



Lithuania

Rupert Brooke (Editor) , William-Alan Landes (Editor)

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The story depicts the home of a poor family living in a valley of LITHUANIA, an agricultural country under Russian rule. When the story opens, a rich stranger arrives in their midst for a night's rest at this poor family, the father not being at home, the mother and the daughter allow him to stay. When asked about her son, the mother tells the stranger that he had run away when he was about thirteen and that she is not sure whether she will welcome him if he ever comes back. When the father returns, the stranger reveals that he has a lot of money and a gold watch with him and he shows it before going to bed. The family had been under a prolonged spell of poverty and misery. The stranger's wealth provokes uncontrollable greed in the poverty-stricken family. The parents and the daughter conspire to rob him of his valuables and kill him in his bed. They justify their decision to him by taking him for a thief. The father goes with a knife but is not courageous enough to kill the man. He wants to drink before killing him. He goes out for a drink and does not return for an hour. Meanwhile, the mother and the daughter are tired of waiting for him. The daughter takes an axe and kills the stranger ruthlessly with her mother's assistance. The vodka keeper and his son bring the father home. The shopkeeper reveals that the stranger was the son of the family who had run away from home. He had now come back to share the wealth he had accumulated. However, he wished to keep his identity a secret until the following day. He wanted to give them the most pleasant and thrilling surprise of their lives. This shocking revelation leaves the mother in remorse and anguish. She said, "He kept saying MOTHER MOTHER....."

Lithuania Details

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Hany Ramadan says

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Marti Martinson says

Quick, awesome, and very disturbing read. A simple one act play right out of Night Gallery. Enjoyed this MORE than Brookes' poetry. Would LOVE to see this play on a rainy Halloween night.

Sally nasralla says

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Ahmed says

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Shriya says

It may be because of my partiality towards Lithuania that I am giving it a four on five rating. Others may or may not love it as much. Some of you might find it a work of plagiarism as it is a LOT like the Biblical story of the Prodigal Son. Others might think it isn't half as good as other plays and might thank the Universe that it was the only play Rupert Brooke ever wrote. However, for me this play holds a special place, primarily because I have grown up on its story. My mother told me the story of Lithuania when I was not even six years old and it has stayed with me ever since and so, when I finally found this **extremely** rare one act play, despite knowing the whole story, I just couldn't resist reading it.

For me Lithuania was more than a play and reading it was like travelling through the old, familiar roads of childhood. The whole experience was nostalgic. It reminded me of my Grandmother's house, of bonfires in the winter, of the smoke that my Grandfather's cigar. So, call it bias but here it is...a four on five!

Adhi Satya says

cool

Abhinay says

I found it to be a very dramatic and disturbing short story. Having read it first as part of 12th class English, 10 years on, it still has the same gut-wrenching effect on me. This story, more than any other, has forced to me to think upon the correlation between poverty and violence. A good story to read and think upon.

Alin says

baru mulai baca setelah baca ulasan singkatnya di majalah. Lalu ternyata saya beruntung karena berkesempatan membaca naskah ini. Well, ini merupakan sebuah potret kemiskinan yang diangkat dari kisah nyata di Lithuania. Hanya karena kedatangan tamu misterius yang sangat kaya, mereka sekeluarga pun memutuskan untuk membunuh tamunya demi mengincar uang yang dibawa sang tamu. klimaksnya ialah ketika sang keluarga akhirnya membunuh sang tamu tanpa belas kasihan. Kejutan ada di bagian akhir. cerita yang melihat potret kemiskinan yang dapat mengubah masyarakat menjadi begitu hina.. Ironis.
