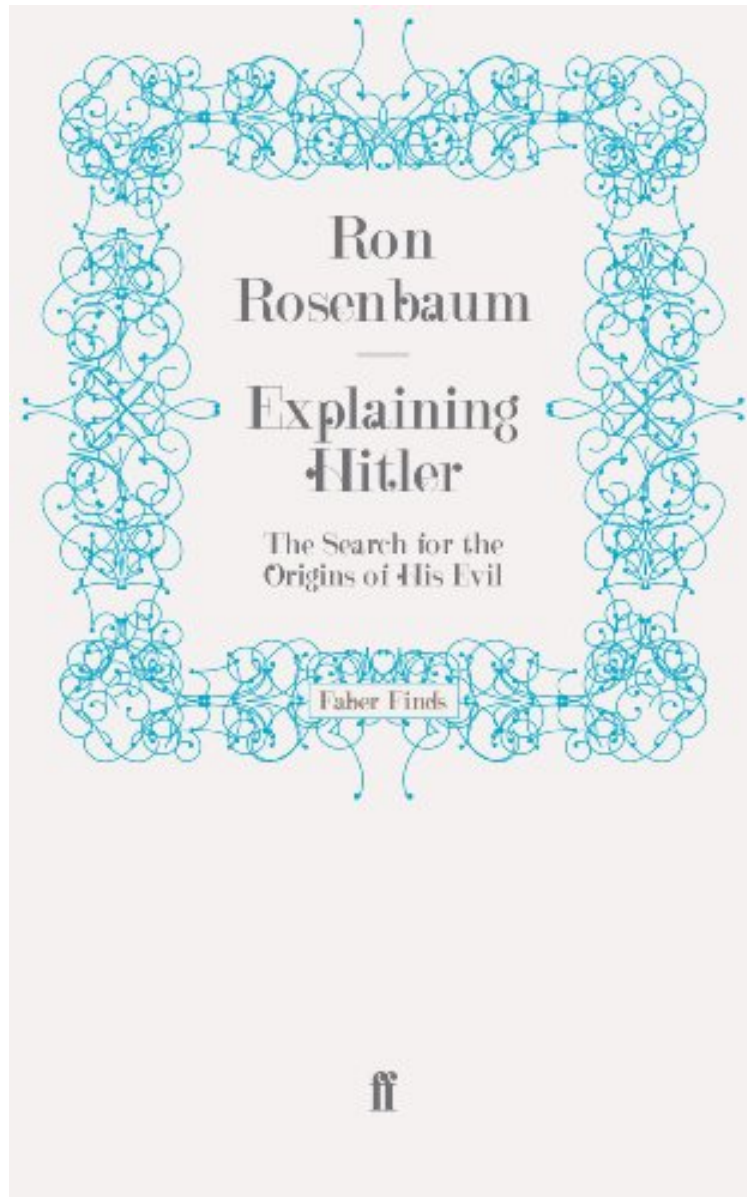


[Mobile book] Explaining Hitler: The Search for the Origins of His Evil (English Edition)

Explaining Hitler: The Search for the Origins of His Evil (English Edition)

Von Ron Rosenbaum

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Von Ron Rosenbaum : Explaining Hitler: The Search for the Origins of His Evil (English Edition) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Explaining Hitler: The Search for the Origins of His Evil (English Edition):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A remarkable work..Von Viseu de SusRosenbaum's wide-ranging examination of the theories explaining Hitler and the people behind these theories is replete with thoughtful and penetrating insights presented in a remarkable literary style. There are unsung heroes revealed (the Munich Post), incredible detective work at work, and questions that cause authors of books to reveal their own inner thoughts. It is hard to conceive of a person with any interest in Hitler at all that would not thoroughly enjoy and devour this book, destined to become a classic.1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Rich and thoughtful, yet smooth readingVon David J. LoftusI had heard this was a good book. I was not prepared for how excellent and absorbing it turned out to be. Explaining Hitler does NOT explain the mystery of der Fuhrer. In fact, it often questions whether such a thing can ever fully be done. The book is about the various parties who have devoted much of their lives to the attempt -- their theories, their possible motivations, the pitfalls and blind spots -- and in the course of that raises larger issues about the nature of knowledge, of history, of identity. The book manages a marvelous, near-perfect balance between narrative and theory, speculation and investigation, philosophy and psychology, character portraits and historic background.Part of what makes Rosenbaum's book so enthralling is that he not only describes the arguments of various individuals and schools of thought, but seeks out the representative authors and chats with them in person, which enlivens the text considerably. We get to meet the historians, stately Professor Hugh-Trevor Roper (who is certain Hitler firmly believed everything he said) and Alan Bullock, (more inclined to regard Hitler as a manipulative mountebank). Rosenbaum spends time with canny, insecure David Irving, back in the news in April 2000 for losing a libel suit in London against Deborah Lipstadt for highlighting him as a Holocaust denier (or at best, minimizer).Rosenbaum's judgments are fair and judicious, he never dislikes any of his subjects entirely, but he is not afraid to call someone out for intellectual hypocrisy and bullying (as in the case of "Shoah" documentary filmmaker Claude Lanzmann, who comes across as some sort of Old Testament prophet).The statements and positions of the various "explainers" clash and knock one another down. Hitler and the Holocaust drive intelligent and thoughtful men to amazing extremes. Theologian Yehuda Bauer suggests God's silence might mean he is either Satan too or a nebbish; Emil Fackenheim refuses to write or speak of Hitler at all for 20 years; George Steiner, author of the stunning novelette "The Portage to San Cristobal of A.H." theorizes that Kafka metaphorically invented Hitler, and far from expressing something inherent in the German soul, Hitler might have risen to power even faster in France.Like God, I find Hitler himself a bore, because insufficient evidence seems to guarantee no final understanding. But looking at those who try to account for him, thinking about how we ourselves see him, the world he came from, the world we live in because of him, is a fascinating process, and Rosenbaum's tremendous book is a great contribution to that form of inquiry.1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Don't let the title fool you!Von JasonWhen I purchased the book I thought it would at least attempt to explain Hitler. Rather than that, the book focuses on other people's attempts to explain the unexplainable mind of Hitler. While the book does have its good moments, I found it to be uninteresting at best. Rosenbaum seems noncommittal and at times even afraid to present his own ideas about the subject. For a insightful and thought provoking book try Hitler: The Psychopathic God or other books by the men that Rosenbaum criticizes.

