

1

00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:03,840

2

00:00:03,840 --> 00:00:05,584

[SPEAKING GERMAN]

3

00:00:05,584 --> 00:00:08,488

[CLAP]

4

00:00:08,488 --> 00:00:11,400

5

00:00:11,400 --> 00:00:17,400

One day, there
were rumors that--

6

00:00:17,400 --> 00:00:18,450

we had no newspapers.

7

00:00:18,450 --> 00:00:19,600

We had no radio.

8

00:00:19,600 --> 00:00:23,830

We didn't know what's
going on outside.

9

00:00:23,830 --> 00:00:30,710

The whole time we were in camp,
from Terezin until the end.

10

00:00:30,710 --> 00:00:33,100

We just missed
the whole history.

11

00:00:33,100 --> 00:00:36,800

Even today, it's
lacking in my knowledge.

12

00:00:36,800 --> 00:00:39,580

We had no news to live.

13

00:00:39,580 --> 00:00:44,020

We didn't know what
rumors were every time.

14

00:00:44,020 --> 00:00:46,690

And sometimes, you
believe the rumors

15

00:00:46,690 --> 00:00:48,280

and sometimes you
didn't believe.

16

00:00:48,280 --> 00:00:57,520

But there were rumors that the
Alliance are bombing Germany

17

00:00:57,520 --> 00:01:02,890

and that there are
transports leaving Auschwitz

18

00:01:02,890 --> 00:01:07,040

with young people for work.

19

00:01:07,040 --> 00:01:10,010

And that they need
hands for work

20

00:01:10,010 --> 00:01:15,560

to rebuild what the
Alliance had done.

21

00:01:15,560 --> 00:01:18,900

22

00:01:18,900 --> 00:01:22,690

We didn't know-- we didn't
think also if it is true or not.

23

00:01:22,690 --> 00:01:23,460

It is not true.

24

00:01:23,460 --> 00:01:30,380

But one day, we
were told selection.

25
00:01:30,380 --> 00:01:31,265
Mengele arrived.

26
00:01:31,265 --> 00:01:33,860

27
00:01:33,860 --> 00:01:40,190
And the rumors went that
they will take off out

28
00:01:40,190 --> 00:01:45,270
of Auschwitz young
and strong people.

29
00:01:45,270 --> 00:01:49,790
And I told young I am strong.

30
00:01:49,790 --> 00:01:52,450
I am, but I'm pregnant.

31
00:01:52,450 --> 00:01:57,040
How can I get out of Auschwitz?

32
00:01:57,040 --> 00:02:01,270
I had a friend of mine who
was in the [INAUDIBLE]..

33
00:02:01,270 --> 00:02:03,940

34
00:02:03,940 --> 00:02:07,060
And I told him, look.

35
00:02:07,060 --> 00:02:08,889
I can't go to the selection.

36
00:02:08,889 --> 00:02:12,670
Something tells me I
can't go to this election.

37
00:02:12,670 --> 00:02:17,140
But I want my name on the list,
which is leaving Auschwitz.

38
00:02:17,140 --> 00:02:19,360
Is it possible?

39
00:02:19,360 --> 00:02:23,530
And he told me it is possible.

40
00:02:23,530 --> 00:02:30,498
And when the selection
was, when Mengele arrived--

41
00:02:30,498 --> 00:02:32,540
It was like a selection
in the Czech family camp.

42
00:02:32,540 --> 00:02:35,900
In the Czech family camp.

43
00:02:35,900 --> 00:02:40,820
When the selection was,
when the SS arrived,

44
00:02:40,820 --> 00:02:48,590
I went up to my cot,
and I put myself

45
00:02:48,590 --> 00:02:54,770
underneath the cover
very flat so hoping

46
00:02:54,770 --> 00:02:57,710
that they will not find me.

47
00:02:57,710 --> 00:03:03,620
They ordered everybody
out of the barracks.

48
00:03:03,620 --> 00:03:08,300

And everybody had to be there
and take control number and so

49
00:03:08,300 --> 00:03:08,890
on.

50
00:03:08,890 --> 00:03:10,460
And they started
with the selection.

51
00:03:10,460 --> 00:03:12,560
It was perhaps a confusion.

52
00:03:12,560 --> 00:03:15,560
I don't know what it was.

53
00:03:15,560 --> 00:03:17,780
But my name was put on the list.

54
00:03:17,780 --> 00:03:21,890
And when SS arrived
in our block,

55
00:03:21,890 --> 00:03:26,450
and they started to
search the cots, my--

56
00:03:26,450 --> 00:03:29,990
I thought that they will
hear my heart hammering.

57
00:03:29,990 --> 00:03:32,870
But they didn't find me.

58
00:03:32,870 --> 00:03:36,560
And it was my big luck.

59
00:03:36,560 --> 00:03:41,340
They didn't climb up the cots.

60
00:03:41,340 --> 00:03:46,920
And my name was put on the list.

61
00:03:46,920 --> 00:03:53,340
And the very next day, I
with other young people,

62
00:03:53,340 --> 00:04:00,480
healthy people, left
the familienlager.

63
00:04:00,480 --> 00:04:02,580
You didn't see
Mengele this time.

64
00:04:02,580 --> 00:04:03,415
No.

65
00:04:03,415 --> 00:04:04,040
You didn't see.

66
00:04:04,040 --> 00:04:06,660

67
00:04:06,660 --> 00:04:09,780
And I left the familienlager.

68
00:04:09,780 --> 00:04:13,080
And in the
familienlager were left

69
00:04:13,080 --> 00:04:18,899
sick people, elderly people,
and all the children,

70
00:04:18,899 --> 00:04:22,740
and some young mothers
with the children.

71
00:04:22,740 --> 00:04:25,230
And they were gassed
some time later.

