

# Access Free The Temptation To Exist Emil Cioran Free Download Pdf

**The Temptation to Exist** **The Trouble With Being Born** **On the Heights of Despair** **The Fall Into Time** **The Temptation to Exist** **The New Gods** **Anathemas and Admirations** **History and Utopia** **Searching for Cioran** **Drawn and Quartered** **Tears and Saints** **A Short History of Decay** **Better Never to Have Been** **In the Dust of This Planet** **Cioran – A Dionysiac with the voluptuousness of doubt** **The Temptation of Torilla** **What I Don't Know about Death** **Emil Cioran** **Writing At Risk** **Why Does the World Exist?: An Existential Detective Story** **Art and Religion** **Pessimism** **The Transfiguration of Romania** **True Detective** and **Philosophy** **Interrogating the Real** **The Alienation of Reason** **Threshold** **Infinite Resignation** **The King in Yellow** **Signposts in a Strange Land** **The Devil All the Time** **An Infamous Past** **The Ocean, the Bird, and the Scholar** **Essayism** **The absurd in literature** **Dangerous Mystic** **Songs of a Dead Dreamer** **The Greek Sophists** **The Poems of Nakahara Ch?ya** **The Moment I Met You**

**What I Don't Know about Death** Jun 10 2021 "A tenured professor of Eastern Religions and novelist accustomed to vigorous health receives a terminal diagnosis in the winter between terms, and by summer, his cancer has run its course. In between, he takes to his keyboard to plumb the foundations of all the Buddhist teachings and meditation he has spent a lifetime pursuing, to see how much has really penetrated his being. In this book, readers can join his journey of traversing the gap between knowledge and true wisdom"--*Dangerous Mystic* Oct 22 2019 Life and times of the 14th century German spiritual leader Meister Eckhart, whose theory of a personal path to the divine inspired thinkers from Jean Paul Sartre to Thomas Merton, and most recently, Eckhart Tolle Meister Eckhart was a medieval Christian mystic whose wisdom powerfully appeals to seekers seven centuries after his death. In the modern era, Eckhart's writings have struck a chord with thinkers as diverse as Heidegger, Merton, Sartre, John Paul II, and the current Dalai Lama. He is the inspiration for the bestselling New Age author Eckhart Tolle's pen name, and his fourteenth-century quotes have become an online sensation. Today a variety of Christians, as well as many Zen Buddhists, Sufi Muslims, Jewish Cabbalists, and various spiritual seekers, all claim Eckhart as their own. Meister Eckhart preached a personal, internal path to God at a time when the Church could not have been more hierarchical and ritualistic. Then and now, Eckhart's revolutionary method of direct access to ultimate reality offers a profoundly subjective approach that is at once intuitive and pragmatic, philosophical yet non-rational, and, above all, universally accessible. This "dangerous mystic's" teachings challenge the very nature of religion, yet the man himself never directly challenged the Church. Eckhart was one of the most learned theologians of his day, but he was also a man of the world who had worked as an administrator for his religious order and taught for years at the University of Paris. His personal path from conventional friar to professor to lay preacher culminated in a spiritual philosophy that combined the teachings of an array of pagan and Christian writers, as well as Muslim and Jewish philosophers. His revolutionary decision to take his approach to the common people garnered him many enthusiastic followers as well as powerful enemies. After Eckhart's death and papal censure, many religious women and clerical supporters, known as the Friends of God, kept his legacy alive through the centuries, albeit underground until the master's dramatic rediscovery by modern Protestants and Catholics. *Dangerous Mystic* grounds Meister Eckhart in a world that is simultaneously familiar and alien. In the midst of this medieval society, a few decades before the Black Death, Eckhart boldly preached to captivated crowds a timeless method, a "wayless way," of directly experiencing the divine.

*Tears and Saints* Dec 16 2021 "(Cioran's) statements have the compression of poetry and the audacity of cosmic clowning".--WASHINGTON POST. In *TEARS AND SAINTS*, Cioran touches on nearly all the themes that would preoccupy the writer over the course of his career. Self-consciously perverse, this collection will fascinate anyone interested in saints, mysticism, philosophy, the history of Christianity, or the ultimate strangeness of the sacred.

