

# Four Philosophers

by [David Solway](#) (September 2023)



*Barroom Brawl*, N.C. Wyeth, 1915

I would like to throttle Aristotle.  
Crack him on the noggin with a bottle.  
I'd do it not a little but a lottle.  
I would like to throttle Aristotle.

I would like to rough up Tom Aquinas  
Who is touted by the sages as the finest.  
I'd like to poke a sharp quill up his sinus.  
O how I'd like to rough up Tom Aquinas.

And as for that curmudgeon Schopenhauer,  
I'd like to toss him headlong from a tower.  
I've had enough of his depressive glower

For he was born in a most evil hour.

I'd like to bitch slap Bertrand Russell  
Though I doubt he's even worth the tussle.  
I cannot bear to hear his pages rustle.  
I'd really like to bitch slap Bertrand Russell.

There are more philosophers than merely four  
Adept at how to obfuscate and bore.  
But I have neither time, and what is more,  
I have a thousand poets to deplore.

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David Solway's latest book is [Notes from a Derelict Culture](#), Black House Publishing, 2019, London. A CD of his original songs, [Partial to Cain](#), appeared in 2019.

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