

Ich Bin Adolf Eichmann: A Screenplay

by

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For My Papa and Dad

“Thou shalt not stand idly by”
Leviticus 19:16

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Ich Bin Adolf Eichmann

Bibliography

Introduction:

My senior thesis is an examination of Adolf Eichmann's life in Argentina and his capture by the Mossad in 1960. The first war criminal captured by the Mossad, Eichmann is the first and only person to receive the death penalty in the history of Israel. I consider Eichmann's life in Argentina and how his life elucidates greater understanding into his unique nature. In addition, what led Israel to pursue his capture, despite the risks involved and violation of both international and Argentine law. Furthermore, I examine the effects the capture had on Israel and the world. My purpose is to shed light on a portion of Eichmann's life that strengthens our understanding of Eichmann and illuminates what the capture did for Israel. By choosing to write my thesis as a screenplay, I have been able to provide a critical analysis of Eichmann's life and capture in Argentina in both a textual and visual manner.

The introduction is divided into eight sections. The first section is a biographical account of Eichmann's career growth as a Nazi and his role in the Final Solution. The first section demonstrates that Eichmann first worked to solve the Jewish Question through a territorial solution. He sought to emigrate Jews out of the Reich. When emigration was no longer feasible, Eichmann deported Jews to death camps as efficiently and quickly as possible under the auspices of the Final Solution. The second section provides an account of the debate on Eichmann and an analysis of the varied interpretations on him. The third section explores the CIA's desire not to capture Eichmann and how it affected the Israeli capture. The fourth section demonstrates how Eichmann was captured and shows the controversial nature of the

capture. The section also justifies the Israeli capture and illustrates that the trial was profoundly more influential than the Israeli leaders realized would be at the time they decided to capture Eichmann. The fifth section analyzes how cinema can be an appropriate medium to present a historical analysis and interpret history. Through a visual medium, the audience or reader is able to evaluate Eichmann as a whole; by the nature of a visual representation, he does not suffer the same polarized characterization as the written depictions of Eichmann. The sixth section explicates my writing my process and how I was able to research the historical account of Eichmann and turn him into a character in a film. The seventh section examines the historical authenticity of the screenplay. The eighth section considers the screenplay as an appropriate medium to explore Eichmann and why I chose a screenplay as a thesis. My screenplay, *Ich Bin Adolf Eichmann*, follows the introduction.

Adolf Eichmann is one of the most controversial historical figures in the 20th century, particularly because of his portrayal in Hannah Arendt's famous text, *Eichmann in Jerusalem*. I became particularly interested in Eichmann when I read *Eichmann in Jerusalem* in Professor Schwartz' sophomore tutorial, CSS 220: State and Society in the Modern Age. We studied the text to understand Arendt's famous thesis on Eichmann, what she coined "the banality of evil".¹

What is of extreme interest about Eichmann is how debated and contested he is. Eichmann's career as a Nazi is not unambiguous. Eichmann began his career searching for a territorial or political solution to the Jewish Question, yet by the time Eichmann's career had ended, he was pivotal to the success of the Final Solution. Eichmann's feelings towards his work and Judaism are often antithetical. There are

¹ Hannah Arendt, *Eichmann in Jerusalem* (New York: Penguin Group, 2006), 252.

moments when Eichmann assumes the role of an ideological driven member of the SS with intense feelings of anti-Semitism. There are other moments when Eichmann would express his love of Zionism and studying Jewish affairs. Moreover, there are times when Eichmann would expound how he wished he could come to peace with his former enemies. Eichmann often described these feelings of confusion as an inner struggle. His career and feelings toward his career are nonetheless extremely complicated. While he was on trial in Jerusalem the prosecution attempted to emphasize Eichmann's evilness. Arendt responded to the trial by showing Eichmann's banality and normal nature. Historian David Cesarani sought to show the prosecution was correct in their desire to highlight Eichmann's evil nature and to debunk Arendt's understanding of Eichmann. Eichmann is an immensely complex person and therefore does not fit into just one category or understanding ascribed to him. The screenplay, greater than a written history, allows for the audience to witness and understand Eichmann's internal struggle, just as he himself experienced it. Moreover, by witnessing Eichmann in a visual manor, Eichmann is viewed holistically.

Eichmann's comments and life in Argentina portray him in a new light that can help provide greater insight to who he was and provide a new understanding of Eichmann. My thesis represents the synthesization of the various interpretations on Eichmann, historical documents, and the comments he made and wrote in Argentina, into a unique understanding of Eichmann. Through Eichmann's life in Argentina, we understand that Eichmann falls in the middle of Arendt and Cesarani's respective interpretations of Eichmann. Despite his confusion on his role in the Third Reich, he

nevertheless was an ideologically driven Nazi, who simultaneously wanted to live a normal life with his family and move on from his past.

I: Eichmann the Nazi:

Otto Adolf Eichmann was born on March 19, 1906 in Solingen, Germany. When Eichmann was seven years old he moved to Linz, Austria. His early childhood was slightly traumatic; his father was often absent due to his job, his mother passed away and soon thereafter his father remarried. Eichmann also grew up in the background of WWI. Regardless of the difficult moments he experienced as a child, there have been no accounts anywhere that Eichmann was unsettled or affected by what happened in his childhood.²

In Austria, Eichmann attended the same school that Hitler had attended from 1900-1904.³ Growing up and at school Eichmann was not anti-Semitic and of one his closest friends was Jewish, Mischa Sebba. Even after Eichmann joined the Party he still stayed close with his Jewish friend. Despite not being anti-Semitic in the early stages of his life or growing up in a particularly anti-Semitic household, what shaped Eichmann's worldview is where he grew up and the environment in which he was raised. Protestantism, German-Austrian nationalism, and right-wing politics were all harmoniously intermingled and greatly influenced Eichmann's perspective. Eichmann's childhood and young adult hood demonstrate that to become an ardent and zealous Nazi, one doesn't need to have been or bred one.⁴

The Nazi party was not very popular in Upper Austria. Moreover, in the early 30s the party was faced with much inner turmoil. Despite these issues, on April 1,

² David Cesarani, *Eichmann* (London: William Heinemann, 2004), 20.

³ *Ibid.*, 21.

⁴ *Ibid.*, 28.

1932, Eichmann joined the Nazi Party and several months later Eichmann joined the SS. Eichmann claimed that he joined the party because he felt they were the only political party that would defeat the Communist and Socialists. He also believed that the party would solve many of the issues plaguing Germany and Austria, such as the issues of unemployment and food shortages. He also believed, like so many, that the Nazi Party was the only political party that would return Germany to its position of power that the Versailles Treaty had undone. While captured in Argentina, he told Peter Malkin, the Mossad Agent that captured him:

Everyone knew a change was necessary in Germany; it was only a question of what form it would take. Times were terrible. I had a job myself, selling gasoline products in Upper Austria... Hitler was the only man who could rally the people against the Communists. He brought hopes of jobs and bread. I freely admit; I was inspired as much as anyone else.⁵

Eichmann joined the Nazis because what the party promised; he most likely was being quite honest when he said that at the time he joined the party he did not hate Jews.⁶

Eichmann's first role in the party was working for Sturmbannführer Karl von Pichl. Eichmann's job was to help Austrian SA and SS men come into Germany, as well as to help smuggle Nazis and propaganda back into Austria. He was later transferred to the SS First Regiment 'Deutschland', which was stationed at Dachau. In 1934, Eichmann joined the Sicherheitsdienst (SD), the intelligence agency of the SS.⁷ His first assignment was in Berlin where he compiled research on Freemasons. Eichmann was then sent to work for a museum where he prepared an exhibit on

⁵ Peter Z. Malkin and Harry Stein, *Eichmann In My Hands* (New York: Warner Books, Inc., 1990), 204-205.

⁶ Cesarani, *Eichmann*, 34.

⁷ Deborah Lipstadt, *The Eichmann Trial* (New York: Scholen Books, 2011), 47.

Freemasons. Eichmann was able to succeed early on in the party because of his diligent work ethic. While working at the museum, SS Untersturmführer Edler von Mildenstein, encountered Eichmann and was extremely impressed with Eichmann's industriousness. Mildenstein the director of the Desk to Monitor Jewish Organizations invited Eichmann to work for him. Eichmann was extremely happy to leave the boring museum: "I would have said yes to anything to get away from sticking those seals on."⁸ He wasn't just excited to move out of what he considered a boring position, he was also intrigued with what his new work offered: "I must confess that I did not greet this assignment with the apathy of an ox being led to his stall. On the contrary, I was fascinated with it."⁹ Joining such a department, given Eichmann's ideological training and the anti-Semitic legislation being passed at the time in Germany, it must have been apparent to him that the SD would not treat the Jewish Question benevolently.¹⁰

What his childhood demonstrates is that Eichmann was not initially anti-Semitic, it was his role in the party and training shaped that his feelings. Eichmann viewed Mildenstein as a mentor.¹¹ Mildenstein believed early on that the solution to the Jewish Question could be answered politically and working with Mildenstein was profoundly influential for Eichmann. They believed that Germany could solve its problems of Jews through emigration. Eichmann was so diligent and passionate about his work that he studied Hebrew to better understand the Jewish people. Malkin asked

⁸ "Statement Made by Adolf Eichmann to the Israel Police Prior to His Trial in Jerusalem," in the *Trial of Adolf Eichmann* (Jerusalem: Israel State Archives, 1995), col. 63; Heinz Hohne, *The Order of the Death's Head* (London: Martin Kecker & Warburg Unlimited, 1970), p. 334 in Lipstadt, *The Eichmann Trial*, 48.

⁹ Adolf Eichmann, "Eichmann Tells His Own Damning Story," *Life Magazine*, November 28, 1960, 22.

¹⁰ Cesarani, *Eichmann*, 68.

¹¹ *Ibid.*, 47.

why he learned Hebrew and not Yiddish, given that most European Jews spoke Yiddish. He told Malkin, “But, you see, language is mentality. One cannot understand the problem of the Jewish people without understanding its original language.”¹²

Mildenstein also supported Eichmann’s interest in Jewish studies by giving Eichmann many texts on Zionism, such as Theodor Herzl’s text on the creation and necessity for a Jewish state, *Der Judenstaat*. Eichmann wrote a very successful report of the book that was published in an SS orientation booklet.¹³

Through Eichmann’s success in the department, he was allowed to travel to Palestine to meet with Zionist leaders who wanted Jews to emigrate there. The SD liked the idea since they wanted the Jews out of the natural living space in Germany. Through Eichmann’s trips to Palestine and his knowledge of Jewish studies, Eichmann was able to become an expert on Jewish affairs. Eichmann’s role in the SD ratified and supported his feelings of anti-Semitism. His first initial claims of anti-Semitism can be seen in the reports that Eichmann wrote about his trip to Palestine. Upon Eichmann’s return to Germany, he led a presentation on, “World Jewry: Its Political Activity and The Implications of the Activity on the Jews Residing in Germany.”¹⁴ The speech outlined numerous conspiracies, such as, that the Palestinian economy was terrible due to the lack of Aryans, “[Jews] defrauding each other, because there was a lack of Aryans to do business with.”¹⁵ He further added “Characteristic of the total inability of Jews to manage an orderly economy in their own country is the fact in Jerusalem alone, there are forty Jewish banks that survive

¹² Malkin and Stein, *Eichmann In My Hands*, 214.

¹³ Lipstadt, *The Eichmann Trial*, 48.

¹⁴ *Ibid.*, 50.

¹⁵ Zvi Aharoni and Wilhelm Dietl, *Operation Eichmann* (New York: John Wiley & Sons, Inc., 1997), 17.

by cheating the members of their own race.”¹⁶ Eichmann’s feelings towards the Jews were slowly changing. What affected his feelings towards Judaism the most was not only his training he received in the SD and his trip to Palestine, but also his rising success in the party.

Due to Eichmann’s success in the SD, on January 30, 1938 he was promoted to *Untersturmführer* for his “broad knowledge of the organizational and ideological methods of the enemy, the Jews.”¹⁷ Shortly thereafter Eichmann was again promoted, this time to *Obersturmführer*. Through his promotion, he began his real career as an officer in the Nazi Party. Historian Gerald Reitlinger wrote: “Eichmann’s real career began on August 1st, 1938, a few months after the *Anschluss* when he was put in charge of the Vienna Jewish emigration office.”¹⁸ Eichmann created the Central Office for Jewish Emigration in Vienna, to properly expel Jews in the region. He felt that through the resettlement of Jews, Germany could create more living space. It was through Eichmann’s efforts in Austria and his new prestige that Eichmann began to assume a more arrogant stature. Heinrich Grüber, a Protestant minister in Berlin, who worked regularly with Eichmann, stated the Eichmann name “had become a symbol, a sorry symbol.”¹⁹ Later, when Grüber was arrested by the Gestapo in December 1940, Eichmann asked him: “Why do you care so much about the Jews? No one is going to thank you for your efforts.”²⁰ Franz Meyer, a chair of the German Zionist Organization who testified at the Eichmann trial and had worked with Eichmann,

¹⁶ Ibid., 17.

¹⁷ Ibid., 20.

¹⁸ Cesarani, *Eichmann*, 62.

¹⁹ Ibid., 72.

²⁰ *The Trial of Adolf Eichmann: Record of Proceedings in the District Court of Jerusalem*, 9 vol. (Israel: Ministry of Justice, 1992), 5:1889 in Ibid., 72.

noticed that in Vienna Eichmann was remarkably different from the Eichmann he had worked previously with in Berlin:

I immediately said to my colleagues that I do not know whether I was meeting the same man. The change was so awful... I previously had thought that this was a minor official, the type people call a "clerk" or a "bureaucrat" who fulfills duties, writes reports, and so on. Now here was this man with the attitude of an autocrat controlling life and death; he received us impudently and crudely, and would not allow us to approach his desk."²¹

Eichmann was no longer a Nazi in the back office of Berlin; he was in charge of expelling Jews from the region and had great power. His power instilled fear in the eyes of the Jews in the region. Bernhard Lösener, head of the Ministry of the Interior's Jewish Desk observed how "women pulled their children aside in horror as soon as they saw Eichmann, who casually passed by as though along an empty street, shoving aside the waiting human unfortunates."²² Eichmann claimed that: "Up to the moment I was ordered to Prague, the number of Jews that had emigrated from Austria had risen to 150,000. In total, I believe I recall, the number finally reached 224,000 or 234,000."²³ Eichmann did have power within the party and now and was in charge of the fate of the Jews and his power as the Head of the Central Office for Jewish Emigration extended beyond Vienna. Despite Eichmann's claims that he was a friend of the Jews and a Zionist: "In the years that followed I often said to Jews with whom I had dealings that, had I been a Jew, I would have been a fanatical Zionist. I could not imagine being anything else. In fact, I would have been the most ardent Zionist

²¹ *The Trial of Adolf Eichmann: Record of Proceedings in the District Court of Jerusalem*, 266-288 in Lipstadt, *The Eichmann Trial*, 73.

²² *Ibid.*, 75.

²³ Aharoni and Dietl, *Operation Eichmann*, 29

imaginable” emigration was extremely violent and was never intended to help the Jewish people, but to benefit the goals of the party by having a Jew free Reich.²⁴

With the outbreak of war, on September 26, 1939 Himmler and Heydrich established the Reich Main Security Office. Along with the substantially increased German territories, meant more Jews in German living space. After the outbreak of war, Eichmann’s boss, Heinrich Müller, wanted Eichmann to figure a way to remove all of the Jews from the Reich. In October, Eichmann became the head of the Central Office for Jewish Emigration from the Reich. Eichmann came up with a plan to deport thousands of Jews from Germany, Austria, and the Czech lands to Nisko, Poland. Witness Max Burger told the court in Jerusalem, upon his arrival in Nisko, Eichmann informed him: “There are no flats and no houses; if you carry out the construction you will have a roof over your head. There is no water. Wells in the whole area are infested; cholera, dysentery, and typhoid are rampant. If you start digging and find water, then you will have water.”²⁵ Eichmann on trial attempted to portray Nisko as a nice Jewish community for Jews to live. They would be able to live “among themselves and not under the conditions of stress to which they were subjected in their previous localities.”²⁶ Eichmann also described the place as a quaint village for the Jews: “Rivers, villages, markets, small towns... It would benefit all concerned.”²⁷ Again Eichmann wanted to portray things in a different light in Jerusalem. The Nisko plan was very short lived and was dissolved in April 1940 due

²⁴ Eichmann, “Eichmann Tells His Own Damning Story,” 22.

²⁵ Lipstadt, *The Eichmann Trial*, 75.

²⁶ *Ibid.*, 118.

²⁷ *Ibid.*, 118.

to the unviability of the project.²⁸ Despite the failure of Nisko, Eichmann demonstrated that he was fully capable of removing tens of thousands people at a time and transporting them. Moreover, despite the failure of the Nisko plan, Eichmann was named a “special officer” for “clearing of the Eastern provinces.”²⁹ After the failure of Nisko, Eichmann again tried to also to solve the Jewish Question through a territorial solution. In late 1940, Eichmann attempted to resettle Jews to Madagascar, but like Nisko, due to bureaucratic issues, the Madagascar plan also failed.

Emigration was no longer feasible with the outbreak of the war; the Reich had to focus its resources on the war. Eichmann’s role in the Third Reich would shift from a territorial solution to a Final Solution. Eichmann stated that he was informed of a genocidal decision for ‘physical annihilation’ in the late summer or early autumn of 1941.³⁰ Upon hearing the order, Eichmann felt extremely upset. He told Müller “Everything was taken from me. All the work, all the effects, all the interest; I was as it were extinguished... I said...this isn’t what I imagined... because it’s not a political solution.”³¹ Eichmann claimed that he was so distraught that he lost all his enthusiasm for his work: “I had never thought of such a thing, such a solution through violence. I now lost everything, all joy in my work, all initiative, all interest.”³² Eichmann’s visit to Litzmannstadt extermination camp ratified his disdain for a violent solution to the Jewish Question. At the camp, Eichmann watched Jews forced into a gas van, a

²⁸ Cesarani, *Eichmann*, 81.

²⁹ Lipstadt, *The Eichmann Trial*, 77.

³⁰ Cesarani, *Eichmann*, 101.

³¹ Statement made by Adolf Eichmann to the Israel police prior to his trial in Jerusalem, 169 reproduced in facsimile in *The Trial of Adolf Eichmann* in *Ibid.*, 107.

³² Arendt, *Eichmann in Jerusalem*, 83-84.

doctor suggested to Eichmann that he observe what happened when the gas was released into the van. Eichmann stated: "I refused. I couldn't look. This was the first time I had seen and heard such a thing and my knees were buckling under me."³³

While Eichmann was disturbed with the notion and practice of extermination, and claimed that he lost interest in his work, Eichmann was nonetheless one of the most important pieces that allowed for the German extermination machine to run as efficiently as it did. Eichmann maintained he had a minimal role: "I would like to stress again, however, that my department never gave a single annihilation order. We were responsible only for deportation.... our goal: a roundup of the Jews and their delivery to the transports."³⁴ Despite his claims that he had a minimal role in the Final Solution, he admitted to his interrogator in Jerusalem: "I was always at the focal point, at the center of everything connected with Jewish Affairs."³⁵ Eichmann worked with zeal to solve the Jewish Question, regardless whether it was through a territorial or a physical solution. In Argentina, Eichmann told Sassen:

And so the Jews are actually right. To tell the truth, I was working relentlessly to kindle the fire wherever I thought there was a sign of resistance. Had I been just a recipient of orders, then I would have been a simpleton. I was thinking matters over. I was an idealist. When I reached the conclusion that it was necessary to do the Jews what we did, I worked with fanaticism a man can expect from himself. No doubt they considered me the right man in the right place. I always acted 100 per cent, and in the giving of orders I certainly was not lukewarm.³⁶

³³ Eichmann, "Eichmann Tells His Own Damning Story," 104.

³⁴ *Ibid.*, 101.

³⁵ Statement made by Adolf Eichmann to the Israel police prior to his trial in Jerusalem, 395 reproduced in facsimile in *The Trial of Adolf Eichmann* in Cesarani, *Eichmann*, 126.

³⁶ Sassen Papers, transcript of tape 5, pp. 3-4, referred to in Session 104 in Jacob Robinson, *And the Crooked Shall Be Made Straight* (New York: Macmillan Company, 1965), 34.

Despite his attempts to present himself as a desk-bureaucrat, Eichmann often traveled to various countries and cities to ensure that his transports were running efficient as possible. He explained in Argentina:

[W]e managed after a struggle to get the deportations going. Trainloads of Jews were soon leaving from France and Holland. It was not for nothing that I made so many trips to Paris and The Hague. My interest here was only in the number of transport trains I had to provide. Whether they were bank directors or mental cases, the people who were loaded on these trains meant nothing to me.³⁷

Eichmann's role in the Final Solution changed his feeling towards Jews and he assumed a new callous inhumanity, "I am no anti-Semite. I was just politically opposed to Jews because they were stealing the breath of life from us."³⁸ Eichmann no longer wished to help the Jews through emigration or find a place for them to live outside of the Reich, Eichmann wanted to send as many Jews as quickly possible to the death camps.

Eichmann had an extremely important role in the removal of Jews from Hungary. To remove Jews from Hungary, Heydrich knew there was no one better than Eichmann: "Send down to Hungary the master in person."³⁹ Müller also referred to Eichmann as a "master."⁴⁰ Himmler gave Eichmann a simple order: "Comb the country from East to West; send all the Jews to Auschwitz as quickly as possible."⁴¹ While Eichmann claimed to Sassen that he was barely involved in Hungary, since he simply organized "timetables" for the "evacuation" trains, he later told Sassen: "Our

³⁷ Eichmann, "Eichmann's Own Damning Story," 101.

³⁸ *Ibid.*, 102.

³⁹ Gideon Hausner, *Justice In Jerusalem* (New York: Harper & Row, 1966), 135.

⁴⁰ Eichmann, "Eichmann Tells His Own Damning Story," 109.

⁴¹ Hausner, *Justice In Jerusalem*, 135.

job was to detain, concentrate, load, convoy and transport the Jews to the camps.”⁴² Through Eichmann’s efforts and success in Austria and Hungary, Eichmann was a proficient master in the deportation of Jews to death camps, “Since they had sent the “master,” however, I wanted to act like a master. I resolve to show how well a job could be done when the commander stands 100% behind it. By shipping the Jews off in a lightning operation, I wanted to set an example for future campaigns elsewhere.”⁴³ Upon entering Budapest, Eichmann stated: “Apparently you forgot that Hungary still rests in the shadow of the destruction of the Reich! And our hands are long enough to grasp the Jews of Budapest as well...”⁴⁴ Eichmann was so efficient and successful in his job that according to him, they had removed about half a million Jews from Hungary, 350,000 of which were sent to Auschwitz.⁴⁵ Eichmann compared removing and transporting Jews to catching fish: “Over the years I had learned through practice which hooks to use to catch which fish, and I was now able to make the operation easy for myself.”⁴⁶ Eichmann not only knew how to successfully remove and transport Jews, but he became obsessed with the destruction of Jews. Rudolf Höss, the commander of Auschwitz, wrote in his autobiography in Cracow, while he awaited execution that: “Eichmann was completely obsessed with his mission and also convinced that this extermination action was necessary in order to preserve the German people in the future from the destructive intentions of the Jews.”⁴⁷ Höss also stated that Eichmann was certain that “if he could succeed in

⁴² Eichmann, “Eichmann Tells His Own Damning Story,” 101.

⁴³ Ibid., 109.

⁴⁴ Lipstadt, *The Eichmann Trial*, 101.

⁴⁵ Eichmann, “Eichmann Tells His Own Damning Story,” 109.

⁴⁶ Ibid., 109-110.

⁴⁷ Rudolf Hoess, *Commandment of Auschwitz* (Cleveland and New York: World Publishing Co., n.d.), 242-243) in Robinson, *And the Crooked Shall Be Made Straight*, 46.

destroying the biological basis of Jewry in the east by complete extermination, then Jewry as a whole would never recover from the blow.”⁴⁸

In Jerusalem Eichmann stated: “I have a lot on my conscience. I know that, Herr Hauptmann. But I had nothing to do with killing the Jews. I never killed a Jew, but I never killed a non-Jew either - I've never killed anybody. And I never ordered anybody to kill a Jew, or ordered anybody to kill a non-Jew. No, never”⁴⁹ While Eichmann did not kill anyone by shooting someone or pulling the lever that released the Zyklon-B, without Eichmann’s transports of Jews they would not have died. Eichmann stated: “Of course” he had a role in the extermination of Jews, if he “had not transported them, they would not have been delivered to the butcher.”⁵⁰

Eichmann’s passion in his work cannot be understated, he told Sassen that when: “ I received orders to proceed... against the guest of the host people, I thought this over, and when I recognized the necessity to do so, I carried out these [orders] with the degree of fanaticism one expected of oneself as a National Socialist of long standing.”⁵¹ In Jerusalem on the stand, Eichmann claimed that quote referred to the period before 1939. Attorney General Gideon Hausner asked Eichmann if the “guest” referred to the Jewish people and the “host” as the Germans, Eichmann responded “yes.”⁵² It was very apparent in the courtroom just how involved Eichmann was.

While Eichmann constantly wanted to downplay his role in the Final Solution, his superiors were well aware of how successful and important his role was. Towards the end of the war, Müller told Eichmann, “If we had 50 Eichmanns, then we would

⁴⁸ Cesarani, *Eichmann*, 157.

⁴⁹ Jochen von Lang, edit., *Eichmann Interrogated*, (New York: Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 1983), 101.

⁵⁰ Arendt, *Eichmann in Jerusalem*, 52.

⁵¹ *The Trial of Adolf Eichmann*, 30 in Lipstadt, *The Eichmann Trial*, 137.

⁵² *The Trial of Adolf Eichmann*, 30 in *Ibid.*, 137-138.

have won the war.”⁵³ Not only was Eichmann extremely passionate about his role in the Third Reich and the Final Solution, but also he found great satisfaction knowing that he helped kill millions of Jews. On November 24, 1945 at the Nuremberg Trial, Dieter Wisliceny, the SS officer who worked closely with Eichmann in the deportation of Hungarian Jews in 1944 testified that:

He [Eichmann] said to me on the occasion of our last meeting in February 1945, at which time were discussing our fates upon losing the war: “I [shall] laugh when I jump into the grave, because of the feeling that I have killed five million Jews. That gives me a lot of satisfaction and pleasure.”⁵⁴

Regardless of Eichmann’s claims that he was a small cog in the machine and that he had a minimal role in the Third Reich, he was a willing, passionate member of the Nazi death machine.

II: Debate on Eichmann & Eichmann in Argentina:

Arendt’s text was the catalyst for the debate on Eichmann. Over two hundred books and articles were written on Eichmann and it has even been argued that *Eichmann in Jerusalem* marked the birth of “Holocaust studies.”⁵⁵ The book was received with very mixed reviews. Amos Elon wrote in the introduction of *Eichmann in Jerusalem*, titled *The Excommunication of Hannah Arendt*: “Three years after the publication of the book, people were still bitterly divided over it. No book within living memory had elicited similar passions... The controversy has never really been settled.”⁵⁶ The controversy over Arendt’s text comes from her thesis: “It was as though in those last minutes he was summing up the lesson that this long course in human wickedness had taught us- the lesson of the fearsome, word-and-thought-

⁵³ Adolf Eichmann, “Eichmann’s Own Story: Part II,” *Life*, December 5, 1960, 150.

⁵⁴ Robinson, *And the Crooked Shall Be Made Straight*, 37.

⁵⁵ Cesarani, *Eichmann*, 325.

⁵⁶ Arendt, *Eichmann in Jerusalem*, vii.

defying *banality of evil*.”⁵⁷ Arendt was most famous for portraying Eichmann as a desk bureaucrat who was merely accepting his orders and was quite normal. To Arendt, Eichmann was, “an average, “normal” person, neither feeble-minded nor indoctrinated nor cynical, could be perfectly incapable of telling right from wrong.”⁵⁸ Eichmann’s normalness she believed was similar to many Nazis: “The trouble with Eichmann was so precisely that so many were like him, and that the many were neither perverted nor sadistic, that they were, and still are, terribly and terrifyingly normal.”⁵⁹ Eichmann’s normality for Arendt was striking: “this normality was much more terrifying than all the atrocities put together.”⁶⁰ Due to Eichmann’s normality, he was not the evil mastermind the prosecution claimed he was: “Despite all the efforts of the prosecution, everybody could see that this man was not a “monster,” but it was difficult indeed not to suspect that he was a clown.”⁶¹ She also claimed that he was neither vehemently anti-Semitic nor had been fully indoctrinated into the Nazi ideology: “he was obviously also no case of insane hatred of Jews, of fanatical anti-Semitism or indoctrination of any kind... He “personally” never had anything whatever against the Jews.”⁶² According to Arendt, due to Eichmann’s normality and his lack of anti-Semitism, Eichmann only performed his duties out of obedience to authority and the law: “He did his *duty*, as he told the police and the court over and over again; he not only obeyed *orders* he also obeyed the *law*.”⁶³ Arendt

⁵⁷ Ibid., 252

⁵⁸ Ibid., 26.

⁵⁹ Ibid., 276.

⁶⁰ Ibid., 276.

⁶¹ Ibid., 54.

⁶² Ibid., 26.

⁶³ Ibid., 134.

demonstrated that Eichmann's evilness came from his normality; he was obedient to a totalitarian regime and never questioned his orders, that was the banality of evil.

Eichmann's normality was not only understood by Arendt, but also Elie Wiesel. Wiesel felt that the trial made Eichmann appear normal: "It irritated me to think of Eichmann as human. I would have preferred him to have a murderous countenance."⁶⁴ The Israeli court psychiatrist who extensively examined Eichmann found Eichmann a "completely normal man, more normal, at any rate, than I am after examining him."⁶⁵ Moreover, his Rorschach test corroborated the psychiatrist's understanding of Eichmann: "The psychological protocol seemed to indicate an ordinary, rather untroubled person, although likely to be somewhat distant and inflexible in interpersonal relationships, was not bent on the destruction of whole populations of human beings."⁶⁶ Thus, Eichmann's psychiatric evaluation ratified Arendt's understanding of Eichmann's normality.

Throughout Eichmann's career and during the trial, Eichmann attested that he was nothing more than a small cog. Earlier, in Argentina, Eichmann also claimed that he was a small cog: "I was merely a little cog in the machinery."⁶⁷ Arendt argued that Eichmann was telling the truth when he presented himself as a small cog in the wheel of a vast and extreme exterminating machine, that could have been driven by someone self.⁶⁸ Eichmann wasn't the only obedient one in the Reich. On trial in Jerusalem he described how all Nazis needed to be obedient:

⁶⁴ Ibid., 330.

⁶⁵ Ibid., 3.

⁶⁶ Irving B. Weiner, edit., *The Quest for the Nazi Personality* (Hillsdale: Lawrence Erlbaum Associates, 1995), 9.

⁶⁷ Eichmann, "Eichmann Tells His Own Damning Story," 19.

⁶⁸ Cesarani, *Eichmann*, 3.

A subordinate... can't carry out an illegal order, certainly not in wartime. He can do only one thing: obey his commander. If I don't obey, if a subordinate does not obey, he is court-martialed, brought before an SS or police tribunal, or in the army a court martial. If he obeys and carries out a mistaken order, it's the commander who must take the responsibility. That's how it has always been.⁶⁹

Being a cog in the machine wasn't simply what Eichmann was, but it was what allowed him to have fulfillment in the party. In Jerusalem, he testified his obedience to the Reich: "If they told me that my own father was a traitor and I had to kill him, I'd have done it. At that time I obeyed my orders without thinking, I just did as I was told. That's where I found my- how shall I say?- my fulfillment. It made no difference what the orders were."⁷⁰ Eichmann's claimed the was given an order and executed that order: "If I receive an order, I'm not expected to interpret it, and if I given an order, I'm forbidden to justify it. I receive an order and I'm expected to obey."⁷¹ That gave Eichmann his fulfillment, doing his part and obeying. Not only did Eichmann present him self as a bureaucrat who was a mere recipient of orders, but also he claimed that he did not have a great enough rank to influence the Nazi machine:

All my life I have been accustomed to obedience, from early childhood to May 8, 1945- an obedience which in my years of membership in the SS became blind and unconditional. What would I have gained by disobedience? And whom would it have served? I never at any time played an essential, decisive role in the events from 1935- 1945; for that, my rank and functions placed me in far too low a position.⁷²

⁶⁹ von Lang, *Eichmann Interrogated*, 272.

