

MAUS

A SURVIVOR'S TALE
MY FATHER
BLEEDS
HISTORY

AND HERE
MY TROUBLES
BEGAN
art spiegelman



PENGUIN BOOKS

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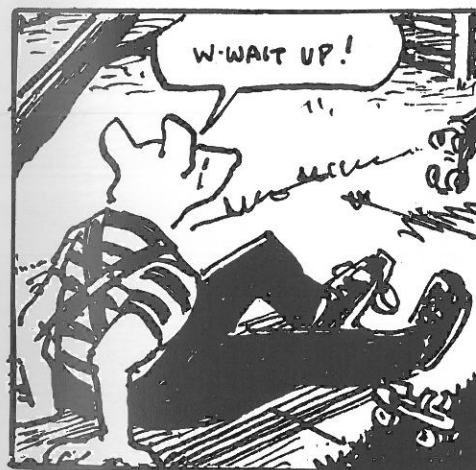
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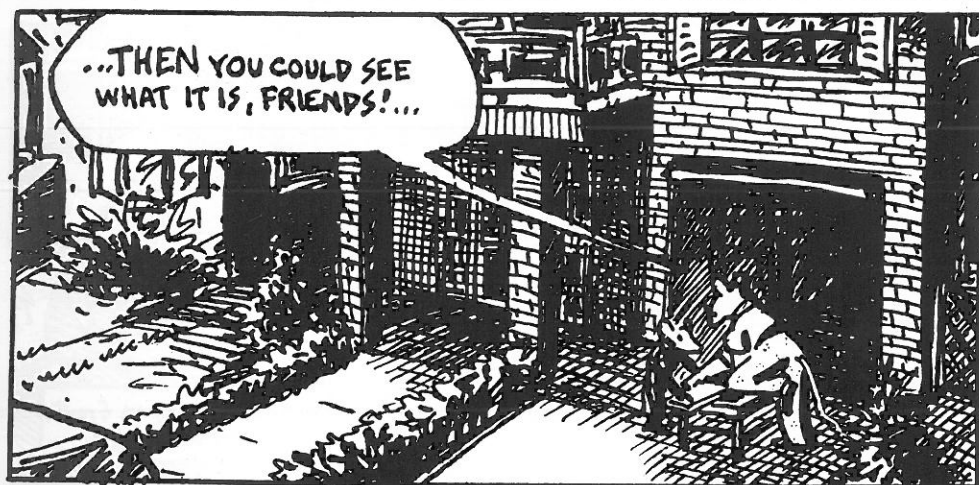
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Rego Park, N.Y. c.1958





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MY FATHER BLEEDS HISTORY

PART II PAGE 167
AND HERE MY TROUBLES BEGAN

MAUS



FOR ANJA

MY FATHER BLEEDS HISTORY

(MID - 1930s TO WINTER 1944)

C O N T E N T S

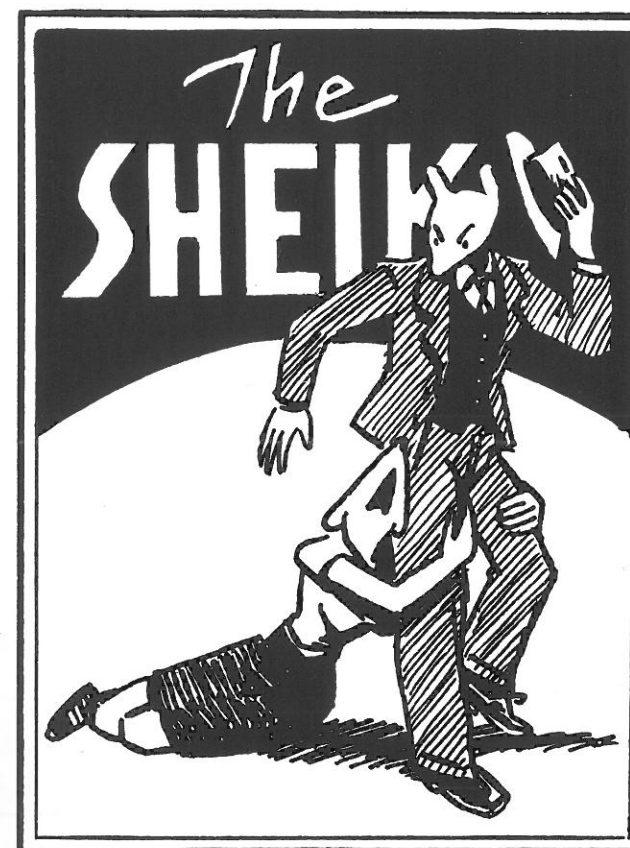
- 11 one/the sheik
- 27 two/the honeymoon
- 43 three/prisoner of war
- 73 four/the noose tightens
- 97 five/mouse holes
- 131 six/mouse trap



"The Jews are undoubtedly a race,
but they are not human."

