

existentialism jean paul sartre analysis

Existentialism Jean-Paul Sartre Analysis: A Deep Dive into Freedom and Responsibility

Introduction:

Are you intrigued by the philosophical whirlwind that is Existentialism? Do you find yourself grappling with questions of freedom, responsibility, and the absurd? Then you've come to the right place. This comprehensive analysis of Jean-Paul Sartre's existentialist philosophy will equip you with a thorough understanding of his core ideas, their implications, and their enduring relevance in today's world. We'll delve into key concepts like existence preceding essence, freedom and responsibility, bad faith, and the role of anguish, abandonment, and despair. Prepare to embark on a stimulating intellectual journey into the heart of Sartre's thought. This post will provide a clear, concise, and insightful exploration of Existentialism, as articulated by Jean-Paul Sartre, ensuring you grasp the complexities of this influential philosophical movement.

1. Existence Precedes Essence: The Foundational Principle

Sartre's existentialism hinges on the revolutionary concept that "existence precedes essence." Unlike traditional philosophies that posit a pre-defined human nature or purpose (essence) that dictates our existence, Sartre argues the opposite. We are born into existence – thrown into the world, as he puts it – with no inherent purpose or meaning. Our essence, our identity, is not predetermined; rather, it is created through our choices and actions. This radical notion frees us from the constraints of preordained roles and allows us to become the authors of our own lives. However, it also places the full weight of responsibility for our being squarely on our shoulders.

1. Freedom and Responsibility: The Burden and the Gift

The freedom to choose, a cornerstone of Sartre's philosophy, is both a liberating and terrifying prospect. We are utterly free to define ourselves through our choices, but this freedom is inextricably linked to responsibility. Every decision we make shapes not only our own existence but also contributes to the world we inhabit. This profound responsibility can

lead to anguish, the awareness of our freedom and the weight of its consequences. Sartre argues that avoiding this responsibility, through what he terms "bad faith," is a futile and ultimately inauthentic way of living.

1. Bad Faith: Escaping the Weight of Freedom

Bad faith is a crucial concept in Sartre's analysis. It represents our attempts to evade the burden of our freedom and responsibility by denying our own existence as free agents. This can manifest in various ways, such as conforming to societal expectations, adopting pre-defined roles, or denying our own agency. For example, someone might claim they "have no choice" but to follow a certain path, thereby avoiding the responsibility of making a free choice. Sartre argues that such self-deception is fundamentally dishonest and prevents us from achieving authentic existence.

1. Anguish, Abandonment, and Despair: The Human Condition

The human condition, according to Sartre, is characterized by anguish, abandonment, and despair. Anguish stems from the awareness of our complete freedom and the responsibility it entails. Abandonment refers to the lack of pre-ordained values or a divine plan to guide our choices. We are alone in the universe, with no external authority to dictate our path. Despair arises from recognizing the limitations of our actions and the unpredictable nature of the future. We cannot control everything, and accepting this is essential for authentic engagement with life.

1. Subjectivity and Inter-Subjectivity: The Ethics of Engagement

While Sartre emphasizes individual freedom, he doesn't ignore the social dimension of existence. His concept of inter-subjectivity recognizes that our being is inextricably linked to the existence of others. We are always engaged in a relationship with others, impacting and being impacted by them. This means our freedom is not absolute; it is always exercised within the context of a shared world. This shared world, however, is not a source of pre-determined values; we still must create our own meaning within this shared context.

1. The Absurd and the Creation of Meaning:

The existentialist perspective often grapples with the absurd – the inherent

lack of inherent meaning in the universe. Sartre acknowledges this absurdity but argues that it doesn't negate the possibility of creating meaning. Instead, he sees the creation of meaning as a fundamental human project, a response to the inherent freedom and responsibility we possess. We create our values, our goals, and our purpose through our choices and actions.

1. Sartre's Influence and Lasting Legacy:

Sartre's existentialist ideas have profoundly impacted various fields, including literature, philosophy, psychology, and even politics. His works continue to inspire critical thinking about freedom, responsibility, and the human condition. His influence is evident in contemporary discussions about ethics, identity, and the search for meaning in a seemingly meaningless world.