72
00:04:25,230 --> 00:04:28,020

And later on, they
were all gassed.

73
00:04:28,020 --> 00:04:33,050
And I remember one
case, [? Brownova. ?]

74
00:04:33,050 --> 00:04:37,760
I don't remember her surname.

75
00:04:37,760 --> 00:04:44,690
She got hold of some sleeping
pills, gave it to the child,

76
00:04:44,690 --> 00:04:52,070
to a small child, and
she smuggled her child

77
00:04:52,070 --> 00:04:56,630
to the woman's camp we came.

78
00:04:56,630 --> 00:04:59,880
And there, this child woke
up and started to cry.

79
00:04:59,880 --> 00:05:02,812
And she had to go back,
and she was gassed.

80
00:05:02,812 --> 00:05:04,340
It was a terrible tragedy.

81
00:05:04,340 --> 00:05:05,945
A beautiful blonde child.

82
00:05:05,945 --> 00:05:09,000

83
00:05:09,000 --> 00:05:12,830
We were in the women's
lager, frauenlager.

84

00:05:12,830 --> 00:05:19,610

And, again, one day we were
told we are going to work,

85

00:05:19,610 --> 00:05:21,770

to Germany.

86

00:05:21,770 --> 00:05:23,240

Nobody believed.

87

00:05:23,240 --> 00:05:25,615

From the Czech
family camp, the--

88

00:05:25,615 --> 00:05:28,340

We were transported from
the Czech family camp

89

00:05:28,340 --> 00:05:36,380

first to the women's camp,
frauenlager, of Auschwitz.

90

00:05:36,380 --> 00:05:40,730

In the meanwhile, the men
from the familienlager

91

00:05:40,730 --> 00:05:45,140

were separated and sent away.

92

00:05:45,140 --> 00:05:50,750

And we women were transferred
to the frauenlager and came--

93

00:05:50,750 --> 00:05:53,420

94

00:05:53,420 --> 00:05:56,300

and one day-- we were
there one or two days.

95

00:05:56,300 --> 00:05:58,310

I don't remember.

96

00:05:58,310 --> 00:06:02,000

And we were told selection.

97

00:06:02,000 --> 00:06:04,940

We're going to Germany.

98

00:06:04,940 --> 00:06:06,950

Nobody believed that
they're going to Germany.

99

00:06:06,950 --> 00:06:09,690

100

00:06:09,690 --> 00:06:10,550

We didn't believe.

101

00:06:10,550 --> 00:06:13,460

102

00:06:13,460 --> 00:06:24,380

But we had to get up, to
get into the [Place name]

103

00:06:24,380 --> 00:06:28,580

And we had to get
rid of our clothes.

104

00:06:28,580 --> 00:06:31,270

105

00:06:31,270 --> 00:06:35,470

And Mengele was there
and some other SS people.

106

00:06:35,470 --> 00:06:38,010

107

00:06:38,010 --> 00:06:45,990

And I saw from far
that women, all naked,

108

00:06:45,990 --> 00:06:52,170
are going between two SS.

109
00:06:52,170 --> 00:06:57,210
And there Mengele stands
and making right, left,

110
00:06:57,210 --> 00:06:59,220
right, left.

111
00:06:59,220 --> 00:07:02,160
And with his hand, he waved.

112
00:07:02,160 --> 00:07:04,230
I didn't know this--

113
00:07:04,230 --> 00:07:09,900
either life, death, life, death.

114
00:07:09,900 --> 00:07:11,430
It's very easy.

115
00:07:11,430 --> 00:07:14,140
How was he?

116
00:07:14,140 --> 00:07:15,720
How was Mengele?

117
00:07:15,720 --> 00:07:16,380
How?

118
00:07:16,380 --> 00:07:17,430
Yes.

119
00:07:17,430 --> 00:07:19,570
How did he look?

120
00:07:19,570 --> 00:07:21,180
I will tell you a
little later, OK?

121

00:07:21,180 --> 00:07:21,680
OK.

122
00:07:21,680 --> 00:07:25,730

123
00:07:25,730 --> 00:07:33,260
And, again, my instinct
told me if I'm going in

124
00:07:33,260 --> 00:07:40,250
between these two
SS, I will not leave,

125
00:07:40,250 --> 00:07:44,630
because I was into eight
months of pregnancy, big belly.

126
00:07:44,630 --> 00:07:45,890
Eight months.

127
00:07:45,890 --> 00:07:46,670
Eight months.

128
00:07:46,670 --> 00:07:49,930

129
00:07:49,930 --> 00:07:59,490
And I asked some beautiful
friends of mine, young girls,

130
00:07:59,490 --> 00:08:03,900
please stand in front
of me and behind me.

131
00:08:03,900 --> 00:08:08,610
Perhaps the man
which is in Mengele

132
00:08:08,610 --> 00:08:12,120
will not see me,
will oversee me,

133

00:08:12,120 --> 00:08:16,740

and so I can come with
you on the right side.

134

00:08:16,740 --> 00:08:21,590

I don't know which
is the right side.

135

00:08:21,590 --> 00:08:29,460

And that's what just happened,
that several beautiful girls

136

00:08:29,460 --> 00:08:31,620

were in front of me.

137

00:08:31,620 --> 00:08:38,760

And Mengele waved me to the
side with these beautiful girls.

138

00:08:38,760 --> 00:08:43,799

And I came to them
and I started to cry

139

00:08:43,799 --> 00:08:45,750

because something in me--

140

00:08:45,750 --> 00:08:48,720

I didn't know it, but
something in me told me,

141

00:08:48,720 --> 00:08:50,730

you saved your life.

142

00:08:50,730 --> 00:08:52,380

And I wanted to live.

143

00:08:52,380 --> 00:08:53,970

I wanted to live.

144

00:08:53,970 --> 00:08:56,580

I was so young.

