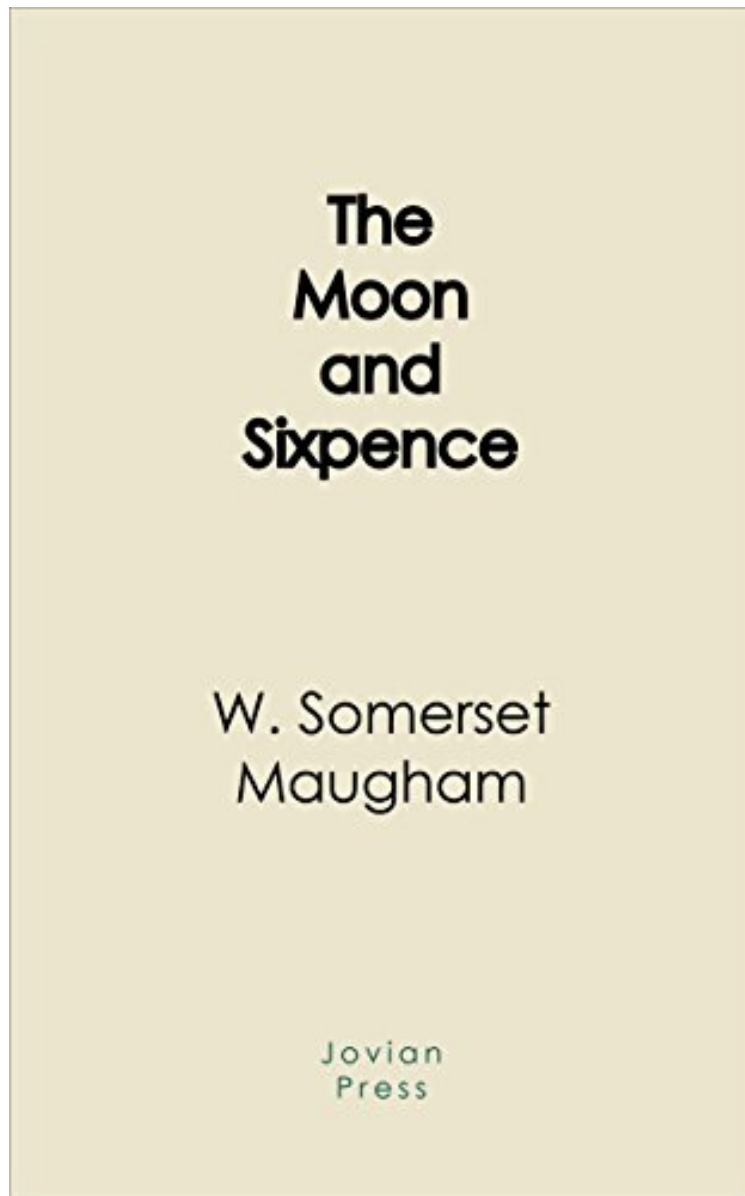


(Library ebook) The Moon and Sixpence

The Moon and Sixpence

W. Somerset Maugham
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W. Somerset Maugham : The Moon and Sixpence before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Moon and Sixpence:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. the greatest short-story writerBy Edward B. WilliamsMr. Maugham was, perhaps, the greatest short-story writer, ever. If not, he was surely one of them and near the top. The book was captivating and very readable. My one criticism is the omission of Paul Gauguin's friendship with Vincent Van Gogh,

a central issue in his life. However, who am I to criticize this fine writer. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Well written and thought provoking By Customer The Moon and Sixpence was written as a sort of biographical fiction on the life of the painter Paul Gauguin. Gauguin was called Strickland in the book, and was cast as a disillusioned former stockbroker and family man. The narrator becomes obsessed with following his life and movements, due to Strickland's extraordinarily misanthropic and apathetic view of western society. The narrator struggled to grasp Strickland's motivations. It seemed his best explanation was that Strickland was possessed by a drive to find a sort of terrible primeval beauty in man and the world around him. Yet Strickland's genius as a painter was eventually recognized, contrasting greatly with the man himself. The narrator used Strickland as a sort of muse, to reflect upon the human condition. This was a book that started slow, but was hard to put down. Definitely worth the read. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Four Stars By Elana Peters Like it and made me get into life of W. Somerset Maugham...enjoyed the book immensely.

Based on the life of Paul Gauguin, The Moon and Sixpence is W. Somerset Maugham's ode to the powerful forces behind creative genius. Charles Strickland is a staid banker, a man of wealth and privilege. He is also a man possessed of an unquenchable desire to create art. As Strickland pursues his artistic vision, he leaves London for Paris and Tahiti, and in his quest makes sacrifices that leaves the lives of those closest to him in tatters. Through Maugham's sympathetic eye Strickland's tortured and cruel soul becomes a symbol of the blessing and the curse of transcendent artistic genius, and the cost in human lives it sometimes demands.