

1

00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:11,030

2

00:00:11,030 --> 00:00:15,860

Please continue,  
Mrs. Sonnenberg.

3

00:00:15,860 --> 00:00:19,670

Before I forget, I want to  
tell you that any time there

4

00:00:19,670 --> 00:00:23,340

was an action, anything  
that was going on,

5

00:00:23,340 --> 00:00:27,860

we had a beautiful time  
with the SS together.

6

00:00:27,860 --> 00:00:30,950

And it sounds strange.

7

00:00:30,950 --> 00:00:34,810

It's ironically sad really.

8

00:00:34,810 --> 00:00:41,300

Then sometimes,  
many times actually,

9

00:00:41,300 --> 00:00:45,380

we have been asked are  
there any musician here,

10

00:00:45,380 --> 00:00:53,410

are there any dancers here,  
gym, some artists or what?

11

00:00:53,410 --> 00:00:56,240

By tonight we want  
a performance.

12

00:00:56,240 --> 00:00:59,570

We want to show you that  
we are also your friend,

13

00:00:59,570 --> 00:01:03,240

and we want to have  
a good time together.

14

00:01:03,240 --> 00:01:05,965

And we put something together.

15

00:01:05,965 --> 00:01:07,240

We had comics.

16

00:01:07,240 --> 00:01:08,240

We had anything.

17

00:01:08,240 --> 00:01:10,190

I mean, we had anyone.

18

00:01:10,190 --> 00:01:13,460

Doctors, lawyers,  
actors, whatever.

19

00:01:13,460 --> 00:01:14,320

You name it.

20

00:01:14,320 --> 00:01:17,690

And I met also somebody  
whom I was friendly

21

00:01:17,690 --> 00:01:20,690

with for quite a while  
who was a pianist,

22

00:01:20,690 --> 00:01:25,430

and we had a very  
nice performance.

23

00:01:25,430 --> 00:01:32,660

And I never forget he played  
the hunting quartet by Mozart.

24

00:01:32,660 --> 00:01:36,900

I knew it was Mozart, but  
I didn't know what it was.

25

00:01:36,900 --> 00:01:39,960

And somehow I never forgot  
a part of that melody.

26

00:01:39,960 --> 00:01:41,930

And much later I  
asked my husband.

27

00:01:41,930 --> 00:01:42,600

I was singing.

28

00:01:42,600 --> 00:01:44,580

I said, what could that be?

29

00:01:44,580 --> 00:01:47,360

Oh, he said, that's the  
hunting quartet from Mozart.

30

00:01:47,360 --> 00:01:52,730

That was the first time I heard  
it, and that was in the ghetto.

31

00:01:52,730 --> 00:01:56,980

After that concert,  
the next morning,

32

00:01:56,980 --> 00:01:59,930

they sent 2,000 people.

33

00:01:59,930 --> 00:02:02,270

They knocked on the door.

34

00:02:02,270 --> 00:02:04,340

And out, out, out.

35

00:02:04,340 --> 00:02:07,070

That is all they said, out.

36

00:02:07,070 --> 00:02:08,919

And we had to go on  
that collection point

37

00:02:08,919 --> 00:02:12,360

where we always had to appear.

38

00:02:12,360 --> 00:02:20,030

And then you, you, you,  
you, you on that side.

39

00:02:20,030 --> 00:02:22,430

You, you, you on that side.

40

00:02:22,430 --> 00:02:23,930

And then before  
you know, you were

41

00:02:23,930 --> 00:02:26,390

separated from your family.

42

00:02:26,390 --> 00:02:31,800

And they were  
loaded on the truck

43

00:02:31,800 --> 00:02:34,100

and you never saw  
the people again.

44

00:02:34,100 --> 00:02:39,770

And at night, the clothes  
came into the ghetto.

45

00:02:39,770 --> 00:02:45,032

So many people recognized  
their family that way.

46

00:02:45,032 --> 00:02:45,740

They were killed.

47

00:02:45,740 --> 00:02:49,560

There were constantly action.

48  
00:02:49,560 --> 00:02:57,580  
But not without having had  
a nice performance before.

49  
00:02:57,580 --> 00:02:59,900  
That's very generous.

50  
00:02:59,900 --> 00:03:04,620  
Finally, we caught on,  
but it didn't help us.

51  
00:03:04,620 --> 00:03:07,710  
We had to perform.

52  
00:03:07,710 --> 00:03:14,490  
And that was also the way  
when my parents got away.

53  
00:03:14,490 --> 00:03:19,430  
One morning I went to work.

54  
00:03:19,430 --> 00:03:22,560  
And something-- I don't  
know if I forgot something.

55  
00:03:22,560 --> 00:03:26,550  
I went back in the  
house and said,

56  
00:03:26,550 --> 00:03:28,470  
give my mother an extra  
hug and my father,

57  
00:03:28,470 --> 00:03:31,350  
and I don't know why.

58  
00:03:31,350 --> 00:03:38,490  
And when I came to the commander  
and wanted to stand in my line

59  
00:03:38,490 --> 00:03:41,350

and ready to go,  
I noticed a couple

60  
00:03:41,350 --> 00:03:45,150  
of people who never were  
there because they are old,

61  
00:03:45,150 --> 00:03:47,820  
and one woman had  
even a hunchback.

62  
00:03:47,820 --> 00:03:50,790  
So what is she doing here?

63  
00:03:50,790 --> 00:03:56,550  
Something's must going on, and  
I -- very reluctant I went.

64  
00:03:56,550 --> 00:04:01,170  
And I happened to  
work at that time

65  
00:04:01,170 --> 00:04:06,940  
in we called it  
like cleaning store.

66  
00:04:06,940 --> 00:04:14,290  
We had to-- we got laundry  
from the front, the soldier's

67  
00:04:14,290 --> 00:04:14,850  
clothes.

68  
00:04:14,850 --> 00:04:18,450  
Sometimes we had an arm  
or a finger still on.

69  
00:04:18,450 --> 00:04:24,270  
Came to us in these  
freight trains.

70  
00:04:24,270 --> 00:04:26,610  
We had to unload it.

71  
00:04:26,610 --> 00:04:28,680  
We had to count it.

72  
00:04:28,680 --> 00:04:31,450  
And God forbid a  
piece was missing.

73  
00:04:31,450 --> 00:04:35,460  
And then we had to  
put it in boxes.

74  
00:04:35,460 --> 00:04:37,410  
I mean, it's effectively--

75  
00:04:37,410 --> 00:04:38,190  
I mean, boxes--

76  
00:04:38,190 --> 00:04:41,400  
I mean, fenced in places.

77  
00:04:41,400 --> 00:04:42,450  
There goes the underwear.

78  
00:04:42,450 --> 00:04:43,800  
There goes the jackets.

79  
00:04:43,800 --> 00:04:46,050  
There goes the pants.

80  
00:04:46,050 --> 00:04:48,130  
And they stay there a few days.

81  
00:04:48,130 --> 00:04:52,650  
In the meantime, they put  
us on the truck again,

82  
00:04:52,650 --> 00:04:58,820  
and we went to the laundry  
and pick up the clean,

83

00:04:58,820 --> 00:05:03,160  
washed soldiers' uniform.

84  
00:05:03,160 --> 00:05:07,410  
And then we had to come  
back and count it and put it

85  
00:05:07,410 --> 00:05:08,640  
in another section.

86  
00:05:08,640 --> 00:05:10,290  
Then we picked up  
the dirty again.

87  
00:05:10,290 --> 00:05:12,800  
So this is what I  
was doing that day.

88  
00:05:12,800 --> 00:05:15,660  
And we passed by  
the ghetto and I

89  
00:05:15,660 --> 00:05:20,400  
see an oodle of people standing  
on the collection place,

90  
00:05:20,400 --> 00:05:25,860  
and I said, something is  
terribly, terribly wrong.

91  
00:05:25,860 --> 00:05:33,570  
And at night when I came home in  
the dark, my girlfriend and I--

92  
00:05:33,570 --> 00:05:36,900  
speaking of friends,  
I met a friend there--

93  
00:05:36,900 --> 00:05:41,430  
we ran in the house,  
and I go to our room.

94  
00:05:41,430 --> 00:05:42,240



No light on.

95

00:05:42,240 --> 00:05:45,390

Usually when you come  
back to the ghetto,

96

00:05:45,390 --> 00:05:47,070

the whole ghetto is lighted up.

97

00:05:47,070 --> 00:05:49,100

People are exhausted  
coming home trying

98

00:05:49,100 --> 00:05:51,720

to make their little  
cooking and whatever.

99

00:05:51,720 --> 00:05:54,060

And the hustle and  
bustle, there was nothing.

100

00:05:54,060 --> 00:05:57,050

It was dead, dead silence.

101

00:05:57,050 --> 00:05:59,040

But those silence  
I have never seen.

102

00:05:59,040 --> 00:06:01,700

103

00:06:01,700 --> 00:06:04,460

So we run in the  
house and nobody

104

00:06:04,460 --> 00:06:07,580

was in my room, of course.

105

00:06:07,580 --> 00:06:10,700

Neither my sister nor  
my mother nor my father.

106

00:06:10,700 --> 00:06:13,340

In her house her mother  
and father were there.

107

00:06:13,340 --> 00:06:15,170

So I went up, and  
as I [? flew, ?]

108

00:06:15,170 --> 00:06:17,660

I said somewhere  
they must be hiding.

109

00:06:17,660 --> 00:06:22,160

And I come on the attic,  
and nobody was there.

110

00:06:22,160 --> 00:06:23,420

My sister wasn't there.

111

00:06:23,420 --> 00:06:25,700

I said, oh my god,  
that was an aktion.

112

00:06:25,700 --> 00:06:28,340

They must be all killed already.

113

00:06:28,340 --> 00:06:29,840

I said, and my sister too?

114

00:06:29,840 --> 00:06:31,550

What do I do here?

115

00:06:31,550 --> 00:06:37,130

It's that moment I really  
didn't want to live anymore.

116

00:06:37,130 --> 00:06:41,230

And I was just ready to jump  
down out of the attic window

117

00:06:41,230 --> 00:06:44,540

when my girlfriend run  
after me and grabbed me.

118  
00:06:44,540 --> 00:06:47,480  
And she said, you don't do that.

119  
00:06:47,480 --> 00:06:49,220  
Get down.

120  
00:06:49,220 --> 00:06:53,570  
And I remember sitting in the  
room and waiting and waiting,

121  
00:06:53,570 --> 00:06:58,430  
and all of a sudden  
the lights went on.

122  
00:06:58,430 --> 00:07:00,810  
And after a while,  
my sister came.

123  
00:07:00,810 --> 00:07:01,940  
So I said, what happened?

124  
00:07:01,940 --> 00:07:02,610  
Where's father?

125  
00:07:02,610 --> 00:07:04,860  
Where's mother?

126  
00:07:04,860 --> 00:07:08,330  
So she said, they're gone.

127  
00:07:08,330 --> 00:07:09,990  
And I wondered  
who was with them.

128  
00:07:09,990 --> 00:07:12,840  
[? Mammy-- ?] mother  
didn't let me.

129  
00:07:12,840 --> 00:07:17,660  
She said to me, go  
and get my jacket.

130  
00:07:17,660 --> 00:07:18,710  
I'm so cold.

131  
00:07:18,710 --> 00:07:20,000  
I'm freezing, she said.

132  
00:07:20,000 --> 00:07:22,880  
And I rushed, and  
I ran to get it.

133  
00:07:22,880 --> 00:07:25,550  
And when I came,  
they were all gone.

134  
00:07:25,550 --> 00:07:29,020  
So my mother had the  
feeling and knew,

135  
00:07:29,020 --> 00:07:35,810  
and that shows also in that  
booklet when my parents got

136  
00:07:35,810 --> 00:07:43,760  
hold somehow of a piece  
of paper and a pencil,

137  
00:07:43,760 --> 00:07:47,400  
and they wrote a little  
note, which I have.

138  
00:07:47,400 --> 00:07:53,615

139  
00:07:53,615 --> 00:07:54,490  
Where did I write it?

140  
00:07:54,490 --> 00:07:57,390  
[INAUDIBLE] But what did it say?

141  
00:07:57,390 --> 00:07:59,430  
It had the hardest

time to translate it

142

00:07:59,430 --> 00:08:05,070

because when I got that note--

143

00:08:05,070 --> 00:08:08,700

I got the note through a  
policeman, a Jewish policeman

144

00:08:08,700 --> 00:08:13,220

whose parents he had to  
bring to the same train

145

00:08:13,220 --> 00:08:14,860

and said goodbye to them.

146

00:08:14,860 --> 00:08:18,330

And my parents gave him  
a little note along.

147

00:08:18,330 --> 00:08:23,700

I don't find where it is,  
but it was about like--

148

00:08:23,700 --> 00:08:28,310

my father wrote,  
like, dear children,

149

00:08:28,310 --> 00:08:31,360

we are in a freight train.

150

00:08:31,360 --> 00:08:37,179

We don't know the  
destination yet.

151

00:08:37,179 --> 00:08:46,600

And hold together in  
all life situation.

152

00:08:46,600 --> 00:08:47,430

I love you.

