



Uncle's Dream by Fyodor Dostoyevsky was written following his five year exile to Siberia where he was sent to serve in a hard labor camp. Following what could only have been a harrowing and harsh existence in Russia's infamous prison for political and social prisoners, one would expect Dostoyevsky's work to have been dark and bitter. Rather, Uncle's Dream is a humorous and yet scathing commentary on Russian provincial high-society.

The story of elderly Prince K. who comes to visit the town of Mordasoff, lorded over by the imperious Maria Alexandrovna, is one of love, hate, deceit and greed. Standing reluctantly at Maria Alexandrovna's side is her haughty daughter, Zina, who has few friends of her own. The prince's companion and distant relative is Paul Mosgliakoff, suitor to Zina.

Maria Alexandrovna and Zina are the central characters in the charade to lure the senile prince into a marriage of convenience (not for him but for Maria Alexandrovna and Zina). They, and a host of lesser characters, are brought to life in full color by Dostoyevsky's masterful wordsmithing. Uncle's Dream is a must listen for any fan of not only Dostoyevsky, but of Russian literature and the "goings-on" of the Russian "upper crust."

Uncle's Dreams

Uncle's Dreams

Read by Greg Giordano
Total running time: 06:04:46

This recording is in the public domain and may be reproduced, distributed, or modified without permission. For more information or to volunteer, visit librivox.org. Cover picture by Elisabeth le Brun, detail of *Hyacinthe Rolande, natural daughter of the Chevalier Fagan (1791)*. Copyright expired in U.S., Canada, EU. and all countries with author's life +70 yrs laws. Cover design by Mary Kay. This design is in the public domain.