

1
00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:01,040
We can start?

2
00:00:01,040 --> 00:00:01,540
OK?

3
00:00:01,540 --> 00:00:02,490
Camera's rolling.

4
00:00:02,490 --> 00:00:03,270
All right.

5
00:00:03,270 --> 00:00:06,840
This is a United States
Holocaust Memorial Museum

6
00:00:06,840 --> 00:00:10,620
interview with
Wilhelmina Juhlin,

7
00:00:10,620 --> 00:00:15,970
on July 16, 2015, in
Morristown, New Jersey.

8
00:00:15,970 --> 00:00:18,630
Thank you very, very
much, Mrs. Juhlin,

9
00:00:18,630 --> 00:00:22,650
for agreeing to speak with
us today to share your story,

10
00:00:22,650 --> 00:00:25,890
to share the story of
your family, and to let us

11
00:00:25,890 --> 00:00:29,970
know a little bit about
what your destiny was

12
00:00:29,970 --> 00:00:34,740

as a result of German
policies, Nazi German policies,

13
00:00:34,740 --> 00:00:37,290
during World War II.

14
00:00:37,290 --> 00:00:41,190
I'm going to start our
interview at the very beginning.

15
00:00:41,190 --> 00:00:44,160
And the first three basic
questions that I have

16
00:00:44,160 --> 00:00:49,200
is, could you tell me your date
of birth, your place of birth,

17
00:00:49,200 --> 00:00:52,660
and what name you had at birth?

18
00:00:52,660 --> 00:00:55,840
That is what name you
were given at birth.

19
00:00:55,840 --> 00:01:00,540
My date of birth is
November 14, 1939.

20
00:01:00,540 --> 00:01:04,950
I was born in the
Netherlands in Schoorl, which

21
00:01:04,950 --> 00:01:08,490
is somewhat north of Amsterdam.

22
00:01:08,490 --> 00:01:14,280
And my name at birth was
Wilhemina Monika de Kadt.

23
00:01:14,280 --> 00:01:19,720
But now, I am known by
everybody now as Willie--

24
00:01:19,720 --> 00:01:20,720
very Americanized.

25
00:01:20,720 --> 00:01:21,810
Yeah.

26
00:01:21,810 --> 00:01:25,000
It's a lovely nickname.

27
00:01:25,000 --> 00:01:27,390
So can you repeat
the name of the town

28
00:01:27,390 --> 00:01:28,440
you were born in again.

29
00:01:28,440 --> 00:01:30,870
I'm not familiar with it.

30
00:01:30,870 --> 00:01:31,800
Schkorin?

31
00:01:31,800 --> 00:01:33,120
Schoorl.

32
00:01:33,120 --> 00:01:33,660
Schoorl?

33
00:01:33,660 --> 00:01:34,470
Mm-hmm.

34
00:01:34,470 --> 00:01:35,370
Schoorl.

35
00:01:35,370 --> 00:01:36,450
Near Alkmaar.

36
00:01:36,450 --> 00:01:39,450
Ah, is that on the coast?

37

00:01:39,450 --> 00:01:41,700

No, it's not on the coast.

38

00:01:41,700 --> 00:01:44,640

And about how far north
of Amsterdam would it be?

39

00:01:44,640 --> 00:01:46,500

In kilometers I don't know.

40

00:01:46,500 --> 00:01:48,540

But I think it would
take you about an hour

41

00:01:48,540 --> 00:01:51,570

to drive north there.

42

00:01:51,570 --> 00:01:54,880

Were your parents from
this town from this place?

43

00:01:54,880 --> 00:01:57,170

No, my parents were
from Amsterdam.

44

00:01:57,170 --> 00:01:57,960

OK.

45

00:01:57,960 --> 00:02:00,810

How did it come to be
that you were born there?

46

00:02:00,810 --> 00:02:03,690

Because when they
married, they moved there.

47

00:02:03,690 --> 00:02:08,009

And there was-- my
father and his family

48

00:02:08,009 --> 00:02:10,060

had a business there.

49
00:02:10,060 --> 00:02:13,800
So I think he wanted to
be near to that area.

50
00:02:13,800 --> 00:02:15,150
What was the business?

51
00:02:15,150 --> 00:02:23,010
The business was a factory that
made condensed milk in tubes.

52
00:02:23,010 --> 00:02:25,320
Condensed milk in tubes?

53
00:02:25,320 --> 00:02:27,120
I wonder how that
must have looked like.

54
00:02:27,120 --> 00:02:28,980
Well, it looked
very interesting,

55
00:02:28,980 --> 00:02:32,430
because I do have
some footage of it

56
00:02:32,430 --> 00:02:40,050
where actually workers are
seen on an assembly line,

57
00:02:40,050 --> 00:02:50,400
on a 1938 or so assembly line
making these tubes of milk.

58
00:02:50,400 --> 00:02:52,390
Isn't that interesting?

59
00:02:52,390 --> 00:02:53,630
Let's cut for just a second.

60
00:02:53,630 --> 00:02:57,220

61
00:02:57,220 --> 00:02:59,850
So you say there was
footage of workers

62
00:02:59,850 --> 00:03:03,000
actually pouring
this milk into tubes?

63
00:03:03,000 --> 00:03:05,260
Right, on the assembly line.

64
00:03:05,260 --> 00:03:08,160
But previous to that
on that same footage,

65
00:03:08,160 --> 00:03:13,650
it shows the factory being
built in a very small town

66
00:03:13,650 --> 00:03:18,060
called De Rijp, which
isn't far from Schoorl.

67
00:03:18,060 --> 00:03:23,790
And it shows my mother
laying the cornerstone.

68
00:03:23,790 --> 00:03:28,530
And it shows the workers
laying the bricks.

69
00:03:28,530 --> 00:03:32,520
That's so unique, very unusual.

70
00:03:32,520 --> 00:03:36,570
Can you tell me how your
family then, probably

71
00:03:36,570 --> 00:03:40,710
your grandfather or
other generations,

72

00:03:40,710 --> 00:03:43,430
came to be in this business?

73

00:03:43,430 --> 00:03:46,400
That I can't tell you
because I don't know.

74

00:03:46,400 --> 00:03:46,900
OK.

75

00:03:46,900 --> 00:03:47,650
I don't know.

76

00:03:47,650 --> 00:03:49,960
I think it was
just in the family.

77

00:03:49,960 --> 00:03:53,620
And did your father have
more siblings or was he--

78

00:03:53,620 --> 00:03:55,570
My father was one of three.

79

00:03:55,570 --> 00:03:56,710
OK.

80

00:03:56,710 --> 00:04:00,372
He had a brother and a sister.

81

00:04:00,372 --> 00:04:02,180
[PHONE RINGING]

82

00:04:02,180 --> 00:04:03,830
Oh, that's my phone.

83

00:04:03,830 --> 00:04:04,580
OK.

84

00:04:04,580 --> 00:04:06,270

Tell me a little bit
about your father.

85
00:04:06,270 --> 00:04:07,830
What was his name?

86
00:04:07,830 --> 00:04:10,100
His name was Ludwig.

87
00:04:10,100 --> 00:04:10,730
Ludwig?

88
00:04:10,730 --> 00:04:12,920
Ludwig de Kadt.

89
00:04:12,920 --> 00:04:16,100
But he's known as Lou.

90
00:04:16,100 --> 00:04:22,040
So when my son was born,
his middle name is Louis,

91
00:04:22,040 --> 00:04:25,730
because even at that time-- my
son is now in his early 40s--

92
00:04:25,730 --> 00:04:29,840
I didn't know that my father's
official name was Ludwig.

93
00:04:29,840 --> 00:04:31,400
I always thought it was Louis.

94
00:04:31,400 --> 00:04:34,130
Oh, really?

95
00:04:34,130 --> 00:04:38,450
Now that's also an
interesting fact,

96
00:04:38,450 --> 00:04:42,140
because how would one find out?

97
00:04:42,140 --> 00:04:45,380
How did you find out that your
father's real name was Ludwig?

98
00:04:45,380 --> 00:04:49,970
Because I'm sort of the
genealogist in my family

99
00:04:49,970 --> 00:04:51,860
and I did some research--

100
00:04:51,860 --> 00:04:56,240
later on, because growing
up I really didn't know,

101
00:04:56,240 --> 00:04:58,790
I wasn't interested, and so on.

102
00:04:58,790 --> 00:05:02,220
I had growing up things to do.

103
00:05:02,220 --> 00:05:05,930
And later on in life, I
became very interested

104
00:05:05,930 --> 00:05:11,870
in the genealogy of this
fairly large convoluted family,

105
00:05:11,870 --> 00:05:15,230
both on my paternal
and maternal side,

106
00:05:15,230 --> 00:05:17,330
where there were
lots of siblings

107
00:05:17,330 --> 00:05:21,080
and there was a time when
cousins married cousins

108

00:05:21,080 --> 00:05:25,160
or second cousins because
their world was smaller

109
00:05:25,160 --> 00:05:28,550
than it is now and they didn't
have the chance to reach out

110
00:05:28,550 --> 00:05:31,880
or a dating service to meet--

111
00:05:31,880 --> 00:05:33,230
Yeah, other people--

112
00:05:33,230 --> 00:05:35,480
Other people.

113
00:05:35,480 --> 00:05:39,140
Was your family an old
Dutch Jewish family?

114
00:05:39,140 --> 00:05:41,660
Yes, it was.

115
00:05:41,660 --> 00:05:43,010
Yes, it was.

116
00:05:43,010 --> 00:05:45,890
In your genealogy
research, were you

117
00:05:45,890 --> 00:05:49,850
able to go many
generations back?

118
00:05:49,850 --> 00:05:58,810
I went back as far
as the mid 1700s

119
00:05:58,810 --> 00:06:03,970
to show you the different
cousins and sisters

120

00:06:03,970 --> 00:06:06,040
and brothers and so on.

121

00:06:06,040 --> 00:06:08,630
Was this all from
the de Kadt side.

122

00:06:08,630 --> 00:06:14,200
No, a lot of it was
from the maternal side.

123

00:06:14,200 --> 00:06:15,520
OK.

124

00:06:15,520 --> 00:06:17,390
What was your mother's name?

125

00:06:17,390 --> 00:06:22,940
My mother's name was
Sonja Rita Swaap.

126

00:06:22,940 --> 00:06:24,100
Swaap?

127

00:06:24,100 --> 00:06:25,060
Mm-hmm.

128

00:06:25,060 --> 00:06:26,830
And also an old Dutch family?

129

00:06:26,830 --> 00:06:29,080
Also an old Dutch family.

130

00:06:29,080 --> 00:06:32,110
Her maiden name was Loopuit--

131

00:06:32,110 --> 00:06:36,880
not her maiden name--
her mother's maiden name

132

00:06:36,880 --> 00:06:38,710

was Loopuit.

133

00:06:38,710 --> 00:06:41,560

Where did you conduct most
of this genealogy research?

134

00:06:41,560 --> 00:06:42,740

Here in the States or--

135

00:06:42,740 --> 00:06:46,015

Here in the States, yes,
because I grew up here.

136

00:06:46,015 --> 00:06:51,190

But the documents, were
they Dutch documents?

137

00:06:51,190 --> 00:06:54,640

Some were, yes, some
were Dutch documents.

138

00:06:54,640 --> 00:06:59,980

And some were interviews,
informal interviews

139

00:06:59,980 --> 00:07:05,600

of various family members who
aren't around anymore to ask.

140

00:07:05,600 --> 00:07:08,240

OK.

141

00:07:08,240 --> 00:07:12,830

So let's go back to
1930, the late 1930s,

142

00:07:12,830 --> 00:07:16,790

and just preceding your birth.

143

00:07:16,790 --> 00:07:19,640

Your father moves there to--

144

00:07:19,640 --> 00:07:20,460
I can't pronounce--

145
00:07:20,460 --> 00:07:21,270
Schoorl.

146
00:07:21,270 --> 00:07:25,760
Schoorl, and the
factory is built.

147
00:07:25,760 --> 00:07:28,370
How large a place was it?

148
00:07:28,370 --> 00:07:30,050
It wasn't very large.

149
00:07:30,050 --> 00:07:33,080
No, it wasn't very
large to my knowledge.

150
00:07:33,080 --> 00:07:37,250
And when we went back, my
brother, his daughter, and I

151
00:07:37,250 --> 00:07:37,910
went back--

152
00:07:37,910 --> 00:07:43,010
I think it was
around 2002 or '03--

153
00:07:43,010 --> 00:07:47,960
that factory, which was
confiscated in the Nazi era,

154
00:07:47,960 --> 00:07:50,210
is now a furniture store.

155
00:07:50,210 --> 00:07:52,610
Did you speak with
the owners of the--

156

00:07:52,610 --> 00:07:53,990
We did.

157
00:07:53,990 --> 00:07:56,930
We did, because that
cornerstone is still there.

158
00:07:56,930 --> 00:07:59,300
They preserved the cornerstone.

159
00:07:59,300 --> 00:08:01,220
Did they know the
building's history?

160
00:08:01,220 --> 00:08:03,380
They did somewhat, yes.

161
00:08:03,380 --> 00:08:05,030
They did.

162
00:08:05,030 --> 00:08:08,010
And he was very accommodating.

163
00:08:08,010 --> 00:08:09,260
How interesting that--

164
00:08:09,260 --> 00:08:10,670
Yeah, it was very interesting.

165
00:08:10,670 --> 00:08:11,170
Yeah.

166
00:08:11,170 --> 00:08:14,330

167
00:08:14,330 --> 00:08:20,860
OK, so your mother's
side of the family,

168
00:08:20,860 --> 00:08:23,710
can you tell me a little
bit about her family,

169
00:08:23,710 --> 00:08:27,330
her background, where
they came from, and so on?

170
00:08:27,330 --> 00:08:32,260
Well, they were an old Dutch
Amsterdam Jewish family.

171
00:08:32,260 --> 00:08:36,480
My grandfather was in
the diamond business.

172
00:08:36,480 --> 00:08:41,159
And you know,
Amsterdam was a hub

173
00:08:41,159 --> 00:08:44,880
for that, as well as Antwerp.

174
00:08:44,880 --> 00:08:47,460
She has-- my mother has--

175
00:08:47,460 --> 00:08:52,200
had two sisters, the
youngest one of whom

176
00:08:52,200 --> 00:08:54,960
also died in Auschwitz.

177
00:08:54,960 --> 00:08:59,610
But her older sister, my
aunt Ella, still lives.

178
00:08:59,610 --> 00:09:01,770
She's 97 years old.

179
00:09:01,770 --> 00:09:07,170
She lives in Cliffside Park,
New Jersey, on her own,

180
00:09:07,170 --> 00:09:10,090

in very good health.

181
00:09:10,090 --> 00:09:11,400
She plays a lot of bridge.

182
00:09:11,400 --> 00:09:13,410
I think that's the
secret to old age.

183
00:09:13,410 --> 00:09:14,580
[LAUGHS]

184
00:09:14,580 --> 00:09:16,570
People say it's
good healthy living.

185
00:09:16,570 --> 00:09:18,466
I say it cigarettes,
liquor, and bridge.

186
00:09:18,466 --> 00:09:21,120

187
00:09:21,120 --> 00:09:22,020
It's bridge, yeah.

188
00:09:22,020 --> 00:09:23,670
Wonderful, wonderful.

189
00:09:23,670 --> 00:09:25,272
Yes.

190
00:09:25,272 --> 00:09:26,480
Can we cut for just a second?

191
00:09:26,480 --> 00:09:29,170

192
00:09:29,170 --> 00:09:34,080
That's an amazing fact that
your aunt Ella is still around,

193

00:09:34,080 --> 00:09:35,680
still with us today.

194

00:09:35,680 --> 00:09:38,770
And did she tell you many of
the stories of the family,

195

00:09:38,770 --> 00:09:40,390
of your mother's family?

196

00:09:40,390 --> 00:09:42,490
She did, yes.

197

00:09:42,490 --> 00:09:47,830
And now, although she is in
good health, some of those facts

198

00:09:47,830 --> 00:09:49,480
have become rather fuzzy.

199

00:09:49,480 --> 00:09:51,040
Yeah, that happens.

200

00:09:51,040 --> 00:09:52,600
That happens.

201

00:09:52,600 --> 00:09:55,540
So your parents are there.

202

00:09:55,540 --> 00:09:58,383
Your father has two siblings,
a sister and a brother.

203

00:09:58,383 --> 00:09:59,050
Is that correct?

204

00:09:59,050 --> 00:10:00,220
Correct.

205

00:10:00,220 --> 00:10:04,570
And were either of them

in the business as well?

206
00:10:04,570 --> 00:10:06,250
Not to my knowledge.

207
00:10:06,250 --> 00:10:08,920
Certainly not the sister.

208
00:10:08,920 --> 00:10:13,250
OK, so it would have been your
grandfather and your father.

209
00:10:13,250 --> 00:10:15,550
What was the name
of the company?

210
00:10:15,550 --> 00:10:17,320
Of the milk--

211
00:10:17,320 --> 00:10:17,875
Milk company?

212
00:10:17,875 --> 00:10:20,500

213
00:10:20,500 --> 00:10:23,890
Het Nieuw Beemster.

214
00:10:23,890 --> 00:10:24,940
Het Nema--

215
00:10:24,940 --> 00:10:25,840
Nieuw, new.

216
00:10:25,840 --> 00:10:26,740
Nieuw.

217
00:10:26,740 --> 00:10:28,840
Het Nieuw Beemster.

218
00:10:28,840 --> 00:10:31,870

And I've been trying to
find out what is the meaning

219
00:10:31,870 --> 00:10:34,660
or why did they
call it Beemster.

220
00:10:34,660 --> 00:10:38,050
In fact, I tried to find
that out very recently,

221
00:10:38,050 --> 00:10:39,790
and nobody seems to know.

222
00:10:39,790 --> 00:10:44,840
If it's an acronym for
something, I have no idea.

223
00:10:44,840 --> 00:10:47,592
Have you researched
the documentation

224
00:10:47,592 --> 00:10:49,300
if there's documentation
for the company?

225
00:10:49,300 --> 00:10:49,720
No, I've not.

226
00:10:49,720 --> 00:10:50,220
No.

227
00:10:50,220 --> 00:10:50,930
OK.

228
00:10:50,930 --> 00:10:51,430
No.

229
00:10:51,430 --> 00:10:54,190
Because I wonder whether in the
old municipal archives there

230

00:10:54,190 --> 00:10:59,500
may be some mention of
businesses that were formed

231
00:10:59,500 --> 00:11:01,420
in the '30s and early--

232
00:11:01,420 --> 00:11:03,040
That might be an
interesting thing

233
00:11:03,040 --> 00:11:07,420
to do if I go back one day.

234
00:11:07,420 --> 00:11:12,850
But my Dutch-- my Dutch,
I can understand it.

235
00:11:12,850 --> 00:11:16,060
But my Dutch language
skills are severely

236
00:11:16,060 --> 00:11:23,020
lacking, because at the time
that I came to the US in 1946,

237
00:11:23,020 --> 00:11:25,960
it was the melting pot.

238
00:11:25,960 --> 00:11:27,040
Of course, of course.

239
00:11:27,040 --> 00:11:29,950
Become acclimated
and acculturated

240
00:11:29,950 --> 00:11:34,120
as quickly as possible, which
my grandmother enabled us to do.

