

# Zarathustra

Volume 14 of The Complete Works of Friedrich Nietzsche presents the very first translation into English of the philosopher's unpublished notebooks from the period in which he began working on what he considered his best known and most important work, Thus Spoke Zarathustra.

ZARATHUSTRA WAS ONE OF THE GREATEST historical personalities known to us, and he forever shifted the course of civilization. Nevertheless, publications about him are fragmented and written for specialized academics only, making them incomprehensible to the general public. This book, for the first time, presents an easy and reader-friendly view for the educated general public. It examines its subject from the scientific perspective and is interested in the historical beginnings of today's monotheistic religions. For the understanding of modern monotheism—the one God religions we know today as Judaism, Christianity, and Islam—knowledge of Zarathustra and his message in a larger historical context is absolutely essential. Zarathustra was the first Prophet; all other Prophets came after him. The Greek philosophers such as Plato and Aristoteles spoke with great respect for him, for he stands with his civility and ethics at the beginning of human civilization, and Friedrich Nietzsche said of him: “The invention of morality by Zarathustra was the greatest philosophical error in human history” Nietzsche's infamous work Thus Spake Zarathustra is filled with a strange sense of religiosity that seems to run counter to the philosopher's usual polemics against religious faith. For some scholars, this book marks little but a mental decline in the great philosopher; for C. G. Jung, Zarathustra was an invaluable demonstration of the unconscious at work, one that illuminated both Nietzsche's psychology and spirituality and

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that of the modern world in general. The original two-volume edition of Jung's lively seminar on Nietzsche's Zarathustra has been an important source for specialists in depth psychology. This new abridged paperback edition allows interested readers to participate with Jung as he probes the underlying meaning of Nietzsche's great work.

God Is Dead—I am a forest, and a night of dark trees: but he who is not afraid of my darkness, will find banks full of roses under my cypresses. — Friedrich Nietzsche, Thus Spoke Zarathustra  
Zarathustra in Thus Spoke Zarathustra is not the Persian founder of Zoroastrianism, he is just a means to Friedrich Nietzsche's end. Through Zarathustra, Nietzsche tries to define his own philosophy attacking the Christian values of good and evil and predicting the rise of a new man, the superman, a self-mastered, self-cultivating, self-directed and self-overcoming individual.

Timely meditations on philosophy

Thus Spoke Zarathustra

Nietzsche's Teaching

A Book for Everyone and Nobody (Oxford World's Classics)

The Magnum Opus of the World's Most Influential

Philosopher, Revolutionary Thinker and the Author of The

Antichrist, The Birth of Tragedy & Beyond Good and Evil

Nietzsche's Eight Higher Men

**Also sprach Zarathustra: Ein Buch für Alle und Keinen (Thus Spoke Zarathustra: A Book for All and None) is a philosophical novel by Friedrich Nietzsche, composed in four parts between 1843 and 1844. Hard to categorise, the work is a treatise on philosophy, a masterly work of literature, in parts a collection of poetry and in others a parody of**

**and amendment to the Bible. Consisting largely of speeches by the book's hero, prophet Zarathustra, the work's content extends across a mass of styles and subject matter. Nietzsche himself described the work as "the deepest ever written." Due to the complexity of Nietzsche's prose it is at times impossible to translate his ideas accurately. By reading Nietzsche's original text along with Common's classic English translation it is hoped that the reader can better understand this dense work.**

**Richard Strauss's tone poem Also sprach Zarathustra is one of his most controversial works. Its greatest popularity has been achieved when its connection with Nietzsche's book of the same name has seemed less relevant than its associations with Kubrick's film 2001 - A Space Odyssey. Although its early critical reception was mixed, it is nowadays one of the staples of the virtuoso orchestra, and a standard demonstration piece for innovations in recording technique. Its opening bars have become a kind of icon independent of the rest of the work. This guide examines the intellectual background of the work and considers ways in which it has been received by composers and writers, notably Romain**

**Rolland and Bartok. It also discusses the musical background of Liszt and Wagner which gave rise to the genre, 'tone poem', and provides an analysis of several aspects of Strauss's musical language.**

**In his preface to Ecce Homo, Friedrich Nietzsche says this: “With [Thus Spoke Zarathustra] I have given mankind the greatest present that has ever been made to it so far. This book, with a voice bridging centuries, is not only the highest book there is, the book that is truly characterized by the air of the heights—the whole fact of man lies beneath it at a tremendous distance—it is also the deepest, born out of the innermost wealth of truth, an inexhaustible well to which no pail descends without coming up again filled with gold and goodness.”**

