

Grigori Rasputin: The Man who Destroyed an Empire

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Some believed he was above the utmost peak of war and chaos, the most frightening and horrible man to walk this earth. Others believed he was heaven's mouthpiece, a healer and saint worthy of worship and respect. In Tsarist Russia, there was no in-between when discussing the notorious Grigori Yefimovich Rasputin, originally named Grigori Yefimovich Novykh, who was indeed just as human as everyone else. When he walked the streets of St. Petersburg, he could strike fear, wonder, and anger in those he passed with as much as a glance. This man was strong enough to involuntarily make himself the ruler of Russia, which would eventually lead to his fall. Though the country was already on the brink of a revolution, Grigori Rasputin played a crucial role in sculpting the Russian Revolution. Not much is known about the childhood of this mysterious man, but what is known gives a clear understanding of the evolution of his character and motive. An examination of his backstory, how he became the confidant of the Tsar and Tsarina, and his brutal death in 1916 bring a new light to the origins of the Russian Revolution and the role Rasputin played in the demise of the Tsarist Empire.

When determining Rasputin's role in fomenting the Russian Revolution, one must begin by studying his early background. It is assumed that Rasputin's birth year was 1863, since that is used by the Ochrana records.¹ Not much is known about his childhood or early life. Because Rasputin's father, Efim, was a cast-out thief, he gained a bad reputation almost as soon as he was born.² Efim was said to enjoy strong vodka and arguing. He was such a terrible man that his birth was confirmed by a comet across the sky. On that day, babies were born with iron teeth

¹ Liepman, Heinz. *Rasputin and the Fall of Imperial Russia*. Rolton, 1959. (pg. 49)

² Liepman, Heinz. *Rasputin and the Fall of Imperial Russia*. Rolton, 1959. (pg. 30)

and dogs with sex legs. Snakes were said to have fallen from the sky.³ Though physically advanced, Rasputin struggled with reading and writing and ended up earning the surname everyone knew him as: Rasputin. Rasputin is Russian for “debauched one”.⁴ For 12 years, Rasputin worked as a driver for various contractors, and was one of the most fierce drivers his contractors have ever seen.⁵ His character is a mystery. Whether he was lonely, cruel and ruthless, or mature and polished, remains unknown. There was controversy about him even in his early days before he went to Verkoturyi Monestry and studied religion. He was introduced to Khlysty beliefs that said one is closest to God when feeling a sense of “holy passionlessness”, and the best way to feel this was reaching the state of “sexual exhaustion” after a long session of intercourse.⁶ He was arrested twice and took great joy in drinking and arguing, which was getting him bad attention from Russian locals. One day, he met a woman named Praskovaya Feodorovna Dubrovina. She had blonde hair and black eyes, was “homely rather than pretty”, and was not an easy one for him to entice.⁷ It took him longer than he had intended to win her heart, and finally she accepted his marriage proposal at 19, on February 2nd.⁸ The couple’s first son died, but they ended up having four children.⁹ Shortly after this, he claimed to have seen a vision of the Virgin Mary, who told him to visit St. Petersburg and help the Imperial family.¹⁰

³ Welch, Frances. *Rasputin: a Short Life*. Short Books, 2015. (pg. 31)

⁴ “Grigory Yefimovich Rasputin.” *Britannica School*, Encyclopædia Britannica, 13 Jan. 2016. school.eb.com/levels/high/article/Grigory-Yefimovich-Rasputin/62744. Accessed 13 Dec. 2017.

⁵ Liepman, Heinz. *Rasputin and the Fall of Imperial Russia*. Rolton, 1959. (pg. 31)

⁶ “Grigory Yefimovich Rasputin.” *Britannica School*, Encyclopædia Britannica, 13 Jan. 2016. school.eb.com/levels/high/article/Grigory-Yefimovich-Rasputin/62744. Accessed 13 Dec. 2017.

⁷ Shukman, Harold. *Rasputin: an Introduction*. History, 2009.

⁸ Biography.com Editors. “Rasputin.” *Biography.com*, A&E Networks Television, 28 Apr. 2017, www.biography.com/people/rasputin-9452162.