⁷⁰ *Ibid.*, 157.

⁷¹ *Ibid.*, 158.

⁷² *Ibid.*, 291.

Arendt claimed that Eichmann was “one of the first men in the lower echelons” to be informed of the Final Solution.⁷³ Yes, Eichmann was a lower ranking member at the Wannsee Conference, but without Eichmann, Jews would not have been sent to the death camps at the rate they were sent.

Due to his comments in Jerusalem, others beside Arendt believed that Eichmann had a minimal role in the Final Solution. Harry Mulisch, author of the *Criminal Case 40/61, the Trial of Adolf Eichmann*, similarly perceived that Eichmann was a nothing, due to his obedient nature: “He behaves in Israel and Argentina for exactly the same reason that he behaved like an intimidating murderer in Europe: this is what was expected of him. He is neither. He is nothing.”⁷⁴ Mulisch’s claim that Eichmann was a nothing, was similar to Arendt’s claim that Eichmann was normal. Mulisch perceived this nothingness as horrifyingly terrible. Like Arendt, Mulisch argues that such a man as Eichmann was “a machine that is good for anything.”⁷⁵ Worse, he added, there are “millions like him are roaming the earth.”⁷⁶

Although Arendt believed that Eichmann was not ideologically driven, not especially anti-Semitic and was not particularly zealous insofar as succumbing to a totalitarian regime, many vehemently disagree with her understanding of Eichmann. Arendt’s understanding of Eichmann has determined Eichmann’s legacy: “By associating Eichmann with totalitarianism... Arendt helped to shape the way in which generations of historians and thinkers conceptualized the Third Reich.”⁷⁷ Many

⁷³ Arendt, *Eichmann in Jerusalem*, 84.

⁷⁴ Harry Mulisch, *Criminal Case 40/61, the Trial of Adolf Eichmann* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2005), 119.

⁷⁵ *Ibid.*, 119.

⁷⁶ *Ibid.*, 119.

⁷⁷ Cesarani, *Eichmann*, 4.

people cannot escape Arendt's understanding of Eichmann. David Cesarani, a historian who has dedicated much of his life to understanding the controversial Nazi, argues that for many people there is only *Eichmann in Jerusalem*:

For many people, however, Eichmann remains the petty bureaucrat depicted by Hannah Arendt in *Eichmann in Jerusalem*: the classic desk-killer who mechanically and thoughtlessly arranged for millions to die as the culmination of a routinized and sanitized process of destruction – the personification of the 'banality of evil' and a thoroughly modern man. Arendt's role in shaping Eichmann's legacy cannot be under-estimated.⁷⁸

The culmination of Cesarani's painstaking work is his substantial text, *Eichmann*. He argues that Eichmann put on a show at his trial. Since Arendt left after a few days of testimony, she wasn't able to see through his performance or even understand that he was performing in the first place:

So her depiction of Eichmann as a colorless bureaucrat is based on the phase of the trial in which he was deliberately passive so as not to give the prosecution ammunition for its claim that he was a fanatic... [H]er depiction of Eichmann of Eichmann was self-serving, prejudiced and ultimately wrong.⁷⁹

To counter Arendt, Cesarani extensively studied his life as a Nazi and the role he played as the Head of Jewish Affairs in the RSHA (Reich Main Security Office). Historian Jacob Robinson, like Cesarani, rejects Arendt's interpretation of Eichmann: "From the historical documents available to us, the real Eichmann emerges: a man of extraordinary driving power, master in the arts of cunning and deception, intelligent and competent in his field, single-minded in his mission to make Europe 'free of Jews.'"⁸⁰ It is obvious by looking at Eichmann's role in the Third Reich and the Final Solution, that Eichmann worked passionately and efficiently as to make the Reich

⁷⁸ Ibid., 334-344.

⁷⁹ Ibid., 14.

⁸⁰ Robinson, *And the Crooked Shall Be Made Straight*, 118.

judenfrei (free of Jews). While Eichmann may have had initial reservations about the order to physically destroy the Jews, he had no issue sending them to the death camps. What all of these have historians and theorists have struggled with is a simple question: “Who was Eichmann? What sort of man was he?”⁸¹ Eichmann’s life in Argentina provides an answer to what sort of man he was and who he was.

As the war ended, Eichmann, like many other former SS leaders and war criminals, went into hiding.⁸² Soon after going into hiding, Eichmann was captured by a US patrol group near the town of Ulm, in Southern Germany. Afraid that the US would want to try him for his war crimes, Eichmann presented himself under the alias Otto Eckmann and changed his role from corporal to second lieutenant in the SS.⁸³ At the camp, Eichmann was intensely interrogated by the Counter Intelligence Corps. Eichmann feared that if interrogations were to continue, his true identity would be revealed. Through the help of his inmates Eichmann was able to escape the camp. Eichmann did not write his family and allowed them to presume he was dead. Before Eichmann was captured, Eichmann left his wife and family nothing except for a “briefcase full of grapes and a sack of flour... I had also given them poison capsules, one for my wife and for each child, to be swallowed if they fell into the hands of the Russians.”⁸⁴ Through the brother of his former prison-inmates, Eichmann was able to

⁸¹ Mulisch, *Criminal Case 40/61, the Trial of Adolf Eichmann*, xvii.

⁸² Some of the language and notions in the following three paragraphs are derived author, Lucas Wherry’s own paper, *Eichmann in Argentina*, 9/2/12, written for Professor Gallaroti’s CSS 330 taught in Spring 2012. Paper available on request.

⁸³ Eichmann, “Eichmann’s Own Story: Part II,” 158.

⁸⁴ *Ibid.*, 158.

obtain a job as a lumberjack. Eichmann lived in Lüneburger Heide for four years under the new identity, Otto Henninger.⁸⁵

Despite Eichmann's new life in the Lüneburg Heide, the US maintained a close watch of Eichmann's family and his parents who lived in Linz, Austria.⁸⁶ Furthermore, as Eichmann was living as a lumberjack, numerous newspapers began publishing articles on Eichmann with headlines like "Where is 'Lieutenant Eckmann' hiding out?" or something about "Mass-murderer Eichmann."⁸⁷ In Austria, the US was extremely ardent to find Eichmann. They began to conduct house searches and were recruiting informants to help them find the infamous war criminal.⁸⁸ In 1950, Eichmann made contact with the Organization of Former S.S.⁸⁹ Through help from the organization, Eichmann was able to travel from Austria to Italy. In Italy, in the town of Vipiteno, the town pastor hid Eichmann in a monastery where the priests, according to Eichmann, helped him "without asking questions... In their eyes, I was merely one of many who needed their help."⁹⁰

Eichmann, a born Protestant, declared himself a Catholic in order to receive help from Bishop Alois Hudal, who was well known as a Nazi sympathizer and greatly assisted Austrian refugees in the area.⁹¹ On June 1, 1950 in Genoa, through the help of Hudal, Eichmann was able to receive a Red Cross issued Passport that

⁸⁵ Klaus Wiegrefe, "On The Trail of Holocaust Organizer Adolf Eichmann," in *Der Spiegel*, March 31, 2011, accessed April 7, 2013, <http://www.spiegel.de/international/germany/a-triumph-of-justice-on-the-trail-of-holocaust-organizer-adolf-eichmann-a-754133-2.html>.

⁸⁶ Ibid.

⁸⁷ Eichmann, "Eichmann's Own Story: Part II," 161.

⁸⁸ Wiegrefe, "On The Trail of Holocaust Organizer Adolf Eichmann."

⁸⁹ Arendt, *Eichmann in Jerusalem*, 236. ODESSA (Organization of Former S.S. Men) was a program that helped Nazis escape Europe and prosecution, as well as providing them with a new identity and means for a new life in places such as South America and the Middle East. Despite Arendt's claims that Eichmann contacted ODESSA and the written literature on ODESSA, it can also be argued that ODESSA is nothing more than an elaborate conspiracy theory.

⁹⁰ Wiegrefe, "On The Trail of Holocaust Organizer Adolf Eichmann."

⁹¹ Ibid.

enabled Eichmann to leave Italy and safely travel to Argentina.⁹² The passport that was issued to Eichmann created his new identity, an identity that Eichmann would maintain until his capture. Eichmann was now the 37-year-old, Ricardo Klement, a Catholic and a bachelor.⁹³ According to Eichmann in his memoir, obtaining a passport was incredibly easy, “I received my ‘*libro desembargo*’, the landing permit for Argentina. I was given it from someone who to my great surprise didn't want a single lira. Until then I had to pay dearly for the services of the ‘U-Boot agents.’”⁹⁴

On July 17, 1950, Eichmann boarded the ship the *Giovanna C* as a third-class passenger to Argentina.⁹⁵ He eventually contacted his wife by writing a letter to her. He wrote his wife saying that “the uncle of your children, whom everybody presumed dead, is alive and well-- Ricardo Klement.” He enclosed in the letter money and travel instructions to Argentina.⁹⁶ Two years later Eichmann’s wife Vera and the children entered Argentina.⁹⁷ Although Eichmann changed his name, his children assumed their names and kept the last name, Eichmann. Once reunited with Adolf, Vera Eichmann demanded an explanation of what her husband had done as a SS officer after reading a plethora of newspaper articles illustrating the monstrosities Eichmann performed. He responded calmly and in a similar manor that he would later demonstrate in on trial in Jerusalem: “I have not done a single Jew to death, nor given a single order to kill a Jew.”⁹⁸ Eichmann always made sure to show his innocence.

⁹² Ibid.

⁹³ Arendt, *Eichmann in Jerusalem*, 236.

⁹⁴ Adolf Eichmann, ‘Meine Flucht: Bericht aus der Zelle in Jerusalem’, NARA, RG 263(CIA), War Crimes, CIA name files, IWG, box 14, Eichmann, Adolf, vol. 1 in Gerald Steinacher, *Nazis on the Run* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2011), 53.

⁹⁵ Neal Bascomb, *Hunting Eichmann* (Boston: Mariner Books, 2009), 73.

⁹⁶ Ibid., 79.

⁹⁷ Wiegrefe, “On The Trail of Holocaust Organizer Adolf Eichmann.”

⁹⁸ Ibid., 80.

Eichmann's first real job in Argentina was working for a company called CAPRI, a construction company that made hydroelectric power plants.⁹⁹ At CAPRI, his employer Horst Carlos Fuldner claimed that it was well known amongst the 300 employees at the company that "Klement's real name was Eichmann."¹⁰⁰ But in 1953 the company shut down and Eichmann was forced to look for new work.¹⁰¹ Eichmann was an unsuccessful entrepreneur; he operated a series of failed jobs such as operating a laundromat, a textile store, and a breeding rabbits. It was not until 1959, nine years after Eichmann landed in Argentina, that he was able to find constant work at a Mercedes-Benz factory. While life for Eichmann was not easy and he had very little money, life for his fellow ex-Nazis was not as difficult. Herbert Kuhlmann, who also shared the journey from Europe to Argentina with Eichmann on the ship the *Giovanni C*, was a wealthy business who had happened to live in one of the wealthiest sections of Buenos Aires.¹⁰² There were those that had been greatly helped by the Nazi community in Buenos Aires, Eichmann was not one of those men.

One of Eichmann's closest friends in Argentina was a man named Otto Skorzeny. Skorzeny, a former Nazi, introduced Eichmann to Willem Sassen. Sassen was a half-Dutch, half-German Nazi who started his Nazi career in the Waffen-SS and had worked for the Nazi Party Propaganda Office. Like Skorzeny and Eichmann, Sassen too emigrated to Argentina. Sassen became editor of *Der Weg*, a news publication for former Nazis living in Argentina. The magazine was sold in the back of German shops in order not to arouse suspicions. Sassen was one of the most well

⁹⁹ Cesarani, *Eichmann*, 210.

¹⁰⁰ Wiegrefe, "On The Trail of Holocaust Organizer Adolf Eichmann."

¹⁰¹ Cesarani, *Eichmann*, 216.

¹⁰² *Ibid.*, 216.

connected Nazis in Argentina and introduced Eichmann to many high-ranking Nazis such as Dr. Josef Mengele, who had come to Argentina on the same route Eichmann had taken. In Argentina, Mengele often wanted to give Eichmann free medical advice but Eichmann always turned him down, most likely because he found it demeaning.¹⁰³ Eichmann's relationship with Mengele was indicative of Eichmann's role in the SS émigré community. Eichmann was very impoverished, especially in comparison to the other SS officers and often did not want to receive the help the Nazi fraternity offered in Argentina.

In either 1955 or 1956, Sassen proposed to record Eichmann's account of his involvement in the Final Solution.¹⁰⁴ Sassen wanted to hear Eichmann's story to write a report on what actually happened. Sassen also promised to pay for the interviews with Eichmann. There are three primary reasons Eichmann wanted to speak to Sassen and describe his personal experience in the Third Reich. The first reason was that Eichmann felt that the history books wouldn't be kind to him: "He resented the fact that he was forgotten and impecunious and he was stung by histories that he believed misrepresented his role in the 'Final Solution.'"¹⁰⁵ Furthermore, Eichmann's reasons for talking to Sassen also demonstrate Eichmann's inner struggle. While he wanted not to be forgotten, he also did not want to be misrepresented by the history books. He felt that by talking to Sassen he could tell his story. While Eichmann was driven by vanity and wanted to describe his account of the Final Solution, he also wanted to move on with his life. He wanted to unburden himself with someone who was knowledgeable of the subject: "I was happy to be able for once to talk about the

¹⁰³ Ibid., 218.

¹⁰⁴ Ibid., 218.

¹⁰⁵ Ibid., 218.

whole complex matter, and to some extent dispose of it.”¹⁰⁶ While Eichmann convicts himself as a major war criminal in the tape, he also felt that he would be able to simultaneously demonstrate his innocence. Lastly, Eichmann needed the money.

Sassen and Eichmann met over the course of five months and recorded no fewer than sixty-seven tape reels. The transcript of the tapes, was 695 pages in length, and Eichmann added his own personal notes, which were over eighty pages.¹⁰⁷ It was through these recording sessions that Eichmann made extremely incriminating comments about his role in the Final Solution. Eichmann in Argentina was antithetical to the way he presented himself in Jerusalem and the Eichmann that Arendt saw on trial. The Sassen tapes illustrate that not only was Eichmann more than a recipient of orders, he was diligent in his role to destroy the Jews. Cesarani writes that: “While it is easy to dismiss the expressions of horror that Eichmann vented in the interrogation room and before the judges in Jerusalem, the most graphic and shocking accounts of what he saw come not from there but from his taped memoirs in Argentina.”¹⁰⁸ In Jerusalem, Eichmann claimed that he was not ranked high enough to play a decisive role in the Final Solution and that he merely was obedient to the orders he received. To Sassen, he presented himself entirely differently: “We didn’t do our job properly. We could have done more. I didn’t just take orders. If I had been that kind of person, I would have been a fool. Instead, I was part of the thinking process, I was an idealist.”¹⁰⁹ Eichmann’s role in the Third Reich corroborates his

¹⁰⁶ Ibid., 218.

¹⁰⁷ Cesarani, *Eichmann*, 218 and Hausner, *Justice in Jerusalem*, 272.

¹⁰⁸ Cesarani, *Eichmann*, 105.

¹⁰⁹ Ian Garland, “A caged monster: Chilling shots show Nazi war criminal Adolf Eichmann rotting in an Israeli jail are released to mark the 50th anniversary of his execution,” *Daily Mail*, June 1, 2012, accessed April 7, 2013, <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2152782/A-caged-monster-Haunting-shots-Nazi-lieutenant-Adolf-Eichmann-rotting-jail-released-mark-50th-anniversary-execution.html>.

feelings that he was an idealist. He sought to solve the Jewish Question through emigration and searched for many locations to place the Jews, such as in Nisko and Madagascar. Moreover, he was critical of his own involvement in the Final Solution. He claimed he could have done better to kill the Jewish enemy: “I must tell you quite honestly that if... we had killed 10.3 million [Jews], than I would be satisfied and I would say all right, we have destroyed an enemy.”¹¹⁰

Despite Arendt’s claims that he was not anti-Semitic, his comments to Sassen paint a different picture. Eichmann told Sassen:

Since the majority of these Jews stayed alive through a trickery of fate, I tell myself that’s what fate had intended, and I have to subordinate myself to fate and providence. We would have fulfilled our duty for our blood, for our people, and for the liberty of all people, if we had destroyed the most cunning spirit of today’s mankind. Since this is not the case, I will tell you that our children will have to deal with the agony and misfortune of our failure, and maybe they will curse us.¹¹¹

While in Jerusalem, Eichmann constantly defended himself by showing that he had never killed a Jew nor ordered the death of Jews, he was certainly aware of his role in the destruction of the Jew. He compared his role in the Final Solution to a fisherman: “I sat at my desk and did my work. It was my job to catch our Jewish enemies like fish in a net and transport them to their final destination.”¹¹² While Eichmann wanted to destroy the Jews, he had much respect for the Jews: “I always claimed that we were fighting against a foe who through thousands of years of learning and development had become superior to us... it tells me that they must be a people of the first magnitude, for law-givers have always been great.”¹¹³

¹¹⁰ Bascomb, *Hunting Eichmann*, 88.

¹¹¹ *Ibid.*, 88.

¹¹² *Ibid.*, 90.

¹¹³ Eichmann, “Eichmann’s Own Story: Part II,” 161.

Eichmann's claims to Sassen also show that Arendt was incorrect in her assessment that Eichmann was not indoctrinated by the SS ideology. Eichmann told Sassen: "It is clear from the statistics, then, that our operation was not a battle fought with knives, pistols, carbines or poison gas. We used spiritual methods to reach our goal. Let us keep this distinction clear, because physical liquidation is a vulgar course."¹¹⁴ Eichmann confirms that he was a passionate and indoctrinated member of the SS. What is most chilling in his account to Sassen is the fact that he had no regret for his actions. "To sum it all up, I must say that I regret nothing... I will not humble myself or repent in any way. I could do it too cheaply in today's climate of opinion. It would be too easy to pretend that I had turned suddenly from a Saul to a Paul."¹¹⁵ Eichmann's exposition of his experience in the Third Reich and his involvement in the final solution reveal great insight into Eichmann's character: he was proud of what he had done, he was ideologically driven, was involved in the destruction of the Jews.

How can we be sure that Eichmann's comments to Sassen are entirely accurate or true? Arendt argues that they are very unreliable, she contends "Eichmann made copious notes for the interview, which was tape-recorded and then rewritten by Sassen, with considerable embellishments."¹¹⁶ Furthermore, Arendt argues that Eichmann often hyperbolized his role in the Holocaust: "Clearly, bragging had always been of his cardinal vices."¹¹⁷ Was Eichmann just bragging to inflate his role in the Final Solution? Jacob Robinson vehemently disagrees with Arendt, as he does

¹¹⁴ Eichmann, "Eichmann's Own Damning Story," 109.

¹¹⁵ Eichmann, "Eichmann's Own Story: Part II," 161.

¹¹⁶ Arendt, *Eichmann in Jerusalem*, 216- 217.

¹¹⁷ *Ibid.*, 29.

throughout his entire book, *And The Crooked Shall Be Made Straight*. He writes:

“Nothing of the sort happened. Eichmann told his story to Sassen, a Dutch Nazi ...

The parts admitted as evidence proved to be very damaging to Eichmann.”¹¹⁸ Israeli

Attorney General, Gideon Hausner, who led the prosecution against Eichmann, stated

the importance of the Sassen document lies in the fact that Eichmann made such

comments twelve years after the Final Solution:

The importance of the Sassen document lies not so much in the fact it covers as in its revelation of Eichmann’s attitude toward current problems and especially his vitriolic, permanent and implacable hatred of the Jews, which accompanied him across the seas and was as vivid twelve years after the collapse as at the time when the machinery of the Final Solution was in full swing.¹¹⁹

Arendt claims that Eichmann’s comments to Sassen show that: “every line of these

scribblings shows his utter ignorance of everything that was not directly, technically

and bureaucratically, connected with his job, and shows an extraordinarily faulty

memory.”¹²⁰ Robinson responded to Arendt’s claim by stating: “This statement is

inaccurate, as any reader of the papers could verify.”¹²¹ Arendt is incorrect when she

claimed that he was ignorant about his job and that he had faulty memory, despite

talking to Sassen twelve years after the war ended, Eichmann was able to comment

clearly on his role and recall statistics like “the transport trains rolled into Auschwitz,

sometimes brining as many as 10,000 units a day.”¹²² But Arendt is not entirely

incorrect; there are moments in the tape when Eichmann did inflate his role to appear

greater. But there also moments when Eichmann was being entirely truthful and

¹¹⁸ Robinson, *And the Crooked Shall Be Made Straight*, 118.

¹¹⁹ Gideon Hausner, *Justice in Jerusalem*, 272.

¹²⁰ Arendt, *Eichmann in Jerusalem*, 54.

¹²¹ Robinson, *And the Crooked Shall Be Made Straight*, 118.

¹²² Eichmann, “Eichmann’s Own Damning Story,” 112.

honest such as when he said that he had great respect for the Jews, a claim he would later make to Peter Malkin. While it is uncertain when he was lying or being truthful, what is certain is that the tapes provide insight into his confusion over his role in the Final Solution; by claiming he respected Jews and wished he could have done better to kill them, Eichmann had mixed feelings over his involvement.

Back at the safe house after Eichmann was captured, he made comments to his Israeli captors that are equally confusing as the ones he made to Sassen. Upon his interrogation by Malkin, Eichmann attempted to convince Malkin that he was not anti-Semitic:

I love all children...Perhaps to you it seems as if I hate Jews. I don't. I was never an anti-Semite. I was always repulsed by Streicher and the *Sturmer* crowd. I have always been fond of Jews. I had Jewish friends. When I was touring Haifa, I made a point of finding Jewish taxi drivers. I always liked the Jews better than the Arabs.¹²³

Eichmann told Malkin that he not only did he not hate Jews, but also he loved studying about the Jews, thus proving that he was zealous and passionately involved in his work: “you won't believe it, but I read Theodore Herzl's book *Der Judenstaat* about the dream of a Jewish homeland. In connection with my work, I read a wide variety of Jewish newspaper and periodicals. I fully understood the aspirations of the Jews. I can't tell you how much I loved studying Zionism.”¹²⁴ Eichmann fully wanted to drive in the point that he was a lover of Jewish studies and Zionism: “You must believe, I was always an idealist. Had I been born Jewish, I'd have been the most fervent Zionist.”¹²⁵ Eichmann not only devoted himself to studying Zionism, but he even went so far as to study Hebrew to understand the psychology and disposition of

¹²³ Malkin and Stein, *Eichmann In My Hands*, 213.

¹²⁴ *Ibid.*, 213.

¹²⁵ *Ibid.*, 213.

the Jews. He also learned some Jewish prayers: “One cannot understand the problem of the Jewish people without understand its original language. I do remember one prayer that the rabbi taught me. *Shma Yisreal, adonai elohenu, adonai echad.*”¹²⁶ For Eichmann to learn the most sacred Jewish prayer “Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is One” exemplify Eichmann’s passion towards his work.

In front of Sassen he was a hardcore Nazi who loved killing Jews, in front of Malkin he was a Zionist and a friend of the Jews. Eichmann went so far to suggest that he and Malkin were the same because they both followed orders: “Aren’t you a soldier. Don’t you follow orders? Who told you to come here and get me? What’s the difference?”¹²⁷ Both men were obviously not the same for the simple reason that Malkin was not ordered to kill Eichmann. For Eichmann, it didn’t matter what the order was; an order was an order.

Like Arendt, Malkin was struck with Eichmann’s normality. After speaking to Eichmann, Malkin came to the realization that he actually believed Eichmann:

I was quite certain Eichmann meant what he said: He had never hated the Jews, not in the same sense as his more stridently racist colleagues... he only began to hate us after the capture, for questioning his right to do what he had done. *That* turned his world upside down. How dare we question his authority? He had his orders, it was all legal.¹²⁸

Eichmann’s comments to Malkin demonstrate many insights to Eichmann. The first was that he was extremely passionate about his job. His comments also exemplify the seriousness that he worked: “Near the end, Himmler himself wanted me to stop. He thought we could save our skins. But I pressed on. If a man has an assignment to

¹²⁶ Ibid., 215.

¹²⁷ Ibid., 216.

¹²⁸ Ibid., 219.

perform, he does not stop until it is done.”¹²⁹ While these comments illustrate a different persona than what Arendt perceived, the way Eichmann presented himself to Malkin is actually extremely similar to the way he presented himself to Sassen. While talking to both Malkin and Sassen, Eichmann describes the zeal with which he worked, his passion for Jewish studies, and almost respect for the Jews. Moreover, in both expositions, Eichmann explains had both feelings of respect for the Jews while also working towards their destruction.

Eichmann’s memoirs that he began writing in Argentina also provide greater insight into Eichmann’s nature. In early 1959, three years after Eichmann spoke to Sassen, Eichmann began his memoir on his involvement in the Third Reich. Without orders to follow and somewhat haunted by his past, Eichmann was not sure how to go into the future “I am growing tired of the living life of an anonymous wanderer between two worlds. The voice of my heart, has always whispered to me to look for peace. I would also like to be at peace with my former enemies.”¹³⁰ He acknowledges that he was more than just a cog in the machine and that he was involved and part of the killing machine “I was but a faithful, decent, correct, conscientious, and enthusiastic member of the SS... inspired solely by idealistic feelings to the fatherland... to be absolutely truthful, I must accuse myself of complicity in killing, because I passed on the deportation orders I received.”¹³¹ His memoirs demonstrate that he is also confused and conflicted about his role in the destruction of the Jews:

I am still engaged in an inner struggle. My subjective attitude toward things that happened was my belief in the necessity of a total war, because I could not help believing in the constant proclamations issues by the leaders of the

¹²⁹ Ibid., 219.

¹³⁰ Bascomb, *Hunting Eichmann*, 117.

¹³¹ Ibid., 117-118.

then German Reich, such as: Victory in this total war or the German nation will perish. On the strength of that attitude, I did my commanded duty with a clear conscience and faithful heart.¹³²

Eichmann's memoirs demonstrate the confusion he expressed to both Malkin and Sassen.

In Argentina, Eichmann was not regretful over his past, but wanted that chapter of his life to be closed and to move on. Cesarani wrote: "In the five years since the end of the war, memories of the extermination of the Jews and attitudes toward Nazi war criminals had gone from fierce indignation to indifference."¹³³ Eichmann's comments to Sassen demonstrate that he still maintained feelings of indignation and was not indifferent; what is a more accurate statement is that Eichmann wanted some sort of peace with his past. He stated to Sassen a similar comment he would write in his memoir: "Through the intervening years since then people searched for me in vain. I would like to find peace with my former opponents. And I would be the first to surrender myself to the German authorities if I did not always feel that the political interest in my case would be too great to lead to a clear, objective way out."¹³⁴ While Eichmann did want to re-write his history to a degree, by talking to Sassen he wanted to close that chapter of his life. Bascomb describes these conversations with Sassen as his attempt to exorcise his demons.¹³⁵ Before his capture, Eichmann felt a sense of peace.¹³⁶ He had a stable job, he had a home, and his family. The screenplay provides a new understanding of Eichmann while also demonstrating why people are confused on who he truly is. The answer is that he was

¹³² Ibid., 118.

¹³³ Cesarani, *Eichmann*, 211.

¹³⁴ Eichmann, "Eichmann Own Story: Part II," 161.

¹³⁵ Bascomb, *Hunting Eichmann*, 149.

¹³⁶ Ibid., 149.

confused as well. In both the Sassen tapes and his memoirs, he described himself as “caught in an inner struggle.” Furthermore, that is why Eichmann is the perfect character for a film; he is multi-dimensional. There are moments when Eichmann is passionate about his role in the destruction of Jews and moments where he was upset about his role in the Final Solution. The screenplay demonstrates that there is no simple understanding of Eichmann’s nature and his role in the Third Reich.

III: The CIA and Eichmann:

While the Israeli’s captured Eichmann, the US played an important role in the Eichmann capture.¹³⁷ In the fall of 1953, the CIA received numerous letters from a distinguished New York City Rabbi, Abraham Kalmanowitz, who asked the CIA to investigate Eichmann’s whereabouts.¹³⁸ Moreover, the Rabbi sent the CIA evidence, including a note from a former Nazi who claimed to have seen Eichmann living near Buenos Aires. The CIA responded to the Rabbi stating: “We are not in the business of apprehending war criminals.”¹³⁹ While the CIA was not interested in finding war criminals, neither were the West Germans. West German chancellor Konrad Adenaur stated in 1951: “The time has come to abandon the smelling out of Nazis... If we once start on that, nobody knows where that will end.”¹⁴⁰ Furthermore, West Germany had intelligence in 1952 that Eichmann was living in Argentina, under the alias Clemens, not far from his actual alias, Ricardo Klement. Six years later, West

¹³⁷ Some of the language and notions in the following three paragraphs about the CIA and Eichmann are derived author, Lucas Wherry’s own paper, *Eichmann in Argentina*, 9/2/12, written for Professor Gallaroti’s CSS 330 taught in Spring 2012. Paper available on request.

¹³⁸ Ibid., 84.

¹³⁹ Ibid., 84.

¹⁴⁰ Ibid., 84-85.

Germany contacted the CIA with their information.¹⁴¹ The information from West Germany was part of a program called Operation Pastime. The operation provided the United States with German intelligence in case of a Soviet attack.¹⁴² While the Mossad was searching for Eichmann, the United States had evidence that Eichmann was living in Argentina, yet the information was useless since they did not help the Mossad.

The United States began recruiting Nazi scientists in as early as September 1946, when President Truman signed Operation Paperclip.¹⁴³ Operation Paperclip's goal was to "exploit German scientists for American research and to deny these intellectual resources to the Soviet Union."¹⁴⁴ Although Truman wanted to recruit Germans, Truman adamantly demanded that this operation not include any former members of the Nazi party. Despite the President's request, many high-ranking Nazi officials worked for the US, such as, Arthur Rudolph, who was in charge of operations at Nordhausen, where the V-2 missile was created (20,000 concentration camp workers at Nordhausen died to create the missile), Kurt Debus, an expert on rockets, and Hubertus Strughold who was nicknamed the "the father of space medicine", who conducted human experiments by freezing inmates at both Dachau and Auschwitz.¹⁴⁵ Despite being war criminals and President Truman's request, the former Nazis were cleared and able to work for the United States. Additionally men

¹⁴¹ Scott Shane, "C.I.A. Knew Where Eichmann Was Hiding, Documents Show," *The New York Times*, June 7, 2006, accessed April 7, 2013, <http://www.nytimes.com/2006/06/07/world/americas/07nazi.html>.

¹⁴² Shumel Rosner, "Documents show post-war CIA covered up Nazi war crimes," *Haaretz*, June 6, 2006, accessed August 7, 2013, <http://www.haaretz.com/news/documents-show-post-war-cia-covered-up-nazi-war-crimes-1.189490>.

¹⁴³ Charles Ashman and Robert J. Wagman, *The Nazi Hunters* (New York: Pharos Books, 1988), 213.

