

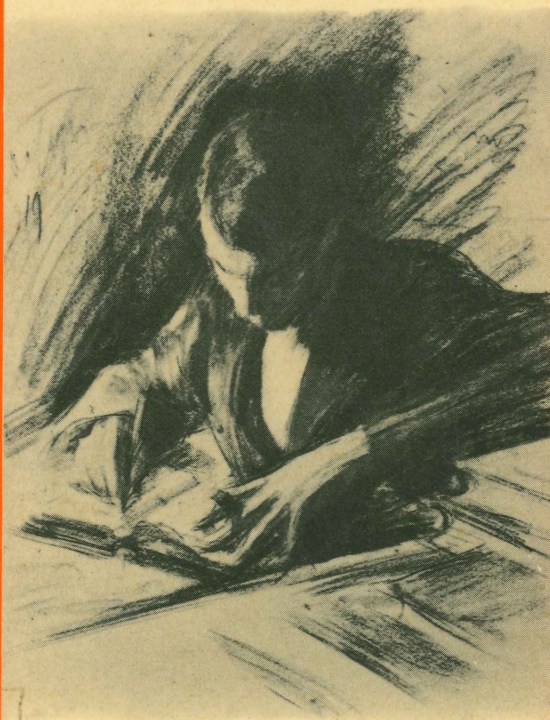
PENGUIN BOOKS



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THE LAST SUMMER



Boris Pasternak

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COMPLETE 2/6 UNABRIDGED

BORIS PASTERNAK
THE LAST SUMMER

TRANSLATED BY GEORGE REAVEY

*

WITH AN INTRODUCTION

BY

LYDIA SLATER

Cordially

from

Lydia Slater

Oxford 1960-61

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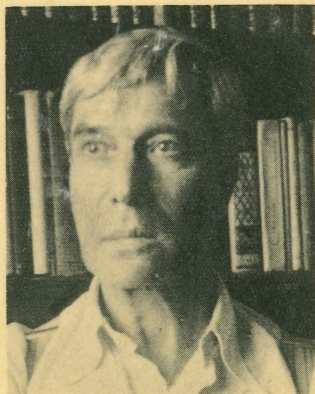
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PENGUIN BOOKS



Boris Pasternak had been recognized as a leading Russian poet many years before the famous *Doctor Zhivago* was published, but it was that book and his refusal of the Nobel Prize which made his name a household word in the West. He was born in Moscow in 1890, the eldest son of Leonid Pasternak, a painter, and Rose Kaufman-Pasternak, a musician. He had an exceptionally happy childhood and inherited from his mother a deep love of music which was his initial inspiration and the first medium of his creative efforts. For some time he studied composition while reading law at Moscow University and was influenced by Scriabin. Later, however, he studied philosophy at Marburg University for a short while. During the First World War he worked in a factory in the Urals and after the revolution was employed in the library of the Commissariat for Education. He lived mostly in Moscow, although part of his time was spent in the Urals.

Pasternak translated Shakespeare, Verlaine, and several German writers (among them Goethe, Kleist, and Rilke) into Russian. His prose writings are few; *Doctor Zhivago* was his only full-length novel. He wrote short stories and two short autobiographical works, as well as a number of volumes of poetry. He died in the spring of 1960.

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