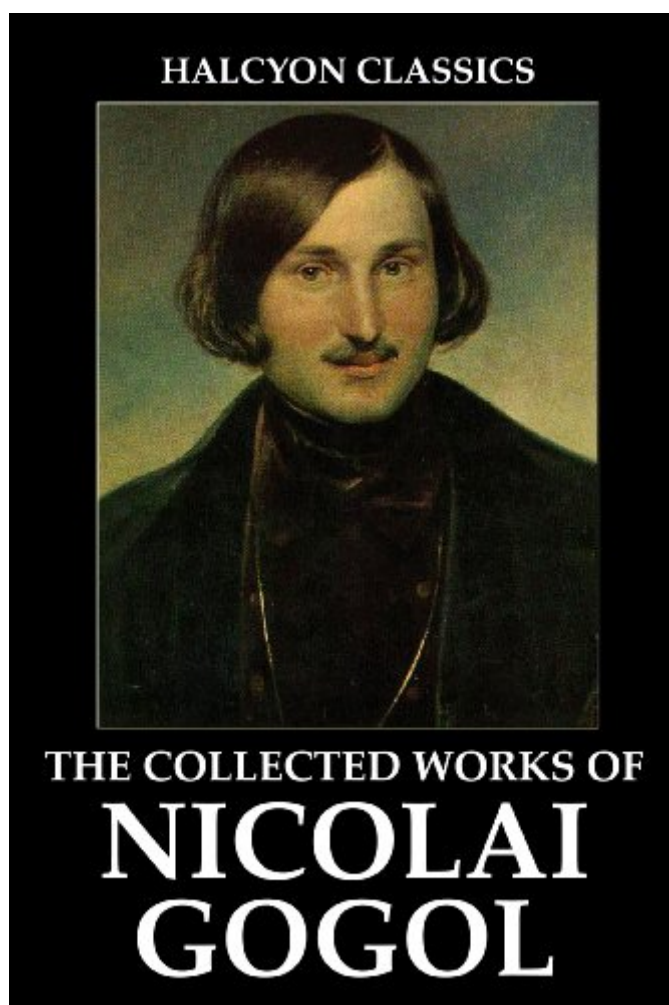


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The Collected Works Of Nicolai Gogol (Unexpurgated Edition) (Halcyon Classics)



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

Nikolai Gogol does not need an introduction. His writing is great in my view. The Kindle translation is excellent. I liked most "The cloak", "Dead souls" and "The nose". The first 2 deal with stupid bureaucracy; a problem that in our time still exists. They also give a lively picture of Russia in the mid 19th century. A must for those that want to understand the Russian mind even today. The nose could have been written by Kafka!

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.

The above adjective/phrases really don't apply to an omnibus volume, so I'll just say that Gogol is one of the more non-depressing Russian novelists. Doesn't really spend a lot of time having his characters eyeing each other wondering how well an axe blade would fit in their foreheads.

Nicolai Gogol wrote for people who don't usually read but then pick up a book and discover (suddenly) how wonderful reading can be...he seems so modern or almost post-modern; his imagination was powerful and convincing, I wish I could read his work in Russian...he has so much human sympathy and understanding and a great sense of fun...

Gogol's works themselves merit five stars but there were some spelling mistakes in the text that is the only thing stopping me from giving a full rating

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.

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.

One of the best writers ever. So imaginative and so very, very funny. One of the most creative writers I have ever read. However, Gogol was an ethnic Ukrainian not Russia as publicity suggest.

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