

= Bolesław Prus =

Bolesław Prus (pronounced : [bɔˈlɛswaf ˈprus] ; 20 August 1847 ? 19 May 1912) , born Aleksander Głowacki , is a leading figure in the history of Polish literature and philosophy and a distinctive voice in world literature .

As a 15 @-@ year @-@ old he joined the Polish 1863 Uprising against Imperial Russia . Shortly after his 16th birthday , he suffered severe battle injuries . Five months later he was imprisoned for his part in the Uprising . These early experiences may have precipitated the panic disorder and agoraphobia that would dog him through life , and shaped his opposition to attempting to regain Poland 's independence by force of arms .

In 1872 at age 25 , in Warsaw , he settled into a 40 @-@ year journalistic career that highlighted science , technology , education , and economic and cultural development . These societal enterprises were essential to the endurance of a people who had in the 18th century been partitioned out of political existence by Russia , Prussia and Austria . Głowacki took his pen name " Prus " from the appellation of his family 's coat @-@ of @-@ arms .

As a sideline he wrote short stories . Succeeding with these , he went on to employ a larger canvas ; over the decade between 1884 and 1895 , he completed four major novels : The Outpost , The Doll , The New Woman and Pharaoh . The Doll depicts the romantic infatuation of a man of action who is frustrated by his country 's backwardness . Pharaoh , Prus ' only historical novel , is a study of political power and of the fates of nations , set in ancient Egypt at the fall of the 20th Dynasty and New Kingdom .

= = Life = =

= = = Early years = = =

Aleksander Głowacki was born 20 August 1847 in Hrubieszów , now in southeastern Poland , very near the present @-@ day border with Ukraine . The town was then in the Russian @-@ controlled sector of partitioned Poland , known as the " Congress Kingdom " . Głowacki was the younger son of Antoni Głowacki , an estate steward at the village of ?abcze , in Hrubieszów County , and Apolonia Głowacka , née Trembińska . In 1850 , when the future Bolesław Prus was three years old , his mother died ; the child was placed in the care of his maternal grandmother , Marcjanna Trembińska of Puławy , and , four years later , in the care of his aunt , Domicela Olszewska of Lublin . In 1856 Prus was orphaned by his father 's death . In 1862 Prus ' brother Leon , a teacher thirteen years his senior , took him to Siedlce , then to Kielce .

Soon after the outbreak of the Polish January 1863 Uprising against Imperial Russia , 15 @-@ year @-@ old Prus ran away from school to join the insurgents . He may have been influenced by his brother Leon , who subsequently became one of the insurrection 's leaders . During the Uprising , Leon developed a mental illness that he would suffer from until his death in 1907 .

On 1 September 1863 , twelve days after his sixteenth birthday , Prus took part in a battle against Russian forces at a village called Bia?ka , four kilometers south of Siedlce . He suffered contusions to the neck and gunpowder injuries to his eyes , and was captured unconscious on the battlefield and taken to hospital in Siedlce . This experience may have caused his subsequent lifelong agoraphobia .

Five months later , in early February 1864 , for his role in the Uprising Prus was arrested and imprisoned at Lublin Castle . In early April a military court sentenced him to forfeiture of his nobleman 's status and resettlement on imperial lands . On 30 April , however , the Lublin District military head credited Prus ' time spent under arrest and , on account of the 16 @-@ year @-@ old 's youth , decided to place him in the custody of his uncle Klemens Olszewski . On 7 May Prus was released and entered the household of Katarzyna Trembińska , a relative and the mother of his future wife , Oktawia Trembińska .

Prus enrolled at a Lublin gymnasium (secondary school , where he was a student of Józef

Skłodowski , grandfather of future Nobel laureate Maria Skłodowska @-@ Curie) . Graduating on 30 June 1866 , at nineteen he matriculated in the Warsaw University Department of Mathematics and Physics . In 1868 , indigence forced him to break off his university studies .

