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Suitcase (Paperback)

By Sergei Dovlatov

COUNTERPOINT, United States, 2011. Paperback. Condition: New. Reprint. Language: English . Brand New Book. Sergei Dovlatov's subtle, dark-edged humor and wry observations are in full force in *The Suitcase* as he examines eight objects--the items he brought with him in his luggage upon his emigration from the U.S.S.R. These seemingly undistinguished possessions, stuffed into a worn-out suitcase, take on a riotously funny life of their own as Dovlatov inventories the circumstances under which he acquired them, occasioning a brilliant series of interconnected tales: A poplin shirt evokes the bittersweet story of a courtship and marriage, while a pair of boots (of the kind only the Nomenklatura can afford) calls up the hilarious conclusion to an official banquet. Some driving gloves--remnants of Dovlatov's short-lived acting career--share space with neon-green crepe socks, reminders of a failed black-market scam. And in curious juxtaposition, the belt from a prison guard's uniform lies next to a stained jacket that once belonged to Fernand Leger. Imbued with a comic nostalgia overlaid with Dovlatov's characteristically dry wit, *The Suitcase* is an intensely human, delightfully ironic novel from the finest Soviet satirist to appear in English since Vladimir Voinovich.

Reviews

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