**Perhaps only a contemporary mystic like Osho could truly understand what Nietzsche meant by this statement. In Love with Life shares Osho’s understanding of both Nietzsche the man and of his seminal work, with extraordinary clarity and relevance to readers in the 21st century. Ten chapters have been selected from a series of 43 talks given by Osho, first published as two volumes: Zarathustra: A God that Can Dance, and Zarathustra: The Laughing Prophet.**

**Here, Nietzsche is rescued from any remaining taint brought on by the Nazi misunderstanding and appropriation of his work, and we also learn much about the mysterious and revolutionary Persian mystic Zarathustra (Zoroaster), whom Nietzsche chose as a spokesperson. The result is an enchanting journey through a world where life is celebrated, not renounced, and where timeless truths prevail over the lies and distortions that continue to cripple our efforts to become healthy and whole.**

**In ancient Iran, a man with a mysterious past and an even more mysterious future arrives in the city of Gonur-Depe to start a new life as a merchant. There he meets a wealthy woman who vows to make his life miserable, but her plans are interrupted when the city is attacked by the army of an evil prince that has been possessed by an even more evil god. The man and woman manage to flee the blood-soaked city and embark on a long, brutal journey of survival through the desert, moving toward their destiny and the world-changing events about to unfold.**

**Nietzsche: Thus Spoke Zarathustra**

**Myth - Message - History**

**A Short Introduction**

**Nietzsche's Zarathustra**

## **Beyond Good and Evil, Thus Spoke Zarathustra, Human, All Too Human, and the Antichrist a book for all and none**

Presents the author's ideas about the problem of living a fulfilling life in a meaningless world.

A step-by-step guide to Nietzsche's Thus Spoke Zarathustra. Thus Spoke Zarathustra is one of Nietzsche's greatest books, a cross-over text that combines philosophical innovation with literary experimentation. With Zarathustra Nietzsche has attempted a redefinition of the form-content correlation in philosophical writing and as such the text is considered an experiment in philosophical style. It therefore represents a large hurdle for undergraduate students. This projected commentary works on the assumption that access to the philosophical core of the text can only be gained through taking its literary ambitions seriously and that, moreover, these literary ambitions can only be understood as an attempt to realise philosophical ideas. This is a book that is designed to be read alongside Nietzsche and will therefore make the reading and appreciation of the primary material achievable. This approach will be welcomed by students and lecturers alike.

Thus Spoke Zarathustra Friedrich Wilhelm Nietzsche - Thus Spoke Zarathustra: A Book for All and None (German: Also sprach Zarathustra: Ein Buch für Alle und Keinen, also translated as Thus Spoke Zarathustra) is a philosophical novel by German philosopher Friedrich Nietzsche, composed in four parts between 1883 and 1885 and published between 1883 and 1891. Much of the work deals with ideas such as the "eternal recurrence of the same", the parable on the "death of God",

and the "prophecy" of the Übermensch, which were first introduced in *The Gay Science*. Thus Spoke Zarathustra was conceived while Nietzsche was writing *The Gay Science*; he made a small note, reading "6,000 feet beyond man and time," as evidence of this. More specifically, this note related to the concept of the eternal recurrence, which is, by Nietzsche's admission, the central idea of Zarathustra; this idea occurred to him by a "pyramidal block of stone" on the shores of Lake Silvaplana in the Upper Engadine, a high alpine region whose valley floor is at 6,000 feet (1,800 m). Nietzsche planned to write the book in three parts over several years. He wrote that the ideas for Zarathustra first came to him while walking on two roads surrounding Rapallo, according to Elisabeth Förster-Nietzsche in the introduction of Thomas Common's early translation of the book. Although Part Three was originally planned to be the end of the book, and ends with a strong climax, Nietzsche subsequently decided to write an additional three parts; ultimately, however, he composed only the fourth part, which is viewed to constitute an intermezzo. Nietzsche commented in *Ecce Homo* that for the completion of each part: "Ten days sufficed; in no case, neither for the first nor for the third and last, did I require more" (trans. Kaufmann). The first three parts were first published separately, and were subsequently published in a single volume in 1887. The fourth part remained private after Nietzsche wrote it in 1885; a scant forty copies were all that were printed, apart from seven others that were distributed to Nietzsche's close friends. In March 1892, the four parts were finally reprinted as a single volume. Since then, the version most commonly produced has included all four parts. The original text contains a great deal of word-play. An example of this is the use of words beginning über

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("over" or "above") and unter ("down" or "below"), often paired to emphasise the contrast, which is not always possible to bring out in translation, except by coinages. An example is Untergang, literally "down-going" but used in German to mean "setting" (as of the sun), which Nietzsche pairs with its opposite Übergang (going over or across). Another example is Übermensch (overman or superman), discussed later in this article.

