

# The Double Classic Dostoyevsky

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## CAREY DENNIS

*Notes from Underground and the Double* Ann Arbor, Mich. : Ardis  
 'It is best to do nothing! The best thing is conscious inertia! So long live the underground!' Alienated from society and paralysed by a sense of his own insignificance, the anonymous narrator of Dostoyevsky's groundbreaking *Notes from Underground* tells the story of his tortured life. With bitter sarcasm, he describes his refusal to become a worker in the 'ant-hill' of society and his gradual withdrawal to an existence 'underground'. The seemingly ordinary world of St Petersburg takes on a nightmarish quality in *The Double* when a government clerk encounters a man who exactly resembles him - his double perhaps, or possibly the darker side of his own personality. Like *Notes from Underground*, this is a masterly study of human consciousness. Jessie Coulson's introduction discusses the stories' critical reception and the themes they share with Dostoyevsky's great novels.

*The Gambler* National Geographic Books  
 Constantly rebuffed from the social circles he aspires to frequent, the timid clerk Golyadkin is confronted by the sudden appearance of his double, a more brazen, confident and socially successful version of himself, who abuses and victimizes the original. As he is increasingly persecuted, Golyadkin finds his social, romantic and professional life unravelling, in a spiral that leads to a catastrophic denouement. *The Double*, Dostoevsky's second published work of fiction, which foreshadows in its themes many of his mature novels, is the surreal and hallucinatory tale of an unfortunate anti-hero, at once chilling in its depiction of the dark sides of human nature and exuberantly comical.

**The Double** Createspace Independent Publishing Platform  
 Most significant of the Russian novelist's early stories (1846) offers a straight-faced treatment of a hallucinatory theme. Golyadkin senior is a powerless target of persecution by Golyadkin junior, his double in almost every respect. Familiar Dostoyevskan themes of helplessness, victimization, scandal-beautifully handled in small masterpiece.

*The Eternal Husband* Sterling Publishing Company  
 While his literary reputation rests mainly on such celebrated novels as *Crime and Punishment*, *The Brothers Karamazov*, and *The Idiot*, Dostoyevsky also wrote much superb short fiction. *The Double* is one of the finest of his shorter works. It appeared in 1846 (his second published work) and is by far the most significant of his early stories, not least for its successful, straight-faced treatment of a hallucinatory theme. In *The Double*, the protagonist, Golyadkin senior, is persecuted by his double, Golyadkin junior, who resembles him closely in almost every

detail. The latter abuses the former with mounting scorn and brutality as the tale proceeds toward its frightening denouement. Characteristic Dostoyevskyan themes of helplessness, victimization, and scandal are beautifully handled here with an artistry that qualifies the story as a small masterpiece. Students of literature, admirers of Dostoyevsky, and general readers will all be delighted to have this classic work available in this inexpensive but high-quality edition.

*Notes from Underground and The Double* Penguin  
 The shorter works of one of the world's greatest writers, including *The Gambler* and *Notes from Underground* The short works of Dostoevsky exist in the very large shadow of his astonishing longer novels, but they too are among literature's most revered works. *The Gambler* chronicles Dostoevsky's own addiction, which he eventually overcame. Many have argued that *Notes from Underground* contains several keys to understanding the themes of the longer novels, such as *Crime and Punishment* and *The Idiot*. Great Short Works of Fyodor Dostoevsky includes: *Notes from Underground* *The Gambler* *A Disgraceful Affair* *The Eternal Husband* *The Double* *White Nights* *A Gentle Creature* *The Dream of a Ridiculous Man*

*The Double* Alma Books  
 Notes from the Underground by Feodor Dostoevsky PART I UNDERGROUND\* \*The author of the diary and the diary itself are, of course, imaginary. Nevertheless it is clear that such persons as the writer of these notes not only may, but positively must, exist in our society, when we consider the circumstances in the midst of which our society is formed. I have tried to expose to the view of the public more distinctly than is commonly done, one of the characters of the recent past. He is one of the representatives of a generation still living. In this fragment, entitled "Underground," this person introduces himself and his views, and, as it were, tries to explain the causes owing to which he has made his appearance and was bound to make his appearance in our midst. In the second fragment there are added the actual notes of this person concerning certain events in his life. --AUTHOR'S NOTE. I I am a sick man.... I am a spiteful man. I am an unattractive man. I believe my liver is diseased. However, I know nothing at all about my disease, and do not know for certain what ails me. I don't consult a doctor for it, and never have, though I have a respect for medicine and doctors. Besides, I am extremely superstitious, sufficiently so to respect medicine, anyway (I am well-educated enough not to be superstitious, but I am superstitious). No, I refuse to consult a doctor from spite. That you probably will not understand. Well, I understand it, though. Of course, I can't explain who it is precisely that I am mortifying in this case by my spite: I am perfectly well aware that I cannot "pay out" the doctors by not consulting them; I know better than anyone that

