

THE BLOOD FLAG

Written by

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FADE IN. EXT. DAY. An open field with dozens of men in trenches dressed in world war two uniforms. On one side there are men in German uniforms, approximately 100 yards away are men in American uniforms. The sounds of firecrackers and a large number of ignited smoke bombs envelope the area. Two Tanks are visible, one with the German insignia and an American tank on the other side of the field as the loud sounds create movement in the German trenches. CARL BRAUN, late twenties, slightly overweight and wearing glasses, is firing his machine gun furiously in the direction of the oncoming American soldiers. Next to Carl is MICHAEL, late twenties, also firing his machine gun in the same direction.

CARL

They keep coming, we've got to retreat.

MICHAEL

We can't. The Fuhrer says we must hold the line here, we must save the Fatherland.

CARL

There's too many of them. If we don't retreat, we'll be killed.

MICHAEL

Just keep firing and get as many of them as possible.

A Group of American soldiers firing weapons come closer to the German dressed soldiers accompanied by the American tank. Several soldiers drop to the ground as the sound of guns firing and smoke permeate the surrounding field. Camera slowly pans away from the battlefield to a nearby hill where a crowd of onlookers sitting in lawn chairs eating and drinking beverages looks at the scene. Crowd erupts with applause. The action on the battlefield stops to the applause of the onlookers. MICHAEL and CARL climb out of their trench, head over to the American soldiers and shake hands. All soldiers wave to the crowd as the applause continues.

MICHAEL

(looks at Carl) Listen to that applause, we definitely gave them a show, what do you think?

CARL

This is the best reenactment show I've been in. I almost felt like I was a real German soldier fighting in world war two.

MICHAEL

Most of my friends play golf, watch sports, or get drunk on weekends, they think this is nuts, but I love it. Say, I want to show you some stuff my grandfather took when he was in the army. He got some real Nazi shit. Want to see it?

CARL

Sure, I'll stop by after I drop my gear off at my tent.

MICHAEL

See you in a few minutes.

Carl and Michael walk off the battlefield and head towards a nearby campsite with dozens of tents, portable toilets, several firepits with charred logs from previous campfires. On a nearby hill, two twentysomething women are sitting in lawn chairs with other attendees watching the battle.

CHERYL

These events really are amazing. I feel like I'm actually in a real World War Two battle.

SARAH

I don't get it. I just think it's weird playing fake soldiers for a weekend, but Carl loves it, so I'm trying to be supportive. I'm not staying around for tonight's campfire singing German war songs.

CHERYL

I'm not staying around either. I'd bring Joey, but he starts crying with all the noise. I'm going to pick him up at my mothers.

SARAH

And you've got another on the way, congratulations.

CHERYL

I'm excited about it. I think Michael would've preferred we wait until he's a little more established financially. But I don't want too much of an age difference between siblings, you know. What did Carl say when you told him you were pregnant?

SARAH

I haven't told him yet.

CHERYL

What? Why not?

SARAH

I'm going to tell him when he gets back tomorrow. I'm gonna put candles and his favorite music on. I don't know how he'll respond.

(MORE)

SARAH (CONT'D)

I think he'll be happy, but I don't know if either of us are sure we want to be together forever, we don't really have much in common.

CHERYL

Having a baby changes everything. It's given us a common love for Joey and now his needs brings us together. I'm hoping our new child will bring us even closer.

SARAH I

It's just so hard to know if we're right for each other. We can't even watch the same shows on TV, he hates what I like, and I get so bored when he only watches anything to do with World War Two, movies, documentaries, personal diaries, it's like he wishes he was living back then, and then we've got these events. I just think these things are stupid.

CHERYL

It's called compromise. Trust me, once you have that kid, it will bring you closer together.

SARAH

I hope you're right. Call me when you get back tomorrow and let's get together soon, bye.

SARAH picks up lawn chair and heads for parking lot.FADE OUT.FADE IN. int. CARL enters MICHAEL's tent.

MICHAEL

C'mon in. (hands Carl a water bottle, Carl opens and takes a sip)
I don't know if I ever told you about my grandfather. He was in the 45th infantry and ended up in Munich right before the Germans surrendered.

CARL

It all started in Munich. Hitler tried to overthrow the government in 1923, but failed. It was called the Beer Hall Putsch.

MICHAEL

I didn't know that. I'm not as much a student of history as you are, how are things with you and Sarah?

CARL

Pretty good. She hates it when I go to these reenactment events. I'm surprised she showed up today. We've been together for two years and it's going great for the most part, but we just don't enjoy the same things. She thinks these battles are stupid. She'd rather stay home and watch all these Netflix shows with female warriors?

MICHAEL

Female warriors?

CARL

Yeah, They re-make queens from history and turn them into these powerful leaders. There's even one that depicts a woman going into battle with armor covering up her pregnant stomach.

MICHAEL

No way, are you serious?

CARL

Really They're not based on any historical facts, but she loves them. The worst part is that they always seem to have ten minutes of screaming and yelling during childbirth. I can't take it that long.

MICHAEL

(laughs) When Cheryl had Joey three years ago, I was in the delivery room, it was awful. I tried to be supportive, but I found the whole process gross. My dad said he stayed in the hospital waiting room until after I was born. I wish they still did that, which is kind of the reason I asked you here. Cheryl is pregnant again.

CARL

Congratulations.

MICHAEL

(not very enthusiastically) Yeah, it will be for Joey to have a brother or sister, but kid's are expensive. I need to get more money. Check out some of the stuff grandpa stole during the war. (brings over duffle bag and starts to pull out items) Here is a genuine Nazi dagger, look at the Swastika emblem on the handle. (Carl looks at knife) Cool, huh?

CARL

Amazing, it looks new. What else did he get?

MICHAEL

(reaches into bag and pulls out another item) This is a genuine Iron Cross first class. Grandpa said he took it off a dead soldier, isn't that awesome?

CARL

(Holds medal with obvious admiration) You could get a few hundred for this if you put it up on Ebay, you know.

MICHAEL

I wouldn't dream of it. I want to keep this in the family and give it to my son. He's only three now, but I want him to have something real to remember his great grandfather's heroism in the war.

CARL

I wanted to buy one of these, but I was outbid online. Maybe someday. (hands medal back to Michael) Do you have anything else?

MICHAEL

My grandmother lived outside Munich and met my grandfather during the American occupation. (looks through bag) She didn't have anything interesting except a photograph of her young cousin in the Hitler youth that died somehow near the end of the war. (continues to look through bag) I know the pictures in here somewhere, I'll find it. But that's not very interesting. What I really wanted to show you is this.

Michael slowly pulls out a wooden box with a gold painted Swastika in the middle. He opens the box which contains a folded Nazi flag.

CARL

Wow, a real Nazi flag. (stretches out hand to touch the flag)

MICHAEL

Don't touch it! There's something really weird about this flag. Before grandpa died, he was in and out of reality due to his dementia, but he kept talking about this flag telling me to burn it. He said it was evil. (laughing) I didn't even know he had it until he mentioned it when he was dying. The crazy part is where he kept it.

CARL

What do you mean?

MICHAEL

It wasn't with the other things he brought back from Germany. It was like he was keeping this flag as a prisoner. It was buried in dirt in the basement crawlspace.

CARL

You could definitely get a lot for that on Ebay. The neo-Nazis will pay top dollar for a genuine flag like that, are you going to burn it like he asked you to?

MICHAEL

Hell no, this one I'm going to sell. I just wanted to bring it with me hoping somebody here might want to buy it. You get the first option, how much will you pay me for it?

CARL

Let me look it more closely.

MICHAEL

Sorry, you can look, but don't touch unless you buy it, how much?

CARL

I'll give you \$200.

MICHAEL

Is that a joke? I did a google search that said a genuine Nazi flag once sold for \$30,000. I'll settle for \$25,000. If you can't afford it, I'll shop it around camp. You know most of these guys wish they were actually in the war on the side of the Nazis.

CARL

I can't afford twenty five thousand dollars.

MICHAEL

Sorry, Carl. You are my friend, but business is business. My shitty job pays barely enough to get by with one kid, but two? This flag sale will be grandpa's inheritance. He lived too long in the nursing home so we got nothing when he died. Anyway, that's it. I'll see you at tonight's campfire. I heard we're going to sing some German soldier songs, including the Horst Wessel one, that'll put everyone in the spirit for tomorrow's battle, see you later.

CARL

See you later.

Carl walks out of Michael's tent and heads back to his own. FADE OUT. FADE IN. EXT. EVE. A large group of men are sitting around a huge campfire dressed in German uniforms. All attendees are holding small pieces of paper with lyrics in English singing the Horst Wessel song. Carl is sitting next to Michael.

GROUP IN UNISON

At last the call to struggle rings out loudly. And we're prepared. We storm into the fight. As Hitler's flag is waving proudly in the bright sky our slavery ends forever in this land. Raise up the flag and stand as one together. Our troops will march with sturdy iron tread. Though comrades fall shot down by leftists and reaction, they march with us in spirit to the fight.
(song ends with applause)

MICHAEL

(turns to Carl) Pretty cool, huh. Just think about how it must have been for those guys singing this song around a campfire on the Russian front, or in Africa, Italy, or France. This almost makes me feel like I was there.

