

Summary: Crime and Punishment

Fyodor Dostoevsky was the son of a doctor and grew up in a poor family. He became a celebrity after his first work, 'Poor Folk', was published. In 1849 he was arrested for taking part in conversations against the censorship and was sentenced to death. His sentence was commuted to hard labour in Siberia, where he developed epilepsy. After four years he was allowed to return to Russia, but his journals were prohibited. He was weighed down by debt and had to write at a fast pace. In 1880 he made a famous speech at the unveiling of the Pushkin monument in Moscow and was followed to his grave by a vast multitude of mourners. On a hot evening in July, a young man left his garret in S. Place and walked towards K. bridge, trying to avoid his landlady. He was in an overstrained, irritable condition and was afraid of meeting anyone. He thought about his fears and concluded that it was his own cowardice that prevented him from taking new steps. He was overwhelmed by the heat, stench, and drunken people in the street.

The protagonist of the text is a young man who is exceptionally handsome, but is in a state of deep thought and is badly dressed. He is walking through a part of town that is known for its establishments of bad character and is preoccupied with his own thoughts. He is startled when a drunken man in a wagon shouts at him, pointing to his hat. He is embarrassed by the hat, which is a tall, round hat from Zimmerman's that is worn out, rusty, and bent on one side. He is afraid that the hat will draw attention to him and give people a clue to his plan. He continues on his way to the house of an old woman, where he has been before. He enters the old woman's flat and pawns an old-fashioned flat silver watch for a rouble and a half. He is filled with disgust and repulsion at the whole situation and is overwhelmed with confusion and agitation.

Raskolnikov, a student, finds himself in a tavern after coming to his senses in the next street. He is feeling weak and thirsty and orders a beer. He notices a titular counsellor, Marmeladov, who is drunk and has been sleeping on a hay barge on the Neva for the past five nights. Marmeladov engages Raskolnikov in conversation and tells him about his daughter who has a yellow passport and his wife who was beaten by Mr. Lebeziatnikov. He expresses his humiliation and despair at his poverty and begs for money. Raskolnikov is taken aback by Marmeladov's passionate speech and is left feeling uneasy.

Marmeladov tells the story of how his wife, Katerina Ivanovna, was once a proud woman of education and culture, but has since been reduced to poverty and desperation. She is forced to work hard to provide for her family, and her husband, Marmeladov, has resorted to drinking. When their daughter, Sonia, is offered a job that would require her to do something immoral, Katerina Ivanovna is driven to desperation. However, Marmeladov is able to get a job and Sonia is saved from having to take the job. Katerina Ivanovna is so relieved that she and Sonia embrace and fall asleep in each other's arms.

Katerina Ivanovna, a thirty year old woman with hectic flush in her cheeks, is living in a poor room with her three children. Her husband, Marmeladov, had recently taken money from her and gone to the tavern to drink. He and Raskolnikov, a stranger, come to her room and she is surprised to see them. Marmeladov kneels in the doorway and confesses his sins, speaking of his hope for forgiveness and understanding from God. The children are asleep and scared, and the eldest is trying to comfort her brother. Katerina Ivanovna is overwhelmed with emotion and does not take notice of the two men.

Raskolnikov is a poor student living in a tiny, disordered room. He is behind on rent and his landlady is threatening to take him to the police. He is living off of weak tea and bread, and is in a state of deep concentration on one thing. He is visited by Nastasya, the servant, who brings him some soup and tells him that his landlady is threatening to take him to the police. He is then given a letter from his mother, who is living in a province far away. The letter is full of love and concern for her son, and she tells him that she has been unable to send him money due to her own financial situation. She is now able to

send him money, and she hopes that this will help him out of his financial troubles.

Dounia has been living with her brother's friend for the past six weeks and has been enduring a difficult situation in the Svidrigailovs' house. She had taken a job as a governess there and had to repay a debt of a hundred roubles before she could leave. Marfa Petrovna, the wife of Mr. Svidrigailov, believed Dounia was the cause of her husband's inappropriate behavior and threw her out of the house. Marfa Petrovna then went around town to clear Dounia's name and restore her reputation. Dounia has now accepted a proposal from Pyotr Petrovitch Luzhin, a 45 year old man who is distantly related to Marfa Petrovna. He is a well-to-do man with two government posts and is of a prepossessing appearance. Dounia and Pyotr Petrovitch have not yet developed a strong love for each other, but Dounia is confident she can make him happy and he will make her happy in return.

