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Louis Lavelle

'What Narcissus saw in the spring was not himself but a reflection of himself, his true self being nothing but his act of knowing and loving: and this is necessarily unknowable. So man must be content to forget himself and participate in the Reality which transcends him both without and within.' Louis Lavelle, a noted Christian Existentialist, sees 'participation emerge as the answer to this problem, while the enemy is seen to be Narcissus' problem—self-love'. The work concludes with a portrait of the mature soul, in whom through the discipline of participation, being, knowledge and love are perfected, and

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