153

00:08:47,430 --> 00:08:49,950

154

00:08:49,950 --> 00:08:51,550

Your father.

155

00:08:51,550 --> 00:08:55,540

And then he wrote  
a few Hebrew which

156

00:08:55,540 --> 00:08:59,970

which said, [SPEAKING HEBREW]  
I can't say it.

157

00:08:59,970 --> 00:09:03,870

[SPEAKING HEBREW]  
Something which meant--

158

00:09:03,870 --> 00:09:06,630

somebody translated to me--

159

00:09:06,630 --> 00:09:08,160

may God bless your--

160

00:09:08,160 --> 00:09:09,690

[SPEAKING HEBREW]

161

00:09:09,690 --> 00:09:11,010

May God--

162

00:09:11,010 --> 00:09:12,300

The priestly blessing.

163

00:09:12,300 --> 00:09:13,050

And keep you.

164

00:09:13,050 --> 00:09:14,430

Yeah.

165

00:09:14,430 --> 00:09:16,800

And here we are.

166

00:09:16,800 --> 00:09:23,370

And my mother wrote,  
I have loved you,

167

00:09:23,370 --> 00:09:27,170

and all my thoughts are you.

168

00:09:27,170 --> 00:09:31,570

If it only would be over.

169

00:09:31,570 --> 00:09:32,530

Hold together.

170

00:09:32,530 --> 00:09:33,960

Love, Mother.

171

00:09:33,960 --> 00:09:34,830

That's all I have.

172

00:09:34,830 --> 00:09:38,000

173

00:09:38,000 --> 00:09:40,410

So my mother know for sure.

174

00:09:40,410 --> 00:09:42,900

My father I think too.

175

00:09:42,900 --> 00:09:46,280

So this fellow  
brought the letter

176

00:09:46,280 --> 00:09:49,200

had his parents to bring there.

177

00:09:49,200 --> 00:09:52,130

That must be even harder.

178

00:09:52,130 --> 00:09:55,290

He's living now in Sweden.

179

00:09:55,290 --> 00:09:58,290

He stayed there.

180

00:09:58,290 --> 00:10:01,095

And I called him Sunday.

181

00:10:01,095 --> 00:10:02,610

I call once in a while.

182

00:10:02,610 --> 00:10:04,530

Unfortunately his  
wife is very sick,

183

00:10:04,530 --> 00:10:08,950

and the letters don't  
always arrive in Sweden,

184

00:10:08,950 --> 00:10:12,655

so I thought I'd better give  
him a call once in a while.

185

00:10:12,655 --> 00:10:18,760

So that's a friendship  
which started in Hannover,

186

00:10:18,760 --> 00:10:21,420

and lasted through the  
concentration camp,

187

00:10:21,420 --> 00:10:26,180

and it's still binding.

188

00:10:26,180 --> 00:10:27,275

OK, that was that.

189

00:10:27,275 --> 00:10:32,750

190

00:10:32,750 --> 00:10:41,130

Pretty soon, the--  
oh no, I would



191

00:10:41,130 --> 00:10:44,220

like to speak a little  
bit about my sister.

192

00:10:44,220 --> 00:10:46,200

She worked as a nurse  
in the hospital.

193

00:10:46,200 --> 00:10:51,780

In this hospital was a Jewish  
doctor who was from Cologne,

194

00:10:51,780 --> 00:10:52,840

and she knew him then.

195

00:10:52,840 --> 00:10:55,790

He was a miserable person.

196

00:10:55,790 --> 00:11:00,690

And for a smile  
of the commandant,

197

00:11:00,690 --> 00:11:06,150

he could kill people  
just to get a smile.

198

00:11:06,150 --> 00:11:12,900

And the Jews-- the Jewish  
women were, of course,

199

00:11:12,900 --> 00:11:16,000

not allowed to have children.

200

00:11:16,000 --> 00:11:22,280

And abortion were made secretly  
because if it comes out

201

00:11:22,280 --> 00:11:25,410

that you got a child and you got  
pregnant in the concentration

202

00:11:25,410 --> 00:11:28,730

camps, they were definitely  
hanged or killed or shot

203  
00:11:28,730 --> 00:11:30,460  
or whatever.

204  
00:11:30,460 --> 00:11:35,100  
So in the closet, my  
sister and the doctor,

205  
00:11:35,100 --> 00:11:38,760  
another doctor,  
Dr. [Personal name]

206  
00:11:38,760 --> 00:11:42,480  
performed those abortions.

207  
00:11:42,480 --> 00:11:49,090  
And one day, the commandant  
didn't like anything better

208  
00:11:49,090 --> 00:11:57,030  
but watching operations  
without anaesthetic.

209  
00:11:57,030 --> 00:11:59,190  
Like my sister had--

210  
00:11:59,190 --> 00:12:03,210  
people whose hands were  
frozen, feet were frozen,

211  
00:12:03,210 --> 00:12:04,920  
she had just to cut them off.

212  
00:12:04,920 --> 00:12:06,630  
You couldn't even give anything.

213  
00:12:06,630 --> 00:12:09,880  
And then the people  
were helpless,

214

00:12:09,880 --> 00:12:14,730  
and then they were killed, of  
course with the next transport.

215  
00:12:14,730 --> 00:12:18,880  
But his greatest pleasure  
was to watch those things.

216  
00:12:18,880 --> 00:12:29,100  
And one day, there was  
a boy in that hospital

217  
00:12:29,100 --> 00:12:32,910  
who was a nature freak.

218  
00:12:32,910 --> 00:12:37,170  
I think he was a man down  
and a woman up there.

219  
00:12:37,170 --> 00:12:42,880  
And the commandant was in that  
room, and for some reason,

220  
00:12:42,880 --> 00:12:45,040  
he made him get up.

221  
00:12:45,040 --> 00:12:48,630  
And with the little nightgown,  
so he had whatever fit,

222  
00:12:48,630 --> 00:12:50,640  
he must've seen there  
was something wrong.

223  
00:12:50,640 --> 00:12:53,400  
And he said to the Dr.  
[Personal name] what's

224  
00:12:53,400 --> 00:12:54,920  
wrong with that kid there?

225  
00:12:54,920 --> 00:12:58,020  
And he very happily

told everything.

226

00:12:58,020 --> 00:13:00,980

That's a freak of  
nature and everything.

227

00:13:00,980 --> 00:13:02,840

Maybe he couldn't have  
done anything else.

228

00:13:02,840 --> 00:13:04,850

But the way he  
said it, so it was

229

00:13:04,850 --> 00:13:06,960

a guy that-- the boy  
that was sent away

230

00:13:06,960 --> 00:13:12,280

for an experiment purpose,  
and it was the end too.

231

00:13:12,280 --> 00:13:16,610

So it was incredible,  
things which happened.

232

00:13:16,610 --> 00:13:19,290

I could go on and on and on.

233

00:13:19,290 --> 00:13:26,940

But anyhow, the Russian  
front came closer in Riga.

234

00:13:26,940 --> 00:13:30,060

And after these 2,000 people--

235

00:13:30,060 --> 00:13:36,500

out of about 20,000  
Jewish people there

236

00:13:36,500 --> 00:13:41,150

all what I know what  
came out was about 200.

237

00:13:41,150 --> 00:13:44,270

Everything is finished.

238

00:13:44,270 --> 00:13:51,210

And when the front came closer,  
they liquidated the ghetto,

239

00:13:51,210 --> 00:13:54,170

and they sent us to ABA--

240

00:13:54,170 --> 00:13:57,800

ABA is the army, soldiers--

241

00:13:57,800 --> 00:13:58,940

to work for the soldiers.

242

00:13:58,940 --> 00:14:01,850

By that time, so many people  
are being killed on the front

243

00:14:01,850 --> 00:14:04,460

and so more merchandise came in.

244

00:14:04,460 --> 00:14:12,700

And they needed us badly in  
the army, and the SS I think

245

00:14:12,700 --> 00:14:14,260

got the money.

246

00:14:14,260 --> 00:14:15,750

I mean, we were paid.

247

00:14:15,750 --> 00:14:21,100

Not we, I mean, they  
got the money for us

248

00:14:21,100 --> 00:14:22,560

that we could go there.

249

00:14:22,560 --> 00:14:24,770

So they liquidated  
the ghetto finally

250

00:14:24,770 --> 00:14:27,250

and sent us in a  
factory building

251

00:14:27,250 --> 00:14:33,120

into the army, which was a  
little bit better [INAUDIBLE]

252

00:14:33,120 --> 00:14:34,170

army.

253

00:14:34,170 --> 00:14:36,460

Some people were  
just as bad as SS,

254

00:14:36,460 --> 00:14:39,830

but there were also some  
more decent people there.

255

00:14:39,830 --> 00:14:46,120

And we worked very hard there.

256

00:14:46,120 --> 00:14:51,130

We slept on the bunk  
beds for five flights up.

257

00:14:51,130 --> 00:14:54,255

And the youngest one on  
top, like my sister and I.

258

00:14:54,255 --> 00:14:56,520

When even you had to  
move a bed downstairs,

259

00:14:56,520 --> 00:15:01,420

you had to move too, and  
it was constantly swaying.

260

00:15:01,420 --> 00:15:05,725

And the alarm-- the  
bombs they just drop them

261  
00:15:05,725 --> 00:15:08,140  
during every night,  
three, four times.

262  
00:15:08,140 --> 00:15:12,850  
And we had to run for  
about a mile to the bunkers

263  
00:15:12,850 --> 00:15:16,870  
where you go in to be  
protected from the--

264  
00:15:16,870 --> 00:15:17,830  
which didn't help much.

265  
00:15:17,830 --> 00:15:19,660  
And you saw all of this big--

266  
00:15:19,660 --> 00:15:23,800  
it was like a balloon that  
lighted up the whole sky.

267  
00:15:23,800 --> 00:15:28,420  
This way the enemy could  
see the location very well.

268  
00:15:28,420 --> 00:15:33,980  
It was just like not as light  
as this, but you could see.

269  
00:15:33,980 --> 00:15:38,670  
And then we run into the--

270  
00:15:38,670 --> 00:15:40,540  
for the protection,  
and then there

271  
00:15:40,540 --> 00:15:44,230  
was this big, heavy  
soldier sitting there,

272

00:15:44,230 --> 00:15:46,290  
and he was shaking in his boots.

273

00:15:46,290 --> 00:15:49,110  
God forbid, dear god that  
nothing happens, you know?

274

00:15:49,110 --> 00:15:54,100  
And actually, our life  
wasn't worth much anyhow,

275

00:15:54,100 --> 00:15:56,970  
but we really in  
a way enjoyed it,

276

00:15:56,970 --> 00:16:00,100  
seeing him sitting there  
like a baby, shaking.

277

00:16:00,100 --> 00:16:04,540  
And he said, bomb falls down.

278

00:16:04,540 --> 00:16:06,580  
Leave your luggage downstairs.

279

00:16:06,580 --> 00:16:07,630  
I never forget that.

280

00:16:07,630 --> 00:16:09,570  
We had no luggage.

281

00:16:09,570 --> 00:16:10,800  
We had nothing.

282

00:16:10,800 --> 00:16:13,320  
But you know, he was so--

283

00:16:13,320 --> 00:16:15,315  
oh no, how do you call--

284



00:16:15,315 --> 00:16:16,190  
[INAUDIBLE] about it.

285  
00:16:16,190 --> 00:16:17,770  
It was unbelievable.

286  
00:16:17,770 --> 00:16:22,110  
Well, after it got so bad  
that it never took an end,

287  
00:16:22,110 --> 00:16:29,040  
we were sent on a boat, and we  
went to Libau that is Courland

288  
00:16:29,040 --> 00:16:35,530  
And in Libau we had a little  
house where we lived in.

289  
00:16:35,530 --> 00:16:38,010  
By that time we were  
not very many people.

290  
00:16:38,010 --> 00:16:42,100  
Maybe 3, 400 at most.

291  
00:16:42,100 --> 00:16:45,280  
And we were sent out to work.

292  
00:16:45,280 --> 00:16:47,710  
My sister was in a  
hospital again there,

293  
00:16:47,710 --> 00:16:51,310  
and the rest was going to work.

294  
00:16:51,310 --> 00:16:56,380  
And one day was such an  
alarm that so bad for hours

295  
00:16:56,380 --> 00:16:59,420  
the whole town was burning.

296

00:16:59,420 --> 00:17:01,600

And by night, it  
finally was over.

297

00:17:01,600 --> 00:17:04,900

We had the hardest time to  
get back to the building

298

00:17:04,900 --> 00:17:07,859

where we lived because  
all over the fire.

299

00:17:07,859 --> 00:17:11,230

There was nothing but  
the houses down and fire,

300

00:17:11,230 --> 00:17:13,010

and it was just unbelievable.

301

00:17:13,010 --> 00:17:16,260

And after hours when we came  
home, something happened.

302

00:17:16,260 --> 00:17:18,770

303

00:17:18,770 --> 00:17:20,260

What is going on?

304

00:17:20,260 --> 00:17:22,339

You could feel it.

