

1

00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:40,870

2

00:00:40,870 --> 00:00:44,960

You were speaking about
your experiences--

3

00:00:44,960 --> 00:00:47,370

The Bound Brook high
school and I made the tape

4

00:00:47,370 --> 00:00:49,980

for my friend's son.

5

00:00:49,980 --> 00:00:51,960

And he took it into
his class and then

6

00:00:51,960 --> 00:00:55,320

he wanted to know when
did I start to speak.

7

00:00:55,320 --> 00:00:59,100

I had a long talk with myself,
a lot of soul searching,

8

00:00:59,100 --> 00:01:05,820

and I said I cannot let the
world not know what went on.

9

00:01:05,820 --> 00:01:09,240

No matter how it tortures
me and how it kills me.

10

00:01:09,240 --> 00:01:11,430

I owe it to the ones
who didn't survive.

11

00:01:11,430 --> 00:01:16,260

I feel like my fellow survivor
[INAUDIBLE] myself feels.

12

00:01:16,260 --> 00:01:17,470

I have to do it.

13

00:01:17,470 --> 00:01:21,760

I cannot expect people who
were not there to do it for me.

14

00:01:21,760 --> 00:01:23,510

So I do-- it's not easy.

15

00:01:23,510 --> 00:01:25,230

I have nightmares
the night before.

16

00:01:25,230 --> 00:01:27,790

I had terrible nightmares
[? less ?] [INAUDIBLE]

17

00:01:27,790 --> 00:01:29,700

when I was coming here.

18

00:01:29,700 --> 00:01:34,320

But I know I have to, as
long as I'm alive and as long

19

00:01:34,320 --> 00:01:38,881

as I'm wanted, I will
go and speak about it.

20

00:01:38,881 --> 00:01:41,930

There is more than
just that reason.

21

00:01:41,930 --> 00:01:45,225

The revisionists that
are coming, that are out,

22

00:01:45,225 --> 00:01:49,950

are trying to deny that the
Holocaust never happened.

23

00:01:49,950 --> 00:01:53,130

It's easy for a professor
to sit down or for a writer

24
00:01:53,130 --> 00:02:00,540
write a book, but if I go into
a classroom or to a adult group

25
00:02:00,540 --> 00:02:04,500
and say, "Don't tell me the
Holocaust never happened."

26
00:02:04,500 --> 00:02:07,620
If you could put me
back to the age of 14,

27
00:02:07,620 --> 00:02:12,450
if you could give me back my
home, my parents, my education,

28
00:02:12,450 --> 00:02:17,040
my health, then you could tell
me that the Holocaust never

29
00:02:17,040 --> 00:02:19,110
happened, but not until then.

30
00:02:19,110 --> 00:02:21,560
This is why the
urgency is there.

31
00:02:21,560 --> 00:02:24,550
That I would hope and
pray that more and more

32
00:02:24,550 --> 00:02:29,130
of my fellow survivors will
come out, and speak, and tell

33
00:02:29,130 --> 00:02:31,340
their story.

34
00:02:31,340 --> 00:02:36,970
On the campuses, anti-Semitism

is rampant again.

35

00:02:36,970 --> 00:02:39,880

36

00:02:39,880 --> 00:02:46,780

The skinheads are confronting survivors, including myself.

37

00:02:46,780 --> 00:02:50,740

I was speaking at [? Manual ?]
High School one day

38

00:02:50,740 --> 00:02:52,780

and a teacher did
not tell me, until I

39

00:02:52,780 --> 00:02:55,420

was walking into the
classroom, that Mrs. Feldman

40

00:02:55,420 --> 00:03:00,350

I have a couple of skinheads
and I hope they will behave.

41

00:03:00,350 --> 00:03:02,170

How do you prepare yourself?

42

00:03:02,170 --> 00:03:06,740

I just went in, started
my presentation, gave it,

43

00:03:06,740 --> 00:03:09,760

and when I'm
speaking to students

44

00:03:09,760 --> 00:03:13,300

the most important part
is the personal one on one

45

00:03:13,300 --> 00:03:16,190

"question and answer" period.

46

00:03:16,190 --> 00:03:20,020

So I asked the
teachers to allow me

47

00:03:20,020 --> 00:03:22,030

so much time for
each presentation.

48

00:03:22,030 --> 00:03:23,830

That's very important.

