



Reincarnation

By Paul Edwards

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Reincarnation By Paul Edwards

This is the first comprehensive and systematic evaluation of reincarnation and Karma in any language. Renowned philosopher Paul Edwards exposes the many flaws in the arguments supporting the belief in reincarnation and the so-called Law of Karma. He also covers the alleged evidence in support of reincarnation, including child prodigies, *deja vu* experiences, hypnotic regressions, and "reincarnation memories." Finally, he discusses in some detail the claims of the leading figures in the recent immortality movement, in particular Elisabeth Kuebler-Ross, Raymond Moody, and Dr. Stanislov Grof. Edwards' wit and clarity make this a fascinating, accessible, and enjoyable work.

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Editorial Review

From Booklist

Edwards, noted philosopher and editor of the definitive *Encyclopedia of Philosophy* (1967), tackles the concepts of reincarnation and karma with erudition, energy, and wit. His aim is to test the logical standing of reincarnation--and, in passing, the survival of consciousness beyond physical death--as a rational system of belief based on unambiguous evidence. Some of the eschatological flaws he finds are rarely discussed in writings by proponents: Who decides in what form an individual will be reborn? What physical or paraphysical process accomplishes this rebirth? Why are a person's ego and memory reset to zero each time? Edwards examines the evidence that supports reincarnation--dejavu, child prodigies, hypnotic regressions and progressions, birthmarks, spontaneous memories, and near-death experiences--and discovers that all is easily accounted for by other scenarios. The Bridey Murphy case, Elisabeth Kubler-Ross, Raymond Moody, and Stanislav Grof are subjected to some shattering criticism. Only Dr. Ian Stevenson, who has investigated the subject since the early 1970s, gets credit for professionalism and integrity, if not flawless methodology. Skeptic and reincarnationist alike will find this book enjoyable and challenging. *George Eberhart*

Review

"...a great book...it has the rigour of an academic text, with the clarity and accessibility of a good magazine article, plus the fun of a stand-up comedy act." -- *Humanist in Canada, Summer 1999*

From the Publisher

"It is a breath of fresh air to have at long last a systematic examination of these strange Eastern beliefs. No one could have done the job better than Paul Edwards. His arguments are devastating, his references voluminous, his scholarship awesome." -- Martin Gardner

"Paul Edwards brings his usual incisiveness, clarity, and wit to bear on ancient beliefs that underlie much of the fuzzy thinking of the New Age movement. He deftly exposes the philosophical and practical deficiencies of the concept of Karma and provides a trenchant critique of the evidence in favor of reincarnation." -- Barry Beyerstein

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