Raskolnikov receives a letter from his mother informing him of his sister Dounia's engagement to Pyotr Petrovitch Luzhin, a wealthy and successful businessman. Raskolnikov is filled with anger and resentment, and decides that he will not allow the marriage to take place while he is alive. He goes out for a walk, ranting to himself about the situation, and decides that he will not let his sister marry for the sake of money and convenience. He also wonders how much his mother and sister knew about each other's feelings and plans.

Mr. Luzhin is a kind man who is sending his bride and her mother to Petersburg in a peasant's cart covered with sacking. He is a businessman and is taking advantage of them, as their luggage will cost less than their fares and very likely go for nothing. Raskolnikov is concerned about the situation and reflects on how Dounia would never degrade her soul by binding herself to someone she does not respect, but is willing to do it for her brother and mother. He then encounters a young girl who is drunk and being followed by a gentleman with malicious intentions.

Raskolnikov encountered a girl who was hopelessly drunk and being followed by a dandy. He intervened and gave the police constable twenty copecks to take her home, but then changed his mind and told the policeman to let them be. The policeman was confused but followed the dandy and the girl. Raskolnikov then remembered he was on his way to visit his old university friend Razumihin.

Raskolnikov is walking around St. Petersburg and is feeling overwhelmed by his thoughts. He decides to go to Razumihin's, but decides to wait until after "It" happens. He then has a dream about a cruel scene involving a horse being whipped and beaten by a group of drunken men. He is horrified and cries out for his father, who tries to take him away. The dream is so vivid and powerful that it stays with him when he wakes up.

Mikolka, a drunken man, brutally kills a mare with a crowbar in front of a horrified crowd. A young boy is so distraught by the event that he runs to the mare and starts to cry and kiss her. His father takes him away from the scene. Later, Raskolnikov, the protagonist, is walking through the Hay Market and runs into Lizaveta, the younger sister of the old pawnbroker he had visited the day before. He overhears her conversation with a huckster and his wife, and finds out that she will be away from home the next day at 7 o'clock. This chance meeting gives him the opportunity to carry out his plan to murder the old pawnbroker. He is filled with a sense of relief and peace, and prays to God to show him his path.

Raskolnikov is a young man who has been given three red stones from his sister as a parting gift. He decides to take a ring to a pawnbroker, Alyona Ivanovna, and gets two roubles from her. On his way home, he stops at a tavern and overhears a student and an officer talking about Alyona Ivanovna. The student describes her as a rich old woman who takes a high interest rate on pledges and has a sister, Lizaveta, who is six feet tall and is constantly pregnant. The student then goes on to say that he could kill Alyona Ivanovna and take her money to do good deeds with it. Raskolnikov is deeply affected by this conversation and later prepares a noose and a pledge to carry out his plan.

The protagonist had planned to steal an axe from the kitchen of the old woman's house in order to carry out his plan. He had calculated the details of the plan and was confident that his reason and will power would remain unimpaired. However, when he arrived at the house, he found that Nastasya was home and he was unable to get the axe. He was overwhelmed and humiliated, but then he noticed an axe in the porter's room and was able to take it. He walked to the old woman's house, listening carefully and avoiding eye contact with passers-by. When he arrived, he heard someone standing close to the door and listening, so he moved and spoke aloud. He then rang the bell twice, but there was no answer.

