

# Humanist Geography: An Individual's Search for Meaning

By Yi-Fu Tuan

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For more than fifty years, Yi-Fu Tuan has carried the study of humanistic geography—what John K. Wright early in the twentieth century called *geosophy*, a blending of geography and philosophy—to new heights, offering with each new book a fresh and often unique intellectual introspection into the human condition. His latest book, *Humanist Geography*, is a testament of all that he has learned and encountered as a geographer.

In returning to and reappraising his previous books, Tuan emphasizes how the study of humanist geography can offer a younger generation of students, scholars, and teachers a path toward self-discovery, personal fulfillment, and even enlightenment. He argues that in the study of place can be found the wonders of the human mind and imagination, especially as understood by the senses, even as we human beings deal with nature's stringencies and our own deep flaws.

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### Editorial Review

#### Review

“A splendid summation of Yi-Fu Tuan’s literary career, reconsidering elements of all his previous books and presenting them anew. For those who have followed Yi-Fu Tuan over the years, this book will be a necessary and pleasurable read.”—Denis Wood, author of *Home Rules*

“Yi-Fu Tuan has written an extraordinary prose poem that embodies the search for meaning, a life-long reflection concerning the place of the individual in a world torn by war, inequality, and disaster. He explores the role of the individual in both the meaning of community and in the wider cosmopolitan world, pointing constantly toward the promise of progress. This is a joyous book that is firmly rooted in the great religious traditions of both the East and the West.”—Dominic A. Pacyga, author of *Chicago, a Biography*

“The insights contained in Tuan’s book will inspire courage and a zest for life in those who are fortunate enough to interact with it.”—Bartłomej Lenart, *Nature and Human Life*

#### About the Author

Yi-Fu Tuan, the J. K. Wright and Vilas Professor Emeritus of Geography at the University of Wisconsin–Madison, is author of twenty books, including *Morality and Imagination*, *The Good Life*, *Human Goodness*, and his autobiography, *Who Am I?*, all published by the University of Wisconsin Press.

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**Hazel Gannon:**

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