

hammer and tickle a history of communism told through communist jokes

****Hammer and Tickle: A History of Communism Told Through Communist Jokes****

hammer and tickle a history of communism told through communist jokes offers a fascinating and often hilarious window into the lived experiences of people under communist regimes. Humor, especially in oppressive contexts, becomes a subtle form of resistance—a way to critique authority and cope with hardship. This unique perspective not only sheds light on the political and social realities of communism but also reveals how laughter can survive even in the most constrained environments.

The Role of Humor Under Communist Regimes

Humor has always been a mirror reflecting society's truths, but in communist countries, jokes took on a special significance. Because open criticism was usually dangerous, jokes became a secret language, a coded critique that allowed people to vent frustrations without directly confronting the authorities. These jokes often circulated in whispers, shared in private gatherings, or written on bathroom walls, creating an underground culture of satire.

Hammer and Tickle: The Book That Chronicles Communist Humor

The phrase “hammer and tickle” cleverly combines the harshness of communist oppression (“hammer”) with the subversive power of laughter (“tickle”). This concept was popularized by the British author and historian Ben Lewis in his book **Hammer and Tickle: A History of Communism Told Through Communist Jokes**. The book collects and analyzes jokes from various communist countries, demonstrating how humor evolved alongside political developments.

Why Communist Jokes Matter

Communist jokes are more than just funny anecdotes; they're historical artifacts. They provide insights into:

- ****Public sentiment:**** What people really thought about their leaders and regimes.
- ****Social conditions:**** The economic hardships and shortages that shaped daily life.
- ****Political dynamics:**** The contradictions and hypocrisies of communist ideology in practice.

Jokes expose the gap between propaganda and reality, highlighting the absurdities and ironies of life under communism.

Common Themes in Communist Jokes

Communist humor often revolves around a few recurring themes that resonate across different countries and time periods.

The Inefficiency of the State

One of the most frequent subjects is the chronic inefficiency and bureaucracy of communist governments. Jokes frequently mock the endless queues, shortages, and the inability of the state to provide even basic goods.

Example:

***Q:** Why do they put fences around cemeteries in Soviet Russia?*

***A:** Because people are dying to get in.*

This joke humorously points to the desperation and scarcity faced by citizens.

The Cult of Personality

Leaders like Stalin, Khrushchev, and Brezhnev often became subjects of jokes that both mocked their ego and the absurd lengths of their propaganda.

Example:

***Q:** How many Stalinists does it take to change a lightbulb?*

***A:** None—they prefer to keep everyone in the dark.*

Such jokes subtly criticize the grasp for control and suppression of information.

Surveillance and Fear

The constant fear of being watched by the secret police inspired jokes about paranoia and double lives.

Example:

***Q:** In Soviet Russia, who watches the watchers?*

***A:** No one. They're too busy watching you.*

This joke highlights the omnipresent surveillance that shaped everyday behavior.

The Evolution of Communist Jokes Over Time

Communist humor evolved as political circumstances changed. Early Soviet jokes were often about the failures of the revolutionary promises, while later jokes during the Cold War era reflected the stagnation and absurdity of the Brezhnev years. After the fall of the Berlin Wall and the collapse of the Soviet Union, jokes shifted to reflect nostalgia, irony, and the challenges of transition to capitalism.

How Humor Helped People Cope

Living under communist regimes was often harsh, with limited freedoms and economic hardships. Humor became a vital coping mechanism, a way to maintain sanity and solidarity in difficult times.

- **Community bonding:** Sharing jokes created a sense of belonging and understanding.
- **Psychological relief:** Laughter provided a temporary escape from daily struggles.
- **Subversive resistance:** Humor undermined authority by exposing its ridiculousness.

Examples of Iconic Communist Jokes and Their Meanings

Let's explore a few iconic jokes and what they reveal about communist societies.

The "Radio Yerevan" Jokes

Popular in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe, these jokes took the format of a question to "Radio Yerevan," which would respond with a satirical or ironic answer.

Example:

Q: Is it true that there is freedom of speech in the Soviet Union?

A: In principle, yes. For example, you are free to say anything you like—but if you say something you shouldn't, you are free to go to Siberia.

These jokes illustrate the paradox of official freedoms that were meaningless in practice.

The "Soviet Space Program" Joke

Space exploration was a source of pride, yet jokes revealed the contrast between propaganda and reality.

