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The Nose

Nikolai Gogol · *1836* · *Claud Field*

On the 25th March, 18--, a very strange occurrence took place in St Petersburg. On the Ascension Avenue there lived a barber of the name of Ivan Jakovlevitch. On his sign-board the only inscription was, “Blood-letting done here.” Claud Field’s English, in The Mantle and Other Stories (1916), Project Gutenberg #36238. For grades 9–12. Keep “Jakovlevitch” and “St Petersburg.” Comic grotesque; no gore on the map. Not the Everyman Cloak/Overcoat.

THE CENTRAL QUESTION

How should a school read The Nose in Claud Field’s English—as it opens, on the 25th March, 18--, in St Petersburg, with a barber named Ivan Jakovlevitch—without turning the later strangeness into a spectacle, or confusing it with the other hosted Gogol story?

“On the 25th March, 18--, a very strange occurrence took place in St Petersburg. On the”

Part I, opening

Claud Field’s English, from The Mantle and Other Stories (T. Werner Laurie; Frederick A. Stokes, 1916), Project Gutenberg #36238. On the 25th March, 18--, a very strange occurrence took place in St Petersburg. On the Ascension Avenue there lived a barber of the name of Ivan Jakovlevitch. He had lost his family name, and on his sign-board, with the head of a gentleman with one cheek soaped, the only inscription was, “Blood-letting done here.” Teach that opening, for grades 9–12, in this spelling. Keep “Jakovlevitch” and “St Petersburg.” The later pages are a comic grotesque; do not make a spectacle of the nose, and put no gore on the map. This file is The Nose, not the unattributed Everyman Cloak (The Overcoat) already mapped in this wave. Name Field.

KEY CHARACTERS

Ivan Jakovlevitch
The barber of Ascension Avenue, who has lost his family name, and whose sign-board reads “Blood-letting done here.”

St Petersburg, on the 25th March, 18--
The place and the dated morning of the strange occurrence

Claud Field
The translator of this hosted English; not the author

HOW TO BEGIN THE NOSE

> *“On the 25th March, 18--, a very strange occurrence took place in St Petersburg. On the”*
>
> Part I

> *“He had lost his family name, and on his sign-board, on which was depicted the head of a gentleman with one cheek soaped, the only inscription to be read was, "Blood-letting done here." On”*
>
> Part I

Grades 9–12
Read the full text free at classicslaunch.org.

01

The 25th March, 18--

PART I, OPENING

On the 25th March, 18--, a very strange occurrence took place in St Petersburg. The story is dated, and placed, before it is explained.

- Keep “25th March, 18--” and “St Petersburg” as printed.
- 9–12.
- Field’s English.
- Do not modernize the city-name in a quotation.

> *“On the 25th March, 18--, a very strange occurrence took place in St Petersburg. On the”*
>
> Part I, opening

02

Ivan Jakovlevitch, of Ascension Avenue

PART I, OPENING

On the Ascension Avenue there lived a barber of the name of Ivan Jakovlevitch. The first person is a barber, with this file’s spelling of his name.

- Keep “Jakovlevitch” and “Ascension Avenue.”
- 9–12.
- A barber, first, not a later official only.
- Quote Field.

> *“On the Ascension Avenue there lived a barber of the name of Ivan Jakovlevitch. He had lost”*
>
> Part I, opening

03

Blood-letting Done Here

PART I, OPENING

He had lost his family name, and on his sign-board, on which was depicted the head of a gentleman with one cheek soaped, the only inscription to be read was, “Blood-letting done here.” The sign is comic, and exact.

- Keep the sign-board, the soaped cheek, and the inscription.
- 9–12.
- Comic grotesque; no gore on the map.
- Quote this English.

> *“He had lost his family name, and on his sign-board, on which was depicted the head of a gentleman with one cheek soaped, the only inscription to be read was, "Blood-letting done here." On”*
>
> Part I, opening

04

This Particular Morning

PART I, OPENING

On this particular morning he awoke pretty early. The strange occurrence will follow a waking; stay with the opening, then go on with care.

- Keep “this particular morning.”
- 9–12.
- The later strangeness is not a spectacle.
- This is The Nose, not The Overcoat/Cloak.

> *“On this particular morning he awoke pretty early. Becoming”*
>
> Part I, opening

05

Field, 1916, Not the Everyman Cloak

THE EDITION

Project Gutenberg #36238 is Claud Field’s The Nose, from The Mantle and Other Stories, 1916. Name Field. The other hosted Gogol story in this wave is the unattributed Everyman Cloak (The Overcoat); do not confuse the English versions. For grades 9–12. Short. Comic grotesque; no gore or spectacle on the map.

- Name Field, and 1836 for the work.
- Keep this file’s spellings.
- 9–12.
- A strange occurrence, told as a story, not as a later slogan.

> *“On the 25th March, 18--, a very strange occurrence took place in St Petersburg. On the”*
>
> Part I, opening

A dated, strange occurrence | A barber, and a sign-board | St Petersburg, as this file prints it | Comic grotesque, without spectacle | Field’s English, not the other Gogol file

What to watch for as you read

GRADES 9–12

1. “On the 25th March, 18--, a very strange occurrence took place in St Petersburg.” Keep “St Petersburg” and “18--.”
2. The barber is Ivan Jakovlevitch, of Ascension Avenue; his sign-board reads “Blood-letting done here.” Keep this spelling.
3. Claud Field, 1916, PG #36238, for grades 9–12. This is not the unattributed Everyman Cloak/Overcoat.
4. Comic grotesque; no gore and no spectacle on the map. Short, as hosted.

Quotations are verbatim from the Claud Field, Project Gutenberg #36238: Nicholas Gogol, The Mantle and Other Stories, tr. Claud Field (London: T. Werner Laurie; New York: Frederick A. Stokes, 1916), the public-domain text hosted at classicslaunch.org/works/gogol-the-nose/. Citations give book and chapter (or canto and line) so every line can be checked.