

AUNT RAINI, by Tom Smith

Characters: Raini Looks 50s-60s
 Katherine 30s, her grand-niece
 Joel 30s, Katherine's boyfriend
 Director Offstage voice, 20s

Time/Place: 2003. Katherine's apartment in New York.

Running time: 100 minutes.

AUNT RAINI is based on the life of Leni Riefenstahl, who spent the early part of her career as the official documentarian of Adolf Hitler and the Nazi Party.

Raini has come from Germany to visit her grand-niece, Katherine, a successful gallery owner. During dinner she meets Katherine's boyfriend, Joel, a photographer whose work focuses on his Judaism. Katherine does everything in her power to ensure Joel does not find out the true identity of her great-aunt. However, when Raini has a health scare and is admitted into a hospital, Joel discovers all.

Confronted with the truth, Joel grapples with his relationship with Katherine, questioning both her motives and the accusations lodged against Raini. But when a package arrives from Germany containing the original masters of Raini's Nazi propaganda films, Joel forces Katherine to examine whether great art stemming from evil should be judged as significant historical artwork or evidence of hate crimes.