⁹ “Who Is Grigori Rasputin? Everything You Need to Know.” *Childhood, Life Achievements & Timeline*, www.thefamouspeople.com/profiles/grigori-rasputin-6160.php.

¹⁰ “Who Is Grigori Yefimovich Rasputin.” *Youtube*, Private Universe, 22 Aug. 2016, www.youtube.com/watch?v=kasowhbwHKS.

The next morning, he left the town suddenly, and wandered for a year. The miracles he performed on his way there were enough to gain him fame before his arrival. The Imperial family has heard of him before even seeing him, as well as a majority of the population. The fame he was able to gain on his way gave him a sense of authority, which he often used to his advantage to slowly break down the people of Russia.

Equally important is his time in the capital with Tsar Nicholas II and Tsarina Alexandra Fedorovna. This was where the bulk of revolutionary activity took place, and of course, Rasputin was in the center of it all. When he first arrived in St. Petersburg in 1904, it was already one of the most dangerous places to be in Russia. The country was losing a war with Japan (Russo-Japanese War of 1904-05), the Russian flag had been destroyed at Tsushima, there were riots in the streets, and active revolutionaries lead unsuccessful revolts against the monarchy.¹¹ Overall, the prosperity of the Tsarist Empire was in grave danger.

Rasputin didn't come to the attention of the Tsar and Tsarina until he successfully healed the favorite hunting dog of one of the members of the royal family.¹² Alexandra had given birth to four daughters and then finally a son, an heir to the throne, on July 30, 1904.¹³ However, their son Alexis ended up having hemophilia, a disease in which the blood doesn't clot to prevent bleeding.¹⁴ The couple was grief-stricken and Rasputin's miracles seemed to be the only hope for Alexis's health. In 1908, Rasputin was called to the royal palace. Alexis was bleeding

¹¹ Richard Stockton on February 21, 2017. "Was Rasputin Actually The Sanest Man In Pre-Revolution Russia?" All That Is Interesting, 21 Feb. 2017, all-that-is-interesting.com/grigori-rasputin/3.

¹² "Rasputin, the Monk Who Brought Down a Dynasty." World History: Russia: Rasputin, 2008, www.historywiz.com/historymakers/rasputin.htm.

¹³ Plitnik, George R. "Grigori Yefimovich Rasputin." *Salem Press Biographical Encyclopedia*, 2013. EBSCOhost, search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=t6o&AN=88807105.

¹⁴ (john@spartacus-educational.com), John Simkin. "Tsarina Alexandra." *Spartacus Educational*, Spartacus Educational, spartacus-educational.com/RUSalexandra.htm.

terribly from a fatal injury, and doctors were unable to treat him. After some praying over the boy, Rasputin was able to heal him and from there, became a trusted friend of the Tsar and Tsarina. It was he who helped influence decisions made by the royal court, causing controversy in an already-unstable Russia.¹⁵

Alexandra was a strong believer in Tsardom and was passionate about saving it. She begged Rasputin to resist any political influences against it. With Nicholas II as the supreme commander of the Russian army during the First World War, he was hardly ever at the palace. Not only that, but he became the first person to blame whenever Russia had a defeat in battle. This left Alexandra to run the country. Of course, Rasputin was at her side as her personal advisor.¹⁶ Though he aided her in personal decisions, he wasted no time in appointing his own religious and public officials, while demoting others.¹⁷ He dismissed and appointed ministers for his own private gain, and for the political gain of his friends.¹⁸ As a matter of fact, Nicholas II decided to dismiss Grand Duke Nikolay Nikolayevich as commander-in-chief with the help of Rasputin, if the decision wasn't made by Rasputin himself. This is confirmed in George Katkov's *Russia 1917: The February Revolution*, where he states it was mentioned in two of the Empress's letters to the Tsar.¹⁹ This contributed to the failure of the government in Petrograd, which was, at the time, under her rule.

¹⁵ "Explain Rasputin's Contribution to the Collapse of Tsarism ." Markedbyteachers.com, www.markedbyteachers.com/gcse/history/explain-rasputin-s-contribution-to-the-collapse-of-tsarism.html.

¹⁶ (john@spartacus-educational.com), John Simkin. "Tsarina Alexandra." *Spartacus Educational*, Spartacus Educational, spartacus-educational.com/RUSalexandra.htm.

