

1
00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:11,820

2
00:00:11,820 --> 00:00:13,170
But she didn't have the koyach.

3
00:00:13,170 --> 00:00:15,750
I was telling her a few
times what you said.

4
00:00:15,750 --> 00:00:18,330
She said, I don't have
the koyach to talk.

5
00:00:18,330 --> 00:00:20,730
All right, we're on tape now.

6
00:00:20,730 --> 00:00:25,950
As the first hour
was running out,

7
00:00:25,950 --> 00:00:30,630
you had just finished reading
your mother's description

8
00:00:30,630 --> 00:00:32,910
of leaving the ghetto.

9
00:00:32,910 --> 00:00:39,030
And the help from the
Jewish militia person.

10
00:00:39,030 --> 00:00:41,130
Do you know anything
about that person?

11
00:00:41,130 --> 00:00:45,490
Well, he was a neighbor
of ours, before the war.

12
00:00:45,490 --> 00:00:52,560

And he became a militia
person during the ghetto.

13
00:00:52,560 --> 00:00:57,090

And by that, he was
able to take us out

14
00:00:57,090 --> 00:01:00,000

of the gates of the ghetto wall.

15
00:01:00,000 --> 00:01:03,250

He played a crucial role
in saving the family.

16
00:01:03,250 --> 00:01:03,750

Yes.

17
00:01:03,750 --> 00:01:04,870

Yes, yes.

18
00:01:04,870 --> 00:01:05,760

What happened to him?

19
00:01:05,760 --> 00:01:06,260

Do you know?

20
00:01:06,260 --> 00:01:07,290

Well, he perished.

21
00:01:07,290 --> 00:01:07,800

How.

22
00:01:07,800 --> 00:01:10,410

I don't know, because all
militia people perished.

23
00:01:10,410 --> 00:01:15,080

There was no special treatment
because they were militia.

24
00:01:15,080 --> 00:01:18,440

And your mother said

the only sentence

25

00:01:18,440 --> 00:01:24,133

that we could not get--

26

00:01:24,133 --> 00:01:24,800

I'll start here.

27

00:01:24,800 --> 00:01:28,940

Our friend wished us good
luck in saving ourselves.

28

00:01:28,940 --> 00:01:31,740

Unfortunately, this friend
was not saved, and perished.

29

00:01:31,740 --> 00:01:32,300

There it is.

30

00:01:32,300 --> 00:01:35,450

With all of his family together.

31

00:01:35,450 --> 00:01:37,910

One of his sisters
was here in America.

32

00:01:37,910 --> 00:01:39,650

Did you ever meet that sister?

33

00:01:39,650 --> 00:01:40,460

Yes, I met.

34

00:01:40,460 --> 00:01:42,270

We were in touch with her.

35

00:01:42,270 --> 00:01:44,240

She lived in New York.

36

00:01:44,240 --> 00:01:46,610

Then she died of old age.

37

00:01:46,610 --> 00:01:50,170

38

00:01:50,170 --> 00:01:51,980

She knew that her
brother saved you.

39

00:01:51,980 --> 00:01:53,600

Yes, she knew.

40

00:01:53,600 --> 00:01:55,260

You both met her.

41

00:01:55,260 --> 00:01:56,060

I did not.

42

00:01:56,060 --> 00:01:56,930

Erwin did not.

43

00:01:56,930 --> 00:01:57,810

But I did.

44

00:01:57,810 --> 00:01:58,910

And my mother.

45

00:01:58,910 --> 00:02:03,470

We were in touch with her till
she died of natural causes.

46

00:02:03,470 --> 00:02:05,570

And she has family here?

47

00:02:05,570 --> 00:02:07,530

She has a niece.

48

00:02:07,530 --> 00:02:09,060

She was not married?

49

00:02:09,060 --> 00:02:11,210

She was married but--

50

00:02:11,210 --> 00:02:11,910
No children.

51
00:02:11,910 --> 00:02:13,940
She lost everybody.

52
00:02:13,940 --> 00:02:15,990
She lost her husband
and children.

53
00:02:15,990 --> 00:02:20,780
She herself survived, by hiding
out, or I don't know how.

54
00:02:20,780 --> 00:02:23,480
And of course, the brother that
helped us through the ghetto

55
00:02:23,480 --> 00:02:24,680
also perished.

56
00:02:24,680 --> 00:02:27,440
So she was the only survivor.

57
00:02:27,440 --> 00:02:31,040

58
00:02:31,040 --> 00:02:33,740
What happened when
you left the ghetto?

59
00:02:33,740 --> 00:02:35,550
Where did you go?

60
00:02:35,550 --> 00:02:42,930
We went on the Aryan
side and mother

61
00:02:42,930 --> 00:02:49,350
took an apartment-- room,
boarding room by somebody.

62

00:02:49,350 --> 00:02:54,240
And till we decided
what to do further,

63
00:02:54,240 --> 00:02:58,710
we stayed in the apartment
for a very short time.

64
00:02:58,710 --> 00:03:07,310
Till mother could get
more secure Polish papers

65
00:03:07,310 --> 00:03:08,690
for the family.

66
00:03:08,690 --> 00:03:11,780
Not for my father.

67
00:03:11,780 --> 00:03:16,760
And the transportation to
another part of Poland.

68
00:03:16,760 --> 00:03:19,250
Because in Lviv she
could not walk around.

69
00:03:19,250 --> 00:03:21,890
There was always
somebody that she met,

70
00:03:21,890 --> 00:03:27,170
that followed her, that wanted
to extract money out of her,

71
00:03:27,170 --> 00:03:28,820
to expose her.

72
00:03:28,820 --> 00:03:30,470
So she-- There were
a few incidents

73
00:03:30,470 --> 00:03:34,250
that a neighbor or a

Polish friend saw her,

74

00:03:34,250 --> 00:03:35,540
and they followed her.

75

00:03:35,540 --> 00:03:39,470
Took her sometimes
hours to lose them,

76

00:03:39,470 --> 00:03:41,870
running away and so forth.

77

00:03:41,870 --> 00:03:44,870
Because once they
would catch her,

78

00:03:44,870 --> 00:03:49,985
or followed her where we lived,
we would have been all exposed.

79

00:03:49,985 --> 00:03:54,500

80

00:03:54,500 --> 00:04:00,740
Being able to escape once
she was spotted by a person,

81

00:04:00,740 --> 00:04:02,965
her ability to escape
is very impressive.

82

00:04:02,965 --> 00:04:03,840
How did she get away?

83

00:04:03,840 --> 00:04:07,850
She walked from door to
door, and then the person

84

00:04:07,850 --> 00:04:08,570
followed her.

85

00:04:08,570 --> 00:04:12,290

And she made faster
steps, and faster walking,

86
00:04:12,290 --> 00:04:17,209
till she went to an attic,
and lost sight of that woman.

87
00:04:17,209 --> 00:04:21,500
And stayed in that
attic or top stairs,

88
00:04:21,500 --> 00:04:24,530
some abandoned building,
till nightfall.

89
00:04:24,530 --> 00:04:26,220
Then she came back
to the apartment.

90
00:04:26,220 --> 00:04:28,470
And this happened
about how many times?

91
00:04:28,470 --> 00:04:30,050
A few times.

92
00:04:30,050 --> 00:04:31,910
A few times, till we were--

93
00:04:31,910 --> 00:04:33,050
This is frightening.

