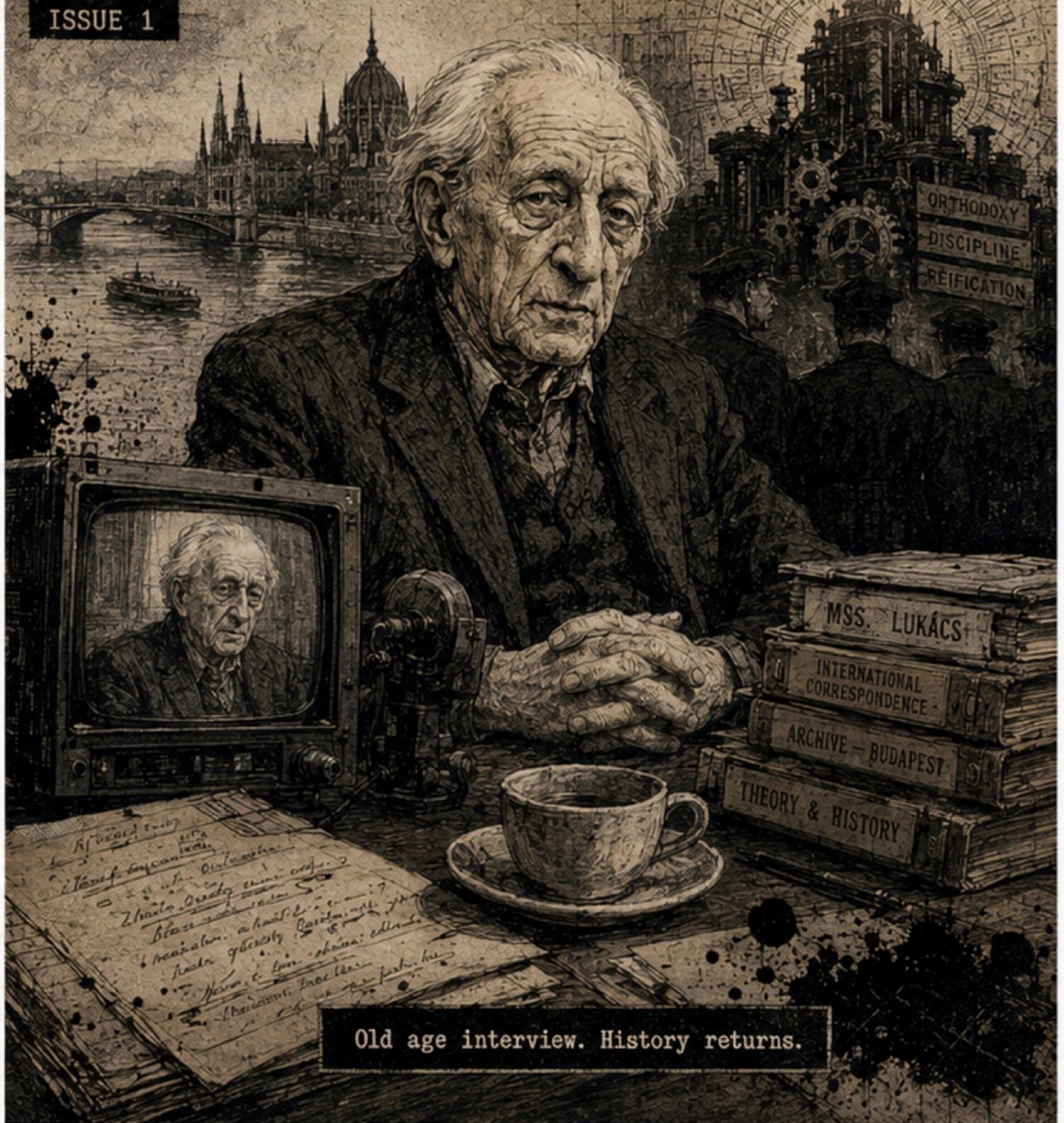


THE PRIEST OF HIGH STALINISM

A Lukács Theory Comic

ISSUE 1



Old age interview. History returns.

1 THE OLD MAN SPEAKS

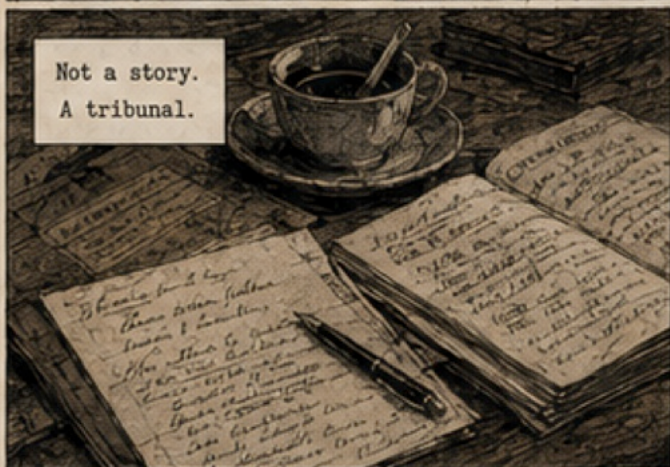
Budapest, 1969.

