Ronald Reagan and the mysterious Russian soul

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1 Ronald Reagan

President Ronald Reagan held conservative beliefs. He wanted a small government as the government is the problem. The key for growth is release the power of the private market. And the economy was booming when he was a president. Only Obama has a higher growth in a quarter than Reagan (yes the best quarter growth of Obama is better than that of Reagan, and the best of Reagan so far is better than the best of Trump).

Reagan hated unions and busted them. He called people on food stamps welfare queens. He turned the word Liberal into a four letters word.

The foreign policy of Reagan was neo-conservative. He conducted many wars in various places in the world. He had a very big scandal, selling missiles to Iran.

Reagan cut taxes for the rich forming the so called supply-side economic. If rich people will have money, this will trickle down to the middle class. The claim was that taxes will pay for themselves as a result of growth in the economy. But Reagan also raised taxes 11 times, he compromises and worked with the Democrats a lot. Reagan tripled the debt, a thing he saw as a personal failure.

In social areas he was a moderate. He did not care and did not think much about gays, abortions, guns and the likes. Reagan almost never went to church.

Reagan came from Hollywood. He believed in the good endings like almost all films had at the time. Reagan was dominated by films. Not only because he was an actor. Because he really believed in the conservative values of Hollywood. He mixed films and life. President Reagan said he had been a tail gunner in a bomber crew during the second world war, despite the fact that he had actually been turned down for active service because of his poor eyesight. But it happened in the movies. In the 1942 war movie Desperate Journey, he steals a German plane, swivels a tail gun and mows down row after row of pursuing Nazis. As a TV pundit said about the horrors of the Holocaust: ”I remembers the girl with red coat in Schindler’s list that later died”. But a movie is not a reality. There are enough true horrors
Reagan ended the cold war. He started a nuclear race ("star wars" as it was called) and the Russian were unable to cope. The Russian system was not sustainable, because it almost by definition invited corruption. The small difference in the money that you get (certainly in the 50’s), no matter how hard you work, is not big. Communism is a system that self distracts. But Reagan accelerated the end of the cold war and the reunification of Germany.

He had a sunny personality, filled with optimism. Reagan was a great communicator. With years the myth grows in conservative circles. He is seen as a better and better president as times go bye. The most admired (some republicans admire Trump more).

Raising taxes eleven times. Having good relation with democrats. Reagan could not have been accepted as a Republican today.

The parties of today, forgot the Reagan legacy. The Democrat party took a sharp turn to the left The Republican took a sharp turn to the right. Its time for Republicans and Democrats to cooperate. Like in the Reagan years. Otherwise, our future may be sad.

1.1 The mysterious Russian soul

In 1980 came a film called Moscow Does Not Believe in Tears. The film was produced in Russia, and won the Oscar. Russians (at least those I met) like the film. The things that bothered me, did not exactly bother them. Reagan reportedly watched the film Moscow Does Not Believe in Tears 10 times in order (as he put it) to understand the Mysterious Russian Soul.

Besides the film, we have a very clever song on the next generation. On Alexandra (see later). The song provides a window into the Russians people, no less than the film. Its a good song with nice lyrics and nice music. Reagan should asked for the song to be translated. Maybe he did. It explains a lot about Russian pride.

2 The list of attributes

Important disclaimer: I had a lot of interaction with Russian immigrants to Israel. My wife was a Russian immigrant. To say things about "the Russians" is meaningless. There are too many. I can talk on the Russians I met in about 1991 to 2001. I am not in Israel 17 years. I can not tell if the above attributes are correct for the immigrants in Israel at 2018. I dont know them.

The film tells a lot on Russia but on Russia of 1980. My essay is a description of Russia and Moscow in a specific time. In 1980. I have not seen films that describe the
Moscow of now and I do not claim that what I say below, holds now. It is only relevant to the year the film

Russian that immigrated to USA look different to me, than those who immigrated to Israel. And even more, the attributes I talk about hold mainly for the old generation. Young Russian in 1991 to 2001 were slightly different.

Other mitigating circumstances for the Russian immigrants are that Israel treats immigrants terribly. This has been so since Israel was born. Upon arrival of the huge (about million people) Russian immigration to Israel the stereotyping started. Blond women were considered whores by the Israelis. And rich Russian immigrants, were immediately labeled as Russian Mafia. Silly stereotypes. Forget stereotypes. Forget speaking on ”The Russians” Lets talk only on immigrants to Israel I met personally between 1991 and 2001. For them I found the following.