241
00:11:34,120 --> 00:11:35,620
And being that young--

242

00:11:35,620 --> 00:11:37,570

I was six at the time--

243

00:11:37,570 --> 00:11:42,400

being that young, I

lost my native skills.

244

00:11:42,400 --> 00:11:45,520

It happens with many children,
particularly at that age.

245

00:11:45,520 --> 00:11:48,790

Children are like sponges, and
they absorb a new environment

246

00:11:48,790 --> 00:11:51,430

and absorb a new
language quite easily,

247

00:11:51,430 --> 00:11:53,170

often at the expense
of the older one.

248

00:11:53,170 --> 00:11:53,670

Right.

249

00:11:53,670 --> 00:11:54,940

Which isn't done anymore now.

250

00:11:54,940 --> 00:11:55,810

That's right.

251

00:11:55,810 --> 00:11:57,070

That's right.

252

00:11:57,070 --> 00:11:59,350

So you're born in 1939.

253

00:11:59,350 --> 00:12:00,250

Mm-hmm.

254

00:12:00,250 --> 00:12:04,840
And do you have any
early, early memories

255
00:12:04,840 --> 00:12:09,370
as a toddler, as a two-year-old
or a three-year-old

256
00:12:09,370 --> 00:12:11,630
or something like that?

257
00:12:11,630 --> 00:12:15,670
I have no memories
of my parents.

258
00:12:15,670 --> 00:12:22,280
I have a very distant
or vague memory

259
00:12:22,280 --> 00:12:27,150
of my grandfather,
who at the time--

260
00:12:27,150 --> 00:12:29,450
we lived in Schoorl.

261
00:12:29,450 --> 00:12:35,120
And around 1942, which was
rather late for my parents--

262
00:12:35,120 --> 00:12:38,750
earlier than that there was
an edict for all the Jews

263
00:12:38,750 --> 00:12:40,730
to move to Amsterdam.

264
00:12:40,730 --> 00:12:45,920
So be ghettoized basically
and make it easier

265
00:12:45,920 --> 00:12:48,140
to round them up.

266
00:12:48,140 --> 00:12:51,980
My parents were
in denial or tried

267
00:12:51,980 --> 00:12:54,650
to avoid that until the
very last minute, which

268
00:12:54,650 --> 00:12:57,150
was around 1942.

269
00:12:57,150 --> 00:13:01,190
And so we moved
into the second home

270
00:13:01,190 --> 00:13:07,490
of my maternal grandparents,
because they, too,

271
00:13:07,490 --> 00:13:09,350
even though they
lived in Amsterdam,

272
00:13:09,350 --> 00:13:13,670
they had to relocate
from their original house

273
00:13:13,670 --> 00:13:15,768
to the ghetto area.

274
00:13:15,768 --> 00:13:18,060
And that was the second home
that you're talking about?

275
00:13:18,060 --> 00:13:19,643
Well, no, it wasn't
their second home.

276
00:13:19,643 --> 00:13:21,950
They were forced
out of their home--

277
00:13:21,950 --> 00:13:22,850
Into--

278
00:13:22,850 --> 00:13:23,660
Yes.

279
00:13:23,660 --> 00:13:27,530
Now, because they couldn't
keep up their home anymore,

280
00:13:27,530 --> 00:13:31,580
whether that was because of the
war and the difficulties they

281
00:13:31,580 --> 00:13:37,670
had with the Nazis, or
because, again, of the war,

282
00:13:37,670 --> 00:13:41,510
the business was not
going so well anymore.

283
00:13:41,510 --> 00:13:42,410
The one--

284
00:13:42,410 --> 00:13:43,490
The diamond business.

285
00:13:43,490 --> 00:13:44,600
Oh, the diamond business.

286
00:13:44,600 --> 00:13:45,620
OK.

287
00:13:45,620 --> 00:13:47,850
That I don't know.

288
00:13:47,850 --> 00:13:50,270
But in any case, they relocated.

289
00:13:50,270 --> 00:13:53,210

And so my parents
with my brother,

290
00:13:53,210 --> 00:13:56,130
who was eight months
old or so at the time--

291
00:13:56,130 --> 00:13:58,010
So he was born in 1941?

292
00:13:58,010 --> 00:13:59,180
Yes, he was.

293
00:13:59,180 --> 00:14:03,260
We're about exactly
two years apart.

294
00:14:03,260 --> 00:14:06,950
Myself and my parents moved
in with my grandparents.

295
00:14:06,950 --> 00:14:07,880
In this ghetto area.

296
00:14:07,880 --> 00:14:11,660
In what I believe
was a ghetto area.

297
00:14:11,660 --> 00:14:15,470
And so I remember my
grandfather giving me

298
00:14:15,470 --> 00:14:17,480
some sweets basically.

299
00:14:17,480 --> 00:14:20,160
And that's about it.

300
00:14:20,160 --> 00:14:23,580
But I do remember then--

301
00:14:23,580 --> 00:14:27,530

I don't remember the exact
transition between that house

302
00:14:27,530 --> 00:14:30,530
and the home of
my hiding parents,

303
00:14:30,530 --> 00:14:34,970
but I do have various
memories of my hiding parents

304
00:14:34,970 --> 00:14:39,920
with whom I lived for about 4
years, from the age of two-ish

305
00:14:39,920 --> 00:14:43,160
till the age of six.

306
00:14:43,160 --> 00:14:51,040
And they lived in Amstelveen,
which is a suburb of Amsterdam.

307
00:14:51,040 --> 00:14:53,990
Amstelveen at that time--

308
00:14:53,990 --> 00:14:56,990
well, as you can imagine,
it's changed tremendously

309
00:14:56,990 --> 00:14:58,100
in those times.

310
00:14:58,100 --> 00:15:02,390
It's become a bustling
mini city now.

311
00:15:02,390 --> 00:15:03,935
But at that time, it wasn't.

312
00:15:03,935 --> 00:15:07,100

313

00:15:07,100 --> 00:15:08,620
I lived with them.

314
00:15:08,620 --> 00:15:14,150
I am still in contact with
my two hiding sisters.

315
00:15:14,150 --> 00:15:20,360
I remember my hiding
father and mother.

316
00:15:20,360 --> 00:15:22,850
I have been back to visit them--

317
00:15:22,850 --> 00:15:24,800
who they are now deceased.

318
00:15:24,800 --> 00:15:30,380
But I had been back to see
them a couple of times.

319
00:15:30,380 --> 00:15:35,580
And my hiding sisters, we
just saw two years ago.

320
00:15:35,580 --> 00:15:38,210
So you've maintained
a lifetime contact?

321
00:15:38,210 --> 00:15:39,680
Yes.

322
00:15:39,680 --> 00:15:43,330
And they are very open to that.

323
00:15:43,330 --> 00:15:47,090
In fact, two summers
ago, the whole family

324
00:15:47,090 --> 00:15:52,490
went to Amsterdam with
a specific intent,

325

00:15:52,490 --> 00:15:55,700
among other things being
a tourist there and so on,

326

00:15:55,700 --> 00:15:59,310
of going to Dordrecht,
where they live now,

327

00:15:59,310 --> 00:16:03,830
which is about an hour
south of Amsterdam.

328

00:16:03,830 --> 00:16:05,570
And we visited them.

329

00:16:05,570 --> 00:16:07,700
OK, we'll come to
that in a minute.

330

00:16:07,700 --> 00:16:13,160
I still want to focus a little
bit more on those years there

331

00:16:13,160 --> 00:16:16,310
where you don't have a direct
memory-- you were young--

332

00:16:16,310 --> 00:16:20,210
but you probably know the
story of what happened.

333

00:16:20,210 --> 00:16:29,180
When your parents
were in this town

334

00:16:29,180 --> 00:16:30,470
where the milk factory is--

335

00:16:30,470 --> 00:16:31,550
Schoorl--

336

00:16:31,550 --> 00:16:32,310

Schoorl.

337

00:16:32,310 --> 00:16:32,810

Schoorl.

338

00:16:32,810 --> 00:16:36,890

339

00:16:36,890 --> 00:16:40,670

You said that the
business was taken away.

340

00:16:40,670 --> 00:16:41,180

Yes.

341

00:16:41,180 --> 00:16:41,860

Yes.

342

00:16:41,860 --> 00:16:44,600

Do you know when it was
taken away from them?

343

00:16:44,600 --> 00:16:45,950

No, I don't.

344

00:16:45,950 --> 00:16:50,780

So do you think they were
running the business until 1942

345

00:16:50,780 --> 00:16:56,130

when they left, or were they
deprived of the business

346

00:16:56,130 --> 00:16:56,630

before?

347

00:16:56,630 --> 00:16:59,030

No, I think they were
running the business

348

00:16:59,030 --> 00:17:01,400

till at least 1942.

349

00:17:01,400 --> 00:17:06,750

And that's on the
little film that I have.

350

00:17:06,750 --> 00:17:08,900

But I do remember--

351

00:17:08,900 --> 00:17:11,060

I don't remember
the exact transition

352

00:17:11,060 --> 00:17:14,180

of what exactly
happened, but I do

353

00:17:14,180 --> 00:17:21,800

remember what happened when
they moved into Amsterdam

354

00:17:21,800 --> 00:17:26,030

with my grandparents, where
they didn't live with them very

355

00:17:26,030 --> 00:17:27,140

long.

356

00:17:27,140 --> 00:17:30,185

And they try to avoid
obviously being deported.

357

00:17:30,185 --> 00:17:33,230

358

00:17:33,230 --> 00:17:39,200

And they didn't heed the edict
that the Nazis gave them.

359

00:17:39,200 --> 00:17:41,810

I don't know if they
ever wore the yellow star

360

00:17:41,810 --> 00:17:42,980
or anything like that.

361
00:17:42,980 --> 00:17:47,690
But I know that
one day the knock

362
00:17:47,690 --> 00:17:52,013
came on the door,
which was in 1942--

363
00:17:52,013 --> 00:17:53,180
Of your grandparents' place?

364
00:17:53,180 --> 00:18:00,420
Of my grandparents' place, which
was probably in early August,

365
00:18:00,420 --> 00:18:03,170
late July of 1942.

366
00:18:03,170 --> 00:18:08,750
And luckily, my brother, an
infant of eight months or so,

367
00:18:08,750 --> 00:18:12,230
was sleeping.

368
00:18:12,230 --> 00:18:13,430
And they knew enough--

369
00:18:13,430 --> 00:18:17,870
he was sleeping in the
bathtub for safety's sake.

370
00:18:17,870 --> 00:18:19,760
And you hear that--

371
00:18:19,760 --> 00:18:23,380
you see it in the
movies sometimes even

372

00:18:23,380 --> 00:18:27,710
in a thriller and somebody
is looking, the gangsters are

373
00:18:27,710 --> 00:18:33,050
looking for somebody, take
refuge in the bathtub, which

374
00:18:33,050 --> 00:18:35,960
I thought was a unique idea,
but apparently it's not.

375
00:18:35,960 --> 00:18:37,760
But it was lucky for
my brother that he

376
00:18:37,760 --> 00:18:40,760
was sleeping in the
bathtub for his safety

377
00:18:40,760 --> 00:18:45,410
and that he was sleeping and not
making any noises, because he

378
00:18:45,410 --> 00:18:46,910
was overlooked.

379
00:18:46,910 --> 00:18:48,380
So what did they do?

380
00:18:48,380 --> 00:18:54,260
So they took my parents and me--

381
00:18:54,260 --> 00:18:57,080
Excuse me.

382
00:18:57,080 --> 00:18:58,610
OK, let's continue.

383
00:18:58,610 --> 00:18:59,570
I heard a noise.

384

00:18:59,570 --> 00:19:08,840

They took my brother
and my parents and me

385

00:19:08,840 --> 00:19:11,760

to the Hollandsche
Schouwburg, which

386

00:19:11,760 --> 00:19:15,980

it's an old theater in the
middle of Amsterdam, which

387

00:19:15,980 --> 00:19:21,800

was a rounding up place for
transshipment to Wester--

388

00:19:21,800 --> 00:19:22,850

So further--

389

00:19:22,850 --> 00:19:23,752

[BUZZING SOUND]

390

00:19:23,752 --> 00:19:24,710

There's some work done.

391

00:19:24,710 --> 00:19:25,220

Yeah.

392

00:19:25,220 --> 00:19:28,610

The landscapers.

393

00:19:28,610 --> 00:19:32,180

We were talking, as the
noise was happening,

394

00:19:32,180 --> 00:19:35,780

about being in this central
place where you were taken

395

00:19:35,780 --> 00:19:39,555

with your parents, sort of like
a transit area, holding area.

396

00:19:39,555 --> 00:19:45,960

Yes, the Hollandsche Schouwburg,
which is still there today.

397

00:19:45,960 --> 00:19:48,590

And it's got a big plaque on it.

398

00:19:48,590 --> 00:19:51,890

It was a theater.

399

00:19:51,890 --> 00:19:55,520

And they rounded up the
Jews there for transhipment

400

00:19:55,520 --> 00:19:59,000

to Westerbork, which is
a transship-- it's not

401

00:19:59,000 --> 00:20:03,440

a concentration camp per se,
but it's a transshipment place.

402

00:20:03,440 --> 00:20:04,500

It's a transit camp.

403

00:20:04,500 --> 00:20:05,000

Yeah.

404

00:20:05,000 --> 00:20:05,600

Yeah.

405

00:20:05,600 --> 00:20:09,170

And my grandmother
and grandfather

406

00:20:09,170 --> 00:20:13,950

went with, because
at that time in 1942,

407

00:20:13,950 --> 00:20:16,880

the Nazis were not
interested in older people.

408
00:20:16,880 --> 00:20:22,940
They were just interested in
younger, working, able-bodied

409
00:20:22,940 --> 00:20:24,990
younger people to work.

410
00:20:24,990 --> 00:20:25,490
OK.

411
00:20:25,490 --> 00:20:29,390
So I need to have a little
bit of clarification.

412
00:20:29,390 --> 00:20:34,290
The knock on the door comes
in 1942 in the late summer?

413
00:20:34,290 --> 00:20:34,790
Yes.

414
00:20:34,790 --> 00:20:35,975
Something like that?

415
00:20:35,975 --> 00:20:37,170
About midsummer.

416
00:20:37,170 --> 00:20:37,670
Yeah.

417
00:20:37,670 --> 00:20:45,500
Your brother, baby brother,
is sleeping in the bathtub.

418
00:20:45,500 --> 00:20:46,010
Yes.

419
00:20:46,010 --> 00:20:47,810
He makes no noise.

420

00:20:47,810 --> 00:20:52,220
You and your parents are
taken to this holding

421
00:20:52,220 --> 00:20:54,110
area in the theater.

422
00:20:54,110 --> 00:20:56,930
And your grandparents come
with you to that theater?

423
00:20:56,930 --> 00:20:58,490
To say goodbye.

424
00:20:58,490 --> 00:20:59,060
Oh, I see.

425
00:20:59,060 --> 00:21:01,520
And so with your baby
brother or leaving him alone?

426
00:21:01,520 --> 00:21:02,180
No.

427
00:21:02,180 --> 00:21:04,190
No, I'm sure there was
somebody in the house.

428
00:21:04,190 --> 00:21:05,120
OK.

429
00:21:05,120 --> 00:21:05,960
OK.

430
00:21:05,960 --> 00:21:07,940
So they come to say
goodbye because there's

431
00:21:07,940 --> 00:21:09,732
no danger that they
would be taken as well,

432

00:21:09,732 --> 00:21:10,857
is that what you're saying?

433
00:21:10,857 --> 00:21:11,660
That is correct.

434
00:21:11,660 --> 00:21:12,260
OK.

435
00:21:12,260 --> 00:21:14,690
Yeah.

436
00:21:14,690 --> 00:21:22,010
And so doing, my parents, sort
of like a Sophie's choice,

437
00:21:22,010 --> 00:21:23,240
handed me over.

438
00:21:23,240 --> 00:21:27,170
And in the confusion handed
me to my grandparents,

439
00:21:27,170 --> 00:21:28,880
and I went home with them.

440
00:21:28,880 --> 00:21:32,120
I was spared going
to Westerbork.

441
00:21:32,120 --> 00:21:33,530
Oh, my goodness.

442
00:21:33,530 --> 00:21:36,050
So it was kind of
like last minute?

443
00:21:36,050 --> 00:21:37,850
Yes, it was.

444
00:21:37,850 --> 00:21:39,500
Do you have any memory of that.

445
00:21:39,500 --> 00:21:42,190
No.

446
00:21:42,190 --> 00:21:44,680
That must be psychological.

447
00:21:44,680 --> 00:21:47,800
Well, and I was only
two at the time.

448
00:21:47,800 --> 00:21:50,350
But I don't have any
memories of that.

449
00:21:50,350 --> 00:21:52,630
I don't have any
memories then of being

450
00:21:52,630 --> 00:21:55,900
placed with the hiding parents.

451
00:21:55,900 --> 00:21:56,780
We'll get there.

452
00:21:56,780 --> 00:21:57,280
OK.

453
00:21:57,280 --> 00:21:58,480
OK.

454
00:21:58,480 --> 00:22:01,520
And you don't have memories
of your mother or your father

455
00:22:01,520 --> 00:22:02,020
then?

456
00:22:02,020 --> 00:22:04,756
No, I don't.

457

00:22:04,756 --> 00:22:06,180
OK.

458
00:22:06,180 --> 00:22:07,650
That's quite a loss.

459
00:22:07,650 --> 00:22:09,960
It is.

460
00:22:09,960 --> 00:22:14,460
I still feel that even
when ladies go out to lunch

461
00:22:14,460 --> 00:22:21,284
and talk about their mother,
I have nothing to talk about.

462
00:22:21,284 --> 00:22:21,784
Yeah.

463
00:22:21,784 --> 00:22:25,720

464
00:22:25,720 --> 00:22:28,790
What happened to them?

465
00:22:28,790 --> 00:22:32,344
They went to Westerbork.

466
00:22:32,344 --> 00:22:33,580
Let's cut for a second.

467
00:22:33,580 --> 00:22:36,780

468
00:22:36,780 --> 00:22:40,410
So what happened to your parents
after they gave you over?

469
00:22:40,410 --> 00:22:42,270
They went to Westerbork.

470

00:22:42,270 --> 00:22:47,550

And I went to
Westerbork as a tourist.

471

00:22:47,550 --> 00:22:52,800

And I did some research on it.

472

00:22:52,800 --> 00:22:58,620

And I know that Westerbork was a
transshipment camp that they set

473

00:22:58,620 --> 00:23:02,310

up as a functioning village.

474

00:23:02,310 --> 00:23:05,760

And you tried to
make yourself useful,

475

00:23:05,760 --> 00:23:09,240

whether you were a secretary--

476

00:23:09,240 --> 00:23:10,140

they had a band.

477

00:23:10,140 --> 00:23:11,700

They had a soccer team--

478

00:23:11,700 --> 00:23:13,530

a good soccer player.

479

00:23:13,530 --> 00:23:16,350

You tried to make yourself
useful so that you

480

00:23:16,350 --> 00:23:18,990

wouldn't land on the train.

481

00:23:18,990 --> 00:23:22,000

So you wouldn't be on a
list to be further deported?

482

00:23:22,000 --> 00:23:22,500
Right.

483
00:23:22,500 --> 00:23:24,630
And every week they have--

484
00:23:24,630 --> 00:23:26,880
I believe it was Mondays--

485
00:23:26,880 --> 00:23:28,830
they published a list.

