

# **THE BEECH FOREST**

A SCREENPLAY

By  
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LA SCALA OPERA APRIL 1926

The Opera House is filled. ARTURO TOSCANINI, goes to the podium. The PACKED AUDIENCE applauds

AUDIENCE

Bravissimo Bravo! Bravo!

BALCONY

THE ROYAL FAMILY is seated. KING VICTOR EMANUEL III, QUEEN ELENA, PRINCESS MAFALD, PRINCESS MARIA, PRINCESS GIOVANNA OF BULGARIA, JOLANDA. view the opera.

OPERA ENTRANCE

An USHER leads ADOLPH HITLER (late 30s, JOSEPH GOEBBELS (mid 20s) and HERMANN GORING(all mid 30's) to their seats.

USHER

Enjoy the Opera, Gentlemen

HITLER

I believe these are the wrong seats.

USHER

Let me see the tickets again...Sorry, Sir. These are your seats.

HITLER

Sorry for the inconvenience.

GOEBBELS

Peculiar.

GORING

Indeed.

HITLER

Not peculiar. An insult. They meant this as an insult.

GORING

Who.

HITLER

Those royals.

GORING

Ah, well.

GOEBBELS  
We will never forget.

HITLER  
Never.

GOEBBELS  
Look there. They gave the Hessen  
prince a prime seat.

FRONT ROW

PHILIPP VON HESSEN and SIEGFRIED SASSOON, mid thirties, look  
through their binoculars.

SASSOON  
Do you see them!

PHILIPP  
Adolph Hitler and Company. The  
Nazi's as they call themselves.

SASSOON  
I'd rather

PHILIPP  
Nothing to worry about. They only  
express anger by the German people.  
This too will come to pass.

SASSOON  
Hopefully.

PHILIPP  
At least they're trying to make  
order out of chaos.

SASSOON  
Too much order. Your bide yobe is  
looking at you.

PHILIPP  
What bride to be?

SASSOON  
Yours. Don't be coy. All Rome and  
even Europe knows.

PHILIPP  
I've herd the rumors too. Are they  
true?

SASSOON  
Being coy?

PHILIPP  
My heart belongsi to you.

SASSOON  
But you will do as your family  
wishes.

PHILIPP  
Too many major issues now.  
Like religion. She's Catholic .  
We are Lutherans.

SASSOON  
That too will be overcome. My  
mother was an Anglican, my father  
an Iraqi Jew?

PHILIPP  
What a shame.

SASSOON  
The Iraqi, the Jew, or the Anglican.

PHILIPP  
The Anglican.

SASSOON  
And the Jews?

PHILIPP  
They'll do

1 EXT. THE BEECH FORREST DAY

1

JOHANN WOLFGANG VON GOETHE, sixties, is writing poetry under a gigantic Oak Tree. HANS, fifties walks towards him. Goethe looks up. Bach's Brandenburg Concerto plays in the background. ARTISTS and POETS stroll through The Beech Forrest.

HANS

A beautiful day to be surrounded by  
grove of beech trees.

GOETHE

Our own beech forrest, Buchenwald.  
Good Day, Hans.

HANS

And Germany's greatest poet writes  
under the only oak tree.

GOETHE

It's an inspiration to write under  
this tree.

HANS

One of the largest in the world.  
Elegant and sturdy. Even Johann  
Sebastian Bach writes some of his  
music here.

GOETHE

If these trees could speak!  
Nature! We are enveloped and  
embraced by her, incapable of  
emerging from her and incapable of  
entering her more deeply. Unbidden  
and unwarned, she receives us into  
the circuits of her dance, drifting  
onward with us herself, until we  
grow tired and drop from her arms

HANS

What are you writing now.

GOETHE

A poem called Faust.

HANS

Sounds evil.

GOETHE

It's about both good and evil.

HANS

Is it about the German people.

GOETHE

It's about all people

HANS

There is a legend that the fate of  
Germany is tied to the life of the  
this oak.

GOETHE

My mother always said that should  
this tree die, Germany will would  
also fall.

2 EXT. BUCHENWALD - DAY 2

VISITORS walk walk through the the prison.

re are mentions of the Goethe-oak.  
One knows what happens next.  
Buchenwald becomes a concentration  
camp in 1934; apparently the Goethe-  
oak was used to hang prisoners as  
the dogs nipped at their heels and  
clawed the base of the tree. The  
climax of the text takes place in  
August of 1944, when American  
bombers carried out a raid on the  
factories around Buchenwald.

3 FLASHBACK THE BEECH FORREST 1930 3

Several people picnic on lovely grounds surrounded by Beech  
Trees, and a giant Oak in the middle.

4 EXT. US SENATE OFFICE BUILDING 1984 4

Taxis stop in front of the Hart Building. SENATOR JOHN  
SHERMAN COOPER of Kentucky exits from his car.

5 INT. SENATOR COOPER'S OFFICE - DAY 5

Cooper and MARTA SKREMEL, thirties, are seated.

MARTA

Senator Cooper, now that you're retiring from public service, could you share the most memorable thing you did in your career.

COOPER

Like what? Speech, accomplishment..

MARTA

Anything.

COOPER

Finding Frau Von Weber.

MARTA

Who was she?

COOPER

That's what the story is all about.

MARTA

Sorry for the interruption.

COOPER

Your interview brings me back to those days.

MARTA

Continue

COOPER

The head of the section I was in called me in one day and he had a message signed by Eisenhower. Of course, all orders came from the . . . from his headquarters, signed by Eisenhower. And it said, "Locate Princess Mafalda. The British want her protected. May be at Schloss Kronfeld," the castle of Kronfeld, which wasn't too far from Frankfurt.

Well, I asked this colonel, I said, "Who is Mafalda?"

"Well, I don't know," he said.

"None of my business. Go find her."

[Laughter]



6 EXT. LONDON 1926 S

6

SIEGFRIED SASSOON, thirties, speaks off screen

SASSOON (O.S.)

