

'Never send to know for whom the bell tolls;
It tolls for thee'

John Donne was not only a poet but a preacher and prose writer of dynamic wit and dazzling intellect. This selection of the best of his prose works, including his sermons, displays all the verbal dexterity, fascination with paradox and love of argument that characterizes his verse. In *Biathanatos* he questions whether suicide can ever be justified, while in *Devotions*, his moving account of his near-fatal illness, he expresses a dual vision of secular doubts and religious reassurance. Exploring the unresolved tension between the spiritual and the earthly, these pieces enlarge our image of Donne and his intellectual world.

Edited with an introduction and notes by NEIL RHODES

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ISBN 978-0-141-39671-2



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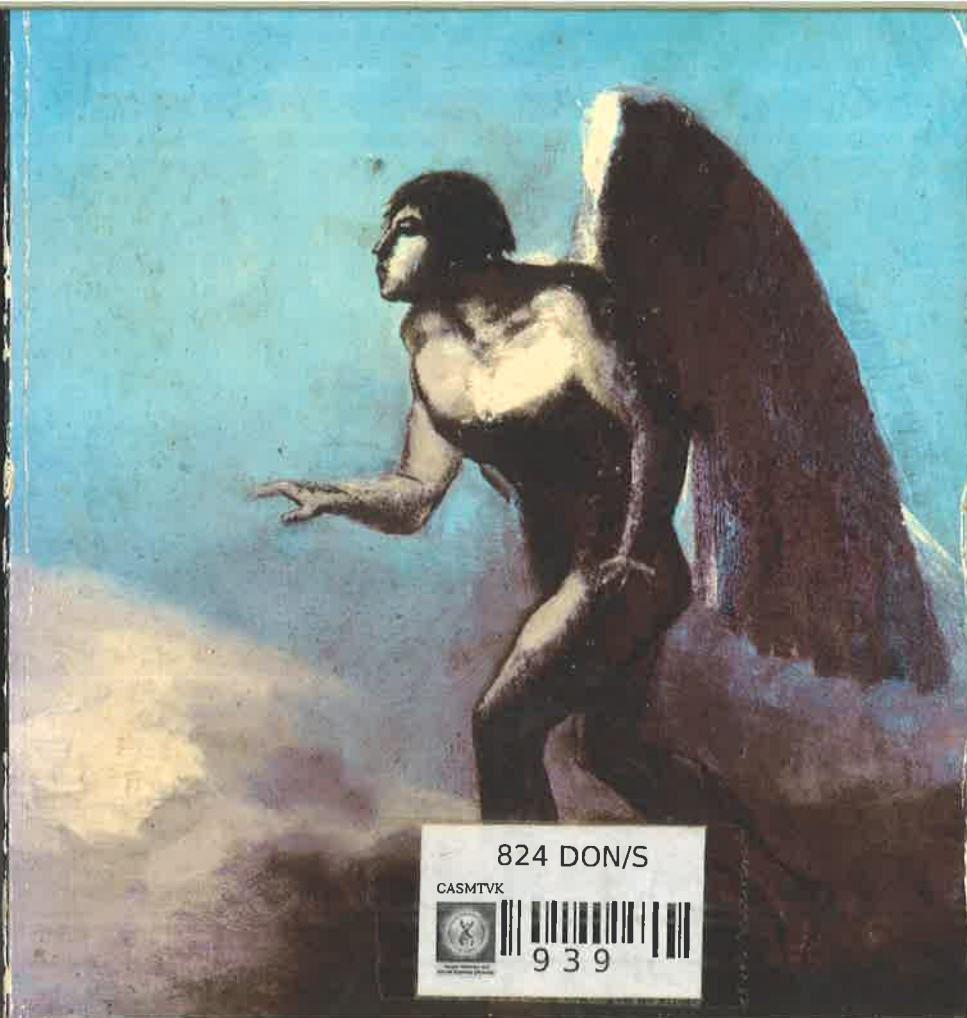
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Random House
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This edition first published in Penguin Classics 1987
Reprinted in Penguin Classics 2015
001

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Set in 10.25/12.25 pt Adobe Sabon
Typeset by Jouve (UK), Milton Keynes
Printed in Great Britain by Clays Ltd, St Ives plc

ISBN: 978-0-141-39671-2

www.greenpenguin.co.uk



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