

1
00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:00,980

2
00:00:00,980 --> 00:00:02,790
You said a question, see.

3
00:00:02,790 --> 00:00:06,510
This is a United States
Holocaust Memorial Museum

4
00:00:06,510 --> 00:00:14,220
interview with Mrs. Marcia
Loewi on January 8, 2016

5
00:00:14,220 --> 00:00:18,000
in Borough Park,
Brooklyn, New York.

6
00:00:18,000 --> 00:00:20,040
Thank you, Mrs.
Loewi, for agreeing

7
00:00:20,040 --> 00:00:23,350
to meet with us, to
speak with us today.

8
00:00:23,350 --> 00:00:27,000
I'm going to start our interview
from the very beginning

9
00:00:27,000 --> 00:00:29,340
and ask the most
basic questions.

10
00:00:29,340 --> 00:00:32,700
And from that, we will
develop your story

11
00:00:32,700 --> 00:00:35,150
and share your experiences.

12

00:00:35,150 --> 00:00:37,530

So my very first
question is, could you

13

00:00:37,530 --> 00:00:39,690

tell me the date of your birth?

14

00:00:39,690 --> 00:00:44,760

September 23, 1926.

15

00:00:44,760 --> 00:00:48,160

And can you tell me the
place you were born?

16

00:00:48,160 --> 00:00:52,740

I was born in Landsberg
an der Warthe.

17

00:00:52,740 --> 00:00:53,915

Landsberg an der Warthe?

18

00:00:53,915 --> 00:00:56,730

And so, is that part of Germany?

19

00:00:56,730 --> 00:00:58,240

Yeah, that's there.

20

00:00:58,240 --> 00:01:01,770

It was under Russians,
so we couldn't go back,

21

00:01:01,770 --> 00:01:04,410

and you couldn't get anything.

22

00:01:04,410 --> 00:01:09,450

But my parents
emigrated to Poland

23

00:01:09,450 --> 00:01:15,180

because it started in the
'30s, the beginning of '30s

24

00:01:15,180 --> 00:01:18,690
they started the movement.

25
00:01:18,690 --> 00:01:23,100
And they were scared,
so they moved to Poland.

26
00:01:23,100 --> 00:01:25,570
And we lived in a L^ãdz,
Poland, after this.

27
00:01:25,570 --> 00:01:27,580
OK, I'm going to step
back a little bit.

28
00:01:27,580 --> 00:01:28,205
[PHONE RINGING]

29
00:01:28,205 --> 00:01:30,120
Let's cut.

30
00:01:30,120 --> 00:01:31,020
OK.

31
00:01:31,020 --> 00:01:33,270
Could you explain
something for me

32
00:01:33,270 --> 00:01:35,130
because it's not clear to me.

33
00:01:35,130 --> 00:01:38,930
You say you're born in
Landsberg an der Warthe.

34
00:01:38,930 --> 00:01:41,850

35
00:01:41,850 --> 00:01:43,815
Landsberg am Lech, that's near--

36
00:01:43,815 --> 00:01:47,160

37
00:01:47,160 --> 00:01:49,030
it's in a different place.

38
00:01:49,030 --> 00:01:50,990
Mm-hmm, but Landsberg
an der Warthe,

39
00:01:50,990 --> 00:01:53,030
this was part of
Germany, did you say?

40
00:01:53,030 --> 00:01:55,980
Yes, yes, and when I was born.

41
00:01:55,980 --> 00:01:59,060
But later on, the
Russians took over.

42
00:01:59,060 --> 00:02:00,517
Do you mean after the war?

43
00:02:00,517 --> 00:02:01,350
After the war, yeah.

44
00:02:01,350 --> 00:02:02,530
After World War II.

45
00:02:02,530 --> 00:02:04,620
OK, so it was in
the part of Germany

46
00:02:04,620 --> 00:02:08,070
that became East Germany, the
German Democratic Republic.

47
00:02:08,070 --> 00:02:08,850
Yes, yes.

48
00:02:08,850 --> 00:02:09,479
OK.

49

00:02:09,479 --> 00:02:11,780

What large city was it near?

50

00:02:11,780 --> 00:02:13,450

LÁ³dz was a big city.

51

00:02:13,450 --> 00:02:15,480

No, no, no-- Landsberg
an der Warthe.

52

00:02:15,480 --> 00:02:16,890

I don't remember.

53

00:02:16,890 --> 00:02:19,230

How old were you when you moved?

54

00:02:19,230 --> 00:02:21,450

Like six years or so.

55

00:02:21,450 --> 00:02:22,650

Oh, I see.

56

00:02:22,650 --> 00:02:26,220

So your parents were
really German Jews.

57

00:02:26,220 --> 00:02:27,000

Yes.

58

00:02:27,000 --> 00:02:27,840

And they moved to--

59

00:02:27,840 --> 00:02:32,220

No, my mother was from Poland,
but my father was from Germany.

60

00:02:32,220 --> 00:02:33,930

Ah, OK.

61

00:02:33,930 --> 00:02:37,170

So tell me a little bit, then--

62

00:02:37,170 --> 00:02:39,990

another question, a basic one, that I need to ask.

63

00:02:39,990 --> 00:02:43,160

What was your name when you were born?

64

00:02:43,160 --> 00:02:45,940

Marcia Jacobowitz.

65

00:02:45,940 --> 00:02:48,820

Jacobowitz was your name, your maiden name?

66

00:02:48,820 --> 00:02:49,320

Yes.

67

00:02:49,320 --> 00:02:50,430

OK.

68

00:02:50,430 --> 00:02:53,010

And did you have brothers and sisters?

69

00:02:53,010 --> 00:02:54,870

Yeah, we were nine children.

70

00:02:54,870 --> 00:02:56,220

Oh, wow.

71

00:02:56,220 --> 00:02:59,250

And your mother and father's names, could you tell me?

72

00:02:59,250 --> 00:03:01,950

My father's name was Shlomo--

73

00:03:01,950 --> 00:03:05,010

Solomon-- and my

mother's name was Sara.

74

00:03:05,010 --> 00:03:06,980

She's named after my mother.

75

00:03:06,980 --> 00:03:09,520

Ah, your daughter,

that we just met?

76

00:03:09,520 --> 00:03:11,310

Yeah.

77

00:03:11,310 --> 00:03:13,260

I had a son, my older son.

78

00:03:13,260 --> 00:03:17,520

He passed away,

like, six weeks ago.

79

00:03:17,520 --> 00:03:19,720

He was named after my father.

80

00:03:19,720 --> 00:03:20,970

His name was also Shlomo.

81

00:03:20,970 --> 00:03:22,830

Yes.

82

00:03:22,830 --> 00:03:23,940

My condolences.

83

00:03:23,940 --> 00:03:25,460

That must be very hard.

84

00:03:25,460 --> 00:03:26,670

It is.

85

00:03:26,670 --> 00:03:31,620

Was special person-- special,

wonderful, very learned,

86

00:03:31,620 --> 00:03:37,320
very educated person,
very talented.

87
00:03:37,320 --> 00:03:38,040
It's a loss.

88
00:03:38,040 --> 00:03:40,290
No one wants to bury a child.

89
00:03:40,290 --> 00:03:41,990
No.

90
00:03:41,990 --> 00:03:45,690
But he left five
wonderful children--

91
00:03:45,690 --> 00:03:49,110
very good children,
very wonderful people.

92
00:03:49,110 --> 00:03:51,720

93
00:03:51,720 --> 00:03:53,100
That is a legacy, as well.

94
00:03:53,100 --> 00:03:53,800
Yes.

95
00:03:53,800 --> 00:03:56,528
That was my son.

96
00:03:56,528 --> 00:03:57,070
and his wife.

97
00:03:57,070 --> 00:04:00,320
We'll look at his picture later.

98
00:04:00,320 --> 00:04:02,610
It was his wedding.

99

00:04:02,610 --> 00:04:06,210

Let's talk first now
about your parents.

100

00:04:06,210 --> 00:04:10,620

And tell me, how did your
father support your family?

101

00:04:10,620 --> 00:04:14,460

You say it was nine children.

102

00:04:14,460 --> 00:04:21,160

Well, first, he, for five
years after he got married,

103

00:04:21,160 --> 00:04:24,210

my mother's family
supported him.

104

00:04:24,210 --> 00:04:31,380

And he was learning, like in
a college, for Judaic studies.

105

00:04:31,380 --> 00:04:34,860

But later on, when they
had three children,

106

00:04:34,860 --> 00:04:37,830

so he had to do something.

107

00:04:37,830 --> 00:04:40,020

He couldn't be
supported anymore.

108

00:04:40,020 --> 00:04:41,630

So he was being supported--

109

00:04:41,630 --> 00:04:46,230

He sat by there for five
years by my mother's family.

110

00:04:46,230 --> 00:04:48,970

111
00:04:48,970 --> 00:04:52,260
And he was learning
in a college.

112
00:04:52,260 --> 00:04:54,410
To be a rabbi?

113
00:04:54,410 --> 00:04:59,070
No, just to be a learned person.

114
00:04:59,070 --> 00:05:03,090
Not everybody has to be a rabbi.

115
00:05:03,090 --> 00:05:06,550
But even when he was
working, he was still

116
00:05:06,550 --> 00:05:11,100
studying a couple
hours every day.

117
00:05:11,100 --> 00:05:16,890
But that's the way the
families are brought up,

118
00:05:16,890 --> 00:05:19,020
that you should--

119
00:05:19,020 --> 00:05:22,430
when you're young,
you learn first.

120
00:05:22,430 --> 00:05:25,380
So you get the basics of life.

121
00:05:25,380 --> 00:05:28,020
And then, you know
how to behave.

122
00:05:28,020 --> 00:05:31,725

Because people that learn
behave different than people--

123
00:05:31,725 --> 00:05:35,070
and they have
different interests.

124
00:05:35,070 --> 00:05:36,960
Learning opens up a world.

125
00:05:36,960 --> 00:05:38,120
Studying opens up a world.

126
00:05:38,120 --> 00:05:38,620
Yes.

127
00:05:38,620 --> 00:05:41,160
Yeah, you look at people
and your judge people

128
00:05:41,160 --> 00:05:46,310
different than people that are
just absorbed with themself

129
00:05:46,310 --> 00:05:50,150
and the things that they need.

130
00:05:50,150 --> 00:05:53,550
You a little observed
with the outside world,

131
00:05:53,550 --> 00:05:56,880
and you notice people
that nobody else notice,

132
00:05:56,880 --> 00:05:59,580
and you try to give them a hand.

133
00:05:59,580 --> 00:06:01,350
Was your father
that kind of person?

134

00:06:01,350 --> 00:06:02,695
Yes, he definitely was.

135
00:06:02,695 --> 00:06:03,820
Was he a reflective person?

136
00:06:03,820 --> 00:06:08,240
Even when the horse and
buggy, if the horse fell,

137
00:06:08,240 --> 00:06:09,430
he would go over.

138
00:06:09,430 --> 00:06:13,230
He didn't care if it's
a Christian or Jew.

139
00:06:13,230 --> 00:06:17,930
He went over to help
to get the horse up.

140
00:06:17,930 --> 00:06:24,440
And tell me, when he had
to interrupt his studies

141
00:06:24,440 --> 00:06:27,920
and he had to work, what
kind of work was he doing?

142
00:06:27,920 --> 00:06:29,510
Oh, he was in business.

143
00:06:29,510 --> 00:06:30,430
What kind of business?

144
00:06:30,430 --> 00:06:36,410

145
00:06:36,410 --> 00:06:39,260
He was buying
often in factories.

146

00:06:39,260 --> 00:06:42,710
It was a textile city, LÃ³dz.

147
00:06:42,710 --> 00:06:47,150
So he bought off the
raw material that

148
00:06:47,150 --> 00:06:49,970
was left from manufacturing.

149
00:06:49,970 --> 00:06:52,160
And then, he sorted it--

150
00:06:52,160 --> 00:06:54,210
had people to help him.

151
00:06:54,210 --> 00:07:01,100
Then better wool, or better
qualities of better thread.

152
00:07:01,100 --> 00:07:05,320
And from this, you
sorted to make thread

153
00:07:05,320 --> 00:07:08,750
to manufacture textiles.

154
00:07:08,750 --> 00:07:12,980
So you bought from factories
the leftover, the--

155
00:07:12,980 --> 00:07:14,230
what do you call it?

156
00:07:14,230 --> 00:07:15,578
How would you say?

157
00:07:15,578 --> 00:07:16,620
Well, it's the leftover--

158
00:07:16,620 --> 00:07:17,575
The scrap, like scrap.

159
00:07:17,575 --> 00:07:19,820
The scrap, yeah.

160
00:07:19,820 --> 00:07:23,000
And from this, they
made a little profit.

161
00:07:23,000 --> 00:07:26,360
And later on, it developed
that he did very well.

162
00:07:26,360 --> 00:07:26,900
Oh, really?

163
00:07:26,900 --> 00:07:27,400
Yeah?

164
00:07:27,400 --> 00:07:28,700
Yes, yes.

165
00:07:28,700 --> 00:07:30,670
He even helped other people.

166
00:07:30,670 --> 00:07:33,080
They were poorer people.

167
00:07:33,080 --> 00:07:40,070
His brother was not well, so he
helped marry off his daughter.

168
00:07:40,070 --> 00:07:44,010
My mother always said
they're open home.

169
00:07:44,010 --> 00:07:48,200
And if somebody-- you know
when you go to the synagogue,

170
00:07:48,200 --> 00:07:50,840
and sometimes people come.

171

00:07:50,840 --> 00:07:53,120

They don't have where to go.

172

00:07:53,120 --> 00:07:55,940

He would always
bring somebody home.

173

00:07:55,940 --> 00:07:59,180

And my mother, prepared
or not prepared,

174

00:07:59,180 --> 00:08:01,070

she always had enough food.

175

00:08:01,070 --> 00:08:03,530

First, she gave to
guest, and the children,

176

00:08:03,530 --> 00:08:06,140

they give a little less.

177

00:08:06,140 --> 00:08:08,990

And you yourself, you eat less.

178

00:08:08,990 --> 00:08:13,230

If there isn't enough, but
they're poor person that comes,

179

00:08:13,230 --> 00:08:15,800

you have to treat
him like a king.

180

00:08:15,800 --> 00:08:19,910

Well, what a wonderful model
to see as you're growing up.

181

00:08:19,910 --> 00:08:21,560

What a wonderful example.

182

00:08:21,560 --> 00:08:23,430

Yeah, we did, too.

183

00:08:23,430 --> 00:08:26,460

OK, so tell me a little
bit about your mother.

184

00:08:26,460 --> 00:08:31,160

I mean, that's the
idea of being religious

185

00:08:31,160 --> 00:08:33,020

and have a background with it.

186

00:08:33,020 --> 00:08:36,150

If you have no background,
you don't know it.

187

00:08:36,150 --> 00:08:38,220

You didn't see it.

188

00:08:38,220 --> 00:08:41,360

You could be a good person,
but you never saw it.

189

00:08:41,360 --> 00:08:46,960

So you don't know how to act.

190

00:08:46,960 --> 00:08:51,610

You see he's not dressed nice.

191

00:08:51,610 --> 00:08:53,690

He's an outsider.

192

00:08:53,690 --> 00:08:55,730

You don't know who he is.

193

00:08:55,730 --> 00:08:59,150

But if you treat
people nice, this

194

00:08:59,150 --> 00:09:02,310

gives you satisfaction, too.

195

00:09:02,310 --> 00:09:07,510
And if somebody goes away
smiling, has had a meal

196
00:09:07,510 --> 00:09:11,810
or didn't have where to
sleep, you find place for him.

197
00:09:11,810 --> 00:09:14,480
You put the children
on the carpet.

198
00:09:14,480 --> 00:09:16,760
On the floor, you
put the mattress.

199
00:09:16,760 --> 00:09:21,460
And you give a stranger,
a guest, you give the bed.

200
00:09:21,460 --> 00:09:24,260
And that used to be
how your mother--

201
00:09:24,260 --> 00:09:27,830
In the family, that's
how they behaved.

202
00:09:27,830 --> 00:09:30,980
Tell me a little bit, then,
paint a picture for me,

203
00:09:30,980 --> 00:09:34,400
if you can, about what
your home looked like.

204
00:09:34,400 --> 00:09:35,810
You had nine children.

205
00:09:35,810 --> 00:09:37,180
Did you have your own home?

206
00:09:37,180 --> 00:09:40,640

First, in the beginning,
we didn't have a--

207
00:09:40,640 --> 00:09:43,700
it was a big apartment
house, and it

208
00:09:43,700 --> 00:09:46,430
belonged to my grandmother.

209
00:09:46,430 --> 00:09:48,530
In LÃ³dz-- or no, in Germany.

210
00:09:48,530 --> 00:09:50,210
No, in LÃ³dz.

211
00:09:50,210 --> 00:09:52,430
In LÃ³dz, OK.

212
00:09:52,430 --> 00:09:58,610
And when my father didn't
make a good living,

213
00:09:58,610 --> 00:10:00,230
we lived on the fourth floor--

214
00:10:00,230 --> 00:10:05,135
I remember this-- on the
fourth floor in one room.

215
00:10:05,135 --> 00:10:09,830
But when it got better, we
moved to the third floor.

216
00:10:09,830 --> 00:10:12,110
We got two apartments.

217
00:10:12,110 --> 00:10:14,930
But my mother always
helped him, too.

218
00:10:14,930 --> 00:10:18,470

Even the business,
she was involved.

219
00:10:18,470 --> 00:10:19,270
What did she do?

220
00:10:19,270 --> 00:10:24,000
She went when you
had to buy the stuff.

221
00:10:24,000 --> 00:10:29,060
In the factories,
they had, like,

222
00:10:29,060 --> 00:10:34,730
a supervisor or a manager.

223
00:10:34,730 --> 00:10:39,072
So she went, and
she spoke to him.

224
00:10:39,072 --> 00:10:40,280
And she would deal with them.

225
00:10:40,280 --> 00:10:43,730
And she spoke Polish
better than my father.

226
00:10:43,730 --> 00:10:46,480
What language did
you speak at home?

227
00:10:46,480 --> 00:10:51,920
Oh, they spoke
Yiddish and Polish.

228
00:10:51,920 --> 00:10:56,830
We didn't speak because
we had to go to school,

229
00:10:56,830 --> 00:11:00,200
and the people
outside spoke Polish.

230
00:11:00,200 --> 00:11:01,560
So we spoke Polish.

231
00:11:01,560 --> 00:11:04,730
Children adapt
languages very fast.

232
00:11:04,730 --> 00:11:06,650
They do, they do.

233
00:11:06,650 --> 00:11:08,630
Now, your father
was from Germany,

234
00:11:08,630 --> 00:11:10,460
and your mother was from Poland?

235
00:11:10,460 --> 00:11:11,000
Yes.

236
00:11:11,000 --> 00:11:15,780
OK, and they left
Germany because of--

237
00:11:15,780 --> 00:11:18,635
Of the times that were changing.

238
00:11:18,635 --> 00:11:21,810
Ah, because it was right
before Hitler came to power.

239
00:11:21,810 --> 00:11:22,310
Yes.

240
00:11:22,310 --> 00:11:24,000
It was because of this reason?

241
00:11:24,000 --> 00:11:24,620
Yes.

242

00:11:24,620 --> 00:11:25,640
OK.

243
00:11:25,640 --> 00:11:29,630
And when they left,
had your mother

244
00:11:29,630 --> 00:11:33,500
been living with your
father's family in Germany,

245
00:11:33,500 --> 00:11:36,110
or was it they
living on their own?

246
00:11:36,110 --> 00:11:36,980
On their own.

247
00:11:36,980 --> 00:11:38,930
On their own.

248
00:11:38,930 --> 00:11:41,900
I don't remember too
much what happened there.

249
00:11:41,900 --> 00:11:44,810
Do you have any memories
of Germany at all?

250
00:11:44,810 --> 00:11:45,930
Not much, no.

251
00:11:45,930 --> 00:11:46,730
OK.

252
00:11:46,730 --> 00:11:49,880
How many children were born
in the family before you moved

253
00:11:49,880 --> 00:11:51,640
to L³dz?

254

00:11:51,640 --> 00:11:52,540
Three.

255
00:11:52,540 --> 00:11:53,130
Three.

256
00:11:53,130 --> 00:11:55,280
And the others were born later.

257
00:11:55,280 --> 00:11:58,190
So are you the oldest?

258
00:11:58,190 --> 00:11:59,900
No, I'm the third child.

259
00:11:59,900 --> 00:12:01,670
You're the third child.

260
00:12:01,670 --> 00:12:04,400
Could you tell me the
names of your siblings?

261
00:12:04,400 --> 00:12:05,360
Yeah.

262
00:12:05,360 --> 00:12:08,360
The oldest was Abraham.

263
00:12:08,360 --> 00:12:11,670
And then was Hilda, my sister.

264
00:12:11,670 --> 00:12:12,370
Hilda?

265
00:12:12,370 --> 00:12:13,970
Two of us.

266
00:12:13,970 --> 00:12:17,710
They called her Hanya in Polish.

267
00:12:17,710 --> 00:12:20,120

And I was Masha.

268

00:12:20,120 --> 00:12:22,060

I was the third one.

269

00:12:22,060 --> 00:12:24,350

And then I had a brother.

270

00:12:24,350 --> 00:12:29,510

His name was Yakov Moshe,
from both grandfathers.

271

00:12:29,510 --> 00:12:34,600

And then there was a sister.

272

00:12:34,600 --> 00:12:37,610

Her name was Gurtha.

273

00:12:37,610 --> 00:12:38,690

Gurtha, all right.

274

00:12:38,690 --> 00:12:40,370

Yes.

275

00:12:40,370 --> 00:12:48,350

She was-- and then was Gurtha.

276

00:12:48,350 --> 00:12:51,860

Then was a little
brother, Yitzhak.

277

00:12:51,860 --> 00:12:53,300

Yitzhak, OK.

278

00:12:53,300 --> 00:12:59,360

And then was Yehuda Arya.

279

00:12:59,360 --> 00:13:03,410

Yehuda Arya, that's seven.

280

00:13:03,410 --> 00:13:07,080

And then was Eliyahu.

281
00:13:07,080 --> 00:13:08,450
Eliyahu.

282
00:13:08,450 --> 00:13:10,340
And then was Aaron.

283
00:13:10,340 --> 00:13:14,717
He was born 1939, Aaron.

284
00:13:14,717 --> 00:13:15,675
Aaron was born in 1939.

285
00:13:15,675 --> 00:13:18,270
You know, they were religious.

286
00:13:18,270 --> 00:13:21,110
They had children right off.

287
00:13:21,110 --> 00:13:26,060
But it was throughout the
1930s, while you were in Poland,

288
00:13:26,060 --> 00:13:28,700
that your mother had
most of her children.

289
00:13:28,700 --> 00:13:29,390
Yes.

290
00:13:29,390 --> 00:13:31,610
OK, OK.

291
00:13:31,610 --> 00:13:33,320
And tell me about religious.

292
00:13:33,320 --> 00:13:39,230
You mentioned it earlier
that you don't see.

293

00:13:39,230 --> 00:13:44,330
How did your parents
live their religion?

294
00:13:44,330 --> 00:13:46,640
Religion because you study.

295
00:13:46,640 --> 00:13:52,700
You lived according to what
God expects us to live like.

296
00:13:52,700 --> 00:13:54,760
That's what you study.

297
00:13:54,760 --> 00:14:00,050
The whole study is about how
to live and how to behave.

298
00:14:00,050 --> 00:14:04,940
And was your father the one who
brought this to the children

299
00:14:04,940 --> 00:14:06,470
more, or was this your mother?

300
00:14:06,470 --> 00:14:07,280
It was together.

301
00:14:07,280 --> 00:14:08,055
It was together.

302
00:14:08,055 --> 00:14:09,310
They were good team.

303
00:14:09,310 --> 00:14:12,230

304
00:14:12,230 --> 00:14:15,380
My mother was busy
was the children.

305
00:14:15,380 --> 00:14:22,120

And the on certain days, she
had to go and help my father.

306
00:14:22,120 --> 00:14:24,770
Tell me, how did
they meet, if they

307
00:14:24,770 --> 00:14:26,190
were from different places?

308
00:14:26,190 --> 00:14:27,898
She's from Poland,
and he's from Germany.

309
00:14:27,898 --> 00:14:31,860
Yeah, but through
people, through friends.

310
00:14:31,860 --> 00:14:34,550
That's how they met.

311
00:14:34,550 --> 00:14:37,520
They came to Poland once.