SPLASHING along the boggy woods all day, And over brambled hedge and holding clay, I shall not think of him: But when the watery fields grow brown and dim, And hounds have lost their fox, and horses tire,  
 5 I know that he'll be with me on my way Home through the darkness to the evening fire. He's jumped each stile along the glistening lanes; His hand will be upon the mud-soaked reins; Hearing the saddle creak,  
 10 He'll wonder if the frost will come next week. I shall forget him in the morning light; And while we gallop on he will not speak:  
 But at the stable-door he'll say good-night.

7 EXT. CASTEL GANDOLFO GARDENS - NIGHT

7

PHILIPP VON HESSEN and Siegfried Sassoon , early twenties stroll by the Gardens.

SASSOON

You are a prince of a man and

PHILIPP

And?

SASSOON

A shit of a fellow.

PHILIPP

What can one expect of an English men.

SASSOON

Philipp!

PHILIPP

For a poet, You are so demanding!

MRS. ATWATER, forties , goes by.

SASSOON

Demanding!

MRS. ATWATER  
There you are Philipp, where have  
you been?

SASSOON  
That's right, where have you been  
Philipp?

MRS. ATWATER  
At least your with a man this time.

PHILIPP  
Ah, you Americans are too kind.

MRS. ATWATER  
Will you be at dinner tonight.

PHILIPP  
Ah of course.

MRS. ATWATER  
If you do not show, I will never  
speak to you again.

PHILIPP  
I will be there.

MRS. ATWATER  
Love you. Rome becomes more  
delightful by the minute.

She goes off.

SASSOON  
Rich Texas women, men, boys!  
You're into everything.

PHILIPP  
My heart belongs to Siegfried

SASSOON  
Occasionally

8 THAT NIGHT ATWATER APARTMENT

8

Phillip and Atwater are in bed.

PHILIPP  
You are the first Texan I've ever  
slept with.

ATWATER  
I won't be the last.

PHILIPP

Where does all the money come from.

ATWATER

Baby. Three words. OIL! OIL! OIL!

PHILIPP

A poor architect and interior designer needs clients.

ATWATER

You haven't even finished my kitchen first. I've been waiting two months.

PHILIPP

You commoners are so impatient. Baroness Montessini has been waiting a year.

ATWATER

I have three Texas words for you, Sweetheart. KISS MY ASS.

PHILIPP

Only after you pay me.

ATWATER

You Royals are so common.

9

SASSOON'S APARTMENT SHORTLY AFTERWARDS

9

A portrait of Philipp in military uniform hangs on the wall next to another picture of a lovely young. Philipp and Siegfried sip cognac.

PHILIPP

Cognac! The one thing in which the French excel.

SASSOON

How about art, wine..

PHILIPP

They're stupid.

SASSOON

And the English?

PHILIPP

Not as stupid, but considerably more manipulative.

SASSOON

Your the most stubborn German I  
have ever known!

PHILIPP

You will both pay for the Treaty of  
Versailles. The great tragedy that  
destroyed the German people and my  
family.

SASSOON

And you hold that against me!

PHILIPP

Because of your heritage, yes!

SASSOON

Because I am half Jewish

PHILIPP

No, because you're half English.

SASSOON

You are so rigid. Do you ever  
listen to the other side.

PHILIPP

There is no other side. Except  
manipulation, harlotry, deception,  
and a receipt for World disaster.

SASSOON

Let us change the subject. Have you  
seen the new expressionist exhibit.

PHILIPP

The Americans have a word for it:  
Crap.

SASSOON

Do you ever hear the other side.  
Your intellectual rigidity will  
develop into ossification.

PHILIPP

Let us go. I've had enough

11 EXT. - ROME - DAY

11

Philipp VON HESSEN, early twenties rushes through downtown Rome carrying s briefcase. He walks past a GROUP OF NUNS and several ORGAN GRINDERS. He briefly glances at a passing car. A GROUP OF NUNS walks by as an OPEN AUTOMOBILE carrying the four daughters of King Umberto. They wave at the CROWD.

FIRST NUN

Look, the Royal Family

SECOND NUN

Rumor has it....

THIRD NUN

You must stop spreading rumors

12 INSIDE THE LIMOUSINE

12

PRINCESSES MAFALDA, GIOVANNA, YOLANDA, and MARIA, late teens to mid twenties) wave to an ADMIRING CROWD.

YOLANDA

I saw him.

GIOVANNA

Who?

MARIA

Philipp Von Hessen. You didn't even look, Mafalda.

MAFALDA

I do not care.

They all giggle.

MARIA

And he is so handsome.

MAFALDA

As handsome as Boris?

MARIA

I thought you weren't interested.

MAFALDA

We will meet him shortly says Father.

GIOVANNA

I understand he even likes Benito.

MAFALDA  
He couldn't possibly.

GIOVANNA  
Why do you dislike Mussolini so  
much!

MAFALDA  
I hardly know him.

YOLANDA  
Yo will see him tonight.

MAFALDA  
When?

YOLANDA  
To the opening of Turandot,  
Puccini's new opera.

MARIA  
Which he dedicated to you.

13 EXT. ROME DAY 13

Sassoon and Philipp keep rushing

SASSOON  
I saw the Princess take a glimpse  
of you

PHILIPP  
For God's sake, I haven't even met  
her yet.  
TO BE FINISHED.

14 EXT. TURN'S ROACONIGGI PALACE SEPTEMBER 23 1925 14

Philipp in Hessian uniform, Mafalda in an elegant white Gown.  
All royalty is present. BENITO MUSSOLINI walks in. HUNDREDS  
are in attendance.

PHILIPP  
You

15 MUSSOLINI RESIGNS 1943 15

Mussolini



Well, we rode all day and that afternoon about three o'clock we got off onto this small side road to Buchenwald

, and our troops had just overrun it.

There hadn't been any battle, because the S.S. ran off which had control of the concentration camp, but there were a number OF DEAD INMATES LYING AROUND IN DITCHES, both inside and outside. And you didn't know whether they'd tried to escape and been shot or what.

There weren't many. But once in there I saw it and stayed there altogether three days, because I was ordered to get all the information I could about Mafalda. And well, they had twenty thousand inmates in it, and I saw the furnaces.

