

# DOWNLOAD PDF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL, BY NIKOLAI GOGOL; A NEW VERSION BY R. SAFFRON.

## Chapter 1 : The Inspector General by Nikolai Gogol

*This play is a satire on the rampant corruption in governments and the public administration offices. I found it pretty funny. A town full of neck-deep corrupt officials come to know that the government was sending an Inspector general to their town for inspection.*

Based upon an anecdote allegedly recounted to Gogol by Pushkin ,[2] the play is a comedy of errors , satirizing human greed, stupidity, and the extensive political corruption of Imperial Russia. Mirsky , the play "is not only supreme in character and dialogue " it is one of the few Russian plays constructed with unerring art from beginning to end. The great originality of its plan consisted in the absence of all love interest and of sympathetic characters. There is not a wrong word or intonation from beginning to end, and the comic tension is of a quality that even Gogol did not always have at his beck and call. The publication of the play led to a great outcry in the reactionary press. It took the personal intervention of Tsar Nicholas I to have the play staged, with Mikhail Shchepkin taking the role of the Mayor. Background Early in his career Gogol was best known for his short stories, which gained him the admiration of the Russian literary circle, including Alexander Pushkin. After establishing a reputation, Gogol began working on several plays. His first attempt to write a satirical play about imperial bureaucracy in was abandoned out of fear of censorship. In , he sought inspiration for a new satirical play from Pushkin. My hand is itching to write a comedy My mind and stomach are both famished. His notes alluded to an anecdote distinctly similar to what would become the basic story elements for The Government Inspector. Krispin arrives in the Province Gogol , The corrupt officials of a small Russian town, headed by the Mayor, react with terror to the news that an incognito inspector the incognito one will soon be arriving in their town to investigate them. The flurry of activity to cover up their considerable misdeeds is interrupted by the report that a suspicious person has arrived two weeks previously from Saint Petersburg and is staying at the inn. That person, however, is not an inspector; it is Khlestakov, a foppish civil servant with a wild imagination. Having learned that Khlestakov has been charging his considerable hotel bill to the Crown, the Mayor and his crooked cronies are immediately certain that this upper-class twit is the dreaded inspector. For quite some time, however, Khlestakov does not even realize that he has been mistaken for someone else. He also demands and receives massive "loans" from the Mayor and all of his associates. Then, however, he still requests more "loans" from the merchants, promising to comply with their request. Terrified that he is now undone, the Mayor pleads with Khlestakov not to have him arrested, only to learn that the latter has become engaged to his daughter. At which point Khlestakov announces that he is returning to St. Petersburg, having been persuaded by his valet Osip that it is too dangerous to continue the charade any longer. The Mayor, after years of bamboozling banter Governors and shaking down criminals of every description, is enraged to have been thus humiliated. He screams at his cronies, stating that they, not himself, are to blame. At this moment, the famous fourth-wall breaking phrase is uttered by the Mayor to the audience: You are laughing about yourselves! Meyerhold wrote about the play: Although Gogol employs a number of familiar devices in the play, we suddenly realize that his treatment of them is new The film bears only passing resemblance to the original play. This film was neither a critical nor box office success. Ammaldar "the Government Inspector" , a Marathi film directed by P. Deshpande , set in the state of Maharashtra in India. While not strictly a musical like its Hollywood counterpart, there are several musical numbers in the film. In the film, the story is transposed to a small town in South Italy, during the years of Fascism. Reviisori , a Finnish straight adaptation. This was a musical comedy, in which an itinerant dentist in the French-occupied Netherlands is taken for a French tax inspector. Revizor , a Russian version with Nikita Mikhalkov playing the Mayor. Waiting for Guffman , a American mockumentary co-written and directed by Christopher Guest. Television In the British comedian Tony Hancock appeared as Khlestakov in a live BBC Television version which survives , one of his few performances outside situation comedy. An episode of Fawlty Towers has a similar story line about mistaken identity when a guest shows up at the hotel and is

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thought by Basil Fawlty to be a hotel inspector but who is in fact a spoon company manager. At the end of the episode Basil cream pies the spoon manager but unfortunately in front of the actual hotel inspectors. The PBS series *Wishbone* adapted the story for an episode. Theatre Anton Antonovich, played by Fyodor Paramonov, has many reasons to be worried about a visit from the inspector general Maly Theatre Moscow, Fyodor Dostoyevsky played the postmaster Shpekin in a charity performance with proceeds going to the Society for Aid to Needy Writers and Scholars in April. Sullivan is a loose adaptation in which a man auditioning for a role in *A Christmas Carol* at a small theatre is mistaken for an informer for the National Endowment for the Arts. In , the Chichester Festival Theatre produced a new version of the play translated by Alistair Beaton. A slightly revised version of that adaptation played at Milwaukee Repertory Theater in September. In the Stockholm City Theatre staged the play in an adaptation set in the Soviet s. The show is advertised as a comedy, in which music, costumes, dance, and movement by the actors tells the story in the absence of words. This production has been nominated for a Laurence Olivier Award for the award of Outstanding Achievement in Affiliate Theatre in the ceremony. Operas *Der Revisor*, by Karel Weis s; probably an operetta.

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### Chapter 2 : Nikolai Gogol - New World Encyclopedia

*The Inspector General [Nikolai Gogol, John Anderson (acting version)] on racedaydvl.com \*FREE\* shipping on qualifying offers. Play with original cast list, pages.*

Plot summary[ edit ] "The Portrait" is the story of a young and penniless artist, Andrey Petrovich Chartkov, who stumbles upon a terrifyingly lifelike portrait in an art shop and is compelled to buy it. The painting is magical and offers him a dilemma – to struggle to make his own way in the world on the basis of his own talents or to accept the assistance of the magic painting to guaranteed riches and fame. He chooses to become rich and famous, but when he comes upon a portrait from another artist which is "pure, faultless, beautiful as a bride" [1] he comes to realize that he has made the wrong choice. Eventually, he falls ill and dies from a fever.

