

**PROPHETS OF DISSENT:  
ESSAYS ON MAETERLINCK,  
STRINDBERG, NIETZSCHE  
AND TOLSTOY**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649122264

Prophets of dissent: essays on Maeterlinck, Strindberg, Nietzsche and Tolstoy by Otto Heller

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)

**OTTO HELLER**

**PROPHETS OF DISSENT:  
ESSAYS ON MAETERLINCK,  
STRINDBERG, NIETZSCHE  
AND TOLSTOY**



## PROPHETS OF DISSENT

BOOKS BY OTTO HELLER

---

HENRIK IBSEN: PLAYS AND PROBLEMS

STUDIES IN MODERN GERMAN LITER-  
ATURE

LESSING'S "MINNA VON BARNHELM"  
in English

# Prophets of Dissent: Essays on Maeterlinck, Strindberg, Nietzsche and Tolstoy


by  
Otto Heller

*Professor of Modern European Literature  
in Washington University (St. Louis)*

*Is there a thing in this world that can be separated from  
the inconceivable?*

*Maeterlinck, "Our Eternity"*



New York  MCMXVIII  
A l f r e d A K n o p f

**COPYRIGHT, 1918, BY  
ALFRED A. KNOPF**

**PRINTED IN UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**



To  
**HELLEN SEARS**  
*staunchest of friends*

2082910



## Preface

THE collocation of authors so widely at variance in their moral and artistic aims as are those assembled in this little book may be defended by the safe and simple argument that all of these authors have exerted, each in his own way, an influence of singular range and potency. By fairly general consent they are the foremost literary expositors of important modern tendencies. It is, therefore, of no consequence whether or not their ways of thinking fit into our particular frame of mind; what really matters is that in this small group of writers more clearly perhaps than in any other similarly restricted group the basic issues of the modern struggle for social transformation appear to be clearly and sharply joined. That in viewing them as indicators of contrarious ideal currents due allowance must be made for peculiarities of temperament, both individual and racial, and, correspondingly, for the purely "personal equation" in their spiritual attitudes, does not detract to any material degree from their generic significance.