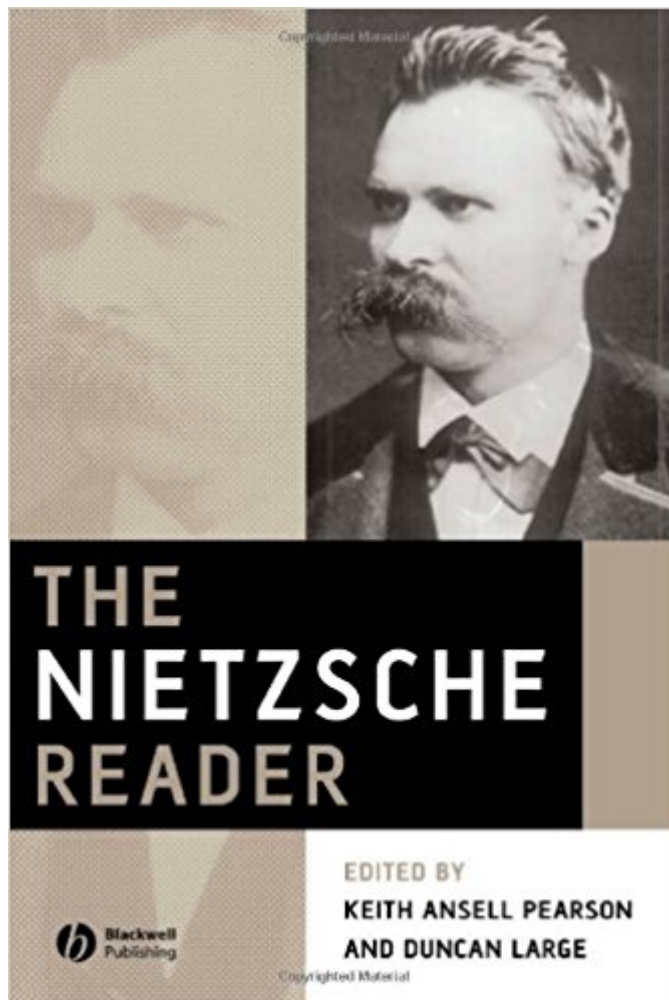


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The Nietzsche Reader



Synopsis

The Nietzsche Reader brings together in one volume substantial selections from the entire body of Nietzsche's writings, together with illuminating commentary on Nietzsche's life and importance, and introductions to his major works and philosophical ideas. Includes selections from all the major texts, including *The Birth of Tragedy*, *The Gay Science*, *Thus Spoke Zarathustra*, *Beyond Good and Evil*, *The Anti-Christ*, and *Ecce Homo*. Offers new translations of key pieces from Nietzsche's unpublished "Lenzer Heide" notebook. Provides a wealth of pedagogical features, such as editorial sections on Nietzsche's life and importance, an opening introduction to his philosophical ideas, introductions to each major section, and a comprehensive guide to further reading.

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Customer Reviews

"Intended to introduce students to Nietzsche's writings, the Reader is of considerable value. It includes comprehensive selections from Nietzsche's early, middle and late writings in English. The chronological presentation of the selections is particularly useful in helping students to appreciate Nietzsche's philosophical development." *International Journal of Philosophical Studies* "The Nietzsche Reader offers an extremely comprehensive collection of Nietzsche's philosophical writings, ranging from his youthful essays on fate to the pithy, epochal books written in the twilight of his sanity. Perfect for classroom use, in any number of courses across a variety of academic disciplines." Daniel W. Conway, The Pennsylvania State University "Thorough yet manageable, this Reader is an excellent introduction to

Nietzsche. The editors' balanced commentary is accessible to the novice while still engaging for scholars. This book is a great contribution to Nietzsche studies. Kathleen Higgins, University of Texas Austin

Nietzsche's impact on modern thought cannot be overstated. Generations have been influenced by this controversial and exciting thinker whose work nourishes academic fields as diverse as philosophy, literary studies, and political theory. This collection brings together in one volume substantial selections from Nietzsche's complete oeuvre, including some never before published in book form in English. It also contains impressive pedagogical features, including editorial sections on Nietzsche's life and importance, an introduction to his philosophical ideas, introductions to each major section of writings, and a comprehensive guide to further reading.

