

MAU



A SURVIVOR'S TALE

art spiegelman



M*aus* is the story of Vladek Spiegelman, a Jewish survivor of Hitler's Europe, and of his son, a cartoonist who tries to come to terms with his father, his father's terrifying story, and History itself. Its form, the cartoon (the Nazis are cats, the Jews mice) succeeds perfectly in shocking us out of any lingering sense of familiarity with the events described, approaching, as it does, the unspeakable through the diminutive. It is, as the *New York Times Book Review* has commented, "a remarkable feat of documentary detail and novelistic vividness...an unfolding literary event."

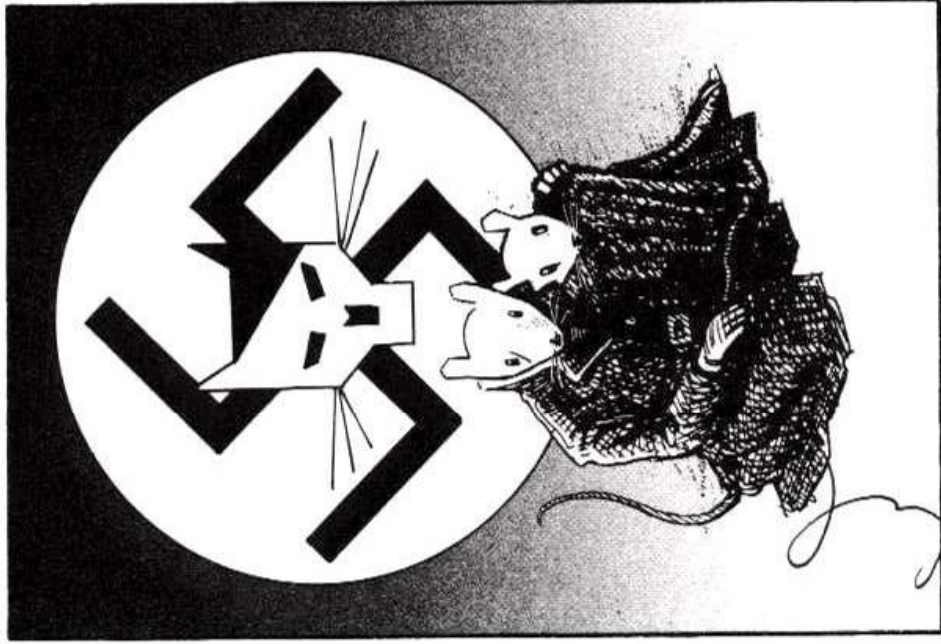
Moving back and forth from Poland to Rego Park, New York, *Maus* tells two powerful stories: The first is Spiegelman's father's account of how he and his wife survived Hitler's Europe, a harrowing tale filled with countless brushes with death, improbable escapes, and the terror of confinement and betrayal. The second is the author's tortured relationship with his aging father as they try to lead a normal life of minor arguments and passing visits against a backdrop of history too large to pacify. At all levels, this is the ultimate survivor's tale—and that, too, of the children who somehow survive even the survivors.

Maus takes Spiegelman's parents to the gates of Auschwitz and him to the edge of despair (with a sequel to come). Put aside all your preconceptions. These cats and mice are not Tom and Jerry, but something quite different. This is a new kind of literature.

"In its effect on the reader, on a par with Kafka."
—David Levine

MAUS

A SURVIVOR'S TALE



art spiegelman

Barbara
Art Spiegelman



PENGUIN BOOKS

**"The Jews are undoubtedly a race,
but they are not human."**

Adolf Hitler





MY FATHER BLEEDS HISTORY

(M I D - 1 9 3 0 s T O W I N T E R 1 9 4 4)



C O N T E N T S

9 one/the sheik

25 two/the honeymoon

41 three/prisoner of war

71 four/the noose tightens

95 five/mouse holes

129 six/mouse trap

C H A P T E R O N E



I went out to see my father in Rego Park. I hadn't seen him in a long time- we weren't that close.







I WAS, AT THAT TIME, YOUNG, AND REALLY A NICE, HANDSOME BOY.



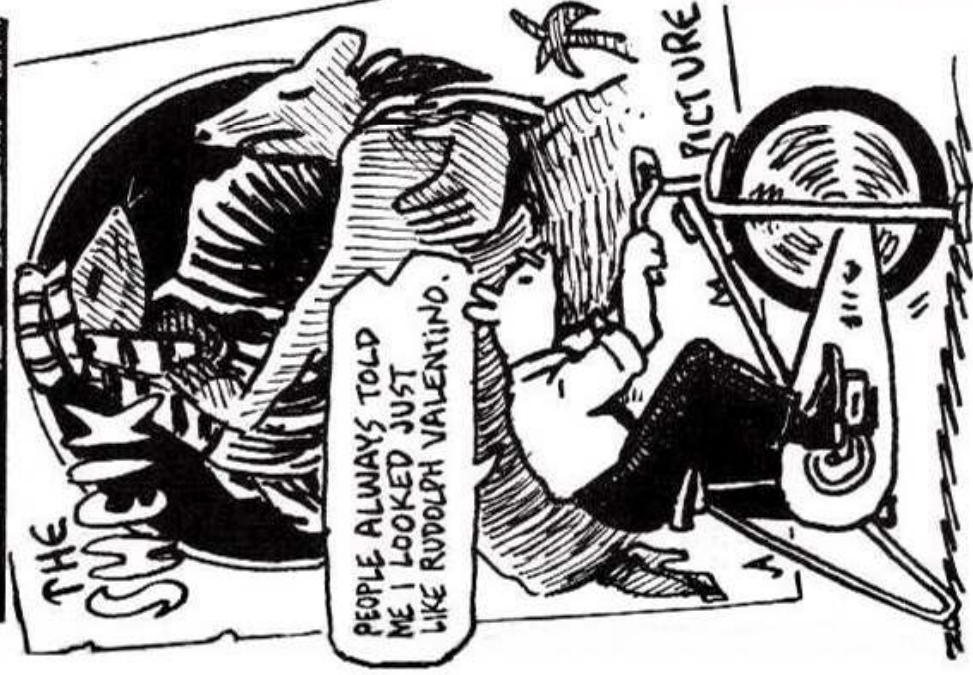
I HAD A LOT OF GIRLS WHAT I DIDN'T EVEN KNOW THAT WOULD RUN AFTER ME.



HELLO, VLADEK?
THIS IS YULEK...



A FRIEND OF MINE, LUCIA GREENBERG, WOULD LIKE TO BE INTRODUCED TO YOU.



PEOPLE ALWAYS TOLD ME I LOOKED JUST LIKE RUDOLPH VALENTINO.



EVENTUALLY, I TOOK LUCIA TO DANCE...

DO YOU LIVE ALONE?

YES.



I HAVE A SMALL APARTMENT. MY PARENTS MOVED TO SOSNOWIEC

I'D LIKE TO SEE IT SOMETIME.

MAYBE SOMETIME



BUT POP... MOM'S NAME WAS ANNA ZYLBERG! ...



WHY DON'T YOU EVER INVITE ME TO YOUR HOME? ... ARE YOU ASHAMED OF IT?





THE NEXT MORNING WE ALL MET TOGETHER. MY COUSIN AND ANJA SPOKE SOMETIMES IN ENGLISH.

HOW YOU?
LIKE HIM?

HE'S A
HANDSOME
BOY AND SEEMS
VERY NICE.

THEY COULDN'T KNOW I UNDERSTOOD.

YOU KNOW, YOU SHOULD
BE CAREFUL SPEAK-
ING ENGLISH - A
"STRANGER" COULD
UNDERSTAND.

Y-YOU KNOW ENGLISH?

DID YOU STUDY IT IN SCHOOL?

I HAD TO
QUIT SCHOOL
AT ABOUT
14 TO WORK.

"BUT I TOOK PRIVATE
LESSONS... I ALWAYS DREAMED
OF GOING TO AMERICA."

IT'S A SHAME YOU HAVE TO
RETURN TO CZESTOCHOWA
SO SOON.

YES-BUT
I HAVE MY
BUSINESS.

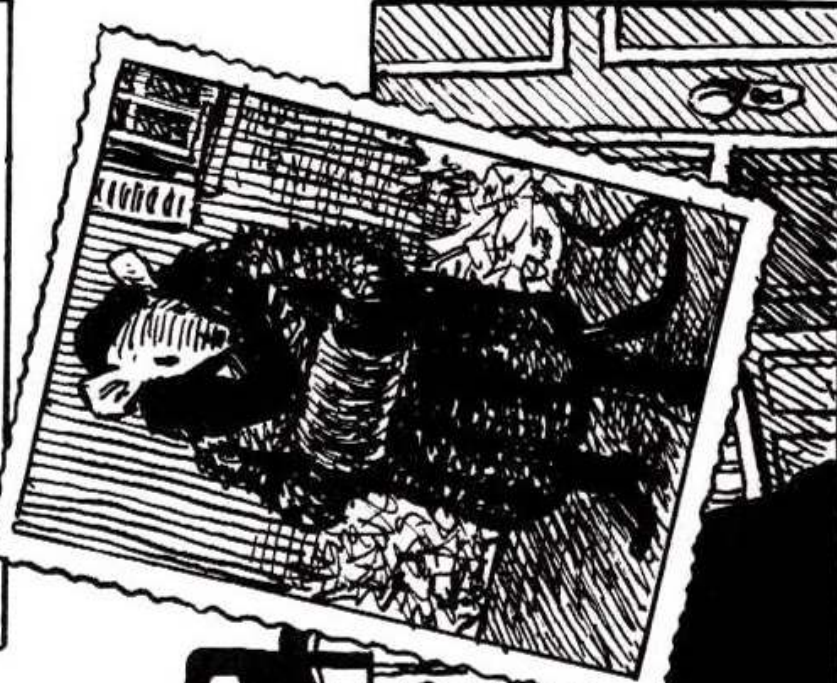
HAVE YOU
A PHONE
AT HOME?

AS SOON I CAME BACK TO CZESTOCHOWA,
SHE CALLED - ONCE A DAY... TWICE...
EVERY DAY WE TALKED.

AND THEN SHE STARTED
WRITING TO ME SUCH
BEAUTIFUL LETTERS -
ALMOST NOBODY COULD
WRITE POLISH LIKE
SHE WROTE.

I VISITED A COUPLE TIMES TO HER.
SHE SENT ME A PHOTO!!!

I BOUGHT A VERY NICE FRAME...



IT PASSED
MAYBE A WEEK
UNTIL LUCIA
AGAIN CAME
AND SAW
THE PHOTO!!!

I'M GOING TO GET EN-
GAGED TO HER, LUCIA.

PSSH! AND LOOK
AT WHAT A
BEAUTY YOU
PICKED.

LOOKS AREN'T EVERYTHING,
LUCIA. IT ISN'T GOOD
FOR EITHER OF US THAT
YOU KEEP
COMING
UP HERE...

"WE HAVE TO PLAN FOR OUR
FUTURES, AND I
FORGET HER!
LET ME MAKE
YOU HAPPY!"

IT WAS NOT SO EASY TO GET FREE FROM LUCIA.



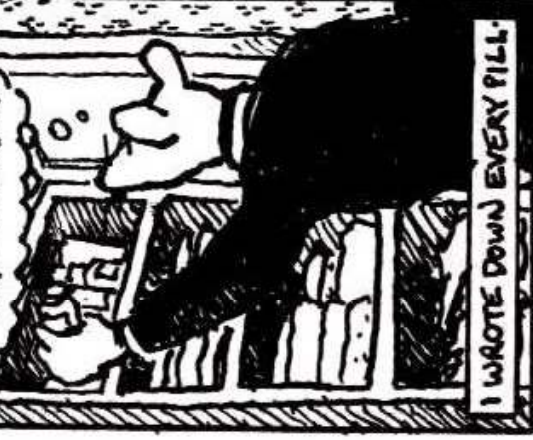
THE ZYLBERBERGS HAD A HOSEYRY FACTORY—ONE OF THE BIGGEST IN POLAND... BUT WHEN I CAME IN TO THEIR HOUSE IT WAS SO LIKE A KING-CAME...



TO SEE WHAT A HOUSEKEEPER SHE WAS, I PEEKED IN-TO ANJA'S CLOSET.



BUT WHAT'S THIS - PILLS?!



IF SHE WAS SICK, THEN WHAT DID I NEED IT FOR?



MAKE YOURSELF COMFORTABLE WHILE I HELP WITH THE DINNER.



LATER, A FRIEND, A DRUGGIST, TOLD ME THE PILLS WERE ONLY BECAUSE SHE WAS SO SKINNY AND NERVOUS.



SO, TO MAKE A LONG STORY SHORT, BY THE END OF 1936 WE WERE ENGAGED AND I MOVED FROM CZESTOCHOWA TO SOSNOWIEC.

ACH! HERE I FORGOT TO TELL SOMETHING FROM BEFORE I MOVED TO SOSNOWIEC BUT AFTER OUR ENGAGEMENT WAS MADE.



WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE? I'M ON MY WAY OUT.



I-I'LL COME WITH YOU.

SHE FELL ON THE FLOOR AND HELD STRONG MY LEGS.



(DON'T RUN AWAY!)



I SAW NOW THAT I WENT TOO FAR WITH HER.

ONE EVENING THE BELL RANG ...

LUCIA



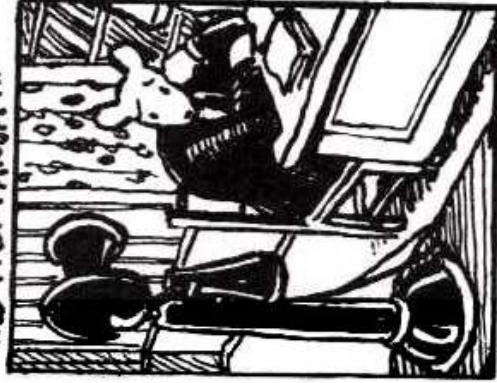
NO, YOU CAN'T COME WI-

PLEASE, VLADEK!



I RAN OUT TO MY FRIEND WHAT INTRODUCED US. HE WENT TO CALM HER DOWN AND TOOK HER HOME.

I DIDN'T HEAR MORE FROM LUCIA - BUT ALSO I STOPPED HEARING FROM ANJA ...



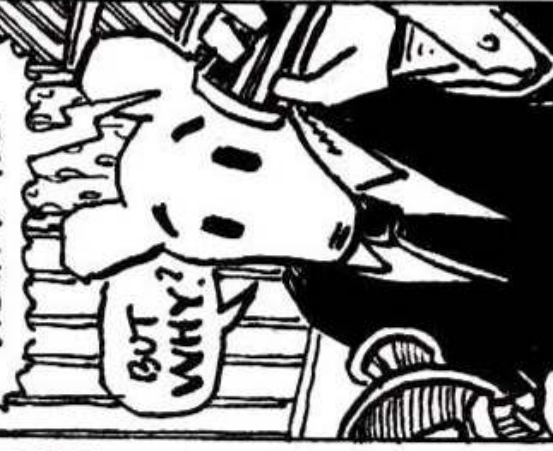
NO TELEPHONE CALLS, NO LETTERS, NOTHING! WHAT HAPPENED?

HELLO, MRS. ZYLBERBERG. COULD I SPEAK TO ANJA?



SHE SAYS SHE WON'T SPEAK TO YOU!

BUT WHY?



SHE GOT A LETTER FROM SOMEONE IN CZESTOCHOWA. MY GOD! IT SAYS THE WORST THINGS IN THE WORLD ABOUT YOU!



WELL, I CAN'T CONVINCE HER ON THE PHONE. I'LL COME DOWN BY TRAIN ON FRIDAY AFTER WORK.



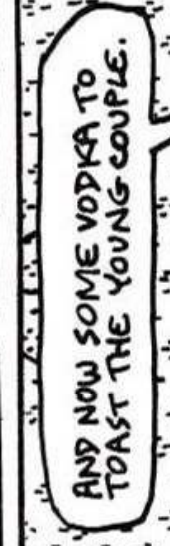
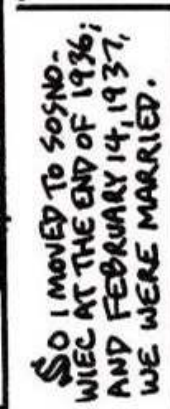
IT WASN'T EVEN A HOLIDAY, BUT I WENT ANYWAY TO SOSNOWIEC.



SO, TELL ME, ANJA - WHAT HAVE I DONE THAT'S SO HORRIBLE?

YOU SHOULD KNOW - JUST READ THIS!





BUT THIS WHAT I JUST TOLD YOU-ABOUT LUCIA AND SO-I DON'T WANT YOU SHOULD WRITE THIS IN YOUR BOOK.

WHAT? WHY NOT?

IT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH HITLER, WITH THE HOLOCAUST!

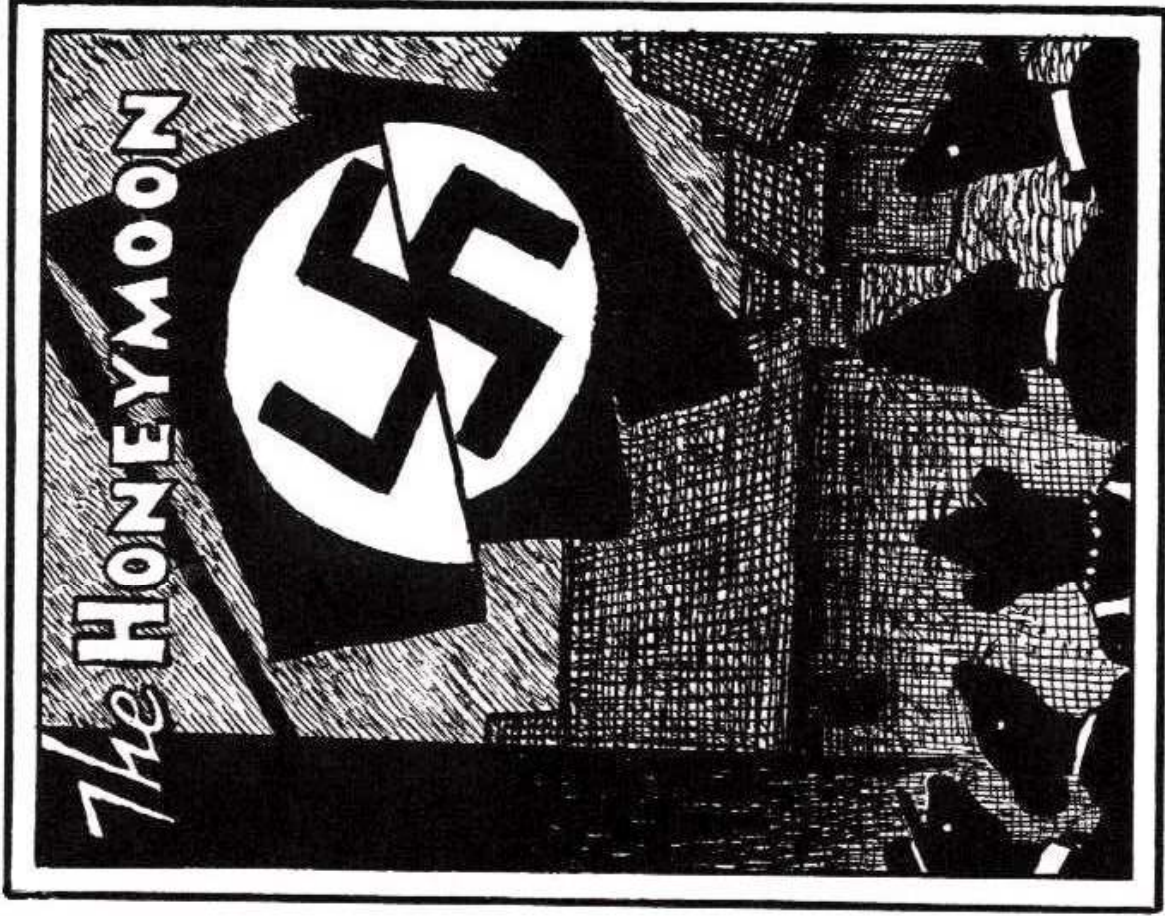
BUT POP. IT'S GREAT MATERIAL. IT MAKES EVERYTHING MORE REAL - MORE HUMAN.

I WANT TO TELL YOUR STORY, THE WAY IT REALLY HAPPENED.

BUT THIS ISN'T SO PROPER, SO RESPECTFUL.

... I CAN TELL YOU OTHER STORIES, BUT SUCH PRIVATE THINGS, I DON'T WANT YOU SHOULD MENTION.

OKAY, OKAY- I PROMISE.



For the next few months I went back to visit my father quite regularly, to hear his story.





ANJA WAS INVOLVED IN CONSPIRACIES!

A LITTLE BEFORE THE POLICE CAME, SHE GOT FROM FRIENDS A TELEPHONE CALL ...



WHEN I FOUND OUT THIS STORY, I WAS READY TO BREAK THE MARRIAGE.

I TOLD HER 'ANJA, IF YOU WANT ME YOU HAVE TO GO MY WAY...



IF YOU WANT YOUR COMMUNIST FRIENDS, THEN I CAN'T STAY IN THIS HOUSE!!

AND SHE WAS A GOOD GIRL, AND OF COURSE SHE STOPPED ALL SUCH THINGS.



WHAT HAPPENED TO THE SEAMSTRESS?

MISS STEFANSKA SAT IN PRISON FOR A LONGER TIME - MAYBE 3 MONTHS.



IT WASN'T ENOUGH EVIDENCE AND FINALLY THE POLICE LEFT HER GO.

FATHER-IN-LAW PAID THE COST FROM THE LAWYERS AND GAVE TO HER SOME MONEY-IT COST MAYBE 15,000 ZLOTYS.

THAT'S A LOT, HUM?



JA, BUT NOT ONLY THIS. AT THE SAME TIME HE DID FOR US EVEN MORE...

YOU KNOW, VLADEK, WHEN YOU AND ANJA GIVE ME A GRANDCHILD, I WANT HIM TO BE WELL-OFF.



WELL, I ALMOST HAVE ENOUGH FROM MY SALES TRIPS TO START UP A TEXTILE SHOP...

A SHOP? PFUI! YOU OUGHT TO HAVE A TEXTILE FACTORY!



THAT WOULD COST A FORTUNE!!

PLEASE - I CAN GIVE YOU THE MONEY AND PLENTY OF CREDIT.



I STARTED A FACTORY IN BIELSKO, AND VISITED TO ANJA EVERY WEEK-END.

BY OCTOBER 1937, THE
FACTORY WAS GOING,
AND IT WAS BORN
MY FIRST SON, RICHIEU.



HE'S A BIG BABY-
OVER 3 KILOS.

MY GOD-ANJA
ONLY WEIGHS 39!

OF COURSE, YOU NEVER KNEW HIM.
HE DIDNT COME OUT
FROM THE WAR.



YES, I KNOW...

BUT WAIT- IF YOU WERE MARRIED IN
FEBRUARY, AND RICHIEU WAS BORN
IN OCTOBER, I WAS HE PREMATURE?



YES, A LITTLE...

BUT YOU-AFTER THE
WAR, WHEN YOU WERE
BORN- IT WAS VERY
PREMATURE.
THE DOCTORS
THOUGHT YOU
WOULDN'T
LIVE.



