

THE WHITE ROSE Sophie Scholl

Transcript of [What'sHerName Episode 36](#)

00:00:00 - 00:05:22

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Olivia Meikle: Hi, Katie!

Katie Nelson: Hi, Olivia!

OM: Have you ever changed your mind about anything?

KN: Uh... [laughter] Anything at all?

OM: Anything at all!

KN: Uh, Yes! I've had some pretty epic mind changes in my life. I actually really like changing my mind. It's one of my favorite things, to have to, like, deconstruct everything I thought I knew and start from scratch again.

OM: Hey, me too!

KN: Really?

OM: Yeah!

KN: It kind of bothers the people around me sometimes. They're like, "wait..."

OM: I love changing my mind so much that the number one stated goal on the syllabi for my Women's Studies classes is that we are all going to learn to 'be wrong in public.' Because I think as long as you're committed to always 'doing it right,' you're never going to say anything, you're never going to learn anything. And I'm 'wrong in public' several times a day. And I learn a lot of

new important things by being wrong in public, and being corrected in public. And I HATE it. But that's how I learn stuff.

KN: Yeah.

OM: We have a really weird reaction, in my opinion, to stories of people *changing*. That more often we seem to weaponize people who change their mind.

KN: We call them flip-floppers.

OM: We call them flip-floppers!

KN: [laughs] Yeah.

OM: I *hope* that I don't hold all the same opinions that I held twenty years ago, or two years ago, or two *weeks* ago! I *want* people to change their mind when they get new information. I mean - I get the appeal of the stories of the Perfectly Morally Pure Hero, who “knew from the beginning...” But so much of that depends on just landing in the right spot at the right time. If you happen to be raised by the right people, then you “knew from the beginning” that this was wrong...

KN: Yeah, the more universal human story is: we're all flawed humans, just stumbling our way toward enlightenment.

OM: Yeah!

KN: And it's not like this straight clear-cut way...

OM: Right.

KN: We're just, kind of, stumbling our way along.

OM: So, I think we really have to start figuring out, as a society, how to celebrate the flip-floppers. Or, at least, the *sincere* flip-floppers.

KN: If we're going to continue to stumble forward together toward enlightenment. Yeah.

OM: So the woman we're talking about today had one of the most public, and most dangerous, mind-changes I have ever heard about.

[music]

OM: I'm Olivia Meikle

KN: And I'm Katie Nelson.

OM: And this is *What'sHerName*.

KN: Fascinating women you've never heard of.

[music]

OM: Though most Americans have never heard of her, the woman that we're talking about today is a national hero in Germany. Schools are named after her. Everyone studies her. Streets are named after her. Because this twenty-one-year-old woman was one of the only people to stand up to the Nazi regime and say publicly, "This is wrong."

KN: Wow. [pause] That doesn't sound like it's going to end well.

OM: No.

KN: Nooooo!

OM: Sorry, we have a sad one. Get ready. Her name is Sophie Scholl. And to learn more about her, I talked to Kip Wilson.

Kip Wilson: My name is Kip Wilson, and I'm the author of [*White Rose*](#), which is a YA historical novel in verse, based on a true story about the White Rose resistance group and about Sophie Scholl.

OM: *White rose* is a young adult novel written in verse, which means it's written in poetry. The whole thing is poetry, and it's *wonderful*. And it will be released in one week on April 2nd! I love this book so so much, and I really encourage our listeners to get a copy for themselves and for any young people in their lives. It's a really profound and moving and extremely well written book.

KN: Wow.

OM: I have been a huge fan of Sophie Scholl since I was a teenager, and I couldn't think where I would have heard about her, until Kip Wilson said this...

Kip Wilson: I learned about Sophie Scholl and the White Rose in high school German class, which is probably the most common place where most people have heard of her here in the US, and I was immediately hooked into her and to her story. This was a girl not much older than I was at the time who stood up to the Nazis.

00:05:23 - 00:10:00

Kip Wilson: I mean it doesn't get better than that. You know that this is somebody very inspiring, somebody who very much believed in her cause, and she has been, since then, a personal heroine to me.

OM: And I'm sure that's where I heard about her too - that in my high school German classes she was brought up as a young person that you can look up to who did this amazing thing.

KN: Yeah, because it seems like, oddly, anti-Nazi movements is the stuff of young adult literature. I bet because of Anne Frank.

OM: I think so, yeah.

