Dostoevskys Secret Code: The Allegory Of Elijah The Prophet Translated By Jay Macpherson

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Exploring Imaginary Worlds - Mark J.P. Wolf - 2020-10-09

From The Brothers Karamazov to Star Trek to Twin Peaks, this collection explores a variety of different imaginary worlds both historic and contemporary. Featuring contributions from an interdisciplinary and international group of scholars, each essay looks at a particular imaginary world in-depth, and world-building issues associated with that world. Together, the essays explore the relationship between the worlds and the media in which they appear as they examine imaginary worlds in literature, television, film, computer games, and theatre, with many existing across multiple media simultaneously. The book argues that the media incarnation of a world affects world structure and poses unique obstacles to the act of world-building. The worlds discussed include Nazar, Barsetshire, Skotopogonia, the Vorkosigan Universe, Grover’s Corners, Gormenghast, Collinport, Daventry, Dune, the Death Gate Cycle universe, Twin Peaks, and the Star Trek galaxy. A follow-up to Mark J. P. Wolf’s field-defining book Building Imaginary Worlds, this collection will be of critical interest to students and scholars of popular culture, subcreation studies, transmedia studies, literature, and beyond.

Profane Challenge and Orthodox Response in Dostoevsky’s Crime and Punishment - Janet G. Tucker - 2008-01-01

Profane Challenge and Orthodox Response in Dostoevsky’s Crime and Punishment presents for the first time an examination of this great novel as a work aimed at winning back “target readers”, young contemporary radicals, from Utilitarianism, nihilism, and Utopian Socialism. Dostoevsky framed the battle in the context of the Orthodox Church and oral tradition versus the West. He relied on knowledge of the Gospels as text received orally, forcing readers to react emotionally, not rationally, and thus undermining the very basis of his opponents’ arguments. Dostoevsky saves Raskolnikov, underscoring the inadequacy of rational thought and reminding his readers of a heritage discarded at their peril. This volume should be of special interest to secondary and university students, as well as to readers interested in literature, particularly, in Russian literature, and Dostoevsky.

The American Bibliography of Slavic and East European Studies - Patt Leonard - 2020-02-27

This bibliography, first published in 1957, provides citations to North American academic literature on Europe, Central Europe, the Balkans, the Baltic States and the former Soviet Union. Organised by discipline, it covers the arts, humanities, social sciences, life sciences and technology.

The Legend of Elijah in Judaism, Christianity, Islam, and Literature - Mishael Caspi - 2009

This work examines interpretations of Elijah in an immortal being teaching the Law to the chosen ones. In all three religious traditions, Elijah is a mysterious person. He appears ready to undertake the mission to restore the hearts of the people, to bring them back to the right path. He is also the prophet about whom Jesus said: ‘Elijah...
emerging Western philosophy, especially Nikolay Chernyshevsky's What Is To Be Done? The second part of the
examine three events; God's revelation to Moses via the 'burning bush', God's revelation to Elijah through the 'still
small voice' and the relationship with Khidr. Each of these traditions presents to us an immortal being who walks
the earth teaching the chosen the true comprehension of the Law. Elijah plays different roles. For one he
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Books in Print - - 1995

Notes from Underground - Fyodor Dostoyevsky - 1967-01-01
NOTES FROM THE UNDERGROUND Notes from Underground, also translated as Notes from the Underground or Letters from the Underworld, is an 1864 novella by Fyodor Dostoyevsky. Notes is considered by many to be the first existentialist novel. It presents itself as an excerpt from the rambling memoirs of a bitter, isolated, unnamed narrator (generally referred to by critics as the Underground Man) who is a retired civil servant living in St. Petersburg. The first part of the story is told in monologue form, or the underground man's diary, and attacks emerging Western philosophy, especially Nikolay Chernyshevsky's What Is To Be Done? The second part of the book is called "Apropos of the Wet Snow", and describes certain events that, it seems, are destroying and sometimes renewing the underground man, who acts as a first person, unreliable narrator. NOTES FROM THE UNDERGROUND In "Notes from Underground" by Fyodor Dostoyevsky, we are not talking about revolutionary personalities, a secret struggle for some ideas or about a curtain of secrets and mysteries. The hero of the "underground", the author of the notes, is a collegiate assessor who retired after receiving a small inheritance. He lives poorly, in a wretched room on the outskirts of Petersburg. And the "underground" is psychological. Almost always he is alone, betrayed by unrestrained "dreaming", explores his own consciousness and his own soul. The purpose of his confession is "to test whether it is possible at all to be completely frank with oneself and not to be afraid of all the truth". Illustrated by Andronum. NOTES FROM THE UNDERGROUND Notes from Underground is a fictional collection of memoirs written by a civil servant living alone in St. Petersburg. The man is never named and is generally referred to as the Underground Man. The "underground" in the book refers to the narrator's isolation, which he described in chapter 11 as "listening through a crack under the floor." It is considered to be one of the first existentialist novels. With this book, Dostoyevsky challenged the ideologies of his time, like nihilism and utopianism. The Underground Man shows how idealized rationality in utopias is inherently flawed, because it doesn't account for the irrational side of humanity. This novel has had a big impact on many different works of literature and philosophy. It has influenced writers like Franz Kafka and Friedrich Nietzsche. A similar character is also found in Martin Scorsese's Taxi Driver. Notes from Underground was published in 1864 as the first four issues of Epoch, a Russian magazine by Fyodor and Mikhail Dostoyevsky. Presented here is Constance Garnett's translation from 1918. NOTES FROM THE UNDERGROUND

