

Friedrich Nietzsche was a very influential philosopher who lived during the late 19th century. He set many standards for psychologists and philosophers alike as he rejected traditional morality. He believed that one should aspire to find their true self without excuses or even the influence of God. His famous words are, "God is dead. God remains dead, and we have killed him."

Nietzsche was born in Germany on October 15, 1844. He was named after Friedrich Wilhelm IV of Prussia whom his father served under as a Lutheran pastor. Nietzsche would go on to live a very sad early life as his father would go on to die in 1849 right before his 5th birthday. His brother died the very next year making Nietzsche the only male in the family.

He ended up resenting his mother and outright hating his sister. So much so to which he said, "Family love is messy, clinging, and an annoying and repetitive pattern like bad wallpaper." His sister would later go on to secure his works after his death or end of his sane lifetime for Nazi and Anti-Semitic agenda, that of which Nietzsche opposed.

Nietzsche's hobbies as a kid were to read poems, play piano, and to compose music. These would go on to fuel his 1st works which were very romantic. "The Birth of Tragedy" was one of them and was based off of Greek tragedy in fact it was his first book.

In college Nietzsche tried following in his father's footsteps. At first he was entertained, but soon on he realized he disagreed with most of the traditional morality. He was first accepted into Bonn in Germany to which his first year wasn't very productive. He joined socializing clubs with little to no success. After the University of Bonn, Nietzsche gave up on his theology career and transferred to the University of Leipzig to which he dedicated himself to humanitarian arts.

He soon on received a job opportunity at the University of Basel as the Greek language and literature professor at the age of 24. He was the youngest professor there and still is to this day. In his first works, Friedrich was inspired by Richard Wagner. Wagner was the age of Nietzsche's father if he was still alive at the time. This led to his first book "The Birth of Tragedy," a book about what ends and begins Greek tragedy and why it is so important.

He quit following in Wagner's footsteps in 1877, publishing his most unromantic work, "Human, All Too Human." This text ended their relationship. This was later speculated to have been Nietzsche's way of separating the two. If he did then he definitely succeeded.

Nietzsche embarked on a decade of isolation from 1879-89. He spent most of it perfecting his philosophy and books which were hardly recognized. He even had to publish "Thus Spoke Zarathustra" at his own expense. He was half-blind and seriously ill at this time. His health continued to worsen until his demise.

Nietzsche would go on to publish throughout his lifetime: *The Birth of Tragedy*, *The Case of Wagner*, *Ecco Homo*, *Unfashionable Observations*, *Human: All too Human Book 1 and 2*, *Down the Joyful Gay Science*, *Thus Spoke Zarathustra*, *Beyond Good and Evil*, and *The Anti-Christ*. Later on Nietzsche would lose sanity.

In 1899 when he was 45, he saw a horse getting beat by its owner and he said, "I understand you" while cuddling the horse. He never recovered from that breakdown. Although it wasn't known at the time, scientists today think the reasoning behind why he lost his sanity was a brain tumor near the eye due to his already poor eye conditions. Nietzsche would go onto the care of his mother then afterward his sister, to which he both despised. He would up dying 11 sad years later in 1900.

After he lost his sanity his sister Elizabeth Nietzsche changed his works to suit her beliefs. She went on to publish his unfinished works and rewriting entire passages. Hitler ended up being very inspired by the false image of Nietzsche and read him as a child. Although Hitler took Nietzsche's beliefs to an extreme believing in Teutonic race.

Elizabeth married an agitated antisemite named Bernhard Forster. When Elizabeth died multiple Nazis attended her funeral including Adolf Hitler. Soon after her death many scholars found Nietzsche's original works and reinterpreted them.

Nietzsche's philosophy is still remembered today, in fact you may even know it indirectly. Many of society's modern-day concepts and structures are

based off of him. Such as the infamous model that is “The goal of life is to find your true self and desire.” Nietzsche was all about this.

Carl Jung was especially inspired by *The Birth of Tragedy*. He directly used terminology from it, such as “Dionysus”. He also used some key concepts from *Thus spoke Zarathustra*. This just goes to show his crazy influence on society. Without him we wouldn’t have many other things that are important to us.

Overall Nietzsche was a spectacular philosopher. From his contributions to his beliefs, he was great. He may have had little attention at the time, or maybe his work was misused but, we still remember him as one of the greatest philosophers of the 19th century.