145

00:08:56,580 --> 00:09:07,980

And we were packed into
the cattle wagons again.

146

00:09:07,980 --> 00:09:16,100

And we arrived again after the
same journey, terrible journey.

147

00:09:16,100 --> 00:09:17,790

We arrived in Hamburg.

148

00:09:17,790 --> 00:09:20,880

That's very far.

149

00:09:20,880 --> 00:09:22,010

Hamburg, Germany.

150

00:09:22,010 --> 00:09:24,810

151

00:09:24,810 --> 00:09:31,020

We are on the Amerikakai
in big warehouses.

152

00:09:31,020 --> 00:09:36,840

There were cots,
three stories of cots.

153

00:09:36,840 --> 00:09:39,180

We were put into
these warehouses.

154

00:09:39,180 --> 00:09:42,750

The very next
morning, we got up.

155

00:09:42,750 --> 00:09:47,110

Everyone got a
shovel or something.

156

00:09:47,110 --> 00:09:55,290

And we were told we have

to clean a bombed refinery,

157

00:09:55,290 --> 00:10:00,240

bombed refinery
there in Hamburg.

158

00:10:00,240 --> 00:10:04,170

And off I went with my tummy.

159

00:10:04,170 --> 00:10:13,090

And we started to clean
the bombed refinery.

160

00:10:13,090 --> 00:10:16,790

We were crawling about
around the ruins and so on.

161

00:10:16,790 --> 00:10:20,300

We were told what we had to
wear, what we have to do.

162

00:10:20,300 --> 00:10:23,520

We returned in the
evening dead tired.

163

00:10:23,520 --> 00:10:28,320

But somehow I was satisfied
I was with my friends,

164

00:10:28,320 --> 00:10:29,055

with my haverim.

165

00:10:29,055 --> 00:10:32,340

166

00:10:32,340 --> 00:10:39,450

And I asked our block elderly in
the morning or in the evening--

167

00:10:39,450 --> 00:10:44,340

I'm not sure-- don't
say if somebody asks you

168

00:10:44,340 --> 00:10:45,420

that I am pregnant.

169

00:10:45,420 --> 00:10:46,560

I'm going to work.

170

00:10:46,560 --> 00:10:48,210

We will see what will happen.

171

00:10:48,210 --> 00:10:49,500

It was a woman?

172

00:10:49,500 --> 00:10:50,760

A woman, yes.

173

00:10:50,760 --> 00:10:53,070

A Czech.

174

00:10:53,070 --> 00:10:57,990

The second day, I went to work,
and, happily, I came home.

175

00:10:57,990 --> 00:11:03,030

I think I was for three or four
days going out for work, coming

176

00:11:03,030 --> 00:11:08,100

back, and with friends
together, not thinking

177

00:11:08,100 --> 00:11:09,330

what the future will be.

178

00:11:09,330 --> 00:11:12,540

179

00:11:12,540 --> 00:11:13,355

[INAUDIBLE]

180

00:11:13,355 --> 00:11:14,390

(film slating)

181
00:11:14,390 --> 00:11:17,870

182
00:11:17,870 --> 00:11:21,920
So we went to work.

183
00:11:21,920 --> 00:11:25,190
Every day, we came
tired, tired back

184
00:11:25,190 --> 00:11:29,480
because there were
real ruins to clear up.

185
00:11:29,480 --> 00:11:30,710
And--

186
00:11:30,710 --> 00:11:33,740
It was a oil refinery
or a sugar work?

187
00:11:33,740 --> 00:11:34,680
No, oil refinery.

188
00:11:34,680 --> 00:11:35,840
Oil refinery.

189
00:11:35,840 --> 00:11:36,650
Refinery.

190
00:11:36,650 --> 00:11:41,930
And somewhere it was in
the harbor of Hamburg.

191
00:11:41,930 --> 00:11:45,170
We were taken by lorries
there and were brought back

192
00:11:45,170 --> 00:11:46,640
in the evening.

193

00:11:46,640 --> 00:11:50,630

And it was really
hard, very hard work.

194

00:11:50,630 --> 00:11:53,750

And I don't know how
many days I went to work

195

00:11:53,750 --> 00:11:57,560

and I came dead tired back.

196

00:11:57,560 --> 00:12:05,940

And somehow I was
happy with my friends

197

00:12:05,940 --> 00:12:13,710

until one morning, an SS
doctor came in and asked,

198

00:12:13,710 --> 00:12:17,790

are here sick people
on this block?

199

00:12:17,790 --> 00:12:22,260

And my block elderly,
who was very friendly

200

00:12:22,260 --> 00:12:25,320

with me and I was
very friendly with her

201

00:12:25,320 --> 00:12:31,080

There was no sick people
but two pregnant women.

202

00:12:31,080 --> 00:12:34,020

And I was so astonished.

203

00:12:34,020 --> 00:12:35,700

And I was--

204

00:12:35,700 --> 00:12:37,980

I didn't know what
to do in this moment

205
00:12:37,980 --> 00:12:42,250
because I didn't want them
to know that I am pregnant.

206
00:12:42,250 --> 00:12:43,260
I went to work.

207
00:12:43,260 --> 00:12:45,300
I didn't wanted it.

208
00:12:45,300 --> 00:12:49,860
And until this time, I didn't
know that we were two of us.

209
00:12:49,860 --> 00:13:01,900
So immediately, the SS doctor
told, you're not going to work.

210
00:13:01,900 --> 00:13:13,270
And he took us, Berta and me, to
the SS-Kommandantur in Hamburg.

211
00:13:13,270 --> 00:13:18,430
And he told that he found
two pregnant women which

212
00:13:18,430 --> 00:13:26,930
can't go on with this
hard work and that we

213
00:13:26,930 --> 00:13:31,070
have to go away from Hamburg
because all these women which

214
00:13:31,070 --> 00:13:33,530
are here have to work.

