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Richard M. Gale

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There has been in recent years a plethora of defenses of theism from analytical philosophers such as Plantinga, Swinburne, and Alston. Richard Gale's important book is a critical response to these writings. New versions of cosmological, ontological, and religious-experience arguments are critically evaluated, along with pragmatic arguments to justify faith on the grounds of its prudential or moral benefits. A special feature of the book is the discussion of the atheological argument, which attempts to deduce a contradiction from the theist's way of conceiving of God's nature. In considering arguments for and against the existence of God, Gale is able to say interesting things about many important philosophical concepts including explanation, time, free will, personhood, actuality, and the objectivity of experience.

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*For the three wonderful wild ones  
Andy, Larry, and Julia*

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