In 1869 he enrolled in the Forestry Department at the Agriculture and Forestry Institute in Puławy , a historic town where he had spent some of his childhood and which , 15 years later , would be the setting for his striking 1884 micro @-@ story , " Mold of the Earth " , comparing human history with the mutual aggressions of blind , mindless colonies of molds that cover a boulder adjacent to the Temple of the Sibyl . Aleksander was soon expelled from the Institute for his Polish @-@ patriot 's stance in Russian @-@ language class .

Henceforth he studied on his own while supporting himself mainly as a tutor . As part of his program of self @-@ education , he translated and summarized John Stuart Mill 's Logic .

In 1872 he embarked on a career as a newspaper columnist , while working several months at the Evans , Lilpop and Rau Machine and Agricultural Implement Works in Warsaw .

In 1873 Prus delivered two public lectures which illustrate the breadth of his scientific interests : " On the Structure of the Universe , " and " On Discoveries and Inventions . " The latter lecture , subsequently printed as a pamphlet , is a remarkably prescient contribution to what would , in the following century , become the field of logology (" the science of science ") .

= = = Columnist = = =

As a newspaper columnist , Prus commented on the achievements of scholars and scientists such as John Stuart Mill , Charles Darwin , Alexander Bain , Herbert Spencer and Henry Thomas Buckle ; urged Poles to study science and technology and to develop industry and commerce ; encouraged the establishment of charitable institutions to benefit the underprivileged ; described the fiction and nonfiction works of fellow writers such as H.G. Wells ; and extolled man @-@ made and natural wonders such as the Wieliczka Salt Mine , an 1887 solar eclipse that he witnessed at Mława , planned building of the Eiffel Tower for the 1889 Paris Exposition , and Nałęczów , where he vacationed for 30 years .

His " Weekly Chronicles " spanned forty years (they have since been reprinted in twenty volumes) and would help prepare the ground for the 20th @-@ century blossoming of Polish science and especially mathematics . " Our national life , " wrote Prus , " will take a normal course only when we have become a useful , indispensable element of civilization , when we have become able to give nothing for free and to demand nothing for free . " The social importance of science and technology would recur as a theme in his novels The Doll (1889) and Pharaoh (1895) .

Of contemporary thinkers , the one who most influenced Prus and other writers of the Polish " Positivist " period (roughly 1864 ? 1900) was Herbert Spencer , the English sociologist who coined the phrase , " survival of the fittest . " Prus would call Spencer " the Aristotle of the 19th century " and write : " I grew up under the influence of Spencerian evolutionary philosophy and heeded its counsels , not those of Idealist or Comtean philosophy . " Prus interpreted " survival of the fittest , " in the societal sphere , as involving not only competition but also cooperation ; and he adopted Spencer 's metaphor of society as organism . He would use this metaphor to striking effect in his 1884 micro @-@ story " Mold of the Earth , " and in the introduction to his 1895 historical novel , Pharaoh .

After Prus began writing regular weekly newspaper columns , his finances stabilized , permitting him on 14 January 1875 to marry a distant cousin on his mother 's side , Oktawia Trembińska . She was the daughter of Katarzyna Trembińska , in whose home he had lived , after release from prison , for two years in 1864 ? 66 while completing secondary school . The couple adopted a boy , Emil Trembiński (born 11 September 1886 , the son of Prus ' brother @-@ in @-@ law Michał Trembiński , who had died on 10 November 1888) . Emil would be the model for Rascal in chapter 48 of Prus ' 1895 novel , Pharaoh . On 18 February 1904 , aged seventeen , Emil fatally shot himself in the chest on the doorstep of an unrequited love .

It has been alleged that in 1906 , aged 59 , Prus had a son , Jan Bogusz Sacewicz . The boy 's mother was Alina Sacewicz , widow of Dr. Kazimierz Sacewicz , a socially conscious physician

whom Prus had known at Na??czów . Dr. Sacewicz may have been the model for Stefan ?eromski 's Dr. Judym in the novel , *Ludzie bezdomni* (Homeless People) ? a character resembling Dr. Stockman in Henrik Ibsen 's play , *An Enemy of the People* . Prus , known for his affection for children , took a lively interest in little Jan , as attested by a prolific correspondence with Jan 's mother (whom Prus attempted to interest in writing) . Jan Sacewicz would become one of Prus ' major legatees and an engineer , and die in a German camp after the suppression of the Warsaw Uprising of August ? October 1944 .

