



# The Marriage Proposal

*Anton Chekhov , H. Clark (Translator)*

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This little farce is very popular and one of the funniest ever written. The story tells of the efforts of a nervous and excitable man who starts to propose to an attractive young woman, but who gets into a tremendous quarrel over a boundary line.

## The Marriage Proposal Details

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# From Reader Review The Marriage Proposal for online ebook

## David says

Hilarious. Many translations available, with many minor differences, but always insanely funny.

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## Amani Amin says

<https://itunes.apple.com/us/podcast/t...>

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## Salam Almahi says

This so ludicrous yet absolutely amusing!

I listened to a dramatic reading of the play, which made every bit of it 10 times better.

Here's the link to the audio If you want to experience it, too:

<https://youtu.be/39NV90Ddyfs>

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## Srividya says

Hilarious! Enjoyed every moment of this fantastic satire on society and its idiosyncrasies. Narrated beautifully by the narrators at LibriVox, which added a wonderful flavour to the subject matter of the play. Worth listening to and, what's more is, that it doesn't take much time!

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## Carol says

A hell of a lot of fun. Quick witted and farcical. Arguing like an old married couple just as he's trying to propose! Terrifying to think of the reality of this kind of arguing in real life relationships, but a joy to watch exaggerated with these characters.

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## Michal says

The charmingly funny one act with brilliant characters. The irony arises from the fact that this marriage will be a total mess.

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## Anatoly says

A Marriage Proposal by Anton Chekhov Analysis

A Marriage Proposal is a play written by a great Russian writer Anton Chekhov. It could be classified as a humorous story where the author mocked the habits of landowners.

The play features three characters. A country farmer Tschubukov and his daughter Natalia and Lomov - their neighbor, who came to Tschubukov to ask for the hand of his daughter.

Tschubukov welcomed Lomov ceremonially: "Who is this I see? My dear fellow! ... Please sit down. It isn't right to forget one's neighbor.". When the purpose of the visit was disclosed, Tschubukov embraced and kissed Lomov, he called his daughter and left Lomov and Natalia one on one.

They started a small talk about the weather, about the chores on the farm. When Natalia asked Lomov why he was dressed up so gorgeously, he started answering. Probably, there are many ways to start a speech with a marriage proposal. Some would start talking about their feelings, about their intentions. Lomov, however, started with a precise description of his property:

"My poor aunt and her husband, from whom, as you know, I inherited the estate, always had the greatest respect for your father and your poor mother ... my property, as you know, adjoins your own. If you will be so good as to remember, my meadows touch your birch woods."

Natalia interrupted his speech on this statement "You said "my meadows"—but are they yours?" Their dispute was in a polite tone firstly but soon it became furious. When Tschubukov joined the arguing, the speakers started insulting each other. He cried that "whole Lomov family were insane!". Lomov replied "And your mother limped ... And you are an intriguer."

That debate was so violent that Lomov even had a black-out. Here is what happened next:

Lomov. Sparks! Mists! Where am I?

Tschubukov. Get married! Quick, and then go to the devil! She's willing! (He joins the hands of Lomov and Natalia.) She's agreed! Only leave me in peace!

Lomov. Wh—what? (getting up) Whom?

Tschubukov. She's willing! Well? Kiss each other and—the devil take you both!

Natalia (groans). He lives! Yes, yes, I'm willing!

Tschubukov. Kiss each other!

Lomov. Eh? Whom? (Natalia and Lomov kiss.) Very nice! Pardon me, but what is this for? Oh, yes, I understand! My heart—sparks—I am happy. "

And ... they continued arguing.

Anton Chekhov poked the fun at the habits of the landowners to marry for economic reasons rather than love. He wrote in his story a typical situation: when stubborn people started arguing about something unimportant it leads to a silly dispute. Chekhov was a recognized Master who was able to describe human nature in a manner which made the features of character familiar and funny.

Here is the link to the story:

<https://wwhssprinkle.weebly.com/uploa...>

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**Realini says**

## The Marriage Proposal by Anton Chekhov

I listened to the play, in which the greatest Romanian actor- George Constantin plays the role of the father and this made my day.

I am in the search for an optimal reading plan and experience. Instead of reading books that do not provide me with the best positive emotions and pleasure, even if they have been listed among the best, I should read the works that are both meaningful and enjoyable, from my point of view.

