

Handbook of
RUSSIAN LITERATURE

Edited by

VICTOR TERRAS

Yale University Press
New Haven and London

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HANDBOOK OF RUSSIAN LITERATURE

PREFACE

This handbook is a collective venture. It was planned and organized, at the suggestion of Yale University Press, by a committee consisting of Robert L. Jackson (Yale), Robert A. Maguire (Columbia), Frank R. Silbajoris (Ohio State), and myself. It contains articles by 106 scholars. It was made possible by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

The principle applied in soliciting contributions was that contributors would write one or two major articles and a group of minor articles from their general area of specialization. Each contributor was allotted a specific amount of space, and although a word count was suggested for each entry, the contributor could “borrow” space from one entry in favor of another. Some contributors proposed using a portion of their space allotment for entries not on the original list. Their suggestions were sometimes accepted, but many potential entries had to be excluded.

Because the writing spanned a year and a half, ending in the summer of 1983, documentation and bibliography are more up-to-date in some articles than in others.

This handbook is aimed at a broad spectrum of users: students of Russian literature, of course, but also those engaged in other branches of Russian studies who need to verify literary information relevant to their disciplines; teachers of literature in other languages who want to acquaint themselves with Russian literature; and, last but not least, the general reader. There exist, of course, works from which the information gathered in this handbook may also be obtained. Many of them are listed in the Bibliography. The *raison d'être* of this handbook is to make this information available in English under a single cover.

It is assumed that many of the users of this handbook do not read Russian. Therefore, Russian names are given in their familiar spelling (Dostoevsky, Gogol) in the English text. They are exactly transliterated (Dostoevskii, Gogol') when part of a Russian phrase, such as in the Russian entries of the bibliographic part of each article. Also, titles of Russian works are given in translation, usually followed by the Russian title in parentheses. The few instances in which a work is referred to by different titles are explained by the fact that the work is known in the English speaking world under different titles. For example, Dostoevsky's novel *Besy* is generally known under the title *The Possessed*, though the literal translation, *(The) Devils*, is actually preferred by some authors. Russian periodicals, though, are identified by their Russian title to avoid misunderstandings. For translation, if not given in the text, see the list of Russian periodicals.

The purpose of the bibliography added to most articles is to give the reader a head start, no more. With limited space available, only the more important primary texts and translations could be listed. Secondary literature given will be, in most instances, sufficient for general orientation only. In some cases, contributors have

decided to use more of the space at their disposal for bibliographic information. In particular, more bibliographic information is desirable in the case of émigré authors, on whom references are difficult to obtain. In order to save space, publisher and, in many instances, place of publication have been omitted. In the case of Russian works, knowing that a work has appeared in St. Petersburg (Leningrad) and/or Moscow is of little help, but publication in a provincial city will at least suggest that the work will be less likely to be found on library shelves outside the Soviet Union. In the case of English translations from the Russian, no place of publication suggests that the book has appeared in Britain and/or the United States (ordinarily London and/or New York). But whenever an English translation has appeared in the Soviet Union (the much rarer case), place of publication (Moscow, as a rule) is given. Likewise in the case of works written in Russian and published in the West, place of publication is given. As a general principle, secondary literature in languages other than English and Russian has been included only when it contains information not available in English. By and large, the secondary literature given in the bibliographic part of each article ought to suffice as a lead to whatever further literature there may be available on the subject.

Entries which have received ample attention in the nine-volume Soviet encyclopedia of literature (*Kratkaya literaturnaya entsiklopediya*, 1962–78) have sometimes been treated cursorily or omitted entirely, while material disregarded by *KLE* is often given more attention. The word count of an entry should not be seen as an absolute or relative measure of its importance. The suggested word count given to contributors was based on my judgment, with which some of the contributors disagreed. In some instances contributors substantially exceeded the suggested word count of an entry and justified this by the long-time neglect of their charge. I had to respect their judgment.

