

The Diary of Anne Frank

ACT 2 – SCENES 1-3

Scene 1

This scene starts on January first in 1944. They have been hiding for one year, five months and twenty-five days. Anne is writing in her diary while everyone else is either reading, lying down, or taking the laundry down (Mrs. Frank.) Anne says that everyone is now a little thinner. She also says Mr. and Mrs. Van Daan discussions are as violent as ever and her Mom still doesn't understand her, while she doesn't understand her Mom either. Miep comes with Mr. Kraler as the doorbell rings with the V is for Victory signal, which means "V" in Morse code. They tell everyone "Happy New Year," and Miep brings a cake just like she did the year before. Mr. and Mrs. Van Daan fight over who should cut the cake. Eventually Mrs. Frank gets the knife to cut it. Peter asks if Miep can look for his cat Mouschi. She has to go because Dirk is taking her to a party. Mr. Van Daan chases after her and he wants to sell Mrs. Van Daan's fur coat. Mrs. Van Daan begins to cry after Mr. Van Daan pulled the coat away from her. Mr. Kraler asks Mr. Frank to come downstairs with him to get his opinion on something. Mr. Frank makes Mr. Kraler tell everyone what he has to say. He tells them that works in the storeroom named Carl asked a few weeks before Mr. Kraler is telling them this, about how Mr. Frank was and Mr. Kraler said he heard a rumor that he was in Switzerland. Carl thought Mr. Kraler knew more. The day before Mr. Kraler asked this, Carl came with invoices for Mr. Kraler to sign and when he looked up he saw Carl staring at the bookcase. He asked if

there was a door there that went up to a loft and he also wanted Twenty more guilders (money in Holland) a week. Dussel thinks that Carl was the thief and that's how he knows about it. They tell him to offer Carl half of the raise and he agrees. He goes downstairs to get the phone and it's his wife calling. Margot says she wishes the end will come, whatever it is and Mrs. Frank says she should be ashamed of herself. Anne goes to her room and slams the door. Peter brings Anne's cake to her room and she thanks him. Peter says he thinks Anne was fine with what she said and he can't talk when he's mad. He says she's fine and without her he doesn't know what he'll do. Anne and Peter talk for a little while and they feel comfortable talking with each other. The scene ends with a diary entry by Anne. She says that the people Miep got ration books (books of stamps given to ensure even distribution of scarce items) for them were arrested, so they had to cut down on their food. On March 6th 1944, Mr. Kraler is in the hospital and he probably has an ulcer (an open painful wound that fails to heal.) Miep has to run the business and help the families by herself. The Americans have landed in Italy and Mr. Frank is hoping for the war to end soon. Mr. Dussel is waiting for Carl to ask for more money. She really wants someone to talk to that understands her that is young and feels like she does.

Scene 2

The scene starts out with the sound of children playing outside. All the adults except for Mr. Van Daan are in the main room and Mr. Van Daan is working on a piece of embroidery in his room. Peter is in his room doing his hair, puts on a tie and a coat. Also, some of Anne's pictures are

now on his wall. Anne also is getting dressed finding ways to do her hair while Margot is hemming a skirt for her. Margot says she isn't jealous of Anne and Peter, but jealous Anne has something in the morning to get up for. She goes to Peter's room and has to come out by the nine o'clock church bells. They talk and drink soda. They talked about before hiding and Peter says that Anne has changed; she started out being noisy and became quiet. Anne asks Peter if a girl had ever kissed him, and he said it was at a party blindfolded. Anne says she was kissed twice, once on cheek picking her up from the ice and the other a friend of her father was kissed her on the hand. She asks Peter if a girl should only kiss someone if they are engaged and then the bell rings. Peter kisses her on the cheek and then Anne says, "Good night!" to everyone. Then a diary entry ends the scene where she talks about how they know each other so well they finish each other's stories that are told. She also mentions that they are cutting down even more on meals and rats have taken some of the food. It is April 20, 1944 and everyone outside is only talking about an invasion. She says her life is more pleasant and she goes to Peter's room after dinner often. She dreams of having a boyfriend, sitting outside in the sun with him. She is outgrowing her dresses and has to wear Margot's clothes.

Scene 3

This scene starts at night a few weeks later and everyone is in bed. Mr. Van Daan goes downstairs and goes to the food safe and takes a half of a loaf of bread. The safe creaks when he closes it and it wakes Mrs. Frank up, who wakes Mr. Frank up. It wasn't rats like they thought, but it was Mr. Van Daan. Mrs. Franks yells at him and tells them that

