

## Lenin

One of The Economist's Best Books of the Year A gripping, meticulously researched account of Lenin's fateful 1917 rail journey from Zurich to Petrograd, where he ignited the Russian Revolution and forever changed the world In April 1917, as the Russian Tsar Nicholas II's abdication sent shockwaves across war-torn Europe, the future leader of the Bolshevik revolution Vladimir Lenin was far away, exiled in Zurich. When the news reached him, Lenin immediately resolved to return to Petrograd and lead the revolt. But to get there, he would have to cross Germany, which meant accepting help from the deadliest of Russia's adversaries. Millions of Russians at home were suffering as a result of German aggression, and to accept German aid—or even safe passage—would be to betray his homeland. Germany, for its part, saw an opportunity to further destabilize Russia by allowing Lenin and his small group of revolutionaries to return. Now, in *Lenin on the Train*, drawing on a dazzling array of sources and never-before-seen archival material, renowned historian Catherine Merridale provides a riveting, nuanced account of this enormously consequential journey—the train ride that changed the world—as well as the underground conspiracy and subterfuge that went into making it happen. Writing with the same insight and

formidable intelligence that distinguished her earlier works, she brings to life a world of counter-espionage and intrigue, wartime desperation, illicit finance, and misguided utopianism. When Lenin arrived in Petrograd's now-famous Finland Station, he delivered an explosive address to the impassioned crowds. Simple and extreme, the text of this speech has been compared to such momentous documents as Constantine's edict of Milan and Martin Luther's ninety-five theses. It was the moment when the Russian revolution became Soviet, the genesis of a system of tyranny and faith that changed the course of Russia's history forever and transformed the international political climate. Providing a detailed discussion of the philosophical background to the Machist controversy which occasioned Lenin's *Materialism and Empirio* criticism, Pannekoek's study still stands as one of the most forceful and politically astute discussions of the topic available.

Inessa Armand was a beautiful, vivacious revolutionary and mother of four, who acquired a place in the almost exclusively male history of the Russian Revolution due to her fervent political beliefs and her passionate relationship with Lenin. Married at 19, she bore her husband three children before taking her brother-in-law as her lover and having his child. From 1910-16 she and Lenin were lovers, from which time until her death in 1920 she

continued to play an important role in his life, even becoming close to his wife, Nadya Krupskaya. Inessa became a leading member in Lenin's circle in Paris in 1910, a kind of lieutenant whom he used as a multi-lingual trouble-shooter and hard-punching 'front' when he wanted to stay in the background. In 1917, back in Russia, she joined the Duma in Moscow as a Bolshevik, as well as being actively involved in the city Soviet. She was also a furious feminist campaigner since she saw the revolution as being sexually chauvinist. Her political leanings were very far left and on occasion she opposed Lenin himself, as he had tempered his views for practical political reasons.

Out of the chaos following Lenin's death and the mounting fury against Lukács and his freshly penned *History and Class Consciousness* (1923), this book bears an assessment of Lenin as "the only theoretical equal to Marx." Lukács shows, with unprecedented clarity, how Lenin's historical interventions—from his vanguard politics and repurposing of the state to his detection of a new, imperialist stage of capitalism—advanced the conjunction of theory and practice, class consciousness and class struggle. A postscript from 1967 reflects on how this picture of Lenin, which both shattered failed Marxism and preserved certain prejudices of its day, became even more inspirational after the oppressions of Stalin.

Lukács's study remains indispensable to an understanding of the contemporary significance of Lenin's life and work.

After Karl Marx, Vladimir Lenin (1870–1924) is the man most associated with communism and its influence and reach around the world. Lenin was the leader of the communist Bolshevik party during the October 1917 revolution in Russia, and he subsequently headed the Soviet state until 1924, bringing stability to the region and establishing a socialist economic and political system. In *Lenin*, Lars T. Lih presents a striking new interpretation of Lenin's political beliefs and strategies. Until now, Lenin has been portrayed as a pessimist with a dismissive view of the revolutionary potential of the workers. However, Lih reveals that underneath the sharp polemics, Lenin was actually a romantic enthusiast rather than a sour pragmatist, one who imposed meaning on the whirlwind of events going on around him. This concise and unique biography is based on wide-ranging new research that puts Lenin into the context both of Russian society and of the international socialist movement of the early twentieth century. It also sets the development of Lenin's political outlook firmly within the framework of his family background and private life. In addition, the book's images, which are taken from contemporary photographs, posters, and drawings, illustrate the features of Lenin's world and time. A

vivid, non-ideological portrait, Lenin is an essential look at one of the key figures of modern history. Four most significant works, also including "The Development of Capitalism in Russia," "Imperialism, the Highest State of Capitalism," and "The State and Revolution."