49

00:03:23,830 --> 00:03:27,610

And lo' and behold,
one of the skinheads

50

00:03:27,610 --> 00:03:32,110

got up and says to
me, "I'm a skinhead.

51

00:03:32,110 --> 00:03:34,600

Are you afraid of me?"

52

00:03:34,600 --> 00:03:39,810

And I looked him in the face and
I said, "I'm only afraid of God

53

00:03:39,810 --> 00:03:41,890

and you are not God."

54

00:03:41,890 --> 00:03:44,500

And he slithered
into his seat and he

55

00:03:44,500 --> 00:03:45,880

had no more questions for me.

56

00:03:45,880 --> 00:03:48,010

He sat there quietly
and listened to the rest

57

00:03:48,010 --> 00:03:49,790

of answer and question period.

58
00:03:49,790 --> 00:03:52,600
Of course, this was
very unique, you know.

59
00:03:52,600 --> 00:03:56,500
I mean, could you go
into a group of skinheads

60
00:03:56,500 --> 00:03:57,520
and confront them?

61
00:03:57,520 --> 00:04:00,050

62
00:04:00,050 --> 00:04:02,470
I don't think
anyone could expect,

63
00:04:02,470 --> 00:04:06,100
from a survivor especially,
to go into any groups

64
00:04:06,100 --> 00:04:09,490
and confront them on one on one.

65
00:04:09,490 --> 00:04:13,870
You could talk about it, teach
about it, lecture about it,

66
00:04:13,870 --> 00:04:17,350
and hope that it will sink
into the ones who are listening

67
00:04:17,350 --> 00:04:22,100
and they will confront
their fellow skinheads

68
00:04:22,100 --> 00:04:23,990
or revisionists.

69
00:04:23,990 --> 00:04:27,050

There was an episode
right here in Plainfield,

70
00:04:27,050 --> 00:04:29,090
I don't know if you
heard of it or not,

71
00:04:29,090 --> 00:04:33,500
that revisionists
got into the library

72
00:04:33,500 --> 00:04:37,520
and into the books
he put leaflets

73
00:04:37,520 --> 00:04:39,400
without the
librarians knowledge.

74
00:04:39,400 --> 00:04:41,690
And as the students would
take out books to read

75
00:04:41,690 --> 00:04:43,440
they would take it home.

76
00:04:43,440 --> 00:04:47,800
There were the anti-Semitic--

77
00:04:47,800 --> 00:04:50,770
[INAUDIBLE] were 64 questions
pertaining that the Holocaust

78
00:04:50,770 --> 00:04:53,620
never happened.

79
00:04:53,620 --> 00:04:57,040
This is the important
reason why survivors

80
00:04:57,040 --> 00:05:01,540
have to get up and have to
speak and tell their stories.

81
00:05:01,540 --> 00:05:04,870
I'm not saying my story cause
I want anyone's sympathy

82
00:05:04,870 --> 00:05:06,100
or anyone's pity.

83
00:05:06,100 --> 00:05:07,360
Never ever.

84
00:05:07,360 --> 00:05:08,890
I don't want that.

85
00:05:08,890 --> 00:05:13,670
I just want the world to
really know what has happened.

86
00:05:13,670 --> 00:05:15,970
And as long as the
survivors are alive

87
00:05:15,970 --> 00:05:18,490
we could tell it
person to person.

88
00:05:18,490 --> 00:05:21,040
Once we are gone,
thank God for people

89
00:05:21,040 --> 00:05:23,770
like you two who take
your time and energy

90
00:05:23,770 --> 00:05:28,510
and devote it to make
tapes and teach it.

91
00:05:28,510 --> 00:05:34,720
And it will continue to go on
the teaching of what really

92

00:05:34,720 --> 00:05:37,996
happened during the Holocaust.

93
00:05:37,996 --> 00:05:39,940
What about the
question, Margaret,

94
00:05:39,940 --> 00:05:42,700
of your own faith,
your own belief?

95
00:05:42,700 --> 00:05:44,110
Was it--

96
00:05:44,110 --> 00:05:45,590
Never wavered.

97
00:05:45,590 --> 00:05:46,480
Never.

98
00:05:46,480 --> 00:05:51,820
My husband would question me,
in the beginning especially.

99
00:05:51,820 --> 00:05:53,290
How can you go to shul?

100
00:05:53,290 --> 00:05:55,540
How can you want to
have a kosher home?

101
00:05:55,540 --> 00:05:59,185
How can you stand there
and daven and fast all day

102
00:05:59,185 --> 00:05:59,950
in Yom Kippur?