Though Prus was a gifted writer , initially best known as a humorist , he early on thought little of his journalistic and literary work . Hence at the inception of his career in 1872 , at age 25 , he adopted for his newspaper columns and fiction the pen name " Prus " (" Prus I " was his family coat @-@ of @-@ arms) , reserving his actual name , Aleksander G?owacki , for " serious " writing .

An 1878 incident illustrates the strong feelings that can be aroused in susceptible readers of newspaper columns . Prus had criticized the loud , inappropriate behavior of some youths at a lecture about the poet Wincenty Pol . The University of Warsaw students in question demanded that Prus retract what he had written . He refused , and on 26 March 1878 several of them surrounded him outside his home , to which he had returned in the company of two fellow writers ; one of the students , Jan Sawicki , then slapped Prus ' face . Prus summoned police but subsequently declined to press charges . Seventeen years later , during his 1895 visit to Paris , Prus refused , by some accounts , to meet with one of his assailants , blaming them for having " ruined [his] life , " perhaps by having caused or exacerbated his agoraphobia .

In 1882 , on the recommendation of an earlier editor @-@ in @-@ chief , the prophet of Polish Positivism , Aleksander ?wi?tochowski , Prus succeeded to the editorship of the Warsaw daily *Nowiny* (News) . The newspaper had been bought in June 1882 by financier Stanis?aw Kronenberg . Prus resolved , in the best Positivist fashion , to make it " an observatory of societal facts " ? an instrument for advancing the development of his country . After less than a year , however , *Nowiny* ? which had had a history of financial instability since changing in July 1878 from a Sunday paper to a daily ? folded , and Prus resumed writing columns . He continued working as a journalist to the end of his life , well after he had achieved success as an author of short stories and novels .

= = = Fiction = = =

In time , Prus adopted the French Positivist critic Hippolyte Taine 's concept of the arts , including literature , as a second means , alongside the sciences , of studying reality , and he devoted more attention to his sideline of short @-@ story writer . Prus ' stories , which met with great acclaim , owed much to the literary influence of Polish novelist Józef Ignacy Krasiński and , among English @-@ language writers , to Charles Dickens and Mark Twain . His fiction would also be influenced by French writers Victor Hugo , Gustave Flaubert , Alphonse Daudet and Émile Zola .

Prus wrote several dozen stories , originally published in newspapers and ranging in length from micro @-@ story to novella . Characteristic of them are Prus ' keen observation of everyday life and sense of humor , which he had early honed as a contributor to humor magazines . The prevalence of themes from everyday life is consistent with the Polish Positivist artistic program , which sought to portray the circumstances of the populace rather than those of the Romantic heroes of an earlier generation . The literary period in which Prus wrote was ostensibly a prosaic one , by contrast with the poetry of the Romantics ; but Prus ' prose is often a poetic prose . His stories also often contain elements of fantasy or whimsy . A fair number originally appeared in New Year 's issues of newspapers .

Prus long eschewed writing historical fiction , arguing that it must inevitably distort history . He criticized contemporary historical novelists for their lapses in historic accuracy , including Henryk Sienkiewicz 's failure , in the military scenes in his *Trilogy* portraying 17th @-@ century Polish history , to describe the logistics of warfare . It would only be in 1888 , when Prus was forty , that he would write his first historical fiction , the stunning short story , " A Legend of Old Egypt . " This story would , a few years later , serve as a preliminary sketch for his only historical novel , *Pharaoh* (1895

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Eventually Prus would compose four novels on what he had referred to in an 1884 letter as " great questions of our age " : The Outpost (Placówka , 1886) on the Polish peasant ; The Doll (Lalka , 1889) on the aristocracy and townspeople and on idealists struggling to bring about social reforms ; The New Woman (Emancypantki , 1893) on feminist concerns ; and his only historical novel , Pharaoh (Faraon , 1895) , on mechanisms of political power . The work of greatest sweep and most universal appeal is Pharaoh . Prus ' novels , like his stories , were originally published in newspaper serialization .

