



Ascent of Evil: The Story of Mein Kampf

REVIEW

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This documentary by French filmmaker Monteil tells the story of Adolf Hitler's infamous autobiography, which outlined his political ideology and intentions for Germany. After being convinced by his producer that much about the work was unknown, Monteil decided to unravel some of the mystery. Using historical footage, photographs, and interviews with historians, this chronicle strives to answer some fundamental questions about the book, such as when and how it was written, was it successful, and how did Hitler use it after 1933 for his propaganda campaign? Although *Mein Kampf* did sell quite well (over 12 million copies), Monteil suggests that it was very lightly read, and people were surprised when Hitler began to follow through on his plan. **VERDICT** This highly engaging film provides a unique perspective on Hitler and World War II as they relate to this publication; highly recommended for all libraries.—Rod Bustos, Augusta Univ., GA