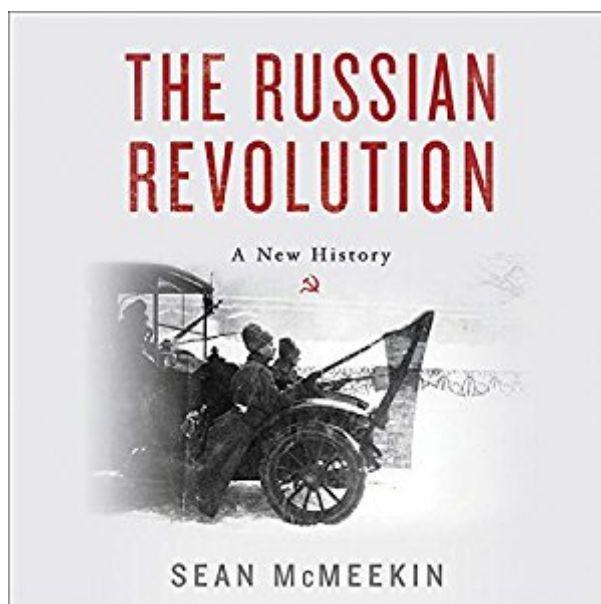


The book was found

# The Russian Revolution: A New History



## Synopsis

In *The Russian Revolution*, acclaimed historian Sean McMeekin traces the events that ended Romanov rule, ushered the Bolsheviks into power, and introduced communism to the world. Between 1917 and 1922, Russia underwent a complete and irreversible transformation. Taking advantage of the collapse of the Tsarist regime in the middle of World War I, the Bolsheviks staged a hostile takeover of the Russian Imperial Army, promoting mutinies and mass desertions of men in order to fulfill Lenin's program of turning the "imperialist war" into civil war. By the time the Bolsheviks had snuffed out the last resistance five years later, over 20 million people had died, and the Russian economy had collapsed so completely that communism had to be temporarily abandoned. Still, Bolshevik rule was secure, owing to the new regime's monopoly on force, enabled by illicit arms deals signed with capitalist neighbors such as Germany and Sweden, who sought to benefit - politically and economically - from the revolutionary chaos in Russia. Drawing on scores of previously untapped files from Russian archives and a range of other repositories in Europe, Turkey, and the United States, McMeekin delivers exciting, groundbreaking research about this turbulent era. The first comprehensive history of these momentous events in two decades, *The Russian Revolution* combines cutting-edge scholarship and a fast-paced narrative to shed new light on one of the most significant turning points of the 20th century.

## Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

Listening Length: 15 hours 3 minutes

Program Type: Audiobook

Version: Unabridged

Publisher: Hachette Audio

Audible.com Release Date: July 3, 2017

Language: English

ASIN: B072Y2DC9X

Best Sellers Rank: #14 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > History > Europe #20 in Books > History > Asia > Russia #85 in Books > History > Europe

## Customer Reviews

Historian Sean McMeekin has written a very readable revisionist history of the Russian Revolution. The perspective of the book is to look at the revolution from outside in. Hence we learn more about the opposition to Lenin rather than an inside out view which would focus more on the Bolshevik

leadership. According to his archival sources McMeekin clearly portrays Lenin as a German agent who brought the financial resources of Hohenzollern Germany with him to overwhelm both his critics on the left and the forces of the provisional government. In McMeekin's view both the Tsar and the Russian army were in far better shape than what other historians have argued. I think he stretches here, because if it were that strong the army would not have collapsed as fast as it did under the weight of the Leninist policy of turning an imperialist war into a civil war by subverting the Russian draftees. He argues, I think correctly, that Lenin was blessed by his opponents. The liberals who brought on the February/March Revolution were inept and the Socialist Revolutionary government under Kerensky was perhaps even more inept. When the time came for Lenin to strike in October/November, the provisional government was a mere shell. Thus the revolution was more a coup d'état than a real revolution. The revolution would come with the bloody civil war that followed the coup. During the civil war period McMeekin highlights how split the opposition was and how unified the newly formed Red Army was under the leadership of Trotsky. Trotsky wisely utilized the officer corps of the defeated Tsarist army to build his new army and utilizing Russian gold reserves, Lenin was able to keep the army in the field. Nevertheless millions of lives were lost in the three year civil war as the country nearly starved to death and was saved by Herbert Hoover's relief mission. One last note McMeekin tells us that the Cheka, the predecessor to the KGB, was founded to break the strike of banking, railroad and communication workers, so much for proletarian solidarity. Therefore I highly recommend the book "The Russian Revolution" for history buffs like myself.

