



# The Clown (The Essential Heinrich Böll)

*By Heinrich Böll*

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Acclaimed entertainer Hans Schneir collapses when his beloved Marie leaves him because he won't marry her within the Catholic Church. The desertion triggers a searing re-examination of his life—the loss of his sister during the war, the demands of his millionaire father and the hypocrisies of his mother, who first fought to “save” Germany from the Jews, then worked for “reconciliation” afterwards.

Heinrich Böll's gripping consideration of how to overcome guilt and live up to idealism—how to find something to believe in—gives stirring evidence of why he was such an unwelcome presence in post-War German consciousness . . . and why he was such a necessary one.

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## **The Clown (The Essential Heinrich Boll) By Heinrich Boll Bibliography**

- Sales Rank: #779578 in Books
- Published on: 2010-12-28
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- Original language: English
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- Dimensions: 8.18" h x .71" w x 5.48" l, .52 pounds
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## Editorial Review

From Library Journal

These mark the fifth and sixth Boll titles reprinted this year-impressive. First published in 1965, *The Clown* is typical Boll and is ripe with guilt and fear in its Nazi and post-Nazi Germany setting. Vennewitz's translation was dubbed "admirably smooth" (LJ 2/1/65). Katharina Blum (1975) was described by LJ's reviewer as a "powerful image of innocence betrayed, of measureless evil oozing quietly out from regulated, unimpeachable convention" (LJ 4/15/75). Two solid titles.

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Review

### **THE ESSENTIAL HEINRICH BÖLL**

"Melville House has now reissued handsome paperbacks of three of Böll's most important novels, and in each we find the 1972 Nobel Prize winner, with a humanist's skepticism and tenderness, refusing to allow his fellow Germans to forgive themselves and move on.... [In *The Clown*] the abstractions of existentialism are manifested in vivid flesh-and-blood characters."

—Sam Sacks, *The Wall Street Journal*

"Böll is an expert marksman: the arrows are sharp, the feathers smooth, the targets numerous."

—*The New York Times*

"Moving . . . highly charged . . . filled with gentleness, high comic spirits, and human sympathy."

—*Christian Science Monitor*

"His work reaches the highest level of creative originality and stylistic perfection."

—*The Daily Telegraph*

"The renewal of German literature, to which Heinrich Böll's achievements witness, and of which they are a significant part, is not an experiment with form. Instead it is a rebirth out of annihilation, a resurrection, a culture which, ravaged by icy nights and condemned to extinction, sends up new shoots, blossoms, and matures to the joy and benefit of us all."

—**The Nobel Prize Committee**

"A man of deep feeling and intelligence, speaking in a strongly contemporary voice, [Böll] recorded in his early stories the way it felt to come home to a destroyed country. The tone was neither angry, ironic nor surreal. On the contrary, these stories gave us the slow-moving thoughtfulness of a narrator in pain, walking about on a lunar landscape, knowing he must make sense of things more quickly than he is able to do."

—Vivian Gornick, *The New York Times*

Language Notes

Text: English (translation)

Original Language: German

## Users Review

From reader reviews:

**Matthew Ibarra:**

The book *The Clown (The Essential Heinrich Boll)* can give more knowledge and information about everything you want. Why must we leave the great thing like a book *The Clown (The Essential Heinrich Boll)*? A few of you have a different opinion about reserve. But one aim in which book can give many facts for us. It is absolutely right. Right now, try to closer along with your book. Knowledge or data that you take for that, it is possible to give for each other; you can share all of these. Book *The Clown (The Essential Heinrich Boll)* has simple shape but you know: it has great and massive function for you. You can seem the enormous world by available and read a reserve. So it is very wonderful.

**Rana Jensen:**

Hey guys, do you would like to finds a new book to learn? May be the book with the name *The Clown (The Essential Heinrich Boll)* suitable to you? The actual book was written by well-known writer in this era. The actual book untitled *The Clown (The Essential Heinrich Boll)* is the main of several books that will everyone read now. This book was inspired a number of people in the world. When you read this publication you will enter the new way of measuring that you ever know before. The author explained their thought in the simple way, so all of people can easily to understand the core of this guide. This book will give you a lots of information about this world now. So that you can see the represented of the world on this book.

**Lori Whitten:**

Exactly why? Because this *The Clown (The Essential Heinrich Boll)* is an unordinary book that the inside of the guide waiting for you to snap this but latter it will zap you with the secret this inside. Reading this book beside it was fantastic author who else write the book in such amazing way makes the content within easier to understand, entertaining way but still convey the meaning completely. So , it is good for you for not hesitating having this anymore or you going to regret it. This unique book will give you a lot of positive aspects than the other book possess such as help improving your talent and your critical thinking way. So , still want to hold off having that book? If I had been you I will go to the guide store hurriedly.

**Paul Herbert:**

In this time globalization it is important to someone to acquire information. The information will make you to definitely understand the condition of the world. The health of the world makes the information much easier to share. You can find a lot of recommendations to get information example: internet, newspaper, book, and soon. You will observe that now, a lot of publisher which print many kinds of book. Typically the book that recommended to you personally is *The Clown (The Essential Heinrich Boll)* this book consist a lot of the information in the condition of this world now. That book was represented how can the world has grown up. The words styles that writer use for explain it is easy to understand. Often the writer made some exploration when he makes this book. Here is why this book suitable all of you.

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