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-NOTES-
-CONTENTS-

1:00 Slight introduction where you learn that the video takes place in Florida on June 9, 1989.

2:00 Alexander's birthday is on November 7, 1909 and Amelia was born on January 6, 1907. They live 12 kilometers north of Bialystok in a village.

3:00 Both Alexander and Amelia were born in this village which consisted of about 100 families.

4:00 They knew a few Jewish people. His step-father's stepmother was Jewish.

5:00 Amelia's parents spoke Hebrew. Also, Alexander's maternal side of the family was very religious, while the male side of the family was not. When Alexander was three his father went into the army and did not return. From that point on, his mother raised him alone.

6:00 No one else in the family was very religious. His stepfather was younger than his mother.

7:00 A small description of the village and the jobs is given.

8:00 When Alexander was 15 he had a fight with his step-father. Also, at this age, he watched the family farm go down.

9:00 Alexander begins to cry when he thinks about his mother and the farm. His memory reminds him of having the responsibility of taking care of the family.

10:00 The family sold the farm and opened a small wholesale Jewish store in Bialystok. War broke out in a few years.

11:00 Russian soldiers began to come into the Bialystok at the beginning of the war. Alexander was making a reasonable amount of money, but he foresaw the danger of the war and sent his wife to the village. Every night, after work, Alexander would go see his wife.

12:00 All of this occurred around 1939.

13:00 Alexander spent this time making money for the family by selling some sort of packages to the soldiers. He and a friend of his collaborated and moved out of the store because of the danger. Alex would sell the packages that his friend would make.

14:00 Escape was spoken about because of the German occupation. Alex went to Warsaw to make a connection.

15:00 They had two children: the daughter was born in 1931, and the son was born in 1934. Alexander and Amelia were married April 2, 1928.

16:00 Russian soldiers came and wanted something from Alexander.

17:00 Alexander had met a desperate Jewish woman and took her his family to the railroad station. They arrived at 2:00 a.m. at the station there were many people waiting to go to Molkinea (ph) which was 60 kilometers away.

18:00 Total chaos occurs when the train arrives. Alex loses his wife for a short period and finds her again. The 60 km train ride took five hours. At the Molkinea (ph) station there were many people waiting to get on the train to Bialystok from Warsaw.

19:00 The family walked through a forest from 6:00 to 11:00 p.m. to go to the border. The daughter was ill at this time.

20:00 As they were approaching the border they were still in the forest and came up to a large group of people who were there because there were Russian guards at the border.

21:00 As Alex was walking through the forest he jumped to the border (20-50 feet). When he got there he showed the guard his passport and told him that he was a railroad worker with his wife from Warsaw.

22:00 Alex met a German, Polish-speaking soldier.

23:00 The soldier told him that the lights in the distance were to a German village which would lead him to Molkinea (ph).

24:00 The family continued to walk until 6:00 a.m. They met up with a doctor who looked at the daughter and told them that she was very sick.

25:00 Amelia spoke to the Doctor about some pills to help her daughter sleep. The daughter recovered while some people from the village helped Alex find a one bedroom apartment.

26:00 The apartment was described as an efficiency. Alex met up with a friend of his, Stanley, who was living in a nearby village.

27:00 Stanley gave Alex the name of a family who had two aunts and three children who were in trouble.

28:00 Stanley tried to talk to Alex about helping the family however possible.

29:00 There were three boys in the family. Alex said that he would do his best to help them out by taking one of the sons and bringing him into his home. He believed that no one would figure out what was going on since they so recently moved to the area.

30:00 Alexander made a few friends in the village who wanted to go and buy some tobacco and sell it in the village. But, Alex had a feeling which told him not to go with them, he predicted that something awful would happen.

31:00 The rest of the group, including Stanley, went and was caught by the Gestapo and killed. There was a fight between the Polish police and the Gestapo.

32:00 A few days later there was a knock at the door. There stood a civilian in German clothes. He was not Polish, but perhaps Jewish or German. He asked to speak to Stanley, but Alex told him that the police (purposely did not say Gestapo) had captured and killed him.

33:00 Alex invited the man inside and this stranger said that he had talked to the young boy's family.