Recent literature published in the USSR as well as in the West posed many problems. The very inclusion of authors still active and with much of their career probably still ahead of them is risky. Information on such authors is difficult to obtain and any analysis of their work would have to contain a dose of *critique du jour*, an approach in conflict with the nature of a handbook which is expected to remain in use for a number of years. After some attempts, I gave up the initial plan to obtain a major article on dissident literature. The scholars whom I contacted were probably right in suggesting that the topic was too elusive and ill-defined to be treated in an organized scholarly manner.

It is my pleasant duty to give credit to those who were instrumental in producing this handbook. My colleagues Robert L. Jackson, Robert A. Maguire, and Frank R. Silbajoris watched over its progress almost from its inception and gave much valuable advice, as did Edward Tripp of Yale University Press. Without a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities this project would have never materialized. Brigitte Agna, Alan Cienki, Sheila McCarthy, and Christine Tomei, Brown University graduate students, helped me at various stages of the project. Judith Hickey, the copy editor, had a particularly difficult job on her hands, since many of the contributors, including myself, write English with less than native ease. I thank her in the name of all contributors for doing her job with skill and patience. Finally, I give thanks to those who wrote the articles which make up this handbook. As the only person who read every single line of the handbook from the beginning, I can sincerely say that it was a great educational experience.

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ABBREVIATIONS

<i>CASS</i>	<i>Canadian-American Slavic Studies</i>
<i>CSP</i>	<i>Canadian Slavonic Papers</i>
<i>CSS</i>	<i>Canadian Slavic Studies</i>
<i>Foster</i>	Ludmila Foster, <i>Bibliografiya russkoi zarubezhnoi literatury, 1918–1968</i> . 2 vols. Boston: G. H. Hall, 1970.
<i>IAN</i>	<i>Izvestiya Akademii Nauk S.S.S.R., Seriya Literatury i Yazyka</i> (Moscow)
<i>IJSLP</i>	<i>International Journal of Slavic Linguistics and Poetics</i>
<i>KLE</i>	<i>Kratkaya literaturnaya entsiklopediya</i> . 9 vols. 1962–78.
<i>Lewanski</i>	<i>The Literatures of the World in English Translation: A Bibliography</i> . Vol. II: The Slavic Literatures. Comp. Richard C. Lewanski. New York: The New York Public Library, 1967.
<i>MERSL</i>	<i>The Modern Encyclopedia of Russian and Soviet Literature</i> . Ed. Harry Weber. Gulf Breeze, Fla.: Academic International Press, 1976–
<i>OSP</i>	<i>Oxford Slavonic Papers</i>
<i>PSS</i>	<i>Polnoe sobranie sochinenii</i> (Collected Works)
<i>RFolk</i>	<i>Russkii fol'klor</i>
<i>RLJ</i>	<i>Russian Language Journal</i>
<i>RLit</i>	<i>Russkaya literatura</i>
<i>RLT</i>	<i>Russian Literature Triquarterly</i>
<i>RusL</i>	<i>Russian Literature</i> (The Hague and Paris)
<i>RusR</i>	<i>Russian Review</i>
<i>SEEJ</i>	<i>Slavic and East European Journal</i>
<i>SEER</i>	<i>Slavonic and East European Review</i>
<i>SlavR</i>	<i>Slavic Review</i>
<i>TODRL</i>	<i>Trudy Otdela Drevnerusskoi Literatury</i> (Moscow)
<i>VLit</i>	<i>Voprosy literatury</i>
<i>ZS</i>	<i>Zeitschrift für Slawistik</i> (Berlin)

