

Sky

True story of Hanneke Ippisch. A Dutch teen during German occupation who was put in a concrete cell by the Nazis for helping provide food and resistance against their atrocities. This was her cell window. Through it, she maintained hope by having just a glimpse of sky. The war ended in time to spare her. She continued a life of support efforts, and later moved to America to the wilderness of Montana—Big Sky country—where I visited her at her home. She titled her autobiography Sky.



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Original work.

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V1

The Nazis came in '43 and they
swept the Holland countryside.
The innocent hid in attics, or under
floorboards to survive.
The trains howled deeply in the night
hauling people to their graves.
I was just a teenage girl back then but
my soul forever changed.

CHORUS

My name is Hanneke.
A child in a war.
It was not my fight, but then
what are humans for.

V2

Their eyes held fear and suffering
yet they'd smile to act brave.
We worked within the shadows
and we risked our lives to save
them with food and love and secret aid
'til they caught me and my friends.
They called us a resistance
for helping people live.

CHORUS

My name is Hanneke.
A child in a war.
It was not my fight, but then
what are humans for.
What are humans for.

BRIDGE

Hang on, hope.
Hang on, light.
All we need to just hold on
is a little piece of sky.
A little piece of sky.

V3

For months I sat in a cold brick cell
one small window set up, high.
Through the iron bars I'd see the rains
and sadness drifting by.
But the sun would lift with freedom.
Keep my spirit fortified.
As long as there's a piece of sky
my will will never die.

CHORUS

My name is Hanneke.
A child in a war.
It was not my fight, but then
what are humans for.
What are humans for.

BRIDGE OUTRO

Hang on, hope.
Hang on, light.
All we need to just hold on
is a little piece of sky.
Hang on, hope.
Hang on, light.
All we need to just hold on
is a little piece of sky.
A little piece of sky.