The Metamorphosis

Franz Kafka (1883-1924)  
translated by Ian Johnston

Kafka’s novella The Metamorphosis was first published in 1915. It has been cited as one of the seminal works of fiction of the 20th century and is studied in colleges and universities across the Western world. This story of guilt and alienation begins with a traveling salesman, Gregor Samsa, waking to find himself transformed into a large, monstrous insect-like creature. The rest of the novella deals with Gregor’s attempts to adjust to his new condition as he deals with being burdensome to his parents and sister, who are repulsed by the horrible, verminous creature Gregor has become.

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