The Autonomy of Morality

In *The Autonomy of Morality*, Charles Larmore challenges two ideas that have shaped the modern mind. The world, he argues, is not a realm of value-neutral fact, nor is reason our capacity to impose principles of our own devising on an alien reality. Rather, reason consists in being responsive to reasons for thought and action that arise from the world itself. In particular, Larmore shows that the moral good has an authority that speaks for itself. Only in this light does the true basis of a liberal political order come into view, as well as the role of unexpected goods in the makeup of a life lived well.

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In memory of Marlowe
The Autonomy of Morality

CHARLES LARMORE

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Contents

Acknowledgments

Introduction: Response and Commitment

PART I REASON AND REASONS
1 History and Truth
   1. Historicist Skepticism
   2. Growth and Progress
   3. Agreeing and Coping
   4. Overcoming Dualisms
   5. Moral Progress
2 Back to Kant? No Way
   1. Kant’s Modesty
   2. Dualisms and Ultimate Principles
   3. Kant on Reason
   4. The Fate of Autonomy
3 Attending to Reasons
   1. Introduction
   2. Experience and Reality
   3. Experience as a Tribunal
   4. Platonisms
   5. The Conservation of Trouble

PART II THE MORAL POINT OF VIEW
4 John Rawls and Moral Philosophy
   1. The One and the Many
   2. The Critique of Utilitarianism
   3. Hume vs. Kant
   4. Moral Constructivism
# Contents

## Part III Political Principles

### 6 The Moral Basis of Political Liberalism

1. Introduction
2. Classical and Political Liberalism
3. Political Legitimacy and Moral Respect
4. Rawls’ Ambiguities
5. What Habermas and Rawls Share
6. Metaphysics and Politics
7. Habermas’ Ideal of Political Autonomy
8. Democracy and Liberalism
9. Freedom and Morality

### 7 The Meanings of Political Freedom

1. Three Concepts of Liberty
2. Freedom and Self-Government
3. Freedom and Pluralism
4. Republican vs. Liberal
5. Domination and Respect

### 8 Public Reason

1. Publicity in A Theory of Justice
2. From Publicity to Public Reason
3. The Domain of Public Reason
4. Aims and Exceptions
5. Conclusion

## Part IV Truth and Chance

### 9 Nietzsche and the Will to Truth

1. Pious and Free Spirits
2. Truth and Morality
3. Deception and Self-deception
4. Truth and Thought
5. Perspectivism
6. Truth as a Goal
7. Overcoming the Ascetic Attitude
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contents</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10 The Idea of a Life Plan</td>
<td>246</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. A Philosophical Prejudice</td>
<td>246</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Ancient Roots</td>
<td>253</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. The Rawlsian Conception</td>
<td>259</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Some Other Objections</td>
<td>262</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Prudence and Wisdom</td>
<td>268</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Index</td>
<td>273</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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Chapter 5, “The Autonomy of Morality,” is new.


Chapter 9, “Nietzsche and the Will to Truth.” Originally written in German and published under the title “Der Wille zur Wahrheit” in O. Höffe (ed.), *Nietzsche: Zur Genealogie der Moral (Klassiker Auslegen)* (Berlin: Akademie-Verlag, 2004), pp. 163–176. Copyright © 2004 Akademie-Verlag.