

1  
00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:00,950

2  
00:00:00,950 --> 00:00:03,330  
Yep.

3  
00:00:03,330 --> 00:00:06,870  
This is a United States  
Holocaust Memorial Museum

4  
00:00:06,870 --> 00:00:10,470  
interview with Mrs.  
Selma Tennenbaum

5  
00:00:10,470 --> 00:00:16,800  
Rossen on September 20, 2019  
in Springfield Township,

6  
00:00:16,800 --> 00:00:18,760  
New Jersey.

7  
00:00:18,760 --> 00:00:21,270  
Thank you very, very  
much for agreeing

8  
00:00:21,270 --> 00:00:25,470  
to speak with us today, for  
sharing some of your life story

9  
00:00:25,470 --> 00:00:30,210  
and your family's experiences  
and destiny during World War

10  
00:00:30,210 --> 00:00:31,020  
II.

11  
00:00:31,020 --> 00:00:33,220  
Well, thank you.

12  
00:00:33,220 --> 00:00:36,900  
Well, I'll start our interview

with the most basic questions.

13  
00:00:36,900 --> 00:00:37,950  
OK.

14  
00:00:37,950 --> 00:00:41,310  
Can you tell me the  
date of your birth?

15  
00:00:41,310 --> 00:00:44,940  
March 6, 1936.

16  
00:00:44,940 --> 00:00:46,750  
March 6, 1936.

17  
00:00:46,750 --> 00:00:47,250  
Yes.

18  
00:00:47,250 --> 00:00:49,660  
And what was your name at birth?

19  
00:00:49,660 --> 00:00:51,530  
Selma Tennenbaum.

20  
00:00:51,530 --> 00:00:52,290  
OK.

21  
00:00:52,290 --> 00:00:53,710  
Where were you born?

22  
00:00:53,710 --> 00:00:56,160  
I was born in Zolochiv, Poland.

23  
00:00:56,160 --> 00:00:57,150  
OK.

24  
00:00:57,150 --> 00:00:58,790  
It was then Poland.

25  
00:00:58,790 --> 00:01:00,630  
And is it still or no?

26  
00:01:00,630 --> 00:01:02,790  
No, it is part of Ukraine now.

27  
00:01:02,790 --> 00:01:06,900  
So that means it was on that  
eastern part of Poland that

28  
00:01:06,900 --> 00:01:10,410  
has been so often  
contested territory.

29  
00:01:10,410 --> 00:01:11,450  
Absolutely.

30  
00:01:11,450 --> 00:01:12,180  
OK.

31  
00:01:12,180 --> 00:01:15,480  
When my parents were born,  
it was Austria, Hungary.

32  
00:01:15,480 --> 00:01:17,360  
And then it was Poland.

33  
00:01:17,360 --> 00:01:18,740  
Then it was Russia.

34  
00:01:18,740 --> 00:01:20,790  
Now it's Ukraine.

35  
00:01:20,790 --> 00:01:21,960  
Well, isn't it interesting?

36  
00:01:21,960 --> 00:01:26,850  
A person can be born and live  
in the same city, maybe even

37  
00:01:26,850 --> 00:01:30,000  
the same street, and have  
lived in four countries.

38

00:01:30,000 --> 00:01:30,894

That's correct.

39

00:01:30,894 --> 00:01:33,130

Yeah.

40

00:01:33,130 --> 00:01:35,850

And they have much different experiences than those of us

41

00:01:35,850 --> 00:01:39,780

who are never near such borders.

42

00:01:39,780 --> 00:01:43,390

Let me ask a little bit about your family.

43

00:01:43,390 --> 00:01:46,690

Can you tell me your mother's name and your father's name?

44

00:01:46,690 --> 00:01:50,815

My mother was Elizabeth Tennenbaum, Elizabeth Horowitz

45

00:01:50,815 --> 00:01:52,160

Tennenbaum.

46

00:01:52,160 --> 00:01:55,680

And Father was Samuel Lipa Tennenbaum.

47

00:01:55,680 --> 00:01:59,040

OK, so your mother's maiden name was Horowitz.

48

00:01:59,040 --> 00:02:00,210

Yes.

49

00:02:00,210 --> 00:02:03,990

Did both sides of your family come from--

50

00:02:03,990 --> 00:02:05,680

was it Zloczow that you said?

51

00:02:05,680 --> 00:02:06,180

Zolochiv.

52

00:02:06,180 --> 00:02:07,230

Zolochiv.

53

00:02:07,230 --> 00:02:11,340

Yeah, actually, Father was born  
in a very small hamlet called

54

00:02:11,340 --> 00:02:12,480

Gologory.

55

00:02:12,480 --> 00:02:13,390

Doldory?

56

00:02:13,390 --> 00:02:14,850

Gologory.

57

00:02:14,850 --> 00:02:16,065

Doldory.

58

00:02:16,065 --> 00:02:22,627

G-O-L-O-- Gologory, which is  
actually means "Bare Mountain."

59

00:02:22,627 --> 00:02:23,980

Ah.

60

00:02:23,980 --> 00:02:24,480

OK.

61

00:02:24,480 --> 00:02:26,610

But Mother was from Zolochiv.

62

00:02:26,610 --> 00:02:29,910

And was this small

hamlet close to Zolochiv?

63  
00:02:29,910 --> 00:02:30,640  
Yes.

64  
00:02:30,640 --> 00:02:31,140  
OK.

65  
00:02:31,140 --> 00:02:32,490  
Very close.

66  
00:02:32,490 --> 00:02:34,360  
Did you have  
brothers and sisters?

67  
00:02:34,360 --> 00:02:35,520  
I have a sister.

68  
00:02:35,520 --> 00:02:36,570  
And what is her name?

69  
00:02:36,570 --> 00:02:40,350  
Her name is Edith  
Tennenbaum Shapiro.

70  
00:02:40,350 --> 00:02:42,360  
And was she older  
or younger than you?

71  
00:02:42,360 --> 00:02:43,650  
She was one year older.

72  
00:02:43,650 --> 00:02:45,190  
13 months to be exact.

73  
00:02:45,190 --> 00:02:45,690  
Really?

74  
00:02:45,690 --> 00:02:46,650  
13 months older?

75

00:02:46,650 --> 00:02:48,270  
So you're very close in age.

76  
00:02:48,270 --> 00:02:49,290  
Very close.

77  
00:02:49,290 --> 00:02:51,525  
13 has always been  
my lucky number.

78  
00:02:51,525 --> 00:02:54,405  
[LAUGHS] That's  
very good to have.

79  
00:02:54,405 --> 00:02:54,905  
Yes.

80  
00:02:54,905 --> 00:02:57,540  
For so many of us, we  
keep looking at it like,

81  
00:02:57,540 --> 00:02:59,850  
oh, it's an unlucky number.

82  
00:02:59,850 --> 00:03:04,080  
But it's good when  
it's the opposite.

83  
00:03:04,080 --> 00:03:05,415  
So you have one sister.

84  
00:03:05,415 --> 00:03:06,560  
Mm-hmm.

85  
00:03:06,560 --> 00:03:08,310  
And she is still living?

86  
00:03:08,310 --> 00:03:08,910  
Yes.

87  
00:03:08,910 --> 00:03:10,590  
OK.

88

00:03:10,590 --> 00:03:18,060  
Your mother's side of the family  
you say were all from Zolochiv.

89

00:03:18,060 --> 00:03:19,810  
Did she have  
brothers and sisters?

90

00:03:19,810 --> 00:03:20,770  
No.

91

00:03:20,770 --> 00:03:22,110  
OK.

92

00:03:22,110 --> 00:03:26,430  
And her parents, do  
you know their names?

93

00:03:26,430 --> 00:03:31,000  
Well, I remember my  
grandmother's name.

94

00:03:31,000 --> 00:03:34,150  
Her name was Basha,  
Barbara Horowitz.

95

00:03:34,150 --> 00:03:34,750  
Barbara.

96

00:03:34,750 --> 00:03:35,250  
Yes.

97

00:03:35,250 --> 00:03:38,160  
I don't remember  
my grandfather's

98

00:03:38,160 --> 00:03:44,630  
because he was killed very  
early, and we never knew him--

99

00:03:44,630 --> 00:03:45,840



in an accident.

100  
00:03:45,840 --> 00:03:47,190  
He was not killed in the war.

101  
00:03:47,190 --> 00:03:47,740  
OK.

102  
00:03:47,740 --> 00:03:49,200  
He died before the war.

103  
00:03:49,200 --> 00:03:52,050  
OK.

104  
00:03:52,050 --> 00:03:55,470  
Did he die when your mother  
was already an adult?

105  
00:03:55,470 --> 00:03:57,310  
No, she was a child.

106  
00:03:57,310 --> 00:04:00,300  
She was I think four  
or five years old.

107  
00:04:00,300 --> 00:04:03,250  
So does that mean your  
grandmother brought her up?

108  
00:04:03,250 --> 00:04:03,750  
Oh, yes.

109  
00:04:03,750 --> 00:04:04,530  
By herself.

110  
00:04:04,530 --> 00:04:05,800  
Yes, absolutely.

111  
00:04:05,800 --> 00:04:06,660  
OK.

112

00:04:06,660 --> 00:04:11,240  
She had a little restaurant near  
the railroad station in town.

113  
00:04:11,240 --> 00:04:13,570  
And that's how she made out.

114  
00:04:13,570 --> 00:04:14,310  
Wow.

115  
00:04:14,310 --> 00:04:17,010  
It must have been a  
hard life for her.

116  
00:04:17,010 --> 00:04:18,434  
Yes.

117  
00:04:18,434 --> 00:04:19,920  
I know it was, right?

118  
00:04:19,920 --> 00:04:24,290  
But she's a very stalwart  
woman, very religious woman.

119  
00:04:24,290 --> 00:04:30,060  
And she always felt that  
God was on her side.

120  
00:04:30,060 --> 00:04:31,980  
And so you knew  
your grandmother.

121  
00:04:31,980 --> 00:04:32,940  
Oh, yes.

122  
00:04:32,940 --> 00:04:34,200  
Yes.

123  
00:04:34,200 --> 00:04:37,770  
She survived the war and  
came with us to America.

124

00:04:37,770 --> 00:04:38,650  
Oh, my.

125  
00:04:38,650 --> 00:04:39,450  
Yes.

126  
00:04:39,450 --> 00:04:42,420  
Did she live on her  
own when you were born?

127  
00:04:42,420 --> 00:04:45,360  
Or did she live with  
you and your parents?

128  
00:04:45,360 --> 00:04:46,900  
She lived on her own.

129  
00:04:46,900 --> 00:04:47,820  
She lived on her own.

130  
00:04:47,820 --> 00:04:48,320  
Yes.

131  
00:04:48,320 --> 00:04:49,350  
OK.

132  
00:04:49,350 --> 00:04:52,040  
And there were no other  
children, just your mother?

133  
00:04:52,040 --> 00:04:53,100  
Correct.

134  
00:04:53,100 --> 00:04:54,360  
All right.

135  
00:04:54,360 --> 00:04:56,720  
On your father's side, did  
he have brothers and sisters?

136  
00:04:56,720 --> 00:04:58,172  
No, he didn't.

137  
00:04:58,172 --> 00:05:00,060  
Oh, so he was also  
an only child.

138  
00:05:00,060 --> 00:05:01,060  
He was an only child.

139  
00:05:01,060 --> 00:05:01,560  
All right.

140  
00:05:01,560 --> 00:05:04,580  
No aunts, no uncles,  
no first cousins.

141  
00:05:04,580 --> 00:05:06,060  
OK.

142  
00:05:06,060 --> 00:05:08,250  
And what about his parents?

143  
00:05:08,250 --> 00:05:09,840  
Were they alive  
when you were born?

144  
00:05:09,840 --> 00:05:10,750  
Oh, yes.

145  
00:05:10,750 --> 00:05:12,970  
We lived in the same  
house with them.

146  
00:05:12,970 --> 00:05:13,710  
Ah.

147  
00:05:13,710 --> 00:05:14,640  
OK.

148  
00:05:14,640 --> 00:05:17,130  
So there are three  
grandparents in your life.

149

00:05:17,130 --> 00:05:17,740

Yes.

150

00:05:17,740 --> 00:05:18,240

All right.

151

00:05:18,240 --> 00:05:22,260

What were your paternal  
grandparents' names?

152

00:05:22,260 --> 00:05:26,500

Leon and Lola Tennenbaum.

153

00:05:26,500 --> 00:05:27,000

OK.

154

00:05:27,000 --> 00:05:29,430

And Lola, do you remember  
what her maiden name might

155

00:05:29,430 --> 00:05:32,400

have been?

156

00:05:32,400 --> 00:05:34,440

I think it's Tapaun.

157

00:05:34,440 --> 00:05:35,640

Kapaun?

158

00:05:35,640 --> 00:05:37,760

Yes, T-A-P-A-U-N.

159

00:05:37,760 --> 00:05:39,660

OK.

160

00:05:39,660 --> 00:05:44,450

And did they survive the war?

161

00:05:44,450 --> 00:05:46,238

No.

162  
00:05:46,238 --> 00:05:48,030  
No.

163  
00:05:48,030 --> 00:05:52,900  
Grandmother died of typhus.

164  
00:05:52,900 --> 00:05:57,340  
We were actually living  
just outside the ghetto.

165  
00:05:57,340 --> 00:06:01,740  
And Grandfather  
committed suicide,

166  
00:06:01,740 --> 00:06:05,040  
took some cyanide when  
he was picked up by one

167  
00:06:05,040 --> 00:06:07,113  
of the roundups during the war.

168  
00:06:07,113 --> 00:06:07,613  
Oh.

169  
00:06:07,613 --> 00:06:11,070

170  
00:06:11,070 --> 00:06:13,920  
Do you have any  
memories of them?

171  
00:06:13,920 --> 00:06:14,640  
Oh, yes.

172  
00:06:14,640 --> 00:06:16,200  
Absolutely.

173  
00:06:16,200 --> 00:06:20,850  
Because it's funny.

174  
00:06:20,850 --> 00:06:26,010

Very small memories because  
this was before the war.

175  
00:06:26,010 --> 00:06:28,770  
My grandfather owned a factory.

176  
00:06:28,770 --> 00:06:30,990  
He was traveling.

177  
00:06:30,990 --> 00:06:34,620  
And he was a cultural Jew,  
a very strong cultural Jew

178  
00:06:34,620 --> 00:06:36,660  
but not a religious Jew.

179  
00:06:36,660 --> 00:06:42,000  
My grandmother was really  
orthodox, very kosher kitchen.

180  
00:06:42,000 --> 00:06:45,640  
Can we hold on for a second?

181  
00:06:45,640 --> 00:06:50,250  
So your grandfather was  
a cultural Jew but not

182  
00:06:50,250 --> 00:06:51,835  
a very religious Jew.

183  
00:06:51,835 --> 00:06:52,710  
And your grandmother?

184  
00:06:52,710 --> 00:06:56,970  
Grandmother was  
orthodox, kosher kitchen.

185  
00:06:56,970 --> 00:07:01,080  
And grandfather when he  
went traveling sometimes

186  
00:07:01,080 --> 00:07:05,100

brought ham back with  
him from his travels.

187  
00:07:05,100 --> 00:07:06,600  
And then he would  
take Edith and me

188  
00:07:06,600 --> 00:07:11,565  
to the back stairs of the house  
and give us ham sandwiches.

189  
00:07:11,565 --> 00:07:15,060  
Now, Edith is much more  
adventurous and brave

190  
00:07:15,060 --> 00:07:16,350  
than I am.

191  
00:07:16,350 --> 00:07:19,200  
So since then, she loves him.

192  
00:07:19,200 --> 00:07:22,190  
And I felt very guilty, and  
I don't eat ham to this day.

193  
00:07:22,190 --> 00:07:23,350  
Oh my goodness.

194  
00:07:23,350 --> 00:07:24,672  
I eat bacon.

195  
00:07:24,672 --> 00:07:27,570  
[LAUGHS] But not ham.

196  
00:07:27,570 --> 00:07:29,640  
No, the guilt still  
stays with me.

197  
00:07:29,640 --> 00:07:32,030  
Oy yay, oy yay.

198  
00:07:32,030 --> 00:07:33,870



But so he was a bit naughty.

199  
00:07:33,870 --> 00:07:35,255  
He was a bit naughty, yes.

200  
00:07:35,255 --> 00:07:36,930  
Yes.

201  
00:07:36,930 --> 00:07:40,140  
But that's also very  
charming in a grandfather.

202  
00:07:40,140 --> 00:07:43,110  
Yes, he was a very  
good grandfather.

203  
00:07:43,110 --> 00:07:43,950  
Yeah.

204  
00:07:43,950 --> 00:07:46,763  
What was the factory  
that he owned?

205  
00:07:46,763 --> 00:07:47,680  
What was the factory--

206  
00:07:47,680 --> 00:07:49,350  
Factory that he owned.

207  
00:07:49,350 --> 00:07:54,570  
He owned a factory that  
made paper products, boxes,

208  
00:07:54,570 --> 00:07:56,880  
and all kinds of  
printing material

209  
00:07:56,880 --> 00:07:59,105  
for the pharmaceutical industry.

210  
00:07:59,105 --> 00:08:00,270  
Aha.

211  
00:08:00,270 --> 00:08:04,440  
So the box that you get  
your medicine in and many

212  
00:08:04,440 --> 00:08:07,950  
of the items, like a  
headache powder, which

213  
00:08:07,950 --> 00:08:11,700  
was called [? guduchi. ?]  
Came in little paper twists.

214  
00:08:11,700 --> 00:08:15,370  
So they did all the packaging  
for pharmaceutical industry.

215  
00:08:15,370 --> 00:08:17,910  
And they were probably the  
second larger manufacturer

216  
00:08:17,910 --> 00:08:22,150  
of pharmaceutical  
packaging in Poland.

217  
00:08:22,150 --> 00:08:23,520  
That's quite something.

218  
00:08:23,520 --> 00:08:24,145  
It's something.

219  
00:08:24,145 --> 00:08:27,190  
And that factory  
saved our lives.

220  
00:08:27,190 --> 00:08:28,510  
Well, we'll, come to that.

221  
00:08:28,510 --> 00:08:29,860  
We'll come to that.

222  
00:08:29,860 --> 00:08:32,200

Was it a large  
factory then if it was

223  
00:08:32,200 --> 00:08:34,390  
the second largest in Poland?

224  
00:08:34,390 --> 00:08:35,970  
Or was it not so large?

225  
00:08:35,970 --> 00:08:37,010  
It was not that large.

226  
00:08:37,010 --> 00:08:39,690  
I mean, this is Poland.

227  
00:08:39,690 --> 00:08:40,260  
Yes.

228  
00:08:40,260 --> 00:08:40,990  
OK.

229  
00:08:40,990 --> 00:08:44,620  
Well, also because it sounds  
like a very specialized niche.

230  
00:08:44,620 --> 00:08:45,340  
Yes.

231  
00:08:45,340 --> 00:08:47,230  
It was a classic niche market.

232  
00:08:47,230 --> 00:08:49,210  
Yeah.

233  
00:08:49,210 --> 00:08:52,030  
About how many people  
worked in that factory?

234  
00:08:52,030 --> 00:08:53,470  
Well, it varied.

235

00:08:53,470 --> 00:08:57,890  
But I think right before the  
war, it was close to a hundred.

236  
00:08:57,890 --> 00:08:59,870  
That's pretty big, yes.

237  
00:08:59,870 --> 00:09:00,980  
Yeah.

238  
00:09:00,980 --> 00:09:05,450  
And did your father work  
with your grandfather?

239  
00:09:05,450 --> 00:09:08,300  
Or did he have a separate  
business or pursuit?

240  
00:09:08,300 --> 00:09:14,030  
Well, Father has a law degree.

241  
00:09:14,030 --> 00:09:16,780  
He originally planned  
to be an engineer

242  
00:09:16,780 --> 00:09:20,540  
and so studying in  
Lemberg, in Lvov.

243  
00:09:20,540 --> 00:09:23,740  
But Grandpa needed some  
help in the factory.

244  
00:09:23,740 --> 00:09:25,880  
So Father came to help him.

245  
00:09:25,880 --> 00:09:29,360  
In Poland, you didn't have to  
attend classes to be a lawyer.

246  
00:09:29,360 --> 00:09:32,400  
You just had to show  
up for the final exams.

247  
00:09:32,400 --> 00:09:35,110  
So Father switched  
to law, and then

248  
00:09:35,110 --> 00:09:37,910  
he worked in Father's  
factory, essentially

249  
00:09:37,910 --> 00:09:42,605  
running it, the technical side  
of it, from a very early age.

250  
00:09:42,605 --> 00:09:43,910  
Oh, wow.

251  
00:09:43,910 --> 00:09:44,750  
Yes.

252  
00:09:44,750 --> 00:09:50,420  
Well, that speaks to  
somebody who had talent.

253  
00:09:50,420 --> 00:09:53,600  
Mechanical abilities  
and management abilities

254  
00:09:53,600 --> 00:09:56,540  
and language abilities, yes.

255  
00:09:56,540 --> 00:09:59,210  
Your father, when was he born?

256  
00:09:59,210 --> 00:10:00,230  
Do you know?

257  
00:10:00,230 --> 00:10:00,830  
Yes.

258  
00:10:00,830 --> 00:10:04,690  
He was born in--

259

00:10:04,690 --> 00:10:05,940

I'm blanking out for a minute.

260

00:10:05,940 --> 00:10:08,920

But it's April 9, 1909.

261

00:10:08,920 --> 00:10:10,010

OK.

262

00:10:10,010 --> 00:10:11,620

And your mother?

263

00:10:11,620 --> 00:10:15,416

My mother was born on  
September 12, 1909.

264

00:10:15,416 --> 00:10:17,980

Ah, so there's just half a  
year difference between them.

265

00:10:17,980 --> 00:10:19,820

Yes.

266

00:10:19,820 --> 00:10:23,290

So your father was a young boy.

