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Die Flüsterer: Leben in Stalins RusslandDie Akte "Romeo" Poles ApartPhilomenaThe Lost ChildDer deutsche GeniusThe Lost ChildPhilomenaIn Putins RusslandPeople of Today 2017Was Revolution Inevitable?Russia in the Early Modern WorldHistorically Inevitable?The War of NervesBlumen der FinsternisNataschas TanzDie kürzeste Geschichte EuropasStalin und SchostakowitschNichts ist wahr und alles ist möglichRussiaA Short History of RussiaAn der Seite der WehrmachtLion El'Jonson - Der Herr der ErstenRussland gegen NapoleonHitler and StalinWriting RussiaThe Twenty-five Years that Changed the WorldHistorical Dictionary of DemocracyCommand and ControlHundert Jahre RevolutionDas "fremde" ErbeHarte JahreThe Use of History in Putin's RussiaMy Revision Notes: AQA AS/A-level History: Tsarist and Communist Russia, 1855-1964Weihnachten mit Joachim RingelnatzDie RomanowsDon't Trust, Don't Fear, Don't BegIt's Russia, My Son. A (partial) Roadmap of the Russian SoulA Different DegreeConnecting the Dots in World History, A Teacher's Literacy Based Curriculum

The Twenty-five Years that Changed the World is the second book in the Our Place in Time trilogy portraying the advancement of the four major civilizations extant today—Confucian China, Hindu India, the Muslim Middle East, and the Christian West. With their expansion, they represent 85% of the world's population. The intent of these works—including the prequel, Our Axial Age—is to understandably capture the march of history with its pronounced progress in time while highlighting the fascinating people involved. In this work it is argued that, for the three-hundred-year period from 1400-1700, every happening of key consequence remarkably had some major connection with the brief quarter century from 1501 to 1526. The colorful people brought to life include: • The eunuch admiral whose treasure ships were the grandest armadas in Chinese history. • The most magnificent and memorable sultan in the history of the Ottoman Empire. • India's splendid Mughal emperor who built the Taj Mahal for his beloved wife who died in childbirth. • The two great contemporary geniuses who, for all their extraordinary art, were far apart. • The personable father of science and the enigmatic playwright who heralded a new age. • The mystic Muslim and the stubborn Christian who secured their faith's structural division.

»Liebeläutend zieht durch Kerzenhelle, / Mild, wie Wälderduft, die Weihnachtszeit « – so besinnlich geht es bei Joachim Ringelnatz zur Weihnachtszeit nicht immer zu. Mit skurrilem Witz, der Lust am Unsinn, aber auch mit melancholischer Zartheit bedichtet Ringelnatz das Fest der Liebe: die kindliche Vorfreude, den ersten Schnee, Pfannkuchen, Punsch und Zuckerschau, Bowle und Bordelle. Hoch vergnüglich und auf ihre eigene Art auch besinnlich, stimmen die in diesem Band versammelten Gedichte und Prosatexte auf die Weihnachts- und Winterzeit ein.

History is not just a study of past events, but a product and an idea for the modernisation and consolidation of the nation. 'The Use of History in Putin's Russia' examines how the past is perceived in contemporary Russia and analyses the ways in which the Russian state uses history to create a broad coalition of consensus and forge a new national identity. Central to issues of governance and national identity, the Russian state utilises history for the purpose of state-building and reviving Russia's national consciousness in the twenty-first century. Assessing how history mediates the complex relationship between state and population, this book analyses the selection process of constructing and recycling a preferred historical narrative to create loyal, patriotic citizens, ultimately aiding its modernisation. Different historical spheres of Russian life are analysed in-depth including areas of culture, politics, education, and anniversaries. The past is not just a state matter, a socio-political issue linked to the modernisation process, containing many paradoxes. This book has wide-ranging appeal, not only for professors and students specialising in Russia and the former Soviet Space in the fields of History and Memory, International Relations, Educational Studies, and Intercultural Communication but also for policymakers and think-tanks.

