

EVA

And she said, "Oh yes, oh yes, we'll make a very nice stew out of it." \* And um... we did. \* And um, when I think about this now, I think, I just can't believe it, that I really did that. But this is the way we were after eight months in the concentration camp. Food was really every-thing for us.

(YOUNG EVA returns to MUTTI's side.)

YOUNG EVA

Mutti, listen to me. We can't stay here like this, we don't know what's going to happen. I'm going to go to the men's camp.

EVA

We knew the men's camp was in Auschwitz somewhere near. And my mother didn't really want to let me go.

EVA ON VIDEO

MUTTI

You don't know where to go, how to find it—

YOUNG EVA

I'll find it—

MUTTI

It's too dangerous—

YOUNG EVA

I must go. I'll find Pappy and Heinz. I'll come back for you. We'll all be together again.

(YOUNG EVA kisses MUTTI goodbye.)

EVA

Everything was covered in snow. It was very, very cold. There were no roads, no way of really knowing... but somehow I seemed to have gone in the right direction. And I walked for hours. And um. It was crossfire. I heard guns and shooting. And um. It was very, very scary. Sometimes I heard bullets flying over my head and I went to lie—low down. But eventually I arrived into the big, main camp which was Auschwitz men's camp.

\* And suddenly I came across a man\*—an old man—who stood there looking very lost. And um, he looked slightly familiar to me. And I went to him. And—he was very, very thin. Very thin head, and only very gentle brown eyes looked out of him. And we looked at each other. And he said to me,

SOUND: Wind

EVA ON VIDEO

SOUND: Gunshot, crossfire

SOUND: Wind, out  
\*YOUNG EVA speaks  
simultaneously\*

"You look familiar. I think I know you." I said. \**"Yes! I'm Eva Geiringer."\** He said, "I'm Otto Frank." \**"Anne's father."\** I said. "Yes, yes! Do you know where Anne is? Do you know where Mar- is? Have you seen my wife?" I said. \**"No, no, never saw them. Have you seen Heinz? Have you seen my father?"\** He said, "Yes. But they're not here anymore."

YOUNG EVA

I had found Otto Frank—Anne's father. But not my own father. Not my brother. Pappy—Heinz—they are gone. But the possibility that they MIGHT STILL BE ALIVE, helps me make the trip back through the snow and somehow I find my way back to the women's camp. My mother is alive. I am alive. Because we've had each other—we're both alive.

ED

About one o'clock in the morning I was lying on a roof of that—that house, and I saw an armored vehicle turn the corner down the road—and I was holding my breath—and then I saw the white star of the allied armies.

YOUNG ED

(calling out to vehicle) Hey!

ED  
And they went another fifty yards, turned around and came back. And in turning around, knocked over a telephone pole. And stopped in front of the house—and came in!

ED ON VIDEO

SOUND: Party crowd, music

YOUNG ED  
All of a sudden there are a hundred people in our kitchen from all over the area. A big celebration. Somebody comes in with a bottle of cognac. A baker who has hoarded all his flour during the war starts baking bread, we have a feast. And my mother kisses them all!

ED

That was it. The next day we were able to go out and walk in the street.

ED ON VIDEO

YOUNG EVA

After Auschwitz is liberated by the Russians, it takes my mother and I five months to return home to Amsterdam.

MUTTI

We travel by foot, by train, and by boat from Auschwitz, Poland, to the Ukraine in Russia...

YOUNG EVA

To Odessa, across the Black Sea to Turkey—

MUTTI

Across the Mediterranean to the South of France—

North to Paris—

YOUNG EVA

MUTTI

Through Belgium—

YOUNG EVA

And into Holland.

SOUND: Music out

EVA

EVA ON VIDEO

And there we stood without any money and we had to get to our place. So um, we just went into a tram and asked the conductor \*could we go free, we have no money,\* we just—well, we looked terrible anyway, we just come from concentration camp.

And um, they didn't take much notice but they let us ride free. And we went back to our apartment on the Merwedeplein. There was still somebody in it who had kept it for us. The lady was very happy to see us. And um... Everything—she had left everything how it was. And it was really weird to walk around and see everything how we had left it after three years—where so much had happened to us, we had gone to hell and back—and there

stood all our things...untouched.

(YOUNG EVA stands looking at a place on the wall.)

MUTTI

Evi? What is it?

YOUNG EVA (touching the wall)  
Pencil marks.

PAPPY (V.O.)

"Every month we will measure you and see how much you have grown. You'll be safe here. We'll all be safe here."

V.O.: PAPPY  
(Specific to production)

(YOUNG EVA lingers at the pencil marks.)

HITLER YOUTH

On April 30, 1945—Adolph Hitler committed suicide. Then Germany surrendered. (Pause.) The war is over. And we lost. We've lost so much.

YOUNG EVA (to HITLER YOUTH)

5,860,000 Jews died in the Holocaust.

HITLER YOUTH

I was following orders.

