

# Necessity

1902 | Necessity | DPP 2:143

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**Necessity** [Lat. *necessitas*]: Ger. *Nothwendigkeit*; Fr. *nécessité*; Ital. *necessità*. (1) The state or condition that cannot be otherwise than it is; that must be just as it is.

(2) The principle in virtue of which the condition of the universe as a whole, or any particular part of it, is rendered, both as to its existence and quality, inevitable. Opposed to both freedom and chance, but especially, in its strictly philosophical use, to chance [...] or contingency. That which has the property of necessity is said to be necessary.

1905 | Issues of Pragmaticism | CP 5.454

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...when knowledge is indeterminate among alternatives, either there is one state of things which alone accords with them all, when this is in the Mode of *Necessity*, or there is more than one state of things that no knowledge excludes, when each of these is in the Mode of *Possibility*.

1905 [c.] | The Branches of Geometry; Existential Graphs [R] | MS [R] 96

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Necessity [...] is that mode of being which is not subject to the principle of excluded middle, since it may neither be that A is necessarily B, nor that A is necessarily not B. [—] How can the principle of excluded middle fail to apply? By the function of determination being given over to the person addressed.

1908 | The Bed-Rock Beneath Pragmaticism | MS [R] 300:39-40

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...the Necessary [...] is that which tends to govern both Thought and real Fact, even should it never become absolute in either sway.

From what appears to be the second run of manuscript pages; possibly an earlier draft [MB]