215
00:13:33,530 --> 00:13:37,760
And we are unable to work.

216

00:13:37,760 --> 00:13:41,990

Berta was also in her
eighth month of pregnancy.

217

00:13:41,990 --> 00:13:46,040

And her story, how she came to
Hamburg, was similar to mine.

218

00:13:46,040 --> 00:13:50,860

219

00:13:50,860 --> 00:13:58,960

We were asked-- that means
this SS doctor gave us

220

00:13:58,960 --> 00:14:06,950

over to another SS which had
his rifle, and on his rifle,

221

00:14:06,950 --> 00:14:08,680

he had such a bayonet.

222

00:14:08,680 --> 00:14:11,850

223

00:14:11,850 --> 00:14:19,890

And we were led to
the railway station.

224

00:14:19,890 --> 00:14:23,310

And on the railway
station, we heard that he's

225

00:14:23,310 --> 00:14:25,440

taking tickets to Ravensbruck.

226

00:14:25,440 --> 00:14:28,260

227

00:14:28,260 --> 00:14:29,770

He took tickets?

228

00:14:29,770 --> 00:14:31,460

Yes, to Ravensbruck.

229

00:14:31,460 --> 00:14:36,630

And we went in a train from
Hamburg to Ravensbruck.

230

00:14:36,630 --> 00:14:41,350

231

00:14:41,350 --> 00:14:43,375

We were given in to a--

232

00:14:43,375 --> 00:14:48,040

yeah, it was only a
women's camp, Ravensbruck.

233

00:14:48,040 --> 00:14:52,720

And we were on
the krankenrevier.

234

00:14:52,720 --> 00:14:55,150

How did you make the
trip to Ravensbruck?

235

00:14:55,150 --> 00:14:56,740

By train.

236

00:14:56,740 --> 00:14:58,170

[GERMAN]--

237

00:14:58,170 --> 00:15:03,250

[GERMAN] train and with us
the SS with the bayonet.

238

00:15:03,250 --> 00:15:07,260

Now, we had clothes.

239

00:15:07,260 --> 00:15:12,610

We had a dress
which had a cross.

240

00:15:12,610 --> 00:15:17,710
That means from another material
was sewn across in the front

241

00:15:17,710 --> 00:15:19,570
and in the back.

242

00:15:19,570 --> 00:15:23,530
And the cross
underneath was cut out

243

00:15:23,530 --> 00:15:28,220
that you couldn't put down the
cross and be in a normal dress.

244

00:15:28,220 --> 00:15:28,720
Yes?

245

00:15:28,720 --> 00:15:32,390
But it was the sign of prisoner.

246

00:15:32,390 --> 00:15:32,890
Yes?

247

00:15:32,890 --> 00:15:34,850
And of course, all people.

248

00:15:34,850 --> 00:15:41,330
We went through Berlin, on
the railway station in Berlin.

249

00:15:41,330 --> 00:15:45,070
And we were talking
Czech with Berta,

250

00:15:45,070 --> 00:15:52,930
and we saw [NON-ENGLISH],,
steps, rolling steps.

251

00:15:52,930 --> 00:15:56,020
And we thought, oh,
we will escape now.

252
00:15:56,020 --> 00:15:58,450
And on we went on
the rolling steps.

253
00:15:58,450 --> 00:16:01,840
But we forget that we have
got this prisoner sign.

254
00:16:01,840 --> 00:16:07,780
And SS started to shout, and
people upstairs were already

255
00:16:07,780 --> 00:16:09,820
waiting for us and holding us.

256
00:16:09,820 --> 00:16:13,150
And we thought we can
escape in the big Berlin

257
00:16:13,150 --> 00:16:14,440
with our bellies.

258
00:16:14,440 --> 00:16:19,690
And so we arrived
in Ravensbruck.

259
00:16:19,690 --> 00:16:21,520
And we were on
the krankenrevier.

260
00:16:21,520 --> 00:16:26,080
And one evening, they
told, all pregnant women

261
00:16:26,080 --> 00:16:29,215
has to come to a certain spot.

262
00:16:29,215 --> 00:16:31,870

263
00:16:31,870 --> 00:16:37,390

And we arrived, and we saw
several pregnant women--

264
00:16:37,390 --> 00:16:39,970
perhaps 20 they were--

265
00:16:39,970 --> 00:16:42,670
standing there.

266
00:16:42,670 --> 00:16:45,610
And it was again my
terrible instinct.

267
00:16:45,610 --> 00:16:47,980
I don't know how to tell it.

268
00:16:47,980 --> 00:16:51,880
I told Berta, I will
tell we are sisters,

269
00:16:51,880 --> 00:16:55,330
and you have got pains,
and I will stay with you.

270
00:16:55,330 --> 00:16:59,200
So very simple it was for me.

271
00:16:59,200 --> 00:17:07,390
And when we were standing with
in the heap of pregnant women,

272
00:17:07,390 --> 00:17:14,599
an SS came and told us we're
going away with a transport.

273
00:17:14,599 --> 00:17:21,040
So I told, I want to talk to the
lageralteste, to an SS woman.

274
00:17:21,040 --> 00:17:24,819
And he told me,
OK, come with me.

275

00:17:24,819 --> 00:17:27,849

And he brought me
to the lageralteste.

276

00:17:27,849 --> 00:17:31,270

277

00:17:31,270 --> 00:17:34,390

When I'm thinking today,
where did I get this

278

00:17:34,390 --> 00:17:39,790

thought, where did I get the
courage to think of things like

279

00:17:39,790 --> 00:17:40,778

this, I don't know.

280

00:17:40,778 --> 00:17:41,320

I don't know.

