

CALLING OUT TO TOMMY

Written by

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FADE IN:

EXT. STREETS OF ENGLAND - NIGHT

SUPER: England, 1944.

A cat tip-toes down mucky cobbles.

A solitary gas-lamp flickers and the hiss of the flame is all that can be heard.

The cat stops outside a shop window and stares at its own reflection, behind which are British World War Two propoganda posters.

The sound of glass shattering.

The cat darts away.

Faint whistles are heard as we move along the street and into...

INT. HOSPITAL - NIGHT

CORRIDOR

Baby-faced THOMAS SMITH (TOMMY), male, early twenties, quietly whistles as he creeps away from a broken window behind another male, BILLY JOHNS (BILLY), early twenties.

Billy turns around and puts a finger to his lips.

Tommy's eyes search the corridor as he speaks.

TOMMY

It's good for morale, mate.

Billy rolls his eyes.

BILLY

For cartoon dwarves but, right now?

Tommy and Billy sneak down the corridor.

A SECURITY GUARD appears and shines a flashlight.

Tommy and Billy crouch down behind a nurses station.

Billy's eyes light up as he points out a cupboard full of medicine.

Tommy glances through an open door onto a

WARD

where several SICK CHILDREN sleep in hospital beds.

CORRIDOR

TOMMY  
This isn't right.

Billy shakes his head.

BILLY  
Wrong and right's just a matter of  
perspective, Tommy.

Tommy points a finger at Billy.

TOMMY  
My mam called me Thomas.

BILLY  
Oh, yeah. Your mam. Remind me  
again why we are even here?

Billy raises an eyebrow.

Tommy lowers his finger. He glances at the medicine then  
onto the

WARD

where one of the Sick Children coughs, tosses and turns in  
bed.

CORRIDOR

Tommy rubs the back of his neck.

TOMMY  
They're just kids.

Billy shakes his head.

BILLY  
Same old, same old.

The Security Guard disappears.

Billy sneaks towards the cupboard and takes several bottles  
of medicine. He returns and holds out the medicine in front  
of Tommy, who looks uneasy.

BILLY (CONT'D)  
For God's sake, take it.

Billy thrusts the medicine into Tommy's chest. Tommy moves his hands away and steps back.

The bottles fall to the floor and shatter.

Billy is annoyed.

BILLY (CONT'D)  
Now there's none for anyone, you  
daft bugger.

A flashlight shines down the corridor and the Security Guard re-appears.

SECURITY GUARD  
Who's down there?

Billy grabs Tommy and drags him down the corridor.

SECURITY GUARD (CONT'D)  
Stop right there.

The Security Guard chases Tommy and Billy through the corridors.

Tommy stumbles into stretchers and medical cabinets.

A SICK GIRL, no more than three or four years old, steps in front of Tommy; she holds a teddy bear.

Tommy side steps her and knocks the teddy bear out of her hands.

The Sick Girl cries.

Tommy stops and picks the teddy bear up. He smiles as he hands it back to the Sick Girl, who returns the smile.

The moment is short-lived as the Security Guard appears and the chase resumes.

EXT. STREETS OF ENGLAND - CONTINUOUS

Tommy and Billy run down the cobbles of an empty, gas lamp-lit street.

Tommy stumbles and falls to the ground as Billy continues up the street.

Tommy gets to his knees and glances over his shoulder just as the Security Guard hits him with a baton.

Billy, who realises Tommy is no longer with him, stops and turns around.

The Security Guard looms over Tommy.

SECURITY GUARD  
Stealing from sick kids? As bad as  
a Nazi.

The Security Guard raises the baton and beats Tommy, who cowers in defense.

Billy sprints towards Tommy and tackles the Security Guard to the cobbles.

BILLY  
Run. Go, now.

Tommy, battered and bloodied, staggers to his feet and runs away down the street.

Billy wrestles with the Security Guard and, eventually, gets up to his feet and runs away.

Police sirens.

INT. HOUSE - NIGHT

A door opens.

Tommy staggers in and closes it. He enters the

LIVING ROOM

where he makes his way over towards a mirror that reflects his battered face.

Tommy breathes heavily as he puts his hands either side of the mirror and hangs his head.

The room lights up as EVIE SMITH (EVIE), pregnant female, late teens, enters with a candle.

EVIE  
Thomas?

Evie approaches Tommy and holds the candle up towards his face.

Tommy shields his eyes and turns his face away.

Evie puts a hand on Tommy's face and, slowly, turns it towards the candle light.

The light highlights blood and bruises on Tommy's face.

Evie is shocked as she studies Tommy's face and looks into his eyes.

EVIE (CONT'D)

Worth it?

A look of shame is painted on Tommy's face as he avoids Evie's gaze.

Evie sighs and shakes her head.

EVIE (CONT'D)

You're a good man, Thomas.

Evie puts a hand on Tommy's shoulder as he looks back at her.

EVIE (CONT'D)

I just...

Evie looks away.

TOMMY

You just?

A heavy, repetitive cough is heard.

Tommy looks at the ceiling.

TOMMY (CONT'D)

How is she?

Evie frowns as Tommy walks past her, towards the stairs.

BEDROOM

Tommy enters.

In bed, CONSTANCE SMITH (CONNIE), female, late-forties, rolls over.

CONNIE

Thomas?

Connie strains her eyes. She looks seriously ill.

CONNIE (CONT'D)

Heaven's above.

Connie sits up as Tommy approaches.

Tommy sits on the bed and wipes his nose. He looks down at the fresh blood on the back of his hand.

TOMMY  
It's nothing, Mam.

Connie looks concerned.

CONNIE  
You always have a choice. Always.

Connie coughs heavily.

Tommy covers Connie's mouth with a tissue until she stops.

Tommy removes the tissue and holds it in his hands.

CONNIE (CONT'D)  
You can't be carrying on at all  
hours when the baby's born.

Tommy nods.

Tommy kisses Connie on her forehead.

TOMMY  
Rest up.

Connie smiles.

CONNIE  
That's why she married you, you  
know.

Tommy forces a half-hearted smile as he stares at a  
photograph of him and Evie that stands on a chest of drawers.

TOMMY  
Is that enough?

Tommy winces as Connie touches his bruised cheek.

CONNIE  
The Lord gave us all flaws.  
Nobody's perfect.

Connie coughs, hard.

CONNIE (CONT'D)  
That girl is going to give you the  
greatest gift anyone could ever ask  
for.

A glimmer of a smile crosses Tommy's face.

TOMMY  
Goodnight, Mam.

As Tommy walks towards the door, he glances down at the tissue in his hand. It is full of blood.

Tommy frowns and looks back at Connie as she pulls the bed sheet over her.

INT. HOUSE - MORNING

KITCHEN

Evie cooks breakfast as Tommy drinks tea at a table and reads the

NEWSPAPER

Monday 2nd May, 1944.

'Allies Prepare For Invasion of Normandy.'

BACK TO SCENE

Tommy shakes his head.

TOMMY

Sometimes, I'm not so sure we're doing the right thing.

Evie brings Tommy toast and butter.

EVIE

How do you mean, love?

Tommy puts the newspaper down on the table.

TOMMY

Bringing a baby into a world as evil as this.

Evie gives Tommy a long kiss.

The kiss ends and Evie admires Tommy.

EVIE

Plenty of good left.

Evie smiles at Tommy then turns away.

Tommy stops her and pulls her onto his knee.

Tommy puts a hand on her stomach and holds her hand.

Evie laughs as Tommy gazes into her eyes.



TOMMY

I will be stronger. For you, and  
our baby.

Evie smiles.

EVIE

I know.

A knock at the door.

TOMMY

Best get a move on. The bike  
wouldn't start yesterday and Mr.  
Stokes said if anyone's late again  
this week he'll sack them on the  
spot.

Tommy stands and walks towards the door.

EXT. DOORWAY - CONTINUOUS

The door opens and a POSTMAN holds out a letter.

POSTMAN

Master T. Smith?

Tommy looks surprised as he takes the letter from the Postman  
and closes the door.

INT. HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Tommy opens the envelope and takes out the letter. He reads  
it as he makes his way into the

KITCHEN

where Evie washes the pots.

EVIE

Anything interesting?

Tommy looks shell-shocked as he sits at the table.

The letter dangles between his fingertips as he searches for  
words.

EVIE (CONT'D)

Love?

Evie turns and Tommy rubs his neck.

Evie rushes towards him. She carries a cup that she dries with a towel.

Evie takes the letter from Tommy, who does not flinch.

A look of horror crosses Evie's face. She drops the cup and it smashes on the floor.

Tommy gazes, vacantly, at nothing in particular.

Evie throws her arms around Tommy as she drops the

LETTER

His Majesty's Royal Seal.

'Dear Master Thomas Smith,

Please report for military service, immediately, to your nearest registration office. You are hereby conscripted to His Majesty's Armed Forces.'

BACK TO SCENE

Evie sobs, uncontrollably, in Tommy's arms.

Tommy holds her tight and stares into space.

SUPER. FRANCE, JUNE 8 1944.

EXT. MILITARY CAMP - DAY

Bombs explode on the horizon and light up the sky as Tommy makes his way through the camp.

Tommy stumbles past other SOLDIERS and takes in the environment.

A tank drives by and Tommy steps out of its path just in time.

The TANK DRIVER shouts at him.

TANK DRIVER  
Get out of the way you fucking  
idiot.

Other Soldiers point and laugh at Tommy as they sit and play cards.

A PRISONER is beaten by more SOLDIERS.

A YOUNG PRIVATE cleans his weapon as MEDICS carry a screaming INJURED SOLDIER on a stretcher.

PRISON GUARDS laugh as they piss through a barbed wire enclosure onto sleeping GERMAN PRISONERS.

Tommy frowns.

INT. COMMAND TENT - CONTINUOUS

Tommy enters.

Hard, stubble-faced HAROLD PHILIPS (PHILIPS), male, late thirties, lights a cigarette.

TOMMY  
Sargent Philips?

Philips strikes an imposing figure as he stands.

Philips looks Tommy up and down as he takes a long drag on a cigarette and tucks it behind his ear.

PHILIPS  
Who's asking?

Tommy straightens himself up.

TOMMY  
Private Thomas Smith.

Philips glares at Tommy.

TOMMY (CONT'D)  
I believe I've been assigned to  
your unit.

Philips, unimpressed, circles Tommy and picks up a gun from a table.

PHILIPS  
Load it.

Philips tosses Tommy the gun, which Tommy juggles.

Tommy fumbles around in his back pocket and produces some bullets.

As Tommy loads the bullets into the gun, he drops them.

Philips scoffs.

PHILIPS (CONT'D)  
As green as a fucking frog. Pray  
tell, how in the hell did you  
survive the beach, Son?

Tommy bends down on his hands and knees and picks up the  
bullets.

TOMMY  
I guess I was one of the lucky  
ones.

Philips stomps on Tommy's hand.

Tommy winces in pain as Philips keeps his boot firmly pressed  
into Tommy's hand.

Philips crouches down beside Tommy and removes the cigarette  
from behind his ear. He takes a drag.

PHILIPS  
Real men. The warriors. The ones  
who are prepared to do what is  
necessary and make the ultimate  
sacrifice. They fall at the first  
hurdle.

Philips glares into Tommy's eyes.

PHILIPS (CONT'D)  
The others...

Tommy winces as Philips twists his boot.

Philips leans in close and blows smoke in Tommy's face.

PHILIPS (CONT'D)  
...Sod's law.

Philips stands and removes his boot from Tommy's hand.

Tommy grasps his hand and lets out a sigh of relief as he  
struggles to his feet.

TOMMY  
I didn't ask to be here.

Philips gets in Tommy's face.

PHILIPS  
I watched my own brother die out  
here, right before my eyes.  
Slowly. He begged for death before  
it was over.

Philips' eyes fill with tears.

PHILIPS (CONT'D)  
Ask me if I want to be here.

Tommy looks sheepish.

Philips takes a drag on the cigarette then tosses it to the floor.

He stands on it and twists his boot into it.

Philips picks up a mouldy loaf of bread from a table and shoves it into Tommy's chest.

PHILIPS (CONT'D)  
Feed the dogs.

Flies hover around the bread as Tommy turns his nose in disgust.

TOMMY  
There's no dogs out th--

PHILIPS  
The fucking prisoners.

Philips glares at Tommy.

TOMMY  
Sir.

Tommy walks away.

PHILIPS  
Wait.

Tommy stops in his tracks.

Philips tosses Tommy the gun.

PHILIPS (CONT'D)  
The cost of war is high.  
Especially when men don't play  
their part.

Tommy studies the gun.

PHILIPS (CONT'D)  
God forbid you ever have to pull  
that trigger.

