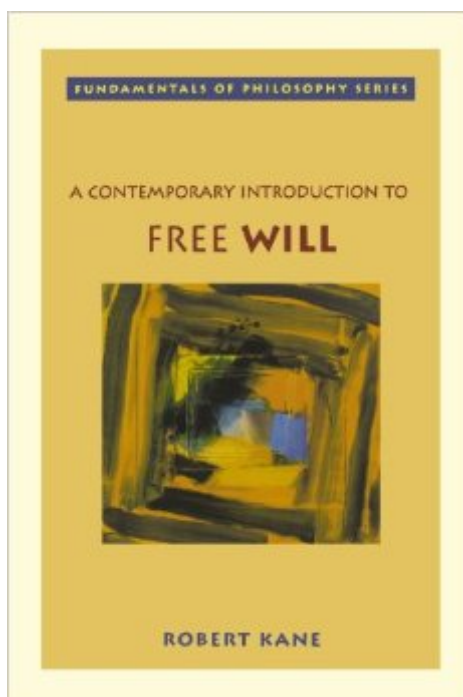


The book was found

A Contemporary Introduction To Free Will



Synopsis

Accessible to students with no background in the subject, *A Contemporary Introduction to Free Will* provides an extensive and up-to-date overview of all the latest views on this central problem of philosophy. Opening with a concise introduction to the history of the problem of free will--and its place in the history of philosophy--the book then turns to contemporary debates and theories about free will, determinism, and related subjects like moral responsibility, coercion, compulsion, autonomy, agency, rationality, freedom, and more. Classical compatibilist and new compatibilist theories of free will are considered along with the latest incompatibilist or libertarian theories and the most recent skeptical challenges to free will. Separate chapters are devoted to the relation of free will to moral responsibility and ethics; to modern science; and to religious questions about predestination, divine foreknowledge, and human freedom. Numerous down-to-earth examples and challenging thought experiments enliven the text. The book is an ideal addition to introduction to philosophy, metaphysics, and free will courses.

Book Information

Series: Fundamentals of Philosophy Series

Paperback: 208 pages

Publisher: Oxford University Press; 1 edition (March 24, 2005)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 019514970X

ISBN-13: 978-0195149708

Product Dimensions: 8.2 x 0.7 x 5.4 inches

Shipping Weight: 8.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (18 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #80,015 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #49 in [Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Philosophy > Free Will & Determinism](#) #454 in [Books > Textbooks > Humanities > Philosophy](#)

Customer Reviews

This book gives a clear and concise description of various philosophical positions on the free will debate. Kane opens the discussion by defining the free will problem; he distinguishes between "surface" freedoms, which allow us to do what we want without constraints from external agents, versus "deeper" freedom, which implies that an individual's decision has alternate possibilities available (i.e., if the clock could somehow be turned back--given the exact same causal events of

history, individual experience, etc., leading up to a decision--that an individual could possibly make a different decision). In other words, surface freedom entails that individuals can do what they want while deeper freedom means that they can also will what they will. Kane then proceeds to discuss determinism (the idea that all actions/events are determined by previous actions/events) and the position that a deterministic universe is either compatible or incompatible with the notion of free will (i.e., compatibilism or incompatibilism, respectively). Kane also discusses moral responsibility, along with various arguments concerning its relationship to free will and determinism, and the free will problem as it applies to the traditional religious views of predestination and omniscience. I thought that Kane did an excellent job of presenting the arguments both for and against the various free will positions. He gave a number of bibliographical references in each chapter where the reader could go for more information on a particular position or argument. Kane seems to hold a libertarian view (i.e.

Let me warn the reader, Robert Kane's Book is "A CONTEMPORARY Introduction to Free Will", not an Introduction to free will. The Book focuses mostly on contemporary debates whose origin usually does not go back beyond the last quarter of the twentieth century. It is the reason that Kane's book is so relevant. It sums up for a wider public the collection of essays published by various authors in his "Oxford Handbook of Free Will". Kane is considered as one of the leading contemporary philosophers on free will and he has developed his own theory. Kane considers alternative possibilities as a necessary but insufficient condition of free will which requires "ultimate responsibility", i.e. a moral or rational control of the subject on his action. A free act is an act we can claim responsibility for and there must be sufficient reasons for acting the way we act. All chapter 12 is devoted to this question. Although Kane describes himself as a libertarian, his position often comes close to compatibilism and when reading the first chapters of the book I found that the general tone of the book is leading more toward compatibilism than libertarianism. The contemporary discussion on Free Will is so complex that usually the public never hears about that important debate. Nevertheless Robert Kane has made a wonderful job, guiding us through all the arguments and counter arguments. It gives the impression of watching a chess contest by world class players. Each move seems to be decisive until comes the counter move. In another essay Kane has called free will a "labyrinth" and the general impression given by the book is that the debate will remain inconclusive. It is not to surprise me.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