305

00:17:22,339 --> 00:17:24,720

And sure enough,  
in this bunker--

306

00:17:24,720 --> 00:17:26,990

I don't know if bunker  
is the right word.

307

00:17:26,990 --> 00:17:28,870

You know where people hide in--

308

00:17:28,870 --> 00:17:30,380  
the soldiers hide in trenches.

309

00:17:30,380 --> 00:17:30,880  
Trenches.

310

00:17:30,880 --> 00:17:33,280  
Trenches, that's the word.

311

00:17:33,280 --> 00:17:35,410  
It was opposite of the building.

312

00:17:35,410 --> 00:17:41,470  
And my sister visit SS  
commandant who was there,

313

00:17:41,470 --> 00:17:42,610  
had to stand in front.

314

00:17:42,610 --> 00:17:44,440  
She as a nurse and the doctor.

315

00:17:44,440 --> 00:17:45,430  
There were two doctors.

316

00:17:45,430 --> 00:17:47,320  
And this one doctor  
had to stand in front

317

00:17:47,320 --> 00:17:51,550  
and my sister and the SS men.

318

00:17:51,550 --> 00:17:54,010  
And my sister had  
a terrible cold,

319

00:17:54,010 --> 00:17:56,320  
and so the commandant said,  
I don't want your cold.

320

00:17:56,320 --> 00:17:57,620

Go in the back.

321  
00:17:57,620 --> 00:18:00,190  
So my sister said,  
my place is here.

322  
00:18:00,190 --> 00:18:01,890  
He said, did you hear me?

323  
00:18:01,890 --> 00:18:02,740  
March.

324  
00:18:02,740 --> 00:18:05,260  
So my sister went in  
the back-- the moment

325  
00:18:05,260 --> 00:18:07,220  
she went in the back.

326  
00:18:07,220 --> 00:18:11,650  
The bomb came down  
and hit the trench.

327  
00:18:11,650 --> 00:18:14,150  
So he was killed  
with his girlfriend.

328  
00:18:14,150 --> 00:18:16,900  
He had a Jewish girlfriend,  
which was miserable.

329  
00:18:16,900 --> 00:18:19,390  
She-- you won't believe it.

330  
00:18:19,390 --> 00:18:22,860  
She really helped killing  
people and gives them

331  
00:18:22,860 --> 00:18:24,570  
all away, the whom  
she didn't like.

332

00:18:24,570 --> 00:18:27,100  
And the SS man just shot them.

333  
00:18:27,100 --> 00:18:31,030  
And the good doctor,  
[? Joseph, ?] was killed,

334  
00:18:31,030 --> 00:18:34,030  
and the doctor took right  
away the uniform of the Jewish

335  
00:18:34,030 --> 00:18:37,370  
doctor, from the Dr.  
[? Joseph ?] [INAUDIBLE],,

336  
00:18:37,370 --> 00:18:38,880  
and now I am a doctor.

337  
00:18:38,880 --> 00:18:41,350  
It's just unbelievable.

338  
00:18:41,350 --> 00:18:45,790  
So that wasn't safe anymore.

339  
00:18:45,790 --> 00:18:48,180  
So they had to bring us--

340  
00:18:48,180 --> 00:18:50,950  
the soldiers had  
to go to Germany.

341  
00:18:50,950 --> 00:18:52,580  
But they needed us yet.

342  
00:18:52,580 --> 00:18:54,970  
We were-- by the meantime,  
we were about 200.

343  
00:18:54,970 --> 00:18:57,820  
So this was already  
got killed again.

344

00:18:57,820 --> 00:19:01,450

We go on the boat,  
and we come to,

345

00:19:01,450 --> 00:19:04,090

after a couple of days-- oh,  
when we went on the boat,

346

00:19:04,090 --> 00:19:09,090

first we had to load it with  
these guns and these helmets

347

00:19:09,090 --> 00:19:12,495

and these clothes and these  
cooking pots and whatever they

348

00:19:12,495 --> 00:19:13,800

had here.

349

00:19:13,800 --> 00:19:19,740

And then we had to go on  
the ladder and go deep down.

350

00:19:19,740 --> 00:19:22,850

And as soon as we  
started to move,

351

00:19:22,850 --> 00:19:26,660

the order came we  
have to go on board--

352

00:19:26,660 --> 00:19:28,210

on deck.

353

00:19:28,210 --> 00:19:32,490

And the solders just  
went down because when

354

00:19:32,490 --> 00:19:35,810

we were on deck-- in the  
meantime, I forgot to tell you.

355

00:19:35,810 --> 00:19:39,060

Our hairs were so  
shaven, our head.

356  
00:19:39,060 --> 00:19:43,120  
One day came that order that  
we cannot have any hair.

357  
00:19:43,120 --> 00:19:47,500  
They shaved the men with a  
shaver this way and this way.

358  
00:19:47,500 --> 00:19:49,400  
So they had little tufts  
standing here, here,

359  
00:19:49,400 --> 00:19:51,060  
and here and here.

360  
00:19:51,060 --> 00:19:54,140  
But us, they cut  
the hair so much,

361  
00:19:54,140 --> 00:19:56,820  
and my hair was really so long.

362  
00:19:56,820 --> 00:19:59,330  
And so were many others.

363  
00:19:59,330 --> 00:20:03,360  
And then came the commander  
and said, so much hair.

364  
00:20:03,360 --> 00:20:04,110  
Here's a shaver.

365  
00:20:04,110 --> 00:20:04,800  
Shave it.

366  
00:20:04,800 --> 00:20:08,070  
So then our whole  
head was shaven.

367

00:20:08,070 --> 00:20:09,770

It was so pitiful.

368

00:20:09,770 --> 00:20:16,350

Then we got the uniform, the  
gray and blue striped uniform,

369

00:20:16,350 --> 00:20:17,340

our number on it.

370

00:20:17,340 --> 00:20:21,300

My number was  
8,808 at that time.

371

00:20:21,300 --> 00:20:27,310

And with our shaven head, the  
soldier couldn't stand us,

372

00:20:27,310 --> 00:20:34,110

and they gave us some cloths,  
a very rough gray-black cloth

373

00:20:34,110 --> 00:20:35,910

and said, put that on your head.

374

00:20:35,910 --> 00:20:38,250

So we looked like bats.

375

00:20:38,250 --> 00:20:40,090

That's the way we look.

376

00:20:40,090 --> 00:20:44,520

And while they were shaving our  
hair, we picked up a handful,

377

00:20:44,520 --> 00:20:47,250

and somebody had some glue.

378

00:20:47,250 --> 00:20:48,980

And we glued it on here.

379

00:20:48,980 --> 00:20:51,480



It was so pitiful.

380  
00:20:51,480 --> 00:20:54,520  
My sister and I,  
we took a shower.

381  
00:20:54,520 --> 00:20:56,250  
Three, four people  
go in the shower.

382  
00:20:56,250 --> 00:20:58,470  
All of a sudden,  
somebody took my soap.

383  
00:20:58,470 --> 00:20:59,780  
And I said, that's my soap.

384  
00:20:59,780 --> 00:21:01,860  
She said, no, that's my soap.

385  
00:21:01,860 --> 00:21:03,630  
I said, I know it's my soap.

386  
00:21:03,630 --> 00:21:04,570  
I know my soap.

387  
00:21:04,570 --> 00:21:06,593  
She said, I know my soap too.

388  
00:21:06,593 --> 00:21:07,260  
I looked at her.

389  
00:21:07,260 --> 00:21:09,300  
I said, Herta?

390  
00:21:09,300 --> 00:21:10,530  
Gertrude?

391  
00:21:10,530 --> 00:21:15,630  
We didn't recognize  
ourselves so did we look.

392

00:21:15,630 --> 00:21:19,800

It's unbelievable that you  
wouldn't notice anyone.

393

00:21:19,800 --> 00:21:25,810

So with that, before we  
left, we had to be deloused.

394

00:21:25,810 --> 00:21:28,350

We had terrible lice, of course.

395

00:21:28,350 --> 00:21:30,990

And we couldn't go to  
Germany with all those lice.

396

00:21:30,990 --> 00:21:32,580

That would be a crime.

397

00:21:32,580 --> 00:21:34,210

[INAUDIBLE]

398

00:21:34,210 --> 00:21:39,040

So regular soldiers  
came with a flashlight

399

00:21:39,040 --> 00:21:42,690

and they took our clothes  
first and got them deloused.

400

00:21:42,690 --> 00:21:45,180

And then they checked  
all over if you

401

00:21:45,180 --> 00:21:46,457

have lice on our [INAUDIBLE].

402

00:21:46,457 --> 00:21:48,540

And then we could get  
dressed, and then finally we

403

00:21:48,540 --> 00:21:50,640

could go on boat.

404

00:21:50,640 --> 00:21:55,470

And that's when we had  
to stand on board as soon

405

00:21:55,470 --> 00:22:00,800

the boat went out because  
they didn't shoot at Jews.

406

00:22:00,800 --> 00:22:02,370

And they were safe.

407

00:22:02,370 --> 00:22:07,230

At first when we were on  
high sea they came out

408

00:22:07,230 --> 00:22:09,240

and we could go down again.

409

00:22:09,240 --> 00:22:11,930

Then we came to  
Hamburg in Germany.

410

00:22:11,930 --> 00:22:14,250

And what to do with  
us is another thing.

411

00:22:14,250 --> 00:22:15,990

So they had no idea.

412

00:22:15,990 --> 00:22:18,850

They brought us to prison.

413

00:22:18,850 --> 00:22:22,630

The prison was actually the best  
time of the whole concentration

414

00:22:22,630 --> 00:22:23,130

camp.

415

00:22:23,130 --> 00:22:24,810

We didn't have to work.

416  
00:22:24,810 --> 00:22:28,140  
We got some food, better than  
in the concentration camp.

417  
00:22:28,140 --> 00:22:30,480  
It was real prison food.

418  
00:22:30,480 --> 00:22:34,410  
Unless-- except they  
put the soda in.

419  
00:22:34,410 --> 00:22:38,230  
Because we shouldn't  
get any feelings,

420  
00:22:38,230 --> 00:22:41,430  
womanly or manly  
feeling and so on.

421  
00:22:41,430 --> 00:22:44,400  
And so they put soda in.

422  
00:22:44,400 --> 00:22:46,500  
What do you mean soda?

423  
00:22:46,500 --> 00:22:47,520  
Baking soda.

424  
00:22:47,520 --> 00:22:48,210  
Baking soda.

425  
00:22:48,210 --> 00:22:49,320  
Baking soda.

426  
00:22:49,320 --> 00:22:50,910  
Apparently it's  
supposed to have--

427  
00:22:50,910 --> 00:22:52,680  
we were separated anyhow.

428

00:22:52,680 --> 00:22:57,060

We were 96 women  
in one room for 45.

429

00:22:57,060 --> 00:23:00,540

We slept together.

430

00:23:00,540 --> 00:23:04,950

Where 45 people sleep,  
we slept 96 people.

431

00:23:04,950 --> 00:23:10,050

And we stayed there six weeks.

432

00:23:10,050 --> 00:23:12,600

Then one morning--  
oh, while I was there,

433

00:23:12,600 --> 00:23:15,150

they took me out-- if  
somebody could sew.

434

00:23:15,150 --> 00:23:20,640

They took me in an extra  
cell, and I had to sew.

435

00:23:20,640 --> 00:23:24,110

Somehow I must have  
pricked my finger here.

436

00:23:24,110 --> 00:23:25,920

Don't know how.

437

00:23:25,920 --> 00:23:27,240

And it got inflamed.

438

00:23:27,240 --> 00:23:29,160

And the next morning  
we were called

439

00:23:29,160 --> 00:23:31,080

to get out of the prison.

440  
00:23:31,080 --> 00:23:33,640  
We're going someplace else.

441  
00:23:33,640 --> 00:23:37,720  
And we had to  
march 96 kilometer.

442  
00:23:37,720 --> 00:23:40,880  
It's about in the 60s of miles.

443  
00:23:40,880 --> 00:23:47,160  
We got each one a loaf of bread,  
a blanket, and that was it.

444  
00:23:47,160 --> 00:23:48,810  
We didn't know where we go.

445  
00:23:48,810 --> 00:23:51,210  
We didn't know how  
long we will go.

446  
00:23:51,210 --> 00:23:53,670  
I know that was the  
worst thing of our life

447  
00:23:53,670 --> 00:23:56,100  
because we were walking  
and walking and walking

448  
00:23:56,100 --> 00:23:57,840  
for three days.

449  
00:23:57,840 --> 00:24:00,270  
At night we slept  
with the sheeps,

450  
00:24:00,270 --> 00:24:02,850  
which was wonderful  
warm, or with the cows

451  
00:24:02,850 --> 00:24:03,720

or with the horses.

452

00:24:03,720 --> 00:24:06,620

That was the only  
warm place we had.

453

00:24:06,620 --> 00:24:14,180

It was in 1944 in I  
think it was April.

454

00:24:14,180 --> 00:24:15,470

I think so.

455

00:24:15,470 --> 00:24:18,920

And I got so sick.

456

00:24:18,920 --> 00:24:22,840

My arm, the line  
went up to here.

