**U101\_text**

And so we come to the end of the year 1937. Take a moment to reflect on what has happened to your characters during the past four years. You will now get some updates on their lives as we move into the next phase of the game.

**U101\_alert**

You have now finished playing the first act of the game. This is an ideal time for a break. Let the players take a moment to rest, stretch, or check in with one another.

**U101\_GM\_text**

You are about to hand out updates on the characters’ lives as of 1938. These updates have three goals: to reinforce with players that a significant amount of time has passed, to remind them of things that are important to their characters, and to give them new information about their characters’ lives. Keep these goals in mind during the update phase.

Also keep in mind the principle of player transparency. Players can define whether or not their *characters* are aware of information shared by others, but there is no reason to keep secrets from players.

**U102\_text**

You and Max have been trying, but you still have no children. If only you had a little girl with Max’s laugh, or his smile, or his musical ability! Max seems so worried about his brother Mendel, who went to prison. His brother Taub is about to leave the country with his whole family. If only you could afford it, you would go with them, and take Max and Minna along.

**U102\_alert**

Do not read the text on this card aloud. Immediately draw the next card. Then hand this card to Annaliese and the following card to Max.

**U102\_GM\_text**

Give Annaliese and Max a little time to read the update cards, then ask them to share what has happened with rest of the table. They can explain how they feel about the updates, but do not let them slip into play, as the updates motivate upcoming scenes in Act II.

This update reminds Annaliese that Max’s family is in direct danger, and that money is a barrier for their family.

**U103\_text**

You and Annaliese have been trying but you still have no children. You’re not worried - you still have hope! Your brother Mendel got into some trouble with the law earlier this year and went to prison. He should have been out by now, but your brother Taub says he’s not coming back. He says that that the camps are a one-way road no one will ever come back from. Next week, he and his family leave for Palestine, funded through the emigration office of the Jewish Community. You checked to see if you could go too, but they won’t fund Annaliese and you’d never leave her behind.

**U103\_alert**

Do not read the text on this card aloud. Draw this together with the previous card, which is for Annaliese. Then hand this card to Max and the previous card to Annaliese.

**U103\_GM\_text**

Give Annaliese and Max a little time to read the update cards, then ask them to share what has happened with rest of the table. They can explain how they feel about the updates, but do not let them slip into play, as the updates motivate upcoming scenes in Act II.

This card reminds Max that his family is in danger, and that his love for Annaliese both protects and endangers him. If not for her, he could leave; if not for her, he would be more directly threatened.

**U104\_text**

The army is accelerating expansion, just as you’d dreamed - but it won’t help you. Under Oskar’s guidance you paid and petitioned for your Greater Aryan Certificate so you could join the party and finally become an officer. But the process revealed that your father was born a Jew. Under the new laws, you’re classified as a Mischling (mixed blood) of the first degree. That means you’re still a German, and a citizen of the Reich, but it also means you won’t be called to serve. How could your father do this to you? He’s ruined your life, and Inge’s, and your children’s.

**U104\_alert**

Do not read the text on this card aloud. Immediately draw the next card. Then hand this card to Kurt and the following card to Inge.

**U104\_GM\_text**

Give Kurt and Inge a little time to read the update cards, then ask them to share what has happened with rest of the table. They can explain how they feel about the updates, but do not let them slip into play, as the updates motivate upcoming scenes in Act II.

This card reveals a major change in Kurt’s life: that his father was born a Jew. He is now a Mischling, which reduces his rights, threatens his family, and destroys his dreams. Ironically, under the matrilineal traditions of Judaism, Kurt is not a Jew at all. This parallels the divergent fates of Ruth’s and Izak’s children (see their cards for details).

**U104\_GM\_direction**

Update Kurt’s risk Matrix as he has been identified by the Reich as a known Mischling.

**U105\_text**

Your husband is a Jew? How could Kurt have kept this from you? He says he didn’t know, but he *must* have known. Your family is scandalized, your prospects are in jeopardy, and your social standing in the church and within your community are falling apart. What will this mean for you? For your family? For your children?

**U105\_alert**

Do not read the text on this card aloud. Draw this together with the previous card, for Kurt. Then hand this card to Inge and the previous card to Kurt.

**U105\_GM\_text**

Give Kurt and Inge a little time to read the update cards, then ask them to share what has happened with rest of the table. They can explain how they feel about the updates, but do not let them slip into play, as the updates motivate upcoming scenes in Act II.

This update sets the tone for Inge’s reaction to learning that Kurt’s father was a Jew. Note that the legal term for Kurt is a Mischling of the first degree, but Inge here describes him as a Jew. This choice is deliberate, to show that Jewishness was perceived by many Germans as a taint that dominated all other aspects of one’s life. Inge may choose a calmer approach during Act II.

