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Opening extract from

Anne Frank

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Outside, a warm rain had started to fall. The four Franks emerged from their house wearing as many of their clothes as possible. They couldn't take suitcases, or the Nazis would be onto them in a moment. Anne felt sure she was going to suffocate.

Margot rode ahead on her bicycle. At last, Anne's parents told her where they were going. "The hiding place is in Daddy's office building," Edith told her. "We were going to move next month, when everything would have been ready, but we have to go now because of Margot's call-up."

"In Daddy's office building?" Anne queried.

"Yes, there's a secret annexe at the back of the building. No one would guess it, but there are lots of rooms there."

As soon as they arrived, Miep quickly led them through the office, down a long passage and up a wooden staircase. There, behind another door, lay the annexe...

This is the front of Otto's office building, at 263 Prinsengracht, in Amsterdam. The Franks hid in the back part of the building, on the top two floors.