



GOVERNMENT  
INSPECTOR

# 大臣差次

戈果理 明譯

英漢對照

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欽差大臣

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THE GOVERNMENT  
INSPECTOR

上海教育書店印行

# ACT I

## A ROOM IN THE MAYOR'S HOUSE

The Mayor, the Charity Commissioner, the School Inspector, the Judge, the Police Superintendent, the Doctor, two Policemen.

The Mayor. I have called you together,<sup>1</sup> gentlemen, to communicate to you a most unpleasant piece of news:<sup>2</sup> an Inspector is coming to visit us.

Ammos. An Inspector?

Artemy. An Inspector?

The Mayor. A Government Inspector, from Petersburg, incognito;<sup>3</sup> and with secret orders.<sup>4</sup>

Ammos. That's a pleasant surprise!

Artemy. As though we hadn't trouble enough!<sup>5</sup>

Luka. Good heavens!<sup>6</sup> And with secret orders!

The Mayor. I had a sort of foreboding of it:<sup>7</sup> all night long I was dreaming of two extraordinary rats. I assure you I never saw rats like them: black and unnaturally large! They came and sniffed about<sup>8</sup> — and went away. Here, I'll read you the letter I've received from Andrey Ivanovitch Tehmyhov, whom you know, Artemy Filippovitch. This is what he writes:<sup>9</sup> 'Dear friend and benefactor!' (mutters in an undertone, hastily looking through the letter)<sup>10</sup> 'and to inform you' ..... Ah, here it is: 'I hasten to inform you, among other things,<sup>11</sup> that an

## 第一幕

佈景 知事家中房間

人物 知事，賑務官，督學，審判官，警察長，醫生，警察二人

知事 諸位，我召見你們要報告你們一個頂不有趣的消息：欽差大臣要來訪察我們了。

阿莫斯 欽差大臣？

阿德美 欽差大臣？

知事 從比得堡來的欽差大臣，奉有密令，化名來訪。

阿莫斯 那真是一件有趣的怪事！

阿德美 好像我們還麻煩得不夠！

羅加 天哪！奉密令來的！

知事 這件事我已經有一種預兆：我做了一夜夢，看見兩隻老鼠，奇奇怪怪的。不瞞你說，我從來沒有見過那樣的老鼠，黑而且特別大的。牠們跑來到處嗅嗅，又跑掉了。阿德美，我就把安得萊給我的信讀給你聽，你也認識他的。他寫的是這樣：『親愛的朋友同恩人！』（低聲喃喃，急速看信）『要通知你，』……啊，就在這裏：『我急欲告訴你一件事，有一個官已

official has arrived with instructions to inspect the whole province, and especially our district (lifts up his finger significantly). I have learned this from the most reliable sources,<sup>1</sup> though he passes himself off for a private person.<sup>2</sup> As I know that you have your little failings<sup>3</sup> like everybody else, for you are a sensible<sup>4</sup> man and don't like to let things slip through your fingers<sup>5</sup> ..... (pausing) well, we are all friends here ..... 'I advise you to take steps in time,<sup>6</sup> for he may arrive any minute, if, indeed, he has not come already and is not living among you incognito. .... Yesterday I ....' well, here he goes on to family affairs, 'my sister Anna Kirillovna and her husband have come to stay with us; Ivan Kirilovitch has grown much stouter, and is always playing the fiddle' ..... and so on and so on.<sup>7</sup> So that's the position!<sup>8</sup>

Ammos. Yes, it's an extraordinary position, simply extraordinary. There must be some reason for it.

Luka. What is it for, Anton Antonovitch, how do you account for it?<sup>9</sup> Why should an Inspector come here?

The Mayor. What for! It seems it was to be.<sup>10</sup> (with a sigh). Hitherto, and thank God for it, they have pried into other towns,<sup>11</sup> now our turn has come.<sup>12</sup>

Ammos. I imagine, Anton Antonovitch, that there is a subtle<sup>13</sup> and chiefly political reason. I'll tell you what it means: Russia ..... yes ... is meaning to go to war,<sup>14</sup> and the ministers, you see, have sent an official to find out whether there is any treason here.