486
00:23:28,830 --> 00:23:34,260
And on Tuesdays, those
people that were on the list

487
00:23:34,260 --> 00:23:37,170
were transshipped to Auschwitz.

488
00:23:37,170 --> 00:23:40,170
And it didn't take my
parent-- my parents were

489
00:23:40,170 --> 00:23:42,520
not at Westerbork very long.

490
00:23:42,520 --> 00:23:48,030
And they were transshipped to
Auschwitz, where they died.

491
00:23:48,030 --> 00:23:49,050
It is in the records.

492
00:23:49,050 --> 00:23:52,810
They died on August--

493
00:23:52,810 --> 00:23:55,140
well, they didn't die.

494
00:23:55,140 --> 00:23:56,970
They were murdered--

495

00:23:56,970 --> 00:23:58,380

August 8.

496

00:23:58,380 --> 00:23:59,520

Of what year?

497

00:23:59,520 --> 00:24:01,200

1942.

498

00:24:01,200 --> 00:24:02,340

Oh, my goodness.

499

00:24:02,340 --> 00:24:03,000

Yeah.

500

00:24:03,000 --> 00:24:03,810

Oh, my goodness.

501

00:24:03,810 --> 00:24:08,370

So it was within weeks.

502

00:24:08,370 --> 00:24:09,550

Exactly.

503

00:24:09,550 --> 00:24:19,080

And my aunt, my mother's younger
sister was there as well.

504

00:24:19,080 --> 00:24:21,420

And she was there
a little longer.

505

00:24:21,420 --> 00:24:23,010

They were not trans--

506

00:24:23,010 --> 00:24:24,820

They were not deported together.

507

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

They were not deported together.

508

00:24:26,820 --> 00:24:29,760

But she wasn't there
very much longer.

509

00:24:29,760 --> 00:24:33,060

And you found these
documents where?

510

00:24:33,060 --> 00:24:37,770

My brother had written a
letter to the Rijks Institute

511

00:24:37,770 --> 00:24:42,510

for war documents.

512

00:24:42,510 --> 00:24:45,360

And it is in their archives.

513

00:24:45,360 --> 00:24:48,390

We have a letter stating
their exact dates of death.

514

00:24:48,390 --> 00:24:49,680

When did you get that letter?

515

00:24:49,680 --> 00:24:51,240

When did he get that letter?

516

00:24:51,240 --> 00:24:54,180

In the early '90s.

517

00:24:54,180 --> 00:24:59,760

So half a century went by
until you learned these things?

518

00:24:59,760 --> 00:25:03,060

The exact dates, yes.

519

00:25:03,060 --> 00:25:07,440

And that was spurred by the
Conference of Hidden Children,

520

00:25:07,440 --> 00:25:09,840

the first annual
conference that they

521

00:25:09,840 --> 00:25:12,540

had in New York
City at the Marriott

522

00:25:12,540 --> 00:25:15,990

Hotel, a huge conference.

523

00:25:15,990 --> 00:25:20,240

524

00:25:20,240 --> 00:25:22,460

And that was really
the first time

525

00:25:22,460 --> 00:25:26,360

I knew or I labeled myself--

526

00:25:26,360 --> 00:25:30,290

I was able to articulate
that I was a hidden child,

527

00:25:30,290 --> 00:25:34,220

because growing up
with my grandmother,

528

00:25:34,220 --> 00:25:40,200

we were not encouraged
to talk about it at all.

529

00:25:40,200 --> 00:25:42,590

She told us eventually,
my grandmother told us

530

00:25:42,590 --> 00:25:46,910

what happened in
vague terms, I think.

531

00:25:46,910 --> 00:25:50,060

But we weren't encouraged
to talk about it,

532
00:25:50,060 --> 00:25:54,020
because we didn't really suffer.

533
00:25:54,020 --> 00:25:56,480
We weren't in a
concentration camp.

534
00:25:56,480 --> 00:25:58,460
We were well-- both
my brother and I,

535
00:25:58,460 --> 00:26:01,940
although we were hidden
by separate families,

536
00:26:01,940 --> 00:26:05,960
because it was too dangerous
to be all of a sudden two kids

537
00:26:05,960 --> 00:26:12,560
turn up in one
family, we were well

538
00:26:12,560 --> 00:26:17,300
taken care of, as well as
you could be in times of war.

539
00:26:17,300 --> 00:26:24,800
And so we weren't considered
to really have suffered.

540
00:26:24,800 --> 00:26:29,000
But this conference, where,
I think, if I'm not mistaken,

541
00:26:29,000 --> 00:26:32,600
about 1,600 people,
all hidden children,

542
00:26:32,600 --> 00:26:37,430

turned up in one room,
it was mind blowing.

543
00:26:37,430 --> 00:26:43,040
And that's what spurred my
and especially my brother's

544
00:26:43,040 --> 00:26:46,550
research into more details.

545
00:26:46,550 --> 00:26:48,530
In what way was it mind blowing?

546
00:26:48,530 --> 00:26:52,850
Tell me, if you hadn't
really been affected before,

547
00:26:52,850 --> 00:26:54,110
what affected you now?

548
00:26:54,110 --> 00:26:56,570
Well, we knew we
were hidden children

549
00:26:56,570 --> 00:27:01,690
and that we had gone
through this experience.

550
00:27:01,690 --> 00:27:05,020
And I never really
thought about it.

551
00:27:05,020 --> 00:27:09,310
My brother is quite a bit
more introspective than I am.

552
00:27:09,310 --> 00:27:12,070
But I never-- we were young.

553
00:27:12,070 --> 00:27:21,280
We were-- we didn't think
about-- dwell on it that much.

554

00:27:21,280 --> 00:27:24,880

Well, you know, there
is a school of thought--

555

00:27:24,880 --> 00:27:27,130

I'm going to kind of
mention different schools,

556

00:27:27,130 --> 00:27:31,240

but there is a school
of thought that says,

557

00:27:31,240 --> 00:27:35,590

and it's quite prevalent
and makes sense in one way,

558

00:27:35,590 --> 00:27:41,440

that if you don't have direct
memories of something, what

559

00:27:41,440 --> 00:27:43,390

is the loss that you
suffered, because you

560

00:27:43,390 --> 00:27:44,560

don't remember the loss?

561

00:27:44,560 --> 00:27:46,240

You don't remember
what you had in order

562

00:27:46,240 --> 00:27:47,830

to know you don't have it.

563

00:27:47,830 --> 00:27:49,330

No, that's true.

564

00:27:49,330 --> 00:27:52,330

Mm-hmm.

565

00:27:52,330 --> 00:27:57,100

And so in some

ways, you're spared.

566

00:27:57,100 --> 00:27:59,770

But there is another
school of thought

567

00:27:59,770 --> 00:28:04,840

that says we all
experience things

568

00:28:04,840 --> 00:28:08,300

at different developmental
stages of our lives.

569

00:28:08,300 --> 00:28:12,670

So how you will respond
to outside stimuli

570

00:28:12,670 --> 00:28:17,620

when you're an infant, a
toddler, an adolescent,

571

00:28:17,620 --> 00:28:23,620

a young adult in some ways
is affected and influenced

572

00:28:23,620 --> 00:28:27,620

by what stage of your life in
your development you're at.

573

00:28:27,620 --> 00:28:30,820

And I have heard
people say that--

574

00:28:30,820 --> 00:28:34,060

others who have been working
with hidden children--

575

00:28:34,060 --> 00:28:38,320

that sometimes the sadness and
the sorrow from hidden children

576

00:28:38,320 --> 00:28:44,110

is so deep because they
experienced these losses

577
00:28:44,110 --> 00:28:46,480
at such an early
stage of life when

578
00:28:46,480 --> 00:28:52,840
you need to have that sense of
security, something is broken.

579
00:28:52,840 --> 00:28:55,240
Whether you have a
direct memory or not,

580
00:28:55,240 --> 00:29:02,080
when it comes back, when your
history is something that you--

581
00:29:02,080 --> 00:29:04,660
something happens
then that a person

582
00:29:04,660 --> 00:29:10,600
who might have gone through
true abuse and torture and so on

583
00:29:10,600 --> 00:29:14,550
but was an adult
would have reacted

584
00:29:14,550 --> 00:29:18,360
to what was happening to them
as an adult with the defenses

585
00:29:18,360 --> 00:29:19,650
that an adult can have.

586
00:29:19,650 --> 00:29:23,330

587
00:29:23,330 --> 00:29:25,930
So I think that that

is also as a result

588
00:29:25,930 --> 00:29:29,470
of that first conference
that this thinking has

589
00:29:29,470 --> 00:29:33,280
developed as people got together
and share their stories.

590
00:29:33,280 --> 00:29:33,870
Right.

591
00:29:33,870 --> 00:29:35,920
Oh, yes.

592
00:29:35,920 --> 00:29:40,210
And my brother, who,
as I said before,

593
00:29:40,210 --> 00:29:45,820
was only eight months old, he
was in his pre-verbal stage.

594
00:29:45,820 --> 00:29:51,560
And it was separation
anxiety for him

595
00:29:51,560 --> 00:29:55,360
on several different levels
as he moved from one family

596
00:29:55,360 --> 00:30:00,220
and then from his birth
family to his hiding family

597
00:30:00,220 --> 00:30:02,470
and then to a new life
in the United States

598
00:30:02,470 --> 00:30:05,380
with a grandmother that
he didn't really know

599

00:30:05,380 --> 00:30:11,830

and in a couple of other
instances in his life

600

00:30:11,830 --> 00:30:13,660

where that happened.

601

00:30:13,660 --> 00:30:16,630

So how old were your parents
when they were murdered?

602

00:30:16,630 --> 00:30:20,270

My mother was 22,
and my father was 27.

603

00:30:20,270 --> 00:30:21,700

They were so young.

604

00:30:21,700 --> 00:30:22,780

Yes, they were.

605

00:30:22,780 --> 00:30:24,880

They were so young.

606

00:30:24,880 --> 00:30:29,050

So your father had been
born some time in the teens,

607

00:30:29,050 --> 00:30:30,340

is that the case?

608

00:30:30,340 --> 00:30:35,650

Yes, my mother was born
in 1919, and my father

609

00:30:35,650 --> 00:30:41,170

was born in, I think, 1915.

610

00:30:41,170 --> 00:30:41,860

OK.

611

00:30:41,860 --> 00:30:46,850

What happened to his father,
and his brother and sister?

612

00:30:46,850 --> 00:30:57,060

His sister, Rose Marie,
and her mother, Lizzie--

613

00:30:57,060 --> 00:31:00,180

the mother's name
is Lizzie Israels--

614

00:31:00,180 --> 00:31:02,715

they escaped to the
south of France.

615

00:31:02,715 --> 00:31:06,150

616

00:31:06,150 --> 00:31:12,390

But there, they were captured--

617

00:31:12,390 --> 00:31:14,550

I don't know another word--

618

00:31:14,550 --> 00:31:19,380

and also were deported
then to Auschwitz.

619

00:31:19,380 --> 00:31:20,730

I see.

620

00:31:20,730 --> 00:31:24,480

And the brother, I think
he went to England.

621

00:31:24,480 --> 00:31:29,340

And he died well after
the war of other issues.

622

00:31:29,340 --> 00:31:30,300

OK.

623
00:31:30,300 --> 00:31:31,830
And his name was?

624
00:31:31,830 --> 00:31:34,200
His name was Stefan.

625
00:31:34,200 --> 00:31:34,980
Stefan.

626
00:31:34,980 --> 00:31:37,620
And your grandfather
on your father's side,

627
00:31:37,620 --> 00:31:40,380
your paternal
grandfather's name was?

628
00:31:40,380 --> 00:31:41,070
Samuel.

629
00:31:41,070 --> 00:31:43,660
I had two grandfathers,
both by the name of Samuel.

630
00:31:43,660 --> 00:31:45,750
So this is Samuel de Kadt.

631
00:31:45,750 --> 00:31:47,760
Samuel de Kadt.

632
00:31:47,760 --> 00:31:53,200
And he died in 1938.

633
00:31:53,200 --> 00:31:59,940
I know that my parents married
rather in a hurried fashion,

634
00:31:59,940 --> 00:32:03,240
because he was ill, I
believe, with cancer.

635

00:32:03,240 --> 00:32:09,030

And they wanted his father
to see them married.

636

00:32:09,030 --> 00:32:10,950

So they rushed the
wedding a little bit.

637

00:32:10,950 --> 00:32:13,680

How did they meet, your parents?

638

00:32:13,680 --> 00:32:16,620

I do not know.

639

00:32:16,620 --> 00:32:17,640

I do not know.

640

00:32:17,640 --> 00:32:19,170

You don't know
how the families--

641

00:32:19,170 --> 00:32:21,570

But they were in
the same circles.

642

00:32:21,570 --> 00:32:24,210

They were in the same
circle in Amsterdam.

643

00:32:24,210 --> 00:32:25,860

They went to school there.

644

00:32:25,860 --> 00:32:28,800

I don't know if they went
to the same schools or not.

645

00:32:28,800 --> 00:32:33,530

But they met through
mutual friends.

646

00:32:33,530 --> 00:32:36,570

Were both families well to do?

647
00:32:36,570 --> 00:32:41,040
Yes, they were,
fairly well, yes.

648
00:32:41,040 --> 00:32:46,640
And, OK, so we're at
the train station.

649
00:32:46,640 --> 00:32:49,730
And you are given away
to your grandparents.

650
00:32:49,730 --> 00:32:51,120
What happens then?

651
00:32:51,120 --> 00:32:53,030
What happens to them?

652
00:32:53,030 --> 00:32:53,840
To you?

653
00:32:53,840 --> 00:32:56,570
How do things, step
by step, occur?

654
00:32:56,570 --> 00:32:59,930
Well, I don't have
direct memory,

655
00:32:59,930 --> 00:33:05,510
but they took me back to
the house in the ghetto.

656
00:33:05,510 --> 00:33:15,680
And then they saw that
it really was time.

657
00:33:15,680 --> 00:33:19,610
So they placed both my brother
and me with hiding families.

658

00:33:19,610 --> 00:33:20,840
How did they find them?

659
00:33:20,840 --> 00:33:24,560
My hiding family was
the sister-in-law

660
00:33:24,560 --> 00:33:28,760
of my grandmother's seamstress.

661
00:33:28,760 --> 00:33:31,490
And they were Catholic.

662
00:33:31,490 --> 00:33:37,040
And my brother's hiding family
were also mutual acquaintances.

663
00:33:37,040 --> 00:33:42,680
I don't know the
networking that they

664
00:33:42,680 --> 00:33:44,105
had to do for that exactly.

665
00:33:44,105 --> 00:33:48,530

666
00:33:48,530 --> 00:33:49,700
And they were Protestants.

667
00:33:49,700 --> 00:33:53,670
So they were both
righteous Gentiles.

668
00:33:53,670 --> 00:33:54,440
OK.

669
00:33:54,440 --> 00:33:55,730
What's your brother's name?

670
00:33:55,730 --> 00:33:59,780
My brother's name is Maarten,

spelled the Dutch way.

671

00:33:59,780 --> 00:34:01,295

How would that be?

672

00:34:01,295 --> 00:34:05,660

M- double A-R-T-E-N, like the
island that everybody likes

673

00:34:05,660 --> 00:34:06,320

to go to.

674

00:34:06,320 --> 00:34:07,040

That's true.

675

00:34:07,040 --> 00:34:11,449

676

00:34:11,449 --> 00:34:15,590

And we were both
hidden in Amstelveen,

677

00:34:15,590 --> 00:34:19,100

the same little suburb
outside of Amsterdam.

678

00:34:19,100 --> 00:34:25,100

But in my two-year-old mind,
that could have been Australia.

679

00:34:25,100 --> 00:34:27,020

I didn't realize
he was that close.

680

00:34:27,020 --> 00:34:30,380

He was very, very
close in distance.

681

00:34:30,380 --> 00:34:34,790

Do you remember being with
your grandparents and then

682

00:34:34,790 --> 00:34:36,239
not being with them anymore?

683
00:34:36,239 --> 00:34:38,810
No, I don't.

684
00:34:38,810 --> 00:34:42,440
As I said, I don't remember
how that transition took place.

685
00:34:42,440 --> 00:34:43,010
OK.

686
00:34:43,010 --> 00:34:45,710
And what did your
grandparents do?

687
00:34:45,710 --> 00:34:50,480
My grandparents then
were deported in 1944.

688
00:34:50,480 --> 00:34:53,000
So what they did in
the interim of those,

689
00:34:53,000 --> 00:34:58,000
let's say, a year and a
half or so, I don't know.

690
00:34:58,000 --> 00:35:00,190
What happened to them?

691
00:35:00,190 --> 00:35:05,980
My grandmother
survived Bergen-Belsen.

692
00:35:05,980 --> 00:35:08,800
And my grandfather did not.

693
00:35:08,800 --> 00:35:10,390
They were deported
to Bergen-Belsen?

694

00:35:10,390 --> 00:35:10,890

Yes.

695

00:35:10,890 --> 00:35:13,330

696

00:35:13,330 --> 00:35:14,520

Amazing.

697

00:35:14,520 --> 00:35:18,940

And my grandmother was
a very strong woman.

698

00:35:18,940 --> 00:35:23,290

And she lived to the
ripe old age of 93.

699

00:35:23,290 --> 00:35:24,730

But that was in--

700

00:35:24,730 --> 00:35:28,720

and I hope I have her genes--

701

00:35:28,720 --> 00:35:31,960

that was in a nursing home
because she did suffer a stroke

702

00:35:31,960 --> 00:35:34,210

at the age of 86.

703

00:35:34,210 --> 00:35:36,820

Oh, so her last seven
years were not easy.

704

00:35:36,820 --> 00:35:37,930

Right.

705

00:35:37,930 --> 00:35:40,300

Right.

706

00:35:40,300 --> 00:35:43,780

However, how old was she when
this deportation happened?

707
00:35:43,780 --> 00:35:46,870
If your mother was so
young, then your grandmother

708
00:35:46,870 --> 00:35:48,460
must have been quite young?

709
00:35:48,460 --> 00:35:51,490
Yeah, everybody got
married rather young.

710
00:35:51,490 --> 00:35:53,580
I don't-- well, we can go back.

711
00:35:53,580 --> 00:35:56,410
My math isn't great.

712
00:35:56,410 --> 00:36:01,150
But my grandmother in 1946--

713
00:36:01,150 --> 00:36:04,510
well, she was born in 1895.

714
00:36:04,510 --> 00:36:07,490
1895, which would have
made her about 50?

715
00:36:07,490 --> 00:36:09,700
In her early 50s, yeah.

716
00:36:09,700 --> 00:36:15,110
Because when she
survived Bergen-Belsen,

717
00:36:15,110 --> 00:36:16,640
she was very ill.

718
00:36:16,640 --> 00:36:20,930
She was hospitalized

for about three months

719

00:36:20,930 --> 00:36:22,790

while she recuperated.

720

00:36:22,790 --> 00:36:24,410

And then she regained

her strength.

721

00:36:24,410 --> 00:36:29,120

And then she came to retrieve

my brother and myself.

722

00:36:29,120 --> 00:36:34,040

And so she started a

new life in America.

723

00:36:34,040 --> 00:36:35,120

And why America?

724

00:36:35,120 --> 00:36:36,800

Why not stay in the Netherlands?

725

00:36:36,800 --> 00:36:43,430

Because my aunt was in America,

my Aunt Ella, who is now 97.

