

Review: Paul Roland, *The Nazis and the Occult: The Third Reich's Search for Supernatural Powers*, Arcturus Publishing, London, UK, 2021

Pages: 256

The Darker Side of Evil

This canvasses a sorely neglected part of the Nazi ideology; arguably the most important, for Hitler's meteoric rise could only have come from God or the Devil. Judging by his fruits, it was the latter.

While the case is not made that Nazi occult forces were directed at large scale physical attack and defence (like the invocations of British Satanist Alister Crowley and witches Dion Fortune and Gerald Gardner), it is for the mass motivation of a whole people. Specifically, Hitler's speeches and the power of the spoke word were irresistible psychic forces.

The book details many occult events in Hitler's past: his Thule society interest; acquisition of the Holy Lance; and fascination with Wagner. Yet it seems a part of him despised the occult, or at least having any competitors to his newly-created but incomplete Aryan religion:

“Ourselves or the Freemasons or the Church – there is room for one of the three and no more.”

A far more important book on Nazism for gaining a deep understanding than usual military or political histories.

Introduction (pp. 7-11)

I) The Dark Gurus (pp. 13-40)

Ritual magic is communicating with the subconscious.

“Magic in itself in neither good nor evil. It is the intention behind the desire.”

“Magic is not supernatural [!]”.

“Inner Temple Magic” is also called “creative visualisation”.

The Teutonic archetypes are Wotan/Odin, Thor and the Lords of Chaos.

Guido von List (1848-1919) thought himself descended from the Armanen Nordic warrior magicians, named after chieftain Arminius [who successfully rebelled against Rome destroying three legions]. At 14, Guido renounced the Catholic faith and dedicated himself to building a temple to Wotan.

The “Akashic Records” are “an invisible matrix of mental energy”.

The *Starke von Oben* is “Strong One From Above”.

Philipp Stauff was a principal member of the Germanen Order, founded 1912, and modelled itself on the Freemason [a “philanthropic fraternity”!]. The Master would present novices with the “spear of Wotan”.

At the outbreak of WWI, there were over 100 Germanen Order lodges.

Hitler first turned to the Thule society, yet he never attended a meeting. Thule symbols were a sword, oak leaf cluster, and hooked cross.

Svasti (Sanskrit: “all I swell”).

The Aryan swastika is said to derive from the *Feuerquirl* (fire whisk) with which the universe had been created. It stands for lightning wielded by the omnipotent deity. The anti-clockwise form denotes divine order, the opposite, the descending hammer of Thor.

White symbolises national unity and red shed blood for the cause.

Lanz von Liechenfels was von List’s most devoted disciple. He believed the Aryans were God incarnate who worshipped Fraja Christus (the Gothic

Jesus) who demanded sacrificial slaughter of sub-humans to purify the world.

Hitler: “For me Wagner is something Godly and his music is my religion.” [39]

Wagner thought he could establish a German art purged of “impurities”, meaning Jewish influence.

II) The Spear of Destiny (pp. 41-96)

Hitler desired the spearhead Sword of St Maurice, the Holy Lance, Spear of Longinus which the Roman centurion pierced the side of Jesus. Forty-five emperors are said to have held the spear.

Christa Schroeder, Hitler’s private secretary: “[Hitler’s] private library contained no classic and no single book of humane or intellectual value.” [p56]

Hitler: “I read to confirm my ideas.”

Waldschrut is a forest troll.

Hitler’s mentor, Dietrich Eckart, died in 1923:

“With his last breath, he invoked the old gods through his treasured ‘Mecca Stone’, a black meteorite which he believed served as a portal between the worlds of spirit and matter. His last words were reputed to be: ‘Follow Hitler’.” [p73]

Enemies of Joseph Goebbels called him the ‘poison dwarf’.

Houston Stewart Chamberlain: “Hitler is an awakener of souls, the vehicle of messianic powers. Here is the new leader sent by God to the German people in their hour of greatest need.” [p78]

Chamberlain spread the idea Jesus was a blue-eyed, blond-haired Aryan.

