



Socialism Realised

Life in Communist Czechoslovakia, 1948-1989

What We Don't Talk about

Horká kaše (r. Radovan Urban, 1988)/

Hot Porridge (dir. Radovan Urban, 1988)

Children: Oh, no!

Teacher: On page 16, question number 2. It will be read... Let's say... Pavel.

Pavel: Where can you cross the state border when travelling abroad?

Teacher: Can you comment on it?

Pavel: How'bout?

Teacher: We say: "What about!" Please. You have just read the question. Can you answer it?
So, who?

Children: Me. Me. Me.

Teacher: Monika.

Monika: At border crossings... For trains and cars.

Teacher: Correct, Monika.
What do you need to have in order to go abroad?

Children: Me. Me. Me.

Teacher: Marek.

Marek: A pass.

Teacher: What pass, Amálka?

Amálka: A passport.

Teacher: Correct. You need a valid passport.

David: That is not true!

Teacher: David, how come?

David: My dad said it was useless when the communist wouldn't let him go.

Teacher: You must have misunderstood your dad, David.
A valid passport must be accompanied by an exit permit.



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David: Dad wanted to go searching for mum but couldn't even with a passport.

Teacher: You know, David, it must have been something else. I will talk to dad about it. Hand me your report book.

1st pupil: He really screwed up. Now his dad's going to go to jail.

2nd pupil: You are stupid.