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## Abstract

The evolution of a personal philosophy throughout maturation can be a difficult process to undergo. The works of great minds that came before naturally influence this progression. I hold *the Allegory of the Cave*, a story from Book VII of Plato's *The Republic* and Nietzsche's *Beyond Good and Evil: Prelude to a Philosophy of the Future* to be the two works that I use as the cornerstones of my own philosophy. These works, however, do contain some contradictory ideas, and the clash between some of those concepts served to spur me towards a creative outlet. To examine some of the contrasting philosophies I inserted them into my novel *Allegory of the Ark*. The journey undertaken in the story examines not only the nature of morality and truth, but also the human struggle to interact with these intangible concepts.

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