In *Mein Kampf*, Hitler scorns pseudo-pagan revivalists.

When the German economy began to pick up in the mid 20s, the Nazis lost seats in the Reichstag.

The man-shaped mandrake tuber is said to emit a hideous shriek when torn out of the ground.

Hitler removed the Holy Lance from Austria to a crypt in St Catherine's Church in Nuremberg.

“Werewolf” was a post-WWII Nazi resistance movement.

III) Hitler – Medium or Magician? (pp. 97-113)

Hitler, *Mein Kampf*: “The power which has always started the greatest religions .. the magic power of the spoken word ... If I approach the masses with reasoned arguments, they will not understand me. In the mass meeting, their reasoning power is paralysed. What I say is like an order given under hypnosis.” [p97]

Fear and adoration are twin pillars of power.

Albert Speer, Nuremberg, 1946: “Hitler's dictatorship differed in one fundamental point from all its predecessors in history ... Through technical means like the radio and the loud-speaker, eighty million people were deprived of independent thought. It was thereby possible to subject them to the will of one man.” [p98]

Psychoanalyst Walter Lang: “In many of the German people there seems to be a strong feminine-masochistic tendency.” [p105]

The July assassination bomb plot of 1944 failed.

Individuals which commit to a collective behave like animals.

Hitler: “Ourselves or the Freemasons or the Church – there is room for one of the three and no more.” [p110]

Hitler: “mastery always means the transmission of a stronger will to a weaker one ... It's good fortune for the government that the masses don't think.” [p112]

IV) Astrology in the Third Reich (pp. 115-162)

Gazette de Lausanne, 4/5/1939: “Nobody believes in astrology more than Herr Hitler.”

In Africa, the British discovered the Italians lacked the same fighting spirit as the Germans.

On 6/9/1941, Hitler banned all non-Aryan occultism as subversive in *Aktion Hess*.

Ian Fleming was a Naval Intelligence officer with a fascination for Aleister Crowley.

Crowley claimed to have invented the “V” sign adopted by Churchill, which he took for the magical sign for Apophis and Typhon. Likewise, the “thumbs up” was the sign for the god ‘Khem’.

The September 1938 Munich Agreement gave Germany Sudetenland and Czechoslovakia.

In 1940, witch Dion Fortune would sit in a circle in Glastonbury and visualise national archetypes King Arthur, Merlin, and St George to strengthen morale. She believed this helped foil Hitler’s Operation Sea Lion.

In 1940, Gerald Gardner at Rufus Stone in New Forest erected a “protective cone of astral light” around Britain.

On 7/24/1943, Mussolini was deposed and imprisoned on Ponza Island, 75mi SE of Rome.

V) Occult Science (pp. 163-195)

The Nazis believed if they captured the spiritual centre of a country their enemy would lose the will to resist.

The *Welteislebre* (World Ice Theory) claims a mutant race of giants nearly went extinct 150kya; the survivors established the advanced island

civilisations of Atlantis and Lemuria. The giants nurtured the Aryans as their successors.

Hitler ordered the encircled 6th Army at Stalingrad to stand and fight to the last man.

Himmler believed the Cathars were custodians of the grail and that it was smuggled out of Montségur before they were murdered by Innocent III.

“The new German religion would worship Wotan, the god of knowledge, and the congregation would accept Adolf Hitler as their messiah.”

The Grail Knight Parsifal was said to be a Cathar.

The Nazis claimed to have been able to access 20,000 years of Teutonic history from the Akashic Records, including that Christianity was of German origin and Jesus was the Teutonic god Baldur.

Abnenerbe was the Department of Ancestral Heritage.

In Norse legend, Odin gave the runic alphabet to mankind.

VI) The SS: Myth of the ‘Black Knights’ (pp. 196-211)

Himmler, 5/3/1943: After the war ... monogamy will cease ... The SS and the heroes of this war ... will immediately have the right to take a second wife.” [p206]

VII) Satan and the Swastika (pp. 212-232)

Conclusion: The Shadow of the Swastika (pp. 233-250)