267

00:10:23,290 --> 00:10:27,310

Actually, this parallels in  
the generations a little bit,

268

00:10:27,310 --> 00:10:30,100

that his child was  
during a war and yours

269

00:10:30,100 --> 00:10:34,360

was during a war, in  
that his was World War I.

270

00:10:34,360 --> 00:10:36,610

Oh, absolutely, yes.

271

00:10:36,610 --> 00:10:39,550

Did he have any  
memories of World War I?

272

00:10:39,550 --> 00:10:42,760

He did, but not that many.

273

00:10:42,760 --> 00:10:45,835

At that point, Poland was  
part of Austria, Hungary.

274

00:10:45,835 --> 00:10:49,267

So they were really in the  
Austro-Hungarian Empire.

275

00:10:49,267 --> 00:10:50,700

All right.

276

00:10:50,700 --> 00:10:54,130

And there was  
really no prejudice

277

00:10:54,130 --> 00:10:55,990

against Jews at that time.

278

00:10:55,990 --> 00:10:59,320

There were some pogroms, but  
not close to where he was.

279

00:10:59,320 --> 00:11:00,730

OK.

280

00:11:00,730 --> 00:11:03,130

Did he ever talk  
about such things?

281

00:11:03,130 --> 00:11:06,080

Did he ever talk about his own  
childhood, his own growing up,

282

00:11:06,080 --> 00:11:08,110

or things like that?

283

00:11:08,110 --> 00:11:10,810

Not in the-- not that young.

284

00:11:10,810 --> 00:11:14,762

But certainly, once he was  
a teenager, absolutely.

285

00:11:14,762 --> 00:11:15,970

So he would tell you stories.

286

00:11:15,970 --> 00:11:16,470

Oh, sure.

287

00:11:16,470 --> 00:11:17,920

Yes.

288

00:11:17,920 --> 00:11:23,560

Are there any favorite stories  
of his that you remember?

289

00:11:23,560 --> 00:11:27,810

Well, not particularly.

290

00:11:27,810 --> 00:11:30,220

But he was a great athlete.

291

00:11:30,220 --> 00:11:33,400

And he was a member  
of a lot of clubs.

292

00:11:33,400 --> 00:11:36,970

He always encouraged  
us to be athletic

293

00:11:36,970 --> 00:11:39,040

and to swim and to read.

294

00:11:39,040 --> 00:11:41,770

Most of the stories really  
had to do with the books

295



00:11:41,770 --> 00:11:43,480  
that he read.

296  
00:11:43,480 --> 00:11:46,150  
And we were brought up on  
a lot of Polish literature

297  
00:11:46,150 --> 00:11:48,140  
and American literature.

298  
00:11:48,140 --> 00:11:52,570  
And he liked western stories  
from the United States.

299  
00:11:52,570 --> 00:11:55,960  
Well, in some parts of Europe,  
and particularly Germany,

300  
00:11:55,960 --> 00:11:58,450  
people would always-- when  
they talk about westerns,

301  
00:11:58,450 --> 00:12:01,900  
their eyes would light up, and  
they'd say, Karl May, Karl May.

302  
00:12:01,900 --> 00:12:02,940  
You got that one right.

303  
00:12:02,940 --> 00:12:04,242  
Yes, absolutely.

304  
00:12:04,242 --> 00:12:05,980  
Yes.

305  
00:12:05,980 --> 00:12:07,090  
Was that one of them?

306  
00:12:07,090 --> 00:12:07,690  
Yes, it was.

307  
00:12:07,690 --> 00:12:08,190

Yes.

308  
00:12:08,190 --> 00:12:09,040  
OK.

309  
00:12:09,040 --> 00:12:11,630  
And this name is not known  
in the United States.

310  
00:12:11,630 --> 00:12:13,480  
He was a very popular in Poland.

311  
00:12:13,480 --> 00:12:14,110  
Yeah.

312  
00:12:14,110 --> 00:12:17,770  
But we got things like  
Anne of Green Gables.

313  
00:12:17,770 --> 00:12:23,230  
And I'm trying to think of-- but  
a lot of western stories, yes.

314  
00:12:23,230 --> 00:12:24,810  
And were they  
translated into Polish?

315  
00:12:24,810 --> 00:12:25,930  
Oh, yes, sure.

316  
00:12:25,930 --> 00:12:26,500  
OK.

317  
00:12:26,500 --> 00:12:28,310  
What language did  
you speak at home?

318  
00:12:28,310 --> 00:12:28,810  
Polish.

319  
00:12:28,810 --> 00:12:31,200  
Polish.

320  
00:12:31,200 --> 00:12:33,820  
Did your parents speak Yiddish?

321  
00:12:33,820 --> 00:12:35,705  
Well, I'm sure  
they knew Yiddish.

322  
00:12:35,705 --> 00:12:37,560  
I mean, I know  
they knew Yiddish.

323  
00:12:37,560 --> 00:12:39,620  
But at home, we  
always spoke Polish.

324  
00:12:39,620 --> 00:12:40,540  
OK.

325  
00:12:40,540 --> 00:12:43,540  
And with their own parents also?

326  
00:12:43,540 --> 00:12:44,970  
Polish.

327  
00:12:44,970 --> 00:12:46,750  
OK, that's a distinction.

328  
00:12:46,750 --> 00:12:49,675  
Because in some families,  
it was not that case.

329  
00:12:49,675 --> 00:12:50,650  
I know.

330  
00:12:50,650 --> 00:12:51,610  
OK.

331  
00:12:51,610 --> 00:12:54,130  
So would that mean  
that you were--

332

00:12:54,130 --> 00:12:55,600  
that that sort of--

333

00:12:55,600 --> 00:12:59,815  
being a cultural Jew,  
that was one of the ways

334

00:12:59,815 --> 00:13:05,170  
that that showed that one  
was more secular in that way

335

00:13:05,170 --> 00:13:06,660  
or more assimilated?

336

00:13:06,660 --> 00:13:11,620  
Also, our town Zolochiv was part  
of the Austro-Hungarian Empire.

337

00:13:11,620 --> 00:13:14,500  
And their attitude  
toward Jews was

338

00:13:14,500 --> 00:13:20,160  
very different in that Jews were  
allowed to hold high offices.

339

00:13:20,160 --> 00:13:23,410  
They could practice law  
in a way they could not

340

00:13:23,410 --> 00:13:27,070  
in parts of Poland which  
were occupied by Russia.

341

00:13:27,070 --> 00:13:32,860  
And there didn't seem to  
be-- lots of Father's friends

342

00:13:32,860 --> 00:13:35,380  
were not Jewish.

343

00:13:35,380 --> 00:13:41,640

But he was very devoted to  
Judaism and to Palestine

344  
00:13:41,640 --> 00:13:47,230  
and was culturally assimilated.

345  
00:13:47,230 --> 00:13:49,540  
Well, if it was part of the  
Austro-Hungarian Empire,

346  
00:13:49,540 --> 00:13:52,180  
I would assume that  
he also spoke German.

347  
00:13:52,180 --> 00:13:53,210  
Of course.

348  
00:13:53,210 --> 00:13:54,550  
OK.

349  
00:13:54,550 --> 00:13:55,880  
And your mother, too?

350  
00:13:55,880 --> 00:13:56,505  
Oh, surely.

351  
00:13:56,505 --> 00:13:57,520  
OK.

352  
00:13:57,520 --> 00:14:00,280  
Did your mother have  
higher education?

353  
00:14:00,280 --> 00:14:01,780  
Yes, she went to law school.

354  
00:14:01,780 --> 00:14:02,500  
Also?

355  
00:14:02,500 --> 00:14:04,120  
Yes.

356

00:14:04,120 --> 00:14:05,550

That's unusual.

357

00:14:05,550 --> 00:14:06,450

Yes.

358

00:14:06,450 --> 00:14:07,560

Yes.

359

00:14:07,560 --> 00:14:11,550

They were both lawyers in  
prewar Poland, which is unusual.

360

00:14:11,550 --> 00:14:12,360

Very.

361

00:14:12,360 --> 00:14:15,330

And did she practice?

362

00:14:15,330 --> 00:14:18,300

For a little while,  
and then she had us.

363

00:14:18,300 --> 00:14:19,650

OK.

364

00:14:19,650 --> 00:14:22,390

How did your parents meet?

365

00:14:22,390 --> 00:14:24,640

Well, they were  
apparently introduced

366

00:14:24,640 --> 00:14:30,210

by their parents, actually  
Mother's mother and Father's

367

00:14:30,210 --> 00:14:31,080

mother.

368

00:14:31,080 --> 00:14:32,310

OK.

369

00:14:32,310 --> 00:14:33,750

Was it matchmaking?

370

00:14:33,750 --> 00:14:34,770

Or was it just--

371

00:14:34,770 --> 00:14:36,403

No, they were children.

372

00:14:36,403 --> 00:14:37,840

Ah.

373

00:14:37,840 --> 00:14:41,580

The picture you see standing  
other there of my parents,

374

00:14:41,580 --> 00:14:42,540

he was--

375

00:14:42,540 --> 00:14:45,140

I think they were 16-year-old.

376

00:14:45,140 --> 00:14:48,060

So they knew each  
other from high school.

377

00:14:48,060 --> 00:14:53,600

378

00:14:53,600 --> 00:14:56,570

Tell me a little bit  
about their personalities,

379

00:14:56,570 --> 00:15:01,250

your mother's personality and  
then your father's personality.

380

00:15:01,250 --> 00:15:06,420

Well, Mother was a  
great reader also.

381  
00:15:06,420 --> 00:15:09,390  
But she was very social.

382  
00:15:09,390 --> 00:15:14,150  
She made friends very easily  
and had a lot of friends.

383  
00:15:14,150 --> 00:15:20,120  
She was also interested in  
things like clothing, jewelry.

384  
00:15:20,120 --> 00:15:22,010  
And she was a fabulous cook.

385  
00:15:22,010 --> 00:15:25,460  
I mean, our grandparents  
were fabulous cooks.

386  
00:15:25,460 --> 00:15:27,770  
So she was very social.

387  
00:15:27,770 --> 00:15:30,050  
But she did get a law  
degree because Father

388  
00:15:30,050 --> 00:15:31,770  
went to law school.

389  
00:15:31,770 --> 00:15:40,590  
And she did not get as involved  
in politics as Father did.

390  
00:15:40,590 --> 00:15:45,300  
Father were also a great reader.

391  
00:15:45,300 --> 00:15:47,820  
I think that both of  
them were great readers.

392  
00:15:47,820 --> 00:15:51,540  
But Father was also



a great sportsman.

393

00:15:51,540 --> 00:15:57,360

And he was a manager, very  
good technical manager.

394

00:15:57,360 --> 00:16:01,000

Did your mother participate in  
the work of the factory at all?

395

00:16:01,000 --> 00:16:01,500

No.

396

00:16:01,500 --> 00:16:02,280

No.

397

00:16:02,280 --> 00:16:04,870

So her world was  
running the household?

398

00:16:04,870 --> 00:16:05,370

Yes.

399

00:16:05,370 --> 00:16:08,980

400

00:16:08,980 --> 00:16:12,700

And a social life and a  
literary kind of interest.

401

00:16:12,700 --> 00:16:13,940

Absolutely social life, yes.

402

00:16:13,940 --> 00:16:14,440

OK.

403

00:16:14,440 --> 00:16:18,420

404

00:16:18,420 --> 00:16:20,320

which one-- is this  
a fair question?

405  
00:16:20,320 --> 00:16:21,570  
Which one were you closest to?

406  
00:16:21,570 --> 00:16:24,340

407  
00:16:24,340 --> 00:16:28,560  
That's an Interesting question.

408  
00:16:28,560 --> 00:16:32,867  
I don't think I can even answer  
that question because there

409  
00:16:32,867 --> 00:16:35,200  
were some things that Father,  
and there were some things

410  
00:16:35,200 --> 00:16:36,840  
that Mother did.

411  
00:16:36,840 --> 00:16:40,150  
And they both did their  
bit with us, right.

412  
00:16:40,150 --> 00:16:41,740  
OK.

413  
00:16:41,740 --> 00:16:44,380  
It sounds as if they  
were engaged with you.

414  
00:16:44,380 --> 00:16:45,534  
Very much so.

415  
00:16:45,534 --> 00:16:47,350  
OK.

416  
00:16:47,350 --> 00:16:50,668  
Having said that, we were  
brought up by nannies.

417

00:16:50,668 --> 00:16:52,335

Well, that was one  
of my next questions.

418

00:16:52,335 --> 00:16:53,170

Yes.

419

00:16:53,170 --> 00:16:55,030

Yeah.

420

00:16:55,030 --> 00:16:59,060

I wanted to ask, would you have  
said your family was well-to-do

421

00:16:59,060 --> 00:16:59,560

in--

422

00:16:59,560 --> 00:17:00,310

Yes.

423

00:17:00,310 --> 00:17:01,090

OK.

424

00:17:01,090 --> 00:17:01,840

Before the war.

425

00:17:01,840 --> 00:17:02,550

Before the war.

426

00:17:02,550 --> 00:17:04,329

Yes.

427

00:17:04,329 --> 00:17:07,580

Describe your home  
for me a little bit.

428

00:17:07,580 --> 00:17:08,900

Where did you live?

429

00:17:08,900 --> 00:17:10,960

What do you remember

from your home?

430

00:17:10,960 --> 00:17:14,770

Well, we actually  
lived over the factory.

431

00:17:14,770 --> 00:17:16,329

Not exactly over at the factory.

432

00:17:16,329 --> 00:17:18,329

But there was a  
very big building.

433

00:17:18,329 --> 00:17:21,250

And on the second floor,  
there were apartments

434

00:17:21,250 --> 00:17:24,250

of my nuclear family,  
Mother, Father,

435

00:17:24,250 --> 00:17:29,380

Edith, and I. And Grandpa  
and Grandma Tannenbaum also

436

00:17:29,380 --> 00:17:30,400

lived there.

437

00:17:30,400 --> 00:17:32,710

In the same apartment or  
a different apartment?

438

00:17:32,710 --> 00:17:35,300

Well, different  
apartments, same floor.

439

00:17:35,300 --> 00:17:35,800

Got it.

440

00:17:35,800 --> 00:17:36,310

OK.

441

00:17:36,310 --> 00:17:40,000  
The factory was on  
the bottom floor.

442  
00:17:40,000 --> 00:17:41,994  
And there was an  
adjoining building.

443  
00:17:41,994 --> 00:17:43,730  
Ah.

444  
00:17:43,730 --> 00:17:48,130  
And there was-- and  
we moved from there

445  
00:17:48,130 --> 00:17:51,790  
when the Russians invaded,  
which was in 1941.

446  
00:17:51,790 --> 00:17:54,340  
It was when I was  
five years old.

447  
00:17:54,340 --> 00:17:56,380  
So I don't have  
too many memories

448  
00:17:56,380 --> 00:17:59,660  
of that first apartment  
except Grandpa

449  
00:17:59,660 --> 00:18:02,710  
giving us ham on  
the back stairs.

450  
00:18:02,710 --> 00:18:05,950  
And I have this very  
strange memory, which

451  
00:18:05,950 --> 00:18:10,560  
I've talked to Edith about,  
is in the kitchen when

452

00:18:10,560 --> 00:18:15,280  
the maid and the cook were  
there, there were geese.

453  
00:18:15,280 --> 00:18:20,510  
And they were stuffing the  
geese, the heads of the geese.

454  
00:18:20,510 --> 00:18:26,330  
They were stuffing the geese  
for foie gras, you know, it's--

455  
00:18:26,330 --> 00:18:27,543  
and just--

456  
00:18:27,543 --> 00:18:28,460  
And you remember that?

457  
00:18:28,460 --> 00:18:31,050  
I have that memory, right.

458  
00:18:31,050 --> 00:18:32,320  
How interesting.

459  
00:18:32,320 --> 00:18:33,190  
Yeah.

460  
00:18:33,190 --> 00:18:36,010  
And I also remember  
that in the winter,

461  
00:18:36,010 --> 00:18:40,900  
they put sacks with  
hay on the doors for it

462  
00:18:40,900 --> 00:18:44,830  
to provide protection  
from the cold air, yes.

463  
00:18:44,830 --> 00:18:47,260  
Well, tell me about  
the house itself.

464

00:18:47,260 --> 00:18:50,170

Did it have modern conveniences?

465

00:18:50,170 --> 00:18:51,010

Yes.

466

00:18:51,010 --> 00:18:55,610

We had one of the four toilets  
in the city of Zolochiv.

467

00:18:55,610 --> 00:18:56,860

And one of them was actually--

468

00:18:56,860 --> 00:18:58,170

Well, there's a distinction.

469

00:18:58,170 --> 00:18:59,290

[LAUGHTER]

470

00:18:59,290 --> 00:19:01,616

One of the ones was actually  
a flush toilet, right.

471

00:19:01,616 --> 00:19:02,755

Oh my goodness.

472

00:19:02,755 --> 00:19:06,280

[LAUGHS] Well, I  
asked this a lot

473

00:19:06,280 --> 00:19:10,090

partly to know, what was  
the level of modernity?

474

00:19:10,090 --> 00:19:14,190

What were the level of  
conveniences at the time?

475

00:19:14,190 --> 00:19:19,210

We can make assumptions that  
aren't necessarily true--

476

00:19:19,210 --> 00:19:22,755

how a place was heated,  
how a place was lit,

477

00:19:22,755 --> 00:19:24,130

what kind of access  
their water--

478

00:19:24,130 --> 00:19:26,680

Well, we had those porcelain  
stoves in each room.

479

00:19:26,680 --> 00:19:28,810

You had a-- oh, you  
had those types of--

480

00:19:28,810 --> 00:19:29,700

Stoves, right.

481

00:19:29,700 --> 00:19:30,430

OK.

482

00:19:30,430 --> 00:19:36,130

And Father had one of the  
six cars in town and of town.

483

00:19:36,130 --> 00:19:39,420

But if we go somewhere,  
we would not--

484

00:19:39,420 --> 00:19:40,600

it would not be in a car.

485

00:19:40,600 --> 00:19:44,770

It would be a horse-drawn  
carriage, [POLISH]..

486

00:19:44,770 --> 00:19:47,410

So you had an automobile.

487

00:19:47,410 --> 00:19:48,100

Yes, we did.



488  
00:19:48,100 --> 00:19:51,330  
But you would not use that.

489  
00:19:51,330 --> 00:19:54,160  
Automobiles at that time  
were not that reliable.

490  
00:19:54,160 --> 00:19:56,200  
I mean, there's a  
picture of my father

491  
00:19:56,200 --> 00:20:00,390  
going to his wedding  
in the automobile.

492  
00:20:00,390 --> 00:20:03,370  
But that are only for  
very special occasions.

493  
00:20:03,370 --> 00:20:04,840  
OK.

494  
00:20:04,840 --> 00:20:07,210  
They had tires  
which didn't last.

495  
00:20:07,210 --> 00:20:10,182  
And it wasn't that easy.

496  
00:20:10,182 --> 00:20:10,990  
Ah.

497  
00:20:10,990 --> 00:20:13,270  
Interesting that if  
one had an automobile,

498  
00:20:13,270 --> 00:20:15,580  
one didn't necessarily use it.

499  
00:20:15,580 --> 00:20:17,120  
Not for every day, no.

500  
00:20:17,120 --> 00:20:17,910  
OK.

501  
00:20:17,910 --> 00:20:19,220  
Every day was still the--

502  
00:20:19,220 --> 00:20:19,930  
Horse-drawn.

503  
00:20:19,930 --> 00:20:21,250  
Yeah, [POLISH].

504  
00:20:21,250 --> 00:20:22,540  
Horse and buggy.

505  
00:20:22,540 --> 00:20:23,100  
Absolutely.

506  
00:20:23,100 --> 00:20:23,600  
Yeah.

507  
00:20:23,600 --> 00:20:26,080

508  
00:20:26,080 --> 00:20:32,100  
So were there farm animals even  
though you lived in the city?

509  
00:20:32,100 --> 00:20:33,880  
Like, there was a horse?

510  
00:20:33,880 --> 00:20:35,000  
There was a stable?

511  
00:20:35,000 --> 00:20:35,610  
No.

512  
00:20:35,610 --> 00:20:36,110  
No.

513  
00:20:36,110 --> 00:20:36,900  
No.

514  
00:20:36,900 --> 00:20:37,400  
OK.

515  
00:20:37,400 --> 00:20:38,433  
Not around us.

516  
00:20:38,433 --> 00:20:40,600  
But there may have been in  
the outskirts of the town

517  
00:20:40,600 --> 00:20:41,810  
or something like that.

518  
00:20:41,810 --> 00:20:44,650  
So when you'd use a horse and  
buggy, it wasn't your own.

519  
00:20:44,650 --> 00:20:45,945  
It would be hired like a taxi.

520  
00:20:45,945 --> 00:20:46,945  
It would be hired, sure.

521  
00:20:46,945 --> 00:20:47,740  
OK.

522  
00:20:47,740 --> 00:20:49,010  
Just like a taxi.

523  
00:20:49,010 --> 00:20:50,110  
OK.

524  
00:20:50,110 --> 00:20:53,650  
And did your family--

525  
00:20:53,650 --> 00:20:57,160  
I mean, some people did  
in the city keep chickens.

526  
00:20:57,160 --> 00:20:58,780  
You mentioned geese.

527  
00:20:58,780 --> 00:21:00,100  
I mentioned the geese.

528  
00:21:00,100 --> 00:21:02,495  
There may have been  
some chickens somewhere.

529  
00:21:02,495 --> 00:21:05,710  
But I did not come in close  
contact with any of them.

530  
00:21:05,710 --> 00:21:07,270  
OK.

531  
00:21:07,270 --> 00:21:10,780  
Did the building have  
a garden of a kind,

532  
00:21:10,780 --> 00:21:12,840  
a yard where you could play?

533  
00:21:12,840 --> 00:21:14,830  
Well, there was a  
wonderful park right

534  
00:21:14,830 --> 00:21:17,430  
across the street from us.