281

00:17:41,320 --> 00:17:44,710

It was, again, this instinct.

282

00:17:44,710 --> 00:17:47,770

I came to the lageralteste,
and I told, look here,

283

00:17:47,770 --> 00:17:51,820

we were just told that we
are leaving this night,

284

00:17:51,820 --> 00:17:55,570

but my sister is pregnant
too, and she's got pains.

285

00:17:55,570 --> 00:17:58,900

And you as a woman,
perhaps you understand

286

00:17:58,900 --> 00:18:02,530

I can't leave my sister

in this state here.

287

00:18:02,530 --> 00:18:04,630

She's got pains.

288

00:18:04,630 --> 00:18:07,630

She told-- and
she gave the order

289

00:18:07,630 --> 00:18:11,080

I am staying with my
sister on the krankenrevier

290

00:18:11,080 --> 00:18:14,140

because my sister has got pains.

291

00:18:14,140 --> 00:18:18,460

She didn't ask if it is true
that it is a sister, not

292

00:18:18,460 --> 00:18:21,530

a sister, or something.

293

00:18:21,530 --> 00:18:25,780

And we stayed overnight.

294

00:18:25,780 --> 00:18:30,220

The pregnant women went
and never appeared again.

295

00:18:30,220 --> 00:18:31,510

They went to the gas chambers.

296

00:18:31,510 --> 00:18:34,510

297

00:18:34,510 --> 00:18:35,645

The very next morning--

298

00:18:35,645 --> 00:18:38,368

299

00:18:38,368 --> 00:18:39,285

Where, in Ravensbruck?

300

00:18:39,285 --> 00:18:41,220

In Ravensbruck.

301

00:18:41,220 --> 00:18:41,720

Yes.

302

00:18:41,720 --> 00:18:42,910

There were gas chamber
in Ravensbruck?

303

00:18:42,910 --> 00:18:43,870

No, no, no, no.

304

00:18:43,870 --> 00:18:46,850

They went away by transport
to Auschwitz, to Auschwitz.

305

00:18:46,850 --> 00:18:48,830

We heard afterwards
that they were--

306

00:18:48,830 --> 00:18:52,040

that they arrived in Auschwitz.

307

00:18:52,040 --> 00:18:55,100

But we stayed overnight.

308

00:18:55,100 --> 00:18:58,370

And in the evening,
the others went.

309

00:18:58,370 --> 00:19:02,630

In the morning, the SS doctor
saw that it is not true,

310

00:19:02,630 --> 00:19:06,080

that my sister has no pains.

311

00:19:06,080 --> 00:19:09,350

But we had to disappear
from Ravensbruck.

312

00:19:09,350 --> 00:19:11,510

I don't know why.

313

00:19:11,510 --> 00:19:20,390

So the SS lagerfuhrer gave us
an SS men, again with a rifle

314

00:19:20,390 --> 00:19:25,070

and with a bayonet,
and a midwife.

315

00:19:25,070 --> 00:19:27,140

And we had to leave Ravensbruck.

316

00:19:27,140 --> 00:19:33,080

We were brought in a
car, the [GERMAN] where

317

00:19:33,080 --> 00:19:35,210

prisoners were transported.

318

00:19:35,210 --> 00:19:40,100

We both with Berta
were in a cell inside.

319

00:19:40,100 --> 00:19:42,330

And we thought, we don't
know where we're going.

320

00:19:42,330 --> 00:19:45,200

We are going-- we're
leaving Ravensbruck perhaps.

321

00:19:45,200 --> 00:19:47,480

We have no idea
where we're going.

322

00:19:47,480 --> 00:19:52,040

Out we came from this [GERMAN].

323
00:19:52,040 --> 00:19:55,160
And we were on the railway
station of Ravensbruck.

324
00:19:55,160 --> 00:20:01,700
And we heard when the
SS took four tickets

325
00:20:01,700 --> 00:20:05,570
and he told, nach Auschwitz.

326
00:20:05,570 --> 00:20:08,960
And all our world,
Berta's world and mine,

327
00:20:08,960 --> 00:20:14,330
collapsed because we have known
we escaped from Auschwitz,

328
00:20:14,330 --> 00:20:20,960
and now we're going back and
to death, because we already

329
00:20:20,960 --> 00:20:24,830
have known what is Auschwitz
and what was Auschwitz.

330
00:20:24,830 --> 00:20:26,420
No chance.

331
00:20:26,420 --> 00:20:29,490
We had to go.

332
00:20:29,490 --> 00:20:33,890
And we were sitting in the
train going to Auschwitz

333
00:20:33,890 --> 00:20:36,260
and nearing Auschwitz.

334
00:20:36,260 --> 00:20:38,660

Now you must know we had signs.

335

00:20:38,660 --> 00:20:45,530

We had a red triangle and,
over it, a yellow one.

336

00:20:45,530 --> 00:20:48,610

The yellow meant Jew.

337

00:20:48,610 --> 00:20:56,080

And with Berta, we decided
to take off the Jew triangle

338

00:20:56,080 --> 00:21:01,330

because only the red
triangle meant political.

339

00:21:01,330 --> 00:21:04,095

And we were political Jews.

340

00:21:04,095 --> 00:21:06,700

341

00:21:06,700 --> 00:21:09,120

So we took off--

342

00:21:09,120 --> 00:21:14,050

that was the only thing we
could do-- the yellow triangle.

343

00:21:14,050 --> 00:21:17,650

And we arrived the
next day dinnertime,

344

00:21:17,650 --> 00:21:23,230

and it was exactly dinnertime,
in Auschwitz with this SS

345

00:21:23,230 --> 00:21:25,780

and with the midwife.

346

00:21:25,780 --> 00:21:32,200

The SS took us to an office
where only one German officer,

347
00:21:32,200 --> 00:21:34,960
SS officer, was sitting.

