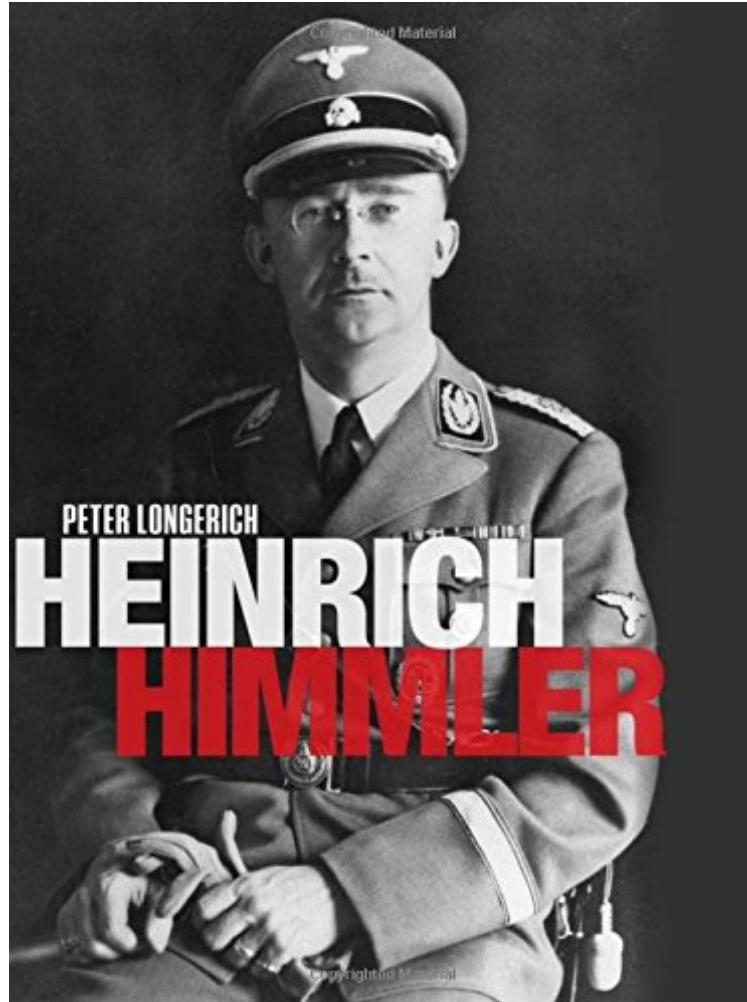


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## Heinrich Himmler

*Peter Longrich*

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**Peter Longrich : Heinrich Himmler** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Heinrich Himmler:

8 of 9 people found the following review helpful. Required reading.By BangkhenIf you value your freedom, your families freedom and future generations to carry your name, it's a must read to learn of millions of others who desired the same future and dreams but those dreams shattered and never lived because of the idea of ethnic cleansing by madmen. If you ignore the tragedies of previous lives you cannot prepare and protect today and tomorrow the future of you and your children. Reading only one book or only one author is not the answer. Read as many different ones as you can. I'm not highly educated and I apologize for any written mistakes, only writing what is from my heart and my love and respect for all human beings.4 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Decent ReadBy Andy RothA decent read. It is well researched and lays out the facts of Himmler's life without trying to explain the unexplainable,

e.g., how a relatively normal upbringing of a man of completely average qualities could result in the leader of the largest mass murder regime in the history of the planet. Since there is really nothing in his background that connects those dots I found the amount of detail about his personal life and upbringing somewhat difficult to get through. Instead, I would have preferred more detail about the political power struggles in the Third Reich. After Hitler, there was a constant ebb and flow of power in different spheres of influence. Personality clashes between Himmler, Goring, Goebbels, Speer, Bormann and even Himmler's subordinate Heydrich I have always found fascinating. While the author touches on these matters, I found the detail lacking. The author seems to completely dismiss any friction between Himmler and Heydrich which I'm not sure is accurate. Lastly, and I thought somewhat strangely, the author makes the claim that Gestapo chief Heinrich Muller survived the fall of Berlin and was with Himmler into early May of 1945. However, he provides no footnote/source for that claim. The fate of Muller has been a matter of speculation and conspiracy theories for decades. As recently as 2013 a report came out that Muller was allegedly buried in Berlin, but no definitive DNA proof as in the case of Bormann. For the author to just throw out as fact that Muller survived the fall of Berlin and was with Himmler with no sourcing I found more than a bit strange. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Informative biography on one of history's greatest villains. By Raymond T. Badgett Very informative biography on one of history's greatest villains. Provides clear examples which clearly show how many of the Nazi Government's major social programs were poorly managed and led. Shows Himmler's high level of enthusiasm and level of effort in regards to the elimination of what the Nazis considered to be "inferior races".

Heinrich Himmler was an unremarkable looking man. Yet he was Hitler's top enforcer, in charge of the Gestapo, the SS, and the so-called Final Solution. We can only wonder, as biographer Peter Longerich asks, how could such a banal personality attain such a historically unique position of power? How could the son of a prosperous Bavarian Catholic public servant become the organizer of a system of mass murder spanning the whole of Europe? In the first comprehensive biography of this murderous enigma, Longerich answers those questions with a superb account of Himmler's inner self and outward acts. Masterfully interweaving the story of Himmler's personal life and political career with the wider history of the Nazi dictatorship, Longerich shows how skillfully he exploited and manipulated his disparate roles in the pursuit of his far-reaching and grandiose objectives. Himmler's actual strength, he writes, consisted in redrawing every two or three years the master plans for his sphere of power. Himmler expanded that sphere with ruthless efficiency. In 1929, he took the SS—a small bodyguard unit—and swelled it into a paramilitary organization with elite pretensions. By the end of 1934 he had become Reich Chief of the Political Police, and began to consolidate all police power in his own hands. As Germany grabbed neighboring territory, he expanded the Waffen SS and organized the "Germanization" of conquered lands, which culminated in systematic mass murder. When the regime went on the defensive in 1942, Himmler changed his emphasis again, repressing any opposition or unrest. The author emphasizes the centrality of Himmler's personality to the Nazi murder machine—his surveillance of the private lives of his men, his deep resentments, his fierce prejudices—showing that man and position were inseparable. Carefully researched and lucidly written, *Heinrich Himmler* is the essential account of the man who embodied Hitler's apparatus of evil.

"[S]upremely enlightening." --Jacob Heilbrunn, *The New York Times* Book "Splendid" - *The Sunday Telegraph* "Longerich's study of Himmler's banal evil promises to bear the standard." --*The Village Voice* "A masterpiece." --Richard J. Evans, author of *The Coming of the Third Reich* "Peter Longerich, already the author of a distinguished history of the Holocaust, has written a biography that tells us everything that the world could ever need to know about this most terrible, yet dreary, of Hitler's creatures....an authoritative record." --Max Hastings, *NYORB* "A remarkable and wholly fascinating new book by Peter Longerich, a German historian who is among the world's leading scholars of the Holocaust and the Third Reich." --*Jewish Journal* About the Author Peter Longerich is Professor of Modern German History at Royal Holloway University of London and founder of the College's Holocaust Research Centre. He has published widely on the history of Nazi Germany and the Holocaust, including *Holocaust: The Nazi Murder and Persecution of the Jews*, also published by Oxford University Press, which is widely recognized as the standard account of the Nazi machinery of mass murder and the steps by which it unfolded.