The Dostoevsky Encyclopedia - K. A. Lantz - 2004
Entries assess the life and literary career of the famous Russian writer, covering writers who influenced his work, literary movements with which he is associated, and ideas and themes that appear throughout his writings.

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At the Violet Hour - Sarah Cole - 2014-07-01
Literature has long sought to make sense of the destruction and aggression wrought by human civilization. Yet no single literary movement was more powerfully shaped by violence than modernism. As Sarah Cole shows, modernism emerged as an imaginative response to the devastating events that defined the period, including the
Fyodor Mikhailovich Dostoevsky (1821 – 1881), sometimes transliterated Dostoevsky, was a Russian novelist, short story writer, and essayist. Dostoevsky's literary works explore human psychology in the troubled political, social and spiritual context of 19th-century Russia. This translation by Constance Garnett from the original detail with resourceful readings of fiction, poetry, journalism, photographs, and other cultural materials, At the Violet Hour explores the strange intimacy between modernist aesthetics and violence in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The First World War and T. S. Eliot's The Waste Land demonstrate the new theoretical paradigm that Cole deploys throughout her study, what she calls "enchanted" and "disenchanted" violence—the polarizing perceptions of violent death as either the fuel for regeneration or the emblem of grotesque loss. These concepts thread through the literary-historical moments that form the basic of boys constructs an original set of patterns to accommodate its visceral ubiquity in the years leading up to the Second World War. A rich interdisciplinary study that incorporates perspectives from history, anthropology, the visual arts, and literature, At the Violet Hour provides a resonant framework for reframing the relationship between aesthetics and violence that will extend far beyond the period traditionally associated with literary modernism.

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White Nights and Other Stories - Fyodor Dostoyevsky - 2012-12-28

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One of the great allegorical masterpieces of world literature, Cancer Ward is both a deeply compassionate study of people facing terminal illness and a brilliant dissection of the "cannorous" Soviet police state.

Cancer Ward - Aleksandr Isaevich Solzhenitsyn - 2003

The recipient of numerous literary prizes, including the National Book Award, the Kafka Award, and the Pulschat Prize, Ursula K. Le Guin is renowned for her spare, elegant prose, rich characterization, and diverse worlds. "The Ones Who Walk Away from Omelas" is a short story originally published in the collection The Wind's Twelve Quarters.

The Ones Who Walk Away from Omelas - Ursula K. Le Guin - 2017-02-14

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Wolf Totem and the Post-Mao Utopian - Xiaojiang Li - 2018-03-22

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The Schooldays of Jesus - J. M. Coetzee - 2017-02-21

LONGLISTED FOR THE MAN BOOKER PRIZE A NEW YORK MAGAZINE BEST BOOK OF THE YEAR From the Nobel Prize-winning author J. M. Coetzee, the haunting sequel to The Childhood of Jesus, continuing the journey of David, Simón, and Inés. The Death of Jesus is forthcoming from Viking. "When you travel across the ocean on a boat, all your memories are washed away and you start a completely new life. That is how it is. There is no before. There is no history. The boat docks at the harbour and we climb down the gangplank and we are plunged into the here and now. Time begins." David is the small boy who is always asking questions. Simón and Inés take care of him in their new town, Estrella. He is learning the language; he has begun to make friends. He has the big dog Bolivar to watch over him. But he'll be seven soon and he should be at school. And so, with the guidance of the three sisters who own the farm where Simón and Inés work, David is enrolled in the Academy of Dance. It's here, in his new golden dancing slippers, that he learns how to call down the numbers from the sky. But it's here, too, that he will make troubling discoveries about what grown-ups are capable of. In this mesmerizing allegorical tale, Coetzee deftly grapples with the big questions of growing up, of what it means to be a “parent,” the constant battle between intellect and emotion, and how we choose to live our lives.

