

THE GENERAL'S WIFE

Original Screenplay

by

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SUPER: GREATER EUROPE, 1939

EXT. PARIS, FRANCE - DAY

A NAZI, 30s, mistreats a JEWISH MOTHER and FATHER, 40s, by striking them in the face and spitting on them in public. HERSCHEL GRYNSPAN, a 17-year-old Jewish boy, stands by watching as more NAZIS approach.

A NAZI beats his father as Herschel tries to protest him. Herschel is also beaten as his MOTHER looks on.

INT. GERMAN EMBASSY, PARIS - DUSK

Herschel Grynszpan enters the GERMAN EMBASSY office looking battered and angry. He heads down a corridor and finds the same Nazi seated at a desk inside one of the offices.

Herschel takes out a gun and shoots the Nazi in the chest. The Nazi falls onto the desk, dead, as other NAZIS storm into the office. They see Herschel holding the gun and tackle him to the ground as Herschel does nothing to resist them.

EXT. BERLIN AND OTHER GERMANY CITIES - DAY

The news about the Jew who killed the Nazi spreads across Germany. It is broadcast on RADIOS and also in print in the newspapers. As the news spreads, GERMANS, NAZIS, and HITLER YOUTH beat and murder German JEWS in the streets. NAZIS break into Jewish homes and brutalize JEWISH WOMEN and CHILDREN.

EXT. OUTSIDE BERLIN, COUNTRY ROAD - NIGHT

An old, battle-worn bike speeds along on a dirt road in darkness through the countryside outside Berlin. NANCY REINHARDT, 32, pedals along the muddy road with only the moonlight guiding her way. She wears a dark kerchief scarf over her braided brown hair, a long black coat, brown boots, and brown gloves.

The bike turns the corner and skids off the road, and Nancy lands in the dirt. An envelope falls from inside her coat as she reaches for it. The butt of a German rifle lands on the envelope as Nancy sees a GERMAN SS NAZI OFFICER, 30s, staring down at her. He reaches for the envelope as Nancy bites his leg.

A scuffle ensues as the Nazi tries to shoot her with his pistol instead.

Nancy grabs the rifle and hits him over the head with it. He falls to the ground and she straddles him, and with her bare hands, Nancy strangles the German to death.

She drags his body into the bushes, takes his rifle and pistol, and tosses them both into the woods. Nancy puts the envelope back into her coat, gets on the bike, and rides off down the road.

EXT. GERMAN COUNTRY ESTATE HOUSE - NIGHT

Nancy gets off the bike on another road outside Berlin. She hides the bike in some bushes and walks towards a large country estate house with closed iron gates. Nancy climbs over the brick wall and lands inside the estate grounds.

She looks around to make sure all the lights are off and nobody has seen her. She quickly walks towards the large estate house, removes a key from her pocket, and unlocks the servants entrance. She enters the house and closes the door.

INT. LARGE MASTER BEDROOM - MOMENTS LATER

In the dark room, an SS Nazi General's uniform hangs on a wooden stand near the bed. GENERAL ALBERT REINHARDT, 35, lies in his bed staring up at the ceiling. He hears the door open, and closes his eyes as Nancy walks in the bedroom. She closes the door behind her and with the lights off, enters the bathroom.

MOMENTS LATER

Nancy emerges from the bathroom in her nightgown and gets into bed, careful not to wake up Albert, who lies next to her. The light comes ON. Albert sits up in bed and stares at her. They speak GERMAN with ENGLISH SUBTITLES.

NANCY

Did I wake you?

Albert leans over and smells her hair. He reaches down and grabs her hands. He sees dirt under her fingernails, and pulls the covers off her. She sweats under her nightgown.

ALBERT

Where have you been?

NANCY

Out for a walk. You know I have trouble sleeping.

ALBERT

You must take me for a fool.

He grabs her arm and drags her from the bed.

NANCY

Albert! You're hurting me.

ALBERT

For months, I have ignored the signs. You tampering with my mail, sneaking into my office, even using my cryptography machine.

He removes a broken cryptograph key from his pocket and shows it to her.

