

1
00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:02,610

2
00:00:02,610 --> 00:00:06,540
This is a United States
Holocaust Memorial Museum

3
00:00:06,540 --> 00:00:13,350
interview with Mrs. Rina
Frankel on October 23, 2017

4
00:00:13,350 --> 00:00:15,780
in Shaker Heights, Ohio.

5
00:00:15,780 --> 00:00:18,510
Thank you very, very
much, Mrs. Frankel,

6
00:00:18,510 --> 00:00:21,570
for agreeing to
speak with us today.

7
00:00:21,570 --> 00:00:23,640
As I have said off
camera, we're going

8
00:00:23,640 --> 00:00:27,120
to start your story
from the very beginning

9
00:00:27,120 --> 00:00:30,270
and talk a lot about
your pre-war life

10
00:00:30,270 --> 00:00:31,950
and that of your family.

11
00:00:31,950 --> 00:00:36,900
And from there, we'll build
on to your experiences.

12

00:00:36,900 --> 00:00:39,450

So my very first
question is, can you

13

00:00:39,450 --> 00:00:42,180

tell me the date of your birth?

14

00:00:42,180 --> 00:00:43,290

Yes.

15

00:00:43,290 --> 00:00:50,040

I was born June 26, 1934.

16

00:00:50,040 --> 00:00:51,550

Where were you born?

17

00:00:51,550 --> 00:00:57,420

I was born in a little town,
a shtetl, called Zarszyn.

18

00:00:57,420 --> 00:00:58,050

Zarszyn.

19

00:00:58,050 --> 00:00:59,190

Zarszyn.

20

00:00:59,190 --> 00:01:05,019

And it is in Galicia, the
eastern part of Poland.

21

00:01:05,019 --> 00:01:07,170

Can you spell Zarszyn for us?

22

00:01:07,170 --> 00:01:08,260

Yes.

23

00:01:08,260 --> 00:01:15,120

Z-A-R-S-Z-Y-N.

24

00:01:15,120 --> 00:01:16,080

OK.

25

00:01:16,080 --> 00:01:18,160

What was your name at birth?

26

00:01:18,160 --> 00:01:21,130

My name at birth was Ryzia--

27

00:01:21,130 --> 00:01:22,170

Ryzia?

28

00:01:22,170 --> 00:01:29,760

R-Y-Z-I-A. But when I came
to Israel many years later,

29

00:01:29,760 --> 00:01:32,940

I was rechristened.

30

00:01:32,940 --> 00:01:36,900

The Israelis could
not pronounce Ryzia.

31

00:01:36,900 --> 00:01:37,500

OK.

32

00:01:37,500 --> 00:01:45,610

And even when we were Russia,
I became Rosya and Roshi

33

00:01:45,610 --> 00:01:48,780

and all kinds of names.

34

00:01:48,780 --> 00:01:51,930

They could not quite grasp it.

35

00:01:51,930 --> 00:01:58,290

So when I came to Israel, I
felt I wanted a change of name.

36

00:01:58,290 --> 00:02:04,320

And a cousin of ours, a
distant cousin, who's a poet

37

00:02:04,320 --> 00:02:07,350
and came over one
night and he started

38
00:02:07,350 --> 00:02:12,180
telling me different names,
and I liked the name Rina.

39
00:02:12,180 --> 00:02:14,760
And from then on,
I became Rina--

40
00:02:14,760 --> 00:02:16,410
Rina.

41
00:02:16,410 --> 00:02:19,020
Is Ryzia a diminutive
of something?

42
00:02:19,020 --> 00:02:21,600
No.

43
00:02:21,600 --> 00:02:25,110
I guess I was named after
an aunt, a great aunt.

44
00:02:25,110 --> 00:02:28,020

45
00:02:28,020 --> 00:02:29,000
Polish--

46
00:02:29,000 --> 00:02:30,240
Is it a Polish name?

47
00:02:30,240 --> 00:02:31,110
Yes.

48
00:02:31,110 --> 00:02:32,910
And it's also a Yiddish name?

49
00:02:32,910 --> 00:02:33,630

Yes.

50
00:02:33,630 --> 00:02:35,670
OK, OK.

51
00:02:35,670 --> 00:02:37,540
And your last name at birth?

52
00:02:37,540 --> 00:02:39,940
My last name, my maiden name--

53
00:02:39,940 --> 00:02:40,440
Yes.

54
00:02:40,440 --> 00:02:45,090
Is Barth-- B-A-R-T-H--

55
00:02:45,090 --> 00:02:47,820
which isn't really a
typical Polish name.

56
00:02:47,820 --> 00:02:49,110
No.

57
00:02:49,110 --> 00:02:55,500
I understand ancestors
came through France.

58
00:02:55,500 --> 00:02:58,730
And that's how the
name continued.

59
00:02:58,730 --> 00:02:59,490
OK.

60
00:02:59,490 --> 00:03:05,840
Yes, it could easily be a
German name, a German surname.

61
00:03:05,840 --> 00:03:12,480
All right, so Zarszyn was your
shtetl that you were born in.

62
00:03:12,480 --> 00:03:16,320
Can you tell me about how
many people Zarszyn had?

63
00:03:16,320 --> 00:03:18,630
Yes, of course, I learned this--

64
00:03:18,630 --> 00:03:19,150
Later--

65
00:03:19,150 --> 00:03:22,350
Later from my family.

66
00:03:22,350 --> 00:03:26,550
Zarszyn had 1,100 inhabitants--

67
00:03:26,550 --> 00:03:27,120
Small.

68
00:03:27,120 --> 00:03:32,160
And 400 of those were Jews.

69
00:03:32,160 --> 00:03:36,570
We had one synagogue
that my father was

70
00:03:36,570 --> 00:03:39,960
instrumental in helping build.

71
00:03:39,960 --> 00:03:47,740
And one of my grandfathers,
my mother's father,

72
00:03:47,740 --> 00:03:51,340
was the rabbi in
that little town.

73
00:03:51,340 --> 00:03:56,350
He was also the shochet,
and he was the mohel.

74

00:03:56,350 --> 00:04:00,370

He was everything because
it was a small town.

75

00:04:00,370 --> 00:04:04,150

Tell us for those people who
don't know, what is a shochet?

76

00:04:04,150 --> 00:04:05,280

And what is the mohel?

77

00:04:05,280 --> 00:04:14,980

A shochet is the person who has
the authority to kill kosher,

78

00:04:14,980 --> 00:04:20,079

because there is a special
way when animals are killed--

79

00:04:20,079 --> 00:04:24,130

chickens or any other animals--

80

00:04:24,130 --> 00:04:27,630

not to make them suffer.

81

00:04:27,630 --> 00:04:31,060

It's a very sharp knife is used.

82

00:04:31,060 --> 00:04:37,570

And they slit the throat quickly
so the animal doesn't suffer.

83

00:04:37,570 --> 00:04:40,960

And there is special
training for that.

84

00:04:40,960 --> 00:04:43,450

And my grandfather was trained.

85

00:04:43,450 --> 00:04:50,230

A mohel is the one who
circumcises Jewish boys

86
00:04:50,230 --> 00:04:52,870
at the age of eight days.

87
00:04:52,870 --> 00:04:55,420
OK.

88
00:04:55,420 --> 00:04:58,720
Let's talk a little
bit about your family.

89
00:04:58,720 --> 00:05:00,670
Did you have
brothers and sisters?

90
00:05:00,670 --> 00:05:01,930
I had two sisters.

91
00:05:01,930 --> 00:05:05,770

92
00:05:05,770 --> 00:05:08,320
Our families were related.

93
00:05:08,320 --> 00:05:11,824

94
00:05:11,824 --> 00:05:16,630
The Barth family and
the Leibowicz family,

95
00:05:16,630 --> 00:05:23,500
which was my mother's
family, were cousins.

96
00:05:23,500 --> 00:05:28,430
So my mother married
a second cousin.

97
00:05:28,430 --> 00:05:32,600
And it was a love
story, which wasn't

98
00:05:32,600 --> 00:05:37,730
usual for that time
among Jewish people.

99
00:05:37,730 --> 00:05:42,240
Usually they were paired
up through their parents,

100
00:05:42,240 --> 00:05:43,410
and so forth--

101
00:05:43,410 --> 00:05:43,910
Arranged--

102
00:05:43,910 --> 00:05:48,860
But since they used to know
each other and see each other,

103
00:05:48,860 --> 00:05:52,340
they fell in love
very, very young.

104
00:05:52,340 --> 00:05:57,410
And my mother was actually three
years older than my father.

105
00:05:57,410 --> 00:06:03,020
And my grandfather also
used to teach young boys.

106
00:06:03,020 --> 00:06:09,020
We did not have a yeshiva, a
higher Jewish learning place.

107
00:06:09,020 --> 00:06:12,830
So he used to teach
students in his home.

108
00:06:12,830 --> 00:06:16,820
And, of course, once my
mother became of age,

109

00:06:16,820 --> 00:06:21,230
they started suggesting
different young men for her

110

00:06:21,230 --> 00:06:22,460
to marry.

111

00:06:22,460 --> 00:06:24,920
But she refused everybody.

112

00:06:24,920 --> 00:06:27,380
And nobody knew why.

113

00:06:27,380 --> 00:06:32,390
And then when they finally
discovered that the two of them

114

00:06:32,390 --> 00:06:35,780
were in love, my
other grandparents

115

00:06:35,780 --> 00:06:39,860
wanted to send away my
father, because they

116

00:06:39,860 --> 00:06:42,680
felt he was too young to marry.

117

00:06:42,680 --> 00:06:45,590
But in any case, they married.

118

00:06:45,590 --> 00:06:49,490
My mother was 23, and
he was 20 years old.

119

00:06:49,490 --> 00:06:50,800
Well, that's a lovely story.

120

00:06:50,800 --> 00:06:51,300
Yeah.

121

00:06:51,300 --> 00:06:55,430
It's very nice to know
that this could happen

122
00:06:55,430 --> 00:06:59,120
and that eventually
tradition allowed it.

123
00:06:59,120 --> 00:07:00,080
Right.

124
00:07:00,080 --> 00:07:03,770
Tell me what was your
mother's full name then.

125
00:07:03,770 --> 00:07:06,890
My mother's name was Miriam.

126
00:07:06,890 --> 00:07:10,640
And as far as I know she
only had the one name.

127
00:07:10,640 --> 00:07:12,950
And her last name
was Leibowitz.

128
00:07:12,950 --> 00:07:14,440
And then became Barth.

129
00:07:14,440 --> 00:07:16,130
And then became Barth.

130
00:07:16,130 --> 00:07:17,820
And your father's name?

131
00:07:17,820 --> 00:07:19,750
My father's name was Hersh.

132
00:07:19,750 --> 00:07:20,250
Hersh.

133
00:07:20,250 --> 00:07:21,050

Mm-hmm.

134

00:07:21,050 --> 00:07:28,170

And he had a middle name,
a Hebrew name, Hersh Dov.

135

00:07:28,170 --> 00:07:29,340

Dov.

136

00:07:29,340 --> 00:07:30,050

Barth.

137

00:07:30,050 --> 00:07:31,250

Yes.

138

00:07:31,250 --> 00:07:34,740

Do you know what years
both of them were born?

139

00:07:34,740 --> 00:07:35,240

Yes.

140

00:07:35,240 --> 00:07:38,960

My mother was born at
the turn of the century.

141

00:07:38,960 --> 00:07:42,350

And my father was born in 1903.

142

00:07:42,350 --> 00:07:43,760

OK.

143

00:07:43,760 --> 00:07:45,750

And both of them from Zarszyn?

144

00:07:45,750 --> 00:07:47,000

Yes.

145

00:07:47,000 --> 00:07:49,460

And were the families
all from Zarszyn

146

00:07:49,460 --> 00:07:51,410
for several generations?

147

00:07:51,410 --> 00:07:58,040
Well, my mother's grandfather
lived in another small town.

148

00:07:58,040 --> 00:08:00,860
It was called Nowotaniec.

149

00:08:00,860 --> 00:08:01,750
Nowotaniec?

150

00:08:01,750 --> 00:08:02,250
Yes.

151

00:08:02,250 --> 00:08:04,730
OK.

152

00:08:04,730 --> 00:08:09,890
But I think that already
my grandfather's father

153

00:08:09,890 --> 00:08:11,980
moved to Zarszyn.

154

00:08:11,980 --> 00:08:17,280
OK, so for all intents and
purposes, within living memory,

155

00:08:17,280 --> 00:08:21,000
if we talk about that
being a few generations,

156

00:08:21,000 --> 00:08:24,360
you know, one, two,
three generations,

157

00:08:24,360 --> 00:08:25,620
it was Zarszyn based.

158

00:08:25,620 --> 00:08:26,820
It was Zarszyn, yes.

159
00:08:26,820 --> 00:08:27,840
OK.

160
00:08:27,840 --> 00:08:30,390
What were the names
of your sisters.

161
00:08:30,390 --> 00:08:32,080
It was Hannah

162
00:08:32,080 --> 00:08:33,059
Hannah.

163
00:08:33,059 --> 00:08:34,350
And Bluma.

164
00:08:34,350 --> 00:08:36,049
And were they older or younger?

165
00:08:36,049 --> 00:08:36,870
Older.

166
00:08:36,870 --> 00:08:39,400
I was the baby of the family.

167
00:08:39,400 --> 00:08:43,669
And Hannah and Bluma,
when were they born?

168
00:08:43,669 --> 00:08:53,750
Hannah was born in
1925, January 21.

169
00:08:53,750 --> 00:09:00,290
And Bluma was actually born
on my birthday, June 26,

170
00:09:00,290 --> 00:09:04,650
eight years older than myself.

171
00:09:04,650 --> 00:09:05,150
So that--

172
00:09:05,150 --> 00:09:08,260
Hannah was nine 9
and 1/2 years older

173
00:09:08,260 --> 00:09:10,760
when I was eight years older.

174
00:09:10,760 --> 00:09:11,990
So that would have been--

175
00:09:11,990 --> 00:09:15,380
she would have been 1926 or '27?

176
00:09:15,380 --> 00:09:16,010
Seven.

177
00:09:16,010 --> 00:09:20,310
She would have been '27,
born in 1927, June--

178
00:09:20,310 --> 00:09:20,810
26th.

179
00:09:20,810 --> 00:09:22,130
26th.

180
00:09:22,130 --> 00:09:23,140
Got It.

181
00:09:23,140 --> 00:09:23,930
OK.

182
00:09:23,930 --> 00:09:26,000
So you really were the
baby of the family.

183
00:09:26,000 --> 00:09:26,840

I was.

184
00:09:26,840 --> 00:09:27,950
OK.

185
00:09:27,950 --> 00:09:34,970
And was your family
very religious?

186
00:09:34,970 --> 00:09:37,710
Yes, they were quite observant.

187
00:09:37,710 --> 00:09:41,180
My father was, today
you would probably

188
00:09:41,180 --> 00:09:48,020
term him, a modern Orthodox,
because he was well

189
00:09:48,020 --> 00:09:50,420
traveled for that time.

190
00:09:50,420 --> 00:09:56,660
He used to travel to
Germany, to Czechoslovakia.

191
00:09:56,660 --> 00:10:01,940
We had a little store, and
he would go on shopping trips

192
00:10:01,940 --> 00:10:05,480
to order different materials.

193
00:10:05,480 --> 00:10:07,730
He spoke German.

194
00:10:07,730 --> 00:10:11,660
He spoke very well
Polish, which wasn't

195
00:10:11,660 --> 00:10:14,630

the case for all the Jews.

196
00:10:14,630 --> 00:10:19,640
He was actually the
only Jew in our town

197
00:10:19,640 --> 00:10:23,060
that was a representative
on the town council.

198
00:10:23,060 --> 00:10:23,840
Oh, really?

199
00:10:23,840 --> 00:10:25,370
Yes.

200
00:10:25,370 --> 00:10:34,270
And his dress was modern,
except for holidays when

201
00:10:34,270 --> 00:10:37,135
he would dress like his father.

202
00:10:37,135 --> 00:10:39,990

203
00:10:39,990 --> 00:10:42,220
But he had a little beard.

204
00:10:42,220 --> 00:10:43,240
It was trimmed.

205
00:10:43,240 --> 00:10:48,340
It was not-- because the
very Orthodox Jews will not

206
00:10:48,340 --> 00:10:50,470
trim down beards.

207
00:10:50,470 --> 00:10:51,715
His beard was trimmed.

208

00:10:51,715 --> 00:10:54,930

209

00:10:54,930 --> 00:10:56,460

And he was in business.

210

00:10:56,460 --> 00:10:58,590

We had a little store.

211

00:10:58,590 --> 00:11:00,210

OK, tell me about it.

212

00:11:00,210 --> 00:11:02,150

Tell me about the store.

213

00:11:02,150 --> 00:11:07,950

The store carried
mostly food items.

214

00:11:07,950 --> 00:11:10,260

Of course, no refrigeration.

215

00:11:10,260 --> 00:11:13,290

They used to keep
everything in the cellar.

216

00:11:13,290 --> 00:11:15,630

And this I actually remember.

217

00:11:15,630 --> 00:11:20,970

We had an opening in the store
where a door would come up,

218

00:11:20,970 --> 00:11:24,660

or part of the
floor would come up.

219

00:11:24,660 --> 00:11:26,910

And there were stairs.

220

00:11:26,910 --> 00:11:30,750

And they would go down, like
butter was kept downstairs

221
00:11:30,750 --> 00:11:32,880
because it was cooler.

222
00:11:32,880 --> 00:11:34,080
And--

223
00:11:34,080 --> 00:11:36,480
Did you have ice down
there to keep it cool?

224
00:11:36,480 --> 00:11:38,190
They had ice.

225
00:11:38,190 --> 00:11:40,080
They had ice.

226
00:11:40,080 --> 00:11:43,320
But obviously no refrigeration.

227
00:11:43,320 --> 00:11:49,350
And the store became
like a gathering place.

228
00:11:49,350 --> 00:11:52,320
People would come
and discuss politics,

229
00:11:52,320 --> 00:11:57,900
read the papers because we would
get newspapers into the store.

230
00:11:57,900 --> 00:12:03,990
And this I even
recall, being people,

231
00:12:03,990 --> 00:12:10,300
there were always people around
my father discussing things.

232

00:12:10,300 --> 00:12:12,620
And what was the
name of the store?

233
00:12:12,620 --> 00:12:13,860
Oh, it had no name.

234
00:12:13,860 --> 00:12:14,730
Oh, it had no name.

235
00:12:14,730 --> 00:12:15,840
I don't think so.

236
00:12:15,840 --> 00:12:19,050
So it wasn't like
Barth's Supermarket?

237
00:12:19,050 --> 00:12:20,130
I don't think so.

238
00:12:20,130 --> 00:12:22,270
I never heard of a name.

239
00:12:22,270 --> 00:12:24,420
Do you remember the
street it was on?

240
00:12:24,420 --> 00:12:28,290
No, because in this little
town there were no--

241
00:12:28,290 --> 00:12:29,640
I don't think there were names.

242
00:12:29,640 --> 00:12:31,380
There was a main street.

243
00:12:31,380 --> 00:12:32,130
And that's where--

244
00:12:32,130 --> 00:12:33,720
And it was on the main street?

245
00:12:33,720 --> 00:12:34,300
Yeah.

246
00:12:34,300 --> 00:12:34,950
OK.

247
00:12:34,950 --> 00:12:37,610
Was it in the center of town?

248
00:12:37,610 --> 00:12:38,130
Yes.

249
00:12:38,130 --> 00:12:41,460
We lived in the same building.

250
00:12:41,460 --> 00:12:46,830
And actually, the building
was a two-family house.

251
00:12:46,830 --> 00:12:51,540
And the second half was
occupied by a Gentile family,

252
00:12:51,540 --> 00:12:53,400
by a Christian family.

253
00:12:53,400 --> 00:12:54,630
Tell me a little bit--

254
00:12:54,630 --> 00:12:56,820
I have questions on all of that.

255
00:12:56,820 --> 00:13:00,330
Let's start with the easy
ones that are factual

256
00:13:00,330 --> 00:13:03,900
and if you can remember them,
such as the construction.

257

00:13:03,900 --> 00:13:04,920
Was it wooden?

258
00:13:04,920 --> 00:13:06,070
Was it a stone?

259
00:13:06,070 --> 00:13:06,570
Wooden.

260
00:13:06,570 --> 00:13:08,060
I actually have a picture--

261
00:13:08,060 --> 00:13:08,560
Oh, you do--

262
00:13:08,560 --> 00:13:12,280
Of my grandfather's house,
which was very similar.

263
00:13:12,280 --> 00:13:13,110
OK.

264
00:13:13,110 --> 00:13:14,520
So it was a wooden house.

265
00:13:14,520 --> 00:13:18,730
Was built in the 19th
century or do you think

266
00:13:18,730 --> 00:13:19,785
was it a modern house?

267
00:13:19,785 --> 00:13:22,290

268
00:13:22,290 --> 00:13:26,595
I'm quite sure it was
built in the 19th century,

269
00:13:26,595 --> 00:13:29,820
though I don't know
that for a fact.

270

00:13:29,820 --> 00:13:35,220
OK, now as far as conveniences,
did it have indoor plumbing?

271

00:13:35,220 --> 00:13:36,420
Yes.

272

00:13:36,420 --> 00:13:42,420
Did it have indoor, let's say,
toilet and bath facilities?

273

00:13:42,420 --> 00:13:49,050
I don't recall bath facilities
per se, like a bathtub.

274

00:13:49,050 --> 00:13:51,120
I remember the kitchen better.

275

00:13:51,120 --> 00:13:52,410
Tell me about it.

276

00:13:52,410 --> 00:13:59,400
The kitchen has a very large
oven, a freestanding, really

277

00:13:59,400 --> 00:14:03,750
big oven, I remember,
with a big--

278

00:14:03,750 --> 00:14:04,500
Pipe--

279

00:14:04,500 --> 00:14:08,190
Pipe going up the ceiling.

280

00:14:08,190 --> 00:14:16,900
And I remember a dining
room and a bedroom.

281

00:14:16,900 --> 00:14:21,140
But I do not recall a bathtub.

282
00:14:21,140 --> 00:14:27,410
As a matter of fact, I think
I remember a portable tub.

283
00:14:27,410 --> 00:14:31,130
But your mother didn't have to
go out to a well to get water?

284
00:14:31,130 --> 00:14:33,530
She could turn on a spigot.

285
00:14:33,530 --> 00:14:35,630
We had water, yes.

286
00:14:35,630 --> 00:14:38,240
What about electricity?

287
00:14:38,240 --> 00:14:39,820
There was electricity.

288
00:14:39,820 --> 00:14:40,320
OK.

289
00:14:40,320 --> 00:14:42,380
There was electricity.

290
00:14:42,380 --> 00:14:43,730
How did you heat the house?

291
00:14:43,730 --> 00:14:47,310

292
00:14:47,310 --> 00:14:49,690
I think by coal.

293
00:14:49,690 --> 00:14:52,470
Do you remember these coal
ovens that many people

294
00:14:52,470 --> 00:14:56,060

would have that had decorative
tiles sometimes in the corner?

295
00:14:56,060 --> 00:14:58,710
I don't think we had that.

296
00:14:58,710 --> 00:15:00,570
I do not recall.

297
00:15:00,570 --> 00:15:04,590
You have to remember that
I was five years old when

298
00:15:04,590 --> 00:15:06,610
I left that home.

299
00:15:06,610 --> 00:15:07,110
So--

300
00:15:07,110 --> 00:15:11,160
I know, these questions
are impossible.

301
00:15:11,160 --> 00:15:15,060
But the purpose of them is
to try and paint a picture

302
00:15:15,060 --> 00:15:18,630
with words of what this
life was like, what

303
00:15:18,630 --> 00:15:20,930
the world was like beforehand.

304
00:15:20,930 --> 00:15:24,960
I know my mother used to
tell me when I was a baby

305
00:15:24,960 --> 00:15:27,360
and she was busy, she
used to put me out

306

00:15:27,360 --> 00:15:30,180
in front of the
store in the buggy.

307
00:15:30,180 --> 00:15:33,970
And relatives or
friends would come by,

308
00:15:33,970 --> 00:15:37,020
and they would take me
for a walk or whatever.

309
00:15:37,020 --> 00:15:40,560
You know, these were times
when people were not afraid

310
00:15:40,560 --> 00:15:43,610
that somebody will
steal their baby.

311
00:15:43,610 --> 00:15:47,280
And I guess I was a pretty
cute baby in its time.

312
00:15:47,280 --> 00:15:51,690
So people used to like to stop
and play with me and so forth.

313
00:15:51,690 --> 00:15:54,960
And it gave her extra
time, because she

314
00:15:54,960 --> 00:15:56,730
worked in the store.

315
00:15:56,730 --> 00:16:03,500
My mother was always
the business woman,

316
00:16:03,500 --> 00:16:06,000
though the business was
a very small business.

317

00:16:06,000 --> 00:16:10,470
But she was more than
the working mother.

318
00:16:10,470 --> 00:16:13,770
Well, that's a lot to have,
both the household and working

319
00:16:13,770 --> 00:16:14,640
in the store.

320
00:16:14,640 --> 00:16:15,840
Yes.

321
00:16:15,840 --> 00:16:19,620
Did your sisters help out or
were they too young to do so?

322
00:16:19,620 --> 00:16:22,500
My older sister helped out.

323
00:16:22,500 --> 00:16:27,270
But I remember mostly
afterwards what she did.

324
00:16:27,270 --> 00:16:28,290
OK, we'll come to that.

325
00:16:28,290 --> 00:16:31,850

326
00:16:31,850 --> 00:16:33,900
Tell me a little bit about--

327
00:16:33,900 --> 00:16:37,630
OK, first question,
your parents' education,

328
00:16:37,630 --> 00:16:40,870
you said that your father
spoke several languages.

329

00:16:40,870 --> 00:16:41,470
Yes.

330
00:16:41,470 --> 00:16:42,890
He spoke Polish.

331
00:16:42,890 --> 00:16:44,650
He spoke Yiddish, yes?

332
00:16:44,650 --> 00:16:46,240
Yes, and he spoke German.

333
00:16:46,240 --> 00:16:48,070
Did he speak any Russian?

334
00:16:48,070 --> 00:16:49,600
I don't think so.

335
00:16:49,600 --> 00:16:52,735
Was Zarszyn part of the
Austro-Hungarian Empire?

336
00:16:52,735 --> 00:16:53,590
Probably.

337
00:16:53,590 --> 00:16:54,610
Yes.

338
00:16:54,610 --> 00:16:57,010
OK, so it would be
the part of Poland

339
00:16:57,010 --> 00:16:59,800
that Austro-Hungary had taken.

340
00:16:59,800 --> 00:17:01,520
All right, what
about your mother?

341
00:17:01,520 --> 00:17:03,430
What kind of education
had she received?

342
00:17:03,430 --> 00:17:08,020
My mother had a very
short education,

343
00:17:08,020 --> 00:17:11,079
because her mother,
my grandmother,

344
00:17:11,079 --> 00:17:13,060
was not a well person.

345
00:17:13,060 --> 00:17:18,369
I learned years later
that she was diabetic.

346
00:17:18,369 --> 00:17:22,660
And in those years, you know,
there wasn't much to treat her.

347
00:17:22,660 --> 00:17:25,810
She was very often ill.

348
00:17:25,810 --> 00:17:30,710
And, of course, she had
children, many children.

349
00:17:30,710 --> 00:17:35,820
And my mother was taken out of
the school after sixth grade--

350
00:17:35,820 --> 00:17:36,620
Oh, dear--

351
00:17:36,620 --> 00:17:38,170
To help out.

352
00:17:38,170 --> 00:17:41,210
But my mother was self-taught.

353
00:17:41,210 --> 00:17:48,520
And years later, she was

proficient in Hebrew, English,

354

00:17:48,520 --> 00:17:50,170
also German.

355

00:17:50,170 --> 00:17:53,590
She was a voracious reader.

356

00:17:53,590 --> 00:18:00,100
She read enormous amount of
books and could repeat them.

357

00:18:00,100 --> 00:18:02,440
She had a phenomenal memory.

358

00:18:02,440 --> 00:18:04,360
If you ask her
about something, she

359

00:18:04,360 --> 00:18:08,990
would tell you the entire
book by heart, she remembered.

360

00:18:08,990 --> 00:18:12,655
And she was really self-taught--

361

00:18:12,655 --> 00:18:13,655
That's very impressive--

362

00:18:13,655 --> 00:18:18,500
But as a teenager, she,
from what I understand,

363

00:18:18,500 --> 00:18:20,120
was needed at home.

364

00:18:20,120 --> 00:18:21,560
Did she have
brothers and sisters?

365

00:18:21,560 --> 00:18:24,140
She had brothers and sisters.

366
00:18:24,140 --> 00:18:28,790
She lost one brother
in the Holocaust.

367
00:18:28,790 --> 00:18:37,110
One brother made his way through
Romania to Palestine by 1940.

368
00:18:37,110 --> 00:18:43,230
And one brother ended up also
in Russia, in Kazakhstan.

369
00:18:43,230 --> 00:18:46,680
So do you know these
names of these uncles?

370
00:18:46,680 --> 00:18:47,310
Yes.

371
00:18:47,310 --> 00:18:49,170
Just tell me the names.

372
00:18:49,170 --> 00:18:52,290
The one who made it to
Palestine was Yakov.

373
00:18:52,290 --> 00:18:53,250
Yakov Leibowitcz?

374
00:18:53,250 --> 00:18:56,460
Yakov Leibowitcz.

375
00:18:56,460 --> 00:19:01,680
The older brother that
went to Russia, his name

376
00:19:01,680 --> 00:19:04,010
was Zvi Leibowitcz.

377
00:19:04,010 --> 00:19:04,980
Zvi Leibowitcz.

378
00:19:04,980 --> 00:19:09,450
And she had three
sisters that survived.

379
00:19:09,450 --> 00:19:18,660
I understand that she had small
sisters that died in childhood.

380
00:19:18,660 --> 00:19:20,520
They had measles or something.

381
00:19:20,520 --> 00:19:25,560
There was a set of twins that
passed away early in life.

382
00:19:25,560 --> 00:19:30,030

383
00:19:30,030 --> 00:19:36,210
The other two sisters also ended
up in Russia and my mother.

384
00:19:36,210 --> 00:19:40,110
So let's first go to the uncle
who perished in the Holocaust.

385
00:19:40,110 --> 00:19:41,950
What was his name?

386
00:19:41,950 --> 00:19:45,620
His name was Israel Moshe.

387
00:19:45,620 --> 00:19:47,550
Israel Moshe.

388
00:19:47,550 --> 00:19:50,700
And the two sisters
who survived?

389
00:19:50,700 --> 00:19:55,470
One was Hannah as well,

and one was Zilla.

390
00:19:55,470 --> 00:19:56,380
Zilla.

391
00:19:56,380 --> 00:19:57,090
OK.

392
00:19:57,090 --> 00:19:59,410
So it was a large
family of siblings.

393
00:19:59,410 --> 00:19:59,910
Yes.

394
00:19:59,910 --> 00:20:02,160
And was your mother the
oldest or close to the oldest?

395
00:20:02,160 --> 00:20:06,960
She was the second oldest after
the brother that perished.

396
00:20:06,960 --> 00:20:09,030
So no wonder she was
taken out of school

397
00:20:09,030 --> 00:20:10,380
to care for everybody.

398
00:20:10,380 --> 00:20:11,580
Yes.

399
00:20:11,580 --> 00:20:15,270
Did you know your
maternal grandparents?

400
00:20:15,270 --> 00:20:20,130
Very briefly, very briefly.

401
00:20:20,130 --> 00:20:24,600
When we get to the point

where we are further along

402
00:20:24,600 --> 00:20:26,730
I'll tell you the
story about it.

403
00:20:26,730 --> 00:20:27,450
OK.

404
00:20:27,450 --> 00:20:28,980
Did they live close by to you?

405
00:20:28,980 --> 00:20:30,630
Yes.

406
00:20:30,630 --> 00:20:31,410
Next door?

407
00:20:31,410 --> 00:20:33,000
Around the corner?

408
00:20:33,000 --> 00:20:34,710
On another street.

409
00:20:34,710 --> 00:20:41,730
My grandparents Barth lived just
a few houses removed from us.

410
00:20:41,730 --> 00:20:45,900
And that grandfather had the
only little jewelry store

411
00:20:45,900 --> 00:20:46,660
in town.

412
00:20:46,660 --> 00:20:47,160
Oh, wow.

413
00:20:47,160 --> 00:20:52,070
And he was also a
watch repairman.

414

00:20:52,070 --> 00:20:57,060

He was also a very
devout person.

415

00:20:57,060 --> 00:21:01,020

And they owned some land.

416

00:21:01,020 --> 00:21:03,060

They owned their home.

417

00:21:03,060 --> 00:21:04,610

We did not.

418

00:21:04,610 --> 00:21:08,190

I understand that the other
family were the owners--

419

00:21:08,190 --> 00:21:09,390

The Gentile family?

420

00:21:09,390 --> 00:21:10,110

Right.

421

00:21:10,110 --> 00:21:12,640

And we used to pay rent.

422

00:21:12,640 --> 00:21:17,630

But my grandfather Barth
owned his property.

423

00:21:17,630 --> 00:21:21,840

He also had land
behind the house

424

00:21:21,840 --> 00:21:25,080

that he used to lease out.

425

00:21:25,080 --> 00:21:30,840

And farmers would work it,
and he would get their share--

426

00:21:30,840 --> 00:21:31,800
Of what they got.

427
00:21:31,800 --> 00:21:32,300
Yes.

428
00:21:32,300 --> 00:21:33,133
What they harvested.

429
00:21:33,133 --> 00:21:36,780
They also had a horse and buggy.

430
00:21:36,780 --> 00:21:42,420
And they were better off
than most, because he

431
00:21:42,420 --> 00:21:44,280
had this kind of business.

432
00:21:44,280 --> 00:21:46,230
Yeah, well, jewelry
store would do it.

433
00:21:46,230 --> 00:21:49,050
But in a small
shtetl, I wouldn't

434
00:21:49,050 --> 00:21:52,050
imagine that many people
would have jewelry.

435
00:21:52,050 --> 00:21:57,510
No, but there were watches
that he repaired, that he sold.

436
00:21:57,510 --> 00:22:01,530
He would sell wedding rings.

437
00:22:01,530 --> 00:22:04,980
I don't know all the things
that he had in the store, but--

438

00:22:04,980 --> 00:22:07,410
Do you remember the store?

439
00:22:07,410 --> 00:22:09,120
Not really.

440
00:22:09,120 --> 00:22:13,500
Not really, but I have
a picture of the house.

441
00:22:13,500 --> 00:22:16,470
And you can see a big window.

442
00:22:16,470 --> 00:22:20,100
So I guess it was
like a display window.

443
00:22:20,100 --> 00:22:23,250
And how many siblings
did your father have?

444
00:22:23,250 --> 00:22:25,500
My father was one of nine.

445
00:22:25,500 --> 00:22:26,310
Wow.

446
00:22:26,310 --> 00:22:29,160
And he was the oldest.

447
00:22:29,160 --> 00:22:33,250
There were five brothers
and four sisters.

448
00:22:33,250 --> 00:22:33,750
Wow.

449
00:22:33,750 --> 00:22:37,500
And unfortunately,
not one of the sons

450
00:22:37,500 --> 00:22:41,000

survived the Holocaust.

451

00:22:41,000 --> 00:22:42,540

And what about the sisters?

452

00:22:42,540 --> 00:22:45,640

The sisters all survived.

453

00:22:45,640 --> 00:22:51,661

And the reason is that two emigrated to Palestine in 1935.

454

00:22:51,661 --> 00:22:53,050

Ah.

455

00:22:53,050 --> 00:22:55,300

And two were young teenagers.

456

00:22:55,300 --> 00:22:58,270

And they escaped with us.

457

00:22:58,270 --> 00:23:01,210

Do you remember the names of your uncles?

458

00:23:01,210 --> 00:23:01,900

Yes.

459

00:23:01,900 --> 00:23:04,120

Could you tell me?

460

00:23:04,120 --> 00:23:07,540

So my father was Hersh Barth.

461

00:23:07,540 --> 00:23:09,480

Then there was--

462

00:23:09,480 --> 00:23:11,030

I am not quite sure--

463

00:23:11,030 --> 00:23:12,320

Of the sequence--

464
00:23:12,320 --> 00:23:13,790
Sequence.

465
00:23:13,790 --> 00:23:20,270
But there was Avram,
Efraim, Yakov--

466
00:23:20,270 --> 00:23:24,140
oh, Yakov was after my
father, that I know--

467
00:23:24,140 --> 00:23:29,280
and Israel Moshe also.

468
00:23:29,280 --> 00:23:32,830
And what about
the sister's name.

469
00:23:32,830 --> 00:23:39,520
The sisters, the
oldest was Esther.

470
00:23:39,520 --> 00:23:42,550
And then there was Sylvia.

471
00:23:42,550 --> 00:23:46,420
Those were the two
that went to Palestine.

472
00:23:46,420 --> 00:23:53,198
And the youngest two
where Riva and Lonya.

473
00:23:53,198 --> 00:23:54,560
OK.

474
00:23:54,560 --> 00:23:57,260
Did you know these
aunts and uncles

475

00:23:57,260 --> 00:23:59,870
as you were a little girl?

476
00:23:59,870 --> 00:24:06,200
I did, but I don't
remember very well.

477
00:24:06,200 --> 00:24:14,850
I remember a couple of
them, because my uncle

478
00:24:14,850 --> 00:24:21,700
Efraim and Avram, there were
Zionists, very strong Zionists.

479
00:24:21,700 --> 00:24:29,410
And I remember like a dream
them taking me in their garden

480
00:24:29,410 --> 00:24:36,880
and showing me how they laid out
a Magen David out of bottles.

481
00:24:36,880 --> 00:24:39,160
And--

482
00:24:39,160 --> 00:24:41,440
Tell us, what is a Magen David?

483
00:24:41,440 --> 00:24:45,110
It's the Star of David.

484
00:24:45,110 --> 00:24:46,870
And that impressed me, I guess.

485
00:24:46,870 --> 00:24:49,540
I remembered that.

486
00:24:49,540 --> 00:24:55,000
And you hinted at one
of my questions is,

487

00:24:55,000 --> 00:25:00,140
was your own family
political in any way?

488
00:25:00,140 --> 00:25:03,980
I don't know that they had
any particular leaning,

489
00:25:03,980 --> 00:25:07,290
but I know they always
discussed politics.

490
00:25:07,290 --> 00:25:07,902
OK.

491
00:25:07,902 --> 00:25:08,735
That's interesting--

492
00:25:08,735 --> 00:25:12,830
And were aware of
the world situation.

493
00:25:12,830 --> 00:25:15,980
And that was the
reason that my father

494
00:25:15,980 --> 00:25:17,690
from the minute he
heard that there

495
00:25:17,690 --> 00:25:24,870
was going to be a war that he
started making plans to escape.

496
00:25:24,870 --> 00:25:25,370
OK.

497
00:25:25,370 --> 00:25:26,198
We'll come to that.

498
00:25:26,198 --> 00:25:26,990
We'll come to that.

499

00:25:26,990 --> 00:25:29,150

That's very interesting.

500

00:25:29,150 --> 00:25:31,040

At home, what language
did you speak?

501

00:25:31,040 --> 00:25:32,720

Yiddish.

502

00:25:32,720 --> 00:25:35,940

Where did you learn Polish?

503

00:25:35,940 --> 00:25:39,900

I learned Polish just
from the surroundings.

504

00:25:39,900 --> 00:25:42,930

This wasn't before
my school years.

505

00:25:42,930 --> 00:25:47,370

And later on when
we were in Bukhara,

506

00:25:47,370 --> 00:25:52,860

I went to a Polish
refugee school.

507

00:25:52,860 --> 00:25:57,990

508

00:25:57,990 --> 00:26:01,870

Do you remember the last name
of your Gentile neighbors?

509

00:26:01,870 --> 00:26:02,820

[? Kulan. ?]

510

00:26:02,820 --> 00:26:03,360

[? Kulan. ?]

511

00:26:03,360 --> 00:26:04,110

Mm-hmm.

512

00:26:04,110 --> 00:26:07,620

And what kind of relationship
did you have with them?

513

00:26:07,620 --> 00:26:11,140

We had a good
relationship with them.

514

00:26:11,140 --> 00:26:17,740

And I actually am in this
present life went back

515

00:26:17,740 --> 00:26:20,980

to Poland and I
met his daughter.

516

00:26:20,980 --> 00:26:22,240

Oh, really.

517

00:26:22,240 --> 00:26:29,380

And she was extremely happy to
see somebody from the family.

518

00:26:29,380 --> 00:26:32,800

And she really received
us beautifully.

519

00:26:32,800 --> 00:26:36,010

And what she did, she
told us that the house

520

00:26:36,010 --> 00:26:38,630

was bombed during the war.

521

00:26:38,630 --> 00:26:43,540

And she built the home
afterwards, a modern house

522

00:26:43,540 --> 00:26:45,430

on the entire lot.

523

00:26:45,430 --> 00:26:46,420

Did you see that house?

524

00:26:46,420 --> 00:26:49,430

Yes, we were in her home.

525

00:26:49,430 --> 00:26:53,000

And what was the fate
of her own family?

526

00:26:53,000 --> 00:26:55,940

Her parents died naturally.

527

00:26:55,940 --> 00:26:58,580

And she was married.

528

00:26:58,580 --> 00:27:01,250

We met her husband.

529

00:27:01,250 --> 00:27:04,850

I don't know much else
about their history.

530

00:27:04,850 --> 00:27:07,160

Was she born when you
were already born?

531

00:27:07,160 --> 00:27:09,300

She was my oldest sister--

532

00:27:09,300 --> 00:27:16,580

my Aunt Lonya, who was four
months older than my sister,

533

00:27:16,580 --> 00:27:18,600

they were in the same grade.

534

00:27:18,600 --> 00:27:19,790

So she remembered you?

535

00:27:19,790 --> 00:27:20,660

Yes.

536

00:27:20,660 --> 00:27:21,980

Yes.

537

00:27:21,980 --> 00:27:26,720

She was very friendly with
my sister and my aunt.

538

00:27:26,720 --> 00:27:28,160

OK.

539

00:27:28,160 --> 00:27:30,830

Now, in this house, did
you also have a garden?

540

00:27:30,830 --> 00:27:33,590

Did you also have-- or was
this in the center of town

541

00:27:33,590 --> 00:27:35,330

where there was no such thing?

542

00:27:35,330 --> 00:27:37,550

I do not recall.

543

00:27:37,550 --> 00:27:39,740

I do not recall a garden.

544

00:27:39,740 --> 00:27:42,050

You mentioned that
your grandfather Barth

545

00:27:42,050 --> 00:27:43,650

had a horse and buggy.

546

00:27:43,650 --> 00:27:44,150

Yes.

547

00:27:44,150 --> 00:27:46,585

Did anyone in town
have an automobile?

548
00:27:46,585 --> 00:27:50,230

549
00:27:50,230 --> 00:27:51,280
I don't know.

550
00:27:51,280 --> 00:27:53,680
I don't recall.

551
00:27:53,680 --> 00:27:56,840
What about a telephone?

552
00:27:56,840 --> 00:27:57,740
No.

553
00:27:57,740 --> 00:27:58,760
Radio?

554
00:27:58,760 --> 00:28:01,040
A doctor had a phone.

555
00:28:01,040 --> 00:28:04,640
And one of my uncles worked--

556
00:28:04,640 --> 00:28:08,930
my Uncle Efraim was a
director of a brewery

557
00:28:08,930 --> 00:28:10,570
that they had in town.

558
00:28:10,570 --> 00:28:13,510
And I know they had
a telephone there.

559
00:28:13,510 --> 00:28:14,920
OK.

560

00:28:14,920 --> 00:28:16,580
What about a radio?

561
00:28:16,580 --> 00:28:18,080
Anybody have a radio?

562
00:28:18,080 --> 00:28:19,610
They had radios.

563
00:28:19,610 --> 00:28:21,580
Did your family?

564
00:28:21,580 --> 00:28:22,765
I think they had a radio.

565
00:28:22,765 --> 00:28:25,930

566
00:28:25,930 --> 00:28:30,700
But it sounds that newspapers
were the way that people found

567
00:28:30,700 --> 00:28:32,240
out about the world at large.

568
00:28:32,240 --> 00:28:33,780
Yes.

569
00:28:33,780 --> 00:28:39,240
And the customers in
your parents' store,

570
00:28:39,240 --> 00:28:42,660
were they both
Gentile and Jewish?

571
00:28:42,660 --> 00:28:43,740
Yes.

572
00:28:43,740 --> 00:28:44,670
OK.

573

00:28:44,670 --> 00:28:48,060

But more Jewish than

Gentile, or not?

574

00:28:48,060 --> 00:28:49,930

I don't know how to judge that.

575

00:28:49,930 --> 00:28:51,300

You were four, I know.

576

00:28:51,300 --> 00:28:52,050

I know.

577

00:28:52,050 --> 00:28:52,920

Yeah.

578

00:28:52,920 --> 00:28:53,670

It's hard to say.

579

00:28:53,670 --> 00:28:55,590

But I'm trying to
get a sense of how

580

00:28:55,590 --> 00:28:57,180

integrated the community was--

581

00:28:57,180 --> 00:29:01,320

They was very integrated
because it was a small town.

582

00:29:01,320 --> 00:29:02,670

And so people knew each other?

583

00:29:02,670 --> 00:29:04,250

Yes.

584

00:29:04,250 --> 00:29:08,180

Did you know where the
local Catholic church was?

585

00:29:08,180 --> 00:29:09,590

I know there was one.

586
00:29:09,590 --> 00:29:11,020
I don't recall it.

587
00:29:11,020 --> 00:29:14,330

588
00:29:14,330 --> 00:29:19,370
But I know that relationships
were pretty good.

589
00:29:19,370 --> 00:29:25,640
And actually, this uncle that
was the director of the brewery

590
00:29:25,640 --> 00:29:32,600
was hidden out at a certain
time with a Christian family.

591
00:29:32,600 --> 00:29:38,480
But somebody else told on
them, and he was taken out

592
00:29:38,480 --> 00:29:41,210
and shot in the town square.

593
00:29:41,210 --> 00:29:42,710
This is your mother's brother?

594
00:29:42,710 --> 00:29:43,210
No.

595
00:29:43,210 --> 00:29:44,270
Your father's brother.

596
00:29:44,270 --> 00:29:47,232
My father's brother.

597
00:29:47,232 --> 00:29:49,530
Yeah.

598

00:29:49,530 --> 00:29:57,710

And do you have
any memories of--

599

00:29:57,710 --> 00:30:01,160

you said that people liked
to talk about politics--

600

00:30:01,160 --> 00:30:03,530

do you have any memories
of the discussions

601

00:30:03,530 --> 00:30:06,150

your parents might have had?

602

00:30:06,150 --> 00:30:12,840

I think the discussion was very
much about the impending war.

603

00:30:12,840 --> 00:30:20,490

And my father was
very suspicious

604

00:30:20,490 --> 00:30:25,500

of Hitler, of Germany, because
he used to travel there

605

00:30:25,500 --> 00:30:29,140

and he knew what
was happening there.

606

00:30:29,140 --> 00:30:34,440

And once, you know, they
took over Czechoslovakia

607

00:30:34,440 --> 00:30:39,450

and so forth, he knew
that Poland would be next.

608

00:30:39,450 --> 00:30:42,610

And he was aware of it.

609

00:30:42,610 --> 00:30:45,210
Tell me a little bit about
your father's personality.

610
00:30:45,210 --> 00:30:47,415
We talked a bit
about your mother.

611
00:30:47,415 --> 00:30:48,165
Tell me about him.

612
00:30:48,165 --> 00:30:51,060
My father was a
very gentle person.

613
00:30:51,060 --> 00:30:53,550
He was very loving.

614
00:30:53,550 --> 00:31:00,750
It wasn't always customary in
Orthodox families for fathers

615
00:31:00,750 --> 00:31:02,970
to hug and so forth.

616
00:31:02,970 --> 00:31:04,320
But I was very lucky.

617
00:31:04,320 --> 00:31:07,450
Both my father and
my grandfather,

618
00:31:07,450 --> 00:31:11,400
whom I remember better,
and my grandfather Barth,

619
00:31:11,400 --> 00:31:16,680
was just a very loving person
and a very gentle person.

620
00:31:16,680 --> 00:31:25,200
And my father, he
was very simple

621

00:31:25,200 --> 00:31:30,220

in his thinking of himself.

622

00:31:30,220 --> 00:31:34,230

He never was a
show-off or saying

623

00:31:34,230 --> 00:31:39,530

something that would make him
look, you know, important.

624

00:31:39,530 --> 00:31:41,080

He never puffed up himself up.

625

00:31:41,080 --> 00:31:41,740

No.

626

00:31:41,740 --> 00:31:42,430

Never.

627

00:31:42,430 --> 00:31:43,570

Never.

628

00:31:43,570 --> 00:31:47,790

He was he was almost to a fault.

629

00:31:47,790 --> 00:31:51,590

But yet, you know, for
someone who is so modest,

630

00:31:51,590 --> 00:31:54,770

he was a central
person in the village.

631

00:31:54,770 --> 00:31:55,850

Yes.

632

00:31:55,850 --> 00:31:59,780

If he has a store where people
congregate, where they meet,

633

00:31:59,780 --> 00:32:02,150

where they talk
politics, and you say

634

00:32:02,150 --> 00:32:04,250

he was involved
in the synagogue.

635

00:32:04,250 --> 00:32:06,740

Yes.

636

00:32:06,740 --> 00:32:09,230

That must be he knew how
to draw people to him.

637

00:32:09,230 --> 00:32:10,010

He did.

638

00:32:10,010 --> 00:32:13,310

He was also the gabbai.

639

00:32:13,310 --> 00:32:22,890

And that means-- oh, gosh,
how do you say it in English?

640

00:32:22,890 --> 00:32:28,335

The person who would call
other people up to the Torah.

641

00:32:28,335 --> 00:32:30,930

642

00:32:30,930 --> 00:32:33,570

It's next to the rabbi.

643

00:32:33,570 --> 00:32:35,105

And if you have a cantor--

644

00:32:35,105 --> 00:32:39,260

we did not, to my
knowledge, have a cantor--

645

00:32:39,260 --> 00:32:45,890
the gabbai is the next important
person in the synagogue.

646

00:32:45,890 --> 00:32:48,260
Do you remember
going to synagogue?

647

00:32:48,260 --> 00:32:49,910
No.

648

00:32:49,910 --> 00:32:55,460
It was not very customary
for children or even women,

649

00:32:55,460 --> 00:32:58,910
except for the high
holidays and so forth,

650

00:32:58,910 --> 00:33:01,580
to be attending synagogue.

651

00:33:01,580 --> 00:33:07,040
This is more customary
in modern times.

652

00:33:07,040 --> 00:33:15,940
What about observing
the various rituals?

653

00:33:15,940 --> 00:33:18,010
Were your parents
very observant?

654

00:33:18,010 --> 00:33:19,990
Yes, they were.

655

00:33:19,990 --> 00:33:21,370
Did they keep a kosher home?

656

00:33:21,370 --> 00:33:23,600
Yes.

657
00:33:23,600 --> 00:33:28,380
Did your mother have any
help at all in her home?

658
00:33:28,380 --> 00:33:32,210
I am not aware that she
hired help besides I

659
00:33:32,210 --> 00:33:33,680
think with laundry.

660
00:33:33,680 --> 00:33:36,700

661
00:33:36,700 --> 00:33:40,180
She did not have a maid.

662
00:33:40,180 --> 00:33:42,310
I don't think we
could afford it.

663
00:33:42,310 --> 00:33:45,450

664
00:33:45,450 --> 00:33:49,290
I just remember my
mother working very hard.

665
00:33:49,290 --> 00:33:51,370
Was there a train
station in Zarszyn?

666
00:33:51,370 --> 00:33:51,870
Yes.

667
00:33:51,870 --> 00:33:54,520

668
00:33:54,520 --> 00:34:00,310
And, I'm thinking, were
there buses at those days?

669

00:34:00,310 --> 00:34:01,840

I don't recall buses.

