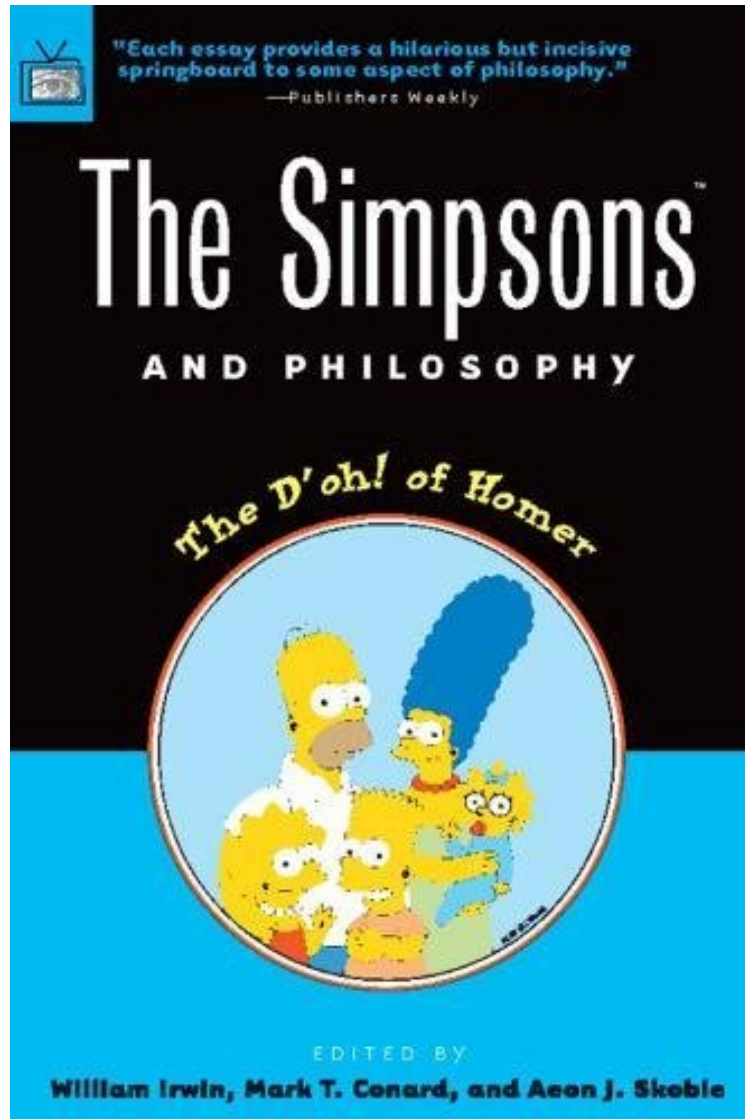


(Mobile pdf) The Simpsons and Philosophy: The D'oh! of Homer (Popular Culture and Philosophy)

The Simpsons and Philosophy: The D'oh! of Homer (Popular Culture and Philosophy)

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From Open Court : The Simpsons and Philosophy: The D'oh! of Homer (Popular Culture and Philosophy) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Simpsons and Philosophy: The D'oh! of Homer (Popular Culture and Philosophy):

8 of 8 people found the following review helpful. good example of the relationship between pop culture and philosophyBy Massimo PigliucciI reread this book recently on my Kindle (had the original paperback) and found it

still one of the best examples of how one can use pop culture to introduce a broader audience to philosophy. There is no denying that the Simpsons has been one of the best shows on American tv for the past couple of decades, and it is so intelligently done that pretty much every major issue in philosophy can be introduced by example, picking on the right Simpsons' episode or character. Of course, as always with edited books, the writing is uneven, with some chapters barely worth a look (the one on Heidegger, for instance). But the editors pulled this off very nicely nonetheless, and in fact the whole idea eventually flourished in a large series of available titles with a similar scope. The book could also be used in introductory philosophy classes to show the students the obvious truth: philosophy is highly relevant to everyday life, and it can even be fun! 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Let's get to the D'oh! of it...By Roger N.The Simpsons and Philosophy, is an interesting look into not only the fictitious characters of Springfield, but as a reflection on American life as well. Not only is there a great debate about the characters and their many flaws, but there are also some insightful ideas about them as well; for example, Marge and Aristotle's virtue ethics. A lot of it seemed to be based in pop culture, and it also seemed to be repetitive at times. The most disappointing thing, is that there are over 30 books in this series, covering everything from Seinfeld to The Matrix. That being said, it was still an interesting read. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Amazing. By Brady What this book does is pure genius. It takes the complex world of philosophy and the comical world of the Simpsons, and fuses the two. What we end up with is a profound and provocative analysis of the Simpsons, a dissection of their gaudy and hilarious characters. The writers of the essays contained within connect our favorite characters to works of the past, to works of old, to things we hold dear or can recognize. They illustrate that the Simpsons is a rich tapestry that goes beyond fart jokes and slap stick comedy.