I saw the carts racked up with dead, about three of them. I think they let them starve to death and then just burned them up. The people in the . . . lying in these barracks were so weak they could hardly talk. And . . .

well, I found that curiously enough the Czechs were in charge of it. I guess they were good organizers and there were people from every country there. There were [people from] France, Russia, oh, [even] Norway. I even found several in there claimed they were Americans. They had gone to America and come back.

But the surgeon in the hospital told me that Mafalda had been working in an ammunition plant outside the camp and that the American bombers had come over and bombed.

She had been wounded in the shoulder and she died in that hospital . . . little hospital. And he took me to her grave out there with the name Mafalda on it. Then I found an old Italian who took me to her cell and . . . she didn't live in the barracks. She had a little cell.



And I had a description of scars on her, and I asked him if she had any scars he noticed.

He told me. So [I] identified her that way.

She had a sad little print on the wall. I suppose you could buy one over there now for fifty cents or something like that.

Well, I took it because I had a right to and [I've] got it someplace. While I was there then, General Patton came up, and he made everybody in Weimar [who was] able to walk, [to go] out through the camp, and [he] turned out these inmates

The inmates were so weak they didn't say anything [or] demonstrate against these German people or anything.

The German people would just say, "We knew nothing about it." I had a number of pictures taken up there which I'm hoping to find for this exhibit

They did have shrunken heads where they . . . where they had the heads of victims which had been shrunken. They did have things made out of their skin, tanned and all that. The S.S. had run off and . . . I always remembered that as one of the worst sights I ever . . . I ever saw, and had a good deal of influence on my later thinking in Congress.

I'll try to close this out. I went back to that castle.

No, the old colonel, who had a very good heart, told me to go back and inform the relatives. So I went over there, and it was . . . by that time it had been taken by the American troops, and they had been moved, but I was told where they'd been sent to which was the home of the Duke of Hesse. Hitler did not take into the army these ruling old noble families.

Of course, every little old country in Germany, had so many little countries, or had so many, that titles were [chuckle] like colonels in Kentucky [laughter], or in the United States, but they maintained that. They liked it. But I found the Duke of Hesse, and there I found the young lady that I had seen at . . . first seen at the other . . . who'd told me about Mafalda and the children. Well, that was interesting because it turned out that the Duke of Hesse . . . his wife was English . . . was English, and her father had been ambassador to the United States and she'd been at the [Kentucky] Derby [laughing]. BILL COOPER: Oh, really? COOPER: Think about this in 194-. . . this was '45 then. And also they were so helpless. They said, "When you get back to England, if you do see any of the royal family, tell them that we're all right." They were all great-grandchildren of . . . or great-great grand-children of Queen Victoria, because she was related to every royal house. They were also related to their Mountbatten, and this young lady, I learned later, was the sister of Prince Phillip, who is the consort, you know, of Queen Elizabeth of England [laughing], so there I was with all those people, dirty as I could be. They cried a little bit, but they were so used to tragedy. And then we had a little meal with my K-rations, and they told me a good deal about the house. It was a house in which the last Czarina was born, the one who was killed in the [Bolshevik] revolution. They took me to her room, showed me where . . . her room. Later, again in 1957 or '58, I took my wife, Lorraine [there]. We went back when I was in Germany many and saw them again. And they remembered me because I had to get a written statement from them that . . . that the children were in their custody.

I had to get three. I had one for our own headquarters, one to send back to Eisenhower's headquarters, and I took one myself, because I knew nobody would ever believe the story. [Laughter] But anyway, it was just one of those things that happened because I was a messenger. Well, we went on down through Erlangen. That's where [Henry] Kissinger was born. I remember it well. I went to Nuremburg, which was the whole city [was] destroyed, and . . . [or] practically destroyed. And while there I was sent to Czechoslovakia on a mission to Pilsen. And again, Patton's army had gotten into Pilsen, and he wanted to move on to Prague, which wasn't far away, but--I think an awful mistake--they didn't let him go. He could have got there before the Russians. But they'd made some kind of arrangement back in London about the limits, you know, of what each army would approach. On the way back to Erlangen, where the place I'd left, the war ended, and I could see people going into church. A lot of these old people had their silk hats on. They'd resurrected them [hats] from some place. And I remember we came upon a tank battalion. They were . . . had breakfast with them, and they were so nervous they didn't know what to do. They said, "We've been going every day, and now we don't know what to do" [chuckle]. BILL COOPER: Yeah. Yeah. COOPER: Well, that was the end of the war. Then I was assigned to Munich in the government of Munich. You ready to go on? [interruption in tape] BILL COOPER: You mentioned a moment ago that when Patton ordered the citizens of Weimar out to see the Buchenwald prison camp that many of them expressed the opinion that they didn't know that was going on. How could that have been? How could this type of thing been going on in Germany that close without their being aware of it?

COOPER: Oh, I'm sure they were aware of it. Perhaps there might have been some older people in Weimar who didn't know anything about it. When I was in Germany lately as ambassador to East Germany, I went to . . . up to Weimar and went to the old camp. The camp was still there, just like it was except they'd torn the barracks down. But the furnaces are there. And it's rather hard to find out of Weimar. It's up on a little hill, and but it's only five or six miles away from there. I don't see how possibly they could have failed to know that something was going on up there. BILL COOPER: They could have smelled the stench of the burning bodies from that distance. COOPER: Oh, yeah. Yeah. Yeah, the smell. Then . . . so I don't believe that. When I was there the last time in 1976, you would have thought that the Russians had taken it. They had built a great tall monument there, typically Russian to its architecture, praising the Russians. Not a word about the Americans having overrun it. I'd have to say there wasn't any battle there except maybe had a few shots fired. And one little plaque there to the French. But I saw nothing to indicate the Americans had ever been there. I had to tell those people back in East . . . in East Berlin [laughter] about that. BILL COOPER: Did you get to know Patton very well? COOPER: Hmm? BILL COOPER: Did you get to know General Patton very well? COOPER: No. Of course, [chuckle] after all, I . . . by that time I had become a captain. I had been promoted from a second to first and then to a captain, I think just before the close of the war. After that Battle of the Bulge he had his headquarters in Luxembourg City.