94
00:04:33,050 --> 00:04:34,010
Very frightening.

95
00:04:34,010 --> 00:04:37,650
Because Erwin and
I and my father,

96
00:04:37,650 --> 00:04:39,710
we were in that apartment.

97

00:04:39,710 --> 00:04:42,990

We did not go out
because of exposure.

98

00:04:42,990 --> 00:04:45,500

And we thought, if
mother doesn't come back,

99

00:04:45,500 --> 00:04:46,550

that's the end of us.

100

00:04:46,550 --> 00:04:48,650

We have to go out because--

101

00:04:48,650 --> 00:04:50,030

but finally she came back.

102

00:04:50,030 --> 00:04:53,360

And then we have the
story that she had to--

103

00:04:53,360 --> 00:04:57,110

took her a whole day not
to come to the apartment.

104

00:04:57,110 --> 00:05:02,330

Otherwise the woman would follow
us and give us all out or just

105

00:05:02,330 --> 00:05:08,570

the men money or whatever
else we had of value.

106

00:05:08,570 --> 00:05:12,400

And that value saved us to
be transported by train.

107

00:05:12,400 --> 00:05:18,560

We went by train to the village
that we were finally liberated,

108

00:05:18,560 --> 00:05:19,220

outside of--

109
00:05:19,220 --> 00:05:21,530
We went to a village
and we worked.

110
00:05:21,530 --> 00:05:23,750
We stayed on the farm.

111
00:05:23,750 --> 00:05:28,670
And we stayed there
to the end of the war.

112
00:05:28,670 --> 00:05:31,305
My mother worked on a farm.

113
00:05:31,305 --> 00:05:32,180
She help with chores.

114
00:05:32,180 --> 00:05:33,217
Is this near Krakow?

115
00:05:33,217 --> 00:05:34,050
This is near Krakow.

116
00:05:34,050 --> 00:05:35,592
Yes, this is the
village near Krakow.

117
00:05:35,592 --> 00:05:36,870
So you went to one place?

118
00:05:36,870 --> 00:05:38,090
To one place.

119
00:05:38,090 --> 00:05:39,740
And the place was?

120
00:05:39,740 --> 00:05:42,350
Lipnica.

121
00:05:42,350 --> 00:05:43,490

Lipnica, all right.

122
00:05:43,490 --> 00:05:48,320
Near Vilichka, near
Bochnia near Krakow.

123
00:05:48,320 --> 00:05:52,790
You don't have an
idea of the date?

124
00:05:52,790 --> 00:05:57,470
All you can say is that
you think it was in 1943?

125
00:05:57,470 --> 00:06:00,020
Which month I
completely don't know.

126
00:06:00,020 --> 00:06:01,520
And then you were in la pitra?

127
00:06:01,520 --> 00:06:03,620
Did I say it correctly?

128
00:06:03,620 --> 00:06:04,310
Lipnica.

129
00:06:04,310 --> 00:06:06,200
You were there--

130
00:06:06,200 --> 00:06:07,360
Till the end of the war.

131
00:06:07,360 --> 00:06:08,985
Then we were liberated
by the Russians.

132
00:06:08,985 --> 00:06:10,402
We were there for
about two years.

133
00:06:10,402 --> 00:06:11,420

When were you liberated?

134
00:06:11,420 --> 00:06:13,970
In January '45.

135
00:06:13,970 --> 00:06:15,680
January, February,
December, I'm not--

136
00:06:15,680 --> 00:06:18,770
So it was well over a year
that you were hiding out.

137
00:06:18,770 --> 00:06:20,300
Oh, yes.

138
00:06:20,300 --> 00:06:23,210
About two years.

139
00:06:23,210 --> 00:06:25,040
A year and a half, two years.

140
00:06:25,040 --> 00:06:27,180
What did you do
during that time?

141
00:06:27,180 --> 00:06:27,890
Who were you?

142
00:06:27,890 --> 00:06:30,800
Who are you?

143
00:06:30,800 --> 00:06:34,580
We were-- our
papers were that we

144
00:06:34,580 --> 00:06:37,460
are from a different
part of Poland.

145
00:06:37,460 --> 00:06:39,560
And my mother with

the two children--

146
00:06:39,560 --> 00:06:41,075
Displaced family--

147
00:06:41,075 --> 00:06:44,180
Displaced family from
that part of Poland,

148
00:06:44,180 --> 00:06:49,005
and looking for a place
to work and to have

149
00:06:49,005 --> 00:06:49,880
a roof over our head.

150
00:06:49,880 --> 00:06:50,600
For work for your father?

151
00:06:50,600 --> 00:06:51,350
For my mother.

152
00:06:51,350 --> 00:06:53,380
No, my father was incognito.

153
00:06:53,380 --> 00:06:58,970
It was not known to the farmer
woman that there is a father.

154
00:06:58,970 --> 00:06:59,540
My mother--

155
00:06:59,540 --> 00:07:02,000
Was that because she
had no papers for him?

156
00:07:02,000 --> 00:07:02,660
She would not.

157
00:07:02,660 --> 00:07:08,130
No, a man you don't, it's not--

158

00:07:08,130 --> 00:07:10,190

And we also didn't have
any papers for him.

159

00:07:10,190 --> 00:07:13,790

He had no Gentile papers.

160

00:07:13,790 --> 00:07:14,740

We did.

161

00:07:14,740 --> 00:07:19,880

And when my mother was
arranged to this elderly woman,

162

00:07:19,880 --> 00:07:23,900

farmer owner, needed help to
work with her farm and the cows

163

00:07:23,900 --> 00:07:25,280

and whatever.

164

00:07:25,280 --> 00:07:27,080

She needed some help.

165

00:07:27,080 --> 00:07:29,780

My mother and two
children was the family

166

00:07:29,780 --> 00:07:31,190

would come and help her.

167

00:07:31,190 --> 00:07:34,190

So for all the help,
the only thing mother

168

00:07:34,190 --> 00:07:37,520

ask is a roof over our
heads, and the food.

169

00:07:37,520 --> 00:07:40,160

Whatever she could
she would be--

170

00:07:40,160 --> 00:07:42,770

At this point you had no money.

171

00:07:42,770 --> 00:07:43,790

Very little, no.

172

00:07:43,790 --> 00:07:46,100

Nothing to be able
to pay her for.

173

00:07:46,100 --> 00:07:49,160

Because in Lviv I
gather, you had money.

174

00:07:49,160 --> 00:07:50,400

Yes, we were able to--

175

00:07:50,400 --> 00:07:50,900

Yes.

176

00:07:50,900 --> 00:07:53,630

But a lot of the money was
spent for various things

177

00:07:53,630 --> 00:07:55,440

that we needed to
survive during the time,

178

00:07:55,440 --> 00:07:56,360

Including the papers.

179

00:07:56,360 --> 00:07:57,890

You mean it was used up?

180

00:07:57,890 --> 00:07:58,670

It was consumed.

181

00:07:58,670 --> 00:07:59,540

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

182

00:07:59,540 --> 00:08:00,470
--papers Whatever.

183
00:08:00,470 --> 00:08:01,400
Favors.

184
00:08:01,400 --> 00:08:04,370
And getting out the gate--

185
00:08:04,370 --> 00:08:05,030
Everything.

186
00:08:05,030 --> 00:08:05,713
Yes everything.

