



## The Twin Earth Chronicles: Twenty Years of Reflection on Hilary Putnam's the "Meaning of Meaning": Twenty Years of Reflection on Hilary Putnam's the "Meaning of Meaning"

*By Andrew Pessin, Sanford Goldberg*

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In 1975, Putnam published a paper called 'The Meaning of Meaning', which challenged the orthodox view in the philosophies of language and mind. The article's Twin Earth conclusions about meaning, thought and knowledge were shocking. This work contains writings on the subject of Twin Earth.

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## **Editorial Review**

From Library Journal

"Twin Earth" is an Earth that appears to be identical to this Earth but that in certain aspects is different. It is one of a number of thought experiments Putnam (philosophy, Harvard) used to argue that meanings "ain't in the head," that is, meanings are not private mental properties but presuppose interactions with the world and other language users. The editors have reproduced the long original article of the title, followed by 20 essays on the "Twin Earth" concept reprinted from philosophy journals or excerpted from books. They are divided into three sections: "Natural Kinds and Philosophy of Language," "Mental Content," and "Self-Knowledge" and deal with the myriad issues in the philosophy of mind and philosophical psychology that Putnam's article either discussed or implicated. The essays are highly technical and closely argued, and only serious and informed students of philosophy will find them accessible. Hence, this is for academic collections. Leon H. Brody, U.S. Office of Personnel Mgt. Lib., Washington, D.C.  
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From Book News

An anthology of 21 essays written over a 20 year period in response to Hilary Putnam's conceit of a "twin earth" where everything is the same, but the corresponding *concepts* differ in their significance. For example, H<sub>2</sub>O is XYZ on twin earth, and the question, of course, is: Does it mean the same thing? The essays, with introductions by the editors, address this and other philosophical questions of language and reality, touching on themes of mental content and causation, and self-knowledge. Paper edition (unseen), \$24.95. Annotation c. by Book News, Inc., Portland, Or.

From the Back Cover

In 1975 Harvard philosopher Hilary Putnam published a paper called "The Meaning of 'Meaning'", in which he challenged orthodox views in the philosophy of language and the philosophy of mind. The article's Twin Earth thought experiment was simple, but the philosophical conclusions deriving from it - about the nature of meaning and reference, of thoughts, of knowledge - were profound. The philosophical community responded quickly, in full force, and from every possible direction, and has kept it up ever since. Now, on the twentieth anniversary of the publication of Putnam's classic paper, the editors have collected the very best of the writing on the subject of Twin Earth by the leading contemporary philosophers. In addition to reprinting essays by such well-known contemporary philosophers as John Searle, Daniel Dennett, and others, this volume reprints Putnam's original essay and includes a completely new Introduction by Putnam, written expressly for this collection. This volume will acquaint novice philosophers with one of the most important debates in twentieth-century philosophy, and will provide seasoned readers with a useful compendium of writing on essential questions in the philosophies of language and mind.

## **Users Review**

**From reader reviews:**

**Jane Garner:**

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### **Armando Morris:**

On this era which is the greater particular person or who has ability in doing something more are more special than other. Do you want to become certainly one of it? It is just simple solution to have that. What you have to do is just spending your time almost no but quite enough to have a look at some books. Among the books in the top listing in your reading list is actually The Twin Earth Chronicles: Twenty Years of Reflection on Hilary Putnam's the "Meaning of Meaning": Twenty Years of Reflection on Hilary Putnam's the "Meaning of Meaning". This book which can be qualified as The Hungry Inclines can get you closer in turning out to be precious person. By looking up and review this reserve you can get many advantages.

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