

Nikolai Gogol

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The Sexual Labyrinth of Nikolai Gogol Simon Karlinsky 1976 Through careful textual readings of Gogol's most famous works, Karlinsky argues that Gogol's homosexual orientation-which Gogol himself could not accept or forgive in himself-may provide the missing key to the riddle of Gogol's personality. "A brilliant new biography that will long be prized for its illuminating psychological insights into Gogol's actions, its informative readings of his fiction and drama, and its own stylistic grace and vivacity."-Edmund White, Washington Post Book World

Nikolai Gogol - Dead Souls Nikolai Gogol 2014-04-29 Nikolai Vasilievich Gogol was born on 31st March 1809 in present day Ukraine which was then the Russian Cossack village of Sorochyntsi. Nikolai's parents were relatively affluent; his mother's family were Polish landowners and his father, who wrote poetry in Ukrainian and Russian, was a descendant of Ukrainian Cossacks. Nikolai had a good education and started writing as a teenager whilst still at school although did consider becoming an actor due to his formidable talent at mimicry. On leaving school he went to St Petersburg but found it hard getting any work either in the civil service or as an actor. He self published a romantic poem but it was critically savaged to the extent that he swore never to write poetry again and also considered emigrating to the US. Fortunately, he persevered with his writing and produced a series of stories about his home in Ukraine in a colloquial and whimsical style that captured many literary admirers including the esteemed poet Pushkin. Nikolai was eventually able to abandon his work teaching and produced powerful books brilliantly and savagely satirising the inequities of the Russian system and its corrupt bureaucracy. His creative talents declined in later years and he became heavily influenced by a sadistic fanatical priest and died semi insane on 4th March 1852. He remains the father of Russian realism as evidenced here by his classic 'Dead Souls'

The Mysterious Portrait Nikolai Gogol 2021-04-11 "The Mysterious Portrait" by

Nikolai Gogol. Published by Good Press. Good Press publishes a wide range of titles that encompasses every genre. From well-known classics & literary fiction and non-fiction to forgotten?or yet undiscovered gems?of world literature, we issue the books that need to be read. Each Good Press edition has been meticulously edited and formatted to boost readability for all e-readers and devices. Our goal is to produce eBooks that are user-friendly and accessible to everyone in a high-quality digital format.

The Overcoat and Other Short Stories Nikolai Gogol 2012-03-05 Four outstanding works by great 19th-century Russian author: "The Nose," "Old-Fashioned Farmers," "The Tale of How Ivan Ivanovich Quarrelled with Ivan Nikiforovich," and "The Overcoat."

Nikolai Gogol Vladimir Vladimirovich Nabokov 1944

Nikolay Gogol Jane Grayson 1988-11-29

Nikolai Gogol, Short Stories Collection Nikolai Gogol 2014-08-28 Nikolai

Vasilievich Gogol (1809 - 1852) was a Ukrainian-born Russian dramatist, novelist and short story writer. Considered by his contemporaries one of the preeminent figures of the natural school of Russian literary realism, later critics have found in Gogol's work a fundamentally romantic sensibility, with strains of Surrealism and the grotesque. His early works, such as *Evenings on a Farm Near Dikanka*, were influenced by his Ukrainian upbringing, Ukrainian culture and folklore. His later writing satirised political corruption in the Russian Empire (*The Government Inspector*, *Dead Souls*), leading to his eventual exile. The novel *Taras Bulba* (1835) and the play *Marriage* (1842), along with the short stories "Diary of a Madman," "The Tale of How Ivan Ivanovich Quarreled with Ivan Nikiforovich," "The Portrait" and "The Carriage," round out the tally of his best-known works. In this book: *The Mantle and Other Stories* Translator: Claud Field *The Inspector-General* Translator: Thomas Seltzer *Dead Souls* Translator: D. J. Hogarth *Taras Bulba and Other Tales*