¹⁴⁴ Andrew Walker, "Project Paperclip: Dark side of the Moon," *BBC NEWS*, November 21, 2005, accessed April 7, 2013, http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk_news/magazine/4443934.stm.

¹⁴⁵ Ibid.

who worked under Eichmann in the SS section Amt IV B4 were some of the men that the CIA had recruited: “No one, it seems, not even Adolf Eichmann’s personal staff, was too tainted to be rejected by the CIA’s recruiters.”¹⁴⁶

Since the United States wanted the top scientists to help the military in order to defeat the USSR, they were concerned that if they pursued Eichmann it would expose that there were Nazis working in the US government.¹⁴⁷ West Germany felt similarly as the US. According to professor of history at the University Virginia, Professor Naftali stated: “The West German government was wary of exposing Eichmann because officials feared what he might reveal about such figures as Hans Globke, a former Nazi government official then serving as a top of national security advisor to Chancellor Konrad Adenaur.”¹⁴⁸ Despite the US and Germany’s lack of interest in the Eichmann capture, the Israeli secret service, the Mossad, was able to capture Eichmann in 1960, in their clandestine operation, “Operation Eichmann.”

Why should the CIA have gone after Eichmann? The answer is they shouldn’t have. The CIA had no responsibility or jurisdiction to capture Eichmann. Furthermore, the CIA’s role as a governmental agency was not to capture war criminals, especially war criminals that did not directly harm the United States or break the law outside of US. The importance of the CIA in the Eichmann capture is that they had knowledge of Eichmann’s whereabouts that was never used. Moreover, both the United States and West Germany’s lack of interest in Eichmann demonstrates the importance of the Israeli capture and to a degree justifies the Israeli capture. While the Mossad broke both Argentine and international law, had they not

¹⁴⁶ Christopher Simpson, *Blowback* (New York: Weidenfeld & Nicolson, 1988), 245, 290.

¹⁴⁷ Rosner, “Documents show post-war CIA covered up Nazi war crimes.”

¹⁴⁸ Shane, “C.I.A. Knew Where Eichmann Was Hiding, Documents Show.”

captured Eichmann, Eichmann most likely would never had been captured and most of the worst Nazis would have lived a life of freedom without being punished for his wrongdoings.

IV: Operation Eichmann:

The Mossad's capture of Eichmann named, Operation Eichmann, had profound effects that extended beyond the Israeli courtroom. In the introduction of their text *Nazi Hunters*, Charles Ashman and Robert J. Wagman write: "We hope that through this book you will understand that the United States government does not have the authority to prosecute any foreign Nazi war criminal for any crime whatsoever, because those crimes did not occur in the United States."¹⁴⁹ Like the US, Israel had no authority to prosecute or capture war criminals like Eichmann. Zvi Aharoni, Chief Interrogator and lead member of the Mossad who in Argentina found that that the man suspected to be Eichmann, was in fact Eichmann, wrote in his book, *Operation Eichmann*, that the Mossad in the 1950s had no special department that was concerned with hunting and capturing Nazi criminals.¹⁵⁰ The Mossad's lack of activity indicated the Israeli consciousness at the time. Despite an Israeli law that had passed in 1950 that allowed the government to capture Nazis, people in Israel had difficulty openly discussing the events of the Holocaust because it was too painful.¹⁵¹ Furthermore, the government felt it was more important to establish the new country and protect itself against its Arab neighbors.

Regardless of the fact that Eichmann had not committed any crimes on Israeli soil, there are many reasons why Israel wanted to capture Eichmann. Eichmann for

¹⁴⁹ Ashman and Wagman, *The Nazi Hunters*, 10.

¹⁵⁰ Aaroni and Dietl, *Operation Eichmann*, 79.

¹⁵¹ Bascomb, *Hunting Eichmann*, 101.

Israel was not simply a man, but a symbol of all that was wrong with the Nazis. After World War II and the fall of the Third Reich, anti-Semitism was still extremely widespread. Buildings in New York, West Germany, Buenos Aires and even parts of Australia had been vandalized by pro-Nazi, anti-Jewish slogans.¹⁵² Eichmann's sons in Argentina were also heavily involved in the neo-Nazi community. Isser Harel, the Head of the Mossad, felt that by capturing Eichmann, it would send a message to the world: "It was clear to me that Eichmann's capture and his judgment in Israel would constitute a crushing counteraction to the Nazi monster's attempt to rear its head once more."¹⁵³ In his book, *The House on Garibaldi Street*, Harel presents himself as very gung-ho about capturing Eichmann: "I knew that the blood-drenched earth which held the remains of his millions of victims was crying out for vengeance, but...no police were looking for him to answer for his crimes... That night I resolved that if Eichmann were alive, come hell or high water he'd be caught."¹⁵⁴ Despite Harel's passionate outcry to capture Eichmann, in reality, the Mossad almost let Eichmann slip through their fingers, mostly because of Harel's reluctance to go after Eichmann.

Harel treated the Eichmann capture as if it were not a top priority for the Israeli government. Eichmann was not found by the Mossad, but by Lothar Hermann, a blind Jew, who had spent time in Dachau. Klaus Eichmann, Eichmann's son, began dating Lothar's daughter, Sylvia. One day over dinner at the Hermann house, Klaus began speaking about how he wished the Germans had finished their job of extermination. Months later, in 1957, Sylvia Hermann was reading the paper to her

¹⁵² Isser Harel, *The House on Garibaldi Street* (New York: The Viking Press, 1975), 28. Eichmann moved his house from Chacabuco Street to Garibaldi Street. Eichmann was later captured on Garibaldi Street, hence the title of Harel's text.

¹⁵³ *Ibid.*, 29.

¹⁵⁴ *Ibid.*, 3.

father about a war crimes trial in Frankfurt.¹⁵⁵ The article described how Adolf Eichmann was still missing. Lothar remembered the dinner conversation he had with Klaus Eichmann and the comments Klaus made about his desire for Jewish extermination.

Lothar contacted Dr. Fritz Bauer, the Attorney General in Frankfurt. Both Harel and Hermann had similar interests in capturing Eichmann; both men had Jewish blood and had spent time in concentration camps because of their support for the Social Democratic Party. Hermann had also gone blind due to the beatings he received from the Gestapo. Much of Hermann's family had been killed in concentration camps. Bauer as Attorney General actively prosecuted Nazi war criminals. After receiving his information from Lothar, Bauer sent Lothar enough information on Eichmann that he would be able to make a positive identification. Lothar had sent Sylvia to Klaus' home, where she was able to confirm that that Adolf, based on Bauer's information, was in fact Klaus' father. In September 1957, Bauer contacted the Mossad with information on Eichmann and that he was living at 4261 Chacabuco Street.¹⁵⁶ It was not until January 1958, that Harel sent an operative to investigate the address. Yoel Goren, the Mossad agent sent to Argentina. Upon seeing where Eichmann lived, Goren believed that the "wretched little house" could not be the home of a Nazi of Eichmann's stature.¹⁵⁷ In March, Harel sent the Mossad agent Ephraim Hofstetter to pose as Bauer's representative and to meet with the Hermanns. Despite the positive identification, Hermann at times very incorrect about his information on Eichmann. He claimed that Eichmann had undergone intensive plastic

¹⁵⁵ Bascomb, *Hunting Eichmann*, 92. The trial was not the Frankfurt-Auschwitz, which began in 1963.

¹⁵⁶ Aharoni and Dietel, *Operation Eichmann*, 78.

¹⁵⁷ Bascomb, *Hunting Eichmann*, 107.

surgery, which was why no one could recognize Eichmann in photographs.¹⁵⁸ Harel felt that the Hermann information was not legitimate and that they did not have enough hard evidence to capture Eichmann. Like many of the Mossad members that would later capture Eichmann, Lothar's desire to capture Eichmann was to get revenge for his family. Harel terminated all contact with the Hermanns because he felt the evidence was not substantial enough.

At this point the case was basically dropped. According to Aharoni: "Harel lost confidence completely... The *Mossad* file on Eichmann was deposited in the archives... Hofstetter met Hermann in March of 1958. The blind man was given half a year to prove his statements. When he failed, Harel closed the whole case in September of that year."¹⁵⁹ In December 1959, Fritz Bauer went to Israel to meet with Chaim Cohen, the Israeli Attorney General and Harel.¹⁶⁰ Bauer was infuriated with Harel's refusal to give the case appropriate consideration. Bauer convinced Harel to send Aharoni to Argentina to find Eichmann's whereabouts and confirm that this was in fact Eichmann. Bauer had received new information from a separate source, completely unrelated to Hermann. The new source informed Bauer that Eichmann was living in Buenos Aires as Ricardo Klement.¹⁶¹ The source also informed Bauer that Eichmann, through the help of the Catholic Church, was able to obtain a Red Cross-issued passport that allowed for Eichmann to enter Argentina without any

¹⁵⁸ Harel, *The House on Garibaldi Street*, 18.

¹⁵⁹ Aharoni and Dietel, *Operation Eichmann*, 83.

¹⁶⁰ *Ibid.*, 84.

¹⁶¹ *Ibid.*, 85.

problems.¹⁶² Had Bauer not received new information from the new source, Harel would have most likely dropped the case for good.

Once in Argentina, Aharoni was able to affirm that Eichmann was in Argentina and that he fit all of the information that Harel had provided him. Harel sent Aharoni with information on Eichmann, such as what he looked like and information on his family. Aharoni was able to find Eichmann's home on Chacabuco Street and the home he later moved to on Garibaldi Street. He was also able to take photographic evidence of Eichmann that confirmed his identity. Once they knew it was Eichmann, Operation Eichmann got the go ahead. The capture almost never happened though, due to Harel's refusal to help and refusal to listen to Hermann. Aharoni described this issue in his text: "The sad truth is that Eichmann was discovered by a blind man and that [the] *Mossad* needed more than two years to believe him."¹⁶³ Israel gets all of the credit for capturing Eichmann, but without Fritz Bauer's efforts, a German, and Lothar Hermann, a blind man, Harel would never have been pushed to capture Eichmann.

There is much speculation over whether or not Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion was fully aware of the impact the Eichmann capture would have. According to Arendt, Ben-Gurion wanted to capture Eichmann in order to show the younger generations what happened to their grandparents: "It is necessary that our youth remember what happened to the Jewish people."¹⁶⁴ Deborah Lipstadt in her book, *The Eichmann Trial*, writes that Ben-Gurion adopted the goal of educating the people

¹⁶² Aharoni and Dietel, *Operation Eichmann*, 84 and Steinacher, *Nazis On The Run*, 49.

¹⁶³ Aharoni and Dietel, *Operation Eichmann*, 84.

¹⁶⁴ Arendt, *Eichmann in Jerusalem*, 10.

only well after Eichmann had been captured and in the hands of the Mossad.¹⁶⁵ Regardless of whether or not Ben-Gurion knew the educational impact that the capture and trial would have, he did know that he wanted Eichmann to be brought back to Jerusalem, alive, in order that he could be put on the stand for the world to see. Nazi hunter Simon Wiesenthal succinctly described the importance of bringing back Eichmann alive: “if you kill an Eichmann, the world will never learn what he did.”¹⁶⁶ The world needed to be reminded of what Eichmann had done and what the Jews had gone through.

The capture and the trial at first were extremely controversial and received much scrutiny, due to its illegality. On June 10, 1960, Argentina notified the United Nations that unless Eichmann was returned to Argentina by the Israeli government, Argentina would issue a complaint against Israel citing that the Israeli government broke the UN charter which “requires members to settle dispute in such a manner that international peace, security and justice are not endangered.”¹⁶⁷ The Israeli government refused to return Eichmann back to Argentina and five days later on June 15, 1960, Argentina issued a formal complaint against Israel through the Security Council in the United Nations on the basis that the “illicit transfer of Adolf Eichmann to Israel from Argentina had created an atmosphere of insecurity and mistrust incompatible with the preservation of international laws.”¹⁶⁸ Argentina had every right to issue a complaint against the Israelis. The Israelis had acted illegally by violating international and Argentinean law. Not only did Israel violate international

¹⁶⁵ Lipstadt, *The Eichmann Trial*, 28.

¹⁶⁶ Ashman and Wagman, *The Nazi Hunters*, 131.

¹⁶⁷ “Argentina Tells U.N. of Nazi Case: Serves Notice She Will File Complaint if Israel Does Not Return Eichmann,” *The New York Times*, June 11, 1960, 4.

¹⁶⁸ Ashman and Wagman, *The Nazi Hunters* 132.

law, but also Israel demonstrated that it had little respect for other nations and their legal system. Dr. Mario Amadeo who presented Argentina's complaint to the UN stated: "If this principle were to become obsolescent, if its violation cannot result in punishment, and if each state feels authorized, every time it sees fit to do so, to supplant or replace the authority of another state and take justice into its own hands, international law would rapidly become the law of the jungle."¹⁶⁹ Israel had violated a very significant principle, if each nation had no regard for other nations laws and jurisdictional authority, the world could result in chaos. It is extremely arrogant that Israel could disregard both international and Argentine law, while applying Israeli law to another country without consequences.

The New York Times shared Argentina's complaints by condemning the actions of the Israelis: "Premier Ben-Gurion refers to the "supreme moral justification" of this act. He is wrong. No immoral or illegal act justifies another. The rule of law must protect the most depraves of criminals if it is also to stand as a bulwark against the victimization of the innocent."¹⁷⁰ *The New York Times* argued that the best course of action would be to try Eichmann in West Germany: "he should be handed over to the Germans for trial, for it was in German-controlled territory and through the instrumentality of Germans that he carried out his monstrous acts against the Jews-against humanity."¹⁷¹ The newspaper argued that the crimes Eichmann committed were not simply against the Jews, but against human beings. According to

¹⁶⁹ "Excerpts From the Debate in U.N. Security Council on Eichmann Controversy," *The New York Times*, June 23, 1960, 4.

¹⁷⁰ "The Eichmann Trial, II" *The New York Times*, June 18, 1960, 22.

¹⁷¹ *Ibid.*, 22.

the critics, not only was Israel wrong to capture him, but also they were additionally wrong to think they could try him.

Israel felt that it was absolutely justified in both capturing and trying Eichmann. Israel admitted that it had violated intentional law and Ben-Gurion expressed regret for violating both Argentine and international law, but the actions of the Israelis who captured Eichmann had acted in reaction to “an inner moral imperative.”¹⁷² In Paris, on June 17, 1960, Ben-Gurion stated:

There was a crime committed against the Jewish people a crime without precedent. It is true that Israel did not exist in its external manifestation at the time, but it existed in the hearts of the Jewish people. The Jewish state is the only one with the right and the competence to try the man who killed 6,000,000 Jews.¹⁷³

Israel justified its actions by illustrating that the crimes were unprecedented and therefore the actions of the Israelis were as well. They also added that no other nation had attempted to capture Eichmann. Had it not been for the Israelis, Eichmann would continue to live in freedom without punishment for his crimes against both the Jews and humanity. Golda Meir, the Israeli Foreign Minister stated before the U.N. Security Council while she believed many wanted to bring Eichmann to trial: “the fact remains that for fifteen years nobody found him... I want to stress again that if the Israeli citizens broke the law of the Argentine they broke it not in tracking down any ordinary criminal, but in tracking down Adolf Eichmann.”¹⁷⁴ Golda continued to argue that given the nature and uniqueness of Eichmann’s crimes, there would never

¹⁷² “Seizure and Trial of Eichmann Stir Widespread Legal Debate: Much of Controversy Involves Validity Of Israel’s Claim to Jurisdiction, but Issue is Sassen as Academic,” *The New York Times*, April 11, 1961, 14.

¹⁷³ “Ben-Gurion Avers Nazi Trial ‘Right’: Justice in Eichmann Case is ‘Superior Degree of Law,’ He Says in Paris,” *The New York Times*, June 18, 1960, 9.

¹⁷⁴ “Argentina Tells U.N. of Nazi Case,” *The New York Times*, 4.

be another Adolf Eichmann and therefore Israel would never act in the way it had again.¹⁷⁵

Notwithstanding the Argentinian governments criticism of Israel, surprisingly, the Argentinian press agreed with the capture. Writer Ernesto Sabato in the Argentinian newspaper *El Mundo* asked: “How can we not admire a group of brave men who... had the honesty to deliver him up for trial by judicial tribunals instead of... finishing him on the spot?”¹⁷⁶ Despite Sabato’s positive remarks, Jews were subjected to violent anti-Semitic attacks as a result of the capture in Argentina. In August 1960, a Jewish-teenager was shot by rightwing Neo-Nazis; this attack was not an isolated incident and was one of many.¹⁷⁷ There were also anti-Semitic assaults in West Germany. Furthermore, while many argued that West Germany was the only legitimate place to hold the trial, West Germany was happy that the Israelis were holding the trial. German Chancellor Adenauer feared that by having any war trial in Germany, that it would reveal to the world that the German government had employed many former Nazis.¹⁷⁸ The German press was in the forefront for praising the Israeli’s actions. *Die Welt*, a newspaper published in Hamburg, reprimanded those who opposed the actions of the Israeli’s: “those who belabor the procedural inconveniences and oddities of this trial in order to help them close their minds against its content.”¹⁷⁹ *The Frankfurter Allgemeine* wrote: “It is not for us to question the Israelis as to where and how of the arrest... It is of no importance *where*

¹⁷⁵ Ibid., 4

¹⁷⁶ Lipstadt, *The Eichmann Trial*, 25.

¹⁷⁷ Cesarani, *Eichmann*, 239.

¹⁷⁸ Lipstadt, *The Eichmann Trial*, 27.

¹⁷⁹ *New York Times*, “Seizure and Trial of Eichmann Stir Widespread Legal Debate,” 24.

Eichmann is brought to justice.”¹⁸⁰ Another paper in Frankfurt, the *Rundschau*, found “any legal basis acceptable” insofar that it “guarantees an orderly trial.”¹⁸¹

Israel was justified in capturing Eichmann because had the Israelis not captured him, as Mrs. Meir testified, he most likely never would have been captured. Both West Germany and the US had no desire to capture Eichmann and there appears no reason why the Argentinean government would have suddenly investigated the numerous former Nazis living throughout the country. Additionally, Israel had great reason to believe that had they notified Argentina about Eichmann, Argentina would not have accepted Israel’s extradition request. Argentina was notorious for not extraditing Nazis.¹⁸² Therefore, Arendt demonstrates that “the realm of legality offered no alternative to kidnapping.”¹⁸³ The Israelis easily could have killed Eichmann, but they did not. They wanted to show the world what he had done and they wanted him to have a fair trial. Israel may not have had a legal basis for capturing Eichmann and bringing him to trial, but there was no other country willing to do what Israel had done.

The capture and trial had a profound impact not only on Israel, but also the world. The effects of the trial were much more significant than Ben-Gurion or Harel could ever have expected at the time they planned to capture Eichmann. Despite the attempts by the Israeli government to assimilate the Holocaust into public life through the efforts of creating Yad Vashem in 1953 and Ben-Gurion sanctioning a Holocaust

¹⁸⁰ Lipstadt, *The Eichmann Trial*, 27.

¹⁸¹ *Ibid.*, 27.

¹⁸² Arendt, *Eichmann in Jerusalem*, 264.

¹⁸³ *Ibid.*, 264.

Memorial Day in 1959, people still had difficulty talking about the Holocaust.¹⁸⁴ The writer Haim Gouri spoke for Israelis and Holocaust survivors when he said: “The Holocaust was nowhere and everywhere in the land.”¹⁸⁵ Many Holocaust survivors fled from Eastern Europe to Israel in order to create a new life in Israel and to escape their horrible past. The Eichmann trial forced people to come to terms with what had happened and forced the survivors to testify against Eichmann. Gideon Hausner wrote: “The immediate result of the trial was to compel the world to confront its yesterdays anew. Human nature finds it painful to look unflinchingly at the horrors of the past; it is very quick to forget them.”¹⁸⁶ The trial in Jerusalem forced those that were unable to come to terms with what happened.

Due to the testimonials at the trial, it changed not only the Israeli consciousness, but also the consciousness of the world, forcing those to always remember what happened. Haim Gouri wrote: “The trial legitimized the disclosure of one’s past. What had been silenced and repressed gushed out and became common knowledge.”¹⁸⁷ The personal testimonials at the trial were extremely powerful. The exhibit from Yad Vashem further added:

The trial broke down the reluctance of many Israelis and Jews to approach the Holocaust, due to the powerful impression left by the personal testimonies of over a hundred witnesses who were called upon to recount their experiences during the Holocaust. Echoes of the trial finally attracted attention and awareness to the Holocaust survivors living among us, who had hesitated prior to the trial, to tell their personal stories, owing to a reluctance and an absence of openness among many native-born Israelis.¹⁸⁸

¹⁸⁴ Cesarani, Eichmann, 331.

¹⁸⁵ Haim Gouri, ‘Facing the Glass Booth,’ in Hartman (ed.), Holocaust Remembrance, 154 in Cesarani, Eichmann, 331.

¹⁸⁶ Hausner, Justice in Jerusalem, 447.

¹⁸⁷ Cesarani, Eichmann, 339.

¹⁸⁸ “Eichmann’s Trial in Jerusalem: Shaping an Awareness of the Holocaust in Israeli and World Public Opinion,” Yad Vashem, accessed April 11, 2013, http://www.yadvashem.org/yv/en/exhibitions/eichmann/awareness_of_the_holocaust.asp.

Whether or not Ben Gurion was fully aware how educational the trial would be at the moment he gave Harel the go-ahead, the trial had profound impact on the Israeli youth. Hausner wrote that there was a reoccurring phrase amongst school children, they responded to the trial by saying, “Our eyes have been opened.”¹⁸⁹ Israelis realized they were a nation of survivors. The editor of a leading Israeli newspaper told Hausner, “For years I have been living next to this woman, without so much as an inkling of who she was.”¹⁹⁰ Hausner showed that that trial forced the young Jews of Israel to understand they were no different than those that had perished in the death camps: “Now, when the young Israelis followed the trial, it dawned on him that he was no different from the millions who had perished. They were his own flesh and blood. He was merely fortunate not to have been in Europe himself in Hitler’s time.”¹⁹¹ Despite the Nazi attempt to destroy the Jews, the Eichmann capture and trial created a new strengthened Israeli and Jewish identity, but the impact of the capture and trial extended far beyond Israeli and those that were Jewish, such as having a substantial influence in West Germany. The trial also affected the educational system of West Germany. West Germany set more news correspondents to cover the trial than any other nation; as a result of the immense press coverage, the West German school system integrated Eichmann’s career and role in the Third Reich into the history lessons.¹⁹²

The trial had a profound impact not only on Israeli Jews, but also American Jews. The capture and trial brought global media attention to the events that

¹⁸⁹ Hausner, *Justice in Jerusalem*, 453.

¹⁹⁰ *Ibid.*, 453.

¹⁹¹ *Ibid.*, 331.

¹⁹² Cesarani, *Eichmann*, 334.

transpired in Nazi Germany. Like in Israel, American Jews refused to really acknowledge the Holocaust. It was the Eichmann capture that began the healing process in America. According to Alvin Rosenfield, a literary scholar, described this hypothesis quite clearly: “For Years after the end of World War II, Jews in America were unable or unwilling to face up to the horrors... It was only in the 1960s, beginning with Israel’s abduction of Eichmann,” that American Jews made “an exceptional effort... to educate themselves and the public at large about the Nazi crimes.”¹⁹³ The Eichmann capture and subsequent trial not only helped educate the Jews of America, but also led the memorialization of the Holocaust in America. Historian Jonathan Sarna wrote: “it was Israel’s capture of Nazi leader Adolf Eichmann in 1960, his trial in Jerusalem about a year later, and Hannah Arendt’s disturbing book on the trial published in 1963” that led to the American Jews decision to memorialize the Holocaust.¹⁹⁴ He most likely found Arendt’s text disturbing for her display of Eichmann’s normality. The capture and subsequent trial affected all spheres of life, even places unexpectedly as Japan. In Japan it was the Eichmann trial and the publication of Anne Frank’s *The Diary of a Young Girl* that helped the Japanese understand the Holocaust.¹⁹⁵

The profound effects of the Eichmann trial do not justify the Israeli capture in so far that in retrospect that it was educational and important for the youth of Israel and Jews throughout the world. Nonetheless, the trial had a substantial impact on the Jews of Israel and the world. Eichmann had a much more significant impact on Israel

¹⁹³ Hasia R. Diner, *We Remember with Reverence and Love* (New York: New York University Press, 2009), 6.

¹⁹⁴ *Ibid.*, 20.

¹⁹⁵ Stephen E. Atkins, *Holocaust Denial As An International Movement* (Westport: Praeger, 2009), 230.

and the world than was expected at the time of his capture. While yes it was illegal for the Israelis to act as they did, had the Israel not acted as it had, Eichmann would most likely have never been captured.

V: Cinema as History:

Film as a historical medium is extremely controversial in the eyes of historians. The social sciences are extremely skeptical when it comes to historical cinema and whether or not film can authentically convey truth better than a historical document.¹⁹⁶ Historians find historical cinema disturbing because it presents an unauthentic account of an event: “Inevitably, something happens on the way from the page to the screen that changes the meaning of the past as it is understood by those of us who work in words.”¹⁹⁷ Historians are very critical towards film, because many films are inaccurate when it comes to the historical representation of an event. Given this understanding of film, film is disassociated from the historical event that is attempting to portray. Dramatizing events a filmmaker adjusts many variables to present the event and story. Therefore, according to the skeptics, film is not true to the historical event. According to this interpretation of cinema, cinema can neither be an appropriate medium to understand history nor to be a source of historical analysis.

Moreover, historians are critical of film because they feel that a subjective influence is very pronounced in film. Yet in history, the same subjective influence occurs in written form, it is just less obvious than its cinematic counterpart. They argue that the filmmaker is using history for some agenda.¹⁹⁸ Historians have a

¹⁹⁶ William Guynn, *Writing History in Film* (New York: Routledge, 2006), 1.

¹⁹⁷ *Ibid.*, 10.

¹⁹⁸ Richard Francaviglia and Jerry Rodnitzky, edit., *Lights, Camera, History* (Arlington: Texas A&M University Press, 2007), vii.

similar agenda; they use historical documents and their personal biases to present the event they writing about. Furthermore, despite the historian's concerns, there can be truly historical cinema. As historian Marc Ferro demonstrates: "For the most part filmmakers pay attention to this scholarly precision... Obviously there are more demanding filmmakers who go to the archives themselves and play at being historians" Ferro also argues that a visual understanding of film can be the same as a written document. Marc Ferro argues that the: "[a film's] image can be as true as documents."¹⁹⁹ Film and history are also very similar. They both reconstruct a person or event, comment on other works, enter debates, and revive the person or event in an effort to make the person or event meaningful for new audiences.²⁰⁰

There are films that set out to provide an account of historical events, while also creating a meaningful link between the past and the present.²⁰¹ Film can create such a link by going beyond the written word. Film can provide a visceral experience of a historical event; therefore film is not only a resource for historical documentation, "but it is also capable of meaningful historical representations."²⁰² Cinema, especially in modern society, is one of the most powerful mediums and its influence is extremely puissant. Part of the power of cinema is due to the society we live in; we live in a visual society.²⁰³ We live in a world where people watch films and are influenced by cinema; cinema is a compelling stimulus. Steven Spielberg's *Saving Private Ryan* (1998) had a profound influence on its viewers; viewers felt

¹⁹⁹ Marc Ferro, *Cinema and History*, (Detroit: Wayne State University Press, 1988), 48.

²⁰⁰ Peter C. Rollins, *Film and History: Our Media Environment as a New Frontier* in Francaviglia and Rodnitzky, *Lights, Camera, History*, 7.

²⁰¹ *Ibid.*, 19.

²⁰² *Ibid.*, 18.

²⁰³ John Markert, *Post-9/11 Cinema: Through a Lens Darkly* (Lanham: Scarecrow, 2011), xxxiv.

compelled to better understand World War II and research the events that they had seen in the film.²⁰⁴ Similarly, cinema of the Holocaust has had a penetrating impact on Germany. NBC broadcast a multipart Hollywood drama made for TV titled *Holocaust* (1978). The series drew wide audiences, especially in Germany. After the show aired, German scholars debate with one another about how their nation handled the examination of Nazi Germany. Furthermore, thousands of people wrote the government asking why the schools had failed to properly teach their children about the Third Reich.²⁰⁵

In *Eichmann*, Cesarani argues that despite debates on Eichmann, there is little doubt that most people have forgotten Eichmann and the trial.²⁰⁶ The screenplay provides a solution to this issue. The screenplay as a thesis serves as a medium that provides a novel, unique interpretation of history that can be meaningful for a new audience. The beauty of the screenplay is that it creates history in real time. When Eichmann is experiencing something, whether it is his promotion as a Nazi, his fight with Vera, or his conversations with Sassen and Malkin, we, the audience experience the events along with him. Cinema, as a visual medium, can go beyond where a written document of history cannot. Film is able to show, rather than tell: “As a result, they fulfill the dream of every historian: somehow to be present in the past.”²⁰⁷ What the screenplay offers, which a written history cannot, is that the audience can directly experience what Eichmann is thinking and feeling. We understand why he made the

²⁰⁴ Robert Brent Toplin, *In Defense of the Filmmakers* in Francaviglia and Rodnitzky, *Lights, Camera, History*, 115-116.

²⁰⁵ *Ibid.*, 117-118.

²⁰⁶ Cesarani, *Eichmann*, 337.

²⁰⁷ Vanessa R. Schwartz, *Film and History* in James Donald and Michael Renov, edit., *The SAGE Handbook of Film Studies* (Los Angeles: SAGE Publications LTD., 2008), 199.

choices he did as Nazi and how those choices impacted him over ten years later. Furthermore, we completely understand Eichmann's emotional state. The screenplay also shows how Eichmann was able to influence and impact so many. Through the screenplay we see Eichmann interacting with other émigré Nazis, his family, and his captors. We are able to understand his life on a moment-to-moment basis.

The screenplay also allows for a unique interpretation of Eichmann. Eichmann's career as a Nazi was not unequivocal. While he was very key part of the Final Solution, he at moments expressed dismay that he had a role in the physical destruction of the Jews. His career as a Nazi is extremely complicated. On trial, the prosecution sought to show Eichmann's evilness. Arendt responded by wanting to show his normality. Cesarani and Robinson sought to show that the prosecution was correct and Arendt's understanding of Eichmann was unfounded. Eichmann is an extremely complicated person and does not fit the binary that historians seek to ascribe him; the screenplay shows how Eichmann falls in the middle of the two polarized interpretations. When Eichmann is understood in a visual medium, the viewer is able to assess him as a whole; by the very nature of Eichmann's visual representation, he does not suffer from the same fragmented and polarized characterization of his written depictions.

The screenplay is able to show how Eichmann interacted with various people so drastically different. The screenplay is also able to show that Eichmann was not just a historical figure; ultimately he is a man with a family that he needed to provide for. The screenplay shows a man caught in-between his past and his future. We empathize with him; we, the audience, know he is a terrible figure and have witnessed

him brag about his role in the destruction of the Jews, nonetheless we feel upset when he is captured. Cinema is powerful because it evokes empathy and has an emotional significance. The screenplay, greater than a written history, allows for the audience to experience Eichmann's internal struggle, just as he himself experienced it.

By focusing on Eichmann's life in Argentina and his capture, the screenplay provides a holistic experience. We witness Eichmann as he attempts to create a life for his family, as he seeks to reconcile his past, and to move on with his future. The screenplay allows for interiority for all the characters, not just Eichmann. While the film is about Eichmann and the Israeli capture, each of the characters in the film represents a greater issue. Klaus Eichmann represents the rampant Neo-Nazi culture that was prevalent in Argentina. The members of the Mossad, Lothar Hermann, and Dr. Fritz Bauer all represent the desire to bring justice to the Jewish people and capture someone that directly lead to the deaths of their people and their families. These people were not simply governed by revenge, but the aspiration to help the Jewish people. Cinema is able to tap into a consciousness that a written document sometimes is not able to do.