187
00:08:05,713 --> 00:08:07,130
Different things
that I had to do.

188
00:08:07,130 --> 00:08:11,630
See, decisions were made, and
they were important decisions.

189
00:08:11,630 --> 00:08:14,150
And probably one
of those decisions

190
00:08:14,150 --> 00:08:16,225
was, we're spending this money.

191
00:08:16,225 --> 00:08:20,040
Because if we save the
money and not ourselves,

192
00:08:20,040 --> 00:08:23,000
it's not worth anything.

193
00:08:23,000 --> 00:08:24,380
These hard decisions.

194
00:08:24,380 --> 00:08:28,578
These were decisions that

were being made constantly.

195

00:08:28,578 --> 00:08:30,620

And you as children don't
know anything about it.

196

00:08:30,620 --> 00:08:31,700

Not too much.

197

00:08:31,700 --> 00:08:32,270

Not too much.

198

00:08:32,270 --> 00:08:37,309

Because it was our parents
daily thing that I don't think

199

00:08:37,309 --> 00:08:39,529

they shared with
us at the moment.

200

00:08:39,529 --> 00:08:40,669

Even after the war?

201

00:08:40,669 --> 00:08:42,710

After the war, yes,
she told us that.

202

00:08:42,710 --> 00:08:47,290

But not during the
war, total details to--

203

00:08:47,290 --> 00:08:51,940

So what did you do for a year
and a half, or whatever it was?

204

00:08:51,940 --> 00:08:56,320

We helped mother in the fields
and whatever the peasant woman

205

00:08:56,320 --> 00:08:57,980

needed to do around the house.

206

00:08:57,980 --> 00:09:00,400
My mother actually worked
very hard during that time.

207
00:09:00,400 --> 00:09:04,420
She would tend to
the fields, gather

208
00:09:04,420 --> 00:09:08,110
the crops, whatever was
on this little farm.

209
00:09:08,110 --> 00:09:11,650
It's a small little
farm, very primitive.

210
00:09:11,650 --> 00:09:13,090
We had no running water.

211
00:09:13,090 --> 00:09:15,370
Because I remember, I
myself and my sister,

212
00:09:15,370 --> 00:09:18,130
we all had to go
always to the well.

213
00:09:18,130 --> 00:09:20,020
To the well, to get
the water from the--

214
00:09:20,020 --> 00:09:21,130
To get water.

215
00:09:21,130 --> 00:09:23,000
Now you're back in
the 19th century.

216
00:09:23,000 --> 00:09:23,860
That's right.

217
00:09:23,860 --> 00:09:25,480
Yes, in that part, yes.

218
00:09:25,480 --> 00:09:28,720
This is not Lemberg
anymore, this is a farm.

219
00:09:28,720 --> 00:09:33,815
And completely not to be
exposed ever to a village, farm,

220
00:09:33,815 --> 00:09:34,690
and things like that.

221
00:09:34,690 --> 00:09:39,190
But we just have to go it
like we were born to it.

222
00:09:39,190 --> 00:09:40,950
So we did it.

223
00:09:40,950 --> 00:09:43,210
What were your
names at this time?

224
00:09:43,210 --> 00:09:44,320
His name was--

225
00:09:44,320 --> 00:09:46,600
I was Ursula Osofsky.

226
00:09:46,600 --> 00:09:49,677
And I was Kazimirz Osofsky.

227
00:09:49,677 --> 00:09:50,760
How do you spell Kazimirz?

228
00:09:50,760 --> 00:09:54,280

229
00:09:54,280 --> 00:09:55,940
K-A-Z-I-M-I-R-Z.

230

00:09:55,940 --> 00:09:57,915
I thought I did that for you.

231
00:09:57,915 --> 00:10:02,280

232
00:10:02,280 --> 00:10:04,750
I know Ursula is U-R-S-U-LA.

233
00:10:04,750 --> 00:10:06,520
Yes, yes.

234
00:10:06,520 --> 00:10:08,800
And that's how you
called each other?

235
00:10:08,800 --> 00:10:09,700
Of course.

236
00:10:09,700 --> 00:10:10,820
Yes, there was nothing--

237
00:10:10,820 --> 00:10:13,705
It was drilled into us
by mother completely

238
00:10:13,705 --> 00:10:15,970
to forget our previous names.

239
00:10:15,970 --> 00:10:19,430
Not if somebody will ask
us, what's your name?

240
00:10:19,430 --> 00:10:20,410
Not to just--

241
00:10:20,410 --> 00:10:22,970
I mean, for something
in your situation,

242
00:10:22,970 --> 00:10:23,980
you don't tell a child--

243
00:10:23,980 --> 00:10:26,520
For a year and a half, you
did not call him Erwin?

244
00:10:26,520 --> 00:10:28,540
No, of course not.

245
00:10:28,540 --> 00:10:30,430
It was life and death.

246
00:10:30,430 --> 00:10:31,090
You knew it.

247
00:10:31,090 --> 00:10:32,685
We knew it, yes.

248
00:10:32,685 --> 00:10:34,060
And your mother
taught it to you?

249
00:10:34,060 --> 00:10:36,470
That's right.

250
00:10:36,470 --> 00:10:37,510
And not only that.

251
00:10:37,510 --> 00:10:39,340
During that period
of time, being

252
00:10:39,340 --> 00:10:43,150
that my father didn't
have Aryan papers,

253
00:10:43,150 --> 00:10:47,950
my mother had to arrange
a hiding place for him

254
00:10:47,950 --> 00:10:49,510
on our farm.

255

00:10:49,510 --> 00:10:50,290

Which she did.

256

00:10:50,290 --> 00:10:51,760

That the peasant
lady didn't know?

257

00:10:51,760 --> 00:10:52,260

No, no.

258

00:10:52,260 --> 00:10:53,230

She did not know.

259

00:10:53,230 --> 00:10:54,580

Was there a peasant
man or just the lady?

260

00:10:54,580 --> 00:10:55,570

No, it's just a woman.

261

00:10:55,570 --> 00:10:56,890

Only an elderly woman.

262

00:10:56,890 --> 00:10:58,600

Maybe she was in her 70s.

263

00:10:58,600 --> 00:10:59,410

She was alone?

264

00:10:59,410 --> 00:11:00,610

She was alone.

265

00:11:00,610 --> 00:11:04,090

That was probably
our saving grace.

266

00:11:04,090 --> 00:11:07,210

She needed help.

267

00:11:07,210 --> 00:11:11,330

She didn't get out of

the house too much.

268

00:11:11,330 --> 00:11:13,180

So when my mother--

269

00:11:13,180 --> 00:11:15,370

Your mother was
terrific for her.

270

00:11:15,370 --> 00:11:16,420

She was terrific.

271

00:11:16,420 --> 00:11:17,920

But it went two ways.

272

00:11:17,920 --> 00:11:19,100

Yeah, sure.

273

00:11:19,100 --> 00:11:21,170

It was a good
situation for us too.

274

00:11:21,170 --> 00:11:24,490

And during that period
of time my mother--

275

00:11:24,490 --> 00:11:27,070

my father was in
hiding on the barn,

276

00:11:27,070 --> 00:11:28,840

underneath the floorboards.

277

00:11:28,840 --> 00:11:31,810

He made a hole in the ground
underneath the floorboards

278

00:11:31,810 --> 00:11:32,590

in the barn.