Example:

Why did the Soviet space program send dogs into space?

Because they couldn't find any cosmonauts who were willing to go.

This joke pokes fun at the challenges the Soviet Union faced in maintaining its image of technological superiority.

The Lasting Legacy of Communist Jokes

Even decades after the fall of many communist regimes, these jokes continue to be told and adapted. They have become part of cultural memory and identity, revealing how humor can preserve history and critique power long after the regimes themselves are gone.

Tips for Understanding and Appreciating Communist Jokes

If you're new to this genre of humor, here are some pointers:

- **Know the historical context:** Understanding the political climate and social conditions enhances appreciation.
- **Look for irony and satire:** Communist jokes often rely on subtle irony rather than outright insults.
- **Appreciate the courage:** Telling these jokes was risky, so humor was a brave act of dissent.
- **Notice common motifs:** Queues, shortages, secret police, and leaders are frequent themes.

Humor as a Universal Tool Against Oppression

The story behind *Hammer and Tickle* is a history of communism told through communist jokes shows us that humor transcends language, geography, and ideology. Wherever people face oppression, they find ways to laugh at their oppressors. Communist jokes are a testament to human resilience and the power of laughter to reveal uncomfortable truths.

In the end, these jokes remind us that even under the heaviest hammer of authoritarian rule, the tickle of humor can still provoke a smile—and sometimes, a spark of change.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is 'Hammer and Tickle: A History of Communism Told Through Communist Jokes' about?

'Hammer and Tickle' is a book and documentary that explores the history of communism through the lens of jokes told under communist regimes, highlighting how humor was used as a form of resistance and social commentary.

Who is the author of 'Hammer and Tickle: A History of Communism Told Through Communist Jokes'?

The author of 'Hammer and Tickle' is Ben Lewis, a British journalist and filmmaker.

How do communist jokes reflect the political climate under communist regimes?

Communist jokes often reveal the frustrations, ironies, and contradictions of life under authoritarian regimes, serving as a subtle form of dissent and a way for people to cope with oppression.

Why are jokes an important tool for understanding communist history?

Jokes provide insight into everyday life, public sentiment, and the underlying social and political tensions that official histories might overlook or suppress.

In which countries were communist jokes particularly popular?

Communist jokes were popular across many communist countries, including the Soviet Union, East Germany, Czechoslovakia, Poland, and Romania.

What role did humor play in communist societies according to 'Hammer and Tickle'?

Humor acted as a safety valve for citizens, allowing them to express criticism and maintain a sense of individuality despite pervasive state censorship and propaganda.

Is 'Hammer and Tickle' available in formats other than a book?

Yes, 'Hammer and Tickle' was also adapted into a documentary film directed by Ben Lewis.

Can you give an example of a common theme in communist jokes featured in 'Hammer and Tickle'?

A common theme is the inefficiency and hypocrisy of the communist bureaucracy, often highlighting shortages, surveillance, or absurd propaganda.

How has 'Hammer and Tickle' contributed to the study of political humor?

'Hammer and Tickle' has popularized the understanding that political humor is a powerful form of resistance and historical documentation, influencing scholars to take jokes seriously as cultural artifacts.

Additional Resources

****Hammer and Tickle: A History of Communism Told Through Communist Jokes****

hammer and tickle a history of communism told through communist jokes offers a unique lens through which to explore one of the most complex political and social ideologies of the 20th century. This approach, blending humor with historical context, reveals not just the ideological tenets of communism but also the lived experiences, frustrations, and resilience of those who endured its regimes. Communist jokes, often circulated clandestinely, became a form of resistance,

satire, and social commentary, encapsulating the paradoxes and hardships hidden behind official propaganda.

The Role of Humor in Communist Regimes

Humor under communist rule served multiple purposes. Officially, it was a tool of propaganda, designed to celebrate socialist achievements and critique capitalist societies. Unofficially, it became a subversive language, a way for people to cope with repression, shortages, and censorship. The book **Hammer and Tickle**, by Ben Lewis, dives deeply into this phenomenon, documenting how jokes evolved in countries such as the Soviet Union, East Germany, and China.

Communist jokes functioned as a collective outlet for frustration. They highlighted economic inefficiencies, political absurdities, and the cult of personality surrounding leaders like Stalin, Lenin, or Mao. These jokes were often shared in whispers or written in notebooks, making humor a subtle form of rebellion. This clandestine humor culture reveals the gap between official rhetoric and everyday reality.

