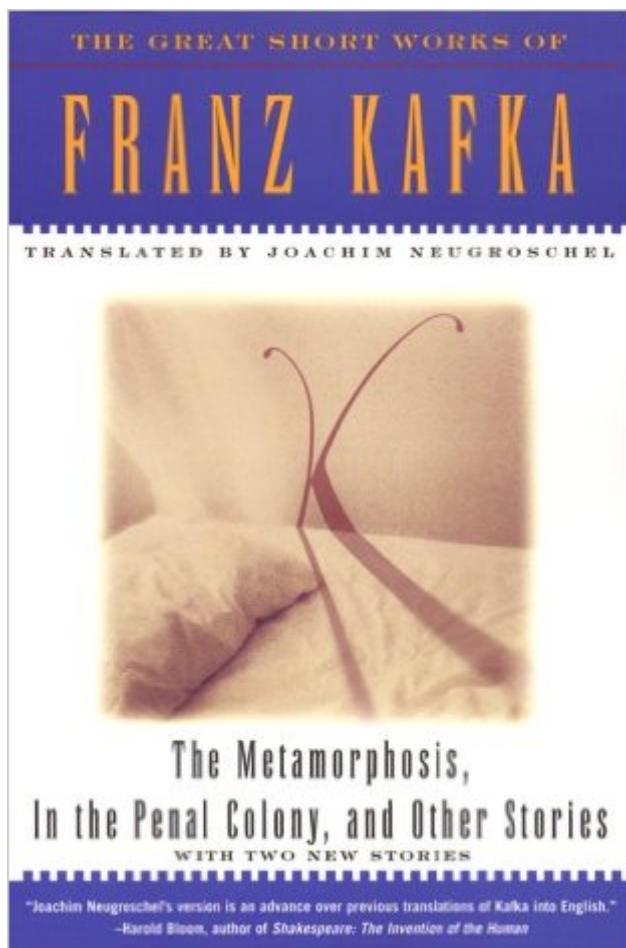


The book was found

The Metamorphosis, In The Penal Colony, And Other Stories



Synopsis

Translated by PEN translation award-winner Joachim Neugroschel, *The Metamorphosis*, *In the Penal Colony*, and *Other Stories* has garnered critical acclaim and is widely recognized as the preeminent English-language anthology of Kafka's stories. These translations illuminate one of this century's most controversial writers and have made Kafka's work accessible to a whole new generation. This classic collection of forty-one great short works -- including such timeless pieces of modern fiction as "The Judgment" and "The Stoker" -- now includes two new stories, "First Sorrow" and "The Hunger Artist."

Book Information

Paperback: 352 pages

Publisher: Touchstone; First Edition. first thus edition (May 22, 2000)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0684800705

ISBN-13: 978-0684800707

Product Dimensions: 5.2 x 0.7 x 8 inches

Shipping Weight: 13.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.1 out of 5 starsÂ See all reviewsÂ (35 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #241,361 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #101 inÂ Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Philosophy > Movements > Existentialism #203 inÂ Books > Literature & Fiction > World Literature > European > German #402 inÂ Books > Literature & Fiction > Genre Fiction > Metaphysical & Visionary

Customer Reviews

The most poignant moment of Franz Kafka's 1915 novella *The Metamorphosis* occurs when the narrator remarks that nobody thought to open Gregor's bedroom door to see him, though the door was now unlocked. In time, Gregor no longer wishes to emerge from his room, to be seen. All connection with his family and his former self is lost. Gregor the travelling salesman had gotten into the habit of keeping his door locked, even at home. He became private to the point of being paranoid. Gregor the absentee member of the Samsa household--albeit the breadwinner--is unknown to his sister Grete and to his parents. The loss doesn't quite register with them. This is the story of the man who wakes up as a bug. He literally embodies his emotional and psychological perception of himself: that he is vermin. He has become his own self-loathing. As this reality settles into his mind, he hopes his family will in some way respond to his need, to feed the unnameable

hunger that gnaws at him throughout this ordeal. Instead, they turn away. He is the dirty secret, the problem child, the social stigma they could do without, thank you very much. The father beats him back into his room every time he emerges. His mother lacks the emotional fortitude to face the situation and faints instead. Grete, his sister, feeds him and cleans his room until he reaches out for her in his buggy way--by creeping toward her while she is playing the violin for lodgers. Gregor's financial control of the family plays a role in the neurosis that afflicts each member. Not until he is free of their control can they realize their potential.

It is difficult to review this collection as a whole, because it includes stories spanning Kafka's literary career which are widely different both stylistically and in terms of content. At the same time, I don't want to review each story separately, particularly since there really isn't that much to say about quite a few of them. So I will try to strike a middle ground and just say a few words about each of the most significant stories. My favorite is probably "The Stoker". It is, perhaps not coincidentally, the most realistic, least "Kafkaesque" of them, almost like something Joseph Conrad might have written. It tells of a young man traveling to America who tries to help a stoker on the ship seek justice from the captain against his boss, who he claims gives preferential treatment to his own countrymen. During the interview with the captain, however, the young man is recognized and carted off by his uncle, an American senator. The story is described as "a fragment", though it is fairly complete in itself (indeed frankly one of the least fragmentary stories here). But though published separately, it was actually the first chapter of Kafka's unfinished novel, *Amerika*. Then there is "In the Penal Colony". It is also quite realistic for Kafka, perhaps excessively so, as it becomes almost surreal in its sheer gruesome brutality.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

The Metamorphosis, In The Penal Colony, and Other Stories Colony Two Mars: A SciFi Thriller (Colony Mars Book 2) Colony One Mars: A SciFi Thriller (Colony Mars Book 1) The Metamorphosis and Other Stories (Dover Thrift Editions) The Metamorphosis and Other Stories (Oxford World's Classics) Ouija Board Stories: Chilling True Horror Stories Of Ouija Boards Gone Wrong (Ouija Board Stories, Ghost Stories, True Horror Stories, Ouija Board Nightmares, Haunted Places Book 1) California Penal Code 2014: With Selected Provisions from Other Codes and Rules of Court: Desktop Edition South Africa (The Cape Colony, Natal, Orange Free State, South African Republic, Rhodesia, and all other territories south of the Zambesi) Providence Island, 1630-1641: The Other Puritan Colony Bizarre True Stories: Weird And Unusual True Stories Of The Paranormal, Strange Sightings, Eerie True Ghost Stories And Unexplained Phenomena (True Paranormal ... True Ghost

Stories And Hauntings) Ghost Stories: Petrifying True Ghost Stories Of The Undead And Their Supernatural Tales (Ghost Stories, True Ghost Stories, Conspiracy Theories, True Ghost ... And Hauntings, Haunted Asylums, Book 1) True Ghost Stories And Hauntings: Horrifying True Paranormal Hauntings From The Last 300 Years: Creepy True Ghost Stories And Accounts (True Ghost Stories, True Paranormal, Bizarre True Stories) Skating on the Edge: A Memoir and Journey through a Metamorphosis of the CIA Chrysalis: Maria Sibylla Merian and the Secrets of Metamorphosis Metamorphosis CD-ROM (Promiseland) Atelier Crenn: Metamorphosis of Taste Bead Metamorphosis: Exquisite Jewelry from Custom Components Frank Kafka: Metamorphosis SYMPHONIC METAMORPHOSIS OF THEMES CARL MARIA VON WEBER STUDY SCORE La nueva alianza / The New Alliance: Metamorfosis de la ciencia / Metamorphosis of Science (Alianza Universidad) (Spanish Edition)

[Dmca](#)