

At the heart of the RUS revolution was a personal battle betw the Romanov's and the Ulyanov's

The RUS gov't left no space for democracy or personal freedoms, rather the Romanov's remained committed to autocratic rule

Czar Alexander II faced numerous assassination attempts by a sustained terrorist campaign to spark an uprising and revolution

Russia's "9/11" is Czar Alexander II assassination by the group "The People's Will" - the Czar's death seen as a wound inflicted on Russia itself

Czar Alexander III follows his father, but unlike him, he takes a hardline on social unrest and severely represses opposition and civil rights - including the middle class - no press freedom or expression

Attempted assassination of Czar Alexander III by Sasha Ulyanov, but plan undone by OKhrana who was tracking terrorist & opposition groups to the Czar - sentenced to death

Lenin tried to organize transport for his mother to see Sasha before his execution, but he is snubbed by the Bourgeois which directly impacted Lenin's politics and interest in revolution

Lenin picks up where his brother left off in the revolutionary movement - Lenin is tracked by OKhrana across Europe

Heir to the throne Nicholas II sent by his father on a mission to Japan where he is attacked - this shapes his xenophobic & prejudice towards the Japanese as inferior and easily defeated in war

Czar Alexander III suddenly dies leaving a thoroughly unprepared Nicholas II to inherit the throne - where his Czarina Alexandra, a German, and the thousands of Russians crushed at a coronation celebration, undermine his rule from the start

Russia is surrounded by 2 rising powers, GER and JAPAN that are rapidly industrializing - RUS declares war on JAPAN and suffers a humiliating defeat - this triggers civil unrest, protests and calls for reform

The RUS defeat to JAPAN spurs on the 1905 revolution which is spontaneous and led to the Czar agreeing to allow an elected body called the Duma to represent the people

Lenin rushed back to take advantage of the 1905 revolution and meets Joseph Stalin

The Romanov's meet Rasputin who helps heal their son's secret disease, but also brings scandal to the Royal Family and severely damages their reputation and discredits the Czar's rule

WW1 is triggered - RUS soldiers already part of a defeated army who did not see Germany as an enemy - many desertions occur and the Czar takes command of RUS military strategy

Rasputin seen as a GER agent conspiring with the Czarina against RUS, which is causing RUS to lose a staggering number of lives and territory in WW1 - Rasputin is murdered

Civil unrest explodes as soldiers desert the army and return armed to Petrograd - there is hunger, anger, & disillusionment and RUS seems on the brink of collapse - the Czar abdicates the throne to "save Russia" and a power vacuum is created

The Soviets and the Provisional Gov't (Bourgeois) try to power share - Lenin returns to RUS via negotiated travel through enemy Germany - Lenin calls for all power to the Soviets - those at top now at bottom

Bolsheviks seize power & sparks a 3 year civil war  
↳ Lenin signs the Brest-Litovsk treaty and RUS exits the war in exchange for major losses in territory

Lenin institutes the RED TERROR & orders the assassination of the Royal Family

Bolsheviks win the civil war against pro-Czarist forces & create the Soviet Union where power goes unchecked, there is no opposition, no independent courts, or freedom of expression

Lenin fades, Stalin rises and becomes the most powerful, and one of the most brutal, dictators in history