535  
00:21:17,430 --> 00:21:21,430  
And I do have memories  
of going for a walk

536  
00:21:21,430 --> 00:21:24,370  
with my father-- it was my  
mother and a friend of hers

537  
00:21:24,370 --> 00:21:25,722  
in the park.

538  
00:21:25,722 --> 00:21:27,820  
OK.

539  
00:21:27,820 --> 00:21:29,190  
What was the name of the park?

540  
00:21:29,190 --> 00:21:30,940  
Do you remember?

541  
00:21:30,940 --> 00:21:32,628  
Hmm.

542  
00:21:32,628 --> 00:21:34,420  
I'll have to look it  
up in the book, right.

543  
00:21:34,420 --> 00:21:35,760  
That's OK.

544  
00:21:35,760 --> 00:21:38,790  
And do you remember your  
address in Zolochiv?

545  
00:21:38,790 --> 00:21:40,800  
Sure.

546  
00:21:40,800 --> 00:21:46,050  
Well, it's 11  
[POLISH],, which is--

547  
00:21:46,050 --> 00:21:51,260  
[POLISH] is eagle.

548  
00:21:51,260 --> 00:21:55,980  
So it's number 11  
Eagle Street, [POLISH]..

549  
00:21:55,980 --> 00:21:57,440  
So eagle the bird?

550

00:21:57,440 --> 00:21:57,940  
Yes.

551  
00:21:57,940 --> 00:21:59,333  
Aha.

552  
00:21:59,333 --> 00:22:00,375  
Well, that's quite regal.

553  
00:22:00,375 --> 00:22:00,875  
Yes.

554  
00:22:00,875 --> 00:22:05,040  
And wasn't it also  
the Polish symbol,

555  
00:22:05,040 --> 00:22:06,720  
the national symbol, the eagle?

556  
00:22:06,720 --> 00:22:07,810  
Oh, yes, absolutely.

557  
00:22:07,810 --> 00:22:08,310  
Right on.

558  
00:22:08,310 --> 00:22:10,560  
OK, OK.

559  
00:22:10,560 --> 00:22:13,170  
You mentioned earlier  
that your father also

560  
00:22:13,170 --> 00:22:15,420  
had some political interests.

561  
00:22:15,420 --> 00:22:15,960  
Yes.

562  
00:22:15,960 --> 00:22:17,640  
What were they?

563

00:22:17,640 --> 00:22:26,510  
Well, he was very involved  
with the Jewish movements.

564  
00:22:26,510 --> 00:22:30,660  
And he had started a couple  
of clubs associated with them.

565  
00:22:30,660 --> 00:22:34,170  
The idea was to  
regain Palestine.

566  
00:22:34,170 --> 00:22:35,250  
So he was a Zionist.

567  
00:22:35,250 --> 00:22:36,680  
Oh, absolutely.

568  
00:22:36,680 --> 00:22:39,120  
OK, OK.

569  
00:22:39,120 --> 00:22:45,940  
And was he involved in  
Polish politics at all?

570  
00:22:45,940 --> 00:22:47,200  
No, not really.

571  
00:22:47,200 --> 00:22:48,150  
OK.

572  
00:22:48,150 --> 00:22:51,150  
So in Poland, his profile--

573  
00:22:51,150 --> 00:22:52,650  
well, let's say for  
Polish society--

574  
00:22:52,650 --> 00:22:54,240  
would be as a businessman.

575  
00:22:54,240 --> 00:22:55,530

As a businessman, right.

576  
00:22:55,530 --> 00:22:57,480  
OK.

577  
00:22:57,480 --> 00:23:01,140  
And did you have  
a radio at home?

578  
00:23:01,140 --> 00:23:02,070  
Yes.

579  
00:23:02,070 --> 00:23:04,240  
A telephone?

580  
00:23:04,240 --> 00:23:05,810  
I think so, yes.

581  
00:23:05,810 --> 00:23:06,972  
OK.

582  
00:23:06,972 --> 00:23:07,472  
All right.

583  
00:23:07,472 --> 00:23:07,972  
Yes.

584  
00:23:07,972 --> 00:23:11,280

585  
00:23:11,280 --> 00:23:18,010  
And if you're born  
in March 1936--

586  
00:23:18,010 --> 00:23:20,500  
I was five when the  
Russians came in.

587  
00:23:20,500 --> 00:23:28,240  
But the war starts September  
1, 1939 when you are 3 and 1/2.



588

00:23:28,240 --> 00:23:30,460

Right.

589

00:23:30,460 --> 00:23:39,670

Now, in that part of Poland, was it the Germans who occupied it?

590

00:23:39,670 --> 00:23:41,750

No, no, the Russians.

591

00:23:41,750 --> 00:23:43,470

So that would have been in 1939.

592

00:23:43,470 --> 00:23:43,970

Right.

593

00:23:43,970 --> 00:23:46,400

They started to come in 1939.

594

00:23:46,400 --> 00:23:48,620

I really misspoke when I said '41.

595

00:23:48,620 --> 00:23:50,345

'41 is when the Germans came.

596

00:23:50,345 --> 00:23:51,190

OK.

597

00:23:51,190 --> 00:23:53,540

The Russians came in '39.

598

00:23:53,540 --> 00:23:56,010

Do you remember, have any memory of this?

599

00:23:56,010 --> 00:23:57,110

You were 3 and 1/2.

600

00:23:57,110 --> 00:24:03,020

What I remember is

leaving our apartment,

601  
00:24:03,020 --> 00:24:05,360  
which must have been in '39.

602  
00:24:05,360 --> 00:24:10,580  
And it was raining, and we  
were walking not with my mother

603  
00:24:10,580 --> 00:24:12,495  
but with a friend  
of my mother's.

604  
00:24:12,495 --> 00:24:14,870  
And we had to move to  
a different apartment

605  
00:24:14,870 --> 00:24:18,740  
because the Russians  
nationalized the factory.

606  
00:24:18,740 --> 00:24:20,830  
And they threw us out of there.

607  
00:24:20,830 --> 00:24:23,210  
And then we went  
to a different--

608  
00:24:23,210 --> 00:24:28,940  
a very small two-room apartment,  
which eventually wound up

609  
00:24:28,940 --> 00:24:30,559  
in the ghetto.

610  
00:24:30,559 --> 00:24:31,059  
Ah.

611  
00:24:31,059 --> 00:24:32,540  
OK.

612  
00:24:32,540 --> 00:24:35,110

Do you have memories of what that apartment looked like?

613  
00:24:35,110 --> 00:24:36,380  
Oh, sure.

614  
00:24:36,380 --> 00:24:37,310  
Describe it for me.

615  
00:24:37,310 --> 00:24:40,440  
Because we lived in that for quite a while.

616  
00:24:40,440 --> 00:24:43,786  
It was an apartment house.

617  
00:24:43,786 --> 00:24:48,050  
And there was an interior courtyard.

618  
00:24:48,050 --> 00:24:52,540  
And there was balcony that run on the interior courtyard

619  
00:24:52,540 --> 00:24:54,080  
on the second floor.

620  
00:24:54,080 --> 00:24:56,770  
And that's where our apartment was in it.

621  
00:24:56,770 --> 00:24:59,870  
And we had like a two-room apartment.

622  
00:24:59,870 --> 00:25:01,875  
And you had a balcony on the inner courtyard.

623  
00:25:01,875 --> 00:25:03,215  
Right.

624

00:25:03,215 --> 00:25:05,960  
The balcony that was not  
part of the apartment.

625  
00:25:05,960 --> 00:25:07,340  
There was just this balcony.

626  
00:25:07,340 --> 00:25:09,650  
You had to come out  
of the apartment

627  
00:25:09,650 --> 00:25:13,040  
and can run around the inner  
balcony, which as kids we'd

628  
00:25:13,040 --> 00:25:14,600  
like to do.

629  
00:25:14,600 --> 00:25:17,500  
And some friends of  
our parents and us

630  
00:25:17,500 --> 00:25:22,030  
also had an apartment on the  
other side of the courtyard.

631  
00:25:22,030 --> 00:25:22,970  
Oh, that's perfect.

632  
00:25:22,970 --> 00:25:24,180  
Right.

633  
00:25:24,180 --> 00:25:26,652  
Well, there's some memories  
from that courtyard.

634  
00:25:26,652 --> 00:25:28,235  
But more of that  
later, I think, yeah.

635  
00:25:28,235 --> 00:25:29,510  
OK.

636

00:25:29,510 --> 00:25:36,920

And could you go downstairs  
from that balcony?

637

00:25:36,920 --> 00:25:41,120

That is, was there a way  
of exiting the apartment

638

00:25:41,120 --> 00:25:44,810

and leaving the building  
by using this balcony?

639

00:25:44,810 --> 00:25:45,460

Yes.

640

00:25:45,460 --> 00:25:46,700

OK.

641

00:25:46,700 --> 00:25:49,430

Was that the only way to  
get out of the apartment?

642

00:25:49,430 --> 00:25:51,020

No, I don't remember that.

643

00:25:51,020 --> 00:25:54,170

It may have been straight  
from the apartment.

644

00:25:54,170 --> 00:25:55,110

But I don't think so.

645

00:25:55,110 --> 00:25:58,720

I think you stepped out of the  
apartment into the balcony,

646

00:25:58,720 --> 00:26:00,213

and then you had  
stairs downstairs.

647

00:26:00,213 --> 00:26:00,920

OK.

648  
00:26:00,920 --> 00:26:03,580  
Was it far from  
your original home?

649  
00:26:03,580 --> 00:26:05,772  
Not that far, no.

650  
00:26:05,772 --> 00:26:07,480  
Do you remember the  
street address there?

651  
00:26:07,480 --> 00:26:12,210

652  
00:26:12,210 --> 00:26:13,410  
I don't remember it yet.

653  
00:26:13,410 --> 00:26:14,520  
But I can give it to you.

654  
00:26:14,520 --> 00:26:15,490  
OK, OK.

655  
00:26:15,490 --> 00:26:19,560

656  
00:26:19,560 --> 00:26:21,880  
And you remember still at age--

657  
00:26:21,880 --> 00:26:24,310  
you would have been  
about 3 and 1/2 or 4,

658  
00:26:24,310 --> 00:26:26,915  
not much more than  
that because--

659  
00:26:26,915 --> 00:26:29,810

660

00:26:29,810 --> 00:26:33,760  
so until that moment of  
moving from your own home

661  
00:26:33,760 --> 00:26:37,150  
into this place, you  
don't remember-- you

662  
00:26:37,150 --> 00:26:40,870  
don't have memories of the war.

663  
00:26:40,870 --> 00:26:44,720  
Well, there was no war in 1939.

664  
00:26:44,720 --> 00:26:49,870  
Then 1939, when the Russians  
came in, we don't have--

665  
00:26:49,870 --> 00:26:51,220  
there was no major bombing.

666  
00:26:51,220 --> 00:26:52,415  
There was nothing like that.

667  
00:26:52,415 --> 00:26:54,400  
They just came in quietly.

668  
00:26:54,400 --> 00:26:59,650  
So my first memories of a war  
is 1941 when the Germans came.

669  
00:26:59,650 --> 00:27:00,158  
Got it.

670  
00:27:00,158 --> 00:27:00,700  
You're right.

671  
00:27:00,700 --> 00:27:01,700  
You're absolutely right.

672  
00:27:01,700 --> 00:27:04,340  
It is a occupation.

673  
00:27:04,340 --> 00:27:07,390  
But it's not fighting.

674  
00:27:07,390 --> 00:27:09,620  
Right.

675  
00:27:09,620 --> 00:27:14,620  
And explain to us how  
it is that the Russians

676  
00:27:14,620 --> 00:27:17,970  
came into this part of  
Poland and not the Germans.

677  
00:27:17,970 --> 00:27:23,060  
Well, this was the  
Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact.

678  
00:27:23,060 --> 00:27:24,260  
And what was that?

679  
00:27:24,260 --> 00:27:27,370  
Or some people call it  
the Stalin-Hitler Pact.

680  
00:27:27,370 --> 00:27:30,670  
It happened in 1939.

681  
00:27:30,670 --> 00:27:36,140  
And Hitler and Stalin formed  
a non-aggression pact.

682  
00:27:36,140 --> 00:27:39,410  
And part of it was the  
division of Poland.

683  
00:27:39,410 --> 00:27:41,470  
Russia took part  
of it, and Germany

684  
00:27:41,470 --> 00:27:43,600



took another part of it.

685  
00:27:43,600 --> 00:27:44,560  
OK.

686  
00:27:44,560 --> 00:27:47,170  
And your part  
being in the east--

687  
00:27:47,170 --> 00:27:48,070  
Was Russia.

688  
00:27:48,070 --> 00:27:48,730  
Was Russia.

689  
00:27:48,730 --> 00:27:49,240  
Yes.

690  
00:27:49,240 --> 00:27:50,560  
Yeah.

691  
00:27:50,560 --> 00:27:53,110  
And that pact many people  
say is what allowed

692  
00:27:53,110 --> 00:27:55,960  
Hitler to attack Poland.

693  
00:27:55,960 --> 00:27:56,830  
Yes.

694  
00:27:56,830 --> 00:28:00,990  
Because one week afterwards,  
after they signed it--

695  
00:28:00,990 --> 00:28:01,490  
Right.

696  
00:28:01,490 --> 00:28:04,390  
When he was-- he was  
essentially assured

697

00:28:04,390 --> 00:28:06,430

that Russia would not  
have a second front,

698

00:28:06,430 --> 00:28:08,718

would not attack  
him from the East.

699

00:28:08,718 --> 00:28:09,218

Yeah.

700

00:28:09,218 --> 00:28:12,970

701

00:28:12,970 --> 00:28:16,900

And did your grandparents-- did  
your paternal grandparents move

702

00:28:16,900 --> 00:28:19,630

in with you when you  
moved from one place--

703

00:28:19,630 --> 00:28:20,230

No.

704

00:28:20,230 --> 00:28:20,920

No?

705

00:28:20,920 --> 00:28:22,540

What happened with  
them at that point?

706

00:28:22,540 --> 00:28:29,240

Well, this was-- since Father  
didn't own the factory.

707

00:28:29,240 --> 00:28:30,500

Grandfather did.

708

00:28:30,500 --> 00:28:33,200

So Grandfather and  
Grandmother were

709  
00:28:33,200 --> 00:28:37,370  
considered to be  
bourgeois and capitalists.

710  
00:28:37,370 --> 00:28:40,783  
So as such, they were in  
danger because the Russians

711  
00:28:40,783 --> 00:28:42,200  
would take over  
the intelligentsia

712  
00:28:42,200 --> 00:28:44,848  
and over the owners  
of the property

713  
00:28:44,848 --> 00:28:45,890  
and send them to Siberia.

714  
00:28:45,890 --> 00:28:48,400

715  
00:28:48,400 --> 00:28:52,870  
Very, very sadly, a lot of  
people who were sent to Siberia

716  
00:28:52,870 --> 00:28:55,120  
actually survived.

717  
00:28:55,120 --> 00:28:57,310  
But who knew that at that time?

718  
00:28:57,310 --> 00:29:01,920  
So people did not want  
to be sent to Siberia.

719  
00:29:01,920 --> 00:29:02,720  
Of course.

720  
00:29:02,720 --> 00:29:06,820  
So it was decided that

## Grandfather and Grandmother

721

00:29:06,820 --> 00:29:09,640  
would go to Lvov, to Lemberg.

722

00:29:09,640 --> 00:29:12,845  
Was it far from  
Zolochiv, Lemberg?

723

00:29:12,845 --> 00:29:16,240  
I think it's about 50  
kilometers, something

724

00:29:16,240 --> 00:29:16,870  
like that.

725

00:29:16,870 --> 00:29:17,630  
That's not much.

726

00:29:17,630 --> 00:29:18,242  
No.

727

00:29:18,242 --> 00:29:19,390  
M'kay.

728

00:29:19,390 --> 00:29:21,610  
But Father had some--

729

00:29:21,610 --> 00:29:23,575  
Grandfather had some  
connection there

730

00:29:23,575 --> 00:29:26,020  
in a pharmaceutical trust.

731

00:29:26,020 --> 00:29:29,680  
And they said that they  
felt they could protect them

732

00:29:29,680 --> 00:29:31,960  
from the Russians.

733

00:29:31,960 --> 00:29:36,100

Now when the Russians came  
in, they looked at everybody,

734

00:29:36,100 --> 00:29:39,540

and their passports got stamped.

735

00:29:39,540 --> 00:29:40,770

OK.

736

00:29:40,770 --> 00:29:44,640

It said "jevrej," on  
it, which means Jew.

737

00:29:44,640 --> 00:29:48,720

And in some cases,  
it did not allow

738

00:29:48,720 --> 00:29:53,340

Jews to move outside of the  
area where they were living.

739

00:29:53,340 --> 00:29:57,270

By some absolute fluke  
of nature, Father's--

740

00:29:57,270 --> 00:30:01,830

Grandfather's and Grandmother's  
passports were not stamped.

741

00:30:01,830 --> 00:30:05,220

So they could move to Lemberg.

742

00:30:05,220 --> 00:30:13,890

Father's passport got stamped  
as an enemy of Russia.

743

00:30:13,890 --> 00:30:18,330

So they told us later that  
their suitcases were always

744

00:30:18,330 --> 00:30:20,160

packed under the bed.

745  
00:30:20,160 --> 00:30:23,550  
But they needed Father  
to run the factory.

746  
00:30:23,550 --> 00:30:27,550  
There was nobody--  
because Father's factory--

747  
00:30:27,550 --> 00:30:31,110  
Grandfather's factory  
had printing presses.

748  
00:30:31,110 --> 00:30:35,100  
And they had Cyrillic  
alphabet, and Father spoke

749  
00:30:35,100 --> 00:30:38,550  
Russian, Ukrainian, and Polish.

750  
00:30:38,550 --> 00:30:42,750  
And every bureaucracy  
needs printed stuff.

751  
00:30:42,750 --> 00:30:45,570  
So they hired Father  
to run the factory.

752  
00:30:45,570 --> 00:30:47,990  
So in other words, it  
wasn't his factory anymore.

753  
00:30:47,990 --> 00:30:48,750  
No, of course not.

754  
00:30:48,750 --> 00:30:50,360  
It was nationalized.

755  
00:30:50,360 --> 00:30:57,540  
And then what they did is they  
appointed a Ukrainian woman

756  
00:30:57,540 --> 00:31:00,090  
to be the director.

757  
00:31:00,090 --> 00:31:02,690  
But she couldn't run it.

758  
00:31:02,690 --> 00:31:07,360  
So even though she was  
technically the director,

759  
00:31:07,360 --> 00:31:11,510  
he was whatever, and  
he ran the factory.

760  
00:31:11,510 --> 00:31:14,687  
And we were not  
deported to Siberia.

761  
00:31:14,687 --> 00:31:16,270  
But I'll tell you,  
what a bitter thing

762  
00:31:16,270 --> 00:31:18,190  
it must have been  
for your father.

763  
00:31:18,190 --> 00:31:20,230  
Yes.

764  
00:31:20,230 --> 00:31:22,420  
Did he ever talk  
about that later?

765  
00:31:22,420 --> 00:31:24,890  
Oh, we talked about  
it quite a bit.

766  
00:31:24,890 --> 00:31:28,401  
I mean, he hated the Russians.

767  
00:31:28,401 --> 00:31:32,755  
He really hated the Russians

because they nationalized,

768  
00:31:32,755 --> 00:31:34,770  
of course, all the business.

769  
00:31:34,770 --> 00:31:38,640  
But also, they sent a  
lot of people to Siberia,

770  
00:31:38,640 --> 00:31:41,510  
and they also  
executed some people.

771  
00:31:41,510 --> 00:31:43,350  
Yeah.

772  
00:31:43,350 --> 00:31:47,040  
Do you remember--  
do you remember--

773  
00:31:47,040 --> 00:31:48,960  
I mean, again, I  
realize I'm asking you

774  
00:31:48,960 --> 00:31:52,320  
questions of when you were of  
a four-year-old, five-year-old

775  
00:31:52,320 --> 00:31:53,940  
child now.

776  
00:31:53,940 --> 00:31:56,460  
But were there  
conversations at home?

777  
00:31:56,460 --> 00:32:00,090  
Did you feel fear of any kind?

778  
00:32:00,090 --> 00:32:02,760  
Or was life pretty  
normal for a kid?

779



00:32:02,760 --> 00:32:06,480

I was going to say I  
wouldn't say exactly normal.

780

00:32:06,480 --> 00:32:10,020

But during the  
Russian occupation,

781

00:32:10,020 --> 00:32:12,060

I don't remember feeling fear.

782

00:32:12,060 --> 00:32:13,360

OK.

783

00:32:13,360 --> 00:32:13,860

OK.

784

00:32:13,860 --> 00:32:17,570

785

00:32:17,570 --> 00:32:22,220

The new two-room place  
where the four of you lived,

786

00:32:22,220 --> 00:32:23,850

did it have running water?

787

00:32:23,850 --> 00:32:26,360

No.

788

00:32:26,360 --> 00:32:29,340

I take it it didn't have one  
of the four or five toilets

789

00:32:29,340 --> 00:32:29,840

of Zolochiv.

790

00:32:29,840 --> 00:32:30,580

No.

791

00:32:30,580 --> 00:32:36,980

What did that have is what do

you associate with an outhouse.

792

00:32:36,980 --> 00:32:39,920

But it was inside the house.

793

00:32:39,920 --> 00:32:44,180

So it was this wooden thing,  
and there was a hole in there.

794

00:32:44,180 --> 00:32:45,320

And that's where you went.

795

00:32:45,320 --> 00:32:49,830

And there's one thing I do  
remember is that my mother--

796

00:32:49,830 --> 00:32:51,740

I don't know if you want  
anecdotes like that.

797

00:32:51,740 --> 00:32:53,180

Absolutely.

798

00:32:53,180 --> 00:32:55,340

My mother once went  
to the bathroom,

799

00:32:55,340 --> 00:32:58,760

and she put her  
pocketbook behind her.

