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Buddenbrooks

Thomas Mann (June 6, 1875 - August 12, 1955)

Read by: David Wales Translator: Helen Tracy Lowe-Porter
 Length: 31 hours and 3 minutes Genre: Fiction
 Language: English Style: Solo

Product Formats and Options				
Format	Package	Catalog	EAN/UPC	MSLP
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Buddenbrooks, first published in 1901, is the story of the decline of a wealthy merchant family in the northern German city of Lübeck during the late 19th century. The novel follows the lives of four generations of the Buddenbrook family, beginning with the patriarch, Johann, and his wife, Antoinette, and their children, Thomas, Christian, and Tony. The novel traces the family's decline over several decades as the family members struggle with personal and business challenges. The novel explores themes of decay and the erosion of values in the face of changing times and circumstances. One of the main characters is Thomas Buddenbrook, the eldest son who inherits the family's business but struggles to keep it afloat. He is unable to adapt to the changing economic conditions and becomes increasingly consumed by anxiety and self-doubt. His younger brother, Christian, also plays an important role in the novel as he struggles to find a

sense of purpose and direction in his life. The novel ends with the death of the last of the Buddenbrooks and the sale of the family's business, symbolizing the end of an era.

Mann's writing is characterized by its attention to detail and its psychological depth. He portrays the family members as complex, flawed individuals whose actions and decisions have a profound impact on their lives and the lives of those around them. The book was a major literary success and led to Mann winning the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1929. The novel was later adapted into a film in 2008 by director Heinrich Breloer.

Thomas Mann (June 6, 1875 - August 12, 1955) was a German novelist, short story writer, social critic, and essayist, active during the Weimar Republic and the Third Reich. Born in 1875 in Lübeck, Mann was the second oldest of five siblings. His father was a senator and merchant. Mann's family was well-educated and had a strong interest in literature, which influenced Mann's early love of literature. He began writing at a young age and published his first story at the age of 18. Mann studied at the Technical University of Munich but dropped out to focus on writing. In 1901 he published his first novel, "Buddenbrooks," which was based on the history of his own family. The novel was a great success and established him as one of the leading German writers of his time. Mann's literary career spanned several decades, during which he wrote numerous novels and stories, including the famous novel "Death in Venice" in 1912, which explored the themes of beauty and decay, and the novel "The Magic Mountain," in 1924, a rich exploration of the human condition. Mann's political views were liberal, and during the rise of Nazism in Germany, he was an outspoken critic of the regime. He was forced to flee to Switzerland in 1933 and later moved to the United States, becoming an American citizen in 1944. He died in 1955 in Zurich, Switzerland.