



Major Works: Selected Philosophical Writings

Ludwig Wittgenstein, C.K. Ogden (Translator), Denis Paul (Translator), G.E.M. Anscombe (Translator/Editor), G.H. Von Wright (Editor)

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Major Works is the finest single-volume anthology of influential philosopher Ludwig Wittgenstein's important writings. Featuring the complete texts of *Tractatus Logico-Philosophicus*, *The Blue and Brown Books: Studies for 'Philosophical Investigations'*, and *On Certainty*, this new collection selects from the early, middle, and later career of this revolutionary thinker, widely recognized as one of the most profound minds of all time.

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From Reader Review Major Works: Selected Philosophical Writings for online ebook

Bailey Fernandez says

I liked Tractatus the most, but I thought that many of the refutations in the Blue/Brown books were interesting. Thought most of the reflections in "On Certainty" were pretty self-evident, and that might have made me lower the rating--but the overall effect this had on my thinking was strong enough that the five stars makes sense.

stig says

I found it well-done but a little redundant (to me, not to itself).

C. Quabela says

(before my review, I will say that I was slightly disappointed in the typos throughout the HarperPerennial x ModernThought publications. Be that as it may, I will not count it against my rating.)

This truly is a masterpiece of modern thought. It is little that Wittgenstein has been picked up as a predecessor to both right wing (analytic) and left wing (continental) philosophers. He leaves so much room for thought and there are so many facets that one can explore that, as I just mentioned, can be taken in many directions; much as what happened with Hegel and the schisms that bled into Fascist and Communist ideologies alike.

Whether or not you consider yourself a person interested in philosophy, I highly encourage you to read this. It is not some supercilious attempt at telling the reader how things "really are." Rather, Wittgenstein lays out some valuable insights in plain language the basic tenents of formal logic and how important it is to keep these in mind when considering just how it is we communicate with each other.

The Tractatus may be difficult for those who have never studied formal or symbolic logic, but don't let that deter you. If you are really interested in that piece I am sure there are resources online that can break down the general rules. The blue and brown book though are basically a walk through of the Tractatus and how such understanding can clear up the muddled concepts of age-old philosophical problems - which is interesting enough as it is.

Even as someone who has studied philosophy for some time though I would say the most interesting of all is in his "on certainty." I will warn you though, it is important to read the preceding material to get a solid understanding of what he is getting at here. This section has great insight into everyday/inductive/empirical "knowledge" that I think all people should take into consideration (given that probably 90 percent of all knowledge people commonly talk about is just of this type). We far too often take language for granted and base the premisses of our convictions and ideals that, though not necessarily wrong per se, are muddled and lead to faulty conclusions. At the very least this section offers valuable tools to the average person (without taking an epistemology class) to take a look at what it means to "know" something and how to better

scrutinize those who try to tell us that they do.

Wonderful book!

jordan says

I am not rating this book. i still don't know how to rate this work, As Wittgenstein put it " whereof one cannot speak one must keep silent" . Why? Because whatever you say is going to be wrong. Here Even admitting my failure is going to make me wrong.....

i think there is some criterion for liking and disliking a work .Also there are attitudes and interests ,it may vary from object to subject or material to spiritual etc etc. A Person's conscious and unconscious state develop such attitude. This is one of the books which i come across where i cannot pass any judgments depending on my developed sensibilities and Thought process. it never occurred to me that everything is language game. His logic never impress me because its first of its kind. Also it never failed to impress me either

What he done is neither solving or analyzing any problem. Whereas he tries to dissolve them and their by tries to deprogram the readers. overall its a one of its kind ...

Bobby says

What an incredible mind! Wittgenstein is not for the faint of philosophical heart. This work is much more relevant than we have even begun to realize.

Naomi Ruth says

I love Wittgenstein so much. I was so hooked and didn't want to stop reading.

I had read On Certainty before, but found the translation difficult to follow. I liked this translation much better (though I don't know German, so I can't speak to whether it's a better translation or not). I found it easier to follow.

Love, love, love that I own this book. I want to read it again.

Kirby Gann says

Prepare your mind for serious bending.

luuucas hein says

terrible edition - crippling typos

Jack says

No review needed.

Patrick says

Wittgenstein is very clear in his meanings of things and goes into great detail.