RUSSIAN LANGUAGE JOURNALS AND ALMANACS REFERRED TO IN THE TEXT

<i>Adskaya pochta</i>	Infernal Mail	<i>Ezhemesyachnye sochineniya k pol'ze i uveseleniyu sluzhashchie</i>	Monthly Compositions for Profit and Amusement
* <i>Aglaya</i>	Aglaia	<i>Golos</i>	Voice
<i>Aonidy</i>	The Aonids	<i>Gorn</i>	The Forge
* <i>Apollon</i>	Apollo	<i>Gostinitsa dlya puteshestvuyushchikh v prekrasnom</i>	The Inn for Travellers in the Beautiful
<i>Babochka</i>	Butterfly	* <i>Grani</i>	Facets
<i>Besedyushchii grazhdanin</i>	The Citizen Conversing	<i>Gryadushchee</i>	Future
<i>Bibliograf</i>	The Bibliographer	<i>Gudki</i>	Sirens
<i>Bibliograficheskie listy</i>	Bibliographic Sheets of the National Annals	<i>Gudok</i>	The Factory Whistle
<i>Otechestvennykh zapisok</i>	Library for Reading	* <i>Iskra</i>	The Spark
* <i>Biblioteka dlya chteniya</i>	Stock Exchange News	<i>Iskusstvo</i>	Art
<i>Birzhevye vedomosti</i>	The Loyal Citizen	<i>Iskusstvo kommuny</i>	Art of the Commune
<i>Blagonamerennyi</i>	Alarm Clock	<i>Istoricheskii vestnik</i>	Historical Herald
<i>Budil'nik</i>	Bygone Days	<i>Izvestiya Akademii nauk, otdelenie russkogo yazyka i slovesnosti</i>	Communications of the Academy of Sciences, Department of Russian Language and Literature
<i>Byloe</i>	Numbers		Artistic Word
<i>Chisla</i>	Siskin		Art Anthology
<i>Chizh</i>	Reading in the Collegium of Lovers of the Russian Word		Book Chronicle
<i>Chtenie v besede lyubitelei russkogo slova</i>	Readings of the Society of Russian History and Antiquities		Book Announcer
<i>Chteniya obshchestva istorii i drevnosti</i>	Ladies Journal	<i>Khudozhestvennoe slovo</i>	The Bell
<i>Damskii zhurnal</i>	The Cause or The Deed	<i>Khudozhestvennyi sbornik</i>	The Continent
<i>Delo</i>	The People's Concern	<i>Knizhnaya letopis'</i>	The Purse
<i>Delo naroda</i>	Day	<i>Knizhnyi vestnik</i>	Red Virgin Soil
<i>Den'</i>	Children's Literature	* <i>Kolokol</i>	Red Star
<i>Detskaya literatura</i>	Children's Readings for Heart and Mind	* <i>Kontinent</i>	Circle
<i>Detskoe chtenie dlya serdtsa i razuma</i>	A Writer's Diary	<i>Koshelek</i>	The Smithy
<i>Dnevnik pisatelya</i>	Good Intention	* <i>Krasnaya nov'</i>	Left Front of Art
<i>Dobroe namerenie</i>	House of Arts	<i>Krasnaya zvezda</i>	Literature and Marxism
<i>Dom iskusstv</i>	The Dragon	<i>Krug</i>	Literary Gazette
<i>Drakon</i>	Friend of Honest People or Oldthink	* <i>Kuznitsa</i>	Literary Survey
<i>Drug chestnykh lyudei ili Starodum</i>	The Epoch	* <i>Lef</i>	Supplement to the Russian Invalid
* <i>Epokha</i>	Hotchpotch	<i>Literatura i marksizm</i>	Literary Critic
<i>Eralash</i>	Ethnographic Review	* <i>Literaturnaya gazeta</i>	Lighthouse
<i>Etnograficheskoe obozrenie</i>	Hedgehog	<i>Literaturnoe obozrenie</i>	Sword
<i>Ezh</i>	Monthly Essays	<i>Literaturnye pribavleniya k Russkomu invalidu</i>	Monthly Historical, Genealogical and
<i>Ezhemesyachnye sochineniya</i>		<i>Literaturnyi kritik</i>	
		<i>Mayak</i>	
		<i>Mech</i>	
		<i>Mesyachnye istoricheskie, genealogicheskie i</i>	