Tommy walks away as Philips lights another cigarette.

EXT. PRISON ENCLOSURE - CONTINUOUS

Tommy approaches a barbed wire fence. He picks mould off the bread.

A man, early twenties, stands on the other side of the fence. He comforts the injured German Prisoners.

The man notices Tommy and limps towards the barbed wire. He looks in pain and struggles to put weight on one leg. In spite of this, he still cuts the image of a proud man.

This is GERHARD GARVER (GERHARD).

Gerhard reaches the fence and stares, coldly, at Tommy.

Tommy holds out the loaf of bread. Gerhard looks at the bread as flies circle and land on it.

TOMMY

Surely you must be hungry, mate?

Gerhard stares at Tommy for a few more moments and, eventually, snatches the bread from his hand.

Gerhard speaks, in English, with a German accent.

GERHARD

I am not your mate, scum.

Gerhard turns his back on Tommy and limps away.

Tommy sits down as he reaches into his pocket and removes something.

It is a

PHOTOGRAPH

of Evie and Connie.

BACK TO SCENE.

Tommy kisses the photograph then puts it back in his pocket.

Tommy looks over his shoulder at the German Prisoners in the prison enclosure. They all look defeated and ill as Gerhard tends to them, once again.

Tommy sighs as he looks out into the military camp before him.

EXT. STREETS OF GERMANY - DAY - GERHARD'S NIGHTMARE

Heavy rain and huge puddles in the street.

A GERMAN MAN, late twenties, GERMAN WOMAN, late twenties, and GERMAN CHILD, seven or eight years old, all huddle beneath an umbrella as they cross over a road and approach an alley way.

The German Man hands the German Woman the umbrella.

The German Man crouches down and kisses the German Child on the forehead.

GERMAN MAN  
(in German, English  
subtitles)  
Wait here with your mother.

The German Man stands. He takes a deep breath and walks down the alley way.

The German Woman pulls the German Child beneath the umbrella.

Moments pass as rain bounces off the umbrella.

A gunshot.

The German Woman panics and drops the umbrella.

The German Child watches as the German Woman runs down the alley way and disappears.

A second gunshot.

Curious, the German Child walks down the alley way towards a door way.

INT. ROOM - CONTINUOUS

The German Child enters.

In a chair, a LOAN SHARK, male, late thirties, holds a smoking gun.

The German Man and German Woman lay dead, in a heap on the floor. Blood pools beneath their bodies.

The German Child screams as he throws himself onto the bodies and weeps.

LOAN SHARK  
(in German with English  
subtitles)  
(MORE)

## LOAN SHARK (CONT'D)

Always pay your debts, boy. You don't want to wind up like your old man and his bitch.

The German Child looks up at the Loan Shark and cries out, angrily.

EXT. PRISON ENCLOSURE - NIGHT

Gerhard wakes, suddenly, and sits bolt upright.

Sweat pours down his face and he breathes heavily.

Gerhard looks around as he gradually regains control of his breathing.

A look of relief crosses Gerhard's face as he slumps back down onto the ground.

EXT. PRISON ENCLOSURE - DAY

Tommy sits.

An OFFICER walks past and stops next to Tommy.

OFFICER

Tommy Smith?

Tommy looks up at the Officer.

TOMMY

Thomas, sir.

The Officer looks down at Tommy and produces a letter.

The Officer tosses the letter to Tommy and walks away.

As Tommy opens the letter, he notices Gerhard.

Gerhard looks at the bread Tommy gave him. He moves it up towards his mouth.

One of the German Prisoners coughs and splutters beside Gerhard.

Gerhard looks at the bread in his hands then at the German Prisoner.

Gerhard puts his hand on the German Prisoner's shoulder and hands the German Prisoner the bread.



The German Prisoner thanks Gerhard, who nods his head and smiles.

Gerhard notices Tommy, who observes the caring exchange. The smile quickly disappears.

Gerhard sticks his middle finger up at Tommy.

Tommy puts the letter down.

TOMMY (CONT'D)

Out here, we're all prisoners.

Gerhard pulls himself to his feet, with great difficulty, and limps towards Tommy.

GERHARD

You are nothing like me.

Gerhard looks Tommy up and down and spits at him.

Tommy is taken aback.

TOMMY

Better than being shot at.

Tommy wipes his face clean.

TOMMY (CONT'D)

What's your name?

Gerhard stares at Tommy, emotionless.

Tommy digs around in his ruck sack and takes out a piece of bread.

Tommy holds it out in front of Gerhard.

A hint of uncertainty crosses Gerhard's face as he looks at the bread.

Tommy looks past Gerhard at the German Prisoner, who eats the bread Gerhard gave him.

TOMMY (CONT'D)

One good turn deserves another and all that.

Tommy pushes the bread through a small gap in the barbed wire.

Gerhard, cautiously, takes the bread from Tommy.

GERHARD  
You are still scum.

Tommy stares into Gerhard's eyes.

TOMMY  
You are wrong.

Gerhard holds Tommy's gaze.

GERHARD  
We are what we are.

Gerhard maintains the stare as he limps back away from the fence.

Tommy sits and picks the envelope up. He removes a

LETTER

'You are father to a beautiful baby girl.'

'Elizabeth.'

BACK TO SCENE

Tommy's face is a picture of delight.

The smile gradually disappears as he reads more of the

LETTER

'Mother'

'Six weeks to live.'

BACK TO SCENE

Tommy's eyes fill with tears.

EXT. MILITARY CAMP - DAY

RECREATION AREA

Philips fights the German Prisoner, who has one hand tied behind his back.

Soldiers stand around and cheer.

The German Prisoner, on his knees, begs Philips to stop.

Philips beats him to the ground.

PRISON ENCLOSURE

Tommy watches the fight.

Gerhard stands behind the barbed wire and shakes his head.

GERHARD  
Humiliated for doing his duty.

Tommy looks over his shoulder.

TOMMY  
I'd hardly call this a job.

Gerhard frowns and shakes his head.

GERHARD  
Duty.

Tommy turns and faces Gerhard.

TOMMY  
Like a Nazi would know anything  
about that.

Gerhard looks annoyed.

GERHARD  
You think me a Nazi just because I  
am German?

Gerhard glares at Tommy.

GERHARD (CONT'D)  
I swore the oath, yes, but I fight  
for country, not the Fuhrer.

Tommy turns away from Gerhard.

TOMMY  
War is war, mate. Mindless.

Tommy slumps to the ground as Philips stamps on the German  
Prisoner's head.

GERHARD  
Fighting for something you love is  
mindless?

Tommy removes the letter from his pocket.

GERHARD (CONT'D)  
We all fight for something...

Tommy studies the letter.

GERHARD (CONT'D)  
...do we not?

Gerhard shakes his head as he observes Tommy.

GERHARD (CONT'D)  
You are no soldier.

Tommy screws up the letter and tosses it into the mud.

GERHARD (CONT'D)  
Bad news, eh?

TOMMY  
Like you care.

#### RECREATION AREA

Philips picks up the German Prisoner. He takes a cigarette from one of the cheering Soldiers and puts it out on the German Prisoner's head.

#### PRISON ENCLOSURE

GERHARD  
Does the phrase fish out of water mean anything to you?

Tommy sighs.

TOMMY  
It's not like I can just up and leave.

GERHARD  
Why not?

TOMMY  
I can't.

GERHARD  
You mean you won't.

Gerhard laughs.

GERHARD (CONT'D)  
You have any balls down there at all, eh scum?

Tommy picks the letter out of the mud and holds it up.

TOMMY  
Apparently so.

Gerhard glances at the letter.

GERHARD  
The fish has reason to find its way  
back to water, yes?

Gerhard chuckles.

GERHARD (CONT'D)  
Ironic, is it not?

Gerhard crouches down beside Tommy.

GERHARD (CONT'D)  
We create life, only to come here  
to rob it from another.

Tommy glares at Gerhard.

TOMMY  
I didn't choose this.

Gerhard studies Tommy, thoughtfully.

GERHARD  
Out here, the choice is simple.  
Deliver death...

Tommy turns and sees Philips drag the severely beaten and bloodied German Prisoner towards him.

GERHARD (CONT'D)  
...or have death delivered to you.

Philips tosses the German Prisoner at Tommy's feet.

PHILIPS  
Still got that gun, Son?

Tommy fumbles around in his pocket and produces the gun.

PHILIPS (CONT'D)  
Put it out of its misery.

Tommy looks with pity at the German Prisoner then back at Philips, who takes a drag on a cigarette.

Tommy rubs the back of his neck as he looks, reluctantly, at the gun.

Philips snatches the gun from Tommy and shoots the German Prisoner in the head.

PHILIPS (CONT'D)

When they take something from you,  
it might make that finger of yours  
a little bit more itchy.

Gerhard spits at Philips through the fence.

Philips wipes his face and signals the Soldiers over.

Soldiers push Tommy out of the way as they open the prison door and grab Gerhard.

Gerhard fights back but is restrained.

A photograph falls from Gerhard's pocket in the commotion.

Philips picks up the

PHOTOGRAPH

MARTHA SCHNEIDER (MARTHA), Gerhard's girlfriend, early twenties, and a BABY.

BACK TO SCENE

PHILIPS (CONT'D)

The rest of the litter.

Gerhard glares at Philips, who smiles and tosses the photograph into the mud.

Tommy protests.

TOMMY

He's a prisoner of war, not an  
animal.

Philips pushes Tommy to the floor and gets in his face.

PHILIPS

You some sort of fucking  
sympathizer?

Philips shoves Tommy's face into the mud as he stands.

PHILIPS (CONT'D)

We need to toughen you up, Son.

Philips walks towards the crowd of Soldiers who hold Gerhard on his feet.

Soldiers cheer as Philips punches Gerhard in the stomach.

Tommy drags himself up. He looks at the

LETTER

'Beautiful daughter.'

'Mother.'

'Six weeks to live.'

BACK TO SCENE

Tommy lowers the letter and looks down towards the

RECREATION AREA

where Philips beats Gerhard as the Soldiers cheer him on.

Tommy sees the photograph Philips tossed in the mud. He picks it up, looks at it and puts it in his pocket.

EXT. STREETS OF GERMANY - DAY - GERHARD'S NIGHTMARE

A busy street.

YOUNG MEN line up outside a German Military Registration Building.

Gerhard marches towards the back of the line with Martha pursuing him. Both look dirty and unkempt.

Martha cries hysterically. She holds the Baby in her arms.

MARTHA

(in German with English subtitles)

You don't have to do this.

Gerhard stops abruptly and faces Martha.

GERHARD

(in German with English subtitles)

This is my choice, is it not?

Martha shakes her head.

MARTHA

And what choice do I have? Sit and wait for news that I am widowed and our child no longer has a father?

The Young Men in the line move closer towards the building entrance.

MARTHA (CONT'D)  
This is nothing but misplaced  
anger.

Gerhard shakes his head as Martha looks into Gerhard's eyes and touches his cheek.

Gerhard takes Martha's hand. He looks frustrated and confused as he removes it from his cheek and holds it tight.

GERHARD  
This is not about them.

MARTHA  
Who are you trying to convince?

Gerhard wipes dirt from Martha's face.

GERHARD  
You want this life for our child?

Martha lowers her head.

GERHARD (CONT'D)  
No food, no job? You expect this  
to be better if the Allies take  
over? They will destroy us.

The Baby cries.

MARTHA  
You will destroy us.

A REGISTRATION OFFICER, male, early forties, approaches as the line of Young Men disappears into the building.

MARTHA (CONT'D)  
Lambs to the slaughter.

Martha shakes her head as she turns and marches away from Gerhard.

The Registration Officer stands beside Gerhard.

Gerhard looks torn.

REGISTRATION OFFICER  
What are you waiting for? You know  
what you need to do.

The Registration Officer walks away.



Tears stream down Martha's face as she marches into the distance.

Gerhard frantically exchanges glances between the Registration Building entrance and Martha.

Gerhard takes a deep breath and closes his eyes as Martha disappears.

Blackness.

EXT. PRISON ENCLOSURE - LATER

Gerhard lays on the ground, unconscious. His face is battered and bloody.

Gerhard, gradually, comes round and sits up. He spits blood from his mouth.

Through blurred vision, Gerhard sees Tommy slide something beneath the fence.

Tommy exits.

Gerhard coughs and splutters as he limps towards the fence. As he gets closer, he sees the photograph that Philips took from him on the ground.

Gerhard picks it up and looks at the

PHOTOGRAPH

Martha and Baby.

BACK TO SCENE

Gerhard turns the photograph around and looks on the

BACK OF PHOTOGRAPH

'Nothing like me?'

INT. TENT - NIGHT

As Tommy sleeps, he tosses and turns.

