

The Moon and Sixpence

W. Somerset Maugham

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"The Complete Work, Enriched with a Critical Introduction"

ABOUT THE BOOK

A TALE OF ART AND OBSESSION • W. Somerset Maugham's bold novel of sacrifice and desire, inspired by the life of painter Paul Gauguin.

Charles Strickland is an ordinary London stockbroker. A husband, a father, a man of duty. Until, one day, he abandons it all—his family, his career, his comfortable life—to pursue painting. Drawn first to Paris and then to the South Seas, Strickland lives in poverty and isolation, consumed by a vision only he can see. His choices scandalise those around him, but his relentless pursuit of art becomes a fierce meditation on freedom, passion, and the cost of genius.

First published in 1919, W. Somerset Maugham's The Moon and Sixpence shocked readers with its portrait of a man who rejects convention for an uncompromising devotion to creativity. Written in Maugham's lucid and unsparing prose, the novel explores the clash between social responsibility and individual desire. Its influence endures, inspiring countless readers to consider what it means to create, to sacrifice, and to live authentically. "A man's work is nothing but this slow trek to rediscover, through the detours of art, those two or three great and simple images in whose presence his heart first opened," Maugham reflects—a line that captures the novel's restless spirit.

This Feel Classics edition makes the novel accessible to a new generation. Featuring a thoughtful introduction, explanatory notes, glossary, and a detailed chronology of Maugham's life!

A daring, unforgettable classic that still speaks to anyone who has ever dreamed of choosing the moon over the sixpence at their feet.

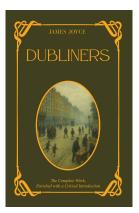
ABOUT THE AUTHOR

W. Somerset Maugham (1874–1965) was a British novelist, short story writer, and playwright, widely known for his clear prose, psychological depth, and cosmopolitan themes. Born in Paris and educated in England, he initially trained as a doctor before turning to writing full-time after the success of his first novel, Liza of Lambeth (1897).

Over a prolific career spanning more than sixty years, Maugham authored numerous acclaimed works, including Of Human Bondage (1915), The Moon and Sixpence (1919), The Painted Veil (1925), Cakes and Ale (1930), and The Razor's Edge (1944). He also gained prominence as a playwright and later as a master of the short story form, drawing upon his extensive travels and experiences—particularly in Asia, Europe, and during his service as a British intelligence agent in World War I.

Maugham spent his later years at his villa on the French Riviera, where he continued to write and reflect on literature, society, and the art of storytelling. His works remain widely read for their narrative elegance, insight into human behaviour, and enduring literary appeal.

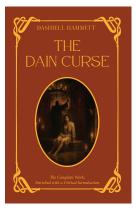
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