VI: Writing Process:

The College of Social Studies prepares its students from the sophomore year to write a traditional thesis, but I felt that a screenplay was the most appropriate medium to examine and approach Eichmann's life and capture in Argentina and that a simple thesis would fail to accurately tell the Eichmann story.

Two goals guided me while writing my thesis: the first was to become as familiar with Eichmann as possible. I researched extensively on his life as a Nazi, his

escape to Argentina, his life and capture in Argentina, and later his trial. The second goal was to learn the craft of screenwriting. I began reading many texts on how to write a screenplay, such as Syd Field's *Screenplay* and *The Screen-writer's Workbook*, Blake Snyder's *Save the Cat*, and Robert McKee's *Story*.

What guided my screenwriting and history of the events were books that discussed and were concerned with his life in Argentina and his capture, such as *Hunting Eichmann*, *Operation Eichmann*, *The House on Garibaldi Street*, *Eichmann in My Hands*, *Justice in Jerusalem*, and the portion of the Sassen Tapes covered in *Life Magazine* titled, "Eichmann Tells His Own Damning Story" and "Eichmann's Own Story: Part II." But these books simply provided the dots; my extensive research on Eichmann connected and filled in the dots. I was able to combine many different historical understandings of Eichmann and disparate elements into a cohesive narrative, while making novel conclusions.

My research included reading texts *Eichmann*, *And the Crooked Shall Be Made Straight*, *The Eichmann Trial*, *Eichmann Interrogated*, *Eichmann's Men*, and *Eichmann in Jerusalem*. Furthermore, I viewed many Western films and the films of Quentin Tarantino to influence my screen writing. Westerns and Tarantino films such as *The Good the Bad the Ugly*, and *Inglorious Bastards* heavily influenced the way I viewed the capture. Such films are concerned with revenge and getting justice. All of the members of the Mossad were either Holocaust survivors or had a family member that was killed in the Holocaust; consequently the theme of revenge has an important role in the capture. Furthermore, had Eichmann not done his job properly, the families of the Mossad agents could be alive. Moreover, the films of Steven Spielberg that

were written by Tony Kushner were also extremely influential in that they were presenting a historical narrative, such as *Munich* and *Lincoln*. Both films demonstrated the impact that cinema can have: that it makes the viewer think, feel, and learn about a subject or event they were not acquainted with.

VII: Authenticity and Originality:

Writing the screenplay proved to be very difficult because I wanted to be as true to the story as possible, while also maintaining originality by presenting Eichmann in a new way. Many books have been written on Eichmann's role as a Nazi, his trial, and his capture. Members of the Mossad team that captured Eichmann wrote texts on their respective role in the capture. By taking other documents, combining them with my additional research on Eichmann and synthesizing them into a unique thesis, the results constitutes both a novel interpretation and presentation of events. These books written by historians and former Mossad Agents provided the dots, but it was my background and research that was able to connect them in a unique way. The Eichmann capture had different implications and meanings for different groups across the United States, West Germany, and Israel. Moreover, by presenting Eichmann's unique nature, I seek for the reader and audience to understand why there are many different interpretations of Eichmann.

I used real dialogue whenever possible, to further ensure the authenticity of the screenplay; for example, I included speeches and conversations that actually occurred between Sassen and Eichmann, Hofstetter and Hermann, Eichmann and Malkin.²⁰⁸ Almost all of the events in the screenplay are based on verified historical

²⁰⁸ The real dialogue was obtained from Bascomb, *Hunting Eichmann*, Malkin and Stein, *Eichmann In My Hands*, Harel, *The House on Garibaldi Street*, Aharoni and Dietl, *Operation Eichmann*, Cesarani,

events; Eichmann frequented cafes with Skorzeny and meet Sassen and Mengele, the CIA had intelligence on Eichmann's whereabouts, Vera brought back Newspaper clippings about Eichmann and asked him about his involvement in the Third Reich and the Final Solution, Aharoni drove by Eichmann's house and was so excited at seeing Eichmann that he lied to his secretary so she wouldn't be come suspicious, and Klaus stormed into Eichmann's house one night afraid of an INTERPOL report. Moreover, all the character's and their names that are portrayed are real and documented.²⁰⁹

In some scenes such as the Eichmann and Sassen and Eichmann and Malkin scene, I would combine separate conversations that happened over a series of days into a single, coherent dialogue. I was able to use the real Eichmann recording occurred in *Life Magazine* as well as sections from the Sassen tapes that appeared in the texts I read. In the Sassen and Eichmann scene, every comment that Eichmann makes, like the Malkin scene, are all true, verified statements that Eichmann made. Since Sassen is not on the tape, I provided original questions that I believed most likely were asked given Eichmann's response.

There are times when I used real dialogue but it was not substantial enough so I had to supplement the real dialogue with original dialogue that I felt would be most accurate to what was actually said. Such scenes are Harel and the Mossad, Harel, Cohen and Bauer, and most of the events with Zvi, Fernando, and Roberto as they try to find Eichmann in Argentina. When real dialogue was not available I read

Eichmann and Eichmann "Eichmann's Own Damning Story," and "Eichmann's Own Story: Part II," *Life Magazine*.

²⁰⁹ The only names that are fictionalized are the names of the Zvi's helpers in Argentina. The names are Roberto and Fernando. They are fictionalized because the real names are still confidential.

about the events that unfolded and created fictitious dialogue that would be as true as possible to what was said, such as the scene where Klaus is at dinner with the Hermann's and Vera and Eichmann fight in the beginning. Lothar's letter to Fritz Bauer, while based on a true letter, was entirely original. I was limited by the fact that only a small portion of the Sassen tapes were translated and made available in a November 28 and December 5 1960 copy of *Life* magazine. Moreover, I was also limited by the fact that Eichmann's memoir has not been translated, the only portion I could find that was translated I used in the screenplay.

Although I am authentic and as true as possible to the story of Eichmann's life and capture in Argentina, I made a few slight changes to make the narrative less complicated and more palatable. The first change I made was to have Eichmann work at the Mercedes-Benz factory throughout the film. The second change was I have the CIA discussing to capture Eichmann before 1958 in the film. In reality, it was not until 1958 did they receive information from West Germany about Eichmann. The third change I made was combining the events of the Sassen interview and the beginning of his memoir. Sassen and Eichmann spoke in either 1955 or 1955; Eichmann began his memoir three years later. That was the only chronological change in the film besides the small change to the CIA. The fourth change I made was at Harel's speech that occurs while they plan the Eichmann capture. At the time of the speech they did not yet have a safe house nor had the exact details of the upcoming capture. Other than these slight changes, which were made not to dramatize events, but to simplify the events, the screenplay is as historically accurately as possible.

VIII: A Screenplay as Thesis:

The screenplay is first and foremost an academic endeavor. Had the screenplay been for the film department and not the CSS, I would have not focused on telling the story as historically accurately as possible and would have dramatized the events to a larger extent. That does not mean the screenplay itself is not dramatically satisfying, it is, but the aim of the screenplay was to provide a critical, historical analysis. Had this not been an academic undertaking, I would have chosen to focus much more on the capture, than Eichmann's life preceding the capture. I would have also developed the members of the Mossad more and placed greater emphasis on their desire to get revenge for their family by capturing Eichmann. Every decision I made while writing the screenplay was to serve its academic purpose. I used real dialogue whenever possible, real names and people, and based almost every development on historically verified events.

These characters need their stories to be told by giving them life. Giving the characters life and having them play out their role on the screen will only then adequately and justly tell their story. Through sights and sounds, emotions are created. The viewer will be able to fall in love with or grow to hate the characters. By seeing the story visually, the audience will learn the story and understand Eichmann in a new way. The screenplay allows the audience or reader to understand the dialogue, characters, and events through a new lens and new medium of portrayal.

To examine history, we must look at what a person has done, but it is equally important to examine what they have said. To understand Eichmann and communicate that understanding to an audience, like an economist analyses statistical

data, I analyzed the comments and actions that Eichmann made while he was living in Argentina. Eichmann is a truly fascinating character: while he was stern and cold, in addition to being often tough on his children, he also loved them, especially his youngest son, Ricardo-Francisco. I maintain an objectivity regarding Eichmann's portrayal and do not rely on emotional manipulation of the audience, instead showing you what makes Eichmann so controversial; the reader or audience is able to form their own understanding of Eichmann. Maybe that interpretation falls closer to Arendt: that he was a normal man, who was merely obedient to the Nazi machine, not vehemently anti-Semitic or ideologically driven. Conversely, another person could have the interpretation that is similar to Cesarani: that while Eichmann was not initially a hard-core Nazi or outwardly anti-Semitic, he grew into a callous expediter of Jewish death and wished he could have had a larger role in the destruction of the Jews. The point of the screenplay is to show that neither Cesarani nor Arendt's respective theses are incorrect, but to show they are both right; Eichmann falls in the middle of their interpretations. The screenplay will inform the reader or audience about an extremely important period in Eichmann's life and an important event. The reader or audience's interpretation will be based on an informed opinion and the reality of Eichmann.

Through the amalgamation of the multiple interpretations on Eichmann, numerous historical documents, and the comments he made to while living in Argentina and what he wrote, a unique understanding of Eichmann emerges. My central argument is that Adolf Eichmann's life in Argentina demonstrates that Eichmann was caught in between his past and his future. My thesis is that neither the

understanding of Arendt nor Cesarani is wrong. Eichmann falls in the middle of their respective interpretations; despite his inner confusion, Eichmann ultimately was a hardcore Nazi who simultaneously wanted to live a normal life in Argentina and move on from his past.

ICH BIN ADOLF EICHMANN

Written by
LUCAS EDGAR WHERRY

TITLE: ICH BIN ADOLF EICHMANN

TITLE CARD

Throughout World War II, the German government, the Schutzstaffel (SS), and the Wehrmacht under the leadership of Adolf Hitler committed some of the worst crimes against humanity our civilization has ever seen. It was the job of the SS to create a "Final Solution" to what the Nazis referred to as "The Jewish Question". Through the SS, mass-murder was engineered to create more living space for Germans and to purge Germany of what it considered political enemies.

FADE OUT.

TITLE CARD:

SS-Obersturmbannführer Adolf Eichmann was in charge of mass deportation of Jews and others considered unfit for the Reich from 1938-1945. These people were sent to labor and death camps. Mass murder was engineered by the Nazis to kill hundreds of thousands of people at a time.

FADE OUT.

TITLE CARD:

After the collapse of the Third Reich, to escape war trials, Eichmann, like many former Nazis, fled to Argentina to create a new life.

FADE OUT.

TITLE CARD:

Through the efforts of the Mossad, Eichmann was captured in Argentina and brought to trial in Israel, where he is the only person in Israel's history to be given the death penalty.

FADE OUT.

INT. HOME OFFICE- EVENING

CAPTION LOWER RIGHT CORNER: (DECEMBER, 1956)

ADOLF EICHMANN is re-arranging things in a small room. There are pictures throughout the room of Eichmann with high-ranking Nazis. Eichmann is 50 years old and is very stern looking. On the walls are Nazi flags, medals, banners, and other Nazi memorabilia. All of the walls are covered with pictures and flags. Eichmann puts on his Nazi dress uniform jacket and looks in the mirror. He stares at himself for a few seconds. He picks up a picture on the desk of himself and a few other Nazis.

CLOSE ON: The picture is of Eichmann, Heydrich and thirteen handsomely dressed Nazi officials. The picture is taken outside an elegant and impressive lake-side, snow covered villa. On the bottom of the picture is caption: "Wannsee Conference- January 20, 1942"

CLOSE ON: He brushes his thumb across the words as though to remember the moment with his touch.

EICHMANN
(quietly, in German)
How things have changed. Look at
me.

Compared to the picture, it is obvious that he looks much older than he is. He is worn.

CUT TO:

EXT. VILLA - AFTERNOON

CAPTION LOWER RIGHT CORNER: (WANNSEE CONFERENCE- JANUARY 20, 1942)

Flashback to a beautiful and elegant lake-side villa. The house sits on a blanket of fresh snow. 15 large black Mercedes-Benz's pull up to the house. The cars stop and uniformed SS men get out of the cars. There is one man per car. The last man to get out of the car is Eichmann. He is dressed in the same Nazi uniform he was wearing when he was staring at himself in the mirror at his home in Argentina. He looks handsome and confident, compared to when he was home in Argentina. The men talk and shake hands outside of the villa.

They all pose for a picture and walk inside. Eichmann looks significantly younger.

INT- BOARD ROOM- - MOMENTS LATER

There is a large, oval conference table. There are fourteen seats at the table. At each seat is a small stack of paper. The uniformed SS men and various Nazi officials walk into the boardroom and talk jovially. Last to walk in is Eichmann. He does not sit at the table like the other Nazis, but he sits in the corner with a small desk and a typewriter. At the head of the table sits REINHARD HEYDRICH. He is the quintessential Aryan Nazi officer. There are placards with names on them where people are to sit. There are placards for all the men at the event. Each Nazi sits down at his respective seat. Eichmann sits in the back with a typewriter.

CLOSE ON: The placards which read: "Dr. Martin Luther- Foreign Office, State Secretary- Dr. Stuckart, Ministry of the Interior- Dr. Alfred Meyer, Ministry for the Occupied Eastern Territories Dr. George Leibbrandt from the Ministry for the Occupied Eastern Territories, State Secretary- Dr. Josef Bühler and SS-Oberführer Karl Schöngarth, SS-Strumbannführer- Dr. Rudolf Lange, SS-Oberführer- Gerhard Klopfer- Party Chancellery, Ministerial Director- Dr. Wilhelm Kritzinger of the Reich Chancellery, SS-Gruppenführer Otto Hofman- Race and Resettlement Main Office, State Secretary Erich Neufman- State Secretary Dr. Roland Freisler, SS-Gruppenführer- Heinrich Müller, SS-Obersturmbannführer- Adolf Eichmann.

HEYDRICH

Well gentlemen, before we begin, I want to personally thank all of you for coming. The weather conditions have been quite unfavorable and I know some of you have travelled quite far to get here, so again, thank you. Most of you know one another so I will dispense with formalities and get to the point. Now, gentlemen, this material we are to discuss is extremely confidential.

Throughout Heydrich speaking we hear Eichmann typing the minutes in the background.

(MORE)

HEYDRICH (CONT'D)

It will not be discussed with anyone outside of this room, unless it is with a superior. There have been papers prepared for you by our secretary. They are for you, and for you only. After this meeting all of our communication from both directions will pass through Eichmann, who I have nominated as Deputy on all Jewish affairs. Are we all clear?

Some shuffling, a whisper or two.

As you can see by the papers in front of you, and as you all know, we have a Jewish problem. I received a letter from the Reich Marshal recently, saying and I quote, "I herewith commission you to carry out all necessary preparations in regard to organizational, practical and material matters for a total solution of the Jewish question." As you are aware, the Nuremberg Laws have been successful in removing the Jews from almost all spheres of German life. From our national life, we have created a society, economy and culture free of the Jew, but now it is time to eliminate the Jew from our living space. And if I may say so, it is about time.

DR. STUCKART

What do you mean eliminate?

HEYDRICH

Thank you Herr Dr. The answer is simple: gentlemen, total emigration is no longer feasible. We have tried. No one wants to take the Jew. Not even the US will take the Jew. I do not have to tell you that we are at war. We no longer have the resources to afford emigration.

(MORE)

HEYDRICH (CONT'D)

If you look at the papers before you, you will see there in Poland alone there are over 2 million Jews. In Russia or the USSR, whatever those Bolsheviks call themselves today, there are around five million Jews. As Germany expands our living space, this Jewish problem expands. Emigration is over. And Herr Doctor, to answer your question, how we will eliminate the Jew is exactly what we will discuss.

Nods. Looks of excitement and discomfort are on the different faces. Some of the men light cigarettes and smoke. Heydrich reaches down, takes his glass of water and slowly drinks it all down. Heydrich smiles.

CUT TO:

INT- BOARDROOM - LATER

The meeting is finished. The Nazi and SS men are packing their things and saying their good byes to one another. Slowly, they trickle out. Everyone has left the room except for Muller and Heydrich talking at the end of the table. Eichmann is reviewing the minutes of the meeting.

HEYDRICH

Eichmann, would you care to join Müller and I for a little celebratory drink?

EICHMANN

(contained excitement)

Yes. Thank you. That would be nice

Eichmann gets up as they walk out of the room together.

INT. LIVING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

The room is cozy and warm. The walls are mahogany wood panelling. There is a fireplace with a small fire. Eichmann sits on a leather couch next to Müller. Heydrich places a log in the fire and then makes a drink as they settle in.

HEYDRICH

Cognac Eichmann?

EICHMANN
Yes, thank you.

MÜLLER
Gentlemen?

Müller hands the other two men cigars.

MÜLLER (CONT'D)
I forgot my cigar cutter in the
other room. I will be right back.

Müller gets up and walks out of the room. Heydrich sits down next to Eichmann and hands him a cognac. They both stare quietly at the fire for a moment. Then Heydrich...

HEYDRICH
I want to clarify a little matter
meeting. It is not to be verbatim,
ya? Clean it up if you know what I
mean. When you are completed, give
it me. I will review it.

Heydrich pats him on the leg.

CUT TO:

INT. OFFICE- PRESENT

CLOSE ON: The photo of the Wannsee Conference.

Eichmann finishes putting the remainder of his Nazi memorabilia into a bag. The walls and places where they were hanging are now empty. He takes the bag and we follow as he walks outside into the back area. We see that the house is isolated and decrepit. The plains extend for miles until they become mountainous in the distance. He takes out matches and makes a fire in the trash barrel. Slowly, he pours all of the contents from the bag into the fire. It all begins to burn. We move in close as we see the photo of the Wannsee Conference burn through to reveal one of his SS ribbons catch fire and burn away leaving the Nazi swastika glowing.

EICHMANN
(quietly, speaking to
himself)
No can know.

CUT TO:

EXT- CIA HEADQUARTERS- DAY

CAPTION LOWER RIGHT CORNER: (Central Intelligence Agency)

Exterior shots of the CIA headquarters building.

INT. CIA OFFICE- DAY

Sitting in a government office is a CIA agent at his desk on the phone. There are minimal office decorations and it is obvious that he is not highly ranked in the agency. The door to his office opens and another agent sticks his head in.

CIA MAN #1
Sir, may I come in.

Still on the phone, the man at the desk signals with his hand to come in.

CIA MAN #2
Yeah... No, I got it. I told you I got it, dear. OK, OK, sweetheart. I gotta take care of something, I'll call you back.

He hangs up the phone obviously relieved to be off.

CIA MAN #2 (CONT'D)
Yeah, what is it?

CIA MAN #1
You need to see this.

CIA MAN #1 passes an envelope to CIA MAN #2. CIA Man #2 opens the envelope and takes out a letter. He then precedes to read the letter.

CIA MAN #2
My god, someone found him. They really found him? They've got to see this.

Both agents get up and walk out of the office.

EXT- ALLEYWAY, RURAL SUBURBAN BUENOS AIRES - MORNING

A thirteen year old boy, dressed in a school uniform is laying on the ground trying to protect himself. There are two teenagers in their late teens kicking and beating the boy.

There is a young man smoking a cigarette watching. He says nothing. He flicks his cigarette. The man is KLAUS EICHMANN. Klaus is a very good looking, with blue eyes, blonde hair and fair skin. He is 20. He picks up the boy by the collar of the shirt. The kid is bleeding from his lip.

KLAUS
Can you not read?

BOY
(crying and scared,
stuttering)
Ple, ple, ple, please let me go,

KLAUS
Read me that sign. What does it
say?

BOY
No Jews. I am sorry, please let me
go.

CLOSE ON: The sign is home made as if by the hooligans themselves. It reads "No Jews" next to a to a Swastika.

KLAUS
(sternly)
If you ever come here again, we
will hurt you very badly. Today was
fun. Do not come here again. Do you
understand little Jew?

He drops the boy. The boy picks up his backpack and books and runs down the alley. Klaus dusts himself off.

NAZI BOY
(imitating and making fun
of the boy)
Ple, ple, please let me go.

The two men laugh and Klaus smirks as they walk down the alley back to the street.

CUT TO:

I/E. CAFE - LATER

A MS. SYLVIA HERMANN is sitting at a table. SYLVIA is a beautiful girl, with brown hair, and clear blue eyes. Klaus walks into the café and sits down.

KLAUS
How are you my dear?

SYLVIA
I'm good. Are you OK?

KLAUS
Of course, why wouldn't I be?

SYLVIA
Your hand.

She grabs his hand.

SYLVIA (CONT'D)
You have blood all over your
knuckles.

KLAUS
I'm fine, I promise.

Klaus signals for the waiter. The waiter comes over.

WAITER
Can I get you all something?

KLAUS
Two coffees please.

SYLVIA
No, I'll have a tea.

KLAUS
One tea and one coffee then.

The waiter walks away.

SYLVIA
Please, Klaus. Tell me. What
happened to your hand Klaus?

KLAUS
It's nothing, I promise.

SYLVIA
Are you sure?

KLAUS
(lightheartedly)
Yes, of course! I scraped my hand
accidentally, that's all.

SYLVIA

I worry about you sometimes. And those thugs you call your friends. Did you know they beat up Jewish kids? It's just terrible.

Sylvia stops talking and looks at the floor. She is nervous. She looks back at Klaus. The waiter comes over. The waiter puts down a cup of coffee and a cup of tea.

WAITER

Here you are.

SYLVIA

Thank you.

KLAUS

Thanks.

The waitress walks away. Sylvia takes a sip of her tea. As she speaks she looks into the cup of tea like it has an answer. She starts dipping the tea bag in and out of the cup.

SYLVIA

I did not ask to get coffee with you today to talk about your friends, I, I wanted to know Klaus, when you would... I was just wondering if you would.

KLAUS

What is it Sylvia?

SYLVIA

Now that we have been seeing each other for some time, I thought you would like to come over for dinner. You know? Meet my family.

KLAUS

I remember you telling me that your family is German.

SYLVIA

Of course they are German.

KLAUS

Yes, why not? I would love to meet them.

SYLVIA
 (relieved)
 Fantastic! This is fantastic!

Klaus takes out a small golden pocket watch, with the SS insignia engraved onto the front of the pocket watch. He opens it and checks the time.

KLAUS
 Scheiße, I am so late. I completely forgot, I need to pick up my Uncle. Sylvia we will finish this conversation another time. I must go. Let's get dinner soon, I would love to meet your parents.

Klaus walks over to Sylvia, kisses her on the head. He puts down a few coins for the coffee. He walks out of the cafe. She continues drinking her tea and has a smile on her face.

EXT. OUTSIDE A MERCEDES-BENZ FACTORY - LATER

People are leaving and getting off from work. As people walk out, they get on buses or their cars. The factory is about five miles outside of the city of Buenos Aires. The city can faintly be seen in the background. Outside of the factory the mass of people begins to dwindle. We see a lone figure on the street corner. It is Adolf Eichmann. He is smoking and keeps checking his watch. He clearly has been waiting for some time and is agitated. Eichmann continues to take long drags of the cigarette. From off-screen, Klaus runs over to Eichmann. Klaus' hands are on his knees, he is bending over, wheezing.

KLAUS
 (out of breath)
 Father, sorry... I am late. The bus... it was delayed

Before he can finish Eichmann turns around, exhales the smoke, flicks the cigarette to the ground and stamps out it out with his foot. He begins to grab Klaus, but stops. A FACTORY WORKER who has not left yet walks over to Eichmann. The Factory worker speaks with a heavy German accent.

FACTORY WORKER
 OK, Ricardo, good night.

EICHMANN
 Yes, see you tomorrow.

The factory worker stops walking and turns around, walking back to Eichmann.

FACTORY WORKER

You know Ricardo, my wife and I wanted to know if you would come over for dinner sometime. Maybe you could bring your wife? Is this your son?

EICHMANN

Actually, I am unmarried. No, this is my nephew, Klaus.

KLAUS

Nice to meet you.

They shake hands.

FACTORY WORKER 1

Ah, well, we would enjoy to have you for dinner sometime.

EICHMANN

Yes, danka. We shall see, we really must be going now.

The Factory Worker begins to walk away.

Eichmann grabs Klaus by the collar of his shirt and pulls him forward, almost choking him. Eichmann looks around to make sure no one can hear him.

EICHMANN (CONT'D)

In public you have been told to call me Uncle. We must be careful. We must always be diligent. No one can know my identity. People cannot know that I am your father.

KLAUS

(quiet)
I am sorry.

EICHMANN

Let's go, I have had enough of this and waited long enough.

Eichmann and Klaus walk together in silence for a block. As they are walking, Eichmann notices Klaus' hand. He grabs the hand. They stop walking.

EICHMANN (CONT'D)

What happened to your hand Klaus?

KLAUS

We found some Jew where he shouldn't have been. We had to teach him a lesson.

EICHMANN

What do you mean Klaus?

KLAUS

These Jews are everywhere. I see them walking around Buenos Aires like, like they own the place. Well let me tell you, if one of those little Jew rats ends up in my neighborhood, were going to beat him.

EICHMANN

You did this in broad daylight? Did people see you?

Klaus doesn't say anything.

KLAUS

I don't know.

Eichmann is getting visibly angry.

EICHMANN

What do you mean you don't know?

KLAUS

Father, I was with my friends, in our part of the city and we saw this Jew boy. We decided to send him a message.

EICHMANN

You never think Klaus. Think of what you are doing. How many times do I need to tell you, that we need to be careful!

KLAUS

Papa, I have to do my part, like you did. He was a Jew. Surely you understand.

EICHMANN

What we did. That was then. Back in Germany. Those days are over. Klaus, imagine what would happen if someone you knew saw what you were doing. What would happen if an officer of the law saw you Klaus? I am trying to create a new life for us. Not have you ruin everything.

KLAUS

I am sorry sir.

EICHMANN

It won't happen again, will it?

KLAUS

No sir, it won't.

Eichmann grabs Klaus by the collar of his shirt and smacks him in the face.

EICHMANN

Good.

They continue walking and get to the bus stop. They wait together and get on the bus.

EXT. BUENOS AIRES - LATER

Exterior shots of Klaus and Eichmann on the bus together. Eichmann stares straight ahead. The bus stops. It is in a rural stop. There are very few houses. In the distance, at the end of the street, is a very dilapidated house. Eichmann walks down the dirt road in silence. Klaus follows. The sun sets in the background over the mountains.

INT. DINNING ROOM- EVENING

The Eichmann's are sitting at the dinner table, finishing dinner. VERA EICHMANN, Eichmann's wife is a short and stout woman. Her beauty has worn out. She looks stressed. Her clothes are worn. She is also holding a baby and helping the baby drink through a bottle. His name is Ricardo-Francisco. Seated at the table are the three Eichmann boys, Klaus, Horst who is sixteen, and Dieter who is fourteen. Eichmann sits at the head of the table. Vera sits close to the stove. The boys look uncomfortable at the dinner table. It is apparent that there is a hierarchy at the home, which Adolf is the head of.

DIETER

May I please be excused mother?

HORST

(In a fearful whisper)

Yes mother, may I as well?

VERA

Adolf, may the boys be excused?

EICHMANN

Yes. Help your mother by clearing the table.

DIETER

(nervously)

Yes papa. After we finish, may we, ride the horses father?

EICHMANN

Did you finish with your studies?

ALL THREE BOYS

Yes papa.

EICHMANN

Horst, did you do your Spanish?

HORST

Yes papa.

EICHMANN

How many words did you learn today?

HORST

(timidly)

I don't know father, a lot. May I go play with the horse now.

EICHMANN

(stares at Horst coldly)

Go to your room Horst. Dieter, you and Klaus too. When you have studied a hundred new words then you may go outside and play. No more, no less.

ALL THREE BOYS

Yes papa.

They clear the table. Vera looks anxious. She wants to say something, but is restraining herself. Adolf for the first time we've seen him, looks relaxed. He looks around at his house and his family and enjoys a sense of completion. Adolf takes out a pack of cigarettes. He motions for Vera to hand him a bottle. It looks like the same bottle from the drink with Heydrich and Muller. He pours a small amount of cognac into a glass and savors the sip. After being on the run and feeling alone for so long he appreciates the creature comforts of home. Adolf takes out a cigarette from the pack, strikes a match and lights the cigarette. He slowly smokes, breathing in deeply. The boys finish clearing the table and go into their rooms.

VERA

Adolf, there is something I need to talk about... we need to talk about.

She hands Ricardo-Francisco to Adolf. We follow Vera into her bedroom. We see it is extremely modest and sparse. She takes a small, brown leather bag from a suitcase under the bed. She returns to the kitchen. We follow. She comes to the table, opens the bag and flips it upside down. Newspaper articles glide out of the bag onto the dining table. She picks up the baby and is holding him in her arms.

EICHMANN

(quietly)

What is this? What are these?

CLOSE ON THE NEWSPAPER CLIPPINGS:

They are various German Newspaper clippings. They're from Munich, Berlin, Dusseldorf, Hamburg, major German cities, etc. The newspapers also are from various dates, they all are about different atrocities Eichmann committed as a Nazi. There is also an article from a Frankfurt newspaper about how Eichmann is missing.

Vera sits down at the table and feeds Ricardo.

VERA

(As she feeds Ricardo, she increasingly is getting angrier as she continues to speak)

Look at them Adolf! What is this?

Do you know what they are?

(MORE)

VERA (CONT'D)

What do they mean?(She feeds more and more to Francisco as he giggles.) Was this you? Is this what you did? Are you this monster?.

EICHMANN

Don't ask me about this Vera.

Vera is trying hard not to lose control. She can't fight it any longer. She starts crying. She cleans food off the baby's face. She regains control and looks up at Eichmann. The tears run down her cheeks.

VERA

(softly)

If you did this, then you are a monster. I am married to a monster; someone I don't even know! (Very softly.) A murderer!

EICHMANN

(Long pause- not knowing how to answer)

OK. This one time Vera. But only this one time. You understand? This is the only one time I will let you ask me about my affairs and my occupation in the Reich.

Eichmann takes a long drag of the cigarette. He gets up slowly. He finishes the remainder of the cognac. His face is bright red. He stands and towers over Vera.

VERA

(In a whisper, looking at the baby)

Is it true Adolf? Is what they wrote true.

EICHMANN

(after a very long pause, he is obviously very agitated)

No Vera, it is not true. What they wrote are lies. I did what was necessary for this family. I did what I needed to do to put food on the table for us. Remember Prague, Vera? How long did your brother-in-law and sister live with us?

(MORE)

EICHMANN (CONT'D)

Remember that house? How did I pay for it? You have lived quite a nice life as I recall? I was able to give you everything you wanted. And you accuse of me something you read in a newspaper. How long have you known me Vera? How long have you been my wife? And you accuse of me committing these heinous crimes!

VERA

(she is unsatisfied with his answer, she continues to pry a legitimate answer from Eichmann)
Then why do they write these things? Did you murder these Jews?

EICHMANN

(angrily)
Veronika, never in all of my life have I killed a Jew. Nor have I given an order to kill anyone. Am I murderer? How could you say such a thing? I worked honestly to provide for the family, to provide for you.

Eichmann sits down, he is glowing with anger. His face is still red. He is breathing heavily. He picks up the cigarette. Eichmann continues to smoke, inhaling deep drags. He stares at the floor. Eichmann extinguishes the cigarette in an ashtray. Eichmann stares at his newest and youngest son, Ricardo-Francisco who is just a baby being tenderly held by Vera. Eichmann looks at his son and his son stares back at him. The baby smiles and giggles. Eichmann's face goes from anger to almost a smile. Eichmann puts his hand on Vera's shoulder.

EICHMANN (CONT'D)

The whole family is together now. After so long and after we have all gone through so much. I am proud of what I did and how I helped the Reich, but that chapter of my life has closed. I am a husband and a father now. My duties are serving this family.

