

CONTENTS

1. INVESTIGATING OUR BELIEFS ABOUT OURSELVES:
AN INTRODUCTION 3
 1. Two Hypothetical Examples: A Clear Case of Survival and
a Clear Failure of Survival 3
 2. Three Main Topics: Personal Identity, Conscious Experience
and Actual Values 5
 3. Toward a Sensibly Balanced Methodology 7
 4. Method and Substance 13
 5. Two Cartesian Views of Our Survival 15
 6. Experience Inducers 17
 7. Two Attempts at Transporting Some Inanimate Objects 18
 8. Three Attempts at Getting Human People to Survive 21
 9. The Idea that Our Survival Requires Much
Physical Continuity 23
 10. The Avoidance of Future Great Pain Test 27
 11. Some Evidence About Some Strong Beliefs 34
2. CONSCIOUS EXPERIENCES AND SUBJECTS OF
CONSCIOUSNESS: SIX METAPHYSICAL DOCTRINES 36
 1. The Objective View of Ourselves 37
 2. Conscious Experience and Subjects of Consciousness:
Three Metaphysical Doctrines Concerning Each 39

3. Three Competing Views of Ourselves	44
4. The Continuity of Consciousness and Physical Division	50
5. Continuity of Consciousness Through Rapidly Radical Change	53
6. The Explanation of Our Responses to These Examples	54
7. Methodology, Continuous Consciousness and Personal Identity	57
8. The Spectrum of Decomposition Versus the Absoluteness of Subjects	60
 3. THE PSYCHOLOGICAL APPROACH TO OUR SURVIVAL	 66
1. Core Psychology and Distinctive Psychology	67
2. A Formulation of the Psychological Approach	71
3. Three Salient Motivations Toward This Approach	74
4. Three Subtler Motivations	79
5. From Science Fiction to Philosophical Investigation	83
6. First-Order Intuitions and Second-Order Intuitions	87
7. Other Societies, Other Statements, Other Conditions of Survival	89
8. Three Uses of "What Matters in Survival"	92
9. Three Other Objective Approaches	97
 4. THE PHYSICAL APPROACH TO OUR SURVIVAL	 102
1. Two Formulations of the Physical Approach	103
2. A Better Formulation	106
3. Wide Physical Continuity and Contextual Flexibility	110
4. The Derivative but Great Importance of Physical Continuity	113
5. Survival and the Realization of Psychological Capacities	117
6. How Important for My Survival Is My Capacity for Life?	120
7. Physical Continuity and the Gradual Replacement of Matter	123
8. Physical Continuity and Constitutional Cohesion	125
9. Physical Continuity and Systemic Energy	129
10. Thinking Beings and Unthinking Entities: A Contrast Concerning Survival	131
11. Physical Continuity and Physical Complementarity	134
 5. A PHYSICALLY BASED APPROACH TO OUR SURVIVAL	 139
1. Might Distinctive Psychology Be a Factor in Survival?	140
2. Can One Survive Without a Capacity for Consciousness?	143

3. Survival and Assimilation 147
 4. Some Differences in Assimilation for Some Different Kinds of Ordinary Individuals 153
 5. Assimilation and Disassimilation 155
 6. Might We Survive Brain Replacements and even Brain Exchanges? 156
 7. Disassimilation and Double Bisection 159
 8. Some Strange Doings with Ships 162
 9. Extrinsicness, Time and Identity 164
 10. From Strange Ships to Puzzling People: The Hobbesian Personal Case 166
6. PHYSICALLY BASED SUBJECTS AND THEIR EXPERIENCES: AGAINST THE SIX METAPHYSICAL DOCTRINES 170
1. What Do the Six Doctrines Claim? 171
 2. How Might These Doctrines Be Contested Persuasively? 175
 3. Against the Metaphysical Privacy of Experiences 177
 4. Against the Metaphysical Separateness of Subjects 184
 5. Against the Indivisibility of Experiences and of Subjects 187
 6. Against the Absoluteness of Subjects: The Spectrum of Congenial Decomposition 191
 7. Against the Absoluteness of Subjects: Spectra of Human Conception and Human Development 197
 8. Against the Absoluteness of Experience: Congenial Decomposition Again 199
 9. Against the Absoluteness of Experience: The Spectrum of Radio Communications 203
 10. How One Person May Fade into Another 206
7. WHAT MATTERS IN OUR SURVIVAL: DISTINCTIONS, COMPROMISES AND LIMITS 211
1. Survival as a Precondition of Broad Ego-centric Value 212
 2. The Spectrum of Congenial Decomposition with Reconstruction 217
 3. Three Shots at Survival: Easily Getting Through, Barely Getting Through and Barely Missing 219
 4. The Prudential Use of "What Matters," Tests for What Matters and Highly Prudential Occasions 223
 5. How Presumptive Tests for Survival Beliefs May Be Improved 230

6. Basic, Derivative and Independent Value	234
7. Underlying Realities and Conventional Separations	238
8. Striking a Compromise Between Two Conflicting Concerns	240
9. Moderating Concern Throughout a Middle Ground	242
10. Restricted Ranges for the Relevance of Underlying Realities	244
11. What Matters and the Minimal Conception of a Person	247
12. A Spectrum of Assimilation: Parallels, Differences and Questions	251
 8. FISSION AND THE FOCUS OF ONE'S LIFE	 255
1. The Standard Fission Case and the Standard One-sided Case	255
2. Might I Survive My Standard Fission?	260
3. Fission Cases and Questions of Realism	266
4. The Focus of a Person's Life	268
5. The Focus of Life and Heavily Discounted Branches	273
6. A Person's Singular Goods	275
7. Three Ways for Singular Goods to Go Two Ways	279
8. Branches that Run in Parallel and Branches that Diverge	282
Appendix: Toward Greater Realism in Personal Branching	287
 9. THE APPRECIATION OF OUR ACTUAL VALUES	 295
1. The Phenomenalism and the Verificationism of Values: The Ego-centric Form	298
2. The Universal Form of These Views	302
3. The Value of Experience of External Reality	305
4. The Rationality of This Value	312
5. The Value of Particular People and of Relations with Them	315
6. Two Forms of Flexibilism	319
7. An Inflexible Aspect of Our Norms for Our Lives and for Our Personal Relations	323
8. Two Extreme Claims	326
9. These Extreme Claims and Three Demanding Views	330
10. The Extreme Doctrine and Norms for Our Action	333
 Bibliography	 339
Name Index	343