

# The Devil in Modern Philosophy

Volume III

Ernest Gellner

Edited by  
Selected Philosophical Themes

# The Devil In Modern Philosophy

**M Mark**



## **The Devil In Modern Philosophy:**

**The Devil in Modern Philosophy** Ernest Gellner, 2003      **Ernest Gellner** John A. Hall, 2014-06-10 Ernest Gellner 1925-95 was a multilingual polymath and a public intellectual who set the agenda in the study of nationalism and the sociology of Islam Having grown up in Paris Prague and England he was also one of the last great Jewish thinkers from Central Europe to experience directly the impact of the Holocaust His intellectual trajectory differed from that of similar thinkers both in producing a highly integrated philosophy of modernity and in combining a respect for nationalism with an appreciation of the power of modern science Gellner was a fierce opponent in private as well as in public of such contemporaries as Michael Oakeshott Isaiah Berlin Charles Taylor Noam Chomsky and Edward Said As this definitive biography shows he was passionate in the defense of reason against every form of relativism a battle that his intellectual inheritors continue to this day

**The Riddle of the Modern World** A. Macfarlane, 2000-07-11 What conditions the chances of liberty wealth and equality at the start of the third Christian millennium Why did human civilizations develop so slowly for thousands of years and then transform themselves during the last three hundred This study of four great thinkers who lived between 1689 and 1995 Montesquieu Adam Smith De Tocqueville and Ernest Gellner weaves their lives and works together and through their own words shows how they approached the question of the nature of man his past and his future

*The Limits of Liberalism* Mark T. Mitchell, 2018-11-30 In *The Limits of Liberalism* Mark T Mitchell argues that a rejection of tradition is both philosophically incoherent and politically harmful *The Limits of Liberalism* identifies why most modern thinkers have denied the essential role of tradition and explains how tradition can be restored to its proper place Mitchell demonstrates that the rejection of tradition as an epistemic necessity has produced a false conception of the human person the liberal self which in turn has produced a false conception of freedom Together these false conceptions have facilitated both liberal cosmopolitanism and identity politics Mitchell uses the philosophies of Michael Oakeshott Alasdair MacIntyre and Michael Polanyi to construct a compelling argument for a reconstructed view of tradition and as a result a reconstructed view of freedom *The Limits of Liberalism* reveals that only by finding an alternative to the liberal self can we escape the incoherencies and pathologies inherent therein

**New Makers of Modern Culture** Justin Wintle, 2016-04-22 *New Makers of Modern Culture* will be widely acquired by both higher education and public libraries Bibliographies are attached to entries and there is thorough cross referencing

[Philosophical Approaches to the Devil](#) Benjamin W. McCraw, Robert Arp, 2015-09-16 This collection brings together new papers addressing the philosophical challenges that the concept of a Devil presents bringing philosophical rigor to treatments of the Devil Contributors approach the idea of the Devil from a variety of philosophical traditions methodologies and styles providing a comprehensive philosophical overview that contemplates the existence nature and purpose of the Devil While some papers take a classical approach to the Devil drawing on biblical exegesis other contributors approach the topic of the Devil from epistemological metaphysical phenomenological

and ethical perspectives This volume will be relevant to researchers and scholars interested in philosophical conceptions of the Devil and related areas such as philosophers of religion theologians and scholars working in philosophical theology and demonology

*Rationality: The Critical View* J. Agassi, I.C. Jarvie, 2012-12-06 In our papers on the rationality of magic we distinguished for purposes of analysis three levels of rationality First and lowest rationality<sup>1</sup> the goal directed action of an agent with given aims and circumstances where among his circumstances we included his knowledge and opinions On this level the magician's treatment of illness by incantation is as rational as any traditional doctor's blood letting or any modern one's use of antibiotics At the second level rationality<sup>2</sup> we add the element of rational thinking or thinking which obeys some set of explicit rules a level which is not found in magic in general though it is sometimes given to specific details of magical thinking within the magical thought system It was the late Sir Edward E Evans Pritchard who observed that when considering magic in detail the magician may be as consistent or critical as anyone else but when considering magic in general or any system of thought in general the magician could not be critical or even comprehend the criticism Evans Pritchard went even further he was sceptical as to whether it could be done in a truly consistent manner one cannot be critical of one's own system he thought On this level rationality<sup>2</sup> of discussion we have explained earlier why we preferred Evans Pritchard's view of the magician's capacity for piecemeal rationality to Sir James Frazer's view that magic in general is pseudo rational because it lacks standards of rational thinking

