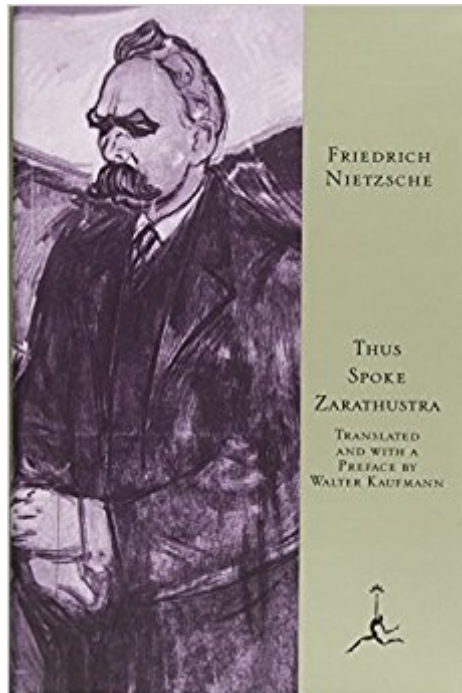




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Thus Spoke Zarathustra: A Book For All And None (Modern Library)



Synopsis

Friedrich Nietzsche's most accessible and influential philosophical work, misquoted, misrepresented, brilliantly original and enormously influential, *Thus Spoke Zarathustra* is translated from the German by R.J. Hollingdale in Penguin Classics. Nietzsche was one of the most revolutionary and subversive thinkers in Western philosophy, and *Thus Spoke Zarathustra* remains his most famous and influential work. It describes how the ancient Persian prophet Zarathustra descends from his solitude in the mountains to tell the world that God is dead and that the Superman, the human embodiment of divinity, is his successor. Nietzsche's utterance 'God is dead', his insistence that the meaning of life is to be found in purely human terms, and his doctrine of the Superman and the will to power were all later seized upon and unrecognisably twisted by, among others, Nazi intellectuals. With blazing intensity and poetic brilliance, Nietzsche argues that the meaning of existence is not to be found in religious pieties or meek submission to authority, but in an all-powerful life force: passionate, chaotic and free. Friedrich Nietzsche (1844-1900) became the chair of classical philology at Basel University at the age of 24 until his bad health forced him to retire in 1879. He divorced himself from society until his final collapse in 1899 when he became insane. A powerfully original thinker, Nietzsche's influence on subsequent writers, such as George Bernard Shaw, D.H. Lawrence, Thomas Mann and Jean-Paul Sartre, was considerable. If you enjoyed *Thus Spoke Zarathustra* you might like Nietzsche's *Beyond Good and Evil*, also available in Penguin Classics. 'Enigmatic, vatic, emphatic, passionate, often breathtakingly insightful, his works together make a unique statement in the literature of European ideas' A. C. Grayling

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

, also translated as Thus Spoke Zarathustra. Treatise by Friedrich Nietzsche, written in four parts and published in German between 1883 and 1885 as Also sprach Zarathustra. The work is incomplete, but it is the first thorough statement of Nietzsche's mature philosophy and the masterpiece of his career. It received little attention during his lifetime but its influence since his death has been considerable, in the arts as well as philosophy. Written in the form of a prose narrative, Thus Spake Zarathustra offers the philosophy of its author through the voice of Zarathustra (based on the Persian prophet Zoroaster) who, after years of meditation, has come down from a mountain to offer his wisdom to the world. It is this work in which Nietzsche made his famous (and much misconstrued) statement that "God is dead" and in which he presented some of the most influential and well-known (and likewise misunderstood) ideas of his philosophy, including those of the *Urbemensch* ("overman" or "superman") and the "will to power." Though this is essentially a work of philosophy, it is also a masterpiece of literature. The book is a combination of prose and poetry, including epigrams, dithyrambs, and parodies as well as sections of pure poetry.

-- The Merriam-Webster Encyclopedia of Literature --This text refers to an alternate Hardcover edition.

Text: English (translation) Original Language: German

"Zarathustra the godless!" Written in a unique literary style with a unique philosophical perspective. You experience this book more than you read it. You read a magazine, right? This book is deep and heavy and all us mortals can do is try to wrap our heads around the genius of Nietzsche. Masterpiece!

Ah not for everyone. Not to sound snobbish but don't attempt to read if your level of reading and understanding isn't in top form . If philosophy is important to you then read i

Nietzsche transfigures himself as a melancholic and incredulous figure. This piece shows his disappointment and sadness regarding the institutions of modern times. The style is a quasi-satire of how religions deliver their messages and it reaches genius proportions in this book. I can see

how revolutionary it was more than 100 years ago. It may still cause discomfort to readers nowadays. A must.

Mirrored with the Jungian individuation process, I found the book to be most fruitful. I loved it! I recommend for a fairly experienced reader, both subjectively and objectively.

Dated but an interesting read nonetheless

WOW! I believe I'm a Zorathustrian!! His anger at false teachings match mine

exactly as described

Don't have anything against it, just very hard read for a person who's english is a second language

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