

*Loving Rebellion: Relationships and the Absurd*

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At first glance, the works of Simone De Beauvoir and Albert Camus do not share much in common, but in actuality, they at least start from very similar philosophical bases. Both of their philosophical systems deal with the lack of meaning in the world, but they handle the problem in very different ways. De Beauvoir accepts a more Sartrean conception of meaning-making. She suggests that it is through transcendence and one's choices in the world that one is able to create meaning. This structure as set out by De Beauvoir shows that women are limited in the choices they make and thus also in the role they play in making meaning. I find this structure to be flawed in that it does not take into account all forms of relationships. Camus' suggests a different structure wherein there is no meaning in the world and only absurdity. I discuss how this structure can be used to solve many of the problems of relationships within De Beauvoir's work, such as the emphasis of traditionally male roles and the exclusion of anything except heterosexual relationships in her conception. Camus gives an existential philosophy that necessitates that everyone is equal under the absurd, and to fight this absurdity we love the people around us, no matter what form that love takes.