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Boredom in Regard to Suffering in Arthur Schopenhauer's Philosophy

An interesting view on the relation between boredom and suffering was presented by Arthur Schopenhauer. He perceives suffering as inseparably related to boredom. This philosopher defines suffering as non-appearance of satisfaction, an obstacle which stands in a way to gain one's purpose or desire. Boredom, on the other hand, is an empty longing for a new desire. This philosophy presents our life as a struggle between boredom and suffering. According to Schopenhauer the intensity of these two depends on, among other things, one's level of intelligence. However, neither boredom nor suffering is removable from our life. Furthermore, what may appear to be a simple mechanism is actually a very complicated relation between these two: suffering and boredom. In my presentation, I am trying to capture and analyse this mysterious relation. For, what's even more interesting, it seems like boredom, in this philosophy, can be considered as more painful than the suffering itself.