

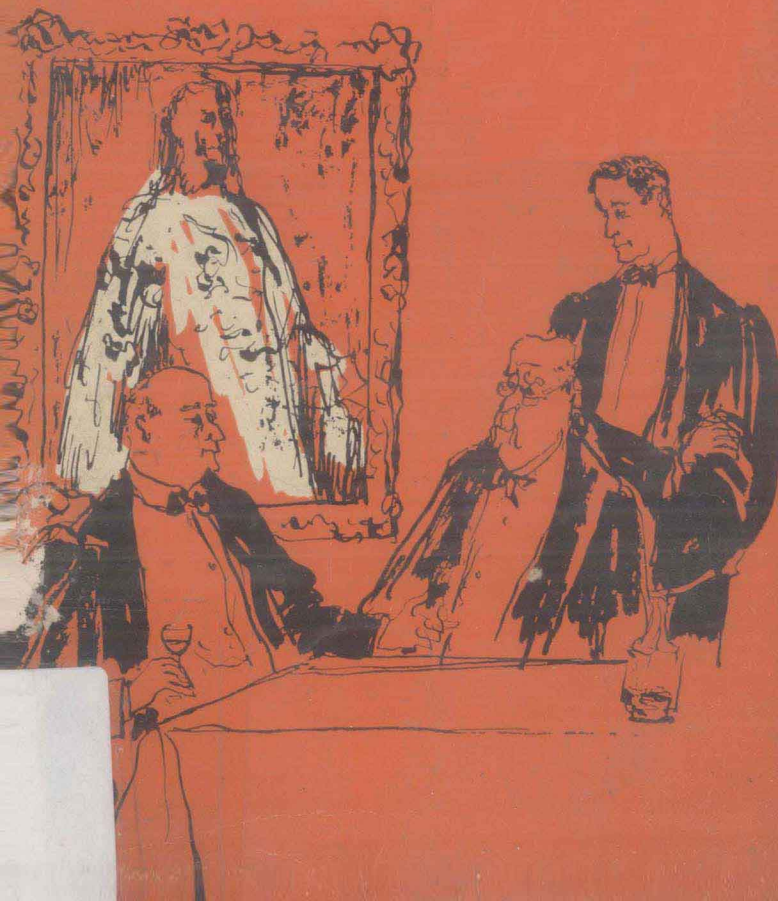


a Penguin Book

3/6

The Masters

C. P. Snow





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TWILIGHT IN ITALY

*NOT FOR SALE IN THE U.S.A.

REMAINDER NOT FOR SALE IN THE U.S.A. OR CANADA

ALDOUS HUXLEY

The name of Aldous Huxley, which became known in the twenties, rapidly developed into a password for his generation. At cocktail parties, which were becoming fashionable in the same period, it was bandied about as if the mere mention of it were enough to show that one was brilliant, witty, and cynically up to date. To start with, as Cyril Connolly has written, 'witty, serious, observant, well-read, sensitive, intelligent, there can have been few young writers as gifted as Huxley'. But the accusations of his less perceptive critics were completely off the mark, for in spite of Huxley's brilliant sense of light comedy, he always was fundamentally serious. Too good an artist to become a preacher, he never disguised his disillusionment, which in one form or another was the basis of his satire, while he showed himself to be a mystic – a role with which he was pre-occupied after he went to live in California in 1937. As a result he became more and more concerned in his books with contrasting reality and illusion. Those of his books at present available in Penguins are:

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THOSE BARREN LEAVES
AFTER MANY A SUMMER
THE DOORS OF PERCEPTION *and*
HEAVEN AND HELL
MORTAL COILS
ANTIC HAY
CROME YELLOW
EYELESS IN GAZA
ISLAND

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THE HOLY SINNER★

Thomas Mann

Mann's *The Holy Sinner* is an epic of arch-sinfulness – witting and unwitting – of retribution and penance, and in the finish of triumphant humility.

Duke Grimald of Flanders had twin children – a boy and a girl of unsurpassed loveliness. From their incestuous union sprang Grigorss . . . and the child was exposed in a bark at sea. Rescued, the boy was reared in holiness in the Channel Islands, but later returned by chance and, after defending his mother from her enemies, who were threatening the dukedom to which she had succeeded on her brother's death, like Oedipus, married her. Seventeen years of solitary penance followed the discovery of this crime against nature, and then simultaneous dream-visions proclaimed to two pious leading citizens of Rome that Gregorius was to be the next tenant of the papal throne.

This saga of stark horror and pity may claim to rank among Mann's greatest works.

Also available:

BUDDENBROOKS†
DEATH IN VENICE†
THE MAGIC MOUNTAIN†
CONFESSIONS OF FELIX KRULL†

★NOT FOR SALE IN THE U.S.A.

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LORD OF THE FLIES

William Golding

An aeroplane crash-lands on a coral island and the survivors, a party of schoolboys, find themselves cast-away in ideal surroundings. At first they treat the situation with enthusiasm and all goes well. But their idyllic existence is threatened not by any external danger but by their own inner natures and desires.

