

A L B E R T C A M U S

t h e s t r a n g e r



I N T E R N A T I O N A L



"Matthew Ward has done Camus and us a great service. *The Stranger* is now a different and better novel for its American readers; it is now our classic as well as France's." —*Chicago Sun-Times*

T H E S T R A N G E R

FICTION/LITERATURE

Since it was first published in English, in 1946, Albert Camus's first novel, *THE STRANGER* (*L'étranger*), has had a profound impact on millions of American readers. Through this story of an ordinary man who unwittingly gets drawn into a senseless murder on a sun-drenched Algerian beach, Camus explored what he termed "the nakedness of man faced with the absurd."

Now, in an illuminating new American translation, extraordinary for its exactitude and clarity, the original intent of *THE STRANGER* is made more immediate. This haunting novel has been given a new life for generations to come.

Translated from the French by Matthew Ward

\$8.00

Cover design by Marc J. Cohen

Photography by Barnaby Hall



V I N T A G E I N T E R N A T I O N A L

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Albert Camus, son of a working-class family, was born in Algeria in 1913. He spent the early years of his life in North Africa, where he worked at various jobs—in the weather bureau, in an automobile-accessory firm, in a shipping company—to help pay for his courses at the University of Algiers. He then turned to journalism as a career. His report on the unhappy state of the Muslims of the Kabylie region aroused the Algerian government to action and brought him public notice. From 1935 to 1938 he ran the Théâtre de l'Equipe, a theatrical company that produced plays by Malraux, Gide, Synge, Dostoevski, and others. During World War II he was one of the leading writers of the French Resistance and editor of *Combat*, then an important underground newspaper. Camus was always very active in the theater, and several of his plays have been published and produced. His fiction, including *The Stranger*, *The Plague*, *The Fall*, and *Exile and the Kingdom*; his philosophical essays, *The Myth of Sisyphus* and *The Rebel*; and his plays have assured his preeminent position in modern French letters. In 1957 Camus was awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature. His sudden death on January 4, 1960, cut short the career of one of the most important literary figures of the Western world when he was at the very summit of his powers.

ABOUT THE TRANSLATOR

Matthew Ward is a poet, critic, and translator. His translations include works by Colette, Barthes, Picasso, Sartre, and others. He was educated at Stanford, University College in Dublin (where he was a Fulbright Scholar), and Columbia. He taught for several years at the Fieldston School in Riverdale, New York. Matthew Ward was born in Colorado and now lives in Manhattan.