800

00:32:58,760 --> 00:33:01,370

And then when she got up,  
it fell into the toilet.

801

00:33:01,370 --> 00:33:03,345

Right.

802

00:33:03,345 --> 00:33:08,090

And then it was quite the  
occasion to get it out of it.

803

00:33:08,090 --> 00:33:10,940  
So these are those little  
flashes of memories

804  
00:33:10,940 --> 00:33:13,650  
I have from things like that.

805  
00:33:13,650 --> 00:33:17,110  
But otherwise, we  
played with friends.

806  
00:33:17,110 --> 00:33:19,320  
There were little girls there.

807  
00:33:19,320 --> 00:33:21,410  
And there was--

808  
00:33:21,410 --> 00:33:26,580  
Sue Gold survived  
also and her brother.

809  
00:33:26,580 --> 00:33:28,140  
So a childhood friend?

810  
00:33:28,140 --> 00:33:28,640  
Yes.

811  
00:33:28,640 --> 00:33:31,100  
What was her name?

812  
00:33:31,100 --> 00:33:32,380  
Susan Gold.

813  
00:33:32,380 --> 00:33:33,310  
Oh, Susan Gold.

814  
00:33:33,310 --> 00:33:33,810  
Yes.

815  
00:33:33,810 --> 00:33:36,430  
I'm sure she does a  
lot of work with--

816  
00:33:36,430 --> 00:33:36,930  
right.

817  
00:33:36,930 --> 00:33:39,570  
And she's written books on this.

818  
00:33:39,570 --> 00:33:41,445  
And sadly, her brother  
didn't survive.

819  
00:33:41,445 --> 00:33:44,960  
But I just talk about it later.

820  
00:33:44,960 --> 00:33:46,250  
OK.

821  
00:33:46,250 --> 00:33:52,070  
And you were too young to  
start school, weren't you,

822  
00:33:52,070 --> 00:33:53,240  
at this age?

823  
00:33:53,240 --> 00:33:54,020  
That's correct.

824  
00:33:54,020 --> 00:33:55,280  
OK.

825  
00:33:55,280 --> 00:33:57,380  
Did your older  
sister start school?

826  
00:33:57,380 --> 00:33:58,940  
No, we didn't have school.

827  
00:33:58,940 --> 00:34:03,380  
But we did have tutors that  
would come to the house

828

00:34:03,380 --> 00:34:04,380  
and teach us.

829  
00:34:04,380 --> 00:34:07,369  
We both learned to read  
and write very early.

830  
00:34:07,369 --> 00:34:08,820  
OK.

831  
00:34:08,820 --> 00:34:11,750  
I also remember being taught  
how to tell my right hand

832  
00:34:11,750 --> 00:34:15,710  
from my left hand by  
standing against a wall

833  
00:34:15,710 --> 00:34:18,739  
and toward the dining room  
table with your right hand

834  
00:34:18,739 --> 00:34:23,210  
and the other one  
was the left hand.

835  
00:34:23,210 --> 00:34:27,320  
Did you have any non-Jewish  
friends at that age?

836  
00:34:27,320 --> 00:34:28,030  
No.

837  
00:34:28,030 --> 00:34:30,010  
No.

838  
00:34:30,010 --> 00:34:35,150  
But we had a very devoted maid--

839  
00:34:35,150 --> 00:34:36,770  
her name was Hanka--

840

00:34:36,770 --> 00:34:42,960  
who actually moved with us, too.

841  
00:34:42,960 --> 00:34:48,280  
She didn't live with us, but she  
was with us in that apartment.

842  
00:34:48,280 --> 00:34:50,580  
She had another  
apartment nearby.

843  
00:34:50,580 --> 00:34:53,560  
And I remember going  
to church with her.

844  
00:34:53,560 --> 00:34:54,060  
Do you?

845  
00:34:54,060 --> 00:34:56,480  
On Sundays, right.

846  
00:34:56,480 --> 00:34:58,530  
And, again, these are  
those little memories

847  
00:34:58,530 --> 00:34:59,640  
from very young.

848  
00:34:59,640 --> 00:35:03,360  
And in Poland, they  
had little niches

849  
00:35:03,360 --> 00:35:06,570  
in building were there  
was statues of the Virgin

850  
00:35:06,570 --> 00:35:09,240  
Mary or saint and all of that.

851  
00:35:09,240 --> 00:35:11,630  
So as we were  
walking from church,

852

00:35:11,630 --> 00:35:16,620

she would encourage us to  
select one of those as a patron.

853

00:35:16,620 --> 00:35:18,420

And I remember getting  
very mad at Edith

854

00:35:18,420 --> 00:35:23,460

because she selected this  
beautiful Virgin Mary, and--

855

00:35:23,460 --> 00:35:24,590

That meant you couldn't.

856

00:35:24,590 --> 00:35:25,605

I couldn't, no.

857

00:35:25,605 --> 00:35:28,870

[LAUGHS] Were your parents  
aware that she would take you--

858

00:35:28,870 --> 00:35:29,370

Oh, sure.

859

00:35:29,370 --> 00:35:30,490

And was it OK with them?

860

00:35:30,490 --> 00:35:32,049

Yes.

861

00:35:32,049 --> 00:35:33,380

OK.

862

00:35:33,380 --> 00:35:36,620

So they were very open  
and liberal minded.

863

00:35:36,620 --> 00:35:37,120

Right.

864

00:35:37,120 --> 00:35:38,258  
But we were Jewish.

865  
00:35:38,258 --> 00:35:39,550  
There was no question about it.

866  
00:35:39,550 --> 00:35:40,810  
OK.

867  
00:35:40,810 --> 00:35:41,340  
OK.

868  
00:35:41,340 --> 00:35:43,640  
And they would not want us to--

869  
00:35:43,640 --> 00:35:44,150  
Convert.

870  
00:35:44,150 --> 00:35:45,170  
--convert, right.

871  
00:35:45,170 --> 00:35:46,250  
All right.

872  
00:35:46,250 --> 00:35:49,850  
But many families-- and I've  
interviewed people who were

873  
00:35:49,850 --> 00:35:51,320  
children at the time--

874  
00:35:51,320 --> 00:35:53,750  
when they found out that  
the nanny or the maid

875  
00:35:53,750 --> 00:35:57,080  
was taking the child  
to church, that maid

876  
00:35:57,080 --> 00:35:58,633  
didn't work there anymore.



877  
00:35:58,633 --> 00:36:00,050  
We didn't have  
anything like that.

878  
00:36:00,050 --> 00:36:00,550  
OK.

879  
00:36:00,550 --> 00:36:03,990

880  
00:36:03,990 --> 00:36:08,280  
You also said your father  
was a great patriot earlier.

881  
00:36:08,280 --> 00:36:10,260  
Was this for Palestine  
or was this--

882  
00:36:10,260 --> 00:36:10,760  
OK.

883  
00:36:10,760 --> 00:36:12,750  
Yes.

884  
00:36:12,750 --> 00:36:13,530  
Very much so.

885  
00:36:13,530 --> 00:36:16,260  
He was not a Polish patriot, no.

886  
00:36:16,260 --> 00:36:17,640  
OK.

887  
00:36:17,640 --> 00:36:19,220  
Or Austro-Hungarian?

888  
00:36:19,220 --> 00:36:19,720  
No.

889  
00:36:19,720 --> 00:36:24,570  
Well, he had a great respect for

the Austro-Hungarian Empire.

890

00:36:24,570 --> 00:36:28,170

And he talked to us  
about it and that they

891

00:36:28,170 --> 00:36:32,210

had a lot of different  
countries and really

892

00:36:32,210 --> 00:36:36,390

let each country  
do their own thing.

893

00:36:36,390 --> 00:36:39,600

And there was very  
little, in our area,

894

00:36:39,600 --> 00:36:41,480

prejudice against Jews.

895

00:36:41,480 --> 00:36:43,540

Not sure about other areas.

896

00:36:43,540 --> 00:36:44,850

OK.

897

00:36:44,850 --> 00:36:49,410

So his view of what  
Austria-Hungary had been--

898

00:36:49,410 --> 00:36:51,040

Was much better than--

899

00:36:51,040 --> 00:36:52,790

right-- than of Russian.

900

00:36:52,790 --> 00:36:53,660

Right.

901

00:36:53,660 --> 00:36:54,390

All right.

902  
00:36:54,390 --> 00:36:59,790  
But what about when  
Poland got reconstituted?

903  
00:36:59,790 --> 00:37:00,780  
1914, right.

904  
00:37:00,780 --> 00:37:01,990  
That's right.

905  
00:37:01,990 --> 00:37:02,740  
1918.

906  
00:37:02,740 --> 00:37:03,385  
1918.

907  
00:37:03,385 --> 00:37:04,860  
1919, yes.

908  
00:37:04,860 --> 00:37:08,800  
And after having been  
dismembered 120 years earlier.

909  
00:37:08,800 --> 00:37:09,300  
Right.

910  
00:37:09,300 --> 00:37:13,620

911  
00:37:13,620 --> 00:37:21,075  
I can imagine that it  
can be confusing as to,

912  
00:37:21,075 --> 00:37:23,520  
where do you now live?

913  
00:37:23,520 --> 00:37:25,260  
Where should you integrate to?

914  
00:37:25,260 --> 00:37:26,490

Should you integrate?

915  
00:37:26,490 --> 00:37:31,140

916  
00:37:31,140 --> 00:37:33,870  
You spoke Polish at home,  
which is already a sign of--

917  
00:37:33,870 --> 00:37:35,310  
Absolutely.

918  
00:37:35,310 --> 00:37:37,500  
--that this is a choice  
that the family makes

919  
00:37:37,500 --> 00:37:40,380  
when there are possibilities  
to make other choices.

920  
00:37:40,380 --> 00:37:42,930  
Right.

921  
00:37:42,930 --> 00:37:46,930  
Was his business integrated  
into Polish economy.

922  
00:37:46,930 --> 00:37:48,580  
Absolutely.

923  
00:37:48,580 --> 00:37:51,330  
We led a very good  
upper middle class life.

924  
00:37:51,330 --> 00:37:52,300  
Mm-hmm.

925  
00:37:52,300 --> 00:37:52,800  
OK.

926  
00:37:52,800 --> 00:37:58,190

927  
00:37:58,190 --> 00:38:00,950  
What else did I want to ask?

928  
00:38:00,950 --> 00:38:02,570  
So at this time  
when you're living

929  
00:38:02,570 --> 00:38:08,780  
in the two-room apartment,  
your paternal grandparents

930  
00:38:08,780 --> 00:38:14,900  
moved to Lvov where they hope to  
be able to avoid deportations.

931  
00:38:14,900 --> 00:38:16,970  
Right.

932  
00:38:16,970 --> 00:38:19,867  
Your mother and your father,  
your sister and yourself

933  
00:38:19,867 --> 00:38:21,200  
live in this two-room apartment.

934  
00:38:21,200 --> 00:38:22,340  
Right.

935  
00:38:22,340 --> 00:38:25,040  
What happens with your  
maternal grandmother?

936  
00:38:25,040 --> 00:38:26,390  
Where does she go?

937  
00:38:26,390 --> 00:38:29,470  
She had her own apartment.

938  
00:38:29,470 --> 00:38:33,560  
And she was not the bourgeoisie,  
and she was not a capitalist.

939  
00:38:33,560 --> 00:38:35,310  
She was a working woman.

940  
00:38:35,310 --> 00:38:36,770  
So she safe.

941  
00:38:36,770 --> 00:38:38,900  
OK.

942  
00:38:38,900 --> 00:38:42,140  
And did your-- were there  
people at that time--

943  
00:38:42,140 --> 00:38:45,170  
you say you don't  
remember feeling fear.

944  
00:38:45,170 --> 00:38:47,030  
But did your parents  
talk about people

945  
00:38:47,030 --> 00:38:49,190  
who might have  
disappeared at that time

946  
00:38:49,190 --> 00:38:52,640  
or might have been arrested?

947  
00:38:52,640 --> 00:38:55,940  
Or was that ever part  
of a conversation?

948  
00:38:55,940 --> 00:38:57,080  
It might have been.

949  
00:38:57,080 --> 00:38:59,660  
But I don't remember  
that very distinctly

950  
00:38:59,660 --> 00:39:02,930  
because I really don't remember

much fear from that period.

951  
00:39:02,930 --> 00:39:03,920  
Oh, that's--

952  
00:39:03,920 --> 00:39:06,500  
Yeah, yeah.

953  
00:39:06,500 --> 00:39:09,332  
It's just-- well, of  
course this is the wrong--

954  
00:39:09,332 --> 00:39:10,790  
it would have been  
your parents who

955  
00:39:10,790 --> 00:39:13,025  
could have told me the  
answer to that question.

956  
00:39:13,025 --> 00:39:13,680  
Oh, yes.

957  
00:39:13,680 --> 00:39:14,180  
Yes.

958  
00:39:14,180 --> 00:39:17,060  
And Father does talk  
about in his book.

959  
00:39:17,060 --> 00:39:19,910  
But I'm going on  
my own memories.

960  
00:39:19,910 --> 00:39:20,945  
Of course, of course.

961  
00:39:20,945 --> 00:39:25,980

962  
00:39:25,980 --> 00:39:30,132  
Are there any other memories

from that time for you?

963

00:39:30,132 --> 00:39:31,900  
[PHONE RINGS]

964

00:39:31,900 --> 00:39:33,150  
Not really.

965

00:39:33,150 --> 00:39:34,480  
We can cut for a second.

966

00:39:34,480 --> 00:39:37,330

967

00:39:37,330 --> 00:39:40,460  
So I'm sorry.

968

00:39:40,460 --> 00:39:40,960  
We cut--

969

00:39:40,960 --> 00:39:42,360  
I think we went up to the--

970

00:39:42,360 --> 00:39:43,900  
we are still in  
the Russian period.

971

00:39:43,900 --> 00:39:44,630  
Yeah.

972

00:39:44,630 --> 00:39:48,340  
And I was asking you whether  
there were any other memories

973

00:39:48,340 --> 00:39:50,335  
that you had of that time.

974

00:39:50,335 --> 00:39:53,470

975

00:39:53,470 --> 00:39:54,920



Not really, no.

976  
00:39:54,920 --> 00:39:57,020  
OK, OK.

977  
00:39:57,020 --> 00:39:59,000  
I mean, there were  
very incidental ones.

978  
00:39:59,000 --> 00:40:02,410  
For instance, I remember  
being in the kitchen,

979  
00:40:02,410 --> 00:40:04,840  
and there were barrels in there.

980  
00:40:04,840 --> 00:40:08,230  
And there were cabbages  
brought in by the ton

981  
00:40:08,230 --> 00:40:10,510  
because you didn't have  
any fresh vegetables

982  
00:40:10,510 --> 00:40:11,780  
during the winter.

983  
00:40:11,780 --> 00:40:16,190  
So the maids grating  
all the cabbages--

984  
00:40:16,190 --> 00:40:17,350  
To make sauerkraut?

985  
00:40:17,350 --> 00:40:20,070  
--to make sauerkraut  
for the winter.

986  
00:40:20,070 --> 00:40:23,650  
Things of that type I remember,  
but just fleeting memories.

987

00:40:23,650 --> 00:40:26,200  
Mm-hmm.

988  
00:40:26,200 --> 00:40:27,670  
When do things change again?

989  
00:40:27,670 --> 00:40:30,730

990  
00:40:30,730 --> 00:40:32,470  
When the Germans came in.

991  
00:40:32,470 --> 00:40:34,420  
So tell me what happened.

992  
00:40:34,420 --> 00:40:36,460  
And that I do remember.

993  
00:40:36,460 --> 00:40:39,767  
Because when they came  
in, the bombing started.

994  
00:40:39,767 --> 00:40:40,600  
The bombing started.

995  
00:40:40,600 --> 00:40:42,160  
You're five years old.

996  
00:40:42,160 --> 00:40:43,530  
Yes.

997  
00:40:43,530 --> 00:40:47,270  
'41, yeah, over five years old.

998  
00:40:47,270 --> 00:40:50,470  
And I remember going outside.

999  
00:40:50,470 --> 00:40:53,110  
And there were these  
planes flying by.

1000

00:40:53,110 --> 00:40:58,010  
And I thought there were strings  
which were dropping from them.

1001  
00:40:58,010 --> 00:41:02,410  
And Father said, no,  
no, these are bombs.

1002  
00:41:02,410 --> 00:41:05,147  
And we had to go-- we  
went into the cellar.

1003  
00:41:05,147 --> 00:41:06,580  
OK.

1004  
00:41:06,580 --> 00:41:09,190  
And I think from  
what I remember,

1005  
00:41:09,190 --> 00:41:12,520  
there was a period  
of these bombs.

1006  
00:41:12,520 --> 00:41:17,680  
And then the Germans came in.

1007  
00:41:17,680 --> 00:41:21,560  
And the shooting  
started immediately.

1008  
00:41:21,560 --> 00:41:23,880  
Now--

1009  
00:41:23,880 --> 00:41:24,820  
Do you remember that?

1010  
00:41:24,820 --> 00:41:25,950  
Did you hear shots?

1011  
00:41:25,950 --> 00:41:27,420  
Did you see soldiers?

1012

00:41:27,420 --> 00:41:29,130  
Absolutely.

1013  
00:41:29,130 --> 00:41:33,690  
And we had to hide.

1014  
00:41:33,690 --> 00:41:34,575  
And I can just--

1015  
00:41:34,575 --> 00:41:37,180  
I'll just tell you  
what I remember.

1016  
00:41:37,180 --> 00:41:39,840  
Yeah.

1017  
00:41:39,840 --> 00:41:43,270  
Even though originally  
we hid in the cellar.

1018  
00:41:43,270 --> 00:41:45,650  
And then Father  
decided obviously

1019  
00:41:45,650 --> 00:41:47,920  
that that was not safe.

1020  
00:41:47,920 --> 00:41:50,710  
And they took us to  
the factory where

1021  
00:41:50,710 --> 00:41:55,270  
there was an attic  
built over the factory.

1022  
00:41:55,270 --> 00:41:57,680  
And apparently, it  
was not clear if you

1023  
00:41:57,680 --> 00:42:01,010  
saw the building from the  
front that there was an attic.

1024

00:42:01,010 --> 00:42:03,400

So I remember going  
into the attic.

1025

00:42:03,400 --> 00:42:08,190

And there were-- you could  
see between the boards

1026

00:42:08,190 --> 00:42:09,820

on the street.

1027

00:42:09,820 --> 00:42:13,420

And there were people--  
and you heard the shots.

1028

00:42:13,420 --> 00:42:17,560

And I remember being very  
scared there, but also

1029

00:42:17,560 --> 00:42:21,480

being very worried where I was  
going to go to the bathroom.

1030

00:42:21,480 --> 00:42:25,820

And I remember saying to  
Mother, what am I going to do?

1031

00:42:25,820 --> 00:42:31,600

And she said, no, you just go  
in the corner of the attic.

1032

00:42:31,600 --> 00:42:34,370

And I was saying,  
how can I do it?

1033

00:42:34,370 --> 00:42:36,110

And that's what it was.

1034

00:42:36,110 --> 00:42:38,230

So we stayed in that attic.

1035

00:42:38,230 --> 00:42:39,870

So no pot, no anything?

1036  
00:42:39,870 --> 00:42:41,300  
Just the corner of the attic?

1037  
00:42:41,300 --> 00:42:43,795  
It was a corner of the  
attic that I remember.

1038  
00:42:43,795 --> 00:42:47,140  
Now, later on, I think they  
brought some containers.

1039  
00:42:47,140 --> 00:42:47,720  
Utensil, yes.

1040  
00:42:47,720 --> 00:42:49,030  
Yes.

1041  
00:42:49,030 --> 00:42:54,410  
And I do remember being  
scared at that point.

1042  
00:42:54,410 --> 00:42:55,285  
And you're 5 and 1/2.

1043  
00:42:55,285 --> 00:42:57,035  
And we're in that attic  
for quite a while.

1044  
00:42:57,035 --> 00:42:57,630  
Yeah.

1045  
00:42:57,630 --> 00:42:59,100  
OK.

1046  
00:42:59,100 --> 00:43:02,560  
There were a lot  
of shots that time.

1047  
00:43:02,560 --> 00:43:07,170  
And so you were able to see a

little bit through the slot--

1048  
00:43:07,170 --> 00:43:09,270  
through a slat of wood.

1049  
00:43:09,270 --> 00:43:10,175  
Right.

1050  
00:43:10,175 --> 00:43:12,140  
But then I walked away from it.

1051  
00:43:12,140 --> 00:43:13,150  
I saw it.

1052  
00:43:13,150 --> 00:43:16,800  
Then I went to the back  
part of the attic, yeah.

1053  
00:43:16,800 --> 00:43:18,690  
Was the factory on a--

1054  
00:43:18,690 --> 00:43:22,460  
was the street a major  
street or a side street?

1055  
00:43:22,460 --> 00:43:25,950  
[POLISH] was-- well,  
it was a building

1056  
00:43:25,950 --> 00:43:30,510  
that has a opening  
on a major street,

1057  
00:43:30,510 --> 00:43:33,600  
but this was the back street.

1058  
00:43:33,600 --> 00:43:37,830  
But there was a big  
open space there.

1059  
00:43:37,830 --> 00:43:38,670  
On the back street.

1060  
00:43:38,670 --> 00:43:39,570  
Yeah.

1061  
00:43:39,570 --> 00:43:44,240  
And that's where the  
Jews were gathered.

1062  
00:43:44,240 --> 00:43:48,210  
And the first day, there  
were several thousand Jews

1063  
00:43:48,210 --> 00:43:52,946  
that were killed, the first  
days that the Germans came in.

1064  
00:43:52,946 --> 00:43:55,850  
This you learnt later?

1065  
00:43:55,850 --> 00:43:57,980  
All I heard was the shots.

1066  
00:43:57,980 --> 00:43:59,075  
But then I learned--

1067  
00:43:59,075 --> 00:44:00,480  
yeah, I learned later.