Attribute 1: Cultural pride and pride in general: The Russian I met were very proud of their vast culture. Russian literature is considered to be among the most influential and developed in the world. For example the famed poet Alexander Pushkin. The playwright Anton Chekhov. As for novels, the most raved are those by Leo Tolstoy and Fyodor Dostoyevsky. Then the Russian had contribution to everything else: paintings, philosophy, Ballet, Opera and much more. Clearly they are entitled to this pride which is just. They do have superiority feeling over the Israeli people. At least as culture is concerned.

The Russian I met in Israel are proud in general, and will never ask anybody to help them.

Attribute 2: The lost of trust: I notices that the Russian immigrants I met, do not trust anybody. Certainly not the government (both the Israeli and Russian). But they do not trust other humans as well. They do not trust other Russians. Some live in fear. Legacy of the times they lived under the KGB.

It is quite natural that those who lived under communism will be suspectful of others.

Attribute 3: Conservative: The Russian immigrants I met were conservative. No tolerance for same sex marriage. Abortion was not tolerated. Those who came to the USA (at least the older ones) hated Obama instinctively. Even some in the young generation hated the blacks in an alarming way. Those who immigrated to Israel, instinctively hated the Arabs. And the large majority of them vote to the right. Russian immigrants never understood the concept of compromise with the Palestinians. Its not done in Russia. They saw them as savages.

Attribute 4: Without a husband women alone are not ”whole”. Women should marry.

Attribute 5: Close circles: The Russian I met in Israel lived in close cultural circle. Performers come from Russia to Israel constantly. They watch Russian films in special cinemas dedicated to that. They even built their own theater in Israel, called Geser.
live like they are still in Russia. Many simply hate Israel. Young couples left Israel in masses (not before they got a lot of money from the Israeli Government).

There are circles even within Russians.

Attribute 6: Contempt to sentimentalism: They have nothing but contempt for sentimentalism. Proud people do not become sentimental.

I saw families separate (when one or part of them immigrated to the USA). Without being sentimental. They say: In Russia we do what is needed. And we dont cry about things that need to be done.

Attribute 7: Being hard workers without self pity and without illusions: The immigrants that stayed are very hard workers. Slowly, but surely, they advance. Buy a home, find work, improve their situation. At the end they live in comfort. They save whatever money they can.

Attribute 8: Secrets and lies: A thing that made me wonder was how many secrets are held, even in families. Secrets and lies. A wife hiding things from her husband. All the Soviet era was all based on lies. Because the system was completely deficient.

I was strongly involved in chess in Israel. I saw an alarming number of dishonest Russian chess players. Gambling, cheating and so on. Some (even famous ones) had to leave Israel in a hurry after committing some crimes. Deception mainly. I could never really trust what Russians told me, as in many cases it turned out not to be true.

Attribute 9 Witchcraft: Some superstitions I am aware of: Before leaving for a long journey, travelers must sit for a moment in silence. Birthday parties should be celebrated on or after one’s birthday, not before. So when one’s birthday falls during the week, it’s best to celebrate the following weekend. And never give someone birthday wishes before their birthday. Talking about future success, especially boasting about it, is considered bad luck. It is considered better to be silent until the success has been achieved or to even sound pessimistic. Unmarried people should not sit at the corner of the table. Otherwise they will not marry for 7 years. Whistling in a house would bring poverty. There are any other superstitions.

Its interesting to see how much Russians believe in the mystical. Many believe that people can harm you by just wishing you ill. Hold the theory of the third eye between our two eyes. Have ”magic self made medicine” based on nothing but tradition.

Attribute 10: Alcohol epidemic Some Russian immigrants become homeless because of drinking problems. Its a negligible minority but it exists. And it gives Russian bad name in Israel.

Attribute 11: The crucial importance of food: They make meals all the time. When a stranger comes its important for them that he eats their food. Its a legacy of the time that
they hardly had food.

3 What happens in the film?

It is rather amazing how much the film "Moscow does not believe in tears" depicts the above attributes.

3.1 Plot: reflecting the above attributes

The film starts at 1958 in Moscow. Katrina, Lyudmila, and Antonina come from a small village. They leave in the dorms. A totally depressing poverty stricken dorms. As part of the conservative thinking in Russia (Attribute 3), the three women are not whole, until they marry. And not just married. Married to good people.

They look for their dream good man. Good men do not marry poor girls that immigrated to Moscow (Attribute 5). Closed circles also means low chance of mobility.

The kind of people they want to marry are poets, or scientists, or philosophers and it would help if the men are or rich people. This reflects on the pride they take in their culture (Attribute 1). But its completely anti-romantic and anti-sentimental. (Attribute 6).