He gave a little party one night, and one of his friends from Boston where his wife came from [and] who was a good friend of Patton, he took me with him to this reception, and [I] met Patton then and talked to him a few minutes. He was very nice. And he talked about Kentucky a little bit. He la- . . . he knew about its horses. He was a great horseman, and . . . he interested me. He was a big man [but] not as big and heavy as the man who played Patton in the moving picture [George C. Scott]. [He was] tall. It also inter- ested me [that] he had short . . . his feet were short . . . small and his hands were small. BILL COOPER: Oh, yeah?

PATTON (O.S.)  
An asshole. A big one.

Cooper tries to exit.

PATTON (cont'd)  
Please remain, Captain.

Cooper comes to attention.

PATTON (cont'd)  
I'll be off in a minute. (returning to phone conversation) He should be shipped back to Kansas. We'll chat tomorrow. At ease, and have a seat. (to Cooper)From Kentucky I understand.

COOPER  
Yes, Sir.

PATTON  
I like horses.

COOPER  
I understand that, Sir.

FROM

COOPER  
Yes, Sir.

PATTON (O.S.)  
You have to find her.

COOPER  
Who?

PATTON  
Mafalda.

COOPER  
Who?

PATTON  
Who knows? Just find her.

24 EXT. WINDING ROAD - DAY

24

A limosine travels along a secluded route. Beech trees line the route. The car comes to a stop, and Cooper and JOHN, twenties, exit from the car. A medieval castle with a wall around it; appears in the background with a gate house and a smaller house beside it. PETER a forties approaches them.

HANS  
What may I do for you. (in German)

JOHN  
We are looking for woman. Mafalda  
is her name(in German)

HANS  
I do not know a Mafalda.

JOHN  
She is here.

HANS  
Only a woman wi five children lives  
here.

JOHN  
This woman does not have five  
children. In fact she is dead.

HANS  
Ah, you mean the Italian woman. Go  
into the small house, not the big  
house. (in German)

CUT TO:

FRONT OF SMALL HOUSE

A WOMAN with FOUR CHILDREN following her walks toward the house.

JOHN

Madame, I understand you might be able to help us. (In German)

WOMAN

I speak English.

JOHN

Very well you do. We are looking for Princess Mafalda.

WOMAN

The Blessed One. Come to the house.

COOPER

Who owns the house?

WOMAN

The Kaiser's sister, but she is very old and we are taking care of her.

COOPER

About this Mafalda?

WOMAN

The wife of the Kaiser's nephew?

COOPER

Is she here?

WOMAN

She is dead.

COOPER

Where is she buried.

WOMAN

Come into the house.

FADE TO:

INSIDE HOUSE

Seated around table

COOPER

Tell us about her.

WOMAN

She was the favorite of the old  
Kaiser's sister. A daughter of  
the king.

COOPER

Take us to her grave

THE GRAVESITE

Cooper, John and the woman arrive  
at the gravesite. A simple marker  
reads Frau Maria Weber.

COOPER

You're sure it's she?

WOMAN

Let us dig.

They begin digging.

BUCHENWALD CONCENTRATION CAMP 1944

Cooper and the lieutenant "walk through the

COOPER

The country club itself. Care to  
visit.

LIEUTENANT

No.

COOPER

All quiet.

LIEUTENANT

Again, no.

COOPER

We may have to come back.





30 INT.

30

Boris enters and both he and Hitler salute.

HITLER

I hope you enjoyed your overnight stay.

BORIS

Indeed, Sir. I love Berlin.

HITLER

We must see that it always continues to exist.

BORIS

Our alliance is strong.

HITLER

You think so. Need I tell you that Mussolini is likely to fall.

BORIS

Regrettable.

HITLER

What do you know about this tragedy? I think Victor Emanuel's a sexual pervert

BORIS

Nothing Sir. I have enough difficulty governing Bulgaria.

HITLER

You know nothing about Victor Emanuel's house?

BORIS

No, Sir.

HITLER

Is he not your father in law?

BORIS

Yes, but...

HITLER

I hold her to blame for your wife's judgement. She is under the influence of your sister in law Mafalda. In Germany, Nazism is a religion. In Italy, Fascism is a pastime.

BORIS  
I know nothing....

HITLER  
All right. I'll let this pass

BORIS  
You can not question my allegiance  
to the axis.

HITLER  
I have my doubts.

BORIS  
Why, Sir.

HITLER  
You have not committed a single  
troop to the Russian front.

BORIS  
The ties between our country are so  
close going back to the Turks..

Hitler expresses a gastric pain and leaves the room

31 SHORTLY AFTERWARDS

31

Hitler glares at Boris

HITLER  
And the Jews? You have done  
nothing.

BORIS  
There would be a public outcry...

HITLER  
Are you a king or a mouse.

BORIS  
My hands are tied. But I did  
sanction the German request for the  
deportation of 13,000 Jews from  
those territories re-occupied by  
Bulgaria.

HITLER  
With a gun to your head.

BORIS  
I...

HITLER

And you have committed virtually no troops to the Western Front.

BORIS

The assembly is considering a major increase in troop levels. I will do my best. I know that my best is not always good enough..

HITLER

I appreciate your efforts. I will always protect you and Bulgaria.

32 INT. PLANE DAY 32

German inspectors examine plane equipment  
Berlin Airport, a day later.

33 INT. MAFALDA'S PRIVATE DINING ROOM DAY 33

Scene about joining the nazi party in 1933

MAFALDA

I do not like that man

PHILIPP

You think I do.

MAFALDA

Then why join.

PHILIPP

For our family, honor, country,  
our children,

MAFALDA

So we must lodge with the  
scoundrel.

PHILIPP

I'm not asking you to.

MAFALDA

Therefore I have no intentions...

PHILIPP

To what.

MAFALDA

Join the Nazi party.

PHILIPP

And abandon our only hope.

MAFALDA

Our only hope. My father has no use for this man.

PHILIPP

Times will change.

He's using us/ You do not sound like a German Princess, you do not even sound like an Italian one.

We are using him. He's using us

Anti Semitism is not a part of our life style.

MAFALDA

You Germans are always claiming your superiority to us. Even with a house painter at the helm.

PHILIPP

Alright have it your way. Do you love your father.

MAFALDA

What a question to ask.