Raskolnikov visits Alyona Ivanovna to give her a pledge he promised her. He is pale and trembling, and when she questions him, he says it is from fever. He holds out the pledge, a silver cigarette case, but she is suspicious and does not take it. He becomes impatient and grabs the door handle, almost dragging her out of the room. He then advances on her, and she steps back in alarm. He tells her it is the cigarette case he promised, and she takes it. She notices how pale he is and asks if he has been bathing. He says it is fever again, and she looks at him suspiciously. He becomes overwhelmed with fear and lifts the axe he brought with him to kill her. He strikes her multiple times on the head, and she dies. He then searches her body for the keys to her chest of drawers, and finds a purse around her neck. He takes the keys and the purse and goes into the bedroom, where he finds a box under the bed. Inside are various articles of gold, which he stuffs into his pockets. He hears a faint cry and sees Lizaveta, the old woman's sister, in the room. She stares at him in terror, and he

Raskolnikov, a man in a state of delirium, enters an old woman's flat with an axe and kills her. He then attempts to clean up the crime scene, but is interrupted by two men, one of whom is a friend of the old woman, coming to her door. Raskolnikov hides in the empty flat next door and overhears the men trying to figure out what has happened to the old woman. When they decide to go get the porter, Raskolnikov escapes and runs away.

A man had painted a room and hid behind the wall when two people entered the room and went up the stairs. He waited and ran down the stairs, escaping them. He was scared that they would guess he had been in the empty flat and was the murderer. He was so scared that he was sweating and trembling. He eventually reached a turning and went down it, eventually reaching his house. He was so out of it that he forgot he had an axe with him and had to put it back in the porter's room. He then went to his room and collapsed on the sofa. He woke up later and checked his clothes for any traces of blood, finding some on his trousers and sock. He cut off the frayed threads and hid the purse and trinkets he had taken from the old woman in a hole in the wall. He was relieved to find that his reason had not deserted him.

Raskolnikov receives a summons from the district police station to appear at half-past nine at the office of the district superintendent. He is in a state of panic and fear, and is convinced that he is being decoyed there to be arrested. He goes to the police station, where he is met with indifference by the clerks and a sense of unease by the other people in the room. He is eventually met by an assistant superintendent who is affronted by Raskolnikov's appearance and demands to know what he wants.

Raskolnikov was summoned to a government office for the recovery of money due from him. He was confused and thought it was for something else, but it was for an IOU he had given to his landlady nine months ago. He was angry and shouted at the assistant superintendent, who then scolded the landlady for a scandal that had happened in her house the night before. The head clerk intervened and explained the situation to Raskolnikov. He felt relieved and listened to the assistant superintendent and landlady argue. The superintendent then arrived and scolded the assistant for being too harsh. Raskolnikov tried to explain his situation, saying he had promised to marry the landlady's daughter, but she had died of typhus. He had given the IOU to his landlady as a sign of trust, but she had used it against him.

Raskolnikov, a man in debt, is visited by police officers at his home. He is asked to sign a written undertaking, but he is too overwhelmed to do so. He faints and is taken care of by the officers. After recovering, he is questioned about his whereabouts the day before. He lies and says he was out walking. He then leaves the police station and hurries home, fearing a search. He finds his room untouched and quickly takes all the items he had hidden in a hole in the corner and puts them in his pockets. He decides to get rid of them by throwing them into the Ekaterininsky Canal, but is unable to do so due to the number of people around. He then decides to go to the Neva, but on the way he finds a deserted courtyard and decides to throw the items in a sink there instead.

Raskolnikov visits his friend Razumihin and is offered a job translating a German article about whether women are human beings. He takes the job and the money, but then changes his mind and leaves without a word. He is then whipped by a coachman and given money by an elderly woman and her daughter. He stands on the Nikolaevsky Bridge and reflects on his life, feeling a mysterious emotion.

Raskolnikov is a young man who has been walking around for six hours and is exhausted when he returns home. He falls asleep and is woken up by a loud scream. He is shocked to hear the voice of his landlady being beaten by the assistant superintendent, Ilya Petrovitch. He is terrified and numbed by the brutality of the situation. Nastasya comes in with a candle and a plate of soup and tells him that the screaming he heard was actually the blood in his ears. A stranger then enters the room, a messenger from the merchant Shelopaev, and explains that his mother has sent him a remittance of thirty-five roubles. Razumihin, a friend of Raskolnikov, arrives and encourages him to sign a paper to receive the money. Raskolnikov refuses to sign the paper.