**In the Dust of This Planet** Sep 13 2021 The world is increasingly unthinkable, a world of planetary disasters, emerging pandemics, and the looming threat of extinction. In this book Eugene Thacker suggests that we look to the genre of horror as offering a way of thinking about the unthinkable world. To confront this idea is to confront the limit of our ability to understand the world in which we live - a central motif of the horror genre. In *In the Dust of This Planet* explores these relationships between philosophy and horror. In Thacker's hands, philosophy is not academic logic-chopping; instead, it is the thought of the limit of all thought, especially as it dovetails into occultism, demonology, and mysticism. Likewise, Thacker takes horror to mean something beyond the focus on gore and scare tactics, but as the under-appreciated genre of supernatural horror in fiction, film, comics, and music.

**Infinite Resignation** Jun 29 2020 The author of the contemporary classic, *In the Dust of This Planet*, is back with another raw and unsettling look at the human condition. Comprised of aphorisms, fragments, and observations both philosophical and personal, Thacker's new book traces the contours of pessimism, caught as it often is between a philosophical position and a bad attitude. Reflecting on the universe's looming abyss, Thacker explores the pessimism of a range of philosophers, from the well-known (Nietzsche, Schopenhauer, Camus), to the lesser-known (E.M. Cioran, Lev Shestov, Miguel de Unamuno). Readers will find food for thought in Thacker's handling of a range of themes in Christianity and Buddhism, as well as his engagement with literary figures (from Dostoevsky to Thomas Bernhard, Osamu Dazai, and Fernando Pessoa), whose pessimism about the world both inspires and depresses Thacker. By turns melancholic, misanthropic, and darkly funny, (*Birth is a metaphysical injury „ healing takes time „ the span of one's life*), many will find *Infinite Resignation* a welcome antidote to the exuberant imbecility of our times.

**Writing At Risk** Apr 08 2021 Much has been made of the image of writers in Paris—romanticized and idealized in fiction and on screen, these émigré artists in sidewalk cafés spark our imagination with unusual force. But rarely do the real-life figures speak to us directly to comment on their work, their lives, and their reasons for choosing to live and work in Paris. In these striking interviews, E. M. Cioran, Julio Cortázar, Brion Gysin, Eugène Ionesco, Carlos Fuentes, Jean-Claude Carrière, Milan Kundera, Nathalie Sarraute, and Edmund Jabès do just this as they speak out on the risks they've taken, on their struggles and discoveries, on tradition, challenge, and their near-unanimous status as émigrés. A consummate interviewer, Jason Weiss spoke in depth with these pathbreaking artists regarding their lives, their craft, and their very special relationship to Paris. Their writings were naturally the main focus of investigation, but Weiss' concern was always to build on previous interviews, to deepen certain lines of inquiry and open new ones, to contribute fresh material to the ongoing record. The result is a series of invigorating, detailed portraits that go beyond personality, habits, and pleasures to examine some of the causes and effects in the unique relationship of place and temperament. *Writing at Risk* suggests that there is more than we suspect binding writers of such disparate cultures and genres...perhaps their attitudes toward writing, perhaps their common attraction to risk. Readers will relish the immediacy of these interviews and will want to (re)discover the work of these exceptional artists.

*The Moment I Met You* Jun 17 2019 \*DEBBIE JOHNSON'S GORGEOUSLY ROMANTIC AND UNMISSABLE NEW NOVEL, FOREVER YOURS, IS AVAILABLE TO PRE-ORDER NOW!\* 'Emotional, beautiful, wonderful. Debbie Johnson at her finest' MILLY JOHNSON 'Romantic, heartbreaking and packed with Debbie's trademark warmth and wisdom' CATHERINE ISAAC 'A rollercoaster of emotions. Absolutely brilliant and beautiful' ALEX BROWN 'A very special, hugely affecting novel that you'll return to time after time. A future classic' MIRANDA DICKINSON 'A beautiful story with emotional twists that pulled at my heartstrings' JESSICA RYN 'Utterly spell-binding, it sent shock waves through my heart' CATHY BRAMLEY 'This book is a triumph' WOMAN'S OWN It only takes a second... For life to change forever. Elena Godwin could never have known that her dream holiday to Mexico would change her life forever. She thought that she was in charge of her own destiny. But on a gorgeous summer evening, her whole world is ripped from her feet in a single moment. Ten years later, she still can't forget the face of the stranger who held her whilst everything she knew was destroyed. Thrown back together again, Elena starts to uncover the truth around that fateful night - and questions whether she made the right decision all those years ago. She only met him for a moment, but maybe it's not too late... Readers are loving *The Moment I Met You*... 'WOW. It's not often something moves me as much as this did. Outstanding' 'Absolutely brilliant book. I didn't want to put it down' 'Wow wow wow!!! This book was an emotional rollercoaster from start to finish and I loved every minute of it' 'Just beautiful. A book that will stay with you long after you've finished' 'WOW! What an absolutely incredible story. So brilliantly written' 'What an amazing read. A story of secrets, love, hope and so much more. Brilliant' 'I absolutely adored this book. Powerful, beautiful and heartbreaking, I devoured it in one sitting'