PHILIPP

Then do this for his sake.

MAFALDA

You're not suggesting that Italy ally itself with the house painter's empire.

PHILIPP

Do not call him that~

Embraces him.

MAFALDA

You Germans are so serious. Will it please you if I join? Beloved.

PHILIPP

Look, I won't force you to do anything.

MAFALDA

Perhaps, I am a typical Italian.

PHILIPP

You don't need to do it.

MAFALDA

I will please my husband.

PHILIPP

Our only hope is with Hitler  
And his hatred of Jews. I believe  
that will change with time.  
Your wife has contributed

MAFALDA

No  
We were ready to Collapse and he  
showed up Third Reich Weimar  
republic A man of action

34 INT ROYAL PALACE DAY 34

KING UMBERTO, sixties, reads letters;

35 EXT COUNTRY ROAD DAY 1931 35

Philipp and Mafalda and THREE CHILDREN ride in a  
convertible automobile. Philipp is driving They pass a beech  
forest.

1936 Walk into the forest

We are building an artists colony

MAFALDA

This is

PHILIPP

Here is the forest Goethe mentions  
so often.

MAFALDA

But look at that Oak tree

A large majestic oak tree dwarfs all the beech trees beside  
it. .

PHILIPP

That is the tree under which Goethe  
did most of his writing.

MAFALDA

Let us stop?

Philipp continues driving.

PHILIPP

We must arrive at Mother's.

As they arrive in front of the tree, a sudden noise blares out. Philipp puts on he breaks and exits the car. Mafalda follows. A tire has blown out. The children get out of the car and begin playing. Suddenly police cars come up the road. Philipp repairs the tire. A military siren blows out. Adolph Hitler's entourage drives by.

MAFALDA

Speaking of the devil.

PHILIPP

Aren't you awed?

MAFALDA

No.

PHILIPP

Mus you always be so negative.

MAFALDA

The car's stopping.

The car stops and ADOLPH HITLER, GORING, GOEBELS, AND ALBERT SPEERS come out of the limosine.

HITLER

Philipp of Hesse! we saw you from a distance.

PHILIPP

I am honored that the Fuhrer should stop his automobile before us.

HITLER

What lovely children. They are the future of Germany..and Italy.

PHILIPP

The honor

Hitler glances at Mafalda with piercing ominous.

HITLER

Italy of course.

MAFALDA

Yes, Fuhrer

HITLER

Are you a German or and Italian?

MAFALDA

I follow my husband. I am proud to  
be both.

HITLER

The Spaghetti princess  
Hitler; You will be a prince of a  
higher order

36 INT. HITLER'S DINING ROOM DAY 36

Hitler, Himmler, Goring, and philipp are dining.  
House of Savoy low intelligence

37 SHORTLY AFTERWARDS OUTSIDE THE PALACE 37

H

Philipp walks out and suddenly faces PRINCE WALDECK, mid  
forties.

PHILIPP

Why, Prince Waldeck, my good  
cousin.

WALDECK

I hope you had a good dinner.

PHILIPP

I ate lightly.

WALDECK

The Fuhrer sets as good example.  
Could you be so kind as to join me  
for a chat.

PHILIPP

I am tired, and must be up in three  
hours.

Two members of the SS come out of the shadows.

WALDECK

I think you should come with me.

Philipp realizes that he is to be arrested.

PHILIPP

I see.

WALDECK

Surely you will come peacefully.



PHILIPP  
What are the charges?

Waldeck hands him a warrant.

WALDECK  
Signed by Adolph Hitler.

Philipp examines the warrant.

PHILIPP  
Treason!

WALDECK  
And related charges.

PHILIPP  
I have given the Fuhrer, the party,  
and our Germany total allegiance.

WALDECK  
On the surface. Once you have  
examined your conscience you will  
see the error of your ways. We must  
leave now.

PHILIPP  
Is he your God.

WALDECK  
Infallible sixth sense

Who will build: a quote from Abraham Lincoln. By the  
people, for the people, and to the people. By the prisoners,  
for the prisoners, He is our Savior/ You use the term  
lightly/ both houses could fall/house painter. 300 families  
NOBLE WITH Nazi ties. You gained much. Before 1933 you were  
but a superfluous Italian son-in. You in Laws are  
prostitutes willing to do whatever to protect their power

38 INSIDE THE LIMOUSINE

38

Philipp and Waldeck face one another. A box of clothing is in  
the car.

WALDECK  
We have a change of clothing for  
you. We will change at a small  
farmhouse kilometers up the road.  
Philipp of Hesse is no more.

PHILIPP  
So I'm to be executed?

WALDECK

Oh my dear cousin Philipp. We are civilized. Of course not. And the Fuhrer has no intentions of executing . You have given invaluable service to Third Reich.

PHILIPP

But why is Philipp of Hesse no more.

WALDECK

You have brought shame on Germany on your family, and on yourself with your self indulgence. Your arrest a embarrasses our family, our country. Therefore for the family honor Philipp of Hese will no longer exist You will be arrested at Flossenberg.

PHILIPP

And what have I done? Do I not have right to know

WALDECK

No you do not. But in the interest of the fuhrer of you family, and of your country , please cooperate. You are a criminal.

PHILIPP

Why!

WALDECK

But you have brought the downfall of the fuhrer. In addition you have tried to undermine the whole Nazi philosophy. You have pestered for the release of your precious Jews. In fact, the Fuhrer in nearly all cases relented to your demand. Of course, it did not escape our notice that you always pleaded for rich Jews and not poor ones This may lead us to investigate for bribery charges

PHILIPP

I need no money or bribes.

WALDECK

Worse, you were the one to influence your father in law to jail Mussolini.

PHILIPP

Nothing could be further from the truth.

WALDECK

No one will believe you.

39           SHORTLY AFTERWARDS

39

Waldeck and the guards stay outside a farmhouse. Philipp emerges in a poorly fitting suit.

40           IN THE LIMOSINE

40

Philipp and Waldeck are now facing one another in silence. They pass farms and villages.

WALDECK

So silent. Have you any questions?

PHILIPP

I like being who I am.

WALDECK

No more. That name must be obliterated from the German landscape.