I FOUND A SPECIALIST
WHAT SAVED YOU...
HE HAD TO BREAK YOUR
ARM TO TAKE YOU
OUT FROM
ANJA'S BELLY!



AND WHEN YOU WERE A
TINY BABY YOUR ARM
ALWAYS JUMPED UP LIKE SO.



WE JOKED AND
CALLED YOU
"HEIL HITLER!"

ALWAYS WE PUSHED
YOUR ARM DOWN, AND
YOU WOULD



OOPS!

LOOK NOW WHAT YOU
MADE ME DO!



ME? OKAY,
I'LL RE-COUNT
THEM LATER.

NO! YOU DON'T KNOW
COUNTING PILLS.



I'LL DO IT
AFTER...
I'M AN
EXPERT
FOR THIS.

SO... ANJA STAYED WITH THE FAMILY AND I WENT TO LIVE IN BIELSKO FOR MY FACTORY BUSINESS AND TO FIND FOR US AN APARTMENT...

BUT SOON IT CAME FROM SOSNOWIEC A TELEPHONE "

VLADÉK? COME HOME RIGHT AWAY - ANJA IS SICK!

SHE WAS CRYING AS SOON I CAME IN ...

WHAT'S WRONG, DARLING?

SOB

IT DOESN'T MATTER... NOTHING MATTERS.

BUT WHY ARE YOU CRYING?

I DON'T KNOW! I HAVE A GOOD FAMILY... A FINE SON... I SHOULD BE HAPPY...

BUT I DON'T CARE. I JUST DON'T WANT TO LIVE.

HERE, BABY. DRINK THIS AND REST.

I DON'T UNDERSTAND. WHAT'S THE MATTER?

GIVING BIRTH WAS TOO MUCH OF A STRAIN. SHE'S ALWAYS HYSTERICAL OR DEPRESSED... A BREAKDOWN!

PLEASE


THE DOCTOR TOLD US ABOUT A SANITARIUM.

... BUT SOMEBODY MUST GO WITH HER... SOMEONE SHE TRUSTS.

EVERYTHING'S ARRANGED - THE CHILD CAN STAY HERE WITH A GOVERNESS.

... AND I'LL WATCH YOUR FACTORY.

SOB



RIGHT AWAY, WE WENT. THE SANITARIUM WAS INSIDE CZECHOSLOVAKIA, ONE OF THE MOST EXPENSIVE AND BEAUTIFUL IN THE WORLD.


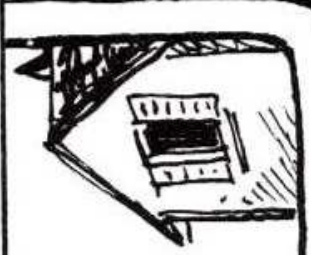
I REMEMBER WHEN WE WERE ALMOST ARRIVED, WE PASSED A SMALL TOWN.



EVERYBODY-EVERY JEW FROM THE TRAIN - GOT VERY EXCITED AND FRIGHTENED.



IT WAS THE BEGINNING OF 1938 - BEFORE THE WAR - HANGING HIGH IN THE CENTER OF TOWN, IT WAS A NAZI FLAG.



HERE WAS THE FIRST TIME I SAW, WITH MY OWN EYES, THE SWASTIKA.





THE SANITARIUM WAS FAR AWAY FROM EVERYTHING— SO PEACEFUL, SO QUIET.

LOOK AT HOW BEAUTIFUL THESE GARDENS ARE, ANJA.

UH HUH

PEOPLE CAME FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD WITH DIFFERENT SICKNESSES. IT WAS EVEN SHOPS HERE... A THEATER... REALLY BEAUTIFUL...



OUR ROOM IS LIKE A LUXURY HOTEL— LOOK AT THIS VIEW.

UH HUH

EACH MORNING NURSES WOULD VISIT TO ANJA.

AND EACH FEW DAYS I TALKED TO THE BIG SPECIALIST AT THE CLINIC.



WELL, WHAT DID THE DOCTOR SAY??

HE TOLD ME YOU'RE DOING FINE... FINE.

JUST RELAX.



LOOK— WE GOT A LETTER FROM HOME TODAY.

WITH A PHOTO OF RICHIEU— LET ME SEE.

I UNDERSTOOD MUCH OF SUCH SICKNESSES, SO I HELPED ALWAYS TO CALM HER DOWN.



HE'S A HANDSOME BOY... JUST LIKE HIS FATHER, YES?

YES.

IN THE EVENINGS
WE WENT EITHER TO
THE THEATER OR TO
DANCE IN THE CAFE.

DID I TELL YOU THE TRAGEDY ABOUT THE PILLOW
MY FAMILY LOST AT THE START OF THE 1914 WAR?

I WAS SEVEN... WE
LIVED TOO CLOSE
TO THE BORDER...
IT WASN'T SAFE...

I TOLD HER MANY JOSES AND STORIES TO
KEEP HER BUSY...

...SO WE TOOK WHAT
WE COULD ON A WAGON PULLED BY FOUR
HORSES AND WENT TO MY GRANDFATHER'S
HOME IN RADOMSKO.

SOMEONE ROPE PAST US AND TOLD
US THAT WEB DROPPED A PILLOW A
FEW MILES BACK.

A GUY TRAVELING TO
AMSTOW PICKED IT UP.

IMAGINE - MY FATHER NEVER
ROPE A HORSE BEFORE... BUT
HE UNNITCHED ONE FROM THE
WAGON AND ROPE TOWARD AMSTOW.

WE WAITED AND WAITED.. MOTHER
STARTED CRYING: "SURELY HE FELL
AND GOT KILLED!" SHE HAD BEGGED
HIM TO "LET THE PILLOW GO AND
TAKE ALL OUR TROUBLES WITH IT!"

THE HORSE WAS BONY AND DIDN'T HAVE
A SADDLE... FINALLY, LATE THAT NIGHT,
FATHER ROPE BACK WITH THE PILLOW
... UNDER HIS BLOODY TUCKUS...

SO, FATHER GOT HIS PILLOW BACK
...BUT HE COULDN'T SIT
DOWN FOR THE REST OF
THE WAR!

I LOVE
YOU, VLADK.

AND SHE WAS SO LAUGHING AND SO HAPPY,
SO HAPPY, THAT SHE APPROACHED EACH
TIME AND KISSED ME, SO HAPPY SHE WAS.



IN A COUPLE MONTHS WE WERE WELL-OFF— QUITE WELL-OFF... A WORKING FACTORY, A 2-BEDROOM APARTMENT, A POLISH GOVERNMENT, AND EVEN A MAID.



LOOK, RICHIEU, POPPA'S HOME!



YOU LOOK UPSET, VLADEK.

THERE WAS ANOTHER RIOT DOWNTOWN TODAY.



...EVERYONE YELLING, "JEWS OUT! JEWS OUT!"... EVEN TWO PEOPLE KILLED. THE POLICE JUST WATCHED!



IT'S THOSE NAZIS STARING EVERYBODY UP!

WHEN IT COMES TO JEWS, THE POLES DON'T NEED MUCH STARING UP!



MRS. SPEGELMAN— HOW CAN YOU SAY SUCH A THING. I THINK OF YOU AS PART OF MY OWN FAMILY!

I'M SORRY, JANINA. I DIDN'T MEAN YOU! I'M JUST WORRIED!



MAYBE WE SHOULD MOVE AWAY, LIKE SOME OTHERS HAVE.

IF THINGS GET REALLY BAD WE'LL RUN BACK TO SOSNOWIEC.



WHY WOULD SOSNOWIEC BE ANY SAFER THAN BIELSKO?

WE THOUGHT THEN, THAT HITLER WANTED ONLY THE PARTS FROM POLAND, LIKE GIELSKO, WHAT USED TO BE PARTS FROM GER- MANY BEFORE THE FIRST WORLD WAR.







"AND ON SEPTEMBER 1, 1939, THE WAR GAME. I WAS ON THE FRONT, ONE OF THE FIRST TO

ACH!



SO TWICE I SPILLED MY DRUGSTORE!



IT'S MY EYES.

EVER SINCE I GOT IN MY LEFT EYE THE HEMORRHAGING AND THE GLAUCOMA, IT HAD TO BE TAKEN OUT FROM ME. AND NOW I DON'T SEE SO WELL.



AND NOW I HAVE A CATARACT INSIDE MY ONE GOOD EYE. YOU SEE HOW I HAVE TO SUFFER?



I TOLD YOU ABOUT THE BIG-SHOT SPECIALIST WHAT WAS GOING TO OPERATE ME?

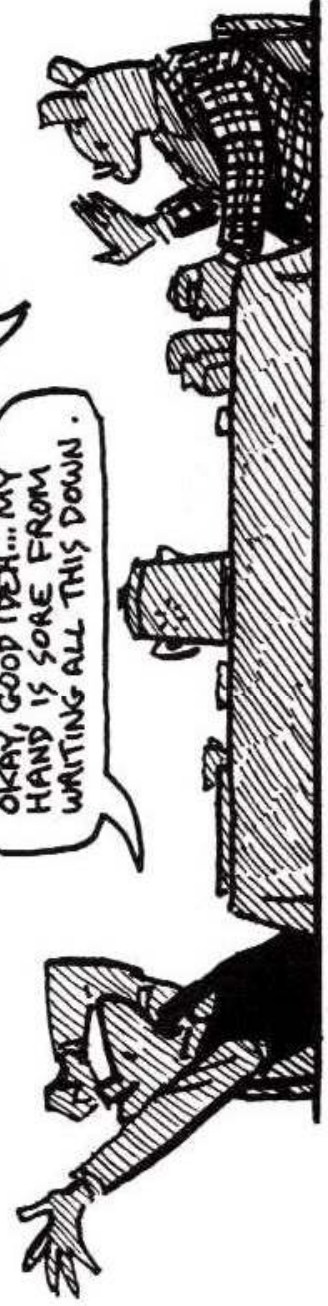
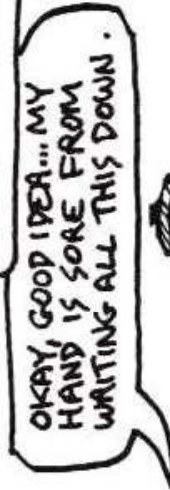
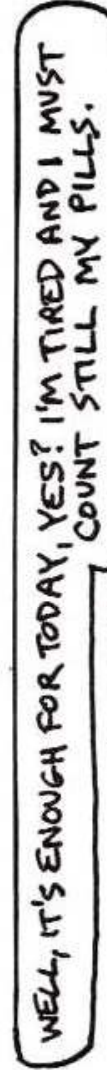
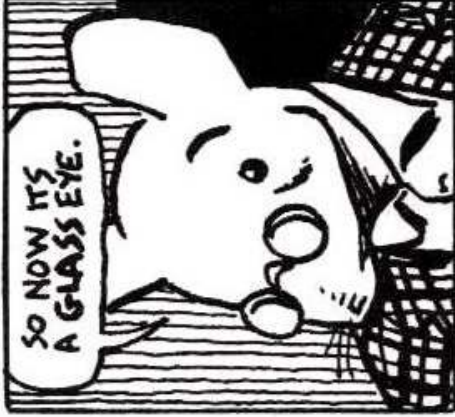
UH-HUH.



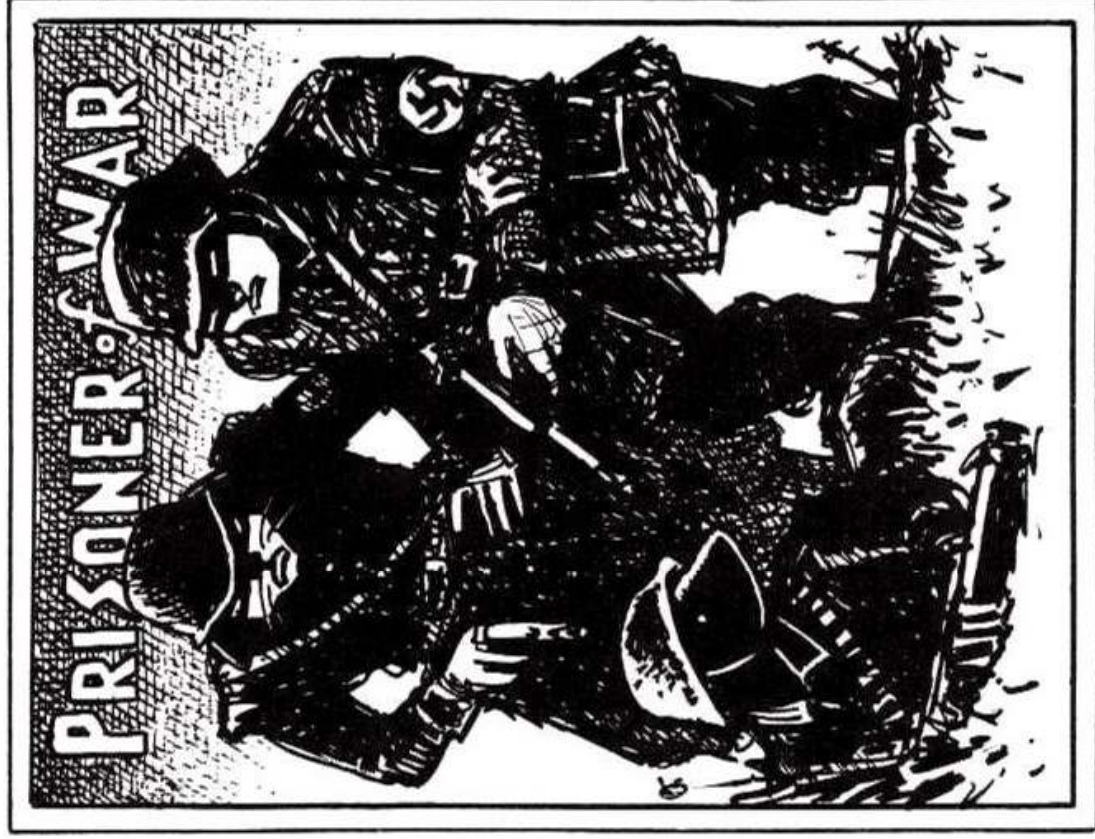
HE LAST YEAR PUT ME INTO THE HOSPITAL FOR AN IMMEDIATE OPERATION...

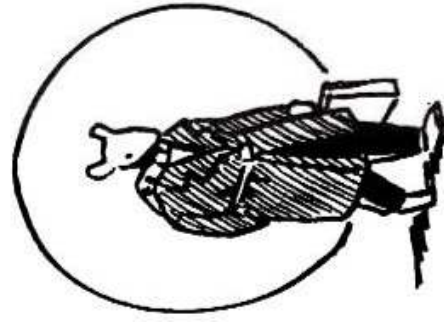


AND THEN HE JUST LEFT ME. HE WENT SOMEWHERE AWAY TO GIVE LECTURES ON THE TELEVISION!



C H A P T E R T H R E E





I visited my father more often in order to get more information about his past..





1939? YES... WE WERE GIVEN ARMY TRAININGS FOR A FEW DAYS AND THEN, BY THE START OF SEPTEMBER WE WERE ON THE FRONTIER.





IT WAS EVERYTHING
QUIET UNTIL NEAR
MORNING...



WAIT A MINUTE.
THEY ONLY TRAINED
YOU FOR A FEW
DAYS BEFORE
SENDING YOU INTO
COMBAT?



WELL, THE FIRST TIME I
WENT INTO THE ARMY FOR
18 MONTHS WHEN I WAS 21.
THEN EVERY 4 YEARS I WENT
TO LUGLIN
FOR A MONTH
TO TRAIN.



YOU KNOW, MY FATHER
TRIED TO KEEP ALL HIS
CHILDREN
OUT FROM
THE ARMY.



..BECAUSE WHEN HE WAS
YOUNG, HE HAD THEN TO
GO INTO THE RUSSIAN ARMY.
...AND THERE
THEY TOOK YOU
FOR 25 YEARS.
...TO SIBERIA!



MY FATHER PULLED OUT 14
OF HIS TEETH TO ESCAPE.
IF YOU MISSED 12 TEETH
THEY LEFT YOU GO.



SO WHEN MY BROTHER MARCUS
GOT 21 YEARS, FATHER PUT HIM
ON A STARVATION DIET.
ALWAYS MARCUS WAS SICKLY-SO THIN.

AND WHEN HE WENT
FOR THE ARMY EXAM-
INATION...THEY
DIDN'T TAKE HIM.



A YEAR LATER WHEN IT CAME
MY TURN, FATHER WANTED TO
MAKE TO ME THE SAME THING.

IT WAS SOMETHING
TERRIBLE!...

THREE MONTHS BEFORE THE EXAMINATION HE STARTED WITH ME...



WAKE UP, VLADK!
YOU'RE SLEEPING TOO MUCH!

ONLY THREE HOURS A NIGHT?



STOP, VLADK. YOU MUSTN'T EAT SO MUCH!

BUT I'M HUNGRY!



OKAY- HAVE ONE MORE HERRING.

FOR THREE MONTHS I ATE ONLY SALTED HERRING AND NO WATER TO LOSE WEIGHT.



AND A FEW DAYS BEFORE THE EXAM, NO SLEEP AND NO FOOD...

GOOD BOY - JUST A LITTLE MORE COFFEE!



ONLY A GALLON COFFEE A DAY FOR MY HEART.

AND WHEN FINALLY I WENT FOR MY MEDICAL EXAMINATION...

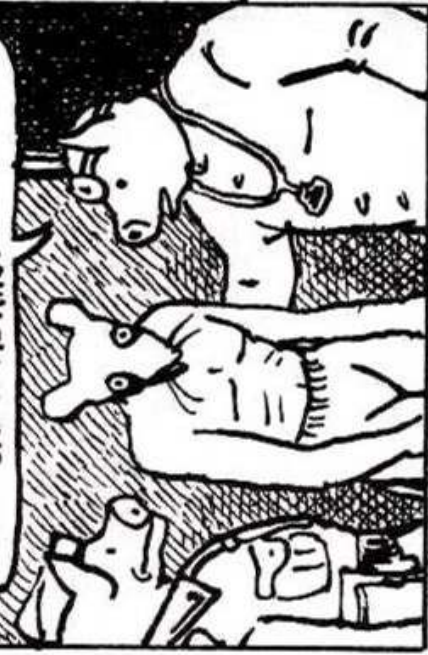


HERE'S A HEALTHY ONE.

UM!..

NO...THERE SEEMS TO BE SOMETHING WRONG WITH HIM.

BUILD YOURSELF UP FOR A YEAR, YOUNG MAN, AND WE'LL REVIEW YOUR CASE AGAIN.





...THE NEXT YEAR FATHER WANTED I WOULD AGAIN DO THE SAME THING. BUT I BEGGED HIM AND WENT IN 1922 TO THE ARMY...

BUT LET'S GET BACK TO 1939!

YES. YOU SEE HOW YOU MIX ME UP?
...IN 1939 WE WERE ON THE FRONTIER,
DIGGED INTO TRENCHES BY A RIVER.

IT WAS QUIET UNTIL NEAR MORNING. THEN I HEARD SHOOTING ON BOTH SIDES.



AN OFFICER SNEAKED OVER TO ME.
DIG IN DEEPER.
YOU'LL GET KILLED.



YOUR GUN IS COLD.
WHY AREN'T YOU SHOOTING?



I DIDN'T SEE AT WHAT TO SHOOT...



...BUT I DUGGED DEEPER
AND STARTED TO SHOOT!

THEN BULLETS CAME
IN MY DIRECTION.



I DUG DEEPER MY TRENCH
BUT I STOPPED TO SHOOT.



BUT WHEN I LOOKED IN
MY GUN, I SAW... A TREE!!!



AND THE TREE WAS ACTUALLY MOVING!



WELL, IF IT MOVED, I HAD TO SHOOT!



IT HELD UP A HAND TO SHOW
IT WAS HURT. TO SURRENDER.



BUT I KEPT SHOOTING AND SHOOTING. UNTIL FINALLY THE TREE STOPPED MOVING.
WHO KNOWS; OTHERWISE HE COULD HAVE SHOT ME!

AFTER TWO HOURS OF FIGHTING, THE NAZIS
OVERTOOK OUR SIDE OF THE RIVER.



GIVE ME YOUR GUN!



IT'S HOT! YOU WERE SHOOTING AT US!



MY COMMANDER MADE ME SHOOT.
I ONLY FIRED IN THE AIR!



I ANSWERED IN GERMAN AND HIS PART-
NER STOPPED HIM FROM BEATING ME.

THEY MARCHED ME TO WHERE IT WAS
MORE LIKE ME. WAR PRISONERS.



AND ALL FROM US WHAT WEREN'T INJURED THEY MARCHED OVER
TO THEIR SIDE OF THE RIVER TO LOOK FOR DEAD SOLDIERS.



THEY TOOK US TO A PLACE NEAR NUREMBERG WHERE IT WAS MANY WAR PRISONERS. THE JEWS THEY MADE TO STAND SEPARATE.



IT'S ALL YOUR FAULT, THIS WAR!



WE SHOULD HANG YOU RIGHT HERE ON THIS SPOT!

OF COURSE, NOBODY OF US SAID A WORD.



PUT DOWN ALL YOUR VALUABLES!

HE CAME UP TO ME... I HAD MAYBE 300 ZLOTYS.



WHY SO MUCH MONEY, JEW?

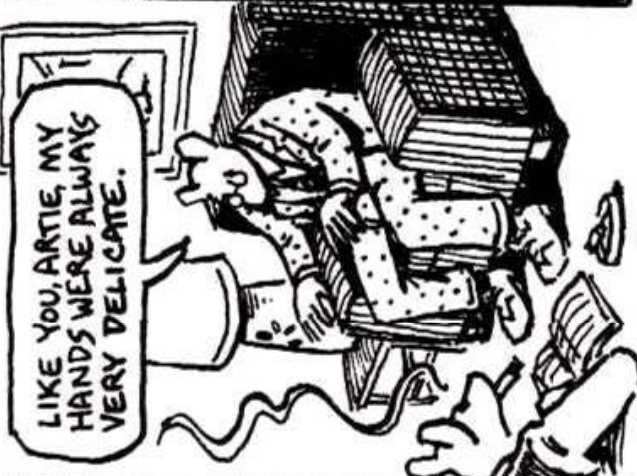
MANY OTHERS HAD ONLY 5 OR 6 ZLOTYS.



DO YOU EXPECT TO DO SOME BUSINESS HERE? SHOW ME YOUR HANDS!



YOU NEVER WORKED A DAY IN YOUR LIFE!



LIKE YOU, ARTIE, MY HANDS WERE ALWAYS VERY DELICATE.



WELL, JEW, DON'T WORRY. WE'LL FIND WORK FOR YOU!

AND THEY DID.

ANOTHER GERMAN TOOK 4 OR 5 FROM US TO A STABLE.

SEE THIS MESS? IT BETTER BE SPOTLESSLY CLEAN IN ONE HOUR. UNDERSTAND!

IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE TO DO IT IN ONE HOUR!

WE REALLY WORKED VERY HARD. BUT, AN HOUR LATER...

SO!

NOT FINISHED YET?

THIS WILL COST YOU YOUR SOUP, YOU LAZY BASTARDS!

