

The Nazi

(Based on a true story)

by

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faculty of Wesleyan University
in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the
Degree of Bachelor of Arts
with Departmental Honors in Film Studies

INT. UNKNOWN LOCATION

POV: A BRIGHT WHITE LIGHT DIRECTLY ABOVE.

Surgical tools lay on a metal tray. SCREAMS.

POV: UNDERWATER BUBBLES RISE. BUBBLING.

A bloody tool is placed on the surgical tray.

POV: THE BRIGHT WHITE LIGHT ONCE AGAIN. A BLURRY FIGURE
LEANS OVER THE TABLE MENACINGLY.

MAN
(whisper)
Karl... Karl...

EXT. STREETS OF MUNICH - DAY

MAN (V.O.)
Karl

APPLAUSE.

Row by row we pass orderly Nazis each with a swastika patch firmly attached to their arm. We stop on a swastika patch dangling off a sleeve.

KARL HEINZ SCHNEIDER (18) tries to fix his patch. Karl is a Hitler Youth of average height and build, comely features average looking overall.

A large stage has been erected in the street, thousands of Nazis and Hitler Youth stand at attention. A banner reads "Congratulations Graduating Hitler Youth."

Karl looks up from his patch.

INSERT: A MEDAL OF GOLDEN EAGLE PERCHED ON A SWASTIKA

Pull back to reveal the medal adorns the uniform of DETLEF VON VOGLER (45) tall, hair golden, eyes piercing blue, he is the polished image of the German Nazi.

He stands at the podium and surveys the crowd, to his right sits a distraught man. Detlef waits for the applause to die.

DETLEF
...We live in exciting times. We
make no complaints. We are used to
battle, for out of it we came.
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

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make no complaints. We are used to
battle, for out of it we came.
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

DETLEF (CONT'D)
 We will plant our feet firmly in
 our earth, and no attack will move
 us...

Karl fiddles with his patch, still focused on Detlef as he speaks, he is everything Karl wishes to be.

DETLEF (CONT'D)
 (sickly proud)
 ...Today we do not just celebrate
 the coming of age of our Hitler
 Youth but we see...

Detlef smirks at the MAN sitting to his right. The MAN grimaces slightly as Detlef extends a hand.

DETLEF (CONT'D)
 ... the end of a great era under
 the strong and dedicated leadership
 of our General Field Marshal Hans
 Klein...

The man next to Detlef rises and comes to the podium, HANS KLEIN (58) collects himself and stands as proudly as possible alongside Detlef.

Detlef places his hand firmly on Hans' shoulder.

DETLEF (CONT'D)
 ...Field Marshal Klein's...
 retirement comes as a shock to us
 all however we must not...

Karl notices a group of Hitler Youth nearby enjoying each others' company.

Karl is surrounded by people, yet alone. Reveal that Karl is the only one out of place in his row. Karl must hold his patch in place.

DETLEF (CONT'D)
 ... We honor General Field Marshal
 Klein's years of service to the
 Luftwaffe, he will be missed, but
 never will he be forgotten.

Hans gets a nervous look as Detlef continues to speak.

DETLEF (CONT'D)
 HEIL HITLER!

CROWD
 HEIL HITLER! HEIL HITLER!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

The crowd of Nazis salute, Karl follows, a step behind the rest.

TRUMPETS BLARE.

A large display of Ju Stuka Dive Bombers stream across the sky in an organized pattern.

Karl looks on in awe of the display. Distracted, he drops his patch into a puddle.

Nervously, Karl looks around to see if anyone has noticed. He bends down to pick it up. A large black boot STOMPS down in a puddle, splashing dirty water on Karl.

BULLY NAZI
(poisonous concern)
Now, now Little Karl how could you
be so careless?

Four Hitler Youths tower around Karl.

BULLY NAZI (CONT'D)
Here let me get that for you Little
Karl.

The Bully Nazi picks up the patch and holds it out to Karl.

Karl extends his hand tentatively, the Bully Nazi throws the wet patch in Karl's face. It slowly slips off Karl's face and falls. The Hitler Youths LAUGH.

BULLY NAZI (CONT'D)
Now look what you've done little
Karl, you've gone and dropped your
patch again, so clumsy.

Karl bends down to pick up the patch. One of the Hitler Youths goes to kick Karl.

He flinches, falling rear first into the puddle.

The crowd CHEERS and CLAPS at the flight display.

BULLY NAZI (CONT'D)
Now Karl this is no time to be
sitting around, you must show
respect for the Field Marshal...

WOLFRAM (O.S.)
...After all it is my father's
retirement ceremony.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

The Bully Nazi is silent as a hand is placed firmly on his shoulder. WOLFRAM KLEIN (22) appears behind the group of Hitler Youths. He is confident and sure-minded handsome and gallant. Though of equal height his presence dominates.

BULLY NAZI

(nervous)

Herr Klein, so good to see you, we were just...

WOLFRAM

(interrupting)

-just about to be on your way. We wouldn't want word being spread to my father's successor about bad eggs in the bunch.

Wolfram smiles wickedly. The Hitler Youths turn to leave Wolfram and Karl.

BULLY NAZI

(To Karl)

I'm sure Little Karl will turn out to be a splendid Nazi, such courage.

Karl watches them leave. Wolfram helps Karl to his feet. Karl looks up hopefully to Wolfram, it is met with a disappointed look.

Karl begins to re-fasten his patch. Wolfram puts a hand on his arm.

The Ju Stukas begin a diving formation.

KARL

Wolfram I..

Wolfram takes the patch from Karl and fastens it to his sleeve deftly.

WOLFRAM

(interrupting)

Karl how did I come into my station?

Karl looks over to the Retiring Field Marshal on the podium. Wolfram notices.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

WOLFRAM (CONT'D)

(annoyed)

I worked hard and learned to play
the game, and well. Why do you
insist...

Wolfram continues, Karl has no interest, he is focused on the diving planes. The Jericho Horn WHISTLING grows louder as they get closer.

Wolfram raises his voice to compete with the planes.

WOLFRAM (CONT'D)

(condescending)

Don't you know who your father was?

Wolfram is practically screaming over the WHISTLING. Wolfram turns to look at the planes.

EXPLOSION. A plane crashes into a building. Metal and debris flies into the crowd.

Another EXPLODES. A third, a fourth, the entire display has crashed around the panicked crowd.

The orderly display of Nazis scatters everywhere.

SCREAMS fill the air. Fires burn buildings and plane parts. A man is trapped under an airplane wing, his wife screaming trying to pull him free.

Detlef rises from the ground, he notices his golden eagle medal is missing.

INSERT: GOLDEN EAGLE MEDAL ON THE GROUND.

While on the ground Karl sees the golden eagle medal.

Seemingly oblivious to the danger around him, Karl pursues after the medal. A foot kicks it away from him.

The medal is kicked back and forth by the stampeding boots.

Finally Karl grabs the medal.

Wolfram lifts Karl by the scruff of his neck. Karl smiles staring at his new medal.

SCREAMS and EXPLOSIONS surround the once orderly ceremony.

Hans Klein sits cowering under the podium.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (5)

Detlef watches stone-faced as a pilot in a parachute descends into a raging fire. He looks down to his uniform and notices a slight rip on the sleeve. Rage fills his face.

DETLEF SCREAMS.

EXT. KARL'S APARTMENT BUILDING - NEXT DAY

Detlef's SCREAM meshes with the BLARE of a car horn.

Karl rushes out of the way of a black van, carrying a large box. The streets are crowded with people. Some bare swastika patches, others wear patches with a yellow star.

Karl struggles to move past a crowded section of the sidewalk.

Karl pushes through and reaches a building door. He places the box down and opens the door.

A young boy moves to cross the street towards Karl.

Karl pushes the door with his back holding the package.

Facing the street Karl notices the young boy attempting to walk towards the building.

INSERT: THE YELLOW STAR ON THE BOY'S ARM. A HAND GRABS THE PATCH.

The hand belongs to a Nazi Soldier. He begins to yell at the boy but the noise is drowned out by the crowd.

The boy looks at Karl expectantly.

Karl makes eye contact but is helpless to act. The boy is taken away.

Karl repositions his grip on the box and enters his apartment building.

INT. APARTMENT HALLWAY - DAY

EMIL TÜTZ (76) is struggling to open the door to his room. He is an older man balding and short, a yellow star patch on his arm. Karl takes his swastika patch off his uniform and shoves it in his pocket as he reaches his door.

Tütz cannot open his apartment, he slams a fist against the door. Karl is startled and drops his package. Tütz turns.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

TÜTZ

Oh Karl, I didn't see you there.

Karl opens his door and places the package inside.

KARL

Perhaps that's because you aren't wearing your glasses Herr Tütz?

TÜTZ

(indignant)

I don't need those damn things. They make me look like a bug.

He places his hands like binoculars over his eyes. Karl chuckles.

TÜTZ (CONT'D)

Please go about your business Karl, my grandson should be here any minute to help me, always late, he's such a draikop.

Karl looks to Tütz with concern.

TÜTZ (CONT'D)

Draikop, a scatterbrain.

Tütz returns to his door.

Karl has a guilty expression on his face.

Karl moves to Tütz and takes his key.

KARL

Emil please allow me to help.

Tütz smiles at Karl.

TÜTZ

A mensch if ever I've seen one, my grandson could learn a thing or two from you Karl.

Karl forces a smile as he opens Tütz's apartment. On the door frame Karl notices a Mezuzah. Tütz notices Karl's glance.

TÜTZ (CONT'D)

That's a Mezuzah Karl. It contains a verse from the Torah to fulfill the mitzvah..

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

Karl looks down the hallway nervously. Tütz notices.

TÜTZ (CONT'D)

Here I am sucking away your youth,
go Karl my grandson will be along
soon.

INT. KARL'S APARTMENT - LATER

TINKERING off screen.

The interior of Karl's apartment is modest, only the essentials. Sprawled across many of the surfaces are small contraptions, time keeping devices, strange toy-like objects, lots of wires and lights.

The box Karl has been carrying is ripped open on the floor.

Karl sits at a crowded desk hunched over a large magnifying glass. He meticulously works on something unseen.

A soft SHATTER. KNOCKING. Karl jumbles his work.

He briskly moves over to the door, he looks through the peep hole.

FISHEYE POV: WOLFRAM STANDS OUTSIDE OF THE DOOR IN UNIFORM.

Karl quietly rushes to his coat, fumbles around and pulls out the swastika patch. He sloppily fastens it to his sleeve.

Karl opens the door to Wolfram who rubs a piece of broken porcelain between his fingers.

WOLFRAM

Karl, perhaps you should consider a
change of location, it stinks of
rats in here.

KARL'S POV: A BROKEN PIECE OF TÜTZ'S MEZUZAH IS BETWEEN WOLFRAM'S FINGERS.

Wolfram tosses the mezuzah fragment over his shoulder as he enters Karl's apartment. He sits himself at the table.

Karl moves to take a tea kettle to the stove. He turns on the burner and places the kettle on it.

KARL

I've been thinking about what you
said Wolfram. I've given it a fair
amount of thought and I think...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Karl looks off-screen.

KARL'S POV: A PROPAGANDA POSTER FOR LUFTWAFFE RECRUITMENT, A MAN STANDS IN FRONT OF A LARGE JU STUKA AIRPLANE IN A POLISHED BEAUTIFUL UNIFORM.

Wolfram notices Karl's eyes drift to the poster.

WOLFRAM
(interrupting)
Tea Karl? Are we not celebrating
your graduation?

KARL
Oh... yes, of course we are.

Wolfram makes a gesture towards the liquor cabinet.

Karl reacts to Wolfram's request instantly and removes an unopened bottle of cognac from a cabinet.

He opens the bottle, grabs two glasses, and fills them. Karl turns to hand Wolfram one but Wolfram is no longer at the table.

WOLFRAM (O.S.)
(condescending)
Karl, what do we have here.

Wolfram holds up an incomplete model of a Ju Stuka dive bomber.

Wolfram takes the glass from Karl and sloshes the liquor around before taking a sip. He examines the model in his other hand.

Wolfram mockingly moves the model plane in the air as if it were a toy.

KARL
(mustering confidence)
Wolfram, I have decided I am going
to volunteer for the Luftwaffe, I
want to be a bomber pilot.

Wolfram stifles a laugh his mouth full of cognac, almost choking.

WOLFRAM
Come now Karl a bomber pilot? War
is not a game for boys.

He taps the model Ju Stuka plane.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

KARL

(losing confidence)

And... and I am no longer a boy
Wolfram. I am not in the Hitler
Youth any longer, and I wish to
serve my country as a bomber pilot,
like my father. You're going to be
one, and so will I.

Wolfram places his hands on Karl's shoulder.

WOLFRAM

(false concern)

Listen Karl, you've done well for
yourself these past two years. Your
father was a great man, and a fine
German, one to be admired, he would
be proud to see you come so far,
with such... ambition.

Karl's eyes drop to the Golden Eagle Medal. The tea kettle
begins to make a low WHISTLING.

WOLFRAM (CONT'D)

(condescending)

But Karl, just because you have
your father's medal does not mean
you have his abilities. Flying
planes is no simple task, as your
father and I both know.

Karl looks down at the medal with a guilty expression.

KARL

This isn't my father's-

Karl is interrupted by the WHISTLE of the tea kettle. Karl
takes it off the stove, the WHISTLING dwindles.

Wolfram fiddles with the model plane.

WOLFRAM

(condescending)

Perhaps a mechanic's work is more
suited to your... unique talents.

Karl gives Wolfram a hard look, he sips his cognac and
grimaces.

WOLFRAM (CONT'D)

Why drink the cognac if you hate it
Karl?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

Karl remains silent eyeing the glass, he takes another sip and COUGHS.

Wolfram looks at Karl incredulously.

Wolfram finishes his cognac and gets up to leave.

He opens the door and turns to Karl.

WOLFRAM (CONT'D)

Stick to your strengths Karl, no
need to stir the pot.

Karl watches Wolfram leave, he sees that the other half of the broken Mezuzah hangs from Tütz's door frame.

Karl closes the door and eyes the model of the Ju Stuka resting on the table next to the cognac. He takes off the Golden Eagle Medal and rubs it between his fingers.

EXT. RECRUIT TRAINING DEPOT - DAY

INSERT: KARL RUBS THE GOLDEN EAGLE MEDAL BETWEEN HIS FINGERS.

Karl sits on a bench gawking.

INSERT: LUFTWAFFE RECRUITMENT POSTER WITH THE IMAGE OF A BEAUTIFUL BLOND WOMAN IN UNIFORM.

His view of the poster is suddenly obscured by a group of young Nazis wearing new recruit uniforms. A group of pretty girls joins them, flirting and teasing the new recruits.

Karl returns to staring at the front door, watching boys enter and coming out men.

Karl sits fiddling with the Golden Eagle Medal.

LOUD CHATTER OF A CROWD.

Karl looks up to see a crowd surrounding a WOMAN. Cameras flash.

The WOMAN turns around.

She is the spitting image of the woman on the recruitment poster.

Karl watches the Woman enter the recruitment building.

INT. RECRUITMENT TRAINING DEPOT - DAY

Karl enters the recruitment building the Golden Eagle Medal on his Hitler Youth uniform.

A number of tables are set up each with a recruitment officer and a Hitler Youth, each has the same uniform as the man in the recruitment poster.

As one recruit finishes applying he and the officer across from him salute.

Karl searches for the woman.

RECRUITER

You there!

Karl turns to the voice. A recruiter towards the back of the room motions for Karl to come over to him.

Karl begins to walk towards the recruiter navigating around the tables and people.

Karl notices a flash of blond hair vanish behind a door. Distracted he CRASHES into a table.

All eyes are drawn to Karl, including those of Wolfram who sits at a table with a recruiter.

Karl does not notice Wolfram.

Wolfram watches Karl fix his mess, he scoffs.

WOLFRAM

(condescending)

It appears as though our master race isn't quite as perfect as we might like.

RECRUITER 2

Well now, we can't afford to be too picky in these times, we'll take whomever volunteers.

