

PILOT EPISODE

# Under the Clock

*A dangerous game of hide and seek*

**BASED ON A TRUE STORY**

Written by:

Wilke Durand

Prinsengracht 84  
1015 DZ Amsterdam  
The Netherlands

+3162654061  
wilkedurand.nl  
wilke@wilkedurand.n

TEASER

LEGEND: NAZI OCCUPIED AMSTERDAM, THE NETHERLANDS - JULY 1941

EXT. STREETS OF AMSTERDAM - DAY

A sun-drenched day in occupied Amsterdam. NAZI GERMANY is clearly present; Hitler's flags flutter on the facades of imposing canal houses, SS-OFFICERS run in and out of government buildings, the street scene teems with swastikas.

A GIRL RACES past on her bicycle. She's in her late teens, looks like a university student. She arrives at a drawbridge.

A sign reads: JEWISH QUARTER.

The girl GASPS, her eyes wide with FEAR when she sees that the DRAWBRIDGE leading to the Jewish Quarter is RAISED and across the water the streets have been BARRICADED.

She JUMPS off her bike, tries to walk...her knees weak... she STUMBLES...catches on to the railing of the bridge...

ACROSS THE WATER, the macabre finale of a MASSIVE ROUNDUP takes place. A long line of army trucks packed with desperate Jewish families are already waiting to cross the bridge.

People are brought at gunpoint to the overloaded army trucks; beaten onto the vehicles like unwilling cattle.

SS-OFFICERS bark orders and point out the houses that have been skipped; no Jew should be left behind.

EXT. JEWISH QUARTER - DRAWBRIDGE - DAY

SLAMMING her fist onto the railing in useless repetition...

STUDENT GIRL

God God God dammit...Goddammit...

Finally the drawbridge is LOWERED. An endless stream of trucks RUSH across the bridge. The girl RUNS alongside every passing vehicle. Back and forth, back and forth. SCANNING every truck like a mad woman. Suddenly she FREEZES.

She has SEEN something or someone. Desperately she tries to HOLD ON to what she just saw but the truck RACES PAST...

She watches the truck recede into the distance...in a daze the girl crosses the bridge...

EXT. STREETS JEWISH QUARTER - DAY

An unnatural, deadly silence has descended. There is no one to be seen. Here and there, like macabre scraps of human life are a piece of clothing, a teddy bear, a doll, glasses...

A piece of sheet music drifts in the wind - the only movement in the otherwise silent, deserted streets...

Then suddenly, out of nowhere, THREE WAILING CHILDREN run towards her. TWO LITTLE GIRLS, approximately 4 and 6 years old, cling to her, screaming for their mother...

A BOY - no more than 5 years old - just stands there; motionless, wordless.

The boy is COVERED in COAL DUST from head to toe.

A black statue, looking right through her. His eyes pale like a panda bear in reverse. In a toneless, hoarse, almost adult voice he finally speaks...

COAL DUST BOY

Will you hide us?

But then...A LOUD HAMMERING SOUND. The children CRY OUT...

Quickly she pulls them into her arms to MUFFLE the sound.

In the distance THE TROOPS load the confiscated belongings of the deported Jews on their trucks and HAMMER SHUT the now empty homes. The girl can hardly speak for fear...

STUDENT GIRL

It's okay...it's okay...they are just closing the doors...

Across the water, a military jeep is approaching; an SS-COMMANDER towering over the windshield like an emperor...

BLIND PANIC. She DRAGS the children towards an alley, PUSHES them against the wall...RASPS...

STUDENT GIRL (CONT'D)

Hush! Make yourself small...hush...

END OF TEASER

## ACT 1

LEGEND: "UTRECHT - 6 MONTHS EARLIER."

EXT. STREETS OF UTRECHT - NIGHT

Dusk. A dark, magnificent avenue, lined with enormous trees as far as the eye can see. Through the bare branches, Nazi flags and swastika banners claim the granite facades of the imposing buildings.

Two cycling girls in their late teens appear; one of them is ROARING WITH LAUGHTER...

It's ANNE VAN DEN BOGAERDE; the student girl from the teaser.

Petite, fierce dark eyes, uncontrollable auburn curls.

Riding her bike hands free; like a bouncing ball, waving her arms to underscore her story. Her face sparkling with mischief and glee. Cycling along with her is BETTY VAN KLEEF.

Tall, blond, soft hazel eyes. With her long legs, languidly pedaling, a violin case strapped to her back. Dreamy, shy, a bit distant...

ANNE imitates a tour guide with a heavy German accent;

ANNE

And to your left ladiez and gentlemen...our famouz...  
Zicherheitsdienst. Fun Fact: Here'z  
where we tortiar peoplez for fun.

A group of GERMAN SOLDIERS exit a building. Heavy boots march on the pavement. Betty's biking faster to get away from them.

BETTY

Anne, stop. They can hear us...

ANNE

No, no, no, Ober Sturmbahn Führer  
von Kleef! Eferywan is entitled to  
a favorit paastime, zo torchiur is  
as good as anysing elze.

Betty rolls her eyes, but can't help but laugh at her friend.

BETTY

You crazy, you know that?

EXT. UNIVERSITY BUILDING UTRECHT - NIGHT

The girls enter the grounds of the university building. Anne briskly parks her bike and stomps up the majestic steps. Her mood has changed; serious, focused...

ANNE

But honestly? It's absurd. As Rector, he should not advise his students to sign this loyalty agreement. It effectively means collaboration with the enemy. Period.

Betty sighs. Anne raises an eyebrow...

ANNE (CONT'D)

What??? It's the truth, Betty.

INT. UNIVERSITY BUILDING UTRECHT - NIGHT

A sign reads STUDENT CHOIR REHEARSAL.

JANITOR VAN KEMPEN hangs a poster with an announcement:

NOTIFICATION

University Senate advises students to sign

THE DECLARATION OF LOYALTY TO THE GERMAN OCCUPIER.

ANNE stops to read quickly, while anxiously keeping an eye on JANITOR VAN KEMPEN, who is watching them from a distance.

ANNE

Look! This university blatantly supports the signing of the Declaration now. It's outrageous!  
(ref: janitor)  
And that creep must be so happy...

Betty waves at van Kempen. Anne laughs in utter surprise...

ANNE (CONT'D)

What?! What are you all chummy with him for?

BETTY

I'm not chummy with him. I'm being polite.

ANNE

Oh you! With your eternal politeness! It will be written on your tombstone: here lies Betty van Kleef...she was polite...My goodness! You would greet Hitler if he passed by.

We hear a choir singing. Betty playfully drags Anne towards the rehearsal room.

BETTY

You're gonna go in first! Freek knows it's your fault we're late...

ANNE

You chicken shit! You go first. Freek's in love with you. He'll kill me if I'm late again...

INT. UNIVERSITY BUILDING UTRECHT - REHEARSAL ROOM - NIGHT

THE CHOIR sings Schubert. On piano is FREEK VAN BELLAART, an enviously handsome young man in his early twenties. Extremely tall, blond, blue eyes...He stops playing abruptly. Flirty...

FREEK

(ref. choir)

Who was that? There is a soprano joining the altos. And I have a pretty good idea who that is...

Tomboys HESTER & GRIET, in their late teens, turn their faces to each other in surprise and crack up...

FrEEK (CONT'D)

Could you please refrain from joining the altos, Griet? And by that, I mean: do not join Hester, however tempting that may be.

GRIET's big blue eyes sparkle even more and her blushing, chubby cheeks get even more red...

GRIET

I'm so sorry, maestro...Hester just has that effect on people. Strong voice, strong personality.

Hester with her dark hair, strong chiseled bone structure and sturdy walking calves is definitely the grumbling serious one of the two but still plays along and makes a gracious bow...

HESTER  
 (ref. Griet)  
 Thank you ever so much, my lady...

Anne & Betty enter the room and hastily take their places.

FREEK  
 Ah, look! The tandem van den  
 Bogaerde & van Kleef has arrived!  
 What is it with you law school  
 girls? Do you all come in pairs?

Freek winks at Betty and starts playing again. Betty blushes and shuffles into position with the sopranos, while Anne muscles in with the altos.

INT. UNIVERSITY BUILDING UTRECHT - REHEARSAL ROOM - NIGHT

LATER. The choir is listening to Betty & Freek perform; Freek on piano, Betty violin. The choir is enchanted by the connection the two lovers make through their music.

Anne paces up and down, not bothered by the magic that's happening. Impatiently she signals KEES to hurry and to get the rest of the choir to leave.

KEES - a grumpy young man - the kind that was born old, subtly nods in agreement while signaling Anne to be patient.

The final notes of Schubert; the choir members applaud.

Anne rolls her eyes in relief. Finally it's over.

Freek tenderly squeezes Betty's hand.

Anne throws Betty a look: EVERYBODY OUT!

Betty blows out the candles and with the black from the wick she draws a Hitler mustache under her nose and stamps her foot in agreement.

BETTY  
 (in heavy German)  
 Jawohl, Jawohl...

Everybody laughs, but then...JANITOR VAN KEMPEN sticks his head around the door, and they all immediately FALL SILENT.

With his gigantic body, his presence scares the living daylights out of them. Anne signals Betty to wipe off the Hitler mustache.

JANITOR VAN KEMPEN  
It's time. You all have to leave.  
I'm closing up.

ANNE  
Why so early? We normally have at  
least another hour!

JANITOR VAN KEMPEN  
Yes, Miss van den Bogaerde, but not  
today.

The rest of the choir members leave. Anne keeps a lookout.  
She peeks into the hallway where van Kempfen is hanging more  
notifications.

ANNE  
Well, so much for our meeting...  
Betty darling! You have got to be  
more careful! My goodness... you  
know what he's is all about...

BETTY  
I honestly think he's okay...

They all laugh at her naïveté. HESTER wipes off the rest of  
Betty's Hitler mustache...

HESTER  
My dear friend, you're too good for  
this wicked world. This man has a  
reputation.

KEES  
A reputation. Exactly. All based on  
circumstantial evidence.

ANNE  
Well...you go right ahead and be  
all -beyond reasonable doubt- about  
it...but I don't trust him...