The Mayor. Pooh, what next!<sup>15</sup> And you a sensible man, too! Treason in a district town! Is it on the frontier,

經來到，是奉命巡查全省，尤其要視察本縣』(有意翹起一指)『我這個消息是從最可靠的方面聽來的，不過他是假裝私人行動。我知道老兄跟別人一樣有點小毛病，而且老兄機警，想不願讓事情錯過』……(稍停)好罷，這裏都是朋友……『我勸你及早設法，因為他即使沒有到來匿名在此，也會說到就到……昨天我……』哦，以下他又談到家裏的事情了，『舍妹安娜與妹夫已來我家小住；依凡長得胖多了，時時玩他的提琴』……諸如此類，說下去。現在情形就是如此！

阿莫斯 是的，事情真特別，實在特別。一定有什麼道理。

羅加 那爲什麼，安東，你看什麼道理？欽差大臣爲什麼要到我們這裏來？

知事 爲什麼！好像命裏註定的！(歎息)以往，謝天謝地，總算巡查了別的縣城，現在可輪到我們了。

阿莫斯 安東，我想這總有微妙的，而多半是政治的原因。『我來告訴你，是什麼意思：俄國…是的…該要打仗了，你看，總長大臣們派了一個官來調查，這裏有沒有叛亂的事情。』

知事 呸，這算什麼！你也是一個明白人！縣城裏有叛亂嗎？難



pray?<sup>1</sup> Why, you might gallop for three years and not reach any foreign country.

Ammos. No, I tell you, you are wrong there<sup>2</sup> ..... you are ..... they have all sorts of schemes in Petersburg; they may be far away, but they take stock of<sup>3</sup> everything.

The Mayor. They may or they may not; anyway, I have warned you, gentlemen. Mind you,<sup>4</sup> I have taken measures in my own department,<sup>5</sup> and I advise you to do the same. And especially you, Artemy Filippovitch! Our visitor is pretty certain to want to inspect the charitable institutions under your supervision first of all,<sup>6</sup> and so you take care that everything is as it should be:<sup>7</sup> see that the nightcaps are clean and that the patients don't look like sweeps,<sup>8</sup> as they do on ordinary days.

Artemy. Oh, that's no great matter. Of course they can put on clean nightcaps.

The Mayor. Yes; and over every bed put an inscription in Latin or some other language ..... that's for you to decide,<sup>9</sup> Christian Ivanovitch ..... the name of each disease, when each patient was taken ill, the day of the week and the month. ..... It's a pity<sup>10</sup> your patients smoke such strong tobacco that it makes one sneeze when one goes in. And it would be better if there were fewer of them:<sup>11</sup> he will suspect at once that there is something wrong with the management,<sup>12</sup> or that the doctor does not know his business.

Artemy. Oh, as to doctoring, Christian Ivanovitch and I came to the conclusion<sup>13</sup> long ago that the nearer to nature the better<sup>14</sup> — we don't make use of<sup>15</sup> expensive

道我們的縣城在邊境嗎，你說？哦，你騎馬跑三年，也跑不到外國呀！

阿莫斯 不，我告訴你，那你是錯了……你是……他們在比得堡京城裏各種計劃很多；路雖然隔得遠，但一切都在注意。

知事 不管他們注意不注意，我總算提醒了各位。請各位留心，在我的部門裏我已經有所準備，奉勸各位同樣準備。尤其是你，阿德美！我們的那位訪客一定先要視察你手下的慈善機關，所以請你留心，把一切整頓好，要把病人的睡帽弄乾淨，病人也不可像平時那樣醜陋得像掃煙囪的人。

阿德美 噢，那不是什麼大不了的事。病人當然可以戴上乾淨的睡帽。

知事 是的；每一張牀要放上一塊用拉丁文或別的文字寫的牌子……胡帛納，那要你來打主意……病人的病名，起病日期，幾月幾日星期幾……可惜，你那兒的病人常吸煙很厲害，叫一個人進來就要打噴嚏。頂好吸煙的人少一點：欽差大臣馬上會疑心到你管理得不好，或者疑心醫生不行。

阿德美 噢，說到醫術，胡帛納，我早就認定，愈聽其自然愈好——我們不常用貴藥。他們都是平民：要死總要死；要好總



medicines. They are simple people: if they die, they'll die anyhow; if they recover, they recover anyhow. And it would be difficult for Christian Ivanovitch to interview the patients; he does not know a word of Russian.