Wolfram frowns.

WOLFRAM

Whomever indeed...

Wolfram continues to look at Karl as he sits down with the recruiter, the two seem to be getting on fine.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

RECRUITER 2

(awkwardly)

Oh- well now look at this, the son
of Herr Hans Klein. This is a...
rare pleasure.

Wolfram frowns clearly annoyed.

EXT. RECRUIT TRAINING DEPOT - LATER

The doors to the recruitment building swing open.

A pair of new boots glisten.

Karl is clad in a new recruitment uniform. He beams with
pride.

Karl picks a few pieces of fuzz from his jacket and brushes
off the shoulders. He moves around in the uniform and gives
the Hitler salute.

A YOUNG WOMAN watches Karl. We see that the uniform does
not perfectly fit him. She giggles at the display.

Karl turns, slightly embarrassed. The young woman
approaches him.

YOUNG WOMAN

The Luftwaffe is it then?

Beat.

Karl realizes she is talking to him.

KARL

Oh... Yes, yes indeed Fraulein.
I'll be training soon enough,
protecting all of the beautiful
women of Germany.

Karl is surprised at his comfort speaking to the young
woman.

The Young Woman approaches Karl more closely and begins to
straighten his uniform playfully.

YOUNG WOMAN

Well you must be quite the brave
man then.

Karl is elated, he looks down at the girl unable to believe
what is happening.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

KARL'S POV: HER LIP CURLS. SHE BATS HER EYELASHES. THE FRAME SUDDENLY GOES BLACK.

BULLY NAZI (O.S.)
Look at Little Karl all dressed up.

Reveal Karl's hat has been pulled down over his eyes. Karl struggles to remove it.

BULLY NAZI (CONT'D)
(mocking)
Come now Little Karl, how can you protect all the beautiful women of Germany when you cannot see?

Karl removes the hat, he sees the Bully Nazi.

He too wears the recruit uniform. His arm is draped around the Young Woman. She covers her mouth as she giggles.

Karl straightens his hat as he watches the two walk off, disheartened.

INT. DETLEF'S OFFICE LUFTWAFFE HEADQUARTERS - DAY

Detlef's office is small but excellently decorated with lavish and diverse treasures. A katana, an elephant tusk, and many other exotic treasures are displayed around the room.

Detlef sits in an ornate chair in front of an ornate desk both of which are oversized. He is dressed in a crisp uniform.

Detlef hums a jovial tune to himself as he reads over the document.

INSERT: THE DOCUMENT IN DETLEF'S HAND, ON THE PAGE IS THE FAMILY HISTORY OF HANS KLEIN.

Detlef smiles, he runs his fingers along the pages lovingly.

A RASP at the door.

Detlef looks up expectantly and carefully places the document into a manila folder and does up the tie.

Detlef solves a complex puzzle box. It opens and he places the document inside. He reassembles the box and places it neatly on his desk.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

DETLEF
(cheerfully)
Please do come in.

The door opens and his SECRETARY comes into the room.

SECRETARY
They are ready for you... General
Field Marshal Von Vogler.

She smiles.

DETLEF
(mock scolding)
Now, now, there have been no
decisions made just yet. Naughty
girl trying to jinx me.

The two share a slight chuckle.

SECRETARY
Is it true that Herr Göring will be
in attendance?

DETLEF
Only if big decisions are to be
made.

Detlef smiles.

INSERT: THE PUZZLE BOX.

INT. LUFTWAFFE HEADQUARTERS - LATER

Detlef walks towards a large set of double doors.

An INFERIOR OFFICER walks the opposite way. Detlef looks to the officer, he does not make eye contact. Detlef waits.

The INFERIOR OFFICER makes accidental eye contact but quickly looks away. Detlef is confused but moves on.

Detlef motions to the secretary who sits outside the large double doors.

SECRETARY
(oddly cheery)
Yes- yes of course step right in.

Detlef grabs the door handles.

INT. LUFTWAFFE BRIEFING ROOM

A grandiose meeting room with high ceilings and tall windows. An enormous table stretches almost the full length of the room.

Five men sit in a line on one side of the table. FRITZ EHRLICHMANN (32) sits in the middle of the five at the table. He is the image of German perfection, Detlef but years younger.

Detlef looks perplexed.

Ehrlichmann smiles smugly at him.

EHRLICHMANN
(Overly happy)
Herr Von Vogler.

DETLEF
(bitter cordiality)
Herr Lichmann.

EHRLICHMANN
(coldly)
That's Herr *Ehr*lichmann.

One of the other men speaks.

OSWIN
General der Fligler Von Vogler,
please... sit.

Detlef walks down the long table. He sits opposite Ehrlichmann.

DETLEF
(lighthearted)
Gentlemen, I see no cognac present
I was under the impression Herr
Göring would be joining us.

Some of the men at the table manage a somewhat nervous chuckle, Ehrlichmann does not. Detlef keeps his composure.

OSWIN
(apologetic)
Herr Göring will not be joining us.

DETLEF
Please Oswin, I think we can
dispense with the formalities,
Detlef will serve just fine.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Ehrlichmann gives Oswin a look.

DETLEF (CONT'D)
Please Oswin continue. Oswin... Why
is Ehrlichmann here?

Oswin cannot muster the words, he simply passes a piece of paper to Detlef.

Detlef scans the page.

Beat.

Detlef's face hardens, he looks to Ehrlichmann.

Ehrlichmann smiles smugly.

OSWIN
Detlef after the incident at the
ceremony, Göring mandated that
someone be held responsible for...

Detlef holds a finger up to his lips and continues to read through the page diligently.

The Generals sit nervously, they look at one another.

Silence.

Detlef finally stands and moves to the liquor cabinet, he fills and passes a glass to each man.

Detlef's hard expression fades and a softer more sullen expression replaces it.

DETLEF
Gentlemen, a toast to our new
General Field Marshal, Fritz
Ehrlichmann.

The men look stunned at Detlef who raises his glass to Ehrlichmann's.

DETLEF (CONT'D)
(strongly)
Prost.

Ehrlichmann looks skeptically at his glass, then at Detlef. He is concerned.

EHRlichmann
(weakly)
Prost.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

They CLINK glasses. Ehrlichmann waits a moment. Detlef drinks. Ehrlichmann drinks.

OSWIN AND THE OTHERS
(weakly and out of sync)
Prost.

Oswin and the Generals lightly CLINK glasses and drink.

DETLEF
To your health, Field Marshal.

He downs his drink. We linger on his face.

INT. RECRUITMENT TRAINING DEPOT HALLWAY - DAY

Karl speedily walks down a hallway in his recruitment uniform. He awkwardly moves past people walking normally.

They eye him as he moves past.

INT. TRAINING CLASSROOM -DAY

A training classroom with auditorium seating is filled with men in recruitment uniforms. There is a ton of COMMOTION as the recruits introduce themselves to one another.

Karl walks down the stairs.

Almost every seat is filled but one slightly broken desk. Karl sits.

He surveys the room. Each recruit wears a Nazi patch on their arms, Karl looks down to his own arm.

There is no patch. Karl gets a look of panic.

A swastika patch is dangled in front of his face.

WOLFRAM (O.S.)
Must I tie your boots for you as
well?

Karl reaches out his hand, embarrassed. Wolfram scoffs as Karl struggles to attach the swastika.

Wolfram moves to a desk, a recruit offers it to him and takes another seat.

Karl is left on the sideline. He surveys the room and sees the Bully Nazi who teased him.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

DETLEF (O.S.)
That will be quite enough.

The conversation dies. The recruits turn to see Detlef. Detlef descends to the front of the room, the recruits whisper.

Karl is last to see Detlef. A look of admiration crosses his face. Karl then looks down to his medal and gets a nervous look.

Detlef notices Karl's look and spies the medal. He stops reaches out a hand and touches it.

DETLEF (CONT'D)
Where did you get this medal?

KARL
(lying)
It was my father's he was a bomber
pilot.

Detlef eyes Karl.

DETLEF
I used to have one just like it.

Wolfram snickers across the room. Detlef notices him.

DETLEF (CONT'D)
Might I begin at your permission
gentlemen?

The recruits silence.

DETLEF (CONT'D)
You are all here to join the
Luftwaffe. And I take it we have
ourselves a gallant and brave set
of men who believe they can dance
among the clouds?

A few eyes turn to Wolfram who is focused on Detlef.

This does not go unnoticed by Detlef.

DETLEF (CONT'D)
Some of you are here for honor,
others for glory, some of you hold
promise, and some of you are
finally stepping off of your
father's coattails.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

The room chuckles. Wolfram sits annoyed.

DETLEF (CONT'D)

You are nowhere near ready to fly.
As such you have little use to me.
Make sure that in 6 months time
this is not the case.

The room sits silent. Detlef smiles menacingly.

Off-screen a loud WHISTLING is heard.

EXT. LUFTWAFFE TRAINING DEPOT - RAINING

A Nazi Soldier blows a WHISTLE loudly. It is raining and muddy.

Karl is face down in the mud. He wipes the mud from his face. He only succeeds in smearing more on.

A hand reaches to help him up. Karl grasps the hand.

KARL

Thank you Wolfr-

KARL'S POV: A FELLOW RECRUIT, NOT WOLFRAM.

Karl is surprised, the fellow recruit lifts him up. HORST (18) is a short stockier man with a shaved head. Horst holds out his hand.

HORST

Horst.

KARL

Karl.

Karl and Horst run on through the rain and mud.

INT. SHOWER ROOM

Karl washes his muddy body with a bar of soap.

Karl is not comfortable showering with the other recruits.

The Bully Nazi cruelly imitates Karl's uncomfortable showering.

Karl turns away and looks over to Wolfram. He doesn't give Karl the time of day.

A tap on the shoulder.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Karl turns around and sees Horst. He puffs out his chest mocking the Bully Nazi. Karl smiles.

A bar of soap hits Horst in the head, he falls. A second one hits the wall next to Karl's head.

INT. TRAINING CLASSROOM

Detlef stands at the front of the room explaining wireless communication to the recruits.

Karl and Wolfram take diligent notes.

Horst and the Bully Nazi seem to struggle along with the rest of the class.

INT. WEIGHT ROOM - DAY

The recruits work in the gym on the various equipment. A few are goofing off and Detlef slaps one in the head.

Wolfram runs on a treadmill while studying a map.

Karl and Horst trade off spotting for each other, while they study maps.

INT. SLEEPING BARRACKS

All the recruits are in their beds.

A RUSTLING rouses Karl from his sleep.

Wolfram sits up in his bed studying maps.

Karl watches. Wolfram eyes Karl and returns to his maps.

Karl fumbles sleepily for his own maps and begins to study as well following Wolfram's lead.

INT. TRAINING CLASSROOM

The recruits all sit tensely at their desks.

Detlef sits at the front of the room with a stack of exams next to him.

DETLEF

Gentlemen, it's been a long six months.

He looks up to a clock in the room, the time is 9:55.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

DETLEF (CONT'D)

We are a bit early, however I'm sure you all wouldn't mind a bit of extra time.

WOMAN'S VOICE (O.S.)

Now now you mustn't let these men take any short cuts. Our pilots must be ironclad.

Detlef's face melts.

DETLEF

(loving)
Lieselotte!

All the men turn around. LIESELOTTE (22) stands at the top of the classroom in a lavish dress and matching hat. Even in the different clothes, they all recognize her as the woman from the recruitment posters.

Detlef comes up to meet her, the exams in hand.

LIESELOTTE

(cooly)
Hello Papa, it appears as though I have arrived early. But my, I wasn't expecting to be greeted by so many handsome men.

Some of the recruits look pleased. Detlef shoots them a piercing glance.

DETLEF

Gentlemen, it is my distinct honor and privilege to present to you the face of the recruitment program, and my beloved daughter, Lieselotte Von Vogler.

Giddy, Detlef begins a round of applause, the recruits follow.

LIESELOTTE

So sweet papa, but these men have work to do.

Lieselotte holds her hand out.

LIESELOTTE (CONT'D)

Allow me.

Detlef hands her half the exams to pass out.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

LIESELOTTE (CONT'D)

...I'm sure we shouldn't have any
trouble with these men, should we?

Lieselotte gives a wink to the recruits. Detlef tenses.
Lieselotte begins passing out exams.

Karl ogles at Lieselotte.

INT. CLASSROOM - LATER

The recruits are hard at work at their exams. Lieselotte
sits on the desk at the front of the room. Detlef is not
present.

Karl works diligently on his exam. He writes down his name,
the "L" ornately drawn in script. He looks up from his exam
to steal a glimpse of Lieselotte.

She sees him and gives him a playful wave, Karl blushes and
returns to his work, flustered.

Lieselotte frowns. She pulls out a handkerchief and begins
to pat her neck with it. She then "accidentally" drops the
handkerchief and lets out a surprised noise.

The handkerchief is grabbed in midair.

Wolfram raises and hands the handkerchief back to
Lieselotte. She accepts the handkerchief. Wolfram kisses
her hand gently, Lieselotte smiles.

Off-screen someone CLEARS THEIR THROAT.

Detlef stands at the top of the room, annoyed. Wolfram
returns to his seat.

EXT. AIRFIELD - MORNING

The recruits are lined up on an airstrip at attention
dressed in flight suits.

A harsh wind blows Karl's hat from his head, it lands at
Detlef's feet.

Detlef picks up the hat.

Karl looks embarrassed.

DETLEF

Boot camp is over gentlemen, now
the tea party really begins.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

DETLEF (CONT'D)

You are finally ready to take to
the sky.

Detlef gestures with Karl's hat towards three different
kinds of airplanes.

DETLEF (CONT'D)

The Klemm 35, The Focke Wulf 44,
and the Buecker 131, these will be
your wings into the sky. Good luck
gentlemen.

ENGINES BLARE Off-Screen.

SOUNDBRIDGE:

EXT. AIRFIELD - MORNING - LATER

An airplane soars in the sky. Karl looks on in awe.

The aircraft makes a tight turn and descends back towards
the airstrip landing almost perfectly.

Wolfram exits the plane to the applause of his peers.
Detlef looks on as Wolfram theatrically accepts the praise.

DETLEF

(dismissive)

Well done.

WOLFRAM

(annoyed)

Thank you Herr Von Vogler.

Wolfram returns to the group.

DETLEF

Now might any of you tell me how
the Ju Stuka is nothing like these?

Karl sees his moment, he raises his hand in an instant.

Detlef gestures towards him with the hat.

KARL

The Ju Stuka is easily recognized
by it's inverted gull wings, fixed
spattered undercarriage to reduce
drag, an auto pull-out feature if
pilots black out, and most notably
the Jericho Trumpet, that strikes
fear into our enemies

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Detlef smiles. He tosses Karl's hat back to him. Wolfram is angered.

DETLEF

Precisely, but before you can dream of flying one you will all need to receive your pilot's licenses, let us hope our little friends can survive the endeavor.

Detlef pats the side of the plane.

INT. SHOWER ROOM

Karl and Horst are getting dressed from their shower.

Wolfram is at his locker a world away.

KARL

... no. Horst you are missing the point.

HORST

The Jericho Horn is what makes the wailing sound?

Karl sighs.

KARL

The Jericho Trumpet. And Yes Horst that is true but it is so much more than that. The Jericho Trumpet is a symbol of the Luftwaffe's air superiority during the Blitzkrieg.

Horst doesn't seem to get it. Wolfram is agitated.

KARL (CONT'D)

It doesn't matter, the point is that I've impressed him, I'm heading...

SLAM.

Wolfram slams his locker shut, the door bounces open.

The trainees go silent.

Everyone stares at Wolfram.

Wolfram pushes his hair back forcefully with his hand and shuts his locker, fuming he leaves.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Karl and Horst exchange a look.

EXT. AIRFIELD - MORNING

A plane comes in for a landing, smooth as silk.

The trainees applaud.

Karl looks on from the inside of a cockpit.

He is on the runway strapped into the plane ready for his first flight.

He runs through the pre-flight prep, checking that all systems are running properly.

The other plane taxis over to Karl's.