Book Outline: Existentialism and Human Emotions by Jean-Paul Sartre

Introduction: Introduces the concept of existentialism and Sartre's unique perspective.

Chapter 1: What is Existentialism? Defines existentialism and clarifies common misconceptions.

Chapter 2: Existence Precedes Essence. Explains the core principle of Sartre's philosophy.

Chapter 3: Freedom and Responsibility. Explores the implications of radical freedom.

Chapter 4: Bad Faith and Authenticity. Differentiates between inauthentic and authentic existence.

Chapter 5: Anguish, Abandonment, and Despair. Analyzes the emotional landscape of existentialism.

Chapter 6: Inter-Subjectivity and Human Relationships. Examines the social aspects of Sartre's philosophy.

Chapter 7: The Absurd and the Search for Meaning. Addresses the problem of meaninglessness.

Conclusion: Summarizes key concepts and reflects on the enduring relevance of Sartre's ideas.

(Detailed Explanation of Each Chapter - This section would be expanded significantly in the full blog post, providing in-depth analysis of each chapter's content. Here's a glimpse):

Chapter 1: What is Existentialism? This chapter would differentiate Sartre's existentialism from other forms, focusing on its key tenets and distinguishing it from absurdism or nihilism. It would address common misunderstandings about existentialism, such as the claim it promotes despair

or amorality.

Chapter 2: Existence Precedes Essence. This chapter would delve into a detailed explanation of the concept, providing examples and contrasting it with essentialist viewpoints. It would explore the implications of this principle for human identity and freedom.

Chapter 3: Freedom and Responsibility. This chapter would analyze the radical freedom Sartre posits and its inherent connection to responsibility. It would examine the consequences of our choices and the weight of our actions on ourselves and others.

(The remaining chapters would follow a similar structure, providing detailed explanations and analysis of each concept within Sartre's framework.)

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs):

1. What is the main difference between Sartre's existentialism and other forms of existentialism? Sartre's existentialism emphasizes radical freedom and responsibility, placing the burden of creating meaning squarely on the individual.
1. How does Sartre's concept of "bad faith" relate to our daily lives? Bad faith is our attempt to escape the burden of freedom through self-deception and conformity.
1. What is the role of anguish in Sartre's philosophy? Anguish is the awareness of our total freedom and the responsibility it entails.
1. How does Sartre address the problem of meaninglessness? He accepts the absurd but argues that we create meaning through our choices and actions.
1. What is inter-subjectivity, and why is it important in Sartre's work? Inter-subjectivity acknowledges that our existence is fundamentally intertwined with others, affecting and being affected by their choices.

1. How does Sartre's philosophy relate to ethics? Sartre's ethics are based on personal responsibility and the creation of values through individual choice.
1. What are some criticisms of Sartre's existentialism? Criticisms include the perceived lack of objective morality and the potential for individualistic interpretations leading to harmful consequences.
1. How has Sartre's work influenced other fields besides philosophy? His ideas have influenced literature, art, psychology, and political thought.
1. What are some good resources for further reading on Sartre's existentialism? Start with "Being and Nothingness" and "Existentialism is a Humanism."

Related Articles:

1. Existentialism vs. Absurdism: A comparison of these two philosophical viewpoints.
2. Sartre's Notion of Authenticity: An in-depth analysis of what it means to live authentically.
3. The Impact of Sartre on Modern Literature: Exploring the influence of Sartre's ideas on literary works.
4. Existentialism and the Human Condition: An examination of the existentialist perspective on the human experience.
5. Freedom and Responsibility in Sartre's Philosophy: A deeper look into Sartre's core concepts.
6. Sartre's Critique of Bad Faith: A detailed analysis of Sartre's concept of bad faith.
7. The Ethics of Existentialism: An exploration of the ethical implications of Sartre's ideas.

8. Existentialism and the Search for Meaning: An investigation into how existentialism addresses the issue of meaning.
9. Comparing Sartre and Camus: A comparison of two prominent figures in existentialist thought.

This expanded response provides a more complete structure for a blog post that would rank well on search engines, drawing readers in with engaging content and answering their questions comprehensively. Remember to optimize the headings and use relevant keywords throughout the text.

