

# anne frank

THE  
ANNE FRANK HOUSE  
AUTHORIZED  
GRAPHIC BIOGRAPHY



SID JACOBSON AND ERNIE COLÓN

anne frank

**ALSO BY SID JACOBSON AND ERNIE COLÓN**

*Che: A Graphic Biography*

*After 9/11: America's War on Terror (2001–)*

*The 9/11 Report: A Graphic Adaptation*



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SID JACOBSON AND ERNIE COLÓN

A Novel Graphic from Hill and Wang  
A division of Farrar, Straus and Giroux  
NEW YORK



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I would like to dedicate this book to my children, Seth and Kathy, who but for the fortune of time and place could have suffered the tragic fate of the young sisters you are about to meet.

—SID JACOBSON

Watching my daughters grow into young women gave me a deep sense of what Anne Frank and her sister Margot missed and what a loss they were to us all.

This one is for Amanda, Luisa, and Rebecca.

—ERNIE COLÓN

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anne frank

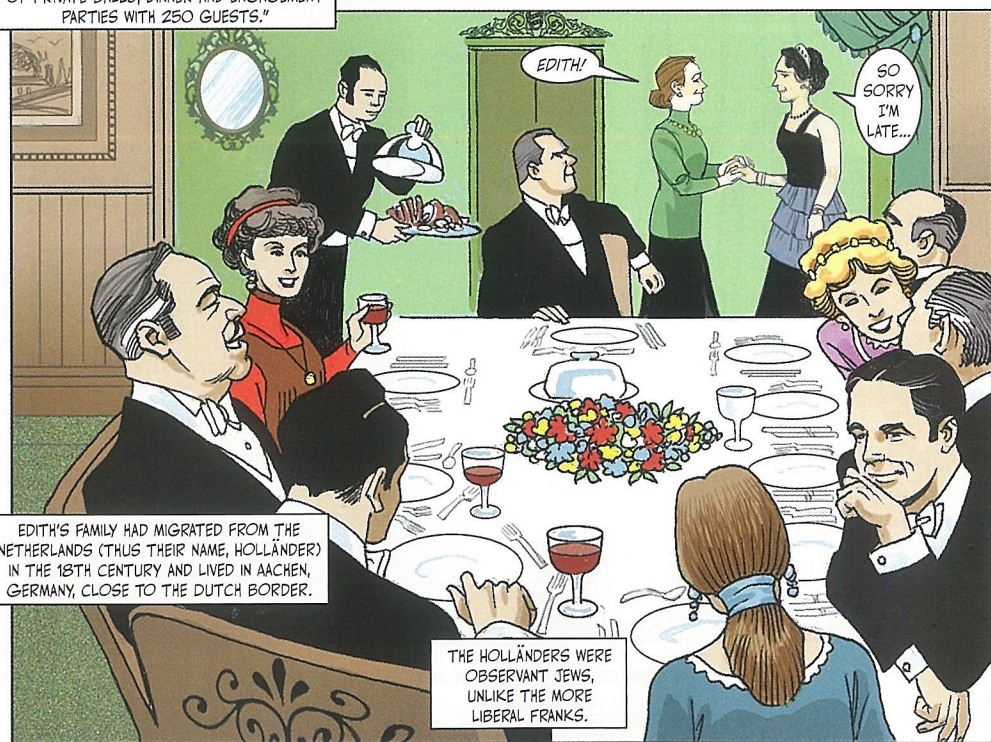
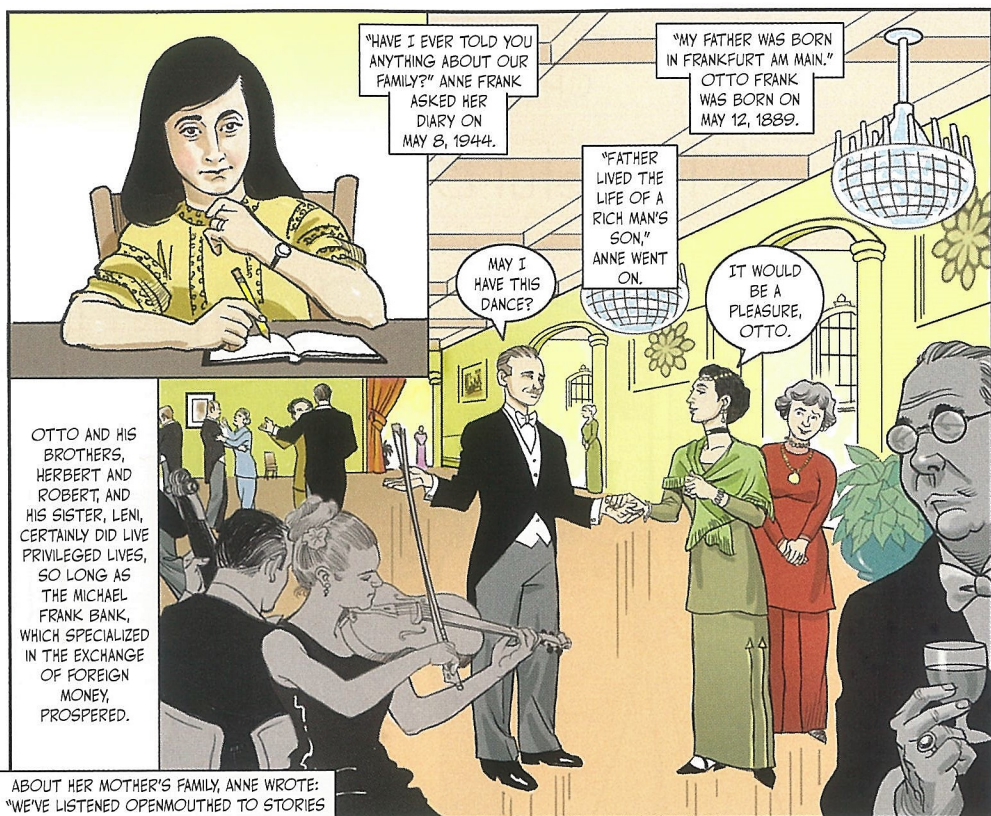
## CHAPTER 1

