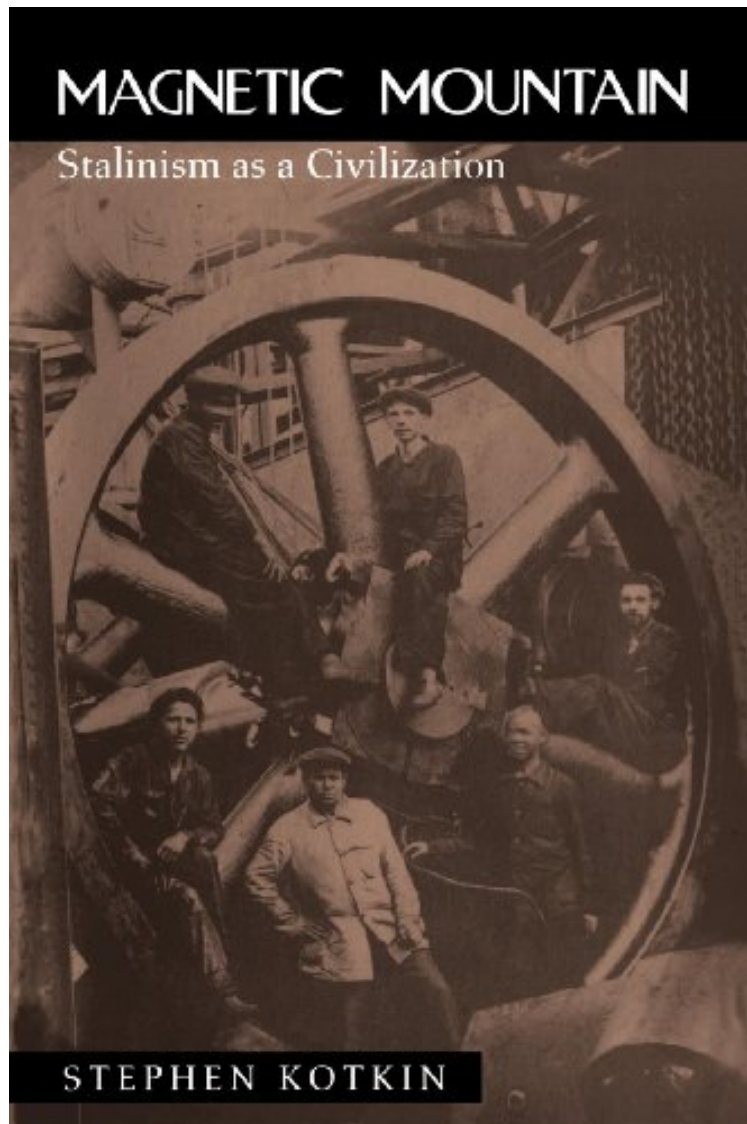


[PDF] Magnetic Mountain: Stalinism as a Civilization

Magnetic Mountain: Stalinism as a Civilization

Von Stephen Kotkin

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Von Stephen Kotkin : Magnetic Mountain: Stalinism as a Civilization before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Magnetic Mountain: Stalinism as a Civilization:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen2 von 2 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Stunning AnalysisVon Ein KundeExcellent, critical analysis of Magnitogorsk, an often-referred-to but usually overlooked centre of a major twentieth-century civilisation. Based on a fantastic amount of research, informed by theory, and carefully analyzed, the book shows that Stalinism was not just an evil, paranoid dictatorship, but a world that has

largely escaped our understanding. Kotkin does a good job in "correcting" our understanding and providing with something much more careful, openminded and comprehensive than every other soviet historian has done so far.1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Fascinating story of the history of the city of MagnitogorskVon Ein KundeMagnetic Mountain: Stalinism as A Civilization is a fascinating history of the Soviet (now Russian) city of Magnitogorsk. Despite the comments of other reviewers (and the sub-title), the book mostly concerns itself with the building and earliest history of the city and not at all with the glorification of Stalin or Stalinism. The book simply details what life was like in what was supposed to be the prototypical Soviet city under Stalin. The depth of research Kotkin has attained is just amazing and his writing is simply superb.0 von 7 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. This book is pro-Stalinist, postmodern nonsense.Von Ein KundeKotkin has tried to do too much with this book. What could have been an excellent history of the making of Magnitogorsk becomes an overdrawn, theoretically flawed attempt to make insights of questionable value. The heavy reliance on Foucault leads nowhere (as all work based on Foucault's writings does), and results in some ridiculous and useless speculations which I don't even want to entertain. The main premise is that in spite of the fact that Stalinism resulted in the death of millions, it was still progressive and forward-looking throughout. Go figure....

KurzbeschreibungThis study is the first of its kind: a street-level inside account of what Stalinism meant to the masses of ordinary people who lived it. Stephen Kotkin was the first American in 45 years to be allowed into Magnitogorsk, a city built in response to Stalin's decision to transform the predominantly agricultural nation into a "country of metal." With unique access to previously untapped archives and interviews, Kotkin forges a vivid and compelling account of the impact of industrialization on a single urban community.Kotkin argues that Stalinism offered itself as an opportunity for enlightenment. The utopia it proffered, socialism, would be a new civilization based on the repudiation of capitalism. The extent to which the citizenry participated in this scheme and the relationship of the state's ambitions to the dreams of ordinary people form the substance of this fascinating story. Kotkin tells it deftly, with a remarkable understanding of the social and political system, as well as a keen instinct for the details of everyday life.Kotkin depicts a whole range of life: from the blast furnace workers who labored in the enormous iron and steel plant, to the families who struggled with the shortage of housing and services. Thematically organized and closely focused, Magnetic Mountain signals the beginning of a new stage in the writing of Soviet social history.KurzbeschreibungThis study is the first of its kind: a street-level inside account of what Stalinism meant to the masses of ordinary people who lived it. Stephen Kotkin was the first American in 45 years to be allowed into Magnitogorsk, a city built in response to Stalin's decision to transform the predominantly agricultural nation into a "country of metal." With unique access to previously untapped archives and interviews, Kotkin forges a vivid and compelling account of the impact of industrialization on a single urban community.Kotkin argues that Stalinism offered itself as an opportunity for enlightenment. The utopia it proffered, socialism, would be a new civilization based on the repudiation of capitalism. The extent to which the citizenry participated in this scheme and the relationship of the state's ambitions to the dreams of ordinary people form the substance of this fascinating story. Kotkin tells it deftly, with a remarkable understanding of the social and political system, as well as a keen instinct for the details of everyday life.Kotkin depicts a whole range of life: from the blast furnace workers who labored in the enormous iron and steel plant, to the families who struggled with the shortage of housing and services. Thematically organized and closely focused, Magnetic Mountain signals the beginning of a new stage in the writing of Soviet social history.Synopsis This study is a street-level inside account of what Stalinism meant to the masses of ordinary people who lived it. Stephen Kotkin was the first American in 45 years to be allowed into Magnitogorsk, a city built in response to Stalin's decision to transform the predominantly agricultural nation into a "country of metal". With unique access to previously untapped archives and interviews, Kotkin forges a vivid and compelling account of the impact of industrialization on a single urban community. Kotkin argues that Stalinism offered itself as an opportunity for enlightenment. The utopia it proffered, socialism, would be a new civilization based on the repudiation of capitalism. The extent to which the citizenry participated in this scheme and the relationship of the state's ambitions to the dreams of ordinary people form the substance of this story. Kotkin depicts a whole range of life: from the blast furnace workers who laboured in the enormous iron and steel plant, to the families who struggled with the shortage of housing and services.