*The Temptation to Exist* Jun 22 2022 This collection of eleven essays originally appeared in France thirty years ago and created a literary whirlwind on the Left Bank. Cioran writes incisively about Western civilizations, the writer, the novel, mystics, apostles, and philosophers. *The Temptation to Exist* first introduced this brilliant European thinker twenty years ago to American readers, in a superb translation by Richard Howard. This literary mystique around Cioran continues to grow, and *The Temptation to Exist* has become an underground classic. In this work Cioran writes about Western civilizations, the writer, the novel, about mystics, apostles, philosophers. For those to whom the very word philosophy brings visions of arduous reading, be assured: Cioran is crystal-clear, his style quotable and aphoristic. "A sort of final philosopher of the Western world. His statements have the compression of poetry and the audacity of cosmic clowning"—The Washington Post

**The Ocean, the Bird, and the Scholar** Jan 25 2020 A Times Higher Education Book of the Week One of our foremost commentators on poetry examines the work of a broad range of nineteenth- and twentieth-century English, Irish, and American poets. *The Ocean, the Bird, and the Scholar* gathers two decades' worth of Helen Vendler's essays, book reviews, and occasional prose—including the 2004 Jefferson Lecture—in a single volume. "It's one of [Vendler's] finest books, an impressive summation of a long, distinguished career in which she revisits many of the poets she has venerated over a lifetime and written about previously. Reading it, one can feel her happiness in doing what she loves best. There is scarcely a page in the book where there isn't a fresh insight about a poet or poetry." —Charles Simic, *New York Review of Books* "Vendler has done perhaps more than any other living critic to shape—I might almost say 'create'—our understanding of poetry in English." —Joel Brouwer, *New York Times Book Review* "Poems are artifacts and [Vendler] shows us, often thrillingly, how those poems she considers the best specimens are made...A reader feels that she has thoroughly absorbed her subjects and conveys her understanding with candor, clarity, wit." —John Greening, *Times Literary Supplement*

*History and Utopia* Mar 19 2022 "Only a monster can allow himself the luxury of seeing things as they are," writes E. M. Cioran, the Romanian-born philosopher who has rightly been compared to Samuel Beckett. In *History and Utopia*, Cioran the monster writes of politics in its broadest sense, of history, and of the utopian dream. His views are, to say the least, provocative. In one essay he casts a scathing look at democracy, that "festival of mediocrity"; in another he turns his uncompromising gaze on Russia, its history, its evolution, and what he calls "the virtues of liberty." In the dark shadow of Stalin and Hitler, he writes of tyrants and tyranny with rare lucidity and convincing logic. In "Odyssey of Rancor," he examines the deep-rooted dream in all of us to "hate our neighbors," to take immediate and irremediable revenge. And, in the final essay, he analyzes the notion of the "golden age," the biblical Eden, the utopia of so many poets and thinkers.

**The Devil All the Time** Mar 27 2020 \*\*NOW A MAJOR NETFLIX FILM STARRING TOM HOLLAND AND ROBERT PATTINSON\*\* 'Some people were born just so they could be buried' In *Knockemstiff*, Ohio, war veteran Willard can't save his beautiful wife, Charlotte, from a slow death by cancer no matter how much sacrificial blood he pours on his 'prayer log'. Carl and Sandy Henderson, a husband-and-wife team of serial killers, trawl America's highways searching for suitable models to photograph and exterminate. Preacher Roy and his crippled virtuoso-guitar-playing sidekick are running from the law. And caught in the middle of all this is Arvin, Willard and Charlotte's orphaned son, looking for answers...

