George Orwell:

George Orwell, born Eric Arthur Blair in 1903, drew from his personal experiences with imperialism, war, and authoritarian rule to create the dystopian world of *1984*. His early work as a colonial officer in Burma exposed him to the harsh realities of British imperial power and the deep inequalities it imposed. Later, Orwell’s time fighting in the Spanish Civil War further shaped his views on propaganda and political repression, as he witnessed authoritarian regimes distort truth to maintain power. These encounters inspired *1984*’s themes of surveillance, manipulation, and the erasure of individual freedoms. A committed democratic socialist, Orwell was particularly concerned with how governments might misuse ideology to control people’s thoughts and actions, which became central to *1984*’s exploration of totalitarianism and the suppression of truth.