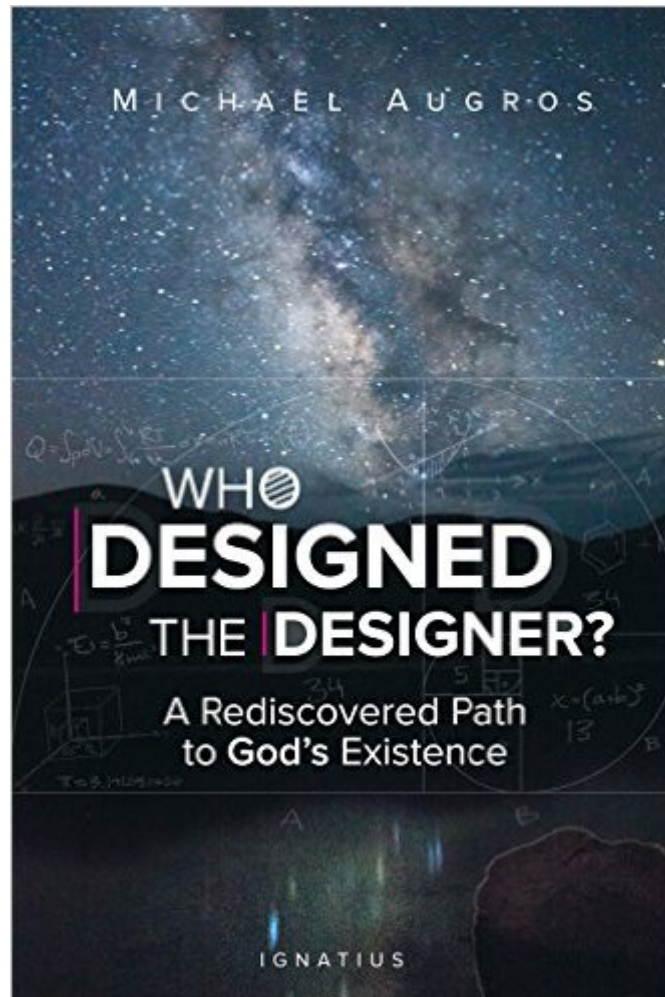


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Who Designed The Designer?: A Rediscovered Path To God's Existence



Synopsis

The "New Atheists" are pulling no punches. If the world of nature needs a designer, they ask, then why wouldn't the designer itself need a designer, too? Or if it can exist without any designer behind it, then why can't we just say the same for the universe and wash our hands of a designer altogether? Interweaving its pursuit of the First Cause with personal stories and humor, this ground-breaking book takes a fresh approach to ultimate questions. While attentive to empirical science, it builds its case not on authoritative pronouncements of experts that readers must take on faith, but instead on a nuanced understanding of universal principles implicit in everyone's experience. Here is essential reading for all people who care about contemplating God, not exclusively as a best-explanation for the findings of science, but also as the surprising-yet-inevitable implication of our commonsense contact with reality. Augros harnesses such intellects as Plato, Aristotle, and Aquinas, ushering into the light a wealth of powerful inferences that have hitherto received little or no public exposure. The result is an easygoing yet extraordinary journey, beginning from the world as we all encounter it and ending in the divine mind. We know of no other book about the existence and nature of God that is as readable and enjoyable as this one. Readers will find the ride exhilarating enjoy the ride. They may also discover that they are becoming philosophers themselves. - Thomas Hibbs, Ph.D., Honors College Dean, Baylor University "Finally! A book that tackles the "big questions" in ways everyday readers can understand and appreciate. Using personal stories, engaging examples, humor, and common experiences, Augros builds an argument for God that opens readers' minds and finds common ground among atheists, agnostics, Jews, Muslims, and Christians. - Danielle Bean, Editor, The Catholic Digest

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Customer Reviews

Dr. Michael Augros' book is a fantastic modern explanation of an old proof for the existence of god based on the necessity of a first cause and the attributes which must belong, and those which cannot belong, to such a cause. The proof begins with self-evident premises that are undeniably true based on everyone's experience of the world -- such as "it is impossible for there to be a middle with nothing before it" -- and ends with the conclusion that "god exists". Between these starting and ending points, Dr. Augros lays out, in methodical fashion, the intervening arguments and their corresponding conclusions: there must be a first uncaused cause; there can only be a single first cause; the first cause is not movable and cannot change; the first cause is not matter; the first cause is not a body; the first cause contains within itself all actualities in all things; the first cause is intelligent; the first cause designed the universe; and then the coup de grace...since "god" is understood to be a supernatural intelligence which deliberately designed the universe, god must exist. The heart of the proof is contained in the first seven chapters of the book but is distilled down to its bare essence in Appendix 1, a helpful series of deductions or syllogisms supporting the entire proof. According to Dr. Augros, the first seven chapters are devoted to "purely intellectual problems" with the existence of god; the next few chapters are concerned with "problems of the will". In chapter 8, Dr. Augros discusses the various "attractions" of atheism, such as the notion that atheists are more intellectually fulfilled than their theistic counterparts and have more moral autonomy. In this regard, Dr.

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