PHILIPP

Why?

WALDECK

You have brought shame to our kind!

PHILIPP

Then kill me.

WALDECK

We do not unnecessarily murder. It is your person that must disappear and not your body. You will take on a new identity. You will henceforth be Arnold Weinberg.

PHILIPP

Arnold Weinberg?

WALDECK  
Strike a bell?

PHILIPP  
I knew him.

WALDECK  
A Jew whose neck you saved.

41 MEETS FABIAN VON SHLTRENDOFF IN PRISON 1943 41

42 INT. TRIBUNAL ROOM DAY 42

Fabian is questioning Sassoon.

FABIAN  
Do you think Philipp of Hess is  
capable of slaughter

SASSOON  
No Sir.

FABIAN  
Do yo think that he was involved  
in any of the mass murders.

SASSOON  
Not at tall.

FABIAN  
Why?

SASSOON  
Not in the nature of the animal.

PROSECUTOR  
I object. What is reason for this  
questioning. We are all away that  
this prince was both a Nazi and a  
very nice man.

JUDGE  
Objection overruled.

FABIAN  
How well did you know Philipp of  
Hesse

SASSOON  
Very well sir.

FABIAN  
Have yo kept in touch.

SASSOON  
No Sir.

FABIAN  
Have you ever heard him express any  
anti- Semitism

SASSOON  
I have not

FABIAN  
Have you ever heard him express any  
bad treatment of Jews under Hitler

SASSOON  
We lost touch in 1935.

FABIAN  
What makes you think he si not anti  
Semitic

SASSOON  
Because I am Jewish. By my mother.  
Also the son of Sr. Henry Sassoon.

PROSECUTOR  
This discussion is worthless

JUDGE  
Objection overruled.

PROSECUTOR  
Conspiracy of silence versus  
cowardice of acquiescence  
A complete adventurer and not a  
convinced Nazi  
Reserved politically idealistic  
reasons  
1 placed on the highest list  
A courier between the two  
dictators A postman son in law of  
the King of Italy A nephew of  
Kaiser Wilhelm I was imprisoned by  
Hitler because I opposed and  
resisted Nazi measures. Before  
1943 I had just been a messenger

## FABIAN

In conclusion, let me repeat. Both Philipp Hess were prisoners of Adolph Hitler for 2 years. I a partisans, and he a disgraced Nazi. We were both enemies of Adolph Hitler. Philipp of Hesse shared his most intimate thoughts with me. Now this prosecutor argues that the accused participated in the atrocities committed by Adolph Hitler, without presenting a shred of evidence. Guilt by association is the only evidence, and that is not guilt at all. Philipp of Hesse disagrees with the prosecutor, Adolph Hitler disagrees with the prosecutor, I as a partisan disagree with the prosecutor, and the evidence disagrees with the prosecutor. That is why they sent him to prison, and also sent his Mafalda to Buchenwald. To the Nazis, these people were not Nazis. In fact, they accused d the defendant of trying to overthrow the third Reich. Second, his personal interference saved at least 15 Jews from third. Third, Philipp of Hess had no real power. He was simply visible. A figurehead. He was not tin the inner circle, His role e was to save his country, his God, his family He is not anti Semitic as attested to by seventeen individuals he saved. He did not take part in the evil use of human beings an Camp Dachau We have seen that control of the camp was transferred in his absence.

Philipp and Mafalda were both hated by Hitler for the same reason. They opposed his rule. Mafalda is now dead. Philipp has served four years in prison They are to members of the royal family so mistreated by Hitler

## PROSECUTOR

Nonsense

FABIAN

Not responsible for Euthanasia of  
thousand Germans. No forced  
sterilization

PROSECUTOR

Birds of the feather flock  
together, and those who fly with  
the crows must expect to be shot  
at.

FABIAN

Hitler found him guilty. The Court  
is now being told that well perhaps  
Adolph Hitler was wrong. NO!  
Today we have a joke. He was  
number 53 on the most wanted Nazi  
list. I was 27th on the most  
wanted partisan list! 65. Because he  
played a roe lint he downfall of  
Hitler. A guilty judgment would be  
like finding those who actually  
tried to assassinate Hitler guilty  
of a crime.

44

NEXT DAY

44

The prosecutor stands

PROSECUTOR

The defense has presented evidence  
indicating that Philipp of Hess  
was just a happy peacemaker.  
Philipp of Hess met with Adolph  
Hitler over 300 times between 1931  
and 1944. He was named governor of  
Hess. Was a member of the SS,  
received monetary and social  
reward. . He was a faithful member  
of the Nazi party. We hear he is a  
happy peacemaker. He had much  
access and no influence. By  
lending his presence to that evil  
man, Philipp of Hess increased his  
power. The defendant was well  
rewarded. Now let us see some of  
It is hare to believe that he was  
just a naive peacemaker. Hi ask the  
court to find this man guilty in  
fifth or fourth case of criminals.

It is hard to believe that the Governor of Hess had no knowledge that Jews and Gypsies, and homosexuals were being sent to camps. That Members of the Jehovah's witness were being sent to camps. Nor id I hear that he had lied. Philipp has Hessen was in the SS. His brother was head of the SS. And yet they were innocent Nazis/

FABIAN

I object

PROSECUTOR

Now let us look at the pictures.

FABIAN

I object

PROSECUTOR

They will show that Philipp of Hesse used his image to promote the Nazi cause.

JUDGE

Objection overruled.

PROSECUTOR

Goebels, Philipp of Hess, Olympics, Mussolini -Hitler, Mafalda with Hitler.

JUDGE

Joe

|    |  |    |
|----|--|----|
| 45 | CHRISTOFF VON HESSEN DIES<br>Kkkkk                             | 45 |
| 46 | EXT. BERLIN - NIGHT<br><br>Philip not necessarily anti Semitic | 46 |



47 INT. VON HESSEN HOME - SUNRISE 47

No anti Semitism whatsoever in court circle.  
Philip helped very wealthy Jews. Because they were personal acquaintances

48 INT. COURTROOM - DAY 48

When he was denazified, many witnesses spoke up for him, but others say he must have about the gas chambers  
Did go on to protest the treatment of Jews.

