

## Narcissism in Authoritarian Leadership

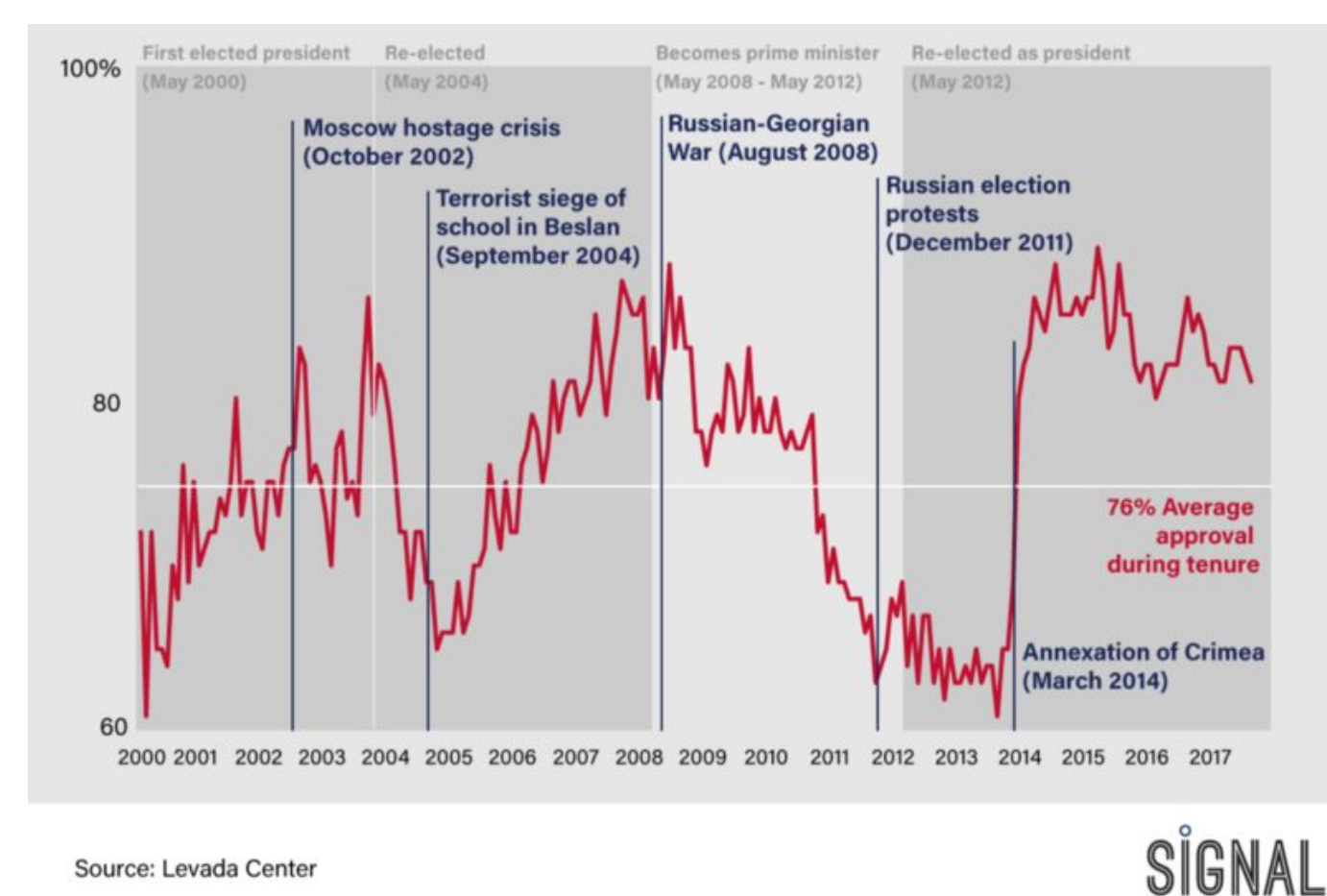


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Raya Sitman

### What is Narcissistic Authoritarian Leadership?

A leadership style marked by **grandiosity** and **cruelty**, under which the democratic institutions are either destroyed or substantially weakened and the leader prioritizes actions that **serve his own interests** with little regard for the well-being of his citizens.