103
00:05:59,950 --> 00:06:02,472
What you went through?

104
00:06:02,472 --> 00:06:04,180

I think that's what
kept me going though.

105
00:06:04,180 --> 00:06:06,970

106
00:06:06,970 --> 00:06:11,560
I am a believer in God and
I think, without his help,

107
00:06:11,560 --> 00:06:13,930
I wouldn't be here today.

108
00:06:13,930 --> 00:06:16,330
I'm also one of
the chosen people

109
00:06:16,330 --> 00:06:21,670
and this was my plight to
suffer through the Holocaust.

110
00:06:21,670 --> 00:06:22,840
I survived.

111
00:06:22,840 --> 00:06:25,150
I question that many of times.

112
00:06:25,150 --> 00:06:27,190
I feel guilty a
lot that I'm here

113
00:06:27,190 --> 00:06:29,590
and my loved ones are not here.

114
00:06:29,590 --> 00:06:33,460
To be in a free country such
as I live, to have my children.

115
00:06:33,460 --> 00:06:36,700
It's difficult in the bar
mitzvahs, and the bas mitzvahs,

116

00:06:36,700 --> 00:06:39,100
and the weddings,
and the [INAUDIBLE]..

117
00:06:39,100 --> 00:06:41,350
How do you tell a child you
don't have a grandmother,

118
00:06:41,350 --> 00:06:43,630
you don't have a grandfather,
you don't have an aunt,

119
00:06:43,630 --> 00:06:47,020
you don't have an uncle
from your mother's side?

120
00:06:47,020 --> 00:06:51,500
These are the deep ones
that will never heal.

121
00:06:51,500 --> 00:06:52,000
Never.

122
00:06:52,000 --> 00:06:54,990

123
00:06:54,990 --> 00:07:03,140
I went back in 1972 to Hungary
after a lot of soul searching.

124
00:07:03,140 --> 00:07:04,880
Why did I go back?

125
00:07:04,880 --> 00:07:09,020
Cause my father's brother
who survived was still living

126
00:07:09,020 --> 00:07:11,280
and he didn't want to
come out to America.

127
00:07:11,280 --> 00:07:15,410
I wanted to send affidavit

and money and everything,

128

00:07:15,410 --> 00:07:16,460

he didn't want to come.

129

00:07:16,460 --> 00:07:18,560

I find out later why.

130

00:07:18,560 --> 00:07:21,860

So I saved up enough
money and my husband

131

00:07:21,860 --> 00:07:25,910

and I closed our business and
we went away for three weeks.

132

00:07:25,910 --> 00:07:27,980

We went to Hungary and Israel.

133

00:07:27,980 --> 00:07:31,190

That's the first time we
went [INAUDIBLE] into Europe.

134

00:07:31,190 --> 00:07:33,080

My daughter was 15.

135

00:07:33,080 --> 00:07:34,530

My son was almost 13.

136

00:07:34,530 --> 00:07:38,890

So they were old
enough to understand.

137

00:07:38,890 --> 00:07:44,730

On the flight into
Switzerland I was fine.

138

00:07:44,730 --> 00:07:48,270

Once I had to change and go
on the Hungarian aeroplane

139

00:07:48,270 --> 00:07:53,310

in Switzerland I became a
little bit of a basket case.

140
00:07:53,310 --> 00:07:57,030
I said far and back
on the airplane.

141
00:07:57,030 --> 00:07:59,550
I didn't want to get off
the aeroplane [INAUDIBLE]

142
00:07:59,550 --> 00:08:00,960
in Budapest.

143
00:08:00,960 --> 00:08:04,512
My [INAUDIBLE] had a hard
time getting me off it.

144
00:08:04,512 --> 00:08:06,610
I did get off it
because of my children.

145
00:08:06,610 --> 00:08:10,470
[INAUDIBLE] that you don't show
your children as much as you

146
00:08:10,470 --> 00:08:13,260
save them from any hurt.

147
00:08:13,260 --> 00:08:16,380
I went on the bus because
the aeroplane stays far out

148
00:08:16,380 --> 00:08:21,630
at the airport in Budapest
then you bus into the terminal.

149
00:08:21,630 --> 00:08:24,550
Once again, I sat on the
bus all the way in the back.