¹⁷ Hasic, Albinko. "Rasputin: 5 Myths and Truths About the Mystic Russian Monk." *Time*, Time, 29 Dec. 2016, time.com/4606775/5-myths-rasputin/.

¹⁸ Jones, Barry. "R." *Dictionary of World Biography*, NED - New edition, 4 ed., ANU Press, Australia, 2017, pp. 701–744. *JSTOR*, www.jstor.org/stable/j.ctt1rfsrst.22.

¹⁹ Elkin, Boris. "The Doom of the Russian Monarchy." *The Slavonic and East European Review*, vol. 47, no. 109, 1969, pp. 514–524. *JSTOR*, [JSTOR, www.jstor.org/stable/4206110](http://www.jstor.org/stable/4206110).

Months before the revolution, the Princes of the House of Romanoff had started to boycott Alexandra along with pretty much all of Russia. Instead of responding to their protests, she became rather arrogant and stubborn (which her family initially despised her for²⁰), declaring that she “cared nothing for the more distinguished classes of society: that she loved only the Russian people, and honored Rasputin as a child of the people.”²¹ One can argue that the main reason her decisions were disliked so much was because of her German heritage, but Rasputin was the only man she truly trusted at the time, and he was already hated by the people²². He was the only man the Tsarina truly trusted. Nicholas II really had no objections, but he was slowly starting to realize that Alexandra was being indirectly used. Nicholas wrote a letter to his wife in 1916, saying “Therefore one must be careful, especially with appointments to high office... All these changes make my head go round. In my opinion, they are too frequent. In any case, they are not good for the internal situation of the country, as each new man brings with him alterations in the administration.”²³, although a month after writing this, he started agreeing with Rasputin’s decisions as well.²⁴ Because of this, there was even more questioning to his [Nicholas] ability to govern. Rasputin indirectly caused more ruckus, despite the rumors going around about him which were far from praise. He was getting very wealthy by charging one or two thousand roubles for influencing affairs around Russia, sometimes a lot more. If one wanted

²⁰ “Did Rasputin actually influence the Russian Revolution?” reddit.com, 2013, https://www.reddit.com/r/AskHistorians/comments/14d3fb/did_rasputin_actually_influence_the_russian/

²¹ Johnston, Charles. “What Happened in Russia: Told from Official Documents.” *The North American Review*, vol. 205, no. 739, 1917, pp. 865–873. JSTOR, JSTOR, www.jstor.org/stable/25121539.

²² <https://www.westada.org/cms/lib8/ID01904074/Centricity/Domain/2129/Russian%20Revolution.pdf>

²³ Haberman, Arthur and Eisen, Sydney. *The Making of the Modern Age*. Toronto: Gage Educational Publishing Company, 1987

²⁴ Ringer, Rhyen. “THE DIVINE DEVIL RASPUTIN.” *Angelfire: Welcome to Angelfire*, 11 Nov. 2002, www.angelfire.com/vamp/seashore/rasputin.html.

to travel anywhere in Russia, they had to go through Rasputin.²⁵ According to Vogel-Jorgensen, he used his “scraps of paper, much like the magic word SESAME” to open every door.²⁶ Needless to say, Rasputin was like a powerful Chief of Staff to the Tsar, who controlled who accessed the Tsar. The people were fueled with fresh fury at his dominance in the court, and they were starting to decide that they’ve had enough. An article entitled “The Truth about Rasputin’s Death” in the *Boston Sunday Globe* stated, “Paul Milukoff and Alexander Kerensky referred to the ‘dark forces’ that were leading Russia to ruin. They spoke of Rasputin and his influence”, which concludes Rasputin was becoming notorious in other countries for his behavior.²⁷ When the people were starting to see the true nature of their rulers, the Tsar and Tsarina weren’t comprehending it. They believed the Russian people loved them and that Rasputin would save them if they needed it. Little did they know, members of their own court were contemplating over a plan to “free” the rulers from the mystical peasant, in hopes of bringing prosperity to Russia once more. Those members were part of the royal court, which was already just about up in flames. By distracting themselves with Rasputin, they unintentionally accelerated their fall. They believed the monk had become much too famous in Russia for his governmental and miracle works, and was slowly dragging the Tsarist government even farther down to the pit of a revolution.