Since their life is a failure if they do not marry a good husband, you can compare the film to the film Cinderella. Women alone are damaged good. They become worthy only via a marriage to a good man.

Lyudmila is a scheming girl that is used to lying (Attribute 8). She basically forces Katerina (or Katya as everybody calls her) to lie. They pretend to be rich girls. This ends in a disaster.

At the dinner party arranged by Lyudmila, she invites high society bachelors. A man says that when you turn forty, its only the beginning of your life. Maybe for men. Katya and Ludmilla do not think so and are panicked by the notion that they will be unmarried at that age.

Rudolph works in TV. He thinks that TV is the future. He mistakenly says that in 20 years there will be no books. No theater. No movies. Only TV. This shows how shallow he is.

Katya and Rudolph become intimate even though Katya hardly wanted it. But the pressure to find a good man led her to accept that. Rudolf and his TV crew come by chance to the factory of Katya. Rudolph finds out that Katya lied. She is not rich at all. She is a simple poor worker.

Katrina, becomes pregnant but Rudolf, does not accept any responsibility, because Katya
lied to him. It seems like an excuse. He would not have fathered that child in any case. His mother offers Katya money. Being proud, (Attribute 1). Katya refuses. Russia is a conservative country (Attribute 3), so Katya can’t abort the child.

But there is this issue of karma (Attribute 9). Lyudmila scheming does in fact succeed in landing her Gurin, a charming, sweet hockey player. He learns the lie of Lyudmila. but does not care and marries her. Even though he is is sort of a known celebrity-like person.

But fast-forward twenty years. Gurin is an hopeless alcoholic. They were married only 7 years and then divorced. They had a few boys. Lyudmila has a life that looks like she is stuck in the 50’s. Taking care alone of all their boys. A housewife. And Gurin comes from time to time to ask for money. The Karma worked. Lyudmila had a bad life. We see drunk Gurin arguing about Kant (the philosopher), in a hopeless try to look culturate (Attribute 1).

Antonina is the most simple of them three. She marries a good man (albeit somewhat reserved) called Nikolai. It seems like a marriage out of comfort, not huge love (not being sentimental at all or dream on huge love. Attribute 6).

3.2 In 1978

A jump to 1978. Katya prepares her alarm clock in the 50’s to wake her up. But she is seen waking up in the 70’s. Maybe the director saw and imitates Citizen Kane. Young Charles foster Kane tells his adopted father Thatcher "Merry Christmas." Thatcher answers "...and a happy New Year". But 20 years have gone by from the first part of the line to the answer.

In the fifties Katya failed an exam to become an executive. By two points only. But now she is an executive. She took the exam again and endured. In fact, now she is the head of her factory. See what I said about the hard working (Attribute 7), Katrina gave birth to a daughter named Alexandra. In spite of the difficult life in Russia (no good day care for example). Katya persevere and is promoted (Attribute 7). She always was ambitious. Now she makes a lot of money.

In the fifties, the dorms in the university were really depressing. And not much has changed. See the following: When Katya and Rudolf separate they are in some park in 1958. We see men playing dominoes on the next bench, and a man is on a walk with a young girl, probably his his daughter. When they meet again twenty years later, they sit on the same park bench, the same men are playing dominoes, and the same man is taking a walk with his daughter, now a grown woman. Like nothing changed!

Due to Russian pride (attribute 1), her being executive director strongly reduces her chances to find a man. Many men think that they should make more money than their wife.

Katya has no illusions nor does she has self pity (attribute 7). She makes a compromise
and has a married man as a lover. That is the best she can get, so this will have to do. This affair is one of those "Russian secrets" (Attribute 8). She simply can't find a man that is good for her. Maybe aims to high.

One day she meets in the train a man named Gosha. At starts she looks at his boots and does not like him. He is a simple man. Nothing like the fancy men at the party Lyudmila organized at the 50's. Gosha is a blue collar worker. He has humble salary and humble social status.

Katya still thinks of Gosa, as a not good, but practical choice, (Attribute 6). But them warms to him strongly. We see that Alexandra is somewhat rebellious. Using head phones to listen to shallow American songs. It is clearly hinted that she has pre-marital sex with her boyfriend, a thing the old generation never did.

On the other hand, young Russian were now allowed to live together before marriage.

Gosa becomes a beloved father figure to Alexandra (surprise. Usually, namely, in most films, they would not get along). He tells Alexandra, (note, he does not say this to Katya) that he does not wish to be promoted. He does not wish to become an executive. Its fine to him the way things are. When some goons try to beat the boyfriend of Alexandra, Gosa brings a friend and fights and wins over the goons. He warns them not to bother the boyfriend of Alexandra again. When Katya finds out about the fight, she becomes very unhappy.