"Jangan pernah menguburkan kepalamu dalam pasir surgawi,tapi bawalah dengan bebas,sebuah kepala membumi yang menciptakan makna bagi bumi!" (Friedrich Nietzsche dalam Sabda Zarathustra) Zarathustra adalah karya klasik Friedrich Nietzsche,yang berisi esai panjang. Menceritakan kisah seorang tokoh manusia bernama Zarathustra dalam pengembaraannya mencari "manusia unggul".Pencarian ini dibelakangi oleh kemunduran religius,moralitas, dan intelektualitas manusi-manusia lama.

Nietzsche's Thus Spoke Zarathustra

Reflections on Friedrich Nietzsche's Thus Spake Zarathustra  
Thus Spoke Zarathustra, Beyond Good and Evil, Hellenism & Pessimism □ 3 Unbeatable Philosophy Books in One Volume  
A Book for All and None

In Search of Zarathustra

Across Iran and Central Asia to Find the World's First Prophet  
A study of the enormous influence of the writings of Friedrich Nietzsche on turn-of-the-century German literature.

Thus Spake Zarathustra) is a philosophical novel by German philosopher Friedrich Nietzsche. The book chronicles the fictitious travels and speeches of Zarathustra. Zarathustra's namesake was the Persian founder of Zoroastrianism, usually known in English as Zoroaster. Nietzsche is clearly portraying a "new" or "different" Zarathustra, one who turns traditional morality on its head. He goes

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on to characterize "what the name of Zarathustra means in my mouth, the mouth of the first immoralist:" The book embodies a number of innovative poetical and rhetorical methods of expression. It serves as a parallel and supplement to the various philosophical ideas present in Nietzsche's body of work. He has, however, said that "among my writings my Zarathustra stands to my mind by itself." Emphasizing its centrality and its status as his magnum opus. Since many of the book's ideas are also present in his other works, Zarathustra is seen to have served as a precursor to his later philosophical thought. With the book, Nietzsche embraced a distinct aesthetic assiduity. He later reformulated many of his ideas, in Beyond Good and Evil and various other writings that he composed thereafter. He continued to emphasize his philosophical concerns; generally, his intention was to show an alternative to repressive moral codes and to avert "nihilism" in all of its varied forms. While Nietzsche injects myriad ideas into the book, a few recurring themes stand out. The overman (Übermensch), a self-mastered individual who has achieved his full power, is an almost omnipresent idea in Thus Spoke Zarathustra. Man as a race is merely a bridge between animals and the overman. Nietzsche also makes a point that the overman is not an end result for a person, but more the journey toward self-mastery. The eternal recurrence, found elsewhere in Nietzsche's writing, is also mentioned. "Eternal recurrence" is the possibility that all events in one's life will happen again and again, infinitely. The embrace of all of life's horrors and pleasures alike shows a deference and acceptance of fate, or Amor Fati. The love and acceptance of one's path in life is a defining characteristic of the overman. Faced with the knowledge that he would repeat every action that he has taken, an overman would be elated as he has no regrets and loves life. Opting to change any decision or event in one's life would indicate the presence of resentment or fear; contradistinctly the overman is characterized by courage and a Dionysian spirit. The will to power is the fundamental component of human nature. Everything we do is an

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expression of the will to power. The will to power is a psychological analysis of all human action and is accentuated by self-overcoming and self-enhancement. Contrasted with living for procreation, pleasure, or happiness, the will to power is the summary of all man's struggle against his surrounding environment as well as his reason for living in it.

Thus Spoke Zarathustra is Nietzsche's most famous and most puzzling work, one in which he makes the greatest use of poetry to explore the questions posed by philosophy. But in order to understand the movement of this drama, we must first understand the character of its protagonist: we must ask, What Is Nietzsche's Zarathustra? Heinrich Meier attempts to penetrate the core of the drama, following as a guiding thread the question of whether Zarathustra is a philosopher or a prophet, or, if he is meant to be both, whether Zarathustra is able to unite philosopher and prophet in himself. Via a close reading that uncovers the book's hidden structure, Meier develops a highly stimulating and original interpretation of this much discussed but still ill-understood masterwork of German poetic prose. In the process, he carefully overturns long-established canons in the academic discourse of Nietzsche-interpretation. The result is a fresh and surprising grasp of Nietzsche's well-known teachings of the overman, the will to power, and the eternal return.

