

The Retributionists

DOV Side 1

No?

ANIKA:

Of course not.

DOV:

Winning the war is a good start. May I remind you that we're losing the war right now.

ANIKA:

DOV:

Maybe I'm just an oversexed, underfed, red-eared dreamer, but in my heart I know that some day this has to end. If I didn't believe that, how could I have spoken out and defied the elders and come here and started this life with you and Dinchka and the others. How could I allow myself and you, a young girl of 18, to live like animals.

ANIKA:

I don't think of it that way anymore. Honestly, I've gotten used to it.

DOV:

Anika- the day will come-- and after that, it won't be just bombing train tracks anymore.

ANIKA:

What we are doing is what motivates me to wake up in the morning.

DOV:

Of course. But is that enough? Waking up in the morning? No! It's time to ask - What will our little group become? How will it evolve and continue its mission. In the past, I got us out of Vilna. In the present, I got us up and running here. But as our leader, the past and the present are a pittance when confronted with the enormity of the future. Mine. Ours. Mankind's. And the answer is consequences. There needs to be consequences. We can't just smile and rebuild as Noah did.

ANIKA:

Noah? Slow down, Dov. I'm not as smart or as educated as you. What do you mean?

DOV:

(getting worked up, louder)

I mean, dammit, the world can't continue to murder Jews without consequence. This is the 20<sup>th</sup> century, Anika. It's enough! It is finally time for us to fight back - and not just on the defense. Jewish thought is all well and good, but aren't you ready for the world to see the Jewish man as something other than a limp shouldered scholar? We need to be Maccabees now or mark my words, we won't

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make it to the twenty first. An eye for an eye. For every Jew that lost his life, we have to claim a life of our own.

There is a rustling sound. They both get quiet, Still. Afraid. Dov looks around. A moment. They are safe.

(animated whispering)

That, my love, is the only way we can ultimately have peace.

ANIKA:

(equally animated whispering)

Dov! That's - I can't even think it. It's too huge a number. Too huge a number for peace.

DOV:

That's justice.

ANIKA:

Justice. Revenge.

DOV:

Unfortunately, I think they can often be the same thing.

ANIKA:

And how? How will we do it?

DOV:

(a smile creeps into his face)

Anika, my darling, I have it all worked out.

ANIKA:

Really.

DOV:

Yes, my love. And I can't wait to tell you. I have a Plan...

~~Dinchka stirs.~~

END

~~Uhhmmm.~~

~~DINCHKA:~~

~~Dinchka?~~

~~DOV:~~