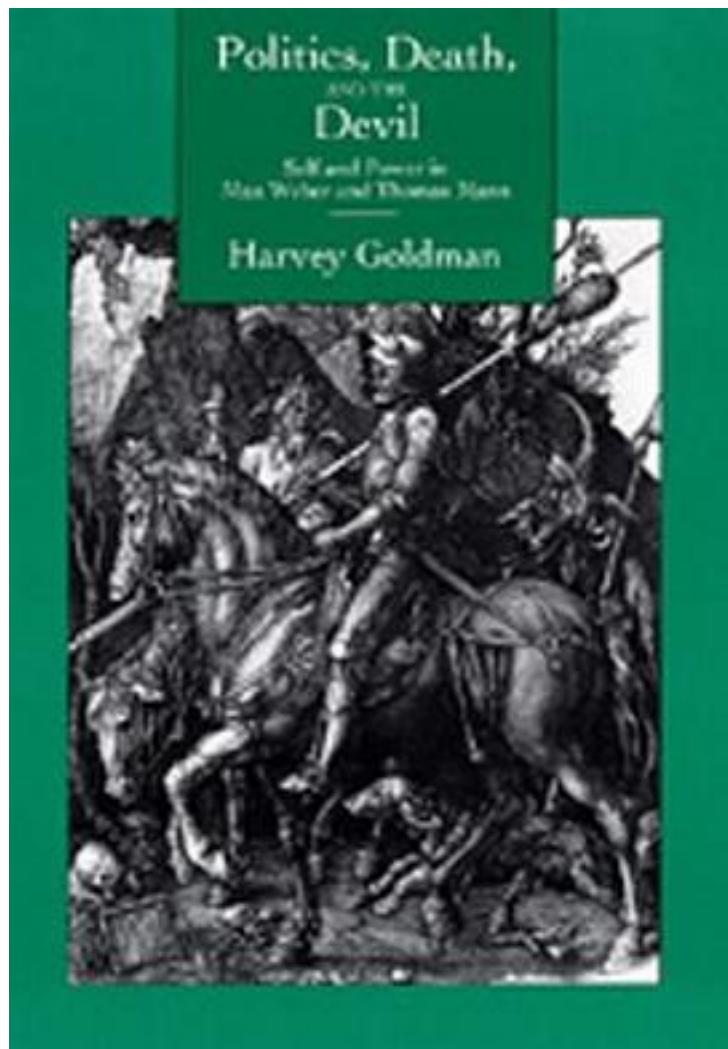


Politics, Death, and the Devil



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This sequel to Harvey Goldman's well-received *Max Weber and Thomas Mann* continues his rich exploration of the political and cultural critiques embodied in the more mature writings of these two authors. Combining social and political thought, intellectual history, and literary interpretation, Goldman examines in particular Weber's "Science as a Vocation" and "Politics as a Vocation" and Mann's *The Magic Mountain* and *Doctor Faustus*. Goldman deals with the ways in which Weber and Mann sought an antidote to personal and cultural weakness through "practices" for generating strength, mastery, and power, drawing primarily on ascetic traditions at a time when the vitality of other German traditions was disappearing. Power and mastery concerned both Weber and Mann, especially as they tried to resolve problems of politics and culture in Germany. Although their resolutions of the problems they confronted seem inadequate, they show the significance of linking social and political thought to conceptions of self and active worldly practices. Trenchant and illuminating, Goldman's book is essential reading for anyone interested in political theory, social thought, and the intellectual history of Germany.

作者介绍:

Harvey Goldman is Associate Professor of Sociology at the University of California, San Diego. He is the author of *Max Weber and Thomas Mann: Calling and the Shaping of the Self* (California, 1988).

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