After having sold Pharaoh to the publishing firm of Gebethner and Wolff , Prus embarked , on 16 May 1895 , on a four @-@ month journey abroad . He visited Berlin , Dresden , Karlsbad , Nuremberg , Stuttgart and Rapperswil . At the latter Swiss town he stayed two months (July ? August) , nursing his agoraphobia and spending much time with his friends , the promising young writer Stefan ?eromski and his wife Oktawia . The couple sought Prus ' help for the Polish National Museum , housed in the Rapperswil Castle , where ?eromski was librarian .

The final stage of Prus 's journey took him to Paris , where he was prevented by his agoraphobia from crossing the Seine River to visit the city 's southern Left Bank . He was nevertheless pleased to find that his descriptions of Paris in The Doll had been on the mark (he had based them mainly on French @-@ language publications) . From Paris he hurried home to recuperate at Na??czów from his journey , the last that he would make abroad .

= = = Later years = = =

Over the years , Prus lent his support to many charitable and social causes . But there was one event he would come to rue for the broad criticism it brought him : his participation in welcoming Russia 's tsar during Nicholas II 's 1897 visit to Warsaw . As a rule , Prus did not affiliate himself with political parties , as this might compromise his journalistic objectivity . His associations , by design and temperament , were with individuals and select worthy causes rather than with large groups .

The disastrous January 1863 Uprising had persuaded Prus that society must advance through learning , work and commerce rather than through risky social upheavals . He departed from this stance , however , in 1905 , when Imperial Russia experienced defeat in the Russo @-@ Japanese War and Poles demanded autonomy and reforms . On 20 December 1905 , in the first issue of a short @-@ lived periodical , M?odo?? (Youth) , he published an article , " Oda do m?odo?ci " (" Ode to Youth ") , whose title harked back to an 1820 poem by Adam Mickiewicz . Prus wrote , in reference to his earlier position on revolution and strikes : " with the greatest pleasure , I admit it ? I was wrong ! "

In 1908 Prus serialized , in the Warsaw Tygodnik Ilustrowany (Illustrated Weekly) , his novel Dzieci (Children) , depicting the young revolutionaries , terrorists and anarchists of the day ? an uncharacteristically humorless work . Three years later a final novel , Przemiany (Changes) , was to have been , like The Doll , a panorama of society and its vital concerns . However , in 1911 @-@ 12 the novel had barely begun serialization in the Illustrated Weekly when its composition was cut short by Prus ' death .

Neither of the two late novels , Children or Changes , is generally regarded as part of the essential Prus canon , and Czes?aw Mi?osz has called Children one of Prus ' weakest works .

Prus ' last novel to meet with popular acclaim was Pharaoh , completed in 1895 . Depicting the demise of ancient Egypt 's Twentieth Dynasty and New Kingdom three thousand years earlier , Pharaoh had also reflected Poland 's loss of independence a century before in 1795 ? an independence whose post @-@ World War I restoration Prus would not live to see .

On 19 May 1912 , in his Warsaw apartment at 12 Wolf Street (ulica Wilcza 12) , near Triple Cross Square , Prus ' forty @-@ year journalistic and literary career came to an end .

The beloved agoraphobic author was mourned by the nation he had striven , as soldier , thinker and writer , to rescue from oblivion . Thousands attended his 22 May 1912 funeral service at St. Alexander 's Church on nearby Triple Cross Square (Plac Trzech Krzy?y) and his interment at Pow?zki Cemetery .