1068  
00:44:00,480 --> 00:44:01,820  
Yeah.

1069  
00:44:01,820 --> 00:44:02,320  
OK.

1070  
00:44:02,320 --> 00:44:05,550

1071  
00:44:05,550 --> 00:44:08,505  
Through the slats, what  
was it that you could see?

1072



00:44:08,505 --> 00:44:10,710  
Well, I just saw some people.

1073  
00:44:10,710 --> 00:44:13,070  
And then as I said, then I  
just walked away from that.

1074  
00:44:13,070 --> 00:44:15,070  
I just felt very scared.

1075  
00:44:15,070 --> 00:44:17,400  
And I went to the back, yeah.

1076  
00:44:17,400 --> 00:44:21,060  
And how did you eat?

1077  
00:44:21,060 --> 00:44:24,370  
Well, there wasn't much to  
eat the first couple of days.

1078  
00:44:24,370 --> 00:44:28,410  
But then people from  
the factory were

1079  
00:44:28,410 --> 00:44:30,980  
very devoted to our family.

1080  
00:44:30,980 --> 00:44:37,326  
And Hanka, who was the maid,  
she brought up some food for us

1081  
00:44:37,326 --> 00:44:39,910  
and I assume water, right.

1082  
00:44:39,910 --> 00:44:41,830  
OK.

1083  
00:44:41,830 --> 00:44:44,660  
And this lasted like  
two or three days.

1084  
00:44:44,660 --> 00:44:50,090

And then we went back to  
that two-room apartment.

1085  
00:44:50,090 --> 00:44:51,740  
I see.

1086  
00:44:51,740 --> 00:44:57,710  
And did you ever encounter  
any of the German soldiers?

1087  
00:44:57,710 --> 00:44:59,540  
I saw them.

1088  
00:44:59,540 --> 00:45:04,670  
And I'm going back now  
to a later episode.

1089  
00:45:04,670 --> 00:45:08,390  
But I was walking on the  
street, and there were a couple

1090  
00:45:08,390 --> 00:45:11,240  
of Germans I guess in uniform.

1091  
00:45:11,240 --> 00:45:14,660  
But there was also a woman,  
and there was a little girl.

1092  
00:45:14,660 --> 00:45:17,120  
And the little girl pushed me.

1093  
00:45:17,120 --> 00:45:18,470  
And I fell.

1094  
00:45:18,470 --> 00:45:21,880  
And I really hurt my leg.

1095  
00:45:21,880 --> 00:45:26,240  
And I was very surprised that  
my parents were so panicky,

1096  
00:45:26,240 --> 00:45:28,760

and they didn't say anything.

1097

00:45:28,760 --> 00:45:32,930

Usually if somebody pushes a child, you would say something.

1098

00:45:32,930 --> 00:45:36,500

And I had an open sore on my leg for quite a while.

1099

00:45:36,500 --> 00:45:40,130

But they were, of course, terrified

1100

00:45:40,130 --> 00:45:43,420

that they would take me or whatever.

1101

00:45:43,420 --> 00:45:46,810

So that was the only episode I remember

1102

00:45:46,810 --> 00:45:53,470

that I was really involved with the German soldiers.

1103

00:45:53,470 --> 00:45:57,690

So this could have been his wife and child?

1104

00:45:57,690 --> 00:45:58,380

We don't know.

1105

00:45:58,380 --> 00:45:59,130

We don't know, no.

1106

00:45:59,130 --> 00:45:59,760

We don't know.

1107

00:45:59,760 --> 00:46:01,440

But someone who felt like she could

1108

00:46:01,440 --> 00:46:03,960  
do that and get away with it.

1109

00:46:03,960 --> 00:46:06,560  
The thing is, the little  
girl could do it, right.

1110

00:46:06,560 --> 00:46:07,710  
Yeah, the girl do it.

1111

00:46:07,710 --> 00:46:10,608

1112

00:46:10,608 --> 00:46:13,150  
Also, another thing, there was--

1113

00:46:13,150 --> 00:46:16,740  
on the first few days-- no,  
after the first few days

1114

00:46:16,740 --> 00:46:22,080  
of shooting, it  
all quieted down.

1115

00:46:22,080 --> 00:46:24,450  
And from what I  
know now, there were

1116

00:46:24,450 --> 00:46:29,880  
a lot of rules and regulations  
that had to be put into effect.

1117

00:46:29,880 --> 00:46:33,880  
And, again, the Germans  
needed somebody to print them.

1118

00:46:33,880 --> 00:46:39,490  
So they sent for Father.

1119

00:46:39,490 --> 00:46:42,630  
They were told that Father  
could run the factory.

1120  
00:46:42,630 --> 00:46:45,750  
And then Father did that.

1121  
00:46:45,750 --> 00:46:48,260  
And one of the  
things that happened

1122  
00:46:48,260 --> 00:46:52,370  
is you had to wear an  
armband with a Jewish star

1123  
00:46:52,370 --> 00:46:56,360  
if you were six  
years old or older.

1124  
00:46:56,360 --> 00:47:00,330  
And the penalty if you didn't  
have one, it would be death.

1125  
00:47:00,330 --> 00:47:02,480  
They would kill a  
six-year old child.

1126  
00:47:02,480 --> 00:47:05,740  
And oh, I remember I was  
very jealous of Edith,

1127  
00:47:05,740 --> 00:47:09,300  
because she was six years  
old, and she got an armband.

1128  
00:47:09,300 --> 00:47:11,600  
And I was five, and I  
didn't get an armband.

1129  
00:47:11,600 --> 00:47:14,300  
And of course, I  
didn't understand--

1130  
00:47:14,300 --> 00:47:15,410  
Why don't I have one?

1131  
00:47:15,410 --> 00:47:17,140  
--why don't I have  
that armband, too?

1132  
00:47:17,140 --> 00:47:18,260  
Yeah.

1133  
00:47:18,260 --> 00:47:20,840  
So these are memories, right.

1134  
00:47:20,840 --> 00:47:25,310  
Yeah, well, children  
have a logic that

1135  
00:47:25,310 --> 00:47:27,980  
makes perfect sense to them.

1136  
00:47:27,980 --> 00:47:28,750  
Perfect sense.

1137  
00:47:28,750 --> 00:47:31,000  
Soon enough, I got an  
armband of my own, right.

1138  
00:47:31,000 --> 00:47:31,660  
Yeah, yeah.

1139  
00:47:31,660 --> 00:47:32,160  
Right.

1140  
00:47:32,160 --> 00:47:33,270  
[LAUGHS]

1141  
00:47:33,270 --> 00:47:36,700

1142  
00:47:36,700 --> 00:47:40,930  
And so was your father  
somewhat safe, do you think,

1143  
00:47:40,930 --> 00:47:42,940

because he was doing this work?

1144

00:47:42,940 --> 00:47:45,080

No question about it.

1145

00:47:45,080 --> 00:47:47,980

And again, the factory  
was nationalized,

1146

00:47:47,980 --> 00:47:49,750

this time by the Germans.

1147

00:47:49,750 --> 00:47:50,920

OK.

1148

00:47:50,920 --> 00:47:55,000

Now, the Ukrainians  
loved the Germans.

1149

00:47:55,000 --> 00:47:58,270

So they appointed  
a Ukrainian woman.

1150

00:47:58,270 --> 00:48:01,250

The same one as before?

1151

00:48:01,250 --> 00:48:02,125

Interesting question.

1152

00:48:02,125 --> 00:48:04,960

1153

00:48:04,960 --> 00:48:08,340

No, it was a different  
one, Rose Dachko

1154

00:48:08,340 --> 00:48:13,570

to be the manager  
of the factory.

1155

00:48:13,570 --> 00:48:17,670

But Father was running it,

and she kind of got jealous.

1156  
00:48:17,670 --> 00:48:19,860  
And this is a story  
my father told us.

1157  
00:48:19,860 --> 00:48:22,330  
And it's also in the book.

1158  
00:48:22,330 --> 00:48:27,415  
And so next time the German  
commandant called, she

1159  
00:48:27,415 --> 00:48:28,820  
didn't take Father with her.

1160  
00:48:28,820 --> 00:48:30,670  
She went by herself.

1161  
00:48:30,670 --> 00:48:32,190  
She didn't speak German.

1162  
00:48:32,190 --> 00:48:34,350  
She didn't know what he wanted.

1163  
00:48:34,350 --> 00:48:39,000  
And he yelled at her and  
said, don't ever come back

1164  
00:48:39,000 --> 00:48:41,670  
without Herr Tennenbaum.

1165  
00:48:41,670 --> 00:48:46,560  
So they valued Father.

1166  
00:48:46,560 --> 00:48:49,940  
But Rose hated Father  
for that because--

1167  
00:48:49,940 --> 00:48:53,170  
but she couldn't run around  
the factory without him.



1168  
00:48:53,170 --> 00:48:56,590  
But again, the fact that they  
needed a lot of documentation

1169  
00:48:56,590 --> 00:48:58,320  
and a lot of printers.

1170  
00:48:58,320 --> 00:49:06,290  
So he got a permit sent  
that he was a valued worker,

1171  
00:49:06,290 --> 00:49:07,740  
and he was--

1172  
00:49:07,740 --> 00:49:08,893  
in the beginning.

1173  
00:49:08,893 --> 00:49:10,810  
In the beginning when  
there were the roundups,

1174  
00:49:10,810 --> 00:49:13,120  
they respected this.

1175  
00:49:13,120 --> 00:49:15,460  
Later on, not so much.

1176  
00:49:15,460 --> 00:49:18,800  
So what was happening with your  
paternal grandparents in Lvov

1177  
00:49:18,800 --> 00:49:19,590  
at this time?

1178  
00:49:19,590 --> 00:49:22,750  
Yeah, we were in touch  
with them all the time.

1179  
00:49:22,750 --> 00:49:26,160  
And they were  
protected by this woman

1180  
00:49:26,160 --> 00:49:30,390  
who was in charge of the  
pharmaceutical trust.

1181  
00:49:30,390 --> 00:49:31,980  
A pharmaceutical trust?

1182  
00:49:31,980 --> 00:49:32,520  
Right.

1183  
00:49:32,520 --> 00:49:33,020  
In--

1184  
00:49:33,020 --> 00:49:34,220  
In Lvov.

1185  
00:49:34,220 --> 00:49:35,100  
OK.

1186  
00:49:35,100 --> 00:49:36,690  
What is that?

1187  
00:49:36,690 --> 00:49:40,480  
Well, I gather it  
was like a union that

1188  
00:49:40,480 --> 00:49:44,000  
was responsible for  
all the pharmacies

1189  
00:49:44,000 --> 00:49:45,820  
and things of that type.

1190  
00:49:45,820 --> 00:49:49,020  
So they got him a job.

1191  
00:49:49,020 --> 00:49:52,560  
So he was also a protected  
worker at that point.

1192

00:49:52,560 --> 00:49:55,240  
As I said, these things  
didn't last forever.

1193  
00:49:55,240 --> 00:49:56,850  
OK.

1194  
00:49:56,850 --> 00:50:01,750  
So he seems to be  
doing OK in Lvov.

1195  
00:50:01,750 --> 00:50:07,530  
And they did have phone  
conversations, Father

1196  
00:50:07,530 --> 00:50:09,494  
and Grandfather.

1197  
00:50:09,494 --> 00:50:12,260  
Through what-- there was  
no phone where you lived.

1198  
00:50:12,260 --> 00:50:12,840  
Pardon me?

1199  
00:50:12,840 --> 00:50:13,673  
Well, there was no--

1200  
00:50:13,673 --> 00:50:17,080  
No, but you could get a phone.

1201  
00:50:17,080 --> 00:50:18,770  
In the factory,  
there was a phone.

1202  
00:50:18,770 --> 00:50:20,620  
And in the other factory,  
there was a phone.

1203  
00:50:20,620 --> 00:50:22,550  
OK, so they  
communicated that way.

1204

00:50:22,550 --> 00:50:23,690

They communicate.

1205

00:50:23,690 --> 00:50:26,150

Also, there were people  
who traveled back and forth

1206

00:50:26,150 --> 00:50:28,910

between Lvov and Zolochiv.

1207

00:50:28,910 --> 00:50:31,440

And they brought new of--

1208

00:50:31,440 --> 00:50:35,650

and Father did mention  
that he would send people

1209

00:50:35,650 --> 00:50:38,780

to Lvov to find out what was  
going on with his parents.

1210

00:50:38,780 --> 00:50:40,690

But he himself could not go.

1211

00:50:40,690 --> 00:50:42,674

No.

1212

00:50:42,674 --> 00:50:43,590

OK.

1213

00:50:43,590 --> 00:50:45,360

And that was because--

1214

00:50:45,360 --> 00:50:46,890

you see, the Soviets  
were the ones

1215

00:50:46,890 --> 00:50:50,750

who stamped in that he's  
Jewish in his passport.

1216

00:50:50,750 --> 00:50:52,415

Yeah, that was  
during the Soviets.

1217

00:50:52,415 --> 00:50:55,890

But in the German, you  
still have that permission

1218

00:50:55,890 --> 00:50:58,860

to travel more than a  
few miles from the house.

1219

00:50:58,860 --> 00:50:59,850

OK.

1220

00:50:59,850 --> 00:51:02,940

Now, his protection,  
was that extended to you

1221

00:51:02,940 --> 00:51:05,520

and your sister and your mother?

1222

00:51:05,520 --> 00:51:11,460

Well, they got a worker's  
permit for my mother.

1223

00:51:11,460 --> 00:51:13,320

And her job was to--

1224

00:51:13,320 --> 00:51:16,240

the Germans had  
a quota that Jews

1225

00:51:16,240 --> 00:51:22,600

had to collect furs  
and glass and metal.

1226

00:51:22,600 --> 00:51:27,680

So she had to collect a certain  
amount of glass and metal

1227

00:51:27,680 --> 00:51:32,580

and furs every month to

deliver to the Germans.

1228  
00:51:32,580 --> 00:51:35,620  
And so that was her work.

1229  
00:51:35,620 --> 00:51:36,660  
That's not fun.

1230  
00:51:36,660 --> 00:51:37,590  
No.

1231  
00:51:37,590 --> 00:51:39,600  
But she was protected.

1232  
00:51:39,600 --> 00:51:43,740  
With us, the problem  
didn't come into effect

1233  
00:51:43,740 --> 00:51:49,080  
until the ghetto was formed,  
which was at the end of 1943.

1234  
00:51:49,080 --> 00:51:53,430  
So this is-- you're able  
to live 2 and 1/2 years

1235  
00:51:53,430 --> 00:51:55,050  
in this kind of a situation.

1236  
00:51:55,050 --> 00:51:55,900  
Right.

1237  
00:51:55,900 --> 00:51:56,400  
Right.

1238  
00:51:56,400 --> 00:51:57,120  
OK.

1239  
00:51:57,120 --> 00:51:59,040  
So that's quite a  
long time actually.

1240

00:51:59,040 --> 00:52:00,630

Yes.

1241

00:52:00,630 --> 00:52:03,380

But what the Germans did-- and  
I'm sure you've heard about

1242

00:52:03,380 --> 00:52:04,530

it--

1243

00:52:04,530 --> 00:52:07,670

the actions, Aktionen, right.

1244

00:52:07,670 --> 00:52:08,840

And--

1245

00:52:08,840 --> 00:52:10,090

In those 2 and 1/2 years.

1246

00:52:10,090 --> 00:52:11,220

Oh, yeah.

1247

00:52:11,220 --> 00:52:18,060

And then Father usually was  
able to get advance notice

1248

00:52:18,060 --> 00:52:20,850

when the action came about.

1249

00:52:20,850 --> 00:52:22,140

Tell the camera.

1250

00:52:22,140 --> 00:52:24,300

I'm sorry that I  
put it that way.

1251

00:52:24,300 --> 00:52:25,740

What is an action?

1252

00:52:25,740 --> 00:52:28,710

What an action is,

it's a hunt, which

1253  
00:52:28,710 --> 00:52:32,430  
means any Jew found  
on the streets

1254  
00:52:32,430 --> 00:52:36,000  
or found in a hiding place,  
they would go on the streets,

1255  
00:52:36,000 --> 00:52:38,010  
and they'd go into  
the buildings.

1256  
00:52:38,010 --> 00:52:40,750  
And they sometimes had dogs.

1257  
00:52:40,750 --> 00:52:43,920  
And if they found any Jews,  
they would round them up,

1258  
00:52:43,920 --> 00:52:47,070  
and they'd take them  
to a big market place,

1259  
00:52:47,070 --> 00:52:50,160  
load them into railroad  
cars, and take them

1260  
00:52:50,160 --> 00:52:52,920  
to concentration camps.

1261  
00:52:52,920 --> 00:52:54,900  
Sometimes not  
concentration camps.

1262  
00:52:54,900 --> 00:53:00,570  
Sometimes, as we found out  
later, it was a forest.

1263  
00:53:00,570 --> 00:53:04,970  
And they were just get shot  
and buried in the forest.



1264  
00:53:04,970 --> 00:53:09,620  
But we usually had  
advance notice.

1265  
00:53:09,620 --> 00:53:14,090  
And you usually saw the  
railroad cross coming in

1266  
00:53:14,090 --> 00:53:15,160  
and the sightings.

1267  
00:53:15,160 --> 00:53:18,470  
And you knew that something  
was going to happen.

1268  
00:53:18,470 --> 00:53:22,060  
So when you have advanced  
notice, what would you do?

1269  
00:53:22,060 --> 00:53:25,940  
Well, what our parents  
did, they-- and Edith

1270  
00:53:25,940 --> 00:53:27,925  
probably told you about it.

1271  
00:53:27,925 --> 00:53:32,590  
They were just very concerned  
about us, about Edith and me.

1272  
00:53:32,590 --> 00:53:35,920  
So they had the hiding  
place in the factory.

1273  
00:53:35,920 --> 00:53:40,350  
So they tried to find  
a Christian people who

1274  
00:53:40,350 --> 00:53:42,180  
would take us.

1275

00:53:42,180 --> 00:53:46,480  
And there was a couple  
that seemed very kind.

1276  
00:53:46,480 --> 00:53:51,550  
They always called Father  
Mr. Tennenbaum and all that.

1277  
00:53:51,550 --> 00:53:54,850  
And sometime Father  
had a feeling

1278  
00:53:54,850 --> 00:53:57,310  
that he might be receptive.

1279  
00:53:57,310 --> 00:53:58,900  
They had no children.

1280  
00:53:58,900 --> 00:54:03,450  
So he asked if they  
would take Edith and me,

1281  
00:54:03,450 --> 00:54:05,550  
and they said yes.

1282  
00:54:05,550 --> 00:54:11,870  
And I remember that because  
they took us to the apartment.

1283  
00:54:11,870 --> 00:54:17,020  
And I'm much more  
Judaic-looking than Edith is.

1284  
00:54:17,020 --> 00:54:20,590  
So I remember they're  
putting me to bed

1285  
00:54:20,590 --> 00:54:23,450  
and pulling the  
cover over on my face

1286  
00:54:23,450 --> 00:54:27,040  
so my nose would be covered.

1287  
00:54:27,040 --> 00:54:28,870  
And they didn't have  
to do that with Edith,

1288  
00:54:28,870 --> 00:54:30,350  
but they just did it up to here.

1289  
00:54:30,350 --> 00:54:31,725  
And I said, why  
are you doing it?

1290  
00:54:31,725 --> 00:54:33,980  
And she said, it's  
better that way.

1291  
00:54:33,980 --> 00:54:36,100  
It's better that way.

1292  
00:54:36,100 --> 00:54:41,080  
So they had us  
during this action.

1293  
00:54:41,080 --> 00:54:43,900  
And father was hid  
in the-- and Mother--

1294  
00:54:43,900 --> 00:54:44,525  
in the factory.

1295  
00:54:44,525 --> 00:54:47,260

1296  
00:54:47,260 --> 00:54:52,070  
When the next action  
came, they said

1297  
00:54:52,070 --> 00:54:56,780  
they would take Edith but not  
to me because I too Semitic

1298  
00:54:56,780 --> 00:54:58,100

looking.

1299  
00:54:58,100 --> 00:55:01,610  
And they were very  
afraid that if somebody

1300  
00:55:01,610 --> 00:55:07,310  
would walk into the  
apartment, they would see me.

1301  
00:55:07,310 --> 00:55:09,120  
So Edith went.

1302  
00:55:09,120 --> 00:55:11,730  
And I'm sure she  
told with that story.

1303  
00:55:11,730 --> 00:55:12,780  
Tell us.

1304  
00:55:12,780 --> 00:55:17,100  
And that she was left  
in this apartment.

1305  
00:55:17,100 --> 00:55:18,195  
And the people left.

1306  
00:55:18,195 --> 00:55:21,540  
So she was all alone  
in the apartment.

1307  
00:55:21,540 --> 00:55:25,410  
And she didn't know  
what was going on.

1308  
00:55:25,410 --> 00:55:29,520  
So she jumped out of the  
window and went back--

1309  
00:55:29,520 --> 00:55:32,230  
she knew where our  
parents were hiding,

1310

00:55:32,230 --> 00:55:35,820  
which was extremely dangerous  
for her to be out on the street

1311

00:55:35,820 --> 00:55:37,200  
by herself.

1312

00:55:37,200 --> 00:55:41,800  
And also, she could have  
led the Germans to where

1313

00:55:41,800 --> 00:55:43,870  
Mother and Father were hiding.

1314

00:55:43,870 --> 00:55:45,100  
And you.

1315

00:55:45,100 --> 00:55:46,630  
And me.

1316

00:55:46,630 --> 00:55:54,610  
But she survived the trip,  
and everything worked out.

1317

00:55:54,610 --> 00:56:00,013  
So when the third action  
came, we were going to be--

1318

00:56:00,013 --> 00:56:01,180  
they didn't know what to do.

1319

00:56:01,180 --> 00:56:05,330  
So our old nanny said  
that she would take us.

1320

00:56:05,330 --> 00:56:06,370  
Hanka.