<i>geograficheskie primechaniya v Vedomostyakh</i>	Geographical Notes in the News	<i>*Pereval Permskie gubernskie vedomosti</i>	The Crossing Perm Province News
<i>Mir Bozhii</i>	God's World	<i>Peterburgskaya gazeta</i>	The Petersburg Gazette
<i>*Mir iskusstva</i>	The World of Art	<i>Peterburgskii glashatai</i>	The Petersburg Herald
<i>*Mnemosina</i>	Mnemosyne	<i>Pioner</i>	The Pioneer
<i>*Molodaya gvardiya</i>	Young Guard	<i>Pionerskaya pravda</i>	The Pioneer's Truth
<i>Molva</i>	Rumor	<i>Plamya</i>	Flame
<i>Moskovskie gubernskie vedomosti</i>	Moscow Province News	<i>Pochta dukhov</i>	The Spirits' Post (or Mail)
<i>Moskovskie vedomosti</i>	Moscow News	<i>Pokoyashchiisya trudolyubets</i>	The Toiler in Repose
<i>Moskovskii gorodskoi listok</i>	The Moscow Municipal Bulletin	<i>Poleznoe uveselenie</i>	Useful Diversion
<i>Moskovskii nablyudatel'</i>	The Moscow Observer	<i>*Polyarnaya zvezda</i>	Polar Star
<i>Moskovskii sbornik</i>	Moscow Miscellany	<i>Poryadok</i>	Order
<i>*Moskovskii telegraf</i>	Moscow Telegraph	<i>Posev</i>	Sowing
<i>*Moskovskii vestnik</i>	The Moscow Herald	<i>Poslednie novosti</i>	The Latest News
<i>*Moskovskii zhurnal</i>	The Moscow Journal	<i>Pravda</i>	Truth
<i>Moskovskii zritel'</i>	The Moscow Observer	<i>Pravitel'stvennyi vestnik</i>	Government Announcer
<i>Moskovskoe ezhemesyachnoe izdanie</i>	Moscow Monthly Edition	<i>Prazdnoe vremya v pol'zu upotreblennoe</i>	Idle Time for Good Use
<i>*Moskva</i>	Moscow	<i>Proletarskaya kul'tura</i>	Proletarian Culture
<i>*Moskvityanin</i>	The Muscovite	<i>Protalina</i>	Thawed Patch
<i>Murzilka</i>	Little Smeary	<i>Pustomelya</i>	The Windbag
<i>Nabat</i>	Alarm	<i>Rassvet</i>	Dawn
<i>Nachalo</i>	The Beginning	<i>Rodina</i>	The Motherland
<i>Nakanune</i>	On the Eve	<i>Rossiiskaya bibliografiya</i>	Russian Bibliography
<i>*Na literaturnom postu</i>	On Literary Guard	<i>Rossiya i slavyanstvo</i>	Russia and Slavdom
<i>*Na postu</i>	On Guard	<i>Russkaya beseda</i>	Russian Talk (or Conversation, or Colloquy)
<i>Narodnaya Volya</i>	People's Will	<i>*Russkaya mysl'</i>	Russian Thought
