

# CONTENTS

<i>Prelude</i>	xv
CHAPTER ONE: MUDDLE IN THE MORALSCAPE	1
<i>Sex Rampant</i>	4
<i>The Lordship of Science</i>	7
<i>The Morality of the Dinosaurs</i>	14
<i>Politics vs. Morality</i>	19
CHAPTER TWO: ETHICS IN A CLIMATE OF NEGATION	27
<i>Despair and Fear in American Dada</i>	29
<i>Dada as Prophet</i>	34
<i>Philosophy in Exile</i>	35
<i>The Cult of the Obscure</i>	37
<i>The Value Vacuum</i>	41
<i>Ethics and the Skinnerian Malady</i>	46
CHAPTER THREE: THE MEANING OF MORALS	58
<i>The Ik People vs. Adupa</i>	59
<i>The Relativists: The Reduction of Morality to Custom</i>	61
<i>Morality as the Condition of Survival</i>	63
<i>The Linguistic Bypass</i>	66
<i>The Presumers</i>	69
<i>Ethical Realism</i>	71
<i>The Supreme Sacrifice in Religion, History, and         Literature</i>	76
<i>The Sanctity of Life</i>	83
<i>Affectivity, Faith, Process</i>	84
<i>The Propriety of Self-love</i>	93
<i>Justice as the Minimal Shape of Other-love</i>	94

CHAPTER FOUR: LOVE'S STRATEGY	108
<i>From Morality to Ethics</i>	110
<i>A Model for Ethical Method</i>	115
<i>The Quest for Realism</i>	116
<i>Human Nature and the Illusion of Self-evidence</i>	119
<i>Of Modesty and Paradox</i>	121
CHAPTER FIVE: THE ROUTES TO REALISM	128
<i>The Reality-revealing Questions</i>	128
<i>What? and the First Cognitive Contact</i>	129
<i>Why? and How? and Ends and Means</i>	135
<i>What Is Motive?</i>	138
<i>Sincerity in Motivation</i>	140
<i>Does the End Justify the Means?</i>	141
<i>The Moral Meaning of Style</i>	142
<i>Who? The Question of Person</i>	144
<i>When? and Where?</i>	150
<i>The Link with the Future: The Question of Foreseeable Effects</i>	150
<i>The Limits of Consequentialism</i>	154
<i>Consequentialism and the Glorification of Ends</i>	155
<i>Teleology vs. Deontology: Another Misplaced Debate</i>	157
<i>The Problem of Unwanted Effects</i>	163
<i>Effects and the Utilitarian Temptation</i>	167
<i>What Are the Viable Alternatives?</i>	170
<i>The Nature of Alternatives</i>	174
<i>From Value Vacuum to Value Source</i>	178
CHAPTER SIX: ETHICS AND CREATIVITY	189
<i>Creative Imagination</i>	189
<i>What Is the Creative Act?</i>	190
<i>Creative Ethics</i>	195
<i>The Conditions for Moral Creativity</i>	199
<i>Imagination Astray</i>	213
CHAPTER SEVEN: CONSISTENCY AND SURPRISE	218
<i>On the Distinctive Nature of Moral Principles</i>	220
<i>The Empirical Roots of Ethics</i>	221

<i>The Quest for Universals</i>	222
<i>A Practical Objection</i>	227
<i>The History and Sociology of Principles</i>	229
<i>The Rapport Between Principles and Ideals</i>	236
<i>The Problem of Exceptional Cases</i>	239
<i>The Lure of Essences</i>	249
CHAPTER EIGHT: ON REASON AND RELIANCE	261
<i>Reason and Affection</i>	263
<i>Reason as the Forebear of Creativity</i>	267
<i>Reasonable or Rationalistic</i>	267
<i>Reason in Recess</i>	270
<i>Authority and the Art of Reliance</i>	270
<i>The Good Side of Authority</i>	276
<i>Conclusion</i>	277
CHAPTER NINE: THE FEEL OF TRUTH	281
<i>A Radical Plan for Good Breeding</i>	282
<i>Feeling and Character as Conduits of Truth</i>	286
<i>On Delight and the Sense of Profanation</i>	290
<i>When Affective Knowledge Is Disdained</i>	293
<i>How Practical Affective Knowledge?</i>	296
<i>Love and Our Social Future</i>	299
<i>Affective Relief from the Experts</i>	301
<i>Where Principles Fade</i>	304
CHAPTER TEN: KNOWLEDGE: COMMON AND UNIQUE	309
<i>The Fact of Group Knowing</i>	310
<i>Lessons from History</i>	313
<i>Class and Nation as Conditioners of Consciousness</i>	314
<i>Nationalism and Social Evaluation</i>	318
<i>On Knowing Better Socially</i>	322
<i>A Caution on the Demonic Comparison</i>	327
<i>Anticipatory Revisionism and the Pendulum Effect</i>	328
<i>A Word on Small Group Witness</i>	331
<i>In Defense of the Living Intellect . . . Individual Experience</i>	331
<i>Religious Experience</i>	336

CHAPTER ELEVEN: THE COMIC AND THE TRAGIC IN ETHICS	343
<i>Sense in Nonsense</i>	343
<i>Humor as the Bane of Absolutism</i>	349
<i>When Humor Goes Amuck</i>	356
<i>Where Tragedy and Comedy Meet</i>	356
<i>The Positive Value of Tragedy</i>	358
<i>How Can the Tragic Be Good?</i>	360
<i>Tragedy and the Activation of the Will</i>	364
CHAPTER TWELVE: CONSCIENCE AND GUILT	370
<i>Conscience as Self</i>	371
<i>Conscience in Three Tenses</i>	380
<i>On the Nature of Realistic Guilt</i>	382
<i>Three Understandings of Guilt</i>	386
<i>The Possibility of Collective Guilt</i>	397
CHAPTER THIRTEEN: THE HAZARDS OF MORAL DISCOURSE	409
<i>Myth</i>	409
<i>Myth as a Bargainer for Meaning</i>	410
<i>The Myth of Woman</i>	412
<i>Myths and the Psychopolitical Universe</i>	416
<i>Myth and the Understanding of History</i>	421
<i>Myth and Morals in the American Political Experience</i>	424
<i>Myth and Ideology</i>	430
<i>Cognitive Mood</i>	432
<i>False Analogues</i>	437
<i>Abstractions</i>	442
<i>The Ought-to-Is Fallacy</i>	443
<i>Words, Words, Words—and Abstractions</i>	445
<i>Selective Vision</i>	450
<i>Role and Banalization</i>	453
<i>In Fine</i>	455
<i>Index</i>	461