726

00:36:43,430 --> 00:36:48,650

And she lived in Queens, my aunt

did, who had married herself--

727

00:36:48,650 --> 00:36:54,320

she had gotten married in

the interim and had two sons.

728

00:36:54,320 --> 00:36:59,630

Housing was very short after

the war with all the immigrants.

729

00:36:59,630 --> 00:37:06,040

And that's when you hear that

a Levittown had to be built.

730

00:37:06,040 --> 00:37:07,880

That's right.

731

00:37:07,880 --> 00:37:11,540

But they were able to
secure an apartment directly

732

00:37:11,540 --> 00:37:13,910

above their apartment.

733

00:37:13,910 --> 00:37:18,080

And in those days,
in order to do that,

734

00:37:18,080 --> 00:37:22,700

to secure an apartment,
it had to be livable.

735

00:37:22,700 --> 00:37:25,250

So there was some furniture
that had to stay there.

736

00:37:25,250 --> 00:37:31,310

And so we inherited some
furniture from that.

737

00:37:31,310 --> 00:37:34,940

And we continue to
live there and went

738

00:37:34,940 --> 00:37:40,340

to school there, et cetera,
for a good 20 years.

739

00:37:40,340 --> 00:37:44,030

I'm trying to imagine--
and I can't imagine--

740

00:37:44,030 --> 00:37:46,430

but the losses that your
grandmother suffered

741

00:37:46,430 --> 00:37:48,110
were enormous.

742
00:37:48,110 --> 00:37:49,490
They were.

743
00:37:49,490 --> 00:37:51,150
And that's what I wanted to say.

744
00:37:51,150 --> 00:37:55,400
She was a single
parent at the age of 52

745
00:37:55,400 --> 00:37:58,430
with a generation missing.

746
00:37:58,430 --> 00:38:04,130
Before the name single
parent was coined,

747
00:38:04,130 --> 00:38:05,450
she was a single parent.

748
00:38:05,450 --> 00:38:09,650
Of course, she had my
aunt and uncle as support.

749
00:38:09,650 --> 00:38:12,530
But that's not the same.

750
00:38:12,530 --> 00:38:16,790
Support is good, but it
was difficult for her.

751
00:38:16,790 --> 00:38:19,010
And she had lost
her own daughters.

752
00:38:19,010 --> 00:38:19,940
And her husband.

753
00:38:19,940 --> 00:38:20,970

And her husband.

754

00:38:20,970 --> 00:38:22,800

Yeah.

755

00:38:22,800 --> 00:38:25,610

And various other people.

756

00:38:25,610 --> 00:38:27,950

Yeah, it was.

757

00:38:27,950 --> 00:38:30,080

And she never spoke
about these things?

758

00:38:30,080 --> 00:38:32,998

She never spoke-- did she tell
you about who your mother was

759

00:38:32,998 --> 00:38:34,040

and what kind of person--

760

00:38:34,040 --> 00:38:34,623

Yeah, she did.

761

00:38:34,623 --> 00:38:39,570

I remember she sat me
down when I was about 10

762

00:38:39,570 --> 00:38:47,060

and explained sort
of what happened

763

00:38:47,060 --> 00:38:49,190

without too many details.

764

00:38:49,190 --> 00:38:50,270

How did she do it?

765

00:38:50,270 --> 00:38:53,330

Was it something that
was now it's time for you

766
00:38:53,330 --> 00:38:54,320
to know kind of thing?

767
00:38:54,320 --> 00:38:56,360
Basically, yes.

768
00:38:56,360 --> 00:38:58,410
She sat me down one afternoon.

769
00:38:58,410 --> 00:39:01,957
It was a difficult
afternoon for her.

770
00:39:01,957 --> 00:39:03,290
Can you tell me a little bit it?

771
00:39:03,290 --> 00:39:05,400
Well, I don't remember
much about it.

772
00:39:05,400 --> 00:39:07,805
She just sat me
down and told me.

773
00:39:07,805 --> 00:39:10,700
And there were tears and so on.

774
00:39:10,700 --> 00:39:15,410
And I know that my brother
wasn't told at the same time.

775
00:39:15,410 --> 00:39:20,410
Had you had questions about
where's my mom, where's my dad?

776
00:39:20,410 --> 00:39:26,210
No-- well, I guess I did.

777
00:39:26,210 --> 00:39:34,010
But I know when we first came
in 1946 that we were told,

778
00:39:34,010 --> 00:39:37,460
and I guess it was part
of the denial process,

779
00:39:37,460 --> 00:39:40,800
that we would go back
to Holland in a year.

780
00:39:40,800 --> 00:39:43,460
And we were hoping
as young children

781
00:39:43,460 --> 00:39:50,090
that we would go back in a year
to go to our mother and father,

782
00:39:50,090 --> 00:39:53,480
which was our hiding parents.

783
00:39:53,480 --> 00:39:56,900
And my grandmother was hoping
that the memory would fade.

784
00:39:56,900 --> 00:39:59,765
And I guess at the time, she
thought a year was a long time.

785
00:39:59,765 --> 00:40:02,750

786
00:40:02,750 --> 00:40:04,910
And the memory did fade.

787
00:40:04,910 --> 00:40:06,800
Well, that was my next question.

788
00:40:06,800 --> 00:40:10,550
Did the memory fade of having
been with another family?

789
00:40:10,550 --> 00:40:13,730

Not entirely, because
I still have memories

790
00:40:13,730 --> 00:40:15,453
of those wartime years.

791
00:40:15,453 --> 00:40:16,370
We'll talk about that.

792
00:40:16,370 --> 00:40:18,440
But now we're on
this thread, yeah.

793
00:40:18,440 --> 00:40:21,140

794
00:40:21,140 --> 00:40:23,780
But right now when
you're already post-war

795
00:40:23,780 --> 00:40:28,010
and you're in the United
States, did this desire

796
00:40:28,010 --> 00:40:31,610
to go back to the
Netherlands recede?

797
00:40:31,610 --> 00:40:33,890
Absolutely, yeah.

798
00:40:33,890 --> 00:40:35,390
They Americanized me.

799
00:40:35,390 --> 00:40:38,510
The first thing that one
of friends of the family

800
00:40:38,510 --> 00:40:41,270
did was he gave me
my nickname, Willie,

801

00:40:41,270 --> 00:40:44,450
because it was American.

802
00:40:44,450 --> 00:40:46,550
And that stuck.

803
00:40:46,550 --> 00:40:48,990
What language did you speak
at home with your grandmother?

804
00:40:48,990 --> 00:40:50,240
English.

805
00:40:50,240 --> 00:40:53,450
She was very much an enabler.

806
00:40:53,450 --> 00:40:57,080
She wanted us to speak English,
because we were both ready

807
00:40:57,080 --> 00:40:58,550
for school.

808
00:40:58,550 --> 00:41:00,620
And in school, we
had to speak English.

809
00:41:00,620 --> 00:41:03,020
So she spoke English to us.

810
00:41:03,020 --> 00:41:06,540
What kind of personality
did she have, your grandma?

811
00:41:06,540 --> 00:41:09,260
She was regal.

812
00:41:09,260 --> 00:41:12,530
I remember her as
being a regal woman.

813
00:41:12,530 --> 00:41:18,890

She was-- oh, she wouldn't
like it if I said this,

814
00:41:18,890 --> 00:41:25,550
but she was a bit of a snob
because of her upbringing.

815
00:41:25,550 --> 00:41:32,030
And she was
controlling, I think.

816
00:41:32,030 --> 00:41:32,700
Very Dutch.

817
00:41:32,700 --> 00:41:36,050

818
00:41:36,050 --> 00:41:42,650
But she wasn't very emotional.

819
00:41:42,650 --> 00:41:44,450
Did you miss that?

820
00:41:44,450 --> 00:41:47,950
Well, as you said before, I
didn't know what I was missing.

821
00:41:47,950 --> 00:41:50,150
So--

822
00:41:50,150 --> 00:41:54,170
And your Aunt Ella was
she part of your life?

823
00:41:54,170 --> 00:41:57,740
She was-- yes, she was.

824
00:41:57,740 --> 00:41:59,690
She was part of our life.

825
00:41:59,690 --> 00:42:04,140
But she had her sons,

own sons, to worry about,

826
00:42:04,140 --> 00:42:06,590
and that's part
of the story too.

827
00:42:06,590 --> 00:42:09,390

828
00:42:09,390 --> 00:42:11,510
And there was some conflict.

829
00:42:11,510 --> 00:42:12,560
Between the two?

830
00:42:12,560 --> 00:42:16,400
Between my grandmother's
allegiance to us,

831
00:42:16,400 --> 00:42:22,090
the poor motherless children,
and my aunt's children.

832
00:42:22,090 --> 00:42:26,330
Ah, and being the grandmother
to these other children?

833
00:42:26,330 --> 00:42:28,310
Yes, being a
grandmother to all four.

834
00:42:28,310 --> 00:42:28,810
Yeah.

835
00:42:28,810 --> 00:42:31,820

836
00:42:31,820 --> 00:42:37,700
And did you remain in this
apartment above your aunt for--

837
00:42:37,700 --> 00:42:45,470

I remained there till I was
beyond college, till about--

838
00:42:45,470 --> 00:42:48,000
I went away to college.

839
00:42:48,000 --> 00:42:49,430
I felt the need to get away.

840
00:42:49,430 --> 00:42:52,220

841
00:42:52,220 --> 00:42:53,990
I remained there
till I got married

842
00:42:53,990 --> 00:42:58,280
basically, because I went
to college and came back,

843
00:42:58,280 --> 00:43:04,130
got a job in Manhattan,
and my other college

844
00:43:04,130 --> 00:43:07,340
friends at that time, oh,
they all got roommates

845
00:43:07,340 --> 00:43:08,690
and apartments in the city.

846
00:43:08,690 --> 00:43:10,490
But I felt I couldn't do that.

847
00:43:10,490 --> 00:43:13,250
I had to keep my
grandmother company.

848
00:43:13,250 --> 00:43:17,270
So I lived with her till
I got married in 1963.

849

00:43:17,270 --> 00:43:18,800
That's a long time.

850
00:43:18,800 --> 00:43:21,020
I mean that's 19, 20 years
or something like that.

851
00:43:21,020 --> 00:43:21,830
Yeah, it is.

852
00:43:21,830 --> 00:43:24,400
But in the meantime, I
did go away to college.

853
00:43:24,400 --> 00:43:26,270
OK.

854
00:43:26,270 --> 00:43:28,460
Can you describe
the apartment to me?

855
00:43:28,460 --> 00:43:32,613
What it looked like, how
many rooms there were, just

856
00:43:32,613 --> 00:43:33,780
a little bit of description.

857
00:43:33,780 --> 00:43:34,940
Well, it was very--

858
00:43:34,940 --> 00:43:37,880
I won't say Victorian,
that's the wrong word--

859
00:43:37,880 --> 00:43:40,370
but it was dark.

860
00:43:40,370 --> 00:43:46,040
She had dark velvet
maroon drapes,

861

00:43:46,040 --> 00:43:49,730
but that was only in the winter,
which she changed out and just

862
00:43:49,730 --> 00:43:51,185
kept the shears in the summer.

863
00:43:51,185 --> 00:43:55,300

864
00:43:55,300 --> 00:43:57,430
It was two bedrooms.

865
00:43:57,430 --> 00:44:00,880
It was a big apartment
by today's standards.

866
00:44:00,880 --> 00:44:04,450
She had her own room
with a little bathroom.

867
00:44:04,450 --> 00:44:08,690
And my brother and I at
first shared a bedroom.

868
00:44:08,690 --> 00:44:11,110
But then as we got
older, there was

869
00:44:11,110 --> 00:44:17,140
a partition built, so that it
divided that one room into two.

870
00:44:17,140 --> 00:44:21,880
And I think he probably
still very vividly remembers

871
00:44:21,880 --> 00:44:25,330
that I got the big
half and he got

872
00:44:25,330 --> 00:44:27,790
the small half, which was

determined by the window

873
00:44:27,790 --> 00:44:29,050
placement.

874
00:44:29,050 --> 00:44:31,000
Those things matter
when you're a kid.

875
00:44:31,000 --> 00:44:31,690
Oh, yes.

876
00:44:31,690 --> 00:44:32,800
They matter.

877
00:44:32,800 --> 00:44:34,200
Oh, yes.

878
00:44:34,200 --> 00:44:38,410
And was it in an
apartment building?

879
00:44:38,410 --> 00:44:42,020
It was in an apartment
building, a six-story building,

880
00:44:42,020 --> 00:44:45,130
which was in a
nice neighborhood,

881
00:44:45,130 --> 00:44:48,220
I think, Jewish neighborhood.

882
00:44:48,220 --> 00:44:51,010
But it was near a
park where we could

883
00:44:51,010 --> 00:44:54,970
go without having to
cross the street and play.

884
00:44:54,970 --> 00:44:58,270

And our signal, as
many kids of that era,

885
00:44:58,270 --> 00:45:00,430
when the street
lights turned on,

886
00:45:00,430 --> 00:45:04,240
it was time for
you to come home.

887
00:45:04,240 --> 00:45:11,740
But there was a big city park,
forest basically, nearby.

888
00:45:11,740 --> 00:45:13,870
That was across another street.

889
00:45:13,870 --> 00:45:15,580
What's the name of
the neighborhood?

890
00:45:15,580 --> 00:45:16,180
Kew Gardens.

891
00:45:16,180 --> 00:45:18,880
Oh, in Kew Gardens.

892
00:45:18,880 --> 00:45:20,560
It's a nice area of Queens.

893
00:45:20,560 --> 00:45:21,796
It is.

894
00:45:21,796 --> 00:45:24,220
It is.

895
00:45:24,220 --> 00:45:28,040
Now, one of the reasons
I ask is to find out,

896
00:45:28,040 --> 00:45:30,850

did your grandmother
ever get any restitution?

897
00:45:30,850 --> 00:45:32,420
Yes, she did.

898
00:45:32,420 --> 00:45:33,070
OK.

899
00:45:33,070 --> 00:45:34,810
How did that happen?

900
00:45:34,810 --> 00:45:36,220
And in what form
did that happen?

901
00:45:36,220 --> 00:45:42,220
That happened-- I was not
privy to those details.

902
00:45:42,220 --> 00:45:48,850
But my grandfather had
a partner in Manhattan,

903
00:45:48,850 --> 00:45:55,600
whom we called Uncle Jack,
who did the American branch

904
00:45:55,600 --> 00:45:58,330
of this diamond business.

905
00:45:58,330 --> 00:46:07,300
And he saw with legal means that
my grandmother got restitution

906
00:46:07,300 --> 00:46:12,970
in the form of a monthly
check, I believe,

907
00:46:12,970 --> 00:46:15,580
for the business for some years.

908

00:46:15,580 --> 00:46:16,910
OK.

909
00:46:16,910 --> 00:46:18,820
Did she have to go
to work at all when--

910
00:46:18,820 --> 00:46:20,470
Yeah, she did.

911
00:46:20,470 --> 00:46:21,010
She did.

912
00:46:21,010 --> 00:46:22,240
She got a part-time job.

913
00:46:22,240 --> 00:46:28,150
The only thing that
she knew was diamonds.

914
00:46:28,150 --> 00:46:31,180
So she got a job,
first, at home,

915
00:46:31,180 --> 00:46:35,260
she learned how
to string pearls.

916
00:46:35,260 --> 00:46:37,760
And she did that at home.

917
00:46:37,760 --> 00:46:44,710
And I remember her working
way-- she was a night owl too,

918
00:46:44,710 --> 00:46:46,510
as I am now.

919
00:46:46,510 --> 00:46:50,170
She worked at the
dining room table,

920

00:46:50,170 --> 00:46:53,950
because this apartment had
a living room and a dining

921
00:46:53,950 --> 00:46:57,850
room, which the dining room was
very dark with a fire escape

922
00:46:57,850 --> 00:47:02,140
outside of it,
long into the night

923
00:47:02,140 --> 00:47:09,670
and whistling under her breath
with WQXR on in the background.

924
00:47:09,670 --> 00:47:14,050
And then she got a
job at a jewelry firm

925
00:47:14,050 --> 00:47:18,400
in Manhattan, where
she went every day,

926
00:47:18,400 --> 00:47:23,650
but abbreviated hours,
and strung pearls for them

927
00:47:23,650 --> 00:47:29,890
and continued her little
cottage industry, so to speak.

928
00:47:29,890 --> 00:47:30,760
Did she have--

929
00:47:30,760 --> 00:47:35,920
I mean, clearly, the
material aspect of life

930
00:47:35,920 --> 00:47:38,700
was nothing like
what she had grown up

931

00:47:38,700 --> 00:47:41,130

No, but it was very
important to her.

932

00:47:41,130 --> 00:47:42,010

OK.

933

00:47:42,010 --> 00:47:45,760

So my question is, did she
still have money worries?

934

00:47:45,760 --> 00:47:46,540

Or was this--

935

00:47:46,540 --> 00:47:47,290

Always--

936

00:47:47,290 --> 00:47:47,810

Was OK?

937

00:47:47,810 --> 00:47:48,310

OK.

938

00:47:48,310 --> 00:47:51,010

She always felt she
had money worries.

939

00:47:51,010 --> 00:47:54,460

And we were, I think,
raised a little bit

940

00:47:54,460 --> 00:47:59,650

as children of the Depression
would have been raised

941

00:47:59,650 --> 00:48:05,990

very frugally, but yes and no.

942

00:48:05,990 --> 00:48:08,720

Because I remember
in that apartment

943

00:48:08,720 --> 00:48:10,510
she entertained lavishly--

944
00:48:10,510 --> 00:48:11,210
Did she?

945
00:48:11,210 --> 00:48:15,500
Dinner parties for her friends.

946
00:48:15,500 --> 00:48:17,480
And the dinner parties were--

947
00:48:17,480 --> 00:48:19,290
I mean they all
outdid each other.

948
00:48:19,290 --> 00:48:23,340
They were in competition,
she and her friends.

949
00:48:23,340 --> 00:48:27,110
So she would have a woman come
in and help her in the kitchen.

950
00:48:27,110 --> 00:48:29,330
And she would have
hors d'oeuvres.

951
00:48:29,330 --> 00:48:31,670
And by the time you finished
with the hors d'oeuvres,

952
00:48:31,670 --> 00:48:33,530
you had no room left for dinner.

953
00:48:33,530 --> 00:48:38,300
But then you knew there was
this heavy dinner coming, which

954
00:48:38,300 --> 00:48:42,770
she prepared for for a
week in advance at least,

955

00:48:42,770 --> 00:48:46,640

with the good linen
and the silverware

956

00:48:46,640 --> 00:48:49,370

and so on and so forth.

957

00:48:49,370 --> 00:48:53,120

Why do you think there was
such an attention to this?

958

00:48:53,120 --> 00:48:57,800

Why do you think this
became the way it did?

959

00:48:57,800 --> 00:49:04,510

I think it was
status, as symbolic.

960

00:49:04,510 --> 00:49:09,670

And I think she wanted to do it.

961

00:49:09,670 --> 00:49:12,940

But that was all
motivation for her

962

00:49:12,940 --> 00:49:19,850

to continue as much as she
could with the way of life

963

00:49:19,850 --> 00:49:25,100

that she was used to, despite
the fact that she no longer had

964

00:49:25,100 --> 00:49:30,870

the nanny for the children
and the cook in the kitchen.

965

00:49:30,870 --> 00:49:34,050

She did want to continue
as much as possible.

