Contents

Preface ix
Introduction xiii

1 Conversion, Message, Medium, Transformation: Dostoevsky and the Peasants 1

2 Guilt, Repentance, and the Pursuit of Art in The House of the Dead 22

3 Crime and Punishment in the Classroom: The Elephant in the Garden 44

4 The Gospel According to Dostoevsky: Paradox, Plot, and Parable 68

5 Transformations, Exposures, and Intimations of Rousseau in The Possessed 86

6 Unsealing the Generic Envelope and Deciphering “The Dream of a Ridiculous Man” 105

7 Evocations and Revocations of Anxiety in the Metaphysical Novel: Reading The Brothers Karamazov through the Lens of Melmoth the Wanderer 128
Contents

8 Perilous Journeys to Conversion: Adventures in Time and Space  148

Concluding Fragments: Some Last Words  173

Notes  189

Index  231

Illustrations follow page  104