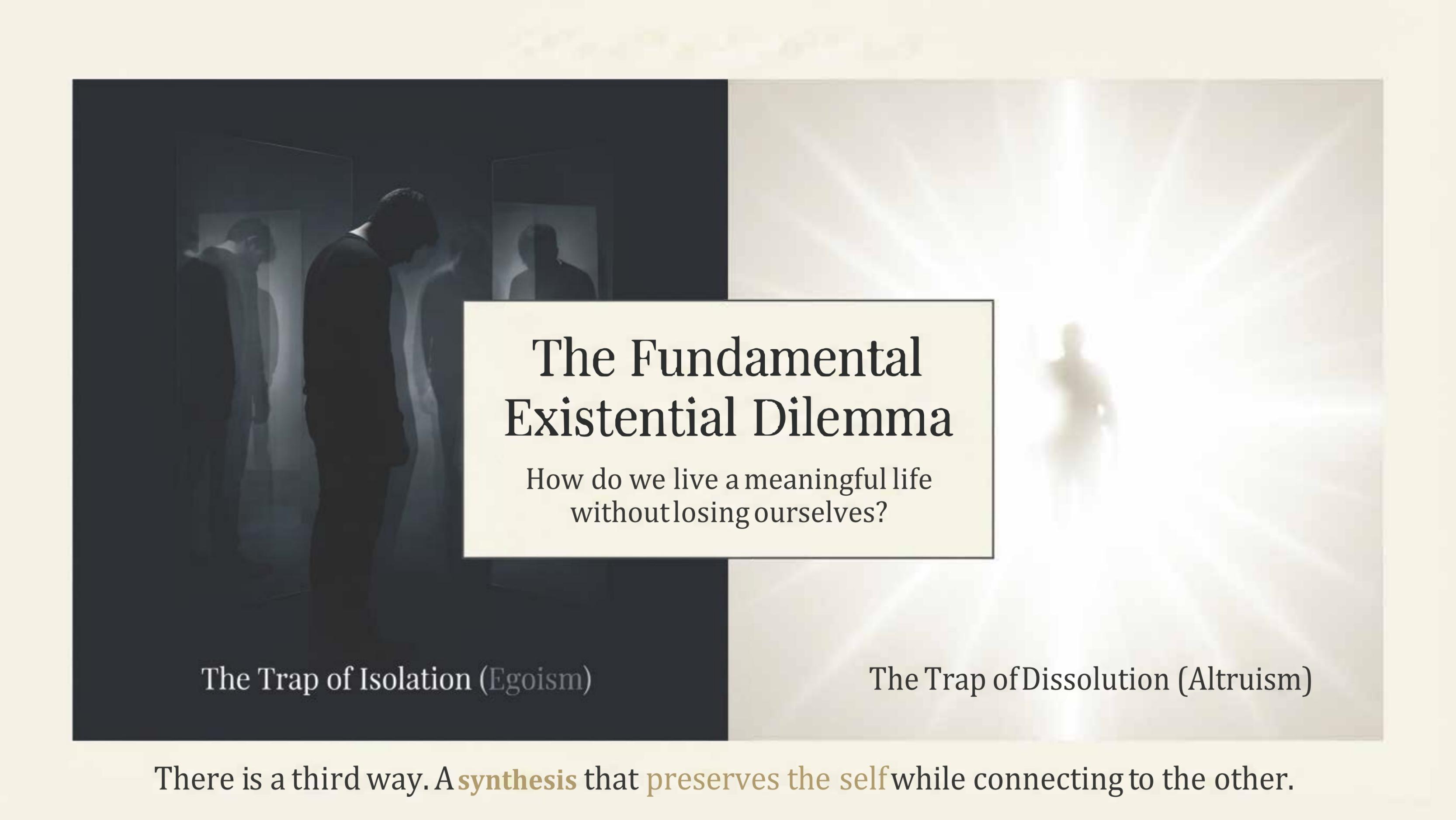


# *The Metaphysics of Marriage*

*A Dialectical Approach*

*An exploration of Love,  
Commitment, and Existence.*

Book Companion



# The Fundamental Existential Dilemma

How do we live a meaningful life  
without losing ourselves?

The Trap of Isolation (Egoism)

The Trap of Dissolution (Altruism)

There is a third way. A **synthesis** that **preserves the self** while connecting to the other.



# The Treadmill of Desire

## The Paradox of Hedonism

Pursuit of pleasure leads to frustration, not satisfaction.

**Hegel's Insight:** The hedonist is "forever striving for the next; never relaxed in the moment of satisfaction."

**The Problem of Passion:** Passion is not satisfaction; it is suffering. To love passion is to love obstruction and yearning.

The Egoist seeks life but chooses a form of death—  
either boredom or endless wanting.

# A Lived Reality

The Metaphysics of Marriage is not just an abstract theory. It is a daily practice.

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## **Dedication:**

To Kathryn Mary Mastroianni. Happily married for 33 years, and every day together is better than the last.