279

00:11:32,590 --> 00:11:35,687

And that's how he survived

till the end of the war.

280
00:11:35,687 --> 00:11:36,520
And he stayed there?

281
00:11:36,520 --> 00:11:38,697
He stayed there day and night.

282
00:11:38,697 --> 00:11:39,280
Day and night.

283
00:11:39,280 --> 00:11:40,260
Could not get out.

284
00:11:40,260 --> 00:11:43,550
This was as difficult
a time as you had.

285
00:11:43,550 --> 00:11:45,650
This is a very difficult,
nerve-racking--

286
00:11:45,650 --> 00:11:46,150
Absolutely.

287
00:11:46,150 --> 00:11:46,960
Nerve racking.

288
00:11:46,960 --> 00:11:49,960
At night we used to go
out to bring him food.

289
00:11:49,960 --> 00:11:54,390
Food had to be brought to
him every day, which we did.

290
00:11:54,390 --> 00:11:58,020
Did nobody in the
neighborhood suspect anything?

291
00:11:58,020 --> 00:11:59,230
No.

292
00:11:59,230 --> 00:12:02,200
These farms were quite
a distance apart.

293
00:12:02,200 --> 00:12:05,200
There wasn't like a house
next to another house.

294
00:12:05,200 --> 00:12:06,280
Listen.

295
00:12:06,280 --> 00:12:09,700
When the family left Lviv.

296
00:12:09,700 --> 00:12:11,597
Or Lemberg.

297
00:12:11,597 --> 00:12:13,555
I don't know, what am I
supposed to say to you?

298
00:12:13,555 --> 00:12:15,450
You seem to say
Lemberg more often.

299
00:12:15,450 --> 00:12:15,960
That's OK.

300
00:12:15,960 --> 00:12:17,050
Whichever way, it doesn't--

301
00:12:17,050 --> 00:12:17,230
Lviv.

302
00:12:17,230 --> 00:12:17,800
To me it's Lviv.

303
00:12:17,800 --> 00:12:18,842
Don't be friendly, just--

304

00:12:18,842 --> 00:12:19,510
Yeah, yeah.

305
00:12:19,510 --> 00:12:20,380
No.

306
00:12:20,380 --> 00:12:21,130
Yes, Lviv.

307
00:12:21,130 --> 00:12:21,850
I say Lviv.

308
00:12:21,850 --> 00:12:23,750
You say Lviv.

309
00:12:23,750 --> 00:12:29,160
So when the family left, did you
know you were going to Lipnica?

310
00:12:29,160 --> 00:12:30,460
Yes.

311
00:12:30,460 --> 00:12:31,090
Yes.

312
00:12:31,090 --> 00:12:37,150
How was the decision made
that this little 19th century

313
00:12:37,150 --> 00:12:37,750
village.

314
00:12:37,750 --> 00:12:40,840
Or it's not even a village,
it's less than a village.

315
00:12:40,840 --> 00:12:42,160
That's the place to be.

316
00:12:42,160 --> 00:12:44,110
How was that decision made?

317

00:12:44,110 --> 00:12:48,160

The decision made through
some other people that--

318

00:12:48,160 --> 00:12:52,550

319

00:12:52,550 --> 00:12:54,140

They arranged with this--

320

00:12:54,140 --> 00:12:56,620

No, I cannot
describe it exactly.

321

00:12:56,620 --> 00:12:59,370

I'm not so sure how to say it.

322

00:12:59,370 --> 00:13:02,490

Mother, it was
mother's thing to do.

323

00:13:02,490 --> 00:13:04,950

I don't know how
she came up on that.

324

00:13:04,950 --> 00:13:08,370

Basically the
arrangements were made

325

00:13:08,370 --> 00:13:10,650

that this is where we would go.

326

00:13:10,650 --> 00:13:14,200

They were made, that we
would go to this little farm,

327

00:13:14,200 --> 00:13:15,640

and work there.

328

00:13:15,640 --> 00:13:20,010

Oh, she was-- she knew
exactly what farm--

329
00:13:20,010 --> 00:13:21,730
That it's a possibility.

330
00:13:21,730 --> 00:13:22,860
That there's a possibility.

331
00:13:22,860 --> 00:13:25,260
There's an old
woman in the village

332
00:13:25,260 --> 00:13:29,820
that might need some help
from people like ourselves.

333
00:13:29,820 --> 00:13:32,730
With a woman and this and--

334
00:13:32,730 --> 00:13:36,000
This is amazing, that
this should be known.

335
00:13:36,000 --> 00:13:41,820
That there is a person over
there who was isolated, really.

336
00:13:41,820 --> 00:13:43,470
That if you go there.

337
00:13:43,470 --> 00:13:44,145
That's it.

338
00:13:44,145 --> 00:13:45,270
You're just with that lady.

339
00:13:45,270 --> 00:13:46,780
We looked for an isolated place.

340
00:13:46,780 --> 00:13:50,590
Nobody, and nobody on Lipnica
cared if you were there or not.

341

00:13:50,590 --> 00:13:54,921

Well, there were people
that were gossiping.

342

00:13:54,921 --> 00:13:57,171

Yes, they were suspecting,
possibly that we were maybe

343

00:13:57,171 --> 00:13:57,240

Jewish.

344

00:13:57,240 --> 00:13:59,085

It's possible that
this woman maybe--

345

00:13:59,085 --> 00:14:01,620

So there were some
other incidents

346

00:14:01,620 --> 00:14:06,100

where they tried to find out
a little bit more about us.

347

00:14:06,100 --> 00:14:09,930

But again, mother somehow
overcame all these things.

348

00:14:09,930 --> 00:14:13,810

There was an incident with
me, myself for instance,

349

00:14:13,810 --> 00:14:15,300

where they tried to--

350

00:14:15,300 --> 00:14:18,510

on one of my daily, or
maybe every-other-day trip

351

00:14:18,510 --> 00:14:24,440

to the well, which was
maybe 2,000 yards away

352

00:14:24,440 --> 00:14:26,280
from the house,
was down the hill.

353
00:14:26,280 --> 00:14:27,530
There was a well.

354
00:14:27,530 --> 00:14:30,560
I would go there for water with
a bucket or maybe two buckets,

355
00:14:30,560 --> 00:14:32,990
and bring water
back to the house.

356
00:14:32,990 --> 00:14:36,890
There were a few fellows
there, men, young boys.

357
00:14:36,890 --> 00:14:37,880
And they were there.

358
00:14:37,880 --> 00:14:42,950
When I got there, they tried
to interrogate me and ask

359
00:14:42,950 --> 00:14:46,940
me are you this, are you
that, where are you from?

360
00:14:46,940 --> 00:14:49,310
And they wanted to examine me--

361
00:14:49,310 --> 00:14:49,970
Physically.

362
00:14:49,970 --> 00:14:50,826
--to see--

363
00:14:50,826 --> 00:14:51,743
Because you're Jewish.

364

00:14:51,743 --> 00:14:53,060
--if I'm Jewish.

365
00:14:53,060 --> 00:14:56,570
So of course, I knew
what that meant too.

366
00:14:56,570 --> 00:15:02,060
And I dropped everything
and ran back to the house.

367
00:15:02,060 --> 00:15:02,960
Ran away from them.

368
00:15:02,960 --> 00:15:04,610
I ran away from them.