(Hubner emits a sound intermediate between e and a).

The Mayor. I should advise you too, Ammos Fyodorovitch, to look after<sup>1</sup> the law-court. In the hall where the applicants come with complaints and petitions the porters have taken to<sup>2</sup> keeping geese with a lot of<sup>3</sup> young goslings, which are always waddling about under one's feet. Of course poultry-keeping<sup>4</sup> is a most laudable pursuit,<sup>5</sup> and why shouldn't the porter keep them? Only it's not the thing,<sup>6</sup> you know, in a public office ..... I meant to mention it to you before,<sup>7</sup> but I always forgot it somehow.

Ammos. I'll order them all to be taken to my kitchen to-day. Won't<sup>8</sup> you come to dinner with me?

The Mayor. It's a pity, too, that you have all sorts of rubbish hanging up to dry<sup>9</sup> in the court itself, and there's a hunting-whip on the top of the case where deeds<sup>10</sup> are kept. I know you are fond of sport, but it would be better to take it away for a time, and when the Inspector has gone you can hang it up again if you like. And then your Assessor too ..... of course he is a man who understands his business, but he smells as though he had just come out of a distillery — that's not the thing either.<sup>11</sup> I meant to speak about it long ago, but my attention was always called off to something else,<sup>12</sup> I don't know what. Something can be done for it<sup>13</sup> if, as he says, it is his natural smell; he might be advised

會好。叫胡帛納去探視病人，那是難事；他一句俄國話也不懂。

(胡帛納發出聲音，又像『依』又像『安』。)

知事 阿莫斯，我也要勸你留心審判廳。你那個大廳裏，起訴人常來告狀請願的地方，夫役們常在那里養大鵝小鵝，老絆住脚跟走來走去。養家禽自然也是一種可贊許的事業，夫役爲什麼不該養呢？不過你知道，在衙門裏不該如此……我早想對你說，但我老是忘記。

阿莫斯 我今天就叫人把牠們一起拿到廚房裏去。你高興到我那兒吃飯嗎？

知事 還有糟的，你們把各種破布掛在大廳裏陰乾，而且那只公文箱頂上放着一條打獵用的鞭子。我知道你愛打獵，但還是把牠暫時拿開好一點，等到欽差大臣去了以後，你要掛上去還是可以的。還有你那位陪審官……當然他是經驗豐富的人，但是他身上有一股氣味，好像他剛從酒廠裏出來——那也不對。我早已想說，但常常有別的事，叫我忘記，我也不知道爲什麼。要是照他所說，這是他天生的氣味，也總有辦法可想；可以勸他試服葱蒜或別的東西。胡帛納可以給他一

to try onion or garlic or something. Christian Ivanovitch might give him some drug for it.

(Hubner gives vent to<sup>1</sup> the same inarticulate sound.)

Ammos. No, there is no getting over it:<sup>2</sup> he says his nurse dropped him as a baby and he has smelt a little of vodka<sup>3</sup> ever since.

The Mayor. Oh well, I only just mentioned it. As for the way that the business of the court is conducted, and what Andrey Ivanovitch in his letter calls 'failings,' I can say nothing. And indeed, what is there to say?<sup>4</sup> There is no man entirely free from sin.<sup>5</sup> ..... That is ordained<sup>6</sup> by God Himself, and it is no use the Voltairians disputing it.

Ammos. What do you mean by sin, Anton Antonovitch? There are sins and sins. I tell every one openly that I take bribes, but what bribes? Wolfhound puppies. That's a very different matter.

The Mayor. Well, puppies or anything else, it's bribes just the same.<sup>7</sup>

Ammos. Oh no, Anton Antonovitch. If a man takes a fur coat worth five hundred roubles or a shawl for his wife  
.....

The Mayor. Well, what of it<sup>8</sup> if the only bribes you take are puppies? You don't believe in God: you never go to church; while I am firm in the faith, anyway, and go to church every Sunday. But you ..... oh, I know you: when you begin talking about the creation of the world, it makes my hair stand on end.

