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BOUTIQUE BOOK PACKAGERS

# THE APOLOGY

of Socrates by Plato

A PHILOSOPHICAL DIALOGUE FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES

Adapted and illustrated by

JOEL E. MANN &

JOEL VAN FOSSEN



# The Apology of Socrates by Plato: A Philosophical Dialogue for Children of All Ages

Book Proposal  
Text by Joel E. Mann  
Illustration by Joel van Fossen

PROPOSED SPECS:  
Hardcover  
10 x 10.5 inches (25.4 x 26.67 cm)  
96 pages

## ABOUT *THE APOLOGY*

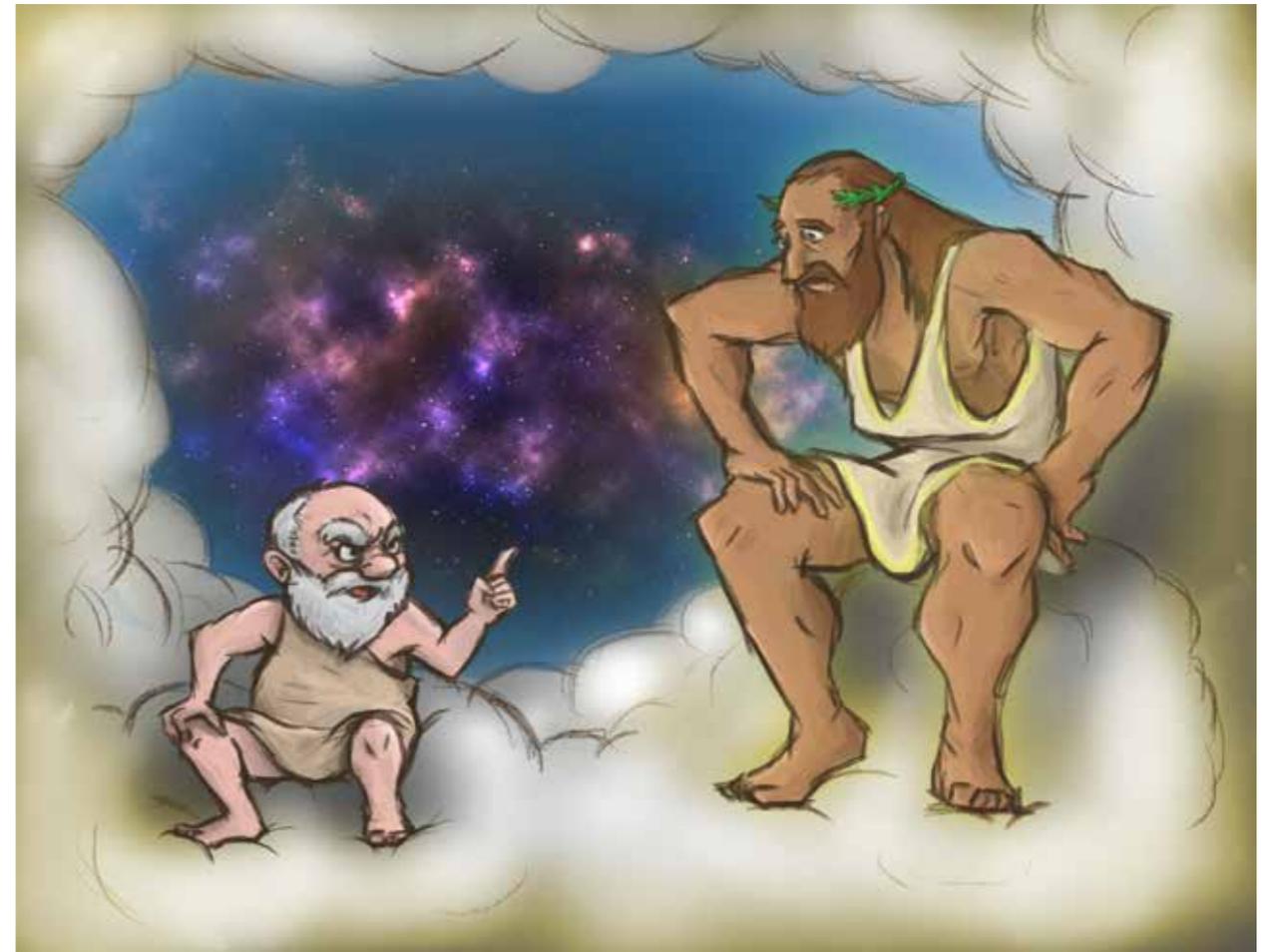
If you want a book that will introduce your children to the message of Jesus Christ or expose them to the prophets of the Old Testament, your only obstacle will be choosing from the vast array of available options. But when it comes to the wisdom of the Greek philosophical tradition—the foundation for much, if not all, of Western intellectual and cultural heritage—the shelves are bare. But not because philosophy is too difficult, or too abstract for children to understand, much less take an interest in.

In just fifty easy-to-read colorfully illustrated pages Joel Mann's witty and entertaining adaptation of *The Apology of Socrates by Plato*, conveys Socrates's message so that children as young as 6 will understand. Young readers and their parents will discover that the best life is an examined life as they explore Socrates's speech in defense of his life before a jury of 501 Athenian citizens. Socrates's story emphasizes the

value of truth and the shame in falsehood; elaborates the philosophical technique of inquiry and argument; and epitomizes the virtues of courage and wisdom.

Joel Van Fossen's captivating color illustrations of ancient Athens will not only transport readers back to another time, they will communicate how Socrates isn't just some "smart, old guy" who lived a long time ago; he is their friend. They want to talk like him and think like him. They want to be him.