Zu Beginn des Krieges gegen die Sowjetunion konnte die Wehrmacht rund 600.000 Mann verbündeter Truppen einsetzen, später kamen zahlreiche ausländische Freiwillige und "Hilfswillige" hinzu. Auf dem Höhepunkt des Zweiten Weltkrieges war an der Ostfront schließlich jeder dritte Uniformträger auf deutscher Seite ein Ausländer. Hitlers Parole vom "Kampf gegen den Bolschewismus" fand überall in Europa Widerhall - bei überzeugten Faschisten ebenso wie bei Angehörigen osteuropäischer Völker. Von ihren Heimatländern wegen Verrats abgeurteilt und vergessen, wurde ihr Einsatz von den Historikern im Kalten Krieg meist übersehen oder verschwiegen, von Rechtsradikalen dagegen glorifiziert. Rolf-Dieter Müller vermittelt auf der Basis neuerer Forschungen erstmals einen systematischen Überblick über die verschiedenen Motive, die Hitlers Verbündete und ausländische Freiwillige an der Ostfront kämpfen ließen. Zahlreiche Fotos, Karten und Dokumente ergänzen diese anschaulich geschriebene Darstellung

Communism's rise and eventual fall in Eastern Europe is one of the great stories of the 20th century. Within this context, the Russian Revolution's role and legacy overshadows all else. In *Was Revolution Inevitable?*, former British Ambassador to Russia Sir Tony Brenton has gathered essays by leading historians to trace the events that led to the overthrow of the Tsarist regime and to pinpoint moments when those events could have unfolded in a drastically different way. What would the world be like had Fanny Kaplan succeeded in assassinating Vladimir Lenin in 1918? What if the Bolsheviks had never imposed the brutal "War Communism" initiatives that devastated the Russian peasants? What if Rasputin had talked Nicholas II out of involvement in World War One, which effectively led to the Revolution and sealed the demise of the Romanov dynasty? Preeminent scholars, including Orlando Figes, Richard Pipes, Douglas Smith, and Martin Sixsmith, ruminate on these questions and many others, assembling a series of pivotal moments that reveal what might have gone differently, and, if so, what the repercussions would have been. The contributors take a variety of approaches, from imagining an alternate history, to carefully studying a precarious moment of contingency, to disproving popular imagined alternatives. All of the chapters, however, shed light on Lenin's rise to power and the proliferation of his agenda, while assessing the influence of the revolution's pivotal moments on Russian-and global-politics. Provocative and illuminating, *Was Revolution Inevitable?* provides an in-depth exploration of the conflict that for nearly a century has shaped world history. The Russian Revolution put totalitarian communism into power, fueled Nazism and the Second World War, and forged one of the West's greatest antagonists. Here is a book that scrutinizes how the past, present, and future of global history could have been remarkably different had the events of 1917 unfolded differently and in the process deepens our understanding of what did happen and why.

We humans are social animals, naturally driven to form close-knit groups. All too often, though, these groups become partisan. They start to compete with one another. They become mutually hostile. Why does this happen? And what can be done to counter the tendency? In *Poles Apart*, an expert on polarisation, a behavioural scientist and a professional communicator explain why we are so prone to be drawn into rival, often deeply antagonistic factions. They explore the shaping force of our genetic make-up on our fundamental views and the nature of the influences that family, friends and peers exert. They pinpoint the economic and political triggers that tip people from healthy disagreement to dangerous hostility, and the part played by social media in spreading entrenched opinions. And they help us to understand why outlooks that can seem so bizarre and extreme to us seem so eminently sensible to those who hold them. Above all, by meticulously showing how and why polarisation affects every part of our lives - influencing everything from our friendship circles to our approach to health issues - they show what practical and effective steps we can all take to narrow divisions, build respect for others, and create a greater degree of common understanding.