This unconventional and lighthearted introduction to the ideas of the major Western philosophers examines The Simpsons TV's favorite animated family. The authors look beyond the jokes, the crudeness, the attacks on society and see a clever display of irony, social criticism, and philosophical thought. The writers begin with an examination of the characters. Does Homer actually display Aristotle's virtues of character? In what way does Bart exemplify American pragmatism? The book also examines the ethics and themes of the show, and concludes with discussions of how the series reflects the work of Aristotle, Marx, Camus, Sartre, and other thinkers.

.com No doubt Aristotle just rolled over in his grave. An essay called "Homer and Aristotle" would appear to be a treatise on two ancient Greek thinkers; in this case, it's a depiction of Homer Simpson's Aristotelian virtues. Raja Halwani's "Homeric" essay is amusing, though, and moreover, it actually ends up being enlightening, especially for those just learning Aristotle's ethics. Bart may be a Nietzschean without knowing it; Mr. Burns is a cipher for unhappiness (except when he eats "so-called iced-cream"); and Ned Flanders raises questions about neighborly love. The Simpsons and Philosophy has a lot to say about The Simpsons, and even more to say about philosophy. The book collects 18 essays into an unpretentious, tongue-in-cheek, and surprisingly intelligent look at philosophy through the lens of Matt Groening's vaunted animated series. The editors are quick to point out that they don't think The Simpsons "is the equivalent of history's best works of literature ... but it nevertheless is just deep enough, and certainly funny enough, to warrant serious attention." The writers of the book are mostly professional philosophers, and they are appropriately erudite. But what is truly astonishing, even for a confessed Simpsons addict, is their breadth of Simpsons knowledge, spanning all 12 seasons of the show's history. The Simpsons and Philosophy is obviously not intended to be a turning point in modern thought, but it is an excellent introduction to some core elements of philosophy. --Eric de Place From Publishers Weekly In Irwin's earlier anthology, Seinfeld and Philosophy: A Book About Everything and Nothing (1999), a team of philosophy professors offered an introduction to Plato, Kierkegaard and other major thinkers via the characters and plots of the TV sitcom. Now Irwin and company have regrouped to focus on Matt Groening's popular, long-running animated series, The Simpsons. Noting that Groening studied philosophy in college, they hasten to add that this is not an attempt to explore meanings intended by Groening and the show's artists and writers. "Rather, we're highlighting the philosophical significance of The Simpsons as we see it," declares the editorial trio. Each essay provides a hilarious but incisive springboard to some aspect of philosophy. Can we learn something about the nature of happiness from the unhappy, miserly Mr. Burns? What are Springfield's sexual politics? What makes Bart Simpson a Heideggerian thinker? Could Bart be the Nietzschean ideal? These are the kind of "meaty philosophical issues" TV viewers can expect to find covered by the 21 contributors to this entertaining book, with interpretations drawn from the works of Sartre, Kant, Karl Marx, Virginia Woolf, Roland Barthes and others. Appendixes include a time line of the major philosophers referred to and a chronological guide of the episode titles and original air dates spanning 11 seasons of The Simpsons. (Apr.) Forecast: Seinfeld and Philosophy prompted Entertainment Weekly's review comment, "Wish we'd had this in college." Fans of The Simpsons are certain to find this book to be the perfect rebuttal for those who dismiss the show as a no-brainer. Copyright 2001 Cahners Business Information, Inc. From Booklist Does Homer Simpson embody the Socratic ideal of virtue? Sadly, no, but in one of 18 essays on the long-running cartoon series, Raja Halwani investigates, from a Socratic perspective, why we all find Homer so humorous and charming. From "Thus Spake Bart," an essay comparing Bart, the bad boy of Springfield, and

Nietzsche, philosophy's ultimate bad boy, to explication of the aesthetic philosophy of the allusions the show is famous for making, the book is consistently successful. Even the impenetrable Immanuel Kant becomes outright hilarious in a rollicking analysis of the virtue of duty in Springfield. The Simpsons has received serious attention in the past, most notably David Foster Wallace's analysis of Simpsonian meta-irony in *A Supposedly Fun Thing I'll Never Do Again* (1997). Like Wallace's book, these pieces make erudite concepts accessible by viewing things through the lens of a great cartoon series. Perhaps The Simpsons' creators will be inspired by this book to include a philosophy professor with a weakness for brilliantly funny TV shows in Springfield's ever-growing population of eccentrics. John Green
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