

This diploma paper deals with *Memories*, the personal writings of the Roman Emperor Marcus Aurelius, and their influence on the last four plays of A. P. Chekhov, which are *The Seagull*, *Uncle Vanya*, *Three Sisters* and *The Cherry Orchard*. It is insisting on the fact that Chekhov possessed and read an exemplar of Marcus Aurelius' *Memories* and enriched it with his personal comments and notes. The diploma paper is investigating philosophical schools of stoicism and platonism, the personality of Marcus Aurelius and his writings *Memories*, A. P. Chekhov both as an artist and a thinker, and it is investigating possibilities of revealing Marcus Aurelius' thoughts in the last four plays of Chekhov. It focuses on topics of cosmopolitanism and atomization, work and inactiveness, good and evil, the ideas of future and meaning of life.