670

00:34:01,840 --> 00:34:06,670

I think that a mean of transport
was by horse and buggy.

671

00:34:06,670 --> 00:34:10,420

So when your father would travel
to Germany to probably buy

672

00:34:10,420 --> 00:34:12,792

goods, how would he do it?

673

00:34:12,792 --> 00:34:14,679

[PHONE RINGING] We'll cut.

674

00:34:14,679 --> 00:34:16,960

We'll stop.

675

00:34:16,960 --> 00:34:18,209

OK, so--

676

00:34:18,209 --> 00:34:21,320

677

00:34:21,320 --> 00:34:23,820

You asked me how he
would get the material.

678

00:34:23,820 --> 00:34:24,500

That's right.

679

00:34:24,500 --> 00:34:25,333

How would he travel?

680

00:34:25,333 --> 00:34:29,040

Well, he would arrive by train
and use a horse and buggy.

681

00:34:29,040 --> 00:34:31,410
OK, so his mode
of transportation

682
00:34:31,410 --> 00:34:34,909
was train mostly and then
locally horse and buggy.

683
00:34:34,909 --> 00:34:35,600
Yes.

684
00:34:35,600 --> 00:34:38,659
Do you know the cities he
would travel to in Germany?

685
00:34:38,659 --> 00:34:39,320
No.

686
00:34:39,320 --> 00:34:40,010
OK.

687
00:34:40,010 --> 00:34:43,610
I know he would travel
to the next big town

688
00:34:43,610 --> 00:34:47,310
next to us, which was Sanok.

689
00:34:47,310 --> 00:34:47,810
Sanok.

690
00:34:47,810 --> 00:34:51,050
And it was on the River San.

691
00:34:51,050 --> 00:34:51,560
OK.

692
00:34:51,560 --> 00:34:57,310
It actually became-- when both
Russia and Germany occupied

693
00:34:57,310 --> 00:35:03,050

Poland, the San became a border.

694

00:35:03,050 --> 00:35:06,020

And it divided the city.

695

00:35:06,020 --> 00:35:08,660

And half of Sanok
was Russian and half

696

00:35:08,660 --> 00:35:10,190

was German for a while.

697

00:35:10,190 --> 00:35:13,000

698

00:35:13,000 --> 00:35:15,790

And how far was
Zarszyn from Sanok?

699

00:35:15,790 --> 00:35:17,290

14 kilometers.

700

00:35:17,290 --> 00:35:18,370

Oh, so it was close.

701

00:35:18,370 --> 00:35:19,330

Very close.

702

00:35:19,330 --> 00:35:23,010

So did you ever go to Sanok?

703

00:35:23,010 --> 00:35:24,000

Yes.

704

00:35:24,000 --> 00:35:27,810

I have a wonderful memory--

705

00:35:27,810 --> 00:35:32,340

you see, my memories
of my father from home

706

00:35:32,340 --> 00:35:35,550
are like clips from a movie.

707
00:35:35,550 --> 00:35:36,610
I remember segments.

708
00:35:36,610 --> 00:35:39,220

709
00:35:39,220 --> 00:35:44,250
So this is very clear in my
mind that my father decided

710
00:35:44,250 --> 00:35:49,110
to take me along to Sanok.

711
00:35:49,110 --> 00:35:52,300
And we also had relatives there.

712
00:35:52,300 --> 00:35:55,160
I'll tell you about them
later, because they became

713
00:35:55,160 --> 00:35:58,580
very important in our lives.

714
00:35:58,580 --> 00:36:03,380
And we visited there relatives.

715
00:36:03,380 --> 00:36:08,210
And then he took me to
a store and bought me

716
00:36:08,210 --> 00:36:13,190
what I thought the most
beautiful little dress ever.

717
00:36:13,190 --> 00:36:17,990
It was on a blue background
with little tiny colored

718
00:36:17,990 --> 00:36:23,480

polka dots, yellow,
red, and I think white.

719
00:36:23,480 --> 00:36:25,640
And it was gathered here.

720
00:36:25,640 --> 00:36:26,420
Oh, my yes--

721
00:36:26,420 --> 00:36:32,100
And loose from here and
with a puffed sleeve.

722
00:36:32,100 --> 00:36:39,340
And I wore this dress till
literally it was shameful.

723
00:36:39,340 --> 00:36:41,580
It got so short on me.

724
00:36:41,580 --> 00:36:44,310
But I could not part with it.

725
00:36:44,310 --> 00:36:47,040
And not only did he
buy me that dress,

726
00:36:47,040 --> 00:36:51,240
but he asked in that store
for a piece of fabric.

727
00:36:51,240 --> 00:36:57,570
And those relatives of ours,
who were cousins of my mother,

728
00:36:57,570 --> 00:37:03,450
had a little workshop where
they used to make umbrellas.

729
00:37:03,450 --> 00:37:08,900
And he had a little umbrella
made for me to match my dress.

730

00:37:08,900 --> 00:37:12,500

And that was such
a wonderful day.

731

00:37:12,500 --> 00:37:15,440

He also took me to a park.

732

00:37:15,440 --> 00:37:22,760

And what now became so
popular where kids go

733

00:37:22,760 --> 00:37:27,590

with one leg on a board, like--

734

00:37:27,590 --> 00:37:28,970

Oh, yes, a scooter--

735

00:37:28,970 --> 00:37:30,320

A scooter.

736

00:37:30,320 --> 00:37:34,310

And he took me to this park.

737

00:37:34,310 --> 00:37:37,040

And he rented the scooter.

738

00:37:37,040 --> 00:37:38,600

And he held my hand.

739

00:37:38,600 --> 00:37:42,590

He said I should try
riding the scooter.

740

00:37:42,590 --> 00:37:44,810

And this I remember
very clearly.

741

00:37:44,810 --> 00:37:48,570

And I was probably
less than five.

742

00:37:48,570 --> 00:37:49,620
Oh, how lovely.

743
00:37:49,620 --> 00:37:50,120
Yes.

744
00:37:50,120 --> 00:37:51,960
Just lovely.

745
00:37:51,960 --> 00:37:56,010
You know, these simple things
that are gifts to a child--

746
00:37:56,010 --> 00:37:56,520
Yeah.

747
00:37:56,520 --> 00:37:58,155
Absolute precious gifts.

748
00:37:58,155 --> 00:38:01,550

749
00:38:01,550 --> 00:38:03,550
He sounds like a
wonderful father.

750
00:38:03,550 --> 00:38:06,000
Yeah, he was.

751
00:38:06,000 --> 00:38:12,880
And do you have any other
memories that really stick out

752
00:38:12,880 --> 00:38:15,520
from your childhood
that are part

753
00:38:15,520 --> 00:38:18,820
of how you remember your life?

754
00:38:18,820 --> 00:38:21,610
That is things that may

not have any relevance

755
00:38:21,610 --> 00:38:23,680
to politics or to history.

756
00:38:23,680 --> 00:38:29,750
I remember I guess
the last Passover,

757
00:38:29,750 --> 00:38:35,220
because we were so observant.

758
00:38:35,220 --> 00:38:38,100
I don't know if you're
familiar with that custom.

759
00:38:38,100 --> 00:38:45,180
Very orthodox people will not
wet the matzah with water,

760
00:38:45,180 --> 00:38:48,160
because then it
causes it to leaven--

761
00:38:48,160 --> 00:38:51,100
To rise.

762
00:38:51,100 --> 00:38:57,480
And I, I guess, liked matzah
with milk, which I still

763
00:38:57,480 --> 00:39:02,400
do, during Passover only.

764
00:39:02,400 --> 00:39:11,430
So I remember I had a special
mug, a tall mug, that they kept

765
00:39:11,430 --> 00:39:16,050
only for me where I could,
because I was so young,

766

00:39:16,050 --> 00:39:19,040
have my matzah with milk in it.

767
00:39:19,040 --> 00:39:20,220
And that I remember.

768
00:39:20,220 --> 00:39:23,160

769
00:39:23,160 --> 00:39:24,690
Did your sisters
playing with you?

770
00:39:24,690 --> 00:39:27,720

771
00:39:27,720 --> 00:39:32,960
I don't remember a lot of
playing, I have to admit.

772
00:39:32,960 --> 00:39:36,440
I really do not remember
a lot of playing.

773
00:39:36,440 --> 00:39:38,970
Were your sisters
close to one another

774
00:39:38,970 --> 00:39:41,240
because they were
so close in age.

775
00:39:41,240 --> 00:39:43,340
Yes.

776
00:39:43,340 --> 00:39:45,530
And were they attending school?

777
00:39:45,530 --> 00:39:46,470
Yes.

778
00:39:46,470 --> 00:39:47,843

OK.

779

00:39:47,843 --> 00:39:48,760

And tell me a little--

780

00:39:48,760 --> 00:39:50,230

Until the war broke out.

781

00:39:50,230 --> 00:39:54,800

Tell me a little bit
about their personalities.

782

00:39:54,800 --> 00:39:59,300

Well, they were very different.

783

00:39:59,300 --> 00:40:06,400

My older sister stepped in,
and especially later in years

784

00:40:06,400 --> 00:40:09,270

where she had to
work in Siberia--

785

00:40:09,270 --> 00:40:10,830

and I'll tell you about that--

786

00:40:10,830 --> 00:40:13,470

787

00:40:13,470 --> 00:40:16,530

she was stronger.

788

00:40:16,530 --> 00:40:26,120

My middle sister was very gentle
and took things way to hard.

789

00:40:26,120 --> 00:40:31,870

And she really had trouble
surviving in Russia.

790

00:40:31,870 --> 00:40:33,440

She had many ailments.

791
00:40:33,440 --> 00:40:37,000

792
00:40:37,000 --> 00:40:39,710
She was unhappy.

793
00:40:39,710 --> 00:40:43,190
And unfortunately, we lost her.

794
00:40:43,190 --> 00:40:44,720
She was quite young.

795
00:40:44,720 --> 00:40:47,360
How old was she?

796
00:40:47,360 --> 00:40:49,850
She was 55.

797
00:40:49,850 --> 00:40:50,940
Was it natural causes?

798
00:40:50,940 --> 00:40:51,440
Yeah.

799
00:40:51,440 --> 00:40:58,210

800
00:40:58,210 --> 00:40:59,470
Is there anything else--

801
00:40:59,470 --> 00:41:02,410
I've tried to cover
as many things

802
00:41:02,410 --> 00:41:05,350
as I could think of
about pre-war life

803
00:41:05,350 --> 00:41:06,730
before things change.

804
00:41:06,730 --> 00:41:10,300
Is there anything else
that is important for you,

805
00:41:10,300 --> 00:41:13,420
for your story, for people to
know about, for your children

806
00:41:13,420 --> 00:41:16,640
to know about your
life as a little girl

807
00:41:16,640 --> 00:41:20,170
before it all goes away?

808
00:41:20,170 --> 00:41:24,550
I know that I had
some toys, because I

809
00:41:24,550 --> 00:41:26,650
have pictures with a doll.

810
00:41:26,650 --> 00:41:28,630
Do you remember the doll?

811
00:41:28,630 --> 00:41:33,880
I do not remember specifically
the doll, but I know I had.

812
00:41:33,880 --> 00:41:42,550
And probably, I would say,
I played by myself a lot,

813
00:41:42,550 --> 00:41:47,440
because my mother
was so busy always.

814
00:41:47,440 --> 00:41:53,350
I don't recall other small
children besides a cousin.

815

00:41:53,350 --> 00:41:59,560
My Uncle Yakov got
married, I guess,

816
00:41:59,560 --> 00:42:03,280
a year or two after my parents.

817
00:42:03,280 --> 00:42:06,670
And his wife's name was Tola.

818
00:42:06,670 --> 00:42:07,490
Tola.

819
00:42:07,490 --> 00:42:07,990
Yeah.

820
00:42:07,990 --> 00:42:10,970
I don't know her maiden name.

821
00:42:10,970 --> 00:42:14,860
And they had a little
boy named Yossi.

822
00:42:14,860 --> 00:42:19,090
And he was one year
younger than myself.

823
00:42:19,090 --> 00:42:23,290
And I do remember
being with him.

824
00:42:23,290 --> 00:42:24,770
He was a cute little boy.

825
00:42:24,770 --> 00:42:29,110
And unfortunately, he
perished in the Holocaust.

826
00:42:29,110 --> 00:42:31,750
You had a large family,
when you consider

827

00:42:31,750 --> 00:42:34,870
both sides of the
family with your aunts

828
00:42:34,870 --> 00:42:36,880
and your uncles and your--

829
00:42:36,880 --> 00:42:39,280
They were very close.

830
00:42:39,280 --> 00:42:43,840
Both grandfathers,
both families,

831
00:42:43,840 --> 00:42:47,600
not only because
they were related,

832
00:42:47,600 --> 00:42:50,740
but they were very
close friends.

833
00:42:50,740 --> 00:42:57,440
And I know that on Saturday
nights once a Shabbat was over,

834
00:42:57,440 --> 00:43:02,500
they would gather together
in one of the other's house,

835
00:43:02,500 --> 00:43:05,470
and they would play chess.

836
00:43:05,470 --> 00:43:08,890
And this was their
entertainment.

837
00:43:08,890 --> 00:43:11,260
They were great chess players.

838
00:43:11,260 --> 00:43:16,120
And I guess one would not
forgive the other one.

839
00:43:16,120 --> 00:43:19,000
They battled it out to the end.

840
00:43:19,000 --> 00:43:23,530
And the kids would
line up behind whomever

841
00:43:23,530 --> 00:43:24,870
they wanted to win--

842
00:43:24,870 --> 00:43:25,720
Oh, gosh--

843
00:43:25,720 --> 00:43:28,610
And kind of rooted for them.

844
00:43:28,610 --> 00:43:35,110
But this was their entertainment
for a Saturday night

845
00:43:35,110 --> 00:43:38,650
when they didn't work you
know after the Shabbat,

846
00:43:38,650 --> 00:43:41,200
and they would play chess.

847
00:43:41,200 --> 00:43:43,840
And the family
would participate.

848
00:43:43,840 --> 00:43:45,850
The brothers played sometimes.

849
00:43:45,850 --> 00:43:49,980
But specifically,
the two grandfathers

850
00:43:49,980 --> 00:43:51,820
used to play against each other.

851
00:43:51,820 --> 00:43:53,020
And you remember this?

852
00:43:53,020 --> 00:43:55,630
I remember that, yes.

853
00:43:55,630 --> 00:43:58,510
What a lovely image,
what a lovely image.

854
00:43:58,510 --> 00:44:00,660
And what a great
way to learn chess.

855
00:44:00,660 --> 00:44:02,170
You know, the kids learn it too.

856
00:44:02,170 --> 00:44:04,680
Yes.

857
00:44:04,680 --> 00:44:07,080
Because the kids would follow.

858
00:44:07,080 --> 00:44:12,290
Wherever the parents or
grandparents would go.

859
00:44:12,290 --> 00:44:18,710
They would have a gathering
together after the Shabbat.

860
00:44:18,710 --> 00:44:24,440
You said earlier that it
was an integrated town

861
00:44:24,440 --> 00:44:27,500
and that the relations
between Gentiles and Jews

862
00:44:27,500 --> 00:44:28,760
were pretty good.

863

00:44:28,760 --> 00:44:29,760

They were pretty good.

864

00:44:29,760 --> 00:44:33,040

865

00:44:33,040 --> 00:44:37,060

There was always some
hidden antisemitism.

866

00:44:37,060 --> 00:44:40,480

My sister used to tell me
that the teacher in school

867

00:44:40,480 --> 00:44:44,020

would call on her
and say, well, you

868

00:44:44,020 --> 00:44:46,140

should know that,
you are smarter.

869

00:44:46,140 --> 00:44:49,680

870

00:44:49,680 --> 00:44:54,400

So the stereotype of a Jewish
child having to be smarter?

871

00:44:54,400 --> 00:44:54,900

Yes.

872

00:44:54,900 --> 00:44:58,590

Or is always without
question smarter.

873

00:44:58,590 --> 00:45:00,510

But he would call it out.

874

00:45:00,510 --> 00:45:01,440

Yeah.

875
00:45:01,440 --> 00:45:04,690
And this would make
her uncomfortable.

876
00:45:04,690 --> 00:45:07,370
And she told me about that.

877
00:45:07,370 --> 00:45:10,010
OK.

878
00:45:10,010 --> 00:45:14,340
But is that the extent of how
you felt it in your own life,

879
00:45:14,340 --> 00:45:16,010
in your own family?

880
00:45:16,010 --> 00:45:18,870
Or was there more of that you--

881
00:45:18,870 --> 00:45:22,670
I, as a child, did
not experience it.

882
00:45:22,670 --> 00:45:24,075
So I know it existed.

883
00:45:24,075 --> 00:45:27,530

884
00:45:27,530 --> 00:45:32,330
I know there were defaults,
that my mother told me

885
00:45:32,330 --> 00:45:33,990
that people would borrow.

886
00:45:33,990 --> 00:45:37,220
You see, most
people would borrow,

887

00:45:37,220 --> 00:45:40,130
and they would write
down in the book

888
00:45:40,130 --> 00:45:45,290
if they came for a bread
or half a pound of butter.

889
00:45:45,290 --> 00:45:48,920
They would write down, let's
say, at the end of the week,

890
00:45:48,920 --> 00:45:53,720
because people shopped
almost every day.

891
00:45:53,720 --> 00:45:57,120
They were supposed to pay up.

892
00:45:57,120 --> 00:46:00,600
Well, there were many
instances where they

893
00:46:00,600 --> 00:46:03,020
couldn't or wouldn't.

894
00:46:03,020 --> 00:46:04,320
And didn't pay up.

895
00:46:04,320 --> 00:46:09,850
And were the fault lines ethnic?

896
00:46:09,850 --> 00:46:11,920
In most cases.

897
00:46:11,920 --> 00:46:15,310
I won't say it was
exclusive, but in most cases.

898
00:46:15,310 --> 00:46:16,480
I see.

899

00:46:16,480 --> 00:46:22,480
Were there any competitive
stores that Gentiles had?

900
00:46:22,480 --> 00:46:23,440
I am not aware.

901
00:46:23,440 --> 00:46:25,720
I'm sure there was
something else.

902
00:46:25,720 --> 00:46:29,290
I know that another
Jewish family

903
00:46:29,290 --> 00:46:32,875
had what they would call a bar.

904
00:46:32,875 --> 00:46:36,040

905
00:46:36,040 --> 00:46:39,770
It was also a gathering
place of people.

906
00:46:39,770 --> 00:46:45,650
And they were also friends, very
close friends, to our family.

907
00:46:45,650 --> 00:46:47,350
Their name was Schachner.

908
00:46:47,350 --> 00:46:48,530
Schachner.

909
00:46:48,530 --> 00:46:50,390
How do you say bar in Polish?

910
00:46:50,390 --> 00:46:55,290

911
00:46:55,290 --> 00:46:56,480

Karczma, I don't know.

912
00:46:56,480 --> 00:47:00,010
OK, because I thought-- was it
karczma or something like that.

913
00:47:00,010 --> 00:47:00,810
Karczma, yeah.

914
00:47:00,810 --> 00:47:03,550

915
00:47:03,550 --> 00:47:07,540
That was just a
personal curiosity.

916
00:47:07,540 --> 00:47:10,690
Let's go now to
where things change.

917
00:47:10,690 --> 00:47:15,810
Do you remember when
the war started?

918
00:47:15,810 --> 00:47:17,667
Do you remember
what you were doing?

919
00:47:17,667 --> 00:47:18,750
What the family was doing?

920
00:47:18,750 --> 00:47:25,500
I remember that there was a
feverish feeling in the house.

921
00:47:25,500 --> 00:47:34,280
And my mother tried to
think of what if we escape,

922
00:47:34,280 --> 00:47:37,500
what do we need to take with us?

923

00:47:37,500 --> 00:47:43,460
And I remember
feeling this anxiety

924
00:47:43,460 --> 00:47:49,930
in the house, that things were
beginning to be put aside,

925
00:47:49,930 --> 00:47:52,880
like to prepare for packing.

926
00:47:52,880 --> 00:47:59,360
And eventually, my
father and, I think,

927
00:47:59,360 --> 00:48:03,980
my grandfather went with
them to the station master,

928
00:48:03,980 --> 00:48:08,690
whom he knew because
he traveled so often,

929
00:48:08,690 --> 00:48:12,980
and paid him a
handsome sum of money

930
00:48:12,980 --> 00:48:17,030
to secure an entire train car.

931
00:48:17,030 --> 00:48:18,170
That's a lot.

932
00:48:18,170 --> 00:48:19,100
A lot.

933
00:48:19,100 --> 00:48:22,280
For our family and some friends.

934
00:48:22,280 --> 00:48:24,950
And so this would have
been like a passenger train

935

00:48:24,950 --> 00:48:28,100
car with cabins and seats and--

936

00:48:28,100 --> 00:48:31,980
I don't know if they had cabins,
but definitely had seats.

937

00:48:31,980 --> 00:48:34,580
OK.

938

00:48:34,580 --> 00:48:40,450
So the war broke out on the
1st of September on a Friday.

939

00:48:40,450 --> 00:48:41,420
1939.

940

00:48:41,420 --> 00:48:43,860
1939.

941

00:48:43,860 --> 00:48:50,520
And the following
Thursday, we left Zarszyn.

942

00:48:50,520 --> 00:48:52,440
And that's seven days later.

943

00:48:52,440 --> 00:48:55,870
Seven days later.

944

00:48:55,870 --> 00:49:02,700
Germany at that point was in
Poland and moving further east.

945

00:49:02,700 --> 00:49:04,380
They had not
reached Zarszyn yet.

946

00:49:04,380 --> 00:49:08,460
They had not reached
Zarszyn at that point.

947

00:49:08,460 --> 00:49:12,750

But once we were
on the train, we

948

00:49:12,750 --> 00:49:17,010

felt their presence very much.

949

00:49:17,010 --> 00:49:20,340

Excuse me, describe leaving.

950

00:49:20,340 --> 00:49:22,710

Were their family members
who said, I'm not going,

951

00:49:22,710 --> 00:49:23,790

I'm staying?

952

00:49:23,790 --> 00:49:26,160

Were there people who were
debating to go, to stay?

953

00:49:26,160 --> 00:49:27,980

Yes.

954

00:49:27,980 --> 00:49:42,310

So my grandfather Leibowitcz,
he and the two daughters,

955

00:49:42,310 --> 00:49:47,890

that a single, left with
him and my grandmother.

956

00:49:47,890 --> 00:49:52,900

My grandfather Barth left with
his two youngest daughters

957

00:49:52,900 --> 00:49:59,630

that were still at
home and my parents

958

00:49:59,630 --> 00:50:03,210

and the three of us girls.

959
00:50:03,210 --> 00:50:05,595
And there were also
some friends who joined.

960
00:50:05,595 --> 00:50:09,850

961
00:50:09,850 --> 00:50:14,780
My father's brother that
was next to him, Yakov,

962
00:50:14,780 --> 00:50:21,050
who was married with a child,
he stayed and his wife stayed.

963
00:50:21,050 --> 00:50:22,760
He also had a store.

964
00:50:22,760 --> 00:50:27,230
He had building supply.

965
00:50:27,230 --> 00:50:32,520
But my grandparents
took Yossi, their child,

966
00:50:32,520 --> 00:50:35,990
with us, because
he used to spend

967
00:50:35,990 --> 00:50:38,090
a lot of their time
at my grandparents

968
00:50:38,090 --> 00:50:43,980
anyway, because both of
them worked in their store.

969
00:50:43,980 --> 00:50:50,920
So Yossi was spending a lot
of time with my grandparents.

970

00:50:50,920 --> 00:50:53,620
So they took him with us.

971
00:50:53,620 --> 00:50:58,330
You see, the idea was that
the war will be over soon.

972
00:50:58,330 --> 00:50:59,800
How long can it last?

973
00:50:59,800 --> 00:51:02,240
And how far will it go?

974
00:51:02,240 --> 00:51:05,230
So at the time
they thought if we

975
00:51:05,230 --> 00:51:09,680
go to the Ukraine,
which is further east,

976
00:51:09,680 --> 00:51:11,570
we'll be safe there.

977
00:51:11,570 --> 00:51:17,870
And my grandfather Leibowitcz
had a cousin in a small town

978
00:51:17,870 --> 00:51:21,080
also near Kolomyia.

979
00:51:21,080 --> 00:51:21,860
And that is where?

980
00:51:21,860 --> 00:51:22,500
In the Ukraine?

981
00:51:22,500 --> 00:51:24,290
In the Ukraine.

982
00:51:24,290 --> 00:51:29,650
And the name of the

little town was Gwozdziec.

983
00:51:29,650 --> 00:51:30,210
Gwozdziec.

984
00:51:30,210 --> 00:51:30,710
OK.

985
00:51:30,710 --> 00:51:33,620

986
00:51:33,620 --> 00:51:37,940
So we left on the
train on Thursday.

987
00:51:37,940 --> 00:51:42,650
And shortly thereafter, the
train was being bombarded.

988
00:51:42,650 --> 00:51:43,460
By the Germans?

989
00:51:43,460 --> 00:51:44,720
By the Germans.

990
00:51:44,720 --> 00:51:46,250
This was still a Polish train--

991
00:51:46,250 --> 00:51:47,000
Yes.

992
00:51:47,000 --> 00:51:49,200
Under the Polish
national rail system--

993
00:51:49,200 --> 00:51:49,700
Yes.

994
00:51:49,700 --> 00:51:50,630
Going East.

995

00:51:50,630 --> 00:51:52,370
Going East.

996
00:51:52,370 --> 00:51:55,280
And the minute we
heard the planes

997
00:51:55,280 --> 00:51:57,940
that the train would stop.

998
00:51:57,940 --> 00:52:00,530
And in the beginning,
a few times

999
00:52:00,530 --> 00:52:06,260
they bombed the rails,
not the actual train.

1000
00:52:06,260 --> 00:52:10,070
And we would run to the
field, to the forest, whatever

1001
00:52:10,070 --> 00:52:11,600
was next to the train.

1002
00:52:11,600 --> 00:52:13,940
And I remember running.

1003
00:52:13,940 --> 00:52:16,820
And I remember the
trip very clearly,

1004
00:52:16,820 --> 00:52:20,000
because it gave me
nightmares for years to come.

1005
00:52:20,000 --> 00:52:21,440
Well, you were four years old.

1006
00:52:21,440 --> 00:52:22,177
I was five.

1007

00:52:22,177 --> 00:52:22,760
You were five.

1008
00:52:22,760 --> 00:52:24,470
I was five.

1009
00:52:24,470 --> 00:52:29,210
And eventually-- this trip was
supposed to take a few hours.

1010
00:52:29,210 --> 00:52:32,360
We ended up on the
train for three days,

1011
00:52:32,360 --> 00:52:34,220
because it took time to repair.

1012
00:52:34,220 --> 00:52:38,040

1013
00:52:38,040 --> 00:52:41,940
Every time the Germans flew
over and started bombing,

1014
00:52:41,940 --> 00:52:47,670
eventually they did hit one
car, but it was a car where

1015
00:52:47,670 --> 00:52:51,520
they kept the luggage, not--

1016
00:52:51,520 --> 00:52:52,020
People--

1017
00:52:52,020 --> 00:52:53,550
People.

1018
00:52:53,550 --> 00:52:58,150
So we were stuck on
the train on Shabbat.

1019
00:52:58,150 --> 00:53:03,270

And there was another
bombing coming.

1020
00:53:03,270 --> 00:53:05,710
And we all ran out.

1021
00:53:05,710 --> 00:53:07,900
And there was a forest there.

1022
00:53:07,900 --> 00:53:14,145
But my grandfather Barth
decided that he wasn't going.

1023
00:53:14,145 --> 00:53:17,800
He said on Shabbat,
if you go down,

1024
00:53:17,800 --> 00:53:21,920
you shouldn't come back on
the train and travel further.

1025
00:53:21,920 --> 00:53:26,630
Though my other grandfather
did it, who was the rabbi.

1026
00:53:26,630 --> 00:53:27,890
Interesting.

1027
00:53:27,890 --> 00:53:30,140
He said, I'm going
to stay on the train.

1028
00:53:30,140 --> 00:53:31,700
And everybody
begged him, please,

1029
00:53:31,700 --> 00:53:33,600
please, you have to come down.

1030
00:53:33,600 --> 00:53:34,700
You have to say--

1031

00:53:34,700 --> 00:53:37,220
no, I'm going to stay.

1032
00:53:37,220 --> 00:53:40,490
My other grandfather--
I'm sorry what I said

1033
00:53:40,490 --> 00:53:42,440
because that was incorrect.

1034
00:53:42,440 --> 00:53:46,790
My other grandfather
Leibowicz decided

1035
00:53:46,790 --> 00:53:52,030
he will go down and stay
wherever the train stopped.

1036
00:53:52,030 --> 00:53:55,690
And he wasn't coming
back on the train.

1037
00:53:55,690 --> 00:54:00,957
And my grandfather Barth stayed
on the train, and we ran off.

1038
00:54:00,957 --> 00:54:02,040
Oh, so it was Leibowicz--

1039
00:54:02,040 --> 00:54:03,820
So this is how we
were separated.

1040
00:54:03,820 --> 00:54:05,870
From your grandfather
Leibowicz.

1041
00:54:05,870 --> 00:54:06,370
Yes.

1042
00:54:06,370 --> 00:54:07,300
Who was the rabbi.

1043
00:54:07,300 --> 00:54:08,300
Yes.

1044
00:54:08,300 --> 00:54:10,040
We were separated.

1045
00:54:10,040 --> 00:54:16,540
So I guess this bombing,
this particular bombing,

1046
00:54:16,540 --> 00:54:20,940
happened not far from
the city of Przemyśl.

1047
00:54:20,940 --> 00:54:24,820
So they must've taken
a buggy or whomever

1048
00:54:24,820 --> 00:54:30,510
they found transport and
ended up in Przemyśl.

1049
00:54:30,510 --> 00:54:36,060
Were there other passengers
on the train in other cars?

1050
00:54:36,060 --> 00:54:37,230
There must have been.

1051
00:54:37,230 --> 00:54:38,880
I don't remember them.

1052
00:54:38,880 --> 00:54:39,840
OK.

1053
00:54:39,840 --> 00:54:40,800
I don't remember them.

1054
00:54:40,800 --> 00:54:43,320
OK.

1055

00:54:43,320 --> 00:54:45,600
So we traveled for three days--

1056
00:54:45,600 --> 00:54:46,980
To Przemyśl.

1057
00:54:46,980 --> 00:54:51,840
No, we traveled to
Gwoździec, to near Kolomyia.

1058
00:54:51,840 --> 00:54:53,080
Did you get there?

1059
00:54:53,080 --> 00:54:54,140
We got there.

1060
00:54:54,140 --> 00:54:56,470
OK.

1061
00:54:56,470 --> 00:54:59,940
And then you got the horse
and buggy to go to Przemyśl?

1062
00:54:59,940 --> 00:55:02,190
No, we never went to Przemyśl.

1063
00:55:02,190 --> 00:55:06,880
Only my grandfather
Leibowicz with his family.

1064
00:55:06,880 --> 00:55:10,680
He went off the train
before the set of Shabbat,

1065
00:55:10,680 --> 00:55:14,000
and he didn't come back.

1066
00:55:14,000 --> 00:55:15,100
So we got separated.

1067
00:55:15,100 --> 00:55:18,650

1068
00:55:18,650 --> 00:55:22,340
When we got to Gwozdziec,
there were already

1069
00:55:22,340 --> 00:55:26,060
other Polish people who escaped.

1070
00:55:26,060 --> 00:55:30,750
And apartments, because
it was a small town,

1071
00:55:30,750 --> 00:55:32,820
were very difficult to get.

1072
00:55:32,820 --> 00:55:35,570
Who is in control of the town?

1073
00:55:35,570 --> 00:55:38,010
It was Poland at that time.

1074
00:55:38,010 --> 00:55:42,320
So it was Ukraine, but
Polish occupied Ukraine.

1075
00:55:42,320 --> 00:55:43,730
Or Polish territory--

1076
00:55:43,730 --> 00:55:50,840
Polish territory
until-- in 1939,

1077
00:55:50,840 --> 00:55:56,640
actually a week before the
war broke out in Poland,

1078
00:55:56,640 --> 00:56:00,320
on August 23, and I
learned this later,

1079
00:56:00,320 --> 00:56:07,150
because I'm a history

major, Molotov,

1080
00:56:07,150 --> 00:56:13,410
who was the foreign minister
of the USSR, Russia,

1081
00:56:13,410 --> 00:56:18,480
and Ribbentrop, who was the
German foreign minister--

1082
00:56:18,480 --> 00:56:19,920
Hitler's foreign minister--

1083
00:56:19,920 --> 00:56:26,640
Hitler's foreign minister--
made a non-aggression pact.

1084
00:56:26,640 --> 00:56:33,390
And what this meant was that
once they defeat Poland,

1085
00:56:33,390 --> 00:56:35,550
they will divide Poland.

1086
00:56:35,550 --> 00:56:39,010
And each one will
take a part, which

1087
00:56:39,010 --> 00:56:42,310
was actually in Poland's
history from before.

1088
00:56:42,310 --> 00:56:46,240
Poland was divided a
number of times before.

1089
00:56:46,240 --> 00:56:49,510
But this was their agreement
that the Russians will

1090
00:56:49,510 --> 00:56:53,350
take the eastern
part and the Germans

1091
00:56:53,350 --> 00:56:56,950
will take the
north and the west.

1092
00:56:56,950 --> 00:56:59,800
So when you get to this town--

1093
00:56:59,800 --> 00:57:00,790
It's still Poland.

1094
00:57:00,790 --> 00:57:01,790
It's still Poland.

1095
00:57:01,790 --> 00:57:04,360
And tell me the name
of the town again.

1096
00:57:04,360 --> 00:57:05,670
Gwozdziec.

1097
00:57:05,670 --> 00:57:06,290
Gwozdziec.

1098
00:57:06,290 --> 00:57:07,240
It's a small town.

1099
00:57:07,240 --> 00:57:08,200
Gwozdziec.

1100
00:57:08,200 --> 00:57:13,510
So it's still Poland, but it is
one that will become Russian.

1101
00:57:13,510 --> 00:57:20,230
Well, it shortly becomes Russia,
because at some point really

1102
00:57:20,230 --> 00:57:25,570
they were almost face to face
the Germans and the Russian.

1103
00:57:25,570 --> 00:57:30,460
Particularly, I am aware
of the city of Lwow,

1104
00:57:30,460 --> 00:57:34,100
which is now Lvov--

1105
00:57:34,100 --> 00:57:34,890
Lviv--

1106
00:57:34,890 --> 00:57:35,680
Lviv--

1107
00:57:35,680 --> 00:57:36,180
In Ukraine.

1108
00:57:36,180 --> 00:57:39,310
It was called Lwow in Polish.

1109
00:57:39,310 --> 00:57:43,270
And the German were
from one side trying

1110
00:57:43,270 --> 00:57:45,880
to break through to the
city, and the Russians

1111
00:57:45,880 --> 00:57:48,920
were on the other side.

1112
00:57:48,920 --> 00:57:55,120
Eventually, obviously, the
Germans took over the town.

1113
00:57:55,120 --> 00:57:57,470
But--

1114
00:57:57,470 --> 00:57:59,510
Did they take it over
while they were still

1115

00:57:59,510 --> 00:58:01,745
allied to the Soviet Union--

1116
00:58:01,745 --> 00:58:02,420
Yes--

1117
00:58:02,420 --> 00:58:03,770
Or after?

1118
00:58:03,770 --> 00:58:05,300
They were still allied.

1119
00:58:05,300 --> 00:58:08,900
But they were each trying,
I guess, to grab more.

1120
00:58:08,900 --> 00:58:12,169

1121
00:58:12,169 --> 00:58:16,090
And I know that from
reading afterwards.

1122
00:58:16,090 --> 00:58:19,270
But as far as we're concerned--

1123
00:58:19,270 --> 00:58:20,320
You're in Gwozdziec.

1124
00:58:20,320 --> 00:58:22,330
We are in Gwozdziec.

1125
00:58:22,330 --> 00:58:27,600
And again, there was no
means of making a living.

1126
00:58:27,600 --> 00:58:32,970
And my father was a
smoker unfortunately.

1127
00:58:32,970 --> 00:58:36,450
So he started

looking for tobacco.

1128
00:58:36,450 --> 00:58:38,780
Where did you live
when you in Gwozdziec?

1129
00:58:38,780 --> 00:58:43,170
Oh, OK, so we did get one room.

1130
00:58:43,170 --> 00:58:46,800
And we all lived in this room.

1131
00:58:46,800 --> 00:58:50,340
At night, we would
bed out on the floor.

1132
00:58:50,340 --> 00:58:52,110
We had one bed.

1133
00:58:52,110 --> 00:58:55,080
And the rest of us would
sleep on the floor.

1134
00:58:55,080 --> 00:59:00,800
And daytime, everything was
piled up on this one bed.

1135
00:59:00,800 --> 00:59:06,040
And I remember one day,
I was not feeling well.

1136
00:59:06,040 --> 00:59:11,290
And my father took me and put
me on top of all those pillows

1137
00:59:11,290 --> 00:59:13,420
and blankets.

1138
00:59:13,420 --> 00:59:17,910
And he gave me a piece
of paper and a pen.

1139

00:59:17,910 --> 00:59:23,890
And I should amuse myself,
because as I started saying,

1140
00:59:23,890 --> 00:59:25,990
he started looking for tobacco--

1141
00:59:25,990 --> 00:59:28,125
I'm going between one
story and the other--

1142
00:59:28,125 --> 00:59:29,200
That's OK.

1143
00:59:29,200 --> 00:59:31,720
And he found the
source somehow--

1144
00:59:31,720 --> 00:59:33,580
I don't know how--

1145
00:59:33,580 --> 00:59:37,840
to buy the leaves,
the tobacco leaves.

1146
00:59:37,840 --> 00:59:42,400
And I remember these huge
green leaves that he would

1147
00:59:42,400 --> 00:59:47,110
buy and string them up to dry.

1148
00:59:47,110 --> 00:59:52,000
And then he would
chop it real fine.

1149
00:59:52,000 --> 00:59:59,530
And he got like thin
paper to roll cigarettes.

1150
00:59:59,530 --> 01:00:02,070
And then he would sell them.

1151

01:00:02,070 --> 01:00:04,450

And eventually
the paper ran out.

1152

01:00:04,450 --> 01:00:06,150

He couldn't get any more.

1153

01:00:06,150 --> 01:00:09,930

And I remember he would roll
the cigarettes in newspaper.

1154

01:00:09,930 --> 01:00:13,310

1155

01:00:13,310 --> 01:00:16,860

But anyway to go back to the
day when I wasn't feeling well,

1156

01:00:16,860 --> 01:00:18,430

so I had this little pen.

1157

01:00:18,430 --> 01:00:22,910

And, you know, we didn't have
the pens that we have today.

1158

01:00:22,910 --> 01:00:28,200

There was a pen with a pen
that came off the actual pen.

1159

01:00:28,200 --> 01:00:30,320

Well, lo and behold,
as I was scratching

1160

01:00:30,320 --> 01:00:35,450

whatever I was writing,
the pen disappeared,

1161

01:00:35,450 --> 01:00:38,000

so I started choking.

1162

01:00:38,000 --> 01:00:40,010

And I said, I swallowed the pen.

1163
01:00:40,010 --> 01:00:41,630
I swallowed the pen.

1164
01:00:41,630 --> 01:00:43,670
I know I swallowed the pen.

1165
01:00:43,670 --> 01:00:46,580
And I started [CHOKING],,
you know, choking.

1166
01:00:46,580 --> 01:00:49,640
And my father knew as
long as I'm speaking

1167
01:00:49,640 --> 01:00:51,200
I didn't swallow the pen.

1168
01:00:51,200 --> 01:00:52,680
But I wouldn't quiet down.

1169
01:00:52,680 --> 01:00:55,770
And I started crying,
I swallowed that pen.

1170
01:00:55,770 --> 01:00:59,820
So my father bent down.

1171
01:00:59,820 --> 01:01:03,620
He took out the pen I
didn't see, pulled it off.

1172
01:01:03,620 --> 01:01:06,250
He showed me, see,
I found the pen.

1173
01:01:06,250 --> 01:01:08,007
And I got all better.

1174
01:01:08,007 --> 01:01:10,630
[LAUGHTER]

1175
01:01:10,630 --> 01:01:11,680
Amazing medicine.

1176
01:01:11,680 --> 01:01:12,630
Yeah.

1177
01:01:12,630 --> 01:01:14,560
I got all better.

1178
01:01:14,560 --> 01:01:18,160
So he works with the cigarettes.

1179
01:01:18,160 --> 01:01:20,950
And my mother, because
from experience

1180
01:01:20,950 --> 01:01:24,160
living in a little
town and having

1181
01:01:24,160 --> 01:01:29,770
the experience of the store,
she made contact with farmers.

1182
01:01:29,770 --> 01:01:35,710
And she started
buying milk and butter

1183
01:01:35,710 --> 01:01:40,930
and taking it to this bigger
city, when you could still

1184
01:01:40,930 --> 01:01:42,430
travel.

1185
01:01:42,430 --> 01:01:45,370
And she made a
few pennies on it.

1186
01:01:45,370 --> 01:01:48,577
And my sister
would also do that.

1187
01:01:48,577 --> 01:01:49,660
Together with your mother?

1188
01:01:49,660 --> 01:01:51,790
Together with my
mother or alone.

1189
01:01:51,790 --> 01:01:54,200
They went to different places.

1190
01:01:54,200 --> 01:01:58,660
And this is how we
lived in the Ukraine.

1191
01:01:58,660 --> 01:02:00,730
But very shortly--

1192
01:02:00,730 --> 01:02:03,190
Before you go
there, what had you

1193
01:02:03,190 --> 01:02:07,720
taken with you from your home
when you got into the rail car?

1194
01:02:07,720 --> 01:02:08,860
We took bedding.

1195
01:02:08,860 --> 01:02:10,510
We took clothing.

1196
01:02:10,510 --> 01:02:15,880
And we took some food,
not enough for three days,

1197
01:02:15,880 --> 01:02:21,360
because we didn't anticipate
being on the train so long.

1198
01:02:21,360 --> 01:02:23,830
But--

1199
01:02:23,830 --> 01:02:27,190
Did you think you're
coming back to your home?

1200
01:02:27,190 --> 01:02:29,200
Oh, of course.

1201
01:02:29,200 --> 01:02:32,920
So nobody took real
valuables or real--

1202
01:02:32,920 --> 01:02:35,560
You know, everything was left.

1203
01:02:35,560 --> 01:02:36,820
There was no question.

1204
01:02:36,820 --> 01:02:39,970
Everybody-- and this is
what got us in trouble,

1205
01:02:39,970 --> 01:02:42,490
so to say, though
later turned out

1206
01:02:42,490 --> 01:02:49,090
to be a life saver, particularly
for myself as a small child,

1207
01:02:49,090 --> 01:02:53,530
because under the Germans,
I'm sure I would not survive.

1208
01:02:53,530 --> 01:03:00,180
So a few months after
we were in the Ukraine,

1209
01:03:00,180 --> 01:03:02,350
the Russians took over.

1210
01:03:02,350 --> 01:03:06,060

So again, I'm going to just make sure that I'm clear about it,

1211
01:03:06,060 --> 01:03:08,570
you're in--

1212
01:03:08,570 --> 01:03:09,240
Gwozdziec.

1213
01:03:09,240 --> 01:03:09,960
Gwozdziec.

1214
01:03:09,960 --> 01:03:14,430
You know, there are always some town names or some spelling

1215
01:03:14,430 --> 01:03:18,492
or some things that I hear
I think I'll remember,

1216
01:03:18,492 --> 01:03:19,200
and then it goes.

1217
01:03:19,200 --> 01:03:20,040
Yeah.

1218
01:03:20,040 --> 01:03:21,012
So forgive me for that.

1219
01:03:21,012 --> 01:03:21,720
That's all right.

1220
01:03:21,720 --> 01:03:22,720
But you're in Gwozdziec.

1221
01:03:22,720 --> 01:03:24,390
You're there for a number of months.

1222
01:03:24,390 --> 01:03:25,650
Yeah, a few months.

1223

01:03:25,650 --> 01:03:26,610

I don't remember.

1224

01:03:26,610 --> 01:03:28,320

And today, it's in the Ukraine.

1225

01:03:28,320 --> 01:03:28,980

Yes.

1226

01:03:28,980 --> 01:03:30,120

But then it was Poland.

1227

01:03:30,120 --> 01:03:31,360

It was Poland.

1228

01:03:31,360 --> 01:03:34,620

And the Russians came
in, and we were suddenly

1229

01:03:34,620 --> 01:03:35,970

under the Russians.

1230

01:03:35,970 --> 01:03:38,190

How did that change your life?

1231

01:03:38,190 --> 01:03:41,040

It changed it very much.

1232

01:03:41,040 --> 01:03:43,890

Conditions got harder.

1233

01:03:43,890 --> 01:03:45,690

There was a shortage of food.

1234

01:03:45,690 --> 01:03:48,270

Travel was restricted.

1235

01:03:48,270 --> 01:03:53,450

And the main thing was you
had to be a registered.

1236

01:03:53,450 --> 01:04:01,470

So everybody received,
all the Polish emigres

1237

01:04:01,470 --> 01:04:05,220

all received
registration papers.

1238

01:04:05,220 --> 01:04:08,400

So people who had
just recently arrived

1239

01:04:08,400 --> 01:04:10,515

in town, like your family?

1240

01:04:10,515 --> 01:04:11,730

Mm-hmm.

1241

01:04:11,730 --> 01:04:16,260

So I guess you had to fill
out where you're living

1242

01:04:16,260 --> 01:04:19,060

and where you came
from, and so forth.

1243

01:04:19,060 --> 01:04:24,290

And one little thing asked,
when the war is over,

1244

01:04:24,290 --> 01:04:27,720

do you want to stay in Russia?

1245

01:04:27,720 --> 01:04:32,580

Well, nobody, as far as we
knew, wanted to stay in Russia.

1246

01:04:32,580 --> 01:04:35,600

We all wanted to go back home.

1247

01:04:35,600 --> 01:04:40,140

So whoever marked that

they want to go home,

1248
01:04:40,140 --> 01:04:45,920
shortly there after, at night,
late at night on a Friday

1249
01:04:45,920 --> 01:04:52,310
night, soldiers appeared at
our door and many other doors,

1250
01:04:52,310 --> 01:04:58,100
to most of the Polish
refugees in that town and then

1251
01:04:58,100 --> 01:05:05,160
many cities, and they came
and they said, we are waiting,

1252
01:05:05,160 --> 01:05:08,890
you need to pack
what you can throw

1253
01:05:08,890 --> 01:05:18,320
in a pillow cover
for each person,

1254
01:05:18,320 --> 01:05:22,200
and you are coming with us.

1255
01:05:22,200 --> 01:05:24,450
And my father tried to
tell them, well, you

1256
01:05:24,450 --> 01:05:26,820
know it's Friday night for us.

1257
01:05:26,820 --> 01:05:29,810
We observe Friday night.

1258
01:05:29,810 --> 01:05:31,820
There was no way out.

1259

01:05:31,820 --> 01:05:33,710
There was no way out.

1260
01:05:33,710 --> 01:05:35,420
So we had to pack--

1261
01:05:35,420 --> 01:05:36,500
And did you know--

1262
01:05:36,500 --> 01:05:38,120
I'm sorry that
I'm interrupting--

1263
01:05:38,120 --> 01:05:41,610
did you know that this was
because of having answered

1264
01:05:41,610 --> 01:05:42,110
on the--

1265
01:05:42,110 --> 01:05:47,180
No, we didn't know anything,
why we are being taken

1266
01:05:47,180 --> 01:05:49,880
or where we are being taken.

1267
01:05:49,880 --> 01:05:55,070
Not for an entire month did
we know where we are taken.

1268
01:05:55,070 --> 01:05:56,750
Do you remember that night?

1269
01:05:56,750 --> 01:05:57,590
Yes.

1270
01:05:57,590 --> 01:06:01,290
What are the things that
you remember from the night?

1271
01:06:01,290 --> 01:06:05,115

Well, I remember, you
know, being very upset.

1272
01:06:05,115 --> 01:06:07,650

1273
01:06:07,650 --> 01:06:17,140
With no notice whatsoever,
soldiers appear with shoulder--

1274
01:06:17,140 --> 01:06:17,640
Guns--

1275
01:06:17,640 --> 01:06:24,830
Guns and tell you, you have to
leave now while we are waiting.

1276
01:06:24,830 --> 01:06:30,070
So whatever my mother, my
sister thought we would need,

1277
01:06:30,070 --> 01:06:33,660
they packed real quickly.

1278
01:06:33,660 --> 01:06:36,680
And we were taken by truck.

1279
01:06:36,680 --> 01:06:38,690
I'm sorry I interrupt again.

1280
01:06:38,690 --> 01:06:40,930
I want to make sure
that I know who

1281
01:06:40,930 --> 01:06:43,190
is taken then of your family.

1282
01:06:43,190 --> 01:06:45,830
Who was with you in that
room when they came?

1283
01:06:45,830 --> 01:06:48,080

Just my immediate family--

1284

01:06:48,080 --> 01:06:50,850
my father, my mother,
and my sisters.

1285

01:06:50,850 --> 01:06:52,880
And what had happened
to the rest of them?

1286

01:06:52,880 --> 01:06:55,430
We didn't know anything
what happened to them.

1287

01:06:55,430 --> 01:06:57,280
We found out later.

1288

01:06:57,280 --> 01:06:58,040
OK.

1289

01:06:58,040 --> 01:06:59,090
So they weren't with you.

1290

01:06:59,090 --> 01:07:04,070
You're the relatives who had
gone with you to the town--

1291

01:07:04,070 --> 01:07:06,780
They lived separately.

1292

01:07:06,780 --> 01:07:10,300
So we didn't know if
anybody else was effected

1293

01:07:10,300 --> 01:07:12,810
or it was just us.

1294

01:07:12,810 --> 01:07:16,630
By the time we got
to the train, we

1295

01:07:16,630 --> 01:07:21,970

realized that all
the Polish refugees

1296
01:07:21,970 --> 01:07:26,740
were gathered by different
soldiers, by different trucks.

1297
01:07:26,740 --> 01:07:30,640
Actually, the truck
would stop at other homes

1298
01:07:30,640 --> 01:07:32,660
and gather more people.

1299
01:07:32,660 --> 01:07:34,990
So there were more people
in a truck with you?

1300
01:07:34,990 --> 01:07:36,270
Yes.

1301
01:07:36,270 --> 01:07:40,200
And do you remember what
kind of people they were?

1302
01:07:40,200 --> 01:07:43,120

1303
01:07:43,120 --> 01:07:44,440
Polish refugees.

1304
01:07:44,440 --> 01:07:46,840
I don't recall exactly who.

1305
01:07:46,840 --> 01:07:48,040
OK.

1306
01:07:48,040 --> 01:07:50,360
But I know we were
taken to the train.

1307
01:07:50,360 --> 01:07:53,200

And those were different
kinds of trains.

1308
01:07:53,200 --> 01:07:55,150
Those were cattle cars.

1309
01:07:55,150 --> 01:07:56,950
There were no seats.

1310
01:07:56,950 --> 01:07:58,330
There was a birch--

1311
01:07:58,330 --> 01:08:02,470
you know, a divider on
top from both sides.

1312
01:08:02,470 --> 01:08:05,740
And there was a
little tiny window

1313
01:08:05,740 --> 01:08:14,210
at the top that had
steel little beam--

1314
01:08:14,210 --> 01:08:14,710
Bars--

1315
01:08:14,710 --> 01:08:20,680
Bars, you know, so that
nobody could escape from them.

1316
01:08:20,680 --> 01:08:22,840
There was no bathroom.

1317
01:08:22,840 --> 01:08:26,689
There was a hole in the
floor, and there was a bucket.

1318
01:08:26,689 --> 01:08:33,439
And they eventually managed
to squeeze in 40 people

1319

01:08:33,439 --> 01:08:38,359
into this one car, train car.

