

Would **You** Kill the Fat Man?



# Would **You** Kill the Fat Man?

The Trolley Problem and  
What Your Answer Tells Us  
about Right and Wrong

**David Edmonds**

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**To Liz, Isaac, and Saul**

(an indiscriminating fan of wheels, trains, and trolleys)



"Clang, clang, clang" went the trolley  
"Ding, ding, ding" went the bell  
"Zing, zing, zing" went my heartstrings  
From the moment I saw him I fell.

—*Hugh Martin and Ralph Blane,*  
*"The Trolley Song," 1944*

*(sung by Judy Garland in Meet Me in St. Louis)*

