

# VERY SHORT INTRODUCTIONS



# Nothing A Very Short Introduction

**Martin van der Linden**



## **Nothing A Very Short Introduction:**

**Nothing** Frank Close, 2009-06-25 What is nothing What remains when you take all the matter away Can empty space a void exist This Very Short Introduction explores the science and the history of the elusive void from Aristotle who insisted that the vacuum was impossible via the theories of Newton and Einstein to our very latest discoveries and why they can tell us extraordinary things about the cosmos Frank Close tells the story of how scientists have explored the elusive void and the rich discoveries that they have made there He takes the reader on a lively and accessible history through ancient ideas and cultural superstitions to the frontiers of current research He describes how scientists discovered that the vacuum is filled with fields how Newton Mach and Einstein grappled with the nature of space and time and how the mysterious aether that was long ago supposed to permeate the void may now be making a comeback with the latest research into the Higgs field We now know that the vacuum is far from being empty it seethes with virtual particles and antiparticles that erupt spontaneously into being and it also may contain hidden dimensions that we were previously unaware of These new discoveries may provide answers to some of cosmology's most fundamental questions what lies outside the universe and if there was once nothing then how did the universe begin ABOUT THE SERIES The Very Short Introductions series from Oxford University Press contains hundreds of titles in almost every subject area These pocket sized books are the perfect way to get ahead in a new subject quickly Our expert authors combine facts analysis perspective new ideas and enthusiasm to make interesting and challenging topics highly readable

*Nothing: A Very Short Introduction* Frank Close, 2009-06-25 What is the void What remains when you take all the matter away Can empty space nothing exist This text explores the science history of the elusive void from Aristotle's theories to black holes quantum particles why our very latest discoveries about the vacuum can tell us extraordinary things about the cosmos

**An Anthropology of Nothing in Particular** Martin Demant Frederiksen, 2018-08-31 There have been claims that meaninglessness has become epidemic in the contemporary world One perceived consequence of this is that people increasingly turn against both society and the political establishment with little concern for the content or lack of content that might follow Most often encounters with meaninglessness and nothingness are seen as troubling Meaning is generally seen as being a cornerstone of the human condition as that which we strive towards This was famously explored by Viktor Frankl in *Man's Search for Meaning* in which he showed how even in the direst of situations individuals will often seek to find a purpose in life But what then is at stake when groups of people negate this position What exactly goes on inside this apparent turn towards nothing in the engagement with meaninglessness And what happens if we take the meaningless seriously as an empirical fact

*The Calculus Story* David Acheson, 2017 Acheson introduces the fundamental ideas of calculus through the story of how the subject developed from approximating to imaginary numbers and from Newton's falling apple to the vibrations of an electric guitar Back cover

**Nothing So Absurd** Phillip Hoffmann, 2003-09-02 Written in clear non technical language *Nothing So Absurd* is a succinct and accessible

introduction to topics in the history of Western philosophy In seven concise chapters the author introduces the reader to the central topics within the discipline In some cases such as metaphysics and epistemology he adopts a historical approach while in others such as ethics and philosophy of religion the focus is as much on contemporary issues as it is on historical developments In each area he presents material of great intrinsic interest in a fashion that also provides a sense of the broad sweep of the discipline This book provides a fair minded exposition of a wide range of viewpoints throughout and dwells in its final chapter on the virtues of philosophical realism thus presenting the reader with the opportunity to engage with a direct philosophical argument A guide to further reading will assist readers new to philosophy Architecture Martin van der Linden, 2021-03-12

The question of what architecture is answered in this book with one sentence Architecture is space created for human activities The basic need to find food and water places these activities within a larger spatial field Humans have learned and found ways to adjust to the various contextual difficulties that they faced as they roamed the earth Thus rather than adapting humans have always tried to change the context to their activities Humanity has looked at the context not merely as a limitation but rather as a spatial situation filled with opportunities that allows through intellectual interaction to change these limitations Thus humanity has created within the world their own contextual bubble that firmly stands against the larger context it is set in The key notion of the book is that architecture is space carved out of and against the context and that this process is deterministic *From Something to Nothing* Harry Fox, Daniel Maoz, Tirzah

Meacham, 2019-05-24 Jewish mysticism approaches God as no thing or nothing reflecting Judaism's traditional identification of God as incorporeal Whereas technical philosophical language often employed to discuss Jewish mysticism has a tendency to ward off otherwise interested readers this study sufficiently breaks down the technical language of Jewish mysticism in its various expressions to allow a beginner to benefit from what may otherwise be indescribable and only approached by consideration of what is not rather than what is Integral to the title *From Something to Nothing* is the concept that God cannot be something because that would be restricting so God is simply no thing Ironically the conventional religious expression for the biblical notion of creation is something from nothing whereas the title of this volume is its precise opposite which may at first seem to be illogical creation in reverse However in a volume dedicated to various deliberations on magic and mysticism the ultimate reality may receive expression as nothingness that is no thingness no quality associated with things What adds to our difficulty today is that nothingness is inextricably linked with silence Is silence also an element or indication of an ultimate reality or its absence Or is it merely the reflection of nothing whatsoever This is at the heart of modern debates between atheists and believers Believers feel that even this silence speaks to this ultimate reality whereas atheists claim that if you cannot show it then you do not know it In other words believers are victims of their own wishful thinking *From Something to Nothing* memorializes Canadian mystic and scholar Zalman Schachter Shalomi's engaging in particular aspects that he addressed at some phase of his colourful and erudite life providing the reader with a broad

spectrum of both phenomenological and intellectual topics      **The Philosophy of Language; Or, Language as an Exact Science** David Henry Cruttenden,1870      **On this Side Nothing** Alex Comfort,1949      The Economist ,2009  
**Lippincott's Magazine of Popular Literature and Science** ,1874      *Lippincott's Monthly Magazine* ,1874  
**Letters of Thomas Carlyle, 1826-1836** Thomas Carlyle,Mrs. Mary Carlyle Aitken Carlyle,1889      A General History of the Science and Practice of Music, by Sir John Hawkins John Hawkins,1875 Examines how we have allowed media to bombard our children s lives and offers practical advice on countering the incessant parade of images that frighten intrigue and influence America s kids      **Much Ado about Nothing** William Shakespeare,1989 Modern editions of a popular and trusted series      *Omnibus* ,2004      *The academy* ,1892      *Nature* ,1884      **The Athenaeum** ,1897      **The Cambridge Review** ,1886

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