

Irene Angelico's documentary film ARK Survivors is a touching movie that explores the impact of the Holocaust on the post-war generation of Jews and Germans. In order to present this, she traveled ^S to Palestine, Germany and based the movie on ^{the} personal life of her mother and father, and the effect of the Holocaust on other people she met. Irene's style of filmmaking allows the audience ^S feel what the post-war generation are feeling. The film captures ^S the almost true history of the Holocaust. Only the people who participated in it really know the truth. The film deals with children of survivors ^(sp.) and how they were never told about the horrible happening in Germany until later in their ^{lives} by someone else. Irene captures the unfortunate happenings of the innocent people and the horrible fates they faced. With the personal experiences of Irene and her family, the film becomes even more touching.

The opening scene of black and white photographs of a young man and lady in separate pictures parallels the fact that the couple was once separated during the horrible Holocaust. The audience becomes aware that the couple shown ^{are} is the parents of Irene Angelico. The film becomes very personal from this point. After a long period of time, the couple is fortunately reunited. The couple soon left Germany after their daughter was born and headed to America. Black and white film of people, young and old, in concentra-

present tense

in relation to her feelings

good introduction

good

tion camps display their ~~destruction~~ ^(Sp.) and captivity. Kids with burnt numbers in their left arms are seen rolling up their shirts to show the camera man. Those numbers are not removable, ^{Not are} ~~as~~ like the memories that went along with them. ^{ing} A photograph of Irene and her dog grows smaller until it is just an image on a black background with the title, Dark Lullabies appear ^{ing} in white. ~~with~~ ^T this introduction of what happened to her parents leads the film into its purpose.

Irene has lost everyone, everything and especially, the hope of life. The Holocaust is too painful to discuss. ^(Sp.) That is why children of survivors are so distant from their parents. Angelico allows the audience ^{to} experience what she is feeling by the scenes of people being cruelly beaten. ^{this} ~~who~~ ^S show what could have happened to her parents. ^{ing}

When the people are taken into the concentration camps, their citizenship is taken away. Their name is taken away and their identity is destroyed and replaced by a set of numbers. A question, very common among children of survivors, ^(Sp.) is "What are they supposed to do about the people who killed their grand ^(Sp.) parents, parents, aunts and uncles?" No one can tell them what to do. A close-up of Irene's trembling hands and frustrated face demonstrates ^S this point. From this question, Irene decided ^S to commence a search knowing that it would be futile, but she had to look. The children of survivors come together to assist each other with

(Sp.)

? unclear

their questions. Irene is shown attending a so - called meeting in Montreal.

The killings were deliberate acts of murder; people were taken off the face of the earth. The children of the survivors ^{were} are really child survivors. They were left with many unanswered questions.

At the end of the war, people celebrated while the Jews mourned. Then it was all over, they left Germany for good and went to Palestine. These events are represented by black and white film of Jewish refugees crowded on a ship that took them away forever. The movie takes the audience to Palestine. By travelling there, it makes it more realistic to the viewer. While she was there, she met many child survivors and survivors themselves. The film shows the unhappiness and the uncomfortable times of a couple of people. One man was a survivor who had lost his wife. A lady was looking for her family.

In the next scenes, the audience is introduced to a wife and daughter of a man who died in the concentration camps of after. The daughter tells her story. To show her image of the Holocaust that she had been told of she painted images on a wall. They do not understand why. By filming this family so closely, the audience becomes a part of them; they imagine what they went through. I know I was feeling very emotional while watching Dark Lullabies.

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good

The following scene takes us to a survivor's home. He tells his story of what happened to him and his family. The man takes care of ^{various} birds ^{and} pigeons. We see birds caged up, but eventually let out. This parallels the people who were locked away in the concentration camps, but when they were let out they were let out to die. Birds symbolize peace and freedom. Well, it is ironic to see a free bird caged up like the innocent people who were locked away from the world. The man who has the birds learns the meaning of life while taking care of the beautiful creatures.

The title of the film comes from the lullaby, "Lila Lila" which mothers used to sing to their children. By definition, a lullaby is a song to quiet babes or lull them to sleep, but in the film they are dark lullabies. They were dark probably because the mother was feeling the after effect of the Holocaust. Ark could also represent the hurt, pain and bad memories of a horrible event.

Germany is the setting for the rest of the film. While in Germany, Irene talks to people ^{(G.) whose} relatives were part of the Nazi organization and how they, the second generation, like the Jews, were not told about what happened. They, both sides, were deprived of their history. At this point in the film, we see both sides of the event in history. The biggest step of all, visiting the camp where her father was, is shown in the next scenes. We see Irene's curiosity and nervous-

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ness at the same time while she is travelling on a train to
Tachau. The audience sees her walking through the camp gates
and stroll slowly towards the barracks. The viewer can see the
proud and strong person of Irene from the distance, but he
does not witness what she is feeling. The closing scene has
Irene standing outside her home where she was born and where
her father had gained a reason to live again. It is hard
to begin again with all those uneraseable memories lingering.

good

In conclusion, Mark Lullabies, directed by Irene Angelico,
captures the personal feelings of the survivors and the un-
fortunate things that happened to their relatives. By seeing
this film and the recent death of a friend of mine, I have
come to realize that life is too precious to waste. Irene
should be proud of herself; ~~that~~ ^{it} takes a lot of guts to do what
she did. The filmmaking style was excellent in that we were
able to be a little more educated about the Holocaust while
we experienced the pain of the child survivors. I really
did not know much about about the Holocaust - this film
does, ^{with} no doubt, explore the impact of the Holocaust on the
post-war generation of Jews and Germans. A question,
"Why?" has a response of "because....." This question is
asked everyday, but there is no answer, but because.

good