

What is beauty?

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◆ Thesis: Beauty is praise for skill

- ◇ Skill in achieving some goal
- ◇ Goal may contribute to general well-being.
- ◇ Goal may satisfy specific physical needs.
- ◇ Goal may satisfy cultural convention.
- ◇ Goal may satisfy personal preferences.
- ◇ Degrees: good, great, superb, beautiful

◆ Beauty in human performance

- ◇ Beauty in human performance is praise for skill.
- ◇ Examples: music, athletics, dance, science, math, problem-solving, crime

◆ Beauty in human creation

- ◇ Beauty in human creation is praise for skill.
- ◇ Examples – practical: house, car, skyscraper, bridge, airplane, clothes, computers, tools, instruments, musical instruments
- ◇ Examples – aesthetic: musical composition, painting

◆ Beauty in nature

- ◇ Beauty in nature is praise for skill.
- ◇ Examples – practical: cosmic evolution, biological evolution, genetics, biochemistry, physics, geological processes, ecosystems, animal life
- ◇ Examples – aesthetic: sunset, meadows, mountains, flowers, animals

◆ Beauty in human appearance

- ◇ Beauty in human appearance is praise for skill.
- ◇ Examples: eyes, other features
- ◇ The human mind is driven to find purpose, and emphasizing sexuality will inform the drive to find purpose.