1. Record Nr. UNINA9910817489403321 Autore Clark Stephen R. L. **Titolo** How to live forever: science fiction and philosophy // Stephen R. L. Clark Pubbl/distr/stampa London; New York, Routledge, 1995 **ISBN** 1-134-80007-X 1-281-13449-X 9786611134495 0-203-00442-6 Edizione [1st ed.] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (427 p.) 809.3/87620938 Disciplina Soggetti Literature - Philosophy Science fiction - History and criticism Immortality in literature Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Description based upon print version of record. Includes bibliographical references (p. [200]-211) and index. Nota di bibliografia Nota di contenuto Contents; Acknowledgements; Introduction; A PERSONAL BEGINNING; SCIENCE FICTION AND PHILOSOPHY: PHILOSOPHY AND IMMORTALITY; Chapter 1 The end of summer; REASONS NOT TO WANT TO LIVE FOREVER: REASONS FOR WISHING TO LIVE FOREVER: VARIETIES OF IMMORTALITY; Chapter 2 The age of the pussyfoot; BODILY RENEWALS AND REJUVENATIONS; PROBLEMS WITH BODILY CONTINUITY; PHILOSOPHICAL PROBLEMS; Chapter 3 Neuromancer; UPLOADING MEMORIES: REASONS TO FORSAKE THE FLESH: REASONS TO DISLIKE OR DISBELIEVE THE PROSPECT; Chapter 4 The empire of fear; WANTING TO BE A VAMPIRE; REASONS TO KEEP PEOPLE AFRAID OF DEATH SUBMISSIONALLEGORY OF SELFHOOD; Chapter 5 Sailing to Byzantium; ANOTHER WAY OF SEEING; THE VALUES OF IMPERMANENCE; PERMANENT VALUES; IMMORTAL ARTEFACTS AND US; Chapter 6 The philosopher's stone: TIMELESS, IMPERISHABLE STONES: FAME AND INDIVIDUAL INFLUENCE; FORMS AND RULING PASSIONS; REASON AND THE FUTURE; REAL SELVES; Chapter 7 Bridge of ashes; ETERNAL

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Sommario/riassunto

Immortality is a subject which has long been explored and imagined by science fiction writers. In his intriguing new study, Stephen R.L.Clark argues that the genre of science fiction writing allows investigation of philosophical questions about immortality without the constraints of academic philosophy. He reveals how fantasy accounts of issues such as resurrection, disembodied survival, reincarnation and devices or drugs for preserving life can be used as an important resource for philosophical inquiry and examines how a society of immortals might function through a reading of the vampire myt