For a few months I have been struggling with the Man Without Qualities which does not appeal to me, even if it is considered to be one of the best books ever, although my method is to read from a variety of books, each and every single day. Sadly, it is also the case with Ulysses, which is for many the very best book ever. On the other hand, there are diamonds, like this short work of Chekhov, which are both appreciated by the scholars and pleasurable to me and so I end up with the best of both worlds.

This is an ideal work from my perspective: comic, likeable, satirical and meaningful, although short.

Perhaps Chekhov was the best at this art of introducing a whole world of sensations, description, psychology, messages and morale in a short and rounded, beautiful package. I have read recently about John Cheever, another giant of (modern this time) Literature that he was called The Chekhov of American Short Stories... in other words, Chekhov has such a magnitude than another peak of the art of storytelling is somehow named after him.

In The Marriage Proposal we have borzois, I think. This is another reason for this tale to stay with me. The main characters argue over which of the hounds is better. Paradoxically, the only three people in the play argue repeatedly, even if Lomov begins with the Marriage Proposal from the title, and later repeats the request, amid quarrels, heart trouble and bitter disputes over land, possessions and...dogs.

This story brought to my mind the situation in the Ukraine, where the Russians want to grab ever more territory, after they had already occupied the Crimea. The situation is tense, but funny in the saga, as opposed to the one to the North of my country, which is descending into civil war, with the participation and evil presence of Putin's Russia.

Listening to The Marriage Proposal was made a great Joy by the acting of George Constantin, the greatest actor I had the pleasure to admire on stage and in radio plays. A wonderful man, whose presence radiated power, humor and terror at the same time, the whole range of emotions as a matter of fact.

He was a Magician and an actor with an aura. I do not believe in the supernatural, ubermensch...but George Constantin was in a category apart from the rest of the world.

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### Jayanth says

Hahaha, this was very funny! A nervous man with heart palpitations makes a marriage proposal to his neighbor's daughter.

I don't know what this is supposed to be a satire of, but it was funny af due the complete farcical nature of the 3 characters. Once the proposal is made, they hardly discuss marriage, instead they get into an argument about their lands and pet dogs, hahaha. Short and funny read, highly recommended if you are looking for a quick laugh. Listen to the Librivox audiobook, it's so well done.

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**imane says**

[illegible]

## Mina Soare says

The Julius West translation, many thanks to John Eddings, Ruth Golding, Simon Larois and Philippa for the free Librivox audiobook edition

Audiobooks have an edge when it comes to theatre and this proposal packs a punch. It is a humorous, farcical rendition of a proposal, often derailed by the idiosyncrasies of those involved. It's carefully crafted in style and form and very entertaining, with John Eddings, Ruth Golding, Simon Larois as Stepan Stepanovich Chubukov, Natalya Stepanovna, Ivan Vassilevitch Lomov, respectively, and Philippa reading the stage directions.

## REEMA READMA says

## What the frick

## Aelin says

I feel like this would have been a lot better if I had seen it performed. That being said there's a lot of substance to the book despite the fact that it's not very long. The old married couple banter is quite amusing but I can't have been the only one freaking out for the poor guy? XD

## Saadia says

My first audiobook ever, and I listened to a dramatic reading of the book which made it an even better first time experience.

**imts says**

*"Darling, the Meadows are ours!"*

This is literally only a five-minute read, and absolutely hilarious; you won't be wasting your time with this, alright?

I never knew this was the way to propose to someone in order to be absolutely certain that I would get an

answer in the affirmative; even knowing this now, I'd still be hesitant to try the method out!

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### **Feisty Harriet says**

A hilarious short story of he said/she said all surrounding who owns what and a marriage proposal. Read or listen to this, you'll definitely giggle.

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### **Ashma says**

Absurd. Funny.

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### **JoAnn says**

Melodramatic for sure. Couldn't stop laughing! This would be fun to see performed.

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### **Celeste says**

This was a very fun play to read and has become one of my favorites. Chekhov does a very good job with dialogue. The characters are able to make a person laugh and they're all-in-all a lot of fun! Absolutely would recommend!

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### **Sangeetha Ramachandran says**

What a hilarious play!!

I give all the kudos to the narrators of Librivox. Absolutely enjoyable throughout. I had hard time controlling my laughter while listening to it. Can't help thinking about the quarrels of real life relationships. I really admired the narrator of the character "NATALYA STEPANOVNA". Jeez!  
Funny is no closer description.

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