AND SOMEHOW WE DID MAKE THE JOB IN ONLY AN HOUR AND A HALF. BUT LOOK WHAT YOU DO, ARTIE!

HUH?

YOU'RE DROPPING ON THE CARPET CIGARETTE ASHES. YOU WANT IT SHOULD BE LIKE A STABLE HERE?

OOOPS. SORRY.

CLEAN IT, YES? OTHERWISE I HAVE TO DO IT. MALA COULD LET IT SIT LIKE THIS FOR A WEEK AND NEVER TOUCH IT.

AND SHE KNOWS HOW WITH MY SICKNESSES IT'S HARD NOW FOR ME TO DO SUCH THINGS.

OKAY, OKAY. IT'S CLEAN.



SO WE LIVED AND WORKED A FEW WEEKS IN THE STABLE UNTIL THEY TOOK US TO AN EVEN BIGGER PRISONER OF WAR CAMP.

BRRR. THE POLISH PRISONERS GET HEATED CABINS.

YES, AND WE'RE JUST LEFT TO FREEZE IN THESE TENTS.

IT WAS TERRIBLE COLD THAT AUTUMN. ALL OVER EUROPE IT WAS SO FREEZING THAT BIRDS FELL FROM TREES.



TO KEEP WARM WE HAD ONLY OUR SUMMER UNIFORMS AND A THIN BLANKET.

AT LEAST IF THEY GAVE US ENOUGH TO EAT.



THE OTHER PRISONERS GET TWO MEALS A DAY. WE JEWS GET ONLY A CRUST OF BREAD AND A LITTLE SOUP.

GOOD MORNING, VLADEK.



WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

TO BATHE IN THE RIVER.



YOU'VE GONE CRAZY.

BARRR I'LL BE CLEAN! AND I'LL FEEL WARM ALL DAY BY COMPARISON.

MANY OTHERS GOT FROSTBITE WOUNDS. IN THE WOUNDS WAS PUS, AND IN THE PUS WAS LICE.

EVERY DAY I BATHED AND DID GYMNASTICS TO KEEP STRONG... AND EVERY DAY WE PRAYED.



בדיטורן אהליך
יעקב, משכנתה
שראלי.

I WAS VERY RELIGIOUS, AND IT WASN'T ELSE TO DO.

OFTEN WE PLAYED CHESS TO KEEP OUR MINDS BUSY AND MAKE THE TIME GO.



I HAD A SET MADE FROM STONES AND BREAD CRUMBS.

AND ONE TIME A WEEK WE COULD WRITE LETTERS THROUGH THE INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS.



Dear Anja.
I am fine.
I miss you.

ONLY IN GERMAN, AND VERY CAREFUL.

AND THROUGH THIS IT CAME A PACKAGE"



CHOCOLATE BARS!
CIGARETTES!
JAM!

IT WAS SO TREASURING FOR ME THIS PACKAGE.

I HAD A SIGN MY FAMILY WAS SAFE, AND - BECAUSE I NEVER SMOKED - I HAD CIGARETTES TO TRADE FOR FOOD.



AND SO THINGS WENT FOR MAYBE SIX WEEKS, THEN...



LOOK! THERE'S AN ANNOUNCEMENT OUTSIDE!



WORKERS NEEDED

War Prisoners may volunteer for labor assignments to replace German workers called to the front.

Housing and abundant food will be supplied.

IT'S A TRICK!



NEVER VOLUNTEER! IF WE HAVE TO DIE, LET'S DIE HERE!

NO!

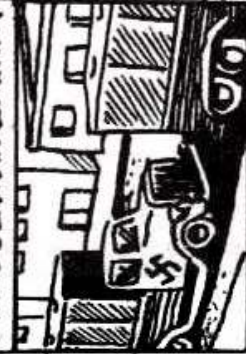
I DIDN'T AGREE!



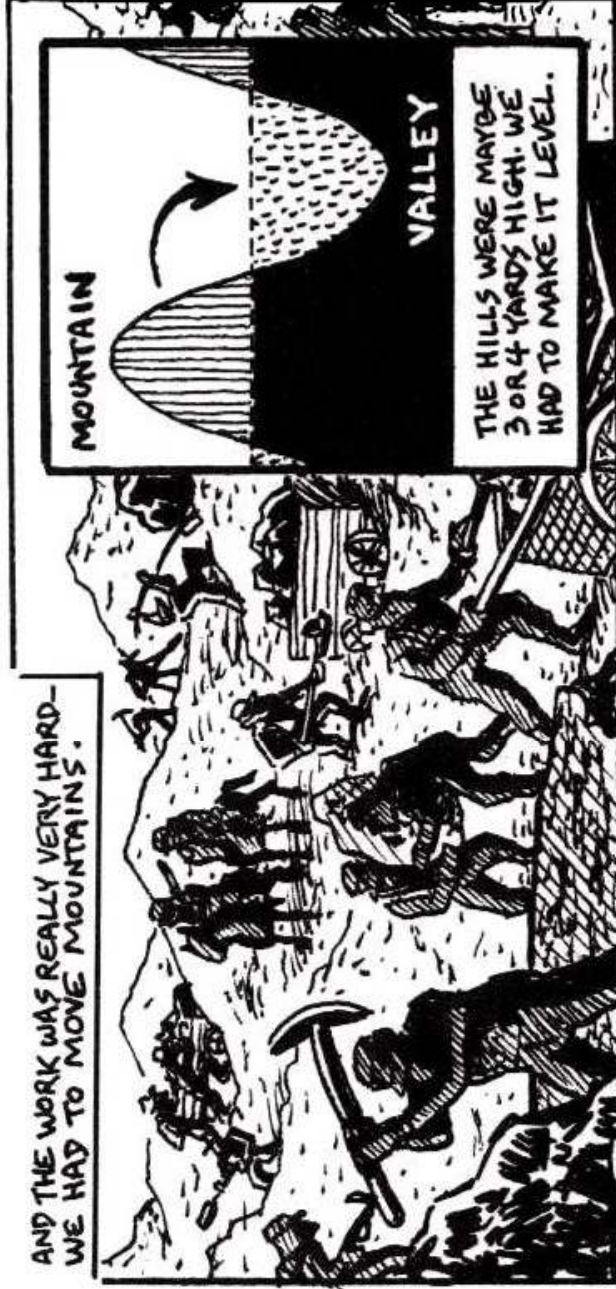
I'M NOT GOING TO DIE, AND I WON'T DIE HERE! I WANT TO BE TREATED LIKE A HUMAN BEING!



WE WERE RIGHT AWAY SENT
TO A BIG GERMAN COMPANY.



AND THE WORK WAS REALLY VERY HARD-
WE HAD TO MOVE MOUNTAINS.



THE HILLS WERE MAYBE
3 OR 4 YARDS HIGH. WE
HAD TO MAKE IT LEVEL.

SOME COMPLAINED - THOSE WHAT WERE
TOO OLD OR WEAK FOR SUCH WORK:



I-I CAN'T TAKE
ANYMORE.



WORTHLESS
JEW!



IF YOU'RE UNHAPPY - GO BACK
TO THE POW-CAMP.



IT'S OKAY - WE'LL HELP YOU
WHEN NO ONE IS LOOKING.

WE TRIED TO HELP, BUT - WHAT YOU
THINK? - SOME WENT BACK TO THE
TENTS TO FREEZE AND TO STARVE.

BUT WHAT HAP-
PENED TO THEM,
I DON'T KNOW.

STILL, EIGHTY PER CENT STAYED. THERE WAS ENOUGH
TO EAT, AND A WARM BED. IT WAS BETTER TO STAY...



"ALWAYS I WENT TO SLEEP EXHAUSTED.
AND ONE NIGHT I HAD A DREAM!"

"DON'T WORRY..."

A VOICE WAS TALKING TO ME. IT WAS,
I THINK, MY DEAD GRANDFATHER..."

"...DON'T WORRY,
MY CHILD..."

IT WAS SO REAL, THIS VOICE..."

"YOU WILL COME OUT OF
THIS PLACE - FREE!
"ON THE DAY OF "
PARSHAS TRUMA."

I WOKE UP RIGHT AWAY. AND WHEN
I WENT TO SLEEP, AGAIN IT WAS:
"PARSHAS TRUMA! PARSHAS TRUMA!"

SO WHAT'S
PARSHAS TRUMA?

EACH WEEK, ON SAT-
URDAY, WE READ A SEC-
TION FROM THE TORAH.

THIS IS SO CALLED - A PARSHA...
AND ONE WEEK EACH YEAR IT IS
PARSHAS TRUMA.

BEFORE WORK A FEW
FROM US PRAYED. IT WAS
A RABBI THERE WITH US.

ONE MOMENT, RABBI.
WHEN WILL WE
READ PARSHAS TRUMA?

PARSHAS TRUMA?..

"...IN THE MIDDLE OF FEB-
RUARY - ALMOST THREE
MONTHS FROM NOW. WHY?

THREE MONTHS -
AND EVERY DAY WAS
FOR US A YEAR!

I TOLD HIM MY DREAM...

LET'S HOPE IT'S TRUE.
I'M AFRAID WE'LL NEVER
GET OUT OF HERE.



SO WE WORKED,
DAY AFTER DAY.
WE SURVIVED.
WEEK AFTER
WEEK. THE SAME.

UNTIL, ONE TIME...



ATTENTION! LINE UP ON THE ROAD
IN TWO ROWS! IMMEDIATELY!



WE WERE NOT AT EASE. WE DIDN'T
KNOW WHAT THEY COULD DO WITH US.

I STOOD ALWAYS IN THE SECOND LINE.



I DIDN'T WANT THEY SHOULD SEE ME MUCH.

SOMEONE SNEAKED
NEXT TO ME...



RABBI! DO YOU KNOW
WHAT DAY IT IS?

SATURDAY, OF COURSE.



BUT DO YOU
KNOW WHAT
A SATURDAY?...

IT'S PARSHAS
-TRUMA!





DURING THE JOURNEY I SAT WITH THE RABBI.

SO, MY SON. NOW I SEE YOU ARE A "ROH-EH HANQLED," ONE WHO SEES WHAT THE FUTURE WILL BRING.

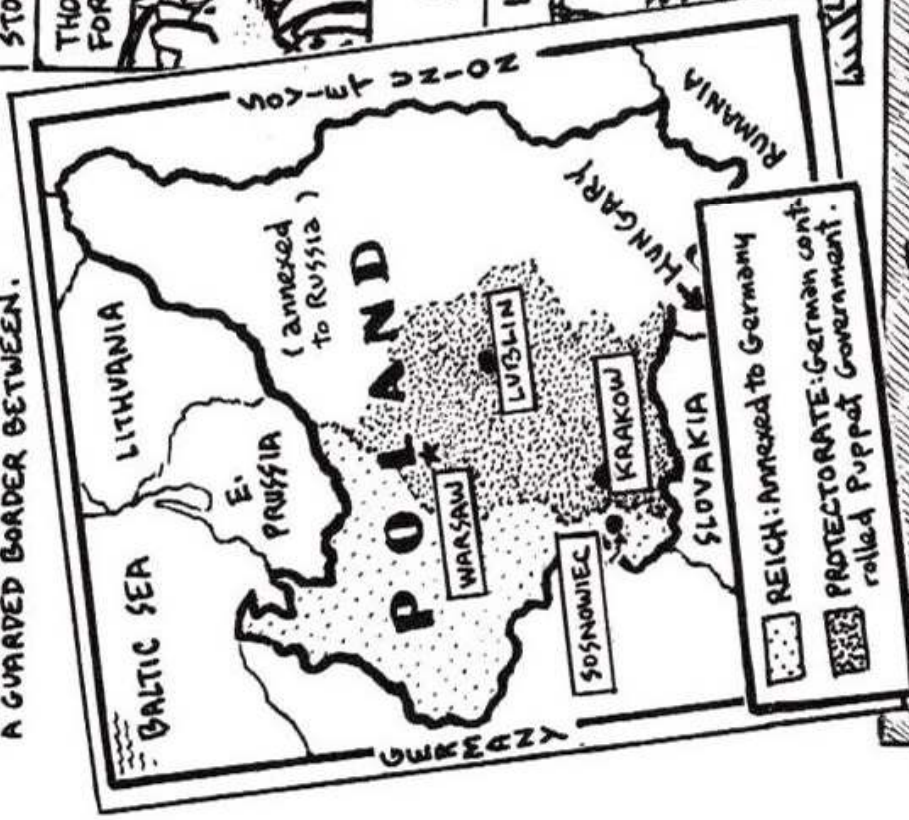


HEY! THIS TRAIN SEEMS TO BE PASSING SOSNOWIEC!



WHEN THEY DIDN'T STOP THE TRAIN I BECAME VERY WORRIED.

YOU SEE, THE NAZIS DIVIDED POLAND INTO PIECES: PROTECTORATE AND REICH, WITH A GUARDED BORDER BETWEEN.



THE TRAIN WENT COMPLETELY PAST MY PART OF POLAND - THE REICH - AND STOPPED ONLY IN THE PROTECTORATE.

THOSE WITH PAPERS FOR KRAKOW - OUT!

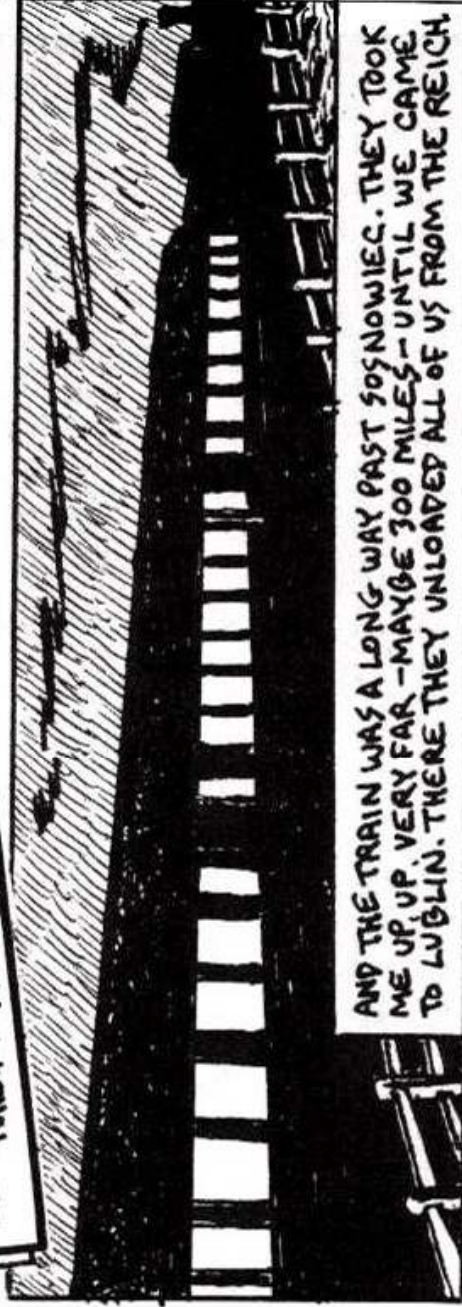


AND, WHEN IT STOPPED IN WARSAW, THE RABBI GOT OUT.

I'LL WRITE TO YOU.



BUT I NEVER HEARD AGAIN FROM HIM. IT CAME SUCH A MISERY IN WARSAW, ALMOST NONE SURVIVED.



AND THE TRAIN WAS A LONG WAY PAST SOSNOWIEC. THEY TOOK ME UP UP, VERY FAR - MAYBE 300 MILES - UNTIL WE CAME TO LUBLIN. THERE THEY UNLOADED ALL OF US FROM THE REICH.

IN LUBLIN, THEY TOOK US TO BIG TENTS...



AND THERE WE SAT.

EVENTUALLY CAME SOME PEOPLE TO SEE US FROM THE JEWISH AUTHORITIES..."



WHY ARE WE BEING KEPT HERE?

IT'S A VERY BAD SITUATION... JUST BEFORE YOU ARRIVED, THERE WAS ANOTHER GROUP OF RELEASED WAR PRISONERS..."

...TWO DAYS AGO THE NAZIS MARCHED THEM TO A FOREST,...



...AND THEY SHOT ALL OF THEM- THEY KILLED 600 PEOPLE!



WE WERE THE NEXT PARTY!

I THOUGHT YOU WERE RELEASED AS A PRISONER OF WAR!



EXACTLY SO..

INTERNATIONAL LAWS PROTECTED US A LITTLE AS POLISH WAR PRISONERS.

BUT A JEW OF THE REICH ANY-ONE COULD KILL IN THE STREETS!



I WAS VERY FRIGHTENED.

THEN WE HEARD SOMETHING TO GIVE US A LITTLE HOPE...

WE'VE BRIBED THE GERMANS TO RELEASE PRISONERS INTO THE HOMES OF LOCAL JEWS WHO WILL CLAIM YOU AS RELATIVES.

MY NAME'S SPIEGELMAN. THERE'S A FRIEND OF MY FAMILY NAMED ORSBACH IN LUBLIN. I MET HIM WHEN I WAS HERE FOR ARMY TRAINING.

FINE! WE'LL TRY TO REGISTER YOU AS HIS COUSIN.

THAT NIGHT I WENT OUT FROM THE TENT.

I HAD TO URINATE.

I RAN QUICK INSIDE ...

AND THOUGHT ALL NIGHT DIFFERENT THINGS WHAT COULD HAPPEN TO US.

AND A GUARD BEGAN SHOOTING TO ME.

MEANS SOON AS IT WAS LIGHT-

SPIEGELMAN!..
SPIEGELMAN!..



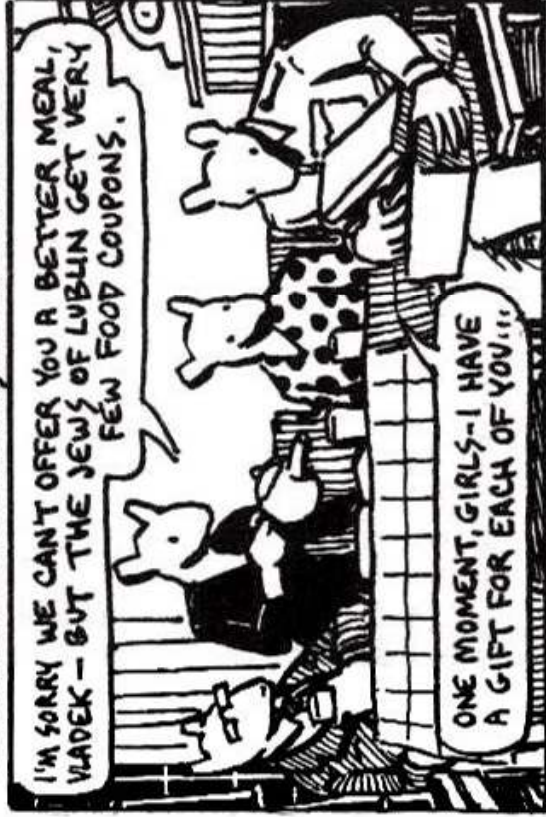
VLADEK!

ORBACH, AM
I GLAD TO
SEE YOU!

AND IN TEN MIN-
UTES, I WAS FREE!

ORBACH WAS A FRIEND FROM MY UNCLE - HE HAD
TWO BEAUTIFUL DAUGHTERS NEAR TO MY AGE.

I'M SORRY WE CAN'T OFFER YOU A BETTER MEAL,
VLADEK - BUT THE JEWS OF LUBLIN GET VERY
FEW FOOD COUPONS.



ONE MOMENT, GIRLS - I HAVE
A GIFT FOR EACH OF YOU..

OH MY GOD!

CHOCOLATE!

THESE I SAVED FROM A
RED CROSS PACKAGE.
ALWAYS I SAVED...
JUST IN CASE!

EVENTUALLY, WHEN I
CAME AGAIN TO SOSNO-
WIEC, WE SENT THEM
FOOD PACKAGES...

" WE WERE FOR A WHILE
A LITTLE BETTER OFF"
AND THEY WROTE BACK
VERY HAPPY HOW IT
HELPED SURVIVE THEM...

"...THEN THEY WROTE THAT
THE GERMANS WERE
KEEPING THE PACKAGES,
AND THEN THEY STOPPED
TO WRITE.
FINISHED.



WITH ORBACH'S I STAYED A FEW DAYS
RECOVERATING. BUT I WAS RESTLESS.
HOW COULD I MANAGE TO SNEAK
ACROSS THE BORDER TO MY FAMILY?

TRAINS WERE STILL GOING FROM PROTECTORATE TO REICH. ONLY, ONE NEEDED LEGAL PAPERS. OF COURSE, THIS I DIDN'T HAVE "



"...BUT ANYWAY I GOT ON THE TRAIN IN THE DIRECTION I WANTED.

I APPROACHED TO THE TRAIN MAN, A POLE!!!

MAY I TALK TO YOU FOR A MOMENT?



SURE, SOLDIER.

I STILL HAD ON MY ARMY UNIFORM, AND I DIDN'T LET KNOW I WAS A JEW.



YOU'RE A POLE LIKE ME, SO I CAN TRUST YOU. "THE STINKING NAZIS HAD ME IN A WAR PRISON... I JUST ESCAPED.

THE POLES WERE VERY BITTER ON THE GERMANS, SO IT WAS GOOD TO SPEAK BAD OF THEM.

I'M TRYING TO GET TO SOSNOWIEC - BACK TO MY FAMILY.

DON'T WORRY, " WHEN WE GET TO THE BORDER, I HIDE IN HERE.



AND SO THE TRAIN MAN HELPED ME COME BACK TO MY SIDE OF POLAND.



I WALKED FIRST OVER TO MY PARENTS' HOUSE...

"...WHAT I THOUGHT I MIGHT NEVER SEE AGAIN.



OY GEVAULT!
IT'S VLADEK!



FROM MY PARENTS' TO SO SNOWIEC WAS ONLY A SHORT RIDE.

GO IN AND SAY YOU JUST GOT A LETTER FROM ME SAYING I'D BE HOME IN A WEEK.



I STOOD AT THE DOOR, LISTENING...

DON'T JOKE! IF VLADEK WAS COMING HOME, HE'D HAVE WRITTEN TO US TOO!



SURPRISE!

OH MY GOD.



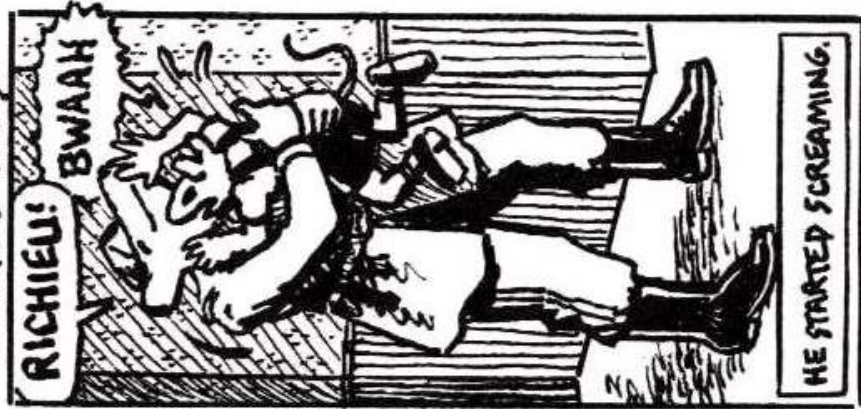
VLADEK!



