

Czech 291

Assignment for W 25 October

Please read *Too Loud a Solitude*, available in the bookstore. This is Hrabal's masterpiece, I think. The narrator's name is Haň'a (note spelling). It is Hrabal's own nickname for the man who compacted old papers, developed from Germ. Heinrich.

Possible quiz topics, among others:

Jesus and Lao-Tse

the little Gypsy girl; the Gypsy paper collectors

the death and funeral of Uncle

physicality: the war of the rats, the little mice, the swarming horseflies, Camembert decomposition, fecal matter; physicality and its opposite pole

Kant, Hegel, Schopenhauer, Gauguin, Rembrandt, others

the meaning of "too loud a solitude"

the ending and its significance

For F 27 Oct

Please write for me a short (2-3 pp) essay on the *sacral* in *I served the King* and *Too Loud a Solitude*.