

17 Sept. 2015 Emendations to “Rearticulating Being” (*Review of Metaphysics*, Sept. 2015, 3–24)

The most important change I would make would be to emphasize, in the closing paragraph, the clarity that is gained if one decides to use the term “be-er,” and then uses it in place of “being” wherever that is possible. The benefits are simply enormous.

The last sentence on the first page would be better as follows: “Important to emphasize is that just as running is not a runner, and does not run—runners are what run, and running one thing they are doing when they are running—being is not a be-er, and does not be—be-ers are what be, and what they are doing when they be is being.” Brief explanation: Doing nothing but running is impossible; most importantly, the be-er that is running *is* running, or *be* running: running is a contingent mode of its being.

Footnote 3, page 5 would begin better as follows: “Having noted that Aristotle introduces the question of being (*Metaphysics* 5.7.1017a22, 24) as a question focused on the infinitive—a form of the verb, albeit not a conjugated one—but instead focuses (1028b4) on substantives (*on, ousia*)”

The first complete sentence on page 8 would be better as follows: “If all of this were so, then all our talk of being, including particularly philosophical talk of being, that could not be translated into Martian would be talk that was literally empty: when we used it, we wouldn’t say or think anything.”

In the first full paragraph on page 13, consistency with *TAPTOE* (see 30n10) and with the following page would be increased if the two items introduced as pseudopositions were written in italics rather than enclosed in quotation marks. So: The sentence “It be being such that it be absolutely nonbeing” is similar, but somewhat more complicated. Its status is clarified by consideration of the more ordinary-sounding “There is nothing,” understood as expressing the pseudoposition *There is absolute nothingness* or *There is absolute nonbeing*.

The end of the last sentence in the second paragraph on page 14 would be better as follows: “misleading word play arises instead from uses of the word ‘nothing’ to mean the utter absence of being, accompanied by assertions (whether implicit or explicit) that ‘nothing,’ so understood, could be.”