|  |
| --- |
| “zeit historian”ByRobert Sacchi |
| 42854 Lindsey Heights PlaceAshburn, VA 20148571-529-0552Rsacchi001@aol.com |

FAde In:

ext. sports car – driving - day

There is no engine noise. The car is German made. It travels at high speed. The signs are in German. The vehicle passes a fusion reactor. The car drives past Tempelhof International Airport. There is a hooked cross on top of the terminal building above a sign proclaiming the airport’s 100th Anniversary.

int. sports car – driving - day

HANS BARKHORN (30) is alone in the car. The radio is on.

announcer (V.O.)

The unemployment rate is 2.9 percent and the inflation rate is holding steady at 2.7%. The first human mission to Jupiter’s moon Europa is scheduled to launch today at 11 AM. In international news the United States plans to send its first human mission to the moon in 2025.

hans barkhorn

 (Chuckles)

Americans always come late and unprepared. Yes, they will send a couple of people to the Moon and there will be 2,000 Germans to welcome them.

ext. sports car – driving - day

The car stops at the front gate of a building with “Hauptsitz des Ministeriums für historische Forschung” etched on the façade. The car drives to a garage.

int. building – day

Hans walks to an elevator. A COWORKER is waiting at the elevator.

coworker

Hans, today is the day.

hans barkhorn

That it is.

int. building – day

The elevator opens and Hans and his coworker enter a large circular hall. Etched around the hall in, German with Germanic lettering is: “Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it – Jorge Agustin Nicolás Ruis de Santayana y Borrás”.

Hans steps to an Alcove and puts his palms up. The Alcove slides open.

int. operations complex – day

Hans steps in. EVA NOVOTNY, 28, golden blonde hair, gorgeous face and athletic figure is waiting for him.

eva novotny

Today is the day Hans.

hans barkhorn

Yes, is everything ready?

eva novotny

Of course, get dressed and we will meet you in the ready room.

int. wardrobe room – day

Hans walks in. A set of early 20th century clothes, accessories, and cash are laid out for him.

FLASHBACK:

int. conference room – day

Hans sits as DR. HEINZ BALTZ, (60) small stature, slim build, writes equations on a grease board. There are two other grease boards that have equations on them.

dr. heinz baltz

So, you see there is no possibility of going into the past and changing the present.

Hans has a blank face. Dr. Baltz LAUGHS.

dr. heinz baltz (cont’d)

Think of it this way. If one were to flip a coin, then cover it, the coin could at that moment be either heads or tails. However, once the coin is revealed as being heads or tail that is as the coin will always be.

hans barkhorn

That is why we can travel to the past is done without concern.

dr. heinz baltz

It is also why travel to the future is prohibited.

hans barkhorn

That explains the security measures.

END FLASHBACK:

int. ready room – day

Hans enters and the other personnel give him a round of applause.

eva novotny

Your thoughts for the record.

hans barkhorn

Historic research is the real adventure. Traveling through air, water, or space is nothing. Traveling through time, that is an accomplishment.

eva novotny

A bit undiplomatic.

hans barkhorn

As you know, I’ve gone on 4 previous missions. This mission is to meet the greatest German statesman in history. The man we Germans affectionately call “Uncle Adolf”. I will get to see, and chronicle, this great man as he stood with Germany at the precipice. He saved Germany and by doing so saved the world. I will see and share that great moment in history.

The personnel applaud.

Dr. Baltz performs a check on a small disk. He puts on the gold cover that has the number 209714. He picks up the disk, it’s a gold pocket watch. He gives the watch to Hans.

dr. baltz

This is your return device. Pull the stem if you have to get back in a hurry.

Hans takes the watch.

hans barkhorn

I hope I won’t need to do that.

dr. baltz

It will send out the return signal automatically at 1100 on 11 November.

hans barkhorn

Eleven on the 11th of the 11th month. It seems appropriate.

eva novotny

That is what we thought. Break your neck and your bones, Hans.

Hans gives the thumbs up and marches to an exit marked Time Transport Chamber.

int. time transport room - tracking – day

Hans enters and steps into a dodecahedron shaped structure. Other personnel enter an observation gallery.

Hans stands in the chamber and waits. The chamber spools up. There are some electrical charges.

ext. berlin 1923 – night

Hans scans the area.

hans barkhorn

 (Whispers)

Exactly as it is supposed to look. No time for site seeing. I have a train to catch.

int. train car moving – night

Hans finds a comfortable position and closes his eyes.

ext. munich – day

Hans fast walks through the streets. Many of the people are emaciated and dressed in tattered clothes.

int. soup kitchen – day

Hans enters. The room is full of emaciated men and women. Some of the men are missing limbs. The staff is serving lunch. The room has an empty stage.

adolf frankl (O.c.)

Why are you here?

Hans turns and sees ADOLF FRANKL, 27, average height and slim build.

hans barkhorn

You are Adolf Frankl.

adolf frankl

Yes, I am Adolf Frankl.

hans barkhorn

I come here to volunteer.

Frankl glances at the serving line.

adolf frankl

Serving is almost over. You can help cleaning up.

hans barkhorn

Thank you.

Adolf frankl

Thank you, we are always glad to see people offer to help their fellow man. Excuse me please.

Frankl marches to the podium. Hans is excited. Some of the impoverished are annoyed, most are indifferent. Most of the staff appear interested. A couple of the staff are stoic.

Adolf frankl

Welcome. I know you are all here because you are suffering more than most people are suffering in this time of great poverty.

Most of the staff are just listening. A couple are continuing their work.