Part I[ edit ] The first part of the story takes place in nineteenth-century Saint Petersburg , Russia and follows a penniless yet talented young artist, Andrey Petrovich Chartkov. That night, Chartkov dreams the old man in the portrait comes alive and steps out of his frame with a sack of money. He soon uses his new apartment on Nevsky Prospect to host the customers brought in by the ad. His madness eventually manifests itself into a physical illness, and Chartkov dies, haunted to the end by memories of the horrible portrait. Petersburg, which was also the home of a strange moneylender. Specifically, his borrowers developed qualities contrary to their previous personalities: Many of his customers even died unnaturally early deaths. One day, the moneylender comes to the artist asking for his portrait to be painted, and the artist agrees, grateful for the chance to paint such a peculiar subject. He becomes jealous of one of his pupils revealed to be the young Chartkov , attempts to sabotage him, flies into rages, chases away his children and comes close to beating his wife. To make amends, the artist attempts to burn the portrait, but a friend stops him, taking the painting for his own instead. The artist feels immense guilt over the evil piece of art and makes his son promise to track it down and destroy it. This is the reason which brought the young man to the art auction. However, once he concludes his story and his audience turns to examine the portrait, they find it missing: They wonder if they had seen it at all. That the plot of the demonic Kunstlernovelle seems largely derivative of Western authors such as E. This places him in a wider literary tradition and connects him with the work being produced in the West. An explanation for this difference is offered in the hope of elevating the seriousness of the piece. This reflects a general concern among Russian writers in the s about the degradation of culture under the condition of a nascent market economy that came to replace the previous aristocratic patronage system. When it is gone, so is he. The corruption of money and the destruction of illusion on reality. Dostoevsky is generally considered to be the most influential author of these texts, but many others contributed to them, including Gogol. He uses the character of Andrey as a vehicle to highlight the vices posed by greed and fortune that is achieved without actually working for it. Most prominently, "The Portrait" was grounded in a theme that reflected an underlying social problem, in this case being greed and the desperate pursuit of advancement. Andrey ultimately regretted his decision to make the deal with the portrait and expresses remorse over it. As he reaches the end of his life and his sanity gradually gives way, he begins to destroy artwork without discrimination, and our initial disgust for Andrey over his deal with the painting is at least partially replaced with pity. Simon Karlinsky believes that the second version of the story, with its differing epilogue, works better within the context of the story, but writes that the work, while "a serious treatment of an important social problem", is "too slender a theme" to support the central thrust of the work, an attempt to portray "the great mystical concept of the Antichrist ". There is a wealthy St Petersburg man who asks a painter to do his portrait in order to fulfill his desire to be immortalized in art. Adaptations[ edit ] A silent film from by Ladislav Starevich. Richard Pevear and Larissa Volokhonsky. Washington Irving in Russia: Comparative Literature, 20 4 , – The Slavic and East European Journal The Sexual Labyrinth of Nikolai Gogol. University of Chicago Press.

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### Chapter 3 : The Government Inspector | a Curtainup Review

*Our third and final video for The Government Inspector giving you just a taste of Roddy Doyle's hilarious version of Nikolai Gogol's satirical comedy, The Government Inspector.*

He had predecessors as far back as the second half of the eighteenth century in Fonvizin, author of two satiric comedies, and in Kapnist, whose *Chicane* exposed the Russian law courts. But Gogol wrote realistic prose whereas his predecessors wrote verse, and it was in prose realism that the later Russian drama excelled. When in the eighteen-thirties he applied his special talent for realistic-grotesque fiction to the stage, he made an important contribution to playwriting. To the historian of the drama, Gogol stands at the crossroads. His sense of the grotesque places him among the romanticists; his keen observation of social reality, among the realists. But his talent, a unique one that cannot be subsumed under any label, reflects a complex personality that never found a clear definition for itself. He was exuberant, yet also disenchanted; gay, yet often depressed. He was born in a Ukrainian village of Cossack stock; his father was a man of standing who held an honorary post as regimental secretary of the Ukrainian army. After being tutored at home by a theological student, Gogol was sent to a school of the "Higher Sciences," but instead of studying science he first learned to draw and then became absorbed in literature. After completing his course, he went to St. Petersburg to become a government clerk. But he gave up his employment quickly, traveled in Europe, and tried to become an actor. Failing to realize his ambition, he became a teacher of Russian literature and later a professor of Russian history. But he never made a success of anything but literature, and even literature did not entirely satisfy his complex, unstable personality. After , he attracted much attention with his humorous yet also pathetic stories, among which *The Cloak*, an account of the humiliations of a government clerk, became justly famous. Finally, he turned to a large project, the writing of a novel of manners about provincial Russian society, *Dead Souls*, in which bitterness and despair mingle with grotesque humor. The first part of this work is, indeed, one of the masterpieces of modern fiction; the second is only a fragment. Overcome with a sense of guilt and despair, Gogol became a religious mystic and burned his manuscript. He died under a cloud of pathological melancholy. It is a riotous farce of no particular importance. He also began a trenchant play, *The Gamblers*, in , which he finished in It is a short work but a remarkably observant picaresque comedy of scoundrels who outsmart one another. Caricature, satire, and sharp naturalistic detail are combined in this, one of the least known of his writings. Gogol also left a dramatic fragment, *The Order of St. Vladimir, Third Class*, which he decided not to finish after realizing that a satire on St. Petersburg government circles could not be produced in Russia. It proved to be a devastating satire on bureaucratic corruption in provincial Russia, and represented a great step in that country toward realistic social drama. Gogol was not actually a liberal or a democrat in any political sense, but there is no doubt that he was keenly aware of the frailties of the human species and the imperfections of the society he knew. Its realism is not literal but imaginative and extravagant. Its broad and salty dialogue is realistic in the best sense; that is, it sounds authentic, even if it is not intended as a strict transcript of ordinary conversation, since the prime object is to ridicule the provincial bureaucracy. Gogol painted life as a realist but employed the brush-strokes of a caricaturist. *The Inspector* became one of the most frequently revived plays of the Russian theatre for the simplest of good reasons--it was unfailingly entertaining. Although Gogol, who had difficulties with official censorship in Russia, could not have foreseen that he had opened up a new vein of realistic comedy, *The Inspector* foreshadowed the vogue of social and political satire in the second half of the nineteenth century and in the twentieth century. In , Balzac's *Mercadet*, a sharply satirical study of dishonest business dealings, was to be produced. In , Ibsen was to write his first political comedy, *The League of Youth*, and in , his famous satire on vested interests *An Enemy of the People*. From then on there was never to be any dearth of comic and satiric encounters between playwrights and the political life.