Ammos. But I came to my views of myself, by my own thinking.<sup>9</sup>

點藥。

(胡烏納發出同樣的模糊的聲音)

阿莫斯 不，這個毫無辦法。他說小孩子的時候就給褌姆跌了一交，從此就有了酒氣味。

知事 噢，好罷，我不過提起一下。至於審判廳的辦事方式，以及安得萊的信中所謂『毛病』，我也說不出什麼。而且老實說，有什麼可說呢。沒有一個人完全沒有罪過。……那原是上帝自己安排好的，伏爾泰一派人爲了這一點爭論也是無用的。

阿莫斯 你說罪過是什麼意思，安東？罪過是有的。我公開告訴每個人，說我接受賄賂，但是什麼賄賂呢？小狼狗。那是算不了什麼的。

知事 好罷，小狗或別的東西，這總是賄賂。

阿莫斯 噢，不，安東。要是一個人接受了一件值五百盧布的皮外套或披風給他的妻子……

知事 好罷，要是你受的賄賂不過是小狗，那又算什麼？你不信上帝，永不上教堂，但我却至少信仰堅定，每禮拜天去教堂，但是你……噢，我知道你：一講起世界的創造，就使我汗毛都豎起來。

阿莫斯 但我是自己想起來的，我有我的看法。

The Mayor. Well, in some cases too much thinking is worse than none at all. I spoke of the district court — but there, to tell the truth<sup>1</sup> it is not likely<sup>2</sup> that any one will peep into it;<sup>3</sup> it's a spot to be envied indeed, it's under the special protection of Providence. But you, Luka Lukitch, as the Inspector of Schools, must be particularly careful about the teachers. Of course they are learned men and have been educated at all sorts of colleges, but they have very strange peculiarities, naturally, inseparable from their vocation. One of them, for instance, the one with a fat face ..... I can't recollect his name, never seems able to go into his desk without making a grimace like this (makes a grimace) and then begins smoothing his beard from under his cravat. Of course, if he makes a face like that at one of the boys it does not matter;<sup>4</sup> it may be necessary, I can't judge; but just think if he does it to a visitor — that might be a dreadful thing: the Inspector or some one else might think it was meant for him. Goodness only knows what it might lead to.<sup>5</sup>

Luka. What am I to do with him? I've spoken to him over and over again. Only the other day, when our marshal of nobility came into the class-room, he made a face worse than anything I've ever seen. He did it with the best intention, but I got a talking-to<sup>6</sup> for letting free-thinking notions be put into the boys' heads.

The Mayor. And I must say a word to you about the history teacher. He is a brainy fellow, one can see, and has any amount of learning, but he lectures with such fervour that he forgets himself.<sup>7</sup> I heard him once: so

知事 哦，有些場合，考慮太多反比不想更壞。我說的是審判廳——但是審判廳裏，老實說，大概不會有人去探聽什麼，這實在是一個叫人羨慕的地方，靠上天特別保佑。但是你，羅加，你身為督學，應該特別留意教員們。當然他們是有學問的人，受過大學教育，但是他們有一些很奇怪的癖性，自然這些癖性是同他們的職業分不開的。比方說，有一個教師，就是面孔胖胖的那個，……我記不起他的名字，坐到講檯上去，沒有一次不做鬼臉，像這個樣子（做鬼臉），還要從圍巾底下摸摸他的鬍鬚。當然，他向學生做鬼臉，沒有什麼關係，也許是必要的。但是向一個來賓做鬼臉，那就糟了：欽差大臣或者別人以為你對他做鬼臉呢。天曉得，那會造成什麼結果。

羅加 我對他怎樣才好呢？我已再三對他說過。剛剛前天，我們的貴族長老跑進教室裏去的時候，他做起鬼臉來，我從來沒有見過這樣的難看。他原是好意，可是我受了一頓訓斥，說我把自由思想灌輸到學生的頭腦裏去。

知事 我還要對你說一句話，關於那個歷史教員，他顯然是一個有頭腦的人，而且也有點學問，但是他說話太激烈，得意忘形。我聽過他一次：當他講到阿西里人同巴比倫人的時



long as he was talking about the Assyrians and the Babylonians it was not so bad, but when he came to Alexander the Great, I can't describe how he went on.<sup>3</sup> I thought the house was on fire,<sup>1</sup> I did indeed! He jumped out of his desk and banged a chair on the floor with all his might. Of course Alexander the Great was a hero, but why smash the chairs? It's destroying Government property.