A room.

A river.



Not a story.
A tribunal.



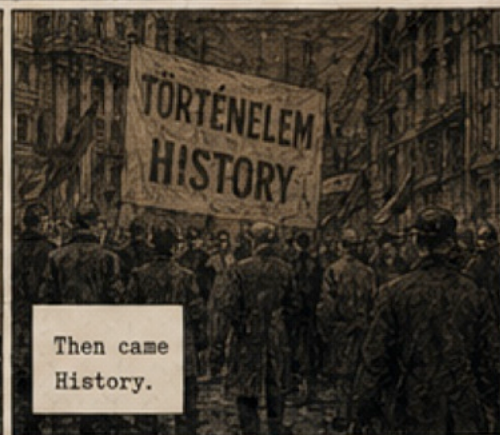
The Danube flows.
But time
does not
forgive.



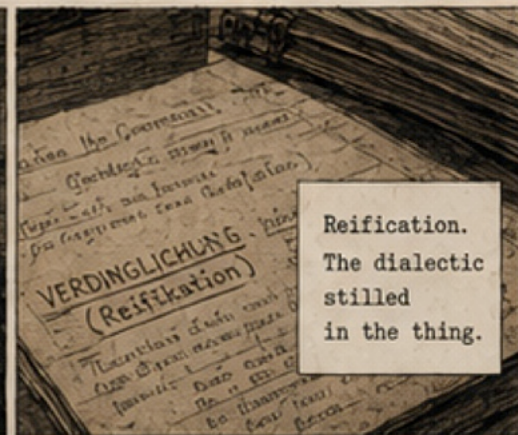
In youth
I sought
the soul.



Then came
History.



Reification.
The dialectic
stilled
in the thing.



I speak.
They listen.
They record.
They judge.



The interview
is already
a tribunal.

The witness begins.

A. DRAMATIC PERSONAE / THE PRIEST OF HIGH STALINISM



GEORG LUKÁCS (1885-1971)
Philosopher. Aesthetician. Marxist. Party intellectual.
Survivor of revolutions and defeats.
From the youth of the soul to the discipline of history.
Seeker of totality. Builder of systems.
Priest of high Stalinism. Witness in old age.
He speaks. He beseeches. He justifies. He remembers.
He is judged by history, by his students, and by himself.



ÁGNES HELLER (b. 1928)
Student. Philosopher. Witness.
His student, his critic, his heir.
She loved his mind, not his silence.
She speaks for those who asked
and were not answered.



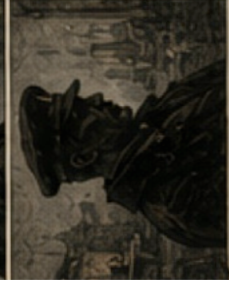
THEODOR ADORNO (1903-1969)
Philosopher. Exile. Critic of administered reason.
From Frankfurt.
He sees what power does to thought.
He offers no comfort. Only negative dialectics.



ERNST BLOCH (1885-1977)
Philosopher of hope. Utopian.
Friend, comrade, rival.
He believes in the not-yet,
in the warmth of the human future
against the cold of dogma.



THE STUDENT (1956)
Young. Hungarian. Witness.
He listens. He reads.
He takes to the streets.
He asks: For whom did we believe?



THE PARTY FUNCTIONARY
Name unknown. Role eternal.
He keeps the files.
He measures correctness.
He survives all purges.
He speaks in the voice of necessity.

SCREEN CHORUS VOICES ACROSS TIME



HANNAH ARENDT
On judgment,
banality, and
thinking without
a border.



JOSÉ GARCÍA
On the other
world, the
sacred, the
unreasonable.



SARASWATI
On language,
song, memory,
and wisdom
beyond doctrine.



DESCARTES
On method,
certainty,
and the dream
of mastery.



ARTEMIS
On the hunt,
the threshold,
and what is
exposed.



ARIADNE
On the thread,
the labyrinth,
and how we
do not lose
our way.

