



Sentience and Sensibility: A Conversation about Moral Philosophy

By Matthew R. Silliman

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Summary: SENTIENCE AND SENSIBILITY is a dialogue that engages a number of issues in moral theory in a rigorous and original manner, while remaining accessible to all. It accomplishes this by means of the time-honored (if presently dormant) medium of philosophical dialogue, in which its characters actively challenge each other to clarify their ideas and defend their reasoning. In this manner the conversation develops and weighs some proposed solutions, in largely non-technical language, to a number of current and traditional moral problems (including the nature and origin of moral value, the moral status of animals, problems of partiality, and other vexed topics). Everyday ethical matters and moral intuitions are pressing, whereas moral philosophy and theory can seem remote and intimidating. SENTIENCE AND SENSIBILITY proposes that these two should meet. The book's characters gently challenge each other to clarify their thinking and reasoning process, and in this rigorous yet personable manner explore traditional and fresh takes on morality. The conversation aims not only to discover thoughtful answers to such questions, but to do so while being respectful of both philosophical theory and ordinary moral intuitions. Sideheads...



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-- Justus Hettinger

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