312
00:14:37,520 --> 00:14:41,390
And they met my mother.

313
00:14:41,390 --> 00:14:43,430
And that's how it happened.

314
00:14:43,430 --> 00:14:46,220
They didn't get
married right away.

315
00:14:46,220 --> 00:14:48,770
They got married years later.

316
00:14:48,770 --> 00:14:53,360
Do you remember what
date their marriage was?

317
00:14:53,360 --> 00:14:54,530

I don't remember.

318
00:14:54,530 --> 00:14:58,400
It must have been in the
early '20s, you know, in 1920.

319
00:14:58,400 --> 00:15:01,490
Yeah, '22, '23.

320
00:15:01,490 --> 00:15:03,200
'22.

321
00:15:03,200 --> 00:15:05,750
For my oldest brother--

322
00:15:05,750 --> 00:15:09,710
no, even-- maybe '21.

323
00:15:09,710 --> 00:15:11,450
Something like that, yeah.

324
00:15:11,450 --> 00:15:14,660
Because my oldest brother
was born in January.

325
00:15:14,660 --> 00:15:15,740
Of 19--?

326
00:15:15,740 --> 00:15:17,090
1922.

327
00:15:17,090 --> 00:15:18,110
I see, OK.

328
00:15:18,110 --> 00:15:20,730

329
00:15:20,730 --> 00:15:25,100
What kind of personalities
did your parents have?

330

00:15:25,100 --> 00:15:28,070
Can you tell me what kind of
personality your father had,

331
00:15:28,070 --> 00:15:28,760
your mother had?

332
00:15:28,760 --> 00:15:34,670
My father was very kind
and always with a smile.

333
00:15:34,670 --> 00:15:37,430
And he explained to the
children everything.

334
00:15:37,430 --> 00:15:42,980
Like it came for Passover,
so we have to say the--

335
00:15:42,980 --> 00:15:45,050
I don't know if you
know what it is.

336
00:15:45,050 --> 00:15:46,570
I know.

337
00:15:46,570 --> 00:15:51,800
On Passover, you tell the
stories what happened in Egypt

338
00:15:51,800 --> 00:15:56,020
and why things happened
and what happened.

339
00:15:56,020 --> 00:16:02,330
And that's the history
that got punished.

340
00:16:02,330 --> 00:16:05,510
The Egyptians, they
thought who was God,

341
00:16:05,510 --> 00:16:08,770

they believe that they are God.

342
00:16:08,770 --> 00:16:10,820
So God showed them.

343
00:16:10,820 --> 00:16:17,708
So he sent Moses to tell them
to stop torturing the people.

344
00:16:17,708 --> 00:16:18,250
[BUSY SIGNAL]

345
00:16:18,250 --> 00:16:21,750
Let's cut for a second.

346
00:16:21,750 --> 00:16:27,120
So my father explained
that there was one thing.

347
00:16:27,120 --> 00:16:30,420

348
00:16:30,420 --> 00:16:34,390
God gave the Spanish
man all the plagues.

349
00:16:34,390 --> 00:16:40,360
There were plagues that
the water sent to blood.

350
00:16:40,360 --> 00:16:43,870
Because they didn't
want to stop this.

351
00:16:43,870 --> 00:16:45,850
[PHONE RINGS]

352
00:16:45,850 --> 00:16:48,762
So your father would
explain these stories,

353
00:16:48,762 --> 00:16:49,720

these biblical stories.

354

00:16:49,720 --> 00:16:52,060

Yes, because we were children.

355

00:16:52,060 --> 00:16:55,390

So he explained it so
that we could understand.

356

00:16:55,390 --> 00:16:59,110

And I still remember this today.

357

00:16:59,110 --> 00:17:00,760

And your mother, did she also--

358

00:17:00,760 --> 00:17:05,480

My mother was more involved
with keeping the house

359

00:17:05,480 --> 00:17:09,940

and keeping the house,
helping my father,

360

00:17:09,940 --> 00:17:11,694

taking care of everything.

361

00:17:11,694 --> 00:17:12,819

Well, that's a lot of work.

362

00:17:12,819 --> 00:17:14,340

Nine children is a lot of work.

363

00:17:14,340 --> 00:17:15,265

Yeah, but we had--

364

00:17:15,265 --> 00:17:24,339

you know, in Poland, you could
get, for, like, \$20 a month,

365

00:17:24,339 --> 00:17:28,520

a young girl that help
took care of the children,

366
00:17:28,520 --> 00:17:32,410
helped a little around the
house, did the ironing.

367
00:17:32,410 --> 00:17:35,410
And she got food, and
she got some money.

368
00:17:35,410 --> 00:17:39,740
Because the people were pretty
poor in Poland and especially

369
00:17:39,740 --> 00:17:42,090
in the small towns.

370
00:17:42,090 --> 00:17:44,920
And so they would come to a
big place like Łódź to look

371
00:17:44,920 --> 00:17:45,820
for work.

372
00:17:45,820 --> 00:17:47,260
To get work.

373
00:17:47,260 --> 00:17:48,760
And the child got--

374
00:17:48,760 --> 00:17:53,500
when the girl was,
like, 15, 16, 18--

375
00:17:53,500 --> 00:17:57,040
after school-- they
didn't go to college.

376
00:17:57,040 --> 00:18:02,080
So they couldn't afford
it neither, probably.

377
00:18:02,080 --> 00:18:06,850

So your mother has,
nevertheless, her hands full.

378
00:18:06,850 --> 00:18:07,888
She has nine children.

379
00:18:07,888 --> 00:18:08,680
Yes, she took care.

380
00:18:08,680 --> 00:18:13,420
She kept a very clean
home, a very nice home.

381
00:18:13,420 --> 00:18:17,520
When they were better off,
they furnished it beautiful.

382
00:18:17,520 --> 00:18:19,610
Was very, very nice.

383
00:18:19,610 --> 00:18:24,820
And she had a sense of elegance.

384
00:18:24,820 --> 00:18:28,690
She knew how to make
things look good.

385
00:18:28,690 --> 00:18:30,850
Tell me a little
bit about your home.

386
00:18:30,850 --> 00:18:34,390
I want to understand the
level of modern life.

387
00:18:34,390 --> 00:18:36,117
Did you have electricity?

388
00:18:36,117 --> 00:18:36,700
Did you have--

389
00:18:36,700 --> 00:18:38,360

Electricity we had.

390

00:18:38,360 --> 00:18:40,300

We had a telephone.

391

00:18:40,300 --> 00:18:41,310

Oh, you had a telephone?

392

00:18:41,310 --> 00:18:42,120

Yes.

393

00:18:42,120 --> 00:18:46,157

And we had water
running in the faucet.

394

00:18:46,157 --> 00:18:46,990

So you had plumbing.

395

00:18:46,990 --> 00:18:48,790

But we didn't have a bathroom.

396

00:18:48,790 --> 00:18:54,040

Because the house was
built, like, 1918 or 1914.

397

00:18:54,040 --> 00:18:55,870

I don't know exactly.

398

00:18:55,870 --> 00:19:00,030

Was a big building-- four
stories and on every story

399

00:19:00,030 --> 00:19:02,350

were three apartments.

400

00:19:02,350 --> 00:19:06,970

Was a room and a
kitchen, nice size.

401

00:19:06,970 --> 00:19:12,550

And then, the third apartment
was two-bedroom apartment.

402
00:19:12,550 --> 00:19:15,120
So when your parents
were better off--

403
00:19:15,120 --> 00:19:16,420
Then we took two apartments.

404
00:19:16,420 --> 00:19:18,970
Then you had the fourth
floor and the third floor.

405
00:19:18,970 --> 00:19:20,290
No, we didn't have the fourth.

406
00:19:20,290 --> 00:19:22,820
Somebody else lived
on that floor.

407
00:19:22,820 --> 00:19:25,960
We got two apartments
on the third floor.

408
00:19:25,960 --> 00:19:27,460
I see.

409
00:19:27,460 --> 00:19:34,480
And we made it into a kitchen,
a living room, and two bedrooms.

410
00:19:34,480 --> 00:19:37,857
And your grandparents, did they
live in the building, too--

411
00:19:37,857 --> 00:19:38,690
your mother's par--?

412
00:19:38,690 --> 00:19:40,450
Yes.

413
00:19:40,450 --> 00:19:41,230
No.

414
00:19:41,230 --> 00:19:45,640
She lived in a small
town not far from L[~]A³dz.

415
00:19:45,640 --> 00:19:46,600
All right.

416
00:19:46,600 --> 00:19:49,360
And was your home, this
place on the third floor,

417
00:19:49,360 --> 00:19:53,125
was that in the center of
town or in a residential area?

418
00:19:53,125 --> 00:19:57,070
It was more on the
out, not in the center

419
00:19:57,070 --> 00:20:01,060
but on the quiet, small streets.

420
00:20:01,060 --> 00:20:02,020
Was it a wooden--

421
00:20:02,020 --> 00:20:06,010
The street was a main street,
going from the center,

422
00:20:06,010 --> 00:20:10,650
but was, like, from one to 93.

423
00:20:10,650 --> 00:20:14,710
We lived 93, was quite
a few blocks down.

424
00:20:14,710 --> 00:20:16,310
Do you remember your address?

425
00:20:16,310 --> 00:20:16,810
Yes.

426
00:20:16,810 --> 00:20:17,570
What was it?

427
00:20:17,570 --> 00:20:20,420
Pomorska 93.

428
00:20:20,420 --> 00:20:22,240
Pomorska 93.

429
00:20:22,240 --> 00:20:23,140
Yes.

430
00:20:23,140 --> 00:20:26,170
What was the outside like?

431
00:20:26,170 --> 00:20:28,930
Were there trees and parks,
or was it really city-like?

432
00:20:28,930 --> 00:20:30,490
No, it was a streetcar.

433
00:20:30,490 --> 00:20:35,170
When you walked out of the
house was like a courtyard.

434
00:20:35,170 --> 00:20:39,160
And then was a gate
in front, so people--

435
00:20:39,160 --> 00:20:41,320
at night, it was locked.

436
00:20:41,320 --> 00:20:42,910
Like a gate.

437
00:20:42,910 --> 00:20:47,990
And there was the source
in front of the building.

438

00:20:47,990 --> 00:20:51,970
And there was a gate between--

439
00:20:51,970 --> 00:20:52,760
it was a small--

440
00:20:52,760 --> 00:20:55,570

441
00:20:55,570 --> 00:21:00,460
on one side were two stores,
like a shoemaker and a grocery.

442
00:21:00,460 --> 00:21:03,320
On the other side
was a store that

443
00:21:03,320 --> 00:21:10,090
was selling food for
animals, for horses.

444
00:21:10,090 --> 00:21:13,210
Did your father have a car?

445
00:21:13,210 --> 00:21:13,710
No.

446
00:21:13,710 --> 00:21:14,440
No.

447
00:21:14,440 --> 00:21:16,360
How did he travel?

448
00:21:16,360 --> 00:21:18,430
Transportation.

449
00:21:18,430 --> 00:21:24,490
There was a tramway, a
streetcar, that went.

450
00:21:24,490 --> 00:21:27,800
And it stopped every few blocks.

451
00:21:27,800 --> 00:21:28,760
I see.

452
00:21:28,760 --> 00:21:30,840
And that's how he
would get around?

453
00:21:30,840 --> 00:21:33,040
He would get around like this.

454
00:21:33,040 --> 00:21:36,715
If he needed, there were
taxis, but they were expensive.

455
00:21:36,715 --> 00:21:37,870
Uh-huh.

456
00:21:37,870 --> 00:21:40,560
Was the neighborhood
a mixed neighborhood?

457
00:21:40,560 --> 00:21:43,870
Horse and buggies
you could rent.

458
00:21:43,870 --> 00:21:50,140
They were standing by
a car station, by a--

459
00:21:50,140 --> 00:21:51,800
what do you call it--

460
00:21:51,800 --> 00:21:52,670
by a station.

461
00:21:52,670 --> 00:21:53,740
[PHONE RINGING]

462
00:21:53,740 --> 00:21:54,670
--we start?

463

00:21:54,670 --> 00:21:57,760

So yes, you were talking
about horse and buggies.

464

00:21:57,760 --> 00:21:59,430

They would be outside.

465

00:21:59,430 --> 00:22:02,210

Yeah, you see, there
was the driver.

466

00:22:02,210 --> 00:22:04,950

Like on 57th in Manhattan.

467

00:22:04,950 --> 00:22:05,830

Uh-huh.

468

00:22:05,830 --> 00:22:08,060

Oh, like they have
near Central Park?

469

00:22:08,060 --> 00:22:10,630

Yeah, yeah, yeah, Central Park.

470

00:22:10,630 --> 00:22:14,720

So you pay them.

471

00:22:14,720 --> 00:22:16,150

And they would be like taxis.

472

00:22:16,150 --> 00:22:17,320

They called it [IN POLISH].

473

00:22:17,320 --> 00:22:18,890

[IN POLISH]

474

00:22:18,890 --> 00:22:20,380

OK.

475

00:22:20,380 --> 00:22:24,220

And was your neighborhood a

mixed neighborhood or a, you'd

476

00:22:24,220 --> 00:22:26,090

say, more Jewish neighborhood?

477

00:22:26,090 --> 00:22:26,605

It's mix.

478

00:22:26,605 --> 00:22:27,105

It's mix.

479

00:22:27,105 --> 00:22:28,360

It was mixed.

480

00:22:28,360 --> 00:22:32,910

We had neighbors in the same building, also not Jewish.

481

00:22:32,910 --> 00:22:35,200

OK.

482

00:22:35,200 --> 00:22:39,610

Did you have any contact with the Polish people,

483

00:22:39,610 --> 00:22:40,840

the non-Jewish people.

484

00:22:40,840 --> 00:22:43,350

Yes, yes, normal, yes.

485

00:22:43,350 --> 00:22:47,140

Yeah, all the people that were in our neighborhood.

486

00:22:47,140 --> 00:22:49,800

Because I went to school.

487

00:22:49,800 --> 00:22:53,890

And when I came home, I helped with watching the younger

488

00:22:53,890 --> 00:22:56,265
children and did homework.

489

00:22:56,265 --> 00:22:58,300
I was good in math.

490

00:22:58,300 --> 00:23:02,710
So I sometimes had a
girl that wasn't so good.

491

00:23:02,710 --> 00:23:06,410
So they gave me the
girl to help her.

492

00:23:06,410 --> 00:23:09,430
We had to help the children.

493

00:23:09,430 --> 00:23:12,040
They couldn't
afford other things,

494

00:23:12,040 --> 00:23:15,070
so the teacher
assigned you to help.

495

00:23:15,070 --> 00:23:16,650
Help the other child.

496

00:23:16,650 --> 00:23:17,590
Yes.

497

00:23:17,590 --> 00:23:19,150
Did you go to public school?

498

00:23:19,150 --> 00:23:21,890
Yes, public school, yes.

499

00:23:21,890 --> 00:23:25,120
Tell me a little bit
about what that was like.

500

00:23:25,120 --> 00:23:27,910

501

00:23:27,910 --> 00:23:32,080

In L^Ádz, the public school was not mixed.

502

00:23:32,080 --> 00:23:35,410

There were only Jewish children, and on Saturday, we

503

00:23:35,410 --> 00:23:37,190

didn't go to school.

504

00:23:37,190 --> 00:23:38,410

Oh, really?

505

00:23:38,410 --> 00:23:44,390

And on Sunday, we had music lessons and religion.

506

00:23:44,390 --> 00:23:49,780

There were subjects, but the population in L^Ádz had to pay

507

00:23:49,780 --> 00:23:56,470

a tax to the Jewish Gemeinde because they were hiring.

508

00:23:56,470 --> 00:24:00,400

The rabbis were paid by the Gemeinde.

509

00:24:00,400 --> 00:24:03,100

510

00:24:03,100 --> 00:24:06,980

The taxes that we paid supported it.

511

00:24:06,980 --> 00:24:10,480

So if I understand it correctly, people--

512
00:24:10,480 --> 00:24:15,700
everybody-- in LÃ³dz had a tax,
and it was to the municipality.

513
00:24:15,700 --> 00:24:18,450
And the municipality then
distributed it to the Gemeinde.

514
00:24:18,450 --> 00:24:18,950
Yes.

515
00:24:18,950 --> 00:24:20,670
We had to pay maybe--

516
00:24:20,670 --> 00:24:21,610
yeah.

517
00:24:21,610 --> 00:24:26,885
And the Gemeinde also
supported the private schools.

518
00:24:26,885 --> 00:24:28,510
Because there were
people that couldn't

519
00:24:28,510 --> 00:24:31,060
afford to pay for the boys.

520
00:24:31,060 --> 00:24:33,300
And the boys was mandatory.

521
00:24:33,300 --> 00:24:37,470
Religious children
had to go to learn.

522
00:24:37,470 --> 00:24:41,280
And the Gemeinde, in English,
would be like community--

523
00:24:41,280 --> 00:24:41,896
the community.

524
00:24:41,896 --> 00:24:42,396
Yes.

525
00:24:42,396 --> 00:24:46,240
Yeah, your community,
like a Jewish community.

526
00:24:46,240 --> 00:24:48,115
And they paid the rabbi.

527
00:24:48,115 --> 00:24:51,580

528
00:24:51,580 --> 00:24:54,700
When there were--
what do you call it--

529
00:24:54,700 --> 00:24:59,800
disputes among Jewish people,
so they went for the rabbi

530
00:24:59,800 --> 00:25:06,520
to straighten it out, like you
go to, if it was not a public

531
00:25:06,520 --> 00:25:08,920
but was a private thing.

532
00:25:08,920 --> 00:25:11,860

533
00:25:11,860 --> 00:25:15,310
So you didn't go to court.

534
00:25:15,310 --> 00:25:17,500
They needed to
live, those people.

535
00:25:17,500 --> 00:25:21,310
They spent their time,
and they spent the effort.

536
00:25:21,310 --> 00:25:23,320
So they were supported.

537
00:25:23,320 --> 00:25:29,185
So it, first of all, it was
sure they didn't take sides.

538
00:25:29,185 --> 00:25:32,310

539
00:25:32,310 --> 00:25:33,345
That they would be fair.

540
00:25:33,345 --> 00:25:33,950
Fair.

541
00:25:33,950 --> 00:25:35,590
Yeah.

542
00:25:35,590 --> 00:25:41,980
So explain to me, too,
if you remember, LÃ³dz,

543
00:25:41,980 --> 00:25:44,880
how was the population
split up in the sense--

544
00:25:44,880 --> 00:25:47,140
It was 300,000 Jewish
people in LÃ³dz.

545
00:25:47,140 --> 00:25:48,130
That's a lot.

546
00:25:48,130 --> 00:25:48,850
That's a lot.

547
00:25:48,850 --> 00:25:49,880
Yeah.

548

00:25:49,880 --> 00:25:53,740
The whole population
was 600,000.

549
00:25:53,740 --> 00:25:55,515
And the rest were all Poles?

550
00:25:55,515 --> 00:25:57,470
The rest were mixed.

551
00:25:57,470 --> 00:25:58,600
There were Germans.

552
00:25:58,600 --> 00:26:01,000
They were people from all over.

553
00:26:01,000 --> 00:26:05,140
Because to a big city,
people come to make a living.

554
00:26:05,140 --> 00:26:06,070
Yeah.

555
00:26:06,070 --> 00:26:08,500
And you mentioned
textiles were a huge--

556
00:26:08,500 --> 00:26:11,560
Yeah, was a very huge textile.

557
00:26:11,560 --> 00:26:23,190
There was one man that gave
work to a lot of people.

558
00:26:23,190 --> 00:26:24,610
He was very wealthy.

559
00:26:24,610 --> 00:26:28,170
And he built the hospital.

560
00:26:28,170 --> 00:26:29,900
His name was Koznansky.

561
00:26:29,900 --> 00:26:31,170
Koznansky?

562
00:26:31,170 --> 00:26:32,070
Yes.

563
00:26:32,070 --> 00:26:34,950
And there was a
hospital by his name.

564
00:26:34,950 --> 00:26:38,810
He had people that
should have paid.

565
00:26:38,810 --> 00:26:41,085
Was he a Jewish person
or a Polish person?

566
00:26:41,085 --> 00:26:42,180
He was Jewish.

567
00:26:42,180 --> 00:26:44,730
He wasn't very religious.

568
00:26:44,730 --> 00:26:52,700
But he gave work to girls
from religious families.

569
00:26:52,700 --> 00:26:54,900
It didn't make any difference.

570
00:26:54,900 --> 00:26:59,220
But he gave a chance
that they could get work.

571
00:26:59,220 --> 00:27:01,970
There were a lot of poor people,
and there were rich people,

572
00:27:01,970 --> 00:27:04,080
like all over the world.

573
00:27:04,080 --> 00:27:10,290
And amongst the Jewish
community in Łódź,

574
00:27:10,290 --> 00:27:12,140
were many very religious?

575
00:27:12,140 --> 00:27:12,640
Yes.

576
00:27:12,640 --> 00:27:14,460
Or were there many
secular people, as well?

577
00:27:14,460 --> 00:27:17,310
Yeah, very religious.

578
00:27:17,310 --> 00:27:19,320
And there were even--

579
00:27:19,320 --> 00:27:25,860
there were two gymnasiums
that were not religious.

580
00:27:25,860 --> 00:27:27,360
They even went to school.

581
00:27:27,360 --> 00:27:31,980
Only they only kept Yom Kippur.

582
00:27:31,980 --> 00:27:34,485
You know about Yom Kippur?

583
00:27:34,485 --> 00:27:35,650
Mm-hmm.

584
00:27:35,650 --> 00:27:38,980
And maybe Passover.

585
00:27:38,980 --> 00:27:41,400

They didn't keep but certain--

586
00:27:41,400 --> 00:27:46,710
New Years, Yom Kippur, and
those holidays they kept.

587
00:27:46,710 --> 00:27:49,540
But they didn't
even keep Shabbat.

588
00:27:49,540 --> 00:27:50,250
OK.

589
00:27:50,250 --> 00:27:51,760
So they were more--

590
00:27:51,760 --> 00:27:53,830
They're mixed population, yes.

591
00:27:53,830 --> 00:27:57,010

592
00:27:57,010 --> 00:27:59,860
What are some of the
memories that you have?

593
00:27:59,860 --> 00:28:03,290
I mean, we're talking about
pre-war time, about Łódź.

594
00:28:03,290 --> 00:28:04,435
Was it a pretty city?

595
00:28:04,435 --> 00:28:07,150
It was a very pretty city.

596
00:28:07,150 --> 00:28:09,400
It was pretty.

597
00:28:09,400 --> 00:28:11,740
And there was divided
in different sections.

598
00:28:11,740 --> 00:28:15,130
It was a big city.

599
00:28:15,130 --> 00:28:18,890
On the main street,
what memories I have,

600
00:28:18,890 --> 00:28:20,890
it was a nice city.

601
00:28:20,890 --> 00:28:25,750
On the main street lived,
it was called Piotrkowska.

602
00:28:25,750 --> 00:28:27,370
Piotrkowska, OK.

603
00:28:27,370 --> 00:28:28,340
Piotrkowska.

604
00:28:28,340 --> 00:28:33,580
And over there were the
fancy stores, very elegant.

605
00:28:33,580 --> 00:28:37,300
And the wealthier
population lived there.

606
00:28:37,300 --> 00:28:38,840
Were there cinemas?

607
00:28:38,840 --> 00:28:39,340
What?

608
00:28:39,340 --> 00:28:41,050
Were there cinemas?

609
00:28:41,050 --> 00:28:43,020
Cinemas-- movies, movie houses.

610

00:28:43,020 --> 00:28:45,250

Oh, yes, yeah,
there were movies.

611

00:28:45,250 --> 00:28:47,110

Did you go?

612

00:28:47,110 --> 00:28:47,610

Yes.

613

00:28:47,610 --> 00:28:51,390

614

00:28:51,390 --> 00:28:55,620

We went to movies
only on occasions,

615

00:28:55,620 --> 00:29:00,855

when they went, like, with the
school or with supervision.

616

00:29:00,855 --> 00:29:02,950

I see.

617

00:29:02,950 --> 00:29:03,450

Because--

618

00:29:03,450 --> 00:29:06,640

What about-- you were
going to say something?

619

00:29:06,640 --> 00:29:07,140

No, no.

620

00:29:07,140 --> 00:29:08,265

If you want, next question.

621

00:29:08,265 --> 00:29:13,128

OK, next-- did you
have a radio at home?

622

00:29:13,128 --> 00:29:14,370

Yes.

623

00:29:14,370 --> 00:29:15,150

You did?