NANCY

Albert, I beg you. I have done nothing wrong.

He twists her arm harder as Nancy SCREAMS and falls to the floor.

ALBERT

Are you or are you not "The White Mouse"? The one who delivers stolen codes to the enemy.

NANCY

Albert! I am your wife. You must listen to me.

ALBERT

You are nothing to me now!

Albert pulls Nancy to her feet and towards the door as KURT REINHARDT, 12, comes in dressed in his bedclothes.

KURT

Mama, Papa. What's wrong? Why are you shouting?

ALBERT

Get back to bed now!

He drags Nancy from the room.

EXT. HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Albert forces Nancy towards the stairs as Kurt watches from the hallway banister.

KURT
Papa, you are hurting her!

ALBERT
Never again will you see this house
again. Or your child!

NANCY
But I am his mother.

SERVANTS appear from their bedrooms and watch from the second floor as Albert forces Nancy out the front door.

INT. ESTATE HOUSE, DRIVEWAY - CONTINUOUS

Albert throws Nancy onto the gravel in the driveway and takes out a gun. Nancy rises, in her bare feet, still wearing only her nightgown.

ALBERT
Go now, before I kill you myself
for what you have done!

Kurt and the Servants emerge from the house.

KURT
Papa! What are you doing!?

He grabs at his father's arm as he raises the gun.

NANCY
I tried to tell you, Albert. But
you wouldn't listen. You gave me no
choice.

ALBERT
You are a traitor and a coward!

He shoots the ground next to her as Nancy looks at Kurt, terrified, the shot forcing her to back away from the house. Kurt sobs.

ALBERT (CONT'D)
Get out of my sight before the
Gestapo sic their dogs on you!

He shoots the ground again as Nancy runs towards the large iron gate at the bottom of the driveway and out the gate. She looks back at Kurt for one last time and runs off.

Albert lowers the gun to his side as Kurt stands beside him, shaking. The Servants look on and slowly return to the house.

EXT. BERLIN, GERMAN COUNTRY ESTATE - MORNING

The iron gates are left open. Several GERMAN VEHICLES enter the estate grounds.

INT. ALBERT'S LIBRARY - CONTINUOUS

Albert sits at his desk with his cryptograph machine in front of him. The broken cryptograph key is on the desk, too, along with a picture of Kurt, Nancy, and himself. His eyes fall upon the picture, then he quickly sticks it in a drawer as--

--two Nazi GENERALS enter his office, GENERAL ERICH VON MAINSTEIN, 38, and GENERAL HEINZ RHUR, 40. Albert rises and salutes the officers.

ALBERT

What news of Berlin?

ERICH VON

The attacks worsen by the hour. The whole country is in chaos.

HEINZ

We must send a message to the leaders immediately from the Fuhrer himself and let them know how to control the escalating violence.

Erich Von pours himself a drink at the bar in the room as Heinz sits in a leather chair in front of Albert's desk.

ALBERT

I am ready.

Kurt enters wearing his young Nazi cadet uniform.

KURT

Father, you promised Mama would phone by now. You must go find her! I'm worried something has happened.

Albert rises and approaches his son Kurt by the door.

ALBERT

I told you, she won't be back for now. Now go to your room and do not bother me with this again.

Albert forces Kurt out the door and closes it in his face. Albert returns to his desk and sits down. Erich Von looks on, concerned by this.

ERICH VON

Did something happen to your wife,
Herr Albert?

ALBERT

She's been ill, so I've sent her to
France for some needed treatment.

ERICH VON

France? And she is traveling alone?
Why were we not notified of this?

ALBERT

It came on suddenly and I had to
act quickly for Kurt's sake and
mine. I was told they had the best
treatment and she agreed it was for
all our best interests.

HEINZ

What kind of illness is it, that we
do not have doctors here who can
help? Do we not have medical
treatments right here in Berlin?

ALBERT

It's tuberculosis.

ERICH VON

That is serious.

Erich Von puts his glass down and wipes his hands on his
pocket handkerchief.