# A Hopeful Beginning

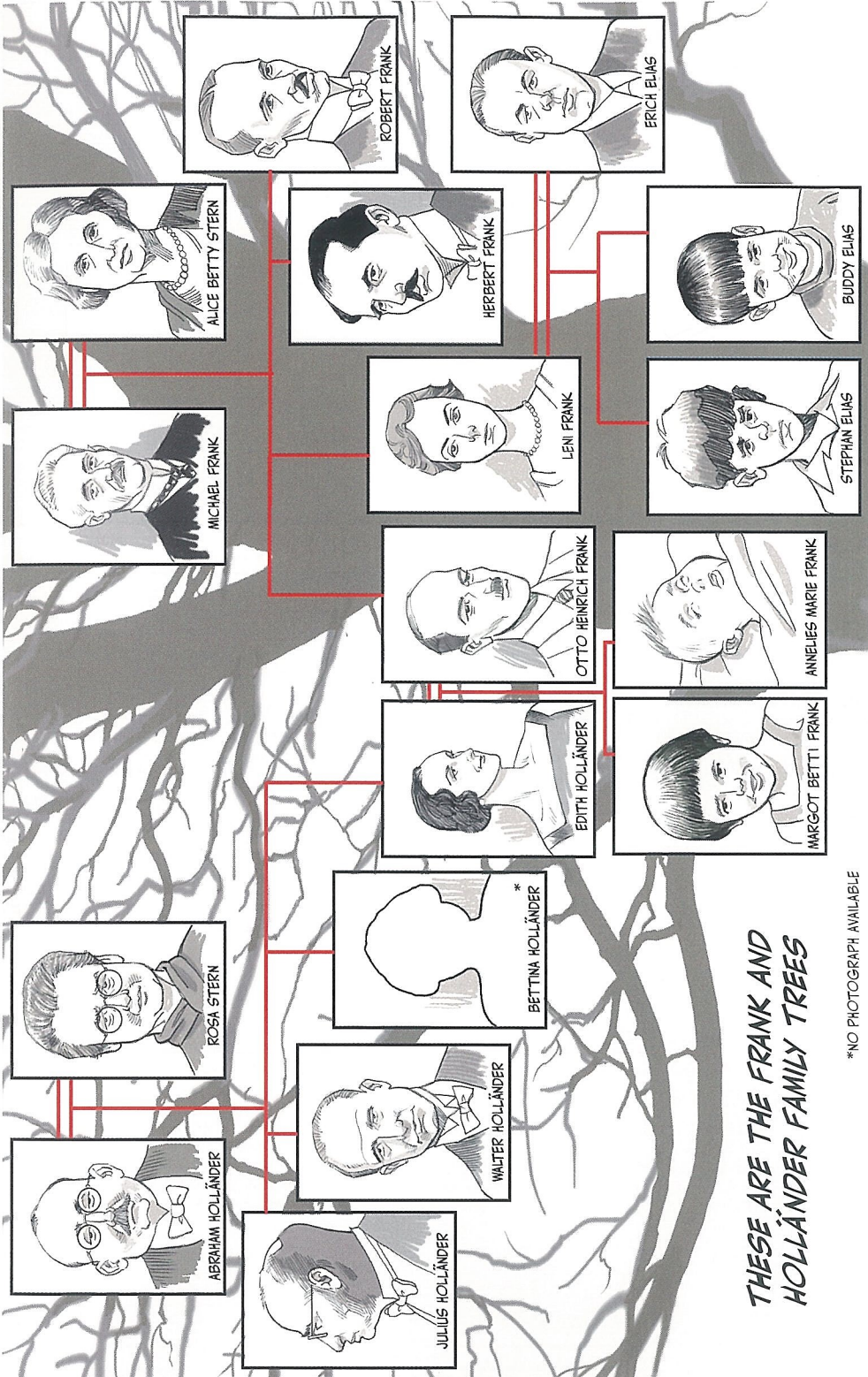


EDITH AND OTTO FRANK, ON THEIR WEDDING DAY, MAY 12, 1925, IN AACHEN, GERMANY









THESE ARE THE FRANK AND  
HOLLÄNDER FAMILY TREES

\*NO PHOTOGRAPH AVAILABLE



LONG BEFORE ANNE ENTERED THE WORLD, YOUNG OTTO FRANK SPENT THREE MONTHS AT HEIDELBERG UNIVERSITY STUDYING THE HISTORY OF ART.



YOU MUST COME TO NEW YORK CITY, OTTO! I'M SURE MY FATHER COULD GET YOU SOME POSITION AT MACY'S.

THANK YOU, NATHAN. PERHAPS I WILL.

THERE, HE MET AND BECAME GOOD FRIENDS WITH NATHAN STRAUS JR., THE SON OF ONE OF THE OWNERS OF MACY'S, THE FAMOUS DEPARTMENT STORE.

AFTER COMPLETING A YEAR OF TRAINING AT A FRANKFURT BANK, OTTO DID GO TO NEW YORK CITY IN 1909 FOR AN APPRENTICE POSITION AT MACY'S.