A loud explosion wakes him.

Tommy sits up. Other Soldiers do the same.

More explosions.

Tommy gets out of bed and runs towards the tent exit.

EXT. MILITARY CAMP - CONTINUOUS

Chaos.

Soldiers grab weapons and run.

The sky lights up as German planes drop bombs and open fire on the camp.

There is an explosion near the tent.

Tommy falls to the ground in shock.

Philips runs past and shoots into the sky.

INT. TENT - CONTINUOUS

Tommy grabs his helmet and backpack.

EXT. MILITARY CAMP - CONTINUOUS

Bombs fall.

The camp burns.

Soldiers shoot at the sky and are gunned down as the planes return fire.

Tommy takes a deep breath and runs between explosions.

Tommy stops beside the

PRISON ENCLOSURE

where the barbed wire fence is completely destroyed.

Gerhard crawls, in pain, across the grass. He stops and clutches his leg.

Tommy looks back and sees Philips and the Soldiers fire their rifles into the sky as the German planes make another pass.

GERHARD

Can you help me? Please.

Tommy looks at Gerhard and then ahead to a forested area.

TOMMY

You know I can't.

Gerhard grimaces in pain and Tommy frowns.

TOMMY (CONT'D)  
But I don't have to lock you up  
again.

Tommy shields his eyes as a bomb explodes just behind him and Gerhard.

The blast sends Tommy crashing towards the floor. He scrambles up to his feet and glances back at Gerhard.

TOMMY (CONT'D)  
Good luck, mate.

Tommy runs towards the forested area, away from the battle.

Gerhard shouts after him.

GERHARD  
What the hell are you doing?

Tommy shouts as he runs.

TOMMY  
Using my balls.

Tommy disappears from view.

Gerhard struggles to his feet but his leg gives way. He falls to the floor beside a DEAD BODY.

Gerhard clutches his leg in agony.

Gerhard spots a knife on the Dead Body. He takes it and tucks it away, out of view.

Tommy reaches the forested area as British planes appear in the sky and a dogfight with the German planes ensues.

A German plane is shot down and explodes as it crashes into the ground ahead of Gerhard.

Gerhard crawls around the wreckage and escapes.

EXT. FIELD - MORNING

The sun glimmers on blades of grass.

Tommy sits beside a tree. He takes a piece of paper and pen from his backpack and writes.

TOMMY (V.O.)  
My dearest Evie. I write this  
letter knowing full well that it  
may never reach you.

Tommy smiles.

TOMMY (V.O.)  
The joy of saying your name, over  
and over, in my head is a beautiful  
contrast to the horrors I have  
witnessed. I am surrounded only by  
death and cruelty.

Tommy observes smoke on the horizon.

TOMMY (V.O.)  
What fantastic news. I couldn't be  
more proud of you. However, this  
has only increased my longing for  
home and I have set in motion  
events from which there is, now, no  
going back.

Tommy frowns.

TOMMY (V.O.)  
They will call me deserter. Or  
even traitor. Yet these are titles  
I will happily accept if it means I  
am able to be with you all just one  
more time.

Tommy sighs.

TOMMY (V.O.)  
Every night, I pray that Mam might  
wake to see one more dawn. Tell  
her to give me time and hold on.  
Please, hold on. I will see you  
all soon, love always, Thomas.

Tommy folds the letter up and puts it in his backpack.

Suddenly, Tommy hears a rustling in the grass behind him. He quickly scrambles to his feet and peers out in all directions.

Tommy spots someone off in the distance behind him. He strains his eyes. They widen as he realizes who it is.

Gerhard.

Tommy quickly pulls out his gun and aims it at Gerhard.

Gerhard grimaces as he raises his hands in the air and limps towards Tommy.

TOMMY

Keep your hands where I can see them.

Gerhard stumbles and falls to the ground. He clutches his leg and screams.

Tommy looks on, pitifully.

GERHARD

Can you, please, help me?

Tommy approaches with caution.

Gerhard rolls in agony on the grass as Tommy stands over him.

TOMMY

You could be SS for all I know.

The gun clicks as Tommy cocks it.

Gerhard protests.

GERHARD

No. Just an ordinary guy, like you. You saw the photograph, did you not?

Tommy keeps the gun trained on Gerhard.

Gerhard grimaces.

GERHARD (CONT'D)

You want to get out of here, yes?

Tommy does not respond.

GERHARD (CONT'D)

Help me and I will help you.

Tommy raises an eyebrow.

GERHARD (CONT'D)

You can tell them I took you hostage, eh?

Tommy looks down at Gerhard's leg. The blood stain on his clothes looks fresh and heavy.

TOMMY

Looks like you need me more than I  
need you.

Gerhard grimaces.

GERHARD

I've seen the way you let them push  
you around.

Tommy chuckles.

TOMMY

You really know how to endear  
yourself to people.

GERHARD

You are soft. I can do the things  
you will not.

Tommy ponders the comment for a moment and then crouches  
beside Gerhard. He presses the gun to his temple.

TOMMY

I will use this...

Gerhard closes his eyes as Tommy cocks the gun.

TOMMY (CONT'D)

...if I have to.

Gerhard opens his eyes as Tommy puts the gun away.

Tommy holds out a hand and helps Gerhard to his feet.

GERHARD

I shall not forget this.

TOMMY

Make sure you don't.

Gerhard grimaces as he puts weight on his injured leg.

TOMMY (CONT'D)

There's a small fishing town west  
of here. Should take a few days...

Tommy frowns as he looks at Gerhard's wounded leg.

TOMMY (CONT'D)

...or so.

Tommy helps Gerhard over a

DRY STONE WALL

Tommy helps Gerhard sit.

Tommy peels back the torn pant fabric and reveals Gerhard's wound. Tommy gags and looks away in disgust.

Tommy looks up over the wall and sees a farm-house in the distance, across several other fields.

TOMMY (CONT'D)

They might have something we could use. I'll go and ask.

Gerhard grabs Tommy's leg.

GERHARD

That psycho will be looking for us. We don't want anyone knowing we're alive.

Tommy looks uneasy.

TOMMY

I can't go in there and steal it.

Gerhard winces as he re-covers his wound.

GERHARD

I think the morality ship has already sailed, has it not?

Tommy scowls.

TOMMY

The only thing I am guilty of is deserting my family.

Gerhard leans in towards Tommy.

GERHARD

Like it or not, you're a soldier. A good soldier fights for the cause from which you have now turned your back.

TOMMY

I have a cause I would happily give my life a thousand times over for.

Gerhard grimaces.

GERHARD

A good soldier follows orders  
without question, don't you agree?

TOMMY

If I believed that you would be  
dead already.

Gerhard smirks.

GERHARD

Should I think myself lucky that I  
am not in the company of a good  
soldier?

Tommy shakes his head.

TOMMY

A good soldier follows what's in  
here.

Tommy points to his chest.

TOMMY (CONT'D)

Right now, it's telling me you're  
the only ally I've got.

Tommy peers over the wall then jumps over it.

Gerhard waits for a moment and then removes the knife from  
his jacket.

He admires it.

INT. FARM-HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

KITCHEN

Tommy peers in through a door and enters.

Tommy opens doors to the various cupboards and removes bowls  
and cups as he peers inside.

LIVING ROOM

Tommy enters. He sneaks through the room.

A FRENCH BABY sits in a cot.

Tommy smiles at the French Baby and puts a finger to his  
lips. The French Baby watches.

Tommy looks



INSIDE A DRAWER

and sees Bandages, first aid supplies and other bits and bobs.

BACK TO SCENE

Tommy takes the first aid supplies.

Tommy looks uneasy as he glances at the French Baby.

Tommy notices a crutch propped up against a cabinet. He goes over to it and takes it.

A FARMER, male, early thirties, appears in the room. He shouts at Tommy.

FARMER

Qui es-tu?

Tommy runs.

The Farmer chases Tommy.

KITCHEN

The Farmer opens a closet door and takes out a shotgun. The Farmer cocks it.

EXT. FIELD - CONTINUOUS

Tommy sprints with the Farmer in pursuit.

The Farmer fires the shotgun.

Tommy drops the medical supplies and crutch as the bullet whizzes past him.

Tommy turns and sees the Farmer re-load the shotgun.

Tommy crouches down and picks up the medical supplies. As he stands, he sees the Farmer aim the shotgun at him.

The Farmer fires another shot as Tommy runs so fast that, eventually, he falls head over heels into long grass and mud.

The Farmer searches for Tommy.

Tommy crawls through the grass.

DRY STONE WALL

Tommy climbs down and sits beside Gerhard.

Tommy breathes heavily and breaks into a smile.

GERHARD  
The fish returns.

Tommy smiles as he holds up the first aid supplies and crutch.

Gerhard uncovers his wound and Tommy cleans it.

GERHARD (CONT'D)  
Tell me, if the good soldier is  
forced to pick between what he  
thinks in here...

Gerhard points to his chest.

GERHARD (CONT'D)  
...and what he knows up here...

Gerhard points to his head.

GERHARD (CONT'D)  
What does he choose?

Tommy wraps a bandage around Gerhard's leg.

TOMMY  
Don't know.

Tommy ties the bandage off, deliberately hard.

Gerhard grimaces.

TOMMY (CONT'D)  
I'm no soldier, remember?

EXT. MILITARY CAMP - DAY

The camp is completely destroyed.

Tents burn.

Dead bodies and plane wreckage smoulders.

Philips smokes a cigarette and assesses the damage.

A soldier, JACK THOMPSON (THOMPSON), male, early twenties,  
runs towards Philips.

Thompson stops and salutes Philips.

THOMPSON

We searched every dead body, Sarge.  
We can't make positive ID of either  
of them.

Philips takes a drag on the cigarette.

PHILIPS

Hardly surprising.

Thompson looks confused.

THOMPSON

Done a runner?

PHILIPS

Smith was soft on him.

Thompson shrugs his shoulders.

THOMPSON

Who gives a shit? They're just two  
blokes.

Philips takes a long drag on the cigarette and stands.

PHILIPS

Round up the men.

Thompson frowns.

THOMPSON

Our orders are to--

PHILIPS

Your orders are to round up the  
men.

Thompson looks uneasy.

PHILIPS (CONT'D)

This war may be all but won but  
there's others that aren't.

Philips tosses the cigarette into the mud and stands on it.

EXT. FIELD - DAY

Tommy and Gerhard walk.

Gerhard uses the crutch instead of Tommy to help him walk.  
He still struggles.

TOMMY

What will you do, you know, when  
all this is over?

Gerhard shrugs his shoulders.

TOMMY (CONT'D)

Will you go home to your family?  
Is that them in the photograph?

Gerhard ignores the comment.

TOMMY (CONT'D)

Those bomb blasts must have damaged  
your hear--

GERHARD

I am home.

Gerhard stops walking and scowls at Tommy.

GERHARD (CONT'D)

A good soldier would understand  
that he fights alongside his  
brothers, wouldn't he?

TOMMY

And dies beside them.

There is an awkward silence as Gerhard glares at Tommy.

GERHARD

You believe this to be  
dishonorable, somehow, don't you?

Tommy holds Gerhard's stare.

TOMMY

Blood is thicker than water.

GERHARD

And what if water is all you have?

Gerhard notices something beyond Tommy in the distance.

Smoke rises into the air just ahead.

Tommy turns from Gerhard and runs towards

WOODLAND

where he throws himself down onto the ground behind some  
thick bushes.

Tommy peers through them down a hill at the bottom of which is a

RIVER

where a BRITISH PATROL search the lifeless bodies of DEAD NAZI SOLDIERS.

A destroyed German tank burns and smoulders.

WOODLAND

Gerhard grimaces as he lowers himself down beside Tommy.

GERHARD (CONT'D)

German?

TOMMY

The dead ones.

Gerhard frowns and shakes his head.

RIVER

The British Patrol climb into a tank as the PATROL LEADER points towards the woodland.

The tank drives up the hill.

WOODLAND

The noise of the tank gets louder as it comes into view and stops just beside the woodland.

The Patrol Leader climbs out and points towards the bush.

The PATROL DRIVER climbs out of the tank with a rifle.

Tommy closes his eyes.

Gerhard's hand reaches towards the concealed knife.

The Patrol Leader gets closer to Tommy and Gerhard's position then stops.

PATROL LEADER

Look what we have here.

Tommy scrunches his eyes together, hard.

PATROL LEADER (CONT'D)

Another dead one.

Tommy opens his eyes.

Tommy turns his head, slowly, and peers through the bush to see the Patrol Leader and the Patrol Driver search another Dead Nazi Soldier.

PATROL DRIVER  
He did well to get away this far.

PATROL LEADER  
Sneaky fuckers, these Jerry's.

