

Vladimir Nabokov: A Descriptive Bibliography, Revised

Николка Персикъ

A4

In the middle of 1920 Nabokov bet his father that he could translate Romain Rolland's *Colas Breugnon* into Russian while retaining the style of the original French. The novel, as Nabokov described it, was filled with "puns, proverbs and jokes, flourishes and refrains, sayings and charms. It is a Vesuvius of words, an eruption of the old-French lexicon... an uninterrupted game of rhythmic figures, assonances and internal rhymes, chains of alliterations, rows of synonyms." It took Nabokov about a year and a half to finish the job (*VNTRY* 176, 177, 181, 189, 197, 201; *GCVN* 556–61; and, *VB* 30–33).

The translation was published in boards and in wrappers in Berlin by Slovo on or about 19-Nov-1922.

Edition Summary

A4.1 Николка Персикъ FIRST EDITION (SLOVO), 19-Nov-1922, 2 issues

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FIRST EDITION (SLOVO)

¶ First printing, variant a, 19-Nov-1922

POINTS

Variant a is bound in boards and its cover is printed in blue.
Variant b is bound in wrappers and its cover is printed in brown.



A4.1 First printing, variant a, 1922, cover, front



A4.1 First printing, variant a, 1922, title page



A4.1 First printing, variant a, 1922, copyright page

Collation: (19.2 X 13.5 cm), [1]⁸ 2–14⁸ 15⁴, 116 leaves, pp. [1–6] 7 [8] 9–227 [228–232]

Title page: РОМАНЪ РОЛАНЪ | НИКОЛКА ПЕРСИКЪ | (COLAS BREUGNON) | ПЕРЕВЕЛЪ СЪ ФРАНЦУЗСКАГО | ВЛАДИМИРЪ СИРИНЪ | \publisher's device of the St. Petersburg Falconet Bronze Horseman monument, here with the word "СЛОВО" on the base\ | 1922 | \thick & thin double rule\ КНИГОИЗДАТЕЛЬСТВО «СЛОВО» [Roman" Rolan" | Nikolka Persik" | (Colas Breugnon) | Perevel" s" Frantsuzskago | Vladimir" Sirin" | 1922 | Knigoizdatel'stvo «Slovo» / Romain Rolland | Nikolai the Peach | (Colas Breugnon) | Translated from the French by Vladimir Sirin | 1922 | Slovo Publishers]

Copyright page: Исключительное право перевода на русский языкъ | принадлежит Издательству «СЛОВО» Берлинъ [Exclusive rights of the Russian translation belong to Slovo Publishers Berlin]

Colophon: Напечатано и издано | Издательствомъ | «СЛОВО», Берлинъ. [Printed and published by Slovo Publishers, Berlin]

Binding: Quarterbound gray cloth with pale green paper over boards with headband. White endpapers. All edges trimmed. Top edge stained blue.

Front cover: \blue decorative border\ РОМАНЪ РОЛАНЪ | \woodcut of reclining nude amid clusters of grapes, a vessel, an icon and burning buildings\ | НИКОЛКА | ПЕРСИКЪ | ПЕРЕВЕЛЪ | В СИРИНА. **Back cover:** Склад изданія | Акц. Общ «ЛОГОС» | Berlin SW 68. **Spine:** \running up\ РОМАНЪ РОЛАНЪ НИКОЛКА ПЕРСИКЪ

Covering: Issued without.

Contents: [1] half-title, [2] blank, [3] title page, [4] copyright page, [5] epigraph, [6] blank, 7 Rolland's preface, [8] preface concluded, 9–227 text, [228] text, [229] blank, [230–231] ads, [232] colophon

Price: 2.0 marks

Description: The spellings of Rolland's name in Cyrillic on the title pages and the covers of both variants do not match.

Works:

- 1) Николка Персик [Nicolka Persik / Nikolai the Peach]



A4.1 First printing, variant a,
1922, colophon



A4.1 First printing, variant b,
1922, cover, front

¶ First printing, variant b, 19-Nov-1922

As variant a, except

Copyright page: \stamped at bottom of page\ Printed in Germany

Binding: Brown printing on light brown wrappers.

Price: 1.50 marks