Katrina is very happy with Gosa and thinks Gosa is perfect.

3.3 Food Tolstoy and parodies

Cooking is highly important in the Russian society. You can look at the books of Tolstoy and the struggles to find food (Attribute 11). Food (at least certain food) is sacred.

The books of Tolstoy explain the origin of the importance of food and of wheat in particular. Reading Lev Tolstoy, one wonders: why Tolstoy loves peasants so much? He does not seem to like characters (even in his books) that think too much. The peasants work hard, do not think and create the thing Tolstoy loves most: families. Anna Karenina it a tragedy, because we know how much Tolstoy loved families. And the family is destroyed at the end without creating a new one.

In Woody Allen's 1975 film Love and Death there is an hilarious parody on the books of Tolstoy.

Diane Keaton plays Sonja and Woody Allen plays her cousin Boris.

In a parody on Russian values, Sonja feels suffocated when she thinks of having a big family. What was so important for the three girls in the film, looks like a terrible thing for
Sonja. Tolstoy would tell her: do not think so much and get married. Be like the peasants that I love. Work hard (Attribute 7), and take care of your family.

The film *Love and death* is set in Russia in the time of the Napoleon Russia wars. Sonja becomes delusional, and plans to kill Napoleon.

Boris and Sonja manage to get close to Napoleon. Boris is caught when he tries to kill a double of Napoleon.

When he is taken to prison he says: ”No. There is a big mistake here! I know that for sure! Since I made the mistake!”.

He is to be executed at 6 in the morning tomorrow (Boris: ”I was to be executed at 5. But I have a good lawyer”). In a scene that looks like taken from the books of Dostoyevsky, death comes to him that day, and tells him he will be pardoned.

But death got it wrong. Boris is executed. But in a parody on *The seventh Seal*, you can see him despite the fact that he is dead. Moreover we can hear him. Death wearing all white is stands with him (of course in ”The seventh seal” death wore all black).

The parody scene starts with Boris speaking and then continues with Sonya talking to Natasha (citing *War and peace* by Tolstoy. The main heroine is called Natasha Rostova). Here is what they say:

**Boris:** To die . . . before the harvest. The crops, the grains, fields of rippling wheat. Wheat. All there is in life is wheat. . . . Oh, wheat! Lots of wheat! Fields of wheat! A tremendous amount of wheat. . . . Yellow wheat. Red wheat. Wheat with feathers. Cream of wheat.

**Sonja:** The last traces of the shimmering dusk are setting behind the quickly darkening evening, and it’s only noon. Soon we shall be covered by wheat. Natasha: Did you say . . . wheat?

**Sonja and Natasha:** Wheat wheat wheat. . .

**Boris:** Wheat! I’m dead, they’re talking about wheat.

The way they talk sounds like the way Tolstoy writes. Wheat is almost sacred in the books of Tolstoy. As a low price food, not as a metaphor. In *War and Peace*, they talk on how the price of wheat is likely to affect the harvest. In *Anna Karenina*, Levin likes his visions of green wheat. He is not sentimental (Attribute 7). Levin’s interest is pragmatic: harvesting of the wheat, and selling it. The books of Tolstoy are known well in Russia. When you see scenes with food that the film is filled with, the Russians may have recollected the books of Tolstoy.
3.4 What is so good about Gosa?

The next scene may be understood only by Russians. Based on the importance of food (Attribute 11).

Gosa comes to the house of Katya and suggest that he would cook. This is out of the ordinary. Men should not cook. Women should. Later he covers Katya so she wont be cold. He is a good kind and simple man.

3.5 Pretty ending

Gosa gets really angry at one time, and leaves Katya. But he returns after eight days. When Gosha returns he seats to eat (the importance of food again. Attribute 11), Katrina watches him with tears. Katrina says: I have been looking for you for so long. Gosa the practical man does not understands Gosha says: Eight days. Katrina: No. I have been looking for you for so long. And then the film ends.

Basically all the film she looks for the man that will make her whole. That will give her worth. On top of that it would be nice if this man will be kind. And Gosa is kind. The fact that she is willing to accept a simple man was a very wise decision. Lyudmila was wrong in looking for high class men. Seeing the choices of Katya, I am sure Tolstoy would have been proud of her.

3.6 Which tears are acceptable?

"Moscow does not believe in tears" reflects the totally anti sentimental point of view of the Russians that I met. They cant stand if you pity them. Complaining will not impress anybody. Tears wont impress anybody. Stop feeling sorry for yourself. Start working hard. If you are a woman, try to find a good husband. Try to succeed.