Prus' tomb was designed by his nephew, the noted sculptor Stanisław Jackowski. On three sides it bears, respectively, the novelist's name, Aleksander Głowacki, his years of birth and death, and his pen name, Bolesław Prus. On the fourth side is the Polish language inscription "Serce serc" ("Heart of hearts"), borrowed from the Latin "Cor cordium" on the tomb of English Romantic poet Percy Bysshe Shelley in Rome's Protestant Cemetery. Below this inscription stands the figure of a little girl embracing the tomb – a figure emblematic of Prus' well known empathy and affection for children.

= = Legacy = =

On 3 December 1961, nearly half a century after Prus' death, a museum devoted to him was opened in the 18th century Małachowski Palace at Nałęczów, near Lublin in eastern Poland. Outside the palace is a sculpture of Prus seated on a bench. Another statuary monument to Prus at Nałęczów, sculpted by Alina Jeleska, was unveiled on 8 May 1966. It was at Nałęczów that Prus vacationed for thirty years from 1882 until his death, and that he met the young Stefan Żeromski. Prus stood witness at Żeromski's 1892 wedding and generously helped foster the younger man's literary career.

While Prus espoused a positivist and realist outlook, much in his fiction shows qualities compatible with pre-1863 Uprising Polish Romantic literature. Indeed, he held the Polish Romantic poet Adam Mickiewicz in high regard. Prus' novels in turn, especially *The Doll* and *Pharaoh*, with their innovative composition techniques, blazed the way for the 20th century Polish novel.

Prus' novel *The Doll*, with its rich realistic detail and simple, functional language, was considered by Czesław Miłosz to be the great Polish novel.

Joseph Conrad, during his 1914 visit to Poland just as World War I was breaking out, "delighted in his beloved Prus" and read everything by the ten years older, recently deceased author that he could get his hands on. He pronounced *The New Woman* (the first novel by Prus that he read) "better than Dickens" – Dickens being a favorite author of Conrad's. Miłosz, however, thought *The New Woman* "as a whole ... an artistic failure ...". Zygmunt Szweykowski similarly faulted *The New Woman*'s loose, tangential construction; but this, in his view, was partly redeemed by Prus' humor and by some superb episodes, while "The tragedy of Mrs. Latter and the picture of [the town of] Iksinów are among the peak achievements of [Polish] novel writing."

Pharaoh, a study of political power, became the favorite novel of Soviet dictator Joseph Stalin, prefigured the fate of U.S. President John F. Kennedy, and continues to point analogies to more recent times. *Pharaoh* is often described as Prus' "best composed novel" – indeed, "one of the best composed [of all] Polish novels." This was due in part to *Pharaoh* having been composed complete prior to newspaper serialization, rather than being written in installments just before printing, as was the case with Prus' earlier major novels.

The Doll and *Pharaoh* are available in English versions. *The Doll* has been translated into sixteen languages, and *Pharaoh* into twenty. In addition, *The Doll* has been filmed several times, and been produced as a 1977 television miniseries, *Pharaoh* was adapted into a 1966 feature film.

In 1897–99 Prus serialized in the *Warsaw Daily Courier* (*Kurier Codzienny*) a monograph on *The Most General Life Ideals* (*Najogólniejsze ideały życiowe*), which systematized ethical ideas that he had developed over his career regarding happiness, utility and perfection in the lives of individuals and societies. In it he returned to the society organizing (i.e., political) interests that had been frustrated during his *Nowiny* editorship fifteen years earlier. A book edition appeared in 1901 (2nd, revised edition, 1905). This work, rooted in Jeremy Bentham's Utilitarian philosophy and Herbert Spencer's view of society as an organism, retains interest especially for philosophers and social scientists.

