

Rose, before we start with after you came out of the hospital, July 20, 21, 1942, I wanted to ask you some questions about [INAUDIBLE].

OK.

Was there an argument in your family about whether you should learn the Polish language and where you should learn it?

It wasn't a matter of learning. My Polish language just came naturally. From the moment I was born and raised, we spoke Polish. It was the parents who spoke Yiddish. But the main, really, conversations was among us. It was always in Polish.

And when I went to school-- I supposed to go to school-- there was a question. Should I go to a Folkshul, which is in Yiddish, or should I go to a public school in Polish? And my sister-- the oldest one, who was a teacher herself-- said, absolutely to a Polish school, because I don't want her to go into the street and be afraid that somebody is going to beat her up when she speaks Yiddish. And this was the general atmosphere.

But some people-- the Folkshul was very popular among the workers, the Bundists, particular. There was also the Paole Zion schools in Yiddish. [? Nellie's ?] mother was a teacher in the Paole Zion. But in my family, they said, absolutely. My sister said-- the oldest one-- absolutely.

And my mother and father went along with my sister. She was a teacher. She knew what's going on in the schools, and so on. And I went to a public school in Polish, because this was-- if you speak Yiddish, you are always in risk. And they didn't want me to have this as a main language.

When you were working in the library, you were given an assignment to create a list of 100 books. Could you tell us that story?

Yes. As I told you before, I was cataloging and putting in categories different books. And the workers came and always asked, could you give me a good book, something to read? And when I spoke to the director of the library, he said to me, Rozka why won't you write down a list of 100 books so, when the people come in and want to take a book out, they could see on the list what they should take? And I decided to do that.

So I put down on the list of 103 books-- I know exactly-- from different categories and countries. And there was the Scandinavian countries, and American literature, and of course Polish literature, French, all kind-- everything in translation, of course, into Polish, not in the original languages. So I put down a list of 103 books.

And Russian literature was a very, very modern at the time to read the Russian literature translated into Polish. And I went to a Mrs. Dubnow Erlich. Dubnow is a daughter of a famous historian. Dubnow wrote the history of the Jews. And she was, herself, a poet.

She was writing poetry in still Russian and knew excellent Polish literature-- all together, very intelligent and very well educated. Her two sons were professors, one at Columbia, the one who passed away. And then one is in Yale. And she was there.

And I made an appointment with her. And I said, Mrs. Dubnow, I want to come and have your opinion, because I didn't want to rely on myself that this is right. So I left with her the list of 100 books. And she studied it.

Then I called her. And she said, would you come up? Let's have a discussion about it. And then she accepted the 100 books, but one, which was called Człowiek zmienia skóręTM.

In English, would it be A Person Changes His Skin. It was written by Bruno Jasienski, who was a communist once. And it means that becoming-- changing his ideas, ideology. That's what he meant-- that the person changes his skin.

She didn't want to put it in. She didn't want-- she was a little bit-- she was a Bundist, but she didn't want to start with the Communist. This was my feeling at that time, as young as I was. And I felt it should be there. And we had a big discussion about it. And she told me, if you feel so strongly about it, let's leave it.

The funniest thing was, when I came to the United States and I came to visit her, she says to me, Rozka I remember how you argued with me about that book, that we had the discussion about the book. I was beside myself. How could she remember such a stupid thing?

And the chutzpah of me to argue with her-- but she says, let's take it out. I had three other books in case. But this was-- I was glad that she remembered.

So you did leave it in.

True, yeah. She says, if you feel so strongly about it, she let me in. [INAUDIBLE]. Nothing would happen, but she wanted to make her point. And I stood up.

I wanted to ask you a couple of questions about Michal-- this is before the war-- and your relationship. You used to help him with his homework?

You see, they had project for their exams-- to make a project. He was an engineer. And they made-- a mechanical engineer. They used to make all kind of machines and-- what is it called, what they have when they build the buildings, and they have the big--

The crane?

The crane. Yeah, the cranes. All kind of things, which is connected with force, with pressure, so on, so on. And he used to make on big paper-- he used to make all these kinds of drawings.