Russia is a country of contradictions: a nation of cultural refinement and artistic originality and yet also a country that rules by 'the iron fist'. In this riveting history, Martin Sixsmith shows how Russia's complex identity has been formed over a thousand years, and how it can help us understand its often baffling behaviour at home and abroad. Combining in-depth research and interviews with his personal experiences as a former BBC Moscow correspondent, Sixsmith skilfully traces the conundrums of modern Russia to their roots in its troubled past, and explains the nation's

seemingly split personality as the result of influences that have divided it for centuries. A Sunday Times bestseller, Russia is essential reading for anyone who wants to understand the complex political landscape of this country, and its unique place in the modern world.

In his previously written articles and books, Chris Edwards has argued that Teaching should be considered a field that is separate from both the field of Education and from the content area fields. Teaching is a field which synthesizes content and method for classroom application. All of the other major intellectual fields have a canon of works which practitioners can learn from and add to, but Teaching does not. The Connecting-the-Dots in World History: A Teacher's Literacy-Based Curriculum series changes this by showing how effective a teacher-generated curriculum can be. These books can inspire other teachers to create their own curriculums and inspire a change in the way that the public views teachers and teaching.

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Historical Dictionary of Democracy contains a chronology, an introduction, a glossary, and an extensive bibliography. The dictionary section has over 600 cross-referenced entries. This book is an excellent resource for students, researchers, and anyone wanting to know more about democracy.

'Fascinating One of the most astute political commentators on Putin and modern Russia' Financial Times Can anyone truly understand Russia? Let one of the world's leading experts show you how, using the fascinating history of a nation to illuminate its future. Russia is a country with no natural borders, no single ethnos, no true central identity. At the crossroads of Europe and Asia, it is everyone's 'other'. And yet it is one of the most powerful nations on earth, a master game-player on the global stage with a rich history of war and peace, poets and revolutionaries. In this essential whistle-stop tour of the world's most misunderstood nation, Mark Galeotti takes us behind the myths to the heart of the Russian story: from the formation of a nation to its early legends - including Ivan the Terrible and Catherine the Great - to the rise and fall of the Romanovs, the Russian Revolution, the Cold War, Chernobyl and the end of the Soviet Union - plus the arrival of an obscure politician named Vladimir Putin.

There is a saying in Russian jails. Ne ver ne boysya ne prosi: don't trust, don't fear, don't beg. Don't trust because life here will always disappoint you. Don't fear because whatever you're scared of, you are powerless to prevent it. And don't beg because nobody ever begged their way out of a Russian prison cell. The plan was to attach a Greenpeace pod to Gazprom's platform and launch a peaceful protest against oil being pumped from the icy waters of the Arctic. However, heavily armed commandos flooded the deck of the Arctic Sunrise and the Arctic Thirty began their ordeal at the hands of Putin's regime. Told in the activists' own words and for the first time, this is a dramatic and inspiring story of incarceration and the ensuing emotional campaign to bring the protestors home.

Arkansas, 18. September 1980, abends: Bei Routinearbeiten an einer gefechtsbereiten Titan-II-Rakete rutscht ein Arbeiter ein Schraubenschlüssel aus der Hand. »O Mann, das ist nicht gut«, ist sein erster Gedanke. Das Missgeschick führt zu einer Kettenreaktion, der größte je gebaute Atomsprengkopf droht zu explodieren Weltweit sind Tausende von Atomsprengköpfen stationiert. Viele von ihnen werden rund um die Uhr gefechtsbereit gehalten, damit sie innerhalb einer Minute starten und eine unvorstellbare Verwüstung anrichten können. Was das für die Soldaten in den unterirdischen Bunkern heißt und welche Gefahren von den scharfen Atomwaffen ausgehen, ist uns kaum bewusst. Der Journalist und Bestseller-Autor Eric Schlosser deckt in diesem zeithistorischen Thriller auf der Grundlage von