by all this I am only injuring myself and no one else. But still, if I don't consult a doctor it is from spite. My liver is bad, well--let it get worse! I have been going on like that for a long time--twenty years. Now I am forty. I used to be in the government service, but am no longer. I was a spiteful official. I was rude and took pleasure in being so. I did not take bribes, you see, so I was bound to find a recompense in that, at least. (A poor jest, but I will not scratch it out. I wrote it thinking it would sound very witty; but now that I have seen myself that I only wanted to show off in a despicable way--I will not scratch it out on purpose!) When petitioners used to come for information to the table at which I sat, I used to grind my teeth at them, and felt intense enjoyment when I succeeded in making anybody unhappy. I almost did succeed. For the most part they were all timid people--of course, they were petitioners. But of the uppish ones there was one officer in particular I could not endure. He simply would not be humble, and clanked his sword in a disgusting way. I carried on a feud with him for eighteen months over that sword. At last I got the better of him. He left off clanking it. That happened in my youth, though. But do you know, gentlemen, what was the chief point about my spite? Why, the whole point, the real sting of it lay in the fact that continually, even in the moment of the acutest spleen, I was inwardly conscious with shame that I was not only not a spiteful but not even an embittered man, that I was simply scaring sparrows at random and amusing myself by it. I might foam at the mouth, but bring me a doll to play with, give me a cup of tea with sugar in it, and maybe I should be appeased. I might even be genuinely touched, though probably I should grind my teeth at myself afterwards and lie awake at night with shame for months after. That was my way.

*The Double* Lindhardt og Ringhof  
 Rodion Romanovitch Raskolnikov, a brilliant yet conflicted student lives in a rented room of a run-down apartment in St. Petersburg. Extremely handsome, proud, and intelligent, Raskolnikov devises a peculiar theory about "intelligent" men being above law. To execute his theory, he contemplates committing a crime. He murders a cynical and an unscrupulous pawnbroker named Alyona Ivanovna and her sister Lizaveta. The act compels Raskolnikov to negotiate and reconcile with his own moral dilemmas. Fyodor Dostoevsky's incisive psychological analysis of his protagonist goes beyond Raskolnikov's criminal act, and covers his perilous journey from suffering to redemption. First published in *The Russian Messenger* in monthly instalments during 1866, *Crime and Punishment*, Dostoevsky's second novel following his return from exile in Siberia, is a powerful revelation of the human condition. Is crime acceptable in the pursuit of a higher purpose?

*The Double* Harper Collins

A predecessor to such monumental works as "Crime and Punishment" and "The Brothers Karamazov," "Notes from Underground" represents a turning point in Dostoyevsky's writing towards the more political side. In this work we find a story in two parts, the first a rambling memoir of a bitter, isolated, retired civil servant living in St. Petersburg, Russia. In the second part we follow the unnamed narrator through a series of events which further exhibit the consciousness of a man who is disillusioned by the oppression and corruption of the society in which he lives. A philosophically dark and politically charged novel, "Notes from Underground" shows Dostoyevsky using the narrative form as a device for criticizing the prevailing ideologies of his time, mainly nihilism and rational egoism. In "The Double" we see an intense psychological study of its main character, Yakov Petrovich Golyadkin, a government clerk who becomes increasingly obsessed with the idea that a man who bears a striking resemblance to him is trying to take over his identity. "Notes from Underground" and "The Double" are two of Dostoyevsky's more popular shorter works, which exhibit the author's uncanny ability to portray the darker side of the human psyche. This edition is printed on premium acid-free paper and follows the translations of Constance Garnett.

#### The Double Abrams

While his literary reputation rests mainly on such celebrated novels as *Crime and Punishment*, *The Brothers Karamazov*, and *The Idiot*, Dostoevsky also wrote much superb short fiction. *The Double* is one of the finest of his shorter works. It appeared in 1846 (his second published work) and is by far the most significant of his early stories, not least for its successful, straight-faced treatment of a hallucinatory theme. In *The Double*, the protagonist, Gilding senior, is persecuted by his double, Gilding junior, who resembles him closely in almost every detail. The latter abuses the former with mounting scorn and brutality as the tale proceeds toward its frightening denouement. Characteristic Dostoevsky themes of helplessness, victimization, and scandal are beautifully handled here with an artistry that qualifies the story as a small masterpiece. Students of literature, admirers of Dostoevsky, and general readers will all be delighted to have this classic work available in this inexpensive but high-quality edition.

