Each volume of this series of companions to major philosophers contains specially commissioned essays by an international team of scholars, together with a substantial bibliography, and will serve as a reference work for students and nonspecialists. One aim of the series is to dispel the intimidation such readers often feel when faced with the work of a difficult and challenging thinker.

The significance of Friedrich Nietzsche for twentieth-century culture is now no longer a matter of dispute. He was quite simply one of the most influential of modern thinkers. His attempts to unmask the root motives underlying traditional Western philosophy, morality, and religion have deeply affected subsequent generations of philosophers, theologians, psychologists, poets, novelists, and playwrights. Nietzsche thought through the consequences of the triumph of Enlightenment secularism, and in so doing laid the foundations for the philosophical agenda of the twentieth century, the “post-Nietzschean age.”

The opening essay of this Companion provides a chronologically organized introduction to and summary of Nietzsche’s published works, while also providing an overview of their basic themes and concerns. It is followed by three essays on the appropriation and misappropriation of his writings, and a group of essays exploring the nature of Nietzsche’s philosophy and its relation to the modern and postmodern world. The final contributions consider Nietzsche’s influence on the twentieth century in Europe, the U.S.A., and Asia.
The Cambridge Companion to

NIETZSCHE

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For David and Julie
&
For Bob
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