In the song it says that "Moscow does not believe in words". This should have been the name of the film. A legacy of the communist regime (to be elaborated on later). Words became meaningless when you lie so much as the communists. The Communist authorities would have never approved the title of "Moscow does not believe in words".

When the film starts, at the dorms, we see brief female nudity, which was not approved by the Communist at the time. This film got away with more things than others. This is mainly because it was very successful outside Russia, making Russia proud. Pride seems above all (Attribute 1).

Katrina violates the title of the film three times. First she cries when Rudolf leaves her. But she keeps her pride not wanting any help from him. Then she cries, when Gosa gets angry and leaves her for eight days. This is self pity. Moscow cant approve that!
However, her tears after Gosa returns are tears of joy. I am sure that even Moscow would accept tears of joy.

4 The conservative world the films depicts

Why is the film so misogynic? (Attribute 4) Its important to say that all Russians I talk to (even in 2017) love the film and do not accept my point of view.

A woman is posed as "damaged" if she is not married. This is as misogynic as Cinderella. She has no self value, and can be given value, only through marriage. In the fifties, there were much less available men than women. Clearly, because the huge amount of males killed in WWII. The war ended just 13 years before the film starts.

What happens with Gosa is alarming. After he fights the enemies of the boyfriend of Alexandra, Katya gets very upset. Gosa tells her that he is the man in the house and that she should never talk to him like this again. Katya immediately says: "I am sorry, I am sorry". She lowers her head and lets him humiliate her (Attribute 4).

And now we meet destiny. History repeats itself (attribute 9). Rudolph comes with his TV again to the factory of Katya. Her factory is very successful and is chosen to be a model and filmed by TV. And again, Rudolph tries to ruin Katya’s life. Now all of a sudden wants to see Alexandra. Katya objects. Karma works since Rudolph was not promoted. He has the same position he had 20 years ago (Attribute 8)

Rudolph comes uninvited to the house of Katya. Gosa Katya nd Alexandra are eating. Gosa invited Rudolph in the ways of Soviet tradition, to eat dinner with them (attribute 11). But Rudolph starts talking. Some of the lies are revealed (Attribute 8). The father of Alexandra is not dead as Katya told Alexandra. The father is Rudolph. Rudolph saw that Katya is the manager of her factory. The head supervisor. He tells this to Gosa in what seems an act of revenge. Katya makes more money then Gosa, and in addition, she lied to him.

Gosa said before that he thinks males should earn more than woman (attribute 3). A Neanderthals opinion. How can you expect Katya not to lie in such a world?

He leaves Katya for 8 days without intending of come back.

Katya is the the only one in the film that evolves. Becomes more powerful. Has ambitions. Other than her nobody changes in a film. This means that she is the hero of the film.

Still, Gosa punishes her. Gosha that is portrayed as a good person, is highly misogynic. What is wrong here are not the lies of Katya. What is wrong here are the opinions of Gosa that force Katya to lie. The opinions of Gosa are directly from the dark ages. The problems are created due to his backward, Saudi Arabia style opinions.
The film says that simple people live better lives. If you think too much it's not good. Antonina, the most simple of the three finds a simple man and lives happily, a message echoed in many films of Bergman.

5 Is Russia so different from the USA south?

It's good that Reagan saw the film. It does say a thing or two on the Russians that he did not expect. Not everybody gets the same salary! Women can become leaders in their workplace! There are social classes in Russia! I went to an American school, and they taught us that whatever you do in the USSR, everybody gets the same amount of money. The citizens of the USSR, all have the same conditions. The film shows that they taught us a bunch of lies.

The life of a single mother in Russia, is as far as I can tell, very similar to the life of a single mother in the South. The south (and I am talking on the South of today) is not less conservative than Russia of then. A woman should not have a child and not be married. A large majority of the people in the south live in poverty and only think they are free (see elaboration below).

In any case the film gives the enemy, the USSR, a human face, Shows Soviets as human for the Americans to see. In this sense it is an important film.

6 Alcohol

How does Nikolai convinces Gosha to return? He and Gosha get drunk together and when you are drunk you will agree to many things. Recall what happened to Gurin. In deed Alcohol is a problem. Many drink due to the cold weather.

7 Alexandra

It feels like the lack of a father was bad for her. But Gosa is good for her. The film is on Katrina. Nevertheless, Alexandra is the future. What does the future holds for her? If Russia will change, it will be very slowly. So do not count on it. It seems that a dark future awaits Alexandra. Poverty and being a woman in a world of men. But the song "Alexandra" disagrees, without saying a single lie!
8 The song

I translated the Russian words to English so that the lines will rhyme. Translating is not a thing I know. The translation is not good, I am sure. Its the best I could.