150
00:08:24,550 --> 00:08:26,820
And as the bus was

coming to that terminal,

151

00:08:26,820 --> 00:08:30,780

although I never was at
the airport in Budapest

152

00:08:30,780 --> 00:08:34,710

because I never flew as a
child, but my uncle was there up

153

00:08:34,710 --> 00:08:37,860

on a balcony with his
wife and I looked up there

154

00:08:37,860 --> 00:08:44,070

as the bus was passing and I
saw my father standing there.

155

00:08:44,070 --> 00:08:47,630

Now I tried to
control myself because

156

00:08:47,630 --> 00:08:49,400

of my husband and my child--

157

00:08:49,400 --> 00:08:53,180

children and my husband really
didn't want to go to Hungary.

158

00:08:53,180 --> 00:08:55,530

He was afraid something
was going to happen to me

159

00:08:55,530 --> 00:08:58,250

and I forced the issue.

160

00:08:58,250 --> 00:09:02,460

But with some crying on
the bus and developing it

161

00:09:02,460 --> 00:09:04,160

into a terrible
migrant headache I

162
00:09:04,160 --> 00:09:06,365
remember I did get off the bus.

163
00:09:06,365 --> 00:09:13,150
I had a very, very long
crying reunion with my uncle.

164
00:09:13,150 --> 00:09:18,100
[INAUDIBLE] into the
hotel in Budapest.

165
00:09:18,100 --> 00:09:19,735
I had two rooms reserved.

166
00:09:19,735 --> 00:09:22,720
One for my children
and one for me.

167
00:09:22,720 --> 00:09:27,440
I wouldn't let those kids go
out of my room for nothing.

168
00:09:27,440 --> 00:09:28,990
They had to sleep in my room.

169
00:09:28,990 --> 00:09:32,770
I wouldn't leave
them out of my sight.

170
00:09:32,770 --> 00:09:36,160
I remember my uncle the next
day getting the chambermaid

171
00:09:36,160 --> 00:09:39,640
to open my room before
we were awakened.

172
00:09:39,640 --> 00:09:43,090
Sneaking in, sitting down
at the edge of the bed,

173

00:09:43,090 --> 00:09:45,790
and just looking down the
four of us in one bed.

174
00:09:45,790 --> 00:09:49,720
Crying and just soothing
my children's legs.

175
00:09:49,720 --> 00:09:56,250
What must have gone through
him was just unbelievable.

176
00:09:56,250 --> 00:10:02,240
I hired a driver to go to
the outskirts of Deutschland

177
00:10:02,240 --> 00:10:04,820
to show my children
exactly where I lived

178
00:10:04,820 --> 00:10:07,580
and to go to carry the rose
to the cemetery for my two

179
00:10:07,580 --> 00:10:08,480
grandfathers.

180
00:10:08,480 --> 00:10:11,550

181
00:10:11,550 --> 00:10:15,090
And I was put myself into
a more and more depression

182
00:10:15,090 --> 00:10:16,560
as I went along.

183
00:10:16,560 --> 00:10:20,100
We stopped in one
place called Miskolc,

184
00:10:20,100 --> 00:10:24,240
which is the second biggest

city next to Budapest.

185
00:10:24,240 --> 00:10:27,300
My father used to go there a
lot to buy stuff for the store

186
00:10:27,300 --> 00:10:30,210
and used to take
me with him, and I

187
00:10:30,210 --> 00:10:32,100
wanted to go into
a couple of stores

188
00:10:32,100 --> 00:10:36,210
and buy some, of all things,
embroidered tablecloths.

189
00:10:36,210 --> 00:10:38,610
So my daughter should
have in her trousseau

190
00:10:38,610 --> 00:10:41,980
when she gets to be a bride.

191
00:10:41,980 --> 00:10:45,280
We went into the certain store
that my father used to go.

192
00:10:45,280 --> 00:10:46,090
Torture.

193
00:10:46,090 --> 00:10:47,010
I tortured myself.

194
00:10:47,010 --> 00:10:47,760
That's what I did.

195
00:10:47,760 --> 00:10:51,000

196
00:10:51,000 --> 00:10:54,060

I had to be a translator
between two languages,

197
00:10:54,060 --> 00:10:56,080
and I had to make sure
that my husband, who

198
00:10:56,080 --> 00:11:03,480
is very open-minded and likes
to talk and ask questions,

199
00:11:03,480 --> 00:11:05,610
make sure that he
doesn't ask anything

200
00:11:05,610 --> 00:11:07,770
or says anything against
the Hungarian government.