CARL

(pre-occupied) Yeah, this is fun. I'll be back soon. I've got to take a piss.

MICHAEL

Hurry up. I heard some guy is going to read Hitler's declaration of war on the US speech translated into English, you don't want to miss that.

CARL

Definitely don't want to miss that.

Carl leaves the area around the fire and walks over to Michael's tent. He looks around to make sure no one is looking and enters. He looks around and finds the duffle bag.

He pulls out the wooden box containing the flag, looks at it closely noticing faded brown spots around the flag. He touches the flag. Immediately the tent is filled with bright white light. Carl takes his hand off the flag to cover his eyes. FADE OUT. FADE IN. EXT. DAY. Carl is now standing in front of the semi-destroyed Feldherrnhalle on the Odeonsplatz in Munich, Germany. The sound of artillery shells is heard in the distance. Stunned, Carl stands motionless and shaking in front of the monument. KURT MEYER, A 15 year-old boy dressed in black Hitler youth uniform and Nazi arm band appears out of a semi-destroyed building across the street.

KURT

(yelling at Carl) Don't just stand there, you'll get killed, get over here, c'mon. (motions to Carl to join him. Carl stands motionless as he observes his surroundings and ignores Kurt's pleas stunned by his current situation.) What a dummy, must be shell-shocked. (Kurt runs out of the building over to Carl, grabs him and forcefully moves him back to the door of the building.) What's wrong with you? You're a soldier in the glorious army of the Third Reich. Are you a deserter? A defeatist? Talk to me? Are you deaf? (Kurt slaps Carl in the face)

CARL

(comes out of stunned state due to slap on his face) What? Where the hell am I? Who are you? This must be some sick dream.

KURT

This isn't a dream, are you kidding? Did you get lost from your unit? Let me join you, I want to see some action. What's your name? I'm Kurt Meyer, Oberstammfuhrer of my local Hitler Youth, and I'm also a member of the Volksturm protecting the city from the American invaders, who are you?

CARL

(overwhelmed by his current surrounding, slowly responds) My name is Carl Braun, and I'm not supposed to be here, where am I?

KURT

I heard a lot of guys are trying to use the crazy excuse to get out of fighting, but it's too late. If you've got at least one arm or leg you can fight to save the Fatherland, you don't look injured and that uniform doesn't even look like you've seen any action. Are you sure you're not a deserter?

CARL

This can't be real. How did I get here? I'm not supposed to be here, I was just touching the flag in Michael's tent, where the hell am I?

KURT

Why don't you have any weapon? You can't stop them without one.

CARL

Weapon? This can't be real. What day is this? Where am I?

KURT

Oh, c'mon, seriously? You're in Munich and it's April 29th, now do you remember?

CARL

What year?

KURT

What year? You really are crazy,
it's 1945.

CARL

That's impossible. It's 2025. The
last thing I remember is touching
that flag and now I'm here, this
can't be real.

KURT

You're really weird, you know that?
It's not just the glasses, but
you're also kind of fat, no
offense. Most people are starving.
Do you have any food, I'm
scrounging everywhere and really
hungry. You're from the future? I
don't think so, but nice try. It's
hard to find food nowadays, but you
obviously have. Were you injured on
the Russian Front? They must feed
you soldiers well in the hospital,
I'm so hungry.

CARL

I had knee surgery last year and I
couldn't exercise for awhile and
gained some weight. I've been using
a treadmill and have lost a few
pounds. This can't be real, what is
happening?

KURT

Treadmill, what the hell is that?
(Artillery shells fall close to
both Carl and Kurt as debris falls
around them) We've got to get out
of here now or there won't be any
future for either of us. There's a
cellar not far from here, let's go.

Kurt guides Carl through the streets and stops at a semi-
destroyed restaurant with blown out windows and missing front
door. Kurt pulls a reluctant Carl into the restaurant and
heads towards a door in the back leading to a basement.

Kurt guides a still reluctant Carl down the stairs. A mostly dark room with one dangling lit lightbulb is in the middle of the room. Scattered around the room are several people: an elderly couple sitting together, a younger woman holding a recently born infant, two pre-teen children clutching each other, and a solitary woman sitting away from the rest with a scarf covering her head and most of her face.

KURT

(guides Carl over to empty area and instructs him to sit on the floor, both sit down) Good, it's not crowded tonight. Sometimes these cellars are packed and the stench is so bad. Most people have either left the city or are already dead.

CARL

Can you understand me? I'm talking to you in English, and you're talking to me in English, I'm an American.

KURT

This is really getting tiring. You're speaking German and so am I. Please drop the crazy act, it won't stop you from having to fight the Americans. I hope we find a Waffen SS unit, their uniforms are so great. I hope they have Panzerfausts, I just learned how to use one, it's easy. I want to take out a tank. What's your favorite weapon? Have you ever used an MG 42 machine gun? They shoot over 1000 bullets a minute.

CARL

(loudly) Shut-up! (Kurt lowers his head in response to Carl's verbal reprimand, notices Kurt's disappointed face) I'm sorry. This can't be real, how did I get here?

KURT

You keep saying that. Sometimes I talk way too much. I always get reprimanded by my teachers for talking too much in class. I almost got buried alive when that last shell hit the building near you. I dug my way out, but everyone left me. They probably thought I was killed. That's why I'm alone. I lost my parents in a bombing last November. My brother died on the Russian front two years ago. My Aunt lives outside of Munich. She begged me to come to her, but I can't let down the Fuehrer. He promised us wonder weapons that will destroy the enemy, I'm sure that'll happen very soon.

CARL

(looks around room still stunned, then turns to a smiling Kurt) You can't be real, but this seems so real, what a dream.

KURT

You've got to stop saying that. They're shooting anybody for being a deserter. You tell them you're not supposed to be here, you're dead for sure. See that lady covering her face in the corner. (Carl looks over to twenty-something woman with black scarf covering her head and most of her face) I've seen her before. She lives in a building near here that isn't destroyed yet. She doesn't say anything. I think she's a witch or a gypsy.

CARL

Why do you say that?

HANS

I don't know, she just looks like a witch. She's obviously not German, she's got darker skin. Definitely not Aryan. My teacher said I was a perfect representation of the Master Race because I'm blond with blue eyes. The Fuehrer says we will rule the world. Oh shit, she's coming over here. (woman with scarf walks over to Carl and Kurt)

LUCIA

You need to keep your voice down young man, I heard everything you said. For your information, I'm not a witch or a gypsy, I'm Italian. My name is Lucia Schneider. My husband was German, he died at Stalingrad.

KURT

(embarrassed) Sorry, you weren't supposed to hear me. (looks at Carl) I don't know what to say.

LUCIA

(looks at Carl) And who are you soldier?

CARL

This dream seems so real, I'll just play along. I'm Carl Braun, I'm not a soldier. I'm an American from the year 2025. I'm an accountant and live in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

KURT

I told you stop talking crazy, it'll get you killed.

LUCIA

(with serious intent) How did you get here?

CARL

I don't know, but right now I'm at a World War Two re-enactment weekend in Lima, Ohio. I wonder if Michael put some hallucinogenic in that water he gave me.

KURT

Re-enactment, the war's not over yet.

LUCIA

(looks at Kurt) I'm both Italian and Romani, we don't like the term gypsies, young man. (looks at Carl) Some of my people can tell the future, but I've never heard of someone traveling from the future, but anything's possible.

KURT

My teacher said gypsies are untermenschen and do nothing but travel all over the country stealing and taking money with fake fortune tellers.

LUCIA

Your teacher is wrong. The Romani have lived peacefully in Europe for hundreds of years until the fascists in Italy and Germany ruined our lives.

CARL

So you believe me that I'm from the future?

LUCIA

Not really. You definitely look out of place, but war makes people crazy. I'm surprised I haven't gone crazy yet. My mother has true psychic powers. (chokes up) I never thought I did until seeing my husband's dead body at Stalingrad in a vision.

CARL

How can I prove to you I'm from the future?

LUCIA

Come with me. (Lucia guides Carl and Kurt over to the chair she was sitting on and sits down) Give me your hands.

Carl puts his hands in Lucia's. Lucia begins to move her head in a circular motion and then up and down. She begins to have a vision of Carl in the trenches from the re-enactment, then sees the spectators watching the battle. Then a Nazi flag appears. She touches it and immediately sees dozens of corpses of all ages from infants to older people. She pulls her hands away from Carl as her body starts to shake.

LUCIA

Go away, go away.

CARL

(notice's Lucia's reaction) Wait a minute, you saw something, I can tell, what did you see?

LUCIA

Just go away, it doesn't make sense. I've had visions before, but this can't be true.

KURT
What did you see?

LUCIA
Please just go away.

CARL
Why are you so scared? I have to know what you saw? You know this isn't my time, don't you, you saw it. You've got to tell me what you saw?

LUCIA
(frightened) I saw evil and death.

KURT
(excited) Evil? What does it look like?

CARL
Kurt, please, this is important. Lucia, I have to know what you saw, it might be the clue I need to end this dream and get back to my time please you have to help me.

KURT
I told you she was a witch.

CARL
Kurt, shut up. Please, Lucia I need to know.

LUCIA
(slowly) I saw you fighting in a battle, but it wasn't really a battle. It looked like it was from another time.

