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<i>Discusses how traditional cities, though many times destroyed by natural and human forces, have always been reconstructed as perfected and corrected versions of their previous incarnations, rather than as theoretical experiments or social/aesthetic utopias. Though all such reconstructions aimed at the ideal city or Città Felice, they were all grounded in the time-tested principles of traditional city building, building types and tectonics. They all accorded with the 'contemporary' and the spirit of time, as also with the memory of place. Reference is made to major endeavors of reconstruction with a special focus on the World Trade Center site in New York. It explores commemoration as an essential human need in the aftermath of tragic destruction and grief and argues that memorialization must rise above merely mimetic reinstatement or the analogic depiction of loss. Rather than recalling destruction, commemoration is understood here as an act of healing, achieved by building a better world in the perfected image of the one destroyed.</i>	
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<i>"There is either architecture or the absence of architecture", declared Léon Krier. This chapter discusses the nature of architecture as an art that produces meaningful shelter for human communities while satisfying without compromise its ontological conditions of Firmitas, Utilitas and Venustas. It argues that the realm of architecture lies within nature, but outside of Paradise, in the Ideal City but outside Utopia, locating it too within a sustainable culture of quality that resists the erosion and disappearance of the meaningful forms, values and symbols of human civilization.</i>	
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<i>Recapitulates the main arguments of the book, highlighting the essential themes and the broader perspectives it brings to bear, while gratefully acknowledging the inspiration and mentorship of masters, students and friends.</i>	
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