<h2>Tracing Communism's History Through Jokes</h2>

Communism, as an ideology, aims to create a classless society where the means of production are communally owned. However, the practical applications in the 20th century often fell short of these ideals, leading to authoritarianism, economic challenges, and widespread social control. The humor emerging from these contexts provides an alternative historical narrative — one that captures the human dimension of communist life.

<h3>Early Soviet Union: The Birth of Political Satire</h3>

In the early Soviet period, the Bolshevik Revolution and the establishment of the USSR inspired a wave of political jokes. These were typically aimed at the chaotic aftermath of the revolution, the inefficiency of the new government, and the eccentricities of Lenin and later Stalin. For example, jokes about the shortages of consumer goods and endless queues at shops became commonplace. These jokes underscored the irony of a supposedly egalitarian society struggling to provide basic necessities.

<h3>Stalinism and the Culture of Fear</h3>

During Stalin's rule, humor became more dangerous but also more poignant. The regime's repression made open criticism impossible, so jokes became veiled critiques of the paranoia and brutality of the era. One famous joke involves a man asking if Stalin is still alive, and the answer is "He's not alive, but we are all alive because of him." Such humor encapsulated the enforced reverence for Stalin, while subtly mocking the cult of personality.

<h3>Cold War Era: East vs. West in Joke Form</h3>

In the Cold War context, jokes often reflected the ideological battle between the capitalist West and the communist East. Westerners told jokes about the inefficiency and shortages behind the Iron Curtain, while Eastern bloc citizens developed their own humor that exposed the contradictions of

communist propaganda. Jokes about the KGB, censorship, and the ubiquitous surveillance culture became a vital form of social commentary.

<h2>Analyzing the Features of Communist Jokes</h2>

Communist jokes share several defining characteristics that distinguish them from other forms of humor:

- **Irony and Satire:** They often use irony to highlight the disparity between communist ideals and reality.
- **Political Critique:** Jokes serve as indirect critiques of leadership, bureaucracy, and social conditions.
- **Collective Experience:** They resonate because they reflect common hardships, such as food shortages, housing problems, or lack of freedom.
- **Subtlety:** Given the risks of punishment, jokes often rely on double meanings and allegory.
- **Resilience and Survival:** Humor became a mechanism to maintain morale and solidarity.

<h3>The Double-Edged Sword of Humor in Repressive Regimes</h3>

While jokes offered psychological relief, they also posed a threat to authoritarian regimes. The pervasive circulation of jokes challenged state narratives and exposed cracks in the system. Yet, regimes often co-opted humor to reinforce ideology, producing official jokes that mocked capitalist excess or celebrated socialist progress. This dual nature of humor—as both resistance and propaganda—illustrates the complex relationship between power and popular culture.

<h2>Communist Jokes as Historical Data</h2>

Beyond entertainment, communist jokes provide historians and sociologists with valuable insights. They reveal popular attitudes toward leadership, economic conditions, and social norms. For example, the frequency of jokes about shortages or censorship corresponds with documented periods of economic crisis or political repression. Comparing jokes across different communist states also highlights the diversity of experiences within the broader communist world.

<h3>Examples of Notable Communist Jokes</h3>

To understand the nature of these jokes, consider a few classic examples:

- **“Why do KGB agents always travel in threes?”** One to read, one to write, and one to keep an eye on the two intellectuals.
- **“How does a Soviet man fix a broken radio?”** He waits for the state to fix it.

- **“In the West, man exploits man; in the East, it’s the opposite.”** This joke flips the Marxist critique of capitalism to underscore communist failings.
- **“Under capitalism, man exploits man. Under communism, it’s the other way around.”** This highlights the perceived hypocrisy in communist systems.

These jokes, while humorous, also serve as poignant critiques and windows into the socio-political realities of their time.

<h2>SEO-Relevant Keywords and Their Integration</h2>

Integrating keywords such as **communist humor**, **political jokes in communism**, **satire under Soviet regime**, **Eastern Bloc jokes**, **Cold War humor**, and **communism cultural resistance** enhances the article’s SEO value while maintaining natural flow. For instance, exploring how **communist humor** functioned as a form of **cultural resistance** reveals the subtleties of everyday life under authoritarian rule.