HESTER  
He's seen with Police Commissioner  
Stoorburg. An SS-officer for crying  
out loud. Anne's right. Let's go to  
the club.

Anne gives Hester a big wink, grateful for her support.

INT. UNIVERSITY BUILDING UTRECHT - NIGHT

Betty and ANNE are the last ones to leave the building.



The posters advising students to sign the Declaration of Loyalty to the Germans have multiplied. Unaware of janitor van Kempen LURKING in the background, Anne rips a poster off the wall and rips off two more on her way out.

Betty spots van Kempen. Their eyes meet. He beckons her but Betty signals: *not now* and leaves hastily.

EXT. UNIVERSITY BUILDING UTRECHT - BICYCLE SHED - NIGHT

They all get their bicycles.

GRIET

Oh come on, Freek...I don't know anyone who drinks as much and as often as you do...

FREEK

Griet...you're happy to join me on occasion...with Hester of course!

HESTER

Some people are at this university to study, you know? Not all of us lead meaningless lives, Freek.

Anne shows them the posters she ripped off the wall. They all laugh until the deep baritone of van Kempen blares across the university square...

JANITOR VAN KEMPEN

Ms. van Kleef? Could I have a word?

Complete silence. Anne quickly hides the posters.

Uncomfortable Betty runs up the stairs. Anne narrows her eyes and sees Betty shaking her head in denial. Concerned...

ANNE

(ref. gang)

Does he think Betty ripped announcements off the wall?

Van Kempen gives Betty a document. Anne looks at the others in ALLARM...*What is he giving her?*

EXT. STEPS OF UNIVERSITY BUILDING - NIGHT

Betty scans the document van Kempen gave her, tucks it away real quick. She smiles but her lip's trembling.

BETTY

No, don't worry. I won't tell anyone, Mr. van Kempen. Thank you.

Just when Betty turns to leave...

JANITOR VAN KEMPEN

Miss van Kleef?

Slowly she turns around, scared for more bad news.

JANITOR VAN KEMPEN (CONT'D)

Think about it and remember you can't share this with anyone; ever.

EXT. UNIVERSITY BUILDING UTRECHT - BICYCLE SHED - NIGHT

Anne watches Betty run down the stairs, signaling: I'M OKAY! But Anne notices Betty's far from okay; pale faced, her hands trembling. Anne observes every move Betty makes...

ANNE

What did he say? What did he give..

BETTY

It's nothing...an invite...The rector needs to speak with me.

Betty stumbles, nearly faints...Anne catches her...

ANNE

Hey! What's the matter, Bee? Did he give you the form they want us to sign? The declaration?

FREEK

Good Lord, van den Bogaerde! Could you please stop talking about this declaration for a brief moment?

ANNE

Well it's important. We have to...

FREEK

Yes, Anne...I know what we have to do but I'm taking her home first, if that's alright with you?

Anne looks around uncertainly. DISMISSIVE looks from the others. *What did she do wrong?* Sad, like a child, who's unjustly reprimanded, Anne watches Betty and Freek leave.

EXT. STREETS OF UTRECHT - NIGHT

Freek and Betty walk in silence, wheeling their bikes.

FREEK

I was thinking of getting a quiet room to study. No more parties. Finally meet your parents. Convince them that you're not a lawyer... But a world-class violinist... We have a plan, remember? Hey? This should make you happy...not sad...

BETTY

I'm not sad, darling. Just tired...Bye Now Mr. van B. I'll miss you...and don't forget that quiet room after that first beer...

FREEK

I won't my darling. I won't...

Betty's smile fades as soon as Freek is out of sight and stares at the document. The letter head:

THE OFFICIAL LOGO OF THE NAZIS.

INT. ANNE & BETTY'S STUDENT HOME - BETTY'S ROOM - NIGHT

She reaches for a hidden box at the top of her wardrobe. She tears open a big envelop. takes out a newspaper and reads...Betty's in shock.

She closes her eyes in desperation. Every emotion seems to stream out of her. Mechanically she grabs a scarf...puts a chair right under the beamed ceiling and climbs up. She throws the scarf around the beam and as if it's meant to be; it succeeds in one go. She's IN A TRANCE...She ties a makeshift noose...transcending to another world... she closes her eyes...her head through the noose. But then... Downstairs a door SLAMS SHUT.

ANNE

(O.S.)

Van Kleef! Are you decent? In your PJ's in five!

Betty FREEZES...her EYES WIDE OPEN but...NO...NO...

She must go on with this...

**END OF ACT I**

ACT II

INT. ANNE & BETTY'S STUDENT HOME - KITCHEN - NIGHT

With her coat still on, Anne is making tea. She obviously has had a few too many. Shouts to the upstairs...

ANNE

I'm making tea!  
 (mumbles to herself)  
 I'd rather have something stronger,  
 but these Krauts drink like fish...  
 so...nothing left for us kids...

A little unsteady on her legs, Anne takes the tray upstairs.

She KNOCKS. No answer. Anne OPENS the door, turns on the light...DROPS the tray...the side table with picture frames...SHATTERED in glass...

ANNE (CONT'D)

Jesus Christ, Betty!

Betty is standing in the middle of the room, half undressed.

ANNE (CONT'D)

You give me a heart attack. What are you doing?!

BETTY

Huh? Nothing...Getting ready for...

Carefully they pick up the pieces of glass...

ANNE

Huh? Oh, yes. Of course. That makes sense. I usually get ready for bed with the lights on, though...So, what did van Kempen want from you?

BETTY

Nothing. I mean, I have to go see the rector. He wants to speak...

ANNE

Why?

BETTY

I don't know...I honestly don't...

Anne looks around in suspicion. There is something off in here...This is not good.

Betty stares at a picture. It shows Anne handing BETTY & FREEK a bouquet of flowers after a concert. Betty's state alarms Anne, frightens her...Betty's sad, disconnected...

ANNE

(softly)

How nice... You framed that picture. My goodness, look at you! That dress of yours...Next to you, I look like the back end of a bus.

BETTY

Don't say that. You're beautiful. You take this dress, Annie.

ANNE

No way. Why? So what was van Kempen talking about, Bee? You can tell me, even if it's a bad thing...

To hide her tears, Betty turns around, fumbles in a drawer...

BETTY

No it's not that...I had a discussion with my parents again about...you know...same old same old...music or law...

Betty shoves her secret box out of Anne's sight, takes out the dress she's wearing on the picture, gives it to Anne.

ANNE

Betty, I really think you should quit law and wear that dress to your concerts. Tell your parents what you want. Fight for it.

BETTY

Well fighting is not my style. You catch more flies with honey, that's my motto.

ANNE

Well, my motto is: be just and be honest. Always.

BETTY

(endearing)

Yes, as we all know, your honesty is legendary, Annie... but it doesn't always come in handy.

ANNE

Honesty almost never does, Bee.  
It's okay to be scared...but to do  
nothing...

BETTY

I know... I know... but you know  
me, Annie... You know me...

ANNE

I certainly do... and you're not  
happy Bee... that's for sure.

Anne's fixated on the empty, dead look in Betty's eyes. It  
disturbs her, makes her sad. Betty doesn't notice Anne's  
fighting back tears...

BETTY

I guess nobody is happy right now.

Slowly Betty puts back the scarf...

BETTY (CONT'D)

I just need to sleep.

Anne looks around anxiously...She senses something, doesn't  
know what...She breaths heavily...PANIC in Anne's eyes...

Betty lowers her eyes in shame. She knows what Anne's  
sensing. She knows what she has tried to do. But then...

Something hard HITS the window. Betty makes a small opening  
in the blackout curtains;

Freek stands in the middle of the street, his arms spread  
widely as if to say: 'I am completely at your disposal,  
Betty.' Betty's face lightens up...

BETTY (CONT'D)

It's Freek.

When Anne sees Betty's happy face, she squeezes out a smile  
and pushes Betty towards the stairs...

ANNE

Now you go get that crazy drunk  
person off the streets before the  
Krauts will...

Betty runs downstairs. For a long moment Anne just stands  
there in the middle of the room...trying to make sense out of  
this all...

INT. ANNE'S ROOM - NIGHT

Anne enters her messy room. Cloths lying around everywhere. Cups and plates next to the bed. By no means a girly, nicely furnished room like Betty's. A picture of her mother on her desk. She looks at it for a while...

Through the crack in the blackout curtains Anne watches how Freek seems to bring Betty back to life with his kiss.

She leans her head against the window. Just stands there, her eyes closed; as if in this way she can shut out the pain.

INT. PUBLIC POOL - DAY

A splash. The swimming team practices relay.

Betty is an excellent swimmer and Anne, on the starting block, urges her to go faster.

Anne's last. The whole team is cheering her on.

They win. The girls jump up and down for joy as if they have just won the war.

INT. PUBLIC POOL - CHANGING ROOMS - DAY

Anne and Betty each occupy a changing room, adjacent to one another. Their heads and feet are visible from the outside.

Betty comes out, ready to leave, but THE SWIMMING COACH stops her. He looks around suspiciously...

Betty signals that Anne is in the changing room next to her.

COACH

She doesn't know?

Betty frantically shakes her head; Anne must not know.

INT. PUBLIC POOL - CHANGING ROOM ANNE - DAY

Anne can see the coach's feet and tries to OVERHEAR the conversation between the two, but only hears bits and pieces.

INT. PUBLIC POOL - CHANGING ROOMS - DAY

COACH

Do you think your friends will hold  
it against you? You don't have to  
be ashamed, you know?

Betty grabs his arm and leads him away from Anne's cubicle.

BETTY

No, I know...I know.

COACH

Did you speak to van Kempen? Just  
think about it. Anyway, take this  
just in case.

The coach secretly gives her a small object that looks like a  
ONE-FITS-ALL KEY to open the cubicles with.

Anne comes out. Quickly Betty hides the key under her towel.

COACH (CONT'D)

Uhm..Bye now, young ladies. See you  
all next week.

ANNE

What was that all about?

Quickly, Betty stuffs the towel in her bag.

BETTY

Oh, you know what he's like.  
Another incomprehensible swim  
technique I should embrace.

ANNE

Really? I thought...Didn't he  
mention...van Kempen?