Adolf frankl (cont’d)

I know most of you have been unable to find work. I know most of you have no place to live. I also know there are voices out there.

All the impoverished continue eating.

Adolf frankl (cont’d)

These voices say there is a way to have a new order. These voices say there is a way for Germany to become a great country again. All it requires is for people to listen to one voice, to obey that one voice, to act with one voice.

A few of the impoverished nod agreement.

Adolf frankl (cont’d)

I tell you these voices are only partly right. Germany will become a great country. That is if Germany remains a free democratic country.

Hans notices the staff members who are working. He hesitates then approaches the working staff members.

Adolf frankl (cont’d)

Yes, these last few years for Germany have been horrible. Listening to these voices of rebellion will give the illusion of a better future. However, it is just an illusion.

Hans works with the working staff members.

Adolf frankl (cont’d)

If we listen to these voices, we will feel the German situation is improving. Posters and slogans would be all around to tell us so.

One of the impoverished GIGGLES.

Adolf frankl (cont’d)

When we become aware of it being an illusion only then would we know we have things that have gone from very bad to much worse.

A couple of the impoverished turn their attention to Adolf.

Adolf frankl (cont’d)

Then it may be too late to change matters for the better. The best of us may have gone to other countries, or have been put to death by a government that promised a better life.

A couple of the impoverished stop eating.

Adolf frankl (cont’d)

Don’t think of today, or tomorrow, or even next year. Think of the next decade, or the decade after that. Think of what wonders lie ahead.

Hans stops momentarily to gesture agreement.

Adolf frankl (cont’d)

In the future mankind will learn the secret of the atom, send men to the moon, will learn how to better grow food, cure diseases, and develop marvelous inventions we can’t even dream about.

The non-working staff nod agreement.

Adolf frankl (cont’d)

That is mankind’s future, your future, our future.

The non-working staff give enthusiastic applause. A couple of the impoverished give polite applause. Hans stops working and gives a passionate applause.

int. soup kitchen – later - day

There are a couple of staff people and a few impoverished people. Hans washes dishes.

Frankl walks to Hans.

Adolf frankl

How late can you stay?

hans barkhorn

I can stay as late as you want me to stay.

Adolf frankl

Wonderful.

int. soup kitchen – night

The room is full of impoverished people eating. Hans is among the working staff. The rest of the staff eagerly listen to Frankl.

Adolf frankl

This is mankind’s future, this is your future, this is our future.

The entire staff gives Frankl an enthusiastic applause. A few of the impoverished give polite applause.

Hans makes his way to Frankl. Frankl is looking at his watch.

hans barkhorn

That was a wonderful speech Mr. Frankl.

Adolf frankl

Thank you, Mr. Barkhorn. My watch has stopped, do you know the time?

Hans takes out his pocket watch and shows the time to Frankl.

A MAN at a nearby table notices the gold pocket watch. He catches the attention of MAN 2 and MAN 3 and draws their attention to Hans and the watch.

int. soup kitchen – later – night

The impoverished are gone. Hans, Frankl, continue working as the other staff members leave.

hans barkhorn (V.O.)

There will be an insurrection tomorrow. Then Adolf Frankl will lead his “Appeal to Sanity” march. This will launch his political career and he brings about a stable democracy and a great economic recovery.

A staff member leaves. Only Hand and Frankl remain. Hans goes to Frankl.

hans barkhorn

Mr. Frankl, you will, I know you will be a great man someday. It is an honor to meet you.

Adolf frankl

Are you a mystic?

hans barkhorn

No, it’s just a feeling I have judging on how you act, what you do, and those great speeches you have given today.

Adolf frankl

I don’t aspire for greatness. I don’t believe anyone should. I believe everyone should do whatever they can to improve the world in which they live. Will you be back tomorrow?

hans barkhorn

Oh yes, I will be. What time should I be here?

Adolf frankl

Can you be here by the eighth hour?

hans barkhorn

Yes, I will be.

ext. soup kitchen – night

Hans is overjoyed as he walks down the deserted street.

Man 2, club in hand, charges at Hans. Hans knocks him down with a punch. Man 3, with a knife, charges at Hans. Hans grabs the man’s knife hand and trips him. Man 1 stabs Hans from behind. Hans screams in pain. Man 3 stabs Hans.

Frankl rushes out of the soup kitchen.

Adolf frankl

What is loose!

The three men attack, stab, and club Frankl.

hans barkhorn

No!

Hans struggles to stand. Man 2 and Man 1 attack, stab, and club Hans. Man 1 goes through Frankl’s pockets.

hans barkhorn

 (dying)

 This can’t happen. This can’t happen.

Hans dies.

Man 2 takes the gold pocket watch. Man 1 takes a wallet and flashes the money at Man 2.

man 1

Look at this. I knew he was a good mark.

man 3

Let’s get out of here!

int. pawn shop – night

The shop is closed. The pocket watch sits on a shelf. The watch strikes 11 and makes a piercing ALARM. The alarm stops as the clock continues TICKING.

int. volkswagon - driving – day

Hans Barkhorn, wearing glasses, drives to a museum.

Super: “November 1, 2023”

int. museum – day

Hans is with some docents.

hans

It’ll be the 100th Anniversary of the *Hitlerputsch* in a week.

docent 1

An anniversary of shame.

hans

Exactly. We aren’t doing anything special to mark the occasion but you may get some questions about it. Let’s go over the *Putsch* and how to field questions.

int. museum basement – day

Hans is cataloguing some minor artifacts. He picks up a gold pocket watch. He writes down the number 209714.

FAde Out:

the end