KurzbeschreibungEver since the Second World War and the Holocaust, historians, psychologists and theologians alike have attempted to explain how a single personality could bring about some of the greatest horrors of the modern era. Ron Rosenbaum's Explaining Hitler investigates the meanings and motivations people have attached to Hitler and his disturbing policies - and whether or not he believed his own doctrines - and explores the continuing fascination with the nature of evil. The book also documents the story of the earliest critic of Hitler, the Munich Post in the 1920s and 1930s, and its violent demise.First published in 1998, and using interviews of leading experts such as Hugh Trevor-Roper, Alan Bullock and Daniel Goldhagen, and discussing the work of many more, Exploring Hitler is a balanced overview of a dark subject..deDebates concerning the historical and moral significance of Adolf Hitler have gone on since the beginning of his rise to power in Germany. In the decades after his bunker suicide, those debates elevated to arguments over the very nature and existence of evil. An integral part of the arguments has been the ongoing attempt to understand the why of Hitler. In this engaging work of literary journalism, Ron Rosenbaum travels the world to converse with some of the historians, philosophers, filmmakers, and others who have attempted to make sense of Hitler's actions, to find a root cause for the Holocaust. Rosenbaum methodically examines the evidence for and against all the major hypotheses concerning the origin of Hitler's character. He sifts through all the rumours--including his alleged Jewish ancestry and what biographer Alan Bullock refers to as "the one-ball business"--and the attempts to derive some psychological cause from them. Various Hitlers emerge: Hitler as con-man and brutal gangster, Hitler the unspeakable pervert, Hitler the ladies' man and Hitler as modernist artist working in the medium of evil. But Rosenbaum's portrayals of those who would define Hitler are as fascinating as the shifting perspectives on the Fuhrer. Here we see the brave journalists of the Munich Post who attempted to reveal Hitler's evil to the world as early as the 1920s. We witness Shoah, director Claude Lanzmann's imperious attempts to stifle analysis of Hitler and the

Holocaust, branding such historical inquiries as "obscene." We see the effects, on a frazzled Daniel Jonah Goldhagen, of the controversy surrounding the publication of his *Hitler's Willing Executioners*. We see the interior crises of Hitler apologist David Irving and philosopher-novelist George Steiner, among others, as they struggle with the ramifications of their work and thought. And, best of all, we have Rosenbaum to serve as an informed, intimate, and on occasion witty guide. In *White Noise* Don DeLillo depicted the satirical academic discipline of "Hitler studies;" Ron Rosenbaum breathes a life into the field that no fiction can match. --Ron Hogan, .com Pressestimmen
A New York Times Bestseller "Brilliant...restlessly probing and deeply intelligent" *Time* "A remarkable journey by one of the most original journalists and writers of our time" David Remnick, author of *Lenin's Tomb* "Fascinating...A provocative work of cultural history that is as compelling as it is thoughtful, as readable as it is smart.... Mr. Rosenbaum has made an important contribution to our understanding not just of Hitler, but of the cultural processes by which we try to come to terms with history as well.... He has written an exciting, lucid book informed by old-fashioned moral rigor and common sense." Michiko Kakutani, *New York Times* "Glistens with insight and intelligence and shimmers with originality." Gabriel Schoenfeld, *Commentary* "Cultural criticism served up as riveting narrative history...with words and ideas that surprise, amuse, and even elevate the reader." Marc Fisher, *Washington Post* "A work of importance and fascination" George Steiner, *The Observer* (UK) "Intriguing, thought provoking, and intelligent" Ian Kershaw, author of *Hitler: 1889-1936: Hubris*, in *The Guardian* (UK) *Financial Times* "Explaining Hitler [is] a work of almost uncanny percipience and stamina."