Tommy glances at Gerhard who pulls his hand away from the concealed knife.

PATROL LEADER (CONT'D)  
Let's go.

Tommy breathes a sigh of relief as the Patrol Leader and Patrol Driver head back to the tank.

The tank drives away.

Gerhard struggles to his feet with the crutch.

He limps down the hill towards the river.

Tommy follows.

RIVER

Gerhard loots the bodies of the Dead Nazi Soldiers.

TOMMY  
What are you doing, mate?

Gerhard gives Tommy a cynical look.

GERHARD  
You think they still need it?

Tommy looks disgusted.

TOMMY  
Stealing from a corpse is low.

Gerhard takes a camera from a Dead Nazi Soldier.

GERHARD  
Desperate times, desperate  
measures.

Gerhard takes a photograph of Tommy with the camera.

Tommy masks his eyes as the camera flashes.

GERHARD (CONT'D)  
You should know that better than  
anyone, eh?

Gerhard raises an eyebrow.

TOMMY  
Touche.

Tommy frowns as he steps over a Dead Nazi Soldier. He heaves  
as he looks at the ghastly wound to it's head.

GERHARD  
Just imagine you are a tourist  
taking a souvenir.

Gerhard tosses the camera to Tommy.

GERHARD (CONT'D)  
Can you help me up?

Tommy pushes Gerhard, who struggles, atop the German tank  
wreckage.

TOMMY  
Taking a few bandages, and for good  
reason I might add, is one thing.

Tommy fiddles with the camera. It flashes as he takes a  
photograph of Gerhard atop the tank.

GERHARD  
Getting the hang of it, are we?

TOMMY  
I didn't mean that.

Gerhard sits on the edge of the tank turret and dangles his  
legs inside.

GERHARD  
Go on. Use those newly dropped  
balls of yours a little more. Or  
are you scared you might like it?

Gerhard lowers himself, with difficulty, into the tank.

Tommy wanders amongst the bodies and stops as he admires a  
badly dismembered body.

Tommy throws up.

INT. TANK - CONTINUOUS

Gerhard searches the tank. He hears the sound of static.

A smile crosses Gerhard's face as he notices a radio.

Gerhard limps over to it and picks it up.

Gerhard checks over his shoulder then speaks into it.

GERHARD  
(in German)  
Come in. Base, come in.

EXT. RIVER - CONTINUOUS

Tommy closes the eyes of a Dead Nazi Soldier and holds his breath as he searches the body.

Gerhard appears behind Tommy.

GERHARD  
That really makes a difference?

Tommy turns and faces Gerhard.

TOMMY  
Doesn't seem like they're judging  
me this way.

Gerhard shakes his head and looks at the Dead Nazi Soldier.

GERHARD  
I really do not think he cares.

Tommy fiddles around in the pant pocket of the body.

Tommy stands and opens his palm to reveal a

POCKET WATCH

that is in perfect condition. The timer ticks on.

BACK TO SCENE

Gerhard nods his head in approval.

GERHARD (CONT'D)  
A good find, eh?

Tommy rummages through his own pockets and removes the photograph of Evie and Connie.



Gerhard looks at the Dead Nazi Soldier and notices a bullet wound to the chest, right through the top shirt pocket.

GERHARD (CONT'D)

Shame he did not keep the time  
closer to his heart.

Tommy puts the photograph inside the pocket watch and flips it shut.

Tommy puts the pocket watch in his top left shirt pocket and taps it twice.

TOMMY

I'll bear that in mind, mate.

Tommy removes the camera Gerhard gave him. He tosses it to Gerhard.

TOMMY (CONT'D)

Your souvenir.

Gerhard smiles and nods.

GERHARD

There may be hope for you yet,  
scum.

Gerhard pats Tommy hard on the back. Tommy stumbles forward.

Gerhard limps away on the crutch.

A glimmer of a smile crosses Tommy's face.

Tommy looks over his shoulder at the sun.

TOMMY

This way.

Gerhard stops and turns around.

GERHARD

Do you mind if I catch you up?

Gerhard points to his leg and grimaces.

Tommy nods and walks away.

Gerhard crouches down. He checks to make sure Tommy isn't looking.

Gerhard takes a coin from his pocket and picks up a rock.

Gerhard uses the coin to mark the rock.

He drops the coin beside the rock and limps after Tommy.

EXT. RIVER - LATER

A cigarette falls to the floor.

A boot stomps down and rubs it into the grass.

Philips scans the area as the British Soldiers search it.

Philips crouches down. Something gleams and catches his eye. He picks it up.

A German coin.

Thompson approaches Philips.

THOMPSON  
No sign of them, Sarge.

Philips stands, slowly. He turns and faces Thompson.

PHILIPS  
Not to worry. Private Smith's new  
pal might not be as amicable as he  
might think he is.

Philips lights another cigarette then tosses the match stick to the ground.

Philips whistles and signals the British Soldiers to move out.

The match stick flickers and burns out beside a

ROCK

'GG'

'85 Wehrmacht'

EXT. ROAD - DAY

Tommy and Gerhard approach the outskirts of a small French town.

There is a military security check point up ahead, surrounded by a forest.

Tommy helps Gerhard as they step off the road onto a

GRASS EMBANKMENT

Tommy helps Gerhard slide down.

Tommy points off into the distance.

TOMMY

Look.

Gerhard looks.

Off in the distance, there is a small harbor built out into the sea on a beach.

GERHARD

Promising, eh?

Tommy crawls back up the embankment to the

ROAD

where he looks ahead at the military security checkpoint and frowns.

EMBANKMENT

Tommy makes his way down the embankment to Gerhard.

Tommy takes out the

POCKET WATCH

Tommy runs his fingers over the photograph of Evie and Connie.

BACK TO SCENE

TOMMY

The photograph of yours. You know,  
the one Philips took from you.

Gerhard glances at Tommy.

TOMMY (CONT'D)

Don't you miss them?

Gerhard stares vacantly into the distance. Eventually, he looks at Tommy and takes the photograph of Evie and Connie from him.

Gerhard studies the photograph with a regretful look, then, hands it back without looking at Tommy.

GERHARD

Memories can also be painful, can  
they not?

ROAD

A vehicle drives by.

EMBANKMENT

Gerhard and Tommy turn and crawl up to the road side.

They look on as the vehicle pulls up at the

MILITARY SECURITY CHECKPOINT

where CHECKPOINT GUARD 1 and CHECKPOINT GUARD 2 search the vehicle.

The Checkpoint Guard's both move aside and a barrier rises.

The vehicle drives on.

EMBANKMENT

TOMMY

If we can draw them out here, we  
might have a chance of sneaking  
through.

Gerhard picks up a large rock and studies it. He taps it  
against his head suggestively.

TOMMY (CONT'D)

No way, mate. They're just doing  
their job.

ROAD

A small vehicle approaches further down the road.

EMBANKMENT

Tommy looks back at Gerhard.

TOMMY (CONT'D)

Come on, quickly.

Gerhard crawls up the embankment, rock still in hand.

Tommy picks up a large tree branch.

TOMMY (CONT'D)

Take the other end.

Gerhard takes the other end.

TOMMY (CONT'D)

On my count. Three, two, one.

Together, Tommy and Gerhard heave the tree branch up onto the

ROAD

which causes the vehicle to screech to a halt.

The VEHICLE DRIVER steps out of the vehicle. He makes a commotion and waves the Checkpoint Guards over.

The Checkpoint Guards march over towards him.

EMBANKMENT

Tommy and Gerhard sneak along the embankment towards the military security checkpoint.

ROAD

The Vehicle Driver quarrels, in French, with the Checkpoint Guards. They do not understand him.

Tommy and Gerhard sneak up onto the road.

Gerhard discretely drops the

ROCK

'GG'

'85 Wehrmacht'

MILITARY SECURITY CHECKPOINT

Tommy and Gerhard crouch beneath the barrier. They make it to the opposite side.

Tommy smiles at Gerhard.

ROAD

The Checkpoint Guards toss the tree branch down the embankment. As they do, they notice Tommy and Gerhard on the other side of the barrier.

CHECKPOINT GUARD 1

Stop right there.

MILITARY SECURITY CHECKPOINT

Tommy looks over his shoulder and sees the Checkpoint Guards run towards them.

GERHARD

You think I can outrun them?

Tommy puts his arm around Gerhard.

TOMMY

I seem to recollect being told  
there's no such thing as can't.

Tommy drags Gerhard away.

EXT. FOREST - CONTINUOUS

Gerhard winces in pain as he limps alongside Tommy.

The Checkpoint Guards chase Tommy and Gerhard.

Tommy spots a fallen tree up ahead beside a small lake. He pulls Gerhard towards it and they take cover behind it.

Leaves crunch beneath boots as footsteps get louder.

Tommy closes his eyes as a rifle appears over the top of the fallen tree.

Suddenly, Gerhard grabs the end of the rifle and pulls it hard.

Checkpoint Guard 1 falls over the top of the tree and onto the ground beside Gerhard.

The rifle slides across the ground.

Gerhard gets to his feet as Checkpoint Guard 2 peers over the fallen tree.

Checkpoint Guard 2 opens fire.

Gerhard avoids the bullets and smacks Checkpoint Guard 2 round the head with the crutch, which breaks on impact.

Checkpoint Guard 2 drops the rifle and falls to the ground, dazed.

Checkpoint Guard 1 jumps on Gerhard's back and his injured leg gives way beneath him. They fall to the floor in a heap.

A scuffle ensues between Gerhard and the Checkpoint Guards.

Gerhard comes out on top. He crawls across the ground and picks up one of the dropped rifles.

Gerhard takes aim at the Checkpoint Guards, who raise their hands above their heads.

Gerhard's finger tightens on the trigger.

Another rifle is cocked.

TOMMY (CONT'D)  
Put it down, right now.

Gerhard looks up and sees Tommy stood with the other rifle aimed directly at him.

Gerhard laughs.

GERHARD  
Going to shoot me now, are we?

Tommy takes a step towards Gerhard.

Tommy notices that Checkpoint Guard 1 has some rope slung round his belt.

TOMMY  
Tie them up and leave them be.

Gerhard doesn't move. He glares at the Checkpoint Guards.

Tommy gives Gerhard a look of disapproval.

TOMMY (CONT'D)  
They're just doing their job.  
We'll be long gone before anyone  
finds them.

Tommy pushes the rifle against Gerhard's temple.

Gerhard shakes his head as he lowers his rifle.

Gerhard ties the Guards up at the wrists and ankles.

Tommy keeps the rifle trained on Gerhard.

Gerhard takes wallets and money from the Checkpoint Guards' pockets.

Gerhard stands beside Tommy.

GERHARD  
You think they will not give us  
away the minute they are free?

Tommy doesn't flinch.

Gerhard looks frustrated.

GERHARD (CONT'D)  
Desperate times, desperate  
measures.

TOMMY  
No.

Checkpoint Guard 1 whispers to Checkpoint Guard 2.

CHECKPOINT GUARD 1  
Thank God the Nazi is his bitch.

Gerhard overhears the comment and, swiftly, aims the rifle at  
Checkpoint Guard 1, a look of anger in his eyes.

Tommy takes aim at Gerhard.

TOMMY  
Mate, stop.

Gerhard advances on Checkpoint Guard 1 until the rifle is  
pressed against his forehead.

Checkpoint Guard 1 closes his eyes and shakes.

GERHARD  
Who is the bitch now, eh?

Tommy approaches Gerhard.

TOMMY  
You don't need to do this.

Gerhard cocks the rifle.

Tommy presses his rifle up against Gerhard's head.

GERHARD  
Now you're a soldier all of a  
sudden?

TOMMY  
I don't need a gun to be a soldier.

Gerhard holds steady.

TOMMY (CONT'D)  
A soldier shows compassion.

GERHARD  
He deserves to die.

TOMMY  
Do this, and you prove me right.



Gerhard breathes heavily as he stares into the eyes of Checkpoint Guard 1.

TOMMY (CONT'D)  
Just another Nazi.

Gerhard looks, sharply, at Tommy.

TOMMY (CONT'D)  
Lecturing me about how you're here  
out of love for country and, then,  
here you are, about to murder two  
unarmed prisoners in cold blood.

Tears roll down Checkpoint Guard 1's cheek.

Sweat beads on Gerhard's forehead.

QUICK FLASHES - GERHARD'S CHILDHOOD MEMORIES

The German Man and Woman lay dead on top of each other in a pool of blood.

The Loan Shark holds a gun.

The German Boy cries over the dead bodies of the German Man and German Woman.

BACK TO SCENE

Gerhard's finger tightens on the trigger.

Tears well in Gerhard's eyes.