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### Chapter 4 : The Government Inspector Summary – Book Reports

*The Government Inspector, also known as The Inspector General, is a satirical play by the Ukrainian-born Russian dramatist and novelist Nikolai Gogol. The play is a comedy of errors, satirizing human greed, stupidity, and the extensive political corruption of Imperial Russia.*

His mother was a descendant of Polish nobility. His father Vasily Gogol-Yanovsky, a descendant of Ukrainian Cossacks, belonged to the petty gentry, wrote poetry in Russian and Ukrainian, and was an amateur Ukrainian-language playwright who died when Gogol was 15 years old. As was typical of the left-bank Ukrainian gentry of the early nineteenth century, the family spoke Russian as well as Ukrainian. It was there that he began writing. He was not very popular among his schoolmates, who called him their "mysterious dwarf," but with two or three of them he formed lasting friendships. Very early he developed a dark and secretive disposition, marked by a painful self-consciousness and boundless ambition. Equally early he developed an extraordinary talent for mimicry which later on made him a matchless reader of his own works and induced him to toy with the idea of becoming an actor. In 1817, on leaving school, Gogol came to Petersburg, full of vague but glowingly ambitious hopes. He had it published, at his own expense, under the name of "V. Hoffmann", and Nathaniel Hawthorne. Literary development Cover of the first edition of *The Government Inspector* In 1818, he brought out the first volume of his Ukrainian stories *Evenings on a Farm Near Dikanka*, which met with immediate success. He followed it in with a second volume, and in 1820 by two volumes of stories entitled *Mirgorod*, as well as by two volumes of miscellaneous prose entitled *Arabesques*. At this time, contemporary Russian editors and critics such as Nikolai Polevoy and Nikolai Nadezhdin saw in Gogol the emergence of a Ukrainian, rather than Russian, writer, using his works to illustrate the differences between Russian and Ukrainian national characters, a fact that has been overlooked in later Russian literary history. Despite the support of Pushkin and Sergey Uvarov, the Russian minister of education, his appointment was blocked by a Kievan bureaucrat on the grounds that he was unqualified. During this time he also developed a close and life-long friendship with another Ukrainian then living in Russia, the historian and naturalist Mykhaylo Maksymovych. Petersburg, a job for which "he had no qualifications. He turned in a performance ludicrous enough to warrant satiric treatment in one of his own stories. At the final examination, he sat in utter silence with a black handkerchief wrapped around his head, simulating a toothache, while another professor interrogated the students. Commemorative plaque in his house in Rome Between 1822 and 1824 Gogol worked with great energy, and though almost all his work has in one way or another its sources in these four years of contact with Pushkin, he had not yet decided that his ambitions were to be fulfilled by success in literature. During this time, the Russian critics Stepan Shevryev and Vissarion Belinsky, contradicting earlier critics, reclassified Gogol from a Ukrainian to a Russian writer. The comedy, a violent satire of Russian provincial bureaucracy, was able to be staged thanks only to the personal intervention of Nicholas I. From 1825 to 1828 he lived abroad, travelling throughout Germany and Switzerland. Gogol spent the winter of 1828 in Paris, where he spent time among Russian expatriates and Polish exiles, frequently meeting with the Polish poets Adam Mickiewicz and Bohdan Zaleski. He eventually settled in Rome. According to Simon Karlinsky a professor emeritus of Slavic languages and literature at UC Berkeley [11] Gogol fell in love there with the nobleman Iosif Vielhorsky and started a romantic relationship with him; this is the only documented love affair in his life. Concurrently, he worked at other tasks – recast *Taras Bulba* and *The Portrait*, completed his second comedy, *Marriage Zhenitba*, wrote the fragment *Rome* and his most famous short story, *The Overcoat*. In the first part of *Dead Souls* was ready, and Gogol took it to Russia to supervise its printing. It appeared in Moscow in 1842, under the title, imposed by the censorship, of *The Adventures of Chichikov*. The book instantly established his reputation as the greatest prose writer in the language. Creative decline and death A church on New Arbat in Moscow, in which the great writer was mourned before his burial. After the triumph of *Dead Souls*, Gogol came to be regarded by