geheimen Unterlagen des Verteidigungsministeriums und Interviews mit Augenzeugen einen dramatischen Unfall in einem Atomwaffensilo der USA auf, der um ein Haar mehrere amerikanische Großstädte vernichtet hätte. In diesen Krimi einer am Ende gerade noch gelungenen Rettung flieht er die Geschichte der amerikanischen Atomrüstung ein. Er erzählt, wie Raketen und Sprengköpfe rund um die Uhr abschussbereit gehalten werden und wie die Menschen ticken, die ihr Leben für die Sicherheit der Massenvernichtungswaffen einsetzen. Eine spektakuläre Geschichte des Kalten Krieges und der Atomrüstung «von unten»: aus der Sicht der Soldaten in den Silos, die mit einem falschen Handgriff die Apokalypse auslösen können. «Atemberaubend, mitreißend Eric Schlosser verbindet profunde Informationen mit der Erzählung haarsträubender Details zu zahlreichen Unfällen und zeigt, dass auch die besten Kontrollsysteme nicht menschlichen Fehlern, Missgeschicken und der wachsenden technologischen Komplexität gewachsen sind.» Publisher's Weekly »Ebenso anschaulich wie erschütternd Eine umfassende und beruhigende Untersuchung über die Illusion der Sicherheit von Atomwaffen.« Kirkus Reviews «Die weltweiten Atomwaffenarsenale sind nicht so sicher, wie sie sein sollten – das ist die Botschaft dieses faszinierenden und aufwühlenden Buches.» Lee H. Hamilton, ehemaliger Kongress-Abgeordneter der USA und Co-Vorsitzender der Blue Ribbon Commission on America's Nuclear Future

"Exzellent! Dagegen ist »Game of Thrones« das reinste Kaffeekränzchen." Antony BeevorDie prunkvolle und blutige Geschichte der sagenumwobenen Dynastie der Romanows, die Russland jahrhundertlang bescherrschte und bis heute prägt. Wie kein anderes Adelsgeschlecht sind die Romanows der Inbegriff von schillerndem Prunk, Macht, Dekadenz und Grausamkeit. Über 300 Jahre dominierten sie das russische Reich, mehr als 20 Zaren und Zarrinnen gingen aus dem Geschlecht hervor, allesamt getrieben von unbändigem Machthunger und rücksichtslosem Willen zu herrschen – einige dem Wahnsinn näher als dem Genie. Simon Sebag Montefiore erzählt die Saga dieser unglaublichen Familie, in der Rivalität, Giftmorde und sexuelle Exzesse regelrecht auf der Tagesordnung standen. Basierend auf neuester Forschung und unbekanntem Archivmaterial zeichnet er die Schicksale und politischen Verwicklungen nach. Weder zuvor noch danach gab es ein so gewaltiges Reich, in dem sich Glanz und Grausamkeit auf unheilvolle Weise verbündeten. Mit zahlreichen Abbildungen, prächtige Ausstattung. "Eine außergewöhnliche und packende Geschichte, voll von schmutzigen Machtkämpfen, Gewalt und Brutalität, großartigen Monstern, bedauernswerten Opfern und grotesken Heiligen entsetzlich, urkomisch und bewegend, aber auch unendlich tragisch." Adam Zamoyski, Autor der Bestseller »1812« und »1815«

This study examines the continuity of Russian policies during the early modern period in the midst of constant change. The author analyzes how Russian rulers from Ivan III to Catherine II--along with their hub advisors--managed to sustain a balance between the two in seeking solutions to problems the country faced.