Lenin's classic rebuttal of the Marxist revisionism, revealing how the state arises from class antagonisms, represses the mass of working people, and must be replaced by an 'armed proletariat' that brings the means of production into common ownership. An indispensable read for all those interested in the underpinnings of Socialist Society. Victor Sebestyen's riveting biography of Vladimir Ilyich Lenin--the first major biography in English in nearly two decades--is not only a political examination of one of the most important historical figures of the twentieth century but also a fascinating portrait of Lenin the man. Brought up in comfort and with a passion for hunting and fishing, chess, and the English classics, Lenin was radicalized after the execution of his brother in 1887. Sebestyen traces the story from Lenin's early years to his long exile in Europe and return to Petrograd in 1917 to lead the first Communist revolution in history. Uniquely, Sebestyen has discovered that throughout Lenin's life his closest relationships were with his mother, his sisters, his wife, and his mistress. The long-suppressed story told here of the love triangle that Lenin had with his wife, Nadezhda Krupskaya, and his beautiful, married mistress and comrade, Inessa Armand, reveals a more complicated

character than that of the coldly one-dimensional leader of the Bolshevik Revolution. With Lenin's personal papers and those of other leading political figures now available, Sebestyen gives us new details that bring to life the dramatic and gripping story of how Lenin seized power in a coup and ran his revolutionary state. The product of a violent, tyrannical, and corrupt Russia, he chillingly authorized the deaths of thousands of people and created a system based on the idea that political terror against opponents was justified for a greater ideal. An old comrade who had once admired him said that Lenin "desired the good . . . but created evil." This included his invention of Stalin, who would take Lenin's system of the gulag and the secret police to horrifying new heights. In *Lenin*, Victor Sebestyen has written a brilliant portrait of this dictator as a complex and ruthless figure, and he also brings to light important new revelations about the Russian Revolution, a pivotal point in modern history. (With 16 pages of black-and-white photographs)

How did a revolutionary leader who was frequently surprised by events - and was often compelled to observe them from abroad - finally seize power in a bloodless coup? This study, besides charting his rise to power, examines Lenin's propagandist skill in crafting resonant slogans to fit every changing situation. He made failure look like success, and won the debate while seeming to lose it. Lenin's legacy of government by propaganda still survives in Putin's 'sovereign democracy' - itself a propaganda triumph. This is the Bolshevik Revolution seen from the 21st century, when

President Putin attends Christmas eucharist in Moscow Cathedral and commends religion for promoting traditional Russian values. If historians of the Khrushchev era did not foresee so improbable a transformation of Lenin's Russia, Lenin himself was also 'unexpected'.

A study of the political and social upheavals that rocked Europe between 1914 and 1945 focuses on the Soviet Union and Nazi Germany and on the dictatorships of Lenin, Stalin, and Hitler, revealing the similarities and differences among the three, the conflict between Communism and Nazism, and their repercussions in terms of the horrors and genocide of World War II. Reprint. 15,000 first printing.

The father of Communist Russia, Vladimir Ilych Lenin now seems to have emerged fully formed in the turbulent wake of World War I and the Russian Revolution. But Lenin's character was in fact forged much earlier, over the course of years spent in exile, constantly on the move, and in disguise. In *Conspirator*, Russian historian Helen Rappaport narrates the compelling story of Lenin's life and political activities in the years leading up to the revolution. As he scuttled between the glittering capital cities of Europe—from London and Munich to Vienna and Prague—Lenin found support among fellow émigrés and revolutionaries in the underground movement. He came to lead a ring of conspirators, many of whom would give their lives in service to his schemes. A riveting account of Lenin's little-known early life, *Conspirator* tracks in gripping detail the formation of one of the great revolutionaries of the twentieth century.

This concise monograph traces Russian Marxism from its beginnings to mid-1977, shows how and why the party achieved power, how it has strengthened its position, and how it has undertaken to remold the country and to solve its internal problems. Wesson's study is the only up-to-date party history currently available. The book opens with background material on Russian discontent and endeavors to analyze the fundamental nature of Communist Party rule, taking into account new perspectives in Lenin's revolution, the Stalinist period, and the Khrushchev years, as well as the latest period not covered in earlier accounts. It treats the rise of Lenin, the struggle for power after Lenin and after Stalin, and the consolidation of Brezhnev's authority. As the most recent history of communism in the Soviet Union, it has great topical interest and is clearly written for the benefit of the student and general reader as well as the professional.