But he made it in pencil. And this had to be done in ink. So when he did it, I was very scrupulous, very always detailed. So he said, why don't you do it in ink, because I have to do-- I have to study for my exam, or something like that. And I did it.

So I was working very diligently and very accurately. And he was very happy about it. He had help. Other students who had to work, make a living, they had to give it to somebody.

And interesting-- they were called-- you know how? Negroes, [POLISH] in Polish, because [POLISH]-- it means to do it in black. This is what they called it. And they had to pay for that a lot of money. But I wasn't paid. But I helped him a lot in that.

Rose, I asked you, when you were growing up, whether you had Polish friends, or whether you were involved in any way. And you said, no. But was there a change in your life in that respect when you met Michal?

Oh, yes, because Michal was already-- he went at that time to the university. And he belonged to the Bund. And they had a very close relationship with the PPS. This is Polska Partia Socjalistyczna. This is like the Bund in the Jewish. And this is the Polska, this Polish party, Socjalistyczna.

And over there, there was also a sports club called Skra where the Jutrznia and Skra used to meet. And Gina, Michal's sister, had a lot of friends because she was also an athlete, Gina, in the sport club in Jutrznia. And they had all kind of sport games together.

And she had very close friends in the Polish club. And among them was one Marysia Sawicka, who was a tremendous help to us later on on the Aryan side when we went out. And Michal also had a lot of friends there. And he had a contact later on when he was going out from the ghetto for ammunition, and so on.

It was the Polish friend from the PPS. So it wasn't-- at my age, at that time, my contacts wasn't the same as theirs were. And then we were all-- we had a very good contact with them. And they helped us tremendously.

Were you surprised at his--

No.

No?

Not at all, no, because we always felt that we have to be brothers, whoever you are. There even was a song about it-- Black and white, all kinds of colors. You should be brothers. No, absolutely not. This was our idea. [INAUDIBLE].

So not only because it helped you, but you thought it was important that you would be able to have this kind of relationship.

Of course, yeah. Of course. And frankly, also when I went to the Aryan side, I contacted a woman whom I knew, a Polish woman, and asked her where to go, where to be. And she helped us also.

And there was a place-- a friend of [? Wnorowska. ?] She was a seamstress. And we used to work there. And we used to meet there. And even [? Vladka ?] was coming there also, a lot of people.

This was my contribution, this address. [? Samarch ?] was a marvelous person. No, on the contrary. But as a child, as a youngster, I didn't have the contact was them. But it wasn't, though, that I would separate.

It just was coincidental then?

Coincidental, that's right. Yeah, absolutely.

OK. When we ended the last tape, we ended where you were taken out of the hospital by Gina and Michal because there was going to be an Aktion. And it was the huge deportation, the beginning of the huge deportation.

Yes.

Were you still very sick when they took you?

No, I was better already. I could walk. I could walk. It was still-- I was very weak, but I could walk. Not that I could be on my own, but I could walk, and I could do certain things.

But the raids were constantly terrible. In one of the raids, we all had to come down. Michal got some kind of an Ausweis.

You know what's an Ausweis? It is some kind of a permit from a certain place. This is through the Judenrat. We had somebody there. And he got it that he is working here and there, which wasn't true. He wasn't working there. But that he's working-- he's needed as an engineer, and so on.

So we all had to go down. And my in-laws-- and there was her sister also, Guta Schulman, as I said-- and my mother, myself and Irena, holding her, and Michal. We all were standing in the court there.

But they said who has Ausweis could take out his wife, or a child, whatever it is. And Michal approached one of these. And they let me out with Irena. And the rest went to the Umschlagplatz.

And this was-- my mother was standing with me. And I knew this is the end. I knew this is the end. It was.

And we went back upstairs with Irena. Gina wasn't there. Gina that was very often in the Umschlagplatz going with her uniform as a nurse, smuggling out people whom she knew. She wasn't there.

And then, when she found out that our area was raided, she came running, and she found us. She was beside herself. Her parents were gone. And my mother was gone.