they will have to leave, and Miep will find them a new hiding place. Mrs. Frank says that it isn't right for the kids that are thin and that the kids, including Peter can stay. Peter says he will go if his Dad goes. Anne gets upset and starts crying saying she doesn't care about the food and they can have it, also she doesn't want Mrs. Frank to send them away. Dussel divides everything so everyone has an equal share. Then the bell rings and it is Miep, they wonder why in the middle of the night. Mr. Frank gets it and Miep tells him that the invasion has begun. Everyone is so tired at first they don't understand, but as she went on they realized it was important. She found out on the radio that they landed on the coast of Normandy, France (the British, the Americans, the French, the Dutch, the Poles, the Norwegians and others. It is called D-Day (June 6, 1944) Miep leaves and Mr. Van Daan is ashamed, but they say it is okay. They got cognac for him and Mrs. Frank is crying apologizing for the things she said. The scene ends with another diary entry. Anne says everyone is happier and there are good things about the invasion going on. On July 2, 1944 she said Mr. Kraler had an operation. The Gestapo (the secret Nazi's) found the stolen radio, which they'll trace back to the thief and then to them. She says she feels better when she writes and wants to live after her death (and has.) She is now fifteen. Then the scene ends.

Scene 4

The scene starts out with a sense of tension as the telephone is ringing from the office below. They think it's Miep because it rang three times. Dussel thinks that Miep hasn't come in three days because Mr. Kraler is dead. It is Friday and no one is at work. Mr. Frank doesn't want to answer it and he doesn't want to listen to see if it is her. Dussel went down and unbolted the door, but the phone stops ringing so he goes back up. Mr. Van Daan says they will have to live there until they die and Mrs. Van Daan said that she will kill herself. In the distance they could hear a German Military band playing. Mr. Van Daan says they could have left to go to Switzerland or America instead of being stuck in hiding. Mrs. Van Daan runs up the stairs followed by Mr. Van Daan. Peter is unable to bear it and Anne follows Peter into his room. She tries to cheer him up and tells him to look at the sky through the skylight. She says that when she feels like she can't be cooped up anymore, she thinks of before they went into hiding and walking around in the park. Peter says he can't stand hiding anymore. Anne says that Peter should have to be a religion and he doesn't have to be too religious. Peter says that they are just waiting for the Nazi's to get them. She stops talking when she hears a car that brakes and then another car. They come out of his room, while the Van Daan's quietly come down from their room. The doorbell rings at the street entrance door and Mr. Van Daan goes upstairs to collect things. Mr. Frank gets backpacks for his family. Mr. Frank said that they have lived the past two years in fear, and now they can live in hope. In German they hear, "Open up, you're in there, open up, quick, quick, quick." The street door is forced

open and they hear the heavy tread of footsteps coming up. Mr. Frank gets two backpacks, one for Anne and one for Margot. He goes to get a bag for Mrs. Frank as the sound of feet gets louder. Peter kisses Anne good-bye and Peter goes to his room to get his things. The buzzer starts to ring as Mr. Frank hands Mrs. Frank a bag. They stand together waiting and hear gun butts against the door trying to break in. Anne is standing holding her school satchel (a bag carried on the shoulder by a long strap and typically closed by a flap) and looks at her parents smiling. She has courage with whatever lies ahead. A loud crash is heard as the door is shattered and Anne's voice is heard in a diary entry. She says that their stay is over and the Nazi's are waiting for them since they have five minutes to get their things. They are each aloud to take a bag and the amount of clothing it will hold. They aren't aloud to take anything else so she has to leave the diary and she says good-bye to it. She says to whoever reads it to keep it safe for her because someday she hopes that and her voice stops as the scene ends.

Scene 5

The scene starts where the first scene ended, November of 1945. Mr. Kraler has now joined Miep and Mr. Frank and Mr. Frank is now calm and his bitterness is gone. There are coffee cups at the table. Mr. Frank slowly turns a few pages of the diary, which are blank. He says that there is no more in the diary and puts it down on the couch next to him.

Miep said that she went to the country to get food and when she got back police surrounded the block. Mr. Kraler said that the thief told the Nazi's where they were hiding. Mr. Frank said Anne was happy at the first concentration camp they were taken to in Holland. She was happy to be out in

the sunshine and the fresh air, which she loved so much. He said that the news on the war was good and the British and Americans were sweeping through France. He was sure they would get to them in time. In September they were told they were being shipped to Poland. The men were sent to Auschwitz, which was known for its extermination center. The women were sent to Belsen, a village in Germany and with the village of Bergen was the site of Bergen-Belsen, a concentration camp and extermination center. He said that he and the few that were left were freed in January. It took them a while to get home since the war wasn't over yet, they were sent to places where they were safe. They got out and went from group to group talking to each other asking about other family members. That's how he found out about the death of his wife, Mrs. Frank. He also found out about the deaths of Margot, the Van Daans, and Dussel. He still hoped about Anne, and the day before he went to Rotterdam and heard of a woman there who was in Belsen (the concentration camp) with Anne and now he knows she died. He picks up the diary again and turns through the pages to find a passage, and when he finds it Anne's voice is heard. She said that in spite of everything, she still believes that people are really good at heart. Mr. Frank closes the diary and says that she puts him to shame and they are silent.