

DORIT #2:

(Apology)

Berlin, Nazi Germany, 1938.
Anne's Apartment.

Anne & Dorit, both young girls, are the best of friends, even though they are of different religions – Dorit is Protestant; while Anne is Jewish. Since the Nazis have come to power in Germany, life for Jews has become very hard. New laws have been passed that discriminate against Jews. Anne can't go to public school anymore. She can't go to the movies, or shop at certain stores. Her father can't work as a banker. All Jews must wear the yellow star which marks them as Jews in public. The girls used to always love to be together, go to school together. But it had become increasingly difficult for the girls to remain close friends.

DORIT is lively, energetic, excitable, fun, and very likeable. Unfortunately, she is too easily swayed by all the surrounding peer pressure. But at heart, she is a good person. Because of peer pressure, Dorit had joined the Hitler Youth Group: "The Union of German Girls" which caused a break in Anne & Dorit's friendship. They have not spoken in weeks. In the interim, 'Kristallnacht' (The Night of Broken Glass) has taken place. It was a night of violent demonstrations against the Jews where synagogues, homes, & stores were destroyed. Anne's parents have decided to send Anne out of Germany to be safe. The brutality of it all has shocked Dorit back to her senses. Here, near Christmastime, Dorit has returned to Anne's apartment to apologize.

(Note: No German accent. Dorit's nickname for Anne is "Mickey" – both love Mickey Mouse. Their school teacher's name was Mrs. Waldenberg.)

DORIT

(crosses to Anne)(obvious she is trying to apologize)
(acting cheerful, but a bit nervous)(hopeful Anne will talk to her)

Merry Christmas, Mickey.

(Anne decides to not be pleasant.)

ANNE

(acting cold)

Oh,... What are you doing here?

DORIT

(overdoing cheerful a bit)

Your mother invited me – said you were having a holiday celebration.

ANNE

(cold)(pointedly)

Oh. ... Well, if Mutti wants you here, I guess you can stay.

(pause)

(awkward silence between the girls)(finally...)

DORIT (remembering)

I,... ah... I brought you a Christmas gift.

ANNE

(cold)(to make her feel awkward)

We're not celebrating Christmas tonight, we're celebrating Chanukah.

DORIT

(awkward)

Oh,... Sorry.

(pause)

ANNE (awkward – finally)(bit sarcastic)

So,... how's the "Union of German Girls"?

DORIT

I quit.

ANNE (surprised)
 What?
 DORIT
 I'm not wearing that stupid uniform, am I?
 ANNE (confused)
 But, ...
 DORIT
 I couldn't belong to any group that would treat people the way they did.
 (apologizing)(the flood gate opens)
 ... Anne, ... I'm sorry.
 ANNE
 For what?
 DORIT (it pours out)(quickly)(awkward but sincere)
 For... well, ... everything! I'm sorry you were kicked out of school! And I'm sorry for wearing that stupid uniform! And I'm especially sorry for that night when all the synagogues and homes and stores were all burned and broken up and stuff!
 ANNE (confused as to how to respond)
 Well, you didn't do that personally or anything.
 DORIT (upset)(searching)(on the verge of tears)
 Then why do I feel like I did?! Maybe... maybe if I had stood up for you more – like - like told that Mrs. Waldenburg you had to stay! – maybe... maybe I could have stopped it!
 (starts to cry)
 ... But now – it's all too late! Now you've got to leave the country – and, ... and I'm sorry!
 (she is crying)
 ANNE (moved)(trying to comfort her)
 Hey, ... don't cry, ... I'm the one who's leaving – I should be the one who's crying.
 DORIT (still beating herself up)
 See? That's just dumb old me.
 ANNE (to cheer her up)(smiles)
 Come on. We won't think about this anymore. This is a holiday celebration, right?
 DORIT (stops crying)(trying to brighten)
 Right.

(Both girls finally smile at each other.)

END OF SCENE.