Wolfram sits in the cockpit, smirking at Karl in his plane.

WOLFRAM

The first time is always the
trickiest, be careful Karl.

Sweat beads on Karl's forehead.

WOLFRAM (CONT'D)

(cold)
We need the planes.

Karl is given the go ahead.

The propellers start one after the other, the engine ROARS.
The plane begins to move forward.

RATTLING and BUMPING shakes Karl intensely.

Karl looks to the wing of the plane, it is shaking violently, the flaps are oriented upwards something is not right.

A man at the end of the runway dives out of the way of the plane.

The plane hops off the ground and returns with a THUD.

Karl pulls the brakes the plane skids off the runway.

The RATTLING AND BUMPING intensifies.

The plane comes to a stop. Karl is shaken.

Exasperated, Karl lets his head fall backwards.

INT. TRAINING BARRACKS - NIGHT

Karl writes in his notebook. He looks over to Wolfram's bed, he is not there. He closes the book emphatically.

INT. TRAINING BARRACKS HALLWAY - LATER

Karl makes his way down the hall dressed in full flight suit.

At the end of the hall, light spills from a room. Karl hears

GIGGLING.

Karl peers into the room.

Lieselotte is sitting on Wolfram's lap, her arms wrapped around his neck laughing. They are drinking.

Karl stands and watches, wounded.

Wolfram whispers something in Lieselotte's ear. She giggles and kisses him full on the lips.

Karl is heartbroken, he leans on the door for support but falls into the room.

Lieselotte and Wolfram are too drunk to realize they have been caught. They laugh at Karl.

WOLFRAM

(drunken)

Karl! Come jo..(hic) join us for a drink.

He swirls the bottle around spilling some. Karl rises to his feet.

LIESELOTTE

(fake concern)

Wolffy what are we to do, we've been discovered.

WOLFRAM

(falsely gallant)

Fear not Lotte, Karl is a good boy, he won't say a word.

Wolfram tries to be intimidating but he only appears extremely drunk.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

WOLFRAM (CONT'D)
(condescending)
After all a good soldier obeys the
orders of his superiors.

KARL
You are not my superior.

Wolfram eyes Karl.

WOLFRAM
I suppose you are right, though
superiority is not just about rank.

Wolfram kisses Lieselotte playfully.

Anger builds in Karl.

INT. TRAINING BARRACKS - NIGHT

Karl opens up a small notebook and writes in his bed.

He looks over to Wolfram's bed, he is sprawled out
awkwardly.

INT. TRAINING BARRACKS - NEXT MORNING

Wolfram wakes up very groggy, holding his head suffering
from a hangover.

He looks over to Karl's bed.

Karl is meticulously sewing his swastika patch onto the
sleeve of his jacket.

GRAPHIC MATCH ON
SWASTIKA PATCH
TO

EXT. AIRFIELD - MORNING

INSERT: GRAPHIC MATCH OF KARL'S PATCH.

The patch leaves frame as we pull back revealing Karl
taking off in the plane.

The plane takes off without a hitch. The recruits and
Detlef look impressed as Karl flies.

Wolfram's mouth twists.

INT. CLASSROOM

Detlef points to a map. Wolfram raises his hand. Karl boldly stands and answers.

Detlef looks pleased. The recruits are impressed. Wolfram eyes Karl.

INT. LOCKER ROOM

The recruits are all gathered around Karl who is making a grand display telling a joke.

KARL

... so he asks, what is the
difference between a Catholic wife
and a Jew wife?

Karl waits a beat as his peers contemplate.

KARL CONT

A Catholic wife has real orgasms
and fake jewelry!

They all erupt in laughter, one trainee laughs so hard he slips off the bench and falls to the ground.

EXT. AIRFIELD - SAME AS EARLIER

Karl flies cleanly, banking and leading a group of planes in formation.

Detlef on the ground is impressed.

INT. LIESELOTTE'S QUARTERS

Lieselotte enters her quarters with Wolfram who carries a large wooden crate.

On her bed is a single flower with a small note.

Lieselotte's name is written on it, the "L"s are written in an ornate script.

Lieselotte reads the note and smiles.

She walks up slowly to Wolfram and drapes her arms around him and begins to kiss his neck.

Wolfram is very confused, looking at the note in her hand skeptically, the ornate "L"s stand out.

INT. LOCKER ROOM

Karl showers no longer uncomfortable.

Wolfram eyes Karl menacingly.

EXT. AIRFIELD

Karl's plane comes in for a landing.

Karl exits the plane and with his fellow trainees goes to exit the airfield.

Detlef stands on the runway impeding their path. Behind him are a series of much more intimidating planes than those the trainees have been flying.

Karl looks on in awe.

KARL

The Ju Stuka Dive Bomber?

DETLEF

Gentlemen, it's high time you learned to fly the real beast. In a week's time you are going on a little journey. Be sure to read through your manuals and get plenty of rest, you'll need it.

Karl and the others stand at attention looking on at the dive bombers.

DETLEF (CONT'D)

Heil Hitler.

KARL AND TRAINEES

Heil Hitler.

Karl is in perfect sync with his fellow recruits.

INT. BEER HALL - NIGHT

A group of large beer glasses CLINK together, beer spilling over the edges of the glasses as they collide.

A beer hall bustling with revelry and song.

Karl, Wolfram, Horst, and the other trainees are celebrating their success. The trainees all bring their glasses to their lips and drink deeply and slam their mugs down one by one. Wolfram still drinks.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

KARL

Boys, how about a wager on the next round?

Wolfram finishes his beer.

WOLFRAM

(slightly out of breath)
Why Little Karl what did you have in mind?

Karl looks off-screen. Horst follows Karl's glance and slams his glass down on the table in excitement.

HORST

Hammerschlagen!

Horst lifts his glass up and pounds it down again.

HORST (CONT'D)

Hammerschlagen! Hammerschlagen!
Hammerschlagen! Hammerschlagen!

The other recruits join in on the chanting and pounding.

A glass is raised into the air.

MATCH ON ACTION
TO:

INT. BEER HALL - NIGHT - LATER

A hammer comes crashing down just missing a nail lodged in a stump.

Three other nails are impaled in the stump at different heights.

Horst, Karl, Wolfram, and the Bully Nazi encircle the stump. A larger group encircles them.

Horst passes the hammer to the Bully Nazi and takes a drink.

The Bully Nazi lines the hammer up with his nail, clearly drunk. His nail is presently un-hit.

He takes a large drink from his glass and places it down on the stump.

SHATTERING GLASS.

The Bully Nazi hits the glass and cuts his hand.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

The crowd roars with laughter.

The Bully Nazi drinks from the broken glass, Karl looks a little queasy.

Wolfram receives the hammer. His nail is bent sideways. He shoves Horst out of the way as he repositions himself.

Wolfram lines up the hammer with the nail, he hiccups.

TINK.

Wolfram's nail is bent the other way. The crowd gives out a disappointed sigh.

Wolfram fumes, drinks, and thrusts the hammer to Karl.

Karl takes the hammer, struggling to line it up with his nail. He takes an extra second to ready himself.

WOLFRAM
(slurred)
Today please Fraulein Schneider.

THUD.

Karl's nail is shoved into the stump. Karl takes the lead. The crowd roars. Karl drinks triumphantly.

HORST
Maybe a little patience would help
you, Fraulein Klein.

Wolfram seethes he takes a drink.

Horst hits his nail. He drinks.

The Bully Nazi hits his nail. He drinks from the broken glass.

Wolfram hits his nail straightening it. He drinks.

Karl misses his nail. He drinks.

WOLFRAM
(overly triumphant)
HAAA!

Beat.

Missed nail. Hit nail. Drink. Missed nail. Drink. Hit nail. Drink. Drink.

BEER HALL - LATER

A sudden quiet spreads throughout the hall. Horst lines up his hammer with his nail. He let's the hammer fly.

THUD.

The Nail is completely buried in the stump

CHEERING and CELEBRATION fill the hall.

Horst takes a victory lap kissing a nearby barmaid full on the lips.

While the others celebrate, Wolfram repeatedly tries to hammer his nail in unsuccessfully.

Karl grabs a round of glasses and stands on a table.

KARL

Heil Horst, Fuhrer of the Stump!

The trainees take the glasses from Karl.

CLINK.

Beer spills over as they chug them down. Karl beams, never happier.

EXT. BEER HALL - LATER

Karl, Horst, The Bully Nazi, and Wolfram stumble down the street supporting each other singing "BEER HEIR" a German drinking song.

Wolfram turns and vomits.

HORST

A little too much did we Wolfy?

Horst supports Wolfram.

Karl notices a MAN on the opposite side of the street.

INSERT: A YELLOW STAR PATCH HANGS LOOSELY FROM HIS ARM.

KARL

(drunken)

Sir... Sir!

Karl stumbles across the street dropping The Bully Nazi he was supporting.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

KARL (CONT'D)
(drunken)
Sir!

Karl grabs the JEWISH MAN by the shoulder and turns him around.

KARL (CONT'D)
(drunken)
Sir your patch is falling off, you
mustn't allow that.

JEWISH MAN
Forgive me, I'm not particularly
fond of the thing...

The Bully Nazi crosses the street. The Jewish Man looks worried.

JEWISH MAN (CONT'D)
(nervous)
I'll fix it first thing when I get
home, thank you for bringing this
to my attention.

The Bully Nazi drapes his arm around Karl.

BULLY NAZI
What seems to be the problem Little
Karl.

He notices the yellow star patch.

BULLY NAZI (CONT'D)
What is this we have here?

KARL
His patch is loose.

Karl does not realize what he is doing.

BULLY NAZI
So it is Karl. (to the Jewish Man)
You better fix that patch so we can
tell the men from the rats.

He spits in the Jewish Man's face. The Jewish Man wipes it away containing his anger.

JEWISH MAN
I am a German citizen, my
grandmother was Jewish, I've never
even been in a synagogue.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

BULLY NAZI

The rat has never been in the sewer?

KARL

(aggressively)

Your patch is falling off, you must fix it.

Karl stumbles forward accidentally shoving the man to the ground. The Bully Nazi presses the Jewish Man's face against a sewer grate with his foot.

BULLY NAZI

(darkly)

Look a Synagogue.

The Bully Nazi lifts his boot.

STOMP STOMP STOMP.

KARL

(angry)

You should have fixed your patch.

Karl approaches the Jewish Man.

STOMP STOMP STOMP.

Karl's kicks gain intensity. The Jewish Man GROANS with each kick. We linger on Karl's face, stone cold.

INT. LUFTWAFFE HEADQUARTERS - DAY

The trainees suit up in groups of two. Karl adjusts the face mask of Horst, The Bully Nazi struggles to fix a stuck zipper on an agitated Wolfram.

DETLEF

Gentlemen, for your 6th flight exercise you will once again be switching pilot and gunner roles.

Horst mimes firing a pistol.

DETLEF (CONT'D)

Remember we are like the hawk, the dive our strike. The Ju Stuka is the only plane in this war that can make a 90 degree vertical dive. You will blackout, so remember look for the red tabs on your wings and tuck in as you dive.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

A loud METALLIC CLINKING.

SOUND BRIDGE TO

EXT. AIRFIELD - LATER

METALLIC CLINKING.

Karl tests the auto-pullout mechanism. He looks out his window, the red tabs are in sight on the wings.

METALLIC CLINKING.

Another recruit tests his auto-pullout mechanism.

METALLIC CLINKING.

Another tests.

CREAKY METALLIC CLINKING.

Wolfram tries to force his auto-pullout mechanism to engage. It is stuck. He struggles with it some more.

METALLIC CLINKING.

Finally it engages, Wolfram cools down for a second and takes a deep breath.

BREATH IN. BREATH OUT. IN. OUT. IN...

SOUNDBRIDGE:

INT. WOLFRAM'S STUKA

SCREAMING.

The Jericho WHISTLING builds as Wolfram descends rapidly.

Wolfram is forced upright in his seat. The cockpit shakes uncontrollably.

INT. KARL'S STUKA

Karl watches the dive from inside his cockpit.

The WHISTLING continues to blare.

INT. WOLFRAM'S STUKA

Wolfram's vision grays as the dial approaches 450m.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

In blurred vision Wolfram sees the red altitude light turn on.

Wolfram struggles to reach the bomb dropping mechanism.

METALLIC CLINKING.

Wolfram's plane pulls up sharply.

INSERT: PLANE EXTERIOR UNDERCARRIAGE THE DOORS HAVE NOT OPENED.

Wolfram is passed out in the cockpit. The Bully Nazi tries to wake him.

INT. KARL'S STUKA

NAZI PILOT
(over the radio)
Schneider, you're set to dive.

Karl turns back to Horst in the gunner seat. Horst gives a thumbs up.

Karl pulls back on the dive lever, initiates the air brake

CLANK.

He pulls back on the throttle.

The plane does a 180 degree roll then descends at a near 90 degree angle.

Horst HOOTS and HOLLERS. Karl is crouched forward, his thumb already set near the bomb dropping mechanism, eyes fixed on the altitude light.

The altitude meter reads 700m from the ground.

Karl sticks out his tongue, concentrating on the light. His vision is only slightly blurred. Everything is shaking, the Jericho WHISTLING builds.

600m from the ground

Karl's thumb dances around the button.

500m, 475m, 450m. The red light turns on.

Slow motion, silence. Karl's thumb presses down on the button.

Karl's face contorts. The plane pulls up violently.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Karl re-engages the throttle and the plane begins to climb.

Karl's vision begins to gray. One, two, three.

The gray fades away, Karl's eyes dart to the bomb view window. Three large red barrels fall to the ground.

INSERT: THE UNDERSIDE OF THE PLANE THE OPEN BOMB DOORS ARE CLOSING. SUDDENLY A JU STUKA APPEARS IN THE BOMB SIGHT WINDOW, THE WING IS SMOKING.

EXPLOSION.

Karl's Stuka shakes violently.

The sky around him has suddenly turned into a dogfight. British air force planes fire bullets in every direction. Karl is horrified.

HORST

KARL! FLY, FLY! GET US OUT OF HERE!

A bullet nicks the side of his plane. Karl is brought to life.

A Ju Stuka explodes above him, raining down debris on Karl's plane. Karl dodges a falling wing.

A British plane enters Karl's line of fire.

KARL

(quite)

Shoot...

The British plane begins to bank.

KARL (CONT'D)

Shoot, Horst... SHOOT!

Horst, panicked, fires the machine guns. Bullets sail from the front of the plane.

The gunfire connects. The British plane catches fire.

The pilot ejects from the smoking plane.

EXPLOSION.

A piece of metal pierces the pilot's parachute.

Karl watches as the man tumbles to the ground.

GUNFIRE.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

A British plane is on Karl's tail.

Karl begins to maneuver away from the fire but cannot shake him, he notices the red tabs on the wings of the plane.

Karl puts the dive lever to the rear position.

HORST

FUCKKK!

The Jericho horn SCREECHES.

The noise begins to die out as the screen gets hazier and grayer.

A hazy red light turns on out of focus.

The image begins to come into focus but we do not appear to be in the plane.

A muffled RINGING is heard as the image comes into focus.

SOUNDBRIDGE:

INT. DETLEF'S OFFICE LUFTWAFFE HEADQUARTERS - DAY

A red light comes into focus as a light on a telephone now RINGS loudly. A hand quickly picks up the receiver and slams it down CLANG.

Karl sits nervously in a large chair.

Detlef sits across him at a desk reading a report. He wears an ornate kimono, a large smile across his face.

On the ground next to his desk is a large crate releasing a thin mist. Across the side is written PERISHABLE.

Karl eyes the box.

DETLEF

The Royal British Air force...

Karl stares blankly, still rattled.

DETLEF (CONT'D)

Karl?

KARL

Yes Herr Von Vogler, that is correct.

Detlef rolls up the sleeves of his kimono.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

DETLEF
Detlef will serve.

KARL
(uncomfortable)
That is correct... Detlef.

Detlef motions for someone to come closer.

A Nazi soldier enters with a large silver platter. He places it in front of Detlef and uncovers it.

