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Summary

George Popper, born in Roconi, Czechoslovakia (a small town about 25 miles from Prague). He and his family felt safe as their country had an alliance with France and a strong army. They remained under this disillusionment until the Munich agreement in 1938. Popper had graduated from High School in Czech and sent his academic records to his uncle in the United States. His uncle forwarded his records to New York University, where he would gain acceptance. Popper applied for a visa in 1938 to the United States. He immigrated in 1939 leaving Czechoslovakia that September arriving in the United States in October. He would stay with his uncle and aunt his mother's sister. Before he began school in February 1940. Popper was bilingual speaking Czech and German, he would take night classes at the high school to help him learn English and later at the community college. He was urged to reach out to the Quaker community and apply for scholarships, he was granted two. Popper took the scholarship to Colby College in Maine. He would live in a fraternity house he would eventually join. He did odd jobs while there washing dishes, cleaning, and even furnace works. He would maintain a student visa until he graduated and would be granted an immigration visa. Until 1941 the Popper family would not be granted visas and would be deported to Terezin in 1942 then to Auschwitz in 1943 where they would be exterminated on March 7, 1944. Popper would marry a woman in America who herself escaped from a town called Hynow (ph?) in Barslow in what is now part of Poland.