Another of Prus' learned projects remained incomplete at his death. He had sought, over his writing career, to develop a coherent theory of literary composition. Notes of his from 1886–1912 were never put together into a finished book as he had intended. His precepts included the maxim, "Nouns, nouns and more nouns." Some particularly intriguing fragments describe Prus'

combinatorial calculations of the millions of potential " individual types " of human characters , given a stated number of " individual traits . "

A curious comparative @-@ literature aspect has been noted to Prus ' career , which paralleled that of his American contemporary , Ambrose Bierce (1842 ? 1914) . Each was born and reared in a rural area and had a " Polish " connection (Bierce , born five years before Prus , was reared in Kosciusko County , Indiana , and attended high school at the county seat , Warsaw , Indiana) . Each became a war casualty with combat head trauma ? Prus in 1863 in the Polish 1863 @-@ 65 Uprising ; Bierce in 1864 in the American Civil War . Each experienced false starts in other occupations , and at twenty @-@ five became a journalist for the next forty years ; failed to sustain a career as editor @-@ in @-@ chief ; achieved celebrity as a short @-@ story writer ; lost a son in tragic circumstances (Prus , an adopted son ; Bierce , both his sons) ; attained superb humorous effects by portraying human egoism (Prus especially in Pharaoh , Bierce in The Devil 's Dictionary) ; was dogged from early adulthood by a health problem (Prus , agoraphobia ; Bierce , asthma) ; and died within two years of the other (Prus in 1912 ; Bierce presumably in 1914) . Prus , however , unlike Bierce , went on from short stories to write novels .

In Prus ' lifetime and since , his contributions to Polish literature and culture have been memorialized without regard to the nature of the political system prevailing at the time . His 50th birthday , in 1897 , was marked by special newspaper issues celebrating his 25 years as a journalist and fiction writer , and a portrait of him was commissioned from artist Antoni Kamie?ski .

The town where Prus was born , Hrubieszów , near the present Polish @-@ Ukrainian border , is graced by an outdoor sculpture of him .

A 1982 plaque on Warsaw University 's administration building , the historic Kazimierz Palace , commemorates Prus ' years at the University in 1866 @-@ 68 . Across the street (Krakowskie Przedmie?cie) from the University , in Holy Cross Church , a 1936 plaque by Prus ' nephew Stanis?aw Jackowski , featuring Prus ' profile , is dedicated to the memory of the " great writer and teacher of the nation . "

On the front of Warsaw 's present @-@ day ulica Wilcza 12 , the site of Prus ' last home , is a plaque commemorating the earlier , now @-@ nonexistent building 's most famous resident . A few hundred meters from there , ulica Boles?awa Prusa (Boles?aw Prus Street) debouches into the southeast corner of Warsaw 's Triple Cross Square . In this square stands St. Alexander 's Church , where Prus ' funeral was held .

In 1937 , plaques were installed at Warsaw 's Krakowskie Przedmie?cie 4 and 7 , where the two chief characters of Prus ' novel The Doll , Stanis?aw Wokulski and Ignacy Rzecki , respectively , were deduced to have resided . On the same street , in a park adjacent to the Hotel Bristol , near the site of a newspaper for which Prus wrote , stands a twice @-@ life @-@ size statue of Prus , sculpted in 1977 by Anna Kamie?ska @-@ ?api?ska ; it is some 12 feet tall , on a minimal pedestal as befits an author who walked the same ground with his fellow men .

Consonant with Prus ' interest in commerce and technology , a Polish Ocean Lines freighter has been named for him .

For 10 years , from 1975 to 1984 , Poles honored Prus ' memory with a 10 @-@ z?oty coin featuring his profile . In 2012 , to mark the 100th anniversary of his death , the Polish mint produced three coins with individual designs : in gold , silver , and an aluminum @-@ zinc alloy .

Prus ' fiction and nonfiction writings continue relevant in our time .

= = Works = =

Following is a chronological list of notable works by Boles?aw Prus . Translated titles are given , followed by original titles and dates of publication .

