

Contents

Preface ix

1 Irony and Existence: The Nihilistic Possibility 1

*Existential Irony ★ Forms of Nihilism
Aestheticism and Nihilism ★ The Ethical Possibility*

2 Existence and Possibility 44

*Existential Possibility ★ Potentiality and Possibility
Possibility, Imagination, and Choice*

3 Existential Choice 85

The Dialectic of Choice ★ Choice and Self-Knowledge

4 The Self and Ethical Existence 138

*The Nature of the Self ★ Subjectivity and Universality in
Ethical Existence*

Notes 179

Bibliography 203

Index 232