Raskolnikov is a man who has been ill and is being taken care of by his friend Razumihin. Razumihin has been making inquiries to find out where Raskolnikov is staying and has made the acquaintance of the people in the area. He has also become close with Raskolnikov's landlady, Pashenka. Pashenka had been sending Raskolnikov his dinner, but when he signed an IOU for a debt, she stopped. Razumihin intervened and got the IOU back from the business man, Tchebarov, and gave it back to Raskolnikov. Razumihin also talked about how he had visited Luise Ivanovna with Zametov, the head clerk, and how Raskolnikov had raved about a bulldog, earrings, chains, Krestovsky Island, a porter, Nikodim Fomitch, and Ilya Petrovitch when he was delirious.

Raskolnikov is a sick man who is comforted by a rag given to him by someone. He then asks for fringe for his trousers, and is given thirty-five roubles by the person who gave him the rag. He is then left alone and begins to frantically search for something, though he can't remember what it is. He then falls asleep and is woken up by Razumihin, who has been waiting for him for three hours. Razumihin then presents him with a new outfit, bought with the thirty-five roubles, and the money sent to him by his mother. After this, a tall, familiar man enters the room.

Zossimov, a 27 year old doctor, visits Raskolnikov, who is still depressed. Razumihin, a friend of Raskolnikov, tells Zossimov that he is taking him for a walk the next day. Razumihin then invites Zossimov to his house-warming party, which is attended by neighbors, students, a teacher, a government clerk, a musician, an officer, and Zametov. Razumihin and Zossimov then discuss a house-painter, Nikolay, who is accused of murdering the old pawnbroker-woman and her sister, Lizaveta. They are trying to prove his innocence by using psychological data. A peasant called Dushkin, who runs a dram-shop, tells them that Nikolay had brought him a jeweller's case with gold earrings in it and said he had found them in the street. This leads them to believe that Nikolay is the murderer.

Three men, Nikolay, Dmitri, and Afanasy Pavlovitch, are accused of the murder of Widow So-and-so and her sister. Nikolay is arrested in a tavern, and confesses to finding the earrings in the flat where he and Dmitri were painting. However, the witnesses of the fight between Nikolay and Dmitri, as well as the fact that the bodies were still warm when found, suggest that Nikolay is innocent. The jewel-case

found in Nikolay's possession is a clue, but not enough to prove his guilt. A stranger then enters the room and questions Zossimov, who is unable to answer. Razumihin then suggests that the real murderer dropped the earrings and hid in the flat while Koch and Pestryakov were going upstairs, and then escaped when Nikolay and Dmitri ran out.

Raskolnikov is lying on the sofa when a pompous gentleman, Pyotr Petrovitch Luzhin, arrives. Luzhin is Raskolnikov's fiancé and has come to tell him that his mother and sister are arriving in Petersburg soon. Luzhin has found them a room in Bakaleyev's house, which is in Voskresensky. Razumihin, a student and friend of Raskolnikov's, tells Luzhin that the house is of dubious character and is filthy and stinking. Luzhin is staying with his friend, Andrey Semyonovitch Lebeziatnikov, in the flat of Madame Lippevechsel. Luzhin and Razumihin get into a discussion about progress and practicality, which Raskolnikov interrupts, calling Luzhin a show-off. Zossimov interjects, agreeing with Luzhin.

Raskolnikov, a sick man, is visited by his friend Razumihin and a doctor, Zossimov. They discuss the recent murder of a pawnbroker and her sister, and the possibility of a higher-class person being the murderer. Pyotr Petrovitch, a man who is engaged to Raskolnikov's sister, arrives and begins to talk about crime and the state of society. Raskolnikov insults him and Pyotr Petrovitch leaves in a huff. After he leaves, Raskolnikov falls asleep. When he wakes up, he is filled with a strange energy and decides to go out. He puts on new clothes that Razumihin bought for him and takes all the money he has. He leaves the house without anyone noticing and goes out into the streets of the town.

Raskolnikov is wandering around the Hay Market, looking for the huckster and his wife who he had seen talking to Lizaveta. He stops to listen to a street musician and talks to a middle-aged man about his love of street music. He then comes across a group of women, one of whom, Duclida, he gives money to. He then goes into a restaurant and reads old newspapers, where he is joined by Zametov, a head clerk. They talk about Razumihin and the Explosive Lieutenant, and Raskolnikov teases Zametov about his rings and his education.