A number of steaming soft shell crabs are inside. Detlef bites into one of the crabs, chews and swallows.

DETLEF
How many did we lose?

KARL
3 planes, 5 pilots, one gunner was able to eject in time.

DETLEF
And the Royal Ambushers?

KARL
17.

DETLEF
Well met, we must always give more than we receive, it's only proper hospitality. 17 pilots to our 5, an impressive outcome.

Karl leans forward.

KARL
17 planes, 34 pilots... Detlef.

A crab claw hangs out of Detlef's mouth. A smile cuts across his face. He slaps the table in satisfaction while laughing. Karl nervously joins in the laughter.

DETLEF
Well met indeed my friend, I should expect nothing less from the son of the Hawk.

Karl smiles broadly, almost goofy in satisfaction.

Detlef moves to an ornate globe, he opens the top revealing a bar.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

DETLEF (CONT'D)
Cognac?

Detlef jingles two glasses in the air.

KARL
Always for a celebration.

Karl and Detlef raise their glasses.

DETLEF
To your father the Hawk, Prost.

KARL
Prost.

MANY VOICES (V.O.)
PROST!

SOUNDBRIDGE:

INT. FANCY BALLROOM PARTY - NIGHT

GLASSES CLINKING together in a lavish party hall.

Everyone is dressed in the finest of attire, high ranking officials and those of good blood are all around dancing, eating, laughing, and drinking.

Karl sits at a table with tipsy Detlef. Karl wears a handsome white uniform a new medal on his breast. Detlef places his arm around Karl as he raises his glass.

DETLEF
(theatrically)
... and lastly to the heroic trainee who ravaged the Royal Air force. The blood of the Hawk, Karl Heinz Schneider. Prost.

REST OF THE TABLE
Prost!

INSERT: GLASSES CLINK TOGETHER, AS THEY PULL APART WE REVEAL WOLFRAM AT THE BAR ACROSS THE ROOM.

Wolfram takes a large drink from his glass, eyeing Karl.

Karl shakes hands with a number of important looking people.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Wolfram puts down his glass and raises a finger in the air. The bartender refills his glass. Wolfram runs his hand through his hair forcefully.

Lieselotte enters. She is a vision in an exotic dress with a revealing back. She draws the attention of all those around her.

Wolfram turns to see her, his anger fades.

Lieselotte sees Karl speaking with the officials, she seems intrigued.

Wolfram approaches her from behind and places a hand to her back. She turns around, Wolfram draws her close offering her a drink.

WOLFRAM

Hello Lotte.

Lieselotte looks at Wolfram, he is obviously drunk. She undoes his embrace.

LIESELOTTE

That's Fraulein Von Vogler,
soldier. Dismissed.

She gives him a mocking salute and moves on.

Wolfram is wounded.

INT. FANCY BALLROOM PARTY - LATER

Lieselotte has joined Detlef, they drink champagne and converse. Ehrlichmann is at the table.

LIESELOTTE

Seeing stars?

DETLEF

Yes, most pilots experience a
graying of their vision while
diving, though some don't seem to
experience the malady as intensely
as others.

Detlef gives a subtle look to Karl, Lieselotte catches it. Wolfram suddenly appears behind Detlef holding two drinks.

WOLFRAM

Herr Von Vogler, I thought perhaps
you might like a drink.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Detlef ignores Wolfram. Wolfram leans in closer. A small drop of whiskey falls from the glass and lands on Detlef's white uniform.

Detlef looks down to the stain. Silent rage builds.

WOLFRAM (CONT'D)
Herr Von Vogler I...

Detlef's change of expression stops Wolfram cold.

DETLEF
(to the table)
Seeing stars yet again, Herr Klein.

The table gives a nervous laugh. Wolfram looks completely dejected.

DETLEF (CONT'D)
If you will all please excuse me, I
have an urgent matter to attend to.

Detlef gestures to the stain on his pants smiling.

EHRlichMANN
Relax Detlef, this is a party.

Detlef turns to Ehrlichmann.

DETLEF
(condescending)
Forgive me General Field Marshal
Lichmann but we all must look the
part we wish to play.

Detlef leaves the table, blowing by Wolfram.

EHRlichMANN
(flustered)
That's General Field Marshal
EHRLichmann.

Beat.

LIESELOTTE
(breaking the tension)
My what a charming expression,
seeing stars?

KARL
A bit of romantic irony I suppose,
I would sooner appropriate such a
term to a beautiful woman.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

Karl and Lieselotte hold eye contact.

INT. FANCY BALLROOM PARTY - LATER

Karl and Lieselotte dance closely. Karl forces a stoic look to hide his joy, Lieselotte sees right through it.

They move gracefully across the floor their eyes never leaving each other.

Wolfram sits by the bar.

WOLFRAM'S POV: LIESELOTTE GIVES KARL A KISS ON THE CHEEK AND SLIPS A SMALL ENVELOPE INTO HIS JACKET POCKET. SHE LEAVES.

Karl is elated, he looks over his shoulder to make sure Lieselotte has left.

He fumbles madly for the envelope. The note reads "Room 332 Tonight at Midnight" a key is attached to the note.

Karl goes to exit the party, on top of the world. Wolfram blocks Karl's path.

KARL

(condescending)

Wolfram, is everything alright, you look unwell.

WOLFRAM

Enough Karl.

KARL

Come now Wolfy, you know that superiority is more than just rank. How's your father faring?

Karl gives Wolfram a pat on the cheek and moves past him to the exit, twirling the key around his finger.

Wolfram stares at Karl as he leaves, he forces his fingers through his hair.

EXT. UNDISCLOSED LOCATION - DAY

A Ju Stuka lands smoothly on a runway, more perfectly than we have seen up to this point.

Detlef and Karl exit the plane.

A large guarded complex stands in front of them. Detlef makes his way to the entrance unzipping his flight suit.

INT. GUARDED COMPLEX - LATER

Karl stands at attention looking nervous.

Detlef has stripped down to his underwear. He patiently sits on a tall stool surrounded by mirrors. He stares at Karl.

Karl's eyes meet Detlef's for an awkward moment.

DETLEF
(skeptical)
Lieselotte seems to have taken a
liking to your heroic story.

Karl is anxious, he says nothing.

Detlef breaks the tension.

DETLEF (CONT'D)
(jovial)
My little Lotte has always been
somewhat of a romantic, gallant
heroes and the like.

KARL
Heroes are for the movies. It is
real, imperfect people who change
the world.

DETLEF
And yet we all still love Dietrich
despite her political leanings.

The door to the room opens, a Nazi Soldier leads a TAILOR into the room.

DETLEF (CONT'D)
Talent is what we value most Karl.

Bundles of fabric fill the Tailor's arms. He moves to a desk in the room and places the material down. He carefully opens a case containing needles thread and measuring tape.

DETLEF (CONT'D)
(to the soldier)
Thank you that will be all.

The Nazi Soldier gives the Tailor a look then claps his boots together, salutes, and exits the room.

Detlef gives him a mocking salute as he leaves.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

DETLEF (CONT'D)

(jovially)

They are so overly formal at these compounds. Life should be savored not squandered don't you agree Karl?

Karl is focused on the Tailor at the table, a yellow star patch is attached to his arm.

KARL

Herr Von Vog... Detlef. This man he is a...

DETLEF

A Jew? Regrettably so.

Detlef stands and moves over to the Tailor and places his arm around the man.

DETLEF (CONT'D)

More importantly however he has been the Von Vogler tailor for over 55 years.

Beat.

KARL

Is this a test?

The Tailor ignores Karl's concerns, as if he has seen this reaction thousands of times. He begins taking measurements of Detlef's body.

DETLEF

(theatrically)

Karl, say your house is full of cats. Disgusting filthy creatures as they are, vomiting hairballs, licking themselves. What do you do?

Detlef stretches out his arms as the Tailor measures him.

KARL

You dispose of the cats?

Detlef rotates so his back is to Karl, he speaks to him through the mirror.

DETLEF

(theatrically)

Well met.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

DETLEF (CONT'D)

Ah but there is still the issue of all the mice that live in your home. Hiring an exterminator is such a nuisance and quite expensive, the issue could have been resolved if you had just kept one cat?

Karl gets it, he takes a yarn ball and tosses it to Detlef.

KARL

For your cat.

Detlef throws back his head in laughter. The Tailor continues to take Detlef's measurements.

Karl locks eyes with the Tailor for an uncomfortable moment.

DETLEF

Karl, you come from good stock. This will grease your path but not make it for you. The only thing that is absolute is talent, the intangibles one cannot be taught. Jew, Gypsy, Negro, Homosexual? We are taught they are inferior and unworthy.

Karl's focus is on the yellow star on the Tailor's arm.

DETLEF (CONT'D)

But it is so hard to find a good tailor these days.

EXT. BRITISH AIRSPACE - DAY - FOGGY

The open empty sky.

A JERICHO WHISTLING BUILDS.

Ju Stukas come flying past the frame almost completely vertical.

JERICHO WHISTLING

SOUNDBRIDGE:

EXT. BRITISH STREET - LATER - FOGGY

A British Flag waves from a building. People mull about their daily lives amidst the foggy streets.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

A PEDESTRIAN looks up at the noise.

A series of large dark objects fall from the sky.

A SIREN blares.

A look of confusion contorts to a grimace of panic. The WHISTLE competes with the SIREN. They build to a climax.

EXT. BRITISH AIRSPACE - DAY - FOGGY

A soft THUD.

From the plane the explosions of the bombs can be vaguely seen through the dense fog, large patches of light here and there.

Karl smiles as his squadron turns back for home. He and Horst are HOLLERING in celebration.

SOUNDBRIDGE:

INT. LIESELOTTE'S QUARTERS - NIGHT

The HOLLERING mixes with MOANING.

Lieselotte is bare chested straddling Karl MOANING loudly.

Karl leans up to kiss her neck but she forcefully slams him down against the bed.

Karl smirks, grabs her and flips her onto her back, her head and arms dangle off the edge of the bed.

She screams in ecstasy as he thrusts repeatedly into her.

LIESELOTTE
(moaning)
Karl, Karl, Karl...

INT. DETLEF'S OFFICE LUFTWAFFE HEADQUARTERS - DAY

DETLEF (O.S.)
Karl.

Karl sits in an excessively large comfy chair that appears to be swallowing him. Detlef has a series of oddly shaped candles on his desk lit.

KARL
Hmm?

An odd KNOCKING is heard through the walls of his office.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

DETLEF

The walls.

Karl looks puzzled.

KARL

The walls?

DETLEF

(veiled threat)

Paper thin are they not? You could hear a pin drop through them.

Muffled laughter can be heard in the hallway. Karl gets a nervous look. Detlef turns on a record, it is the same jovial tune he hummed earlier.

DETLEF (CONT'D)

Lieselotte tells me she has taken a liking to you.

Karl looks anxious. Detlef stands and moves to his Katana on the wall. He takes it from its display.

DETLEF (CONT'D)

A bright girl, witty and clever, a better judge of character than myself I must confess.

Detlef moves to a wooden crate marked "PERISHABLE". He takes out a large orange looking fruit.

Karl tries to readjust himself in the massive chair, the cushions swallow him like quicksand.

Detlef places the fruit on his desk.

KARL

(defensively)

Detlef I wouldn't say...

Detlef raises the katana above his head and SCREAMS.

SLICE.

Karl flinches and SCREAMS shutting his eyes.

He opens them.

The fruit lies in two pieces on the desk a deep red color on the inside.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

DETLEF
It's called a Blood Orange.

Detlef offers him half, Karl timidly accepts.

DETLEF (CONT'D)
General Field Marshal Fritz
Ehrlichmann will be visiting again
shortly. He means to fly with his
pilots, a demonstration of his...
talents.

Karl is relieved at the topic change.

KARL
(relieved)
Everything is set for his arrival.
The planes have all been thoroughly
inspected and prepped.

DETLEF
(darkly)
Yes and I'm sure there will be no
issues. But perhaps, just to be on
the safe side, we might run one
last check on the General Field
Marshal's?

Karl is confused.

DETLEF (CONT'D)
There is just a special...
modification that has been
requested.

Detlef hands Karl a small origami crane, on one of the
wings the word "unfold" is written.

Karl carefully unfolds the crane and reads the note. His
eyes bulge as he reads.

KARL
(concern)
Detlef... This modification
would...

DETLEF
Only embarrass the Field Marshal...

Karl is uneasy.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

DETLEF (CONT'D)

(pressuring)

If something were to impede the
Field Marshal's flight display good
things could come my way, and
yours.

Karl remains uneasy.

DETLEF (CONT'D)

(serious)

There is no need for concern. He
will never even make it off the
runway.

Detlef turns the Katana in his hand.

KARL

(uneasy)

I'll get right on this modification
Detlef, thank you for bringing this
to my attention.

Detlef takes one of the large lit candles and holds it out
to Karl. He motions to the paper. Karl puts the paper to
the flame. Detlef holds the candle out until the paper is
ash.

Detlef takes a large bite of the blood orange, juice drips
down his chin. He smiles wickedly.

DETLEF

Something to savor, indeed.

INT. HANGER BAY - NIGHT

CLOMPING BOOTS.

The hanger bay is completely silent save for Karl's boots.
Planes are arranged neatly in lines.

A light hangs from one of the planes.

Karl is underneath a Ju Stuka, he is tampering with the
wiring of the plane. Sweat beads on his forehead.

Inside the cockpit Karl presses the auto-pullout button,
underneath a mechanical device flips into position with a
loud SHIFTING.

Karl looks displeased.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

He continues to mess with the underside of the plane, disengaging a set of mechanical devices.

Inside the cockpit Karl presses the auto-pullout button.

Silence.

Karl exits the cockpit, he looks at the plane uncertainly.

EXT. RUNWAY - DAY

A Ju Stuka comes in for a landing on an airstrip. Karl exits from the cockpit, Wolfram from the gunner seat, he appears somewhat disoriented.

Awaiting the two men is a large black Mercedes Benz van, a Nazi Driver at attention. Karl approaches him with a note.

KARL

Orders from General der Fligler Von
Vogler.

He hands the Nazi a document.

The Nazi Driver looks over the paper then hands it back to Karl. He motions for them to enter the van.

EXT. DACHAU ENTRANCE - DAY

Karl has dozed off in the back seat. Wolfram is wide awake on the other side of the car staring out the window.

The car comes to a halt at the gate, the jerking motion wakes Karl.

He looks out the window.

Atop the entrance gate is an eagle perched on a swastika, identical to his "father's" medal. A sign reads "Dachau".

EXT. DACHAU - LATER

Wolfram and Karl make their way through the complex led by the Nazi Driver. Karl is still groggy from sleep, disoriented by his abrupt waking.

Karl watches a group of prisoners being marched.

BECKER (O.S.)

It seems our friends from the sky
have arrived. Welcome to Dachau, I
am Aksel Becker.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

AKSEL BECKER (52) stands shorter than Karl and Wolfram, wearing thick-rimmed spectacles that magnify his eyes in an almost bug-like fashion, he walks with an ornate cane and limp.

Karl salutes his superior.

KARL
Sergeant Karl Heinz Schneider.

Wolfram does not introduce himself, he is focused on the marching prisoners.

Becker notices Wolfram's discomfort. He taps Wolfram on the back with his cane. Wolfram turns suddenly to meet his gaze.

BECKER
The first time is always...
disorienting. It was no different
when I first arrived, a ghetto of
undesirables, but we struggle for
the benefit of all Germans.

Becker lets out a snorty laugh.

WOLFRAM
(somewhat somber)
Sergeant Wolfram Klein, Herr
Becker.

BECKER
Klein and Schneider, it appears I
am in the presence of good blood.
Might we retire to my quarters for
a libation?

Karl takes out the paper and hands it to Becker.

KARL
Our orders, Herr Becker.

Becker looks over the document. A sly expression crosses his face.

BECKER
All business I see.

Becker limps forward, beckoning them to follow.

Karl and Wolfram follow, watching the group of prisoners enter a red brick building.