WELL, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, HERE I AM!



HIS STAY IN NEW YORK WAS INTERRUPTED, HOWEVER, BY THE SUDDEN DEATH OF HIS FATHER IN SEPTEMBER 1909.



I CAME AS FAST AS I COULD!

I'M SO GLAD YOU'RE HERE.

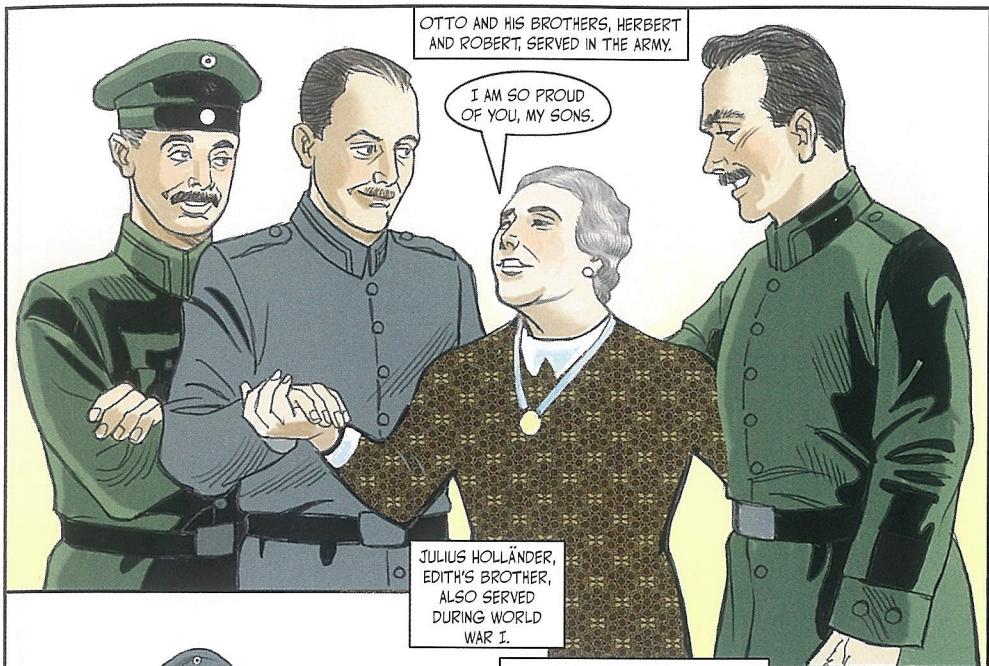
OTTO WENT BACK TO NEW YORK IN NOVEMBER AND REMAINED THERE UNTIL 1911.

RETURNING TO GERMANY, OTTO WORKED FOR VARIOUS COMPANIES. BUT WORLD WAR I CHANGED HIS LIFE. HE WAS CALLED UP IN 1915.

GERMANY IS MY COUNTRY... ...BUT WILL I SEE MY FAMILY AGAIN?

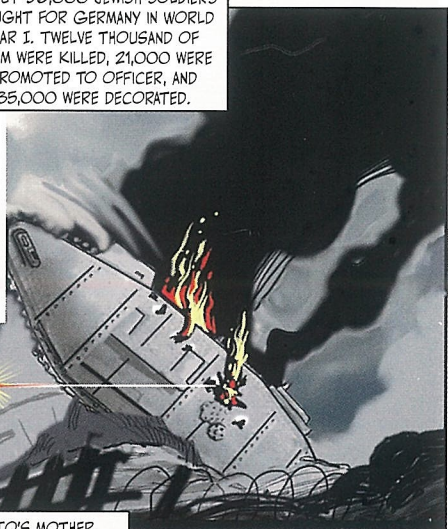






IN NOVEMBER 1917, OTTO'S ARTILLERY REGIMENT WAS CLOSE TO THE ACTION IN THE FIRST GREAT TANK BATTLE IN HISTORY, NEAR CAMBRAI IN NORTHERN FRANCE.