Dead Souls Nikolai Gogol 2004-12-28 One of the most unusual works of nineteenth-century fiction and a devastating satire on social hypocrisy Chichikov, a mysterious stranger, arrives in a provincial town and visits a succession of landowners to make each a strange offer. He proposes to buy the names of dead serfs still registered on the census, saving their owners from paying tax on them, and to use these "souls" as collateral to reinvent himself as a gentleman. In this ebullient masterpiece, Gogol created a grotesque gallery of human types, from the bear-like Sobakevich to the insubstantial fool Manilov, and, above all, the devilish con man Chichikov. For more than seventy years, Penguin has been the leading publisher of classic literature in the English-speaking world. With more than 1,700 titles, Penguin Classics represents a global bookshelf of the best works throughout history and across genres and disciplines. Readers trust the series to provide authoritative texts enhanced by introductions and notes by distinguished scholars and contemporary authors, as well as up-to-date translations by award-winning

translators.

Nikolai Gogol Edyta M. Bojanowska 2007-02-28 The 19th-century author Nikolai Gogol occupies a key place in the Russian cultural pantheon as an ardent champion of Russian nationalism. In exploring Gogol's fluctuating nationalist commitments, Bojanowska traces the connections between the Russian and Ukrainian nationalist paradigms in his work and situates both in the larger imperial context.

The Nose and Other Stories Nikolai Gogol 2020-09-01 Nikolai Gogol's novel *Dead Souls* and play *The Government Inspector* revolutionized Russian literature and continue to entertain generations of readers around the world. Yet Gogol's peculiar genius comes through most powerfully in his short stories. By turns—or at once—funny, terrifying, and profound, the tales collected in *The Nose and Other Stories* are among the greatest achievements of world literature. These stories showcase Gogol's vivid, haunting imagination: an encounter with evil in a darkened church, a downtrodden clerk who dreams only of a new overcoat, a nose that falls off a face and reappears around town on its own, outranking its former owner. Written between 1831 and 1842, they span the colorful setting of rural Ukraine to the unforgiving urban landscape of St. Petersburg to the ancient labyrinth of Rome. Yet they share Gogol's characteristic obsessions—city crowds, bureaucratic hierarchy and irrationality, the devil in disguise—and a constant undercurrent of the absurd. Susanne Fusso's translations pay careful attention to the strangeness and wonder of Gogol's style, preserving the inimitable humor and oddity of his language. *The Nose and Other Stories* reveals why Russian writers from Dostoevsky to Nabokov have returned to Gogol as the cornerstone of their unparalleled literary tradition.

The Overcoat, and Other Tales of Good and Evil Nikola? Vasil?evich Gogol? 1965 Six short stories probe the mind of man to reveal his hidden motives

A Study Guide for Nikolai Gogol's "Overcoat" Gale, Cengage Learning

Essential Novelists - Nikolai Gogol Nikolai Gogol 2020-05-03 Welcome to the Essential Novelists book series, where we present to you the best works of remarkable authors. For this book, the literary critic August Nemo has chosen the two most important and meaningful novels of Nikolai Gogol which are *Dead Souls* and *Taras Bulba*. Nikolai Vasilievich Gogol was a Ukrainian-born Russian writer. He contributed to Russian literature through his magnificently crafted dramas, novels and short stories. He was one of the major proponents of the natural school of Russian literary realism. Novels selected for this book: - *Dead Souls* - *Taras Bulba* This is one of many books in the series Essential Novelists. If you liked this book, look for the other titles in the series, we are sure you will like some of the authors.

The Collected Tales of Nikolai Gogol Nikolai Gogol 2011-08-17 Using, or rather mimicking, traditional forms of storytelling Gogol created stories that are complete within themselves and only tangentially connected to a meaning or moral. His work belongs to the school of invention, where each twist and turn of the narrative is a

surprise unfettered by obligation to an overarching theme. Selected from Evenings on a Farm near Dikanka, Mirgorod, and the Petersburg tales and arranged in order of composition, the thirteen stories in *The Collected Tales of Nikolai Gogol* encompass the breadth of Gogol's literary achievement. From the demon-haunted "St. John's Eve" to the heartrending humiliations and trials of a titular councilor in "The Overcoat," Gogol's knack for turning literary conventions on their heads combined with his overt joy in the art of story telling shine through in each of the tales. This translation, by Richard Pevear and Larissa Volokhonsky, is as vigorous and darkly funny as the original Russian. It allows readers to experience anew the unmistakable genius of a writer who paved the way for Dostevsky and Kafka.

