



COMPLETE
CLASSICS
UNABRIDGED

Fyodor Dostoyevsky

The Brothers KARAMAZOV

Read by **Constantine Gregory**



1	The Brothers Karamazov	9:00
2	Chapter 2	7:57
3	Chapter 3	7:36
4	He became especially fond of the younger, Alexey...	8:37
5	Chapter 4	7:52
6	At the time of Yefim Petrovitch's death...	8:32
7	He used particularly to point to his nose...	6:05
8	Chapter 5	8:11
9	The story is told, for instance...	7:35
10	'Among us there is sin, injustice, and temptation...'	8:01
11	Book II	7:21
12	'He's like von Sohn,'...	4:54
13	Chapter 2	6:26
14	'I went straight up to him...'	8:11
15	'He got up, and throwing up his hands...'	8:37
16	Chapter 3	6:43
17	'You are of the tradesman class?'	8:34
18	Her eyes showed that she had come with a purpose...	7:09
19	Chapter 4	5:31
20	He announced that he had come from the far north...	6:40

21	'In short, I am a hired servant...'	7:55
22	Chapter 5	7:47
23	'The Christian Church entering into the State...'	9:25
24	'The Church holds aloof, above all...'	8:28
25	Chapter 6	6:54
26	'Is that really your conviction...'	9:22
27	At last Miusov felt completely humiliated and disgraced.	9:06
28	Chapter 7	8:37
29	'Do you know, I simply wonder at you, Alyosha...'	6:32
30	'How do you know?'	7:49
31	Chapter 8	4:14
32	'We must apologise most humbly, your reverence, '...	9:16
33	We must note here that Fyodor Pavlovitch knew where to look...	9:11
34	Book III	7:17
35	Externally, Grigory was cold, dignified and taciturn...	7:33
36	Chapter 2	4:11
37	It happened one clear, warm, moonlight night...	6:08
38	Chapter 3	6:11
39	Alyosha was delighted too...	7:24
40	Alyosha made up his mind to wait.	7:08

41	Chapter 4	7:11
42	The colonel, of course, was a very different matter	7:14
43	'It's strange how things happen sometimes.'	5:55
44	Chapter 5	7:02
45	'Stop, Dmitri,' Alyosha interrupted again...	6:31
46	'But now, I'm going to Grushenka.'	7:14
47	Chapter 6	5:58
48	The boy took the slap without a word...	7:27
49	Chapter 7	6:14
50	'Who will hold an unclean Tartar responsible...'	7:09
51	Chapter 8	5:35
52	'You know, Ivan, it must have been so ordained...'	7:27
53	He mused, and suddenly a slow...	6:39
54	Chapter 9	5:11
55	Smerdyakov ran for water.	8:04
56	Chapter 10	5:47
57	Alyosha had given his opinion at the time...	7:41
58	'I've only been waiting behind the curtain...'	7:01
59	'You defend me very kindly...'	9:20
60	Chapter 11	7:11

61	What worried Alyosha more than anything...	6:44
62	'He is weaker...'	6:44
63	Part II	6:29
64	All were expecting that some marvel...	5:34
65	Father Ferapont had succeeded in getting himself installed...	7:59
66	'Your words are terrible...'	8:06
67	Chapter 2	6:29
68	'Then you don't mean to take proceedings?'	4:59
69	Chapter 3	6:26
70	Alyosha crossed the bridge and walked uphill by the fence...	4:40
71	Chapter 4	6:50
72	Madame Khokhalkova hastened away.	7:25
73	Chapter 5	7:09
74	'My dear, kind, ever-faithful and generous adviser...'	6:47
75	She underwent an instantaneous transformation...	6:47
76	He went out of the room without saying good-bye...	8:33
77	Chapter 6	3:02
78	At last he found the house in Lake Street.	9:20
79	'And do you suppose I'd thrash him?'	7:54
80	Chapter 7	8:11

