



Farewell to Matyora

Valentin Rasputin, ??????? ????????, Antonina W. Bouis (Translator), Kathleen Parthe (Foreword by)

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A fine example of Village Prose from the post-Stalin era, *Farewell to Matyora* decries the loss of the Russian peasant culture to the impersonal, soulless march of progress.

It is the final summer of the peasant village of Matyora. A dam will be completed in the fall, destroying the village. Although their departure is inevitable, the characters over when, and even whether, they should leave. A haunting story with a heartfelt theme, *Farewell to Matyora* is a passionate plea for humanity and an eloquent cry for a return to an organic life.

Farewell to Matyora Details

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From Reader Review Farewell to Matyora for online ebook

Pavel says

I wonder if chinese literature will cover similar situations they're having right now - goverment turns river bed around, huge platos are being flooded forever and hunderds of thousands of people have to leave their homes. In case of Matyora it wasn't hunderds of thousands, but still a tragedy.

sara says

Today I saw a short biographical film called 'larisa'... 'larisa' is a beautiful tribute made by director elem klimov in memory of his late wife, larisa, who died young in a tragic car accident. The film is only 20 minutes long but it has all the sadness and sorrow of the man packed into these 20 minutes, and the beautifully morose music that plays throughout is haunting...i was deeply, emotionally, moved by this film. the first ten minutes include footage of people who knew larisa, talking about her...among them was the author of this book. Larisa, like her husband, was also a director and wanted to turn this novel into a film...Both her husband and the author talk about her creative vision of the novel and how passionate she was about directing the film...which is why I want to read this novel as soon as possible

Wendy says

Beautiful descriptions but very sad ho w life changed so suddenly and completely.

Mwenzie says

This is one of the most beautifully written books I have ever read. Rasputin takes a heartbreakin situation and crafts a lovely, bittersweet story populated with very real characters living in a place that is a character unto itself for the significance it plays in the story.

Turkish says

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russian comment, my american and english friends. ????. ??????. ??? ?? ?????? ?????????????? ?? ????.
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Eric says

I don't know...I can see how this book could be touching under the right circumstances or with the right reader. I don't have a vested interest in retaining Russian village life, and I feel as though that might taint my reading a bit. To add to that, I had the sense that the novel dragged on a far too long (again, that may be my lack of appreciation for the *derevnya*) and that it took a good 170 pages to finally find some meaningful material. Not a horrible read, but certainly one meant to peruse only if you are looking for a return to the idyllic folk life, not when you live in the modern age and wonder if the benefit of finishing it really outweighs the cost of time wasted flipping through its pages in boredom.

Jennifer Paz says

I read this book in college as part of my minor in Russian. It left a deeply spiritual impression on me at that time. Of course, it will not have the same effect on all readers, but I loved the story, the writing, the characters, the message, and especially, the depth of emotion and spirituality of the Russian soul.

Aisha says

Olea says

Un roman emotionant care ar fi putut fi scris si despre Ada-Kaleh, la condamnarea insulei la disparitie si la executarea condamnarii...

Trounin says

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(c) Trounin

Danijel Brestovac says

Enostavno po prvi tretjini knjige, se mi je za?ela upirati. Trudil sem se, vendar žal ni šlo. Morda drugi?.

J.M. Hushour says

The village of Matyora, on the island of Matyora is being emptied because a new dam will submerge the island in the Angara river. Its remaining inhabitants, mostly elderly women who have never known any other home, prepare to move to the sterile, cold apartment housing of the mainland.

This is not a very cheerful novel.

On the other hand, it comes across as kind of distant and vague. Much of it is given over to somewhat tiring dialogue concerning the above. Where it shines best is when everyone shuts the hell up and watches the workers burning everything down in anticipation of the flood, and frets over their ancestors in the graveyard, who are going to be buried a second time.

What I mean is, the novel excels at its descriptions of unavoidable fate. The strange little mentions of the Master, some sort of nature darkness, preparing for the loss of the island and creeping about eavesdropping add to the air of desolation and misery, not the dialogue, I'm afraid.

Well worth the read, I'd say, if not altogether perfect.

Royce Hull says

You are incorrect. I did not read this book

Ulrike says

lesenswertes Zeitdokument.

Vanessa says

Il romanzo vale la pena di essere letto. Il problema è la traduzione di Carla Muschio. A livello sintattico è la peggiore resa in italiano che abbia mai affrontato. Interi passaggi vanno riletti più volte per afferrare il senso, questo a causa di gravi errori sintattici da scuole elementari. Ecco un tipico esempio di come un testo possa svalutarsi nel processo traduttivo.
