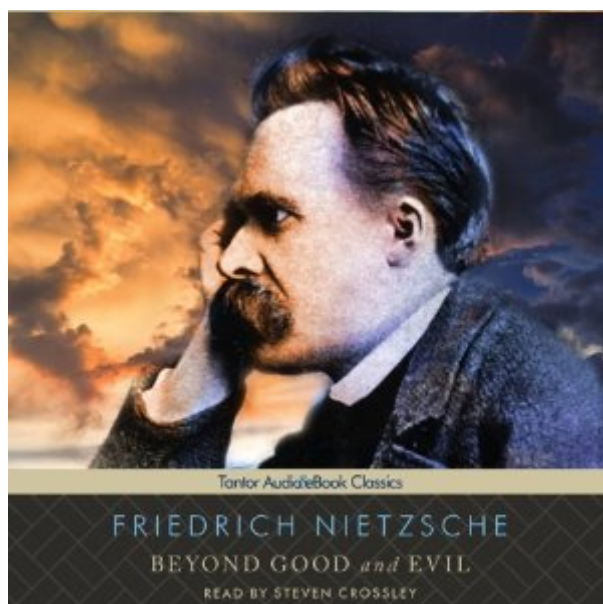


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# Beyond Good And Evil



## Synopsis

Friedrich Nietzsche's *Beyond Good and Evil*, first published in 1886, presents a scathing critique of traditional morality and attacks previous philosophers for their blind acceptance of Christian ideals of virtue. As an alternative to what he viewed as the illogical and irrelevant philosophy of the nineteenth century, Nietzsche argues for the importance of imagination, self-assertion, danger, and originality for genuine philosophy. He furthermore denies the existence of a universal system of morality and instead offers a framework in which social roles and power dynamics dictate what is appropriate. A culmination of Nietzsche's mature philosophy, *Beyond Good and Evil* is a classic of moral thought and one of the foundations of existentialism. This edition is the translation by Helen Zimmern.

## Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

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## Customer Reviews

I have come to this book late in life after seeing it quoted and referenced more than a hundred times, and at first reading, I was quite underwhelmed, almost disappointed. I still personally do not care for the style. However, after taking into account the context of the times in which it was written, and the fact the Nietzsche was a student of Schopenhauer, a friend of Richard Wagner and received his Phd at 25, I am inclined to give him the benefit of the doubt. He appeared on the scene during really heady times. With all of this, this book along with three of his others (*Thus Spoke Zarathustra*, *The Genealogy of Morals*, and *The Will to Power* (published after his death)), almost single-handedly erected the fundamental pillars of modern existentialism and propelled us into the post-modern world. *BGE* probably still remains one of the most penetrating and passionate (if not a

somewhat scattered) forays into the meaning and structure of mainstream existentialism. While certainly not as organized and refined as a Sartre, or as artistic as a Camus, Nietzsche nevertheless makes his points with deep emotions and with deep passion, with a great deal of subtly and some much needed humor. In today's world where philosophy (with a few notable exceptions, like Cornel West) is sterile and philosophers are just barely "undead," this in itself is worth a lot. I broke one of my cardinal rules of not reading reviews before I read or review a book, and unfortunately for me I did it at a time when there are some very good reviews on this book. I am finding it difficult to add anything to the discussion.

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