Fyodor Dostoyevsky

Crime and Punishment

Read by Constantine Gregory
CD 1

1 Crime and Punishment
2 He had not far to go.
3 ‘Hand it over,’ he said roughly.
4 Chapter 2
5 ‘Funny fellow!’ pronounced the innkeeper.
6 ‘Young man,’ he went on...
7 ‘And now, may I venture to address...’
8 Marmeladov stopped again in violent excitement.
9 He would have filled his glass...
10 Raskolnikov recognised Katerina Ivanovna at once.
11 Chapter 3

Total time on CD 1: 78:30
‘My dear Rodya,’ wrote his mother... 6:19
For a whole month the town... 9:31
‘I have mentioned already that Pyotr...’ 8:33

Chapter 4
‘Well... mother I don’t wonder at...’ 8:18
‘Do you understand, sir...’ 8:13
‘It’s a difficult job,...’ 9:10

Chapter 5
Raskolnikov had a fearful dream. 8:23
One woman seized him by the hand... 8:26

Total time on CD 2: 79:05
CD 3

1. It was about nine o’clock...
   4:23
2. **Chapter 6**
3. ‘Well, listen then.’
   7:20
4. First he had to make a noose...
   5:07
5. But those were all trifles...
   6:19
6. He walked along quietly and sedately...
   6:29
7. **Chapter 7**
8. He positively smiled at himself...
   8:53
9. He stood and gazed...
   8:00
    6:42
11. **Part II**
12. But his head sank on the pillow instead.
    6:06

**Total time on CD 3: 79:07**
CD 4

1 On the stairs he remembered... 7:04
2 ‘What do you want?’ 8:47
3 The assistant glanced rapidly at him. 6:45
4 Raskolnikov fancied that the head clerk... 7:49
5 Chapter 2 9:06
6 He walked on without resting. 7:59
7 He took it and they passed on. 8:26
8 Chapter 3 9:25
9 Nastasya came in with two bottles of beer. 8:36
10 ‘I see, brother,’ he said a moment later... 3:06

Total time on CD 4: 77:06
No sooner had she left the room...

He woke up, hearing someone come in.

Chapter 4

‘But I say, Razumihin…’

‘I should think so,’ said Zossimov.

‘The holy truth?’

Chapter 5

After scanning Mr Luzhin...

‘He’s learnt it by heart to show off!’

‘You are talking of the murder…’

Chapter 6

He felt strangely attracted by the singing...

Total time on CD 5: 77:37
‘What a hot head he is!’ 5:53
‘There have been a great many of these crimes...’ 8:42
He went out, trembling all over... 6:56
Raskolnikov walked straight to X–Bridge... 6:32
After brief hesitation, he mounted the last stairs... 8:22
Chapter 7 7:37
‘Is the water ready?’ 9:08
Marmeladov recognised her. 8:27
A terrible hollow cough interrupted her words. 8:11
‘Polenka, my name is Rodion.’ 9:15

Total time on CD 6: 79:11
‘I’ve only just woken up…’
As he said this, he was suddenly overwhelmed...
‘She is lying,’ he thought to himself.

Chapter 4

‘Heavens, Dounia,’ Pulcheria Alexandrovna began....
At the turning he crossed over...

Chapter 5

Porfiry paused as though reflecting.
Porfiry Petrovitch returned quickly.

Total time on CD 8: 77:45
CD 9

1. ‘How did you find out that the article was mine?’ 9:26
2. ‘No reason to.’ 7:10
3. He raised his eyes... 6:40
4. **Chapter 6** 6:16
5. Raskolnikov could not help laughing... 8:00
6. ‘Who is he? Who is that man...’ 6:56
7. He lost consciousness. 7:33
8. **Part IV** 8:29
9. Raskolnikov looked gloomily at him. 9:28
10. ‘But perhaps you are telling lies,’... 9:19

Total time on CD 9: 79:21
CD 10

1 ‘I beg you to say no more,’... 3:20
2 Chapter 2
3 Pyotr Petrovitch belonged to that class of persons... 6:36
4 ‘Pyotr Petrovitch, I beg you,’... 8:07
5 ‘I don’t remember,’ faltered Pulcheria Alexa... 8:45
6 Chapter 3
7 ‘What did Svidrigaïlov say to you?’ 6:53
8 ‘I think he’s got a very good idea,’... 6:07
9 Chapter 4
10 She sat down. 7:03
11 ‘Well, after that I can understand...’ 6:25
12 Five minutes passed. 7:32

Total time on CD 10: 78:41
There was a book lying on the chest of drawers.
Raskolnikov turned and looked at her...

Chapter 5
He went straight to the point at once.
‘Yet that is the case, with some types especially…’
‘Though his questioner may be deceived at first…’
‘What a wily person you are,’...

Chapter 6
Raskolnikov walked straight home.

Total time on CD 11: 78:16
‘I saw that the porters did not...’ 2:39

Part V 8:13

Andrey Semyonovitch was an anæmic, scrofulus... 8:43

‘Is that Terebyeva the one you said...’ 8:45

Five minutes later Lebeziatnikov came in... 8:37

All this time Lebeziatnikov had stood... 4:16

Chapter 2 6:01

Katerina Ivanovna, however, put off expressing... 7:56

Here her laugh turned again... 7:21

Raskolnikov sat in silence... 7:08

Katerina Ivanovna, who certainly was upset... 8:19

Total time on CD 12: 77:59
‘This morning I changed...’ 4:57
There was a buzz of loud conversation... 7:58
‘How vile!’ a loud voice cried... 7:54
‘I can explain why he risked such an action...’ 5:54
Katerina Ivanovna breathed hard... 5:39