1321

00:56:06,370 --> 00:56:08,760  
Both of us, and hide us.

1322

00:56:08,760 --> 00:56:09,555  
And her name was--

1323  
00:56:09,555 --> 00:56:10,055  
Hanja.

1324  
00:56:10,055 --> 00:56:10,670  
Hanja.

1325  
00:56:10,670 --> 00:56:12,400  
Yes.

1326  
00:56:12,400 --> 00:56:13,780  
And I didn't want to go.

1327  
00:56:13,780 --> 00:56:14,530  
I was crying.

1328  
00:56:14,530 --> 00:56:16,450  
I do remember that.

1329  
00:56:16,450 --> 00:56:19,180  
And what they did  
is they promised

1330  
00:56:19,180 --> 00:56:24,810  
that we would have noodles  
with poppy seed and honey.

1331  
00:56:24,810 --> 00:56:27,430  
So I then said, OK.

1332  
00:56:27,430 --> 00:56:29,470  
[LAUGHS]

1333  
00:56:29,470 --> 00:56:31,170  
So we went to Hanja.

1334  
00:56:31,170 --> 00:56:34,740  
And there was a dish of noodles  
and poppy seed and honey.

1335

00:56:34,740 --> 00:56:37,350

But there were these  
two little noodles,

1336

00:56:37,350 --> 00:56:41,040

and I thought that the poppy  
seed and honey would be inside

1337

00:56:41,040 --> 00:56:43,080

the tubes, but they weren't.

1338

00:56:43,080 --> 00:56:45,240

It was all mixed up.

1339

00:56:45,240 --> 00:56:50,130

So apparently, I started crying,  
and I wouldn't stop crying.

1340

00:56:50,130 --> 00:56:52,620

And I think that  
set Edith off also.

1341

00:56:52,620 --> 00:56:53,700

And she cried.

1342

00:56:53,700 --> 00:56:57,900

Yes, so that both of  
us were just crying.

1343

00:56:57,900 --> 00:57:02,700

And a neighbor of the nanny  
said, we'll just take them back

1344

00:57:02,700 --> 00:57:04,710

to their parents.

1345

00:57:04,710 --> 00:57:08,970

And Mother said  
that this was fate.

1346

00:57:08,970 --> 00:57:14,010

We would either survive together

or not survive together.

1347  
00:57:14,010 --> 00:57:16,170  
So they didn't try to give us--

1348  
00:57:16,170 --> 00:57:16,710  
Up again.

1349  
00:57:16,710 --> 00:57:17,885  
It didn't work.

1350  
00:57:17,885 --> 00:57:19,380  
It didn't work with us.

1351  
00:57:19,380 --> 00:57:22,440  
But in many cases, it did  
work, and the children

1352  
00:57:22,440 --> 00:57:29,260  
were given away into convents  
and Christian families, right.

1353  
00:57:29,260 --> 00:57:30,390  
Yeah.

1354  
00:57:30,390 --> 00:57:36,240  
And they were able to  
hide because their hiding

1355  
00:57:36,240 --> 00:57:38,400  
place was not discovered.

1356  
00:57:38,400 --> 00:57:41,590  
There's one memory I have from  
that-- a couple of memories

1357  
00:57:41,590 --> 00:57:46,680  
from that period is that  
we came out of the action.

1358  
00:57:46,680 --> 00:57:51,220  
And I had mentioned there was



this courtyard in our building.

1359

00:57:51,220 --> 00:57:56,310

And there was a dead man  
lying in the courtyard.

1360

00:57:56,310 --> 00:57:57,690

In the courtyard itself.

1361

00:57:57,690 --> 00:58:00,030

In the courtyard, on the  
ground floor, though.

1362

00:58:00,030 --> 00:58:01,560

Not on the balcony.

1363

00:58:01,560 --> 00:58:07,220

And I remember Mother saying  
to cover your face when

1364

00:58:07,220 --> 00:58:10,854

you walk by it, which we did.

1365

00:58:10,854 --> 00:58:16,100

And after a couple of  
days, some Jewish men

1366

00:58:16,100 --> 00:58:18,200

came and took him away.

1367

00:58:18,200 --> 00:58:21,030

And I remember that distinctly.

1368

00:58:21,030 --> 00:58:21,740

So there was--

1369

00:58:21,740 --> 00:58:24,500

Was this the first time  
you saw a body like that?

1370

00:58:24,500 --> 00:58:25,810

Yeah, yes.

1371  
00:58:25,810 --> 00:58:29,130  
First time I saw a dead body.

1372  
00:58:29,130 --> 00:58:30,660  
Do you know who it was?

1373  
00:58:30,660 --> 00:58:31,560  
No.

1374  
00:58:31,560 --> 00:58:32,520  
Never found out.

1375  
00:58:32,520 --> 00:58:33,422  
No.

1376  
00:58:33,422 --> 00:58:36,130  
OK, OK.

1377  
00:58:36,130 --> 00:58:37,150  
But it was--

1378  
00:58:37,150 --> 00:58:39,850

1379  
00:58:39,850 --> 00:58:47,230  
I think the Germans at that  
point decided to have a ghetto.

1380  
00:58:47,230 --> 00:58:50,590  
But the apartment that  
we were living in,

1381  
00:58:50,590 --> 00:58:56,900  
that two-room apartment, was  
actually in the ghetto area.

1382  
00:58:56,900 --> 00:59:00,740  
So they moved a lot of  
the Jews from other areas.

1383

00:59:00,740 --> 00:59:02,600  
And there were  
eventually 30 people

1384  
00:59:02,600 --> 00:59:04,420  
living in two-room apartment.

1385  
00:59:04,420 --> 00:59:05,600  
30 people?

1386  
00:59:05,600 --> 00:59:07,640  
Yes.

1387  
00:59:07,640 --> 00:59:12,430  
And I told you about  
Sue Gold, who was

1388  
00:59:12,430 --> 00:59:14,360  
living in the other apartment.

1389  
00:59:14,360 --> 00:59:17,730  
They also had a lot of  
other people with them.

1390  
00:59:17,730 --> 00:59:21,410  
And there was another  
family on the ground floor.

1391  
00:59:21,410 --> 00:59:24,620  
There was a little girl  
younger than I was.

1392  
00:59:24,620 --> 00:59:27,940  
And I have a very  
bad memory from that

1393  
00:59:27,940 --> 00:59:30,760  
because I don't know  
how that happened.

1394  
00:59:30,760 --> 00:59:34,320  
But they were cooking  
supper or something.

1395  
00:59:34,320 --> 00:59:37,850  
And there was some boiling water  
that spilled from the stove

1396  
00:59:37,850 --> 00:59:39,575  
on her face.

1397  
00:59:39,575 --> 00:59:44,810  
So I remember being  
very scared by that.

1398  
00:59:44,810 --> 00:59:47,090  
Tell me, do you know why--

1399  
00:59:47,090 --> 00:59:50,720  
you had to move to  
this two-room apartment

1400  
00:59:50,720 --> 00:59:52,190  
when the Soviets were there.

1401  
00:59:52,190 --> 00:59:53,330  
Yes.

1402  
00:59:53,330 --> 00:59:55,313  
Why is it that when  
the Germans came in,

1403  
00:59:55,313 --> 00:59:57,230  
you didn't move back to  
where the factory was?

1404  
00:59:57,230 --> 00:59:59,905  
Oh, there was no  
question about that.

1405  
00:59:59,905 --> 01:00:02,570  
I mean, this was  
a beautiful house,

1406  
01:00:02,570 --> 01:00:04,490

and the Germans were  
quartered there.

1407  
01:00:04,490 --> 01:00:05,450  
OK.

1408  
01:00:05,450 --> 01:00:06,410  
No way.

1409  
01:00:06,410 --> 01:00:06,920  
OK.

1410  
01:00:06,920 --> 01:00:07,430  
Got it.

1411  
01:00:07,430 --> 01:00:07,780  
All right.

1412  
01:00:07,780 --> 01:00:08,280  
Yeah.

1413  
01:00:08,280 --> 01:00:08,900  
Yeah.

1414  
01:00:08,900 --> 01:00:11,360  
If it was one of the  
six places in Zolochiv

1415  
01:00:11,360 --> 01:00:12,695  
that had a toilet then.

1416  
01:00:12,695 --> 01:00:13,730  
Yeah.

1417  
01:00:13,730 --> 01:00:15,140  
Not for Jews.

1418  
01:00:15,140 --> 01:00:16,070  
Not for Jews.

1419  
01:00:16,070 --> 01:00:16,910

No.

1420  
01:00:16,910 --> 01:00:18,710  
OK.

1421  
01:00:18,710 --> 01:00:23,540  
And I think-- oh, no.

1422  
01:00:23,540 --> 01:00:31,240  
Well, I know that, again, I  
have memories from that period

1423  
01:00:31,240 --> 01:00:33,300  
and of the ghetto.

1424  
01:00:33,300 --> 01:00:37,140  
And there was one memory that  
I had nightmares for years

1425  
01:00:37,140 --> 01:00:38,470  
afterwards.

1426  
01:00:38,470 --> 01:00:40,620  
And what was that?

1427  
01:00:40,620 --> 01:00:43,816  
Because we had this  
woman Hanja, the maid

1428  
01:00:43,816 --> 01:00:49,120  
that would be with us until  
the ghetto was formed.

1429  
01:00:49,120 --> 01:00:52,960  
And she would bring fruits  
and vegetables and things

1430  
01:00:52,960 --> 01:00:54,190  
of that type.

1431  
01:00:54,190 --> 01:00:57,830  
And she would even

sneak into the ghetto.

1432

01:00:57,830 --> 01:01:02,880

So we probably had more than  
the average family there.

1433

01:01:02,880 --> 01:01:05,370

And my mother was looking  
at some vegetables,

1434

01:01:05,370 --> 01:01:07,860

and she and a couple  
of other women

1435

01:01:07,860 --> 01:01:10,050

were running a soup kitchen.

1436

01:01:10,050 --> 01:01:16,780

And there was a potato which  
was spoiled and had worms in it.

1437

01:01:16,780 --> 01:01:21,370

And she gave that Edith and me.

1438

01:01:21,370 --> 01:01:26,990

So we knew that the  
women had soup kitchens.

1439

01:01:26,990 --> 01:01:29,386

So Edith and I  
said, well, let's--

1440

01:01:29,386 --> 01:01:31,630

and I think there was  
another girl involved--

1441

01:01:31,630 --> 01:01:34,140

let's do a soup kitchen.

1442

01:01:34,140 --> 01:01:37,760

So we went down to  
the ground floor.

1443

01:01:37,760 --> 01:01:42,470

And we had-- I just cooked  
that potato in the pot,

1444

01:01:42,470 --> 01:01:44,230

and we had it.

1445

01:01:44,230 --> 01:01:51,170

And an adult man came, and  
he was obviously starving.

1446

01:01:51,170 --> 01:01:53,440

And he asked if he  
could have that potato.

1447

01:01:53,440 --> 01:01:57,660

And I think there was  
another person that came up.

1448

01:01:57,660 --> 01:01:58,600

So they ate that.

1449

01:01:58,600 --> 01:02:01,890

And for us, it really  
hit us that these

1450

01:02:01,890 --> 01:02:05,570

were hungry grown-ups.  
And this is the thing

1451

01:02:05,570 --> 01:02:07,520

I had nightmares about.

1452

01:02:07,520 --> 01:02:08,720

The hungry grown-ups?

1453

01:02:08,720 --> 01:02:11,420

The hungry grown-ups, that  
they actually came to--

1454

01:02:11,420 --> 01:02:14,930

what did they think about



those six, seven-year-olds?

1455

01:02:14,930 --> 01:02:17,670

They had a potato.

1456

01:02:17,670 --> 01:02:21,090

But your mother, did she  
give you that potato to eat?

1457

01:02:21,090 --> 01:02:21,850

No, no, no.

1458

01:02:21,850 --> 01:02:22,830

Just to play with.

1459

01:02:22,830 --> 01:02:24,400

Just to play with.

1460

01:02:24,400 --> 01:02:29,453

But for these starving people,  
it would not be to play with.

1461

01:02:29,453 --> 01:02:30,220

Of course.

1462

01:02:30,220 --> 01:02:33,080

It would be-- it would be--

1463

01:02:33,080 --> 01:02:39,080

there was great hunger in  
the ghetto, and then typhus.

1464

01:02:39,080 --> 01:02:40,640

You know typhus, right?

1465

01:02:40,640 --> 01:02:42,590

Tell me, what are  
symptoms of typhus?

1466

01:02:42,590 --> 01:02:46,220

Typhus is horrible disease.

1467

01:02:46,220 --> 01:02:48,130

It's carried by lice.

1468

01:02:48,130 --> 01:02:52,830

By the way, we had  
lice, and we had fleas.

1469

01:02:52,830 --> 01:02:56,460

And one of our favorite sports  
was hunting fleas and killing

1470

01:02:56,460 --> 01:02:58,850

them on your fingernails.

1471

01:02:58,850 --> 01:03:05,180

And it's essentially GI  
with intravenous bleeding

1472

01:03:05,180 --> 01:03:06,830

and vomiting and fever.

1473

01:03:06,830 --> 01:03:12,405

And nearly everybody died  
who had it in the ghetto.

1474

01:03:12,405 --> 01:03:16,370

Now, the Germans  
got very worried

1475

01:03:16,370 --> 01:03:21,230

that Father would bring  
typhus to them because he

1476

01:03:21,230 --> 01:03:23,580

was going to the factory.

1477

01:03:23,580 --> 01:03:25,940

And they needed him.

1478

01:03:25,940 --> 01:03:33,300

So there were a number of Jews,  
including the Judenrat people,

1479  
01:03:33,300 --> 01:03:37,180  
that had permission to  
live outside the ghetto.

1480  
01:03:37,180 --> 01:03:40,280  
So they gave-- they  
called Father in.

1481  
01:03:40,280 --> 01:03:45,430  
And they said they would give  
Father and Mother permits

1482  
01:03:45,430 --> 01:03:48,570  
to live outside the ghetto.

1483  
01:03:48,570 --> 01:03:51,060  
And Father said, what  
about the children?

1484  
01:03:51,060 --> 01:03:54,020  
And he said, no.

1485  
01:03:54,020 --> 01:03:56,660  
And then he walked  
back to his office.

1486  
01:03:56,660 --> 01:04:00,830  
And Father was standing,  
and the secretary was there.

1487  
01:04:00,830 --> 01:04:06,480  
She had the permit that had  
his name and Mother's name.

1488  
01:04:06,480 --> 01:04:08,000  
And he looked at the woman.

1489  
01:04:08,000 --> 01:04:10,400  
He said, I cannot do it.

1490  
01:04:10,400 --> 01:04:14,960

So she put the permit  
back into the typewriter

1491  
01:04:14,960 --> 01:04:19,100  
and she put in  
"und zwei Kinder."

1492  
01:04:19,100 --> 01:04:20,780  
So she wrote it in.

1493  
01:04:20,780 --> 01:04:24,220  
A middle-aged German woman.

1494  
01:04:24,220 --> 01:04:26,390  
And "und zwei Kinder" means?

1495  
01:04:26,390 --> 01:04:28,670  
And two children.

1496  
01:04:28,670 --> 01:04:30,360  
And we still have that.

1497  
01:04:30,360 --> 01:04:33,500  
Well, I think Father gave  
that document to Yad Vashem.

1498  
01:04:33,500 --> 01:04:36,560  
But you could see there  
was a different typewriter

1499  
01:04:36,560 --> 01:04:38,280  
for the original from it.

1500  
01:04:38,280 --> 01:04:41,070

1501  
01:04:41,070 --> 01:04:44,960  
So we were able to move  
outside the ghetto.

1502  
01:04:44,960 --> 01:04:47,410  
That is amazing, actually--

1503  
01:04:47,410 --> 01:04:48,800  
Yes.

1504  
01:04:48,800 --> 01:04:52,730  
--that a secretary would  
contradict the commandant.

1505  
01:04:52,730 --> 01:04:53,270  
Yes.

1506  
01:04:53,270 --> 01:04:55,385  
A middle-aged German woman.

1507  
01:04:55,385 --> 01:04:56,685  
Right.

1508  
01:04:56,685 --> 01:04:58,310  
Of course, he didn't  
know what she did.

1509  
01:04:58,310 --> 01:05:02,090  
He was already  
back in his office.

1510  
01:05:02,090 --> 01:05:07,480  
And at that time, we got  
a message from Father--

1511  
01:05:07,480 --> 01:05:13,080  
from Grandfather that the  
work permits for his wife was

1512  
01:05:13,080 --> 01:05:15,000  
no longer effective.

1513  
01:05:15,000 --> 01:05:17,920  
He was very worried  
about Grandma.

1514  
01:05:17,920 --> 01:05:21,950  
So he was going to

send her back to us.

1515

01:05:21,950 --> 01:05:22,970

And she arrived.

1516

01:05:22,970 --> 01:05:27,930

This is Father's mother,  
whom I also remember.

1517

01:05:27,930 --> 01:05:33,080

And she came just as we were  
moving outside the ghetto.

1518

01:05:33,080 --> 01:05:36,950

And my other grandmother  
also came with us.

1519

01:05:36,950 --> 01:05:38,950

So two grandmothers  
are with you.

1520

01:05:38,950 --> 01:05:40,370

Right.

1521

01:05:40,370 --> 01:05:43,640

And one of the grandmothers,  
which is Mother's mother,

1522

01:05:43,640 --> 01:05:46,160

caught typhus.

1523

01:05:46,160 --> 01:05:49,912

And Father's mother nursed her.

1524

01:05:49,912 --> 01:05:53,340

So Mother's mother recovered.

1525

01:05:53,340 --> 01:05:56,250

And Father's mother did not.

1526

01:05:56,250 --> 01:05:58,170

And I also remember

that because they

1527

01:05:58,170 --> 01:06:01,470  
sent Edith did out  
of the apartment

1528

01:06:01,470 --> 01:06:04,980  
because they were  
concerned that she would--

1529

01:06:04,980 --> 01:06:05,700  
she was older.

1530

01:06:05,700 --> 01:06:07,590  
She would remember too  
much, which is true.

1531

01:06:07,590 --> 01:06:10,120  
She was much older than I was.

1532

01:06:10,120 --> 01:06:13,560  
But I was stayed in the  
house when Grandmother died.

1533

01:06:13,560 --> 01:06:19,190  
And I still remember her  
dying in that bed and Father's

1534

01:06:19,190 --> 01:06:23,010  
despair when she died.

1535

01:06:23,010 --> 01:06:24,600  
So she died.

1536

01:06:24,600 --> 01:06:29,740  
And no, she died of typhus.

1537

01:06:29,740 --> 01:06:30,830  
Right.

1538

01:06:30,830 --> 01:06:34,350  
And was he able to bury her?

1539  
01:06:34,350 --> 01:06:40,430  
They got some friends, and  
they were able at night

1540  
01:06:40,430 --> 01:06:43,110  
to take her to the cemetery.

1541  
01:06:43,110 --> 01:06:47,600  
And they were even able  
to get a little stone.

1542  
01:06:47,600 --> 01:06:51,860  
But when we came back after  
the war, there was no sign.

1543  
01:06:51,860 --> 01:06:54,920  
They took all the stones  
from the Jewish cemeteries.

1544  
01:06:54,920 --> 01:06:56,650  
Who would have done that?

1545  
01:06:56,650 --> 01:06:57,770  
The Germans did.

1546  
01:06:57,770 --> 01:06:58,270  
OK.

1547  
01:06:58,270 --> 01:06:59,190  
Who knows?

1548  
01:06:59,190 --> 01:07:01,370  
Ukrainians, Germans.

1549  
01:07:01,370 --> 01:07:02,780  
Yes.

1550  
01:07:02,780 --> 01:07:03,902  
One of those, yes.

1551



01:07:03,902 --> 01:07:06,680

1552

01:07:06,680 --> 01:07:08,390

One of the things  
that I'm struck by,

1553

01:07:08,390 --> 01:07:12,900

though, is that it  
sounds like when

1554

01:07:12,900 --> 01:07:19,830

you were hiding in the attic for  
those few days, how many people

1555

01:07:19,830 --> 01:07:24,330

knew about this if you had food  
and water being brought to you?

1556

01:07:24,330 --> 01:07:28,170

There were at least three people  
knew about that because there

1557

01:07:28,170 --> 01:07:35,120

were two Ukrainians  
that actually worked

1558

01:07:35,120 --> 01:07:41,070

with Father to the factory.

1559

01:07:41,070 --> 01:07:44,560

And of course, I know that from  
the book, not from my memory.

1560

01:07:44,560 --> 01:07:48,900

And they really protected him  
because they were Ukrainians.

1561

01:07:48,900 --> 01:07:52,920

And when the Germans came  
out, they said, no, no, no.

1562

01:07:52,920 --> 01:07:54,960

They're not Jews.

1563

01:07:54,960 --> 01:07:56,820

So they knew that.

1564

01:07:56,820 --> 01:08:01,800

And then Hanja the

maid knew that.

1565

01:08:01,800 --> 01:08:05,100

And afterwards,

Rose Dachko, who was

1566

01:08:05,100 --> 01:08:11,550

the nominal head of the

factory, found out about it.

1567

01:08:11,550 --> 01:08:13,470

And she was very angry.

1568

01:08:13,470 --> 01:08:15,060

This was not only our family.

1569

01:08:15,060 --> 01:08:17,350

There were a couple of

other people in there.

1570

01:08:17,350 --> 01:08:20,520

And she forbade

Father do that again.

1571

01:08:20,520 --> 01:08:25,340

But he didn't listen to her,

and she didn't betray him.

1572

01:08:25,340 --> 01:08:26,250

OK.

1573

01:08:26,250 --> 01:08:27,439

OK.

1574

01:08:27,439 --> 01:08:30,010

So it sounds like--

1575

01:08:30,010 --> 01:08:34,760

I mean, you see human  
behavior in such extremes

1576

01:08:34,760 --> 01:08:38,750

that there were these tensions.

