

1
00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:11,090

2
00:00:11,090 --> 00:00:13,190
Helen Herman.

3
00:00:13,190 --> 00:00:16,580
Helen, I'd like to
backtrack a minute

4
00:00:16,580 --> 00:00:18,470
and go back to what
you were saying

5
00:00:18,470 --> 00:00:24,770
about when you were at the
point where the soldiers had

6
00:00:24,770 --> 00:00:25,940
left you alone.

7
00:00:25,940 --> 00:00:31,010
You were free to go, and it
was the one particular woman

8
00:00:31,010 --> 00:00:34,660
who you didn't like who your
revenge was making faces at.

9
00:00:34,660 --> 00:00:37,190

10
00:00:37,190 --> 00:00:39,020
What was the position
of these people?

11
00:00:39,020 --> 00:00:40,460
Were they stuck there also?

12
00:00:40,460 --> 00:00:42,620
Was the transportation

so limited

13

00:00:42,620 --> 00:00:44,210
that they couldn't go anywhere?

14

00:00:44,210 --> 00:00:48,030
What did the people who
had you in captivity do?

15

00:00:48,030 --> 00:00:49,760
How did they get away?

16

00:00:49,760 --> 00:00:51,410
Well, that's the
whole bunch left.

17

00:00:51,410 --> 00:00:52,700
That's the story.

18

00:00:52,700 --> 00:00:54,440
They all left at the same time.

19

00:00:54,440 --> 00:00:56,720
They packed, and they left.

20

00:00:56,720 --> 00:00:58,443
I don't know how
far they were going,

21

00:00:58,443 --> 00:01:00,110
but they were going
the other direction.

22

00:01:00,110 --> 00:01:02,330
They were going to Germany.

23

00:01:02,330 --> 00:01:04,760
They were escaping
home, and this

24

00:01:04,760 --> 00:01:06,830
was part of Czechoslovakia.

25
00:01:06,830 --> 00:01:09,200
They just occupied that part.

26
00:01:09,200 --> 00:01:11,000
So they tried to get back home.

27
00:01:11,000 --> 00:01:12,560
I don't know how far they got.

28
00:01:12,560 --> 00:01:15,470
They wanted to leave this
place as soon as they can

29
00:01:15,470 --> 00:01:17,960
before the Russians were coming.

30
00:01:17,960 --> 00:01:20,960
Because the rumors were going
that the Russians are not

31
00:01:20,960 --> 00:01:27,180
that nice to those that they
captured, especially SS.

32
00:01:27,180 --> 00:01:29,220
So the whole bunch
left at the same time.

33
00:01:29,220 --> 00:01:33,450
This particular-- everybody,
she was a cruel woman.

34
00:01:33,450 --> 00:01:38,370
We used to march to work
through the whole town every day

35
00:01:38,370 --> 00:01:40,110
twice a day.

36
00:01:40,110 --> 00:01:42,000
Three times, really,

in the morning and then

37

00:01:42,000 --> 00:01:43,530

we went for lunch home.

38

00:01:43,530 --> 00:01:46,530

They served us some kind
of a soup for lunch.

39

00:01:46,530 --> 00:01:50,160

And if there were puddles--

40

00:01:50,160 --> 00:01:52,600

we were going 5 in a row.

41

00:01:52,600 --> 00:01:56,700

And if there were puddles
there, and we-- our shoes

42

00:01:56,700 --> 00:01:57,660

we're not the greatest.

43

00:01:57,660 --> 00:01:58,743

We had holes in our shoes.

44

00:01:58,743 --> 00:01:59,970

We tried to avoid.

45

00:01:59,970 --> 00:02:02,010

She used to hit with
the stick over the head.

46

00:02:02,010 --> 00:02:03,090

You were not allowed to.

47

00:02:03,090 --> 00:02:05,250

You had to go wherever you go.

48

00:02:05,250 --> 00:02:09,419

But the last Saturday
before they left,

49

00:02:09,419 --> 00:02:12,900
we didn't care because we
knew there was chaos going on

50

00:02:12,900 --> 00:02:15,960
between them because
you've seen so many people,

51

00:02:15,960 --> 00:02:20,130
the civilians were going down
the roads and everything.