Its very name conjures images of a vast and trackless landscape, where snow-covered onion domes peep over heavy stone fortress walls. Its history is an epic populated by dreamers, madmen and geniuses who left an indelible imprint on the national character. Above all, it is a place where the 21st century collides with the 12th, where the radiant future was born and the past is not really the past. "It's Russia, My Son" pulls back the veil which has long shrouded this land in mystery, exploring the mindset of a people who have shaped, and continue to shape, the world we live in. A romp through the history and culture of the world's largest nation. It's Russia, My Son is a quest to find out what really makes Russians tick. Attitudes towards power, love, friendship, religion and warfare have all played a role in forming the legendary Russian soul. By exploring these themes among many others, the reader will come away with a "roadmap" of the Russian soul, in all its glory and heartbreak, tragedy and triumph. The book will appeal to general readers, as well as travelers, explorers and historians looking for a fresh vantage point from which to view one of the world's most intriguing nations.

Eine grundlegend neue Bewertung der Napoleon-Zeit auf der Basis erstmals ausgewerteter russischer Quellen Der Sieg Russlands über Napoleon markiert ein epochales Ereignis der europäischen Geschichte. Nach der Zerschlagung der vertriebenen Grande Armée 1812 wurde Napoleons Heer 1813 ein weiteres Mal auf deutschen Schlachtfeldern besiegt, bevor russische Truppen an der Spitze der siegreichen Koalition am 31. März 1814 in Paris einmarschierten. Damit begründete das Zarenreich im bis dahin längsten Feldzug der europäischen Geschichte Stabilität und Frieden im damaligen Europa. Dominic Lieven bezieht erstmals umfassend die russische Ereignisperspektive ein und revidiert

zentrale Positionen bisheriger Geschichtsschreibung, die sich vornehmlich auf westliche Quellen stützt. Dabei werden drei kriegsentscheidende Stärken Russlands sichtbar: die logistische Meisterleistung, eine halbe Million Truppen ausserhalb des eigenen Staatsgebiets zu versorgen, die Überlegenheit der russischen Kavallerie und die oft verkannte Weitsicht von Zar Alexander I.

Established in 1982, People of Today annually recognises over 20,000 individuals who are positively influencing Britain and inspiring others through their achievements and leadership. Entry is by invitation only. The objective criteria for inclusion and removal are strictly maintained, ensuring it is the only publication of its type whose membership accurately reflects people of influence today. Expert nomination panels guarantee People of Today is uniquely current and trusted and encompasses over 40 sectors, from academia, law and business to charity, sport and the arts.

Eine rasante Achterbahnfahrt durch das neue Russland In einer großartigen Mischung aus Reportage und Erinnerung schildert der britische Fernsehproduzent und Autor Peter Pomerantsev seine Erfahrungen aus neun Jahren Leben und Arbeiten in Moskau. Putins Russland erscheint als Realityshow, die völlig der Regie des Kremls gehorcht. Die Medien verbreiten glitzernden Unsinn oder Unwahrheiten im Dienste der Staatspropaganda, die Politik gründet auf Lügen, und das Justizsystem beugt sich den Vorgaben der Herrschenden. Pomerantsev zeichnet sein brennend scharfes Porträt Russlands nach dem Ende der Sowjetzeit mithilfe eindringlicher Anekdoten und Geschichten: von den jungen, Goldgräber genannten Frauen auf der Suche nach dem Glück bei neureichen Männern, von Polittechnologien und zynischen TV-Moderatoren, von dem Gangster, der Filme dreht und sich als nächsten Steven Spielberg sieht, den russischen Hells Angels, die sich zu heiligen Kriegerern stilisieren, von verlorenen jungen Leuten, die sich Sekten in den Arm werfen, dem Anwalt, der im Gefängnis zugrunde geht. Eine bittere Anklage erzählt als nachtschwarze Gesellschaftskomödie.

Winston Churchill defined Russia as "a riddle, wrapped in a mystery, inside an enigma". It was still the case when Hari Kumar left southern India and went behind the Iron Curtain in the seventies to study medicine at Peoples Friendship University, Moscow, USSR. Through the eyes of a man from a very different background and culture, Hari recounts his intimate observations of the lives and habits of the Russians; their joys, troubles, ambitions and hopes. It is a true story from a fascinating period in History delightfully told with an abundance of humour. A Different Degree gives you a remarkable insight to attempt to solve the riddle, unravel the mystery and understand the enigma that was the USSR.