201
00:11:07,770 --> 00:11:09,820
My driver I didn't trust.

202
00:11:09,820 --> 00:11:14,250
You know, you have
to be careful.

203
00:11:14,250 --> 00:11:15,810
And when I came
back, my son didn't

204
00:11:15,810 --> 00:11:18,270
want to come shopping
so I stayed on the van

205
00:11:18,270 --> 00:11:23,010
with the driver and my aunt,
and my uncle, and my daughter,

206
00:11:23,010 --> 00:11:23,670
and my husband.

207
00:11:23,670 --> 00:11:24,690
And I went.

208

00:11:24,690 --> 00:11:28,410

When we came back, of course my
son couldn't sit long enough,

209

00:11:28,410 --> 00:11:34,857

wandered off the bus with my
aunt, and found the synagogue.

210

00:11:34,857 --> 00:11:36,440

This was the synagogue
where my father

211

00:11:36,440 --> 00:11:39,700

went davening quite a bit.

212

00:11:39,700 --> 00:11:44,250

And my uncle said, well, your
aunt will stay with the driver

213

00:11:44,250 --> 00:11:46,250

and take him for a cup
of coffee because I don't

214

00:11:46,250 --> 00:11:48,530

want him to see that I'm
Jewish that I'm taking you

215

00:11:48,530 --> 00:11:50,120

to synagogue.

216

00:11:50,120 --> 00:11:51,800

This was in '72.

217

00:11:51,800 --> 00:11:53,892

OK.

218

00:11:53,892 --> 00:11:55,350

I said, I don't
care how you do it,

219

00:11:55,350 --> 00:11:59,180

but as long I find- my son
find it and he wants to go,

220
00:11:59,180 --> 00:12:00,500
I have to go.

221
00:12:00,500 --> 00:12:03,800
This was just before
his bar mitzvah.

222
00:12:03,800 --> 00:12:08,220
We went into the synagogue
to find a [? shammash. ?]

223
00:12:08,220 --> 00:12:10,830
Everything became blurry
to me but my son walked

224
00:12:10,830 --> 00:12:13,140
into that synagogue
and got on that bema

225
00:12:13,140 --> 00:12:17,080
and started to belt out any
prayer that he remembered.

226
00:12:17,080 --> 00:12:20,015
He was not far from
his bar mitzvah,

227
00:12:20,015 --> 00:12:21,390
and the [? shammash ?]
and whoever

228
00:12:21,390 --> 00:12:23,925
was around had
tears in their eyes

229
00:12:23,925 --> 00:12:25,742
that Judaism is still living on.

230
00:12:25,742 --> 00:12:26,325
It was unreal.

231
00:12:26,325 --> 00:12:29,220

232
00:12:29,220 --> 00:12:34,430
I had a good cry
and lot of memories

233
00:12:34,430 --> 00:12:36,480
came flashing back to me.

234
00:12:36,480 --> 00:12:40,070
We went back under, then,
and drove into the town

235
00:12:40,070 --> 00:12:43,400
where I actually lived.

236
00:12:43,400 --> 00:12:45,680
First, we went to
my father's hometown

237
00:12:45,680 --> 00:12:47,770
and went to the cemetery.

238
00:12:47,770 --> 00:12:50,870
And my uncle takes
me to this place,

239
00:12:50,870 --> 00:12:53,050
there's no gravestones
or nothing,

240
00:12:53,050 --> 00:12:56,000
and he looks up at
the sun and he says,

241
00:12:56,000 --> 00:12:57,950
"This is where your
grandfather's grave

242
00:12:57,950 --> 00:12:58,790

used to be."

243

00:12:58,790 --> 00:13:00,740

It's completely level.

244

00:13:00,740 --> 00:13:03,140

I couldn't argue with him.

245

00:13:03,140 --> 00:13:07,000

I said my kaddish,
said my prayers.

246

00:13:07,000 --> 00:13:11,930

Now people from the town came
out from their little houses

247

00:13:11,930 --> 00:13:15,500

and took me for my
father's sister.

248

00:13:15,500 --> 00:13:16,640

I looked a lot like her.

249

00:13:16,640 --> 00:13:21,020

She's a very good looking woman,
except she had darker hair.

250

00:13:21,020 --> 00:13:26,330

And of course I had to tell him,
"No, I am Joseph's daughter."

