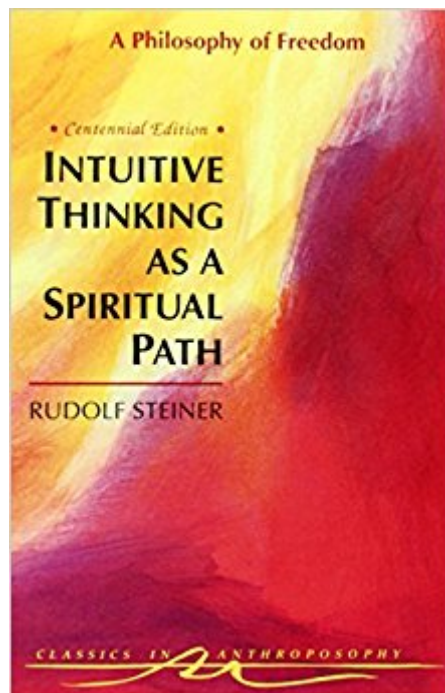




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# Intuitive Thinking As A Spiritual Path: A Philosophy Of Freedom (Classics In Anthroposophy)



## Synopsis

Of all of his works, *Intuitive Thinking as a Spiritual Path* is the one that Steiner himself believed would have the longest life and the greatest spiritual and cultural consequences. It was written as a phenomenological account of the "results of observing the human soul according to the methods of natural science. This seminal work asserts that free spiritual activity "understood as the human ability to think and act independently of physical nature" is the suitable path for human beings today to gain true knowledge of themselves and of the universe. This is not merely a philosophical volume, but rather a warm, heart-oriented guide to the practice and experience of living thinking. Readers will not find abstract philosophy here, but a step-by-step account of how a person may come to experience living, intuitive thinking "the conscious experience of a purely spiritual content." • During the past hundred years since it was written, many have tried to discover this "new thinking" that could help us understand the various spiritual, ecological, social, political, and philosophical issues facing us. But only Rudolf Steiner laid out a path that leads from ordinary thinking to the level of pure spiritual activity "intuitive thinking" in which we become co-creators and co-redeemers of the world. • When, with the help of Steiner's book, we recognize that thinking is an essentially spiritual activity, we discover that it can school us. In that sense "Steiner's sense "thinking is a spiritual path" • (Gertrude Reif Hughes). Contents: Translator's Introduction Introduction by Gertrude Reif Hughes Preface to the Revised Edition, 1918 Part 1: Theory: The Knowledge of Freedom Conscious Human Action The Fundamental Urge for Knowledge Thinking in the Service of Understanding the World The World as Percept Knowing the World Human Individuality Are There Limits to Cognition? Part 2: Practice: The Reality of Freedom The Factors of Life The Idea of Freedom Freedom • Philosophy and Monism World Purpose and Life Purpose (Human Destiny) Moral Imagination (Darwinism and Ethics) The Value of Life (Pessimism and Optimism) Individuality and Genus Final Questions: The Consequences of Monism Appendixes Bibliography Index This volume is arguably the most essential of Steiner's works. The thoughts in this book establish the foundation for all of Anthroposophy. Other translations: *The Philosophy of Freedom* and *The Philosophy of Spiritual Activity*. German edition: *Die Philosophie der Freiheit*

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

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Rudolf Steiner (1861–1925) was born in the small village of Kraljevec, Austro-Hungarian Empire (now in Croatia), where he grew up. As a young man, he lived in Weimar and Berlin, where he became a well-published scientific, literary, and philosophical scholar, known especially for his work with Goethe's scientific writings. At the beginning of the twentieth century, he began to develop his early philosophical principles into an approach to systematic research into psychological and spiritual phenomena. Formally beginning his spiritual teaching career under the auspices of the Theosophical Society, Steiner came to use the term Anthroposophy (and spiritual science) for his philosophy, spiritual research, and findings. The influence of Steiner's multifaceted genius has led to innovative and holistic approaches in medicine, various therapies, philosophy, religious renewal, Waldorf education, education for special needs, threefold economics, biodynamic agriculture, Goethean science, architecture, and the arts of drama, speech, and eurythmy. In 1924, Rudolf Steiner founded the General Anthroposophical Society, which today has branches throughout the world. He died in Dornach, Switzerland.

Gertrude Reif Hughes, PhD, is Professor Emerita of English and Women's Studies at Wesleyan University, where she served as Chair of her Department and of the Women's Studies Program. The author of *Emerson's Demanding Optimism* (1984), she has published essays on American poets, including Emily Dickinson, Gwendolyn Brooks, H.D., and Adrienne Rich, as well as essays on Rudolf Steiner and feminist thought and on Steiner's *Calendar of the Soul*. A lifelong student of Anthroposophy, she is a former chair of the Board of Anthroposophic Press (SteinerBooks) and former President of the Rudolf Steiner (Summer) Institute, where she taught meditation for many years and served on its board. She is a

member of the board of Sunbridge College and one of the core faculty of The Barfield School Masters Program at Sunbridge. Her degrees are from Yale University and Mount Holyoke College. As a child, she attended the New York City Rudolf Steiner School. Michael Lipson, PhD, the author of *Stairway of Surprise: Six Steps to a Creative Life* (2002) and *Group Meditation* (2011), is also the translator of Rudolf Steiner's *Intuitive Thinking as a Spiritual Path: A Philosophy of Freedom* and of numerous books by Georg K. F. Hegel. After working with children with HIV/AIDS for nine years in New York City's Harlem Hospital, he moved with his wife and two children to the Berkshire Mountains of western Massachusetts. Dr. Lipson conducts a practice in Clinical Psychology and teaches meditation internationally. He is a frequent host of the radio call-in show *Vox Pop* on WAMC, a local NPR affiliate station in Upstate New York.

If you are seeking knowledge of the spiritual world in a way that is easy to understand, and practical to apply to your life, this is a great book to have.

I recommend to all seekers for truth about themselves. I have most of his books. one of my favorite authors.

Was so appreciated. Book was in great conditions.

great book with a fundamental path clearly available!

Brilliant

Very challenging material. However if one stays with it the ideas can be life changing.

really got me thinking

Rudolf Steiner was a genius. This is a very in depth and challenging read that will help you to really know reality. Whether or not you agree with everything he says, read it with an open mind and really think through the material being presented. Just doing so will grow your intelligence. I find that Rudolf Steiner's written works are a very satisfying read. Truly reading them with an open mind and following his thought process is very enlightening and is itself a form of meditation. Again this is a very challenging read. If you are new to Steiner then I would recommend reading either this book or

"How to Know Higher Worlds" (also translated as "Knowledge of Higher Worlds and Its Attainment") first.

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