



Doctor Who and Philosophy: Bigger on the Inside (Popular Culture and Philosophy)

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In *Doctor Who and Philosophy*, a team of mostly human philosophers (who are also fans) looks at the deeper issues raised by the Doctor's mind-blowing adventures. They discuss, among other topics, the Doctor's philosophy of science, the ethics of a universe with millions of intelligent species, what makes one life-form more important than another, whether time travelers can change history, and how the *Doctor Who* TV show is changing the world we live in. The chapters draw freely on both the classic series (1963–1989) and the new series. The book includes a collection of entertaining and insightful quotes from *Doctor Who* plus a complete list of episodes and companions.



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Editorial Review

Review

“Opening this book is like opening the door to the TARDIS: we get to spend time with our favorite incarnations of the Doctor whether the First, the Fourth, the Eleventh, or Doctor-Donna, and ponder what it means to travel through time, grow a new personality, fall in love, sacrifice for a greater good, and experience the cosmos for all the wonder it is. Really, *Doctor Who and Philosophy* is even better than a Sonic Screwdriver.”

—JOSEF STEIFF, Professor of Film at Columbia College Chicago and author of *The Complete Idiot's Guide to Independent Filmmaking*

“This dimensionally transcendental volume explains what the Doctor never gets around to until later: the basics of Gallifreyan philosophy and ethics, as translated through Earth's philosophers. A fun, informative volume for folks interested in an introduction to philosophy through the vortex of Doctor Who.”

—LYNNE M. THOMAS, co-editor of *Chicks Dig Time Lords: A Celebration of Doctor Who by the Women Who Love It*

“Lewis and Smithka have done all sapient species a brilliant service by introducing *Doctor Who and Philosophy* into the time continuum. Like the Doctor's human companions, we get to travel through a universe of Big Ideas with a caring, clever, and, yes, conflicted friend. Next to a real TARDIS swooping down and carrying us off, nothing could beat the experience of reading this book.”

—PATRICK D. HOPKINS, editor of *Sex/Machine*

“Doctor Who and Philosophy makes you want to go right back to episodes like ‘Robot’ and ‘The Brain of Morbius’ so you can watch them again, now that you know what they're really about. No series in the entire history of television has lit up all the beacons of classic philosophy like Doctor Who, and this brilliant book is chock full of Time Lord enlightenment.”

—ROB ARP, Consulting Ontologist and author of *Scenario Visualization: An Evolutionary Account of Creative Problem Solving*

“An intriguing collection of essays that examines *Doctor Who* from every philosophical angle imaginable. Do you want theories and contradictions of time travel? It's in there. Do you want a deep examination of the nature of identity, as understood through the Doctor and his regenerative ability? It's in there, too, and it is considered from a variety of philosophical approaches. And so is much, much more. Lewis and Smithka have assembled a fascinating anthology, one that all *Who* fans, media scholars, and armchair philosophers should want on their shelves.”

—CHRIS HANSEN, editor of *Ruminations, Peregrinations, and Regenerations: A Critical Approach to Doctor Who*

About the Author

Courtland Lewis is a lifelong Doctor Who fan and a doctoral candidate in philosophy at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville. Paula Smithka is the coeditor of *Community, Diversity, and Difference: Implications for Peace*. She is also an associate professor of philosophy at The University of Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg.

Users Review

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Marcus Casale:

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