251

00:13:26,330 --> 00:13:29,330

I didn't want to have
any contact with them.

252

00:13:29,330 --> 00:13:30,890

I felt they didn't help.

253

00:13:30,890 --> 00:13:34,730

They didn't try to help us
when our chips were down.

254

00:13:34,730 --> 00:13:37,580
So I got back into the van.

255
00:13:37,580 --> 00:13:39,470
They were coming with
a bouquet of flowers.

256
00:13:39,470 --> 00:13:46,050
I remember just ending it and
I just couldn't be bothered.

257
00:13:46,050 --> 00:13:48,650
We went into the
town where I lived.

258
00:13:48,650 --> 00:13:53,360
First, we stopped
at my public school.

259
00:13:53,360 --> 00:13:56,645
I couldn't go into the
building for nothing.

260
00:13:56,645 --> 00:13:58,667
I saw the building
from the front,

261
00:13:58,667 --> 00:13:59,750
I went into the courtyard.

262
00:13:59,750 --> 00:14:01,610
My children saw it.

263
00:14:01,610 --> 00:14:05,470
And then went on the street
where I used to live.

264
00:14:05,470 --> 00:14:09,080
And God, what a sight.

265
00:14:09,080 --> 00:14:11,420
My uncle wanted to
bring out my next door

266
00:14:11,420 --> 00:14:13,820
neighbors who still alive.

267
00:14:13,820 --> 00:14:15,380
I said, don't you dare.

268
00:14:15,380 --> 00:14:16,710
I don't want to talk to them.

269
00:14:16,710 --> 00:14:19,420
I don't want to see them.

270
00:14:19,420 --> 00:14:24,840
I went into the courtyard
because people are living there

271
00:14:24,840 --> 00:14:28,680
and you had pigs and everything
running around there.

272
00:14:28,680 --> 00:14:32,530
And I went to the door, to the
front door try to go inside it

273
00:14:32,530 --> 00:14:34,220
and something just
pulled me back.

274
00:14:34,220 --> 00:14:36,396
I couldn't go into
that room for nothing.

275
00:14:36,396 --> 00:14:39,110

276
00:14:39,110 --> 00:14:41,840
I'm sorry.

277
00:14:41,840 --> 00:14:44,840
Call it whatever you want but I
just did not have the strength

278
00:14:44,840 --> 00:14:47,810
to walk into those rooms.

279
00:14:47,810 --> 00:14:49,830
I came out.

280
00:14:49,830 --> 00:14:52,370
I remember it was a very
rainy night the night before

281
00:14:52,370 --> 00:14:54,590
and everything was
covered with mud.

282
00:14:54,590 --> 00:14:56,820
It's over all our
shoes and whatnot.

283
00:14:56,820 --> 00:15:00,695
So we stopped in the courtyard
that the cows used to go.

284
00:15:00,695 --> 00:15:03,320
I used to pump the water and
there was a basin and full

285
00:15:03,320 --> 00:15:04,230
of water.

286
00:15:04,230 --> 00:15:05,730
I washed all the
mud off my children

287
00:15:05,730 --> 00:15:08,173
[? shoes and ?] then
I got back in the car

288
00:15:08,173 --> 00:15:09,590
and then went to
the next cemetery

289

00:15:09,590 --> 00:15:13,070
that my mother's
family was buried.

290
00:15:13,070 --> 00:15:15,540
And that gravestone
of my grandfather

291
00:15:15,540 --> 00:15:19,220
stood there as if it
was waiting for me.

292
00:15:19,220 --> 00:15:22,120
I remember going up to it,
I remember embracing it,

293
00:15:22,120 --> 00:15:25,870
and then I really passed out.

294
00:15:25,870 --> 00:15:26,977
Of course, my son--

295
00:15:26,977 --> 00:15:28,060
I remember coming through.

296
00:15:28,060 --> 00:15:30,780
I remember them calling
me and I came out of it

297
00:15:30,780 --> 00:15:33,100
and it was a
terrible experience.

298
00:15:33,100 --> 00:15:34,810
You can never go back home.

299
00:15:34,810 --> 00:15:37,180
Never.

300
00:15:37,180 --> 00:15:40,210
I got back into the car,
went into the hometown

301

00:15:40,210 --> 00:15:41,920
where my uncle lived.

302

00:15:41,920 --> 00:15:45,550
Couldn't stay with him
in his two-room apartment

303

00:15:45,550 --> 00:15:48,760
because it didn't have enough
room, so he made reservations.

