

## Contents

<i>List of Illustrations</i>	xi
<i>Stalin Family Tree</i>	xv
<i>Maps</i>	xvi
<i>Introduction</i>	xxi
<i>List of Characters</i>	xxxvii
<i>Note</i>	xxxii
<i>Prologue: The Bank Robbery</i>	3
PART ONE	
1. Keke's Miracle: Soso	19
2. Crazy Beso	29
3. Brawlers, Wrestlers and Choirboys	37
4. A Hanging in Gori	46
5. The Poet and the Priesthood	54
6. The "Young Man with the Burning Eyes"	58
7. Battle of the Dormitories: Soso versus Father "Black Spot"	68
8. The Weatherman: Parties and Princes	76
9. Stalin Goes Underground: <i>Konspiratsia</i>	84
10. "I'm Working for the Rothschilds!"—Fire, Massacre and Arrest in Batumi	89

PART TWO

11. The Prisoner	101
12. The Frozen Georgian: Siberian Exile	109
13. Bolshevik Temptress	120
14. 1905: King of the Mountain	128
15. 1905: Fighters, Urchins and Dressmakers	139
16. 1905: The Mountain Eagle—Stalin Meets Lenin	145
17. The Man in Grey: Marriage, Mayhem (and Sweden)	151
18. Pirate and Father	161
19. Stalin in London	169
20. Kamo Goes Insane: The Game of Bandits and Cossacks	178
21. The Tragedy of Kato: Stalin's Stony Heart	186
22. Boss of the Black City: Plutocrats, Protection-Rackets and Piracy	192
23. Louse Racing, Murder and Madness—Prison Games	201
24. "River Cock" and the Noblewoman	207
25. "The Milkman": Was Stalin a Tsarist Agent?	214

PART THREE

26. Two Lost Fiancées and a Pregnant Peasant	225
27. The Central Committee and "Glamour puss" the Schoolgirl	233
28. "Don't Forget That Name and Be Very Wary!"	242
29. The Escapist: Kamo's Leap and the Last Bank Robbery	249
30. Travels with the Mysterious Valentina	255
31. Vienna, 1913: The Wonderful Georgian, the Austrian Artist and the Old Emperor	260
32. The Secret Policeman's Ball: Betrayal in Drag	267

PART FOUR

33. "Darling, I'm in Desperate Straits"	273
34. 1914: Arctic Sex Comedy	278

35. The Hunter	287
36. The Robinson Crusoe of Siberia	293
37. Stalin's Reindeer-Propelled Sleigh and a Siberian Son	300

PART FIVE

38. 1917 Spring: Floundering Leader	307
39. 1917 Summer: Sailors on the Streets	313
40. 1917 Autumn: Soso and Nadya	323
41. 1917 Winter: The Countdown	334
42. Glorious October 1917: The Bungled Uprising	340
43. Power: Stalin Out of the Shadows	347

*Epilogue: An Old Tyrant—in Remembrance  
of Things Past* 357

*Stalin's Names, Nicknames, Bylines and Aliases* 377

*Acknowledgements* 379

*Source Notes* 385

*Select Bibliography* 429

*Index* 439