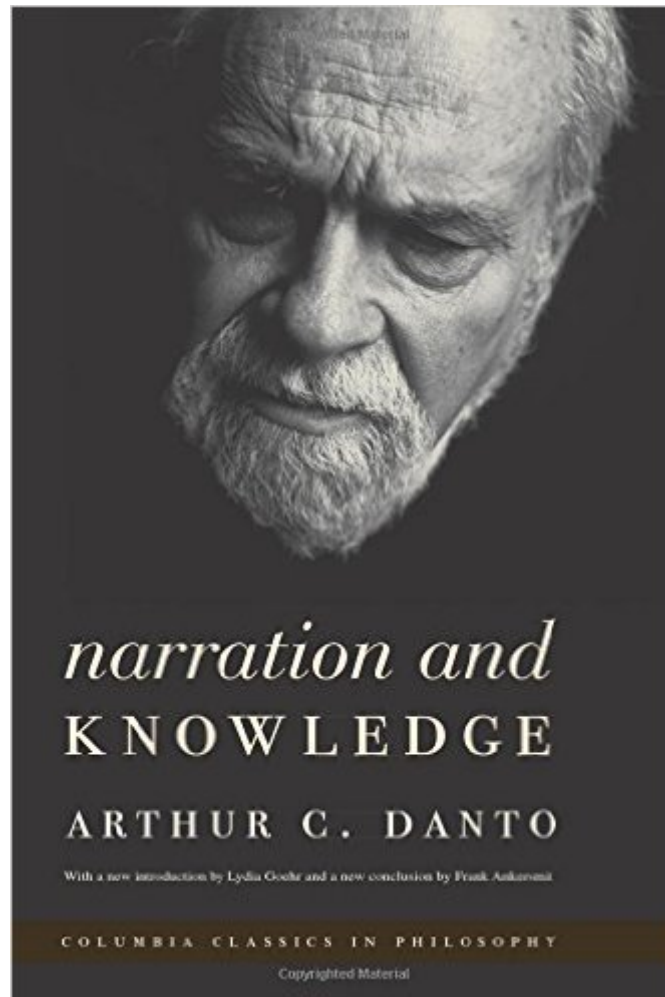


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# Narration And Knowledge (Columbia Classics In Philosophy)



## Synopsis

Now in its third edition, *Narration and Knowledge* is a classic work exploring the nature of historical knowledge and its reliance on narrative. Analytical philosopher Arthur C. Danto introduces the concept of "narrative sentences," in which an event is described with reference to later events (for example, "the Thirty Years' War began in 1618") and discusses why such sentences cannot be understood until the later event happens (no one could have said in 1618 that "the Thirty Years' War began today"). Danto compares narrative and scientific explanation and explores the legitimacy of historical laws. He also argues that history is an autonomous and humanist discipline incapable of being reduced to scientific descriptions. Lydia Goehr's new introduction illustrates Danto's main arguments by questioning her very role, first, as an introducer of a book that has not yet been read by readers and, second, as an interpreter of a book written forty years ago. Frank Ankersmit's conclusion revisits the initial impact of the publication of *Narration and Knowledge* and considers its enduring legacy.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This collection of essays contains all of Danto's now out-of-print *Analytical Philosophy of History*, plus a handful of other pieces. If you are interested in the methods and objectives of historical study, or in the kind of knowledge history may produce, you should read this book.

Exceptional book by an exceptional author.

Wonderful Book! Thank you so much!

The item was as described

I read this book for a historiography class in grad school. Danto asks the reader to not look at recent history to analyze it because it's recent. He tells how we are too close to recent history to be objective about it. He states that the farther we are from an event the more objective we can be

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