



Diary of a Superfluous Man

Ivan Turgenev , David A. Patterson (Translator)

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When Turgenev published *Diary of a Superfluous Man* in 1850, he created one of the first literary portraits of the alienated man. Turgenev once said that there was a great deal of himself in the unsuccessful lovers who appear in his fiction. This failure, along with painful self-consciousness, is a central fact for the ailing Chulkaturin in this melancholy tale. As he reflects on his life, he tells the story of Liza, whom he loved, and a prince, whom she loved instead, and the curious turns all their lives took.

Diary of a Superfluous Man Details

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Agir(????) says

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I decided to read everything that Turgenev has ever written. I don't remember exactly when I came to this decision, but so far it has proved like a fantastic idea. I reckon that by the end of this year, I'll be able to see this little reading project of mine through. I'm really looking forward to it. The more I read of him, the more I

see how Turgenev shaped European realism, how he influenced some of my favourite writers, such as Maupassant, Conrad, Leskovar, Kozarac and Gjalski. Every works of his that I read, fortifies my conviction and belief in Turgenev's genius. I love everything about Turgenev's works, from the themes to the writing style. Turgenev truly is a master of prose.

I've finished Diary of a Superfluous Man today. Like many of Turgenev's work, it centers around a tale of unfulfilled love. The protagonist of this story is a dying young man. With the death at his doorstep, our young protagonist recounts his life story. What is the most important thing in one's life? Probably love. What could be more important than love, right? The plot does focus heavily on the theme of love. As the protagonist retells his story, we learn more and more about him. He is an isolated individual, one that feels superfluous. It is easy to get frustrated with him, but it is even easier to understand him. For do we not all feel superfluous at times?

Our protagonist is in love with Liza who in turn is in love with a Prince. They are all unhappy in their own way. As the great master Tolstoy said, all happy families are alike, but every unhappy family is unhappy in its own way. This is the case with the characters in this book. Speaking of Tolstoy, this tragic tale reminded me both of him and of Dostoevsky. The more I think of it, the more it seems to me that Dostoevsky borrowed heavily from this book while writing Brothers Karamazov. Likewise, Tolstoy's The Death of Ivan Ilyich features a similar theme of a terminally ill man who retells his life. Should I mention Chekhov and his A Dreary Story (?????? ??????) a story about a man who because of his terminal illness is unable to establish a meaningful relationship with his stepdaughter and daughter?

For all its gloom, this story has funny moments. The fact that the protagonist worries about dying at first of April (because it just wouldn't be proper) was wonderfully ironic. A representative of the noble class, but the kind that can laugh at himself, our protagonist is both serious and sarcastic when he paints the society of this time. Still, this doesn't make the book uneven, quite on the contrary, this double view presents the reader with a fuller picture. The writing was superbly balanced, not a word felt obsolete. By the end of this book, I found myself moved beyond tears. I felt like I was directed toward forgiveness, and indeed perhaps it is one of the messages of this book. Notwithstanding all the sadness and isolation depicted, this book made me feel better. It made me feel like there is hope. It made me see that nobody is truly superfluous, albeit we all feel like that at times. Moreover, the characterization and the portrayal of characters was truly superb. You won't find masterpieces like this one too often. A true classic.

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Τζαζ?λας Μπ?μπης says

?νας τριαντ?χρονος που αργοπεθα?νει απ? μια θανατηφ?ρα ασθ?νεια (που δεν αναφ?ρεται - δεν ?χει σημασ?α) προσπαθε? να αποδε?ξει στο ημερ?λογι? του πως καθ' ?λη τη δι?ρκεια του σ?ντομου β?ου του ?ταν ο τελευτα?ος τροχ?ς της αμ?ξης, ?να αποκο?μπι, ?νας αχρε?αστος μπαλαντ?ρ - εν ολ?γοις: ?νας περιττ?ς ?νθρωπος. Αυτ? η μ?χρις εσχ?των κατακρ?μνιση της αυτοεκτ?μησης του ?ταν κατ? β?ση αποκ?ημα μιας ερωτικ?ς απογο?τευσης, η εξιστορ?ρηση της οπο?ας αποτελε? και το κ?ριο μ?ρος του βιβλ?ου. Παρ' ?λο το πεσιμιστικ? θεματικ? του ?ργου -?νας ετοιμοθ?νατος που διηγ?ται τις κακοτυχ?ες του φλερτ?ροντας με την κατ?θλιψη-, ο Τουργκ?νιεφ δεν αφ?νει στον αγαπητ? αναγν?στη μια βαρι?, ζοφερ? και ψυχοπλακωτικ? επ?γευση, αλλ? τουναντ?ον, μια α?σθηση ?τι η ζω? κυλ?ει, συνεχ?ζεται, ακολουθε? τον α?ναο κ?κλο της καταποντ?ζοντας με τη μεθυστικ? ομορφι? της κ?θε μορφ? δυστυχ?ας: «Αντ?ο ζω?, αντ?ο κ?πε μου! Κι εσε?ς φλαμουρι?ς μου! ?ταν θα ?ρθει το καλοκα?ρι, κοιτ?ξετε να μην ξεχ?σετε να σκεπαστε?τε με τ' ?νθη σας απ? π?νω ως κ?τω... και οι ?νθρωποι ας χα?ρονται να ξαπλ?νουν στη

μυρωδ?τη σας σκι?, στο δροσερ? νωπ? χορτ?ρι, κ?τω απ? τον χαμηλ?φωνο ψ?θυρο των φ?λλων σας, σαν τα ενοχλε? ελαφρ? ο α?ρας».