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\textbf{The Brothers Karamazov (Royal Collector's Edition) (Case Laminate Hardcover with Jacket)} - Fyodor Dostoevsky - 2021-01-24

Fyodor three son's, the youthful Alyosha, the impetuous Dmitri, and the logical Ivan, are involved in several triangular love affairs. Throughout their encounters, the family is confronted with love, murder, and an exhilarating trial.

\textbf{The Palgrave Handbook of Contemporary Gothic} - Clive Bloom - 2020-07-10

"Simply put, there is absolutely nothing on the market with the range of ambition of this strikingly eclectic collection of essays. Not only is it impossible to imagine a more comprehensive view of the subject, most readers - even specialists in the subject - will find that there are elements of the Gothic genre here of which they were previously unaware." - Barry Forshaw, Author of British Gothic Cinema and Sex and Film The Palgrave Handbook of Contemporary Gothic is the most comprehensive compendium of analytic essays on the modern Gothic now available, covering the vast and highly significant period from 1918 to 2019. The Gothic sensibility, over 200 years old, embraces its dark past whilst anticipating the future. From demons and monsters to post-apocalyptic fears and ecological fantasies, Gothic is thriving as never before in the arts and in popular culture. This volume is made up of 62 comprehensive chapters with notes and extended bibliographies contributed by scholars from around the world. The chapters are written not only for those engaged in academic research but also to be accessible to students and dedicated followers of the genre. Each chapter is packed with analysis of the Gothic in both theory and practice, as the genre has mutated and spread over the last hundred years. Starting in 1918 with the impact of film on the genre's development, and moving through its many and varied international incarnations, each chapter chronicles the history of the gothic milieu from the movies to gaming platforms and internet memes, television and theatre. The volume also looks at how Gothic intersects with fashion, music and popular culture: a multi-layered, multi-ethnic, even a trans-gendered experience as we move into the twenty first century.

\textbf{Nightmare Alley} - William Lindsay Gresham - 2011-04-06

Soon to be a major motion picture from Academy Award-winning director Guillermo del Toro and starring Bradley Cooper, Cate Blanchett, Rooney Mara, and Toni Collette. Nightmare Alley begins with an extraordinary description of a carnival-show geek—alcoholic and abject and the object of the voyeuristic crowd's gleeful disgust and derision—going about his work at a county fair. Young Stan Carlisle is working as a carny, and he wonders how a man could fall so low. There's no way in hell, he vows, that anything like that will ever happen to him. And since Stan is clever and ambitious and not without a useful streak of ruthlessness, soon enough he's going places. Onstage he plays the mentalist with a cute assistant (before long his harried wife), then he graduates to full-blown spiritualist, catering to the needs of the rich and gullible in their well-upholstered homes. It looks like the world is Stan's for the taking. At least for now.

Crime and Punishment - Fyodor Dostoevsky - 2002-12-31

Raskolnikov, a destitute and desperate former student, commits a random murder without remorse or regret, imagining himself to be a great man far above moral law. Imagine he embarks on a dangerous cat-and-mouse game with a suspicious police investigator, his own conscience begins to torment him and he seeks sympathy and redemption from Sonya, a downtrodden prostitute. Translated with an Introduction and Notes by David McDuff

Confession of a Murderer - Joseph Roth - 2002-12-31

In a Russian restaurant on Paris's Left Bank, Russian exile Golubchik alternately fascinates and horrifies a rapt audience with a wild story of collaboration, deception, and murder in the days leading up to the Russian Revolution. "Worthy to sit beside Conrad and Dostoevsky's excursions into the twisted world of secret agents. Joseph Roth is one of the great writers in German of this century; and this novel is a fine introduction to this view of intrigue, necessity, and moral doubt.\textsuperscript{1}\textsuperscript{?} The London Times

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The Brothers Karamazov - Fyodor Dostoevsky - 2020-10-06

