

ANNA / AARON

You were born in a middle-class Jewish family: Cloth merchants. You lacked nothing and your home was full of happiness. You remember your many brothers and sisters, your family was devoted, dynamic and well-loved. You were young and in your prime, everything piqued your interest and you threw yourself in all things like they were a new adventure.

Then, one day, everything was taken from you: The chance to study, to play sports, to enter this or that place. The race laws. Your friends abandoned your family and your shop one by one. Poverty and its dark shadows slithered into your home. It was too much. You had enough of only ever seeing bitter, frustrated people around you.

You left your loved ones in exchange for the anonymity offered by the city. A humble job in a working-class neighbourhood, and what lodging you can afford. Every passing moment you ache for your previous life, but you keep telling yourself that this is the best option, both for them and for you. Things are not easy for your people, so now you keep away from everything and everyone, denying your roots and your faith in public. Survival has become your obsession.

But at what cost? How can an existence so far from everything you were be desirable? Is it truly your fate to bear such humiliation? If only there was a way to put an end to this madness, if only there was someone who could help you...

Inclination: Melancholy, suspicious.

You were part of the problem

Choose one of these options, either right now or during the game, with the context to guide you.

► The building you live in was already raided once, a few months ago. They came for those two homosexuals. They lived in the apartment next to yours. You could have warned them. You would have had the time and they could have tried to flee. You could have given them a chance to get to safety. But you chose to stay out of it instead. You did it out of fear, but also because you knew that if the agents took them, they would leave soon enough, without asking any questions. Now, they are no longer. They've taken them away, off to some camp somewhere. And you are responsible, you know. You acted like everyone else. You were part of the problem.

► In the factory you met someone you fell in love with. But a third person got in the way and you gave in to the pain. Why do you, why do Jews have to be the only ones to suffer and get the blame for every bad thing happening in the world? This time you blew the whistle, to get your rival out of the way. You wanted that love to yourself. Now the third wheel has been fired and slammed in prison: You got what you wanted. But your love did not run into your arms like you had hoped. On the contrary, they read into your heart and they were disgusted by what they saw. They understood right away that you acted just like everyone else. You were part of the problem.

You may be part of the solution

Choose one of these options, either right now or during the game, with the context to guide you.

▀ Nazism has sunk its roots deep, its followers are endless and its machine well-oiled. You know you cannot defeat them in the present. But you can still do it in the future. Sooner or later the world will see its terrible mistake and then it will need a vaccine, it will need a tale, it will need something to explain what happened. This is why you are writing your memoirs. You have penned thousands of pages already, filled with newspaper clippings on everything that happened in Germany and annotated by you. A faithful recollection, a titanic task that fills your waking hours. It is your only goal, your refuge, your mission. But for the memoir to get to the rest of humanity, you need to survive. To keep it hidden you are forced to stash it in the boiler room of the building, and each morning at dawn you must get it out before the heat is turned on, to keep it from going into flames. Only you know of its location and your work will be lost forever if you do not go get it tomorrow morning. It is your chance to redeem yourself, to be part of the solution.

▀ You are tired of hiding away. How many people just like you live like recluses, waiting for the day they will be taken because of yet another betrayal? You need a gesture to shake the mind of the world, something that will strike at the heart of Germany. You will go to Alexanderplatz and strip in front of everyone, to demonstrate that a Jew is no different from any other human being. Then you will wait for them to come get you under the good citizens' puzzled gaze. But someone else will see and understand that hiding is not a solution, that the world needs eye-opening gestures. You know you will pay dearly for this affront, but you will leave a mark. It is your chance to redeem yourself, to be part of the solution.

Loosely based on the life of Friedrich Kellner