8.1 The words

It did not happen in a day
But Moscow rose up anyway
Moscow too many words wont have
But she does believe in love

Covered with snow the city lives
And on the ground a million leaves
Moscow will always find its way
Out of a rainy day.

Alexandra Alexandra
Its a city that its ours
And it has amazing powers
Take a look upon its face.

All your pain and all your sorrow
We’ll make sure there is no more off
And the ”Garden Ring” will act as
Our private wedding ring

Red Ash made Moscow beautiful
They never bowed to those who ruled.
However it was white hash trees
That spread across the land.

Moscow does not believe in vain,
Despite the snow despite the rain,
Moscow will find a blooming tree
In some place in the land.

Alexandra Alexandra,
What's the future that await us
It a bunch of tree that take class
About how to dance the Waltz

Village people dance so pretty
To a waltz from Vienna city
And the dancing trees and people
With bring fresh air to Moscow.

Moscow from trouble does not flee
She faces horror that she sees
And all troubles that she that come up
Just go away and shrink.

Loving Moscow does not come fast
But its as clean as shining glass.
A mother love is stronger one,
For me and you and us.

Alexandra Alexandra
Its a city that its ours
And it has amazing powers
Take a look upon its face

All your pain and all your sorrow
We’ll make sure there is no more off
And the "garden ring" will act as
**Remark:** The song does not say ”Moscow has amazing powers” like I translated. I just did it, so that the line will rhyme. I did it as, indirectly, it IS implied that Moscow has magic powers. But what the song actually says is that ”Moscow became our destiny.”

### 8.2 On what the song says

Why does Putin speak on nuclear weapon and kills a traitor in England just before the election? Because it will largely help him in the election. Because the Moscow wants to think that they are still an empire. That their culture is superior. Whenever Putin attacks a western country, his popularity goes up.

The promises to Alexandra in the song do not contain any financial assurance for her future. Just a huge dose of Russian (Moscow) pride and a hope that she will find a good husband. Yes, the song is as misogynic as much as the movie.

It's worth mentioning here the film *A good day to die hard*. Bruce Willis plays *John McClane* an NY cop. McClane travels to Moscow to help his estranged son, Jack, an undercover CIA agent.

John enters a cab and the cab does not move. John: *Why the traffic jam?*
Cab driver: *We are in the garden ring. It's always jammed.*

At the end John discovers that a woman lied to him since she tells them she is coming to the meeting place. Twenty minutes after that she shows up at the meeting point.

John: *How did you arrive so fast*
Woman: *I came by the garden ring*
John: But is it not always jammed?

The Garden Ring, is a circular ring road avenue around central Moscow, Its a point of pride in Moscow. And a symbol of Moscow.

Another thing to know is that in Moscow is that *red hash trees* are considered royal and important, while *white hash tree* are considered plain. Its just that *red hash trees* are much more rare.

### 8.3 Analysis of the song

It did not happen in a day
But Moscow rose up anyway
Moscow too many words wont have
But she does believe in love

**Analysis**: Moscow is presented to Alexandra as an established empire. Saying *But Moscow rose up anyway*. Even if it took time.

A political line follows: *Moscow does not believe in words* for the reasons I said.

I would say that the last line is a imprecise, but lets give the song artistic freedom. Its not true that *Moscow believes in love*. The truth is that *Moscow believes in marriage*. And as we saw in the film, its not the same.

**The song continued:**

Covered with snow the city lives  
And on the ground a million leaves  
Moscow will always find its way  
Out of a rainy day.

**Analysis**: The film *Moscow does not believe in tears* does not show snow. But this is a very severe problem in Moscow, especially in the winter. However Moscow pride makes the song promise It will be OK. The city will always overcome the cold weather (namely find its way out of a rainy day).

**The song continued by the chorus:**

Alexandra Alexandra  
Its a city that its ours  
It became our destiny  
take a look upon its face.

All your pain and all your sorrow  
We’ll make sure there is no more off  
And the ”Garden Ring” will act as  
Our private wedding ring

**Analysis** Alexandra is told that being born in Moscow she should be proud of the city. You should never leave it: ”It became our destiny” Take a look upon its face. The songs later treats Moscow as a ”mother” and thus the reference here to a face is understandable.

The old generation wants to convey to the new generation the old notion of not giving up. Alexandra, be sure that any troubles that you will face, will go away. After all its Moscow. Moscow is presented almost as a magical city.