INT. DACHAU RESEARCH FACILITY

A PRISONER is strapped into an ejection seat. He is completely disoriented GASPING for breath.

Reveal that the Prisoner is inside a large metal chamber.

Becker taps against the chamber with his ornate cane.

The Prisoner jerks.

BECKER

Gentlemen this chamber is meant to simulate the conditions a pilot, like yourselves, would experience when ejecting at high altitudes.

Karl and Wolfram are stone-faced.

BECKER (CONT'D)

The chamber provides a low pressure environment similar to high altitude exposure.

Becker looks to Karl for acknowledgment. Karl nods to him.

Karl looks into a number of similar chambers. Some prisoners struggle for breath others do not move at all.

BECKER (O.S.) (CONT'D)

This research is... unique. It is the first to place live humans under these conditions. The chambers also allow for rapid changes in pressure that simulate the free falling experience of a diving pilot. It can be raised...

Becker adjusts a nozzle on the side of one of the chambers.

HISSING.

The test subject inside grips the straps of his seat. He reels as the pressure is raised.

BECKER (O.S.) (CONT'D)

And then lowered once again.

Becker turns the nozzle the other way.

HISSING.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

The test subject's eyes bulge for an instant, he passes out.

BECKER (CONT'D)
(ominously)
The brains of those who survive are
thoroughly examined.

Becker taps the glass with his cane, no response. Becker looks disappointed.

BECKER (CONT'D)
(disappointed)
Though we rarely get so lucky.

Karl remains stone-faced.

KARL
Herr Becker, where might I find a
bathroom, we have a long journey
ahead of us.

BECKER
But we still have the freezing
experiments to observe, and then
the-

KARL
(interrupting)
Sergeant Klein is more than capable
of handling the observations.
Excuse me.

Karl leaves the room.

Becker is staring at Wolfram, bug eyes seeking approval.

Wolfram smiles uncomfortably. Two guards clear the living
and dead from the chambers.

WOLFRAM
The experiments are impressive.

Becker beams wickedly.

BECKER
Indeed, we are at our most
innovative when we are trying to
kill one another.

INT. BATHROOM - LATER

Karl vomits violently into a toilet. Vomit drips from his nose and mouth. He breathes frantically.

He vomits again, tries to catch his breath.

Finally he calms down, tears streaming from his face.

INT. LIESELOTTE'S QUARTERS - NIGHT

THUD THUD THUD. A lamp shade shakes on a night stand.

Karl is having sex with Lieselotte missionary style. Lieselotte looks unhappy, she stops him.

LIESELOTTE
Maybe like this?

She offers herself to Karl from behind.

He begins to thrust.

LIESELOTTE (CONT'D)
Oh Karl, Karl... Harder... Yes...

Lieselotte is getting back into it.

Karl tries desperately to keep going. Lieselotte seems to be losing interest.

Exasperated she throws him off.

LIESELOTTE (CONT'D)
(annoyed)
Forget it Karl.

INT. LIESELOTTE'S QUARTERS - LATER

Karl sits on the edge of Lieselotte's bed alone.

We hear a SHOWER off-screen.

Karl takes out his black notebook and begins to write.

The SHOWER cuts out.

Lieselotte emerges from the bathroom with a towel wrapped around her body and her head. Karl puts away his book.

LIESELOTTE
I cannot wait until I can be done
with this awful rationed soap.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

She tosses it into the trash can dismissively.

Karl doesn't respond.

Lieselotte walks over to Karl and sits next to him on the bed, she takes his hand in hers.

LIESELOTTE (CONT'D)
Karl I'm sorry, this sort of thing
just... happens some times.

Karl does not make eye contact.

KNOCK KNOCK.

Lieselotte and Karl dart their eyes to the door. Lieselotte motions for Karl to hide in the bathroom.

INT. LIESELOTTE'S BATHROOM - CONTINUOUS

Karl hides behind the door, he sees the soap in the trash can.

LIESELOTTE (O.S)
... Yes ...okay ...Thank you.

DOOR CLOSES off-screen.

Lieselotte emerges, a horrified look on her face.

KARL
Lotte? What is it?

Beat.

LIESELOTTE
General Field Marshal Ehrlichmann
has died in a plane crash.

She hugs Karl tight, sobbing.

Karl's face goes completely white, we linger on his face.

EXT. LIESELOTTE'S QUARTERS - NEXT MORNING

Wolfram moves down the hall past Lieselotte's room. Lieselotte's laughter is heard through the wall. Wolfram stops, a little smile on his face, he goes to knock on the door.

KARL (O.S.)
Lotte please, I'm going to be late.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Wolfram's smile fades, he retracts his hand balling it into a fist.

INT. LUFTWAFFE BRIEFING ROOM - LATER

Wolfram, Horst, the Bully Nazi and a number of pilots are gathered around a table, Detlef at the head, he is beaming. The room is silent, Wolfram's leg is restless.

The door to the briefing room opens and Karl enters, slowly.

WOLFRAM

(feigned concern)

Karl, you're 15 minutes late, where have you been? Is anything the matter?

Karl looks like he is caught with his pants down. Karl begins to fumble for an answer.

KARL

I was just-

DETLEF

(interrupting)

Karl was taking care of something for me, do I have your leave to begin Herr Klein?

Wolfram begins to protest but Detlef talks over him.

DETLEF (CONT'D)

As you are all well aware our Field Marshal has passed away in a tragic accident.

Karl shifts awkwardly.

DETLEF (CONT'D)

(concerned)

War unfortunately does not give us the time for such luxuries as grief. (all business)The targets are the civilian areas in Britain, specifically the cities of Exeter, Bath, followed by Norwich and York.

KARL

Det.. General, are we not short enough on resources as it is? These targets are not militarily strategic?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

WOLFRAM

Questioning the orders of a superior Karl don't you think that is a bit out of line?

DETLEF

(to Wolfram)

None of these tired clichés please, I cannot stand it. (to Karl) And while you may well be right so too is Wolfram.

Detlef gives Karl a serious look which he undercuts with a wink.

DETLEF (CONT'D)

The Fuhrer wishes to fight an eye for a head, and we shall be his guillotine. The Luftwaffe is going through a transition, orders must be strictly adhered to.

Detlef's body language shifts.

DETLEF (CONT'D)

Schneider will be leading the mission, the rest of you are dismissed. Await further instructions from him.

The pilots leave the briefing room, Horst places a hand on Karl's shoulder as he exits. Wolfram rises last, he eyes Karl.

WOLFRAM

General Von Vogler, I really must...

DETLEF

Sergeant Klein were you not just dismissed?

Wolfram runs his hand through his hair, he exits.

The room is cleared except for Karl and Detlef.

KARL

Detlef, all clichés aside the Luftwaffe is in dire straits, we have few pilots and lose many and more each day. What can we accomplish with such cosmetic attacks?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

Detlef moves to the door as Karl speaks.

DETLEF
I have no intention of popping
pimples.

Detlef smiles wickedly he adjusts his uniform.

DETLEF (CONT'D)
I think I'll be needing to see my
tailor.

INT. TAILOR'S COMPLEX - DAY

Detlef stands with his arms outstretched as the Tailor takes measurements. Karl waits at attention, a slightly puzzled look on his face.

The two men speak as if the Tailor is not present.

KARL
Was it not just 4 months ago that
you were measured?

DETLEF
Perceptive as always Karl.

KARL
So I must ask, why are we here?

The Tailor finishes his measurements of Detlef.

DETLEF
(to the Tailor)
Our young friend will be next. (to
Karl) Have you ever been measured
Karl? I find the experience to be
extremely cathartic. Please, strip
down to your underclothes.

The Tailor approaches Karl. He motions for Karl to step in front of the mirror. Karl takes in his reflection in his uniform. A smile comes to him.

The Tailor motions for Karl to undress. He strips down and hands his clothes to the Tailor.

KARL
Detlef, what is this all about?

DETLEF
What is it always about Karl?
Talent. Today is about the future.
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

DETLEF (CONT'D)

You've done me a service that cannot be repaid by normal means. Give a man a loan, he pays you back with interest. But how does one repay a man who gives him opportunity.

Karl takes in the image of himself in his underwear, exposed.

DETLEF (O.S.) (CONT'D)

Ehrlichmann is gone thanks to you.

Karl looks at his guilty reflection.

DETLEF (CONT'D)

I will be the one to replace Ehrlichmann, this I can assure you. Opportunity was your gift to me, and I aim to repay my debt in full.

The tailor motions for Karl to turn to the right.

DETLEF (CONT'D)

Our cake is made Karl, we have only to ice it.

Karl stares into the mirror looking at the multiple reflections of himself in the middle, Detlef to the right, and the Tailor crouched in the left.

KARL

Thorough as always Detlef, but I'm not sure I quite understand all the theatrics.

Detlef repositions himself so that he is framed by the mirror.

DETLEF

Ah Karl but that is the frailty of genius, it needs an audience.

Detlef goes to leave the room, he turns back as he reaches the door.

DETLEF (CONT'D)

And you never know when you might need your measurements.

Detlef exits the room. The Tailor continues to measure Karl. Karl lets out a sigh of relief. The Tailor and Karl make eye contact through the mirror.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

The Tailor turns and looks at Karl in the eye. Karl holds eye contact.

Guilty, he turns his face away. The Tailor returns to measuring Karl.

INT. LIESELOTTE'S QUARTERS - NIGHT

Karl sits on the edge of Lieselotte's bed writing in his black notebook. The room is darkly lit. Karl turns on the lamp next to the bed.

Light fills the room. Karl adjusts to the light.

His eyes linger on the lamp shade, the numbers "856" are visible along the seam.

LIESELOTTE

Karl...? Karl?

Karl cannot tear his eyes away from the lamp, Lieselotte straddles Karl. She begins to undress him.

LIESELOTTE (CONT'D)

(teasing)

Karl, Herr Von Vogler had you all to himself and in just your underclothes no less. How is that supposed to make a girl feel?

Karl is still distracted. Lieselotte reaches for his black notebook.

LIESELOTTE (CONT'D)

Might Fraulein Von Vogler make an appearance in this?

Lieselotte playfully opens the notebook. Karl snatches the notebook away hastily. Lieselotte is quite offended.

Karl tries to cover his action by tenderly kissing her on the wrist, moving his way up her arm to her neck.

KARL

And does Fraulein Von Vogler reveal herself to be jealous of her lover spending time with an old man in his underwear?

Lieselotte slaps Karl in the face.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

LIESELOTTE

You presume too much Herr
Schneider.

KARL

Lotte, I didn't mean to offend-

LIESELOTTE

(interrupting)

Never speak of my father in such a
light again! Ever!

Karl is completely taken aback. Confused and frustrated.

KARL

Lotte please, I have only respect
and admiration for your father.

LIESELOTTE

(with derision)

And does the sight of my father in
his small clothes stir you?

Karl is wounded.

KARL

(desperately sweet)

Lotte please, it's you, its always
been you, only you.

LIESELOTTE

(disgusted)

Ugh, Karl please. Desperation is
such an ugly color on you. Come to
bed and leave it be.

Karl is even more confused, and moving to anger.

KARL

Come to bed? Just a moment ago you-

LIESELOTTE

(dismissively)

You truly know how to leave a girl
with something to desire.

Karl is through, he throws his pants on, gathers the rest
of his belongings and goes to the door.

LIESELOTTE (CONT'D)

Where do you think you are going?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

KARL

Leaving a girl with something to desire.

LIESELOTTE

Some one might see you!

Karl exits the room slamming the door.

INT. DETLEF'S OFFICE LUFTWAFFE HEADQUARTERS - DAY

Karl sits in the large comfy chair attempting to solve the ornate puzzle box. Detlef watches expectantly making subtle yes and no gestures with every move Karl makes.

This game continues until Karl opens the box. Inside is the manila envelope.

Detlef motions for him to open it, excited, almost giddy.

Karl undoes the tie and opens the envelope carefully. Detlef eagerly motions for Karl to take out the contents. Karl pours over the document.

KARL

This is...

Karl's face goes white.

DETLEF

(giddy)

The Klein Family tree. Hans and Wolfram's family tree to be specific.

KARL

So this is how (beat) why Hans Klein stepped down?

Detlef gives a wide smile.

KARL (CONT'D)

This would ruin Wolfram, is he even aware of his lineage?

DETLEF

I highly doubt it, Herr Klein didn't know himself until I, illuminated him.

Karl gets a very nervous expression, he was not prepared for this.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

DETLEF (CONT'D)
(theatrically)
"Why would he show me this" "What could he gain by sharing such sensitive information?" "Does he want me to dispose of Wolfram?"

Detlef waits on Karl, who remains silent.

DETLEF (CONT'D)
Karl, for my plan to work we must trust each other implicitly. This is a gesture of that trust. You have my trust, and I know I have yours.

Karl doesn't wait a beat. He shoots up and salutes Detlef.

KARL
I am your man.

Detlef keeps a stern composure. A smile forms as tears well in his eyes.

Detlef clasps Karl's shoulders with both hands. He looks at him hard and hugs him tightly, tears of joy streaming down his face.

Karl is stunned.

DETLEF
My man indeed. You are free to leave Karl.

Karl nods and turns to go, just before he leaves Detlef stops him.

DETLEF (CONT'D)
Oh and Karl. You might not return to your barracks.

He tosses a paper airplane with the word "Unfold" written on the wing.

DETLEF (CONT'D)
There is a gift from my tailor waiting for you. Sergeant-Major.

Detlef smiles. Karl reads the paper. A room number and key are taped to it. Karl's eyes begin to fill with tears.

INT. KARL'S PERSONAL BARRACKS

Karl takes in his reflection wearing a brand new uniform in the full length mirror of his new barracks.

He examines every aspect of the uniform: jacket, pants, shoes, each badge and medal. Finally he places his Sergeant-Major's cap on his head.

He stands in full uniform in front of a mirror, a man changed. He looks identical to the man in the recruitment poster from earlier.

KARL

Sergeant-Major Karl Heinz
Schneider.

Karl beams with pride.

EXT. AIRFIELD - MORNING

The pilots are all preparing their planes for the mission. Karl is giving everyone orders for the mission to come. Wolfram glares at Karl the entire time, from the gunner position.

PILOT

Sergeant-Major Schneider, we are
ready to fly.

KARL

Good, set A squadron for take off.

The Bully Nazi approaches Karl.

BULLY NAZI

(carefully)

Kar- Sergeant-Major Schneider, I am
honored that you trust in my flight
capabilities but shouldn't Wolfram
be flying instead? I'm perfectly
happy at the gunner position.

Karl clasps him on the shoulder.

KARL

I need a pilot who will see his
target, not stars.

The Bully Nazi gives a look of surprise.

BULLY NAZI

You know he, grays out?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

KARL

I am your Sergeant-Major, it is my business to know everything that goes on in these squadrons. Go, lead the squadron to the first assault. You know your mission, bomb and return, do not linger.

The Bully Nazi goes to his plane, Wolfram is seething.

The A squadron takes off.

Karl remains behind with the B squadron.

KARL (CONT'D)

Pilots, there is going to be a slight change of plans.

The pilots look confused.

EXT. POLISH AIR SPACE - LATER

MULTIPLE EXPLOSIONS.

The planes drop from the sky, JERICHO WHISTLES blare as the group of planes descend.

Nothing can be seen but smoke and fire from the sky.

The bombers ready for a second round.

Karl descends on a target specifically marked on his map as "high priority". As the target comes into view Karl's vision blurs but he remains in control.

The red tabs on the wings come into view. The dial reaches 450m Karl releases the bombs.

MUFFLED EXPLOSIONS.

Karl's vision slightly grays as he makes his way out of the dive.

The area is ravaged, the mission is complete.

INT. OCCUPIED POLISH BUILDING

Detlef sits in an ornate room with the Generals and Oswin. Oswin sits across Detlef at a long table. All have glasses filled.

Oswin stands and raises his glass in the air.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

OSWIN

We are in a time of change gentlemen, from the ashes of the city a Phoenix was born. To our new and rightful General Field Marshal, the Phoenix, Detlef Von Vogler! Prost.