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his contemporaries as a great satirist who lampooned the unseemly sides of Imperial Russia. Little did they know that *Dead Souls* was but the first part of a modern-day counterpart to *The Divine Comedy*. The first part represented the Inferno; the second part was to depict the gradual purification and transformation of the rogue Chichikov under the influence of virtuous publicans and governors – Purgatory. While visiting the capitals, he stayed with various friends such as Mikhail Pogodin and Sergei Aksakov. During this period of his life he also spent much time with his old Ukrainian friends, Maksymovych and Osyp Bodiansky. More importantly, he intensified his relationship with a church elder, Matvey Konstantinovsky, whom he had known for several years. Konstantinovsky seems to have strengthened in Gogol the fear of perdition by insisting on the sinfulness of all his imaginative work. His health was undermined by exaggerated ascetic practices and he fell into a state of deep depression. On the night of February 24, 1837, he burned some of his manuscripts, which contained most of the second part of *Dead Souls*. He explained this as a mistake, a practical joke played on him by the Devil. Soon thereafter he took to bed, refused all food, and died in great pain nine days later. In 1838, Moscow authorities decided to demolish the monastery and had his remains transferred to the Novodevichy Cemetery. A Soviet critic even cut a part of his jacket to use as a binding for his copy of *Dead Souls*. Stalin did not like it, however; and the statue was replaced by a more orthodox Socialist Realism monument in 1938. He saw the outer world romantically metamorphosed, a singular gift particularly evident from the fantastic spatial transformations in his Gothic stories, *A Terrible Vengeance* and *A Bewitched Place*. His pictures of nature are strange mounds of detail heaped on detail, resulting in an unconnected chaos of things. His people are caricatures, drawn with the method of the caricaturist – which is to exaggerate salient features and to reduce them to geometrical pattern. But these cartoons have a convincingness, a truthfulness, and inevitability – attained as a rule by slight but definitive strokes of unexpected reality – that seems to beggar the visible world itself. It was he who undermined Russian Romanticism by making vulgarity reign where only the sublime and the beautiful had reigned. It is dull in this world, gentlemen! Even before the publication of *Dead Souls*, Belinsky recognized Gogol as the first realist writer in the language and the head of the Natural School, to which he also assigned such younger or lesser authors as Goncharov, Turgenev, Dmitry Grigorovich, Vladimir Dahl, and Vladimir Sollogub. Gogol himself seemed to be skeptical about the existence of such a literary movement. Although he recognized "several young writers" who "have shown a particular desire to observe real life," he upbraided the deficient composition and style of their works. In the 1840s, a group of Russian short story writers, known as the Serapion Brothers, placed Gogol among their precursors and consciously sought to imitate his techniques. The leading novelists of the period – notably Yevgeny Zamyatin and Mikhail Bulgakov – also admired Gogol and followed in his footsteps. In 1926, Vsevolod Meyerhold staged *The Government Inspector* as a "comedy of the absurd situation," revealing to his fascinated spectators a corrupt world of endless self-deception. The house in Moscow where Gogol died. The building contains the fireplace where he burned the manuscript of the second part of the *Dead Souls*. Belinsky, for instance, berated his horror stories as "moribund, monstrous works," while Andrei Bely counted them among his most stylistically daring creations. Nabokov singled out *Dead Souls*, *The Government Inspector*, and *The Overcoat* as the works of genius and dismissed the remainder as puerile essays. The latter story has been traditionally interpreted as a masterpiece of "humanitarian realism," but Nabokov and some other attentive readers argued that "holes in the language" make the story susceptible to another interpretation, as a supernatural tale about a ghostly double of a "small man." Mirsky declared it "a piece of sheer play, almost sheer nonsense. Russian Composer Alfred Schnittke wrote the eight part *Gogol Suite* as incidental music to the *The Government Inspector* performed as a play, and composer Dmitri Shostakovich set *The Nose* as his first opera in 1928, despite the peculiar choice of subject for what was meant to initiate the great tradition of Soviet opera. Gogol painted him as supremely exploitative, cowardly, and repulsive, albeit capable of gratitude. But it seems perfectly natural in the story that he and his cohorts be drowned in the Dniiper by the Cossack lords. Above all, Yankel is ridiculous, and the image of the plucked chicken that Gogol used has made the rounds of great Russian authors. What Sholem Aleichem was borrowing from Gogol was a rural East European landscape that may have been dangerous, but

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could unite readers through the power of collective memory. He also wrote the introduction for the Subculture Books release of Taras Bulba in His novel Dead Souls gave its name to the Joy Division song. The name is part of the central theme of the story. Russia and Ukraine have both issued commemorative coins. In the film Adventureland , the character Joel attempts to give his love interest, Sue, a copy of The Overcoat.

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### Chapter 5 : The Inspector General | Broadway Play Publishing Inc

*The Inspector General Quotes (showing of 6) "It is no use to blame the looking glass if your face is awry." – Nikolai Gogol, The Inspector General.*

The most famous Russian writer of Ukrainian origin. Having graduated from the Nizhyn gymnasium, he left for Saint Petersburg in armed with a manuscript and hope for a successful literary career. His aspirations were abruptly arrested by extremely negative criticism of his sentimentally Romantic narrative poem *Hans Kuechelgarten*, which he published at his own expense in and copies of which he subsequently bought out and destroyed. He tried to survive economically by working as a bureaucrat, a teacher at an institute for daughters of the nobility, and very briefly as a lecturer of history at Saint Petersburg University. In he left Russia and, except for two brief eight-month intervals – 1839, 1842, he lived abroad, mostly in Rome, until 1849, when he returned via Palestine to Russia. While working as a minor civil servant, Gogol spent his free time composing short stories based on his observations and memories of life in Ukraine. Hiding behind the authorial mask of Rudy Panko the beekeeper, Gogol managed to portray a world where fantasy and reality intermingle in the prism of the worldly-wise but unsophisticated narrator, and thus Ukraine becomes at once fanciful, humorous, nostalgic, and somewhat poignant in its quaintness. In the same year he also published *Arabeski Arabesques*, in which his stories dealing with the world of the Saint Petersburg civil servant first appeared. Simultaneously he turned to writing drama and published his great *Revizor The Inspector-General*, which needed the approval of the emperor to be staged in His other plays remained unfinished. The staging of *The Inspector-General* did not produce the result Gogol intended. The years abroad were less productive. Gogol devoted himself to his epic work, *Mertvye dushi Dead Souls*, but managed to finish successfully only the first of three intended parts. Disillusioned by the attacks that followed this publication, Gogol blamed himself for being incapable of producing morally ennobling art. His works have been published by Panteleimon Kulish 6 vols., N. Shenrok 7 vols., His letters were published by Kulish, Shenrok in 4 vols., and V. His collection of materials for a Ukrainian dictionary is included in the collected works prepared by Gippius. His language is exceptionally rhythmic and euphonic. He was the first writer of the so-called Ukrainian school in Russian literature to employ a host of lexical and syntactic Ukrainianisms, primarily to play with various stylistic levels from the vulgar to the pathetic. Sollogub, and by the Russian Symbolists F. His ideological writings provoked a prolonged controversy. His *Vybrannye mesta* was criticized severely by the Russian Westernizers eg, Vissarion Belinsky, who valued in the works of his naturalist period mainly the satire on Russian life. A popular schematic biography of Gogol spread the idea that he experienced a religious crisis abroad. It was only in the 20th century that serious studies of the formal qualities of Gogol were written by I. Mandelshtam, and a more analytic approach to his world outlook was taken. Merezhkovsky studied Gogol as a religious thinker. Vasilii Zenkovsky detected in Gogol all the basic ideas for which Dostoevsky later gained fame, as well as the same Romantic psychology. In the s Russian Formalists Yu. Some recent eg, S. Other scholars have emphasized the consistency of his outlook throughout his life. His indifference to the Ukrainian question was sharply condemned by the critics Serhii Yefremov and, even more severely, Yevhen Malaniuk in the s. O kharaktere gogolevskogo stilia Helsinki Ovsianiko-Kulikovskii, D. Tekhnika komicheskogo u Gogolia Petrograd Gippius, V. Etiudy o stile Gogolia Leningrad Belyi, A. Kyiv Krutikova, N. Gogol in the Twentieth Century: Eleven Essays Princeton Karlinsky, S. The Enigma of Gogol: An Examination of the Writings of N. Roman-ese Kyiv Stilman, L. The Anguish of Mykola Hohol, a. Nikolai Gogol Toronto Barabash, Yu. A referral to this page is found in 81 entries.