52

00:02:20,130 --> 00:02:23,820
And those people I talked
to, those French guys,

53

00:02:23,820 --> 00:02:26,520
told us that something
is happening tonight.

54

00:02:26,520 --> 00:02:27,480
We didn't care.

55

00:02:27,480 --> 00:02:30,120
We avoided the
puddles, and she told

56

00:02:30,120 --> 00:02:33,150
us marching back home--
because Saturday we

57

00:02:33,150 --> 00:02:34,650
only work the half a day.

58

00:02:34,650 --> 00:02:37,890
She says, you think
that Hitler is kaput?

59

00:02:37,890 --> 00:02:40,470
Hitler has time five
minutes before 12:00.

60

00:02:40,470 --> 00:02:42,330

Don't worry, you're
not going to get away.

61

00:02:42,330 --> 00:02:44,940

That's what she told
us that Saturday.

62

00:02:44,940 --> 00:02:46,890

Hitler is not kaput yet.

63

00:02:46,890 --> 00:02:49,560

Hitler this time five
minutes before 12:00.

64

00:02:49,560 --> 00:02:53,090

These were her words.

65

00:02:53,090 --> 00:02:58,820

Do you remember other people who
were particularly cruel or kind

66

00:02:58,820 --> 00:03:01,640

during this experience?

67

00:03:01,640 --> 00:03:05,540

The-- not too many kind
as far as I could--

68

00:03:05,540 --> 00:03:09,020

As I said, that foreman,
that was my foreman,

69

00:03:09,020 --> 00:03:11,390

he was in the
[FOREIGN LANGUAGE]..

70

00:03:11,390 --> 00:03:13,680

He was an engineer.

71

00:03:13,680 --> 00:03:15,800

He was a little bit human.

72

00:03:15,800 --> 00:03:18,830

He used to ask questions,
and he couldn't

73

00:03:18,830 --> 00:03:21,230

believe what I was telling him.

74

00:03:21,230 --> 00:03:24,240

He had asked me,
where are your family?

75

00:03:24,240 --> 00:03:26,820

I said where is your
mother and father?

76

00:03:26,820 --> 00:03:31,445

He didn't believe that 500
girls live alone in that camp.

77

00:03:31,445 --> 00:03:33,320

They were downtown, and
they didn't know what

78

00:03:33,320 --> 00:03:35,560

was going up the hill there.

79

00:03:35,560 --> 00:03:38,930

I says, Hitler killed my mother.

80

00:03:38,930 --> 00:03:40,190

I says, don't you know?

81

00:03:40,190 --> 00:03:43,310

He says, we are not
told these things.

82

00:03:43,310 --> 00:03:47,180

And he says-- he has asked
me, where is your Moses?

83

00:03:47,180 --> 00:03:49,280

That he asked me.

84
00:03:49,280 --> 00:03:50,550
I had no answer.

85
00:03:50,550 --> 00:03:52,670
He says, our Moses it's Hitler.

86
00:03:52,670 --> 00:03:56,480
What he promises, he
delivers, he says.

87
00:03:56,480 --> 00:03:59,870
But he was human because he--

88
00:03:59,870 --> 00:04:03,500
As I said, he used to leave
a little salt for us there

89
00:04:03,500 --> 00:04:05,600
that we should have
that little extra salt.

90
00:04:05,600 --> 00:04:07,280
And if he would
have been caught,

91
00:04:07,280 --> 00:04:10,670
I'm sure they wouldn't
be too kind to him,

92
00:04:10,670 --> 00:04:14,150
the Germans, the SS.

93
00:04:14,150 --> 00:04:19,820
And-- but other than that, they
were all very, very brutal.

94
00:04:19,820 --> 00:04:21,950
The experience is undescrivable.

95
00:04:21,950 --> 00:04:23,030
The fear.

96

00:04:23,030 --> 00:04:25,640

The fear, especially
in Auschwitz

97

00:04:25,640 --> 00:04:29,300

that every week to
stay naked and going

98

00:04:29,300 --> 00:04:34,560

through the selections in
front of Mengele plus the one

99

00:04:34,560 --> 00:04:35,780

that selected.

100

00:04:35,780 --> 00:04:41,660

At that time, I didn't know his
name, but there were so many.

101

00:04:41,660 --> 00:04:44,330

Every week, as I said, we
had to stand in front of him.