HEINZ

But still, she is an American. We
have noticed she travels quite
frequently from this house and with
very little supervision. Is it wise
to let her live so freely without
anyone keeping an eye on her?

ALBERT

I don't know what you mean.
Generals' wives often travel--

ERICH VON

What he means is the Fuhrer has
long had concerns about her
citizenship. And with the war
coming soon, she shouldn't be
allowed to travel so freely.

Erich Von walks off and lights a cigarette.

ERICH VON (CONT'D)

Especially since we are still in the search for The White Mouse, who still manages to slip across our borders from France and stop our codes from getting to even our own Generals.

Heinz rises and moves around the room, smoking.

HEINZ

The Gestapo now offers a five-million-franc reward for her capture, and we intend to stop her at any cost.

ALBERT

I can assure you, my wife is of no concern to the Gestapo. She is merely seeking treatment and from an institution that was highly recommended. That is her only reason for leaving this house.

ERICH VON

Then let us hope she returns quickly. With Germany on the brink of war, her traveling now seems most dangerous. And now, we must get this message sent to the others immediately and try and get this mess under control.

Albert puts his fingers on the keys of the code machine.

ALBERT

I am ready.

ERICH VON

November 10th, 1939, message from the Fuhrer to all Officers. Due to the impact of "Kristallnacht," we are forced to take further actions against the Jews.

Albert types the message as Erich Von paces behind him.

ERICH VON (CONT'D)

We are requesting new decrees barring Jews from any contact with Germans by excluding them from public transportation, schools, and hospitals.

(MORE)

ERICH VON (CONT'D)

They are to be forced into ghettos or driven out of the country. The decree further states that we wish to eliminate Jews entirely from economic life by transferring all Jewish property and enterprises to "Aryans." Any insurance claims paid to them will be confiscated, and paid directly to the state by the Jews for all damages caused from the recent "Kristallnacht" incident.

Albert is not pleased by what he hears and continues typing as Erich Von stands behind Heinz.

EXT. GERMAN COUNTRYSIDE - NIGHT

TRAINS FILLED with JEWS pass by in the night. JEWS stare out of the wooden windows as German farmhouses pass by.

INT. GERMAN FARMHOUSE - CONTINUOUS

SIX ALLIES including MEN and WOMAN, ages 30s-50s, sit around a kitchen table dressed in German farm clothes. Nancy sits with them. A BRITISH WOMAN, 50s, removes a large pot of stew from a wood-burning stove and serves them at the table.

NANCY

He said if I returned he'd kill me. He even accused me of being The White Mouse, which means he must still be looking for her in Germany.

HENRY PHILLIPS, 30s, an American, passes her some bread.

HENRY

The Gestapo has offered five million francs for her capture. But she has her own worries and we have ours. This new cryptograph machine they are building is said to be so advanced, they believe it will help them win the war. Not even the British will be expected to break its codes.

The British Ally looks up, uneasy about this.

NANCY

Which is why I must ask a favor. I want to take my son with us.

Henry and the others exchange looks.

HENRY

Impossible. It's too dangerous for anyone to return to that house now.

NANCY

But you know what he will happen if he remains here. You must help me.

The British woman finishes serving them and sits down.

BRITISH WOMAN

He is far safer being left with his father for now. He does not dare to speak about this for fear of what they will do to him and the boy if they find out. To take him now will only put us all in more danger.

Nancy looks at her, horrified by this.

HENRY

She is right about this. He must remain in Berlin for now. We leave tonight for France as planned.

Nancy gets up and walks off. She paces the floor for a bit and then sits on a cot as the others eat. She sobs as Henry looks at her. He turns away and continues to eat.

EXT. BERLIN, COUNTRY ESTATE HOUSE - DAY

Kurt sits on a lawn chair on the veranda. He wears his Nazi cadet uniform and writes in the dirt the word "mother". Albert comes out of the house and sees Kurt sulking.

ALBERT

Why must you insist on keeping us waiting? Your dinner is getting cold, as well as mine.

KURT

I don't care. I want to see her. I don't care what she's done. I don't care! I want my mother.

Albert pulls him to his feet and shakes him.

