

Preface

This book is a collection of all the papers and essays published in the Special Issue “Reconsidering Meaning in Life: A Philosophical Dialogue with Thaddeus Metz,” *Journal of Philosophy of Life*, Vol.5, No.3, 2015.

“Meaning in life” or the “meaning of life” is one of the most discussed topics in the field of philosophy of life. The *Journal of Philosophy of Life* has so far published several papers which deal with the issue of “meaning in life” as their main subject. Looking back in history, philosophers, religious figures, and novelists in every part of the world have discussed this topic ardently and passionately from ancient times to the present day. More recently, philosophers in the English speaking world have begun to study this topic in the field of analytic philosophy.

In 2013, philosopher Thaddeus Metz published a monumental book entitled *Meaning in Life: An Analytic Study* with Oxford University Press. Fortunately, Professor Metz has been a member of the editorial advisory board of the *Journal of Philosophy of Life* from its inception. I asked him to be a guest editor of a special issue dedicated to his book. We called for papers in the summer of 2014, and in October this year, we published eleven peer-reviewed articles and two essays in the *Journal*. You can read all of them and a reply by Metz in this single book.

While the main purpose of the papers is to analyze and criticize arguments made by Thaddeus Metz, from their discussions we can extract fruitful insights and suggestions for further development of the philosophical analysis of meaning in life in general. I believe this volume provides new and fresh approaches to the study of meaning in life in a diversified world.

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