81	'On the third day when he came back from school...'	7:57
82	They were both standing at the time by the great stone...	9:04
83	Book V	8:20
84	'Why, why could nothing better have happened?'	9:09
85	'Ah, Lise, it was not so at all.'	8:38
86	Chapter 2	3:37
87	The voice ceased.	6:39
88	After a moment's silence...	5:53
89	Chapter 3	7:18
90	'You are trying to save me...'	7:58
91	'Perhaps so,' smiled Alyosha.	9:14
92	Chapter 4	6:13
93	'People talk sometimes of bestial cruelty...'	9:21
94	'The counsel protests in his client's defence...'	7:30
95	Ivan for a minute was silent.	9:32
96	Chapter 5	7:00
97	'He came softly, unobserved...'	9:22
98	'I don't understand again.'	8:10
99	'This is the significance of the first question in the wilderness...'	9:38
100	'The great prophet tells in vision and in image...'	9:38

101	'Yes, we shall set them to work....'	9:46
102	'And if only one such stood at the head of the whole army...'	8:42
103	Chapter 6	9:02
104	'Damn you! Speak out what you want!'	8:45
105	'If you think that he'll make use of those signals...'	9:15
106	Chapter 7	6:26
107	'I'm sorry, I can't.'	7:17
108	They reached the station quickly...	6:04
109	Book VI	6:04
110	He was suddenly silent...	6:36
111	Chapter 2	6:02
112	Mother shook her head as she listened.	4:59
113	(b) Of the Holy Scriptures in the Life of Father Zosima.	4:04
114	Fathers and teachers, forgive my tears now...	5:49
115	Let him read to them about Abraham and Sarah...	8:19
116	(c) Recollections of Father Zosima's...	7:20
117	I went to bed, and slept for about three hours.	6:33
118	The seconds, especially mine, were shouting too..	6:35
119	(d) The Mysterious Visitor.	3:42
120	And I described all that had passed..	7:03

121	For a long while I could not believe him...	8:31
122	He was respected in society for his active benevolence...	8:15
123	'Good God,' I thought...	9:04
124	Chapter 3	7:58
125	(f) Of Masters and Servants...	6:47
126	'Why are you weeping?' said I...	6:04
127	(g) Of Prayer, of Love, and of Contact with Other Worlds.	9:15
128	(h) Can a Man judge his Fellow Creatures? Faith to the End.	5:47
129	(i) Of Hell and Hell Fire, a Mystic Reflection.	7:52
130	Part III	7:45
131	Meanwhile the time was passing.	7:06
132	As soon as signs of decomposition had begun to appear...	7:06
133	The monk from Obdorsk heard all this...	5:55
134	The incident he referred to was this.	7:41
135	Chapter 2	7:20
136	This new something was the harassing impression left...	8:46
137	Chapter 3	7:58
138	The appearance of Rakitin and Alyosha caused a slight excitement.	9:25
139	'You've talked nonsense enough,' cried Rakitin.	9:13
140	'Once upon a time there was a peasant woman...'	6:15

141	'In the morning I would get up more spiteful than a dog...'	8:22
142	Rakitin got up.	6:27
143	Chapter 4	6:11
144	'Jesus saith unto them...'	9:00
145	Book VIII	5:43
146	Of this different, reformed and 'virtuous' life...	8:37
147	After his conversation with Alyosha...	7:58
148	Above all, he wanted this concluded that very day.	7:51
149	Chapter 2	6:33
150	'No, you'd better wait a little,' the priest pronounced at last.	5:51
151	Mitya fussed about the drunken peasant for half an hour...	6:28
152	Chapter 3	8:51
153	He flew home, washed, combed his hair...	8:14
154	'Of the gold mines, madam?'	6:49
155	'Madam!' cried Mitya, jumping up at last...	7:14
156	Chapter 4	7:57
157	Mitya looked at him from the side without stirring.	7:17
158	Chapter 5	8:51
159	'In your pocket, or on the table here.'	8:15
160	'What are you doing, loading the pistol?'	8:04

161	The officious shopmen began explaining...	7:11
162	'Dmitri Fyodorovitch, dear good Dmitri Fyodorovitch...'	5:25
163	Chapter 6	5:54
164	Mitya suddenly seized him by the shoulders...	6:09
165	In spite of the thousands of roubles he had saved...	6:53
166	Chapter 7	7:25
167	The Pole on the sofa struck him by his dignified demeanour...	9:06
168	'Listen, listen!' cried Kalganov, bubbling over.	9:27
169	The landlord brought in a new, unopened pack...	7:04
170	The Pole gazed open-eyed at Mitya...	8:58
171	Chapter 8	4:38
172	He would run away and she listened to the singing...	6:54
173	'So that's what you're after.'	7:49
174	'Will you forgive me for having tormented you?'	8:10
175	'Well, now I'll go,' thought Kalganov...	8:53
176	Book IX	7:45
177	But he had hardly uttered the name...	8:49
178	Chapter 2	8:11
179	She went up to the gate...	8:23
180	Chapter 3	5:14