369
00:15:04,610 --> 00:15:07,400
So of course, that
caused other problems.

370
00:15:07,400 --> 00:15:08,720
That's suspicious.

371
00:15:08,720 --> 00:15:10,790
How did my mother handle that?

372
00:15:10,790 --> 00:15:14,790
She explained to them,
he's a young boy.

373
00:15:14,790 --> 00:15:15,980
He's embarrassed.

374
00:15:15,980 --> 00:15:17,120
You embarrassed him.

375
00:15:17,120 --> 00:15:19,910
What are you bothering him for?

376
00:15:19,910 --> 00:15:24,050
And the embarrassment

type thing explained it.

377

00:15:24,050 --> 00:15:27,500

Why he escaped to be
physically examined.

378

00:15:27,500 --> 00:15:29,570

So that's how she explained.

379

00:15:29,570 --> 00:15:30,987

So they left you
alone after that?

380

00:15:30,987 --> 00:15:32,237

They left me alone after that.

381

00:15:32,237 --> 00:15:34,190

But there was an incident
that if I didn't run

382

00:15:34,190 --> 00:15:35,270

and they examined me--

383

00:15:35,270 --> 00:15:37,710

That's right, it would
have been the end.

384

00:15:37,710 --> 00:15:42,950

Because in the early
1900s, '20s, '30s,

385

00:15:42,950 --> 00:15:47,130

I don't think circumcision
was a generally accepted

386

00:15:47,130 --> 00:15:49,550

medical practice,
which it is today.

387

00:15:49,550 --> 00:15:55,040

Today, I don't know, maybe in
America 95% of the people born

388

00:15:55,040 --> 00:15:57,410
are circumcised I would say.

389

00:15:57,410 --> 00:16:01,580
But in those days, I
think it's only Jews.

390

00:16:01,580 --> 00:16:04,410
so that's just one of
those telltale signs.

391

00:16:04,410 --> 00:16:07,270
So it was a nerve
racking existence.

392

00:16:07,270 --> 00:16:09,970
It's another-- any one
of those incidents.

393

00:16:09,970 --> 00:16:12,220
It's just one.

394

00:16:12,220 --> 00:16:15,440
And there were many that
Mother encountered herself.

395

00:16:15,440 --> 00:16:22,490
That they were saying
to her that she's

396

00:16:22,490 --> 00:16:24,540
holding Jewish children.

397

00:16:24,540 --> 00:16:26,780
She herself being non-Jewish.

398

00:16:26,780 --> 00:16:29,270
But I'm sure he said,
the children are Jewish.

399

00:16:29,270 --> 00:16:33,320
I guess we did not

look so non-Jewish.

400
00:16:33,320 --> 00:16:37,590
Like she, the way she combed
her hair or whatever else.

401
00:16:37,590 --> 00:16:40,290
So that was another rumor.

402
00:16:40,290 --> 00:16:44,420
This woman is probably
hiding her Jewish children.

403
00:16:44,420 --> 00:16:45,350
And the two of us.

404
00:16:45,350 --> 00:16:48,410

405
00:16:48,410 --> 00:16:53,210
What do you remember
about the war ending?

406
00:16:53,210 --> 00:16:53,930
Liberation.

407
00:16:53,930 --> 00:16:59,420
The war ending-- the
Russians came very sparsely,

408
00:16:59,420 --> 00:17:02,090
not in full force,
to our village.

409
00:17:02,090 --> 00:17:04,520
Because we were so isolated.

410
00:17:04,520 --> 00:17:07,160
And they came, I
remember, with white--

411
00:17:07,160 --> 00:17:08,315

Paratroopers.

412

00:17:08,315 --> 00:17:11,960
--with white uniforms against
the snow, to be covered.

413

00:17:11,960 --> 00:17:14,630
When they came
first to our house,

414

00:17:14,630 --> 00:17:17,960
so we right away told
them that we are Jewish.

415

00:17:17,960 --> 00:17:19,790
Mother spoke to them--

416

00:17:19,790 --> 00:17:23,240
not in her presence, in
the woman's presence--

417

00:17:23,240 --> 00:17:26,119
that we are Jewish and Russian.

418

00:17:26,119 --> 00:17:27,630
Why did she tell
them so quickly?

419

00:17:27,630 --> 00:17:32,390
He said that we are not
here in full force yet.

420

00:17:32,390 --> 00:17:35,990
And that there still are pockets
of Germans here and there,

421

00:17:35,990 --> 00:17:38,840
and they are still
fighting through.

422

00:17:38,840 --> 00:17:43,560
And we decided to stay, yet
I think another day or two.

423
00:17:43,560 --> 00:17:49,670
And then came somehow that
we had to leave earlier.

424
00:17:49,670 --> 00:17:52,730
Just when they first stepped in.

425
00:17:52,730 --> 00:17:56,340
Because there were
neighbors, and they said,

426
00:17:56,340 --> 00:17:59,090
I think they on us,
that they are Jewish.

427
00:17:59,090 --> 00:18:01,070
And we might do to kill them.

428
00:18:01,070 --> 00:18:06,170
And another neighbor came
in and told it to my mother.

429
00:18:06,170 --> 00:18:10,880
I think they are suspicious
of you and the children.

430
00:18:10,880 --> 00:18:12,470
They intend to--

431
00:18:12,470 --> 00:18:13,130
Harm you.

432
00:18:13,130 --> 00:18:17,470
--that you took
advantage of them.

433
00:18:17,470 --> 00:18:20,020
That you are, after all,
you probably are Jewish,

434
00:18:20,020 --> 00:18:21,700

or your children are Jewish.

435

00:18:21,700 --> 00:18:26,470

And they don't intend
to let you go freely.

436

00:18:26,470 --> 00:18:29,470

That meant that they probably
will come at night and kill us,

437

00:18:29,470 --> 00:18:33,400

before the full force of
liberation comes through.

438

00:18:33,400 --> 00:18:36,372

So we decide to leave at night.

439

00:18:36,372 --> 00:18:37,080

Where did you go?

440

00:18:37,080 --> 00:18:41,700

We picked up our
father from the barn.

441

00:18:41,700 --> 00:18:42,990

And walked toward--

442

00:18:42,990 --> 00:18:43,620

How was he?

443

00:18:43,620 --> 00:18:44,120

Physically?

444

00:18:44,120 --> 00:18:46,380

He was all swollen.

445

00:18:46,380 --> 00:18:50,110

Because he contracted
kidney disease.

446

00:18:50,110 --> 00:18:53,820

He was laying-- if he had

to be hidden during the day,

447

00:18:53,820 --> 00:18:56,820
under the boards, it
was full of water.

448

00:18:56,820 --> 00:18:59,625
And he always laid in
dampness and water--

449

00:18:59,625 --> 00:19:00,750
And he couldn't do a thing.

450

00:19:00,750 --> 00:19:02,292
Couldn't do-- no
medication, nothing.

451

00:19:02,292 --> 00:19:03,625
He had the most difficult time--

452

00:19:03,625 --> 00:19:04,860
Yes, physically, yes.

453

00:19:04,860 --> 00:19:05,940
Yes.

454

00:19:05,940 --> 00:19:09,040
He was not suffering
hunger but this--

455

00:19:09,040 --> 00:19:10,420
And then he was swollen.