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## Chapter 6 : The Government Inspector - Wikipedia

*Nikolai Vasilevich Gogol (Russian: Никола́й Васи́льевич Го́голь) (March 31, - March 4, ) was a Ukrainian-born Russian writer. Although many of his works were influenced by his Ukrainian heritage and upbringing, he wrote in the Russian language and his works are.*

Background[ edit ] Early in his career Gogol was best known for his short stories, which gained him the admiration of the Russian literary circle, including Alexander Pushkin. After establishing a reputation, Gogol began working on several plays. His first attempt to write a satirical play about imperial bureaucracy in was abandoned out of fear of censorship. In , he sought inspiration for a new satirical play from Pushkin. My hand is itching to write a comedy My mind and stomach are both famished. His notes alluded to an anecdote distinctly similar to what would become the basic story elements for The Government Inspector. Krispin arrives in the Province Gogol , The corrupt officials of a small Russian town, headed by the Mayor, react with terror to the news that an incognito inspector the incognito one will soon be arriving in their town to investigate them. The flurry of activity to cover up their considerable misdeeds is interrupted by the report that a suspicious person has arrived two weeks previously from Saint Petersburg and is staying at the inn. That person, however, is not an inspector; it is Khlestakov, a foppish civil servant with a wild imagination. Having learned that Khlestakov has been charging his considerable hotel bill to the Crown, the Mayor and his crooked cronies are immediately certain that this upper-class twit is the dreaded inspector. For quite some time, however, Khlestakov does not even realize that he has been mistaken for someone else. He also demands and receives massive "loans" from the Mayor and all of his associates. Then, however, he still requests more "loans" from the merchants, promising to comply with their request. Terrified that he is now undone, the Mayor pleads with Khlestakov not to have him arrested, only to learn that the latter has become engaged to his daughter. At which point Khlestakov announces that he is returning to St. Petersburg, having been persuaded by his valet Osip that it is too dangerous to continue the charade any longer. The Mayor, after years of bamboozling banter Governors and shaking down criminals of every description, is enraged to have been thus humiliated. He screams at his cronies, stating that they, not himself, are to blame. At this moment, the famous fourth-wall breaking phrase is uttered by the Mayor to the audience: You are laughing about yourselves! Meyerhold wrote about the play: Although Gogol employs a number of familiar devices in the play, we suddenly realize that his treatment of them is new The film bears only passing resemblance to the original play. This film was neither a critical nor box office success. Ammaladar "the Government Inspector" , a Marathi film directed by P. Deshpande , set in the state of Maharashtra in India. While not strictly a musical like its Hollywood counterpart, there are several musical numbers in the film. In the film, the story is transposed to a small town in South Italy, during the years of Fascism. Reviisori , a Finnish straight adaptation. This was a musical comedy, in which an itinerant dentist in the French-occupied Netherlands is taken for a French tax inspector. Revizor , a Russian version with Nikita Mikhalkov playing the Mayor. Television[ edit ] In the British comedian Tony Hancock appeared as Khlestakov in a live BBC Television version which survives , one of his few performances outside situation comedy. An episode of Fawlty Towers has a similar story line about mistaken identity when a guest shows up at the hotel and is thought by Basil Fawlty to be a hotel inspector but who is in fact a spoon company manager. At the end of the episode Basil cream pies the spoon manager but unfortunately in front of the actual hotel inspectors. The PBS series Wishbone adapted the story for an episode. Theatre[ edit ] Anton Antonovich, played by Fyodor Paramonov , has many reasons to be worried about a visit from the inspector general Maly Theatre Moscow , Fyodor Dostoyevsky played the postmaster Shpekin in a charity performance with proceeds going to the Society for Aid to Needy Writers and Scholars in April Sullivan is a loose adaptation in which a man auditioning for a role in A Christmas Carol at a small theatre is mistaken for an informer for the National Endowment for the Arts. In , the Chichester Festival Theatre produced a new version of the play translated by Alistair Beaton. A

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slightly revised version of that adaptation played at Milwaukee Repertory Theater in September. In the Stockholm City Theatre staged the play in an adaptation set in the Soviet s. The show is advertised as a comedy, in which music, costumes, dance, and movement by the actors tells the story in the absence of words. This production has been nominated for a Laurence Olivier Award for the award of Outstanding Achievement in Affiliate Theatre in the ceremony. Operas[ edit ] Der Revisor , by Karel Weis s ; probably an operetta.