Deutsche Ideen, deutscher Geist und deutsche Ideologien haben das Weltgeschehen maßgeblich beeinflusst und geprägt. Peter Watson zeichnet diese Entwicklung von der Mitte des 18. Jahr hunderts bis zur Gegenwart nach und ergründet Ursprung und Wesen des »Deutschen Genius«. Philosophie und Literatur, Musik und Malerei, Wissenschaft und Technik – Watson bietet eine beeindruckende Gesamtschau deutschen Geisteslebens von Lessing bis Mann, von Humboldt bis Benz, von Kant bis Habermas, von Schleiermacher bis Ratzinger, von Bach bis Henze, von Friedrich bis Beuys. Eine faszinierende Kultur- und Ideengeschichte.

Harte Jahre ist ein vielstimmiges Romanepos über Macht, Verschwörung und Verrat – über die Fallstricke der Geschichte und die dreisten Machenschaften imperialer Politik. Und ein virtuoser literarischer Hochseilakt. Im Jahr 1954 bringt ein Militärputsch die Regierung Guatemalas zu Fall, mit freundlicher Unterstützung des CIA. Und zwar vermittels einer dreisten Lüge, die als Wahrheit durchgeht: US-Präsident Eisenhower hatte in Umlauf gebracht, Guatemalas Präsident Árbenz billige und unterstütze die Ausbreitung des sowjetischen Kommunismus auf dem Kontinent. Eine Lüge, die das Schicksal ganz Lateinamerikas verändern wird. Diese folgenreiche historische Episode – die uns schmerzlich an unsere Gegenwart erinnert – greift Mario Vargas Llosa auf und erzählt sie lebhaft und packend in ihrer ganzen Vielgestaltigkeit. Wer gründet welche Intrigen? Wer sind die Profiteure? Wer bleibt auf der Strecke?

An award-winning historian plumbs the depths of Hitler and Stalin's vicious regimes, and shows the extent to which

they brutalized the world around them. Two 20th century tyrants stand apart from all the rest in terms of their ruthlessness and the degree to which they changed the world around them. Briefly allies during World War II, Adolph Hitler and Josef Stalin then tried to exterminate each other in sweeping campaigns unlike anything the modern world had ever seen, affecting soldiers and civilians alike. Millions of miles of Eastern Europe were ruined in their fight to the death, millions of lives sacrificed. Laurence Rees has met more people who had direct experience of working for Hitler and Stalin than any other historian. Using their evidence he has pieced together a compelling comparative portrait of evil, in which idealism is polluted by bloody pragmatism, and human suffering is used casually as a political tool. It's a jaw-dropping description of two regimes stripped of moral anchors and doomed to destroy each other, and those caught up in the vicious magnetism of their leadership.

When she fell pregnant as a teenager in Ireland in 1952, Philomena Lee was sent to the convent at Roscrea in Co. Tipperary to be looked after as a fallen woman. She cared for her baby for three years until the Church took him from her and sold him, like countless others, to America for adoption. Coerced into signing a document promising never to attempt to see her child again, she nonetheless spent the next fifty years secretly searching for him, unaware that he was searching for her from across the Atlantic. Philomena's son, renamed Michael Hess, grew up to be a top Washington lawyer and a leading Republican official in the Reagan and Bush administrations. But he was a gay man in a homophobic party where he had to conceal not only his sexuality but, eventually, the fact that he had AIDS. With little time left, he returned to Ireland and the convent where he was born: his desperate quest to find his mother before he died left a legacy that was to unfold with unexpected consequences for all involved. *The Lost Child* is the tale of a mother and a son whose lives were scarred by the forces of hypocrisy on both sides of the Atlantic and of the secrets they were forced to keep. With a foreword by Judi Dench, Martin Sixsmith's book is a compelling and deeply moving narrative of human love and loss, both heartbreaking yet ultimately redemptive.

