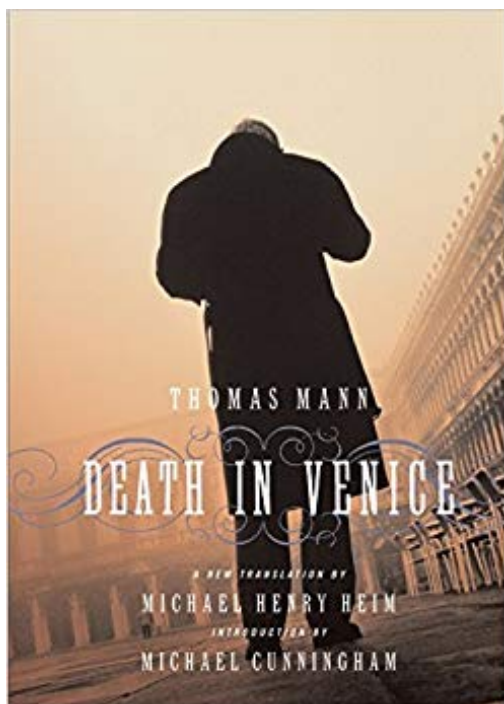


Death in Venice *by* Michael Cunningham, Thomas Mann, Michael Henry Heim



DOWNLOAD LINKS (Clickable)



ISBN: 0060576057

ISBN13: 978-0060576059

Author: Michael Cunningham, Thomas Mann, Michael Henry Heim

Book title: Death in Venice

Pages: 160

Publisher: Ecco (June 1, 2004)

Language: English

Category: World Literature

Size PDF version: 1431 kb

Size ePUB version: 1256 kb

Size FB2 version: 1465 kb

Other formats: lit txt lrf azw

The world-famous masterpiece by Nobel laureate Thomas Mann -- here in a new translation by Michael Henry Heim

Published on the eve of World War I, a decade after *Buddenbrooks* had established Thomas Mann as a literary celebrity, *Death in Venice* tells the story of Gustav von Aschenbach, a successful but aging writer who follows his wanderlust to Venice in search of spiritual fulfillment that instead leads to his erotic doom.

In the decaying city, besieged by an unnamed epidemic, he becomes obsessed with an exquisite Polish boy, Tadzio. "It is a story of the voluptuousness of doom," Mann wrote. "But the problem I had especially in mind was that of the artist's dignity."



Reviews of the **Death in Venice** by Michael Cunningham, Thomas Mann, Michael Henry Heim

Ese

Death in Venice is a chilling, cerebral, and beautifully rendered novella. An aging academic's Petrarchan fawning over a gilded youth in a city of supreme decadence, Mann's book seems to have prefigured *Lolita* as an examination of a deranged, if eloquent, man's search for the ideal beauty personified. It takes a while for things to get going, even in such a brief story, as we're asked to wade patiently through our (anti)-hero's convoluted theories and related philosophical rambling early on, but this ultimately lends some texture to his later unflagging hunt for the boy throughout Venice. As things get going and Mann starts to gun the narrative throttle (to some extent), we feel the suffocating reality of this cloistered, opulent, gradually decaying world. It is impossible to read this book and not feel the heat, smell the canals, and experience the perpetual sting of the protagonist's demented yearning. Definitely worth a read for any student of life or literature, or really anyone curious to take a peek into the abyss of an unsettled mind in an ostensibly peaceful place about to be rocked by misery.

fabscf

I recently reread this for the first time in 40 years . . . not all books I've revisit shout out that I had great taste in literature as an undergrad. Death in Venice is just so brilliant, I was left wondering what I could have understood so many years ago. Mann's language (at least as translated here) is among the best of any writer. The narrative is not what the novel is really about; rather like a great poet, Mann leads the reader through the back alleys that we've visited looking for what we imagined we need. Brilliant work.