624

00:29:15,150 --> 00:29:16,200

Yeah, but my father--

625

00:29:16,200 --> 00:29:17,580

my parents-- listened.

626

00:29:17,580 --> 00:29:18,500

We were children.

627

00:29:18,500 --> 00:29:20,710

We didn't listen to it.

628

00:29:20,710 --> 00:29:22,890

We didn't listen to the radio.

629

00:29:22,890 --> 00:29:27,750

But we had a telephone.

630

00:29:27,750 --> 00:29:29,230

How did you heat the house?

631

00:29:29,230 --> 00:29:29,730

What?

632

00:29:29,730 --> 00:29:31,430

How did you heat the house?

633

00:29:31,430 --> 00:29:34,750

Oh, there were tile
ovens in the court.

634

00:29:34,750 --> 00:29:36,690

Oh, the coal ovens.

635

00:29:36,690 --> 00:29:37,310

Tile.

636
00:29:37,310 --> 00:29:38,160
Tile.

637
00:29:38,160 --> 00:29:39,005
But you put coal.

638
00:29:39,005 --> 00:29:39,630
Yeah, the coal.

639
00:29:39,630 --> 00:29:40,990
You put coal.

640
00:29:40,990 --> 00:29:45,330
And on top, it had a door
where you kept the food warm.

641
00:29:45,330 --> 00:29:46,800
My father worked late.

642
00:29:46,800 --> 00:29:48,390
That was how we kept--

643
00:29:48,390 --> 00:29:51,105

644
00:29:51,105 --> 00:29:55,350
it was fed on the
bottom of the oven.

645
00:29:55,350 --> 00:29:58,720
And then, there was going
through the chimney,

646
00:29:58,720 --> 00:30:00,020
it warmed up.

647
00:30:00,020 --> 00:30:04,260
In the kitchen was
also a tile oven.

648

00:30:04,260 --> 00:30:08,220
And it had a metal plate.

649
00:30:08,220 --> 00:30:15,210
On the side, it had a warmer
for hot water to wash dishes.

650
00:30:15,210 --> 00:30:18,900
We had a sink where
the water came out.

651
00:30:18,900 --> 00:30:20,310
It was a big--

652
00:30:20,310 --> 00:30:24,160
on the top floor
was a big reservoir.

653
00:30:24,160 --> 00:30:27,300
And the water was--
well, like a big tank--

654
00:30:27,300 --> 00:30:29,810
and it came into
the sink, the water.

655
00:30:29,810 --> 00:30:31,620
So you had indoor plumbing.

656
00:30:31,620 --> 00:30:35,970
Indoor plumbing, but the
bathrooms were downstairs.

657
00:30:35,970 --> 00:30:37,650
You had to go down.

658
00:30:37,650 --> 00:30:40,950
So were they outside the
building, the bathrooms?

659
00:30:40,950 --> 00:30:42,030
In the courtyard.

660

00:30:42,030 --> 00:30:48,900

There were two bathrooms, like
six bathrooms on each side.

661

00:30:48,900 --> 00:30:52,230

And was there a bathhouse
somewhere in town?

662

00:30:52,230 --> 00:30:53,180

Oh, yes.

663

00:30:53,180 --> 00:30:54,300

OK.

664

00:30:54,300 --> 00:30:57,920

And is this where people
would go to take baths,

665

00:30:57,920 --> 00:30:59,370

or did you do it at home?

666

00:30:59,370 --> 00:31:02,700

No, we did it at home.

667

00:31:02,700 --> 00:31:07,230

I don't remember if
there was a shower.

668

00:31:07,230 --> 00:31:09,280

No, there was no bathroom.

669

00:31:09,280 --> 00:31:14,850

In the kit-- we had bathtubs
for the younger children

670

00:31:14,850 --> 00:31:17,360

and for the older children.

671

00:31:17,360 --> 00:31:21,826

But we washed off at home.

672

00:31:21,826 --> 00:31:22,970
We're pretty clean.

673
00:31:22,970 --> 00:31:26,140

674
00:31:26,140 --> 00:31:29,400
I'm just interested to know
what did life look like.

675
00:31:29,400 --> 00:31:31,590
You say it looked very nice.

676
00:31:31,590 --> 00:31:32,460
You walked in.

677
00:31:32,460 --> 00:31:33,810
There was a bell.

678
00:31:33,810 --> 00:31:35,460
You rang the bell.

679
00:31:35,460 --> 00:31:37,520
It was a nice door,
was a hallway.

680
00:31:37,520 --> 00:31:40,510

681
00:31:40,510 --> 00:31:44,850
And there you went the kitchen,
then was the dining room,

682
00:31:44,850 --> 00:31:48,020
then was another hallway.

683
00:31:48,020 --> 00:31:52,350
There was, like, a
dinette, a small table.

684
00:31:52,350 --> 00:31:57,770
On the dining room, we

only ate on Saturday.

685

00:31:57,770 --> 00:32:01,370

But during the week, we had this
small dinette, like a dinette.

686

00:32:01,370 --> 00:32:02,400

Uh-huh.

687

00:32:02,400 --> 00:32:05,130

And that's where people
would take their meals?

688

00:32:05,130 --> 00:32:07,830

Meals in the kitchen, too.

689

00:32:07,830 --> 00:32:09,360

The kitchen-- the kitchen.

690

00:32:09,360 --> 00:32:11,730

The room size was large.

691

00:32:11,730 --> 00:32:14,160

So the kitchen was big.

692

00:32:14,160 --> 00:32:15,840

There was place for a--

693

00:32:15,840 --> 00:32:19,230

694

00:32:19,230 --> 00:32:21,960

yes, it was like a big tap.

695

00:32:21,960 --> 00:32:24,880

But you took the water from--

696

00:32:24,880 --> 00:32:30,075

you had to warm it
up on the stove.

697

00:32:30,075 --> 00:32:32,520
Was big kettles.

698
00:32:32,520 --> 00:32:39,000
And was tile on the
kitchen walls and on the--

699
00:32:39,000 --> 00:32:40,800
Who did all the cooking?

700
00:32:40,800 --> 00:32:42,110
My mother, my mother.

701
00:32:42,110 --> 00:32:43,910
Your mother, your mother.

702
00:32:43,910 --> 00:32:45,180
Was she a good cook?

703
00:32:45,180 --> 00:32:49,290
Yes, she was very
good, very neat, too.

704
00:32:49,290 --> 00:32:50,630
She cooked, and she baked.

705
00:32:50,630 --> 00:32:53,400
She did everything.

706
00:32:53,400 --> 00:32:55,860
I wasn't interested in cooking.

707
00:32:55,860 --> 00:32:56,901
I was too young.

708
00:32:56,901 --> 00:32:59,946

709
00:32:59,946 --> 00:33:05,850
Now, did your parents talk
much about the events of what

710

00:33:05,850 --> 00:33:08,340
was going on in the world?

711

00:33:08,340 --> 00:33:10,440
You know, they had left
Germany because of what

712

00:33:10,440 --> 00:33:11,605
was happening in Germany.

713

00:33:11,605 --> 00:33:13,810
Yeah, well, you see,
we weren't interested.

714

00:33:13,810 --> 00:33:15,430
We're children.

715

00:33:15,430 --> 00:33:20,640
So we weren't involved with it--

716

00:33:20,640 --> 00:33:21,630
like, me.

717

00:33:21,630 --> 00:33:25,770
Maybe my older--

718

00:33:25,770 --> 00:33:26,550
I don't know.

719

00:33:26,550 --> 00:33:30,180
My sister, she was a
little older than me,

720

00:33:30,180 --> 00:33:32,660
like two and a half years older.

721

00:33:32,660 --> 00:33:36,030
But I don't know.

722

00:33:36,030 --> 00:33:39,210
They were involved with

friends and with children.

723

00:33:39,210 --> 00:33:43,080

They weren't involved with--

724

00:33:43,080 --> 00:33:45,210

during the war, of course.

725

00:33:45,210 --> 00:33:46,270

It's different.

726

00:33:46,270 --> 00:33:46,980

It's different.

727

00:33:46,980 --> 00:33:48,180

We'll come to that.

728

00:33:48,180 --> 00:33:50,560

We'll come to that.

729

00:33:50,560 --> 00:33:52,080

The house was a nice home.

730

00:33:52,080 --> 00:33:54,730

We had friends come.

731

00:33:54,730 --> 00:33:58,420

And there was a big
park not far from us.

732

00:33:58,420 --> 00:34:03,790

So we went with the children,
with a carriage, to the park.

733

00:34:03,790 --> 00:34:07,630

And there were sandboxes,
and beautiful park, it was.

734

00:34:07,630 --> 00:34:10,060

What about school?

735

00:34:10,060 --> 00:34:15,080
The school was-- the school
was rented in a private home.

736
00:34:15,080 --> 00:34:15,670
Oh, truly?

737
00:34:15,670 --> 00:34:16,170
OK.

738
00:34:16,170 --> 00:34:17,170
Yes.

739
00:34:17,170 --> 00:34:20,489
And did you learn
about Polish history?

740
00:34:20,489 --> 00:34:20,989
Oh, yes.

741
00:34:20,989 --> 00:34:22,270
About European history.

742
00:34:22,270 --> 00:34:24,859
Yes, we learned a lot
about Polish history.

743
00:34:24,859 --> 00:34:32,330
We had biology, even the
younger grades, like five, six.

744
00:34:32,330 --> 00:34:34,510
We had biology.

745
00:34:34,510 --> 00:34:39,280
We made experiments
with plants and--

746
00:34:39,280 --> 00:34:40,150
Did you like school?

747
00:34:40,150 --> 00:34:42,610

--history and poetry.

748

00:34:42,610 --> 00:34:49,199

And we learned a little
about the world history.

749

00:34:49,199 --> 00:34:54,670

Because in the
lessons of religion,

750

00:34:54,670 --> 00:35:02,770

we learned about old poets
and what was going on

751

00:35:02,770 --> 00:35:06,250

in the biblical times.

752

00:35:06,250 --> 00:35:07,600

We learned poetry.

753

00:35:07,600 --> 00:35:09,316

We learned a lot.

754

00:35:09,316 --> 00:35:10,870

We knew a lot.

755

00:35:10,870 --> 00:35:12,745

Did you go to synagogue a lot?

756

00:35:12,745 --> 00:35:17,050

757

00:35:17,050 --> 00:35:21,610

Because my father
was Hasidic, so they

758

00:35:21,610 --> 00:35:24,400

didn't take the
girls, only the boys.

759

00:35:24,400 --> 00:35:25,660

I see.

760
00:35:25,660 --> 00:35:27,110
So you never--

761
00:35:27,110 --> 00:35:30,638
We didn't go a lot,
only on holidays.

762
00:35:30,638 --> 00:35:31,680
But you went on holidays?

763
00:35:31,680 --> 00:35:32,590
Yes, yes.

764
00:35:32,590 --> 00:35:33,430
We prayed.

765
00:35:33,430 --> 00:35:36,890
I fasted because I
was ready after 12.

766
00:35:36,890 --> 00:35:42,550
So I fasted on the fast days.

767
00:35:42,550 --> 00:35:47,290
We were brought up, and we
had, even, a private teacher

768
00:35:47,290 --> 00:35:50,740
to teach us Hebrew.

769
00:35:50,740 --> 00:35:53,170
So you knew Yiddish.

770
00:35:53,170 --> 00:35:54,850
You knew Polish.

771
00:35:54,850 --> 00:35:56,420
And you were studying Hebrew.

772
00:35:56,420 --> 00:35:56,920

Yes.

773

00:35:56,920 --> 00:36:00,067

Were there any other languages
that you were speaking

774

00:36:00,067 --> 00:36:01,150

or that you were learning?

775

00:36:01,150 --> 00:36:01,650

Not now.

776

00:36:01,650 --> 00:36:05,670

Later, after the war, I
learned more languages--

777

00:36:05,670 --> 00:36:07,000

after the war.

778

00:36:07,000 --> 00:36:15,440

So if there was any news of the
outside world, in your world,

779

00:36:15,440 --> 00:36:18,270

in your life in the
1930s, growing up--

780

00:36:18,270 --> 00:36:19,270

No, we weren't involved.

781

00:36:19,270 --> 00:36:20,312

It didn't have an impact?

782

00:36:20,312 --> 00:36:21,580

No, we weren't involved.

783

00:36:21,580 --> 00:36:23,740

And your parents,
as far as you knew,

784

00:36:23,740 --> 00:36:26,665

if they commented on things,

it was just to one another?

785
00:36:26,665 --> 00:36:28,880
Among themselves,
not to the children.

786
00:36:28,880 --> 00:36:29,380
OK.

787
00:36:29,380 --> 00:36:30,460
Can we cut for a second?

788
00:36:30,460 --> 00:36:33,380

789
00:36:33,380 --> 00:36:34,780
Oh, OK.

790
00:36:34,780 --> 00:36:36,400
Now it's good?

791
00:36:36,400 --> 00:36:37,150
Now it's better.

792
00:36:37,150 --> 00:36:40,540

793
00:36:40,540 --> 00:36:46,696
Do you remember anything from
the last summer of 1939--

794
00:36:46,696 --> 00:36:47,680
Yes, I do.

795
00:36:47,680 --> 00:36:49,300
--before the war started?

796
00:36:49,300 --> 00:36:49,870
Yes.

797
00:36:49,870 --> 00:36:50,877

Tell me about that.

798

00:36:50,877 --> 00:36:51,960

What was that summer like?

799

00:36:51,960 --> 00:36:56,680

My parents, we used to go to--

800

00:36:56,680 --> 00:36:59,220

like here, you go upstate--

801

00:36:59,220 --> 00:37:02,440

to the country because

there were trees

802

00:37:02,440 --> 00:37:04,330

and there were woods.

803

00:37:04,330 --> 00:37:09,190

So in summer, we used to

go, for the summer months,

804

00:37:09,190 --> 00:37:13,010

up to the mountains.

805

00:37:13,010 --> 00:37:23,020

And that year, my

parents went to a spa.

806

00:37:23,020 --> 00:37:28,150

And it was the last months

before the war broke out.

807

00:37:28,150 --> 00:37:31,930

And when the war broke

out, we were alone.

808

00:37:31,930 --> 00:37:35,050

And they had to

come back to L³dz.

809

00:37:35,050 --> 00:37:37,870

They were someplace
in the south, near--

810
00:37:37,870 --> 00:37:39,455
Carpathian?

811
00:37:39,455 --> 00:37:39,955
Karpates?

812
00:37:39,955 --> 00:37:40,660
What?

813
00:37:40,660 --> 00:37:43,330
In the Carpathian Mountains?

814
00:37:43,330 --> 00:37:44,805
No, it was near Romania.

815
00:37:44,805 --> 00:37:47,310

816
00:37:47,310 --> 00:37:52,000
You know, in the south of
Poland, towards the east more.

817
00:37:52,000 --> 00:37:53,290
We knew the map.

818
00:37:53,290 --> 00:37:56,110
We knew not only
the map of Poland

819
00:37:56,110 --> 00:37:58,870
but of the whole
world, the globe.

820
00:37:58,870 --> 00:38:00,580
They taught us a lot.

821
00:38:00,580 --> 00:38:01,590
Geography.

822

00:38:01,590 --> 00:38:07,920

Geography, history, too--
geography, history, biology.

823

00:38:07,920 --> 00:38:09,340

We learned a lot.

824

00:38:09,340 --> 00:38:10,990

So tell me, where were you?

825

00:38:10,990 --> 00:38:12,610

What happened to you?

826

00:38:12,610 --> 00:38:15,910

When the war broke out,
how did you find out?

827

00:38:15,910 --> 00:38:21,940

We see-- they said that
the Polish police--

828

00:38:21,940 --> 00:38:27,390

the Polish army, it was a
soldier marching in the city.

829

00:38:27,390 --> 00:38:31,010

And when the Germans came
in, they all were gone.

830

00:38:31,010 --> 00:38:32,735

And we had to go home.

831

00:38:32,735 --> 00:38:37,400

And when we came home, the
Germans occupied, already,

832

00:38:37,400 --> 00:38:38,470

LÃ³dz.

833

00:38:38,470 --> 00:38:44,230

And they already started
taking off people, especially

834
00:38:44,230 --> 00:38:48,340
religious people that
they knew they Jews.

835
00:38:48,340 --> 00:38:53,940
They captured them and
told them to dig holes.

836
00:38:53,940 --> 00:38:55,860
And then they threw
them in the hole.

837
00:38:55,860 --> 00:39:02,650
So the population,
the men started

838
00:39:02,650 --> 00:39:07,170
running away because they
were killing a lot of people.

839
00:39:07,170 --> 00:39:11,190
They told them to dig the holes,
and then they threw them in.

840
00:39:11,190 --> 00:39:13,680
So they cut off their beards.

841
00:39:13,680 --> 00:39:15,510
They tore off--

842
00:39:15,510 --> 00:39:17,730
Did you see these things?

843
00:39:17,730 --> 00:39:19,280
Yeah, I saw it.

844
00:39:19,280 --> 00:39:21,200
But then, we stayed home.

845
00:39:21,200 --> 00:39:23,400
We didn't go out already.

846
00:39:23,400 --> 00:39:25,520
There were some bombardments.

847
00:39:25,520 --> 00:39:27,510
I don't remember where.

848
00:39:27,510 --> 00:39:31,860
But when we came, we
were staying home.

849
00:39:31,860 --> 00:39:34,080
And we started to prepare.

850
00:39:34,080 --> 00:39:38,370
People are running to
Russia, to the protectorate.

851
00:39:38,370 --> 00:39:43,735
Warsaw was still under
the protectorate.

852
00:39:43,735 --> 00:39:48,837
But before we get there, when
you said the Polish police,

853
00:39:48,837 --> 00:39:49,920
or the army, disappeared--

854
00:39:49,920 --> 00:39:52,320
No, the Polish
army, they ran away.

855
00:39:52,320 --> 00:39:53,920
They ran away.

856
00:39:53,920 --> 00:39:55,980
So there was no protection.

857
00:39:55,980 --> 00:40:02,240
And were you in L³dz
when the war started?

858
00:40:02,240 --> 00:40:03,520
We were in the country.

859
00:40:03,520 --> 00:40:06,330
But we had to go to LÃ³dz.

860
00:40:06,330 --> 00:40:09,810
And my parents were
in Stryi, somewhere.

861
00:40:09,810 --> 00:40:13,770
I don't remember the city.

862
00:40:13,770 --> 00:40:16,300
Let's cut for a second.

863
00:40:16,300 --> 00:40:19,560
So just to clarify
so that I understand,

864
00:40:19,560 --> 00:40:25,680
you and your siblings were away
from home, in the mountains--

865
00:40:25,680 --> 00:40:26,940
With the maid, with the girl.

866
00:40:26,940 --> 00:40:29,370
--with the maid when
the war broke out.

867
00:40:29,370 --> 00:40:30,000
Yes.

868
00:40:30,000 --> 00:40:32,780
And your parents were in a
different place at a spa.

869
00:40:32,780 --> 00:40:33,870
Yes, a spa.

870

00:40:33,870 --> 00:40:35,770

For two weeks, they went, or so.

871

00:40:35,770 --> 00:40:36,270

I see.

872

00:40:36,270 --> 00:40:37,620

To be together.

873

00:40:37,620 --> 00:40:42,480

No, they had arthritis
or something.

874

00:40:42,480 --> 00:40:44,790

So they went to the spa.

875

00:40:44,790 --> 00:40:46,260

To heal a bit.

876

00:40:46,260 --> 00:40:47,070

To heal.

877

00:40:47,070 --> 00:40:48,150

OK.

878

00:40:48,150 --> 00:40:51,390

And do you remember hearing
about the war breaking out?

879

00:40:51,390 --> 00:40:55,870

Do you remember how
you heard of it?

880

00:40:55,870 --> 00:40:57,165

They were talking.

881

00:40:57,165 --> 00:40:59,550

But we were in the country.

882

00:40:59,550 --> 00:41:04,320

Nobody was-- we didn't know.

883

00:41:04,320 --> 00:41:09,840
But when we came back, we
noticed because it was September

884

00:41:09,840 --> 00:41:12,270
when the war broke out.

885

00:41:12,270 --> 00:41:14,730
And then there were the holidays.

886

00:41:14,730 --> 00:41:17,910
So we couldn't go
to pray because they

887

00:41:17,910 --> 00:41:21,120
would come and kill the people.

888

00:41:21,120 --> 00:41:27,390
So somebody was standing out
on guard if they were coming,

889

00:41:27,390 --> 00:41:32,280
or something was happening,
so people could run away.

890

00:41:32,280 --> 00:41:34,170
It must have been a shock.

891

00:41:34,170 --> 00:41:36,420
It was a big shock.

892

00:41:36,420 --> 00:41:40,320
And then, a little
later, they started

893

00:41:40,320 --> 00:41:43,790
evacuating and attacking
the neighborhood,

894

00:41:43,790 --> 00:41:45,540
the rich neighborhoods.

895
00:41:45,540 --> 00:41:50,340
They tried to plunder,
to take stuff.

896
00:41:50,340 --> 00:41:56,700
And by the end of the year,
they evacuated already

897
00:41:56,700 --> 00:42:02,280
the Jewish people from the
expensive neighborhoods.

898
00:42:02,280 --> 00:42:04,290
So people were running away.

899
00:42:04,290 --> 00:42:05,400
OK.

900
00:42:05,400 --> 00:42:08,080
And they were trying to run
eastwards, is that what you--

901
00:42:08,080 --> 00:42:09,070
Eastwards.

902
00:42:09,070 --> 00:42:17,070
But when they went eastwards,
they sent them to Siberia.

903
00:42:17,070 --> 00:42:20,640
Because they thought they
spies, or they said they spies.

904
00:42:20,640 --> 00:42:22,800
Maybe they saw
they're not spies.

905
00:42:22,800 --> 00:42:29,450
But the Russians weren't
too wonderful, neither.

906

00:42:29,450 --> 00:42:31,710
So they sent them to Siberia.

907
00:42:31,710 --> 00:42:36,540
And over there, my husband came
from a different neighborhood

908
00:42:36,540 --> 00:42:39,810
from the south.

909
00:42:39,810 --> 00:42:42,380
And their whole family ran away.

910
00:42:42,380 --> 00:42:46,440
Because they had two grown-up
boys and their father.

911
00:42:46,440 --> 00:42:50,640
So my mother-in-law with--

912
00:42:50,640 --> 00:42:54,240
they have one more child, they
have only three children--

913
00:42:54,240 --> 00:42:57,360
they ran to the other borders.

914
00:42:57,360 --> 00:42:59,830
And then, they sent
them to Siberia.

915
00:42:59,830 --> 00:43:03,270
So was your husband,
whom you married later,

916
00:43:03,270 --> 00:43:05,220
was he from LÃ³dz, as well?

917
00:43:05,220 --> 00:43:05,850
No, no.

918
00:43:05,850 --> 00:43:07,000

Where was he from?

919

00:43:07,000 --> 00:43:09,720

920

00:43:09,720 --> 00:43:12,250

It was called Sanok.

921

00:43:12,250 --> 00:43:13,350

Sanok.

922

00:43:13,350 --> 00:43:13,850

Sanok.

923

00:43:13,850 --> 00:43:14,790

Yes.

924

00:43:14,790 --> 00:43:20,100

In this south, in the southwest it was, I think, yes.

925

00:43:20,100 --> 00:43:23,370

Now, this is something you learned

926

00:43:23,370 --> 00:43:25,590

when you met your husband, and he told you

927

00:43:25,590 --> 00:43:27,510

about what he'd been through?

928

00:43:27,510 --> 00:43:28,140

Yes.

929

00:43:28,140 --> 00:43:32,550

But at the time, when the first months of the war and people

930

00:43:32,550 --> 00:43:36,000

are leaving, was there any news of what

931
00:43:36,000 --> 00:43:37,560
was going to happen
to them when they

932
00:43:37,560 --> 00:43:41,460
get into the territory
controlled by the Soviets?

933
00:43:41,460 --> 00:43:45,330
Did you know, in Lá³dz, what
was happening in the east?

934
00:43:45,330 --> 00:43:46,200
They didn't know.

935
00:43:46,200 --> 00:43:47,550
Everybody was running.

936
00:43:47,550 --> 00:43:49,545
All the young
people were running.

937
00:43:49,545 --> 00:43:50,820
I see.

938
00:43:50,820 --> 00:43:52,810
What about your brother?

939
00:43:52,810 --> 00:43:54,980
My brother was only 17.

940
00:43:54,980 --> 00:43:57,750
He wasn't so old.