YOUNG EVA (pressing him)

5,860,000 Jews died in the Holocaust.

(The HITLER YOUTH takes off the swastika armband. He looks lost. His words come slow, deliberate.)



HITLER YOUTH

I promise—at all times to do my duty—for the Führer, so help—me God? (*Exits quickly.*)

YOUNG ED

My name is Helmut Silberberg. I was born in 1926 in Germany and later moved to Holland to escape the Nazis. My nickname was Hello which was what Anne Frank called me in her diary. When I was a teenager I escaped again and hid from the Nazis in a townhouse in Belgium

ED

My name is Ed Silverberg now. After the war I married my wife, Marlise.

ED ON VIDEO

ED (*V.O.*)

We live in Hackensack, New Jersey. We have two children—

V.O. ON VIDEO: ED  
VIDEO IMAGE: Photo of Ed and Marlise

ED

—and two grandchildren.

ED ON VIDEO

YOUNG EVA

My name is Eva Geiringer. I was born in Austria in 1929. When I was a teenager I was in hiding for 22 months in Holland. I was arrested by the Nazis and spent nine months in the Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp.

EVA

After the war I married Zvi Schloss. We live in London, England.

EVA ON VIDEO

EVA (*V.O.*)

We have three daughters and four grandchildren.

V.O. ON VIDEO: EVA

VIDEO IMAGE: Family photo Eva, Zvi, Mutti and family

YOUNG ED (*to ED and EVA*)

What about Anne and her family? What happened to them?

ED

Anne's mother, Edith Frank, died at the Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp.

ED ON VIDEO

Anne and her sister Margot died at the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp within days of each other.

EVA (*V.O.*)

Only Otto Frank survived. After the war, in 1953, he married my mother.

V.O. ON VIDEO: EVA  
VIDEO IMAGE: Otto and Mutti wedding photo

EVA

We really wanted to make a new family again.

EVA ON VIDEO

(*HEINZ enters carrying a lit candle.*)

YOUNG EVA

My brother—

VIDEO IMAGE: Photo of Heinz playing the guitar

MUTTI

My son—

YOUNG EVA/MUTTI

Heinz Geiringer—

YOUNG EVA

—was evacuated from Auschwitz and forced to march to Mauthausen, an Austrian concentration camp. He died there several days before the liberation.

*(PAPPY enters carrying a lit candle.)*

**VIDEO IMAGE: Photo of**

**Pappy**

MUTTI

My husband—

YOUNG EVA

My father, Pappy—

MUTTI/YOUNG EVA

—Eric Geiringer—

MUTTI

—was evacuated from Auschwitz and forced to march to Mauthausen. He died there several days before the liberation.

MUTTI/YOUNG EVA

They have no graves.

**SOUND: Music (optional)**

*(ANNE enters carrying a lit candle.)*

ANNE

My name is Anne Frank. I was born in Germany in 1929. I did not survive the Holocaust. I died in a concentration camp six weeks before the war was over. I was 15 years old. I did

not get married. I did not have children. I did not have grandchildren. I had a diary. I dreamed of becoming a great writer.

**ED (V.O.)**

I have never forgotten the type of person she was at age 13. I imagine sometimes what she would have been like at 14, 15, or perhaps 18—and what she could have become.

**V.O. ON VIDEO: ED**

**VIDEO IMAGE: Extreme close-up on Anne Frank in photo.**

**CAMERA SLOWLY PULLS back on photo of Anne Frank and continues pull-back under Ed's V.O.**

*(YOUNG EVA crosses to ANNE with an unlit candle. ANNE gives her light. YOUNG EVA crosses to the same chair where she had been interrogated, drapes her sweater over the chair... She places her lit candle on the floor just downstage of the chair. She crosses upstage, taking her place in what will become a group tableau as:*

*HENZ crosses to the chair, leans his guitar against it, then places his lit candle on the floor next to YOUNG EVA's. He crosses to join YOUNG EVA in the tableau.*

*MUTTI places the hat, which helped save EVA's life, on the chair. She lights her candle from EVA's and adds it to the row of candles on the floor. She joins her children in the tableau.*

*PAPPY crosses to the chair and places his eyeglasses on it. Then he adds his lit candle to the rest on the floor and joins his family who waits for him in the tableau.*

*YOUNG ED lights his candle from one of the burning ones and places it on the floor next to all the others. Then he removes his shoes which carried him across the border and places them with the other artifacts at the chair. He joins the group in tableau.*

*And finally, ANNE... She crosses to the candles, adding hers to the five on the floor. She places her diary with the other artifacts on the chair, completing the memorial. Then she crosses upstage to join the others who welcome her into the tableau.*

*The group looks up together from the candles to the audience.*

*Lights fade on the actors, leaving a pool of light on the memorial artifacts.*

*The lights completely fade to black, leaving only the glow of the six memorial candles to burn on through the darkness.*

*Silence. The play is over. The candles are not blown out.)*