457

00:24:22,840 --> 00:24:24,320

My arm was sore.

458

00:24:24,320 --> 00:24:25,800

I had high fever.

459

00:24:25,800 --> 00:24:27,380

I couldn't walk.

460

00:24:27,380 --> 00:24:31,190

I was walking between my  
sister and my girlfriend

461

00:24:31,190 --> 00:24:33,770

because nobody was allowed  
to know otherwise I

462

00:24:33,770 --> 00:24:35,000

would be shot down.

463

00:24:35,000 --> 00:24:37,610

And be marched and we marched.

464  
00:24:37,610 --> 00:24:42,230  
And one day, my sister  
said, this is ridiculous.

465  
00:24:42,230 --> 00:24:43,310  
Let them shoot me.

466  
00:24:43,310 --> 00:24:47,810  
And she put herself  
down on the highway.

467  
00:24:47,810 --> 00:24:50,840  
And I say, Herta, please.

468  
00:24:50,840 --> 00:24:52,670  
I want to be dead.

469  
00:24:52,670 --> 00:24:55,730  
And then I said, so then  
I want to be dead too.

470  
00:24:55,730 --> 00:24:58,790  
I have nobody else,  
and I sat down.

471  
00:24:58,790 --> 00:25:01,814  
And my girlfriend sat down too.

472  
00:25:01,814 --> 00:25:07,880  
So all of a sudden, the SS  
came, and so she saw the gun.

473  
00:25:07,880 --> 00:25:13,450  
She got like if she wakes  
up of a trench, gets up,

474  
00:25:13,450 --> 00:25:15,860  
and we marched and  
marched and marched.

475  
00:25:15,860 --> 00:25:23,480



And then one day, the last  
day came a delegation.

476  
00:25:23,480 --> 00:25:26,900  
And they looked at  
us, and somebody

477  
00:25:26,900 --> 00:25:28,280  
heard them saying who's that?

478  
00:25:28,280 --> 00:25:30,230  
And they said,  
they're leftover Jews.

479  
00:25:30,230 --> 00:25:31,670  
Where do they come from?

480  
00:25:31,670 --> 00:25:35,870  
They come from  
prison from Hamburg.

481  
00:25:35,870 --> 00:25:38,390

482  
00:25:38,390 --> 00:25:42,950  
And this guy, this one officer  
who asked, who supposed to be

483  
00:25:42,950 --> 00:25:45,860  
[INAUDIBLE].

484  
00:25:45,860 --> 00:25:50,360  
And he was on his way to  
Himmler for exchange prisoner.

485  
00:25:50,360 --> 00:25:52,880  
So instead, he must  
have chosen us.

486  
00:25:52,880 --> 00:25:55,300  
But that took another two weeks.

487

00:25:55,300 --> 00:25:57,370

We didn't know anything  
what was going on.

488

00:25:57,370 --> 00:26:00,500

We came to this  
Kiel-Hassee, which

489

00:26:00,500 --> 00:26:03,490

was the worst of everything  
what we went through.

490

00:26:03,490 --> 00:26:06,890

It was a new building,  
which wasn't finished.

491

00:26:06,890 --> 00:26:10,520

We slept about 220  
people in a room

492

00:26:10,520 --> 00:26:20,230

because they had gypsies,  
whores, Polish, French,

493

00:26:20,230 --> 00:26:25,970

Russian, everything whatever  
was possible was under one roof.

494

00:26:25,970 --> 00:26:31,250

Sick people with  
one pail on the end

495

00:26:31,250 --> 00:26:36,830

of the long, long hall where  
we slept that was a toilet.

496

00:26:36,830 --> 00:26:40,370

One, which constantly run over.

497

00:26:40,370 --> 00:26:43,100

I know I had my  
pair of boots yet,

498

00:26:43,100 --> 00:26:47,060  
and I slept, and  
I took them off.

499  
00:26:47,060 --> 00:26:48,890  
And the mistake I  
made, I take them off.

500  
00:26:48,890 --> 00:26:50,840  
The next morning I had--

501  
00:26:50,840 --> 00:26:54,530  
somebody used it as a toilet.

502  
00:26:54,530 --> 00:26:58,620  
I can't even blame the people  
because we had nothing.

503  
00:26:58,620 --> 00:27:01,940  
We got water-coffee--  
water-coffee we called it.

504  
00:27:01,940 --> 00:27:02,870  
We didn't drink it.

505  
00:27:02,870 --> 00:27:07,040  
We used it for washing  
our face and our hands.

506  
00:27:07,040 --> 00:27:10,090  
The next day we were so  
hungry and so thirsty--

507  
00:27:10,090 --> 00:27:11,990  
thirst is worse than hunger--

508  
00:27:11,990 --> 00:27:14,980  
that we just had to drink it.

509  
00:27:14,980 --> 00:27:17,090  
And we didn't wash anymore.

510

00:27:17,090 --> 00:27:18,020  
It didn't matter.

511  
00:27:18,020 --> 00:27:19,140  
The lice running over.

512  
00:27:19,140 --> 00:27:20,920  
And I had the lice  
all in my arm.

513  
00:27:20,920 --> 00:27:23,420  
They were in the  
wounds and everything.

514  
00:27:23,420 --> 00:27:25,530  
I wasn't able to go to work.

515  
00:27:25,530 --> 00:27:27,185  
I had to stay in the barrack.

516  
00:27:27,185 --> 00:27:30,920  
While my sister-- I see my  
sister everyday coming in with

517  
00:27:30,920 --> 00:27:32,300  
the face is my--

518  
00:27:32,300 --> 00:27:34,160  
am I still alive?

519  
00:27:34,160 --> 00:27:37,530  
You know, when I saw  
that face I said,

520  
00:27:37,530 --> 00:27:39,830  
how come that I'm still alive?

521  
00:27:39,830 --> 00:27:43,910  
And how come, said an SS man--

522  
00:27:43,910 --> 00:27:47,900  
I think they said

that he was Danish,

523

00:27:47,900 --> 00:27:50,630

which is unusual

because the Danish were

524

00:27:50,630 --> 00:27:51,720

so good to the Jews.

525

00:27:51,720 --> 00:27:52,350

I don't know.

526

00:27:52,350 --> 00:27:56,000

Maybe he lived in Germany and  
was an SS man by that time.

527

00:27:56,000 --> 00:27:57,650

I don't know.

528

00:27:57,650 --> 00:28:02,000

He went to the beds and  
said to the woman there,

529

00:28:02,000 --> 00:28:03,370

you don't feel well?

530

00:28:03,370 --> 00:28:05,480

No, I'm so sick.

531

00:28:05,480 --> 00:28:10,010

And he took a needle, and that  
the next one and took a needle.

532

00:28:10,010 --> 00:28:11,070

I said, uh-uh.

533

00:28:11,070 --> 00:28:13,760

Sick as I was, I  
better get out here.

534

00:28:13,760 --> 00:28:17,210

And I sneak by him

while he was busy,

535

00:28:17,210 --> 00:28:20,450

and I found a toilet where  
it said for sick only.

536

00:28:20,450 --> 00:28:22,400

That mean for  
venereal sicknesses.

537

00:28:22,400 --> 00:28:23,480

I had no idea.

538

00:28:23,480 --> 00:28:25,100

Was never used, I guess.

539

00:28:25,100 --> 00:28:27,950

It was-- everything was  
new, and I was sitting there

540

00:28:27,950 --> 00:28:30,140

what I think for hours.

541

00:28:30,140 --> 00:28:33,740

And when I came back, those  
people who they gave needles,

542

00:28:33,740 --> 00:28:35,000

they were not alive anymore.

543

00:28:35,000 --> 00:28:36,167

They were not there anymore.

544

00:28:36,167 --> 00:28:40,370

They were already picked  
up and they're gone.

545

00:28:40,370 --> 00:28:45,320

And there was one  
woman who had to see--

546

00:28:45,320 --> 00:28:47,510

not a Jewish.

547

00:28:47,510 --> 00:28:50,600

A woman who had to see over us.

548

00:28:50,600 --> 00:28:52,640

And one day she took pity on me.

549

00:28:52,640 --> 00:28:54,065

I don't know why.

550

00:28:54,065 --> 00:28:56,840

And she said, I'll let  
you be operated on.

551

00:28:56,840 --> 00:28:57,930

I bring you to a doctor.

552

00:28:57,930 --> 00:28:58,970

I said, no.

553

00:28:58,970 --> 00:28:59,560

No.

554

00:28:59,560 --> 00:29:01,640

I knew then I'm finished.

555

00:29:01,640 --> 00:29:03,980

She said, you don't tell me no.

556

00:29:03,980 --> 00:29:06,640

I tell you you'll  
go, and I take you.

557

00:29:06,640 --> 00:29:08,150

And she took me.

558

00:29:08,150 --> 00:29:12,950

And the doctor looked at  
my arm and he said, boy,

559

00:29:12,950 --> 00:29:15,810  
that doesn't look very good.

560  
00:29:15,810 --> 00:29:17,880  
Well, let's operate on.

561  
00:29:17,880 --> 00:29:20,620  
I said, I don't want  
to be operated on.

562  
00:29:20,620 --> 00:29:23,040  
He said, you have no choice.

563  
00:29:23,040 --> 00:29:26,750  
I said, if you operate on  
me, I said, you'll kill me.

564  
00:29:26,750 --> 00:29:28,720  
I want to live.

565  
00:29:28,720 --> 00:29:31,340  
I still want to live,  
believe it or not.

566  
00:29:31,340 --> 00:29:32,620  
So he said, you will?

567  
00:29:32,620 --> 00:29:34,430  
I will operate on you.

568  
00:29:34,430 --> 00:29:37,940  
And then I got the needle in  
the arm, but it didn't make me--

569  
00:29:37,940 --> 00:29:39,560  
I mean, I wasn't knocked out.

570  
00:29:39,560 --> 00:29:41,430  
I knew what was going on.

571  
00:29:41,430 --> 00:29:43,760  
And he said, tell me something.



572  
00:29:43,760 --> 00:29:45,590  
Why do you want to live?

573  
00:29:45,590 --> 00:29:47,630  
What for yet?

574  
00:29:47,630 --> 00:29:50,960  
You know the end is near.

575  
00:29:50,960 --> 00:29:56,720  
I said, as long you live,  
I told him, there is hope.

576  
00:29:56,720 --> 00:29:59,090  
Even as sick as I am.

577  
00:29:59,090 --> 00:30:02,660  
Well, he sewed my arm  
and my stitches up,

578  
00:30:02,660 --> 00:30:07,660  
and he gave me even  
a hard boiled egg.

579  
00:30:07,660 --> 00:30:11,380  
I see already when my sister  
comes we can share that.

580  
00:30:11,380 --> 00:30:13,760  
He said, and you eat it here.

581  
00:30:13,760 --> 00:30:14,915  
I said, I'm not hungry.

582  
00:30:14,915 --> 00:30:17,040  
He said, I don't care  
whether you're hungry or not.

583  
00:30:17,040 --> 00:30:18,332  
He must have guessed something.

584

00:30:18,332 --> 00:30:21,410

You eat it right in  
front of my eyes.

585

00:30:21,410 --> 00:30:23,240

So I had to.

586

00:30:23,240 --> 00:30:29,910

And then I gave my only slip  
which I had to the woman

587

00:30:29,910 --> 00:30:33,500

who brought me to the  
doctor to thank her.

588

00:30:33,500 --> 00:30:35,930

And she took it  
because she had--

589

00:30:35,930 --> 00:30:38,300

the Christians had nothing  
to wear either anymore.

590

00:30:38,300 --> 00:30:39,710

They were so bad up.

591

00:30:39,710 --> 00:30:44,900

I remember when I was on  
the march from Hamburg to--

592

00:30:44,900 --> 00:30:50,580

from Hamburg to  
Kiel-Hassee, there--

593

00:30:50,580 --> 00:30:53,230

I forgot what I want to say.

594

00:30:53,230 --> 00:30:54,220

No clothes.

595

00:30:54,220 --> 00:30:55,510

Where there were no clothes.

596  
00:30:55,510 --> 00:30:57,620  
They had nothing anymore.

597  
00:30:57,620 --> 00:31:01,370  
We were calling for water,  
water, water, water.

598  
00:31:01,370 --> 00:31:05,830  
And some-- a German came  
out and brought us water,

599  
00:31:05,830 --> 00:31:07,320  
came close to us.

600  
00:31:07,320 --> 00:31:11,010  
And the SS pushed him  
away, We couldn't have it.

601  
00:31:11,010 --> 00:31:12,460  
And [? water ?] stood there.

602  
00:31:12,460 --> 00:31:15,890  
We grabbed to it [? where ?]  
they took it out of our hand

603  
00:31:15,890 --> 00:31:17,480  
and threw it out.

604  
00:31:17,480 --> 00:31:26,990  
So then one day we heard  
terrible shooting at night.

605  
00:31:26,990 --> 00:31:32,900  
And in our-- where we  
slept there were windows

606  
00:31:32,900 --> 00:31:34,380  
but there were no windows in.

607  
00:31:34,380 --> 00:31:35,660  
It was bitter cold.