(MORE)

LUCIA (CONT'D)

There were many very heavy people dressed strangely and immodestly watching a battle like it was just some kind of entertainment.

(frightened tone) Then an old Nazi flag suddenly appeared, it looked like the Blutfahne, of all things, and I touched it, then just saw dead people. I just saw death, it was horrible. (Lucia puts hands on face and cries)

KURT

I love the Blutfahne. The Fuehrer says it has magical powers. It's probably still at the Brown House. Oh, I almost forgot, the allies destroyed it. The building next door isn't bombed out yet, maybe it's there. Probably not, though. The looters are taking anything they can find. People are stealing anything they can trade on the black market to get food.

(Carl looks angrily at Kurt)
Alright, I'll shut up.

CARL

Lucia, what do you mean by saying the Blutfahne is evil?

LUCIA

I don't know, I just touched it in my vision and saw so much death, it was awful, horrible.

CARL

I touched the Blutfahne, even though he told me not to. The Blutfahe must have been taken by Michael's grandfather. No wonder he buried it and told him to burn it.

KURT

Burn it, the Blutfahne? You're getting more crazy by the minute. The Blutfahne is the greatest symbol of our glorious Third Reich. The Fuehrer touches it during ceremonies, I saw it two years ago at the Feldherrnhalle. Funny, it was right near where I met you, weird.

LUCIA

You really are from a different time. Why are you here?

KURT

You're not just a witch and a gypsy, but you're crazy too.

CARL

(frowns at Kurt) There must be a reason you can see these things, it's all about the Blutfahne. I shouldn't have touched it. I think the flag brought me back here.

LUCIA

Brought you back here, but why?

KURT

This is silly, but if we find the Blutfahne and present it to the Fuehrer when he leaves Berlin and comes to the Alpine fortress near here, it will get me what I really want in life.

CARL

(irritated) And what would that be Kurt?

KURT

An Iron Cross, first class. My brother got one for service on the Russian front, before he was killed. If I find the Blutfahne and give it to the Fuehrer I know he'll give me one, too.

LUCIA

(grabs Carl) The flag is evil, it brought you here for a purpose. Maybe if you find it, you can get back to your time. I just pray the Americans come soon and end this evil war.

KURT

That's defeatest talk. Not only are you a witch, you're Italian. My father told me that they were the worst soldiers and never wanted to fight and always surrendered when they could.

CARL

Kurt, enough. I don't know, but maybe if I touch the flag it will take me back to my time. Wow, what a dream.

KURT

I can take us to the Brown House so we can find the Blutfahne, if it's still there, and give it to the Fuehrer. I knew there was a reason I'm still alive.

LUCIA

I want to go with you, too.

KURT

No way lady. You'll just get in the way and slow us down, no offense. You're not going to let her come with us are you?

CARL

She's part of this. There has to be a connection between her vision and knowing that I'm not from this time.

LUCIA

My life has been miserable ever since my husband died. I really don't care if I live or die at this point. But that vision, it was so real, I have to come with you. It was meant for me, too. (shakes) I just keep feeling so much evil, I don't think it will go away until I see the flag. I have to go with you.

KURT

Oh great, but when we get it, let's get out of the city and head south. A lot of troops are going to the Alpine Fortress in the mountains, that's where the Fuehrer is going to lead us to final victory.

CARL

How far is the Brown House from here, Kurt?

KURT

Well, depending on how many artillery shells we have to dodge, or another allied air raid, it's only a kilometer from here. We could get there in twenty minutes by foot if we hurry. She'll add a few minutes of time if we take her.

LUCIA

(frowns at Kurt) I'm going with you whether you like it or not young man. And one more time, I'm not a witch or a gypsy, so just keep your mouth shut. By the way, Italians are excellent soldiers. We only lost in Africa and Italy because your dear Fuehrer declared war on the Americans, we were outnumbered.

KURT

Oh yeah?

CARL

This is too much. Let's just not talk anymore, wait until we can get out of here, and find that flag. No more talking from either of you, please. Let's just sit here quietly, thank you. (Lucia and Kurt stop talking)

Unbeknownst to Carl, Kurt, and Lucia, a dark figure hidden in a corner near them has been listening to the entire conversation. Major GERT WOLFF, mid-forties, of the Waffen SS entered the shelter when the air raid sirens came on and was listening to the entire conversation. FADE OUT. FADE IN. INT. Basement cellar

KURT

(puts hand to ear) All clear. We've got a few hours. The Americans send shells in certain areas of the city, then move on to other areas. We've probably got a few hours before they start shelling around here again.

The elderly couple begin to walk towards the stairs along with the young children and the young woman with an infant. The elderly man, WILHELM HOFFMAN, late-70's, is struggling walking.

His wife, GERDA, late-70's, holds on to the frightened two younger children and guides them up the stairs. Kurt and Carl walk over to Wilhelm and help him up the stairs and guide him to the front of the building. Major Wolff stays behind in the cellar. As the group exits the building, five Wehrmacht soldiers with guns are standing in the front. ROLF SCHMIDT mid-twenties, a Wehrmacht Captain with several medals on his uniform looks at the group.

ROLF

C'mon out. My unit is rounding up all able-bodied men and boys to join us in saving the city. Looks like we've got three here. Put them in the truck. (points at Carl, Wilhelm, and Kurt) What are you doing with these civilians? (looks at Carl) Why aren't you with your unit? What unit are you with?

CARL

(thinks quickly) I got separated from them, I'm not a deserter.

KURT

(proudly) I'm Kurt Meyer, Captain, I'm a proud member of the Volkssturm and am oberstammfuhrer in the Hitler youth.

ROLF

You'll do. Alright, the three of you get in the truck.

CARL

You can't be serious, (turns head towards Wilhelm) this man can barely walk, let him go.

GERDA

(pleading) Don't take my husband, he's all I have left.

ROLF

He looks fine to me. If he can fire a Panzerfaust, he can stop the American tanks.

WILHELM

(Oblivious to what's transpiring, looks at Carl) Are we going to see the Kaiser?

CARL

Let him go.

ROLF

(points his gun at Carl) He's coming with us, so are you and the boy.

Rolf waves to other soldiers to grab Wilhelm and help him get into the truck. Lucia walks over to a crying Gerda and holds her. Carl and Kurt step up and onto the truck. Carl looks at Lucia

LUCIA

Where are you taking them?

ROLF

We set up a very defensible position not far from here at the St. Michael's school. We've got plenty of weapons, just need more bodies to stop them. You (points at Lucia) Take this old lady, and the others out of the city. I don't want any more talking or I'll shoot the next person that does. Let's go.

Carl looks at Lucia as the truck now full with several old men in their 60's and 70's, starts to drive off. A smiling KURT waves to LUCIA as the truck drives out of sight. FADE OUT. FADE IN. EXT.

The truck drives through a stone arch gate and enters a large compound housing a semi-destroyed high school. The area is enclosed with a ten foot high wall.

ROLF

(gets out of front of truck)
Everybody out. Line up. (elderly men struggle to vacate the truck and are helped down by soldiers. Kurt and Carl help Wilhelm climb down)

WILHELM

(looks at Carl) Will Gerda be joining us when we meet the Kaiser?

KURT

The Kaiser? (laughs) You're about twenty years too late.

CARL

This is insane. These men are too old.

ROLF

(points gun at Carl) I told you to be quiet four eyes, now line up, all of you. (group forms line) I'm Captain Rolf Schmidt of the glorious German Wehrmacht. You are now being honored to serve the Third Reich to save Munich from the decadent American capitalist invaders. This is an excellent defensive fortress as you can see. The walls surround the entire area and the only way they can get to us is through that gate. Come with me and get your weapons and I will tell you where to go. (Rolf begins to head toward school building front door)

KURT

(softly) Now we're going to see some real action, this is what I've been waiting for. Once we stop the Americans, we can go get the Blutfahne for the Fuehrer.

CARL

Kurt, the Americans will kill us if we don't just give up. Funny, I've never had a dream before where I might get killed.

KURT

That's defeatest talk.

Kurt, Carl, and Hoffman walk into gymnasium with large stack of Panzerfausts and a small supply of guns. An elderly Volksturm member is handing out Panzerfausts to each person.

ROLF

Once you get your weapon, find a window with a good view of the arch. You three (points to Carl, Kurt, and Hoffman) come with me, there's a corner classroom with the best strategic vantage point to see the Americans. We need your youthful eyes, Oberstammfuehrer, to let us know when they're here, and you, four eyes, sadly you're the best of what's left, which isn't saying much.

CARL, KURT, and HOFFMAN pick-up Panzerfausts and walk to classroom with overturned tables, chairs, and fallen blackboards. Kurt runs over to a corner window, Carl is helping HOFFMAN to a chair away from the window.

KURT

(excitedly) Captain Schmidt was right, this is a perfect view of the archway.

CARL

(screams) Kurt, stay away from the window, you're an easy target. Stay down.

WILHELM

Where's Gerda? Are we going to see the Kaiser soon?

CARL

(frustrated) No, Herr Hoffman, we're not going to see the Kaiser yet. Please just sit in this chair. The Kaiser orders you to stay in this chair until he says otherwise.

WILHELM

You're very kind, I can't wait. I'm very honored to be seeing the Kaiser.

