Foreword

This is a book of good thinking about important things. Grownups call this kind of thinking philosophy, which comes from ancient Greek words meaning love of wisdom. What this book shows you is that philosophy does not have to be complicated or difficult. Good philosophy just has to be clear and it has to explain whatever it says, so you know the reasons why it is wisdom. One of the important features of this book is that it tries to speak to everyone, no matter what they believe. So it tries to speak to you. Does it succeed? Did you give it a fair chance to succeed? All you have to do is read it carefully and see if you agree. If you don't agree, see if you can say why. Then check your answer and see if it's a good answer, an answer that everyone ought to agree with.

If you succeed, you too are a philosopher. Welcome to the club!

Daniel Dennett
University Professor of Philosophy
Tufts University