1577

01:08:38,750 --> 01:08:43,700

And there was this pulling  
and this disagreement.

1578

01:08:43,700 --> 01:08:45,560

And it could have gone--

1579

01:08:45,560 --> 01:08:46,340

Oh, yes.

1580

01:08:46,340 --> 01:08:47,210

--very badly.

1581

01:08:47,210 --> 01:08:48,600

It could've gone very badly.

1582

01:08:48,600 --> 01:08:53,330

I think there were so many  
people whose luck run out.

1583

01:08:53,330 --> 01:08:55,310

We were just very  
lucky and that there

1584

01:08:55,310 --> 01:08:59,210

were people who  
protected us, including

1585

01:08:59,210 --> 01:09:03,100

some of the Ukrainian,  
which is strange.

1586

01:09:03,100 --> 01:09:08,319

Did you ever have any  
encounter with any of them,

1587  
01:09:08,319 --> 01:09:12,970  
these people who could  
have betrayed but did not?

1588  
01:09:12,970 --> 01:09:14,899  
I knew where those  
people were at,

1589  
01:09:14,899 --> 01:09:17,634  
but I didn't have  
that level of--

1590  
01:09:17,634 --> 01:09:21,740  
we had, really, encounters  
with people who helped us.

1591  
01:09:21,740 --> 01:09:23,830  
And I remember those, yes.

1592  
01:09:23,830 --> 01:09:24,330  
OK.

1593  
01:09:24,330 --> 01:09:27,020

1594  
01:09:27,020 --> 01:09:29,229  
And the reason why you  
say you think it's strange

1595  
01:09:29,229 --> 01:09:31,960  
is because the Ukrainians  
were much more allied

1596  
01:09:31,960 --> 01:09:32,890  
with the Germans?

1597  
01:09:32,890 --> 01:09:33,490  
Or was it--

1598

01:09:33,490 --> 01:09:33,990  
Oh, sure.

1599  
01:09:33,990 --> 01:09:35,830  
They hated the Russians.

1600  
01:09:35,830 --> 01:09:40,300  
When the Germans came in, they  
were greeted with flowers and--

1601  
01:09:40,300 --> 01:09:43,420  
not champagne, but  
with flowers and flags.

1602  
01:09:43,420 --> 01:09:46,660  
But the Ukrainians thought that  
the Germans would give them

1603  
01:09:46,660 --> 01:09:48,960  
their own country.

1604  
01:09:48,960 --> 01:09:51,846  
And they were very  
quickly disillusioned.

1605  
01:09:51,846 --> 01:09:53,560  
The Germans said no.

1606  
01:09:53,560 --> 01:10:01,020  
But they still preferred  
the Germans to the Russians.

1607  
01:10:01,020 --> 01:10:05,810  
Now, Ukrainians were  
killers of the Jews.

1608  
01:10:05,810 --> 01:10:11,290  
The Poles didn't like the Jews.

1609  
01:10:11,290 --> 01:10:14,720  
And they would occasionally  
point out the Jews

1610  
01:10:14,720 --> 01:10:17,380  
to the Germans.

1611  
01:10:17,380 --> 01:10:20,080  
But they were not as  
virulent as the Ukrainians.

1612  
01:10:20,080 --> 01:10:25,940

1613  
01:10:25,940 --> 01:10:30,410  
Is this something that you  
came to understand later?

1614  
01:10:30,410 --> 01:10:33,620  
Or is this something  
you felt at the time?

1615  
01:10:33,620 --> 01:10:36,260  
Well, I knew about  
the Ukrainians.

1616  
01:10:36,260 --> 01:10:41,750  
I think that was kind of the  
way people thought, even to us.

1617  
01:10:41,750 --> 01:10:44,180  
No, we were small children.

1618  
01:10:44,180 --> 01:10:49,577  
But you said, Ukrainians,  
be very careful, right?

1619  
01:10:49,577 --> 01:10:52,380  
OK.

1620  
01:10:52,380 --> 01:10:58,330  
So let's go back now  
to the point where

1621  
01:10:58,330 --> 01:11:02,410  
both grandmothers are with

you outside the ghetto.

1622

01:11:02,410 --> 01:11:06,220  
And your paternal grandmother  
dies and is buried.

1623

01:11:06,220 --> 01:11:08,230  
And there's, at least  
in the beginning,

1624

01:11:08,230 --> 01:11:13,420  
a stone to mark  
it, her grave site.

1625

01:11:13,420 --> 01:11:14,830  
What happens after that?

1626

01:11:14,830 --> 01:11:17,320  
Do you continue living  
outside the ghetto?

1627

01:11:17,320 --> 01:11:23,350  
Well, what happened after  
that is that, again, from what

1628

01:11:23,350 --> 01:11:28,630  
I gather is the  
feeling is that Father

1629

01:11:28,630 --> 01:11:34,210  
hears that ghettos are being  
eliminated in many other cities

1630

01:11:34,210 --> 01:11:36,070  
around Poland.

1631

01:11:36,070 --> 01:11:42,420  
And he's becoming convinced  
that what Hitler wants

1632

01:11:42,420 --> 01:11:46,030  
is to get rid of all the Jews.

1633

01:11:46,030 --> 01:11:48,460

And on the last  
Aktion apparently,

1634

01:11:48,460 --> 01:11:50,920

even people who had  
the permits like Father

1635

01:11:50,920 --> 01:11:54,880

did, that they were needed  
workers, they were disregarded.

1636

01:11:54,880 --> 01:11:58,270

People were picked up anyway.

1637

01:11:58,270 --> 01:12:03,250

So he knew it was  
close to the end.

1638

01:12:03,250 --> 01:12:05,140

So the feeling was  
that maybe we should

1639

01:12:05,140 --> 01:12:08,980

try to survive on false papers.

1640

01:12:08,980 --> 01:12:15,700

And Grandfather, who was still  
in Lvov, said he had a contact.

1641

01:12:15,700 --> 01:12:17,980

He had some jewelry  
and money left.

1642

01:12:17,980 --> 01:12:25,460

And he would get us false papers  
that we can leave the ghetto

1643

01:12:25,460 --> 01:12:28,130

and pretend to be Poles.

1644

01:12:28,130 --> 01:12:31,380



Mother was not in favor of that.

1645

01:12:31,380 --> 01:12:36,260

She was like I was,  
very Jewish looking.

1646

01:12:36,260 --> 01:12:43,670

And the name that was picked as  
a false name was called Bulski.

1647

01:12:43,670 --> 01:12:44,330

Bulski?

1648

01:12:44,330 --> 01:12:49,940

Bulski, B-U-L-S-K-I. I  
was Christina Bulska.

1649

01:12:49,940 --> 01:12:52,250

Mother was Elizaveta Bulksa.

1650

01:12:52,250 --> 01:12:54,350

Mother said, this  
is a fake name.

1651

01:12:54,350 --> 01:12:56,540

They will discover  
us right away.

1652

01:12:56,540 --> 01:13:01,760

They can tell by the way we look  
that it's not going to work.

1653

01:13:01,760 --> 01:13:04,880

1654

01:13:04,880 --> 01:13:09,740

But I mean, what are the choices  
in a situation like that?

1655

01:13:09,740 --> 01:13:12,050

So there was going  
to be a man who

1656

01:13:12,050 --> 01:13:15,890

said he could smuggle  
us out of the place

1657

01:13:15,890 --> 01:13:20,810

beyond the ghetto on a train  
that would go to Warsaw maybe,

1658

01:13:20,810 --> 01:13:23,980

a larger town where  
we could hide.

1659

01:13:23,980 --> 01:13:27,970

And this, again, I  
learned, of course, later.

1660

01:13:27,970 --> 01:13:31,960

Now when we were living  
outside the ghetto,

1661

01:13:31,960 --> 01:13:35,410

a number of Mother's  
Polish friends

1662

01:13:35,410 --> 01:13:38,710

would come and see us and  
bring, again, some food.

1663

01:13:38,710 --> 01:13:42,940

So we weren't starving  
like so many other people.

1664

01:13:42,940 --> 01:13:49,000

And one of these women was  
called Helena Szczulczewska.

1665

01:13:49,000 --> 01:13:52,185

And her name is on the wall of  
the righteous in the Holocaust

1666

01:13:52,185 --> 01:13:54,580

Museum.

1667

01:13:54,580 --> 01:14:01,260

And she was a member of the  
partisans, maybe yes, maybe no.

1668

01:14:01,260 --> 01:14:03,080

She was a Polish patriot.

1669

01:14:03,080 --> 01:14:06,350

She also engaged in all  
sorts of buy and sell,

1670

01:14:06,350 --> 01:14:07,940

which is how you trade.

1671

01:14:07,940 --> 01:14:10,570

This is how you survived  
in Poland at this time.

1672

01:14:10,570 --> 01:14:11,690

Like black market.

1673

01:14:11,690 --> 01:14:12,580

Yes.

1674

01:14:12,580 --> 01:14:14,030

Exactly that.

1675

01:14:14,030 --> 01:14:16,040

And she came to Mother  
one day, and she

1676

01:14:16,040 --> 01:14:21,320

said she had this absolute  
deal, that there was some furs,

1677

01:14:21,320 --> 01:14:24,080

that she has a seller,  
and she has a buyer.

1678

01:14:24,080 --> 01:14:27,990

But she doesn't have money  
to pay for them right away.

1679  
01:14:27,990 --> 01:14:31,340  
So if Mother has any money to  
give to her, and the next day,

1680  
01:14:31,340 --> 01:14:33,920  
the money will come back.

1681  
01:14:33,920 --> 01:14:37,190  
So Mother took the  
money that was supposed

1682  
01:14:37,190 --> 01:14:43,280  
to pay for the runner to  
take us away from Zolochiv

1683  
01:14:43,280 --> 01:14:45,492  
and gave it to Hela.

1684  
01:14:45,492 --> 01:14:48,050  
A couple of days  
later, Hela comes back,

1685  
01:14:48,050 --> 01:14:53,438  
and she says money's gone.

1686  
01:14:53,438 --> 01:14:56,860  
And Father's very upset.

1687  
01:14:56,860 --> 01:14:59,510  
Mother says she didn't  
think the false papers would

1688  
01:14:59,510 --> 01:15:03,130  
have worked anyway.

1689  
01:15:03,130 --> 01:15:09,850  
The runner comes in to take  
us through the German section.

1690  
01:15:09,850 --> 01:15:11,770  
But we have no money to pay him.

1691  
01:15:11,770 --> 01:15:13,300  
Father has no way to pay him.

1692  
01:15:13,300 --> 01:15:16,210  
The runner says, well, that's OK  
because it's too dangerous now

1693  
01:15:16,210 --> 01:15:20,910  
anyway, and he leaves.

1694  
01:15:20,910 --> 01:15:23,120  
And this was probably  
the luckiest thing

1695  
01:15:23,120 --> 01:15:26,210  
that ever happened to us.

1696  
01:15:26,210 --> 01:15:27,050  
Why?

1697  
01:15:27,050 --> 01:15:33,110  
Well, because very short  
period after, we get the news

1698  
01:15:33,110 --> 01:15:36,260  
that the ghetto is surrounded.

1699  
01:15:36,260 --> 01:15:41,310  
Everybody is being taken  
to the concentration camps.

1700  
01:15:41,310 --> 01:15:43,820  
Now, the Gestapo  
had a list of people

1701  
01:15:43,820 --> 01:15:46,640  
who lived outside the ghetto.

1702  
01:15:46,640 --> 01:15:51,500  
And apparently, they came before  
they surrounded the ghetto

1703

01:15:51,500 --> 01:15:57,380  
and asked a woman on our street,  
do you have any Jews here?

1704

01:15:57,380 --> 01:16:00,670  
She said, no, no, no  
Jews in the street.

1705

01:16:00,670 --> 01:16:01,540  
She protected us.

1706

01:16:01,540 --> 01:16:05,000  
She sent them away.

1707

01:16:05,000 --> 01:16:08,890  
And there was-- in the  
building next to the one

1708

01:16:08,890 --> 01:16:10,390  
we were living  
outside the ghetto,

1709

01:16:10,390 --> 01:16:12,770  
there was a hiding place.

1710

01:16:12,770 --> 01:16:15,820  
So we hid there for  
a couple, three days.

1711

01:16:15,820 --> 01:16:18,760  
And Father had cyanide.

1712

01:16:18,760 --> 01:16:24,840  
He was planning that the whole  
time we would take cyanide.

1713

01:16:24,840 --> 01:16:30,090  
And about a couple of days  
where this last Aktion was

1714

01:16:30,090 --> 01:16:32,330

being taken place,  
there's a knock

1715  
01:16:32,330 --> 01:16:36,090  
on the cellar,  
the overhead door.

1716  
01:16:36,090 --> 01:16:38,010  
And Hela comes.

1717  
01:16:38,010 --> 01:16:43,190  
And she says great success  
in Africa in the war.

1718  
01:16:43,190 --> 01:16:46,260

1719  
01:16:46,260 --> 01:16:48,700  
We are going to win the war.

1720  
01:16:48,700 --> 01:16:51,400  
It's a question of weeks,  
a question of months.

1721  
01:16:51,400 --> 01:16:55,780  
Come with me to my place, which  
is a town called Yelykhovychi.

1722  
01:16:55,780 --> 01:16:58,420  
It's about four  
miles from Zolochiv.

1723  
01:16:58,420 --> 01:17:02,260  
And we also stayed with  
her over the summers.

1724  
01:17:02,260 --> 01:17:05,180  
She said, I'll hide you.

1725  
01:17:05,180 --> 01:17:09,530  
This is the woman that  
Mother gave the money to.

1726

01:17:09,530 --> 01:17:11,910

So she says it's payback time.

1727

01:17:11,910 --> 01:17:14,060

Ah.

1728

01:17:14,060 --> 01:17:17,000

So she took all of us.

1729

01:17:17,000 --> 01:17:18,830

She said, what we're  
going to do is there's

1730

01:17:18,830 --> 01:17:21,410

going to be a mass, major mass.

1731

01:17:21,410 --> 01:17:23,030

It's a major holiday.

1732

01:17:23,030 --> 01:17:27,990

There'll be groups of  
people coming out of church.

1733

01:17:27,990 --> 01:17:29,430

You're going to come with me.

1734

01:17:29,430 --> 01:17:34,265

And the two Polish ladies  
in the next building

1735

01:17:34,265 --> 01:17:38,022

said that they'll come escort  
us and some other young people.

1736

01:17:38,022 --> 01:17:39,480

And you realize  
all of these people

1737

01:17:39,480 --> 01:17:43,190

would have been killed  
if the Germans thought



1738

01:17:43,190 --> 01:17:46,030  
that they were protecting Jews.

1739

01:17:46,030 --> 01:17:48,720  
And I do remember that walk.

1740

01:17:48,720 --> 01:17:53,210  
So we're all walking after mass.

1741

01:17:53,210 --> 01:17:56,580  
So you come out from the  
cellar that you're hiding in.

1742

01:17:56,580 --> 01:17:59,060  
And do you go to the  
church and then come out?

1743

01:17:59,060 --> 01:17:59,560  
How is it?

1744

01:17:59,560 --> 01:18:03,990  
We go on the street and  
blend with the people who

1745

01:18:03,990 --> 01:18:05,940  
are coming out of the church.

1746

01:18:05,940 --> 01:18:07,120  
And we start walking.

1747

01:18:07,120 --> 01:18:10,296

1748

01:18:10,296 --> 01:18:14,580  
And we walked to  
Hela's place where

1749

01:18:14,580 --> 01:18:17,010  
we were hidden for 18 months.

1750

01:18:17,010 --> 01:18:18,100

Wow.

1751

01:18:18,100 --> 01:18:19,750

I have a technical question.

1752

01:18:19,750 --> 01:18:21,040

Excuse me, I'm going to cough.

1753

01:18:21,040 --> 01:18:21,540

It's OK.

1754

01:18:21,540 --> 01:18:24,350

[COUGHS]

1755

01:18:24,350 --> 01:18:25,696

Do you want to take a drink?

1756

01:18:25,696 --> 01:18:26,430

I have--

1757

01:18:26,430 --> 01:18:28,180

Yeah?

1758

01:18:28,180 --> 01:18:31,120

My logistical  
question is, I want

1759

01:18:31,120 --> 01:18:35,140

to go back to where the  
Germans surround the ghetto,

1760

01:18:35,140 --> 01:18:37,690

and it's going to be kind  
of like the final action,

1761

01:18:37,690 --> 01:18:41,208

even for people who have those  
permissions as special workers.

1762

01:18:41,208 --> 01:18:42,000

For everybody, yes.

1763

01:18:42,000 --> 01:18:42,970

OK.

1764

01:18:42,970 --> 01:18:47,350

So if they have a list  
of people that they

1765

01:18:47,350 --> 01:18:51,940

know live outside the ghetto  
who have these permits

1766

01:18:51,940 --> 01:18:56,290

and they go to the street  
where they're supposedly living

1767

01:18:56,290 --> 01:19:00,310

and a Gentile woman tells them,  
oh, there are no Jews here,

1768

01:19:00,310 --> 01:19:01,960

they've got their list.

1769

01:19:01,960 --> 01:19:03,970

So how come they believe her?

1770

01:19:03,970 --> 01:19:05,110

Exactly.

1771

01:19:05,110 --> 01:19:07,090

There were two lists.

1772

01:19:07,090 --> 01:19:09,910

One was a Gestapo  
list, and one was

1773

01:19:09,910 --> 01:19:14,320

a list of the stormtroopers  
organization, SS.

1774

01:19:14,320 --> 01:19:17,234

We were not on the Gestapo list.

1775  
01:19:17,234 --> 01:19:19,570  
Ah.

1776  
01:19:19,570 --> 01:19:20,800  
OK.

1777  
01:19:20,800 --> 01:19:22,780  
But you were on the  
stormtroopers' list.

1778  
01:19:22,780 --> 01:19:24,230  
There may have  
been another list.

1779  
01:19:24,230 --> 01:19:28,630  
But what happened is when  
the Judenrat, all of that,

1780  
01:19:28,630 --> 01:19:31,210  
where outside the  
ghetto, this was all

1781  
01:19:31,210 --> 01:19:34,270  
done very highly officially.

1782  
01:19:34,270 --> 01:19:39,520  
Now, when Father-- when the  
people in charge of the factory

1783  
01:19:39,520 --> 01:19:42,250  
panicked and they  
said they needed

1784  
01:19:42,250 --> 01:19:47,410  
Father outside the ghetto so  
that they wouldn't get sick,

1785  
01:19:47,410 --> 01:19:51,340  
then he got the  
permit from the guy

1786  
01:19:51,340 --> 01:19:52,630

who was in charge of whatever.

1787  
01:19:52,630 --> 01:19:53,360  
Of the factory.

1788  
01:19:53,360 --> 01:19:54,120  
Right.

1789  
01:19:54,120 --> 01:19:55,900  
And apparently, we  
were not on the list

1790  
01:19:55,900 --> 01:19:57,680  
that they used to round them up.

1791  
01:19:57,680 --> 01:20:00,370  
And again, that's also  
in Father's book, right.

1792  
01:20:00,370 --> 01:20:01,880  
OK, OK.

1793  
01:20:01,880 --> 01:20:02,380  
But--

1794  
01:20:02,380 --> 01:20:06,715  
It's those little things  
that make all the difference.

1795  
01:20:06,715 --> 01:20:07,850  
Yeah.

1796  
01:20:07,850 --> 01:20:08,350  
Yeah.

1797  
01:20:08,350 --> 01:20:10,690  
And by such a thin--

1798  
01:20:10,690 --> 01:20:15,340  
such a thin possibility is life  
and death in that situation.

1799

01:20:15,340 --> 01:20:17,410

Absolutely.

1800

01:20:17,410 --> 01:20:17,980

OK.

1801

01:20:17,980 --> 01:20:21,400

So that helps explain  
why it is that even

1802

01:20:21,400 --> 01:20:24,160

if you're outside the  
ghetto, you're not taken.

1803

01:20:24,160 --> 01:20:25,480

You're not caught.

1804

01:20:25,480 --> 01:20:27,520

You can hide.

1805

01:20:27,520 --> 01:20:30,977

Were you the only ones in  
that space that was hiding?

1806

01:20:30,977 --> 01:20:32,060

Or were there more people?

1807

01:20:32,060 --> 01:20:34,930

1808

01:20:34,930 --> 01:20:38,605

I think we were the  
only ones at the end.

1809

01:20:38,605 --> 01:20:40,870

They were coming and  
going, all of that.

1810

01:20:40,870 --> 01:20:42,580

But the last one, Hela came.

1811

01:20:42,580 --> 01:20:43,455  
It was only us.

1812  
01:20:43,455 --> 01:20:44,360  
OK.

1813  
01:20:44,360 --> 01:20:45,520  
OK.

1814  
01:20:45,520 --> 01:20:47,410  
All right.

1815  
01:20:47,410 --> 01:20:49,300  
So you blend in.

1816  
01:20:49,300 --> 01:20:55,150  
And you walk with the procession  
or the people leaving church.

1817  
01:20:55,150 --> 01:20:58,510  
And do you walk to where  
she lives outside of town?

1818  
01:20:58,510 --> 01:21:02,920  
Which is where-- this is in the  
village called Yelykhovychi,

1819  
01:21:02,920 --> 01:21:07,210  
which is where we used to  
vacation during the summers.

1820  
01:21:07,210 --> 01:21:08,890  
So we knew the place.

1821  
01:21:08,890 --> 01:21:09,670  
OK.

1822  
01:21:09,670 --> 01:21:12,040  
And it was about four  
kilometers or four miles?

1823  
01:21:12,040 --> 01:21:13,270

Four miles.

1824  
01:21:13,270 --> 01:21:14,020  
All right.

1825  
01:21:14,020 --> 01:21:17,260  
Well, it's a little bit  
of a walk, but not--

1826  
01:21:17,260 --> 01:21:18,100  
yeah.