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Eine glänzend geschriebene Geschichte Sowjetrusslands – von den Wurzeln des Bolschewismus bis zum Putsch gegen Gorbatschow 1991. Laut Orlando Figes erstreckt sich die Wirkung der Russischen Revolution von 1917 über die Jahrzehnte der Diktatur bis in die Gegenwart. So waren die Sowjetführer bis zuletzt überzeugt, dass sie die von Lenin begonnene Revolution fortsetzen und auf ihre Ziele hinarbeiteten: eine kommunistische Gesellschaft des materiellen Überflusses für das Proletariat und ein neuer kollektiver Menschentyp. In einem historischen Moment, da in Russland unter Putin die autoritäre Staatstradition wiederauflebt, liefert Figes eine überzeugende Interpretation des russischen 20. Jahrhunderts.

Viele Darstellungen behandeln die sichtbaren Aspekte der stalinistischen Diktatur: die Verhaftungen und Prozesse, die Versklavung und das Morden in den Gulags. Kein Buch hat jedoch bislang die Auswirkungen des Regimes auf das Privat- und Familienleben der Menschen untersucht, den "Stalinismus, der uns alle ergriff", wie es ein russischer Historiker einmal formuliert hat. Auf der Basis von Hunderten Interviews mit Zeitzeugen und zahllosen bislang unbekanntem Dokumenten liefert nun Orlando Figes in *Die Flüsterer* erstmals einen unmittelbaren Einblick in die

Innenwelt gewöhnlicher Sowjetbürger und zeigt an zahlreichen eindringlichen Beispielen, wie Einzelne oder Familien in einem von Misstrauen, Angst, Kompromissen und Verrat beherrschten Alltag um ihr Überleben kämpften. Für die Zeit der Revolution von 1917 bis zu Stalins Tod und darüber hinaus rekonstruiert Figes das moralische Gespinnst, in dem sich die allermeisten Russen gefangen sahen: Eine einzige falsche Bewegung konnte eine Familie zerstören oder am Ende womöglich deren Rettung bedeuten. Keiner konnte sich sicher fühlen, nicht einmal die überzeugtesten Anhänger des Regimes. Wahrheit und Wahn, Schuld und Unschuld waren in diesem Unterdrückungssystem immer wieder auf fatal miteinander verquickt. Orlando Figes' neues Meisterwerk - in seiner erzählerischen Wucht und Aufrichtigkeit vergleichbar mit Grossmans Jahrhundertroman *Leben und Schicksal* - ist das breit angelegte Porträt einer Gesellschaft, in der jeder nur noch flüstert - entweder um sich und andere zu schützen oder um zu verraten. Ein ebenso schonungslos wie ergreifender Bericht davon, wie schwach - und wie unvorstellbar stark - Menschen in einer von Paranoia geprägten totalitären Gesellschaft werden können.

Marx held that the progression of society from capitalism to communism was 'historically inevitable'. In Russia in 1917, it seemed that Marx's theory was being born out in reality. But was the Russian Revolution really inevitable? This collection of fourteen contributions from the world's leading Russian scholars attempts to answer the question by looking back at the key turning points of the revolution. From the Russo-Japanese conflict of 1904-5 through to the appropriation of church property in 1922, and focusing especially on the incredible chain of events in 1917 leading to the October Revolution itself, *Historically Inevitable?* is a forensic account of Russia's road to revolution. Each contribution gives not only a fast-paced, incisive narrative account of an individual aspect of Revolution but also, for the first time, an intriguing counter-factual analysis of what might have gone differently. Featuring Richard Pipes on the Kornilov affair, Orlando Figes on the October Revolution, Dominic Lieven on foreign intervention and Martin Sixsmith on the attempted assassination of Lenin in 1918, *Historically Inevitable?* explains how each of these moments, more through blind luck than any historical inevitability, led to the creation of the world's first communist state. Tony Brenton's afterword to the volume draws parallels between the Revolution and the ultimate collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991, and places the events of 1917 in the context of more recent events in Russia and the Crimea. Featuring contributions from: Donald Crawford - Sean McMeekin - Dominic Lieven - Orlando Figes - Richard Sakwa - Douglas Smith - Martin Sixsmith - Simon Dixon - Boris Kolonitsky - Richard Pipes - Edvard Radzinsky - Catriona Kelly - Erik Landis - Evan Mawdsley

