

## *Downfall*

*Downfall* is the story of Adolph Hitler's last days hiding in his Berlin bunker surrounded by Soviet forces. *Downfall* is a true story told from the perspective of Traudl Junge, one of Hitler's secretaries throughout the war who still survives today. *Downfall* depicts Hitler as delirious in his last days, and depicts those that were close to him as completely deranged. The Film has won five major awards all over Europe and North America and has received an Academy Award Nomination for Best Foreign Language Film.

While some have been critical that the film gives Hitler a human face, this cannot be construed to say that the film makes Hitler look humane. Hitler's behavior as depicted in *Downfall* is just as fanatical, hateful, and vile, as in any World War II film. *Downfall* is quite possibly one of the best World War II movies ever made. As a German film from the German perspective, it is also one of the most unique World War II films.

*Downfall* is told through the words of Traudl Junge, who starts the movie off in person by talking about her relationship with Adolph Hitler and the Nazi Party. Throughout the film however, Traudl makes no more appearances to either explain more about her relationship with Hitler or add perspective on the events taking place on the screen. Despite this, *Downfall* is a spectacular film that is a must see. **Grade B+/A-**

**By Zachary Knox**