102

00:04:44,330 --> 00:04:47,540

And, especially, I
wasn't fearing for myself

103

00:04:47,540 --> 00:04:52,070

so much because I felt
pretty strong then yet,

104

00:04:52,070 --> 00:04:55,880

but my sister, Frieda,
always fear for her

105

00:04:55,880 --> 00:04:57,440

that we're going to
lose her one day.

106

00:04:57,440 --> 00:05:03,020

And every time before
the selection came,

107
00:05:03,020 --> 00:05:07,760
we used to take some rouge
paper and make her cheeks red

108
00:05:07,760 --> 00:05:11,850
and pinch her cheek they
should look red because the one

109
00:05:11,850 --> 00:05:14,660
that they didn't like,
they went the other way

110
00:05:14,660 --> 00:05:19,580
and that was the last
time you seen them.

111
00:05:19,580 --> 00:05:20,810
There was no explanation.

112
00:05:20,810 --> 00:05:23,510
As long as somebody
was sickly looking,

113
00:05:23,510 --> 00:05:26,360
or he didn't like
the way your body

114
00:05:26,360 --> 00:05:29,270
looks, or the way your
face looks, or the way

115
00:05:29,270 --> 00:05:31,220
your hair looks,
you go the other way

116
00:05:31,220 --> 00:05:33,800
and there is nothing
you could have done.

117
00:05:33,800 --> 00:05:37,340
That was-- And that was
going through every week

118
00:05:37,340 --> 00:05:39,560
we were going through that.

119
00:05:39,560 --> 00:05:42,590
I'm not talking no more
the humiliation of standing

120
00:05:42,590 --> 00:05:44,720
in front of them naked.

121
00:05:44,720 --> 00:05:48,920
Eventually, it probably
just was part of life.

122
00:05:48,920 --> 00:05:54,730
But the fear was unbelievable.

123
00:05:54,730 --> 00:05:57,970
And we got a little bit lucky,
as I said, when we got that job

124
00:05:57,970 --> 00:05:59,800
to sort the clothes.

125
00:05:59,800 --> 00:06:02,800
We used to bring in
a lot for our friends

126
00:06:02,800 --> 00:06:04,480
that weren't so lucky.

127
00:06:04,480 --> 00:06:08,110
We used to put on extra
underwear, which they could not

128
00:06:08,110 --> 00:06:11,320
detect, underwear like dresses.

129
00:06:11,320 --> 00:06:16,810
But my big red cross is we
couldn't change that often.

130
00:06:16,810 --> 00:06:21,220
But under, they didn't
check the underwear.

131
00:06:21,220 --> 00:06:24,670
We used to put on 5-6
pair, as much as you could,

132
00:06:24,670 --> 00:06:30,130
underwear and bring it into the
camp to those less fortunate

133
00:06:30,130 --> 00:06:32,710
that worked in the
fields, and it was cold.

134
00:06:32,710 --> 00:06:34,720
And it was very cold there.

135
00:06:34,720 --> 00:06:38,230
And we used to strip at
night and leave it to them

136
00:06:38,230 --> 00:06:40,540
and go in the mornings,
4 o'clock in the morning,

137
00:06:40,540 --> 00:06:43,030
appell just a dress on.

138
00:06:43,030 --> 00:06:45,040
And knowing that
once we get there,

139
00:06:45,040 --> 00:06:48,110
we have fresh ones to
put on because there

140
00:06:48,110 --> 00:06:52,820
was all these clothes
there, and leave it to them.

141

00:06:52,820 --> 00:06:55,360

You also had said that
you were saving the sil--

142

00:06:55,360 --> 00:06:59,260

you know, you'd find little
pieces of silver and gold.

143

00:06:59,260 --> 00:07:01,890

Yeah, we used to give
that to those boys.

144

00:07:01,890 --> 00:07:04,330

They used to call the
Scheisse kommandos.

145

00:07:04,330 --> 00:07:06,895

They used to clean,
excuse me, the toilets.

146

00:07:06,895 --> 00:07:08,770

And they used to call
the Scheisse kommandos.

147

00:07:08,770 --> 00:07:12,250

They were the one-- the only
one that we had contact with.

148

00:07:12,250 --> 00:07:15,310

And we were going to those
toilets, these big latrines,

149

00:07:15,310 --> 00:07:17,080

you know, they were only holes.