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### Chapter 7 : The Portrait (Gogol short story) - Wikipedia

*by Nikolai Gogol, John Anderson Full Length Play, Comedy / 15m, 4f A small provincial town in Russia has been informed that a dreaded inspector is soon to arrive.*

His mother descended from Leonty Kosyarovsky, an officer of the Lubny Regiment in As was typical of the left-bank Ukrainian gentry of the early nineteenth century, the family spoke Ukrainian as well as Russian. It was there that he began writing. He was not popular among his schoolmates, who called him their "mysterious dwarf", but with two or three of them he formed lasting friendships. Very early he developed a dark and secretive disposition, marked by a painful self-consciousness and boundless ambition. Equally early he developed a talent for mimicry, which later made him a matchless reader of his own works and induced him to toy with the idea of becoming an actor. In , on leaving school, Gogol came to Saint Petersburg , full of vague but glowingly ambitious hopes. He had it published, at his own expense, under the name of "V. He bought all the copies and destroyed them, swearing never to write poetry again. Literary development[ edit ] Cover of the first edition of The Government Inspector In Gogol brought out the first volume of his Ukrainian stories Evenings on a Farm Near Dikanka , which met with immediate success. At this time Russian editors and critics such as Nikolai Polevoy and Nikolai Nadezhdin saw in Gogol the emergence of a Ukrainian, rather than Russian, writer, using his works to illustrate supposed differences between Russian and Ukrainian national characters. Despite the support of Pushkin and Sergey Uvarov , the Russian minister of education, his appointment was blocked by a Kyivan bureaucrat on the grounds that Gogol was unqualified. During this time he also developed a close and lifelong friendship with another Ukrainian, the historian and naturalist Mykhaylo Maksymovych. Petersburg , a job for which he had no qualifications. He turned in a performance ludicrous enough to warrant satiric treatment in one of his own stories. At the final examination, he sat in utter silence with a black handkerchief wrapped around his head, simulating a toothache, while another professor interrogated the students. Commemorative plaque on his house in Rome Between and Gogol worked with great energy, and though almost all his work has in one way or another its sources in these four years of contact with Pushkin, he had not yet decided that his ambitions were to be fulfilled by success in literature. During this time, the Russian critics Stepan Shevyrev and Vissarion Belinsky , contradicting earlier critics, reclassified Gogol from a Ukrainian to a Russian writer. The comedy, a violent satire of Russian provincial bureaucracy, was staged thanks only to the intervention of the emperor, Nicholas I. From to Gogol lived abroad, travelling through Germany and Switzerland. Gogol spent the winter of 1837 in Paris , [22] among Russian expatriates and Polish exiles , frequently meeting the Polish poets Adam Mickiewicz and Bohdan Zaleski. He eventually settled in Rome. For much of the twelve years from Gogol was in Italy developing an adoration for Rome. He studied art, read Italian literature and developed a passion for opera. Vielhorsky was travelling in hopes of curing his tuberculosis. Gogol and Vielhorsky fell in love, a relationship which was soon severed as Vielhorsky died in Gogol left an account of this time in his Nights at the Villa: Concurrently, he worked at other tasks 1837 recast Taras Bulba and The Portrait , completed his second comedy, Marriage Zhenitba , wrote the fragment Rome and his most famous short story, " The Overcoat ". In the first part of Dead Souls was ready, and Gogol took it to Russia to supervise its printing. It appeared in Moscow in , under the title, imposed by the censorship, of The Adventures of Chichikov. The book instantly established his reputation as the greatest prose writer in the language. Little did they know that Dead Souls was but the first part of a planned modern-day counterpart to the Divine Comedy of Dante. While visiting the capitals, he stayed with friends such as Mikhail Pogodin and Sergey Aksakov. During this period, he also spent much time with his old Ukrainian friends, Maksymovych and Osy Bodiansky. He intensified his relationship with a starets or spiritual elder, Matvey Konstantinovsky, whom he had known for several years. Konstantinovsky seems to have strengthened in Gogol the fear of perdition by insisting on the sinfulness of all his imaginative work. Exaggerated ascetic practices undermined his health and he fell into a state of deep depression. On the

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night of 24 February he burned some of his manuscripts, which contained most of the second part of *Dead Souls*. He explained this as a mistake, a practical joke played on him by the Devil. Soon thereafter, he took to bed, refused all food, and died in great pain nine days later. Gogol was mourned in the Saint Tatiana church at the Moscow University before his burial and then buried at the Danilov Monastery, close to his fellow Slavophile Aleksey Khomyakov. His grave was marked by a large stone Golgotha, topped by a Russian Orthodox cross. The authorities moved the Golgotha stone to the new gravesite, but removed the cross; in the Soviets replaced the stone with a bust of Gogol. Joseph Stalin did not like it, however, and the statue was replaced by a more orthodox Socialist Realism monument in . His pictures of nature are strange mounds of detail heaped on detail, resulting in an unconnected chaos of things. His people are caricatures, drawn with the method of the caricaturist "which is to exaggerate salient features and to reduce them to geometrical pattern. But these cartoons have a convincingness, a truthfulness, and inevitability" attained as a rule by slight but definitive strokes of unexpected reality "that seems to beggar the visible world itself. Like Sterne before him, Gogol was a great destroyer of prohibitions and of romantic illusions. He undermined Russian Romanticism by making vulgarity reign where only the sublime and the beautiful had reigned. A more conventional statue of Gogol at the Villa Borghese gardens, Rome. Gogol himself, an adherent of the Slavophile movement, believed in a divinely inspired mission for both the House of Romanov and the Russian Orthodox Church. Similar to Fyodor Dostoyevsky, Gogol sharply disagreed with those Russians who preached constitutional monarchy and the disestablishment of the Orthodox Church. After defending autocracy, serfdom, and the Orthodox Church in his book *Selected Passages from Correspondence with his Friends*, Gogol came under attack from his former patron Vissarion Belinsky. The first Russian intellectual to publicly preach the economic theories of Karl Marx, Belinsky accused Gogol of betraying his readership by defending the status quo. Gogol himself seemed to be skeptical about the existence of such a literary movement. Although he recognized "several young writers" who "have shown a particular desire to observe real life", he upbraided the deficient composition and style of their works. In the s, a group of Russian short story writers, known as the Serapion Brothers, placed Gogol among their precursors and consciously sought to imitate his techniques. The leading novelists of the period "notably Yevgeny Zamyatin and Mikhail Bulgakov" also admired Gogol and followed in his footsteps. In , Vsevolod Meyerhold staged *The Government Inspector* as a "comedy of the absurd situation", revealing to his fascinated spectators a corrupt world of endless self-deception. The house in Moscow where Gogol died. The building contains the fireplace where he burned the manuscript of the second part of *Dead Souls*. Belinsky, for instance, berated his horror stories as "moribund, monstrous works", while Andrei Bely counted them among his most stylistically daring creations. Mirsky declared it "a piece of sheer play, almost sheer nonsense". Russian Composer Alfred Schnittke wrote the eight part *Gogol Suite* as incidental music to *The Government Inspector* performed as a play, and composer Dmitri Shostakovich set "The Nose" as his first opera in , despite the peculiar choice of subject for what was meant to initiate the great tradition of Soviet opera. Gogol painted him as supremely exploitative, cowardly, and repulsive, albeit capable of gratitude. But it seems perfectly natural in the story that he and his cohorts be drowned in the Dniiper by the Cossack lords. Above all, Yankel is ridiculous, and the image of the plucked chicken that Gogol used has made the rounds of great Russian authors. What Sholem Aleichem was borrowing from Gogol was a rural East European landscape that may have been dangerous, but could unite readers through the power of collective memory. *The Story Retold* *The Beginning* in August A sequel entitled *Gogol: Viy* was released in April and the third film *Gogol: Terrible Revenge* debuted in August Legacy[ edit ] Gogol has been featured many times on Russian and Soviet postage stamps; he is also well represented on stamps worldwide. In , the National Bank of Ukraine issued a commemorative coin dedicated to Gogol.