KN: I bet because she was such a loud voice. So you've got an Anne Frank, then we've got *Number the Stars*.

OM: Yeah.

KN: And those seem like the two classic narratives of anyone pushing against the Nazi regime, but surely there had to be more.

OM: Yeah, that's interesting because if at that point we're just doing 'Nazis' then all of the "stand up to the bad guys" stories are Nazis.

KN: Yeah they were like our classic bad guys there for quite a while.

OM: Right, and so we have this whole generation now raised on those stories as the archetype of what 'standing up to evil' looks like.

KN: Right, yeah, exactly. Maybe with such a classically evil villain, the Nazis.

OM: Right, there's no nuance there.

KN: I think it successfully created a generation - it seems like especially you gen-Xers 'stand up in the face of evil,' you know, that childhood lit successfully shaped your generation.

Kip Wilson: Sophie Scholl was born during the Weimar Republic, which was the inter-war period between World War I and World War II. And that time in Germany was actually not terrible in some ways. In fact, I mean, they had a democratic government. There was a lot of freedom at that time. But of course, the economic situation was quite dire. The inflation was incredible. You might see photos of people carrying these wheelbarrows full of reichsmark to go and buy a loaf of bread, sort of thing.

OM: I think that's a part of this history that we don't often talk about enough - that the rise of the Third Reich is not a violent military rise. It's political, that Hitler is *elected* to office, that the entry into power is based on promises of prosperity and 'returning to traditional German values.'

KN: Yeah. Looking at the historical patterns, in some ways, it's not all surprising that someone like Hitler was elected, because Germany was so devastated after World War I. During the Treaty of Versailles, all of the leaders from the countries involved in World War I meet at Versailles to arrange a peace treaty. And I think we kind of talked about the end of World War I in the Maud Fitch episode, everybody's just so fatigued from war that they all just declare, "Okay, it's over. We're going to declare a ceasefire, and then we're gonna come together and arrange a peace treaty. We're going to hammer things out." But then, once they actually met at Versailles, they didn't allow Germany to be present. They rejected the Representative of the Weimar Republic, just made him stay outside and said, "We will decide and then we will tell you what's happened." Surprise, surprise, what they decided was: It's 100% Germany's fault - they have to pay all the war reparations to all of the other countries. To me, looking back, it's kind of astounding how harsh they were. You know, they took the best producing industrial areas and gave them to France. They took away all of Germany's colonies and gave them to England and France. They thought, "We're just gonna crush Germany into the ground so it can never rise again." That was their plan.

OM: Right.

KN: And Germany was completely and utterly destroyed. So take that cultural context where there was no hope whatsoever because they were in billions of dollars of debt to all the other countries, there's no way forward, there's no hope - and here comes this fiery little dude and he's promising a new day and a new dawn, and he explains to them how this came to be and 'whose

fault it is,' and that he's going to make everything better. Everybody goes, "Yes! Yes! That's what we want." And of course at the time they had no idea who this Adolf Hitler guy was...

00:10:00 - 00:15:06

KN: ...What he was gonna turn out to do. Maybe he didn't even know at the beginning.

OM: There's also this pushback on what is becoming, at least in Berlin and city centers, a very sort of progressive, liberal, modern society that is giving women way more rights and freedom than they've had before. Wildly creative new art and music and really pushing the boundaries. And so when you can appeal to economic recovery and also stopping this change of our society...

KN: Yeah, returning the 'good old days.'

OM: Yeah, that bringing women 'back where they belong,' and casting artistic freedom as decadence, or things like that. That's a really powerful combination for people who are deeply traumatized by change at this point.

Kip Wilson: She was eleven years old when Hitler came to power in 1933, and then she spent the rest of her life under this dictatorship. But the interesting thing is - well, there are many interesting things of course, but - as a young teenager and her siblings, they were actually super excited about Hitler and the Nazis, and they were like, "this is great." Looking back, you know, it's easy to say, "what were they thinking?" And you know, of course, her father particularly was a pacifist and he was very anti-Hitler from the very beginning, and he was jailed a couple of times for his beliefs, but they loved it. Because they had no problems, right, they were the 'normal Aryan children' or whatever. They didn't have to worry about anything at the time themselves. And what they saw was, "Oh, we get to go camping. We get to go hiking. We get to sing songs, and all our friends are here, we're not with our parents."

