Chapter 1

Authenticity and the Sense of the Good

The Sense of the Good

I  Introduction to “good” [lower-case]
   A  Other meanings of “good” [lower-case]
   B  “Goods” or “needs”?

II The Good [Upper-case] as an Abstraction; its Self-regardingness; and its Moral Neutrality
   A  “Goods”; “a Good”; “one of my Goods”
   B  “My Sense of the Good”; “my Good”
   C  The Good is self-regarding
   D  The Good is morally neutral: the Good vs. the Right / Ethics vs. Morality
   E  Origins of the Good

III The Good Is Individual and Specific

IV The Good Is One’s Autonomous Choice

V One’s Sense of the Good Is Malleable

VI “There’s No Disputing Taste”

VII Nevertheless, We Can Meaningfully Engage Each Other about Taste

VIII Engagement Can Change Either Party

IX The Münchhausen Trilemma and Our Inability to Prove That Something Is Good

X Conflict Between Goods

XI Are Goods Hierarchical?

XII The Internal Experience of Goodness, Beauty, Virtue, etc.

Personas, IROGs, and Authenticity

I  The Problem of Pursuing Multiple Goods

II  The Concept of a Persona

III Personas Are Fully Human

IV What Sort of Reality Do Personas Have?

V The Problems of Having a Multiplicity of Goods and Personas

VI Reconciling Conflicting Goods through IROGs [Internal Reconciliations of the Good]

VII IROGs Are Non-rational and Contingent

VIII The Concept of Authenticity

IX Case Study: Why Be Authentic? The Good of Authenticity
   A  Two ways to understand the question
   B  An unsatisfactory answer; a different question
   C  The lived experience of authenticity and inauthenticity

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS
Therapeutic Discourse

I Issues with IROGs
II Senses of the Good Can Be Severely Unreconciled
III In a World of Respect for Each Others’ Goods, How Can Therapeutic Discourse Be Legitimate?
IV Therapeutic Discourse Is for Authenticity
V Therapeutic Discourse Can Be Useful
VI Therapeutic Discourse Can Be Necessary: Recovering Authenticity by Reconciling the Alienated Personas
VII Conditions for Therapeutic Discourse
   A Against some misuses and misunderstandings of therapeutic discourse
   B No fixed theory
   C Therapeutic discourse must be mutual
VIII No Guarantee of Success

Case Study: Multiple Personalities

I The Concept of MPD/DID
II Controversies
III Therapy