

FORGIVE OR KILL ME

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On behalf of Maurice Humphrys

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INT. CHURCH - DAY

A German soldier, Klaus, is kneeling at a pew - muttering under his breath.

KLAUS  
(in German)  
Please God, forgive me- forgive my  
sins. I beg you. I am sorry for  
what I have done. I cannot live.  
Show me what I must do-

We see a British soldier, JIM, push open the church door and tentatively walk inside.

KLAUS stops frozen - he looks around.

From JIM's POV we see inside the church - at first, KLAUS is not visible. JIM lowers his weapon and continues to walk inside.

He relaxes and is noticeably relieved to find an empty church.

Slowly KLAUS stands up - his hands in the air. JIM is surprised and frightened. He immediately pulls his gun up and points it at KLAUS.

JIM  
Stop! Stop right there-

KLAUS  
(in German)  
God has sent you to kill me.

KLAUS continues to walk towards JIM - who has panic in his eyes.

JIM  
I said *stop!*

KLAUS stops.

JIM (CONT'D)  
Get down on your knees!... On your  
*knees*, now!

KLAUS obliges by kneeling in the aisle. JIM rushes towards him and checks for weapons.

KLAUS  
(broken english)  
I will not harm you.

JIM  
Oh, yeah? Got any other good jokes?

KLAUS  
This is not a joke. I asked God to forgive me and he sent you to me-

JIM  
Say that again?

KLAUS  
I wanted God to forgive me for my sins.

JIM  
Your *sins*? Your lot have dismantled half of Europe, ruined thousands- if not *millions*, of lives, and killed- *killed* many. For what?! Huh? Does your god have an answer for that? Because at this point, I don't think even *he* can forgive you!

KLAUS bows his head.

JIM finishes checking KLAUS and moves to the front of him - his rifle always pointing at him.

KLAUS  
I too am fearing this, so then, you must do it.

JIM  
Do what?

KLAUS  
Kill me.

JIM  
(taken aback)  
I'm not going to kill you. I'm taking you prisoner-

JIM grabs KLAUS by the collar, but KLAUS begins to beg.

KLAUS  
No! *Please*- you must *kill* me. You must! I can go on no longer if God does not forgive me. I can not live with myself

KLAUS grabs JIM's rifle and brings it towards his head.

KLAUS (CONT'D)  
(desperate)  
Please... kill me.

JIM doesn't know what to do - he is sure he won't shoot, but the GERMAN's desperation has taken him by surprise.