'Superb' The Times 'Terrifying ... an unsettling masterwork' GQ

**Anathemas and Admirations** Apr 20 2022 "A collection of literary portraits intermingled with aphorisms and random thoughts . . . Brilliant and delightfully opinionated" (Kirkus Reviews). In this collection of essays and epigrams, Romanian-born French philosopher E.M. Cioran gives us portraits and evaluations—which he calls admirations—of Samuel Beckett, Jorge Luis Borges, F. Scott Fitzgerald, the poet Paul Valéry, and Mircea Eliade, among others. In alternating sections of aphorisms—his anathemas—he delivers insights on such topics as solitude, flattery, vanity, friendship, insomnia, music, mortality, God, and the lure of disillusion. "A superb literary essayist." —The New York Times "Cioran's absolute, dark pessimism is, paradoxically, invigorating, even inspirational. Readers who have yet to encounter the Romanian-born thinker, who lives in France, will find in these aphorisms and essays one of the century's most fertile, profound minds." —Publishers Weekly "The result can be a series of touching and insightful recollections of Beckett or Michaux or Eliade. He is able to enter the Other's subjectivity and assess sympathetically both the public personality and the real person." —Library Journal

**Songs of a Dead Dreamer** Sep 20 2019

**The Transfiguration of Romania** Dec 04 2020 A close friend of Eugene Ionesco and Mircea Eliade as well as - in his later Paris years - Paul Celan and Samuel Beckett, the Romanian philosopher and essayist Emil Cioran is an important figure in central European Modernism. Cioran's existentialism channelled many seminal intellectual influences of the time from Kant, Schopenhauer and Nietzsche to Georg Simmel, Martin Heidegger and Henri Bergson. More controversially, it was also a philosophy that took on distinctly fascist overtones in the inter-war years, especially in his early work *The Transfiguration of Romania*. Now available for the first time in English translation, the publication of *The Transfiguration of Romania* casts new light on Modernist culture's engagement with the rise of European fascism between the wars. Supported by an extended introduction that explores Cioran's life, work and enduring influence up to the present day as well his ongoing engagement with the far-right in Romania and beyond, this is a crucial text for anyone seeking to understand the rise of fascist culture in Europe in the interwar period.

**Emil Cioran** May 09 2021 Daniel Branco (PhD) provides a scintillating explanation of one of Cioran's most complicated themes - the connection between time, utopia, and historical progress. Branco's meticulous study of Cioran not only examines his published works, but also explores Cioran's personal life and how it influenced his writing.

**Interrogating the Real** Oct 02 2020 Slavoj Žižek is one of the world's foremost cultural commentators: a prolific writer and thinker, whose vividly adventurous, unorthodox and wide-ranging writings have won him a unique place as one of the most high profile thinkers of our time. Covering psychoanalysis, philosophy and popular culture and drawing on a heady mix of Marxist politics, Hegelian dialectics and Lacanian psychoanalysis, the writings collected in *Interrogating the Real* reflect not only the remarkable extent of Žižek's varied interests, but also reveal his controversial and dynamic style.

**The Greek Sophists** Aug 20 2019 By mid-5th century BC, Athens was governed by democratic rule and power turned upon the ability of the citizen to command the attention of the people, and to sway the crowds of the assembly. It was the Sophists who understood the art of rhetoric and the importance of transforming effective reasoning into persuasive public speaking. Their enquiries - into the status of women, slavery, the distinction between Greeks and barbarians, the existence of the gods, the origins of religion, and whether virtue can be taught - laid the groundwork for the insights of the next generation of thinkers such as Plato and Aristotle. For more than seventy years, Penguin has been the leading publisher of classic literature in the English-speaking world. With more than 1,700 titles, Penguin Classics represents a global bookshelf of the best works throughout history and across genres and disciplines. Readers trust the series to provide authoritative texts enhanced by introductions and notes by distinguished scholars and contemporary authors, as well as up-to-date translations by award-winning translators.

**The Temptation to Exist** Oct 26 2022 This collection of eleven essays originally appeared in France thirty years ago and created a literary whirlwind on the Left Bank. Cioran writes incisively about Western civilizations, the writer, the novel, mystics, apostles, and philosophers. *The Temptation to Exist* first introduced this brilliant European thinker twenty years ago to American readers, in a superb translation by Richard Howard. This literary mystique around Cioran continues to grow, and *The Temptation to Exist* has become an underground classic. In this work Cioran writes about Western civilizations, the writer, the novel, about mystics, apostles, philosophers. For those to whom the very word philosophy brings visions of arduous reading, be assured: Cioran is crystal-clear, his style quotable and aphoristic. "A sort of final philosopher of the Western world. His statements have the compression of poetry and the audacity of cosmic clowning"—The Washington Post

**An Infamous Past** Feb 24 2020 Cioran was one of the greatest scholars of the twentieth century to be seduced by totalitarianism. The scene of Cioran's excesses is Romania and Europe in the 1930s and 1940s, a time of xenophobia, anti-Semitism, racism, Nazism, and Stalinism.

