

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910456443903321
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Titolo	Babel and the ivory tower : the scholar in the age of science // W. David Shaw
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Toronto, [Ontario] ; ; Buffalo, [New York] ; ; London, [England] : , : University of Toronto Press, , 2005 ©2005
ISBN	1-281-99772-2 9786611997724 1-4426-7113-0
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (304 p.)
Disciplina	001.2
Soggetti	Learning and scholarship Knowledge, Theory of Electronic books.
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- Contents -- Acknowledgments -- 1. The Prophet and the Scholar: Two Paths to Knowledge -- 2. The Scholar's Wager: The Lottery of Higher Learning -- 3. The Scientist's Knowledge: The Genius of Discovery -- 4. The Scholar's Knowledge: The Conversation of the Learned -- 5. Contemplative Knowledge; A Secret Discipline -- 6. Practical Knowledge: Prometheus to Faust -- 7. Personal Knowledge: The Lifeblood of Learning -- 8. From Maps to Models: Closed and Open Knowledge -- 9. Socratic Mentors: Proving Truth by Living It -- 10. Prophet, Rebel, Poet: The Scholar's Hidden Knowledge -- 11. From Ivory Tower to Babel: The Secret of the Maze -- Notes -- Works Cited -- Index -- Backmatter
Sommario/riassunto	Torn between the competing forces of scholarship as a profession and scholarship as a calling - between Babel and the Ivory Tower - the modern academic faces a dilemma: should she or he try to preserve the soul of higher education by cultivating the Muse of personal knowledge, or renounce the Muse and imitate a technician? Having come to the end of his own scholarly career, W. David Shaw felt out of

place in the technological realm academia has become - where scholars increasingly model their work on that of scientists rather than the classical thinkers of the past, and where original ideas often only alienate the scholar, rather than enrich. Thus, Babel and the Ivory Tower is as much a eulogy as an elegy. Shaw reflects on the changes that have taken place in the academic sphere while philosophically enlarging our stock of fresh ideas about the competing claims of maps and models and open and closed capacities in higher learning. This is a fascinating and illuminating discussion of liberal and contemplative scholarship and adds significantly to the growing body of contemporary philosophical literature.

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