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existentialist writings shows this to be the unifying theme of his theories of consciousness, freedom, the self, bad faith, personal relationships, existential psychoanalysis, and the possibility of authenticity. Developing this account affords many insights into various aspects of his philosophy, not least concerning the origins, structure, and effects of bad faith and the resulting ethic of authenticity. This discussion makes clear the contributions that Sartre's work can make to current debates over the objectivity of ethics and the psychology of agency, character, and selfhood. Written in an accessible style and illustrated with reference to Sartre's fiction, this book should appeal to general readers and students as well as to specialists.

existentialism jean paul sartre analysis: The Words by Jean-Paul Sartre (Book Analysis)

Bright Summaries, 2018-08-21 Unlock the more straightforward side of The Words with this concise and insightful summary and analysis! This engaging summary presents an analysis of The Words by Jean-Paul Sartre, the only autobiography ever written by the famous philosopher. Not only does it describe the early years of Sartre's life, it also explores how his experiences during that time shaped his personality and the later stages of his life, providing the reader with a fascinating insight into one of the greatest minds of the 20th century. Jean-Paul Sartre was one of the leading figures of existentialism, a cultural and philosophical movement which helped to shape the social climate of the 19th and 20th centuries. The Words was the last literary work he published prior to his death in 1980. Find out everything you need to know about The Words in a fraction of the time! This in-depth and informative reading guide brings you: • A complete plot summary • Character studies • Key themes and symbols • Questions for further reflection Why choose BrightSummaries.com? Available in print and digital format, our publications are designed to accompany you in your reading journey. The clear and concise style makes for easy understanding, providing the perfect opportunity to improve your literary knowledge in no time. See the very best of literature in a whole new light with BrightSummaries.com!

existentialism jean paul sartre analysis: The Wall: (Intimacy) and Other Stories

Jean-Paul Sartre, 2010-07-27 One of Sartre's greatest existentialist works of fiction, The Wall contains the only five short stories he ever wrote. Set during the Spanish Civil War, the title story crystallizes the famous philosopher's existentialism. 'The Wall', the lead story in this collection, introduces three political prisoners on the night prior to their execution. Through the gaze of an impartial doctor—seemingly there for the men's solace—their mental descent is charted in exquisite, often harrowing detail. And as the morning draws inexorably closer, the men cross the psychological wall between life and death, long before the first shot rings out. This brilliant snapshot of life in anguish is the perfect introduction to a collection of stories where the neurosis of the modern world is mirrored in the lives of the people that inhabit it. This is an unexpurgated edition translated from the French by Lloyd Alexander.

existentialism jean paul sartre analysis: Existentialism and Sociology Gila Hayim,

2017-07-28 Existentialism and Sociology (originally published under the title The Existential Sociology of Jean-Paul Sartre) is the first work to systematically and critically analyze the existential ideas of Jean-Paul Sartre and to demonstrate their importance and connection to central sociological categories found in the theories of Weber, Durkheim, Freud, Mead, and others. Drawing also on sociological and Hegelian social thought, Hayim analyzes key existential concepts of negation, temporality, choice, anguish, and bad faith, and carefully situates them in the different relations of self to the other—relations of indifference and destruction, as well as relations of engagement and pledge. She joins the two orders of being—ontology and sociology—and establishes intellectual and ethical continuity between the phenomenology of Being and Nothingness, Sartre's momentous early work, and neglected sociological categories in his later works: Critique of Dialectical Reason and Notebooks for an Ethics. Hayim makes accessible to the social scientist a rich repertoire of existential motifs and perspectives on community and group interactions and their inextricable bond to the life practice of the individual. Distinguishing among social groups as different orders of social consciousness and organization, Hayim addresses issues of transcendence and inertia, leadership and authority, freedom and bondage, bureaucracy and control, and identifies Sartre's concept of the

practico-inert as the radical center of our intersubjectivity today, and its threat to human intelligibility. The author contends that the massive language of a sociology of things instills in the human actor a feeling of helplessness and gross inferiority vis-a-vis the social world. She offers, in contrast, the existential emphasis on the importance of substituting live human experience for mechanistic processes of explanation, and of establishing