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## huzeyfe says

Turgenev'in ne yaz?k ki okudu?um ilk kitab?. Ne yaz?k ki diyorum çünkü ?imdiye kadar birçok Rus yazar?n kitab?n? okumama ra?men Turgenev ile ?imdi tan??m?? olmama üzöldüm. Buna ek olarak Türk ve dünya edebiyat?nda bu kitaptaki Lüzumsuz adam karakterinden daha ba?ar?l? karakterleri tan??m?? olmam bu kitaptan alaca??m keyfi de azaltt?.

Lüzumsuz adam karakterini dünya edebiyat?na kazand?rm?? ve o karakterlerini bir nevi do?usuna tan?k oldu?umuz bu kitap bu bak?mdan ele al?nd???nda ba?ar?l?. Ancak hikaye beni o kadar çekmedi. Buna ra?men ifadelerin gücü ve yer yer artan heyecan ve tempo ile güzel bir kitap oldu?unu dü?ünüyorum.

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## Monte says

Great quotes: "Well, well, since one must die, one may as well die in the spring" / "No decent man talks of his maladies" / "Yes, it is good, good to be rid, at last, of the wearing sense of life, of the persistent, restless consciousness of existence!" / "I was brought up badly and not happily." / "That's what children are for - that their parents may not be bored." / "Sentimental outbreaks are like liquorice; when first you suck it, it's not bad, but afterwards it leaves a very nasty taste in your mouth." / "I was a man, or perhaps I should say a fish, utterly superfluous in this world" - all just in the first 16 pages.

You'll know by these quotes if you are interested.

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## Ahmad Sharabiani says

?????? ?????? ??????? = Diary of a Superfluous Man, Ivan Turgenev

The Diary of a Superfluous Man (Russian: «?????? ?????? ???????») is an 1850 novella by the Russian author Ivan Turgenev. It is written in the first person in the form of a diary by a man who has a few days left to live as he recounts incidents of his life. The story has become the archetype for the Russian literary concept of the superfluous man.

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## Jayanth says

Are you feeling too happy and want to be depressed for a change? Read this book. Or rather, listen to the audiobook narrated by Martin Geeson on Librivox, you'd be dragged into the gloomy and sad life of Tchulkaturin(*I'm never going to pronounce a russian name properly :/*).

The author does a fantastic job of creating a very depressing character with a very depressing story. The character is nowhere near perfect but I couldn't help feeling pitiful towards him and his circumstances, maybe because I could relate to a few incidents personally.

This story is of one Tchulkaturin who is dying of some illness and decides to reminisce about his life, a life that has known no happiness for the most part. And the few times he was brave enough to pursue happiness against his nature, he was beaten to dust most cruelly by fate. The nature of this man, lonely, reserved and introverted, is his ultimate undoing and I can't help but question the fairness of the world and people who cannot accommodate such 'queer' personalities into their lives or believe that such 'queer' people have hearts as warm as any other socially-skilled extrovert.

The character obviously complains about stuff even though he is in the wrong sometimes. Although this might turn some people off from rooting for such characters, being an extreme introvert and socially 'inadept' in real life, I myself have much sympathy and pity for the character. Some people do lead lives without ever knowing happiness and the cruel truth of it is that it is an indirect failure of people and the society around them to not notice their struggle or help them in that struggle, as much as it is the failure of the person in question itself.

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## Özgür says

Lüzumsuz adam'ın ilk örneklerinden biri olmasın? kitabı daha önemli bir hale getirdi?i yadsınamaz. Ancak, böyle olmasaydı bile keyifli bir şekilde okunan bir kitap. Banu Yıldırım Genç'in (Goodreads kullanıcısı Banushka) kitabına ilginç detaylar ve değerlendirmesi ([http://tembelveyazar.blogspot.com.tr/...](http://tembelveyazar.blogspot.com.tr/)) söyleyecek fazla söz bırakmıyor benim için. Kitabın sonundaki incelemenin çok faydalı olduğunu ve Oğuz Tecimen'in başarıları bir çeviriye imza attığını vurgulamak isterim.

"Ölüm o gün yüzüme baktı ve beni gözüne kestirdi..."

"Ne biçim bir adamım ben?.. Kimsenin bana bu soruyu sorduğu yok – peki, kabul. Ama ölüyorum, Tanrı sizi inandırmasın, ölüyorum ve ölümün eğerindeki birinin, nasıl bir mahluk olduğunu öğrenme isteğinin mazur görülebileceğini düşünüyorum."

"Ya ben... benim hakkımda söylenebilecek bir şey yok; ben yalnızca lüzumsuzum. Gereğinden fazla, hepsi bu. Büyük ihtimalle doğrudan bu dünyaya geliştimi hesaba katmadı ve bundan dolayı da bana davetsiz misafir muamelesi yapıyor. Bir defasında akacı, tercih dükkünü bir beyefendi, annemin hayat oyununda ödediği ceza olduğunu söylemişti neyse."

"Sırtına bir liman bulmak, geçici bir yuva kurmak, günlük uğraş ve alışkanlıkların rahatlatıcısı?"



**?? says**

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**pegah says**

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## Uyuyan Adam / Engin Türkgeldi says

Kendini lüzumsuz görmesinin nedeni sadece bir a?k ac?s? olan bir kahraman?n pek de ilginç olmayan öyküsü. Yer yer güzel tasvirler olsa da, hikaye genel olarak s?k?c?. Aradaki güzel parçalar d???nda fikirler de ah?m ?ah?m de?il. Varl???, kendini ve hayattaki yerini sorgulamay? ve bu sorgulama sonucunda



ac? çekmeyi anlatt???n? iddia etse de, bu i?in alt?ndan 5 y?ld?zla kalkan Yeralt?ndan Notlar'?n yan?nda sonra esamesi bile okunmaz.

## Mohammad says

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1\* self-confidence

2\* self-respect

3\* self-esteem

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