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Sommario/riassunto	In the late nineteenth and early twentieth century, the German intellectual world was challenged by a growing distrust in the rational ideals of the enlightenment, and consequently by a belief in the existence of a radical 'cultural crisis'. One response to this crisis was the emergence of 'Life Philosophy', which celebrated the irrational, expressive, instinctive and spontaneous, while rejecting the rational, conscious, and logical. Around the same time and place, Zionist thought crystallized. It discussed issues like the 'Jewish essence', the creation of a new Jewish person and a new Jewi