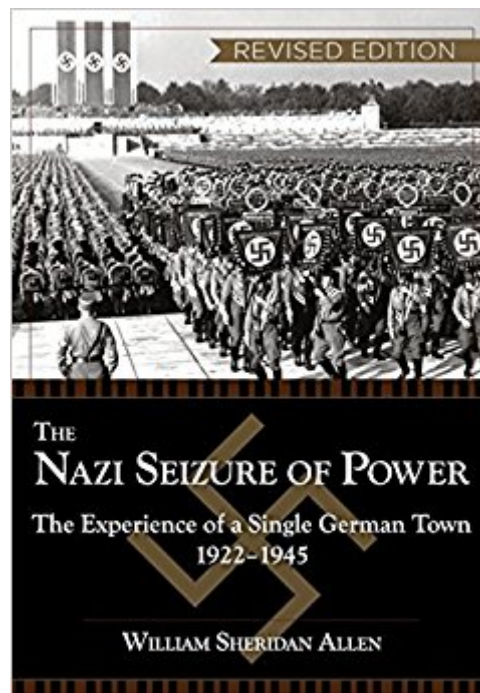




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# The Nazi Seizure Of Power: The Experience Of A Single German Town, 1922-1945, Revised Edition



## Synopsis

BE SURE YOU ARE BUYING THE CORRECT BOOK. THE ISBN FOR THE NEWEST PAPERBACK EDITION OF THE NAZI SEIZURE OF POWER IS 978-1626548725. IT IS PUBLISHED BY ECHO POINT BOOKS & MEDIA. William Sheridan Allen's research provides an intimate, comprehensive study of the mechanics of revolution and an analysis of the Nazi Party's subversion of democracy. Beginning at the end of the Weimar Republic, Allen examines the entire period of the Nazi Revolution within a single locality. Tackling one of the 20th century's greatest dilemmas, Allen demonstrates how this dictatorship subtly surmounted democracy and how the Nazi seizure of power encroached from below. Relying upon legal records and interviews with primary sources, Allen dissects Northeim, Germany with microscopic precision to depict the transformation of a sleepy town to a Nazi stronghold. In this cogent analysis, Allen argues that Hitler rose to power primarily through democratic tactics that incited localized support rather than through violent means. Allen's detailed, analysis has indisputably become a classic. Revised on the basis of newly discovered Nazi documents, *The Nazi Seizure of Power: The Experience of a Single German Town, 1922-1945* continues to significantly contribute to the understanding of this prominent political and moral dispute of the 1900s. William Sheridan Allen (1932-2013), a distinguished scholar of German history, traveled to the small town of Northeim in the 1950s to investigate the true nature of the Nazi Party's rise to power. There he conducted an exhaustive study of local newspapers, periodicals, reports, budget information, crime statistics, and court cases dating from 1922-1945. *The Nazi Seizure of Power* synthesizes Allen's research. Allen also edited and translated *The Infancy of Nazism: The Memoirs of Ex-Gauleiter Albert Krebs, 1932-1933*.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

World War II and the rise of Nazism in Germany are certainly two very well covered topics.

However, most history books pertaining to them deal with Germany on the national level, and so skim over or skip many of the details and minutia that contributed to their development. This book fills that gap by providing a detailed account of the rise of the Nazi party in a single town, and what happened to it after Hitler came to power. This book, while very interesting and informative, is not meant to be read cover to cover by someone simply wanting to learn about history. Because of the limited scope of the book's study, no detail is omitted, so that much of the text deals with the back and forth of rallies and counter-rallies held by the NSDAP, the SPD, and the various other German parties. Such level of detail is hardly necessary for the average reader, but these parts can easily be skimmed, and overall the book paints a very detailed and informative picture of what life in late Weimar era Germany, the later the Third Reich, was like. It provides detailed explanations of the workings of the Nazi propaganda machine, of what politics were like in that period, what the divisions in German society were and how they shaped events, and so forth. Things that would only be mentioned in overview in a typical book on German history are given the space they deserve here, and so provide a much better understanding of the lives and motivations of ordinary Germans. Furthermore, the book gives brief summaries of what events were happening on the national level at the time, so you always have a clear understanding of the larger forces which drove local sentiment and activities. I highly recommend this book to those interested in German history, just be aware of the specific focus of this book, as this level of detail may be unnecessary in some cases. Otherwise, enjoy. On the whole, this book reads pretty easily and is much more enjoyable and less dense than most history books I've read.

Excellent read about Nazi Germany. Good for undergraduate students.

This is an amazingly researched book. The story of the Nazis in one small town is captured in great detail. It is a book well worth reading.

This book explains much of what went on in that town during that time. After reading this book, I've a

much better understanding of what happened and why things happened the way they did. Through the author's writing, you can really see the path developing over the years. I truly learned many new things from this book. If you're interested in this subject, I very much recommend this book for its information and for its presentation. It gets a BRAVO from me.

It could never happen here.No, we have learned our lessons from the past.Think so?Read this and see how the most sinister horrors came to pass with the silent approval of on town...and for a time, the world.

Hmmm... This is a good book. I recommend it to anyone interested. Here are the highlights:1. His opponents fail to take him seriously.2. The voters of the Republic decide to elect him, even though his ideas are vague and sometimes contradictory. Basically, they decide to trust him, even though he hasn't done anything to earn their trust.3. Everyone assumes that he'll follow the laws, precedents, and prevailing customs. They never think he could assume absolute power. They believe the checks and balances of government will keep his ambition in place.4. The new regime, in just a matter of months ("coup d' etat by installments"), suppresses all forms of opposition, controls the media, and achieves "national unity."5. The new regime declares itself a movement, and justifies its use of control and force over the people.6. Initially, the people find ways to rationalize what's happening in their country. They assume that some loss of freedom is a necessary price to pay.7. By the time most people understand what is happening, it's too late for anyone to do anything about it.8. Moral numbness takes over."There was no real comprehension of what [they] would experience if [he] came to power, no real understanding of what [the movement] was.....Each group saw one or the other side of [the movement], but none saw it in its full hideousness. Only later did this become apparent, and even then not in the same degree to everyone. The problem of [the movement] was primarily a problem of perception.... "

Beware that this is ACADEMIC history. If you like a good READING experience, look elsewhere. But full of fascinating information. Maybe someday a narrative historian (or novelist) will make good use of all the material contained herein. VITAL for Nazi/WW 2 buffs.

I had the great pleasure of studying under Dr. Allen at the University of Missouri in the 1960s. I still remember some of his lectures fairly well. For one course, a required text was the first edition of this book. Wretched student that I was, I read it through with relish (something that I did not do with

many of the other books required of history majors then and there). Now, fifty odd years later, I read it again and with renewed interest - and worry. The forces that Hitler managed and manipulated to bring him to power in Germany in 1933 were eerily familiar to a reader in the United States in 2016. The Demagogues are not the same, but the message is. And it is so because it appeals to the same widespread sense of disconnection and disaffection in the population. Our country was once great, but has been allowed to crumble by the weaklings in our government. The Others have brought things to this awful pass. Our so-called leaders won't deal with them but I will. Only I will. I will make us great again. Other nations will fear us, as they should. Now, I'm not suggesting that this is a "repeat" of history. It's more of a rhyme. The checks and balances in our system will almost certainly prevent the rapid rise to supreme power that Hitler managed. I do not see any U.S. Congress passing anything like the Enabling Acts of 1933. But the ethos that demagogues represent is alive and well in America.

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