ABOUT 90,000 JEWISH SOLDIERS FOUGHT FOR GERMANY IN WORLD WAR I. TWELVE THOUSAND OF THEM WERE KILLED, 21,000 WERE PROMOTED TO OFFICER, AND 35,000 WERE DECORATED.

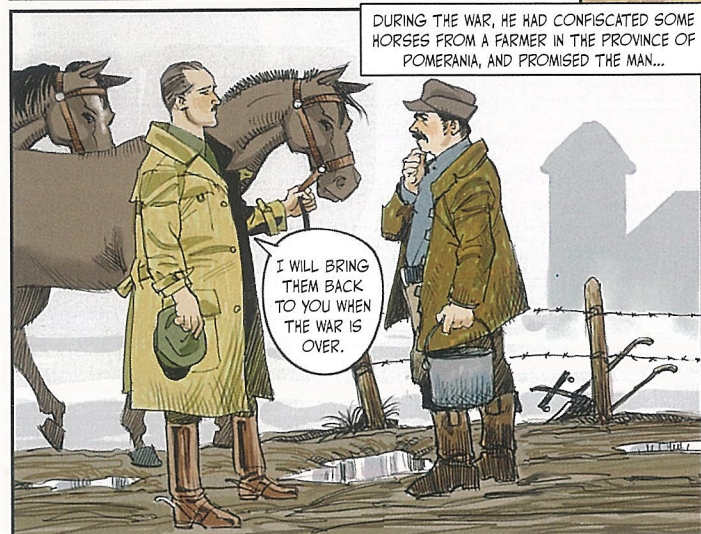
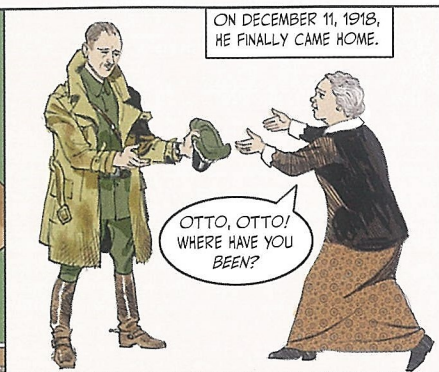


OTTO'S MOTHER, ALICE, AND HIS SISTER, LENI, BOTH WORKED AS VOLUNTEER NURSES.

IN 1918, OTTO WAS PROMOTED TO LIEUTENANT AND AWARDED THE IRON CROSS SECOND CLASS FOR HIS SERVICE.



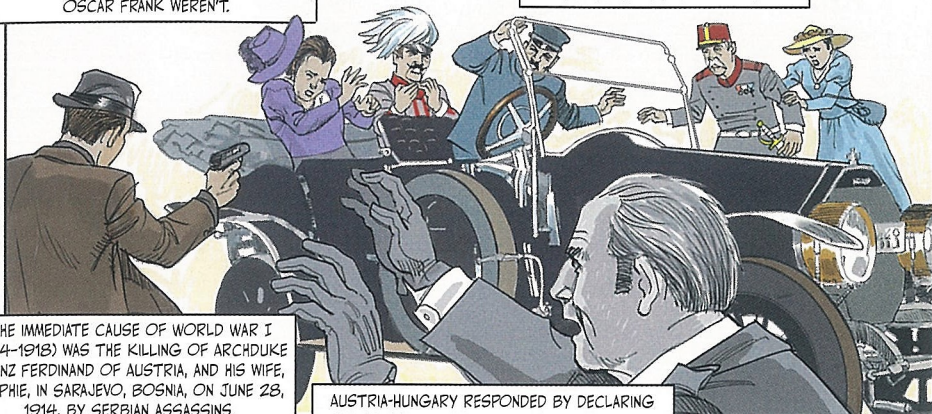






**SNAPSHOT: GERMANY IN WORLD WAR I**  
OTTO AND HIS BROTHERS WERE LUCKY. HIS  
FRENCH COUSINS GEORGES-OTMAR AND  
OSCAR FRANK WEREN'T.