941
00:43:57,750 --> 00:44:00,660
It was 1939.

942
00:44:00,660 --> 00:44:04,420
So he stayed with the family.

943

00:44:04,420 --> 00:44:10,950
He was studying out of town,
but he came home for vacation.

944
00:44:10,950 --> 00:44:14,590
And he didn't go back
when the war broke out.

945
00:44:14,590 --> 00:44:17,040
So he stayed with the family.

946
00:44:17,040 --> 00:44:24,210
And as a matter of fact,
when, years later, in 1944,

947
00:44:24,210 --> 00:44:28,410
they evacuated the-- started
evacuating the ghetto.

948
00:44:28,410 --> 00:44:31,710
There were raids before.

949
00:44:31,710 --> 00:44:35,460
They came to take young people.

950
00:44:35,460 --> 00:44:38,310
And they took
children and mothers.

951
00:44:38,310 --> 00:44:42,530
We didn't know what was doing
and where everything was.

952
00:44:42,530 --> 00:44:45,210
Obviously, my father
had the radio,

953
00:44:45,210 --> 00:44:48,892
and he knew more than we knew.

954
00:44:48,892 --> 00:44:49,850
So this is going into--

955

00:44:49,850 --> 00:44:52,400

So in ghetto, I worked.

956

00:44:52,400 --> 00:44:54,220

We'll come to that in a minute.

957

00:44:54,220 --> 00:44:57,090

Right now, I still want to
talk about those first months.

958

00:44:57,090 --> 00:44:58,710

It's the first months.

959

00:44:58,710 --> 00:45:02,590

Then, we also tried to go away.

960

00:45:02,590 --> 00:45:07,570

So my father, we
hired, you know, like--

961

00:45:07,570 --> 00:45:13,770

962

00:45:13,770 --> 00:45:19,220

what they use to
transport merchandise.

963

00:45:19,220 --> 00:45:23,040

So we covered it with a canvas.

964

00:45:23,040 --> 00:45:25,710

And we went to the protectorate.

965

00:45:25,710 --> 00:45:29,340

That was not far from Warsaw.

966

00:45:29,340 --> 00:45:31,440

It was Lowicz.

967

00:45:31,440 --> 00:45:36,570

And over there, we came.

968
00:45:36,570 --> 00:45:39,540
And we came to a family.

969
00:45:39,540 --> 00:45:40,580
It was Saturday.

970
00:45:40,580 --> 00:45:42,780
We couldn't drive anymore.

971
00:45:42,780 --> 00:45:46,230
And in Lowicz, they
came to a family.

972
00:45:46,230 --> 00:45:48,740
And my youngest
brother had croup.

973
00:45:48,740 --> 00:45:52,980

974
00:45:52,980 --> 00:46:04,410
So he couldn't-- and then, they
started evacuating to L³dz,

975
00:46:04,410 --> 00:46:05,490
the city.

976
00:46:05,490 --> 00:46:08,190
And they started the ghetto.

977
00:46:08,190 --> 00:46:10,950
So we came back.

978
00:46:10,950 --> 00:46:15,030
And my father, it
was called Lom-F³m.

979
00:46:15,030 --> 00:46:18,540
And they needed the raw
material to make, for the army--

980
00:46:18,540 --> 00:46:22,780

981
00:46:22,780 --> 00:46:27,360
what it called--
uniforms for the army.

982
00:46:27,360 --> 00:46:30,660
So they had to buy the material.

983
00:46:30,660 --> 00:46:35,340
And they allowed some
Jews that gave material,

984
00:46:35,340 --> 00:46:37,590
they gave a green band.

985
00:46:37,590 --> 00:46:43,410
We used to have a band
with the Juden on the arm.

986
00:46:43,410 --> 00:46:44,940
So you'd have a green band.

987
00:46:44,940 --> 00:46:49,740
We had to go with the band.

988
00:46:49,740 --> 00:46:52,050
Were you in the ghetto
already, or were you

989
00:46:52,050 --> 00:46:53,190
still in your own home?

990
00:46:53,190 --> 00:46:56,940
We were still in the city.

991
00:46:56,940 --> 00:47:01,320
But then, they started
evacuating to the ghetto.

992

00:47:01,320 --> 00:47:05,620
And my cousin knew somebody
who lived in the area.

993
00:47:05,620 --> 00:47:08,460
And he gave him his apartment.

994
00:47:08,460 --> 00:47:14,430
And the Polish man that
used to be his customer

995
00:47:14,430 --> 00:47:18,360
gave him his house
in the ghetto area.

996
00:47:18,360 --> 00:47:22,800
And we moved, together with
my cousins, to the ghetto.

997
00:47:22,800 --> 00:47:25,375
But my father
stayed in the city.

998
00:47:25,375 --> 00:47:29,430
He had the permit, a green band.

999
00:47:29,430 --> 00:47:32,160
So this place that
you moved to, what

1000
00:47:32,160 --> 00:47:34,520
was that like, the place
you moved to in the ghetto?

1001
00:47:34,520 --> 00:47:41,760
Was like two bedrooms and a
kitchen on the first floor.

1002
00:47:41,760 --> 00:47:42,260
Smaller.

1003
00:47:42,260 --> 00:47:44,340
It was a small house.

1004

00:47:44,340 --> 00:47:50,190

And they used to have a barn
for the horses downstairs.

1005

00:47:50,190 --> 00:47:52,890

And my cousin took the
downstairs apartment.

1006

00:47:52,890 --> 00:47:54,700

We took one upstairs.

1007

00:47:54,700 --> 00:47:58,770

It was a small house,
like a private house.

1008

00:47:58,770 --> 00:48:03,720

They had barns outside,
around the house.

1009

00:48:03,720 --> 00:48:08,590

Was small, like on an outskirts,
not like in the city--

1010

00:48:08,590 --> 00:48:11,430

small houses.

1011

00:48:11,430 --> 00:48:16,770

Once you moved into the ghetto,
were you ever able to leave it?

1012

00:48:16,770 --> 00:48:20,940

No, there was a barbed
wire around the ghetto.

1013

00:48:20,940 --> 00:48:26,030

But later on, they gave work.

1014

00:48:26,030 --> 00:48:35,340

And there was, the highway was
why it was barbed with wire.

1015

00:48:35,340 --> 00:48:39,000
But in one place
was a bridge to go

1016
00:48:39,000 --> 00:48:42,300
to the other side of the ghetto.

1017
00:48:42,300 --> 00:48:47,040
And when they took us to
work-- there was no school--

1018
00:48:47,040 --> 00:48:49,210
so they took us to work.

1019
00:48:49,210 --> 00:48:50,300
And I worked.

1020
00:48:50,300 --> 00:48:53,960
And it was called
Klein Mabel Fabrik.

1021
00:48:53,960 --> 00:48:55,710
Klein Mabel Fabrik?

1022
00:48:55,710 --> 00:49:02,870
Yeah, they made, for the
kid, for the children--

1023
00:49:02,870 --> 00:49:03,990
what do you call it--

1024
00:49:03,990 --> 00:49:06,978

1025
00:49:06,978 --> 00:49:11,980
the playpens, children's cribs.

1026
00:49:11,980 --> 00:49:15,080
So it was small furniture
for small children.

1027
00:49:15,080 --> 00:49:22,940

Children and also
handles for a pail,

1028
00:49:22,940 --> 00:49:27,320
you know, the wooden handles,
like, the carved wood.

1029
00:49:27,320 --> 00:49:31,580
And I helped there because
I was a Jugendlicher.

1030
00:49:31,580 --> 00:49:32,750
You were a youth, then.

1031
00:49:32,750 --> 00:49:33,610
You were a teenager.

1032
00:49:33,610 --> 00:49:35,480
A teenager.

1033
00:49:35,480 --> 00:49:38,810
So I was working there.

1034
00:49:38,810 --> 00:49:41,600
And there was a
supervisor for the kids

1035
00:49:41,600 --> 00:49:45,880
to see how they treat them.

1036
00:49:45,880 --> 00:49:51,130
So of course, the
people that work,

1037
00:49:51,130 --> 00:49:52,970
they were also tired and hungry.

1038
00:49:52,970 --> 00:49:58,620
Because in the ghetto, already
started not the same food.

1039
00:49:58,620 --> 00:50:03,260

We couldn't buy food,
only what we got.

1040
00:50:03,260 --> 00:50:08,140
And was there any possibility
to keep kosher at all?

1041
00:50:08,140 --> 00:50:10,850
No, we couldn't.

1042
00:50:10,850 --> 00:50:13,970
We were happy to
get some barley.

1043
00:50:13,970 --> 00:50:16,580
And potato was a big deal.

1044
00:50:16,580 --> 00:50:21,550
And we got already the
portions of the bread.

1045
00:50:21,550 --> 00:50:24,130
But you had to pay for it, too.

1046
00:50:24,130 --> 00:50:24,730
So we worked.

1047
00:50:24,730 --> 00:50:26,870
They payed something, not much.

1048
00:50:26,870 --> 00:50:30,435

1049
00:50:30,435 --> 00:50:33,540
In the ghetto, there
wasn't food already.

1050
00:50:33,540 --> 00:50:37,120

1051
00:50:37,120 --> 00:50:44,280
So the first year, when

we had to heat the house,

1052

00:50:44,280 --> 00:50:48,810

no, we didn't get any
coal to heat the house.

1053

00:50:48,810 --> 00:50:51,930

So they had the barns.

1054

00:50:51,930 --> 00:50:53,790

They boys broke it down.

1055

00:50:53,790 --> 00:50:55,650

We used the wood.

1056

00:50:55,650 --> 00:51:00,270

And the next year, in
spring, we turned the ground,

1057

00:51:00,270 --> 00:51:03,450

and we took the eyes
from the potatoes.

1058

00:51:03,450 --> 00:51:06,600

You cut out the eyes
from the potato,

1059

00:51:06,600 --> 00:51:09,690

and you put it in the
ground upside down.

1060

00:51:09,690 --> 00:51:12,340

And we turned the ground.

1061

00:51:12,340 --> 00:51:14,220

And there was a pump downstairs.

1062

00:51:14,220 --> 00:51:16,140

So we got to work.

1063

00:51:16,140 --> 00:51:18,660

And when I came

home from work, I

1064
00:51:18,660 --> 00:51:20,430
was taking care of the garden.

1065
00:51:20,430 --> 00:51:22,560
I was the gardener.

1066
00:51:22,560 --> 00:51:25,960
So we did potatoes,
little tomatoes.

1067
00:51:25,960 --> 00:51:28,050
We planted things.

1068
00:51:28,050 --> 00:51:31,840
Of course, there was no
gates, so people stole.

1069
00:51:31,840 --> 00:51:33,270
They were hungry.

1070
00:51:33,270 --> 00:51:36,600
But the potatoes on the
ground was a big help--

1071
00:51:36,600 --> 00:51:37,420
I can imagine.

1072
00:51:37,420 --> 00:51:39,170
--to get what to eat.

1073
00:51:39,170 --> 00:51:40,980
Yeah, yeah.

1074
00:51:40,980 --> 00:51:45,150
And unusual that you'd
have a plot of land

1075
00:51:45,150 --> 00:51:46,870
to be able to plant it.

1076

00:51:46,870 --> 00:51:50,070

No, because we broke down
the-- we needed the wood.

1077

00:51:50,070 --> 00:51:50,940

You needed the wood.

1078

00:51:50,940 --> 00:51:53,100

And so, the land
the barn was on.

1079

00:51:53,100 --> 00:51:54,900

Yeah, on the ground, the ground.

1080

00:51:54,900 --> 00:51:56,250

Yeah, on the ground.

1081

00:51:56,250 --> 00:51:59,540

And we didn't have
horses or cows.

1082

00:51:59,540 --> 00:52:01,560

No, but your father
was allowed still

1083

00:52:01,560 --> 00:52:05,120

to go in and out of the ghetto.

1084

00:52:05,120 --> 00:52:07,710

Inside the ghetto,
we could go, yes.

1085

00:52:07,710 --> 00:52:10,870

My father worked
in a straw factory.

1086

00:52:10,870 --> 00:52:17,200

I worked in the furniture
factories, Klein Mabel.

1087

00:52:17,200 --> 00:52:19,180

That was over the bridge.

1088
00:52:19,180 --> 00:52:22,800
We had to go to the
other side of the ghetto.

1089
00:52:22,800 --> 00:52:25,620
What about your older
brother and sister?

1090
00:52:25,620 --> 00:52:26,820
They also worked.

1091
00:52:26,820 --> 00:52:27,750
Where did they work?

1092
00:52:27,750 --> 00:52:33,530

1093
00:52:33,530 --> 00:52:36,920
They didn't work the
same place I did.

1094
00:52:36,920 --> 00:52:44,990
I think they worked were you
straw or something else--

1095
00:52:44,990 --> 00:52:45,890
to be honest.

1096
00:52:45,890 --> 00:52:46,868
You don't know, huh?

1097
00:52:46,868 --> 00:52:47,660
You don't remember?

1098
00:52:47,660 --> 00:52:49,160
I don't.

1099
00:52:49,160 --> 00:52:54,950
No, my sister
worked in an office.

1100

00:52:54,950 --> 00:52:58,580

And my brother worked
in a factory someplace.

1101

00:52:58,580 --> 00:53:01,580

Your mother, did
she also go to work?

1102

00:53:01,580 --> 00:53:03,770

Or did she stay home
with the other children?

1103

00:53:03,770 --> 00:53:05,470

With the babies she stayed home.

1104

00:53:05,470 --> 00:53:06,860

There were little babies.

1105

00:53:06,860 --> 00:53:09,290

So you couldn't leave them.

1106

00:53:09,290 --> 00:53:13,460

The seven-year-old they
took to the straw factory.

1107

00:53:13,460 --> 00:53:15,270

They did work.

1108

00:53:15,270 --> 00:53:20,030

And my father, there was a
problem because Saturday,

1109

00:53:20,030 --> 00:53:21,350

he didn't want to work.

1110

00:53:21,350 --> 00:53:25,490

So the meat, there
was horse meat.

1111

00:53:25,490 --> 00:53:27,920

Now, horse meat isn't kosher.

1112
00:53:27,920 --> 00:53:31,530
My father never ate
meat in the ghetto.

1113
00:53:31,530 --> 00:53:33,650
He never ate.

1114
00:53:33,650 --> 00:53:37,910
But the children, they were
hungry, and they're growing.

1115
00:53:37,910 --> 00:53:42,800
So he permitted, to
what they gave, we ate.

1116
00:53:42,800 --> 00:53:45,480

1117
00:53:45,480 --> 00:53:48,110
But my father
didn't eat the meat.

1118
00:53:48,110 --> 00:53:52,140

1119
00:53:52,140 --> 00:53:58,560
The Łódź ghetto was one of those
that existed the longest during

1120
00:53:58,560 --> 00:53:59,940
the war.

1121
00:53:59,940 --> 00:54:02,780
And it was run by Chaim--

1122
00:54:02,780 --> 00:54:03,280
Rumkowski.

1123
00:54:03,280 --> 00:54:05,760
Rumkowski.

1124

00:54:05,760 --> 00:54:08,550

Did your family have
any dealings with him?

1125

00:54:08,550 --> 00:54:11,950

Did he touch your
lives in any way?

1126

00:54:11,950 --> 00:54:12,970

No.

1127

00:54:12,970 --> 00:54:22,190

They made up, even, songs,
like some that were sarcastic.

1128

00:54:22,190 --> 00:54:23,730

Rumkowski Chaim

1129

00:54:23,730 --> 00:54:31,340

1130

00:54:31,340 --> 00:54:34,140

[YIDDISH] means badly.

1131

00:54:34,140 --> 00:54:39,480

It was like the manna that
God gave in the wilderness.

1132

00:54:39,480 --> 00:54:42,740

So he felt everything
in the manna.

1133

00:54:42,740 --> 00:54:47,850

Because there was no food,
but it fell down from heaven.

1134

00:54:47,850 --> 00:54:49,140

Like the manna did, yeah.

1135

00:54:49,140 --> 00:54:50,460

Yes.

1136

00:54:50,460 --> 00:54:55,350
So they made the joke,
like he gives us barley.

1137
00:54:55,350 --> 00:54:56,250
He made the ghetto.

1138
00:54:56,250 --> 00:54:58,320
It was [INAUDIBLE].

1139
00:54:58,320 --> 00:55:01,530
And he says it is gerecht.

1140
00:55:01,530 --> 00:55:06,540
So that was like his
song, like his satire.

1141
00:55:06,540 --> 00:55:08,700
Did people, then, not
like him very much?

1142
00:55:08,700 --> 00:55:10,170
No.

1143
00:55:10,170 --> 00:55:14,440
But it wasn't his fault.
He did what he had to do.

1144
00:55:14,440 --> 00:55:16,230
Did you ever see him?

1145
00:55:16,230 --> 00:55:24,570
Yeah, we saw him, not
very much, not very much.

1146
00:55:24,570 --> 00:55:28,100
But there were stations
where you picked up

1147
00:55:28,100 --> 00:55:31,500
the bread for the week.

1148

00:55:31,500 --> 00:55:36,130
And the bread was so heavy
because should weigh more.

1149
00:55:36,130 --> 00:55:39,670
So wasn't very well baked.

1150
00:55:39,670 --> 00:55:45,650
But somehow, we bought, because
my father was in the city,

1151
00:55:45,650 --> 00:55:50,930
so we had some extra money
to buy on the black market.

1152
00:55:50,930 --> 00:55:52,640
There was a black market.

1153
00:55:52,640 --> 00:55:54,070
In the ghetto?

1154
00:55:54,070 --> 00:55:58,940
No, people that work buy
food, like it's all over.

1155
00:55:58,940 --> 00:56:01,700
So they tried to
take something home.

1156
00:56:01,700 --> 00:56:06,110
They didn't have money to buy
out the card, the rations.

1157
00:56:06,110 --> 00:56:09,290
So they had the money.

1158
00:56:09,290 --> 00:56:12,170
So they had some
flour so you could

1159
00:56:12,170 --> 00:56:17,900
buy little flour so my mother
baked something on Friday.

1160
00:56:17,900 --> 00:56:20,400
So we were a little better off.

1161
00:56:20,400 --> 00:56:23,690
So your father, was he able to--

1162
00:56:23,690 --> 00:56:25,910
That's till 1940.

1163
00:56:25,910 --> 00:56:32,110
When the Russian war broke
out, everybody went to ghetto.

1164
00:56:32,110 --> 00:56:33,155
Then it was finished.

1165
00:56:33,155 --> 00:56:37,040
Oh, that's what my question
was, that he was only until--

1166
00:56:37,040 --> 00:56:38,570
it was 1941.

1167
00:56:38,570 --> 00:56:44,215
'41, when the Russians
went to war with Germany.

1168
00:56:44,215 --> 00:56:47,990

1169
00:56:47,990 --> 00:56:50,630
Then he had to be in
the ghetto, as well.

1170
00:56:50,630 --> 00:56:54,440
We were in the ghetto till 1944.

1171
00:56:54,440 --> 00:57:00,260
August 24, 1944,
we left the ghetto.

1172
00:57:00,260 --> 00:57:03,650
Tell me some other
things about ghetto life

1173
00:57:03,650 --> 00:57:05,920
before we get to that point.

1174
00:57:05,920 --> 00:57:09,860
You're in the ghetto, then,
for a good four and five years.

1175
00:57:09,860 --> 00:57:12,920
That's a very long
time, from the time

1176
00:57:12,920 --> 00:57:21,910
that you are 14 years old
till the time you're 18 or 19.

1177
00:57:21,910 --> 00:57:23,750
No, I was 18.

1178
00:57:23,750 --> 00:57:24,560
You were 18?

1179
00:57:24,560 --> 00:57:25,580
Yes.

1180
00:57:25,580 --> 00:57:29,420
So I worked there.

1181
00:57:29,420 --> 00:57:35,300
And then, the man came
from the school department.

1182
00:57:35,300 --> 00:57:37,820
And he said that I am good.

1183
00:57:37,820 --> 00:57:44,600
So they took me to the
office to do the evidence.

1184

00:57:44,600 --> 00:57:48,680

Every morning, when you
came to work in the factory,

1185

00:57:48,680 --> 00:57:51,490

had to go to the
office to report--

1186

00:57:51,490 --> 00:57:52,490

Yeah, that you're there.

1187

00:57:52,490 --> 00:57:53,330

--that you're here.

1188

00:57:53,330 --> 00:58:00,480

And you had a cell number, the
floor number where you worked.

1189

00:58:00,480 --> 00:58:05,360

And everywhere, you had the
number, a registry number.

1190

00:58:05,360 --> 00:58:07,940

I happen to have a good memory.

1191

00:58:07,940 --> 00:58:10,760

So I work in the evidence.

1192

00:58:10,760 --> 00:58:16,280

After a year or so, they took
me to work in the office.

1193

00:58:16,280 --> 00:58:19,880

There wasn't a registry office.

1194

00:58:19,880 --> 00:58:22,310

So it was a little easier.

1195

00:58:22,310 --> 00:58:26,330

Because I remembered
so it went fast.

1196

00:58:26,330 --> 00:58:31,220

When people came to work in the morning, they had to register.

1197

00:58:31,220 --> 00:58:33,185

And they registered, then, with you.

1198

00:58:33,185 --> 00:58:36,530

Yeah, there were more than me just.

1199

00:58:36,530 --> 00:58:40,310

There was some other girls, too.

1200

00:58:40,310 --> 00:58:44,090

Were the conditions easier in the office?

1201

00:58:44,090 --> 00:58:47,600

Yes, you had to carry the heavy wood pieces.

1202

00:58:47,600 --> 00:58:51,590

They were heavy sticks for the furniture.

1203

00:58:51,590 --> 00:58:54,660

And also, you have to chisel.

1204

00:58:54,660 --> 00:58:56,630

It was hard on the fingers.

1205

00:58:56,630 --> 00:58:59,330

1206

00:58:59,330 --> 00:59:00,890

And office work is easier.

1207

00:59:00,890 --> 00:59:02,390

Much easier.

1208
00:59:02,390 --> 00:59:03,500
Was it warmer?

1209
00:59:03,500 --> 00:59:06,020
Did you get any extra food?

1210
00:59:06,020 --> 00:59:07,730
No food extra, no.

1211
00:59:07,730 --> 00:59:10,658
You got the soap, and
you got a piece of bread.

1212
00:59:10,658 --> 00:59:11,200
[PHONE RINGS]

1213
00:59:11,200 --> 00:59:12,902
That's all you got.

1214
00:59:12,902 --> 00:59:13,866
Let's cut.

1215
00:59:13,866 --> 00:59:17,730

1216
00:59:17,730 --> 00:59:22,560
OK, we were talking about
office work and work

1217
00:59:22,560 --> 00:59:24,605
in the factory itself.

1218
00:59:24,605 --> 00:59:25,770
In the factory, yeah.

1219
00:59:25,770 --> 00:59:27,435
I want to ask a larger question.

1220
00:59:27,435 --> 00:59:30,990

1221
00:59:30,990 --> 00:59:32,910
Were you always
hungry, or were you

1222
00:59:32,910 --> 00:59:34,555
not so hungry in the ghetto?

1223
00:59:34,555 --> 00:59:37,140
You see, it was harder for boys.

1224
00:59:37,140 --> 00:59:41,820
Because I didn't
grow too much anymore

1225
00:59:41,820 --> 00:59:46,410
because there wasn't the
food what teenagers need.

1226
00:59:46,410 --> 00:59:54,090
But I wasn't so hungry because
they used to give kohlrabi.

1227
00:59:54,090 --> 00:59:57,540
I didn't like it.

1228
00:59:57,540 --> 01:00:02,100
But I was occupied
here in the garden.

1229
01:00:02,100 --> 01:00:05,700
I had this, but the
boys were hungry.

1230
01:00:05,700 --> 01:00:07,980
I could have used
another piece of bread.

1231
01:00:07,980 --> 01:00:11,010
But you couldn't complain
because what could they

1232
01:00:11,010 --> 01:00:11,890

do, the parents?

1233

01:00:11,890 --> 01:00:14,910

1234

01:00:14,910 --> 01:00:17,525

It was much harder
for the grown boys.

1235

01:00:17,525 --> 01:00:20,916

1236

01:00:20,916 --> 01:00:24,510

Were there many Germans
soldiers in the ghetto?

1237

01:00:24,510 --> 01:00:25,860

Did you see many of them?

1238

01:00:25,860 --> 01:00:26,450

In the ghetto?