CARL

(walks over to Kurt) You have got to keep away from the window. These soldiers are trained to shoot anything that moves in front of a window. (looks at Panzerfaust) I don't even know how to use this.

KURT

(looks at his Panzerfaust) You just point and press this button and it takes off. We can definitely stop a tank with this.

CARL

Kurt, you do understand that the American army right now has over a million men and thousands of tanks in Germany right now.

KURT

How do you know how many? Besides, all we have to do is hold them off a little while. The fuehrer promised us Wonder Weapons that will give us our final victory.

CARL

(frustrated) I just hope we survive long enough to get the Blutfahne.

WILHELM

(walks over to Carl and Kurt in front of window) When did you say I can meet the Kaiser?

CARL

(grabs Hoffman and moves him back to a chair) Please Herr Hoffman stay in your chair, and don't go near the window.

FADE OUT. FADE IN. Int. CARL and KURT are crouching near the window as HOFFMAN is sitting in his chair. The sound of nearby gunfire can be heard.

KURT

Are there really thousands of American soldiers out there?

CARL

I'm sure there are. And hundreds of thousands of Russians in Berlin.

KURT

The Fuehrer's wonder weapons will
take us to final victory, won't
they?

WILHELM

Where's Gerda?

KURT

(notices Wilhelm's confused state,
looks away from Carl) All I know is
the Third Reich. I love all the
camping, the songs, the marching
(small laugh) It was so wonderful.
My parents were so proud of my
brother when he came back from
France, I wanted that too. But now
everyone I love is dead. All I have
now is hate and wanting revenge.

CARL

That won't bring them back. And
joining them in death by
sacrificing yourself against a real
army is suicide.

KURT

I don't know any other way.

Sounds of gunfire get louder. Sounds of bullets hitting the building are heard. Kurt stands up in front of the window. Carl pushes Kurt to the ground. Several bullets hit Hoffman who wandered over to the open window and falls to the ground. Karl rushes over and holds up Wilhelm with blood coming out of his mouth.

WILHELM

Are we going to see the Kaiser now?

CARL
(notices that Wilhelm is near death) Yes, Herr Hoffman, you will now see the Kaiser.

Wilhelm dies.

KURT
(Crawls over to Wilhelm and Carl)
He's dead?

CARL
He shouldn't have been here in the first place. (Angrily) This is so senseless. (Carl takes Kurt's Panzerfaust from his hands) As if this could possibly make a difference, Kurt.

Carl inadvertently presses the ignition button on the Panzerfaust as the projectile leaves the device. It impacts in the center of the archway. The impact causes the archway to collapse on itself. Several American soldiers nearing the front of the archway retreat back behind the fallen debris.

KURT
(Hears sound of collapsing arch and heads toward the window, crouches down with only his eyes and top of his head visible through the window.) Oh wow, you knocked the whole arch down, they'll need a tank to blast their way into here now, great shot.

CARL
Great shot? I didn't mean to fire it.

ROLF

(walks into room) Well done. Which one of you did that?

KURT

I gave him the Panzerfaust.

ROLF

It doesn't matter. They'll have to blast through the debris or climb over the walls now. This gives us some time to strengthen our defenses. We can pick anyone off if they try to climb the wall. (looks at Wilhelm) Poor old man, but he gave his life for the Fatherland, which is a true honor. It's almost dark, Americans don't fight in the dark, so we've got a few hours. I'll need you two rested for tomorrow. Go to the cellar and get some sleep. I'll let you know when to return here.

Carl and Kurt walk down to a lower level. Several elderly men are sleeping at various corners of the room. Carl and Kurt sit down next to each other.

CARL

We've got to get out of here. I can't get out of this dream until we find the Blutfahne.

KURT

Dream? You keep telling me this is a dream, and you're from the future. You definitely don't look like a soldier, and are very weird, but this isn't a dream, I'm real, I think.

CARL

We'll know the truth if we find the Blutfahne. You're connected to this for some reason. I've got to find the flag or it will never end. I've had enough of this.

KURT

Herr Hoffman is dead, that's real enough for me. I've seen so much death I don't even think about it any more. I've been taught to just believe in Ein Volk, Ein Reich, and Ein Fuehrer. I have to believe in the final victory.

CARL

Don't you realize that the war is over? Look around, there is no army, just old men and boys like you sacrificing their lives for nothing.

KURT

(with serious intent) I'm not a fool, Herr Braun. This may be a dream for you, but my parents and brother are dead that's all too real for me. I've had nothing to live for. After I got buried in the debris a few hours ago, I was disappointed I was still alive. But, after meeting you, I want to get the Blutfahne and join the Fuehrer in the Alps. My family would be proud of me then.

.

CARL

Neither of us will get what we want if we don't get out of here. (looks around room and sees long ladder) The only way is to get over the wall, and I think that just might be long enough.

KURT

If we take it, do you think anyone will notice?

CARL

(looks around room and sees only elderly men in deep sleep) I doubt a nuclear bomb would wake these guys.

KURT

A nuclear what?

CARL

Never mind. Be quiet and let's get the ladder.

Carl and Kurt quietly walk over to the ladder and carry it outside to a courtyard, and prop it up against a wall. Kurt and Carl climb up the ladder to the top of the wall, pull the ladder up, place it on the other side, climb down the ladder and begin to walk away from the compound.

KURT

I'm a little confused, it's dark and all the landmark buildings are destroyed, but I think if we head this way, we should get to the Brown house in a little while if we don't get killed by incoming artillery fire.

CARL

I wish we could find Lucia, maybe she saw where it's hidden in her vision. Michael's grandfather couldn't have found it if it wasn't around here.

KURT

What?

CARL

Never mind.

KURT

Please just keep the crazy talk to yourself.

CARL and KURT walk around and over debris through the streets of Munich. As they turn a corner, the sound of a machine gun bolt being pulled back is heard. Two American soldiers point weapons at CARL and KURT. JOE, mid-twenties, and AL, mid-twenties, are both chewing gum.

JOE

Hands up, you two Fritzes? (Carl and Joe stop walking and put up their hands) Look at these guys, the remnants of the Third Reich. A lousy kid and a four-eyed fat slob.

AL

(laughs) They don't even have any weapons. We could just shoot them.

JOE

Hell no. Now we've got a reason to go back to our lines. I know that asshole sergeant sent me out here on re-con hoping I'd get picked off so he wouldn't have to pay me the money he lost in that poker game.

CARL

(Speaking in what he thinks is English, but the soldiers hear him in German) I'm an American citizen, please let us go, we're on a mission.

JOE

(laughs) What the hell is this guy saying? I don't understand you Fritz, so just shut the fuck up!

AL

Let's just take them back, I don't want to get killed right at the end of the war. Let's find a place to hold out until morning. We'll never find our way back in the dark. These two won't give us any trouble.

JOE

I'd hate to die from friendly fire either. Let's find somewhere underground, wait until morning, then take them in.

The group starts walking through the streets as the sounds of artillery fire come closer. Sensing the danger, the soldiers direct Carl and Kurt to a partially bombed building which has stairs leading to a basement. The soldiers instruct Carl and Kurt to sit down in a corner. AL and JOE position themselves on chairs in front of the basement stairs.

AL

How long do you think we need to stay here?

JOE

Just a few hours until it gets light outside.

CARL

(whispers to Curt) They're hearing me in German, but I swear I'm talking in English. It must have something to do with the Blutfahne

KURT

We'll never get to the Blutfahne if we don't get out of here. These two will shoot us if we try to leave.

JOE

(Hears Kurt and Carl talking) Shut-up back there, I don't want to hear a sound out of you.

AL

Why don't we just shoot them, they'll slow us down getting back to our unit.

JOE

Bringing back prisoners makes us look good. Hell, most of these guys just want the war to end. It's not much of a prize with this baby kid and the four-eyed slob, but I've seen enough killing for a lifetime, I won't shoot an unarmed person.

AL

Unless they try to escape.

JOE

Well, that would be different, of course

FADE OUT. FADE IN. Int. CARL/KURT are sitting in a corner trying to get some rest. The sound of feet coming down the cellar stairs is heard. JOE/AL get up from their chairs and point their guns at the staircase. LUCIA, appears without head scarf, dressed in revealing short dress holding a bottle of wine and stands seductively at the bottom of the stairs. JOE/AL lower their weapons.

LUCIA

(in heavily accented English) Hello boys, welcome to Munich. I here to thank you now war over.

JOE

She's a hottie, c'mon down baby, what you got with you?

AL

(takes bottle from Lucia) It looks like she brought us some wine. I'd rather have beer, but this will do.

KURT and CARL look at each other stunned by Lucia's arrival. LUCIA looks over at them and gives them a wink of her eye.

LUCIA

I celebrate American come to Munich.

JOE

(opens bottle) Sorry, honey, we don't have any glasses. (takes swig from bottle. Your turn Al.

AL

(takes large gulp) Not bad, a little too fruity, but it's alcohol. (gives back to Joe who takes another swig)

LUCIA

(Joe passes bottle to Lucia who declines taking a drink) No thank you. This gift for you.

Joe and Al consume entire bottle quickly. Both look longingly at Lucia.

AL

(looks lustfully at Lucia) Thanks for the wine honey, what else you got. (puts hands on Lucia's breast, she pulls away, Carl/Kurt begin to stand-up in protest, both soldiers grab their guns and point them at Kurt/Carl.