966

00:49:34,050 --> 00:49:36,860
But now she was restricted.

967
00:49:36,860 --> 00:49:39,760
Was she a storyteller?

968
00:49:39,760 --> 00:49:41,230
Not really.

969
00:49:41,230 --> 00:49:43,760
No, because we didn't
ask her many questions.

970
00:49:43,760 --> 00:49:46,990
Both my brother
and I somehow knew

971
00:49:46,990 --> 00:49:53,260
that we didn't want to
hurt her by drawing out

972
00:49:53,260 --> 00:49:56,290
painful memories.

973
00:49:56,290 --> 00:49:59,500
We avoided the whole topic.

974
00:49:59,500 --> 00:50:01,510
I mean I would have wanted--

975
00:50:01,510 --> 00:50:05,260
I can't imagine this kind of
loss because I have a mother.

976
00:50:05,260 --> 00:50:07,990
But I would have wanted to find
out, what is my mother like?

977
00:50:07,990 --> 00:50:09,190
Was she a happy person?

978
00:50:09,190 --> 00:50:10,540

Did she have hobbies?

979

00:50:10,540 --> 00:50:11,660

Did she like doing this?

980

00:50:11,660 --> 00:50:12,852

Did she like going reading?

981

00:50:12,852 --> 00:50:14,185

What kind of books did she like?

982

00:50:14,185 --> 00:50:15,700

No, we never asked
those questions,

983

00:50:15,700 --> 00:50:21,940

although I do remember my
aunt and my grandmother--

984

00:50:21,940 --> 00:50:24,880

my aunt came up--

985

00:50:24,880 --> 00:50:32,510

after dinner, my aunt and uncle
would come up to our apartment.

986

00:50:32,510 --> 00:50:34,540

And they would have
coffee or something

987

00:50:34,540 --> 00:50:37,750

and spend an hour
or so chatting.

988

00:50:37,750 --> 00:50:40,330

But I do remember on
occasion that they

989

00:50:40,330 --> 00:50:47,110

would sort of reiterate
that a gesture that I made

990

00:50:47,110 --> 00:50:51,490
might have been similar to
one my mother would have made,

991
00:50:51,490 --> 00:50:52,390
that sort of thing.

992
00:50:52,390 --> 00:50:56,680
But, no, we didn't
we didn't ask.

993
00:50:56,680 --> 00:50:59,540
And you didn't because
you knew it was painful?

994
00:50:59,540 --> 00:51:00,040
Somewhere--

995
00:51:00,040 --> 00:51:00,670
In part.

996
00:51:00,670 --> 00:51:04,420
And because I was too
young to even realize.

997
00:51:04,420 --> 00:51:09,190
And as you said, again, I
didn't know any different.

998
00:51:09,190 --> 00:51:09,690
Yeah.

999
00:51:09,690 --> 00:51:13,180

1000
00:51:13,180 --> 00:51:15,790
Did your grandmother ever
go back to the Netherlands

1001
00:51:15,790 --> 00:51:17,050
after she came to the United?

1002

00:51:17,050 --> 00:51:17,770
She did.

1003
00:51:17,770 --> 00:51:24,530
And we went back with her when
I was 12 and my brother was 10.

1004
00:51:24,530 --> 00:51:31,180
So that would have been
in the late 1949, 1950.

1005
00:51:31,180 --> 00:51:34,960
Pretty early, pretty early
after the war to go back.

1006
00:51:34,960 --> 00:51:37,800
No, maybe it was later.

1007
00:51:37,800 --> 00:51:39,740
No-- yeah.

1008
00:51:39,740 --> 00:51:40,340
Mid '50s?

1009
00:51:40,340 --> 00:51:40,840
Yeah.

1010
00:51:40,840 --> 00:51:41,390
Or no--

1011
00:51:41,390 --> 00:51:41,890
No.

1012
00:51:41,890 --> 00:51:43,210
It was around that--

1013
00:51:43,210 --> 00:51:47,290
I remember I was
12 and he was 10.

1014
00:51:47,290 --> 00:51:49,920
And what was the reason

to go back at that time?

1015
00:51:49,920 --> 00:51:51,940
It was during the summer.

1016
00:51:51,940 --> 00:51:53,380
It was vacation.

1017
00:51:53,380 --> 00:51:57,250
And I think she wanted
to go back and maybe take

1018
00:51:57,250 --> 00:51:58,660
care of some business details.

1019
00:51:58,660 --> 00:52:02,650
That I'm not sure
about that at all.

1020
00:52:02,650 --> 00:52:04,810
Maybe that's not even true.

1021
00:52:04,810 --> 00:52:06,730
But she visited her friends.

1022
00:52:06,730 --> 00:52:09,970
And we went with her.

1023
00:52:09,970 --> 00:52:13,840
And we sailed over and we sailed
back on the Holland America

1024
00:52:13,840 --> 00:52:16,810
Line, the Noordam.

1025
00:52:16,810 --> 00:52:19,570
And there was a big
storm one night.

1026
00:52:19,570 --> 00:52:23,095
And I know that I was
deathly ill, seasick.

1027
00:52:23,095 --> 00:52:25,910

1028
00:52:25,910 --> 00:52:27,460
Not a cruise experience?

1029
00:52:27,460 --> 00:52:30,520
No, not at all.

1030
00:52:30,520 --> 00:52:34,960
Do you have memories of that
visit in the Netherlands?

1031
00:52:34,960 --> 00:52:38,740
Yes, I do, because she
introduced me somehow

1032
00:52:38,740 --> 00:52:41,230
or other to a girl
that was about

1033
00:52:41,230 --> 00:52:45,610
my age, a little bit older,
who was a Girl Scout,

1034
00:52:45,610 --> 00:52:48,010
as was I by that time.

1035
00:52:48,010 --> 00:52:52,300
And we went to Girl Scout
camp for a couple of days.

1036
00:52:52,300 --> 00:52:55,420
You still spoke
Dutch at that point?

1037
00:52:55,420 --> 00:52:57,625
I think so, enough
to get by anyhow.

1038
00:52:57,625 --> 00:53:01,060

1039
00:53:01,060 --> 00:53:05,290
And did she go back
at any other time?

1040
00:53:05,290 --> 00:53:09,670
Not to my knowledge,
not to my memory.

1041
00:53:09,670 --> 00:53:13,960
She may have, but not to
my knowledge, at least

1042
00:53:13,960 --> 00:53:15,880
not with us.

1043
00:53:15,880 --> 00:53:22,090
Now, if not speaking about
family and the losses

1044
00:53:22,090 --> 00:53:25,290
and the people who
are no longer there,

1045
00:53:25,290 --> 00:53:29,200
did she ever talk
about the war itself?

1046
00:53:29,200 --> 00:53:32,560
Did she ever talk about
the Nazi occupation?

1047
00:53:32,560 --> 00:53:35,020
Did she ever talk about
the more distant things

1048
00:53:35,020 --> 00:53:38,650
that were historical
about this time?

1049
00:53:38,650 --> 00:53:44,580
No, she didn't go

there basically.

1050
00:53:44,580 --> 00:53:49,380
I think she did let us know
that she was very sick.

1051
00:53:49,380 --> 00:53:54,720
But I can't honestly say that
we talked about it very much

1052
00:53:54,720 --> 00:53:56,160
at all.

1053
00:53:56,160 --> 00:53:57,750
And I don't think--

1054
00:53:57,750 --> 00:54:02,850
whether I'm unique in that as a
hidden child, I don't think so.

1055
00:54:02,850 --> 00:54:05,500

1056
00:54:05,500 --> 00:54:08,950
What about her own girlhood
and her own growing

1057
00:54:08,950 --> 00:54:10,540
up that was pre-war?

1058
00:54:10,540 --> 00:54:16,690
She talked about her siblings
and her life in Amsterdam.

1059
00:54:16,690 --> 00:54:25,810
But not all that much,
not all that much.

1060
00:54:25,810 --> 00:54:27,580
That might have
been painful too,

1061

00:54:27,580 --> 00:54:30,400
because it was the world
that no longer was.

1062
00:54:30,400 --> 00:54:31,870
Right.

1063
00:54:31,870 --> 00:54:36,880
She had a sister
in Amsterdam, who--

1064
00:54:36,880 --> 00:54:40,360
now that you mention
it, I do remember

1065
00:54:40,360 --> 00:54:44,920
some sort of a transition
between the house,

1066
00:54:44,920 --> 00:54:49,606
the ghetto house, and my hiding
house is that we stayed--

1067
00:54:49,606 --> 00:54:53,470
no, that was when I was older.

1068
00:54:53,470 --> 00:54:56,320
Being taken away from
my hiding parents

1069
00:54:56,320 --> 00:55:00,040
and transitioning to
America, we stayed

1070
00:55:00,040 --> 00:55:04,350
with my grandmother's sister
in Amsterdam for a few days.

1071
00:55:04,350 --> 00:55:04,850
OK.

1072
00:55:04,850 --> 00:55:11,240

1073
00:55:11,240 --> 00:55:14,060
What year did your
grandmother die?

1074
00:55:14,060 --> 00:55:15,860
She died in 1988.

1075
00:55:15,860 --> 00:55:16,970
Wow.

1076
00:55:16,970 --> 00:55:20,330
She was in the nursing
home for six years.

1077
00:55:20,330 --> 00:55:21,555
What did you call her?

1078
00:55:21,555 --> 00:55:22,170
Oma.

1079
00:55:22,170 --> 00:55:23,030
Oma.

1080
00:55:23,030 --> 00:55:27,590
That's what my
grandchildren call me, Oma.

1081
00:55:27,590 --> 00:55:30,950
So she never became like mom?

1082
00:55:30,950 --> 00:55:34,820
No, she was Oma,
definitely grandmother.

1083
00:55:34,820 --> 00:55:39,350
And my children called
her Oma, even though she

1084
00:55:39,350 --> 00:55:41,930
was their great grandmother.

1085

00:55:41,930 --> 00:55:47,180

But because she was so
young, and just going

1086

00:55:47,180 --> 00:55:52,070

around about town and
so on, many people

1087

00:55:52,070 --> 00:55:54,290

thought she was my mother.

1088

00:55:54,290 --> 00:55:57,350

And my children, I
believe, never really

1089

00:55:57,350 --> 00:56:03,080

thought of her as their great
grandmother, but rather Oma,

1090

00:56:03,080 --> 00:56:05,120

which is German, Dutch.

1091

00:56:05,120 --> 00:56:06,980

That's right, for grandma.

1092

00:56:06,980 --> 00:56:08,840

Yeah.

1093

00:56:08,840 --> 00:56:10,867

Let's break at this time.

1094

00:56:10,867 --> 00:56:13,610

Hand on a second.

1095

00:56:13,610 --> 00:56:16,640

So before the break,
we were talking

1096

00:56:16,640 --> 00:56:21,170

a lot about your grandmother
and what was she like

1097

00:56:21,170 --> 00:56:27,440

and how she soldiered on
and the way she did it

1098

00:56:27,440 --> 00:56:30,050

and how she brought you
and your brother up.

1099

00:56:30,050 --> 00:56:34,130

I want to return back now
to a part of your story

1100

00:56:34,130 --> 00:56:36,470

that we haven't
really touched on.

1101

00:56:36,470 --> 00:56:42,200

And that is when you were
hidden as this young toddler

1102

00:56:42,200 --> 00:56:47,220

in the Netherlands and what
was involved with that.

1103

00:56:47,220 --> 00:56:52,610

So let's go back to the point
where your grandparents realize

1104

00:56:52,610 --> 00:56:57,500

that it's time to
disappear, or at least have

1105

00:56:57,500 --> 00:56:59,600

the children disappear.

1106

00:56:59,600 --> 00:57:01,220

What do they do?

1107

00:57:01,220 --> 00:57:04,760

And where do you go?

1108

00:57:04,760 --> 00:57:11,690

Well, I went to a very strict
Catholic family in Amstelveen,

1109
00:57:11,690 --> 00:57:13,910
not far from Amsterdam.

1110
00:57:13,910 --> 00:57:18,480
And they had two
biological daughters.

1111
00:57:18,480 --> 00:57:23,330
And they squeezed
me into their home,

1112
00:57:23,330 --> 00:57:25,550
even though I thought
it was palatial,

1113
00:57:25,550 --> 00:57:31,250
but that was not the case after
I came back some years later.

1114
00:57:31,250 --> 00:57:35,600
And I became part
of their family.

1115
00:57:35,600 --> 00:57:37,700
What was their name?

1116
00:57:37,700 --> 00:57:41,570
The parents, he was
Jan van der Zijden,

1117
00:57:41,570 --> 00:57:45,320
and she was Cornelia
van der Zijden.

1118
00:57:45,320 --> 00:57:48,890
And the two girls were
Anka, the older one,

1119
00:57:48,890 --> 00:57:51,605
and Corrie, which is a

nickname for Cornelia.

1120
00:57:51,605 --> 00:57:54,200

1121
00:57:54,200 --> 00:57:59,180
Corrie I would say is about
five years older than me.

1122
00:57:59,180 --> 00:58:03,740
And Anka is 8 years
older than me or so.

1123
00:58:03,740 --> 00:58:06,500
I'm not sure of their
exact birth dates.

1124
00:58:06,500 --> 00:58:08,960
And I'm in touch
with both of them--

1125
00:58:08,960 --> 00:58:09,600
To this day?

1126
00:58:09,600 --> 00:58:11,340
Well, more Corrie.

1127
00:58:11,340 --> 00:58:16,430
She is the more
computer literate.

1128
00:58:16,430 --> 00:58:20,720
And Anka, unfortunately,
I just learned

1129
00:58:20,720 --> 00:58:25,190
six weeks ago or so has just
had to be put in a nursing home

1130
00:58:25,190 --> 00:58:27,980
because she had a
fall and she suffers

1131

00:58:27,980 --> 00:58:34,550
some form of dementia, which
can only get worse, not better.

1132

00:58:34,550 --> 00:58:38,810
And those two ladies
married brothers.

1133

00:58:38,810 --> 00:58:39,380
Did they?

1134

00:58:39,380 --> 00:58:41,540
So they have the same last name.

1135

00:58:41,540 --> 00:58:45,410
And I think that's
part of the whole story

1136

00:58:45,410 --> 00:58:48,630
that their worlds
were very close.

1137

00:58:48,630 --> 00:58:52,160

1138

00:58:52,160 --> 00:58:53,750
Their circle was very close.

1139

00:58:53,750 --> 00:58:57,410
So they married brothers.

1140

00:58:57,410 --> 00:58:59,450
They are devout Catholics--

1141

00:58:59,450 --> 00:59:00,410
To this day?

1142

00:59:00,410 --> 00:59:01,820
To this day.

1143

00:59:01,820 --> 00:59:07,340

They both have four and
five children apiece,

1144
00:59:07,340 --> 00:59:08,600
who are very devoted.

1145
00:59:08,600 --> 00:59:12,020
The children are
very devoted to them.

1146
00:59:12,020 --> 00:59:15,950
And they-- Corrie
anyway raised--

1147
00:59:15,950 --> 00:59:20,480
I'm sorry, mama, I call her
now, Mama van der Zijden.

1148
00:59:20,480 --> 00:59:23,900
They raised me as they
would their own daughters.

1149
00:59:23,900 --> 00:59:25,430
And I never knew the difference.

1150
00:59:25,430 --> 00:59:31,040
I wasn't hidden, to my idea, not
like an Anne Frank was hidden.

1151
00:59:31,040 --> 00:59:36,810
I could go wherever they went
and do whatever they did.

1152
00:59:36,810 --> 00:59:40,190
And I remember some
outings that we went on.

1153
00:59:40,190 --> 00:59:43,070
And I know I went probably--

1154
00:59:43,070 --> 00:59:45,110
I don't remember being
in church with them,

1155
00:59:45,110 --> 00:59:46,490
but I'm sure I did go.

1156
00:59:46,490 --> 00:59:49,220

1157
00:59:49,220 --> 00:59:55,280
I remember that during those
war years, I remember blackouts.

1158
00:59:55,280 --> 01:00:01,790
I remember being very fearful
of anything in a uniform.

1159
01:00:01,790 --> 01:00:06,455
Whether it was the milkman
or the postman or a Nazi,

1160
01:00:06,455 --> 01:00:08,540
I couldn't discern.

1161
01:00:08,540 --> 01:00:14,620
But when somebody rang the
bell and it had a uniform on,

1162
01:00:14,620 --> 01:00:19,810
I ran and hid under the dining
room table, which to my mind

1163
01:00:19,810 --> 01:00:22,030
was a safe place.

1164
01:00:22,030 --> 01:00:28,000
And I also remember
going to sleep

1165
01:00:28,000 --> 01:00:33,310
with my hands up in the air in
the surrender position, just

1166
01:00:33,310 --> 01:00:34,570

in case.

1167
01:00:34,570 --> 01:00:37,250
So I do have those memories.

1168
01:00:37,250 --> 01:00:40,780
I remember playing
in a bombed out--

1169
01:00:40,780 --> 01:00:42,850
I don't whether
it was bombed out

1170
01:00:42,850 --> 01:00:45,430
or just an incomplete
foundation.

1171
01:00:45,430 --> 01:00:46,720
That I don't know.

1172
01:00:46,720 --> 01:00:50,500
But we played and used
it as a balancing beam

1173
01:00:50,500 --> 01:00:56,770
and played as children
will in that foundation.

1174
01:00:56,770 --> 01:01:02,200
And I remember because
I was hidden with them

1175
01:01:02,200 --> 01:01:08,170
during the winter of 1944,
which was in the history

1176
01:01:08,170 --> 01:01:13,450
books a notoriously bad
winter, and that coupled

1177
01:01:13,450 --> 01:01:18,160
with the destruction
of the infrastructure,

1178
01:01:18,160 --> 01:01:21,010
many people died
who weren't Jewish.

1179
01:01:21,010 --> 01:01:23,470
And there was where I
did some research too.

1180
01:01:23,470 --> 01:01:27,970
About 20,000 Dutch people
died from starvation,

1181
01:01:27,970 --> 01:01:33,170
never mind their religion,
because there was no food.

1182
01:01:33,170 --> 01:01:37,060
So I remember standing in line
at the soup kitchen, where

1183
01:01:37,060 --> 01:01:40,180
we got what they called
was soup, basically

1184
01:01:40,180 --> 01:01:43,420
very watered down
broth of some kind

1185
01:01:43,420 --> 01:01:46,750
with a couple of cabbage
leaves floating in it.

1186
01:01:46,750 --> 01:01:51,370
I remember eating potatoes.

1187
01:01:51,370 --> 01:01:53,470
One day we ate the potatoes--

1188
01:01:53,470 --> 01:01:54,130
Raw or--

1189

01:01:54,130 --> 01:01:54,790
No, cooked.

1190
01:01:54,790 --> 01:01:55,290
Cooked.

1191
01:01:55,290 --> 01:01:58,150
But they saved the peels.

1192
01:01:58,150 --> 01:02:01,600
And the next day we
would eat the peels.

1193
01:02:01,600 --> 01:02:05,560
And I remember that we
had to eat tulip bulbs.

1194
01:02:05,560 --> 01:02:07,360
Oh, wow.

1195
01:02:07,360 --> 01:02:10,040
And that I don't
remember personally,

1196
01:02:10,040 --> 01:02:14,680
but I know someone said
that wrecked damage

1197
01:02:14,680 --> 01:02:16,480
with your stomach.

