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James S. Pearson  
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## NIETZSCHE ON CONFLICT, STRUGGLE AND WAR

Nietzsche controversially valorizes struggle and war as necessary ingredients of human flourishing. In this book, James S. Pearson reconstructs Nietzsche's rationale for placing such high value on relations of conflict. In doing so, Pearson reveals how Nietzsche's celebration of social discord is interwoven with his understanding of nature as universal struggle. This study thus draws together Nietzsche's writings on politics, culture, metaphysics, biology and human psychology. It also overcomes an entrenched dispute in the critical literature. Until now, commentators have tended to interpret Nietzsche either as an advocate of radical aristocratic violence or, by contrast, a defender of moderate democratic contest. This book navigates a path between these two opposed readings and shows how Nietzsche is able to endorse both violent strife and restrained competition without contradicting himself.

JAMES S. PEARSON is Research Fellow in Philosophy at the University of Tartu. He is the author of numerous articles on modern German philosophy in journals including *Inquiry*, *Social Theory and Practice* and *The Canadian Journal of Philosophy*.

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JAMES S. PEARSON

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## *Abbreviations*

### Nietzsche's Writings

Cited numbers principally refer to section numbers. Thus, GS 21 = GS, Section 21. Where the sections of text are too long for the section number to be sufficiently informative, I provide a reference to the relevant volume and page in the KSA. Thus, GM I 13, KSA 5.279 = GM, Essay 1, Section 13 (KSA, Volume 5, page 279). Likewise, when citing Nietzsche's unpublished notebooks (his *Nachlaß*), I provide the KSA reference, giving the volume, notebook, fragment and page number. Thus, KSA 10:15[36], 488 = KSA, Volume 10, Notebook 15, Fragment 36, page 488. For texts that are not contained in the KSA (e.g., Nietzsche's lecture notes), I cite the KGW, giving the volume, part and page number. Thus, KGW II/5, 519 = KGW, Volume 2, Part 5, page 519. When citing Nietzsche's letters, I refer to the KGB, giving the volume, part and page number. Thus, KGB III/1, 182–183 = KGB, Volume 3, Part 1, pages 182–183.

- |     |   |
|-----|---|
| KGW | <i>Werke: Kritische Gesamtausgabe</i> . Edited by Giorgio Colli and Mazzino Montinari. Berlin: de Gruyter, 1967–                        |
| KSA | <i>Sämtliche Werke: Kritische Studienausgabe in 15 Bänden</i> . Edited by Giorgio Colli and Mazzino Montinari. Berlin: de Gruyter, 1980 |
| KGB | <i>Briefwechsel: Kritische Gesamtausgabe</i> . Edited by Giorgio Colli and Mazzino Montinari. Berlin: de Gruyter, 1977                  |

### Nietzsche's Published Works

- |     |  |
|-----|--|
| AOM | <i>Vermischte Meinungen und Sprüche</i> (in <i>Menschliches Allzumenschliches II</i> ) ( <i>Assorted Opinions and Maxims</i> ) |
| BGE | <i>Jenseits von Gut und Böse</i> ( <i>Beyond Good and Evil</i> )   |
| BT  | <i>Die Geburt der Tragödie</i> ( <i>The Birth of Tragedy</i> )   |
| CW  | <i>Der Fall Wagner</i> ( <i>The Case of Wagner</i> )   |

D	<i>Morgenröthe (Daybreak or Dawn)</i>
DS	<i>David Strauss der Bekenner und der Schriftsteller (Unzeitgemäße Betrachtungen I) (David Strauss the Confessor and the Writer)</i>
GM	<i>Zur Genealogie der Moral (On the Genealogy of Morals)</i>
GS	<i>Die fröhliche Wissenschaft (The Gay Science)</i>
HH	<i>Menschliches, Allzumenschliches (Human, All Too Human)</i>
HL	<i>Vom Nutzen und Nachteil der Historie für das Leben (Unzeitgemäße Betrachtungen II) (On the Uses and Disadvantages of History for Life)</i>
SE	<i>Schopenhauer als Erzieher (Unzeitgemäße Betrachtungen III) (Schopenhauer as Educator)</i>
TI	<i>Götzen-Dämmerung (Twilight of the Idols; references to this work include an abbreviated section title)</i>
UM	<i>Unzeitgemäße Betrachtungen (Untimely Meditations)</i>
WB	<i>Richard Wagner in Bayreuth (Unzeitgemäße Betrachtungen IV)</i>
WS	<i>Der Wanderer und sein Schatten (in Menschliches, Allzumenschliches II) (The Wanderer and His Shadow)</i>
Z	<i>Also sprach Zarathustra (Thus Spoke Zarathustra; references to this work include an abbreviated section title)</i>

