

# CONTENTS

## INTRODUCTION 8

---

This Book's Direction

## CHAPTER ONE EVIL AND EVOLUTION 16

---

### DARWIN AND THE BRUTALITIES OF NATURE

Natural History without Religion

The Voyage and the Emerging Conviction of Natural Selection

Nature's Cruelty: Philosophical and Religious Implications

Darwin's Struggle with Theodicy

Does Evolution Necessitate Atheism?

Evolution as Religion: Richard Dawkins and Alister McGrath

Evolution and the God of Classical Metaphysics

Providence and Purpose after Darwin

Metaphysical Impatience and Emerging Purpose

Summary

## CHAPTER TWO EVIL, ETHICS, AND EVOLUTIONARY PSYCHOLOGY 58

---

Evolutionary Psychology, Sociobiology, and Darwinian Anthropology

Darwin and Ethics

From Darwin to Evolutionary Psychology

The Controversial Issue of Altruism

Aggression and Reproductive Competition

Evolutionary Psychology and Religion

Determinism and Transcendence: The Central Problem

Original Sin and Evolutionary Psychology

Summary

## CHAPTER THREE EVIL AND THE PSYCHOANALYTIC TRADITION 100

---

Freud's Gradual Turn to the Death Instinct

Freud, Evil, and Religion

Tillich, Niebuhr, and Freud  
Erich Fromm and Human Destructiveness  
“Life Lovers” and “Death Lovers”  
Fromm’s Syndrome of Decay  
Fromm and Tillich on Estrangement and Healing  
Ernest Becker: Evil and the Denial of Death  
Fear of Death and Evil  
Does Becker Exaggerate Our Narcissism?  
Summary

**CHAPTER FOUR**  
**HUMAN POTENTIAL AND HUMAN DESTRUCTIVENESS** \_\_\_\_\_ **138**  
**THE PSYCHOLOGY OF HATE**

Threat, Anxiety, and Reactive Thinking  
The Role of Egocentricity  
Reactive Offenders and Psychopaths  
Mental Distortion and Enemy Making  
The Other Side of Hate  
Hate and the Shadow  
Jesus, Paul, and the Shadow  
The Jekyll and Hyde Story  
Varieties and Transformations of Hate  
Reasons for Hate  
The First Experience of Hate  
Hatred, Absolutes, and the “Evil Imagination”  
Purifying Our Hatred  
Evaluating These Three Theories of Hate  
Summary

**CHAPTER FIVE**  
**ORDINARY PEOPLE AND MALEVOLENT CIRCUMSTANCES** \_\_\_\_\_ **182**  
**THE SOCIAL CONTEXT OF EVIL**

Destructive Obedience  
How Much Do Social-Psychology Experiments Tell Us about Evil?  
The Breakdown of Self-Regulation

Social Critiques of Excessive Individualism  
 Summary

<b>CHAPTER SIX</b>	
<b>INDIVIDUAL AND SYTEMIC EVIL</b>	<b>212</b>
<hr/>	
<b>SHOULD ONE BE PRIVILEGED OVER THE OTHER?</b>	
Sin Reaffirmed: Langdon Gilkey and Shantung Compound	
Niebuhr, Anxiety, and Sin	
Pride and Self-Obsession	
From the Anxious Individual to the Corrupt System	
Original Violence: Marjorie Suchocki's Objection to Niebuhr	
The Shift from the Individual to the Social in Pastoral Care	
A Niebuhrian Response to Feminist and Liberation Charges	
Summary	
<b>CHAPTER SEVEN</b>	
<b>CONCLUDING THOUGHTS</b>	<b>250</b>
<hr/>	
Twelve Major Convictions	
An Open-Ended Issue	
<b>ACKNOWLEDGMENTS</b>	<b>265</b>
<hr/>	
<b>NOTES</b>	<b>266</b>
<hr/>	
<b>INDEX</b>	<b>281</b>
<hr/>	