I GRABBED MY SON. HE WAS 2 1/2 YEARS.

RICHIEU!

BWAH



HE STARTED SCREAMING.

WHY DO YOU CRY, MY BOY? I'M YOUR FATHER!

WAH



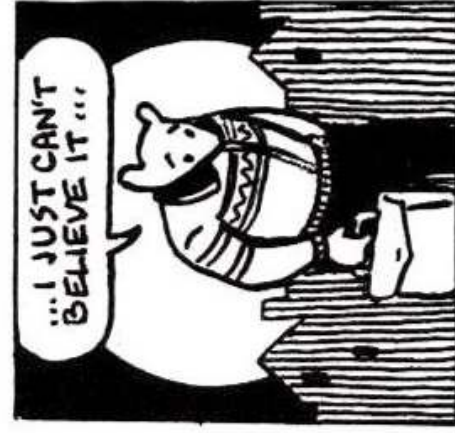
SNEE TH' BUTTONS, YOUR METAL BUTTONS, DADDY - THEY'RE COLD!

AND I DON'T NEED TO TELL YOU HOW BIG THE JOY WAS IN OUR HOUSE.

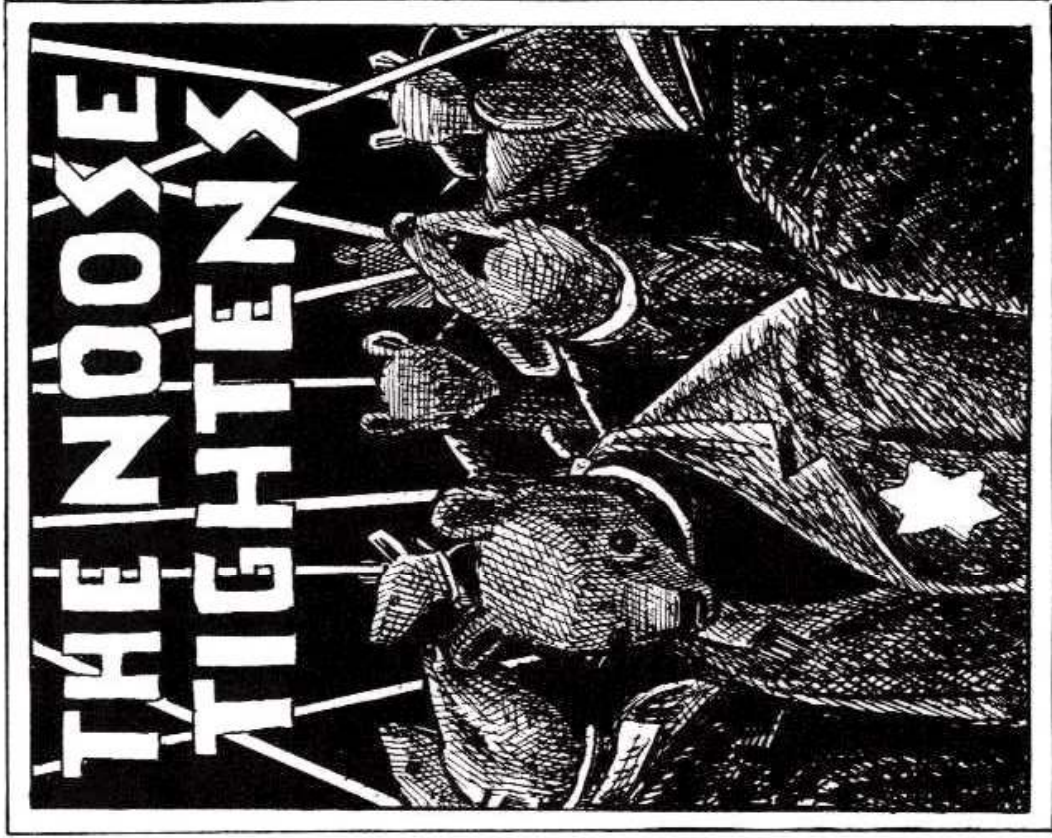








C H A P T E R F O U R







IT WAS STILL VERY LUXURIOUS. THE GERMANS COULDN'T DESTROY EVERYTHING AT ONE TIME.

IT WAS TWELVE OF US LIVING IN FATHER-IN-LAW'S HOUSEHOLD...



IT WAS ANJA AND ME, AND OUR BOY, RICHIEU...



ANJA'S OLDER SISTER, TOSHA, HER HUSBAND, WOLFE, AND THEIR LITTLE GIRL, BIBI...



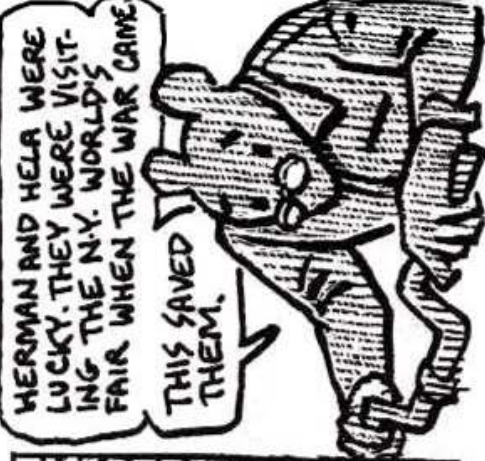
AND IT WAS ANJA'S GRAND-PARENTS. THEY HAD MAYBE 90 YEARS, BUT VERY ALERT...



AND, OF COURSE, IT WAS MY FATHER-IN-LAW AND MY MOTHER-IN-LAW...



AND ALSO THE 2 KIDS FROM YOUR UNCLE HERMAN AND AUNT HELEN: LOUCK AND LONIA



HERMAN AND HELA WERE LUCKY. THEY WERE VISITING THE N.Y. WORLD'S FAIR WHEN THE WAR CAME THIS SAVED THEM.





I WENT THE NEXT DAY TO MODRZEJOWSKA STREET. HERE PEOPLE STILL MADE MONEY, FROM SECRET BUSINESSES... NOT SO LEGAL...



THE NOTE TOLD THAT I WORKED WITH HIM. SUCH A PAPER COULD BE USEFUL TO HAVE.



I WENT THEN TO SHOPS WHAT STILL OWED ME MONEY FROM BEFORE THE WAR...



I REMEMBER, FATHER-IN-LAW WAS SO HAPPY WITH ME.



A LITTLE LATER, I WAS AGAIN ON MODRZEJOWSKA, LOOKING TO BUY SOME TEXTILES WITHOUT COUPONS."



"...THE S.S. CLOSED OFF THE WHOLE STREET TO INSPECT THE WORKING PAPERS FROM EVERYONE.

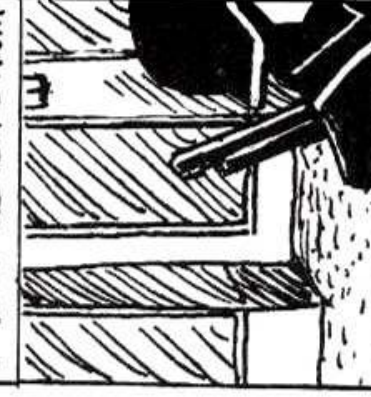
I DIDN'T KNOW BEFORE ABOUT THIS.



I MANAGED TO DISAPPEAR INTO A BUILDING.



BUT THEY TOOK MAYBE 50% OF THE PEOPLE AWAY.



I TALKED ABOUT IT TO FATHER-IN-LAW"

THEY ALMOST GOT ME! I'LL NEED MORE THAN JUST ILZECKI'S NOTE!



COME... WE'LL VISIT A FRIEND OF MINE WHO OWNS A TIN SHOP. I THINK HIS OVERSEER CAN BE BRIBED.



AND SO IT WENT... OKAY, VLADK... SINCE WE MAKE THINGS FOR GERMANY WE CAN GET YOU A PRIORITY WORK CARD.



REMEMBER, IF THERE'S A ROUND-UP, RUN IN HERE AND PRETEND YOU'RE WORKING.



I LEARNED HERE TO DO THINGS WHAT WERE USEFUL TO ME WHEN I CAME TO AUSCHWITZ.

AND SO WE LIVED FOR MORE THAN A YEAR. BUT ALWAYS THINGS CAME A LITTLE WORSE, A LITTLE WORSE...



FATHER-IN-LAW HAD A NICE NEW BEDROOM SET...



THE GERMANS LOOKED TO GRAB SUCH FURNITURE, BECAUSE IN STORES IT WASN'T ANYMORE TO GET.

WIFE AND I SHELPPED EVERYTHING VALUABLE DOWNSTAIRS FOR A POLISH NEIGHBOR TO HIDE.

ANJA'S MOTHER HAD GALLSTONES. THE DAY THE GERMANS CAME SHE LAY IN THE BED.

OOOF. ARE WE LEAVING THE OTHER BED UPSTAIRS?

JA. MOTHER-IN-LAW IS TOO SICK. SHE NEEDS A GOOD BED.



PLEASE DON'T TAKE HER BED-LOOK AT HOW SICK SHE IS.

THE DOCTOR IS HERE EVERY DAY.



FATHER-IN-LAW HAD AN OLD FRIEND WHO CAME ALWAYS OVER TO PLAY CARDS.

HIDDEN, WE HAD NO USE FROM THE FURNITURE, SO WE SHELPPED IT AGAIN UPSTAIRS TO SELL.

"AND THEY LEFT WITHOUT TAKING ANYTHING!"

YOU KNOW, I MET A GERMAN OFFICIAL WHO WOULD PAY WELL FOR A BEDROOM SET."



YOU HAVE EXCELLENT TASTE IN FURNITURE, HERR ZYLBERBERG. THANK YOU.



MY MEN WILL BE RIGHT BACK TO GET YOUR WIFE'S BED TOO!"



YOU CHEATED US LAST TIME, JEW!

WAIT! I HAVEN'T BEEN PAID, YET.

PLEASE, IF YOU WANT TO STAY ALIVE GO BACK INSIDE.



HE WAS SO UNHAPPY AFTER. SO UNHAPPY!



ONE TIME I WAS GOING TO SEE ILZECKI. THIS WAS LATE IN 1941, I THINK, HIS HOUSE WAS VERY NEAR TO A TRAIN STATION.

... AND IT WAS GOING ON THERE SOMETHING TERRIBLE.



I HAD TO PASS NEAR— AND THEY WERE GRABBING JEWS, IF THEY HAD PAPERS OR NO!

WHAT HAD I TO DO?

WILL I WALK SLOWLY, THEY WILL TAKE ME...



WILL I RUN THEY CAN SHOOT ME!

THEN FROM FAR, I SAW ILZECKI WALKING, SO I WENT HASTY OVER TO HIM.



ALLO! MR. SPIEGELMAN! WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE? DON'T YOU SEE WHAT'S GOING ON?



QUICK—COME UPSTAIRS WITH ME UNTIL THE TRAINS LEAVE!

ILZECKI LIVED IN A VERY FANCY HOUSE. HE WAS THE ONLY JEW THERE.



SO I SAT WITH HIM AND HIS WIFE A GOOD FEW HOURS. WE HEARD SHOOTING AND SCREAMS.

HE SURVIVED ME MY LIFE THAT TIME.

IZECKI HAD A SON THE SAME AGE LIKE RICHIEV. IF YOU ONLY COULD SEE HOW THOSE CHILDREN PLAYED TOGETHER.



I HAVE A GOOD FRIEND, A POLE, WHO'S WILLING TO HIDE MY SON UNTIL THE SITUATION GETS BETTER.



WE CAN'T KNOW WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN TO US - BUT WE MUST KEEP OUR CHILDREN SAFE.



...I THINK HE'D TAKE YOUR BOY TOO. YES, YOU MAY BE RIGHT. LET ME SPEAK WITH MY FAMILY.



BUT, I'M TELLING YOU, IT WAS SOMETHING TERRIBLE GOING ON IN OUR HOUSE WHEN I EVEN MENTIONED IT.

WHAT? HAVE YOU GONE CRAZY?

HOW CAN YOU EVEN THINK OF GIVING RICHIEV UP TO COMPLETE STRANGERS?!



I'LL NEVER GIVE UP MY BABY. NEVER!



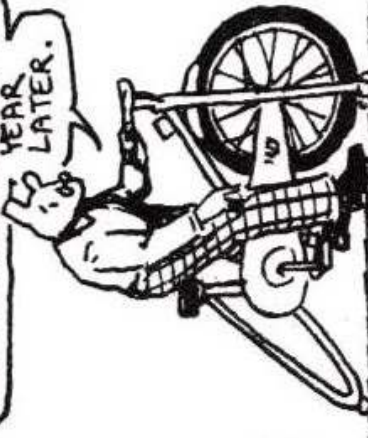
IZECKI AND HIS WIFE DIDN'T COME OUT FROM THE WAR.



... BUT HIS SON REMAINED ALIVE; OURS DID NOT.



... AND ANYWAY WE HAD TO GIVE RICHIEV TO HIDE A YEAR LATER.



WHEN WE WERE IN THE GHETTO, IN 1943, TOSHA TOOK ALL THE CHILDREN TO—

WAIT! PLEASE, DAD, IF YOU DON'T KEEP YOUR STORY CHRONOLOGICAL, I'LL NEVER GET IT STRAIGHT... TELL ME MORE ABOUT 1941 AND 1942.

SO? OKAY. I'LL MAKE IT SO HOW YOU WANT IT. 1941?... AT THE END OF 1941 THE GERMANS CAME WITH SOMETHING NEW. WOLFE RAN FROM THE GEMEINDER...

LOOK! THEY'RE PUTTING THESE UP ALL OVER TOWN.

ORDER
All Jews of Sosnowiec must be relocated into the Stará Sosnowiec quarter by January 1, 1942. Non-Jews will be moved into vacated premises.
Monsieur Martin

ALL 12 OF OUR HOUSEHOLD WERE GIVEN NOW TO LIVE IN 2½ SMALL ROOMS...

REWARD
FOR EVERY UNREGISTERED JEW YOU FIND:
1 KILO of SUGAR

MOST PEOPLE GOT EVEN LESS SPACE. BUT FATHER-IN-LAW AND WOLFE HAD A LITTLE INFLUENCE...

BUT THIS WASN'T YET A REAL GHETTO. STILL YOU COULD GO INTO OTHER PARTS OF TOWN SO LONG YOU WERE HOME AT NIGHT-TIME

HOLD THE LADDER, ANJA.

I'M PUTTING UP A CURTAIN TO GIVE US SOME PRIVACY.

TOSHA INSISTED ON GETTING THE PART OF THE ROOM WITH THE WINDOW.

IT DOESN'T MATTER, VLADEN. I'M JUST GLAD THE WHOLE FAMILY CAN STAY TOGETHER.

IT WAS NO MORE THE LUXURY LIFE WE HAD BEFORE.

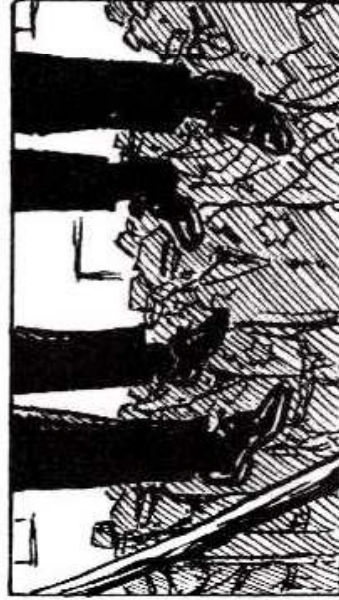
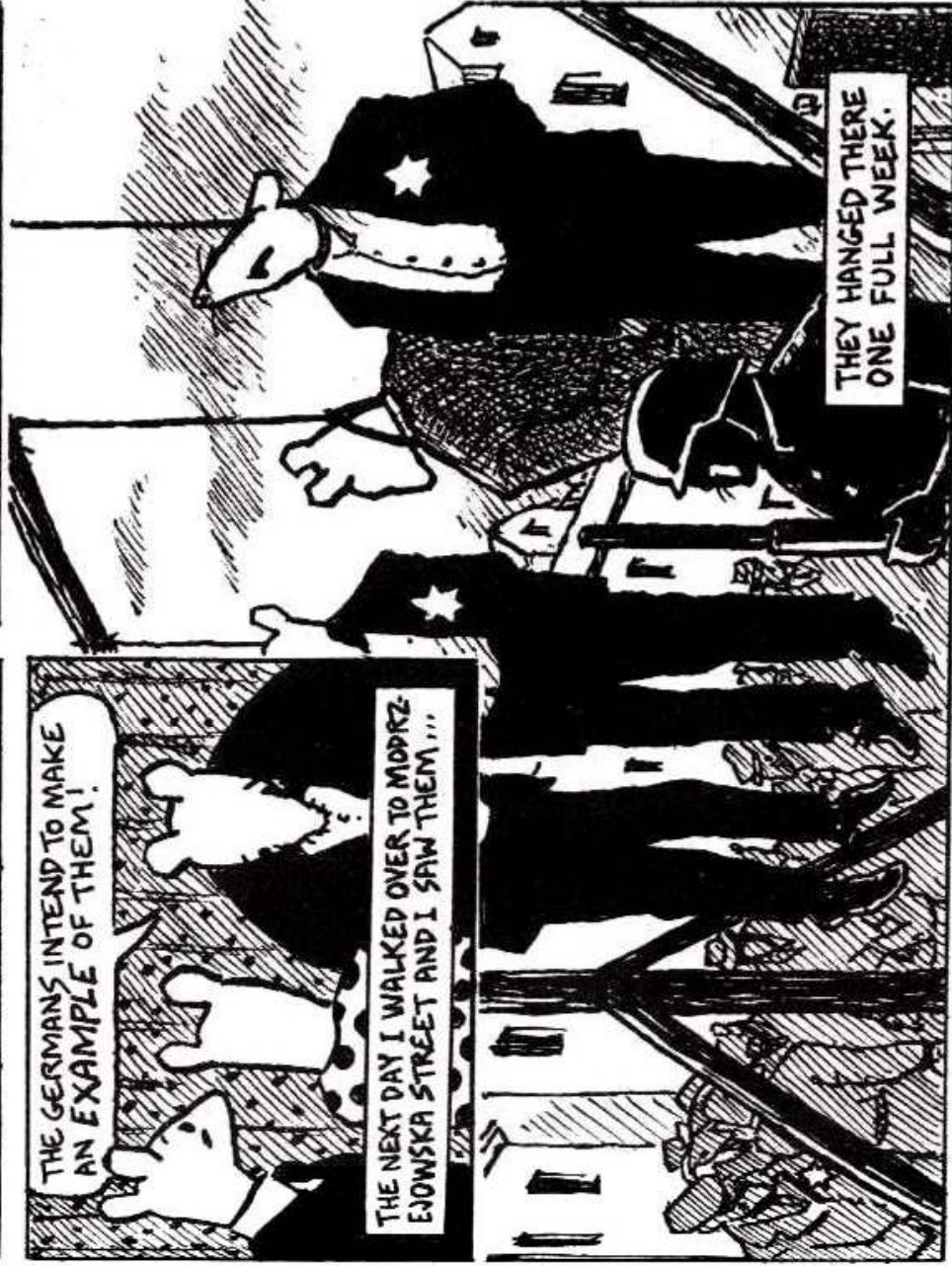
FOR A COUPLE MONTHS I DID HERE STILL MY BLACK MARKET BUSINESS. THEN CAME MORE BAD NEWS, VERY BAD...

WHAT'S WRONG, THEY JUST ARRESTED MY FRIEND NAHUM COHN, AND FATHER?

HIS SON.

THE GERMANS INTEND TO MAKE AN EXAMPLE OF THEM!

THE NEXT DAY I WALKED OVER TO MODRZEJOWSKA STREET AND I SAW THEM...





I WAS FRIGHTENED TO GO OUTSIDE FOR A FEW DAYS... I DIDN'T WANT TO PASS WHERE THEY WERE HANGING.

AND MAYBE ONE OF THEM COULD HAVE TALKED OF ME TO THE GERMANS TO TRY TO SAVE HIMSELF.



AH. WHEN I THINK NOW OF THEM, IT STILL MAKES ME CRY... LOOK-EVEN FROM MY DEAD EYE TEARS ARE COMING OUT!



WHAT WAS ANJA DOING AT AROUND THIS TIME?
HOUSEWORKS... AND KNITTING... READING... AND SHE WAS WRITING ALWAYS HER DIARY



I USED TO SEE POLISH NOTEBOOKS AROUND THE HOUSE AS A KID. WERE THOSE HER DIARIES?
YES, AND ALSO NO.



HER DIARIES DIDN'T SURVIVE FROM THE WAR. WHAT YOU SAW SHE WROTE AFTER: HER WHOLE STORY FROM THE START.

OHMIGOD! WHERE ARE THEY? I NEED THOSE FOR THIS BOOK!



COFF! PLEASE, ARTIE, STOP WITH THE SMOKING. IT MAKES ME SHORT WITH BREATH.

I THINK IT'S ALL YOUR SHORT PEDALING!



DON'T BE SO SMART! "WHAT I WAS TELLING YOU? YES" AFTER THE HANGING I LOOKED FOR ANOTHER BUSINESS ...



... I STARTED TO TRADE GOLD AND JEWELRY.

IT WAS EASIER TO HIDE THAN CLOTHINGS. I KEPT THINGS HIDDEN IN THE CHILD'S STROLLER, AND I MADE A FEW ZLOTYS.



I MET SZKLARCZYK. HE HAD A BIG GROCERY ON MODRZEJOWSKA...



SO, TOGETHER WE SAT AND SPOKE, AND HE HELPED, FROM TIME TO TIME, A CUSTOMER...



THEN A LITTLE MORE WE SPOKE AND HE MADE TO ME A PROPOSITION...



WHEN SOMEBODY IS HUNGRY HE LOOKS FOR BUSINESS...



ONE TIME I HAD 10 OR 15 KILOS SUGAR TO DELIVER...



WHAT WAS I SUPPOSED TO SAY? FOR THIS I COULD REALLY HANG.



BUT WHEN WE CAME TO STARA SÓSNOWIEC, ALL MY BUSINESSES BECAME HARDER... IT WAS NOT SO EASY TO MOVE AROUND.



THE TIN SHOP FINISHED - THE OWNER WAS THE ONLY JEW THEY LET WORK THERE. I GOT THEN A JOB IN A GERMAN CARPENTRY SHOP.



FATHER-IN-LAW AND LOLEK WORKED ALREADY THERE, FOR REALLY NO MONEY. I DIDN'T NEED THIS BEFORE, BUT NOW I HAD TO HAVE THE WORK PAPER.



WOLFE COULD HAVE ARRANGED ME A JOB AT THE GEMEINDE... BUT I DIDN'T WANT TO PUT MY HANDS THERE WHERE JEWS WERE BEING TAKEN.



AND THEN IT CAME AGAIN SOMETHING NEW FROM THE GERMANS. WE GOT A NOTICE...

"ALL JEWS OVER 70 YEARS OLD WILL BE TRANSFERRED TO THERESIENSTADT IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA ON MAY 10, 1942..."



"...A COMMUNITY BETTER PREPARED TO TAKE CARE OF THE ELDERLY THAN OURS IN SÓSNOWIEC..."