THE OTHER GENERALS

Prost!

The men drink, Detlef beams with wicked pride.

EXT. DESTROYED POLISH CITY - LATER

Detlef walks out of the building with a large group of Nazi Soldiers in his new General Field Marshal uniform. Karl is to his side in his new Sergeant-Major's uniform.

The two men are the vision of German Nazi perfection, it is sickening.

KARL

General Field Marshal, I have received a message from headquarters, my presence is urgently requested.

DETLEF

Sergeant-Major you wouldn't leave the new General Field Marshall to walk upon the fire and brimstone that led to his rebirth alone would you? Lieselotte can wait.

Karl gets nervous.

KARL

Detlef I don't know what you think-

DETLEF

Do you not think I know about everything that goes on under my command?

Detlef gives Karl a sly but menacing look.

DETLEF (CONT'D)

Everything that you have done, I have let you do. Do not forget that fact Karl.

EXT. DESTROYED POLISH CITY - LATER

Karl and Detlef walk along the ruined city streets.

Nazi Soldiers are everywhere clearing rubble searching for survivors.

Karl looks around at the carnage, his carnage. Blood, fire, and bodies riddle the ground.

Karl avoids stepping on bodies and rubble, Detlef steps on a corpse unphased.

KARL

(shocked)

There must be hundreds, thousands..

DETLEF

(matter of factly)

35,041 if my estimations are correct.

They walk past a Nazi Soldier who opens a cellar door, three survivors burst forth. They stumble over rubble as they try to escape. Each is shot dead.

DETLEF (CONT'D)

35,044.

Karl is horrified.

KARL

This is..

Detlef places a hand on Karl's shoulder.

DETLEF

A masterpiece! Indeed it is Karl.

They continue walking through the rubble until they reach a large half-destroyed synagogue.

EXT. POLISH SYNAGOGUE - CONTINUOUS

DETLEF

Karl do you remember that special target?

20 men, women, and children are held at gun point on their knees, each wears a yellow star patch.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

A record player is set up. Karl's eyes go wide, he trembles.

DETLEF (CONT'D)

I shake with anticipation myself
Karl, we are living history the two
of us. Savor the moment, it is one
you will never forget.

Detlef places the needle on the record. A distorted version of the jovial song rings out.

Detlef closes his eyes and conducts to the music. As we reach the climax Detlef points to the first person in the line.

BLAM. The body crumples to the ground. Karl goes white.

Detlef points in time with the music, another body goes down. Points. Another body.

The record skips and cuts out. A man in the line looks up and lunges at Detlef, knife in hand.

BLAM. The man is shot dead. The line of prisoners disperses and attacks the Nazi soldiers. Most of the prisoners are shot dead on the spot.

One of the prisoners takes a gun from the distracted Nazi and turns it on Karl.

He is stuck like a deer in headlights.

BLAM. Karl is shocked.

The captive goes down, Detlef stands behind him, his gun smoking.

As Karl comes to grips with the situation he sees a woman eye a knife on the ground, abandoning her child she reaches for the knife and strikes out at Detlef.

KARL

Detlef!

Detlef turns. She slashes, cutting him and ripping his uniform, buttons fly from the coat.

Everything stops, Detlef looks down to his ruined uniform.

Mania takes hold of him, his hands clutch around the woman's neck, he seethes breathing audibly, spittle flying, his face floods red.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

Her body falls limp, Detlef continues to strangle her.

CRASH. The doors to the synagogue swing shut. Detlef rises dropping the body.

DETLEF

KARL!

Karl follows Detlef into the synagogue, shell-shocked.

INT. BOMBED SYNAGOGUE - CONTINUOUS

Karl and Detlef enter the half-destroyed synagogue.

A RABBI limps down an aisle struggling to carry a Torah. Detlef approaches him, Karl follows as if tethered to him.

The Rabbi clutches the Torah as he limps along, a gun is suddenly pressed against his forehead.

Detlef towers over the Rabbi, who hugs the Torah tightly, he looks Detlef in the eye defiantly.

Detlef frowns and slams his gun into the Rabbi's face.

The Rabbi doubles over but does not let go of the Torah, clutching it tighter as blood drips from his mouth.

Detlef is enraged. He attempts to rip the Torah from the Rabbi's hands but he will not let go.

Karl's eyes meet the Rabbi's. Karl's are filled with tears the Rabbi's with defiance. The Rabbi struggles with Detlef, ripping his uniform further.

The Phoenix's mania returns, he begins to beat the Rabbi with his gun. Blood flies everywhere, the Rabbi holds the Torah tighter.

Karl looks on in horror, blood spatters on his face. The Rabbi is beaten to death.

Detlef manically undoes the Torah from the Rabbi's arms and attempts to heave it unsuccessfully.

Detlef regains his composure. He stands and attempts to straighten his uniform, it is tattered, drenched in blood.

DETLEF

Looks like I'll need to see my
tailor again, business is good for
the old man.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Karl absentmindedly wipes the blood from his horrified face. Small Hebrew prayer books litter the floor.

He looks down to the sleeve of his uniform, a drop of the Rabbi's blood stains the cuff.

FADE TO BLACK

INT. KARL'S PERSONAL BARRACKS - MORNING

An empty glass sits on a desk. The glass is filled with water, some spilling in the haste.

The top of a salt shaker is removed and salt is dumped into the cup of water, stirred vigorously then gulped down.

Karl puts the glass down, he looks queasy.

RAPPING AT THE DOOR.

LIESELOTTE (O.S)
Karl, may I come in?

Karl hurriedly rushes to his bed and throws the covers over himself, quickly wets his face and hides the salt in a drawer.

His stomach GRUMBLES, he begins to vomit violently into a metal bucket.

Lieselotte enters the room, she wrinkles her nose and shields her eyes as Karl vomits into the bucket.

LIESELOTTE (CONT'D)
Oh Karl, sweet Karl.

Lieselotte carefully approaches Karl's bedside.

KARL
(strained)
No Lotte please don't come closer I don't want you to catch this.

LIESELOTTE
(playful)
Sergeant-Major, it will take more than a little illness to keep me from you.

Lieselotte strokes Karl's head. Karl is anxious.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

LIESELOTTE (CONT'D)

Oh you're sweating so much, there is no way you are going on this mission, you need rest.

KARL

(false concern)

But...

LIESELOTTE

No buts my sweet. The "Phoenix" can find someone else to run the mission, you are staying put.

KARL

(false concern)

Cough but I'm the only one who...

LIESELOTTE

Karl enough, you need rest. My father will not be able to use his Sergeant-Major if he's dead. Please rest, I'll speak to him, his plans can wait.

Karl nods weakly and closes his eyes. Lieselotte moves to kiss him on the forehead, recoiling at the smell. She exits.

Karl's eyes fly open. He sits up listening to her footsteps disappear.

He lets out a sigh of relief and throws off the covers, and deftly rises and locks his door.

Karl falls back down on his bed. He looks over to his wardrobe. The bloodstain from the Rabbi is still on the sleeve of his uniform.

Karl opens his bedside table and takes out a large copy of "Mein Kampf".

He opens it, inside the book is hollowed out. A smaller Hebrew prayer book is inside. Karl carefully takes out the book and begins to read the translated pages.

Off-screen HAUNTING JEWISH CHORAL MUSIC PLAYS as he reads.

EXT. HANGER BAY - NIGHT

Karl stands outside of the hanger bay looking in through a window.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

A Mechanic works on the planes.

EXT. HANGER BAY - LATER

The Mechanic exits the hanger bay casually. Karl waits for the Mechanic to be out of sight, he enters the hanger bay.

INT. HANGER BAY - CONTINUOUS

Karl removes his shoes and ties them together hanging them over his shoulder.

Karl silently makes his way towards one of the Ju Stukas, he holds a small light to guide his way. Sweat beads on his brow.

Karl opens the undercarriage of a plane and jams the bomb door latch.

He jumps into the cockpit and attempts to open the bomb doors. CLUNK. The doors do not open. Karl shuts off his light and hides, afraid the noise was too loud.

INT. HANGER BAY - LATER

Black boots rest on the ground.

CLUNK. CLUNK. CLUNK.

EXT. HANGER BAY - CONTINUOUS

A pair of untied black boots walk away from the hanger bay.

INT. LUFTWAFFE HEADQUARTERS - LATER

THUD, THUD, THUD. The boots move down the hall fully laced up.

Karl enters his room, looking over his shoulder as he shuts the door.

EXT. BRITISH AIRSPACE - DAY

Wolfram and the Bully Nazi are in a dive. The Bully Nazi goes to release the bombs. He presses the release.

CLUNK.

The bomb doors do not open. The plane pulls out of the dive, Wolfram has a moment of confusion before blacking out.

INT. KARL'S PERSONAL BARRACKS - NIGHT

Karl writes in his black notebook. He closes the book placing it in a drawer and reaches for the copy of "Mein Kampf".

KNOCK KNOCK.

Karl quickly throws the book in the drawer and locks it shut with a new padlock.

KARL

Come in.

The door RATTLES.

VOICE (O.S.)

It's locked.

Karl rises and goes to open the door, he hesitates a moment.

KARL

Who is it?

VOICE (O.S.)

A messenger please open up.

KARL

(nervous)

What is it?

VOICE (O.S.)

You are wanted in the Von Vogler Barracks.

Karl considers.

KARL

Which one?

INT. LIESELOTTE'S QUARTERS - LATER

Karl sits on Lieselotte's bed. Lieselotte saunters over and drapes her arms around him, kissing his neck.

Karl strokes her hand.

LIESELOTTE

Come shower with me.

Lieselotte leads Karl tenderly from the bed to the bathroom.

INT. LIESELOTTE'S BATHROOM SHOWER - LATER

Karl and Lieselotte stand in the steaming shower.

Lieselotte reaches for a bar of soap and begins to lather Karl's body. Karl looks down at the suds forming on his body.

Lieselotte hands the bar of soap to Karl. He takes the soap tentatively. She looks at him seductively.

Karl begins to lather her body, the suds foaming.

The SQUISHING and POPPING of bubbles builds to a climax.

LIESELOTTE

Karl.

The sound returns to normal, Karl fumbles the bar of soap.

Lieselotte touches his arm, Karl looks to her.

Soap suds spin down the drain.

Lieselotte places a hand on Karl's cheek.

LIESELOTTE (CONT'D)

I love you.

Lieselotte is wide-eyed and vulnerable for the first time.

KARL

Lotte.

The two embrace and kiss passionately.

KARL (CONT'D)

(in between passionate
kisses)

I. Love. You.

Soap suds spin down the drain.

INT. HANGER BAY - DAY

Karl, Wolfram, Horst, and the Bully Nazi stand at attention along with a slew of new young pilots.

They wait in silence, the CLOMPING of boots resonates through the hanger bay as Detlef approaches.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

He settles in front of the pilots, dressed in a brand new uniform. Detlef is accompanied by a group of four Nazi Guards, the Mechanic from the other night is with them.

DETLEF
(lighthearted)
Gentlemen, you might be confused as to why I reside on the base unlike my predecessor?

Karl looks to the young faces that surround them.

DETLEF (CONT'D)
You might say that I, march to the beat of my own drum.

Detlef paces back and forth along the line of men, his boots CLOMPING in rhythm 1.. 2.. 1.. 2.. He settles next to the Mechanic.

DETLEF (CONT'D)
We must have no delusions about the current state of the Luftwaffe. Many of you are not properly trained while our fuel supplies continue to dwindle.

Detlef places a hand on the Mechanic's shoulder. The Mechanic makes eye contact with Karl.

DETLEF (CONT'D)
Yet still there are problems greater.

Karl remains perfectly at attention, hiding his nerves.

DETLEF (CONT'D)
Incompetence. I will not tolerate such an attribute under my command.

Beat.

He snaps his fingers. The same jovial tune plays.

One of the guards rolls out an old record player. Detlef conducts in time with the music.

Detlef gestures, a guard douses the mechanic in jet fuel. The man cries out in pain.

Detlef gestures to his other guards.

BLAM. BLAM.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

They shoot the kneecaps of the Mechanic. He lets out a blood-curdling scream.

CRACKLE. Detlef holds a lit match daintily between two fingers.

FOOWASHOOM. Flames dance in Detlef's eyes, the Mechanic's SCREAMS are heard off-screen.

DETLEF (CONT'D)

Our last mission ended in failure because this man did not perform his job.

Karl struggles to keep his composure. Many of the pilots grimace at the screams, some try to look away.

DETLEF (CONT'D)

DON'T YOU DARE AVERT YOUR EYES! You will drink in every second that remains of this man's life. Let this be a lesson to you all. To fail at your duty is to fail me. Do not fail me.

The pilots look on with mixed expressions, horror, excitement, indifference, the fire glows on their faces.

DETLEF (CONT'D)

After all our fuel supplies are dwindling.

We linger on Karl, racked with fear and guilt, the flames dancing on his face.

EXT. OCEAN AIRSPACE - DAY

Wolfram sits in the gunner seat of a Ju Stuka, a perplexed look on his face.

WOLFRAM

(into his radio)

Why? I don't understand.

The pilot of the plane is Karl.

KARL

(into his radio)

I requested you. But simply speaking, I outrank you so it is nothing you need concern yourself with.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Wolfram does not seem satisfied.

KARL (CONT'D)
I value your skill Wolfram, your...
unique talents.

Karl sets the plane into a dive above a large lake.

WOLFRAM
Karl, what are you doing we aren't-

Wolfram blacks out.

Karl releases the bombs, they plummet into the lake, the explosions send water flying into the sky.

Wolfram remains blacked out. We linger on Karl's face.

KARL
Unique talents.

INT. OUTSIDE KARL'S PERSONAL QUARTERS - NIGHT

Karl approaches the door to his barracks. A muffled HUSHING is heard from outside the room, a light inside shuts off.

Karl pauses, he reaches for his gun.

INT. KARL'S PERSONAL QUARTERS - CONTINUOUS

The door to Karl's room opens slowly.

Darkness. Karl takes a careful step inside.

Lights turn on.

Karl raises his gun quickly, nerves frayed.

Lieselotte stands with her arms upraised in mock surrender. A four piece band behind her.

LIESELOTTE
(playful mockery)
I surrender, please don't shoot.

She winks. Karl lowers his gun and takes in the room.

It has been completely transformed.

Lit candles are everywhere, a romantic dinner for two is set of soft shell crab for each, a bottle of champagne to share.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Lieselotte motions for the band to begin playing. They play a four-piece version of the jovial tune.

She moves to Karl, gingerly kisses him on the cheek and brings him to the table pulling a chair out for him. He is stunned, elated. She sits across from him.

KARL

Lotte, what is all of this?

LIESELOTTE

Welcome home Karl.

Karl doesn't understand.

LIESELOTTE (CONT'D)

Life is too short Karl, why not enjoy it while we can?

Lieselotte comes around to Karl's side. Karl follows her with his eyes, as she walks past the band Karl notices that each one of them wears a yellow star patch.

Lieselotte pours champagne into his glass.

LIESELOTTE (CONT'D)

I need you in my life Karl, you aren't like the rest of these men, stiff and rigid. There is a tenderness, you hide it well, but I see it.

Karl is fixated on the yellow star patches. He looks to their faces, gaunt and solemn as they play a haunting version of the jovial tune.

LIESELOTTE (O.S.) (CONT'D)

Karl.

Karl turns to see Lieselotte next to him, down on one knee holding a ring in a small box. Karl can barely catch his breath.

LIESELOTTE (CONT'D)

I know it isn't customary Karl, but these are not customary times. I don't want to lose you.

Karl looks down at the soft shell crab on his plate, to the Jewish band, their gaunt faces.

Karl rises abruptly knocking his chair back.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

LIESELOTTE (CONT'D)
 (desperately)
 Karl please, we can say you
 proposed.

Karl backs away from the table knocking over a candle, he
 rushes out of the room. Lieselotte runs to the doorway.

LIESELOTTE (CONT'D)
 Karl! Karl wait, I'm sorry. Karl!

Lieselotte's eyes begin to well with tears.