Indoctrination of the youth in Germany was systematic and calculated, and he was breeding an army. And they fell for it completely. But, some things started to not sit right. "Father, what are these concentration camps about? The Führer, he doesn't know about them does he?" "They're banning these books, our favorite books - why can't we read Heinrich Heine anymore? This is terrible." Things started to add up, and then in 1937, a bunch of teenagers all around Germany were arrested. Sophie's brother Hans was arrested at his military training. Also her sister and her brother at home were arrested. It was all over the country. Everybody was being arrested. Having banned books, or being part of another youth group - the Hitler youth was the only legal youth

group at the time. They became a bit more disillusioned. They heard from a friend of their mother - something strange was going on with children who were in medical institutions.

Things added up and added up and added up, and it took a while, but eventually their father's kind of 'background hum,' and like Kristallnacht, and then seeing the racial purity laws... They saw all this happening, and it just wasn't sitting right. There wasn't like one single thing that said, "Okay, you know, that's it." But gradually over these, their attitude turned to, "Oh my gosh. We have to do something about this. This isn't fun and games. This is criminal." And it was really that last step, that these things are *criminal*, these things are morally reprehensible - that's what made them finally commit treason. Because that's what it was, standing up under Nazi Germany was treason - and it carried with it the threat of anything from imprisonment, torture, and up to execution.

What happens to Sophie herself is that she had to spend a long time before she could get to go to the university, which was her dream. She wanted to study. She wanted to learn more, her family was quite intellectual. And she finally finished all the hoops, she went through everything she had to do to get there, which included an entire year at work service. The boys had to do work service as well, which was basically serving in the military. Hans had to go to the western front in France. And she had to go work in, like, a work camp. The Third Reich really cut down on women's rights.

OM: We've had this very sort of proto-feminist Weimar Republic, where women are more empowered and more educated. And that is all pulled way way back. And suddenly we go from a really broad program of women's higher education to fewer than six thousand women enrolled in university under the Nazis out of eighty million people.

KN: Right. Because now their role - their 'deeply respected role on a pedestal' - is to have lots of *good Aryan babies*.

00:15:06 - 00:20:06

OM: Exactly. *Kinder, Küche, Kirche*: Children, Kitchen, Church.

KN: Yes.

Kip Wilson: And Sophie really wasn't interested in any of those. Well, she was quite religious, actually, but you know that wasn't - she wanted much more out of life. So Sophie finally did get a place, and was allowed to go. And when she got there after all these years and all this waiting - the war was going on by then, this was 1942, by the time she finally got to the university. And it

was in full swing, and her brothers had been sent to the front. Her friends - her boyfriend was a actually a German army officer - and they were all in the midst of battle. Her brother was a medical student, so they weren't actually fighting, but they were right near the frontlines at these medical units. She wanted it to *stop*, and that was their main impetus for the White Rose - to get going on the resistance. At this point it wasn't really a moral decision, but rather just, "We need to stop this war, we are, like, ruining our country and all of our young people are going to die."

OM: That was really startling to me for two reasons, I think - because we want the story of heroes to start with them addressing the 'core moral issue' that we have decided, looking back on history, is The Thing. That we want it to be the Holocaust [that prompts her action], but it's the war. I hadn't really thought through how much we neglect the horror and stupidity of this war - because of the very valid reason of the much more staggering horror of the Holocaust.

So they start printing leaflets in their apartment denouncing Hitler, specifically by name, and the entire government for these things which they see as crimes and immoral acts. So it is mostly centered at this point on 'stop this stupid war.' But it does, from the very beginning, call out the complete immorality of this very blatant slaughter of Jewish civilians in Poland that really deeply upset them. And they're calling these out and saying, "These are criminal, immoral acts that *our government* is perpetuating."

Kip Wilson: So actually Sophie probably wasn't initially involved, and I say probably because that's one of those last nagging questions. There are just some things that nobody really knows. When did Sophie first get involved? There were some signs, like in May of 1942, when she saw Fritz before he went off to the front and before she went to college - she asked him to try and get her voucher for a duplicating machine. And then it was that summer that Hans and his friend Alex wrote and distributed the first four leaflets. It's generally considered that they did that alone and that Sophie didn't have a part of that. But there she was asking for a duplicating machine - something's going on, right? We also don't know: Did she confront him? I'm guessing she did. And so I did -because my book is historical fiction, you can add a bit to that. So I actually have her holding off - because she knows he's going to go to the front, because trimesters are quite short, as three months basically studyin - and then you go off to the front. Or for her, she had to go to a munitions factory to work. And so they did those four leaflets and they were quite damning. I mean, this was already high treason here. One of the first had: "Every word that comes out of Hitler's mouth is a lie." And just saying that - you're setting yourself up for getting killed. Another line: "Isn't it true that every honest German is ashamed of his government?" I mean, it just gives you chills that they would say these things. It was very courageous and very, you know, almost foolhardy but - but good. Good! Somebody, somebody is saying something finally.