1320
01:08:38,359 --> 01:08:44,390
And when everybody was loaded,
which took most of the night,

1321
01:08:44,390 --> 01:08:48,250
we were locked in
from the outside,

1322
01:08:48,250 --> 01:08:51,340
and you couldn't open the doors.

1323
01:08:51,340 --> 01:08:58,069
But what happened was as
another train came parallel

1324
01:08:58,069 --> 01:09:01,620
to our train, you
know, people were

1325
01:09:01,620 --> 01:09:06,500
yelling from that little window
to find out, is this family

1326
01:09:06,500 --> 01:09:07,000
here?

1327
01:09:07,000 --> 01:09:08,160
Is this family?

1328
01:09:08,160 --> 01:09:11,120
Have you seen this family?

1329
01:09:11,120 --> 01:09:16,550
Well, we connected through
that window with my grandfather

1330
01:09:16,550 --> 01:09:24,490
Leibowicz, who were
taken from another town.

1331

01:09:24,490 --> 01:09:29,830

And also, my grandfather
Barth and his family

1332

01:09:29,830 --> 01:09:32,620

were in the same
train car with us.

1333

01:09:32,620 --> 01:09:37,810

They were not taken together
with us from the house,

1334

01:09:37,810 --> 01:09:43,359

but they ended up in the
same train car with us.

1335

01:09:43,359 --> 01:09:50,700

So this was June 28, 1940.

1336

01:09:50,700 --> 01:09:55,710

So you really were in this place
for well over half a year--

1337

01:09:55,710 --> 01:09:57,060

10 months.

1338

01:09:57,060 --> 01:09:57,560

OK.

1339

01:09:57,560 --> 01:09:59,580

10 months.

1340

01:09:59,580 --> 01:10:03,100

And the journey started.

1341

01:10:03,100 --> 01:10:07,650

And as I said, we had no
idea where we are being taken

1342

01:10:07,650 --> 01:10:10,020

or why we are being taken.

1343

01:10:10,020 --> 01:10:13,770

And we were locked in.

1344

01:10:13,770 --> 01:10:24,170

And as long as we were
still close to a war zone,

1345

01:10:24,170 --> 01:10:25,735

they didn't unlock the doors.

1346

01:10:25,735 --> 01:10:28,340

1347

01:10:28,340 --> 01:10:36,160

And I remember one day,
somebody became very ill.

1348

01:10:36,160 --> 01:10:42,070

And people were pounding
on the door, whoever could.

1349

01:10:42,070 --> 01:10:45,000

And nobody responded.

1350

01:10:45,000 --> 01:10:47,280

Nobody responded.

1351

01:10:47,280 --> 01:10:49,990

Eventually, they would stop.

1352

01:10:49,990 --> 01:10:55,180

The trains actually stopped
very often later on because

1353

01:10:55,180 --> 01:10:59,560

if there was a military
train that had to pass.

1354

01:10:59,560 --> 01:11:04,510

They would move that
train to a side track,

1355

01:11:04,510 --> 01:11:07,750

so the military
train could pass.

1356

01:11:07,750 --> 01:11:10,720

So we were often shifted--

1357

01:11:10,720 --> 01:11:13,810

But were the doors opened when
you were on the side track?

1358

01:11:13,810 --> 01:11:19,660

Once they stopped and we
were out of like Ukraine,

1359

01:11:19,660 --> 01:11:21,790

they would open the doors.

1360

01:11:21,790 --> 01:11:24,880

And actually, my mother--
there were always

1361

01:11:24,880 --> 01:11:28,690

farmers that would
come to that train.

1362

01:11:28,690 --> 01:11:30,910

They had potatoes.

1363

01:11:30,910 --> 01:11:33,220

They had-- it was summer.

1364

01:11:33,220 --> 01:11:37,830

They must have had
some vegetables.

1365

01:11:37,830 --> 01:11:44,870

So my mother would always go
down and try to find something.

1366

01:11:44,870 --> 01:11:47,775

And we had a little

like a primus.

1367

01:11:47,775 --> 01:11:50,780

You know what a primus is?

1368

01:11:50,780 --> 01:11:57,510

It's a little-- it

works on kerosene.

1369

01:11:57,510 --> 01:11:59,910

There is a little

container of kerosene.

1370

01:11:59,910 --> 01:12:02,160

And later there is a wick.

1371

01:12:02,160 --> 01:12:04,080

And you can cook on it.

1372

01:12:04,080 --> 01:12:06,270

It has a little room

around it where you

1373

01:12:06,270 --> 01:12:09,660

can put that little pot on it.

1374

01:12:09,660 --> 01:12:11,222

So--

1375

01:12:11,222 --> 01:12:12,990

Well, that's pretty

valuable when

1376

01:12:12,990 --> 01:12:14,370

you're in such a situation.

1377

01:12:14,370 --> 01:12:15,240

Yes, yes.

1378

01:12:15,240 --> 01:12:19,470

And the problem was

that we kept kosher.

1379
01:12:19,470 --> 01:12:21,690
How can you keep
kosher on such a train?

1380
01:12:21,690 --> 01:12:23,700
We kept kosher.

1381
01:12:23,700 --> 01:12:27,220
We would eat the bread
that they would bring.

1382
01:12:27,220 --> 01:12:31,650
And if my mother could buy
something from a farmer,

1383
01:12:31,650 --> 01:12:35,830
it would last a couple of
days till they stopped again.

1384
01:12:35,830 --> 01:12:40,990
And that's how we survived.

1385
01:12:40,990 --> 01:12:43,630
What happened to that
person who got very sick

1386
01:12:43,630 --> 01:12:44,890
and nobody responded?

1387
01:12:44,890 --> 01:12:47,970

1388
01:12:47,970 --> 01:12:51,070
He eventually passed on.

1389
01:12:51,070 --> 01:12:53,680
Was this the only
death in the train?

1390
01:12:53,680 --> 01:12:55,510
As far as I recall.

1391
01:12:55,510 --> 01:12:58,960
But you remember-- this
was as an older person?

1392
01:12:58,960 --> 01:13:02,500
No, I think mid-40s
or something.

1393
01:13:02,500 --> 01:13:03,640
We don't know what--

1394
01:13:03,640 --> 01:13:05,940
I mean I don't
know what happened.

1395
01:13:05,940 --> 01:13:09,510
The grownups, you know,
tried to shield children.

1396
01:13:09,510 --> 01:13:10,385
I shouldn't look.

1397
01:13:10,385 --> 01:13:11,260
I shouldn't go there.

1398
01:13:11,260 --> 01:13:13,810
You know, we sat in
our little corner.

1399
01:13:13,810 --> 01:13:16,370
And there wasn't much
room to move around.

1400
01:13:16,370 --> 01:13:19,660
I mean you couldn't
just get up and parade.

1401
01:13:19,660 --> 01:13:22,150
There were 40 people together.

1402
01:13:22,150 --> 01:13:25,780

Were there arguments that broke out because of the closeness?

1403
01:13:25,780 --> 01:13:30,100
Well, I remember
one little argument

1404
01:13:30,100 --> 01:13:31,520
that my grandfather caused.

1405
01:13:31,520 --> 01:13:34,390

1406
01:13:34,390 --> 01:13:42,640
Orthodox Jews wash
their hands first thing

1407
01:13:42,640 --> 01:13:46,080
in the morning when you wake up.

1408
01:13:46,080 --> 01:13:50,730
You're supposed to pour water
three times on this hand

1409
01:13:50,730 --> 01:13:55,100
and you say a prayer,
thank God that I woke up.

1410
01:13:55,100 --> 01:13:59,020
And it's a very lovely prayer.

1411
01:13:59,020 --> 01:14:00,900
It's called Modeh Ani.

1412
01:14:00,900 --> 01:14:03,510
I thank God.

1413
01:14:03,510 --> 01:14:11,000
And inevitably, he kept a little
container there next to him.

1414
01:14:11,000 --> 01:14:14,450

When the train would
lurch real quickly,

1415
01:14:14,450 --> 01:14:19,440
that water would spill on
somebody on the bottom.

1416
01:14:19,440 --> 01:14:23,020
And they were not
to happy with it.

1417
01:14:23,020 --> 01:14:26,470
So I remember this
person sitting

1418
01:14:26,470 --> 01:14:30,260
underneath my grandfather
saying, please

1419
01:14:30,260 --> 01:14:34,430
don't spill that water.

1420
01:14:34,430 --> 01:14:36,650
This I remember.

1421
01:14:36,650 --> 01:14:39,190
He was very observant,
like I said.

1422
01:14:39,190 --> 01:14:44,480
He tried to follow
every regulation, even

1423
01:14:44,480 --> 01:14:46,050
under these circumstances.

1424
01:14:46,050 --> 01:14:49,260

1425
01:14:49,260 --> 01:14:51,490
Were there conversations
that you remember

1426
01:14:51,490 --> 01:14:52,855
people having on the train?

1427
01:14:52,855 --> 01:14:56,680

1428
01:14:56,680 --> 01:14:58,320
You mean confrontations--

1429
01:14:58,320 --> 01:14:58,820
No.

1430
01:14:58,820 --> 01:15:01,480
No, just, do you know
where we're going?

1431
01:15:01,480 --> 01:15:02,250
Do you think--

1432
01:15:02,250 --> 01:15:04,090
Oh, yeah, everybody spoke.

1433
01:15:04,090 --> 01:15:06,170
I mean you're stuck together.

1434
01:15:06,170 --> 01:15:06,940
You speak.

1435
01:15:06,940 --> 01:15:09,850
You wonder.

1436
01:15:09,850 --> 01:15:16,150
We passed so much land going
all the way to Siberia.

1437
01:15:16,150 --> 01:15:18,220
Did people say, I think
we're going to Siberia--

1438
01:15:18,220 --> 01:15:19,450
No.

1439
01:15:19,450 --> 01:15:21,110
No.

1440
01:15:21,110 --> 01:15:24,027
We never heard the word
till we landed there.

1441
01:15:24,027 --> 01:15:27,710
Were there soldiers on
the trains with you?

1442
01:15:27,710 --> 01:15:30,320
There were soldiers
always outside,

1443
01:15:30,320 --> 01:15:33,300
not inside the train car.

1444
01:15:33,300 --> 01:15:34,310
OK.

1445
01:15:34,310 --> 01:15:37,640
Did you learn a little bit
about some of the other people

1446
01:15:37,640 --> 01:15:40,190
who were on the train
and who they were?

1447
01:15:40,190 --> 01:15:42,050
Not only that they
were refugees,

1448
01:15:42,050 --> 01:15:45,020
but where they had come from,
what their professions were.

1449
01:15:45,020 --> 01:15:47,600
I'm sure the older people did.

1450
01:15:47,600 --> 01:15:51,740

I don't recall specifics.

1451
01:15:51,740 --> 01:15:56,525
I remember also there was
a fight between two guys.

1452
01:15:56,525 --> 01:15:59,870

1453
01:15:59,870 --> 01:16:00,830
But they settled it.

1454
01:16:00,830 --> 01:16:03,560
They had no place to go.

1455
01:16:03,560 --> 01:16:06,080
I don't know what it was about.

1456
01:16:06,080 --> 01:16:09,380
I mean it was so tight.

1457
01:16:09,380 --> 01:16:10,900
Was it hot?

1458
01:16:10,900 --> 01:16:11,750
It was hot.

1459
01:16:11,750 --> 01:16:14,430
It was the middle of summer.

1460
01:16:14,430 --> 01:16:19,050
And there were
others in the train.

1461
01:16:19,050 --> 01:16:22,280

1462
01:16:22,280 --> 01:16:26,050
You know, there were many
reasons to get upset,

1463

01:16:26,050 --> 01:16:26,800
many reasons.

1464
01:16:26,800 --> 01:16:30,970

1465
01:16:30,970 --> 01:16:36,340
You know, with the bucket there
and the hole in the ground,

1466
01:16:36,340 --> 01:16:45,400
people were just not themselves,
which is very understandable.

1467
01:16:45,400 --> 01:16:47,875
And after an entire month--

1468
01:16:47,875 --> 01:16:51,630

1469
01:16:51,630 --> 01:16:55,490
I am not sure, my
sister said July 28.

1470
01:16:55,490 --> 01:16:59,230
And I heard from
somebody July 29.

1471
01:16:59,230 --> 01:17:02,470
But in any case,
it was a full month

1472
01:17:02,470 --> 01:17:09,660
before we arrived, what we were
told was a Siberian settlement.

1473
01:17:09,660 --> 01:17:11,601
Who told you?

1474
01:17:11,601 --> 01:17:13,770
Well, people who were there.

1475

01:17:13,770 --> 01:17:16,380
There were some people,
Polish people, there

1476
01:17:16,380 --> 01:17:22,700
that were exiled before
for whatever reason.

1477
01:17:22,700 --> 01:17:27,080
They were in Russia, if
they said something or did

1478
01:17:27,080 --> 01:17:29,420
something, you
know, the Russians

1479
01:17:29,420 --> 01:17:35,820
didn't need many reasons for
you to be shipped to Siberia.

1480
01:17:35,820 --> 01:17:38,120
So there were
people living there.

1481
01:17:38,120 --> 01:17:42,560
But once we arrived, they
didn't have housing for us.

1482
01:17:42,560 --> 01:17:48,750
We were put into
barracks with many people

1483
01:17:48,750 --> 01:17:55,890
until they constructed some
homes in another development.

1484
01:17:55,890 --> 01:17:58,990
By homes, do you mean
barracks or do you mean--

1485
01:17:58,990 --> 01:18:03,230
Eventually, we ended up in
little homes, in little houses.

1486

01:18:03,230 --> 01:18:06,180

But this was an open barrack.

1487

01:18:06,180 --> 01:18:07,830

I remember that.

1488

01:18:07,830 --> 01:18:13,980

And next to our family, a
doctor with his wife and one son

1489

01:18:13,980 --> 01:18:15,180

settled.

1490

01:18:15,180 --> 01:18:18,150

And then there were
many other people.

1491

01:18:18,150 --> 01:18:22,920

I remember this doctor
because he was sitting

1492

01:18:22,920 --> 01:18:25,770

and being across from us.

1493

01:18:25,770 --> 01:18:28,140

Tell me, were there
any officials who

1494

01:18:28,140 --> 01:18:31,980

came within your
sight line to say,

1495

01:18:31,980 --> 01:18:34,470

here you are, this
is why you're here,

1496

01:18:34,470 --> 01:18:35,680

this is what you'll be doing?

1497

01:18:35,680 --> 01:18:36,180

No.

1498

01:18:36,180 --> 01:18:39,790

The reason why I
think we found out--

1499

01:18:39,790 --> 01:18:43,030

much, much later--
that they took

1500

01:18:43,030 --> 01:18:45,030

everybody who said
that they were

1501

01:18:45,030 --> 01:18:47,660

going to go home after the war.

1502

01:18:47,660 --> 01:18:51,120

But there were officials.

1503

01:18:51,120 --> 01:18:54,490

They came and they told
that's where we are

1504

01:18:54,490 --> 01:19:01,850

and that everybody will have
to go to work, six days a week.

1505

01:19:01,850 --> 01:19:05,980

And the work was in the forest.

1506

01:19:05,980 --> 01:19:13,790

And they were cutting down
trees and cutting them

1507

01:19:13,790 --> 01:19:17,870

into board-like pieces.

1508

01:19:17,870 --> 01:19:25,670

And this had to be shipped in
the summer through a river.

1509

01:19:25,670 --> 01:19:30,850

And in the winter, they were

piling it up till summer.

1510
01:19:30,850 --> 01:19:35,570
A question here-- which
location in Siberia did you--

1511
01:19:35,570 --> 01:19:39,590
It was north of Sverdlovsk.

1512
01:19:39,590 --> 01:19:44,150
And I don't remember the
name of the first settlement

1513
01:19:44,150 --> 01:19:45,950
where the barracks were.

1514
01:19:45,950 --> 01:19:51,870
But where we eventually
ended up was called Tavda.

1515
01:19:51,870 --> 01:19:53,060
Tavda.

1516
01:19:53,060 --> 01:19:54,710
And did they say what was--

1517
01:19:54,710 --> 01:19:57,800
It was Upper Ural, Siberia.

1518
01:19:57,800 --> 01:20:01,400
Did they say you
are now prisoners

1519
01:20:01,400 --> 01:20:07,610
or you are now forced labor or
you are enemies of the state

1520
01:20:07,610 --> 01:20:11,415
or you were just people
who need to help us?

1521
01:20:11,415 --> 01:20:11,915

No.

1522
01:20:11,915 --> 01:20:15,140

1523
01:20:15,140 --> 01:20:17,970
We were not prisoners,
because families

1524
01:20:17,970 --> 01:20:20,910
were allowed to stay together.

1525
01:20:20,910 --> 01:20:23,320
But they told us,
you have to work.

1526
01:20:23,320 --> 01:20:26,520
They didn't use the
term slave labor.

1527
01:20:26,520 --> 01:20:28,800
But that's what it was.

1528
01:20:28,800 --> 01:20:34,110
They said everybody above the
age of 14 has to go to work.

1529
01:20:34,110 --> 01:20:36,660
So my older sister qualified.

1530
01:20:36,660 --> 01:20:37,410
Hannah.

1531
01:20:37,410 --> 01:20:39,000
Hannah.

1532
01:20:39,000 --> 01:20:40,500
And--

1533
01:20:40,500 --> 01:20:41,462
Did they feed you?

1534

01:20:41,462 --> 01:20:42,420

Did they give you food?

1535

01:20:42,420 --> 01:20:45,090

They gave us rations.

1536

01:20:45,090 --> 01:20:47,820

And if you didn't work,
if somebody in the family

1537

01:20:47,820 --> 01:20:52,560

didn't work, you
didn't get anything.

1538

01:20:52,560 --> 01:20:58,680

So my father had to go to work
in the beginning and my older

1539

01:20:58,680 --> 01:21:00,130

sister.

1540

01:21:00,130 --> 01:21:03,150

Somehow my mother did not.

1541

01:21:03,150 --> 01:21:05,580

I don't know if she
was excused because

1542

01:21:05,580 --> 01:21:09,060

of me or my other sister.

1543

01:21:09,060 --> 01:21:10,380

She did not.

1544

01:21:10,380 --> 01:21:13,440

But my aunt had to go to work.

1545

01:21:13,440 --> 01:21:18,560

So we were in the settlement
just a couple months.

1546

01:21:18,560 --> 01:21:22,670
As you know, winter
sets in August.

1547
01:21:22,670 --> 01:21:23,390
Wow.

1548
01:21:23,390 --> 01:21:25,040
It gets very cold.

1549
01:21:25,040 --> 01:21:27,980
And I have to tell you a
story about this grandfather,

1550
01:21:27,980 --> 01:21:29,660
another story.

1551
01:21:29,660 --> 01:21:33,780
We arrived in Siberia in July.

1552
01:21:33,780 --> 01:21:37,520
And, of course,
it's the polar sun,

1553
01:21:37,520 --> 01:21:43,400
where it doesn't get dark,
very, very like twilight

1554
01:21:43,400 --> 01:21:48,310
in the middle of the night,
and the day is long forever.

1555
01:21:48,310 --> 01:21:54,010
So at the end of Shabbat,
there is a prayer.

1556
01:21:54,010 --> 01:21:57,400
It's called
Havdalah, which means

1557
01:21:57,400 --> 01:22:06,280
dividing the holy day of
Sabbath from the every day.

1558
01:22:06,280 --> 01:22:10,030
And we light the
candle, and we sit.

1559
01:22:10,030 --> 01:22:14,230
And the head of the
family says that prayer.

1560
01:22:14,230 --> 01:22:19,510
Well, you have to say it when
you see three stars in the sky.

1561
01:22:19,510 --> 01:22:20,110
Poor man.

1562
01:22:20,110 --> 01:22:20,910
[LAUGHS]

1563
01:22:20,910 --> 01:22:26,170
So my grandfather waited till
about 2:00 in the morning

1564
01:22:26,170 --> 01:22:31,070
when they finally realized we
didn't know about polar sun,

1565
01:22:31,070 --> 01:22:33,640
that there isn't
going to be night.

1566
01:22:33,640 --> 01:22:35,860
And eventually,
the kids convinced

1567
01:22:35,860 --> 01:22:39,500
him to say the prayers
and to go to sleep--

1568
01:22:39,500 --> 01:22:41,710
at 2:00 in the morning.

1569

01:22:41,710 --> 01:22:42,910
Oh, the poor man.

1570
01:22:42,910 --> 01:22:43,500
[LAUGHS]

1571
01:22:43,500 --> 01:22:46,510
That's another incident
of my grandfather.

1572
01:22:46,510 --> 01:22:49,910

1573
01:22:49,910 --> 01:22:53,548
So anyway, my sister started--

1574
01:22:53,548 --> 01:22:54,840
OK, I'm sorry I'm interrupting.

1575
01:22:54,840 --> 01:22:56,257
You want to ask
me something else.

1576
01:22:56,257 --> 01:22:57,470
Yes, I want to find out--

1577
01:22:57,470 --> 01:22:59,480
you said first
you're in a barracks.

1578
01:22:59,480 --> 01:23:01,850
And then they move
you to a smaller sort

1579
01:23:01,850 --> 01:23:03,290
of like single fa--

1580
01:23:03,290 --> 01:23:05,440
describe to me both places.

1581
01:23:05,440 --> 01:23:08,150
OK, well, this place

was only barracks.

1582

01:23:08,150 --> 01:23:10,370

That's all I remember.

1583

01:23:10,370 --> 01:23:15,920

They would bring in
water and some food.

1584

01:23:15,920 --> 01:23:21,290

And the people who were
of age went to work.

1585

01:23:21,290 --> 01:23:23,090

That's all I remember.

1586

01:23:23,090 --> 01:23:28,430

And we lived on our packages,
because there was no room

1587

01:23:28,430 --> 01:23:31,430

where to unpack or to do.

1588

01:23:31,430 --> 01:23:34,460

But it was summer, and
it was pretty warm.

1589

01:23:34,460 --> 01:23:37,430

It gets very warm there.

1590

01:23:37,430 --> 01:23:42,160

So eventually, before
winter actually set in,

1591

01:23:42,160 --> 01:23:46,270

we were moved to a
house that we actually

1592

01:23:46,270 --> 01:23:50,410

shared with another,
Christian, young couple.

1593

01:23:50,410 --> 01:23:53,440
She was pregnant at that time.

1594
01:23:53,440 --> 01:23:59,020
Why they were sent to Siberia
or wherever they came from,

1595
01:23:59,020 --> 01:24:01,540
I personally do not know.

1596
01:24:01,540 --> 01:24:05,650
I know that my mother used
to talk to them all the time.

1597
01:24:05,650 --> 01:24:08,880

1598
01:24:08,880 --> 01:24:16,070
So once we were in this place,
we were settled, so to say.

1599
01:24:16,070 --> 01:24:18,530
I remember we had a bedroom.

1600
01:24:18,530 --> 01:24:26,240
We had the kitchen, probably
a little sitting area.

1601
01:24:26,240 --> 01:24:27,470
It wasn't very large.

1602
01:24:27,470 --> 01:24:29,990
Was it a wooden house?

1603
01:24:29,990 --> 01:24:31,690
I think so.

1604
01:24:31,690 --> 01:24:35,390
And it had a wooden
roof or a tin roof

1605
01:24:35,390 --> 01:24:37,910

or a thatched roof or--

1606
01:24:37,910 --> 01:24:39,440
I'm not sure.

1607
01:24:39,440 --> 01:24:41,060
I really don't remember that.

1608
01:24:41,060 --> 01:24:42,800
I remember the inside.

1609
01:24:42,800 --> 01:24:43,730
I don't remember--

1610
01:24:43,730 --> 01:24:47,330
Did it have furniture?

1611
01:24:47,330 --> 01:24:50,950
It must have
because we had beds.

1612
01:24:50,950 --> 01:24:57,720
And kitchen utensils, my
mother brought with us

1613
01:24:57,720 --> 01:25:00,580
a couple pots and whatever.

1614
01:25:00,580 --> 01:25:04,460
The problem was
there was no water.

1615
01:25:04,460 --> 01:25:09,800
And in the winter, this
became a real problem,

1616
01:25:09,800 --> 01:25:14,840
because the only water you
could get was going to the river

1617
01:25:14,840 --> 01:25:21,310
and chopping through the ice,

which took enormous effort.

1618
01:25:21,310 --> 01:25:26,930
And because this was the
route that people took,

1619
01:25:26,930 --> 01:25:29,720
many waters spilled.

1620
01:25:29,720 --> 01:25:33,040
You know, people
would fill the bucket,

1621
01:25:33,040 --> 01:25:36,100
and then some would
spill and freeze.

1622
01:25:36,100 --> 01:25:40,030
And when the people
who carried the water,

1623
01:25:40,030 --> 01:25:44,550
like my sister and
other people, they

1624
01:25:44,550 --> 01:25:48,220
would come close to the
house and then slip and spill

1625
01:25:48,220 --> 01:25:50,450
the water, which was tragic.

1626
01:25:50,450 --> 01:25:55,150
They would have to go back and
start pulling the water out

1627
01:25:55,150 --> 01:25:56,800
of the river.

1628
01:25:56,800 --> 01:26:00,130
Why wouldn't one use snow
that is there and just

1629

01:26:00,130 --> 01:26:02,730
melt it over a fire?

1630

01:26:02,730 --> 01:26:04,260
I don't know why.

1631

01:26:04,260 --> 01:26:08,430
We used snow, I think,
for washing to melt,

1632

01:26:08,430 --> 01:26:11,346
but not for drinking.

1633

01:26:11,346 --> 01:26:12,250
OK.

1634

01:26:12,250 --> 01:26:16,050
For drinking water, you had
to get water from the river.

1635

01:26:16,050 --> 01:26:18,640

1636

01:26:18,640 --> 01:26:20,450
So this became a problem.

1637

01:26:20,450 --> 01:26:24,460
Especially in the
heart of winter,

1638

01:26:24,460 --> 01:26:26,650
you had to cover
yourself everything.

1639

01:26:26,650 --> 01:26:32,470
Just the eyes would show,
because it would go down to 40,

1640

01:26:32,470 --> 01:26:36,050
50 below zero.

1641

01:26:36,050 --> 01:26:38,960
And by the time they
would come back,

1642
01:26:38,960 --> 01:26:45,570
the lashes from your
breathing would be frozen.

1643
01:26:45,570 --> 01:26:49,230
And people, many
people, lost limbs.

1644
01:26:49,230 --> 01:26:50,550
They lost fingers.

1645
01:26:50,550 --> 01:26:55,812
They lost toes if they didn't
have adequate, you know,

1646
01:26:55,812 --> 01:26:56,520
gloves and shoes.

1647
01:26:56,520 --> 01:26:59,430
How were you able to
dress when you had been

1648
01:26:59,430 --> 01:27:01,170
taken in the middle of summer?

1649
01:27:01,170 --> 01:27:02,760
That was a big problem.

1650
01:27:02,760 --> 01:27:04,090
That was a big problem.

1651
01:27:04,090 --> 01:27:06,350
So my mother started bartering.

1652
01:27:06,350 --> 01:27:09,110

1653
01:27:09,110 --> 01:27:11,810

She bartered her
wedding ring away.

1654

01:27:11,810 --> 01:27:16,640
She had nice nightgowns, which
I don't remember from home.

1655

01:27:16,640 --> 01:27:20,180
But there were Russian
people in Siberia

1656

01:27:20,180 --> 01:27:22,700
who had been there
for a long time,

1657

01:27:22,700 --> 01:27:26,690
and they haven't seen
a nice dress in years.

1658

01:27:26,690 --> 01:27:30,210
And they thought the
nightgowns were dresses.

1659

01:27:30,210 --> 01:27:34,350
So she bartered it for potatoes.

1660

01:27:34,350 --> 01:27:37,470
She bartered it for a warm coat.

1661

01:27:37,470 --> 01:27:41,620
In the winter-- in the fall,
actually, but there is no fall.

1662

01:27:41,620 --> 01:27:46,320
It's summer and then winter
starts in full force.

1663

01:27:46,320 --> 01:27:51,030
Cabbage-- cabbage became
a very important thing.

1664

01:27:51,030 --> 01:27:56,160
And my mother would

sour it in a barrel,

1665

01:27:56,160 --> 01:27:59,190

because she knew we
weren't getting vitamins.

1666

01:27:59,190 --> 01:28:00,150

Cabbage gives you--

1667

01:28:00,150 --> 01:28:02,760

Cabbage gives you vitamins.

1668

01:28:02,760 --> 01:28:07,860

So we would live on this
cabbage for most of the winter.

1669

01:28:07,860 --> 01:28:10,470

And many times in
the winter, she

1670

01:28:10,470 --> 01:28:15,120

would venture out beyond
our settlement, which

1671

01:28:15,120 --> 01:28:19,560

was extremely
dangerous, because there

1672

01:28:19,560 --> 01:28:22,530

were wild animals all around.

1673

01:28:22,530 --> 01:28:24,830

This was Siberia.

1674

01:28:24,830 --> 01:28:28,340

And many times people
would get lost and never

1675

01:28:28,340 --> 01:28:31,270

find their way back.

1676

01:28:31,270 --> 01:28:34,570

And many, many
people died there.

1677
01:28:34,570 --> 01:28:35,920
Many people died.

1678
01:28:35,920 --> 01:28:39,970
They didn't come prepared
for this climate.

1679
01:28:39,970 --> 01:28:41,410
They had no chance
to be prepared.

1680
01:28:41,410 --> 01:28:42,730
They had no chance.

1681
01:28:42,730 --> 01:28:47,710
And even if you're
prepared, it was so harsh.

1682
01:28:47,710 --> 01:28:52,990
Walking to the place of
work, to the forest where

1683
01:28:52,990 --> 01:28:57,880
they were cutting down the
trees, was 8 kilometers--

1684
01:28:57,880 --> 01:28:58,690
In that cold--

1685
01:28:58,690 --> 01:29:05,180
From our little settlement
and 8 kilometers back.

1686
01:29:05,180 --> 01:29:06,970
And in winter, they worked too?

1687
01:29:06,970 --> 01:29:09,670
They worked throughout.

1688

01:29:09,670 --> 01:29:14,050
And actually, in the
winter, she worked

1689
01:29:14,050 --> 01:29:16,360
with another young girl--

1690
01:29:16,360 --> 01:29:17,410
Your mother?

1691
01:29:17,410 --> 01:29:23,070
My sister worked in the forest
with another young girl,

1692
01:29:23,070 --> 01:29:24,340
as did my aunts.

1693
01:29:24,340 --> 01:29:26,970
They paired them up.

1694
01:29:26,970 --> 01:29:30,620
And they carried the
logs that were cut down.

1695
01:29:30,620 --> 01:29:33,190
[PHONE RINGING] And--

1696
01:29:33,190 --> 01:29:35,103
We'll come to it.

1697
01:29:35,103 --> 01:29:36,020
And they carried the--

1698
01:29:36,020 --> 01:29:40,800
The girls would carry the
logs into a machine that

1699
01:29:40,800 --> 01:29:43,930
would cut it into boards like--

1700
01:29:43,930 --> 01:29:45,690
Even in wintertime?

1701
01:29:45,690 --> 01:29:47,070
Yes.

1702
01:29:47,070 --> 01:29:54,460
And the other girl,
her name was, I think,

1703
01:29:54,460 --> 01:29:58,300
Lisa or something like that.

1704
01:29:58,300 --> 01:30:00,080
She was up front.

1705
01:30:00,080 --> 01:30:02,465
And my sister was in
the back carrying.

1706
01:30:02,465 --> 01:30:06,010
Now, you can imagine
14-year-old, two girls

1707
01:30:06,010 --> 01:30:09,670
carrying a huge Siberian log.

1708
01:30:09,670 --> 01:30:12,450
It wasn't easy.

1709
01:30:12,450 --> 01:30:15,510
She must've slipped
or something.

1710
01:30:15,510 --> 01:30:21,510
And the log did not go in
properly to the machine.

1711
01:30:21,510 --> 01:30:25,200
And it hit back on my sister.

1712
01:30:25,200 --> 01:30:26,340
This was Hannah?

1713
01:30:26,340 --> 01:30:27,970
Hannah.

1714
01:30:27,970 --> 01:30:31,630
She immediately
became extremely ill

1715
01:30:31,630 --> 01:30:35,500
with terrible pain,
terrible pain.

1716
01:30:35,500 --> 01:30:37,600
They sent their home.

1717
01:30:37,600 --> 01:30:41,950
And she was just
convulsing in pain.

1718
01:30:41,950 --> 01:30:44,320
Eventually, they
found the doctor

1719
01:30:44,320 --> 01:30:49,310
who tried to examine her,
but he didn't know why.

1720
01:30:49,310 --> 01:30:50,780
He didn't know why.

1721
01:30:50,780 --> 01:30:55,390
When it subsided, she
had to go back to work.

1722
01:30:55,390 --> 01:31:00,700
So at this point, my
father became very frail,

1723
01:31:00,700 --> 01:31:05,160
because he didn't eat much.

1724
01:31:05,160 --> 01:31:08,850
He tried to give

the children more.

1725

01:31:08,850 --> 01:31:11,980
And he really neglected himself.

1726

01:31:11,980 --> 01:31:15,250
He became very thin.

1727

01:31:15,250 --> 01:31:21,100
So luckily, if you can call
it that, the Russians did not

1728

01:31:21,100 --> 01:31:26,470
keep records exactly
the way the Germans did.

1729

01:31:26,470 --> 01:31:28,130
What do you mean by that?

1730

01:31:28,130 --> 01:31:31,150
Well, you know, the
Germans would write down

1731

01:31:31,150 --> 01:31:33,640
every name and everything.

1732

01:31:33,640 --> 01:31:37,750
Even in Auschwitz they have
all the lists and everything.

1733

01:31:37,750 --> 01:31:41,180
Here, you could fudge a little.

1734

01:31:41,180 --> 01:31:44,620
You could tell them--

1735

01:31:44,620 --> 01:31:46,300
I'll give you a for instance.

1736

01:31:46,300 --> 01:31:51,730
My Aunt Riva was called
once, like, 2:00 at night.

1737
01:31:51,730 --> 01:31:56,980
They loved doing all their
action at night, the Russians.

1738
01:31:56,980 --> 01:31:59,980
They came knocking at
the door, the commandant,

1739
01:31:59,980 --> 01:32:05,180
the head of the settlement,
wants to see Riva.

1740
01:32:05,180 --> 01:32:10,790
And we had the feeling why,
because she developed sores

1741
01:32:10,790 --> 01:32:15,910
on her foot and she
didn't go to work.

1742
01:32:15,910 --> 01:32:22,410
So my mother, quick thinking,
since my name was Ryzia--

1743
01:32:22,410 --> 01:32:25,720
Riva-- very close,
she woke me up.

1744
01:32:25,720 --> 01:32:31,290
She said get dressed quickly,
the commandant wants to see us.

1745
01:32:31,290 --> 01:32:36,030
She took me by the hand and
we walked in the frozen night

1746
01:32:36,030 --> 01:32:38,750
to the commandant's office.

1747
01:32:38,750 --> 01:32:41,830
We appeared and he
started yelling,

1748
01:32:41,830 --> 01:32:44,720
why did you bring
this child here?

1749
01:32:44,720 --> 01:32:49,630
My mother said, you asked
for her, you asked for her.

1750
01:32:49,630 --> 01:32:52,900
He said, you're, ridiculous,
take the child home.

1751
01:32:52,900 --> 01:32:54,820
That was the end of it--

1752
01:32:54,820 --> 01:32:56,680
for a while.

1753
01:32:56,680 --> 01:33:01,030
So we spared Riva
from going and maybe

1754
01:33:01,030 --> 01:33:05,020
being punished or whatever.

1755
01:33:05,020 --> 01:33:09,280
The same thing, there
was another incident.

1756
01:33:09,280 --> 01:33:11,410
I knew that the commandant--

1757
01:33:11,410 --> 01:33:12,880
you have to watch out for him.

1758
01:33:12,880 --> 01:33:16,936
If he is coming, then there
is trouble on the way.

1759
01:33:16,936 --> 01:33:20,680
So there was a yard like--

1760
01:33:20,680 --> 01:33:23,190
I remember the yard--

1761
01:33:23,190 --> 01:33:32,330
and somehow there were a few
steps to go up to our house.

1762
01:33:32,330 --> 01:33:36,650
I saw the commandant from afar.

1763
01:33:36,650 --> 01:33:40,090
I figured I better run
and tell my parents

1764
01:33:40,090 --> 01:33:43,280
the commandant is in the area.

1765
01:33:43,280 --> 01:33:47,270
So she must have
caught sight of me.

1766
01:33:47,270 --> 01:33:48,630
I started running.

1767
01:33:48,630 --> 01:33:52,430
But I had, you
know, short steps.

1768
01:33:52,430 --> 01:33:54,770
He came running after me.

1769
01:33:54,770 --> 01:33:56,390
I had braids at the time.

1770
01:33:56,390 --> 01:33:59,960
He grabbed me by the braids
and like threw me down

1771
01:33:59,960 --> 01:34:01,790
from those few stairs.

1772

01:34:01,790 --> 01:34:03,560

And he said, you're
running home to tell

1773

01:34:03,560 --> 01:34:08,170

your mother, your parents,
that the commandant is coming.

1774

01:34:08,170 --> 01:34:10,220

Threw me down the stairs.

1775

01:34:10,220 --> 01:34:13,520

But my mother heard
the commotion.

1776

01:34:13,520 --> 01:34:15,860

So my father went
behind the door.

1777

01:34:15,860 --> 01:34:17,480

The door opened this way.

1778

01:34:17,480 --> 01:34:21,280

He stood behind the door.

1779

01:34:21,280 --> 01:34:25,395

So he never saw my father at
home that he's not working.

1780

01:34:25,395 --> 01:34:26,770

So again, this
was something that

1781

01:34:26,770 --> 01:34:29,420

was, why didn't he go to work?

1782

01:34:29,420 --> 01:34:32,590

He's following up why
somebody is staying home.

1783

01:34:32,590 --> 01:34:33,440

Exactly.

1784
01:34:33,440 --> 01:34:36,410
Either he came for
that, or they would just

1785
01:34:36,410 --> 01:34:39,170
appear for no reason.

1786
01:34:39,170 --> 01:34:43,720
Another incident that is very
clear in my mind is Passover.

1787
01:34:43,720 --> 01:34:46,340

1788
01:34:46,340 --> 01:34:51,470
My mother, as other
Jews, saved some flour.

1789
01:34:51,470 --> 01:34:56,060
And somehow they managed
together, a group together,

1790
01:34:56,060 --> 01:34:57,230
build some matzah.

1791
01:34:57,230 --> 01:34:59,980

1792
01:34:59,980 --> 01:35:04,630
So we sat down with
potatoes and some greens

1793
01:35:04,630 --> 01:35:08,860
that we had to a
Seder, you know,

1794
01:35:08,860 --> 01:35:13,550
the ceremony that we
celebrate on Passover.

1795
01:35:13,550 --> 01:35:17,910

In the middle of our reading
the story of Passover,

1796
01:35:17,910 --> 01:35:22,020
the Haggadah, there's
a knock on the door.

1797
01:35:22,020 --> 01:35:23,370
Commandant comes in.

1798
01:35:23,370 --> 01:35:26,140

1799
01:35:26,140 --> 01:35:27,855
First, he didn't say anything.

1800
01:35:27,855 --> 01:35:28,920
He put his hand--

1801
01:35:28,920 --> 01:35:31,380
I remember this like
it was yesterday--

1802
01:35:31,380 --> 01:35:36,310
put his hand behind his back
and started marching around

1803
01:35:36,310 --> 01:35:42,000
our table, around our table,
back and forth, back and forth.

1804
01:35:42,000 --> 01:35:46,770
Eventually, he took-- there
was a jar on the table,

1805
01:35:46,770 --> 01:35:51,380
and he snuffed out the candles.

1806
01:35:51,380 --> 01:35:55,350
And then he said,
you Jews believe

1807

01:35:55,350 --> 01:35:58,080
that you went out of Egypt.

1808
01:35:58,080 --> 01:36:00,060
Eto nepravda.

1809
01:36:00,060 --> 01:36:01,740
This is not true.

1810
01:36:01,740 --> 01:36:04,740
He knows the story better.

1811
01:36:04,740 --> 01:36:10,170
And he started telling a
story that this never happened

1812
01:36:10,170 --> 01:36:12,380
and you believe in religion.

1813
01:36:12,380 --> 01:36:17,190
Religion is stupid and so forth.

1814
01:36:17,190 --> 01:36:21,150
And when he finished
his speech, he left.

1815
01:36:21,150 --> 01:36:25,410
I was wondering that atheistic
component of the ideology--

1816
01:36:25,410 --> 01:36:26,170
Yeah.

1817
01:36:26,170 --> 01:36:27,090
OK.

1818
01:36:27,090 --> 01:36:32,490
So another trick they pulled
was on the Rosh Hashanah, which

1819
01:36:32,490 --> 01:36:36,360
is one of our holiest days.

1820
01:36:36,360 --> 01:36:39,810
They appeared early
in the morning

1821
01:36:39,810 --> 01:36:42,540
at the house,
knocked at the doors.

1822
01:36:42,540 --> 01:36:48,530
And they pulled out from a
few homes Jews with beards

1823
01:36:48,530 --> 01:36:50,895
to go clean the public latrine.

1824
01:36:50,895 --> 01:36:53,460

1825
01:36:53,460 --> 01:36:55,600
And it was frozen.

1826
01:36:55,600 --> 01:36:58,650
And they had to use shovels.

1827
01:36:58,650 --> 01:37:02,250
And they get on Rosh Hashanah.

1828
01:37:02,250 --> 01:37:06,660
So they didn't outright
kill us like the Germans.

1829
01:37:06,660 --> 01:37:08,850
But they killed your spirit.

1830
01:37:08,850 --> 01:37:11,970
They killed your dignity.

1831
01:37:11,970 --> 01:37:18,640
And many people just
couldn't cope with it.

1832

01:37:18,640 --> 01:37:23,350

Tell me, was this an equal
opportunity kind of contempt?

1833

01:37:23,350 --> 01:37:26,380

Did you see that happening
at Christmas and Easter

1834

01:37:26,380 --> 01:37:27,460

for the Gentiles?

1835

01:37:27,460 --> 01:37:29,770

That is, did they keep
almost like a list

1836

01:37:29,770 --> 01:37:34,090

of what religious holidays there
would be and target everybody

1837

01:37:34,090 --> 01:37:35,980

on their religious holidays?

1838

01:37:35,980 --> 01:37:39,550

I really don't know
that from my experience.

1839

01:37:39,550 --> 01:37:42,730

I know from reading
that they did.

1840

01:37:42,730 --> 01:37:46,780

And other settlements
where they had Russians

1841

01:37:46,780 --> 01:37:50,170

that they shipped to
Siberia and they did not

1842

01:37:50,170 --> 01:37:56,940

allow them to have worship,
because under the communist,

1843

01:37:56,940 --> 01:37:59,110
you know, all the
churches were closed.

1844
01:37:59,110 --> 01:38:00,520
Everything was closed.

1845
01:38:00,520 --> 01:38:05,800
They did not allow to
practice any religion.

1846
01:38:05,800 --> 01:38:08,770
Was your settlement
mainly Jewish?

1847
01:38:08,770 --> 01:38:12,760
No, it was very
mixed, very mixed.

1848
01:38:12,760 --> 01:38:17,350
And I want to tell you about
this young couple next to us,

1849
01:38:17,350 --> 01:38:22,360
because this is another memory
that's etched in my mind

1850
01:38:22,360 --> 01:38:24,250
very clearly.

1851
01:38:24,250 --> 01:38:26,860
So the woman gave birth.

1852
01:38:26,860 --> 01:38:32,200
We heard her-- there was only
a wooden wall dividing us.

1853
01:38:32,200 --> 01:38:34,540
And there was actually
in a little hallway,

1854
01:38:34,540 --> 01:38:36,640
there was a window

that you could--

1855
01:38:36,640 --> 01:38:37,150
See in--

1856
01:38:37,150 --> 01:38:40,480
Look through from
one to the other.

1857
01:38:40,480 --> 01:38:43,230

1858
01:38:43,230 --> 01:38:46,870
We heard her give birth.

1859
01:38:46,870 --> 01:38:58,130
And about a week later, we
heard this ear piercing cries.

1860
01:38:58,130 --> 01:39:02,190
That baby passed away.

1861
01:39:02,190 --> 01:39:03,930
She cried inconsolably.

1862
01:39:03,930 --> 01:39:06,590

1863
01:39:06,590 --> 01:39:13,040
I remember my mother going over
there, and other people came.

1864
01:39:13,040 --> 01:39:20,795
But they found somebody that
painted the child's liking.

1865
01:39:20,795 --> 01:39:24,250

1866
01:39:24,250 --> 01:39:27,760
And I remember she
showed us that picture

1867
01:39:27,760 --> 01:39:29,010
through that window.

1868
01:39:29,010 --> 01:39:32,967
And I can see that
little baby's face.

1869
01:39:32,967 --> 01:39:34,100
Oh, dear.

1870
01:39:34,100 --> 01:39:36,540
It was so sad.

1871
01:39:36,540 --> 01:39:38,270
It was so sad.

1872
01:39:38,270 --> 01:39:40,460
That woman was
really inconsolable.

1873
01:39:40,460 --> 01:39:43,400

1874
01:39:43,400 --> 01:39:48,430
And we were next to each other.

1875
01:39:48,430 --> 01:39:52,030
Now, I had no friends.

1876
01:39:52,030 --> 01:39:54,850
I don't remember playing
with any children

1877
01:39:54,850 --> 01:39:57,820
throughout that time at all.

1878
01:39:57,820 --> 01:40:00,970
My father started
teaching me a little,

1879

01:40:00,970 --> 01:40:10,460
to write the alphabet, both the
Polish and the Hebrew alphabet.

1880
01:40:10,460 --> 01:40:15,040
We didn't get very far,
between work and worries.

1881
01:40:15,040 --> 01:40:18,000
But I remember he used
to spend time with me

1882
01:40:18,000 --> 01:40:21,120
trying to teach me to write.

1883
01:40:21,120 --> 01:40:24,870
Another thing that happened,
because we were all

1884
01:40:24,870 --> 01:40:30,240
undernourished and I was
six at that time already

1885
01:40:30,240 --> 01:40:37,120
and very skinny, tall,
but skinny, school

1886
01:40:37,120 --> 01:40:44,330
starts there at
six, the age of six.

1887
01:40:44,330 --> 01:40:47,340
And school is six days a week.

1888
01:40:47,340 --> 01:40:53,060
So again, my mother didn't want
me to go on Shabbat to school.

1889
01:40:53,060 --> 01:40:56,240
So she decided the
easiest way to get out

1890
01:40:56,240 --> 01:41:00,760

of it right now is to
make me a year younger.

1891
01:41:00,760 --> 01:41:02,020
So she did.

1892
01:41:02,020 --> 01:41:07,090
And from that day
on, all my papers

1893
01:41:07,090 --> 01:41:11,050
say that I am a year younger.

1894
01:41:11,050 --> 01:41:15,350
And some years ago, we
went back to Poland.

1895
01:41:15,350 --> 01:41:17,050
I don't know if you
want me to jump--

1896
01:41:17,050 --> 01:41:17,670
Yes, go ahead.

1897
01:41:17,670 --> 01:41:19,530
If it has a tie to
the story, tell me.

1898
01:41:19,530 --> 01:41:21,930
It has a tie, because
for many years

1899
01:41:21,930 --> 01:41:25,230
I wanted the birth certificate.

1900
01:41:25,230 --> 01:41:27,750
And we were back in Poland.

1901
01:41:27,750 --> 01:41:29,430
But there was no place to look.

1902
01:41:29,430 --> 01:41:33,750

We never went back to
our place of birth.

1903
01:41:33,750 --> 01:41:38,995
So I think it was 2005--

1904
01:41:38,995 --> 01:41:39,495
2005--

1905
01:41:39,495 --> 01:41:44,440
Not that many years ago we went
back with friends to Poland.

1906
01:41:44,440 --> 01:41:46,770
And we were in Krakow.

1907
01:41:46,770 --> 01:41:48,720
So we hired a car.

1908
01:41:48,720 --> 01:41:51,090
And we went to Zarszyn.

1909
01:41:51,090 --> 01:41:56,310
And I told you my aunt was
in touch with this woman who

1910
01:41:56,310 --> 01:41:58,800
was her contemporary.

1911
01:41:58,800 --> 01:42:03,090
So I called her, and I told
her I was going to come.

1912
01:42:03,090 --> 01:42:07,920
And as I mentioned already,
they received us very nicely.

1913
01:42:07,920 --> 01:42:11,160
And she asked me, what
do you want to do here?

1914
01:42:11,160 --> 01:42:14,530

What do you want to accomplish?

1915

01:42:14,530 --> 01:42:20,040

I said, well, I have really
three things that I want to do.

1916

01:42:20,040 --> 01:42:24,200

I want to see where my
grandparents' houses were.

1917

01:42:24,200 --> 01:42:26,940

And I want to go to
the little city hall

1918

01:42:26,940 --> 01:42:29,810

and get a birth
certificate, so my age

1919

01:42:29,810 --> 01:42:33,450

is straightened out
once and for all.

1920

01:42:33,450 --> 01:42:36,450

Why it bothered me I don't
know, because I always

1921

01:42:36,450 --> 01:42:39,130

tell everybody my
true age anyway,

1922

01:42:39,130 --> 01:42:41,310

even though I am a year
younger on my papers.

1923

01:42:41,310 --> 01:42:44,340

1924

01:42:44,340 --> 01:42:46,390

She said no problem.

1925

01:42:46,390 --> 01:42:48,530

I'll take you.

1926

01:42:48,530 --> 01:42:51,460

So we go up this
little building.

1927

01:42:51,460 --> 01:42:52,990

They have an office upstairs.

1928

01:42:52,990 --> 01:42:53,950

We go up.

1929

01:42:53,950 --> 01:42:56,350

My husband was with me.

1930

01:42:56,350 --> 01:43:01,960

She introduces me to the
lady in Polish, of course.

1931

01:43:01,960 --> 01:43:04,210

And I speak Polish.

1932

01:43:04,210 --> 01:43:07,810

So she says this
lady was born here,

1933

01:43:07,810 --> 01:43:10,845

and she would like to
have a birth certificate.

1934

01:43:10,845 --> 01:43:14,180

She said, no problem,
what year were you born?

1935

01:43:14,180 --> 01:43:16,830

I tell her 1934.

1936

01:43:16,830 --> 01:43:22,340

She goes to a cabinet.

1937

01:43:22,340 --> 01:43:26,910

It was made out of tin,
you know, a cabinet.

1938

01:43:26,910 --> 01:43:29,580
And there are different ledgers.

1939

01:43:29,580 --> 01:43:33,450
She pulled out a
ledger from 1934.

1940

01:43:33,450 --> 01:43:34,500
She sat down.

1941

01:43:34,500 --> 01:43:37,420
And she says, what
was your maiden name?

1942

01:43:37,420 --> 01:43:40,335
And I tell them I know
his name was Barth.

1943

01:43:40,335 --> 01:43:43,020
She says, Barth, Barth, Barth.

1944

01:43:43,020 --> 01:43:45,450
Repeated it maybe six times.

1945

01:43:45,450 --> 01:43:47,040
She said, you're Jewish.

1946

01:43:47,040 --> 01:43:48,710
I said, yes.

1947

01:43:48,710 --> 01:43:52,820
She lifted that book,
slammed it on the table.

1948

01:43:52,820 --> 01:43:54,350
I have nothing for Jews.

1949

01:43:54,350 --> 01:43:55,930
All the papers were burned.

1950

01:43:55,930 --> 01:44:00,140

1951

01:44:00,140 --> 01:44:03,440

When my husband heard that,
he said, we're out of here.

1952

01:44:03,440 --> 01:44:05,315

We're out of here this minute.

1953

01:44:05,315 --> 01:44:07,950

1954

01:44:07,950 --> 01:44:14,100

Fortunately, we stopped at
my one grandparent's house,

1955

01:44:14,100 --> 01:44:17,060

where it used to be,
just an empty lot

1956

01:44:17,060 --> 01:44:21,910

now where my
grandparent Barth lived.

1957

01:44:21,910 --> 01:44:24,980

And I asked her
if she knew where

1958

01:44:24,980 --> 01:44:28,190

the rabbi, my other
grandfather lived.

