Contents

Illustrations 9
Foreword by Klaus P. Fischer 11
Acknowledgments 13

1 Why Animals? 15

Part One: Animals and the Intellectual Origins of National Socialism

2 Predator and Prey 27
3 Romantic Terror 36

Part Two: The Symbolism of Animals in Nazi Germany

4 Grandfather Ape 47
5 Blood of the Lamb 56
6 The Sacrificial Pig 64
7 The Aryan Wolf 72
8 The Jewish Dog 81
9 Our Comrade in Arms, the Horse 92

Part Three: Treatment, Theory, Research

10 The Mystical Technocracy 101
11 Animals, Nature, and the Law 110
12 Animal Psychology 124

Part Four: Sacrifice and Death

13 Slaughter 139
14 Sacrifice 151
15 The Hell of Auschwitz 159
16 The Cult of Death 166
Appendix 1: Law on Animal Protection
Appendix 2: Brief Chronology of Legislation on Animals and Nature in the Third Reich
Bibliography
Index
List of Illustrations

1. “How long will it take before others here in Germany may only be seen behind bars?” Front page of Der Stürmer, March 10, 1932 55

2. “Sacrifice of the Jews.” Der Stürmer, May 1934. 62

3. Jewish scholars being suckled by a sow. 67

4. Kitchen workers at the Gurs concentration camp pose with a slaughtered pig. 67

5. “The civilized man being made into a domestic pig”. 71

6. Eighteenth-century engraving depicting the punishment of the Jews in this world and the next. 76

7. SS guard posing proudly with his dog. 87

8. German Soil by Werner Peiner. 95

9. The studio of Josef Thorak: “the largest atelier in the world.” 96

10. From a 1936 anti-Semitic children’s book Trust No Fox in a Green Meadow and No Jew at His Oath. 127

11. From a 1935 anti-Semitic children’s book The Poison Mushroom. 145

12. Miniature in the Hortus deliciarum of Herrad of Landsberg, ca. 1185, showing Jews in Hell. 163