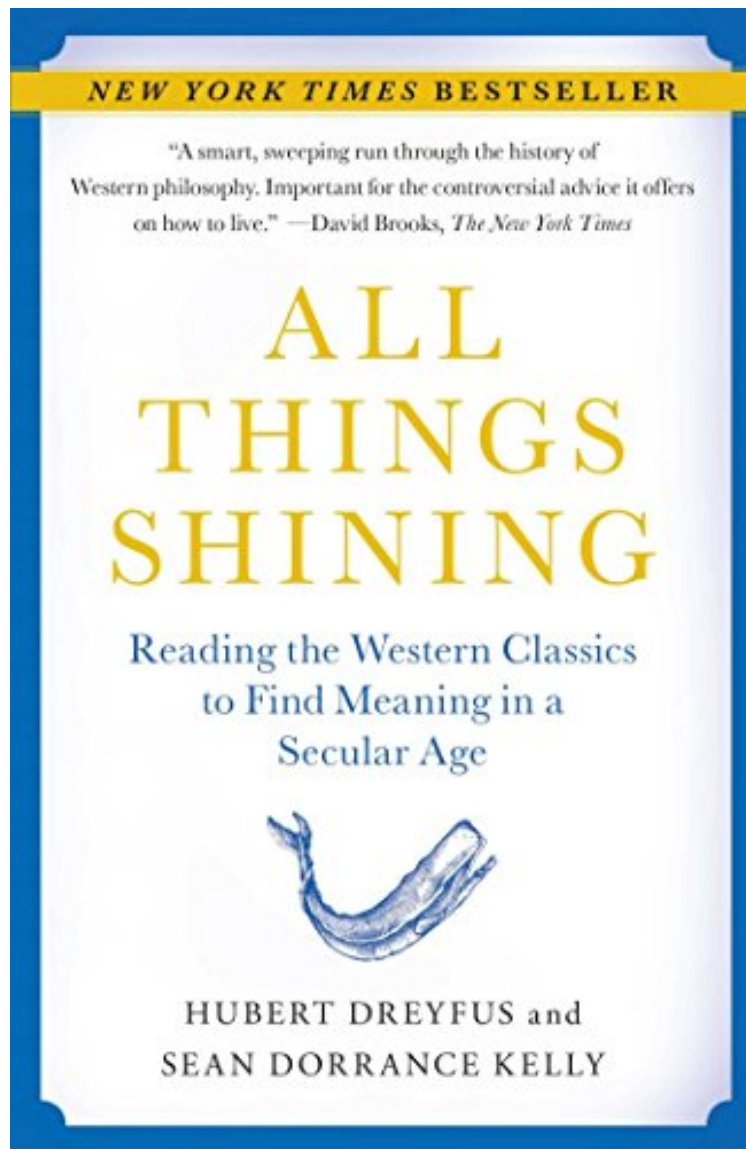


(Download pdf) All Things Shining: Reading the Western Classics to Find Meaning in a Secular Age (English Edition)

