

The Return

NAZI-1

After ^{much} protracted legal and diplomatic ^{efforts, wrangling}, the Jewish owner of a Corot print ^{PILFERED} seized on ^{looted, stolen} by Reichsmarschall Goerring for display in his Stuttgart villa, has recovered it. There it hangs, back up over the mantle once more.

NAZI-2

But, the rightful owner finds, now ^{it is she has it} back, she cannot bear the sight of it ^{cannot forgive it} She ^{hates it} ^{cannot forgive it} for ^{having given pleasure to a Nazi} ^{where it has been} ^{whom it has given pleasure to}

All she can see when she looks at it is Goerring looking at it.

NAZI-3

To the point where she contemplates defacing or destroying the [restored] print, "although [," she reflects, "^{it} ~~does~~ ^{would} not that <sup>{set
PUT
place}</sup> me even below Goerring?" and contents herself with ^{lifting} taking it down [off its <sup>{peg
nail}</sup>].

NAZI-4

To fill <sup>{her
the}</sup> empty space, she commissions

<sup>{correct
spelling}</sup> from Georg Grosz a savage cartoon

<sup>{of
that {shows
depicts}}</sup> Goerring tearing out his hair

as he gazes <sup>{upon
at
on}</sup> the <sup>{now
newly}</sup> blank stretch

of wall where once hung his <sup>{looted treasure,
treasure,}</sup>

and ^{in contemplation of} before <sup>{dark
bleak}</sup> this image <sup>she
she passes
passes</sup> ^{nightly}

~~that~~ many a <sup>{joyous
blissful
joyful}</sup> hour.

NAZI-5

The [removed] Corot [print] she donates
to the Stuttgart {Municipal Civic} Gallery {on} condition
that it be {kept} in storage for

NAZI-6

{many decades @
at least
the better part of} a century @ When, {decades later,
at century's end,}

it is {finally put on} display, it [at once]

{wins the admiration
~~attracts the notice~~
attracts the notice} of a young printmaker,

a {great grandnephew} of Goerring's ~~of his~~

~~great granduncle~~ {who possesses
who has} with only the haziest idea

of his {great granduncle's} {sympathies} beliefs and actions