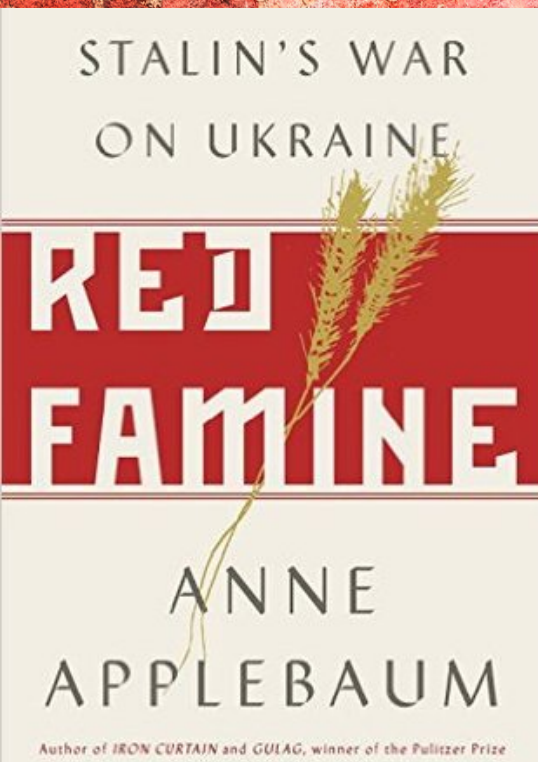


RECOMMENDED READS

Histories of Russia and Ukraine



Aurora
Public
Library
District



STALIN'S WAR
ON UKRAINE

RED
FAMINE

ANNE
APPLEBAUM

Author of *IRON CURTAIN* and *GULAG*, winner of the Pulitzer Prize

RED FAMINE

Anne Applebaum

In 1929 Stalin launched his policy of agricultural collectivization--in effect a second Russian revolution--which forced millions of peasants off their land and onto collective farms. The result was a catastrophic famine, the most lethal in European history. At least five million people died between 1931 and 1933 in the USSR. But instead of sending relief the Soviet state made use of the catastrophe to rid itself of a political problem. In *Red Famine*, Anne Applebaum argues that more than three million of those dead were Ukrainians who perished not because they were accidental victims of a bad policy but because the state deliberately set out to kill them.



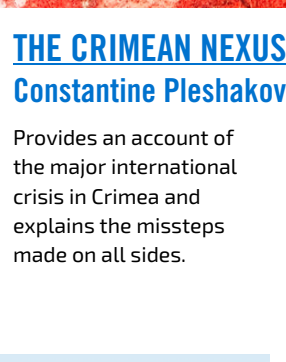
THE
CRIMEAN NEXUS

PUTIN'S WAR AND THE CLASH
OF CIVILIZATIONS
CONSTANTINE
PLESHAKOV

THE INVENTION OF RUSSIA

Arkady Ostrovsky

Reaches back to the darkest days of the Cold War to tell the story of how Russia got where it is today, and of the many mistakes and false steps along the way.



THE CRIMEAN NEXUS
Constantine Pleshakov

Provides an account of the major international crisis in Crimea and explains the missteps made on all sides.

THE INVENTION OF RUSSIA

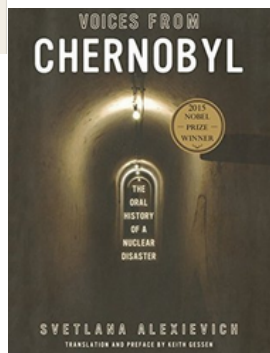
FROM GORBACHEV'S FREEDOM TO PUTIN'S WAR
ARKADY OSTROVSKY



VOICES FROM CHERNOBYL

Svetlana Alexievich

Voices from Chernobyl presents first-hand accounts of what happened to the people of Belarus and the fear, anger, and uncertainty that they lived through.



VOICES FROM
CHERNOBYL

THE ORAL HISTORY OF A NUCLEAR DISASTER
SVETLANA ALEXIEVICH
TRANSLATION AND PREFACE BY KEITH GESSEN

THE FUTURE IS HISTORY

Masha Gessen

The bestselling biographer of Putin reveals how Russia surrendered to a more virulent and invincible new strain of autocracy.