The Overcoat Nikolai Gogol 2014-11-25 This early work by Nikolai Gogol was originally published in 1835 and we are now republishing it with a brand new introductory biography. 'The Overcoat' is a short story about a government clerk who has his precious new overcoat stolen. No-one seems willing to help him retrieve his prized possession, a fact that continues to concern him even when he is beyond the grave. Nikolai Vasilievich Gogol was born in Sorochintsi, Ukraine in 1809. In 1831, Gogol brought out the first volume of his Ukrainian stories, 'Evenings on a Farm Near Dikanka'. It met with immediate success, and he followed it a year later with a second volume. 'The Nose' is regarded as a masterwork of comic short fiction, and 'The Overcoat' is now seen as one of the greatest short stories ever written; some years later, Dostoyevsky famously stated "We all come out from Gogol's 'Overcoat'." He is seen by many contemporary critics as one of the greatest short story writers who has ever lived, and the Father of Russia's Golden Age of Realism."

Delphi Complete Works of Nikolai Gogol (Illustrated) Nikolai Gogol 2013-11-17
This unique eBook presents the complete FICTIONAL works of Nikolai Gogol, with beautiful illustrations, informative introductions and the usual Delphi bonus material. (4MB Version 1) * Beautifully illustrated with images relating to Gogol's life and works * Concise introductions to the novels and other works * The complete novels, stories and plays, with contents tables * Features many of Constance Garnett's original translations * Images of how the books were first printed, giving your eReader a taste of the original texts * Excellent formatting of the texts * Special chronological and alphabetical contents tables for the short stories * Easily locate the short stories you want to read * Special criticism section, with two essays evaluating Gogol's contribution to literature * Scholarly ordering of texts into chronological order and literary genres
CONTENTS: The Novels TARAS BULBA DEAD SOULS The Short Story Collections EVENINGS ON A FARM NEAR DIKANKA ARABESQUES MIRGOROD UNCOLLECTED SHORT STORIES The Short Stories LIST OF SHORT STORIES IN CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER LIST OF SHORT STORIES IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER The Plays MARRIAGE THE GAMBLERS THE GOVERNMENT INSPECTOR The Criticism GOGOL BY IVAN PANIN EXTRACT FROM 'ESSAYS ON RUSSIAN NOVELISTS' BY

WILLIAM LYON PHELPS

And the Earth Will Sit on the Moon Nikolai Gogol 2021-04-06 Fresh, stylish new translations of Gogol's greatest short stories collected in a beautiful edition Admired by writers from Nabokov to Bulgakov to George Saunders, Gogol is considered one of the more enigmatic of the Russian greats. He only wrote one novel, Dead Souls, and destroyed much of his later work, so his stories constitute his major output. In this collection, beautifully and skilfully translated by Oliver Ready, Gogol's three greatest St Petersburg stories - 'The Nose', 'The Overcoat' and 'The Diary of a Madman' - are presented alongside three masterworks set in the Ukrainian and Russian provinces, demonstrating the breadth of Gogol's work. Gogol's extraordinary work is characterised by his idiosyncratic and often very funny sensibility, and these stories offer us his unique, original and marvellously skewed perspective on the world.

Nikolai Gogol and Ivan Turgenev Nick Worrall 1983

The Life and Times of Nikolai Gogol Golgotha Press 2013-11-21 Nikolai Gogol is considered the father of Russian realism. He has influenced thousands of writers-- but who influenced him? Read about his life in this eBook.

Letters of Nikolai Gogol ??????? ??????????? ??????? 1967

Nikolai Gogol Vladimir Nabokov 2011-02-01 'One of the most exhilarating, engaging, and original works ever written by one writer about another' ELIZABETH HARDWICK Nikolai Gogol was one of the great geniuses of nineteenth century Russian literature, with a command of the irrational unmatched by any writer before or since. His strange tales, though often read as forceful demands for social change, were displays of the fantasies of the human spirit. In this ideal marriage of subject and critic, Nabokov analyses his endlessly inventive compatriot, focusing on the masterpieces Dead Souls, 'The Overcoat' and 'The Government Inspector'. Misunderstood by his contemporaries, mishandled by theatre directors and ending his life mistreated by doctors - with medicinal leeches hanging from his exceptional nose - it took Nabokov to give Gogol, 'the oddest Russian in Russia', the critical biography he and his singular, brilliant work deserve.

