



0. Alex and Emma - Story Preface

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Photograph of Fyodor Dostoevsky taken in 1876. Image online courtesy Wikimedia Commons.

*One had to come to terms with it...
To look at his gambling passion as a disease
for which there was no cure.*

Anna Dostoevsky
Reminiscences

It was the end of September, 1866, and Fyodor Dostoevsky was in serious trouble.

Desperate for money the prior year, he had made a bad bargain with a rogue publisher. In exchange for an advance on an unwritten novel, Dostoevsky had agreed to give Fyodor Stellovsky the rights to all his future works for a period of ten years if he could not deliver the new book by November 1, 1866.

The novel - eventually called The Gambler - was due in thirty days. Dostoevsky had yet to write the first word.

See [Alignments to State and Common Core standards for this story online at:](http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicAlignment/Alex-and-Emma)

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Media Stream



Fyodor Dostoevsky

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Alex and Emma

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