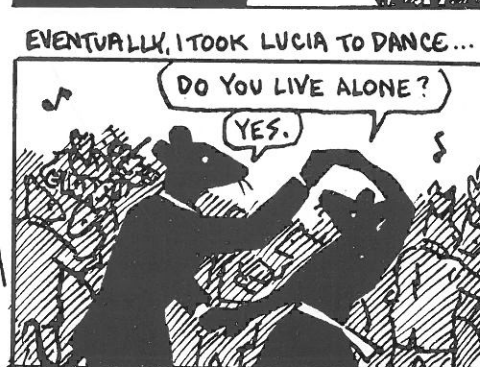
Adolf Hitler

C H A P T E R O N E



I went out to see my Father in Rego Park. I hadn't seen him in a long time- we weren't that close.





WHEREVER I WENT - I LOOKED AROUND - AND LUCIA GREENBERG WOULD BE ALSO THERE ...



BUT, POP... MOM'S NAME WAS ANNA ZYLBERG! ...



ALL THIS WAS BEFORE I MET ANJA - JUST LISTEN, YES?



WHY DON'T YOU EVER INVITE ME TO YOUR HOME? ... ARE YOU ASHAMED OF IT?



-SO FINALLY, I INVITED HER...



YOU MUST HAVE ANOTHER GIRL-FRIEND WHO CLEANS FOR YOU-NO?



...I DIDN'T WANT TO BE MORE CLOSER WITH HER, BUT SHE REALLY WOULDN'T LET ME GO.

WAS SHE THE FIRST GIRL YOU -UH-



YES...WE WERE MORE INVOLVED SO LIKE THE YOUTHS HERE TODAY



WE SAW EACH OTHER TOGETHER FOR MAYBE THREE OR FOUR YEARS.



NOT YET, PLEASE



IT'S GOOD TO SEE YOU AGAIN. LISTEN ...



THERE'S A GIRL IN MY CLASS - I WANT YOU TO MEET US TOMORROW - HER NAME IS ANJA.



SHE'S INCREDIBLY CLEVER, FROM A RICH FAMILY... A VERY GOOD GIRL ...



THE NEXT MORNING WE ALL MET TOGETHER. MY COUSIN AND ANJA SPOKE SOMETIMES IN ENGLISH.



WELL - I PROMISED TO BE HOME EARLY... I'LL LEAVE YOU TWO ALONE

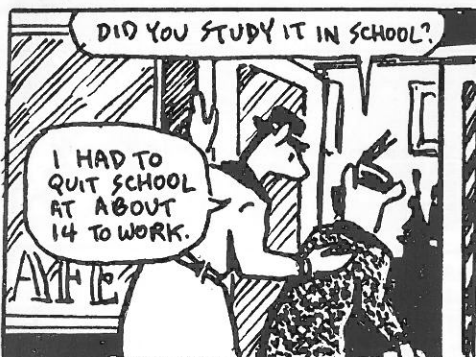


YOU KNOW, YOU SHOULD BE CAREFUL SPEAKING ENGLISH - A "STRANGER" COULD UNDERSTAND.

Y-YOU KNOW ENGLISH?



DID YOU STUDY IT IN SCHOOL?



...BUT I TOOK PRIVATE LESSONS... I ALWAYS DREAMED OF GOING TO AMERICA.



IT'S A SHAME YOU HAVE TO RETURN TO CZESTOCHOWA SO SOON.

YES - BUT I HAVE MY BUSINESS.



HAVE YOU A PHONE AT HOME?



AND THEN SHE STARTED WRITING TO ME SUCH BEAUTIFUL LETTERS - ALMOST NOBODY COULD WRITE POLISH LIKE SHE WROTE.



I VISITED A COUPLE TIMES TO HER. SHE SENT ME A PHOTO...



IT PASSED MAYBE A WEEK UNTIL LUCIA AGAIN CAME AND SAW THE PHOTO...

I'M GOING TO GET ENGAGED TO HER, LUCIA.

