The book was found

Oblomov (Penguin Classics)
Written with sympathetic humor and compassion, this masterful portrait of upper-class decline made Ivan Goncharov famous throughout Russia on its publication in 1859. Ilya Ilyich Oblomov is a member of Russia’s dying aristocracy—a man so lazy that he has given up his job in the Civil Service, neglected his books, insulted his friends, and found himself in debt. Too apathetic to do anything about his problems, he lives in a grubby, crumbling apartment, waited on by Zakhar, his equally idle servant. Terrified by the activity necessary to participate in the real world, Oblomov manages to avoid work, postpones change, and “finally” risks losing the love of his life. This superb translation by David Magarshack captures all the subtle comedy and near-tragedy of the original.

For more than seventy years, Penguin has been the leading publisher of classic literature in the English-speaking world. With more than 1,700 titles, Penguin Classics represents a global bookshelf of the best works throughout history and across genres and disciplines. Readers trust the series to provide authoritative texts enhanced by introductions and notes by distinguished scholars and contemporary authors, as well as up-to-date translations by award-winning translators.
unlike many others he finds himself very bored with society life. Instead, he prefers to remain in his
bed, entertaining a handful of guests, mulling over but never putting to paper a plan to improve his
estate, and, for him most pleasantly of all, daydreaming about his simple and idyllic childhood in the
country. To any outside observer, he is pathetic in this state, where he can’t even finish writing a
letter, so his childhood friend Stolz tries to bring him out of his torpor. Stolz fails in persuading him
that going to dinner parties and taking part in high-society backstabbing is any better than lying in
bed, but he does manage to rouse him to some kind of action by introducing him to his friend Olga.
Olga and Oblomov fall in love, with Olga dreaming of a permanently-changed Oblomov and
Oblomov dreaming of a future growing old with Olga on Oblomov’s family estate. Meanwhile,
circumstances force Oblomov to move into a new apartment, where the landlady takes quite a liking
to him but the landlady’s brother, along with one of Oblomov’s longtime houseguests, conspire to
defraud Oblomov. This probably only summarizes about half of the novel, but saying much more
would probably give away too much of the ending. Despite the unattractiveness of Oblomov’s
preferred lifestyle, Goncharov manages to make Oblomov a very lovable character.

Download to continue reading...

The Penguin Book of Russian Poetry (Penguin Classics) Penguin Classics Fear and Trembling:
Dialectical Lyric By Johannes De Silentio (Penguin Pocket Hardbacks) The Penguin Arthur Miller:
Hundred Years of Supernatural Encounters (Penguin Classics) Modern Classics Journeys End
(Modern Classics (Penguin)) Little Black Classics Box Set (Penguin Little Black Classics) Modern
Classics Selected Poetry (Penguin Modern Classics) Homosexual Verse, The Penguin Book of
(Penguin’s Library of American Indian History) The Penguin Dictionary of Literary Terms and
(Penguin Press Science) Ways of Seeing (Penguin Modern Classics) Illness as Metaphor and AIDS
and Its Metaphors (Penguin Modern Classics)