Dictionary of Ethics, Theology and Society Paul A. B. Clarke, Andrew Linzey, 2013-11-05 This Dictionary provides a unique and groundbreaking survey of both the historical and contemporary interrelations between ethics theology and society In over 250 separately authored entries a selection of the world's leading scholars from many disciplines and many denominations present their own views on a wide range of topics Arranged alphabetically entries cover all aspects of philosophy theology ethics economics politics and government Each entry includes a concise definition of the term a description of the principal ideas behind it analysis of its history development and contemporary relevance a detailed bibliography giving the major sources in the field The entire field is prefaced by an editorial introduction outlining its scope and diversity Selected entries include Animal Rights Capital Punishment Communism Domestic Violence Ethics Evil Government Homophobia Humanism Liberation Theology Politics Pornography Racism Sexism Society Vivisection Women's Ordination

**The Devil's Best Trick** Randall Sullivan, 2024-05-14 Part true crime story part religious and literary history an investigation into the nature of evil and the figure of the Devil by acclaimed journalist Randall Sullivan Throughout history humans have struggled to explain the evils of the world and the darkest parts of ourselves The Devil's Best Trick is a unique and far reaching investigation into evil and the myriad ways we attempt to understand it particularly through the figure of the Devil Sullivan's narrative moves through centuries of historical religious and cultural conceptions of evil and the Devil from the Mesopotamian and Egyptian gods to the Book of Job to the New Testament to the witch hunts in Europe in the 15th through 17th centuries to the history of the

devil worshipping Black Mass ceremony and its depictions in 19th century French literature He references major literary religious and historical figures from the Persian sages Zoroaster and Mani Plato Thomas Aquinas John Milton Edgar Allan Poe Aleister Crowley and many more among them Charles Baudelaire from whose work Sullivan took the title of the book But this is not just a cultural history Sullivan intersperses original reporting and personal reflection He travels to Catemaco Mexico to participate in the Hour of the Witches an annual ceremony in which hundreds of people congregate in the jungle south of Vera Cruz to negotiate terms with El Diablo He takes us through the most famous and best documented exorcism in American history which occurred in 1928 and lasted four months He ponders the psychology of evil through his encounter with one brutal serial killer and he reports on the Satanic Panic of the 1980s detailing the shocking story of a small town in Texas that one summer in 1988 unraveled into paranoia after a seventeen year old boy was found hanging from the branch of a horse apple tree and rumors about cult worship spread throughout the wider community Randall Sullivan whose reportage and narrative skill has been called extraordinary and enthralling by Rolling Stone takes on a bold task in this book that is both biography of the Devil and a look at how evil manifests in the world

**Virtue and Ethics in the Twelfth Century**  
,2005-08-01 This volume analyses the renewal of Western moral thought in the twelfth century This renewal was marked by a burgeoning of increasingly systematized texts a lively reception of ancient moral philosophy and a greater emphasis on the psychology of the moral agent Five contributions are devoted to monastic morality Anselm of Canterbury Bernard of Clairvaux Hugh of Folieto Hugh of Saint Victor Peter Abelard another five to proto scholastic thought John of Salisbury Peter Abelard Stephen Langton the idea of natural virtue the justification of lying three discuss moral issues in a wider social context liberality vs avarice royal justice in England the cardinal virtues and the French monarchy The two remaining contributions explore ethical traditions in Islamic and Jewish philosophy With contributions by Istv n P Bejczy C line Billot Vilandreau Marcia L Colish Jeroen Laemers John Kitchen Cary J Nederman Richard G Newhauser Willemien Otten Burcht Pranger Riccardo Quinto Ineke van t Spijker Arjo Vanderjagt Bj rn Weiler and George Wilkes

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