Eichmann gets up and walks out of the room. Vera stays seated at the table holding the baby in her arms. She looks at the baby as if it has an answer.

She then looks outside of the window. She dampens her apron with her tongue and wipes Ricardo-Francisco's face with her apron. She is alone in the room.

INT. DINNING ROOM - DAY

CAPTION LOWER RIGHT CORNER: (Eichmann House, Prague- October, 1939)

Flashback to Vera Eichmann sitting at a dinner table with Adolf, her sister and her brother-in-law. Vera looks much younger and prettier. She is also dressed wearing nice clothes and makeup, a remarkable shift from her appearance in Argentina. The dinner table is an expansive and luxurious dinning room. The room is magnificent. There is a large roast at the dinner table that has been eaten and there are many empty wine bottles. Vera gets up and holds up her wine glass.

VERA

To Adolf and his new promotion!

VERA'S SISTER

Congratulations Adolf.

EICHMANN

Thank you. I have a gift for you Vera. Unfortunately with my new job, I will spend the week day working in Berlin and on the weekend's here in Prague. I think you should have something so you don't miss me too much.

Eichmann takes out a rectangular box from the inner pocket of his jacket. He opens it. Inside the box is a simple pearl necklace.

VERA

(bursting with excitement)

Adolf, you shouldn't have. They're beautiful! Thank you!

EICHMANN

Of course. Anything for you, my dear.

Vera is infatuated with the necklace. She holds it and looks at.

VERA

It's just so beautiful, thank you!

She gets up and walks over to Eichmann and gives him a big hug.

EICHMANN

Here, let me put them on you.

Eichmann gets up and puts them on her.

VERA'S SISTER

They're just stunning.

BROTHER-IN-LAW

What is this new job promotion of yours for our country?

Vera is not listening to her husband describe his involvement. She is just overwhelmed with joy from the beautiful necklace.

EICHMANN

I am grateful you asked. I am now the Head of the Central Office for Jewish Emigration from the Reich!

BROTHER-IN-LAW

Impressive! Central Office for Jewish Emigration from the Reich. It sounds so bold.

EICHMANN

It is impressive, yes. And deserved for my accomplishments. We are now responsible for deporting all Jews from Germany, Austria, and the Czech lands to a little shanty town in Poland. The town is called Nisko.

BROTHER-IN-LAW

I've never heard of that place before.

EICHMANN

Why would you?

They both laugh.

EICHMANN (CONT'D)

This is my formula to find what I call a "political" or "territorial solution" to the "Jewish Question." Imagine one day a life that is Jew free; a Jew free Germany, a Jew free society.

CUT TO:

EXT. DINNING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Francisco fusses and she returns from the flashback. Vera is still holding the baby. She grabs her neck where the necklace would be. There is no necklace. She puts Francisco in his pen. She picks up the newspaper clippings that cover the dinning room table. She reads them for a minute. She looks down to her baby son and begins speaking to him.

VERA

Of course these are true. He would disappear for weeks on end and would come back saying how he would "solve the Jewish Question" and how he was "bettering the Reich". What did I care? The beautiful house? The jewelry? The gifts?

She begins to clean the kitchen.

INT. LIVING ROOM - EVENING

Sylvia is sitting on the couch. Her father, a LOTHAR HERMANN is sitting next to her. He is in his mid 60s, short, bald, and slightly overweight. Lothar also appears to be blind. The living room in which Sylvia and Lothar are sitting is adjacent to the room. The dinning room leads into the kitchen. There are sounds of food being prepared. The door bell rings.

SYLVIA

(excitedly)

Ah! He's here! He's here! Papa!
Mama!

Stepping out of the kitchen is a MRS. HERMANN. She is taking off her apron.

MRS. HERMANN
Be nice to the poor boy Lothar.

SYLVIA
Yes. Papa, please. Please be nice.

LOTHAR
(lovingly)
Of course, my dear. I look forward
to meeting this young man very
much.

Sylvia goes to the front door and lets Klaus in.

SYLVIA (IN GERMAN)
Mama, Papa, this is Klaus Eichmann.

LOTHAR (IN GERMAN)
Klaus, what a pleasure to meet you.
I have heard so much about you my
dear boy.

MRS. HERMANN (IN GERMAN)
Hello, I am Sylvia's mother.

They all shake hands.

KLAUS (IN GERMAN)
(amicably)
What a pleasure to meet you all.
Thank you for the invitation to
dinner.

MRS. HERMANN
Of course, we are glad to have you.
We have a very delicious dinner
prepared for you Klaus. We are
having Sauerbraten, with a side of
red cabbage and boiled potatoes.

KLAUS
Splendid!

LOTHAR
Should we sit down for dinner?

MRS. HERMANN
Yes, everyone sit, sit.

Sylvia helps Lothar sit at the table, they are followed by
Mrs. Hermann and Klaus.

Sylvia is nervous that her parents will not like Klaus. Klaus does not appear nervous, but confident and relaxed. Mrs. Hermann goes into the kitchen and gets the food. She first serves the guest, Klaus, then Lothar, followed by Sylvia, and lastly, she serves herself. She sits down. They all eat, while talking. Mrs. Hermann pours everyone a stein of beer.

KLAUS

(he talks while chewing
his food)

Mrs. Hermann, this food is wunderbar. It reminds me of Germany. Do not misunderstand me, Mrs. Hermann, I love Argentina, but once in a while I become nostalgic for our homeland. Ahh. There is nothing quite like good, authentic German food.

MRS. HERMANN

Yes. Lothar too misses his Germany once in a while. The only way to satisfy his homesickness is through a good Sauerbraten.

LOTHAR

My wife is absolutely correct, Klaus, nothing quite beats a good, home-cooked German meal.

KLAUS

Yes, that is true. Thank you Mrs. Hermann.

MRS. HERMANN

Of course, Klaus. We are glad to finally meet you after we have heard so much about you.

SYLVIA

(embarrassedly)
Mother, please.

MRS. HERMANN

I am sorry, Sylvia, I did not mean to embarrass you, it's just your father and I are excited to meet the young man after we have heard so much about you and...

SYLVIA

Mama!

MRS. HERMANN

(serving Klaus)

Alright, alright. As a mother, anything I say embarrasses my daughter. I guess that's the same with all parents. Klaus, more potatoes. Cabbage?

KLAUS

Yes, please. I have not had a meal like this in some time. Danka, Frau Hermann.

MRS. HERMANN

(pouring Klaus another stein of beer)

If you don't mind me asking, how did you and Sylvia meet?

KLAUS

Of course I do not mind Mrs. Hermann. How did we meet Sylvia? We meet at one of the local dance halls. Isn't that right Sylvia?

SYLVIA

Yes, Klaus.

LOTHAR

How long have you been seeing one another?

SYLVIA

How long has it been Klaus? A month or so?

KLAUS

Yes, that's right.

MRS. HERMANN

Mmmm. Now Klaus, you have been living in Argentina for how long?

SYLVIA

Mama so many questions, please.

MRS. HERMANN

Klaus, I am sorry, I don't mean to pry, we are just excited to meet someone who is seeing our Sylvia.

KLAUS

Of course Mrs. Hermann and no bother. My mother, brothers, and I arrived in Buenos Aires around four years ago. So we have been living here for that long.

MRS. HERMANN

Do you enjoy Argentina?

KLAUS

Absolutely. My brothers and I love the freedom of the countryside. Also, many Germans live in the area, which has made the transition easier. Learning Spanish has not been easy though.

MRS. HERMANN

Yes, Argentina is quite beautiful. It's funny there are so many Germans living here, it's like a little Germany! Klaus, I cannot place your accent. Where did you say you are from?

KLAUS

Yes, many people are often confused by it as it is not very typical.

LOTHAR

(intrigued)

Typical?

Lothar begins to listen attentively to Klaus.

KLAUS

Yes, I often moved as a child so my accent does not represent one region.

LOTHAR

Ah. That is very interesting. Why did you move so often?

KLAUS
My father's job. And the war.

MRS. HERMANN
Dessert anyone?

The Hermann's and Klaus finish dinner. Mrs. Hermann picks up the plates and begins to clear the table. Sylvia appears to be calmer as all has gone smoothly. Klaus seems noticeably more comfortable. Everyone seems in good spirits. Mrs. Hermann returns from the kitchen with a Black Forest Cake and some desert wine.

MRS. HERMANN (CONT'D)
Would you like some wine Lothar?

LOTHAR
No, thank you dear. Just some cake is fine.

Mrs. Hermann places an extra large slice for Lothar and then slices everyone else a piece of cake. She pours everyone some wine except for Lothar

LOTHAR (CONT'D)
So, Klaus, you were saying something about your father and his job. What job may that be?

KLAUS
(chewing)
He was an officer in the Wehrmacht.

Both Sylvia and Lothar's ears perk up. It is obvious that this is the first that Sylvia has heard anything about Klaus' father. Lothar too begins to listen intently.

LOTHAR
What was that you said?

KLAUS
(Klaus swallows his food and begins to speak with supreme pride)
Yes, sorry. He was in the Wehrmacht. He fought proudly for the Fatherland and performed his necessary duties well.

LOTHAR

What duties?

KLAUS

(taken aback)

His duties? Fighting for the Reich on the front line. Not that it matters any more.

LOTHAR

Not that it matters?

KLAUS

Look at Germany now. It's disgusting. Not only did they lose the war, but they did not finish their job.

SYLVIA

This is the first I have ever heard you speak about your father Klaus. I do not like this topic of conversation. Extermination. It's so morbid.

LOTHAR

Relax dear, it's alright. We are just adults, simply talking about politics. Young man, please continue.

KLAUS

I am only speaking openly with you Mr. Hermann since you are German.

LOTHAR

Of course, of course speak frankly my boy. Please.

KLAUS

As I was saying, it would have been better if Germany had finished its job of extermination. This is what people do not understand, Germany was not simply making living space for ethnic Germans, their plan goes beyond that. Germany wanted to make the world purer.

(MORE)

KLAUS (CONT'D)

I look at the streets of Buenos Aires, and see all these people, who I know were unfit for the Reich, it just makes me... it makes me sick!

CUT TO:

Sylvia and Mrs. Hermann are standing inside the house, with the door open. Klaus is outside of the house, standing in the doorway. Lothar remains seated at the table.

KLAUS (CONT'D)

Thank you so much for dinner. It was a real pleasure meeting you.

MRS. HERMANN

You are very welcome. Please come back whenever you want.

KLAUS

Good night.

Klaus shakes Mrs. Hermmann's hand. He gives Sylvia a hug. He walks out. They close the door.

SYLVIA

Again, I hope you really liked him.

MRS. HERMANN

He was great.

Lothar looks like he wants to say something, but remains quiet, sitting quietly at the table with his own thoughts.

SYLVIA

I am going to go my room. Love you.

She goes over and kisses her father on the head. She then kisses her mothers check. She goes to her bedroom. Mrs. Hermann walks over to Lothar and stands behind him. She places her hand on his back. Lothar is playing with his dessert, like a kid who doesn't want to eat his vegetables.

MRS. HERMANN

Is everything OK, Lothar? You didn't speak very much at dinner. Look, you barely touched your dessert.

LOTHAR

That boy said some comments, that I found... disturbing. Very disturbing.

MRS. HERMANN

He seems like a nice boy. He was polite and good looking. Any father would be protective of his little girl.

As Lothar speaks, he continues playing with his cake. Mrs. Hermann sits down next to him at table.

LOTHAR

No, it's not that. Remember how I lost my vision?

MRS. HERMANN

Of course I remember, Lothar. What the gestapo did to you was unthinkable.

LOTHAR

We left Germany after Kristallnacht, to avoid people like Klaus. Talking about extermination. Can you imagine what he would do to her, to us, if he knew that Sylvia had Jewish blood. That I was Jewish? The whole matter makes me feel very nervous and very uncomfortable. Having my daughter date a rampant anti-Semite. I do not like it.

He pauses and stops playing with the cake.

LOTHAR (CONT'D)

What was the young man's last name?

MRS. HERMANN

I believe he said it was Eichmann.

LOTHAR

That name sounds so familiar. I know that name some how.

Lothar resumes playing with the cake again and thinking about the name Eichmann.

EXT. CIA HEAD QUARTERS - DAY

Exterior shots of the CIA headquarters building.

CAPTION LOWER RIGHT CORNER: (Central Intelligence Headquarters)

INT. CIA HEAD QUARTERS - DAY

The two CIA agents are walking down a long hallway. They finally get to an office and stand outside of it. CIA man #2 takes a deep breath.

CIA MAN #2
Are you ready for this?

CIA MAN #1
Ready for what?

CIA MAN #2
History kid, history.

CIA Man #2 knocks on the door to the office. They walk in.

INT. CIA OFFICE - MOMENTS LATER

The two agents walk in to a beautiful office. It is obvious that the man they are going to speak to is high up in the agency. There are pictures of the man shaking hands with the president and other high ranking officials in the US government. War medals, and other decorations line the walls. CIA Man #3 sits behind a large desk. He looks up as they enter.

CIA MAN #3
This better be good boys. What do you have?

CIA MAN #1
(excitedly)
Trust me, sir, this is big.

CIA MAN #3
Sit down.

CIA MAN #1
Sir, please read this.

He hands CIA Man #3 the envelope, CIA Man #3 opens the envelope and takes out the letter.

CIA MAN #3
(reading letter)

"There are some people here we both used to know... A few more are here whom you've never met. Imagine who else I saw- and even had to talk to twice: that awful swine Eichmann who commanded the Jews. He lives near Buenos Aires." Who wrote this?

CIA MAN #1
A Lutwaffe colonel who had been living in Argentina. He wrote a former friend of his, an Austrian baron who had didn't like Hitler, his name was Baron Mast. He gave the letter to Simon Wisenthal. Simon Wisenthal contacted a NYC based Rabbi, Rabbi Kalmanowtiz. Kalmanowitz, wrote us the letter.

CIA MAN #3
Yeah, that make sense. Kalmanowtiz has written us many times to investigate Eichmann. We received our first letter from the Rabbi in '53. He has written the President, Secretary of State, us, you name it. Recently, he recruited a Senator from New Jersey to pressure us in to finding Eichmann. We have reports of many Nazis living in Argentina, so this letter could quite possibly be correct in assessing that Eichmann is there. On July 8, '53, a colleague of mine wrote a report titled "German Nationalist and Neo-Nazi Activities in Argentina." Here let me see if I have it.

He gets up and walks to a large file cabinet. He reviews many files and then takes out a manila folder, with the date July, 8, 1953. He takes out the report. There is a large, red stamp mark that reads "CONFIDENTIAL" across the report. He sits down.

CIA MAN #3 (CONT'D)

Yeah, here we go.

He skim reads across the file looking for something.

CIA MAN #3 (CONT'D)

Alright, here we are: "Evidence of intention to carry on Nazi activities, and of belief in Nazi resurgence in Germany and other parts of the world has been apparent among Germans in Argentina since 1946. A substantial stream of German immigration, including Wehrmacht and SS veterans, Nazi economists, propagandists, intelligence agents, scientists, and military specialists, have flowed into Argentina since 1945."

CIA MAN #2

Why are we not capturing these guys?

CIA MAN #3

You remember 'Operation Pastime'?

CIA MAN #1

Of course. West Germany provided us with their intelligence in case of a Soviet Attack.

CIA MAN #3

Correct. The West Germans wrote us saying that they received reports from a very legitimate source that Eichmann was living in Argentina under the alias Clemens.

CIA MAN #2

So why don't we find him? We have two strong leads. We could capture one of the worst war criminals in history.

CIA MAN #3

That's not what we do. We have bigger problems and more pressing matters, such as the increasing tensions with our 'comrades' over in the Soviet Union.

(MORE)

CIA MAN #3 (CONT'D)

Which leads us to the second reason, why we could not capture Eichmann. We cannot have the people know about "Operation Paperclip."

CIA MAN #2

What is "Paperclip?"

CIA MAN #1

After World War II, the US began to recruit former top ranking Nazi scientists. We felt that we could exploit Nazi scientists for American research and deny such resources to the Soviet Union.

CIA MAN #3

President Truman, who oversaw and approved of the operation, asked specifically that the scientists not be Nazis. Despite his requests, many were cleared because of their immense research.

CIA MAN #2

What Nazis came?

CIA MAN #1

Arthur Rudolph, who was in charge of operations at Nordhausen, he is skilled in rockets. Kurt Debus, another rocket expert, and Hubertus Strughold, nicknamed the "father of space medicine".

CIA MAN #3

Right, if we caught Eichmann, we couldn't let the public know where the information came from or about 'Paperclip.' That's a risk that we can't take. Not that any of this matters

CIA MAN #1

What do you mean it doesn't matter?

CIA MAN #3

I already told you, we aren't in the business of capturing war criminals. We are not bounty hunters.

(MORE)

CIA MAN #3 (CONT'D)

And we have our orders as to what
is going on with the Soviet Union.
I am sorry to disappoint you.

CIA Man #3 takes the file and walks over and puts the file
through a shredder.

I/E. ABC CAFE - DAY

Eichmann and another man, OTTO SKORZENY, are sitting outside
the ABC Cafe. The sun is shining quite brightly but the two
men are protected by an awning.

It is a beautiful day. Buenos Aires is vibrant and a fast
paced city. Cars are honking and there are sounds of the
city. The two men smoke while talking. It is obvious they
have known each other for a long time and are good friends.
Both men are comfortable while talking.

EICHMANN

It is nice to see you my good
friend. But, I must be frank. I am
not comfortable sitting out in the
open like this.

OTTO

Adolf, do not worry. This is
Peron's Argentina. Nazis roam the
streets just like any other
Argentinian. No one cares. How is
the family? The children are well?

EICHMANN

All are well, danka.

OTTO

And Vera?

EICHMANN

Vera... Ah, yah. Vera... is
alright. The time she spent alone
in Austria without me has filled
her head with ideas.

OTTO

Really? Did something happen?

EICHMANN

She has begun questioning me. My past. What I did in my career, asking questions.

OTTO

It is not completely her fault, she does not understand the SS code we were trained in. The steps we took to ensure that our homeland was free of those, swine. The code we live even to this day.

EICHMANN

Perhaps you are right, Otto. So who is this man we are meeting again?

OTTO

Ahh, good, yes. His name is Willem Sassen. He is half Dutch and half German. He first was in the Waffen-SS and then later worked under Goebbels in the propaganda office. He will introduce himself when he comes, I think you two will hit it off quite nicely.

He looks at his watch and then back to Eichmann.

OTTO (CONT'D)

He should be here soon. He has a promising offer for you he will explain shortly. It should prove to be quite lucrative for you I believe. There, crossing the street.

Two men walk to the table. A Mr. WILLEM SASSEN and a Dr. JOSEF MENGELE. Sassen is in his late thirties and is tall and skinny.

WILLEM

(in German)

Here he is, the infamous Herr Eichmann! The deportation king!

EICHMANN

I do not mean to be rude, but please keep it down. We are in public.

Otto looks around.

OTTO
(lightheartedly)
Relax, Adolf, we are fine. How do
you do Willem?

WILLEM
I am well, thank you, and this is
Dr. Mengle, or as the swine at
Birkeanu called him, the Angel of
Death.

All the men laugh apart for Eichmann. Everyone seems to be in good spirits except for Eichmann, who is obviously nervous. Sassen and Mengele appear confident and wealthy. Their clothes are much nicer than Eichmann's. By contrast, Eichmann looks inferior and significantly poorer.

EICHMANN
Pleasure to meet you, Herr Doctor.

JOSEF
No Mr. Eichmann, the pleasure is
all mine.

OTTO
Gentlemen, please sit.

The men sit down. A beautiful blonde waitress approaches the table. She stands next to Eichmann. Eichmann checks out the waitress. Peering out of her blouse is a small golden Star of David. No one else at the table can see the necklace besides Eichmann because he is the closest to her and the necklace is so small. He looks away with disgust upon seeing the Star of David.

WAITRESS
Can I get you gentlemen anything.

WILLEM
Have you had anything yet?

OTTO
No, we were waiting for you.

JOSEF
What gentlemen! Four coffees
please.

The waitress walks away.

EICHMANN

I do not mean to be rude, but I cannot say I am comfortable meeting out in the public like this.

SASSEN

Please, relax. It is fine. German's are a much of the fabric of Argentina, as well, Argentinians. There are ex-SS and other Nazi men everywhere. Especially in this neighbourhood.

OTTO

I told him to calm down.

SASSEN

I promise you. It is fine. No one cares what we do here. We are perfectly safe. I think we actually have met before Herr Eichmann. But let's back to the subject at hand, business.

OTTO

Yes, I was just telling Adolf here a little about your background Willem.

WILLEM

Gut! Ja, well in case you did not know. I served first in the Waffen-SS before moving to work in the propaganda office, but my true love is journalism. I love to write. You know Herr Eichmann, you and I are not so different. I too escaped Europe through a similar route you did. I have been living in this beautiful city, for almost ten years now. Have you heard of the *Der Weg*?

EICHMANN

Of course I have. It's a newspaper publication sold in the back of bookstores. It's for us Nazis living in Argentina.

WILLEM

Precisely. Señor Peron, wants us to suspend our publication of the paper. He claims that it is too right wing and brings too much attention to ourselves. But Herr Eichmann, I did not wish to meet you simply to talk about the good ole days working in the Reich, but as I am sure Otto told you, I have a business proposal.

EICHMANN

He gave me very vague details.

The waitress returns and places the coffees on the table.

WILLEM

Before we go on please, try your coffee Adolf. It is really some of the best coffee in the city. But before you try it, you need cream. It goes best with cream. Waitress.

The waitress come over.

WILLEM (CONT'D)

Please fetch us some cream.

The waitress walks away.

WILLEM (CONT'D)

Now, do you know Eberhard Fritsche? He is a former colleague of mine.

EICHMANN

No, I don't.

WILLEM

Well, he too worked with me alongside Goebells. We have been making a good amount of money from former SS men, like yourself, ghost writing books for them. And, well, it got us thinking. Reading all these newspaper articles misrepresenting what we did. Not only misrepresenting what we did for Germany, but also for the world! It's driving me mad and it got me thinking.

(MORE)

WILLEM (CONT'D)

I decided to create a full account of the 'Final Solution.' An account of really what happened. We would tape your accounts of what happened in the Third Reich and your involvement in the 'Final Solution.' We would also interview other members of the SS community living in Argentina. The idea is to have a written, authentic account of the events that transpired. While we may interview other SS members, the point is to have a central participant. That participant is you.

The waitress comes over with the cream. Willem takes the cream and pours it into the coffee.

WILLEM (CONT'D)

Now, try the coffee.

EICHMANN

Delicious.

WILLEM

What was I saying. Ah, yes. Now, besides being able to tell your side of the story, there will be some money in it for you. I will give you some time to think about it. If this project interests you, come over to my house this Friday, around nine thirty. We will just have a casual chat.

Willem pulls a pocket watch out like the one Klaus has, looks at it, drinks one last sip of coffee, gets up from his chair and puts a few coins on the table. Josef gets up as well and inspects Eichmann's face. Josef pinches Eichmann's face like a baby. Josef opens Eichmann's mouth and stares into his mouth. Eichmann pushes him off himself.

EICHMANN

What are you doing? Stop touching me like a child.

JOSEF

It appears you have not seen a doctor in sometime.

(MORE)

JOSEF (CONT'D)

If you or your family ever needs medical treatment. Plus do not hesitate to contact me. Any member of the SS gets free treatment from me.

EICHMANN

I am fine.

JOSEF

We are a family Adolf, we take care of our own.

WILLEM

Well gentleman, we must be on our way. Herr Eichmann, please let me know about your interest in the project. It could be, fun. Together, we can counter the enemy propaganda.

Josef puts a few coins down. Josef and Willem walk away into the busy chaotic streets of Buenos Aires. The two men walk away and are lost in the mass crowd of people. Otto and Eichmann remain at the table. Eichmann lights a cigarette.

OTTO

What do you think?

EICHMANN

I will need to think about it. I am nervous about being found. This could bring a lot of unwanted attention.

OTTO

I understand, but everything is fine. We are safe here. And, I know you are a proud man Adolf and a man who would does not take charity, but you could certainly use this money. I must be going too, lets meet again soon.

Otto gets up, puts a few coins down and walks away. Eichmann remains at the table. He sips his coffee and thinks.

EICHMANN

(quietly, to himself,
repeating Sassen)

(MORE)

EICHMANN (CONT'D)
 "Counter the enemy propaganda."

He sips his coffee and remains thinking.

INT. HERMANN HOME- EVENING

CAPTION LOWER RIGHT CORNER: (APRIL, 1957)

Lothar is sitting in a chair. The blinds are closed and the room is dark. The closed blinds create horizontal shadows that cut through the room. The streaked shadows are covering his body. Sylvia walks into the room. Sylvia goes over to the blinds and opens them. The light reveals there are mostly unopened brown boxes everywhere. It is obvious the family has just moved. The house is in the state of discord that comes along with moving into a new home. Sylvia is opening more boxes and unpacking.

LOTHAR
 Are you enjoying the new city my
 dear?

SYLVIA
 I would hardly call Coronel Suárez
 a city, papa.

Sylvia is on the floor still unpacking as she talks to her father.

SYLVIA (CONT'D)
 (speaking phonetically,
 over pronouncing the word
 with a heavy Spanish
 accent.)
 Coronel Suárez. Coronel Suárez. It
 still sounds odd.

LOTHAR
 I know it's an adjustment Sylvia.
 Leaving behind your friends, moving
 a few hundred miles south of the
 big city, it will take some while
 getting used to. But for now focus
 on your studies especially if you
 wish to attend a university in the
 states.

SYLVIA

I know Papa, you're right. It's just hard.

LOTHAR

Why you don't you read Papa the newspaper. It will help take your mind off of everything.

Sylvia stops unpacking and gets off the ground. She goes to the kitchen table and picks up the newspaper the *Argentinisches Tageblatt* (*Argentine Daily*). She reads her father a few different articles about the economy, different sports teams, cultural events, new movies. She then stops reading. She pauses. She clears her throat and continues reading.

SYLVIA

War trials have continued in Frankfurt, Germany. One of the members of the prosecution is the West German Attorney General, Fritz Bauer. Many former Nazis and SS have been indicted and the outcome of the trial will soon be announced. The Frankfurt trials, along with other trials, such as the Nuremberg, Dachau, and Auschwitz trials, have indicted and brought some of the worst war criminals in history, who committed serious crimes against humanity, to justice. Although many Nazis have been brought to justice, many top officials have evaded justice by disappearing and many still remain at large. Such Nazis are Josef Mengele, the Doctor who performed medical experiments on the prisoners at Auschwitz-Birkenau, Eberhard Fritsche member of the propaganda staff, Otto Skorzeny, former SS officer who helped bring Szálasi to power in Budapest and rescued Mussolini, and lastly Adolf Eichmann, the SS officer who oversaw the 'Final solution' and created the system that deported millions of Jews to the ghettos of Eastern Europe and the death camps.

She stops reading. She slowly looks up at her father.

LOTHAR

(sternly)

What did you just say? Repeat that.

SYLVIA

War trials have continued in Frankfurt, Germany. Many former Nazis and SS have been indicted and the outcome of the trial will soon be announced.

Lothar interrupts her.

LOTHAR

No, no. Not that. The last name you read.

Lothar hangs on to the edge of his chair, he is leaning forward and almost falls off the chair as he is listening with enthusiasm.

SYLVIA

(softly)

And lastly Adolf Eichmann, the SS officer who oversaw the 'Final Solution' and created the system that deported millions of Jews to the ghettos of Eastern Europe and the death camps.

LOTHAR

(slowly and quietly)

Eichmann. I knew I recognized that name somewhere.

Lothar pauses. He sits back in his chair.

LOTHAR (CONT'D)

What was the name of that young man of yours? The one that you had over for dinner.

SYLVIA

(she clears her throat)

Yes, Klaus. Klaus Eichmann.

LOTHAR

Yes, Klaus. Remember how he bragged about his father serving Germany, in the army. And remember what he said? The comment about how he wished the Germans had exterminated all the Jews. Sylvia, did he ever talk about his family?

Sylvia puts the newspaper down and stands up. She begins to pace around the room.

SYLVIA

Klaus never spoke much to me about his family. He told me that his mother remarried after the war, but the first I heard about his father was at dinner, with you and Mama. He used to tell me about moving throughout Europe though, which included some time spent in Poland and Czechoslovakia.

LOTHAR

What was the mother like? Or there home?

Sylvia sits down and he has her back to Lothar.

SYLVIA

(embarrassedly)

I was never invited over. He said that his mother was extremely strict and did not allow him to have guests over.

LOTHAR

Have you been in contact with him? Since we have moved.

SYLVIA

Yes, I have been writing him letters, Papa.

LOTHAR

Then how do you contact him without an address?

SYLVIA

(even more embarrassed
now)

(MORE)

SYLVIA (CONT'D)

I would write to him through a mutual friend. He never told me his address.

Sylvia turns around to face her father.

LOTHAR

He never told you his address? Why would he do that?

Lothar pauses and has a eureka moment. He stands up.

LOTHAR (CONT'D)

(energetically)

It would be too much of a coincidence that Klaus has withheld of all this information from you and his last name is Eichmann. Eichmann must be here, in Argentina!

Lothar sits back down.

LOTHAR (CONT'D)

Sylvia, I have never told you this. But I am Jewish. I never wanted you to have the same problems I had.

SYLVIA

Problems?

LOTHAR

I used to get beaten by Germans because I was Jewish. The reason I am blind is because I was beaten by the gestapo. Your mother and I moved to Argentina to avoid all of the anti-Semitism in Germany.

Sylvia is extremely taken aback. She has obviously no idea that she has had any Jewish roots.

LOTHAR (CONT'D)

I never wanted you to know. I always wanted you to live a normal life. But, Sylvia, I think your friend Klaus's father is Adolf Eichmann.

Sylvia looks like her world just got flipped upside down.

SYLVIA
What should we do?

LOTHAR
There is only one thing for us to
do. Grab a pen and paper Sylvia.

INT. BUS - DAY

Eichmann walks onto a bus and walks to the back where he finds a seat and sits down. The surrounding area is very poor. As the bus drives through the various neighborhoods of Buenos Aires, the neighborhoods become significantly wealthier. The bus reaches its destination in the Florida section of Buenos Aires. The contrasting neighborhoods demonstrate while some Nazis were living quite well in Argentina, Eichmann on the other hand was living quite poorly, especially by comparison.

EXT. OUTSIDE A HOUSE - EVENING

Eichmann gets off the bus. And walks a short ways. The neighborhood is full of life. It is a beautiful day. Birds are chirping. Eichmann approaches a white house, with a large porch. The house is surrounded by birch trees on both sides. Eichmann approaches the house and rings the door bell. Sassen's wife opens the door.

EICHMANN
Hello, my name is Adolf.

MRS. SASSEN
He is inside. Willem has been
expecting you.

Eichmann walks into the house.

INT. LIVING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

The house is furnished quite nicely and looks quite elegant. Down a hallway is an opened door. Sassen's two daughters stick their heads of the doorway and stare at Eichmann.

SASSEN
Now girls, it's impolite to stare.
Adolf, willkommen. It is a pleasure
to see you.

(MORE)

SASSEN (CONT'D)

I am very glad you came. Please follow me. We will be undisturbed in my study.

Sassen and Eichmann walk down the hallway and enter the study.

INT. STUDY - MOMENTS LATER

The study is small and quaint. There are two chairs. The blinds are preventing the bright sunlight from entering the room. In between the two chairs is a small desk. On the desk is a bottle of Argentinean wine, with two glasses beside it, and a small Nagra recorder. There are pictures of Sassen alongside various Nazis in uniform. There is an autographed copy of Mein Kampf. Eichmann appears both excited and nervous.

CLOSE ON: Hitler's signature across the book. Eichmann stares at the book.