What makes "The Russian Revolution" a good history was Sean McMeekin's access to, and use of, archives that only became available after the disintegration of the Soviet Union. Because of this McMeekin is able to present a more complete history of the revolution rather than the sanitized version presented by the Russians in the last century, or those that had, by necessity, were based on supposition or third person sources and documents. Because of this many of the Bolsheviks' violent excesses against the Russian people and their own supporters have been confirmed using official and personal documents of leaders such as Lenin and Trotsky. The bottom line is that Lenin and the Bolsheviks, later the Communist Party, came to power through a coup, not a popular uprising, against Kerensky's Provisional Government. And it was German gold that gave him the means to buy people, propaganda, and everything else he needed to take the power he

craved. Using the archives McMeekin points out that, contrary to the official Russian narrative, the country's economy and military situation was much better than believed. In fact, the Russian army was even better fed than the Germans. However, one big issue that led to the revolution was war weariness, a common attribute in many of Great War belligerents by 1917. At the same time the Communists excelled at the "divide and conquer" and "bait and switch." The Communists played the divided opposition against each other, supported various groups against each other (workers against peasants, and then peasants against workers), outright lied to their own supporters, and then brutally suppressed those who opposed them, and some who did not. They also made a variety of promises that they did not keep and never intended to; all that mattered was Lenin's and the Communist Party's desire to stay in power. According to McMeekin, supported by the Soviet's own archives, Lenin and the Communist Party came to power with German gold, an incompetent and divided opposition, and not a little luck, driven by Lenin's desire for power and an amount of violence (the Red Terror), against everyone, all while trying to undermine the nations of Europe. Needless to say, those who grew up with the Soviet narrative will have a hard time with this book as will Soviet apologists, but McMeekin's archival research, presents more depth and detail to a key event that shook Europe and the world throughout the 1900s.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

I Love My Dad (Russian kids books, English Russian book): Russian childrens books, bilingual russian books, russian books for kids (English Russian Bilingual Collection) (Russian Edition)  
Russian picture books: Learn Russian (Counting book 1-20): Children's English-Russian Picture book (Bilingual Edition) Russian Learning. Russian books for children (Russian Edition), Russian Bilingual learn animals in russian, Russian Children's Picture Book (English Russian Bilingual Books): russian for children ; Russian Children Books ; Russian Books for toddlers ; russian kids books I Love My Mom (English Russian Bilingual books, russian childrens books): russian kids books, english russian children's books (English Russian Bilingual Collection) (Russian Edition)  
Children's Russian book: Counting Fun: Russian kids book. Russian books for kids. Children's Picture Book English-Russian (Bilingual Edition), Russian ... Picture books) (Volume 2) (Russian Edition) I Love to Eat Fruits and Vegetables (english russian children's books, bilingual russian books): russian bilingual books, russian kids books, russian ... Bilingual Collection) (Russian Edition)  
I Love to Share (russian kids books, bilingual russian english ): russian childrens books, kids books in russian (Russian English Bilingual Collection) (Russian Edition) I Love my Mom (Bilingual

Russian English, Russian childrens books): russian kids books, bilingual russian books, ESL for kids (Russian English Bilingual Collection) (Russian Edition) I Love My Dad (russian kids books, russian bilingual): Childrens Russian books, russian for kids, detskie knigi (Russian English Bilingual Collection) (Russian Edition) Children's books in Russian: Peekaboo baby.Ã•Å¡Ã•Æ'-Ã•Â°Ã•Æ', Ã•Â Ã•Â Ã•Â»Ã•â Ã•Ë†: Russian kids book,Children's Picture Book English-Russian (Bilingual Edition), Russian English ... (Bilingual English-Russian Picture books 1) Babushka: Russian Recipes from a Real Russian Grandma: Real Russian Food & Ukrainian Food (Russian food, Russian recipes, Ukrainian food, Polish recipes) Russian childrens books: I Love to Keep My Room Clean (Bilingual): English Russian Bilingual Book Children's Book (English Russian Bilingual Collection) (Russian Edition) Childrens Russian books : Jojo's Playful Day - Cute Russian book for children (Kids ages 3-6) bedtime reading (bilingual Russian): Elephant book for children ... - Bilingual Russian books for kids 1) Learn Russian language with Matreshka #2: an audio magazine for Russian learners in Russian language about Russian culture Learn Russian: 300+ Essential Words In Russian - Learn Words Spoken In Everyday Russia (Speak Russian, Russia, Fluent, Russian Language): Forget pointless phrases, Improve your vocabulary World History, Ancient History, Asian History, United States History, European History, Russian History, Indian History, African History. ( world history) Russian Language in 25 lessons: Russian Learning for Beginners, Advanced, Dummies, Teens, Kids (Learn to Speak Russian Alphabet, Noun, Grammar, New Words Fast and Easy) Teach Me Russian & More Russian: 2 Pack (Teach Me) (Russian Edition) Russian Slanguage: A Fun Visual Guide to Russian Terms and Phrases (English and Russian Edition) The Russian Revolution: A New History

[Contact Us](#)

[DMCA](#)

[Privacy](#)

[FAQ & Help](#)