The System: An Insiders Life In Soviet Politics

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war. New York: Grove Press,
Symbols and legitimacy in Soviet politics analyses the way in which Soviet symbolism and ritual changed from the regime's birth in 1917 to its fall in 1991. Gill also shows how, in each of these spheres, the images changed both over the life of the regime and during particular stages: the Leninist era metanarrative differed from that of the Stalin period, which differed from that of the Khrushchev and Brezhnev periods, which was, in turn, changed significantly under Gorbachev. In charting this development, the book lays bare the dynamics of the Soviet regime and a major reason for its fall. Do you want to read the rest of this article? Request full-text.

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The year was 1938. Joseph Stalin manned the helm of the Soviet Union, and all of its implications, such as the unforgiving purges, were in full effect. Anatole Konstantin, who was ten-years-old at the time, found his father had been taken from Stalin's secret police in the middle of the night. Without any explanation of why he was taken, his family assumed that it was because of the contact they made with their parents back in Romania, during a time when any contact with a foreign nation was suspected to be an act of espionage. The inside story of the political collapse of the Soviet Union is far better understood than the course of economic and social disintegration. In order to capture the story, the editors compiled a list of questions which they addressed to former top Soviet officials and economic and other policy adv. See More Info. Tell us if something is incorrect. Manufacturers, suppliers and others provide what you see here, and we have not verified it. See our disclaimer. The inside story of the political collapse of the Soviet Union is far better understood than the course of economic and social disintegration. In order