Contents

Preface 1
1. Introduction 17
2. The Special Composition Question 21
3. Contact, a Representative Answer to the Special Composition Question 33
4. *The General Composition Question 38
5. *What We Shall Not Presuppose 52
6. Answers to the Special Composition Question According to Which Composition Occurs When Some Type of Physical Bonding Occurs 56
7. *Answers to the Special Composition Question According to Which Composition Occurs When Combinations of Various Types of Physical Bonding Occur 61
8. Extreme Answers to the Special Composition Question: Nihilism and Universalism 72
9. The Proposed Answer 81
10. Why the Proposed Answer to the Special Composition Question, Radical Though It Is, Does Not Contradict Our Ordinary Beliefs 98
11. The Topic of the Previous Section Continued: Paraphrase 108
12. Unity and Thinking 115
13. Artifacts 124
14. The Identities of Material Objects 142
15. Brain Transplants 169
16. Two Problems about Personal Identity: Memory and Commissurotomy 182
17. The Problem of the Many and the Vagueness of Composition 213
18. The Vagueness of Identity 228
| 19. The Vagueness of Existence   | 271 |
| Notes                                | 285 |
| Index                                | 297 |
MATERIAL BEINGS