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The Uniqueness of the Detective Story; Ratiocinative Man; The Character of the First Detective Hero: C. Auguste Dupin; The Character of the Most Popular Hero: Sherlock Holmes; THE POWER OF ABDUCTIVE LOGIC IN DETECTIVE STORIES; THE BACKWARD FORM OF THE STORY; Summary; PART II: THE TRACKER STREAM: FROM VOLTAIRE TO KARL MAY; Voltaire's "The Tale of Zadig"; Thomas Henry Huxley on "The Method of Zadig"; Karl May; Winnetou: A Textbook on Abductive Logic; The Plot of Winnetou; The Logic of the Novel; SUMMARY; Notes Chapter Five: The Application of Peirce's Abductive Theory to Unraveling the Mystery of Hitler's Youth THE UNDISPUTED FACTS OF HITLER'S TRANSFORMATION IN 1900, AT AGE ELEVEN; THE BAFFLEMENT OF SCHOLARS AT THE TWO MYSTERIES ARISING FROM HITLER'S TRANSFORMATION; THE NEED FOR A NEW APPROACH AND A NEW LOGIC TO UNRAVEL THE MYSTERY OF HITLER'S YOUTH; CRITIQUE OF THE ESTABLISHED METHOD OF HISTORICAL INVESTIGATION; PART I: PEIRCE'S NEW METHOD; Peirce's Conditions For The Application Of The New Logical Method; Presentation Of Peirce's Logic Peirce's Rules For The Logical Analysis Of Historical Testimony First Rule: Explain All the Facts; Second Rule: Assume the Principal Testimonies Are True; Third Rule: Be Careful of Probabilities; Fourth Rule: Trace Out the Logical Consequences of the Hypothesis; Fifth Rule: Enlarging the Field; Sixth Rule: Economy; Testing the Hypothesis Selected; Part II: GENERATING A HYPOTHESIS; Examining the First Principal Testimony: Adolf Hitler's Account in "Mein Kampf"; First Clue: The Unusual Nature of Hitler's Dispute with His Father at That Age; Second Clue: An Already Formed Attitude toward Work Third Clue: The Existence of an Antecedent Idea

Sommario/riassunto

Was Hitler rational? This question has spawned vociferous debates among historians, and has fascinated every layman who has ever dipped into a biography of Hitler. In *Hitler and Abductive Logic*, Ben Novak argues that Hitler was rational—one of the most logical political leaders of modern times—but not according to ordinary inductive or deductive logic. Instead, Hitler used a new form of logic called abductive logic, which he used as a "trick" to seduce crowds and rise to power. Now, for the first time, the method that Hitler