1959

01:44:28,190 --> 01:44:31,430

She said, I know
approximately the street--

1960

01:44:31,430 --> 01:44:33,850

This is your aunt's friend?

1961

01:44:33,850 --> 01:44:34,610

Yes.

1962

01:44:34,610 --> 01:44:36,830
OK.

1963
01:44:36,830 --> 01:44:39,050
Was she there with you at
the municipal building?

1964
01:44:39,050 --> 01:44:40,280
Yes.

1965
01:44:40,280 --> 01:44:43,590
And she immediately said, what
do you mean you have nothing?

1966
01:44:43,590 --> 01:44:45,680
What if she wants
to claim property?

1967
01:44:45,680 --> 01:44:48,170
Her grandfather had property.

1968
01:44:48,170 --> 01:44:51,350
And I said, well, first of all,
I don't want to claim anything.

1969
01:44:51,350 --> 01:44:57,490
But the woman said, I
have nothing for Jews.

1970
01:44:57,490 --> 01:44:59,690
So my husband
dragged me out there.

1971
01:44:59,690 --> 01:45:03,910
He would not continue
the conversation.

1972
01:45:03,910 --> 01:45:06,660
But before that we
went to the street

1973
01:45:06,660 --> 01:45:11,010
where she thought my other--

it was a little alley,

1974

01:45:11,010 --> 01:45:16,050

not paved, still not
paved, just a dirt road.

1975

01:45:16,050 --> 01:45:20,400

And as we were
walking, I said stop.

1976

01:45:20,400 --> 01:45:23,680

I think this is the house.

1977

01:45:23,680 --> 01:45:26,215

And we saw a lady
working in the garden.

1978

01:45:26,215 --> 01:45:28,760

1979

01:45:28,760 --> 01:45:31,130

So we called the over.

1980

01:45:31,130 --> 01:45:33,440

And I said, would
you by any chance

1981

01:45:33,440 --> 01:45:36,960

remember a family Leibowicz.

1982

01:45:36,960 --> 01:45:40,520

And she says, of course,
what do you mean?

1983

01:45:40,520 --> 01:45:43,520

I live in their house.

1984

01:45:43,520 --> 01:45:47,560

She said, my husband
used to come on Shabbat

1985

01:45:47,560 --> 01:45:49,540

and light the fire for them.

1986
01:45:49,540 --> 01:45:52,840

1987
01:45:52,840 --> 01:45:57,220
So I somehow, in
my mind's eye, I

1988
01:45:57,220 --> 01:46:00,310
had the vision to
recognize that house.

1989
01:46:00,310 --> 01:46:02,940

1990
01:46:02,940 --> 01:46:06,530
So anyway we left very
shortly thereafter,

1991
01:46:06,530 --> 01:46:09,890
after this experience
in the city hall,

1992
01:46:09,890 --> 01:46:12,350
and returned to Krakow.

1993
01:46:12,350 --> 01:46:14,180
And you never got a
birth certificate then?

1994
01:46:14,180 --> 01:46:16,750
No.

1995
01:46:16,750 --> 01:46:21,490
I understand that now,
already for a number of years,

1996
01:46:21,490 --> 01:46:27,880
in Warsaw there is a
depository, a big repository,

1997

01:46:27,880 --> 01:46:33,100
of different documents
of Jewish people.

1998
01:46:33,100 --> 01:46:37,420
And possibly if
I was registered,

1999
01:46:37,420 --> 01:46:39,100
they may have something.

2000
01:46:39,100 --> 01:46:42,070
But I really haven't
pursued it any further.

2001
01:46:42,070 --> 01:46:43,662
I'm so sorry to hear that.

2002
01:46:43,662 --> 01:46:44,204
I'm so sorry.

2003
01:46:44,204 --> 01:46:49,860
It's an unfortunate-- the lady
that was with me felt terrible.

2004
01:46:49,860 --> 01:46:51,750
She just didn't want to leave.

2005
01:46:51,750 --> 01:46:56,040
She kept telling her, she was
born here, she had family here.

2006
01:46:56,040 --> 01:47:00,790
And the woman was just--

2007
01:47:00,790 --> 01:47:02,910
wouldn't handle it.

2008
01:47:02,910 --> 01:47:06,320
So to go on--

2009
01:47:06,320 --> 01:47:07,810

So we're back in Siberia.

2010

01:47:07,810 --> 01:47:09,320

We're back in Siberia.

2011

01:47:09,320 --> 01:47:10,790

I have a few questions.

2012

01:47:10,790 --> 01:47:11,390

Yes.

2013

01:47:11,390 --> 01:47:13,520

The settlement, do
you know about how

2014

01:47:13,520 --> 01:47:18,671

many different little
house there were in it?

2015

01:47:18,671 --> 01:47:20,070

You mean to count?

2016

01:47:20,070 --> 01:47:22,890

To give you a figure,
I wouldn't be accurate.

2017

01:47:22,890 --> 01:47:27,090

I remember streets with houses.

2018

01:47:27,090 --> 01:47:30,540

Was there anybody who wasn't
a deportee who was there?

2019

01:47:30,540 --> 01:47:36,170

I don't think so, except
like maybe the military.

2020

01:47:36,170 --> 01:47:40,410

My idea is, like we
did with Zarszyn,

2021

01:47:40,410 --> 01:47:44,880

to just get an approximate sense
of how large, how small it was.

2022

01:47:44,880 --> 01:47:49,940
I would say maybe 500 people.

2023

01:47:49,940 --> 01:47:50,710
OK.

2024

01:47:50,710 --> 01:47:51,970
I'm estimating.

2025

01:47:51,970 --> 01:47:52,660
I know.

2026

01:47:52,660 --> 01:47:53,710
I know.

2027

01:47:53,710 --> 01:47:58,390
And it was then
controlled or administered

2028

01:47:58,390 --> 01:48:00,580
by a military authority.

2029

01:48:00,580 --> 01:48:01,430
Yes.

2030

01:48:01,430 --> 01:48:05,110
But you were not
considered prisoners.

2031

01:48:05,110 --> 01:48:12,330
We were considered refugees.

2032

01:48:12,330 --> 01:48:15,610
Who worked because they
loved to work for--

2033

01:48:15,610 --> 01:48:16,630
Yeah.

2034

01:48:16,630 --> 01:48:17,430

Yeah.

2035

01:48:17,430 --> 01:48:20,580

I have heard in other
deportee's stories

2036

01:48:20,580 --> 01:48:26,100

of people earning sort of like a
nominal amount, a ruble or two.

2037

01:48:26,100 --> 01:48:28,260

They did pay a nominal amount.

2038

01:48:28,260 --> 01:48:30,510

And this is what
we had to buy bread

2039

01:48:30,510 --> 01:48:35,100

and the absolute necessities.

2040

01:48:35,100 --> 01:48:41,820

But if you didn't have any other
assets to barter or to sell,

2041

01:48:41,820 --> 01:48:44,790

you really couldn't exist.

2042

01:48:44,790 --> 01:48:47,250

My mother never had sons.

2043

01:48:47,250 --> 01:48:51,780

So she always had a weak
spot for young boys,

2044

01:48:51,780 --> 01:48:54,750

for single boys,
who needed help.

2045

01:48:54,750 --> 01:48:56,970

There was this one
boy in particular

2046
01:48:56,970 --> 01:49:02,040
that she befriended
in Siberia, who was--

2047
01:49:02,040 --> 01:49:08,160
we call this in Yiddish, a
real Schlimazel, somebody

2048
01:49:08,160 --> 01:49:13,800
who would always lose something
and somebody who couldn't quite

2049
01:49:13,800 --> 01:49:15,300
take care of himself.

2050
01:49:15,300 --> 01:49:16,740
Was he there
without his parents?

2051
01:49:16,740 --> 01:49:18,300
No, he was alone.

2052
01:49:18,300 --> 01:49:21,930
He was away from
home in a yeshiva.

2053
01:49:21,930 --> 01:49:25,920
And he was caught together
with everybody else

2054
01:49:25,920 --> 01:49:28,510
and shipped to Siberia.

2055
01:49:28,510 --> 01:49:33,010
But in the beginning,
there was still a time

2056
01:49:33,010 --> 01:49:37,750
that you could send
packages from Poland--

2057

01:49:37,750 --> 01:49:39,970
at the very beginning.

2058
01:49:39,970 --> 01:49:43,870
And they would
reach you, or they

2059
01:49:43,870 --> 01:49:47,480
would send through the Red
Cross different things.

2060
01:49:47,480 --> 01:49:50,470
So when you said, we
lived on packages,

2061
01:49:50,470 --> 01:49:53,930
is that what you were referring
to rather than not being able

2062
01:49:53,930 --> 01:49:54,430
to unpack?

2063
01:49:54,430 --> 01:49:58,000
No, no, no, when I said
we lived on our packages,

2064
01:49:58,000 --> 01:50:01,300
I just meant our things.

2065
01:50:01,300 --> 01:50:05,350
But this boy received a couple
packages from his parents--

2066
01:50:05,350 --> 01:50:08,550
in Siberia-- in Siberia.

2067
01:50:08,550 --> 01:50:10,490
I don't know how.

2068
01:50:10,490 --> 01:50:15,360
So he comes to my
mother with the package.

2069

01:50:15,360 --> 01:50:20,480

And he says, Mrs. Barth,
I want you to give me

2070

01:50:20,480 --> 01:50:26,770

every day a piece of
what my mother sent me,

2071

01:50:26,770 --> 01:50:31,450

either a piece of candy or a
cookie, because if I keep it

2072

01:50:31,450 --> 01:50:33,550

I'm going to eat it all at once.

2073

01:50:33,550 --> 01:50:34,660

Oh, my.

2074

01:50:34,660 --> 01:50:35,470

Oh, my.

2075

01:50:35,470 --> 01:50:39,880

So she knew that my mother
wasn't going to touch it.

2076

01:50:39,880 --> 01:50:44,230

As a matter of fact, I remember
after she gave him his piece,

2077

01:50:44,230 --> 01:50:46,330

every day he would come by.

2078

01:50:46,330 --> 01:50:49,240

She would put it
high up on a shelf.

2079

01:50:49,240 --> 01:50:51,710

And none of us--

2080

01:50:51,710 --> 01:50:54,730

none of us-- would
dare touch it.

2081
01:50:54,730 --> 01:50:58,780
But he would also come
to my mother and say--

2082
01:50:58,780 --> 01:51:04,330
I remember, he was ashamed to
say-- he would say, Mrs. Barth,

2083
01:51:04,330 --> 01:51:07,700
I lost a glove today.

2084
01:51:07,700 --> 01:51:09,270
And we didn't have spare.

2085
01:51:09,270 --> 01:51:13,680
My mother would take a rag
that she had from something

2086
01:51:13,680 --> 01:51:15,660
or cut up something.

2087
01:51:15,660 --> 01:51:17,910
And she sewed him
some kind of a glove,

2088
01:51:17,910 --> 01:51:21,480
because without it, he
would lose his fingers.

2089
01:51:21,480 --> 01:51:24,670
What was his name?

2090
01:51:24,670 --> 01:51:28,900
His name was also Yakov.

2091
01:51:28,900 --> 01:51:34,770
And he eventually
ended up in Belgium,

2092
01:51:34,770 --> 01:51:37,200
became a diamond

dealer, and came

2093

01:51:37,200 --> 01:51:39,250
to visit my mother in Israel--

2094

01:51:39,250 --> 01:51:40,464
Oh, no kidding--

2095

01:51:40,464 --> 01:51:41,240
[LAUGHTER]

2096

01:51:41,240 --> 01:51:42,300
Many years later.

2097

01:51:42,300 --> 01:51:43,950
I hope he didn't lose diamonds.

2098

01:51:43,950 --> 01:51:44,940
I know.

2099

01:51:44,940 --> 01:51:47,460
But as a boy, he was like that.

2100

01:51:47,460 --> 01:51:49,530
One day, he came,
he lost a scarf.

2101

01:51:49,530 --> 01:51:52,660
My mother somehow
found a scarf for him.

2102

01:51:52,660 --> 01:51:56,720
I mean, he was just
totally unreliable

2103

01:51:56,720 --> 01:51:59,870
as far as his things.

2104

01:51:59,870 --> 01:52:00,710
But he was a sweet--

2105

01:52:00,710 --> 01:52:01,550
He needed a mother.

2106
01:52:01,550 --> 01:52:02,460
Needed a mother.

2107
01:52:02,460 --> 01:52:05,110
And my mother mothered him.

2108
01:52:05,110 --> 01:52:08,750
He would come and sit
after work at our table.

2109
01:52:08,750 --> 01:52:12,209
And we would share
what we had with him.

2110
01:52:12,209 --> 01:52:16,340

2111
01:52:16,340 --> 01:52:22,180
So Siberia was terribly hard.

2112
01:52:22,180 --> 01:52:24,300
Tell me a little bit
about the relation

2113
01:52:24,300 --> 01:52:28,700
between the military
authority in the settlement.

2114
01:52:28,700 --> 01:52:30,733
Do you have a name
for the settlement,

2115
01:52:30,733 --> 01:52:31,900
by the way that you were in?

2116
01:52:31,900 --> 01:52:32,400
Tavda.

2117
01:52:32,400 --> 01:52:32,970

Tavda.

2118

01:52:32,970 --> 01:52:33,480

I'm sorry.

2119

01:52:33,480 --> 01:52:34,800

You did tell me.

2120

01:52:34,800 --> 01:52:35,640

Tavda.

2121

01:52:35,640 --> 01:52:38,910

And do you remember the
name of that commandant?

2122

01:52:38,910 --> 01:52:40,910

No.

2123

01:52:40,910 --> 01:52:41,840

No, I do not.

2124

01:52:41,840 --> 01:52:46,210

2125

01:52:46,210 --> 01:52:48,820

They all wore military garb.

2126

01:52:48,820 --> 01:52:50,860

That's all I can tell you.

2127

01:52:50,860 --> 01:52:55,780

If they were part of those
who were sent to Siberia

2128

01:52:55,780 --> 01:52:58,130

and then put in charge--

2129

01:52:58,130 --> 01:53:01,300

there were many cases
that this was true.

2130

01:53:01,300 --> 01:53:03,310

And there were many cases that they

2131

01:53:03,310 --> 01:53:07,670

were just sent for the purpose to administer

2132

01:53:07,670 --> 01:53:09,250

the different settlements.

2133

01:53:09,250 --> 01:53:10,720

Were they NKVD?

2134

01:53:10,720 --> 01:53:12,070

Were they?

2135

01:53:12,070 --> 01:53:13,330

NKVD.

2136

01:53:13,330 --> 01:53:14,930

Were they secret police, for example.

2137

01:53:14,930 --> 01:53:15,430

No.

2138

01:53:15,430 --> 01:53:18,970

I know what NKVD is.

2139

01:53:18,970 --> 01:53:20,360

I'm not aware of it.

2140

01:53:20,360 --> 01:53:21,660

No.

2141

01:53:21,660 --> 01:53:26,180

We dealt with NKVD later on in Russia.

2142

01:53:26,180 --> 01:53:26,680

OK.

2143
01:53:26,680 --> 01:53:28,120
But not in Siberia.

2144
01:53:28,120 --> 01:53:32,200
I don't recall anybody
being called that.

2145
01:53:32,200 --> 01:53:34,400
And was it just about--

2146
01:53:34,400 --> 01:53:38,890
if you have
approximately 500 people,

2147
01:53:38,890 --> 01:53:42,160
about how many administrators
would be there?

2148
01:53:42,160 --> 01:53:47,480
All I know is the
commandant, somebody

2149
01:53:47,480 --> 01:53:49,970
was sitting and writing
things for him, which

2150
01:53:49,970 --> 01:53:54,950
must have been a
secretary, and the soldiers

2151
01:53:54,950 --> 01:53:57,500
who acted like policemen.

2152
01:53:57,500 --> 01:53:58,640
OK.

2153
01:53:58,640 --> 01:54:01,010
Was there a fence
around the settlement?

2154
01:54:01,010 --> 01:54:01,670

Was there a?

2155

01:54:01,670 --> 01:54:03,470

Fence or a gate?

2156

01:54:03,470 --> 01:54:04,360

No.

2157

01:54:04,360 --> 01:54:06,860

But there was no place to run.

2158

01:54:06,860 --> 01:54:10,280

Well, see, for Western
kind of understanding,

2159

01:54:10,280 --> 01:54:12,370

why wouldn't there
be a place to run?

2160

01:54:12,370 --> 01:54:15,020

Why wouldn't you be
able to just run away?

2161

01:54:15,020 --> 01:54:16,970

Because the settlements
were far apart.

2162

01:54:16,970 --> 01:54:19,640

2163

01:54:19,640 --> 01:54:22,810

Summer was very short.

2164

01:54:22,810 --> 01:54:27,210

And winters were forever.

2165

01:54:27,210 --> 01:54:30,030

And it was a very dangerous.

2166

01:54:30,030 --> 01:54:35,770

And anybody who attempted, never
came back and never made it.

2167
01:54:35,770 --> 01:54:40,540
And even as I said before,
going through the forest

2168
01:54:40,540 --> 01:54:45,460
to another settlement
was extremely dangerous.

2169
01:54:45,460 --> 01:54:47,590
Were there people
in this settlement

2170
01:54:47,590 --> 01:54:50,680
who had already been exiled
there before you arrived?

2171
01:54:50,680 --> 01:54:51,180
Yes.

2172
01:54:51,180 --> 01:54:51,680
Yes.

2173
01:54:51,680 --> 01:54:53,810
So they kind of told you
of what it was about.

2174
01:54:53,810 --> 01:54:54,310
Yes.

2175
01:54:54,310 --> 01:54:57,550
Well, those were the people
that my mother would barter with

2176
01:54:57,550 --> 01:54:59,425
and buy things from.

2177
01:54:59,425 --> 01:55:03,310
And another thing, which
was very interesting,

2178
01:55:03,310 --> 01:55:08,140

the summers are basically
two months, real summer, June

2179
01:55:08,140 --> 01:55:09,900
and July.

2180
01:55:09,900 --> 01:55:12,930
And during that
month, my mother would

2181
01:55:12,930 --> 01:55:16,220
seed different vegetables.

2182
01:55:16,220 --> 01:55:18,830
And everything managed
to grow in those two

2183
01:55:18,830 --> 01:55:25,790
months, particularly
potatoes and some onion.

2184
01:55:25,790 --> 01:55:30,390
And that's what I
remember most of all.

2185
01:55:30,390 --> 01:55:33,020
I think maybe some beets.

2186
01:55:33,020 --> 01:55:34,490
All very important.

2187
01:55:34,490 --> 01:55:35,990
Yeah.

2188
01:55:35,990 --> 01:55:37,470
During the summer.

2189
01:55:37,470 --> 01:55:38,150
Yeah.

2190
01:55:38,150 --> 01:55:41,000
And as I said, she

would buy cabbage.

2191

01:55:41,000 --> 01:55:42,830

I don't think
she'd grew cabbage.

2192

01:55:42,830 --> 01:55:44,400

I don't recall.

2193

01:55:44,400 --> 01:55:53,450

And she would hide those
potatoes in a cold spot.

2194

01:55:53,450 --> 01:55:55,370

I think covered.

2195

01:55:55,370 --> 01:56:01,070

And through the winter until
it ran out, we lived on this.

2196

01:56:01,070 --> 01:56:03,830

That's amazing.

2197

01:56:03,830 --> 01:56:05,937

She sounds like if it
hadn't been for your mother,

2198

01:56:05,937 --> 01:56:07,145

you all would have been lost.

2199

01:56:07,145 --> 01:56:07,645

Yes.

2200

01:56:07,645 --> 01:56:09,020

No question about it.

2201

01:56:09,020 --> 01:56:12,130

No question about it.

2202

01:56:12,130 --> 01:56:15,220

Did you arrive there with
any kind of documents?

2203
01:56:15,220 --> 01:56:15,760
No.

2204
01:56:15,760 --> 01:56:17,870
I'm talking about
old Polish passport--

2205
01:56:17,870 --> 01:56:18,370
No.

2206
01:56:18,370 --> 01:56:19,090
Nothing.

2207
01:56:19,090 --> 01:56:22,420
I don't think so, no,
because particularly

2208
01:56:22,420 --> 01:56:26,920
having lived in a small
town, there was no need.

2209
01:56:26,920 --> 01:56:30,970
I don't think my
parents had any papers.

2210
01:56:30,970 --> 01:56:31,810
I don't think so--

2211
01:56:31,810 --> 01:56:34,000
Your father may be if
he traveled to Germany.

2212
01:56:34,000 --> 01:56:35,030
Maybe my father.

2213
01:56:35,030 --> 01:56:39,060
I don't remember seeing any.

2214
01:56:39,060 --> 01:56:40,150
OK.

2215

01:56:40,150 --> 01:56:44,140

Well, again, so it's when one starts creating a paper trail,

2216

01:56:44,140 --> 01:56:45,430

where is that paper trail.

2217

01:56:45,430 --> 01:56:48,330

I'm thinking back about your birth certificate.

2218

01:56:48,330 --> 01:56:50,860

And sometimes some people who were

2219

01:56:50,860 --> 01:56:57,730

in gulags, when they were released from those gulags

2220

01:56:57,730 --> 01:57:01,240

got a certain kind of certificate that they had been

2221

01:57:01,240 --> 01:57:02,620

and now they were allowed out.

2222

01:57:02,620 --> 01:57:04,510

Oh, yeah, I'll tell you about that.

2223

01:57:04,510 --> 01:57:11,290

So we ended up being in Siberia 19 months.

2224

01:57:11,290 --> 01:57:12,410

All in Tavda?

2225

01:57:12,410 --> 01:57:14,210

All there.

2226

01:57:14,210 --> 01:57:14,770

OK.

2227
01:57:14,770 --> 01:57:19,100
Now when Russia
joined the Allies.

2228
01:57:19,100 --> 01:57:21,670
And that would
have been because?

2229
01:57:21,670 --> 01:57:23,710
Why would she leave
Germany to join the Allies?

2230
01:57:23,710 --> 01:57:29,530
Well, because Germany
attacked Russia.

2231
01:57:29,530 --> 01:57:34,270
And by that time, there
weren't many places

2232
01:57:34,270 --> 01:57:37,360
that you could travel in
Russia, because the Germans had

2233
01:57:37,360 --> 01:57:41,890
progressed so far along
into the heart of Russia.

2234
01:57:41,890 --> 01:57:43,720
You're talking June 1941.

2235
01:57:43,720 --> 01:57:46,640
Right.

2236
01:57:46,640 --> 01:57:49,100
[POLISH]

2237
01:57:49,100 --> 01:57:50,470
[POLISH]

2238
01:57:50,470 --> 01:57:54,810

[POLISH] The reason I
remembered that, because we

2239

01:57:54,810 --> 01:58:07,800
were singing a song, [POLISH]

2240

01:58:07,800 --> 01:58:09,390
Tell us what that means.

2241

01:58:09,390 --> 01:58:18,960
OK, on the 22nd of June, we were
notified that war broke out.

2242

01:58:18,960 --> 01:58:26,730
And that was 22nd of June, 1941,
when Russia joined the Allies.

2243

01:58:26,730 --> 01:58:30,210
And did that come
from the commandant?

2244

01:58:30,210 --> 01:58:33,760
No, that I learned
later in Bukhara,

2245

01:58:33,760 --> 01:58:36,750
because I didn't go to
school in Siberia at all.

2246

01:58:36,750 --> 01:58:39,270

2247

01:58:39,270 --> 01:58:42,470
Were there loudspeakers
in the settlement?

2248

01:58:42,470 --> 01:58:45,710
I don't recall loudspeakers.

2249

01:58:45,710 --> 01:58:48,230
I think they used to
just go individually

2250

01:58:48,230 --> 01:58:52,740

to the different houses
when they wanted somebody.

2251

01:58:52,740 --> 01:58:55,110

And were there
ever any gatherings

2252

01:58:55,110 --> 01:58:58,710

where everyone from the
settlement had to come together

2253

01:58:58,710 --> 01:59:02,520

to hear something,
to witness something?

2254

01:59:02,520 --> 01:59:04,380

I don't recall.

2255

01:59:04,380 --> 01:59:08,880

Did you ever go with your
sister when she worked

2256

01:59:08,880 --> 01:59:10,500

or when your father
when she worked?

2257

01:59:10,500 --> 01:59:11,370

No.

2258

01:59:11,370 --> 01:59:14,730

I mean it was 8 kilometers away.

2259

01:59:14,730 --> 01:59:17,490

It wasn't just next door.

2260

01:59:17,490 --> 01:59:19,620

No, I never did.

2261

01:59:19,620 --> 01:59:20,950

I never did.

2262

01:59:20,950 --> 01:59:25,930

But we always tried
to hide somebody,

2263

01:59:25,930 --> 01:59:28,660

give them a day of respite.

2264

01:59:28,660 --> 01:59:32,050

And if you couldn't get--

2265

01:59:32,050 --> 01:59:33,760

there wasn't really a doctor.

2266

01:59:33,760 --> 01:59:36,790

There was what they
called a felczer.

2267

01:59:36,790 --> 01:59:44,230

And that was like a
medical assistant, the best

2268

01:59:44,230 --> 01:59:48,250

term I can think of, that
would come and observe you.

2269

01:59:48,250 --> 01:59:50,900

And he would say, yes,
you're fit for work,

2270

01:59:50,900 --> 01:59:54,810

no, you can have a day off.

2271

01:59:54,810 --> 01:59:59,590

And so that felczer could
be a very powerful person.

2272

01:59:59,590 --> 02:00:00,090

Yeah.

2273

02:00:00,090 --> 02:00:06,450

Well, I remember him because he
came to look at my aunt's heels

2274
02:00:06,450 --> 02:00:10,050
where she rubbed it so terribly.

2275
02:00:10,050 --> 02:00:16,150
And he decreed three
days she could stay home.

2276
02:00:16,150 --> 02:00:18,730
So the commandant shouldn't
have been looking for her.

2277
02:00:18,730 --> 02:00:22,430
That was another time, you know.

2278
02:00:22,430 --> 02:00:22,930
OK.

2279
02:00:22,930 --> 02:00:24,190
That was another time.

2280
02:00:24,190 --> 02:00:26,260
I mean we were
there for 19 months.

2281
02:00:26,260 --> 02:00:27,100
There were--

2282
02:00:27,100 --> 02:00:28,060
Many times--

2283
02:00:28,060 --> 02:00:30,370
Many incidences
where the commandant

2284
02:00:30,370 --> 02:00:32,520
would appear for no reason.

2285
02:00:32,520 --> 02:00:36,910
Or they would come
to check cleanliness.

2286

02:00:36,910 --> 02:00:41,790

So they would lift up the
bed, the sheets and this.

2287

02:00:41,790 --> 02:00:47,070

And out of the blue, they
would just come and check

2288

02:00:47,070 --> 02:00:50,220

different things--

2289

02:00:50,220 --> 02:00:51,730

unannounced, of course.

2290

02:00:51,730 --> 02:00:54,230

Yeah.

2291

02:00:54,230 --> 02:00:55,790

Were there bathing facilities?

2292

02:00:55,790 --> 02:00:58,580

2293

02:00:58,580 --> 02:01:03,340

Just in tubs, you
know, in portable tubs.

2294

02:01:03,340 --> 02:01:04,400

OK.

2295

02:01:04,400 --> 02:01:07,570

And I take it they
were outhouses.

2296

02:01:07,570 --> 02:01:08,780

There was no indoor toilet.

2297

02:01:08,780 --> 02:01:09,530

There was.

2298

02:01:09,530 --> 02:01:10,340

Oh, good.

2299

02:01:10,340 --> 02:01:14,570

There was in those new houses.

2300

02:01:14,570 --> 02:01:19,650

Where we were taken in Tavda,
there were toilet facilities.

2301

02:01:19,650 --> 02:01:20,150

OK.

2302

02:01:20,150 --> 02:01:24,580

2303

02:01:24,580 --> 02:01:31,360

I remember I had
a tooth infected.

2304

02:01:31,360 --> 02:01:35,770

And my father went through
the whole settlement

2305

02:01:35,770 --> 02:01:38,570

looking for a dentist.

2306

02:01:38,570 --> 02:01:40,820

There wasn't any.

2307

02:01:40,820 --> 02:01:45,000

And this felczer came.

2308

02:01:45,000 --> 02:01:49,520

And he looked,
and he said, well,

2309

02:01:49,520 --> 02:01:53,490

I don't have any
tools to pull teeth.

2310

02:01:53,490 --> 02:01:57,770

He said, it will

take care of itself.

2311
02:01:57,770 --> 02:02:02,400
In the meantime, I remember
being in a lot of pain.

2312
02:02:02,400 --> 02:02:07,050
And some months before
my mother found a kitten.

2313
02:02:07,050 --> 02:02:12,970
It was a red, kind
of reddish fur tabby.

2314
02:02:12,970 --> 02:02:18,940
And when I had pain, the cat
would lay across my neck.

2315
02:02:18,940 --> 02:02:21,040
And it kept me warm.

2316
02:02:21,040 --> 02:02:24,370
And I loved that cat so much.

2317
02:02:24,370 --> 02:02:26,890
And when it was time
for us to leave,

2318
02:02:26,890 --> 02:02:30,640
I remember my mother went
from neighbor to neighbor

2319
02:02:30,640 --> 02:02:33,810
asking them if they
would have the cat.

2320
02:02:33,810 --> 02:02:37,120
And at least she told me
that she'd found somebody.

2321
02:02:37,120 --> 02:02:39,290
What was the cat's name?

2322

02:02:39,290 --> 02:02:40,760

I didn't name it.

2323

02:02:40,760 --> 02:02:43,146

It was just cat.

2324

02:02:43,146 --> 02:02:47,920

You know, we were not
used to this like now,

2325

02:02:47,920 --> 02:02:50,740

kids name everything, you know.

2326

02:02:50,740 --> 02:02:51,525

It was just cat.

2327

02:02:51,525 --> 02:02:55,510

It was just cat, but I loved it.

2328

02:02:55,510 --> 02:02:56,320

Of course.

2329

02:02:56,320 --> 02:02:57,550

Of course.

2330

02:02:57,550 --> 02:03:01,330

And so eventually the day came--

2331

02:03:01,330 --> 02:03:04,180

We'll come-- excuse me
that I'm interrupting.

2332

02:03:04,180 --> 02:03:05,820

I want to stop right now.

2333

02:03:05,820 --> 02:03:06,320

Can we--

2334

02:03:06,320 --> 02:03:09,380

2335

02:03:09,380 --> 02:03:14,710

So before the break, we were
talking about the Siberian

2336

02:03:14,710 --> 02:03:19,450

experience in Tavda, the
commandant, the 19 months,

2337

02:03:19,450 --> 02:03:23,320

the cold, the hunger.

2338

02:03:23,320 --> 02:03:26,050

One last question
before we move on--

2339

02:03:26,050 --> 02:03:27,900

did many people die
in this settlement?

2340

02:03:27,900 --> 02:03:28,970

Many, many.

2341

02:03:28,970 --> 02:03:32,200

Many, many people
died in Siberia.

2342

02:03:32,200 --> 02:03:34,920

Many of them froze
to death, literally.

2343

02:03:34,920 --> 02:03:38,710

If they didn't have the
right clothing and walking

2344

02:03:38,710 --> 02:03:43,120

8 kilometers to work,
they never made it back.

2345

02:03:43,120 --> 02:03:43,840

They just froze.

2346

02:03:43,840 --> 02:03:47,100

2347
02:03:47,100 --> 02:03:48,990
People were malnourished.

2348
02:03:48,990 --> 02:03:53,520
They died of all
kinds of diseases--

2349
02:03:53,520 --> 02:04:01,570
hunger, just many
reasons many people died.

2350
02:04:01,570 --> 02:04:03,520
Many, many.

2351
02:04:03,520 --> 02:04:09,270
And those of us who
were there and were

2352
02:04:09,270 --> 02:04:14,800
able to stay within
the family framework

2353
02:04:14,800 --> 02:04:19,500
was easier to survive,
because parents always cared

2354
02:04:19,500 --> 02:04:22,110
for their children and
saw the children should

2355
02:04:22,110 --> 02:04:26,500
have a better bite of
whatever they could get.

2356
02:04:26,500 --> 02:04:29,910
And I know this was
true in our family.

2357
02:04:29,910 --> 02:04:34,560
And this is how one
supported the other.

2358
02:04:34,560 --> 02:04:37,560
And within the family
framework was easier

2359
02:04:37,560 --> 02:04:43,072
to survive than people whose
families were torn apart,

2360
02:04:43,072 --> 02:04:45,510
who were taken from
different places,

2361
02:04:45,510 --> 02:04:47,910
ended up in different places.

2362
02:04:47,910 --> 02:04:53,340
So conditions were horrendous.

2363
02:04:53,340 --> 02:04:56,700
For people who came out
from a different climate,

2364
02:04:56,700 --> 02:04:59,220
not used to such
labor, the labor

2365
02:04:59,220 --> 02:05:04,710
was tremendous for people who
were conscripted, you can say,

2366
02:05:04,710 --> 02:05:05,340
to work.

2367
02:05:05,340 --> 02:05:07,170
There was no other way.

2368
02:05:07,170 --> 02:05:10,890
Here and there, we got
somebody out for a day or two.

2369
02:05:10,890 --> 02:05:14,400

But everybody had to work,
because if you didn't work,

2370
02:05:14,400 --> 02:05:16,950
you didn't get your
ration of bread,

2371
02:05:16,950 --> 02:05:19,180
you didn't get your food.

2372
02:05:19,180 --> 02:05:20,760
So you had to work.

2373
02:05:20,760 --> 02:05:22,890
There was no other way out.

2374
02:05:22,890 --> 02:05:23,820
What about Bluma?

2375
02:05:23,820 --> 02:05:26,295
We haven't talked about.

2376
02:05:26,295 --> 02:05:27,640
Bluma did not work.

2377
02:05:27,640 --> 02:05:31,410
She was under age while
we were in Siberia.

2378
02:05:31,410 --> 02:05:37,740
And like I told you before,
she was not a strong--

2379
02:05:37,740 --> 02:05:39,760
things upset her.

2380
02:05:39,760 --> 02:05:43,510
She was afraid of many things.

2381
02:05:43,510 --> 02:05:47,620
And later on when
we get to Bukhara,

2382
02:05:47,620 --> 02:05:53,160
I'll tell you more about her, of
all the problems that she had,

2383
02:05:53,160 --> 02:05:58,320
health problems, which turned
into emotional problems.

2384
02:05:58,320 --> 02:06:04,350
And she was very close
to me because she

2385
02:06:04,350 --> 02:06:07,330
was like in the middle.

2386
02:06:07,330 --> 02:06:12,630
But she was of a different
nature than my older sister.

2387
02:06:12,630 --> 02:06:16,710
Well, you know, not
everybody has the stamina

2388
02:06:16,710 --> 02:06:18,800
to withstand these
kinds of assaults.

2389
02:06:18,800 --> 02:06:19,920
Exactly.

2390
02:06:19,920 --> 02:06:21,060
Exactly.

2391
02:06:21,060 --> 02:06:24,240
One other point
before we move on,

2392
02:06:24,240 --> 02:06:29,550
you mentioned earlier
that this experience

2393

02:06:29,550 --> 02:06:31,050
robbed people of their dignity.

2394
02:06:31,050 --> 02:06:33,560

2395
02:06:33,560 --> 02:06:35,220
Can you go into
that a little bit,

2396
02:06:35,220 --> 02:06:40,580
so that someone here who
doesn't know how that happened

2397
02:06:40,580 --> 02:06:41,750
would have a better idea?

2398
02:06:41,750 --> 02:06:49,880
Well, you know, just like
under other circumstances

2399
02:06:49,880 --> 02:06:53,590
with the Germans, though
they didn't set out

2400
02:06:53,590 --> 02:07:00,910
to kill us outright, but by
disregarding all the principles

2401
02:07:00,910 --> 02:07:03,400
that are important to you--

2402
02:07:03,400 --> 02:07:08,340
when you cannot worship
freely, when you cannot observe

2403
02:07:08,340 --> 02:07:16,030
your holy day of the week,
when you can't live in dignity

2404
02:07:16,030 --> 02:07:17,650
as a human being--

2405

02:07:17,650 --> 02:07:24,070

work, of course, but not
to work like a slave,

2406

02:07:24,070 --> 02:07:27,410

not take 14-year-old
children and have

2407

02:07:27,410 --> 02:07:33,880

them work in the forest
with logging trees, that's

2408

02:07:33,880 --> 02:07:36,850

robbing you of your dignity.

2409

02:07:36,850 --> 02:07:40,110

That's robbing you of your
principles, of your beliefs,

2410

02:07:40,110 --> 02:07:42,670

of they believe in human beings.

2411

02:07:42,670 --> 02:07:47,110

2412

02:07:47,110 --> 02:07:53,580

So you hear at some point
that it's the 22nd of June

2413

02:07:53,580 --> 02:07:57,450

and that Germany has
invaded the Soviet Union.

2414

02:07:57,450 --> 02:08:00,630

How do your lives
change after that?

2415

02:08:00,630 --> 02:08:03,480

Well, I think it
changed to the fact

2416

02:08:03,480 --> 02:08:09,120

that we saw hope
of leaving Siberia,

2417
02:08:09,120 --> 02:08:13,710
because it was known right away
that now we're not the enemy.

2418
02:08:13,710 --> 02:08:17,130
Even though we were
Polish, we were no longer

2419
02:08:17,130 --> 02:08:19,270
considered the enemy.

2420
02:08:19,270 --> 02:08:22,290
They were fighting on
the side of the Poles

2421
02:08:22,290 --> 02:08:25,050
and on the side of the Allies.

2422
02:08:25,050 --> 02:08:28,830
So we knew that
the day will come

2423
02:08:28,830 --> 02:08:30,960
and we'll be able to leave.

2424
02:08:30,960 --> 02:08:32,250
It took a while.

2425
02:08:32,250 --> 02:08:36,120
We didn't leave there till
the very end of November,

2426
02:08:36,120 --> 02:08:39,870
because many circumstances.

2427
02:08:39,870 --> 02:08:43,800
Number one in the
Russia at that time,

2428

02:08:43,800 --> 02:08:48,600
and I know during the
communist was true throughout,

2429
02:08:48,600 --> 02:08:51,930
that you could not go
where you wanted to go.

2430
02:08:51,930 --> 02:08:54,750
If you wanted to change
your place of living,

2431
02:08:54,750 --> 02:08:55,960
you had to apply.

2432
02:08:55,960 --> 02:09:00,360
You had to get permission
to travel to that place.

2433
02:09:00,360 --> 02:09:03,090
And the same thing
happened here.

2434
02:09:03,090 --> 02:09:05,520
Yes, they joined in June.

2435
02:09:05,520 --> 02:09:11,130
But until the wheels turned
and we got permission to leave

2436
02:09:11,130 --> 02:09:13,930
was almost the end of November.

2437
02:09:13,930 --> 02:09:18,900
And finally, we weren't
allowed to leave.

2438
02:09:18,900 --> 02:09:19,560
So there were--

2439
02:09:19,560 --> 02:09:20,935
How did you find
out-- excuse me,

2440
02:09:20,935 --> 02:09:22,730
how did you find out
that you could go?

2441
02:09:22,730 --> 02:09:25,240

2442
02:09:25,240 --> 02:09:28,180
Well, again, going
back to my age,

2443
02:09:28,180 --> 02:09:30,160
I don't know that I found out.

2444
02:09:30,160 --> 02:09:33,130
My parents were
talking about it.

2445
02:09:33,130 --> 02:09:35,470
People were speaking about it.

2446
02:09:35,470 --> 02:09:41,440
So I learned of the fact that
we will be leaving some day,

2447
02:09:41,440 --> 02:09:43,330
because there were
people in Siberia

2448
02:09:43,330 --> 02:09:46,060
who were there 20 and 30 years.

2449
02:09:46,060 --> 02:09:49,600
And a lot of them had
no hope of ever leaving.

2450
02:09:49,600 --> 02:09:55,240
Well, we knew we would
get out at some point.

2451
02:09:55,240 --> 02:10:01,030

So I guess you had to
apply for permission where

2452
02:10:01,030 --> 02:10:03,310
you wanted to go.

2453
02:10:03,310 --> 02:10:12,050
And I want to interject
here, simply so

2454
02:10:12,050 --> 02:10:15,140
that if somebody hears
this in the future,

2455
02:10:15,140 --> 02:10:18,740
there'd be a connection
as to how it happens.

2456
02:10:18,740 --> 02:10:24,050
My understanding was that the
Poles came to an agreement.

2457
02:10:24,050 --> 02:10:26,060
The government in
exile in London

2458
02:10:26,060 --> 02:10:30,260
came to agreement with Stalin
to let the Polish citizens go.

2459
02:10:30,260 --> 02:10:31,090
That's true.

2460
02:10:31,090 --> 02:10:31,920
That's true.

2461
02:10:31,920 --> 02:10:37,190
So that they could help
form fighting forces

2462
02:10:37,190 --> 02:10:38,540
against the Germans.

2463

02:10:38,540 --> 02:10:39,360

That's true.

2464

02:10:39,360 --> 02:10:41,060

So that if you were
in a settlement

2465

02:10:41,060 --> 02:10:44,870

and you were not a Polish
citizen, but had been deported,

2466

02:10:44,870 --> 02:10:46,300

you didn't get to go.

2467

02:10:46,300 --> 02:10:46,880

Yeah.

2468

02:10:46,880 --> 02:10:48,290

You had to be Polish.

2469

02:10:48,290 --> 02:10:49,130

Yes.

2470

02:10:49,130 --> 02:10:49,850

OK.

2471

02:10:49,850 --> 02:10:52,790

Yes, this applied only
to the Polish refugees,

2472

02:10:52,790 --> 02:10:58,010

not to the Russians who happened
to be there exiled from Moscow

2473

02:10:58,010 --> 02:11:00,835

or Leningrad or anywhere else.

2474

02:11:00,835 --> 02:11:01,460

[PHONE RINGING]

2475

02:11:01,460 --> 02:11:01,960

Let's--

2476

02:11:01,960 --> 02:11:04,860

2477

02:11:04,860 --> 02:11:08,650

So I mean the first deportations
from the Baltic states

2478

02:11:08,650 --> 02:11:14,170

was in June 1941, a week
before the Germans attacked.

2479

02:11:14,170 --> 02:11:17,710

So those people
would have been sent,

2480

02:11:17,710 --> 02:11:20,260

and they would never
have been released,

2481

02:11:20,260 --> 02:11:21,730

because they were not citizens.

2482

02:11:21,730 --> 02:11:23,080

Right, they were not Polish.

2483

02:11:23,080 --> 02:11:24,670

Yeah, I knew that.

2484

02:11:24,670 --> 02:11:26,830

I'm sorry I forgot
to mention it.

2485

02:11:26,830 --> 02:11:29,480

2486

02:11:29,480 --> 02:11:36,010

But I know from my
family, my youngest uncle,

2487

02:11:36,010 --> 02:11:41,260

my father's youngest
brother, Moschel,

2488
02:11:41,260 --> 02:11:46,190
he was caught in
the war in Lwow.

2489
02:11:46,190 --> 02:11:47,260
Ah, he was there.

2490
02:11:47,260 --> 02:11:52,630
Because he was there
at a yeshiva studying.

2491
02:11:52,630 --> 02:11:53,920
He was the youngest.

2492
02:11:53,920 --> 02:11:55,900
And he was studying there.

2493
02:11:55,900 --> 02:11:59,170
So he was not with us.

2494
02:11:59,170 --> 02:12:04,510
But we knew that he had
maybe a chance of survival

2495
02:12:04,510 --> 02:12:08,710
because he wasn't in our area.

2496
02:12:08,710 --> 02:12:14,320
So toward the end of
the war, my grandparents

2497
02:12:14,320 --> 02:12:17,080
wrote a letter to the Red Cross.

2498
02:12:17,080 --> 02:12:22,000
And they wanted to find out the
whereabouts of this youngest

2499
02:12:22,000 --> 02:12:23,620

son.

2500
02:12:23,620 --> 02:12:27,700
And we actually received a
letter from the Red Cross,

2501
02:12:27,700 --> 02:12:30,730
and then shortly
thereafter a letter

2502
02:12:30,730 --> 02:12:36,170
from him, that he
survived in a bunker.

2503
02:12:36,170 --> 02:12:40,730
And he learned what
happened to his brothers

2504
02:12:40,730 --> 02:12:43,520
and to everybody else in Poland.

2505
02:12:43,520 --> 02:12:47,600
And therefore, he's
enlisting in the Polish army

2506
02:12:47,600 --> 02:12:51,500
to go revenge his brothers.

2507
02:12:51,500 --> 02:12:54,690
Was this the Anders' Army that
he was going to enlist in?

2508
02:12:54,690 --> 02:12:57,380
No, the Anders'
Army was in Russia.

2509
02:12:57,380 --> 02:12:59,770
I know about that.

2510
02:12:59,770 --> 02:13:06,290
No, this was-- the Anders' Army
was going in the Middle East,

2511
02:13:06,290 --> 02:13:09,410
to the Middle East.

2512
02:13:09,410 --> 02:13:11,630
This was the Polish army.

2513
02:13:11,630 --> 02:13:14,720
And this was the last
we heard from him.

2514
02:13:14,720 --> 02:13:17,900
This was the one
and only letter.

2515
02:13:17,900 --> 02:13:22,310
And presumably, because we
searched all over for him

2516
02:13:22,310 --> 02:13:28,240
after the war, he must've
gotten killed in some battle.

2517
02:13:28,240 --> 02:13:29,390
OK.

2518
02:13:29,390 --> 02:13:36,300
So this was the fifth
son of my grandparents.

2519
02:13:36,300 --> 02:13:39,136
I can't imagine what
they must have felt.

2520
02:13:39,136 --> 02:13:43,720
Well, after learning, my
grandmother particularly,

2521
02:13:43,720 --> 02:13:48,320
after learning that
she lost the five sons,

2522
02:13:48,320 --> 02:13:51,620

she just couldn't go on living.

2523

02:13:51,620 --> 02:13:54,270

And she died within
a year afterwards.

2524

02:13:54,270 --> 02:13:58,370

She died in 1947.

2525

02:13:58,370 --> 02:14:00,250

Yeah.

2526

02:14:00,250 --> 02:14:02,890

She was only 61 years old.

2527

02:14:02,890 --> 02:14:06,900

Oh, my goodness.

2528

02:14:06,900 --> 02:14:09,570

So you're here in Tavda.

2529

02:14:09,570 --> 02:14:13,110

And you finally learn
that you can leave.

2530

02:14:13,110 --> 02:14:15,510

But then the question
is, where to go to?

2531

02:14:15,510 --> 02:14:21,630

OK, so my father had the
answer, because his aim was not

2532

02:14:21,630 --> 02:14:26,440

to go back to Poland,
but to go to Palestine.

2533

02:14:26,440 --> 02:14:34,290

So he applied to the furthest
point south, where his hope was

2534

02:14:34,290 --> 02:14:39,010

that through Iran or
through Afghanistan,

2535
02:14:39,010 --> 02:14:43,890
which Iran borders
the Black Sea,

2536
02:14:43,890 --> 02:14:49,660
that he will be able somehow
make his way to Palestine.

2537
02:14:49,660 --> 02:14:52,870
So he applied to go to Bukhara.

2538
02:14:52,870 --> 02:14:53,890
Bukhara.

2539
02:14:53,890 --> 02:14:56,020
And Bukhara is in
what Soviet Republic?

2540
02:14:56,020 --> 02:14:57,250
Uzbekistan.

2541
02:14:57,250 --> 02:14:59,530
Is in Uzbekistan.

2542
02:14:59,530 --> 02:15:04,000
So we got permission
to go to Bukhara.

2543
02:15:04,000 --> 02:15:08,230
And as I said, it
wasn't till November.

2544
02:15:08,230 --> 02:15:10,900
There were no trains.

2545
02:15:10,900 --> 02:15:14,350
The service was very poor.

2546
02:15:14,350 --> 02:15:15,850

The war was going down.

2547

02:15:15,850 --> 02:15:19,570

Half of Russia was
under German rule.

2548

02:15:19,570 --> 02:15:28,560

So travel was very difficult.
And some point in November,

2549

02:15:28,560 --> 02:15:35,850

we made our way to Sverdlovsk,
which was a main hub of trains.

2550

02:15:35,850 --> 02:15:37,050

And was this in Kazakhstan?

2551

02:15:37,050 --> 02:15:37,550

No.

2552

02:15:37,550 --> 02:15:38,480

Or is this in Russia?

2553

02:15:38,480 --> 02:15:40,270

Sverdlovsk is in Ural.

2554

02:15:40,270 --> 02:15:41,700

OK.

2555

02:15:41,700 --> 02:15:46,470

And there were
hundreds and hundreds

2556

02:15:46,470 --> 02:15:53,730

of people in the waiting
hall of the train station.

2557

02:15:53,730 --> 02:15:57,600

Some were there for
weeks waiting for a train

2558

02:15:57,600 --> 02:16:02,810

to connect to go wherever
they asked permission to go.

2559
02:16:02,810 --> 02:16:07,020
And so Tavda was about
how far from Sverdlovsk?

2560
02:16:07,020 --> 02:16:09,810
I don't remember
exactly the distance,

2561
02:16:09,810 --> 02:16:11,820
but it was not terribly far.

2562
02:16:11,820 --> 02:16:14,070
I think we got there in one day.

2563
02:16:14,070 --> 02:16:15,570
And by horse and buggy?

2564
02:16:15,570 --> 02:16:16,180
By sleigh?

2565
02:16:16,180 --> 02:16:16,680
No, no.

2566
02:16:16,680 --> 02:16:17,180
By train.

2567
02:16:17,180 --> 02:16:18,440
By another train.

2568
02:16:18,440 --> 02:16:19,320
OK.

2569
02:16:19,320 --> 02:16:23,640
How we got to the train,
I don't exactly remember.

2570
02:16:23,640 --> 02:16:30,450
But we came by train, but we
had to go off in Sverdlovsk

2571
02:16:30,450 --> 02:16:33,930
and wait till there was a
train that would take us

2572
02:16:33,930 --> 02:16:36,610
in that direction.

2573
02:16:36,610 --> 02:16:39,190
Because different
people were assigned

2574
02:16:39,190 --> 02:16:44,330
from different settlements,
some were assigned where to go,

2575
02:16:44,330 --> 02:16:47,100
not just where they
request requested.

2576
02:16:47,100 --> 02:16:53,770
So I know that my grandparents
Leibowicz ended up

2577
02:16:53,770 --> 02:16:59,250
in Kazakhstan near
the city of Alma-Ata.

2578
02:16:59,250 --> 02:17:01,959
They've since changed
the name of Alma.

2579
02:17:01,959 --> 02:17:04,809
I'm not quite sure
what it's called today.

2580
02:17:04,809 --> 02:17:07,480
And they ended up in a kolkhoz.

2581
02:17:07,480 --> 02:17:15,582
A kolkhoz is a settlement where
everything is a collective.

2582

02:17:15,582 --> 02:17:16,540

It's a collective farm.

2583

02:17:16,540 --> 02:17:17,980

A collective farm.

2584

02:17:17,980 --> 02:17:21,790

So they ended up there.

2585

02:17:21,790 --> 02:17:25,690

But the very interesting
incident I want to tell you,

2586

02:17:25,690 --> 02:17:28,540

when we were in Sverdlovsk,
and like I said,

2587

02:17:28,540 --> 02:17:31,290

there were so many people there.

2588

02:17:31,290 --> 02:17:37,750

And there was barely room to
find a corner and sit down.

2589

02:17:37,750 --> 02:17:41,590

My father was walking around
and talking, you know,

2590

02:17:41,590 --> 02:17:44,219

and recognizing another Jew.

2591

02:17:44,219 --> 02:17:45,209

Where are you from?

2592

02:17:45,209 --> 02:17:46,400

Where are you going?

2593

02:17:46,400 --> 02:17:47,799

Et cetera.

2594

02:17:47,799 --> 02:17:51,250

And he got to speaking
to this one man.

2595
02:17:51,250 --> 02:17:55,389
And during that conversation,
the man said to him,

2596
02:17:55,389 --> 02:18:00,090
I met a most amazing man here.