181	The prosecutor would have continued...	7:25
182	'We will continue,' interposed Nikolay Parfenovitch.	9:06
183	Chapter 4	8:51
184	'Allow me to caution you, sir...'	9:21
185	Chapter 5	6:16
186	The prosecutor swallowed this without a murmur.	7:01
187	'Oh, I was sitting like this...'	6:34
188	'I was in want of ten roubles...'	8:10
189	Chapter 6	5:59
190	Mitya imagined however...	7:17
191	Mitya had leapt up from his chair...	6:08
192	Chapter 7	3:50
193	'This is almost miraculous,' murmured Nikolay Parfenovitch.	7:33
194	Both the lawyers laughed aloud.	7:33
195	'Have mercy, gentlemen!'	9:52
196	Chapter 8	7:29
197	Though Nikolay Parfenovitch did insert this in the protocol...	7:57
198	Ippolit Kirillovitch was very well satisfied with this piece of evidence.	8:30
199	Chapter 9	9:30
200	Part IV	7:01

201	'Run, run away from the rails,' the boys cried...	6:29
202	Chapter 2	7:12
203	'Come, kiddies,' said Kolya, stepping into the room.	6:09
204	Chapter 3	8:01
205	'That peasant's beard's frozen,' Kolya cried...	9:23
206	Chapter 4	7:31
207	'Suddenly I noticed for three days in succession...'	5:28
208	'Tell me, what made you hope that I should be the one to find him?'	5:31
209	Chapter 5	8:26
210	'Krassotkin!' cried one of the boys suddenly.	9:22
211	The captain ran across the passage to the landlady...	8:34
212	'Ah! I heard about the goose!' Ilusha laughed...	9:05
213	'The study of the classics...'	3:55
214	Chapter 6	5:44
215	'Long will you remember, the house at the Chain bridge.'	8:51
216	Chapter 7	9:30
217	Book XI	7:04
218	'But he knew about the Pole before?'	7:17
219	'Oh, dear! Couldn't you go to that counsel yourself...'	7:59
220	Chapter 2	8:27

221	'Well, that must be me,' she hurried on again.	8:39
222	'Oh, yes. I was talking of aberration.'	8:21
223	Chapter 3	6:13
224	What struck Alyosha above everything was her earnestness.	8:33
225	Chapter 4	7:42
226	Mitya laughed suddenly.	9:17
227	Mitya was almost gasping for breath...	9:30
228	Mitya walked frowning across the room.	8:25
229	Chapter 5	6:52
230	'Katerina Ivanovna loves you, brother,' said Alyosha sadly.	7:29
231	Chapter 6	7:38
232	'In the first place,' began Ivan...	7:16
233	Ivan wondered inwardly again.	9:32
234	Chapter 7	9:00
235	Ivan restrained himself with painful effort.	6:12
236	Ivan did not go home...	9:04
237	Chapter 8	8:36
238	'Do you know, I am afraid that you are a dream...'	8:08
239	'So that's where the envelope lay...'	9:34
240	'“Why, here she is,” said I.'	8:47

241	Ivan said this solemnly and resolutely...	9:27
242	Chapter 9	9:17
243	'Excuse me, excuse me, I'll catch you.'	8:00
244	'Your nerves are out of order.'	8:55
245	'Then even you don't believe in God?'	8:13
246	'Not for one minute,' cried Ivan furiously.	9:21
247	'Somebody takes all the credit...'	9:16
248	Chapter 10	6:59
249	'He has worn you out,' said Alyosha...	6:55
250	Book XII	5:02
251	There were numbers of severe, frowning, even vindictive faces.	7:28
252	At last the president opened the case...	5:09
253	Chapter 2	6:59
254	At last the counsel for the defence began to cross-examine him...	7:35
255	'Allow me to ask,' began the counsel for the defence...	9:09
256	Chapter 3	7:10
257	But the unexpected pronouncement...	7:25
258	Chapter 4	8:31
259	The prosecutor, of course, intervened.	7:41
260	'And even if nothing had been omitted...'	8:32

