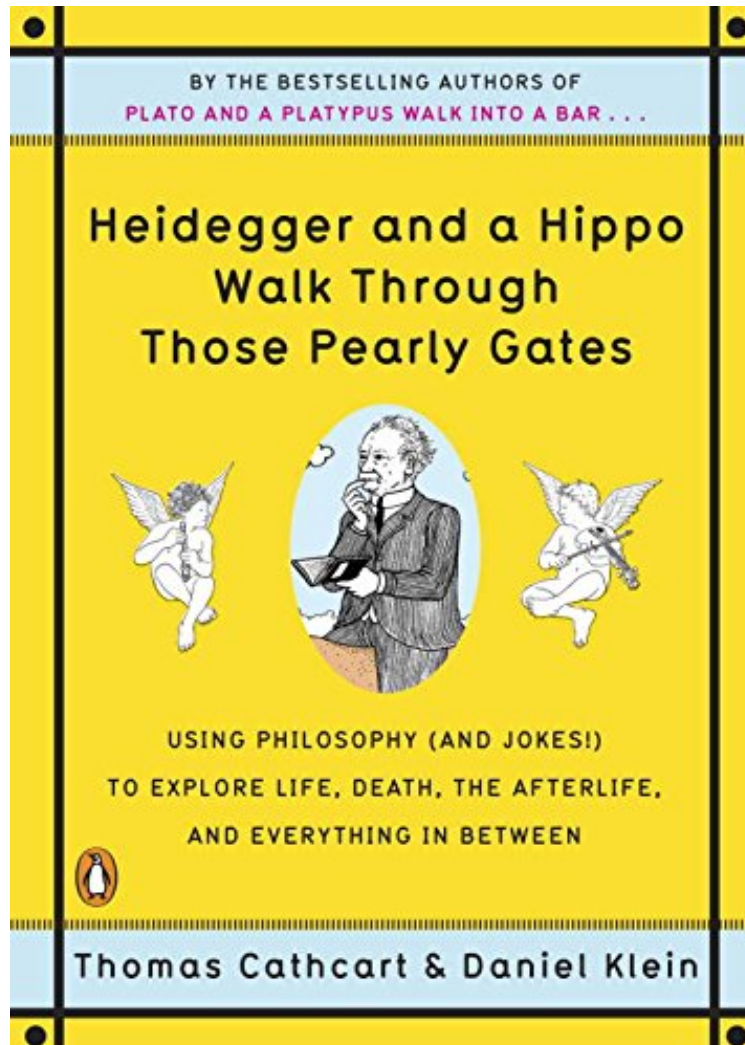


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Heidegger and a Hippo Walk Through Those Pearly Gates: Using Philosophy (and Jokes!) to Explore Life, Death, the Afterlife, and Everything in Between

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Thomas Cathcart, Daniel Klein : Heidegger and a Hippo Walk Through Those Pearly Gates: Using Philosophy (and Jokes!) to Explore Life, Death, the Afterlife, and Everything in Between before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Heidegger and a Hippo Walk Through Those Pearly

Gates: Using Philosophy (and Jokes!) to Explore Life, Death, the Afterlife, and Everything in Between:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Loved it!
By Paul Rowland
This book deals with one of Central questions facing religion: death. It goes through all the major notions the people have about what happens to you when you die and through the use of jokes it illustrates the points made by major philosophers and theologians. Even though it dealt with the very serious topic I laughed through the whole thing. Whatever your belief system may be you'll find this challenging to read, highly irreverent (which I love), and generally informative.
1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Fantastic and Hilarious
By Joy E. Parker
This book is fabulous - witty, clever, concise, profound, deep and an enormous amount of fun. I keep buying copy after copy after copy and giving them away to family and friends. Can't say enough good things.
0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Light, fun read.
By LuvGdss
Cutesy clever jokes organized into philosophical categories. I was hoping to pick up a few jokes to help me illustrate complex Philo concepts. No such luck with this series of books. They were too corny and too highly steeped in specific context to lend a hand at illustrating difficult concepts. Disappointing, but perhaps my expectations were too high. Glad I got a cheap, used copy.
On the other hand, this book was entertaining. I felt a sweet trickle of delight running through the twists and turns of topic. I liked it, even if I didn't get practical tools to use in open conversation.
Since there are not many comedians focusing on ancient philosophy for source material, I made do with this read and it's novelties. The main reason I subtracted one star was for depth. Otherwise a light, fun read.

Q. Why are there almost as many jokes about death as there are about sex? A. Because they both scare the pants off us.
Thomas Cathcart and Daniel Klein first made a name for themselves with the outrageously funny New York Times bestseller *Plato and a Platypus Walk into a Bar....* Now they turn their attention to the Big "D" and share the timeless wisdom of the great philosophers, theologians, psychotherapists, and wiseguys. From angels to zombies and everything in between, Cathcart and Klein offer a fearless and irreverent history of how we approach death, why we embrace life, and whether there really is a hereafter. As hilarious as it is enlightening, *Heidegger and a Hippo Walk Through Those Pearly Gates* is a must-read for anyone and everyone who ever expects to die. And now, you can read Daniel Klein's further musings on life and philosophy in *Travels with Epicurus* and *Every Time I Find the Meaning of Life, They Change it*.

From Publishers Weekly
Did you know that Heidegger's notion of living in the shadow of death has its most profound articulation in a country and western song by Tim McGraw? Or what Law and Order has in common with theologian Paul Tillich's view of eternity? Such are the nuggets of wisdom found in this smart and lighthearted consideration of the philosophical dimensions of death. Cathcart and Klein (coauthors of *Plato and a Platypus Walk into a Bar*) take readers on a whirlwind tour of anthropological, philosophical and theological theories of why and how we avoid accepting our own mortality. The authors demonstrate how humor allows us to express our fears about death while defusing anxiety. Succinct accounts of Kierkegaard's notion of embracing angst, Schopenhauer's notion of undying will and Descartes on mind-body dualism are thus all peppered by comic asides (Leibnitz maintained that Mind and Matter don't actually get into each others knickers). This little book is an entertaining and surprisingly informative survey of the Big D and its centrality in human life. (Oct). Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. "This little book is an entertaining and surprisingly informative survey of the 'Big D' and its centrality in human life." -- Publishers Weekly
About the Author
Thomas Cathcart and Daniel Klein pursued the usual careers after majoring in philosophy at Harvard. Tom has worked with street gangs in Chicago, doctors at Blue Cross Blue Shield, and has dropped out of various divinity schools. Daniel has written several novels and nonfiction books as well as jokes for comedians like Flip Wilson and Lily Tomlin. Daniel Klein lives in Massachusetts, and Thomas Cathcart lives in New York City.