1239

01:00:26,450 --> 01:00:32,070

1240

01:00:32,070 --> 01:00:37,540

They were guarding by the
wires, by the barbed wires,

1241

01:00:37,540 --> 01:00:41,370

that people shouldn't
run out from the ghetto.

1242

01:00:41,370 --> 01:00:44,100

But they didn't
patrol the ghetto?

1243

01:00:44,100 --> 01:00:47,240

They patrolled the borders.

1244

01:00:47,240 --> 01:00:50,110

OK, so you didn't have any

real contact with them?

1245
01:00:50,110 --> 01:00:55,500
Oh, the Germans
came every so often.

1246
01:00:55,500 --> 01:01:00,490
They came to grab people,
whoever they could.

1247
01:01:00,490 --> 01:01:04,380
They took them to
concentration camps.

1248
01:01:04,380 --> 01:01:07,890
Before us, we were
the last transport.

1249
01:01:07,890 --> 01:01:11,700
And they took children.

1250
01:01:11,700 --> 01:01:13,440
They took men.

1251
01:01:13,440 --> 01:01:20,250
I had an aunt that lived
from my mother's side.

1252
01:01:20,250 --> 01:01:24,770
When they had the
rations, they came,

1253
01:01:24,770 --> 01:01:29,640
and they went into every house
to see if there's people.

1254
01:01:29,640 --> 01:01:33,480
And they took out
whoever they wanted--

1255
01:01:33,480 --> 01:01:36,190
old people, young people.

1256

01:01:36,190 --> 01:01:41,730

So my father-- it
was a small house.

1257

01:01:41,730 --> 01:01:48,810

And under the steps was a
place where you could go in.

1258

01:01:48,810 --> 01:01:51,630

So my father opened the floor.

1259

01:01:51,630 --> 01:01:55,480

He cut the floor
open, and he made

1260

01:01:55,480 --> 01:01:58,630

a hiding place they
shouldn't come.

1261

01:01:58,630 --> 01:02:04,370

Because they took children and
everybody to take for killing.

1262

01:02:04,370 --> 01:02:11,040

So when there were the
rations, we lived on--

1263

01:02:11,040 --> 01:02:16,510

1264

01:02:16,510 --> 01:02:18,840

it was like you see here.

1265

01:02:18,840 --> 01:02:21,520

The streets went like this.

1266

01:02:21,520 --> 01:02:25,510

So like, you lived on
this side of the street.

1267

01:02:25,510 --> 01:02:29,320

On the other side,

there was a small place

1268
01:02:29,320 --> 01:02:32,710
that you could go through
to the other street

1269
01:02:32,710 --> 01:02:34,870
without going around.

1270
01:02:34,870 --> 01:02:44,142
So this place, when
they were [INAUDIBLE]----

1271
01:02:44,142 --> 01:02:45,600
Where they were
taking people away?

1272
01:02:45,600 --> 01:02:52,030
People away, my brother
got a band as a policeman.

1273
01:02:52,030 --> 01:02:58,360
And he came to warn us we
should hide in the hiding place.

1274
01:02:58,360 --> 01:03:01,990
So your brother was working
as a ghetto policeperson?

1275
01:03:01,990 --> 01:03:03,190
No, he just--

1276
01:03:03,190 --> 01:03:04,390
He just got the band.

1277
01:03:04,390 --> 01:03:05,680
He just got the band.

1278
01:03:05,680 --> 01:03:07,630
He wasn't a policeman.

1279
01:03:07,630 --> 01:03:11,813

He just got the band
from the police station.

1280
01:03:11,813 --> 01:03:14,090
And those days, you paid
something, you know,

1281
01:03:14,090 --> 01:03:16,450
like a loaf of bread.

1282
01:03:16,450 --> 01:03:18,580
And so he came.

1283
01:03:18,580 --> 01:03:21,100
So we went down
with the children.

1284
01:03:21,100 --> 01:03:24,870
Also was an old lady.

1285
01:03:24,870 --> 01:03:27,680
They were also afraid
they'd take the old people

1286
01:03:27,680 --> 01:03:29,490
for killing, too.

1287
01:03:29,490 --> 01:03:34,060
So he dug a hole.

1288
01:03:34,060 --> 01:03:38,500
And from the sand, he made
two, like, benches to sit--

1289
01:03:38,500 --> 01:03:40,690
you put a piece of board--

1290
01:03:40,690 --> 01:03:43,260
so the people could hide.

1291
01:03:43,260 --> 01:03:47,490
And we knew that if

we heard the steps,

1292
01:03:47,490 --> 01:03:49,500
so we locked the
children's mouths

1293
01:03:49,500 --> 01:03:52,220
so you shouldn't hear noises.

1294
01:03:52,220 --> 01:03:54,670
And when they went
away, so my brother

1295
01:03:54,670 --> 01:04:00,660
came that we could go out,
ready to go into the houses.

1296
01:04:00,660 --> 01:04:02,500
And did this happen a lot?

1297
01:04:02,500 --> 01:04:03,000
It happened.

1298
01:04:03,000 --> 01:04:05,380
Did you happen to
look in your home?

1299
01:04:05,380 --> 01:04:08,390

1300
01:04:08,390 --> 01:04:09,070
It happened.

1301
01:04:09,070 --> 01:04:12,850
But the last time it
happened, my mother

1302
01:04:12,850 --> 01:04:16,440
was so scared because
there were shots outside.

1303
01:04:16,440 --> 01:04:19,420

And she imagined that
they killed my brother.

1304
01:04:19,420 --> 01:04:23,140
So we gave up, and we went away.

1305
01:04:23,140 --> 01:04:24,630
But there was already the end.

1306
01:04:24,630 --> 01:04:31,240
Two weeks later, the whole
ghetto was evacuated.

1307
01:04:31,240 --> 01:04:32,230
I see.

1308
01:04:32,230 --> 01:04:34,280
So that's at the
end of the time.

1309
01:04:34,280 --> 01:04:36,880
But throughout the
ghetto time, I mean,

1310
01:04:36,880 --> 01:04:39,140
you had so many small
children in your family.

1311
01:04:39,140 --> 01:04:40,090
It was a risk.

1312
01:04:40,090 --> 01:04:41,620
Yes, so we had to hide.

1313
01:04:41,620 --> 01:04:42,490
Yeah, it was a risk.

1314
01:04:42,490 --> 01:04:44,350
Because they took away--

1315
01:04:44,350 --> 01:04:47,720
they had no use for small

children, so they killed them.

1316
01:04:47,720 --> 01:04:48,510
They killed them.

1317
01:04:48,510 --> 01:04:51,130
We don't know where
they took them.

1318
01:04:51,130 --> 01:04:55,000
My aunt, we heard,
she had two boys.

1319
01:04:55,000 --> 01:04:57,330
Her husband went to Russia.

1320
01:04:57,330 --> 01:04:59,860
And she stayed with two boys.

1321
01:04:59,860 --> 01:05:03,160
So she lived not far from us.

1322
01:05:03,160 --> 01:05:07,480
And we took her in
whenever she was all alone.

1323
01:05:07,480 --> 01:05:10,130
So she also was hiding there.

1324
01:05:10,130 --> 01:05:14,170
And we heard that they
took them to the ocean,

1325
01:05:14,170 --> 01:05:18,880
to the Baltic ocean, and they
threw this transport of people

1326
01:05:18,880 --> 01:05:19,990
into the ocean, alive.

1327
01:05:19,990 --> 01:05:23,460

1328
01:05:23,460 --> 01:05:25,010
We didn't know what happened.

1329
01:05:25,010 --> 01:05:26,590
But then we heard from people--

1330
01:05:26,590 --> 01:05:27,090
Later.

1331
01:05:27,090 --> 01:05:29,130
--after the war.

1332
01:05:29,130 --> 01:05:30,150
That's what happened.

1333
01:05:30,150 --> 01:05:31,950
So she had two boys.

1334
01:05:31,950 --> 01:05:32,940
One was nine.

1335
01:05:32,940 --> 01:05:35,520
One was 11.

1336
01:05:35,520 --> 01:05:37,700
And the husband died in Russia.

1337
01:05:37,700 --> 01:05:38,980
He never came back.

1338
01:05:38,980 --> 01:05:45,700

1339
01:05:45,700 --> 01:05:51,760
In the ghetto, did you
see people starving?

1340
01:05:51,760 --> 01:05:57,060
Did you see people dying in
the ghetto when you were there?

1341
01:05:57,060 --> 01:05:58,560
Well, going.

1342
01:05:58,560 --> 01:06:01,760
Now it was closed
after a certain time.

1343
01:06:01,760 --> 01:06:08,710
In the beginning of
January, February 1940

1344
01:06:08,710 --> 01:06:10,910
was close the ghetto.

1345
01:06:10,910 --> 01:06:13,690
No, no, no, what I mean
is within the ghetto,

1346
01:06:13,690 --> 01:06:15,430
during the years that
you lived there--

1347
01:06:15,430 --> 01:06:17,860
If you met people, yes.

1348
01:06:17,860 --> 01:06:20,235
After work, there wasn't--

1349
01:06:20,235 --> 01:06:23,050

1350
01:06:23,050 --> 01:06:27,290
people that lived
in the area you saw.

1351
01:06:27,290 --> 01:06:31,030
You didn't have time to
go because we worked.

1352
01:06:31,030 --> 01:06:32,780
My question was different.

1353
01:06:32,780 --> 01:06:35,620
My question was, did
you see people dying?

1354
01:06:35,620 --> 01:06:37,220
Did you see people hungry?

1355
01:06:37,220 --> 01:06:37,720
Oh, yes.

1356
01:06:37,720 --> 01:06:40,600
You saw people
like skin and bone

1357
01:06:40,600 --> 01:06:43,450
because they couldn't
live from what they lived.

1358
01:06:43,450 --> 01:06:46,420
And sometimes, they
were all the people,

1359
01:06:46,420 --> 01:06:48,970
they didn't even have the money.

1360
01:06:48,970 --> 01:06:52,810
You had to pay for
it, too, to buy it.

1361
01:06:52,810 --> 01:06:55,180
So they sold.

1362
01:06:55,180 --> 01:07:02,680
And it happened that people
kept the corpse to get the food.

1363
01:07:02,680 --> 01:07:10,510
They kept the corpse after they
died to get-- they were hungry.

1364
01:07:10,510 --> 01:07:12,610

So they got the food,
that they could live.

1365
01:07:12,610 --> 01:07:13,960
So they were starving.

1366
01:07:13,960 --> 01:07:15,243
Yes.

1367
01:07:15,243 --> 01:07:16,035
They were starving.

1368
01:07:16,035 --> 01:07:17,500
It was very bad.

1369
01:07:17,500 --> 01:07:19,870
We were hungry in the ghetto.

1370
01:07:19,870 --> 01:07:22,410
There was a joke that--

1371
01:07:22,410 --> 01:07:25,900
it was a song--

1372
01:07:25,900 --> 01:07:32,330
I have for you a good
thing, a roll with butter,

1373
01:07:32,330 --> 01:07:35,900
that this would be the
best thing for you,

1374
01:07:35,900 --> 01:07:38,530
you know, like a
little something.

1375
01:07:38,530 --> 01:07:44,830
So the other boy answered, I
cannot laugh because if I look

1376
01:07:44,830 --> 01:07:48,080
at my sick father,

I cannot laugh,

1377

01:07:48,080 --> 01:07:51,372
and I cannot enjoy anything.

1378

01:07:51,372 --> 01:07:54,230
You know, a child
conversation was--

1379

01:07:54,230 --> 01:07:57,370
in a song, they made up jokes.

1380

01:07:57,370 --> 01:07:58,870
But it was not a joke.

1381

01:07:58,870 --> 01:08:00,070
Yeah, it was through tears.

1382

01:08:00,070 --> 01:08:00,570
What?

1383

01:08:00,570 --> 01:08:01,600
A joke through--

1384

01:08:01,600 --> 01:08:04,510
Through tears, yeah.

1385

01:08:04,510 --> 01:08:08,050
Did your parents'
personalities change at all

1386

01:08:08,050 --> 01:08:12,280
through these
types of hardships?

1387

01:08:12,280 --> 01:08:13,820
Of course, they change.

1388

01:08:13,820 --> 01:08:19,630
But your main thing in a
Jewish family is your family.

1389

01:08:19,630 --> 01:08:24,460

That's what you live for, for
your family and to help people

1390

01:08:24,460 --> 01:08:25,870

if you can.

1391

01:08:25,870 --> 01:08:29,279

A person isn't born
just for yourself.

1392

01:08:29,279 --> 01:08:34,330

You are born here that
sometimes, I need you,

1393

01:08:34,330 --> 01:08:35,710

sometimes you need me.

1394

01:08:35,710 --> 01:08:37,330

But people need people.

1395

01:08:37,330 --> 01:08:40,347

1396

01:08:40,347 --> 01:08:42,180

I don't know if I'm
expressing myself right.

1397

01:08:42,180 --> 01:08:44,819

Oh, absolutely perfectly.

1398

01:08:44,819 --> 01:08:48,620

I'm just wondering how your
mother and father took it, how

1399

01:08:48,620 --> 01:08:51,080

they were able to handle this.

1400

01:08:51,080 --> 01:08:53,835

Because they have nine children.

1401

01:08:53,835 --> 01:08:58,819

Oh, yeah, but my brothers--
my brother was already big.

1402

01:08:58,819 --> 01:09:02,090

And the ones that
were over 10, you

1403

01:09:02,090 --> 01:09:05,779

know, you grow up
faster in a big family.

1404

01:09:05,779 --> 01:09:09,859

Over 10, 11, 12,
you already people.

1405

01:09:09,859 --> 01:09:13,340

You had responsibilities.

1406

01:09:13,340 --> 01:09:16,880

In a big family, somehow,
everybody's close.

1407

01:09:16,880 --> 01:09:18,352

You care for each other.

1408

01:09:18,352 --> 01:09:21,346

1409

01:09:21,346 --> 01:09:24,189

Did that help you
survive, do you think?

1410

01:09:24,189 --> 01:09:26,359

Yes, yes.

1411

01:09:26,359 --> 01:09:29,120

It helped me survive.

1412

01:09:29,120 --> 01:09:33,170

You know, sometimes people
ask, how did you survive?

1413
01:09:33,170 --> 01:09:35,270
Honestly, I don't know.

1414
01:09:35,270 --> 01:09:36,500
God wanted it.

1415
01:09:36,500 --> 01:09:42,979
It was the way that, when
they sent us to Auschwitz

1416
01:09:42,979 --> 01:09:47,630
and when they shaved
our hair, I couldn't

1417
01:09:47,630 --> 01:09:50,300
recognize my sister next to me.

1418
01:09:50,300 --> 01:09:55,730
My other sister went with
my mother straight off.

1419
01:09:55,730 --> 01:10:02,810
And I saw through the bath
house where we took the baths

1420
01:10:02,810 --> 01:10:07,850
and when they cut us, off
the hair, we were standing.

1421
01:10:07,850 --> 01:10:10,640
There was big
windows downstairs.

1422
01:10:10,640 --> 01:10:13,850
And there were people
standing out line.

1423
01:10:13,850 --> 01:10:17,040
And I think I saw my
father with the two--

1424
01:10:17,040 --> 01:10:21,605

all the boys, like, eight--

1425
01:10:21,605 --> 01:10:23,420
eight, nine, 10.

1426
01:10:23,420 --> 01:10:26,300

1427
01:10:26,300 --> 01:10:29,200
And my mother, we never saw.

1428
01:10:29,200 --> 01:10:34,340
Since we left the train that
brought us to Auschwitz,

1429
01:10:34,340 --> 01:10:35,900
I never saw her.

1430
01:10:35,900 --> 01:10:41,090
But the kapo that took us
off was the Jewish police.

1431
01:10:41,090 --> 01:10:43,640
My sister went with my mother.

1432
01:10:43,640 --> 01:10:46,840
So he told her, don't go there.

1433
01:10:46,840 --> 01:10:49,940
This way, they
going to kill you.

1434
01:10:49,940 --> 01:10:52,430
They gas you, and they burn you.

1435
01:10:52,430 --> 01:10:54,410
So she said, no,
it's my children.

1436
01:10:54,410 --> 01:10:57,320
I want to go with them.

1437

01:10:57,320 --> 01:10:59,720

They told us that
the mothers will

1438

01:10:59,720 --> 01:11:02,680

take care of the children,
which wasn't true.

1439

01:11:02,680 --> 01:11:03,590

Was it true?

1440

01:11:03,590 --> 01:11:05,330

It wasn't.

1441

01:11:05,330 --> 01:11:14,300

And on the way, when we went
from the baths to the barracks

1442

01:11:14,300 --> 01:11:19,430

where we stayed, there was
a big road that was pebbles.

1443

01:11:19,430 --> 01:11:23,450

And they didn't give us shoes,
so we walked on the road.

1444

01:11:23,450 --> 01:11:26,110

1445

01:11:26,110 --> 01:11:26,950

Oh, you're leaving?

1446

01:11:26,950 --> 01:11:28,730

Yeah, I'm leaving at 2 o'clock.

1447

01:11:28,730 --> 01:11:30,070

OK.

1448

01:11:30,070 --> 01:11:33,250

Let's step back a little bit.

1449

01:11:33,250 --> 01:11:37,540
I want to hear everything that
you have to say about this.

1450
01:11:37,540 --> 01:11:42,850
But let's step back and paint
the picture in the sense,

1451
01:11:42,850 --> 01:11:45,130
you're saying that
the last time you

1452
01:11:45,130 --> 01:11:49,120
hid under the stairs in
the ghetto, your mother

1453
01:11:49,120 --> 01:11:51,580
was frightened because
she heard shots.

1454
01:11:51,580 --> 01:11:53,710
We heard shots outside.

1455
01:11:53,710 --> 01:11:55,210
So then, what happened?

1456
01:11:55,210 --> 01:12:00,760
So she said-- she was
very-- she got hysterical.

1457
01:12:00,760 --> 01:12:04,700
And we were still
in the hole there.

1458
01:12:04,700 --> 01:12:08,440
This, the last
time, we didn't see.

1459
01:12:08,440 --> 01:12:12,520
Until we saw him, we didn't
know that he's alive.

1460
01:12:12,520 --> 01:12:17,440

So my mother said to my
father, if we cannot take it,

1461
01:12:17,440 --> 01:12:18,400
what could be?

1462
01:12:18,400 --> 01:12:22,750
Said, it looks like the end.

1463
01:12:22,750 --> 01:12:27,640
So my father knew
something about Auschwitz.

1464
01:12:27,640 --> 01:12:29,910
So we went on those--

1465
01:12:29,910 --> 01:12:35,350
you could only take a bag,
a duffel bag, on the--

1466
01:12:35,350 --> 01:12:37,600
So you left your hiding place.

1467
01:12:37,600 --> 01:12:38,590
--with nothing.

1468
01:12:38,590 --> 01:12:41,050
Well, after the hiding
place, went upstairs.

1469
01:12:41,050 --> 01:12:42,385
We ate something.

1470
01:12:42,385 --> 01:12:44,740
And when they came next
time, we were there.

1471
01:12:44,740 --> 01:12:46,870
They took us.

1472
01:12:46,870 --> 01:12:50,330
So it wasn't that time,

but it was the next time.

1473
01:12:50,330 --> 01:12:50,920
Yes.

1474
01:12:50,920 --> 01:12:54,780
And they took you
to-- to Auschwitz.

1475
01:12:54,780 --> 01:12:56,330
This was August.

1476
01:12:56,330 --> 01:12:59,720
About two weeks later,
the ghetto was liquidated.

1477
01:12:59,720 --> 01:13:01,880
So this is August, 1944.

1478
01:13:01,880 --> 01:13:02,890
Yes.

1479
01:13:02,890 --> 01:13:04,030
We left on the 24th.

1480
01:13:04,030 --> 01:13:07,540

1481
01:13:07,540 --> 01:13:09,850
Were all of you together,
all nine children?

1482
01:13:09,850 --> 01:13:10,705
All were together.

1483
01:13:10,705 --> 01:13:13,440

1484
01:13:13,440 --> 01:13:16,380
We struggled to be together.

1485

01:13:16,380 --> 01:13:18,540
But we all went.

1486
01:13:18,540 --> 01:13:29,530
And then, when the train
stopped, my father went down.

1487
01:13:29,530 --> 01:13:32,110
And he saw this sign Auschwitz.

1488
01:13:32,110 --> 01:13:33,610
He knew about Auschwitz.

1489
01:13:33,610 --> 01:13:36,650
We didn't know.

1490
01:13:36,650 --> 01:13:38,190
How do you know he knew?

1491
01:13:38,190 --> 01:13:38,690
What?

1492
01:13:38,690 --> 01:13:39,898
How do you know that he knew?

1493
01:13:39,898 --> 01:13:43,610
Because he told my brother
and my oldest sister

1494
01:13:43,610 --> 01:13:45,025
don't tell Mommy anything.

1495
01:13:45,025 --> 01:13:48,200

1496
01:13:48,200 --> 01:13:50,150
It's not good.

1497
01:13:50,150 --> 01:13:53,040
And he gave us--

1498

01:13:53,040 --> 01:13:58,730
when he sold the merchandise
from when the Germans bought

1499
01:13:58,730 --> 01:14:00,440
the merchandise.

1500
01:14:00,440 --> 01:14:02,240
So he bought diamonds.

1501
01:14:02,240 --> 01:14:05,910
Because you couldn't run
with the merchandise, and you

1502
01:14:05,910 --> 01:14:08,130
couldn't run with money.

1503
01:14:08,130 --> 01:14:09,740
So he bought diamonds.

1504
01:14:09,740 --> 01:14:15,100
So he gave all the children,
he gave each one a diamond.

1505
01:14:15,100 --> 01:14:19,430
And I had a wisdom tooth here.

1506
01:14:19,430 --> 01:14:21,530
I had the cotton over.

1507
01:14:21,530 --> 01:14:24,530
So I put one diamond--
he gave me two--

1508
01:14:24,530 --> 01:14:27,230
one diamond here and one here.

1509
01:14:27,230 --> 01:14:31,160
And I didn't know
whatever he gave me.

1510
01:14:31,160 --> 01:14:36,210

He said, if you have to save
your life, give it away,

1511
01:14:36,210 --> 01:14:40,400
or if you need to
get food or anything.

1512
01:14:40,400 --> 01:14:43,100
He knew something
what was going on.

1513
01:14:43,100 --> 01:14:48,100
So he gave all the children, the
three older, for all children,

1514
01:14:48,100 --> 01:14:50,510
for all the children--
my sister, too.

1515
01:14:50,510 --> 01:14:54,730

1516
01:14:54,730 --> 01:14:58,060
Was this in the train
going to Auschwitz?

1517
01:14:58,060 --> 01:15:00,302
Before we went off the
trains, he gave us.

1518
01:15:00,302 --> 01:15:01,760
We were already in
Auschwitz, yeah.

1519
01:15:01,760 --> 01:15:03,130
So you were on the train.

1520
01:15:03,130 --> 01:15:03,640
I see.

1521
01:15:03,640 --> 01:15:04,610
He gave us this.

1522

01:15:04,610 --> 01:15:08,890

1523

01:15:08,890 --> 01:15:11,770

So I put one here.

1524

01:15:11,770 --> 01:15:19,210

But the night-- so we went
to the barracks, on the way,

1525

01:15:19,210 --> 01:15:24,960

we saw in the distance,
in white uniforms,

1526

01:15:24,960 --> 01:15:28,440

a band was playing Vienna waltz.

1527

01:15:28,440 --> 01:15:32,620

And in the background,
we heard the screaming.

1528

01:15:32,620 --> 01:15:41,220

To deafen down the screaming, so
the band was playing very loud.

1529

01:15:41,220 --> 01:15:44,670

But you could still
hear something.

1530

01:15:44,670 --> 01:15:48,340

And then my throat got so dry.

1531

01:15:48,340 --> 01:15:50,430

And I wasn't hungry.

1532

01:15:50,430 --> 01:15:51,660

I wasn't thirsty.

1533

01:15:51,660 --> 01:15:55,800

I was just feeling like
I'm choking because I

1534

01:15:55,800 --> 01:15:57,700

knew what's going to happen.

1535

01:15:57,700 --> 01:16:03,750

He told us open that they

gas you and they burn you.

1536

01:16:03,750 --> 01:16:06,380

So I imagine all this.

1537

01:16:06,380 --> 01:16:08,570

And then, we went

to the barracks.

1538

01:16:08,570 --> 01:16:10,330

You're tired.

1539

01:16:10,330 --> 01:16:12,510

We didn't eat, and

we didn't drink.

1540

01:16:12,510 --> 01:16:16,380

And the first night,

we slept on the floor.