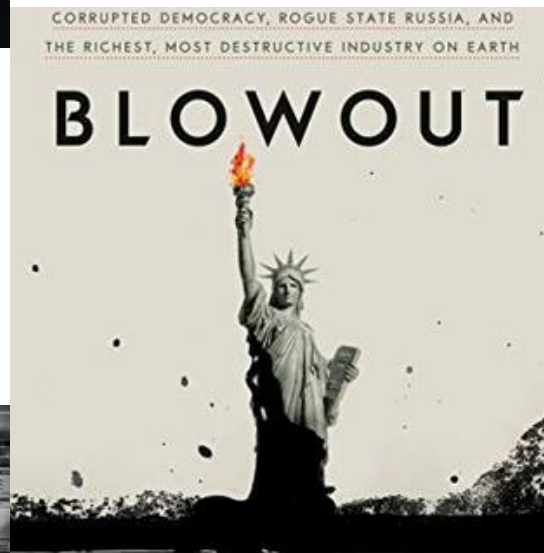
THE FUTURE IS HISTORY

HOW TOTALITARIANISM RECLAIMED RUSSIA
MASHA GESSEN
NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLING AUTHOR

BLOWOUT

Rachel Maddow

A riveting tour of the unimaginably lucrative and corrupt oil-and-gas industry. With her trademark black humor, Maddow takes us on a switchback journey around the globe--from Oklahoma City to Siberia to Equatorial Guinea--exposing the greed and incompetence of Big Oil and Gas. She shows how Russia's rich reserves of crude have, paradoxically, stunted its growth, forcing Putin to maintain his power by spreading Russia's rot into its rivals, its neighbors, the United States, and the West's most important alliances. The oil-and-gas industry has weakened democracies in developed and developing countries, fouled oceans and rivers, and dropped up authoritarian thieves and killers.

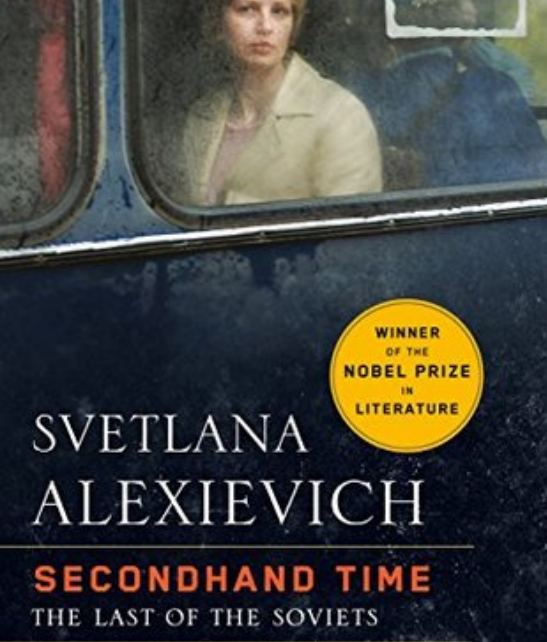


CORRUPTED DEMOCRACY, ROGUE STATE RUSSIA, AND THE RICHEST, MOST DESTRUCTIVE INDUSTRY ON EARTH

BLOWOUT

RACHEL
MADDOW

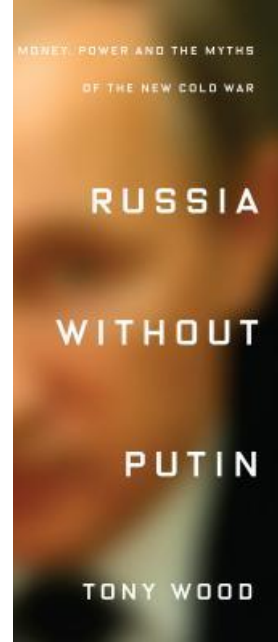
AUTHOR OF THE #1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER DRIFT



SECONDHAND TIME

Svetlana Alexievich

Bringing together dozens of voices in her distinctive style of oral history, *Secondhand Time* is a monument to the collapse of the USSR, charting the decline of Soviet culture and speculating on what will rise from the ashes of Communism. As in all her books, Alexievich gives voice to women and men whose stories are lost in the official narratives of nation-states, creating a powerful alternative history from the personal and private stories of individuals. When the Swedish Academy awarded Svetlana Alexievich the Nobel Prize in Literature, they praised her 'polyphonic writings, a monument to suffering and courage in our time,' and cited her for inventing 'a new kind of literary genre.' Sara Danius, the permanent secretary of the Swedish Academy, added that her work comprises 'a history of emotions--a history of the soul.'



RUSSIA WITHOUT PUTIN

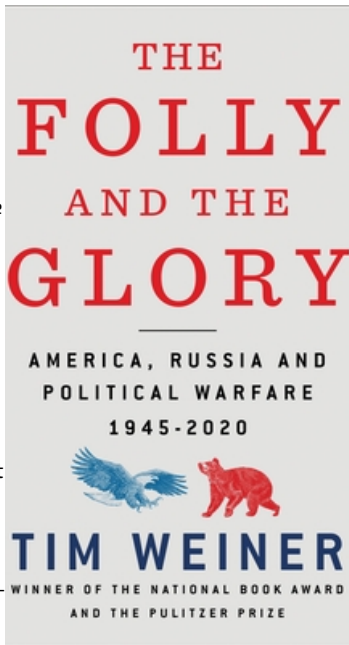
Tony Wood

Wood looks beyond Putin to explore the profound changes Russia has undergone since 1991. In the process, he challenges many of the common assumptions made about contemporary Russia. What kind of country has emerged from Russia's post-Soviet transformations, and where might it go in future?