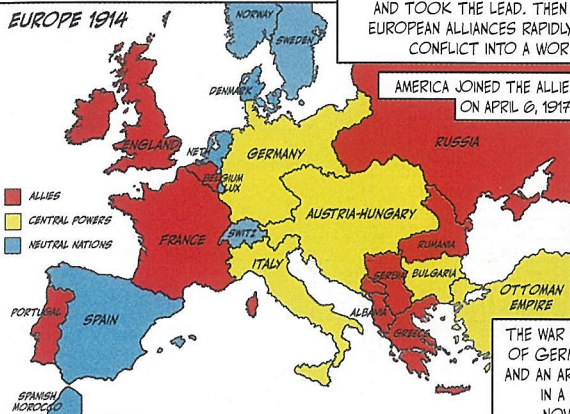
THEY BOTH WERE KILLED IN 1915.  
MILLIONS DIED DURING WORLD WAR I.  
WHAT CAUSED THIS BLOODSHED?



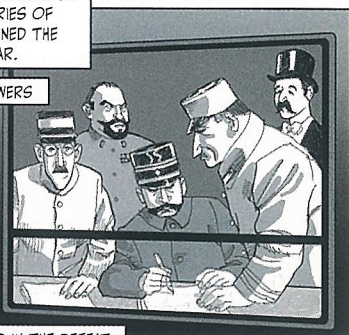
THE IMMEDIATE CAUSE OF WORLD WAR I  
(1914-1918) WAS THE KILLING OF ARCHDUKE  
FRANZ FERDINAND OF AUSTRIA, AND HIS WIFE,  
SOPHIE, IN SARAJEVO, BOSNIA, ON JUNE 28,  
1914, BY SERBIAN ASSASSINS.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY RESPONDED BY DECLARING  
WAR ON SERBIA. GERMANY QUICKLY FOLLOWED  
AND TOOK THE LEAD. THEN A SERIES OF  
EUROPEAN ALLIANCES RAPIDLY TURNED THE  
CONFLICT INTO A WORLD WAR.

### EUROPE 1914



AMERICA JOINED THE ALLIED POWERS  
ON APRIL 6, 1917.



THE WAR ENDED IN THE DEFEAT  
OF GERMANY AND ITS ALLIES,  
AND AN ARMISTICE WAS SIGNED  
IN A RAILWAY CAR ON  
NOVEMBER 11, 1918.

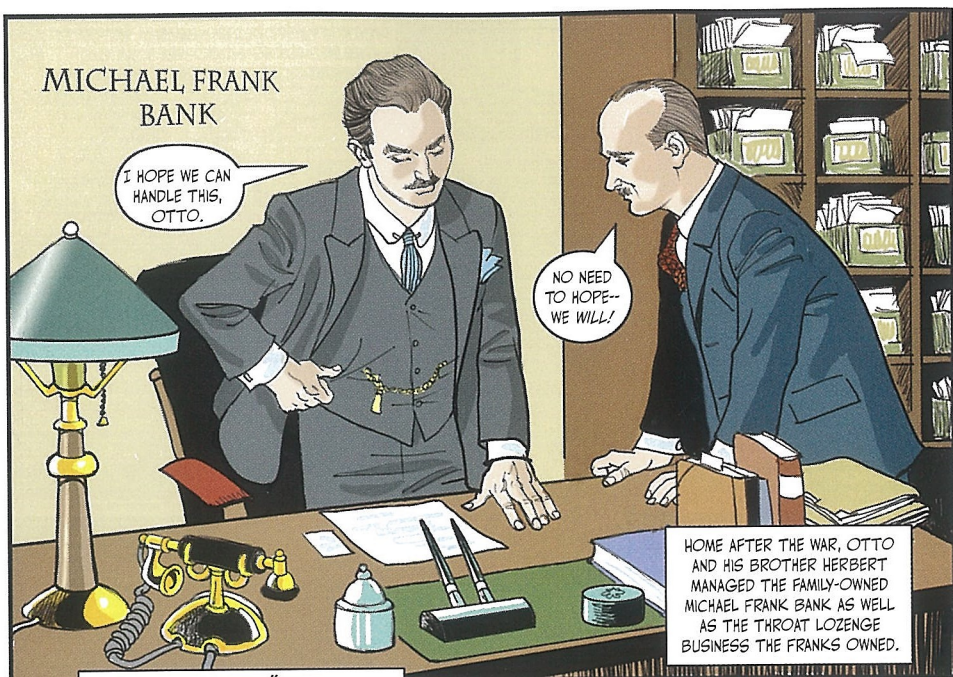
MORE THAN 9 MILLION SOLDIERS WERE  
KILLED AND 21 MILLION WERE WOUNDED IN  
COMBAT INFAMOUSLY DEFINED BY TRENCH  
WARFARE. MILES UPON MILES OF TRENCHES  
CONFRONTED EACH OTHER ACROSS A  
WASTED NO-MAN'S-LAND, A STALEMATE THAT  
WEAPONS SUCH AS POISON GAS AND  
MACHINE GUNS DID NOT ALTER.