1541

01:16:16,380 --> 01:16:18,270

Was the whole family

still together?

1542

01:16:18,270 --> 01:16:21,090

No, no, just me and my sister.

1543

01:16:21,090 --> 01:16:22,010

The older sister?

1544

01:16:22,010 --> 01:16:24,570

The boys went--

my younger sister.

1545

01:16:24,570 --> 01:16:27,480

My older sister

went with my mother.

1546
01:16:27,480 --> 01:16:30,570
So when you got off the
train, you were split apart.

1547
01:16:30,570 --> 01:16:32,700
We were all together
on the train.

1548
01:16:32,700 --> 01:16:33,660
OK.

1549
01:16:33,660 --> 01:16:35,880
But when you got off the train--

1550
01:16:35,880 --> 01:16:42,120
They selected-- left, right, to
work, or mothers and children

1551
01:16:42,120 --> 01:16:43,890
on the other side.

1552
01:16:43,890 --> 01:16:45,180
And your father, too.

1553
01:16:45,180 --> 01:16:46,620
And father, too.

1554
01:16:46,620 --> 01:16:50,650
My father was a
little away, too.

1555
01:16:50,650 --> 01:16:56,950
But he told me not to tell
Mommy anything because she

1556
01:16:56,950 --> 01:16:57,825
shouldn't be a shock.

1557
01:16:57,825 --> 01:17:00,570

1558

01:17:00,570 --> 01:17:06,630

What happened that night on
the way, we didn't get shoes.

1559

01:17:06,630 --> 01:17:10,560

We just got some-- they
took away everything we had,

1560

01:17:10,560 --> 01:17:12,840

and they cut off the hair.

1561

01:17:12,840 --> 01:17:13,960

And we waited there.

1562

01:17:13,960 --> 01:17:19,080

They put some sanitizer
on top of the.

1563

01:17:19,080 --> 01:17:24,290

I didn't recognize my sissy, who
looked different without hair.

1564

01:17:24,290 --> 01:17:28,110

But we were standing
there by the big window,

1565

01:17:28,110 --> 01:17:32,460

and we saw outside,
lined up, the men.

1566

01:17:32,460 --> 01:17:36,600

And we were only girls
here, on this side.

1567

01:17:36,600 --> 01:17:42,450

So and I heard them singing.

1568

01:17:42,450 --> 01:17:44,465

I felt I'm choking.

1569

01:17:44,465 --> 01:17:45,530

But what can you do?

1570
01:17:45,530 --> 01:17:47,310
We can't do anything.

1571
01:17:47,310 --> 01:17:50,000
We came to this Lager.

1572
01:17:50,000 --> 01:17:53,480
The first night, they didn't
send us to the right place.

1573
01:17:53,480 --> 01:17:56,330
And another lady were,
like, lying down.

1574
01:17:56,330 --> 01:17:59,290
And on top of you
was another person.

1575
01:17:59,290 --> 01:18:05,810
The next day, they sent
us to Lager 20 or 21.

1576
01:18:05,810 --> 01:18:09,830
And we got already bunk beds--

1577
01:18:09,830 --> 01:18:12,000
on straw.

1578
01:18:12,000 --> 01:18:16,190
But was an improvement
on laying on the floor.

1579
01:18:16,190 --> 01:18:23,350
And then, every night
at 2:00, they came.

1580
01:18:23,350 --> 01:18:26,850
We should coffee [INAUDIBLE]--

1581
01:18:26,850 --> 01:18:28,870
to drink coffee.

1582
01:18:28,870 --> 01:18:33,380
So some girls went.

1583
01:18:33,380 --> 01:18:40,370
And that night, we were
already a few weeks in--

1584
01:18:40,370 --> 01:18:47,020
maybe six weeks in Auschwitz.

1585
01:18:47,020 --> 01:18:49,480
And the diamonds were
always in your mouth.

1586
01:18:49,480 --> 01:18:51,760
One I lost right
away, the first night.

1587
01:18:51,760 --> 01:18:54,580
But one I saved.

1588
01:18:54,580 --> 01:18:56,090
The better one, I lost.

1589
01:18:56,090 --> 01:18:59,020
But this one, I saved.

1590
01:18:59,020 --> 01:19:04,250
And when we got to that room,
I was afraid to drink or eat

1591
01:19:04,250 --> 01:19:04,750
anything.

1592
01:19:04,750 --> 01:19:07,540
I didn't realize
that I lost this one.

1593
01:19:07,540 --> 01:19:12,070
So the diamond--
there was a girl,

1594
01:19:12,070 --> 01:19:18,160
she came to the same place
where we had the bunk beds.

1595
01:19:18,160 --> 01:19:20,140
And she knew how to--

1596
01:19:20,140 --> 01:19:21,870
so I was very scared.

1597
01:19:21,870 --> 01:19:26,140
I was watching it so much.
because my brothers gave it

1598
01:19:26,140 --> 01:19:33,760
away in Bergen-Belsen for food
so they could get something.

1599
01:19:33,760 --> 01:19:36,540
We didn't know, but
after the war, we met.

1600
01:19:36,540 --> 01:19:41,500

1601
01:19:41,500 --> 01:19:45,930
And after we drank coffee,
2 o'clock at night,

1602
01:19:45,930 --> 01:19:50,620
we had to stand outside
lined up in five--

1603
01:19:50,620 --> 01:19:53,560
and it was already
cold in Poland--

1604
01:19:53,560 --> 01:19:54,480
without shoes.

1605
01:19:54,480 --> 01:19:58,300

Some girls got, like,
Dutch wooden shoes.

1606
01:19:58,300 --> 01:20:04,540
So I put the foot a little
on the back of their foot.

1607
01:20:04,540 --> 01:20:07,270
I shouldn't stand on
the ground so much.

1608
01:20:07,270 --> 01:20:09,115
My legs got frozen.

1609
01:20:09,115 --> 01:20:12,430
Because over there, the
climate is different than here.

1610
01:20:12,430 --> 01:20:16,000

1611
01:20:16,000 --> 01:20:23,170
And then, in
beginning of October,

1612
01:20:23,170 --> 01:20:29,245
they sent us to a working
camp, to Sudetenland.

1613
01:20:29,245 --> 01:20:29,995
In Czechoslovakia.

1614
01:20:29,995 --> 01:20:32,070
In Czechoslovakia.

1615
01:20:32,070 --> 01:20:35,230
But you went under quarantine.

1616
01:20:35,230 --> 01:20:36,430
Under quarantine?

1617
01:20:36,430 --> 01:20:38,560

Yes, quarantine.

1618
01:20:38,560 --> 01:20:43,990
Because they had to make sure
that we healthy to go to work.

1619
01:20:43,990 --> 01:20:46,180
It was at an ammunition factory.

1620
01:20:46,180 --> 01:20:49,455
Did you have shoes
by that point?

1621
01:20:49,455 --> 01:20:50,580
Or were you still barefoot?

1622
01:20:50,580 --> 01:20:52,230
I had a cold.

1623
01:20:52,230 --> 01:20:54,750
I think, then, they send us--

1624
01:20:54,750 --> 01:20:58,560
they gave us-- in Auschwitz,
I didn't have shoes.

1625
01:20:58,560 --> 01:21:03,120
But I think when they
sent us out to Halbstadt,

1626
01:21:03,120 --> 01:21:05,100
I think we got shoes.

1627
01:21:05,100 --> 01:21:11,200
And my friend cut off
from the nightgown a piece

1628
01:21:11,200 --> 01:21:14,310
to cover that we
were without hair,

1629
01:21:14,310 --> 01:21:18,390

so to put like
handkerchief on the head.

1630
01:21:18,390 --> 01:21:21,510

1631
01:21:21,510 --> 01:21:22,170
So we went.

1632
01:21:22,170 --> 01:21:25,140
And I was sick.

1633
01:21:25,140 --> 01:21:28,290
And I pinched my sister,
she should look healthy.

1634
01:21:28,290 --> 01:21:30,450
And I was scared, too.

1635
01:21:30,450 --> 01:21:35,010
If you didn't look healthy,
they wouldn't send you to work.

1636
01:21:35,010 --> 01:21:37,450
And we were happy to get out.

1637
01:21:37,450 --> 01:21:40,240
And my friend, we so friendly.

1638
01:21:40,240 --> 01:21:46,870
We stayed all the time till
the end of the war together.

1639
01:21:46,870 --> 01:21:49,200
She knew how to sew.

1640
01:21:49,200 --> 01:21:56,690
And in that working camp, there
were French working, also,

1641
01:21:56,690 --> 01:22:00,430
in the same factory, in

the ammunition factory.

1642
01:22:00,430 --> 01:22:04,840
So they brought us
a needle and thread.

1643
01:22:04,840 --> 01:22:07,180
And I sewed it
into the nightgown

1644
01:22:07,180 --> 01:22:11,530
because I was always so
scared that I lose it.

1645
01:22:11,530 --> 01:22:15,730
So you had it in your mouth
until you went to Halbstadt,

1646
01:22:15,730 --> 01:22:17,920
and then you sewed it
into the nightgown?

1647
01:22:17,920 --> 01:22:18,670
Yes.

1648
01:22:18,670 --> 01:22:21,620
It was very tough.

1649
01:22:21,620 --> 01:22:26,135
I didn't have, when
I ate, I took it out.

1650
01:22:26,135 --> 01:22:28,550
Yeah, because you could
swallow it easily.

1651
01:22:28,550 --> 01:22:31,910
So explain this to me.

1652
01:22:31,910 --> 01:22:35,830
What was the name, first of
all, of your friend, the one

1653

01:22:35,830 --> 01:22:38,430

that you were--

1654

01:22:38,430 --> 01:22:41,830

Ruth Berlinska, but
she got married.

1655

01:22:41,830 --> 01:22:44,830

After the war, she
went to France.

1656

01:22:44,830 --> 01:22:49,960

And she married there
a boy from L³dz.

1657

01:22:49,960 --> 01:22:52,090

But they lived in France.

1658

01:22:52,090 --> 01:23:00,270

And when we came
back after the war,

1659

01:23:00,270 --> 01:23:05,510

we went back to L³dz
to look for family.

1660

01:23:05,510 --> 01:23:06,800

We'll come to that.

1661

01:23:06,800 --> 01:23:10,220

I want to ask, at
this point, when

1662

01:23:10,220 --> 01:23:13,760

there was the selection when
you get off of the train,

1663

01:23:13,760 --> 01:23:16,370

at that point, it
was your father--

1664

01:23:16,370 --> 01:23:17,270

The whole family was.

1665
01:23:17,270 --> 01:23:20,240
Yeah, but your
father was selected.

1666
01:23:20,240 --> 01:23:21,670
Your mother was selected.

1667
01:23:21,670 --> 01:23:23,690
No, they took the whole family.

1668
01:23:23,690 --> 01:23:25,760
They put us on the trains.

1669
01:23:25,760 --> 01:23:27,180
I understand.

1670
01:23:27,180 --> 01:23:29,180
I'm saying, when you
get off in Auschwitz,

1671
01:23:29,180 --> 01:23:34,105
and they're making
the selection,

1672
01:23:34,105 --> 01:23:38,740
who was sent to the gas
chamber, and who was not?

1673
01:23:38,740 --> 01:23:41,210
One to the right,
one to the left.

1674
01:23:41,210 --> 01:23:43,430
The mothers and
children the one side.

1675
01:23:43,430 --> 01:23:46,520
So from your family,
it was your mother--

1676

01:23:46,520 --> 01:23:48,110
[PHONE RINGS]

1677
01:23:48,110 --> 01:23:50,000

1678
01:23:50,000 --> 01:23:53,780
And three-- OK.

1679
01:23:53,780 --> 01:23:54,710
So I'm sorry.

1680
01:23:54,710 --> 01:23:56,330
We were interrupted
a little bit.

1681
01:23:56,330 --> 01:23:59,660
Who was it that was sent
to the chambers right away

1682
01:23:59,660 --> 01:24:00,730
from your family?

1683
01:24:00,730 --> 01:24:04,930
From my family, my
mother, my sister--

1684
01:24:04,930 --> 01:24:05,820
Your older sister.

1685
01:24:05,820 --> 01:24:11,270
My older sister and the
two youngest children.

1686
01:24:11,270 --> 01:24:13,190
The young boys,
the young babies?

1687
01:24:13,190 --> 01:24:20,070
Yeah, Aaron that was
born in '39 and the one--

1688

01:24:20,070 --> 01:24:20,570
Eliyahu?

1689
01:24:20,570 --> 01:24:21,490
Two years, he.

1690
01:24:21,490 --> 01:24:21,990
Yeah.

1691
01:24:21,990 --> 01:24:22,630
Eliyahu.

1692
01:24:22,630 --> 01:24:23,270
Yeah.

1693
01:24:23,270 --> 01:24:25,830
He was three years old.

1694
01:24:25,830 --> 01:24:32,810
I found a picture in Belgium
from this little boy.

1695
01:24:32,810 --> 01:24:33,980
Excuse me?

1696
01:24:33,980 --> 01:24:36,650
We found a picture
after the war.

1697
01:24:36,650 --> 01:24:42,050
My grandmother's sister came
before the war to visit,

1698
01:24:42,050 --> 01:24:44,610
and we gave her some pictures.

1699
01:24:44,610 --> 01:24:48,590
So she gave us after the war.

1700
01:24:48,590 --> 01:24:51,560
Because we didn't
take anything along.

1701
01:24:51,560 --> 01:24:52,700
We couldn't.

1702
01:24:52,700 --> 01:24:57,140
So it was your mother,
your older sister--

1703
01:24:57,140 --> 01:24:58,160
And the two little boys.

1704
01:24:58,160 --> 01:24:59,630
--the two little boys.

1705
01:24:59,630 --> 01:25:03,740
And my father had the
other two little boys.

1706
01:25:03,740 --> 01:25:06,660
But what happened with him?

1707
01:25:06,660 --> 01:25:10,060
They also sent him,
with the children.

1708
01:25:10,060 --> 01:25:11,697
They took care of the children.

1709
01:25:11,697 --> 01:25:13,280
They didn't take
care of the children.

1710
01:25:13,280 --> 01:25:17,330
Nobody saw my father no place.

1711
01:25:17,330 --> 01:25:20,690
So it was five of the children--

1712
01:25:20,690 --> 01:25:23,600
your sister, two little
boys with your mother,

1713
01:25:23,600 --> 01:25:26,150
and two little boys
with your father.

1714
01:25:26,150 --> 01:25:28,780
Mother, father,
and five children.

1715
01:25:28,780 --> 01:25:30,060
Five children.

1716
01:25:30,060 --> 01:25:33,560
My sister, they
begged her not to go.

1717
01:25:33,560 --> 01:25:34,580
Because they knew.

1718
01:25:34,580 --> 01:25:39,990
And she was beautiful,
blonde, very pretty girl.

1719
01:25:39,990 --> 01:25:46,400
And she wanted-- you know,
we didn't know all this.

1720
01:25:46,400 --> 01:25:48,020
Maybe if she knew.

1721
01:25:48,020 --> 01:25:51,740
Maybe it wasn't so good
that we didn't know.

1722
01:25:51,740 --> 01:25:55,550
Because then-- but
this Kapo, the one

1723
01:25:55,550 --> 01:26:04,190
that was taking off the people
off the trains, he told her,

1724
01:26:04,190 --> 01:26:05,180

don't go.

1725

01:26:05,180 --> 01:26:07,000

Don't go.

1726

01:26:07,000 --> 01:26:07,625

To your sister?

1727

01:26:07,625 --> 01:26:08,740

To my sister.

1728

01:26:08,740 --> 01:26:09,590

And you heard this?

1729

01:26:09,590 --> 01:26:10,730

[INAUDIBLE]

1730

01:26:10,730 --> 01:26:11,770

I heard it.

1731

01:26:11,770 --> 01:26:12,690

You heard it.

1732

01:26:12,690 --> 01:26:15,530

1733

01:26:15,530 --> 01:26:19,780

And what was the
chairman at the time.

1734

01:26:19,780 --> 01:26:21,530

I forgot at this moment.

1735

01:26:21,530 --> 01:26:23,530

I don't remember the name--

1736

01:26:23,530 --> 01:26:27,250

the one that took the
people off the wagons, that

1737

01:26:27,250 --> 01:26:30,650

did the selection, getting
people off the trains.

1738
01:26:30,650 --> 01:26:33,290
I don't remember his name.

1739
01:26:33,290 --> 01:26:38,230
So he also sometimes
said, don't go.

1740
01:26:38,230 --> 01:26:39,150
Leave the children.

1741
01:26:39,150 --> 01:26:40,760
But which mother
leaves her children?

1742
01:26:40,760 --> 01:26:45,110

1743
01:26:45,110 --> 01:26:52,400
So when you were in Auschwitz,
you realized what had happened?

1744
01:26:52,400 --> 01:26:53,180
Yes.

1745
01:26:53,180 --> 01:26:54,620
And they told us, you know.

1746
01:26:54,620 --> 01:26:59,010
Because the people
that work there.

1747
01:26:59,010 --> 01:27:00,590
But you still, you know--

1748
01:27:00,590 --> 01:27:03,400

1749
01:27:03,400 --> 01:27:06,800
subconsciously, you hope

that maybe they made it.

1750
01:27:06,800 --> 01:27:08,510
Maybe they will live.

1751
01:27:08,510 --> 01:27:11,385
But with my mother,
I knew right away,

1752
01:27:11,385 --> 01:27:15,110
and with my sister and
the two younger children.

1753
01:27:15,110 --> 01:27:21,290
I knew it right away,
that it's not good.

1754
01:27:21,290 --> 01:27:23,600
But you helpless.

1755
01:27:23,600 --> 01:27:25,050
What can we do?

1756
01:27:25,050 --> 01:27:26,180
What could we have done?

1757
01:27:26,180 --> 01:27:26,720
[BUZZING]

1758
01:27:26,720 --> 01:27:29,882
And even in Auschwitz,
there were also wires--

1759
01:27:29,882 --> 01:27:30,590
Hang on a second.

1760
01:27:30,590 --> 01:27:32,270
Excuse me.

1761
01:27:32,270 --> 01:27:33,540
I'm sorry we were interrupted.

1762
01:27:33,540 --> 01:27:34,040
That's OK.

1763
01:27:34,040 --> 01:27:37,240
So you were saying about--

1764
01:27:37,240 --> 01:27:38,240
you had hope.

1765
01:27:38,240 --> 01:27:39,440
You knew about your mother.

1766
01:27:39,440 --> 01:27:44,270
You know, but subconsciously,
you say maybe, maybe, maybe.

1767
01:27:44,270 --> 01:27:46,350
As long as you
don't know positive,

1768
01:27:46,350 --> 01:27:48,815
you still believe that maybe.

1769
01:27:48,815 --> 01:27:50,180
Yeah.

1770
01:27:50,180 --> 01:27:55,370
So in the end, it was you,
your younger sister, who was--

1771
01:27:55,370 --> 01:27:56,620
And my older brother.

1772
01:27:56,620 --> 01:27:57,120
Abraham.

1773
01:27:57,120 --> 01:28:00,640
And my younger brother,
the Yakov Moshe.

1774
01:28:00,640 --> 01:28:02,430

Yakov Moshe.

1775

01:28:02,430 --> 01:28:08,820

For my oldest brother and
then the one younger than me.

1776

01:28:08,820 --> 01:28:09,320

OK.

1777

01:28:09,320 --> 01:28:12,400

So it was Abraham, Yakov--

1778

01:28:12,400 --> 01:28:17,000

And me and Gurtha.

1779

01:28:17,000 --> 01:28:19,610

Gurtha-- Gurtha, OK.

1780

01:28:19,610 --> 01:28:21,260

So it was the four of you.

1781

01:28:21,260 --> 01:28:23,750

But you weren't together
when you were in Auschwitz.

1782

01:28:23,750 --> 01:28:25,140

Yeah, we two were together.

1783

01:28:25,140 --> 01:28:27,710

And when they-- sometimes
just closed the gate

1784

01:28:27,710 --> 01:28:29,420

when they gave the coffee.

1785

01:28:29,420 --> 01:28:30,190

You escape.

1786

01:28:30,190 --> 01:28:32,340

We shouldn't be separated.

1787

01:28:32,340 --> 01:28:33,620
Yeah.

1788
01:28:33,620 --> 01:28:36,183
Did you know what happened to
your older brother and younger

1789
01:28:36,183 --> 01:28:37,100
brother at that point?

1790
01:28:37,100 --> 01:28:40,310
No, we didn't know
until after the war, no.

1791
01:28:40,310 --> 01:28:41,750
Did they survive the war?

1792
01:28:41,750 --> 01:28:43,640
Yes.

1793
01:28:43,640 --> 01:28:46,516
They went in
Bergen-Belsen in Germany.

1794
01:28:46,516 --> 01:28:47,190
I see.

1795
01:28:47,190 --> 01:28:49,190
So they were in Auschwitz,
and then, from there,

1796
01:28:49,190 --> 01:28:49,640
to Bergen-Belsen.

1797
01:28:49,640 --> 01:28:50,420
Bergen-Belsen.

1798
01:28:50,420 --> 01:28:52,850
They sent people
different places.

1799
01:28:52,850 --> 01:28:55,630

1800
01:28:55,630 --> 01:28:59,090
They were working there
because they were young.

1801
01:28:59,090 --> 01:29:01,430
So they could work.

1802
01:29:01,430 --> 01:29:03,620
You are in the Halbstadt.

1803
01:29:03,620 --> 01:29:06,630
Yeah, and my sister, too.

1804
01:29:06,630 --> 01:29:07,940
Sister's in the Halbstadt.

1805
01:29:07,940 --> 01:29:10,040
Did she get any diamonds?

1806
01:29:10,040 --> 01:29:11,870
She also lost one.

1807
01:29:11,870 --> 01:29:13,940
She didn't-- she was young.

1808
01:29:13,940 --> 01:29:15,670
He gave her one.

1809
01:29:15,670 --> 01:29:17,250
But she lost it--

1810
01:29:17,250 --> 01:29:18,530
swallowed it.

1811
01:29:18,530 --> 01:29:19,320
Maybe swallow.

1812
01:29:19,320 --> 01:29:20,870
Go look in Auschwitz.

1813
01:29:20,870 --> 01:29:22,510
You had to go to the bathroom.

1814
01:29:22,510 --> 01:29:23,840
You had to report.

1815
01:29:23,840 --> 01:29:26,780
You couldn't go to the
bathroom when you wanted.

1816
01:29:26,780 --> 01:29:30,800
There was a time, and
you had to report.

1817
01:29:30,800 --> 01:29:32,030
Every time you have to go.

1818
01:29:32,030 --> 01:29:33,860
Go to the bathroom,
you had to report.

1819
01:29:33,860 --> 01:29:38,770

1820
01:29:38,770 --> 01:29:40,960
When you were in Halbstadt--

1821
01:29:40,960 --> 01:29:43,480
Yes, was different.

1822
01:29:43,480 --> 01:29:44,720
Tell me about that.

1823
01:29:44,720 --> 01:29:46,450
Tell me about what
it was like there.

1824
01:29:46,450 --> 01:29:49,000
You see, it was a small town.

1825

01:29:49,000 --> 01:29:53,800
Was an ammunition factory
there and a Weberei.

1826
01:29:53,800 --> 01:29:55,660
Some girls were sent--

1827
01:29:55,660 --> 01:30:00,850
in the same building where we
stayed, or two floors down,

1828
01:30:00,850 --> 01:30:02,410
was a--

1829
01:30:02,410 --> 01:30:04,740
what do you call--

1830
01:30:04,740 --> 01:30:08,020
a weaving company.

1831
01:30:08,020 --> 01:30:12,490
And some girls were sent
there, some of the girls.

1832
01:30:12,490 --> 01:30:16,420
I met one after the war once.

1833
01:30:16,420 --> 01:30:21,410
It was in our
hotel, in the lobby.

1834
01:30:21,410 --> 01:30:25,202
I saw people, they
looked like similar.

1835
01:30:25,202 --> 01:30:26,830
So ask, where are you from?

1836
01:30:26,830 --> 01:30:28,930
She said, I'm from LÃ³dz.

1837
01:30:28,930 --> 01:30:31,450

So I say, where were
you during the war?

1838
01:30:31,450 --> 01:30:32,890
She was in the same place.

1839
01:30:32,890 --> 01:30:34,970
We slept in the same place.

1840
01:30:34,970 --> 01:30:36,260
But she worked downstairs.

1841
01:30:36,260 --> 01:30:39,910
But we knew each other.