608  
00:31:35,660 --> 00:31:41,360  
And we looked out, and  
there was about 150 people,

609  
00:31:41,360 --> 00:31:43,490  
soldiers-- not soldier, officer.

610  
00:31:43,490 --> 00:31:45,940  
And they were Polish officer.

611  
00:31:45,940 --> 00:31:47,170  
And they killed them.

612  
00:31:47,170 --> 00:31:49,550  
It was the last day  
of the war already,

613  
00:31:49,550 --> 00:31:51,275  
the last couple of days.

614  
00:31:51,275 --> 00:31:52,550  
Killed them.

615  
00:31:52,550 --> 00:31:57,380  
And then they got us  
out at around 11 o'clock

616  
00:31:57,380 --> 00:32:00,610  
in the pouring rain and  
said, take your clothes off.

617  
00:32:00,610 --> 00:32:01,940  
No.

618  
00:32:01,940 --> 00:32:03,610  
This is the end.

619  
00:32:03,610 --> 00:32:07,800  
When we have to take the  
clothes off, that's bad.

620

00:32:07,800 --> 00:32:09,860  
We refused, but we had to do it.

621

00:32:09,860 --> 00:32:15,260  
They forced us with the guns,  
and we took the clothes off.

622

00:32:15,260 --> 00:32:18,020  
And then they gave us  
these bloody uniforms.

623

00:32:18,020 --> 00:32:20,910  
Put them on.

624

00:32:20,910 --> 00:32:25,530  
And we had to put them on.

625

00:32:25,530 --> 00:32:29,000  
And then they sent us  
out in the rain, pouring.

626

00:32:29,000 --> 00:32:30,950  
And it was just--

627

00:32:30,950 --> 00:32:36,300  
the blood from the uniform  
and the rain dripping on it.

628

00:32:36,300 --> 00:32:41,750  
And it was-- it was the end.

629

00:32:41,750 --> 00:32:45,930  
And we stood there for hours  
and for hours and for hours.

630

00:32:45,930 --> 00:32:52,740  
And all of a sudden, there  
come like furniture trucks.

631

00:32:52,740 --> 00:32:58,380  
Big white furniture trucks  
with a red cross on.

632  
00:32:58,380 --> 00:33:01,260  
And the SS said, go in.

633  
00:33:01,260 --> 00:33:02,370  
Nobody goes in.

634  
00:33:02,370 --> 00:33:04,980  
Nobody made a move.

635  
00:33:04,980 --> 00:33:05,970  
I mean, we have to die.

636  
00:33:05,970 --> 00:33:07,350  
Why should we go somewhere else?

637  
00:33:07,350 --> 00:33:09,350  
Let us die right here.

638  
00:33:09,350 --> 00:33:10,716  
We were finished.

639  
00:33:10,716 --> 00:33:15,120  
Finished physically,  
mentally, anywhere.

640  
00:33:15,120 --> 00:33:17,750  
And they pushed us in.

641  
00:33:17,750 --> 00:33:24,130  
And they closed door after us,  
and we're laying in the dark.

642  
00:33:24,130 --> 00:33:26,740  
There was just so much  
opening that was there.

643  
00:33:26,740 --> 00:33:34,405  
And then after hours  
of driving, the doors--

644

00:33:34,405 --> 00:33:38,030  
the truck stopped,  
the van, and the doors

645  
00:33:38,030 --> 00:33:43,080  
opened, and there were some  
friendly faces that said,

646  
00:33:43,080 --> 00:33:44,840  
you are in Flensburg.

647  
00:33:44,840 --> 00:33:46,830  
You are free.

648  
00:33:46,830 --> 00:33:50,600  
When we stop again,  
you are free.

649  
00:33:50,600 --> 00:33:53,280  
And they closed the  
door again, and we went

650  
00:33:53,280 --> 00:33:56,040  
and then we wound up in Denmark.

651  
00:33:56,040 --> 00:33:57,990  
And we were free.

652  
00:33:57,990 --> 00:34:01,470  
And it was unbelievable.

653  
00:34:01,470 --> 00:34:04,970  
And they had a little  
station where we got out

654  
00:34:04,970 --> 00:34:07,940  
and there were showers  
where they showered us.

655  
00:34:07,940 --> 00:34:12,560  
We [INAUDIBLE] our louse uniform  
with the coats and everything

656

00:34:12,560 --> 00:34:14,120  
on again.

657

00:34:14,120 --> 00:34:16,909  
And then they put  
us in the train,

658

00:34:16,909 --> 00:34:20,600  
and they gave two people  
a package of food.

659

00:34:20,600 --> 00:34:22,500  
Every two people  
got one package.

660

00:34:22,500 --> 00:34:24,840  
There was everything in  
what you can name it.

661

00:34:24,840 --> 00:34:27,510  
Chocolate, I haven't  
seen that in four years.

662

00:34:27,510 --> 00:34:33,620  
And marmalade and sandwiches  
and you name it, it was there.

663

00:34:33,620 --> 00:34:35,000  
And we ate it all up.

664

00:34:35,000 --> 00:34:39,875  
And two young fellows  
died right on the spot.

665

00:34:39,875 --> 00:34:41,780  
Their stomach couldn't  
hold it anymore.

666

00:34:41,780 --> 00:34:45,980  
Young people who survived  
because they had big children's

667



00:34:45,980 --> 00:34:49,940  
transports where they  
killed all the babies

668  
00:34:49,940 --> 00:34:55,389  
and put them on the train and  
let them dry out in the heat,

669  
00:34:55,389 --> 00:34:56,929  
close everything up.

670  
00:34:56,929 --> 00:35:00,170  
I saw that one  
girl from Hannover,

671  
00:35:00,170 --> 00:35:02,940  
she had a little child  
of two or three years.

672  
00:35:02,940 --> 00:35:04,730  
Adorable.

673  
00:35:04,730 --> 00:35:08,550  
And her mother-- oh,  
that I have to tell you.

674  
00:35:08,550 --> 00:35:10,260  
I can't even stop.

675  
00:35:10,260 --> 00:35:15,720  
There was an action, and that  
was Dr. [Personal name] Dr.

676  
00:35:15,720 --> 00:35:19,010  
[Personal name] was  
really a doctor,

677  
00:35:19,010 --> 00:35:21,920  
and you had to get undressed  
completely naked in front

678  
00:35:21,920 --> 00:35:23,980  
of him, and you had

to walk around him.

679

00:35:23,980 --> 00:35:26,860

And if he saw a little  
pimple on your body,

680

00:35:26,860 --> 00:35:31,770

right side, left side,  
right side, left side,

681

00:35:31,770 --> 00:35:33,980

and there comes this--

682

00:35:33,980 --> 00:35:36,670

[Peronal name] was her  
name, with her mother,

683

00:35:36,670 --> 00:35:39,710

who was 50 years old, and  
[Personal name] was in the--

684

00:35:39,710 --> 00:35:44,180

maybe 27, 28, and had a  
little two-year-old girl.

685

00:35:44,180 --> 00:35:51,060

And he said to them,  
either you, to the older--

686

00:35:51,060 --> 00:35:55,390

to the mother, or you, the  
daughter who had the baby.

687

00:35:55,390 --> 00:35:58,520

One of you has to  
go on that side.

688

00:35:58,520 --> 00:36:00,810

So they were so stunned.

689

00:36:00,810 --> 00:36:06,725

And the mother said, I  
lived my life, good bye,

690

00:36:06,725 --> 00:36:09,110

and gave them a kiss and  
went to the other side.

691

00:36:09,110 --> 00:36:11,760

And that was the transport where  
they were killed because they

692

00:36:11,760 --> 00:36:14,120

might have had a pimple.

693

00:36:14,120 --> 00:36:21,935

So I forgot again  
what I want to say.

694

00:36:21,935 --> 00:36:27,540

So anyhow, this is a  
part of this story.

695

00:36:27,540 --> 00:36:30,340

And then we came  
finally to Sweden.

696

00:36:30,340 --> 00:36:32,850

Oh, then they had to clean  
first the whole train again

697

00:36:32,850 --> 00:36:36,240

because we couldn't  
leave anything with us.

698

00:36:36,240 --> 00:36:39,460

Can you imagine you hadn't had  
any real food in about three

699

00:36:39,460 --> 00:36:41,970

and a half years,  
and all of a sudden

700

00:36:41,970 --> 00:36:46,520

you are loaded with chocolate  
and with cake and with sandwich

701  
00:36:46,520 --> 00:36:49,200  
and marmalade,  
whatever was there.

702  
00:36:49,200 --> 00:36:51,720  
Your stomach  
couldn't stomach it.

703  
00:36:51,720 --> 00:36:55,060  
So with the whole train  
had to be cleaned again.

704  
00:36:55,060 --> 00:36:56,580  
And then we went  
finally on our way.

705  
00:36:56,580 --> 00:36:58,810  
And the train went on the boat.

706  
00:36:58,810 --> 00:37:00,240  
And with the boat--

707  
00:37:00,240 --> 00:37:01,680  
the train on the boat--

708  
00:37:01,680 --> 00:37:03,660  
we came through  
a couple islands.

709  
00:37:03,660 --> 00:37:04,830  
I had to look at the map.

710  
00:37:04,830 --> 00:37:06,850  
And then we came to Sweden.

711  
00:37:06,850 --> 00:37:08,610  
We were very much delayed.

712  
00:37:08,610 --> 00:37:11,140  
We come to Sweden at night.

713

00:37:11,140 --> 00:37:14,870

And there were two big  
tents for us waiting.

714

00:37:14,870 --> 00:37:18,240

And they had potatoes,  
big potatoes,

715

00:37:18,240 --> 00:37:20,070

but it was cold  
because it was done

716

00:37:20,070 --> 00:37:23,500

during the day, and chocolate  
milk, which was cold.

717

00:37:23,500 --> 00:37:27,450

So we grabbed it and ate it,  
and then they stripped us.

718

00:37:27,450 --> 00:37:29,790

The Swedish people,  
they were fantastic.

719

00:37:29,790 --> 00:37:34,410

They stripped us  
completely, scrubbed us,

720

00:37:34,410 --> 00:37:36,700

and gave us new clothes.

721

00:37:36,700 --> 00:37:41,530

A new dress without stripes.

722

00:37:41,530 --> 00:37:42,510

No uniform.

723

00:37:42,510 --> 00:37:44,700

Nothing.

724

00:37:44,700 --> 00:37:48,480

We felt like Queen

Elizabeth, I would say.

725

00:37:48,480 --> 00:37:50,890

It was unbelievable.

726

00:37:50,890 --> 00:37:57,390

And then they brought  
us by bus to a school

727

00:37:57,390 --> 00:38:01,350

which they emptied out,  
and there were beds, right?

728

00:38:01,350 --> 00:38:02,100

Linen-- not linen.

729

00:38:02,100 --> 00:38:03,510

Paper beds, you know?

730

00:38:03,510 --> 00:38:06,550

Paper sheets and paper pillows.

731

00:38:06,550 --> 00:38:07,990

It was such a luxury.

732

00:38:07,990 --> 00:38:10,860

That was absolutely  
unbelievable.

733

00:38:10,860 --> 00:38:14,070

And before I forget,  
I have to say,

734

00:38:14,070 --> 00:38:18,000

the Swedish Jews  
were miserable to us.

735

00:38:18,000 --> 00:38:20,130

I understand the reasons.

736

00:38:20,130 --> 00:38:24,180

The reason was that they were

afraid we would stay there.

737

00:38:24,180 --> 00:38:29,190

Many of them came from Germany,  
escaped to come over to Sweden.

738

00:38:29,190 --> 00:38:33,220

And they really saw--

739

00:38:33,220 --> 00:38:38,900

this can be seen another  
antisemitism wave.

740

00:38:38,900 --> 00:38:43,155

When the rabbi came,  
and I never forget

741

00:38:43,155 --> 00:38:46,530

he said, oh, I  
want to tell you, I

742

00:38:46,530 --> 00:38:49,790

am so happy that we  
were able to rescue you.

743

00:38:49,790 --> 00:38:50,990

Well, he didn't rescue us.

744

00:38:50,990 --> 00:38:53,050

That was Swedish [INAUDIBLE].

745

00:38:53,050 --> 00:38:56,040

You know, I was also in Hamburg.

746

00:38:56,040 --> 00:38:57,750

Is anybody here from Hamburg?

747

00:38:57,750 --> 00:39:00,610

And so somebody jumped forward  
and said, I am from Hamburg.

748

00:39:00,610 --> 00:39:03,870

He said, please, my dear.

749

00:39:03,870 --> 00:39:05,130

Don't come so close.

750

00:39:05,130 --> 00:39:07,480

You still have your lice.

751

00:39:07,480 --> 00:39:09,390

That was a rabbi.

752

00:39:09,390 --> 00:39:11,480

Oh, and I was also in Berlin.

753

00:39:11,480 --> 00:39:13,060

Is anybody from Berlin?

754

00:39:13,060 --> 00:39:16,445

Naturally, you know, we  
were no human beings.

755

00:39:16,445 --> 00:39:19,170

We were already animals.

756

00:39:19,170 --> 00:39:24,470

We had no feelings anymore.

