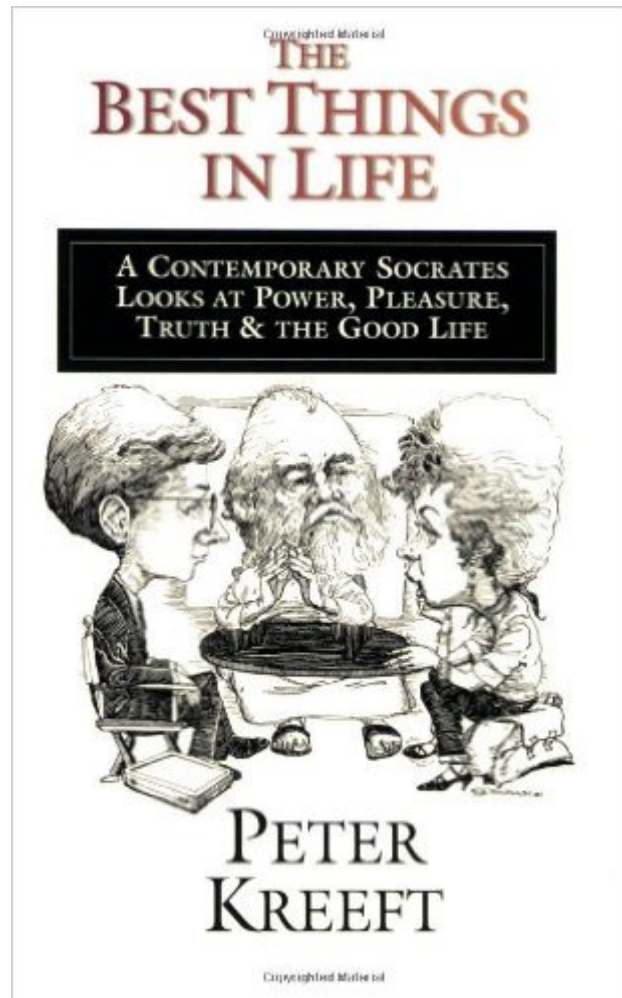


The book was found

The Best Things In Life



Synopsis

What are the best things in life? Questions like that may boggle your mind. But they don't boggle Socrates. The indomitable old Greek brings his unending questions to Desperate State University. With him come the same mind-opening and spirit-stretching challenge that disrupted ancient Athens. What is the purpose of education? Why do we make love? What good is money? Can computers think like people? Is there a difference between Capitalism and Communism? What is the greatest good? Is belief in God like belief in Santa Claus? In twelve short, Socratic dialogues Peter Kreeft explodes contemporary values like success, power and pleasure. And he bursts the modern bubbles of agnosticism and subjectivism. He leaves you richer, wiser and more able to discern what the best things in life actually are.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Peter Kreeft is known for writing in the dialectic style. Though Kreeft is famous for using this style, he does not pull it off in this book as well as he does in some of his other books. This book is written as a dialogue or series of dialogues between Socrates and two University students. 'Peter Pragma' and 'Felicia Flake' both of whom have 6 discussions with Socrates on different subjects. That is just the beginning; the names are all puns in the book, as we have seen from our two main protagonists (Peter and Felicia). The puns continue through all the professors and personalities encountered. The president of Desperate State University is "Fudge Factor" and is as inept as his name implies. We also meet "Marigold Measurer", the scientist who is addicted to data but without really understanding its purpose or use. Felicia has some mentors in her life - "Pop Syke" who is the

guru of pop psychology, and "Karl", the communist who is brother to "Adam", the Capitalist. Having read a number of Kreeft's other books, this one was a bit of a letdown. The puns with the names got to be so trying and tiring that it was hard to finish the book. The same information could have been conveyed in conventional prose, with half the words. The dialogue grew boring and irritating. I just wanted the meat from this book and had to go through a lot of bone and grist to get to it. The book has a lot to offer in the examination of why someone does what he does, and to help one live a more examined life. But the book often does it in a very long, roundabout way. I never like to give a book a bad review, and often go back and read a book a second time before I will do so. This book, though hard to get through the first time, was more than worth it the second time.

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