SASSEN

It's beautiful, isn't it? It is my most prized possession. Please sit will you.

Both men sit down.

SASSEN (CONT'D)

I wanted to say thank you for coming. I wasn't sure whether you would be interested.

EICHMANN

I am happy to able for once to speak about this complex matter. To dispose of it, to some extent.

SASSEN

Please have some wine. Just relax. Be comfortable. Cigarette?

Sassen opens a bottle of wine and pours the wine into two glasses. Sassen leans over to the tape recorder and threads in a new tape. He hands him a cigarette and then lights it.

SASSEN (CONT'D)

Let's get started shall we? And Adolf, please remember, let this book be an account of what really happened to counter the enemy propaganda. This book will tell the truth from our perspective, the purest perspective, the Nazi perspective. I will tape you speaking about your memories and involvement in the Final Solution.

Eichmann takes a sip of the wine.

EICHMANN

Please, go ahead.

SASSEN

Why don't we start by having you introduce yourself?

EICHMANN

I was SS-Obersturmbannführer. I am now retired. The area of my section's authority was those Jewish matters within the competence of the Gestapo. Originally this centered on the problems of finding out whether a person was a Gentile or a Jew. If he turned out to be a Jew, we were the administrative authority which deprived him of his German citizenship and confiscated his property. Ultimately we declared him an enemy of the state. After the Führer gave the order for the physical annihilation of the Jews, our duties shifted. We supervised Gestapo seizures of German Jews and the trains that took them to their final destination. And throughout German-occupied Europe my advisers from my office saw to it that the local government turned their Jewish citizens to the German Reich. For all this, of course, I will answer. I was not asleep during the war years.

SASSEN

When were you appointed to head of all Jewish affairs?

EICHMANN

At the Wanssee Conference.

SASSEN

And whom were you appointed by?

EICHMANN

Heydrich.

SASSEN

And what was his position?

EICHMANN

He was SS-Obergruppenführer. You know all of this. Why are you asking me all of these pointless questions?

Sassen reaches over and stops the tape.

SASSEN

Remember Adolf, we are taping an account of what happened, what you saw and did. We are just doing some basic background questions for those that did not know who Heydrich was or what happened. Think of this conversation as a way to... write our history. Lets continue again.

Eichmann takes a long drag of his cigarette

SASSEN (CONT'D)

Had you worked with Heydrich before?

EICHMANN

Yes. Well, I began my work with the Jewish Question in 1935 in Berlin where I had been transferred after service with one of the early SS training companies.

(MORE)

EICHMANN (CONT'D)

My first assignment had been extremely dull, sorting what ultimately became a huge card-index of Jews, Freemasons, members of various secret societies and other subversive elements in the Reich. In time, however, my superiors allowed me to start work on the solution of the Jewish problem. I must confess that I did not greet this assignment with the apathy of an ox being led to his stall. On the contrary, I was fascinated with it. My chief, General Reinhard Heydrich, encouraged me to study and acquaint myself even with its theological aspects. In the end I learned to speak Hebrew, although badly. In the years that followed I often said to Jews with whom I had dealings that, had I been a Jew, I would've have been a fanatical Zionist. I could not imagine being anything else. In fact, I would have been the most ardent Zionist imaginable. In those days before the outbreak of the war, the former government of the Reich hoped to solve the Jewish problem by forced emigration. This was easier said than done, since one had to reckon here the difficulty of emigration as a mass project. The Jewish organizations with the widest experience in this had already been closed as unacceptable to the government. There was also a tendency among many Jews to wait it out on the theory that the Hitler regime would be short of duration. It was in 1938, at the reunion of Austria with the German Reich, that General Heydrich gave me the order, in my capacity as a specialist in Jewish affairs, to set the Jewish emigration in motion from Vienna. As with the other, similar central offices, the Vienna office permitted emigrating Jews to take household goods with them.

(MORE)

EICHMANN (CONT'D)

For the custody and administration of Jewish property, so-called administrative and accounting centers were later created, which worked with tidy accuracy and correctness. *Reichsfürher* Heinrich Himmler, who surprisingly enough often busied himself with the smallest detail of the Jewish problem, personally set up the strict administrative standards which were observed in this field. In Vienna alone we were able to prepare as many as 1,000 Jews daily for emigration.

SASSEN

So your main involvement initially was with emigration?

EICHMANN

Precisely. Through all this period I saw the Jewish problem as a question to be solved politically. So did Himmler and the entire Gestapo. As late as 1940, after we beat the French, we were devising plans for further mass emigration of the Jews to Madagascar. I had my legal experts draft a complete law covering the resettlement of Jews there on territory which was to be declared Jewish. They would live there without restraint, except, of course, that they would be under the protectorate of the German Reich. Unfortunately, by the time the obstacles created by bureaucracy for this plan were overcome, the scales of victory were balanced in such a way that Madagascar was out of our grasp.

SASSEN

When did the role change from a political or a territorial solution?

EICHMANN

The continuance of the war finally changed our attitude on emigration entirely.

(MORE)

EICHMANN (CONT'D)

In 1941 the Führer himself ordered the physical annihilation of the Jewish enemy. What made him take this step I do not know. Soon after the order General Heyrdich called me to his office in the Prinz Albrecht Strasse. He told me about *Reichsführer* Himmler's order that all emigration of Jews was to prohibited-- with no more exceptions. By this time the formula "Final Solution for the Jewish Question" had taken on a new meaning: liquidation. In this new sense we discussed it at a special conference on Jan. 20, 1942 in the Wannsee section of Berlin.

SASSEN

Was there a written order?

EICHMANN

It is not true that *Reichsführer* Himmler set down in writing anything ordering the annihilation of Jews. Do you think he sat down to write, "My dear Eichmann, the *Führer* has ordered the physical annihilation of all Jews?"

SASSEN

Can you describe how your department was involved in the Final Solution?

EICHMANN

My department never gave a single annihilation order. We were only responsible for deportation. In every European country under our jurisdiction it was the job of the Jewish Adviser (the representative of my office) to work through local officials until he had attained our goal: a roundup of the Jews and their delivery to the transport. It was my job to catch our Jewish enemies like fish in a net and transport them to their final destination.

(MORE)

EICHMANN (CONT'D)

I carefully set up my timetables for the transports with the Ministry of Transportation and the trains were soon rolling. But through the years we met many difficulties. In France, the French police helped only hesitatingly. And in Holland the battle for the Jews was especially hard and bitter. Yet we managed after a struggle to get the deportations going. Trainloads of Jews were soon leaving from France and Holland. My interest here was only in the number of transport trains I had to provide. Whether they were bank directors or mental cases, the people who were loaded on these trains meant nothing to me. It was really none of my business.

SASSEN

What was your involvement in Hungary?

EICHMANN

In Hungary my basic orders were to ship all Jews out of the country in as short a time as possible. Now, after years of working behind a desk, I had come out into the reality of the field. As Müller put it, they had sent the "master" himself, to make sure the Jews did not revolt as they had in the Warsaw Ghetto. I use the word "master" (he makes air quotes with his fingers) in quotation marks because people used it to describe me. I did not use it first. Since they had sent the "master" however, I wanted to at like a master. I resolved to show how well a job could be done when the commander stands 100% behind it. By shipping the Jews off in a lightning operation, I wanted to set an example for future campaigns elsewhere.

SASSEN

Can you elaborate on what you mean lighting operation?

EICHMANN

Yes, what I mean is that, all told, we succeeded in processing about half a million Jews in Hungary. I once knew the exact number that we shipped to Auschwitz, but today I can only estimate that it was around 350,000 in a period of four months. It is clear from the statistics, then, that our operation was not a battle fought with knives, pistols, carbines, or poison gas. We used spiritual methods to reach our goal. Let us keep this distinction clear, because physical liquidation is a vulgar, course action.

Eichmann pauses and takes a drag of his cigarette.

EICHMANN (CONT'D)

Over the years I had learned through practice which hooks to use to catch which fish, and I was now able to make the operation easy for myself. I was also instructed to send almost all the transports to the railroad station at Auschwitz. My men had as one of their basic orders that all unnecessary harshness was to be avoided. In practice they may not have adhered to it 100%. But that did not and could not interest me, because it was not my responsibility.

Eichmann takes a large gulp of wine and a long drag of his cigarette. He smiles.

EXT. OFFICE- MORNING

Exterior shots of an office building. It is grey and cold out.

CAPTION LOWER RIGHT CORNER: (Attorney General's Office-

Hessen, West Germany: 1957)

INT. OFFICE- MORNING

There is a reception area and a receptionist sitting behind a desk. Elevator doors open. ATTORNEY GENERAL FRITZ BAUER walks out through the doors. He is in his late 50s or early 60s. His face is marked by wrinkles and is saggy. He is short and stocky.

RECEPTIONIST

Guten morgen, Herr Bauer

FRITZ BAUER

Guten morgen.

Fritz walks through the reception into a large room. There are rows and rows of cubicles. He walks along the corridor of cubicles. Outside of his office is his secretary.

SECRETARY

Gut morgen, Mr. Bauer.

FRITZ BAUER

Morgen.

SECRETARY

Your wife called, and asked about dinner.

FRITZ BAUER

Is there anything else?

SECRETARY

Yes, you have some mail. This letter here is marked urgent.

FRITZ BAUER

OK, thank you.

Bauer takes the small stack of envelopes and walks into his office.

INT. FRITZ BAUER'S OFFICE - MOMENTS LATER

The walls of the office are lined with newspaper clips in frames. Bauer sits down at his desk and takes the letter that is marked urgent and sets the other letters aside.

CLOSE ON: The letter. It says: Hermann, Lothar followed by his address. It has in large black writing on the envelope: URGENT. Bauer opens the letter.

LOTHAR (V.O.)

To Whom It Concern, my name is Lothar Hermann and I am from Argentina. It has come to my attention and I have good evidence to support this, that the scum Adolf Eichmann is living in Buenos Aires. I have had the displeasure to meet, who I believe is Eichmann's eldest son, Klaus. Klaus has been seeing my daughter for a short period of time. While Klaus was having dinner at my house, he made comments about his father's service in the German army and made comments to me about how he wished the Germans had completed their job of Jewish extermination. Moreover, he has never invited my daughter over and has withheld any contact information from my daughter. Klaus' comments about Naziism, extermination, and withholding any contact information from my daughter only ratifies my beliefs that Klaus is Eichmann's son and Adolf is living somewhere in Buenos Aires. Furthermore, Klaus shares Adolf's last name and Eichmann is still at large. All this cannot be a simple coincidence. They must be related. Now you must be wondering why I contacted you. I knew I had to do something, to tell someone. I am unsure of the legitimacy of the German embassy in Buenos Aires and I do not want anyone to tip off Eichmann so he can escape. I chose to write you because one of the newspapers mentioned you were involved in the prosecution of Nazis at the Frankfurt trials. Eichmann has to be here living with his wife and family.

(MORE)

LOTHAR (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Please do not hesitate to contact me and I am willing do to whatever it takes to help capture this son-of-a bitch. Sincerely yours, Lothar Hermann.

BAUER

My god!

Bauer jumps up and runs out of his office. He sticks his head out of the office door and shouts at his secretary.

BAUER (CONT'D)

Get my senior prosecutor in here. Now!

Bauer sits down. He is panting due to his over-excitement. He takes a few deep breaths and calms down. The door to his office swings open.

SENIOR PROSECUTOR

I was told you needed me immediately.

BAUER

Yes, I have gotten good information that Adolf Eichmann is alive and is living in Argentina. I need you to gather as much information as you can about Adolf Eichmann. Get pictures, physical descriptions, dental records, photographs of him and his family, last known whereabouts of both Eichmann and his family, and anything else that could help a source of mine in Argentina positively identify Eichmann.

SENIOR PROSECUTOR

Do you really think your source is right?

BAUER

Something in my gut tells me that my source is right, but I can only hope.

SENIOR PROSECUTOR

I hope so as well. I'll get you the information on Eichmann immediately.

The senior prosecutor steps out of Bauer's office. Bauer leans back in his chair and takes a deep breath. He is still breathing quickly with excitement. He opens a file out of his drawer. It is an arrest warrant for Adolf Eichmann, filed December, 1956. In bold red lettering across the file it says: DENIED. Bauer holds the paper in his hand and stares at it.

BAUER

(quietly to himself)

We are going to catch you this time you bastard.

INT. TRAIN STATION - DAY

Sylvia and Lothar stand on a platform waiting for a train. The train station is very small and there are only a couple dozen people at the train station. The train station is bustling. Sylvia is wearing a beautiful blue dress. She wears a lot of make-up and appears like she is dressed up for some date. After waiting for a few minutes in silence. The train comes up to the platform. Sylvia helps Lothar onto the train.

INT. TRAIN - MOMENTS LATER

Sylvia and Lothar board the train and sit down.

LOTHAR

Now, remember.

Before he can finish Sylvia interrupts him.

SYLVIA

Papa, we've gone through the plan. I dozen times. I understand.

TRAIN ANNOUNCER

This is the 607 train to Buenos Aires.

LOTHAR

Please darling, this is important, not just important. It is extremely important.

SYLVIA
Yes, Papa, I know. Fine, one more
time.

LOTHAR
Tell me again you are going to do.

SYLVIA
I am going to find Klaus's address,
if he has a father, and if his
father matches the description.

LOTHAR
And how are you going to do that?

SYLVIA
I will run into Klaus and find out
where he lives.

LOTHAR
Please just read through the
description and all of the
information.

Lothar hands her a folder.

Sylvia opens the folder and glances at its contents.

CLOSE ON: Pictures of Eichmann, descriptions of Eichmann and
his family. The names of Eichmann's sons and their ages.

SYLVIA
The information on Klaus and his
brothers all match.

LOTHAR
Now the question is whether or not
they live with Adolf and if he is
alive in Argentina. Have you
memorized all the information
Adolf?

SYLVIA
Yes, Papa. I've got it.

LOTHAR
Good, good.

CUT TO:

INT. TRAIN STATION - LATER

Shots of the train pulling into the train station. The train station is large and very nice, especially compared to the other train station. The Hermanns are no longer in their small town of Coronel Suárez but in the large city of Buenos Aires. There are hundreds of people at the train station. The Hermann's step off the train as Sylvia helps.

LOTHAR

OK, here we are. Take the envelope just in case. It has everything you need. Here, put it in your purse.

Lothar hands Sylvia the envelope. She puts it in her purse.

LOTHAR (CONT'D)

I will stay in the train station and wait for you. It is imperative you do not alarm him and give him any reason to be suspicious.

Sylvia helps Lothar sit down. He begins to glance over the newspaper.

EXT. OUTSIDE THE TRAIN STATION - MOMENTS LATER

Sylvia walks outside the train station and looks around. She tries to figure out exactly where she is. She is overwhelmed by the mass of people surrounding her. She is standing in a sea of human traffic. Finally, she sees a bus stop. She walks over to the bus stop. She glances over the map of the bus stops. She sees that the bus will stop in Olivos. She puts her finger on the map where it says Olivos. She smiles. She sits down at the bus stop. After a minute or two the bus comes. She walks onto the bus.

INT. BUS - MOMENTS LATER

Sylvia walks onto the bus and pays the bus driver her fare. She walks to the end of the bus and sits down. She rests her head on the window of the bus. The bus starts driving. After a short ride she gets to Olivos. The bus driver announces the stop. Sylvia gets up and walks off the bus.

EXT. OLIVOS - LATER

The bus approaches its stop. Sylvia walks off the bus and begins to walk around.

SYLVIA
(quietly to herself)
Where would Klaus be?

She walks by the alleyway where Klaus beat up the boy earlier. She continues to walk to the coffee shop where she and Klaus had coffee. She continues searching for Klaus but cannot find him. She looks at her watch. She continues wandering, surveying for Klaus. She becomes extremely discouraged. She walks over to a park and walks around looking for Klaus. She cannot find him. She sits down and feels guilt that she has let her father down and is confused over her relationship with Klaus. She begins to quietly cry to herself. She places her head in her hands. She cannot see because she is covering her face. A young woman, similar in age to Sylvia approaches her.

YOUNG GIRL
Sylvia?

Sylvia looks up.

YOUNG GIRL (CONT'D)
(excitedly)
It is you! Sylvia how are you? I haven't seen you in so long? How are you? How have you been?

Sylvia quickly rubs her face and makes it look like she wasn't crying.

SYLVIA
I've been good, I mean, um, great. The move has been difficult, but I am adjusting well. What are you doing here?

YOUNG GIRL
I live here, here in Olivos.

SYLVIA
Of course, how could I have forgotten?

YOUNG GIRL
Are you still with Klaus?

SYLVIA

Not exactly, we took sometime off due to the move, but we still talk quite a lot. I actually have something important I need to give him... do you happen to know his address by chance?

YOUNG GIRL

Yes, I do in fact. He lives on 4261 Chacabuco street. Just a few streets over

SYLVIA

(relieved)

Really? Thank you! Very nice to see you but I must be on my way. It is important that I deliver something to him.

YOUNG GIRL

I'm so glad I could help. I hope I see you soon, Sylvia. Take care.

SYLVIA

Yes, I hope so too. Thank you again.

EXT. OLIVOS - CONTINUOUS

Sylvia walks out through the park and begins to walk to Chacabuco Street. As she walks to Chacabuco Street, the surrounding buildings become progressively poorer. She walks through Olivos and finally gets to the street. Chacabuco street is in one of the poorest sections in the neighborhood. She walks down the street and finally gets to the house. She is constantly looking around to see if Klaus is around or if she sees one of Klaus' brothers. She finally reaches the house. The house is a small one-story white house. There is a small fence that surrounds the house. She cannot see into the house because all the curtains are drawn. The house looks like it could only house two people comfortably. She opens the gate to the house and walks slowly to the house. She takes a deep breath and knocks on the door. There is a long pause. The curtains ruffle in the window and someone's head sticks through them. Another long pause. Finally, the door opens a little. We see Vera holding a small child in her arms, Ricardo-Francisco.

SYLVIA

(extremely nervous, trying
to be calm)

Hi, I am a friend of Klaus's from
school. I was hoping I could talk
to him? Is he home?

VERA

(prudently)

Um, no, actually he isn't home. You
are, um, welcome to come in and
wait for him if you'd like.

SYLVIA

Thank you, that would be nice.

Vera opens the door for Sylvia. Sylvia walks into the house
followed by Vera.

INT. EICHMANN HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

The interior of the home is the same as it was in the
beginning of the film. There is a dining room table and a
small couch. The furniture is very sparse due to the
Eichmann's lack of wealth.

VERA

Would you like something to eat or
drink? Coffee? Cake?

SYLVIA

No, thank you. I'm fine.

Sylvia sits down at the table. She notices Dieter sitting on
the couch doing his homework.

SYLVIA (CONT'D)

Do you know when Klaus will be
back?

DIETER

No. But, he left about an hour ago.

CUT TO:

INT. SASSEN'S STUDY - DAY

Eichmann is sitting in his usual chair. There is a glass of
wine and wine bottle sitting next to the tape recorder.

It look's almost like a psychiatrist office. Sassen is taking notes while recording him. Eichmann looks very relaxed and comfortable. He begins smoking.

SASSEN

This is our last session and I have a few final questions for you and that I believe will conclude everything we have discussed thus far. Is there anything you'd like to say before we finish?

EICHMANN

Through the intervening years since then people searched for me in vain. I would like to find peace with my former opponents. And I would be the first to surrender myself to the German authorities if I did not always feel that the political interest in my case would be too great.

SASSEN

It sound like you may have some regrets?

EICHMANN

To sum it all up, I must say that I regret nothing. Adolf Hitler may have been wrong all down the line, but one thing is beyond dispute: the man was able to work from lance corporal in the Germany army to *Führer* of a people of almost 80 million. I never met him personally, but his success alone proves to me that I should subordinate myself to this man. He was somehow so supremely capable that the people recognized him. And so with that justification I recognized him joyfully, and I still defend him. I am not eating humble pie at all. In the four months during which you have rendered the whole matter, during which you have endeavoured to refresh my memory, a great deal has been refreshed.

Eichmann takes a deep drag of the cigarette and knocks back a glass of wine.

EICHMANN (CONT'D)

It would be too easy, and I could perfectly reasonably, for the sake of current opinion, play the role as if a Saul had turned into a Paul. But I must tell you that I cannot do that, because my innermost being refuses to say that we did something wrong. No- I must tell you, in all honesty, that if of the 10.3 Million Jews shown by Korherr, as we now know, we had killed 10.3 Million, then I would be satisfied. I would say "All right. We have exterminated an enemy."

Eichmann pauses and takes a deep drag of his cigarette. As he smiles, he grins widely.

EICHMANN (CONT'D)

And so the Jews are actually right. To tell the truth, I was working relentlessly to kindle the fire wherever I thought there was a sign of resistance. Had I been just a recipient of orders, then I would have been a simpleton. I was thinking matters over. I was an idealist. When I reached the conclusion that it was necessary to do the Jews what we did, I worked with fanaticism a man can only expect from himself. No doubt they considered me the right man in the right place. I always acted 100 per cent, and in the giving of orders I certainly was not lukewarm. Since the majority of these Jews stayed alive through a trickery of fate, I tell myself that's what fate had intended, and I have to subordinate myself to fate and providence. We would have fulfilled our duty for out blood, for our people, and for the liberty of all people, if we had destroyed the most cunning spirit of today's mankind.

(MORE)

EICHMANN (CONT'D)

Since that is not the case, I will tell you that our children have to deal with the agony and misfortune of our failure, and maybe they will curse us.

There is a long pause. Eichmann knocks another glass of wine back and puts out his cigarette in the ashtray and begins to get up. He feels he has said all that he had needed.

SASSEN

Adolf, I can't say thank you enough for your time and help. This is our last session, to think we've spoken for about four months now. Here is the most recent transcript for your perusal. I will add your most recent comments to the transcript and give you an updated one soon.

CUT TO:

INT. EICHMANN'S HOME OFFICE - MOMENTS LATER

Eichmann is sitting in his home office. The room is dark because all of the curtains are drawn. Sunlight peers through the edges of the curtain. There are many cigarette butts in an ash tray on his desk. Scattered across the desk are newspaper clippings about Nazi related things such as war trials, whereabouts of former Nazis. A few books about the Third Reich are on the desk. There are books such as Gerhard Boldt's *Hitler: The Last Ten Days*. Boldt's name is crossed out and over the name says "traitor." There are also a few empty wine bottles. Eichmann walks into the room. He clears space on the desk with one, large sweeping motion with his arm. He begins to read Sassen's transcripts and begins to furiously cross things out and edit them.

EICHMANN

Wrong. He got it wrong. He made the numbers smaller. He reduced things. This does not re-write my history! This does not show them what I have done.

He opens a bottle of wine and pours a glass and lights a cigarette.

EICHMANN (CONT'D)

He makes me sound like I am some, some idiot. This does not justify what I did or make me sound like the idealist I was. This shall be the beginning of my memoir and the truth shall set me free. After this I can move on and I won't need to look back.

He takes a blank piece of paper, and begins to frantically write. He reads out loud what he is writing. He smokes as he writes.

EICHMANN (CONT'D)

I am growing tired of living the life of an anonymous wanderer between two worlds. The voice of my heart, which no man can escape, has always whispered to me to look for peace. I would also like to be at peace with my former enemies. Maybe that is part of the German character. I would be only too glad to surrender to the German authorities, if I were not obliged to consider that people may still be much interested in the political aspect of the matter to permit a clear, objective outcome. Far be it from me to doubt that a German court would arrive at a just verdict, but I am not at all clear about the judicial status that would be accorded today to a former receiver of orders, whose duty it was to be loyal to his oath and to carry out the orders and instructions given him. I was but a faithful, decent, correct, conscientious, and enthusiastic member of the SS and Reich Security Headquarters, inspired solely by idealistic feelings toward the fatherland to which I had the honor of belonging. Despite conscientious self-examination, I must find in my favor that I was neither a murderer nor a mass murderer.

(MORE)

EICHMANN (CONT'D)

But, to be absolutely truthful, I must accuse myself of complicity in killing, because I passed the deportation orders I received and because at least a fraction of the deportees were killed, though by an entirely different unit. I have said that I would have to accuse myself of complicity in killing, if I were to judge myself with merciless severity. But I do not see clearly whether I have the right to this vis-a-vis my immediate subordinates. Therefore, I am still engaged in an inner struggle. My subjective attitude toward things that happened was my belief in the necessity of a total war, because I could not help believing in the constant proclamations issued by the leaders of the then German Reich, such as: Victory in this total war or the German nation will perish. On the strength of this attitude, I did my commanded duty with a clear conscience and faithful heart.

Eichmann lifts his head up from the typewriter. He pauses for a minute, smoke exhales out of his nostrils. He extinguishes the cigarette. He opens the drawer to his desk and takes out a Nazi medal. He smells it and smiles. He then stops smiling. He looks at it with disgust and puts it back in the drawer.

EICHMANN (CONT'D)

That is my past. That chapter of my life has closed. I am a father and a husband now. Those are my duties. I did what was necessary for my country and family, but that is in the past.

He hears the sounds of people chatting, but he cannot recognize one of the voices. Eichmann gets up and walks out of the room.

INT. EICHMANN HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

Eichmann walks out of his study into the living room. He sees Dieter doing his homework, but is not aware of Sylvia, who is staring at him. Dieter nods his head a little in the direction of Sylvia. Eichmann is now aware of his guest.

EICHMANN

Hello.

SYLVIA

Good afternoon.

EICHMANN

Hello young lady.

SYLVIA

Are you Mr. Eichmann?

Silence. Adolf says nothing.

SYLVIA (CONT'D)

Are you Klaus's father?

EICHMANN

I am sorry, who are you?

SYLVIA

Excuse me, how rude of me. I am Sylvia, I am a friend of Klaus'.

EICHMANN

A friend of Klaus's?

SYLVIA

Yes, we went to school together... and well, I recently moved.. And I was in the area, so I thought I would say hello briefly. And... you are? Mr. Eichmann? Klaus' father?

There is a long pause, Eichmann hesitates to answer.

EICHMANN

(coldly)

So, you and Klaus were friends?
From school?

SYLVIA

Yes, exactly. I actually just graduated and am planning on going to university soon.

Sylvia sits on the couch and Eichmann still standing, is almost standing above her while she sits.

EICHMANN

What would you like to study there?

SYLVIA

Um, I am not too sure. But I enjoy studying languages. Do you speak any languages?

EICHMANN

I know a little French.

SYLVIA

Really, how splendid! Have you been to France? I've always wanted to go. I hear it's quite beautiful there.

EICHMANN

I spent some time in France and Belgium during the war. I never cared for the French. Would you like something to drink? A coffee?

SYLVIA

Are you having one?

EICHMANN

Yes, I think so.

SYLVIA

Then, yes, I'll have one.

EICHMANN

Vera.

Vera peers her head out of the kitchen.

VERA

Yes?

EICHMANN

Two coffees please.

The door to the house opens, Klaus enters. Sylvia is sitting in a chair and her back is to Klaus.

KLAUS
Mom, I'm home. What's for dinner,
I'm starving.

Klaus see's his father.

KLAUS (CONT'D)
Hello, papa.

Sylvia turns around excitedly to see Klaus. Klaus on the other hand is extremely shocked and taken aback to see Sylvia.

KLAUS (CONT'D)
What are you doing here?

SYLVIA
I, I.

Klaus prevents her from speaking by interrupting her.

KLAUS
Who gave you my address? Who said
you could visit me here?

EICHMANN
Klaus, please. Do not be rude to
our guest.

SYLVIA
It's fine. I really should get
going, I have overstayed my welcome
by waiting here for so long and my
bus leaves soon. It was a pleasure
to meet you. Thank you for having
me.

Sylvia gets up and walks to her the door. To her surprise, Eichmann gets up and sees her to the door. Klaus walks to the door.

EICHMANN
I will walk her to the bus stop.

KLAUS
Thank you father, but it is OK, I
will walk Sylvia out.

CUT TO:

INT. TRAIN STATION - LATER

Lothar is sitting on the bench where Sylvia left him. He is napping. There are still hundreds of people running around to their trains. There are announcements being made over the loudspeaker.

SYLVIA
Papa, papa. Wake up.

Lothar's head pops up.

LOTHAR
Sylvia? Ah, Sylvia!

SYLVIA
It was him.

LOTHAR
Are you sure?

SYLVIA
Positive. There is no doubt in all
my being. It is him.

EXT. MOSSAD AGENCY - DAY

Exterior shots of the Mossad Agency. The building lies in the heart of Tel Aviv.

INT. HAREL'S OFFICE - DAY

Sitting behind a desk, his back to us, is a MR. ISSER HAREL. Harel is extremely small, bald, and has piercing blue eyes. He is reading a file. His chair turns and we see his face. He reaches to an intercom.

ISSER
Get me Hofstetter.

INTERCOM (V.O.)
Yes Mr. Harel.

Isser returns to reading the file. After a few minutes of reading the file walks in EFRAIM Hofstetter.

ISSER

Efraim, I called you in because I have sensitive and extremely important information. I received evidence from a very trusted colleague of mine that Adolf Eichmann has been living in Argentina. Another agent, Yoel Goren in January 1958 visited Buenos Aires to investigate the address we had on Eichmann. Goren took pictures of Eichmann's little house and assessed given how decrepit the house is, that it could not possibly be where a Nazi of Eichmann's stature was living. One of our agents has been in constant communication with our West German contact.

HOFSTETTER

Who is the West German contact?

ISSER

His name Dr. Fritz Bauer, he is a Public Prosecutor in Frankfurt. After reading Goren's report, to be honest, I have no clue whether this is a real lead.

HOFSTETTER

Then what do you want from me?

ISSER

I need you to go to Buenos Aires, I have a letter of introduction for you, from Bauer. You are not to introduce yourself under your real name, but under the alias Karl Huppert. We want the source to know as little as possible about you. I want you to meet his contact and tell me whether you think what our source is saying is legitimate.

EXT. HERMANN HOME - DAY

CAPTION LOWER RIGHT CORNER: (February, 1958)

External shots of the Hermann Home.

INT. HERMANN HOME - MORNING

The house has very little furniture. In the living room there is a table, a cupboard, and a couple of chairs. The Hermann home demonstrates the fact that the family is extremely poor. The furniture is not very nice, but the house feels warm and comfortable. The door bell rings and Mrs. Hermann opens the door.

HOFSTETTER

Good morning. Does Mr. Hermann live here?

MRS. HERMANN

Yes, let me get him. (To Lothar)
Lothar, there is someone to see you. Please come in. Have a seat.

Lothar is sitting in his chair. Hofstetter takes a seat near him.

HOFSTETTER

Mr. Hermann?

LOTHAR

Yes, I am Mr. Hermann. What can I do for you?

HOFSTETTER

My name is Karl Huppert. I recently sent you a telegram from Buenos Aires informing you that I would be coming today.

LOTHAR

Of course, I have been expecting you.

HOFSTETTER

Thank you.

LOTHAR

I do not mean to be rude, but I have never heard of you. Who are you?

HOFSTETTER

I have spent much of time in America and Canada, representing German authorities there. I have come to you on their behalf.

LOTHAR

How can I trust you? How do I know you are telling the truth.

HOFSTETTER

I can promise you Mr. Hermann, that you can trust me.

LOTHAR

Ah, yes, well, any one can make such claims. Can't they? Besides, what have those Canadian and American authorities have got to do with me.

HOFSTETTER

I can't say much about that, for this is a delicate matter. But allow me to remind me of your recent friend in West Germany, Dr. Fritz Bauer, Public Prosecutor of the Province of Hesse, in connection with the Nazi war criminal Adolf Eichmann. From the information we have, it appears that Dr. Bauer wrote to you on the 21st of January. In his letter he informed you that he would be sending someone to talk to you on his behalf. I have with me a letter of introduction from Dr. Bauer written on the same date. If you wouldn't mind looking over the note to authenticate my visit.