757

00:39:24,470 --> 00:39:27,450

We were so run down  
to say the least.

758

00:39:27,450 --> 00:39:29,770

We've had more  
deaths than a life.

759

00:39:29,770 --> 00:39:32,015

I was 90 pounds once.

760

00:39:32,015 --> 00:39:33,270

And I was there--

761



00:39:33,270 --> 00:39:36,660  
when I came to Sweden,  
I was barely 60.

762  
00:39:36,660 --> 00:39:41,020  
And other people who were much  
heavier lost more, you know?

763  
00:39:41,020 --> 00:39:42,090  
And we were nothing.

764  
00:39:42,090 --> 00:39:44,260  
And we had no hair  
and a uniform.

765  
00:39:44,260 --> 00:39:47,580  
And we were skeleton, and we  
were sick, and we had lice.

766  
00:39:47,580 --> 00:39:49,590  
So I don't blame  
people that they don't

767  
00:39:49,590 --> 00:39:51,300  
want to run to us right away.

768  
00:39:51,300 --> 00:39:54,380  
But the Swedes didn't care.

769  
00:39:54,380 --> 00:39:55,790  
They did it.

770  
00:39:55,790 --> 00:39:56,740  
But the Jews--

771  
00:39:56,740 --> 00:40:01,770  
I know the first Oneg  
Shabbat in the school,

772  
00:40:01,770 --> 00:40:04,050  
they came with the challah.

773

00:40:04,050 --> 00:40:07,650

They cut the challahs in  
pieces and society ladies

774

00:40:07,650 --> 00:40:10,980

with the rings and all  
over and the new hair style

775

00:40:10,980 --> 00:40:14,490

and Friday you had to look  
good-- especially good.

776

00:40:14,490 --> 00:40:16,170

Now, let me tell you something.

777

00:40:16,170 --> 00:40:19,350

Each one can have one  
piece of challah, not more.

778

00:40:19,350 --> 00:40:21,300

Do you hear me?

779

00:40:21,300 --> 00:40:25,740

To us who starved for  
three and a half year, who

780

00:40:25,740 --> 00:40:27,600

went through that,  
we couldn't have

781

00:40:27,600 --> 00:40:29,290

more than one piece of challah.

782

00:40:29,290 --> 00:40:31,330

They had to tell us that.

783

00:40:31,330 --> 00:40:34,400

That was the Swedish Jews.

784

00:40:34,400 --> 00:40:36,005

It's unbelievable.

785

00:40:36,005 --> 00:40:38,130  
So I don't-- I'm not  
[? talking ?] [? about ?] now.

786  
00:40:38,130 --> 00:40:42,610  
They're not all that way, but  
this is what we experienced.

787  
00:40:42,610 --> 00:40:43,860  
Am I-- can I ask you--

788  
00:40:43,860 --> 00:40:44,370  
Yes, sure.

789  
00:40:44,370 --> 00:40:46,037  
--for a moment to  
backtrack a little bit

790  
00:40:46,037 --> 00:40:49,410  
and tell us the story of  
the rings of who made them

791  
00:40:49,410 --> 00:40:52,450  
and how did you manage  
to keep them with you?

792  
00:40:52,450 --> 00:40:54,010  
Yes, that's a good question.

793  
00:40:54,010 --> 00:40:56,280  
I wonder sometimes myself.

794  
00:40:56,280 --> 00:40:59,200  
I had a friend who was  
Latvian, and we are

795  
00:40:59,200 --> 00:41:00,510  
really-- we are good friends.

796  
00:41:00,510 --> 00:41:02,460  
And he was a jeweler.

797

00:41:02,460 --> 00:41:05,860  
And one day he surprised  
me and came with that ring,

798  
00:41:05,860 --> 00:41:07,440  
which was done out of a screw.

799  
00:41:07,440 --> 00:41:11,190  
And he said, I wish I could give  
it to you in silver or gold,

800  
00:41:11,190 --> 00:41:12,480  
but this is all I had.

801  
00:41:12,480 --> 00:41:13,890  
I said, oh, that is lovely.

802  
00:41:13,890 --> 00:41:16,620  
And I really was very happy.

803  
00:41:16,620 --> 00:41:20,970  
And then I had another  
friend who was a musician.

804  
00:41:20,970 --> 00:41:22,520  
He was also Latvian Jew.

805  
00:41:22,520 --> 00:41:25,590  
And he's living in Morgan--

806  
00:41:25,590 --> 00:41:27,870  
a university in--  
is that Morgantown

807  
00:41:27,870 --> 00:41:30,630  
in Virginia or somewhere?

808  
00:41:30,630 --> 00:41:32,670  
And he's teaching there.

809  
00:41:32,670 --> 00:41:36,107  
And he had a silver spoon

left, and he liked me too.

810  
00:41:36,107 --> 00:41:37,390  
I don't know why.

811  
00:41:37,390 --> 00:41:41,070  
And he gave this friend  
who made that ring

812  
00:41:41,070 --> 00:41:46,370  
when he saw that to make  
a ring out of the spoon.

813  
00:41:46,370 --> 00:41:47,760  
So I have them both.

814  
00:41:47,760 --> 00:41:48,900  
How I got them--

815  
00:41:48,900 --> 00:41:55,710  
I kept them, that is also  
surprising because I had--

816  
00:41:55,710 --> 00:41:58,320  
most of us had a  
little wallet hanging

817  
00:41:58,320 --> 00:42:01,080  
on a string in our bosom here.

818  
00:42:01,080 --> 00:42:02,710  
And I had a few pictures.

819  
00:42:02,710 --> 00:42:06,150  
The few pictures I have like  
this here from my parents.

820  
00:42:06,150 --> 00:42:09,490  
It was all in there, and  
the ring was in there.

821  
00:42:09,490 --> 00:42:14,400

And one day I cleaned for SS  
man, and he was so miserable,

822  
00:42:14,400 --> 00:42:15,780  
and I couldn't stand him.

823  
00:42:15,780 --> 00:42:19,260  
And he really was incredible.

824  
00:42:19,260 --> 00:42:22,680  
And one day he wasn't there, and  
I know he was a typical German.

825  
00:42:22,680 --> 00:42:25,020  
There's a calendar.

826  
00:42:25,020 --> 00:42:28,320  
You know, we had leafs  
calendars, not like monthly.

827  
00:42:28,320 --> 00:42:32,520  
Every day you had to tear it  
off, and I didn't tear it off.

828  
00:42:32,520 --> 00:42:34,270  
And he didn't come  
back the next day.

829  
00:42:34,270 --> 00:42:35,145  
I didn't tear it off.

830  
00:42:35,145 --> 00:42:36,520  
The next day he  
didn't come back.

831  
00:42:36,520 --> 00:42:39,540  
After five days he came  
back and he saw that.

832  
00:42:39,540 --> 00:42:41,410  
He got such a rage.

833

00:42:41,410 --> 00:42:46,150  
He grabbed me and shook me  
and he suddenly felt something.

834  
00:42:46,150 --> 00:42:47,790  
And he grabbed in  
and took it out.

835  
00:42:47,790 --> 00:42:50,580  
And I said, please don't  
take it away, I said.

836  
00:42:50,580 --> 00:42:52,770  
It's only a few pictures.

837  
00:42:52,770 --> 00:42:56,160  
You will die for that, he said.

838  
00:42:56,160 --> 00:42:59,520  
I will go to the  
commandant, and he did.

839  
00:42:59,520 --> 00:43:03,530  
And it was a new commandant,  
and he wasn't broken in yet.

840  
00:43:03,530 --> 00:43:04,800  
He was later on terrible.

841  
00:43:04,800 --> 00:43:07,870  
But in the beginning he  
didn't know what he was doing.

842  
00:43:07,870 --> 00:43:12,060  
I said, please, commandant,  
just let me have it.

843  
00:43:12,060 --> 00:43:14,610  
There is nothing  
in but pictures,

844  
00:43:14,610 --> 00:43:19,250  
and you can look into it,

and a letter from my parents.

845

00:43:19,250 --> 00:43:21,660

It's all I have, and the rings.

846

00:43:21,660 --> 00:43:24,150

Now the rings, I don't know  
where I had them at that time.

847

00:43:24,150 --> 00:43:25,150

If I would have hidden--

848

00:43:25,150 --> 00:43:26,720

I knew that I had  
to go to him, must

849

00:43:26,720 --> 00:43:28,780

have some place I have hidden.

850

00:43:28,780 --> 00:43:30,260

So he gave it back to me.

851

00:43:30,260 --> 00:43:33,180

And that's where I got it.

852

00:43:33,180 --> 00:43:37,590

And I once-- once  
I did something.

853

00:43:37,590 --> 00:43:40,560

I think I suffered  
terrible for that.

854

00:43:40,560 --> 00:43:43,650

I had rheumatic fever.

855

00:43:43,650 --> 00:43:44,880

And we had nothing.

856

00:43:44,880 --> 00:43:46,282

I got one aspirin a day.



857

00:43:46,282 --> 00:43:47,490

That's all they could afford.

858

00:43:47,490 --> 00:43:51,120

I was laid in cotton,  
and I was laying

859

00:43:51,120 --> 00:43:53,970

for three weeks that sick.

860

00:43:53,970 --> 00:44:00,850

And I got a little bit  
better, and I got up

861

00:44:00,850 --> 00:44:03,000

when the new action came.

862

00:44:03,000 --> 00:44:05,630

Everybody had to come  
out, and I barely made it

863

00:44:05,630 --> 00:44:07,920

to the collection place.

864

00:44:07,920 --> 00:44:10,620

I have been told by this  
miserable Dr. [Personal name]

865

00:44:10,620 --> 00:44:14,830

I can stay so and so  
many days and get you.

866

00:44:14,830 --> 00:44:16,120

And then I go back to work.

867

00:44:16,120 --> 00:44:19,050

And if I cannot get to work,  
then he didn't say anything.

868

00:44:19,050 --> 00:44:21,970

That means then you're dead.

869

00:44:21,970 --> 00:44:31,490

The action came, and I was  
called up to go on the wagon.

870

00:44:31,490 --> 00:44:36,800

And I didn't.

871

00:44:36,800 --> 00:44:37,730

I said, I'm not going.

872

00:44:37,730 --> 00:44:39,563

Dr. [Personal name]  
said I don't have to go.

873

00:44:39,563 --> 00:44:40,190

I'm not going.

874

00:44:40,190 --> 00:44:41,120

And they pushed me up.

875

00:44:41,120 --> 00:44:43,950

And here I was standing on  
the wagon, and I jumped down.

876

00:44:43,950 --> 00:44:46,400

As sick as I was, I jumped down.

877

00:44:46,400 --> 00:44:49,580

They put me up again,  
and I jumped down again.

878

00:44:49,580 --> 00:44:52,320

I did this procedure  
three times, and I said,

879

00:44:52,320 --> 00:44:53,630

I am not going on.

880

00:44:53,630 --> 00:44:54,950

You can shoot me on the place.

881

00:44:54,950 --> 00:44:57,080  
I see my parents standing there.

882  
00:44:57,080 --> 00:44:58,810  
They were there at the time.

883  
00:44:58,810 --> 00:45:01,440  
They had the tears running  
down that I have to leave

884  
00:45:01,440 --> 00:45:02,690  
and they couldn't do anything.

885  
00:45:02,690 --> 00:45:04,310  
I was so determined.

886  
00:45:04,310 --> 00:45:07,190  
I said, I am not going on.

887  
00:45:07,190 --> 00:45:09,630  
I said, if you want to shoot  
me, you can do it right here.

888  
00:45:09,630 --> 00:45:12,380  
I am not going on.

889  
00:45:12,380 --> 00:45:15,470  
And so the commotion  
came on, and then

890  
00:45:15,470 --> 00:45:17,842  
that Dr. [Personal  
name] came and said,

891  
00:45:17,842 --> 00:45:19,050  
what's the trouble, Gertrude.

892  
00:45:19,050 --> 00:45:23,690  
Thank god my sister was a  
nurse and she knew them all.

893  
00:45:23,690 --> 00:45:24,710

So I told him.

894

00:45:24,710 --> 00:45:27,920

He said, to Dr. [Personal name] if you promised her

895

00:45:27,920 --> 00:45:29,720

that, she's not going on.

896

00:45:29,720 --> 00:45:32,170

And they took somebody else.

897

00:45:32,170 --> 00:45:37,820

And for years and years, I feel like if I killed somebody.

898

00:45:37,820 --> 00:45:44,870

And it took years and years of therapy with a psychiatrist

899

00:45:44,870 --> 00:45:47,510

that I finally came to grips with it.

900

00:45:47,510 --> 00:45:50,210

I was so bad off I couldn't even walk.

901

00:45:50,210 --> 00:45:52,520

I couldn't cross the street.

902

00:45:52,520 --> 00:45:54,970

I was completely like--

903

00:45:54,970 --> 00:45:58,850

almost like paralyzed because the guilt.

904

00:45:58,850 --> 00:46:02,690

And it's until I realized it wasn't really my guilt,

905

00:46:02,690 --> 00:46:05,480  
that man was doomed as  
much as I was doomed.

