BOOKS



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The Paradox of Laughter

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Is it possible to laugh without hurting anyone?

Laughter: an ancestral mystery and human specificity. Joyous or hateful, it varies from culture to culture. A weapon for defense or domination, laughter is plural and complex. Can we laugh at anything? Freedom of expression collides with respect for others. To kill laughter is to give in to censorship. Funny when it perturbs, it often disturbs. Olivia Gazalé explores this enigma throughout history, from thinkers of Antiquity to comedians today.