The Spectacle of Suffering: On Tragedy in Nietzsche’s *Daybreak*

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Abstract

This paper argues that the passages on tragedy in Nietzsche’s *Daybreak*, taken together, articulate a conception of tragic psychology that plays a pivotal role in the overarching argument of the book. I maintain that in *Daybreak*, Nietzsche construes tragedy as the embodiment of a superior alternative to the (modern, Christian) moral worldview that is the main target of his critique, and that in the curious phenomenon of tragic pleasure, Nietzsche identifies a potent antidote to what he calls the Circean seductions of morality.
While admiring Nietzsche’s vision and power of the will as a classical philologist with philosophical. This outrageous charge was made by the 26-27 year-old Nietzsche in his first published book with the catchy title The Birth of Tragedy from the Spirit of Music. In this sort treatise he does much more than the title of the book suggests. For besides giving an imaginative account of the supposed birth of Greek Tragedy from the Dionysiac spirit of choral music, he proceeds boldly to declare the alleged tragic death of Greek Tragedy in the murderous clutches of Socratic dialectic! What does Nietzsche mean by DI and AP? The latter is derived from the concept of Apollo, the Greek god of light, who is often said to rule over the realm of the self-conscious, and is thus strongly related to the idea of individuation, through which he provides the world around us with a sensible structure. In contrast we have Dionysus, god of festivals (among other things), ‘centred in extravagant sexual licentiousness’ where ‘the most savage natural instincts were unleashed’ (Nietzsche, 1993, p.147). This led to the audience feeling they ‘knew’ the characters; that they could pass moral judgement on them in ways they could not on tragic individuals, and in turn threaten the return of individuation, as each spectator forms moral opinions on the events before them. Friedrich Nietzsche “Delphi Complete Works of Friedrich Nietzsche (Illustrated): Friedrich Nietzsche”. Delphi Classics. We love life, not because we are used to living but because we are used to loving. Friedrich Nietzsche. Follow AzQuotes on Facebook, Twitter and Google+. Every day we present the best quotes! Improve yourself, find your inspiration, share with friends. Join us on Facebook Join us on Twitter Join us on Google+. 