JOE

Not now, Al. There'll be plenty of women for us once we occupy the city. Remember France. This one doesn't look too willing. They're all starving here. Just give her a pack of cigarettes. She'll be more willing then.

AL starts to bring package of cigarettes out of his pocket, then pauses as he becomes lightheaded. JOE is also becoming woozy. Both men fall to the ground.

KURT

Wow, thanks gypsy. You must have put some magic potion in that wine. Let's get out of here.

CARL

Lucia, what are you doing here?

LUCIA

I've been following you since they took you to the Boarding school. I was about to meet you when the soldiers grabbed you.

CARL

Why?

LUCIA

That vision I had was so real. I can't get it out of my head. I'm supposed to be part of this. I believe you when you say you're from the future. I have to help you find the flag and get back to your time.

KURT

I'm glad you showed up, lady, but let's get out of here before they wake up. (goes over to Joe and picks up his M 16 rifle)

CARL

No, Kurt. Leave the weapon here. If we run into any more American soldiers and they see us with guns, they'll shoot us for sure.

KURT

(disappointed, looks at weapon)
This is an American rifle. I don't know how to use it anyway.

KURT, CARL, and LUCIA proceed to walk up the stairs and outside. To the sound of artillery shells and distant machine gun fire, they walk through rubble and debris avoiding interaction with passersby. Several people are also walking through the city with carts and riding bicycles trying to get out of the city. The sounds of artillery shells become louder, CARL points to a half-destroyed building near them.

CARL

We've got to go inside and go underground. (all 3 tentatively climb through debris of a partially destroyed dress shop)

LUCIA

This doesn't look very safe.

KURT

We won't have to stay long. They shell an area for awhile, then move on to other places. I've been in worse locations. (looks around shop) I think there's a basements around here somewhere, but we have to dig through the bricks and cement. (All three begin to remove cement/bricks)

Major WOLFF enters the store and points his luger at CARL.

WOLFF

Stop digging. (all three stop. Kurt immediately comes to attention seeing the major and the medals on Wolff's uniform)

KURT

(lifts up right hand) Heil Hitler.

WOLFF

(offers similar salute) Heil Hitler. Now, why don't you three move away from that area and come closer. I want some information.

CARL

Information? We don't know anything, leave us alone.

WOLFF

(motions the three over to chairs/tables, points for all to sit down) Oh I think you know a lot of things future man.

CARL

Future man, what do you mean?

WOLFF

I heard the most fascinating story recently while sheltering during the last artillery barrage. Incredibly, I heard a man from the year 2025 just showed up here looking for the Blutfahne, isn't that interesting.

LUCIA

(looks at Carl) You were spying on us at the last shelter.

WOLFF

Not really spying Miss Schneider. Yes, I know your name, and yours, Oberstormbahnfuehrer Meyer, and of course, our overweight supposed Wehrmacht soldier, Carl Braun.

CARL

(irritated) What do you want?

WOLFF

What an odd little group you are. Wandering around Munich instead of leaving the city like everyone else. Could it be you're looking for the Blutfahne? I can't imagine a more glorious service to the Fuehrer than presenting him with the flag when he arrives at our Alpine fortress.

KURT

So you're here to help us.

WOLFF

I'm definitely here to find the flag my boy. But I don't think our future man wants to present the Blutfahne to the Fuehrer, do you Herr Braun?

CARL

I don't know what you're talking about.

WOLFF

You see I actually believe you are from the future. From what Miss Schneider saw in her vision, in the future, apparently, people like you pretend to be soldiers in battle for the amusement of onlookers. How American. How decadent. But, if you are from the future, the question becomes why are you here and what does it have to do with the Blutfahne? (points gun at Carl)

KURT

You don't really believe any of this about him being from the future, do you Major? I just think he's a bit touched in the head. I like him, though.

WOLFF

My boy, you have no idea the things I've seen and done these past few years. I've seen death and glory all for the Third Reich and it's been magical. Is he from the future? He definitely doesn't look right. Anything's possible. This future man might just be here for me to find the flag. If it truly has magical powers, when I give it to the Fuehrer, maybe it will change the future and we will win the war after all.

KURT

But why did Carl come to me?

WOLFF

Because you are the future of the Third Reich. Look at you, you're the perfect Aryan, my boy. The flag chose you to help me find it. Imagine presenting the flag with me to the Fuehrer.

KURT

I will follow your orders, Major Wolff.

WOLFF

(smiles) Of course you will Kurt.
(turns to Carl) Now, tell me more about how you got here.

CARL

(with disgust) That's a Waffen SS uniform, I'm not going to help you in any way. All of you are nothing but killers.

WOLFF

(points gun at Lucia) Oh, I think you will Herr Braun. If you come from the future, I'm sure you learned that the SS is the most powerful force in Germany. We do what we want. All for the Fuehrer, of course. And the Fuehrer wants his Blutfahne. A nice non-lethal bullet in Miss Schneider should motivate you to help me when you hear her screams of agony, yes?

CARL

History has made it's judgment. You and your kind killed millions of innocent people, you're nothing but evil murderers.

KURT

That's not true is it Major Wolff?

WOLFF

Of course not Kurt. His history is always written by the winners. Our service in the East was honorable. If we do lose the war, they'll say anything and lie about us.

CARL

It's not a lie, it's a fact.

WOLFF

Maybe those lies will be corrected once we give the flag to the Fuehrer. How did you get here Carl? Are you going to tell me or do you want to hear Miss Schneider cry out in agony. (points gun at Lucia's leg)

CARL

No, please don't shoot. I don't know. All I know is that Michael's grandfather found the flag here in Munich, took it back to America, and kept it hidden and buried for eighty years. I touched the flag and now I'm here.

WOLFF

(thinks for a moment) I see. So what you're telling me is that, in your time, Germany loses the war and this Michael's grandfather steals the Blutfahne, you touched it and now you're here.

LUCIA

I saw the Blutfahne in my visions.

WOLFF

Well, future man, I don't like that future. It's incredible that you could be here from the future, but the Fuehrer himself says the Blutfahne has magical powers, Himmler does too.

CARL

We don't know where it is.

WOLFF

Alright, you two (points to Carl and Linda) do the same thing you did last time I saw you in that cellar. Grab his hands Miss Schneider and make your vision tell us where the flag is.

KURT

She really is a gypsy then, Herr Major?

WOLFF

I'm afraid so. We disposed, I mean, re-settled thousands of them in the East. Some of them do have the ability to see the future.

CARL and LUCIA hold each other's hands trying to concentrate, but nothing happens. They continue but no vision comes to LUCIA.

LUCIA

Nothing is coming to me, I don't understand it.

WOLFF

Maybe you need a little pain to motivate you to see more clearly.
(walks slowly over to area with desk, pushes away overturned manikins, opens drawer and pulls out a knife) I bet this will motivate you Miss Schneider.

Incoming artillery shell is heard. The reverberations loosen the wooden floor beams WOLFF is standing on. The floor collapses as Wolff falls through the floor and appears to have been buried under the debris. KURT attempts to move towards WOLFF as CARL pulls him back.

CARL

No Kurt, you'll just fall through and get killed, he's finished, let's get out of here.

KURT

No, we have to save him (tries to pull away from Carl unsuccessfully)

CARL

(pulls Kurt close to him) He's gone Kurt, let's get out of here or we'll be next.

CARL, LUCIA, and KURT walk out of building and into the street.

LUCIA

I don't know why I was able to see a vision before, but not now. I think that SS man made me too frightened to concentrate. Let's go to my apartment and try again, if it survived the last bombing.

CARL

Is it close by?

LUCIA

Not far.

The three start walking through debris with the accompanying sound of artillery shells. Back at the building they left, pieces of debris move around as WOLFF begins to crawl out from under bricks and cement.

FADE OUT. FADE IN. Ext. LUCIA's apartment building is undamaged while adjacent buildings are piles of rubble. KURT and CARL follow LUCIA as they walk into the building, travel up two flights of stairs and enter Lucia's apartment.

FADE OUT. FADE IN. Int. LUCIA's apartment. LUCIA walks through the apartment and lights several candles. The apartment is modestly decorated with furniture, area rugs, and a credenza with numerous pictures. CARL walks over to the pictures.

KURT

Got any food, I'm starving.

LUCIA

A little. (Lucia walks over to kitchen area and brings half loaf of brown bread and cheese out of cupboard. She breaks off a sizable piece of the bread and half of the cheese and gives to Kurt.)

KURT

(grabs bread/cheese and starts to quickly consume) Thanks gypsy, I haven't eaten for three days. (Kurt continues to consume the food quickly)

CARL

(looks at pictures) This is your husband?

LUCIA

(picks up photograph with sad expression) He didn't want to be in the war. They made him an interpreter between the Italian and German armies. These are my parents. (picks up picture) I haven't seen them in two years.

CARL

What happened?

LUCIA

(looks at Kurt who is not listening as he continues to consume the bread and cheese) Do you see the way he looks at me? No one likes the Romani just because most of us like to live differently. Everything changed when Mussolini passed racial laws in 1940, rounded us all up and put us in camps to please Hitler.

CARL

How did you get out?

LUCIA

My husband. He was a guard at the camp. We fell in love almost immediately.