This book, first published in 2005, explores the historical contextualization of Nietzsche's thought, focusing on his controversial Thus Spoke Zarathustra. The fourth part of Nietzsche's Zarathustra consists of Zarathustra's encounter with eight 'higher men' whom Zarathustra meets in succession on his path. The prophet then invites each individual to his cave for the evening festivities, culminating in a blasphemous festival in which his guests worship an ass as God. Revealing each guest's specific characteristics and distinct roles, the author attempts to discern 'who' these guests are or represent (historically) through glimpsing the characteristics specific to each guest.

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Thus Spake Zarathustra

An Interpretation of Thus Spoke Zarathustra

An Edinburgh Philosophical Guide

Zarathustra - Voume 1 - The Lion that Carried the Flame

Zarathustra and Zoroastrianism

Also sprach Zarathustra

This work defines its course in reference to Nietzsche's Also Sprach Zarathustra. The author uses Zarathustra to reflect how our understanding is wedded to affective modes, thematizing especially laughter, fear, awe and hope. The book invites us to rethink how to overcome some relevant impasses of contemporary analytic, hermeneutic and (post)deconstructionist thought. The author seeks the dialogue with the texts and the reader and gradually brings to the fore the ethical. In the words of the author: Most works on Nietzsche talk about him, few address him, much less invite the reader to walk with him. It is time for a dialogical itinerary. Extemporaneous talks given by the author at the Osho International Meditation Resort, Pune, India.

"The publication of the revised edition of Kathleen Marie Higgins's Nietzsche's Zarathustra is a great boon to Nietzsche scholars and Zarathustra specialists alike, for Higgins's consistently subtle analysis of Nietzsche's bold experiment in philosophical writing---especially her groundbreaking interpretation of Zarathustra, part IV---is replete with invaluable insights More than twenty years after its initial appearance, Nietzsche's Zarathustra remains an indispensable point of reference for philosophers and critics who take seriously Nietzsche's judgment that Zarathustra is his most significant work."---Robert Gooding-Williams, University of Chicago "This Spoke Zarathustra is Nietzsche's most popular and yet least comprehensible book Many have left the matter there, deriding both the author and his public. Kathleen Marie Higgins refuses to take this easy path. She

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reveals the complexities underlying the work's apparent lack of organization and argues that these complexities, far from being gratuitous, are telling and significant. She argues that Zarathustra breaks the boundaries that separate a number of genres from one another. Her own interpretation, reflecting the features of its subject, breaks the boundaries that separate a number of academic disciplines. Higgins has written an engaging book that will prove indispensable to Nietzsche's many readers."---Alexander Nehamas, University of Pennsylvania "Nietzsche thought that philosophy chairs would be offered for the best interpretations of This Spoke Zarathustra one hundred years after its publication. Professor Higgins's treatment of Nietzsche's thought, which most writers on Nietzsche ignore, neglect, deny, or don't even see."

---Joan Stambaugh. Hunter College With an interdisciplinary approach to Nietzsche's Thus Spoke Zarathustra, Kathleen Marie Higgins's Nietzsche's Zarathustra focuses on the philosophical function of its literary techniques and its fictional mode of presentation. Now appearing after twenty years as a revised edition, this valuable roadmap to Zarathustra argues that the fictional format is essential to Nietzsche's philosophical message in his work. There is always a discrepancy between the living philosophical insight and any attempt to articulate it, and Nietzsche portrays the philosopher's task as an on-going balancing act in which folly is a means to further insight.

The author uses the ancient Persian religious leader, Zarathustra (or Zoroaster) to voice his own views, including the introduction of the controversial doctrine of the "Übermensch" or "superman."

A Philosophical Confrontation

The Reformation of Neolithic Culture and Religion

The Death of Nietzsche's Zarathustra

A Book for Everyone and Nobody

## ZARATHUSTRA

### THUS SPOKE ZARATHUSTRA (Modern Classics Series)

Thus Spoke Zarathustra A Book for Everyone and Nobody Oxford University Press

A startling and thought-provoking work from one of the most powerful philosophers in the Western canon Thus Spoke Zarathustra: A Philosophy Classic, is Friedrich Nietzsche ' s classic masterpiece of philosophy and literature. Nietzsche writes from the perspective of Zarathustra who, after years of meditation, has come down from a mountain to provide his wisdom to an unsuspecting world. He offers enduring observations on God, the Übermensch, the will to power, and the nature of human beings. This deluxe hardback Capstone edition includes an insightful introduction from leading Nietzsche scholar Dirk R. Johnson Perfect for students and scholars of philosophy, literature and history, Thus Spoke Zarathustra: A Philosophy Classic belongs in the libraries of anyone interested in the philosophy of Nietzsche and in his powerful explorations of God, life, power, and humanity.