1198
01:02:16,480 --> 01:02:19,780
It wasn't good for
your digestive tract.

1199
01:02:19,780 --> 01:02:22,490
But that was all that
there was to eat.

1200
01:02:22,490 --> 01:02:24,520
So those are the
sorts of things that I

1201

01:02:24,520 --> 01:02:27,620

remember from the war years.

1202

01:02:27,620 --> 01:02:29,625

But I also have good
memories-- playing

1203

01:02:29,625 --> 01:02:31,000

in the street in
the neighborhood

1204

01:02:31,000 --> 01:02:32,890

with the neighborhood children.

1205

01:02:32,890 --> 01:02:34,660

Did you have another name?

1206

01:02:34,660 --> 01:02:37,330

No, I did not, but
my brother did.

1207

01:02:37,330 --> 01:02:39,100

So your name stayed--

1208

01:02:39,100 --> 01:02:39,820

Wilhelmina.

1209

01:02:39,820 --> 01:02:40,810

Wilhelmina.

1210

01:02:40,810 --> 01:02:42,160

But your last name became--

1211

01:02:42,160 --> 01:02:43,900

(TOGETHER) Van der Zijden.

1212

01:02:43,900 --> 01:02:48,100

And I have a little book that
when I was able to write,

1213

01:02:48,100 --> 01:02:50,320

I wrote my initials--

1214
01:02:50,320 --> 01:02:54,400
W. V. D. Zijden.

1215
01:02:54,400 --> 01:02:57,010
So I did take their last name.

1216
01:02:57,010 --> 01:02:59,290
And your brother became who?

1217
01:02:59,290 --> 01:03:03,520
From Maarten, they
changed his name to Thys.

1218
01:03:03,520 --> 01:03:04,720
Thys?

1219
01:03:04,720 --> 01:03:07,570
T-H-Y-S.

1220
01:03:07,570 --> 01:03:09,070
Is that a typical Dutch name?

1221
01:03:09,070 --> 01:03:12,760
I think so, although I've
not heard it before or after.

1222
01:03:12,760 --> 01:03:16,240
But I think, yeah, it was.

1223
01:03:16,240 --> 01:03:20,620
And these memories
that you have,

1224
01:03:20,620 --> 01:03:23,050
they would be your
earliest memories

1225
01:03:23,050 --> 01:03:26,380
if you only have sort of
remembered your grandfather

1226
01:03:26,380 --> 01:03:34,578
giving you sweets before and
no other physical kind of image

1227
01:03:34,578 --> 01:03:35,120
in your mind.

1228
01:03:35,120 --> 01:03:35,890
No, that's true.

1229
01:03:35,890 --> 01:03:40,505
That's the only childhood
memories that I have.

1230
01:03:40,505 --> 01:03:45,550
What were those people
like, your hidden parents,

1231
01:03:45,550 --> 01:03:47,500
as you call them?

1232
01:03:47,500 --> 01:03:52,910
What kind of personalities did
they have that you can recall?

1233
01:03:52,910 --> 01:03:54,730
Well, I don't think
I could tell you

1234
01:03:54,730 --> 01:03:58,510
their personalities, except that
they were my mother and father.

1235
01:03:58,510 --> 01:03:59,785
They were kind and loving.

1236
01:03:59,785 --> 01:04:03,280

1237
01:04:03,280 --> 01:04:04,690
He was a businessman.

1238
01:04:04,690 --> 01:04:06,490
I think he was an accountant.

1239
01:04:06,490 --> 01:04:10,570
And she was a stay-at-home mom.

1240
01:04:10,570 --> 01:04:12,640
She had her hands full.

1241
01:04:12,640 --> 01:04:17,500
And I what kind of
suspicion I aroused

1242
01:04:17,500 --> 01:04:20,440
because all of a
sudden I was there,

1243
01:04:20,440 --> 01:04:24,610
I think they said that a cousin
had come to visit, or niece,

1244
01:04:24,610 --> 01:04:27,080
their niece had come to visit.

1245
01:04:27,080 --> 01:04:28,220
And it was OK.

1246
01:04:28,220 --> 01:04:32,470
I had dark hair, and so
did my hiding father.

1247
01:04:32,470 --> 01:04:36,460
He also had dark hair,
because otherwise--

1248
01:04:36,460 --> 01:04:38,560
It could be a real discrepancy.

1249
01:04:38,560 --> 01:04:39,940
Yes, it could have been.

1250

01:04:39,940 --> 01:04:40,440

OK.

1251

01:04:40,440 --> 01:04:40,940

Yeah.

1252

01:04:40,940 --> 01:04:43,900

And she was the sister-in-law of
your grandmother's seamstress?

1253

01:04:43,900 --> 01:04:45,550

Yes.

1254

01:04:45,550 --> 01:04:46,050

OK.

1255

01:04:46,050 --> 01:04:47,870

Yes.

1256

01:04:47,870 --> 01:04:53,080

And the sisters
were my big sisters.

1257

01:04:53,080 --> 01:04:55,630

And it's very funny,
because when I went just

1258

01:04:55,630 --> 01:04:58,450

to see them without my
family, without my now

1259

01:04:58,450 --> 01:05:03,370

grown children, in
I think it was 2003,

1260

01:05:03,370 --> 01:05:06,190

and one had me over for lunch.

1261

01:05:06,190 --> 01:05:08,470

And besides marrying
brothers, they

1262

01:05:08,470 --> 01:05:13,430
lived very close in geographical
distance to each other.

1263

01:05:13,430 --> 01:05:16,750
So we went to dinner at
the other one's house,

1264

01:05:16,750 --> 01:05:18,590
at Corrie's house.

1265

01:05:18,590 --> 01:05:22,210
And when I said, can I
help you, oh, yeah, she

1266

01:05:22,210 --> 01:05:25,270
said, just like a big sister
would, you can do this

1267

01:05:25,270 --> 01:05:26,220
and you can do that.

1268

01:05:26,220 --> 01:05:31,070
So the roles after all
those years continued.

1269

01:05:31,070 --> 01:05:31,570
Yeah.

1270

01:05:31,570 --> 01:05:35,060

1271

01:05:35,060 --> 01:05:40,140
Do you remember any incidents of
playing with them, with the two

1272

01:05:40,140 --> 01:05:40,640
girls?

1273

01:05:40,640 --> 01:05:44,350

1274

01:05:44,350 --> 01:05:49,750

Not per se, no,
although I'm sure I did.

1275

01:05:49,750 --> 01:05:52,860

I must have.

1276

01:05:52,860 --> 01:05:54,957

Did you have false documents?

1277

01:05:54,957 --> 01:05:56,290

Were there any false documents--

1278

01:05:56,290 --> 01:05:58,360

I have no idea.

1279

01:05:58,360 --> 01:05:59,200

OK.

1280

01:05:59,200 --> 01:06:01,660

See, those are good questions.

1281

01:06:01,660 --> 01:06:06,290

You're giving me homework to do.

1282

01:06:06,290 --> 01:06:09,280

It's just curious because
how does one hide a child

1283

01:06:09,280 --> 01:06:12,645

and how do you make it secure?

1284

01:06:12,645 --> 01:06:15,910

Well, the neighborhood knew.

1285

01:06:15,910 --> 01:06:17,440

The neighbors knew.

1286

01:06:17,440 --> 01:06:25,150

And they didn't betray me,
like Anne Frank was betrayed,

1287
01:06:25,150 --> 01:06:27,250
even in her hiding attic.

1288
01:06:27,250 --> 01:06:28,900
And many people were betrayed.

1289
01:06:28,900 --> 01:06:32,620

1290
01:06:32,620 --> 01:06:36,190
And I know that Corrie told me
that there was one particular

1291
01:06:36,190 --> 01:06:39,310
neighborhood who they
didn't-- neighbor, rather,

1292
01:06:39,310 --> 01:06:42,580
that they didn't quite trust.

1293
01:06:42,580 --> 01:06:44,980
But that turned out to be OK.

1294
01:06:44,980 --> 01:06:47,260
So the neighbor--

1295
01:06:47,260 --> 01:06:49,520
So how do you know
the neighbors knew?

1296
01:06:49,520 --> 01:06:50,020
Did they--

1297
01:06:50,020 --> 01:06:51,880
They told me.

1298
01:06:51,880 --> 01:06:52,780
Corrie told me.

1299
01:06:52,780 --> 01:06:55,615

The hiding sister told
me years afterwards.

1300
01:06:55,615 --> 01:06:56,460
Uh, huh.

1301
01:06:56,460 --> 01:06:58,450
Yeah.

1302
01:06:58,450 --> 01:07:01,630
And when I did ask them,
why did you do this?

1303
01:07:01,630 --> 01:07:08,980
Why did you-- because it
was life-risking to do that.

1304
01:07:08,980 --> 01:07:13,060
And they just felt
morally obligated.

1305
01:07:13,060 --> 01:07:15,520
And they did it
because they felt

1306
01:07:15,520 --> 01:07:22,090
they had to, as did
a lot of people,

1307
01:07:22,090 --> 01:07:29,110
even though there was bounty on
your head if you were betrayed.

1308
01:07:29,110 --> 01:07:33,880
People were betrayed
even by Dutch policemen,

1309
01:07:33,880 --> 01:07:37,630
who got money for it.

1310
01:07:37,630 --> 01:07:40,270
Speaking of money, do
you know whether or not

1311
01:07:40,270 --> 01:07:44,470
there was anything that your
grandparents gave to them

1312
01:07:44,470 --> 01:07:46,380
to help them maintain you?

1313
01:07:46,380 --> 01:07:47,380
Yes, I'm sure there was.

1314
01:07:47,380 --> 01:07:48,610
I'm positive there was.

1315
01:07:48,610 --> 01:07:49,690
How much?

1316
01:07:49,690 --> 01:07:50,650
How often?

1317
01:07:50,650 --> 01:07:53,620
But I'm sure that
they were compensated.

1318
01:07:53,620 --> 01:07:54,200
OK.

1319
01:07:54,200 --> 01:07:54,700
OK.

1320
01:07:54,700 --> 01:07:56,710
Yeah.

1321
01:07:56,710 --> 01:07:57,490
They were.

1322
01:07:57,490 --> 01:07:58,990
And what about your brother?

1323
01:07:58,990 --> 01:08:00,910
Now, you wouldn't have

direct experience,

1324

01:08:00,910 --> 01:08:02,920

but what was his family like?

1325

01:08:02,920 --> 01:08:03,917

And who were they?

1326

01:08:03,917 --> 01:08:05,500

You said they were

Protestant and they

1327

01:08:05,500 --> 01:08:08,090

lived in the same town.

1328

01:08:08,090 --> 01:08:08,920

Yes.

1329

01:08:08,920 --> 01:08:11,890

And I don't know

exactly the connection

1330

01:08:11,890 --> 01:08:15,700

to my grandparents,

what the connection was,

1331

01:08:15,700 --> 01:08:19,870

but they were at the time

a childless, young couple,

1332

01:08:19,870 --> 01:08:22,359

who were willing

to take my brother.

1333

01:08:22,359 --> 01:08:27,040

And my brother had very

close ties with them long

1334

01:08:27,040 --> 01:08:28,754

after he came to

the United States.

1335

01:08:28,754 --> 01:08:33,160

1336

01:08:33,160 --> 01:08:35,500

Mika, that was the man--

1337

01:08:35,500 --> 01:08:40,800

and her name escapes me.

1338

01:08:40,800 --> 01:08:42,569

It'll come to me--

1339

01:08:42,569 --> 01:08:51,130

[? Jolas ?] were very devoted
to him and took care of him.

1340

01:08:51,130 --> 01:08:55,740

And after he left, then
they had their children.

1341

01:08:55,740 --> 01:08:58,200

Oh, so they did have children.

1342

01:08:58,200 --> 01:09:00,660

I think she had
trouble conceiving,

1343

01:09:00,660 --> 01:09:08,010

but I think Marty helped them
in his own way with that.

1344

01:09:08,010 --> 01:09:09,420

They had two daughters.

1345

01:09:09,420 --> 01:09:10,180

Afterwards.

1346

01:09:10,180 --> 01:09:10,680

Mm-hmm.

1347

01:09:10,680 --> 01:09:11,520

OK.

1348
01:09:11,520 --> 01:09:12,930
Lotte was her name.

1349
01:09:12,930 --> 01:09:13,590
Watte?

1350
01:09:13,590 --> 01:09:14,250
Lotte.

1351
01:09:14,250 --> 01:09:15,029
Lotte.

1352
01:09:15,029 --> 01:09:16,290
And their last name was?

1353
01:09:16,290 --> 01:09:17,069
[? Jolas. ?]

1354
01:09:17,069 --> 01:09:17,939
[? Jolas. ?]

1355
01:09:17,939 --> 01:09:18,510
Yeah.

1356
01:09:18,510 --> 01:09:19,800
Did you meet them?

1357
01:09:19,800 --> 01:09:21,540
I did, yes.

1358
01:09:21,540 --> 01:09:23,520
I did, because we went back.

1359
01:09:23,520 --> 01:09:31,560
Martin, his daughter, and I
went back in maybe 2002 or '03.

1360
01:09:31,560 --> 01:09:34,470
And we went to see
the factory as I said.

1361
01:09:34,470 --> 01:09:37,170

1362
01:09:37,170 --> 01:09:39,700
And then we went to visit them.

1363
01:09:39,700 --> 01:09:43,649
And they both lived
well into their 90s.

1364
01:09:43,649 --> 01:09:48,189
But they have now
been gone for a while.

1365
01:09:48,189 --> 01:09:48,689
OK.

1366
01:09:48,689 --> 01:09:51,510

1367
01:09:51,510 --> 01:09:55,160
Did the two families ever meet,
the two rescuing families?

1368
01:09:55,160 --> 01:10:02,340
Well, I'm sure they must have
met, because my brother came

1369
01:10:02,340 --> 01:10:06,630
to visit me in Amstelveen,
although I didn't

1370
01:10:06,630 --> 01:10:08,710
realize he was my brother.

1371
01:10:08,710 --> 01:10:11,730
He was a friend.

1372
01:10:11,730 --> 01:10:13,080
Really?

1373

01:10:13,080 --> 01:10:15,010

Oh, so they knew of one another?

1374

01:10:15,010 --> 01:10:16,590

They knew of one another.

1375

01:10:16,590 --> 01:10:22,050

And they arranged an occasional,
very occasional, meeting

1376

01:10:22,050 --> 01:10:26,970

of which also I have
some photos of him

1377

01:10:26,970 --> 01:10:32,100

and myself sitting in a family
group with my hiding parents.

1378

01:10:32,100 --> 01:10:34,830

I don't have any
pictures vice versa,

1379

01:10:34,830 --> 01:10:38,700

of me going over to their house,
although I know I was there.

1380

01:10:38,700 --> 01:10:39,783

I have a memory of being--

1381

01:10:39,783 --> 01:10:40,283

Do you--

1382

01:10:40,283 --> 01:10:41,050

At their house.

1383

01:10:41,050 --> 01:10:41,550

Yes?

1384

01:10:41,550 --> 01:10:43,080

Yeah.

1385

01:10:43,080 --> 01:10:44,730
That's unusual.

1386
01:10:44,730 --> 01:10:48,180
I mean I think that that's quite
unusual that they would take

1387
01:10:48,180 --> 01:10:51,900
enough care that you don't
forget that you have a brother

1388
01:10:51,900 --> 01:10:54,150
and that he comes to know
that he has a sister--

1389
01:10:54,150 --> 01:10:56,130
Yeah, but we didn't know we
were-- they didn't reveal that.

1390
01:10:56,130 --> 01:10:56,820
I know.

1391
01:10:56,820 --> 01:10:57,330
Yeah.

1392
01:10:57,330 --> 01:10:59,080
But that you're in
one another's lives.

1393
01:10:59,080 --> 01:10:59,716
Yeah.

1394
01:10:59,716 --> 01:11:00,216
Mm-hmm.

1395
01:11:00,216 --> 01:11:02,090
Mm-hmm.

1396
01:11:02,090 --> 01:11:03,110
Yeah.

1397
01:11:03,110 --> 01:11:04,810

Yeah.

1398
01:11:04,810 --> 01:11:06,880
It sounds like a very
thoughtful gesture,

1399
01:11:06,880 --> 01:11:10,510
because you can't explain
any other reason for it.

1400
01:11:10,510 --> 01:11:12,490
Why would they do that?

1401
01:11:12,490 --> 01:11:13,960
Mm-hmm.

1402
01:11:13,960 --> 01:11:16,480
I'm sure they both
were compensated.

1403
01:11:16,480 --> 01:11:19,970

1404
01:11:19,970 --> 01:11:23,390
And you were there from
what time to what time?

1405
01:11:23,390 --> 01:11:25,340
Now, you may not
remember being there,

1406
01:11:25,340 --> 01:11:27,650
but do you know the
date at this point?

1407
01:11:27,650 --> 01:11:28,970
Not the exact date.

1408
01:11:28,970 --> 01:11:36,190
But I'm sure that if my
parents were taken away

1409

01:11:36,190 --> 01:11:39,520
in early August, that--

1410
01:11:39,520 --> 01:11:40,280
'42--

1411
01:11:40,280 --> 01:11:46,420
In 1942, that we placed
not long after that,

1412
01:11:46,420 --> 01:11:47,395
not long after that.

1413
01:11:47,395 --> 01:11:50,050
So it would have been
that calendar year?

1414
01:11:50,050 --> 01:11:52,780
I'm sure, yes.

1415
01:11:52,780 --> 01:11:54,400
Do you know when
your grandparents

1416
01:11:54,400 --> 01:11:57,310
were deported from Westerbork?

1417
01:11:57,310 --> 01:11:58,420
To Westerbork?

1418
01:11:58,420 --> 01:11:58,930
Yeah.

1419
01:11:58,930 --> 01:12:00,790
In 1944.

1420
01:12:00,790 --> 01:12:02,960
So they stayed another
year and a half.

1421
01:12:02,960 --> 01:12:03,460
Yes.

1422
01:12:03,460 --> 01:12:07,930
And I think also
because they were

1423
01:12:07,930 --> 01:12:11,020
older that they
weren't taken earlier,

1424
01:12:11,020 --> 01:12:14,410
and they weren't
able-bodied workers.

1425
01:12:14,410 --> 01:12:18,640
Or they were, able-bodied, but
the Nazis weren't interested

1426
01:12:18,640 --> 01:12:21,940
in older people because--

1427
01:12:21,940 --> 01:12:29,200
That's so unusual in some ways,
because it would have been--

1428
01:12:29,200 --> 01:12:35,200
if you were to
take the logic that

1429
01:12:35,200 --> 01:12:37,780
seems to have been
exhibited at Auschwitz,

1430
01:12:37,780 --> 01:12:40,900
when the trainloads
came to Auschwitz,

1431
01:12:40,900 --> 01:12:42,850
people of your
grandparents age would

1432
01:12:42,850 --> 01:12:46,030
have been moved to the line
that goes to the gas chambers,

1433
01:12:46,030 --> 01:12:48,730
and people of your
parents' age would have

1434
01:12:48,730 --> 01:12:53,710
been kept alive to do labor.

1435
01:12:53,710 --> 01:12:57,460
And yet it's the reverse
that happened in a sense

1436
01:12:57,460 --> 01:13:02,200
that very young people who
were at the prime of life.

1437
01:13:02,200 --> 01:13:08,410
But I think it was my
parents were deported in '42.