304

00:15:48,760 --> 00:15:51,970
It's a hotel now, but it
used to be a nuns' convent.

305

00:15:51,970 --> 00:15:55,600
The nuns used to be small,
little rooms with the beds

306

00:15:55,600 --> 00:16:00,810
are like, you know, boxes
almost with a basin in a room

307

00:16:00,810 --> 00:16:02,740
and my son wanted to
go to the bathroom

308

00:16:02,740 --> 00:16:05,660
at night I wouldn't let him out.

309

00:16:05,660 --> 00:16:07,760
I just could not leave
him out of my sight.

310

00:16:07,760 --> 00:16:10,970
He had to relieve
himself in the basin.

311

00:16:10,970 --> 00:16:14,510
I remember laying on top of
my husband all night long.

312

00:16:14,510 --> 00:16:18,200
I was just scared that they're
going to bang on the door again

313
00:16:18,200 --> 00:16:22,580
and they're going to, you
know, get everyone together

314
00:16:22,580 --> 00:16:23,280
and this is it.

315
00:16:23,280 --> 00:16:25,920

316
00:16:25,920 --> 00:16:27,600
Because they take
your passport away

317
00:16:27,600 --> 00:16:28,912
and they hold it overnight.

318
00:16:28,912 --> 00:16:30,120
Wherever you're go in Europe.

319
00:16:30,120 --> 00:16:31,830
They do it even
today, but my husband

320
00:16:31,830 --> 00:16:35,492
wasn't used to anything like
this and he just fell apart.

321
00:16:35,492 --> 00:16:36,950
They took our
passports now they're

322
00:16:36,950 --> 00:16:40,080
going to put us into jail.

323
00:16:40,080 --> 00:16:42,600
Well, none of that happened.

324

00:16:42,600 --> 00:16:47,130
Going back to Budapest,
my driver was driving

325
00:16:47,130 --> 00:16:50,290
and he got pulled over by
police car, and, of course,

326
00:16:50,290 --> 00:16:52,950
my husband once again
started in with me screaming,

327
00:16:52,950 --> 00:16:54,240
"I told you not to come here.

328
00:16:54,240 --> 00:16:55,820
Now they found us."

329
00:16:55,820 --> 00:16:57,690
But the reason he
got pulled over,

330
00:16:57,690 --> 00:17:00,150
he didn't give courtesy
to the cops car.

331
00:17:00,150 --> 00:17:01,827
There was a general
in the car and he

332
00:17:01,827 --> 00:17:03,535
passed that instead
of letting them pass.

333
00:17:03,535 --> 00:17:06,480
Well, that passed and we got--

334
00:17:06,480 --> 00:17:08,339
on our way back to
Budapest, we stopped

335
00:17:08,339 --> 00:17:09,720
in the Black Mountains--

336
00:17:09,720 --> 00:17:14,900
Black Forrest in a
beautiful restaurant

337
00:17:14,900 --> 00:17:18,990
and had lunch there and
then continued back.

338
00:17:18,990 --> 00:17:21,859
Once I got into Budapest
somehow or other,

339
00:17:21,859 --> 00:17:25,990
the hysteria diminished
a little bit.

340
00:17:25,990 --> 00:17:29,160
I was able to cope.

341
00:17:29,160 --> 00:17:31,980
My uncle stayed with me with
his wife in the same hotel.

342
00:17:31,980 --> 00:17:34,410
We spent 10 days with him.

343
00:17:34,410 --> 00:17:37,110
We went to the
synagogue in Hungary,

344
00:17:37,110 --> 00:17:39,600
and once again, my uncle said
I'm not going to go with you.

345
00:17:39,600 --> 00:17:42,420
Because, you know,
that's when I find out

346
00:17:42,420 --> 00:17:45,420
why he didn't want to come.

347

00:17:45,420 --> 00:17:49,430
He was in charge of a Jewish
organization in his region

348
00:17:49,430 --> 00:17:51,610
and always was a [INAUDIBLE].

349
00:17:51,610 --> 00:17:54,900
And he helped a lot of
Jews get out of Hungary

350
00:17:54,900 --> 00:17:57,360
and he didn't want to
be recognized as a Jew

351
00:17:57,360 --> 00:17:58,720
or as a non-Jew or anything.

352
00:17:58,720 --> 00:18:01,380
So it was like living
the life of an atheist,

353
00:18:01,380 --> 00:18:03,880
but that day he decided.