150

00:07:17,080 --> 00:07:20,260

And that's where we used
to come across them.

151

00:07:20,260 --> 00:07:22,940

We used to give it
to them, and they

152

00:07:22,940 --> 00:07:24,190
said they're going to bury it.

153

00:07:24,190 --> 00:07:26,230
I'm sure that they did
something with that gold,

154

00:07:26,230 --> 00:07:28,367
or maybe they did give
it to the underground.

155

00:07:28,367 --> 00:07:29,200
They had connection.

156

00:07:29,200 --> 00:07:30,370
That, we don't know.

157

00:07:30,370 --> 00:07:34,390
But they had said to us if we
come across silver and gold,

158

00:07:34,390 --> 00:07:36,140
diamonds, which we did.

159

00:07:36,140 --> 00:07:36,640
We did.

160

00:07:36,640 --> 00:07:40,030
We found many times
in toothpaste hidden

161

00:07:40,030 --> 00:07:41,560
or in a prune.

162

00:07:41,560 --> 00:07:42,820
We opened a prune.

163

00:07:42,820 --> 00:07:44,230
You know, people used--

164

00:07:44,230 --> 00:07:47,620

these were the bottles that
the people brought with them,

165
00:07:47,620 --> 00:07:49,280
and we supposed to sort it.

166
00:07:49,280 --> 00:07:51,850
So we found a box of prunes.

167
00:07:51,850 --> 00:07:55,000
So of course, we gonna
gnosh on and we ate.

168
00:07:55,000 --> 00:07:57,850
An one time I bit
in a prune and there

169
00:07:57,850 --> 00:08:00,670
was a big diamond
like this, and I'm not

170
00:08:00,670 --> 00:08:02,210
going to give it to them.

171
00:08:02,210 --> 00:08:04,840
So we hid it and when
we seen the guys,

172
00:08:04,840 --> 00:08:05,990
we gave it to the guys.

173
00:08:05,990 --> 00:08:09,380
Have you ever heard, afterwards,
of anybody finding any of this

174
00:08:09,380 --> 00:08:09,880
afterwards?

175
00:08:09,880 --> 00:08:10,400
Nothing.

176
00:08:10,400 --> 00:08:10,900

Nothing.

177
00:08:10,900 --> 00:08:11,460
Never.

178
00:08:11,460 --> 00:08:13,380
Never seen anything--

179
00:08:13,380 --> 00:08:15,730
I wouldn't even
remember the people.

180
00:08:15,730 --> 00:08:18,610
Well, you just remember
the faces, no names.

181
00:08:18,610 --> 00:08:20,570
I wouldn't know where to look.

182
00:08:20,570 --> 00:08:22,750
But I'm sure that there
was somebody that--

183
00:08:22,750 --> 00:08:26,530
I hope there was somebody that
it was going on a good place,

184
00:08:26,530 --> 00:08:29,260
but it wasn't go to Germans.

185
00:08:29,260 --> 00:08:33,830
And you mentioned a scheme
about hiding something in a--

186
00:08:33,830 --> 00:08:35,510
Yeah.

187
00:08:35,510 --> 00:08:39,980
We used to have wide kerchiefs,
and they were tucked in.

188
00:08:39,980 --> 00:08:43,909

And we used to pack
mostly medicine

189
00:08:43,909 --> 00:08:48,590
because the Dutch people
came to Auschwitz,

190
00:08:48,590 --> 00:08:51,660
they were wasting away so fast.

191
00:08:51,660 --> 00:08:54,950
They get the diarrhea,
and they were going fast.

192
00:08:54,950 --> 00:08:57,710
So we tried to bring
in as much medicine

193
00:08:57,710 --> 00:09:01,850
as we could, and we
found those black pills.

194
00:09:01,850 --> 00:09:03,230
It was called the--

195
00:09:03,230 --> 00:09:06,920
I don't know what it was called
here, the name of it in, there

196
00:09:06,920 --> 00:09:09,800
and whenever we find the box
we used to save it and bring it

197
00:09:09,800 --> 00:09:11,000
to them.