After days of pondering over options to get rid of Rasputin, Prince Felix Yusupov, Grand Duke Dmitri Pavlovich, Vladimir Purishkevich, an army captain named Oswald Rayner, and a

²⁵ Ringer, Rhyen. “THE DIVINE DEVIL RASPUTIN.” *Angelfire: Welcome to Angelfire*, 11 Nov. 2002, www.angelfire.com/vamp/seashore/rasputin.html.

²⁶ Vogel-Jorgensen, T. Rasputin: Prophet, Libertine, Plotter. United States: University Books Inc., 1970.

²⁷ “Truth about Rasputin's Death.” *Boston Sunday Globe*, 28 Oct. 1917, p. 57. *Newspaperarchive.com*.

doctor finally decided the only way to truly free the rulers was to kill him.²⁸ Purishkevich was the one who proposed the idea, and although many knew about it, hardly anyone spoke up.²⁹ Although, what became the next question was how to murder him. Rasputin had gotten so powerful at this point that he was guarded by street agents, who were by his side day and night.³⁰ It was likely that Alexandra arranged this type of treatment for him, since he had manipulated her into being unable to function without him. She believed he was sent by God Himself in order to save the Russian throne, so losing him would be equivalent to losing the empire.³¹ It was decided by the five men that they would lure Rasputin to the palace of Yusupov, where he would be properly poisoned. In order to bait him, they offered him the likelihood of a night with the Prince's pretty young wife (who was actually away).³² Rasputin, upon arrival, was lead to the cellar of the palace, a decorated room where he was invited to drink and eat before the arrival of the princess. He was persuaded to drink several glasses of wine and some cream cakes, all of which were laced with cyanide.³³ Much to the hosts' horror, they had no effect. Prince Yusupov himself recalls exactly what happened next in his memoirs, which were published in 1928, "This devil who was dying of poison, who had a bullet in his heart, must have been raised from the dead by the powers of evil. There was something appalling and monstrous in his diabolical

²⁸ Berstein, Herman, and Anonymous Man Present at Yusupov House. "Really a Court Revolt." *Boston Sunday Globe*, 28 Oct. 1917, p. 57.

²⁹ Berstein, Herman, and Anonymous Man Present at Yusupov House. "Really a Court Revolt." *Boston Sunday Globe*, 28 Oct. 1917, p. 57.

³⁰ "Truth about Rasputin's Death." *Boston Sunday Globe*, 28 Oct. 1917, p. 57. *Newspaperarchive.com*

³¹ Duffy, Michael. "Firstworldwar.com." *Who's Who - Tsarina Alexandra*, 22 Aug. 2009, www.firstworldwar.com/bio/alexandra.htm.

³² Johnston, Charles. "What Happened in Russia: Told from Official Documents." *The North American Review*, vol. 205, no. 739, 1917, pp. 865–873. JSTOR, JSTOR

³³ "Grigory Yefimovich Rasputin." *Britannica School*, Encyclopædia Britannica, 13 Jan. 2016. school.eb.com/levels/high/article/Grigory-Yefimovich-Rasputin/62744. Accessed 13 Dec. 2017.

refusal to die.”³⁴ Yusupov then retrieved a revolver from Pavlovich and shot Rasputin in the stomach. When he bent down to check on the body that appeared to be dead, he was pushed off and the peasant managed to escape.³⁵ He was followed and shot four more times, but he would not fall. It was as if he possessed immunity to bullets, because he did not die until Purishkevich pushed him into an ice hole. Even then he still struggled, because the next morning, bloody fingerprints were found at the edge of the hole.³⁶ After the Tsarina found out about this, she was devastated and banished Yusupov and Pavlovich from the state, even though it was said in the *Manchester Guardian* that Russia could “breathe more freely” with the rid of the “most baleful influence”.³⁷ She originally wanted the two shot without trial, but was persuaded to change her mind.³⁸

Yusupov seemed to take pride in his role in the assassination. When interviewed for the Kingston Gleaner, he was asked, “Leading up to the abdication of the Tsar and to Rasputin becoming the lord or tyrant of Russia?”, and replied with “Yes”.³⁹ In that same interview, he was also asked, “In consequence of that did you determine that Rasputin, in the interests of your country, should die?”, to which he again replied yes, that he thought he was doing it for the good

³⁴ Youssoupoff, Felix/ Green, Ann (TRN)/ Katkoff, Nicholas (TRN). *Lost Splendor: the Amazing Memoirs of the Man Who Killed Rasputin*. Consortium Book Sales & Dist, 2007.