Rose, did you know then where they were going?

We knew already--

You did?

--because they was here. There was a friend of ours, Friedrich, Sigmund Friedrich. He went with the train. He got attached to the train somehow. And he went up to Treblinka. And he saw what's happening.

And he came back with this news that everybody's being gassed over there. He knew all right. So we knew already. The 22nd of July, we knew already what it is.

There were times when they were promising before that, we'll give you a few pounds of bread, and then something-- sugar, or whatever it is-- and come to another place. And some people went for it. They were hungry, and they went for that. But we knew already.

Had you all heard about the Einsatzgruppen in 1941 when they started the war against Russia-- that they were mass shootings? Did you hear about that?

Of course we knew already. We knew about it, yeah. We knew about it.

So you knew this was all a death sentence in some way?

Oh, we knew. Yeah. Yeah. And then was the other time. After that, I was only with Michal, Gina, and the baby. That's it.

Another raid of the building, and they were running, the Jewish policemen. They were running up to look into the apartments whether somebody was hidden or not. And they would take down, because if they'll bring people, his family will be saved. This is how they brought the people.

And we heard this, and we decided not to go down-- Michal. And to keep Irena quiet, we went in a very far corner of the apartment. They cannot see us. And we left the doors open so they'll think that nobody's there.

And we heard them running up. There was another floor-- running up, and down, and opening the doors, and [? heaved ?] around, and looked in. And I was keeping Irena on a table, dressed. We were all dressed to go.

I was keeping her on the table the pushing into her mouth candies so she cannot scream, she cannot talk, she cannot do anything. And I was pushing and pushing in her mouth. She didn't-- not a sound. And they just glanced in and went.

They didn't anything?

No. They didn't see us. Of course not. And Gina heard again that-- she came in, and she was frantic. She started to cry, [? It's ?] time [? now. ?]

It must have been terrifying.

There is no expression for that. And then, when we decided-- I'll tell you, there came a point when I couldn't make any more decisions. I didn't have the strength. Michal was doing all the decisions, all the time. I couldn't do that.

And it was a raid. This was the last time. And there were columns going the street. And we had to go. It was the column. We couldn't already get out.

And there was a wide street, the Zamenhof Street, going to the Umschlagplatz. And there was one Jewish militia man who was once in the Bund. I knew him, too. Michal knew him. I knew him.

And we were in the back. And he came over to us. He was watching so that nobody should escape. He came over to us and said, Michal, go to the front, to the very front, and I'll watch. And somehow, he got to the very--

Michal was carrying Irena. And I was walking-- hardly walking, but walking. And we came to it. And Michal told me, you see on that corner, the [? Kupiecka ?] Street? There is a tremendous-- what's it called-- kiosk, a round one, but very wide. He said, when we come to that kiosk-- I was the first one on the sidewalk-- you go to the right.

I said, I'm-- in the back, the Germans were standing and shooting. Whoever would move, they shoot. I said, Michal, I cannot do that. He said, you're going to do that. And when we came to the corner, he gave me such a push.

And I went to the front of that kiosk, because it was hidden a little bit for the column. And then Michal came with the baby. And we're standing until everybody passed by. It's hard to describe.

When they passed by, we cross the street. And there was an empty building already. Everything was open. And we hid there for awhile. And then we passed.

We came home, back. But this was already about two blocks from the Umschlagplatz. But if he wouldn't then-- but he made all the decisions at that time. I couldn't anymore.

And then he decided that we're going out after that, and that we're going to our ex-mate, who was the living in Prague. The Vistula divided Prague like Bronx, let's say, in Manhattan. And she live in there.

And she was like-- in French, they have the concierge. So she was taking care of the buildings, cleaning and everything. And she knew everybody who comes in and who goes. She had no husband. She has a daughter. And we decided to go there.

And how we went there-- we went with the so-called plac³wka. They were collecting people for work in different directions coming out of the ghetto, going to that place, and then coming back. So we took the baby.

And you could take the baby at that time to different places to work. And we went out. And on the other side, on the Aryan side, we stepped again away from the column in a certain moment.