INT. LUFTWAFFE BRIEFING ROOM - DAY

Detlef sits opposite Oswin and the other Generals. All are
 dressed in their finest uniforms.

OSWIN
 ... over 20 planes lost in 2
 months, our fuel supplies are down
 to the bare essentials, we don't
 even have enough to train new
 recruits! 15 planes were sent out
 to bomb Wales yet not a single bomb
 was dropped! Simply wasted fuel.
 And there are rumors...

The generals look at one another.

DETLEF
 (icy)
 Rumors?

Oswin collects himself.

OSWIN
 Rumors that your leadership has
 been... unorthodox.

DETLEF
 (casually confident)
 I find that none of my actions, nor
 my methods, have been counter to
 Göring or the Fuhrer. Is this not
 so?

Oswin clears his throat, the report shakes in his hand.

OSWIN
 (nervous)
 We will see results, with or
 without you.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Detlef throws back his head in laughter.

DETLEF

Come now you cannot threaten me with such hollow words. All these failings are the result of insufficient supplies, untrained soldiers..

Oswin slams his hand against the table.

OSWIN

I will remind you that these are not my threats but Göring's. You will get results.

Detlef simply smiles.

OSWIN (CONT'D)

Or you will be replaced.

A hint of fury crosses Detlef's face.

DETLEF

It will be my pleasure.

INT. HANGER BAY - NIGHT

Karl is inside the hanger bay, shoes off. He removes a small piece from a bomb and places it into a large bag that contains a dozen of the same pieces.

One of these pieces is left behind on the ground.

EXT. BRITISH AIRSPACE - DAY

JERICHO WHISTLE

Ju Stukas stream down from the sky towards British streets.

The hatch doors open and release their bombs.

EXT. BRITISH STREET - CONTINUOUS

WARNING SIREN.

Pedestrians on the street run away in horror as the bombs descend.

CRASH. A bomb lands on top of a taxi. Another crashes into a fruit cart. We wait for the explosion.

Nothing.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

The pedestrians look completely puzzled but relieved.

INT. DETLEF'S OFFICE LUFTWAFFE HEADQUARTERS - DAY

Karl is being swallowed by Detlef's enormous chair.

Detlef sits at his desk, he hands Karl the ornate puzzle box.

Karl sits confused but goes to open the box, Detlef offers no aid. Karl looks to Detlef to see if a move is correct.

DETLEF

(stern)

Tah tah tah, no hints this time...

Detlef watches as Karl slowly figures out the puzzle.

CLICK.

The box opens. Karl's face turns white, Detlef studies him.

DETLEF (CONT'D)

(cold)

Could you take out the contents of the box and lay them down on the table.

Karl tentatively removes one of the pieces he had removed from the bombs and places it on the table.

Detlef studies Karl. Karl says nothing fearing he has been caught.

DETLEF (CONT'D)

Could you please tell me what this is?

Karl looks at him blankly.

KARL

(nervous)

It's... I'm unsure.

DETLEF

Come now Karl, do not play coy with me.

Karl tries to hide his panic.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

KARL

We- well, it looks like it could be a piece from one of the bombs, the detonator specifically.

Detlef continues to study Karl. Karl adjusts to keep from sinking into the chair.

DETLEF

Karl, we have a saboteur.

KARL

Detlef supplies are low, the pilots are not properly trained thi...

DETLEF

Karl this is part of a detonator, we have a saboteur.

Karl reaches his hand for his gun slowly.

DETLEF (CONT'D)

Karl someone here is trying to ruin me.

Beat.

DETLEF (CONT'D)

Trying to ruin us.

Karl stops reaching for the gun.

DETLEF (CONT'D)

I need you to find the saboteur, discreetly, of course.

KARL

Me. Why?

DETLEF

I think we are beyond those kinds of questions, Sergeant-Major.

Detlef takes the puzzle box from Karl.

DETLEF (CONT'D)

Find him Karl.

INT. LIESELOTTE'S QUARTERS

Karl and Lieselotte sit on the bed. Lieselotte's eyes are red and puffy, Karl holds her hand.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

LIESELOTTE

But why Karl?

Beat. Karl does not look at her.

KARL

Lotte, I love you, I truly do. But I cannot, not while the Luftwaffe is in such dire straits.

Karl squeezes her hand tight.

KARL (CONT'D)

Lotte please be patient, I love you, I need to be with you. Now is just, not the time.

Karl kisses her on the forehead, she embraces him. Karl gets a nervous look.

INT. DETLEF'S OFFICE LUFTWAFFE HEADQUARTERS - DAY

An envelope with "DETLEF" written on it sits on the floor, the "L" is ornately drawn.

The door swings open, a pair of boots step to either side of the letter, a hand reaches and picks up the letter.

RIP.

A letter opener tears the envelope open.

RUSTLING PAPER.

A list of names, as we scan the page we see "Wolfram Klein".

Detlef picks up the receiver of his phone.

INT. HANGER BAY - LATER

Wolfram is prepping one of the Stukas for take off. He notices a pair of guards leading a pilot out of the hanger bay.

CLOMP CLOMP CLOMP CLOMP.

A pair of Nazi Soldiers stand to either side of Wolfram. They move him away from the plane and begin to inspect it.

Wolfram looks around and notices a number of other pilots are being approached by guards.

INT. KARL'S PERSONAL BARRACKS

Karl is at a desk reading from his black notebook. He copies the information down into another book.

The process is repeated over and over.

INT. KARL'S PERSONAL BARRACKS - LATER

Karl closes the two books and places them in his drawer, he takes out his copy of "Mein Kampf".

JINGLING KEYS.

Lieselotte runs into the room tears streaming from her face. She jumps on top of Karl, the book falls to the ground.

Lieselotte is crying in Karl's lap obstructing his view of the book. She kisses him multiple times on the face and neck stopping only for an exasperated breath.

KARL

Lotte what's happened? Are you okay.

LIESELOTTE

Karl, sweet sweet Karl. You smell horrific.

Karl struggles to locate the book.

KARL

And this has brought you to tears?

LIESELOTTE

Yes, Karl, everything. Everything smells so horribly awful.

Karl sees the book is open on the floor, the prayer book visible. He tries to reach the book with his foot.

LIESELOTTE (CONT'D)

Karl, I'm pregnant.

Karl's foot stops.

KARL

That's, are you su..

LIESELOTTE

Yes. Yes I'm sure Karl, we are going to have a child.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Karl stands up, she rises with him. He embraces her tightly, while simultaneously kicking the book under his bed.

LIESELOTTE (CONT'D)
My father has always dreamed of
having a grandchild.

Karl's face is full of worry.

INT. BARRACKS

Wolfram drinks somberly from a flask.

EXT. HANGER BAY - NIGHT - RAINING

Two guards huddle under an awning, shielding themselves from the pouring rain. Karl hides waiting, watching.

A shift change. The guards converse for a time, holding their coats high up on their faces.

Karl holds a jerry-rigged lock pick in his hand.

Karl times his movements with the guards' rotation. He makes his move to the door and begins to pick the lock.

The guards begin to round the corner, Karl struggles with the lock.

CLICK.

The guards round the corner, Karl is nowhere in sight.

INT. BARRACKS

A group of pilots sit around a table playing cards. Wolfram sits on his bed isolated from the rest. He drinks.

INT. HANGER BAY - LATER

Karl looks extremely stressed as he works, his hands tremble, RATTLING metal pieces together as he clumsily works. With every noise Karl looks over his shoulder.

INT. BARRACKS

Wolfram gets up from his bed and exits the barracks.

INT. HANGER BAY - LATER

Karl carefully lowers a bomb from the undercarriage of one of the planes, he struggles under its weight.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Karl's hands lose their grip.

CRASH.

The bomb hits the ground sending out a RESOUNDING ECHO.

Karl stops short. He hears talk from outside the hanger bay.

He quickly removes the detonator from the bomb and throws it in his bag.

A DOOR OPENS LOUDLY, a light scans the room.

The Nazi Soldier slowly makes his way through the hanger, gun in one hand, light in the other. He makes his way to the plane Karl was working on.

The light reveals the bomb laid out on the ground, bits and pieces of metal scattered about it.

EXT. RAINY MUDDY PATH

A pair of bare feet run through the mud. A CLANKING is heard from the bag swinging back and forth.

INT. KARL'S PERSONAL BARRACKS - LATER

Karl's muddy socks are shoved in his shoes which hang over his shoulder.

Karl carefully walks barefoot to his room a large bag slung over his other shoulder. He is soaked and sweaty, hair plastered against his face.

WOLFRAM (O.S.)

Karl?

Karl stops. Wolfram is standing at the end of the hall. Karl begins to fumble with the door.

WOLFRAM (CONT'D)

Karl, please wait a moment. I must speak to you.

Wolfram has him trapped.

KARL

Wolfram please I am very busy right now.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

WOLFRAM

I know Karl it's, it's just.
They've put me on the no fly list.

Karl desperately tries to hide his panic.

WOLFRAM (CONT'D)

(pleading)

Karl I know we have had our
differences but, I must fly. I
never gave you the respect you
deserved, you are skilled,
talented, and... a better pilot
than I.

Wolfram notices Karl's muddy shoes.

WOLFRAM (CONT'D)

...Detlef, he listens to you, if
you could just put in a good word
for me...

Wolfram looks down the hall and notices muddy footprints.
Karl sees Wolfram grow suspicious.

KARL

That's- I was out.

WOLFRAM

Out? At this hour.

KARL

Yes, Wolfram I really don't have
time for this.

Karl pauses.

KARL (CONT'D)

Lieselotte is waiting.

WOLFRAM

Lieselotte?

KARL

I was out getting food from the
mesh hall Wolfram, Lotte had...
they had a craving.

WOLFRAM

Craving? They?

Beat.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

Realization strikes Wolfram.

WOLFRAM (CONT'D)
(bitter)
That's wonderful news Karl,
congratulations.

Wolfram forces a smile and gives Karl an overly enthusiastic hug.

Karl drops his bag. CLATTER.

Wolfram pauses at the noise, a curious expression crosses his face. He bends down to pick up the bag, Karl quickly snatches it up, more CLATTERING. Wolfram gives Karl a suspicious look.

KARL
Wolfram I must be off, Lieselotte
is waiting.

Wolfram eyes Karl's bag.

KARL (CONT'D)
We've had a long history Wolfram,
I'll speak with Detlef.

Wolfram keeps the skeptical look.

WOLFRAM
(suspicious)
I appreciate that Karl.

Karl enters his room. Wolfram remains outside.

On the ground is a small piece of metal, part of a detonator. We linger on Wolfram's skeptical face.

INT. KARL'S QUARTERS - CONTINUOUS

Karl's ear is pressed to the door. Wolfram's steps fade away.

Karl turns on his lamp, he sees the number "7643" on the lamp shade.

He rips the lamp shade off and tosses it aside, the harsh bare light hits his tortured face.

INT. HANGER BAY - NIGHT

Tubing siphons gasoline from a Ju Stuka to a large container.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

KARL
7...8...9...10.

Karl undoes the tubing and moves to another Ju Stuka.

He sets the tubing up so that it leads from the plane to his mouth, he sucks on the tube.

Gasoline fills his mouth, he vomits violently but quickly places the tubing in a container.

KARL (CONT'D)
1...2...3...

INT. KARL'S PERSONAL BARRACKS

LIESELOTTE
Four! Is the task so great? Bring
me four and be quick about it!

Lieselotte lies in Karl's bed as she shouts orders at a Nazi Soldier. The Soldier moves to leave the room.

LIESELOTTE (CONT'D)
And they better be cooked
thoroughly!

The door closes.

LIESELOTTE (CONT'D)
Wait! Must I suffer with nothing to
do again! A book, something,
anything!

The door remains shut.

Lieselotte lets out a loud grunt. She looks around the room for something to do, her eyes land on the locked drawer of the night stand.

OFF-SCREEN CLANG, CLANG.

SOUNDBRIGDE:

INT. KARL'S PERSONAL BARRACKS - LATER

CLANG.

The lock snaps, Lieselotte opens the drawer and takes out Karl's black notebook. She sits down on the bed and opens the book.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

KNOCK KNOCK.

The Nazi Soldier enters carrying a large covered silver platter.

NAZI SOLDIER
Fraulein Von Vogler, I've taken
extra precaution to assure you that
they have been properly coo- Is
everything alright.

Lieselotte's expression is blank. She quickly shuts the book and places it into the drawer again, closing it.

LIESELOTTE
(distracted)
Yes, yes quite fine, please just
set them down there.

He sets down the platter and removes the top revealing four steaming soft shell crabs.

LIESELOTTE (CONT'D)
(distracted)
Please leave me, and find someone
who can fix this drawer.

The Soldier exits. Lieselotte waits until his footsteps die down. She opens the drawer again.

INT. HANGER BAY - DAY

The hanger bay is taped off like a crime scene. Wolfram attempts to look inside but is held off by a Nazi Guard.

He looks to the floor, it is perfectly clean, though the ground outside is extremely muddy.

WOLFRAM
(to a Nazi guard)
Has this area been cleaned?

NAZI GUARD
Nothing is to be touched on the
Field Marshal's orders.

Wolfram gets a sly expression.

WOLFRAM
I must see the General Field
Marshal at once.

EXT. DETLEF'S OFFICE LUFTWAFFE HEADQUARTERS

Karl's black notebook is being carried hastily.

The book rounds a corner and stops by a door.

KNOCK KNOCK KNOCK.

DETLEF (O.S.)
Please do come in.

The book enters the doorway.

DETLEF (O.S.) (CONT'D)
Lotte my dear, what a surprise.

EXT. GERMAN AIRSPACE

Karl flies his Stuka along with a number of the other recruits, his plane starts to lag behind.

Soon enough the other planes are out of sight.

Karl disables his radar and takes the plane down for a landing in a large field.

EXT. FIELD - CONTINUOUS

Karl drives the plane along the ground approaching a large forest.

EXT. FIELD - LATER

Karl exits the plane and moves to the gunner seat.

POP. CRASH.

Karl ejects himself from the gunner seat and floats up in the air. Karl slowly descends down to the ground.

EXT. FIELD - LATER

The Ju Stuka is covered by a large green tarp, camouflaging the plane. Karl rubs dirt on his uniform, musses his own hair.

He pauses and looks at the sleeve of his uniform, the Rabbi's bloodstain remains.

Karl walks away turning on his handheld radio.

EXT. DETLEF'S OFFICE LUFTWAFFE HEADQUARTERS

Karl sits in a waiting area outside of Detlef's office still disheveled from earlier.

RING RING RING.

A Secretary outside of the office picks up the phone.

SECRETARY
Hello... Yes...

The Secretary looks at Karl.

SECRETARY (CONT'D)
Understood.

She hangs the phone up. She gestures that he may enter. Karl looks at the door.

INT. DETLEF'S OFFICE LUFTWAFFE HEADQUARTERS - CONTINUOUS

Karl enters. Detlef's office has been transformed into a marvelous dining room eerily similar to Lieselotte's wedding proposal dinner.

Two large covered silver platters are at two place settings, Detlef motions for Karl to sit.

DETLEF
(threatening)
Please sit Karl, you must have had
a trying ordeal.

Karl is taken aback by the extravagance, he does not move.

DETLEF (CONT'D)
(forcefully)
I insist.

Detlef pulls out the chair for Karl.

Detlef puts on a record the same jovial tune as always.

Karl pauses and turns to Detlef. Detlef smiles widely at him.

DETLEF (CONT'D)
(veiled threat)
I'm glad to see you are in one
piece Karl.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Detlef removes the covers from the platters, each contains a garnished soft shell crab.

DETLEF (CONT'D)
(insistent)
Please Karl, surely you must be starving.

Detlef waits. Karl slowly takes his fork and knife to the soft shell crab cutting off a claw tentatively.

Detlef watches as Karl slowly brings the claw to his lips.

Beat.

Karl puts the claw in his mouth and chews, chocking back disgust, he swallows. Detlef begins to eat, smiling as he chews.

DETLEF (CONT'D)
It's quite a head rush is it not?

