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# The Government Inspector: Full Text And Introduction (NHB Drama Classics)



## Synopsis

Drama Classics series The world's great plays at a great little price. Each pocket-sized volume contains: a full introductionan author biography notes on historical and theatrical contexta plot synopsis key datesa further reading list a glossary of unusual words and phrases (English-language texts) *The Government Inspector* is a classic satire of provincial bureaucracy, which only saw the stage after the personal intervention of Tsar Nicholas I. A small, corrupt Russian town receives a letter informing them of the imminent visit of a government inspector travelling incognito. When a passing civil servant is mistaken for the inspector, panic soon sets in. Translated and introduced by Stephen Mulrine.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

In Gogol's time in Russia corruption was found in every arm of the government. Petty bureaucrats often pocketed money that was intended for public works. The play exposes backwater greed and corruption by showing how thoroughly ingrained bribery and lobbying are in to the culture of smalltime government officials. The plot of the play is quite ingenious. Khlestakov, a clerk of some sort, but on the whole an entirely unimportant person in the government, is in town at the tavern.

He's on the verge of getting kicked out since he's rung up a huge bill. Just when he's thinks all's lost the Lord provost shows up, pays his bill and start treating him like he's the cat's pajamas. Slowly Khlestakov realizes that the towns people think he's an all important Government Inspector and are desperate to bribe wine and dine him so he gives a good report to Petersburg. This play is a critical social statement about corruption told though the humorous device of a farce. By making light of the faults of our leaders we may be able to raise awareness of the problem of corruption and effect measures that will lead to change.

Gogol would be proud of this adaptation. Hatcher greatly improved on the original. It is witty, naughty, and makes an almost-200-year-old text truly accessible to contemporary audiences. Note that some of the humour is quite adult.

It's been done and redone for a hundred years for a reason... it's a great idea.

great script. Such an easy way to shop

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