**The Alienation of Reason** Sep 01 2020

**The Fall Into Time** Jul 23 2022

**Why Does the World Exist?: An Existential Detective Story** Mar 07 2021 The Washington Post Notable Non-Fiction of 2013 "I can imagine few more enjoyable ways of thinking than to read this book."—Sarah Bakewell, New York Times Book Review, front-page review Tackling the "darkest question in all of philosophy" with "raffish erudition" (Dwight Garner, New York Times), author Jim Holt explores the greatest metaphysical mystery of all: why is there something rather than nothing? This runaway bestseller, which has captured the imagination of critics and the public alike, traces our latest efforts to grasp the origins of the universe. Holt adopts the role of cosmological detective, traveling the globe to interview a host of celebrated scientists, philosophers, and writers, "testing the contentions of one against the theories of the other" (Jeremy Bernstein, Wall Street Journal). As he interrogates his list of ontological culprits, the brilliant yet slyly humorous Holt contends that we might have been too narrow in limiting our suspects to God versus the Big Bang. This "deft and consuming" (David Ulin, Los Angeles Times) narrative humanizes the profound questions of meaning and existence it confronts.

**The New Gods** May 21 2022 Dubbed "Nietzsche without his hammer" by literary critic James Wood, the Romanian philosopher E. M. Cioran is known as much for his profound pessimism and fatalistic approach as for the lyrical, raging prose with which he communicates them. Unlike many of his other works, such as *On the Heights of Despair* and *Tears and Saints*, *The New Gods* eschews his usual aphoristic approach in favor of more extensive and analytic essays. Returning to many of Cioran's favorite themes, *The New Gods* explores humanity's attachment to gods, death, fear, and infirmity, in essays that vary widely in form and approach. In "Paleontology" Cioran describes a visit to a museum, finding the relatively pedestrian destination rife with decay, death, and human weakness. In another chapter, Cioran explores suicide in shorter, impressionistic bursts, while "The Demiurge" is a shambolic exploration of man's relationship with good, evil, and God. All the while, *The New Gods* reaffirms Cioran's belief in "lucid despair," and his own signature mixture of pessimism and skepticism in language that never fails to be a pleasure. Perhaps his prose itself is an argument against Cioran's near-nihilism: there is beauty in his books.

**The King in Yellow** May 29 2020 Toward the end of the year 1920 the Government of the United States had practically completed the programme, adopted during the last months of President Winthrop's administration. The country was apparently tranquil. Everybody knows how the Tariff and Labour questions were settled. The war with Germany, incident on that country's seizure of the Samoan Islands, had left no visible scars upon the republic, and the temporary occupation of Norfolk by the invading army had been forgotten in the joy over repeated naval victories, and the subsequent ridiculous plight of General Von Gartenlaube's forces in the State of New Jersey. The Cuban and Hawaiian investments had paid one hundred per cent and the territory of Samoa was well worth its cost as a coaling station. The country was in a superb state of defence. Every coast city had been well supplied with land fortifications; the army under the parental eye of the General Staff, organized according to the Prussian system, had been increased to 300,000 men, with a territorial reserve of a million; and six magnificent squadrons of cruisers and battle-ships patrolled the six stations of the navigable seas, leaving a steam reserve amply fitted to control home waters. The gentlemen from the West had at last been constrained to acknowledge that a college for the training of diplomats was as necessary as law schools are for the training of barristers; consequently we were no longer represented abroad by incompetent patriots. The nation was prosperous; Chicago, for a moment paralyzed after a second great fire, had risen from its ruins, white and imperial, and more beautiful than the white city which had been built for its plaything in 1893. Everywhere good architecture was replacing bad, and even in New York, a sudden craving for decency had swept away a great portion of the existing horrors. Streets had been widened, properly paved and lighted, trees had been planted, squares laid out, elevated structures demolished and underground roads built to replace them. The new government buildings and barracks were fine bits of architecture, and the long system of stone quays which completely surrounded the island had been turned into parks which proved a god-send to the population. The subsidizing of the state theatre and state opera brought its own reward. The United States National Academy of Design was much like European institutions of the same kind. Nobody envied the Secretary of Fine Arts, either his cabinet position or his portfolio. The Secretary of Forestry and Game Preservation had a much easier time, thanks to the new system of National Mounted Police. We had profited well by the latest treaties with France and England; the exclusion of foreign-born Jews as a measure of self-preservation, the settlement of the new independent negro state of Suanee, the checking of immigration, the new laws concerning naturalization, and the gradual centralization of power in the executive all contributed to national calm and prosperity. When the Government solved the Indian problem and squadrons of Indian cavalry scouts in native costume were substituted for the pitiable organizations tacked on to the tail of skeletonized regiments by a former Secretary of War, the nation drew a long sigh of relief. When, after the colossal Congress of Religions, bigotry and intolerance were laid in their graves and kindness and charity began to draw warring sects together, many thought the millennium had arrived, at least in the new world which after all is a world by itself.