1438
01:13:08,410 --> 01:13:16,960
And I think that was the
beginning of the mass murders.

1439
01:13:16,960 --> 01:13:22,090
And there maybe-- you
know, one train load

1440
01:13:22,090 --> 01:13:27,940
came in to Westerbork and they
had to make room for more.

1441
01:13:27,940 --> 01:13:32,770
So one train load
went out to Auschwitz.

1442
01:13:32,770 --> 01:13:35,220
Yeah.

1443
01:13:35,220 --> 01:13:38,280
Did you ever have any
contact with anyone

1444

01:13:38,280 --> 01:13:40,920
from your father's family?

1445

01:13:40,920 --> 01:13:41,770
Yes.

1446

01:13:41,770 --> 01:13:42,270
OK.

1447

01:13:42,270 --> 01:13:42,770
Yes.

1448

01:13:42,770 --> 01:13:45,390

1449

01:13:45,390 --> 01:13:49,470
I have a cousin twice
removed, or however that

1450

01:13:49,470 --> 01:13:53,880
works, I'm never sure,
who I am fairly close to.

1451

01:13:53,880 --> 01:13:57,460
She lives in
Greenwich, Connecticut.

1452

01:13:57,460 --> 01:14:04,950
And she has told me
more than one time that

1453

01:14:04,950 --> 01:14:08,580
if it wouldn't have worked
out with my hiding parents

1454

01:14:08,580 --> 01:14:12,480
that she would have adopted us.

1455

01:14:12,480 --> 01:14:17,400
But, you know, even though--

1456

01:14:17,400 --> 01:14:18,900
no, if it wouldn't
have worked out--

1457
01:14:18,900 --> 01:14:22,170
my grandmother would not have
survived the concentration

1458
01:14:22,170 --> 01:14:24,660
camp, she and her
husband would have

1459
01:14:24,660 --> 01:14:26,970
adopted both my brother and I.

1460
01:14:26,970 --> 01:14:29,400
And so this would have been--

1461
01:14:29,400 --> 01:14:32,610
were they in the United
States during the war?

1462
01:14:32,610 --> 01:14:36,805
No, they were in England.

1463
01:14:36,805 --> 01:14:37,680
They were in England.

1464
01:14:37,680 --> 01:14:41,160
And her husband has his
own story about going--

1465
01:14:41,160 --> 01:14:42,180
he was a diplomat.

1466
01:14:42,180 --> 01:14:47,100
He went through Sweden and
escaped through there, quite

1467
01:14:47,100 --> 01:14:50,640
an interesting
story that he has.

1468
01:14:50,640 --> 01:14:55,200
And she drove an ambulance--

1469
01:14:55,200 --> 01:14:55,890
In Britain?

1470
01:14:55,890 --> 01:14:57,820
In Britain, yeah, in the London.

1471
01:14:57,820 --> 01:14:59,730
He was a Dutch diplomat?

1472
01:14:59,730 --> 01:15:00,570
Yes.

1473
01:15:00,570 --> 01:15:02,850
OK.

1474
01:15:02,850 --> 01:15:03,350
Yes.

1475
01:15:03,350 --> 01:15:06,530

1476
01:15:06,530 --> 01:15:13,540
So what happened with your
grandmother and her daughter

1477
01:15:13,540 --> 01:15:15,033
in southern France?

1478
01:15:15,033 --> 01:15:16,450
What ended up being
their destiny?

1479
01:15:16,450 --> 01:15:22,260

1480
01:15:22,260 --> 01:15:26,070
There was no daughter.

1481

01:15:26,070 --> 01:15:28,302

That was my father's
side of the family.

1482

01:15:28,302 --> 01:15:29,260

That's what I'm saying.

1483

01:15:29,260 --> 01:15:30,150

OK.

1484

01:15:30,150 --> 01:15:32,610

So what happened with them?

1485

01:15:32,610 --> 01:15:41,970

My father's sister, Rose
Marie, and her mother--

1486

01:15:41,970 --> 01:15:42,960

Your grandmother.

1487

01:15:42,960 --> 01:15:44,910

My other grandmother,
that is true.

1488

01:15:44,910 --> 01:15:47,070

But I never--

1489

01:15:47,070 --> 01:15:47,970

You never knew her.

1490

01:15:47,970 --> 01:15:48,470

No.

1491

01:15:48,470 --> 01:15:49,620

Never knew her.

1492

01:15:49,620 --> 01:15:51,240

Lizzie Israels.

1493

01:15:51,240 --> 01:15:55,800

They went to the south of

France, where a lot of people

1494
01:15:55,800 --> 01:15:56,340
went.

1495
01:15:56,340 --> 01:15:57,720
And some didn't make it.

1496
01:15:57,720 --> 01:15:59,550
Some were captured there.

1497
01:15:59,550 --> 01:16:02,550
And they eventually
ended up in Auschwitz.

1498
01:16:02,550 --> 01:16:03,630
Oh, I see.

1499
01:16:03,630 --> 01:16:05,910
So they were killed as well.

1500
01:16:05,910 --> 01:16:07,080
Yes, they were.

1501
01:16:07,080 --> 01:16:08,010
I see.

1502
01:16:08,010 --> 01:16:13,500
But I know that Rose Marie,
I think in southern France,

1503
01:16:13,500 --> 01:16:19,110
had met a French colonel,
a Christian, with whom she

1504
01:16:19,110 --> 01:16:22,650
had an affair and a
child out of wedlock.

1505
01:16:22,650 --> 01:16:30,760
And when the danger came for
the mother, the father took--

1506
01:16:30,760 --> 01:16:40,410
I assume-- he took the child
with him, so that my cousin,

1507
01:16:40,410 --> 01:16:45,330
who now lives in Paris, whom
we also met on that famous trip

1508
01:16:45,330 --> 01:16:53,100
to Holland two years ago, Jill,
my daughter's family, we all--

1509
01:16:53,100 --> 01:16:57,120
Glen, my son, and his
family, Jill, my daughter,

1510
01:16:57,120 --> 01:17:00,600
and her family, all went
to Amsterdam together.

1511
01:17:00,600 --> 01:17:02,940
And we did everything
in Amsterdam,

1512
01:17:02,940 --> 01:17:06,300
including visiting the
hiding sisters together.

1513
01:17:06,300 --> 01:17:11,070
But then Glenn,
he went to London.

1514
01:17:11,070 --> 01:17:15,210
And Jill and family,
we went to Paris.

1515
01:17:15,210 --> 01:17:16,750
To meet your cousin?

1516
01:17:16,750 --> 01:17:18,780
Among other things,
to meet my cousin.

1517
01:17:18,780 --> 01:17:21,270
And because Caitlin,
their daughter

1518
01:17:21,270 --> 01:17:24,360
was taking French at the
time in high school and total

1519
01:17:24,360 --> 01:17:25,110
immersion.

1520
01:17:25,110 --> 01:17:30,600
And she got as far as saying
merci, and that was it.

1521
01:17:30,600 --> 01:17:34,410
But that also, such a tenuous
connection, but nevertheless

1522
01:17:34,410 --> 01:17:36,635
one that you follow up on.

1523
01:17:36,635 --> 01:17:38,850
Yes, because she's
my first cousin.

1524
01:17:38,850 --> 01:17:41,775
Yeah, the child that the--

1525
01:17:41,775 --> 01:17:45,780
The child who is a couple
of years younger than I am.

1526
01:17:45,780 --> 01:17:46,590
OK.

1527
01:17:46,590 --> 01:17:49,080
How much of her
mother did she know?

1528
01:17:49,080 --> 01:17:50,910

Not much.

1529

01:17:50,910 --> 01:17:55,350

No, because then the
colonel married, remarried.

1530

01:17:55,350 --> 01:18:02,670

And the woman that he married
raised that girl, my cousin

1531

01:18:02,670 --> 01:18:07,080

and so became her mother.

1532

01:18:07,080 --> 01:18:09,210

That's all she--

1533

01:18:09,210 --> 01:18:13,050

Marie-Louise knows
that woman, who

1534

01:18:13,050 --> 01:18:15,870

is now deceased, as her mother.

1535

01:18:15,870 --> 01:18:16,740

That was her name.

1536

01:18:16,740 --> 01:18:18,990

And your cousin's
name is Maria Louise?

1537

01:18:18,990 --> 01:18:20,200

Marie-Louise.

1538

01:18:20,200 --> 01:18:21,270

Marie-Louise.

1539

01:18:21,270 --> 01:18:22,750

And her last name?

1540

01:18:22,750 --> 01:18:28,303

Her married last name Kornbauer,
a very French name, right.

1541
01:18:28,303 --> 01:18:29,970
Funny how those things
happen, you know.

1542
01:18:29,970 --> 01:18:32,130
Yeah.

1543
01:18:32,130 --> 01:18:35,940
And your father's other brother,
who was Stefan, I believe.

1544
01:18:35,940 --> 01:18:37,200
Stefan, yes.

1545
01:18:37,200 --> 01:18:38,520
He ended up in Britain?

1546
01:18:38,520 --> 01:18:39,670
I believe so, yes.

1547
01:18:39,670 --> 01:18:41,490
And did you ever
see him, meet him?

1548
01:18:41,490 --> 01:18:44,130
No, I don't remember seeing him.

1549
01:18:44,130 --> 01:18:50,010
But I know that he was
married three times.

1550
01:18:50,010 --> 01:18:56,190
And I know that a
daughter that he had,

1551
01:18:56,190 --> 01:19:02,190
my cousin also, lived in Great
Britain outside of London

1552
01:19:02,190 --> 01:19:03,690
in Kent.

1553
01:19:03,690 --> 01:19:06,270
And she died recently.

1554
01:19:06,270 --> 01:19:08,220
She was a bit older than me.

1555
01:19:08,220 --> 01:19:09,780
OK.

1556
01:19:09,780 --> 01:19:12,120
We talked earlier
about reparations

1557
01:19:12,120 --> 01:19:14,550
that were made to
your grandmother

1558
01:19:14,550 --> 01:19:19,350
from your mother's family,
that is from the business

1559
01:19:19,350 --> 01:19:21,720
that they had on that side.

1560
01:19:21,720 --> 01:19:24,630
Were any reparations ever
paid to you and your brother

1561
01:19:24,630 --> 01:19:26,910
through your father's side?

1562
01:19:26,910 --> 01:19:31,110
We got reparations
through the Maror.

1563
01:19:31,110 --> 01:19:32,790
Is that possible.

1564
01:19:32,790 --> 01:19:35,340
We got some reparations,
yes, we did.

1565
01:19:35,340 --> 01:19:37,380
And I have a record of them.

1566
01:19:37,380 --> 01:19:39,870
But it's not on the
tip of my tongue.

1567
01:19:39,870 --> 01:19:41,670
But they weren't--

1568
01:19:41,670 --> 01:19:43,920
I mean they were--

1569
01:19:43,920 --> 01:19:46,170
And who would it have been
from, the Dutch government,

1570
01:19:46,170 --> 01:19:48,140
the German government?

1571
01:19:48,140 --> 01:19:49,110
The Dutch government.

1572
01:19:49,110 --> 01:19:50,340
The Dutch government.

1573
01:19:50,340 --> 01:19:55,170
And it would have been for
whatever holdings, assets--

1574
01:19:55,170 --> 01:19:57,990
I think pain and
suffering type thing.

1575
01:19:57,990 --> 01:19:59,200
OK.

1576
01:19:59,200 --> 01:19:59,700
OK.

1577

01:19:59,700 --> 01:20:03,240

1578

01:20:03,240 --> 01:20:05,190

So there was no one
that you could really

1579

01:20:05,190 --> 01:20:08,520

learn from what your father
was like as a person?

1580

01:20:08,520 --> 01:20:09,660

No one you could ask?

1581

01:20:09,660 --> 01:20:13,320

No, I could ask Aunt Ella.

1582

01:20:13,320 --> 01:20:19,260

I asked her and my
cousin in Connecticut.

1583

01:20:19,260 --> 01:20:23,220

And from Ella was
never fond of him,

1584

01:20:23,220 --> 01:20:27,120

because I think he was
a bit of a ladies' man.

1585

01:20:27,120 --> 01:20:34,290

And also, he was in denial
of this whole Holocaust that

1586

01:20:34,290 --> 01:20:36,720

was about to befall him.

1587

01:20:36,720 --> 01:20:38,850

And he aligned
himself with a lot

1588

01:20:38,850 --> 01:20:42,300

of Christian friends,
thinking that's

1589
01:20:42,300 --> 01:20:44,370
the way he could escape it.

1590
01:20:44,370 --> 01:20:47,430
But he didn't.

1591
01:20:47,430 --> 01:20:58,290
And Mario, my relative
in Connecticut,

1592
01:20:58,290 --> 01:21:02,650
they were in the same social
circles, because that's

1593
01:21:02,650 --> 01:21:04,680
the de Kadt family.

1594
01:21:04,680 --> 01:21:06,000
Right.

1595
01:21:06,000 --> 01:21:08,250
So she knew him from that?

1596
01:21:08,250 --> 01:21:11,580
Yes, as a growing up
and as a schoolboy.

1597
01:21:11,580 --> 01:21:17,910
And he was always a live
wire and had a lot of friends

1598
01:21:17,910 --> 01:21:20,260
and so on.

1599
01:21:20,260 --> 01:21:22,920
So there's bits and
pieces of information

1600
01:21:22,920 --> 01:21:28,080
that you got about either
parent are really fragments.

1601
01:21:28,080 --> 01:21:31,080
Very much so, yeah.

1602
01:21:31,080 --> 01:21:33,810
Very much so.

1603
01:21:33,810 --> 01:21:35,880
Yeah.

1604
01:21:35,880 --> 01:21:40,920
Do you remember leaving
your hidden parents?

1605
01:21:40,920 --> 01:21:43,800
Do you remember when your
grandmother came back?

1606
01:21:43,800 --> 01:21:48,045
And now, you're about
five or six years old.

1607
01:21:48,045 --> 01:21:50,430
Six, yeah.

1608
01:21:50,430 --> 01:21:51,810
Do you have any
memories of that?

1609
01:21:51,810 --> 01:21:53,970
I have a vague memory.

1610
01:21:53,970 --> 01:21:57,120
I'm sure there must have
been tears, because we

1611
01:21:57,120 --> 01:21:59,880
were going on a trip I think.

1612
01:21:59,880 --> 01:22:01,960
That's what they told us.

1613

01:22:01,960 --> 01:22:09,870

And they took us in a car
that had a back rumble seat.

1614

01:22:09,870 --> 01:22:11,940

And I think that was
more interesting to me

1615

01:22:11,940 --> 01:22:15,280

than anything else.

1616

01:22:15,280 --> 01:22:18,520

And you probably didn't
remember this, not elderly lady,

1617

01:22:18,520 --> 01:22:20,830

but older lady, who
was your grandmother.

1618

01:22:20,830 --> 01:22:21,980

No.

1619

01:22:21,980 --> 01:22:23,320

I know I didn't.

1620

01:22:23,320 --> 01:22:26,110

That memory is very vague.

1621

01:22:26,110 --> 01:22:31,750

And then I think we stayed in
Amsterdam with my grandmother's

1622

01:22:31,750 --> 01:22:35,290

sister for a few days.

1623

01:22:35,290 --> 01:22:39,730

I remember the airplane ride
that we took from Amsterdam

1624

01:22:39,730 --> 01:22:43,660

to LaGuardia on a prop plane.

1625

01:22:43,660 --> 01:22:45,170

And my--

1626

01:22:45,170 --> 01:22:45,670

Wow.

1627

01:22:45,670 --> 01:22:48,220

Well, it was 1946, right?

1628

01:22:48,220 --> 01:22:50,170

But you went back by
boat three years later,

1629

01:22:50,170 --> 01:22:53,510

or four years later.

1630

01:22:53,510 --> 01:22:55,880

Yes, but that was a vacation.

1631

01:22:55,880 --> 01:22:59,840

This was more of a
hurried type thing.

1632

01:22:59,840 --> 01:23:02,420

And that my brother was
running up and down the aisles.

1633

01:23:02,420 --> 01:23:05,510

1634

01:23:05,510 --> 01:23:10,640

And my aunt and uncle met
us at LaGuardia, Aunt Ella

1635

01:23:10,640 --> 01:23:12,830

and Uncle Dick.

1636

01:23:12,830 --> 01:23:16,520

And Maarten had to
go to the bathroom.

1637

01:23:16,520 --> 01:23:22,670
And he was wearing a very
complicated pair of trousers

1638
01:23:22,670 --> 01:23:25,400
that my uncle had a great
deal of difficulty helping him

1639
01:23:25,400 --> 01:23:27,342
to the bathroom.

1640
01:23:27,342 --> 01:23:29,550
These are the things that
are important for children.

1641
01:23:29,550 --> 01:23:31,280
That's what I remember.

1642
01:23:31,280 --> 01:23:34,430
And that I had my first
orange at the airport.

1643
01:23:34,430 --> 01:23:35,090
Oh, did you?

1644
01:23:35,090 --> 01:23:35,840
Yeah.

1645
01:23:35,840 --> 01:23:41,030
Because having just gone
through that hunger winter,

1646
01:23:41,030 --> 01:23:43,620
you didn't get to eat oranges.

1647
01:23:43,620 --> 01:23:44,540
No.

1648
01:23:44,540 --> 01:23:47,240
No.

1649
01:23:47,240 --> 01:23:54,470

And do you have
any memories of how

1650
01:23:54,470 --> 01:23:58,670
you felt about your
grandmother at that time or--

1651
01:23:58,670 --> 01:23:59,810
I don't.

1652
01:23:59,810 --> 01:24:01,100
You don't.

1653
01:24:01,100 --> 01:24:05,030
I think psychologically
somehow I blocked it out.

1654
01:24:05,030 --> 01:24:10,480

1655
01:24:10,480 --> 01:24:13,600
Let's go into the 1950s a bit.

1656
01:24:13,600 --> 01:24:14,290
OK.

1657
01:24:14,290 --> 01:24:20,890
And you're now ensconced in
the apartment in Kew Gardens.

1658
01:24:20,890 --> 01:24:23,440
And you've been
to the Netherlands

1659
01:24:23,440 --> 01:24:26,690
and back again on this visit.

1660
01:24:26,690 --> 01:24:31,270
And does your life turn
entirely to American things

1661
01:24:31,270 --> 01:24:32,110

and growing up--

1662

01:24:32,110 --> 01:24:32,610

I think so--

1663

01:24:32,610 --> 01:24:34,450

And going to school

and things like that?

1664

01:24:34,450 --> 01:24:36,100

Going to school.

1665

01:24:36,100 --> 01:24:39,700

I remember being

in the first grade.

1666

01:24:39,700 --> 01:24:44,110

And the teacher at that

time did the first grade

1667

01:24:44,110 --> 01:24:46,630

and the second grade

for the same kids,

1668

01:24:46,630 --> 01:24:48,760

who was a very kind woman.

1669

01:24:48,760 --> 01:24:50,170

I even remember her name--

1670

01:24:50,170 --> 01:24:51,610

Miss Kruger.

1671

01:24:51,610 --> 01:24:53,080

She took me under her wing.

1672

01:24:53,080 --> 01:24:57,580

And I think she was instrumental

in helping me learn English

1673

01:24:57,580 --> 01:24:59,710

as quickly as I did.

1674
01:24:59,710 --> 01:25:03,080
And I was a good student.

1675
01:25:03,080 --> 01:25:07,570
And I skipped the third grade
and went to the fourth grade.