Inspiring the film starring Judi Dench and Steve Coogan, and directed by Stephen Frears, *Philomena* is the tale of a mother and a son whose lives were scarred by the forces of hypocrisy on both sides of the Atlantic and of the secrets they were forced to keep. With a foreword by Judi Dench, Martin Sixsmith's book is a compelling and deeply moving narrative of human love and loss, both heartbreaking yet ultimately redemptive. When she fell pregnant as a teenager in Ireland in 1952, Philomena Lee was sent to the convent at Roscrea in Co. Tipperary to be looked after as a fallen woman. She cared for her baby for three years until the Church took him from her and sold him, like countless others, to America for adoption. Coerced into signing a document promising never to attempt to see her child again, she nonetheless spent the next fifty years secretly searching for him, unaware that he was searching for her from across the Atlantic. Philomena's son, renamed Michael Hess, grew up to be a top Washington lawyer and a leading Republican official in the Reagan and Bush administrations. But he was a gay man in a homophobic party where he had to conceal not only his sexuality but, eventually, the fact that he had AIDS. With little time left, he returned to Ireland and the convent where he was born: his desperate quest to find his mother before he died left a legacy that was to unfold with unexpected consequences for all involved.

A major new history of the Cold War: exploring the conflict through the minds of the people who lived it. More than any other conflict, the Cold War was fought on the battlefield of the human mind. And, nearly thirty years since the collapse of the Soviet Union, its legacy still endures - not only in our politics, but in our own thoughts, and fears. Drawing on a vast array of untapped archives and unseen sources, Martin Sixsmith vividly recreates the tensions and paranoia of the Cold War, framing it for the first time from a psychological perspective. Revisiting towering personalities like Khrushchev, Kennedy and Nixon, as well as the lives of the unknown millions who were caught up in the conflict, this is a gripping account of fear itself - and in today's uncertain times, it is more resonant than ever.

Writing Russia offers the first systematic analysis of Anglophone national histories of Russia. By deconstructing preeminent historical works on the history of Russia, this book provides insight into the hidden ideological underpinnings of the texts and their representations of Russia in the West. It demonstrates that historians employ a range of literary techniques to smooth over contradictions in their narratives of Russia, generating a seemingly cohesive depiction of Russia as a liminal, Other nation. This is a process that this book theorises as "discordus", representing an original conceptual framework for examining national history texts. It identifies patterns in the language and emplotment of Anglophone Russian histories across several defining historical epochs from the Mongol conquests to the Putin presidency, revealing the extent to which historians wield the narrative power to "make or break" nations. Postmodern in approach, the work pushes the boundaries of historiography and calls into question the nature of history.

Philomena Lee ist selbst noch fast ein Kind, als sie hochschwanger im Kloster Zuflucht sucht. Doch statt Barmherzigkeit erwartet sie dort ein unerbittliches System: Im Irland der 50er-Jahre verkaufen die Nonnen jedes uneheliche Kind, das in ihrem Konvent geboren wird, mit neuer Identität in die USA. Wie viele andere Mütter verliert auch Philomena ihren Sohn, aus Anthony Lee wird mit drei Jahren Michael Hess. Mutter und Sohn können einander nicht vergessen, doch erst 50 Jahre später erfährt Philomena, was aus ihrem Sohn geworden ist.

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