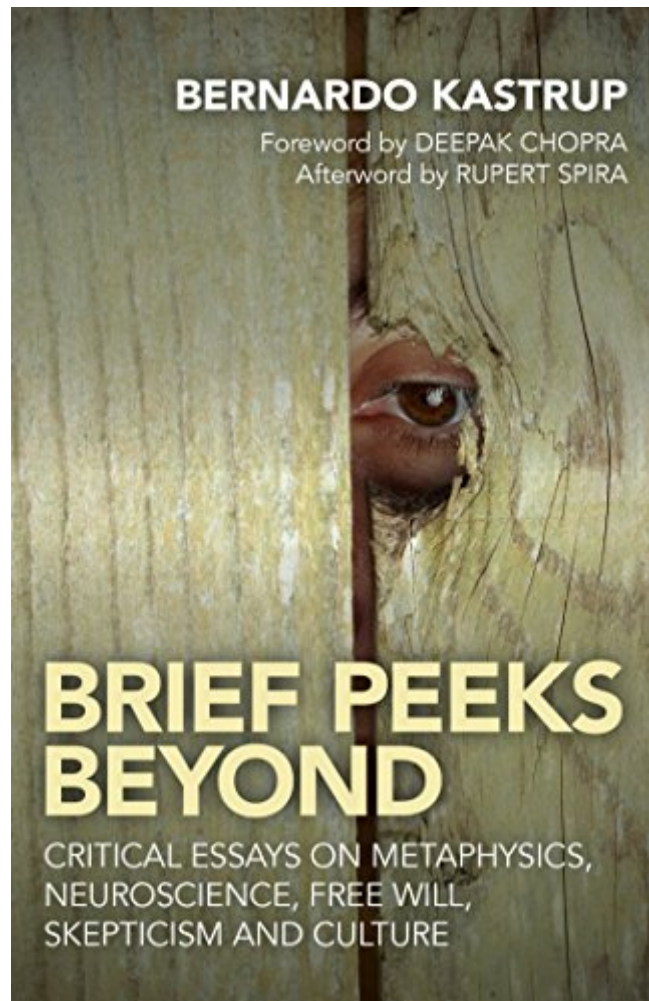


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Brief Peeks Beyond: Critical Essays On Metaphysics, Neuroscience, Free Will, Skepticism And Culture



Synopsis

This book is a multi-faceted exploration and critique of the human condition as it is presently manifested. It addresses science and philosophy, explores the underlying nature of reality, the state of our society and culture, the influence of the mainstream media, the nature of free will and a number of other topics. Each of these examinations contributes an angle to an emerging idea gestalt that challenges present mainstream views and behaviors and offers a sane alternative. The book is organized as a series of short and self-contained essays, most of which can be read in under one hour.

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Customer Reviews

It's far too soon for me to be writing this. I have no idea how this singular little book is going to alter the course of my life. I only know that it will. Some things you simply know - without analysis, without synthesis, with hardly any reflection. I feel like an explorer who has just stepped onto a new continent - my eyes can barely discern the outlines of mountains in the distant mist, yet I can already taste infinite promise in the wind. I have never held a book like this: one that addresses all

the big questions that have riveted my attention since perhaps the age of ten, and speaks to them in my own language. A book written by a man who has so obviously found the doors of perception for himself, and is able to give directions to them in words that other travelers can understand. When my wise partner reminds me that I should always leave space in my life for miracles, this book is the kind of thing she is talking about. Part of the reason for my reaction is summed up by this paragraph from the book's introduction: "Overall, this work is characterized by a new readiness on my part to go all out with my points of view. In my previous works, I've held myself back in the interest of striking a more moderate note with broader appeal. It is, however, unclear whether that was effective. What is sure is that it pruned the full expression of my views. Now, having turned 40 and witnessed my life take turns I'd never expected, I feel less motivated to compromise on my discourse. Life is just too short for that. Therefore, this book tackles, head-on, subjects I have hitherto kept out of bounds: God, conspiracies, the obvious flaws of science as practiced today, the often insidious role of the media and a number of other polemical topics.

I'm very impressed by the intelligence of Bernardo Kastrup. He's like a man who sees through the Matrix and exposes the giant with clay feet because he knows. Sometimes we don't notice what's in front of our nose. Kastrup helps us to focus. Much of this man's genius is found scattered here and there, in thick books or forgotten minds. But Kastrup writes so eloquently and with the confidence of one who knows that, the ghost of Kant, or some other German, must be whispering in Bernardo's ear! Bernardo says it so succinctly and he easily criticises this crazy materialism, especially the 'neuromania' we see all around and he explains idealism so precisely, that you know that materialism is wrong. You just needed a helping hand to point you this way. As an aside, professor Raymond Tallis coined the terms 'Neuromania' and 'Darwinitus' in *Aping Mankind*. But Tallis could never crack it because he is hesitant to take the position of idealism. So Raymond Tallis writes 400 page books, excruciatingly long winded books, tiptoeing around the truth like most philosophers do. All the best are today hesitant, probably for fear of ridicule, or, even worse, they don't know what they are talking about. Arthur Schopenhauer wrote an essay arguing that, well, most people who get a degree in, say, philosophy, are not philosophers. They are like bureaucrats who get a little office room, as a temp worker, and work their way up the ladder of bureaucracy. Now imagine if the common man or woman started worshipping the bureaucrats because they knew no better?

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