IT DOESN'T LOOK TOO BAD!

LIKE A CONVALESCENT HOME.

NOTICE:

ANJA'S GRANDPARENTS HAD ABOUT 90 YEARS.

WE'VE BEEN TOGETHER - A FAMILY - FOR 70 YEARS. WE DON'T WANT TO BREAK APART NOW!

DON'T WORRY. WE WON'T LET THEM TAKE YOU.



WE DIDN'T YET KNOW OF AUSCHWITZ - OF THE OVENS - BUT WE WERE ANYWAY AFRAID.



...SO, IN THE YARD, WE MADE A HIDING PLACE, A BUNKER...

CUT-AWAY VIEW:



WE SNEAKED FOOD TO THEM, AND - WHEN IT WAS SAFE - WE TOOK THEM INSIDE A LITTLE.



SEVERAL TIMES CAME THE JEWISH POLICE TO OUR HOUSE...

OUR RECORDS SHOW THAT MR. AND MRS. KARMIO LIVE HERE, THEY HAVEN'T REGISTERED FOR TRANSFER.

YES - MY WIFE'S PARENTS - THEY LEFT WITHOUT A WORD A MONTH AGO.

JEWISH POLICE?

YES - WITH BIG STICKS.

SOME JEWS THOUGHT IN THIS WAY: IF THEY GAVE TO THE GERMANS A FEW JEWS, THEY COULD SAVE THE REST.

AND AT LEAST THEY COULD SAVE THEMSELVES.

AND A MONTH AFTER, THEY AGAIN CAME TO FATHER-IN-LAW.

MR. ZYLBERBERG, YOU AND YOUR WIFE MUST COME WITH US.

IF THE KARMIOS DON'T TURN UP IN 3 DAYS YOU TWO WILL BE SENT IN THEIR PLACE!

HE HAD STILL A LITTLE "PROTECTION" FROM THE GEMEINDE, SO THEY TOOK ONLY HIM AWAY - NOT HIS WIFE.

HE WROTE THAT WE HAD TO GIVE OVER THE GRANDPARENTS, EVEN IF THEY TOOK ONLY HIM AWAY NOW, NEXT THEY WOULD GRAB HIS WIFE, AND THEN THE REST OF THE FAMILY.

HE SAT A FEW DAYS THERE, THEN HE SENT TO US A NOTE

SO, WHAT HAPPENED?

WHAT HAPPENED? WE HAD TO DELIVER THEM!

THEY THOUGHT IT WAS TO THERESIENSTADT THEY WERE GOING.

LET US KNOW IF YOU NEED ANYTHING!

BUT THEY WENT RIGHT AWAY TO AUSCHWITZ, TO THE GAS.



AFTER WHAT HAPPENED TO THE GRANDPARENTS, IT WAS A FEW MONTHS QUIET. THEN IT CAME POSTERS EVERYWHERE AND SPEECHES FROM THE GEMEINDE...



MY FATHER - HE HAD 62 YEARS - CAME BY STREETCAR TO ME FROM DĄBROWA, THE VILLAGE NEXT DOOR FROM SOSNOWIEC.



AFTER MY MOTHER DIED WITH CANCER, HE LIVED THERE IN THE HOUSE OF MY SISTER FELA, AND HER FOUR SMALL CHILDREN.



I DON'T KNOW. I'M NOT EVEN SURE WHAT WE'RE GOING TO DO.
...ANJA'S MOTHER SAYS SHE ISN'T GOING. SHE'S SICK AND AFRAID.



WELL, OUR COUSIN MORDECAI SAYS HE'LL BE AT ONE OF THE INSPECTION TABLES. I COULD BRING MY PAPERS TO HIM...



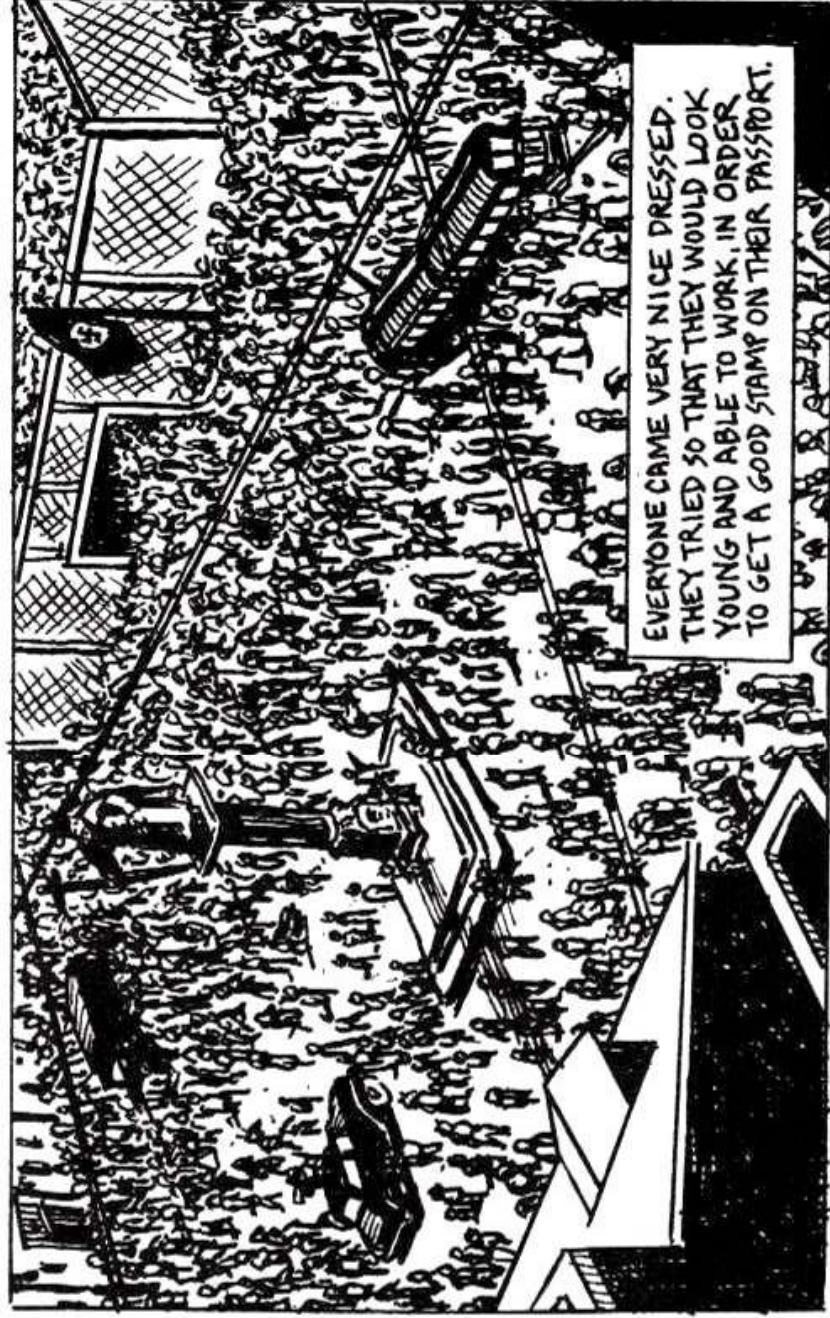
SHE'S NOT SURE... BUT IF FELA DECIDES TO GO, OF COURSE I'LL GO WITH HER.



REALLY, I DIDN'T KNOW HOW TO ADVISE HIM.

BUT FINALLY HE DID GO. PEOPLE WERE AFRAID TO NOT SHOW UP.





EVERYONE CAME VERY NICE DRESSED. THEY TRIED SO THAT THEY WOULD LOOK YOUNG AND ABLE TO WORK, IN ORDER TO GET A GOOD STAMP ON THEIR PASSPORT.

WHEN WE WERE EVERYBODY INSIDE, GESTAPO WITH MACHINE GUNS SURROUNDED THE STADIUM.



LINE UP BY FAMILY AT THE TABLES TO REGISTER! QUICKLY!

THEN WAS A SELECTION, WITH PEOPLE SENT EITHER TO THE LEFT, EITHER TO THE RIGHT.



OLD PEOPLE, FAMILIES WITH LOTS OF KIDS, AND PEOPLE WITHOUT WORK CARDS ARE ALL GOING TO THE LEFT!

WE UNDERSTOOD THIS MUST BE VERY BAD.

ME AND ANJA CAME TO THE TABLE WHERE MY COUSIN WAS SITTING...



AH, YOU WORK AT THE CARPENTRY SHOP. GO TO THE RIGHT.

SO WE GOT STAMPED OUR PASSPORTS AND CAME QUICK TO THE GOOD SIDE OF THE STADIUM. THOSE THEY SENT LEFT, THEY DIDN'T GET ANY STAMP.

WE WERE SO HAPPY WE CAME THROUGH. BUT WE WORRIED NOW- WERE OUR FAMILIES SAFE?



LOOK! THERE'S POPPA,
WITH LOLEK AND LONIA!



DID YOU SEE
MY FATHER?

WE SAW WOLFE AND TOSHA. OUR FAMILY SEEMS TO BE OKAY.

I COULDN'T SEE ANYWHERE MY FATHER.

BUT LATER SOMEONE WHO SAW HIM TOLD ME... HE CAME THROUGH THIS SAME COUSIN OVER TO THE GOOD SIDE.



SPIEGELMAN...
TO THE RIGHT.

THEN CAME FELA TO REGISTER...



FELA!



MY DAUGHTER! HOW CAN SHE
MANAGE ALONE - WITH FOUR
CHILDREN TO TAKE CARE OF?



AND, WHAT DO YOU THINK? HE SNEAKED ON
TO THE BAD SIDE!

AND THOSE ON THE BAD SIDE
NEVER CAME ANYMORE HOME.

THOSE WITH A STAMP WERE LET TO GO HOME. BUT THERE
WERE VERY FEW JEWS NOW LEFT IN SOŚNOWIEC ...



ONE FROM THREE THEY KEPT AT THE STADIUM ...
MAYBE 10,000 PEOPLE- AND WITH THEM, MY FATHER.

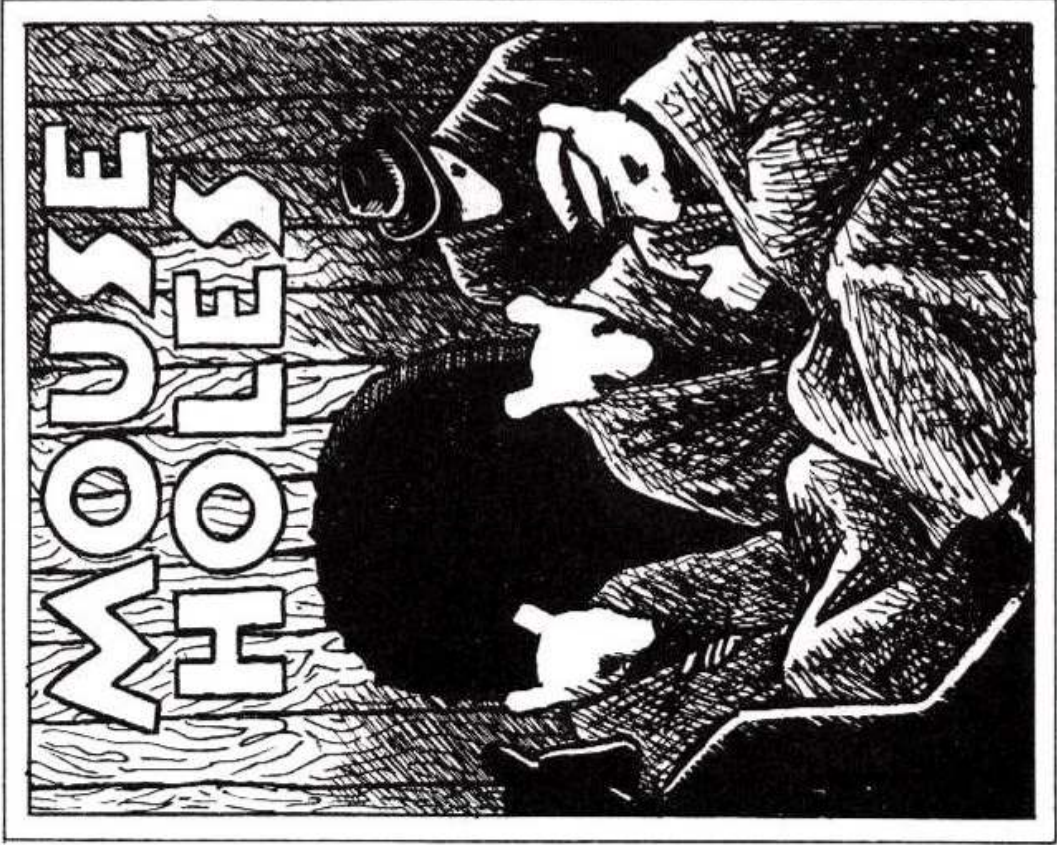


WELL... IT'S ENOUGH FOR
TODAY. YES, ARTIE?...





C H A P T E R F I V E





HE INSISTED ON FIXING THE DRAIN-PIPE AND GOT DIZZY! I DON'T KNOW HOW I EVER GOT HIM DOWN!

WHAT TIME IS IT?



HELLO, ARTIE? I'M TELLING YOU, I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO WITH YOUR FATHER—HE JUST CLIMBED ONTO THE ROOF!

UNH? MALA?



NOW HE WANTS TO CLIMB BACK UP! WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO DO?!

PLEASE DON'T SHOUT.



WHY DON'T YOU CALL A HANDYMAN? JEEZ, MALA, IT'S ONLY 7:30 AM. FRANÇOISE AND I WERE UP 'TIL 4:00! YOU KNOW WE DON'T GET UP 'TIL—

HELLO? ARTIE?
IT'S POPPA HERE.



WHEN I WAS YOUNG I COULD DO BY MYSELF THESE THINGS. BUT NOW, DARLING I NEED IT YOUR HELP FOR THE DRAINPIPE!

UM-LOOK, POP, I'LL CALL YOU BACK AFTER I'VE HAD SOME COFFEE.



I'M TELLING YOU, MALA MAKES ME MESHUGAH! I WANT THAT MAYBE YOU COULD COME NOW TO QUEENS TO HELP ME.

WHAT?
YOU'VE GOTTA BE KIDDING!



WHEW. MAYBE I WAS DREAMING.

WUZZIT? YOUR FATHER AGAIN?



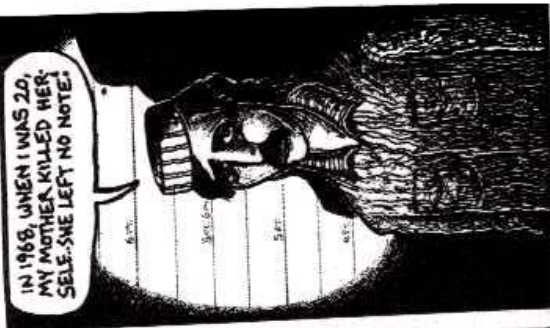
About a week later, early afternoon...





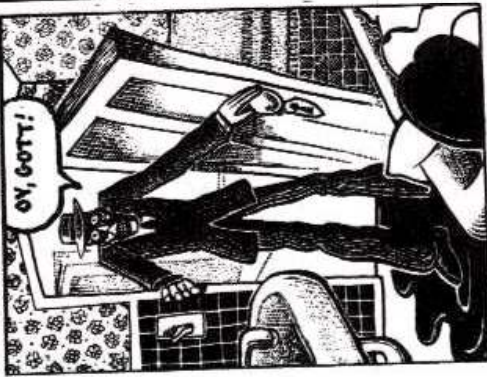
PRISONER ON THE HELIX PLANET

A CASE HISTORY

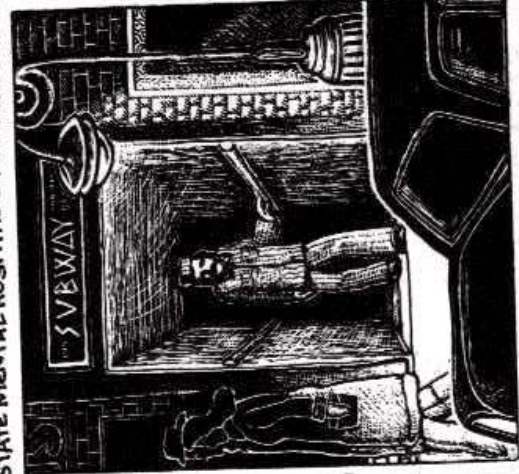


IN 1968, WHEN I WAS 20, MY MOTHER KILLED HERSELF...SHE LEFT NO NOTE!

MY FATHER FOUND HER WHEN HE GOT HOME FROM WORK... HER WRISTS SLASHED AND AN EMPTY BOTTLE OF PILLS NEARBY...



I WAS LIVING WITH MY PARENTS, AS I AGREED TO DO ON MY RELEASE FROM THE STATE MENTAL HOSPITAL 3 MONTHS BEFORE.



I'D JUST SPENT THE WEEKEND WITH MY GIRLFRIEND, ISABELLA (MY PARENTS DIDN'T LIKE HER)... I WAS LATE GETTING HOME...



I SUPPOSE THAT IF I'D GOTTEN HOME WHEN EXPECTED, I WOULD HAVE FOUND HER BODY...



WHEN I SAW THE CROWD I HAD A PANG OF FEAR... I SUSPECTED THE WORST, BUT DIDN'T LET MYSELF KNOW!



A COUSIN HERDED ME AWAY FROM THE SCENE.



COME TO THE DOCTOR'S...
YOUR MOTHER IS -AW- SICK!...
HE WILL EXPLAIN

DOCTOR ORENS LIVED NEARBY...

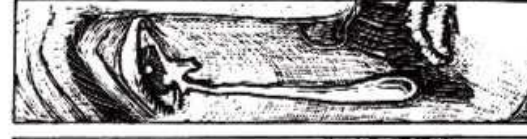


SIT DOWN ARTHUR... I
THOUGHT I SHOULD BE
THE ONE TO TELL YOU...



YOUR MOTHER KILLED HER-
SELF -SHE'S DEAD!

I COULD AVOID THE TRUTH NO LONGER - THE DOCTOR'S WORDS CLATTERED INSIDE
ME... I FELT CONFUSED, I FELT ANGRY, I FELT NUMB! ... I DIDN'T EXACTLY FEEL
LIKE CRYING, BUT FIGURED I SHOULD! ...



NOW, NOW, BOY...

NO, LET HIM
CRY... IT'S GOOD
FOR HIM!

WE WENT HOME... MY FATHER HAD COM-
PLETELY FALLEN APART! ...



OK! ARTIE! WHY? WHY?
SUCH A TRAGEDY! AND
NOT EVEN A NOTE!!!

I WAS EXPECTED TO
COMFORT **HIM!**



MOTHER...
MOTHER...

SOMEHOW THE FUNERAL ARRANGE-
MENTS WERE MADE...



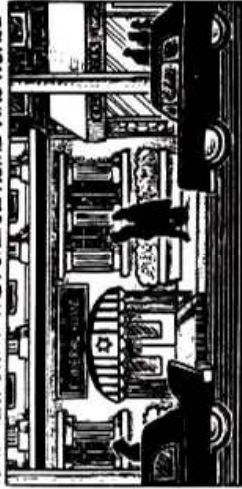
...AND FOR \$950⁰⁰ WE HAVE A
BRONZE CASKET WITH BRONZE-
COLORED VELVET... OF COURSE,
FOR \$2,000⁰⁰ WE CAN...

PROTECT
WHAT YOU
HAVE

THAT NIGHT WAS BAD... MY FATHER INSISTED WE SLEEP ON THE FLOOR- AN OLD JEWISH CUSTOM, I GUESS. HE HELD ME AND MOANED TO HIMSELF ALL NIGHT. I WAS UNCOMFORTABLE... WE WERE SCARED!



THE NEXT DAY AT THE FUNERAL HOME WAS WORSE...



עומד רחוק
יחזיק את
הקופה

MY FATHER FOUGHT FOR SELF-CONTROL AND PRAY I WAS PRETTY SPICED OUT IN THOSE DAYS - I RAN TO MY MOTHER FROM THE TIBETAN BOOK OF THE DEAD...

TO NOBLY BORN... IN YOUR JOURNEY THROUGH THE LESS VOID REMEMBER UNITY OF ALL LIVING THINGS...



IT WAS TOO MUCH - I HAD TO LEAVE...



A FRIEND OF THE FAMILY FOUND ME OUT IN THE HALL....



NOW YOU CRY! BETTER YOU CRIED WHEN YOUR MOTHER WAS STILL ALIVE!

I FELT NAUSEOUS ... THE GUILT WAS OVERWHELMING!



THE NEXT WEEK WE SPENT IN MOURNING... MY FATHER'S FRIENDS ALL OFFERED ME HOSTILITY MIXED IN WITH THEIR CONDO- LENCES...



ARTHUR-WE'RE SO SORRY...

IT'S HIS FAULT- THE PUNK!

THEY THINK IT'S MY FAULT!!

SHE CAME INTO MY ROOM... IT WAS LATE AT NIGHT ...



...ARTIE ... YOU ... STILL ... LOVE ... ME ... DON'T YOU? ...

...BUT, FOR THE MOST PART, I WAS LEFT ALONE WITH MY THOUGHTS ...



...I TURNED AWAY, RESENTFUL OF THE WAY SHE TIGHTENED THE UMBILICAL CORD ...



SURE, MA!

I REMEMBERED THE LAST TIME I SAW HER--



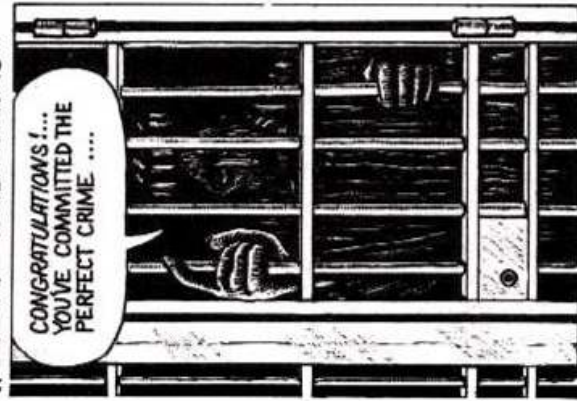
... ARTIE ...



...SHE WALKED OUT AND CLOSED THE DOOR!

CLIK!

WELL, MOM, IF YOU'RE LISTENING ...



CONGRATULATIONS! ... YOU'VE COMMITTED THE PERFECT CRIME ...

...YOU PUT ME HERE ... SHORTED ALL MY CIRCUITS...CUT MY NERVE ENDINGS ...AND CROSSED MY WIRES! ...



...YOU MURDERED ME, MOMMY, AND YOU LEFT ME HERE TO TAKE THE RAP!!!

PIPE DOWN, MAC! SOME OF US ARE TRYING TO SLEEP!



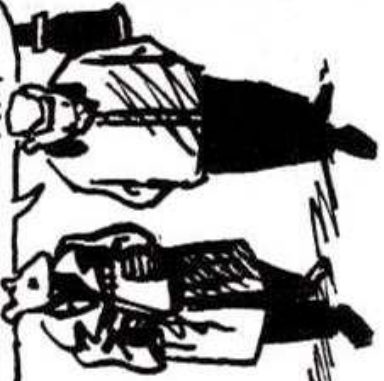




EACH DAY WE WERE TAKEN TO SOŚNOWIEŁ, TO WORK IN GERMAN "SHOPS"...

