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CONDEMNED: A Novel

by Konstantinos Theotokis foreword by Vangelis Calotychos translated and edited by Miltiades and Susan Matthias

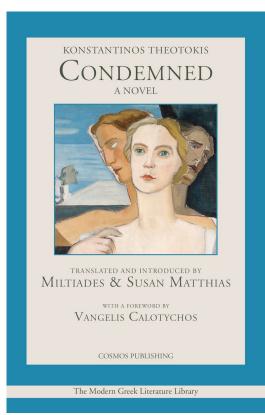
"A passionate love triangle. Jealousy. Murder. A universal tale of social injustice played out in a Greek village. The story of a marginal man imprisoned by forces greater than himself for a murder he did not commit. Filled with fiercely realistic scenes of bygone rural life, *Condemned* (1919) by Konstantinos Theotokis combines rich characterization with colorfully textured language and is narrated with a forward thrust that makes the novel a page turner even as it poses questions regarding the toll of guilt and the possibility of redemption."

Konstantinos Theotokis was born in 1872 to an aristocratic family on the lonian island of Corfu. He eventually became a socialist and, like Tolstoy, voluntarily gave up his landed property. He is best known for several novels in addition to Condemned: Honor and Money (1912), Life and Death of the "Hangman" (1920), as well as his final and longest novel, Slaves in Their Chains (1922), which charts the decline of an eminent Corfiot family confronted by modern realities. All of Theotokis' works share a vibrant colloquial style and a dramatic power that have become more appreciated over time. Theotokis died in 1923.

Miltiades Matthias was a concert pianist who devoted his early efforts to securing recognition for works of Greek composers including Kalomiris, Kydoniatis and Mitropoulos, among others. He also turned his attention with equal passion to the translation of poetry, including the complete works of Cavafy and Seferis. He translated into Greek the Hundred Love Sonnets of Pablo Neruda and, until his death, was engaged in translating into Greek the complete sonnets of Shakespeare.

Susan Matthias graduated from Vassar College and has a PhD in Comparative Literature from New York University, where she teaches Greek and Roman classical texts. Her translation of Seferis's only completed novel Six *Nights on the Acropolis* is available as part of The Modern Greek Literature Library from Cosmos Publishing. Her translations also have been published in *The Journal of Modern Greek Studies*, the *Harvard Review*, and *Modernism/Modernity*.

Together, Miltiades and Susan translated Seferis's essay *Erotokritos*, which was published in the Modern Greek Studies Yearbook from the University of Minnesota, and excerpts from the novel *The Lissome Maiden* by Andreas Karkavitsas, published in Metamorphoses



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