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Fyodor Dostoyevsky

Crime and Punishment

Read by **Michael Sheen**

A century after it first appeared, *Crime and Punishment* remains one of the most gripping psychological thrillers. A poverty-stricken young man, seeing his family making sacrifices for him, is faced with an opportunity to solve his financial problems with one simple but horrifying act: the murder of a pawnbroker. She is, he feels, just a parasite on society. But does the end justify the means?

Rodion Romanovitch Raskolnikov makes his decision and then has to live with it. Dostoyevsky, in masterly fashion, contrasts the comedy and tragedy of life in St Petersburg with the anguish and turmoil of Raskolnikov's inner life.



Michael Sheen is one of Britain's most exciting young actors. Since leaving the RADA, he has played Romeo for the Royal Exchange, Manchester, appeared in the world première of Harold Pinter's *Moonlight* and taken the title role of Peer Gynt in Ninagawa's world tour production. His film credits include *Mary Reilly*. He has appeared regularly on television and radio.

"Classy and tense reading of the great debate."

THE TIMES

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