1842
01:30:39,910 --> 01:30:42,820
There were 500 girls altogether.

1843
01:30:42,820 --> 01:30:43,940
And what did you do?

1844
01:30:43,940 --> 01:30:44,980
What was your job?

1845
01:30:44,980 --> 01:30:48,460
I was cutting with
a stencil machine.

1846
01:30:48,460 --> 01:30:52,780
It was such pieces that
you use for the aeroplanes.

1847
01:30:52,780 --> 01:30:54,490
And they had, like--

1848
01:30:54,490 --> 01:30:57,550
so it was machine.

1849
01:30:57,550 --> 01:30:59,040
You got the case around.

1850

01:30:59,040 --> 01:31:07,402
And the piece was cutting out,
like when you move gauges.

1851
01:31:07,402 --> 01:31:10,610
Like in a car, I
guess, in an aeroplane.

1852
01:31:10,610 --> 01:31:14,380
There was a small piece.

1853
01:31:14,380 --> 01:31:15,460
And you just--

1854
01:31:15,460 --> 01:31:16,640
You cut ridges in it?

1855
01:31:16,640 --> 01:31:18,640
It was a machine.

1856
01:31:18,640 --> 01:31:21,680
You had to get it
down and cut out.

1857
01:31:21,680 --> 01:31:23,170
It wasn't easy work.

1858
01:31:23,170 --> 01:31:30,338
I was hard work but
better than Auschwitz.

1859
01:31:30,338 --> 01:31:32,720
In Auschwitz, you
didn't work, but you

1860
01:31:32,720 --> 01:31:38,690
were standing hours outside
at night, instead of sleeping.

1861
01:31:38,690 --> 01:31:41,690
Here, at least, you
could sleep a little.

1862

01:31:41,690 --> 01:31:45,150

And on Sunday, you
could get a shower,

1863

01:31:45,150 --> 01:31:47,600

and you could wash your clothes.

1864

01:31:47,600 --> 01:31:49,520

You had a Sunday.

1865

01:31:49,520 --> 01:31:52,360

It was more humanely.

1866

01:31:52,360 --> 01:31:53,900

And even the people--

1867

01:31:53,900 --> 01:31:57,860

I mean, one
[IN GERMAN] was nasty.

1868

01:31:57,860 --> 01:32:00,405

One guard was nasty?

1869

01:32:00,405 --> 01:32:01,460

Yeah, nasty.

1870

01:32:01,460 --> 01:32:06,530

And one night, I fell
asleep by the machine

1871

01:32:06,530 --> 01:32:08,960

because there was no work.

1872

01:32:08,960 --> 01:32:11,115

So she came over, she
knocked out two teeth.

1873

01:32:11,115 --> 01:32:13,650

1874

01:32:13,650 --> 01:32:16,620

Because I fell asleep.

1875

01:32:16,620 --> 01:32:18,930

Their supervisor didn't care.

1876

01:32:18,930 --> 01:32:21,700

He saw there was no work.

1877

01:32:21,700 --> 01:32:23,330

And she came over.

1878

01:32:23,330 --> 01:32:25,350

And when we had to
go to the bathroom,

1879

01:32:25,350 --> 01:32:27,556

we also had to report to her.

1880

01:32:27,556 --> 01:32:29,610

And she was always nasty.

1881

01:32:29,610 --> 01:32:32,640

And there was
another one, Ursula.

1882

01:32:32,640 --> 01:32:34,880

She was a sweetheart
of a young girl.

1883

01:32:34,880 --> 01:32:37,430

1884

01:32:37,430 --> 01:32:39,400

And she was also German.

1885

01:32:39,400 --> 01:32:42,410

But she was sweet and nice.

1886

01:32:42,410 --> 01:32:46,370

You had to go, she left
you go to the bathroom.

1887

01:32:46,370 --> 01:32:52,380

And the French people used to
bring us sometimes an apple.

1888

01:32:52,380 --> 01:32:53,630

to Ruth.

1889

01:32:53,630 --> 01:32:59,390

Ruth, she was very pretty girl.

1890

01:32:59,390 --> 01:33:03,710

I don't know if he fell in
love with her, but he was kind.

1891

01:33:03,710 --> 01:33:08,390

So but I worked by his machines.

1892

01:33:08,390 --> 01:33:10,050

By the French person's machines?

1893

01:33:10,050 --> 01:33:11,000

Yes.

1894

01:33:11,000 --> 01:33:14,120

So when we got an apple,
we went to the bathroom.

1895

01:33:14,120 --> 01:33:15,070

We shared it.

1896

01:33:15,070 --> 01:33:18,620

1897

01:33:18,620 --> 01:33:20,210

How long were you there?

1898

01:33:20,210 --> 01:33:22,910

1899

01:33:22,910 --> 01:33:28,460

We went in October till May 5.

1900

01:33:28,460 --> 01:33:30,140

So you were liberated there?

1901

01:33:30,140 --> 01:33:31,850

Yeah, we were liberated.

1902

01:33:31,850 --> 01:33:36,710

But a week before we were
liberated, or maybe a few days,

1903

01:33:36,710 --> 01:33:39,920

they told us that we going
to go someplace else.

1904

01:33:39,920 --> 01:33:40,865

We should be ready.

1905

01:33:40,865 --> 01:33:44,290

1906

01:33:44,290 --> 01:33:50,870

But they wanted to send
us, and what happened,

1907

01:33:50,870 --> 01:33:55,880

the Russians came
faster than you thought.

1908

01:33:55,880 --> 01:33:57,970

And they didn't send us.

1909

01:33:57,970 --> 01:33:59,690

But then, we found out--

1910

01:33:59,690 --> 01:34:00,890

the French told us.

1911

01:34:00,890 --> 01:34:04,250

They knew more than we did
because they had the radios

1912

01:34:04,250 --> 01:34:07,580

and they lived with
families together.

1913

01:34:07,580 --> 01:34:11,450

That weren't like
we because they

1914

01:34:11,450 --> 01:34:19,620

were from the border
between Germany and France.

1915

01:34:19,620 --> 01:34:20,930

Aha, OK.

1916

01:34:20,930 --> 01:34:23,260

Now, were these French
military people?

1917

01:34:23,260 --> 01:34:25,450

No, no, they worked like we did.

1918

01:34:25,450 --> 01:34:26,050

I know, but--

1919

01:34:26,050 --> 01:34:30,280

They were also prisoners
but with families.

1920

01:34:30,280 --> 01:34:33,130

Like where we lived in the
ghetto, they lived over there.

1921

01:34:33,130 --> 01:34:36,178

But the French prisoners,
were they all men?

1922

01:34:36,178 --> 01:34:37,720

Or were they also
women and children?

1923

01:34:37,720 --> 01:34:39,610

The men worked.

1924

01:34:39,610 --> 01:34:41,850

We didn't see any French women.

1925

01:34:41,850 --> 01:34:43,780

Only the men worked.

1926

01:34:43,780 --> 01:34:45,970

But they had families there.

1927

01:34:45,970 --> 01:34:47,080

Their own families?

1928

01:34:47,080 --> 01:34:47,590

Yes.

1929

01:34:47,590 --> 01:34:48,670

They lived in there.

1930

01:34:48,670 --> 01:34:50,680

But they didn't come to work.

1931

01:34:50,680 --> 01:34:51,910

The men came to work.

1932

01:34:51,910 --> 01:34:54,190

Ah, I see, I see.

1933

01:34:54,190 --> 01:34:56,940

And we were only girls
that worked there.

1934

01:34:56,940 --> 01:35:04,300

Some girls were-- maybe
one was 25, one was 26, 27.

1935

01:35:04,300 --> 01:35:07,230

Those were the older girls.

1936

01:35:07,230 --> 01:35:10,540

But otherwise, they were
young girls working.

1937
01:35:10,540 --> 01:35:15,210
Did you have any sense that
the war is coming to an end,

1938
01:35:15,210 --> 01:35:18,520
that the Germans are losing?

1939
01:35:18,520 --> 01:35:25,520
No, we didn't even realize
when they told us that we

1940
01:35:25,520 --> 01:35:28,310
going to a different place.

1941
01:35:28,310 --> 01:35:31,900
The French told us
there's mines on the road,

1942
01:35:31,900 --> 01:35:36,460
and they wanted to send
us to test the mines

1943
01:35:36,460 --> 01:35:38,590
before the Russian came.

1944
01:35:38,590 --> 01:35:42,880
They wanted to test if
the mines are working.

1945
01:35:42,880 --> 01:35:45,430
So they wanted to send us as--

1946
01:35:45,430 --> 01:35:47,410
As mine blowers-up.

1947
01:35:47,410 --> 01:35:49,970
And if you blow up,
well, that's too bad.

1948

01:35:49,970 --> 01:35:51,150
It wasn't a big thing.

1949
01:35:51,150 --> 01:35:55,460
It was just Jewish
children who was it.

1950
01:35:55,460 --> 01:35:59,260
But, you know, God leads
the world, not the people.

1951
01:35:59,260 --> 01:36:01,420
Even the big people
don't lead the world.

1952
01:36:01,420 --> 01:36:04,210

1953
01:36:04,210 --> 01:36:06,190
That's people that
believe believe

1954
01:36:06,190 --> 01:36:08,110
that God leads the world.

1955
01:36:08,110 --> 01:36:11,950
Did you pray when you were in
Auschwitz and in this place?

1956
01:36:11,950 --> 01:36:14,150
Did you have any--

1957
01:36:14,150 --> 01:36:18,470
Yeah, we prayed by heart,
what we knew how to pray.

1958
01:36:18,470 --> 01:36:21,100
We didn't have books.

1959
01:36:21,100 --> 01:36:23,570
Did you have any
conversations with God?

1960

01:36:23,570 --> 01:36:24,070

Yes.

1961

01:36:24,070 --> 01:36:28,700

Did you ask, why
is this happening?

1962

01:36:28,700 --> 01:36:29,830

Well, we were bitter.

1963

01:36:29,830 --> 01:36:32,710

We were very bitter,
even after the war.

1964

01:36:32,710 --> 01:36:34,180

Why did it have to happen?

1965

01:36:34,180 --> 01:36:36,520

Those children never sinned.

1966

01:36:36,520 --> 01:36:37,630

They were little kids.

1967

01:36:37,630 --> 01:36:38,725

They never did anything.

1968

01:36:38,725 --> 01:36:41,380

1969

01:36:41,380 --> 01:36:43,630

Some people lost their
faith because of that.

1970

01:36:43,630 --> 01:36:44,910

Yeah, we lost for a while.

1971

01:36:44,910 --> 01:36:49,750

We weren't so
religious for a while.

1972

01:36:49,750 --> 01:36:53,170

What did it take for
you to get it back?

1973

01:36:53,170 --> 01:36:59,310

We saw that God took care of us.

1974

01:36:59,310 --> 01:37:00,920

We were like lost sheep.

1975

01:37:00,920 --> 01:37:02,270

We didn't have where to go.

1976

01:37:02,270 --> 01:37:03,190

We didn't know.

1977

01:37:03,190 --> 01:37:07,670

Even when the war ended
what choice was it were.

1978

01:37:07,670 --> 01:37:09,950

We thought that if
the war would end,

1979

01:37:09,950 --> 01:37:14,630

everybody would run
and try to help us.

1980

01:37:14,630 --> 01:37:17,020

There was nobody to help.

1981

01:37:17,020 --> 01:37:19,330

No, I wouldn't say--

1982

01:37:19,330 --> 01:37:21,350

the Czech government wasn't bad.

1983

01:37:21,350 --> 01:37:24,380

They gave us money to go home.

1984

01:37:24,380 --> 01:37:29,090

And when the war was
over, the French came in.

1985
01:37:29,090 --> 01:37:31,400
They sent the [IN FRENCH].

1986
01:37:31,400 --> 01:37:34,020
And they said, the war is over.

1987
01:37:34,020 --> 01:37:35,900
But where did we have to go?

1988
01:37:35,900 --> 01:37:37,055
So it wasn't the Russians--

1989
01:37:37,055 --> 01:37:37,640
We didn't have money.

1990
01:37:37,640 --> 01:37:38,510
--who liberated you?

1991
01:37:38,510 --> 01:37:39,260
It was the French?

1992
01:37:39,260 --> 01:37:40,750
The Russians, but
they were drunk.

1993
01:37:40,750 --> 01:37:46,700
And they came from
Afghanistan and Caucasus.

1994
01:37:46,700 --> 01:37:51,500
They were Russian-- very
wild, drunken soldiers.

1995
01:37:51,500 --> 01:37:52,470
It was scary.

1996
01:37:52,470 --> 01:37:53,840
It was very scary.

1997
01:37:53,840 --> 01:37:55,520

Were you frightened
of those soldiers?

1998
01:37:55,520 --> 01:37:56,240
Yes, yes.

1999
01:37:56,240 --> 01:38:01,790
There was one major that came
from Minsk, from a big city.

2000
01:38:01,790 --> 01:38:07,310
And he said that I am Jewish
and try to get out of the way.

2001
01:38:07,310 --> 01:38:10,130
Because they're not
out for any good.

2002
01:38:10,130 --> 01:38:11,660
Because they were
drunk, and they

2003
01:38:11,660 --> 01:38:14,150
wanted to have a good time.

2004
01:38:14,150 --> 01:38:15,460
What were they interested in?

2005
01:38:15,460 --> 01:38:17,970

2006
01:38:17,970 --> 01:38:20,430
Did that happen with
many Jewish girls?

2007
01:38:20,430 --> 01:38:21,990
Yeah, one girl ran away.

2008
01:38:21,990 --> 01:38:23,910
She was very tall.

2009
01:38:23,910 --> 01:38:26,970

Then we ran away
from that place where

2010
01:38:26,970 --> 01:38:28,800
we stayed in that factory.

2011
01:38:28,800 --> 01:38:33,420
Because the Russians
came in and to them,

2012
01:38:33,420 --> 01:38:34,980
you know, they are on the way.

2013
01:38:34,980 --> 01:38:37,630
They wanted to have a good time.

2014
01:38:37,630 --> 01:38:38,860
We were very scared.

2015
01:38:38,860 --> 01:38:42,630
So we found a house
that the Germans

2016
01:38:42,630 --> 01:38:45,000
left, just like we left.

2017
01:38:45,000 --> 01:38:48,240
Because they ran away,
too, from the Russians.

2018
01:38:48,240 --> 01:38:50,350
So we were hiding there.

2019
01:38:50,350 --> 01:38:54,420
And there, once, a
Russian came, too.

2020
01:38:54,420 --> 01:38:57,320
And he picked the tallest girl.

2021
01:38:57,320 --> 01:39:00,120
And it was already night.

2022
01:39:00,120 --> 01:39:02,900
And we didn't know.

2023
01:39:02,900 --> 01:39:10,680
So she ran to a place
where little rabbits hide.

2024
01:39:10,680 --> 01:39:11,910
And she was very tall.

2025
01:39:11,910 --> 01:39:14,310
She said she doesn't
know how she do it.

2026
01:39:14,310 --> 01:39:15,210
He was drunk.

2027
01:39:15,210 --> 01:39:16,530
She ran away.

2028
01:39:16,530 --> 01:39:20,835
And all night, she
stayed in this place--

2029
01:39:20,835 --> 01:39:21,420
Rabbit hole.

2030
01:39:21,420 --> 01:39:23,590
--in the rabbit place.

2031
01:39:23,590 --> 01:39:25,620
And in the morning,
when it was light,

2032
01:39:25,620 --> 01:39:27,820
she saw he isn't there anymore.

2033
01:39:27,820 --> 01:39:29,610
She came back to the house.

2034

01:39:29,610 --> 01:39:32,950
And then, we got scared
to stay there, too.

2035
01:39:32,950 --> 01:39:37,100
So we went to Prague.

2036
01:39:37,100 --> 01:39:40,530
The authorities-- I don't
know what the story is.

2037
01:39:40,530 --> 01:39:41,685
I can't even remember.

2038
01:39:41,685 --> 01:39:44,730

2039
01:39:44,730 --> 01:39:51,060
We stayed in the place,
in that factory place,

2040
01:39:51,060 --> 01:39:53,730
where we slept for a while.

2041
01:39:53,730 --> 01:39:56,160
But then this Russian came.

2042
01:39:56,160 --> 01:39:57,690
And we were scared of them.

2043
01:39:57,690 --> 01:40:00,570
There was no place
where to go, what to do.

2044
01:40:00,570 --> 01:40:02,570
Then we went some--

2045
01:40:02,570 --> 01:40:05,940
but they told us
we could go to--

2046
01:40:05,940 --> 01:40:08,130

they gave trains to Prague.

2047

01:40:08,130 --> 01:40:10,920

We stayed all night one night.

2048

01:40:10,920 --> 01:40:13,955

And well, scary for young
girls to be anyplace.

2049

01:40:13,955 --> 01:40:14,580

You were alone.

2050

01:40:14,580 --> 01:40:17,920

You weren't safe anyplace.

2051

01:40:17,920 --> 01:40:19,740

So when you got to Prague--

2052

01:40:19,740 --> 01:40:21,555

To Prague, they gave us money.

2053

01:40:21,555 --> 01:40:24,660

2054

01:40:24,660 --> 01:40:27,780

And then we went to
Poland to go home.

2055

01:40:27,780 --> 01:40:29,280

So we went with trains.

2056

01:40:29,280 --> 01:40:31,770

They gave money for the trains.

2057

01:40:31,770 --> 01:40:33,750

And they took care
of our papers.

2058

01:40:33,750 --> 01:40:35,100

So I don't know.

2059

01:40:35,100 --> 01:40:38,370
Was this the Czech
authorities, or was this the--

2060
01:40:38,370 --> 01:40:39,210
Jewish Czech.

2061
01:40:39,210 --> 01:40:40,100
The Jewish.

2062
01:40:40,100 --> 01:40:41,340
OK, OK.

2063
01:40:41,340 --> 01:40:46,520
I don't know if it was only--
the Czech were very nice, even

2064
01:40:46,520 --> 01:40:48,570
the supervisor in that factory.

2065
01:40:48,570 --> 01:40:51,150
He was also very nice.

2066
01:40:51,150 --> 01:40:52,260
He was Czech?

2067
01:40:52,260 --> 01:40:54,400
Yes.

2068
01:40:54,400 --> 01:40:57,100
He spoke German, but he was--

2069
01:40:57,100 --> 01:41:01,400
they behaved different--
different people.

2070
01:41:01,400 --> 01:41:03,510
We weren't so scared.

2071
01:41:03,510 --> 01:41:07,300
They were normal, kind people.

2072

01:41:07,300 --> 01:41:09,310

They couldn't do
anything for us,

2073

01:41:09,310 --> 01:41:12,370

but at least they
didn't scare us.

2074

01:41:12,370 --> 01:41:16,100

2075

01:41:16,100 --> 01:41:18,800

Did you make it back to L³dz?

2076

01:41:18,800 --> 01:41:20,080

Did you get back to L³dz?

2077

01:41:20,080 --> 01:41:22,710

We got back to L³dz.

2078

01:41:22,710 --> 01:41:30,260

But we didn't have
much money, neither.

2079

01:41:30,260 --> 01:41:32,860

The first little
town we got, coming

2080

01:41:32,860 --> 01:41:37,930

over the border from
Czechoslovakia to Poland,

2081

01:41:37,930 --> 01:41:42,080

there's some Polish
ladies by the station,

2082

01:41:42,080 --> 01:41:43,970

one of the first station.

2083

01:41:43,970 --> 01:41:47,510

And they said, so many
of you are still alive?

2084
01:41:47,510 --> 01:41:49,380
We were three girls--

2085
01:41:49,380 --> 01:41:51,080
three.

2086
01:41:51,080 --> 01:41:54,120
I don't think there were
more than three girls.

2087
01:41:54,120 --> 01:41:58,490
But then, we met somebody
told us that our uncle--

2088
01:41:58,490 --> 01:42:02,150
my mother's brother-- is alive.

2089
01:42:02,150 --> 01:42:05,480
And they told us
already they went back

2090
01:42:05,480 --> 01:42:10,190
to look for their family,
their two older girls.

2091
01:42:10,190 --> 01:42:14,150
And they took us for the
night to their house.

2092
01:42:14,150 --> 01:42:16,820
And they were so nice.

2093
01:42:16,820 --> 01:42:18,830
They called us children.

2094
01:42:18,830 --> 01:42:25,280
So they got out of the beds,
and they slept on the floor

2095
01:42:25,280 --> 01:42:28,730
and gave me and my

sister the beds to sleep

2096

01:42:28,730 --> 01:42:36,000

and gave us money to go to
Pabianice to see to my uncle.

2097

01:42:36,000 --> 01:42:37,880

Pabianice is close to L³dz?

2098

01:42:37,880 --> 01:42:38,570

Yes.

2099

01:42:38,570 --> 01:42:39,500

OK.

2100

01:42:39,500 --> 01:42:42,957

And this was an uncle on your
mother's or your father's side?

2101

01:42:42,957 --> 01:42:43,790

On my mother's side.

2102

01:42:43,790 --> 01:42:45,590

On your mother's side.

2103

01:42:45,590 --> 01:42:47,090

Yes.

2104

01:42:47,090 --> 01:42:54,260

So he got freed in April because
he was in a different place.

2105

01:42:54,260 --> 01:42:58,070

And he got free
either March or April.

2106

01:42:58,070 --> 01:43:01,010

The Russians came in before.

2107

01:43:01,010 --> 01:43:02,660

Then he went home.

2108

01:43:02,660 --> 01:43:06,230
And they used to have a bakery.

2109

01:43:06,230 --> 01:43:08,960
So he bought his bakery.

2110

01:43:08,960 --> 01:43:10,600
And they had what to eat.

2111

01:43:10,600 --> 01:43:16,570
And they took us in
and took all the--

2112

01:43:16,570 --> 01:43:17,990
what do you call it--

2113

01:43:17,990 --> 01:43:21,540
children that lost
their families--

2114

01:43:21,540 --> 01:43:23,330
orphans-- they took.

2115

01:43:23,330 --> 01:43:25,760
They were also teenagers.

2116

01:43:25,760 --> 01:43:28,040
But they took them in.

2117

01:43:28,040 --> 01:43:31,030
And they took us in, too.

2118

01:43:31,030 --> 01:43:33,035
And so you stayed
with your uncle.

2119

01:43:33,035 --> 01:43:34,070
Well, for a while.

2120

01:43:34,070 --> 01:43:37,010
And then, my aunt was pregnant.

2121
01:43:37,010 --> 01:43:38,545
She was expecting a baby.

2122
01:43:38,545 --> 01:43:41,030
And we were scared
to be in Poland.

2123
01:43:41,030 --> 01:43:45,950
Because in small towns,
they killed Jews.

2124
01:43:45,950 --> 01:43:50,330
L³dz was a bigger city,
was not so dangerous.

2125
01:43:50,330 --> 01:43:52,400
But we were scared.

2126
01:43:52,400 --> 01:43:55,590
And then, we found out--

2127
01:43:55,590 --> 01:43:58,880
when you came to L³dz
was like a big board,

2128
01:43:58,880 --> 01:44:03,380
and your registered
who's looking for whom.

2129
01:44:03,380 --> 01:44:08,380
So my brothers registered
from Bergen-Belsen

2130
01:44:08,380 --> 01:44:11,330
that they are
looking for family.

2131
01:44:11,330 --> 01:44:14,810
And then, they stayed.

2132
01:44:14,810 --> 01:44:17,240

The younger brother
stayed in Germany,

2133
01:44:17,240 --> 01:44:20,810
and my older brother came back.

2134
01:44:20,810 --> 01:44:24,770
And he came back to look for us.

2135
01:44:24,770 --> 01:44:26,990
So he came to my aunt.

2136
01:44:26,990 --> 01:44:28,645
But I was sick.

2137
01:44:28,645 --> 01:44:33,050
I went to some place with
my uncle to buy flour.

2138
01:44:33,050 --> 01:44:38,350
And then I got the typhus,
and I was in the hospital.

2139
01:44:38,350 --> 01:44:43,210
So when my brother came back,
he couldn't see me, only

2140
01:44:43,210 --> 01:44:46,990
through the window because--

2141
01:44:46,990 --> 01:44:48,380
Right, you were quarantined.

2142
01:44:48,380 --> 01:44:51,900

2143
01:44:51,900 --> 01:44:55,650
Yes, I was under.

2144
01:44:55,650 --> 01:44:57,370
But your sister was there?

2145

01:44:57,370 --> 01:44:59,860

My sister was in the house.

2146

01:44:59,860 --> 01:45:02,200

And I was in the hospital.

