living a Guided Life Annie L. Browning 2021-03-19 There is never a moment where the energy of the universe stops infusing you. There is never a moment where you are out of reach of this ongoing flow. Life is about awakening to this, moment by moment, hour by hour, day by day. Our return home is a return to this place within where we release everything, hold nothing. Our life becomes the breath that breathes us allowing the vibration space to reverberate throughout the world. The simplest act generated from this place is the needed movement to energetically awaken the world around you. The beautiful outcome of this way of living is that you will now walk in this world as if you are a part of everything and this means that your creations- your actions and intentions- work not just for you, but for the whole. To live from within your soul is to live awakening. When you live from here you awaken others and this is the change that will save us all.

Beyond Physicalism Edward F. Kelly 2015-02-19 The rise of modern science has brought with it increasing acceptance among intellectual elites of a worldview that conflicts sharply both with everyday human experience and with beliefs widely shared among the world's great cultural traditions. Most

contemporary scientists and philosophers believe that reality is at bottom purely physical, and that human beings are nothing more than extremely complicated biological machines. On such views our everyday experiences of conscious decision-making, free will, and the self are illusory by-products of the grinding of our neural machinery. It follows that mind and personality are necessarily extinguished at death, and that there exists no deeper transpersonal or spiritual reality of any sort. Beyond Physicalism is the product of an unusual fellowship of scientists and humanities scholars who dispute these views. In their previous publication, *Irreducible Mind*, they argued that physicalism cannot accommodate various well-evidenced empirical phenomena including paranormal or psi phenomena, postmortem survival, and mystical experiences. In this new theory-oriented companion volume they go further by attempting to understand how the world must be constituted in order that these “rogue” phenomena can occur. Drawing upon empirical science, metaphysical philosophy, and the mystical traditions, the authors work toward an improved “big picture” of the general character of reality, one which strongly overlaps territory traditionally occupied by the world’s institutional religions, and which attempts to reconcile science and spirituality by finding a middle path between the polarized fundamentalisms, religious and scientific, that have dominated recent public discourse. Contributions by: Harald Atmanspacher, Loriliai Biernacki, Bernard Carr, Wolfgang Fach, Michael Grosso, Michael Murphy, David E. Presti, Gregory Shaw, Henry P. Stapp, Eric M. Weiss, and Ian Whicher

Ecstatic Religion I. M. Lewis 2003 First Published in 2004. Routledge is an imprint of Taylor & Francis, an informa company.

The Iranian Metaphysicals Alireza Doostdar 2018-03-13 What do the occult sciences, séances with the souls of the dead, and appeals to saintly powers have to do with rationality? Since the late nineteenth century, modernizing intellectuals, religious leaders, and statesmen in Iran have attempted to curtail many such practices as "superstitious," instead encouraging the development of rational religious sensibilities and dispositions. However, far from diminishing the diverse methods through which Iranians engage with the immaterial realm, these rationalizing processes have multiplied the possibilities for metaphysical experimentation. *The Iranian Metaphysicals* examines these experiments and their transformations over the past century. Drawing on years of ethnographic and archival research, Alireza Doostdar shows that metaphysical experimentation lies at the center of some of the most influential intellectual and religious movements in modern Iran. These forms of exploration have not only produced a plurality of rational orientations toward metaphysical phenomena but have also fundamentally shaped what is understood as orthodox Shi’i Islam, including the forms of Islamic rationality at the heart of projects for building and sustaining an Islamic Republic. Delving into frequently neglected aspects of Iranian spirituality, politics, and intellectual inquiry, *The Iranian Metaphysicals* challenges widely held assumptions about Islam, rationality, and the relationship between science and religion.

Naming Infinity Loren Graham 2009 Looks at the competition between French and Russian mathematicians over the nature of infinity during the twentieth century.

The Awakened Brain Lisa Miller 2021-08-17 A groundbreaking exploration of the neuroscience of spirituality and a bold new paradigm for health, healing, and resilience—from a New York Times bestselling author and award-winning researcher “A new revolution of health and well-being and a testament to, and celebration of, the power within.”—Deepak Chopra, MD Whether it’s meditation or a walk in nature, reading a sacred text or saying a prayer, there are many ways to tap into a heightened awareness of the world around you and your place in it. In *The Awakened Brain*, psychologist Dr. Lisa Miller shows you how. Weaving her own deeply personal journey of awakening with her groundbreaking

research, Dr. Miller's book reveals that humans are universally equipped with a capacity for spirituality, and that our brains become more resilient and robust as a result of it. For leaders in business and government, truth-seekers, parents, healers, educators, and any person confronting life's biggest questions, *The Awakened Brain* combines cutting-edge science (from MRI studies to genetic research, epidemiology, and more) with on-the-ground application for people of all ages and from all walks of life, illuminating the surprising science of spirituality and how to engage it in our lives:

- The awakened decision is the better decision. With an awakened perception, we are more creative, collaborative, ethical, and innovative.
- The awakened brain is the healthier brain. An engaged spiritual life enhances grit, optimism, and resilience while providing insulation against addiction, trauma, and depression.
- The awakened life is the inspired life. Loss, uncertainty, and even trauma are the gateways by which we are invited to move beyond merely coping with hardship to transcend into a life of renewal, healing, joy, and fulfillment.

Absorbing, uplifting, and ultimately enlightening, *The Awakened Brain* is a conversation-starting saga of scientific discovery packed with counterintuitive findings and practical advice on concrete ways to access your innate spirituality and build a life of meaning and contribution.

Toward a Psychology of Awakening John Welwood 2002-02-12 How can we connect the spiritual realizations of Buddhism with the psychological insights of the West? In *Toward a Psychology of Awakening* John Welwood addresses this question with comprehensiveness and depth. Along the way he shows how meditative awareness can help us develop more dynamic and vital relationships and how psychotherapy can help us embody spiritual realization more fully in everyday life. Welwood's psychology of awakening brings together the three major dimensions of human experience: personal, interpersonal, and suprapersonal, in one overall framework of understanding and practice.

Dangerous Mystic Joel F. Harrington 2018-03-20 Life and times of the 14th century German spiritual leader Meister Eckhart, whose theory of a personal path to the divine inspired thinkers from Jean Paul Sartre to Thomas Merton, and most recently, Eckhart Tolle Meister Eckhart was a medieval Christian mystic whose wisdom powerfully appeals to seekers seven centuries after his death. In the modern era, Eckhart's writings have struck a chord with thinkers as diverse as Heidegger, Merton, Sartre, John Paul II, and the current Dalai Lama. He is the inspiration for the bestselling New Age author Eckhart Tolle's pen name, and his fourteenth-century quotes have become an online sensation. Today a variety of Christians, as well as many Zen Buddhists, Sufi Muslims, Jewish Cabbalists, and various spiritual seekers, all claim Eckhart as their own. Meister Eckhart preached a personal, internal path to God at a time when the Church could not have been more hierarchical and ritualistic. Then and now, Eckhart's revolutionary method of direct access to ultimate reality offers a profoundly subjective approach that is at once intuitive and pragmatic, philosophical yet non-rational, and, above all, universally accessible. This "dangerous mystic's" teachings challenge the very nature of religion, yet the man himself never directly challenged the Church. Eckhart was one of the most learned theologians of his day, but he was also a man of the world who had worked as an administrator for his religious order and taught for years at the University of Paris. His personal path from conventional friar to professor to lay preacher culminated in a spiritual philosophy that combined the teachings of an array of pagan and Christian writers, as well as Muslim and Jewish philosophers. His revolutionary decision to take his approach to the common people garnered him many enthusiastic followers as well as powerful enemies. After Eckhart's death and papal censure, many religious women and clerical supporters, known as the Friends of God, kept his legacy alive through the centuries, albeit underground until the master's dramatic rediscovery by modern Protestants and Catholics. *Dangerous Mystic* grounds Meister Eckhart in a world that is simultaneously familiar and alien. In the midst of this medieval society, a few decades before the Black Death, Eckhart boldly preached to captivated crowds a timeless method, a "wayless way," of directly experiencing the divine.

Mysticism and Logic Bertrand Russell 2013-01-23 Russell explains his theory of logical atomism in 10 brilliant essays, which include popular treatments of religious and educational issues as well as more technical examinations of problems of logic.