456

00:19:10,420 --> 00:19:12,030
So they knew he's very sick.

457

00:19:12,030 --> 00:19:14,430
Which he was, with
the kidney disease.

458

00:19:14,430 --> 00:19:15,880
He retained all the water.

459

00:19:15,880 --> 00:19:18,000

The kidneys probably
were shut up.

460

00:19:18,000 --> 00:19:20,190

And we walked towards--

461

00:19:20,190 --> 00:19:23,760

the next town was
Bochnia or Vilichka,

462

00:19:23,760 --> 00:19:26,250

I'm not sure which came first.

463

00:19:26,250 --> 00:19:28,860

And we caught a Russian truck.

464

00:19:28,860 --> 00:19:33,880

A Russian transport
truck took us to Tarnov.

465

00:19:33,880 --> 00:19:36,210

It was already liberated.

466

00:19:36,210 --> 00:19:38,700

And then the first
thing that we did

467

00:19:38,700 --> 00:19:41,400

was taking our
father to the doctor.

468

00:19:41,400 --> 00:19:43,200

And he gave him medication.

469

00:19:43,200 --> 00:19:46,950

Of course, we knew that
he had a kidney problem.

470

00:19:46,950 --> 00:19:49,470

And he was, I think he

was put in the hospital.

471
00:19:49,470 --> 00:19:51,000
And he got better.

472
00:19:51,000 --> 00:19:54,510
And we immediately joined
Jewish communities formed--

473
00:19:54,510 --> 00:19:58,950
So how long did it take
for him to get better?

474
00:19:58,950 --> 00:20:00,990
This, I also don't remember.

475
00:20:00,990 --> 00:20:02,010
How long it took.

476
00:20:02,010 --> 00:20:04,320
But we were in
Tarnov for a while.

477
00:20:04,320 --> 00:20:05,140
For a while.

478
00:20:05,140 --> 00:20:07,140
It was a Jewish
community already formed.

479
00:20:07,140 --> 00:20:10,110
Like Jews were coming
from concentration camp

480
00:20:10,110 --> 00:20:15,030
with their striped uniforms,
and very haggard-looking.

481
00:20:15,030 --> 00:20:19,170
But everybody-- and my
parents were talking

482

00:20:19,170 --> 00:20:22,470
about going back to Lviv.

483
00:20:22,470 --> 00:20:26,130
Not knowing that there's
nobody left of this.

484
00:20:26,130 --> 00:20:29,130
And everybody was telling
them, please, don't go back.

485
00:20:29,130 --> 00:20:31,020
There's nothing there.

486
00:20:31,020 --> 00:20:35,220
And whoever made it will
come this way anyway.

487
00:20:35,220 --> 00:20:38,450
And just let's go
the other direction.

488
00:20:38,450 --> 00:20:40,310
Toward big cities.

489
00:20:40,310 --> 00:20:43,670
And of course, eventually--

490
00:20:43,670 --> 00:20:45,320
So from Tarnov, we went to--

491
00:20:45,320 --> 00:20:49,057

492
00:20:49,057 --> 00:20:50,140
I forgot where we went to.

493
00:20:50,140 --> 00:20:55,270
We went to Katowice.

494
00:20:55,270 --> 00:20:57,540
Katowice.

495
00:20:57,540 --> 00:21:00,910
That was a liberated
part that I think

496
00:21:00,910 --> 00:21:03,730
belonged before to Germans.

497
00:21:03,730 --> 00:21:05,920
And we stayed there for a while.

498
00:21:05,920 --> 00:21:09,130
And then, again,
Jewish community.

499
00:21:09,130 --> 00:21:13,390
And people were recruiting
the Jews to live.

500
00:21:13,390 --> 00:21:15,670
Not that my mother
ever wanted to stay.

501
00:21:15,670 --> 00:21:22,120
But she waited for her sister
to come back from Russia.

502
00:21:22,120 --> 00:21:25,510
My mother, she decided
she wants to stay

503
00:21:25,510 --> 00:21:29,710
till the sister
with her daughter

504
00:21:29,710 --> 00:21:31,330
will come out out of Russia.

505
00:21:31,330 --> 00:21:33,550
And together we should leave.

506
00:21:33,550 --> 00:21:36,790

It took her a while to
come out from Russia.

507
00:21:36,790 --> 00:21:43,420
And we waited, and then we
left for Germany, to wait out--

508
00:21:43,420 --> 00:21:45,610
to Germany, to
the American zone.

509
00:21:45,610 --> 00:21:46,360
With the sister.

510
00:21:46,360 --> 00:21:46,860
DP Camp.

511
00:21:46,860 --> 00:21:48,200
For the sister.

512
00:21:48,200 --> 00:21:49,000
Yes.

513
00:21:49,000 --> 00:21:53,830
Together we went, and
she went to Israel.

514
00:21:53,830 --> 00:21:55,712
Later from the DP here.

515
00:21:55,712 --> 00:21:56,670
That's where she lived?

516
00:21:56,670 --> 00:21:57,170
Yes.

517
00:21:57,170 --> 00:21:58,210
Yes.

518
00:21:58,210 --> 00:22:00,940
And we went to America.

519

00:22:00,940 --> 00:22:04,420

How were the decisions
made as to who went where?

520

00:22:04,420 --> 00:22:05,800

There was the person.

521

00:22:05,800 --> 00:22:08,320

522

00:22:08,320 --> 00:22:10,780

Israel was not, that was
Palestine at that time.

523

00:22:10,780 --> 00:22:12,070

You couldn't get in easily.

524

00:22:12,070 --> 00:22:12,700

No.

525

00:22:12,700 --> 00:22:14,200

Right, so that was that.

526

00:22:14,200 --> 00:22:16,930

But she went because she
was just with one daughter.

527

00:22:16,930 --> 00:22:19,945

My cousin had an
uncle in Palestine.

528

00:22:19,945 --> 00:22:21,910

At that time that was Palestine.

529

00:22:21,910 --> 00:22:23,530

Her father's brother.

530

00:22:23,530 --> 00:22:27,040

And that was one decision,
that's why they went there.

531

00:22:27,040 --> 00:22:29,320
And we didn't have
anybody here or there.

532
00:22:29,320 --> 00:22:33,420
And it was not easy to get to
Palestine, things like that.

533
00:22:33,420 --> 00:22:35,200
So my parents--

534
00:22:35,200 --> 00:22:37,657
The immigration to the
United States was more open.

535
00:22:37,657 --> 00:22:39,240
I mean, it wasn't
open but there was--

536
00:22:39,240 --> 00:22:42,697
We had to wait the
quota to sponsor--

537
00:22:42,697 --> 00:22:43,780
It still took a few years.

538
00:22:43,780 --> 00:22:44,928
It took you a few years.

539
00:22:44,928 --> 00:22:46,720
But at least you knew
that a certain amount

540
00:22:46,720 --> 00:22:47,887
of people every year would--

541
00:22:47,887 --> 00:22:51,202
1950, people were getting over.

542
00:22:51,202 --> 00:22:53,830
Some of them said this--

543

00:22:53,830 --> 00:22:59,480
President Truman signed some
kind of an order and the gates

544
00:22:59,480 --> 00:22:59,980
opened.

545
00:22:59,980 --> 00:23:01,740
In 1950.