Raskolnikov was in a delirious state and was looking for news of the murder of the old pawnbroker woman. He and Zametov had a conversation about criminals and Raskolnikov suggested how he would change the notes if he were to commit a crime. Zametov then asked Raskolnikov what he would do if he had committed the murder of the old woman and Lizaveta. Raskolnikov then asked Zametov if he believed he had committed the crime and Zametov denied it. Raskolnikov then left the restaurant and ran into Razumihin, who was looking for him. He told Razumihin that he wanted to be alone and left.

Raskolnikov had a heated argument with his friend Razumihin, who tried to persuade him to come to his house-warming. Raskolnikov refused and walked away. He went to a bridge, where he saw a woman throw herself into the canal. People ran to help her, and a policeman jumped in and pulled her out. Raskolnikov felt disgusted and walked to the police office, but on the way he was drawn to the house where he had committed the murder. He went in and found that the flat was being renovated. He listened to the workmen talking and then pulled the bell, remembering the fear he had felt when he had done it before.

Raskolnikov, a former student, encounters workmen at a flat where an old woman and her sister had been murdered. He inquires about the blood that had been spilled and the workmen become uneasy. He then goes to the entrance of the building and speaks to the porters and a peasant woman. He is asked who he is and he responds by saying that they should go to the police station and he will tell them there. The porters and the man in the long coat suggest that they take him to the police station, but the big porter throws him out. Raskolnikov then comes across a crowd and a carriage in the middle of the street. He finds out that a man had been run over and is badly injured. He recognizes the man as Marmeladov, a government clerk retired from the service, and he pays for a doctor to be brought to his home. Katerina Ivanovna, Marmeladov's wife, is talking to her daughter Polenka about their luxurious

life before Marmeladov's drinking problem ruined them.

Katerina Ivanovna, the wife of Semyon Zaharovitch Marmeladov, was washing her children's and husband's clothes when a crowd of people carrying a burden burst into her room. The burden was Marmeladov himself, who had been run over by a carriage and was now dying. Raskolnikov, who had been there before, had sent for a doctor and a priest. Katerina Ivanovna was in despair, but she kept her head and managed to get the wet linen hung on a line and dry by the morning. The lodgers of the flat had all crowded in, and the landlady, Amalia Ludwigovna, had also arrived. Marmeladov recognized Katerina Ivanovna and asked for a priest. The doctor arrived and declared that Marmeladov was at the last gasp and would die soon. Katerina Ivanovna made her children kneel and pray, and covered the little girl's bare shoulders with a kerchief. Polenka, who had gone to find Sonia, Marmeladov's daughter, returned with her. Sonia, too, was in rags, but she was decked out in gutter finery.

Sonia, a young girl of eighteen, arrives at the home of Katerina Ivanovna, her stepmother, to find a priest and doctor attending to her dying father, Marmeladov. Katerina Ivanovna is angry and frustrated with her husband for his drinking and the suffering it has caused her and her children. The priest admonishes her to forgive in the hour of death, but Katerina Ivanovna is too overwhelmed with her current situation to heed his words. Marmeladov recognizes Sonia and asks for her forgiveness before he dies. Raskolnikov, a friend of Marmeladov, arrives and gives Katerina Ivanovna twenty roubles to help her in her time of need. He then speaks to Polenka, Katerina Ivanovna's daughter, and tells her to pray for him. He leaves the house feeling a newfound sense of life and strength, and goes to Razumihin's house, where he finds a large gathering of people.

Raskolnikov, weakened by illness, ran into Razumihin and asked him to take him home. Razumihin was drunk and talked too freely, revealing that Raskolnikov had been suspected of being mad or close to it. Raskolnikov, feeling sad and weak, said goodbye to Razumihin and started to climb the stairs to his room. When they reached the door, they heard voices inside and found Raskolnikov's mother and sister, who had been waiting for him for an hour and a half. Raskolnikov was overwhelmed and fainted. After he was revived, he told his mother and sister to go home with Razumihin and said he would see them the next day. Razumihin promised to stay with Raskolnikov and look after him.