348
00:21:34,960 --> 00:21:36,790
I don't know if
it was an officer.

349
00:21:36,790 --> 00:21:41,440
I think a German
soldier was sitting.

350
00:21:41,440 --> 00:21:45,140
And he told, Heil Hitler.

351
00:21:45,140 --> 00:21:48,100
I'm bringing two
pregnant women which

352
00:21:48,100 --> 00:21:50,680
not belonging to Ravensbruck.

353
00:21:50,680 --> 00:21:53,630
Because of their number,
they belonging to Auschwitz.

354
00:21:53,630 --> 00:21:55,720
So I brought them
back to Auschwitz.

355
00:21:55,720 --> 00:21:57,130
Heil Hitler.

356
00:21:57,130 --> 00:22:00,490
Turned around, off he went.

357
00:22:00,490 --> 00:22:04,750
And I told to Berta in
Czech, he has no papers.

358

00:22:04,750 --> 00:22:07,420
Nothing he had from us.

359
00:22:07,420 --> 00:22:15,020
And already this German
soldier called me, your name?

360
00:22:15,020 --> 00:22:17,440
I gave a Czech name.

361
00:22:17,440 --> 00:22:20,755
I told him Maria Svobodna.

362
00:22:20,755 --> 00:22:27,750

363
00:22:27,750 --> 00:22:29,370
[INAUDIBLE]

364
00:22:29,370 --> 00:22:30,890
(film slating)

365
00:22:30,890 --> 00:22:34,170

366
00:22:34,170 --> 00:22:39,870
So he asked me to name,
and I gave a Czech name,

367
00:22:39,870 --> 00:22:40,815
Maria Svobodna.

368
00:22:40,815 --> 00:22:43,580

369
00:22:43,580 --> 00:22:46,760
He asked me the
name of my father.

370
00:22:46,760 --> 00:22:48,560
I told a Czech name.

371

00:22:48,560 --> 00:22:50,315

I don't know any Svobodn.

372

00:22:50,315 --> 00:22:53,160

373

00:22:53,160 --> 00:22:56,770

And he asked me, father Jew?

374

00:22:56,770 --> 00:22:58,200

Told, no.

375

00:22:58,200 --> 00:22:59,415

Mother Jew?

376

00:22:59,415 --> 00:23:00,510

Told, no.

377

00:23:00,510 --> 00:23:02,460

You're not a Jew?

378

00:23:02,460 --> 00:23:05,100

I told, no.

379

00:23:05,100 --> 00:23:12,000

And he called my friend,
and she just made the same--

380

00:23:12,000 --> 00:23:16,530

she gave a false name,
because we had no names.

381

00:23:16,530 --> 00:23:19,200

We were cattle, numbered cattle.

382

00:23:19,200 --> 00:23:21,580

No names at all.

383

00:23:21,580 --> 00:23:27,090

But there was no chance
through the number they found?

384
00:23:27,090 --> 00:23:29,640
There was, of course, a chance.

385
00:23:29,640 --> 00:23:32,940
But I just took the
chance because I

386
00:23:32,940 --> 00:23:36,330
saw in the face of
this soldier, he

387
00:23:36,330 --> 00:23:42,420
was such a very simple
man without any power.

388
00:23:42,420 --> 00:23:47,280
And we just-- and I just told
you we arrived dinnertime,

389
00:23:47,280 --> 00:23:49,660
and there was nobody
there, only he.

390
00:23:49,660 --> 00:23:53,140
I think the other
ones were just eating.

391
00:23:53,140 --> 00:23:55,920
So we took the chance.

392
00:23:55,920 --> 00:23:57,840
It was nothing.

393
00:23:57,840 --> 00:24:01,140
And he called for an [GERMAN].

394
00:24:01,140 --> 00:24:05,100
That means a man who
had to accompany us.

395
00:24:05,100 --> 00:24:08,400

And he told, frauenlager.

396

00:24:08,400 --> 00:24:13,470

The moment he told
frauenlager, I thought--

397

00:24:13,470 --> 00:24:16,860

we were talking Czech together,
so nobody-- with Berta.

398

00:24:16,860 --> 00:24:20,640

So I told, we will live, Berta.

399

00:24:20,640 --> 00:24:23,820

We're not going to the death.

400

00:24:23,820 --> 00:24:27,450

We're going to the frauenlager.

401

00:24:27,450 --> 00:24:31,980

It was every time a hope,
and the will of living

402

00:24:31,980 --> 00:24:34,200

was so very strong.

403

00:24:34,200 --> 00:24:38,450

We were only
thinking how to live,

404

00:24:38,450 --> 00:24:42,780

how to come over all of this.

405

00:24:42,780 --> 00:24:47,400

We came to the frauenlager, and
we were a very big sensation

406

00:24:47,400 --> 00:24:51,480

because we were the first
people who arrived back

407

00:24:51,480 --> 00:24:56,550

from a transport who ever left
Auschwitz, because we didn't

408
00:24:56,550 --> 00:24:59,790
believe that the transports
leaving Auschwitz

409
00:24:59,790 --> 00:25:02,620
has a destination.

410
00:25:02,620 --> 00:25:04,740
So nobody in
Auschwitz believed it.

411
00:25:04,740 --> 00:25:09,330
And we were the first living
witnesses who came back.

412
00:25:09,330 --> 00:25:11,700
And we told, yes,
we were in Hamburg,

413
00:25:11,700 --> 00:25:14,700
and we were working in Hamburg.

414
00:25:14,700 --> 00:25:18,660
And we just came back.

415
00:25:18,660 --> 00:25:22,620
And it spread it
over the frauenlager.

416
00:25:22,620 --> 00:25:26,430
We were such a
sensation that Mengele

417
00:25:26,430 --> 00:25:29,220
heard about the sensation.