**Cioran – A Dionysiac with the voluptuousness of doubt** Aug 12 2021 Since its inception philosophical thought has been fixated by death. Death, as much as life, has been the unrelenting driving force behind some of history's greatest thinkers. Yet, for Emil Cioran, a Romanian-French philosopher, even philosophy cannot attempt to understand nor contain the inevitable unknown. Considered to be an anti-philosopher, Cioran approached and reflected on the human experience with a despairing pessimism. His works are characterised by a brooding, fatalistic temperament that reveals and defines itself in his irony, black humour and inimitable style. Although Cioran's later works have received much scholarly recognition, little attention has been paid to the texts he wrote in his adolescent. Grounded in the historical context of interwar Romania, this book presents for the first time an analysis of the little-known works of this pioneering Romanian thinker. Deeply affected by his upbringing, this book offers a glimpse into Cioran's first attempts to delve into philosophical enterprise, before turning its attention to his later works, *On the Heights of Despair* (1934), *The Transfiguration of Romania* (1936) and *Twilight of thoughts* (1940; written in France). Using both the French and Romanian editions of these works, but also their original manuscripts, this volume seeks to provide a re-reading that takes language rather than a social or political critique as its focal point. As an important and provocative contribution to the existing literature on Cioran, this book will be an essential point of reference for students and researchers, alike.

**True Detective and Philosophy** Nov 03 2020 Investigating the trail of philosophical leads in HBO's chilling *True Detective* series, an elite team of philosophers examine far-reaching riddles including human pessimism, Rust's anti-natalism, the problem of evil, and the 'flat circle'. The first book dedicated to exploring the far-reaching philosophical questions behind the darkly complex and Emmy-nominated HBO *True Detective* series Explores in a fun but insightful way the rich philosophical and existential experiences that arise from this gripping show Gives new perspectives on the characters in the series, its storylines, and its themes by investigating core questions such as: Why Life Rather Than Death? Cosmic Horror and Hopeful Pessimism, the Illusion of Self, Noir, Tragedy, Philosopher-Detectives, and much, much more Draws together an elite team of philosophers to shine new light on why this genre-expanding show has inspired such a fervently questioning fan-base

**Signposts in a Strange Land** Apr 27 2020 Writings on the South, Catholicism, and more from the National Book Award winner: "His nonfiction is always entertaining and enlightening" (Library Journal). Published just after Walker Percy's death, *Signposts in a Strange Land* takes readers through the philosophical, religious, and literary ideas of one

of the South's most profound and unique thinkers. Each essay is laced with wit and insight into the human condition. From race relations and the mysteries of existence, to Catholicism and the joys of drinking bourbon, this collection offers a window into the underpinnings of Percy's celebrated novels and brings to light the stirring thoughts and voice of a giant of twentieth century literature.

**On the Heights of Despair** Aug 24 2022 It presents us with the youthful Cioran, who described himself as "a Nietzsche still complete with his Zarathustra, his poses, his mystical clown's tricks, a whole circus of the heights." It also presents Cioran as a connoisseur of apocalypse, a theoretician of despair. For Cioran, writing and philosophy are closely related to physical suffering: both share the "lyrical virtues" that alone lead to metaphysical revelation. The result is a book that becomes a substitute for as well as an antidote to suicide. By enacting the struggle of the Romantic soul against God, the universe, and itself, Cioran releases a saving burst of lyrical energy that carries him safely out of his desperation. *On the Heights of Despair* shows the philosopher's first grappling with themes he would return to in his mature works: despair and decay, absurdity and alienation, futility and the irrationality of existence.

