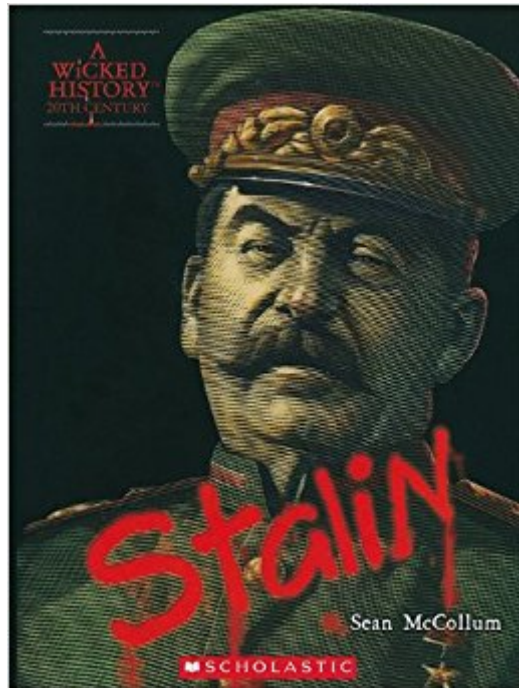




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# Joseph Stalin (Wicked History)



## Synopsis

- Opening quote by or about the featured villain/villainess- Historical map, annotated with key locations from person's life- "A Wicked Web" featuring allies and enemies- Historical photos and etchings- Boxes with additional information- Photo documentaries: six to eight pages of photos and captions telling the person's life- Timeline, glossary, additional sources- Engaging narrative nonfiction written at a very accessible reading level

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 970 (What's this?)

Series: Wicked History

Paperback: 128 pages

Publisher: Franklin Watts (September 2010)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0531223558

ISBN-13: 978-0531223550

Product Dimensions: 0.2 x 5.2 x 7 inches

Shipping Weight: 5 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.1 out of 5 stars 6 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #264,607 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #27 in [Books > Teens >](#)

[Education & Reference > History > Europe](#) #117 in [Books > Teens > Biographies > Historical](#)

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Age Range: 12 - 15 years

Grade Level: 7 - 10

## Customer Reviews

Award-winning author Sean McCollum has written more than 30 nonfiction books and hundreds of articles for children and teens. Currently living in the United States Virgin Islands in the Caribbean Sea, he has sailed on ships big and small, and always checks where the lifeboats are stowed.

This is a tiny book written for high school children. It is an excellent overview of the basics of Stalin's life but it was not what I was expecting. I was hoping for more details and I should have noticed that it only had a few pages. I will donate it to our local library that does not contain any books on Stalin, so that anyone who wants to see how horrible some human beings can be, will get at least the basics of one such human. The only way to learn from our mistakes is to at least be aware of them.

Tyrants cannot be allowed to commit such acts.

Joseph Stalin was in my view a butcher and a cold and unfeeling human being. This man like Hitler, could destroy millions, and not miss a moment of sleep. I was very interested in his early life, many books on this man do not provide much on this area of his life. It seems quite understandable why most people who had to deal with him, were so frightened of him. I would recommend this book to others. I just wish it had been a bit longer. JRV

These are great little reads. Fun. Quick. Kind of a Wikipedia page with cute pictures. Can't complain. Just don't expect cutting edge scholarship.

This book is only 128 pages. The book is only 7 x 5 1/4 inches and the font size is large. Subtract the photos, the maps, glossary, etc. and there isn't that much substance, it's more like a pamphlet. While it might be okay for high school students, it's not for serious history buffs. I didn't learn anything new; I've learned more from biographies of FDR, Churchill, etc.

The first thing you need to know is that this book is one of a series called "A Wicked History," so what you get here is the true story of one of history's villains, not a softened whitewash. The second thing you need to know is that the book is published by Scholastic, so take that to mean this is intended for a younger audience - I assume high school age or thereabouts. It is a GREAT overview of who and what Stalin was, and for anyone who wants to inform the younger generation of the dark side of Communism, here is a perfect tool. I am so impressed with this little book on so many levels. It is well researched and written, captivating to read, superbly illustrated inside and out, and is laid out perfectly all the way down to the font choice. Be warned - it contains some photographs depicting death, starvation, and violence. These may be too disturbing for middle-schoolers, but high-schoolers should be able to handle it. The cover illustration is a fantastic woodcut by Mark Summers, the beauty of which is not done justice by the thumbnail image you see here on . For adult readers, I would recommend this as a quick way to get familiar with the topic of Stalin, especially if you don't have the time or desire to read through the much longer books. Even at only 128 pages, I learned many things I hadn't known before. I knew that many millions of people had died under Stalin, but now I know under what specific circumstances. The author notes that historically, people still favor Stalin over Hitler, probably because Stalin was never forced to account for his crimes. Books like this give me hope that the truth will get more exposure. I look forward to reading more

books from the Wicked History series. I wish I could say we found this in a bookstore, but we found it in a gift shop of all places. Why isn't this book in every bookstore? It should be.

Having read other Stalin history I can say I'm very impressed with this small text. I bought it for my grandchildren but enjoyed reading it myself. It is a terrific launching pad for conversations about the evils of socialism. The author has done an excellent job with not only this book but the other two in the series. My advice is buy the set--- Stalin, Hitler, and Mao. All of them are remarkable.

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