Similarly, the phrase **political jokes in communism** naturally ties to discussions on the risks and rewards of humor in such environments. The **Eastern Bloc jokes** category captures the regional variations in humor, reflecting local nuances within the communist world. Lastly, **Cold War humor** connects this topic to the broader geopolitical context, essential for understanding the ideological divide that shaped these jokes.

The Enduring Legacy of Communist Jokes

Even after the fall of many communist regimes, the humor born in these times continues to resonate. It serves as a reminder of the human spirit’s ability to find light in darkness. Collections of communist jokes are studied not only for their wit but also for their historical significance, offering a non-traditional yet powerful commentary on life under communism.

Through the lens of **hammer and tickle a history of communism told through communist jokes**, one gains a richer, more nuanced understanding of communism—not just as a political system, but as a lived reality shaped by both suffering and laughter. This perspective enriches the academic study of communism and highlights the enduring power of humor in the face of adversity.

[Hammer And Tickle A History Of Communism Told Through Communist Jokes](#)

hammer and tickle a history of communism told through communist jokes: Hammer And Tickle Ben Lewis, 2011-06-16 The book that immerses the Cold War in the warm bath of nostalgia.
Q: Why, despite all the shortages, was the toilet paper in East Germany always 2-ply? A: Because they had to send a copy of everything they did to Moscow. Communist jokes are the strangest,

funniest, most enchanting and meaningful legacy of the 80 years of political experimentation in Russia and Eastern Europe, known as Communism. The valiant and sardonic citizens of the former Communist countries - surrounded by an invisible network of secret police, threatened with arrest, imprisonment and forced labour, confronted by an economic system that left shops empty, and bombarded with ludicrous state propaganda - turned joke-telling into an art form. They used jokes as a coded way of speaking the truth. HAMMER AND TICKLE takes us on a unique journey through the Communist era (1917-1989), and tells its real history through subversive jokes and joke-tellers, many of whom ended up in the gulags. It is also illustrated with a combination of rare and previously unpublished archive material, political cartoons, caricatures, photographs and state-sponsored propaganda. Humorous, culturally poignant and historically revealing, this is the story of a political system that was (almost) laughed out of existence.

hammer and tickle a history of communism told through communist jokes: Hammer & Tickle Ben Lewis, 2008

hammer and tickle a history of communism told through communist jokes: The Ah-Ha Moment Martin Cohen, 2024-09-13 Jokes are intellectual can-openers offering surprisingly powerful insights into not only how our minds work - but into how the world around us works too. Why? Well, when you think about it, a good joke requires, demands, a very special kind of deep thinking - a kind of world-upturning, no-holds-barred problem solving. It's the same skill that produces the great insights of art and commerce, the insight that sees solutions and creates opportunities. And yes, such skills can be approached through exercises and study, but there's no good reason to think such sensible methods work any better than having a sense of humour. So why not, at least for a moment, throw all conventional thinking to the wind, and start re-examining the world through the very special, very beautiful prism of jokes and riddles? "With wit and irony, Martin Cohen explains the basic concepts of philosophy and incidentally introduces the most famous thinkers in history." - Der Spiegel.

hammer and tickle a history of communism told through communist jokes: The Trouble with Jokes Nick Butler, 2023-12-18 We're accustomed to seeing humour as a diversion from the serious side of life, but humour also permeates some of the most troubling political developments in recent years. From the resurgence of white nationalism to the erosion of democratic norms, jokes force-feed us objectionable ideologies while we gasp and splutter at all the side-splitting shenanigans. This book explores the relationship between humour and offensiveness in contemporary society. Drawing on examples from philosophical thinkers and popular culture, it invites readers to consider the dark side of humour. Weaving together cultural analysis, political discussion and philosophical reflection, the book provides an antidote to positive thinking about laughter and a roadmap for navigating different types of offensive humour.

hammer and tickle a history of communism told through communist jokes: Literature Redeemed Nicolas Dreyer, 2020-07-13 In the post-Soviet period, discussions of postmodernism in Russian literature have proliferated. Based on close literary analysis of representative works of fiction by three post-Soviet Russian writers - Vladimir Sorokin, Vladimir Tuchkov and Aleksandr Khurgin - this book investigates the usefulness and accuracy of the notion of postmodernism in the post-Soviet context. Classic Russian literature, renowned for its pursuit of aesthetic, moral and social values, and the modernism that succeeded it have often been seen as antipodes to postmodernist principles. The author wishes to dispute this polarity and proposes post-Soviet neo-modernism as an alternative concept. Neo-modernism embodies the notion that post-Soviet writers have redeemed the tendency of earlier literature to seek the meaning of human existence in a transcendent realm, as well as in the treasures of Russia's cultural past.