34:00 The stranger said that he wanted to give the boy a vocation. He told them that he was a Jewish, Polish, doctor who had studied in Zurich.

35:00 The doctor spoke poor Polish, but did speak Yiddish. He told the family that his building was across the street. Alex was told to go to the waiting room.

36:00 Alex spoke to a woman, while walking on the street, in Polish about the two boys. Jacob, one of the boys, did not look Jewish. The woman asked Jacob if he was afraid to go with Alex and said that he was not.

37:00 Alex went to the woman's house and she told him that she did not have any money.

38:00 This woman told Alex that she had a very wealthy family before the war, but now they had nothing.

41:00 Alex had an appointment to take the boy, Jacob. He was waiting for her as she was late.

42:00 The door pushed open and the boy was shoved in the room.

43:00 Jacob and Alex walked down the street talking to each other.

44:00 Alex figures that Jacob is between nine and ten years old. Alex has a brother with a son whose name is Genic (ph) about Jacob's age and now Jacob will take that name and be known as Alex's nephew.

45:00 The two of them walked a few blocks down the street and Alex realizes that the boy is bright and clever. Alex gives Jacob instructions to stay in the house and not to go near the window, but he can play anywhere else in the house.

46:00 Alex told the children that Jacob's ghetto was liquidated.

47:00 The description of the ghetto is of the children living on the streets without their parents. These children have no hope for the future, they only see tomorrow and with that there is death.

51:00 Alex talked about making connections to make some money.

52:00 His brother-in-law, sister's husband, is a heavy drinker.

53:00 Alex tells a story about one time when his brother-in-law was drunk and he beat him up. The brother told people that the Gestapo had done it. Jacob was brought to the house between Christmas and New Years. Right around Easter his brother-in-law came for a visit.

54:00 When they were in the house they saw three people coming up the walkway to the house. These people came in and asked if Alex had any Jews in the house. Alex said that he did not, but they insisted on searching the house and left when they found nothing.

55:00 They had a neighbor on the same floor who came over one day. She saw Jacob in the bedroom since the door was open. Alex told the neighbor that he was taking care of a Jewish boy.

56:00 Alex, after that incident, found Jacob a hiding place in the house under the floor where no one would look.

57:00 At first, Alexander had blamed the neighbor for telling the police about Jacob. On Good Friday his brother-in-law came over with some drinks and got quite drunk.

58:00 Again, three people came up the walk and asked Alex about a Jewish boy. His brother-in-law noticed one of the men as a friend of his and invited them all in for drinks. By the end of the visit the three men were drunk.

59:00 Alex then bought an apartment in the quiet section of town. In order for them to transport Jacob to the new apartment they had to fold him up in a couch.

1:00:00 Dr. Kowalski, the same doctor from before, came to Alex again telling him that he had another boy who was sick. Amelia was scared for her own children's well being.

1:01:00 Alex told Amelia that if the Gestapo found out that they were taking care of one Jewish child it would be the as if they had two children.

1:02:00 The boy was quite ill and also very hungry.

1:03:00 The doctor gave some medicine to Amelia. But Jacob, the son, and daughter then all got sick.

1:04:00 The doctor came over and said that Jacob had a fever and also an ear infection. But, the doctor didn't have the necessary medicine and could not perform surgery on the boy.

1:05:00 Jacob was weak and had scarlet fever.

1:06:00 The other boy, Oleg, was very ill and fell so sick that he died.

1:09:00 Alex found business in a factory where the family could sell products and make money.

1:10:00 Someone came up to Alex and told him that he could get sugar at a bargain price. So, Alex gave him all of his money because with sugar you could make a lot of money. But, this man did not come back. When he finally did return he said that he had lost it all.

1:12:00 Dr. Kowalski came and said that Jacob's kidney was in very bad shape .

1:13:00 Genic (ph) had an infection on his lips and if it was taken care of it could spread to his brain and die.

1:14:00 Dr. Kowalski told Alex to go to a doctor, Skinkevich (ph), in the expensive part of town. This doctor had a clinic that might help Genic.

1:15:00 Alex went to the clinic with a prescription that Dr. Kowalski had given him and the doctor told Alex that he must take the boy to the hospital.