³⁵ Russell, Shahan. "The Mysterious Death Of Rasputin, The Siberian Monk Who Brought Down The Tsar Of Russia." *WAR HISTORY ONLINE*. N.p., 08 Oct. 2017. Web. 03 Jan. 2018.

³⁶ "Truth about Rasputin's Death." *Boston Sunday Globe*, 28 Oct. 1917, p. 57. *Newspaperarchive.com*

³⁷ "Russia Breathes More Freely." *Manchester Guardian*, 29 Dec. 2016, uploads.guim.co.uk/2016/12/22/4_Jan_1917.jpg

³⁸ Nelipa, Margarita. "Pg. 108." *Killing Rasputin: the Murder That Ended the Russian Empire*, Wildblue Press, 2017.

³⁹ "Prince Was Never "Czar's Pet" Says Princess." *Kingston Gleaner* [Kingston, Jamaica] 23 Mar. 1934: 1-49. *Newspaperarchive.com*. Web. 3 Jan. 2018.
<<https://access.newspaperarchive.com/jm/kingston/kingston/kingston-gleaner/1934/03-23/page-40?tag=rasputin&rtserp=tags/rasputin?psb=relevance>>.

of his country.⁴⁰ Much like the citizens of Russia, Yusupov thought Rasputin was a danger to the government and was causing a majority of the wrong decisions. Sure enough, the Empire faced its demise only a month later after the February Revolution, accelerated by Rasputin. The Tsar had lost all support, even from the military, and was forced to give up the throne on March 2nd, 1917. The rest of the Romanov family was captured and imprisoned by Bolshevik troops. July 16-17 of 1918, they were shot, stabbed, or beaten to death, confirming the absolute end of the Tsarist Empire.⁴¹

One can argue that Russia was on the brink of a revolution far before Rasputin even arrived in St. Petersburg, but it cannot be denied that he essentially manipulated the Tsarina while her husband was away, causing her to become unpopular with the people and uprisings to obliterate him. He started life as a wandering peasant, and ended up wandering into the arms of the government and into complete power, only for that power to lead him into a terrible fate. It could be that he was like a gift from God meant to save Tsarism, or like a devil who used authority to his advantage in order to bring the Empire to a dreadful conclusion.

⁴⁰ "Prince Was Never 'Czar's Pet' Says Princess." *Kingston Gleaner* [Kingston, Jamaica] 23 Mar. 1934: 1-49. *Newspaperarchive.com*. Web. 3 Jan. 2018.
<<https://access.newspaperarchive.com/jm/kingston/kingston/kingston-gleaner/1934/03-23/page-40?tag=rasputin&rtserp=tags/rasputin?psb=relevance>>.

⁴¹ William H. Honan (12 August 1992), *A Playwright Applies His Craft To Czar Nicholas II's Last Days*, New York Times, retrieved 25 February 2017

Annotated Bibliography

Primary:

1. "Truth about Rasputin's Death." *Boston Sunday Globe*, 28 Oct. 1917, p. 57.
Newspaperarchive.com.
This helped me understand reasonings behind Rasputin's death.
2. Elkin, Boris. "The Doom of the Russian Monarchy." *The Slavonic and East European Review*, vol. 47, no. 109, 1969, pp. 514–524. *JSTOR*, *JSTOR*,
www.jstor.org/stable/4206110.
This gave me some information about other economic issues going on in Tsarist Russia.
3. Johnston, Charles. "What Happened in Russia: Told from Official Documents." *The North American Review*, vol. 205, no. 739, 1917, pp. 865–873. *JSTOR*, *JSTOR*,
www.jstor.org/stable/25121539.
This gave me more information about other issues with Russia, although mainly with the Tsar and Tsarina.
4. Bernstein, Herman, and Anonymous Man Present at Yusupov House. "Really a Court Revolt." *Boston Sunday Globe*, 28 Oct. 1917, p. 57.
This was my best primary source for backing up my argument that Rasputin had a bigger role to play in the Russian Revolution than most people think.
5. Youssoupoff, Felix/ Green, Ann (TRN)/ Katkoff, Nicholas (TRN). *Lost Splendor: the Amazing Memoirs of the Man Who Killed Rasputin*. Consortium Book Sales & Dist, 2007.
Prince Yusupov himself recalled exactly how the murder went down. I used this information to get a deeper understanding as to why he did it.
6. "Prince Was Never 'Czar's Pet' Says Princess." *Kingston Gleaner* [Kingston, Jamaica] 23 Mar. 1934: 1-49. *Newspaperarchive.com*. Web. 3 Jan. 2018.
<https://access.newspaperarchive.com/jm/kingston/kingston/kingston-gleaner/1934/03-23/page-40?tag=rasputin&rtserp=tags/rasputin?psb=relevance>.

This was where I found the interview with Prince Yusupov himself, which deepened my understanding on why he murdered Rasputin.

7. Bernstein, Herman, and Anonymous Man Present at Yusupov House. "Really a Court Revolt." *Boston Sunday Globe*, 28 Oct. 1917, p. 57.

This was another newspaper article about Rasputin's death that gave me some more details on it.

8. "Russia Breathes More Freely." *Manchester Guardian*, 29 Dec. 2016, uploads.guim.co.uk/2016/12/22/4_Jan_1917.jpg

This was a source that said Russia breathed more freely after Rasputin's death. I thought this was a very strong argument.

Secondary:

1. Liepman, Heinz. *Rasputin and the Fall of Imperial Russia*. Rolton, 1959.

This helped me understand Rasputin's early life.

2. Richard Stockton on February 21, 2017. "Was Rasputin Actually The Sanest Man In Pre-Revolution Russia?" All That Is Interesting, 21 Feb. 2017, all-that-is-interesting.com/grigori-rasputin/3.

This helped me understand Rasputin's mid-adult life and use it to analyze his character.

3. "Rasputin, the Monk Who Brought Down a Dynasty." World History: Russia: Rasputin, 2008, www.historywiz.com/historymakers/rasputin.htm.

This website provided lots of information on Rasputin's "magic powers".

4. "Explain Rasputin's Contribution to the Collapse of Tsarism ." Markedbyteachers.com, www.markedbyteachers.com/gcse/history/explain-rasputin-s-contribution-to-the-collapse-of-tsarism.html.

This was packed with information about how Rasputin helped with the destruction of the Tsarist Empire.

5. "Did Rasputin actually influence the Russian Revolution?" reddit.com, 2013, https://www.reddit.com/r/AskHistorians/comments/14d3fb/did_rasputin_actually_influence_the_russian/.

This was also understanding on how he helped the demise of the Tsarist Empire, mainly on how he contributed to the economic issues.

6. "Grigory Yefimovich Rasputin." *Britannica School*, Encyclopædia Britannica, 13 Jan. 2016. school.eb.com/levels/high/article/Grigory-Yefimovich-Rasputin/62744. Accessed 13 Dec. 2017.
This was where I got Rasputin's birth name and some cool facts about his childhood.
7. Welch, Frances. *Rasputin: a Short Life*. Short Books, 2015.
The preview of this told me about his father.
8. Shukman, Harold. *Rasputin: an Introduction*. History, 2009.
I read about Rasputin's marriage and his wife's physical description here.
9. Peeling, Siobhan. "Rasputin, Grigori Efimovich." *New Articles RSS*, encyclopedia.1914-1918-online.net/article/rasputin_grigorii_efimovich.
This gave a nice summary of his early life and his time in St. Petersburg, which I used as a guide.
10. "Who Is Grigori Yefimovich Rasputin." *Youtube*, Private Universe, 22 Aug. 2016, www.youtube.com/watch?v=kasowhbwHKS.
This was where I got the information on why he went to St. Petersburg in the first place, which was very helpful for me.
11. Biography.com Editors. "Rasputin." *Biography.com*, A&E Networks Television, 28 Apr. 2017, www.biography.com/peo=ple/rasputin-9452162.
A very simply biography, but it proved to be a nice guide too, complete with years and dates.
12. "Who Is Grigori Rasputin? Everything You Need to Know." *Childhood, Life Achievements & Timeline*, www.thefamouspeople.com/profiles/grigori-rasputin-6160.php.
This gave me more information on key moments throughout his whole life.
13. Plitnik, George R. "Grigori Yefimovich Rasputin." *Salem Press Biographical Encyclopedia*, 2013. EBSCOhost, search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=t6o&AN=88807105.
This was a very detailed encyclopedia entry, which gave me a lot of information on Rasputin's personality.
14. (john@spartacus-educational.com), John Simkin. "Tsarina Alexandra." *Spartacus Educational*, Spartacus Educational, spartacus-educational.com/RUSalexandra.htm
I read this about the Tsarina so I could understand her personality more, and why she relied on Rasputin so much.