Raskolnikov interrupts his mother and sister's reunion to demand that Dounia refuse her marriage to Luzhin, which he believes is an infamy. Despite Pulcheria Alexandrovna's protests, Dounia agrees to wait until the morning to make her decision. Razumihin, who has been drinking, steps in to take the two women home and promises to return with a doctor to check on Raskolnikov's health. He also promises to spend the night in the hallway outside Raskolnikov's room to ensure his safety. On the way, Razumihin rambles on about his views on life and progress, and ends up on his knees in the street, begging to kiss their hands.

Razumihin brought Zossimov to Raskolnikov's lodgings to examine him and comfort Pulcheria Alexandrovna. Zossimov declared that Raskolnikov's illness was partly due to his material surroundings and partly to moral influences, such as anxieties, apprehensions, and troubles. He reassured Pulcheria Alexandrovna that there was no suspicion of insanity. Avdotya Romanovna was also present and Zossimov was impressed by her beauty. After Zossimov left, Razumihin and Zossimov discussed Avdotya Romanovna and Razumihin warned Zossimov not to take advantage of her. They then went to the landlady's flat where Razumihin was staying and Razumihin asked Zossimov to help him with the landlady who was smitten with him.

Razumihin is asked by a friend to visit a young woman and talk to her. He is warned not to make any promises of marriage, as another man, Tchebarov, had done that and failed. Razumihin is hesitant, but his friend assures him that the young woman will be content with someone simply sitting by her and talking. He also mentions that she likes genuine Russian songs and that he can play the piano. Razumihin is still unsure, but his friend insists that he will not regret it. The next morning, Razumihin is

troubled and serious, reflecting on the events of the previous day. He remembers his drunkenness and how he had taken advantage of the young woman's situation to criticize her fiancé. He decides to make a point of being dirty and greasy, and not caring what others think. When Zossimov arrives, Razumihin informs him that Raskolnikov is still asleep. Zossimov orders that he not be woken and leaves to attend to other matters. Razumihin is worried that he had told Zossimov and the young woman's family about the possibility of Raskolnikov becoming insane. Zossimov

Dmitri Prokofitch, a friend of Raskolnikov's, describes his character to Pulcheria Alexandrovna and Avdotya Romanovna, Raskolnikov's mother and sister. He explains that Raskolnikov is morose, gloomy, proud, and haughty, and has been suspicious and fanciful of late. He also mentions an incident a year and a half ago when Raskolnikov wanted to marry a landlady's daughter, who was not pretty and was an invalid. Pulcheria Alexandrovna and Avdotya Romanovna then discuss a letter they received from Pyotr Petrovitch, Raskolnikov's future brother-in-law, in which he requests that Raskolnikov not be present at their meeting. Pulcheria Alexandrovna is worried and asks for Razumihin's advice on how to handle the situation.

Raskolnikov's mother and sister, Pulcheria Alexandrovna and Dounia, arrive to visit him after he has been suffering from a mental breakdown. He is much better than the day before, but still pale and listless. Zossimov, the doctor, advises him to return to university and set a definite goal for himself in order to fully recover. Raskolnikov expresses his gratitude to Zossimov, Razumihin, and his mother and sister for their care and support. He and Dounia reconcile after their argument the day before, and the family is happy to be reunited.

Raskolnikov is visiting his mother and sister, and they are discussing Marfa Petrovna's death. Raskolnikov had given away all the money his mother had sent him to the family of the man who had been run over, and his mother and sister are surprised. They then discuss Marfa Petrovna's death, which is said to have been caused by her husband. Raskolnikov then talks about his past romance, and how he was drawn to the woman because she was always ill. He still loves her, but in a distant way. Everyone is surprised and touched by his words.

