



The Man with the Black Coat: Russia's Literature of the Absurd

Daniil Kharms , Alexander Vvedensky , George Gibian (Editor/Translator)

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This book brings together works by two of the outstanding talents of Soviet literature, Daniil Kharms and Alexander Vvedensky. It discloses a little-known tradition of absurdism that persisted during the Stalinist period, a testimony to both the hardiness of the Russian imagination in the face of socialist realism and the vitality of an important cultural and literary tradition.

The Man with the Black Coat: Russia's Literature of the Absurd Details

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Author : Daniil Kharms , Alexander Vvedensky , George Gibian (Editor/Translator)

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From Reader Review The Man with the Black Coat: Russia's Literature of the Absurd for online ebook

Maggie says

I love Kharms. There is much wonderful absurdity in this book.

Susan says

Some of it is quirky, but most of it left me feeling meh.

Eric says

Mostly comprised of Daniil Kharms' parable-like 'nonsense' stories, this book displays the Russian absurdists' (failed) attempt to rescue imagination and individuality from a national literature that was headed toward pedantic 'proletarian' fable. The result is writing that is as filled with wonder and dream-like fantasy and as honest and innocent as children's lit, where its authors finally found political shelter.

Patrick says

Read It Now.

Gerry LaFemina says

Gibian's introductory essay contextualizes smartly this wonderful anthology that features mostly the work of Daniil Kharms. Much of this work had never been published in any language before and the mini-stories of Khaarms (some prose poems, some fables, all fabulous are a must read).

Michael Seidel says

Weird balance of work by the two featured writers. Should have just been a Kharms book and then done a separate book for Vvendsky. Buuut. All really great, funny, dark writing.

Naomi Ruth says

I secretly write like them. Or want to write like them? There are certain similarities that strike me as odd and significant. I need more of them in my life.

Parutron says

the best accidental library find ever.

Hannah Milk says

Strange and wonderful.

Wallace says

Soviet crimes.

Andrew says

"My nonsense hurts a little" - there's no more accurate assessment of these treasures than that quote from the treasures themselves. Because nonsense does hurt; absurdity may at least be a stab at humor, but at the root is a fundamental void. This writing captures the incredible cathartic power of language while at the same time not ignoring dire reality that makes it possible.

"If only human beings sin, this means that the sins of the world are to be found in the human being himself. Sin does not enter into human beings, it only comes out of them. That is similar to food: human beings eat good things and evacuate bad things out of themselves. There are no bad things in the world, only that which has passed through human beings can become bad."

"I judge
I cut
I sit
I rage
No, I don't sin.

One more time.
I judge
I cut
I sit
No, I don't sin.

One more time

I judge
I cut
I sit
No, I don't sin."

Madison says

While Kharms' work in this is better translated in other editions and provides nothing new, Alexander Vvedensky's *Christmas at the Ivanov's* makes this entire book worth reading.

Gary Norris says

OBIERU

Ken says

Russian Absurdism at its finest.

Kristen says

(I don't remember exactly what year I read this.) A book I actually have kept over the years. Read it front to back with relish. Later, it paired well with psilocybin, though I couldn't concentrate for more than a few pages.
