



DIALOGUE 9. A visit to Vladivostok

([v] victory)

OLIVER: Victor, have you ever visited Vladivostok?

VICTOR: Never. In fact, I haven't travelled further than Liverpool.

OLIVER: I've had an invitation from the University of Vladivostok to give a survey of my own creative verse.

VICTOR: How marvellous!

OLIVER: Will my navy overcoat be heavy enough, I wonder? It's long-sleeved and reversible. And I've got a pair of velvet Levis - rather a vivid violet! Do you think they'll approve?

VICTOR: I should think the professors will view violet Levis with violent disapproval. When do you leave?

OLIVER: On the 7th of November.

VICTOR: I don't advise you to travel on the 7th. It's the anniversary of the Valentine Invasion. And for heaven's sake, Oliver, don't overdo the caviar. Or the vodka.

OLIVER: Victor, I do believe you're envious!