



In Search of the Absolute: Essays on Swedenborg and Literature

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In Search of the Absolute: Essays on Swedenborg and Literature looks at the enduring influence of the eighteenth-century Swedish philosopher and mystic Emanuel Swedenborg on poetry, drama, and short fiction in Europe and both North and South America. Swedenborg's lingering presence in nineteenth-century English poetry is represented by essays on Samuel Taylor Coleridge and Robert and Elizabeth Barrett Browning, while his influence upon American literature is charted by studies of Ralph Waldo Emerson and Walt Whitman. The collection also contains one of the first critical appraisals of Swedenborg's significant impact upon the Argentinian writer Jorge Luis Borges and an essay on the great Swedish dramatist August Strindberg. This volume, the third in the Journal of the Swedenborg Society series, contains the following six essays:

- H. J. Jackson, “‘Swedenborg’s Meaning Is the Truth’: Coleridge, Tulk, and Swedenborg”
- Anders Hallengren, “Swedenborgian Simile in Emersonian Edification”
- Richard Lines, “Swedenborgian Ideas in the Poetry of Elizabeth Barrett Browning and Robert Browning”
- Anders Hallengren, “A Hermeneutic Key to the title *Leaves of Grass*”
- Lars Bergquist, “Subjectivity and Truth: Strindberg and Swedenborg”
- Emilio R. Báez-Rivera, “Swedenborg and Borges: the Mystic of the North and the Mystic *in puribus*”

Also included are an introduction by Stephen McNeilly, a chronology of Swedenborg, biographies of the essay subjects, and an index.



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