

The Memoirs of Field Marshal Wilhelm Keitel: A Window into the Mind of a Nazi Leader

Wilhelm Keitel was one of the most powerful and influential figures in Nazi Germany. As Chief of the OKW (Oberkommando der Wehrmacht, or High Command of the Armed Forces), he was responsible for overseeing all military operations during World War II. Keitel was a close confidant of Adolf Hitler, and his memoirs provide a firsthand account of the inner workings of the Nazi regime.



The Memoirs of Field-Marshal Wilhelm Keitel: Chief of the German High Command, 1938-1945 by Margot Potter

★★★★☆ 4.3 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 1596 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 298 pages



Keitel's memoirs were written in prison after the war, while he was awaiting trial at the Nuremberg Trials. He was sentenced to death for war crimes and executed in 1946. Despite his role in the Nazi regime, Keitel's memoirs offer a valuable historical perspective on the events leading up to and during World War II.

Keitel's Early Life and Career

Wilhelm Keitel was born in 1882 in Helmscherode, Germany. He joined the German Army in 1901 and served in World War I. After the war, he remained in the army and rose through the ranks, eventually becoming Chief of the OKW in 1938.

As Chief of the OKW, Keitel was responsible for overseeing all military operations during World War II. He was also a member of the Nazi Party and a close confidant of Adolf Hitler. Keitel was present at many of the key meetings of the Nazi regime, and his memoirs provide a firsthand account of the decision-making process that led to the outbreak of war.

Keitel's Role in World War II

Keitel played a major role in the planning and execution of World War II. He was responsible for overseeing the invasion of Poland in 1939, which marked the beginning of the war. He also played a key role in the planning of the invasion of the Soviet Union in 1941. Keitel was present at the meeting where Hitler issued the infamous "Commissar Order," which authorized the summary execution of Soviet political commissars.

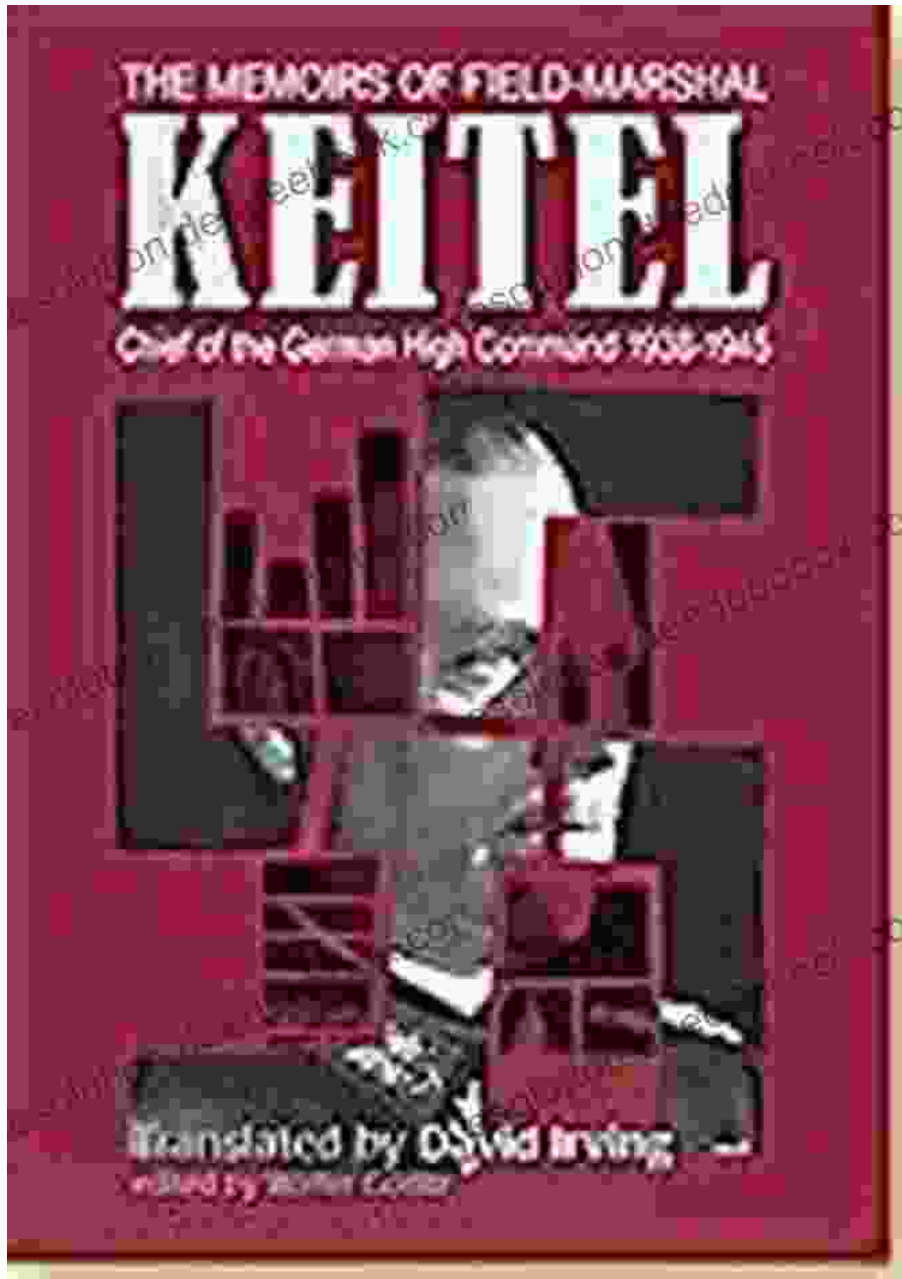
As the war progressed, Keitel's influence within the Nazi regime declined. He was increasingly marginalized by Hitler and other Nazi leaders, who saw him as a weak and indecisive leader. Keitel's memoirs reflect his growing disillusionment with the Nazi regime, and he ultimately came to believe that Hitler was leading Germany to disaster.

Keitel's Trial and Execution

After the war, Keitel was arrested and tried at the Nuremberg Trials. He was found guilty of war crimes and crimes against humanity, and was sentenced to death. Keitel was executed by hanging in 1946.

Keitel's memoirs offer a unique glimpse into the mind of one of the most powerful and influential figures in Nazi Germany. His account of the inner workings of the Nazi regime is invaluable to historians and anyone interested in understanding the events leading up to and during World War II.

The Memoirs of Field Marshal Wilhelm Keitel are a valuable historical document that provides a firsthand account of the inner workings of the Nazi regime. Keitel's memoirs offer a unique glimpse into the mind of one of the most powerful and influential figures in Nazi Germany, and they are essential reading for anyone interested in understanding the events leading up to and during World War II.



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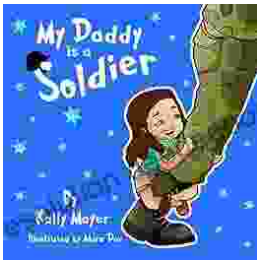
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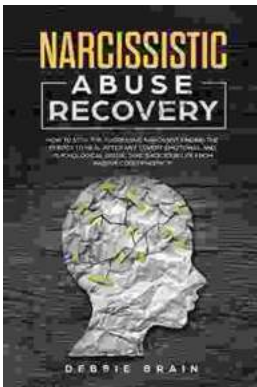
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