354
00:18:03,880 --> 00:18:06,750
It was Shabbos, I
said I'm going to shul

355
00:18:06,750 --> 00:18:07,810
and I went to the Dohany.

356
00:18:07,810 --> 00:18:10,560
It was the synagogue, the
biggest synagogue in Hungary,

357
00:18:10,560 --> 00:18:12,600
and he came with me.

358
00:18:12,600 --> 00:18:15,090
Going through those
gardens there where

359

00:18:15,090 --> 00:18:16,650

you have all the
graves, you know,

360

00:18:16,650 --> 00:18:19,500

the burial with the
Hungarian Jews right there.

361

00:18:19,500 --> 00:18:21,270

Have you been to Hungary?

362

00:18:21,270 --> 00:18:22,050

Yeah.

363

00:18:22,050 --> 00:18:24,750

And they have a big wall with
all the names of the people

364

00:18:24,750 --> 00:18:26,820

who died with the
outside candle on it.

365

00:18:26,820 --> 00:18:30,140

It's very, very
emotional and meaningful.

366

00:18:30,140 --> 00:18:32,710

Went into the synagogue,
listened to the rabbi

367

00:18:32,710 --> 00:18:33,790

through the service.

368

00:18:33,790 --> 00:18:37,170

All the tourists are really
collected from all over Hungary

369

00:18:37,170 --> 00:18:39,320

into this one synagogue.

370

00:18:39,320 --> 00:18:42,020

The whole wall was kept

with all the tourists.

371

00:18:42,020 --> 00:18:45,840

It was very meaningful for
my children and myself.

372

00:18:45,840 --> 00:18:48,890

And stayed in Hungary
for the 10 days,

373

00:18:48,890 --> 00:18:52,000

then we flew back
to Switzerland.

374

00:18:52,000 --> 00:18:54,480

And I must tell you
that, if I did not

375

00:18:54,480 --> 00:18:58,950

go from Switzerland to
[INAUDIBLE] Israel to Israel

376

00:18:58,950 --> 00:19:02,440

for another 12 days
and regain my sanity.

377

00:19:02,440 --> 00:19:04,440

I think I would have come
back and gone straight

378

00:19:04,440 --> 00:19:06,390

to [INAUDIBLE] a clinic.

379

00:19:06,390 --> 00:19:10,245

It left me drained
emotionally and physically.

380

00:19:10,245 --> 00:19:13,530

But being the type of
a survivor as I am,

381

00:19:13,530 --> 00:19:17,190

I talked myself

into a lot of things

382

00:19:17,190 --> 00:19:21,720

and we spent wonderful
visit in Israel.

383

00:19:21,720 --> 00:19:26,490

Saw a lot of things, went
to Yad Vashem, cried a lot,

384

00:19:26,490 --> 00:19:31,770

but to be amongst my fellow Jews
and see that the world is still

385

00:19:31,770 --> 00:19:34,740

the world for them
and for some of us,

386

00:19:34,740 --> 00:19:37,200

it helped me a great deal.

387

00:19:37,200 --> 00:19:40,200

And then we came back here
and, of course, my lecture tour

388

00:19:40,200 --> 00:19:43,020

became even stronger
then because then I

389

00:19:43,020 --> 00:19:48,990

could relate with my past
completely and for the future.

390

00:19:48,990 --> 00:19:50,310

You have any questions?

391

00:19:50,310 --> 00:19:51,150

Do you?

392

00:19:51,150 --> 00:19:52,410

No.

393

00:19:52,410 --> 00:19:53,720
I left you dumbfounded, huh?

394
00:19:53,720 --> 00:19:54,220
Yeah.

395
00:19:54,220 --> 00:19:56,280
I'm sorry.

396
00:19:56,280 --> 00:19:58,170
In a nice way though.

397
00:19:58,170 --> 00:19:59,740
Thank you very much.

398
00:19:59,740 --> 00:20:01,920
Thanks for having me.

399
00:20:01,920 --> 00:20:04,040
I appreciate whatever
you're doing.

400
00:20:04,040 --> 00:20:04,540
Thank you.

401
00:20:04,540 --> 00:20:06,143
It means a lot to us too.

402
00:20:06,143 --> 00:20:06,810
Thank you again.

403
00:20:06,810 --> 00:20:09,770
Nice to be with both of you.

404
00:20:09,770 --> 00:20:15,000