



The Legends

Dostoevsky

The Stir of Liberation, 1860–1865

Joseph Frank

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This book, the third of five volumes planned in Joseph Frank's acclaimed biography of Dostoevsky, begins with the writer's return to St. Petersburg, after a ten-year Siberian exile. Having met with sudden fame as the highly praised young author of *Poor Folk* in 1845, Dostoevsky was abruptly forgotten after his arrest and exile for political conspiracy. He came back to the capital determined to re-establish his literary reputation and to be accepted as a writer of the first rank. Spiritually transformed by an experience that he called the “regeneration of my convictions,” he had also gained in poise, self-assurance, and physical vigor, despite the usually debilitating hardships of prison camp and forced service in the army. Now, as editor of and writer for two literary journals that joined in the cultural and social ferment of Russia in the early 1860s, he was to discover the themes that would underlie his mature masterpieces. Professor Frank describes the intricate process of the novelist's self-definition, in interaction with all the forces of the “stir of liberation” under Alexander II. \$29.50

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