Great Irish Reportage John Horgan 2014-09-25 Alongside its world-famous tradition of great fiction, Ireland has a less well known but thrilling tradition of reportage: journalism, dispatches and eyewitness accounts done with literary style and flair. From Kate O'Brien to Colm Tóibín, from Myles na Gopaleen to Maeve Binchy, some of Ireland's finest writers have produced first-rate journalism. And from R.M. Smyllie, Gertrude Gaffney and John Healy to Eamon Dunphy, Nell McCafferty and Fintan O'Toole, Ireland has also produced a remarkable number of journalists who can really write. Now, for the first time, the best of Irish reportage - some of it legendary, some of it unjustly forgotten - is gathered into a single volume. Whether it's Emily O'Reilly on the election to Westminster of Gerry Adams, Joseph O'Connor's hilarious dispatch from the 1994 World Cup, or Michael Lewis's encounter with the economist who called the property crash, the pieces in Great Irish Reportage illuminate Irish life in a way that no other form of writing can. 'Such places were clean and comfortable enough, though often equipped with forbidding furniture of the marble-topped and iron-legged variety usually found in morgues and fish-shops.' Myles na gCopaleen on Dublin pubs, 1940 'Ben Bulbin was draped in cold rain, and the long quays and drained-out waters of Sligo Harbour recalled us to thoughts of his later work, of its unsparing, iron relentlessness' Kate O'Brien on the reinterment of W.B. Yeats, 1948 'The Irish are not by nature bullying or ungenerous . . . This essay, therefore, is not about bigotry, but about the ineffectuality of ordinary people with nice intentions and neighbourly instincts.' Hubert Butler on the Fethard-on-Sea boycott, 1958 'Three o'clock in the afternoon is no hour for anybody to be sitting at a window in a public restaurant with a martini in front of her, or half a martini, as it was by the time the nuns passed.' Maeve Brennan, 1962 'Kennedy himself glided past, standing in an open car and looking just like himself but, we were glad to observe, more so.' Louis MacNeice on JFK's visit to Ireland, 1963 'The Queen looked thin and unhappy in a harsh blue outfit.' Maeve Binchy on the wedding of Princess Anne, 1973 'The world still hankers after the Sportsman as Gobshite - preferably Modest Gobshite.' Eamon Dunphy on the L.A. Olympics, 1984 'I interrupted him to ask what he was talking about on the phone. Stocks and shares, he said. He had started, six months before, to play the stock market.' Colm Tóibín on Sean Quinn, 1987 'Left alone in a dark room with a pile of money, the Irish decided what they really wanted to do was to buy Ireland. From each other.' Michael Lewis, 2011

Philosophy of Mysticism Richard H. Jones 2016-03-23 A comprehensive exploration of the philosophical issues raised by mysticism. This work is a comprehensive study of the philosophical issues raised by mysticism. Mystics claim to experience reality in a way not available in normal life, a claim which makes this phenomenon interesting from a philosophical perspective. Richard H. Jones's inquiry focuses on the skeleton of beliefs and values of mysticism: knowledge claims made about the nature of reality and of human beings; value claims about what is significant and what is ethical; and mystical goals and ways of life. Jones engages language, epistemology, metaphysics, science, and the philosophy of mind. Methodological issues in the study of mysticism are also addressed. Examples of mystical experience are drawn chiefly from Buddhism and Advaita Vedanta, but also from Christianity, Judaism, Islam, and Daoism. Richard H. Jones is the author of several books, including *Mysticism Examined: Philosophical Inquiries into Mysticism*, also published by SUNY Press.

Mystics and Zen Masters Thomas Merton 1999-11-29 Thomas Merton was recognized as one of those rare Western minds that are entirely at home with the Zen experience. In this collection, he discusses diverse religious concepts-early monasticism, Russian Orthodox spirituality, the Shakers, and Zen Buddhism-with characteristic Western directness. Merton not only studied these religions from the

outside but grasped them by empathy and living participation from within. "All these studies," wrote Merton, "are united by one central concern: to understand various ways in which men of different traditions have conceived the meaning and method of the 'way' which leads to the highest levels of religious or of metaphysical awareness."

Spirit of Religion Anab Whitehouse 2018-11-06 The current volume explores a variety of topical themes within the general field of religion -- defined as the search for the truth concerning the nature of one's relationship with Being/Reality. Among the topics explored are: Evolution, the origins of faith, conceptual viruses, suffering, irreligion, the new atheism, nihilism, sacredness, the nature of the self, mythology, Carl Jung, Joseph Campbell, free will, epistemology, and spiritual abuse. All of the foregoing topics are critically examined against a backdrop that helps orient the discussion. More specifically, most human beings wonder, in one way or another, about the nature of reality ... that is, they seek to deal, as best they can, with the reality problem. The Final Jeopardy challenge refers to the task of trying to work toward providing a best-effort final response to the reality problem that resonates with, and reflects to varying degrees, the character of reality, before the sands in the hourglass of time run out in a person's life.

