

KIERKEGAARD'S *THE SICKNESS UNTO DEATH*

The Sickness unto Death (1849) is commonly regarded as one of Kierkegaard's most important works – but also as one of his most difficult texts to understand. It is a meditation on Christian existentialist themes including sin, despair, religious faith and its redemptive power, and the relation and difference between physical and spiritual death. This volume of new essays guides readers through the philosophical and theological significance of the work, while clarifying the complicated ideas that Kierkegaard develops. Some of the essays focus closely on particular themes, others attempt to elucidate the text as a whole, and yet others examine it in relation to other philosophical views. Bringing together these diverse approaches, the volume offers a comprehensive understanding of this pivotal work. It will be of interest to those studying Kierkegaard as well as existentialism, religious philosophy, and moral psychology.

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THE SICKNESS UNTO DEATH
A Critical Guide

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Abbreviations

Standard abbreviations are employed throughout this volume for the following texts by Kierkegaard, all published by Princeton University Press. For other editions cited, and for works by other authors, see the Bibliography and footnotes to individual chapters.

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| BA | <i>The Book on Adler: The Religious Confusion of the Present Age Illustrated by Magister Adler as a Phenomenon</i> , edited and translated by Howard V. and Edna H. Hong (1998) |
| CA | <i>The Concept of Anxiety: A Simple Psychologically Orienting Deliberation on the Dogmatic Issue of Hereditary Sin</i> , edited and translated by Reidar Thomte in collaboration with Albert B. Anderson (1980) |
| CD | <i>Christian Discourses</i> and <i>The Crisis and a Crisis in the Life of an Actress</i> , edited and translated by Howard V. and Edna H. Hong (1997) |
| CI | <i>The Concept of Irony, with Continual Reference to Socrates</i> , together with <i>Notes of Schelling's Berlin Lectures</i> , edited and translated by Howard V. and Edna H. Hong (1989) |
| CUP | <i>Concluding Unscientific Postscript to Philosophical Fragments</i> , edited and translated by Howard V. and Edna H. Hong (1992) |
| E/O ₁ | <i>Either/Or, Part I</i> , edited and translated by Howard V. and Edna H. Hong (1987) |
| E/O ₂ | <i>Either/Or, Part II</i> , edited and translated by Howard V. and Edna H. Hong (1987) |
| EPW | <i>Early Polemical Writings: Articles from Student Days, From the Papers of One Still Living, The Battle between the Old and the New Soap-Cellars</i> , edited and translated by Julia Watkin (1990) |

EUD	<i>Eighteen Upbuilding Discourses</i> , edited and translated by Howard V. and Edna H. Hong (1990)
FSE	<i>For Self-Examination and Judge for Yourself!</i> , edited and translated by Howard V. and Edna H. Hong (1990)
FT	<i>Fear and Trembling and Repetition</i> , edited and translated by Howard V. and Edna H. Hong (1983)
LD	<i>Kierkegaard: Letters and Documents</i> , edited and translated by Henrik Rosenmeier (1978)
MLW	<i>"The Moment" and Late Writings: Newspaper Articles 1854–1855, The Moment 1–10, This Must Be Said; So Let It Be Said, What Christ Judges of Official Christianity, and The Changelessness of God</i> , edited and translated by Howard V. and Edna H. Hong (1998)
PC	<i>Practice in Christianity</i> , edited and translated by Howard V. and Edna H. Hong (1991)
PF	<i>Philosophical Fragments, or A Fragment of Philosophy and Johannes Climacus, or De omnibus dubitandum est</i> , edited and translated by Howard V. and Edna H. Hong (1985)
PV	<i>The Point of View: On My Work as an Author, The Point of View for My Work as an Author, and Armed Neutrality</i> , edited and translated by Howard V. and Edna H. Hong (1998)
SUD	<i>The Sickness unto Death: A Christian Psychological Exposition for Upbuilding and Awakening</i> , edited and translated by Howard V. and Edna H. Hong (1980)
TDIO	<i>Three Discourses on Imagined Occasions</i> , edited and translated by Howard V. and Edna H. Hong (1993)
UDVS	<i>Upbuilding Discourses in Various Spirits</i> , edited and translated by Howard V. and Edna H. Hong (1993)
WA	<i>Without Authority: The Lily in the Field and the Bird of the Air, Two Ethical-Religious Essays, Three Discourses at the Communion on Fridays, An Upbuilding Discourse, and Two Discourses at the Communion on Fridays</i> , edited and translated by Howard V. and Edna H. Hong (1997)
WL	<i>Works of Love</i> , edited and translated by Howard V. and Edna H. Hong (1995)

List of Abbreviations

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References to Kierkegaard's journals and notebooks have been provided to available versions, including the following editions.

- JP *Søren Kierkegaard's Journals and Papers*, edited and translated by Howard V. and Edna H. Hong, assisted by Gregor Malantschuk. 2nd ed. Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1990.
- KJN *Kierkegaard's Journals and Notebooks*, edited by Niels Jørgen Cappelørn et al., 11 vols. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 2007–2019.
- Pap. *Søren Kierkegaards Papirer*, edited by P. A. Heiberg et al., 16 vols. Copenhagen: Gyldendal, 1909–1978.

Whenever possible correlating references to the authoritative scholarly edition of Kierkegaard's works in Danish have been provided by volume and page number or in the case of the journals and notebooks by volume and entry number.

- SKS *Søren Kierkegaards Skrifter*, edited by Niels Jørgen Cappelørn et al., 55 vols. Copenhagen: Gads Forlag, 1997–2013.