BETTY

No, he went on and on about this  
technique...sharing it with  
friends...with you...

Hastily, Betty heads for the exit, with Anne in her wake.

BETTY (CONT'D)

My goodness! We have exactly 10  
minutes to get to the university.

Anne grabs her arm and looks at her searchingly.



ANNE

Well, for the lecture on German Race Laws, I'm happy to be late.

BETTY

Well, I hate to be late.

Betty shrugs her off and leaves. The door slams in Anne's face, leaving her flummoxed.

INT. UNIVERSITY BUILDING UTRECHT - LECTURE HALL - DAY

A professor tries to lecture on GERMAN LAW. The students disrupt the class, tapping the table with their pens.

PROFESSOR LAW

The Nuremberg Race Laws...a German is he or she who has German "blood" and serves the fatherland through his or her actions.

Anne hammers her pen on her desk, her face flustered with rage, her eyes remain fixed on Betty, who just sits there awkwardly, staring at her desk.

ANNE

Come on, van Kleef. You can do better than that. Coward...

BETTY

Yes, Anne...You are the best and the bravest. I'm really sorry, I'm not living up to your expectations.

ANNE

I don't have any expectations, but I do expect you to join our meeting tonight...Right now? You worry me.

BETTY

Well, I'm not joining the meeting.

Anne suddenly understands. She is shocked to the core...

ANNE

You're signing the loyalty agreement!

BETTY

Oh, is that so? You seem to know a whole lot of things, now don't you?

ANNE

Tell me the goddamn truth then.

BETTY

We're not all warriors, Anne.

ANNE

Goddammit, Betty. You don't have to be a warrior, but you don't have to be a lying coward either.

BETTY

You know what, Anne? With you, there is no room for...

ANNE

You're damn right, I don't have room for traitors. You're disgusting, you know that?

BETTY

Well, you don't have to deal with this disgusting, cowardly person anymore. I'm leaving this university and the house.

The professor now has to shout to be heard.

PROFESSOR LAW

The Law for the Protection of German Blood and German Honor!

The students, including Anne, stand up ostentatiously to leave the lecture hall. Betty doesn't move; she closes her eyes to avoid Anne's accusing look.

INT. UNIVERSITY BUILDING UTRECHT - DAY

A crowd has formed in the hallway. Students have heated conversations about the lecture. Anne is standing in the middle of a group of students and makes a fiery speech.

ANNE

...And that's exactly why the signing of this loyalty agreement is absolutely reprehensible, and I'm expressing myself mildly...

Anne spots Betty and a couple of other students, that haven't left the lecture early. They are booed by the crowd.

It's painful for Anne to see Betty cringe as she hastily leaves. Anne runs after her.

EXT. STREETS OF UTRECHT - DAY

Anne follows Betty to a square filled with Nazi government buildings and hides around the corner. She sees how:

Betty anxiously looks around. Did someone follow her?

Anne can hardly breath; is Betty entering one of the Nazi buildings? She runs across the square but just as she wants to enter the alley where Betty disappeared...

POLICE COMMISSIONER STOORBURG; a handsome, aristocratic man in an impressive police uniform BLOCKS her way.

STOORBURG

Hey! What's with the running, lady?  
Your ID please?

Anne freezes. Opens her mouth but she's unable to speak...He looks at her in amusement, while she is frantically looking in the pockets of her skirt, her blouse...

ANNE

I must have it here somewhere...  
Oh...gosh..I...I...left my bag at  
the University. I don't have it on  
me, I'm afraid. I forgot my paper  
for the uhm...the...Lecture on  
German law...

STOORBURG

Oh, is that so?

Without a warning he sticks out his hand. Anne trembles like a leaf as she shakes it but manages to squeeze out a smile.

STOORBURG (CONT'D)

Police commissioner Coen Stoorburg.  
Head of Sicherheit Dienst Utrecht.  
I could get you arrested for not  
carrying your identity card. You  
know that, don't you?

Anne uses her charm and nods like a naughty child.

STOORBURG (CONT'D)

You know what? Let me walk with  
you...so you're a law student?

They walk into the alley where Betty disappeared. A few steps down, Anne notices a woman sitting on the steps. On the facade, a sign reads: JEWISH COUNCIL.

Anne's eyes widen; it's BETTY.

Their eyes meet, for a long moment fixated on one another. Simultaneously they decide to be strangers. Shaken Betty runs up the stairs and enters the Jewish Council...Anne quickly connects the dots.

STOORBURG (CONT'D)

What's up, student girl?...Never seen a Jew before?

ANNE

Uhm, oh I...I'm sorry...I can't be late for my lecture Mr. Stoorburg.

Stoorburg takes out a card and makes a gracious bow...

STOORBURG

Coen, you can call me Coen. I would love to have tea with you sometime. Visit me here...at this address...

ANNE

Oh...yes...I'd love to...thank you so much for the invitation...

Anne grabs the card and runs off in relief. She runs and runs, until she's home...

INT. STUDENT HOME - ANNE & BETTY - DAY

Anne enters Betty's room. Goes through her stuff, opens drawers and finally the cabinet. She takes out Betty's secret box and scans the document janitor van Kempen gave Betty.

We hereby inform you that on the authority of the Reich's Commissioner of the Netherlands, Dr. Seys Inquart that Regulation (VO 27/1942) will come into effect.

On February 1st 1942 Jews are no longer allowed to study at Universities. Violation of VO27/42 will be severely punished.

Now Anne's eye catches a newspaper; it's the JEWISH WEEKLY. A bright YELLOW STAR OF DAVID adorns the front page. The word JEW printed needly in the middle. Next to it...

WEAR THE STAR OF DAVID VISIBLY ON YOUR CLOTHING AT ALL TIMES!

Violators risk six months in prison or are sent to the Mauthausen labor camp. This is a sledge hammer blow.

ANNE

Oh God...Betty...Betty...

**END OF ACT II**

ACT III

INT. JEWISH COUNCIL UTRECHT - DAY

Betty waits patiently in line. Copy's of the Jewish Weekly are lying around. Betty grabs one. A flamboyant JEWISH LADY comes in after her. Out of breath from talking at high speed:

FLAMBOYANT JEWISH LADY  
It's mesjogge. I'm telling ya.  
We're trapped like rats. No way we  
can escape the Nazis. We're all  
going to die.

The man first in line picks up the yellow stars of David. The word JEW, neatly embroidered in the middle.

FLAMBOYANT JEWISH LADY (CONT'D)  
(ref. Star of David)  
You have to sew them visibly on  
your clothing. You will have to sew  
them, Schatzie! No pins. And I warn  
you: wear them! Always. If you're  
caught without one: penal camp in  
Germany. Mauthausen.

Betty nods, tears well up in her eyes.

FLAMBOYANT JEWISH LADY (CONT'D)  
And that's even worse. I have heard  
stories in Germany...  
(whispers threateningly)  
They're going to kill us all. I'm  
from Germany. I know. I know.

Back to normal, as if she has not just painted this dire picture of the future...

FLAMBOYANT JEWISH LADY (CONT'D)  
Are you also here to pick them up?  
They're expensive too, you know?

The woman now takes a good look at Betty.

FLAMBOYANT JEWISH LADY (CONT'D)  
You are a student, right? Or  
rather: WAS. It's today right?

She points at the long list of Anti-Jewish regulations, that hangs prominently on the wall.

BETTY

Yes. Today was my last day at university.

Betty is choking, pulls off her scarf.

BETTY (CONT'D)

I can't keep track. Every day there is a new restriction. Yesterday I totally forgot to hand in my bike.

FLAMBOYANT JEWISH LADY

Well, I would be very careful about not following the rules: you can go to jail, you know? Half a year. Or a 1000 Guilder fine. Or Mauthausen.

It's Betty's turn.

BETTY

(re: office clerk)

I'm moving to Amsterdam.

As she frantically tries to find what's written about it in the JEWISH WEEKLY...

BETTY (CONT'D)

So, I guess I need a special permit for that?

The lady in line is now yelling to the back of Betty's head.

FLAMBOYANT JEWISH LADY

You're not moving to Amsterdam, now are you? Oh, mein liebe Gott! Amsterdam is the worst.

BETTY

(re: office clerk)

Can I have 10 of those Stars of David, please? Can I also pick up a permit to travel here?

OFFICE CLERK

You will have to fill out the form and come back tomorrow to pick it up. We need to have it approved.

FLAMBOYANT JEWISH LADY

They are arresting people nonstop in Amsterdam, you know? Oh, meyn Gott! It's hell, truly.

With every word, Betty dies inside. Quickly, she pays for the Stars of David and scribbles the information on the permit. Out, she must get outside immediately.

She heads for the door but stops abruptly. Betty breaks. She just stands there, staring at the endless list of regulations, her eyes fixed on:

FROM 1-7-1942 JEWS ARE FORBIDDEN from having SEXUAL RELATIONS OR MARRIAGE WITH ARYANS. This IS A CRIMINAL OFFENSE.

INT. STUDENT HOME FREEK - NIGHT

A majestic student home. FREEK is playing the piano. The doorbell rings; it's BETTY. From the look on her face, Freek senses...this is not going to be good..

INT. STUDENT HOME FREEK - NIGHT

LATER. Freek paces up and down.

FREEK

I just don't understand. You love me, don't you?

It's painful, but she has to go through with it...

BETTY

Yes, but I'm not in love with you anymore, Freek.

FREEK

You don't trust me. You think I want to lead this wild student life forever. Well, you're wrong. I'm not some kind of irresponsible bum. What happened in the past...

BETTY

I just don't feel it any more Freek.

FREEK

Well, that's not what I felt yesterday.

BETTY

That had nothing to do with love.

This is a blow. He holds her, tries to kiss her, strokes her hair, her face. He goes crazy.

FREEK

Why do you want to hurt me so much?  
What would you want to rip my heart  
out for? Who are you, Betty van  
Kleef? Let me look at you. Let me  
look into these eyes of yours.

BETTY

Stop it! Stop it! Don't you get it?  
I just don't love you anymore.

FREEK

God, you're cold. You are an ugly  
human being, Betty. Go away. Don't  
you ever dare come near me again.