THE FOLLY AND THE GLORY

Tim Weiner

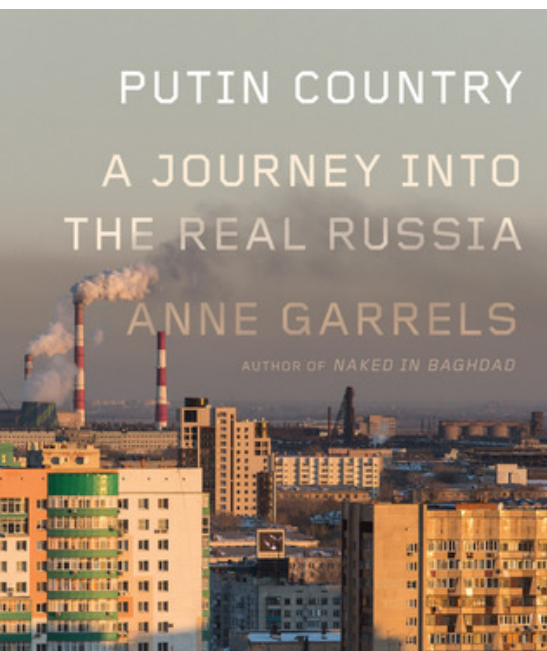
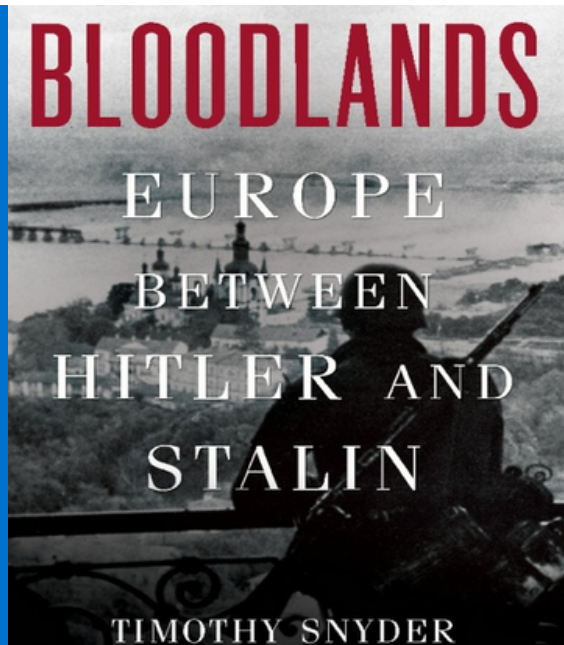
Russia's modern revival of Soviet-era intelligence operations constitutes one of the most significant threats to democracy. To get to the heart of what's at stake and find potential solutions, Weiner examines long-running twentieth century CIA operations, political machinations by the Soviet KGB around the world, the erosion of American political warfare after the Cold War, and why twenty-first century Russia has returned to the practice while the US has not.



BLOODLANDS

Timothy Snyder

Americans call the Second World War "The Good War." But before it even began, America's wartime ally Josef Stalin had killed millions of his own citizens—and kept killing them during and after the war. Before Hitler was finally defeated, he had murdered six million Jews and nearly as many other Europeans. At war's end, both the German and the Soviet killing sites fell behind the iron curtain, leaving the history of mass killing in darkness. *Bloodlands* is a new kind of European history, presenting the mass murders committed by the Nazi and Stalinist regimes as two aspects of a single history, in the time and place where they occurred: between Germany and Russia, when Hitler and Stalin both held power.



PUTIN COUNTRY

Anne Garrels

More than twenty years ago, when NPR correspondent Anne Garrels first visited Chelyabinsky--a gritty military-industrial center a thousand miles east of Moscow--her goal was to chart the aftershocks of the USSR's collapse. Returning again and again, Garrels found that the city's new freedoms and opportunities were both exciting and traumatic. As Vladimir Putin tightens his grip on power and war in Ukraine leads to Western sanctions and a lower standard of living, the local population mingles belligerent nationalism with a deep ambivalence about their country's direction. Garrels explains why Putin commands the loyalty of so many Russians, even those who decry the abuses of power they regularly encounter.



BETWEEN TWO FIRES

Joshua Yaffa

From a leading journalist in Moscow and a correspondent for *The New Yorker*, a groundbreaking portrait of modern Russia and the inner struggles of the people who sustain Vladimir Putin's rule.