



Socialism Realised

Life in Communist Czechoslovakia, 1948-1989

A Serious Conversation

Občanský průkaz (r. Ondřej Trojan, 2010)/

Identity Card (dir. Ondřej Trojan, 2010)

- Mum: Why are you laughing?
Follow me. We were at the parent-teacher conferences.
- Boys: Oh, boy.
- Dad: Let me ask you. Do you want to go to university? Or would you rather clean toilets? Grades are not that bad. But why do you tease them so much?
Matěj. Why do you put down your new classmate? You think it is brave to bully somebody? It is cowardice. Moreover, do you know his family?
Don't you laugh. You and your gang need to watch out too. I hope those dirty poems aren't yours at least?
- Mum: His Russian is better now though.
- Dad: It is only a C. C is good for some. Some are not going anywhere. Some are not going up. Average is average.
- Petr: Good enough for the occupiers' language.
- Dad: Imagine Matěj saying this in school?
- Matěj: Dad, I know what is going on. I am not five.
- Dad: If you both know it, why do you tease? You want to have troubles?
- Petr: You don't want them.
- Dad: What do you change by teasing them? Many were as brave. They ended up in the mines or jails. Do you want to work with a shovel? Today, it is not one for himself, it is one for the family. For Matěj. For mum. And for me.
- Petr: Here we go again.
- Dad: What?
- Peter: That it is only about you.
- Dad: Can you hear him? And I had such a surprise for you.
- Matěj: What is in the envelope, dad?



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Dad: You are not interested, Petr?

Petr: What?

Dad: What is in the envelope?

Matěj: What is it?

Dad: An exit permit. This allows us to go to the sea in the summer together.
To Yugoslavia.
Are you not happy?

Petr: Me?

Dad: I'm talking to you. If you don't want to go, you can stay with your aunt
in Kařízek.

Matěj: Kařízek, bro, come on. Sea or a concentration camp.

Petr: Yeah, but for what price.

Dad: What's that?

Petr: Me? Nothing.

Mum: When do you want to wake up tomorrow?

Petr: Never.