

# Folktales as a Coping Mechanism in Russia



Soviet soldiers killed during the Toropets-Kholm Offensive, January 1942



The people of Russia have certainly faced incredibly great suffering throughout Russian history, from wars to great famine to economic hardship. One important method that many Russian people have used to cope through the centuries is the sharing of folktales amongst each other. Stories of heroism, hope, and “happy endings” can offer these people inspiration, distraction, or simply a brief moment of entertainment and happiness.



Starving children at Samara Camp in Russia, October 1921