

APPENDICES

Synopsis of Focus

Lawrence Newman is a personnel manager in a company which refuses to hire a Jew. He has a problem with his eyesight. Mr. Gargan, his employer tells him to get a new pair of glasses then he buys new glasses, which make him look like a Jew. After that he resigns from his job. Newman still lives with his mother, and he lives in white American neighborhood. His neighbor, Fred, makes a plan to have a meeting to get rid of the Jews that are living in the block, they reject the Jews. With this new appearance Newman feels insecure because he looks like a Jew. In the next morning he does not buy a paper from Finkelstein (Jew) as usual because Fred and Carlson are there, watching.

Next morning Newman, full of spirit, goes to look for a job in Manhattan. It was difficult for Newman to get a job but later Newman gets a new job in Meyers and Paterson Company, there he meets Ms. Gertrude Hart; during the meeting they explain and clarify the misunderstanding that occurred between them in the past. Newman does not fully like the job, but he stays there because of Gertrude. Newman loves her and wants to marry her and then they get married. Fred and other neighbors start to consider Newman a Jew. Gertrude notices that

Fred and those men are having a plan to get rid of Jews so she asks Newman to join the rally meeting and get involved with the Front before it is too late. Newman decides to go to the rally meeting, yet he gets thrown out because he does not applaud once. After that Newman and Finkelstein have a conversation, which opens his eyes how ridiculous that they treat Jews like that. They do not deserve to be treated like that. One night when Newman and Gertrude go home, Newman is attacked by a group of people, but Gertrude was not helping him at all; it was Finkelstein who helped him. Then he goes to the police station to report the attack but the police officer mistakes him for a Jew and he lets the police think that way.

Biography of Arthur Miller

Arthur Miller was born in October 17, 1915 in New York City. His father, Isidore Miller, was a ladies-wear manufacturer and shopkeeper, and his mother a school teacher. His father lost his business in the Depression (1930s) and the family was forced to move to a smaller home in Brooklyn. As a young man during the Great Depression, Miller was shaped by the poverty that surrounded him.

After graduation from high school, he worked in a warehouse and he was the only Jew working in the auto part warehouse. He works there to earn enough money to attend the University of Michigan, where he began to write plays. In 1940 he married Mary Grace Slattery and have a daughter and a son, later they were divorced. In 1956 Miller married Marilyn Monroe and also gets divorced in 1961. After divorcing Monroe, Miller married Inge Morath, his last wife and has a daughter. Arthur Miller is one of the leading American playwrights of the

twentieth century; his most famous works are The Crucible, The Death of a Salesman, and A View from the Bridge. Miller's first public success was Focus (1945), a novel about anti-Semitism. Miller died of heart failure at home in Roxbury, Connecticut, on February 10, 2005.

Sources:

“Arthur Miller Biography (1915-2005)”

“Arthur Miller”