(MORE)

LUCIA (CONT'D)

He gave us extra food and helped me escape, but couldn't help my parents. He knew a sympathetic catholic priest who married us and then he got a job as translator here in Munich, then they sent him to Russia. The camps were so horrible. People died of starvation and disease. All I know of my parents is that after Italy surrendered to the allies last year, they were transferred to another camp somewhere in Poland. Now that the war is almost over, I pray we'll see each other again.

CARL

(looks away from Lucia) I hope so too.

LUCIA

(notices Carl's avoidance) You know something, don't you? Please, I have to know. If you truly are from the future, you know what happened. I've tried to connect with my parents through my visions, but I get nothing. Believing they're still alive is the only thing that keeps me going.

CARL

I don't know about your parents, but there was no re-location to the East.

LUCIA

What do you mean?

CARL

The Germans didn't re-locate anyone.

(MORE)

CARL (CONT'D)

The world will soon know, but, I'm sorry Lucia, they murdered millions of people, including children. It's their greatest crime. Some survived, maybe your parents did, but I'm sorry.

LUCIA

(sadly) I've heard rumors, but didn't want to believe them. The camps were bad enough, but they kept us alive to make weapons for them to continue the war. (looks over to Kurt who is now sleeping on a couch) He's so beautiful and looks like a sleeping angel now. How could his people do these things?

CARL

(looks at Kurt) He's been taught nothing but hate his whole life.

LUCIA

Part of me wants to kill him right now for what his people did to my parents and me, but I can't.
(begins to sob)

CARL

(puts arms around and hugs Lucia)
The world will get better after this is over, I promise you that.

LUCIA

(wipes away tears from her face)
Well, enough of that. We've got to find that flag. I don't know why my visions stopped. Maybe if we try a more traditional Romani seance it might work.

Lucia opens drawer in credenza and pulls out a large red candle, and a black cloth.

LUCIA

Let's go to the kitchen and see if a different method will give me a vision. I concentrated on this candle before. That's when I saw my husband lying dead in a mound of snow. His face was so thin, I think he starved to death. If we both hold hands and stare at the candle, maybe we'll learn where the flag is.

LUCIA and CARL walk into the kitchen and sit down at the table while KURT is deep in sleep. LUCIA lights candle, instructs CARL to grab her hands.

LUCIA

Now, concentrate on the candle. Think about the flag, and only the flag. If we both concentrate, maybe it will tell us where it is.

CARL and LUCIA stare at the candle. After a few moments, a hazy image becomes clearer for both of them. The vision is a large room. Numerous flags are strewn on the ground, chairs are overturned, and the area is filled with plaster on the floor. The vision zooms in to a wall near the strewn flags and promptly stops.

CARL

Wow, did you see that?

LUCIA

Yes, did you see a room with flags?

CARL

The vision just stopped at a wall,
but where is it?

LUCIA

It can't be in the Brown House,
that's been destroyed, but it could
be next door in the Fuehrerbau.

CARL

Fuehrerbau?

LUCIA

If it's not destroyed yet. That's
where Hitler held the Munich
conference in '38.

CARL

(sarcastically) So much for Peace
in our Time.

LUCIA

If it's still in the Fuehrerbau, we
have to go there. The vision seems
to be pointing us in that
direction, but I didn't see the
actual flag did you?

CARL

No, unless it's one of the flags on
the floor. If the Blutfahne was so
important, they would've kept it in
a more secure location. The flag I
touched was inside a wooden box
with a golden swastika on the
front.

KURT walks into the kitchen.

KURT

Wow, I needed that. Thanks for the food, lady. Did I miss anything?

CARL

Can you take us to the Fuehrerbau?

KURT

(excitedly) I knew it, that's where the Blutfahne is. If we don't get killed by artillery shells, or another air raid. We could get to the Fuehrerbau in a few minutes from here.

LUCIA

We'll need flashlights to get there with no electricity in the city.

CARL

Or we could just get picked up again by another roving band of diehards like Captain Schmidt.

KURT

He'll kill us for desertion.

CARL

Of course, well you two ready for another journey through the city?

LUCIA

(opens cradenza door and gives Kurt and Carl flashlights) OK.

The trio leave LUCIA's apartment building and begin to walk through the damaged streets, traversing mounds of rubble as they walk amongst the debris.

The sound of a truck appears in the distance. KURT and CARL turn off their flashlights and see CAPTAIN SCHMIDT and several older men sitting in the back of an open truck with hand held torches to illuminate their way.

KURT

Oh no, it's Captain Schmidt, we've got to hide.

KURT runs quickly into a nearby building that appears precariously close to collapse. CARL and LUCIA follow closely behind him.

CARL

Be careful Kurt, don't go far inside, it might collapse.

KURT walks in the building before CARL and LUCIA arrive. A loud crashing sound immediately ensues as smoke from debris bellows out the front of the building. The truck moves away as KARL and LUCIA remove debris, bricks and cement to try and free KURT. After an exhaustive attempt to remove the debris, a small hole is made. CARL turns on his flashlight and sees an unconscious KURT semi-buried in debris.

KURT

I see him, I can't tell if he's alive, but I don't know how we can get to him. He's too far for me to reach, and I can't remove any more bricks, they're too heavy.

LUCIA

Let me see. I think I can squeeze through and grab him if you hold onto my legs.

KURT

It might collapse on you and then I've lost both of you.

LUCIA
We can't just leave him there.
Kurt, Kurt, can you here me?

KURT slowly returns to consciousness. He looks around and notices his legs are trapped under a large piece of cement.

KURT
I'm OK, but I can't move.

CARL
We're coming to get you. Don't move
or you might cause more debris to
fall.

LUCIA
I can reach him, it'll be tight,
but there's just enough room.

LUCIA proceeds to crawl slowly into the small opening of debris. CARL holds onto her legs as she moves closer to KURT. Falling debris obscures LUCIA'S view of KURT as smoke fills the small opening. As it clears, KURT is still visible as LUCIA continues to move closer to him.

LUCIA
Just a little further. (Carl holds
tightly onto Lucia's legs)

Lucia reaches for Kurt as they're hands connect firmly.

LUCIA
Pull Carl, pull.

CARL tries to leverage his legs on the debris and struggles to pull LUCIA and KURT out of the small hole.

A large cement boulder moves off Kurt's legs as he is retrieved from the hole. As his body emerges from the hole, the surrounding debris collapses.

KURT

(Breathless) You saved my life,
thank you Lucia.

LUCIA

Lucia? That's the first time you
didn't call me a witch or a gypsy.

CARL

Are you hurt Kurt?

KURT

Just a little bruised. I thought
for sure I was finished. You
could've gotten killed, why did you
save me?

LUCIA

(looks at Carl) You're just a boy,
I can't blame you for all the
horror your people have done to the
world.

CARL helps LUCIA and KURT off the pile of debris as they continue to slowly walk through the streets. The two flashlights converge on a large door which is opened. They have arrived at the Fueherbau. They walk in the building and head down a large staircase to the basement. They point their flashlights around a large room with numerous Nazi flags on the floor, overturned furniture, and plaster from the walls on the floor.

CARL

This definitely is the place I saw
in the Vision, so it has to be
here.

LUCIA

I saw this room in that vision,
too. (walks over to flags and
inspects them) But these aren't the
Blutfahne. Where is it?

MAJOR WOLFF walks into the room pointing his gun at CARL.

WOLFF

That's my question, too.

KURT

(excitedly) Major Wolff, you're
alive.

WOLFF

Yes I am. No thanks to the three of
you.

KURT

We thought you were killed when the
place caved in. I wanted to help,
but Carl stopped me.

WOLFF

I'm not mad at you, son. You've
been poisoned by this gypsy and the
future man.

KURT

Future man?

WOLFF

That's right. (looks at Carl) I
would love to learn all the changes
in the world over the next eighty
years, but I don't think I would
like what you have to share.

(MORE)

WOLFF (CONT'D)

If the flag truly has the power to bring you from the future, it can do anything. I'm about to change the future once you get me the flag.

CARL

You can't change the future. The flag came to me.

WOLFF

Oh, I think I can. Your presence here proves that something magical is happening. Once we find the flag, I'll dispose of you two then the boy and I will take the flag to the Fuehrer. I doubt you live a life of any significance in your time anyway.

CARL

I'd rather die in this timeline than help you get the flag.

WOLFF

How Noble, but I'm the one with the gun. (points gun at Lucia) Tell me gypsy woman, where is the flag?

LUCIA

We don't know. I'm with Carl, I'd rather die than help you find it.

WOLFF

You two are going to die either way. I could just kill you both and have the boy find it, but it's already April 30th and the city has decided to surrender to the Americans. We have to move fast and get out of the city. Now where is it?

KURT

I've looked at all the flags on the floor Major, but it's not there.

WOLFF

Each of you grab one of the flag poles. Start poking the walls and see if you hear a hollow sound. They must've buried it in a wall somewhere. (Kurt picks up a flag pole and begins to tap on a wall. Lucia and Kurt stand still) Very well, do you want me to shoot you now? You certainly don't want to die before we find the Blutfahne.

CARL and LUCIA reluctantly pick up flag poles and begin tapping on different walls. A consistent sound is heard from the tapping. KURT taps on the wall near where the flags are on the ground, and here's a different higher pitched sound.

