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“This is an important book, especially at this current historical juncture when the indomitable human spirit gasps for air, when our social roles as citizens have become increasingly corporatized and instrumentalized in a world which hides necessity in the name of consumer desire, and when teachers and students alike wallow in absurdity, waiting for the junkyard of consumer life to vomit up yet another panacea for despair. In Better Worlds: Education, Art, and Utopia, the reader will find the most propitious environment for moving forward, a crack in the darkness where light shines through. This outstanding book advances the project of critical education by leaps and bounds.”

— Peter McLaren, University of California, Los Angeles

ABOUT THE BOOK
Better Worlds: Education, Art, and Utopia provides a fresh examination of utopia and education. Adopting an interdisciplinary approach and drawing on literature and the visual arts as well as traditional non-fiction sources, the authors explore utopia not as a model of social perfection but as the active, imaginative building of better worlds. Utopian questions, they argue, lie at the heart of education, and addressing such questions demands attention not just to matters of theoretical principle but to the particulars of everyday life and experience. Taking utopia seriously in educational thought also involves a consideration of that which is dystopian. Utopia, this book suggests, is not something that is fixed, final, or ever fully realized; instead, it must be constantly recreated, and education, as an ongoing process of reflection, action, and transformation, has a central role to play in this process.

ABOUT THE AUTHORS
Peter Roberts is professor of Education at the University of Canterbury in New Zealand, where he teaches philosophy of education and educational policy studies.

John Freeman-Moir is senior lecturer in the College of Education at the University of Canterbury, New Zealand, where he teaches utopian social theory, sociology of education, and philosophy of education.

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