ALBERT

Why do you insist on testing me about this? She is gone from us now and you will forget her.

KURT

But she never lied to us, ever. If she says what Hitler does is true, than maybe--

Albert slaps him across the face. Kurt is stunned by this.

ALBERT

Don't you ever question Hitler! Ever! Do you hear me? You will do as you are told and forget this ever happened. Or I will remove you from this house as well. Do you understand me? Do you!?

Kurt shakes his head "yes" as Albert shoves him towards the house.

ALBERT (CONT'D)

Now get inside. From this day on, I don't want to ever hear another word about this.

Kurt goes into the house and Albert follows. He closes the door behind them. The wind blows across the word "mother".

EXT. GREATER EUROPE 1939-1940

MONTAGE BEGINS

The NAZIS take control of Poland, Denmark, Norway, Holland, Belgium. Paris is bombed, and within weeks, HITLER tours Paris in occupied France as Nancy, Henry, and other ALLIES watch in horror.

Hitler's war wages on as OUTSIDE PARIS, ALLIES bomb German trains trying to bring more German weapons and supplies into France as--

--Nancy, Henry, and other ALLIES try to stop the Nazis from advancing to the other parts of France by changing road signs and confusing the German troops and tanks on where they are and where they are headed as they take out maps and try to find their way. They also set up road blocks and ambushes with fallen trees and rocks to stop the German tanks from advancing south.

AUGUST, 1940 -- BERLIN, GERMANY. The British bomb downtown Berlin. SIRENS SOUND as Nazi cadet Kurt, now 14, exits a German MILITARY TRAINING SCHOOL and heads for a shelter, along with other Nazi Cadets.

DECEMBER 7, 1941 -- HONOLULU, HAWAII, USA. The Japanese bomb Pearl Harbor.

EXT. BERLIN, HITLER'S REICH CHANCELLERY HEADQUARTERS - DAY

Snow covers the grounds outside the Reich Chancellery building which is buzzing with NAZI activity.

INT. LARGE MEETING HALL - CONTINUOUS

HITLER and other NAZI GENERALS gather around a RADIO as they listen to the BROADCAST in ENGLISH. Albert and Erich Von and other NAZI GENERALS stand in the room, listening.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT (V.O.)

On this day, December 7th, 1941, as America's Pacific fleet lies in ruins at Pearl Harbor, I, President Franklin Roosevelt, have requested and received from Congress a Declaration of War against Japan.

Hitler turns the RADIO OFF.

HITLER

It won't be long before we are fighting Americans. Meanwhile, the British spies continue to decode our messages before they reach the front! Even now, with our new Enigma machines, the British still manage to break our codes. You will find a solution to this problem immediately. Do you hear? Immediately! No longer will your sloppiness be tolerated!

Hitler exits the room as a group of NAZIS follow him. Albert and Eric Von look on concerned. Heinz stands next to them.

HEINZ

So he thinks it is only the spies that are our problem. I say, it is the Americans.

He lights a cigarette as Erich Von looks at Albert.

ERICH VON

This will be hard on all of us, the Americans entering the war. Particularly with our own families.

ALBERT

Hard? How?

ERICH VON

Your wife, for instance. She is still an American, is she not? How will her own people feel about her being married to a German now?

ALBERT

She is ill and isn't concerned about such things now.

ERICH VON

I am surprised you have not thought of it yourself. Especially with our families to be joined in marriage. I would hope we can find a solution that will feel more comfortable for all of us.

Albert stares at the other men, getting more upset by this conversation.

ALBERT

What would you have me do? Divorce her? Kurt is only fifteen. And I'm not sure his concern for his mother far outweighs--

ERICH VON

It is not only me who is concerned, but the Fuhrer. He has wondered why such a woman keeps your interest still. Especially with her health in question and when there are so many other stronger and healthier German woman to consider.

Albert looks at him, insulted.

ALBERT

I am surprised that you and the Fuhrer have so much free time on your hands to discuss my wife and my future. But I have no intention of taking a new wife, either now or at any other time. German or otherwise.

