

WORDSWORTH CLASSICS

The Karamazov Brothers

FYODOR DOSTOEVSKY





For my husband
ANTHONY JOHN RANSON
with love from your wife, the publisher.
Eternally grateful for your unconditional love.

Readers who are interested in other titles from
Wordsworth Editions are invited to visit our website at
www.wordsworth-editions.com

For our latest list and a full mail-order service, contact
Bibliophile Books, 5 Thomas Road, London E14 7BN
TEL: +44 (0)20 7515 9222 FAX: +44 (0)20 7538 4115
E-MAIL: orders@bibliophilebooks.com
WEBSITE: www.bibliophilebooks.com

This edition first published in the
Wordsworth Classics of World Literature series in 2007,
re-issued in the Wordsworth Classic series in 2009
by Wordsworth Editions Limited
8B East Street, Ware, Hertfordshire SG12 9HJ

ISBN 978 1 84022 186 2

Text © Wordsworth Editions Limited 2007
Translation © the Executor of the Estate of Constance Garnett
Introduction and Notes © A. D. P. Briggs 2007

Wordsworth® is a registered trademark of
Wordsworth Editions Limited

Wordsworth Editions
is the company founded in 1987 by

MICHAEL TRAYLER

All rights reserved. This publication may not be
reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or
transmitted, in any form or by any means, electronic,
mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise,
without the prior permission of the publishers.

Typeset in Great Britain by Antony Gray
Printed and bound by Clays Ltd, St Ives plc

CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION VII

FURTHER READING XXIV

PART I

Book One: The History of a Family 3

Book Two: An Unfortunate Gathering 33

Book Three: The Sensualists 97

PART II

Book Four: Lacerations 177

Book Five: Pro and Contra 232

Book Six: The Russian Monk 310

PART III

Book Seven: Alyosha 363

Book Eight: Mitya 406

Book Nine: The Preliminary Investigation 499

PART IV

Book Ten: The Boys 577

Book Eleven: Ivan 631

Book Twelve: A Judicial Error 738

Epilogue 848

WORDSWORTH CLASSICS

The Karamazov Brothers

FYODOR DOSTOEVSKY

Translated by Constance Garnett (1912)

With an Introduction by A. D. P. Briggs

As Fyodor Karamazov awaits an amorous encounter, he is violently done to death. The three sons of the old debauchee are forced to confront their own guilt or complicity. Who will own to patricide? The reckless and passionate Dmitri? The corrosive intellectual Ivan? Surely not the chaste novice monk Alyosha? The search reveals the divisions which rack the brothers, yet paradoxically unite them. Around the writhings of this one dysfunctional family Dostoevsky weaves a dense network of social, psychological and philosophical relationships. At the same time he shows – from the opening ‘scandal’ scene in the monastery to a personal appearance by an eccentric Devil – that his dramatic skills have lost nothing of their edge. *The Karamazov Brothers*, completed a few months before Dostoevsky’s death in 1881, remains for many the high point of his genius as novelist and chronicler of the modern malaise. It cast a long shadow over D. H. Lawrence, Thomas Mann, Albert Camus, and other giants of twentieth-century European literature.



COMPLETE AND UNABRIDGED

ISBN 978-1-84022-186-2



Cover Design by Robert Mathias

Cover Illustration, Nathan Clair*
(Contemporary Artist) www.niphop.co.uk

9 781840 221862

Visit our website at www.wordsworth-editions.com