THE PEACE TREATY OF VERSAILLES  
WAS SIGNED ON JUNE 28, 1919, SIX  
MONTHS AFTER OTTO FRANK  
RETURNED HOME. PARTS OF GERMANY  
WERE CEDED TO VICTORIOUS NATIONS,  
OTHER SECTIONS WERE DEMILITARIZED,  
AND THE IMPOSED REPARATIONS PROVED  
RUINOUS TO ITS ALREADY STRAINED  
ECONOMY, SOWING THE SEEDS OF  
BITTERNESS AND RESENTMENT FOR  
MANY GERMANS.



# MICHAEL FRANK BANK

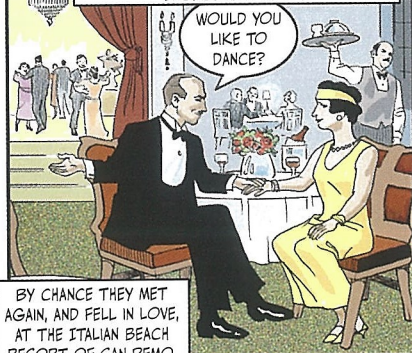


I HOPE WE CAN HANDLE THIS, OTTO.

NO NEED TO HOPE-- WE WILL!

HOME AFTER THE WAR, OTTO AND HIS BROTHER HERBERT MANAGED THE FAMILY-OWNED MICHAEL FRANK BANK AS WELL AS THE THROAT LOZENGE BUSINESS THE FRANKS OWNED.

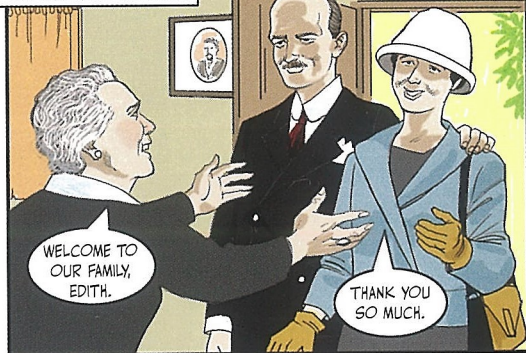
OTTO AND EDITH HOLLÄNDER HAD MET FOR THE FIRST TIME AT HERBERT FRANK'S ENGAGEMENT PARTY.



WOULD YOU LIKE TO DANCE?

BY CHANCE THEY MET AGAIN, AND FELL IN LOVE, AT THE ITALIAN BEACH RESORT OF SAN REMO, IN MARCH 1925.

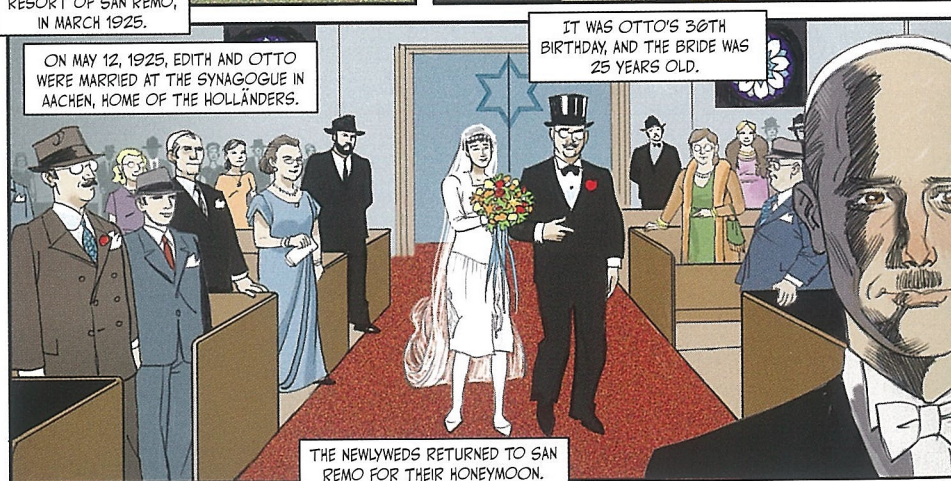
AND ONE MONTH LATER, THE TWO WERE ENGAGED.



WELCOME TO OUR FAMILY, EDITH.

THANK YOU SO MUCH.

ON MAY 12, 1925, EDITH AND OTTO WERE MARRIED AT THE SYNAGOGUE IN AACHEN, HOME OF THE HOLLÄNDERS.

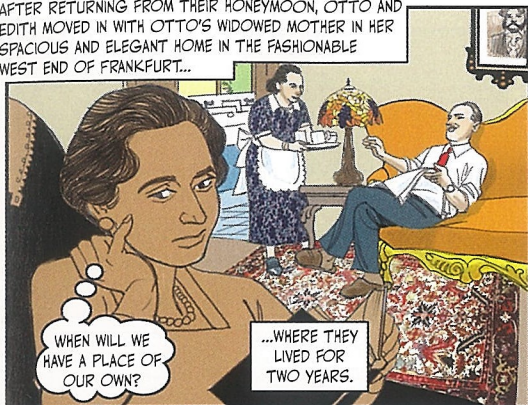


IT WAS OTTO'S 36TH BIRTHDAY, AND THE BRIDE WAS 25 YEARS OLD.