TOMMY (CONT'D)  
You always have a choice.

A single tear rolls from Gerhard's eye.

Gerhard screams as he points the rifle into the air and pulls the trigger.

Gerhard fires bullets until none remain.

Gerhard turns and tosses the rifle into the lake. He limps away.

Tommy breathes a sigh of relief as he lowers the rifle and follows Gerhard.

Gerhard sits beside the lake and puts his head in his hands. He cries.

Tommy sits beside him and puts his arm around him.

Gerhard knocks Tommy's arm away.

Tommy looks back at the Checkpoint Guards.

Checkpoint Guard 1 mouths the words 'Thank you.'

Tommy nods at him then looks back at Gerhard, who cuts the figure of a broken man.

Tommy pats Gerhard on the back.

EXT. FOREST - LATER

A LOCAL BOY, early teens, collects fire wood.

He hears the faint sound of a male voice in the distance.

MALE VOICE  
Anyone out there?

The Local Boy stops and listens. He follows the voice through the forest.

The voice gets louder.

MALE VOICE (CONT'D)  
Anyone out there?

The Local Boy breaks into a run.

Eventually, the Local Boy runs into a clearing where there is a large, fallen tree beside a small lake.

The Local Boy looks shocked as he discovers the Checkpoint Guards.

LOCAL BOY'S DAD, male, late thirties, appears from the trees.

LOCAL BOY'S DAD  
(in French with English  
subtitles)  
Quickly. Go get the police.

The Local Boy runs off as the Local Boy's Dad unties the Checkpoint Guards.

EXT. FRENCH TOWN - NIGHT

STREETS

Tommy acts as a crutch for Gerhard as they walk.

They move in and out of various different alleys.

Tommy and Gerhard hide behind a cart.

GERHARD  
The photograph.

Tommy looks confused.

GERHARD (CONT'D)  
In the pocket watch, yes?

Tommy nods as he peers around the cart. POLICEMEN stand at the end of the street.

TOMMY  
My wife and mam.

Gerhard nods his head.

GERHARD  
You are lucky, scum.

Tommy faces Gerhard.

TOMMY  
I do have a name.

Gerhard peers from behind the cart.

GERHARD  
In Germany, you are all called Tommy.

TOMMY  
Bloody typical.

The Policemen walk away.

Tommy and Gerhard move away from the cart.

Tommy and Gerhard reach the end of another street and hide in a doorway as a FRENCH POLICEMAN appears.

TOMMY (CONT'D)  
And what of your photograph?

Gerhard peeks out and quickly takes cover as the French Policeman walks by.

GERHARD  
Who they are, I do not know anymore.

Silence.

Gerhard points across the street towards a bar.

GERHARD (CONT'D)  
It looks fairly quiet in there,  
yes?

Tommy assists Gerhard as they approach the bar.

INT. BAR - CONTINUOUS

Tommy and Gerhard sit at a table in a corner, away from a group of LOCALS.

A FISHERMAN, male, mid twenties, sits on a table beside Tommy and Gerhard and drinks.

Tommy and Gerhard sit with their backs to him.

Gerhard takes a photograph from out of his jacket pocket and puts it on the table.

GERHARD  
My wife and daughter.

Tommy looks into Gerhard's eyes.

GERHARD (CONT'D)  
At least, they were, before I came  
here.

Tommy shakes his head.

TOMMY  
I don't understand.

Gerhard frowns.

GERHARD  
Neither did she.

Gerhard picks the photograph up and runs his finger over it.

GERHARD (CONT'D)  
You and I, we might speak different  
tongues and wear different colors  
but, when all is said and done, we  
fight for the exact same thing.

Tommy smiles.

TOMMY

In very different ways.

A glimmer of a smile crosses Gerhard's face.

GERHARD

You are like her, you know?

Gerhard hands Tommy the photograph.

TOMMY

I don't see the resemblance.

Gerhard chuckles.

GERHARD

She did not want any part of this.  
But I...I hungered for it. Needed  
it, even.

Tommy hands Gerhard the photograph.

TOMMY

For the right reasons, I am sure.

A guilty look crosses Gerhard's face.

GERHARD

I do not know anymore.

Tommy leans in over the table so he is face to face with  
Gerhard.

TOMMY

All choices have consequences.

A commotion is heard, from outside.

TOMMY (CONT'D)

But that doesn't mean we can't  
attempt to put them right.

Gerhard frowns at Tommy as a military vehicle is seen parking  
outside the window.

GERHARD

How do you suggest we put this one  
right?

Tommy and Gerhard keep their heads down.

Eventually, the military vehicle drives away.

Tommy frowns.

TOMMY

Right now, I'm more concerned with the small matter of the English channel.

Tommy ponders this for a moment.

The Fisherman leans across from the other table. He speaks good English, with a French accent.

FISHERMAN

You are looking to get across the channel?

Tommy and Gerhard turn and face the Fisherman.

TOMMY

Maybe.

The Fisherman brings his chair over to Tommy and Gerhard's table.

FISHERMAN

I have a small fishing boat in the harbor.

Tommy's eyes widen.

FISHERMAN (CONT'D)

For a fee, I'll take you.

Tommy's smile disappears.

FISHERMAN (CONT'D)

How much do you have?

Tommy looks at Gerhard, who takes out the wallets he took from the Checkpoint Guards.

Gerhard empties the contents onto the table. A few notes and coins rattle on the table top.

The Fisherman finishes his drink and stands.

FISHERMAN (CONT'D)

Tomorrow at dusk. Meet me at the harbor.

Tommy looks at the measly amount of money on the table.

TOMMY

There's hardly anything.

FISHERMAN

Do you want to go or not?

Tommy nods.

FISHERMAN (CONT'D)

Tomorrow at dusk.

The Fisherman exits.

Tommy's expression resembles a child at Christmas.

GERHARD

Looks like we will be going our  
separate ways soon, eh?

A huge smile crosses Tommy's face as he looks back at  
Gerhard.

TOMMY

I really need to thank you.

Gerhard looks sheepish.

TOMMY (CONT'D)

For the first time in a long time I  
actually feel strong.

GERHARD

Believe me, I have not helped you.

TOMMY

Don't be daft.

Gerhard shakes his head.

GERHARD

We are what we are.

Tommy reaches across the table and puts a hand on Gerhard's  
shoulder.

TOMMY

A friend is what you are, mate.

Gerhard forces a smile that quickly disappears.

Tommy takes out the pocket watch. He flips it open.

A huge smile crosses Tommy's face as he gazes at the  
photograph tucked inside the watch.

INT. KITCHEN - MORNING

The Fisherman eats breakfast.

The FISHERMAN'S WIFE, female, mid twenties, washes the pots.

FISHERMAN  
I won't be home tonight.

The Fisherman's Wife puts down the pots and faces him.

FISHERMAN'S WIFE  
You can't keep doing this.

A young girl, no more than five years old, enters with a teddy bear. This is the FISHERMAN'S DAUGHTER.

FISHERMAN'S DAUGHTER  
Papa, I ache everywhere.

The Fisherman picks her up and sits her on his knee.

FISHERMAN  
Don't you worry, sweet child. Papa  
is going to get what you need to  
take the pain away.

He kisses her on the head.

FISHERMAN (CONT'D)  
You run along back to bed and rest  
up.

FISHERMAN'S DAUGHTER  
I love you, Papa.

The Fisherman's Daughter coughs, hard, as she exits.

The Fisherman looks at the Fisherman's Wife.

FISHERMAN  
I'll keep this up as long as she  
needs.

As the Fisherman stands, there is a knock at the door.

The Fisherman's Wife answers it.

EXT. HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Thompson stands in the doorway.



THOMPSON

Sorry to disturb you, Miss.

The Fisherman's Wife looks surprised.

INT. KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

The Fisherman looks up from the table and makes his way, cautiously, to the door.

EXT. HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

THOMPSON

We're looking for two men. British  
and German. You seen anyone  
strange about town?

The Fisherman appears at the door beside his Wife.

FISHERMAN

No strangers round here except you,  
roast beef.

The Fisherman closes the door in Thompson's face.

A hand prevents the door from closing.

It is Philips.

PHILIPS

You don't mind if we come in for a  
chat, do you, Son?

The Fisherman looks anxious. With reluctance, he moves  
aside.

INT. KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

Philips admires the kitchen. He lights a cigarette.

The Fisherman closes the door.

Philips sits down and makes himself at home.

PHILIPS

Word on the street is that you're  
the man to see about a boat.

The Fisherman shrugs his shoulders.

FISHERMAN

Hasn't King George got enough boats  
already?

PHILIPS

Don't flatter yourself. His  
Majesty has no interest in adding  
some two bit, flimsy fishing boat  
to the finest fleet on God's green  
Earth.

Philips takes a drag on the cigarette.

PHILIPS (CONT'D)

Especially one owned by a frog.

The Fisherman is angry. He opens the door.

FISHERMAN

I think you have out-stayed your  
welcome.

Philips, casually, smokes the cigarette.

FISHERMAN (CONT'D)

Out.

Philips tucks the cigarette behind his ear.

PHILIPS

That's no way to treat a guest.  
Don't you frogs have manners?

The Fisherman's Daughter enters.

FISHERMAN'S DAUGHTER

Papa, it really hurts.

Philips looks at the Fisherman, then at the Fisherman's  
Daughter.

PHILIPS

What a lovely little girl.

Philips stands. He goes over to the Fisherman's Daughter and  
picks her up.

Philips strokes the Fisherman's Daughters hair.

The Fisherman looks, apprehensively, at the Fisherman's Wife.

The Fisherman's Daughter coughs.

PHILIPS (CONT'D)

She is sick?

Philips pats the Fisherman's Daughter on the back then looks up at the Fisherman.

PHILIPS (CONT'D)

I'm sure your little smuggling operation provides adequate finance to treat her ailment?

The Fisherman looks surprised.

PHILIPS (CONT'D)

Small town.

Philips takes the cigarette from behind his ear and brushes the Fisherman's Daughter's hair back, exposing her forehead.

PHILIPS (CONT'D)

They say that a cigarette burns at four hundred degrees.

Philips takes another long drag on the cigarette and admires it.

He puts the cigarette beside the Fisherman's Daughter's head.

A tear rolls from the Fisherman's eye.

The Fisherman's Wife watches and trembles.

EXT. STREETS OF FRENCH TOWN - CONTINUOUS

Philips and Thompson walk towards a tank as Philips lights up another cigarette.

Thompson looks uneasy.

THOMPSON

Sarge, I'm not sure I'm completely comfortable with this.

Philips stops and faces Thompson.

PHILIPS

Pray tell.

Thompson frowns.

THOMPSON

Aren't we over-stepping the mark a bit here? I mean, they're just civilians.

Philips takes a drag on the cigarette.

PHILIPS

You told me you were ready to do whatever is necessary.

THOMPSON

I am, Sarge. It just seems a little...

Philips gets in Thompson's face.

PHILIPS

A little?

Thompson frowns.

THOMPSON

Harsh.

Philips turns and marches away from Thompson.

Thompson follows.

PHILIPS

It takes harsh measures to survive in harsh times, Son. You know who taught me that?

Thompson speeds up to Philips' pace.

THOMPSON

British High Command?

They reach the tank. Philips turns and faces Thompson.

PHILIPS

The fucking Nazi's. You want to beat a Nazi? You have to think and act like one.

Philips takes a drag on the cigarette.

PHILIPS (CONT'D)

Fear breeds obedience.

Thompson stares at Philips as he climbs up on top of the tank.

PHILIPS (CONT'D)  
Making difficult choices is  
leadership.

Philips tosses the cigarette onto the floor.

PHILIPS (CONT'D)  
Question is, can you live with  
them?

Philips climbs into the tank.

Thompson ponders Philips' words as a TANK LIEUTENANT, male,  
late twenties, walks by.

THOMPSON  
He always this intense?

TANK LIEUTENANT  
Since he killed his brother.

Thompson looks confused.

THOMPSON  
Nazi's killed him.

Thompson follows the Tank Lieutenant.

TANK LIEUTENANT  
Well, yeah, technically.

THOMPSON  
What does that mean?

The Tank Lieutenant stops abruptly.

TANK LIEUTENANT  
Nazi's tortured him. Right in  
front of the Sarge. Pulled his  
Goddamn insides out.

Thompson looks disgusted.

TANK LIEUTENANT (CONT'D)  
When they'd had enough, they threw  
what was left of him to the rats.  
He was still alive, just about, so  
they gave the Sarge a gun with a  
single bullet.

Thompson's eyes widen.

THOMPSON  
Fear breeds obedience.

TANK LIEUTENANT

He did what any brother would have done.

Thompson looks back at the tank as Philips climbs out.