existentialism jean paul sartre analysis: *No Exit* Yoav Di-Capua, 2018-03-30 It is a curious and relatively little-known fact that for two decades—from the end of World War II until the late 1960s—existentialism's most fertile ground outside of Europe was in the Middle East, and Jean-Paul Sartre was the Arab intelligentsia's uncontested champion. In the Arab world, neither before nor since has another Western intellectual been so widely translated, debated, and celebrated. By closely following the remarkable career of Arab existentialism, Yoav Di-Capua reconstructs the cosmopolitan milieu of the generation that tried to articulate a political and philosophical vision for an egalitarian postcolonial world. He tells this story by touring a fascinating selection of Arabic and Hebrew archives, including unpublished diaries and interviews. Tragically, the warm and hopeful relationships forged between Arab intellectuals, Sartre, Simone de Beauvoir, and others ended when, on the eve of the 1967 war, Sartre failed to embrace the Palestinian cause. Today, when the prospect of global ethical engagement seems to be slipping ever farther out of reach, *No Exit* provides a timely, humanistic account of the intellectual hopes, struggles, and victories that shaped the Arab experience of decolonization and a delightfully wide-ranging excavation of existentialism's non-Western history.

existentialism jean paul sartre analysis: *Being and Nothingness* Jean-Paul Sartre, 1992 Sartre explains the theory of existential psychoanalysis in this treatise on human reality.

existentialism jean paul sartre analysis: *The Age of Reason* Jean-Paul Sartre, 1947 The middle-aged protagonist of Sartre's philosophical novel, set in 1938, refuses to give up his ideas of freedom, despite the approach of the war

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existentialism jean paul sartre analysis: *Existentialism and Contemporary Cinema* Jean-Pierre Boulé, Ursula Tidd, 2012-09-01 Simone de Beauvoir's work has not often been associated with film studies, which appears paradoxical when it is recognized that she was the first feminist thinker to inaugurate the concept of the gendered 'othering' gaze. This book is an attempt to redress this balance and reopen the dialogue between Beauvoir's writings and film studies. The authors analyse a range of films, from directors including Claire Denis, Michael Haneke, Lucille Hadzihalilovic, Sam Mendes, and Sally Potter, by drawing from Beauvoir's key works such as *The Second Sex* (1949), *The Ethics of Ambiguity* (1947) and *Old Age* (1970).

existentialism jean paul sartre analysis: *Rethinking Existentialism* Jonathan Webber, 2018-07-12 In *Rethinking Existentialism*, Jonathan Webber articulates an original interpretation of

existentialism as the ethical theory that human freedom is the foundation of all other values. Offering an original analysis of classic literary and philosophical works published by Jean-Paul Sartre, Simone de Beauvoir, and Frantz Fanon up until 1952, Webber's conception of existentialism is developed in critical contrast with central works by Albert Camus, Sigmund Freud, and Maurice Merleau-Ponty. Presenting his arguments in an accessible and engaging style, Webber contends that Beauvoir and Sartre initially disagreed over the structure of human freedom in 1943 but Sartre ultimately came to accept Beauvoir's view over the next decade. He develops the viewpoint that Beauvoir provides a more significant argument for authenticity than either Sartre or Fanon. He articulates in detail the existentialist theories of individual character and the social identities of gender and race, key concerns in current discourse. Webber concludes by sketching out the broader implications of his interpretation of existentialism for philosophy, psychology, and psychotherapy.

existentialism jean paul sartre analysis: Sartre and the International Impact of Existentialism Alfred Betschart, Julianne Werner, 2020-05-31 This edited collection re-examines the global impact of Sartre's philosophy from 1944-68. From his emergence as an eminent philosopher, dramatist, and novelist, to becoming the 'world's conscience' through his political commitment, Jean-Paul Sartre shaped the mind-set of a generation, influencing writers and thinkers both in France and far beyond. Exploring the presence of existentialism in literature, theatre, philosophy, politics, psychology and film, the contributors seek to discover what made Sartre's philosophy so successful outside of France. With twenty diverse chapters encompassing the US, Europe, the Middle East, East Asia and Latin America, the volume analyses the dissemination of existentialism through literary periodicals, plays, universities and libraries around the world, as well as the substantial challenges it faced. The global post-war surge of existentialism left permanent traces in history, exerting considerable influence on our way of life in its quest for authenticity and freedom. This timely and compelling volume revives the path taken by a philosophical movement that continues to contribute to the anti-discrimination politics of today.

