

Dear Anne from Nina by Claudia I. Haas

Characters: Margot Frank (female) age 14
Anne Frank (female) age 10

(MARGOT enters with her letter to JEANNIE.)

MARGOT

Look at you, Miss Twinkle Toes!

ANNE

I've been writing all evening! My feet are itchy. They need to move. Are you done with your letter?

MARGOT

Yes. And with my diary entry.

ANNE

What does it say?

MARGOT

"Dear Diary: It looks like the Germans are winning the war in Norway. In happier news, Queen Margrethe II was born in Copenhagen, Denmark."

Don't you love the name "Margrethe." It's like my name but prettier.

ANNE

It's perfect for a princess. I hope the newspaper have photos of her. I wonder if she has a baby crown. I'd like a little crown. I'd walk the streets being all princessy and sweet.

(ANNE becomes Miss Princess. She sticks a sheet of paper on her head – which won't stay- and parades around waving at "people."
MARGOT sees the many, papers around where ANNE was working.)

MARGOT

Goodness, Anne! It's supposed to be a letter – not a book.

ANNE

I want her to get to know me. How can she do that if I don't tell her everything?

MARGOT

It looks like a biography.

ANNE

It is. First, I told her about you and Mother and Pim and Grandmother. Should I tell her that Grandma is sick?

MARGOT

No, Grandma is getting better. By the time the letter reaches America she will be fine. Mother waits on her like a perfect lady-in-waiting.

ANNE

So then, I should tell her about Hanne and Sanne because they're my best friends. *Then* there's school. And she wanted to know about ice-skating. And I *had* to tell her that I don't know the *Wizard of Oz* but I hope the movie comes here because I'd like to know more about a cowardly lion. And she loves to read but I don't know her books so I told her about my favorites. *Then*, I needed to tell her about where we get ice cream. Ice cream is always interesting.

MARGOT

Did you want to list every flavor they sell in our ice cream shops!

ANNE

That's a good idea! I'll start with Dutch chocolate/

MARGOT

/Anne! I was kidding.

ANNE

Maybe I'll just list Butter Brickle and Dutch Chocolate. Of course the strawberry's awfully good.

MARGOT

You might want to start shorter and then expand as you get to know each other.

ANNE

But that's not what I do with friends! When you find a friend you just talk and talk and talk and/

MARGOT

/that's a lot for Father to translate. And then you need to rewrite it all again in English.

ANNE

I forgot about that.

MARGOT

Make it shorter. There will be lots of time to get to know one another. Years and years! Come on, I'll help you.

(They squeeze together on one chair as the lights dim.)