Not only does the Reader generously excerpt all of Nietzsche's major texts, it also showcases selections from his lesser-known writings, including his early critique "On Schopenhauer," Philosophy in the Tragic Age of the Greeks, and the seminal essay "On Truth and Lies in a Nonmoral Sense." In addition, there are new translations of key pieces from Nietzsche's unpublished notebooks of the 1880s, including the first sketch of the doctrine of eternal recurrence, and the "Lenzer Heide" text on European nihilism.

this is, at bottom, a textbook for a 3rd or 4th year undergraduate college philosophy course. if you're comfortable approaching and "using" a philosopher like Nietzsche in this way, then you won't have any qualms about this volume. certainly the translations are generally among the best available, and the inclusion of several minor but illuminating texts (such as "Homer's Contest" and "On Truth and Lies") is valuable. the index amounts to a syntopicon of Nietzsche's references, keywords and themes across all the included works, which is very useful. the main problem is that all the included works are not all included -- they're heavily excerpted. this can be excused in the verbose, aphoristic or rhapsodic texts up to "Beyond Good and Evil", but at least one of the last three books ("Genealogy of Morals", "The Antichrist", "Ecce Homo") should have been included entire, as all three are short and trenchant. Nietzsche's reputation as scattershot and unsystematic is not helped by editing him into confetti. but as I said: this is a book for readers who will not miss what has been omitted. I was truly underwhelmed by the introduction and prefaces. we get a little of Nietzsche, a lot of what people say about Nietzsche, and more about what people say about what people say about Nietzsche. as another reviewer noted, European academic fashion intrudes too far and too often,

and Nietzsche's sarcasms about the petty fussing of scholars are regrettably ignored. For the mature reader seriously interested in Nietzsche, there is much to commend Walter Kaufmann's two collected volumes -- the "Portable Nietzsche" and "The Basic Writings of Nietzsche" -- which comprise eight major works unabridged in excellent translation, and excerpts of many other works, notes and letters, with insightful prefaces and annotations. Like Kaufmann's superb "Nietzsche: Philosopher, Psychologist, Antichrist," they were published four to six decades ago, and are still in print. I doubt the same will be true of this "Reader".

This reader is a great way to get to know Nietzsche - the editorial material provides clear and thoughtful commentary on his philosophy, and the works selected give a good survey of his entire body of writing. It is organized chronologically and walks you through Nietzsche's life as a writer and a historical figure. All the material is laid out very well; I would recommend this reader for anyone looking for a broad introduction to Nietzsche.

Excellent for anyone curious about Nietzsche. I'm reading everything he wrote that I can get hold of. If you read Bonhoeffer and Marx, you must read Nietzsche.

got my book on time, in great condition. Great read, I'd highly recommend for anyone who's getting into Nietzsche, the editors do an excellent job of breaking down his thought and I guess you could say almost spoon feeding it to you but still, for this material and its difficulty, that's not such a bad thing. So far from what I can tell, I'd say the editors are about the best Nietzsche scholars I've seen.

This reader is an astonishing achievement. There is simply no other single text that can provide such great appreciation for the development of Nietzsche's thought and the breadth of his ideas. This text can be used easily by a person looking to choose to read a first full book by Nietzsche, and it provides reliable guidance for the reader seeking to progress through Nietzsche's corpus. The book could work easily in a college course on Nietzsche, supplemented by one or more complete works. The bibliography is superb, and the introductory materials are intelligent, balanced in their approach, and helpful. Even the specialist stands to gain something from careful review of the selections so as to more fully appreciate the challenging editorial decisions that produced this terrific book. For example, this book--more than any other reader, and more than any single book written by Nietzsche--allows one to see how the idea of eternal recurrence emerged and acquired greater significance in his writings. It is an outstanding value both economically and intellectually.

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