



# The Coming Spring

*Stefan Żeromski , Bill Johnston (translator)*

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**The Coming Spring** Stefan Żeromski , Bill Johnston (translator)

Zeromski's last novel tells the story of Cezary Baryka, a young Pole who finds himself in Baku, Azerbaijan, a predominantly Armenia city, as the Russian Revolution breaks out. He becomes embroiled in the chaos caused by the revolution, and barely escapes with his life. Then, he and his father set off on a horrendous journey west to reach Poland. His father dies en route, but Cezary makes it to the newly independent Poland. Here he struggles to find his place in the turmoil of the new country. Cezary sees the suffering of the poor and the working classes, yet his experiences in the newly formed Soviet Union make him deeply suspicious of socialist and communist solutions. Cezary is an outsider among both the gentry and the working classes, and he cannot find where he belongs. Furthermore, he has unsuccessful and tragic love relations. The novel ends when, despite his profound misgivings, he takes up political action on behalf of the poor.

## The Coming Spring Details

Date : Published July 15th 2007 by Central European University Press (first published 1924)

ISBN : 9789637326899

Author : Stefan Żeromski , Bill Johnston (translator)

Format : Paperback 413 pages

Genre : European Literature, Polish Literature, Classics, Academic, School, Fiction, Cultural, Poland

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# From Reader Review The Coming Spring for online ebook

## Marcin Brzozowski says

Druga dobra lektura z liceum. Dziwne, ale prawdziwe.

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## Aleksandra Szranko says

Hmm, dziwne. Jako? inaczej zapami?ta?am t? ksi??k? z czasów liceum. Wtedy podoba?a mi si? bardzo. Teraz najbardziej podoba? mi si? Adamczyk (momentami brawurowy, brzmi?cy jak Maciek Stuhr, najcz??ciej w tekstach Hipolita Wielos?awskiego, a to w?a?nie w filmie by? m?ody Stuhr; ale i znakomity jako przes?uchiwana Turzycka), a sam Czaruk? g?ównie irytowa?.

Ciekawe jak wypadnie film. Zdaje si?, ?e z ksi??k? ma niezbyt wiele wspólnego (a tak odleg?ych interpretacji nie lubi?). Nie pami?tam, czy w 2001 17-letniej mnie si? podoba?. Pami?tam tylko, ?e by?o Baku, w którym mówili po rosyjsku (a ja ju? wtedy na powrót by?am zauroczona rosyjskim). A z drugiej strony nie zasn??am, jak na *Panu Tadeuszu*, wi?c mo?e nawet - cho? odleg?e od ksi??ki - by?o ogl?dable. Za to w drugoplanowych rolach dzisiejsze gwiazdy - Kulesza, Doroci?ski, Szyc.

2,5 gwiazdki i id? obejrze? film.

Edit: có? za popierdolony, chaotyczny film aka zlepek scen! Koszmarne skróty my?lowe, przeskoki, interpretacje, dodatki. Przy filmie ksi??ka zyskuje BARDZO!

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## Alicja says

2.5

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## Ola says

3.5

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## Alicja says

<3

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## Anna says

All time favorite!

Tylko gdzie? te szklane domy?

**carnival says**

The main character's behaviour is incredibly annoying. He often changes his mind, so we don't eventually know if he is a communist or not and what are his priorities in life. Some symbols, romances and pessimistic orations about the future of Poland.

On the other hand, the book is certainly more engrossing than other author's novels (especially the second part) and I quite liked the style of writing, which is original, but not tiring.

### Karolina says

??????? says

[illegible]

**Rachel says**

I wasn't expecting to like this book as much as I did, seeing that I had classified it as another (boring) Dickensian at first glance. Then started the story of a boy who seems to have it all, then it's all taken away from him...

The struggles of a newly independent country are reflected in this boy's journey to manhood; from being so arrogantly full of himself to getting so humbled that he has got to gather his broken pieces and start afresh, working and hoping for the best.

The last part of the book was a bit confusing for me tho', I couldn't quite figure out if Cezary was for or against the working class, although he is portrayed as being sympathetic to their plight all along...

### P42 says

Jeszcze nie wiem co o tym myśle?

**Maciej Sz. says**

I don't want to talk about political problems concluded in "Przedwiośnie" but one of the most important objection to this book is so slowly directed plot, and boring character. Moreover nobody write such archaic style nowadays. If we compare Żeromski with other contemporary writers like Prus, Sienkiewicz or Reymont (I'm still talking about style) he will lose this unequal battle.

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### **Domissiak says**

Myślałam, że będzie gorzej, ale przeczytałam. Pomiędzy fakt, że czytałam tylko w szkole na lekcjach.

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### **Tomasz says**

A mi się podobała. Minusem - zbyt prędko i panotadeuszowo w II części - po szybkiej i wartkiej akcji w Baku, przenosimy się do szampowego, rodzinnego Zamościa. Na szczęście wkrótce to przemija. Poza tym książka jest naprawdę przyjemna do czytania - początek niesamowicie bogaty w historię, interesujący - chociaż skądś do przemyśleń. Fajnie widzieć idealistę komunizmu, na którego jakoś tam wpływa życie. Ciekawa polityczna powieść, a i wątek miłosny nie brakuje za bardzo ;)

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### **Justyna says**

Surprisingly, this book wasn't as bad as I've expected it to be. The plot was pretty enjoyable and very "Żeromski-style" - all over the place with main hero living in weird and pretty unrelatable mindset that makes you turn your thinking 180 to understand his motivations, but that is not a necessarily bad thing. The one thing that destroyed my experience was the ending - I could understand why main character from Żeromski's "Ludzie bezdomni" did what he did at the end, but I was completely unable to comprehend what happened to lead to this ending in "Przedwiośnie".

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### **HERBATKA says**

Niestety, ale jest to moja szkolna zmora. Była.

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### **Chuck says**

Wreszcie zrozumiałem, że w ostatniej scenie on wcale nie stoi po stronie komunistów. I to chyba zdecydował, że zamiast dwóch gwiazdek dać trzy.

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### **Kathleen says**

This book is by Stefan Zeromski--Bill Johnston is the translator. It's a strange book, with a plot that's all over the place, starting in Baku before and during the Russian revolution, and ending in Warsaw during the interwar period, with a long middle section that takes place on a large Polish estate in the country. The central character is an impetuous young man who sympathizes with Bolshevism but keeps getting his Bolshevik sympathies tested by the realities of Bolshevism, whether in the new Soviet Union or in secretive meetings in Warsaw. Nevertheless, he's also turned off by the conservatism of the Polish upper classes and their inability or unwillingness to solve the problems of poverty and of minorities. His ill-fated affair with an upper-class widow who marries another man solely because that man is wealthy turns the tide at the end. It's quite involving, but somehow rather unsatisfying perhaps because the hero is sort of a knucklehead. I would recommend it, though, to people who are interested in the history of the between-the-wars period in Eastern Europe.

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### **Jenny says**

Was published in the same year as *The Great Gatsby* - an interesting comparison.

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### **silverandredinmyhead says**

Pierwsza i trzecia cz??? by?y zdecydowanie najlepsze, cz??? druga strasznie mi si? d?u?y?a.

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