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Chapter 3

Morality Beyond Agreement: Moral Action within Moral Conflict

[URL: Chapter3]

Introduction

The Agreement Problem: Its Nature, Consequences, and Existential Origins

- I The Agreement Problem
- II Why Is It a “Problem”? Consequences of the Agreement Problem
 - A The use of force and the abandonment of morality
 - B Case study (or maybe just an anecdote)
 - C Encouraging stubbornness and game-playing
- III Existential Origins of the Agreement Problem
 - A Natural limits of empathy
 - B Variation in senses of the Good
 - C Decisions made willy-nilly
 - D Distress patterns and painful emotion
- IV Summary

The World Is Imperfect, But That’s Just the Way It Is; No One Is to Blame

- I Introduction / Synopsis
- II Imperfection as an existential condition
- III This is not the same as ignoring imperfection.
 - A Case study: “Love the sinner; hate the sin”
 - B Case study: “Life is not fair”
- IV The Perfection Problem: The Illusions of Blameworthiness and Perfectability and the Harm of Pursuing Personal Perfection

Facing the Agreement Problem in a Second Moment of Moral

Judgment

- I Introduction
- II Second-order Criteria for Decisions under Disagreement
- III Friendship When Friendship Fails: Choosing and Still Loving; Learning Humility and Detaching Oneself

Beyond the Second Moment: The Third Moment

- I Persistent Disagreement Beyond the Second Moment
- II Grasping the Nettle of Solidarity
- III A Tragic and Joyful Existence: The Universe, Synchronicity, and Prayer

The Motivation Problem Reconsidered

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