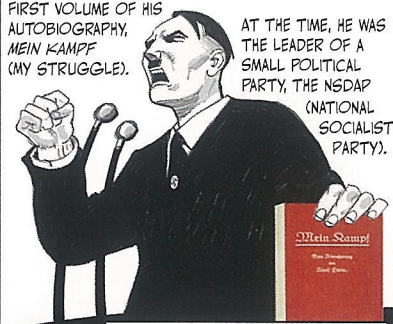
THE NEWLYWEDS RETURNED TO SAN REMO FOR THEIR HONEYMOON.



AFTER RETURNING FROM THEIR HONEYMOON, OTTO AND EDITH MOVED IN WITH OTTO'S WIDOWED MOTHER IN HER SPACIOUS AND ELEGANT HOME IN THE FASHIONABLE WEST END OF FRANKFURT...



ON JULY 18, 1925, ADOLF HITLER PUBLISHED THE FIRST VOLUME OF HIS AUTOBIOGRAPHY, MEIN KAMPF (MY STRUGGLE).

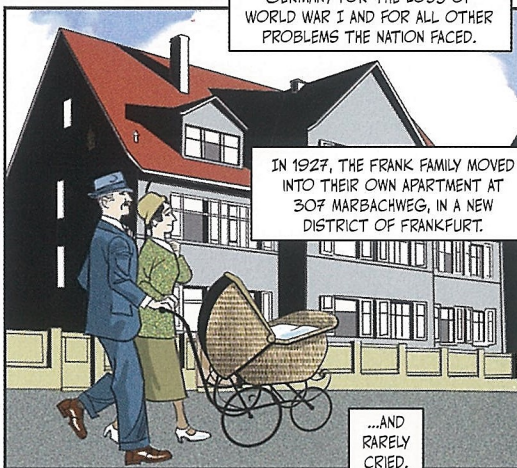


AT THE TIME, HE WAS THE LEADER OF A SMALL POLITICAL PARTY, THE NSDAP (NATIONAL SOCIALIST PARTY).

HE AND HIS SUPPORTERS (WHO WERE CALLED NAZIS) BLAMED THE JEWS IN GERMANY FOR THE LOSS OF WORLD WAR I AND FOR ALL OTHER PROBLEMS THE NATION FACED.



ON FEBRUARY 16, 1926, THE FRANKS' FIRST DAUGHTER, MARGOT BETTI, WAS BORN. MARGOT SLEPT THROUGH THE NIGHT IMMEDIATELY...



IN 1927, THE FRANK FAMILY MOVED INTO THEIR OWN APARTMENT AT 307 MARBACHWEG, IN A NEW DISTRICT OF FRANKFURT.

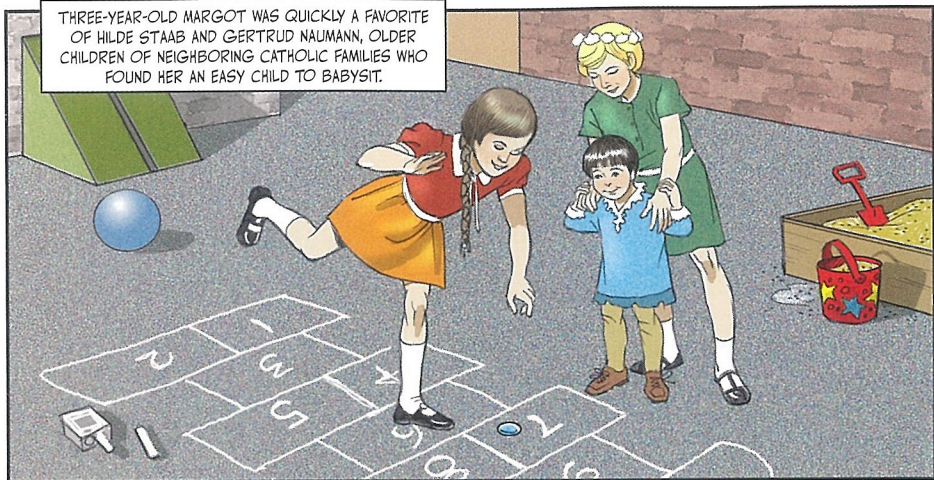
...AND RARELY CRIED.



ON MAY 28, 1928, THE NSDAP WON 2.6% OF THE REICHSTAG VOTE AND THUS WON 12 OF THE 491 SEATS OF THE GERMAN REPUBLIC'S LEGISLATIVE BODY.



THREE-YEAR-OLD MARGOT WAS QUICKLY A FAVORITE OF HILDE STAAB AND GERTRUD NAUMANN, OLDER CHILDREN OF NEIGHBORING CATHOLIC FAMILIES WHO FOUND HER AN EASY CHILD TO BABYSIT.



THEN, ON JUNE 11, 1929...

OTTO,  
OTTO! IT'S  
TIME.



