

Seven Days

Or how to explain the world to my dying child

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This book is difficult to read and probably also difficult to understand. This shouldn't come as a surprise, because - after all - the world is not explained easily. Learning and true understanding are never easy. Learning and understanding are tasks so complex, multiple and demanding as life itself. This is because life is learning – a whole life long... and also dying belongs to that. This too one has to learn and it does belong to life.

This is the story of a child, an astounding and courageous child, which had mastered all these tasks. And thus, its life, no matter how brief, never was in vain, never was without meaning. And thus, its life was important and of great value.

With every piece of knowledge I'm allowed to give forward to others I do something to not forget this little hero and all the other courageous children who had gone much too early, because we had been too stupid to help them. But none of these children was unimportant. Why is elaborated in this book.

There is no logic in our existence if there wouldn't be a task for us. Probably, we haven't been very good in seeing that very task, not to talk about performing it. Surely, we are going to leave this world without any great and real contribution – every one of us. A contribution to both the world and the task, which, in essence, is the same.

But shouldn't we try and help our children to do it better than we have done?



About the translation

The translation was done by a colleague and good friend of the author. Unfortunately, this colleague isn't very good at translating from German into English. He isn't even good at writing. True, he has written quite a few publications and had successfully submitted them to scientific journals, but this probably doesn't count if it comes to literature, does it? Well, the author thinks, that it is the knowledge about science which does count more here rather than smooth formulations and nice high flying text passages. The author thinks his book, after all, is more a scientific work, rather than a story, even so it tells one. In short, the author was happy with the translation and as it is his opinion which counts and which we value the translation is as it is.

In case you are not satisfied, you might like to do your own translation. In some cases you might be forced to learn German before that, but then you'd learn something and thus, would have understood an important aspect of this book.