hammer and tickle a history of communism told through communist jokes: The Spectator , 2008

hammer and tickle a history of communism told through communist jokes: The Reminiscences of the Old Intelligent Vladimir G. Loos, 2010 The book is about ridiculous and at the same time serious things of the former Soviet Union life. It would serve for better understanding

the enigmatic Russian soul which is deep, complicated, easily wounded, very broad, and also for better understanding the Soviet and the Socialism realities, the Russian history by telling the cute Soviet born anecdotes intertwined in the narration. The book is completely different by its content and orientation from the recently published book of Ben Lewis Hammer & Tickle: *A History of Communism Told Through Communists Jokes*. The subject of the book - Russian people (all Russian-speaking people who lived in the former Soviet Union). The narration in the form of reasoning and recollections together with the anecdotes touch many different topics: a significance of the intelligent for the society, Russian mentality with its distinguishing features, charm and dignity of Russian women, men and women relations, psychological excursions in the intimate things, characterization of the Socialism, psychological and moral condition of living in the Soviet Union, the comparison of the USA and the USSR, relationships between Russians and foreigners, and the topics devoted to the Ukraine, Armenian jokes, great world game Soccer. The conclusion of the book narrates a short history of the Russia from 862 A.C. till our days. The book also contains the verses of outstanding poets from Russia and Ukraine) little known to American reader.

hammer and tickle a history of communism told through communist jokes: Being Soviet Timothy Johnston, 2011-08-18 *Being Soviet* adopts a refreshing and innovative approach to the years between the Nazi-Soviet Pact and Stalin's death in the USSR. Timothy Johnston draws on newspapers, films, plays, and popular music in order to examine the changing nature of Soviet identity in this era. He pays particular attention to the evolution of Britain and America from wartime allies to Cold War enemies. *Being Soviet* then explores how ordinary citizens related to this official version of Soviet identity. It examines that question via the rumours, jazz music, hairstyles, jokes, anti-war campaigns, and sexual relationships of the time. Johnston argues that these 'everyday' activities defined Soviet identity for the man on the street in the USSR. At the heart of the book is a sustained critique of the current emphasis on 'supporters' or 'resistors' of the regime. Johnston suggests that the shadow of Foucault looms too large in the history of Stalinism. The relationship between Soviet citizens and Soviet power was defined by the subtle tactics of everyday living. For many, life was not defined by 'belief' or 'unbelief' but rather the constant struggle to stay fed, informed, and entertained. This more nuanced approach offers a rich and textured image of what it meant to be Soviet in Stalin's least years.

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hammer and tickle a history of communism told through communist jokes: Communism and Culture Radu Stern, Vladimir Tismaneanu, 2022-05-03 This book is a comprehensive introduction to the relationship between communism (understood as an ideological, political, and social project) and culture, broadly defined as the field of aesthetic production. Communism was a global phenomenon, and the global civil war of the 20th century was, in more than one respect, a cultural war, which involved some of the most influential figures of the last century. The book highlights and explains the impact of political mythologies in the efforts to transcend the "bourgeois" legacies and engage in a social, cultural, and anthropological revolution. The authors examine the interplay between utopian goals and cultural practices in fields such as literature, visual arts, film, and humanities in general.

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demonstrates that during the build up to all-out war the cartoon was not only important in the sphere of Shanghai popular culture in the eyes of the publishers and readers of pictorial magazines but that it occupied a central place in the primary discourse of Chinese modern art history.

hammer and tickle a history of communism told through communist jokes: The Cold War Konrad H. Jarausch, Christian Ostermann, Andreas Etges, 2017-02-06 The traces of the Cold War are still visible in many places all around the world. It is the topic of exhibits and new museums, of memorial days and historic sites, of documentaries and movies, of arts and culture. There are historical and political controversies, both nationally and internationally, about how the history of the Cold War should be told and taught, how it should be represented and remembered. While much has been written about the political history of the Cold War, the analysis of its memory and representation is just beginning. Bringing together a wide range of scholars, this volume describes and analyzes the cultural history and representation of the Cold War from an international perspective. That innovative approach focuses on master narratives of the Cold War, places of memory, public and private memorialization, popular culture, and schoolbooks. Due to its unique status as a center of Cold War confrontation and competition, Cold War memory in Berlin receives a special emphasis. With the friendly support of the Wilson Center.

