



DEATH OF A CLERK

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OVERVIEW

- ◎ One of his first published works (1883)
- ◎ Progressive for its time
 - Author asserting his presence
 - Pointing out of clichés
 - Explaining use of language
- ◎ Comical but serious



NAMES

Cherviakov → worm

Brizzhalov → bryzgat (to spray),
briuzzhat (to grumble)



THEMES

- ◎ Acceptance
- ◎ Apologizing
- ◎ Social and political structures in Russia



ACCEPTANCE

- ◉ Need to please and be accepted by others
- ◉ Cannot exist without it
- ◉ Dictates our actions and lives



APOLOGIZING

- ◎ A lost art
- ◎ Often unnecessary and repetitious
- ◎ Can become annoying and people begin to ignore it
- ◎ Lead to low self-respect



SOCIAL AND POLITICAL STRUCTURES IN RUSSIA

◎ Classism

- Brizzhalov = officer; higher rank than Cherviakov
- Cherviakov = lowly government clerk

