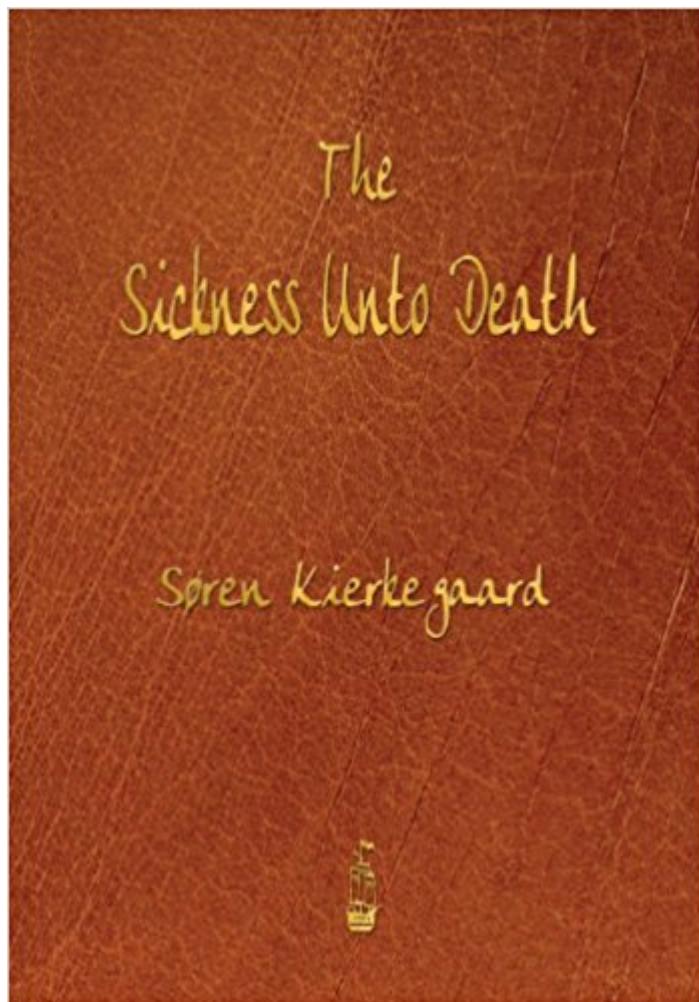


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The Sickness Unto Death



Synopsis

An unabridged edition, to include - Preface - Introduction - That Despair is the Sickness unto Death - The Universality of This Sickness (Despair) - The Forms of This Sickness, i.e. of Despair - Despair is Sin - Continuation of Sin

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Søren Kierkegaard (1813-1855) was a prolific 19th century Danish philosopher and theologian. Kierkegaard strongly criticised both the Hegelianism of his time and what he saw as the empty formalities of the Church of Denmark. Much of his work deals with religious themes such as faith in God, the institution of the Christian Church, Christian ethics and theology, and the emotions and feelings of individuals when faced with life choices. His early work was written under various pseudonyms who present their own distinctive viewpoints in a complex dialogue. Kierkegaard left the task of discovering the meaning of his works to the reader, because "the task must be made difficult, for only the difficult inspires the noble-hearted". Scholars have interpreted Kierkegaard variously as an existentialist, neo-orthodoxist, postmodernist, humanist, and individualist. Crossing the boundaries of philosophy, theology, psychology, and literature, he is an influential figure in contemporary thought. --This text refers to an alternate Paperback edition.

AN AMAZING ACCOMPLISHMENT by anyone's standards. Kierkegaard gives his readers, for the first time; the presentation of existentialism as a complete system. And especially as a system that is easily adaptable to post-modern thought. Kierkegaard is frequently being referenced by the

post-moderns and there is a good reason. His thought profoundly addresses the issues that are just now being addressed in post-modern thinking. This applies especially to the idea of establishing the "self" as "spirit". And being obligated to fulfill this inscription and questioning. The benefits are numerous with reading this text; but a few gems are: 1. The articulation of the human condition as passing through five levels of despair. 2. The "3" moments of the unconscious as: a. inscription of the primitive-plan of spirit. b. The infinitizing of the imagination in reaching self-possibilities. c. synthesis in creating pregnancy of the "personality-of-spirit". 3. The work of consciousness as "mid-wife activity" in three steps of: a. infinitizing. b. praxis. c. finitizing. And 4. The constitution of the self through the posited Notion that becomes actualized in concrete reality in the tension of the available space "before god" - that prods us with the promise of "self"as"spirit".

Not strictly as a theologian, not strictly as a philosopher, Soren Kierkegaard delves into an individual's existence and what it means to come to terms with it. The work starts off almost inscrutable at first (i.e. "The self is a relation which relates itself to its own self"), but slowly by means of clarification and elaboration manages to confront us with our own situation as individual human beings. It's main theme involves the despair of not being able to face the reality and absurdity of one's existence, and thus, not wanting to be one's self or being one's self only stoically.

Certainly a most challenging read, yet the intensely complex perspective taken is quite fruitful. I submit that the reader will, at the very least, be inspired to ponder and reflect upon the human condition in a somewhat different and, perhaps, more insightful manner in light of Kierkegaard's assertions. Prepare to be stretched!

I can say nothing bad about service, timely delivery and product quality. That's why 3 stars it would be 5 if not for this being the most difficult to read book ever. I am an avid reader but never has the first page of a book made me go WTF more. As I said with regards to the seller nothing but good things to say.

This book is not easy for the casual reader to understand. It's worthwhile for the person who takes the time two dig into it.

You may not agree with everything Kierkegaard poses and constructs, but he surely will make you think. If you want to challenge your existential thinking... Great read...

A real help to ones who mentor people who are terminally ill.

Few difficult spots in the writing but for the most part able to follow along, Excellent description of what it is to be in despair.

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