OM: They're very tactical and clever. They realize: We're very small but we can make it look like we are huge.

Kip Wilson: They made thousands of these leaflets and passed them out all over the place, with the idea that 'we're going to pretend like this huge organization and make them think that there are a lot of people against you, and you guys are going to have to give in to us.' But it was really, you know, like the six of them in their little flat making these leaflets.

OM: When Sophie's two brothers are sent to the front in Poland, they see firsthand the Warsaw Ghetto. They don't see the concentration camps, but they know they are there, they're hearing all of these rumors, they are seeing just the reality of the ghetto, and it deeply affects them...

00:20:06 - 00:25:00

OM: ...And that's the point when they finally say, "All right, it's not enough just to print leaflets. We have to start an actual revolt."

Kip Wilson: These last leaflets that they made together were, they were appealing not just to, like, the intellect of the university community, but to the morals of the German people.

OM: It seems that once Sophie Scholl and her siblings finally see the Nazi regime for what it is, they can't *unsee* it, and they feel strongly compelled to make up for their own former complicity. That they were aiding this regime, and now they have to stop it.

KN: The bad guys, yeah.

OM: A few years ago, I encountered an article that blew my mind, about the color blue?

KN: Oh yeah!

OM: Do you remember this, that 'blue did not exist'?

KN: Yeah, in ancient Greece it didn't exist.

OM: Yeah, that we can't find records of blue before the 1300s.

KN: Yeah.

OM: I mean, it's blue, of course blue *existed*. But there just aren't - there aren't mentions of the color. That the sea or the sky are gray or red.

KN: Right. Homer describes the sea as “wine dark.”

OM: Yeah, there are cultures still now that don't have a word for blue and they can't *see* blue. If you give them - “these are green and these are blue, which ones are blue?” They're all green.

KN: Yeah, I love that they've also swapped that experiment around. Like one of those same cultures that doesn't see blue, they couldn't pick out a blue block among a bunch of green ones. They have lots and lots of colors for green...

OM: Right.

KN: ... that we don't have. And so they flip the experiment around, they give us a whole bunch of what appear to be just green blocks and say, “Which one of these is different?” And we're like, “There's no difference.” But those who can't see blue, they look at those green blocks, and they go, “Well that one, obviously this one, this one right here is *clearly* not green. And they can see it clear as day, and we can't at all. So much of the way our brains are wired, and what we do and don't see, is just based on what we're taught and what has been given names... It's really amazing.

OM: Yeah. And I think that, you know, the literal-ness of it is shocking.

KN: Yeah, yeah.

OM: You know “you can't unsee.” Once you've seen it, that once you have gotten the word “blue” you see blue, and you'll never *not* see blue again. And that once you have seen, “Oh, this system is sexist,” you can never *not* see it again. You're always going to notice it. But you literally *couldn't see it* until you had the word for it.

KN: Yeah.

Kip Wilson: And so after they went to the front - and luckily they all survived that - in the meantime their father had been arrested. He was in prison for four months because he called Hitler a “scourge of God,” which was just an insult he used from time to time, but his secretary overheard him. And that's what life was like in the Third Reich. All of that went on. They came back, Sophie took over the group's finances, so she went buying the paper, the envelopes, the stamps. And that was in itself was very dangerous, because you could only buy a little bit at each time, and she had to go all around the city looking for bits of those things. When leaflets were

ready she went and brought them around the city and left them on cars and in phone booths. She took trips carrying them, suitcases and bags full of these leaflets, to other cities, bringing them to either mail from there or to give to friends to pass out to other people.

OM: She writes often about how, the idea that ‘women would not do these things’ meant that she could pass unobtrusively through searches. That she can carry a suitcase full of thousands of anti-Nazi flyers and not get stopped. Whereas any of her brothers or friends would have absolutely been stopped and searched.

