



I'm not robot



Continue

White nights dostoevsky sparknotes

White Nights Sparknotes

The novella is subtitled as : A sentimental story from the diary of a dreamer . I like to look at it as a portrait of the artist as a young man; one of his early pieces that is a little overloaded with melodrama and tends to be overshadowed by later heavyweights like Crime and Punishment, The Brothers Karamazov and The Idiot. My infatuation with White Nights comes by way of Italy and through the vision of Luchino Visconti, who adapted the story for the silver screen. As St. Petersburg is some The novella is subtitled as : A sentimental story from the diary of a dreamer . I like to look at it as a portrait of the artist as a young man; one of his early pieces that is a little overloaded with melodrama and tends to be overshadowed by later heavyweights like Crime and Punishment, The Brothers Karamazov and The Idiot. My infatuation with White Nights comes by way of Italy and through the vision of Luchino Visconti, who adapted the story for the silver screen. As St. Petersburg is sometimes called the Venice of the North (among others like Oslo, Amsterdam or Bruges), it is probably fitting that the Italian film maker chose Venice as the backdrop of the romance; must have seen this movie at least ten times, before going to the source material and falling under its spell all over again. I think this is probably one of the most romantic stories written about falling in love for the first time and having your heart broken for the first time, touching with the author's characteristic keen insight on something fundamental about our efforts to go out of our shells and connect with another human being. I didn't know until looking up the wikipedia article that Visconti is not the only one to be inspired by this story, more than 150 years old, yet still with a contemporary / timeless vibe in terms of boy meets girl events; the novella has been filmed ten times around the globe, and probably will be adapted again, with new backgrounds and new costumes, but with the same passion.The are few portraits of Dostoyevsky as a young man, most of them are of an elderly, bearded and frowning gentleman, contemplating complex and torurous thoughts. In one of the few references to his school days several people described him as a pale, introverted dreamer and an over-excitable romantic (source wikipedia). This is exactly how I would describe the unnamed frst person narrator of White Nights, pointing to an autobiographical inspiration for the story. It was a wonderful night, such a night as it is only possible when we are young, dear reader. The sky was so stary, so bright that, looking at it, one could not help asking oneself whether ill-humoured and capricious people could live under such a sky. This is a youthful question too, dear reader, very youthful, but may the lord put it more frequently into your heart! It is springtime in Petersburg, and our hero is restlessly and aimlessly walking through the streets of the city (not unlike the lonely hunters of Carson McCullers), absorbing sights and sounds and smells that he can only keep bottled inside in the absence of anybody to share his feelings. His steps lead him out of the city, among fields and canals and forests: It was as though I had suddenly found myself in Italy, so strong was the effect of nature upon a half-sick townsman like me, almost stifling between city walls. [...] I walked along singing, for when I am happy I am always humming to myself like every happy man who has no friend or acquaintance with whom to share his joy. Suddenly I had a most unexpected adventure. There she is, alone on a bridge by the Neva embankment, as the night descents over the city : a young girl alone and in distress. The poor boy's heart doesn't stand a chance, he falls for her like a ton of bricks. They continue to meet, only at night, and tell each other their life stories. He is a self confessed loner and dreamer (I have lived, as they say, keeping myself to myself, that is, utterly alone - alone, entirely alone. Do you know what it means to be alone?). But with this new audience the words jump out of him as if a dam had burst and all the pent up emotion must get out in a single passionate outburst. Much as I would like to, I couldn't quote his whole speech as it goes on for page after page, but I recognized both the feeling and the sudden enthusiasm from my own sleepless nights beside a new girl. And we did not know what to say; we laughed, we wept, we said thousands of things meaningless and incoherent; at one moment we walked along the pavement, then suddenly turned back and crossed the road; then we stopped and went back again to the embankment; we were like children. One of the interesting aspects of the two accounts is how similar they are, both loners, yet each tale is individually suited to their personalities. The boy falls in love first with the idea of being in love, before he even meets the girl of his dreams. His love is a product of his imagination, having little to do with the real world he