198
00:09:11,000 --> 00:09:14,510
And little knives that the
girls that worked in the field

199
00:09:14,510 --> 00:09:16,970
would have something to--

200

00:09:16,970 --> 00:09:21,200

we used to bring little
clothes for the girls, whatever

201

00:09:21,200 --> 00:09:26,810

we could salvage, usable
things for the girls.

202

00:09:26,810 --> 00:09:28,940

Inside they couldn't
get these things.

203

00:09:28,940 --> 00:09:33,170

We used to bring in for them,
whatever we were able to.

204

00:09:33,170 --> 00:09:38,143

Food we weren't able to, and
there wasn't much food anyhow.

205

00:09:38,143 --> 00:09:39,560

They wouldn't allow
it because you

206

00:09:39,560 --> 00:09:41,820

had to carry it in your hand.

207

00:09:41,820 --> 00:09:44,810

And, as I said, my sister,
Frieda, the youngest one,

208

00:09:44,810 --> 00:09:47,360

she had no fear in her.

209

00:09:47,360 --> 00:09:50,060

She did a lot of
unlawful things,

210

00:09:50,060 --> 00:09:52,160

and we went through
with her a lot.

211

00:09:52,160 --> 00:09:55,760
And then there was--

212
00:09:55,760 --> 00:10:00,830
they called the air raids that
you were supposed to be inside.

213
00:10:00,830 --> 00:10:03,950
And if you were caught, either
you were shot on the place,

214
00:10:03,950 --> 00:10:06,930
or you were hit
hard or whatever.

215
00:10:06,930 --> 00:10:09,770
And I remember one time
there was an air raid,

216
00:10:09,770 --> 00:10:13,580
and she wasn't near anywhere.

217
00:10:13,580 --> 00:10:17,120
And I ran out to look for
her, and sure she was there

218
00:10:17,120 --> 00:10:19,100
in those latrine it's called.

219
00:10:19,100 --> 00:10:20,960
And she was giving out--

220
00:10:20,960 --> 00:10:23,210
there were a whole
bunch of Hasidim.

221
00:10:23,210 --> 00:10:26,690
You know, so-called people
that she brought every day,

222
00:10:26,690 --> 00:10:29,090
and she was giving
them out things there,

223
00:10:29,090 --> 00:10:32,000
and she didn't
hear the air raid.

224
00:10:32,000 --> 00:10:35,210
I dragged her from there so
hard, and I hit her so hard.

225
00:10:35,210 --> 00:10:37,790
I said, don't do that again.

226
00:10:37,790 --> 00:10:42,230
Because a lot of things could
have happened then to her.

227
00:10:42,230 --> 00:10:43,250
How old was she then?

228
00:10:43,250 --> 00:10:44,930
15.

229
00:10:44,930 --> 00:10:50,290
She just didn't know the
fear, the consequences,

230
00:10:50,290 --> 00:10:53,780
what those people could do.

231
00:10:53,780 --> 00:10:56,180
And that's it.

232
00:10:56,180 --> 00:10:59,580
Was she the one who was caught
with something in her hand?

233
00:10:59,580 --> 00:11:00,600
Yes.

234
00:11:00,600 --> 00:11:04,400
We were once going
home, and we had

235
00:11:04,400 --> 00:11:10,400
to pass two gates, the
first one out of that place

236
00:11:10,400 --> 00:11:12,110
that we were working.

237
00:11:12,110 --> 00:11:13,640
And in both sides--

238
00:11:13,640 --> 00:11:16,250
we were five in a row,
and both sides there

239
00:11:16,250 --> 00:11:20,240
were SS one side and the other
side, and they had big sticks.

240
00:11:20,240 --> 00:11:23,630
And it started to rain and
she stuck too many things

241
00:11:23,630 --> 00:11:26,630
under that kerchief,
and it started to rain

242
00:11:26,630 --> 00:11:29,690
and every item was showing
through that kerchief.

243
00:11:29,690 --> 00:11:32,420
And he went and he
pulled with a stick down,

244
00:11:32,420 --> 00:11:35,660
and down went all the things.

245
00:11:35,660 --> 00:11:39,680
And he called her
out of the line,

246

00:11:39,680 --> 00:11:43,340
and we thought this
was the end of her.

247
00:11:43,340 --> 00:11:47,810
But she had somebody-- she was
like a couple but a good one,

248
00:11:47,810 --> 00:11:50,000
a nice girl, and she ran.