Mind-Body Problems John Horgan 2019-01-16 Science journalist John Horgan presents a radical new perspective on the mind-body problem and related issues such as consciousness, free will, morality and the meaning of life. Horgan argues that science will never discover an objectively true solution to the mind-body problem because such a solution does not exist. Horgan explores his thesis by delving into the professional and personal lives of nine mind-body experts, including neuroscientist Christof Koch, cognitive scientist Douglas Hofstadter, child psychologist Alison Gopnik, complexologist Stuart Kauffman, legal scholar and psychoanalyst Elyn Saks, philosopher Owen Flanagan, novelist Rebecca Goldstein, evolutionary biologist Robert Trivers, and economist Deirdre McCloskey.

Keeping the Faith Without a Religion Roger Housden 2014-03-01 A Compelling Exploration of the Emerging Secular Spirituality What is faith? It is not something we must receive from a religion, nor is it a quality we must abandon in order to be rational. "Faith is not the same as belief," writes bestselling author Roger Housden. "A nonreligious faith allows us to live with uncertainty, change, and mortality—to embrace life in all its sublime beauty." For the many who self-identify as "spiritual but not religious," Housden's book *Keeping the Faith Without a Religion* offers us a way to embrace the extraordinary mystery of our lives without resorting to blind dogmatism or nihilistic scientism. He invites us to investigate: Faith and belief—how our hunger for certainty and easy answers impedes the growth of a mature spirituality Guidance for building a personal faith based on your own inner experience How faith in life's uncertainty can lift us through hard times—even when we know there are no guarantees Love, joy, and beauty—what these experiences can teach us about the intelligence of the universe Today, many of us seek a new approach to spirituality that honors both the rational and the mystical in equal measure. With *Keeping the Faith Without a Religion*, Roger Housden offers a guidebook for free-thinking seekers—an inspiring call to step beyond the need for one absolute truth and trust ourselves to the unfolding of our singular, extraordinary life.

The Marriage of Sense and Soul Ken Wilber 2011-08-03 There is arguably no more critical and pressing topic than the relation of science and religion in the modern world. Science has given us the methods for discovering truth, while religion remains the single greatest force for generating meaning. Yet the two are seen as mutually exclusive, with wrenching consequences for humanity. In *The Marriage of Sense and Soul*, one of today's most important philosophers brilliantly articulates how we might begin to think about science and religion in ways that allow for their reconciliation and union, on terms that

will be acceptable to both camps. Ken Wilber is widely acclaimed as the foremost thinker in integrating Western psychology and the Eastern spiritual traditions. His many books have reached across disciplines and synthesized the teachings of religion, psychology, physics, mysticism, sociology, and anthropology, earning him a devoted international following. *The Marriage of Sense and Soul* is his most accessible work yet, aimed at guiding a general audience to the mutual accord between the spiritual, subjective world of ancient wisdom and the objective, empirical world of modern knowledge. Wilber clearly and succinctly explores the schism between science and religion, and the impact of this "philosophical Cold War" on the fate of humanity. He systematically reviews previous attempts at integration, explaining why romantic, idealistic, and postmodern theories failed. And he demonstrates how science is compatible with certain deep features common to all of the world's major religious traditions. In pointing the way to a union between truth and meaning, Ken Wilber has created an elegant and accessible book that is breathtaking in its scope.

The Psychology of Terrorism John Horgan 2004-06-01 One of the leading psychologists in the field undertakes a comprehensive examination on one of the most important yet neglected areas in the study of terrorism.

Ketamine Karl Jansen 2004 "Karl Jansen's book *Ketamine, Dreams, and Realities* is a goldmine of information on this fascinating substance that combines in a unique way the properties of an anesthetic and a psychedelic. It is clearly written, well researched and documented, and presents a balanced and objective view point. The author's broad perspective that covers all the aspects of Ketamine from pharmacology to its use in raves makes this book interesting for clinicians and researchers, as well as the general public." - Stan Grof, M.D., author of *Psychology of the Future: Lessons From Modern Consciousness Research*; *LSD Psychotherapy* "Indispensable reading for those with any interest in ketamine. Entertaining, thought-provoking, and thorough." - Rick Strassman, M.D., author of *DMT: The Spirit Molecule: A Doctor's Revolutionary Research into the Biology of Near-Death and Mystical Experiences* "It is an excellent book... a well done comprehensive review of the entire history of ketamine." - Evgeny Krupitsky, M.D., Ph.D. Pioneer researcher into the use of ketamine-assisted psychotherapy in the treatment of alcoholism and heroin addiction.