## All Things Shining: Reading the Western Classics to Find Meaning in a Secular Age (English Edition)

Von Hubert Dreyfus, Sean Dorrance Kelly  
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Von Hubert Dreyfus, Sean Dorrance Kelly : All Things Shining: Reading the Western Classics to Find Meaning in a Secular Age (English Edition) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised All Things Shining: Reading the Western Classics to Find Meaning in a Secular Age (English Edition):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Neither history nor philosophy nor theology nor literary criticismVon Paddington BearNeither history nor philosophy nor theology nor literary criticism. The book tries to explain what we have lost in ditching polytheism in the west. The raw material is a rather nice analysis of several literary works from some modern author who killed himself to Homer and Melville's Moby Dick and Dante. The thing reads like an A-level essay. Lots of really interesting analyses with nowhere to go. The bit lauding sport achievements as bringing society together in worship of the greatness of the spirit sounds like a prefabricated plant by editor to feed our consciences for wasting hours sat in front on the TV. The book is inspiring for me as it shows how shallow my life is and gives a motivation to read and think about what authors mean over history. The tendentious US-centric tinge makes this book a rag tag commercial pitch but worth the time to read.1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Fascinating book that might inspire reflections on our modern state of mindVon Alexander ZockI found the book very inspiring. May it be for the interesting treatment of Homer, David Foster Wallace, Dante's Divine Comedy or Moby Dick. But for sure for its clear and precise analysis of the modern state of mind. Torn between nihilism or monotheism we Moderns are faced by a no win situation according to Dreyfus and Kelly. We either despair as there is no meaning in the world or have to deny important aspects of ourselves if we devote our lives to an abstract deity that transcends our every day lives. Dreyfus and Kelly do not stop with this diagnosis but offer a way out of this situation by lending heavily from the pre-socratic greeks as well as from the tradition of medieval craftsmanship as sources for meaning in our lives. The core idea is that meaning is not given to us by a god or is created from within ourselves (which would transform us into gods as Nietzsche claims), but is the result of the cultivation of personal skills that prepare us to see meaningful differences in the world around us that are already there. Dreyfus and Kelly propose an attitude towards the world that is based on the ability to attune to moods that surround us like love, hate, fear, agape, pride etc. in combination with the ability to enact in the world in a skillful way. Last but not least this set of abilities is complemented by a so called meta-poiesis, a meta-skill, that requires us to be able to differentiate a situation in which it is "good" to let oneself get whooshed away by the mood of the moment (a great baseball game for an American or a great soccer match for us Europeans) from a situation in which it is prohibited to let oneself go e.g. a speech by Hitler. Through this combination of the skill of attunement and the skills required for being a real "Craftsman" and a "Meta-Craftsman" Dreyfus and Kelly are hoping for a life that is both authentic and meaningful and thus potentially fulfilling and joyful.Independent of if you agree to such a proposal, to me it seems at least a convincing challenge to our existing attitudes towards our every day life. I myself must confess that I found the presented vision of a third way not only intriguing but also inspiring and fascinating. Read the book and see for yourself.1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Anti-EsoterikVon UnserNicht alle Dinge erstrahlen in der Welt, aber es gibt Dinge oder Situationen, die es tun. Wir selber können daran eher wenig tun, außer offen zu sein und uns ihnen hinzugeben. Dreyfus und Kelly bemühen sich nach Kräften, den cartesianischen Münchhausen-Trick mit dem autonomen Subjekt zu entlarven und der Leser weiß nicht so recht, ob er den Schritt vom befreiten Subjekt zum 'empty head turned to the world' mitmachen möchte oder nicht. Irgendwie scheint es uns doch heroischer und reizvoller, wie Nietzsche am Abgrund zu tanzen. Brauchen wir einen Sinn in unserer Welt? Ist der Nihilismus wirklich so unerträglich, dass er selbst so leuchtende Geister wie David Foster-Wallace in den Abgrund reißt - um von Nietzsche selbst mal zu schweigen.Die beiden Autoren, wenn nicht, wer sie sind, wenn sie diese Widerstände nicht sehen und in ihrem Modell auch zu erklären versuchen würden. Wenn wir uns in unserer Kultur gar nicht anders denn als autonome Subjekte denken können, wie sollen wir gerade davon absehen können, ohne dass sich das wie eine Selbsttäuschung anfühlt. Der Weg, den die Autoren vorschlagen, führt dann auch weniger über das bewusste Reflektieren, als über Erfahrungen und Praktiken, die am Rande unserer Kultur noch existieren. Die hingebungsvolle Entwicklung handwerklicher, künstlerischer oder sozialer Fähigkeiten, das Einfließen in Gruppenstimmungen führen uns über uns selbst hinaus in eine Welt, in der die Unterscheidung von Subjekt und Objekt überschritten wird. Dann ist nicht alles erleuchtet, aber einige Dinge fangen wieder an zu strahlen.Im Vergleich mit Dreyfus' Vorlesungen, auf denen das Buch beruht ist dieser Durchgang durch die europäische Geistesgeschichte insgesamt etwas rasend, einige Argumente werden verkürzt und Hintergründe nicht erlutert. Wenn man es aber, wie ja wohl von den Autoren beabsichtigt als Denkanstoß betrachtet, so sind diese unterhaltsamen 224 Seiten sicherlich hilfreicher als ein dickes Buch, das dann keiner liest. Faszinierende Anti-Esoterik.