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### Chapter 8 : The Government Inspector Stock Photos & The Government Inspector Stock Images - Alamy

*"The Government Inspector" is a comedy by Nikolai Gogol written in and performed in but it was published in The comedy is divided into 5 acts. The plot is settled in Russia in the first half of 19th century, and the theme is identity swap.*

Some of his ancestors associated themselves with Polish Szlachta. This was probably not by ethnicity, but culturally, due to the continued Polonization of Ruthenian upper class. His grandfather, Afanasiy Gogol, wrote in census papers that "his ancestors, of the family-name Gogol, are of the Polish nation. Gogol himself did not use the second part of his name, considering it an "artificial Polish addition. He moved to St. In , he met Aleksandr Pushkin. Evenings on a Farm Near the Dikanka River " , his first collection of short stories, was well-received. Gogol taught history at St. Petersburg University from to He went on to write a number of short stories set in St. His farce, the uproariously funny play *The Inspector General*, was first produced in Its biting satire of Russian bureaucratic life a characteristic of much of his other work , caused some controversy, leading Gogol to spend the next 12 years abroad, primarily in Rome. The first part, and the only part to survive intact, was published in In the same year, he published his great short story, "The Overcoat. *Bashmachkin* is derived from the word for shoe. Of course, the story is about not a shoe, but a coat. The choice of name is based not on any significance of shoes in the story, but on the feeling that its meaning and its sound evokes. *Akaky* lives to copy. When his tailor informs him that his threadbare overcoat cannot be patched any further, it sets his life into turmoil. He must face the daunting task of replacing it with a new overcoat, which he cannot afford. But *Akaky* faces up to his challenge, finding ways to economize his already bleak existence in order to buy a new overcoat. After a long period of anticipation, finally the joyous day arrives. He picks up his new coat and it transforms his life. Not only does it inject in him a new sense of pride, but even his co-workers, who had mercilessly ridiculed him previously, began to treat him with new-found respect. Sadly, on the way home from a party given in honor of his new coat, he is beset by robbers who steal his new prized possession. He goes to visit a "very important person" to report the theft but is verbally abused by him for his pains. Devastated, he becomes ill and dies. But that is not the end of the story. Reports begin to circulate that a ghost is haunting people on the streets and stealing their overcoats. The story was hailed by Russian literary and social critic, *Visarrion Belinsky*, as an example of the dehumanization under the corrupt Russian state. It was hailed as an example of the natural school for its realism. Any realism is overwhelmed by these other elements. *Dead Souls* *Dead Souls* is another example of the same combination of elements. The "hero" of the novel, *Chichikov* another name chosen for its sound as much as anything , uses a loophole in the Russian tax system to hatch a plan to make himself wealthy. Landowners were taxed on their land and possessions, which included how many serfs, or souls, they owned. The number of serfs owned was determined by census, so landowners would continue to be taxed on the serfs, even after they had died, until the next census. *Chichikov* reasoned that he could buy these "dead souls" from landowners at bargain prices, then as a landowner with a large number of souls for collateral, he could borrow a hefty sum of money and live lavishly. These are stock characters that each embody a single characteristic, like the stupid and superstitious *Korobochka* and the miserly *Plyushkin*. They serve as perfect comic foils for *Chichikov*. Driven by their own vices and greed, they participate in his grotesque and wickedly funny plan. The title of the novel serves not only as a description of a commodity that is bought and sold in the action of the novel, but also as an ironic commentary on the moral state of the society depicted. Gogol began work on a second part of the novel *Dead Souls*, in which *Chichikov* was to undergo a moral and spiritual regeneration, however, in a state of nervous collapse toward the end of June , he burnt all he had written of the second volume of *Dead Souls*. Only a small portion escaped the fire. Perhaps owing to its early stages of development, it is generally considered inferior to the first novel. For the next seven years, he resumed his work on the novel. He endorsed the institutions of Russian society, including serfdom, arguing that individual moral and particularly religious development was what Russia needed. This view met with predictable criticism from his supporters who had

