

the work establishes contact with the reader within the life-simile of its fabulation; then its deepest intuition can resonate with the reader's own experiential system making it pulsate now in his very flesh and blood. Thus, the vision which the work incarnates may reverberate within the recipient-reader's personal life experience. Then, in a further step -- which is, however, simultaneous with the preceding ones - the vision of the work expands the experiential schema of the reader opening new vistas that force him out of his self-enclosed cocoon, new perspectives for his feelings, thoughts, and imagination. Lastly, and most significantly, it illuminates his innermost sentiments, and his appraisals of an approaches to life.

It is in this last all-embracing step that resides the life-significance of literature. It is only in enriching our spectrum of life appreciations but mainly in raising them to a higher tonality and differentiating as well as expanding our range of experiences, swinging from one possible extreme to the other, that literature fulfills its vocation."

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KRUKS, SONIA. *Situation and Human Existence: Freedom, subjectivity and society*. London: Unwyn Hyman, 1990.

"Social philosophy oscillates between two opposing ideas: that individuals fashion society, and that society fashions individuals. The concept of 'situation' was elaborated by the French existentialist thinkers to avoid this dilemma. Individuals are seen as actively situating themselves in society at the same time as being situated by it. In *Situation and Human Existence*, Sonia Krus traces the development of the concept of situation through the work of Gabriel Marcel, Jean-Paul Sartre, Simone de Beauvoir and Maurice Merleau-Ponty. She shows how it illuminates questions of self or subjectivity, embodiment and gender, society and history, and argues that it goes far beyond the currently fashionable notions of the 'death of the subject'. *Situation and Human Existence* is written in a clear and accessible style, and will be of interest to all concerned with social philosophy, social and political theory, and contemporary thought."

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