

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Cold War Revolution: A Look Back in History

Read the excerpt from the book Bringing Down the Haus, and answer the question that follows.

It takes a magical, spontaneous, mass uprising for a revolution to take place.

No one group can ever bring it about.

First there is a feeling of shakiness underfoot, a faint tremor, discernable only by those doing the shaking and stomping—in this case, in East Germany, the punks, the freaks, the young people who realized that the authorities were scared, that the dictatorship was wobbly. Then, if the stars align, other people, normal people, those who would otherwise just go about their lives, happy to get by in the system as it exists, *not my problem*, no reason to make waves . . . if the stars align just right, then those people might eventually feel it, too. The tremors. The shakiness. And maybe, just maybe, they come out of their apartments and their houses to see what's happening, to see what is causing the tremors. And maybe, just maybe, they even join in, *I'm not sure exactly what I'm doing out here, what brought me outside, but I don't like the way those people are being treated . . . and . . . well . . . I don't like this regime either; I'm staying out here in the street.* Maybe these people, the normal people, the ones not inclined to step out of line, maybe they help to rock the joint, too, maybe they help to shake and stomp. And perhaps, if the magic holds just right, and everyone feels it and everyone joins in, *we are the people*, the tremor becomes an earthquake and the foundation crumbles. It all comes apart.

Revolution.

1. Summarize in one concise, detailed sentence how the author explains a revolution happens.

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