Petersburg Tales Nikolai Gogol 2018-01-01 Written in the 1830s and early 1840s, these comic stories tackle life behind the cold and elegant facade of the Imperial capital from the viewpoints of various characters, such as a collegiate assessor who one day finds that his nose has detached itself from his face and risen the ranks to become a state councillor ('The Nose'), a painter and a lieutenant whose romantic pursuits meet with contrasting degrees of success ('Nevsky Prospect') and a lowly civil servant whose existence desperately unravels when he loses his prized new coat ('The Overcoat'). Also including the 'Diary of Madman', these Petersburg Tales paint a critical yet hilarious portrait of a city riddled with pomposity and self-importance, masterfully juxtaposing nineteenth-century realism with madcap surrealism, and combining absurdist farce with biting satire.

Nikolai Gogol Vladimir Nabokov 2017-04-28 Nikolai Gogol was the most idiosyncratic of the great Russian novelists of the 19th century and lived a

tragically short life which was as chaotic as the lives of the characters he created. This biography begins with Gogol's death and ends with his birth, an inverted structure typical of both Gogol and Nabokov. The biographer proceeds to establish the relationship between Gogol and his novels, especially with regard to "nose-consciousness", a peculiar feature of Russian life and letters, which finds its apotheosis in Gogol's own life and prose. There are more expressions and proverbs concerning the nose in Russian than in any other language in the world. Nabokov's style in this biography is comic, but as always leads to serious issues—in this case, an appreciation of the distinctive "sense of the physical" inherent in Gogol's work. Nabokov describes how Gogol's life and literature mingled, and explains the structure and style of Gogol's prose in terms of the novelist's life.

Nikolai Gogol's the Overcoat and Selected Stories Nikolai Gogol 2011-03 One of the most influential short stories ever written, Nikolai Gogol's "The Overcoat" first appeared in 1842 as part of a four-volume publication of its author's Collected Works. The story is considered not only an early masterpiece of Russian Naturalism—a movement that would dominate the country's literature for generations—but a progenitor of the modern short story form itself. "We all came out from under Gogol's 'Overcoat'" is a remark that has been variously attributed to Dostoevsky and Turgenev. That either or both might have said it is an indication of the far-reaching significance of Gogol's work. Gogol's writings have been seen as a bridge between the genres of romanticism and realism in Russian literature. Progressive critics of his day praised Gogol for grounding his prose fictions in the everyday lives of ordinary people, and they claimed him as a pioneer of a new "naturalist" aesthetic. Yet, Gogol viewed his work in a more conservative light, and his writing seems to incorporate as much fantasy and folklore as realistic detail. "The Overcoat," which was written sporadically over several years during a self-imposed exile in Geneva and Rome, is a particularly dazzling amalgam of these seemingly disparate tendencies in Gogol's writing. The story begins by taking its readers through the mundane and alienating world of a bureaucratic office in St. Petersburg where an awkward, impoverished clerk must scrimp and save in order to afford a badly needed new winter coat. As the story progresses, we enter a fairy-tale world of supernatural revenge, where the clerk's corpse is seen wandering city streets ripping coats off the backs of passersby. Gogol's story is both comic and horrific—at once a scathing social satire, moralistic fable, and psychological study. List of Contents: Introduction to Nikolai Gogol Book 1: The Overcoat Book 2: Taras Bulba Book 3: St. John's Eve Book 4: The Nose Book 5: The Mysterious Portrait Book 6: The Calash

The Nose Nikolai Vasilevich Gogol 2011-05-01 First published in 1836, in the Russian journal *Sovremennik* (The Contemporary).