Raskolnikov visits his mother and sister after three years of absence. His mother and sister are discussing the possibility of Dounia marrying Pyotr Petrovitch Luzhin, a lawyer. Raskolnikov insists that it is either him or Luzhin, and that if she marries Luzhin, he will no longer consider her as a sister. Dounia insists that she is not sacrificing herself for anyone, but rather marrying for her own sake. Suddenly, Sofya Semyonovna Marmeladov, a young girl of whom Raskolnikov had seen the night before, walks into the room. Raskolnikov is surprised, as his mother and sister know of her "notorious behaviour" from Luzhin's letter. He realizes that he had not protested against the expression "of notorious behaviour".

Raskolnikov and Razumihin are discussing the case of a murder that Porfiry Petrovitch is managing. Raskolnikov has some pledges at the pawn shop, including his father's silver watch, and he is worried that his mother may ask to see it. Razumihin suggests they go to Porfiry to settle the matter quickly. Meanwhile, Sonia has come to visit Raskolnikov from Katerina Ivanovna, and she has asked him to attend the funeral service and lunch the next day. Pulcheria Alexandrovna and Dounia have left, and Pulcheria Alexandrovna is worried about the potential consequences of the meeting.

Raskolnikov and Razumihin meet up with Sonia, a woman Raskolnikov knows, and she reveals that she knew the old woman who was recently murdered. Raskolnikov and Razumihin then go to visit Porfiry Petrovitch, a detective who is investigating the murder. On the way, Razumihin is excited and Raskolnikov is anxious, as he is worried that Porfiry knows he was at the old woman's flat the day before her death. When they arrive, they are laughing and joking, which Raskolnikov wanted in order to appear more natural.

Raskolnikov and Razumihin enter Porfiry Petrovitch's room, where they are met with Porfiry's inquisitive gaze. Raskolnikov is embarrassed and Razumihin is red and furious. Zametov is also present, and Raskolnikov is uneasy about his presence. Raskolnikov explains that he needs to inform the police that he has some items in pawn with the murdered woman, and that he wants to redeem them. Porfiry Petrovitch explains that Raskolnikov's items are safe and that he has been expecting him. Razumihin is surprised, and Porfiry explains that the items had Raskolnikov's name written on them. Raskolnikov then explains that the items are important to him because they belonged to his father, and that his mother would be devastated if they were lost. Porfiry then mentions that he heard Raskolnikov was unwell, and Razumihin explains that he had been delirious and had gone on a spree until midnight. Raskolnikov then angrily explains that he had gone to take lodgings where they wouldn't find him, and Zametov

Raskolnikov and Razumihin are discussing crime and morality with Porfiry Petrovitch, who has come to question Raskolnikov about a murder. Porfiry brings up an article Raskolnikov wrote in which he argues that extraordinary people have the right to commit crimes if it is essential for the practical fulfilment of their ideas. Porfiry and Razumihin debate the idea, with Razumihin arguing that it is impossible to skip over human nature by logic. Raskolnikov clarifies his argument, saying that extraordinary people have an inner right to decide to overstep certain obstacles, but that it does not mean they have a right to murder people and steal.

Raskolnikov suggests that great men, such as Lycurgus, Solon, Mahomet, and Napoleon, are all criminals because they make new laws and often cause bloodshed in order to achieve their goals. He believes that people are divided into two categories: ordinary people who are conservative and law-abiding, and extraordinary people who are destroyers and transgress the law. He believes that each class has an equal right to exist, and that extraordinary people have the right to commit crimes if it is necessary for their idea. Porfiry Petrovitch then asks Raskolnikov if he believes that some people have the right to kill others, to which Raskolnikov replies that there are very few people with the capacity to say something new, and that it is a law of nature. Porfiry then suggests that some people may think they are extraordinary and begin to commit crimes, to which Raskolnikov replies that society is protected by prisons and investigators, and that if someone is caught, they will get what they deserve. Porfiry then asks Raskolnikov if he ever imagined himself as an extraordinary person while writing his article, to which Raskolnikov replies that he does not consider himself a Mahomet or

Raskolnikov visits Porfiry Petrovitch, a police investigator, to discuss a debt he owes. Porfiry is polite and friendly, but Raskolnikov is suspicious of his motives. Porfiry then asks him if he saw any painters in a flat on the second storey when he was there three days before. Raskolnikov realizes this is a trap and answers that he did not see any painters. Razumihin is angry at the police for their insinuations and suggests they should spit in their faces. Raskolnikov and Razumihin then discuss the situation and Razumihin concludes that the police have no facts or evidence against Raskolnikov. On the way to Bakaleyev's lodgings, Raskolnikov becomes increasingly anxious and leaves Razumihin to go back to his room and check if anything incriminating has been left behind.

