







"Here (and in conformity with a long poetic tradition) the abyss of infinity is contained in the eye that gazes at us (Hegel called this 'the night of the world'). But, of course, there is one instance when the two terms, Auge [Auge / n, eye / s] and Blick [gaze], are even more happily united: precisely the notion of Augenblick (moment). When, in Zarathustra, the theme of eternal recurrence appears for the first time (in the chapter 'On the Vision and the Riddle'), Nietzsche talks about a 'gateway' called 'Moment' (Augenblick), a point at which two paths meet (as if 'offending each other face to face') -- two paths that seem to contradict each other, and to stretch for an eternity in opposite directions [...] Thus, the Nietzschean 'moment' is not simply a point on the line of time, stretching 'from here to eternity' in two opposite directions. It is the very 'crystal' of time (to borrow Deleuze's term), the crystal of the future and of the past -- as such, it is eternity [as in Blake, and as in Meyrink's 'Nietzschean' The White Dominican].