Rationalist Spirituality Bernardo Kastrup 2011-03-16 Why does the universe exist and what are you supposed to do in it? This question has been addressed by religions since time immemorial, but popular answers often fail to account for obvious aspects of reality. Indeed, if God knows everything, why do we need to learn through pain and suffering? If God is omnipotent, why are we needed to do good? If the universe is fundamentally good, why are wars, crime, and injustice all around us? In modern society, orthodox science takes the rational high-ground and tackles these contradictions by denying the very need for, and the existence of, meaning. Indeed, many of us implicitly accept the notion that rationality somehow contradicts spirituality. That is a modern human tragedy, not only for its insidiousness, but for the fact that it is simply not true. In this book, the author constructs a coherent and logical argument for the meaning of existence, informed by science itself. A framework is laid out wherein all aspects of human existence have a logical, coh

The End of War John Horgan 2012-01-17 War is a fact of human nature. As long as we exist, it exists. That's how the argument goes. But longtime *Scientific American* writer John Horgan disagrees. Applying the scientific method to war leads Horgan to a radical conclusion: biologically speaking, we are just as likely to be peaceful as violent. War is not preordained, and furthermore, it should be thought of as a solvable, scientific problem—like curing cancer. But war and cancer differ in at least one crucial way: whereas cancer is a stubborn aspect of nature, war is our creation. It's our choice whether

to unmake it or not. In this compact, methodical treatise, Horgan examines dozens of examples and counterexamples—discussing chimpanzees and bonobos, warring and peaceful indigenous people, the World War I and Vietnam, Margaret Mead and General Sherman—as he finds his way to war’s complicated origins. Horgan argues for a far-reaching paradigm shift with profound implications for policy students, ethicists, military men and women, teachers, philosophers, or really, any engaged citizen.

Rational Mysticism John Horgan 2003 The author of *The End of Science* offers an intriguing investigation into the latest research into the mechanics and meaning of mystical experience, looking at such fields as chemistry, physics, theology, and psychology to narrow the division between reason and enlightenment.

The Madame Curie Complex Julie Des Jardins 2010-03-01 The historian and author of *Lillian Gilbreth* examines the “Great Man” myth of science with profiles of women scientists from Marie Curie to Jane Goodall. Why is science still considered to be predominantly male profession? In *The Madame Curie Complex*, Julie Des Jardin dismantles the myth of the lone male genius, reframing the history of science with revelations about women’s substantial contributions to the field. She explores the lives of some of the most famous female scientists, including Jane Goodall, the eminent primatologist; Rosalind Franklin, the chemist whose work anticipated the discovery of DNA’s structure; Rosalyn Yalow, the Nobel Prize-winning physicist; and, of course, Marie Curie, the Nobel Prize-winning pioneer whose towering, mythical status has both empowered and stigmatized future generations of women considering a life in science. With lively anecdotes and vivid detail, *The Madame Curie Complex* reveals how women scientists have changed the course of science—and the role of the scientist—throughout the twentieth century. They often asked different questions, used different methods, and came up with different, groundbreaking explanations for phenomena in the natural world.

Unweaving the Rainbow Richard Dawkins 2000-04-05 From the New York Times–bestselling author of *Science in the Soul*. “If any recent writing about science is poetic, it is this” (*The Wall Street Journal*). Did Sir Isaac Newton “unweave the rainbow” by reducing it to its prismatic colors, as John Keats contended? Did he, in other words, diminish beauty? Far from it, says acclaimed scientist Richard Dawkins; Newton’s unweaving is the key too much of modern astronomy and to the breathtaking poetry of modern cosmology. Mysteries don’t lose their poetry because they are solved: the solution often is more beautiful than the puzzle, uncovering deeper mysteries. With the wit, insight, and spellbinding prose that have made him a bestselling author, Dawkins takes up the most important and compelling topics in modern science, from astronomy and genetics to language and virtual reality, combining them in a landmark statement of the human appetite for wonder. This is the book Dawkins was meant to write: A brilliant assessment of what science is (and isn’t), a tribute to science not because it is useful but because it is uplifting. “A love letter to science, an attempt to counter the perception that science is cold and devoid of aesthetic sensibility . . . Rich with metaphor, passionate arguments, wry humor, colorful examples, and unexpected connections, Dawkins’ prose can be mesmerizing.” —San Francisco Chronicle “Brilliance and wit.” —The New Yorker