existentialism jean paul sartre analysis: Jean-Paul Sartre Steven Churchill, Dr. Jack Reynolds, 2014-09-11 Most readers of Sartre focus only on the works written at the peak of his influence as a public intellectual in the 1940s, notably *Being and Nothingness*. *Jean-Paul Sartre: Key Concepts* aims to reassess Sartre and to introduce readers to the full breadth of his philosophy. Bringing together leading international scholars, the book examines concepts from across Sartre's career, from his initial views on the inner life of conscious experience, to his later conceptions of hope as the binding agent for a common humanity. The book will be invaluable to readers looking for a comprehensive assessment of Sartre's thinking - from his early influences to the development of his key concepts, to his legacy.

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existentialism jean paul sartre analysis: Sartre on the Body K. Morris, 2009-12-09 Sartre scholars and others engage with Jean-Paul Sartre's descriptions of the human body, bringing him into dialogue with feminists, sociologists, psychologists and historians and asking: What is pain? Do men and women experience their bodies differently? How do society and culture shape our bodies? Can we re-shape them?

existentialism jean paul sartre analysis: Existentialism and Excess: The Life and Times of

Jean-Paul Sartre Gary Cox, 2016-09-08 Jean-Paul Sartre is an undisputed giant of twentieth-century philosophy. His intellectual writings popularizing existentialism combined with his creative and artistic flair have made him a legend of French thought. His tumultuous personal life - so inextricably bound up with his philosophical thinking - is a fascinating tale of love and lust, drug abuse, high profile fallings-out and political and cultural rebellion. This substantial and meticulously researched biography is accessible, fast-paced, often amusing and at times deeply moving. *Existentialism and Excess* covers all the main events of Sartre's remarkable seventy-five-year life from his early years as a precocious brat devouring his grandfather's library, through his time as a brilliant student in Paris, his wilderness years as a provincial teacher-writer experimenting with mescaline, his World War II adventures as a POW and member of the resistance, his post-war politicization, his immense amphetamine fueled feats of writing productivity, his harem of women, his many travels and his final decline into blindness and old age. Along the way there are countless intriguing anecdotes, some amusing, some tragic, some controversial: his loathing of crustaceans and his belief that he was being pursued by a giant lobster, his escape from a POW camp, the bombing of his apartment, his influence on the May 1968 uprising and his many love affairs. Cox deftly moves from these episodes to discussing his intellectual development, his famous feuds with Aron, Camus, and Merleau-Ponty, his encounters with other giant figures of his day: Roosevelt, Hemingway, Heidegger, John Huston, Mao, Castro, Che Guevara, Khrushchev and Tito, and, above all, his long, complex and creative relationship with Simone de Beauvoir. *Existentialism and Excess* also gives serious consideration to Sartre's ideas and many philosophical works, novels, stories, plays and biographies, revealing their intimate connection with his personal life. Cox has written an entertaining, thought-provoking and compulsive book, much like the man himself.

existentialism jean paul sartre analysis: *The Existentialist Moment* Patrick Baert, 2015-08-20 Choice Outstanding Academic Title for 2015 Jean-Paul Sartre is often seen as the quintessential public intellectual, but this was not always the case. Until the mid-1940s he was not so well-known, even in France. Then suddenly, in a very short period of time, Sartre became an intellectual celebrity. How can we explain this remarkable transformation? *The Existentialist Moment* retraces Sartre's career and provides a compelling new explanation of his meteoric rise to fame. Baert takes the reader back to the confusing and traumatic period of the Second World War and its immediate aftermath and shows how the unique political and intellectual landscape in France at this time helped to propel Sartre and existentialist philosophy to the fore. The book also explores why, from the early 1960s onwards, in France and elsewhere, the interest in Sartre and existentialism eventually waned. *The Existentialist Moment* ends with a bold new theory for the study of intellectuals and a provocative challenge to the widespread belief that the public intellectual is a species now on the brink of extinction.

