Penguin Classics

TOLSTOY

THE COSSACKS

TRANSLATED BY ROSEMARY EDMONDS

The Cossacks describes a restless young Russian's noble attempt and failure to return to Nature amid the grandeur of the Caucasian mountains and their peoples. It was called by Turgenev the 'finest and most perfect production of Russian literature'. Tolstoy completed the story in 1862 just before he began *War and Peace*.

In *The Death of Ivan Ilyich* a fatal illness shows a successful man that his life has been morally worthless. And *Happy Ever After* is a study – with definite autobiographical traces – of the shifting psychological balance in the marriage of a young girl and her guardian.

The cover shows a group of Cossacks from a nineteenth-century lithograph (Snark International)