Karl gives a puzzled look.

KARL
(unsure)
The crab is quite satisfactory.

Detlef pauses studying Karl.

DETLEF
(skeptical)
Yes freshly imported, however I was referring to the ejection.

Karl looks like he has made a misstep.

KARL
Oh yes, not an experience I would want to have again.

DETLEF
There is nothing more terrifying than floating to the ground amidst gunfire and dog fighting.

Detlef takes the body of the crab and bites into it juice dripping from his mouth.

DETLEF (CONT'D)
Though you were not amidst such conditions when you chose to eject?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

KARL

Was forced to eject.

Detlef studies Karl.

DETLEF

Yes... of course. Forced to eject.
You might explain to me how it was
you were forced to eject when you
were not engaged by the enemy.

KARL

(almost rehearsed)

As it states in the mission report,
my plane was experiencing awkward
drag forces that separated me from
the group, when I attempted to
increase the thrust of the engine
the plane began to stall out. I had
no choice but to eject.

Karl looks down at the crab, takes the body and awkwardly
bites into it, chewing slowly.

DETLEF

And the plane?

KARL

Sunk.

DETLEF

Yes, of course as it says here,
though it appears as if there was
no wreckage to be found when you
were recovered.

KARL

As I stated in the report, the
plane was sunk. I always keep a
detailed account of all that
happens to me.

DETLEF

(knowingly)

Yes I believe you do.

Silence hangs in the air Detlef and Karl study each other.
Detlef breaks the tension with a smile.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

DETLEF (CONT'D)

Well that's enough of that, you have been through a lot rest up, you have more than yourself to be thinking about.

Karl is confused by the comment. Detlef gives him a knowing look.

KARL

When did you--?

DETLEF

Lotte told me everything. Though the circumstances are not ideal these are times of war, we must live in the now. I am taking you off the flight manifest. Take care of Lieselotte, your family. That is what is important, (menacing) leave this saboteur business to me.

Detlef rips into one of the claws of the crab, chews and swallows.

KARL

(skeptical)

That's most kind of you Detlef, I'm sorry for keeping this a secret, I... we felt it would be bad luck for people to know too much.

DETLEF

Knowledge is power.

Karl exits the room, we focus on Detlef's knowing stare.

INT. KARL'S BARRACKS - LATER

Karl sits on his bed stroking Lieselotte's hair as she sleeps, a worried expression on his face.

He looks to his drawer, it has a shiny new lock on it.

Karl looks to the sleeping Lieselotte. He turns back to the drawer and opens it, everything is in its place, he takes out the books and places them in a bag.

We see that Lieselotte's eyes open, she is not really sleeping.

Karl shuts and locks the drawer, his fingers linger on the new lock.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Tears form in Lieselotte's eyes, Karl stirs and she quickly closes her eyes.

Karl sees tears coming from her sleeping eyes. A suspicious look crosses his face.

He takes out an envelope and begins to write on it.

INT. DETLEF'S OFFICE LUFTWAFFE HEADQUARTERS

Detlef sits at his desk smirking slightly.

DETLEF

And what makes you so sure that
there is even a saboteur at all?

Wolfram sits opposite Detlef. Wolfram says nothing, he reaches into his pocket and takes out a piece of a detonator and places it on the desk.

WOLFRAM

It's amazing how careless someone
can become when they are placed
under extreme stress. The Sergeant-
Major appears to be a busy man.

Detlef does not let Wolfram see how much he knows.

DETLEF

(fake surprise)

These are large accusations you are
making, treasonous accusations, why
should I take your word over his?

WOLFRAM

Allow me the time to prove his
disloyalty, I promise you will not
be disappointed.

Detlef hides a smirk.

DETLEF

Why don't you put on your uniform
Wolfram, I have a feeling you'll
have use for it soon.

Wolfram cannot hide his elation, he salutes Detlef and exits. We linger on Detlef's menacing face.

INT. HANGER BAY - LATER

A pair of shoes lie on the ground, we hold on them.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

A loud WINDING noise is heard, the sounds of someone exiting a plane. A pair of feet arrive at the boots and put them on.

The camera makes its way up to the cockpit of one of the Ju Stukas.

Inside the cockpit are a number of the bombs jerry-rigged together with wires all leading to an alarm clock counting down.

TICK TICK TICK.

INT. BARRACKS - LATER

Wolfram walks to his locker, determined.

Wolfram opens his locker, a surprised look on his face.

He reaches in and pulls out a large envelope, "WOLFRAM" is written on it, the "L" ornately drawn.

Inside is a black notebook, Karl's copied notebook, with a letter attached to it.

Wolfram opens the note and reads.

INT. DETLEF'S OFFICE LUFTWAFFE HEADQUARTERS

Lieselotte sits in Detlef's chair behind his desk, Detlef is cleaning up from his grand display from earlier. Lieselotte is sullen, pushing the remainder of a soft shell crab around on a plate.

DETLEF

Lotte, if it is him you must be prepared.

LIESELOTTE

(defiant)

I love him, he is the father of my unborn child.

Detlef winces.

DETLEF

A child still unborn, perhaps it is best if it were to stay that-

EXPLOSION, SHATTERING GLASS, RUMBLING.

The room shakes violently. Detlef and Lieselotte fall to the ground along with his ornate objects.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Detlef lifts himself to his feet, clearly rattled, fury building in his eyes.

LIESELOTTE
Papa what's--

DETLEF
Do not leave this room.

Detlef quickly composes himself and exits his office.

INT. OUTSIDE DETLEF'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Detlef exits his office and walks off-screen

We linger on the door to Detlef's office.

Finally it opens and Lieselotte sneaks off in the other direction.

EXT. HANGER BAY - LATER

An explosive fire rages in the hanger bay, planes blister and burn, soldiers crowd together as they watch the fire consume the building.

Detlef manically makes his way through the crowd, shoving everyone in his path. The fire lights his face as he fumes.

DETLEF
(seething)
Karl...

Detlef turns and storms back to the headquarters, the soldiers remain standing, unsure of what to do, watching the building burn.

INT. LUFTWAFFE HEADQUARTERS HALLWAY

Detlef rages down the halls of the building searching for Karl.

INT. DETLEF'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

DETLEF
Lotte where is he!?

Detlef slams the door shut as he frantically enters the room.

Wolfram sits in Detlef's desk chair a gun in his hand pointed in Detlef's direction, a smug smile on his face. Karl's notebook is in his other hand.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

WOLFRAM

Detlef, please do sit, I insist.

Detlef is stunned. Wolfram motions to the chair with his gun. Slowly, Detlef sits.

DETLEF

You will hang for this Klein, this is outrageous, treasonous!

WOLFRAM

Treasonous? Yes I suppose it might be. Though appearances can be deceiving can't they, who knew Karl had such moral fiber... and cunning.

DETLEF

You're a part of this?! What would your father think? Where is he, where's Karl?

Wolfram flips through the pages of the black notebook.

WOLFRAM

(theatrically)

Oh I'd imagine he is long gone by now, he is a traitor after all. Though I suppose he is not the only one. This book tells quite the tale. Blackmail, sabotage, murder?

Detlef cannot believe what he is hearing his face flushes red.

DETLEF

What then? You have no proof of any of this, just hearsay from a traitor.

WOLFRAM

Old man, this war is nearing its end, everything is chaos, all I need is to cast the seed of doubt, and you'll be ruined. And if they happen to believe the tale, all the sweeter for me, I will be a hero, the man who exposed the treachery of Karl and Detlef, of course it will be troublesome with Karl having escaped. But your head should suffice.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

He smirks at Detlef.

WOLFRAM (CONT'D)
You're through Von Vogler.

Detlef can barely breathe, helpless and ruined. He begins to laugh manically tears streaming from his face. He calms slightly catching his breath.

DETLEF
What of Lieselotte?

EXT. FIELD

Karl exits a small car carrying two large containers of gasoline. He removes the tarp from the plane.

Karl is somber, frowning, he looks down to his swastika patch on his arm.

EXT. FIELD - LATER

The two gasoline containers lie on their sides empty, the swastika patch lies next to them frayed.

Karl takes out his copy of "Mein Kampf" removes the prayer book and tosses the hollowed book near the gasoline containers. Karl climbs up into the Ju Stuka.

Off in the distance a FEINT HONKING is heard, growing louder and louder.

Karl turns to see a car coming directly towards the airplane.

In a panic Karl pulls his gun and takes cover behind a tree. He is extremely tense. The car stops.

LIESELOTTE (O.S.)
Karl? Karl! Karl where are you.

Karl is stunned. He moves out from behind the tree, his gun concealed. Lieselotte stands next to the plane with a packed bag.

KARL
Lotte.. What are you-

LIESELOTTE
(interrupting)
Karl please I-- I didn't know what else to do, I read your journal.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

We turn to Karl's face as we see him realize that she has betrayed him to Detlef.

LIESELOTTE (O.S.) (CONT'D)

I don't care about any of that
though Karl, you were just
following orders, trying to be a
good soldier.

Lieselotte holds onto Karl's jacket as if it were the only way for her to stand. Karl's guilt builds.

LIESELOTTE (CONT'D)

Take me with you Karl.

Lieselotte guides Karl's hand to her stomach. Tears begin to form in his eyes.

He lets out a shuddered exasperated breath, he pulls his hand away slowly.

KARL

Just following orders...

Karl takes Lieselotte's arms and moves them away from him.

Karl goes to enter the plane, Lieselotte grabs his arm despairingly.

LIESELOTTE

(angered)

And so that's it? You're just going
to leave me, leave our child.
Abandon us because you cannot
stomach what you've done. We need
you. I know you love me Karl, have
always loved me. I'm yours Karl.

Lieselotte kisses him deeply.

KARL

Words are air Lotte, our actions
are what define us.

Karl holds his gun up to her.

KARL (CONT'D)

My definition is already stained.

Lieselotte is a mix of anger and sadness.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

LIESELOTTE

Do you honestly think I believe you
would shoot me, shoot your child?

BLAM! Karl fires his gun into the air. Lieselotte jumps,
her temper flares.

LIESELOTTE (CONT'D)

(exasperated)

Fire as many goddamn bullets into
the air as you like! You would
never shoot me!

Karl is ashamed at his failed attempt to get her to leave,
he tosses the gun aside.

KARL

Lieselotte, we cannot be together.
We never will be together.

LIESELOTTE

(breaking down)

Karl, enough with these clichéd
attempts to stay me off. I will not
let you leave without us. I will
not-

Karl hugs Lieselotte abruptly cutting her off. She is
exasperated crying and breathing extremely heavily.

KARL

(crying)

No one has ever known me like you
did Lotte. But I never let you
truly know me.

Lieselotte, begins to sputter and cough as she cries even
harder, she collapses.

Karl eases her down to the ground, he kisses her on the
forehead and goes to the plane.

INT. JU STUKA - LATER

Karl looks out the window of the Ju Stuka as he readies to
take off. Lieselotte is lying on the ground passed out.

Karl's face is full of guilt and shame. The prayer book
rests on his lap.

The plane flies off into the distance.

FADE TO WHITE.

INT. UNKNOWN LOCATION

POV: A BRIGHT WHITE LIGHT DIRECTLY ABOVE.

Surgical tools lay on a metal tray.

A blurry figure leans over the table menacingly.

BLURRY FIGURE
(whisper)
Karl... Karl...

The Blurry Figure comes into focus, a Bearded Rabbi stands above Karl.

BEARDED RABBI
Are you sure you do not want
something for the pain?

An older bearded Karl (41) looks up at the Rabbi, a smile on his face.

KARL
No. Thank you Rabbi.

A second Rabbi begins to recite a prayer as he reaches for a small pair of scissors. The Rabbi sings louder as he goes to circumcise Karl.

The Rabbi's PRAYERS and Karl's SCREAMS meld together into a melodic high note.

INT. OLD STONE ROOM

Karl stands naked in front of a Skeptical Rabbi and the Bearded Rabbi. The Bearded Rabbi urges Karl to proceed forward.

Karl, one step at a time, walks around a large stone wall. On the other side of the stone wall is a large pool of water with a series of steps leading down into it. Karl pauses at the first step.

Slowly but deliberately Karl takes his first step.

Another.

Another.

Karl begins to disappear into the water until he is fully submerged, all sounds are muffled once he is completely underwater.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Karl floats submerged in the water.

Beat.

Slowly Karl reemerges from the water one step at a time. His breath is slow and steady, his resolve absolute.

INT. SYNAGOGUE HAIFA ISRAEL

Karl sits on a long bench inside of a synagogue opposite a large set of doors.

From within the room the sounds of a heated argument can be heard.

SKEPTICAL RABBI (O.S.)
HE WAS A NAZI!

INT. ROOM IN SYNAGOGUE - CONTINUOUS

A group of five Rabbis are gathered around a table. Four of the Rabbis are engaged in a heated debate, the Bearded Rabbi takes in the debate in silence.

RABBI 1
25 years ago. And even then he willingly sabotaged his missions.

SKEPTICAL RABBI
And willingly participated in the genocide of millions of people!

RABBI 3
All his sabotaging proves is that he is a treacherous person.

RABBI 4
I don't like the taste this gives me.

SKEPTICAL RABBI
How can we possibly admit this man when he is so clearly an enemy to our people.

RABBI 1
Was an enemy, he has chosen to shed his past and embrace his present.

The Bearded Rabbi takes in the conversation, contemplating everything. He holds up his hand and the others quiet.

INT. SYNAGOGUE - CONTINUOUS

Karl remains on the bench praying in Hebrew.

He holds a photo in his hand. The photo shows an older looking Lieselotte holding a young child, Karl's son. He touches the photo gingerly as he prays.

The Rabbis exit the room.

Karl finishes his prayer and places the picture of Lieselotte into the prayer book and closes it.

The Rabbis stand in a group separate from Karl, he rises to meet them.

Some look at him skeptically, others with curiosity. The Bearded Rabbi steps forward.

BEARDED RABBI

Karl.

Karl is nervous, he takes a moment to respond, humbly.

KARL

Yes, Karl Heinz Schneider.

The Rabbis take in Karl's answer.

BEARDED RABBI

Karl, your commitment to the conversion rituals and your conviction to join the Jewish faith have moved us. We wish to welcome you into the Jewish faith.

Karl is calm. A humble soft smile on his face. The smile fades slightly.

The Rabbis look to one another.

KARL

You have done much and more for me but I have one request. I do not wish to start my new life with my old name, please grant me the honor of conversion under a new name. Abraham Reuel.

Beat.

The Rabbis seem pleased at Karl's decision.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

BEARDED RABBI

So it shall be, Shalom Abraham
Reuel.

ABRAHAM

Shalom.

EXT. KARL'S FARM HOUSE IN HAIFA

A small farm with a little house. A few chickens and a small amount of crops, sustainable but not elaborate. A small outhouse is to the side.

INT. KARL'S FARM HOUSE

A small cozy farm house with a kitchen-living room and a bedroom.

Karl stands in front of a full length mirror, he holds his old Sergeant-Major's uniform up to his body examining the man he once was, the Rabbi's bloodstain is still on the sleeve.

Karl removes the cap from his head and replaces it with a Kippah. He takes the uniform and packs it away in a box.

Karl now stands in front of the mirror wearing a Kippah and a talit around his shoulders. Karl has become Abraham Reuel.

He moves to a table in his kitchen and takes out his Hebrew prayer book. He prays while looking at the picture of Lieselotte and his son, tears well in his eyes as he continues to pray.

FADE UP TO WHITE

END SLATE:

KARL HEINZ SCHNEIDER IS BELIEVED TO BE THE FIRST KNOWN NAZI TO HAVE CONVERTED TO JUDAISM AND BECOME A CITIZEN OF ISRAEL. TODAY THERE ARE APPROXIMATELY 300 DESCENDANTS OF GERMANS, AND NAZIS, WHO HAVE CONVERTED TO JUDAISM AND LIVE IN ISRAEL. TOGETHER THEY COMPRISE ONE OF THE LAST UNTOLD CHAPTERS OF THE HOLOCAUST.

THE END.