49 INT. LIPAEMIA, ROSTENTHAL AND COMPANY BANK - DAY 49

had to be aware. Kept his account in the banking house of Lippmann, Rostenthal and Company after it was Aryan,

50 INT. PALACE - DAY 50

Three year old daughter

I am blind from one yes. Cried so much for my daughter.

I hope for a better world

.

51 BUCHENWALD 1944 51

Bombs drip

158. Bombing Day: Pep talk by Waldeck

159. Bombs falling scene

160. Two prisoners try to escape

52 LETTER TO HITLER 1933 52

53 HOSPITAL 1944 53

Mafalda lay dying.

MAFALDA

I was born a princess, I die an Italian.

54 PRISON

54

Philipp is in Prison.

PHILIPP

Hitler was our hope. Our hope was  
a disaster

Hitler: Rome has a peacetime appearance. My people don't think so. Don't complain Think of poor Benito with the Italian one hundred thousand at Buchenwald. About 9 thousand dies

55 PRISON GARDEN

55

ENZO GARIBALDI, fifties, walks towards Mafalda who plants a small Garden. All dialogue in Italian with English Subtitles.

ENZO

How is the garden.

MAFALDA

Look at the tomatoes, peppers, and even eggplant.

ENZO

I see the flowers.

56 BEDROOM

56

Guard walk by.

MAFALDA

WHY ARE YOU HERE.

MARIA

Jehovah's Witnesses endured intense persecution under the Nazi regime. Actions against the religious group and its individual members spanned the Nazi years 1933 to 1945. Unlike Jews and Roma "Gypsies"), persecuted and killed by virtue of their birth, Jehovah's Witnesses had the opportunity to escape persecution and personal harm by renouncing their religious beliefs.

The courage the vast majority displayed in refusing to do so, in the face of torture, maltreatment in concentration camps, and sometimes execution, won them the respect of many contemporaries.

MAFALDA

But

MARIA

Jehovah's Witnesses, in Germany as in the United States, had refused to fight in World War I. This stance contributed to hostility against them in a Germany still wounded by defeat in that war and fervently nationalistic, . attempting to reclaim its previous world stature. In Nazi Germany, Jehovah's Witnesses refused to raise their arms in the "Heil, Hitler!" salute; they did not vote in elections; they would not join the army or the German Labor Front

57 EXT. CHURCH - DAY 57

Mafalda had much faith

BUCHENWALD

Sits down on had bed

58 LATER 58

You are Princess Mafalda 18th anniversary  
Inmates touched My countrymen Italians. Do not remember me  
as a princess but as your sister Roommate

59 CAFETERIA BAD FOOD 59

60 AT FIRST STOP 60

Forbidden to reveal herself must be in Germany. Women come to  
meet her. Must wear letter I Begins crying

|    |  |    |
|----|--|----|
| 61 | SCENE WITH MEN SERVING DRINKS<br>Jjjj  | 61 |
| 62 | OPERA HOUSE SCENE<br>I am a German   | 62 |
| 63 | BOMB HITS<br>She ducks. Workers try<br>Operation   | 63 |
| 64 | ROOMMATE A PROSTITUTE<br>Maria   | 64 |
| 65 | OAK TREE GOETHE<br>Weimar Buchenwald Beech trees   | 65 |
| 66 | APRIL 1943 TO BUCHENWALD<br>In car   | 66 |
| 67 | BADAGLIO<br>Welcomes her.  | 67 |
| 68 | LAST MEETING WITH HITLER<br>Philip was frank. Not what Hitler wanted to hear.            | 68 |
| 69 | SCENES: HITLER DINNER<br>Wildhof. In the event of tragedy, they will know<br>Flossenburg | 69 |
| 70 | HITLER SPEAKING TO GOEBBELS<br>Trickiest bitch in the royal family.                      | 70 |
| 71 | VATICAN CALL FROM THE GERMAN EMBASSY<br>Frau Von Weber                                   | 71 |

- 72 PRISON 1945 72  
 Philipp is behind bars. Newscaster announces Mafalda's death.  
 People afraid to tell Phil about death
- 73 HOUSE ON CAPRI 73  
 Philipp and Mafalda and children enjoy
- 74 GORING'S PALACE 74  
 Goring enlisted Philipp help Asks her to join Nazi party
- 75 SHORTLY AFTERWARD MAFALDA INTO CHURCH 75  
 At Church: This is a Protestant Church
- 76 FINAL CEMETERY 1936 76  
 Philip and Mafalda. .Buried together. He dies in 1980 at age  
 84 22 Nazi and Allied Camps
- 77 OLYMPIC GAMES BERLIN 77  
 Hitler homoerotic scenes
- 78 INTERVIEW 1979 78  
 Can not face my past
- 79 OPERA HOUSE 1922 79  
 Opera night Who is that woman  
 Puccini's
- 80 FIFTY THIRD MOST WANTED NAZI 80  
 Poster Appears.
- 81 MAFALDA WITH FUEHRER 81  
 Photographers take her picture with Goering, Goebbels,  
 33. Jewish scene with Philip

|    |  |    |
|----|--|----|
| 82 | MAFALDA IN THE VATICAN<br>Mafalda on phone   | 82 |
| 83 | HOUSE OF ROTHSCHILD BANK 1921<br>Rothschild enters the room  | 83 |
| 84 | WARBURG BANK<br>Meeting Weinberg at Warburg Bank   | 84 |
| 85 | WALDECK CAPTURED 1945<br>Waldeck a smoker Captured at Buchenwald Scene with Patton<br>Sentenced to life in Prison                      | 85 |
| 86 | BOMBING<br>Mafalda August 27 1944  | 86 |
| 87 | PRISON BUCHENWALD<br>Father Slentof . Father Josep tylel . Eine unbekante frau<br>unknown woman<br>Pastor Neimoller administers to her | 87 |
| 88 | MAFALDA'S DEATH ANNOUNCED OVER THE RADIO<br>Kids over the phone April 1945   | 88 |
| 89 | Letter from Tony Britschied. Wife of Social democratic<br>party head<br>Written in 1945, did not reach family until 1961               | 89 |
| 90 | HITLER AND PHILIPP CHOOSE ART<br>Helps Hitler choose great works of art.   | 90 |
| 91 | 1923<br>Philipp and Weinberg meet  | 91 |

