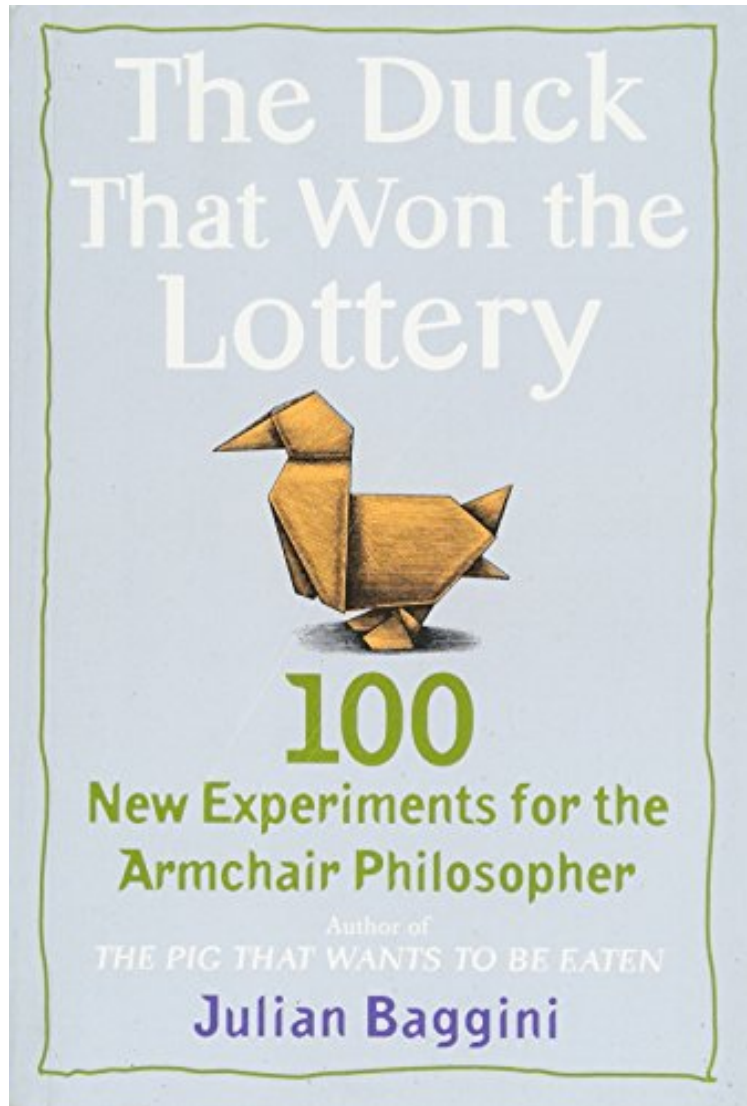


[Download pdf ebook] The Duck That Won the Lottery: 100 New Experiments for the Armchair Philosopher

The Duck That Won the Lottery: 100 New Experiments for the Armchair Philosopher

Julian Baggini

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Julian Baggini : The Duck That Won the Lottery: 100 New Experiments for the Armchair Philosopher before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Duck That Won the Lottery: 100 New Experiments for the Armchair Philosopher:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. The Duck That Won The Lottery Review By M. Morales Julian Baggini's book, The Duck That Won the Lottery was well thought out with Baggini's attempt to questioning certain

issues in society through 100 bad arguments. Baggini made me question issues that I thought were socially accepted like euthanasia being immoral, smoking is the cause of lung cancer, and the belief that fast food makes people obese are a few examples. I felt that the main message of the book was to not follow societies beliefs but to make up your own judgments on certain issues. What people in society say isn't necessarily a fact and shouldn't be taken too literally. I felt the book showed bandwagon fallacies through the chapters. Bandwagon is arguing something is true because many people say its true but some might have been appeal to emotion. In the chapter who says smoking causes cancer, talks about smoking being the main cause of cancer. The media is making people believed this issue is true because it was imbedded in people's minds through many forms of communication. Who is to say what should be socially acceptable or what shouldn't. Basically what I am saying what makes someone's opinion or fact more superior than others and making it the right one? Is it what the media says that should be acceptable or is it you thinking for yourself? I feel people never want to seek the truth for themselves because it is more convenient to just take someone's word for it because it takes less time but people also take the chance of being wrong that way. In the chapter, who says smoking causes cancer, Baggini questions the fallibility of people and science. Society has brainwashed people to believe smoking causes lung cancer, which is not completely false but not completely true. Although smoking may have a strong correlation to lung cancer that isn't any proof that would say that smoking will give you lung cancer. I have inferred that the media has a great impact on people's discussion making by using commercials and campaigns to have people quit smoking because they want people to be scared. There is an absence of evidence to prove smoking causes lung cancer. I could use the concepts from the book to improve my own life by questioning authority. Authority isn't considered right but has a control on people's own beliefs. Even if something sounds right and you don't even think of questioning it you should always question. I felt this book was interesting but at times kind of boring because it had the same pattern. It starts off with the quote/argument and then dissects each fallacy with why the quote is considered false. I did like how it went into many topics and didn't focus on just one issue. I also enjoyed reading the chapter Kris Kristofferson is a Lizard, which talks about your own opinion. I liked how the book ended up wrapping up all of these fallacies into one and how later in life you wont need to memorize every type of fallacy it will just come natural with skeptcism. Overall, I would definitely rate this book as a 3 because there were some arguments that could be totally scrutinized and the author would be right but for some sounded wrong.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. An interesting exploration of fallacious arguments

