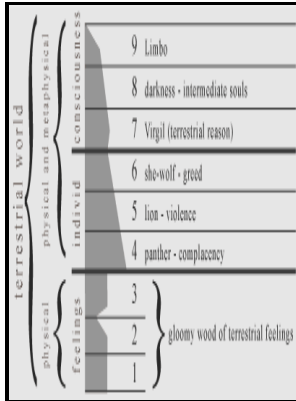


Metaphysics of Dantes Comedy

Oxford University Press - Christian Moevs, The Metaphysics of Dante's Comedy: Reflection and Theory in the Study of Religion



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Christian Moevs, The Metaphysics of Dante's Comedy: Reflection and Theory in the Study of Religion

Its editorial board welcomes submissions, in English or Italian, on all subjects connected with Dante's life, works, influence, and critical reception.

Index

Excerpt: Yesterday I was in the supermarket and spotted an interesting button on the check-out lady. No serious student of Dante can afford to ignore this book.

Metaphysics of Dante's Comedy

Written mostly by scholars who invested a lifetime in studying Dante, they all offer different approaches to Inferno and the Comedy. In particular, it becomes clear that poetry coincides with theology and philosophy in the poem: Dante poeta cannot be distinguished from Dante theologus. This fresh, careful, and lucid examination of three notoriously complex cantos of Paradiso XXVII, XXVIII, and XXIX dismantles formalist accounts of the poem and it amounts to a persuasive argument in favor of its deeper theology.

The Metaphysics of Dante's Comedy

In other words, if you read Holy Scripture and are not changed by it, you have not understood it.

Christian Moevs, The Metaphysics of Dante's Comedy

Dante knows this, and warns the reader in Canto II, at the outset of the journey across the ocean of Being toward full unity with God, thus: Turn back if you would see your shores again. They touch some of the most important and controversial questions surrounding the *Commedia* as a whole.

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