inhabits. Nastenka is for him a dream made flesh by a miraculous and lucky chance encounter. It feels almost like any girl would have been adequate to his needs, long as she was willing to accept his devotion: And you know this fantastic world of fairyland is so easily, so naturally created! As though it were not a delusion!Why is it that whole sleepless nights pass like a flash in inexhaustible gladness and happiness, and when the dawn gleams rosy at the window and daybreak floods the gloomy room with uncertain, fantastic light, as in Petersburg, our dreamer, worn out and exhausted, flings himself on his bed and drops asleep with thrills of delight in his morbidly overwrought spirit, and with a weary sweet ache in his heart? The girl, Nastenka, is also ready for love, wearing her heart out on her sleeve. But her story, enchanting and delicate and filled with longing as it may be, is much more coherent and focused on practicalities. Alas, somebody else has awakened these tender feelings in her life, and our narrator pretty soon discovers how it feels to be put firmly in the frendzone. Yeah, I know Girls have an infallible instinct for dangling you on their little fingers like a marionette, neither going all in, nor letting you off the hook. But for the moment, a brief moment, it seems possible these two youths might make it from illicit night encounters to full daylight bliss: But how fine joy and happiness makes anyone! How brimming over with love the heart is! One seems longing to pour out one's whole heart; one wants everything to be gay, everything to be laughing. And how infectious that joy is! Like a seesaw or a rollercoaster ride, the romantic soul knows not of the tranquil, even tempered journeys into domestic bliss. It oscillates between extremes of happiness and depression that leaves the owner exhausted, spent out, marooned back on his fortress of solitude. The best passages in the novella are saved for last, and are addressed directly to the readers, urging us to seize the day and make hay while we're young: Where have you buried your best days? Have you lived or not? Look, one says to oneself, look how cold the world is growing. Some more years will pass, and after them will come gloomy solitude; then will come old age trembling on its crutch, and after it misery and desolation. Your fantastic world will grow pale, your dreams will fade and die and will fall like the yellow leaves from the trees ... One of the all time favorite quotes on Goodreads is by Dr. Seuss ("Don't cry because it's over, smile because it happened."). Dostoyevsky finishes the novella with an early variant of the same feeling, tempered by some of his Slav gloominess: May your sky be clear, may your sweet smile be bright and untroubled, and may you be blessed for that moment of blissful happiness which you gave to another, lonely and grateful heart!My God, a whole moment of happiness! Is that too little for the whole of a man's life? The answer, my friends, is blown' in the wind. (sorry, maybe inappropriate, but I couldn't resist the impulse!) would recommend this story to any reader who is shy about embarking on one of the big novels of Dostoyevsky, as more accessible, yet very beautifully written, with some of the almost violent intensity of emotion and astute psychological observations that are his trademark. ...more Lev Shestov (Russian existentialist philosopher) said that if the great novels of Dostoevsky, such as Crime and Punishment, Idiot, Demons, Teenager and Brothers Karamazov, did not come into the world, the early works of the writer would not have reached the reader of the XX century. The focus of attention - "White Nights": a characteristic of Nastya and other characters. What and proceed. The main character A young man of 26 years old is a dreamer. He lives mostly with his own fantasies; he rarely looks into real life. Somehow he went from nothing to do to wander around the city, but so carried away by a walk that went out of town. There he enjoyed the free natural air. When the hero was returning home late in the evening, he met a young thin girl who for some reason was crying. The young man did not immediately dare to speak to her. She had meanwhile crossed to the other side of the street. The hero saw that drunk was about to sick to her there. Dreamer heroically saved the girl from trouble. True, there was no assault. It turned out that only the presence of a young man next to a beautiful stranger was sufficient. The hero overcomes his confusion and escorts the girl home. Along the way, she tells her about herself, about her poverty, fantasies, secret hopes. Then young people reach their destination and say goodbye, having agreed to meet surely tomorrow. In his place of the "White Nights" work, Nastya's characteristic is completely unclear to the reader. One thing is clear: this is a young and apparently unhappy girl. History Nastya. Characteristics of the main character All events of the composition of Dostoevsky take place on white nights (hence the name) in Petersburg. At all about all the classics enough