Ending a two-hundred-year tsarist regime and bringing communism to the masses, Vladimir Lenin changed not only Russia, but also the world's political climate. Using source documents and photos, this text discusses the major events of the Russian Revolution and its consequences in a way that makes the concepts clear, concise, and interesting to students.

This book investigates the place of music in Soviet society during the eras of Lenin and Stalin. It examines the different strategies adopted by composers and musicians in their attempts to carve out careers in a rapidly evolving society, discusses the role of music in Soviet society and people's lives, and shows how

political ideology proved an inspiration as well as an inhibition. It explores how music and politics interacted in the lives of two of the twentieth century's greatest composers - Shostakovich and Prokofiev - and also in the lives of less well-known composers. In addition it considers the specialist composers of early Soviet musical propaganda, amateur music making, and musical life in the non-Russian republics. The book will appeal to specialists in Soviet music history, those with an interest in twentieth century music in general, and also to students of the history, culture and politics of the Soviet Union.

the fall of the Soviet Union and Russia's new democracy.

Lenin, from the October Revolution to the U.S.S.R. Lenin's life and thoughts and the importance of ideology in both. The cultural revolution is examined. Explores Lenin's cult and the re-evaluation of his legacy. Beryl William's Lenin is a clear and interesting introduction to the life, ideology and impact of Lenin, one of the formative figures of the twentieth-century. Lenin provides an excellent introduction to Lenin and his role in the Russian Revolution and provides an objective account of his years in power between 1917 and 1924. The author has written in light of new documents made available since the Gorbachev era and the end of the Soviet Union. Lenin provides an up-to-date evaluation of Lenin's life and thoughts and the importance of ideology in both, the cultural revolution, Lenin's

foreign policy and expansionism and Lenin's cult and the re-evaluation of his legacy that has taken place during the last decade. Lenin is a study of his life and work in the context of the period and like other titles in the Profiles in Power series, it is not a biography, though inevitably it contains much biographical material, it instead analyzes the major features, achievements and failures of Lenin's career.

'Globalisation' is the buzzword of the 1990s. VI Lenin's *Imperialism: The Highest Stage of Capitalism* was one of the first attempts to account for the increasing importance of the world market in the twentieth century. Originally published in 1916, *Imperialism* explains how colonialism and the First World War were inherent features of the global development of the capitalist economy. In a new introduction, Norman Lewis and James Malone contrast Lenin's approach with that adopted by contemporary theories of globalisation. They argue that, while much has changed since Lenin wrote, his theoretical framework remains the best method for understanding recent global developments.

“The pamphlet... outlined a broad plan of organisation in which everyone would find a place for himself, become a cog in the revolutionary machine, a cog, which, no matter how small, was vital to the working of the machine. The pamphlet urged the necessity of intensive and tireless efforts to build the

foundation that had to be built if the Party was to exist in deeds and not in words...” (Nadezhda Krupskaya, *Reminiscences of Lenin*.) First published in early 1902, *What Is to Be Done?* remains a classic of Marxism on the building of the revolutionary party, which sets out the party’s role as the organiser and director of the revolution. The pamphlet was written as part of a conflict with the opportunism of the Economists, who emphasised ‘bread and butter issues’ rather than theory. Lenin uses the book to explain the necessity of creating a centralised group of professional and dedicated revolutionary cadres before the “times of explosion and outbursts.” The history of the past 100 years has proven Lenin right: time and again, the masses have been ready to struggle, but let down by their leadership. Today, many working-class people are beginning to reject the status quo and are looking to socialist ideas as an alternative. It is the duty of Marxists to build an organisation capable of offering a way forward, and *What is to Be Done?* represents an excellent guide as to how to do this. With a new introduction by Rob Sewell.

Lenin is a colossal figure whose influence on twentieth-century history cannot be underestimated. Robert Service has written a calmly authoritative biography on this seemingly unknowable figure. Making use of recently opened archives, he has been able to piece together the private as well as the

public life, giving the first complete picture of Lenin. This biography simultaneously provides an account of one of the greatest turning points in modern history. Through the prism of Lenin's career, Service examines events such as the October Revolution and the ideas of Marxism-Leninism, the one-party state, economic modernisation, dictatorship, and the politics of inter-war Europe. In discovering the origins of the USSR, he casts light on the nature of the state and society which Lenin left behind and which have not entirely disappeared after the collapse of the Soviet regime in 1991. 'Immensely scholarly but also vivid and readable. This is a splendid book, much the best that I have ever read about Lenin ...I was overwhelmed by the power and vividness of this portrait.' Dominic Lieven, Sunday Telegraph 'He has managed skilfully to depict the surreal life of an obsessive, brilliant and stubborn individual' Guardian 'Lenin's life was politics, but Service has succeeded in keeping Lenin the man in focus throughout . . . This book deserves a place among the best studies of one of the most fascinating figures in modern history' Harold Shukman, The Times

A winner of the Isaac Deutscher Prize Liebmann highlights democratic dimensions in Lenin's thinking as it developed over 25 years.