WOLFF

That's it my boy. Now use the flagpole like a hammer and break through the wall.

KURT begins to pound the flagpole into the plaster on the wall. He makes a small hole and then starts removing more plaster with his hands. He reaches in and pulls out a wooden box.

KURT

I've got something. (Kurt pulls out wooden box with Golden Swastika in the center and brings it over to Wolff)

WOLF

(opens box exposing the Blutfahne)
I've got it, I found the Blutfahne.
(unfolds flag) I'm touching it,
nothing happens.

(MORE)

WOLF (CONT'D)
You two, move over to the flags so
I can keep an eye on you.

CARL and LUCIA move to the center of the room in front of the
strewn flags on the floor.

KURT
Are we going to take the flag to
the Fuehrer Major Wolff?

WOLFF
All in good time, my boy. But
First, we need to decide what to do
with these two.

KURT
What do you mean?

WOLFF
Isn't it obvious? They're the
enemy. He's an American and she's a
gypsy.

KURT
I don't know what to do.

CARL
The flag isn't meant for you,
Wolff. It brought me here for a
reason, and there's no way it's
meant for a killer like you.
Besides, it's too late. The
Americans are here, and the
Russians are in Berlin.

WOLFF
You being here is proof enough the
flag has power. Maybe the flag is
the wonder weapon the Fuehrer needs
for final victory

CARL

You're too late. Today is April 30th. Your beloved Fuehrer will never leave Berlin. He will kill himself today with a bullet in his head, there's no Alpine Fortress. Admiral Doenitz will become the new Chancellor and sign the unconditional surrender of all German troops, effective May 8th.

WOLFF

You're lying. This flag must have magical powers. The Fuehrer would never leave us in such a cowardly manner.

CARL

You said it yourself, I'm from the future, and that is what history has recorded. The thousand year Reich only lasted twelve years.

WOLFF

If what you say is true, so be it. But I'm going to prove to you that our way of life will live on even if we lose the war. (turns to Kurt and hands him his gun) I want you to kill Carl Braun.

KURT

What?

WOLFF

That's right, he's our enemy. He's an American, and probably a Jew, so you're killing for two good reasons.

KURT

So what if I am a Jew?

WOLFF

Do you know how many Jews I killed with my men in Poland and Russia? Thousands. We did it to free the world of Bolshevism and the Jewish world conspiracy.

CARL

There never was, or is, any world Jewish conspiracy, you Nazis just used them as a scapegoat. And you will pay for your crimes, although it will never be enough for what you did.

WOLFF

(points to Lucia) And you, my sweet Gypsy. We rid the world of a lot of your kind too.

LUCIA

You evil bastard.

WOLFF

Move away from Braun please. Your psychic powers may help me learn the secrets of the blutfahne. Then we can kill you too. (Lucia walks away from Carl nearer to Kurt and Wolff)

WOLFF

Now I'm going to prove that we truly are the Master race. Kurt has been trained his whole life to follow orders, and obey the Fuehrer. Kurt, the Fuehrer orders you to kill this dirty American Jew, kill him.

KURT

(points gun at Carl, but hesitates)
I don't know Major. Both of them
saved my life, I don't know.

WOLFF

Kill him. That's an order. You are
the future, you were taught
obedience above all else. The Reich
will only continue through you,
shoot.

Kurt continues to shakily point the gun at Carl. His facial expression changes to one of confusion as Wolff begins to get angry.

WOLFF

I said shoot him, shoot him.

KURT looks at CARL, then LUCIA, then WOLFF. He tosses the gun in the direction of LUCIA. She picks up the gun and shoots WOLFF, he falls to the floor. LUCIA drops the gun as it falls close to WOLFF's fallen body. KURT, sobbing, runs over to CARL, and hugs him. LUCIA walks over and embraces CARL and KURT.

CARL

I couldn't kill either of you, why
did he tell me to do that?

CARL

He knew nothing but killing. He
wants you to be just like him, but
you can't. There will be a future
for you Kurt.

Wolff, wounded, crawls over to the gun, struggles to stand up.

KURT

Stupid boy. I'll have to do this myself, with great pleasure, move away from them.

KURT slowly walks a small distance away from CARL and LUCIA. They embrace in anticipation of being shot. WOLFF smiles as he points the gun at CARL and shoots. KURT leaps in front of CARL and is hit by the bullet in his back and falls to the ground. WOLFF also falls to the ground and drops the gun. LUCIA cradles KURT in her arms. CARL walks over to WOLFF and picks up the gun.

CARL

(angrily) Damn you. You lost everything, not just the war, but you even destroyed your own future by shooting Kurt.

KURT

The boy was weak, he deserves to die.

Anger continues to grow in CARL as he raises the gun and points it at Wolff's head and fires. Wolff immediately dies. CARL grabs the Iron Cross Medal from WOLFF's uniform and runs over to the injured KURT. CARL looks at LUCIA who nods her head signifying that KURT will most likely die.

CARL

Kurt, I'm here.

Kurt slowly opens his eyes.

KURT

It hurts so much.

CARL

I know, Kurt. Major Wolff won't hurt anyone else, he's gone.

KURT

I couldn't let him kill you, you fat four eyes (coughs up blood trying to laugh)

CARL

Just try to relax. You're gonna be OK.

KURT

No I'm not. Carl, I have to know. Did Major Wolff and the SS really kill so many innocent people?

CARL

Unfortunately, yes.

KURT

What is Germany like in your time?

CARL

In my time, Germany is a peaceful, country and leads a more united Europe as a democracy. All of the cities will be re-built and there's been no more war.

KURT

I like that. (turns to Lucia)
You're really cute, Lucia, I just wanted to tell you that.

LUCIA
(tars in eyes) Thank you my sweet,
beautiful angel.

CARL
Here Carl, this is for you. (Carl
puts Wolff's Iron Cross in Kurt's
hand) You earned this.

KURT
(looks at Iron Cross) My Iron
Cross, my parents would be so
proud.

KURT attempts a smile, but then turns his head away and dies.
LUCIA lays KURT's dead body on the floor. LUCIA and CARL
embrace.

LUCIA
Oh Carl, that poor boy.

CARL
Wolff thought Kurt would be able to
kill as easily as he does. (looks
at Wolff's body) He was wrong.

LUCIA
The flag, Carl, we've got to get
the flag.

Carl and Lucia walk over to the Blutfahne. They both touch it
expecting something to happen. Nothing happens.

CARL
I thought touching the flag would
send me back to my time, it isn't
working.

LUCIA

We have to destroy the flag. It's evil needs to be ended like the Third Reich. We need to burn it.

CARL walks over to WOLFF's body and starts searching through his pockets. He finds a silver lighter with a black Swastika on it.

CARL

We could get a few hundred dollars for this on Ebay.

LUCIA

What?

CARL

Never mind. If we burn the flag and it doesn't work, I guess I'll be trapped in this time if this dream never ends.

LUCIA

This isn't a dream Carl, Kurt's death is all too real. You need to get back to your time, and I need to start over. I never thought I'd survive the war, but knowing Hitler dies today and the war is almost over, I'm ready to go on.

CARL

I never would've gotten to this point without you and Kurt.

LUCIA

Burn the flag Carl.

Carl clicks on the lighter.

CARL
(about to light the flag) I don't
want to say goodbye to you.

LUCIA
(louder) Burn the flag, Carl. If,
as you say, the real time is August
30th, 2025, I'll let you know
somehow that I'm OK. I'll only be
(thinks for a moment) one hundred
and five years old. Good-bye Carl.

CARL proceeds to light an edge of the Blutfahne, drops it to the floor, and drops the lighter. Immediately various bright colors emanate from the flag as the entire flag is ignited. The whole room becomes illuminated. The light becomes so bright that CARL and LUCIA both put their hands to their eyes. FADE OUT. FADE IN. Int. MICHAEL's tent.

MICHAEL
I thought you were gonna take a
piss, what are you doing in my
tent?

Michael looks at Carl with a frozen expression on his face.

MICHAEL
Did you hear me? What's wrong? You
look like you saw a ghost. You
trying to steal my Nazi shit?

CARL slowly begins to recognize he is no longer back in Germany and looks intently at MICHAEL.

CARL
Where am I?

MICHAEL

Where are you? You're in my tent,
where else would you be?

CARL

But I was just in Germany in 1945 a
minute ago.

MICHAEL

Yeah, right. What's wrong with you?
I know these battles are supposed
to make us think they're real, but
c'mon. Are you kidding?

CARL

Where's the Blutfahne?

MICHAEL

The what?

CARL

The Blutfahne. The flag your
grandfather brought back from
Germany, you know, the one he
buried in his basement.

MICHAEL

Blutfahne? Basement? What the hell
are you talking about? My
grandfather brought back a knife
and a medal from the war.

CARL

But you just showed me the flag.

MICHAEL

Look man, this is getting pretty weird. You're taking this World War Two shit too serious.

CARL looks around the tent and sees the duffle bag. He grabs the bag and looks through it.

MICHAEL

Hey man, what are you doing? You trying to steal something?

CARL reaches into the bag and pulls out a black and white photograph.

CARL

It's Kurt, I knew it. Where did you get this? (anxiously) Tell me.

