

DORIT #2:

(Apology)

Berlin, Nazi Germany, 1938.
Anne’s Apartment

NOTE: Young Anne Lehmann used German terms of endearment for her parents. She called her mother Mutti (pronounced: “MOO-tee”); and her father Vati (pronounced “VAH-tee”).

Anne & Dorit (pronounced “Door-REET”), 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. Many laws have been passed that discriminate against Jews. Vati is no longer permitted to work in banking. Mutti can only shop at stores owned by Jews. Their daughter, Anne, is kicked out of her public school. Jews are barred from public places like restaurants, theaters, and even park benches.

The girls used to always love to be together, go to school together, and play ‘dress up’ together.

DORIT is lively, energetic, excitable, fun, and very likable. Unfortunately, she is too easily swayed by surrounding peer pressure. But at heart, she is a good person. Because of the peer pressure, Dorit had joined the Hitler Youth or “The Union of German Girls” which required her to dress in full uniform complete with a Nazi swastika on her arm band. This caused a break in Anne and Dorit’s friendship. The girls have not spoken in weeks.

In the interim, *Kristallnacht* (The Night of Broken Glass) has taken place. It was a night of violent demonstrations by Nazis against Jews where synagogues, homes, and stores were destroyed. Anne’s parents have decided to send Anne out of Germany for her safety. The brutality of it all has shocked Dorit back to her senses.

Here, near Christmas time, Dorit has returned to Anne’s apartment to apologize.

Note #1: No German accent is needed.

Note #2: Dorit's nickname for Anne is "Mickey" because they both love Mickey Mouse. Their schoolteacher's name is Mrs. Waldenberg.

DORIT

Merry Christmas, Mickey.

ANNE

Oh...what are you doing here?

DORIT

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

ANNE (*coldly*)

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

(awkward silence between the girls)

DORIT

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

ANNE (*to make her feel awkward*)

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

DORIT

Oh...sorry.

(pause)

ANNE (*awkward, slightly sarcastic*)

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

DORIT

I quit.

ANNE

What?

DORIT

I'm not wearing that stupid uniform, am I?

ANNE

But...

DORIT

I couldn't belong to any group that would treat people the way they did. ...Anne...I'm sorry.

ANNE

For what?

DORIT

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

Well, you didn't do that personally or anything.

DORIT

Then why do I feel like I did?! Maybe...maybe if I had stood up for you more...like...like told 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's crying)

ANNE

Hey...don't cry...I'm the one who's leaving – I should be the one who's crying.

DORIT

See? That's just dumb old me.

ANNE

Come on. We won't think about this anymore. This is a holiday celebration, right?

DORIT *(stops crying) (trying to brighten)*

Right.

(Both girls smile at each other.)

END OF SIDE.