

DANTE'S CHRISTIAN ETHICS

This book is a major reappraisal of the *Commedia* as originally envisaged by Dante: as a work of ethics. Privileging the ethical, Corbett increases our appreciation of Dante's eschatological innovations and literary genius. Drawing upon a wider range of moral contexts than in previous studies, this book presents an overarching account of the complex ordering and political programme of Dante's afterlife. Balancing close readings with a lucid overview of Dante's *Commedia* as an ethical and political manifesto, Corbett cogently approaches the poem through its moral structure. The book provides detailed interpretations of three particularly significant vices – pride, sloth, and avarice – and the three terraces of Purgatory devoted to them. While scholars often register Dante's explicit confession of pride, this volume uncovers Dante's implicit confession of sloth and prodigality (the opposing sub-vice of avarice) through Statius, his moral cypher. This title is also available as open access on Cambridge Core.

GEORGE CORBETT is Senior Lecturer in Theology and the Arts at the School of Divinity, University of St Andrews. Prior to this, he was Junior Research Fellow of Trinity College, and Affiliated Lecturer in Italian at the University of Cambridge. He is the author of *Dante and Epicurus: A Dualistic Vision of Secular and Spiritual Fulfilment* (2013), editor of *Annunciations: Sacred Music for the Twenty-First Century* (2019), and co-editor, with Heather Webb, of *Vertical Readings in Dante's 'Comedy'* (2015–17).

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Purgatory and Its Moral Contexts

GEORGE CORBETT

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Shaftesbury Road, Cambridge CB2 8EA, United Kingdom
One Liberty Plaza, 20th Floor, New York, NY 10006, USA
477 Williamstown Road, Port Melbourne, VIC 3207, Australia
314–321, 3rd Floor, Plot 3, Splendor Forum, Jasola District Centre, New Delhi – 110025, India
103 Penang Road, #05–06/07, Visioncrest Commercial, Singapore 238467

Cambridge University Press is part of Cambridge University Press & Assessment,
a department of the University of Cambridge.

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www.cambridge.org

Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781108489416

DOI: [10.1017/9781108776875](https://doi.org/10.1017/9781108776875)

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When citing this work, please include a reference to the

DOI [10.1017/9781108776875](https://doi.org/10.1017/9781108776875)

First published 2020

First paperback edition 2022

Printed in the United Kingdom by TJ International Ltd, Padstow Cornwall

A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication data

NAMES: Corbett, George, author.

TITLE: Dante's Christian ethics : Purgatory and its moral contexts / George Corbett.

DESCRIPTION: Cambridge ; New York, NY : Cambridge University Press, 2020. | Series: Cambridge
studies in medieval literature | Includes bibliographical references and index.

IDENTIFIERS: LCCN 2019038190 (print) | LCCN 2019038191 (ebook) | ISBN 9781108489416
(hardback) | ISBN 9781108702447 (paperback) | ISBN 9781108776875 (epub)

SUBJECTS: LCSH: Dante Alighieri, 1265-1321. Purgatorio. | Dante Alighieri, 1265-1321—Criticism
and interpretation. | Dante Alighieri, 1265-1321—Ethics. | Dante Alighieri, 1265-1321—Religion. |
Christian ethics in literature. | Deadly sins in literature.

CLASSIFICATION: LCC PQ4447 .C58 2020 (print) | LCC PQ4447 (ebook) | DDC 851/.1—dc23

LC record available at <https://lcn.loc.gov/2019038190>

LC ebook record available at <https://lcn.loc.gov/2019038191>

ISBN 978-1-108-48941-6 Hardback

ISBN 978-1-108-70244-7 Paperback

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