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## Ward No. 6 Anton Chekhov (1860 -1904) Translated by Constance Garnett

Read by: Expatriate	2	Language:	English
Length: 2 hours 10	0 minutes	Style:	Solo
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Genre(s): Fiction, Novellas, Short Fiction

Format	Package	SKU	EAN/UPC	MSLP
MP3 CD	CD jacket	CJ-1294	0682550992273	\$7.99
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Perhaps one of Chekov's most famous and profound descriptions of human misery, "Ward No. Six" describes the deplorable conditions of a rundown hospital in the hinterlands of Russia, where the head doctor, Adrey Ragin, while an educated good man, is passive and cynical about the human condition and unable to bring reforms to the hospital. While on his rounds he encounters a young man, Ivan Gromov, committed to the mental ward who suffers from paranoia and obsessive thoughts. This young man is also educated and articulates his own feelings of futility in terms that Dr. Ragin agrees with. He continues to visit Gromov because he is fascinated by his philosophical rants. The story describes the slow and thorough decline of the doctor, who eventually becomes belligerent, socially outcast, and is betrayed by his so-called friends who trick him into becoming the sixth inmate in "Ward Six."

Anton Chekov (January 29, 1860 – July 15, 1904) was a Russian physician, playwright and author of short stories. He is considered one of the finest writers of short fiction in history and, along with Ibsen and Strindberg, one of the founders of modernism in the theatre. He was born the third of six children in the port town of Taganrog on the north shore of the Sea of Azov in southern Russia. His father, a grocer, declared bankruptcy in 1876 and moved the family to Moscow, leaving Anton behind to liquidate the property and complete his schooling. Anton joined his family and entered medical school in 1879, supporting the family by writing short vignettes and humorous sketches for the newspapers and gaining both popular and literary attention. He became a doctor in 1884 but practiced little. At about the same time he contracted tuberculosis. Noted author Dmitry Grigorovich helped him win the Pushkin prize in 1888 for his short story collection *At Dusk*. He settled in a small country estate in 1892, where he wrote his first major play, *The Seagull*, in 1894, and then built a villa in Yalta after his tuberculosis worsened. He married actress Olga Knipper in 1901. *The Cherry Orchard*, his last major play, received accolades when it was produced a few months before his death in 1904 and established his reputation a great Russian writer, second only to Tolstoy, which stands to this day.