2147

01:45:02,200 --> 01:45:06,250

So tell me, at that point, did
you still have your diamond?

2148

01:45:06,250 --> 01:45:07,210

Yes, yes.

2149

01:45:07,210 --> 01:45:08,230

You still had it?

2150

01:45:08,230 --> 01:45:14,890

Yeah, and then, when we all
got to Germany, to Berlin--

2151

01:45:14,890 --> 01:45:17,830

my aunt had the
baby in December.

2152

01:45:17,830 --> 01:45:18,730

She also left?

2153

01:45:18,730 --> 01:45:20,340

Your uncle left with your aunt.

2154

01:45:20,340 --> 01:45:22,000

Yeah, he sold the bakery.

2155

01:45:22,000 --> 01:45:28,570

Whatever the money they got, we
had to pay money to smuggle us.

2156

01:45:28,570 --> 01:45:32,800

We were on trains with coal.

2157

01:45:32,800 --> 01:45:36,340

And we paid the people working.

2158

01:45:36,340 --> 01:45:38,380

And they put trust
between the coal.

2159

01:45:38,380 --> 01:45:42,860

And why did you need to
be smuggled out of Poland?

2160

01:45:42,860 --> 01:45:44,230

We didn't want to stay there.

2161

01:45:44,230 --> 01:45:45,300

It was dangerous.

2162

01:45:45,300 --> 01:45:48,130

Yeah, but why couldn't you just
freely leave or go on a train?

2163

01:45:48,130 --> 01:45:48,838

No, you couldn't.

2164

01:45:48,838 --> 01:45:49,510

Why not?

2165

01:45:49,510 --> 01:45:50,260

Why not?

2166

01:45:50,260 --> 01:45:54,040

You couldn't because
they wouldn't let us in.

2167

01:45:54,040 --> 01:45:58,210

Germany wouldn't let you in, or
the Poles wouldn't let you out?

2168

01:45:58,210 --> 01:46:01,300

The Poles would--
the Poles might--

2169

01:46:01,300 --> 01:46:02,920

I don't know why.

2170

01:46:02,920 --> 01:46:05,210

They took care of it.

2171

01:46:05,210 --> 01:46:06,460

They paid them.

2172

01:46:06,460 --> 01:46:08,980

And we ended up in West Berlin.

2173

01:46:08,980 --> 01:46:10,930

I mean, one of the reasons why I'm asking

2174

01:46:10,930 --> 01:46:14,320

is that I suspect it's because it

2175

01:46:14,320 --> 01:46:18,580

was occupied by Soviet forces, and they weren't letting people

2176

01:46:18,580 --> 01:46:19,300

out--

2177

01:46:19,300 --> 01:46:20,020

I suspect.

2178

01:46:20,020 --> 01:46:22,810

But I wanted to find out whether that's the case.

2179

01:46:22,810 --> 01:46:25,150

Yes, probably the Russian.

2180

01:46:25,150 --> 01:46:30,820

The Russians wouldn't let us out because the city

2181

01:46:30,820 --> 01:46:37,300

was divided into French,

English, Russian, and American.

2182

01:46:37,300 --> 01:46:38,530

You're talking about Berlin?

2183

01:46:38,530 --> 01:46:39,730

Berlin, yes.

2184

01:46:39,730 --> 01:46:41,800

Which section did
you arrive into?

2185

01:46:41,800 --> 01:46:43,300

In American.

2186

01:46:43,300 --> 01:46:43,810

Uh-huh.

2187

01:46:43,810 --> 01:46:46,310

You go to the American section.

2188

01:46:46,310 --> 01:46:46,930

OK.

2189

01:46:46,930 --> 01:46:54,340

We could go to the
French, but we had plans,

2190

01:46:54,340 --> 01:46:56,860

either we go to
Israel or to America.

2191

01:46:56,860 --> 01:46:59,380

There was no other places to go.

2192

01:46:59,380 --> 01:47:02,715

So it was that your
brother came back to L³dz.

2193

01:47:02,715 --> 01:47:03,340

They found you.

2194

01:47:03,340 --> 01:47:04,270

One brother.

2195

01:47:04,270 --> 01:47:07,450

Then we went back to
pick up my other brother.

2196

01:47:07,450 --> 01:47:09,580

He was in Germany.

2197

01:47:09,580 --> 01:47:12,290

And then, we stayed--

2198

01:47:12,290 --> 01:47:16,660

the government, the Gemeinde
gave an apartment to my aunt.

2199

01:47:16,660 --> 01:47:24,550

It was the first Jewish
child born from those people.

2200

01:47:24,550 --> 01:47:29,330

And the American gave
my uncle a bakery.

2201

01:47:29,330 --> 01:47:33,180

So he begged for the Americans.

2202

01:47:33,180 --> 01:47:34,730

And this was in Berlin?

2203

01:47:34,730 --> 01:47:35,990

Yeah, in Berlin.

2204

01:47:35,990 --> 01:47:40,230

And there was a deaf boy
between those orphans,

2205

01:47:40,230 --> 01:47:43,400

was a boy, a deaf
boy, from that city

2206

01:47:43,400 --> 01:47:48,200

where my uncle lived
and three girls.

2207

01:47:48,200 --> 01:47:51,280

2208

01:47:51,280 --> 01:47:54,900

And my aunt's two
girls got married.

2209

01:47:54,900 --> 01:47:58,880

And the deaf boy
stayed in Berlin.

2210

01:47:58,880 --> 01:48:00,380

I don't know what happened.

2211

01:48:00,380 --> 01:48:02,090

One girl went to France.

2212

01:48:02,090 --> 01:48:04,790

She had an uncle there.

2213

01:48:04,790 --> 01:48:14,325

And the other one had some
family in Israel, so they went.

2214

01:48:14,325 --> 01:48:15,980

We couldn't go to Israel.

2215

01:48:15,980 --> 01:48:17,720

They wouldn't let us.

2216

01:48:17,720 --> 01:48:19,650

I have a question here.

2217

01:48:19,650 --> 01:48:22,080

You have four children
who survived--

2218

01:48:22,080 --> 01:48:22,580

Yes.

2219

01:48:22,580 --> 01:48:24,980

--your older brother,
your younger brother,

2220

01:48:24,980 --> 01:48:27,110

your younger sister, and you.

2221

01:48:27,110 --> 01:48:29,540

Did you end up living
together again?

2222

01:48:29,540 --> 01:48:30,290

Yes.

2223

01:48:30,290 --> 01:48:32,450

So you didn't stay with
your uncle and your aunt?

2224

01:48:32,450 --> 01:48:33,325

You lived separately?

2225

01:48:33,325 --> 01:48:36,950

After a while, we
lived separate.

2226

01:48:36,950 --> 01:48:39,260

We didn't go to the DP camps.

2227

01:48:39,260 --> 01:48:40,920

We lived in the city.

2228

01:48:40,920 --> 01:48:41,420

OK.

2229

01:48:41,420 --> 01:48:42,420

You lived in Berlin.

2230

01:48:42,420 --> 01:48:43,520

Because of my aunt, yeah.

2231
01:48:43,520 --> 01:48:44,360
OK.

2232
01:48:44,360 --> 01:48:45,420
And I think you told me--

2233
01:48:45,420 --> 01:48:48,240
At this point, we
sold the diamond.

2234
01:48:48,240 --> 01:48:52,930
We were on our own, and
started doing something.

2235
01:48:52,930 --> 01:48:55,680
OK, so you sold your
diamond in Berlin.

2236
01:48:55,680 --> 01:48:58,040
I gave it to my brother.

2237
01:48:58,040 --> 01:49:00,560
They took care of us.

2238
01:49:00,560 --> 01:49:03,770
Because the girls, you
know, it's different.

2239
01:49:03,770 --> 01:49:05,900
And so, did your sister
still have a diamond

2240
01:49:05,900 --> 01:49:07,120
to give to him, as well?

2241
01:49:07,120 --> 01:49:08,120
She didn't, actually.

2242
01:49:08,120 --> 01:49:08,720
She lost hers.

2243

01:49:08,720 --> 01:49:08,900

She didn't have.

2244

01:49:08,900 --> 01:49:09,440

She lost it.

2245

01:49:09,440 --> 01:49:12,450

And I lost my second one, too.

2246

01:49:12,450 --> 01:49:14,480

But nobody worried about it.

2247

01:49:14,480 --> 01:49:17,390

That was helpful.

2248

01:49:17,390 --> 01:49:19,520

It's what your father
would have wanted.

2249

01:49:19,520 --> 01:49:22,580

It's exactly why he
wanted you to have them.

2250

01:49:22,580 --> 01:49:23,870

And it was a good thing.

2251

01:49:23,870 --> 01:49:26,090

Because who would
give you anything?

2252

01:49:26,090 --> 01:49:29,880

It's good the uncle and
the aunt took care of us.

2253

01:49:29,880 --> 01:49:34,330

But you know, they
had already a baby,

2254

01:49:34,330 --> 01:49:36,950

and they took care of the other.

2255

01:49:36,950 --> 01:49:39,620
The deaf boy was
a little helpless

2256
01:49:39,620 --> 01:49:42,440
because he couldn't speak.

2257
01:49:42,440 --> 01:49:48,090
But then, I don't know, maybe
somebody in the Gemeinde

2258
01:49:48,090 --> 01:49:50,450
took care of him.

2259
01:49:50,450 --> 01:49:53,220
Now, you're in Berlin.

2260
01:49:53,220 --> 01:49:55,040
And I think you told me.

2261
01:49:55,040 --> 01:49:58,550
What section of the
city were you living in?

2262
01:49:58,550 --> 01:49:59,600
In Kreuzberg.

2263
01:49:59,600 --> 01:50:00,830
In Kreuzberg.

2264
01:50:00,830 --> 01:50:02,580
How long did you stay there?

2265
01:50:02,580 --> 01:50:04,160
Five-some.

2266
01:50:04,160 --> 01:50:09,800
From December '45 till '51.

2267
01:50:09,800 --> 01:50:12,140
I got married in 1951.

2268

01:50:12,140 --> 01:50:14,150

Oh, so you stayed
six years in Berlin?

2269

01:50:14,150 --> 01:50:15,290

Yes.

2270

01:50:15,290 --> 01:50:16,490

I went to school.

2271

01:50:16,490 --> 01:50:18,980

I learned languages.

2272

01:50:18,980 --> 01:50:24,560

I learned to prepare
manicure, makeup.

2273

01:50:24,560 --> 01:50:26,420

I don't know.

2274

01:50:26,420 --> 01:50:29,270

They were from the HIAS.

2275

01:50:29,270 --> 01:50:31,556

They helped us.

2276

01:50:31,556 --> 01:50:32,880

So you had some training.

2277

01:50:32,880 --> 01:50:35,450

But even with this, we
were-- what could too much?

2278

01:50:35,450 --> 01:50:36,950

We could not.

2279

01:50:36,950 --> 01:50:40,220

And my sister went
to a nursing school.

2280

01:50:40,220 --> 01:50:43,130

She finished high school.

2281

01:50:43,130 --> 01:50:44,630

And she went to a nurse school.

2282

01:50:44,630 --> 01:50:47,160

She was younger than me.

2283

01:50:47,160 --> 01:50:49,540

Then she wanted to
go to medical school.

2284

01:50:49,540 --> 01:50:51,350

And I got married.

2285

01:50:51,350 --> 01:50:55,040

And we got permits
to go to America.

2286

01:50:55,040 --> 01:50:57,620

How did you meet your husband?

2287

01:50:57,620 --> 01:50:59,600

In Berlin, I met him.

2288

01:50:59,600 --> 01:51:01,040

How?

2289

01:51:01,040 --> 01:51:02,330

Through friends.

2290

01:51:02,330 --> 01:51:03,380

I see.

2291

01:51:03,380 --> 01:51:05,480

And how did he get there?

2292

01:51:05,480 --> 01:51:07,640

How did he leave
the Soviet Union?

2293

01:51:07,640 --> 01:51:10,400
He was Soviet Union.

2294
01:51:10,400 --> 01:51:14,510
They came home to
Poland with his mother.

2295
01:51:14,510 --> 01:51:16,170
And the brother was sick.

2296
01:51:16,170 --> 01:51:18,670
He had TB on bone--

2297
01:51:18,670 --> 01:51:19,190
TB.

2298
01:51:19,190 --> 01:51:26,540
So my husband worked very hard
to get him to Switzerland.

2299
01:51:26,540 --> 01:51:31,230
They had a sanatorium
there, too.

2300
01:51:31,230 --> 01:51:32,700
He healed.

2301
01:51:32,700 --> 01:51:33,430
Did he?

2302
01:51:33,430 --> 01:51:33,930
Yes.

2303
01:51:33,930 --> 01:51:35,760
He got better?

2304
01:51:35,760 --> 01:51:36,300
Yes.

2305
01:51:36,300 --> 01:51:39,270
My husband had already
a heart condition.

2306
01:51:39,270 --> 01:51:40,190
I didn't know.

2307
01:51:40,190 --> 01:51:42,780
But somehow he lived.

2308
01:51:42,780 --> 01:51:47,910
And God gave us four children.

2309
01:51:47,910 --> 01:51:49,950
And he took care of us.

2310
01:51:49,950 --> 01:51:52,620
Now that's why I believe in God.

2311
01:51:52,620 --> 01:51:58,295
Because we see it, that
we were very helpless,

2312
01:51:58,295 --> 01:51:59,790
and who helped us?

2313
01:51:59,790 --> 01:52:03,250

2314
01:52:03,250 --> 01:52:05,230
Is there something
else you would like

2315
01:52:05,230 --> 01:52:08,620
to add to your story for today?

2316
01:52:08,620 --> 01:52:11,080
We've talked about an awful lot.

2317
01:52:11,080 --> 01:52:13,930
And in a few hours,
you can never

2318
01:52:13,930 --> 01:52:17,080

get the full story of a person.

2319

01:52:17,080 --> 01:52:20,180

But here, we're
close to the end.

2320

01:52:20,180 --> 01:52:22,810

And I wanted to ask,
is there something else

2321

01:52:22,810 --> 01:52:26,530

you would want people to know
about what you've gone through,

2322

01:52:26,530 --> 01:52:32,310

what you experienced, and
how you came out of it?

2323

01:52:32,310 --> 01:52:37,200

The only way I could explain
that God took care of us.

2324

01:52:37,200 --> 01:52:41,750

Because we, by ourself, we
had no way to go to Israel.

2325

01:52:41,750 --> 01:52:45,150

Because children
transport weren't allowed

2326

01:52:45,150 --> 01:52:47,715

to go in the time when we.

2327

01:52:47,715 --> 01:52:50,710

We didn't have where to go.

2328

01:52:50,710 --> 01:52:54,990

And we didn't know what to do.

2329

01:52:54,990 --> 01:52:58,020

And somehow, God
showed us a way.

2330

01:52:58,020 --> 01:53:01,330

We didn't do it by ourselves.

2331

01:53:01,330 --> 01:53:09,150

So whatever happens to us,
it's not that we so smart,

2332

01:53:09,150 --> 01:53:11,920

that one is smarter
than the next one.

2333

01:53:11,920 --> 01:53:16,520

Some people are
smart, and it's not

2334

01:53:16,520 --> 01:53:20,660

meant for them to have
anything, and they struggle.

2335

01:53:20,660 --> 01:53:23,050

Some people get very rich.

2336

01:53:23,050 --> 01:53:25,800

And some people are not
so rich, and they happy,

2337

01:53:25,800 --> 01:53:29,290

make the best with
what they have.

2338

01:53:29,290 --> 01:53:34,920

But the main thing in my life
is whatever I did anything good,

2339

01:53:34,920 --> 01:53:39,750

that I helped somebody when you
needed me and whenever I could,

2340

01:53:39,750 --> 01:53:42,540

I was able to, I'm not sorry.

2341

01:53:42,540 --> 01:53:46,725

I'm only sorry that I
maybe didn't do enough.

2342
01:53:46,725 --> 01:53:51,390

But we tried to
do when we could.

2343
01:53:51,390 --> 01:53:54,630

Did you tell your children
about your experiences

2344
01:53:54,630 --> 01:53:56,058

during the war?

2345
01:53:56,058 --> 01:53:56,850

Did you share this?

2346
01:53:56,850 --> 01:53:58,170

Not when they were young.

2347
01:53:58,170 --> 01:53:59,160

Now I did.

2348
01:53:59,160 --> 01:54:03,300

Now, when they understood,
they were ready, I did.

2349
01:54:03,300 --> 01:54:07,610

My husband spoke more about
it, what he went through.

2350
01:54:07,610 --> 01:54:11,490

2351
01:54:11,490 --> 01:54:25,770

But he injected the belief,
and he showed me many times

2352
01:54:25,770 --> 01:54:29,370

in life, I thought it
is not going to work,

2353

01:54:29,370 --> 01:54:30,940
it's not going to be good.

2354
01:54:30,940 --> 01:54:35,760
My husband was sick, and I was
pregnant with my third child.

2355
01:54:35,760 --> 01:54:37,520
I didn't know because,
in the beginning,

2356
01:54:37,520 --> 01:54:39,750
we struggled plenty, too.

2357
01:54:39,750 --> 01:54:40,965
But everybody does.

2358
01:54:40,965 --> 01:54:43,640

2359
01:54:43,640 --> 01:54:45,750
So he told me--

2360
01:54:45,750 --> 01:54:48,390
I said, but he was sick.

2361
01:54:48,390 --> 01:54:52,600
He had a small heart attack.

2362
01:54:52,600 --> 01:54:54,690
He was in his 30s.

2363
01:54:54,690 --> 01:54:59,520
So he said to me,
don't be scared.

2364
01:54:59,520 --> 01:55:02,220
See, God takes care of us.

2365
01:55:02,220 --> 01:55:07,020
And if God will want me
to live, I will live.

2366
01:55:07,020 --> 01:55:08,550
And don't worry.

2367
01:55:08,550 --> 01:55:11,050
God provides for everything.

2368
01:55:11,050 --> 01:55:15,390
And he injected into the
children the believe and trust

2369
01:55:15,390 --> 01:55:19,710
in God, and believe
that's the truth.

2370
01:55:19,710 --> 01:55:24,780
And it's a true thing that
you could only trust in God.

2371
01:55:24,780 --> 01:55:26,640
Because he takes care of us.

2372
01:55:26,640 --> 01:55:31,410
Because ourselves-- we
think we smart, we can do.

2373
01:55:31,410 --> 01:55:32,190
It's not.

2374
01:55:32,190 --> 01:55:35,430
And what happened that
night, a friend of his

2375
01:55:35,430 --> 01:55:37,210
went to a wedding.

2376
01:55:37,210 --> 01:55:44,160
And he passed across the
street to the subway,

2377
01:55:44,160 --> 01:55:47,040
to get the subway

from East Broadway.

2378

01:55:47,040 --> 01:55:49,240

And a motorcycle came.

2379

01:55:49,240 --> 01:55:51,510

And on the spot, he was dead.

2380

01:55:51,510 --> 01:55:57,060

So he said, there is no
insurance in life for anything.

2381

01:55:57,060 --> 01:56:00,780

If you're supposed to
live and you have to live,

2382

01:56:00,780 --> 01:56:02,640

God helps you.

2383

01:56:02,640 --> 01:56:06,597

But if you supposed to die,
in one minute, you're dead.

2384

01:56:06,597 --> 01:56:10,180

2385

01:56:10,180 --> 01:56:15,260

So then I say, whatever
it was, we manage.

2386

01:56:15,260 --> 01:56:18,970

And life, it's what
you want from life.

2387

01:56:18,970 --> 01:56:21,940

We not here just
for our pleasure.

2388

01:56:21,940 --> 01:56:25,570

We have to be here
for other people.

2389

01:56:25,570 --> 01:56:28,090
And whenever we had a friend--

2390
01:56:28,090 --> 01:56:35,530
or my son went to school away,
to Switzerland, and a man came.

2391
01:56:35,530 --> 01:56:39,720
He was also a Holocaust
survivor without a hand.

2392
01:56:39,720 --> 01:56:45,220
And the principal
directed him to our house.

2393
01:56:45,220 --> 01:56:46,730
It was holiday.

2394
01:56:46,730 --> 01:56:51,310
So he came and wasn't an
easy person with one hand.

2395
01:56:51,310 --> 01:56:55,270
And my younger daughter had
to take him across the subway.

2396
01:56:55,270 --> 01:56:56,680
He was scared.

2397
01:56:56,680 --> 01:57:00,940
But my husband
said, he is a guest.

2398
01:57:00,940 --> 01:57:04,990
You have to treat him
better than yourself.

2399
01:57:04,990 --> 01:57:08,925
And if he needs your bed,
you give your bed to him.

2400
01:57:08,925 --> 01:57:09,800
Those are the values.

2401
01:57:09,800 --> 01:57:12,800
So he injected it into
the children, too.

2402
01:57:12,800 --> 01:57:16,420
And thanks to him, we
have good children.

2403
01:57:16,420 --> 01:57:19,480
I think not only thanks
to him but probably also

2404
01:57:19,480 --> 01:57:20,670
thanks to you.

2405
01:57:20,670 --> 01:57:23,710
Yeah, but-- yes, I did, too.

2406
01:57:23,710 --> 01:57:28,570
And whenever he brought
somebody home, I never said--

2407
01:57:28,570 --> 01:57:37,045
I always took him with a smiling
face and made them feel good.

2408
01:57:37,045 --> 01:57:39,770
I guess I got it a
little from home, too.

2409
01:57:39,770 --> 01:57:41,520
Yeah.

2410
01:57:41,520 --> 01:57:45,820
Well, Mrs. Marcia,
thank you so much.

2411
01:57:45,820 --> 01:57:48,310
I've appreciated that
you've taken the time

2412

01:57:48,310 --> 01:57:49,900
to share your story with us.

2413
01:57:49,900 --> 01:57:52,000
Yeah, but I appreciate you.

2414
01:57:52,000 --> 01:57:53,980
You're such a wonderful person.

2415
01:57:53,980 --> 01:57:56,350
There isn't many like you.

2416
01:57:56,350 --> 01:58:01,520
And I really admire
you as a person.

2417
01:58:01,520 --> 01:58:04,830
I didn't know you, but
I wish you all the best.

2418
01:58:04,830 --> 01:58:05,330
Thank you.

2419
01:58:05,330 --> 01:58:06,080
Thank you so much.

2420
01:58:06,080 --> 01:58:10,540
They claim to say that Holocaust
survivors have the power

2421
01:58:10,540 --> 01:58:13,570
to bless people because
they went through--

2422
01:58:13,570 --> 01:58:15,790
that's what the rabbis say--

2423
01:58:15,790 --> 01:58:18,250
because they like.

2424
01:58:18,250 --> 01:58:19,750
Well, thank you very much.

2425
01:58:19,750 --> 01:58:20,880
Those are very kind words.

2426
01:58:20,880 --> 01:58:25,900
So I wish you a long,
happy, and good life.

2427
01:58:25,900 --> 01:58:29,860
And you should have joys that
life should bring to you.

2428
01:58:29,860 --> 01:58:30,880
Thank you.

2429
01:58:30,880 --> 01:58:31,600
Thank you deeply.

2430
01:58:31,600 --> 01:58:33,400
Yeah, I don't if
it's the right thing.

2431
01:58:33,400 --> 01:58:35,980
It was absolutely beautiful.

2432
01:58:35,980 --> 01:58:37,540
It's a real gift.

2433
01:58:37,540 --> 01:58:38,920
Thank you.

2434
01:58:38,920 --> 01:58:43,570
And I will say, with
that, that this concludes

2435
01:58:43,570 --> 01:58:47,080
our interview, the United
States Holocaust Memorial Museum

2436
01:58:47,080 --> 01:58:55,690
interview, with Mrs. Marcia
Loewi on January 8, 2016

2437
01:58:55,690 --> 01:58:58,030
in Borough Park, New York.

2438
01:58:58,030 --> 01:58:58,750
Thanks again.

2439
01:58:58,750 --> 01:59:01,270
Thank you, thank you.

2440
01:59:01,270 --> 01:59:02,060
Thank you.

2441
01:59:02,060 --> 01:59:03,280
It's a pleasure.

2442
01:59:03,280 --> 01:59:06,100
I learned from you
a lot of things.

2443
01:59:06,100 --> 01:59:09,520
Because there isn't
many people like you.

2444
01:59:09,520 --> 01:59:11,800
But thank God there is people.

2445
01:59:11,800 --> 01:59:12,790
Thank you.

2446
01:59:12,790 --> 01:59:14,140
That's very kind.

2447
01:59:14,140 --> 01:59:15,690
OK.