Rleillin

Along with "The Turn of the Screw," "Heart of Darkness," "Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man," "The Bear," and "The Old Man and the Sea," Thomas Mann's story of a middle-aged writer's fatal obsession with a teenage boy in cholera-ridden Venice is one of the indisputable classic novellas of modern Western literature. Its weaving of Plato, Goethe, Schopenhauer, Nietzsche, Wagner and Freud into a condensed, taut, open-ended story is so elegantly achieved that it possibly outstrips even those other short masterpieces in concentrated power. At once alluring, creepy and in the end oddly moving, it's a book that penetrates the memory like few others. Of the many translations out there, Heim's is among the most lucid and lyrical. Indeed, it perhaps goes down too easily, missing that layer of Germanic formality that Mann used as a kind of parody of his main character's literary "dignity" and lofty reputation. I've read the story many times and it's always mesmerizing - a descent into the abyss of a man's soul that never fails to leave me shaken.

Keleenn

As with many translated works, one has to struggle to uncover the brilliance of the author's original masterpiece. This version has an overabundance of typographical errors and awkward English language renderings of the complex German sentence structures. Such obstacles and inconveniences to the reader add one more element of irony to this tale of obsession and consequent disintegration of the tidy, well-ordered little universe of the protagonist. The scenic backdrop, psychological probings, and unfolding of the dramatic incidents are powerfully combined to draw the reader ever more closely into the vortex. In this tale, the bejeweled city of Venice is a scary place to

be.

Nawenadet

Thomas Mann's "Death in Venice" is as brilliant as advertised. Undoubtable, a literary masterpiece. One needs to make sure of the translation. The Dover edition which I read, was translated by Stanley Appelbaum and it was one of the best translations of this masterpiece I have read. The second chapter was a little difficult, but then there is a reason it is considered "the nightmare chapter" by most translators. Also, you might want to catch up on your Greek mythology before reading this book. It is everywhere in the book. Amazing work of art.

Fenrinos

This book is a German classic first published in 1912. It is a must-read for anyone interested in modern German literature. This work has been reviewed by many notable critics and made into a film by renowned director Luchino Visconti in the early 1970's. Visconti commented: "The real subject of the film is the artist's search for perfection and the impossibility ever to find it. At that moment when he achieves absolute fulfillment, the artist's life is extinguished." This is a story of physical and moral decay of the artist in the putrid atmosphere of a morbid city. Vacationing on the Lido of Venice, he succumbs to the sight of a beautiful boy who lets him think of a perfect antique sculpture. Cholera rages in the city, but the artist cannot bear to absent himself from the boy. Thomas Mann leaves the cause of death open. Does Aschenbach, the protagonist, succumb to the disease, an age-induced prolonged suffering, or does he simply not want to live without the beautiful boy in sight?

Kale

This classic novella lead to the production of a masterpiece movie in a later time. I was surprised at how short the original story was, yet was very pleased to see how much was packed in a short time. No spoilers here, just a mention of how well told is the tale of a soul bearing a private torture. Invoking compassion as well as insight, I came away with a greater understanding of a secret pain and with a renewed sense of compassion for something often overlooked in a very shallow world. Because of this insight I will now never take many things for granted, and will have a more compassionate look at people I think I know, or knew. For that I must say I am grateful and satisfied with my little purchase. RIP Thomas Mann x.

Thomas Mann is rightly regarded as a master among writers. In "Death in Venice" he explores a dying man's obsession with a beautiful youth at a beach hotel on the Lido Isle of Venice in prose so rich in descriptive imagery as to become poetry.

Related PDF to [Death in Venice](#) by Michael Cunningham, Thomas Mann, Michael Henry Heim

[Death in Venice \(A Norton Critical Edition\) by Thomas Mann, Clayton Koelb](#)

[Frau Thomas Mann by Inge und Walter Jens](#)

[The Turning Point: Thirty-Five Years in this Century, the Autobiography of Klaus Mann by Klaus Mann](#)

[Herzlich zugeeignet: Widmungen von Thomas Mann 1887-1955 \(German Edition\) by Thomas Mann](#)

[Journal of George Thomas Mann 1871-1880 \(Faversham Papers\) by George Thomas Mann](#)

[Travellers Venice, 3rd \(Travellers - Thomas Cook\) by Thomas Cook Publishing](#)

[Letters of Thomas Mann, 1889-1955 by Thomas Mann](#)

[Death in Venice, Tonio Kroger, and Other Writings: Thomas Mann \(German Library\) by Frederick A. Lubich, Harold Bloom](#)