Three brothers and their relations in 19th century Russia provide the base for a sweeping epic overview of human
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Revolution around shiftless father Fyodor Pavlovich Karamazov are the fates of his three sons, each of whom has
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youngest, Alexi, is a man of faith and a natural optimist. These personalities are drawn out and tested in a crucible
of conflict and emotion as the author forces upon them fundamental questions of morality, faith, reason and
responsibility. This charged situation is pushed to its limit by the addition of the unthinkable, murder and possible
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Young Donald - Michael Bennett - 2020-10-06
Just a few minutes before, Teddy Haswell had been helping his friend Donald break into the math teacher's office.
Now, limbs terminally akimbo, Teddy’s body lies in a pool of blood in Jessup Quadrangle. And at the center of the
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accidental death should not rest with him, Donald reasons. But how? Can people be convinced that Teddy took his
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The Brothers Karamazov - Fyodor Dostoevsky - 1922
The Alchemical Harry Potter - Anne J. Mamary - 2020-12-22
When Harry Potter first boards the Hogwarts Express, he journeys to a world which Rowling says has alchemy as its
“internal logic.” The Philosopher's Stone, known for its power to transform base metals into gold and to give
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But alchemy is not about money or eternal life, it is much more about the transformations of desire, of power and
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The Grand Inquisitor (Webster's German Thesaurus Edition) - -
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The Road to Wigan Pier - George Orwell - 2001-01-07
The Road to Wigan Pier is Orwell's 1937 study of poverty and working-class life in northern England.

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The Foundation Pit - Andrey Platonov - 2009-04-21
Translated from the Russian by Robert & Elizabeth Chandler and Olga Meerson With notes and an afterword by
Robert Chandler and Olga Meerson In Andrey Platonov’s The Foundation Pit, a team of workers has been given
the job of digging the foundation of an immense edifice, a palatial home for the perfect future that, they are
convinced, is at hand. But the harder the team works, the deeper they dig, the more things go wrong, and it
becomes clear that what is being dug is not a foundation but an immense grave. The Foundation Pit is Platonov’s
most overtly political book, written in direct response to the staggering brutalities of Stalin’s collectivization of
Russian agriculture. It is also a literary masterpiece. Seeking to evoke unspakable realities, Platonov deforms and
transforms language in pages that echo both with the alienating doublespeak of power and the stark simplicity of prayer. This English translation is the first and only one to be based on the definitive edition published by Pushkin House in Moscow. It includes extensive notes and, in an appendix, several striking passages deleted by Platonov. Robert Chandler and Olga Meerson’s afterward discusses the historical context and style of
Platonov’s most haunted and troubling work.

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Alphabetically arranged and followed by an index of terms at the end, this handy reference of literary terms is bound to be of invaluable assistance to any student of English literature.

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The Alchemical Harry Potter - Anne J. Mamary - 2020-12-22
When Harry Potter first boards the Hogwarts Express, he journeys to a world which Rowling says has alchemy as its
“internal logic.” The Philosopher's Stone, known for its power to transform base metals into gold and to give
immortality to its maker, is the subject of the conflict between Harry and Voldemort in the first book of the series.
But alchemy is not about money or eternal life, it is much more about the transformations of desire, of power and

the wool over the eyes of the world. It’s 1964 in the USSR, and unbeknownst even to Premier Krushchev himself, most overtly political book, written in direct response to the staggering brutalities of Stalin’s collectivization of Russian agriculture. It is also a literary masterpiece. Seeking to evoke unspeakable realities, Platonov deforms and transforms language in pages that echo both with the alienating doublespeak of power and the stark simplicity of prayer. This English translation is the first and only one to be based on the definitive edition published by Pushkin House in Moscow. It includes extensive notes and, in an appendix, several striking passages deleted by Platonov. Robert Chandler and Olga Meerson’s afterword discusses the historical context and style of Platonov’s most haunted and troubling work.

The Age of Terror - David Plante - 2000-01-01
Set in the seamy world of the Russian sex slave trade, The Age of Terror is the harrowing story of Joe, a disillusioned young American expatriate and landed Catholic who searches for life’s meaning in the Soviet Union on the eve of its disintegration. Plante plays brilliantly with our assumptions of both the United States and Russia, and ultimately proclaims a universal theme of sacredness and redemption.

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Stavrovgin’s Confession and The Plan of The Life of a Great Sinner - Fyodor Dostoyevsky - 2019-11-19
“Stavrovgin’s Confession and The Plan of The Life of a Great Sinner” by Fyodor Dostoyevsky (translated by S. S. Kotelianski, Virginia Woolf). Published by Good Press. Good Press publishes a wide range of titles that encompasses every genre. From well-known classics & literary fiction and non-fiction to forgotten—or yet undiscovered gems—of world literature, we issue the books that need to be read. Each Good Press edition has been meticulously edited and formatted to boost readability for all e-readers and devices. Our goal is to produce eBooks that are user-friendly and accessible to everyone in a high-quality digital format.

