

Anne & DORIT

(Hitler Youth Uniform) (Opening)

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. Now that 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 is barred from working as a banker. All Jews must wear the yellow star which marks them as Jews in public. The Nazis are trying to ostracize the Jews from the rest of the German public. The girls used to always love to be together, go to school together, and play ‘dress up’ together. Now, it has become increasingly difficult for the girls to remain close friends.

DORIT is lively, energetic, excitable, fun, and very likable. Unfortunately, she is too easily swayed by peer pressure. But at heart, she is a good person. ANNE is good-natured, intelligent, sensitive, and now painfully aware of all the discrimination against her, her parents, and all Jewish citizens. She is feeling isolated and in need of a friend. In fact, both girls really want to stay friends.

Dorit has entered the apartment. She is dressed in the full uniform of the Hitler Youth, “The Union of German Girls,” complete with a Nazi swastika on her armband. Dorit is aware that Anne will not like it at first but is hopeful that she will come around and accept it. Anne – seeing the uniform – is in shock – hurt, angered, disappointed.

NOTE #1: No German accent is needed.

NOTE #2: If reading for Anne, please continue reading the opening speech which is on the very last page, after the scene.

ANNE

(referring to uniform) (hoping she's not seeing it)

Hey, what's all this supposed to be?

DORIT *(plays dumb)*

What do you mean?

ANNE

The uniform.

DORIT *(proud, brags)*

See? Didn't I tell you I'd look great in a uniform?!

ANNE *(incredulous)*

You joined up – the Hitler Youth?

DORIT

*(talks fast – seeing that Anne isn't happy with the uniform)
(bit nervous, so over-sells it all) (explaining) (acting excited)*

“The Union of German Girls”! ...Oh, Mickey! – it's so much fun! – the stuff you get to do! – I mean – the meetings – the rallies – weekend camp trips – we built a campfire – sang songs – it was so great!

(another quick thought)

...Oh, of course, if we ever do meet up on the street and I'm wearing this – it would probably be better for both of us if we didn't talk to each other, you know what I mean?

(quickly changing the subject) (nervous but trying to be upbeat)

...So ...ah... what do you want to play? Hey, I know – how about dress up?!

(The flood gates open – the argument starts – but it's an argument between two best friends who still somehow would like to hold onto their friendship in these impossible times.)

ANNE

(angry, upset, hurt)

Seems to me you're already playing dress-up in that stupid uniform!

DORIT

(quickly defensive) (knew this might be coming)

That's not fair!

ANNE

How could you? How could you just join up like that?!

DORIT

Everybody's doing it!

ANNE

Everybody who's a Nazi!

DORIT

Just cause I'm wearing this, doesn't mean I agree with them!

ANNE

Oh, then I guess that makes it all right!

DORIT

Anne, I had to join! You don't know what it's like at school. Not being a member, I felt like – excluded!

ANNE

Yeah, you're right. I wouldn't know how that feels!

DORIT

It was really hard on me!

ANNE

Oh, poor Dorit! I feel so sorry for you!

DORIT

Stop it! You're making me feel bad!

ANNE

How do you think *I* feel?

DORIT

Things are so much easier for my parents now that I've joined up!

ANNE

That's nice, cause it only makes things harder on people like my parents.

DORIT

You're always so quick to judge! The Nazis have done some good things for this country too, you know!

ANNE

Like what?

DORIT

Things are better – people are working.

Like my father?
ANNE

Oh, that's just like you!
DORIT

We Jews?!
ANNE

I didn't say that!
DORIT

Then what?
ANNE

You're always finding fault in progress!
DORIT

You know – if we ever do pass each other in the street – no matter what you're wearing – don't bother to talk to me, okay?! In fact, don't ever come back here ever again!
ANNE

No problem! Cause I don't ever want to come back here ever again!
DORIT

Fine!
ANNE

Fine!
DORIT

END OF SCENE.

**Turn the page for
ANNE'S OPENING MONOLOGUE**

ANNE'S OPENING MONOLOGUE

The Train Station Platform.

Anne's parents and Dorit are frozen in a tableau. Anne looks at them lovingly; then turns to the audience.

(Pronunciation: **Mutti**: "MOO-tee;" **Vati**: "VAH-tee")

ANNE

Sometimes, your heart wants certain moments to stay forever. That's the way I felt – seeing them all standing there – my mother and father – whom I called Mutti and Vati – and Dorit, my best friend – a moment free of the outside world. My heart wanted it to stay just like this – forever.

But I knew it couldn't. I had to continue on – me and my little suitcase – returning home from my summer holiday in Amsterdam – stepping off the train and onto that platform in Berlin – end of summer – 1938.

END OF SIDE.