By Kim DiPrima

When I first read about the book, I was less than interested. Having already learned about fallacious arguments, I imagined that it would be plodding and that I'd be lucky to even reach the end. Upon cracking it open, however, I found myself to be pleasantly surprised. Author Julian Baggini takes an interesting look at fallacious arguments, and how they can be used in everyday life without anyone being the wiser. The author's use of actual quotes is to be commended, as they have an impact that a made-up scenario could not. Baggini demonstrates his knowledge of philosophy throughout the book, picking apart the quotes with a solid attention to detail and rather decent explanations that gives the reader a good idea of just how the arguments shown in the quote are faulty. The fact that the book remains easy to understand throughout the dissection is also something of note, as Baggini uses rather breezy language that helps add a bit of spice to what would otherwise come off as somewhat dull. This tone is one of the books biggest draws, as it means that someone who has only a passing knowledge of psychology could pick it up and understand without the need of having a dictionary at hand. This use of language doesn't mean the book is meant solely for newcomers, however. As mentioned before, Baggini does a solid job at diving into detail and slowly picking apart each of the quotes until only fallacies remain. It's obvious that he knows his stuff, and the number of fallacies presented is remarkable, each one boasting quotes in order to slowly bring the reader in. As mentioned before, these quotes are probably the best part of the book. Not only do they serve as a solid attention-getter, but they also correlate the books contents to the real world and let the reader realize just how important fallacies are in the real-world. However, the book certainly isn't without its flaws. The main issue is repetition, as though the knowledge presented is quite solid, the book has a habit of dragging on after a certain amount of times. The author makes no attempt to change up the way the book works, and in turn you can expect the same from each and ever section. This, in turn, means reading in short bursts is generally a good idea. However, it could also be argued that this is a case of "If it's broken, why fix it?" as the manner in which Baggini writes the book is solid enough. Despite the flaw though, the book is certainly a solid read. It's good at helping newcomers dive in, and can also help those already familiar with the subject expand on their knowledge by a bit. Either way, it certainly is an eye-opener and will almost certainly let you view the world in a different light.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. The Duck Who Won the Lottery is AWESOME!!

By Haley Pekala

Julian Baggini's overall performance on writing The Duck Who Won The Lottery is amazing. Baggini wrote this book in such fashion that no one would ever expect. Baggini uses 100 different fallacies in which he criticizes in a professor setting but using humor at the same time to twist your brain right out of your head. With him using a humorous tone it makes the book that more appealing to readers. Whether your choice is to use this as an everyday book to read or using it as toliet material, its a great book of choice. Baggini expresses in his writings in this book in which he thinks is the proper way of how things should be dealt with. Julian himself states that in this book there could fallacies as well, stating he is not perfect himself. Everyone in this world could be a critic, but Baggini does his is such fashion that makes him hard not to like.

The only weakness of this book I would have to say that at some times he seems very opinionated, which in reality, it's a book of opinions. With the way Baggini presents this book it is hard not to like what he offers, his humor made this book what it is today. I would recommend this book to anyone who wants a brain twister with nothing but the truth and humor. The best part is how he gives both sides on every fallacy, so it's not leaving you thinking that he only criticizes people one way. He gives you both sides with vivid description and detail. Julian Baggini's material in this book is great, and overall I thought this was an excellent choice for him to write.

From the author of the "hugely entertaining" (Publishers Weekly) *The Pig That Wants to Be Eaten*, lessons in debunking the faulty arguments we hear every day. This latest book from the pop philosophy author of *The Pig That Wants to Be Eaten* tackles an endlessly fascinating area of popular debate—the faulty argument. Julian Baggini provides a rapid-fire selection of short, stimulating, and entertaining quotes from a wide range of famous people in politics, the media, and entertainment, including Donald Rumsfeld, Emma Thompson, Tony Blair, Bill Clinton, and Chris Martin. Each entry takes as its starting point an example of highly questionable—though oddly persuasive—reasoning from a broad variety of subjects. As Baggini teases out the logic in the illogical, armchair philosophers and aficionados of the absurd will find themselves nodding their heads as they laugh out loud. *The Duck That Won the Lottery* is perfect fodder for any cocktail party and pure pleasure for anyone who loves a good brain twister.

"Julian Baggini has come to the rescue... the prolific philosopher's latest work is a curiosity cabinet of spurious reasoning and spin." *Financial Times* About the Author Julian Baggini is the editor of *The Philosophers Magazine*.