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Sommario/riassunto	By any reckoning the issues at stake in the relationship between Pius XII and Hitler`s Germany are key to any understanding of the origins and progress of the Second World War. Noel neither denies the fatal effect

of the Vatican`s Concord with Hitler nor Pius XII's failure to condemn Hitler`s attempt to exterminate the Jews. This is a highly original study of the exercise of political and religious power, of real politik and the extent to which politics is always the art of the possible. But beyond this, we are offered a portrait of a man in highest power and authority who was mother fixat

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