The author deciphers Nietzsche's most enigmatic work as Zarathustra's epic campaign to save secular culture from degradation in the godless world. In this epic reading, the ostensibly atheistic work turns out to be a profound religious text. This revelation is breathtaking and edifying.

The first comprehensive interpretation of Nietzsche's Thus Spoke Zarathustra--an important and difficult text and the only book Nietzsche ever wrote with characters, events, setting, and a plot. Laurence Lampert's chapter-by-chapter commentary on Nietzsche's magnum opus clarifies not only Zarathustra's narrative structure but also the development of Nietzsche's thinking as a whole. "An impressive piece of scholarship. Insofar as it solves the riddle of Zarathustra in an unprecedented fashion, this study serves as an invaluable resource for all serious students of Nietzsche's philosophy. Lampert's persuasive and thorough interpretation is bound to spark a revival of interest in Zarathustra and raise the

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standards of Nietzsche scholarship in general."--Daniel W. Conway, Review of *Metaphysics* "A book of scholarship, filled with passion and concern for its text."--Tracy B. Strong, Review of *Politics* "This is the first genuine textual commentary on Zarathustra in English, and therewith a genuine reader's guide. It makes a significant and original contribution to its field."--Werner J. Dannhauser, Cornell University "This is a very valuable and carefully wrought study of a very complex and subtle poetic-philosophical work that provides access to Nietzsche's style of presenting his thought, as well as to his passionately affirmed values. Lampert's commentary and analysis of Zarathustra is so thorough and detailed. . . that it is the most useful English-language companion to Nietzsche's 'edifying' and intriguing work."--Choice Selected as one of Choice's outstanding academic books for 1988  
Abridged Edition

A Study of a Lost Generation of German Writers

Nietzsche's Collections

Friedrich Nietzsche

Zarathustra's Children

This organized collection of arguably Friedrich Nietzsche's most famous works contains the following: *Beyond Good and Evil*, *Thus Spoke Zarathustra*, *Human, All Too Human*, and *The Antichrist*. The translators for these works are listed on the false cover of the manuscript and were chosen to afford maximum readability while retaining all the glory that is Nietzsche's concise wit and perception of reality. The following is a short summary of each of the works within the collection. *Beyond Good and Evil: Prelude to a Philosophy of the Future* is a book that expands the ideas of Nietzsche's previous

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work, Thus Spoke Zarathustra, with a more critical and polemical approach. It was first published in 1886. In Beyond Good and Evil, Nietzsche accuses past philosophers of lacking critical sense and blindly accepting dogmatic premises in their consideration of morality. Specifically, he accuses them of founding grand metaphysical systems upon the faith that the good man is the opposite of the evil man, rather than just a different expression of the same basic impulses that find more direct expression in the evil man. The work moves into the realm "beyond good and evil" in the sense of leaving behind the traditional morality which Nietzsche subjects to a destructive critique in favor of what he regards as an affirmative approach that fearlessly confronts the perspectival nature of knowledge and the perilous condition of the modern individual. Thus Spoke Zarathustra is a philosophical novel, composed in four parts between 1883 and 1885 and published between 1883 and 1891. Much of the work deals with ideas such as the "eternal recurrence of the same", the parable on the "death of God", and the "prophecy" of the Übermensch, which were first introduced in The Gay Science. Human, All Too Human: A Book for Free Spirits is a book originally published in 1878. The book is Nietzsche's first in the aphoristic style that would come to dominate his writings, discussing a variety of concepts in short paragraphs or sayings. Reflecting an admiration of Voltaire as a