546
00:23:01,740 --> 00:23:04,090
Your arrival was sponsored
by the Birmingham

547
00:23:04,090 --> 00:23:05,120
Jewish community.

548
00:23:05,120 --> 00:23:06,620
And you went to
Birmingham, Alabama.

549
00:23:06,620 --> 00:23:08,380
Yes.

550
00:23:08,380 --> 00:23:10,780
How long did you
remain in Birmingham?

551
00:23:10,780 --> 00:23:12,880
My husband and I and Ziggy.

552
00:23:12,880 --> 00:23:16,510
At the time I already was
married and had a child.

553
00:23:16,510 --> 00:23:17,825
I think a year.

554
00:23:17,825 --> 00:23:19,300
I think a year, approximately.

555
00:23:19,300 --> 00:23:20,890

So it didn't take long
to get out of Birmingham.

556
00:23:20,890 --> 00:23:22,348
No, we didn't intend
to stay there.

557
00:23:22,348 --> 00:23:25,250
I lived there for two
years, about two years.

558
00:23:25,250 --> 00:23:28,680
That was the extent of
your high school education?

559
00:23:28,680 --> 00:23:29,830
In Birmingham, there.

560
00:23:29,830 --> 00:23:30,430
Yes.

561
00:23:30,430 --> 00:23:31,480
Yeah.

562
00:23:31,480 --> 00:23:33,160
And when you came
to New York you--

563
00:23:33,160 --> 00:23:34,360
no, you said you--

564
00:23:34,360 --> 00:23:38,050
When I came to New York I went
to, for a little short time,

565
00:23:38,050 --> 00:23:39,470
Forest Hills High School.

566
00:23:39,470 --> 00:23:44,590
Then in Woodside.

567
00:23:44,590 --> 00:23:46,270

Woodside High.

568
00:23:46,270 --> 00:23:48,830
Then he went to college.

569
00:23:48,830 --> 00:23:50,200
How much college did you do?

570
00:23:50,200 --> 00:23:51,710
Two years.

571
00:23:51,710 --> 00:23:52,870
Which one?

572
00:23:52,870 --> 00:23:55,220
CCNY.

573
00:23:55,220 --> 00:23:56,320
OK.

574
00:23:56,320 --> 00:23:57,460
And then you decided--

575
00:23:57,460 --> 00:24:00,380
And then I had to roll up
my sleeves and go to work.

576
00:24:00,380 --> 00:24:03,700
And actually, no,
that's really true.

577
00:24:03,700 --> 00:24:08,170
During that period of time, my
father got sicker and sicker.

578
00:24:08,170 --> 00:24:09,892
Yes, the kidney didn't--

579
00:24:09,892 --> 00:24:11,350
Eventually he really
couldn't work.

580

00:24:11,350 --> 00:24:13,780

Was he able to do
anything in America?

581

00:24:13,780 --> 00:24:17,290

He started a little bit
on the jobs in New Jersey.

582

00:24:17,290 --> 00:24:18,615

Yes, he did some--

583

00:24:18,615 --> 00:24:20,380

He worked, he worked.

584

00:24:20,380 --> 00:24:21,230

Different things.

585

00:24:21,230 --> 00:24:25,010

But he couldn't work steadily
because of his health.

586

00:24:25,010 --> 00:24:26,032

And so--

587

00:24:26,032 --> 00:24:27,490

At that time they
didn't have the--

588

00:24:27,490 --> 00:24:29,290

Again, we have to
do the right amount.

589

00:24:29,290 --> 00:24:33,010

So life was difficult for him.

590

00:24:33,010 --> 00:24:36,370

For him it was, because there
was no dialysis at the time.

591

00:24:36,370 --> 00:24:39,400

There was no kidney
transplants, nothing.

592
00:24:39,400 --> 00:24:43,210
So just diet, some water
pills, which was very--

593
00:24:43,210 --> 00:24:48,130
and the kidneys both
failed, and eventually--

594
00:24:48,130 --> 00:24:49,355
When did he pass away?

595
00:24:49,355 --> 00:24:49,855
'59.

596
00:24:49,855 --> 00:24:52,450

597
00:24:52,450 --> 00:24:57,610
He was 57 years old, or?

598
00:24:57,610 --> 00:24:59,440
He was 59.

599
00:24:59,440 --> 00:25:00,590
I think so.

600
00:25:00,590 --> 00:25:01,090
Yeah.

601
00:25:01,090 --> 00:25:03,045
He was born 1900.

602
00:25:03,045 --> 00:25:05,320
But he was paying
the price every day.

603
00:25:05,320 --> 00:25:06,160
Yes, yes.

604
00:25:06,160 --> 00:25:10,750

Because that failure of the
kidneys came from the place

605
00:25:10,750 --> 00:25:12,220
that he was hiding.

606
00:25:12,220 --> 00:25:13,670
There in hiding.

607
00:25:13,670 --> 00:25:15,550
Yes, yes, yes.

608
00:25:15,550 --> 00:25:17,440
And you came to Elizabeth.

609
00:25:17,440 --> 00:25:19,450
How did you get in here?

610
00:25:19,450 --> 00:25:20,560
Business brought you here.

611
00:25:20,560 --> 00:25:21,063
Business.

612
00:25:21,063 --> 00:25:21,855
Yes, opportunities.

613
00:25:21,855 --> 00:25:22,360
Business.

614
00:25:22,360 --> 00:25:25,300
The Jewish community
in Elizabeth.

615
00:25:25,300 --> 00:25:28,360
First Joe and my sister
came to Elizabeth,

616
00:25:28,360 --> 00:25:30,760
and I followed them within--

617

00:25:30,760 --> 00:25:34,480
Joe's parents were
here, and Joe's brother.

618
00:25:34,480 --> 00:25:37,060
Actually, his parents
and his brother I think

619
00:25:37,060 --> 00:25:37,880
were here first.

620
00:25:37,880 --> 00:25:38,380
Right.

621
00:25:38,380 --> 00:25:40,930
Yes, yes, yes.

622
00:25:40,930 --> 00:25:41,930
Then we followed.

623
00:25:41,930 --> 00:25:45,790
And then the brother followed.

624
00:25:45,790 --> 00:25:48,730
The family's coming to
Elizabeth was hopefully

625
00:25:48,730 --> 00:25:51,396
good for the family,
certainly good for Elizabeth.

626
00:25:51,396 --> 00:25:54,250

627
00:25:54,250 --> 00:25:57,265
So that's the story.

628
00:25:57,265 --> 00:26:00,250

629
00:26:00,250 --> 00:26:04,060
It's a remarkable story

of a remarkable woman.

630
00:26:04,060 --> 00:26:04,690
Yes.

631
00:26:04,690 --> 00:26:07,150
Yes, she certainly was.

632
00:26:07,150 --> 00:26:10,270
And she remained a remarkable
woman all these years.

633
00:26:10,270 --> 00:26:11,860
All these years, to the end.

634
00:26:11,860 --> 00:26:12,850
Really to the end.

635
00:26:12,850 --> 00:26:21,880
The way she looked at her life,
at her old age, things that she

636
00:26:21,880 --> 00:26:23,890
could do or couldn't do.

637
00:26:23,890 --> 00:26:28,530
She came and--

638
00:26:28,530 --> 00:26:31,220
And she was alive and alert--

639
00:26:31,220 --> 00:26:32,045
To the last minute.