2597
02:18:00,090 --> 02:18:01,450
He's knowledgeable.

2598
02:18:01,450 --> 02:18:02,459
He's wise.

2599
02:18:02,459 --> 02:18:06,820
And he's just a
special human being.

2600
02:18:06,820 --> 02:18:11,020
And I would very much like
you to come and meet them.

2601
02:18:11,020 --> 02:18:12,879
If you have to be
here some time,

2602
02:18:12,879 --> 02:18:15,160
I want you to go and meet him.

2603
02:18:15,160 --> 02:18:18,010
And he literally
took him by the hand.

2604
02:18:18,010 --> 02:18:20,680
And they walked through
other crowds and whatever.

2605
02:18:20,680 --> 02:18:22,510
And guess who that was?

2606

02:18:22,510 --> 02:18:26,420
It was my grandfather
Leibowicz.

2607
02:18:26,420 --> 02:18:32,080
And this was the last time
that we saw my grandparents,

2608
02:18:32,080 --> 02:18:37,690
unfortunately, only for one
day, because their train arrived

2609
02:18:37,690 --> 02:18:40,730
and they had to leave.

2610
02:18:40,730 --> 02:18:44,170
So that's where we got to
see them the very last time.

2611
02:18:44,170 --> 02:18:45,490
We saw my aunts.

2612
02:18:45,490 --> 02:18:47,770
We saw my grandmother.

2613
02:18:47,770 --> 02:18:51,760
And unfortunately, both my
grandmother and my grandfather

2614
02:18:51,760 --> 02:18:53,700
died in Kazakhstan.

2615
02:18:53,700 --> 02:18:59,240
Of what causes?

2616
02:18:59,240 --> 02:19:02,618
They became-- she was not a
well person as I told you.

2617
02:19:02,618 --> 02:19:03,160
That's right.

2618

02:19:03,160 --> 02:19:04,240
She was diabetic, right?

2619
02:19:04,240 --> 02:19:05,740
She was diabetic.

2620
02:19:05,740 --> 02:19:07,040
She had other--

2621
02:19:07,040 --> 02:19:08,770
I remember her having tremors.

2622
02:19:08,770 --> 02:19:11,500

2623
02:19:11,500 --> 02:19:15,969
I don't know what this
translated to, what the illness

2624
02:19:15,969 --> 02:19:16,750
she had.

2625
02:19:16,750 --> 02:19:21,219
But she was not a well
person for many years.

2626
02:19:21,219 --> 02:19:26,790
And obviously, under
harsh conditions,

2627
02:19:26,790 --> 02:19:29,590
they both died there.

2628
02:19:29,590 --> 02:19:36,620
And my aunts eventually came out
and made their way to Israel.

2629
02:19:36,620 --> 02:19:40,809
So I've got to know
those aunts very well

2630
02:19:40,809 --> 02:19:44,840

and loved them very much.

2631

02:19:44,840 --> 02:19:49,480

But at that point, this
was paths crossing--

2632

02:19:49,480 --> 02:19:51,790

Just random, just random.

2633

02:19:51,790 --> 02:19:56,830

And the thought that this other
man that my grandfather was

2634

02:19:56,830 --> 02:20:01,720

an exceptional human being and
he wanted my father to meet him

2635

02:20:01,720 --> 02:20:04,882

was a miracle, because we
would have never found him.

2636

02:20:04,882 --> 02:20:06,340

We would have never
looked for him.

2637

02:20:06,340 --> 02:20:08,770

We would have never found them.

2638

02:20:08,770 --> 02:20:12,670

So we got a chance to see
him, to see them, all of them,

2639

02:20:12,670 --> 02:20:15,220

one more time.

2640

02:20:15,220 --> 02:20:17,800

How long did you
stay in Sverdlovsk?

2641

02:20:17,800 --> 02:20:20,410

We were more fortunate.

2642

02:20:20,410 --> 02:20:23,100
Somehow it was only a few days.

2643
02:20:23,100 --> 02:20:23,810
OK.

2644
02:20:23,810 --> 02:20:27,070
But there were people
that were there for weeks.

2645
02:20:27,070 --> 02:20:30,100
And it was a few days.

2646
02:20:30,100 --> 02:20:37,600
And again, I remember my sister,
my mother went to buy food.

2647
02:20:37,600 --> 02:20:42,910
My father-- everything was
very scarce, very scarce.

2648
02:20:42,910 --> 02:20:46,600
We're talking late November,
early December 1941?

2649
02:20:46,600 --> 02:20:47,730
Correct.

2650
02:20:47,730 --> 02:20:49,150
Not early December.

2651
02:20:49,150 --> 02:20:49,870
End of November.

2652
02:20:49,870 --> 02:20:51,330
End of November.

2653
02:20:51,330 --> 02:20:53,980
Or maybe we started
early Novem--

2654
02:20:53,980 --> 02:21:00,170

we ended up leaving on the
train like mid-November.

2655
02:21:00,170 --> 02:21:02,680
Got it.

2656
02:21:02,680 --> 02:21:05,725
So we finally made
it to a train.

2657
02:21:05,725 --> 02:21:08,920

2658
02:21:08,920 --> 02:21:11,460
That journey took also weeks.

2659
02:21:11,460 --> 02:21:11,960
Weeks.

2660
02:21:11,960 --> 02:21:12,940
To Bukhara?

2661
02:21:12,940 --> 02:21:14,680
To Bukhara.

2662
02:21:14,680 --> 02:21:20,765
We actually had to get off in
Uzbekistan, but in Tashkent.

2663
02:21:20,765 --> 02:21:24,060

2664
02:21:24,060 --> 02:21:27,150
We went off, and for
a while they thought--

2665
02:21:27,150 --> 02:21:32,810
the parents thought--
that we would stay there.

2666
02:21:32,810 --> 02:21:42,380
From this station, we were

together with the Barth family.

2667

02:21:42,380 --> 02:21:45,380

From this station, I
remember also there

2668

02:21:45,380 --> 02:21:48,320

was no buggy or anything.

2669

02:21:48,320 --> 02:21:52,670

Everybody carried something.

2670

02:21:52,670 --> 02:21:56,900

And my aunt told
me, years later,

2671

02:21:56,900 --> 02:22:00,080

that a man came
over, a Jewish man.

2672

02:22:00,080 --> 02:22:03,800

And he said, I'll help
you carry your packages.

2673

02:22:03,800 --> 02:22:11,205

And he took like a pillow and
quilt, and he disappeared.

2674

02:22:11,205 --> 02:22:13,860

And we never saw him again.

2675

02:22:13,860 --> 02:22:19,180

So those things happened
because people were in need.

2676

02:22:19,180 --> 02:22:21,570

People were in need.

2677

02:22:21,570 --> 02:22:25,390

So we were in
Tashkent a few weeks.

2678

02:22:25,390 --> 02:22:30,220
And I remember the first
night, they had no doors.

2679
02:22:30,220 --> 02:22:31,670
They had low window--

2680
02:22:31,670 --> 02:22:34,150
Bukhara was the same thing.

2681
02:22:34,150 --> 02:22:36,240
They had very low windows.

2682
02:22:36,240 --> 02:22:39,450
And people would walk
through the windows.

2683
02:22:39,450 --> 02:22:44,610
And I knew from
stories that only thief

2684
02:22:44,610 --> 02:22:48,020
went through windows,
who walk through windows.

2685
02:22:48,020 --> 02:22:50,910
So I was very scared
when I saw somebody

2686
02:22:50,910 --> 02:22:53,220
walking through a window.

2687
02:22:53,220 --> 02:22:58,740
Also, the room that we got,
the wall adjoined a bakery--

2688
02:22:58,740 --> 02:23:00,180
That's not a bad place to be.

2689
02:23:00,180 --> 02:23:01,860
No, not a bad place.

2690

02:23:01,860 --> 02:23:04,170
But it shook.

2691
02:23:04,170 --> 02:23:06,360
He was running machines.

2692
02:23:06,360 --> 02:23:08,220
And the wall would shake.

2693
02:23:08,220 --> 02:23:10,150
I remember that.

2694
02:23:10,150 --> 02:23:15,000
And it was hard to go to sleep,
because he would work primarily

2695
02:23:15,000 --> 02:23:19,530
at night to have the baked
goods during the day.

2696
02:23:19,530 --> 02:23:25,170
So I remember Tashkent even
though we were very short time

2697
02:23:25,170 --> 02:23:26,910
there.

2698
02:23:26,910 --> 02:23:29,310
How did it look otherwise?

2699
02:23:29,310 --> 02:23:32,570
When I think of Tashkent, I
think of a very exotic place.

2700
02:23:32,570 --> 02:23:33,490
Exotic place.

2701
02:23:33,490 --> 02:23:37,670
Well, I don't think
that I was taken

2702
02:23:37,670 --> 02:23:43,800

along a nice tour of the city,
you know, so I don't remem--

2703
02:23:43,800 --> 02:23:45,940
No sightseeing--

2704
02:23:45,940 --> 02:23:48,910
So I don't remember
very much of the city.

2705
02:23:48,910 --> 02:23:51,880
I do remember
Bukhara, of course.

2706
02:23:51,880 --> 02:23:54,160
I don't remember
Tashkent very much,

2707
02:23:54,160 --> 02:23:58,510
except that building
where we had the one room

2708
02:23:58,510 --> 02:24:05,780
and that the walls were shaking
all the time, mostly at night.

2709
02:24:05,780 --> 02:24:08,700
So then we, again,
after a few weeks,

2710
02:24:08,700 --> 02:24:15,170
were able to get a
train, room on the train,

2711
02:24:15,170 --> 02:24:21,420
which was very difficult. And
we made our way to Bukhara.

2712
02:24:21,420 --> 02:24:25,890
When we got to Bukhara
was a other story,

2713
02:24:25,890 --> 02:24:29,880

because there were many
refugees who came to Bukhara.

2714
02:24:29,880 --> 02:24:32,650
We were not the only ones.

2715
02:24:32,650 --> 02:24:35,520
And you couldn't
find any lodging.

2716
02:24:35,520 --> 02:24:38,180
You couldn't find
in their rooms.

2717
02:24:38,180 --> 02:24:42,770
And eventually, we found, I
remember, a very large room.

2718
02:24:42,770 --> 02:24:44,780
And I'll tell you
about the buildings

2719
02:24:44,780 --> 02:24:50,120
there that we shared together
with my grandparents, my aunts,

2720
02:24:50,120 --> 02:24:52,750
and our family.

2721
02:24:52,750 --> 02:24:55,320
And there was a little kitchen.

2722
02:24:55,320 --> 02:25:03,760
And the buildings
primarily there

2723
02:25:03,760 --> 02:25:07,780
are constructed
within a courtyard.

2724
02:25:07,780 --> 02:25:12,990
And they're built on two
sides, one side for winter,

2725
02:25:12,990 --> 02:25:17,100
literally, where the sun
hits, because the winters are

2726
02:25:17,100 --> 02:25:18,360
very harsh.

2727
02:25:18,360 --> 02:25:21,710
It's like subtropical climate.

2728
02:25:21,710 --> 02:25:28,120
The summers are very hot, and
the winters are very cold.

2729
02:25:28,120 --> 02:25:32,120
And they had
obviously no heating.

2730
02:25:32,120 --> 02:25:38,030
So I remember for
the Bukhara people,

2731
02:25:38,030 --> 02:25:42,170
they used to have a
dog out in the floor.

2732
02:25:42,170 --> 02:25:47,590
The floors were either
dirt or some kind of stone.

2733
02:25:47,590 --> 02:25:54,030
There was a dugout where
they would put coals and heat

2734
02:25:54,030 --> 02:25:59,320
the coals and have like a little
table over it with a quilt.

2735
02:25:59,320 --> 02:26:02,230
And you would stick
your feet under--

2736

02:26:02,230 --> 02:26:03,070

The quilt--

2737

02:26:03,070 --> 02:26:06,040

Under the quilt, close
to the coals, and that's

2738

02:26:06,040 --> 02:26:08,290

how you would warm yourself.

2739

02:26:08,290 --> 02:26:09,820

Oh, my gosh.

2740

02:26:09,820 --> 02:26:10,320

Yeah.

2741

02:26:10,320 --> 02:26:10,880

Oh, my gosh.

2742

02:26:10,880 --> 02:26:12,700

So what happened to your back?

2743

02:26:12,700 --> 02:26:15,220

Your feet are warm,
but your back is cold.

2744

02:26:15,220 --> 02:26:18,210

You cover yourself
the best you can.

2745

02:26:18,210 --> 02:26:20,960

But this was not the
biggest problem in Bukhara.

2746

02:26:20,960 --> 02:26:25,690

What happened in Bukhara
was really great hunger

2747

02:26:25,690 --> 02:26:29,680

and terrible diseases,
because Bukhara did not

2748

02:26:29,680 --> 02:26:34,550

have clear water at
that time, clean water.

2749

02:26:34,550 --> 02:26:42,590

And people would drink
polluted water and get typhoid.

2750

02:26:42,590 --> 02:26:44,180

All of us had typhoid.

2751

02:26:44,180 --> 02:26:45,035

I had typhoid.

2752

02:26:45,035 --> 02:26:48,530

2753

02:26:48,530 --> 02:26:49,910

We didn't have beds.

2754

02:26:49,910 --> 02:26:54,260

They laid out
planks on the floor.

2755

02:26:54,260 --> 02:26:58,460

And like all five of
us laid on the same,

2756

02:26:58,460 --> 02:27:02,460

you know, one next to the other.

2757

02:27:02,460 --> 02:27:07,400

And on the other side
were my grandparents.

2758

02:27:07,400 --> 02:27:17,360

And my sister and I were the
first, I think, to get typhoid.

2759

02:27:17,360 --> 02:27:19,210

But this was later.

2760

02:27:19,210 --> 02:27:20,930

This was after we
lost my father.

2761

02:27:20,930 --> 02:27:23,570

2762

02:27:23,570 --> 02:27:25,070

What happened?

2763

02:27:25,070 --> 02:27:30,720

Well, we were in
Bukhara only five weeks

2764

02:27:30,720 --> 02:27:33,630

when my father became very ill.

2765

02:27:33,630 --> 02:27:40,200

He got very strong abdominal
pains on a Saturday afternoon.

2766

02:27:40,200 --> 02:27:45,640

And by evening, he was
in excruciating pain.

2767

02:27:45,640 --> 02:27:48,760

And all three of us
and my aunts, we all

2768

02:27:48,760 --> 02:27:50,950

ran in the neighborhood.

2769

02:27:50,950 --> 02:27:55,450

And when I told you it's
built in a courtyard style,

2770

02:27:55,450 --> 02:27:58,900

they all have doors
that they lock at night.

2771

02:27:58,900 --> 02:28:04,840

So we started knocking at those

doors of neighbors in the area

2772

02:28:04,840 --> 02:28:07,470
and asking for a doctor.

2773

02:28:07,470 --> 02:28:12,210
And, you know, the Bukhara
people, including Jews--

2774

02:28:12,210 --> 02:28:16,790
there were many Jews
from Bukhara, natives--

2775

02:28:16,790 --> 02:28:22,110
that were very suspicious
of us, the Ashkenazi Jews.

2776

02:28:22,110 --> 02:28:24,540
They weren't familiar with us.

2777

02:28:24,540 --> 02:28:27,520
We didn't speak
the same language.

2778

02:28:27,520 --> 02:28:34,500
They spoke Bukharan, which
is Uzbek's language, which

2779

02:28:34,500 --> 02:28:37,680
is a separate language.

2780

02:28:37,680 --> 02:28:39,720
A lot of them didn't
even know a Russian.

2781

02:28:39,720 --> 02:28:42,370
They spoke their own language.

2782

02:28:42,370 --> 02:28:45,400
We, of course, came
from Eastern Europe.

2783

02:28:45,400 --> 02:28:47,110
We spoke different languages.

2784
02:28:47,110 --> 02:28:49,255
By that time, we
knew some Russian.

2785
02:28:49,255 --> 02:28:52,640

2786
02:28:52,640 --> 02:28:54,260
They were very
suspicious, and they

2787
02:28:54,260 --> 02:28:56,600
were afraid to open the doors.

2788
02:28:56,600 --> 02:28:59,540
And it wasn't till
late, late at night

2789
02:28:59,540 --> 02:29:02,210
that we found somebody
who said he was a doctor.

2790
02:29:02,210 --> 02:29:04,760
He came and examined my father.

2791
02:29:04,760 --> 02:29:07,800
And he really didn't know
what was wrong with me.

2792
02:29:07,800 --> 02:29:08,775
He had no X-ray.

2793
02:29:08,775 --> 02:29:11,390

2794
02:29:11,390 --> 02:29:16,010
But he did arrange
Sunday morning

2795

02:29:16,010 --> 02:29:18,380
to take my father to a hospital.

2796
02:29:18,380 --> 02:29:21,560

2797
02:29:21,560 --> 02:29:27,620
So I remember that
morning very well.

2798
02:29:27,620 --> 02:29:32,150
This is one place where I always
have trouble talking about it.

2799
02:29:32,150 --> 02:29:35,350

2800
02:29:35,350 --> 02:29:41,220
Before they came to take my
father, he wanted to pray.

2801
02:29:41,220 --> 02:29:47,060
So he put the tallit
on, the prayer shawl,

2802
02:29:47,060 --> 02:29:51,710
and his tefillin, which
orthodox Jews put on their heads

2803
02:29:51,710 --> 02:29:54,450
and on their arms.

2804
02:29:54,450 --> 02:29:57,250
And I was standing
like on this side

2805
02:29:57,250 --> 02:30:01,650
and watching, just
looking at him.

2806
02:30:01,650 --> 02:30:02,830
And he called me over.

2807

02:30:02,830 --> 02:30:06,340

2808

02:30:06,340 --> 02:30:13,020

And he took me in his prayer
shawl, wrapped me with it

2809

02:30:13,020 --> 02:30:16,540

and hugged me.

2810

02:30:16,540 --> 02:30:18,880

And he kissed me
on the forehead.

2811

02:30:18,880 --> 02:30:24,465

And he said, don't
worry, I'll be OK.

2812

02:30:24,465 --> 02:30:30,930

And this is the last time I
saw my father was that morning.

2813

02:30:30,930 --> 02:30:40,670

2814

02:30:40,670 --> 02:30:43,070

They took him to the hospital.

2815

02:30:43,070 --> 02:30:50,890

And they decided that he had
an obstruction in his bowels.

2816

02:30:50,890 --> 02:30:57,850

You see, even in Bukhara
he denied himself.

2817

02:30:57,850 --> 02:31:01,140

He fasted days.

2818

02:31:01,140 --> 02:31:06,240

And it totally ran
down his system.

2819
02:31:06,240 --> 02:31:12,680
And when he ate, I guess, he
didn't digest it, or whatever.

2820
02:31:12,680 --> 02:31:13,830
I'm not a doctor.

2821
02:31:13,830 --> 02:31:17,700
I can't explain what caused it.

2822
02:31:17,700 --> 02:31:24,990
But that was the result.
And they decided to operate.

2823
02:31:24,990 --> 02:31:27,485
So the doctor was
going to operate.

2824
02:31:27,485 --> 02:31:33,800
He told my mother that she needs
to pay him x amount of rubles.

2825
02:31:33,800 --> 02:31:36,610

2826
02:31:36,610 --> 02:31:41,230
So my mother took her purse,
and she spilled it out all

2827
02:31:41,230 --> 02:31:43,830
on his desk.

2828
02:31:43,830 --> 02:31:45,890
And she said, this
is what I have,

2829
02:31:45,890 --> 02:31:48,700
this is what I can give you.

2830
02:31:48,700 --> 02:31:52,590
She said, but I

have three children.

2831
02:31:52,590 --> 02:31:56,740
And tomorrow I won't
be able to feed them.

2832
02:31:56,740 --> 02:32:01,010
So he took enough money.

2833
02:32:01,010 --> 02:32:03,660
He gave her back enough
to buy one bread.

2834
02:32:03,660 --> 02:32:06,810

2835
02:32:06,810 --> 02:32:11,140
And this is what
we were left with.

2836
02:32:11,140 --> 02:32:15,350
Monday, they operated
on my father.

2837
02:32:15,350 --> 02:32:18,890
And a half hour, they
came out to tell us

2838
02:32:18,890 --> 02:32:19,895
that he didn't survive.

2839
02:32:19,895 --> 02:32:22,590

2840
02:32:22,590 --> 02:32:26,290
And we don't know if they
actually did the operation

2841
02:32:26,290 --> 02:32:30,380
or didn't do the operation
or what caused his death.

2842

02:32:30,380 --> 02:32:32,290
He was 38 years old.

2843
02:32:32,290 --> 02:32:34,910

2844
02:32:34,910 --> 02:32:38,820
And when I saw my
mother coming back

2845
02:32:38,820 --> 02:32:45,750
from the hospital with
my sister, I knew,

2846
02:32:45,750 --> 02:32:50,070
I knew that we had lost him.

2847
02:32:50,070 --> 02:33:08,250
And-- my mother had
to take care of us.

2848
02:33:08,250 --> 02:33:11,220
Your father, was he
able to be buried?

2849
02:33:11,220 --> 02:33:11,880
To?

2850
02:33:11,880 --> 02:33:13,530
Was your father buried?

2851
02:33:13,530 --> 02:33:14,790
Oh, yes.

2852
02:33:14,790 --> 02:33:16,500
My father was buried.

2853
02:33:16,500 --> 02:33:19,140
Bukhara had a Jewish cemetery.

2854
02:33:19,140 --> 02:33:23,310
And after some months,

you know, after a year,

2855

02:33:23,310 --> 02:33:24,660

we put a stone up.

2856

02:33:24,660 --> 02:33:26,850

And I have pictures of that.

2857

02:33:26,850 --> 02:33:31,410

2858

02:33:31,410 --> 02:33:38,220

Unfortunately, I never
went back to visit there.

2859

02:33:38,220 --> 02:33:42,720

During the communists, we
were afraid to go back,

2860

02:33:42,720 --> 02:33:45,090

because we were there.

2861

02:33:45,090 --> 02:33:49,390

And I was actually
in the young--

2862

02:33:49,390 --> 02:33:50,730

Communist Youth.

2863

02:33:50,730 --> 02:33:52,920

They made everybody in school--

2864

02:33:52,920 --> 02:33:54,840

You were a Pioneer?

2865

02:33:54,840 --> 02:33:59,400

To be in the Komsomol, which
is the Communist Youth.

2866

02:33:59,400 --> 02:34:04,350

They made us wear the red
kerchiefs with the insignia

2867
02:34:04,350 --> 02:34:06,360
and everything.

2868
02:34:06,360 --> 02:34:08,950
And people always
advised, me don't go back,

2869
02:34:08,950 --> 02:34:14,250
don't go back, you may be in
trouble because you lived there

2870
02:34:14,250 --> 02:34:17,080
for so many years.

2871
02:34:17,080 --> 02:34:18,040
So I didn't.

2872
02:34:18,040 --> 02:34:21,370
And once communism
broke, my sister

2873
02:34:21,370 --> 02:34:23,140
wasn't well enough to go.

2874
02:34:23,140 --> 02:34:27,770
And it's one of those things
I just never made it back.

2875
02:34:27,770 --> 02:34:30,050
Do you know the date
of your father's death?

2876
02:34:30,050 --> 02:34:32,330
Oh, sure-- what was it?

2877
02:34:32,330 --> 02:34:37,940
He died-- I know
the Jewish date.

2878
02:34:37,940 --> 02:34:43,670
I think it was the

21st of December.

2879
02:34:43,670 --> 02:34:52,540
And Tet Tevet is what
I observe every year,

2880
02:34:52,540 --> 02:34:56,570
the anniversary of his death--

2881
02:34:56,570 --> 02:35:00,590
the ninth day of
the month of Tevet,

2882
02:35:00,590 --> 02:35:03,950
because we observe
the Jewish date.

2883
02:35:03,950 --> 02:35:06,930

2884
02:35:06,930 --> 02:35:08,550
So--

2885
02:35:08,550 --> 02:35:11,320
I can't imagine what it was
like for your family then.

2886
02:35:11,320 --> 02:35:11,820
Yeah.

2887
02:35:11,820 --> 02:35:14,510

2888
02:35:14,510 --> 02:35:18,770
So we were left with
nothing, literally.

2889
02:35:18,770 --> 02:35:24,260
We started looking in my
father's jacket pockets

2890
02:35:24,260 --> 02:35:27,980

to see if he had something.

2891

02:35:27,980 --> 02:35:30,170

And my mother found a treasure.

2892

02:35:30,170 --> 02:35:33,380

I told you he was a smoker.

2893

02:35:33,380 --> 02:35:40,040

And he used to use a lighter
that used little stones,

2894

02:35:40,040 --> 02:35:43,160

you know little--

2895

02:35:43,160 --> 02:35:44,420

A flint.

2896

02:35:44,420 --> 02:35:46,850

A flint.

2897

02:35:46,850 --> 02:35:51,740

And he had a few hundred
of them in his pockets,

2898

02:35:51,740 --> 02:35:53,210

between different pockets.

2899

02:35:53,210 --> 02:35:56,360

2900

02:35:56,360 --> 02:36:02,370

So, you know, nothing was
available at that time.

2901

02:36:02,370 --> 02:36:04,780

So we started selling that.

2902

02:36:04,780 --> 02:36:07,790

And that was the
first money that we

2903

02:36:07,790 --> 02:36:09,735
had after we lost my father.

2904

02:36:09,735 --> 02:36:12,330

2905

02:36:12,330 --> 02:36:20,180
Of course, we had a minyan,
a group of men, Jewish men.

2906

02:36:20,180 --> 02:36:26,510
And we held services twice
a day in our apartment.

2907

02:36:26,510 --> 02:36:28,940
And I remember
very clearly there

2908

02:36:28,940 --> 02:36:31,590
were people who would
come in the morning

2909

02:36:31,590 --> 02:36:34,940
and would be dead at night.

2910

02:36:34,940 --> 02:36:41,580
They were so weak or so ill that
they would come in the morning,

2911

02:36:41,580 --> 02:36:45,210
and then we heard he
dropped, literally dropped,

2912

02:36:45,210 --> 02:36:47,010
in the street.

2913

02:36:47,010 --> 02:36:49,500
And there were many
cases like that.

2914

02:36:49,500 --> 02:36:52,620

2915
02:36:52,620 --> 02:36:55,560
But slowly my mother
started to think

2916
02:36:55,560 --> 02:37:02,760
of things she could do
to exist, to survive.

2917
02:37:02,760 --> 02:37:08,450
So kosher slaughtering
was forbidden,

2918
02:37:08,450 --> 02:37:09,915
particularly of cows.

2919
02:37:09,915 --> 02:37:12,750

2920
02:37:12,750 --> 02:37:18,240
But people try and do it anyway.

2921
02:37:18,240 --> 02:37:21,750
So they would slaughter a cow.

2922
02:37:21,750 --> 02:37:23,910
There was a shochet,
as I explained

2923
02:37:23,910 --> 02:37:27,660
before, somebody
who was qualified

2924
02:37:27,660 --> 02:37:33,260
would do it late at
night, someplace hidden.

2925
02:37:33,260 --> 02:37:39,230
And my mother would go and buy
the cheapest parts available.

2926
02:37:39,230 --> 02:37:42,640

I remember she would buy--

2927

02:37:42,640 --> 02:37:43,190

The snout?

2928

02:37:43,190 --> 02:37:45,680

The face of the cow.

2929

02:37:45,680 --> 02:37:48,070

And we would sit
for hours and try

2930

02:37:48,070 --> 02:37:52,630

to clean the hair out of it.

2931

02:37:52,630 --> 02:37:55,510

She would pour
boiling water on it.

2932

02:37:55,510 --> 02:37:58,553

And you literally
had to pinch it--

2933

02:37:58,553 --> 02:37:59,470

Pinch the hair of it--

2934

02:37:59,470 --> 02:38:02,260

With tweezers to
take the hair out.

2935

02:38:02,260 --> 02:38:03,880

And then she would chop it up.

2936

02:38:03,880 --> 02:38:06,910

And she would make a
stew or cook a soup.

2937

02:38:06,910 --> 02:38:10,880

Or she would buy bones.

2938

02:38:10,880 --> 02:38:16,400

And slowly some single people

who wanted to keep kosher

2939

02:38:16,400 --> 02:38:20,030
found out, and they
would come at night.

2940

02:38:20,030 --> 02:38:22,090
And my mother would
have some food.

2941

02:38:22,090 --> 02:38:25,640
And they would leave
whatever kopeks, whatever

2942

02:38:25,640 --> 02:38:29,150
pennies they had for that meal.

2943

02:38:29,150 --> 02:38:32,480
And then what was left, we ate.

2944

02:38:32,480 --> 02:38:35,070

2945

02:38:35,070 --> 02:38:37,860
And bread was still a problem.

2946

02:38:37,860 --> 02:38:40,560
They used to sell bread.

2947

02:38:40,560 --> 02:38:44,190
And the lines were enormous.

2948

02:38:44,190 --> 02:38:48,370
Sometimes you stood 24
hours in line or longer.

2949

02:38:48,370 --> 02:38:50,480
So I remember one incident.

2950

02:38:50,480 --> 02:38:55,860
They were actually selling
little white rolls.

2951
02:38:55,860 --> 02:39:02,400
And my sister was in line,
and my aunt was in line.

2952
02:39:02,400 --> 02:39:07,020
And when it came close to
the window, they ran home

2953
02:39:07,020 --> 02:39:08,760
and they grabbed me as well.

2954
02:39:08,760 --> 02:39:12,090
I should stand in line,
because whoever stood in line

2955
02:39:12,090 --> 02:39:13,075
got a portion.

2956
02:39:13,075 --> 02:39:15,820

2957
02:39:15,820 --> 02:39:17,055
So it came my turn.

2958
02:39:17,055 --> 02:39:18,760
And the window was up there.

2959
02:39:18,760 --> 02:39:20,430
I was down here.

2960
02:39:20,430 --> 02:39:23,320
I was standing up
and trying to look.

2961
02:39:23,320 --> 02:39:25,260
And the guy looked
down at me, and he

2962
02:39:25,260 --> 02:39:27,300
said, what are you doing here?

2963

02:39:27,300 --> 02:39:30,020

I'm not selling to children.

2964

02:39:30,020 --> 02:39:33,080

So I started crying.

2965

02:39:33,080 --> 02:39:34,940

And he said, well, don't cry.

2966

02:39:34,940 --> 02:39:38,090

I'll tell you what, if
you know how to count,

2967

02:39:38,090 --> 02:39:39,980

I'll sell it to you.

2968

02:39:39,980 --> 02:39:43,100

And right there with the
line of, I don't know,

2969

02:39:43,100 --> 02:39:48,060

50, 100 people behind me,
he gave me a math test.

2970

02:39:48,060 --> 02:39:52,700

Do you know how much
is 5 and 5, or 4 and 4?

2971

02:39:52,700 --> 02:39:55,260

I don't remember
the exact numbers,

2972

02:39:55,260 --> 02:39:58,280

but I answered them all,
whatever he asked me.

2973

02:39:58,280 --> 02:39:59,380

And he sold it to me.

2974

02:39:59,380 --> 02:40:02,850

2975

02:40:02,850 --> 02:40:05,820

So you incidents like
that you remember.

2976

02:40:05,820 --> 02:40:07,890

Yes.

2977

02:40:07,890 --> 02:40:15,030

And another way that we
got bread to really live on

2978

02:40:15,030 --> 02:40:17,590

was as the people died--

2979

02:40:17,590 --> 02:40:19,990

we had ration cards--

2980

02:40:19,990 --> 02:40:22,300

their cards were available.

2981

02:40:22,300 --> 02:40:24,575

Their families would
sell the cards.

2982

02:40:24,575 --> 02:40:27,140

2983

02:40:27,140 --> 02:40:29,660

And you had extra ration papers.

2984

02:40:29,660 --> 02:40:32,430

2985

02:40:32,430 --> 02:40:38,650

So with that, my mother would
buy different-- of course,

2986

02:40:38,650 --> 02:40:39,928

everything was illegal.

2987

02:40:39,928 --> 02:40:41,470

If they would catch
you, you would go

2988
02:40:41,470 --> 02:40:45,930
to jail, no question about it.

2989
02:40:45,930 --> 02:40:51,160
Pretty soon she
met a man that used

2990
02:40:51,160 --> 02:40:55,870
to carry flour to
an institution,

2991
02:40:55,870 --> 02:40:58,870
to a Russian institution.

2992
02:40:58,870 --> 02:41:00,940
Well, he couldn't
make a living either

2993
02:41:00,940 --> 02:41:03,790
from what he was getting.

2994
02:41:03,790 --> 02:41:06,160
So he would steal.

2995
02:41:06,160 --> 02:41:09,510
He would take a sack of flour,
throw it down someplace.

2996
02:41:09,510 --> 02:41:12,430
He would tell my
mother where to wait.

2997
02:41:12,430 --> 02:41:16,180
And she'd pay them
and drag that--

2998
02:41:16,180 --> 02:41:16,750
Flour--

2999

02:41:16,750 --> 02:41:18,910
That flour home.

3000
02:41:18,910 --> 02:41:24,070
And then she would bake
or resell the flour

3001
02:41:24,070 --> 02:41:28,840
or do different things, where
one time she was caught.

3002
02:41:28,840 --> 02:41:32,140
She was caught and she
was taken by a policeman

3003
02:41:32,140 --> 02:41:35,080
to the police station.

3004
02:41:35,080 --> 02:41:37,300
And she was sitting
there for many hours,

3005
02:41:37,300 --> 02:41:42,420
because there were other
people ahead of her.

3006
02:41:42,420 --> 02:41:44,950
And she said at one
point there were so

3007
02:41:44,950 --> 02:41:50,310
many people in front of that
sergeant that was interrogating

3008
02:41:50,310 --> 02:41:54,840
everybody that she got
up and she started slowly

3009
02:41:54,840 --> 02:41:59,510
to inch her way toward
the door, and she ran off.

3010
02:41:59,510 --> 02:42:04,090

She ran off, but she
was afraid to come home.

3011
02:42:04,090 --> 02:42:09,160
So she went actually to a
Russian woman that she had met.

3012
02:42:09,160 --> 02:42:11,560
And she stayed
there for two weeks.

3013
02:42:11,560 --> 02:42:14,530
She was afraid to come
home, that they'll

3014
02:42:14,530 --> 02:42:16,270
come looking for her.

3015
02:42:16,270 --> 02:42:16,970
Did they?

3016
02:42:16,970 --> 02:42:22,070
But-- no, because they
obviously didn't take her name,

3017
02:42:22,070 --> 02:42:25,010
or if the Sergeant,
he didn't really--

3018
02:42:25,010 --> 02:42:27,650
whatever, they never
came looking for her.

3019
02:42:27,650 --> 02:42:30,680
Eventually, she came home.

3020
02:42:30,680 --> 02:42:33,330
But one time, they caught her.

3021
02:42:33,330 --> 02:42:35,620
She couldn't run off.

3022

02:42:35,620 --> 02:42:39,130
So they held her overnight.

3023
02:42:39,130 --> 02:42:46,530
And my grandfather still
had a watch of some kind.

3024
02:42:46,530 --> 02:42:49,070
So my sister went--

3025
02:42:49,070 --> 02:42:54,050
she had the guts to do it,
my oldest sister Hannah.

3026
02:42:54,050 --> 02:42:59,240
She and my aunt
together went to--

3027
02:42:59,240 --> 02:43:02,390
I don't know what his rank
was, a captain or something,

3028
02:43:02,390 --> 02:43:08,180
but somebody above
the policeman--

3029
02:43:08,180 --> 02:43:12,980
she came to him, and she
started pleading for her mother.

3030
02:43:12,980 --> 02:43:17,120
And he just had no sympathy.

3031
02:43:17,120 --> 02:43:22,350
So she took out the
watch, kind of quietly.

3032
02:43:22,350 --> 02:43:29,590
And he got so mad,
he chased her out.

3033
02:43:29,590 --> 02:43:32,280
But she wouldn't leave.

3034
02:43:32,280 --> 02:43:35,410
And eventually,
he took the watch.

3035
02:43:35,410 --> 02:43:38,320
And my mother came home
after a couple days.

3036
02:43:38,320 --> 02:43:41,290

3037
02:43:41,290 --> 02:43:46,410
But she did things that I
don't know if every woman could

3038
02:43:46,410 --> 02:43:47,380
have done that.

3039
02:43:47,380 --> 02:43:50,750

3040
02:43:50,750 --> 02:43:55,690
My mother really did
not think of herself

3041
02:43:55,690 --> 02:43:59,740
so much that she can end up
in jail, that she can be,

3042
02:43:59,740 --> 02:44:03,620
who knows what, sent
back to Siberia.

3043
02:44:03,620 --> 02:44:08,090
But she did whatever
she could to have

3044
02:44:08,090 --> 02:44:11,400
a piece of bread in our house.

3045
02:44:11,400 --> 02:44:16,610

And I remember I developed
this, during those years,

3046
02:44:16,610 --> 02:44:19,640
that I would never finish
whatever I was given.

3047
02:44:19,640 --> 02:44:21,920
I would save a piece.

3048
02:44:21,920 --> 02:44:26,310
I would save something,
a piece of bread.

3049
02:44:26,310 --> 02:44:30,840
And my mother used to tease me,
and she would say, better hurry

3050
02:44:30,840 --> 02:44:34,770
up and finish that because
the Messiah is going to come

3051
02:44:34,770 --> 02:44:38,090
and then you won't
have one to eat it.

3052
02:44:38,090 --> 02:44:41,700
She said, better finish it now.

3053
02:44:41,700 --> 02:44:42,720
And--

3054
02:44:42,720 --> 02:44:44,535
Did it work as an argument?

3055
02:44:44,535 --> 02:44:47,310

3056
02:44:47,310 --> 02:44:53,740
I remember-- of course, again,
we had no cooling of any kind.

3057

02:44:53,740 --> 02:45:01,410
So there was a well
in that courtyard.

3058
02:45:01,410 --> 02:45:05,850
So they used to lower
food into the well,

3059
02:45:05,850 --> 02:45:07,740
because the well was cold.

3060
02:45:07,740 --> 02:45:10,920

3061
02:45:10,920 --> 02:45:20,520
And I remembered
that one time, she

3062
02:45:20,520 --> 02:45:25,140
was able to buy
on the bazaar, you

3063
02:45:25,140 --> 02:45:28,440
know, where people, farmers,
would come and sell stuff,

3064
02:45:28,440 --> 02:45:30,790
some cheese.

3065
02:45:30,790 --> 02:45:35,810
And I guess it got bad
a odor, and my sisters

3066
02:45:35,810 --> 02:45:38,310
wouldn't need it.

3067
02:45:38,310 --> 02:45:40,480
They gave it to me.

3068
02:45:40,480 --> 02:45:43,090
They wanted to see
if I would eat it,

3069

02:45:43,090 --> 02:45:46,600
because you couldn't
just throw it out.

3070

02:45:46,600 --> 02:45:48,650
Well, for some
reason, I loved it.

3071

02:45:48,650 --> 02:45:50,770
And I still like blue cheese.

3072

02:45:50,770 --> 02:45:57,700
[LAUGHTER] So I remember
them staring at me

3073

02:45:57,700 --> 02:46:01,210
as I was eating it.

3074

02:46:01,210 --> 02:46:04,450
And there were
many times that we

3075

02:46:04,450 --> 02:46:13,070
were not starving, but hungry,
many times during those years.

3076

02:46:13,070 --> 02:46:16,070
How many years did
you stay in Bukhara?

3077

02:46:16,070 --> 02:46:20,690
We stayed in Bukhara
till April '46.

3078

02:46:20,690 --> 02:46:22,070
That's a long time.

3079

02:46:22,070 --> 02:46:26,600
A year after the war
almost, because, again,

3080

02:46:26,600 --> 02:46:31,250

the Polish government
started repatriating

3081
02:46:31,250 --> 02:46:34,260
the Polish refugees.

3082
02:46:34,260 --> 02:46:37,740
But they didn't get to
everybody right away.

3083
02:46:37,740 --> 02:46:41,860
Well, one thing that I wanted to
ask you about the early years,

3084
02:46:41,860 --> 02:46:45,780
was there a Polish presence,
let's say a Polish government

3085
02:46:45,780 --> 02:46:49,230
presence, or
organizations in Bukhara?

3086
02:46:49,230 --> 02:46:52,080
There were some organizations.

3087
02:46:52,080 --> 02:46:54,560
And they started
a Polish school,

3088
02:46:54,560 --> 02:46:59,460
as I mentioned, for
children of refugees.

3089
02:46:59,460 --> 02:47:06,135
So I was registered
in the first grade.

3090
02:47:06,135 --> 02:47:08,880

3091
02:47:08,880 --> 02:47:11,000
And I remember going to school.

3092
02:47:11,000 --> 02:47:15,070
I had no coat.

3093
02:47:15,070 --> 02:47:19,380
It was a winter, the
first winter we got there.

3094
02:47:19,380 --> 02:47:21,580
I had a coat from
home that reached

3095
02:47:21,580 --> 02:47:26,920
me halfway through my
arm and very short.

3096
02:47:26,920 --> 02:47:28,010
And it was winter.

3097
02:47:28,010 --> 02:47:29,020
It was very cold.

3098
02:47:29,020 --> 02:47:33,280
And besides, it looks
kind of silly on me.

3099
02:47:33,280 --> 02:47:39,150
And I remember one day
toward the end of the year,

3100
02:47:39,150 --> 02:47:42,760
they wanted class pictures.

3101
02:47:42,760 --> 02:47:46,540
Well, I refused to go to
the picture, take a picture,

3102
02:47:46,540 --> 02:47:49,670
in that coat.

3103
02:47:49,670 --> 02:47:54,550
So the teacher
grabbed an older girl,

3104
02:47:54,550 --> 02:47:57,910
took off her coat-- she couldn't
take anybody from my class

3105
02:47:57,910 --> 02:48:00,640
because they need
their own coats.

3106
02:48:00,640 --> 02:48:04,660
While the older girl was
waiting for her class turn,

3107
02:48:04,660 --> 02:48:09,490
she took off her coat
and put it on me.

3108
02:48:09,490 --> 02:48:10,770
And I have that picture.

3109
02:48:10,770 --> 02:48:14,960
It's not in very good
shape, but I have it.

3110
02:48:14,960 --> 02:48:20,030
And I look at the saddest little
girl you ever want to see,

3111
02:48:20,030 --> 02:48:22,760
because I didn't
feel comfortable

3112
02:48:22,760 --> 02:48:24,460
in that other girl's coat.

3113
02:48:24,460 --> 02:48:26,240
And it didn't fit me.

3114
02:48:26,240 --> 02:48:28,480
This one was way too big for me.

3115
02:48:28,480 --> 02:48:32,270

And I was like wrapped in
it, and I sat on the floor.

3116
02:48:32,270 --> 02:48:36,660
And if I could have made
myself disappear, I would have.

3117
02:48:36,660 --> 02:48:49,420

3118
02:48:49,420 --> 02:48:53,170
So I managed to go
through fourth grade--

3119
02:48:53,170 --> 02:48:54,230
So four years.

3120
02:48:54,230 --> 02:48:59,380
And Russian was taught as
a language in our school.

3121
02:48:59,380 --> 02:49:01,530
But you learned your
subjects in Polish?

3122
02:49:01,530 --> 02:49:06,910
In Polish, yes, that's how I
really acquired more Polish.

3123
02:49:06,910 --> 02:49:08,860
Were there Gentile
Poles there too?

3124
02:49:08,860 --> 02:49:10,220
Yes.

3125
02:49:10,220 --> 02:49:13,210
And what was the
relationship like?

3126
02:49:13,210 --> 02:49:14,080
What was--

3127
02:49:14,080 --> 02:49:15,280
In school?

3128
02:49:15,280 --> 02:49:18,040
Between one another.

3129
02:49:18,040 --> 02:49:19,540
We had good relationships.

3130
02:49:19,540 --> 02:49:24,760
I don't remember any
incidents, bad incidents

3131
02:49:24,760 --> 02:49:26,650
among the children.

3132
02:49:26,650 --> 02:49:29,300
I really don't recall any.

3133
02:49:29,300 --> 02:49:31,740
Do you-- OK, did you want
to say something right no,

3134
02:49:31,740 --> 02:49:32,740
because I have another--

3135
02:49:32,740 --> 02:49:35,890
I just wanted to say
that we were still

3136
02:49:35,890 --> 02:49:39,790
forced in a way, not
physically, but forced,

3137
02:49:39,790 --> 02:49:44,320
that everybody in class had
to be in the Young Komsomol.

3138
02:49:44,320 --> 02:49:49,010
And Stalin's picture
was on the walls.

3139

02:49:49,010 --> 02:49:54,040

And here we say the
Pledge of Allegiance,

3140

02:49:54,040 --> 02:49:56,350

and then there, we
had to sing to Stalin.

3141

02:49:56,350 --> 02:49:59,290

3142

02:49:59,290 --> 02:50:00,110

Yeah.

3143

02:50:00,110 --> 02:50:02,730

So there were concessions
that needed to be made.

3144

02:50:02,730 --> 02:50:03,230

Yes.

3145

02:50:03,230 --> 02:50:04,890

Even though it was
a Polish school--

3146

02:50:04,890 --> 02:50:05,390

Yes--

3147

02:50:05,390 --> 02:50:07,250

Of don't forget where you are.

3148

02:50:07,250 --> 02:50:07,970

Yes.

3149

02:50:07,970 --> 02:50:08,651

Exactly.

3150

02:50:08,651 --> 02:50:09,151

Exactly.

3151

02:50:09,151 --> 02:50:11,980

3152
02:50:11,980 --> 02:50:15,700
Was there also at
any point in Bukhara

3153
02:50:15,700 --> 02:50:17,680
a Polish military presence?

3154
02:50:17,680 --> 02:50:20,980
That is did General
Anders' Army--

3155
02:50:20,980 --> 02:50:23,440
part of the reason
for the release

3156
02:50:23,440 --> 02:50:26,110
of Polish citizens
from the camps

3157
02:50:26,110 --> 02:50:29,470
was to get military
men to help to fight.

3158
02:50:29,470 --> 02:50:30,640
Yes.

3159
02:50:30,640 --> 02:50:37,090
So Anders' Army passed
through Bukhara.

3160
02:50:37,090 --> 02:50:42,880
And for some reason, Anders'
Army did not want Jews.

3161
02:50:42,880 --> 02:50:46,390
I don't know if you know that.

3162
02:50:46,390 --> 02:50:50,970
But they took Jewish
children with them.

3163

02:50:50,970 --> 02:50:53,850

And actually, at
one point, my mother

3164

02:50:53,850 --> 02:50:57,510

acquired another
widow with children

3165

02:50:57,510 --> 02:50:59,940

to help her in this
cooking venture

3166

02:50:59,940 --> 02:51:02,430

that she did at that time.

3167

02:51:02,430 --> 02:51:06,730

And she had three
children, and she sent--

3168

02:51:06,730 --> 02:51:09,580

they were slightly
older than we were--

3169

02:51:09,580 --> 02:51:12,660

and she sent those children--

3170

02:51:12,660 --> 02:51:16,830

I don't know how or who in the
army took care of them or how,

3171

02:51:16,830 --> 02:51:21,750

but they followed
with Anders' Army.

3172

02:51:21,750 --> 02:51:24,470

And when they reached
the Middle East,

3173

02:51:24,470 --> 02:51:29,280

somehow those kids
ended up in Palestine

3174

02:51:29,280 --> 02:51:36,240
in Youth Aliyah, which
meant the Young Immigrants.

3175
02:51:36,240 --> 02:51:39,110
This woman wanted
very much my mother

3176
02:51:39,110 --> 02:51:41,910
to send us, if not myself--

3177
02:51:41,910 --> 02:51:44,280
I was too young
maybe-- the others,

3178
02:51:44,280 --> 02:51:46,200
but my mother didn't
want to do it.

3179
02:51:46,200 --> 02:51:48,045
She did not want to part.

3180
02:51:48,045 --> 02:51:49,920
Were those, the children,
the other children,

3181
02:51:49,920 --> 02:51:52,050
were they boys or girls?

3182
02:51:52,050 --> 02:51:54,760
I think one boy and one girl.

3183
02:51:54,760 --> 02:51:58,180
So the boy could look after
the girl, if necessary?

3184
02:51:58,180 --> 02:51:58,680
Yeah.

3185
02:51:58,680 --> 02:52:01,890
It's kind of hard to
send just young girls.

3186
02:52:01,890 --> 02:52:02,580
Yeah.

3187
02:52:02,580 --> 02:52:03,600
I would have--

3188
02:52:03,600 --> 02:52:05,460
My mother refused.

3189
02:52:05,460 --> 02:52:08,610
And I know there were
other people who send--

3190
02:52:08,610 --> 02:52:11,820
and how, what the
circumstances were

3191
02:52:11,820 --> 02:52:13,870
I really couldn't tell you.

3192
02:52:13,870 --> 02:52:17,680
But I know they said they
send them with Anders' Army.

3193
02:52:17,680 --> 02:52:25,480
Well, you see, it's still
a very murky kind of--

3194
02:52:25,480 --> 02:52:28,770
there's no definitive
word that I have heard yet

3195
02:52:28,770 --> 02:52:32,760
about this, Anders' Army and
the relationship with Jews,

3196
02:52:32,760 --> 02:52:35,430
because some Jews
that I've interviewed

3197
02:52:35,430 --> 02:52:37,350
said I was accepted.

3198
02:52:37,350 --> 02:52:39,280
And some said, they
didn't want me.

3199
02:52:39,280 --> 02:52:40,150
Yeah.

3200
02:52:40,150 --> 02:52:42,070
And some were there--

3201
02:52:42,070 --> 02:52:44,960
I don't know if it was
dependent on the local,

3202
02:52:44,960 --> 02:52:47,490
let's say, if somebody
came to recruit

3203
02:52:47,490 --> 02:52:51,330
and this particular person
didn't want to accept Jews

3204
02:52:51,330 --> 02:52:54,720
and another one
did, I don't know.

3205
02:52:54,720 --> 02:52:56,160
And then I even read--

3206
02:52:56,160 --> 02:53:00,930
I did interviews, but I
read in a scholarly article

3207
02:53:00,930 --> 02:53:08,640
that there also was a Soviet
person there with the Anders'

3208
02:53:08,640 --> 02:53:12,560
Army, and sometimes it was the
Soviet who would not allow.

3209

02:53:12,560 --> 02:53:13,350
Possibly.

3210
02:53:13,350 --> 02:53:14,040
I don't know.

3211
02:53:14,040 --> 02:53:14,640
We don't know.

3212
02:53:14,640 --> 02:53:15,390
I don't know that.

3213
02:53:15,390 --> 02:53:16,050
We don't know.

3214
02:53:16,050 --> 02:53:19,680
But nevertheless, this
is what you know of that.

3215
02:53:19,680 --> 02:53:21,310
That's what you
experienced of it.

3216
02:53:21,310 --> 02:53:22,910
And that is something that--

3217
02:53:22,910 --> 02:53:24,120
Yes--

3218
02:53:24,120 --> 02:53:25,370
Is part of the story.

3219
02:53:25,370 --> 02:53:25,870
Yeah.

3220
02:53:25,870 --> 02:53:26,370
Yeah.

3221
02:53:26,370 --> 02:53:26,880
OK.

3222

02:53:26,880 --> 02:53:31,800
So they passed through, and they
didn't stay except for the fact

3223
02:53:31,800 --> 02:53:34,540
that there still were
some Polish institutions--

3224
02:53:34,540 --> 02:53:35,040
Yeah--

3225
02:53:35,040 --> 02:53:36,210
That were in Bukhara.

3226
02:53:36,210 --> 02:53:36,960
Right.

3227
02:53:36,960 --> 02:53:39,780
OK.

3228
02:53:39,780 --> 02:53:44,480
And there were the
usual help, not

3229
02:53:44,480 --> 02:53:47,550
may be as well
organized, but usual help

3230
02:53:47,550 --> 02:53:50,430
groups among the Jews as well.

3231
02:53:50,430 --> 02:53:51,360
The aid groups--

3232
02:53:51,360 --> 02:53:55,050
Like when my father
passed away, the Chevra

3233
02:53:55,050 --> 02:54:01,530
Kadish, which is an organization
that helps with burial.

