



a Penguin Book

3/6

W. Somerset Maugham

THE
MOON AND
SIXPENANCE



The Moon and Sixpence

SOMERSET MAUGHAM



PENGUIN BOOKS
IN ASSOCIATION WITH
WILLIAM HEINEMANN LTD



a Penguin Book

The Moon and Sixpence

The portrait drawing
by Graham Sutherland
is reproduced
by permission of
H. P. Juda



THE MOON AND SIXPENCE, published in 1919, confirmed Maugham's reputation as a novelist and is probably his best-known book. In the single-minded character of Charles Strickland, the London stockbroker who suddenly abandons family and career to become a painter, he drew a harsh but credible likeness of the mentality of genius. The story, suggested by the life of Paul Gauguin, is mainly set in Paris, but the closing chapters describe the artist's primitive life in Tahiti and his lingering death from leprosy. We are left with the disturbing impression of a man possessed by demonic forces.

For copyright reasons this edition is not for sale in the U.S.A.