

Thomas Mann

The Holy Sinner



Will Schmitt

PENGUIN MODERN CLASSICS



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PENGUIN BOOKS

1625

THE HOLY SINNER

THOMAS MANN



Contag
Paris 64

Thomas Mann was born in 1875 in Lübeck of a line of prosperous and influential merchants. His father was head of the ancestral firm and was twice mayor of the free city. Brought up in the company of five brothers and sisters, he completed his education under the drastic discipline of North German schoolmasters, and entered an insurance office in Munich at the age of nineteen.

Secretly he wrote his first tale, *Fallen*, and shortly afterwards left the insurance office to study art and literature at the University in Munich. After spending a year in Rome, he devoted himself exclusively to writing. His major works since include *Buddenbrooks*, *Death in Venice*, *The Magic Mountain*, and the tetralogy *Joseph and his Brothers*, the first volume of which was published in 1933. He was awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1929.

In 1933 Mann left Germany to live in Switzerland and then, after several previous visits, he settled in the United States, living first in Princeton, New Jersey, and later in California, where he wrote *Doctor Faustus* and *The Holy Sinner*. He revisited his native country in 1949 and returned to Switzerland in 1952 where *The Black Swan* and *Felix Krull* were written, and where he died in 1955.

Cover Drawing by Brian Wildsmith