



Albert Speer: His Battle With Truth

By Gitta Sereny

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Albert Speer: His Battle With Truth By Gitta Sereny **Bibliography**

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

Gitta Sereny's biography meticulously re-creates for the reader the professional, emotional, and psychological life of Albert Speer, Hitler's architect and later his Minister of Armaments. Throughout the 12-year history of the Third Reich, Speer remained one of Hitler's most trusted confidants and one of the most powerful political leaders of the Nazi party. Researched and written over an eight year period, *Albert Speer* weaves together information from innumerable personal interviews with Speer, his family, close friends, and professional colleagues, the author's own solid grasp of German history, and critical readings of Speer's own writings, including various drafts of his memoirs, *Inside the Third Reich*, first published in 1969.

Throughout, Sereny consciously avoids the pitfall of many Speer biographers, who seek to either blame or exculpate Speer for the Nazi's atrocities. Instead, she succeeds in helping the reader understand a "morally extinguished" man and place into context "all the crimes against humanity which Hitler initiated, which continue to threaten us today, and of which Speer, who was in many ways a man of excellence, sadly enough made himself a part." Well over 700 pages, *Albert Speer* is not a quick read, but superbly written and meticulously researched, it is a pleasure to read, providing unprecedented insight into one of the most complex figures in modern German history. --*Bertina Loeffler*

From Publishers Weekly

Sereny, a London journalist, "found a great deal to like" in former Nazi Albert Speer, Hitler's architect and minister of armaments and war production, whom she interviewed extensively between 1978 and his death in 1981. This long, strained portrait too often reads like an apologia and too often takes Speer's calculated, self-serving evaluations at face value. Convicted at Nuremberg for his use of slave labor, Speer spent 20 years in Spandau prison and wrote two bestselling memoirs voicing his repentance. Sereny unconvincingly argues that by 1941, Speer knew Jews were being deported but had no idea they were going to their deaths, nor any idea of Hitler's plans to exterminate European Jewry. By late 1943, however, she believes, Speer was aware of the almost-completed genocide even though he continued to work for Hitler, for whom he had an "unspoken love." Interviews with Speer's family and associates and with former Nazi officials, plus eight years of archival research, supplement this overblown account. Photos. 50,000 first printing; History Book Club main selection; BOMC alternate.

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From Library Journal

At one time, Albert Speer was the closest man to Adolf Hitler. Unlike other war criminals, Speer seemed to accept blame for his actions and felt the Nazi leadership should take responsibility for Hitler's crimes, not the German people. Sentenced to 20 years in Spandau prison, he was released in 1966 and died in 1981. Speer's writings and diaries (e.g., *Infiltration*, LJ 6/15/81) have become standard sources. Sereny repeats a method she used successfully in *Into That Darkness: An Examination of Conscience* (Vintage, 1983), which dealt with the Treblinka concentration camp commander Franz Stangl. That is, she conducted intensive and protracted interviews with Speer ("I grew to like [him]") and many of the people who were close to him. Along with the interviews and analysis are good descriptions of what was happening in Germany throughout the Third Reich. Sereny's clear and concise prose makes this book suitable for both the scholar and the lay reader. She has produced what will become one of the standard works in Holocaust studies. For all libraries. -*Dennis L. Noble, Sequim, Wash.*

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Users Review

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Donald Worsley:

This Albert Speer: His Battle With Truth book is not really ordinary book, you have after that it the world is in your hands. The benefit you receive by reading this book will be information inside this e-book incredible fresh, you will get facts which is getting deeper you actually read a lot of information you will get. This kind of Albert Speer: His Battle With Truth without we realize teach the one who reading through it become critical in imagining and analyzing. Don't become worry Albert Speer: His Battle With Truth can bring when you are and not make your tote space or bookshelves' become full because you can have it with your lovely laptop even cell phone. This Albert Speer: His Battle With Truth having fine arrangement in word and layout, so you will not truly feel uninterested in reading.

Lawrence Seay:

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