



Volume

66

January/February 2004

A bimonthly audio magazine  
of contemporary culture  
& Christian conviction

more on

**Bioethics**

*Beyond Therapy: Biotechnology and the Pursuit of Happiness\** is published by HarperCollins. Leon Kass serves as chairman of the President's Council on Bioethics; by means of the Council's web site ([www.bioethics.gov](http://www.bioethics.gov)) you may download a pdf copy of *Beyond Therapy*. The site also contains quite a bit of substantive information about many specific concerns in bioethics, as well as resources to promote more general reflection. Of particular note is the page entitled "From Our Bookshelf" (click on "Bioethics in Literature" on the home page) which includes lists of suggested reading on a number of themes such as "Human Dignity," "Vulnerability and Suffering," "Search for Perfection," and "Why Not Immortality." Under this last subject, for example, they recommend consulting Nathaniel Hawthorne's story, "The Birth-Mark," the novel *That Hideous Strength* by C. S. Lewis, the poem "Pied Beauty" by Gerard Manley Hopkins, and the film *Gattaca*, directed by Andrew M. Nicol. The site also provides a number of transcripts from testimony provided to the Council on a variety of issues, and a pdf file of the Council's 2002 report on human cloning. Listeners will also be interested in the journal *Ethics & Medicine*, of which Nigel Cameron was a founding editor. An index to twenty years of back issues is available on-line at [www.ethicsandmedicine.com](http://www.ethicsandmedicine.com). Note also the work of the Center for Bioethics and Culture ([www.thebc.com](http://www.thebc.com)), especially their informative newsletter called *Cruz*. **MARS HILL AUDIO** has produced an hour-long *Conversation* with Leon Kass called "Human Life, Human Dignity." Also, we published an unabridged audio version of Gilbert Meilaender's *Bioethics: A Primer for Christians*, available in digital format on our website and through Audible.com.

more on

**The Well-Educated Mind**

Susan Wise Bauer's earlier book, *The Well-Trained Mind\** (Norton), uses the classical structure of the trivium (grammar, logic, rhetoric) to outline a broad and rigorous curriculum for home-schoolers. Cowritten by Jessie Wise, the book also includes sample schedules, detailed book lists, and advice on practical matters for home-schooling parents. *The Well-Educated Mind\** (Norton) is in two parts, the first

*On this issue*

- 1 **Leon Kass**, on how various biotechnologies promise to fulfill certain legitimate human desires in illegitimate ways
- 2 **Nigel Cameron**, on why American churches have been negligent in promoting robust thinking about the current bioethical crisis
- 3 **Susan Wise Bauer**, on how adults can acquire many of the benefits of a classical education long after leaving school by reading wisely and well
- 4 **Esther Lightcap Meek**, on belief, doubt, certainty, authority, and how knowledge (of God and other matters) is acquired, sustained, and properly recognized
- 5 **John Shelton Lawrence**, on how John Wayne, Clint Eastwood, Superman, and the governor of California all embody a great American myth
- 6 **Ralph Wood**, on the disappointing discrepancies between Peter Jackson's films and J. R. R. Tolkien's *The Lord of the Rings*

\*An asterisk means that the book is in print; if you wish to purchase it from our friends at Splintered Light Books call 1.800.979.3310.

preparing the reader with insight about the nature of the act of reading, and the second guiding readers (chronologically) through readings in five areas: novels, autobiography and memoir, history, drama, and poetry.

**Other Books Mentioned**

Esther Lightcap Meek's *Longing to Know: The Philosophy of Knowledge for Ordinary People\** is published by Brazos Press. John Shelton Lawrence's *The Myth of the American Superhero\** (cowritten with Robert Jewett) is published by Eerdmans. Lawrence and Hewett also collaborated on an earlier book entitled *Captain America and the Crusade against Evil: The Dilemma of Zealous Nationalism\** (Eerdmans).

**About Our Music**

Our theme music is the "Cantabile" from the "Quartet after Abel," by Roy Whelden, from his CD *Galax*, on New Albion Records. For information about their records, call 415.621.5757, or see their on-line catalog ([www.newalbion.com](http://www.newalbion.com)).



MARS HILL AUDIO

The **MARS HILL AUDIO** *Journal* is produced at our studio in rural central Virginia, outside of historic Charlottesville. The *Journal* is one of several audio products we distribute, all of them intended to encourage greater wisdom about interaction with contemporary culture.

If you would like more information about our work, please request a free catalog by calling 800.331.6407, consulting our online resources at [www.marshillaudio.org](http://www.marshillaudio.org), or writing to P.O. Box 7826, Charlottesville, Virginia 22906-7826.