15. Hasic, Albinko. "Rasputin: 5 Myths and Truths About the Mystic Russian Monk." *Time*, Time, 29 Dec. 2016, time.com/4606775/5-myths-rasputin/.
This gave me some background on what is true and what is not about Rasputin.
16. Jones, Barry. "R." *Dictionary of World Biography*, NED - New edition, 4 ed., ANU Press, Australia, 2017, pp. 701–744. *JSTOR*, www.jstor.org/stable/j.ctt1rfsrst.22.
This was where I got the information about the British intelligence officer that was present, who may have delivered the shot to Rasputin's forehead that killed him.
17. Ringer, Rhyan. "THE DIVINE DEVIL RASPUTIN:" *Angelfire: Welcome to Angelfire*, 11 Nov. 2002, www.angelfire.com/vamp/seashore/rasputin.html.
This essay was full of information about Rasputin's role in the Tsarist Empire. It was a huge help in the body of my essay.
18. Haberman, Arthur and Eisen, Sydney. *The Making of the Modern Age*. Toronto: Gage Educational Publishing Company, 1987
I used this to help me understand the relationship between the Tsar and Tsarina, which could help further my argument.
19. <https://www.westada.org/cms/lib8/ID01904074/Centricity/Domain/2129/Russian%20Revolution.pdf>
This was very simple, but very useful because it provided some other issues in Tsarist Russia besides Rasputin.
20. Vogel-Jorgensen, T. *Rasputin: Prophet, Libertine, Plotter*. United States: University Books Inc., 1970.
This walked me through how he got to St. Petersburg, what he did while there, and a bit of the aftermath of his murder.
21. Duffy, Michael. "Firstworldwar.com." *Who's Who - Tsarina Alexandra*, 22 Aug. 2009, www.firstworldwar.com/bio/alexandra.htm.
This was a nice little biography about the Tsarina without much detail, but it was simple to read and I was able to deepen my understanding of her.
22. Harris, Carolyn. "The Murder of Rasputin, 100 Years Later." *Smithsonian.com*, Smithsonian Institution, 27 Dec. 2016, www.smithsonianmag.com/history/murder-rasputin-100-years-later-180961572/.
This was where I found lots of sources on the aftermath of his murder and how people remembered him.

23. Russell, Shahan. "The Mysterious Death Of Rasputin, The Siberian Monk Who Brought Down The Tsar Of Russia." *WAR HISTORY ONLINE*. N.p., 08 Oct. 2017. Web. 03 Jan. 2018.

I read this to help me understand the setting of his murder, which allowed me to paint a better picture of what exactly went down in my head.

24. Nelsson, Richard. "The Death of Rasputin - December, 1916." *The Guardian*, Guardian News and Media, 29 Dec. 2016, www.theguardian.com/world/from-the-archive-blog/2016/dec/30/rasputin-murder-russia-december-1916.

This was full of excerpts from newspapers and articles.

25. Nelipa, Margarita. "Pg. 108." *Killing Rasputin: the Murder That Ended the Russian Empire*, Wildblue Press, 2017.

This provided a lot of details on Rasputin's murder, which I was able to connect to the information I already know.

26. William H. Honan (12 August 1992), *A Playwright Applies His Craft To Czar Nicholas II's Last Days*, New York Times, retrieved 25 February 2017

I read this to find out what happened to the Tsar family after Rasputin's death.