

## APPENDICES

### SYNOPSIS OF FYODOR DOSTOEVSKY'S POOR PEOPLE

Poor People is an epistolary novel. This story tells about the protagonist's efforts in getting Varvara Debroselova's heart. Makar Alexeyevich Devushkin, the protagonist, is a middle-aged man whose job is copying things in civil service and Varvara is a teenage poor orphan who fears society's norms.

Devushkin tries some ways to get her love. He influences her thought about social norms by giving some texts which implicitly tell that forbidden love is innocent with the hope that Varvara will accept his love. Devushkin gets obstacles from his society in getting Varvara's heart. This problem appears because in the society where he lives, love between a middle-aged man and a teenager is not a common thing or taboo; accordingly, they try to break up their relationship by mocking and alienating them. As a religious person who believes that love is not determined by age, he does not surrender to their annoyance. He believes that his love for the girl is not a sin. Nevertheless, his strong-willed characteristic in keeping his principle later brings about social consequences that repress him.

Besides, Devushkin also tries to get the girl's attention by giving her some candies, flowers, and boots. Having spent so much money on those things, he

becomes poorer and sells everything he can. His poor condition, however, does not make him suffer because he has a principle that he will feel happy if he can fulfil his desire. On the other hand, it makes him fall into debts because he cannot afford his apartment's rent. Facing debt problem and getting repressed from the society, he becomes depressed and remembers God. He remembers God when his misfortune makes him realize that he has preferred to put his desire on the first place rather than God. This condition makes him want to get forgiveness from God.

Later, there is some incident in his office that makes his Excellency sympathize with him and give him quite a lot of money. The money helps him to pay his debt and gives him a better life than before.

At the end of the story, Varvara is married to a wealthy landowner named Mr. Bykov. This fact does not make Devushkin commit a silly thing such as suicide. On the other hand, he still hopes that he will get her.

## **BIOGRAPHY OF FYODOR DOSTOEVSKY**

Fyodor Mikhailovich Dostoevsky was born in 1821 in Moscow. His father, Mikhail Andreevich Dostoevsky was an army doctor who was strict and his mother, Maria Fedorovna Dostoevsky, suffered from ill health. When his mother died in 1837, he was sent to an Army Engineering College in St. Petersburg. He became totally an orphan when his father died two years later. Finally, he finished his college in five years and in 1844 he became a writer. He published his first novel in 1846 entitled Poor People, a naturalistic tale which was praised by many critics. The

Double is his second novel, which was published in the same year. During this time, Dostoevsky joined a big political organization called Utopian Socialism, which later caused him to be deported to Siberia in 1850. He became both a monarchist and a member of Russian Orthodox Church during his eight-year imprisonment. On his return from Siberia, he wrote his experience as a prisoner in a novel entitled The Insulted and the Injured (1861) and one year later he published Notes from the House of the Death (1862).

Dostoevsky traveled around Europe for the first time in 1862 and it influenced his works such as Winter Notes on Summer Impression (1862) and Notes from Underground (1864). In April 1864, Dostoevsky's wife, named Maria Dmitrievna Isaeva, died of tuberculosis and three months later his closest brother also died of liver disease. This grief made him fall into gambling problems and debts. His greatest work, Crime and Punishment, was published in 1866. In the same year he also wrote a novel, The Gambler, and he met Anna Grigirivna Snitkina, who later became his wife. They got married and traveled to Europe.

When they returned to Russia in 1871, his career as a novelist increased because of his works Devil (1871) and A Raw Youth (1875). His peak career was in 1880 because he was invited to Moscow by the Russian poet and playwright Alexander Pushkin to speak at a celebration. At this time, he produced his final masterpiece entitled The Brother Karamazov. On 28 January 1881, Dostoevsky had an epileptic fit that led him into a fatal lung haemorrhage, which caused his death.

## PERNYATAAN ORISINALITAS LAPORAN

Yang bertandatangan di bawah ini:

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Demikian pernyataan saya.

Bandung, Juli 2006.



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Agnes Subana