



## The Master and Margarita (Penguin Classics)

By Mikhail Bulgakov

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**A masterful translation of one of the great novels of the 20th century**

Nothing in the whole of literature compares with *The Master and Margarita*. Full of pungency and wit, this luminous work is Bulgakov's crowning achievement, skilfully blending magical and realistic elements, grotesque situations and major ethical concerns. Written during the darkest period of Stalin's repressive reign and a devastating satire of Soviet life, it combines two distinct yet interwoven parts, one set in contemporary Moscow, the other in ancient Jerusalem, each brimming with incident and with historical, imaginary, frightful and wonderful characters. Although completed in 1940, *The Master and Margarita* was not published until 1966 when the first section appeared in the monthly magazine *Moskva*. Russians everywhere responded enthusiastically to the novel's artistic and spiritual freedom and it was an immediate and enduring success. This new translation has been made from the complete and unabridged Russian text.

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## **The Master and Margarita (Penguin Classics) By Mikhail Bulgakov Bibliography**

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## Editorial Review

### Review

“My favorite novel—it’s just the greatest explosion of imagination, craziness, satire, humor, and heart.”

—**Daniel Radcliffe**

### About the Author

**Mikhail Bulgakov** (1891–1940) was a doctor, a novelist, a playwright, a short-story writer, and the assistant director of the Moscow Arts Theater. His body of work includes *The White Guard*, *The Fatal Eggs*, *Heart of a Dog*, and his masterpiece, *The Master and Margarita*, published more than twenty-five years after his death and cited as an inspiration for Salman Rushdie's *The Satanic Verses*.

**Richard Pevear** and **Larissa Volokhonsky** have produced acclaimed translations of Tolstoy, Dostoevsky, Gogol, and Bulgakov. Their translation of *The Brothers Karamazov* won the 1991 PEN/Book-of-the-Month Club Translation Prize. They are married and live in Paris, France.

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#### **Leonel Burton:**

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**Virgie Tauber:**

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