Vladimir Ilyich Lenin (1870-1924), was a Russian revolutionary, a communist politician, the main leader of the October Revolution, the first head of

the Russian Soviet Socialist Republic and from 1922, the first de facto leader of the Soviet Union. He was the creator of Leninism, an extension of Marxist theory.

Christopher Morley (1890-1957) was an American journalist, novelist, essayist and poet. His most famous work remains "The Haunted Bookshop."

Chronicles the collapse of the Soviet empire, from the rise of glasnost through the final lowering of the Soviet flag, to the start of the post-communist age

The author presents his interpretations of Marxism, and Lenin's philosophy as well as discussing his ideas on ideology and the state.

One of the great political strategists of his era, V. I. Lenin continues to attract historical interest, yet his complex personality eludes full understanding. This new edition of Moshe Lewin's classic political biography, including an afterword by the author, suggests new approaches for studying the Marxist visionary and founder of the Soviet state. Lenin's Last Struggle offers invaluable insights into the rise of the Bolshevik party and the Soviet Union, a saga complicated by complex strategic battles among the leaders of Lenin's generation: leaders whose names are universally known, but whose personalities and motivations are even now not sufficiently understood. Moshe Lewin was a collective farm worker in the USSR and a soldier in the Soviet army. He later became director of studies at the Ecole Pratique des Hautes Etudes in Paris, a fellow of the Kennan Institute, a senior fellow of Columbia University's Russian Institute, and is now emeritus professor of history at The University of Pennsylvania.

A dazzling work of intellectual history by a world-renowned scholar, spanning the years from Peter the Great to the fall of

the Soviet Union, this book gives us a clear and sweeping view of Russia not as an eternal barbarian menace but as an outermost, if laggard, member in the continuum of European nations.

The eerie beauty of Ukraine's Lenin statues, toppled in the name of decommunization.

Vladimir Lenin is the great leader of the working people of the whole world, who is considered the most outstanding politician in world history, who created the first socialist state.

The Russian communist philosopher-theoretician, who continued the work of Marx and Engels, whose activity was widely deployed in the early 20th century, is still of interest to the public today, as its historical role is not only significant for Russia, but for the whole world. Lenin's activities have both...

The special assistant to Boris Yeltsin radically alters the traditional image of Lenin with a biography based on secret Soviet archives, revealing the Founding Father as a cruel, totalitarian leader who was responsible for the worst excesses of the Soviet state.

The secret life of the man who reshaped Russia Vladimir Ilyich Lenin, leader of the October 1917 uprising, is one of the most misunderstood leaders of the twentieth century. In his own time, there were many, even among his enemies, who acknowledged the full magnitude of his intellectual and political achievements. But his legacy has been lost in misinterpretation; he is worshipped but rarely read. On the centenary of the Russian Revolution, Tariq Ali explores the two major influences on Lenin's thought—the turbulent history of Tsarist Russia and the birth of the international labour movement—and explains how Lenin confronted dilemmas that still cast a shadow over the present. Is terrorism ever a viable strategy? Is support for imperial wars ever justified? Can politics be made without a party? Was the seizure of power in 1917 morally justified? Should he have parted company from

his wife and lived with his lover? In *The Dilemmas of Lenin*, Ali provides an insightful portrait of Lenin's deepest preoccupations and underlines the clarity and vigour of his theoretical and political formulations. He concludes with an affecting account of Lenin's last two years, when he realized that "we knew nothing" and insisted that the revolution had to be renewed lest it wither and die.

New in paperback - The surprising story of one of the darkest episodes in espionage history: the 'midnight war' devised by America and Allied powers to depose Soviet leader Vladimir Lenin and invade Russia.

An original historical and personal biography of V.I.Lenin and his wife Nadya. A warm, fascinating account of their lives together, of many of their co-workers, their hopes and struggles.

It was here that Lenin justified his personal interpretation of Marxism, savaged his opponents and set out his trenchant views on class conflict, the lessons of earlier revolutions, the dismantling of the bourgeois state and the replacement of capitalism by the, dictatorship of the proletariat.

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