And did he pick the moment?

Always. I never did anything. I was very passive at that time. I had the baby. I was thinking about the baby. I wasn't too well, and so on.

He always picked this. He always made all the-- since that moment, he made always all the decisions. And we got into a streetcar and went there.

When she looked at us, she paled. She was pale. She was afraid. And we told her that it's only for a few days until we find something. Didn't have any papers, nothing.

We took off all the armbands, and this is how we did. In the column, as we were marching, we took off the bands. And this is how we got there.

So she said that she'll find-- he was running around with different paper, no paper, and said, I'll get a birth certificate of

her sister, who was in Germany working for the Germans. She was taken by the Germans. So there is no reason. She wasn't afraid.

She went over there. It was in a-- it was a country there, a village called Gleboczyce. And she got me the paper there. And she said that I can go there to this village. And I can stay with so-and-so.

The name of that peasant was [? Patoka, ?] a tall, old man, gray. She was very vivacious-- with a son. And I went there with Irena. I stayed. Michal took me there. And he left for Warsaw.

He couldn't stay there. Michal couldn't stay there. He shouldn't have, because the less people, the better. And I was staying there for awhile. This is how we got out on the Aryan side. I was staying there for awhile.

How did you get there? Did you walk?

No, by train.

By train.

Yeah, was all a risk. This is all a risk. Every--

Did Michal have papers now, too, or not?

Not yet. Not yet, yeah. He had the Ausweis that he is working. This was so he looked as an Aryan. So there was no problem with him. No problem-- it was always a problem.

Then, one time, one of the workers from his factory met him in the street. They said, Mr. Engineer, what are you doing here? He knew that he is Jewish. And he gave him shelter later on.

He was-- well, this is another story. But this is how we got into the country with Irena for a few days. We were there for a few weeks. And--

How were you at that time during those few weeks? Did Michal come back and forth?

Yes. Yes, he came back and forth. Yeah.

Every few days or--

No, every week, something like that. Yeah, for a week, whenever he could. He had things to do also in Warsaw, preparing for whatever. He was very active with the fighting organization. He was very active there.

Did you know what he was doing at that time?

Not exactly. Not exactly. I knew that he is involved, but not exact. He didn't tell me. So over there, it was interesting.

They loved Irena, the little baby. And he sometimes took her on his knee, the peasant. Mr. [? Patoka ?] took her on her knee.

And they were eating potato balls made like matzah balls, potato balls. So he took a piece into his mouth. He made it soft, and he gave it to her. I was looking at it, and I was dying, but didn't say a word about it.

There was a little wooden thing for them to give food to the pigs. They brought it in. So I washed it. I put it in water, and I bathed Irena.

I took her to the fields. And I could pick the-- what's it called? Peas-- the green peas in this. I took it out, and I gave it.

I took carrots. I graded them. I squeezed out juice to have for her, the juice, the carrot juice, some vitamins. And when the woman, the peasant, she saw this, she says, we give it to the pigs, why do you give it to the baby? These kind of things-- very primitive, but kind.

And I think that the soltys-- you know what's the soltys? The elders of the village who was carrying on everything. I think that he guessed who I am. But he never said anything.

But the one day, he came. And he said, the Germans are coming for the boys and girls. It would be good for you to disappear from here with the child. I think I wrote about it. You read it.

Michal isn't here. I have no address for Michal. He was one here, and one night there. I didn't know what to do. I had a few Polish zlotys, but I didn't know what to do. And I had to go, because if he came to me and said it in a nice way that he didn't want me to-- he knew that I wouldn't survive with the child.

He said I have to disappear, I have to disappear. And he said, that peasant, that there is a brother of his wife near Tluszcz. Tluszcz was the station where the train stopped for Treblinka. Tluszcz, Malkinia, and Treblinka-- this was the route. He is a smith, and so we can take you there, and maybe until your husband will come. He'll find you.

Well, it was quite a few miles. I was carrying Irena with the rest of my strengths. He was carrying a little package-- what I had. I had [? parcels. ?] And we came there.

