## Contents

A	Acknowledgments			
1	What Is Metaphysics?		1	
	1.1	The Subject of Metaphysics	1	
	1.2	The Methods of Metaphysics	2	
	1.3	The Waxing and Waning of Metaphysics	3	
	1.4	Modern Challenges to Metaphysics	4	
	1.5	The Renaissance of Metaphysics in the Later "Analytic" Era	6	
	1.6	Metaphysics as First Philosophy	8	
	1.7	Overview of the Book	9	
2	Truthmakers			
	2.1	Propositions	17	
	2.2	Classical Truthmaker Theory	20	
	2.3	Deflationism	34	
	2.4	Truth Supervenes on Being	36	
	2.5	Conclusion	38	
3	Causation and Powers		40	
	3.1	Do Causes Exist?	41	
	3.2	Causal Dispositions and Conditionals	45	
	3.3	Four Metaphysical Theories	47	
	3.4	Neo-Humeism	53	
	3.5	Powerism	63	
	3.6	Conclusion	74	
4	Properties		76	
	4.1	The Theoretical Role of Properties	77	
	4.2	Realism	79	
	4.3	Reductive Nominalism	88	
	4.4	Trope Theory	96	

5	Partic	culars	102
	5.1	Facts	102
	5.2	Substances	104
	5.3	Conclusion	124
6	Composition		
1000	6.1	The Special Composition Question	127
	6.2	Ontological Free Lunch?	131
	6.3	Atomism and Monism	138
	6.4	Emergence and Compositional Pluralism	144
	6.5	Possible Evidence for Compositional Emergence	145
	6.6	Conclusion	152
7	Modality		
	7.1	Possible Worlds: Concretism versus Abstractionism	157
	7.2	Modality De Re: Transworld Identity versus Counterpart	
		Theory	175
8	The I	Passage of Time	182
0	8.1	The A Theory and the B Theory	182
	8.2	Varieties of A Theories	185
	8.3	Arguments for the B Theory	188
	8.4	Arguments for the A Theory	192
	8.5	Conclusion	198
9	Cont	inuity and Persistence	199
	9.1	Discrete and Continuous Causation	200
	9.2	Instants versus Intervals: Which Are Fundamental?	202
	9.3	Possible and Impossible Super-Tasks	206
	9.4	Persistence: Fundamental or Non-Fundamental,	
		Supervenient or Anti-Supervenient?	211
	9.5	The Persistence of Simple Things: The Problem of	
	7.5	Intrinsic Motion	215
	9.6	The Persistence of Composite Things: Paradoxes	
	7.0	of Intransitivity	217
	9.7	Extreme Perdurantism: Who Needs Persistence?	224
	9.8	Conclusion: Two Metaphysical Packages	227
10	Conc	cluding Unmetaphysical Postscript	230
		Metaphysical Truth: Anti-Realism	231
	10.2	Metaphysical Language: Nonsense and Verbal Disagreement	234
	10.3	Metaphysical Skepticism	238
	10.4	Metaphysical Fictions	240
	10.5	Conclusion: The Inevitability of Metaphysics	241
Ref	erence		242
Index			250