418
00:25:29,220 --> 00:25:31,590
And in he came to see us.

419

00:25:31,590 --> 00:25:34,140

420

00:25:34,140 --> 00:25:36,450

And he called us.

421

00:25:36,450 --> 00:25:40,050

And he started to shout,
how is it possible

422

00:25:40,050 --> 00:25:43,290

that I didn't see
two pregnant women?

423

00:25:43,290 --> 00:25:48,600

Where were you when I--

424

00:25:48,600 --> 00:25:52,350

he didn't use the word
selection, [GERMAN]----

425

00:25:52,350 --> 00:25:56,760

when I was picking
up people for work?

426

00:25:56,760 --> 00:25:59,040

How did he say it in German?

427

00:25:59,040 --> 00:25:59,850

In German.

428

00:25:59,850 --> 00:26:01,150

What did he say in German?

429

00:26:01,150 --> 00:26:02,550

[SPEAKING GERMAN]

430

00:26:02,550 --> 00:26:06,450

431

00:26:06,450 --> 00:26:14,010

And he just couldn't get

it that he didn't see us.

432
00:26:14,010 --> 00:26:17,160

433
00:26:17,160 --> 00:26:23,825
And he told, OK,
you will give birth.

434
00:26:23,825 --> 00:26:25,860
[SPEAKING GERMAN]

435
00:26:25,860 --> 00:26:28,350

436
00:26:28,350 --> 00:26:32,460
Give birth, and
then you will see.

437
00:26:32,460 --> 00:26:34,860
He came each day.

438
00:26:34,860 --> 00:26:38,730
He very charming man.

439
00:26:38,730 --> 00:26:44,700
And he talked
several words with us

440
00:26:44,700 --> 00:26:48,210
about I don't know which things.

441
00:26:48,210 --> 00:26:50,730
But how you feeling?

442
00:26:50,730 --> 00:26:51,880
What you doing?

443
00:26:51,880 --> 00:26:54,030
And so on.

444

00:26:54,030 --> 00:26:55,500
How was he?

445
00:26:55,500 --> 00:26:57,720
I heard that he
was a handsome man.

446
00:26:57,720 --> 00:27:01,650
He was attractive, very
attractive, very charming,

447
00:27:01,650 --> 00:27:05,220
very good manners.

448
00:27:05,220 --> 00:27:06,150
He was tall?

449
00:27:06,150 --> 00:27:07,260
He was small?

450
00:27:07,260 --> 00:27:12,780
No, he was middle size.

451
00:27:12,780 --> 00:27:13,740
He was not tall.

452
00:27:13,740 --> 00:27:14,640
He was not small.

453
00:27:14,640 --> 00:27:18,090
But he made a very good
impression in his uniform.

454
00:27:18,090 --> 00:27:20,848
And he was very self-conscious--

455
00:27:20,848 --> 00:27:21,390
He was young?

456
00:27:21,390 --> 00:27:23,040
--very secure.

457

00:27:23,040 --> 00:27:23,665

Was young?

458

00:27:23,665 --> 00:27:24,490

Young.

459

00:27:24,490 --> 00:27:24,990

Yes.

460

00:27:24,990 --> 00:27:28,570

461

00:27:28,570 --> 00:27:31,870

And, of course, we heard
Mengele, and we were afraid.

462

00:27:31,870 --> 00:27:33,490

We were very afraid of him.

463

00:27:33,490 --> 00:27:41,800

And my tongue was
somehow stiff, and I only

464

00:27:41,800 --> 00:27:47,020

answered on his questions.

465

00:27:47,020 --> 00:27:51,960

He came every day to
visit us and to see us.

466

00:27:51,960 --> 00:27:55,680

We were in the krankenrevier
of the frauenlager.

467

00:27:55,680 --> 00:27:58,950

468

00:27:58,950 --> 00:28:02,660

And one day in the afternoon,
I started with my pains.

469

00:28:02,660 --> 00:28:04,005
I didn't know they were pains.

470
00:28:04,005 --> 00:28:08,550
I thought I ate something
because nobody told me.

471
00:28:08,550 --> 00:28:13,050
I had nobody to explain me.

472
00:28:13,050 --> 00:28:15,870
And the pains in the
afternoon went stronger

473
00:28:15,870 --> 00:28:16,960
and stronger and stronger.

474
00:28:16,960 --> 00:28:20,720

475
00:28:20,720 --> 00:28:27,560
And in this krankenrevier was
a midwife, a Polish midwife.

476
00:28:27,560 --> 00:28:34,730
And she saw me, and she
took a cover and put it--

477
00:28:34,730 --> 00:28:37,730
in the blocks, there
was such an oven

478
00:28:37,730 --> 00:28:39,360
from one side to the other.

479
00:28:39,360 --> 00:28:40,400
And in the middle was--

480
00:28:40,400 --> 00:28:43,460

481
00:28:43,460 --> 00:28:45,770

I don't know.

482

00:28:45,770 --> 00:28:49,280

You could sit on it like a
bench, a very, very, very long

483

00:28:49,280 --> 00:28:51,650

bench through the whole block.

484

00:28:51,650 --> 00:28:56,900

She put a cover on it,
told me to lay down.

485

00:28:56,900 --> 00:29:01,490

And she started to pray
the rosenkranz near me.

486

00:29:01,490 --> 00:29:06,450

And the pains when
stronger and stronger.

487

00:29:06,450 --> 00:29:12,230

And I gave birth this night
to a beautiful girl, very big.

488

00:29:12,230 --> 00:29:15,580

489

00:29:15,580 --> 00:29:18,610

She helped me.

490

00:29:18,610 --> 00:29:22,690

There was no cotton wool.

491

00:29:22,690 --> 00:29:26,860

There was no boiling water.

