Free – Antigone in Munich Scene by Claudia I. Haas (1m, 1f)

Sophie’s soon-to-be-boyfriend brings Sophie home from the Gestapo. The Nazis have ransacked her living room.

(Lights change. SOPHIE (age 16) joins FRITZ (age 20) and they enter her home. Books, letters, papers are strewn about.)

SOPHIE
Thanks for bringing me back. I didn’t want to spend one more minute at their headquarters. I was a bit shaken.

FRITZ
Of course. It’s the least I could do for all of you. Hans is a good friend. This is all – nonsense.

SOPHIE
Arresting children – a peculiar sort of government-sanctioned nonsense.

FRITZ
I should go. It’s not seemly –

SOPHIE
Yes. Mother and Father will be back this evening. They’re hoping to bring back Elisabeth and Inge. What could they have done wrong? We’re school children!

FRITZ
I am sure all will be resolved happily.

SOPHIE
Yes. Happily. With “ever after” to follow.

FRITZ
The police don’t believe in cleaning up after themselves. Let me help you put things away.

SOPHIE
They went through my letters from Hans. Did they like my praise of Mother’s strudel? Did they want a recipe? Or were they dismayed I complained about the four days of rain last winter? Is that against party rules? What are they looking for?

FRITZ
I don’t think they even know. Is anything missing?
SOPHIE
Can’t tell yet. Mother said they walked off with my Heinrich Heine book of poetry – he’s apparently banned. Silly police – I’ve committed his poems to heart. Look.

FRITZ
Antigone?

SOPHIE
I was reading it when the police came. I even underlined some passages.

FRITZ
I guess they weren’t looking for Greek theatre – only books written by Jews and Russians.

SOPHIE
There’s a touch of irony there. Read what I underlined. Start with King Creon. I’ll read Antigone.

FRITZ
Sophie – I feel silly/

SOPHIE
/Read it!

FRITZ
Am I a hero or a villain?

SOPHIE
A powerful King with his own moral code. Antigone is his niece. Read

FRITZ
(Reading Creon. Haltingly – he’s not an actor.)
You were seen kneeling on the ground by your dead brother covering his body with dirt.
You were seen crying to the gods with prayers.
Is that true?

SOPHIE
(As Antigone. She is an actress!)
I admit it. Openly and honestly.

FRITZ
You – memorized this?

SOPHIE
Keep reading.

FRITZ
(As Creon.)
Were you aware that I issued a proclamation forbidding his burial?

SOPHIE
(As Antigone.)
My brother needed to be buried. That is Zeus’s law. I did not think a mortal law should override the laws of the gods.

What does this mean?

SOPHIE
In times of trouble, if man’s law demands something that goes against what God wants – who do you listen to?

(Beat.)

I think about these things. A lot.

FRITZ
What happens?

SOPHIE
Creon sentences Antigone to death. And … she dies. Almost everyone in the play dies. Except the Chorus.

Sophie/

SOPHIE
/It’s not what I want! I just think about all these new laws – friends no longer in school. The Nuremberg rallies – I’m arrested with my siblings – because of what? Because my brother hikes in the woods with a group not sanctioned by the party? Because of the reading material in my home?

FRITZ
You’re scaring me.

SOPHIE
Germany is scaring me.

FRITZ
Just don’t do anything/
SOPHIE

/I won’t. Truly.

FRITZ

Good.