

Passages

Reading Level 6



Title: Behind the Bedroom Wall

Author: Laura E. Williams

Sample From The Book

Korinna shifted her bulky book bag from one frozen hand to the other.

"They're calling him a Jew-lover."

"Who'd want to hide a stinking Jew? Besides, he'd be dead already if he'd been hiding a Jew," Rita said. "I heard Hans tell Papa they're supposed to shoot first and ask questions later. Herr Haase must have been seen talking to a Jew."

"How can it be so terrible just to be talking to a Jew?" Eva asked, shaking her head, her short, dirty blond hair swinging against her cheeks.

Rita looked at her sideways, her eyes narrowing slightly. "You don't see anything wrong with it?" she asked, forgetting to keep her voice down. "Jews are the enemy! They are the root of all our problems. Without them Germany will be strong!"

Korinna nodded absently in agreement, even as she winced as one of the officers shoved Herr Haase toward the car.

Eva kicked at a mound of snow. "I don't think -"

"My brother wouldn't arrest just anyone," Rita interrupted, flipping her long, blond braid over her shoulder like a whip. "Herr Haase is a traitor to Germany. He's been fooling everyone into thinking he's a nice guy by giving extra meat from his butcher shop to the poor people, but that was just a cover-up. He's a traitor, or why would they arrest him?"



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