TANK LIEUTENANT (CONT'D)

You can't judge a man's actions until you know his motivations.

The Tank Lieutenant picks up a box of ammunition and walks away.

EXT. HILLSIDE - NIGHT

Tommy and Gerhard hide beside a bush.

Tommy peeks out and looks down the hillside towards the

HARBOR

Tommy sees the Fisherman, who prepares a small fishing boat for sail.

HILLSIDE

Tommy looks at Gerhard, almost with regret.

TOMMY

This is it.

Gerhard flashes a faint smile.

GERHARD

So it would seem.

Tommy moves away from the bush then stops.

TOMMY

I almost forgot.

Tommy reaches into his shirt pocket and removes the pocket watch. He opens it and takes out the photograph.

TOMMY (CONT'D)

Here.

Tommy holds out the pocket watch.

Gerhard looks confused.

TOMMY (CONT'D)

I saw you eyeing it up before.

Gerhard looks ashamed.

GERHARD

I cannot.

Tommy rolls his eyes.

TOMMY

Think of it as a souvenir.

Tommy winks at Gerhard.

Gerhard, eventually, takes the pocket watch.

GERHARD

Thank you...

Gerhard admires the pocket watch.

GERHARD (CONT'D)

...Herr Tommy.

Tommy smiles.

TOMMY

Better than scum.

Gerhard puts the pocket watch into his trouser pocket.

Tommy stops him.

Gerhard looks confused, then realizes.

GERHARD

I would not want to end up like the  
previous owner, would I?

Gerhard places the pocket watch in the shirt pocket on his  
chest and taps the pocket twice.

Tommy smiles.

Gerhard takes the camera out of his pocket and holds it out  
for Tommy.

Tommy shakes his head.

TOMMY

All I want is your name.

Gerhard looks at Tommy.

GERHARD

Garver. Gerhard Garver.

Tommy holds out his hand.

TOMMY

Nice to finally meet you.

Gerhard reciprocates and the pair shake hands.

Gerhard holds out the camera once again.

GERHARD

If, by some miracle, you do make it home, this will tell a great story, yes?

They both smile.

Tommy takes the camera.

EXT. BEACH - CONTINUOUS

Tommy helps Gerhard as they walk down the beach.

HARBOR

The Fisherman stands beside the boat. He ties rope to a wooden post.

BEACH

Gerhard stops.

GERHARD

Do you think it is, perhaps, time to do this for myself?

Tommy steps away from Gerhard.

Gerhard limps without assistance.

HARBOR

A military vehicle appears.

BEACH

Tommy and Gerhard freeze. They duck down behind some stone steps.

HARBOR

Philips steps out from the vehicle and approaches the Fisherman.



BEACH

A look of horror appears on Tommy's face.

HARBOR

Philips stands face to face with the Fisherman and lights up a cigarette.

PHILIPS  
Any sign of them?

BEACH

Tommy, shocked, frowns and looks at Gerhard.

TOMMY  
How did he find us?

Gerhard looks guilty.

HARBOR

Philips smokes the cigarette as he scans the area.

Philips looks back towards the vehicle.

PHILIPS  
Let's get this show on the road,  
Son. We don't have all night.

Thompson steps out from the vehicle. He moves towards the back of the vehicle and drags out the Fisherman's Daughter and Wife, who both look terrified.

The Fisherman looks shocked.

Philips takes a drag on the cigarette and tucks it behind his ear. He stands.

PHILIPS (CONT'D)  
Private Smith. You have...

Philips looks at his watch.

PHILIPS (CONT'D)  
..two minutes to get your Nazi  
sympathizing arse out here.

Thompson cocks his gun and points it at the Fisherman's Wife.

The Fisherman's Wife cries.

The Fisherman lunges at Philips.

Philips punches The Fisherman in the face and he falls to the floor.

BEACH

Tommy looks at Gerhard.

TOMMY

He's going to kill them.

Gerhard watches and ignores Tommy.

HARBOR

Philips admires his watch and smokes the cigarette.

The Fisherman gets to his feet and approaches Philips.

PHILIPS

Watching someone you love suffer hurts. I suggest you back off.

The Fisherman backs off.

Philips takes a drag on the cigarette.

BEACH

Tommy looks at Gerhard.

TOMMY

Hello?

Gerhard remains silent.

SERIES OF SHOTS

The Loan Shark holds a gun.

LOAN SHARK

(in German with English subtitles)

Always pay your debts, boy.

Tommy holds a piece of bread through barbed wire.

TOMMY

One good turn deserves another and all that

BACK TO SCENE

Tommy nudges Gerhard.

TOMMY (CONT'D)  
We can't just sit here and watch  
him kill an innocent family.

Gerhard looks up at Tommy, slowly.

GERHARD  
We cannot.

HARBOR

PHILIPS  
Time's almost up.

Thompson pushes the gun into the Fisherman's Wife's head.

BEACH

Gerhard stands.

GERHARD  
Consider this my debt to you  
repaid.

Tommy looks confused.

Gerhard gives Tommy a solemn look and puts a hand on his  
shoulder.

GERHARD (CONT'D)  
My cause is here. It is time for  
you to go fight yours.

Gerhard steps out into the open.

HARBOR

Philips stands and tucks the cigarette behind his ear. He  
smiles.

Thompson lowers the gun and points it at Gerhard.

BEACH

Tommy presses himself up against the stairs and looks on. He  
rubs his neck.

Gerhard advances up the beach.

PHILIPS  
The traitor?

GERHARD  
He served his purpose.

HARBOR

Gerhard climbs up stone steps.

Philips approaches him and the pair stand face to face.

PHILIPS

Shame. I was going to extend him  
the same courtesy your comrades  
gave me.

Gerhard spits in Philips' face.

Philips smiles as he slowly wipes his face clean.

PHILIPS (CONT'D)

Nothing but a dirty, Nazi dog.

Gerhard glares at Philips.

GERHARD

The dog may be wounded...

Gerhard's hand slides towards the concealed knife.

GERHARD (CONT'D)

...but that does not mean it cannot  
bite.

Suddenly, Gerhard whips out the knife and swings it, wildly,  
at Philips.

Philips ducks out of the way and kicks Gerhard in his injured  
leg.

Gerhard grimaces and falls to the floor.

BEACH

Tommy frowns as he watches. He looks like he wants to help  
Gerhard but he holds himself back.

HARBOR

Philips crouches down beside Gerhard and grabs him by the  
collar.

PHILIPS

The Nazi's did teach me another  
thing.

Philips points the gun at the Fisherman.

PHILIPS (CONT'D)  
Brutality can be compassion.

Philips shoots the Fisherman.

Thompson looks surprised.

BEACH

Tommy's eyes widen in horror.

HARBOR

The Fisherman clutches his stomach and falls to his knees.

The Fisherman's Wife and Daughter scream and run to the Fisherman.

Philips stands and Gerhard staggers to his feet.

PHILIPS (CONT'D)  
They should give me a medal -  
saving an innocent girl the shame  
of being raised by a traitorous  
father.

Thompson restrains Gerhard and drags him towards the military vehicle.

Gerhard struggles as Thompson forces him inside.

Philips looks at Thompson.

PHILIPS (CONT'D)  
Burn the boat.

Thompson stares at the Fisherman's Wife and Daughter as they kneel and cry hysterically over the Fisherman's dead body.

PHILIPS (CONT'D)  
Don't go getting soft on me, Son.

Thompson looks at Philips and nods.

Thompson turns and takes a can of petrol from the vehicle. He looks doubtful as he pours it over the Fisherman's boat.

Philips takes a long drag on the cigarette then flicks it onto the boat.

Flames engulf the boat as Philips walks past the Fisherman's Wife and Daughter.

The military vehicle drives away as blood pools beneath the Fisherman.

BEACH

Tears roll down Tommy's cheeks as the fire lights up his horrified face.

EXT. FRENCH TOWN - DAY

Rain hammers down on the streets.

Dark clouds fill the sky.

STREET

Soaked and dishevelled, Tommy makes his way through the streets.

He bumps into CIVILIAN'S, who are clearly not pleased.

Eventually, Tommy reaches a

NEWS-STAND

where he stops and picks up a newspaper.

Tommy wipes rain from his eyes and looks at the front page.

NEWSPAPER

Dimanche 25 Juin, 1944.

BACK TO SCENE

Tommy takes a scrunched up letter from his pocket. He straightens it out and traces the words with his finger.

LETTER

17th May, 1944.

BACK TO SCENE

Tommy, angrily, screws the letter up and throws it to the floor.

INT. BRITISH MILITARY CAMP - SAME

Rain hammers down and pools.

SOLDIERS form a large circle and cheer.

Gerhard lays, bloodied, in a puddle of mud.

Philips, topless, stands over Gerhard.

Philips lifts Gerhard to his feet.

Gerhard's face contorts with anger as the rain washes blood from his face.

Gerhard lunges at Philips. Philips steps aside and kicks Gerhard in his leg.

Gerhard falls to the floor and clutches his leg.

Philips pins Gerhard down.

Philips takes out a cigarette and lights it.

Gerhard puts the cigarette out on Gerhard's forehead.

Gerhard screams then rolls onto his back and stares at the sky. He spits blood from his mouth.

EXT. FRENCH TOWN - DAY

Rain pours.

Thunder and lightening.

STREET

Tommy pushes himself up against a wall as he looks across a road at a

HOUSE

The Fisherman's Wife and the Fisherman's Daughter stand in the rain.

The Fisherman's Wife opens the door.

STREET

Tommy runs across the street towards the house.

INT. KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

The Fisherman's Wife puts groceries on the table.

There is a knock at the door.

She looks up in surprise and makes her way to the door.

EXT. DOORSTEP - CONTINUOUS

The door opens.

Tommy stands, soaked.

The Fisherman's wife looks Tommy up and down. She notices the British military colors on his clothes.

FISHERMAN'S WIFE

The British have caused me enough  
distress for one lifetime. Please  
leave me alone.

The Fisherman's Wife closes the door.

Tommy steps forward and stops the door.

TOMMY

I knew your husband.

The door opens again, slowly.

The Fisherman's Wife peers out.

FISHERMAN'S WIFE

My husband is dead.

Tommy takes his hand off the door and sighs.

TOMMY

I know. I know.

The Fisherman's Wife puts her face in her hands and breaks down in tears.

Tommy looks ridden with guilt.

TOMMY (CONT'D)

Please, I need to talk to you.

The Fisherman's Wife steps aside and invites Tommy in.

INT. KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

Tommy sits at the table.

The Fisherman's Wife hands Tommy a towel and sits opposite him.

Tommy dries himself as the Fisherman's Wife dries her eyes.

FISHERMAN'S WIFE

You said you knew my husband?



Tommy nods.

TOMMY

Briefly.

The Fisherman's Daughter enters and runs towards the Fisherman's Wife.

Tommy watches.

FISHERMAN'S DAUGHTER

Mama, I just saw Papa.

The Fisherman's Daughter coughs, hard.

A tear rolls down the Fisherman's Wife's cheek.

FISHERMAN'S WIFE

Papa's gone, dear.

Tommy frowns with shame.

TOMMY

Is there anything I can do?

The Fisherman's Wife shakes her head.

FISHERMAN'S WIFE

Raise the dead?

Tommy squirms in the chair.

FISHERMAN'S WIFE (CONT'D)

My husband didn't know many Englishmen. Who did you say you were?

Tommy's eyes clearly project his guilty conscience.

TOMMY

I...

The Fisherman's Wife eyes widen.

FISHERMAN'S WIFE

You're the one, aren't you? The other one they were looking for.

The Fisherman's Wife glares at Tommy.

FISHERMAN'S WIFE (CONT'D)

It's you.

Tommy avoids the Fisherman's Wife's burning stare.

FISHERMAN'S WIFE (CONT'D)  
 He'd still be here if it wasn't for  
 you.

The Fisherman's Wife stands.

She picks up a cup from the table and throws it onto the  
 floor so hard that it smashes.

The Fisherman's Daughter cries.

The Fisherman's Wife shakes her head and picks up the  
 Fisherman's Daughter. She comforts her.

FISHERMAN'S WIFE (CONT'D)  
 There, there, dear. Mama is sorry.

The Fisherman's Wife glares at Tommy.

FISHERMAN'S WIFE (CONT'D)  
 I think you've caused enough upset.  
 Please leave.

Tommy stands and hangs his head.

TOMMY  
 I saw what happened. I wouldn't  
 wish it on anyone.

The Fisherman's Wife frowns as she puts the Fisherman's  
 Daughter down.

TOMMY (CONT'D)  
 If I could have done anything about  
 it, I would have.

The Fisherman's Wife scoffs.