INT. ANNE & BETTY'S STUDENT HOME - NIGHT

Anne sits on the steps in the dark, holding Betty's secret  
box. Paralyzed, her eyes have lost every sparkle but when  
Betty enters, she jumps up...

ANNE

I thought we were friends.

BETTY

Oh yeah? Friends don't falsely  
accuse each other.

Anne smashes Betty's secret box on the floor. Documents and  
copies of the Jewish weekly fly through the hallway.

ANNE

Friends don't lie to each other.  
They help each other.

BETTY

I don't need your help. Or your  
pity, or anyone's pity...You don't  
have to fix me, ANNE. God knows,  
you've got plenty of yourself to  
fix.

Now Anne hits Betty in the face. Hard.

Betty hits her back. Hard. Betty is thrashing around  
wildly...Anne grabs her wrists to protect herself.

BETTY (CONT'D)

Before this insane war, I was just  
a girl. A goddamn normal girl. What  
am I now, huh? Look at me! Look at  
me! What am I?

(MORE)



BETTY (CONT'D)

Ashamed of who I am, of what I am...I am nothing! Nothing! I am a pitiful piece of shit...and I don't want to be this person any longer. Don't even want to be here anymore.

Anne freezes, goes stone cold.

ANNE

Don't say that. Please. Don't.

The girls panic and hold each other for dear life. This is all too much, too big, too painful.

INT. ANNE & BETTY'S STUDENT HOME - ANNE'S ROOM - NIGHT

Later. The girls are in pajamas. Anne opens a bottle of wine.

ANNE

Had to promise my father not to drink it before the end of the war, but this calls for radical action.

The girls crawl in bed and drink in silence.

BETTY

I broke up with Freek. Jews are not allowed to have sexual relations with Aryans. It's a criminal offense now, you know?

Anne doesn't know what to say. After a long silence...

ANNE

I'm so sorry, Bee. He loves you. Freek would want to continue the relationship. Forbidden or not.

BETTY

That's why he must never know. I couldn't put him in danger, Anne. Promise me. You have to promise.

ANNE

It's okay. It's okay. I promise.

BETTY

Thanks, ANNE. You're the best.

ANNE

No, I'm not. How could I've been so stupid? Not to see...not to pick up the signs.

BETTY

Because you can only focus on one thing at the time, Annie...

Anne lowers her eyes in shame.

BETTY (CONT'D)

No, no, no...That's not a bad thing per se. You get things done. I tend to...implode...

ANNE

Implode. Nice one. Well, maybe I should explode a little less.

BETTY

You'd definitely make more friends, that's for sure.

They laugh.

ANNE

Yes, I hate that about you. You are too damn likable!

For a moment, they are alone with their thoughts again.

ANNE (CONT'D)

Today I realized that I don't even know who's Jewish and who's not. I noticed some students just disappeared, but were they Jewish? I honestly don't know...

BETTY

Possibly...David Meyer never showed in lectures anymore...he might have gotten his deportation summon...

Suddenly Anne's mood changes. Urgently...

ANNE

I've heard some people go into hiding. You must go into hiding, Betty. You must.

BETTY

No...It has been offered to me...

ANNE

By whom?

Betty hesitates but quickly changes course...

BETTY

I'm not allowed to tell you that, Anne. It's better to know as little as possible.

Anne shrugs, annoyed.

BETTY (CONT'D)

Oh Annie...please...it's dangerous. These people put their lives on the line! Anyway, my parents won't allow it. If you get caught, they'll send you to Mauthausen. That's not a normal work camp. It's a penal camp...

Shivers down her spine.

BETTY (CONT'D)

Well, I rather work.

ANNE

Well penal camp or not... You can't just let them send you away...to a work camp for crying out loud...I'll ask my father to arrange hiding places...

BETTY

No, Anne. Please. Let it go. It's not up to you to decide...No need to ask your father.

EXT. PARENTAL HOME ANNE - DAY

A stately country mansion. Anne runs up the steps of the main entrance. A woman in her seventies comes out to greet her. It's ELSIE, wearing a housekeeper's uniform; black dress, white apron, white cap. Elsie gives her a motherly embrace.

ELSIE

Hello, my darling. It's been so long. Let me look at you! Oh you pretty a thing, you are.

As they enter the house together...

ANNE

Hello Elsie! Yes, it has been quite a while since I visited, hasn't it? Is Daddy home?

ELSIE

No dear. Mr. van den Bogaerde went to the factory for a meeting. It's not easy these days, you know? Now you must be hungry...

INT. PARENTAL HOME ANNE - KITCHEN - DAY

LATER. Elsie prepares dinner. Anne sits at the kitchen table.

ANNE

So, how are things with Daddy?

ELSIE

He's getting by, getting by. Misses you of course. You should visit more often, dear.

ANNE

I know. It's...I'm busy, you know?

ELSIE

Still no fiancée in sight?

ANNE

Nope. You're the only one who finds me attractive, Elsie.

ELSIE

Oh, I bet the boys are fighting for your hand.

ANNE

Nope. Too difficult a character, I guess. Boys want likable, easygoing girls. Not explosive girls, like me.

ELSIE

I have already set the table in the dining room.

ANNE

Will you eat with us, Elsie?

ELSIE

No dear. I'm old. I go to bed early these days. You have a quiet dinner with your father now.

Anne is obviously disappointed.

INT. PARENTAL HOME ANNE - DINING ROOM - NIGHT

Anne and her father are having dinner in silence. There is something off in their relationship. Uncomfortable in the presence of each other.

In the background, on the imposing fireplace, photos surrounded by candles; a shrine for a dead mother. Finally, after a long, uncomfortable silence...

ANNE

And? Have you thought about it?

MR. VAN DEN BOGAERDE

Yes. This enterprise is not without risks, you know?

ANNE

I know that. But it is our duty, don't you think? To help a fellow human being? To help Betty...I owe her...big time...

MR. VAN DEN BOGAERDE

I have responsibilities towards the people that work for us. If we get caught, there will be consequences you don't even want to imagine. You don't have to solve everything, Anne. Nor are you responsible for other people's misery...

ANNE

What is that supposed to mean?

MR. VAN DEN BOGAERDE

It means you sometimes have to let go. And that's not your forte.

ANNE

God, how cold you are!

She throws her napkin on the table and strides out the door.

EXT. PARENTAL HOME ANNE - DAY

Anne says goodbye to Elsie. Just as she wants to leave, her father stops her. As he clumsily embraces her...

MR. VAN DEN BOGAERDE

Hey you? Come. Don't leave without saying goodbye. Nothing good comes from that.

As she holds him close...holding back her tears...

ANNE

No. I apologize, daddy...I will visit more often.

MR. VAN DEN BOGAERDE

I would love that. Tell Betty, she's welcome. You were right...she was there for you when your...

Pain in their eyes. He can't say this out loud, and Anne doesn't want to hear the words.

ANNE

I know...I love you daddy...

The unfathomable sadness in Anne's eyes breaks him. Briskly he wipes of the tears, running down her face...

MR. VAN DEN BOGAERDE

Hey...There was nothing you could have done, to help your mother... Nothing anyone could have done to save her, you hear?

INT. TRAIN COMPARTMENT - DAY

A train drives through the flat Dutch landscape. Anne's a million miles away when the train stops in the middle of the meadow. She sticks her head out of the window...

ANNE

Why are we stopping?

FELLOW PASSENGER

Yes I wonder; We shouldn't be stopping until Utrecht.

Next to a small train station stand a couple of army trucks. NAZI OFFICERS are watching SOLDIERS helping DOZENS OF CHILDREN with backpacks off the trucks.

The girls are all wearing cute black dresses with a white apron, a bow in their hair. The boys in smoothed white shirts, a tie, a neat cap. Automatically, the children form an orderly row and march towards the platform, to the train.

FELLOW PASSENGER (CONT'D)

Oh my God. The orphanage. They have cleared out the orphanage. The Jewish orphanage is nearby...

ANNE

What do you mean...the Jewish orphanage...what..Oh my god...What are they...taking these children to a labor camp in the East...what...

Unable to comprehend the insanity, she sinks in her seat.

INT. STUDENT HOME ANNE & BETTY - NIGHT

Anne enters the house and runs up the stairs.

ANNE

Betty? Good news. You can stay with my father...Grumpy old guy, but he's all right...Betty?

No answer. Her room is empty. The ballgown Betty gave her lies on the bed as a silent witness of a friendship in happier days. On top of it, a letter of goodbye. Anne reads it hastily, then hurls the dress across the room.

**END OF ACT III**

ACT IV

INT. UNIVERSITY BUILDING UTRECHT - NIGHT

Griet, Kees and Hester sit around in an uncomfortable silence. Freek slouches at the piano; he's not a happy drunk. Griet tries to break the ice, to no avail...

GRIET

I come here for choir rehearsal,  
but apparently I'm here to join the  
resistance; SURPRISE!

HESTER

Not the smartest move, given your  
National Socialist housekeeper.  
Tell Freek the story!

Griet tries to cheer him up; Freek just stares through her.

GRIET

Well...my roommate Hansje and I  
have just hired a new housekeeper,  
right? We bring her to the  
door...she puts on her coat and;  
boom! NSB pin on her jacket...

KEES

I don't get it. Why study in  
Amsterdam!? Join the law faculty  
here in Utrecht!

GRIET

And live with my parents here in  
Utrecht again? I prefer that Nazi  
housekeeper in Amsterdam...

No reaction. The rest laughs uncomfortably. Anne rushes in.

FREEK

Good evening, van den Bogaerde.  
You're late...but what else is new?

Hester gives Kees a look of understanding.

HESTER

Freek, we can do this tomorrow. You  
have a lot on your mind, with Betty  
and all. None of us knew she...



FREEK

No, there were many things about Betty I didn't know. Like she'd fallen out of love with me.

It hurts her to see him in pain. She ruffles his hair...

ANNE

Lets do this, Freek. Okay: the loyalty agreement. Here's my plan: we set the student address files on fire...

They all laugh, but Anne is deadly serious.