Raskolnikov, a student, is approached by a strange man who accuses him of being a murderer. He follows the man, who leads him to the flat where he had committed the murder. He reflects on his actions and his feelings of guilt, and realizes that he had killed not a human being, but a principle. He is overwhelmed with guilt and self-loathing, and is filled with a physical hatred for his mother and sister. He is consumed by the thought that he is worse than the person he killed.

Raskolnikov had a dream in which he heard a sharp crack and saw a cloak hanging on the wall. He discovered an old woman behind the cloak and struck her with an axe. She started to laugh and he noticed people gathering around him. He woke up to find a stranger, Svidrigailov, in his room. Svidrigailov had heard of Raskolnikov and wanted his help to get close to Raskolnikov's sister. Raskolnikov refused and Svidrigailov told him about how he had whipped his wife, Marfa Petrovna,

twice in seven years, and how she might have enjoyed it. Raskolnikov was disgusted and asked Svidrigaïlov to leave.

Raskolnikov is shocked to find out that Svidrigaïlov is in the same restaurant as him. He passes by his sister, Dounia, without seeing her. Svidrigaïlov signals to her to come to him and she does. He tells her that Raskolnikov has heard of his letter to her and that he has something to tell her. He takes her to his flat, which is between two sets of almost uninhabited apartments. He shows her two empty rooms, where he had been listening to Raskolnikov and Sofya Semyonovna, and reveals that Raskolnikov had confessed to them that he had murdered an old woman and her sister with an axe for money. Dounia is horrified and does not believe it, but Svidrigaïlov explains that Raskolnikov was driven by hunger, pride, and a belief that he was superior to the law.

Dounia is trying to save her brother from being arrested for murder. She visits Svidrigaïlov, who has been trying to win her affections, and finds out that he has been lying about her brother's whereabouts. When she threatens to shoot him, he stands his ground and tells her that if she kills him, her brother will still be arrested. He then offers to help her save her brother, saying that if she agrees, he will take a passport for her and her mother and send her brother abroad. Dounia then pulls out a revolver that belonged to Marfa Petrovna, whom Svidrigaïlov had killed, and threatens to shoot him. She fires twice, but misses, and Svidrigaïlov takes two steps towards her. In a moment of desperation, she throws the revolver away and begs him to let her go. He gives her the key to the door and she runs away.

Svidrigailov spends the evening going to low haunts, treating people to drinks and entertainment, and eventually ends up in a pleasure garden with two clerks who have crooked noses. He pays for their entrance and listens to their dispute for a quarter of an hour, which ends with him paying for a stolen teaspoon. After a thunderstorm, he goes to Sonia's house and gives her fifteen thousand roubles as a present, then goes to his betrothed's house and gives her fifteen thousand roubles as well. He then goes to a hotel and orders tea and veal.

Svidrigailov enters a room and hears someone scolding and upbraiding. He looks through a crack in the wall and sees a man with a red, inflamed face scolding another man. He then lies down on the bed and begins to think of Dounia, whom he had just tried to attack. He remembers how he had recommended Raskolnikov to trust her to Razumihin's keeping. He then falls asleep and has a dream of a girl in a coffin surrounded by flowers. He wakes up and decides to go out into the park, but then finds a little girl, shivering and crying in a corner. He takes her into his room, undresses her, and covers her with a blanket. He then notices a flush of fever on her cheeks and thinks he sees her eyes peeking out from under the blanket.

Raskolnikov visits his mother and sister in Bakaleyev's house. He is appallingly dressed and his face is distorted from fatigue and the inward conflict he has been facing for the past 24 hours. He has come to tell his mother that he loves her and that she must believe in him despite the sorrow that is to come. He tells her he is going away and she offers to come with him, as well as his sister and Sofya Semyonovna. He had previously written an article for a magazine, which his mother had read and was proud of.