Albert walks off. Heinz eyes Erich Von, and they continue to exchange looks as Albert joins the other Generals in the hallway who wait to speak to Hitler.

EXT. MADRID, SPAIN - NIGHT

SUPER: APRIL, 1943

"Operation Mincemeat" is in progress as a waterlogged CORPSE of a British ROYAL MARINE is found floating off the coast of Spain next to a small floating wrecked airplane. The dead Brit has a suspicious-looking attaché case chained to his wrist.

INT. HITLER'S REICH CHANCELLERY HEADQUARTERS - DAY

SUPER: WEEKS LATER

The briefcase is opened and examined by Hitler and other Nazis.

HITLER

How did you get it?

ERICH VON

One of our men managed to secure its contents.

Hitler takes out the papers and examines them. They are written in English.

HITLER

What does it say?

ERICH VON

It's a letter to a British officer in Tunisia, outlining a secret Allied invasion of Sardinia and Greece in the weeks to come.

HITLER

If the documents are real, this would be a major advantage for us. Who can authenticate them?

ERICH VON

They have already been authenticated. I suggest we act on this now, and quickly.

Another NAZI OFFICER enters the room and salutes Hitler. Hitler is pleased.

EXT. DOWNTOWN BERLIN, GERMANY - DAY

SUPER: DECEMBER, 1943

Snow covers the streets in Berlin. Jewish storefronts are still abandoned and boarded up. A NAZI vehicle drives by a Military Training School as--

INT. MILITARY TRAINING SCHOOL - CONTINUOUS

There is a room full of NAZI MILITARY TRAINING STUDENTS working on cryptography machines as two NAZI INSTRUCTORS, 30s, watch them from the front of the room.

Kurt, now 17, sits amongst the other Nazi students dressed in a regular Nazi uniform. He de-scrambles a code from his cryptograph machine and writes the message down on paper.

He hands the message to one of the two MALE NAZI INSTRUCTORS who stand behind him. The other students struggle to decode their own messages as the Instructor reads Kurt's code. He nods at him as Kurt turns back to his work.

NAZI INSTRUCTOR ONE
(to other instructor)
He is good, like his father.

NAZI INSTRUCTOR TWO
A few more months and he'll be
ready for work in the code room at
the Reich Chancellery.

Instructor Two BLOWS a whistle. Kurt and the other NAZI STUDENTS rise. They turn and salute a picture of Adolf Hitler on the wall, and march from the class room.

EXT. DOWNTOWN BERLIN - MOMENTS LATER

Kurt comes out of the building. He bids the other NAZI STUDENTS farewell and walks down the street.

Kurt turns the corner and passes by a doorway. Henry, dressed in a long coat, over a suit, holds up an American cigarette.

HENRY
(in English)
Got a light?

Hearing his English, Kurt stops and looks Henry over.

KURT
American?

HENRY

That's right. I've got a message
from your mother for you.

Nancy appears in the doorway behind Henry. She wears a kerchief over her dark hair, a long brown coat, and brown shoes. Kurt eyes widen.

KURT

Mother.

He hugs Nancy who smiles.

INT. SMALL BERLIN APARTMENT - DUSK

Henry stands by the snow-covered window smoking a cigarette. He keeps watch below. The snow-covered streets seem empty. Kurt sits at a small table across from Nancy. A bottle of wine sits between them. Nancy pours two glasses and hands one to Kurt. The apartment is cold and has only a few pieces of furniture.

NANCY

You've grown tall, like your
father. I was afraid you wouldn't--
that you'd forgotten me.

KURT

I was afraid they found you. That
perhaps they even killed you.

NANCY

What did he say about me?

KURT

He told them you were ill and sent
to France for treatment.

NANCY

And they believed that?

KURT

They still ask questions even now.
We never speak about you anymore.
Father will not allow it.

NANCY

It is best this way. But it is you
I have come to talk about. You and
your future now. I want you to
leave Berlin with me. The Americans
will be coming soon, and you will
no longer be safe in Germany.

Kurt rises, stunned.

KURT

Leave Germany? How can you even ask this?

