personal english

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Quote #28

Friedrich Nietzsche

"The individual has always had to struggle to keep from being overwhelmed by the tribe. If you try it, you will be lonely often, and sometimes frightened.
But no price is too high to pay for the

privilege of owning yourself."



Friedrich Wilhelm Nietzsche (1844–1900) was a German philosopher and poet who began his career as a classical philologist before turning to philosophy. He was the youngest ever to hold the Chair of Classical Philology at the University of Basel in 1869, aged 24. He resigned in 1879 due to health problems that caused him to devote himself to writing. In his mid-forties, he suffered a collapse and a complete loss of his mental faculties; he therefore lived his remaining years in the care of his mother until her death in 1897, and then in that of his sister Elisabeth Förster-Nietzsche, until he died in 1900, aged 55. His works (including such famous philosophical essays as Thus Spoke Zarathustra (1883), Beyond Good and Evil (1886) and Ecce Homo (1888)) haven't ceased to spawn discussion since their publication. Some prominent elements of his philosophy include his radical critique of truth in favor of perspectivism; his critique of Christian religion and his related theory of master-slave morality; his affirmation of existence in response to the 'death of God' and the profound crisis of nihillism; his notion of the Apollonian and Dionysian; and his characterization of the human subject as the expression of competing wills, comprehensively labelled as the 'will to power'. In his later work, he became increasingly preoccupied with the creative powers of the individual to overcome social, cultural, and moral contexts in pursuit of new values and ethics.

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