

Acknowledgments



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I also would like to thank the students whom I taught at Grand Valley State University during the fall 2007 semester. It was thanks to them that I was able to think of a suitable title for this book. Originally, the title was supposed to be just, *Encountering Josiah Royce's Ethico-Religious Insight*. However, I was dissatisfied with that title; it sounded too academic, too bland. One of the manuscript reviewers felt the same way I did. For several months I searched for a suitable title. During that time, I graded more than 900 paper assignments. Over the course of grading those assignments, I had gotten into the routine of writing the phrase "not quite" in the margins beside those parts of the paper where I thought that a student did not quite understand a certain position. I realized that this is the way I feel about Royce most of the time when I read his writings about God. Despite the fact that I think Royce's ethico-religious insight is perhaps one of the best available modern descriptions of God, I cannot shake the feeling that Royce himself could never quite transcend his (overly) conceptual descriptions of God and let his readers intuit the God he describes: God the cosmic fellow-sufferer and God the loving Interpreter-Spirit. What better way to voice my thoughts on his ethico-religious insight than to entitle this book, *Yes, But Not Quite: Encountering Josiah Royce's Ethico-Religious Insight?*

Most important, I thank my wife, Crystal; my sons, Anthony and Christopher; my mother; my nieces and nephews; Anthony's maternal relatives; and my goddaughter, Destiny, for supporting me during the long writing process. They have collectively paid a debt that I can never repay.

Let me conclude by thanking Indiana University Press for its permission to revise and republish several lengthy passages from my article, "Concerning the God That Is Only a Concept: A Marcellian Critique of Royce's God," *Transactions of the Charles S. Peirce Society: A Quarterly Journal in American Philosophy* 42.3 (Summer 2006): 394–416, in the fifth chapter of this book.

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