NANCY

I have seen things you cannot even imagine are happening in this war. That is why I am here. To stop you from becoming a part of this.

KURT

Father was right about you. You don't care about us, or Germans.

NANCY

I care more than you know. I have once loved this country too. But Hitler has destroyed that now. When the world learns of what he has done to the Jews and others, the entire world will hate all Germans. That is why you must leave with me. Before you become a part of what they hate, and this war.

KURT

I will not leave my country. Ever. You wasted your time coming here. Go. And I will tell no that I have seen you.

Kurt heads for the door.

NANCY

Kurt, wait! Even some Germans are turning against him as they learn the truth about his hatred. Your father knows too, but refused to act on it. If you only knew how he was before the war, you'd listen to me now. Did he ever tell you about that night we first met?

Henry steps away from the window.

HENRY

We don't have time for that now. We have to get out of Berlin before nightfall.

The room grows darker as the sun sets in the sky outside the window.

NANCY

It was before the war, when I was a singer in a nightclub not far from here. You father had just joined the Nazi party before Hitler came to power.

FADE TO:

INT. BERLIN NIGHTCLUB - NIGHT

Nancy, 20, stands on small stage wearing a sequined dress as she SINGS an American SONG to a GERMAN CROWD. At a table in front by the stage is a group of Nazi "Brown Shirts," including Albert, 25, all busy drinking and getting drunk as some of the older NAZIS WHISTLE at Nancy and try to grab her as she moves away.

FADE BACK TO:

INT. BERLIN APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

Nancy stands near Kurt who listens.

NANCY

After my performance, I left through the alley, as I usually did. The oldest Nazi was with the others and was sick. He stopped me and started to tease me about my accent and my singing. He grabbed me and tried to kiss me when I slapped him across the face. He ordered the other Nazi, and moments after, he tried to rape me.

Kurt's eyes widen.

NANCY (CONT'D)

Before he could, your father shot him. He lay in the alley dead as the other Nazis ran away. When I asked your father why he did what he did, knowing they would come back to find him, he said he had to. It was because it was the right thing to do. From that day on, I loved your father. But this war has changed him, and he no longer seems to care what is right anymore. That is why I had to leave.

(MORE)

NANCY (CONT'D)

I never meant to have to leave you too, but there was no choice then. But now you have a choice. You must decide too, right and wrong for yourself now. Please. Think carefully about this. Say you will come with me now, while I can still protect you.

She reaches her hand out to Kurt as he looks at her. He turns and leaves the apartment. He runs down the stairs as Nancy watches from the door, horrified.

NANCY (CONT'D)

Kurt!

HENRY

Let him go. He is too much like his father now.

NANCY

I've waited too long to come back.

HENRY

We must hurry. He will tell them, and they will come now.

Henry gathers the wine bottles from the table and puts them into a cloth bag. Nancy remains frozen and tearful.

EXT. BERLIN, COUNTRY ESTATE HOUSE - NIGHT

The house lights are on. TWO NAZI SOLDIERS guard the front gates.

INT. LARGE FORMAL DINING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Albert, Kurt, and INGRID MAINSTEIN, 17, sit at the table having dinner. Ingrid is blond and wears a very beautiful pink silk dress with embroidered roses on it. SERVANTS serve them dinner as Kurt only plays with his soup.

INGRID

I am looking forward to going dancing tonight. It has been weeks since we've done anything fun together.

Kurt ignores her and plays with his soup. Albert notices as he eats. Ingrid watches him.

INGRID (CONT'D)

Kurt? You didn't notice my dress.
My mother got it from France. Do
you like it?

Kurt looks up.

KURT

Yes, it's nice. Only I don't feel
much like going out. I'm tired and--

INGRID

But you promised me just this
morning. We had it planned all
week.

KURT

I'm sorry, I'm just not in the mood
for any crowds now. Or music.

Ingrid pouts as Albert eyes Kurt.

ALBERT

What is wrong with you? You've
hardly touched your dinner. Did
something happen today?

KURT

How would I know? I know only what
they want me to know, like all
soldiers do.

ALBERT

And what does that mean?

