

## **Dreaming About Russia**

By Bea White, 2014

After the first Winter in Potter County,  
South Dakota, Grandma Dufloth wanted  
to go back and cursed the train that  
brought her to this cold barren land  
without trees.

My father used to talk about how the  
kids would pull up the sweet licorice  
root and chew on it, or on his way home  
from school, smelling the bread baking  
in the outdoor oven, and about the Stork  
building a nest on the roof, how his  
father scolded them if they disturbed the  
bird He was only 9 years old, did he  
miss his home in Russia.?.

Makes me feel sort of Russian  
to have been born in a town named,  
Tolstoy. I have a collection of books  
about Russia, and five Russian dolls that  
I treasure. Why do I have such a strong  
feeling for this country?

Does anyone else, feel that way about  
Russia?