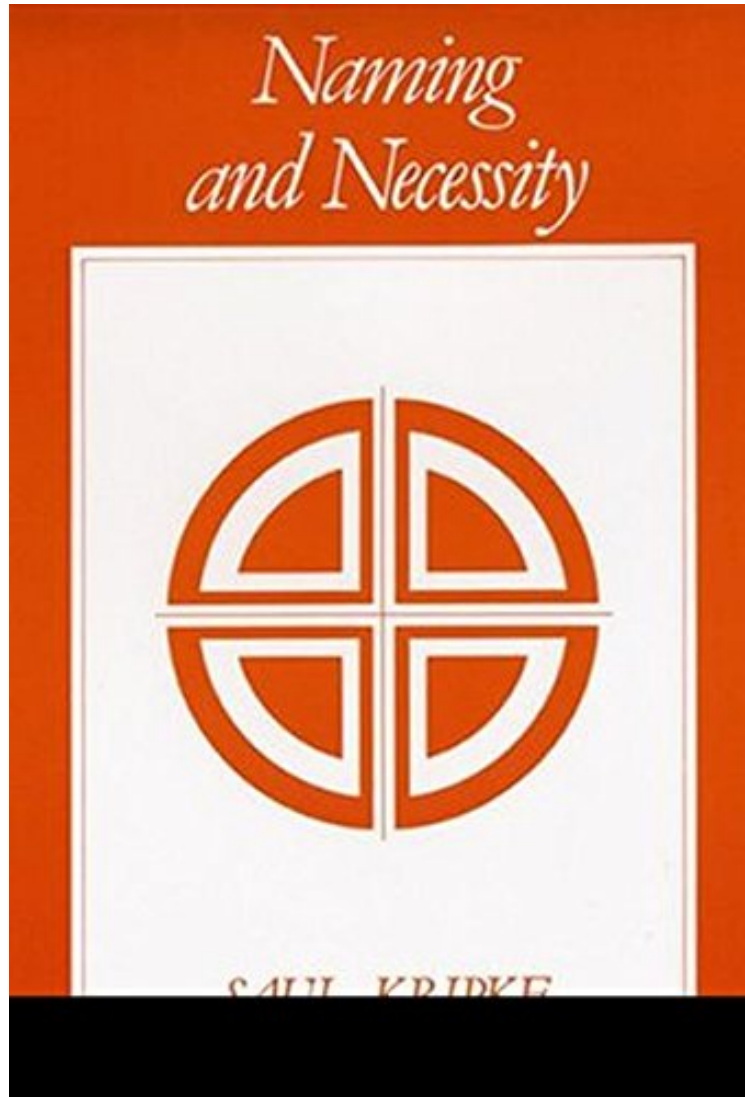


(Free) Naming and Necessity

Naming and Necessity

Saul A. Kripke

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Saul A. Kripke : Naming and Necessity before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Naming and Necessity:

52 of 56 people found the following review helpful. Couldn't put it down By Micah Newman No, really. Kripke maintains a vigorously-argued and important thesis here: the surprising conclusion that statements involving identity (e.g., when calling something or someone out by name) involve a posteriori necessity. This is quite striking because many have assumed that necessity was somehow substantially correlative with the a priori: but that involves a confusion of metaphysical necessity with epistemological necessity. With that idea in place, Kripke goes on to apply (all too briefly, unfortunately) it in some extremely thought-provoking--nay, well-nigh mind-blowing--ideas about

things like natural kinds and the mind-body problem. I just wish he had gone into way more detail on these fascinating issues than the three oral lectures transcribed on these 180 or so pages. If you're reading this review, you've either a) already read this and I don't have to tell you how unique and important it is, or b) maybe have just taken an undergraduate philosophy course that had some lectures on Kripke, and are thinking about checking out the primary literature yourself. If the latter, do so. You'll be enriched, and you might just be taken on a journey from which you'll never return. Philosophers are still, and undoubtedly will continue for some time, discussing the thesis of *Naming and Necessity* and its implications for at least philosophy of language and metaphysics, and probably philosophy of mind and philosophy of science as well. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Ahmand Page Thank you 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A must read for any philosopher studying language games By Kat As a philosopher, this is one of the best books in the language of philosophy field and written by one of the most influential western philosophers.

Naming and Necessity has had a great and increasing influence. It redirected philosophical attention to neglected questions of natural and metaphysical necessity and to the connections between these and theories of naming, and of identity. This seminal work, to which today's thriving essentialist metaphysics largely owes its impetus, is here reissued in a newly corrected form with a new preface by the author. If there is such a thing as essential reading in metaphysics, or in philosophy of language, this is it.

"Brilliant and very influential . . . stands up as an impressive and enduring work of philosophy, outstanding in its sweep, clarity and penetration." Colin McGinn, *Times Higher Education Supplement* "When these lectures were first published eight years ago, they stood analytic philosophy on its ear. Everybody was either furious, or exhilarated, or thoroughly perplexed. No one was indifferent. This welcome republication provides a chance to look back at a modern classic, and to say something about why it was found so shocking and liberating." Richard Rorty, *London of Books* From the Back Cover *Naming and Necessity* has had a great and increasing influence. It redirected philosophical attention to neglected questions of natural and metaphysical necessity and to the connections between these and theories of naming, and of identity. This seminal work, to which today's thriving essentialist metaphysics largely owes its impetus, is here reissued in a newly corrected form with a new preface by the author. If there is such a thing as essential reading in metaphysics, or in philosophy of language, this is it. About the Author Saul Kripke, McCosh Professor of Philosophy, Princeton, is a philosopher of international reputation. His *Naming and Necessity* (Harvard University Press, 1980) is also available in paperback.