descriptions of the four meetings of heroes. And the first of them went to the prelude to the story of the girl, which is the whole salt of the work. The question of the role of Nastya's story in the White Nights story will disappear by itself after its description. "Pinned" girl For two years now Nastya has not moved a step from her grandmother in the morning and afternoon. She was almost blind, and for some misconduct, about which there is no communication, a relative literally attached the girl to herself so that she would not do anything else. Nastya is an orphan, her parents are dead, and she is left with her granny. They have two rooms in the house: they live in one, and another grandmother rents out - this is the only source of their existence, besides the old woman's pension. And here the tenant drove to them - a young man. As a result of one awkward episode, he realized that Nastya was fastened to the grandmother with a pin. He regretted the girl, began to invite her to the theater. She, of course, fell in love with the benefactor, opened up to him, but he said that he could not marry her yet, so he doesn't have enough money at this time for such a crucial step, and he should soon go to Moscow for a year. If during this time, Nastya's feelings for him do not change, he will come exactly one year later and marry her. On the same day, when the heroes met, it was one year old and a little more since the contract, but the young man did not appear at the appointed place, although he was already in the city, which is well known to the girl. The dreamer reveals the cause of Nastia's tears. Now it should be clear to the reader what is the role of Nastya's story in the White Nights story. And if not, then we will helpfully tell him: the whole plot of Dostoevsky's not very entertaining work is built on it. But we move on. Now we are ready to define the very essence of the main character of the work. Dostoevsky's sentimental work (White Nights). Characteristic Nastya, oddly enough, the reverse, devoid of sentiment. The girl is not too smart, but not too stupid. She has a taste for literature, or rather, she loves stories. The bridegroom caught her by chance, but she grabbed onto him like a straw to escape from his blind grandmother who was disgusted with her. Probably, as a conscientious girl, she also suffered guilt because she does not love her elderly relative much. And, nevertheless, she was on the verge of despair and, perhaps, madness, when the bridegroom suddenly fell off the hook, because he personified the way out of life captivity. It is to this interpretation that the reader has the White Nights story. Nastya's characteristic is, of course, not too flattering and sentimental, but true. Fortunately for the heroine, all is not lost. An infinitely reflective dreamer wants to help a girl and invites her to write a letter for her to write a letter for her to write a letter, and he will take him to where he should go. In a surprising way, the necessary letter has already been written by the girl, and the hero has been given clear instructions on who exactly he should be given. It is impossible to say that Nastya manipulates the dreamer intentionally, exploiting his love, she leaves it involuntarily and innocently. The meeting ends with Nastya and the dreamer singing songs. What she is happy about is understandable, and he, apparently, hopes to save her and get a response from the girl and, anticipating this event, sings. Third and fourth nights. Story finale We are not interested in the characterization of the hero. Nastya ("White Nights" is discussed further) takes us a lot too. It remains only to finish the story to the end. Third meeting. Voltage is increasing. The girl's friend does not respond to the letter she sent, she is in an extreme degree of exaltation (to be honest, the heroes do not go out of this state for a minute during the whole narrative). The dreamer, on the contrary, is despondent. He realized that his chances of reciprocity are rapidly approaching zero. The girl tries to comfort him and assure him of his friendly disposition. Naturally, the dreamer from this is not easier. Fourth night. The girl has almost plunged into the abyss of despair, the right moment has arrived for the hero - he confesses his love. They tell each other all kinds of "sweets", and now Nastya is ready to forget the groom who betrayed her, but then he appears in person, and Nastya, forgetting about the other dreamer, rushes into the arms of old love. The next day, she writes a letter to the dreamer, in which she says that she is all right and that soon she and her lover will get married. The main character can only remember the adventure that happened to him under the pale light of the white nights, and yearn for lost love. Characteristics of the heroes of the work "White Nights" are ready. We left aside only the groom for the reason that his nature can not be determined in any way. This character is purely decorative and instrumental in the narration of Russian classics.

White Nights Sparknotes

White Nights Sparknotes