ANNE (CONT'D)

WHAT? Why not? Let's make it damn hard for them to trace us. They are after us students now. They will send us to a work camp if we don't sign. Honestly, we must destroy the student address files. We must. Look: I will hide in the broom closet to let you guys in after van Kempen has gone home...

Hester looks at her watch and turns on the radio.

HESTER

It's time. Listen up! Radio Orange!

RADIO VOICE

Radio Orange to all good patriots: The German occupier is demanding that our students sign the declaration of Loyalty to the German oppressor. A barbaric measure that must be fiercely resisted.

THE DOOR BURSTS OPEN. Quickly, Anne turns off the radio.

A group of uniformed Dutch guys enters, members of the Dutch National Socialist Bond; the NSB. They look threatening: long black leather coats, shiny black boots, armed.

Their leader steps forward and slams an official document on the bar.

LEADER

As of tomorrow, this place is confiscated, you sons of bitches. From now on this building belongs to the National Socialist Bond.

Freek gets up slowly, a little unsteady but his aristocratic appearance and tall figure prevail; the leader crumbles.

FREEK

My good man, I'd love to oblige,  
but are you aware this is the  
girls' sorority? Obviously, you  
are not a student yourself...

Hester grabs the document, reads it quickly, then turns to him with unconcealed disdain and superiority...

HESTER

You had a great entrance, but your  
timing is abominable. Since your  
lot bANNED Jews from club  
membership, we are disbanding.

LEADER

Oh yeah? Are there any Jews around?

He looks around suspiciously. Sniffs.

LEADER (CONT'D)

Do you smell Jews, guys? It goddam  
smells like shit in here, huh?

Freek is about to explode. Kees grabs him and sits him down.

KEES

You sit down now...you stay put...

Anne, livid, moves behind the bar and reaches for A LARGE HAMMER that is hidden from view under the tap.

From the corner of his eye, KEES watches ANNE, who slowly lifts the heavy hammer and just as she wants to LASH OUT:

KEES (CONT'D)

ANNE! Stop!

Kees JUMPS behind the bar; he's just in time to grab the hammer. To distract the man, he shouts...

KEES (CONT'D)

What on earth are you doing, Anne?!  
You're wasting precious beer.  
(re: barman)  
You pour us a beer now, Pete!

Anne tries to tear herself away, but Kees holds her tight.

KEES (CONT'D)

Are you mad?! It's too dangerous.  
Before you know it, the SD is here.

The goons are leaving; the leader continues to eyeball Anne.

LEADER

Well, it's too bad for you, pretty  
face. This will be the last time  
you pour a beer in this joint...

Anne is beside herself with impotent anger, but Kees holds her tight. He whispers firmly...

KEES

Anne...this is not the way...no  
violence...please...

The door slams shut. Anne slams her fist on the bar.

ANNE

Come on, Kees! You still believe in  
this pacifist crap? You wanted to  
kill them too. Admit it!

His knuckles clenched white around the hammer...

KEES

Well...pacifists usually don't go  
about killing people, Anne.

Unexpectedly Anne cries.

ANNE

I'm sorry, Kees. I'm so angry.  
And...and...it's...I feel so guilty  
for missing all the signs...I just  
miss her...I just miss my friend...

Hester walks up to her and wraps her arms around her.

HESTER

Well, we all missed the  
signs...Come here...it's okay...you  
just need to go there. See how she  
is. Go to Amsterdam...

EXT. HOME VAN KLEEF FAMILY AMSTERDAM CANALS - OFFICE - DAY

A stately canal home. At the office at canal level, it reads:

VAN KLEEF BEDDING MANUFACTURERS INC.

INT. HOME VAN KLEEF FAMILY AMSTERDAM CANALS - OFFICE - DAY

MR. VAN KLEEF patiently listens to his employees, asking him for advice. Everybody whispers and they all seem to tiptoe.

Betty waits quietly for her turn. In her arms, a pile of papers. She shows her father a document.

Betty in a soft voice:

BETTY

Dad? These are very old  
files...should I ask him first, or  
just toss them?

MR. VAN KLEEF looks cautiously towards his office, where his name is written on the glass door: MR. VAN KLEEF - DIRECTOR.

A man is seated at his desk, his legs draped across it. Above him, a picture of MUSSERT, the Dutch National Socialist party leader.

MR. VAN KLEEF

Yes, darling. They can go.

When Betty sees the pained look in her father's eyes, she lovingly puts her hand on his arm.

BETTY

When is the official transfer?

MR. VAN KLEEF

Well, transfer...you mean: the  
official robbery.

Betty turns her back to the office and laughs ruefully.

BETTY

Is he competent to take over the  
entire factory? He doesn't really  
look like he has any idea what it  
takes to...

From the corner of his eye, MR. VAN KLEEF sees VAN DONGEN getting up from behind his desk, holding some papers.

VAN DONGEN

Van Kleef! Into my office!!!  
Explain this to me in a way that I  
get it. Not the deliberately  
complicated bull you presented the  
other day! The sooner you get out  
of here, the better, van Kleef.  
How many Jews work here?

(MORE)

VAN DONGEN (CONT'D)

Tell them not to come back  
tomorrow. They will be replaced by  
our people.

With every word MR. VAN KLEEF shrinks a little, and Betty shrinks along with him.

INT. HOME VAN KLEEF FAMILY AMSTERDAM CANALS - NIGHT

A spacious and tastefully decorated room, looking out on the canal. Lots of paintings, antiques and artifacts.

Betty and her sister HANNAH (14) are sewing the star of David on their clothing. Betty's face is red with fury.

BETTY

...I'm your Verwalter. Here to  
Aryanize your company! Deputy  
director...A euphemism for robber,  
thief, bloodhound!

MR. & MRS. VAN KLEEF are going through the financial books.

MRS. VAN KLEEF

Oh, sweetheart...please? Don't be  
so unpleasant. Give it a rest. It  
is the way it is.

The doorbell rings. They freeze. They look at each other in terror. The bell rings again. Betty slowly gets up.

Betty's hands tremble heavily as she opens the door...

It's ANNE.

INT. HOME VAN KLEEF FAMILY AMSTERDAM CANALS - NIGHT

Dinner with the van Kleefs. Father and mother van Kleef hardly dare to look at Anne.

MR. VAN KLEEF

We truly appreciate this, ANNE.  
Really. Most obliged, but...

MRS. VAN KLEEF

It's too dangerous. You have heard  
of Mauthausen?

She looks at Anne intently, as if to say:

*Then you know what I mean...*

ANNE

But Mrs. van Kleef, I saw them clearing out an orphanage. An orphanage! Why send young children to work camps? Alone! It doesn't make sense. What are they going to do there?

Mrs. Van Kleef signals to Anne to stop talking about work camps in front of Hannah.

MRS. VAN KLEEF

School, I suppose. They must have set up schools. Look: even the Jewish Council advises to go along.

Anne must bite her tongue, not to react.

MRS. VAN KLEEF (CONT'D)

We are respected members of society. We are not religious, we go to the theater, charities...They won't touch us, I'm sure.

Betty gets up abruptly and shows Anne the JEWISH WEEKLY and points out the latest announcement. It reads:

SECOND LIRO REGULATION VO 58/1942. JEWS MUST HAND IN ALL THEIR GOLD, SILVER, ANTIQUES, ARTIFACTS, VALUABLES AND CULTURAL GOODS TO:

LIPPMANN-ROSENTHAL BANK ON SARPHATISTRAAT 12, AMSTERDAM.

BETTY

They won't touch us?? Mama! They have taken our business. Now they are taking our money and everything we own...

ANNE

Yes, Mrs. van Kleef...you will have to find a way to save as many valuables as you can.

MRS. VAN KLEEF

No. We can't do that, ANNE.

ANNE

I think you should, Mrs. van Kleef.

BETTY

I think you must, mama...

INT. HOME VAN KLEEF FAMILY AMSTERDAM CANALS - NIGHT

Hannah and Mrs. Van Kleef are sewing diamond rings and other valuable gems behind the stars of David on their jackets.

Mr. van Kleef cautiously cuts a painting out of its frame.

Anne helps Betty, sewing a necklace into the ties of a backpack. As she looks at Betty's parents intently:

ANNE

Our offer stands. Will you please think about it?

INT. HOME VAN KLEEF FAMILY AMSTERDAM CANALS - DAY

An emotional goodbye. Mrs. van Kleef gives Anne a little box with jewelry. Betty puts precious family items into a suitcase.

MRS. VAN KLEEF

The suitcase can go to that friendly shopkeeper down the road. She already knows you're coming, Anne. Will you hold on to this box until later?

ANNE

Don't say that, Mrs. van Kleef. You're not going anywhere. I will have a hiding place for you all, really soon.

MRS. VAN KLEEF

Well...let's see how it all goes with the factory. How soon they will throw us out.

BETTY

(ref: suitcase)

This is best carried by you, Anne. Not to raise suspicion.

EXT. GROCERY STORE - DAY

Betty stops at the store, but doesn't enter. Anne waits for her, but then she sees the sign in the window that reads...

FORBIDDEN FOR JEWS. It cuts through her soul to see Betty standing there, silently waiting; wearing the Star of David as cruel proof of the outcast. To hide her tears, Anne hastily enters the shop.

Betty and the friendly shopkeeper wave at each other...she will hold on to the suitcase for the van Kleef family.

Anne comes out again and embraces Betty...

ANNE

Oh, Betty...I'm scared...

BETTY

I'm not scared anymore. I don't feel anything. Nothing. It's a relief. To let go. To give in.

Anne's eyes widen for fear...as she holds Betty tight...

ANNE

I will find hiding places for you all. I will. I promise.

Betty shakes her head; It won't work. Betty has given up.

INT. UTRECHT STUDENT ROOM FREEK - NIGHT

Kees, Hester and Freek mark locations on a map. Freek is far away in his thoughts.

HESTER

ANNE locks herself in, in the broom closet...Here...She will let us in after van Kempen has gone home.

KEES

The address files are right here. We will set the files on fire and leave as quickly as possible. Freek?

FREEK

(ref: map)

Huh? I'm sorry. Yes. We set the student address files on fire.

Hester gives Kees a look of understanding. Turns to Freek...

