



Aristotle: The Desire to Understand

Jonathan Lear

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This is a 1988 philosophical introduction to Aristotle, and Professor Lear starts where Aristotle himself starts. The first sentence of the *Metaphysics* states that all human beings by their nature desire to know. But what is it for us to be animated by this desire in this world? What is it for a creature to have a nature; what is our human nature; what must the world be like to be intelligible; and what must we be like to understand it systematically? Through a consideration of these questions Professor Lear introduces us to the essence of Aristotle's philosophy and guides us through the central Aristotelian texts - selected from the *Physics*, *Metaphysics*, *Ethics*, *Politics* and from the biological and logical works. The book is written in a direct, lucid style which engages the reader with the themes in an active, participatory manner.

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