

## Today in History: March 29

By [The Moscow Times](#)

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The title page of first edition of Anna Karenina.

140 years ago today, on March 29, 1873, Leo Tolstoy began to work on the novel "Anna Karenina." That morning, he happened to glance at a book by Pushkin and saw the words, "The guests were arriving at the dacha," and he remarked to his wife, "That's the way to write!" Tolstoy finished his book in April 1877, and it was published in installments to the impatient readers of the monthly journal Russky Vestnik.

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