FISHERMAN'S WIFE  
 You were there? And just watched?

The Fisherman's Wife runs to Tommy and hits him several times  
 on the chest. Tommy lets her.

The Fisherman's Wife, eventually, stops and breaks down into  
 tears.

The Fisherman's Daughter goes over to her.

FISHERMAN'S DAUGHTER  
 Mama? Was Papa a coward?

The Fisherman's Wife comforts her and glares at Tommy as she  
 answers.

## FISHERMAN'S WIFE

No dear, of course not. Papa was far from that.

The Fisherman's Wife goes to the door and shows it to Tommy.

## FISHERMAN'S WIFE (CONT'D)

Do you even know why he offered to help you?

Tommy shakes his head, speechless, as he stands by the door.

The Fisherman's Daughter coughs and splutters, hard. Tommy notices.

A look of shame is painted on Tommy's face.

EXT. DOORSTEP - CONTINUOUS

Tommy steps outside and faces the Fisherman's Wife.

## FISHERMAN'S WIFE (CONT'D)

At least he died trying to do the right thing.

The Fisherman's Wife slams the door shut.

Tommy, completely sullen, turns and walks into the rain.

INT. ROOM - DAY

A dark, miserable room.

Windows blacked out.

Gerhard sits in the corner. He is bloodied and badly bruised.

There is a loud clunk as a door opens and light pours into the room.

Gerhard squints and shields his eyes.

Philips approaches and stands over Gerhard.

Philips puts a large object down beside Gerhard. It is in a bag so we cannot tell what it is.

## GERHARD

Come to give me another beating, have you?

Philips smiles as he lights a cigarette.

He tosses the match-stick to the floor then crouches down in front of Gerhard.

Suddenly, Philips grabs Gerhard's face and squeezes his cheeks together.

Philips admires the bruises on Gerhard's face as he twists his head to the side.

PHILIPS  
Not all pain is physical.

Philips takes a drag on the cigarette.

PHILIPS (CONT'D)  
Besides, I doubt you can feel that much anymore.

With some force, Philips pushes Gerhard's face into the wall as he releases his grip.

Gerhard does not react. He looks at Philips then turns away.

PHILIPS (CONT'D)  
Where's the fight gone, Son? You had the makings of the perfect soldier. Anger. Aggression.

Philips holds up a

PHOTOGRAPH

Martha and Baby.

BACK TO SCENE

PHILIPS (CONT'D)  
Something to fight for.

Gerhard, sullen, glances at the photograph.

GERHARD  
Nothing to lose.

Philips sniggers.

PHILIPS  
Everyone has something to lose. You just don't know until you've lost it.

Gerhard looks at Philips.

GERHARD

What would you know about loss?

Philips glares at Gerhard and shakes his head.

PHILIPS

You have no idea.

Philips stands.

PHILIPS (CONT'D)

But you will.

Philips picks up the bag and removes a

ROCK

'GG'

'Wehrmacht 85'

BACK TO SCENE

Philips holds the rock out.

PHILIPS (CONT'D)

Thanks to you, your rescue dogs are  
going to find us.

Philips smokes the cigarette.

PHILIPS (CONT'D)

When they do, I will be waiting.

Philips paces the room. He takes out a large knife and  
admires it.

PHILIPS (CONT'D)

You will watch me inflict horrors  
you can only imagine. And then,  
when their agony is so much they  
beg for death, they will look to  
you for compassion.

Philips takes out a gun. He tosses it before Gerhard.

PHILIPS (CONT'D)

And you will oblige them. Then we  
can talk about loss.

Philips flicks the cigarette at Gerhard.

PHILIPS (CONT'D)

Nazi.

Anger takes Gerhard. He picks up the gun and screams as he pulls the trigger, repeatedly. It is not loaded.

PHILIPS (CONT'D)

There it is.

Philips smiles as Gerhard throws the gun at him. Philips picks it up and dusts it off.

Philips walks towards the door then turns and faces Gerhard.

PHILIPS (CONT'D)

Men like us don't change, Son.

Philips exits.

EXT. HILLSIDE - NIGHT

The sun sets and lights the sky an awesome red.

Tommy sits against a tree. He has a pen and sheet of paper in his hands.

Tommy looks down at the beach and sees a boat moored in the harbor.

Tommy takes a deep breath then writes.

TOMMY (V.O.)

My dearest, Evie.

Tommy smiles and bites the end of the pen.

TOMMY (V.O.)

I can't begin to tell you how much I have missed you. I just wish I could see how beautiful our Elizabeth is. If she's anything like her mother she will break some hearts.

Tommy's smile fades.

TOMMY (V.O.)

Give Mam my love. I had hoped I would be home by now but things haven't exactly worked out the way I had imagined.

Tommy stops writing. He looks out and sees the boat pull away from the dock.

Tears build in Tommy's eyes as he writes.

TOMMY (V.O.)

All my life, I have run away from what I needed to do. Others have suffered because I was too scared to do what was necessary.

Tomorrow, that will change. If I do not act, another good man will die.

Tommy wipes his eyes.

TOMMY (V.O.)

An amazing woman once said that she believed there was plenty of good left in this world. I refuse to let my daughter grow up believing her to be a liar.

Tommy stops writing and watches the boat sail out of the harbor.

A tear rolls down Tommy's cheek.

Tommy writes.

TOMMY (V.O.)

We are what we choose. Whatever happens, someday, I will see you all again.

PAPER

'Love you always, Thomas.'

BACK TO SCENE

Tommy folds the paper, puts it in his jacket pocket and looks out to sea.

Tommy watches the boat sail into the distance.

EXT. OUTSKIRTS OF FRENCH TOWN - NIGHT

Damaged and abandoned buildings.

STREETS

A British tank rolls by.

Tommy presses himself up against a building. He peers around the corner.

Tommy waits until the tank disappears from view then sprints across the path.

Tommy presses himself up against another building.

Two SENTRY'S, both male, stand guard up ahead.

Philips and Thompson appear and approach the Sentry's.

Philips says something to them and one of them runs off.

Philips and Thompson exit.

Tommy picks up a large rock. He looks at it then peers round the corner at the remaining Sentry.

Tommy takes a deep breath then launches the rock.

It hits the floor.

The Sentry looks up and moves forward, cautiously, with his gun at the ready.

Tommy breathes heavily and rubs his neck as the Sentry gets closer.

The Sentry stops just short of Tommy's position. He notices the large rock on the floor and bends down.

Tommy springs from his position and throws himself at the Sentry.

The Sentry notices in the nick of time and holds up the gun to protect himself.

Tommy collides with the Sentry and the gun slides across the ground.

A struggle ensues.

The Sentry gains the advantage and mounts Tommy. He rains punches down on Tommy, who holds up his hands to protect himself.

Tommy grits his teeth and grabs hold of the Sentry's arm.

Tommy notices the large rock just beside him. He reaches out.

Tommy's fingertips brush the rock but he cannot quite get hold of it.



The Sentry notices and reaches over for the rock. As he does, Tommy drives his hips up and flips the Sentry off of him.

Tommy rolls on top of the Sentry and picks up the rock.

Tommy pauses for a moment and then hits the Sentry on the head with the rock.

The Sentry falls unconscious.

Tommy breathes heavily and checks the Sentry's pulse.

TOMMY

A little nap won't hurt you.

Tommy drags the Sentry's unconscious body into a bush by his feet.

Tommy runs down the street to the Sentry's original position.

He stops at a building that has a large bolt across the door.

Philips walks down the street in the distance.

Tommy notices and hides in a

DOORWAY

where he peers out.

STREET

Philips approaches.

DOORWAY

Tommy desperately pushes the bolt. It doesn't move.

STREET

Philips walks dangerously close.

DOORWAY

Tommy gives the bolt a big push and it slides back.

Tommy opens the door and steps inside.

INT. ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Tommy pulls the door shut.

He slumps to the floor and breathes heavily.

EXT. STREET - SAME

Philips walks past the doorway around the corner.

INT. ROOM - SAME

Tommy looks up and notices a figure laid in the far corner of the room.

Tommy squints.

TOMMY

Gerhard?

Tommy scrambles to his feet and approaches the figure.

It is Gerhard.

Gerhard looks up at Tommy.

GERHARD

I thought I told you to go home,  
did I not?

Tommy looks Gerhard up and down. Tommy frowns and shakes his head as he sees Gerhard's injuries.

TOMMY

Come on, mate, I'm getting you out  
of here.

Gerhard hangs his head.

GERHARD

And go where, eh? Not everyone has  
something to go home for.

Tommy shakes his head.

TOMMY

She'll forgive you. If you try.

Tommy holds out his hand. Gerhard ignores him.

Tommy crouches down. He takes a deep breath and sighs.

TOMMY (CONT'D)

My dad used to drink.

Gerhard rolls his eyes.

GERHARD

A lecture now, is it?

Tommy persists.

TOMMY

I mean, he used to really drink.  
He would go to the pub with his  
mates and, when he came home..

Tommy pauses and rubs the back of his neck.

TOMMY (CONT'D)

..he would beat Mam. Time and time  
again. I was only a boy, maybe  
nine or ten. But I was old enough  
to understand what was going on.

Tommy sits side by side with Gerhard.

TOMMY (CONT'D)

She used to scream at him to stop.  
He never listened.

Tommy stares up into space.

TOMMY (CONT'D)

After he died, at the funeral, I  
wasn't sad.

Tommy shakes his head.

TOMMY (CONT'D)

A ten year old shouldn't feel that  
way about their father.

Tommy shakes his head.

TOMMY (CONT'D)

Point is, I never did anything to  
try to stop him.

Gerhard raises his head.

Tommy stares vacantly for a moment then takes out the  
photograph of Evie and Connie.

Tommy stares at it.

Gerhard looks at the photograph and then back at Tommy.

Tommy runs his finger over the photograph.

TOMMY (CONT'D)  
One good man has died already  
because of me.

Tommy looks at Gerhard.

TOMMY (CONT'D)  
It won't happen again.

Gerhard looks sullen.

GERHARD  
You think you know me, but you do  
not.

Tommy puts a hand on Gerhard's shoulder and leans in close to  
him.

TOMMY  
Good men deserve a second chance.

Tommy stands and holds out his hand.

TOMMY (CONT'D)  
Stay here and rot for some  
politician in his swanky office.  
Or, go home and fight a battle  
that's worth dying for. Your  
choice.

Gerhard, eventually, reaches up and takes Tommy's hand.

EXT. OUTSKIRTS OF FRENCH TOWN - CONTINUOUS

STREET

Tommy and Gerhard walk. Tommy helps Gerhard, who limps badly  
again.

Gerhard stops.

GERHARD  
Wait.

Tommy turns to face Gerhard.

Gerhard searches through his pockets. He removes a damaged  
envelope and holds it out.

Tommy looks at it.

GERHARD (CONT'D)

I found it when they first brought  
me in here.

Tommy takes the envelope from Gerhard.

Tommy admires the envelope. He recognizes the writing on the  
front. He smiles.

TOMMY

Evie.

As Tommy tears open the envelope, there is a sudden explosion  
as a bomb explodes metres away.

Tommy and Gerhard both fly through the air. They crash to  
the ground.

Dazed, Tommy rolls over and looks to the sky as German planes  
soar over the town.

There are more explosions.

Gerhard looks at Tommy.

TOMMY (CONT'D)

We better get a move on.

Tommy tucks the envelope away in his pocket then helps  
Gerhard to his feet.

Tommy assists Gerhard as they make their way down the street.

More German Planes fly above the town.

Explosions on all sides as buildings are reduced to rubble.

A group of British Soldiers run across the street ahead of  
Tommy and Gerhard.

Tommy pulls Gerhard into a doorway.

Terrified LOCAL RESIDENTS run out of houses and down the  
street.

Tommy and Gerhard continue on their way and reach a

CROSSROADS

Tommy looks down a street. More Local Residents scream as  
they run for cover from the falling bombs.

Tommy and Gerhard make their way down a

STREET

where a bomb explodes on a building.

The building collapses and blocks the path.

Tommy turns and looks behind.

Gerhard winces.

GERHARD

My leg.

Tommy looks around and notices a motorcycle and side car.

TOMMY

Come on.

ANOTHER STREET

Philips stands and barks orders to the British Soldiers, who shoot at the German planes.

Philips takes a drag on a cigarette.

A tank thunders to a halt beside Philips.

Philips climbs atop the tank. As he does, he notices Tommy and Gerhard drive across the crossroads on the motorcycle.

PHILIPS

Son of a bitch.

Angrily, he tosses the cigarette to the ground.

Philips climbs down from the tank.

Thompson pops his head out from inside the tank.

THOMPSON

Sarge? We have orders.

Philips marches away as he speaks.