#### **THE DOUBLE(Annotated)** Borgo Press

*The Double* centers on a government clerk who goes mad. It deals with the internal psychological struggle of its main character, Yakov Petrovich Golyadkin, who repeatedly encounters someone who is his exact double in appearance but confident, aggressive, and extroverted, characteristics that are the polar opposites to those of the toadying "pushover" protagonist.

#### The Double CreateSpace

First published in 1846, Fyodor Dostoyevsky's novella "The Double" is a classic doppelgänger and the second major work published by the author. It is the story of Yakov Petrovich Golyadkin, a government clerk who believes that a fellow clerk has taken over his identity and is determined to bring about his ruin. Considered the most Gogolesque of Dostoyevsky's works, the novella brilliantly depicts Golyadkin's descent into madness in a way that is hauntingly poetic. "The Double" illustrates Dostoyevsky's uncanny ability at capturing the complexity of human emotion especially the darker side of the human psyche.

#### **The Double** Alma Classics

Most significant of the Russian novelist's early stories (1846) offers a straight-faced treatment of a hallucinatory theme.

Golyadkin senior is a powerless target of persecution by Golyadkin junior, his double in almost every respect. Familiar Dostoyevskan themes of helplessness, victimization, scandal- beautifully handled in small masterpiece.

#### **The Double and the Gambler** Modern Library

At once a comic masterpiece and a penetrating examination of a mental breakdown, *The Double* portrays Golyadkin, a petty government official convinced that his "double," a man who looks just like him, works in his office, and bears the same name, but is

ot

#### **The Double "Annotated"** Om Books International

Collected here in Penguin Classics are two of Fyodor Dostoyevsky's shorter works, *Notes from Underground* and *The Double*, translated by Ronald Wilks with an introduction by Robert Louis Jackson. Alienated from society and paralysed by a sense of his own insignificance, the anonymous narrator of Dostoyevsky's groundbreaking *Notes from Underground* tells the story of his tortured life. With bitter irony, he describes his refusal to become a worker in the 'anthill' of society and his gradual withdrawal to an existence 'underground'. The seemingly ordinary world of St Petersburg takes on a nightmarish quality in *The Double* when a government clerk encounters a man who looks exactly like him - his double, perhaps, or possibly the darker side of his own personality. Like *Notes from Underground*, this is a masterly tragicomic study of human consciousness. Ronald Wilks's extraordinary new translation is accompanied here by an introduction by Robert Louis Jackson discussing these pivotal works in the context of Dostoyevsky's life and times. This edition also contains a chronology, bibliography, table of ranks and notes on each work. Fyodor Mikhailovich Dostoyevsky (1821-1881) was born in Moscow. From 1849-54 he lived in a convict prison, and in later years his passion for gambling led him deeply into debt. His other works available in Penguin Classics include *Crime and Punishment*, *The Brothers Karamazov*, *The Idiot* and *Demons*. If you enjoyed *Notes from Underground* and *The Double*, you might like Dostoyevsky's *Demons*, also available in Penguin Classics.

'*Notes from Underground*, with its mood of intellectual irony and alienation, can be seen as the first modern novel ... That sense of meaninglessness of existence that runs through much of twentieth-century writing - from Conrad and Kafka, to Beckett and beyond - starts in Dostoyevsky's work' Malcolm Bradbury *Notes from Underground; the Double* CreateSpace

While his literary reputation rests mainly on such celebrated novels as *Crime and Punishment*, *The Brothers Karamazov*, and *The Idiot*, Dostoyevsky also wrote much superb short fiction. *The Double* is one of the finest of his shorter works. It appeared in 1846 (his second published work) and is by far the most significant of his early stories, not least for its successful, straight-faced treatment of a hallucinatory theme. In *The Double*, the protagonist, Golyadkin senior, is persecuted by his double, Golyadkin junior, who resembles him closely in almost every detail. The latter abuses the former with mounting scorn and brutality as the tale proceeds toward its frightening denouement. Characteristic Dostoyevskyan themes of helplessness, victimization, and scandal are beautifully handled here with an artistry that qualifies the story as a small masterpiece. Students of literature, admirers of Dostoyevsky, and general readers will all be delighted to have this classic work available in this inexpensive, high-quality edition.

