

## Chapter 44\_“Kahm-Boo ...”

In this chapter of "Mother Night," the protagonist reflects on the eerie familiarity of waking up in prison and the remnants of his past life. He recalls a recent encounter with Bernard B. O'Hare, whose vomit on the stairs serves as a metaphorical representation of his own decay. After leaving his attic, he picks up a pawn from a chess set he once carved. As he moves through the building, the stench of O'Hare's mess lingered, intensifying his unease.

His journey takes him to the door of Dr. Abraham Epstein, a Holocaust survivor. Upon knocking, Epstein hesitantly opens the door, attired in pajamas, and is immediately taken aback by the protagonist's presence. The exchange reveals the protagonist's urgent desire to stand trial in Israel for his purported crimes against humanity. Epstein, however, is reluctant to assist, expressing his misunderstanding of the protagonist's motivations while highlighting the tension between their shared history and the discrimination faced by people like them.

Despite Epstein's initial dismissal and frustration, his elderly mother enters the scene, intrigued by the protagonist's plea. Their conversation reveals layers of history and trauma, drawing parallels between the protagonist's current state of paralysis and the experiences endured during the Holocaust. Epstein's mother, recognizing the protagonist's desperate need for accountability, urges her son to help, but he resists, asserting his disconnection from those seeking revenge.

Ultimately, after some heated exchanges, Epstein agrees to call someone—"Sam"—who may assist the protagonist. In the meantime, the vulnerable protagonist finds himself ensnared in a web of memories, illuminating the lasting impact of the atrocities he once witnessed and perpetuated. As the three "heroes" arrive to take him to officials, he feels a sense of relief and a peculiar urge to finally confront the consequences of his actions, leading to an unsettling yet significant resolution to the night.