3234

02:54:01,530 --> 02:54:07,890
They helped us with
burying my father.

3235
02:54:07,890 --> 02:54:10,050
Did you go to the funeral?

3236
02:54:10,050 --> 02:54:12,630
Yes.

3237
02:54:12,630 --> 02:54:17,220
We all did, though the women
were kind of pushed back.

3238
02:54:17,220 --> 02:54:21,930
We were not exactly
immediately by the grave.

3239
02:54:21,930 --> 02:54:26,620

3240
02:54:26,620 --> 02:54:31,440
We walked quite a
ways to the cemetery.

3241
02:54:31,440 --> 02:54:41,490
And again, my father's
body was carried.

3242
02:54:41,490 --> 02:54:45,920
And, of course, in Jewish
tradition, they're only--

3243
02:54:45,920 --> 02:54:55,960
not in a casket, but
on a plank of wood.

3244
02:54:55,960 --> 02:54:59,290
And they're just buried,
the body, without a casket.

3245
02:54:59,290 --> 02:55:07,010

3246
02:55:07,010 --> 02:55:12,840
As I said, there were many
times that a piece of bread

3247
02:55:12,840 --> 02:55:16,330
was something to treasure.

3248
02:55:16,330 --> 02:55:19,930
And many people would
come to the door and beg.

3249
02:55:19,930 --> 02:55:22,680

3250
02:55:22,680 --> 02:55:28,380
And my mother would always
manage to slice a piece

3251
02:55:28,380 --> 02:55:29,980
and give the man.

3252
02:55:29,980 --> 02:55:38,410
And when we lived together, one
of my aunts, the youngest one,

3253
02:55:38,410 --> 02:55:42,250
used to get literally
into hysterics,

3254
02:55:42,250 --> 02:55:45,190
because of you, we
are going to die.

3255
02:55:45,190 --> 02:55:46,150
To your mother?

3256
02:55:46,150 --> 02:55:47,170
Yes.

3257
02:55:47,170 --> 02:55:50,650
Because you're giving

away our bread.

3258

02:55:50,650 --> 02:55:54,140

And you can't give
away anything.

3259

02:55:54,140 --> 02:55:56,100

But my mother
could never refuse.

3260

02:55:56,100 --> 02:55:58,160

Either it was a piece
of bread or if she

3261

02:55:58,160 --> 02:56:03,540

had something cooked leftover
or whatever, she would share.

3262

02:56:03,540 --> 02:56:09,440

And it's so interesting to me
because, this aunt survived.

3263

02:56:09,440 --> 02:56:11,310

And in later years--

3264

02:56:11,310 --> 02:56:13,790

she was not a rich person.

3265

02:56:13,790 --> 02:56:18,950

She just lived-- she worked
actually in a hospital.

3266

02:56:18,950 --> 02:56:23,720

She helped translate
from Russian to English.

3267

02:56:23,720 --> 02:56:29,020

And she was like half
volunteer and half salary.

3268

02:56:29,020 --> 02:56:34,190

She would give away her
shirt if you asked her.

3269
02:56:34,190 --> 02:56:38,150
She always sent
exaggerated gifts.

3270
02:56:38,150 --> 02:56:43,520
If she knew a child had a
bar mitzvah or something,

3271
02:56:43,520 --> 02:56:47,330
for her means it was
always exaggerated.

3272
02:56:47,330 --> 02:56:51,170
And I used to beg her,
please, we don't need it,

3273
02:56:51,170 --> 02:56:54,320
don't send so much.

3274
02:56:54,320 --> 02:56:57,470
There was no way
of talking her out.

3275
02:56:57,470 --> 02:57:04,340
She like totally her nature,
I don't know if it changed,

3276
02:57:04,340 --> 02:57:07,840
or the war made
her so frightened

3277
02:57:07,840 --> 02:57:10,930
that she was going
to die that too was

3278
02:57:10,930 --> 02:57:17,550
an unkind person during the
war, but completely changed

3279
02:57:17,550 --> 02:57:18,540
afterwards.

3280
02:57:18,540 --> 02:57:22,080
Do you think maybe
she felt guilty?

3281
02:57:22,080 --> 02:57:24,210
I'm just supposing.

3282
02:57:24,210 --> 02:57:26,190
I wouldn't know.

3283
02:57:26,190 --> 02:57:31,265
She just was very much afraid
that she was going to die.

3284
02:57:31,265 --> 02:57:35,070
Well, but what
you highlight on I

3285
02:57:35,070 --> 02:57:37,050
think is something
we very often,

3286
02:57:37,050 --> 02:57:40,560
us, who have never
experienced war,

3287
02:57:40,560 --> 02:57:44,880
is how people change,
how their natures change,

3288
02:57:44,880 --> 02:57:48,720
how their personalities
change, what effect

3289
02:57:48,720 --> 02:57:52,130
this constant stress and
constant fighting for survival

3290
02:57:52,130 --> 02:57:52,630
is.

3291
02:57:52,630 --> 02:57:58,940

My mother would buy the bread
and come home and slice it.

3292
02:57:58,940 --> 02:58:01,950
And she would argue
with my mother

3293
02:58:01,950 --> 02:58:06,144
that if she sliced it the
other way, there would be more.

3294
02:58:06,144 --> 02:58:11,350
[LAUGHTER] Foolish things
like that, I remember that.

3295
02:58:11,350 --> 02:58:15,900
And my mother used to tell her,
please, it's the same bread,

3296
02:58:15,900 --> 02:58:18,240
don't worry about it.

3297
02:58:18,240 --> 02:58:21,310
But she would insist every time.

3298
02:58:21,310 --> 02:58:25,650
If my mother just sliced it the
other way, there will be more.

3299
02:58:25,650 --> 02:58:29,160
And she really suffered.

3300
02:58:29,160 --> 02:58:30,810
She suffered.

3301
02:58:30,810 --> 02:58:36,800
And in the later years,
she was the total opposite.

3302
02:58:36,800 --> 02:58:37,860
And you said Bluma--

3303

02:58:37,860 --> 02:58:40,290
was it Bluma now who
also had some sort

3304
02:58:40,290 --> 02:58:41,690
of experiences in Bukhara?

3305
02:58:41,690 --> 02:58:48,320
So Bluma became very
ill with a tape worm.

3306
02:58:48,320 --> 02:58:50,990

3307
02:58:50,990 --> 02:58:55,360
And it kept repeating on her.

3308
02:58:55,360 --> 02:58:58,910
And in order to
get rid of it, she

3309
02:58:58,910 --> 02:59:04,470
had to during horrible
medication that they gave her.

3310
02:59:04,470 --> 02:59:08,550
And then-- it's not
pleasant to talk about it,

3311
02:59:08,550 --> 02:59:14,170
but the sensation of getting
rid of that was frightening.

3312
02:59:14,170 --> 02:59:17,280
It was horrible.

3313
02:59:17,280 --> 02:59:22,880
And somehow she
got this disease,

3314
02:59:22,880 --> 02:59:24,770
and they kept repeating on her.

3315

02:59:24,770 --> 02:59:29,150

And she suffered
terribly from it.

3316

02:59:29,150 --> 02:59:34,250

And she couldn't eat
and just wasn't strong,

3317

02:59:34,250 --> 02:59:36,800

just wasn't strong.

3318

02:59:36,800 --> 02:59:42,860

And the very first year,
as I said, when we still

3319

02:59:42,860 --> 02:59:46,730

lived together after
my father was gone,

3320

02:59:46,730 --> 02:59:52,920

those were the most
difficult years.

3321

02:59:52,920 --> 02:59:58,170

Later we moved on our,
our little family,

3322

02:59:58,170 --> 02:59:59,940

to another apartment.

3323

02:59:59,940 --> 03:00:00,930

We separated.

3324

03:00:00,930 --> 03:00:03,660

Apartments became a
little more available.

3325

03:00:03,660 --> 03:00:06,690

We got to know more
Russian people.

3326

03:00:06,690 --> 03:00:14,340

So we got also a little
apartment in another street.

3327
03:00:14,340 --> 03:00:16,680
And my mother, I
told you, she used

3328
03:00:16,680 --> 03:00:20,910
to collect young men
that needed help.

3329
03:00:20,910 --> 03:00:26,980
So in the courtyard
adjoining ours,

3330
03:00:26,980 --> 03:00:32,540
there was a young man that
suffered from malaria.

3331
03:00:32,540 --> 03:00:35,450
Somehow she found out about him.

3332
03:00:35,450 --> 03:00:38,960
And at that point, we
had more food already.

3333
03:00:38,960 --> 03:00:43,250
And she started
bringing him food.

3334
03:00:43,250 --> 03:00:46,430
When he got better,
he came to our house.

3335
03:00:46,430 --> 03:00:48,440
He met my sister.

3336
03:00:48,440 --> 03:00:52,580
And he fell in love
with my sister Hannah.

3337
03:00:52,580 --> 03:00:58,200
And they were married

in September 9, 1943.

3338
03:00:58,200 --> 03:01:01,190
Oh, wow.

3339
03:01:01,190 --> 03:01:03,770
And he came into our family.

3340
03:01:03,770 --> 03:01:09,740
And he was also a very,
very loving, caring person.

3341
03:01:09,740 --> 03:01:12,020
I loved my brother-in-law.

3342
03:01:12,020 --> 03:01:13,020
What's his name?

3343
03:01:13,020 --> 03:01:15,705
His name was Moshe,
Moshe Kaufmann.

3344
03:01:15,705 --> 03:01:18,270

3345
03:01:18,270 --> 03:01:28,110
And he knew how badly I needed
and wanted a decent coat.

3346
03:01:28,110 --> 03:01:31,590
So like within the month
of marrying my sister--

3347
03:01:31,590 --> 03:01:34,210
of course, there was no
honeymoons are anything,

3348
03:01:34,210 --> 03:01:37,265
you know.

3349
03:01:37,265 --> 03:01:41,640
Somehow, and to this

day I never knew where,

3350

03:01:41,640 --> 03:01:48,600

but he found out a family that
had a coat that would fit me.

3351

03:01:48,600 --> 03:01:53,700

And he came home one day, and
I remember that so clearly, it

3352

03:01:53,700 --> 03:01:56,310

was wrapped in brown paper.

3353

03:01:56,310 --> 03:01:59,800

And he said, I have
a gift for you.

3354

03:01:59,800 --> 03:02:05,950

And I unwrapped it, and it
was a beautiful little coat.

3355

03:02:05,950 --> 03:02:07,900

It was navy.

3356

03:02:07,900 --> 03:02:10,950

And it had two rows
of gold buttons.

3357

03:02:10,950 --> 03:02:12,040

It was double breasted.

3358

03:02:12,040 --> 03:02:14,680

3359

03:02:14,680 --> 03:02:16,450

I loved that little coat.

3360

03:02:16,450 --> 03:02:19,840

And I felt like
a princess in it,

3361

03:02:19,840 --> 03:02:24,370

because the rest of my
clothing was shabby.

3362
03:02:24,370 --> 03:02:28,240
And this little coat
was almost brand new.

3363
03:02:28,240 --> 03:02:31,780
It looked new to me,
but I know it wasn't.

3364
03:02:31,780 --> 03:02:35,890
But it was something
I felt wonderful.

3365
03:02:35,890 --> 03:02:39,730
And I never forgot the
fact that he brought me

3366
03:02:39,730 --> 03:02:44,260
that very important gift to me.

3367
03:02:44,260 --> 03:02:50,080
And I just loved wearing
it, till I outgrew it again.

3368
03:02:50,080 --> 03:02:52,340
But I had it for a while.

3369
03:02:52,340 --> 03:02:56,240
So it's one of those bright
spots in a very bleak picture.

3370
03:02:56,240 --> 03:02:58,180
Yeah, yeah.

3371
03:02:58,180 --> 03:03:04,610
So my sister got pregnant.

3372
03:03:04,610 --> 03:03:11,310
And in December '44,
she had a little girl.

3373

03:03:11,310 --> 03:03:14,490

Her name was Yona.

3374

03:03:14,490 --> 03:03:17,460

And my sister almost
died at childbirth

3375

03:03:17,460 --> 03:03:23,400

because of what turned out
to be a wandering kidney.

3376

03:03:23,400 --> 03:03:30,990

That accident in Siberia knocked
out her kidney from the socket.

3377

03:03:30,990 --> 03:03:34,180

And the kidney was
literally wandering--

3378

03:03:34,180 --> 03:03:34,680

Around--

3379

03:03:34,680 --> 03:03:37,530

Out of her socket.

3380

03:03:37,530 --> 03:03:42,630

And she again had a
terrible attack of pain.

3381

03:03:42,630 --> 03:03:49,020

And she was in grave condition
because of that kidney.

3382

03:03:49,020 --> 03:03:54,300

And it wasn't till
1949 in Israel

3383

03:03:54,300 --> 03:03:59,000

that she was operated in
Jerusalem, in the Hadassah

3384

03:03:59,000 --> 03:04:01,970

Hospital, and the
kidney was removed.

3385
03:04:01,970 --> 03:04:04,790

3386
03:04:04,790 --> 03:04:07,580
But she managed to
live till this year.

3387
03:04:07,580 --> 03:04:10,980
I lost her in July.

3388
03:04:10,980 --> 03:04:15,060
She was 92 and 1/2.

3389
03:04:15,060 --> 03:04:15,690
What a loss.

3390
03:04:15,690 --> 03:04:18,970
And she lived with one kidney.

3391
03:04:18,970 --> 03:04:21,160
My condolences.

3392
03:04:21,160 --> 03:04:23,870
This is after a
lifetime together.

3393
03:04:23,870 --> 03:04:24,400
Yeah.

3394
03:04:24,400 --> 03:04:27,370
Well, not quite together,
because I've been in the States

3395
03:04:27,370 --> 03:04:31,960
now for almost 63 years,
even though I still

3396
03:04:31,960 --> 03:04:34,270
speak with an accent.

3397
03:04:34,270 --> 03:04:40,360
But, yeah, her loss is
a very big loss to me.

3398
03:04:40,360 --> 03:04:42,950

3399
03:04:42,950 --> 03:04:49,800
And unfortunately, we lost Yona
as well about six years ago.

3400
03:04:49,800 --> 03:04:53,520
She had breast cancer
that metastasized.

3401
03:04:53,520 --> 03:05:00,220
And she eventually
succumbed after a few years.

3402
03:05:00,220 --> 03:05:05,290
She left her husband and
two adopted children.

3403
03:05:05,290 --> 03:05:09,160
And one is a boy,
and one is a girl.

3404
03:05:09,160 --> 03:05:13,980
They were not
brother and sister.

3405
03:05:13,980 --> 03:05:18,280
It's a very interesting
story in itself.

3406
03:05:18,280 --> 03:05:21,410
She got those children
from two different sources,

3407
03:05:21,410 --> 03:05:25,120
but they were only
three weeks apart.

3408
03:05:25,120 --> 03:05:27,890
So she raised them as twins.

3409
03:05:27,890 --> 03:05:29,840
And it's a boy and a girl.

3410
03:05:29,840 --> 03:05:32,460
The boy became an attorney now.

3411
03:05:32,460 --> 03:05:37,660
And he's going to be
married May 22 in Israel.

3412
03:05:37,660 --> 03:05:40,750
And I would very much
like to make that wedding.

3413
03:05:40,750 --> 03:05:49,870
I hope I can, because I was
very close to this niece,

3414
03:05:49,870 --> 03:05:52,960
because she was born in Bukhara.

3415
03:05:52,960 --> 03:05:56,080
I knew her from the
day she was born,

3416
03:05:56,080 --> 03:05:59,710
and I used to play
with her as a child.

3417
03:05:59,710 --> 03:06:06,360
And we were together when
we came back to Poland.

3418
03:06:06,360 --> 03:06:08,460
Did your sister have
any other children?

3419
03:06:08,460 --> 03:06:10,350

Yes, she has two other girls.

3420

03:06:10,350 --> 03:06:12,640

She also had three daughters.

3421

03:06:12,640 --> 03:06:14,250

No sons.

3422

03:06:14,250 --> 03:06:21,930

But she now-- well, now she has
sons-in-law and grandchildren

3423

03:06:21,930 --> 03:06:24,610

and many great grandchildren.

3424

03:06:24,610 --> 03:06:28,500

3425

03:06:28,500 --> 03:06:33,348

So when you split, it was
yourself, your mother,

3426

03:06:33,348 --> 03:06:34,265

and your two sisters--

3427

03:06:34,265 --> 03:06:34,765

Right--

3428

03:06:34,765 --> 03:06:36,620

Who moved into
your own apartment.

3429

03:06:36,620 --> 03:06:43,070

And your paternal grandparents
and their daughter-- or two

3430

03:06:43,070 --> 03:06:43,777

daughters?

3431

03:06:43,777 --> 03:06:44,360

Two daughters.

3432

03:06:44,360 --> 03:06:46,160

Two daughters moved
into another--

3433

03:06:46,160 --> 03:06:47,120

Another apartment.

3434

03:06:47,120 --> 03:06:48,770

Was it close by to yours?

3435

03:06:48,770 --> 03:06:52,880

Yes, it was not far, not far.

3436

03:06:52,880 --> 03:06:57,620

And I actually have a very
sweet memory of my grandmother.

3437

03:06:57,620 --> 03:07:00,260

3438

03:07:00,260 --> 03:07:01,940

I remember I used to--

3439

03:07:01,940 --> 03:07:08,510

I have two memories, one
not so sweet, but funny.

3440

03:07:08,510 --> 03:07:13,970

I used to go walk over there
like Saturday afternoon.

3441

03:07:13,970 --> 03:07:16,830

In the winter, it was
cold, as I mentioned.

3442

03:07:16,830 --> 03:07:18,740

There was no heating.

3443

03:07:18,740 --> 03:07:21,860

And she would stay in
bed Saturday afternoon,

3444

03:07:21,860 --> 03:07:25,580

like for the rest
and to take a nap.

3445

03:07:25,580 --> 03:07:27,650

And later in the
afternoon I used

3446

03:07:27,650 --> 03:07:32,860

to go over there and
crawl in bed with her.

3447

03:07:32,860 --> 03:07:37,650

And at the end of
the Sabbath, there's

3448

03:07:37,650 --> 03:07:43,650

also a prayer that women
say, specifically for women.

3449

03:07:43,650 --> 03:07:47,610

And she would recite
that prayer with me,

3450

03:07:47,610 --> 03:07:51,960

while I was cuddling with her.

3451

03:07:51,960 --> 03:07:56,640

And that's a very sweet
memory I have of her.

3452

03:07:56,640 --> 03:08:01,830

Now, the other incident that is
funny today, but wasn't funny

3453

03:08:01,830 --> 03:08:07,400

at the time, after some
time, my mother switched

3454

03:08:07,400 --> 03:08:12,170

to making butter and
cheese because she

3455

03:08:12,170 --> 03:08:14,630
was familiar with that.

3456

03:08:14,630 --> 03:08:16,730
But, again, this
was all illegal.

3457

03:08:16,730 --> 03:08:20,345
You have to remember that
private enterprise totally

3458

03:08:20,345 --> 03:08:22,700
illegal in Russia.

3459

03:08:22,700 --> 03:08:28,280
So she would procure some
milk, and we would wait

3460

03:08:28,280 --> 03:08:29,750
till late at night.

3461

03:08:29,750 --> 03:08:34,400
Of course, the milk had to sour
for about two or three days.

3462

03:08:34,400 --> 03:08:38,930
Then, at night,
we had two churns

3463

03:08:38,930 --> 03:08:42,820
that we would sit
and churn butter.

3464

03:08:42,820 --> 03:08:46,040
And I used to help a little,
but mostly my sisters

3465

03:08:46,040 --> 03:08:47,820
would do that.

3466

03:08:47,820 --> 03:08:52,850
And then I remember she would

take like a cheese cloth

3467

03:08:52,850 --> 03:08:55,320
and pour what--

3468

03:08:55,320 --> 03:08:57,650
the butter was scooped out.

3469

03:08:57,650 --> 03:09:02,770
And then she would pour the
sour milk in this cheese cloth.

3470

03:09:02,770 --> 03:09:05,830
And somehow cheese would form.

3471

03:09:05,830 --> 03:09:11,490
And she would sell
the butter and cheese

3472

03:09:11,490 --> 03:09:16,680
to other Russians,
who didn't get it.

3473

03:09:16,680 --> 03:09:19,940
And this was fresh butter.

3474

03:09:19,940 --> 03:09:24,440
So one day, I guess
she couldn't leave

3475

03:09:24,440 --> 03:09:27,320
the house for whatever reason.

3476

03:09:27,320 --> 03:09:30,780
I was already eight
at that point.

3477

03:09:30,780 --> 03:09:34,130
She wrapped a little
package of butter.

3478

03:09:34,130 --> 03:09:38,630

And she said, I want you to
take it to this and this address

3479
03:09:38,630 --> 03:09:39,810
to this woman--

3480
03:09:39,810 --> 03:09:42,440
I don't remember
the name anymore--

3481
03:09:42,440 --> 03:09:44,660
and give her this butter.

3482
03:09:44,660 --> 03:09:48,950
But if you meet anybody
on the road that asks you

3483
03:09:48,950 --> 03:09:52,970
where you are going,
you are not to tell.

3484
03:09:52,970 --> 03:09:53,900
You are not to tell.

3485
03:09:53,900 --> 03:09:58,130
Just say you are out,
because she was afraid

3486
03:09:58,130 --> 03:10:01,280
that the authorities
would find out.

3487
03:10:01,280 --> 03:10:03,500
Well, lo and
behold, I'm walking.

3488
03:10:03,500 --> 03:10:05,420
Whom do I come across?

3489
03:10:05,420 --> 03:10:08,100
My grandmother.

3490

03:10:08,100 --> 03:10:10,410
Where are you going?

3491
03:10:10,410 --> 03:10:11,460
You're not to tell.

3492
03:10:11,460 --> 03:10:18,050
My mother told me I cannot
tell anybody where I'm going.

3493
03:10:18,050 --> 03:10:21,870
Well, she got so offended.

3494
03:10:21,870 --> 03:10:25,510
She thought my mother told
me don't tell grandmother.

3495
03:10:25,510 --> 03:10:27,540
Of course, she didn't do that.

3496
03:10:27,540 --> 03:10:32,400
But my grandmother interpreted
that that her daughter-in-law

3497
03:10:32,400 --> 03:10:39,820
told her child don't tell your
mother-in-law where I'm going.

3498
03:10:39,820 --> 03:10:44,360
So this was a whole
to do afterwards.

3499
03:10:44,360 --> 03:10:46,430
And my mother tried to explain.

3500
03:10:46,430 --> 03:10:48,440
I just told her
don't tell anybody.

3501
03:10:48,440 --> 03:10:51,140
I didn't mention
whom she can tell.

3502

03:10:51,140 --> 03:10:53,510

So this was this
was an incident.

3503

03:10:53,510 --> 03:10:54,450

It took a while.

3504

03:10:54,450 --> 03:10:57,650

It took a while, yes,
between mother-in-law

3505

03:10:57,650 --> 03:11:01,610

and daughter-in-law
to straighten it out.

3506

03:11:01,610 --> 03:11:05,760

3507

03:11:05,760 --> 03:11:09,090

Do you remember
when the war ended?

3508

03:11:09,090 --> 03:11:10,320

Yes.

3509

03:11:10,320 --> 03:11:12,012

Tell me what was that like.

3510

03:11:12,012 --> 03:11:12,720

How did you hear?

3511

03:11:12,720 --> 03:11:16,440

Well, there were
celebrations in the street.

3512

03:11:16,440 --> 03:11:22,670

And at first there
were celebrations,

3513

03:11:22,670 --> 03:11:28,100

because we did not have much
information of what happened

3514
03:11:28,100 --> 03:11:34,040
at home, and that everybody
is gone from the family,

3515
03:11:34,040 --> 03:11:37,490
you know, the brothers
and my mother's brother

3516
03:11:37,490 --> 03:11:41,120
and extended family.

3517
03:11:41,120 --> 03:11:42,900
We had no information.

3518
03:11:42,900 --> 03:11:47,570
So at first there
was jubilation,

3519
03:11:47,570 --> 03:11:54,380
till slowly information started
coming through and finding out

3520
03:11:54,380 --> 03:11:56,180
what happened in Poland.

3521
03:11:56,180 --> 03:12:02,150
So in Bukhara, at some
point you do learn.

3522
03:12:02,150 --> 03:12:05,930
We do learn, but we
still don't know.

3523
03:12:05,930 --> 03:12:07,220
We still don't know.

3524
03:12:07,220 --> 03:12:10,100
Isn't that interesting
that when one hears,

3525
03:12:10,100 --> 03:12:11,520

one knows, but you don't know?

3526

03:12:11,520 --> 03:12:17,450

You don't know, because we
didn't know particulars.

3527

03:12:17,450 --> 03:12:22,210

I don't think we really knew
about the extermination places

3528

03:12:22,210 --> 03:12:22,920

in Bukhara.

3529

03:12:22,920 --> 03:12:25,280

We knew a lot of people died.

3530

03:12:25,280 --> 03:12:27,830

But we didn't know particulars.

3531

03:12:27,830 --> 03:12:31,760

And it wasn't till later,
and mostly by the time

3532

03:12:31,760 --> 03:12:35,270

we got back to Poland,
that we found out

3533

03:12:35,270 --> 03:12:39,170

that nobody was left, you
know, from the brothers.

3534

03:12:39,170 --> 03:12:42,080

We always had a hope,
at least the one

3535

03:12:42,080 --> 03:12:47,830

that survived the initial
war before the war ended

3536

03:12:47,830 --> 03:12:49,310

that he may be alive.

3537

03:12:49,310 --> 03:12:50,440
The one in the bunker?

3538
03:12:50,440 --> 03:12:51,140
Right.

3539
03:12:51,140 --> 03:12:56,960
We did not know that the
one was shot in our town.

3540
03:12:56,960 --> 03:13:01,550
We did not know that the others
were taken to concentration

3541
03:13:01,550 --> 03:13:04,670
camps and killed there.

3542
03:13:04,670 --> 03:13:07,880
The best to our knowledge,
the older brother

3543
03:13:07,880 --> 03:13:13,280
was taken to Belzec, which
was an extermination camp.

3544
03:13:13,280 --> 03:13:17,630
And I didn't complete the
story with Yossi, my young--

3545
03:13:17,630 --> 03:13:19,310
That's right, the little boy.

3546
03:13:19,310 --> 03:13:22,040
My little boy, my cousin.

3547
03:13:22,040 --> 03:13:27,050
So he was with us for
a while in the Ukraine.

3548
03:13:27,050 --> 03:13:29,000
And there was a time
in the beginning,

3549

03:13:29,000 --> 03:13:33,410

you still could kind of
sneak through the border

3550

03:13:33,410 --> 03:13:35,750

and come to the Ukraine.

3551

03:13:35,750 --> 03:13:37,880

So his father came.

3552

03:13:37,880 --> 03:13:40,880

And he said, we just
miss him terribly.

3553

03:13:40,880 --> 03:13:44,010

We'll take him home for a while.

3554

03:13:44,010 --> 03:13:45,520

And he took him home.

3555

03:13:45,520 --> 03:13:47,490

And, of course, the
borders, everything

3556

03:13:47,490 --> 03:13:53,650

was locked up once Germany
got really a hold of Poland,

3557

03:13:53,650 --> 03:13:57,590

and we never saw him again.

3558

03:13:57,590 --> 03:14:02,050

And he was lost together
with his parents in Belzec.

3559

03:14:02,050 --> 03:14:06,760

3560

03:14:06,760 --> 03:14:11,270

You decide-- you say
you stay until 1946.

3561

03:14:11,270 --> 03:14:12,800

Yes.

3562

03:14:12,800 --> 03:14:18,710

And the war ended
in early May 1945.

3563

03:14:18,710 --> 03:14:22,280

Yes, May 9, 1945.

3564

03:14:22,280 --> 03:14:23,705

And you go back to Poland--

3565

03:14:23,705 --> 03:14:24,620

May 8.

3566

03:14:24,620 --> 03:14:25,250

Yes.

3567

03:14:25,250 --> 03:14:35,020

So the Polish government
arranged passage.

3568

03:14:35,020 --> 03:14:38,320

But they were not
interested in sending us

3569

03:14:38,320 --> 03:14:40,415

to our place of
birth, to Galicia.

3570

03:14:40,415 --> 03:14:43,020

3571

03:14:43,020 --> 03:14:47,490

They were very much interested
in settling the areas

3572

03:14:47,490 --> 03:14:49,500

that they took from Germany.

3573

03:14:49,500 --> 03:14:54,930
You know a part of Silesia
was taken from Germany

3574
03:14:54,930 --> 03:14:56,930
and annexed to Poland.

3575
03:14:56,930 --> 03:14:58,620
And a part of
Eastern Poland then--

3576
03:14:58,620 --> 03:15:01,170
Went into Russia, yes.

3577
03:15:01,170 --> 03:15:04,680
Actually, where I was
born is very close now

3578
03:15:04,680 --> 03:15:07,200
to the Ukrainian border.

3579
03:15:07,200 --> 03:15:11,770
And Lwow now became Ukraine.

3580
03:15:11,770 --> 03:15:14,360
And we were actually--

3581
03:15:14,360 --> 03:15:21,540
it was called Zarszyn
Wojewodztwowskie, which was--

3582
03:15:21,540 --> 03:15:23,550
I don't know if county
is the right word.

3583
03:15:23,550 --> 03:15:25,500
But did belonged to that--

3584
03:15:25,500 --> 03:15:26,100
Region--

3585
03:15:26,100 --> 03:15:28,410

Region, right.

3586

03:15:28,410 --> 03:15:30,880

So this is now Ukraine.

3587

03:15:30,880 --> 03:15:32,440

And it was USSR.

3588

03:15:32,440 --> 03:15:36,150

It was Russia

during all the years

3589

03:15:36,150 --> 03:15:40,060

till the collapse of

the Communist regime.

3590

03:15:40,060 --> 03:15:48,510

So we were taken to a town

that used to be German.

3591

03:15:48,510 --> 03:15:52,070

It was actually a

beautiful little town.

3592

03:15:52,070 --> 03:15:53,430

It was a resort.

3593

03:15:53,430 --> 03:15:54,830

Oh, what was the name?

3594

03:15:54,830 --> 03:15:56,290

Reichenbach.

3595

03:15:56,290 --> 03:15:57,150

Reichenbach.

3596

03:15:57,150 --> 03:15:59,430

Reichenbach in German.

3597

03:15:59,430 --> 03:16:02,510

And in Polish, they

named it Rychbach.

3598
03:16:02,510 --> 03:16:03,010
Rychbach.

3599
03:16:03,010 --> 03:16:03,710
Rychbach.

3600
03:16:03,710 --> 03:16:04,730
Rychbach.

3601
03:16:04,730 --> 03:16:07,115
Rychbach-- R-Y-C-H-B-A-C-H--

3602
03:16:07,115 --> 03:16:10,255

3603
03:16:10,255 --> 03:16:12,390
Rychbach.

3604
03:16:12,390 --> 03:16:15,530
They had mineral waters there.

3605
03:16:15,530 --> 03:16:21,990
And it was a small little
town, but beautiful town.

3606
03:16:21,990 --> 03:16:29,460
So my married sister Hannah
was with us and their daughter

3607
03:16:29,460 --> 03:16:31,670
and her husband.

3608
03:16:31,670 --> 03:16:38,290
And very shortly after we got
there, they wanted to leave.

3609
03:16:38,290 --> 03:16:44,040
And my mother didn't want to go
with them, because she felt we

3610

03:16:44,040 --> 03:16:47,190
would be a hindrance to them.

3611
03:16:47,190 --> 03:16:49,690
What happened was
my brother-in-law

3612
03:16:49,690 --> 03:16:55,110
made contact somehow
through other relatives

3613
03:16:55,110 --> 03:16:57,570
with his parents.

3614
03:16:57,570 --> 03:17:01,090
He was initially from
the city of Lodz--

3615
03:17:01,090 --> 03:17:03,150
Lodz.

3616
03:17:03,150 --> 03:17:06,870
And his parents had
a textile factory.

3617
03:17:06,870 --> 03:17:09,930
They were quite well off.

3618
03:17:09,930 --> 03:17:14,380
So somehow after
the war broke out,

3619
03:17:14,380 --> 03:17:17,800
they managed to get to Romania.

3620
03:17:17,800 --> 03:17:22,770
And from Romania, they
were able to buy tickets,

3621
03:17:22,770 --> 03:17:27,990
because Romania was neutral
at the time, to Palestine.

3622

03:17:27,990 --> 03:17:31,910

So they came to Palestine
at the beginning of '40.

3623

03:17:31,910 --> 03:17:35,080

And how did he
end up in Bukhara.

3624

03:17:35,080 --> 03:17:37,270

The son was taken separately.

3625

03:17:37,270 --> 03:17:40,750

He was caught someplace
and taken separately.

3626

03:17:40,750 --> 03:17:44,770

The details exactly
I don't know.

3627

03:17:44,770 --> 03:17:49,700

But anyway, so the
father wrote to him

3628

03:17:49,700 --> 03:17:55,590

that if he can get with my
sister and child to Germany,

3629

03:17:55,590 --> 03:17:59,490

they will be able to
send them official papers

3630

03:17:59,490 --> 03:18:02,940

and take them out to Palestine.

3631

03:18:02,940 --> 03:18:09,480

So my sister, brother-in-law,
and their daughter Yona

3632

03:18:09,480 --> 03:18:12,360

smuggled out through Poland.

3633

03:18:12,360 --> 03:18:14,970

They went through Szczecin.

3634
03:18:14,970 --> 03:18:16,470
Szczecin.

3635
03:18:16,470 --> 03:18:19,900
Went boat through
the border there

3636
03:18:19,900 --> 03:18:25,410
in a truck that covered
them up, camouflaged them

3637
03:18:25,410 --> 03:18:28,020
with different things.

3638
03:18:28,020 --> 03:18:32,000
And they were
smuggled into Germany.

3639
03:18:32,000 --> 03:18:35,170
In Germany, they
ended up in DP camp.

3640
03:18:35,170 --> 03:18:37,410
Where?

3641
03:18:37,410 --> 03:18:40,790
I'm not quite sure
if I remember now.

3642
03:18:40,790 --> 03:18:42,298
And--

3643
03:18:42,298 --> 03:18:44,840
Do you know whether it was the
British zone or the American--

3644
03:18:44,840 --> 03:18:45,590
British.

3645
03:18:45,590 --> 03:18:46,280

British zone.

3646

03:18:46,280 --> 03:18:48,550

British zone, they were
very much interested

3647

03:18:48,550 --> 03:18:51,770

in British zone, because
the father was going

3648

03:18:51,770 --> 03:18:54,260

to send them British visas.

3649

03:18:54,260 --> 03:18:57,110

Palestine was under the British.

3650

03:18:57,110 --> 03:19:01,130

And he was able to
get visas for them.

3651

03:19:01,130 --> 03:19:06,500

So they were in Germany,
I think, a year or so.

3652

03:19:06,500 --> 03:19:12,660

And in 1947, late in the year--

3653

03:19:12,660 --> 03:19:17,390

I think by September, October--

3654

03:19:17,390 --> 03:19:20,450

they came to Palestine.

3655

03:19:20,450 --> 03:19:23,210

I know for a fact
that they were there

3656

03:19:23,210 --> 03:19:30,770

during the UN
partition of Palestine,

3657

03:19:30,770 --> 03:19:33,440

because my sister told
me about that evening.

3658
03:19:33,440 --> 03:19:36,770
They were there already.

3659
03:19:36,770 --> 03:19:38,840
So this was the reason
my mother didn't

3660
03:19:38,840 --> 03:19:42,650
want to go along with them,
because she was afraid we

3661
03:19:42,650 --> 03:19:44,360
would be a hindrance to them.

3662
03:19:44,360 --> 03:19:48,650
We weren't sure where
they were going to end up.

3663
03:19:48,650 --> 03:19:51,110
And we knew that the
father could only

3664
03:19:51,110 --> 03:19:55,100
bring his son and wife out.

3665
03:19:55,100 --> 03:19:58,790
So we stayed in Poland.

3666
03:19:58,790 --> 03:20:04,320
We stayed for a number
of months in Rychbach.

3667
03:20:04,320 --> 03:20:10,260
And slowly, a Jewish little
community was formed.

3668
03:20:10,260 --> 03:20:14,550
And I remember we were
there Rosh Hashanah.

3669

03:20:14,550 --> 03:20:20,430

And they organized a
service in somebody's house.

3670

03:20:20,430 --> 03:20:22,890

There were no synagogues.

3671

03:20:22,890 --> 03:20:25,920

And walking home
from the service--

3672

03:20:25,920 --> 03:20:29,370

I was with my
mother, my sisters,

3673

03:20:29,370 --> 03:20:34,050

and also my mother's
brother, the one

3674

03:20:34,050 --> 03:20:39,350

who was also in Kazakhstan
somehow joined us there.

3675

03:20:39,350 --> 03:20:41,280

How I don't know.

3676

03:20:41,280 --> 03:20:43,640

But he was in the same town.

3677

03:20:43,640 --> 03:20:47,220

And he had four children.

3678

03:20:47,220 --> 03:20:51,290

My cousins, they're still
all alive in Israel today.

3679

03:20:51,290 --> 03:20:55,110

3680

03:20:55,110 --> 03:20:58,340

So anyway, on Rosh
Hashanah night,

3681
03:20:58,340 --> 03:21:04,770
when we walked home from
the service, we heard shots.

3682
03:21:04,770 --> 03:21:07,110
And it was dark.

3683
03:21:07,110 --> 03:21:09,870
The streets were not
lit up very well.

3684
03:21:09,870 --> 03:21:15,300
We didn't know where the shots
came from or who fired them.

3685
03:21:15,300 --> 03:21:19,680
The next morning we found
out that three Jews were just

3686
03:21:19,680 --> 03:21:25,670
shot at random in the street
walking back from the service.

3687
03:21:25,670 --> 03:21:35,600
So shortly thereafter, my mother
again, she needed a livelihood.

3688
03:21:35,600 --> 03:21:44,550
And she found out that there
was a children's home in Bytom,

3689
03:21:44,550 --> 03:21:48,360
which was also part of
Silesia, not far from the city

3690
03:21:48,360 --> 03:21:56,870
of Wrocław This children's home
was for children primarily that

3691
03:21:56,870 --> 03:22:02,100
were hidden out with Christian
families during the war.

3692
03:22:02,100 --> 03:22:07,110
And if a relative survived
or a friend or a neighbor,

3693
03:22:07,110 --> 03:22:13,950
if anybody knew that a
child was given to a family,

3694
03:22:13,950 --> 03:22:16,600
they tried to get
those children back.

3695
03:22:16,600 --> 03:22:19,890

3696
03:22:19,890 --> 03:22:23,930
But those children
had a difficulty.

3697
03:22:23,930 --> 03:22:28,490
I just think to Jews,
again, most of them

3698
03:22:28,490 --> 03:22:32,460
had to play the
role as a Christian.

3699
03:22:32,460 --> 03:22:33,930
They took them to church.

3700
03:22:33,930 --> 03:22:35,090
They were baptized.

3701
03:22:35,090 --> 03:22:39,470
They were communion-- you
know, everything that goes

3702
03:22:39,470 --> 03:22:41,450
with the Christian religion.

3703
03:22:41,450 --> 03:22:44,240

They were not used to Judaism.

3704

03:22:44,240 --> 03:22:49,280

And many of them were young
and couldn't remember anything

3705

03:22:49,280 --> 03:22:50,900

being Jewish.

3706

03:22:50,900 --> 03:22:55,280

Some were, but a lot
of them were young.

3707

03:22:55,280 --> 03:22:59,240

I was the only
child with a parent,

3708

03:22:59,240 --> 03:23:03,480

because my mother was
like the house mother.

3709

03:23:03,480 --> 03:23:08,700

She also cooked in
this children's home.

3710

03:23:08,700 --> 03:23:11,520

So this children's
home was, again,

3711

03:23:11,520 --> 03:23:15,780

under the observation
and support

3712

03:23:15,780 --> 03:23:20,910

of an orthodox
Jewish organization.

3713

03:23:20,910 --> 03:23:24,000

And we did not go to school.

3714

03:23:24,000 --> 03:23:26,430

We were home-schooled.

3715

03:23:26,430 --> 03:23:31,890

And our schooling was very
poor looking back at it.

3716

03:23:31,890 --> 03:23:37,800

They taught us a lot of
Jewish prayers, stories

3717

03:23:37,800 --> 03:23:44,750

from the Bible, a little math,
maybe a smattering of Polish.

3718

03:23:44,750 --> 03:23:48,940

But it was very poor education.

3719

03:23:48,940 --> 03:23:53,560

Well, they're very
extenuating circumstances.

3720

03:23:53,560 --> 03:23:54,920

It's post-war.

3721

03:23:54,920 --> 03:23:55,640

Yes.

3722

03:23:55,640 --> 03:23:58,760

The purpose is to
find living relatives.

3723

03:23:58,760 --> 03:24:00,400

And what do you
do in the interim?

3724

03:24:00,400 --> 03:24:01,120

Yeah.

3725

03:24:01,120 --> 03:24:01,980

Yeah.

3726

03:24:01,980 --> 03:24:03,050

Yeah.

3727

03:24:03,050 --> 03:24:11,900

So when my mother took the
job, they promised her then

3728

03:24:11,900 --> 03:24:17,150

when they will send
children to Palestine,

3729

03:24:17,150 --> 03:24:20,630

she will go along with them.

3730

03:24:20,630 --> 03:24:24,240

I don't know if you are
familiar with the aliyah bet.

3731

03:24:24,240 --> 03:24:25,670

Well, explain to people.

3732

03:24:25,670 --> 03:24:26,620

What is aliyah bet?

3733

03:24:26,620 --> 03:24:30,910

Aliyah bet, aliyah means
going up to Israel.

3734

03:24:30,910 --> 03:24:34,070

That is the number two.

3735

03:24:34,070 --> 03:24:38,870

It was called SO because this
was the second wave of Jews

3736

03:24:38,870 --> 03:24:41,180

going to Palestine.

3737

03:24:41,180 --> 03:24:45,950

And that too was a legal
from the British standpoint

3738

03:24:45,950 --> 03:24:49,100

because they had the
white paper which

3739
03:24:49,100 --> 03:24:56,480
forbid bed Jews just en masse
coming to Palestine and only

3740
03:24:56,480 --> 03:24:59,930
with visas, like my
sister and so forth,

3741
03:24:59,930 --> 03:25:04,460
anybody who had a
special permit to go.

3742
03:25:04,460 --> 03:25:10,340
Other than that they
used to smuggle Jews in.

3743
03:25:10,340 --> 03:25:18,170
They used to hire boats, ships,
sometimes, mostly from France

3744
03:25:18,170 --> 03:25:23,450
or from Italy, and make it
through the Mediterranean

3745
03:25:23,450 --> 03:25:29,620
and figure out in such a way
that you arrived at night.

3746
03:25:29,620 --> 03:25:34,330
And they would let off
the people illegally.

3747
03:25:34,330 --> 03:25:38,890
And if they were caught, they
were sent to detention places.

3748
03:25:38,890 --> 03:25:42,940
There was one in
the city of Atlit.

3749
03:25:42,940 --> 03:25:47,590
My Uncle Yakov actually

ended up in Atlit,

3750

03:25:47,590 --> 03:25:52,930

because his group was caught
when they landed in Jaffa.

3751

03:25:52,930 --> 03:25:57,430

They also used to
send people to Cyprus.

3752

03:25:57,430 --> 03:26:01,320

And many were stuck there
for a year or better.

3753

03:26:01,320 --> 03:26:05,880

So they had promised
my mother that they

3754

03:26:05,880 --> 03:26:11,580

will send her with a group of
children on this Aliyah Bet.

3755

03:26:11,580 --> 03:26:14,800

When the time came, they
sent a group of children,

3756

03:26:14,800 --> 03:26:18,810

and they did not
keep their promise.

3757

03:26:18,810 --> 03:26:22,400

And my mother was
very disappointed.

3758

03:26:22,400 --> 03:26:25,820

And then she found out--

3759

03:26:25,820 --> 03:26:29,780

I'm not sure how, through
the organization, or so--

3760

03:26:29,780 --> 03:26:31,790

that there was another

children's home

3761

03:26:31,790 --> 03:26:33,620
forming in the Lodz.

3762

03:26:33,620 --> 03:26:35,905
[PHONE RINGING]

3763

03:26:35,905 --> 03:26:38,190

3764

03:26:38,190 --> 03:26:38,780
OK.

3765

03:26:38,780 --> 03:26:44,950
So my mother found out about
the children's home in Lodz.

3766

03:26:44,950 --> 03:26:52,210
It was also sponsored by a
Jewish Orthodox organization.

3767

03:26:52,210 --> 03:26:58,890
And she got the same job there--

3768

03:26:58,890 --> 03:27:03,480
house mother, cook, whatever.

3769

03:27:03,480 --> 03:27:09,720
And at that place, I remember
a number of people very well.

3770

03:27:09,720 --> 03:27:13,150

3771

03:27:13,150 --> 03:27:15,610
They brought to us
children, as I said,

3772

03:27:15,610 --> 03:27:21,040
that were hidden
out during the war

3773
03:27:21,040 --> 03:27:25,530
or lived openly as Christians.

3774
03:27:25,530 --> 03:27:30,480
So comes to mind
particularly one boy

3775
03:27:30,480 --> 03:27:35,490
who was raised by a very
good Christian family.

3776
03:27:35,490 --> 03:27:36,660
They loved him.

3777
03:27:36,660 --> 03:27:39,060
They dressed him well.

3778
03:27:39,060 --> 03:27:41,580
They send him to a good school.

3779
03:27:41,580 --> 03:27:46,650
He actually lived
I think in Warsaw,

3780
03:27:46,650 --> 03:27:49,890
but for some reason
came to Lodz.

3781
03:27:49,890 --> 03:27:53,940
And he was 12 for
this time, which

3782
03:27:53,940 --> 03:28:00,250
probably means he was five, like
myself, when the war broke out.

3783
03:28:00,250 --> 03:28:06,000
So he had totally blocked
out his former identity.

3784
03:28:06,000 --> 03:28:08,520

But as he was walking
in the street,

3785
03:28:08,520 --> 03:28:14,030
he heard Yiddish spoken
and something clicked.

3786
03:28:14,030 --> 03:28:19,910
And I don't know
how he separated

3787
03:28:19,910 --> 03:28:24,840
from his Christian
parents, but he ended up

3788
03:28:24,840 --> 03:28:28,350
walking into a synagogue.

3789
03:28:28,350 --> 03:28:32,370
And he asked to see a rabbi.

3790
03:28:32,370 --> 03:28:38,690
And he started telling the rabbi
that he remembers something

3791
03:28:38,690 --> 03:28:40,850
about being Jewish.

3792
03:28:40,850 --> 03:28:44,840
And they started looking
into his background.

3793
03:28:44,840 --> 03:28:48,620
And sure enough, the parents,
the Christian parents,

3794
03:28:48,620 --> 03:28:56,370
admitted that he was given to
them to hide him, to raise him.

3795
03:28:56,370 --> 03:28:59,190
But they didn't
want to give him up,

3796
03:28:59,190 --> 03:29:02,350
which is very easy
to understand.

3797
03:29:02,350 --> 03:29:05,760
It's hard when you raise
a child for seven years

3798
03:29:05,760 --> 03:29:11,030
or better just to give him up.

3799
03:29:11,030 --> 03:29:13,550
But eventually, they
did and he ended up

3800
03:29:13,550 --> 03:29:16,250
in our children's home.

3801
03:29:16,250 --> 03:29:20,810
My friend to this day--
she lives in Canton, Ohio--

3802
03:29:20,810 --> 03:29:24,800
was brought to us with a sister.

3803
03:29:24,800 --> 03:29:28,520
And they had a very
interesting history too.

3804
03:29:28,520 --> 03:29:30,800
They were from Vilna.

3805
03:29:30,800 --> 03:29:37,515
And when the Germans were
coming in, the mother to come to

3806
03:29:37,515 --> 03:29:38,015
Ukraine--

3807
03:29:38,015 --> 03:29:40,520

3808
03:29:40,520 --> 03:29:43,670
Vilna Christian family.

3809
03:29:43,670 --> 03:29:49,190
And these people kept them
for a number of months.

3810
03:29:49,190 --> 03:29:55,190
Then one night my friend heard
the woman of the house say,

3811
03:29:55,190 --> 03:29:57,530
we're running out
of food, I think

3812
03:29:57,530 --> 03:30:03,940
I'm going to turn them over
to the Germans, the two girls.

3813
03:30:03,940 --> 03:30:06,030
So she heard that.

3814
03:30:06,030 --> 03:30:10,867
So at night, she woke up her
sister, and they ran away.

3815
03:30:10,867 --> 03:30:12,450
She didn't know where
she was running.

3816
03:30:12,450 --> 03:30:15,040
She was walking on the street--

3817
03:30:15,040 --> 03:30:17,190
I mean on the road.

3818
03:30:17,190 --> 03:30:20,450
And they got tired,
and they fell asleep.

3819
03:30:20,450 --> 03:30:23,790

And a priest found
them, and he immediately

3820
03:30:23,790 --> 03:30:26,430
realized who they are.

3821
03:30:26,430 --> 03:30:30,520
And they took them to a convent.

3822
03:30:30,520 --> 03:30:33,940
And they survived
in the convent.

3823
03:30:33,940 --> 03:30:38,085
And, of course, they were
totally Christianized--

3824
03:30:38,085 --> 03:30:40,870
if that's a proper term.

3825
03:30:40,870 --> 03:30:45,380
And the mother survived.

3826
03:30:45,380 --> 03:30:50,150
And she searched for those
girls and found them.

3827
03:30:50,150 --> 03:30:54,570
The problem was the girls
didn't want to stay with her.

3828
03:30:54,570 --> 03:30:56,520
They didn't know her anymore.

3829
03:30:56,520 --> 03:30:58,940
They didn't want
to stay with her.

3830
03:30:58,940 --> 03:31:04,680
And I think they also
got a little, you know,

3831

03:31:04,680 --> 03:31:08,430
prejudiced history against Jews.

3832
03:31:08,430 --> 03:31:12,500
And they called that poor
mother any name in the book.

3833
03:31:12,500 --> 03:31:14,040
They Didn't want to be with her.

3834
03:31:14,040 --> 03:31:16,300
They kept running away from her.

3835
03:31:16,300 --> 03:31:18,840
So she brought them to us.

3836
03:31:18,840 --> 03:31:23,760
And became a habit that the
every new child that would come

3837
03:31:23,760 --> 03:31:28,470
was put in the room with
me, because I was the one

3838
03:31:28,470 --> 03:31:32,010
child that was raised Jewish.

3839
03:31:32,010 --> 03:31:35,310
So they put-- her
name was Basha--

3840
03:31:35,310 --> 03:31:39,240
they put Basha in my room.

3841
03:31:39,240 --> 03:31:43,230
And at night once we
turned off the lights,

3842
03:31:43,230 --> 03:31:44,760
I remember watching her.

3843
03:31:44,760 --> 03:31:49,440

She would crawl down from
bed, kneel, cross herself,

3844
03:31:49,440 --> 03:31:51,710
and say a prayer.

3845
03:31:51,710 --> 03:31:55,620
And I didn't say
anything to anybody.

3846
03:31:55,620 --> 03:31:57,930
I felt she needed it.

3847
03:31:57,930 --> 03:32:04,040
But then, they assigned me
to walk with her to school.

3848
03:32:04,040 --> 03:32:07,990
We were registered
in a Yiddische shule,

3849
03:32:07,990 --> 03:32:13,010
a Jewish school, that taught
all subjects in Yiddish.

3850
03:32:13,010 --> 03:32:16,730
And Polish was again
a taught language--

3851
03:32:16,730 --> 03:32:18,450
Like Russian had been before.

3852
03:32:18,450 --> 03:32:19,580
Exactly.

3853
03:32:19,580 --> 03:32:24,290
So I walked with her.

