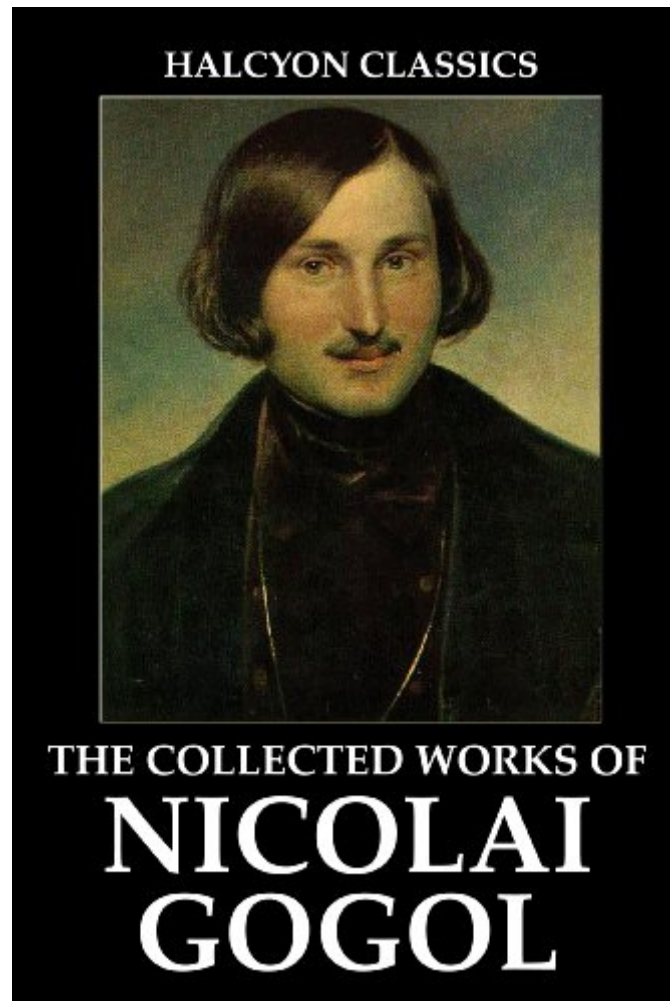


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The Collected Works Of Nicolai Gogol (Unexpurgated Edition) (Halcyon Classics)



Synopsis

This Halcyon Classics ebook edition contains the collected works of Nicolai Gogol, the father of Russian realism. Includes an active table of contents. Contents: Taras Bulba, St. John's Eve, The Cloak (The Overcoat), How the Two Ivans Quarreled, The Mysterious Portrait, The Calash, Dead Souls, The Nose. This unexpurgated edition contains the complete text with errors and omissions corrected.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I read this book because as a museum docent giving tours of a relevant show I wanted to get the feel of Russia. It did the trick. Gogol has a great sense of humor and many passages are quite funny, but when he read his manuscript to his pal Pushkin in the hope that he'd have the poet rolling on the carpet, Pushkin exclaimed that Russia was so sad, so tragic. That pretty much sums it up. Just as Chekhov nailed the decaying bourgeoisie, Gogol lampoons small-town entrepreneurs, landowners and rural officials. Despite writing an ambitious, seminal novel, Dead Souls, he was tortured by self-doubt, burned a lot of his work, and died desperately unhappy. How Russian.

Of all the stories, the one enjoyed most was THE DIARY OF A MAD MAN. It is an insightful story by Gogol that is full of humor, sadness, tragedy and hope. The literary style is first class and fully exposes the inner turmoil of a man with a conflict in his soul. The House of the Dead The Union Moujik, Poor Folk, explore that depth of human suffering that leads to depravity for individuals or groups of people. The other short stories are equally masterpieces that we can read repeatedly without becoming bored.

Fascinating to be let into the world that is no more.....characters that will never fade or become indistinct in my mind and situations which scream human misery, and greed and yet there's an all pervading tender understanding of man's frailty and his lifelong effort to overcome his flaws. will need to reread it in the future to check that I may have mature enough to truly profit from this exceptional work.

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