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Promise; The Person to Whom Life Has Failed to Keep Its Promises; The Promising, but Problematic, Patient as an Analytic Candidate; Detecting the "Narcissistic Core" of the Problematic Applicant; Problems Arise as These Analysts Age; Problems for Terminating the Analysis of a Once Promising but Problematic Patient; Another Variety of the Problematic "Promising" Patient; The "Promiser" Who Fails to Live Up to His "Promise"; Chapter 8. Promising in the Clinic Promises of Patients Promises of Clinicians; Exception 1; Exception 2; Chapter 9. Promising as an Element of Form and Content in Greek Drama; Psychoanalysts and Literature; The Tragic View of Life; Promising as a Formal Element in Greek Drama; The Tragic View of the Hero; The Tragic Hero in Relation to Personality Development; Chapter 10. Promising in Shakespearean Drama; Action and Delay in Psychosexual Development; Promising as a Device Dramatists Use to Heighten Dramatic Tension; A Gloss on Oedipus and Hamlet; The Comedies; The Historical Plays Chapter 11. Forms of Promising in Religious Practices The Covenant Form; The Covenants of the Old Testament; The Oath Form; Epilogue; References; Index

Sommario/riassunto

Considering that getting along in civil society is based on the expectation that (most) people will do what they say they will do, i.e., essentially live up to their explicit or implicit promises, it is amazing that so little scientific attention has been given to the act of promising. A great deal of research has been done on the moral development of children, for example, but not on the child's ability to make and keep a promise, one of the highest moral achievements. What makes it possible developmentally, cognitively, and emotionally to make a promise in the first place? And on the other