HESTER

Did you speak to Anne? She visited Betty in Amsterdam...

FREEK

No. Should I?

Hester and Kees understand: Freek doesn't want to talk about Betty. Anne rushes in.



FREEK (CONT'D)

Good evening, van den Bogaerde. You will be hiding in the broom closet. Please don't fall asleep and open the door too late.

ANNE

I won't be late. Don't worry. I need to talk to you, Freek. We need to talk about Betty.

Freek looks at her like he's stung by a bee.

INT. UTRECHT STUDENT ROOM FREEK - NIGHT

Later. Anne and Freek are alone. Freek hides the map of the university building.

FREEK

The whole situation is rather absurd, don't you think?

ANNE

Her whole life is absurd right now.

FREEK

How could she keep this from me? From all of us?

ANNE

Because she doesn't want our pity.

FREEK

Who's talking about pity?

ANNE

She is, Freek. Don't judge her. Help her family, so I can help her. Sort out the rest with Betty later.

Freek shrugs. Still angry, hurt, and far from reasonable.

INT. HOME VAN KLEEF FAMILY AMSTERDAM CANALS - DAY

VAN DONGEN

Out of the question. This is why you wanted to talk to me in private? No, you will have to move out today.

Betty and her parents look desperately at 'The Verwalter' like 3 punished children. They can hardly believe it.

MR. VAN KLEEF

I honestly thought we would have more time, Mr. Van Dongen.

VAN DONGEN

Well, you thought wrongly. Hurry now. I haven't got all day.

The humiliation is complete. Beaten, they prepare to pack their things. Betty stops at the phone hanging on the wall.

Van Dongen narrows his eyes, his face turns red, he barks...

VAN DONGEN (CONT'D)

And what exactly do you think you are doing?

Betty freezes, cringes in fear...

BETTY

Nothing. I just wanted to make a phone call, that's all.

VAN DONGEN

Oh, well...that's all? A phone call? Just a phone call?

Betty smiles warily and nods. On the top of his voice...

VAN DONGEN (CONT'D)

Goddammit! What is it with you Jews?! What exactly is it that you do not understand about the ordinance: It is FORBIDDEN FOR JEWS to use the TELEPHONE?! And now get out of here, you stupid Jewish cunt.

Betty freezes. She looks at him in disbelief and walks away. With dignity.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. HOME VAN KLEEF FAMILY AMSTERDAM CANALS - DAY

Mr. van Kleef closes the house and hands the key to van Dongen.

EXT. STREETS OF AMSTERDAM - DAY

A long journey with packed bags and a handful of belongings follows.

Signs that read FORBIDDEN FOR JEWS are everywhere: cafés, shops, cinemas, parks, pools, public transportation.

The van Kleefs cross a drawbridge. A sign reads:

JEWISH QUARTER.

INT. VAN KLEEF HOME JEWISH QUARTER - NIGHT

A small, simple house. Betty stares out of the window. The streets are busy; everyone is wearing the Star of David.

BETTY

I guess we have moved to the Milky  
Way; stars as far as you can see.  
Never felt more Jewish.

Mr. & Mrs. Van Kleef look at each other meaningfully.

MR. VAN KLEEF

We haven't been totally honest with  
you, Bet. We've received the  
summons for deportation.

Mrs. van Kleef shows her the documents.

Betty panics and runs for the door. Her mother runs after her and watches her from the doorway; aimlessly running. But then, Betty stops in the middle of the street. She realizes; there is nowhere to run. Slowly she walks back...

MRS. VAN KLEEF

Where were you going, sweetheart?

BETTY

I don't know. I don't know where to  
go. I can't go through with this,  
mama. I can't...

MRS. VAN KLEEF

Betty, nobody died from hard work.  
We will get through this. We will.

BETTY

No mama. I won't get through this.  
I don't want to go. I'd rather die.

INT. UTRECHT STUDENT HOME ANNE - DAY

Anne is on the phone. Freek watches her; tense and in anticipation. The doorbell rings. Mrs. De Witt opens the door: It's Hester & Kees.

ANNE

No answer. I've been trying to get hold of her for days now.

Anne dials again.

FREEK

I could have married her. In the beginning Jews in mixed marriages didn't get a call for deportation.

INT. HOME VAN KLEEF FAMILY AMSTERDAM CANALS - DAY

The phone rings in the van Kleef's abandoned house.

INT. ANNE & BETTY'S STUDENT HOME - DAY

Freek, Hester and Kees are waiting impatiently for Anne to hang up the phone.

KEES

Whenever anyone feels it's not safe, don't hesitate to abort. We don't want to get caught.

ANNE

(ref. Betty)  
No answer.

KEES

It's time. We've got to hurry.

The phone rings. Anne hesitates, but Kees signals they have to go. They all leave. Anne, shouting to the upstairs...

ANNE

Can you take this, Mrs. de Witt?

INT. SHOP JEWISH QUARTER - DAY

A busy shop. Betty lets the phone ring endlessly. Finally, someone picks up the phone.

BETTY

Hello Mrs. De Witt. Is Anne there?

INT. UNIVERSITY BUILDING UTRECHT - DAY

Anne is hanging around at the broom closet. The janitor van Kempen is hanging around too; keeps looking in Anne's direction. There is no way Anne can enter that closet.

Hester passes by and looks at her intently and almost invisibly signals: NO. Anne ignores her and heads for the broom closet, but van Kempen walks straight towards her.

JANITOR VAN KEMPEN

Ms. Van den Bogaerde? I was meaning to ask you something. How is your friend Betty van Kleef doing?

In the background, Hester is signaling: YOU NEED TO ABORT. Anne ignores her and keeps looking van Kempen in the eye; fierce, daring...

ANNE

That's none of your business...

Kees joins Hester and Freek. They all urge Anne to stop. As she walks up to them, she is so furious, she could spit.

ANNE (CONT'D)

Jesus Christ. Why abort? This creep will take a break at some point.

KEES

Anne! We do it safely or we don't do it at all. You'll get us all killed, for Christ sake.

Angrily, she walks away. Giving up is not her style.

INT. ANNE & BETTY'S STUDENT HOME - NIGHT

Anne lingers in Betty's room. Fondly smooths the dress her friend left for her. She flips through a notebook. Her face clouds as she scans the pages with growing alarm...

BETTY

(V.O.)

No Jews allowed anymore at University. Perfect. I was leaving anyway. Don't want to face anyone wearing that yellow star. I really need to take things into my own hands. I almost did...But standing on that chair, hearing Anne downstairs, I could not go through with it. So I'm still here...

Anne goes cold. In despair, she flees the house.

EXT. STREETS OF UTRECHT - NIGHT

Anne races through the city on her bike...

BETTY

(V.O.)

I can't do this to Anne. She must not be the one who finds me...She's been through so much already, with her mother...

EXT. UTRECHT STUDENT HOME FREEK - NIGHT

Freek opens the door. He's overwhelmed by the intensity of Anne's grief...holds her close, strokes her hair...

ANNE

Oh my word. Betty wants to...she wants to...Oh God help me...Oh, Freek...Betty...I need to go see her...I have to...

FREEK

Hush...hush...It's okay, Annie...It's alright..go see her in Amsterdam...you go see her...

**END OF ACT IV**

ACT V

EXT. HOME VAN KLEEF FAMILY AMSTERDAM CANALS - DAY

Anne, full of anticipation rings the bell. The door opens:

She stands face to face with van Dongen, 'the Verwalter'.  
Intimidating in his black NSB uniform.

VAN DONGEN

Good afternoon. How can I help you,  
young lady?

She freezes; this is bad. Where's Betty?! Confused, she backs  
away and races off.

EXT. STREETS OF AMSTERDAM - DAY

Amme passes the store of the friendly shopkeeper. The woman  
runs out and hands her a piece of paper.

FRIENDLY SHOPKEEPER

Miss! Miss! The van Kleefs had to  
move to the Jewish Quarter. Here's  
the address.

A ray of hope; she now knows where to find Betty. Out of  
sheer relief, she embraces the lady and is on her way again.

AN OMINOUS ROAR of engines approaches in the distance. She  
looks back and sees:

Motorcycles ridden by SS officers, followed by raiders,  
approaching at BREAKNECK SPEED...

A split second before the column rushes past her, pushing her  
off the road, she jumps off her bike. Flushed with anger, she  
glares at them as they disappear into the distance.

EXT. JEWISH QUARTER AMSTERDAM - DAY

Children play in the street, women stand around chatting,  
others are scrubbing their steps or cleaning the windows.

It's LENY STERN's 10th birthday; the party hat she's proudly  
wearing shows a huge number 10.

She spins around LITTLE BENNY, the coal dust boy from the  
teaser. The boy screeches with laughter.

Leny freezes mid-spin. PARALYZED WITH FEAR she sees how:

The convoy of German military trucks rumbles across the drawbridge at high speed.

The drawbridge is raised immediately, the streets BARRICADED at LIGHTNING SPEED.

Soldiers JUMP out of the trucks, doors are KICKED in, people are DRAGGED out of their homes by their hair.

TOTAL PANIC hits...children SCREAM, mothers sprint in TERROR into their homes.

LITTLE BENNY's mother grabs her boy from Leny and runs across the street.

P.O.V LENY:

Little Benny attempts to enter the house, but his mother PUSHES him into the alley that runs alongside it.

He runs fast and DIVES into the coal shed. The little fellow DIGS AND DIGS, deeper and deeper, until he has completely disappeared under the coals.

Leny's mother is frantically beckoning at the door, but her girl is paralyzed.

MRS. STERN

Come Leny, come! Quick.

A soldier hits a woman with the butt of his rifle; blood runs down her face. As if this cowardly blow is a starting signal, Leny can finally move and runs towards her mother.

INT. STERN FAMILY HOME - DAY

Leny and her parents grab their backpacks and run to the door leading to the garden. On her way out, Leny stops abruptly and reaches behind the cupboard; an envelope emerges from behind, which she quickly tucks into her underpants.

EXT. STERN FAMILY GARDEN - DAY

They run to the garden gate which leads to the alley behind the house. They tug and tug at the gate, but it's locked.

DAVID

Miryam...goddammit...the key was in it...where is it?!