KURT

The things I ask are always the
same. Ignored or simply lied about.
Especially, if they are anything at
all about the Jews.

Albert looks up.

ALBERT

This is hardly conversation for
dinner. Eat and dancing. You'll
feel better.

KURT

I am nearly eighteen now. I have a
right to know the same as you do.

(MORE)

KURT (CONT'D)

I work on codes and yet even the meaning of the messages are kept from me. Why? Am I not to be trusted by even my own party?

Albert looks up even more shocked.

ALBERT

How dare you question Hitler or this Army. When you are old enough, then you will know. And until then, you will do only as you are told.

Kurt puts his napkin down and rises.

KURT

That's what you always say. Not even your own son is someone you can even look at or trust with the truth. Is it?

Albert looks at Kurt stunned as he walks out of the dining room.

ALBERT

Kurt, get back here! Kurt! You have not been excused from this table.

Ingrid rises.

INGRID

I'll go see what's the matter.

Ingrid follows after Kurt. Albert tries to eat but his dinner has now gone cold. He throws his fork down as the Servants take his plate away and get him another one.

INT. KURT'S BEDROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Kurt enters his room and slams the door shut behind him. He takes off his Nazi jacket and throws it on a chair. He sits on the bed as Ingrid KNOCKS and then comes in.

INGRID

Kurt. I am ashamed of you. To talk to your father and to ruin everyone's dinner.

KURT

I can't help it. I won't just be treated as a puppet anymore. If this uniform means anything I will know.

(MORE)

KURT (CONT'D)

And I will not be told to keep
silent, or to not ask questions
about the Jews anymore.

He gets up and stares out the window. Ingrid looks at him,
upset by this.

INGRID

The Jews? What do they have to do
with anything? I don't understand
you at all anymore. After all
Hitler has done, you are standing
here questioning him, as well as
your own father now. Which means
you're questioning mine too. And
after all they have done to help
win this war.

INT. DINING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Albert looks at his plate, still angry. He gets up from the
table and exits the dining room. In the hallway, he heads up
the staircase as--

INT. KURT'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Ingrid holds the door open. Kurt looks back out the window.

KURT

He doesn't have a choice. That's
what makes it so horrible. He's
afraid, the same as the others. To
even ask questions, makes them
question you. So how can you say
it's for our own protection? Even a
child knows when he's being lied
to. And now I am caught lying too.
Lying even to you.

EXT. HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Albert approaches Kurt's bedroom door. The door is open as
he reaches for the door handle.

INT. KURT'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Ingrid sits in a chair, even more upset.

INGRID

In all these years, I have never heard you say such things. We've never had secrets before. So why now? I'm to be your wife soon.

Albert stops outside the door, listening, and peers through.

KURT

I saw her today. She's not ill or in France at all. She's here. In Berlin.

INGRID

Who is here? Who are you talking about?

KURT

My mother. That's who.

Ingrid rises as Albert is alarmed.

INGRID

Why didn't you say so at dinner? And what do you mean she's not ill? She hasn't been in France--

Albert enters the room.

ALBERT

Ingrid, wait downstairs. I must speak with Kurt alone now.

Ingrid looks at Kurt, confused.

INGRID

I don't understand.

ALBERT

Ingrid, I must insist. Your father's car will be here soon to take you home. You can speak to Kurt in the morning.

Ingrid heads for the door.

INGRID

I must tell father about this. And tomorrow, you will tell me everything. About about her and her health. Good night.

She exits. Albert closes the door.

ALBERT

Are you mad? What is this nonsense you are telling her?

KURT

It is true. I did see her. She is in Berlin. I spoke with her just a few hours ago.

ALBERT

And you tell me this now?

He rushes towards the door.

ALBERT (CONT'D)

Take me to her! I will get the car and--

KURT

No. She is gone now, I am sure. Besides, I promised I wouldn't tell anyone. And now I have broken that promise.

ALBERT

So now, you are expecting to protect her after what she has done?

KURT

She was here, trying to protect me. She wanted me to leave Berlin with her. To go to France. She said the Americans will be coming soon and that all Germans will be despised by the world once they learn what Hitler has done.