Well, they were very nice to us, because he says my husband should come, and they'll take me away. It's only a matter of a few days. So she was very nice.

But somebody passed by from the village where I was before in the [? Gleboczyce ?] who said, she was there. Why is she here? She is probably Jewish. This was it.

So she came in-- the wife-- and said, you cannot stay here anymore, you have to go. And then I decided to go to Warsaw. What do I do?

I don't know where-- no address, no nothing. And Michal wouldn't know where I am. So I said, OK, tomorrow I'll go. You'll take me there to the station, and I'll go.

So then I put Irena to sleep for a nap before the trip. Trip's supposed to be 1 O'clock, 2 O'clock. I don't remember. And she slept.

And I was standing at the window. And I was crying. And suddenly, I see somebody passing by-- Michal. And I started to run after him. Until I came out, he was very fast walking.

He didn't know anything. And he didn't hear me. He didn't hear me screaming, Michal. So I took a stone. I threw at him.

So then he turned around, said, what are you doing here? And I told him the whole story. This was a miracle, complete miracle.

So he came into the apartment and then met the smiths. He said-- he was talking to him and just looking him up and down. And he said, what are you doing? He said, oh, I am a mechanic, this, that.

So he looks at his hand and said, you are not a mechanic. Doesn't look like it. We left. With Michal, we left. And he took me to--

We're afraid of the train. People were-- this was a station that everybody was running here and there. So he took me there. And he took me to Warsaw.

We took a carriage. The same is standing in Central Park. And we got off about two blocks before the destination, which was a very old-- she was a concierge, that woman, for that building where he took me.

And this was a very narrow, little room where there were already three women living-- the owner, the concierge with a little boy. And I come in with Irena and Michal. He found it. Somebody told him. But he lived not far away.

One block away, he lived, slept. This was the worker who he met in the street. What are you doing? And he gave him-- said that he can stay with him.

He was very nice to him. He was helping for a while, and then he changed his mind and started to talk. So we went there. And I had a little, narrow bed for Irena and myself.

And we contacted Gina. She was working in Warsaw. And Gina came. And what do we do? We cannot stay here. Everybody will know.

And we decided to separate Irena from us for her to be safe, because we knew that we'll perish this way, another way. It's impossible to live through the whole thing, impossible. So let Irena stay, at least.

And we talked it over with Gina. And Gina said, I have somebody. She said, where she gave her exam for nursing, which was international-- the Ministry. She had to go through the Ministry of Health and Education-- Dr. Zachert. She seemed to me a very nice person, she said, when examined me. I'll call her.

She called her. She had already the papers. And she called her. And she said she wanted to see her because she want advice from her. She said, of course, come-- very nice person.

And she went up. And when she told her over the phone that she's on the [? Juzwiak ?], she said, you are not [? Juzwiak ?]. You are a Gina Klepfisz. Please come in.

And she told her the story. She has a brother, and a sister-in-law, and a baby, and a sad situation. What can we do?

She was also the director of the orphanage, Boduena, Priest Boduen, it was called. She says, I can take the baby to the orphanage as an orphan. But not knowing that she's an orphan, she has to be left in the street, and I'll take her over.

And here starts the whole thing. So it was a very difficult decision, but we have to do it. Let's stop.

All right, let's stop for a moment.

So we talked with Michal over how it was going to be. We have to put a name on her. And Dr. Zachert will wait in the square so-and-so. And somebody has to come with Irena, and just leave her, and go away, and she'll pick her up.

So I said to Michal, I'm not going to do that. I can't. You have to do it. And Gina that was also there, in the square, someplace with Dr. Zachert.

So he said, OK. He has to do it. I said good bye to Irena. He took her and left. I was beside myself.

So Michal went there to the square. He saw, from afar, Dr. Zachert. And he saw Gina, too. And he went to Gina. He said, I'm not going to do that. You do it.

And Gina did it. She went close to Dr. Zachert, and sit down on the bench, and said to [? Irka, ?] wait here a second, I just go for something, for whatever. But sit here. And she was playing with something. And she left.