492

00:29:26,860 --> 00:29:29,260

There was nothing.

493

00:29:29,260 --> 00:29:31,735

I laid in my own dirt.

494
00:29:31,735 --> 00:29:34,290

495
00:29:34,290 --> 00:29:35,740
The baby was born.

496
00:29:35,740 --> 00:29:38,560

497
00:29:38,560 --> 00:29:43,240
And from somewhere, she
took off some linen--

498
00:29:43,240 --> 00:29:45,370
I don't know where she got it--

499
00:29:45,370 --> 00:29:48,420
and put the baby
into the cot near me.

500
00:29:48,420 --> 00:29:53,140

501
00:29:53,140 --> 00:30:02,470
And in the morning, Mengele
came and told, this woman,

502
00:30:02,470 --> 00:30:07,830
you have to put a
bandage over her breast.

503
00:30:07,830 --> 00:30:09,340
She mustn't feed the baby.

504
00:30:09,340 --> 00:30:12,460
I want to see how long can
a baby live without food.

505
00:30:12,460 --> 00:30:16,060

506

00:30:16,060 --> 00:30:19,570

And my breasts were bound.

507

00:30:19,570 --> 00:30:25,040

And the baby was
near me, crying.

508

00:30:25,040 --> 00:30:26,950

It was hungry.

509

00:30:26,950 --> 00:30:29,440

And I got the soup.

510

00:30:29,440 --> 00:30:33,460

And I took off a little
piece of the linen

511

00:30:33,460 --> 00:30:39,190

and took a little piece of
bread, put it into the soup,

512

00:30:39,190 --> 00:30:42,730

put it into the linen, and put
it into the mouth of my child

513

00:30:42,730 --> 00:30:44,020

because the child was hungry.

514

00:30:44,020 --> 00:30:47,080

515

00:30:47,080 --> 00:30:49,035

And this went on
for several days.

516

00:30:49,035 --> 00:30:51,910

517

00:30:51,910 --> 00:30:55,540

I got high temperature
running because I

518

00:30:55,540 --> 00:30:58,960

was swollen with milk, and I
couldn't breast feed my baby.

519

00:30:58,960 --> 00:31:03,870

520

00:31:03,870 --> 00:31:12,270

Every day, Mengele came to
see and to make his research.

521

00:31:12,270 --> 00:31:14,850

How long can a baby
live without food?

522

00:31:14,850 --> 00:31:18,610

523

00:31:18,610 --> 00:31:22,260

And as I told, no cotton wool.

524

00:31:22,260 --> 00:31:25,410

It was terrible
how we were laying

525

00:31:25,410 --> 00:31:29,450

in our own dirt, both of us.

526

00:31:29,450 --> 00:31:33,120

The baby started to be
skinny and more skinny

527

00:31:33,120 --> 00:31:40,050

and got [? edems. ?] It
was a terrible sight.

528

00:31:40,050 --> 00:31:47,670

The next day, when
Mengele came, so he told,

529

00:31:47,670 --> 00:31:51,570

tomorrow morning at 8:00, you

will be ready with your child.

530

00:31:51,570 --> 00:31:52,860

I'm coming to fetch you.

531

00:31:52,860 --> 00:31:56,170

532

00:31:56,170 --> 00:32:00,390

And I've known where

he's going to fetch me.

533

00:32:00,390 --> 00:32:03,270

He's taking us to

the gas chambers.

534

00:32:03,270 --> 00:32:04,930

And I didn't want

to live anymore.

535

00:32:04,930 --> 00:32:06,060

It was terrible.

536

00:32:06,060 --> 00:32:08,280

I couldn't bear it anymore.

537

00:32:08,280 --> 00:32:14,865

And somehow I was glad that

I'm escaping this misery.

538

00:32:14,865 --> 00:32:18,540

539

00:32:18,540 --> 00:32:23,190

And in the evening when

the lights went off,

540

00:32:23,190 --> 00:32:26,550

it started to be night, I

know it will be my last night,

541

00:32:26,550 --> 00:32:29,340

and my child
couldn't cry anymore.

542
00:32:29,340 --> 00:32:32,290
I thought she was--

543
00:32:32,290 --> 00:32:33,330
it was terrible.

544
00:32:33,330 --> 00:32:37,200
I can hear the voice, the noise.

545
00:32:37,200 --> 00:32:38,910
It was not a voice even.

546
00:32:38,910 --> 00:32:41,760

547
00:32:41,760 --> 00:32:46,620
And I started to cry
because I know tomorrow I'm

548
00:32:46,620 --> 00:32:48,335
going to die with my child.

549
00:32:48,335 --> 00:32:51,120

550
00:32:51,120 --> 00:32:53,130
The lights went
off, and I started

551
00:32:53,130 --> 00:32:59,210
to scream, because at night
everything is terrible.

552
00:32:59,210 --> 00:33:03,500
And a doctor came to
me, a woman doctor.

553
00:33:03,500 --> 00:33:05,270
Why are you screaming?

554

00:33:05,270 --> 00:33:09,260

And I told, I'm going
to die tomorrow.

555

00:33:09,260 --> 00:33:11,990

She told, oh, it's you
who returned from Hamburg?

556

00:33:11,990 --> 00:33:14,750

I told her, yes,
I'm going tomorrow.

557

00:33:14,750 --> 00:33:16,430

Mengele is coming to fetch me.

558

00:33:16,430 --> 00:33:19,380

559

00:33:19,380 --> 00:33:24,740

And she told, I must
do something for you.

560

00:33:24,740 --> 00:33:32,000

She came back half an hour
later with an injection needle.

561

00:33:32,000 --> 00:33:34,760

And she told me, give
this to your child.

562

00:33:34,760 --> 00:33:37,480

I thought, what is it?

563

00:33:37,480 --> 00:33:44,430