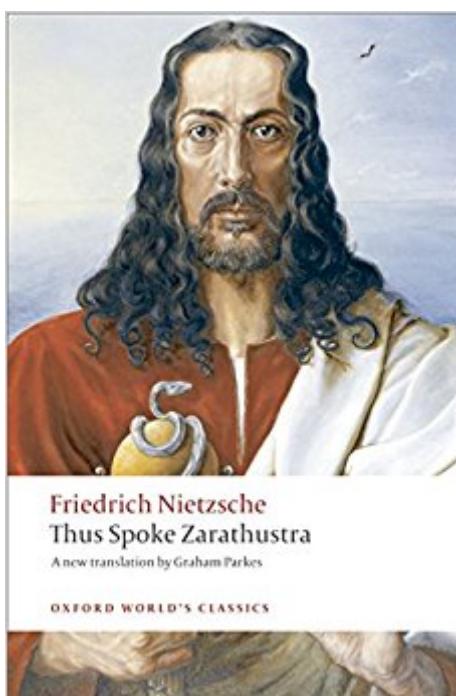


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Thus Spoke Zarathustra: A Book For Everyone And Nobody (Oxford World's Classics)



Synopsis

Thus Spake Zarathustra is a masterpiece of literature as well as philosophy. It was Nietzsche's own favorite and has proved to be his most popular. In this book he addresses the problem of how to live a fulfilling life in a world without meaning, in the aftermath of "the death of God." His solution lies in the idea of eternal recurrence, which he calls "the highest formula of affirmation that can ever be attained." A successful engagement with this profoundly Dionysian idea enables us to choose clearly among the myriad possibilities that existence offers, and thereby to affirm every moment of our lives with others on this "sacred" earth. Graham Parkes's new translation is more accurate than previous versions, and is the first to retain the musicality of the original, by paying attention to the rhythms and cadences of the German. His introduction examines the work's three most important philosophical ideas and for the first time annotates the abundance of allusions to the Bible and other classic texts with which Nietzsche's masterpiece is in conversation.

About the Series: For over 100 years Oxford World's Classics has made available the broadest spectrum of literature from around the globe. Each affordable volume reflects Oxford's commitment to scholarship, providing the most accurate text plus a wealth of other valuable features, including expert introductions by leading authorities, voluminous notes to clarify the text, up-to-date bibliographies for further study, and much more.

Book Information

Series: Oxford World's Classics

Paperback: 384 pages

Publisher: Oxford University Press; 1 edition (January 15, 2009)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0199537097

ISBN-13: 978-0199537099

Product Dimensions: 7.7 x 0.7 x 5 inches

Shipping Weight: 7 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars 14 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #93,476 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #20 in Books > Literature & Fiction > History & Criticism > Regional & Cultural > European > German #38 in Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Philosophy > Good & Evil #209 in Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Philosophy > Modern

Customer Reviews

Graham Parkes is the author of *Composing the Soul: Reaches of Nietzsche's Psychology* (Chicago, 1994), and the editor of *Nietzsche and Asian Thought* (Chicago, 1991). He is joint editor, with Steve Odin, of *The Blackwell Source Book in Japanese Philosophy* (2005).

I believe Nietzsche saw his "Zarathustra" as his magnum opus, the artistic-expressive summary of his beliefs. It is a wonderful book, and anyone who has read his other works will find that "Zarathustra" really does synthesize and summarize those other works. The challenge with "Zarathustra" and Nietzsche's other works, is the depth and breadth of his experience and scholarship. The more I read his works, the more I realize I miss...and to some degree must miss! I have a limited background in Classical studies, but not to the extent Nietzsche did. As another for-instance - I do not speak or read French or Italian, and so I can only analytically understand Nietzsche's statements about the cadences of those languages, and their connection to their local habitats, and the way they both reflect and influence their speakers' demeanors. Oh well! Something to shoot for, for me, I guess, to learn Spanish and French...and, German?! This is a very good translation with good end-notes. There are some references I think the translator missed, but that's ok.

This is a good, straightforward and fairly literal translation, with helpful notes -- not too many, but useful. I much prefer it to the work of Walter Kaufmann which has for a long time been standard fare for university reading. Walter was better than the Nazified edition with the author's sister to speak for him. But there is a great deal of self-important nonsense by Mr. Kaufmann in his edition. Here we have a fine translation that may well become the new university standard, at least it is for me.

My favorite translation of Nietzsche's great book. Although the cover art often leads people to ask me if the book is about Jesus :)

Great book

perfect for school, good read

a bare knuckle fight against the pretensions and hypocrisies which are so vital to daily life!

Unmasking the veneer of morality to expose the real ugliness of daily life, its banality. Nietzsche, as clear a mind as have never existed since 1900 and not since before 1844.

Obstinate, intrepid, emphatic, piercing, dismissive, entreating all apply to the Nietzsche's provocative masterpiece, masterfully translated with numerous less melodramatic choices in interpretation by the editors.

I love the quality of this book.

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