906  
00:46:05,480 --> 00:46:07,410  
If it wasn't that on this--

907  
00:46:07,410 --> 00:46:09,670  
the doctor said,  
on this trip, it

908  
00:46:09,670 --> 00:46:11,280  
would've been on another trip.

909  
00:46:11,280 --> 00:46:15,050  
She said, you cannot play god.

910  
00:46:15,050 --> 00:46:17,900  
And slowly but surely I  
came to grips with it.

911  
00:46:17,900 --> 00:46:19,365  
But it still is there.

912  
00:46:19,365 --> 00:46:21,890  
Once in a while it bothers  
me, and once in a while

913  
00:46:21,890 --> 00:46:26,860  
I just can't walk just  
like if I'm paralyzed.

914  
00:46:26,860 --> 00:46:29,000  
But it goes away.

915  
00:46:29,000 --> 00:46:31,950  
How long does it  
last when it happens?

916  
00:46:31,950 --> 00:46:33,360  
You mean that I can't walk?

917

00:46:33,360 --> 00:46:33,860

Yes.

918

00:46:33,860 --> 00:46:36,110

Oh, it could have  
been a whole day.

919

00:46:36,110 --> 00:46:39,260

I can walk in the house, but  
I could not cross the street.

920

00:46:39,260 --> 00:46:41,940

And that's it.

921

00:46:41,940 --> 00:46:44,500

So we all left our mark  
some way or another.

922

00:46:44,500 --> 00:46:48,710

Oh, and then I came-- when I  
came to Sweden with my blood

923

00:46:48,710 --> 00:46:50,930

poisons, they took me  
right away to the hospital

924

00:46:50,930 --> 00:46:53,560

and they opened it  
up a couple of times.

925

00:46:53,560 --> 00:46:56,960

It grew [INAUDIBLE]  
together again.

926

00:46:56,960 --> 00:47:01,520

Then we came in a place where  
we had to be [NON-ENGLISH]..

927

00:47:01,520 --> 00:47:03,880

You know what [NON-ENGLISH] is?

928

00:47:03,880 --> 00:47:04,380

No.

929

00:47:04,380 --> 00:47:07,073

You have to be separate from  
everyone and from [INAUDIBLE]

930

00:47:07,073 --> 00:47:09,520

from everybody see first  
what sicknesses you have--

931

00:47:09,520 --> 00:47:10,080

Quarantine.

932

00:47:10,080 --> 00:47:10,700

Quarantine.

933

00:47:10,700 --> 00:47:12,290

That's it.

934

00:47:12,290 --> 00:47:15,680

And my arm got so bad  
that doctors actually

935

00:47:15,680 --> 00:47:17,840

sent an ambulance.

936

00:47:17,840 --> 00:47:21,160

And they said, well, if  
it's not better by tomorrow,

937

00:47:21,160 --> 00:47:24,140

we have to amputate the arm.

938

00:47:24,140 --> 00:47:25,160

So what could I lose?

939

00:47:25,160 --> 00:47:27,590

My sister said, you know  
what, Gertrude, come on.

940

00:47:27,590 --> 00:47:29,740

I have soap suds.

941

00:47:29,740 --> 00:47:34,280

We had the green, heavy soap,  
a liquid, and hot water.

942

00:47:34,280 --> 00:47:36,470

And I take a kitchen  
knife and I open it up

943

00:47:36,470 --> 00:47:38,430

and we see if the pus comes out.

944

00:47:38,430 --> 00:47:40,100

So that's what she did.

945

00:47:40,100 --> 00:47:43,460

I almost fainted, but  
she did open it up.

946

00:47:43,460 --> 00:47:47,060

And the pus, yes,  
was running out.

947

00:47:47,060 --> 00:47:49,957

And the next morning when the  
ambulance came back and wanted

948

00:47:49,957 --> 00:47:51,790

to pick me up and the  
doctor look at the arm

949

00:47:51,790 --> 00:47:54,290

and said, what happened?

950

00:47:54,290 --> 00:47:55,140

I don't know.

951

00:47:55,140 --> 00:47:56,300

We never told them.

952

00:47:56,300 --> 00:48:00,500

Because we couldn't play doctor.



953

00:48:00,500 --> 00:48:04,050

-- well, I think you don't  
have to get it amputated.

954

00:48:04,050 --> 00:48:04,720

And here I am.

955

00:48:04,720 --> 00:48:07,920

All I have is a stiff  
thumb, and that's it.

956

00:48:07,920 --> 00:48:08,840

That's it.

957

00:48:08,840 --> 00:48:10,890

Do you want to go home I guess?

958

00:48:10,890 --> 00:48:13,430

Otherwise I talk more.

959

00:48:13,430 --> 00:48:15,080

How long were you in Sweden?

960

00:48:15,080 --> 00:48:18,130

About three and a half years.

961

00:48:18,130 --> 00:48:19,430

It was a lovely time.

962

00:48:19,430 --> 00:48:21,470

I was sick for a whole year.

963

00:48:21,470 --> 00:48:23,420

Everybody who got better could--

964

00:48:23,420 --> 00:48:26,450

they were so great, the Swedes.

965

00:48:26,450 --> 00:48:29,510

When you were ready to  
go, you were examined

966  
00:48:29,510 --> 00:48:33,930  
and you were ready and able  
and spoke enough Swedish,

967  
00:48:33,930 --> 00:48:36,680  
then they supplied  
you-- if you didn't

968  
00:48:36,680 --> 00:48:39,665  
want to go to another  
country, they supplied you

969  
00:48:39,665 --> 00:48:43,670  
with an apartment, which  
paid you the first rent,

970  
00:48:43,670 --> 00:48:45,830  
and then you had  
to do it yourself.

971  
00:48:45,830 --> 00:48:49,590  
They gave you a job in your  
field, whatever you wanted to.

972  
00:48:49,590 --> 00:48:50,945  
And you were on your own.

973  
00:48:50,945 --> 00:48:52,130  
And that's what happened.

974  
00:48:52,130 --> 00:48:55,460  
I was a whole year in--

975  
00:48:55,460 --> 00:49:00,680  
they had these wonderful  
homes for us in the woods.

976  
00:49:00,680 --> 00:49:02,110  
It was beautiful.

977  
00:49:02,110 --> 00:49:03,190

Two people in one room.

978  
00:49:03,190 --> 00:49:05,200  
My sister and I,  
we had one room.

979  
00:49:05,200 --> 00:49:09,815  
And we had kitchen privilege.

980  
00:49:09,815 --> 00:49:12,120  
We had to help in the  
kitchen a little bit,

981  
00:49:12,120 --> 00:49:13,950  
but it was about all.

982  
00:49:13,950 --> 00:49:18,710  
And after a year I was ready.

983  
00:49:18,710 --> 00:49:24,260  
My sister took a job  
as a nurse in a family.

984  
00:49:24,260 --> 00:49:25,730  
They had two children.

985  
00:49:25,730 --> 00:49:27,990  
Not as a nurse, a kindermaid.

986  
00:49:27,990 --> 00:49:29,210  
How do you say?

987  
00:49:29,210 --> 00:49:30,860  
Not a maid, housemaid.

988  
00:49:30,860 --> 00:49:31,520  
Nurse?

989  
00:49:31,520 --> 00:49:32,030  
Governess?

990

00:49:32,030 --> 00:49:32,570

Or--

991

00:49:32,570 --> 00:49:34,600

Something like that, yeah.

992

00:49:34,600 --> 00:49:39,900

And when I came out after a  
year, I lived in the same room

993

00:49:39,900 --> 00:49:41,110

with her.

994

00:49:41,110 --> 00:49:43,690

And then we got  
our own apartment.

995

00:49:43,690 --> 00:49:47,620

And I worked in the  
dressmaker shop.

996

00:49:47,620 --> 00:49:51,610

And she went back to  
the hospital in Sweden

997

00:49:51,610 --> 00:49:53,680

to become a nurse.

998

00:49:53,680 --> 00:49:57,130

And then she got  
an offer to work

999

00:49:57,130 --> 00:50:00,490

as a nurse in a TB  
hospital near Stockholm

1000

00:50:00,490 --> 00:50:05,620

where all refugees who survive  
who had TB were brought there,

1001

00:50:05,620 --> 00:50:07,900

and she became the  
head nurse there.

1002  
00:50:07,900 --> 00:50:11,740  
And I went with her, and I  
was doing all the like sheets

1003  
00:50:11,740 --> 00:50:16,480  
or fixing and alterations of  
what the kids-- young girls

1004  
00:50:16,480 --> 00:50:19,360  
wanted something or the  
nurses wanted something.

1005  
00:50:19,360 --> 00:50:23,650  
And then we were there  
for quite a while.

1006  
00:50:23,650 --> 00:50:24,460  
Over a year there.

1007  
00:50:24,460 --> 00:50:28,330  
And then we decided why don't we  
go see our friends [INAUDIBLE]

1008  
00:50:28,330 --> 00:50:32,150  
if we want to come  
[INAUDIBLE] let's try it.

1009  
00:50:32,150 --> 00:50:34,360  
We don't have to stay.

1010  
00:50:34,360 --> 00:50:40,390  
But that was-- some 30 some  
years later we're still here.

1011  
00:50:40,390 --> 00:50:44,210  
Yeah, why did you come  
to the United States?

1012  
00:50:44,210 --> 00:50:45,610  
What precipitated that?

1013

00:50:45,610 --> 00:50:47,250  
Curiosity.

1014  
00:50:47,250 --> 00:50:49,090  
Honest to god, curiosity.

1015  
00:50:49,090 --> 00:50:53,680  
You know, we have been around  
so much and everything.

1016  
00:50:53,680 --> 00:50:57,510  
And you were on [INAUDIBLE]  
lucky [INAUDIBLE]

1017  
00:50:57,510 --> 00:50:58,540  
and a happy [INAUDIBLE].

1018  
00:50:58,540 --> 00:51:02,890  
And Sweden is beautiful.

1019  
00:51:02,890 --> 00:51:06,580  
But it was something like  
you wanted something new.

1020  
00:51:06,580 --> 00:51:08,070  
You want to see something new.

1021  
00:51:08,070 --> 00:51:10,390  
And that's what we did exactly.

1022  
00:51:10,390 --> 00:51:11,950  
Then we get stuck here.

1023  
00:51:11,950 --> 00:51:12,820  
We got married.

1024  
00:51:12,820 --> 00:51:15,940  
My sister unfortunately a widow.

1025  
00:51:15,940 --> 00:51:17,200  
We got our own family.

1026

00:51:17,200 --> 00:51:18,920

I have a daughter.

1027

00:51:18,920 --> 00:51:20,170

How did you meet your husband?

1028

00:51:20,170 --> 00:51:22,310

My husband was a blind date.

1029

00:51:22,310 --> 00:51:25,120

I went to the Catskills.

1030

00:51:25,120 --> 00:51:29,310

Everybody said-- I couldn't find  
nobody which I liked enough.

1031

00:51:29,310 --> 00:51:30,840

And going out, yes.

1032

00:51:30,840 --> 00:51:32,510

And I'm getting older.

1033

00:51:32,510 --> 00:51:34,930

And someone said to me, why  
don't you go to the Catskills?

1034

00:51:34,930 --> 00:51:37,140

That is where all  
Jews meet somebody.

1035

00:51:37,140 --> 00:51:39,790

Well, I packed my  
things, I got a taxi,

1036

00:51:39,790 --> 00:51:41,020

and went to the Catskills.

1037

00:51:41,020 --> 00:51:43,510

I lived in Philadelphia  
at that time.

1038

00:51:43,510 --> 00:51:46,090  
That's where we came to.

1039  
00:51:46,090 --> 00:51:52,040  
And I stayed in a  
hotel in Pine Hill.

1040  
00:51:52,040 --> 00:51:53,520  
I think it's Pine Hill, it was.

1041  
00:51:53,520 --> 00:51:54,730  
It's so long ago.

1042  
00:51:54,730 --> 00:51:56,990  
And there was a Jewish--

1043  
00:51:56,990 --> 00:51:59,120  
German Jews were going there.

1044  
00:51:59,120 --> 00:52:01,697  
And there was a German Jewish  
family, and they had a son,

1045  
00:52:01,697 --> 00:52:04,030  
but he was much too young for  
me, and I didn't like him.

1046  
00:52:04,030 --> 00:52:11,950  
But the mother said,  
I know three nice men.

1047  
00:52:11,950 --> 00:52:16,850  
One is a very intellectual  
type and nice guy

1048  
00:52:16,850 --> 00:52:19,070  
and loves the better  
things of life.

1049  
00:52:19,070 --> 00:52:20,390  
And two are rich.

1050



00:52:20,390 --> 00:52:24,050

If they two that turn  
something out, I want money.

1051

00:52:24,050 --> 00:52:25,070

The other one is free.

1052

00:52:25,070 --> 00:52:27,225

[LAUGHTER]

1053

00:52:27,225 --> 00:52:29,065

1054

00:52:29,065 --> 00:52:30,180

I said, OK.

1055

00:52:30,180 --> 00:52:32,410

So the other one with the  
better things of life I

1056

00:52:32,410 --> 00:52:34,370

would like to meet first.