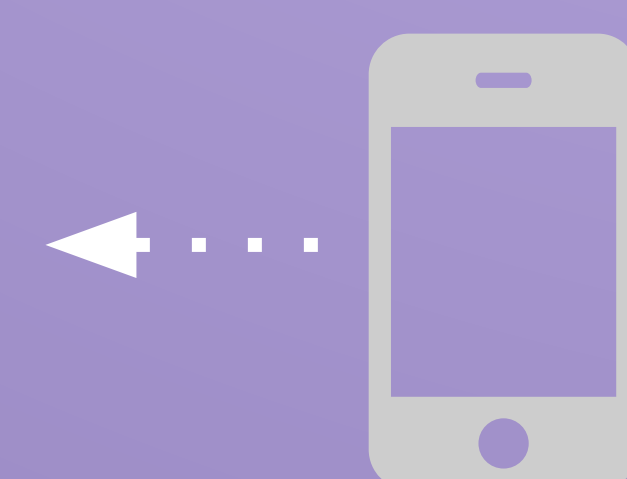
### Putin's Approval Ratings Over Time:



### The Rise of an Authoritarian

1. **Overcompensate** for insecurity with grandiosity
2. People are attracted to the **perceived confidence**
3. Utilizes fear and **scapegoats** to create an **ideology** and solidify his follower's loyalty
4. **Achieve power**
5. Utilize **manipulation** to **consolidate** his power

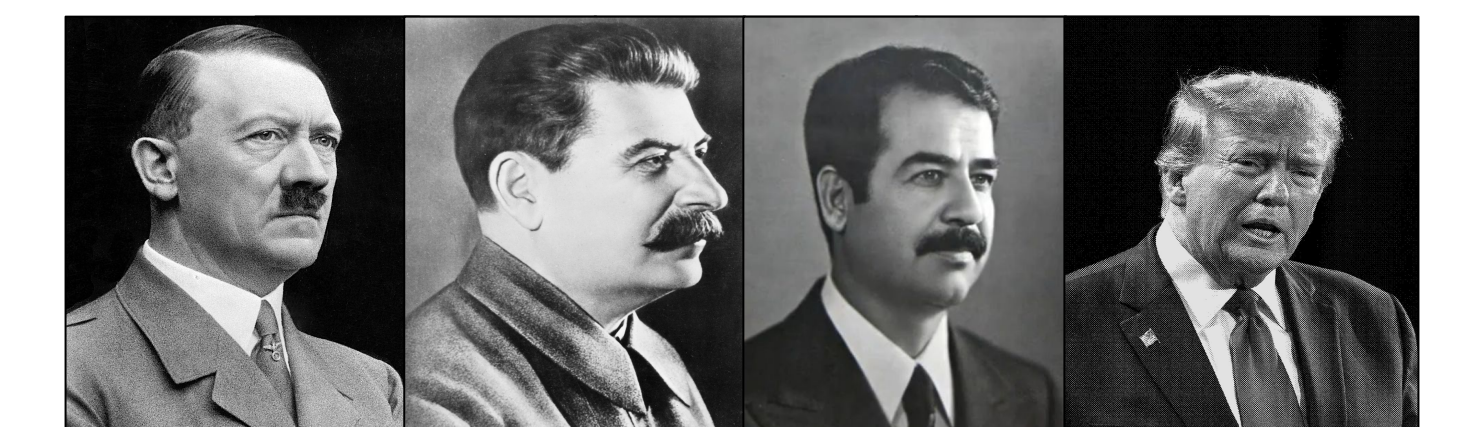
# Narcissistic traits can allow a ruler to rise to power, but may also be the source of their downfall.



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### The Fall of an Authoritarian

1. **Insecurity** leads to **paranoia**
2. **Cruelty** to the opposition, scapegoats, and **supporters**
3. Surrounded by untrustworthy **yes men**
4. **Seclusion** while continuing his grandiosity
5. **Refusal** of **accountability**
6. Followers rebel, **justifying** the **paranoia**
7. Regime **collapse**



### Tyrant Examples:

#### Hitler - Insecurity

- "I'll take no one with me. [Except] Fräulein Braun and my dog. I'll be lonely. For why would anyone stay voluntarily with me for any length of time?"

#### Stalin - Paranoia

- "Unable to trust anyone at all, he even turned on his supporters: comrades who had fought alongside him and shared his exile in Siberia, and old Bolsheviks who had retired and were not threats in any way" (Glad 31).

#### Trump - Grandiosity

- "Nobody knows more about taxes than me, maybe in the history of the world."

#### Putin - Seclusion

- "Sometimes it is necessary to be lonely in order to prove that you are right."