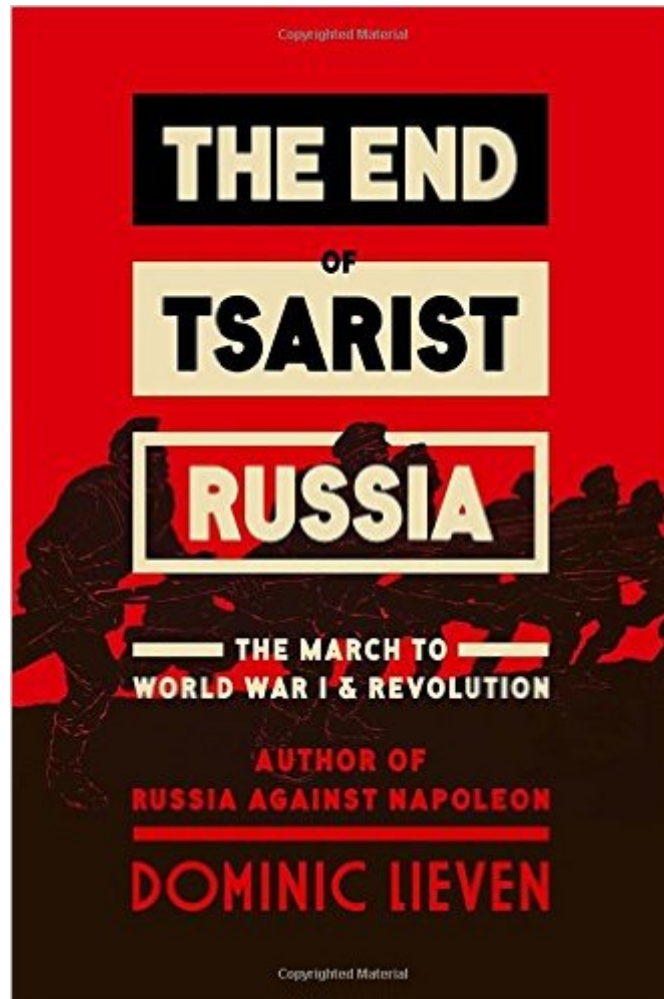


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The End Of Tsarist Russia: The March To World War I And Revolution



Synopsis

An *Economist* Best Book of the Year • A *Financial Times* Best Book of the Year Winner of the Pushkin House Russian Book Prize Finalist for the Lionel Gelber Prize An Best Book of the Month (History) One of the world's leading scholars offers a fresh interpretation of the linked origins of World War I and the Russian Revolution "Lieven has a double gift: first, for harvesting details to convey the essence of an era and, second, for finding new, startling, and clarifying elements in familiar stories. This is history with a heartbeat, and it could not be more engrossing." —*Foreign Affairs* World War I and the Russian Revolution together shaped the twentieth century in profound ways. In *The End of Tsarist Russia*, acclaimed scholar Dominic Lieven connects for the first time the two events, providing both a history of the First World War's origins from a Russian perspective and an international history of why the revolution happened. Based on exhaustive work in seven Russian archives as well as many non-Russian sources, Dominic Lieven's work is about far more than just Russia. By placing the crisis of empire at its core, Lieven links World War I to the sweep of twentieth-century global history. He shows how contemporary hot issues such as the struggle for Ukraine were already crucial elements in the run-up to 1914. By incorporating into his book new approaches and comparisons, Lieven tells the story of war and revolution in a way that is truly original and thought-provoking.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Lieven might be the last Western historian combing the Glasnost freed Russian history of the six major archives including the rich basements of Moscow's Foreign Ministry. The archives closed,

perhaps forever, the week after Lieven completed the extensive research applied to this book. The new research makes this an important book 30% of this telling visits historical 'global strategy' (now known as 'globalization'). 20% is an intermediate level look through the thoroughly Russian mind's eye in response to events between 1904 and the Russian Revolution. The remaining 50% is Lieven's worm's eye view • from a thoroughly Russian perspective in action. A Western reader's preconceptions might be turned by the head to visualize Russian thinking. Lieven's narrative is rewarding and unexpected. Here is the story of Russia, directed by Russians, or more specifically, the Muscovite central authority. It's a story that connects the dots into the pattern that defined the 20th century and, at least to this reader, screams the 21st where the author only ventures in the last chapter. Lieven's excursions into unexpected vignettes are mind fodder. An example is the way Lieven includes a node of European and Russian world strategy deeply affected by the US Civil War and its portents within global realpolitik. The 'split' in the American 'empire of manifest destiny' is revealed as a reference point to high reward/high risk realpolitik calculus that might be worth it. Western European empires grew increasingly eager to throw in with the Confederacy after 1862's victories with all eyes on economic gain and South American recolonization by sweeping up the weak Spanish/Portuguese tradition states in a fresh round of African-style land grab • if the Confederacy was to succeed.

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