

## Hitler's Tasters Character List

### Characters

#### Hilda

High teens to early 20s. Hilda is a rule follower. She is a fearful person who will use whatever she's got to, to get back to feeling safe and will always toe the party line. She comes from a military family and enjoys the privilege of that status.

#### Leisel

High teens to early 20s. Liesel is a mediator. She is not a particularly independent person but she is practical and mostly kind. She likely comes from a family of intellectuals who know right from wrong but who prefer to keep their heads down rather than agitate. She could be a little nerdy to contrast with her burgeoning sexuality.

#### Anna

High teens. She is more ethereal, idealistic, and innocent than the other girls. Anna represents truth and doubt, which terrifies those who can't live with truth and doubt.

#### Margot

High teens, early 20s. She is a little more brave than the other girls when it comes to acting out and expressing herself. She embodies the kind of innocence and ebullience that comes from supportive parents and privilege.

## Hitler's Tasters

### Side 1 - Script excerpt between LIESEL, ANNA and HILDA 1/2

HILDA is a rule follower. She comes from a military family and enjoys the privilege of that status. LIESEL is not a particularly independent person but is practical and kind. She likely comes from a family of intellectuals. ANNA is more ethereal, idealistic and innocent than the other girls. In this scene, HILDA has just taken a photo of ANNA and then made fun of how ANNA looks (hinting that it makes ANNA look Jewish). ANNA is demanding that the photo be deleted.

**Liesel** Everyone calm down, do you want to get in trouble?

**Anna** Give me your phone.

*(HILDA doesn't budge)*

Give it or I will tell them about the souvenir you almost took home last week.

**Hilda** But I *didn't* take it.

**Anna** You thought about it.

*(Long beat)*

**Hilda** *(to ANNA)* Bitch. You play innocent but you're a bitch.

**Liesel** You started it, Hilda. Give it to her.

*(ANNA holds out her hand. It's shaking. HILDA reluctantly gives her the phone. ANNA has trouble scrolling through. LIESEL takes it and continues until she finds the correct photo)*

**Anna** There it is.

*(LIESEL taps the phone)*

**Liesel** Deleted.

**Hilda** You can't -

*(The girls give her a look)*

Fine. *(She sits back down on the bench)* No one around here can take a joke.

**Liesel** It's hardly a joke, Hilda.

**Hilda** Ok. Sorry. Jeez ...

**Anna** What did I ever do to you?

**Liesel** C'mon girls, we're friends. And even if we weren't, we're stuck together. We might as well get along. We need each other. How many of our friends are even alive anymore?

## Hitler's Tasters

### Side 1 - Script excerpt between LIESEL, ANNA and HILDA 2/2

*(The girls take a deep breath and let this sink in)*

**Hilda** She's right, I'm sorry Anna. And you do look like Marlene. I was just feeling jealous.

**Anna** Aww ... you? Jealous of me? But you're so pretty. You have nothing to be jealous of!

**Hilda** Really?

**Anna** Look at you! With your beautiful blonde hair and your perfect nose. Who wouldn't be jealous of a nose like that? You look like you belong on a poster for the League of German Girls. Perfect!

*(They giggle, happy to be friends again)*

## Hitler's Tasters

### Side 2 - Script excerpt between LIESEL, ANNA and HILDA 1/2

HILDA is a rule follower. She comes from a military family and enjoys the privilege of that status. LIESEL is not a particularly independent person but is practical and kind. She likely comes from a family of intellectuals. ANNA is more ethereal, idealistic and innocent than the other girls. In this scene, the girls have been sitting around the room, lazily, for nearly an hour, waiting to see if they will die. They are very bored.

Liesel I'm soooo bored.

Hilda Oh. My. God. Me. Too.

Anna I almost wish one of us would get poisoned to break up the monotony.

*(The other two girls sit up and stare at ANNA)*

Inappropriate?

Hilda Stupid girl.

Anna Sorry. I'm sorry. The time is just so empty and long. The strangest things go through my head. I never used to think such peculiar thoughts.

Hilda Like what?

Anna Nothing. It's foolish.

Liesel Who cares if it's foolish? Anything that takes my mind off lunch is ok with me.

