

That Night

A one act play

By **N. Bistrizky**

Play no. 36

Opening show: 3/06/1936

Staged by : Z. Friedland

Settings by : D. IENEMAN

Music by: Fordhaus Ben Zissi

Cast

Rabbi Johanan the son of Zaccai: M. Gnessin

Rachel, his daughter: T. Robins

Zadok, his pupil: Ben-Haim

Abba Sikra, the chief of the Jerusalem rebels: S. Finkel

Eleazar the son of Simon: S. Bruk

Johanan of Gish-Halab: A. Kutai

Simon bar Giora: H. Amitai

A woman: H. Rovina

A rebel: R. Klatzkin

That Night – the last night of Jerusalem

Jerusalem is besieged. From without the Roman enemy is pressing on the city; from within, famine gnaws upon the city with all its teeth. And in the besieged and hunger-smitten Jerusalem, the life of which is at stake, the parties, in whose hands is placed the fate of Jerusalem, are torn asunder by feuds.

In these days, when the people's die is cast, Rabbi Johanon the son of Zaccai, the spiritual leader of the people, is sitting in the attic. He knows that there is no hope to save Jerusalem, for it is doomed to destruction, not by dint of the enemy's assault for without, but on account of the danger of ruin lurking from within. He connives a secret plan how to save the people from a ruinous end after the destruction of Jerusalem.

Zadok, his pupil, to whom Rachel, his only daughter is betrothed, is there with him. He has given up all hope of a natural salvation and wishes to bring it about by means of a sacrifice. He makes himself the sacrifice and fasts for forty days and forty nights. His bride Rachel is his prop and support.