261	Chapter 5	5:58
262	The usher at once approached him.	4:49
263	The document she had handed up...	7:44
264	The President and the prosecutor, of course, tried to calm her.	7:46
265	Chapter 6	8:27
266	'What, after all, is this Karamazov family...'	8:56
267	'He is not greedy, no...'	8:59
268	Chapter 7	5:09
269	'Those who heard the prisoner...'	8:00
270	Chapter 8	7:25
271	'You see, gentlemen of the jury...'	8:59
272	'But what do we see?'	8:57
273	Chapter 9	6:42
274	'By the way, I will note in parenthesis...'	7:48
275	'At that point one of the lawyers asked him...'	6:21
276	'Just because the prisoner still persists in these absurdities...'	8:01
277	Chapter 10	3:29
278	So Fetyukovitch began.	7:53
279	Chapter 11	5:47
280	'Not long ago in Petersburg a young man of eighteen...'	7:03

281	'But the prosecutor refuses to allow...'	6:20
282	Chapter 12	8:58
283	'Gentlemen of the jury, is that really so?'	6:16
284	'The prosecutor asks at what moment...'	7:56
285	Chapter 13	8:39
286	'The Lover of Mankind on the eve of His Crucifixion said...'	6:52
287	'Oh, perhaps those questions strike you...'	9:24
288	Chapter 14	6:51
289	His voice was weak, he did not shout as before.	9:28
290	Epilogue	6:26
291	Katya had never made such confessions...	6:50
292	Chapter 2	4:51
293	'Our brother has a strong constitution...'	8:00
294	'Here she is!' cried Alyosha.	6:38
295	Chapter 3	7:06
296	They had not far to carry the coffin to the church...	8:35
297	'The landlady is laying the table for them now...'	9:18

Total time: 37:05:50

Fyodor Dostoyevsky
(1821–1881)
The Brothers
KARAMAZOV

Dostoyevsky was born in Moscow on November 11, 1821. His father was an impecunious doctor and his mother the daughter of a merchant. When he was sixteen his mother died and he and his elder brother Mikhail were sent to St Petersburg to study at the army college of engineering. During his three unhappy years there, he spent his free time reading the works of the most important Russian and foreign authors. In 1844 he resigned from the army and his first novel, *Poor Folk*, was published the following year.

An incident in which Dostoyevsky witnessed an aristocrat beating his coachman mercilessly for not driving fast enough had a powerful and lasting effect on him. His revulsion at the injustices of Russian society, especially the system of serfdom, led him into circles where revolutionary ideas, such as liberating

the serfs and abolishing censorship, were current.

In 1849 he was arrested and tried with the others of his group, and sentenced to death. After eight months' imprisonment, the death sentence was commuted by Emperor Nicholas I to four years' hard labour, to be followed by four years' service in the army as a private. But this information was not conveyed to the prisoners, who were taken out onto the parade ground and made to go through the preliminaries of an execution. Dostoyevsky described the experience in a letter to his brother:

They snapped swords over our heads, and they made us put on the white shirts worn by persons condemned to death. Thereupon we were bound in threes to

stakes, to suffer execution. Being in the third row I concluded I only had a few minutes of life before me. I thought of you and your dear ones, and I continued to kiss Plestchaeiv and Dourov who were next to me and to bid them farewell. Suddenly the troops beat a tattoo, we were unbound, brought back upon the scaffold, and informed that his Majesty had spared our lives.

One of the prisoners went mad as a result of the experience. For Dostoyevsky it was an event which was to leave an indelible mark on his life. He was put in chains and sent off to Siberia to carry out his sentence of four years' hard labour. At the end of this period he was transferred to a small town where he served as a private soldier in a line regiment. Here he fell in love with the wife of a civil servant who subsequently died. Despite the fact that she was in love with another man, she allowed herself to be persuaded by Dostoyevsky to marry him, for the sake of her son. Not surprisingly, the marriage was not a success. By this time he had

become a commissioned officer, but he was obliged to resign from the army as a result of his increasing attacks of epilepsy.