ALBERT

Lies! All lies. She is only saying this to get you to be a traitor to us. The same as her.

KURT

I thought that too, but I'm not so sure anymore.

Kurt looks out the window.

KURT (CONT'D)

I had forgotten so much about her, in these past few years. She looked much thinner than I remember, but her voice was the same.

(MORE)

KURT (CONT'D)

You remember the voice, I'm sure you do.

ALBERT

What do I care about her voice? I want to know where she is, before they find her and question us!

KURT

Something about it, reminded me about how she always told the truth, even when she knew how hard it would be or how it might even hurt us. It was as if she was incapable for lying, and knew it served no point, and could only destroy things.

ALBERT

You stand here, talking to me about truth, while she escapes us?

A car's headlights shine outside the window. Kurt looks at his father.

KURT

And she told me something else too. How you killed a Nazi who was about to rape her, and didn't care who knew, because it was the right thing to do. Is that true? Did you?

Kurt looks out the window and sees a CHAUFFEUR open the car door for Ingrid. She looks up at Kurt and waves to him. She gets in the car as the Chauffeur closes the door for her.

ALBERT

You want truth, see if it can fix that now. I'm done protecting you and her. From now on, you will learn how to protect yourself. And then we shall see who is the real liar.

Albert exits the room, infuriated. Kurt sees the German car drive off with Ingrid in the back seat.

EXT. WILHELHAVEN GERMANY - DAY

SUPER: JANUARY 27, 1943

Snow covers the ground as the first of the American AIR RAIDS BOMB Germany.

INT. BERLIN, HITLER'S REICH CHANCELLERY HEADQUARTERS - DAY

Kurt types on a cryptographic machine while seated at a desk, as some NAZIS run into the building. They announce the attacks to the other Nazi GENERALS, including Erich Von and Heinz. Kurt rises, concerned by this.

EXT. BERLIN, COUNTRY ESTATE - LIBRARY - NIGHT

Albert sits at his desk in front of an Enigma cryptographic machine. He holds the broken key in his hand and stares at it. He gets up and paces the floor. The front door slams shut, and Kurt enters the library.

KURT

Did you hear? The Americans have just attacked Wilhelmshaven and destroyed the city. They will be coming to Berlin next, just as she said.

ALBERT

It doesn't matter. They have already been asking questions about her and excluding me from their meetings.

KURT

What?

ALBERT

They have requested her medical records from France. They are watching us both now. I'm sure of it.

Albert sits in his chair again.

KURT

But why? I told Ingrid I was mistaken about seeing her. That it was someone I only thought was her.

ALBERT

And you think they believe you? As long as she remains alive, we will never be free of her. I should have killed her then, only I--

Kurt stares at his father, stunned. Albert gets up and walks off.

KURT

Only what? It's obvious you hate her still, even now for what she did. So why did you let her go?

ALBERT

What does it matter now? I am forced to protect her even still so she doesn't destroy us. And now, I have to find a way to get those documents.

KURT

I'm sorry for you, father. Truly sorry.

Albert looks at Kurt, confused.

KURT (CONT'D)

After all these years, I believe you still love her. And yet, you stand here telling me, that it's us you are trying to protect instead of her. I wonder if that's really true. Or just another lie, like all the others.

Kurt exits the library.

INT. HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Kurt heads for the stairs and climbs them. Albert exits the library and watches Kurt as he disappears upstairs. Albert stands alone in the hallway alone, shaken by this.

EXT. NORMANDY, FRANCE - DAY

SUPER: JUNE 6TH, 1944 -- D-DAY

The 50-mile stretch of the Normandy coast is divided into five sectors: Utah, Omaha, Gold, Juno, and Sword Beach.

The amphibious landing is preceded by extensive aerial and naval bombardment and airborne assaults.

Over 25,000 TROOPS consisting of BRITISH, AMERICAN and CANADIAN FORCES land on Normandy beaches in northern France.

The ALLIED SOLDIERS land under heavy fire from GERMAN TROOPS whose gun emplacements overlook the beaches.