**A Short History of Decay** Nov 15 2021 E. M. Cioran confronts the place of today's world in the context of human history—focusing on such major issues of the twentieth century as human progress, fanaticism, and science—in this nihilistic and witty collection of aphoristic essays concerning the nature of civilization in mid-twentieth-century Europe. Touching upon Man's need to worship, the feebleness of God, the downfall of the Ancient Greeks and the melancholy baseness of all existence, Cioran's pieces are pessimistic in the extreme, but also display a beautiful certainty that renders them delicate, vivid, and memorable. Illuminating and brutally honest, *A Short History of Decay* dissects Man's decadence in a remarkable series of moving and beautiful pieces.

**Art and Religion** Feb 06 2021 You don't really need a description, but I'm required to give one since I have to have an at least 200 character description to submit the book, so here is 200 characters, once I reach those 200 characters. Still haven't reached 200 words, watching the counter go down as I type here. If you come across Max Stirner before, you don't need a description here, if you haven't come across Stirner before, here's your description:

**The Poems of Nakahara Ch?ya** Jul 19 2019 Acclaimed English translation of poems by one of the most gifted and colourful of Japan's early modern poets: Nakahara Chuya. Now ranked among the finest Japanese verse of the 20th century, influenced by both Symbolism and Dada, he created lyrics renowned for their songlike eloquence, their personal imagery and their poignant charm.

**Essayism** Dec 24 2019 A compelling ode to the essay form and the great essayists themselves, from Montaigne to Woolf to Sontag. *Essayism* is a book about essays and essayists, a study of melancholy and depression, a love letter to belle-lettrists, and an account of the indispensable lifelines of reading and writing. Brian Dillon's style incorporates diverse features of the essay. By turns agglomerative, associative, digressive, curious, passionate, and dispassionate, his is a branching book of possibilities, seeking consolation and direction from Michel de Montaigne, Virginia Woolf, Roland Barthes, Theodor Adorno, Walter Benjamin, Georges Perec, Elizabeth Hardwick, and Susan Sontag, to name just a few of his influences. Whether he is writing on origins, aphorisms, coherence, vulnerability, anxiety, or a number of other subjects, his command of language, his erudition, and his own personal history serve not so much to illuminate or magnify the subject as to discover it anew through a kaleidoscopic alignment of attention, thought, and feeling, a dazzling and momentary suspension of disparate elements, again and again.

**The Trouble With Being Born** Sep 25 2022 'Not to be born is undoubtedly the best plan of all. Unfortunately it is within no one's reach.' In *The Trouble With Being Born*, E. M. Cioran grapples with the major questions of human existence: birth, death, God, the passing of time, how to relate to others and how to make ourselves get out of bed in the morning. In a series of interlinking aphorisms which are at once pessimistic, poetic and extremely funny, Cioran finds a kind of joy in his own despair, revelling in the absurdity and futility of our existence, and our inability to live in the world. Translated by Pulitzer Prize-winning poet and critic Richard Howard, *The Trouble With Being Born* is a provocative, illuminating testament to a singular mind.

**Searching for Cioran** Feb 18 2022 Ilinca Zarifopol-Johnston's critical biography of the Romanian-born French philosopher E. M. Cioran focuses on his crucial formative years as a mystical revolutionary attracted to right-wing nationalist politics in interwar Romania, his writings of this period, and his self-imposed exile to France in 1937. This move led to his transformation into one of the most famous French moralists of the 20th century. As an enthusiast of the anti-rationalist philosophies widely popular in Europe during the first decades of the 20th century, Cioran became an advocate of the fascistic Iron Guard. In her quest to understand how Cioran and other brilliant young intellectuals could have been attracted to such passionate national revival movements, Zarifopol-Johnston, herself a Romanian emigr , sought out the aging philosopher in Paris in the early 1990s and retraced his steps from his home village of Rasinari and youthful years in Sibiu, through his student years in Bucharest and Berlin, to his early residence in France. Her portrait of Cioran is complemented by an engaging autobiographical account of her rediscovery of her own Romanian past.