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championed his literary work and prompted Belinsky to write his famous Letter to Gogol. Belinsky condemned this book as a betrayal of the cause of social progress. In , after the fallout from his failed attempts at producing a second Dead Souls, Gogol left the country again, making a pilgrimage to Jerusalem. Even before his pilgrimage, Gogol decided that before he could continue his work on the novel and bring about the "spiritual regeneration of a crook like Chichikov," he had to undergo a spiritual regeneration himself. He imposed upon himself a strict regime of prayer and fasting , but it did not help him with his writing. But, after his return from Jerusalem, he fell under the influence of Father Matthew Konstantinovskii, a priest who regarded his literary work as an abomination "in the eyes of the Lord. He soon after took to his bed, refused all food, and died in great pain nine days later, on March 5, . Some fragments of the work survived and have been published. In , when Moscow authorities decided to demolish the monastery, his remains were transferred to the Novodevichy Cemetery. His body was discovered lying face down, which gave rise to the story that Gogol had been buried alive. One of the Soviet critics even cut a part of his jacket to use as a binding for his copy of the Dead Souls. Chernyshevsky, and other literary critics viewed his stories as social criticism. Due to the reactionary nature of the regime, direct social criticism was not permitted, so social critics like Belinsky turned to literary criticism to make their points. Social satire always has a critical element, but Gogol was no social reformer, at least, not in the way that his liberal interpreters imagined. Thus, toward the end of his life, liberals saw him as a religious fanatic, strangely reactionary, and increasingly pathetic. Gogol cannot be classified by a single genre. He wrote in the literary tradition of E. Hoffmann and Laurence Sterne , often involving elements of the fantastic and grotesque. As an artist, his guiding philosophy seems to be his comic outlook, but his artistic genius lies in his verbal ability. Through puns, idioms, and playful symbolism, his literary voice is wildly erratic and fresh, and often outrageously funny. The mixture of humor, social realism, the fantastic, and unusual prose forms are what readers love about his work. Gogol wrote in a time of political censorship. The use of the fantastic is, like Aesopic storytelling, one way to circumvent the censor, as placing the supernatural into a realistic setting softens anything that offends the regime by making it also seem "not real. Gogol had a huge and enduring impact on Russian literature. In the s, a group of Russian writers consciously built on this thread, creating the Serapian Brothers, naming the group after a character in a Hoffmann story. Partial list of works.

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### Chapter 9 : Gogol, Inspector General

*racedayv1.com: The Inspector General (Audible Audio Edition): Nikolai Gogol, Laurence Olivier, Divine Art Ltd: Books.*

The comedy is divided into 5 acts. The plot is settled in Russia in the first half of 19th century, and the theme is identity swap. In a small village an important person is expected to arrive from the capital but instead of the important person somebody else comes and everyone thinks he is the important one. All of that confusion cause funny scenes, anecdotes, unexpected events and misunderstandings. The motto of the comedy is taken from an old saying that the mirror should not be scolded if the face is ugly. The author wanted to show the ugliness of Russia in a mirror. The author observed a wide scale of negative social behavior and characteristics. Russia Book Summary The comedy has 5 acts. The first one serves to introduce us to the characters. All of them are gathered in the house of Anton Antonovich, the Governor, who has unpleasant news for them. He told them that a government inspector was coming to their village and that he is carrying a secret order. He got that delicate information from a friend and everyone started panicking about it. They even stopped working. The Governor told them that they have to get order into the facilities they work at. Zemlianka has to clean up everything because it was all very filthy. Liapkin-Tiapkin, the judge, has to get the geese out of his courtroom and the mailman Kuzmich was told to carefully read other peoples mail and report if he finds anything interesting. Many dark sides of the government are revealed – drunkenness, bribery, primitivism and others. The country squires Dopchinsky and Bobchinsky came into the room. They report that, not far away from them, a certain official Khlestakov is staying in a room. He came from St. Petersburg and had been here for two weeks. He is getting into debts, and he is not giving a dime for anything. They were convinced that he is the government inspector. The Governor went to the hotel because he wanted to suck up to the inspector so he would many upgrades in his career. The first act is less intense than the second and a bit slower. In the second act, the plot is moved to the place where the alleged inspector is staying. The main characters in this act are Khlestakov and Osip, his servant. Khlestakov is 23 years old, skinny and a bit dumb. He always sits around in his office doing nothing and everyone calls him an airhead. Khlestakov was on his way to meet his father, but he got a bit lost and had spent all his money on clothes, gambling, and theater. He was broke and had to live in the country with his servant Osip. When the governor entered his room, Khlestakov was convinced that he was getting arrested, so he just started rambling on about stupid things. The governor thought it was his trick to hide his true identity. Anton invited him to stay in his house and even offered him some money and Khlestakov accepted it without thinking twice. His wife Anna and daughter Mary are very happy about the guest coming into their home. They are interested in his looks and age. Khlestakov was being dragged around the orphanage because they were trying to convince him that they are loving and carrying towards everyone. Khlestakov fascinated the wife and daughter, and he got into his act completely. He told him stories about his friendships with actresses. He bragged about being so important, so everyone felt a lot of respect for him. In the fourth act, Khlestakov still pretended to be the inspector. The representatives of the local government came to introduce themselves to him. One at a time came and introduced himself to Khlestakov, and they even offered to loan him money. Khlestakov loved what was happening, and he wrote to his friend in Petersburg about the evil village he was living in. The wedding was about to happen soon, and everyone was excited about it. Khlestakov requested the wedding to be put off a few days so he could get his father to come. On the other side, he is getting ready to escape with his servant. Khlestakov knew he had enough money and he was scared that they would figure out he is not who they think he is. The governor saw a chance for a promotion, and his wife was happy for moving to the capital. A letter came, and it also contained some letters that Khlestakov wrote to his friend in Petersburg. It is explained that Khlestakov is not the inspector and that he was faking everything. Also, they found out about everything he has been saying behind their back. An officer then arrived and told them that the real inspector is in town and that he wants to see them. Everyone was left petrified after finding out the truth. He forgot how to be careful

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and got fooled over. He was skinny, not overly smart, worked in an office, and everyone called him airhead. He talked without thinking. He was superficial and always wore the latest trends. He enjoys having fun and it costs him all of his money when he went to visit his father because instead of visiting him he was gambling and shopping. When he had no money he ended up in the country and was believed to be an inspector. He was born on March 31st, in Ukraine that was then a part of the Russian empire. He finished school about the time he turned 19 and then he moved to Petersburg. He changed many jobs, tried to become an actor but ended up as a placeholder in a state service. A few years later he started to work as a history teacher in an all girls boarding school and parallel to that he worked as a private teacher for rich kids. The first part was supposed to be hell. He was working on the second part for 10 years and then he became a religious fanatic and went on a pilgrimage to Palestine. He died on March 4th in