- 92 PHILIPP AT MAFALDA'S GRAVE SCENE 92  
Frau Von Web No name Scene Cross scene in room
- 93 HITLER'S PARTY 1933 93  
Waldeck and Mafalda
- 94 BUCHENWALD 1944 94  
You will not have a Jewish attendant: I would be honored to  
have a Jewish attendant.
- 95 VATICAN WITH CHILDREN 1943 95  
Children into Vatican: Scene
- 96 SEVEENTH DAY ADVENTIST SCENE 96  
Friendship with Maria Van Rauhau
- 97 DINNER 1930 97  
Mafalda imitates Hitler
- 98 PHILLIP AT THE INCARCERATION IN HIS CELL 1944 98  
Philipp

WALDECK

They gave you a job . Your heart  
was never into it. Mine is a way  
of life. I have given my life , my  
being all to the new German cause.  
I can do all I can for the party.  
It is God's calling. I ask not what  
the party can do for me, but what I  
can do for the party.

PHILIPP:

I turned my eyes the other way.

WALDECK

Why did you join the Nazi Party.

PHILIPP

Why did you remain in the Nazi  
party.

## WALDECK

To save humanity! To save humanity! This is what our Fuhrer is all about. He is a gift from God to mankind. He has given his whole life to saving mankind. He is totally selfless, and must now perform the unpleasant task of purifying first the German race, and then all mankind. But after it is all done, and humanity reaches a new level, his legacy to mankind will never be disputed. You keep looking into my eyes. 101. What do you see.

## PHILIPP

The Devil

|     |   |     |
|-----|---|-----|
| 99  | BORIS CALLED TO RUSTENBURG 1943   | 99  |
|     | Boris   |     |
| 100 | BORIS DIES 1943   | 100 |
|     | And   |     |
| 101 | MEETING BETWEEN PHILIPP AND BORIS 1942  | 101 |
|     | They  |     |
| 102 | ARDEATINE CAVE 1943   | 102 |
|     | Soldiers  |     |
| 103 | HERBERT KAPPLER GIVES ORDERS 1943   | 103 |
|     | Kappler   |     |
| 104 | HITLER'S HEADQUARTERS 1943  | 104 |
|     | Middle of the night. Hitler cannot sleep. she knocks on door.<br>I agreed for peace |     |



## BUCHENWALD 1944

Our eyes see through the double filter of smoke and fantasy not a tree, but a many-armed beast that turns and bends. The burned-through branches fall off, the tree becomes steadily smaller as if it would collapse upon itself. As if the monster in its death struggle were laying itself down. Die, you beast, you symbol of the German Reich! And Goethe? For us there is no Goethe; Himmler erased him.

The oak burned the whole night. On the next morning only the split and blackened trunk. We were allowed to cut it down, dig up the roots, and fill in the hole. That was on August 24, 1944. The German Reich survived this day by only nine months.

105 TRIAL 1948 105

No influence no power

## PROSECUTOR

Philipp: Not as a show piece, but as the King's Son in law Three times an ambassador. To Mussolini Invasion of Czechoslovakia To stop us peace he continued to hold his post in the Nazi state through 1942, the most murderous year of the holocaust

106 GENERAL PATTON ARRESTS WALDECK. 13 APRIL 1945. 106

Patton arrives

107 1944 PRISON 107

Chocolate and vitamins from Protestant minister . Sees the two brothers Vittorio and Rino Russo. They find her.

108 1948 ALL AT THE FUNERAL KRONBERG. 108  
Mafalda buried at Kronberg and not at Kassell

109 TRIAL 1948 109

I argued for peach Much access/no influence

## PROSECUTOR

1937-38 philipp tried to influence.  
 Destroyed paper trail Category two:  
 2 years of forced labor/loss of 30  
 percent/No public office/No  
 vehicle/Not voting/  
 Killing of seventy thousand people  
 by euthanasia. You aided Adolph  
 Hitler. Even if you were wearing  
 the Star of David under your Nazi  
 uniform. Useful to him Family  
 Art works Invited other royals So  
 much that Hitler's closest friends  
 came to hate you And you had no  
 influence? Four thousand nobles  
 joined the party

## FABIAN

Appeal. Not a single shred of  
 evidence.

## PROSECUTOR

We have five hundred pictures

- 110 JUDGEMENT 110  
 . Dec. 17, 1947  
 Two years of forced labor Lost 30 percent of property  
 No public office No voting rights Loss of all honors  
 Lost right category 2 Appeals  
 332 page
- 111 AFTER SENTENCING 1948 111  
 They all rise  
 You have suffered much. You have already spent two years  
 in a Nazi camp, and two years in a Denazification camp. You  
 are a free man.
- 112 CAMP 1944 112  
 Hitler did not know when he shook my hand
- 113 ARRIVAL IN 1943 113  
 A woman about 40

## MARIA

I am Maria Ruhnau. This is a  
 special camp

MAFALDA  
Tell no one my name

- 114 WEDDING 1925 114
- 115 FUNERAL 1948 115  
the gathering for the princess Funeral Heron Joseph Priest  
Father Steinhof Boninu communist Eufalu Communist Fritz  
Wilscheck German architect' Maria Ruhnau Maria Cavalettti  
Zapala
- 116 APRIL 14, 1945 ROME PALACE 116  
Father reads Neapolitan newspaper
- 117 BUCHENWALD PATTON ARRIVES 1945 117  
When we arrive, find 20000 survivors.
- 118 THE 1936 GAMES 118  
Hitler
- 119 BUCHENWALD 1944 119  
Love of animals
- 120 CLEVELAND BANK 120  
2
- 121 EXT. HOLOCAUST MUSEUM - DAY 121  
Children gather and look at a large plaque
- GUIDE  
Now look here at the plaque
- 122 PLAQUE 122  
A large plaque reads: Nazi Deomocide  
It was the Country Club of Concentration Camps.  
One hundred thousand at Buchenwald. About 9 thousand died.  
Over twenty million humans were dkkilled by the Nzxis.