

CONTENTS

Translator's Note vii

I THE METAMORPHOSIS

- The Melodious Child Dead in Me Long Before
the Ax Chops Off My Head* 9
- A Dizzying Word* 26

II FIRST CONVERSION: EVIL

- I Will Be the Thief* 60
- I Decided to Be*
What Crime Made of Me 71
- The Eternal Couple of the Criminal
and the Saint . . .* 86
- I Is Another* 155
- A Daily Labor,*
Long and Disappointing . . . 168
- "To Succeed in Being All, Strive to Be
Nothing in Anything"* 215
- Cain* 275

III SECOND METAMORPHOSIS: THE AESTHETE

- Strange Hell of Beauty . . .* 385
- I Went to Theft as to a Liberation,
as to the Light* 435

IV THIRD METAMORPHOSIS: THE WRITER

| | |
|---|-----|
| <i>A Mechanism Having the Exact Rigor of Verse</i> | 458 |
| <i>And I, Gentler than a Wicked Angel, Lead Her by the Hand</i> | 482 |
| <u><i>On the Fine Arts</i></u> <i>Considered as Murder</i> | 520 |
| <u><i>My Victory Is Verbal and I Owe It to the Sumptuousness of the Terms</i></u> | 585 |
| <u><i>Please Use Genet Properly</i></u> | 628 |

APPENDICES

| | |
|---|-----|
| 1. <i>Self-Portrait of the Good Citizen</i> | 645 |
| 2. <i>The Tzedek Test</i> | 650 |
| 3. <i>The Maids</i> | 654 |