**Drawn and Quartered** Jan 17 2022 "A brilliant and original exponent of a rare genre, the philosophical essay. Once read, Cioran cannot fail to provoke reaction."—New York Times Book Review

**Pessimism** Jan 05 2021 *Pessimism* claims an impressive following--from Rousseau, Schopenhauer, and Nietzsche, to Freud, Camus, and Foucault. Yet "pessimist" remains a term of abuse--an accusation of a bad attitude--or the diagnosis of an unhappy psychological state. Pessimism is thought of as an exclusively negative stance that inevitably leads to resignation or despair. Even when pessimism looks like utter truth, we are told that it makes the worst of a bad situation. Bad for the individual, worse for the species--who would actually counsel pessimism? Joshua Foa Dienstag does. In *Pessimism*, he challenges the received wisdom about pessimism, arguing that there is an unrecognized yet coherent and vibrant pessimistic philosophical tradition. More than that, he argues that pessimistic thought may provide a critically needed alternative to the increasingly untenable progressivist ideas that have dominated thinking about politics throughout the modern period. Laying out powerful grounds for pessimism's claim that progress is not an enduring feature of human history, Dienstag argues that political theory must begin from this predicament. He persuasively shows that pessimism has been--and can again be--an energizing and even liberating philosophy, an ethic of radical possibility and not just a criticism of faith. The goal--of both the pessimistic spirit and of this fascinating account of pessimism--is not to depress us, but to edify us about our condition and to fortify us for life in a disordered and disenchanting universe.

**Better Never to Have Been** Oct 14 2021 First published in paperback in 2008. Reprinted 2009, 2013.

**The Temptation of Torilla** Jul 11 2021 The Marquis of Havingham visits his mother in Harrogate to tell her he intends to marry Lady Beryl Fern, the most acclaimed beauty in the Prince Regent's circle. This should be the happiest day of his life - he is handsome, fabulously wealthy and now about to be a bridegroom. There is only one cloud on the horizon - he is not in love. Convinced that true love is not worth the heartache, and that marriage to the 'Incomparable' Lady Beryl, will work because of their shared interests and position amongst the Beau Monde, only his mother is worried that he may be making a terrible mistake. For Torilla, the daughter of a clergyman working in the deprived mining village of Barrowfield, the news of the wedding means travelling South to be her cousin, Lady Beryl's, bridesmaid. Torilla is excited, not only about the wedding, but also the opportunity to return to the genteel parish she and her father left after the tragic death of her mother. For a young woman who has spent time amongst the grime and squalor of the mines, the lavish preparations and generosity of her cousin seem at times almost overwhelming. But as the wedding draws ever nearer Torilla cannot help wondering how attached the betrothed couple really are to each other. Their relationship is certainly nothing like the perfect soul mates that the cousins used to dream of. Afraid to question her cousin, Torilla unknowingly shares the same concerns as the Marquis' mother. Can a marriage really work that is based only on convenience? And as Torilla gets to know the Marquis better she becomes even more convinced that this is not a match made in heaven. But will anyone be brave enough to say something? With her feelings in turmoil and filled with concern for the future happiness of all, Torilla certainly hopes so.

**The absurd in literature** Nov 22 2019 Neil Cornwell's study, while endeavouring to present an historical survey of absurdist literature and its forbears, does not aspire to being an exhaustive history of absurdism. Rather, it pauses on certain historical moments, artistic movements, literary figures and selected works, before moving on to discuss four key writers: Daniil Kharms, Franz Kafka, Samuel Beckett and Flann O'Brien. The absurd in literature will be of compelling interest to a considerable range of students of comparative, European (including Russian and Central European) and English literatures (British Isles and American) – as well as those more concerned with theatre studies, the avant-garde and the history of ideas (including humour theory). It should also have a wide appeal to the enthusiastic general reader.

**Threshold** Jul 31 2020 'A wild, sleazy, drug-filled odyssey ... Doyle's maverick novel deserves the accolades coming its way' Independent 'The best work to date from a writer who gets better and better with each release' Irish Independent 'A masterclass in what not to do' New Statesman 'His best book so far: riddling, irreverent, fearless' TLS Rob has spent most of his confusing adult life wandering, writing, and imbibing literature and narcotics in equally vast doses. Now, stranded between reckless youth and middle age, between exaltation and despair, his travels have acquired a de facto purpose: the immemorial quest for transcendent meaning. On a lurid pilgrimage for cheap thrills and universal truth, Doyle's narrator takes us from the menacing peripheries of Paris to the drug-fuelled clubland of Berlin, from art festivals to sun-kissed islands, through metaphysical awakenings in Asia and the brink of destruction in Europe, into the shattering revelations brought on by the psychedelic DMT. A dazzling, intimate, and profound celebration of art and ageing, sex and desire, the limits of thought and the extremes of sensation, *Threshold* confirms Doyle as one of the most original writers in contemporary literature.