

Cup

Reflected

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1: Cup

What is a cup?

It is difficult to say.

Maybe we would know if we were a cup.



2: Reflection

Is this a cup?

No, at least from this point of view, it is a mirror reflecting a cup (and a table).

Good thing this mirror has an edge, otherwise it would be really confusing.



3: Distortion

Some mirrors are funhouse mirrors.

It is important to know when we are perceiving that kind of mirror.

Otherwise we might think that the world is really weird.



4: Boundary

In order to perceive the cup, let's separate the cup-thing and the notcup-thing.

First, imagine the boundary between these things.

Boundaries don't need to actually exist, since we are just imagining them.

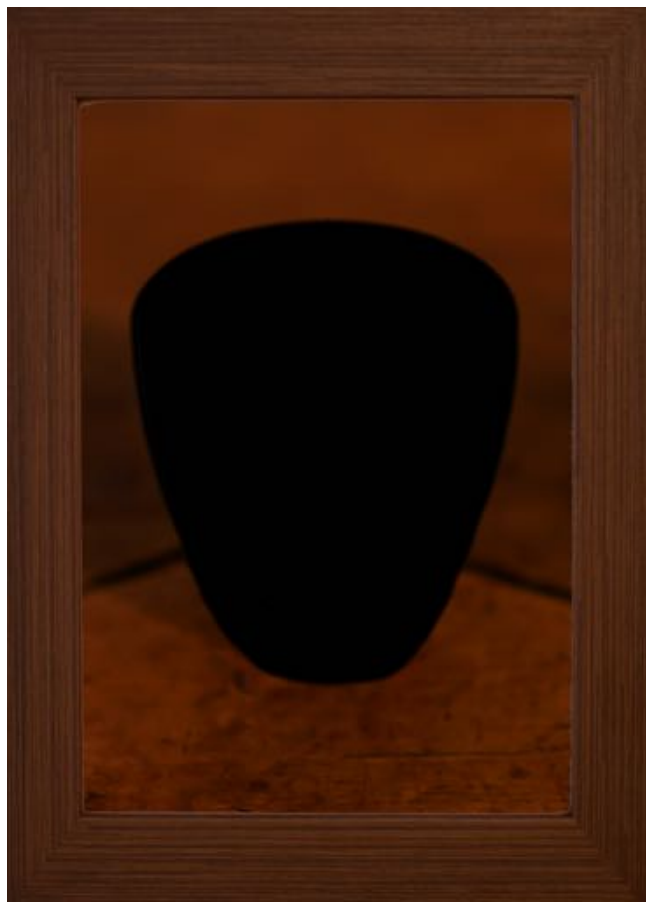


5: Notcup

If we forget everything on the cup side of the boundary, whatever we perceive will be the notcup.

This will probably involve a lot more forgetting than remembering.

We don't often talk about notcups, probably because they are too big to manipulate.



6: Only Cup

If we forget everything on the notcup side of the boundary, whatever we perceive will be the cup.

Maybe this perception is a little bit of what it is like to be the cup.

If it looks like it's surrounded by space, that means we did not properly forget the notcup.



7: Map

Here is a map (of the reflection) of the cup.

It shows only the space corresponding to 'cup' and 'notcup'.

Maps make things *really* simple because we can even forget details about the cup.



8: Legend

Here is a legend for the map, with words to identify the places "cup" and "notcup".

Sometimes the legend gets in the way of the map.

Please don't mistake the legend for the map, or the reflection, or the thing itself.



CUP

NOTCUP

9: Cup

Ah, here is the cup again.

Now it is full of some nice coffee.

Enjoy!



This book is a result of many causes and conditions. Here are some of the predominant ones:

- **The Cup:** Earthenware clay
Courtesy of mother earth.
- **The Potter:** Rebecca Verrill
<http://rebeccamayverrill.com>
- **The Publisher:** ArborRhythms
<http://arborrhythms.com>