MRS. STERN

I don't know. I don't know, David.  
Leny, sweetheart...Where is it!

LENY

I don't know, mama. I'm sorry. I'm  
sorry! I took it out, but I  
forgot...

EXT. STERN FAMILY HOME - DAY

GERMAN SOLDIERS try to get a glimpse inside the house, but  
the net curtains block the view. They pound on the windows,  
shouting: AUFMACHEN, AUFMACHEN!

EXT. STERN FAMILY GARDEN - DAY

Leny, helped by her father, climbs over the wooden fence.  
Father pushes mother Stern up. It doesn't work. She is too  
heavy and hangs helplessly from the fence.

Leny on the other side of the fence, squeals...

LENY

Hurry...please...hurry...papa!

Mr. Stern pulls his wife down and hurries her towards the  
bushes. Too late. SOLDIERS KICK in the front door and run  
into the garden.

Peering through a crack in the fence, Leny witnesses her mom  
and dad forcefully pushed back into the house...

SOLDIER

(German: subtitles)  
Pack your belongings and go  
outside. To the second truck.  
Quick. Move. Move.

Leny desperately hammers on the fence door...

LENY

HEY! HEY! HEY! Open the gate!!!

Finally, one of the soldiers turns around and shouts:

GERMAN SOLDIER

(German: subtitled )  
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING HERE??

LENY

I live here!

INT. STERN FAMILY HOME - DAY

GERMAN SOLDIERS are casually standing around talking, while MR. & MRS STERN gather their belongings. LENY silently puts on her backpack. In a low voice...

MRS. STERN

Get the coats for me, please? Will you, darling?

LENY walks numbly into the hallway and reaches for the coats.

Through the glass windows of the front door, Leny sees how:

Across the street, SOLDIERS are poking with rifles in the coal shed, where LITTLE BENNY is hiding.

LENY is shaken by the soldiers' ruthless search for an infant Jew and then, as if in a trance, she turns swiftly around and without looking back, Leny strides through the garden, through the gate.

Once in the alley, she RIPS the star from her dress and starts running; LENY STERN has escaped.

WE ARE NOW BACK AT THE TEASER.

EXT. JEWISH QUARTER - DAY (REPEATED FOOTAGE)

Anne waits impatiently for the drawbridge to come down. Her face turns pale, her hands tremble when the endless stream of overloaded trucks with desperate Jewish families finally cross the bridge at HIGH SPEED.

Is Betty on one of them? She runs alongside every passing vehicle, SCANNING every truck. Back and forth. Back and forth. Like a mad woman...Suddenly, her body FREEZES.

In the back of one of the trucks sits Betty and her family, but the truck races past. Unable to hold on to Betty's face, she opens her mouth in a SILENT SCREAM and watches in despair as the truck retreats into the distance and flounders across the bridge.

EXT. STREETS JEWISH QUARTER - DAY

Empty streets. A deadly silence has descended.

Suddenly, out of nowhere: THREE WAILING CHILDREN run up to her.

Two little blond girls, dressed identically, sisters maybe.

LITTLE BENNY, who is now covered with COAL DUST, just stands there. Motionless. Wordless.

A black statue, looking right through her: his eyes pale, like a panda bear in reverse. In a low, almost adult voice:

LITTLE BENNY  
Will you hide us?

Suddenly, A LOUD HAMMERING SOUND. The children CRY OUT...Anne looks around frantically as she pulls them into her arms to MUFFLE the sound...

In the distance THE TROOPS load the confiscated belongings of the deported Jews on their trucks and HAMMER SHUT the now empty homes.

ANNE  
It's okay...it's okay...they are  
just closing the doors...

A military jeep is approaching; an SS-COMMANDER towering over the windshield like an emperor...

Blind panic. She DRAGS the children towards an alley, pushes them against the wall...rasps...

ANNE (CONT'D)  
Hush...hush...make yourself  
small...hush...

A LOUD KNOCK on a window. Anne looks around anxiously. But Benny is beaming...pointing at one of the houses...

LITTLE BENNY  
Look! It is Leny! My friend. It's  
her birthday!

Behind a window stands Leny Stern, the birthday girl, who has fled the roundup, beckoning them.

INT. STERN FAMILY HOME - DAY

The kitchen is hung with party garlands and the table is festively decorated with a party hat for every little guest.

Motionless, transcended to another world, the sisters DIDIE (4) & ELLY (6) GROSZ stare silently at the unreal scene...

Anne is scrubbing the coal dust off LITTLE BENNY (5), while the HAMMERING SOUND is getting closer and closer.

Leny peeks through the opening of the curtain...

THE TROOPS are loading furniture onto a truck and HAMMER SHUT the now empty home.

LENY

Ten houses...seven houses away...

ANNE

Tell me when they are five houses away. Then we have to leave immediately. Oh my god. How am I...

Panic in Anne's eyes. Then she sees the party hats on the table and quickly puts a party hat on each of the children.

ANNE (CONT'D)

If anyone asks: we are on a Birthday trip to the Zoo, celebrating Leny's birthday.

LOUDER HAMMERING. The children SCREAM.

LENY

They are next door! Come! Quick.

Anne and Leny grab the children and run into the garden, to the alley; Leny Stern has escaped a second time.

INT. AMSTEL STATION - DAY

A sign on the train reads CAMP WESTERBORK. Jewish people as far as you can see on the overcrowded platform.

The van Kleef family are waiting in line to register. Benny's mother is next in line; crying hysterically.

BENNY'S MOTHER

I left the boy behind. I left our Benny behind...Oh God, Oh my dear God...Please forgive me...I left him behind. I left the boy behind.

NAZI OFFICERS yell and snarl: hurry up, walk on. Betty just stands there, FROZEN WITH FEAR. Hannah clings to her father. They are all pushed inside the train, like herrings in a barrel. The door slams shut.

EXT. STREETS OF AMSTERDAM - DAY

Desperate and on the brink of tears, Anne sits down on a park bench with the children. Suddenly suspiciously:

ANNE  
Why are you holding your belly,  
Leny? Does it ache?

LENY  
No.

ANNE  
What then?

LENY  
Nothing. It's nothing.

ANNE touches Leny's belly and feels something's there.

ANNE  
So, what's this then?

Reluctantly, Leny takes out a blank closed envelope.

ANNE (CONT'D)  
Who's it for?

LENY  
Nobody. I was supposed to deliver  
it somewhere.

ANNE  
Where? To whom? Tell me, Leny.

LENY  
No. I'm not allowed to tell anyone.

ANNE  
Leny, we need a place to stay. If  
they're good people, they'll let us  
in. Are they good people?

LENY  
Oh yes, he's good people! It's Dr.  
Dopman. He always takes the letters  
to Max, my older brother.

Startled, having shared her secret, Leny starts crying.

ANNE  
Leny, can you take us there?

The caravan starts moving again. Anne is pushing her bicycle.  
The two little ones on the rear rack; Leny and Elly try to  
keep up with the pace.

Anne notices a crowd has formed at the square. She FREEZES  
when suddenly: A SOLDIER grabs her by the arm...

He pushes her and the children into a group of bystanders, who are all forced to watch a SUMMARY EXECUTION; Ten young men, in front of a firing squad.

GERMAN SOLDIER  
(German: subtitles)  
Stay here and watch.

BYSTANDER  
It's a retaliation. The Jews have killed Mr. Koot. Great leader. Such a waste for the National Socialist Bond. These Jews are animals!

Anne is in shock, she must get away from this Nazi lover but she is ROOTED IN TERROR to the spot...

In the middle of a group of soldiers stands A NAZI OFFICER, looking at her and the children with piercing eyes. As he slowly walks straight towards them...

NAZI OFFICER  
(German: subtitles)  
Well, well, well...it's pretty clear...who the birthday girl is...congratulations!  
(re: ANNE)  
Continue Fräulein...This is no sight for children at a birthday party. Go on, go on. Continue.

She can hardly believe they are safe, but manages to give the monster a smile and ushers the children along.

EXT. DR. DOPMAN'S OFFICE -- DAY

Anne rings the bell. Nobody answers. She sinks on the steps. The children look at her questioningly. *What now?*

ANNE  
Okay, let's go. It's not ideal, but needs must...

INT. DEPORTATION TRAIN - DAY

A packed train. In the corridor, next to the outside doors, the van Kleef family stands nose to nose.

MR. VAN KLEEF  
No Betty. It's too dangerous.

Betty squeezes the one fits all key she has been given by her swimming coach out of her backpack.

BETTY

Look. Let me just try.

MRS. VAN KLEEF

No, Betty. This is insane.

She puts the key in the keyhole. It fits.

HANNAH

Betty! Don't go. Stay with me.

Betty realizes she can't leave her little sister behind.

BETTY

Come with me, Hannah? Come with me.

Hannah cries heartbreakingly.

HANNAH

No Bee, I don't want to jump. I don't want to. No! I don't want you to jump. You're gonna die...

Her little sister's pain has sowed the seeds of doubt...

BETTY

I love you all so much. I...

Suddenly, Betty opens the door and jumps. Her body flies through the air, lands hard and rolls down the embankment.

Her body, all twisted, is motionless. They all try to catch a glimpse of Betty; it looks like Betty didn't make it.

Mrs. Van Kleef faints.

CUT TO BLACK:

EXT. STUDENT HOME GRIET - AMSTERDAM - NIGHT

Anne finally reaches her destination. It's right opposite:

GESTAPO HEADQUARTERS.

Out of breath she rings the bell. The door opens: It's GRIET. No time for pleasantries. Anne quickly pushes Griet back inside, along with the children. Hisses...

ANNE

They need a place to hide. They're Jewish.

HOUSEKEEPER

(O.S.)

I'm coming, Griet!

In a panic, Griet pushes Anne and the children up the stairs.

GRIET

No, never mind, Mrs. Gerritsen.  
It's a girlfriend! You can go home  
early if you like...

Just as Griet pushes Anne and the children into her room, Mrs. Gerritsen appears at the bottom of the stairs.

MRS GERRITSEN

What's that dear? Who are these people? What did you say?

