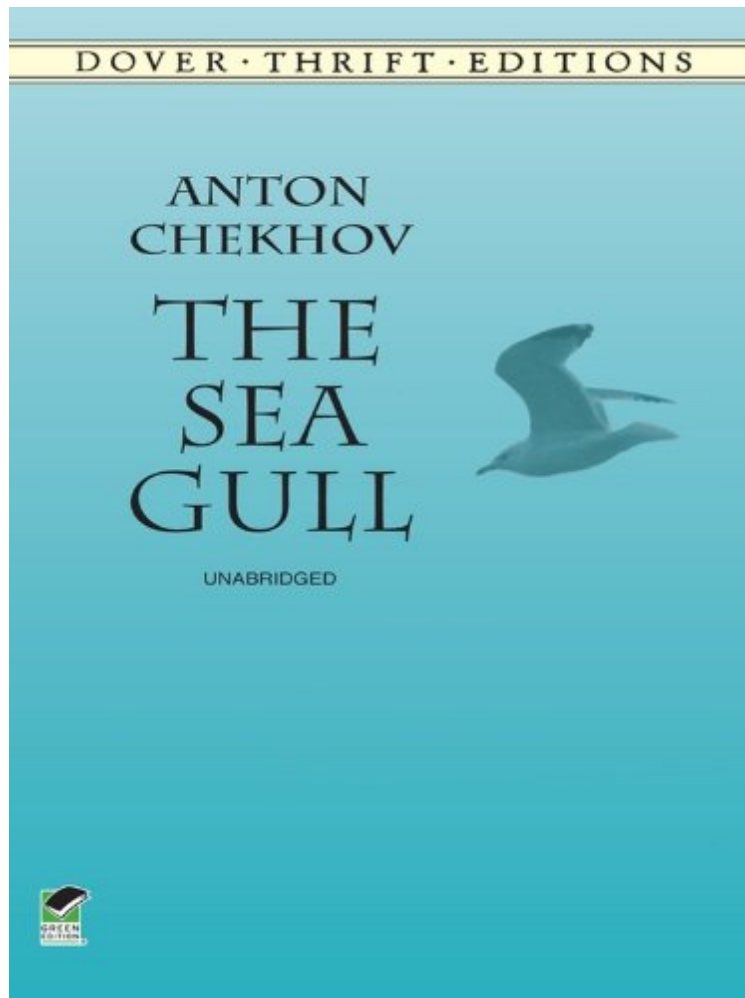


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The Sea Gull (Dover Thrift Editions)

Anton Chekhov

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Anton Chekhov : The Sea Gull (Dover Thrift Editions) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Sea Gull (Dover Thrift Editions):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Interesting and worth reading
By M. Smith
I love seeing Chekhov plays on stage and I had heard that The Sea Gull was one of his classics. Since I have never had the opportunity to see The Sea Gull on stage I bought this copy and read it. First off, Chekhov is a great playwright, so I don't mean to bash him with this review. But, reading this was slow and not nearly as entertaining and thought provoking as many of his other plays.
1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Reading a play
By dixondo
I hve some difficulty in reading plays and the Seagull is no exception. When you read this play it seems rather dull and uninteresting but when you see it acted it takes on a new meaning.
So see the play first and read it afterwards?
3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. A masterpiece
By Shalom Freedman
This is such a rich and deep work. Its exploration of human longings and relationships is powerfully poetic. One of its predominant notes is longing and disappointment in life. The Masha who opens the play telling of her unhappiness seems to signal what is to come, a series of lonely cries

from characters each of whom fails to attain what they most want. The estate owner Sorin laments never having fulfilled his dream of being an author, or his dream of having been married, and now even his dream of living out his last years in the City, in Moscow. His sister the actress is in one sense a typically Russian character filled with passionate contradictions, generous in helping the misfortunate but unbelievably vain in regard to her own status as actress. Her son Constantine frustrated by the love of the actress Nina is too troubled by the sense of inferiority which comes from his having spent a childhood in the company of his mother's successful friends. Nina herself madly in love with the writer Trifonov with whom she runs off with, only to be abandoned by , is too another broken character who nonetheless persists and fights on, as she goes out to the provinces to renew her acting career. Fame and success too do not provide the key to happiness as is demonstrated in the life of Trifonov. This play demonstrates Chekhov's incredible capacity for creating living characters, and the tremendous emotional richness of his work. A masterpiece

Perhaps the most elaborate and realistic analysis of the life of the tormented artist ever presented in dramatic form, Chekhov's *The Sea Gull* portrays the struggles of Konstantin Gavrilovich Trepliov to achieve his literary ambitions and win the love of Nina, a would-be actress. Thwarted by his beautiful mother, who feels her advancing age every time she sees her adult son, frustrated by his competition with the successful writer Trigorin, Konstantin's anguish is reflected by the pain of the other characters. His uncle, Pyotr Sorin, upon whose country estate Konstantin lives, regrets all that he has not done; Masha, young daughter of the estate manager, loves Konstantin but marries Medvedenko, the impoverished schoolmaster; Dorn, the local doctor, has never written a word himself but is full of advice for Konstantin. Each reveals the emotional suffering that underlies our lives. In this and other plays, Chekhov pioneered a new form, Impressionistic Realism, concerned not so much with plot, but with character. Rather than focusing upon action or external drama, Chekhov brings out the inner experiences and reactions of Konstantin and the others. Inspired by a real-life incident, Chekhov uses the death of the sea gull to symbolize the ruined hopes and dreams of all his characters. *The Sea Gull* is a tragic masterpiece universally hailed as a seminal play, a prototype of 20th-century drama.

Language Notes
Text: English (translation) Original Language: Russian
From the Publisher
Webster's paperbacks take advantage of the fact that classics are frequently assigned readings in English courses. By using a running English-to-Spanish thesaurus at the bottom of each page, this edition of *The Sea-Gull* by Anton Chekhov was edited for three audiences. The first includes Spanish-speaking students enrolled in an English Language Program (ELP), an English as a Foreign Language (EFL) program, an English as a Second Language Program (ESL), or in a TOEFLreg; or TOEICreg; preparation program. The second audience includes English-speaking students enrolled in bilingual education programs or Spanish speakers enrolled in English speaking schools. The third audience consists of students who are actively building their vocabularies in Spanish in order to take foreign service, translation certification, Advanced Placementreg; (APreg;) or similar examinations. By using the Webster's Spanish Thesaurus Edition when assigned for an English course, the reader can enrich their vocabulary in anticipation of an examination in Spanish or English. TOEFLreg;, TOEICreg;, APreg; and Advanced Placementreg; are trademarks of the Educational Testing Service which has neither reviewed nor endorsed this book. All rights reserved.
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