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First Cosmic Velocity - Zack Povers - 2019-08-06
A stunningly imaginative novel about the Cold War, the Russian space program, and the amazing fraud that pulled the wool over the eyes of the world. It’s 1964 in the USSR, and unbeknownst even to Premier Krushchev himself, the Soviet space program is a sham. Well, half a sham. While the program has successfully launched five capsules into space, the Chief Designer and his team have never successfully brought one back to earth. To disguise this, they’ve used twins. But in a nation built on secrets and propaganda, the biggest lie of all is about to unravel. Because there are no more twins left. Combining history and fiction, the real and the mystical, First Cosmic Velocity is the story of Leonid, the last of the twins. Taken in 1950 from a life of poverty in Ukraine to the training grounds in Russia, the Leonids were given one name and one identity, but divergent futures. Now one Leonid has launched to certain death (or so one might think), and the other is sent on a press tour under the watchful eye of Iguanias, the government agent who knows too much but gives away little. And while Leonid battles his increasing doubts about their deceitful project, the Chief Designer must scramble to perfect a working spacecraft, especially when Krushchev nominates his high-strung, squirrel-like dog for the first canine mission. By turns grim and whimsical, fatalistic and deeply hopeful, First Cosmic Velocity is a sweeping novel of the heights of mankind’s accomplishments, the depths of its folly, and the people—and canines—with whom we create family.

All that is Solid Melts Into Air - Marshall Berman - 1983
The experience of modernization—the dizzying social changes that swept millions of people into the capitalist world—and modernism in art, literature and architecture are brilliantly integrated in this account.

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Dickens, His Parables, and His Reader - Linda M. Lewis - 2012-01-01
Charles Dickens once commented that in each of his Christmas stories there is “an express text preached on . . . always taken from the lips of Christ.” This preaching, Linda M. Lewis contends, does not end with his Christmas stories but extends throughout the body of his work. In Dickens, His Parables, and His Reader, Lewis examines parable and allegory in nine of Dickens’s novels as an entry into understanding the complexities of the relationship between Dickens and his reader. Through an analysis of the role of the parable and allegory in nine of his novels, Lewis presents a new and compelling interpretation of Dickens’s religious beliefs. Specifically, she argues that Dickens saw himself as a valued friend and moral teacher to lead his “dear reader” to religious truth. Dickens’s personal gospel was that behavior is far more important than strict adherence to any set of beliefs, and it is upon this foundation that we see allegory activated in Dickens’s characters. Oliver Twist and The Old Curiosity Shop exemplify the Victorian “cult of childhood” and blend two allegorical texts: Jesus’s Good Samaritan parable and John Bunyan’s The Pilgrim’s Progress. In Dombey and Son, Dickens chooses Jesus’s parable of the Wise and Foolish Builders. In the autobiographical David Copperfield, Dickens engages his reader through an Old Testament myth and a New Testament parable: the expulsion from Eden and the Prodigal Son, respectively. Led by his belief in and desire to preach his social gospel and broad church Christianity, Dickens had no hesitancy in manipulating biblical stories and sermons to suit his purposes. Bleak House is Dickens’s apocalyptic parable about the Day of Judgment, while Little Dorrit echoes the line “Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors” from the Lord’s Prayer, illustrating through his characters that only through grace can all debt be erased. The allegory of the martyred savior is considered in Hard Times and A Tale of Two Cities. Dickens’s final completed novel, Our Mutual Friend, blends the parable of the Good and Faithful Servant with several versions of the Heir Claimant parable. While some recent scholarship debunks the sincerity of Dickens’s religious belief, Lewis clearly demonstrates that Dickens’s novels challenge the reader to investigate and develop an understanding of New Testament doctrine. Dickens saw his relationship with his reader as a crucial part of his storytelling, and through his use and manipulation of allegory and parables, he hoped to influence the faith and morality of that reader.