Hofstetter puts out his hand with the letter. The letter dangles in the air. Hermann is ignoring the note completely. Hermann turns his head in the direction of the door.

LOTHAR

My dear, will you please come in.

Mrs. Hermann walks in to the room.

MRS. HERMANN

Do you need something Lothar?

LOTHAR

Yes. Mr. Huppert here brought us a letter from Dr. Bauer in Frankfurt. Can you read the letter for me please?

He hands her the letter. She opens the letter and sits down on the couch next to Hofstetter. Hofstetter realizes that Lothar is blind.

MRS. HERMANN

Ready Lothar? "The bearer of this letter is the person whose visit I advised you about in my letter of today's date. He will discuss with you the subject of our correspondence. Sincerely, Dr. Bauer... Lothar, the signature is Dr. Bauer's.

LOTHAR

Now can we proceed. You know, you and I are not, too, unlike. I also used to do investigations, when I was a young lawyer. But when Hitler came to power, everything changed. My parents were murdered by the Nazis, and I too had firsthand experience of the horrors of the concentration camps. I have Jewish blood in my veins, but my wife is German and our daughters has been brought up according to her mother's traditions. Don't think that I started this Eichmann business through any desire to serve Germany. My only purpose is to even the score with the Nazi criminals who caused me and my family so much agony and suffering. Because of that, I don't even want any reward or any other sort of compensation for my efforts.

HOFSTETTER

How were you able to find Eichmann
or find his trail?

LOTHAR

I have an extremely beautiful and
smart daughter, she will be here
soon and you will meet her.

HOFSTETTER

And through her you were able to
find out that Eichmann was the
Adolf Eichmann?

LOTHAR

Precisely.

HOFSTETTER

Please elaborate.

LOTHAR

Until about a year or so, yes,
about 18 months to be exact we had
been living in Buenos Aires, in the
Olivos section. In Buenos Aires, my
daughter, Sylvia, met Klaus
Eichmann. He started taking her out
and eventually when things became
more serious, Sylvia wanted her
boyfriend to meet Mrs. Hermann and
I. Of course he didn't know that I
was Jewish or that my daughter has
Jewish blood. Because we live in
Argentina, surrounded by so many
Germans, people would never assume
that I have or my family has Jewish
blood. Such was Klaus. He spoke
very openly to us because we are
German. On one such occasion, he
was at our home, having dinner. He
told me about how his father, who
was in the army and did his duty
for the fatherland. He then told me
about how he wished that the
German's finished their job of
extermination. My wife, she is
extremely observant. She pointed
out that Klaus did not have a
"typical" German accent.

(MORE)

LOTHAR (CONT'D)

He told my wife that because his father served in so many different regions in the war, often times the family would accompany him. Klaus claimed that since he never stayed long enough in one place, he never established one specific dialect.

HOFSTETTER

In the report I was given, I was told that your realization of Eichmann related to a war trial in Germany.

LOTHAR

Yes. One day my wife, or my daughter, I cannot remember, one of them was reading the newspaper to me about the trials in Frankfurt. They listed many Nazi war criminals that were being prosecuted at the trial. The article also mentioned that Adolf Eichmann, orchestrator of the Final Solution was still at large. When I heard that name Adolf Eichmann, I immediately thought of the comments Klaus Eichmann had made to me. It could not be a simple coincidence that Klaus Eichmann, who was so sorry that the Germans couldn't wipe the Jews off the face of the earth and that his father did his duty for his country. I contacted the Public Prosecutor in Hesse, who put me in touch with Dr. Bauer. I noticed Dr. Bauer had been working on the Frankfurt Trial. We talked back and forth. He wanted my daughter and me to find out if Eichmann was in fact Eichmann. He provided me with information on Eichmann, such as a personal description of Eichmann.

HOFSTETTER

Did you do anything, such as an investigation, to corroborate your suspicions that Klaus was in fact Eichmann' son?

LOTHAR

Yes. Klaus never told Sylvia his address and never invited her over. Sylvia would write to a friend, who would deliver the letter. The fact that they had been dating but my daughter knew nothing of Klaus' home, address, or anything like that, only made me more certain that he was Eichmann's son and that the monster was living here, in Argentina.

The front door opens and Sylvia walks in.

SYLVIA

Halo. How are you Papa?

Sylvia walks into the room.

LOTHAR

Sylvia, this is Mr. Huppert. Mr. Huppert, my daughter, Sylvia.

SYLVIA

Halo, it is a pleasure to meet you Mr. Hermann.

HOFSTETTER

How nice to meet you, thank you.

LOTHAR

Good, now that you are both acquainted, we can return to the matter at hand. Sylvia, Mr. Huppert is interested in our friend Klaus Eichmann and his family. We are very proud of our Sylvia. In two months, she is going to an American university.

HOFSTETTER

If you wouldn't mind Miss Hermann, can you tell me your experience in the matter.

SYLVIA

Well, I am sure Dad told you, but Klaus never gave me his address.

(MORE)

SYLVIA (CONT'D)

I went to Buenos Aires to look for him and find where he lived, but I couldn't find him. There, I ran into an old class mate of mine. She gave me the address. I approached the house, to be honest, I was terrified. I was all alone. I knocked on the door and was greeted by a woman holding a small boy in her arms. I greeted her in German and asked if this was the Eichmann house and that I was looking for Klaus. The woman paused and was not sure how to answer, but she let me inside. It was at this time, an elderly man with big black-rimmed glasses came into the room. I asked him, if he was Mr. Eichmann. He did not answer. I asked him if he was Klaus' father. He hesitated. And paused, he acted just like the woman, who I presume is his wife, acted when I asked if this was the Eichmann home. Shortly, Klaus came home. When I was leaving, Klaus called the man his father.

HOFSTETTER

Are you sure?

SYLVIA

Of course. I am a hundred percent positive.

HOFSTETTER

Was there anything interesting about the way the man spoke.

SYLVIA

His voice perfectly matched the description the prosecutor had given us.

HOFSTETTER

What did it sound like?

SYLVIA

It was unpleasant and very stern. Quite cold actually.

HOFSTETTER

Do you not think that, perhaps the letter influenced you.

SYLVIA

This was an entirely unbiased impression.

HOFSTETTER

How many children are there in the family.

SYLVIA

Klaus has three other brothers.

HOFSTETTER

Do you know their names?

SYLVIA

Of course, there is Dieter, Horst, and the youngest, Ricardo-Francisco.

LOTHAR

Yes and the boys' ages matched the description provided in the letter. All of this has been passed on to Bauer in Frankfurt. I have only asked him to cover the expenses necessary to obtain this information. I cannot afford these expensive train rides to and from Buenos Aires.

MRS. HERMANN

Well, I do not like it. Not one bit. Naturally I wanted to meet the boy taking my Sylvia out. I don't know his family, but I am confident that we have found the Nazi war criminal Adolf Eichmann. I just don't like any of this. The whole matter makes me uncomfortable and to be frank, it scares me. It is also unfair that we should be paying for this whole thing without any reimbursement. Pfff! It's just ridiculous.

LOTHAR

As I told you earlier Mr. Huppert, I do not want a reward. But I do want reimbursement, 120-150 dollars is about how much I spent on my trip. I wrote to the powers that be in Frankfurt. I have yet to receive a reply.

HOFSTETTER

Until now I had not been made aware of the financial matters. I will contact my superiors and inform them of the problem.

LOTHAR

Good, arrange for the reimbursement to be made as quickly as possible. I think we have done an excellent job in finding and identifying Eichmann.

HOFSTETTER

Yes, I understand. I will do my best to reimburse you quickly... And yes, you have done a good job. You have made some conclusive identifications. But there is not enough proof that the man who Sylvia met, was in fact, Adolf Eichmann. Vera could have re-married, which we have heard is a possibility and the children out of loyalty to their father kept his last name.

LOTHAR

To be honest, I think he had plastic surgery, which is why it has been so difficult to identify him from old photographs. Vera well may have re-married, but if she did, it was to her first husband, Adolf.

HOFSTETTER

Mr. Hermann, this is not a simple matter. You need to understand, if we are to act and to do something, there can be no doubts or uncertainties.

(MORE)

HOFSTETTER (CONT'D)

We need to be a hundred percent positive. We do not have enough facts to be a hundred percent right now.

LOTHAR

I can get you more proof. I know the neighborhood and its residents extremely well because we lived there for so long. Someone on the outside may have difficulty finding out things that we will find with ease. I suggest that you only work through me. That would make the most sense, since, well, I don't have to tell you how important it is not to alarm Eichmann and raise his suspicions.

HOFSTETTER

Of course.

LOTHAR

I'd also like to caution against using the German embassy in Buenos Aires. I am positive the office is run by Nazis. They will without a doubt tip off Eichmann. In fact, to be completely honest, I think any German office would contact him.

HOFSTETTER

Let me remind you Mr. Hermann what office I represent. There is no need to hyperbolize things.

LOTHAR

And let me remind you, Herr Huppert, Eichmann has unlimited means at his hands. We must be extremely cautious.

HOFSTETTER

OK, we are going to need more evidence to corroborate these claims.

LOTHAR

I am at your disposal.

HOFSTETTER

This is what we need from you to have a positive identification his present name, where he works, information on his car, a photograph, like an ID picture, and any other official documents. The best thing would be to get his fingerprints.

LOTHAR

Through my contacts and connections, I will get you such things with ease. But I will need to travel again, which will be expensive.

HOFSTETTER

I promised you already that you will get the money you have already spent. Your future expenses will also be covered. I recommend not doing anything until you have received your first payment. But once you receive payment, I expect you to go to Buenos Aires without any delay. Another recommendation, stop contacting the office in Germany. Here is a new address for you to contact. Do you have visiting cards.

LOTHAR

Of course.

HOFSTETTER

Maybe you could give me a few cards with your signature on them. In our future correspondence I will attach one of the cards to it. That way, you will always know that it's me.

LOTHAR

Brilliant. A brilliant idea!

HOFSTETTER

One more thing, take half of this bill. If anybody comes to you and shows you the other half, you will know that I have sent them and that person is trust worthy.

(MORE)

HOFSTETTER (CONT'D)

Thank you for seeing me. I must be on my way now.

LOTHAR

Thank you for coming. Through our efforts, we will catch this bastard who did so many horrible things to my people. I hope to hear from you soon.

HOFSTETTER

You will. Good day.

LOTHAR

Sylvia. Please show our guest out.

CUT TO:

EXT. EICHMANN HOME- CONSTRUCTION SITE - DAY

CAPTION LOWER RIGHT CORNER: (February, 1959)

Eichmann and his sons, except for Ricardo, are digging a trench for the foundation of a new home. It is rainy and dark out. Eichmann and his sons are tirelessly digging and mixing cement. There is a street sign in the distance that reads 'Giribaldi Street' and another sign going in the opposite direction that reads 'Route 202'.

HORST

Why do we have to build a new house?

DIETER

Yeah papa, I liked the other one.

KLAUS

Shut up and just shovel.

They shovel in silence.

EICHMANN

It was time to move. We were not safe in that house.

DIETER

Safe?

HORST

Why weren't we safe?

EICHMANN
It was time to move.

HORST
Is everything ok?

EICHMANN
Yes, everything is fine my good
boy.

Eichmann bends his knees and gets low to the ground.

EICHMANN (CONT'D)
I did something thing in my past
that many people don't agree with.
I want to move on now.

Eichmann and Eichmann boys continue to dig and work on the house. The rain is relentless and the boys all work in silence.

INT. CHAIM COHEN'S OFFICE - DAY

CAPTION LOWER RIGHT CORNER: (December, 1959)

The room is decorated in typical 1950s office furniture. It is somewhat beat and over used. Sitting at a large desk, is a MR. CHAIM COHEN. Behind him, on the wall, is an extremely large flag of Israel. There are pictures of Chaim Cohen shaking hands with various government officials. Coming into the office sitting in a chair on the other side of the desk is DR. BAUER, he looks tired and extremely agitated. There are two empty chairs next to Bauer. As he enters...

CHAIM
Good morning.

BAUER
Yes, good morning.

CHAIM
Now before we begin Dr. Bauer, it has come to my attention that you have already brought this matter up with a colleague of mine, Isser Harel.

BAUER

Yes, I have and he has done nothing. It's bull-shit, absolute bull-shit!

CHAIM

Calm down Mr. Bauer.

Chaim looks at his watch, he is checking the time like he is waiting or expecting something or someone.

BAUER

Why should I be calm? One of the most horrible war criminals in all of humanity walks the streets of Argentina without any problem! I have given you significant evidence. But you have done nothing.

CHAIM

I can assure you that our agency is doing everything it can.

BAUER

The first time I contacted you all with information from my source it was September of '57. It's almost three years later! And where are things now? I am completely convinced that you have ignored real and solid evidence.

Chaim checks his watch again.

CHAIM

I understand your feelings Dr. Bauer, I do. Like I said, we are...

BAUER

(interrupting Chaim)

Doing the best you can! You said that already.

CHAIM

You are right. We could do better. We have limited resources and dealing with the enemies of the state of Israel, such as the Arab forces...

The door to the office opens, in walks Isser Harrel and Mossad Agent a MR. ZVI AHARONI.

ISSER

Dr. Bauer, pleasure to see you.

BAUER

This is unexpected, I thought I would be meeting with his excellency Attorney General Cohen himself.

CHAIM

I'm afraid not Dr. Bauer, I invited Mr. Harel and his associate Zvi Aharoni, do you know Dr. Bauer?

ZVI

Hello, my name is Zvi. Nice to meet you.

Both men sit down in the empty chairs.

CHAIM

Sit down gentlemen, sit down.

BAUER

I am sorry, who are you? Why are you here?

CHAIM

His name is Zvi, he's one of the best in the agency. He has experience in espionage, and all levels of treason. He is also the chief of our interrogation department. Now that we are all acquainted, lets get back to business. (To Isser) Dr. Bauer is upset that we have not done more to capture Eichmann.

BAUER

Ja, upset is an understatement. I couldn't be more furious at the lack of professionalism on your part.

CHAIM

(To Isser)

I was just explaining to him that we have more pressing security matters, more pressing than capturing the war criminal Eichmann. We also do not have the resources. This agency is still very much in its infancy.

ISSER

I'm sorry Dr. Bauer, but we also do not have enough evidence to capture Eichmann.

BAUER

You sent an agent to meet Lothar Hermann? Did you not?

ISSER

You wont like this, but Lothar did not give us enough information to make a positive identification.

BAUER

Did you send a team of agents to corroborate your agent's report or at lease to confirm Hermann's story or find information on who lives at 4261 Chacabuco Street.

ISSER

We discounted your contacts information on the basis that much of his claims were without merit. Our agent was off put by what he described as a blind man's "hyper-active" imagination. We also had another agent, examine the house on Chucabuco Street, he became convinced that a man of Eichmann's stature could not possibly be living in such squalor.

BAUER

Did you send an additional agent to find out more information on Klement or what my contact told you.

ISSER

No. We left the task to your contact to find more information on Eichmann.

BAUER

You left capturing one of the worst criminals in history to a blind man! A blind man!

ISSER

We didn't have the appropriate resources to send an additional agent. We believed that it was more economical to have your contact obtain additional information. He reported that Eichmann was living at the address under the name Francisco Schmidt. We found that Schmidt owned the house at Chacabuco street. Lothar's story and the facts just didn't match.

BAUER

The house was rented through Schmidt. There are two people on the electrical bill at the Chacabuco Street address. One name is Dagoto. The other is Klement. I have new information, from a source completely independent from Herman. This information is why I am here. My new source informed me that nine years ago, Eichmann sought refuge in a German monastery. Eichmann was then able to receive an International Red Cross passport issued under the name Ricardo Klement. Once in Argentina he was able to run a laundry in Olivos, which later went Bankrupt. He then worked for a company which made electricity from water. The company was created as a subsidiary of a firm called C.A.P.R.I which was owned by German emigrants. I assume other Nazis.

CHAIM

Isser, what do you make this?

ISSER

I am not sure. Who is this source of yours?

BAUER

I cannot tell you.

ISSER

How can I know that this source is an actual source and say for instance, not that blind friend of yours back in Buenos Aires.

BAUER

I can promise you that they are unrelated.

ISSER

I still am unsure.

BAUER

This is simply unbelievable. Here, we have the name Klement. Two completely independent sources, who are strangers to each other, mentioned this name. Any second-class policemen would be able to follow such a lead. Just go and ask the nearest butcher or greengrocer and you will learn all there is to know about Klement.

CHAIM

There wouldn't be much harm in sending in an agent to do a second investigation.

BAUER

There is not and there never will be, nor could be, any connection between my new source and my prior contact. Are you still unconvinced?

ISSER

No, that's all I needed to here. Chaim, what do you think about sending another agent to further investigate?

CHAIM

I think by not sending someone and not being able to potentially capture a man who directly led to the death of our families and of our people, it would be very sad for Israeli and Jewish history. To say we could have captured Eichmann, but chose not to. We should absolutely send someone. Someone like Zvi. How about Zvi goes to Buenos Aires and makes a thorough investigation. Zvi should go and no one else.

ISSER

Are you sure about your recent information Bauer.

BAUER

Pfff. Of course I am sure!

ISSER

Zvi, is there anything you are currently working on?

ZVI

Yes, I have a few cases right now in court that I will finish.

ISSER

When you are done, you will go to Argentina and complete a very thorough investigation based on the new information that Fritz has provided.

BAUER

Make sure you familiarize yourself with the case. I assume this is the first you have heard about all of this.

ZVI

Yes, this is the first I have heard of everything.

ISSER

You will need a comprehensive investigation based on everything.

BAUER

We have no time to waste. We must act quickly.

CHAIM

We will take care of it Bauer.

BAUER

You have said that in the past. Eichmann could disappear at any moment.

ISSER

OK, this is what we will do. After Zvi has studied all of our files and has completed his case work, we will send him to Frankfurt and he will review all of you files.

BAUER

Good.

ISSER

We will do everything we can

CUT TO:

EXT. AIRPORT - EVENING

Exterior shots of a plane landing at the Airport.

CAPTION LOWER RIGHT CORNER: (MARCH 1, 1960)

INT. AIRPORT - EVENING

Shots of Aharoni walking through the airport. He walks through the terminal and finally gets to the entrance. At the entrance to the airport is a man waiting for Aharoni. He waves to Aharoni.

ZVI

(in bad Spanish)
Hello old friend.

SECURITY OFFICER

(in bad Spanish)
It's been too long. Great to see you! Let me help you with the bags.

The Security Officer helps Zvi with his bags and helps him into the car. Both agents get into the car.

INT. CAR - MOMENTS LATER

The security officer sits in the drivers seat and Zvi sits in the passenger seat.

ZVI

It is great to see you man. How long has it been?

SECURITY OFFICER

Years and years. The last time I saw you was in Tel-Aviv.

ZVI

You saved me that time. Remember? Had you not helped me on that mission, I don't know what would've happened.

SECURITY OFFICER

What would've happened? Well, I don't think you would be here now to tell this story had I not saved your ass!

They both laugh. They continue to talk as the Security Officer drives.

ZVI

(talking more seriously now)

As I understand you are the only person in the embassy aware of my mission and its intentions. Is that correct?

SECURITY OFFICER

Absolutely.

ZVI

Good. I am going to need some young guns in the office down here to help me carry out my mission. They need to be as discreet as possible.

SECURITY OFFICER

Of course. They know not to ask questions.

ZVI

Beautiful.

SECURITY OFFICER

When are you planning on starting the mission?

ZVI

Tomorrow. We need to get the ball rolling now. Theoretically, he could escape, so as soon as possible. Take me to the embassy, I need to do something before I go to my hotel.

CUT TO:

INT. ISRAELI EMBASSY- OFFICE

Zvi sitting at a desk reading the Eichmann case file. He sits in the darkness escape for the light which illuminates part of the file and reflects on part of his face.

CLOSE ON: The Eichmann file. There are pictures of Eichmann as a Nazi and when he is younger. It also says on the file, Chacabuco Street is called the 'Orchard,' finding Eichmann is the 'Driver is Red' and believing that he is Eichmann is 'The Driver is Black.' There are biographical details of Eichmann, his original SS file, his measurements, identifying marks, and other pictures. There is a file detailing how Eichmann was able to escape to South America. There was is also file with all of the Hermann minutes and the places that Eichmann has worked as well as places suspected of having employed Eichmann at one time and another. After a few minutes of reading and studying the file, Zvi opens a safe, which is situated underneath the desk. Zvi puts the file into the safe, clicks off the light and walks out of the office.

EXT. STREET - DAY

Zvi sits in the driver's seat of a parked car on a street in Buenos Aires. He sits drinking a coffee and smoking a cigarette. A man of about twenty who is tall, thin, and has a black mustache runs towards the car. He looks both ways, checking for traffic and then approaches the car.

PEDRO
Hey, are you Zvi?

ZVI
Yeah, who are you?

ROBERTO
I'm the guy. Roberto.

ZVI
What guy?

ROBERTO
You're old friend, the one from the airport last night, the driver. He sent me.

ZVI
Get in the car. Let's go.

INT. CAR - MOMENTS LATER

Zvi starts the car and begins to drive the car. He smokes as he talks. He reaches into the back seat and pulls out a map. Zvi then turns on the radio in the car and Argentinean music and people singing in Spanish fill the car with noise. The car drives away.

ZVI
Take this.

Zvi hands the Pedro the map.

ZVI (CONT'D)
OK, find Chacabuco Street.

ROBERTO
Got it.

ZVI
Good, now tell me where to go.

ROBERTO
OK, it's in the Vicente Lopez district which is the large suburb of Olivos.

ZVI
How far away are we?

ROBERTO
Not too far, it should be just a
little while.

CUT TO:

ZVI
Goo

ROBERTO
OK, make a right. Now a left.
Another left. There it is,
Chacabuco street.

ZVI
What number is it?

ROBERTO
4261.

As they are getting closer to Eichmann's house, Zvi slows the car down. The car drives by extremely slowly.

ROBERTO (CONT'D)
OK, we're close. 4249, 51, 53, 55,
57, 59, 61. There it is!

Both men stare at the house. Zvi drives about 500 meters and parks the car. Both men get out and walk to the other side of the street and begin to casually walk toward the house. Near where the car is parked, are beautiful elegant houses. As they get closer to the home, the houses become extremely unkempt and look neglected. Both men look at the house from across the street. The house is situated a good ways behind a garden. The garden is brown and all of the vegetation and the grass is dead.

ZVI
I have got a brilliant idea.

Zvi takes a postcard out of his back pocket.

CLOSE ON: The post card has a plane flying lowly over a beach with a sunset.

ZVI (CONT'D)
OK, now turn around and bend
forward.

Pedro bends forward, Zvi places the postcard on his back and begins to use the man's back to write on. Zvi writes: *Have just returned. Best - George. Address DAGOSTO, 4263.*

ZVI (CONT'D)

This is what you're going to do. Show the card to anyone walking but do not hand it to anyone. Do you understand, do not hand it to anyone.

ROBERTO

I got it.

ZVI

OK, good. Now, you are to enter the garden of 4261. The reason you are going to 4261 is because we need to inspect that house without raising suspicions, so if someone asks, it looks like you are looking for 4263, which doesn't exist. Inspect the house if possible and ring the doorbell. Do what you can to get inside the house and find as much as possible about the people that live. I want you tell me whether they are local or foreigners.

Zvi hands Roberto the postcard and walks back to the car. He drives the car and parks it across the street from 4261 Chacabuco. Zvi puts on a pair of sunglasses and lights up a cigarette. He turns on the radio and pretends to just be relaxing and listening to the radio, when he is actually watching Roberto extremely closely. He makes eye contact with Roberto and gives him a nod. Roberto opens the rusty gate into the house. He walks trepidatiously to the house. He knocks on the door to the house, he waits, no response. He then checks his surroundings one more time. Roberto then walks toward the house, checks one more time that no one is there and climbs part of the house and grabs the ledge of the window. He pulls himself up and looks into the window and then lets go and drops a few feet to the ground. He drops down. As he walks out the house a young girl walks by.

ROBERTO

I am sorry excuse me.

The girl turns around and looks confused.

ROBERTO (CONT'D)
Do you know any Dagosto in the
neighbourhood?

YOUNG GIRL
Nope, never hard of him.

ROBERTO
You sure?

YOUNG GIRL
Yeah, I know everyone in this
neighborhood, I don't know no
Dagosto.

ROBERTO
OK, thanks.

Roberto walks across the street, waving the postcard and
grinning.

ZVI
Who was that girl over there?

ROBERTO
She told me there was no Dagosto.

ZVI
That doesn't matter, did you see
inside the house?

ROBERTO
Yes, I was able to look through the
windows and saw that on the first
floor the apartment was completely
empty except for a few painters
doing some work. But other than
that, it looked like nobody lived
there.

ZVI
Good work. Now get in the car.

INT. ISRAELI EMBASSY - DAY

Zvi is sitting in his office talking to the security agent
that picked him up from the airport.

ZVI
I need your help. I need a new guy.

SECURITY OFFICER
What was wrong with the other guy?

ZVI
Nothing, I just don't want to
arouse suspicions. We need to go
back to the suspected house, I
believe that Eichmann doesn't live
there anymore, but I need to double
check. If the same kid was outside
the home, it would be obvious.

SECURITY OFFICER
Sure, I have a good guy for you
then, his nickname is Fernando.

INT. ISRAELI EMBASSY - DAY

Zvi sits down in the room that he is using as a temporary office. He opens the safe and takes out the Eichmann file and begins to read through the file.

ZVI
How can I prove that Eichmann does
not live in that house anymore
despite appearances of no one
living in the house?

Zvi spreads the file out over the desk and begins looking for something, he just doesn't exactly know what he is looking for. He looks at a file in the Eichmann file.

CLOSE ON: Piece of paper with information on Eichmann's children. Klaus birthday March 3, 1936, Berlin.

CUT TO:

I/E. BACK OF EICHMANN HOUSE - DAY

CAPTION LOWER RIGHT CORNER: (March 3, 1960)

The Eichmann boys have grown since we first saw them. They sit around a small circular table. Fransico-Ricardo is no longer a baby, but a four year old toddler. Eichmann bounces his son on his knee playing with him. The party is just the Eichmann family and Klaus' wife. The back door to the house opens and Vera comes out with a cake, written across the cake reads: "Happy Birthday Klaus!". Everybody sings "Happy Birthday." Klaus blows out the candles and smiles.

Vera slices up the cake and distributes the cake to everyone. Everyone sits and eats the cake. Everyone is happy and smiling. Eichmann gets up and makes a speech.

EICHMANN

Klaus, my dear boy. Happy Birthday. The past few years have been difficult, on me, your mother, and you and your brothers. But I am grateful I am here with you all now. We are all together and are here as a family, that's all that matters.

I/E. CAFE - DAY

Zvi is sitting with a young boy, another friend of the Israeli Embassy's named FERNANDO. Fernando is 18, friendly looking and slightly over weight. The two sit outside the cafe, protected underneath an outward shade. The cafe is very similar to the one that Eichmann was sitting at when he met Sassen and Mengele. The two men are at the table sipping coffees. To an outside it would appear that they are just having a normal conversation.

ZVI

Here is what you are going to do. I bought a lighter yesterday for this person, Klaus Klement. In this box is a lighter. There is a little note that I had a secretary from the embassy write: "*For my friend Klaus, in friendship, on his birthday.*" Here see for yourself.

Zvi hands Fernando the present and Fernando inspects it.

ZVI (CONT'D)

Here is what you are to do. You are going to go to this address, 4261 Chacabuco Street, in Vicente Lopez. Anyone you meet, tell them you are looking for Klaus Klement. This man you are looking for has moved and you are to find his new address, even if it is across the street, you are not to go. Do not go to the new address under any circumstances. You understand?

FERNANDO

Do not go the new address, si.

ZVI

Good. If someone is to ask you where you got the package from, you are to tell them that you are a bell-boy from a nice hotel in Buenos Aires. A female guest of the hotel gave you the package and if you give the package to Klaus, you will get a big tip. Tell them, the lady first gave it to a friend of yours who was supposed to have done this yesterday, but was unable to. If the person asks what does the lady look like, tell them you don't know since you never personally met her. If you need any help there will be someone to assist you four blocks down the street on the corner of Parana Street.

EXT. EICHMANN HOUSE - LATER

Exterior Shots of the Eichmann House on Chacabuco Street.

Fernando opens the gate to the house and approaches the house. He walks to the front door and looks for a door bell but cannot find one. The door to the house is open, as are all the windows. Fernando peers his head into the door.

INT. EICHMANN HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Fernando steps into the house. The house is completely vacant except for paint supplies and wet paint and brushes on the floor of the house.

FERNANDO

(shouting)

Hey! Is there anyone there! Hey!

Fernando walks out of the house.

EXT. EICHMANN HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Fernando walks to the back of the house. There is a construction worker about thirty years old talking to a woman. The woman is cleaning something and the back of the house is undergoing construction.

FERNANDO

Excuse me, I do not mean to interrupt, but do you know if Mr. Klement lives here? I have a package for him.

CONSTRUCTION WORKER

Klement? Klement! The Germans?

FERNANDO

I am not sure.

CONSTRUCTION WORKER

Yes, the Germans.

WOMAN

The one with the three grown sons and the little boy? I do know him, yes.

FERNANDO

Do you know where I could find him? I have a message for him.

CONSTRUCTION WORKER

Well you see, the man used to live here, but they moved. I am not sure when...

FERNANDO

Do you know where they moved?

CONSTRUCTION WORKER

I am not sure. I think the painter knows. Here come inside.

INT. EICHMANN HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Fernando follows the man into the house. They walk into one of the rooms and there is a man painting a base coat of white paint on the wall.

CONSTRUCTION WORKER

This guy has a message for Klement.
The guy that moved.

FERNANDO

Hello, yes, excuse me, I was
wondering if you could tell me
where Mr. Eichmann moved to, I have
an important package for him that I
must delivery personally.

CONSTRUCTION WORKER #2

You mean the German?

FERNANDO

Exactly.

CONSTRUCTION WORKER #2

I know they moved to San Fernando.
But you would not be able to find
the place. I don't know the
address. You know what, his son
works around the corner. Why don't
you go with him and show him where
the son works.

CONSTRUCTION WORKER

OK, lets go.

Fernando and the man walk out of the house.

CUT TO:

I/E. AUTOMOBILE REPAIR SHOP - MOMENTS LATER

The man, followed by Fernando walk into an automobile shop.
There are cars being operated on by various mechanics. The
man points to a Siamberetta 150 Sport moped.

MAN

(quietly)

That is the boys moped. Hey, Dito.

Dieter Eichmann, who is hunched over, stops operating on the
car and turns around. He has grown up since we first meet
him, he is now around 17 and is dressed as a mechanic would,
wearing overalls that are covered in oil and dirt. The man
and Fernando walk over to him.

DIETER

Can I help you?

MAN

Yes, this person here would like to speak to your father.

FERNANDO

Look, I was supposed to deliver this letter to this gentlemen. See, look.

Fernando points to the card attached to the present. Dieter gets up from the ground and

FERNANDO (CONT'D)

I am supposed to hand over the gift, but now I learned that the intended recipient has moved. Can you tell me where I can make the delivery?

DIETER

Look, we just moved and that's not my father's name, it's my brother. If this person you are delivering a gift for wanted to give a gift to my brother, why didn't she use his correct name. He is Klaus Eichmann, not Klement.

FERNANDO

Like I said, I am just the messenger. Where did you move? If you could give me the address, I will just be on my way and won't bother you anymore.

DIETER

Don Torcuato. We moved to Don Torcuato.

FERNANDO

OK. Since you are his brother, I can just as easily give you the package. But... I'm not sure. It was given to me by a friend, who in turn was given it by someone in a hotel in Buenos Aires. It has to be delivered to Mr. Klement.