The moment she left, Dr. Zachert came and took the baby. This is how she got to Boduena. So at least I knew that she was going to be safe over there, no raids.

How old was she, Rose, when that [INAUDIBLE]?

A year and a half. But she talked already. She was very bright and very bright-- musical, very bright. She could sing what we're singing, melodies, the words sometimes.

Then Gina asked what's going to happen to me. So she says, I have a sister with three children. That also belong to the People's Party, the Partia Ludowa, which were Catholics, deep Catholics, but believed in Christ, that they have to help people, and so on. And she said, maybe she'll come there and be the housekeeper, the maid.

And she said, but she'll have to be reviewed, to have a few reviews with them-- my Polish, my behavior, my [INAUDIBLE] [? gesticulation ?] the Jews have all together. And this would be a good place for her. And they have to look at her, how she looks.

My eyes were already prominent at that time. You'll see another picture of me before that. It was because of thyroid. Gina immediately knew what it is when I got up in the morning and my eyes were prominent. I never had these kind of eyes.

So I went there. It was a three times interview. Meanwhile, before that, I was in that room where I lived, where we came from, with all these women. They were prostitutes. And they had all their business in the street.

They came in middle of the night or whatever. I didn't know about it. I wouldn't even think about. Michal didn't know about it.

And one evening, it was very rainy. And they couldn't do their business in the street. So they invited two men. And there was a curtain over there. And I was sitting there, reading. What do I do? I was reading something.

Someone said, why can't she give? Said, leave her alone, she has a husband. So what's this? But let it go. So I told them that next time, that when they have some guests in their house to let me know, and I'll go out.

And they did it one day. It was very cold, or something like that. They said to take only 5, 10 minutes till come back. But don't go around. They were very good people, very good women, really.

They loved Irena. She didn't cry at night all the time. So they told me to go, and I went out. And I was walking around the block. It was evening around block, so I wasn't afraid that somebody can catch me.

And I was walking probably for a half an hour or more even. And then I hear somebody grabs me. It was one of them-- said, what do you think going on such a cold time all around? Why don't you come back? I told you it takes only 5, 10 minutes, that's all. You can get pneumonia or something like that. Come in.

So these were the women. Then also, when I gave away the baby, when I said it's going to my cousin, [INAUDIBLE] says, why did you do that? We could take care of her if you wouldn't.

And we said, I'm going to work. He is going to work. If a Jew wouldn't be able to take it, we would take care of them.

They were good women. And they loved Irena, because she didn't cry. They were afraid in the beginning that-- who knows-- the baby would cry. So this was the story before I went for the interviews.

How long did you stay in that room with those women? Do you have any recollection?

About two weeks, probably. Yeah, probably two weeks, because we arranged with Irena quite fast. We were afraid, for every day, somebody would say, that Jews, so they will take away it. So Gina arranged it, and Dr. Zachert. And I was waiting for about two weeks, I would say.

And while you were waiting to hear the news about whether you could go to the sister, did you keep hearing that Irena

was-- did you get news about Irena in the orphanage or not?

Not at that time. Not at that time, no. No, not at that time. But I knew that she will take care of her. I knew that.

You trusted that.

I trust. Absolutely, yeah. I trusted that she's safe there. This is why I did it. If I would have any doubts, I wouldn't do it, because if doubts, I can have outside too, then I don't have to give her away. But I was sure that she-- bombing, bombardment. The Germans are coming.

So I went there for the interviews. And of course, I passed it. And I was like a mother to the children instead of my own. I tutored them.

She told me-- and her sister, Dr. Zachert told me-- he was also engineer, an architect. The whole building was of architects, a co-op of architects-- intelligent, nice people. And they said that the house was never in such an order, never in their life.

The oldest son was 14 years old-- Mirek, gorgeous. He was really gorgeous, beautiful. He helped me a lot. He didn't know-- the children didn't know who I am, that I'm Jewish. Only the parents-- and, of course, Zachert-- did.

They come very often. They used to come for holidays. They get together, and this and that. And she said-- her name was [? Rouba. ?]

The wife.

