

**0. Dostoevsky - Story Preface**

1. WHO WAS DOSTOEVSKY?
2. ST. PETERSBURG - BEGINNINGS
3. LIFE in ST. PETERSBURG
4. ARRESTED
5. DEATH SENTENCE
6. DOSTOEVSKY in LOVE
7. DOSTOEVSKY the GAMBLER
8. TRAGEDIES in DOSTOEVSKY'S LIFE
9. SAVED - BY STENOGRAPHY
10. FALLING IN LOVE
11. FROM SECRETARY to WIFE
12. TIMELY WRITING; UNTIMELY DEATH

Portrait of Dostoevsky, by Vasily GrigoroviÄ Perov, 1872. Maintained by The Tretyakov Gallery, Moscow, Russia. 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 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* (first translated into English by Constance Garnett) - 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/Dostoevsky>

See Learning Tasks for this story online at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicActivities/Dostoevsky>



### Anna Dostoevskaya

Image online, courtesy Wikimedia Commons.

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### Constance Garnett

Image online, courtesy Russian Life website.

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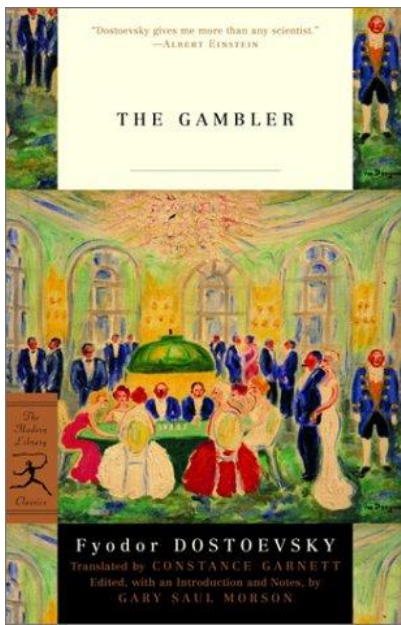


### Fyodor Dostoevsky

Image online, courtesy dartmouth.edu website.

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## The Gambler - by Fyodor Dostoevsky

Image online, courtesy [goodreads.com](http://goodreads.com) website.

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## Dostoevsky

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