= = = Novels = = =

Souls in Bondage (Dusze w niewoli , written 1876 , serialized 1877)

Fame (S?awa , begun 1885 , never finished)

The Outpost (Placówka , 1885 ? 86)

The Doll (Lalka , 1887 ? 89)

The New Woman (Emancypantki , 1890 ? 93)

Pharaoh (Faraon , written 1894 ? 95 ; serialized 1895 ? 96)

Children (Dzieci , 1908 ; approximately the first nine chapters had originally appeared , in a somewhat different form , in 1907 as Dawn [?wit])

Changes (Przemiany , begun 1911 ? 12 ; unfinished)

= = = Stories = = =

" The Old Lady 's Troubles " (" K?opoty babuni , " 1874)

" The Palace and the Hovel " (" Pa?ac i rudera , " 1875)

" The Ball Gown " (" Sukienka balowa , " 1876)

" An Orphan 's Lot " (" Sieroca dola , " 1876)

" Eddy 's Adventures " (" Przygody Edzia , " 1876)

" Damned Luck " (" Przegl?te szcz??cie , " 1876)

" The Old Lady 's Casket " (" Szkatu?ka babki , " 1878)

" Stan 's Adventure " (" Przygoda Stasia , " 1879)

" New Year " (" Nowy rok , " 1880)

" The Returning Wave " (" Powracaj?ca fala , " 1880)

" Micha?ko " (1880)

" Antek " (1880)

" The Convert " (" Nawrócony , " 1880)

" The Barrel Organ " (" Katarynka , " 1880)

" One of Many " (" Jeden z wielu , " 1882)

" The Waistcoat " (" Kamizelka , " 1882)

" Him " (" On , " 1882)

" Fading Voices " (" Milkn?ce g?osy , " 1883)

" Sins of Childhood " (" Grzechy dzieci?stwa , " 1883)

" Mold of the Earth " (" Ple?? ?wiata , " 1884 ? a striking micro @-@ story that portrays human history as an unending series of conflicts among mindless , blind colonies of molds)

" The Living Telegraph " (" ?ywy telegraf , " 1884)

" Orestes and Pylades " (" Orestes i Pylades , " 1884)

" Loves ? Loves Not ? ... " (" Kocha ? nie kocha ? ... " 1884)

" The Mirror " (" Zwierciad?o , " 1884)

" On Vacation " (" Na wakacjach , " 1884)

" An Old Tale " (" Stara bajka , " 1884)

" In the Light of the Moon " (" Przy ksi??ycu , " 1884)

" The Mistake " (" Omy?ka , " 1884)

" Mr. Dutkowski and His Farm " (" Pan Dutkowski i jego folwark , " 1884)

" Musical Echoes " (" Echa muzyczne , " 1884)

" In the Mountains " (" W górach , " 1885)

" Shades " (" Ciene , " 1885 ? an evocative meditation on existential themes)

" Anielka " (1885)

" A Strange Story " (" Dziwna historia , " 1887)

" A Legend of Old Egypt " (" Z legend dawnego Egiptu , " 1888 ? Prus ' first piece of historical fiction ; a stunning debut , and a preliminary sketch for his only historical novel , Pharaoh , which would be written in 1894 ? 95)

" The Dream " (" Sen , " 1890)

" Lives of Saints " (" Z ?ywotów ?wi?tych , " 1891 ? 92)

" Reconciled " (" Pojednani , " 1892)

" A Composition by Little Frank : About Mercy " (" Z wypracowa? ma?ego Frania . O mi?osierdziu , " 1898)

" The Doctor 's Story " (" Opowiadanie lekarza , " 1902)
" Memoirs of a Cyclist " (" Ze wspomnie? cyklisty , " 1903)
" Revenge " (" Zemsta , " 1908)
" Phantoms " (" Widziad?a , " 1911 , first published 1936)

= = = Nonfiction = = =

On Discoveries and Inventions : A Public Lecture Delivered on 23 March 1873 by Aleksander G?owacki [Boles?aw Prus] , Passed by the [Russian] Censor (Warsaw , 21 April 1873) , Warsaw , Printed by F. Krokoszy?ska , 1873 .

