

Jewish Life by Anna Ebell

Chapter 1 – The spelling test

“Now today I will be giving out a spelling test,” began Frau Bergen. Nobody liked spelling tests except for Antonia, a timid seven year old. “Auto” began Frau Bergen pausing for them to write it down. “Wissenschaft” this time only Antonia got it right. After several more words school was over.

At home during dinner Antonia was talking about the spelling test and how she was the best in her class, her parents were really proud of her and congratulating her but Hannah was really jealous as usual because she found spelling hard.

Chapter 2 – The news

“We have something really important to tell you,” began her father.

“What is it?” Antonia asked.

“Recently it has been very hard for Jews to live in Berlin,” he continued.

“I know that”.

“So we have made a very important decision. You are going to England.” Her mother told her, her mother’s shoulders were shaking. She was extremely upset. Antonia was crying her heart out.

“You are not allowed to tell Hannah yet,” was all her mother said.

“Hannah, you are going to England”, is how Hannah was told by her father two weeks later. It was awful for all of them. Each girl was allowed to take one small suitcase that they could carry themselves. Hannah threw all her clothes wildly into the suitcase then cried because after she put her clothes in she couldn’t close her suitcase. Antonia neatly packed some of her clothes, her hairbrush, books and a few dolls.

Chapter 3- Goodbye

The train station was bustling and noisy, full of parents sending their children to England. It was heart breaking for them to be going away without their parents. When the train came the pain was unbearable all of the children were crying. Hannah refused to go because Antonia would be in charge on the train. After a lot of screaming it was time to go.

When the train left everyone was crying, both children and parents alike. The train ride would have been pleasant if they had been with their parents. Hannah was still angry she had to stay with her older sister. Antonia was terrified, she felt as if the whole world were crumbling around her.

Chapter 4 – It is the end?

“Halt!” Bellowed a loud booming voice. “Where are the children parents? Where are they going?” Antonia looked up slowly, first she saw 4 gleaming black boots, 2 brown uniforms, 4 staring eyes and 2 hats, there were Nazi standing in front of her. Everyone was terrified, would this be the end?

Chapter 5 – England

When they arrived in London they were sent on a bus with other equally terrified children to a little village in Wales. By this time Hannah had woken up and was clinging to her sister. Antonia was slowly starting to not be as terrified as at the beginning of the journey.

In the village they were sent to the village hall where they were assigned to foster parents. One by one the children were taken but so far nobody wanted to take on two children. The hall was bare except for one desk at the front and several benches where many children had once been sitting. Only Antonia and Hannah were left. They felt as if it couldn't get any worse.

Chapter 6 – The Johnson Family

“Hello, sorry were so late, Tommy started crying about his shoes” panted Mrs Johnson, she was holding two younger boys. Mr Johnson was right behind her. Mrs Johnson was in her mid-thirties, had long ginger hair and was relatively tall. Mr Johnson was a short man with dark brown hair and brown eyes. Tommy and Charlie were identical 2 year old twins with fire-engine red hair and bright green eyes.

“You must be Antonia and Hannah” mumbled Mr Johnson

“Yes we are,” said Antonia boldly, suddenly extremely confident.

“Come on then,” continued Mr Johnson. Antonia and Hannah stood up and walked towards the exit, excited about their new life in England.