1676
01:25:07,570 --> 01:25:10,990
And to this day,
because to this day,

1677
01:25:10,990 --> 01:25:14,680
they teach the multiplication
tables in the third grade,

1678
01:25:14,680 --> 01:25:16,262
I skipped all of that.

1679
01:25:16,262 --> 01:25:19,969
And my math is still pretty bad.

1680
01:25:19,969 --> 01:25:21,805
[LAUGHS]

1681
01:25:21,805 --> 01:25:24,560

1682
01:25:24,560 --> 01:25:28,820
And you went to college where?

1683
01:25:28,820 --> 01:25:32,490
I went to Colby College
in Waterville, Maine.

1684
01:25:32,490 --> 01:25:40,010
And part of that was that I
wanted far away from New York.

1685
01:25:40,010 --> 01:25:45,080
And how my grandmother
did that financially,

1686
01:25:45,080 --> 01:25:48,950
I think her reparations
partially helped her with that.

1687
01:25:48,950 --> 01:25:51,710
And I know that she
probably had some jewelry

1688
01:25:51,710 --> 01:25:57,560
that she sold to help both
educate my brother and myself.

1689
01:25:57,560 --> 01:25:59,180
Both of you have
higher education?

1690
01:25:59,180 --> 01:26:00,350
Yeah.

1691
01:26:00,350 --> 01:26:04,440
Yeah, my brother went to
University of Pennsylvania.

1692
01:26:04,440 --> 01:26:11,250
And now he has a Ph.D. And
I have a master's degree,

1693
01:26:11,250 --> 01:26:14,690
but that didn't come
till quite a bit later.

1694
01:26:14,690 --> 01:26:17,270
What did you study?

1695
01:26:17,270 --> 01:26:20,120
As an undergraduate,
I studied French.

1696
01:26:20,120 --> 01:26:23,150
And basically, that was my
grandmother's big influence

1697

01:26:23,150 --> 01:26:26,000

because she thought it
was a beautiful language.

1698

01:26:26,000 --> 01:26:29,570

And French literature
is what I studied.

1699

01:26:29,570 --> 01:26:34,140

And he studied-- well,
he's an economist.

1700

01:26:34,140 --> 01:26:37,730

So he was taught in that vein.

1701

01:26:37,730 --> 01:26:39,680

And--

1702

01:26:39,680 --> 01:26:42,170

When you think of
your grandmother,

1703

01:26:42,170 --> 01:26:46,010

and it sounds like you had a
mixed relationship with her

1704

01:26:46,010 --> 01:26:49,190

from what you've told me-- there
were positive things and then

1705

01:26:49,190 --> 01:26:53,737

there was some things that
were a little hard to take--

1706

01:26:53,737 --> 01:26:55,570

I don't know if I'm
accurate in saying that.

1707

01:26:55,570 --> 01:26:58,910

Yeah, I think-- she was
a strong willed woman.

1708

01:26:58,910 --> 01:27:02,645

And she influenced
us a great deal.

1709

01:27:02,645 --> 01:27:03,400

Yes.

1710

01:27:03,400 --> 01:27:06,710

That's my question is
how did she influence you

1711

01:27:06,710 --> 01:27:11,600

in a way that stayed with you
as part of your life, that

1712

01:27:11,600 --> 01:27:14,540

got integrated into your life?

1713

01:27:14,540 --> 01:27:22,260

Well, I think she influenced
me by her perhaps a rigidity,

1714

01:27:22,260 --> 01:27:27,155

which to this day I'm trying
to play it a little more cool.

1715

01:27:27,155 --> 01:27:29,960

1716

01:27:29,960 --> 01:27:36,620

And she influenced my
way of entertaining

1717

01:27:36,620 --> 01:27:39,710

when I did entertain
more than I do now,

1718

01:27:39,710 --> 01:27:43,730

by taking care of my
guests by the time

1719

01:27:43,730 --> 01:27:49,410

the hors d'oeuvres were

over, by her sense of order.

1720

01:27:49,410 --> 01:27:54,690

And perhaps that's just a Dutch
stereotype too, partially.

1721

01:27:54,690 --> 01:27:55,560

But it's a model.

1722

01:27:55,560 --> 01:27:56,670

You saw her do that.

1723

01:27:56,670 --> 01:27:59,680

Yeah, the Northern
European model.

1724

01:27:59,680 --> 01:28:00,180

Yeah.

1725

01:28:00,180 --> 01:28:05,630

1726

01:28:05,630 --> 01:28:09,560

And I don't know if
she influenced me also

1727

01:28:09,560 --> 01:28:14,150

by her lack of showing emotion.

1728

01:28:14,150 --> 01:28:18,940

I think maybe I hold that
close to my chest a little bit.

1729

01:28:18,940 --> 01:28:23,410

1730

01:28:23,410 --> 01:28:27,680

She also sounds like
she was a true survivor.

1731

01:28:27,680 --> 01:28:28,680

She was a tough one.

1732
01:28:28,680 --> 01:28:31,540

1733
01:28:31,540 --> 01:28:38,920
Somebody who had endured
many losses, multiple losses.

1734
01:28:38,920 --> 01:28:44,750
And, as you said, was a single
parent and forged ahead.

1735
01:28:44,750 --> 01:28:47,120
Absolutely.

1736
01:28:47,120 --> 01:28:48,350
To the very end.

1737
01:28:48,350 --> 01:28:49,170
Yeah.

1738
01:28:49,170 --> 01:28:49,670
Yeah.

1739
01:28:49,670 --> 01:28:53,320

1740
01:28:53,320 --> 01:28:57,640
Your own children, you
have how many children?

1741
01:28:57,640 --> 01:28:58,360
Three.

1742
01:28:58,360 --> 01:28:59,200
Three.

1743
01:28:59,200 --> 01:29:01,510
You mentioned their two
of their names before.

1744

01:29:01,510 --> 01:29:02,380
Glenn--

1745
01:29:02,380 --> 01:29:08,020
Glenn and Jill and Andrew,
who lives a mile away.

1746
01:29:08,020 --> 01:29:09,700
OK.

1747
01:29:09,700 --> 01:29:13,180
Did you tell them
much about your life,

1748
01:29:13,180 --> 01:29:15,640
about your parents'
lives, about your family,

1749
01:29:15,640 --> 01:29:17,320
your Dutch family's life?

1750
01:29:17,320 --> 01:29:20,620
Did they express
interest in these things?

1751
01:29:20,620 --> 01:29:24,130
They only expressed
interest I would

1752
01:29:24,130 --> 01:29:32,400
say in the last 15 or 20
years, because, again, I

1753
01:29:32,400 --> 01:29:34,980
think that hinges
on the Marriott

1754
01:29:34,980 --> 01:29:40,590
Conference in 1991,
because I didn't know I

1755
01:29:40,590 --> 01:29:41,610
was a Hidden Child.

1756
01:29:41,610 --> 01:29:44,040
I had no label for it.

1757
01:29:44,040 --> 01:29:48,840
And so they know my story now.

1758
01:29:48,840 --> 01:29:50,550
They know my full story.

1759
01:29:50,550 --> 01:29:53,850
And it is of interest to them.

1760
01:29:53,850 --> 01:29:57,090

1761
01:29:57,090 --> 01:30:01,030
But this was then again when
they were already more adult?

1762
01:30:01,030 --> 01:30:03,300
I would say so, young adults.

1763
01:30:03,300 --> 01:30:04,440
Young adults.

1764
01:30:04,440 --> 01:30:05,610
Mm-hmm.

1765
01:30:05,610 --> 01:30:07,230
Yeah.

1766
01:30:07,230 --> 01:30:09,660
If you can recall,
what were the kinds

1767
01:30:09,660 --> 01:30:15,010
of questions that seemed to
be the most important to them

1768
01:30:15,010 --> 01:30:18,090

to find out about?

1769

01:30:18,090 --> 01:30:20,140

They didn't ask
that many questions.

1770

01:30:20,140 --> 01:30:24,840

They just took what
information I gave them.

1771

01:30:24,840 --> 01:30:30,870

But-- maybe that's
not entirely true,

1772

01:30:30,870 --> 01:30:36,050

because when we went back to
the Netherlands two years ago,

1773

01:30:36,050 --> 01:30:42,920

and my son-in-law took a family
picture of us near the original

1774

01:30:42,920 --> 01:30:49,730

house, and I saw
Glenn, who is now--

1775

01:30:49,730 --> 01:30:52,100

well, he was 45 two years ago--

1776

01:30:52,100 --> 01:30:55,500

1777

01:30:55,500 --> 01:30:58,460

and my son-in-law took
multiple pictures.

1778

01:30:58,460 --> 01:30:59,870

And this one is smiling.

1779

01:30:59,870 --> 01:31:01,160

This one is frowning.

1780

01:31:01,160 --> 01:31:03,500
But mostly everybody's
smiling, except not Glenn.

1781
01:31:03,500 --> 01:31:06,500

1782
01:31:06,500 --> 01:31:12,050
So I asked him,
what was the matter?

1783
01:31:12,050 --> 01:31:16,184

1784
01:31:16,184 --> 01:31:17,150
Let's cut.

1785
01:31:17,150 --> 01:31:20,060

1786
01:31:20,060 --> 01:31:24,430
So when I asked
him, why wasn't he--

1787
01:31:24,430 --> 01:31:28,120
why did he look-- he
didn't look angry.

1788
01:31:28,120 --> 01:31:31,270
He looked pensive.

1789
01:31:31,270 --> 01:31:39,010
And he was just thinking about
all the things that went on.

1790
01:31:39,010 --> 01:31:44,410
And I think maybe that was
the first time that he really

1791
01:31:44,410 --> 01:31:49,090
reflected upon it in that depth.

1792

01:31:49,090 --> 01:31:52,660

Because I think
they too, because I

1793

01:31:52,660 --> 01:31:55,900

didn't think about
it myself, they

1794

01:31:55,900 --> 01:31:59,900

had no reason to
think about it either.

1795

01:31:59,900 --> 01:32:02,649

I like to put it
on the back burner.

1796

01:32:02,649 --> 01:32:03,149

Mm-hmm.

1797

01:32:03,149 --> 01:32:06,860

1798

01:32:06,860 --> 01:32:13,570

Do you think that these
events, of which you

1799

01:32:13,570 --> 01:32:22,610

have no memory, how have
they impacted who you are?

1800

01:32:22,610 --> 01:32:25,650

I often think about that.

1801

01:32:25,650 --> 01:32:32,570

And I often think, not to be
egotistical about it, but--

1802

01:32:32,570 --> 01:32:35,120

1803

01:32:35,120 --> 01:32:37,310

and for my brother too--

1804

01:32:37,310 --> 01:32:42,410

how come we turned
out as well as we did?

1805

01:32:42,410 --> 01:32:43,970

We're both highly ed--

1806

01:32:43,970 --> 01:32:45,290

fairly normal.

1807

01:32:45,290 --> 01:32:51,280

Although there was
on my brother's part,

1808

01:32:51,280 --> 01:32:54,790

because he felt his
separation anxiety--

1809

01:32:54,790 --> 01:32:56,650

You mentioned that, yeah--

1810

01:32:56,650 --> 01:33:00,530

That there was some
therapy involved there.

1811

01:33:00,530 --> 01:33:08,060

But, yes, I often think
about how it affected me.

1812

01:33:08,060 --> 01:33:09,790

It must have affected me.

1813

01:33:09,790 --> 01:33:11,680

But I think I'd have
to go into therapy too

1814

01:33:11,680 --> 01:33:14,500

to find out exactly how it did.

1815

01:33:14,500 --> 01:33:18,340

And I never saw
the need for that.

1816
01:33:18,340 --> 01:33:20,950
Do you have a way of
articulating it in what role

1817
01:33:20,950 --> 01:33:25,700
this plays in your life
now, in your identity now?

1818
01:33:25,700 --> 01:33:40,180
No, I don't think so, except
that I am maybe a little close,

1819
01:33:40,180 --> 01:33:42,190
keep things to my
chest also, private.

1820
01:33:42,190 --> 01:33:45,280

1821
01:33:45,280 --> 01:33:49,330
You mentioned before that you're
not particularly religious.

1822
01:33:49,330 --> 01:33:50,350
No, I'm not.

1823
01:33:50,350 --> 01:33:51,710
OK.

1824
01:33:51,710 --> 01:33:54,970
Spiritual is the
word they use now.

1825
01:33:54,970 --> 01:33:56,660
It's a nice word.

1826
01:33:56,660 --> 01:33:59,860
It captures the essence.

1827
01:33:59,860 --> 01:34:03,130
Do you see yourself as Jewish?

1828
01:34:03,130 --> 01:34:05,720
Is that part of who you are?

1829
01:34:05,720 --> 01:34:07,720
It's not a part of who I am.

1830
01:34:07,720 --> 01:34:10,240
Although Glenn used
to joke when he

1831
01:34:10,240 --> 01:34:13,870
was dating that he had
the best of both worlds

1832
01:34:13,870 --> 01:34:16,900
because he could
marry a Christian

1833
01:34:16,900 --> 01:34:21,640
or because his mother
was Jewish that he

1834
01:34:21,640 --> 01:34:24,160
could marry a Jew as well.

1835
01:34:24,160 --> 01:34:29,530
But, no, I don't
consider myself Jewish.

1836
01:34:29,530 --> 01:34:33,280
I have a lot of Jewish friends.

1837
01:34:33,280 --> 01:34:39,550
And I sympathize
deeply or empathy--

1838
01:34:39,550 --> 01:34:44,710
empathize is maybe a better
word with the antisemitism that

1839
01:34:44,710 --> 01:34:49,990

still goes on in
their everyday lives

1840
01:34:49,990 --> 01:34:53,380
and then what you hear
in the media and so on.

1841
01:34:53,380 --> 01:35:01,660
And at Christmas, we celebrate
it in a very secular way.

1842
01:35:01,660 --> 01:35:04,000
And it's always
been at my house.

1843
01:35:04,000 --> 01:35:05,320
I took it over--

1844
01:35:05,320 --> 01:35:08,060
my grandmother always used to
have Christmas at her house--

1845
01:35:08,060 --> 01:35:08,560
Did she?

1846
01:35:08,560 --> 01:35:11,028
With a Christmas
tree and everything.

1847
01:35:11,028 --> 01:35:13,550

1848
01:35:13,550 --> 01:35:15,030
She was an enabler.

1849
01:35:15,030 --> 01:35:15,960
She enabled.

1850
01:35:15,960 --> 01:35:18,840
She wanted to make
that transition.

1851

01:35:18,840 --> 01:35:21,750

1852

01:35:21,750 --> 01:35:26,400

And so when Christmas and
Hanukkah are in the same time

1853

01:35:26,400 --> 01:35:29,040

frame, we have the
Christmas tree in one corner

1854

01:35:29,040 --> 01:35:31,260

and the menorah in the other.

1855

01:35:31,260 --> 01:35:38,710

And I have cousins
who practice Judaism.

1856

01:35:38,710 --> 01:35:45,160

1857

01:35:45,160 --> 01:35:46,490

But myself, no.

1858

01:35:46,490 --> 01:35:49,690

And I think I can speak
for my brother too.

1859

01:35:49,690 --> 01:35:55,270

He doesn't do any--

1860

01:35:55,270 --> 01:36:02,500

although he married twice with
a divorce two Jewish ladies.

1861

01:36:02,500 --> 01:36:04,420

And yourself?

1862

01:36:04,420 --> 01:36:06,040

Lutheran.

1863

01:36:06,040 --> 01:36:07,360

So you have a mixed--

1864
01:36:07,360 --> 01:36:08,350
Yeah.

1865
01:36:08,350 --> 01:36:10,720
Yeah.

1866
01:36:10,720 --> 01:36:13,023
These are all very
personal choices.

1867
01:36:13,023 --> 01:36:14,440
You know, we live
in a world where

1868
01:36:14,440 --> 01:36:16,690
we can make those choices.

1869
01:36:16,690 --> 01:36:21,250
In other generations, it
was self-evident that you go

1870
01:36:21,250 --> 01:36:22,630
by whatever--

1871
01:36:22,630 --> 01:36:25,090
your destiny was
preordained almost.

1872
01:36:25,090 --> 01:36:28,360

1873
01:36:28,360 --> 01:36:33,040
Is there something
that you'd like us

1874
01:36:33,040 --> 01:36:36,370
to that I haven't
asked about, that you'd

1875
01:36:36,370 --> 01:36:44,600

like people to understand about
what significance this had,

1876
01:36:44,600 --> 01:36:53,100
these early years had, on
you that came out after 1991?

1877
01:36:53,100 --> 01:37:00,490
It allowed me to identify
myself as a Hidden Child and all

1878
01:37:00,490 --> 01:37:08,060
the difficulties that are part
of having been a Hidden Child

1879
01:37:08,060 --> 01:37:10,760
and going through all of that.

1880
01:37:10,760 --> 01:37:14,690
And I call myself
a survivor too,

1881
01:37:14,690 --> 01:37:16,610
just like my grandmother was.

1882
01:37:16,610 --> 01:37:17,990
Yeah.

1883
01:37:17,990 --> 01:37:19,010
Yeah.

1884
01:37:19,010 --> 01:37:23,180
I mean a very vulnerable one,
who was by a hair's breadth.

1885
01:37:23,180 --> 01:37:24,010
Mm-hmm.

1886
01:37:24,010 --> 01:37:24,920
Right.

1887
01:37:24,920 --> 01:37:25,710

Right.

1888
01:37:25,710 --> 01:37:27,740
Yeah.

1889
01:37:27,740 --> 01:37:32,240
Well, I'd like to
thank you for sharing

1890
01:37:32,240 --> 01:37:34,730
what you have shared today.

1891
01:37:34,730 --> 01:37:37,040
It is much appreciated.

1892
01:37:37,040 --> 01:37:40,490
And I know it's not always easy.

1893
01:37:40,490 --> 01:37:44,330
And so that makes
it a double gift.

1894
01:37:44,330 --> 01:37:47,480
If there's a last word,
is there anything else

1895
01:37:47,480 --> 01:37:51,170
you would like to say
for people to understand

1896
01:37:51,170 --> 01:37:55,640
about what we've talked
about before I conclude

1897
01:37:55,640 --> 01:37:57,340
our interview?

1898
01:37:57,340 --> 01:38:04,330
I think that everybody
carries baggage with them.

1899
01:38:04,330 --> 01:38:15,580

And some are enabled through
biology or just psychology

1900
01:38:15,580 --> 01:38:19,730
to deal better with
it than others.

1901
01:38:19,730 --> 01:38:24,910
And so some are better
survivors than others.

1902
01:38:24,910 --> 01:38:29,440
And I'm grateful for being
on the right side of the coin

1903
01:38:29,440 --> 01:38:32,170
on that account.

1904
01:38:32,170 --> 01:38:34,006
I appreciate that.

1905
01:38:34,006 --> 01:38:35,540
And thank you.

1906
01:38:35,540 --> 01:38:36,430
You're welcome.

1907
01:38:36,430 --> 01:38:41,050
And with that this concludes
the United States Holocaust

1908
01:38:41,050 --> 01:38:46,510
Memorial Museum interview
with Mrs. Wilhelmina

1909
01:38:46,510 --> 01:38:55,490
Juhlin on July 16, 2015,
in Morristown, New Jersey.

1910
01:38:55,490 --> 01:38:57,300
Thank you again.

1911

01:38:57,300 --> 01:38:58,000