Nikolai Gogol Harold Bloom 2004 Each volume, covering four to six short stories, includes: A User's Guide Editor's Notes and Introduction Biography of the Short Story Writer List of Characters in Each Story Detailed Thematic Analysis of Each

Short Story Extracts from Major Critical Essays That Discuss Aspects of Each Work Complete Bibliography of the Writer's Works A List of Critical Works About the Short Stories Covered plus, An Index of Themes and Ideas in the Author's Work

Dead Souls "Annotated" Nikolai Gogol Best Book Nikolai Gogol 2020-04-19 Nikolai Vasilievich Gogol (April 1, 1809 - March 4, 1852) was a Russian-language writer of Ukrainian origin. Although his early works were heavily influenced by his Ukrainian heritage and upbringing, he wrote in Russian and his works belong to the tradition of Russian literature. The novel *Dead Souls* (1842), the play *Revizor* (1836, 1842), and the short story *The Overcoat* (1842) count among his masterpieces.

Dead Souls Illustrated Nikolai Gogol 2021-07-15 Since its publication in 1842, *Dead Souls* has been celebrated as a supremely realistic portrait of provincial Russian life and as a splendidly exaggerated tale; as a paean to the Russian spirit and as a remorseless satire of imperial Russian venality, vulgarity, and pomp. As Gogol's wily antihero, Chichikov, combs the back country wheeling and dealing for "dead souls"--deceased serfs who still represent money to anyone sharp enough to trade in them--we are introduced to a Dickensian cast of peasants, landowners, and conniving petty officials, few of whom can resist the seductive illogic of Chichikov's proposition.

The Complete Tales of Nikolai Gogol Nikola? Vasil?evich Gogol? 1985 A collection of short stories portrays life in rural Russia and satirizes Russian society

The Works of Nikolai Gogol (Annotated with Biography) Nikolai Gogol 2013-11-21 The works of Gogol are compiled here with a biography about his life and times. Works include: *The Calash* *The Cloak* *Dead Souls* *The Inspector-General* *The Mantle* *A May Night* *Memoirs of a Madman* *The Mysterious Portrait* *The Nose* *St. John's Eve* *The Tale of How Ivan Ivanovich Quarreled with Ivan Nikiforovich Taras Bulba* *The Viy*

The Collected Tales of Nikolai Gogol (illustrated): Weird Stories of demons, witches, and vampires, cossaks and crazy clerks - The Viy, Christmas Eve, A May Night, Taras Bulba, The Cloak, The Nose, The Carriage, Memoirs of a Madman

Nikolai Gogol 2021-01-08 Nikolai Vasilievich Gogol (1809-1852) is by far the most enigmatic, unexpected, contradictory, and mystical writer representing classic Russian literature. His stories are unforgettably colored with Ukrainian romance and include uncanny dissections of the realities of St. Petersburg under Tsarist Russia. The ethnographic realities are described with almost scientific precision while incorporating those inexplicable, fantasy, elements that define his works as *Magical Realism*. Some stories feature witches, sorcerers, ghouls, mermaids, and even demons alongside quite pragmatic and cheerful Ukrainian citizenry. Others feature dull tsarist officials and crazy clerks with exaggerated and humorously complex personalities. You will be hard-pressed to find such a brilliant combination of fantastical stories, plots, and characters in another author. The true Russian soul is wide and incomprehensible. Illustrated by D. Fisher Table of Content: 1. *The Viy*. 2. *Christmas Eve (ST. JOHN'S EVE)*. 3. *A May Night*. 4. *The Cloak (The*

Mantle). 5. The Nose. 6. The Carriage (The Calash).