1:16:00 Alex told Dr. Skinkevich (ph) that Genic was Jewish, but the doctor had no sympathy and told him to go home.

1:17:00 Dr. Mezurich (ph), sent by Dr. Skinkevich (ph), came to the house. This doctor talked to Dr. Kowalski.

1:18:00 Dr. Mezurich said that they must take Genic (ph) to the hospital and he would care for the boy.

1:19:00 The bill was very expensive for the surgery.

1:21:00 Dr. Kowalski had no money, but he said that he would the child and jump from a high bridge with him to spare him the pain.

1:23:00 Alex found out that the ghetto where Jacob was from had been liquidated and Jacob's aunt was sent to Auschwitz.

1:24:00 Alex was trying to find a way to pay for the surgery for Jacob, and finally decided to sell the apartment.

1:26:00 When Alexander was waiting for a streetcar, someone came up to him who wanted to buy the apartment. This person wants everything in the apartment, including the furniture.

1:29:00 Amelia is upset at Alexander selling the apartment, but soon after that he found an apartment near the market.

1:30:00 Now, Alexander bandaged Jacob up in order to hide his Jewish features and took a horse-taxi to the hospital.

1:31:00 Jacob recovers well from the surgery.

1:34:00 Dr. Kowalski asked about bringing another boy into the house now that Genic (ph) is better.

1:35:00 Alex and Amelia thought about the idea, but they did not have enough supplies for the family as it was.

1:37:00 Alex went to the market and was able to sell some items and make some money.

1:38:00 Alex sold products very fast, and while he did this he was always looking for new business.

1:39:00 When Alex was down at the market he spoke to a woman who was selling German blankets. He asked her if he could buy all of the blankets and sell them. She agreed since she had an entire basement full of them.

1:40:00 Within the next three days Alexander sold all of the merchandise, making quite a profit. With this new money he was able to buy a new apartment for the family.

1:41:00 Later, Alex went to the woman's house who sold him the blankets to find out who it was that was selling the blankets to her.

1:42:00 The connection had a lot of other equipment for Alex to sell. With this he was able to keep on making more and more money. Finally, he bought a new apartment for his wife and children.

1:43:00 Alex learned that Amelia was able to take care of herself. One of his friends told Alex that there was some leather to sell, but he didn't have any interest in this. The truck came and a strange phone call came telling him that they were found out.

1:45:00 Alex stayed away from home because the police were looking for him. They went to his house on many occasions. Amelia had moved all of Alex's clothes and belongings elsewhere; therefore, the police would have no reason to doubt her.

1:47:00 Alex went to his cousins' house, but the police finally did catch up with him there and took him to jail.

1:48:00 When Alex got to jail he told the police that he had escaped from Russia to go to Germany (Bialystok).

1:49:00 Alex was moved to a different jail in the area.

1:50:00 Alex met a guard in the jail who gave him a job. His main responsibility was to count prisoners, uniforms, etc...

1:52:00 One of the other inmates was able to escape, but was brought back thirty minutes later.

1:53:00 The Gestapo came in and figured that since Alexander had a set of keys he was probably a guard.

1:54:00 The Gestapo had armies who were killing people on the streets.

1:55:00 Alexander was able to make some sort of a deal with a secretary for \$100. They were to meet Amelia at the gate and escape. Alexander did escape the next morning. When Alex was leaving the jail he kept his eyes in one direction and walked straight out. When he got outside his wife and children were waiting for him.

1:59:00 When Alexander left the jail there was a good deal of fighting going on in the streets.

1:60:00 The next day the streets were barren, no one was outside.

1:61:00 A few days later Alexander sees a man on a motorcycle which has a Polish mark on it. There is an explosion heard outside with an uprising. Next door to the apartment building is an officer's school with the Gestapo headquarters. The headquarters were blown up in the explosion. For the next two weeks it was very quiet.

1:65:00 Ukrainian and German soldiers came into the city and started the fighting again. Genic had disappeared at this time and people were being killed all over the streets.

1:66:00 Today, it is unbelievable, but Jacob remembers the entire ordeal.

1:67:00 Today, Jacob lives in California and David visits him every year. David has a PhD. and is teaching mathematics.

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