**U106\_text**

With the new laws in effect, you, Maria, Edith and Dieter are a Jewish family, but Ruth, Hans and Walter are a German family. How can that make sense when you both came out of the same womb? You love Ruth, and her family. You are glad that they are safe, but when you look at your own children you are terrified for their future. It used to bother you that Maria insisted that they were baptized as children, but now you know it will help keep them safe. However, it does break your heart a little more every time she corrects them for “acting like a Jew” in public.

**U106\_alert**

Do not read the text on this card aloud. Immediately draw the next card. Then hand this card to Izak and the following card to Ruth.

**U106\_GM\_text**

Give Izak and Ruth a little time to read the update cards, then ask them to share what has happened with rest of the table. They can explain how they feel about the updates, but do not let them slip into play, as the updates motivate upcoming scenes in Act II.

This card emphasizes the divergence between Ruth and Izak’s family situations. It also highlights the fraying relationship between Izak and his wife Maria.

**U107\_text**

With the new laws in effect, you and Hans and Walter are a German family, but Izak, Maria, and their children are a Jewish one. His citizenship has been revoked, but yours has not. His food rations have been cut, but yours are full. How can this be? According to rabbinical tradition, Walter was born a Jew because a child’s soul is formed inside its mother’s body. Maria is not Jewish, and so Izak’s children must convert to be considered Jewish. Everything about this situation is wrong. You fear for Izak and feel like parts of you are being stripped away.

**U107\_alert**

Do not read the text on this card aloud. Draw this together with the previous card, for Izak. Then hand this card to Ruth and the previous card to Izak.

**U107\_GM\_text**

Give Izak and Ruth a little time to read the update cards, then ask them to share what has happened with rest of the table. They can explain how they feel about the updates, but do not let them slip into play, as the updates motivate upcoming scenes in Act II.

This card emphasizes the divergence between Izak and Ruth’s family situations. It also connects this divergence to Jewish law (*halacha*), which says that Jewish heritage is matrilineal. The disparity between Jewish and German understandings of who is a Jew is meant to illuminate that the laws against Jews sought not only to destroy the Jewish people, but also Jewish knowledge, Jewish insight, and Jewish ways of looking at the world.

**U108\_text**

Publishing was one of the first industries to be *Judenrein* (Jew-free). Josef lost his job along with every other Jewish employee. You had enough saved to buy a bookshop; you don’t have the time to run it and still keep up your translation work, but Josef can handle it for you. It works for now, but there’s one big risk. Your grandmother was a Jew who converted to Christianity before moving to Germany. You’ve always thought of her choice to convert as an inspiration, but now it might put you in danger. If anyone ever finds out then you could both lose everything.

**U108\_alert**

Do not read the text on this card aloud. Immediately draw the next card. Then hand this card to Klara and the following card to Josef.

**U108\_GM\_text**

Give Klara and Josef a little time to read the update cards, then ask them to share what has happened with rest of the table. They can explain how they feel about the updates, but do not let them slip into play, as the updates motivate upcoming scenes in Act II.

This card reveals to the player that Klara’s grandmother was a Jew who converted to Christianity. Unlike with Kurt, this knowledge does not come as a surprise to the character; Klara has always known this, but never considered it relevant until now. Another difference is that Klara has the option to either hide or reveal her ancestry. Finally, if it comes up, it is Klara’s maternal grandmother who converted, which means she is Jewish by the maternal line.

Be certain to establish whether Klara has told Josef about her Jewish grandmother, as it will be relevant for a future scene.

**U108\_GM\_direction**

You do not have to update Josef’s risk matrix at this time. The “You are married to a Mischling” is only a risk to Josef if the authorities know about it.

**U109\_text**

Publishing was one of the first industries to be declared *Judenrein* (Jew-free). You lost your job along with every other Jewish employee, and the company is no longer publishing books about Judaism or Jewish philosophy. Now you run a bookshop that Klara owns. You’re not even officially being paid; all you can provide is free labor. She’s very kind about it, but being dependent on her is awfully hard.

**U109\_alert**

Do not read the text on this card aloud. Draw this together with the previous card, for Klara. Then hand this card to Josef and the previous card to Klara.

**U109\_GM\_text**

Give Klara and Josef a little time to read the update cards, then ask them to share what has happened with rest of the table. They can explain how they feel about the updates, but do not let them slip into play, as the updates motivate upcoming scenes in Act II.

This card emphasizes challenges to Josef’s sense of self without his publishing job. It also points out the challenges to his marriage with Klara, which has always been based on an equal partnership of intellectual peers. Now he is dependent on her; we will discover how they deal with this change during the coming act.