The Nose Nikolai Gogol 2020-10-09 "A most extraordinary thing happened in St. Petersburg on the twenty-fifth of March." The opening lines of "The Nose", one of Gogol's best-known stories, and quite possibly the most absurd, are just as promising as any of his works. The simple yet extraordinary plot follows the story of the civil servant Major Kovalyov who wakes up one morning to discover his nose has left his face and is living a life of its own. Strange as it may seem, the nose has even surpassed him by attaining a higher rank! The story is a brilliant portrayal of the preoccupation with social rank in Imperial Russia, a biting satire of the bureaucrats' pursuit of higher position within the Table of Ranks. A masterful combination of brilliant words, witty imagination, and unparalleled humor, it remains one of the most striking stories of all times. It is believed to have influenced masterpieces of world literature, including Dostoevsky's "The Double," Stevenson's "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde", and Kafka's "Metamorphosis". Nikolai Gogol (1809-1852) was a Ukrainian-born Russian humorist, novelist, and dramatist whose work played a crucial role in the direction of Russian literature. He was considered to be one of the leading figures of Russian realism. His novel "Dead Souls", a satire of the political corruption in the Russian Empire, is viewed by many literary historians as the first great Russian novel. Among his contributions to Russian and world literature are the surrealistic and grotesque "The Nose" and "The Mantle", the satirical "The Government Inspector/The Inspector General", the historical novel "Taras Bulba", the comedy "Marriage", the humorous short stories "Diary of a Madman" and "The Tale of How Ivan Ivanovich Quarreled with Ivan Nikiforovich". His works have influenced generations of readers and still continue to impress with their subtle psychologism and matchless style.

Nikolai Gogol and the Baroque Cultural Heritage Gavriel Shapiro 1993 Nikolai Gogol and the Baroque Cultural Heritage considers Gogol's entire oeuvre, including his letters, notebooks, and drawings, as well as all relevant secondary literature, and exhaustively examines sources of Baroque influence on him, tracing them back to the oeuvre itself. This study draws on the most recent achievements of interdisciplinary scholarship, paying special attention to the interaction of the visual and the verbal and of high and popular cultural strata, so characteristic of the Baroque and at the same time so important to the understanding of Gogol's poetics. --From publisher's description.

The Complete Tales of Nikolai Gogol, Volume 1 Nikolai Gogol 1985-04-15 A collection of short stories portrays life in rural Russia and satirizes Russian society
Taras Bulba Nikolai Gogol 2003-12-30 The First New Translation in Forty Years Set sometime between the mid-sixteenth and early-seventeenth century, Gogol's epic tale recounts both a bloody Cossack revolt against the Poles (led by the bold Taras Bulba of Ukrainian folk mythology) and the trials of Taras Bulba's two sons. As Robert Kaplan writes in his Introduction, "[Taras Bulba] has a Kiplingesque gusto . . . that makes it a pleasure to read, but central to its theme is an unredemptive, darkly evil violence that is far beyond anything that Kipling ever

touched on. We need more works like Taras Bulba to better understand the emotional wellsprings of the threat we face today in places like the Middle East and Central Asia.” And the critic John Cournos has noted, “A clue to all Russian realism may be found in a Russian critic’s observation about Gogol: ‘Seldom has nature created a man so romantic in bent, yet so masterly in portraying all that is unromantic in life.’ But this statement does not cover the whole ground, for it is easy to see in almost all of Gogol’s work his ‘free Cossack soul’ trying to break through the shell of sordid today like some ancient demon, essentially Dionysian. So that his works, true though they are to our life, are at once a reproach, a protest, and a challenge, ever calling for joy, ancient joy, that is no more with us. And they have all the joy and sadness of the Ukrainian songs he loved so much.”

Dead Souls (Annotated) Nikolay Gogol 2020-10-24 Since its publication in 1842, Dead Souls has been celebrated as a supremely realistic portrait of provincial Russian life. Chichikov, combs the back country wheeling and dealing for "dead souls" (deceased serfs who still represent money to anyone sharp enough to trade in them), and we are introduced to a Dickensian cast of peasants, landowners, and conniving petty officials, few of whom can resist the seductive illogic of Chichikov's proposition. Although the novel ends in mid-sentence, it is usually regarded as complete in the extant form.

Nikolai Gogol Yuliya Ilchuk 2021-02-26 This innovative study of one of the most important writers of Russian Golden Age literature argues that Gogol adopted a deliberate hybrid identity to mimic and mock the pretensions of the dominant culture.

