



Talking Book Center
1 Churchville Avenue
Staunton, VA 24401
540-885-6215

Global Reading: Czech Republic

DB23403 The Casting Of Bells by Jaroslav Seifert (poetry)

A collection of poems inspired by the 1968 Prague uprising. Read and loved by his countrymen, Seifert is the first Czech-language writer to be honored with a Nobel Prize for literature. 1983. (1984 Nobel Prize)

DB16415 The Good Soldier Schweik by Jaroslav Hašek (historical fiction)

Satire on human folly opens in Prague on the eve of World War I. The hero, an ex-soldier discharged from military service for chronic feeble-mindedness, earns a living by selling mongrel dogs with forged pedigrees. With only his wits and peasant shrewdness to rely on, the good soldier manages to foil the Austro-Hungarian war machine and to escape from one misadventure after another by a hairbreadth.. 1921.

DB39247 I Am Snowing: The Confessions Of A Woman Of Prague by Pavel Kohout
Petra Marova is a Czech woman just entering middle age. Her private world strangely reflects the unsettled climate of the early 1990s in Prague, now free of communist rule but not quite free of suspicions. Petra is troubled by questions about the political pasts of her lovers, perhaps mirroring her confusion about just how much control one should expect past tragedies to have on the future. Some strong language. 1992.

DB45851 Apocryphal Tales: With A Selection Of Fables And Would-Be Tales
by Karel Čapek (short stories)

Humorous short stories written by one of Czechoslovakia's leading novelists and playwrights during the 1920s and 1930s. Čapek, who died in 1938, views European history and mythology from the perspective of his times in order to highlight social and political concerns. 1932.

DB50755 Lovers For A Day by Ivan Klíma (short stories)

Twelve short stories written between 1962 and 1994, portraying new, old, or mismatched lovers. In "A Baffling Choice," a twenty-six-year-old married mother astonishes her husband (and the divorce court judge) by having an affair with a neighbor who requires crutches to walk and is many years her senior. 1999.

DBG04046 Two Murders In My Double Life: A Crime Novel In Two Interlocking Movements by Josef Škvorecký (mystery)

The narrator, a college professor in Canada, tries to solve the murder of a fellow professor's husband. Once that mystery has been solved he must try to extract himself, and his wife, from a web of political intrigue in their native country. Unrated. 1996.

DB38410 The Metamorphosis And Other Stories by Franz Kafka (short stories)

First published in the early part of the twentieth century. The translator explains the origins of Kafka's Prague German in the introduction. In "Metamorphosis"--a three-part novella--a man awakens one morning from agitated dreams to find himself transformed into a monstrous insect. This collection also contains sketches, stories, and other short works by a writer known for his ability to capture the essence of the human condition in a short story. 1915.

DB101112 Children Of The Holocaust: Conversations With Sons And Daughters Of Survivors by Helen Epstein (biography, history)

A collection of interviews with men and women raised by survivors of the Holocaust. Discusses the varied impact of that dark legacy. Unrated. 1979.

DB48407 The Czech Republic by Steven Otfinoski (history)

Introduces the land and people of the eastern European country, its culture, and history including its release from the Iron Curtain in 1989. Discusses economic problems and possible solutions. For junior and senior high and older readers. 1997.

DB117737 A History Of The Czech Lands by Jaroslav Panek

Essential for scholars of Slavic, Central, and East European studies. 2009.