

**DEMOCRACY AND  
THE WILL  
TO POWER**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649107179

Democracy and the will to power by James N. Wood

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.  
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

[www.triestepublishing.com](http://www.triestepublishing.com)

**JAMES N. WOOD**

**DEMOCRACY AND  
THE WILL  
TO POWER**



DEMOCRACY AND  
THE WILL TO POWER

THE FREE LANCE BOOKS

*Edited with Introductions*

By H. L. MENCKEN

- I YOUTH AND EGOLATRY  
By Pío BAROJA
- II VENTURES IN COMMON SENSE  
By E. W. HOWE
- III THE ANTICHRIST  
By F. W. NIETZSCHE
- IV WE MODERNS  
By EDWIN MUIR
- V DEMOCRACY AND THE WILL TO  
POWER  
By JAMES N. WOOD
- VI IN DEFENSE OF WOMEN  
By H. L. MENCKEN

Other volumes in preparation

*For sale at all bookshops*

ALFRED A. KNOPF, PUBLISHER

THE FREE LANCE BOOKS. V  
EDITED WITH INTRODUCTIONS BY H. L. MENCKEN

DEMOCRACY AND  
THE WILL TO POWER

By JAMES N. WOOD



NEW YORK ALFRED · A · KNOPF MCMXXI

COPYRIGHT, 1921, BY  
ALFRED A. KNOPF, Inc.

PRINTED IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



30  
273  
W. H. Miller  
31

## CONTENTS

- INTRODUCTION, by H. L. Mencken, 7
- I THE WILL TO POWER, 21
- II DEMOCRACY, ARISTOCRACY AND MORALITY, 47
- III THE MOB MAN, 69
- IV ORIGINS AND TENDENCIES, 87
- V POWER TRANSITION: INDUSTRIALISM, SOCIALISM  
AND SLAVERY, 109
- VI WOMAN AND GENIUS, 171
- VII THE RATIONALE OF POWER, 201
- VIII REFLECTIONS, 227
- IX ANCIENT AND MODERN: A STUDY IN CON-  
TRASTS, 237



## INTRODUCTION

What we have here is the first serious attempt, at least by an American, to get at the fundamentals of the democratic process of government. Upon the superficial phenomena of democracy, of course, there has been endless writing, some of it more or less honest and scientific; but all that sort of thing is a study of symptoms, not of the disease itself. Mr. Wood sees clearly, like Dr. Hans Delbrück, that democracy, in actual practise, has little if anything to do with the determination and execution of the popular will, or even of the will of the majority. There Dr. Delbrück, in his "Regierung und Volkswille," stops; he proves that the common notion is false, but in his approach to the truth he halts in a suburb of questions and surmises. Mr. Wood is bolder, perhaps because he has lived nearer to democracy all his life. The essential process, he argues, is a conflict between superior minority groups—superior, at all events, politically, in strategical sense, in clar-