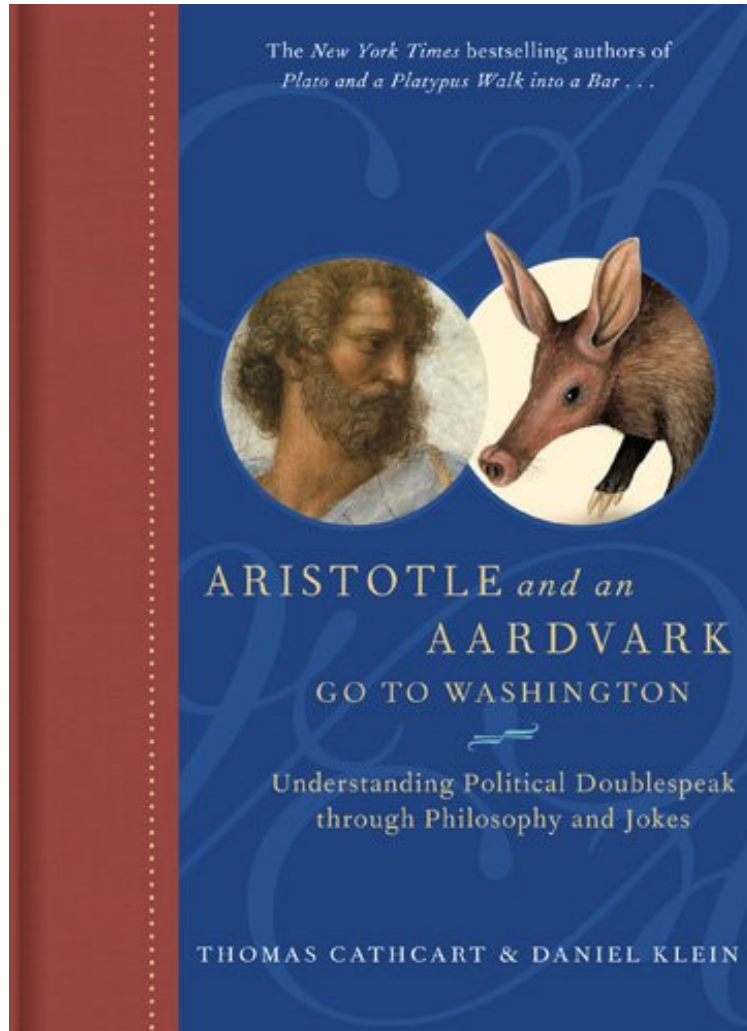


Aristotle and an Aardvark Go to Washington

Thomas Cathcart, Daniel Klein

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Thomas Cathcart, Daniel Klein : Aristotle and an Aardvark Go to Washington before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Aristotle and an Aardvark Go to Washington:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Also love the Great Barrington-based novelsBy William Stowell Howe IIIAll Klein's books are outstanding: engaging, witty, informative, thought provoking, readable, accessible. Let no effete philosophers and others in any way denigrate these absolute gems. I want many more -- Kant and a Kangeroo..., Sartre and Seinfeld..., Socrates and a Neuroscientist..., Schopenhauer and Estragon..., Please write several more! Also love the Great Barrington-based novels. Wonderful all. Keep them coming. Don't ever die!0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. fun with filosophyBy Ichabod Craigboy I wish this was written way back when I was in college and trying to grasp philosophy.... funny and informative both....highly recommended.....1 of 1 people

found the following review helpful. Nice idea, but...By Kristan O. OverstreetI watched the authors on C-SPAN during their book tour and was intrigued.I just bought the book, and I am... disappointed.Oh, the jokes are amusing enough, and the explanation of logical fallacies is dead simple to understand, and the examples given are spot on- let's make no dispute on that. A quick reading of this book will educate the thoughtful mind on exactly how and where our leaders are trying to fool us.The problem is that, well, it's a quick read. It's too quick. It is, to be frank, shallow- a quick dip on each topic, then rushing on to the next, without fully developing or explaining any one item, much less all of them. This is a book to which the word "profound" need not apply; there are no openings available.The book also suffers from leaning too heavily on the Bush administration for examples. True, George W. Bush and his cronies have raised lying to the voters to new heights, but there needs to be political balance in an educational work such as this; otherwise a large portion of the readership will tune it out as being partisan. I say again, Bush, Cheney, Ashcroft, Gonzales, Rice, and the rest of the Bush White House employ logical fallacies and outright deception like Olympic champions- but that's no excuse for failing to give more than token gestures to demonstrating Democrats' equally offensive use of the tactics.One final quibble: if you can use the eight letter word for bovine excreta without censorship, you can use its four letter root word without censorship. If you can't say the word without blanking out letters in the w--d, you shouldn't use the word at all. Please don't treat your readers like little kids, especially since little kids know quite well what "the F word" is- even if they might not know what it means.

Thomas Cathcart and Daniel Klein, authors of the national bestseller *Plato and a Platypus Walk into a Bar*, aren't falling for any election year claptrap—and they don't want their readers to either! In *Aristotle and an Aardvark Go to Washington*, our two favorite philosopher-comedians return just in time to save us from the double-speak, flim-flam, and alternate reality of politics in America.Deploying jokes and cartoon as well as the occasional insight from Aristotle and his peers, Cathcart and Klein explain what politicians are up to when they state: “The absence of evidence is not the evidence of absence.” (Donald Rumsfeld), “It depends on what the meaning of the word ‘is’ is.” (Bill Clinton), or even, “We hold these truths to be self-evident...” (Thomas Jefferson, et al).Drawing from the pronouncements of everyone from Caesar to Condoleeza Rice, Genghis Kahn to Hillary Clinton, and Adolf Hitler to Al Sharpton. Cathcart and Klein help us learn to identify tricks such as “The Texas Sharpshooter Fallacy” (non causa pro causa) and the “The Fallacy Fallacy” (argumentum and logicam). Aristotle and an Aardvark is for anyone who ever felt like the politicians and pundits were speaking Greek. At least Cathcart and Klein provide the Latin name for it (raudatio publica)!

About the AuthorTom Cathcart and Dan Klein pursued the usual careers after majoring in philosophy at Harvard. Tom worked with street gangs in Chicago and dropped in and out of various divinity schools. Dan wrote jokes for comedians, designed stunts for Candid Camera, and continues to pen thrillers. Each lives with his wife in New England.