249
00:11:50,000 --> 00:11:51,530
She used to love my sister.

250
00:11:51,530 --> 00:11:53,270
She was her favorite.

251
00:11:53,270 --> 00:11:55,910
She ran and she--

252
00:11:55,910 --> 00:11:59,780
she slapped her so hard both
sides, that for fear, you

253
00:11:59,780 --> 00:12:02,930
should excuse me, she--

254
00:12:02,930 --> 00:12:05,250
And she pushed her
back in the line.

255
00:12:05,250 --> 00:12:08,360
And she said to the SS,
I'll take care of her.

256
00:12:08,360 --> 00:12:08,990
I'm sorry.

257
00:12:08,990 --> 00:12:10,580
I'll take care of her.

258
00:12:10,580 --> 00:12:14,330

And then the next day, she
came back and she hugged her,

259
00:12:14,330 --> 00:12:17,120
and she kissed, and she
said, I am so sorry.

260
00:12:17,120 --> 00:12:18,080
I had to do that.

261
00:12:18,080 --> 00:12:21,230
I had to save you.

262
00:12:21,230 --> 00:12:23,300
Yes, she had the
least fear in her.

263
00:12:23,300 --> 00:12:25,520
She did a lot of daring things.

264
00:12:25,520 --> 00:12:31,730
We all did what we could but
within a reasonable danger

265
00:12:31,730 --> 00:12:32,600
to ourselves.

266
00:12:32,600 --> 00:12:35,510
But she did without any fear.

267
00:12:35,510 --> 00:12:38,180

268
00:12:38,180 --> 00:12:41,870
Could we ask you
about the problems

269
00:12:41,870 --> 00:12:45,330
you had getting to America?

270
00:12:45,330 --> 00:12:45,860
Yes.

271
00:12:45,860 --> 00:12:48,620
That was also very unfortunate.

272
00:12:48,620 --> 00:12:52,620
We were with a cousin of mine
that we grew up together.

273
00:12:52,620 --> 00:12:56,310
And he is my age, and we
went to school together,

274
00:12:56,310 --> 00:12:58,770
and we stayed together.

275
00:12:58,770 --> 00:13:02,480
And we also registered to
come to America together,

276
00:13:02,480 --> 00:13:05,180
and we were called
to the consulate,

277
00:13:05,180 --> 00:13:09,650
to American consulate to--

278
00:13:09,650 --> 00:13:12,830
Before you come to America,
they interrogate you.

279
00:13:12,830 --> 00:13:14,570
You had to go through.

280
00:13:14,570 --> 00:13:17,120
And we were called
on the same day.

281
00:13:17,120 --> 00:13:24,080
And the next day, we were
told that we did not pass

282
00:13:24,080 --> 00:13:26,990

because we told a lie that--

283
00:13:26,990 --> 00:13:28,400
Marcus is his name.

284
00:13:28,400 --> 00:13:31,510
Martin Stern is my
brother, so-called brother,

285
00:13:31,510 --> 00:13:35,320
in that my brother, his
brother is not my brother.

286
00:13:35,320 --> 00:13:38,890
And we-- pushed us
aside and we were

287
00:13:38,890 --> 00:13:43,660
two years had to prove
that we told the truth.

288
00:13:43,660 --> 00:13:45,490
That he is not my brother.

289
00:13:45,490 --> 00:13:46,870
He's my cousin.

290
00:13:46,870 --> 00:13:50,300
And it was a very hard time.

291
00:13:50,300 --> 00:13:53,470
And meanwhile Frieda was
here, and we were discouraged,

292
00:13:53,470 --> 00:13:54,900
and always said--

293
00:13:54,900 --> 00:13:57,050
I remember we wanted to
go already to Israel.

294
00:13:57,050 --> 00:13:59,260

It was such a hard
time, and she kept

295
00:13:59,260 --> 00:14:04,420
on writing letters, crying,
don't do that, and come here.

296
00:14:04,420 --> 00:14:06,580
And we knew that if--

297
00:14:06,580 --> 00:14:10,810
We heard that Israel was
rough with the climate,

298
00:14:10,810 --> 00:14:14,200
and she was a weakling,
Frieda, that she will not

299
00:14:14,200 --> 00:14:14,900
make it there.