PHILIPS

That's your problem now, Son.  
You've just been promoted.

Thompson shouts down to Philips as he walks away.

THOMPSON

Sarge?

Philips takes out a gun and loads it.

## STREETS OF FRENCH TOWN

Tommy drives the motorcycle and Gerhard sits in the side-car.

German planes fly over-head and bombs explode as they drive through the streets.

Tommy drives in and out of the Local Residents who run across the streets.

## EXT. RIVER - CONTINUOUS

The motorcycle approaches a bridge that is built over a river.

Tommy smiles.

Tommy revs the motorcycle but it stutters to a stop.

He revs the engine again but it won't start.

Gerhard frowns.

Tommy looks at Gerhard's leg. Blood seeps through his pants.

Tommy gets off the motorcycle and helps Gerhard out.

Tommy puts Gerhard's arm over his shoulder and he props him up.

Tommy and Gerhard reach the foot of the

## BRIDGE

and they make their way across it.

A loud noise is heard.

Tommy turns to see what it is.

A German plane hurtles towards them.

Tommy drags Gerhard to the ground as the German plane narrowly misses them and crashes into the bridge.

The crash destroys the bridge in the center and the plane wreckage burns and smoulders in the river below.

Tommy looks up and coughs. He sees that the bridge has been destroyed.

Tommy helps Gerhard to his feet.

Tommy and Gerhard turn around. Gerhard uses his hand to clear the smoke.

As visibility improves, a lone figure approaches.

Tommy props up Gerhard and squints.

The smoke clears.

Philips approaches. He points the gun at Tommy and holds a rock in his other hand.

Tommy and Gerhard turn around but only the gaping hole in the middle of the bridge greets them.

Philips shoots Gerhard in his injured leg.

Gerhard falls to the floor and screams.

Tommy crouches down beside him.

Philips plays with the rock and tosses it up and down in one hand.

Tommy helps Gerhard to his feet and props him up against the side of the bridge.

Philips tosses the rock at Tommy's feet.

PHILIPS

Seems your ill-advised romance  
might not be all sunshine and  
rainbows after all.

Tommy looks at the

ROCK

'GG'

'85 Wehrmacht'

BACK TO SCENE

Tommy looks confused. He turns and looks at Gerhard.

Gerhard winces in agony but cannot hide his shame.

TOMMY

What is this?

Gerhard looks at Tommy and breathes heavily. He does not respond.



TOMMY (CONT'D)

You were...selling me out the  
entire time?

Gerhard frowns and speaks, despite the agony he is clearly  
in.

GERHARD

I am sorry.

Tommy is crest-fallen.

Philips smiles.

PHILIPS

Once a Nazi, always a Nazi.

Gerhard glares at Philips then looks across at Tommy with  
regret in his eyes. He clutches his knee as he speaks.

GERHARD

You had your way out, did you not?

Tommy looks angry.

TOMMY

So, you thought you would lead me  
on and have me killed when the  
cavalry turned up?

Gerhard breathes heavily, in agony.

Tommy looks back at Philips.

Philips loads the gun and points it at Tommy.

PHILIPS

Aiding the enemy is treason.

Tommy looks at Gerhard, who is defeat personified, and shakes  
his head.

Philips reaches into his pocket and takes out another gun.  
Tears well in his eyes as he admires it, thoughtfully.

Philips gives Gerhard a venomous look as he loads a single  
bullet into the gun.

PHILIPS (CONT'D)

The same courtesy that was extended  
to me.

Philips points his gun at Tommy and, with the other hand,  
offers him the second gun.

PHILIPS (CONT'D)

Do the right thing for once in your  
life.

Tommy looks at the gun, then, back at Gerhard.

Gerhard cries out in pain.

Tommy takes the gun from Philips, who keeps the gun he has  
aimed directly at Tommy.

Bombs explode in the background behind Philips.

Tommy turns and faces Gerhard, who forces himself to stand.

Gerhard grits his teeth as he struggles to keep his balance.

Tommy points the gun at Gerhard; his finger trembles as it  
tightens on the trigger.

Gerhard, sullenly, stares at Tommy.

Philips watches in anticipation.

Tears well in Tommy's eyes and he breathes heavily.

TOMMY

We are what we choose.

Tommy pulls the trigger.

The gunshot echoes.

Gerhard stumbles backwards and falls off the bridge into the  
river below.

Tommy lowers the gun slowly then faces Philips, who stares  
coldly back at him.

Tommy breathes heavily and shakes.

PHILIPS

There's only one punishment for  
treason.

Philips points the gun at Tommy.

Tommy launches the gun at Philips and screams as he sprints  
towards him.

Tommy tackles Philips to the floor and both guns scatter  
across the ground.

A fight ensues as more German planes fly over ahead.

Philips gains control and punches Tommy repeatedly in the head.

Tommy blocks a punch and throws Philips from on top of him.

Tommy gets to his feet. He sees the guns on the ground and dives towards them.

As Tommy picks one of them up, Philips crashes into him. Both men tumble to the floor and Tommy drops the gun.

The two men wrestle. Tommy punches Philips.

Philips gains the advantage and mounts Tommy again. He punches Tommy in the face until blood pours from his nose.

Tommy sees the guns beside him.

Tommy reaches for the guns. Philips notices and pins Tommy's arm to the ground.

Philips reaches for the guns. He has a hand on one of them when Tommy escapes from beneath him.

Tommy gets a hand on the gun. Both men tussle over it.

Philips, eventually comes out victorious.

Tommy lays on the ground on his back and breathes heavily.

Philips gets to his feet and points the gun at Tommy.

Tommy looks uncomfortable. He puts his hand behind his back and feels the steel of the other gun.

Tommy whips the gun out from beneath him and points it at Philips.

Tommy scrambles to his feet and the two men stare each other down, guns pointed at each other.

More explosions in the town behind Philips.

Tommy grips the gun tight and shakes.

Philips smiles.

PHILIPS (CONT'D)  
Looks like it's down to God to  
decide what's right.

Philips and Tommy stare at each other.

A single gunshot.

Tommy's eyes widen.

Philips' eyes widen.

Smoke pours from the barrel of a gun. Eventually, it becomes clear it is in Tommy's hand.

Philips looks down as a heavy blood stain, gradually, covers his shirt.

TOMMY

Sod's law.

Philips lurches forward. His mouth moves but no words come out.

Tommy lowers the gun.

Philips falls to the floor, dead.

Tommy drops the gun and approaches the edge of the bridge. He looks into the river below.

Wreckage of the German plane.

Tommy sighs as he scans the river.

Eventually, Tommy turns away. He reaches into his pocket and takes out the envelope that Gerhard gave him.

Tommy removes the contents of the envelope. It is a photograph.

Suddenly, there is a gun shot.

Tommy's face contorts.

Thompson, smoking gun in hand.

Tommy touches his stomach. He looks down at his blood-soaked hand.

Thompson shoots Tommy, again.

Tommy looks at the photograph in his hand as he lurches backwards and drops to his knees.

Tommy smiles as blood pours from his mouth.

Thompson frowns as he shoots Tommy in the head.

As Tommy falls to the ground, dead, he clutches the photograph.

Thompson approaches Tommy's body. He searches through Tommy's pockets and takes out the camera and some other items.

Thompson stands and walks away.

Blood pools beneath Tommy as German planes fly by and carpet the surrounding area with bullets and bombs.

British planes fly overhead and return fire at the German planes.

Smoke fills the screen.

EXT. BRIDGE - DAY

Rubble and wreckage everywhere.

The French town smoulders.

BRITISH SOLDIERS search the area and loot dead bodies.

A YOUNG BRITISH PRIVATE stops and looks down at one of the bodies on the bridge.

He looks at the dog tags on the body.

The Young British Private crouches down and loots the body, which is now clearly identifiable as Tommy.

A male, late thirties, approaches. This is SARGENT JONES (JONES).

The Young British Private digs through Tommy's pockets and frowns. He looks away from Tommy's body as he does.

YOUNG BRITISH PRIVATE  
Never gets any easier.

Sargent Jones stands over the Young British Private.

JONES  
You've seen one dead body, you've  
seen them all.

Sargent Jones walks away.

JONES (CONT'D)  
Think of them as souvenirs.

The Young British Private stands.

YOUNG BRITISH PRIVATE  
Nothin' worth havin' anyway.

The Young British Private gives Tommy's body a cynical salute.

YOUNG BRITISH PRIVATE (CONT'D)  
Cheers, pal.

As the Young British Private walks away, we notice, in Tommy's lifeless hand, the

PHOTOGRAPH

Connie, Evie and a baby girl.

EXT. RIVER - DAY

A washed up body, face obscured.

Suddenly, it moves.

Gerhard.

Gerhard coughs up water as he pulls himself up the river bank.

Gerhard sits on the river bank. He looks confused.

Gerhard pats down his stomach and, gradually, moves up to his chest. He stops when he pats above his left jacket pocket.

Gerhard slowly reaches into his pocket and pulls out the

POCKET WATCH

Badly damaged with a bullet lodged in it.

BACK TO SCENE

Gerhard removes the bullet and tosses it into the river.

Thunder cracks as Gerhard admires the pocket watch.

Gerhard's face creases and contorts as he fights back tears.

POCKET WATCH

The watch face fills up the screen as raindrops fall onto it and blur the numbers.

Blackness.

SUPER: ENGLAND, 2015.

EXT. COTTAGE - MORNING

Dark clouds and thunder.

Heavy rain hammers the ground.

A car pulls up at the bottom of a drive-way.

A female, mid-sixties, steps out and opens the passenger door. This is Gerhard's Daughter, SOFIA.

Gerhard, now in his early-nineties, gets out of the car. He looks extremely frail and coughs heavily as he refuses an offer of assistance from Sofia.

SOFIA

Good luck.

Gerhard nods at Sofia and limps towards the drive-way gate.

German military medals jangle on Gerhard's jacket.

INT. COTTAGE - CONTINUOUS

A knock at the door.

A woman, early seventies, walks towards the door. This is Tommy's daughter, Elizabeth.

Elizabeth opens the door and reveals Gerhard, who stands in the rain.

Elizabeth notices the medals pinned to his jacket.

ELIZABETH

Please, come in.

Elizabeth stands aside and Gerhard enters.

A female voice is heard.

FEMALE VOICE (O.S.)

Who's there? Did I hear the door go?

ELIZABETH

It's the gent who bought your stuff online.

Elizabeth picks up a cardboard box and puts it on top of a table.

ELIZABETH (CONT'D)  
Knock yourself out.

Gerhard coughs heavily as he limps over.

Elizabeth sits down at the table as Gerhard sifts through the box.

Gerhard removes a handful of photographs then sits down and looks at two

PHOTOGRAPHS

--Black and white, Tommy beside a river.

--Black and white, Gerhard stood atop a destroyed tank.

BACK TO SCENE

Elizabeth notices tears in Gerhard's eyes.

Another woman enters, late eighties. Evie looks frail as she approaches the table.

EVIE  
Take whatever you want. Nothing  
but painful memories.

Gerhard sifts through the box and removes a

PIECE OF PAPER

--His Majesty's Royal British Seal.

--'Thomas Smith'

--'Desertion'

--'Killed in action'

BACK TO SCENE

Elizabeth pulls out a chair and helps Evie sit at the table.

Gerhard admires Elizabeth and smiles.

GERHARD  
You have the look of him.

Elizabeth and Evie exchange confused looks.



Gerhard puts the piece of paper back in the box then leans in across the table.

GERHARD (CONT'D)  
I did not come here to take these  
from you.

Elizabeth puts a hand on her Evie's shoulder.

GERHARD (CONT'D)  
I would like to tell you a story,  
if I may...

Gerhard gazes at Elizabeth.

GERHARD (CONT'D)  
...about your father.

Elizabeth looks annoyed.

ELIZABETH  
My father was a traitor.

Gerhard removes something from his pocket and holds it in a closed fist so we do not see what it is.

GERHARD  
No.

Gerhard opens his hand and reveals the pocket watch, still damaged.

Gerhard puts the pocket watch on the table and slides it towards Elizabeth and Evie.

GERHARD (CONT'D)  
He was a soldier.

Elizabeth looks at Evie, picks up the pocket watch and admires it.

EXT. COTTAGE - LATER

The door closes behind Gerhard.

The rain has stopped.

Sofia steps out of the car at the bottom of the drive-way.

SOFIA  
Father?

Gerhard looks up towards the sky and stares for a brief moment. Eventually, he speaks.

GERHARD

We are what we choose, my friend.

The sun breaks through the clouds.

Sofia stands face to face with Gerhard who, eventually, smiles.

Sofia returns the smile as father and daughter embrace.

FADE OUT.