ANJA, WITH HER SISTER, TOSHA, THEY WORKED IN A CLOTHING'S FACTORY...

AND I WENT, TOGETHER, WITH MY NEPHEW, LOLEK, TO A WOODWORK SHOP.



EVERY DAY THE GUARDS MARCHED US ABOUT AN HOUR AND A HALF TO WORK.



THE GUARDS, IT WAS JEWS WITH BIG STICKS. THEY ACTED SO, JUST LIKE THE GERMANS.

...AND EVERY NIGHT THEY MARCHED US BACK, COUNTED US, AND LOCKED US IN.

VLADÉK! LOLEK! HURRY HOME!

ANJA:
WHAT
IS IT?



WOLFE'S UNCLE PERSIS IS AT OUR HOUSE!

FROM ZAWIERCIE?

YES. HE'S A BIG SHOT THERE...THE
HEAD OF THEIR JEWISH COUNCIL.

HE WANTS WOLFE, TOSHA AND BIBI
TO GO LIVE WITH HIM IN ZAWIERCIE.





SO PERSIS ARRANGED, AND HE CAME AGAIN TO SRODULA.



IT WENT WITH HIM WOLFE, TOSHA AND BIBI

HOLEK'S LITTLE SISTER, LONIA

AND OUR BOY, RICHIEU.

WE WATCHED UNTIL THEY DISAPPEARED FROM OUR EYES...



IT WAS THE LAST TIME EVER WE SAW THEM; BUT THAT WE COULDN'T KNOW.

WHEN THINGS CAME WORSE IN OUR GHETTO WE SAID ALWAYS: "THANK GOD THE KIDS ARE WITH PERSIS, SAFE"



THAT SPRING, ON ONE DAY, THE GERMAN'S TOOK FROM SRODULA TO AUSCHWITZ OVER 1,000 PEOPLE.



MOST THEY TOOK WERE KIDS - SOME ONLY 2 OR 3 YEARS.



SOME KIDS WERE SCREAMING AND SCREAMING. THEY COULDN'T STOP.

SO THE GERMAN'S SWINGED THEM BY THE LEGS AGAINST A WALL...



AND THEY NEVER ANYMORE SCREAMED.

IN THIS WAY THE GERMAN'S TREATED THE LITTLE ONES WHAT STILL HAD SURVIVED A LITTLE.



THIS I DIDN'T SEE WITH MY OWN EYES, BUT SOMEBODY THE NEXT DAY TOLD ME. AND I SAID, "THANK GOD WITH PERSIS OUR CHILDREN ARE SAFE!"

SO, WHAT HAPPENED TO RICHIEU?
ACH! OUR BEAUTIFUL BOY. WE ONLY FOUND OUT MUCH LATER.



A FEW MONTHS AFTER WE SENT RICHIEU TO ZAWIERCIE, THE GERMAN'S DECIDED THEY WOULD FINISH OUT THAT GHETTO.

BANG
BANG

MORE GUNSHOTS!
WHAT'S GOING ON?

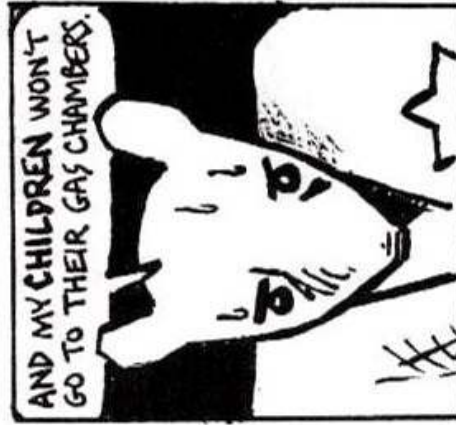
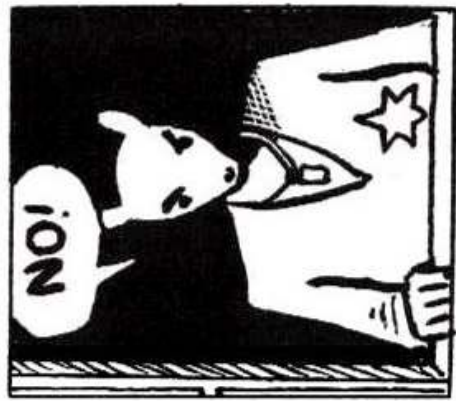


IT'S HORRIBLE,
TOSHA!...

ALL THE GESTAPO IN THE GHETTO HAVE BEEN REPLACED BY OTHERS FROM OPOLE. THEY JUST SHOT PERSIS AND THE REST OF THE JEWISH COUNCIL!...



THEY'RE EVACUATING ZAWIERCIE. WE'RE ALL SUPPOSED TO GO TO THE SQUARE WITH OUR BAGGAGE RIGHT AWAY. THEY'RE SENDING ALL OF US OUT - TO AUSCHWITZ!



I WON'T GO TO THEIR GAS CHAMBERS!...

AND MY CHILDREN WON'T GO TO THEIR GAS CHAMBERS.



ALWAYS TOSHA CARRIED AROUND HER NECK SOME POISON... SHE KILLED NOT ONLY HERSELF, BUT ALSO THE 3 CHILDREN.

DID
TOSHA'S
HUSBAND
SURVIVE?



HARDLY ANY SURVIVED.
BUT THESE THINGS WE
LEARNED ONLY MUCH
LATER. IN OUR BUNKERS
WE HEARD ONLY RUMORS.



YOUR
'BUNKERS?'



THE GERMANS STARTED
TO GRAB OUT ANYBODY,
IF HE HAD PAPERS OR NO.



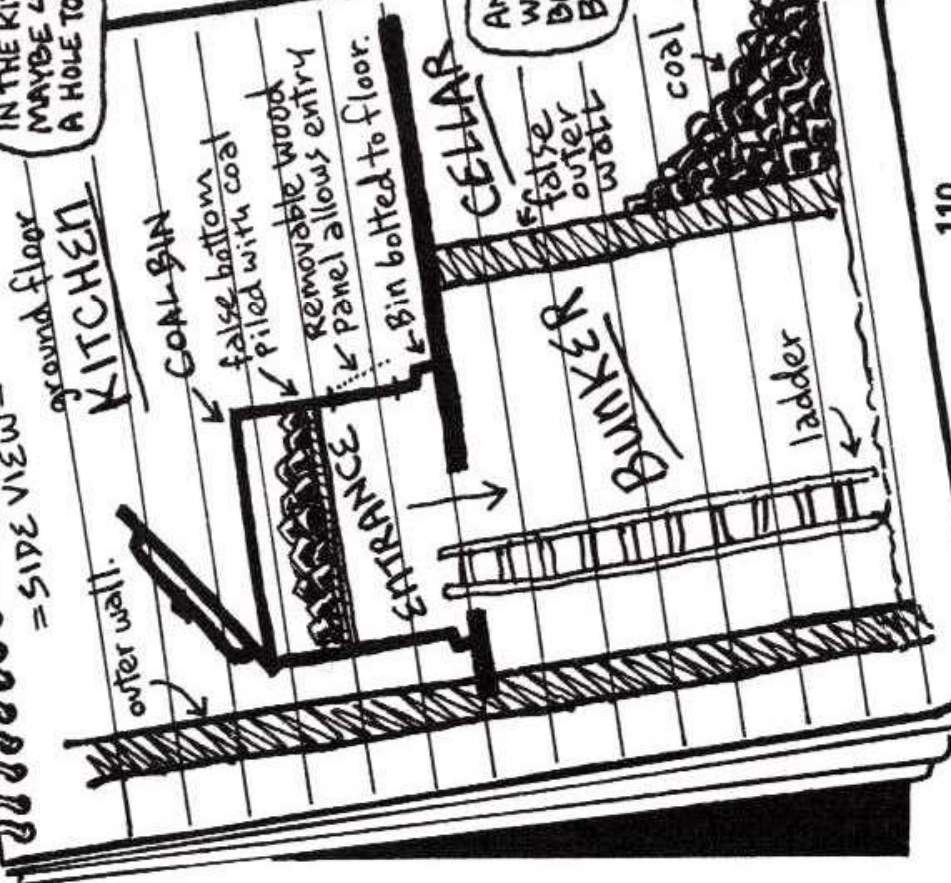
THEREFORE I ARRANGED
FOR US A VERY GOOD HID-
ING SPOT-IN OUR CELLAR,
WHERE IT WAS COAL STORAGE.