KurzbeschreibungIn unrelenting flow of choices confronts us at nearly every moment of our lives, and yet our culture offers us no clear way to choose. This predicament seems inevitable, but in fact it's quite new. In medieval Europe, God's calling was a grounding force. In ancient Greece, a whole pantheon of shining gods stood ready to draw an appropriate action out of you. Like an athlete in the zone, you were called to a harmonious attunement with the world, so absorbed in it that you couldn't make a wrong choice. If our culture no longer takes for granted a belief in God, can we nevertheless get in touch with the Homeric moods of wonder and gratitude, and be guided by the meanings they reveal? All Things Shining says we can.Hubert Dreyfus and Sean Dorrance Kelly illuminate some of the greatest

works of the West to reveal how we have lost our passionate engagement with and responsiveness to the world. Their journey takes us from the wonder and openness of Homers polytheism to the monotheism of Dante; from the autonomy of Kant to the multiple worlds of Melville; and, finally, to the spiritual difficulties evoked by modern authors such as David Foster Wallace and Elizabeth Gilbert. Dreyfus, a philosopher at the University of California, Berkeley, for forty years, is an original thinker who finds in the classic texts of our culture a new relevance for peoples everyday lives. His lively, thought-provoking lectures have earned him a podcast audience that often reaches the iTunesU Top 40. Kelly, chair of the philosophy department at Harvard University, is an eloquent new voice whose sensitivity to the sadness of the culture and to what remains of the wonder and gratitude that could chase it away captures a generation adrift. Re-envisioning modern spiritual life through their examination of literature, philosophy, and religious testimony, Dreyfus and Kelly unearth ancient sources of meaning, and teach us how to rediscover the sacred, shining things that surround us every day. This book will change the way we understand our culture, our history, our sacred practices, and ourselves. It offers a new and very old way to celebrate and be grateful for our existence in the modern world.

Pressstimmen [A]n inspirational book but a highly intelligent and impassioned one. compelling. The Wall Street Journal Offers a meditation on the meaning of life, in a sharp, engaging style New York Times Book Kurzbeschreibung In unrelenting flow of choices confronts us at nearly every moment of our lives, and yet our culture offers us no clear way to choose. This predicament seems inevitable, but in fact its quite new. In medieval Europe, Gods calling was a grounding force. In ancient Greece, a whole pantheon of shining gods stood ready to draw an appropriate action out of you. Like an athlete in the zone, you were called to a harmonious attunement with the world, so absorbed in it that you couldnt make a wrong choice. If our culture no longer takes for granted a belief in God, can we nevertheless get in touch with the Homeric moods of wonder and gratitude, and be guided by the meanings they reveal? All Things Shining says we can. Hubert Dreyfus and Sean Dorrance Kelly illuminate some of the greatest works of the West to reveal how we have lost our passionate engagement with and responsiveness to the world. Their journey takes us from the wonder and openness of Homers polytheism to the monotheism of Dante; from the autonomy of Kant to the multiple worlds of Melville; and, finally, to the spiritual difficulties evoked by modern authors such as David Foster Wallace and Elizabeth Gilbert. Dreyfus, a philosopher at the University of California, Berkeley, for forty years, is an original thinker who finds in the classic texts of our culture a new relevance for peoples everyday lives. His lively, thought-provoking lectures have earned him a podcast audience that often reaches the iTunesU Top 40. Kelly, chair of the philosophy department at Harvard University, is an eloquent new voice whose sensitivity to the sadness of the culture and to what remains of the wonder and gratitude that could chase it away captures a generation adrift. Re-envisioning modern spiritual life through their examination of literature, philosophy, and religious testimony, Dreyfus and Kelly unearth ancient sources of meaning, and teach us how to rediscover the sacred, shining things that surround us every day. This book will change the way we understand our culture, our history, our sacred practices, and ourselves. It offers a new and very old way to celebrate and be grateful for our existence in the modern world.