The wife, yeah, yeah. Halina. Yes. And he was [? Yusef. ?] And Mirek, Ewa, and Julek, the three children, they loved me because I was constantly spending time with them tutoring, because schools was-- Mirek was going to school, but it was underground. They shouldn't have schools. Children couldn't go to school.

And to wash them, and sew-- I was sewing for them. When they were sick, only they wanted me. And whenever I was going marketing, she said, [? Mireczku, ?] you always have to go with Miss [? Pani ?] [? Lodziu. ?] I was [? Lodziu ?] [? Lowakatya. ?]

What was your new name?

[? Lodziu ?] [? Lowakatya ?] [? Sheletska. ?] This is what I got in the country that my-- I have the Kennkarte. And always go marketing with, because it's difficult for her. You know she's tiny. And he said, yes, of course.

Whenever he used to leave the apartment, he used to bring me coal from the cellar and all kinds of-- the heavy things, he used to bring me. When he used to leave the house, he used to come, [? Pani ?] [? Lodziu, ?] may I go, this way. He was very nice.

And the children, the two younger children-- she was going once a week to another town where she had an uncle, a priest, to Lowicz, and bring food-- sour cream, butter, cheeses, all kind of things. A lot of it, he'd have to prepare for her when she's coming, because she could sell to the neighbors, because we couldn't get it. And she didn't take much money.

Before that, she had herself what she made from them. She could pay for her own to have for the family. So she was free to go for a few days, for two days, three days, because I took care of the family. So it was a double thing.

And not to make me feel bad, she was paying me 80 zlotys a month that I'm working for it, not that I'm giving this. Through her, I had a telephone there. Michal could call me. And I had a lot of contacts.

Over there was living one woman also. She was a teacher. And she was very nice. She probably guessed. We never talked about it, but I'm sure she guessed who I am, what I am-- who I am, whatever.

And I found another one, also a friend of hers, of that woman, where I could put my friend Halina [? Ellenbogen. ?] She was also a maid someplace. She was always with swollen knees, because she was on the floor washing the floors. I never did this kind of a thing.

And she was crying, and this and that. But she looked very well, really Aryan. She was to come up to me. And I gave her a place to live not far from me. She was also a teacher.

And then I gave her the place with Dr. Zachert in Boduena. So she saw Irena every day. And so she had the apartment I arranged for her. She had the books, and French literature, all kinds of things.

She was so proud of that after being a maid working with the floor and the work she had in Boduena. And she could see Irena every day. And I got the reports from her about Irena.

But then one day, in the beginning, I wanted to see Irena. So I started the walk there. It wasn't too far from me. It was far enough, but not too bad. I could walk. I didn't have to take the train, which I was avoiding.

And the children were going from one side of the street to the other to play with a garden. And I knew, from afar, I could see Irena. And one day, I decided to go to Irena, to pick up her hand.

And I said, I'll help you to cross the street. And she gave me her hand. And she looked at me. And she walked with me.

And the nun came, and she started screaming at me. You know that you are not allowed to touch our children. You can give them some kind of infection, which is true. It was typhus in the city, and all this kind.

I said, I'm sorry. I'll never do it again. So I left Irena, and I walked away. And she said, Mommy. I got scared.

I was afraid that the nun heard, but she didn't. I never went again. She recognized me. It was after a few months.

She was crying the first three months, I heard. Dr. Zachert told me that. At night, she was crying.

And then-- I have a very sharp instinct. I don't know how it happens, but it is so. I can somehow figure out things.

I was cooking something. I was preparing dinner. And I had a dish with peeled potatoes to put in the water, put into the pot.

And I was thinking about [? Irka. ?] And I said, [? Irka ?] is very sick. And everything fell down the floor. I didn't understand why.

So then I called-- I didn't call. I called Dr. Zachert. And I said, I have a feeling, like I said, that Irena is very sick. She said, yes, it's true.

She had-- she still has a mark on her leg. She had some kind of infection. And even the priest wanted to come. But she was very sick. And then, somehow, she got out of it.

I'm going to have to change the tapes, so let's take a break, OK?