MICHAEL

Alright, Jesus. That's the picture my grandmother gave me. It's just some Hitler youth nephew of hers that died at the end of the war that's all I know.

CARL stares at the picture as a tear swells in his eye.

MICHAEL

Alright, look, man, this is really getting weird.

CARL

His name is Kurt Meyer.

MICHAEL

(frustrated) How would you know that?

(MORE)

MICHAEL (CONT'D)

I don't know his name for Christ's sake, what's wrong with you?

CARL

I met this kid. Michael, I know this is going to sound crazy, but I just spent a day and a half in Munich, Germany on August 29, 1945. The flag took me there.

MICHAEL

(raises eyebrows) OK. Um, I don't think so. I just saw you twenty minutes ago. Why are you in my tent?

CARL

I touched the flag and it sent me back to Munich.

MICHAEL

(exasperated) There's no flag, Carl.

CARL

(thinks) Of course, the flag can't be here now since Kurt, Lucia, and I destroyed it at the Fuehrerbau? It changed the present.

MICHAEL

Who's Kurt and Lucia?

CARL

They helped me destroy the flag. Kurt was in the Hitler youth and Lucia knew I was from the future, she had a special gift to see visions. She's a Romani gypsy.

(MORE)

CARL (CONT'D)

MICHAEL

(grabs Carl's arms) Carl, Carl, listen to me. You have to realize what you're saying is crazy. You want me to believe you just went to Munich in 1945 to burn a flag with a Nazi youth and a gypsy fortune teller?

CARL

It really happened, Michael, do you think I'm lying?

MICHAEL

Well, obviously something happened to you, you're really shook up. Did you take mushrooms or a hallucinogenic or something?

CARL

No, I didn't. Why would I make this up? It's the most fantastic thing that ever happened to me.

CARL

Look man, I don't know what's going on, maybe a psychotic break. Why don't you go lie down in your tent. Get some rest and we'll talk more about this tomorrow. I don't want to miss the Hitler declaration of war on the US speech. Do you want to go?

CARL

(adamantly) No, I've had enough war. I'm so tired, I have to try and sleep.

MICHAEL

Look, the mind can do crazy things, it had to be some kind of dream, Carl, it was a dream. You keep telling people some Nazi flag that doesn't exist transported you back to 1945 and you'll end up in the loony bin.

CARL

It really happened Michael, it really did.

MICHAEL

Well, something happened to you, I'm just saying keep it to yourself, and get some sleep. Whatever happened, it's over and you're back here. (notices Carl is staring intently at the picture of Kurt) Why do you keep staring at that damn picture?

CARL

This is the proof, I know this boy. His name is Kurt Meyer, he's 15 years old, his parents and brother were killed in the war, and he always wanted to get an Iron Cross medal. How would I know that if I didn't meet him.

MICHAEL

(looks at picture) My grandmother's maiden name was Meyer, just a coincidence. Meyer is a common name like Smith.

CARL

Michael, I didn't imagine this, it really happened, it was so real.

MICHAEL

Look, Michael, you've got to understand how crazy this sounds. You touched a flag that doesn't exist, you travel back to 1945 Munich for a day and a half, searching for this flag that brought you back.

CARL

You don't believe me, I don't think anyone will ever believe me, but can you do me a favor?

MICHAEL

Sure

CARL

Can I have this picture?

MICHAEL

You want the picture of the Nazi kid?

CARL.

(frustrated) He wasn't a Nazi.

MICHAEL

OK, OK. Sure, take it. I was going to throw it out anyway. Look man, I really want to hear that guy read Hitler's declaration of War on the US speech in a few minutes. Carl, get some rest. It was a dream Carl, do you understand?

MICHAEL walks out of the tent as CARL takes Kurt's photograph and follows him out.

CARL walks to his own tent and collapses on the sleeping bag.
FADE OUT. FADE IN. Int. Morning, CARL's tent. MICHAEL opens
the tent flap and sees CARL still sleeping.

MICHAEL

Man, are you still asleep. Get up,
we've got to get ready for today's
battle.

CARL

(groggily) It couldn't have been a
dream.

MICHAEL

You still thinking about this,
c'mon Carl, get on with it. Get
your uniform and let's get ready.

CARL

No way, I've had enough war, I'm
getting the hell out of here.
(begins to pick up items in tent)
I'm going back to Sarah. I'll watch
Zena Warrior Princess for hours, if
she wants. I just want to be with
her.

MICHAEL

(irritated) Suit yourself. You need
help Carl, I've never seen you like
this.

CARL

I don't need help, Michael, I just
need to get out of here, OK?

MICHAEL

Alright man, I'll find someone else
to join me in the trenches.

CARL
(angrily) Good-bye Michael

CARL continues to pack-up his things and take down his tent. FADE Out. FADE IN. Ext. CARL pulls his car into his townhome driveway. He gets out of the car, opens the door to the sound of piano music and lit candles throughout the living room.

SARAH
You're back early. (Sarah kisses and hugs Michael) Did something happen to you?

CARL
What do you mean?

SARAH
Michael called. He said you had some kind of nervous breakdown and said you were acting crazy. Carl, I'm scared, what is he talking about?

CARL
I just had a really bizarre, but really magical experience. I tried to explain it to Michael and he said I was crazy. I just want to hold you Sarah, I don't want to talk to you about it, you won't believe me either.

SARAH
How do you know? Carl, we can't have any secrets from each other, particularly now, it's important.

CARL

(looks around the room) What's with all the candles and music. Are you making dinner, too?

SARAH

I have something special to share with you and wanted to set the right mood, but after Michael's call, I'm really worried. Why today Michael, of all days, are you acting so weird?

CARL

I can't talk about it now. Look, something happened to me, maybe it was a dream, but it felt so real. I'm just glad I'm alive. I came back here as soon as I could. I want to make love to you right now.

SARAH

Carl, I'm right in the middle of making dinner. I spent a lot of money on this veal. It has to be timed just right, please. After dinner for sure. I think you'll be even more excited after you hear my news. Oh, I almost forgot. (walks to table and gives Carl a large, faded white envelope.) This came for you special delivery earlier today. I don't know what it is, but it's from Italy. I didn't know you knew anyone living there. I've got to check on the veal and the veggies, I'll be right back.

CARL stares at the envelope. He thinks for a moment then with shaking hands, opens it. He pulls out a one page letter written in English and begins to read.

LUCIA

(voice) Dear Carl: If you're wondering how I found you, this letter is being sent to you as close as possible to the date, April 30, 2025. It was in my will that this be sent to you on that date. At the time I'm writing you, I'm 95 years old and won't be alive when you get this. The last thing I remember when you burned the flag was the bright light and then you were gone. I returned to Italy, married a wonderful man and have three children. Carl, the magical experience we shared happened decades ago for me, but only a moment ago for you. I had to write you as you now must be confused, scared, and having a difficult time believing what happened to you was real. I've tried to explain what happened to us with others and know that no one will believe it happened, if you haven't realized that already. I don't know why this happened to us, but I have a theory. You told me your friend's grandfather found the Blutfahne. I think the flag wanted to stay buried. I think the flag was worried it would come to light and be used as a symbol for the Nazis to start another movement. The flag knew how evil the Nazis were and used us to destroy it. It chose you because you touched it. It chose me and Kurt because you needed us to find it. I often think of Kurt, I like to believe he's reunited with his family in a gentler world and proud of his Iron Cross. I've seen how the world has gotten better in some ways, and worse in others. Kurt gave me faith in the German people, even after all the horrors the Nazis did, including killing my parents who died in a concentration camp. I wish you a healthy and happy life. As you can see from the attached picture, I've had a very good life after the war.

(MORE)

LUCIA (CONT'D)

We alone shared this most wonderful magical experience that anyone has ever had. Love, Lucia.

CARL pulls out picture of LUCIA sitting in a chair surrounded by her children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren. SARAH walks into the room and sees CARL crying:

SARAH

Are you alright, what's wrong? Did someone die?

CARL

(wipes away tears) No, well yes, but she had a wonderful life.
(shows Sarah picture)

SARAH

Who are these people?

CARL

I only know the one lady in the middle, her name's Lucia.

SARAH

How do you know her?

CARL

(thinks for a moment) She's a friend of the family and died recently.

SARAH

Oh, I'm sorry. Carl, now, please tell me what happened to you. Did something bad happen to you at the battle?

CARL
(pauses) I just had a really bad dream, but I'm better now. I just want to be with you.

SARAH
I like hearing that. I've got some incredibly good news.

CARL looks at SARAH. FADE OUT. FADE IN. Int. Three years later. CARL is wearing a wedding ring and putting framed pictures of KURT and LUCIA's photograph on a mantle above a fireplace along with other family pictures. A three year-old boy, KURT, runs over to CARL. CARL picks him up to show him the pictures.

KURT
(points at picture) who's that?

CARL
That's your namesake, his name is Kurt too. (Kurt points to other picture)

CARL
And that's Lucia and all her family. She's another good friend of mine.

Sarah walks into the room.

SARAH
C'mon you two, our favorite show, Bluey is on, let's watch it together.

CARL puts KURT on the ground and heads toward another room. Camera zooms in on pictures of LUCIA and KURT. Song Magic by Pilot begins. END.

(MORE)

(CONT'D)