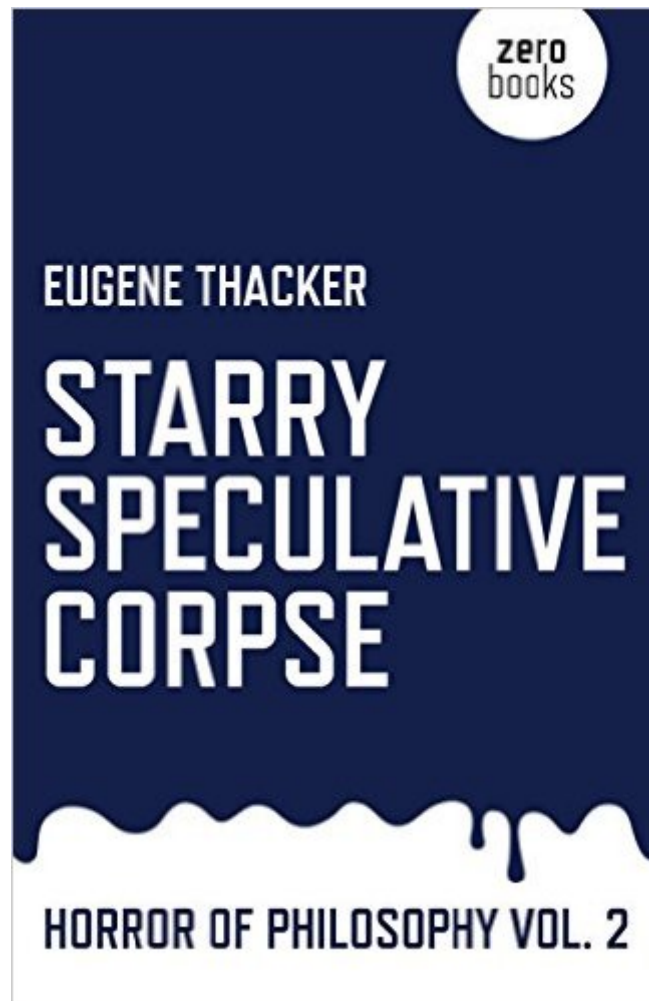


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Starry Speculative Corpse: Horror Of Philosophy (Vol 2)



Synopsis

Could it be that the more we know about the world, the less we understand it? Could it be that, while everything has been explained, nothing has meaning? Extending the ideas presented in his book *In The Dust of This Planet*, Eugene Thacker explores these and other issues in *Starry Speculative Corpse*. But instead of using philosophy to define or to explain the horror genre, Thacker reads works of philosophy as if they were horror stories themselves, revealing a rift between human beings and the unhuman world of which they are part. Along the way we see philosophers grappling with demons, struggling with doubt, and wrestling with an indifferent cosmos. At the center of it all is the philosophical drama of the human being confronting its own limits. Not a philosophy of horror, but a horror of philosophy. Thought that stumbles over itself, as if at the edge of an abyss. *Starry Speculative Corpse* is the second volume of the "Horror of Philosophy" trilogy, together with the first volume, *In The Dust of This Planet*, and the third volume, *Tentacles Longer Than Night*.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Moving away from the cultural and aesthetic themes that detailed the first volume of his *Horror of Philosophy*™ series, *Starry Speculative Corpse* finds Eugene Thacker casting his dark and idiosyncratic gaze over the realm of philosophy proper. No longer witches, demons and back metal occupy the pages here, but instead arcane treatises on Being and becoming, existence and nothingness, negation and nihilism. Those who enjoyed Thacker's free flowing and engaging

style need not worry however - in his hands, even the most mystifying of texts offer themselves up to his easy explication, serving as touchstones that propel the book into the deep, dark abysses of thought that Thacker so plainly enjoys. Divided up into three central chapters - on darkness, nothingness and negation, respectively - Thacker's "heretical" project is to "read works of philosophy as works of horror", finding in the cracks and crevices of philosophy the resources by which to think the impossible thought of a world-without-us, a thought of abnegation that undoes itself in its very thinking. Spanning the gap from the first century darkness mysticism of Dionysius the Areopagite to the modern day speculative nihilism of Ray Brassier, Thacker treats philosophy not on its own terms, but in a light that aims to expose the futility that dwells at its heart. A futility that for Thacker, far from making philosophy a discipline to dismiss, instead makes it all the more interesting. Indeed, what Thacker finds in philosophy are the resources for a new kind of mysticism, one hinted at in his first volume but only properly pursued here: an a-theological mysticism that aims at the limit of the human, or rather what he terms the "un-human" - that towards which we can only grasp at but never behold.

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