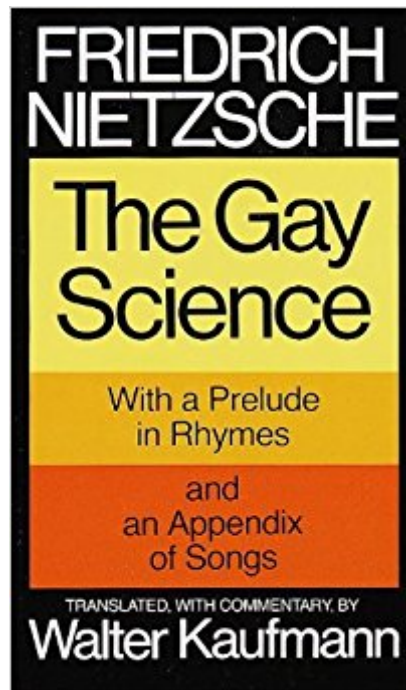


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# The Gay Science: With A Prelude In Rhymes And An Appendix Of Songs



## Synopsis

Nietzsche called *The Gay Science* "the most personal of all my books." It was here that he first proclaimed the death of God — to which a large part of the book is devoted — and his doctrine of the eternal recurrence. Walter Kaufmann's commentary, with its many quotations from previously untranslated letters, brings to life Nietzsche as a human being and illuminates his philosophy. The book contains some of Nietzsche's most sustained discussions of art and morality, knowledge and truth, the intellectual conscience and the origin of logic. Most of the book was written just before *Thus Spoke Zarathustra*, the last part five years later, after *Beyond Good and Evil*. We encounter Zarathustra in these pages as well as many of Nietzsche's most interesting philosophical ideas and the largest collection of his own poetry that he himself ever published. Walter Kaufmann's English versions of Nietzsche represent one of the major translation enterprises of our time. He is the first philosopher to have translated Nietzsche's major works, and never before has a single translator given us so much of Nietzsche.

## Book Information

Mass Market Paperback: 396 pages

Publisher: Vintage; 1 edition (January 12, 1974)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0394719859

ISBN-13: 978-0394719856

Product Dimensions: 4.2 x 0.9 x 6.9 inches

Shipping Weight: 8.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.8 out of 5 stars 70 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #20,608 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #8 in Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Philosophy > Individual Philosophers #8 in Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Philosophy > Aesthetics #12 in Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Philosophy > Free Will & Determinism

## Customer Reviews

"[This book] mirrors all of Nietzsche's thought and could be related in hundreds of ways to his other books, his notes, and his letters. And yet it is complete in itself. For it is a work of art."-- Walter Kaufmann in the Introduction

Text: English, German (translation)

Kaufmann's translation is the best I have found so far. He does a great justice to Nietzsche's poetry and style. Kaufmann saved Nietzsche from being misinterpreted and provided us with a fair amount of material which otherwise would have been impossible to digest or even access because Freddie is not the type of author who can be cited easily. I love and read all of Freddie's work, but TGS is his summum bonum. It takes several re-reads to be able to grasp it, so if you are looking to get up and close with philosophy, this is it!!

The gay science isn't for everyone, but for those who are interested in the mind of Nietzsche he offers a personal and insightful range of ideas and thoughts. You can see Nietzsche's beliefs in an entertaining and occasionally comedic way.

Nietzsche is a great writer and this book exemplifies this fact. It is poetic and riddled with symbology that enables the reader to travel down a psycho-analytic examination of Nietzsche's philosophical views on all aspects of life.

Phenomenal work by Kaufmann on Nietzsche's work

Good deal. I am glad I got this version instead of the other. This was cheaper and no real difference other than external look.

Nietzschian Thought, Used in a large research project. Gave me a different way of viewing ideas and thought. One of the best Philosophers

The best first and/or last step into Friedrich Nietzsche's thought. It reads quickly and gives a fair cross-section of his writings chronologically: just before TSZ, right after his "free spirit" epoch, and Bk. V from around the time of Beyond Good & Evil. Only a shame that a Hollingdale translation is not available in English. And now some buffoonery from yours truly. Down Going Limerick Zarathustra is now down going And so he speaks in rhyme: The madman said, "God is dead. Where is he? Is it we who killed a lie?" Now I Exhort You to Love What is Most Distant, to Dionysus Against the Crucified. Burn Your Ships and move to Inland Deserts Onward-- To the Great Noon, For The Twilight of the Idols Approaches, And The Overman's Time is Well Nigh. At Last Behold the Higher Man-- Whom With Hammer Doth Philosophize: "You yourself are this Will to

Power, and nothing else besides!" Now Completely Drunk With Laughter, And Unafraid to Die The Higher Man Declares: Amor Fati! Finally Dionysus Will Fly! Thus Spoke Zarathustra in His Down Going Of the Innocence of Becoming from on High. "Together, Apollo and Dionysus unite Against the Crucified." Thus Spoke Zarathustra The Sorcerer unpursed his lips playing his flute beside him, and sighed.

I did like this book but i didn't really find that he was presenting arguments , it was more a compilation of personal thoughts. I found the reading pretty easy. I did enjoy reading it and i recommend it for "To read for pleasure".

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