" Travel Notes (Wieliczka) " [" Kartki z podró?y (Wieliczka) , " 1878 ? Prus ' impressions of the Wieliczka Salt Mine ; these would help inform the conception of the Egyptian Labyrinth in Prus 's 1895 novel , Pharaoh]

" A Word to the Public " (" S?ówko do publiczno?ci , " 11 June 1882 ? Prus ' inaugural address to readers as the new editor @-@ in @-@ chief of the daily , Nowiny [News] , famously proposing to make it " an observatory of societal facts , just as there are observatories that study the movements of heavenly bodies , or ? climatic changes . ")

" Sketch for a Program under the Conditions of the Present Development of Society " (" Szkic programu w warunkach obecnego rozwoju spo?ecze?stwa , " March 23 ? 30 , 1883 ? swan song of Prus ' editorship of Nowiny)

" With Sword and Fire ? Henryk Sienkiewicz 's Novel of Olden Times " (" Ogniem i mieczem ? powie?? z dawnych lat Henryka Sienkiewicza , " 1884 ? Prus ' review of Sienkiewicz 's historical novel , and essay on historical novels)

" The Paris Tower " (" Wie?a paryska , " 1887 ? whimsical divagations involving the Eiffel Tower , the world 's tallest structure , then yet to be constructed for the 1889 Paris Exposition Universelle)

" Travels on Earth and in Heaven " (" W?drówka po ziemi i niebie , " 1887 ? Prus ' impressions of a solar eclipse that he observed at M?awa ; these would help inspire the solar @-@ eclipse scenes in his 1895 novel , Pharaoh)

" A Word about Positive Criticism " (" S?ówko o krytyce pozytywnej , " 1890 ? Prus ' part of a polemic with Positivist guru Aleksander ?wi?tochowski)

" Eusapia Palladino " (1893 ? newspaper column about mediumistic séances held in Warsaw by the Italian Spiritualist , Eusapia Palladino ; these would help inspire similar scenes in Prus ' 1895 novel , Pharaoh)

" From Na??czów " (" Z Na??czowa , " 1894 ? Prus ' paeon to the salubrious waters and natural and social environment of his favorite vacation spot , Na??czów)

The Most General Life Ideals (Najogólniejsze idea?y ?yciowe , 1905 ? Prus 's system of pragmatic ethics)

" Ode to Youth " (" Oda do m?odo?ci , " 1905 ? Prus ' admission that , before the Russian Empire 's defeat in the Russo @-@ Japanese War , he had held too cautious a view of the chances for an improvement in Poland 's political situation)

" Visions of the Future " (" Wizje przysz?o?ci , " 1909 ? a discussion of H.G. Wells ' 1901 futurological book , Anticipations , which predicted , among other things , the defeat of German imperialism , the ascendancy of the English language , and the existence , by the year 2000 , of a " European Union " that would include the Slavic peoples of Central Europe)

" The Poet , Educator of the Nation " (" Poeta wychowawca narodu , " 1910 ? a discussion of the cultural and political principles imparted by the Polish poet Adam Mickiewicz)

" What We ... Never Learned from the History of Napoleon " (" Czego nas ... nie nauczy?y dzieje Napoleona " ? Prus 's contribution to the 16 December 1911 issue of the Warsaw Illustrated Weekly , devoted entirely to Napoleon)

= = = Translations = = =

Prus ' writings have been translated into many languages ? his historical novel Pharaoh , into

twenty ; his contemporary novel The Doll , into at least sixteen . Works by Prus have been rendered into Croatian by a member of the Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts , Stjepan Musulin .

= = Film versions = =

1966 : Faraon (Pharaoh) , adapted from the novel Pharaoh , directed by Jerzy Kawalerowicz [3] .

1968 : Lalka (The Doll) , adapted from the novel The Doll , directed by Wojciech Jerzy Has [4] .

1977 : Lalka (TV serial , The Doll) , adapted from the novel The Doll , directed by Ryszard Ber .

1979 : Placówka (The Outpost) , adapted from the novel The Outpost , directed by Zygmunt Skonieczny .

1982 : Pensja pani Latter (Mrs. Latter 's Boarding School) , adapted from the novel The New Woman , directed by Stanisław Rózewicz .