3854
03:32:24,290 --> 03:32:28,280
And every day, she
would tell me, please,

3855

03:32:28,280 --> 03:32:33,230
let's just go into this church
for a minute, for two minutes,

3856
03:32:33,230 --> 03:32:34,880
please.

3857
03:32:34,880 --> 03:32:41,560
And I was told to say, no,
not to go into a church.

3858
03:32:41,560 --> 03:32:44,060
So I always said no to her.

3859
03:32:44,060 --> 03:32:48,820
In my later life, I regretted
it, because she possibly

3860
03:32:48,820 --> 03:32:51,958
needed that.

3861
03:32:51,958 --> 03:32:55,010
But we became good friends.

3862
03:32:55,010 --> 03:32:58,480
And then when we eventually
immigrated to Israel,

3863
03:32:58,480 --> 03:33:00,970
I lost contact with her.

3864
03:33:00,970 --> 03:33:04,870
And through a third girl
in our children's home,

3865
03:33:04,870 --> 03:33:09,290
when I was in America already,
she connected me with her.

3866
03:33:09,290 --> 03:33:12,520
And she told me that
she lives in Canton.

3867

03:33:12,520 --> 03:33:14,260

So I picked up the phone.

3868

03:33:14,260 --> 03:33:16,720

I found her phone number.

3869

03:33:16,720 --> 03:33:20,920

Information, those days,
you dialed information.

3870

03:33:20,920 --> 03:33:22,600

And I got her number.

3871

03:33:22,600 --> 03:33:25,592

And we both started
screaming in the phone.

3872

03:33:25,592 --> 03:33:29,090

And we are friends to this day.

3873

03:33:29,090 --> 03:33:34,150

And she speaks very often
about her experiences.

3874

03:33:34,150 --> 03:33:38,770

And tell me, was she able
to become Jewish again?

3875

03:33:38,770 --> 03:33:40,570

Very much so.

3876

03:33:40,570 --> 03:33:42,280

They went to Israel.

3877

03:33:42,280 --> 03:33:44,890

She lived in Israel like I did.

3878

03:33:44,890 --> 03:33:48,520

Her sister still
lives in Israel.

3879

03:33:48,520 --> 03:33:52,810
And her sister was the one
that was the most rebellious

3880
03:33:52,810 --> 03:33:55,810
against Judaism,
because she was younger

3881
03:33:55,810 --> 03:33:59,320
and that's all she remembers.

3882
03:33:59,320 --> 03:34:00,710
There were other incidents.

3883
03:34:00,710 --> 03:34:05,010
That they brought to us as
a six-year-old little girl.

3884
03:34:05,010 --> 03:34:07,570
And she must have been
a baby, literally,

3885
03:34:07,570 --> 03:34:11,240
when her parents gave
her away to a farm.

3886
03:34:11,240 --> 03:34:14,610
But those people were
not as kind to her.

3887
03:34:14,610 --> 03:34:19,010
And they made her work in the
fields at the age of five.

3888
03:34:19,010 --> 03:34:21,770
And she used to
tell us stories that

3889
03:34:21,770 --> 03:34:25,410
were unbelievable
for a five-year-old.

3890
03:34:25,410 --> 03:34:32,340

And she eventually made it to
Canada and became a doctor.

3891
03:34:32,340 --> 03:34:34,680
So these children--

3892
03:34:34,680 --> 03:34:36,390
You saw a world there.

3893
03:34:36,390 --> 03:34:37,390
Yes.

3894
03:34:37,390 --> 03:34:37,920
Yes.

3895
03:34:37,920 --> 03:34:42,000
I have many, many stories
from this children's home,

3896
03:34:42,000 --> 03:34:50,670
many stories, mostly
children sad, sad children.

3897
03:34:50,670 --> 03:34:51,930
They had no families.

3898
03:34:51,930 --> 03:34:54,210
They were brought
to a new place,

3899
03:34:54,210 --> 03:34:58,170
to most of them a new
religion, no rules.

3900
03:34:58,170 --> 03:35:00,720
Particularly, we were
under the supervision

3901
03:35:00,720 --> 03:35:05,630
of strictly Orthodox people,
which the men that thinks

3902

03:35:05,630 --> 03:35:14,230
that it was not psychologically
good for those children.

3903
03:35:14,230 --> 03:35:17,460
We weren't allowed
to go to movies.

3904
03:35:17,460 --> 03:35:19,810
So children would
sneak out sometime.

3905
03:35:19,810 --> 03:35:23,410
The older girls in particular
would go to a movie.

3906
03:35:23,410 --> 03:35:28,960
Well, if that rabbi who used
to come to us found out,

3907
03:35:28,960 --> 03:35:33,160
he would slam the table
and yell at all of us.

3908
03:35:33,160 --> 03:35:39,100
And we had to be dressed
modestly and different things

3909
03:35:39,100 --> 03:35:46,410
that I developed
animosity to this person

3910
03:35:46,410 --> 03:35:51,930
and really didn't like
him, because, like I say,

3911
03:35:51,930 --> 03:35:55,710
I had a different
vision, because I

3912
03:35:55,710 --> 03:35:58,690
had my mother, first of all.

3913

03:35:58,690 --> 03:36:00,710
And--

3914
03:36:00,710 --> 03:36:02,470
And you had a different spirit.

3915
03:36:02,470 --> 03:36:04,690
All through your
story, you have been

3916
03:36:04,690 --> 03:36:09,070
telling me of the
rituals and the prayers,

3917
03:36:09,070 --> 03:36:13,270
but also the kindness that was
associated with all the people

3918
03:36:13,270 --> 03:36:15,010
who introduced those to you.

3919
03:36:15,010 --> 03:36:15,580
Yes.

3920
03:36:15,580 --> 03:36:20,050
But not this man that was in
charge of this children's home.

3921
03:36:20,050 --> 03:36:23,140
I never forgave him for that.

3922
03:36:23,140 --> 03:36:26,740
I never forgave him,
because after his visits--

3923
03:36:26,740 --> 03:36:29,260
and when we used
to slam the table,

3924
03:36:29,260 --> 03:36:31,210
children would get stomachaches.

3925

03:36:31,210 --> 03:36:34,390

They would get so
upset, they would cry.

3926

03:36:34,390 --> 03:36:36,880

And that upset me terribly.

3927

03:36:36,880 --> 03:36:40,300

I was already 12 years
old, 13 years old.

3928

03:36:40,300 --> 03:36:45,580

And I could understand
how bad this was.

3929

03:36:45,580 --> 03:36:48,310

So that upset me greatly.

3930

03:36:48,310 --> 03:36:52,930

But to move on, we were
stuck under the communists

3931

03:36:52,930 --> 03:36:55,030

and we couldn't go anywhere.

3932

03:36:55,030 --> 03:37:00,700

But it was thanks to a
Jewish Orthodox rescue

3933

03:37:00,700 --> 03:37:04,090

organization, the
Vaad Hatzalah, which

3934

03:37:04,090 --> 03:37:11,800

literally means the Committee of
Rescue, Organization of rescue.

3935

03:37:11,800 --> 03:37:19,250

They somehow send us legal
passports to leave Poland.

3936

03:37:19,250 --> 03:37:26,420

So in November of

'48, we left Poland,

3937

03:37:26,420 --> 03:37:32,930
and we came to France because
France was one of those

3938

03:37:32,930 --> 03:37:34,520
gateways--

3939

03:37:34,520 --> 03:37:35,510
That's right--

3940

03:37:35,510 --> 03:37:37,070
To Israel.

3941

03:37:37,070 --> 03:37:40,740
So you didn't have to
smuggle like your sister had?

3942

03:37:40,740 --> 03:37:42,230
No.

3943

03:37:42,230 --> 03:37:48,410
We all know that
on May 14, 1948,

3944

03:37:48,410 --> 03:37:51,180
Israel declared independence.

3945

03:37:51,180 --> 03:37:53,960
So there was a state already.

3946

03:37:53,960 --> 03:37:58,880
So we came to Paris toward
the end of November.

3947

03:37:58,880 --> 03:38:01,710

3948

03:38:01,710 --> 03:38:05,810
We ended up being
there for three months,

3949
03:38:05,810 --> 03:38:11,990
with my mother going
almost every day

3950
03:38:11,990 --> 03:38:17,390
to the Jewish organization, see
when will be our turn to leave

3951
03:38:17,390 --> 03:38:18,420
and so forth.

3952
03:38:18,420 --> 03:38:20,640
But it took three months.

3953
03:38:20,640 --> 03:38:25,790
In the meantime, in
Poland, before we left,

3954
03:38:25,790 --> 03:38:28,190
my sister Bluma married.

3955
03:38:28,190 --> 03:38:30,560
And she went with her husband.

3956
03:38:30,560 --> 03:38:34,090

3957
03:38:34,090 --> 03:38:36,730
We separated in France.

3958
03:38:36,730 --> 03:38:39,410
They had their
chance to go sooner.

3959
03:38:39,410 --> 03:38:41,500
And we followed later.

3960
03:38:41,500 --> 03:38:43,360
So it was you and your
mother who were left.

3961

03:38:43,360 --> 03:38:44,420

Yes.

3962

03:38:44,420 --> 03:38:45,400

Yes.

3963

03:38:45,400 --> 03:38:49,690

And my mother and I lived
in those children's home,

3964

03:38:49,690 --> 03:38:51,450

the second children's home.

3965

03:38:51,450 --> 03:38:54,830

3966

03:38:54,830 --> 03:39:02,210

So we were in France a town not
far from Paris called by Baye.

3967

03:39:02,210 --> 03:39:06,080

It was a half hour train
ride, 40 minutes train ride.

3968

03:39:06,080 --> 03:39:10,520

That's where my
Grandfather Barth was.

3969

03:39:10,520 --> 03:39:15,170

But unfortunately, I did not
see my grandmother anymore.

3970

03:39:15,170 --> 03:39:21,950

She had passed away, and she
was buried in France, in Paris.

3971

03:39:21,950 --> 03:39:25,160

So one set in Kazakhstan
and the other--

3972

03:39:25,160 --> 03:39:26,880

In Paris.

3973
03:39:26,880 --> 03:39:32,090
Her body was actually-- after my
grandfather died in Jerusalem,

3974
03:39:32,090 --> 03:39:36,920
her body was exhumed and
brought to Jerusalem.

3975
03:39:36,920 --> 03:39:40,160
And she's buried side by
side with my grandfather.

3976
03:39:40,160 --> 03:39:43,360

3977
03:39:43,360 --> 03:39:52,414
So we eventually made our
way through Marseilles

3978
03:39:52,414 --> 03:39:58,430
in southern France to Israel.

3979
03:39:58,430 --> 03:40:00,870
And this would have
been the winter of '49?

3980
03:40:00,870 --> 03:40:04,920
No, it was by that time spring--

3981
03:40:04,920 --> 03:40:06,080
Of '49?

3982
03:40:06,080 --> 03:40:07,310
Yes.

3983
03:40:07,310 --> 03:40:09,590
Well, in Israel it was spring.

3984
03:40:09,590 --> 03:40:11,270
It was actually February.

3985

03:40:11,270 --> 03:40:16,510

We arrived in Israel
in February of 1949.

3986

03:40:16,510 --> 03:40:20,100

And we landed in Haifa.

3987

03:40:20,100 --> 03:40:24,510

And I remember looking
out and seeing the sunrise

3988

03:40:24,510 --> 03:40:28,110

on that beautiful
city on the mountain.

3989

03:40:28,110 --> 03:40:30,900

And I thought to
myself, this is it,

3990

03:40:30,900 --> 03:40:34,120

I am never, ever leaving here.

3991

03:40:34,120 --> 03:40:36,488

Well, here I am in
Cleveland, Ohio.

3992

03:40:36,488 --> 03:40:38,778

[LAUGHTER]

3993

03:40:38,778 --> 03:40:41,070

3994

03:40:41,070 --> 03:40:45,450

But it had been it had been
almost 10 years since--

3995

03:40:45,450 --> 03:40:47,850

when I count-- since
your father said

3996

03:40:47,850 --> 03:40:51,750

we have to get out of here,

the Germans have attacked.

3997

03:40:51,750 --> 03:40:55,550

You know, that's 9
and 1/2 years later.

3998

03:40:55,550 --> 03:40:58,320

Yes, many wanderings.

3999

03:40:58,320 --> 03:40:59,670

And an Odyssey.

4000

03:40:59,670 --> 03:41:01,240

Yes.

4001

03:41:01,240 --> 03:41:06,390

So we were in Israel.

4002

03:41:06,390 --> 03:41:10,140

And, of course,
in 1949, '50, '51,

4003

03:41:10,140 --> 03:41:15,430

they used to take everybody
to an absorption center.

4004

03:41:15,430 --> 03:41:19,360

So we ended up in that
absorption center.

4005

03:41:19,360 --> 03:41:23,170

They took us by
train from Haifa.

4006

03:41:23,170 --> 03:41:26,170

But it was an ancient train.

4007

03:41:26,170 --> 03:41:29,230

And people used to
walk along the train.

4008

03:41:29,230 --> 03:41:30,470

That's how slow--

4009
03:41:30,470 --> 03:41:31,550
It was--

4010
03:41:31,550 --> 03:41:32,650
It moved.

4011
03:41:32,650 --> 03:41:39,610
And we ended up
mid-afternoon in Pardes Hanna

4012
03:41:39,610 --> 03:41:43,060
in the absorption center.

4013
03:41:43,060 --> 03:41:45,740
And people were placed in tents.

4014
03:41:45,740 --> 03:41:49,370
You know, so many
immigrants came at once,

4015
03:41:49,370 --> 03:41:53,050
that they had no buildings.

4016
03:41:53,050 --> 03:41:56,730
So everybody ended up in a tent.

4017
03:41:56,730 --> 03:42:00,510
And after spending
the first night there,

4018
03:42:00,510 --> 03:42:06,930
my mother went to the office
and she requested bus tickets

4019
03:42:06,930 --> 03:42:09,930
for the two of us.

4020
03:42:09,930 --> 03:42:14,630
And we left the absorption
center after one night.

4021

03:42:14,630 --> 03:42:19,340

And we made our way to Tel Aviv,
where my sister was living.

4022

03:42:19,340 --> 03:42:22,450

And my younger sister--

4023

03:42:22,450 --> 03:42:28,380

my middle sister was
also there already

4024

03:42:28,380 --> 03:42:33,010

in a different apartment,
but she had like a one room.

4025

03:42:33,010 --> 03:42:37,300

And my older sister
had a bedroom

4026

03:42:37,300 --> 03:42:40,840

and like another half a
room, a little kitchen,

4027

03:42:40,840 --> 03:42:43,150

a little bigger.

4028

03:42:43,150 --> 03:42:49,120

So we went to her,
and we moved in.

4029

03:42:49,120 --> 03:42:54,650

But, you know, being what they
call in America greenhorns,

4030

03:42:54,650 --> 03:42:57,610

we had trouble getting
to her as well,

4031

03:42:57,610 --> 03:43:07,760

because we arrived by bus to
Tel Aviv and we had suitcases.

4032

03:43:07,760 --> 03:43:13,010

From Paris, from Poland,
we had the warm coats,

4033

03:43:13,010 --> 03:43:17,765

which we never put on again in
Israel, and things like that.

4034

03:43:17,765 --> 03:43:21,350

4035

03:43:21,350 --> 03:43:25,670

So from the bus
station, we took a cab.

4036

03:43:25,670 --> 03:43:30,510

And we gave the cabbie
my sister's address.

4037

03:43:30,510 --> 03:43:33,750

And the guy said, oh, I know,
I know exactly where it is.

4038

03:43:33,750 --> 03:43:35,760

I'll take you there.

4039

03:43:35,760 --> 03:43:41,840

So she lived on
the little street,

4040

03:43:41,840 --> 03:43:44,750

almost like this
street, a little street

4041

03:43:44,750 --> 03:43:50,030

called Lakhish, which was on
the corner of a big street that

4042

03:43:50,030 --> 03:43:55,330

cuts through all of Tel
Aviv, called Frishman.

4043

03:43:55,330 --> 03:43:57,880

When the guy saw
Frishman number 4,

4044

03:43:57,880 --> 03:44:00,830

he said I know
exactly where it is.

4045

03:44:00,830 --> 03:44:02,590

But this wasn't Frishman 4.

4046

03:44:02,590 --> 03:44:04,660

It was Lakhish 4.

4047

03:44:04,660 --> 03:44:10,660

He took us to the ocean, the
second building from the ocean.

4048

03:44:10,660 --> 03:44:16,800

My sister lived across town,
almost at the other end.

4049

03:44:16,800 --> 03:44:18,420

He left.

4050

03:44:18,420 --> 03:44:20,550

We started looking
in the building.

4051

03:44:20,550 --> 03:44:22,800

We didn't find her name.

4052

03:44:22,800 --> 03:44:25,530

We had no more money for a cab.

4053

03:44:25,530 --> 03:44:29,685

So we dragged across
town our luggage

4054

03:44:29,685 --> 03:44:35,010

and eventually arrived
at my sister's place.

4055

03:44:35,010 --> 03:44:40,070

So I was at that
point 14 and a half.

4056

03:44:40,070 --> 03:44:43,280

4057

03:44:43,280 --> 03:44:46,840

My mother wanted to
send me to school.

4058

03:44:46,840 --> 03:44:49,420

So, obviously, I
was too tall and too

4059

03:44:49,420 --> 03:44:54,070

big to go to fifth
grade or sixth grade.

4060

03:44:54,070 --> 03:44:56,825

Well, your schooling was
completely, completely--

4061

03:44:56,825 --> 03:44:59,770

Totally interrupted,
totally disorganized.

4062

03:44:59,770 --> 03:45:02,060

I had school in
different languages.

4063

03:45:02,060 --> 03:45:03,970

I did not speak Hebrew.

4064

03:45:03,970 --> 03:45:08,380

I knew a smattering of words.

4065

03:45:08,380 --> 03:45:11,210

She put me into
the eighth grade.

4066

03:45:11,210 --> 03:45:14,380

She might have as well
put me on the moon.

4067
03:45:14,380 --> 03:45:16,855
I had no idea what they
were talking about.

4068
03:45:16,855 --> 03:45:18,340
A, I didn't understand.

4069
03:45:18,340 --> 03:45:21,310
B, I didn't know the material.

4070
03:45:21,310 --> 03:45:27,540
And after a couple of weeks,
I was just so unhappy.

4071
03:45:27,540 --> 03:45:30,190
And God helped,
and I became sick.

4072
03:45:30,190 --> 03:45:31,770
I had tonsillitis.

4073
03:45:31,770 --> 03:45:34,800
And I had to have
my tonsils out.

4074
03:45:34,800 --> 03:45:41,190
And this was the end of my
going to a regular school.

4075
03:45:41,190 --> 03:45:47,730
So I needed a job, because,
again, we have nothing.

4076
03:45:47,730 --> 03:45:52,110
So my brother-in-law found
me like a mother's helper.

4077
03:45:52,110 --> 03:45:54,820

4078

03:45:54,820 --> 03:45:57,740

So I knew already enough words.

4079

03:45:57,740 --> 03:45:58,990

They had the little girl.

4080

03:45:58,990 --> 03:46:02,260

And the woman was
very much pregnant.

4081

03:46:02,260 --> 03:46:04,930

And I used to go every
day and try and help her

4082

03:46:04,930 --> 03:46:08,550

out with the household
chores and so forth.

4083

03:46:08,550 --> 03:46:12,290

Then the little girl
had-- she was about five--

4084

03:46:12,290 --> 03:46:14,260

had a playmate.

4085

03:46:14,260 --> 03:46:18,630

And the Playmate asked her
who's that, pointing at me.

4086

03:46:18,630 --> 03:46:24,210

And she said, this is our maid,
[? ezer ?],, which means helper,

4087

03:46:24,210 --> 03:46:28,260

but it translates into maid.

4088

03:46:28,260 --> 03:46:32,650

When I heard that,
I told the woman

4089

03:46:32,650 --> 03:46:35,940

that I can't work

for her anymore.

4090

03:46:35,940 --> 03:46:37,580

I just decided--

4091

03:46:37,580 --> 03:46:38,965

I don't know, just--

4092

03:46:38,965 --> 03:46:39,590

I'm not a maid.

4093

03:46:39,590 --> 03:46:42,730

[? Tachme, ?] I'm not
going to be a maid.

4094

03:46:42,730 --> 03:46:47,560

So we had the relative,
the one who christened me

4095

03:46:47,560 --> 03:46:54,850

Rina, he and his brother owned
a factory of beds, iron beds.

4096

03:46:54,850 --> 03:46:58,550

And he knew how bad off we were.

4097

03:46:58,550 --> 03:47:01,820

So he said, you know
what, come to my factory.

4098

03:47:01,820 --> 03:47:05,140

I need somebody, he said,
to answer the phone.

4099

03:47:05,140 --> 03:47:10,730

Come at least three days for a
few hours and answer the phone.

4100

03:47:10,730 --> 03:47:12,140

So I did.

4101

03:47:12,140 --> 03:47:17,600

And whatever I earned,
I hired a private tutor

4102
03:47:17,600 --> 03:47:20,820
to teach me the language.

4103
03:47:20,820 --> 03:47:26,140
And once I felt proficient
enough to get another job,

4104
03:47:26,140 --> 03:47:30,580
I got a job in a knit store--
oh, no, in a candy store.

4105
03:47:30,580 --> 03:47:33,030
Excuse me, first
in a candy store.

4106
03:47:33,030 --> 03:47:38,640
The candy store was probably as
big as from the wall to here--

4107
03:47:38,640 --> 03:47:40,470
tiny, tiny.

4108
03:47:40,470 --> 03:47:42,930
And everything they
had was on shelves.

4109
03:47:42,930 --> 03:47:46,380
And you had to reach
everything on the ladder.

4110
03:47:46,380 --> 03:47:52,200
And the owners were German
Jews, an older couple that

4111
03:47:52,200 --> 03:47:54,990
came to Israel some years ago.

4112
03:47:54,990 --> 03:47:57,600
And they no longer
felt comfortable going

4113
03:47:57,600 --> 03:47:59,040
on the ladder.

4114
03:47:59,040 --> 03:48:01,020
When I say older,
who knows, they

4115
03:48:01,020 --> 03:48:03,270
could have been in
their 50s or 60s.

4116
03:48:03,270 --> 03:48:05,183
To a 14-year-old--

4117
03:48:05,183 --> 03:48:05,850
That's all old--

4118
03:48:05,850 --> 03:48:07,350
They were old.

4119
03:48:07,350 --> 03:48:10,830
So I worked there
for a few months

4120
03:48:10,830 --> 03:48:14,220
till I learned some more Hebrew.

4121
03:48:14,220 --> 03:48:16,560
I still had a tutor.

4122
03:48:16,560 --> 03:48:21,600
And then I got a job
in a knitting store.

4123
03:48:21,600 --> 03:48:26,040
I knew enough, they taught
me how to give instructions.

4124
03:48:26,040 --> 03:48:30,180
So I learned how to knit and
how to give instructions.

4125
03:48:30,180 --> 03:48:33,476
And I worked there for
a number of months.

4126
03:48:33,476 --> 03:48:39,090
And I'm jumping ahead because
then shortly after our arrival

4127
03:48:39,090 --> 03:48:44,680
in Israel, this first
cousin of my husband--

4128
03:48:44,680 --> 03:48:46,870
of my mother, sorry--

4129
03:48:46,870 --> 03:48:53,900
first cousin of my
mother's came to Israel.

4130
03:48:53,900 --> 03:48:55,660
He was from Sanok.

4131
03:48:55,660 --> 03:48:59,440
He was their relative
that we had visited.

4132
03:48:59,440 --> 03:49:07,060
And he lost his wife and two
daughters under the Germans.

4133
03:49:07,060 --> 03:49:14,240
He and a daughter and
two sons ended up further

4134
03:49:14,240 --> 03:49:17,820
in Siberia than we.

4135
03:49:17,820 --> 03:49:22,210
We actually, once things got
a little better in Bukhara,

4136

03:49:22,210 --> 03:49:25,600
we used to send them
packages of fruit,

4137
03:49:25,600 --> 03:49:28,510
primarily of dried
fruit, because we

4138
03:49:28,510 --> 03:49:34,220
knew that they don't get any
vitamins, any fruit in Siberia.

4139
03:49:34,220 --> 03:49:37,030
And they stayed
there longer than we.

4140
03:49:37,030 --> 03:49:47,340
Somehow-- he was also a rabbi,
a scholar, a very learned man.

4141
03:49:47,340 --> 03:49:54,500
And actually, after the war, he
worked like in the Jewish court

4142
03:49:54,500 --> 03:49:57,120
that established in Berlin.

4143
03:49:57,120 --> 03:50:01,150
And he dealt with divorces
and with other things.

4144
03:50:01,150 --> 03:50:05,520
There were unfortunately many
couples that after the war

4145
03:50:05,520 --> 03:50:11,180
chose not to live
together anymore,

4146
03:50:11,180 --> 03:50:15,750
like this relative of my husband
who lost a three-year-old boy

4147

03:50:15,750 --> 03:50:17,670
in front of their eyes.

4148
03:50:17,670 --> 03:50:21,120
He was bayoneted by a German.

4149
03:50:21,120 --> 03:50:24,960
And they just couldn't
live together afterwards.

4150
03:50:24,960 --> 03:50:28,120
And they were, somebody
like that, that

4151
03:50:28,120 --> 03:50:30,640
divorced right after the war.

4152
03:50:30,640 --> 03:50:34,660
When they found each
other, they got divorced.

4153
03:50:34,660 --> 03:50:40,790
So this cousin of my
mother's, they decided--

4154
03:50:40,790 --> 03:50:46,110
my mother had been a widow
at this point for 8 years.

4155
03:50:46,110 --> 03:50:49,100
And so they got married.

4156
03:50:49,100 --> 03:50:51,770
In Jewish law, it's permissible.

4157
03:50:51,770 --> 03:50:56,000
And obviously, they were
beyond childbearing years.

4158
03:50:56,000 --> 03:50:58,220
So they didn't have children.

4159

03:50:58,220 --> 03:51:04,880
But his youngest son, who's only
eight months older than I am--

4160
03:51:04,880 --> 03:51:07,880
his name is Schmuel.

4161
03:51:07,880 --> 03:51:16,570
He and I eventually moved in
with our parents in one room.

4162
03:51:16,570 --> 03:51:20,750
It was a building
that used to be

4163
03:51:20,750 --> 03:51:27,280
in the Arabic area
between Tel Aviv and Yafo,

4164
03:51:27,280 --> 03:51:31,990
because housing was
terrible shortage in Israel

4165
03:51:31,990 --> 03:51:36,140
at that time with all
these immigrants coming in.

4166
03:51:36,140 --> 03:51:40,140
So this was our first
apartment with an outhouse

4167
03:51:40,140 --> 03:51:44,100
and a little dark,
mutual kitchen.

4168
03:51:44,100 --> 03:51:47,730
But after some months,
my mother got a job.

4169
03:51:47,730 --> 03:51:49,920
And my stepfather got the job.

4170
03:51:49,920 --> 03:51:51,220

What was his name?

4171

03:51:51,220 --> 03:51:54,660

His name was Rabbi

Itzhak Granik--

4172

03:51:54,660 --> 03:52:06,110

G-R-A-N-I-K. And so we were
able to move to a two-bedroom

4173

03:52:06,110 --> 03:52:07,580

apartment.

4174

03:52:07,580 --> 03:52:08,800

There were no living rooms.

4175

03:52:08,800 --> 03:52:12,560

The bedrooms became living
area during the day.

4176

03:52:12,560 --> 03:52:16,490

And my stepbrother
and I shared the room.

4177

03:52:16,490 --> 03:52:17,960

And the parents had a room.

4178

03:52:17,960 --> 03:52:20,150

And there was a little kitchen.

4179

03:52:20,150 --> 03:52:25,160

And we lived there
for some time.

4180

03:52:25,160 --> 03:52:28,040

I remember this was upstairs.

4181

03:52:28,040 --> 03:52:31,760

And downstairs was
a Yemenite Jew.

4182

03:52:31,760 --> 03:52:35,390

And it snowed in
Tel Aviv that year.

4183
03:52:35,390 --> 03:52:37,970
And that man had
never seen snow.

4184
03:52:37,970 --> 03:52:40,130
And he came running
to our apartment

4185
03:52:40,130 --> 03:52:42,140
and knocked at the
door, and he said,

4186
03:52:42,140 --> 03:52:44,750
something white is
coming down from the sky.

4187
03:52:44,750 --> 03:52:46,940
He didn't have
the name for snow.

4188
03:52:46,940 --> 03:52:48,580
He said something is coming--

4189
03:52:48,580 --> 03:52:51,170
in Hebrew, of course-- is
coming down from the sky.

4190
03:52:51,170 --> 03:52:52,550
What's happening?

4191
03:52:52,550 --> 03:52:55,400
He was unaware of it.

4192
03:52:55,400 --> 03:53:01,580
But anyway, we moved again.

4193
03:53:01,580 --> 03:53:07,490
I don't know why,
but we moved again

4194
03:53:07,490 --> 03:53:10,520
to another apartment
in Tel Aviv, which

4195
03:53:10,520 --> 03:53:13,790
now became a very hip area.

4196
03:53:13,790 --> 03:53:16,070
It's like Soho in New York.

4197
03:53:16,070 --> 03:53:17,630
It came back to life.

4198
03:53:17,630 --> 03:53:20,450
They rebuilt. I went
back a few years

4199
03:53:20,450 --> 03:53:23,270
to see if I can
still find it, house.

4200
03:53:23,270 --> 03:53:25,950
And it's gone.

4201
03:53:25,950 --> 03:53:30,370
There's a beautiful
building standing there.

4202
03:53:30,370 --> 03:53:34,070
So I slowly progressed--

4203
03:53:34,070 --> 03:53:41,630
What was it like for you living
now with a new half-family?

4204
03:53:41,630 --> 03:53:44,585
You know, you were in
a reconstituted family.

4205
03:53:44,585 --> 03:53:45,710
It was hard.

4206

03:53:45,710 --> 03:53:48,620

When they first married,
I didn't join them.

4207

03:53:48,620 --> 03:53:50,660

I didn't join my parents.

4208

03:53:50,660 --> 03:53:55,070

I stayed with my sister
for a couple months.

4209

03:53:55,070 --> 03:54:00,200

And then the older brother,
whose name was Aryeh.

4210

03:54:00,200 --> 03:54:03,230

He used to come from
time to time take me out

4211

03:54:03,230 --> 03:54:06,350

to a movie or something
and visit my sister.

4212

03:54:06,350 --> 03:54:09,710

He and my sister
were close in age.

4213

03:54:09,710 --> 03:54:13,140

And they knew each other
from before the war.

4214

03:54:13,140 --> 03:54:15,040

So he would come over and visit.

4215

03:54:15,040 --> 03:54:19,380

Then one day he said,
let's go for a walk, to me.

4216

03:54:19,380 --> 03:54:24,600

And he said, is there something
special that upset you or so?

4217

03:54:24,600 --> 03:54:28,110
Why don't you go and
live with our parents?

4218
03:54:28,110 --> 03:54:32,590
They are very upset that
you aren't coming home.

4219
03:54:32,590 --> 03:54:37,060
And I didn't think
of it that way.

4220
03:54:37,060 --> 03:54:39,640
I just knew they live in one
apartment, my stepbrother,

4221
03:54:39,640 --> 03:54:41,530
you know, it was all new.

4222
03:54:41,530 --> 03:54:43,450
I didn't know him.

4223
03:54:43,450 --> 03:54:45,950
And so I stayed with my sister.

4224
03:54:45,950 --> 03:54:47,790
But he said that my
parents are really

4225
03:54:47,790 --> 03:54:50,820
upset that I'm not coming home.

4226
03:54:50,820 --> 03:54:55,046
So the next day I packed my
few things and I'm moved in.

4227
03:54:55,046 --> 03:54:55,800
I see.

4228
03:54:55,800 --> 03:55:02,310
So, yeah, we lived together.

4229

03:55:02,310 --> 03:55:03,930
And even the second--

4230
03:55:03,930 --> 03:55:08,490
third place already,
we have two bedrooms.

4231
03:55:08,490 --> 03:55:11,580
And my mother had a
little separate kitchen,

4232
03:55:11,580 --> 03:55:15,220
but it was like a hole in
the wall, you know, not much.

4233
03:55:15,220 --> 03:55:17,400
It was a very old building.

4234
03:55:17,400 --> 03:55:23,980
And I had a bedroom by myself.

4235
03:55:23,980 --> 03:55:27,080
But I had to work.

4236
03:55:27,080 --> 03:55:34,830
So from the knit shop, I
found a job in that bank,

4237
03:55:34,830 --> 03:55:36,420
but not as a teller.

4238
03:55:36,420 --> 03:55:37,590
I found a job--

4239
03:55:37,590 --> 03:55:42,090
they had a division
of insurance.

4240
03:55:42,090 --> 03:55:48,420
So I was accepted there with
very minimal knowledge of what

4241

03:55:48,420 --> 03:55:51,600
one needs to do in an office.

4242
03:55:51,600 --> 03:55:58,220
I immediately signed
up for typing lessons.

4243
03:55:58,220 --> 03:56:01,885
And actually, my
brother-in-law paid for it.

4244
03:56:01,885 --> 03:56:03,820
Aryeh?

4245
03:56:03,820 --> 03:56:08,840
No, my brother-in-law
Moshe Kaufmann paid for it

4246
03:56:08,840 --> 03:56:13,070
because I didn't have
the money and my parents

4247
03:56:13,070 --> 03:56:15,120
didn't have the money.

4248
03:56:15,120 --> 03:56:18,650
So I asked him,
and he paid for it.

4249
03:56:18,650 --> 03:56:29,460
And I learned enough to be able
to get along in that office,

4250
03:56:29,460 --> 03:56:32,080
to be able to write letters.

4251
03:56:32,080 --> 03:56:36,850
And we dealt a lot with
the different kibbutzim.

4252
03:56:36,850 --> 03:56:43,170
And there were many forms I had
to fill out and many things.

4253
03:56:43,170 --> 03:56:46,870
And I learned enough of
the language to do that.

4254
03:56:46,870 --> 03:56:52,530
I also simultaneously signed
up for a year business school.

4255
03:56:52,530 --> 03:56:57,960
So I learnt different things
that you need in business--

4256
03:56:57,960 --> 03:57:03,460
math and typing, putting a
letter together and so forth.

4257
03:57:03,460 --> 03:57:04,770
So I did that.

4258
03:57:04,770 --> 03:57:06,750
I was 16 at the time.

4259
03:57:06,750 --> 03:57:08,230
You're still young.

4260
03:57:08,230 --> 03:57:09,326
You're still a young girl.

4261
03:57:09,326 --> 03:57:11,690
Yeah, but I have to work.

4262
03:57:11,690 --> 03:57:15,420
And I actually remained on this
job till after I was married.

4263
03:57:15,420 --> 03:57:19,320

4264
03:57:19,320 --> 03:57:21,270
When I finished with
the business school,

4265
03:57:21,270 --> 03:57:24,370
I signed up for high school.

4266
03:57:24,370 --> 03:57:28,840
By that point, I was
working full-time,

4267
03:57:28,840 --> 03:57:33,700
and they had evening,
night school.

4268
03:57:33,700 --> 03:57:38,710
So I would work from
8:30 in the morning

4269
03:57:38,710 --> 03:57:42,850
till 5:30, with a
break for lunch.

4270
03:57:42,850 --> 03:57:46,100
And school would start at 6:00.

4271
03:57:46,100 --> 03:57:49,490
So I would go to school
till 10 o'clock at night.

4272
03:57:49,490 --> 03:57:51,530
Oh, my goodness,
that's a grueling day--

4273
03:57:51,530 --> 03:57:55,070
Four days a week--

4274
03:57:55,070 --> 03:57:56,350
five days a week--

4275
03:57:56,350 --> 03:57:57,200
no, four days.

4276
03:57:57,200 --> 03:58:00,740
Not Friday, not Saturday,

five days a week.

4277

03:58:00,740 --> 03:58:03,270

And I'm I made friends there.

4278

03:58:03,270 --> 03:58:06,770

And I used to go out
with boys afterwards.

4279

03:58:06,770 --> 03:58:12,750

And I went out with one
boy for an extended time.

4280

03:58:12,750 --> 03:58:20,650

And during that time, I met
another distant relative,

4281

03:58:20,650 --> 03:58:27,190

not a blood relation,
but an adopted boy

4282

03:58:27,190 --> 03:58:29,260

who was in the army.

4283

03:58:29,260 --> 03:58:33,130

And I thought he was just
the most gorgeous creature

4284

03:58:33,130 --> 03:58:34,460

I had ever seen.

4285

03:58:34,460 --> 03:58:38,130

He was tall and broad
shouldered and handsome.

4286

03:58:38,130 --> 03:58:40,780

And I really fell
in love with him.

4287

03:58:40,780 --> 03:58:45,340

And he became my
boyfriend for a while.

4288

03:58:45,340 --> 03:58:52,750

And eventually, obviously,
I didn't marry him.

4289

03:58:52,750 --> 03:58:54,175

I broke up with him.

4290

03:58:54,175 --> 03:58:58,300

My mother was very much against
it because he was in the army

4291

03:58:58,300 --> 03:59:02,110

and he had signed up
for extended stay.

4292

03:59:02,110 --> 03:59:07,780

And my mother said, I don't
want you marrying an army man.

4293

03:59:07,780 --> 03:59:09,670

Who knows where
he's going to end up

4294

03:59:09,670 --> 03:59:12,050

and where you're going
to live and where what.

4295

03:59:12,050 --> 03:59:18,030

And there was a rumor
that he will get--

4296

03:59:18,030 --> 03:59:21,490

they used to give
soldiers priority

4297

03:59:21,490 --> 03:59:25,450

of where to build an
apartment or get an apartment.

4298

03:59:25,450 --> 03:59:29,440

And he told me once he
may get an apartment

4299

03:59:29,440 --> 03:59:35,230
in Bnei Brak, which is a
city outside of Tel Aviv.

4300

03:59:35,230 --> 03:59:38,830
It takes all of 20, 25
minutes to get there.

4301

03:59:38,830 --> 03:59:42,220
And my mother said, what are
you going to do all the way out

4302

03:59:42,220 --> 03:59:43,540
in Bnei Brak?

4303

03:59:43,540 --> 03:59:47,470
And here I am oceans apart.

4304

03:59:47,470 --> 03:59:50,380
But that was at the
time, you know--

4305

03:59:50,380 --> 03:59:53,230
and somehow one
thing led to another,

4306

03:59:53,230 --> 03:59:55,390
and I broke up with him.

4307

03:59:55,390 --> 03:59:58,500

4308

03:59:58,500 --> 04:00:03,210
But to go back to my
interest, I worked

4309

04:00:03,210 --> 04:00:05,520
and I went to night school.

4310

04:00:05,520 --> 04:00:07,210
And it wasn't easy.

4311

04:00:07,210 --> 04:00:09,380

It wasn't it easy at all.

4312

04:00:09,380 --> 04:00:14,280

And I used to study for
many hours into the night.

4313

04:00:14,280 --> 04:00:20,730

And then one day, I received
a phone call from a friend

4314

04:00:20,730 --> 04:00:25,430

that I knew from a
group that was actually

4315

04:00:25,430 --> 04:00:27,770

outside the children's
home in Lodz,

4316

04:00:27,770 --> 04:00:30,740

but a group that
used to get together,

4317

04:00:30,740 --> 04:00:33,890

girls, Saturday afternoon.

4318

04:00:33,890 --> 04:00:36,260

And we used to study a little.

4319

04:00:36,260 --> 04:00:40,010

I didn't know how to read
yet, Hebrew, at that time.

4320

04:00:40,010 --> 04:00:43,880

But I used to study, and
I have a good memory.

4321

04:00:43,880 --> 04:00:48,680

And one day they called on
me, and I remember the passage

4322

04:00:48,680 --> 04:00:50,420

by heart.

4323
04:00:50,420 --> 04:00:53,420
And I came home, and
I told my mother,

4324
04:00:53,420 --> 04:00:57,200
today, you teach
me how to read--

4325
04:00:57,200 --> 04:00:59,090
this was still in Lodz--

4326
04:00:59,090 --> 04:01:04,600
because I was embarrassed
inside that they may call on me,

4327
04:01:04,600 --> 04:01:06,990
and I didn't know how to read.

4328
04:01:06,990 --> 04:01:10,050
So she sat down with
me that afternoon.

4329
04:01:10,050 --> 04:01:13,710
I was reading, I was
beginning to read.

4330
04:01:13,710 --> 04:01:15,930
So--

4331
04:01:15,930 --> 04:01:18,180
Was that Hebrew that you
were beginning to read?

4332
04:01:18,180 --> 04:01:22,450
Yes, because Yiddish I
knew, and Polish I knew.

4333
04:01:22,450 --> 04:01:26,400
And I knew how to write Russian.

4334

04:01:26,400 --> 04:01:30,030
So to go back to Tel Aviv--

4335
04:01:30,030 --> 04:01:32,980
I'm jumping back and forth--

4336
04:01:32,980 --> 04:01:36,750
I got a call from a girl
that I knew from that group.

4337
04:01:36,750 --> 04:01:39,810
And she said, I'm
having some people over,

4338
04:01:39,810 --> 04:01:44,310
and actually there's
going to be an American.

4339
04:01:44,310 --> 04:01:46,160
Why don't you come?

4340
04:01:46,160 --> 04:01:49,140
So I said, well, I will, but
this will be after 10 o'clock,

4341
04:01:49,140 --> 04:01:50,490
because I have classes.

4342
04:01:50,490 --> 04:01:53,580
She said, that's all
right, we'll be here.

4343
04:01:53,580 --> 04:01:54,720
So I went.

4344
04:01:54,720 --> 04:01:59,310
And who was the American
but my future husband.

4345
04:01:59,310 --> 04:02:03,740
So we started speaking.

4346

04:02:03,740 --> 04:02:05,520
And he asked to take me home.

4347
04:02:05,520 --> 04:02:08,390

4348
04:02:08,390 --> 04:02:12,500
Then he asked me for the following day for a date.

4349
04:02:12,500 --> 04:02:17,480
And I did not want to seem too easy, so I said I was busy.

4350
04:02:17,480 --> 04:02:21,410
And then he said, well, I think I'm going to be easy

4351
04:02:21,410 --> 04:02:23,260
be busy the following day.

4352
04:02:23,260 --> 04:02:25,100
I said, that's OK.

4353
04:02:25,100 --> 04:02:29,390
And he said, well, maybe I'll cancel the other plans.

4354
04:02:29,390 --> 04:02:33,500
And we got together the following day

4355
04:02:33,500 --> 04:02:38,150
and from then on every day.

4356
04:02:38,150 --> 04:02:43,870
I met him in December of 1953.

4357
04:02:43,870 --> 04:02:48,740
We were married in February 1954, two months later.

4358

04:02:48,740 --> 04:02:49,240
Wow.

4359
04:02:49,240 --> 04:02:50,157
You didn't wait long--

4360
04:02:50,157 --> 04:02:54,250
With a formal engagement
of three weeks.

4361
04:02:54,250 --> 04:02:58,650
After the first week, he
asked me for my ring size.

4362
04:02:58,650 --> 04:03:00,880
It went very fast.

4363
04:03:00,880 --> 04:03:09,900
And there were a lot of reasons
why we found mutual language.

4364
04:03:09,900 --> 04:03:14,430
You were asking me something
before and this came to mind.

4365
04:03:14,430 --> 04:03:19,330
When we came to Israel,
Holocaust survivors

4366
04:03:19,330 --> 04:03:22,690
were not honored in any way.

4367
04:03:22,690 --> 04:03:26,160

4368
04:03:26,160 --> 04:03:28,980
The native Israelis,
particularly

4369
04:03:28,980 --> 04:03:36,690
the youth, which was already
trained to fight, to be strong,

4370

04:03:36,690 --> 04:03:39,060
they could not understand.

4371

04:03:39,060 --> 04:03:44,010
How could you allow
yourself to be shipped,

4372

04:03:44,010 --> 04:03:47,090
to be taken to the slaughter?

4373

04:03:47,090 --> 04:03:50,450
They could not
identify with that.

4374

04:03:50,450 --> 04:03:53,100
They could not comprehend it.

4375

04:03:53,100 --> 04:03:58,230
And I belonged in Tel
Aviv to a youth group.

4376

04:03:58,230 --> 04:04:02,040
And all of us,
without exception,

4377

04:04:02,040 --> 04:04:04,410
were children that
survived the Holocaust.

4378

04:04:04,410 --> 04:04:09,240
We did not have one native
Israeli in our group.

4379

04:04:09,240 --> 04:04:13,110
As a matter of fact, I had
another distant cousin,

4380

04:04:13,110 --> 04:04:18,200
born in Israel, very,
very handsome boy.

4381

04:04:18,200 --> 04:04:21,920

He was actually written
up as one of the most

4382
04:04:21,920 --> 04:04:23,975
handsome young men in Israel.

4383
04:04:23,975 --> 04:04:28,110

4384
04:04:28,110 --> 04:04:32,110
I met him, and he asked me
to go out with him I was 17.

4385
04:04:32,110 --> 04:04:35,290

4386
04:04:35,290 --> 04:04:39,570
I went out with them once
or twice, which was fine.

4387
04:04:39,570 --> 04:04:42,870
Then one day he invited me
to come to his house, which

4388
04:04:42,870 --> 04:04:44,230
I had been before.

4389
04:04:44,230 --> 04:04:45,870
They were relatives.

4390
04:04:45,870 --> 04:04:51,520
But he invited a group
of other friends.

4391
04:04:51,520 --> 04:04:55,570
And we were speaking,
which was OK.

4392
04:04:55,570 --> 04:04:59,980
Then they decided
to play charades.

4393

04:04:59,980 --> 04:05:03,810
And they were somewhat
of an intellectual group.

4394
04:05:03,810 --> 04:05:08,170
And I was nowhere near them.

4395
04:05:08,170 --> 04:05:17,050
And the charades were do
mind and different books

4396
04:05:17,050 --> 04:05:22,210
and different stories that
were totally unfamiliar to me.

4397
04:05:22,210 --> 04:05:26,350
And I remember one of the books
was "The Naked and the Dead."

4398
04:05:26,350 --> 04:05:28,900

4399
04:05:28,900 --> 04:05:30,190
Yes.

4400
04:05:30,190 --> 04:05:36,950
And I felt so
inadequate at that point

4401
04:05:36,950 --> 04:05:41,360
that I never wanted
to see him again.

4402
04:05:41,360 --> 04:05:47,790
I just felt not
equal, not equal.

4403
04:05:47,790 --> 04:05:52,410
And I always had a
thirst for learning.

4404
04:05:52,410 --> 04:05:55,740
It was very important to me.

4405
04:05:55,740 --> 04:06:00,060
But I could only go
so far in the years,

4406
04:06:00,060 --> 04:06:04,240
like in Israel where I had a
little bit of an opportunity,

4407
04:06:04,240 --> 04:06:06,630
I still didn't go
to a regular school.

4408
04:06:06,630 --> 04:06:08,680
I had to go to night school.

4409
04:06:08,680 --> 04:06:09,850
I didn't get art.

4410
04:06:09,850 --> 04:06:17,690
And I didn't get labs or
any of those kind of things.

4411
04:06:17,690 --> 04:06:22,250
But after we were
married, I continued.

4412
04:06:22,250 --> 04:06:24,840
I was in my senior year.

4413
04:06:24,840 --> 04:06:26,530
And I managed to--

4414
04:06:26,530 --> 04:06:28,190
in Israel you have
to matriculate

4415
04:06:28,190 --> 04:06:30,180
through the government.

4416
04:06:30,180 --> 04:06:33,570
You don't have tests

just in school.

4417

04:06:33,570 --> 04:06:37,070

You have to take an
official government test.

4418

04:06:37,070 --> 04:06:42,150

So I managed to test out from--

4419

04:06:42,150 --> 04:06:45,920

there were certain
subjects, certain times.

4420

04:06:45,920 --> 04:06:51,440

So I tested out from a number
of subjects, but not everything.

4421

04:06:51,440 --> 04:06:57,230

But I got the certificate that I
tested out from these subjects.

4422

04:06:57,230 --> 04:07:05,360

Then I received-- after we were
married, so another story--

4423

04:07:05,360 --> 04:07:07,990

after three weeks,
my husband left.

4424

04:07:07,990 --> 04:07:12,080

He had to go back to the
States to start working.

4425

04:07:12,080 --> 04:07:15,380

He had been in Israel
this time for six months.

4426

04:07:15,380 --> 04:07:18,380

But I didn't know
him the six months.

4427

04:07:18,380 --> 04:07:23,450

He stayed with relatives who

were there prior to the war.

4428
04:07:23,450 --> 04:07:29,010
And they decided that
he should not leave

4429
04:07:29,010 --> 04:07:32,060
till he finds a wife in Israel.

4430
04:07:32,060 --> 04:07:37,800
He was 30 years old, and they
wanted to see him married.

4431
04:07:37,800 --> 04:07:42,420
And he himself wanted to
marry, because he also

4432
04:07:42,420 --> 04:07:45,600
tried to date here
American girls

4433
04:07:45,600 --> 04:07:49,650
and couldn't find mutual
language with them.

4434
04:07:49,650 --> 04:07:55,140
So he dated many girls.

4435
04:07:55,140 --> 04:07:58,110
Sometimes he would go for
lunch and for dinner two

4436
04:07:58,110 --> 04:08:01,890
different girls and
so on until he met me.

4437
04:08:01,890 --> 04:08:07,530
And then as I said, we weren't
going out till we were married.

4438
04:08:07,530 --> 04:08:13,860
And three weeks after we
were married, he left me.

4439
04:08:13,860 --> 04:08:15,070
I went back to work.

4440
04:08:15,070 --> 04:08:17,840

4441
04:08:17,840 --> 04:08:20,440
I don't know how long
you want to stretch this.

4442
04:08:20,440 --> 04:08:21,920
No, just tell me--

4443
04:08:21,920 --> 04:08:23,280
I'll come in with my questions.

4444
04:08:23,280 --> 04:08:23,780
Don't worry.

4445
04:08:23,780 --> 04:08:26,930
You went back to work.

4446
04:08:26,930 --> 04:08:30,000
And I used to pass
the same place.

4447
04:08:30,000 --> 04:08:33,150
Tel Aviv, I don't know
how you're familiar--

4448
04:08:33,150 --> 04:08:38,270
has magnificent hotels
now, many, many of them.

4449
04:08:38,270 --> 04:08:40,850
There wasn't a single
big hotel when you

4450
04:08:40,850 --> 04:08:44,660
were married in February 1954.

4451

04:08:44,660 --> 04:08:49,370

They were just putting in the
footers of the first big Dan

4452

04:08:49,370 --> 04:08:51,280

Hotel.

4453

04:08:51,280 --> 04:08:54,560

So we stayed in a little--

4454

04:08:54,560 --> 04:08:56,680

it's not even bed and
breakfast, because they

4455

04:08:56,680 --> 04:08:58,120

didn't serve you anything.

4456

04:08:58,120 --> 04:08:59,110

But they had rooms--

4457

04:08:59,110 --> 04:09:00,610

Like a pensione--

4458

04:09:00,610 --> 04:09:03,070

A pensione, right.

4459

04:09:03,070 --> 04:09:05,580

They had the gall to
call it The Astoria.

4460

04:09:05,580 --> 04:09:10,030

[LAUGHTER] So we got a
room there with a bathroom

4461

04:09:10,030 --> 04:09:11,860

down the hall.

4462

04:09:11,860 --> 04:09:14,500

This was our wedding night.

4463

04:09:14,500 --> 04:09:21,090

And downstairs were stores.

4464

04:09:21,090 --> 04:09:22,860

And there were always two guys--

4465

04:09:22,860 --> 04:09:24,850

you know, there was
no air conditioning.

4466

04:09:24,850 --> 04:09:26,820

There's not much business.

4467

04:09:26,820 --> 04:09:31,920

They would stand outside and
kibbutz, talk to each other.

4468

04:09:31,920 --> 04:09:36,720

And they would see us going
up to the pensione and back

4469

04:09:36,720 --> 04:09:39,140

out and so forth.

4470

04:09:39,140 --> 04:09:43,250

My husband left, I was still
walking that way to work.

4471

04:09:43,250 --> 04:09:46,370

I got the dirtiest
looks from them.