So no promise that Alexandra will not be poor. But the song does promise Alexandra: you will not be a damaged good. You will marry. And it will be as if the (circular) garden ring road (this road may also have amazing powers) will be a symbol for your wedding ring.
Not only will you marry. Be proud you will marry in Moscow.

**The song continued:**

Red Ash made Moscow beautiful  
They never bowed to those who ruled.  
However it was  
white hash trees.  
That spread across the land.  

Moscow does not believe in vain,  
Despite the snow despite the rain,  
Moscow will find a blooming tree,  
In some place in the land.

**Analysis:** Its time to say who sings. Sergey Nikitin and his wife Tatiana Nikitina. Adding an ”a” at the end of the family name means that Tatiana ”belongs” to the family of Sergey. There are other explanations which are nothing but lies. An married woman belongs to her husband (its also true in the Jewish religion).

The husband Sergey, wrote the music and the pair sing it together. A beautiful song. Sergey even acts when the lines ”Red Ash made Moscow beautiful They never bowed to those who ruled.”

At this point he puts a face that implies: importance, royalty and pride. The royal red hash trees! How proud are they!

But then Sergey switches his face to an ironic one and says: But it was white hash trees that speared across the land. So much for the royal red hash trees. And a good acting by Sergey.

Now the song repeats a message that was already given. The perseverance of Moscow. Alexandra: do not give up!.

Or like the song calls it:
Moscow does not believe in vain,  
Despite the snow despite the rain,  
Moscow will find a blooming tree,  
In some place in the land.

The chorus now changes when the song returns to talk about culture.

Alexandra Alexandra  
Whats the future that await us  
It a bunch of tree that take class  
About how to dance the Waltz
Village people dance so pretty
To a waltz from Vienna city
And the dancing trees and people
With bring fresh air to Moscow

**Analysis:** Recall the great Russian culture. We are like Vienna. The city of Mozart and Beethoven. And the song also mentions a very important dance is Russian culture. The Waltz. The people and trees dance the Waltz to the sound of the greatest geniuses of all time Mozart or Beethoven.

The song implies: we also have such a culture, that can keep you in a good mood even in harsh times. You will persevere. The huge Russian culture is like a fresh air added to Moscow.

I would indicate: Culture is important. But it does not really help you to get food. And food may be even more important.

**The song continues:**

Moscow from trouble does not flee
She faces horror that she sees
And all troubles that
She that come up
Just go away and shrink.

**Analysis:** This is just a repetition about Russian perseverance.

Loving Moscow does not come fast
But its as clean as shining glass.
A mother love is stronger one,
For me and you and us

**Analysis:** The song finally admits that its not easy to love Moscow. The weather. the poverty, the long lines for food (at 1980) and so on.

The song talks about a mother. Alexandra, you should check your own your mother. After being for years a *defected woman* she found Gosa and became a whole woman. Learn perseverance from your mother! Now the very common saying on *mother Russia* is transferred to *mother Moscow*. Moscow is like our mother. And who would not accept the love of a mother? A mother love is clean and true, says the song.

The song ends in the chorus.

I think the huge pride that comes out of the film and song, is what Reagan and every other American president should understood. The main thing they want in Moscow is to be treated with respect. To be told that Moscow is still an empire. Obama, understood
Russia perfectly. Instead of sanctions he made sure oil will become cheap strongly hurting the economy of Russia. He seemingly innocently, personally offended Putin when he said that ”Russia is a small country that is not a super power, so whatever happens, is not a cold war”. Not only was Putin highly offended (by the truth), but so were the Russian citizens. Obama had no choice. You can not give Russia the respect it asks, when its leader in a mass killer like Putin.

9 Epilogue 1: ”1984”: dictatorship

In 1984 they citizens are under the ruling of the big brother. They have a new language called ”New speak”. That has no rebellious words. With a police of thoughts that tries to control what citizens think. They invent imaginary ”enemy states”.

In the dictatorship of 1984, the slogan is: ”War is Peace, Freedom is Slavery, Ignorance is Strength”

These words are the official slogans of the Party. Are the motto of the Ministry of Truth. This is a way of double thinking. The population has to endure insane propaganda, induced by fear. If you accept the stupid words above, you will accept anything. The Ministry of Peace in fact creates wars. The Ministry of Love is in charge of political torture. The Ministry of Truth is in charge of lying about the history.

All the above describe communism all too well.

To check if your country becomes more fascist, check the words. See if the government changes the words to words that are easier to digest. Like the fascist ”Political correctness” in the USA. A fascist movement that contradicts the first amendment.

