

Friedrich Nietzsche

1844-1900

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- ▶ Born October 15, 1844 in Germany
- ▶ From age 14 to 19, Nietzsche attended a boarding school located where he prepared for university studies
- ▶ entered the University of Bonn in 1864 as a theology and philology student
- ▶ In 1869 began teaching at the University of Basel

- ▶ In 1872 Published his first book, *The Birth of Tragedy*
- ▶ Some of his main works:
 - 1882 *The Gay Science*
 - 1886 *Beyond Good and Evil*
 - 1887 *On the Genealogy of Morals*

On Truth and Lying

- ▶ what we call objective truth is only an army of metaphors
- ▶ 'truth' is an idea created for comfort
- ▶ Objective truth is only a apparition
- ▶ if 'truth' is relative, then no amount of theoretical thinking can figure it out

- ▶ The human intellect is wretched and arbitrary
- ▶ When the human race is over, nothing will have happened
- ▶ The liar abuses fixed conventions
- ▶ Man wants the truth for the agreeable life preserving consequences of it, but fears destructive truths

- ▶ The drive toward the formation of metaphors is the fundamental human drive.
- ▶ The words we use for objects, and the genders we give them are arbitrary assignments.