4472

04:09:46,370 --> 04:09:50,460

Not only did I not have
my husband with me,

4473

04:09:50,460 --> 04:09:53,320

I also didn't have my ring.

4474

04:09:53,320 --> 04:09:56,150

What happened was when
he came to Israel,

4475

04:09:56,150 --> 04:09:59,550
he had a man's ring
with a little diamond.

4476
04:09:59,550 --> 04:10:02,380
And in those years,
they were very strict.

4477
04:10:02,380 --> 04:10:07,590
And if you brought in anything
of what they consider value,

4478
04:10:07,590 --> 04:10:11,510
they put it in your passport.

4479
04:10:11,510 --> 04:10:15,010
When he decided that we
were going to be married,

4480
04:10:15,010 --> 04:10:17,600
he took that ring to a jeweler.

4481
04:10:17,600 --> 04:10:22,040
And he said, please change
it to a woman's ring.

4482
04:10:22,040 --> 04:10:25,010
And because it was
a thick gold ring,

4483
04:10:25,010 --> 04:10:27,160
he didn't have to
pay anything for it.

4484
04:10:27,160 --> 04:10:30,250
He just did it.

4485
04:10:30,250 --> 04:10:32,560
He leaves at the airport.

4486
04:10:32,560 --> 04:10:35,560
They check, where's the ring?

4487

04:10:35,560 --> 04:10:37,760

He said, well, I got
married in the meantime.

4488

04:10:37,760 --> 04:10:40,200

I gave it to my wife.

4489

04:10:40,200 --> 04:10:44,020

And they said, oh, no,
you'll have to pay \$400.

4490

04:10:44,020 --> 04:10:46,800

Well, at that time
it was a fortune,

4491

04:10:46,800 --> 04:10:48,840

and they didn't have it.

4492

04:10:48,840 --> 04:10:51,330

We lived those three
weeks on the gifts

4493

04:10:51,330 --> 04:10:53,340

that we got for our wedding.

4494

04:10:53,340 --> 04:10:57,142

He was out of his money already.

4495

04:10:57,142 --> 04:10:59,950

Or you take the ring back.

4496

04:10:59,950 --> 04:11:02,440

Well, wouldn't you know,
they send them out.

4497

04:11:02,440 --> 04:11:05,380

And he had to take
literally off my finger

4498

04:11:05,380 --> 04:11:08,290

and take the ring back
to the United States.

4499

04:11:08,290 --> 04:11:10,625
So I had no ring and no husband.

4500

04:11:10,625 --> 04:11:11,860
And a lot of looks.

4501

04:11:11,860 --> 04:11:13,590
And a lot of looks.

4502

04:11:13,590 --> 04:11:15,820
And I went back to work.

4503

04:11:15,820 --> 04:11:19,960
So I was in Israel
for eight months

4504

04:11:19,960 --> 04:11:25,140
by myself because I
was in a Polish quota.

4505

04:11:25,140 --> 04:11:29,640
And at that time, the law
that a spouse or a parent

4506

04:11:29,640 --> 04:11:32,610
can come along with
you did not exist.

4507

04:11:32,610 --> 04:11:37,500
It came into effect, I
think, in 1956 or '57.

4508

04:11:37,500 --> 04:11:41,520
So I had to wait on
the Polish quota.

4509

04:11:41,520 --> 04:11:48,150
And it was very
difficult, very difficult.

4510

04:11:48,150 --> 04:11:52,170

Then I decided when the day
came and I was approved--

4511
04:11:52,170 --> 04:11:56,110
I had to go for a medical
checkup and all of that

4512
04:11:56,110 --> 04:12:00,010
through the American consulate.

4513
04:12:00,010 --> 04:12:05,640
I had to get everything
ready to leave--

4514
04:12:05,640 --> 04:12:10,330
I decided that since
I'm leaving Israel

4515
04:12:10,330 --> 04:12:14,170
that I would like
to stop in Paris.

4516
04:12:14,170 --> 04:12:17,950
When I was in Paris,
I was 14 years old.

4517
04:12:17,950 --> 04:12:20,740
And I really spent my
time, at that time,

4518
04:12:20,740 --> 04:12:23,190
going from one
museum to the other.

4519
04:12:23,190 --> 04:12:25,990
I always had an interest in art.

4520
04:12:25,990 --> 04:12:33,500
And I wanted to go back and see
it with a more grown-up eye.

4521
04:12:33,500 --> 04:12:37,010
So I arranged to

be a week in Paris.

4522

04:12:37,010 --> 04:12:41,540

And I was supposed to stay
with a couple, cousins

4523

04:12:41,540 --> 04:12:45,200

of my brother-in-law
Moshe Kaufmann.

4524

04:12:45,200 --> 04:12:48,050

And the week before
I left, I already

4525

04:12:48,050 --> 04:12:51,650

had my passports,
everything, and voyage

4526

04:12:51,650 --> 04:12:57,320

on the original Queen Mary
to come to the United States.

4527

04:12:57,320 --> 04:13:00,020

So I couldn't change anything.

4528

04:13:00,020 --> 04:13:04,760

And unfortunately, this couple
was in a terrible car accident.

4529

04:13:04,760 --> 04:13:07,890

He was killed, and she
was still in the hospital.

4530

04:13:07,890 --> 04:13:08,610

Oh, my goodness.

4531

04:13:08,610 --> 04:13:10,830

So I couldn't stay with them.

4532

04:13:10,830 --> 04:13:17,030

So I ended up in Paris
the end of November.

4533

04:13:17,030 --> 04:13:24,300

I arrived in the States on
the 3rd of December by myself.

4534

04:13:24,300 --> 04:13:25,980

Short days.

4535

04:13:25,980 --> 04:13:29,910

At night, I didn't want
to go out by myself.

4536

04:13:29,910 --> 04:13:32,325

I didn't have that much money.

4537

04:13:32,325 --> 04:13:37,720

So I stayed in a very,
very rundown old hotel,

4538

04:13:37,720 --> 04:13:40,050

a cheap hotel.

4539

04:13:40,050 --> 04:13:43,710

But I remembered where
the Jewish area was.

4540

04:13:43,710 --> 04:13:46,180

And I used to go back there.

4541

04:13:46,180 --> 04:13:50,580

And I remember this one
restaurant owner, because they

4542

04:13:50,580 --> 04:13:52,420

used to live in Lodz.

4543

04:13:52,420 --> 04:13:52,920

so.

4544

04:13:52,920 --> 04:13:54,420

I knew them.

4545

04:13:54,420 --> 04:13:56,520
And I made a
connection with them.

4546
04:13:56,520 --> 04:13:59,310
So I spent a couple
evening with them.

4547
04:13:59,310 --> 04:14:03,930
In any case, this was an
extremely unhappy time for me,

4548
04:14:03,930 --> 04:14:07,710
being there alone in Paris
under those circumstances.

4549
04:14:07,710 --> 04:14:10,410
What passport did you have?

4550
04:14:10,410 --> 04:14:12,420
Was it an Israeli passport?

4551
04:14:12,420 --> 04:14:14,550
No, I got an American visa.

4552
04:14:14,550 --> 04:14:17,792
I really never had an
Israeli passport per se.

4553
04:14:17,792 --> 04:14:18,750
Did you have a Polish--

4554
04:14:18,750 --> 04:14:21,430
I had a work permit.

4555
04:14:21,430 --> 04:14:25,950
You know, they're called a
[NON-ENGLISH],, not a passport.

4556
04:14:25,950 --> 04:14:31,380
When you work, you needed to
have a picture and your age

4557

04:14:31,380 --> 04:14:33,070
and all of that.

4558

04:14:33,070 --> 04:14:35,070
So I had that.

4559

04:14:35,070 --> 04:14:41,130
And on the basis of that, I got
the American visa and passport.

4560

04:14:41,130 --> 04:14:43,350
So you say you were
under the Polish quota.

4561

04:14:43,350 --> 04:14:46,680
Did you have Polish
citizenship papers?

4562

04:14:46,680 --> 04:14:49,530
No, but I was registered
as born in Poland.

4563

04:14:49,530 --> 04:14:50,550
And so that's enough?

4564

04:14:50,550 --> 04:14:51,510
That's enough.

4565

04:14:51,510 --> 04:14:54,360
So it took eight months.

4566

04:14:54,360 --> 04:14:55,860
We were married in February.

4567

04:14:55,860 --> 04:14:57,870
And I didn't get
here till December.

4568

04:14:57,870 --> 04:14:58,980
That's right.

4569

04:14:58,980 --> 04:15:00,600
So--

4570
04:15:00,600 --> 04:15:01,910
At this point--

4571
04:15:01,910 --> 04:15:02,410
I'm sorry?

4572
04:15:02,410 --> 04:15:03,257
At this point--

4573
04:15:03,257 --> 04:15:03,757
Yeah--

4574
04:15:03,757 --> 04:15:06,490

4575
04:15:06,490 --> 04:15:09,170
I'd like to kind of ask
some general questions.

4576
04:15:09,170 --> 04:15:09,670
OK.

4577
04:15:09,670 --> 04:15:12,350

4578
04:15:12,350 --> 04:15:19,710
And the crux of them all is the
Soviet and the Nazi experience.

4579
04:15:19,710 --> 04:15:22,500

4580
04:15:22,500 --> 04:15:28,860
Do people who are Jewish who
were deported by the Soviets

4581
04:15:28,860 --> 04:15:32,820
have differing interpretations
of what happened to them?

4582
04:15:32,820 --> 04:15:34,920
Much more so than,
let's say, Gentiles.

4583
04:15:34,920 --> 04:15:36,750
I'm making this assumption.

4584
04:15:36,750 --> 04:15:38,520
But for Gentiles
who are deported,

4585
04:15:38,520 --> 04:15:44,890
it was an unremitting tragedy
all around, no holds about it.

4586
04:15:44,890 --> 04:15:47,260
Is that the same thing
that's true for you?

4587
04:15:47,260 --> 04:15:49,910
Well, at the time
when we were deported,

4588
04:15:49,910 --> 04:15:54,100
we thought the tragedy
happened to us,

4589
04:15:54,100 --> 04:16:02,290
because we went to a wilderness,
to a cold, frozen wilderness.

4590
04:16:02,290 --> 04:16:05,680
It wasn't till
later, much later,

4591
04:16:05,680 --> 04:16:10,570
when we started finding out what
was happening in Poland that we

4592
04:16:10,570 --> 04:16:15,670
knew we were the lucky ones,
you know, that we survived,

4593
04:16:15,670 --> 04:16:19,300
because personally I
know at the age of five

4594
04:16:19,300 --> 04:16:22,410
I would not have survived.

4595
04:16:22,410 --> 04:16:24,630
They probably would have,
if they would take us

4596
04:16:24,630 --> 04:16:27,780
to Auschwitz or
Bergen-Belsen or Treblinka,

4597
04:16:27,780 --> 04:16:31,320
or any one of those
camps, the children

4598
04:16:31,320 --> 04:16:35,100
were gassed right away
with their mothers

4599
04:16:35,100 --> 04:16:37,440
if they had small children.

4600
04:16:37,440 --> 04:16:43,570
So it was thanks to
my father's foresight

4601
04:16:43,570 --> 04:16:46,330
that we made it to Russia.

4602
04:16:46,330 --> 04:16:49,270
And at least most of us survive.

4603
04:16:49,270 --> 04:16:53,200
He didn't, but most
of us survived.

4604
04:16:53,200 --> 04:16:57,160

Do you feel because of
that, because it was not

4605
04:16:57,160 --> 04:17:01,130
the same thing
like certain death,

4606
04:17:01,130 --> 04:17:05,030
that the experiences
that you did have,

4607
04:17:05,030 --> 04:17:08,040
the hardships that
you did go through

4608
04:17:08,040 --> 04:17:13,660
weren't always
fully appreciated?

4609
04:17:13,660 --> 04:17:15,540
That's true.

4610
04:17:15,540 --> 04:17:19,960
And even by those who
survived the camps.

4611
04:17:19,960 --> 04:17:22,380
And I know that
personally, when I first

4612
04:17:22,380 --> 04:17:27,600
met my husband, after
what he went through,

4613
04:17:27,600 --> 04:17:31,560
he went through Auschwitz,
he went through labor camp,

4614
04:17:31,560 --> 04:17:38,950
he went through of
horrible things,

4615
04:17:38,950 --> 04:17:41,740

he didn't in the
beginning quite comprehend

4616
04:17:41,740 --> 04:17:42,995
that we also suffered.

4617
04:17:42,995 --> 04:17:45,890

4618
04:17:45,890 --> 04:17:50,590
And most people were like that.

4619
04:17:50,590 --> 04:17:52,904
They heard you were in
Russia, they said, oh,

4620
04:17:52,904 --> 04:17:59,390
you now, you're in Russia, like
this was something wonderful.

4621
04:17:59,390 --> 04:18:02,150
It turned out that
more of us survived.

4622
04:18:02,150 --> 04:18:03,920
That's true.

4623
04:18:03,920 --> 04:18:08,490
But it wasn't so wonderful.

4624
04:18:08,490 --> 04:18:13,380
Well, this seems to be in
some ways human nature.

4625
04:18:13,380 --> 04:18:15,660
And the reason I'm
asking these questions

4626
04:18:15,660 --> 04:18:19,830
is I'm always looking, not
only for how did you personally

4627

04:18:19,830 --> 04:18:23,770
experience it, because
it's part of your story,

4628
04:18:23,770 --> 04:18:26,500
but also for guidance
for the rest of us.

4629
04:18:26,500 --> 04:18:30,490
And the human nature that I have
heard at various points of--

4630
04:18:30,490 --> 04:18:33,520
amongst deportees,
for example, those

4631
04:18:33,520 --> 04:18:35,680
who were deported
to the Arctic said

4632
04:18:35,680 --> 04:18:37,480
we had it much
worse than you who

4633
04:18:37,480 --> 04:18:39,370
were deported to Kazakhstan.

4634
04:18:39,370 --> 04:18:40,090
Right.

4635
04:18:40,090 --> 04:18:43,450
Those who were deported
by the Soviets and those

4636
04:18:43,450 --> 04:18:46,630
who were under the Nazis,
depending on who you were--

4637
04:18:46,630 --> 04:18:54,022
To every single individual,
their experiences

4638
04:18:54,022 --> 04:18:57,310

are their experiences,
what they lived through,

4639
04:18:57,310 --> 04:19:00,040
what they suffered.

4640
04:19:00,040 --> 04:19:05,530
To this person,
our own experiences

4641
04:19:05,530 --> 04:19:08,310
are the important ones.

4642
04:19:08,310 --> 04:19:11,100
Yes, we can empathize
with others.

4643
04:19:11,100 --> 04:19:15,000
Yes, I have now, as an
adult and for many years

4644
04:19:15,000 --> 04:19:19,110
now, a greater
appreciation of those

4645
04:19:19,110 --> 04:19:22,050
who went through the
concentration camps.

4646
04:19:22,050 --> 04:19:23,820
It took such fortitude.

4647
04:19:23,820 --> 04:19:27,280
It took such desire to live.

4648
04:19:27,280 --> 04:19:31,870
And thank God, because
of this desired

4649
04:19:31,870 --> 04:19:37,750
to live and to be strong, I
still have my husband at age 94

4650

04:19:37,750 --> 04:19:39,700
after going through hell.

4651

04:19:39,700 --> 04:19:45,190
And going through different
illnesses and going through--

4652

04:19:45,190 --> 04:19:48,700
I didn't even mention
that, because we

4653

04:19:48,700 --> 04:19:51,670
can be here till tomorrow.

4654

04:19:51,670 --> 04:19:54,880
The first time we
went back to Poland,

4655

04:19:54,880 --> 04:19:58,600
we were in a terrible
accident, and we were almost

4656

04:19:58,600 --> 04:20:00,220
killed a second time.

4657

04:20:00,220 --> 04:20:02,080
Oh, my goodness.

4658

04:20:02,080 --> 04:20:05,450
We arrived in Krakow.

4659

04:20:05,450 --> 04:20:08,420
We went to Israel first.

4660

04:20:08,420 --> 04:20:11,660
And from Israel,
we flew to Vienna.

4661

04:20:11,660 --> 04:20:15,110
In Vienna, we spend
there a couple of days,

4662

04:20:15,110 --> 04:20:18,230
and we rented a van.

4663

04:20:18,230 --> 04:20:20,690
All our five children
were with us.

4664

04:20:20,690 --> 04:20:22,340
This was what year?

4665

04:20:22,340 --> 04:20:25,380
This was in '78.

4666

04:20:25,380 --> 04:20:29,530
And it was shortly after
my mother passed away.

4667

04:20:29,530 --> 04:20:32,850
And we went to my
mother's grave.

4668

04:20:32,850 --> 04:20:37,350
And my husband said, I need
to go back to Auschwitz.

4669

04:20:37,350 --> 04:20:39,765
That's where my
parents grave is.

4670

04:20:39,765 --> 04:20:43,015
No grave, but that's
where they were.

4671

04:20:43,015 --> 04:20:44,190
I said OK.

4672

04:20:44,190 --> 04:20:47,220

4673

04:20:47,220 --> 04:20:50,100
So as I said, we
rented this van.

4674
04:20:50,100 --> 04:20:52,860
We drove through Czechoslovakia.

4675
04:20:52,860 --> 04:20:54,270
And the trips were horrible.

4676
04:20:54,270 --> 04:20:58,570
They stopped us at every border
and questioned us for hours.

4677
04:20:58,570 --> 04:21:04,200
And eventually, we made
our way to Krakow at night.

4678
04:21:04,200 --> 04:21:06,240
In the hotel, we
had to register--

4679
04:21:06,240 --> 04:21:08,070
it was under communism--

4680
04:21:08,070 --> 04:21:11,700
who is going to sleep
with whom in which room.

4681
04:21:11,700 --> 04:21:14,360
They didn't allow more
than two people in a room.

4682
04:21:14,360 --> 04:21:18,060
So we had to divide the
children who sleep with whom.

4683
04:21:18,060 --> 04:21:21,370
And they kept our passports.

4684
04:21:21,370 --> 04:21:24,490
The next morning we
got up and my husband

4685
04:21:24,490 --> 04:21:27,980

wanted to go straight
to Auschwitz.

4686
04:21:27,980 --> 04:21:29,500
So we started driving.

4687
04:21:29,500 --> 04:21:33,220
And I remembered we
didn't have the passports.

4688
04:21:33,220 --> 04:21:34,720
So he turned back.

4689
04:21:34,720 --> 04:21:35,860
I ran in.

4690
04:21:35,860 --> 04:21:43,080
And I've ran those steps 100
times since over in my mind,

4691
04:21:43,080 --> 04:21:46,770
because many times I
felt had I not gone back,

4692
04:21:46,770 --> 04:21:51,090
had we not been at
this particular point

4693
04:21:51,090 --> 04:21:56,230
at this particular time, maybe
it wouldn't have happened.

4694
04:21:56,230 --> 04:21:59,960
So I got the passports,
and we started out again.

4695
04:21:59,960 --> 04:22:04,190
And then there was a sign in
the road, 2 and 1/2 kilometers

4696
04:22:04,190 --> 04:22:06,530
to Auschwitz.

4697

04:22:06,530 --> 04:22:07,030
and.

4698

04:22:07,030 --> 04:22:13,750
I think that my husband was
already transported there,

4699

04:22:13,750 --> 04:22:18,820
that he already saw
himself back there.

4700

04:22:18,820 --> 04:22:21,180
And he wasn't paying
as good attention

4701

04:22:21,180 --> 04:22:25,490
he could have on the road.

4702

04:22:25,490 --> 04:22:28,190
I don't know there was
a stop sign or not,

4703

04:22:28,190 --> 04:22:33,350
but the truck made a left
turn right in front of us

4704

04:22:33,350 --> 04:22:38,390
and hit right at the driver side
where my husband was sitting

4705

04:22:38,390 --> 04:22:40,750
and I was sitting.

4706

04:22:40,750 --> 04:22:45,160
And I saw the accident
about to happen,

4707

04:22:45,160 --> 04:22:47,620
like within a split second.

4708

04:22:47,620 --> 04:22:51,560
And being a driver already, I--

4709
04:22:51,560 --> 04:22:54,670
you know, it's
automatic, you brake.

4710
04:22:54,670 --> 04:22:59,180
And because I braked, my
leg was totally shattered.

4711
04:22:59,180 --> 04:23:02,900
And he was critically injured.

4712
04:23:02,900 --> 04:23:08,240
And we ended up in
various hospitals

4713
04:23:08,240 --> 04:23:10,280
recuperating for months.

4714
04:23:10,280 --> 04:23:14,000
And I went through
three surgeries

4715
04:23:14,000 --> 04:23:16,430
to put me back together.

4716
04:23:16,430 --> 04:23:21,530
And eventually, I had to have
a knee replacement, which

4717
04:23:21,530 --> 04:23:23,750
I had in 2001.

4718
04:23:23,750 --> 04:23:29,990
And my husband healed, thank
God, but he had an infection.

4719
04:23:29,990 --> 04:23:31,750
He had to be taken
out of Poland.

4720
04:23:31,750 --> 04:23:34,490

4721
04:23:34,490 --> 04:23:36,320
It's a whole other story.

4722
04:23:36,320 --> 04:23:40,210
I don't know if you
want to go into it.

4723
04:23:40,210 --> 04:23:42,640
And we didn't see
anything of Poland

4724
04:23:42,640 --> 04:23:46,007
obviously, because it
happened the first morning.

4725
04:23:46,007 --> 04:23:47,590
And your children,
were they affected?

4726
04:23:47,590 --> 04:23:49,960
Our children were
slightly injured.

4727
04:23:49,960 --> 04:23:51,370
They had contusions.

4728
04:23:51,370 --> 04:23:56,920
They had-- what do you call it?

4729
04:23:56,920 --> 04:23:57,520
Concussion.

4730
04:23:57,520 --> 04:23:59,200
Concussions.

4731
04:23:59,200 --> 04:24:04,470
And-- when I tell
about Polish stories,

4732
04:24:04,470 --> 04:24:06,210

I have the Polish
words in my mouth.

4733
04:24:06,210 --> 04:24:09,510

4734
04:24:09,510 --> 04:24:15,520
We were very, very lucky with
everything that we came upon.

4735
04:24:15,520 --> 04:24:19,930
The director of the
hospital, he was a surgeon.

4736
04:24:19,930 --> 04:24:23,790
And this man saved
my husband's life.

4737
04:24:23,790 --> 04:24:24,400
In Poland?

4738
04:24:24,400 --> 04:24:25,150
In Poland.

4739
04:24:25,150 --> 04:24:31,910
Because he had lost so much
blood that he would have died.

4740
04:24:31,910 --> 04:24:37,730
So he sent people out and called
policemen, called firemen,

4741
04:24:37,730 --> 04:24:41,930
called anybody he could find,
and without testing the blood,

4742
04:24:41,930 --> 04:24:46,370
he would just pump the
blood into my husband.

4743
04:24:46,370 --> 04:24:50,870
And he survived, but he
developed a terrible infection.

4744
04:24:50,870 --> 04:24:56,060
And he would have
died there, but we

4745
04:24:56,060 --> 04:24:59,210
were lucky from
another area as well

4746
04:24:59,210 --> 04:25:04,190
that the American ambassador
to Vienna was a friend of ours,

4747
04:25:04,190 --> 04:25:08,430
somebody from our
synagogue that we knew.

4748
04:25:08,430 --> 04:25:14,080
And the way of going there, we
had to communicate that him.

4749
04:25:14,080 --> 04:25:20,380
So through him, they
sent a medical plane.

4750
04:25:20,380 --> 04:25:23,200
And they took my
husband now to Vienna,

4751
04:25:23,200 --> 04:25:29,350
and our oldest daughter went
with him after she took me.

4752
04:25:29,350 --> 04:25:33,310
I was in that hospital for
four days, and the doctor said,

4753
04:25:33,310 --> 04:25:35,770
I am not qualified
to operate on you.

4754
04:25:35,770 --> 04:25:40,090
Your leg is in pieces, and

I'm not an orthopedic doctor,

4755

04:25:40,090 --> 04:25:41,660

I cannot do it.

4756

04:25:41,660 --> 04:25:44,500

So he said the best thing
would be to transfer you

4757

04:25:44,500 --> 04:25:47,260

to an orthopedic hospital.

4758

04:25:47,260 --> 04:25:52,330

And there was one some
50 kilometers away

4759

04:25:52,330 --> 04:25:57,400

because it was near a coal mine
and they had many accidents

4760

04:25:57,400 --> 04:25:58,990

there.

4761

04:25:58,990 --> 04:26:00,310

So they brought me there.

4762

04:26:00,310 --> 04:26:04,380

And the conditions
there were just awful.

4763

04:26:04,380 --> 04:26:08,180

And I was separated
from my husband.

4764

04:26:08,180 --> 04:26:12,140

I didn't know if he
is dead or alive.

4765

04:26:12,140 --> 04:26:14,630

My daughter came
with me initially.

4766

04:26:14,630 --> 04:26:16,370
Then she went back to him.

4767
04:26:16,370 --> 04:26:19,460
Then she came back
to visit me again.

4768
04:26:19,460 --> 04:26:23,990
And I used to write them notes
in Polish where to take her.

4769
04:26:23,990 --> 04:26:29,890
I was petrified sending her with
strangers 50 kilometers away.

4770
04:26:29,890 --> 04:26:37,060
But eventually, she took me,
she traveled with me to Warsaw,

4771
04:26:37,060 --> 04:26:41,230
went back and went with
her father to Vienna,

4772
04:26:41,230 --> 04:26:45,550
where they did skin
graft and surgery on him.

4773
04:26:45,550 --> 04:26:50,050
And eventually, we ended
all out here in Cleveland.

4774
04:26:50,050 --> 04:26:56,240
Children were shipped home
first, the four younger ones.

4775
04:26:56,240 --> 04:27:01,270
And my daughter came
with my husband.

4776
04:27:01,270 --> 04:27:04,630
And he and I ended up here
in the hospital for a number

4777

04:27:04,630 --> 04:27:07,120
of weeks in separate rooms.

4778
04:27:07,120 --> 04:27:10,260
And we used to wheel
our wheelchairs

4779
04:27:10,260 --> 04:27:12,460
to go meet each other.

4780
04:27:12,460 --> 04:27:15,610
It was a very hard
recuperation, very hard.

4781
04:27:15,610 --> 04:27:17,990
It took a long time.

4782
04:27:17,990 --> 04:27:21,400
We lost almost
everything we had,

4783
04:27:21,400 --> 04:27:25,240
because the airlines
were not very kind to us.

4784
04:27:25,240 --> 04:27:30,010
We had to take multiple,
multiple seats in order

4785
04:27:30,010 --> 04:27:32,800
for them to accept us.

4786
04:27:32,800 --> 04:27:36,060
And my leg, they
put me into a cast

4787
04:27:36,060 --> 04:27:38,320
from here all the way down.

4788
04:27:38,320 --> 04:27:40,900
And they said they
will not accept me

4789

04:27:40,900 --> 04:27:44,590

except with a nurse
accompanying me.

4790

04:27:44,590 --> 04:27:47,290

And the American
consulate were wonderful.

4791

04:27:47,290 --> 04:27:50,070

4792

04:27:50,070 --> 04:27:56,130

My older son managed somehow
when the accident happens

4793

04:27:56,130 --> 04:27:58,620

to make his way to a cottage.

4794

04:27:58,620 --> 04:28:01,440

He doesn't speak
a word of Polish.

4795

04:28:01,440 --> 04:28:05,790

But he made himself understood
that there was an accident.

4796

04:28:05,790 --> 04:28:07,970

And he called the
American consulate.

4797

04:28:07,970 --> 04:28:11,290

They connected him with
the American consulate.

4798

04:28:11,290 --> 04:28:14,120

And they showed up
the next morning.

4799

04:28:14,120 --> 04:28:20,580

And then following my husband's
surgery, his wife came.

4800

04:28:20,580 --> 04:28:24,890

She actually brought him
chicken soup and stuff,

4801

04:28:24,890 --> 04:28:29,680

because the food in the
hospital was terrible.

4802

04:28:29,680 --> 04:28:33,390

But this doctor was very caring.

4803

04:28:33,390 --> 04:28:39,540

And once my children recuperated
from their initial shock

4804

04:28:39,540 --> 04:28:42,540

and bruises, he said,
he couldn't keep them

4805

04:28:42,540 --> 04:28:43,550

in the hospital.

4806

04:28:43,550 --> 04:28:45,780

But they had no place to go.

4807

04:28:45,780 --> 04:28:49,180

So he said he will
set up his office.

4808

04:28:49,180 --> 04:28:50,570

He'll bed out for them.

4809

04:28:50,570 --> 04:28:55,790

They can stay in his office
so that we're not separate.

4810

04:28:55,790 --> 04:28:58,860

And as a thank you
we brought them--

4811

04:28:58,860 --> 04:29:02,010

they weren't both
doctors, he and his wife.

4812
04:29:02,010 --> 04:29:05,400
She was a pediatrician.

4813
04:29:05,400 --> 04:29:10,110
Once we recuperated, we brought
them to Cleveland for a month.

4814
04:29:10,110 --> 04:29:12,780
And I had arranged
different visits

4815
04:29:12,780 --> 04:29:16,320
to different hospitals for
them to see and observe here.

4816
04:29:16,320 --> 04:29:19,140
Well, in those days, that
was something very special.

4817
04:29:19,140 --> 04:29:20,030
Very special.

4818
04:29:20,030 --> 04:29:21,840
He used to make notes.

4819
04:29:21,840 --> 04:29:23,630
And he told us that
he couldn't even

4820
04:29:23,630 --> 04:29:26,400
share those with
anybody, because they'll

4821
04:29:26,400 --> 04:29:28,900
say that he's an American spy.

4822
04:29:28,900 --> 04:29:29,480
Yeah.

4823
04:29:29,480 --> 04:29:30,100
Yeah.

4824
04:29:30,100 --> 04:29:30,600
Yeah.

4825
04:29:30,600 --> 04:29:32,190
And we took him to Washington.

4826
04:29:32,190 --> 04:29:34,650
And we took him to New York.

4827
04:29:34,650 --> 04:29:38,280
And friends of ours took
him to the Niagara Falls.

4828
04:29:38,280 --> 04:29:43,110
And they had a
wonderful time here.

4829
04:29:43,110 --> 04:29:46,910
I think, Mrs. Frankel,
we've come close to the end.

4830
04:29:46,910 --> 04:29:48,900
Yeah.

4831
04:29:48,900 --> 04:29:52,790
In one interview, one can
never cover everything.

4832
04:29:52,790 --> 04:29:55,470
There is a lot in
your story that I

4833
04:29:55,470 --> 04:29:57,360
would like to follow
up on where there's

4834
04:29:57,360 --> 04:30:00,580
this thread or that thread.

4835
04:30:00,580 --> 04:30:02,230
And I know that we can't.

4836
04:30:02,230 --> 04:30:03,280
We don't have the time.

4837
04:30:03,280 --> 04:30:05,680
But at this point,
I'd like to give you

4838
04:30:05,680 --> 04:30:08,020
the opportunity,
if there's anything

4839
04:30:08,020 --> 04:30:11,170
that I haven't asked about
that you haven't mentioned

4840
04:30:11,170 --> 04:30:13,950
that you think is important
for us to know about.

4841
04:30:13,950 --> 04:30:14,950
Yeah.

4842
04:30:14,950 --> 04:30:18,220
I spoke about my schooling.

4843
04:30:18,220 --> 04:30:27,350
I just want to say that thanks
really to my husband's nature,

4844
04:30:27,350 --> 04:30:31,150
he knew how much I longed.

4845
04:30:31,150 --> 04:30:36,880
So when I came, first,
I took English lessons.

4846
04:30:36,880 --> 04:30:45,360
And I enrolled at Case,
and I took English 101.

4847
04:30:45,360 --> 04:30:47,890

I took a number
of other classes.

4848
04:30:47,890 --> 04:30:49,660
I was very fortunate.

4849
04:30:49,660 --> 04:30:55,450
I have mentors along the way
that literally pushed me along.

4850
04:30:55,450 --> 04:30:59,440
I had a teacher,
an American lady,

4851
04:30:59,440 --> 04:31:04,600
who invited me to her home
and said, you must go on,

4852
04:31:04,600 --> 04:31:07,820
you have the ability, go on.

4853
04:31:07,820 --> 04:31:09,010
So I continued.

4854
04:31:09,010 --> 04:31:12,490
Then, as I was having
children, it became harder--

4855
04:31:12,490 --> 04:31:18,160
[PHONE RINGING]

4856
04:31:18,160 --> 04:31:19,130
Are we on?

4857
04:31:19,130 --> 04:31:23,350
It became harder to go
to Case Western Reserve.

4858
04:31:23,350 --> 04:31:25,780
So I enrolled at
Ursuline College,

4859

04:31:25,780 --> 04:31:27,530
which is not far from here.

4860
04:31:27,530 --> 04:31:28,030
Ursuline?

4861
04:31:28,030 --> 04:31:28,540
Ursuline--

4862
04:31:28,540 --> 04:31:29,480
That's the nuns--

4863
04:31:29,480 --> 04:31:31,510
Catholic college.

4864
04:31:31,510 --> 04:31:35,560
And the nuns were
extremely kind.

4865
04:31:35,560 --> 04:31:40,750
And I got my bachelor's
degree from there.

4866
04:31:40,750 --> 04:31:42,040
I graduated.

4867
04:31:42,040 --> 04:31:44,650
And actually, the
Bishop of Cleveland

4868
04:31:44,650 --> 04:31:49,090
handed me my diploma,
which was a big honor.

4869
04:31:49,090 --> 04:31:53,680
Then I continued at the
College of Jewish Studies.

4870
04:31:53,680 --> 04:31:56,440
I got the second
bachelor's degree

4871

04:31:56,440 --> 04:31:59,620
in Jewish arts and history.

4872
04:31:59,620 --> 04:32:03,640
And I continued and
got my master's degree.

4873
04:32:03,640 --> 04:32:06,850
And at some point,
both my husband and I

4874
04:32:06,850 --> 04:32:13,060
received an honorary doctorate
degrees for our contribution

4875
04:32:13,060 --> 04:32:15,370
to the college.

4876
04:32:15,370 --> 04:32:22,840
And the reason I'm saying all
that and doing this interview

4877
04:32:22,840 --> 04:32:28,050
is for my grandchildren,
for my great grandchildren.

4878
04:32:28,050 --> 04:32:31,940
We have, thank God,
10 grandchildren.

4879
04:32:31,940 --> 04:32:33,860
We had 11.

4880
04:32:33,860 --> 04:32:41,010
And unfortunately, we lost
one to a terrible accident.

4881
04:32:41,010 --> 04:32:42,060
She was beautiful.

4882
04:32:42,060 --> 04:32:43,260
She was brilliant.

4883

04:32:43,260 --> 04:32:45,660

She was 16 years old.

4884

04:32:45,660 --> 04:32:50,430

It was in the mountains in Utah.

4885

04:32:50,430 --> 04:32:54,750

She got injured and passed away.

4886

04:32:54,750 --> 04:33:00,350

But we have 10 grandchildren
and 4 great grandchildren.

4887

04:33:00,350 --> 04:33:05,090

And when I'm gone and not
able to tell them the stories

4888

04:33:05,090 --> 04:33:10,619

anymore, I want them
to have this record

4889

04:33:10,619 --> 04:33:18,700

and know what fortitude
their grandparents had

4890

04:33:18,700 --> 04:33:23,040

and a little bit of what
they accomplished in life.

4891

04:33:23,040 --> 04:33:26,160

My husband built a business.

4892

04:33:26,160 --> 04:33:34,130

He employed, at some point,
almost 200 people in Cleveland.

4893

04:33:34,130 --> 04:33:37,240

He was in the
electrical business.

4894

04:33:37,240 --> 04:33:40,360

I did a great deal

of volunteering

4895

04:33:40,360 --> 04:33:43,450

in various organizations.

4896

04:33:43,450 --> 04:33:46,290

I was president of a
number of organizations.

4897

04:33:46,290 --> 04:33:50,430

4898

04:33:50,430 --> 04:33:58,980

And I think we can leave a proud
record for generations to come.

4899

04:33:58,980 --> 04:34:03,509

And this is primarily
why I am doing that.

4900

04:34:03,509 --> 04:34:07,980

And also, I want
people, generations

4901

04:34:07,980 --> 04:34:13,200

from now, who will no
longer meet a survivor,

4902

04:34:13,200 --> 04:34:18,800

have a record of what
some of us lived through.

4903

04:34:18,800 --> 04:34:23,450

I couldn't think of a better
way to finish our interview.

4904

04:34:23,450 --> 04:34:25,490

Thank you so much.

4905

04:34:25,490 --> 04:34:31,310

Thank you for doing this today,
for opening up, for sharing.

4906

04:34:31,310 --> 04:34:33,320

We know that it costs.

4907

04:34:33,320 --> 04:34:36,470

And we appreciate that you
do it despite the cost.

4908

04:34:36,470 --> 04:34:38,330

Thank you.

4909

04:34:38,330 --> 04:34:42,800

I'll say with that this
concludes the United States

4910

04:34:42,800 --> 04:34:46,970

Holocaust Memorial Museum
interview with Mrs. Rina

4911

04:34:46,970 --> 04:34:54,169

Frankel on October 23, 2017
in Shaker Heights, Ohio.

4912

04:34:54,169 --> 04:34:55,830

Did you want to
say something else?

4913

04:34:55,830 --> 04:34:58,460

I wanted-- we forgot
about the pictures,

4914

04:34:58,460 --> 04:34:59,770

or we didn't do anything--

4915

04:34:59,770 --> 04:35:00,950

We'll do that after that.

4916

04:35:00,950 --> 04:35:04,040

I mean, after we formally
finished the interview,

4917

04:35:04,040 --> 04:35:07,349

we sometimes hold up a picture

and then say, who is this?

4918

04:35:07,349 --> 04:35:08,130

So we'll do that.

4919

04:35:08,130 --> 04:35:08,630

OK.

4920

04:35:08,630 --> 04:35:09,550

OK, we'll cut now.

4921

04:35:09,550 --> 04:35:12,790

4922

04:35:12,790 --> 04:35:18,730

This is a picture of myself
when I was nine months old.

4923

04:35:18,730 --> 04:35:23,200

I don't know exactly the
date when this was taken,

4924

04:35:23,200 --> 04:35:26,560

but I was told that I
was nine months old.

4925

04:35:26,560 --> 04:35:29,869

OK, thank you.

4926

04:35:29,869 --> 04:35:32,529

In this picture I'm
three years old.

4927

04:35:32,529 --> 04:35:35,730

And in the background,
the one with the braids

4928

04:35:35,730 --> 04:35:38,009

is my Aunt Lonya.

4929

04:35:38,009 --> 04:35:42,509

And to the left of her

is Avram, my Uncle Avram,

4930
04:35:42,509 --> 04:35:44,130
my brother's brother.

4931
04:35:44,130 --> 04:35:46,830
And do you know where
you are-- where--

4932
04:35:46,830 --> 04:35:50,790
I think at the sight of
my grandparents' house.

4933
04:35:50,790 --> 04:35:51,990
OK, all right.

4934
04:35:51,990 --> 04:35:55,070

4935
04:35:55,070 --> 04:36:00,220
This is a picture of my mother,
Miriam, as a young woman,

4936
04:36:00,220 --> 04:36:05,360
though I don't know how
exactly it represents her,

4937
04:36:05,360 --> 04:36:08,930
because it was taken
from a little photograph,

4938
04:36:08,930 --> 04:36:10,849
little passport photograph.

4939
04:36:10,849 --> 04:36:14,840
So it's been
enlarged many times.

4940
04:36:14,840 --> 04:36:18,860
Do you know about how old she
would have been in this photo?

4941

04:36:18,860 --> 04:36:20,119
I would say in her 20s.

4942
04:36:20,119 --> 04:36:23,950

4943
04:36:23,950 --> 04:36:31,450
This is again a picture taken
from a little passport picture.

4944
04:36:31,450 --> 04:36:33,490
I think he was about 30--

4945
04:36:33,490 --> 04:36:36,140

4946
04:36:36,140 --> 04:36:40,680
in 1939, he was maybe 35.

4947
04:36:40,680 --> 04:36:46,220
And what I like to see is
always how immaculately actually

4948
04:36:46,220 --> 04:36:49,560
dressed he was,
always with a tie.

4949
04:36:49,560 --> 04:36:52,919
I have some other
pictures always

4950
04:36:52,919 --> 04:36:55,060
dressed and trimmed properly.

4951
04:36:55,060 --> 04:36:56,310
And this is your father Hersh.

4952
04:36:56,310 --> 04:36:59,090
Yes, my father Hersh Barth.

4953
04:36:59,090 --> 04:37:00,750
OK, thank you.

4954
04:37:00,750 --> 04:37:04,290
There's a damage in the picture.

4955
04:37:04,290 --> 04:37:09,689
This is my Uncle
Yakov's wedding to Tola.

4956
04:37:09,689 --> 04:37:15,180
And on one side to the
right are my grandparents.

4957
04:37:15,180 --> 04:37:20,279
Where the white damage is
is my Grandfather Barth,

4958
04:37:20,279 --> 04:37:22,460
my Grandmother--

4959
04:37:22,460 --> 04:37:25,140
Breindle was her name--

4960
04:37:25,140 --> 04:37:29,099
and to the left is
my father and mother.

4961
04:37:29,099 --> 04:37:35,684
And the girls on the bottom
from the left as Hannah, Lema,

4962
04:37:35,684 --> 04:37:38,800
and Lonya, my Aunt Lonya.

4963
04:37:38,800 --> 04:37:39,570
OK.

4964
04:37:39,570 --> 04:37:42,599
So I just want to
clarify, the far left,

4965
04:37:42,599 --> 04:37:45,330
the lady on the far left

looking towards the bride

4966

04:37:45,330 --> 04:37:47,200
is your mother?

4967

04:37:47,200 --> 04:37:47,700
Yes.

4968

04:37:47,700 --> 04:37:48,300
Sitting.

4969

04:37:48,300 --> 04:37:50,279
And then next to her,
the man who is sitting,

4970

04:37:50,279 --> 04:37:51,720
is your father Hersh.

4971

04:37:51,720 --> 04:37:52,619
Yes.

4972

04:37:52,619 --> 04:37:54,779
And the rest of
the people in there

4973

04:37:54,779 --> 04:37:57,340
are various family members?

4974

04:37:57,340 --> 04:37:58,650
Family members.

4975

04:37:58,650 --> 04:38:04,410
Actually, two of my aunts
Leibowicz I see there.

4976

04:38:04,410 --> 04:38:08,730
And some Barths I see here.

4977

04:38:08,730 --> 04:38:11,880
And some that I cannot identify.

4978

04:38:11,880 --> 04:38:15,160
And do you know about what
year they were married,

4979
04:38:15,160 --> 04:38:16,110
this wedding was?

4980
04:38:16,110 --> 04:38:18,930
They were married
shortly before the war.

4981
04:38:18,930 --> 04:38:22,390
I would say '38.

4982
04:38:22,390 --> 04:38:22,980
OK.

4983
04:38:22,980 --> 04:38:24,290
But are you in this photo?

4984
04:38:24,290 --> 04:38:26,580
No, I was not.

4985
04:38:26,580 --> 04:38:29,810
I must have been too young
to taken to the wedding.

4986
04:38:29,810 --> 04:38:30,349
OK.

4987
04:38:30,349 --> 04:38:32,710
Thank you.

4988
04:38:32,710 --> 04:38:33,990
OK, who's here?

4989
04:38:33,990 --> 04:38:40,080
To the left sitting down
is my Uncle Yakov Barth.

4990
04:38:40,080 --> 04:38:42,759
The one in the light

suit, the light jacket.

4991

04:38:42,759 --> 04:38:44,550

No, to the right.

4992

04:38:44,550 --> 04:38:45,340

Did I say left?

4993

04:38:45,340 --> 04:38:45,840

Yes.

4994

04:38:45,840 --> 04:38:49,259

To the right is

Uncle Yakov Barth,

4995

04:38:49,259 --> 04:38:53,669

the same one that got married

the picture that we just saw.

4996

04:38:53,669 --> 04:38:59,189

Next to him to the right

is his brother Avram.

4997

04:38:59,189 --> 04:39:00,070

Who's standing.

4998

04:39:00,070 --> 04:39:01,340

Who is standing.

4999

04:39:01,340 --> 04:39:05,890

And he is wearing the

Polish Army uniform.

5000

04:39:05,890 --> 04:39:06,390

OK.

5001

04:39:06,390 --> 04:39:10,619

I don't know exactly

when this was taken.

5002

04:39:10,619 --> 04:39:18,119

And the man to the extreme left

is my Uncle Yakov Leibowicz,

5003

04:39:18,119 --> 04:39:19,840

my mother's brother.

5004

04:39:19,840 --> 04:39:20,340

OK.

5005

04:39:20,340 --> 04:39:21,689

And the man standing--

5006

04:39:21,689 --> 04:39:23,550

I do not know who he is.

5007

04:39:23,550 --> 04:39:24,880

OK.

5008

04:39:24,880 --> 04:39:25,720

OK.

5009

04:39:25,720 --> 04:39:28,419

And you don't know about
when this was taken?

5010

04:39:28,419 --> 04:39:29,200

No.

5011

04:39:29,200 --> 04:39:32,840

It's all pre-war, but I
am not sure what year.

5012

04:39:32,840 --> 04:39:33,919

OK.

5013

04:39:33,919 --> 04:39:34,419

OK.

5014

04:39:34,419 --> 04:39:36,869

Thank you.

5015

04:39:36,869 --> 04:39:38,190

And what is this?

5016

04:39:38,190 --> 04:39:41,480

This is my grandparents'
Barth home.

5017

04:39:41,480 --> 04:39:45,230

As you see the
writing on the side,

5018

04:39:45,230 --> 04:39:50,480

my Aunt Riva left this picture.

5019

04:39:50,480 --> 04:39:56,030

And her daughter actually
made a copy and sent it to me.

5020

04:39:56,030 --> 04:40:00,750

And my aunt had written,
this is our home,

5021

04:40:00,750 --> 04:40:04,580

which is to the left
written down in Yiddish.

5022

04:40:04,580 --> 04:40:09,050

And the writing on the
top states that this

5023

04:40:09,050 --> 04:40:11,630

is their neighbor's house.

5024

04:40:11,630 --> 04:40:17,100

Their name was Tuchfeld.

5025

04:40:17,100 --> 04:40:17,870

Tuchfeld.

5026

04:40:17,870 --> 04:40:23,730

And this, if we recall, is
where your Grandfather Barth

5027

04:40:23,730 --> 04:40:26,010
had his jewelry business.

5028
04:40:26,010 --> 04:40:26,510
Right.

5029
04:40:26,510 --> 04:40:29,630
I presume that this
window had something

5030
04:40:29,630 --> 04:40:34,400
to do with his little
store, because his store was

5031
04:40:34,400 --> 04:40:36,920
right in front at the entrance.

5032
04:40:36,920 --> 04:40:39,680
Can you zoom in now, Catherine,
to see whether or not

5033
04:40:39,680 --> 04:40:42,680
we can see more clearly
the front of the house?

5034
04:40:42,680 --> 04:40:45,110
I don't know if there is
something in there or not.

5035
04:40:45,110 --> 04:40:46,060
Maybe, maybe not.

5036
04:40:46,060 --> 04:40:46,560
We'll see.

5037
04:40:46,560 --> 04:40:47,585
No, I see a curtain.

5038
04:40:47,585 --> 04:40:52,840

5039
04:40:52,840 --> 04:40:58,570

Oh, you see by the door there is a little window with some stuff

5040
04:40:58,570 --> 04:41:00,060
there.

5041
04:41:00,060 --> 04:41:02,030
You see that?

5042
04:41:02,030 --> 04:41:03,140
Oh, yes.

5043
04:41:03,140 --> 04:41:05,720
Oh, yes, on one side.

5044
04:41:05,720 --> 04:41:09,170
OK, so that would have been the entrance to his shop?

5045
04:41:09,170 --> 04:41:10,940
Yeah, and to the house.

5046
04:41:10,940 --> 04:41:11,910
And to the house.

5047
04:41:11,910 --> 04:41:12,570
Yeah.

5048
04:41:12,570 --> 04:41:13,070
OK.

5049
04:41:13,070 --> 04:41:16,630
I know there was a back entrance as well.

5050
04:41:16,630 --> 04:41:17,550
Thank you.

5051
04:41:17,550 --> 04:41:19,300
That's really pretty.

5052

04:41:19,300 --> 04:41:24,240
This is a picture from our
wedding night my husband

5053
04:41:24,240 --> 04:41:28,260
and myself, I guess
toasting each other.

5054
04:41:28,260 --> 04:41:31,160
And this was the
date of your wedding?

5055
04:41:31,160 --> 04:41:35,910
The date is February 25, 1954.

5056
04:41:35,910 --> 04:41:40,800
So it's Rina Barth
and Sam Frankel.

5057
04:41:40,800 --> 04:41:44,540
Schmuel Sam Frankel.

5058
04:41:44,540 --> 04:41:47,860
His Hebrew name is Schmuel.

5059
04:41:47,860 --> 04:41:49,290
And this was in Tel Aviv?

5060
04:41:49,290 --> 04:41:51,130
This was in Tel Aviv, yes.

5061
04:41:51,130 --> 04:41:51,630
OK.

5062
04:41:51,630 --> 04:41:54,030
Thank you.

5063
04:41:54,030 --> 04:41:57,030
These are our five children.

5064
04:41:57,030 --> 04:42:01,380
The tall one at

the left is Steve.

5065

04:42:01,380 --> 04:42:04,740

Next to him is our
oldest daughter Ann.

5066

04:42:04,740 --> 04:42:05,790

She's in blue?

5067

04:42:05,790 --> 04:42:06,750

In blue.

5068

04:42:06,750 --> 04:42:11,010

The one then white is
our youngest, Sharon.

5069

04:42:11,010 --> 04:42:13,710

Next to her is Marilyn.

5070

04:42:13,710 --> 04:42:17,340

And Dan brings up
the right corner.

5071

04:42:17,340 --> 04:42:19,650

OK, so you have two
boys and three girls.

5072

04:42:19,650 --> 04:42:22,160

Yes.

5073

04:42:22,160 --> 04:42:24,420

And about when was
this photograph taken?

5074

04:42:24,420 --> 04:42:29,390

This was just taken when we
were all together in Florida

5075

04:42:29,390 --> 04:42:34,620

when we had the naming of our
first two great grandchildren.

5076

04:42:34,620 --> 04:42:36,590
So this would have
been what year?

5077
04:42:36,590 --> 04:42:37,780
Two years ago.

5078
04:42:37,780 --> 04:42:41,220
So it would be 2015.

5079
04:42:41,220 --> 04:42:43,740
Yeah.

5080
04:42:43,740 --> 04:42:44,520
That looks great.

5081
04:42:44,520 --> 04:42:51,180
OK, this is the clan that
my husband and I built.

5082
04:42:51,180 --> 04:42:54,960
You can see the two mothers
with the two babies.

5083
04:42:54,960 --> 04:42:58,470
They are two weeks apart.

5084
04:42:58,470 --> 04:43:00,570
The taller one is
my granddaughter.

5085
04:43:00,570 --> 04:43:05,040
The other one is married to
my grandson, the one in white.

5086
04:43:05,040 --> 04:43:08,820
And this is almost
all of the family.

5087
04:43:08,820 --> 04:43:12,340
We were missing a
couple of people.

5088

04:43:12,340 --> 04:43:13,410

And this was taken also--

5089

04:43:13,410 --> 04:43:17,250

This was taken in Florida,
because they live in Florida.

5090

04:43:17,250 --> 04:43:19,480

So that's where this
was photographed.

5091

04:43:19,480 --> 04:43:19,980

OK.

5092

04:43:19,980 --> 04:43:21,690

And this was in 2015 as well?

5093

04:43:21,690 --> 04:43:24,870

Yes, it was at the same time
as the other photograph.

5094

04:43:24,870 --> 04:43:26,390

All right.

5095

04:43:26,390 --> 04:43:27,380

Thank you.

5096

04:43:27,380 --> 04:43:29,590

Thank you very much.