



The Last Passage: Recovering a Death of Your Own

By Donald Heinz

Oxford University Press, USA. Hardcover. Book Condition: New. Hardcover. 320 pages. Dimensions: 9.4in. x 6.3in. x 1.0in. Is death merely the cessation of life Are our final years simply a wearing out of the body Are hospitals and funeral homes--the bureaucratic machinery of death--capable of handling the profound spiritual dimension of dying In The Last Passage, Donald Heinz offers wise answers to these questions in a book that urges us to recover a death of our own and to view our final years as a fulfillment, a last career. Despite the recent spate of books on death and dying, death remains a fact our culture tries desperately to ignore. In other times and in other cultures, preparing for death was seen as an important spiritual task--perhaps the most important task of our lives. Heinz argues that we can reconceive of death, reinvest it with meaning, and save it from becoming a meaningless biological event. Seeking appropriate models for such a reconstruction, Heinz offers a fascinating overview of the many ways death has been envisioned and ritualized throughout human history, from the Tibetan Book of the Dead to 15th century Christian ars moriendi--manuals on the art of dying--and from Jean Paul Sartre...



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