10 Epilogue 2: ”Brave new world”: self imposed dictatorship

In the west, at countries such as the USA or England or France people think that they are free, a thing that always makes me smile.

I will cite the words of Jean-Paul Sartre.

”You do not only have to want things. You need to want to want these things”.

This speaks about brainwash. Are young people really free not to marry? The brainwash and social pressure to marry is so strong, that we have no choice. Of course, we wanted to marry. But we did not want to marry because of free will.

This is called ”socialization”. Making people similar. Then there is an even stronger
pressure to have children. You certainly do not have children due to free will.

Huxley, described this in his book *Brave new world* a dictatorship that is created by technology. They manufacture similar babies. They abort the bad ones. Everybody is chosen for a job upon birth. Babies are labeled by categories that will define what these babies will do in the future.

The state creates a complicated entertainment machines. This makes the people not to mind what the government does. The entertainment is silly and harmless. But mostly citizens are controlled by consumption. Thinking on consumption all the time makes you stupid.

The Americans vote and so think its a democracy. In fact the USA is lead by strong lobbies such as the NRA, the weapon lobby, the health lobby. If you try to change it, as Obama tried, they will reverse it. And even the program of Obama was coordinated with the health lobby. Presidents change but who is leading us does not. So its not exactly a democracy, is it?

You think this is not true? Is it good for you that the USA tries to rule the entire world? No it makes the world hate you, the citizen. You think us having 50000 soldiers in Germany, 50000 in Japan, about the same number of soldiers in Korea is good for you? No. It makes the world worse. The USA is not the UN. They USA should not interfere in any war not directly launched against the USA or 2,3 additional closest allies.

But having so many soldiers everywhere is clearly good for the weapon industry. Its good for them that the USA has military bases all over, Even in terrible places lie Qatar.

Its good for the weapon industry that the defense budget is outlandish. Its not used for defense. Its mainly used for attack. The defense budget should be used for defense only, and it can certainly be less than $1/2$ its value today. The weapon lobby manufactures and is payed for war plains, that the defense secretary says the USA does not need.

Why is the Americans so bad in ending wars but so good in starting them? The weapon lobby needs wars. Otherwise, whom will they sell weapon to?

Is it good for the individuals that citizens will own weapon of war? It brings a tragedy after tragedy. But the NRA rules. They buy politicians. Is this democracy? It cant be, when votes do not matter. When NRA buys politicians to do what is good for them and not to do things good for us.

The prices of drugs are amazingly high in the USA compared to the rest of the world. Why cant we import much cheaper drugs from Canada? The health lobby blocks this. Since they bought politicians too.

When we are born, is our destiny not set in advance? The USA no longer has meaningful social mobility, because all the wealth goes to the rich. Thus if you are born poor, it basically
decides your entire future. If you are born black, you will not feel completely OK in the USA even if you are rich. And hardly any black people are rich. They are caught in a discriminating courts, and a cycle of poverty.

After 9/11 Bush had a good chance to challenge the citizens. Unite to do something big. Only one percent in the USA feel the war. This is why nobody seems to care when wars never end. But what did Bush say: consume more. Like saying: become more stupid.

The USA television and films are getting more and more stupid every year. Its like in A brave new world. This make people forget that there is something called quality. And on average the Americans do not read books. You can ask citizens how many branches of government do we have, and less than 1/2 will know. Ignorance is all over.

The Americans turn into animals in the so called black Friday, a day for shopping and sales. They can sleep on the pavement all night to be first and save a few dollars, on something they do not need. This is worse than Brave new world.

In the book Brave new world they take away any unhappiness you have by antidepressant and hallucinogenic drug called soma. So everybody is happy, and nobody rebels.

Is it different in the USA? Are there many people not on Prozac of some kind?

The total lack of representation of atheists and agnostic is an amazing case of taxation without representation. This is the definition of the USA of what a dictatorship is. Not a single person in the Senate or the house is agnostic or atheist. On the other hand, 10 percent of the population is atheist or agnostic. Dictatorship. The USA itself said so.

The socialization is almost violent. Its a dictatorship whose citizens do not know they are in one. They force you to cut the grass. Clean the snow. Clear the leaves(??). Force you to recycle (in Philadelphia). In Israel I was much more free. When we put OUR car on OUR grass, some person squealed to the municipality, that said that if we do not move the car, we will be cited. How can it be that they dominate My car and My grass? When do people squeal? In a dictatorship.

All the houses where I live look exactly the same. Its very hard to find a house: they all look alike. We are in a situation better than the one shown in 1984. But we are certainly not free. Not by a long shut.