

Selections from Parerga and Paralipomena Volume 1

author: Arthur Schopenhauer

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Synopsis

author	Arthur Schopenhauer
readBy	Leighton Pugh, David Rintoul
inLanguage	english

The two sizeable volumes of *Parerga* and *Paralipomena* hold a special place in the output of Arthur Schopenhauer. *Parerga* means 'supplementary to a main work', and *Paralipomena* suggests a further supplement, but these two books were anything but a casual addition to his major opus, *The World as Will and Idea*. For a start, it was the publication of *Parerga* and *Paralipomena* in 1851 which brought Schopenhauer to the attention of the general public, decades after *The World as Will and Idea* first appeared. Suddenly, people sat up and took notice, and Schopenhauer was established as a major figure in 19th-century German - and world - philosophy, a reputation he has never lost. This recording of the major part of volume 1 contains, arguably, the most important essays. From volume 1, Leighton Pugh reads 'Sketch of a History of the Doctrine of the Ideal and the Real', 'Fragments for the History of Philosophy' and 'Transcendent Speculation on Apparent Design in the Fate of the Individual'. David Rintoul then takes over to read the most well-known section of volume 1, 'Aphorisms on the Wisdom of Life' and 'Counsels and Maxims'. In general it could be said that the content of volume 1 of *Parerga* and *Paralipomena* presents ideas which are supplementary to the main thrust of Schopenhauer's life work, whereas volume 2 sees him responding, more briefly but with customary clarity, to a great variety of topics. The translations in this recording of volume 1 are by Ernest Belfort Bax, David Irvine and T. Bailey Saunders.

Reader's comments

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