hammer and tickle a history of communism told through communist jokes: *Joking about Jihad* Gilbert Ramsay, Moutaz Alkheder, 2020 Satire and comedy are powerful tools in politics, both to convince and to ridicule. As this original and bleakly humorous book attests, global jihadism is no exception.

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hammer and tickle a history of communism told through communist jokes: *Humour as Politics* Nicholas Holm, 2017-10-10 This book argues that recent developments in contemporary comedy have changed not just the way we laugh but the way we understand the world. Drawing on a range of contemporary televisual, cinematic and digital examples, from Seinfeld and Veep to Family Guy and Chappelle's Show, Holm explores how humour has become a central site of cultural politics in the twenty-first century. More than just a form of entertainment, humour has come to play a central role in the contemporary media environment, shaping how we understand ideas of freedom, empathy, social boundaries and even logic. Through an analysis of humour as a political and aesthetic category, *Humour as Politics* challenges older models of laughter as a form of dissent and instead argues for a new theory of humour as the cultural expression of our (neo)liberal moment.

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hammer and tickle a history of communism told through communist jokes: *Justice, Memory and Redress in Romania* Lavinia Stan, Lucian Turcescu, 2017-01-06 Are there any lessons Romania can teach transitional justice scholars and practitioners? This book argues that important insights emerge when analyzing a country with a moderate record of coming to terms with its communist past. Taking a broad definition of transitional justice as their starting point, contributors provide fresh assessments of the history commission, court trials, public identifications of former communist perpetrators, commemorations, and unofficial artistic projects that seek to address and redress the legacies of communist human rights violations. Theoretical and practical questions regarding the continuity of state agencies, the sequencing of initiatives, their advantages and limitations, the reasons why some reckoning programs are enacted and others are not, and these measures' efficacy in promoting truth and justice are answered throughout the volume. Contributors include seasoned scholars from Romania, Canada, the United States, and the United Kingdom, and current and former leaders of key Romanian transitional justice institutions.

hammer and tickle a history of communism told through communist jokes: Escritores y artistas bajo el comunismo Manuel Florentín, 2023-09-19 Escribir libremente, crear obras artísticas sin seguir los cánones establecidos o informar objetivamente fueron actividades de alto riesgo en los países comunistas. Escritores y artistas bajo el comunismo es un libro único en el mundo, una historia del socialismo totalitario a través de las vivencias y las obras de los escritores, intelectuales, periodistas, músicos, pintores, cineastas y artistas de todo tipo, que sufrieron la represión de los regímenes comunistas. Bien porque sus obras no exaltaban los éxitos del comunismo o porque no se ajustaban al canon literario y artístico del partido; bien por su carácter crítico respecto al sistema, por reclamar libertad, democracia y respeto a los derechos humanos; o simplemente porque aquellos creadores cayeron en desgracia. Esta obra cubre todos los países en los que hubo, o hay, regímenes comunistas o afines. A través de las vivencias y obras de estos escritores y artistas, personas con nombres y apellidos, se pretende recordar también a los millones de seres anónimos, olvidados, que sufrieron esa misma represión. No menos importante, este libro muestra cómo en Occidente muchos de sus homólogos negaron o justificaron las violaciones de los derechos humanos en los países comunistas para no minar la «causa revolucionaria»; y criticaron e hicieron el vacío a quienes lo denunciaron como los Nobel de Literatura Camus, Milosz o Vargas Llosa, Orwell, Koestler, Cabrera Infante y Victor Serge, entre tantos otros. Como dijo Jrushov tras los acontecimientos de 1956: «Si se hubiera matado a tiempo a una decena de escritores húngaros, la revolución no habría tenido lugar».

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blacksmith [ˈblækˌsmɪθ] **blacksmith** [ˈblækˌsmɪθ] [ˈblækˌsmɪθ] [ˈblækˌsmɪθ] [ˈblækˌsmɪθ] Noun 1. a smith who forges and shapes iron

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