SHOW TO ME YOUR PENCIL
AND I CAN EXPLAIN YOU."
SUCH THINGS IT'S GOOD TO
KNOW EXACTLY HOW WAS
IT - JUST IN CASE ...



~~~~~  
= SIDE VIEW =



IN THE KITCHEN WAS A COAL CABINET  
MAYBE 4 FOOT WIDE, INSIDE I MADE  
A HOLE TO GO DOWN TO THE CELLAR.



AND THERE WE MADE A BRICK  
WALL FILLED HIGH WITH COAL,  
BEHIND THIS WALL WE COULD  
BE A LITTLE SAFE.



EVEN WHEN THEY CAME WITH DOGS TO SMELL US OUT - AND THEY KNEW THAT JEWS ARE LAYING HERE - BUT STILL THEY COULDN'T FIND.



THE DOGS RAN UP AND DOWN LIKE MAD. BUT IN THE COAL BIN WAS ONLY COAL. IT LOOKED FULL AND THEY COULDN'T LIFT IT. AND THE CELLAR, IT WAS ONLY A CELLAR.

IS IT SAFE TO GO OUT YET? I CAN'T STAND ALL THESE WORMS CRAWLING OVER ME.



WE HAD WORMS THERE IN THAT BUNKER.

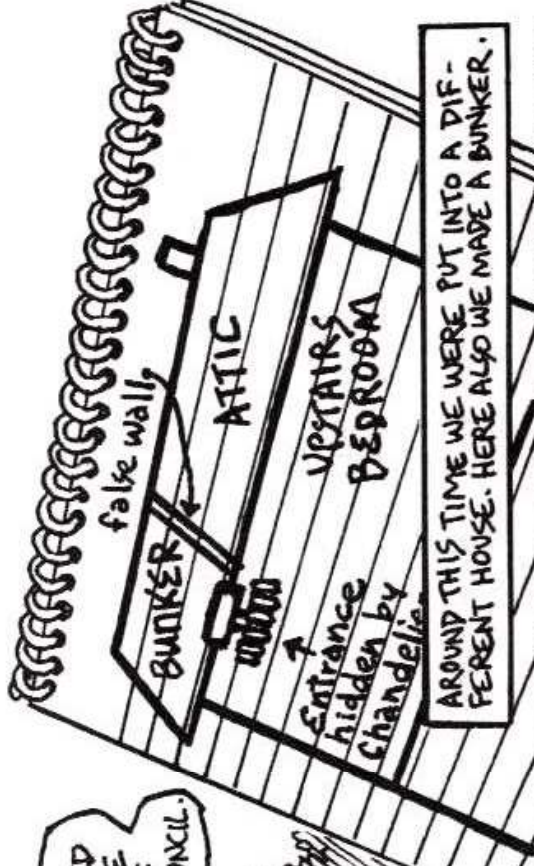
WE'VE GOT ENOUGH FOOD TO STAY HERE A COUPLE OF DAYS. WE'D BETTER WAIT 'TIL THINGS GET QUIET DOWN.



WE SURVIVED THERE A FEW ACTIONS. BUT OTHERS, WHAT DIDN'T HAVE SUCH A GOOD PLACE LIKE WHAT I MADE, THEY KEPT BEING TAKEN AWAY.



THEN, IN JUNE, THEY ARRESTED MONIEK MERIN AND ALL THE OTHER HIGHEST BIG SHOTS OF THE JUDENRAT, THE JEWISH COUNCIL.



AROUND THIS TIME WE WERE PUT INTO A DIFFERENT HOUSE. HERE ALSO WE MADE A BUNKER.

BY THE END OF JULY THE NAZIS MADE TO LIQUIDATE COMPLETELY OUR GHETTO - IT WAS 10,000 JEWS TAKEN AWAY IN ONE WEEK.



EXCEPT TO SNEAK FOR FOOD, WE STAYED MOSTLY IN THE BUNKER.



LOLEK! THANK GOD YOU'RE SAFE!

IT'S LIKE A BATTLEFIELD OUTSIDE!



THERE'S HARDLY ANYONE LEFT IN SRODULA. EVERYONE HAS BEEN DEPORTED OR SHOT.

FROM ALL THE JEWS OF ALL SOSNOWIEC IT WAS LEFT MAYBE 1,000 IN THE GHETTO.



AT LEAST YOUR BAG IS FULL... YOU FOUND A LOT OF FOOD, YES?

JUST A FEW OLD TURNIPS... AND SOME BOOKS.



BOOKS!? WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH YOU? WE CAN'T EAT BOOKS!

SHH

ALL THE TIME WE WERE HUNGRY. WE JUST DIDN'T HAVE WHAT TO EAT.

ONE NIGHT WE WENT TO SNEAK FOR FOOD...



WE DRAGGED HIM UP TO OUR BUNKER



MY WIFE AND I HAVE A STARVING BABY. I WAS OUT HUNTING FOR SCRAPS!



IN THE MORNING WE GAVE A LITTLE FOOD TO HIM AND LEFT HIM GO TO HIS FAMILY...



HE MAY BE AN INFORMER. THE SAFEST THING WOULD BE TO KILL HIM!



...THE GESTAPO CAME THAT AFTERNOON.





WE WERE MAYBE 200 PEOPLE TOGETHER WAITING... EACH WEDNESDAY WENT VANS TO AUSCHWITZ. WHEN WE WERE CAUGHT, IT WAS THEN MAYBE A THURSDAY.

LOOK, ANJA! THAT'S MY COUSIN, JAKOV SPIEGELMAN, IN THE COURTYARD.



HEY! JAKOV! HELP! JAKOV-HELP US!

VLADEK?! THERE'S NOTHING I CAN DO!



I MADE SIGNS TO SHOW I COULD PAY.

SOME GOLD I HID IN THE CHIMNEY OF OUR BUNKER WHEN THEY TOOK US, BUT A FEW VALUABLES I HAD STILL WITH ME.



OKAY. DON'T WORRY! HASHEL WILL COME HELP YOU!

HASHEL SPIEGELMAN WAS ANOTHER COUSIN.



WOULDN'T THEY HAVE HELPED YOU EVEN IF YOU COULDN'T PAY? I MEAN, YOU WERE FROM THE SAME FAMILY..

HAH! YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND...



AT THAT TIME IT WASN'T ANYMORE FAMILIES. IT WAS EVERYBODY TO TAKE CARE FOR HIMSELF!

THE NEXT DAY CAME IN TWO GIRLS CARRYING FOOD, WITH THEM CAME HASKEL, A CHIEF OF THE JEWISH POLICE.

(LOOK, VLADEK. I CAN GET YOU AND YOUR WIFE OUT-EVEN YOUR NEPHEW. BUT YOUR IN-LAWS ARE TOO OLD. THEY'LL NEVER GET PAST THE GUARDS.)

PLEASE! WE'LL MAKE IT WORTH YOUR WHILE.



FROM THE WINDOW WE SAW LOLEK GO.

MY GOD, VLADEK ...



YOU MUST GET MATKA AND ME OUT TOO. GIVE YOUR COUSIN THIS GOLD WATCH, THIS DIAMOND-ANYTHING!

OF COURSE I-I'LL DO EVERYTHING I CAN.



THE DAY AFTER, ANJA AND I CARRIED PAST THE GUARDS THE EMPTY PAILS.

HASKEL TOOK FROM ME FATHER-IN-LAW'S JEWELS. BUT FINALLY, HE DIDN'T HELP THEM.



THE TWO GIRLS HE SENT BACK TO THE KITCHEN.

QUICK, BOY, GRAB THIS EMPTY PAIL AND CARRY IT OUT WITH ME.



ON WEDNESDAY THE VANS CAME. ANJA AND I SAW HER FATHER AT THE WINDOW. HE WAS TEARING HIS HAIR AND CRYING.



HE WAS A MILLIONAIRE, BUT EVEN THIS DIDN'T SAVE HIM HIS LIFE.





HASKEL HAD 2 BROTHERS, PESACH AND MILOCH. PESACH WAS ALSO A KOMBINATOR. BUT MILOCH, HE WAS A FINE FELLOW.





HASKEL IS ALIVE STILL IN POLAND, WITH A POLISH WOMAN, A JUDGE, WHAT KEPT HIM HIDDEN WHEN HYAAK!



MY HEART - ARTIE! QUICK! TAKE FROM MY POCKET A NITROSTAT PILL.



H-HERE... YOU OKAY?

HOOSH



I-I'll BE FINE NOW. I HAVE ONLY TO CATCH MY BREATH STILL FOR A MINUTE.

LET'S SIT ON THAT STOOP.



JUST RELAX. DON'T TALK FOR A WHILE.

HOOSH! I MADE TOO FAST, OUR WALKING!



THANK GOD, WITH THE NITROSTAT IT'S COMPLETELY OVER. RIGHT AWAY! WHAT WAS I TELLING YOU?

YOU SURE YOU'RE OKAY?



WELL... YOU WERE SAYING THAT HASKEL SURVIVED THE WAR.

YES. EVEN A FEW YEARS AGO I SENT HIM PACKAGES.



GIFTS? WHY? HE SOUNDS LIKE A ROTTEN GUY!

YES. I DON'T KNOW WHY. I KNOW ONLY THAT I SENT.



YOU KNOW, ONE TIME I WAS IN THE GHETTO WALKING AROUND...

HALT, JEW!



GIVE ME YOUR I.D. PERS. I'M GOING TO BLOW YOUR BRAINS OUT.



AH. I SEE YOU'RE A MEMBER OF THE ILLUSTRIOUS SPIEGELMAN FAMILY... GO ON YOUR WAY THEN, AND GIVE HASKEL MY REGARDS.

... SUCH FRIENDS HASKEL HAD.

I TOLD HASKEL AND MILUCH LATER ABOUT THIS.

YOU WERE VERY LUCKY, VLADEK...  
THEY CALL HIM "THE SHOOTER". EVERY DAY HE KILLS SOME POOR JEW, JUST FOR FUN.



HEY! AREN'T YOU GOING OVER TO PESACH'S TO BUY SOME CAKE?

CAKE?

FOR YEARS WE DIDN'T SEE ANY CAKE. HARDLY EVEN BREAD WE SAW!

IT'S IM-POSSIBLE! JOKING!

HE'S CAKE!



BUT COUSIN PESACH WAS REALLY SELLING CAKE! EVERYONE WHAT COULD AFFORD IT STOOD ON LINE TO BUY A PIECE...

IT LOOKS DELICIOUS.

HOW DID YOU MAN-AGE IT, PESACH?



WHEN PEOPLE ARE SENT TO AUSCHWITZ, MY MEN SEARCH THEIR HOUSES.



PESACH WAS LIKE HASKEL; PART OF THE JEWISH POLICE.

THEY FIND A LITTLE FLOUR HERE, A FEW GRAMS OF SUGAR THERE... I SAVED IT!



HE WAS YOUNGER, FROM HAS-KEL, BUT ALSO A "KOMBINATOR."

YOU KNOW WHAT A COOK MY RIFKA IS... TRY IT! ONLY 75 ZLOTYS A SLICE.



I HAD STILL SAVINGS, SO I GOT FOR ANJA AND ME SOME CAKE.

BUT, THE WHOLE GHETTO WE WERE SO SICK LATER, YOU CAN'T IMAGINE "



SOME OF THE FLOUR PESACH FOUND- IT WASN'T REALLY FLOUR, ONLY LAUNDRY SOAP, WHAT HE PUT IN THE CAKE BY MISTAKE.

OW! \* GROAN OY! \* OUCH! \*



...WE WERE, ALL OF US, SICK LIKE DOGS.



BEFORE THE WAR PESACH HAD A RESORT HOTEL IN ZAKOPANE ...

IN THOSE DAYS ALSO HE FOUND ALWAYS SCHEMES.

ALL GUESTS HAD TO PAY BIG POLISH TAXES ... SO PESACH TOOK BRIBES TO NOT REGISTER THEM.

BUT IF AN INSPECTOR CAME, THE GUESTS HAD TO HIDE THEMSELVES AWAY.

ONE TIME HIS WIFE MADE NOT ENOUGH DESSERTS TO GIVE TO EVERYBODY ...

SO PESACH RAN INTO THE DINING ROOM AND YELLED, "INSPECTORS ARE COMING!"

IT WAS NO INSPECTOR, OF COURSE, BUT 40% OF THE GUESTS RAN FAST FROM THE ROOM, ... PESACH HAD ENOUGH DESSERTS LEFT OVER EVEN FOR THE NEXT DAY!

COME.

ARE YOU READY TO WALK AGAIN?

YES, IT'S TOO DIRTY TO SIT! .. BUT, REALLY, IF I DIDN'T HAVE MY NITROSTAT, IT COULD HAVE BEEN JUST NOW SOMETHING TERRIBLE.

MILOCH SPIEGELMAN - HE SURVIVED THE WAR WITH HIS WIFE AND CHILD AND THEY MOVED TO AUSTRALIA. ABOUT FIVE YEARS AGO HE GOT A BIG HEART ATTACK ...

AND LAST YEAR, HE GOT ON THE STREET A SEIZURE - LIKE WHAT I HAD JUST NOW ... BUT HE DIDN'T HAVE WITH HIM HIS PILLS. HIS WIFE RAN TO FIND A DRUG STORE.

WHEN SHE CAME BACK MILOCH WAS DEAD!

NU? SO LIFE GOES.

BUT I MUST FINISH QUICK TO TELL YOU THE REST ABOUT SROPULA, BECAUSE WE WILL COME SOON OVER TO THE BANK.

BY THE END OF 1943 THE VANS WENT EVERY WEDNESDAY WITH MORE AND MORE AND MORE PEOPLE FROM SRODULA TO AUSCHWITZ UNTIL IT WAS VERY FEW LEFT.



IT COULD BE OUR TURN SOON, EH VLADK?

LET'S HOPE NOT, MILOCH.

HASKEL HEARD THAT ANY DAY NOW THEY INTEND TO DEPORT EVERYONE THAT'S STILL LEFT HERE.



MILOCH TOOK ME TO THE SHOE SHOP

...AND TOOK ME INSIDE A TUNNEL...

DON'T TELL ANYONE ABOUT THIS EXCEPT ANJA AND YOUR NEPHEW.



...A TUNNEL MADE FROM SHOES!

IT WAS EARLY AND NOBODY WAS THERE...

HASKEL MADE PLANS TO SMUGGLE HIMSELF OUT OF THE GHETTO.

PESACH AND I HAVE A PLAN ALSO...



WE MOVED A FEW SHOES FROM A PILE HIGH TO THE CEILING...

WE CAME OUT TO A BUNKER...

BE PREPARED TO BRING THEM ON A MOMENT'S NOTICE!

INCREDIBLE!



EVERYTHING WAS READY HERE SO 15 OR 16 PEOPLE COULD HIDE.

...BUT WHEN ANJA AND I APPROACHED  
TO DISCUSS THIS BUNKER WITH LOLEK...

NO THANKS,  
FORGET IT!

BUT MILOCH ORGA-  
NIZED EVERYTHING!



ALWAYS LOLEK WAS A LITTLE MESHUGA..."

I'M A SKILLED WORK-  
ER. WHEREVER THEY  
TAKE ME, I'LL BE OKAY.

YOU'RE CRAZY!  
YOU'RE GOING  
STRAIGHT TO  
THE OVENS!



AND HE DID GET PUT INTO ONE OF THE  
NEXT TRANSPORTS TO AUSCHWITZ.

OH GOD. LET  
ME DIE TOO!

COME,  
ANJA,  
GET UP!



NO, DARLING!  
TO DIE, IT'S EASY!"

BUT YOU HAVE  
TO STRUGGLE  
FOR LIFE!



I'M SICK  
OF HIDING!

OUR NEPHEW WAS THEN ONLY 15.  
HE WAS WORKING AS AN ELECTRICIAN.



ANJA BECAME COMPLETELY HYSTERICAL.

THE WHOLE FAMILY IS GONE!  
GRANDMA AND GRANDPA!  
POPPA! MOMMA! TOSHA!  
BIBI! MY RICHIEU!  
NOW THEY'LL TAKE LOLEK!



IT WAS ALSO AROUND THIS TIME THAT  
WE HEARD FIRST THE BAD NEWS FROM  
ZAWIERCIE-ABOUT TOSHIA AND RICHIEU.

WHY ARE YOU PULLING  
ME, VLADEK?  
LET ME ALONE!  
I DON'T WANT  
TO LIVE!



UNTIL THE LAST  
MOMENT WE MUST  
STRUGGLE TOGETHER!  
I NEED  
YOU!



AND YOU'LL SEE  
THAT TOGETHER  
WE'LL SURVIVE.



THIS ALWAYS  
I TOLD TO HER.

THE GHETTO FINISHED OUT SO LIKE MILOCH SAID. ABOUT TWELVE FROM US RAN INTO HIS BUNKER WITH HIM, HIS WIFE AND HIS THREE-YEAR-OLD BABY BOY.



WAAH!  
I'M HUNGRY!

GUTCHA, YOU'VE  
GOT TO KEEP  
THE BABY QUIET!

HUSH.

WE'LL HAVE TO KEEP HIM UNDER  
BLANKETS UNTIL HE CALMS DOWN.

IN A BUNKER IN ANOTHER PART FROM THE  
SHOE SHOP LAY PESACH AND SOME OTHERS.



IT WAS NOTHING TO DO ALL DAY  
BUT TO LIE AND TO STARVE.

THE WHOLE DAY AND NIGHT ANJA  
SAT WRITING INTO HER NOTEBOOK.



THERE! I'VE MANAGED TO  
DIG A SMALL HOLE  
IN THE STONE WALL.  
I CAN SEE SOLDIERS.

ALL AROUND WERE GUARDS TO  
FIND ANY WHO REMAINED HIDING.

WHAT LITTLE FOOD WE  
HAD, SOON IT WAS GONE.

OH... I WISH I HAD SOME  
BREAD... I WISH I HAD  
SOME BREAD... I WISH-

QUIET! WE'RE  
ALL STARVING!

AT NIGHT WE SNEAKED OUT  
TO LOOK FOR WHAT TO EAT...  
BUT IT WAS NOTHING TO FIND.

HERE, ANJA -  
CHEW ON THIS.

YOU  
FOUND  
FOOD?

NEVER ANY OF US HAD BEEN  
SO HUNGRY LIKE THEN.

NO, IT'S ONLY WOOD.

BUT CHEWING IT FEELS A  
LITTLE LIKE EATING FOOD.



AFTER A TIME PESACH CAME OVER TO US FROM HIS BUNKER...

MAYBE YOU FOOLS ARE WILLING TO LIE HERE UNTIL YOU STARVE TO DEATH - BUT NOT ME!...



I'VE CONTACTED ONE OF THE GUARDS.

IT'LL COST A FORTUNE, BUT HE'S AGREED TO LOOK THE OTHER WAY.



OUR GROUP WILL MIX IN WITH THE POLES WHEN THEY WALK PAST PROPOLA ON THE WAY TO WORK TOMORROW... IF YOU WANT TO CHIP IN YOU CAN COME WITH US.

MANY FROM OUR BUNKER SAID YES.

MILOCH AND I, WE SAID NO TO THIS IDEA. WE DIDN'T TRUST TO THE GERMAN'S. ONE GUY FROM OUR BUNKER, AVRAM, CAME TO ME.

HE SAID, "TELL ME WHEN YOU WILL GO OUT, VLADEK. THEN I'LL KNOW IT'S SAFE." HE AND HIS GIRLFRIEND WANTED TO PAY ME TO ADVISE.

THEY HAD STILL 2 WATCHES AND SOME DIAMOND RINGS. I DIDN'T WANT TO TAKE. THEY NEEDED THESE TO LIVE.

SO I TOOK ONLY THE SMALL WATCH.



THE NEXT MORNING, VERY EARLY, THE GROUP WALKED OUT.

I STOOD, SECRET, BEHIND A CORNER. I HEARD LOUD SHOOTING, AND I DIDN'T GO TO SEE WHAT HAPPENED...



THEY GAVE OVER THE MONEY AND WENT PAST THE GUARD.



I ONLY RAN VERY FAST BACK TO OUR BUNKER.

ONLY A FEW OF US REMAINED.

THERE HAVEN'T BEEN ANY LIGHTS ON IN THE GUARD-HOUSE FOR TWO NIGHTS...

I THINK IT'S SAFE.

A LITTLE BEFORE DAWN WE WENT OUT FROM SRODULA...

THEY'RE ALL GONE!

WHEW

THE GHETTO IS EMPTY!

AHEAD OF TIME WE ORGANIZED OURSELVES GOOD CLOTHES AND I.D. PAPERS.

WE MIXED WITH THE POLES GOING TO WORK.

WE'LL BE HIDING AT THIS ADDRESS. WHEN YOU FIND A SAFE PLACE, TRY TO CONTACT US, VLAPEK.

GOOD LUCK, MILOCH.

WE WENT ALL IN DIFFERENT DIRECTIONS.

ANJA AND I DIDN'T HAVE WHERE TO GO.

WE WALKED IN THE DIRECTION OF SOSNOWIEC - BUT WHERE TO GO?!

THAT GUY, AVRAM, HIS WOMAN HAD FRIENDS TO KEEP THEM.

AND THE FRIENDS KEPT THEM... UNTIL AVRAM'S MONEY FINISHED. THEN THEY WERE REPORTED.

IT WAS NOWHERE WE HAD TO HIDE.

CAN I HELP YOU, MR. SPIEGELMAN?

YES, I HAVE HERE MY SON, ARTIE. I WANT TO SIGN HIM A KEY, SO HE CAN GO ALSO TO MY SAFETY BOX.







C · H · A · P · T · E · R · S · I · X



Another visit...



WHAT  
NOW?



WELL ...  
HE HASN'T  
CHANGED...



I FEEL LIKE I'M  
GOING TO **BURST!**













JANINA LIVES OVER THERE.

RICHIEU'S GOVERNESS ALWAYS OFFERED SHE WOULD HELP US.



MY GOD! IT'S THE SPIEGELMANS!

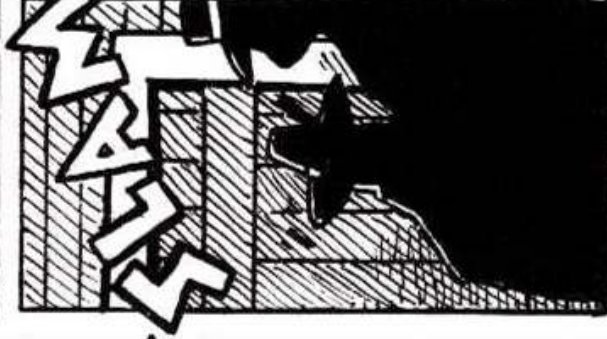
YOU'LL BRING TROUBLE! GO AWAY! QUICKLY!



WE CAME TO HER HOUSE NEAR TOWN...

OPEN UP, JANINA! QUICK!

W-WHO'S THERE?



I'M FRIGHTENED, VLADEK.



MAYBE WE SHOULD TRY MY FATHER'S OLD HOUSE. THE JANITOR HAS KNOWN OUR FAMILY FOR YEARS.

LET'S TRY. WE'VE GOT TO GET OFF THE STREETS BEFORE DAWN!

I WAS A LITTLE SAFE. I HAD A COAT AND BOOTS, SO LIKE A GESTAPO WORE WHEN HE WAS NOT IN SERVICE. BUT ANJA-HER APPEARANCE- YOU COULD SEE MORE EASY SHE WAS JEWISH. I WAS AFRAID FOR HER.



WAKE UP, MR. LUKOWSKI. LET US IN. PLEASE!!

HUH? W-WHO IS IT?



ANJA! ANJA ZYLBERG!



WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE, CHILD? IT ISN'T SAFE. WAIT- I'LL UNLOCK THE GATE.







BEHIND ME ALSO WALKED SLOW.



BEHIND ME ALSO WALKED FAST.



AMCHA?

IN HEBREW HE SAID TO ME, "OUR NATION?"



A-AMCHA.

I THOUGHT YOU WERE A JEW.



"I'M JEWISH TOO! THERE ARE VERY FEW OF US LEFT..."



MY WIFE AND I HAVE BEEN HIDING IN SOŚNOWIEC FOR OVER A YEAR.

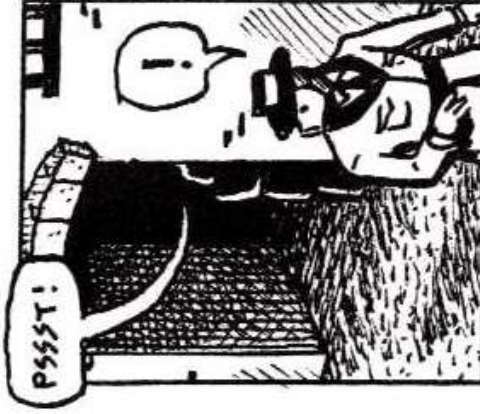


GO TO THE BLACK MARKET ON DEKERTA STREET, NUMBER 8.

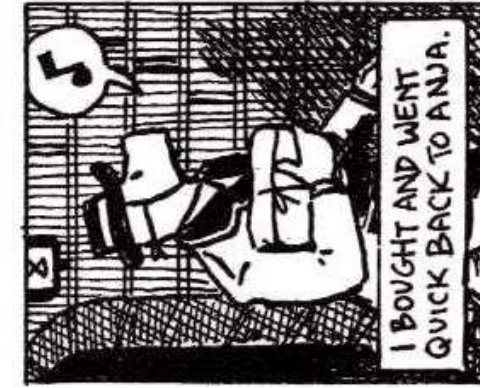


SO I LEFT HIM AND WENT RIGHT AWAY TO DEKERTA 8. THERE IT WAS A BIG COURTYARD...

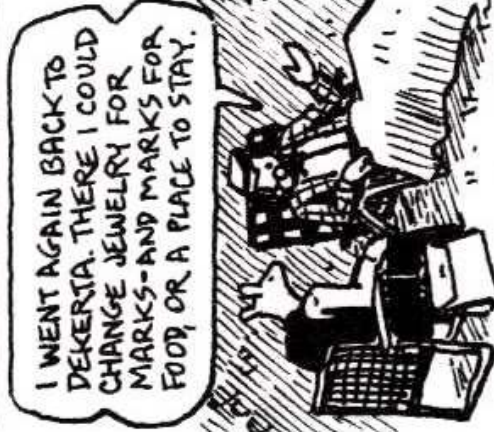
ALL AROUND I LOOKED, BUT IT WAS NOBODY.



SHE SHOWED TO ME SAUSAGES, EGGS, CHEESE... THINGS I ONLY WAS ABLE TO DREAM ABOUT.



I BOUGHT AND WENT QUICK BACK TO ANJA.



THIS TIME IT WAS MORE PEOPLE... THERE EVEN, I SAW SOME JEWISH BOYS I KNEW FROM BEFORE THE WAR.





IT'S ALMOST DAWN - WHEN MRS KAWKA COMES TO MILK HER COW, SHE'LL BRING YOU SOME COFFEE.

WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

TO DEKERTA.

AND SO WE CAME THERE TO LIVE WITH KAWKA'S COW.



DON'T LEAVE ME ALONE AGAIN. I'M TERRIFIED WHILE YOU'RE GONE.



DON'T WORRY, ANJA. I'LL BE SAFE. IF I DIDN'T GO OUT WE WOULDN'T HAVE FOOD... WE WOULDN'T HAVE THIS PLACE!...



AND WE'VE GOT TO FIND A WARMER PLACE FOR THE WINTER... AWAY FROM SOSNOWIEC IF POSSIBLE...

I-I'LL BE OKAY. COME BACK QUICK.

I TRAVELED OFTEN WITH THE STREETCAR TO TOWN.



IT WAS TWO CARS. ONE WAS ONLY GERMANS AND OFFICIALS. THE SECOND, IT WAS ONLY THE POLES.

ALWAYS I WENT STRAIGHT IN THE OFFICIAL CAR...



HEIL HITLER.



THE GERMANS PAID NO ATTENTION OF ME... IN THE POLISH CAR THEY COULD SMELL IF A POLISH JEW CAME IN.

AT THE BLACK MARKET I SAW SEVERAL TIMES A NICE WOMAN, WHAT I MADE A LITTLE FRIENDS WITH HER...

GOOD MORNING, MR. SPIEGELMAN.



HOW DO YOU DO, MRS. MOTONOWA! WHAT DO YOU HAVE IN YOUR BASKET TODAY?

OH, I'M SORRY... I DON'T HAVE ANY CHANGE.

IT'S OKAY... KEEP IT FOR YOUR LITTLE BOY.



ARE YOU AND YOUR WIFE STILL LIVING IN A BARN?

WE HAVEN'T FOUND ANYTHING BETTER.

I'VE BEEN THINKING ABOUT IT... WHY DON'T YOU BOTH MOVE IN WITH MY SON AND ME?



WHAT ABOUT YOUR HUSBAND?

HE WORKS IN GERMANY, AND ONLY COMES HOME FOR 10 DAYS EVERY 3 MONTHS... I'LL KEEP YOU HIDDEN IN THE CELLAR WHEN HE'S AROUND.



IT SOUNDS GOOD TO ME, BUT IT'S OVER 20 KILOMETERS TO YOUR HOUSE IN SZOPIENICE.

MY WIFE WILL BE AFRAID TO GO!

CORT YOU!



THE NEXT EVENING SHE CAME WITH HER 7-YEAR-OLD BOY TO KAWKA'S FARMHOUSE...



I WALKED WITH MOTONOWA AS IF SHE WAS MY WIFE.

AND ANJA, LIKE A GOVERNESS, WENT WITH THE LITTLE BOY BEHIND. AND NOBODY EVEN LOOKED ON US.

WE HAD HERE A LITTLE COMFORTABLE... WE HAD WHERE TO SIT.

REMEMBER, LITTLE ONE - NEVER TELL ANYBODY THERE ARE JEWS HERE. THEY'LL SHOOT US ALL!

YES, AUNT ANJA.

THE LITTLE BOY WAS VERY SMART AND HE LOVED VERY MUCH ANJA.

"... I PAID ALSO FOR THE FOOD WHAT SHE GAVE TO US FROM HER SMUGGLING BUSINESS.

BUT, ONE TIME I MISSED A FEW COINS TO THE BREAD...

I'LL PAY YOU THE REST TOMORROW, AFTER I GO OUT AND CASH SOME VALUABLES.

SORRY... I WASN'T ABLE TO FIND ANY BREAD TODAY.

ALWAYS SHE GOT BREAD, SO I DIDN'T BELIEVE... BUT, STILL, SHE WAS A GOOD WOMAN.

IN HIS SCHOOL THE BOY WAS VERY BAD IN GERMAN. SO ANJA TUTORED TO HIM.

ICH BIN...  
DU BIST...  
ER IST...

SHE KNEW GERMAN LIKE AN EXPERT.

AND SOON HE CAME OUT WITH VERY GOOD GRADES.

MY TEACHER ASKED ME HOW I IMPROVED SO MUCH...

SO I TOLD HIM MY MOTHER WAS HELPING ME.

WHEW

HE WAS REALLY A CLEVER BOY.

YOU HAD TO PAY MRS. MOTO-NOWA TO KEEP YOU, RIGHT?

OF COURSE I PAID... AND WELL I PAID.

"...WHAT YOU THINK? SOMEONE WILL RISK THEIR LIFE FOR NOTHING?"

BUT IT WAS A FEW THINGS HERE NOT SO GOOD... HER HOME WAS VERY SMALL AND IT WAS ON THE GROUND FLOOR "

