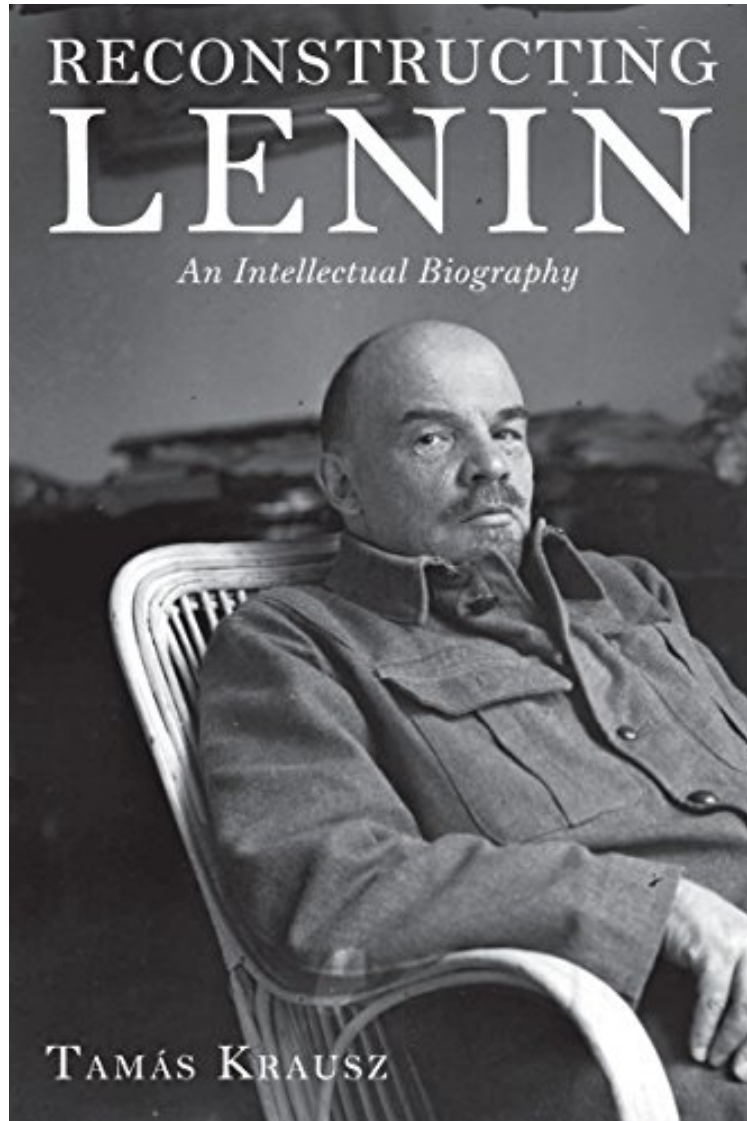


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Reconstructing Lenin: An Intellectual Biography

Tamás Krausz

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Tamás Krausz : Reconstructing Lenin: An Intellectual Biography before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Reconstructing Lenin: An Intellectual Biography:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Reconsidering the legacy of LeninBy Paratrim1 CustomerAn analysis of Lenin's thought and its application to 21 st century anti-capitalist movements and activists. It is a bit difficult in sections, where the author presupposes a knowledge of Eastern European scholarship and especially Hungarian writers. It does answer the question that Lenin, especially the Hegelian influenced, dialectical Lenin, is very important in reassessing the Marxian legacy for the European Left. The influence of Gramsci and Lukacs are also felt throughout

the book. I found the book to be very insightful and certainly a balanced approach, that we in the West must reevaluate the links between Lenin and Stalin, and the responsibility of Lenin for the State Socialism that later developed in the Soviet Union. We have consigned Lenin to the dustbin of history in the wake of the Cold War. Maybe it is time to reassess his usefulness as a critic of of capitalism and as a theorist of the transformation of capitalism into the next social and economic system, whether that be Socialism, or something else.² of 23 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy Joseph A. NapoliGreat book!!!³ of 24 people found the following review helpful. Four StarsBy Per Mansonvery interesting!

Vladimir Ilyich Lenin is among the most enigmatic and influential figures of the twentieth century. While his life and work are crucial to any understanding of modern history and the socialist movement, generations of writers on the left and the right have seen fit to embalm him endlessly with superficial analysis or dreary dogma. Now, after the fall of the Soviet Union and “actually-existing” socialism, it is possible to consider Lenin afresh, with sober senses trained on his historical context and how it shaped his theoretical and political contributions. *Reconstructing Lenin*, four decades in the making and now available in English for the first time, is an attempt to do just that. Tamás Krausz, an esteemed Hungarian scholar writing in the tradition of György Lukács, Ferenc Tokei, and István Mészáros, makes a major contribution to a growing field of contemporary Lenin studies. This rich and penetrating account reveals Lenin busy at the work of revolution, his thought shaped by immediate political events but never straying far from a coherent theoretical perspective. Krausz balances detailed descriptions of Lenin’s time and place with lucid explications of his intellectual development, covering a range of topics like war and revolution, dictatorship and democracy, socialism and utopianism. *Reconstructing Lenin* will change the way you look at a man and a movement; it will also introduce the English-speaking world to a profound radical scholar.

“A work of exemplary scholarship, written with penetrating insights and steadfast commitment. With richly documented attention to detail it illuminates the formation and much disputed impact of Lenin’s immense lifework in their dynamic historical setting, highlighting at the same time their enduring significance for the prospects of socialist developments.”-István Mészáros, author, *Social Structure and Forms of Consciousness and Beyond Capital*