Anna Well ...

Liesel Tell us!

Hilda Yes. Please, Anna. I'm very curious.

Anna *(Looks at HILDA suspiciously)* You are?

Hilda Of course. We're friends. And you have such compelling thoughts.

Anna You flatter me.

Hilda I'm interested.

Anna Ok ... well sometimes ... sometimes I wonder what it's like to be dead. Like, will I feel my soul lift out of my body? Will I float around and be able to watch everyone I know? Will I see my mother crying in our house? *Will* she cry? Would I see you two ... with another girl, maybe, instead of me? And how long will it be before my flesh rots and I'm just a skeleton? Are skeletons white and shiny and pretty or dull and yellow and terrifying? I've seen parts of them on the road but never ... never a full ... y'know ... with all the pieces where they're supposed

## Hitler's Tasters

### Side 2 - Script excerpt between LIESEL, ANNA and HILDA 2/2

to be. *(Beat)* Will I remember all the things I hate about myself when my hair and skin and fat and freckles are gone?

*(Beat)*

**Hilda** Jesus!

**Liesel** I don't like to think about such things.

## Hitler's Tasters

### Side 3 - Script excerpt between LIESEL and HILDA 1/2

HILDA is a rule follower. She comes from a military family and enjoys the privilege of that status. LIESEL is not a particularly independent person but is practical and kind. She likely comes from a family of intellectuals. In this scene, the girls have been waiting in the room all morning for their friend ANNA, who has not arrived.

Liesel      Do you think she's ... watching us? Like she imagined?

*(They slowly look up to the ceiling in unison)*

We could be next.

Hilda      We could always be next, doing this work.

*(They both look back down in unison)*

Liesel      Yes, but before this morning I only thought about poison. Now it suddenly seems like there are an endless number of ways to die.

Hilda      You mean you haven't thought about your house being bombed or malnutrition? You haven't imagined getting caught in the crossfire or getting a virus or typhus or falling into a ditch and being eaten by rats or -

Liesel      Shut up, Hilda!

Hilda      You shut up! Anna was a suspicious person, anyone could see it!

*(Beat)*

Liesel      Hilda.

*(No response)*

Hilda, what did you do?

Hilda      Do? Nothing! I didn't -

Liesel      But you said -

Hilda      I meant that Anna was *obviously* a suspicious person. I'm sure she threw up after all her meals. No one's that thin when they eat three meals a day. I heard her puking in the bathroom. More than once. The guards probably heard her too.

Liesel      I never -

Hilda      And you do have to admit she looked a little - I mean not a *hundred* percent Semitic, but maybe one quarter - I mean any little bit is *(she sees the way LIESEL is looking at her)* You don't have to worry. You're nothing like her. The friend

## Hitler's Tasters

### Side 3 - Script excerpt between LIESEL and HILDA 2/2

With the golden cups - I mean she was obviously associating -

**Liesel** You never associated with any of them?

**Hilda** No!

**Liesel** Not even before the war?

**Hilda** Quiet! Of course not!

**Liesel** How is that possible?

**Hilda** My parents forbade it.

**Liesel** Not even at a store? Not even a teacher or a tailor or a dentist?

**Hilda** No! I don't know. How am I supposed to know who's what?

**Liesel** You said that you could always tell.

*(Long beat as HILDA glares at LIESEL)*

**Hilda** You're awfully sympathetic.

*(LIESEL stands up)*

**Liesel** Oh, shut up, Hilda.

## Hitler's Tasters

### Side 4 - Script excerpt between LIESEL, MARGOT and HILDA 1/2

HILDA is a rule follower. She comes from a military family and enjoys the privilege of that status. LIESEL is not a particularly independent person but is practical and kind. She likely comes from a family of intellectuals. MARGOT is a little more brave than the others when it comes to acting out and expressing herself. She displays the kind of innocence and ebullience that comes from having supportive parents and privilege. In this scene, MARGOT has just arrived for the first time.