640
00:26:32,045 --> 00:26:36,920

641
00:26:36,920 --> 00:26:41,300
She did a remarkable--

642
00:26:41,300 --> 00:26:43,860

she lived a remarkable life.

643
00:26:43,860 --> 00:26:48,620
And did a beautiful job
of saving the family.

644
00:26:48,620 --> 00:26:53,000
And the sad part is that
there were so few people who

645
00:26:53,000 --> 00:26:54,710
were able to do it.

646
00:26:54,710 --> 00:26:56,060
That's true.

647
00:26:56,060 --> 00:27:00,710
It's encouraging to see
that you benefited from it.

648
00:27:00,710 --> 00:27:05,600
And you realize as you go
through the story, how rare it

649
00:27:05,600 --> 00:27:06,500
was.

650
00:27:06,500 --> 00:27:09,030
Because this is the
only one you hear about.

651
00:27:09,030 --> 00:27:10,550
In all of Lviv.

652
00:27:10,550 --> 00:27:16,190
From the whole history of Lviv
that my parents were telling us

653
00:27:16,190 --> 00:27:18,830
that after the war, they
were talking to other people

654

00:27:18,830 --> 00:27:22,890
or documentaries.

655
00:27:22,890 --> 00:27:26,270
We are the only
intact family that

656
00:27:26,270 --> 00:27:31,610
lived through the ghetto
and the entire, without--

657
00:27:31,610 --> 00:27:36,140
because there were many that
went to Russia that made it.

658
00:27:36,140 --> 00:27:39,170
Or people that
individually made it.

659
00:27:39,170 --> 00:27:47,910
But the intact family, it
was, if not one, this Yes.

660
00:27:47,910 --> 00:27:49,710
Because through the
ghetto through the--

661
00:27:49,710 --> 00:27:53,460
because usually these members
were lost in the ghetto

662
00:27:53,460 --> 00:27:56,940
during other acts.

663
00:27:56,940 --> 00:27:58,830
So it's a remarkable
story, which

664
00:27:58,830 --> 00:28:02,090
is a tribute to a
remarkable woman.

665
00:28:02,090 --> 00:28:07,830

Yes, we're very grateful that
she saw a lot of bad times,

666
00:28:07,830 --> 00:28:11,970
but she also saw and had a
lot of naches in her years

667
00:28:11,970 --> 00:28:13,380
after the war.

668
00:28:13,380 --> 00:28:19,080
And she saw naches from my
sister's family, myself.

669
00:28:19,080 --> 00:28:22,260
She saw happy occasions.

670
00:28:22,260 --> 00:28:26,630
13 great-grandchildren she has.

671
00:28:26,630 --> 00:28:29,150
She had, she still has.

672
00:28:29,150 --> 00:28:32,430
And weddings, bar mitzvahs.

673
00:28:32,430 --> 00:28:38,600
So she shepped a lot of naches,
and we're grateful for that.

674
00:28:38,600 --> 00:28:42,230
That she was strong, she was
traveling to Israel often.

675
00:28:42,230 --> 00:28:43,870
She said that my
children will be here.

676
00:28:43,870 --> 00:28:45,110
Well, I could live here.

677
00:28:45,110 --> 00:28:47,417

But with all the children she--

678

00:28:47,417 --> 00:28:48,500

It is very understandable.

679

00:28:48,500 --> 00:28:50,510

I have some questions over here.

680

00:28:50,510 --> 00:28:52,700

Let's see how we handle them.

681

00:28:52,700 --> 00:28:54,920

When did you start talking--

682

00:28:54,920 --> 00:28:57,290

you know, I really

don't know how to--

683

00:28:57,290 --> 00:29:00,210

I look at you people

and I'm thinking,

684

00:29:00,210 --> 00:29:04,250

hey, this really is going

to your mother, you know.

685

00:29:04,250 --> 00:29:08,780

You're a combination

of survivors

686

00:29:08,780 --> 00:29:11,720

and second generation,

rolled into one.

687

00:29:11,720 --> 00:29:12,310

That's true.

688

00:29:12,310 --> 00:29:13,070

All right.

689

00:29:13,070 --> 00:29:16,010

And that's because of how

your mother protected you.

690
00:29:16,010 --> 00:29:17,750
Exactly, exactly.

691
00:29:17,750 --> 00:29:20,820
And you said that on
the Stern College tape.

692
00:29:20,820 --> 00:29:23,390
I understood what
you were saying.

693
00:29:23,390 --> 00:29:26,980
When did you start talking about
the Holocaust, and with whom?

694
00:29:26,980 --> 00:29:28,980
I think your family was
always talking about it.

695
00:29:28,980 --> 00:29:30,200
I think we were.

696
00:29:30,200 --> 00:29:31,670
I think yes.

697
00:29:31,670 --> 00:29:32,990
But maybe--

698
00:29:32,990 --> 00:29:34,480
Because you know
there are a number

699
00:29:34,480 --> 00:29:37,010
of survivors who didn't talk
to their children about it.

700
00:29:37,010 --> 00:29:37,790
No, no.

701
00:29:37,790 --> 00:29:42,090

I think that-- it's not
a daily thing, of course.

702
00:29:42,090 --> 00:29:43,880
Because it's just--

703
00:29:43,880 --> 00:29:46,880
In beginning,
possible that we were

704
00:29:46,880 --> 00:29:51,870
getting ready to establish
our lives in America.

705
00:29:51,870 --> 00:29:54,980
And we are very much
concentrated on that--

706
00:29:54,980 --> 00:30:01,340
establishing our family
life, religious life.

707
00:30:01,340 --> 00:30:06,470
And just busy.

708
00:30:06,470 --> 00:30:08,980
Busy with establishing
our life in America.

709
00:30:08,980 --> 00:30:11,540
So maybe it was not such a--

710
00:30:11,540 --> 00:30:17,170
of course, my children
was not big enough

711
00:30:17,170 --> 00:30:19,390
to be talking to that.

712
00:30:19,390 --> 00:30:23,680
And with us, mother, I
don't know how much she--

713

00:30:23,680 --> 00:30:30,850

she was always reminiscing
about her siblings, her mother.

714

00:30:30,850 --> 00:30:38,360

But your children had you to
talk to, and your brother.

715

00:30:38,360 --> 00:30:42,130

So was there this
communication going

716

00:30:42,130 --> 00:30:45,280

on about the Holocaust
with your children?

717

00:30:45,280 --> 00:30:46,570

When they were young--

718

00:30:46,570 --> 00:30:49,690

I think when they
were small, maybe not.

719

00:30:49,690 --> 00:30:51,400

When they were small.

720

00:30:51,400 --> 00:30:55,240

It's such a serious topic
and subject that it's--

721

00:30:55,240 --> 00:30:58,990

but somewhere later on,
I remember that my kids,

722

00:30:58,990 --> 00:31:03,733

and I think your kids, they know
all about it from us and from--

723

00:31:03,733 --> 00:31:05,150

it wasn't something
that we were--

724

00:31:05,150 --> 00:31:08,350

Not maybe with such
details, like my mother

725

00:31:08,350 --> 00:31:09,550

put it in the paper.

726

00:31:09,550 --> 00:31:10,450

This came later.

727

00:31:10,450 --> 00:31:11,950

This could be one
of the first times

728

00:31:11,950 --> 00:31:18,330

that incidents and details are
related in this type of a form.