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free thinker, but also a break in his friendship with composer Richard Wagner two years earlier, Nietzsche dedicated the original 1878 edition of *Human, All Too Human* "to the memory of Voltaire on the celebration of the anniversary of his death, May 30, 1778." *The Antichrist* was originally published in 1895. Christianity, as a religion of peace, is despised by Nietzsche. According to Nietzsche's account, pity has a depressive effect, loss of vitality and strength, and is harmful to life. It also preserves that which should naturally be destroyed. For a noble morality, pity is a weakness, but for Christianity, it is a virtue. In Schopenhauer's philosophy, which Nietzsche sees as the most nihilistic and opposed to life, pity is the highest virtue of all. But, for Nietzsche, pity "... multiplies misery and conserves all that is miserable, and is thus a prime instrument of the advancement of decadence: pity persuades men to nothingness! Of course, one does not say 'nothingness.' One says 'the Beyond' or 'God' or 'true life' or 'Nirvana,' 'salvation,' 'redemption,' 'blessedness.' ... Schopenhauer was hostile to life: therefore pity became a virtue for him." The moderns Leo Tolstoy and Richard Wagner adopted Schopenhauer's viewpoint. Aristotle, who lived in 384-322 BC, on the other hand, recognized the unhealthiness of pity and prescribed tragedy as a purgative. "In our whole unhealthy modernity there is nothing more unhealthy

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than Christian pity."

Thus Spoke Zarathustra: A Book for All and None also translated as Thus Spake Zarathustra is a philosophical novel by German philosopher Friedrich Nietzsche, composed in four parts between 1883 and 1885. Much of the work deals with ideas such as the "eternal recurrence of the same" and the parable on the "death of God" "you must be ready to burn yourself in your own flame; how could you rise anew if you have not first become ashes?" Thus Spoke Zarathustra (subtitled as A Book for All and None) chronicles the fictitious travels and speeches of Zarathustra, the founder of Zoroastrianism. While Nietzsche injects myriad ideas into the book, a few recurring themes stand out. The overman (Übermensch), a self-mastered individual who has achieved his full power, is an almost omnipresent idea in Thus Spoke Zarathustra. Man as a race is merely a bridge between animals and the overman. Nietzsche also makes a point that the overman is not an end result for a person, but more the journey toward self-mastery. Friedrich Nietzsche (1844–1900) was a German philosopher, poet, and Latin and Greek scholar whose work has exerted a profound influence on Western philosophy and modern intellectual history. Because of Nietzsche's evocative style and provocative ideas, his philosophy generates passionate reactions. His works remain controversial, due to varying interpretations and

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misinterpretations of his work. In the Western philosophy tradition, Nietzsche's writings have been described as the unique case of free revolutionary thought, that is, revolutionary in its structure and problems, although not tied to any revolutionary project.

Zarathustra and Zoroastrianism offers a compact, concise and accessible survey of Zoroastrianism. Chapters address Zarathustra and the origins of the religion, religious concepts and narratives, ethics and gender, priesthoods and rituals, transitions and festivals.

German/English Bilingual Text

Zarathustra's Last Supper

The Birth of Tragedy

The Philosophy Classic

A Book for Everyone and No One

Also Sprach Zarathustra/Thus Spoke

Zarathustra

**In this study of Nietzsche's Thus Spoke Zarathustra, Paul S. Loeb proposes a fresh account of the relation between the book's literary and philosophical aspects and argues that the book's narrative is designed to embody and exhibit the truth of eternal recurrence. Loeb shows how Nietzsche constructed a unified and complete plot in which the protagonist dies, experiences a deathbed revelation of his endlessly repeating life, and then returns to his identical life so as to recollect this revelation and gain a power over time that advances him beyond the human. Through close textual analysis and careful attention to Nietzsche's use of Platonic, biblical, and Wagnerian themes, Loeb explains how this novel**

**design is the key to solving the many riddles of Thus Spoke Zarathustra - including its controversial fourth part, its obscure concept of the Übermensch, and its relation to Nietzsche's Genealogy of Morals.**

**"The evidence presented here challenges the conventional datings of Zarathustra (c. 630 B.C., c. 1500-1200 B.C.). It also counters the widely held view that the change from hunting and gathering to farming must be tied to the economics of survival. But if there is any truth in the ancient claims, two of the great puzzles of prehistory - the massive late-seventh-millennium spread of agriculture and the placement in time of one of the world's most influential religious leaders - could be resolved as one."--BOOK JACKET.**

**"Thus Spake Zarathustra: A Book for All and None" chronicles the fictitious travels and speeches of Zarathustra, the founder of Zoroastrianism. Zarathustra contains the famous dictum "God is dead" and the concept of the "Übermensch" (overman or superman). In "Beyond Good and Evil" Nietzsche accuses past philosophers of lacking critical sense and blindly accepting dogmatic premises in their consideration of morality. The work moves into the realm "beyond good and evil" in the sense of leaving behind the traditional morality which Nietzsche subjects to a destructive critique in favour of what he regards as an affirmative approach. "The Birth of Tragedy or, Hellenism and Pessimism" is a work of dramatic theory which discusses the history of the tragic form and introduces an intellectual dichotomy between the Dionysian and the Apollonian. Nietzsche believed that in classical Athenian tragedy an art form that transcended the pessimism and nihilism of a fundamentally meaningless world. Friedrich Nietzsche (1844–1900) was a German philosopher,**

