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10 HARDCORE LIFE LESSONS FROM FRIEDRICH NIETZSCHE:

1) Govern yourself

To quote Nietzsche:

“He who cannot obey himself will be commanded.”

Most people need an external force to motivate them into action, or to keep them in check morally.

Freedom is the will to be responsible to oneself.

It's imperative that a man learns to be his own leader, to act in accordance with his own beliefs, and to use his own values as a moral compass.

Such a man becomes elevated from a yes-man to a Superman.

2) Follow your own path

Nietzsche said:

“You have your way, and I have my way. As for the right way, the correct way, and the only way, it doesn't exist!”

The lesson here is that no one has the license to dictate your life's trajectory.

Never let anyone interfere with your life, and you should never interfere with anyone's life.

3) Seek wisdom over knowledge

Nietzsche said:

“There's a lot I don't want to know. Wisdom sets limits, even to knowledge”

Knowing that you know next to nothing is the beginning of wisdom.

Self-introspection through writing or meditation is more important than accumulating information.

Overconsumption is harmful, whether it's food or knowledge.

Wisdom makes you stoic, but stoicism won't make you wise.

4) Speak your truth

Nietzsche said:

"A truths that are kept silent become poisonous"

Your worldview is as unique as your fingerprints.

Learn to share your perspectives honestly, fearlessly & eloquently.

Never smolder your truth to make anyone comfortable.

Be authentic in everything you say & do.

5) Break free from herd mentality

To quote Nietzsche:

"Meaning and morality of one's life must come from within oneself. Healthy, strong individuals seek self-expansion by experimenting and living dangerously."

To find yourself, you need to think for yourself.

Intelligent & creative people do not blindly follow society's rules.

If you find yourself on the side of the majority, it's time to pause and think.

6) Spend time in solitude:

Nietzsche:

"I go into solitude so as not to drink out of everybody's cistern. When I am among the many, it feels as if they want to rob me of my soul"

There's no wisdom without self-awareness.

No self-awareness without contemplation.

No contemplation without solitude.

A sound mind is forged from silence, in the kiln of solitude.

7) Embrace failure

Nietzsche said:

“You must be ready to burn yourself in your own flame. How could you rise anew if you have not first become ashes?”

For the weak, failure is fatal.

For the wise, failure is feedback.

A fear of failure means you are incapable of handling success, and life doesn't reward the incompetent.

8) Be a minimalist

Nietzsche:

“It is my ambition to say in ten sentences what others say in a book”

Learn to speak less, or increase the value per word spoken.

Minimalism is also applicable in every facet of life:

You don't need to do everything, focus on the most essential.

You don't need 1000 friends, get 10 loyal ones.

You don't need 10 cars when you can only drive one at a time.

9) How to choose a life partner

Nietzsche wisely said:

“When marrying, ask yourself this question:

Do you believe that you will be able to converse well with this person into your old age?

Everything else in marriage is transitory.”

10) Amor Fati

Nietzsche famously said:

“My formula for greatness in a human being is amor fati: that one wants nothing to be different, not forward, not backward, not in all eternity. Not merely bear what is necessary, still less conceal it... but love it.”

To love one's fate is the greatest virtue.

Even Epictetus said:

“Do not seek for things to happen the way you want them to; rather, wish that what happens happen the way it happens: then you will be happy.”

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