Chapter 4
Sonia looked uneasily at him. 7:17
‘Have you guessed?’ 5:20
Sonia listened to him in bewilderment... 8:04
‘Oh, that’s not it, that’s not it,’... 8:10
‘To kill? Have the right to kill?’ 8:31

Chapter 5

Total time on CD 13: 78:43
Raskolnikov had long ceased to listen. 5:25
There was a breath of fresh air... 7:28
‘A boarding-school, ha-ha-ha!’ 7:39
All ran up and crowded around. 4:30
She sank more and more into uneasy delirium. 6:53
Part VI 8:43
The door opened and Razumihin came in. 7:07
He hurried out... 8:36
Chapter 2 6:29
‘It’s scarcely necessary to go over everything...’ 7:34
‘Razumihin told me just now...’ 7:50

Total time on CD 14: 78:16
CD 15

1. They were both silent... 6:31
2. He got up again, as though he meant to go away... 7:33
3. Chapter 3 7:12
4. Raskolnikov went up into the tavern. 8:09
5. ‘You urged me yourself to frankness...’ 9:04
6. Chapter 4 5:27
7. Svidrigaïlov looked at him attentively... 9:32
8. Svidrigaïlov struck the table with his fist. 8:02
9. ‘The fact is this monstrous difference in age...’ 6:02

Total time on CD 15: 67:36
CD 16

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter 5</th>
<th>7:54</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. That was what Dounia did.</td>
<td>8:01</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. ‘It cannot be,’ muttered Dounia...</td>
<td>7:36</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Dounia drew back from him in alarm.</td>
<td>5:49</td>
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<td>4. Dounia raised the revolver...</td>
<td>5:06</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chapter 6</td>
<td>6:57</td>
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<td>5. It appeared afterwards that on the same evening...</td>
<td>9:00</td>
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<td>6. ‘It must be a garden under the window,’...</td>
<td>9:23</td>
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<td>7. He walked for some time...</td>
<td>8:29</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chapter 7</td>
<td>9:41</td>
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</tbody>
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Total time on CD 16: 78:00
CD 17

1 ‘Rodya, my darling, my first born,’...
2 Big tears fell down her cheeks.
3 Chapter 8
4 Sonia remained standing in the middle of the room.
5 He went into the yard fairly resolutely.
6 ‘Believe me, you can speak openly...’
7 Epilogue I
8 At the very beginning of the trial...
9 Pulcheria Alexandrovna was delighted...
10 Epilogue II
11 In prison, of course, there was a great deal...
12 One evening, when he was almost well again...

Total time on CD 17: 78:19
Total time on CDs 1–17: 22:02:41
In July 1865, Fyodor Dostoyevsky, a middle-aged author of some minor achievement, signed a contract with a publisher to produce a novel by November 1866. The contract included – given Dostoyevsky’s fecklessness – punitive penalties in the event of the writer failing to honour the agreement. At once, he ran off with his advance to meet his mistress in Wiesbaden, and lost the money on the roulette wheels. This was typical: his career was driven by an assiduous courtship of poverty – which in Russia at that time could be fatal. It was, in a sense, Russian roulette. In desperation he tried everything he could. It was at this point that the idea behind *Crime and Punishment* came to him: an idealistic young man, trapped by poverty, murders a loathsome old pawnbroker. The completed novel was published in 1866, the first of a series of masterpieces by himself and Tolstoy which would make the Russian realistic novel a genre comparable in depth and scope with Greek tragedy and Elizabethan drama.

Dostoyevsky was born in 1821, the son of a doctor. After graduating as a military engineer, he became a full-time writer and enjoyed almost immediate success with his novel *Poor Folk*. However, the works that followed were not reviewed so favourably, and his career was due to come to an untimely end when, in 1849, he was arrested and the following year condemned to death for conspiring against the Tsar. A few minutes before he was due to be shot, he and his associates received a reprieve, and he was sent to Siberia for four years. This traumatic experience seems to have led to a revulsion against radical politics – which he came to see as a criminal offence against God and the Russian
soul – and to a belief in the spiritually regenerative power of suffering. It was Dostoyevsky’s own crime and punishment and it provided the essential fuel for the novels which established and maintained his reputation until his death in 1881.

The extreme nature of Dostoyevsky’s own character and experience, which included a history of epileptic fits, gave him an unparalleled insight into the wilder shores of human life. And the world of Crime and Punishment is certainly an extreme one in which a gripping psychological thriller quite naturally takes place amidst comedy and even farce. At the same time, the novel is a horribly prophetic one. The most terrible crimes of the twentieth century have undoubtedly been the result of just such idealistic theories – in which dubious means justify the ends – as ensnared Dostoyevsky in his youth and Raskolnikov in the novel.

Dostoyevsky’s philosophical position is therefore one which specifically defies a reasoned analysis towards a neat formulaic conclusion. Nor can any amount of psychological analysis of his characters unlock the secret workings of their being.

His philosophical insights still leave us to contemplate the ultimately intractable nature of human motivation. It is this fact that makes Dostoyevsky’s novels – the most deeply Russian of Russian novels – works of comprehensive imagination and universal appeal.

Notes by Duncan Steen
Constantine Gregory is an actor, dialogue coach and ‘voice’. Constantine has more than 30 years’ experience in all these capacities on international projects with many major film directors and stars, including Danny Boyle, Bernardo Bertolucci, Terry Gilliam, Neil Jordan and Julie Taymor and with actors such as Anthony Hopkins, Jessica Lange, Nicole Kidman, George Clooney, Gerard Depardieu, Chiwetel Eijofor, Keanu Reeves, Eva Green and many, many others. With Edmund Caldecott, Constantine runs the website Spoken Ink, dedicated to short audios for download, and for which he has recorded a number of short stories himself.
Credits

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