UNLIKELY CHOICE



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Dietrich Bonhoeffer and his twin sister <u>Sabine</u> were born in <u>Breslau</u>, Germany on February 4, 1906. An extremely bright young man, he shocked <u>his family</u> when he decided to become a theologian. No Bonhoeffer had ever chosen the Christian church as a profession.

Life in the beautiful town of Breslau, on the <u>Oder River</u>, was pleasant for young Dietrich:

- Karl, his father, was a well-known professor of psychiatry and neurology.
- Paula, his mother, was a university graduate who home-schooled Dietrich while he was young.
- The Bonhoeffers had eight children; Dietrich was the sixth.

After the war, in 1945, <u>Breslau</u> ceased to exist as a <u>German town</u>. The city, with its beautiful <u>churches</u>, <u>university</u> (this is the <u>Aula Leopoldina</u> at the <u>University of Wroclaw</u>) and scenery, became known as <u>Wroclaw</u> and <u>today</u> is part of Poland.

Germans living in the town at the end of the war had to leave. It is ironic that Breslau, Bonhoeffer's hometown, ceased to be German not long after he was killed.

See Alignments to State and Common Core standards for this story online at:

http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicAlignment/UNLIKELY-CHOICE-Dietrich-Bonhoeffer

See Learning Tasks for this story online at:

http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicActivities/UNLIKELY-CHOICE-Dietrich-Bonhoeffer

Media Stream



Breslau Germany - Panoramic View

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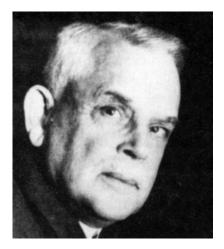


Photograph of Oder River

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Karl Bonhoeffer Photograph

Image online, courtesy Berlin State Library.

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Paula Bonhoeffer

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Aerial View of Breslau

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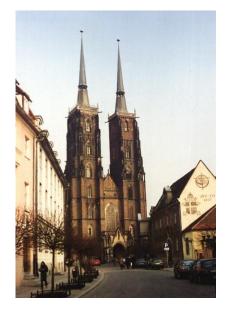


Map Depicting Breslau

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Cathedral in Breslau

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Aula Leopoldina

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Wroclaw

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Map Depicting Wroclaw Poland

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<u>University at Breslau</u>

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