

The Agreement

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305 Words

“We cannot allow any passengers from the St. Louis to leave that ship...”

I questioned the legitimacy of this claim, but it was out of my control.

“United States Law prohibits any more foreigners from entry for this year... Keep them out...”

I hung up the telephone, and that marked the moment when I agreed.

I approached the distressed ship and demanded to see the captain.

A single reply - a small child grabbed my hand and led the way.

Upon seeing Mr. Schroeder, I took notice of the glossiness of his eyes which reflected my image.

Letting go of the child's hand, I exclaimed to the captain that he had to depart.

His face adopted a red shade full of dissatisfaction and angst. The child wept softly at the door.

I further denied his implorations through an echo of what I had been told:

“United States Law prohibits any more foreigners from entry for this year...”

Looking back,

I see that those passengers could not have possibly waited another year for entry.

Turning them away, I led them into an unfathomable, heinous world.

My reflection in those glossy eyes is a constant reminder -

Of a point in my life where selfishness had grown from indifference -

Of when the choice was simple and I had chosen poorly.

Had I known then, of all of those passengers impending fate,

Perhaps I would have been able to understand that child's cries,

Perhaps I would have disallowed what was demanded of me,

And then they could have all been saved.

Instead,

I had agreed to turn those who begged for assistance back into the hands of their enemy,

I had agreed to conform at a time that demanded opposition,

I had agreed to revoke freedom and divide family,

And I had agreed to become a monster.

Bibliography

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