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Prince Felix Yusupov attempted to poison Rasputin with cyanide-laced wine as they were together in the Yusupov Palace. This image depicts a recreation of the events—via wax figures of the Prince and the Monk—at the former wine cellar of the Yusupov Palace. Photo by Nicholai Mylyuev, online via Wikimedia Commons.
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Since the Empress had become so dependent on Rasputin, [Prince Felix Yusupov](#) and other members of the family believed murder was the only way to get rid of the monk.

On December 16, 1916 Yusupov invited Rasputin to his [home](#) in St. Petersburg. Feeding him cyanide-laced wine and cakes, Yusupov thought killing Rasputin would be easy. He was wrong.

Rasputin did not eat sweets. Rasputin collapsed from the poison, but did not die.

Later, the alleged details of the murder came out:

- Yusupov shot Rasputin in the chest, but still he did not die.
- One of the conspirators shot him twice as Rasputin tried to flee.
- The shots disabled the monk but, [legend](#) has it, he was still alive as conspirators - standing at the top of the bridge at [Petrovsky Island](#) - threw his body into the [Neva River](#). His remains were found one week later.

Recent [revelations](#) from [Russian Archives](#), however, paint a different picture of Rasputin's death. Turns out he

apparently wasn't as hard to kill as the story his murderers told at the time.

Rasputin had made an eerie prediction before he died.

*If I am killed by common assassins and especially by my brothers the Russian peasants, you, Tsar of Russia, have nothing to fear for your children, they will reign for hundreds of years in Russia.
...if it was your relations who have wrought my death, then no one in your family, that is to say, none of your children or relations will remain alive for two years. They will be killed by the Russian people...*

I shall be killed. I am no longer among the living. Pray, pray, be strong, think of your blessed family.

Grigory

Three months after Rasputin's death by the hand of Romanov "relations," Nicholas was deposed as Tsar (March, 1917). Less than two years later, the rest of the "mad monk's" prediction came true as well.

See Alignments to State and Common Core standards for this story online at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicAlignment/THE-MURDER-of-RASPUTIN-Nicholas-and-Alexandra>

See Learning Tasks for this story online at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicActivities/THE-MURDER-of-RASPUTIN-Nicholas-and-Alexandra>

Media Stream



Prince Felix Yusupov

Image online, courtesy the Alexander Palace website.

View this asset at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Prince-Felix-Yusupov>



Rasputin - Drawing

Image online, courtesy the angelfire.com website.

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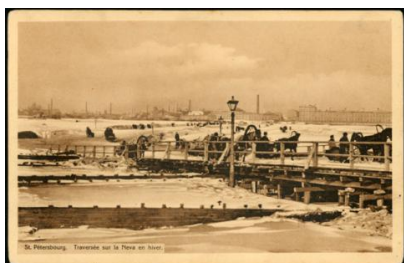


Petrovsky Island

Image online, courtesy Wikimedia Commons.

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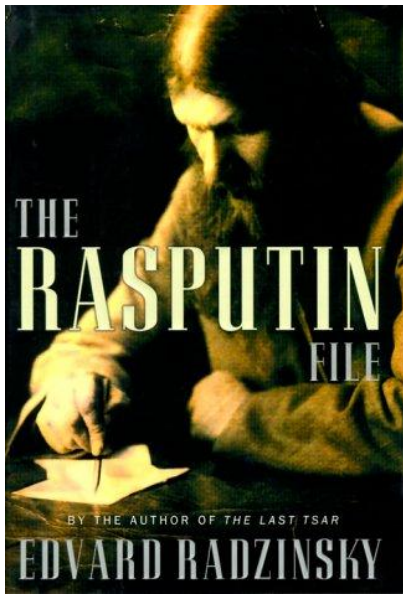
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Neva River

From the Images of St. Petersburg website.

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The Rasputin File - by Edvard Radzinski

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