(MORE)

FERNANDO (CONT'D)

Because my friend was very busy, he asked me to make this delivery for him. I wasn't able to do it yesterday, so I came today.

DIETER

I would still like to know from whom you got the package.

FERNANDO

I told you everything.

DIETER

OK, I would still like to know who told you.

FERNANDO

(pointing to the card)

See.

DIETER

Maybe there is a greater explanation in the box inside. Give me the box and I'll deliver it myself.

FERNANDO

Can't you just tell me the address and I delivery it myself.

DIETER

No, the street where we live does not have a name nor numbers.

FERNANDO

What should I do then? You are the brother aren't you.

DIETER

Yes, I am, but I would like to know more about your friend.

FERNANDO

I've told you everything. I was supposed to come yesterday, but I had another job. If you just give me the address.

DIETER

I told you there are no street names in Don Torcuato, if you just give me the present I will give it for your.

FERNANDO

OK, fine, here then.

Fernando hands him the box.

INT. ISRAELI EMBASSY- ZVI'S OFFICE - EVENING

Zvi is standing over his desk. Looking at the Eichmann documents. Zvi's intercom button rings.

ZVI

Yeah

SECRETARY (V.O.)

Fernando is here to see you.

ZVI

Give me one minute and then send him in.

Zvi puts the Eichmann documents away and everything back into the safe.

INT. ISRAELI EMBASSY, OUTSIDE OF ZVI'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Sitting in a small waiting area is Fernando. Behind a small desk with a type writer is a beautiful secretary. The waiting room is decorated with small fake plants. There is a radio on the secretary's desk playing Spanish speaking music. There is a rickety ceiling fan blowing hot air around.

SECRETARY

He will see you now.

Fernando gets up and walks into Zvi's office.

INT. ISRAELI EMBASSY- ZVI'S OFFICE

Zvi is standing. Fernando enters. Zvi pours a glass of water for Fernando. Fernando takes a big sip.

ZVI

Sit. Give me good news. Did you get an address?

FERNANDO

One of the workers at the house said the Klements had moved to San Fernando. I then spoke with the brother. He said his brother's name was Klaus Eichmann, not Klement. He also told me they had moved to Don Torcuato, not San Fernando.

ZVI

Did you catch his name?

FERNANDO

Yes, it was something like Tito or Dito.

ZVI

That is really good work. I want you to go back to the house and ask the worker there again if he knows anything about the Klement house and then if that does not work go to talk to Dito. Tell them your friend is angry. He claims that you never delivered the present where they live so you can speak to Mr. Klement, or at least make sure you have a good look at the boy. Don't tell me you're not sure... I need a yes or no.

FERNANDO

OK, you got it boss. Anything else?

ZVI

No, that's good for the day.

Fernando exits. Zvi takes out a map and rolls it along the desk. He marks a circle where the neighbourhood Don Torcuato is and marks another circle where the neighborhood San Fernando is. He measures the distance between the two places and compares them to a legend on the bottom of the map.

ZVI (CONT'D)

Only three miles apart. The fact that Dito so adamantly wishful information about Eichmann only further indicates that Eichmann that Eichmann might be living here.

Zvi walks over to the window and stares out at the city of Buenos Aires. The embassy offers a beautiful view of the city. He stares at the window for a minute looking for something.

ZVI (CONT'D)

Whereever you are, you son of a bitch, I will find you.

Zvi then takes out a type writer looking machine and begins to send a coded message to the Mossad Headquarters.

CLOSE ON: The Message which reads: "THE DRIVER IS RED"

EXT. BACK OF EICHMANN HOUSE - DAY

Fernando walks to the back of the Eichmann house and sees the man that escorted him to Dito's automobile repair shop.

FERNANDO

Oh, hey, excuse me... Hello. Good to see you again. So, you remember I need to deliver this gift to my friend.

MAN

Right, si. I remember.

FERNANDO

I am going to get a massive fine if I do not deliver the gift.

MAN

Fine?

FERNANDO

Yeah, if I don't deliver the gift.

MAN

Alright, alright.

The man gets up from painting and grabs a piece of paper. The man writes the directions down on a piece of paper.

MAN (CONT'D)

Here, go to this address, this is
where the German lives.

EXT. OUTSIDE THE ISRAELI EMBASSY - DAY

Zvi sits leaning back on the rental car. He is wearing his aviator sunglasses. He is reading the directions that the man gave to Fernando. It is a beautiful spring day, the sun is shining bright. The pretty secretary walks out of the office and walks towards Zvi.

SECRETARY

What are we doing?

ZVI

I thought it would be nice to get
you out of the office.

SECRETARY

Do you take out all your
secretaries?

ZVI

No, only the cute ones. Here, let's
go for a drive.

Zvi opens the door to the car and helps his secretary into the car.

INT. CAR - MOMENTS LATER

Zvi turns on the radio and starts driving.

SECRETARY

Where are we going?

ZVI

We are just going for a little
drive, to enjoy the weather. Here,
take this.

SECRETARY

Where are we going.

ZVI

You'll see.

They listen to the radio and drive, while the secretary tells him directions every so often. As they drive away, they leave the city and are out in the country side. The car stops at a stop sign. Next to the stop sign is a street sign which says, Garibaldi Street. They continue driving a little ways and eventually they see a house. The car slows down as it approaches a very small and decrepit house. Zvi knows that according to his instructions that the house he is slowly approaching is Eichmann's. Outside of the house is Eichmann, taking down the laundry that has been drying on close lines. Eichmann is completely oblivious to the car driving down the street. Zvi knows that the man putting the laundry away is Eichmann and his grin covers his entire face.

SECRETARY

Where are we going? Why are we in the middle of no where.

ZVI

I told you, I just wanted to go for a drive and explore what's outside of the city.

Zvi turns around as he is driving and looks back again to confirm that the man is Eichmann. He continues to grin.

SECRETARY

Why are you smiling?

ZVI

I just remembered that it is my mother's birthday. Let's go celebrate.

EXT. ISRAELI EMBASSY - NIGHT

Exterior shots of the Embassy building. Despite the city still being fairly active, the embassy building is entirely dark, except for one office has its light on. It is fairly late at night.

INT. ISRAELI EMBASSY- ZVI'S OFFICE - NIGHT

We look at Zvi from behind him. He is typing at the coded message machine. The office is entirely dark, except for a small desk lamp that illuminates the machine. Light from the machine reflects on Zvi's face.

There is a bottle of scotch standing next to an Old Fashioned glass with some scotch in it. Zvi takes a sip from the glass and puts the glass down. He wipes his lips.

CLOSE ON: The coded message which reads: "THE DRIVER IS BLACK"

INT. OFFICE ROOM - DAY

The office room is lavish and large, with mahogany walls. Behind a large desk sits a DAVID BEN-GURION. Behind Ben-Gurion's left is a large flag of Israel. There is a large portrait over his right shoulder of Theodor Herzl.

ISSER

I have confirmation that we have found Adolf Eichmann.

Ben-Gurion gives a look excitement and surprise.

BEN-GURION

Really?

ISSER

One of our agents was doing reconnaissance and confirmed that the man suspected to be Eichmann, is in fact Eichmann.

BEN-GURION

How can you be so sure? Do you have any other evidence.

ISSER

Yes, our agent Zvi Aharoni, just came back from Buenos Aires. He was able to find the Eichmann house. Then was able on a separate occasion able to take some photographic evidence. Please, see for yourself.

Isser takes out a manila envelope and hands him the photographs. Ben-Gurion inspects the pictures closely.

BEN-GURION

And you are sure?

ISSER

We are 98% sure, all of our reconnaissance and all of our files on Eichmann match up. We can only be a 100 percent sure when we catch him.

BEN-GURION

This man, has done so much harm to our people. It is important that the youth of Israel never forgot what has happened to our people.

ISSER

What happens if he is killed?

Ben-Gurion comes out from behind his desk and sits on his desk in front of Isser.

BEN-GURION

No, he must be brought back alive and must be forced to stand on trial here in Israel.

Ben-Gurion gets a bottle of scotch out and pours the scotch into two Old Fashioned glasses. He hands a drink to Isser. He holds the other drink.

BEN-GURION (CONT'D)

We will try him for the horrible crimes he committed against the Jewish people. The world will see what he did.

They both sip on the scotch. Isser takes a few sips and gets up. He is opening the door and walking out when Ben-Gurion begins to speak to him.

BEN-GURION (CONT'D)

And Isser. b'HATZlacha (Subtitle: Good-luck).

CUT TO:

EXT. PARK - DAY

Eichmann sits on a park bench smoking a cigarette. He is reading the Argentina Daily newspaper. In front of him is Ricardo who is playing with a truck.

CLOSE ON: The Newspaper, which reads "War Criminal Adolf Eichmann has reportedly been seen in the Middle East near Kuwait."

Eichmann smokes while reading the article and periodically checking on his son. Francisco is happy playing with his toy. Eichmann puts the paper down and looks to his son.

EICHMANN

Why can't these people just leave
me alone, mmm Ricardo? May I live
in peace?

He grabs his son and starts playing with him. Ricardo is laughing. Eichmann throws away the paper and walks out of the park with Ricardo.

CUT TO:

INT. EICHMANN HOUSE - EVENING

Eichmann is sleeping in bed lying next to Vera. There is a clock next to the bed that reads 3 a.m. It is very quiet except for the sounds of the minute hand ticking on the clock. Suddenly, there is a banging at the door. Eichmann slowly wakes up and is dazed. We can hear faint murmurs of Dad being shouted. The banging at the door continues.

VERA

What is going on?

KLAUS (O.S.)

(can't hear him well)

Dad!

EICHMANN

(concerned)

Some one is at the door.

Eichmann opens the shades to the windows and peers outside of the house. He sees no one. He walks down the hallway to the front door. We now hear the shouting.

KLAUS (O.S.)

Dad!

Eichmann cautiously opens the door. Eichmann sticks his head out.

EICHMANN
Who is it?

KLAUS
Dad, let me in.

EICHMANN
What is it Klaus? It is three in
the morning.

Klaus shoves past Eichmann, who is guarding the door, into
the house.

KLAUS
I was listening to the radio, like
I always do before I go to bed. I
heard that INTERPOL is looking for
you.

EICHMANN
Really?

KLAUS
We need to be careful! We need to
move!

EICHMANN
Calm down Klaus.

KLAUS
You did nothing wrong! Why can't
people just leave us alone!

EICHMANN
I do not know. There was an article
in the paper about how I am in
Kuwait. They will likely be looking
for me half way around the world.
This will blow over. Thank you for
alerting me Klaus, but I am going
back to bed.

Klaus walks out the door and Eichmann closes it. We follow
Eichmann back to his bedroom. He cannot sleep. He lights a
cigarette while lying in bed.

INT. OFFICE ROOM - DAY

The office room is small and overcrowded and the lights are
off.

Sitting at an oval table is a RAFI EITAN, AVRAHAM SHALOM, EPHRAIM ILANI, SHALOM DANI, MOSHE TABOR, PETER MALKIN. In front of each person is a glass of water. Sitting at the head of the table is Harel and sitting to his right is Aharoni. In the back of the room sits a female stenographer. The meeting looks similar to the meeting of the Wannsee Conference earlier in the film. The men have placards in front of each other with their names. Piercing through the smoke and darkness is the light from a projector. Projected widely on the wall is a picture of Eichmann.

ISSER

I am sure you are wondering why you we gathered you here today. Can you tell me who that man is on the wall?

MALKIN

Eichmann.

ISSER

Yes. You are all here as part of a top-secret operation already in progress. It is called Operation Eichmann. Through the efforts of many and most recently, Zvi Aharnoi, we have found Eichmann, and we need you all to capture him. To bring him back to Israel where we can try him.

Isser extinguishes the cigarette in the ash tray.

ISSER (CONT'D)

This is a national mission of the first degree. It is not an ordinary capture operation, but the capture of a hideous Nazi criminal, the most horrible enemy of the Jewish people. We are not performing this operation as adventurers but as representatives of the Jewish people and the state of Israel. Our objective is to bring Eichmann back safely, fully in good health, so he can be put to trial. We will bring Adolf Eichmann to Jerusalem and perhaps the world will be reminded of its responsibilities. It will be recognized that, as people, we never forgot.

(MORE)

ISSER (CONT'D)

Our memory reaches back through recorded history. The memory book lies open, and the pen still writes.

As soon as Isser finishes speaking, he grabs a glass of water and quickly drinks the whole glass of water. A wave of excitement has spread across the faces of all the men in the room. It is finally dawning on them how important a role in history they are playing and how they will be able to capture the man that lead to their family's and people's demise.

ISSER (CONT'D)

Now, for logistics: You will all fly on different flights from different locations to Buenos Aires. In Buenos Aires, we will capture Eichmann on his return from work. We will then take him to a safe house where he will be held.

DANI

How will we get him out of Argentina? Surely we cannot just put him on a plane and get him out?

ISSER

No, that is exactly what we are going to do. The week we fly out will be Argentina's anniversary celebrations. We will send an El Al flight with a fake delegation to celebrate with Argentineans. We will dress up everyone including Eichmann, as El Al staff. We will board the plane and then fly out. This mission is extremely dangerous and if anything were to happen and our mission compromised, Israel will say they have no knowledge of our trip. We must be careful and we must show the world how strong the Jewish state of Israel really is!

CUT TO:

EXT. OUTSIDE OF EICHMANN'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Parked outside of Eichmann's house is a large truck with a tarp covered over it.

INT. TRUCK- OUTSIDE OF EICHMANN'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Dani and Malkin are seated inside the truck. Aharoni is viewing the house through a pair of binoculars. There is a small opening in the tarp in which he stares out of.

ZVI

He gets off work the same time every day and takes the bus at the same time. What time is it?

MALKIN

Almost 7:40.

ZVI

He'll be here soon.

A bus approaches. They carefully watch as Eichmann gets off the bus and then walks home.

ZVI (CONT'D)

Just like that, that's how we'll capture him. He'll get off the bus and then boom. He is ours.

They all nod and smile.

INT. EICHMANN HOUSE ON GIRBALDI STREET - MORNING

CAPTION LOWER RIGHT CORNER: (May 11, 1960)

Eichmann and Vera are seated at the breakfast table. Eichmann is eating cereal and reading the newspaper. Vera stops eating and looks to Eichmann.

VERA

I had a dream last night.

EICHMANN

About what?

VERA

A nightmare that something bad was going to happen to you today.

EICHMANN

Vera, that is nonsense.

Eichmann gets up and grabs his coat.

VERA

Please don't go to work today
Adolf. Bitte.

EICHMANN

It is fine. Everything is fine and
everything will be fine.

Eichmann walks out the door.

EXT. GARIBALDI STREET - NIGHT

CAPTION LOWER RIGHT CORNER: (7:35 P.M., May 11)

It is completely dark out. There is a small light illuminating a bus stop. Eichmann's house is slightly illuminated due a light outside of the house, other than that it is sheer darkness. A Chevy pulls up on a street that is marked "Route 202." The Chevy is facing Garibaldi Street. Shalom is at the wheel and Gat is sitting in the passenger seat. Across the street, on Garibaldi Street, Aharoni pulls up a limousine and parks the car. The limousine is parked about 15 yards from a small bus stop. Tabor and Malkin pop the hood of the car and lean over the engine pretending to tinker with it. Malkin adjusts his head so he can watch for Eichmann. A boy wearing a red jacket biking down the street stops next to Malkin and begins speaking to him in Spanish and pointing to the engine. Aharoni rushes out of the car and looks to the boy.

ZVI

Esta bien, esta bien.

Zvi gives the boy a slight push away and the boy begins biking away. Malkin who is checking for Eichmann, check his watch. Malkin begins speaking to himself.

MALKIN

(whispering, to himself)
*Un momentito, senor. Un momentito,
senor.*

A bus begins to approach them.

TABOR
This is it, get ready.

Instead of stopping at the bus stop, the bus continues to drive.

CUT TO:

INT. CHEVY - CONTINUOUS

CAPTION LOWER RIGHT CORNER: (7:50)

Shalom and Gat sit in the car waiting. After a long silence Shalom looks to Gat.

SHALOM
What happened?

GAT
Wasn't that supposed to be his bus.

SHALOM
We'll have to keep waiting.

GAT
He was supposed to be here ten minutes ago.

SHALOM
Here he comes.

Another bus approaches, but instead of stopping, the bus continues to drive away.

GAT
Where the hell is he?

CUT TO:

INT. LIMOUSINE - CONTINUOUS

CAPTION LOWER RIGHT CORNER: (8:03)

Zvi is sitting in the drivers seat. He is staring through binoculars, looking through the windshield. He looks over to Eitan.

ZVI
What should we do? Should we leave?

EITAN

No, we wait.

ZVI

It is 8:03, he was supposed to be here at 7:40. Maybe he left? Maybe someone alerted him?

EITAN

Stop. Just wait. He'll be here.

ZVI

How do you know?

EITAN

Just trust me. I know.

Two minutes later, headlights appear in the darkness. A bus comes into our vision and stops at the bus stop. Aharoni puts on his binoculars.

EITAN (CONT'D)

Is it Eichmann?

ZVI

I cannot tell yet. Some is coming towards us.

Shalom turns on the high-beams of the Chevy. The lights illuminate Eichmann's silhouette.

ZVI (CONT'D)

It's him.

Eichmann puts his hand and appears to grab a gun. Zvi sticks his head out of the car.

ZVI (CONT'D)

(To Malkin, whispering)

Careful, he has a gun.

Malkin stops tinkering with the engine and walks toward Eichmann. Malkin and Eichmann slowly walk towards each other. Getting closer and closer. Finally Malkin stops in front of Eichmann.

MALKIN

Un momentito, Senor.

Eichmann's eyes open widely and he begins to scream and shout like a wounded animal. Malkin tackles him to the ground.

Malkin covers his mouth and prevents him from shouting. Zvi turns on the limo and drives towards Malkin. Tabor rushes over to Malkin to help him. Tabor grabs his legs and prevents Eichmann from kicking. The limo drives with great speed and stops next to them. Eitan helps Tabor and Malkin get into the car. They put Eichmann in the back of the car and hold him down. They pat him down for any weapons. In his pocket is a flash light, not gun. They cover his head with a pair of goggles that are completely blacked out so he cannot see. The car drives off.

INT. LIMOUSINE - CONTINUOUS

Zvi drives off. Malkin is sitting in the back with Eichmann still covering his mouth.

ZVI

Sit still and nothing will happen
to you. If you resist, we will
shoot you. Do you understand?

Eichmann says nothing, Malkin uncovers his mouth.

ZVI (CONT'D)

Do you understand?

Eichmann still does not respond, he is wheezing and is obviously extremely scared. Finally, Eichmann responds:

EICHMANN

(In German)

I am already resigned to my fate.

No one says anything. They drive in silence.

INT. SAFE HOUSE- EICHMANN'S ROOM - LATER

The lights are off and it is pitch black. A door opens and lets in light. The light from the outside illuminates Eichmann who is sitting tied to a chair. The room is bare, cold and grey. The only piece of furniture in the room is a chair and a bed. There is a small toilet and sink in the corner of the room. Zvi unties him and puts him on the bed. DR. KAPLAN, the doctor on the mission comes in the room and begins inspecting Eichmann. He searches his mouth for cyanide capsules. The doctor searches his mouth. As the Doctor removes his hands from Eichmann's mouth, Eichmann begins to speak.

EICHMANN

No man can be vigilant for fifteen years.

The doctor removes his shirt and compares Eichmann's body to a chart he has. He looks for marks and scars. He has a scar where his SS tatoo should be. Malkin and Shalom walk in the room and dress Eichmann in pajamas and lay him flat on the bed. His eyes are still covered and his ankle chained to the bed. Everyone leaves the room except for Aharoni who sits down on the chair.

ZVI

What's your name?

EICHMANN

Ricardo Klement

ZVI

What was your previous name?

EICHMANN

Otto Heninger.

ZVI

What was the number of your membership card in the National Socialist Party?

EICHMANN

889895.

ZVI

What was your number in the SS?

EICHMANN

45326.

ZVI

When did you come to Argentina?

EICHMANN

1950.

ZVI

What is your name?

EICHMANN

Ricardo Klement.

ZVI

What name were you born under?

EICHMANN

(quietly)

Ich Bin Adolf Eichmann.

INT. SAFE HOUSE- EICHMANN'S ROOM - NIGHT

The safe room is extremely desolate. The floors are made of concrete and lying on the bed, with his eyes covered so he cannot see is Eichmann. He is hand-cuffed to the bed. The walls are completely barren. There is a chair in the room near the bed. In the corner of the room is a toilet and sink.

MALKIN

Do you need the bathroom?

EICHMANN

No, I am fine thank you.

Malkin unties Eichmann and sits him down on a chair. Malkin ties Eichmann's hands to the chair. Eichmann's eyes are still covered by the glasses. Malkin begins to walk in circles around Eichmann.

MALKIN

Do you know why I am here to talk to you?

EICHMANN

No.

MALKIN

No? I need you to sign this document.

EICHMANN

What document?

MALKIN

We need to have you sign a form that says you are coming to Jerusalem under your own free will. We are going to put you on trial in Israel.

EICHMANN

I do not understand, why can I not be tried in Germany.

MALKIN

Because what you did was against the Jews, not against the Germans. Therefore you are being taken to Jerusalem.

EICHMANN

Are you the man that captured me?

Puzzled and taken a back by Eichmann's question.

MALKIN

Yes. How did you know?

EICHMANN

I recognized your voice.

MALKIN

Yes. I was the one.

EICHMANN

Why? Why did you capture me?

MALKIN

Because what you did to my family. Now it is my turn to ask a question. Why did you do what you did?

EICHMANN

It was a job. Like any other job.

MALKIN

Just a job?

EICHMANN

You must believe me. I am not anti-Semitic nor did I wish the deaths of Jews. I have never had a problem with Jews.

MALKIN

You were not simply a Nazi. You were in the SS. The most ideologically driven unit within the Nazi party. It is not a secret that you were not simply a rank and file Nazi.

EICHMANN

You do not understand. It wasn't only me. Everyone knew a change was needed in Germany; it was only a question of what form it would take. Times were terrible. Crime was rampant, hyperinflation. I lived in a beautiful area, in Austria, and for me, things were not so bad. But a man does not live only for himself. Hitler was the only one who could rally the people against the Communists. He brought hope of jobs... of bread. I freely admit it; I was inspired as much as anyone.

MALKIN

As time passed, did your opinion of the Führer change? What did you think of him?

EICHMANN

(in German)

The Fürher was infallible. (Back to English) As I was saying, my oath as an SS officer was to Adolf Hitler personally. And I was not released from that oath until May 1945. May I ask a favor?

MALKIN

It depends what it is.

EICHMANN

Please do not harm my family, especially my children. I love children.

MALKIN

You mean some children.

EICHMANN

No, I love all children.

MALKIN

(getting agitated)

I, I don't know how to respond to that.

The room is absolutely silent when they are not speaking, except for the sounds of water drops coming out of the faucet in the sink. Malkin sits on the chair.

EICHMANN

Perhaps to you it seems as if I hate Jews. I don't. I was never an anti-Semite. I was always repulsed by Streicher and the *Sturmer* crowd. In fact, I have always been fond of Jews. I had Jewish friends. When I was touring Haifa, I made a point of finding Jewish taxi drivers. I always liked the Jews better than the Arabs.

Malkin's jaw drops opens. He leans forward off his chair and just stares at Eichmann. Eichmann takes his silence as a sign of approval.

EICHMANN (CONT'D)

Perhaps you won't believe it, but I read Theodore Herzl's book *Der Judenstaat* about the dream of a Jewish homeland. In connection with my work, I read a wide variety of Jewish newspapers and periodicals. I fully understood the aspirations of the Jews. I can't tell you how much I loved studying Zionism.

MALKIN

(trying to change the subject)

What were you doing in Palestine anyway?

EICHMANN

It was a study tour, to see the Jews in Palestine. It was necessary for my work. The view from Mt. Carmel is enchanting. You must believe me, I was always an idealist. Had I been born Jewish, I'd have been the most fervent Zionist.

MALKIN

I was there then too, as a Polish refugee. Had I not escaped, well, I wouldn't be here now.

EICHMANN

Please, you really must understand. It wasn't the same then as it is now.. (He pauses). Like you. I had orders to follow. You know, I had even studied Hebrew with a Rabbi in Berlin. Unfortunately I have forgotten most of what I learned.

MALKIN

Why? Most European Jews spoke Yiddish.

EICHMANN

Yes. But, you see, language is mentality. One cannot understand the problem of the Jewish people without understanding its original language. (He starts smiling). Yes, I do remember one prayer that the rabbi taught me. *Shma Yisrael, adonai elohenu, adonai echad.*

MALKIN

(extremely angry)

Eichmann, do you have any idea of the meaning of those words

EICHMANN

Ja.

MALKIN

(upset)

Perhaps, you are familiar with some other words. *Aba. Ima.* DO those ring a bell?

EICHMANN

Aba. Ima. I don't think I know those words. What do they mean.

MALKIN

Daddy, Mommy. It's what Jewish children scream when they're torn from their parents' arms. (He pauses, breathing heavily with anger). My sister's boy, my favorite playmate, he was just your son's age. Also blonde and blue-eyed, just like your son. And you killed him.

EICHMANN

Yes, but he was Jewish, wasn't he?
Aren't you a soldier? Don't you
follow orders? Who told you to come
here and get me? Mmm? What's the
difference between us?

MALKIN

What we are doing is not the same.
The reasons we're doing it are
different. We didn't come here to
kill you. We came to bring you to
justice.

Malkin stands up and starts pacing in circles.

MALKIN (CONT'D)

You never gave a chance to anyone.
You never even offered your victims
the respect of telling them the
truth. My sister probably never had
a chance to say good-bye to her
children!

Eichmann begins to shake on his chair and begins to quiver.
Malkin takes out a picture of his family.

CLOSE ON: Black and White picture of Malkin with his sister,
her husband, and the son.

CLOSE ON: Malkin's face. Tears well up. Slowly one tear comes
out his eye. He stares at the picture and then back to
Eichmann. He stifles a sob.

Eichmann can hear Malkin is upset. There is a long pause,
followed by silence and the sounds of water drops coming out
of the faucet.

EICHMANN

(softly)

Are you going to kill me? Please
don't kill me. Please don't do
this. Not now. Please, I beg you.
Bitte, bitte.

MALKIN

No, I am not going to kill you. If
I had wanted to kill you, I
could've shot you through the
window of your home that night I
watched you with your little boy.

EICHMANN

Are you going to hurt the child?

MALKIN

No. We want you in Jerusalem, that's it. You see, we are different you and I. You chose to kill all Jewish children. I chose not to kill your child.

EICHMANN

No, the idea was to make a Jew-free Reich. Madagascar was discussed as well as a number of other places. In fact, before the war, it was policy to encourage Jews to leave. But there was no country that would take them all. There were so many (He pauses). I ask you, who is at fault? Germany, or the rest of the world?

MALKIN

Let me ask you this: When it was determined that the policy was not to be resettlement but death, how did you feel about it?

EICHMANN

There was nothing to be done. The order came directly from the Führer himself.

MALKIN

I asked how you felt.

EICHMANN

There was nothing to be done.

MALKIN

So, you turned into a killer.

EICHMANN

No, that is not true. I never killed anyone. When I would have to visit those sites, I would always make a point of avoiding the worse of it. Besides, I must remind you, we did it to our own people also.

(MORE)

EICHMANN (CONT'D)

The first concentration camp was Dachau. Most of those inside were German. Have you been to Germany?

MALKIN

Yes. Many times.

EICHMANN

Tell me about it.

MALKIN

What is there to tell. The scenery is still beautiful. They're still drinking the same beer.

EICHMANN

Yes, our beer is wonderful, don't you agree?

MALKIN

I do agree. It is the best in the world.

EICHMANN

I must confess though, I am a wine drinker

MALKIN

Me too.

EICHMANN

Good red wine. In the whole world there is nothing like it.

Malkin looks at his hand, he has been holding the statement that Eichmann needs to sign. Malkin remembers the reason why he is talking to Eichmann, to get him to sign the paper not to chit chat with the man.

MALKIN

You know what, I am going to get you some.

Malkin leaves the room.

INT. SAFE HOUSE - LATER

Malkin runs up the stairs out of the dungeon-like basement that is Eichmann's cell. He runs to the kitchen of the safe house.

Malkin grabs a bottle of wine from the kitchen cabinet. He then runs over to the living room and grabs the record player.

INT. SAFE HOUSE- EICHMANN'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

MALKIN
Cigarette?

Eichmann, still unable to see, opens his lips. Malkin puts a cigarette in his mouth and lights it for him. Eichmann takes a deep, long drag. The smoke exhales out of his nose and fills the room with smoke.

MALKIN (CONT'D)
Now open your hand.

Malkin pours a glass of red wine and puts the glass in Eichmann's hand for him. Eichmann smells the contents of the glass and smiles. He takes a big gulp.

EICHMANN
You know what? Get the paper, I'll sign it.

Malkin removes the goggles on Eichmann's head and grabs the pen and paper. Eichmann struggles to see as his eyes adjust to the light.

EICHMANN (CONT'D)
(reading the document aloud)
I, the undersigned, Adolf Eichmann, hereby declare of my own free will that, since my true identity has become known, I realize the futility of trying to continue to flee justice. I declare myself ready to travel to Israel and to stand trial before a competent court. It is clearly understood that I shall be provided with legal counsel, and I myself will endeavor to clarify the facts of my years of service in Germany so that future generations may receive a true picture of those events. I am making this statement of my own free will.

(MORE)

EICHMANN (CONT'D)
*I have been promised nothing and no
 threats have been made against me.
 I desire at long last to find
 repose for my soul.*

He finishes reading and looks up.

EICHMANN (CONT'D)
 May I make an addition?

MALKIN
 Of course.

EICHMANN
 May I borrow your pen?

Malkin hands Eichmann the pen and Eichmann reads aloud while he writes.

EICHMANN (CONT'D)
 Since I can no longer remember all
 the details, and sometimes confuse
 certain events, I hereby request
 assistance in my effort to reach
 the truth by being given access to
 pertinent documents and
 depositions.

There is a long silence.

EICHMANN (CONT'D)
 All right. I'll sign. What it says
 is right. It will be good to be
 able to explain myself. Should I
 sign with the date?

MALKIN
 Just write May, 1960.

Close ON: *Adolf Eichmann, Buenos Aires, May 1960.*

CUT TO:

INT. KNESSET CHAMBER - DAY

CAPTION LOWER RIGHT CORNER: (May 23, 1960)

Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion is standing at a podium with his back to us. He is speaking to the Knesset. We watch him speak from behind him.

BEN-GURION

I have to inform the Knesset that a short time ago one of the great Nazi war criminals, Adolf Eichmann, the man responsible for what they called the Final Solution, which is the annihilation of six million European Jews, was discovered by the Israel security services. Adolf Eichmann is already under arrest in Israel and will be placed on trial shortly under the terms of the law for Nazis and their collaborators.

Silence. The members of the Knesset are puzzled and are unsure how to respond to Ben-Gurion's understated announcement. There is a long silence. Ben-Gurion steps down from the podium. He seems tired and relieved. As Ben-Gurion steps down and begins to walk away, a member of the Knesset stands up and begins to clap. He claps by himself. Slowly, other members begin to rise and join the applause. They all explode with excitement and shout and scream. The members of the Knesset are overcome with pure elation. People cry with happiness. A title card emerges over the celebration.

TITLE CARD:

Adolf Eichmann was sentenced to the death penalty after he was found guilty and responsible for the death of six million Jews.

FADE TO:

TITLE CARD:

On May 31, 1962 Eichmann was hanged. Eichmann is the only person in Israeli history to be given the death penalty. The capture of Adolf Eichmann, and the subsequent trial mark one of the greatest moments in Israeli and Jewish history.

FADE TO BLACK.

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