George Orwell:

Born in India

Educated at private schools

Social elitism at Eton and familiarity with British imperialism in India -> socialist

Nevertheless, he opposed the soviet reign

Animal Farm

Uses animals on an English farm to tell the history of Soviet Communist Party

Historical Background

Trotsky was a popular and charismatic leader

Stalin consolidated his power behind the scenes

After Lenin’s death, Stalin became dictator of Soviet Union -> Trotsky was expelled and assassinated on Stalin’s orders

Key facts

Type of work: novella

Date of first publication 1946

Narrator: Anonymous

Tone: mostly objective