

Names of Characters in *Crime and Punishment*

One of the difficulties in reading *Crime and Punishment* is keeping track of the names of the characters. Not only are the names difficult to pronounce, but a character is often referred to by more than one version of his or her name. As you read, try to pronounce the names of the characters (even if your pronunciation is not correct). Think of the main character as Raskolnikov not the “R-guy.”

Here are some of the main characters in the story. Refer back to this list as you read:

Rodion Romanovitch Raskolnikov (**Rodya, Rodenka, Rodka**), a student
Avdotia Romanovna Raskolnikov (**Dunya, Dunechka**), his sister
Pulcheria Alexandrovna Raskolnikov, their mother

Sofya Semyonovna Marmeladov (**Sonya, Somechka**)
Semyon Zakharovitch Marmeladov, father of Sonya
Katerina Ivanovna Marmeladov, mother of Sonya
Other Marmeladov Children, Half-siblings of Sonya:
1) Polenka (Polina, Polia, Polechka)
2) Lidochka (Lyona)
3) Kolya (Kolka).

Ilya Petrovitch, police lieutenant
Nikodim Fomitch, chief of police
Zametov, clerk at the police station
Porfiry Petrovitch, police investigator

Alyona Ivanovna, a moneylender
Lizaveta Ivanovna, her simple, kind, half-sister

Dmitri Prokovitch Razumikhin (**Mitia, Mitry, Mitka**), friend of Raskolnikov
Zosimov, doctor (and friend of Razumikhin)
Arkady Ivanovitch Svidrigailov, former employer of Dunya
Martha Petrovna Svidrigailov, his wife
Peter Petrovitch Luzhin, relative of Martha Petrovna; a lawyer/official
Andrey Semionovich Lebeziatnikov, roommate and former ward of Luzhin

Praskovya Pavlovna Zarnitsyn (**Pashenka**), Raskolnikov’s landlady
Nastasia (**Nastenka, Nastia**), Praskovya Pavlovna’s maid
Amalia Ivanovna Lippewechsel (**Ludwigovna**), Marmeladov’s landlady
Madame Gertrude Karlovna Ressler, Landlady of Svidrigailov

Nikolay and Dimitri, painters

More information about the characters can be found on various sites on the internet, but another problem is that different translations of *Crime and Punishment* use different spellings for some of these names.