

**Title: Death In Venice**

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Summary:

After a day of work, Aschenbach heads out for a walk in the Munich area. He's not feeling too well - he was up all night and just wants to get some fresh air. But when he gets to the North Cemetery it's getting dark and stormy, so he takes a tram back to the city. On his way back through the cemetery he sees a man who looks like a kind of proto-Gulliver character from The Piazza del Trabantio . This guy is clearly there to see the sunrise rise over the Bay of Biondello. We learn that this dude is named Gaston Aschendach and he's about fifty years old. It's springtime in Venice. The next day, Aschenbach eats a long, tedious meal and ponders philosophical questions while contemplating the harmony that must come to subsist between the individual human being and the universal law in order that human beauty may result. He goes to bed but has vivid dreams. The following morning he feels out of sorts and begins to think of leaving. At nine o'clock he goes down to the breakfast room and sees the two Polish girls with their governess. Phax is not there. After a leisurely breakfast, he visits his sisters at their table and watches as they eat. Then he goes out to the beach and seats himself on a bench by the water. There he observes the young Eros dressed in a light blue. During his stay on the Lido, Aschenbach observes that the number of guests is declining and that German is becoming a scarce commodity. He overhears a barber saying that a German family has departed after a brief visit and speculates that the father does not fear the sickness because he has no fear of it. After lunch one day, Aschenbach ferries across to Venice and tries unsuccessfully to find his idol on the Piazza. But as he is sitting at tea at a little round table on the shady side of the square, suddenly he notices a peculiar odour, which, it seemed to him now, had been in the air for days without his being aware: a sweetish medicinal