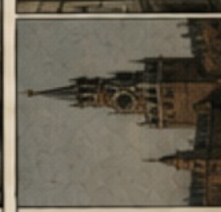
B. VISUAL CASTING / WORLDS OF THE PRIEST



**LUKÁCS
ACROSS
TIME**



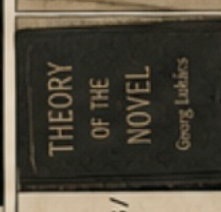
**BUDAPEST
/ DANUBE
/ HOME**



**PARTY
/ MOSCOW
/ FILES**



**FRANKFURT
SCHOOL
/ EXILE**



**BOOKS /
MANUSCRIPTS /
ARCHIVES**



**1956
/ UPRISING
/ HISTORY
RETURNS**



Palette: ash, ink, paper, rust, winter light. Texture: archives, pencil, newsprint, film grain.

1 THE OLD MAN SPEAKS



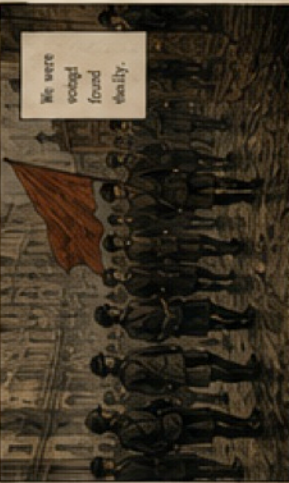
Sodigant, 1969.
Surreview.
A room.
A river.
Renser.
Is not a story.
It is a tribunal.



In youth
I sought
the soul.



We believed
we had
found
the key.



We were
scolded
found
daily.

THE WITNESSES BEGINS.

2 YOUTH: THE SOUL AND FORM



I wrote of
the soul,
of tragedy,
of form.

We were
children of
a dying world.



The cities
were full
of ghosts.



Gentle.
Bogel.
Tragedy.
The infinite
longing.



Then came
1918.
The old world
collapsed.



We went
to the streets
with poems
in our
pockets.

A GENERATION SEEKING REDEMPTION.

3 THE PRIEST OF HIGH STALINISM



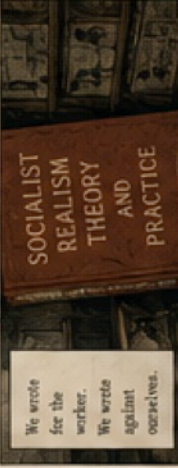
History
demanded
discipline.
We obeyed.



The Party
was the
subject.
We were
the organs
of its reason.



Reflection
is not only
in capitalism.
It enters
the soul.
It enters
the Party.



We wrote
for the
worker.
We wrote
against
ourselves.



Self-criticism
is the
highest
virtue.

THE SYSTEM PURIFIES ITS PRIESTS.

4 1956: HISTORY RETURNS



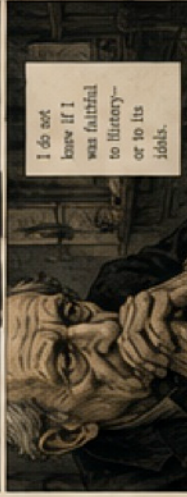
The people
spoke.
The tanks
answered.
We were
silent.



Our students,
our children,
against the
System we
served.



What is
a philosopher
when his
concepts
fall the street?



I do not
know if I
was faithful
to history--
or to its
folds.



The river
remembers
what we
prefer
to forget.

THE PRIEST IS LEFT WITH QUESTIONS.

CORE APPARATUS / MOTIFS

TOTALITY

The dream of wholeness.
The danger of closure.

REIFICATION

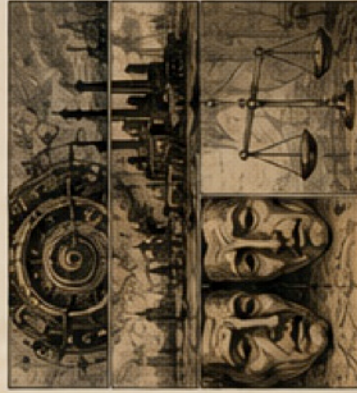
The world as thing.
The soul as object.

TRAGEDY

Form, fate, contradiction.
No reconciliation.

HISTORY AS JUDGE

Not progress.
A tribunal.



POSSIBLE CHAPTERS (Pilot → Fall)

- 1 The Old Man Speaks
- 2 Youth: The Soul and Form
- 3 The Priest of High Stalinism
- 4 1956: History Returns
- 5 Frankfurt: Conversations in Exile
- 6 Realism: The Aesthetic Command
- 7 The Destruction of Reason
- 8 The Students Ask
- 9 The File
- 10 The Last Interview

NOT A STORY. A CONSTELLATION.

WORKING NOTES

A theory-comic in the mode of Kluge.
Montage. Documents. Voices.
No hero. No villain.
A man, an epoch,
a thought under pressure.

*Studiolab / MetaPlay
Work in progress.*

SCREEN CHORUS (as above)

Hannah Arendt
José García
Saraawati
Descartes
Artemis
Ariadne

They watch.
They speak.
They do not decide.
They witness.