GRIET

Person. It's only one. It's ANNE.  
But you can go home early, Mrs.  
Gerritsen.

Griet runs downstairs, grabs Mrs. Gerritsen, playfully takes off her apron and helps her into her coat.

Griet can't help staring at the pin of the National Socialist Bond on her collar.

MRS. GERRITSEN

I know you girls have a problem  
with my dedication to the NSB...

GRIET

Oh no, Mrs. Gerritsen. Not at all.  
You said you had a meeting there  
tonight. Didn't want to keep you...

MRS. GERRITSEN

Oh okay...You know if you're  
interested, I can...

GRIET

Oh, no thank you, Mrs. Gerritsen.  
I'm not into politics so much...but  
thank you ever so much for asking.  
That's really kind of you.

HANSJE DE RUITER (19) and her fiancé PIET VONK (20) enter.



MRS. GERRITSEN

Well hello, Hansje...Piet! Your room was closed Hansje, so I could not clean your room today. I can do it now... I still have time...

Griet is in shock. She eyeballs Hansje, who gets the message.

HANSJE

Oh no, Mrs. Gerritsen. No need at all. Enjoy your evening!

When Mrs. Gerritsen has left, Grietje laughs hysterically.

GRIET

(ref. Hansje & Piet)  
Darlings!...So happy to see you!  
Excellent timing...

Griet spots Anne on top of the stairs, carefully checking if the coast is clear. Griet is still laughing...

Griet (CONT'D)

Yes, you can come down now! This is Hansje my roommate! And this is Piet her fiancé.

(ref. Hansje & Piet)  
We really need your help.

PIET

You definitely need help. Good gracious! What's so funny?!

HANSJE

Makes you wonder...I don't find Mrs. Gerritsen funny at all.

Griet suddenly stops laughing. Her hands trembling...

Griet

Indeed. This is not funny at all. I think I have a nervous breakdown...

They all crack up.

INT. AMSTERDAM STUDENT HOME GRIET - NIGHT

The four children are sound asleep in Griet's bed.

When all of a sudden... LOUD SCREAMS AND WAILS from across the road. They all jump up...

GRIET

Sometimes I can't bear it any longer. These poor people. It goes on all night.

They peek through a crack in the blackout curtains. Military trucks park in front of Gestapo Headquarters.

POLICE COMMISSIONER STOORBURG jumps out. Watching his subordinates drag a man inside. Anne is shocked to the bone.

ANNE

My goodness...that's...that's...this creep...this Stoorburg...he stopped me...wanted to have tea with me...

PIET

What did he want? Have tea with you? That'll be the day...

A LOUD KNOCK on the attic window. They all freeze but Griet rushes out of the room...

GRIET

It's okay. It's David. He's our Jewish neighbor from the street behind us. Probably a roundup going on there.

INT. STUDENT HOME GRIET - AMSTERDAM - NIGHT

DAVID GREEN, a Jewish teen is looking in through the attic window. Griet rushes to him. David, bare feet, half-dressed, climbs in.

DAVID

I'm sorry, Griet...this was a close call. Oh...dear Lord...my feet...

GRIET

My goodness. Another roundup? Don't worry about it, David. You're always welcome. Come. I have a huge surprise for you...

INT. STUDENT HOME GRIET - AMSTERDAM - NIGHT

David looks at the children, smiling sadly.

DAVID

I wish my cousins had been lucky enough to find you, ANNE. I wish I knew where they were right now.

HANSJE

Still no news? Maybe they are sorting out their new lives and will be in touch soon...

David is only half reassured, but tries to convince himself.

DAVID

Yes, I suppose you're right...but nobody seems to hear from their families...

PIET

I will get you papers, David. Real papers. Not even forged. Have a think about your new name...

HANSJE

Yes, David! Something Royal. Willem-Hendrik...or Charles Frederik...

They all laugh.

PIET

I'll take you all to the Boot family tomorrow. Hopefully, they'll be willing to take in Didy & Elly.

DAVID

Best via the roof through my home. So as not to alarm Mrs. Nazi Gerritsen....

EXT. AMSTERDAM STUDENT HOME GRIET - ROOFTOP - DAWN

In total silence, Griet, Hansje, Piet, David and Anne carry the four sleepy children across the roof. David disappears inside his home and one by one, they hand him the children.

ANNE

(whispers)

I must find out where they have taken Betty...Is it okay if we split up..I'll meet Griet at...

PIET

Central Station, yes. You're taking  
the 12 o'clock train to Utrecht.  
Platform 4. Don't be late.

All of a sudden, Benny starts crying.

ANNE

Hush Benny, hush. We must be quiet  
now. Don't worry. We will all meet  
at the train station later, okay? I  
promise.

Now Benny only cries silently. His mouth contorted so as not  
to make a sound, but his little body jerks. Thick teardrops  
are rolling down his face.

ANNE (CONT'D)

Come here, you little giant. You  
have to help David. You can do it.  
You are a big boy.

Between sobs, he now whispers solemnly...

LITTLE BENNY

No, I'm too small for my age. The  
doctor says so...and I have a weak  
condindition...but I'll survive...

ANNE

Of course, you will! I can promise  
you that...I think there is nothing  
wrong with you, little man. Give me  
a hug and go with David now, okay?

INT. THE BOOT FAMILY HOME - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Through the glass door, that separates the kitchen from the  
living room, MR. & MRS. BOOT argue, while baking pancakes.

TRUDY BOOT (17) anxiously follows the conversation, while  
serving the children pancakes and tea in the living room.

The children: Didy, Elly, Little Benny and Leny quietly sit  
around the table and follow the conversation between the  
Boot's with growing anxiety.

Not to worry the children, Piet, Hansje and Griet try to  
radiate optimism. They are not doing a very good job.

BOB BOOT (15), gives his sister a surreptitious look. Trudy  
shrugs: what else is new? Hansje & Piet look at Didy & Elly  
in desperation; will the Boots take in the two little ones?

INT. THE BOOT FAMILY HOME - KITCHEN - DAY

MR. BOOT

No. We are already doing so much.  
You're going to get us all killed.

MRS. BOOT

God would want us to help these  
children. God...

MR. BOOT

It's a fine God, that God of yours.  
I'll call him when I get to the  
Gestapo, okay?

Mr. Boot notices that all eyes are on him now. His gaze meets those of the two little girls. It cuts through his soul, but he shakes his head. They are not staying.

Trudy storms into the kitchen in tears.

TRUDY

Dad! Nobody will even notice they  
are Jewish. They're blond. Piet can  
get papers! Real papers. Please,  
dad! It's our responsibility...

MR. BOOT

I am trying to keep our family safe  
here. That's my responsibility.

Mr. Boot tries to escape Trudy by storming into the living room but it's not getting any better...His eyes meet the hopeful eyes of Hansje, Piet and Griet...

INT. THE BOOT FAMILY HOME - DAY

The children stare at their plates; too scared to eat. Nervously, Trudy starts cutting their pancakes into a hundred pieces; the squeak of the knife cuts to the core. She stops abruptly when a tiny voice breaks the silence...

DIDY

Does your daddy maybe want a  
pancake too?..He can have mine...

Trudy's eyes beg, but Mr. Boot doesn't blink...He rubs his face and kneels next to Didy...

MR. BOOT

Oh, no sweet pea...look at this big  
belly of mine! No more pancakes for  
Mr. Boot...You girls eat! Trudy?

(MORE)

MR. BOOT (CONT'D)

Can you show these lovely young ladies their room?

A sigh of relief flows through the room. Mr. Boot returns his daughter's grateful gaze with a grumpy shrug.

EXT. AMSTERDAM JEWISH COUNCIL - DAY

A sign reads JEWISH COUNCIL. Inside it's packed. Outside, the queue is snaking around the corner. Anne is waiting in line behind an old, fragile lady.

OLD FRAGILE LADY

They're all here to beg for an exemption. Are you a nurse, love? Then you'll stand a chance...

A ray of hope...this lady might know something...

A MYSTERIOUS YOUNG MAN observes the crowd. He looks like a student -the raincoat, the glasses- but he is eavesdropping on Anne's conversation, so maybe he is Gestapo.

ANNE

I'm here to find out where they have taken my friend. There was a raid yesterday...

OLD FRAGILE LADY

Oy, the nebbish! They thought they were going to Camp Westerbork. But what da ya know? Straight to the East. Direct train.

This is a sledgehammer blow.

OLD FRAGILE LADY (CONT'D)

Yes, direct train. My only son and his entire mishpocha are on that train. Adonai! I'm here to ask for deportation. What good is my life here without my children?

Anne firmly embraces the old lady...

ANNE

I'm so sorry...I'm so sorry...Does this road lead to the Station?

OLD FRAGILE LADY

Yes, dear...when you get to the water, take a left...Mazzel toff...

The mysterious man follows Anne on foot, but she's faster by bike and quickly disappears into the distance.

INT. AMSTERDAM CENTRAL STATION - DAY

A sign reads: DEPARTURE UTRECHT CENTRAL STATION: 12.00 pm.  
Leny and Benny look anxiously at Griet, who paces up and down, looking at the clock.

LITTLE BENNY

She isn't coming.

LENY

Of course she is, silly. Don't be daft. She promised.

INT. AMSTERDAM CENTRAL STATION - BICYCLE CHECK-IN - DAY

Anne runs to the counter: BICYCLE CHECK-IN UTRECHT: 12.00 pm.  
PLATFORM 4. Quickly she hands in her bike and runs off.

THE MYSTERIOUS MAN enters the station hall. He squints and spots Anne running away from the bicycle check-in.

INT. AMSTERDAM CENTRAL STATION - DAY

Leny's face lights up when Anne comes running up the stairs that leads to the platform. Little Benny turns away angrily.

LITTLE BENNY

I thought you weren't coming.

She hugs him, tries not to cry...but her voice trembles...

ANNE

Hey, you...listen...I'm always late, but I never break my promises, okay? So, remember: don't talk on the train...if anybody asks: You are from Rotterdam, your parents got killed during the bombing...

Just as they all want to board the train, THE MYSTERIOUS MAN firmly puts his hand on Anne's shoulder.

They are all GLUED TO THE SPOT.

**END OF EPISODE**