



SUICIDE

A Social and Historical Study

by

H. ROMILLY FEDDEN

THIS book is the first comprehensive study to be written in English of the infinitely various attitudes towards suicide throughout the history of the human race. The causes of suicide in primitive, classical, mediæval and more modern times, and the points of view which have led philosophers to condemn or approve the custom, are expounded with a scholarly thoroughness in which pedantry plays no part, so that the volume is a gold-mine of out - of - the - way information on the subject.

Suicide is by no means a book purely for students. The general treatment of suicide is made to throw light on a number of other subjects : thus in different chapters it links up intimately with the psychology of the early Christians, the Elizabethan dramatists, Puritanism, the Romantics, soldiering, etc. In fact, the book presents a series of most illuminating sidelights on social history from the earliest time to the present day, and on the peculiarities of human nature. It must inevitably take its place as the standard work on suicide.

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DEATH OF LUCRECE: CRANACH

(Stockholm Gallery)

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ILLUSTRATED



*Man doth not yield himself to the angels, nor
unto death utterly, save only through the weakness
of his feeble will.*

GLANVILL

*On ne peut juger de la beauté de la vie que par
celle de la mort.*

LAUTREAMONT

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TO
JOHN

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