<i>Nashe vremya</i>	Our Times	<i>Russkaya rech'</i>	Russian Speech
<i>Nash sovremennik</i>	Our Contemporary	<i>*Russkaya starina</i>	Russian Antiquities
<i>Nauchnoe obozrenie</i>	Scientific Review	<i>Russkaya zhizn'</i>	Russian Life
<i>Nevinnoe uprazhnenie</i>	Innocent Exercise	<i>Russkie novosti</i>	Russian News
<i>*Nevskii al'manakh</i>	The Neva Almanac	<i>Russkie vedomosti</i>	Russian News
<i>Nevskii zritel'</i>	The Neva Spectator	<i>Russkie zapiski</i>	Russian Annals
<i>Niva</i>	The Grainfield	<i>Russkii arkhiv</i>	Russian Archive
<i>Novaya Rossiya</i>	New Russia	<i>Russkii golos</i>	The Russian Voice
<i>Novaya Zhizn'</i>	New Life	<i>Russkii invalid</i>	The Russian Invalid
<i>Novoe russkoe slovo</i>	The New Russian Word	<i>Russkii mir</i>	Russian World
<i>Novoe slovo</i>	The New Word	<i>Russkii sovremennik</i>	The Russian Contemporary
<i>Novoe vremya</i>	New Times	<i>*Russkii vestnik</i>	The Russian Herald
<i>Novosti literatury</i>	News from Literature	<i>*Russkoe bogatstvo</i>	Russian Riches
<i>Novye Aonidy</i>	The New Aonids	<i>*Russkoe slovo</i>	The Russian Word
<i>Novyi Giperborei</i>	The New Hyperborean	<i>Sadok sudei</i>	A Trap for Judges
<i>Novyi korabl'</i>	The New Ship	<i>Samarskii vestnik</i>	Herald of Samara
<i>*Novyi mir</i>	New World	<i>Sankt-Peterburgskie vedomosti</i>	St. Petersburg News
<i>Novyi put'</i>	The New Path	<i>Sankt-Peterburgskii Merkurii</i>	St. Petersburg Mercury
<i>*Novyi zhurnal</i>	New Review	<i>Sanktpeterburgskii vestnik</i>	St. Petersburg Herald
<i>Odesskie novosti</i>	Odessa News	<i>*Satirikon</i>	Satiricon
<i>Ogni</i>	Fires or Lights	<i>Sever</i>	The North
<i>Ogonek</i>	The Flame	<i>Severnaya lira</i>	The Northern Lyre
<i>*Oktyabr'</i>	October	<i>*Severnaya pchela</i>	The Northern Bee
<i>Orlovskii vestnik</i>	The Orel Herald	<i>Severnoe siyanie</i>	Northern Lights
<i>Oskolki</i>	Fragments or Slivers	<i>*Severnye tsvety</i>	Northern Flowers
<i>Osnova</i>	The Foundation		
<i>*Otechestvennye zapiski</i>	National Annals		
<i>Parus</i>	Sail		
<i>*Pechat' i revolyutsiya</i>	Press and Revolution		