**cultural critic, poet, philologist, and Latin and Greek scholar whose work has exerted a profound influence on Western philosophy and modern intellectual history. Because of Nietzsche's evocative style and provocative ideas, his philosophy generates passionate reactions. His works remain controversial, due to varying interpretations and misinterpretations of his work. In the Western philosophy tradition, Nietzsche's writings have been described as the unique case of free revolutionary thought, that is, revolutionary in its structure and problems, although not tied to any revolutionary project**

**A historical study of the ancient Persian prophet Zarathustra (or Zoroaster) explores the influence of this powerful religious lawgiver on the core concepts of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam and the effects of the prophet's teachings on the spiritual and everyday lives of people in different places and at various times in history. Reprint. 12,500 first printing.**

**Unpublished Fragments from the Period of Thus Spoke Zarathustra (I: Summer 1882-Winter 1883/84)**

**Zarathustra**

**When Zarathustra Spoke**

**Zarathustra and the Ethical Ideal**

**The Laughing Prophet on Friedrich Nietzsche's Thus Spoke Zarathustra**

**Nietzsche's Epic of the Soul**

*Thus Spoke Zarathustra was Friedrich Nietzsche's favorite of the books he wrote, and has been his most popular amongst general readers. Yet some scholars dislike it because of its unphilosophical nature: it eschews jargon and the scaffolding of arguments, which engage only the intellect, in favor of an artistic approach*

*that engages the whole mind. After ten years of solitude in a cave high in the mountains, Zarathustra wishes to share with humanity the wisdom he has accumulated during this time. He reaches the nearest town and addresses the crowd on the marketplace. He tells them of the Overman: the next step in human evolution, a being who creates their own values, freed from the weight of tradition and morality, and who takes responsibility for their own successes and failures. But the crowd doesn't understand him; his discourse is met only with rude ignorance. Zarathustra then decides to gather a small group of disciples and share his wisdom with them. The bulk of the book is Zarathustra's speeches on topics such as morality, society, individualism, religion, and how suffering and its overcoming are what give meaning to our existence. While already wiser than most, Zarathustra still learns from those he talks to, re-evaluating his thoughts as he deals with disappointment (such as when his disciples prove to be mere followers), and confronting his own doubts. His greatest challenge, though, comes when he faces the existential test of the eternal recurrence of the same: the thought that our lives could repeat indefinitely without the minutest of change. The inspiration for Zarathustra came to Nietzsche during one of the long hikes he often indulged in despite his failing health. It was a decade of solitude: his physical condition had worsened to the point of forcing him to retire from his position at the University of Basel, and each change of season prompted him to*

*relocate to kinder climes in Switzerland, France, or Italy. The book took two years to write. Each of its four parts was written in a ten-day period of creative effervescence followed by months of gloom, plagued by terrible, debilitating migraines. Zarathustra was initially received with indifference at best and frustration at worst. It's a work of philosophy as much as aesthetics: the language is modeled after the Luther Bible and contains numerous references to Homer, Heraclitus, Plato, Goethe, Emerson, and Wagner, to name a few. Later Nietzsche attempted to address the book's lack of popularity by framing the same concepts in a more traditional, approachable manner in his following book, Beyond Good and Evil, but that book also struggled to find an audience. With his health steadily deteriorating, Nietzsche's mind broke down in 1889 and never recovered. His body would live on for 11 more years, and he ended up in the care of his sister, Elisabeth. A stalwart nationalist and anti-Semite, she saw in her brother's illness the opportunity to turn him into a German hero. Despite her brother's firm opposition to nationalism, anti-Semitism, and power politics, she perverted his work by promoting it for her own ends. Scores of commentators partook in her lie and enthusiastically used Nietzsche's work to buttress their own contrary views. Doing so requires one to selectively ignore half the content of the book: Zarathustra's discourses regularly touch on a priori dark and violent themes, but they also clearly state that these are to be*