"BE SURE TO KEEP AWAY FROM THE WINDOW— YOU MIGHT BE SEEN!"



IF SOMEBODY CAME, WE HAD FAST TO HIDE,

A LETTER FROM YOUR HUSBAND, MRS. MOTONOWA.

THANKS.



BUT I HAD SOMETHING ALLERGIC IN THE CLOSET.

AHH!



OR MAYBE IT WAS A COLD—I CAN'T REMEMBER."

-CHME

BUT ALWAYS I HAD TO SNEEZE.



STILL, EVERYTHING HERE WAS FINE, UNTIL ONE SATURDAY MOTONOWA RAN VERY EARLY BACK FROM HER BLACK MARKET WORK...

THIS IS TERRIBLE!

THE GESTAPO JUST SEARCHED ME—THEY TOOK MY GOODS!



ANJA STARTED TO CRY... BUT WE HAD NOT A CHOICE.



WE'LL WALK TOWARD SOS-  
NOWIEC - AT LEAST WE'LL  
KNOW OUR WAY AROUND.

ANNA WAS SO  
AFRAID SHE  
WAS SHAKING.



STAY CALM - WALK AS IF WE'RE JUST  
STROLLING ... AND SPEAK GERMAN.

FOR HOURS  
WE WALKED,



B-BESUCHEN WIR  
DOCH FRAU KAWKA.

GUTE IDEE.

VLADEK-WERE  
BEING FOLLOWED.

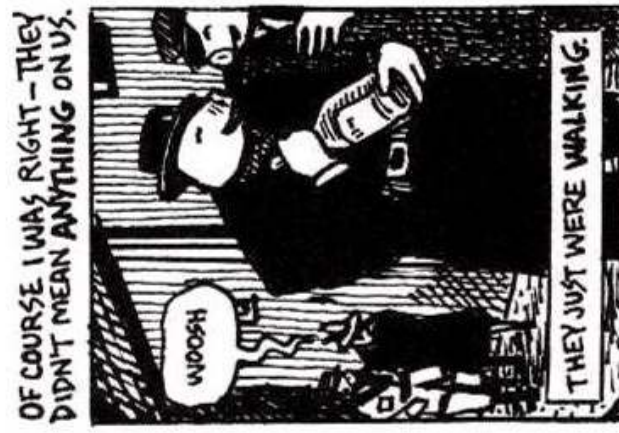
RELAX



ES IST KALT.

JA.  
JA.

BUT IF WE TURNED A COR-  
NER, THEY ALSO TURNED.



WOOSH

THEY JUST WERE WALKING.



STAYING ON THE STREET ALL  
NIGHT IS TOO DANGEROUS...  
MAYBE WE CAN HIDE IN  
THAT CONSTRUCTION SITE.

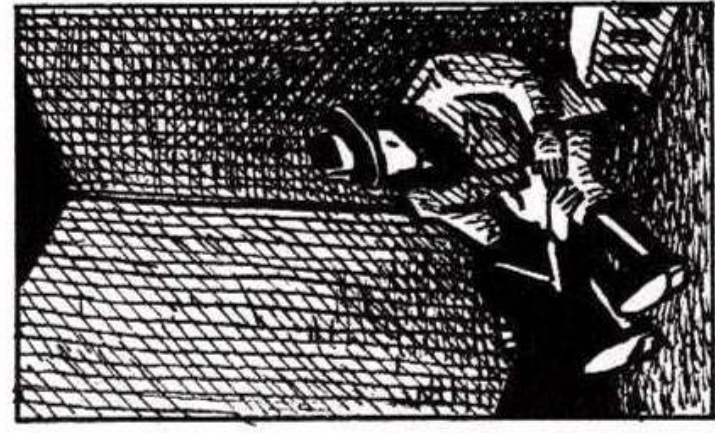
GOOD - I'M  
EXHAUSTED.



HERE WAS A FOUNDATION MADE  
VERY DEEP DOWN IN THE GROUND.

BE  
CAREFUL!

I JUMPED FIRST IN, AND I  
PULLED OVER BRICKS FOR  
ANJA TO STEP DOWN.



AND HERE WE WAITED A  
COLD FEW HOURS FOR THE DAY.



IT STARTED TO BE LIGHT...

COME. WE WON'T BE NOTICED IF WE MIX WITH PEOPLE OUT ON THE STREET.

I'M SO TIRED AND COLD...

WE CAN REST NOW.

WE CAME FINALLY AGAIN TO THIS PLACE WITH THE COW AND WENT INSIDE.

LATER, KAWKA CAME IN...

W-WHO'S IN HERE?

THE SPIEGELMANS... WE HAD NOWHERE ELSE TO GO.

WELL... I GUESS YOU CAN STAY. BUT, REMEMBER: I DON'T KNOW YOU'RE HERE!

WHY, MRS. SPIEGELMAN, YOU'RE SHIVERING! YOU CAN COME INTO MY HOUSE FOR AN HOUR OR SO, 'TIL YOU WARM UP.

SHE TOOK ANJA INSIDE AND BROUGHT TO ME SOME FOOD... IN THOSE DAYS I WAS SO STRONG I COULD SIT EVEN IN THE SNOW ALL NIGHT...

THINGS CAN'T BE THIS BAD EVERYWHERE! I'D GIVE ANYTHING TO GET OUT OF POLAND!

YOU KNOW, BEFORE I TOOK YOU IN, I HAD A YOUNG MAN AND HIS SON HERE...

TWO PEOPLE I KNOW SMUGGLED THEM INTO HUNGARY. I HEARD HE AND HIS BOY WERE DOING WELL THERE.

HUNGARY! REALLY?! I'D LIKE TO MEET THOSE SMUGGLERS!

SHE TOLD ME THESE TWO  
ACQUAINTANCES VISITED  
OFTEN TO HER ON THURS-  
DAY EVENINGS... TODAY  
WAS MAYBE A MONDAY...

I DON'T GET IT...  
WASN'T HUNGARY  
AS DANGEROUS  
AS POLAND?

NO. FOR A LONGER TIME IT WAS BETTER  
THERE IN HUNGARY FOR THE JEWS...  
BUT THEN, NEAR THE VERY FINISH OF THE  
WAR, THEY ALL GOT PUT ALSO TO AUSCHWITZ.



I WAS THERE, AND I SAW IT.  
THOUSANDS - HUNDREDS OF  
THOUSANDS OF JEWS FROM  
HUNGARY...

SO MANY, IT WASN'T EVEN  
ROOM ENOUGH TO BURY  
THEM ALL IN THE OVENS.

BUT AT THAT TIME, WHEN  
I WAS THERE WITH KAWKA,  
WE COULDN'T KNOW THEN.



SO... I WENT NEXT DAY TO DEKERTA STREET TO BUY FOOD...

OH GOD! OH GOD! MR. SPIEGELMAN,  
YOU'RE ALIVE! I'M SO GLAD TO SEE YOU!

MRS. MOTO-  
NOWA!



I WANTED TO FIND A NEW CONNECTION TO HIDE US.  
BUT REALLY I DIDN'T THINK TO FIND AGAIN HER.

PRAISE MARY. YOU'RE SAFE!  
I COULDN'T SLEEP, I FELT  
SO GUILTY ABOUT CHASING  
YOU AND YOUR WIFE OUT.



THE GESTAPO NEVER EVEN  
CAME TO MY HOUSE. I JUST  
PANICKED FOR NOTHING.  
PLEASE COME BACK AGAIN.



ANJA WAS GLAD  
OF GOING BACK.  
AND MOTONOWA  
ALSO... ALWAYS I  
PAID HER NICELY.



AND THAT SAME NIGHT WE  
SAID GOODBYE TO KAWKA AND  
WENT AGAIN TO SZOPIENICE.



AFTER WE WERE BACK ONLY A SHORT TIME...

WELL, MY HUSBAND WRITES THAT HE'S COMING HOME FOR HIS 10-DAY VACATION,



IF HE KNEW YOU WERE HERE HE'D THROW US ALL OUT. BUT, DON'T WORRY... YOU'LL BE ALL RIGHT IN MY CELLAR.



... I SET UP A MATTRESS... I'LL COME DOWN WHENEVER I CAN.



SO EACH DAY AND NIGHT WE SAT IN SUCH A STORAGE LOCKER...



IN THE DAYS WE WERE AFRAID TO BREATHE - PEOPLE CAME DOWN OFTEN TO THEIR LOCKERS.

AT NIGHT WE COULD MOVE AROUND A LITTLE, BUT IT WAS SOMETHING ELSE DOWN THERE...



AIEEE!

WH-WHAT IS IT?

TH-THERE ARE RATS DOWN HERE!



SHH-CALM DOWN, STOP SCREAMING.

THOSE AREN'T RATS. THEY'RE VERY SMALL. ONE RAN OVER MY HAND BEFORE. THEY'RE JUST MICE!

OF COURSE, IT WAS REALLY RATS. BUT I WANTED ANJA TO FEEL MORE EASY.



BUT, THEN, MOTONOWA STOPPED TO COME DOWN.  
IT'S BEEN 3 DAYS SINCE  
SHE BROUGHT ANY FOOD.

HERE... HAVE AN-  
OTHER CANDY...

I HAD STILL CANDIES I ORGANIZED ON  
DEKERTA. ONLY THIS WE HAD TO EAT,

ALSO, HERE WE HAD NO PLACE WHERE TO WASH,  
SO ANJA GOT ON ALL HER SKIN A TERRIBLE RASH.

I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S WORSE-  
THE HUNGER OR THE ITCHING.

DON'T SCRATCH!  
IT ONLY-- I HHS

TLIK

THE DOOR.

I'M SORRY I COULDN'T GET  
DOWN BEFORE...MY HUSBAND  
IS GETTING SUSPICIOUS.

HE ASKED WHY I GO TO THE CELLAR SO OFTEN.  
HE EVEN ASKED IF I WAS HIDING JEWS HERE!  
...HE WAS JOKING, BUT STILL...

ARE YOU ALL  
RIGHT HERE?

THERE ARE RATS, GIANT  
RATS! THEY'RE HORRIBLE!

WELL - YOU'RE BETTER OFF WITH THE  
RATS THAN WITH THE GESTAPO...  
AT LEAST THE RATS WON'T KILL YOU!

MMM...

AND SHE WAS RIGHT. WE WERE HAPPY  
EVEN TO HAVE THESE CONDITIONS.

IT'S GOOD  
TO BE "HOME"  
EH, VLADEK?

IT'S A LOT NICER  
THAN THAT CELLAR.

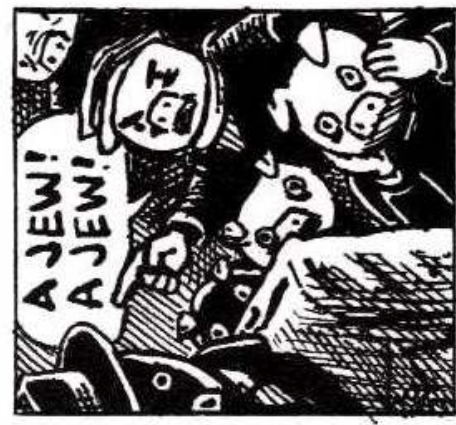
BUT I DIDN'T FEEL SAFE HERE.  
IT WAS TOO MANY WAYS SOME-  
BODY COULD FIND US OUT. I WANT-  
ED TO GO BETTER TO HUNGARY.

AFTER THE TEN DAYS  
HER HUSBAND LEFT,  
AND SHE TOOK US BACK.

SO, WHEN IT CAME THURSDAY, I WENT IN THE DIRECTION TO TAKE A STREETCAR TO SEE KAWKA IN SOŚNOWIEC.



I HAD TO PASS WHERE SOME CHILDREN WERE PLAYING.



THEY RAN SCREAMING HOME.



QUICK, THE MOTHERS CAME OUTSIDE TO SEE WHAT WAS!

THE MOTHERS ALWAYS TOLD SO: "BE CAREFUL! A JEW WILL CATCH YOU TO A BAG AND EAT YOU!" ... SO THEY TAUGHT TO THEIR CHILDREN.



I APPROACHED OVER TO THEM...



IF I RAN AWAY THEY WOULD SEE: "YES, IT IS A JEW HERE."

DON'T BE AFRAID, LITTLE ONES. I'M NOT A JEW. I WON'T HURT YOU.



SORRY, MISTER. YOU KNOW HOW KIDS ARE... HEIL HITLER.



SO I CAME OUT WELL FROM THIS...



WHEN I ARRIVED TO KAWKA, THE TWO SMUGGLERS WERE THERE TOGETHER SITTING IN THE KITCHEN..



PLEASE WAIT IN THE OTHER ROOM. THEY'LL SEE YOU SOON.



MR. MANDELBAUM!

VLADK SPEIGELMAN!

MANDELBAUM, BEFORE THE WAR OWNED A SWEETS SHOP.

ANJA AND I BOUGHT ALWAYS PASTRIES THERE. HE USED TO BE A VERY RICH MAN IN SOŚNOWIEC.



THIS IS MY WIFE...AND YOU KNOW MY NEPHEW.

HELLO, ABRAHAM. WHAT ARE YOU ALL DOING HERE?



WE'RE TRYING TO GET OUT OF POLAND -

- TO HUNGARY?! YES. ANJA AND I ARE TRYING TO ARRANGE THAT TOO!

THE SMUGGLERS PROPOSED US HOW THEY WOULD DO.



... AND AT THE BORDER OUR PARTNERS WILL TAKE YOU THROUGH THE MOUNTAINS.

WHEN- IT'S RISKY AND VERY EXPENSIVE!

WE SPOKE YIDDISH SO THE POLES DON'T UNDERSTAND.



NIE, VAS YECH KENN DIE FRAU KAWKA, UBER DENKST DIE? DIE ZWEI.

So, what do you think? I know Mrs. Kawka, but I'm not sure about these two.



HERR MECH TSE! YECH GEI KOIDEM MIT ZEI. AZ ALLES VET ZEIN BESEDER, YECH VIL SCHREIBEN TSE DEYER.

Listen! I'll go first. If everything is okay, I'll write back to you.



THE OTHERS WANT TO THINK ABOUT IT A LITTLE LONGER, BUT I'M READY TO GO NOW.

FINE! FINE!

I AGREED WITH MANDELBAUM TO MEET AGAIN HERE. IF IT CAME A GOOD LETTER, WE'LL GO.

BUT IF EVER I TALKED OF THIS PLAN TO ANJA...



THE JANITOR, IN THE HOUSE MILOCH OWNED, SHE HAD NOW HIM AND HIS FAMILY; BUT -OH BOY- HE WAS IN A SITUATION WORSE AS I COULD IMAGINE!



I WENT TO THE JANITOR BY TROLLEY

HELLO- I'M MILOCH'S COUSIN, ME YOU VLADEK. YES. HE TOLD MIGHT COME.



I HAVE SOME COMPANY UPSTAIRS. I CAN'T TAKE YOU TO MILOCH UNTIL THEY LEAVE.

GENTLEMEN. THIS IS MY COUSIN, VLADEK.



HI "CUZ," HAVE A DRINK.



SO WE TALKED, AND THEY BELIEVED I AM HER COUSIN.



WE'RE ALMOST OUT OF VODKA. BRING SOME MORE, MEINKA.

THERE ISN'T ANY.

BAH! SHE'S HIDING HER VODKA!



JUST LIKE SHE'S HIDING JEWS IN HER YARD!

THE JANITOR AND I FROZE OUR BLOOD FROM FEAR...

IF YOU DON'T PUT ANOTHER BOTTLE ON THE TABLE RIGHT AWAY, WE'LL TELL THE GESTAPO ABOUT THE JEWS YOU'RE KEEPING!!



R-RELAX FELLOWS.

HERE'S A FEW MARKS, MEINKA. RUN DOWNSTAIRS AND GET ANOTHER BOTTLE FOR OUR FRIENDS.



'ATTA BOY. HIC.

IN 15 MINUTES SHE CAME WITH A BOTTLE AND THEY WERE HAPPY.

YOU SEE? YOUR COUSIN KNOWS HOW TO ENTERTAIN GUESTS! TO YOUR HEALTH.



WE DRANK AND WE DRANK- ONLY NEAR MIDNIGHT FINALLY THEY WENT HOME.





THE CONDITIONS HOW MILOCH WAS LIVING - YOU COULDN'T BELIEVE.



INSIDE THIS GARBAGE HOLE WAS HERE SEPARATED  
A TINY SPACE - MAYBE ONLY 5 FEET BY 6 FEET.



AND I WAS LUCKY. NOBODY  
MADE ME ANY QUESTIONS  
GOING BACK TO SZOPIENICE.



LOOK, VLADEK - MY NEPHEW IS SAFE!  
THEY BROUGHT ME  
A LETTER FROM HIM.

A FEW DAYS AFTER,  
I CAME AGAIN TO  
THE SMUGGLERS.  
AND MANDELBAUM  
WAS ALSO THERE.

IT WAS IN YIDDISH  
AND IT WAS SIGNED  
REALLY BY ABRAHAM.  
SO WE AGREED RIGHT  
AWAY TO GO AHEAD.

BUT ANJA JUST DIDN'T WANT WE WOULD GO...



PLEASE, VLADEK,  
CALL IT OFF!

BUT IT'S ALL AR-  
RANGED. I'VE EVEN  
GIVEN THEM HALF  
THEIR MONEY!



NO! NO! NO!  
IT'S SOME KIND  
OF TRICK!

BE REASONABLE.  
I SAW ABRAHAM'S  
LETTER WITH MY  
OWN EYES!



WH-WHAT  
DID IT  
SAY?

"DEAR AUNT AND UNCLE,  
EVERYTHING IS WON-  
DERFUL HERE. I AR-  
RIVED SAFELY. I'M FREE  
AND HAPPY. DON'T LOSE  
A MINUTE. JOIN ME AS  
SOON AS YOU CAN.  
YOUR LOVING NEPHEW,  
ABRAHAM."



I-I DON'T  
KNOW...

WE LEAVE THE DAY AFTER  
TOMORROW FROM THE KA-  
TOWICE TRAIN STATION.

AND FINALLY I  
CONVINCED HER.

SO, I WENT ONE MORE TIME  
OVER TO MILOCH IN HIS GAR-  
BAGE BUNKER AND DIRECTED  
HIM HOW HE MUST GO TO  
SZOPIENICE AND HIDE...



AND, YOU KNOW, MILOCH AND  
HIS WIFE AND BOY, THEY ALL  
SURVIVED THEMSELVES THE  
WHOLE WAR... SITTING THERE  
... WITH MOTONOWA...



BUT, FOR ANJA AND I, IT WAS FOR US WAITING ANOTHER DESTINY...



WE CAME WITH NO PROBLEM  
BY TROLLEY CAR TO OUR MEET-  
ING POINT WITH THE MANDEL-  
BAUMS AND THE SMUGGLERS.

EVERYTHING IS  
ARRANGED. HERE  
ARE YOUR TICKETS.



IT WAS A BIG COMMOTION ... GESTAPD CAME ON EVERY SIDE



HERE THEY ARE!

THEY MARCHED US THROUGH THE CITY OF BIELSKO. WE PASSED BY THE FACTORY WHAT ONCE I OWNED...



I HAD A SMALL BAG TO TRAVEL.  
WHEN THEY REGISTERED ME IN,  
THEY LOOKED OVER EVERYTHING.

WHAT'S THIS?  
SHOE POLISH?!

YES. I LIKE  
TO KEEP  
MYSELF NEAT.

WITH A SPOON HE TOOK OUT, LIT-  
TLE BY LITTLE, ALL THE POLISH.

WELL, WELL... A GOLD WATCH.  
YOU JEWS ALWAYS HAVE GOLD!

WRAPPED IN FOIL, I KEPT  
IT HIDDEN THERE... IT  
WAS MY LAST TREASURE.

IT WAS THIS WATCH I GOT  
FROM FATHER-IN-LAW WHEN  
FIRST I MARRIED TO ANJA.

WELL, NEVER MIND... THEY  
TOOK IT AND THREW ME WITH  
MANDELBAUM INTO A CELL...

WAIT A MINUTE!  
WHAT EVER HAPP-  
PENED TO ABRAHAM?

WHO?

AH, MANDELBAUM'S NEPHEW!  
YES. HE FINISHED THE SAME  
AS US TO CONCENTRATION CAMP.

-BUT

YES. I'LL TELL YOU HOW IT  
WAS WITH HIM- BUT NOW I'M  
TELLING HERE IN THE PRISON...

HERE WE GOT VERY LITTLE TO EAT- MAYBE SOUP  
ONE TIME A DAY- AND WE SAT WITH NOTHING TO DO.

WHY DON'T THEY PUT US TO  
WORK LIKE THE REST OF YOU?

IT MEANS YOU  
WON'T BE HERE  
VERY LONG...

"...EVERY WEEK OR SO  
A TRUCK TAKES SOME  
OF THE PRISONERS AWAY.

EXCUSE ME...  
DO ANY OF YOU  
KNOW GERMAN?

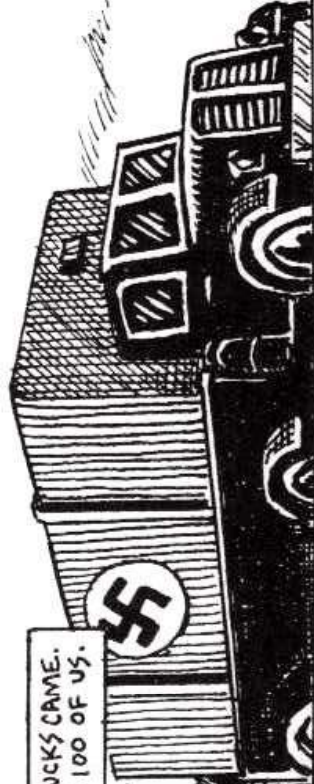
MY FAMILY JUST SENT ME A FOOD PARCEL.  
IF I WRITE BACK THEY'LL SEND ANOTHER,  
BUT WE'RE ONLY ALLOWED TO WRITE GERMAN.

I KNEW I WOULD TO WRITE  
GERMAN... SO I WROTE...

IN A SHORT TIME HE GOT AGAIN A PACKAGE...  
YOU DID A GREAT JOB! TAKE ANYTHING  
YOU WANT FOR YOU AND YOUR FRIEND!

IT WAS EGGS THERE... IT WAS EVEN CHOCOLATES.  
...I WAS VERY LUCKY TO GET SUCH GOODIES!

A FEW DAYS LATER THE TRUCKS CAME. THEY PUSHED IN MAYBE 100 OF US.



ONE MORE TIME I WAS TOGETHER WITH ANJA.

HERE, DARLING, I HAVE A PRESENT FOR YOU...

EGGS?! CAKE?? WHAT? HOW? ...



I HAD STILL THINGS I GOT BY WRITING THIS LETTER.

AND WE CAME HERE TO THE CONCENTRATION CAMP AUSCHWITZ. AND WE KNEW THAT FROM HERE WE WILL NOT COME OUT ANYMORE...

NO... YOU KEEP IT... I'M NOT HUNGRY.

HERE... AT LEAST TAKE HALF FOR LATER.



WE CAME TO THE TOWN OF OSWIECIM... BEFORE THE WAR I SOLD TEXTILES HERE.



WE KNEW THE STORIES - THAT THEY WILL GAS US AND THROW US IN THE OVENS. THIS WAS 1944... WE KNEW EVERYTHING. AND HERE WE WERE.



MY GOD.

YES. SO IT WAS...



...AND WHEN THEY OPENED THE TRUCK, THEY PUSHED MEN ONE WAY, WOMEN TO THE OTHER WAY...



ANJA AND I WENT EACH IN A DIFFERENT DIRECTION, AND WE COULDN'T KNOW IF EVER WE'LL SEE EACH OTHER ALIVE AGAIN.



THIS IS WHERE MOM'S DIARIES WILL BE ESPECIALLY USEFUL. THEY'LL GIVE ME SOME IDEA OF WHAT SHE WENT THROUGH WHILE YOU WERE APART.

I CAN TELL YOU ... SHE WENT THROUGH THE SAME WHAT ME: TERRIBLE!



IT'S GETTING COLD. WHY DON'T WE GO UPSTAIRS AND SEE IF WE CAN FIND HER NOTEBOOKS ...

NO... I LOOKED ALREADY...



...IT'S JUST NOT TO FIND ANYMORE!

WELL... LET'S CHECK OUT THE GARAGE. YOU'VE GOT LOADS OF STUFF IN THERE.



NO. YOU'LL NOT FIND IT. BECAUSE I REMIND TO MYSELF WHAT HAPPENED...



THESE NOTEBOOKS, AND OTHER REALLY NICE THINGS OF MOTHER... ONE TIME I HAD A VERY BAD DAY... AND ALL OF THESE THINGS I DESTROYED.

YOU WHAT?



AFTER ANJA DIED I HAD TO MAKE AN ORDER WITH EVERYTHING... THESE PAPERS HAD TOO MANY MEMORIES. SO I BURNED THEM.

YOU BURNED THEM?



CHRIST! YOU SAVE TOMS OF WORTHLESS SHIT, AND YOU!!

YES, IT'S A SHAME! FOR YEARS THEY WERE LAYING THERE AND NOBODY EVEN LOOKED IN.



DID YOU EVER READ ANY OF THEM?... CAN YOU REMEMBER WHAT SHE WROTE?

NO. I LOOKED IN, BUT I DON'T REMEMBER... ONLY I KNOW THAT SHE SAID, "I WISH MY SON, WHEN HE GROWS UP, HE WILL BE INTERESTED BY THIS."



GOD DAMN YOU! YOU-YOU MURDERER! HOW THE HELL COULD YOU DO SUCH A THING!!

ACH



TO YOUR FATHER YOU YELL IN THIS WAY?... EVEN TO YOUR FRIENDS YOU SHOULD NEVER YELL THIS WAY!



BUT, I'M TELLING YOU, AFTER THE TRAGEDY WITH MOTHER, I WAS SO DEPRESSED THEN, I DIDN'T KNOW IF I'M COMING OR I'M GOING!

I'M SORRY... LOOK, FOR IT'S GETTING LATE. I'D BETTER GET HOME...



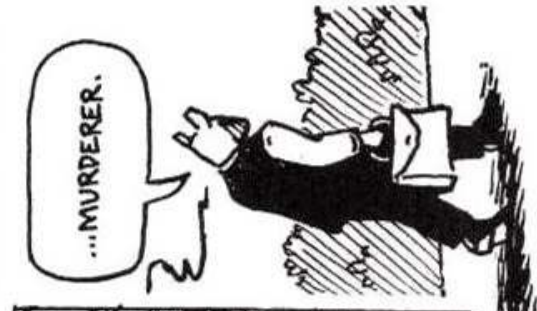
COME FIRST UP-STAIRS FOR A LITTLE COFFEE.

NO... REALLY. I'D BETTER GET GOING RIGHT AWAY...



SO... TELEPHONE TO ME... YOU SHOULD VISIT HERE MORE OFTEN... DON'T BE SUCH A STRANGER!

SURE... YOU BET! SO LONG.



...MURDERER.



“Spiegelman portrays the Nazis as cats, the Jews as mice, the Poles as pigs and the Americans as dogs. They are all terrifyingly human. This is comic strip art which has nothing to do with Tom and Jerry. Anyone moved by Briggs’s *When the Wind Blows* ... will appreciate Spiegelman’s genius for dealing with a subject many would say cannot be dealt with at all”

– *The Times*

“You need be neither a Jew nor a death-camp ghoul to be moved. Anyone who has ever tried to understand the mystery of their parents, and how the 20th century has treated them, will find in *Maus* a key that turns the lock”

– Ian Jack in the *Observer*

“This intensely personal account of a family’s survival, of hair-breadth escapes and incarceration, deals artfully with experiences and emotions that many might fervently wish to forget. Of how, when life is stripped to subsistence level, trust and betrayal take on unprecedented dimensions ... In the tradition of Aesop and Orwell, it serves to shock and impart powerful resonance to what, after all, is a well documented subject. And the artwork is so accomplished, forceful and moving, without resorting to sentimentality, that it works” – *Time Out*

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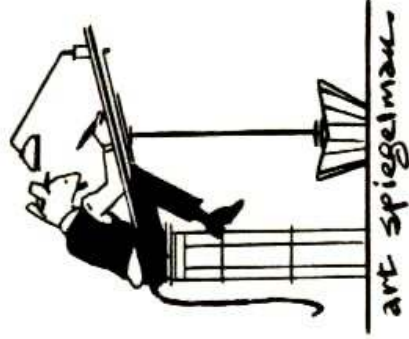
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"The best cartoon book I have ever read. There is not a wasted word or a wasted line in it. Very direct, very powerful, very moving" – Steve Bell

"A very moving book about a subject so terrible it is almost impossible to comprehend. *Maus* proves that the strip cartoon is a medium just as good as the novel or film. A great achievement" – Raymond Briggs



Art Spiegelman, born in Stockholm in 1948, is co-editor of *Raw*, the internationally acclaimed magazine of avant-garde comics and graphics. His work has been published in the *New York Times*, *Playboy*, the *Village Voice*, and many other periodicals in the U.S. and abroad. He has received Europe's highly respected Yellow Kid Award for his work on *Maus*, and also *Playboy's* 1982 Editorial Award. A teacher at New York's School of Visual Arts, he lives in New York, where he is currently at work on *Maus, Part II*: "From Mauschwitz to the Catskills."

Cover illustration and design by Art Spiegelman

"A remarkable work, awesome in its conception and execution...at one and the same time a novel, a documentary, a memoir, and a comic book. Brilliant, just brilliant." —Jules Feiffer



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