PSSH! AND LOOK AT WHAT A BEAUTY YOU PICKED.



LOOKS AREN'T EVERYTHING, LUCIA. IT ISN'T GOOD FOR EITHER OF US THAT YOU KEEP COMING UP HERE...

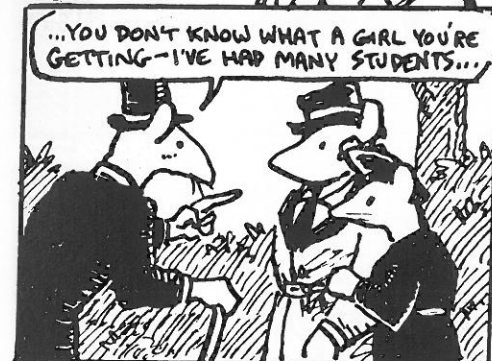


...WE HAVE TO PLAN FOR OUR FUTURES, AND

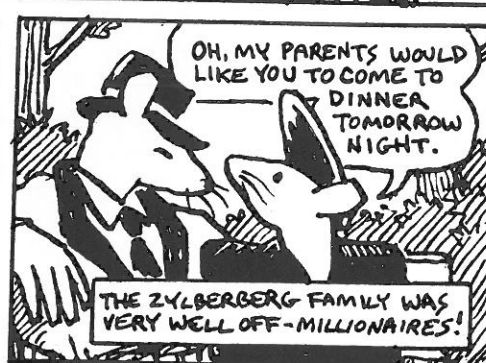
FORGET HER! LET ME MAKE YOU HAPPY!



IT WAS NOT SO EASY TO GET FREE FROM LUCIA.



ANJA'S PARENTS WERE ANXIOUS SHE SHOULD BE MARRIED. SHE WAS 24; I WAS THEN 30.



THE ZYLBERBERGS HAD A HOSIERY FACTORY - ONE OF THE BIGGEST IN POLAND... BUT WHEN I CAME IN TO THEIR HOUSE IT WAS SO LIKE A KING CAME...



TO SEE WHAT A HOUSEKEEPER SHE WAS, I PEEKED IN TO ANJA'S CLOSET.



ACH! HERE I FORGOT TO TELL SOMETHING FROM BEFORE I MOVED TO SOSNOWIEC BUT AFTER OUR ENGAGEMENT WAS MADE.



ONE EVENING THE BELL RANG ...



WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE? I'M ON MY WAY OUT.



NO, YOU CAN'T COME WI-

PLEASE, VLADEK!



SHE FELL ON THE FLOOR AND HELD STRONG MY LEGS.

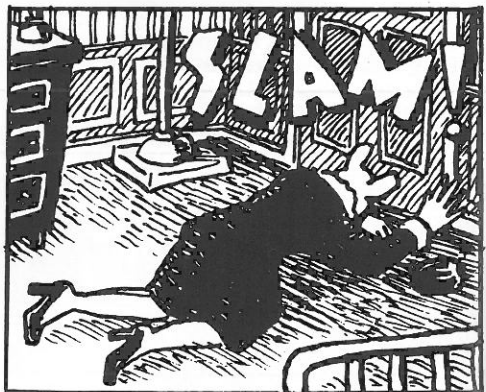


(DON'T RUN AWAY!)



I SAW NOW THAT I WENT TOO FAR WITH HER.

SLAM!



I RAN OUT TO MY FRIEND WHAT INTRODUCED US. HE WENT TO CALM HER DOWN AND TOOK HER HOME.

I DIDN'T HEAR MORE FROM LUCIA - BUT ALSO I STOPPED HEARING FROM ANJA ...



NO TELEPHONE CALLS, NO LETTERS, NOTHING! WHAT HAPPENED?



SHE SAYS SHE WON'T SPEAK TO YOU!



SHE GOT A LETTER FROM SOMEONE IN CZESTOCHOWA. MY GOD! IT SAYS THE WORST THINGS IN THE WORLD ABOUT YOU!



WELL, I CAN'T CONVINCE HER ON THE PHONE. I'LL COME DOWN BY TRAIN ON FRIDAY AFTER WORK.



IT WASN'T EVEN A HOLIDAY, BUT I WENT ANYWAY TO SOSNOWIEC.



SO, TELL ME, ANJA - WHAT HAVE I DONE THAT'S SO HORRIBLE?

YOU SHOULD KNOW - JUST READ THIS!