*directed towards oneself. Reaching the Overman requires us to know ourselves, and such introspection, given the darker side of human nature, leads to contempt. This contempt for ourselves, says Nietzsche, should be embraced as the first step towards awareness of what we could be. Cruelty, likewise, stems from that knowledge as a necessity to hammer ourselves into the proper shape. Such commentators also conveniently ignored Zarathustra's many remarks about love: love for ourselves, he says, is what can prevent us from spreading resentment around us during this difficult process of change. The first English translation of Zarathustra was by Alexander Tille, a German scholar who had emigrated to Scotland. English wasn't his first language and his work suffered from it. Thomas Common, a Scottish scholar, used Tille's work as the base for his own translation. Bringing Zarathustra to the English-speaking world was no easy task given Nietzsche's stylistic idiosyncrasies. Just like Nietzsche, Common took risks: because the book is written in the style of the Luther Bible, Common decided to emulate the style of the King James Bible; he also tried to reproduce the musicality of the language and the new words coined by Nietzsche, some of which have been updated over time—e.g. Common's "Superman" is nowadays known as "Overman." While his choices have been controversial, he produced a landmark translation that faithfully tried to convert the unique flavor of Zarathustra into English. Published in 1909, it would*

*take four decades until the next translation by Walter Kaufman in 1954. But Zarathustra didn't find its scholarly fame limited to Europe: soon after its publication, it reached Asia, where it was received with enthusiasm, particularly in China and Japan where it influenced the famous Kyoto School. Zarathustra has also received special attention from the music world. Nietzsche loved music and poetry, and it was his wish that this book be taken as music. No fewer than 87 pieces have been inspired by the book, in part or as a whole. The best known are Richard Strauss' Also Sprach Zarathustra, the fourth movement of Gustav Mahler's Symphony No. 3, and Frederick Delius' A Mass of Life. This book is part of the Standard Ebooks project, which produces free public domain ebooks. The book chronicles the fictitious travels and speeches of Zarathustra. Zarathustra's namesake was the founder of Zoroastrianism, usually known in English as Zoroaster . Nietzsche is clearly portraying a "new" or "different" Zarathustra, one who turns traditional morality on its head. He goes on to characterize "what the name of Zarathustra means in my mouth, the mouth of the first immoralist: " Thus Spake Zarathustra, Nietzsche's most popular work, is fundamentally different from his other publications and has been called a parable and a poetic fable. In form it imitates parts of the New Testament and the Platonic dialogues. The style is lighthearted, while the message is ironic, frequently ambiguous, and Dionysian. The book is full of*

*metaphors and humorous allusions to specific philosophers and writers. Nietzsche later wrote that it summarized all the important ideas in his writings. 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. Frederich 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*

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*What is Nietzsche's Zarathustra?*

*Jung's Seminar on Nietzsche's Zarathustra*

*In Love with Life*

Nietzsche regarded 'Thus Spoke Zarathustra' as his most important work, and his story of the wandering Zarathustra has had enormous influence on subsequent culture. Nietzsche uses a mixture of homilies, parables, epigrams and dreams to introduce some of his most striking doctrines, including the Overman, nihilism, and the eternal return of the same. This edition offers a new translation by Adrian Del Caro which restores the original versification of Nietzsche's text and captures its poetic brilliance. Robert Pippin's introduction discusses many of the most important interpretative issues raised by the

work, including who is Zarathustra and what kind of 'hero' is he and what is the philosophical significance of the work's literary form? The volume will appeal to all readers interested in one of the most original and inventive works of modern philosophy.

Thus Spoke Zarathustra: A Book for All and None, also translated as Thus Spake Zarathustra, is a work of philosophical fiction written by German philosopher Friedrich Nietzsche between 1883 and 1885. The protagonist is nominally the historical Zarathustra, but, besides a handful of sentences, Nietzsche is not concerned with a specific resemblance. Much of the book purports to be what Zarathustra said, and it repeats the refrain, "Thus spoke Zarathustra." The style of Zarathustra has facilitated variegated and often incompatible ideas about what Zarathustra says. Zarathustra's "[e]xplanations and claims are almost always analogical and figurative." Though there is no consensus with what Zarathustra means when he speaks, there is some consensus about that which he speaks. Zarathustra deals with ideas about the Übermensch, the death of God, the will to power, and eternal recurrence. Zarathustra himself first appeared in Nietzsche's earlier book *The Gay Science*. Nietzsche has suggested that his Zarathustra is a tragedy and a parody and a polemic and the culmination of the German language. It was his favorite of his own books. He was aware, however, that readers

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might not understand it. This is possibly why he subtitled it *A Book for All and None*. However, as with the content as a whole, the subtitle has baffled many critics, and there is no consensus. Zarathustra's themes and merits are continually disputed. It has nonetheless been hugely influential in various facets of culture.