Dostoyevsky returned to St Petersburg where, over the next twenty years, he wrote his most important works, including *Crime and Punishment* (1866), *The Idiot* (1869), *The Possessed* (1872) and *The Brothers Karamazov* (1880).

Three years after the death of his first wife in 1864, Dostoyevsky married the young woman he had engaged as his secretary. His financial affairs were in turmoil, and he and his new wife were forced into exile to escape their creditors. The couple spent the next few years living in Germany, Switzerland and Italy, during which time two children were born to them, only one of whom survived. As their financial situation began to improve they returned to Russia, where two more children were born, but the youngest child suffered from epilepsy and died at the age of three.

During the years following his release from prison, Dostoyevsky's political and religious opinions became more and more reactionary, and his acceptance in 1872 of the editorship of a conservative periodical,

The Citizen, marked his final rejection of his youthful revolutionary beliefs. He died in St Petersburg on February 9, 1881.

THE BROTHERS KARAMAZOV

The Brothers Karamazov is often referred to as Dostoyevsky's greatest novel. On a superficial level the story is an intriguing 'who-done-it', with a dramatic trial scene as its finale. But Dostoyevsky, like Shakespeare, was able to address more than one audience at a time – in this case not just the groundlings in the pit or the aristocrats in the boxes, but the different audiences which we, his readers, have within us. As one part of us is enjoying *The Brothers Karamazov* at the level of an exciting crime thriller, our deeper selves are engaged in the consideration of such primal and universal themes as the existence of God, sexual passion, jealousy, sibling rivalry, patricide, cruelty, evil, poverty and shame.

The characters of the three brothers themselves may be seen as embodying different aspects of human personality; Dmitri, passionate and uncontrolled, Ivan, proud and self-deluding, and Alexey, pure and compassionate. And woven through

the thread of the narrative, the idea which would later be developed by Freud as the Oedipal theory, the wish of the son to overthrow and kill his father.

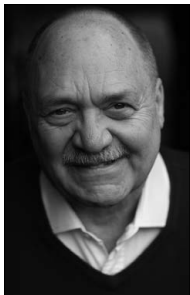
Reasons for these particular sons to murder this particular father are heavily weighted by the author – Fyodor Pavlovitch Karamazov is the most negligent of fathers and a thoroughly repulsive character. Dmitri considers he has cheated him out of his inheritance and is wildly jealous because he is attempting to steal the woman he loves. Ivan's intellectual atheism results in the stifling of his conscience, especially where it concerns getting rid of his father, and leads to his eventual mental breakdown. Only Alexey's unswerving belief in God and the essential goodness of man prevents him from wishing to take revenge for his father's cruel treatment of his mentally fragile mother.

If we examine Dostoyevsky's own history, it is clear that many of the themes, situations and characters in the book are drawn from experience. His father was a cruel and merciless master to his serfs, by whom he was eventually murdered. Dostoyevsky draws

on his personal experience of epilepsy in order to describe Smerdyakov's medical condition. The story of the death of Grigory and Marfa's infant child echoes the tragic early deaths of two of his own children. Ivan's resistance to belief in God reflects Dostoyevsky's tormented struggle with his religious doubts, whilst Alexey's unshakeable faith represents the calm assurance he wished to achieve.

But in the end, attempts to draw analogies with Dostoyevsky's own experience are of limited value because, as with every great artist, the author's achievement is to have used the raw material of life to create an enduring work of art. *The Brothers Karamazov* is such a work, one which transcends the limitations of skilful storytelling to become a universal representation of the human struggle, a compassionate study of man's battle with his baser instincts, and his courageous attempts, frequently doomed to failure, to grow upwards, out of the darkness and into the light.

Notes by Neville Jason



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 Ejiofor, 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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Fyodor Dostoyevsky

The Brothers

KARAMAZOV

Read by **Constantine Gregory**

Fyodor Dostoyevsky is a titanic figure among the world's great authors, and *The Brothers Karamazov* is often hailed as his finest novel. A masterpiece on many levels, it transcends the boundaries of a gripping murder mystery to become a moving account of the battle between love and hate, faith and despair, compassion and cruelty, good and evil.

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