'In these good, well brought-up little boys is worked out a whole passage of human history – through brief, primeval innocence, through the making of fire and the hunting for food to the tribal dance, to fear and anger and blood-lust' – John Connell in the *Evening News*

'The whole structure of a savage society is built up before our eyes; but it is also a horrible parody of a civilized society in a period of danger and anarchy' – *Listener*

'A beautiful and desperate book – something quite out of the ordinary' – Stevie Smith in the *Observer*

Also available

FREE FALL

PINCHER MARTIN

NOT FOR SALE IN THE U.S.A.

GRAHAM GREENE

‘Mr Greene is a story-teller of genius’ – Evelyn Waugh

A BURNT-OUT CASE

Philip Toynbee described this novel, set at a leper colony in the Congo, as being ‘perhaps the best that he has ever written’.

THE CONFIDENTIAL AGENT

One of his pre-war thrillers, in which the agent of a government engaged in a civil war is on the run in England.

A GUN FOR SALE

This exciting story of a professional gunman’s revenge was an immediate forerunner of *Brighton Rock*.

THE MINISTRY OF FEAR

In this, his most phantasmagoric study, the story, largely set in the London blitz, passes ‘through twilit corridors of horror’ – *Observer*

Also available:

BRIGHTON ROCK

THE LOST CHILDHOOD AND OTHER ESSAYS

THE END OF THE AFFAIR

THE HEART OF THE MATTER

OUR MAN IN HAVANA

THE POWER AND THE GLORY

THE QUIET AMERICAN

NOT FOR SALE IN THE U.S.A.

C. P. SNOW

C. P. Snow has firmly established his reputation as a novelist with his ambitious sequence of books, *Strangers and Brothers*. These novels, each of which is complete in itself, relate the experience of one man – the narrator, Lewis Eliot. Sometimes he describes his direct experience, as in *Time of Hope* and *Homecomings*; sometimes the experience is gained through viewing the lives of others, as in *The Masters* and *The Conscience of the Rich*. Altogether the sequence is forming an impressive study of both the great public issues and the private problems of our age.

STRANGERS AND BROTHERS

The story of George Passant, a Midland solicitor's clerk.

TIME OF HOPE

Lewis Eliot's early life, in the Midlands and at the bar.

THE CONSCIENCE OF THE RICH

The story of Charles March, scion of an Anglo-Jewish banking family.

THE LIGHT AND THE DARK

The story of Roy Calvert, a brilliant young Cambridge linguist.

THE NEW MEN

The story of Martin Eliot, Lewis's brother, and the exploitation of atomic fission.

HOMECOMINGS

The middle life of Lewis Eliot and his second marriage.

THE AFFAIR

The story of a miscarriage of justice in a Cambridge college.

CORRIDORS OF POWER

C. P. Snow sets his story in a world he knows well – the corridors and committee rooms of Whitehall.

NOT FOR SALE IN THE U.S.A.

THE MASTERS

Lord Snow was born in Leicester in 1905, and educated at a secondary school. He started his career as a professional scientist, though writing was always his ultimate aim. He won a research scholarship to Cambridge, worked on molecular physics, and became a Fellow of his college in 1930. He continued his academic life in Cambridge until the beginning of the war, by which time he had already begun the 'Lewis Eliot' sequence of novels, which, on completion, is to be known by the title of the first volume, *Strangers and Brothers*, published in 1940. The other books in the sequence are *The Light and the Dark* (1947), *Time of Hope* (1949), *The Masters* (1951), *The New Men* (1954), *Homecomings* (1956), *The Conscience of the Rich* (1958), *The Affair* (1960), and *Corridors of Power* (1964).

In the war he became a Civil Servant, and because of his human and scientific knowledge was engaged in selecting scientific personnel. He has had further experience of these problems since the war, both in industry and as a Civil Service Commissioner, for which work he received a knighthood in 1957. His Rede Lecture on *The Two Cultures and the Scientific Revolution* (1959), and Godkin Lectures on *Science and Government* (1960) were widely discussed. From 1964 to 1966 Lord Snow was Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Technology.

In 1950 he married Pamela Hansford Johnson.

THE MASTERS

C. P. SNOW

PENGUIN BOOKS

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In memory of
G. H. HARDY

NOTE

I have not given a name to the college in this story; I have never liked geographical inventions such as Christminster, and have avoided them through the whole sequence of Lewis Eliot novels.

*This fictional college stands upon an existing site, and its topography is similar to that of an existing college, though some of the details are different. That is the end, however, of my reference to a real institution. The history (which I have sketched in an appendix, in the hope that it may be interesting to some unfamiliar with Cambridge) has no factual connexion with any real college, though the generalizations are as true as I can make them. The people have been composed from many sources; and, to the best of my belief, there has been no actual election in Cambridge or Oxford in recent times which followed the course of this imaginary one. There is a tradition of a last-minute change of fortune early in the century, and a well-authenticated one in Mark Pattison's *Memoirs*. It was G. H. Hardy who first drew my attention to the latter source, when I was originally contemplating this theme. To his memory I dedicate this book, in love and reverence.*

C. P. S.

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WAITING

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