#### **The Double: New Translation** Createspace Independent Publishing Platform

*The Double* Fyodor Mikhailovich Dostoyevsky Translator: Constance Garnett Classic Literature *The Double* centers on a government clerk who goes mad. It deals with the internal psychological struggle of its main character, Yakov Petrovich Golyadkin, who repeatedly encounters someone who is his exact double in appearance but confident, aggressive, and extroverted, characteristics that are the polar opposites to those of the toadying "pushover" protagonist. The motif of the novella is a doppelgänger (Russian "dvoynik"). Golyadkin is a titular councillor. This is rank 9 in the Table of Ranks established by Peter the Great. As rank eight led to hereditary nobility, being a titular councillor is symbolic of a low-level bureaucrat still struggling to succeed. Golyadkin has a formative discussion with his Doctor Rutenspitz, who fears for his sanity and tells him that his behavior is dangerously antisocial. He prescribes "cheerful company" as the remedy. Golyadkin resolves to try this, and

leaves the office. He proceeds to a birthday party for Klara Olsufyevna, the daughter of his office manager. He was uninvited, and a series of faux pas lead to his expulsion from the party. On his way home through a snowstorm, he encounters his double, who looks exactly like him. The following two thirds of the novel then deals with their evolving relationship. At first, Golyadkin Sr. (the original main character) and Golyadkin Jr. (his double) are friends, but Golyadkin Jr. proceeds to attempt to take over Sr.'s life, and they become bitter enemies. Because Golyadkin Jr. has all the charm, unctuousness and social skills that Golyadkin Sr. lacks, he is very well-liked among the office colleagues. At the story's conclusion, Golyadkin Sr. begins to see many replicas of himself, has a psychotic break, and is dragged off to an asylum by Doctor Rutenspitz.

#### *The Gambler* Phoemixx Classics Ebooks

*The Double* is a remarkable work of doppelgänger literature. As Dostoevsky examines the neurosis and paranoia that cripple a seemingly ordinary man, he produces a thoroughly modern nightmare, brilliantly foreshadowing the works of Kafka and Sartre. Mr. Golyadkin, a minor government official, is a rather middling man. Then one day he meets his "double" a man with the same name, face, and background. Initially charmed by the coincidence, Golyadkin soon notices a discernable cooling in the reaction of his friends and colleagues, while his double seems to grow in popularity. Unable to escape the relentless presence of "Golyadkin junior," even the most ordinary activities begin to take on a terrifying significance, until Golyadkin finds himself on the verge of a breakdown. Fyodor Dostoevsky is regarded as one of the greatest prose writers of all time.

#### The Double - Psychological Thriller (Classic Unabridged Edition)

Lindhardt og Ringhof

*The Double*, Dostoevsky's second published work of fiction, which foreshadows in its themes many of his mature novels, is the surreal and hallucinatory tale of an unfortunate anti-hero, at once chilling in its depiction of the dark sides of human nature and exuberantly comical. Alma Classics is committed to making available a wide range of literature from around the globe. Most of the titles are enriched by an extensive critical apparatus, notes and extra reading material, as well as a selection of photographs. The texts are based on the most authoritative edition and edited using a fresh, accessible editorial approach. With an emphasis on production, editorial and typographical values, Alma Classics aspires to revitalize the whole experience of reading classics.

#### *The Double and The Gambler* Midland Books

Constantly rebuffed from the social circles he aspires to frequent, the timid clerk Golyadkin is confronted by the sudden appearance of his double, a more brazen, confident and socially successful version of himself, who abuses and victimizes the original. As he is increasingly persecuted, Golyadkin finds his social, romantic and professional life unravelling, in a spiral that leads to a catastrophic denouement. *The Double*, Dostoevsky's second published work of fiction, which foreshadows in its themes many of his mature novels, is the surreal and hallucinatory tale of an unfortunate anti-hero, at once chilling in its depiction of the dark sides of human nature and exuberantly comical.

#### **The Double - Fyodor Mikhailovich Dostoyevsky** Alma Books

This collection, unique to the Modern Library, gathers seven of Dostoevsky's key works and shows him to be equally adept at the short story as with the novel. Exploring many of the same themes as in his longer works, these small masterpieces move from the tender and romantic *White Nights*, an archetypal nineteenth-century morality tale of pathos and loss, to the famous *Notes from the Underground*, a story of guilt, ineffectiveness, and uncompromising cynicism, and the first major work of existential literature. Among Dostoevsky's prototypical characters is Yemelyan in *The Honest Thief*, whose tragedy turns on an inability to resist crime. Presented in chronological order, in David Magarshack's celebrated translation, this is the definitive edition of Dostoevsky's best stories.

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