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<i>Severnyi arkhiv</i>	Northern Archive	<i>Vestnik narodnoi voli</i>	Herald of the People's Will
<i>Severnyi vestnik</i>	The Northern Herald	<i>Vestnik russkogo</i>	Herald of the Russian
<i>Shtyk</i>	Bayonet	<i>khristianskogo</i>	Christian Movement
<i>Sibirskie ogni</i>	Siberian Lights	<i>dvizheniya (RKhD)</i>	
<i>Sintaksis</i>	Syntax	<i>Vestnik zhizni</i>	Messenger of Life
<i>Sirena</i>	Siren	* <i>Vesy</i>	The Scales
<i>Slavyanin</i>	The Slav	<i>Vokrug sveta</i>	Around the World
<i>Sobesednik lyubitelei</i>	Companion of Lovers of	<i>Vol'naya russkaya pechat'</i>	Russian Free Press
<i>russkogo slova</i>	the Russian Word	<i>Volya Rossii</i>	The Will of Russia
<i>Sovetskaya Sibir'</i>	Soviet Siberia	<i>Voprosy literatury</i>	Questions of Literature
<i>Sovetskaya zhenshchina</i>	Soviet Woman	<i>Voprosy zhizni</i>	Questions of Life
* <i>Sovremennik</i>	The Contemporary	<i>Voronezhskie izvestiya</i>	Voronezh News
* <i>Sovremennye zapiski</i>	Contemporary Annals	<i>Vozdushnye puti</i>	Aerial Ways
<i>Sovremennyi zapad</i>	The Contemporary West	* <i>Vozrozhdenie</i>	Renaissance
<i>Soyuz molodezhi</i>	Union of Youth	<i>Vpered!</i>	Forward!
<i>Spisok knig vyshedshikh v</i>	List of Books Published	* <i>Vremya</i>	Time
<i>Rossii</i>	in Russia	<i>Vremya i my</i>	Time and We
<i>Strekoza</i>	Dragonfly	<i>Vsemirnaya illyustratsiya</i>	World Illustration
<i>Svistok</i>	The Whistle	<i>Vsemirnyi sledopyt</i>	Universal Pathfinder
<i>Svobodnoe slovo</i>	The Free Word	<i>Vstrechi</i>	Encounters
<i>Svobodnye chasy</i>	Free Hours	<i>Vsyakaya vsyachina</i>	All Sorts of Things or
<i>Syn otechestva</i>	Son of the Fatherland		Potpourri
<i>Teatr i iskusstvo</i>	Theater and Art	* <i>Yasnaya Polyana</i>	Yasnaya Polyana
* <i>Teleskop</i>	Telescope	<i>Yunost'</i>	Youth
* <i>Trudolyubivaya pchela</i>	Busy Bee	<i>Zarnitsy</i>	Summer Lightning
* <i>Truten'</i>	The Drone	<i>Zarya</i>	Dawn
* <i>Tsekh poetov</i>	The Poets' Guild	<i>Zavety</i>	Behests
<i>Tsvetnik</i>	Flower Garden	<i>Zemlya Kolumba</i>	Columbus' Land
<i>Tvorchestvo</i>	Creation	<i>Zerkalo sveta</i>	Mirror of the World
<i>Uchenye vedomosti</i>	Learned News	<i>Zhenskii vestnik</i>	Herald of Women
<i>Ukazatel' po delam</i>	Index for Publishing	<i>Zhivopisets</i>	The Painter
<i>pechati</i>	Affairs	<i>Zhivopisnoe obozrenie</i>	Picturesque Review
<i>Ukazatel' vnov'</i>	Index of Recently	<i>Zhizn'</i>	Life
<i>vyshedshikh knig</i>	Published Books	<i>Zhurnal ministerstva</i>	Journal of the Ministry of
<i>Ukrainskii vestnik</i>	Ukrainian Herald	<i>narodnogo</i>	Public Education
<i>Utrennii svet</i>	Morning Light	<i>prosveshcheniya</i>	
<i>Vechernyaya krasnaya</i>	Red Evening Gazette	<i>Zhurnal zhurnalov</i>	Survey of Journals
<i>gazeta</i>		* <i>Znaniya</i>	Banner
<i>Vechernyaya zarya</i>	Twilight	* <i>Znanie</i>	Knowledge
<i>Vereteno</i>	The Spindle	* <i>Zolotoe runo</i>	The Golden Fleece
<i>Versty</i>	Milestones	<i>Zritel'</i>	Observer
<i>Vesna</i>	Springtime	* <i>Zvezda</i>	The Star
* <i>Vestnik Evropy</i>	The Herald of Europe	<i>Zvezdochka</i>	The Little Star

* Asterisk indicates an article in the text.

TRANSLITERATION TABLE

А	а	A a
Б	б	B b
В	в	V v
Г	г	G g
Д	д	D d
Е	е	E e
Ё	ё	Yo yo
Ж	ж	Zh zh
З	з	Z z
И	и	I i
Й	й	I i*
К	к	K k
Л	л	L l
М	м	M m
Н	н	N n
О	о	O o
П	п	P p
Р	р	R r
С	с	S s
Т	т	T t
У	у	U u
Ф	ф	F f
Х	х	Kh kh
Ц	ц	Ts Ts
Ч	ч	Ch Ch
Ш	ш	Sh sh
Щ	щ	Shch shch
Ъ		" **
Ы		y
Ь		' ***
Э	э	E e
Ю	ю	Yu yu
Я	я	Ya ya

*The adjectival endings *-yi* and *-ii* are rendered by *-y* in the English text: *maly* instead of *malyi*, *Dostoevsky* instead of *Dostoevskii*.

**The "hard sign" is rendered by a *y* in the English text.

***The "soft sign" is omitted in proper names in the English text: *Gogol* rather than *Gogol'*.

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HANDBOOK OF RUSSIAN LITERATURE