300
00:14:14,900 --> 00:14:18,970
We'll have to sacrifice and
wait till the time comes

301
00:14:18,970 --> 00:14:21,460
we should be together again.

302
00:14:21,460 --> 00:14:25,510
It took us two years,
two years extra.

303
00:14:25,510 --> 00:14:27,520
What years were
those would you say?

304
00:14:27,520 --> 00:14:33,490
1947 Frieda came to this country
and a few months later, we

305
00:14:33,490 --> 00:14:36,910
were refused, and we had
to stay another two years.

306

00:14:36,910 --> 00:14:40,910

In 1949, we finally
came to this country,

307

00:14:40,910 --> 00:14:43,540

which was a great, great day.

308

00:14:43,540 --> 00:14:45,890

How old were you
when you came here?

309

00:14:45,890 --> 00:14:49,420

Well, 24.

310

00:14:49,420 --> 00:14:50,290

You were 24?

311

00:14:50,290 --> 00:14:50,920

24.

312

00:14:50,920 --> 00:14:53,900

Did you know your
husband in Europe?

313

00:14:53,900 --> 00:14:55,960

I met my husband in Europe, yes.

314

00:14:55,960 --> 00:14:58,210

And we were so-called
unofficially

315

00:14:58,210 --> 00:15:00,400

engaged for two years.

316

00:15:00,400 --> 00:15:02,950

We couldn't get
married because I said,

317

00:15:02,950 --> 00:15:05,570

we sacrificed too
much to be together,

318

00:15:05,570 --> 00:15:08,170
and once you get married, you
go where your husband goes.

319

00:15:08,170 --> 00:15:10,240
He had no relatives here.

320

00:15:10,240 --> 00:15:14,330
And I said, I'm going with my
sisters and brother to America.

321

00:15:14,330 --> 00:15:16,660
And if it meant to
be, we'll meet here,

322

00:15:16,660 --> 00:15:18,580
and we'll get married here.

323

00:15:18,580 --> 00:15:22,420
And he was willing to wait,
and that's what happened.

324

00:15:22,420 --> 00:15:25,570
And he did come out
two weeks after me.

325

00:15:25,570 --> 00:15:28,830
Do you mind to tell us the
story of how you met him--

326

00:15:28,830 --> 00:15:30,340
In the same camp.

327

00:15:30,340 --> 00:15:35,560
In the same camp in
Gabersee after the war.

328

00:15:35,560 --> 00:15:40,220
He was-- his brother married
a girl from our town.

329

00:15:40,220 --> 00:15:43,150

And we lived in
the same building

330

00:15:43,150 --> 00:15:48,280

and he used to always
come there to us.

331

00:15:48,280 --> 00:15:54,445

We were like nine boys, cousins,
and brother, and so forth.

332

00:15:54,445 --> 00:15:57,190

And the four girls,
we did for those boys.

333

00:15:57,190 --> 00:15:59,890

Washed, and cooked, and
cleaned for those boys.

334

00:15:59,890 --> 00:16:04,180

All that separated us was
a little cardboard wall.

335

00:16:04,180 --> 00:16:06,710

Seven boys-- or
nine boys, and so he

336

00:16:06,710 --> 00:16:08,810

used to come out from there.

337

00:16:08,810 --> 00:16:11,980

And that's how we met, and
we were sort of friends.

338

00:16:11,980 --> 00:16:17,080

And friends turned into
a love, and he proposed.

339

00:16:17,080 --> 00:16:22,510

But I said, if it meant to
be, we'll get together here.

340

00:16:22,510 --> 00:16:27,100

And so we were like
so-called engaged,

341

00:16:27,100 --> 00:16:29,110

and he didn't give me
a ring or anything.

342

00:16:29,110 --> 00:16:30,920

He couldn't afford one.

343

00:16:30,920 --> 00:16:35,200

But with this in mind that
we we'll get to America.

344

00:16:35,200 --> 00:16:37,300

We'll get married,
and it happened.

345

00:16:37,300 --> 00:16:41,260

We came here in May
at the beginning,

346

00:16:41,260 --> 00:16:43,270

and he came two weeks
later, three weeks later,

347

00:16:43,270 --> 00:16:46,780

and we got married
in December '49.

