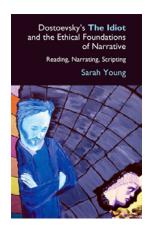
## **ANTHEM PRESS**



# **Dostoevsky's The Idiot and the Ethical Foundations of Narrative**

Reading, Narrating, Scripting Sarah Young

**Pub Date:** November 2004

**Binding:** Paperback

**Price:** £16.99 / \$27.95 **ISBN:** 9781843311157

Extent: 226 pages

**Size:** 234 x 156mm / 9.2 x 6.1

Category: LITERARY CRITICISM /

General

**BISAC code:** LIT000000

**BIC code:** DSBF

**Rights Held:** World

#### **Description**

In considering Dostoevsky's *The Idiot*, Sarah Young addresses problems in the novel unresolved by previous interpretations, and in doing so fills a significant gap in Dostoevsky studies.

'Original, well argued, convincing and attractively written throughout.' —Malcolm Jones, Professor Emeritus, Department of Russian and Slavonic Studies, University of Nottingham

In considering Dostoevsky's *The Idiot*, a novel less easily defined in terms of plot and ideas than his other major fictional works, Sarah Young addresses problems in the novel unresolved by previous interpretations, and in doing so fills a significant gap in Dostoevsky studies. *Dostoevsky's The Idiot and the Ethical Foundations of Narrative* provides an innovative theoretical framework for an analysis that integrates structural and narratological considerations with thematic (religious and ethical) aspects, by focusing on the characters' interactivity as the most fundamental level on which the ethical systems of the novel are enacted. It examines the questions of what ethical bases are put forward by the novel, what faith-issues and philosophical world-views they derive from, and how, in terms of structuring and narration rather than simply thematically, they are presented in the novel.

**Readership:** Will appeal to academics, postgraduates and undergraduates working on Dostoevsky and the nineteenth- and twentieth-century Russian novel in general, as well as scholars in the field of literary theory, including Bakhtin studies, narratology, literature and ethics.

#### Contents

Acknowledgements; A Note on Transliterations and Translations; Introduction; I. Reading The Idiot: The Hero and Other Problems; II. Interactive Narrating in the Idiot: The Scripting Impulse; 1. The Disappearing Heroine; I. Creating the Heroine: Rogozhin's Story; II. Nastas'ia Filippovnas's Lie: The Struggle Against Objectification; III. The Heroine Appears: Two Skandaly; IV. The Heroine Disappears: Control and Interpretation; V. Confrontation and Reverberation; VI. Freedom and Necessity: The Ideological Heroine; 2. Compassionate Realism and the Principles of Saintly Scripting; 1. The Foundations of Myshkin's Script in Narrative; II. The Foundations of Myshkin's Script in Action; III. The Foundations of Myshkin's Script in Experience; IV. Rocking the Foundations; 3. Self and other in Dostoevsky's Aesthetic Activity; I. Ippolit and the Other; II. Time, Narration and the Other; III. The Narrator's Novel; IV: Challenging the Narrator's Novel; Conclusion; Abbreviations; Notes; Bibliography

### **About the Author**

Sarah Young is a Leverhulme Special Research Fellow in the Department of Russian and Slavonic Studies at the University of Nottingham, UK.

Ordering in the UK/Rest of the World

Marston Book Services P.O. Box 269 Abingdon, Oxfordshire OX14 4YN, United Kingdom Tel: +44 (0)1235 465577 Fax: +44 (0)1235 465556 direct.orders@marston.co.uk

trade.orders@marston.co.uk

Ordering in North America Books International P.O. Box 605 Herndon, VA 20172-0605 United States Tel: +1 703 661 1570 Fax: +1 703 661 1501 bimail@presswarehouse.com