

THE HOUSE ON KRONENSTRASSE

Story by Shira Nayman

Music composed by Ben Moore

SYNOPSIS

On her deathbed, a mother tells her daughter [Christiane] of a specific street address in Heidelberg, Germany, where the family lived before immigrating to New York after World War II. The information comes as a surprise to the daughter, now in her forties, for whom much of her childhood in Germany is a mysterious pastiche of memories that her mother has never been willing to discuss. Of her past, she knows only that her father was killed in the early years of the war while fighting for the Third Reich. But she senses that there is something about this address—on a street called Kronenstrasse—that can tell her more. Her decision to return there leads her to a shocking discovery.

“The House on Kronenstrasse,” is taken from the book by Shira Nayman, *Awake in the Dark* (Scribner). It is a journey of self-discovery and a haunting excursion into the past of a daughter who lived through the Holocaust, and contemplates the effects of this particular history on the identity of future generations. In this world premiere of the musical story composed by Ben Moore, the drama unfolds and brings to light revelations from both the past and the present.

Taken in part from an article by Jessica Murphy Moon, *The Atlantic Monthly*