*The Apology of Socrates by Plato* would serve as the cornerstone for a philosophical trilogy for children that traces out the trial and death of Socrates. *The Apology* would be followed in the series by the *Crito*, an account of Socrates's time in prison following his conviction; and then the *Phaedo*, which tells the story of Socrates's last hours before his death.



## **AUTHOR BIOS**

Joel E. Mann, Ph.D. (2005) in the Joint Classics-Philosophy Graduate Program in Ancient Philosophy at The University of Texas at Austin, is Professor of Philosophy at St. Norbert College. He has published on the philosophical significance of texts from the ancient medical and legal corpus, including papers in *Apeiron* and the *Journal of the History of Philosophy*. He is the author of *Hippocrates, On the Art of Medicine*, published as Volume 39 of *Studies in Ancient Medicine*.

Joel van Fossen studied art as an undergraduate at St. Norbert College.

## **MARKET ASSESSMENT**

This adaptation of *The Apology* fills a demand for titles that introduce and explain the tenets of philosophy to children as young as 6 years old.

From Beginner's Guides to KinderGuides there is an ongoing demand for expertly written, beautifully illustrated books that demystify complex subject matter.

The book will appeal to, and educate, both children and adults.

“The city of Athens is like a horse. It’s big and strong, but it’s also lazy. It would rather lie around all day than stand up and do what needs to be done.”



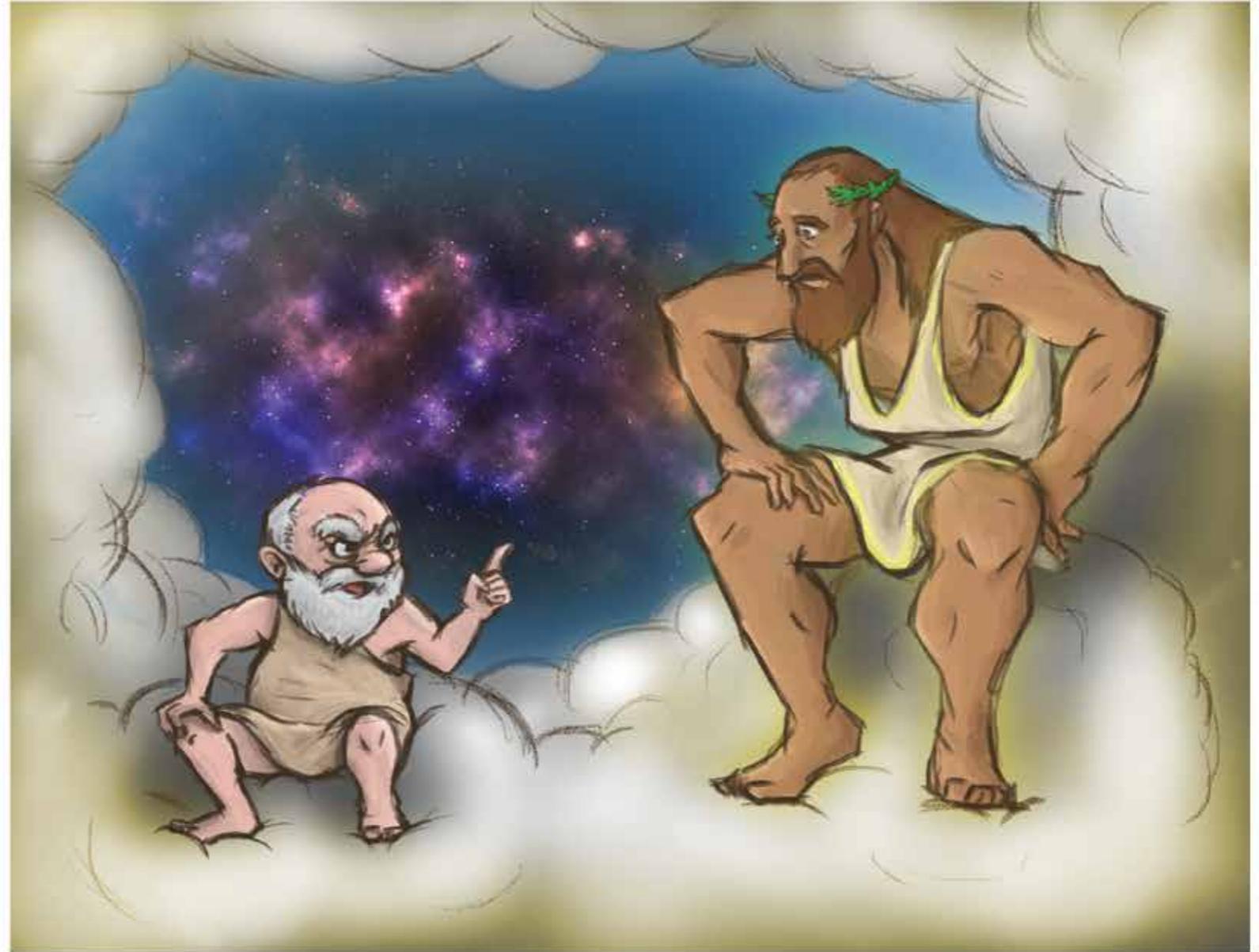
“I believe the gods sent me to this city to be a horsefly. My job is to annoy the people of Athens with hard questions until they stand up and think for themselves.”





“I argue that either death is a sleep that lasts forever or it is a journey to another place. If it is like sleeping without ever waking up, then it is a blessing. Wouldn't everyone, even a great king, agree that a deep, dreamless sleep is the best way to spend the day or night?”

“And if death is a journey to another place filled with all the others who have died, then I would surely be in heaven, since I would get to question some of the bravest and wisest people who had ever lived.”





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Ghost & Company draws on the collective experience of its co-founders, collaborating with an extensive network of the many individuals that contribute to the creation of a book, from writers and designers to photographers, illustrators, translators, indexers, and proofreaders.

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