KN: I love all those kinds of narratives in world history where women exploit sexism to get away with all kinds of stuff. It's awesome.

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00:25:07 - 00:30:12

Kip Wilson: Hans and Sophie decided that they were going to go bring, in broad daylight, thousands of them [the flyers] to their university, and pass them around outside of the lecture halls while classes were in session. And this was on February 18th, 1943, so just a couple of weeks after the Stalingrad defeat. They were hoping that their fellow students were ready to help with a revolt. And so the two of them carried a suitcase and a briefcase full of leaflets to the university, and they passed them all around the lecture halls. And they were almost ready to go - actually they came out and came back in because they still had some left. They put the last ones out - and then up at the top on the balustrade of the atrium, Sophie just couldn't help herself. And there was a stack of the papers, and the beautiful open atrium below and – whoosh, she sent them flying.

OM: She just couldn't resist, and Sophie throws them over the edge of the balcony, and they come raining down through the air to the floor of the atrium below.

Kip Wilson: Pretty much - that was it. They were brought in for questioning, and the Gestapo inspector, who had been on their trail these last few weeks, interrogated Sophie and another inspector interrogated Hans.

OM: They are interrogated for several days. At the beginning they are denying everything, "We know nothing about it. We were just standing there. Why do I have an empty suitcase? Because I was bringing some laundry to be done." They're trying as hard as they can to protect their friends. But once it becomes obvious that they are involved, they proudly own it. "Yes, yes we were, we believe this is wrong, and we were standing up for what we believe in."

The government is *terrified*. They honestly believe that this is a *massive* resistance movement all across the country, that obviously they have a huge network, and they want names. This is *six young people in an apartment*.

KN: Wow.

Kip Wilson: So on the 22nd, they had the trial - they brought in this terrible guy, Roland Freisler. He was typical Nazi judge and he sentenced them to death. The three of them, because at that point they had Hans and Sophie, and they did also bring in Kristof right away...

OM: And so once they've confessed things move *shockingly* quickly. They sign a confession. The next morning, they have a trial. They are convicted of treason at 12:45 in the afternoon. They file an appeal for clemency, and that appeal is denied 4:00 pm, and at 5:00 pm they are beheaded.

KN: Woah! Really?

OM: By guillotine.

KN: Wow!

OM: The time between the conviction and the execution is four hours.

KN: Ah that is incredible! Was it a public execution, or just like quietly in a prison?

OM: It was not a public execution, but it was a *very* public story. They are making an example of these students.

Kip Wilson: Her sister, actually, Elizabeth, she read about it in the paper. [groaning noise] She was not - she wasn't at home. The parents got to come down, and they got to spend some time with Sophie and Hans, like about a half an hour after the trial, before the execution. But her sister was away at a job, and she read about it in the newspaper the next day. Sophie's sister quoted her as saying, "This is going to make waves." Sophie *truly* believed that their execution would be the trigger that would prompt a massive resistance and student revolt, and end the war.

That didn't happen.

KN: No.

OM: Unfortunately, it seems that the government's plan of terrorizing potential resistance workers by *beheading college students* worked.

00:30:15 - 00:35:01

OM: There's a huge archive of trial transcripts and government documents and copies of the leaflets and everything. But the thing that really struck me was the list of Sophie Scholl's personal effects, that were meticulously noted down for returning to her parents after her execution. "Scarf, bra, coat, chocolates, apple, pastries..."

KN: Ahh, what!

OM: ...two packs of cigarettes."

KN: Oh my gosh.

OM: I mean, I...that brought me to tears. Something about the chocolates brought me to tears. That she had a snack in her pocket for later. She was just going to drop off pamphlets, and then go about her life. And instead she is going to be beheaded in six hours. So that - that really affected me. I think... those things that make you suddenly realize these were *real people*. This was a real girl with chocolates in her pocket, and an apple.

But it gets worse.

KN: Oh, no.

OM: The cookies were cookies that her mother made for her, and brought to her at that final meeting. And [Sophie] didn't realize that they were going to return them to her mother - that her mom... gets these cookies back.

Kip Wilson: It was one of the things that destroyed me more than anything else. She said yes, for her mom - you know, she's putting on a bright face. She didn't cry in front of them - when she got out in the hall, she cried. Not for herself, but for them.

OM: It just gutted me.

KN: You can hardly imagine. They must have been, like, so conflicted - proud, but devastated... everything.

