



Liesel's Story, Chapter 3

I sat down one evening after dinner and I said “now then, sledging, I remember going sledging with two boys”. “Yes, that’s our two boys, Jan and Per. Jan was the same age as you and Per was two. We went sledging”. “OK right. The theatre”. At this Finn jumped in and said “We were very impressed with you. You only spoke German and I was the only one that spoke German so I had to do all the translating”. He said “We took you to the equivalent to a children’s pantomime which is obviously all in Norwegian and you sat there and you didn’t move and when we came home you went through the whole story, you’d understood it all, we were very very impressed that you could understand a play, a pantomime type play that was in a different language”. The doll and pram was given as a Christmas present and Eileen jumped in and she said “The last time we saw you was one very very dark January night, we took you down to Bergen harbour and you wouldn’t let us pack the doll and pram and the last time we saw you was, you had a label round your neck, ‘My name is Liesel Meier, I’m going to Newcastle’, and we asked the lady who had been a missionary if she would keep an eye on you because you were travelling on your own, 4 years of age. And the last time we saw you was going up the gangplank of the ship wheeling the doll and pram in your little white fur coat with your muff round your neck. And it was wonderful, we knew that you were going to be safe, well we hoped you were, and that was the last that we heard, because of course in April we were invaded and we had a very very bad time during the war”.