existentialism jean paul sartre analysis: *Search for a Method* Jean-Paul Sartre, 1968-08-12 From one of the 20th century's most profound philosophers and writers, comes a thought provoking essay that seeks to reconcile Marxism with existentialism. Exploring the complicated relationship the two philosophical schools of thought have with one another, Sartre supposes that the two are in fact compatible and complimentary towards one another, with poignant analysis and reasoning. An important work of modern philosophy, *Search for a Method* has a major influence on the current perceptions of existentialism and Marxism. "This is the most important philosophical work by Sartre to be translated since *Being and Nothingness*."—James Collings, America

existentialism jean paul sartre analysis: *Critical Essays* Jean-Paul Sartre, 2017 *Critical Essays (Situations I)* contains essays on literature and philosophy from a highly formative period of French philosopher and leading existentialist Jean-Paul Sartre's life, the years between 1938 and 1946. This period is particularly interesting because it is before Sartre published the magnum opus that would solidify his name as a philosopher, *Being and Nothingness*. Instead, during this time Sartre was emerging as one of France's most promising young novelists and playwrights—he had already published *Nausea*, *The Age of Reason*, *The Flies*, and *No Exit*. Not content, however, he was meanwhile consciously attempting to revive the form of the essay via detailed examinations of

writers who were to become central to European cultural life in the immediate aftermath of World War II. Collected here are Sartre's experiments in reimagining the idea and structure of the essay. Among the distinguished writers he analyzes are Francis Ponge, Georges Bataille, Vladimir Nabokov, Maurice Blanchot, and, of course, Albert Camus, whose novel *The Stranger* Sartre endeavours to explain in these pages. *Critical Essays (Situations I)* also contains a famous attack on the Catholic novelist François Mauriac, studies of the great American literary iconoclasts Faulkner and Dos Passos, and brief but insightful essays on aspects of the philosophical writings of Husserl and Descartes. This new translation by Chris Turner reinvigorates the original skill and voice of Sartre's work and will be essential reading for fans of Sartre and the many writers and works he explores. For my generation he has always been one of the great intellectual heroes of the twentieth century, a man whose insight and intellectual gifts were at the service of nearly every progressive cause of our time.--Edward Said

existentialism jean paul sartre analysis: At the Existentialist Café Sarah Bakewell, 2016-03-01 Named one of the Ten Best Books of 2016 by the New York Times, a spirited account of a major intellectual movement of the twentieth century and the revolutionary thinkers who came to shape it, by the best-selling author of *How to Live* Sarah Bakewell. Paris, 1933: three contemporaries meet over apricot cocktails at the Bec-de-Gaz bar on the rue Montparnasse. They are the young Jean-Paul Sartre, Simone de Beauvoir, and longtime friend Raymond Aron, a fellow philosopher who raves to them about a new conceptual framework from Berlin called Phenomenology. You see, he says, if you are a phenomenologist you can talk about this cocktail and make philosophy out of it! It was this simple phrase that would ignite a movement, inspiring Sartre to integrate Phenomenology into his own French, humanistic sensibility, thereby creating an entirely new philosophical approach inspired by themes of radical freedom, authentic being, and political activism. This movement would sweep through the jazz clubs and cafés of the Left Bank before making its way across the world as Existentialism. Featuring not only philosophers, but also playwrights, anthropologists, convicts, and revolutionaries, *At the Existentialist Café* follows the existentialists' story, from the first rebellious spark through the Second World War, to its role in postwar liberation movements such as anti-colonialism, feminism, and gay rights. Interweaving biography and philosophy, it is the epic account of passionate encounters--fights, love affairs, mentorships, rebellions, and long partnerships--and a vital investigation into what the existentialists have to offer us today, at a moment when we are once again confronting the major questions of freedom, global responsibility, and human authenticity in a fractious and technology-driven world.