The Allergy Self-Help Cookbook: Over 350 Natural Foods Recipes, Free of All Common Food

Allergens: wheat-free, milk-free, egg-free, corn-free, sugar-free, yeast-free WHEAT BELLY DIET FOR BEGINNERS: Grain-Free, Wheat-Free, Gluten-Free Cookbooks and Recipes For Weight Loss Plans and Solutions Included! (Wheat Free Grain Free Gluten Free Weight Loss Diet Book 1) Easy Breadmaking for Special Diets : Wheat-Free, Milk- And Lactose-Free, Egg-Free, Gluten-Free, Yeast-Free, Sugar-Free, Low Fat, High To Low Fiber Yummy Yum for Everyone: A Childrens Allergy Cookbook (Completely Dairy-Free, Egg-Free, Wheat-Free, Gluten-Free, Soy-Free, Peanut-Free, Nut-Fre Gluten-Free, Wheat-Free, Dairy-Free, Sugar-Free, Caffeine-Free?.Are you kidding me?: All natural and 99% organic recipes that are quick and easy to prepare. The Healthy Gluten-Free Life: 200 Delicious Gluten-Free, Dairy-Free, Soy-Free and Egg-Free Recipes! Gluten Free: Gluten Free Quick-start Guide To Living A Gluten-Free and Wheat-Free Diet (Over 100 Gluten-Free Recipes) KINDLE: PRIME AND THE LENDING LIBRARY ...free movie download ...free tv series ...free books ...free shipping...and more Æ Å¿Å Vegan: High Protein Vegan Cookbook-Vegan Diet-Gluten Free & Dairy Free Recipes (Slow cooker,crockpot,Cast Iron) (vegan,vegan diet,vegan slowcooker,high ... free,dairy free,low carb) Gluten Free Recipes: 39 Gluten Free Recipes With Rice, Polenta, Beans And Quinoa Plus Delicious Vegetable Side Dishes To Complete Your Gluten Free Meal-Discover ... Gluten Free Recipes On a Budget Book 6) The Gluten-Free Diet Cookbook: 101 Delicious Wheat-Free Recipes Inspired by the Mediterranean Diet (Gluten-free, Gluten-free Cooking) Free Cookbooks: Box Set: The Complete Healthy And Delicious Recipes Cookbook Box Set(30+ Free Books Included!) (Free Cookbooks, Free, Cookbooks, Recipes, Easy, Quick, Cooking,) GLUTEN FREE COOKBOOK: Gluten Free Slow Cooker Recipes: 50 Gut Friendly Wheat Free Meals That Are Ready When You Are (Gluten Free Diet) (Health Wealth & Happiness Book 57) Gluten Free: Gluten-Free Baking Cookbook: Delicious and Healthy, 100% Gluten-Free Cake & Bake Recipes You Will Love (Gluten Free Diet Cookbook, Gluten Intolerance Book 2) My Grain & Brain Gluten-Free Slow Cooker Cookbook: 101 Gluten-free Slow Cooker Recipes to Boost Brain Power & Lose Belly Fat - A Grain-free, Low Sugar, Low Carb and Wheat-Free Slow Cooker Cookbook Paleo Free: Diet Guide for Beginners - Over 50 Paleo Free Diet Recipes for Optimal Health & Fast Weight Loss (gluten free, lose belly fat, paleo beginners, ... paleo desserts, paleo diet, wheat free) Matched Betting: 20 No lose Strategies To Make Free Money Fast (Matched Betting offers, betting deals, free matched bet, matched free bet, bet matching) ... betting, matched betting free bets Book 1) How to Get Free Stuff: The Ultimate Guide to Getting Things for Free (freecycle, freebees, free things, free samples, freebie, freestuff) A Contemporary Introduction to Free Will The Chinese Vegan Kitchen: More Than 225 Meat-free, Egg-free, Dairy-free Dishes from the Culinary Regions o f China

