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³Self-pity is the crassest, most self-blinding kind of egoism. It is typical of this self-love that it believes itself to suffer more than those on whom it inflicts suffering. This would imply that persecution and torment of others were sophisticated self-torture.

⁴Egoistic love includes that particular kind of envy which is called jealousy, an incurable disease. (Schleiermacher illustrated this state by his formulation, unsurpassable in its sharpness, “Eifersucht ist eine Leidenschaft, die mit Eifer sucht was Leiden schafft.”*) It is characteristic of egoistic love that it wants to be the sole possessor of the object of its love, and in so doing binds, limits, excludes, instead of setting free....

Endnotes by the Translator

To 6.4. “Eifersucht ist eine Leidenschaft, die mit Eifer sucht, was Leiden schafft” means in a literal English translation, “Jealousy is a passion which eagerly seeks what brings suffering.” It is a German pun of extraordinary wittiness, regrettably lost in translation.

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