**Nietzsche's Unpublished Writings**

A	<i>Der Antichrist (The Antichrist)</i>
DW	“Die dionysische Weltanschauung” (“The Dionysian Worldview”)
EH	<i>Ecce Homo</i> (references to this work include an abbreviated section title)
FEI	“Über die Zukunft unserer Bildungsanstalten” (“On the Future of our Educational Institutions”)
GSt	“Der griechische Staat” (“The Greek State”)
HC	“Homer’s Wettkampf” (“Homer’s Contest”)
HGL	“Geschichte der griechischen Literatur” (“[The] History of Greek Literature”)
PPP	“Die vorplatonischen Philosophen” (“The Pre-Platonic Philosophers”)
PTAG	<i>Die Philosophie im tragischen Zeitalter der Griechen (Philosophy in the Tragic Age of the Greeks)</i>
RSG	“Der Gottesdienst der Griechen” (“The Religious Worship of the Greeks”)

## List of Abbreviations

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SGT	“Sokrates und die griechische Tragödie” (“Socrates and Greek Tragedy”)
TL	“Über Wahrheit und Lüge im aussermoralischen Sinne” (“On Truth and Lies in an Extra-Moral Sense”)

## Burckhardt's Writings

All references to Burckhardt's writings give the GW volume and page number.

GK	<i>Griechische Kulturgeschichte: Vierte Band</i>
GW	<i>Gesammelte Werke</i> . 10 vols. Basel: Schwabe Verlag, 1978
KRI	<i>Die Kultur der Renaissance in Italien</i>
WBe	<i>Weltgeschichtliche Betrachtungen</i>

## Kant's Writings

All references to Kant's writings give the AA volume and page number.

AA	<i>Gesammelte Schriften</i> . Akademie Ausgabe. Edited by Wilhelm Dilthey et al. Berlin: de Gruyter, 1902–
CJ	<i>Kritik der Urteilskraft</i> ( <i>Critique of Judgment</i> )
CPR	<i>Kritik der reinen Vernunft</i> ( <i>Critique of Pure Reason</i> )
IUH	“Idee zu einer allgemeinen Geschichte in weltbürgerlicher Absicht” (“Idea for a Universal History with a Cosmopolitan Purpose”)
PP	“Zum ewigen Frieden. Ein philosophischer Entwurf” (“Perpetual Peace: A Philosophical Sketch”)

## Schopenhauer's Writings

All references to Schopenhauer's works give the SW volume and page number.

SW	<i>Sämtliche Werke</i> . 7 vols. Edited by Arthur Hübscher. Mannheim: F. A. Brockhaus, 1988
WWR 1	<i>Die Welt als Wille und Vorstellung, Band 1</i> ( <i>The World as Will and Representation, Volume 1</i> )
WWR 2	<i>Die Welt als Wille und Vorstellung, Band 2</i> ( <i>The World as Will and Representation, Volume 2</i> )

**Works by Other Authors**

- BP William Rolph. *Biologische Probleme zugleich als Versuch zur Entwicklung einer rationellen Ethik*. Leipzig: Verlag von Wilhelm Engelmann, 1884
- DWB Jacob Grimm and Wilhelm Grimm. *Deutsches Wörterbuch*. 25 vols. Munich: DTV, 1854–
- EAG Leopold Schmidt. *Die Ethik der alten Griechen*. 2 vols. Berlin: Wilhelm Herz Verlag, 1882
- KJV *The Holy Bible: King James Version*. London: Collins, 2011
- KTO Wilhelm Roux. *Der Kampf der Theile im Organismus: Ein Beitrag zur Vervollständigung der mechanischen Zweckmässigkeitslehre*. Leipzig: Wilhelm Engelmann Verlag, 1881
- NPB Giuliano Campioni, P. d'Iorio, M. C. Fornari, F. Fronterotta and A. Orsucci, eds. *Nietzsches Persönliche Bibliothek*. Berlin: de Gruyter, 2003
- NWB Paul van Tongeren, G. Schank and H. W. Siemens, eds. *Nietzsche-Wörterbuch. Band I*. Berlin: de Gruyter, 2004
- OED *Oxford English Dictionary*. 2nd ed. 20 vols. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1989

## *Translations*

Most of the translations from German contained in this book are my own; however, I have drawn on various existing translations, which are listed below.

### **Nietzsche's Writings**

*The Anti-Christ, Ecce Homo, Twilight of the Idols and Other Writings*, translated by Judith Norman. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2005

*Beyond Good and Evil*, translated by Judith Norman. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2002

*The Birth of Tragedy*, translated by Ronald Speirs. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1999

*Daybreak*, translated by R. J. Hollingdale. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1997

*The Gay Science*, translated by Josefine Nauckhoff. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2001

*On the Genealogy of Morality*, translated by Carol Diethe. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2006

*Human, All Too Human*, translated by R. J. Hollingdale. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1996

*Untimely Meditations*, translated by R. J. Hollingdale. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1997

*Thus Spoke Zarathustra*, translated by Adrian Del Caro. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2006

"On Truth and Lies in an Extra-Moral Sense," in *The Nietzsche Reader*, translated by Daniel Breazeale. Oxford: Blackwell, 2006

*The Will to Power*, translated by Walter Kaufmann and R. J. Hollingdale. New York: Vintage, 1968

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### *List of Translations*

#### **Schopenhauer's Writings**

*The World as Will and Representation, Volume 1*, translated by Judith Norman, Alistair Welchman, Christopher Janaway. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2010

#### **Kant's Writings**

*Kant: Political Writings*, translated by H. B. Nisbet. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2003

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