

Verbundkatalog Kalliope

House Hollberg.

Mann, Klaus

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Prologue

Munich, May 1945. -- Residential district. An alley. River to the right. Foreground, neglected garden. Background, ruined house. American soldier, staring at ruins, -- motionless. Silence. Soldier absorbed in thoughts.

Woman war correspondent passes by -- dressed in overalls, etc. Notices the soldier; looks at him; shrugs her shoulders; goes on; changes her mind, comes back. After having watched him for a while:

War Correspondent: Hello, soldier.

Soldier: (startled) Was ist los?... I mean, who are you? ... I mean, hello...

WC: Kind of nervous?

S: No. I was just thinking.

WC: Pretty sad, all this destruction...

S: Yes, I suppose it is sad.

WC: They've asked for it, though. Started they whole mess.

S: Yes, they certainly did. *whole city of Munich looks the same way.*

WC: Anything particularly interesting about this joint?

S: No, not really... Just for me...

WC: Maybe you knew it before?

S: What makes you think so?

WC: War correspondents have to be detectives. You have a bit of a German accent.

S: Can one still hear it?

WC: Just a trifle. How old were you when you came to the States?

S: Thirteen. 15,

WC: And how old are you now? I must sound awfully curious; but ~~you~~ that's the way we get.

S: I don't mind your being curious. It's just that I have to go back to my unit.

WC: What's the rush? It's just three o'clock... Now then, how old?

S: 24...

WC: Let's see... Then you were left Germany in 1935.

S: Wrong. We left in 1933, as soon as H. came to power. Lived for two years in Sweden before we went to the States.

WC: Who is "we?"

S: Father... etc.

WC: Name?

S: Henry Hollberg.

WC: When you were a child, they didn't call you Henry.

Henry: Heini. Now you might as well tell me your name too.

WC: So sorry. Ann Annsen, of the ~~WPS~~ TTP correspondent. Heini, sounds kind of cute. So and this was your home?

Henry: You're pretty sharp...

WC: Training... ~~Did you know~~ Have you seen it since you left?

Henry: Do you want to write a story...?

WC: Don't think so. Not original, no news value. Well, h a v e you been here...?

Henry: No. *How was it in Germany...*
~~was looking forward to...~~

Ann: Didn't know the damned thing was bombed to pieces?

Henry: Not the faintest idea.

ANN: Must have been quite a letdown.

Henry: Kind of disappointing. Was looking forward to kicking out people... You know, took house away from us...

Ann: What was wrong? Are you Jewish?

Henry: Not as far as I know. ... Father editor of liberal newspaper. *950 fuses. Had original intention*
Student group
Wanted to arrest him. *War name - el* Escaped to Switzerland.

Ann: Human interest story. What was the name again?

Henry: Don't want publicity.

Ann: Kind of Lindbergh-Greta Garbo, huh?

Henry: Don't be silly. Name is.. etc.

Ann: May as well take shot of the house. (Camera.) There is somebody...

Henry: You are seeing things...

.....

(Old ~~Else~~ Else, half-blind, emerges from ruins.)

(Recognize each other -- speaking in German)

Ann: Don't be rude! Translate everything. I don't understand a word of your lingo...

Henry: It's Else... Our old maid... Was like my mother, after Mama's death...

Else: Kann kaum noch hören...

Ann: What does she say?

~~Myse~~ Henry: Doesn't hear as well as she used to.

Ann: Does she know what happened here while you were away?

Ann: You must be mad at the

Henry: Not mad. Don't understand.

They all say it's same thing. But there is something else...

*Died, 1955
Homesink.
Friends took
me to U.S.*

Else: Weiss die ganze Geschichte. Bin immer hier gewesen.

Ann: Ask her to tell us the whole story. But you must translate!

Henry: Yes, I'll translate everything...

BLACKOUT

Elses Voice: The evening after Herr Professor had left...

Inside of the house, 1933. Lobby; fireplace, library, arm chairs,
etc

First Scene:

Else closes door behind Professor. Prays. Goes to sleep.

SA man storm house. Make mess; loot, etc.

Lock Else in cellar.

Else's voice: But I didn't want to leave house..

Else with SA men. One of them idealistic. "Revolution of Youth."

Röhm cult. Homosexual touch. Comradery, etc.

1934; June 30... : SA men shot.

SS takes over...

Doctor Martens establishes baby factory. Girls move in.

"Love scenes." Babies.

Suicide of one girl who falls in love with

SS man.

Love factory closed. Doctor ~~Martens~~ moves in.....with wife, three sons.

Scenes, Doctor with Nazi friends... [Including mother's brother, a former general.]

Hitler militarizes Rhineland, etc. Family jubilant, except for youngest son, Fritz.

Austria... Sudetenland crisis: "They won't dare it!" etc.

Munich; triumph...

Family seems. Marriages,
etc. Chamber music.
Christmas. Mother sentimental.

English friend there. "Peace for our time."

September, 1939; War; family exulted, except Fritz. (Mother -- weak, undecided.)

~~Older~~ Older boys go to front... Send presents... Come on furlough with looted things... "Blitz," victory... : "We'll run Europe...conquer the world..."

Fritz, flirtation with half-Jewish girl. Secret meetings with oppositional friends. (Young writer -- not pro-Nazi, but thinks art and politics have nothing to do with each other.../ Quits circle)

Doctor receives anonymous letter about son's friendship with racially impure girl; forbids contact; threatens to take stronger measures.

War in Russia stagnates. Stalingrad.

One son killed in the East; other son ~~killed~~ captured in Tunisia.

Fritz involved in plot of Munich students. Father calls police. Fritz shot. Mother's breakdown. Father volunteers as doctor on East front.

Mother's brother, retired general, moves in. Has changed opinion. Thinks war should be stopped. ~~Involved in July 20 plot.~~ Brought ~~Involved~~ ^{man servant} Denounced by ~~young maid~~; suspected of being involved in July 20 plot; arrested; Dachau.

Man servant wanted house for sister -- mistress of Gauleiter. Moves in. Champagne, etc.

Mistress killed in air raid.

House still half intact. Deserters hiding there. ^{Else brings} ~~Man~~ food, etc. Hitler: "Fight on to last man!"

Second bombardment. House completely destroyed.

Americans approaching. Hitler dies.

Ruins plundered, first by liberated slave workers; then by escaped Dachau convicts -- including General --; finally by GIs.

Just one house... Reconstruction? Henry: I go back to the States...

Come with me, Else!... Else: Ich bleib...

Ann: Let's go, Heini... etc