348

00:16:46,780 --> 00:16:48,730

And by the way, Frieda--

349

00:16:48,730 --> 00:16:53,420

by the time we got here, Frieda
had gotten us an apartment.

350

00:16:53,420 --> 00:16:56,680

And she had fixed up
a beautiful place,

351

00:16:56,680 --> 00:17:00,440

and we lived all
together for a long time.

352
00:17:00,440 --> 00:17:03,650
And up to this day, we live
next door to each other.

353
00:17:03,650 --> 00:17:07,060
And with Margaret, we
share one house and Frieda

354
00:17:07,060 --> 00:17:08,829
lives next door.

355
00:17:08,829 --> 00:17:12,050
And we raised two
beautiful children.

356
00:17:12,050 --> 00:17:16,420
And one is married and
grandchild on our way.

357
00:17:16,420 --> 00:17:20,200
Just a great day in our lives.

358
00:17:20,200 --> 00:17:25,240
And got a son, he's
a CPA, beautiful boy.

359
00:17:25,240 --> 00:17:27,130
Very proud of him.

360
00:17:27,130 --> 00:17:29,230
And Frieda lives
next door, as I said,

361
00:17:29,230 --> 00:17:35,230
and we're still taking care of
each other, helping each other.

362
00:17:35,230 --> 00:17:38,140
And that's-- and that's all.

363

00:17:38,140 --> 00:17:41,610

I hope that my story
wasn't too boring.

364

00:17:41,610 --> 00:17:43,330

No, it's wonderful.

365

00:17:43,330 --> 00:17:46,480

And I only hope to God
that there is never

366

00:17:46,480 --> 00:17:49,330

going to be any
people to have to go

367

00:17:49,330 --> 00:17:53,410

through that kind
of situation again.

368

00:17:53,410 --> 00:17:57,520

And we all have to work
and pray and be alert.

369

00:17:57,520 --> 00:17:59,860

It should not happen.

370

00:17:59,860 --> 00:18:02,320

I'd like to ask
you a question now

371

00:18:02,320 --> 00:18:03,910

that deals with the present.

372

00:18:03,910 --> 00:18:08,230

How do you feel about being
Jewish here in America today?

373

00:18:08,230 --> 00:18:10,480

I am very proud to
be Jewish, and I keep

374

00:18:10,480 --> 00:18:13,330

on telling my kids the same.

375

00:18:13,330 --> 00:18:18,040

I paid a dear price for it
to be ashamed to be Jewish.

376

00:18:18,040 --> 00:18:20,260

I'm very proud to be Jewish.

377

00:18:20,260 --> 00:18:28,180

But I also say to my kids that
you should try and support

378

00:18:28,180 --> 00:18:30,100

Israel as much as you can.

379

00:18:30,100 --> 00:18:34,750

But I feel that would
we had then, Israel,

380

00:18:34,750 --> 00:18:37,990

as Israel is today, maybe these
things wouldn't have happened.

381

00:18:37,990 --> 00:18:40,090

Those people that
didn't want us,

382

00:18:40,090 --> 00:18:42,490

if we would have where to
go, maybe they would have

383

00:18:42,490 --> 00:18:43,990

let us go.

384

00:18:43,990 --> 00:18:46,180

But there was no place to go.

385

00:18:46,180 --> 00:18:48,040

And if there would be
an Israel and there

386

00:18:48,040 --> 00:18:50,470
is going to be a country
that don't want you,

387
00:18:50,470 --> 00:18:53,200
you could pick
yourself up and go.

388
00:18:53,200 --> 00:18:55,240
But I hope to God
that it'll never come.

389
00:18:55,240 --> 00:18:58,940

390
00:18:58,940 --> 00:18:59,440
OK.

391
00:18:59,440 --> 00:19:00,620
OK, thank you very much--

392
00:19:00,620 --> 00:19:01,280
Thank you.

393
00:19:01,280 --> 00:19:01,780
Thank you.

394
00:19:01,780 --> 00:19:02,780
Mrs. Herman.

395
00:19:02,780 --> 00:19:03,280
Thank you.

396
00:19:03,280 --> 00:19:04,760
We appreciate it.

397
00:19:04,760 --> 00:19:05,260
Thank you.

398
00:19:05,260 --> 00:19:08,610
[FOREIGN LANGUAGE]

399

00:19:08,610 --> 00:19:32,000