The Mantle and Other Stories Nikolai Vasilievich Gogol 2020-09-28 As a novel-writer and a dramatist, Gogol appears to me to deserve a minute study, and if the knowledge of Russian were more widely spread, he could not fail to obtain in Europe a reputation equal to that of the best English humorists. A delicate and close observer, quick to detect the absurd, bold in exposing, but inclined to push his fun too far, Gogol is in the first place a very lively satirist. He is merciless towards fools and rascals, but he has only one weapon at his disposal—irony. This is a weapon which is too severe to use against the merely absurd, and on the other hand it is not sharp enough for the punishment of crime; and it is against crime that Gogol too often uses it. His comic vein is always too near the farcical, and his mirth is hardly contagious. If sometimes he makes his reader laugh, he still leaves in his mind a feeling of bitterness and indignation; his satires do not avenge society, they only make it angry. As a painter of manners, Gogol excels in familiar scenes. He is akin to Teniers and Callot. We feel as though we had seen and lived with his characters, for he shows us their eccentricities, their nervous habits, their slightest gestures. One lisps, another mispronounces his words, and a third hisses because he has lost a front tooth. Unfortunately Gogol is so absorbed in this minute study of details that he too often forgets to subordinate them to the main action of the story. To tell the truth, there is no ordered plan in his works, and—na strange trait in an author who sets up as a realist—he takes no care to preserve an

atmosphere of probability. His most carefully painted scenes are clumsily connected—they begin and end abruptly; often the author's great carelessness in construction destroys, as though wantonly, the illusion produced by the truth of his descriptions and the naturalness of his conversations.

Dead Souls Nikolái Gogol 2017-01-15 Dead Souls By Nikolai Gogol Dead Souls is a novel by Nikolai Gogol, first published in 1842, and widely regarded as an exemplar of 19th-century Russian literature. Dead Souls, first published in 1842, is the great prose classic of Russia. That amazing institution, "the Russian novel," not only began its career with this unfinished masterpiece by Nikolai Vasil'evich Gogol, but practically all the Russian masterpieces that have come since have grown out of it, like the limbs of a single tree. Dostoevsky goes so far as to bestow this tribute upon an earlier work by the same author, a short story entitled The Cloak; this idea has been wittily expressed by another compatriot, who says: "We have all issued out of Gogol's Cloak." Dead Souls, which bears the word "Poem" upon the title page of the original, has been generally compared to Don Quixote and to the Pickwick Papers, while E. M. Vogue places its author somewhere between Cervantes and Le Sage. However considerable the influences of Cervantes and Dickens may have been - the first in the matter of structure, the other in background, humour, and detail of characterisation - the predominating and distinguishing quality of the work is undeniably something foreign to both and quite peculiar to itself; something which, for want of a better term, might be called the quality of the Russian soul. The English reader familiar with the works of Dostoevsky, Turgenev, and Tolstoi, need hardly be told what this implies; it might be defined in the words of the French critic just named as "a tendency to pity." One might indeed go further and say that it implies a certain tolerance of one's characters even though they be, in the conventional sense, knaves, products, as the case might be, of conditions or circumstance, which after all is the thing to be criticised and not the man. But pity and tolerance are rare in satire, even in clash with it, producing in the result a deep sense of tragic humour. It is this that makes of Dead Souls a unique work, peculiarly Gogolian, peculiarly Russian, and distinct from its author's Spanish and English masters.

The Creation of Nikolai Gogol Donald Fanger 2009-06-30 Nikolai Gogol, Russia's greatest comic writer, is a literary enigma. His masterworks--"The Nose," "The Overcoat," "The Inspector General," "Dead Souls"--have attracted contradictory labels over the years, even as the originality of his achievement continues to defy exact explanation. Donald Fanger's superb new book begins by considering why this should be so, and goes on to survey what Gogol created, step by step: an extraordinary body of writing, a model for the writer in Russian society, a textual identity that eclipses his scanty biography, and a kind of fiction unique in its time. Drawing on a wealth of contemporary sources, as well as on everything Gogol wrote, including journal articles, letters, drafts, and variants, Fanger explains Gogol's eccentric genius and makes clear how it opened the way to the great age of Russian fiction. The method is an innovative mixture of literary history and

literary sociology with textual criticism and structural interrogation. What emerges is not only a framework for understanding Gogol's writing as a whole, but fresh and original interpretation of individual works. A concluding section, "The Surviving Presence," probes the fundamental nature of Gogol's creation to explain its astonishing vitality. In the process a major contribution is made to our understanding of comedy, irony, and satire, and ultimately to the theory of fiction itself.