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with the current Commandant. The Officer is nostalgic regarding the torture machine and the values that were provided new interpretations of the allegory in his novels while illuminating Dickens's religious beliefs. Specifically, he argues that Dickens saw himself as valued friend and moral teacher to lead his “dear reader” to religious truth. Dickens’s personal gospel was that behavior is far more important than strict allegiance to any set of beliefs, and it is upon this foundation that we see allegory activated in Dickens’s characters. Oliver Twist and The Old Curiosity Shop exemplify the Victorian “cult of childhood” and blend two allegorical texts: Jesus’s Good Samaritan parable and John Bunyan’s The Pilgrim’s Progress. In Dombey and Son, Dickens chooses Jesus’s parable of the Wise and Foolish Builders. In the autobiographical novel David Copperfield, Dickens engages his readers through an Old Testament myth and a New Testament parable: the expulsion from Eden and the Prodigal Son, respectively. Led by his belief in and desire to preach his social gospel and broad church Christianity, Dickens had no hesitation in manipulating biblical stories and sermons to suit his purposes. Bleak House is Dickens’s apocalyptic parable about the Day of Judgment, while Little Dorrit echoes the line “Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors” from the Lord’s Prayer, illustrating through his characters that only through grace can all debt be erased. The story’s focus on the Officer is considered a Times A Tale of Two Cities. Dickens’s final completed novel, Our Mutual Friend, blends the parable of the Good and Faithful Servant with several versions of the Heir Claimant parable. While some recent scholarship debunks the sincerity of Dickens’s religious belief, Lewis clearly demonstrates that Dickens’s novels challenge the reader to investigate and develop an understanding of New Testament doctrine. Dickens saw his relationship with his reader as a crucial part of his storytelling, and through his use and manipulation of allegory and parables, he hoped to influence the faith and morality of that reader.

In the Penal Colony - Franz Kafka - 2017-04-19

In the Penal Colony is a short story by Franz Kafka written in German in October 1914, revised in November 1918, and first published in October 1919. The story is set in an unnamed penal colony. Internal clues and the setting on an island suggest Octave Mirbeau’s The Torture Garden as an influence. As in some of Kafka’s other writings, the narrator in this story seems detached from, or perhaps numbed by, events that one would normally expect to be registered with horror. “In the Penal Colony” describes the last use of an elaborate torture and execution device that carves the sentence of the condemned prisoner on his skin before letting him die, all in the course of twelve hours. As the plot unfolds, the reader learns more and more about the machine, including its origins and its specific function. The story focuses on the Explorer, who is encountering the brutal machine for the first time. Everything about the machine and its purpose is told to him by the Officer. The Soldier and the Condemned (who is unaware that he has been sentenced to die) placidly watch from nearby. The Officer tells of the religious epiphany the executed experience in their last six hours in the machine. Eventually, it becomes clear that the use of the machine and its associated process of justice – the accused is always instantly found guilty, and the law he has broken is inscribed on his body as he slowly dies over a period of 12 hours – has fallen out of favor initially associated with it. As the last proponent of the machine, he strongly believes in its form of justice and the infallibility of the previous Commandant, who designed and built the device. In fact, the Officer carries its blueprints with him and is the only person who can properly decipher them; no one else is allowed to handle these documents.

Dostoevsky - Joseph Frank - 2020-03-31

This volume, the fourth of five planned in Joseph Frank’s widely acclaimed biography of Dostoevsky, covers the six most remarkably productive years in the novelist’s entire career. It was in this short span of time that Dostoevsky produced three of his greatest novels – Crime and Punishment, The Idiot, and The Devils – and two of his best novellas, The Gambler and The Eternal Husband. All these masterpieces were written in the midst of harrowing practical and economic circumstances, as Dostoevsky moved from place to place, frequently giving way to his passion for roulette. Having remarried and fled from Russia to escape importing creditors and grasping dependents, he could not return for fear of being thrown into debtor’s prison. He and his young bride, who twice made him a father, lived obscurely and penuously in Switzerland, Germany, and Italy, as he toiled away at his writing, their only source of income. All the while, he worried that his recurrent epileptic attacks were impairing his literary capacities. His enforced exile intensified not only his love for his native land but also his abhorrence of the doctrines of Russian nihilism – which he saw as an alien European importation infecting the Russian psyche. Two novels of this period were thus an attempt to conjure this looming spectre of moral-social disintegration, while The Idiot offered an image of Dostoevsky’s conception of the Russian Christian ideal that he hoped would take its place.

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On the Beneﬁcence of Censorship - Jero Boeke - 1984


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One of the most influential works of this century, The Myth of Sisyphus and Other Essays is a crucial exposition of existentialist thought. Influenced by works such as Don Juan and the novels of Kafka, these essays begin with a meditation on suicide; the question of living or not living in a universe devoid of order or meaning. With lyric eloquence, Albert Camus brilliantly posits a way out of despair, reaffirming the value of personal existence, and the possibility of life lived with dignity and authenticity.