existentialism jean paul sartre analysis: Existential Psychoanalysis Jean-Paul Sartre, 1996-09-03 In *Existential Psychoanalysis*, Sartre criticizes modern psychology in general, and Freud's determinism in particular. His often brilliant analysis of these areas and his proposals for their correction indicate in what direction an existential psychoanalysis might be developed. Sartre does all this on the basis of his existential understanding of man, and his unshakeable conviction that the human being simply cannot be understood at all if we see in him only what our study of subhuman forms of life permits us to see, or if we reduce him to naturalistic or mechanical determinism, or in any other way take away from the man we try to study his ultimate freedom and individual responsibility. An incisive introduction by noted existential psychologist Rollo May guides readers through these challenging yet enlightening passages.

existentialism jean paul sartre analysis: Living Existentialism Gregory Hoskins, J. C. Berendzen, 2017 Writing in the late 1990s about the tendency of encyclopedists to designate existentialism a finished project, Thomas W. Busch cautions that such hasty periodization risks distorting our understanding of the contemporary philosophical scene and of depriving ourselves of vital resources for critiquing contemporary forms of oppression, what Garbriel Marcel referred to as processes of dehumanization. We should recall that existentialism made possible present forms of Continental philosophy, all of which assume the existentialist critique of dualism, essentialism, and totality in modern philosophy, and we should acknowledge that existentialism remains capable of haunting today's scene as an important and relevant critic. Offered in honor of Thomas W. Busch

after his more than fifty years of work in philosophy, the essays in this volume attest to existentialism as a living project. The essays are written by scholars who championed existentialism in America and by scholars who now seek to extend existentialist insights into new territory, including into research in cognitive science. The essays range from studies of key figures and texts to explorations of urgent topics such as the nature of freedom and the possibility of what Busch calls incorporation, a sense of communicative solidarity that respects difference and disagreement. While each essay opens up a world of its own and invites the reader along a skillfully guided argument, the entire collection is a refreshing contribution to the existentialist scholarship. Instead of a partisan defense of the tradition's timelessness, this volume faithfully echoes Thomas W. Busch's sober approach and demonstrates the thematic timeliness of existentialism. --Farhang Erfani, American University; author of *Aesthetics of Autonomy: Sartre and Ricoeur on Emancipation, Authenticity, and Selfhood* This collection testifies to the diverse and lasting impact of Tom Busch's thinking and teaching. Busch's interest in thinkers including Marcel, Sartre, Beauvoir, and Merleau-Ponty has translated, for his readers and students, into enduring contributions in fields as varied as feminist philosophy, political theory, cognitive science, and literary analysis. Many of these essays have inherited from Busch's teaching and writing the element of hopefulness that he himself found in existentialism and phenomenology. --Rebecca Steiner Goldner, St. John's College, Annapolis Gregory Hoskins, Assistant Professor of Philosophy, is the Assistant Director of the Augustine and Culture Seminar Program at Villanova University. J. C. Berendzen is Associate Professor of Philosophy at Loyola University New Orleans.

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Flynn, 2006-10-12 Sartre, Nietzsche, Heidegger, Kierkegaard, de Beauvoir, Merleau-Ponty, and Camus were some of the most important existentialist thinkers. This book provides an account of the existentialist movement, and of the themes of individuality, free will, and personal responsibility which make it a 'philosophy as a way of life'.

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they evolved in opposing directions and began to disagree over philosophy, the responsibilities of intellectuals, and what sorts of political changes were necessary or possible. As Camus, then Sartre adopted the mantle of public spokesperson for his side, a historic showdown seemed inevitable. Sartre embraced violence as a path to change and Camus sharply opposed it, leading to a bitter and very public falling out in 1952. They never spoke again, although they continued to disagree, in code, until Camus's death in 1960. In a remarkably nuanced and balanced account, Aronson chronicles this riveting story while demonstrating how Camus and Sartre developed first in connection with and then against each other, each keeping the other in his sights long after their break. Combining biography and intellectual history, philosophical and political passion, Camus and Sartre will fascinate anyone interested in these great writers or the world-historical issues that tore them apart.

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however, it is necessary to state in a tentative and very general manner what points of view are here intended when reference is made to existentialism.

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