*(MARGOT dusts herself off. She takes off her red coat and folds it neatly over her legs. The other girls watch. MARGOT looks optimistically from one to the other)*

**Margot** Perhaps someone can tell me about my job?

**Liesel** Your job?

**Margot** I was told to report here. My grammar is quite good. And I can type very quickly. Seventy words per minute.

*(HILDA and LIESEL consider her for a moment)*

**Hilda** What's your name, Liebling?

**Margot** Ah. Forgive me. My name is Margot.

**Hilda** Margot.

**Margot** Yes.

**Hilda** Do you see a fucking typewriter in here, Margot?

*(MARGOT takes in the empty room)*

**Margot** I am not here to type?

**Liesel** No, girlfriend, you are not here to type.

**Margot** I see.

*(MARGOT sits. She is afraid to ask anything else)*

**Liesel** I'm Liesel. This is Hilda.

**Margot** Well.

**Liesel** They didn't tell you why you're here?

**Margot** I'm to serve the Reich. That's all that matters. I just assumed it was typing since I'm the best in my class. I thought the word had gotten out. When they knocked on my door -

**Liesel** Those knocks.

## Hitler's Tasters

### Side 4 - Script excerpt between LIESEL, MARGOT and HILDA 2/2

**Margot** Yes. And Mutter suddenly told me I had a job serving the Reich. She seemed nervous.

**Liesel** But you weren't?

**Margot** Nervous about making a good impression, but like I said -

**Hilda** Yes, yes you're a really fast typist.

**Margot** How long have the two of you been here?

*(HILDA and LIESEL look at each other questioningly)*

**Liesel** I don't know. Days.

**Hilda** Weeks.

**Liesel** Months. Hilde, is that right?

**Hilda** Something like that.

**Margot** Ah ha. Good. So you can show me what I need to know.

## Hitler's Tasters

### Side 5 - Script excerpt between LIESEL, MARGOT and HILDA 1/2

HILDA is a rule follower. She comes from a military family and enjoys the privilege of that status. LIESEL is not a particularly independent person but is practical and kind. She likely comes from a family of intellectuals. MARGOT is a little more brave than the others when it comes to acting out and expressing herself. She displays the kind of innocence and ebullience that comes from having supportive parents and privilege. In this scene, the girls have been tickling HILDA to get her to share her news.

**Hilda**      What was the question, again?

*(They move to tickle her again)*

Kidding, kidding! Okay. Ladies ... Damen ... guess who's coming to visit.

**Liesel**      Visit *us*?

**Hilda**      Yes.

**Margot**      Who?

**Hilda**      Guess.

**Liesel**      Where? Here?

**Hilda**      Here.

**Liesel**      Here in this very room where we eat and freak out.

**Hilda**      Here.

**Margot**      Who in God's name would visit us here?

**Hilda**      Guess!

*(Long beat)*

**Liesel**      I can't think of a single, solitary person on the planet who would come here.

**Hilda**      Think big.

**Margot**      Fred and Ginger.

**Hilda**      Good guess. Bigger.

**Margot**      Bigger than Fred and Ginger?

**Hilda**      Much.

**Liesel**      Albert Speer?

**Hilda**      Who?

## Hitler's Tasters

**Side 5 - Script excerpt between LIESEL, MARGOT and HILDA 2/2**

**Liesel** That dreamy architect from the news reels! No, that's silly, why would he ... oh wait! Could it be ... could it be Anna? Is Anna coming?

*(A dark cloud passes over HILDA)*

**Hilda** Nein. Not Anna.

*(LIESEL shakes her head)*

**Margot** Well come on, come on ... tell us! Our simple minds obviously can't imagine such an esteemed guest.

**Liesel** Frank Sinatra!

**Hilda** Crazy girl.

**Liesel** I give up.

**Hilda** Ladies. *(She gets tears in her eyes)* The three of us are going to be visited by ... The Fuhrer!

*(Long beat)*

**Liesel** You're joking!

**Margot** Has he ever visited before?

**Hilda** Nope.

**Liesel** But how ... ?

**Margot** Why? Are we in trouble?

**Hilda** No, no, no ... he wants *(she looks around for effect)* to thank us!

**Liesel** No!

**Hilda** Yes!

**Margot** Us?

**Hilda** Yes!

**Liesel** Why?

**Hilda** For our sacrifice. And our service. He wants to thank us in person. He's even going to eat with us!