

CONTENTS

Acknowledgments	XIII
Introduction	1
Scope and Purpose of This Volume	1

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTARY

I	Boehme's Life and Times before 1613	5
A	Outline of Boehme's Life	5
B	Görlitz around 1600	6
C	Conflict and Polarization	7
D	Lutheran Insurrections	8
E	Pluralism in Görlitz	9
F	Calendar Reform of 1584	9
G	Bartholomäus Scultetus	10
H	Abraham Behem	10
I	Hope of the Year 1612	11
II	Boehme's Vocabulary and Terminology	13
A	Lutheran Literary Culture	13
1	The Lutheran Bible	13
1a	Image of God (Gen 1:27)	14
1b	Creator Word (John 1:1)	14
1c	Divine Presence (Acts 17:28)	15
1d	Wheels (Ezek 1) and Guests (Mat 22, 25)	15
1e	<i>Grimmigheit</i> , Fierceness (Ps 90)	15
1f	God as All in All (Eph 1:23)	16
2	The Language of Lutheran Doctrine	17
2a	Election of Grace (<i>Gnaden-Wahl</i>)	17
2b	Divine Omnipresence (<i>Gott überall, allenthalben</i>)	18
2c	Real Presence (<i>Wesen, wesentlich</i>)	19
2d	Paradox of the Greatest and Smallest (<i>Centrum</i>)	20
2e	The Materiality of Things (<i>Begreiflichkeit</i>)	21
2f	Divinity (<i>Gottheit</i>)	21
3	Lutheran Sermons and Songs	21

3a	Lutheran Homiletic Symbolism	21
3b	Lutheran Homiletic Allegory	22
3c	Solar Symbolism and Nature as Language	22
3d	The Rhetoric of the Ecstatic Experience	23
4	Lutheran Popular Culture	23
4a	Darkness and Light: <i>Anfechtung</i> and <i>Erleuchtung</i>	24
4b	Lay Opposition to Clerical Quarreling (<i>Zank der Theologen</i>)	25
B	Nature Philosophy	26
1	Natural Process as Divine Miracle according to Luther	26
2	The Authority of Natural Knowledge	26
3	Astrology	27
3a	Astrology versus Astronomy	27
3b	Astrology of Planetary Forces	28
3c	Planetary Virtues in Ptolemy and Boehme	29
3d	Mercury as an Exceptional Planet	29
3e	Seven Qualities as Tastes or Impulses	29
3f	Solar Centrality as Symbol	30
4	Philosophy as Theology and Alchemy	31
4a	The Organic Nature Philosophy of Paracelsus	32
4b	The Peculiarity of Boehme's <i>Salitter</i>	34
4c	Boehme's <i>Salitter</i> and du Chesne's Sal Niter	35
4d	Boehme's Source Spirits and du Chesne's "Æthereall Spirits"	35
4e	Du Chesne and the Multiplicity of Virtues, Qualities, and Tastes	36
4f	<i>Siderischer Geist</i> and <i>animalischer Geist</i>	36
5	Legal and Medical Language	38
C	Boehme's Ambiguities and Neologisms	39
1	<i>Inficiren</i> (to infect)	39
2	<i>Herb</i> (the dry or stringent)	39
3	<i>Himmel</i> (heaven and heavens)	39
4	Heaven and Heavens in Theological Disputes	40
D	Boehme's Adaptations and Extensions of Words	40
1	<i>Geburt, gebären</i> (birth)	41
2	<i>Wallen, Wille, Welle, wollen</i>	41
3	<i>Quelle, Qualität</i>	41
4	<i>qualificiren</i> (to manifest itself)	42
5	<i>inqualiren</i> (to imbue or infuse)	42
6	<i>Schrack</i> (the fire flash of fright)	43

E	Mystical, Esoteric, and Kabbalistic Sources	43
III	Procedures for Reproducing and Translating the Autograph Text ..	45
IV	Boehme's <i>Gründlicher Bericht</i> (A Fundamental Report)	47
A	The Context of the Work	47
B	Terms and Concepts of Boehme's <i>Gründlicher Bericht</i>	53
1	<i>Sucht</i> (craving)	53
2	The Eternal <i>Wille</i>	55
3	<i>Mysterium, Mysterium Magnum, Turba</i>	56
4	<i>Magia</i> and <i>Magus</i>	57
5	<i>Der Ungrund</i> (the "unground," or abyss)	58
6	The Strong and the Weak	59
C	Problems of Interpretation	59
1	The Peculiarities of <i>Ein gründlicher Bericht</i>	59
2	Some Possible Interpretations	60
2a	The Cryptographic Interpretation	60
2b	The Gnostic Interpretation	60
2c	The Philosophical Interpretation	60
2d	The Rhetorical Interpretation	61
2e	The Materialistic Interpretation	62
D	Procedures of the Critical Edition (Günther Bonheim)	63
	Select Bibliography, Works Consulted, and Abbreviations	67

AURORA (MORGEN RÖTE IM AUFFGANG)

Title Page	75
Preface to the kind reader concerning this book	77
Chapter 1. On researching the divine being in nature. On the two qualities	117
Chapter 2. [No title]	127
Chapter 3. Of the exaltedly sacred triumphant holy, holy, holy trinity. God the father, son, holy spirit. A single God.	145
Chapter 4. On the creation of the holy angels: an instruction or open gate of heaven	169
Chapter 5. On the corporeal substance, being, and property of an angel	185
Chapter 6. In what way an angel or human being is a likeness and image of God	201

Chapter 7. On the quarter, place, and dwelling of the angels as it originally stood after its creation and what then became of it.	211
Chapter 8. On the entire corpus of an angelic kingdom. The great mystery.	229
Chapter 9. Of the blessed, amiable, and merciful love of God.	267
Chapter 10. On the sixth source-spirit in the divine power.	285
Chapter 11. On the seventh source spirit in the divine power.	311
Chapter 12. On the birth and advent of the holy angels and their regiment, order, and life of celestial joys.	339
Chapter 13. Concerning the frightful, awful, and wretched fall of Lucifer's kingdom.	379
Chapter 14. How Lucifer, the most beautiful angel in heaven, became the most horrible devil.	415
Chapter 15. Concerning the third species or form of the origin of sins in Lucifer.	447
Chapter 16. Concerning the seventh species or form of the origin of sins in Lucifer and his angels.	471
Chapter 17. Concerning the lamentable and wretched condition of the corrupted nature and the origin of the four elements in place of the holy regime of God.	505
Chapter 18. Concerning the creation of heaven and earth and of the first day.	515
Chapter 19. Concerning the created heavens and the form of the earth and the water, as well as the light and the darkness.	549
Chapter 20. Concerning the second day.	585
Chapter 21. Concerning the third day.	609
Chapter 22. Concerning the birth of the stars and creations of the fourth day.	647
Chapter 23. Concerning the depths above the earth.	677
Chapter 24. Concerning the composition of the stars.	705
Chapter 25. Concerning the entire body of the birth of the stars, which is all of astrology or the entire body of this world.	727
Chapter 26. Concerning the planet Saturn.	757

A FUNDAMENTAL REPORT (EIN GRÜNDLICHER BERICHT)

<i>Ein gründlicher Bericht [vom irdischen und himmlischen Mysterio]</i> <i>(1620) / A Fundamental Report</i>	794
Index of Names	827
Index of Topics	829
Index of Biblical Citations	837
Index of Biblical Names in <i>Aurora</i> and <i>Fundamental Report</i>	839