

# Painful memories from a survivor

**TV**  
**CHOICE**

Stand by for some intense heart-in-the-mouth drama for the next four nights because tonight **For Those I Loved (Part 1)** begins. It's the true story of Martin Gray (played by Michael York), a Polish Jew, one of the few who survived the holocaust.

Later in life, living in idyllic circumstances, his hard-won happiness is cut short when his wife and children are killed in a freak fire.

Struggling with his suicidal depression he turns on a tape recorder in his burnt-out house and begins to tell his story starting in 1939, Warsaw, where he lived when he was a 14 year old and witnessed the bombing of his beautiful, old city by the Germans, something newspapers of the time said would never happen.

"I was born with the war" he says sparking off a stream of painful and touching memories - the basis of this finely produced four-part series which many will find distressing.

**For Those I Loved: 10, 8.30pm**  
**Red Kiss: SBS, 9.30pm**  
Programs and times may vary

Martin's immediate bewilderment at having to suddenly grow up and, in the absence of his father who works for the Resistance, become the guardian of his mother and two small brothers, is soon replaced by a commitment to becoming daring and gutsy. He sees old people and young children humiliated and tortured and people murdered by Hitler's thugs.

Poverty, hunger and the threat of being caught and transported to a labour camp become a terrifying feature of everyday life as German propaganda fans hatred towards the Jews persuading people that

Jews were responsible for the nightmare the Nazis created.

A more superficial brand of heroism is portrayed in **Red Kiss**. Young parvenu Nadia, a member of the Paris branch of the communist party in 1952, appears to take delight in confusing party members of the opposite sex with her seductive pubescent dialectic, until she meets an even bigger challenge, France's latest heart-throb, Lambert Wilson, who plays a handsome young capitalist running dog and decadent bourgeoisie photographer.

She tries to be deep, meaningful and an effective revolutionary but she always seems to end up taking off her underwear and other peoples' to try to prove she can be serious and mature beyond her years.

It should have ended within the first five minutes with Nadia getting what she was asking for - a good smack and being sent to her room.

**- BERWYN LEWIS**



Michael York . . . plays a memory-burdened survivor