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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(Continued after the Index)
Contents

List of Contributors ix
Acknowledgments x
List of Abbreviations xi

Introduction 1
Jeffrey Hanson and Sharon Krishek

1 Kierkegaard’s Place of Rest 6
George Pattison

2 Publishing The Sickness unto Death: A Lesson in Double-Mindedness 26
Clare Carlisle

3 Kierkegaard on the Self and the Modern Debate on Selfhood 42
Anthony Rudd

4 From Here to Eternity: Soteriological Selves and Time 61
Patrick Stokes

5 Kierkegaard’s Metaphysics of the Self 79
Eleanor Helms

6 The Experience of Possibility (and of Its Absence): The Metaphysics of Moods in Kierkegaard’s Phenomenological Psychology 95
Rick Anthony Furtak

7 Sin, Despair, and the Self 110
Roe Fremstedal

8 Sin and Virtues 128
Robert C. Roberts
Contents

9  Despair as Sin: The Christian and the Socratic  148
   Merold Westphal

10 Fastening the End and Knotting the Thread: Beginning Where Paganism Ends by Means of Paradox  167
   Sylvia Walsh

11 Despair the Disease and Faith the Therapeutic Cure  182
   Jeffrey Hanson

12 The Long Journey to Oneself: The Existential Import of The Sickness unto Death  200
   Sharon Krishek

13 Accountability to God in The Sickness unto Death: Kierkegaard’s Relational Understanding of the Human Self  219
   C. Stephen Evans

Bibliography  237

Index  250
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Acknowledgments

We wish to thank each of our contributors for their hard work and efforts. Their cooperation, patience, and investment – particularly during the unusual time of a pandemic – are deeply appreciated. We are very grateful to Hilary Gaskin of Cambridge University Press for the initiation of this project and her support and encouragement all along the way. We would like to thank two anonymous readers for Cambridge University Press, for their detailed reports, good suggestions, and enthusiasm for the project. This work was begun during a period of collaboration at Harvard University’s Human Flourishing Program, and we are grateful to the program for providing us with material support. Finally, we are grateful to the Israel Science Foundation for supporting this project.
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**  *The Book on Adler: The Religious Confusion of the Present Age Illustrated by Magister Adler as a Phenomenon*, edited and translated by Howard V. and Edna H. Hong (1998)


**CD**  *Christian Discourses* and *The Crisis and a Crisis in the Life of an Actress*, edited and translated by Howard V. and Edna H. Hong (1997)

**CI**  *The Concept of Irony, with Continual Reference to Socrates*, together with *Notes of Schelling's Berlin Lectures*, edited and translated by Howard V. and Edna H. Hong (1989)

**CUP**  *Concluding Unscientific Postscript to Philosophical Fragments*, edited and translated by Howard V. and Edna H. Hong (1992)

**E/O₁**  *Either/Or, Part I*, edited and translated by Howard V. and Edna H. Hong (1987)

**E/O₂**  *Either/Or, Part II*, edited and translated by Howard V. and Edna H. Hong (1987)

**EPW**  *Early Polemical Writings: Articles from Student Days, From the Papers of One Still Living, The Battle between the Old and the New Soap-Cellars*, edited and translated by Julia Watkin (1990)
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>EUD</td>
<td><em>Eighteen Upbuilding Discourses</em>, edited and translated by Howard V. and Edna H. Hong (1990)</td>
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<tr>
<td>FSE</td>
<td><em>For Self-Examination and Judge for Yourself?</em>, edited and translated by Howard V. and Edna H. Hong (1990)</td>
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<tr>
<td>FT</td>
<td><em>Fear and Trembling and Repetition</em>, edited and translated by Howard V. and Edna H. Hong (1983)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LD</td>
<td><em>Kierkegaard: Letters and Documents</em>, edited and translated by Henrik Rosenmeier (1978)</td>
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<tr>
<td>PC</td>
<td><em>Practice in Christianity</em>, edited and translated by Howard V. and Edna H. Hong (1991)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PF</td>
<td><em>Philosophical Fragments, or A Fragment of Philosophy</em> and <em>Johannes Climacus, or De omnibus dubitandum est</em>, edited and translated by Howard V. and Edna H. Hong (1985)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PV</td>
<td><em>The Point of View: On My Work as an Author, The Point of View for My Work as an Author</em>, and <em>Armed Neutrality</em>, edited and translated by Howard V. and Edna H. Hong (1998)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TDOI</td>
<td><em>Three Discourses on Imagined Occasions</em>, edited and translated by Howard V. and Edna H. Hong (1993)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UDVS</td>
<td><em>Upbuilding Discourses in Various Spirits</em>, edited and translated by Howard V. and Edna H. Hong (1993)</td>
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List of Abbreviations

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

**JP**  

**KJN**  

**Pap.**  

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**  