OM: Everything and, and, frankly - *furious*, because what a *stupid* thing to do. "Why did you throw them? You could have gotten away. You could have left them and walked..." I mean *I'm* furious with her. I get it, I mean what a dramatic beautiful gesture.

KN: She was just feeling it in the moment, yeah.

OM: But ahh, the just - staggering tragic *stupidity* of it!

KN: And you know they would have caught them eventually.

OM: Right, I mean they were on their track, and they probably would - you know it was probably a matter of a few more weeks.

KN: Yeah, that's hard to know.

OM: But if it had worked, right - I mean the government absolutely seems to have believed that this was on the verge of happening, and Sophie Scholl was a hundred percent convinced that this was going to happen.

KN: Yeah, I guess it's one of those big what-ifs.

OM: I think we can't know - if there had been that spark, one more day might have been what was needed. Only a few days before she was arrested, Sophie Scholl was talking to a friend about her resistance work, and her feeling of responsibility to change things.

Kip Wilson: She said, "I, for one, do not want to be guilty going forward."

KN: Wow!

OM: That's an amazing self-awareness for a twenty-one year old - to look at your past, look at the choices that you've made, change, and commit to a different way. I think the most important part of this story is the part that makes people uncomfortable - that she was pro-Hitler, that she was a supporter of the Nazis. They were one hundred percent *in*.

KN: And then they were a hundred percent out. [laughs]

OM: And then slowly, through just learning new information, not through a dramatic personal experience, but through paying attention and evaluating what was happening, changed their mind, and set out to undo the wrong that they believed they had done.

KN: Yeah.

OM: That's impressive to me.

00:35:01 - 00:40:07

KN: Me too.

OM: I want those people, I want the people who... voted that way ten years ago... "Yes, I did, and I've changed my mind."

KN: "I figured some stuff out along the way."

OM: So in all honesty, we can't really say that Sophie Scholl and the White Rose accomplished very much in terms of resistance to the Nazis. They didn't really have, maybe, any impact on the war at all.

KN: Wow. Wow, good point.

OM: So why are we still talking about her? Why - why is she important? Do we just like sad stories?

KN: Well I guess with the benefit of hindsight, we can see somebody who - had they achieved their goal, things might have turned out quite a bit different.

OM: Exactly. I think that is really critical, you know, in the... in the postwar years in Germany, talking about this whole experience was still quite difficult, as one might imagine.

KN: Right.

OM: But over the years, Germany really became a model of how to change your mind as a nation, and be *very wrong* in public, and learn from it. And the story of the White Rose is a large part of why that has happened. When Germans really started to pay attention to the story of Sophie Scholl and the White Rose, you know, “here’s evidence that there were some Nazis who realized that this was wrong, and changed, and fought for what they believed was right.” So their story now is a really important narrative for the importance of resistance, of moral courage, of educating yourself in the face of propaganda, and of doing something even if it might be fruitless. So in a way, the legacy of the White Rose is less about what they *did*, and more about what they’re *doing*. They’re *still* inspiring German children, schools are named after them, the story of their courage and resistance is shaping the narrative of the country and the world in the same way that those anti-Nazi narratives shaped a whole generation of US children.

KN: Yeah.

OM: The *story* of Sophie Scholl is probably infinitely more important than anything that Sophie Scholl *did* in her lifetime.

KN: Yeah, and that’s a - this is a prime example of how history can be so powerful. We pick and choose which stories to tell from the past, and in Germany today, they’re looking back at their past and going, “Look, here’s Sophie Scholl. She is who we want to be moving forward.” And the way that they tell the story of their past affects who they become in the future.

OM: Yeah. You know, one of their leaflets said, “We are your bad conscience, the White Rose will not leave you in peace.” And those words are true *now*, they’re still functioning now as the conscience of the nation, and they’re apparently doing that job very well.

KN: Yeah.

Kip Wilson: And that’s something that carries on. It’s been through history this way, and it continues today, is that we need to be there saying, “No! Stop being terrible to other humans!” I mean it shouldn’t be that hard. It shouldn’t be that simple.

OM: Sophie Scholl’s last words were recorded by her prison cellmate. “How can we expect righteousness to prevail when there is hardly anyone willing to give himself up individually to a

righteous cause? Such a fine sunny day, and I have to go. But what does my death matter if through us, thousands of people are awakened and stirred to action.”

[music]

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00:40:08 - 00:40:25

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