Luka. Yes, he is excitable. I've mentioned it to him several times. He answers: 'You may say what you like, but in the cause of learning<sup>2</sup> I am ready to give my life.'

The Mayor. Yes, such is the mysterious dispensation<sup>3</sup> of Providence; clever men are either drunkards or they make such faces that you don't know where to look.

Luka. I wouldn't wish my worst enemy to serve in the department of education! One is afraid of every one: every one interferes, every one wants to show what a clever person he is.

The Mayor. There would be nothing to mind — but it's the damnable incognito! He'll look in all of a sudden:<sup>4</sup> 'Aha! so you are here, my pets! And who is Judge here?' he will say. 'Lyapkin-Tyapkin.' — 'Hand him over! And who is Charity Commissioner?' — 'Zemlyanika.' — 'Hand him over!' That's what's so awful!

(Enters the Postmaster.)

The Postmaster. Do explain, gentlemen, what's this, what official's coming?

The Mayor. Why, haven't you heard?

The Postmaster. I have heard from Pyotr Ivanovitch Bobchinsky. He was in the post office just now.

候，一直都好，但一講到亞歷山大皇帝的時候，我說不出他怎麼講下去。我以為屋子着了火，我真以為如此！他從講台上跳出來，把椅子拚命在地板上碰。當然亞歷山大是一位英雄，但是為什麼要碰破椅子？這是破壞政府的財產呀！

羅加 是的，他容易發脾氣。我已經提醒他好幾次。他回答說：『隨你怎麼說，但為了學術，我甯願犧牲性命。』

知事 這是天意：聰明的人，要不是酒徒，就是怪脾氣的人，做起鬼臉來，叫你不知道往那裏看才好。

羅加 就是我的死對頭，我也不願他進教育界。每個人都可怕；每個人都要干涉；每個人都要自作聰明。

知事 那都沒有什麼，但是私行暗訪的那個人才討厭呢！他會一下子出現，對你們說：『啊！原來你們在這裏，我親愛的人們！誰是這兒的審判官？』『阿莫斯。』——『把他交出來！誰是賑務官？』——『阿德美！』——『把他交出來！』可怕就是為此！

(郵局長進來。)

郵局長 各位，請你們說說看，這是什麼一回事？那個官要來了？

知事 哦，你還沒有聽到嗎？

郵局長 我聽包布金說的。他剛才在郵局裏。

The Mayor. Well, what do you think about it?

The Postmaster. What do I think? There'll be war with the Turks.

Ammos. My very words!<sup>1</sup> Just what I thought.

The Mayor. Yes, you're both completely out of it!<sup>2</sup>

The Postmaster. Indeed, but it's war with the Turks. It's all those nasty French.

The Mayor. War with the Turks! It's we who are going to catch it,<sup>3</sup> not the Turks. That's certain—I have a letter.

The Postmaster. Oh, in that case, there won't be war with the Turks.

The Mayor. Well, what do you say, Ivan Kuzmitch?

The Postmaster. What do I matter? How about you, Anton Antonovitch?

The Mayor. Me? Well, I'm not alarmed—but there, just a bit. . . . . The shopkeepers and townspeople make me uneasy. They say I am the plague of their lives;<sup>4</sup> though God is my witness, if I have taken something here and there, it has been with no ill-feeling. Indeed, I fancy . . . . . (takes him by the arm and leads him aside) . . . . . I wonder whether there hasn't been some secret report against me. Why should an Inspector be sent to us? Listen, Ivan Kuzmitch, couldn't you, for our common benefit, just unseal and read every letter which reaches your post office, going or coming; just to see whether there is any tale-bearing<sup>5</sup> or correspondence going on. If not, you can seal it up again; or, indeed, you can deliver it open.

The Postmaster. I know, I know. . . . . You need not teach