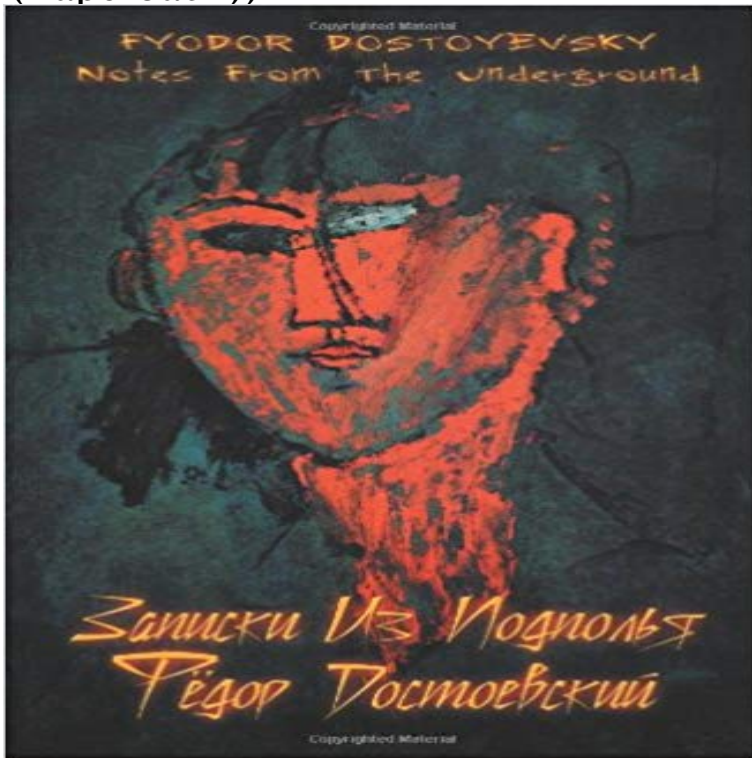


Notes From The Underground (Russian Edition) (Timeless Classics (Paperback))



Dostoevsky's most revolutionary novel following the life of a former official who has defiantly withdrawn into an underground existence. The unnamed narrator turns to a series of incidents from his earlier life and examines them obsessively through a lens of self-contradictory beliefs. A vivid example of the essentially irrational nature of human kind presented here with realism and conviction of Dostoevsky's prose.

From the Notes: "When ... in the course of all these thousands of years has man ever acted in accordance with his own interests? For what is man without desires, without free will, and without the power of choice but a stop in an organ pipe? Every man has some reminiscences which he would not tell to everyone, but only to his friends. He has others which he would not reveal even to his friends, but only to himself, and that in secret. But finally there are still others which a man is even afraid to tell himself, and every decent man has a considerable number of such things stored away. That is, one can even say that the more decent he is, the greater the number of such things in his mind. It's a burden for us even to be men - men with real, our own bodies and blood; were ashamed of it, we consider it a disgrace, and keep trying to be some unprecedented omni-men. Were stillborn, and have long ceased to be born of living fathers, and we like this more and more. Were acquiring a taste for it. Soon well contrive to be born somehow from an idea. But enough; I don't want to write any more from Underground."

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