

In Hiding

Frieda Belinfante – Dutch lesbian resistance fighter who cross-dressed to hide her identity and fled to the U.S.

“What can I do for you sir, a haircut or a shave?” the barber asks the modern-day Joan of Arch, posing as a man to avoid the enemies rather than fight them. Not that she’s one to stand down – she fought with the bravest of men, but you’ll have to search pretty hard to find her smooth face in the history books. The flexed arms of masculinity are too large to make room for women who don’t flinch at them.

by Robert Wells



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In: Under the Pink: Gay Persecution in The Netherlands During World War. (Research paper; School of International Training, Sexuality and Gender Identity, Amsterdam, Netherlands)