1057

00:52:34,370 --> 00:52:38,210

And I met my husband, and two  
weeks later, we were engaged.

1058

00:52:38,210 --> 00:52:40,872

And three months  
later, we were married.

1059

00:52:40,872 --> 00:52:43,940

Then she sent me a  
note and to my husband.

1060

00:52:43,940 --> 00:52:45,620

She was really [? a sneak. ?]

1061

00:52:45,620 --> 00:52:48,650

She sent me a note and said--

1062

00:52:48,650 --> 00:52:50,330

saying she tried her best.

1063

00:52:50,330 --> 00:52:54,530

She would like what

I feel about Ralph,

1064

00:52:54,530 --> 00:52:59,760

because she has somebody else

otherwise if I'm not serious.

1065

00:52:59,760 --> 00:53:01,945

And to Ralph she

wrote the same note.

1066

00:53:01,945 --> 00:53:04,250

And then after we

got engaged and we

1067

00:53:04,250 --> 00:53:06,300

told her that very

happily, she said,

1068

00:53:06,300 --> 00:53:09,500

[INAUDIBLE] for her

troubles she wants \$250.

1069

00:53:09,500 --> 00:53:14,060

\$250 36 years ago, that

was a lot of money.

1070

00:53:14,060 --> 00:53:15,236

A lot of money.

1071

00:53:15,236 --> 00:53:18,280

So we sent her each one \$50.

1072

00:53:18,280 --> 00:53:20,770

And she could be lucky

with that, I mean, we

1073

00:53:20,770 --> 00:53:22,700

wanted to send her anyhow.

1074

00:53:22,700 --> 00:53:24,030

And you've had a daughter.

1075

00:53:24,030 --> 00:53:24,780

I have a daughter.

1076

00:53:24,780 --> 00:53:26,670

She's 35 years now.

1077

00:53:26,670 --> 00:53:30,950

And I have a 14 years  
old grandson whom I adore

1078

00:53:30,950 --> 00:53:34,230

and who is really--

1079

00:53:34,230 --> 00:53:35,060

it's interesting.

1080

00:53:35,060 --> 00:53:38,000

My daughter doesn't speak  
about the concentration camp.

1081

00:53:38,000 --> 00:53:40,400

I really thought she doesn't  
want to hear about it.

1082

00:53:40,400 --> 00:53:43,870

I really thought she isn't  
interesting, but it's not true.

1083

00:53:43,870 --> 00:53:48,350

She told me only once she cannot  
bear to listen to such a thing

1084

00:53:48,350 --> 00:53:50,270

what happened to me.

1085

00:53:50,270 --> 00:53:53,630

My grandson on the other  
side, whomever he can tell,

1086

00:53:53,630 --> 00:53:56,350

he tells about his  
grandmother, what

1087

00:53:56,350 --> 00:53:58,600

she went through and so on.

1088

00:53:58,600 --> 00:54:06,000

And one day after his bar  
mitzvah he said to me,

1089

00:54:06,000 --> 00:54:08,060

the rabbi said I should  
come to an Oneg Shabbat,

1090

00:54:08,060 --> 00:54:11,370

and they live at least  
45 minutes away from us,

1091

00:54:11,370 --> 00:54:13,460

so I don't see them very often.

1092

00:54:13,460 --> 00:54:16,430

So my husband and I, we  
went to the rabbi-- to the--

1093

00:54:16,430 --> 00:54:17,150

Oneg.

1094

00:54:17,150 --> 00:54:18,820

--temple for the Oneg Shabbat.

1095

00:54:18,820 --> 00:54:24,800

And all of a sudden I  
said, I can't believe it.

1096

00:54:24,800 --> 00:54:26,065

That's me.

1097

00:54:26,065 --> 00:54:30,998

He starts to read my  
story word for word.

1098  
00:54:30,998 --> 00:54:32,290  
Who started to read, I'm sorry?

1099  
00:54:32,290 --> 00:54:32,790  
The rabbi.

1100  
00:54:32,790 --> 00:54:33,630  
The rabbi.

1101  
00:54:33,630 --> 00:54:35,920  
So the whole temple  
was sitting as

1102  
00:54:35,920 --> 00:54:37,660  
quiet and shocked like I was.

1103  
00:54:37,660 --> 00:54:41,620  
You know, it is such  
a strange feeling.

1104  
00:54:41,620 --> 00:54:45,040  
Here it stands written,  
and he reads it to you

1105  
00:54:45,040 --> 00:54:47,620  
from the pulpit.

1106  
00:54:47,620 --> 00:54:51,830  
And that was thanks  
to my grandson.

1107  
00:54:51,830 --> 00:54:53,560  
I have never had such a--

1108  
00:54:53,560 --> 00:54:55,360  
every year is it.

1109  
00:54:55,360 --> 00:54:58,960  
All of the sudden, my sister  
Herta and I grew up early years

1110

00:54:58,960 --> 00:55:01,482

like when any other German --

1111

00:55:01,482 --> 00:55:03,190

You had already written

this at the time?

1112

00:55:03,190 --> 00:55:04,148

It was written already.

1113

00:55:04,148 --> 00:55:07,090

What precipitated-- what

precipitated you writing that?

1114

00:55:07,090 --> 00:55:10,950

1115

00:55:10,950 --> 00:55:13,755

Here's my husband again.

1116

00:55:13,755 --> 00:55:16,720

Now, I mean, this

is what happened.

1117

00:55:16,720 --> 00:55:19,500

We had this folder

from the temple.

1118

00:55:19,500 --> 00:55:21,860

I think it comes out three

or four times a year.

1119

00:55:21,860 --> 00:55:26,670

And I think they run

out on the subjects

1120

00:55:26,670 --> 00:55:29,110

because he put a note

in that anybody who

1121

00:55:29,110 --> 00:55:34,930

has to contribute something,

be it art or music,

1122

00:55:34,930 --> 00:55:37,590

please come forward.

1123

00:55:37,590 --> 00:55:39,220

So my husband said

to me, how would you

1124

00:55:39,220 --> 00:55:41,440

like to write your story?

1125

00:55:41,440 --> 00:55:43,120

I said, no.

1126

00:55:43,120 --> 00:55:44,290

Who wants to read that?

1127

00:55:44,290 --> 00:55:46,840

Because we always

knew, everybody

1128

00:55:46,840 --> 00:55:49,100

told us, forget about it.

1129

00:55:49,100 --> 00:55:52,230

It is a long time ago.

1130

00:55:52,230 --> 00:55:55,090

Even at even four weeks out

of the concentration camp

1131

00:55:55,090 --> 00:55:56,530

they said, forget about it.

1132

00:55:56,530 --> 00:55:58,360

You're in a new country.

1133

00:55:58,360 --> 00:55:59,810

It's a new life.

1134

00:55:59,810 --> 00:56:02,600

So I said, who wants  
to listen to my story?

1135

00:56:02,600 --> 00:56:05,530

He said, I know somebody  
who could write that.

1136

00:56:05,530 --> 00:56:08,080

And he called her  
up, and she came,

1137

00:56:08,080 --> 00:56:11,170

and it turned out I  
had one of her children

1138

00:56:11,170 --> 00:56:13,360

in my nursery  
school where I work.

1139

00:56:13,360 --> 00:56:14,230

Oh, Enid!

1140

00:56:14,230 --> 00:56:14,860

Oh, Gertrude!

1141

00:56:14,860 --> 00:56:17,200

And she said, oh,  
gladly I do that.

1142

00:56:17,200 --> 00:56:19,780

And that's what brought it on.

1143

00:56:19,780 --> 00:56:23,920

And did that make you want  
to talk about it publicly?

1144

00:56:23,920 --> 00:56:25,330

Or--

1145

00:56:25,330 --> 00:56:27,280

I have a commitment.



1146

00:56:27,280 --> 00:56:33,910

I swore to myself many  
times should I ever get out,

1147

00:56:33,910 --> 00:56:39,070

for those who cannot speak  
anymore, I will speak.

1148

00:56:39,070 --> 00:56:42,410

And believe me, it  
wasn't always easy.

1149

00:56:42,410 --> 00:56:46,050

And before I came here,  
I took quite a few pills.

1150

00:56:46,050 --> 00:56:48,260

Maybe that's why I talk so much.

1151

00:56:48,260 --> 00:56:50,930

But I must.

1152

00:56:50,930 --> 00:56:52,660

As long only somebody want to--

1153

00:56:52,660 --> 00:56:54,340

And you know something?

1154

00:56:54,340 --> 00:56:55,690

We have a temple.

1155

00:56:55,690 --> 00:56:57,670

We have a rabbi.

1156

00:56:57,670 --> 00:57:01,820

And I want so badly to speak  
once for a Jewish congregation.

1157

00:57:01,820 --> 00:57:05,580

Not for the congregation alone,  
for the Jewish schoolchildren

1158

00:57:05,580 --> 00:57:07,720

who go to Hebrew school.

1159

00:57:07,720 --> 00:57:09,970

You think I'd be able to do it?

1160

00:57:09,970 --> 00:57:12,240

No.

1161

00:57:12,240 --> 00:57:15,760

When I spoke to them  
first time in school,

1162

00:57:15,760 --> 00:57:19,460

my boss in the nursery  
school, showed to rabbi,

1163

00:57:19,460 --> 00:57:21,550

the thank you notes  
I got from the kids.

1164

00:57:21,550 --> 00:57:24,950

And he wrote on one of them  
and said, very interesting.

1165

00:57:24,950 --> 00:57:28,150

And that was it.

1166

00:57:28,150 --> 00:57:30,880

So I will not have--

1167

00:57:30,880 --> 00:57:33,280

Well, we have quite  
a few Jewish people

1168

00:57:33,280 --> 00:57:37,390

who survived who are living  
on the Bridgewater area

1169

00:57:37,390 --> 00:57:39,710

in Somerville So  
there are some which

1170  
00:57:39,710 --> 00:57:43,120  
are pretty prominent like  
the baker, the Gaston Bakery.

1171  
00:57:43,120 --> 00:57:44,830  
I don't know if you  
ever heard of it.

1172  
00:57:44,830 --> 00:57:47,030  
He was born in America.

1173  
00:57:47,030 --> 00:57:49,070  
His parents went to Germany.

1174  
00:57:49,070 --> 00:57:51,760  
They go up there and they were  
sent in the concentration camp.

1175  
00:57:51,760 --> 00:57:52,820  
So he's speaking.

1176  
00:57:52,820 --> 00:57:56,200  
So maybe they want to take  
always the same person.

1177  
00:57:56,200 --> 00:57:58,450  
But it should be  
interesting for other people

1178  
00:57:58,450 --> 00:58:00,932  
to hear different sides,  
wouldn't you think so?

1179  
00:58:00,932 --> 00:58:01,432  
Yes, sure.

1180  
00:58:01,432 --> 00:58:01,932  
Sure.

1181  
00:58:01,932 --> 00:58:05,970  
But if these [INAUDIBLE]

never mind it, I can't help.

1182  
00:58:05,970 --> 00:58:07,130  
So that's it.

1183  
00:58:07,130 --> 00:58:09,346  
And so it's really--

1184  
00:58:09,346 --> 00:58:13,690  
and as long as I live, if  
only somebody wants to listen,

1185  
00:58:13,690 --> 00:58:15,826  
I will speak.

1186  
00:58:15,826 --> 00:58:16,870  
And that's it.

1187  
00:58:16,870 --> 00:58:18,520  
And then my husband saw your--

1188  
00:58:18,520 --> 00:58:22,570  
in the paper, in the Courier  
news article about you and you

1189  
00:58:22,570 --> 00:58:23,500  
looking for people.

1190  
00:58:23,500 --> 00:58:25,350  
He say, how about?

1191  
00:58:25,350 --> 00:58:28,480  
I say, oh, they don't need  
me because they probably

1192  
00:58:28,480 --> 00:58:29,380  
go to New York.

1193  
00:58:29,380 --> 00:58:30,670  
They can have so many there.

1194

00:58:30,670 --> 00:58:31,837  
They're so many more people.

1195  
00:58:31,837 --> 00:58:33,780  
Why just me?

1196  
00:58:33,780 --> 00:58:36,690  
And why was just my sister  
and I and five others

1197  
00:58:36,690 --> 00:58:43,090  
chosen to go to Cincinnati and  
be witness for the criminal?

1198  
00:58:43,090 --> 00:58:47,030  
I said also to the lawyers  
there, why just us?

1199  
00:58:47,030 --> 00:58:48,940  
Well, your story is different.

1200  
00:58:48,940 --> 00:58:49,720  
It is.

1201  
00:58:49,720 --> 00:58:50,680  
I don't know.

1202  
00:58:50,680 --> 00:58:51,600  
Thank you very much--

1203  
00:58:51,600 --> 00:58:52,392  
No, you're welcome.

1204  
00:58:52,392 --> 00:58:53,830  
--for coming to tell it.

1205  
00:58:53,830 --> 00:58:54,610  
Thank you.

1206  
00:58:54,610 --> 00:58:57,360  
Oh, you're welcome  
for listening.

1207

00:58:57,360 --> 00:59:00,000