EDITH FRANK, IN HER NINTH  
MONTH OF PREGNANCY...

BE CALM, MY DARLING.  
YOU'RE GOING TO BE  
ALL RIGHT.



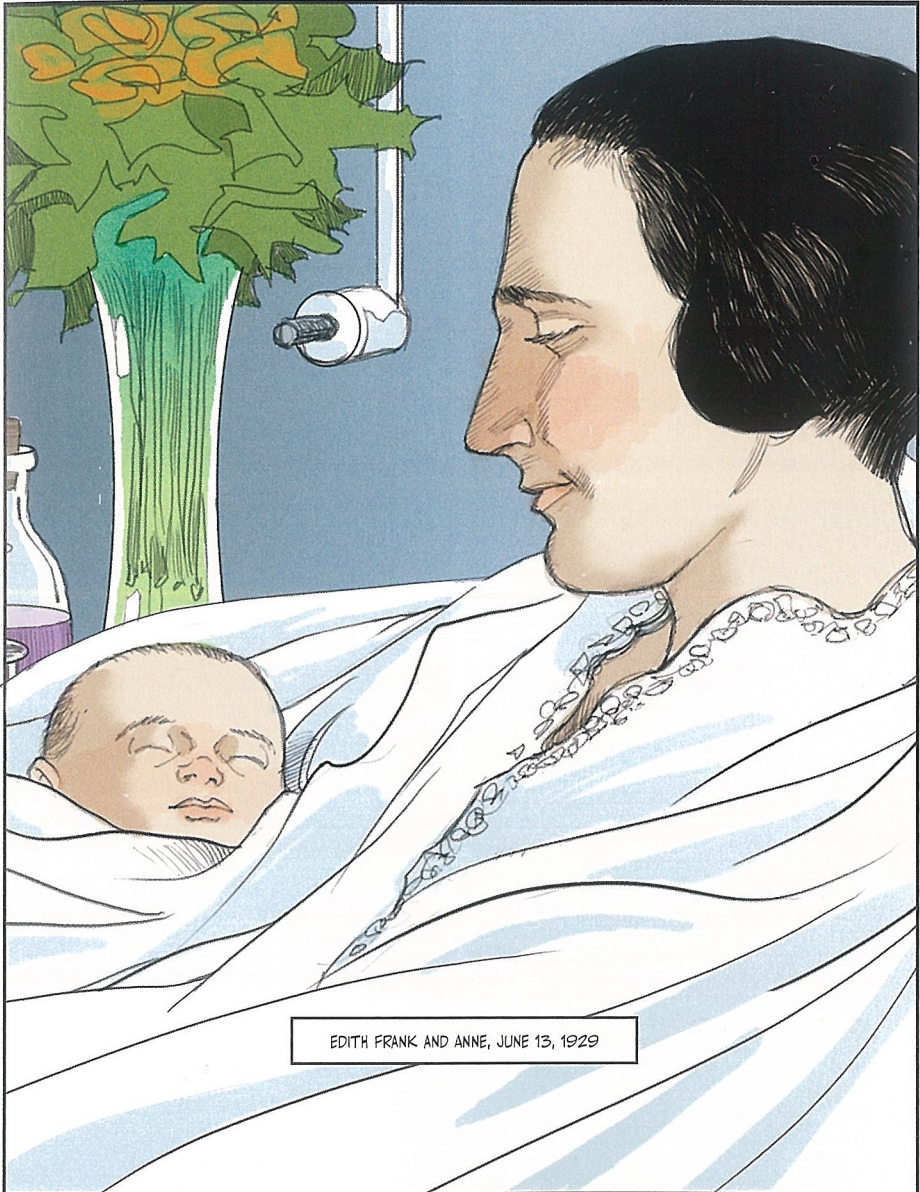
...WAS RUSHED TO  
THE HOSPITAL FOR  
AN IMPENDING  
BIRTH.





CHAPTER 2

Annelies Marie Frank



EDITH FRANK AND ANNE, JUNE 13, 1929





ANNE MARIE FRANK WAS BORN AT 7:30 IN THE MORNING OF JUNE 12, 1929. SHE WEIGHED 9.1 POUNDS AND WAS 21.25 INCHES LONG.



TWO DAYS LATER, GRANDMA HOLLÄNDER AND MARGOT CAME TO VISIT.

EDITH, ANNE IS ADORABLE.

MUMMY, CAN I HOLD HER? PLEASE?



ANNE, HOWEVER, WAS NOT A QUIET BABY. STOMACHACHES AND A HEAT WAVE KEPT HER, AND EDITH, UP.

"AT NIGHT FOR SIX WEEKS, SHE CRIES A LOT," EDITH WROTE IN ANNE'S BABY PHOTO ALBUM.



SHE COULD ALSO CHARM.

AS EDITH OBSERVED, SHE "SMILES AT PAPA."

AND SHE'S SMILING AT YOU.