1827  
01:21:18,100 --> 01:21:21,040  
Was this springtime, summertime?

1828  
01:21:21,040 --> 01:21:23,440  
This was springtime.

1829  
01:21:23,440 --> 01:21:24,220  
Was it Easter?

1830  
01:21:24,220 --> 01:21:24,720  
Was it--

1831  
01:21:24,720 --> 01:21:25,450  
April.

1832  
01:21:25,450 --> 01:21:26,557  
It was in April.

1833  
01:21:26,557 --> 01:21:27,640  
It could have been Easter.

1834  
01:21:27,640 --> 01:21:28,557  
It could've been, yes.

1835  
01:21:28,557 --> 01:21:29,830  
It could have been.

1836  
01:21:29,830 --> 01:21:32,570  
And you say you spend



the next 18 months there.

1837  
01:21:32,570 --> 01:21:35,370  
Right.

1838  
01:21:35,370 --> 01:21:40,650  
This was in April of  
'43 to August of '44.

1839  
01:21:40,650 --> 01:21:42,010  
OK.

1840  
01:21:42,010 --> 01:21:45,070  
And in that time,  
describe for me

1841  
01:21:45,070 --> 01:21:49,327  
the house, the location,  
the surroundings.

1842  
01:21:49,327 --> 01:21:50,410  
What did it all look like?

1843  
01:21:50,410 --> 01:21:53,530  
And you at this time  
are six years old?

1844  
01:21:53,530 --> 01:21:54,330  
Yes.

1845  
01:21:54,330 --> 01:21:55,360  
OK.

1846  
01:21:55,360 --> 01:21:57,460  
Six or seven.

1847  
01:21:57,460 --> 01:21:59,020  
'43, seven.

1848  
01:21:59,020 --> 01:21:59,590  
Yes.

1849

01:21:59,590 --> 01:22:01,450

I was seven years old.

1850

01:22:01,450 --> 01:22:04,300

I would say it's  
really mind boggling

1851

01:22:04,300 --> 01:22:06,010

when you think about it.

1852

01:22:06,010 --> 01:22:07,510

This was a house--

1853

01:22:07,510 --> 01:22:09,520

would it help if I showed  
you the picture of it?

1854

01:22:09,520 --> 01:22:09,760

The drawing of it?

1855

01:22:09,760 --> 01:22:10,420

Later.

1856

01:22:10,420 --> 01:22:12,880

Yeah, but now do it in words,  
and later, we may film it.

1857

01:22:12,880 --> 01:22:13,930

Absolutely.

1858

01:22:13,930 --> 01:22:20,400

This was a farmhouse that  
had a kitchen, very large--

1859

01:22:20,400 --> 01:22:27,470

two very large rooms, another  
small room, and an outhouse,

1860

01:22:27,470 --> 01:22:29,000

I guess.

1861

01:22:29,000 --> 01:22:30,260  
That's it.

1862  
01:22:30,260 --> 01:22:35,330  
So when we got there, there  
were actually other Jews

1863  
01:22:35,330 --> 01:22:37,530  
that were being hidden there.

1864  
01:22:37,530 --> 01:22:40,940  
And we later found out  
that these people--

1865  
01:22:40,940 --> 01:22:44,480  
that's Nusha Sternschuss,  
and her son Fred,

1866  
01:22:44,480 --> 01:22:47,510  
who was like seven  
years older than I was--

1867  
01:22:47,510 --> 01:22:49,920  
were actually the ones  
that suggested to Hela

1868  
01:22:49,920 --> 01:22:51,987  
that she come and get us.

1869  
01:22:51,987 --> 01:22:53,270  
Ah.

1870  
01:22:53,270 --> 01:22:55,522  
But we did not know  
that at that time.

1871  
01:22:55,522 --> 01:23:03,110  
And in that house besides  
Nusha and Fred, [? Rytele, ?]

1872  
01:23:03,110 --> 01:23:09,730  
whose husband was a member  
of the Polish police.

1873  
01:23:09,730 --> 01:23:14,650  
And he was the head of  
the police in Zolochiv.

1874  
01:23:14,650 --> 01:23:18,160  
But there was also  
some suspicion

1875  
01:23:18,160 --> 01:23:21,080  
that he cooperated  
with the Ukrainians.

1876  
01:23:21,080 --> 01:23:25,540  
Anyway, he had to flee for  
his life from somebody.

1877  
01:23:25,540 --> 01:23:28,720  
So it was Hela, and there  
were two more people.

1878  
01:23:28,720 --> 01:23:32,380  
There was a stableman  
called [? Jashch. ?]

1879  
01:23:32,380 --> 01:23:36,520  
And there was a friend  
of Hela's called Misha.

1880  
01:23:36,520 --> 01:23:38,090  
[? Jashch ?] was Ukrainian.

1881  
01:23:38,090 --> 01:23:39,670  
Misha was school teacher.

1882  
01:23:39,670 --> 01:23:41,500  
She was Polish.

1883  
01:23:41,500 --> 01:23:43,180  
Very complicated.

1884  
01:23:43,180 --> 01:23:46,960

Misha and [? Jashch ?]  
were lovers at some point.

1885  
01:23:46,960 --> 01:23:49,630  
But also apparently,  
[? Jashch ?] and Hela

1886  
01:23:49,630 --> 01:23:50,830  
were lovers at some point.

1887  
01:23:50,830 --> 01:23:51,430  
[LAUGHS]

1888  
01:23:51,430 --> 01:23:54,085  
But I did not know  
that at that time.

1889  
01:23:54,085 --> 01:23:56,090  
This was just-- we  
found out later on.

1890  
01:23:56,090 --> 01:24:00,310

1891  
01:24:00,310 --> 01:24:04,060  
So in the beginning, they  
were very hospitable.

1892  
01:24:04,060 --> 01:24:06,910  
But the way it  
ended up is that we

1893  
01:24:06,910 --> 01:24:11,980  
were in the smaller  
of the three rooms.

1894  
01:24:11,980 --> 01:24:14,150  
Grandma was with us, by the way.

1895  
01:24:14,150 --> 01:24:18,170  
So there were the five of  
us plus Nusha and Fred.

1896

01:24:18,170 --> 01:24:19,630

So there were seven of us.

1897

01:24:19,630 --> 01:24:22,180

And Grandpa at this time,  
was he still in Lvov?

1898

01:24:22,180 --> 01:24:23,010

He's still in Lvov.

1899

01:24:23,010 --> 01:24:23,510

Yes.

1900

01:24:23,510 --> 01:24:24,340

He's still in Lvov.

1901

01:24:24,340 --> 01:24:27,220

He never comes to  
us, unfortunately.

1902

01:24:27,220 --> 01:24:29,020

He was still in Lvov.

1903

01:24:29,020 --> 01:24:34,150

So the issue was  
how to protect us.

1904

01:24:34,150 --> 01:24:36,820

Nobody was supposed  
to know we were there.

1905

01:24:36,820 --> 01:24:42,180

So Fred and  
[? Jashch ?] and Father

1906

01:24:42,180 --> 01:24:49,410

dug out a dugout  
underneath the house.

1907

01:24:49,410 --> 01:24:51,990

And I'm claustrophobic  
to this day,

1908  
01:24:51,990 --> 01:24:55,780  
and I think that's  
probably from that time.

1909  
01:24:55,780 --> 01:25:01,570  
So this was a space  
about 3 feet by 3 feet.

1910  
01:25:01,570 --> 01:25:05,250  
And they put branches  
on the inside of it.

1911  
01:25:05,250 --> 01:25:08,790  
And all of us would go  
in there one at a time

1912  
01:25:08,790 --> 01:25:12,570  
and stay there if any  
strangers came into the house.

1913  
01:25:12,570 --> 01:25:15,570  
And since I was the  
smallest, I was always

1914  
01:25:15,570 --> 01:25:19,050  
at the far end, which  
could be my claustrophobia.

1915  
01:25:19,050 --> 01:25:23,160  
And we would have to stay there  
sometimes for hours, sometimes

1916  
01:25:23,160 --> 01:25:30,680  
for days if there were any  
strangers around the house.

1917  
01:25:30,680 --> 01:25:35,210  
And if there were strangers  
come to the house,

1918  
01:25:35,210 --> 01:25:38,840  
the signal was this

woman Misha would start

1919

01:25:38,840 --> 01:25:44,760  
singing a song called [POLISH].

1920

01:25:44,760 --> 01:25:46,380  
I still know the melody of that.

1921

01:25:46,380 --> 01:25:49,380  
If you heard that song,  
that's when you had

1922

01:25:49,380 --> 01:25:52,320  
to crawl into the hiding place.

1923

01:25:52,320 --> 01:25:53,460  
And what is it--

1924

01:25:53,460 --> 01:25:56,370  
what's the translation  
of the name of the song?

1925

01:25:56,370 --> 01:25:58,080  
"Holiday Songs."

1926

01:25:58,080 --> 01:25:59,200  
"Holiday Songs."

1927

01:25:59,200 --> 01:25:59,700  
Right.

1928

01:25:59,700 --> 01:26:00,630  
No, I'm sorry.

1929

01:26:00,630 --> 01:26:01,800  
"Holiday Bells."

1930

01:26:01,800 --> 01:26:02,740  
"Holiday Bells."

1931

01:26:02,740 --> 01:26:03,240



Yes.

1932

01:26:03,240 --> 01:26:03,740

OK.

1933

01:26:03,740 --> 01:26:06,450

1934

01:26:06,450 --> 01:26:10,170

But when there  
was nobody around,

1935

01:26:10,170 --> 01:26:13,230

we were able to be in that room.

1936

01:26:13,230 --> 01:26:18,210

And there was a  
stove in that room.

1937

01:26:18,210 --> 01:26:21,990

Outside of that,  
there was this porch.

1938

01:26:21,990 --> 01:26:26,340

And there was a large  
wardrobe on the porch.

1939

01:26:26,340 --> 01:26:28,400

You know The Lion, the  
Witch, and the Wardrobe?

1940

01:26:28,400 --> 01:26:30,750

It was a wardrobe like that.

1941

01:26:30,750 --> 01:26:33,000

The bottom of it came out.

1942

01:26:33,000 --> 01:26:37,890

And through that, you got  
into this underground tunnel--

1943

01:26:37,890 --> 01:26:38,610

Oh my goodness.

1944

01:26:38,610 --> 01:26:40,050  
--where we were hiding in.

1945

01:26:40,050 --> 01:26:41,740  
Right.

1946

01:26:41,740 --> 01:26:43,280  
Oh my goodness.

1947

01:26:43,280 --> 01:26:45,700  
I mean, it's beyond unreal.

1948

01:26:45,700 --> 01:26:49,660  
When you look at that and when  
you think that my parents were

1949

01:26:49,660 --> 01:26:52,030  
in their 30s when they  
planned all of that,

1950

01:26:52,030 --> 01:26:55,700  
it's beyond belief.

1951

01:26:55,700 --> 01:27:00,460  
And when there was  
nobody around the house,

1952

01:27:00,460 --> 01:27:03,100  
we were able to be in that room.

1953

01:27:03,100 --> 01:27:09,000  
And what I remember  
is actually Fred.

1954

01:27:09,000 --> 01:27:11,575  
He probably say our  
parents' sanity.

1955

01:27:11,575 --> 01:27:13,670  
But they played a

lot of games with us.

1956

01:27:13,670 --> 01:27:15,480

There was a lot of lessons.

1957

01:27:15,480 --> 01:27:18,750

We played-- when you  
have one long word

1958

01:27:18,750 --> 01:27:22,040

and you can do  
many words with it.

1959

01:27:22,040 --> 01:27:23,855

And they made a deck of cards.

1960

01:27:23,855 --> 01:27:26,080

So they played cards.

1961

01:27:26,080 --> 01:27:31,180

And as the children were  
being home schooled,

1962

01:27:31,180 --> 01:27:33,430

I guess you call it these days--

1963

01:27:33,430 --> 01:27:34,770

because we did reading.

1964

01:27:34,770 --> 01:27:35,500

We did writing.

1965

01:27:35,500 --> 01:27:36,700

We did arithmetic.

1966

01:27:36,700 --> 01:27:38,440

We did all of that.

1967

01:27:38,440 --> 01:27:43,780

The adults were very,  
very involved with us.

1968

01:27:43,780 --> 01:27:47,410

So were you able to go--

1969

01:27:47,410 --> 01:27:52,030

that is, feel safe to go  
to other rooms in the house

1970

01:27:52,030 --> 01:27:53,770

even when there's nobody around?

1971

01:27:53,770 --> 01:27:55,720

Into the kitchen, definitely.

1972

01:27:55,720 --> 01:27:58,780

We would tend-- maybe  
go to the middle room.

1973

01:27:58,780 --> 01:28:00,820

We never went outside.

1974

01:28:00,820 --> 01:28:02,900

Never went outside the house.

1975

01:28:02,900 --> 01:28:03,610

OK.

1976

01:28:03,610 --> 01:28:07,270

And we had to stay inside so  
nobody would see us, right.

1977

01:28:07,270 --> 01:28:10,630

Now that wardrobe, you  
say it was on the porch?

1978

01:28:10,630 --> 01:28:15,130

Yes, but it was like  
a sheltered porch.

1979

01:28:15,130 --> 01:28:19,070

It was a wooden porch.

1980

01:28:19,070 --> 01:28:20,200  
It wasn't outside.

1981  
01:28:20,200 --> 01:28:21,310  
It wasn't outside, no.

1982  
01:28:21,310 --> 01:28:23,970  
It was an inside porch.

1983  
01:28:23,970 --> 01:28:28,320  
So if the song starts to be--  
if you start hearing the song,

1984  
01:28:28,320 --> 01:28:30,390  
someone outside  
the house would not

1985  
01:28:30,390 --> 01:28:32,360  
see you opening the wardrobe.

1986  
01:28:32,360 --> 01:28:34,510  
No, no, no, no, no.

1987  
01:28:34,510 --> 01:28:36,110  
This was-- yes.

1988  
01:28:36,110 --> 01:28:36,610  
OK.

1989  
01:28:36,610 --> 01:28:37,710  
No one would know.

1990  
01:28:37,710 --> 01:28:39,120  
Right.

1991  
01:28:39,120 --> 01:28:40,040  
And--

1992  
01:28:40,040 --> 01:28:41,690  
It is "Vechirni Dzvony."

1993

01:28:41,690 --> 01:28:44,060  
I think "Evening Bells"  
was the name of the song.

1994  
01:28:44,060 --> 01:28:46,050  
OK.

1995  
01:28:46,050 --> 01:28:49,830  
And the house itself, was it  
isolated from other dwellings?

1996  
01:28:49,830 --> 01:28:52,020  
It was on a farm, yes.

1997  
01:28:52,020 --> 01:28:56,370  
And were there other buildings  
on the farm, like a barn?

1998  
01:28:56,370 --> 01:28:57,480  
Yes.

1999  
01:28:57,480 --> 01:29:00,720  
And we spent some  
time in the barn also.

2000  
01:29:00,720 --> 01:29:06,000  
Because at some point, the  
people who were hiding us

2001  
01:29:06,000 --> 01:29:09,620  
got very nervous about  
us being in the house.

2002  
01:29:09,620 --> 01:29:12,870  
SO there was a cellar  
under the barn.

2003  
01:29:12,870 --> 01:29:17,280  
And we went in there  
for about three months.

2004  
01:29:17,280 --> 01:29:18,060  
Oh my goodness.

2005

01:29:18,060 --> 01:29:20,160

And that was very dangerous.

2006

01:29:20,160 --> 01:29:24,240

Because once you were  
in there, you could not

2007

01:29:24,240 --> 01:29:26,740

open it from the inside.

2008

01:29:26,740 --> 01:29:29,830

So the only way you could  
open it from the outside,

2009

01:29:29,830 --> 01:29:33,580

if somebody came and opened it.

2010

01:29:33,580 --> 01:29:37,630

And we were there for three  
months during the summer.

2011

01:29:37,630 --> 01:29:42,820

And then Father and  
Mother negotiated that it

2012

01:29:42,820 --> 01:29:44,920

was getting cold in the barn.

2013

01:29:44,920 --> 01:29:46,990

We cannot really stay there.

2014

01:29:46,990 --> 01:29:50,800

So they let us back  
into the main house.

2015

01:29:50,800 --> 01:29:55,660

And that is Hela and the  
other two people, the--

2016

01:29:55,660 --> 01:29:57,190

[? Jashch ?] and Misha, right.

2017  
01:29:57,190 --> 01:29:58,180  
OK.

2018  
01:29:58,180 --> 01:29:58,960  
OK.

2019  
01:29:58,960 --> 01:30:02,530  
But this is-- I  
mean, it gets more--

2020  
01:30:02,530 --> 01:30:06,850  
you wouldn't believe  
what really went on.

2021  
01:30:06,850 --> 01:30:10,600  
Later, we picked  
up two more people.

2022  
01:30:10,600 --> 01:30:12,760  
Just you had asked  
about the farm.

2023  
01:30:12,760 --> 01:30:15,600  
I think one of the reasons  
we were able to survive

2024  
01:30:15,600 --> 01:30:19,480  
was there was a farm, and you  
could grow vegetables on it.

2025  
01:30:19,480 --> 01:30:22,750  
So you could get food.

2026  
01:30:22,750 --> 01:30:25,780  
But even though there were  
large quantities of food,

2027  
01:30:25,780 --> 01:30:32,750  
we're pretty sure that some  
neighbors knew about us

2028



01:30:32,750 --> 01:30:35,320  
because they could see--

2029  
01:30:35,320 --> 01:30:37,300  
they could have a  
feeling about it.

2030  
01:30:37,300 --> 01:30:40,830  
There was actually one woman  
who really knew about us,

2031  
01:30:40,830 --> 01:30:43,500  
that we were hiding there.

2032  
01:30:43,500 --> 01:30:49,580  
And then there was  
another Jewish woman who

2033  
01:30:49,580 --> 01:30:52,670  
knew Mother and who knew Nusha.

2034  
01:30:52,670 --> 01:30:54,620  
And she had a  
little girl a older

2035  
01:30:54,620 --> 01:31:00,410  
than we were who had been  
hidden by a Christian woman.

2036  
01:31:00,410 --> 01:31:03,920  
And she converted,  
the little girl.

2037  
01:31:03,920 --> 01:31:07,520  
And she kept not  
wanting to be Jewish.

2038  
01:31:07,520 --> 01:31:10,430  
She was very troublesome.

2039  
01:31:10,430 --> 01:31:16,220  
And I remember that Edith and  
Nusha and I had these talks

2040  
01:31:16,220 --> 01:31:22,813  
that women, girls could  
pass, but boys can't.

2041  
01:31:22,813 --> 01:31:24,230  
And of course, we  
didn't know what

2042  
01:31:24,230 --> 01:31:26,930  
circumcision was, what it was.

2043  
01:31:26,930 --> 01:31:30,620  
So we tried to figure  
out what it was--

2044  
01:31:30,620 --> 01:31:32,600  
Why girls could pass  
but boys couldn't.

2045  
01:31:32,600 --> 01:31:34,224  
But boys couldn't, right.

2046  
01:31:34,224 --> 01:31:36,070  
And we couldn't  
really figure it out

2047  
01:31:36,070 --> 01:31:37,620  
till we were much older, right.

2048  
01:31:37,620 --> 01:31:38,120  
Yeah.

2049  
01:31:38,120 --> 01:31:41,570

2050  
01:31:41,570 --> 01:31:47,360  
So it sounds like there was  
a bit of comings and goings

2051  
01:31:47,360 --> 01:31:48,590  
on this place.

2052  
01:31:48,590 --> 01:31:50,900  
Yes, there were these  
two extra women.

2053  
01:31:50,900 --> 01:31:54,220  
And later, there  
was another woman.

2054  
01:31:54,220 --> 01:31:55,220  
There was another woman.

2055  
01:31:55,220 --> 01:31:59,170  
There was another  
group in the barn.

2056  
01:31:59,170 --> 01:32:03,350  
So Hela saved 15  
people altogether.

2057  
01:32:03,350 --> 01:32:04,670  
That's pretty amazing.

2058  
01:32:04,670 --> 01:32:08,340  
It's absolutely beyond amazing.

2059  
01:32:08,340 --> 01:32:15,410  
It gets really more amazing  
as you continue the story.

2060  
01:32:15,410 --> 01:32:19,890  
And I remember some incidents.

2061  
01:32:19,890 --> 01:32:24,020  
When Sandjesh, who's a  
Ukrainian man, just said,

2062  
01:32:24,020 --> 01:32:25,017  
I have enough of this.

2063  
01:32:25,017 --> 01:32:26,600  
I don't want to hide

the Jews anymore.

2064

01:32:26,600 --> 01:32:30,230

We have to-- and I  
remember that scene.

2065

01:32:30,230 --> 01:32:33,300

He ran out of the house,  
and Father ran after him.

2066

01:32:33,300 --> 01:32:36,760

And we were all kind  
of terrified about it.

2067

01:32:36,760 --> 01:32:40,800

So there were these flashes  
of things happening.

2068

01:32:40,800 --> 01:32:45,460

Well, I can imagine that the  
pressure and the nerves--

2069

01:32:45,460 --> 01:32:46,610

Oh, yes.

2070

01:32:46,610 --> 01:32:48,450

--the nerves being frayed.

2071

01:32:48,450 --> 01:32:48,950

Yes.

2072

01:32:48,950 --> 01:32:58,130

And people in close  
quarters under fear.

2073

01:32:58,130 --> 01:33:01,656

It doesn't bring out  
the best in folks.

2074

01:33:01,656 --> 01:33:05,900

Of course, we were younger,  
and we were sheltered from it.

2075

01:33:05,900 --> 01:33:10,710

But if you read Fred's book,  
who was 15 at this point,

2076

01:33:10,710 --> 01:33:16,140

and his father was  
killed, he saw his father

2077

01:33:16,140 --> 01:33:19,650

die before he went into hiding.

2078

01:33:19,650 --> 01:33:23,270

You could see that he was--

2079

01:33:23,270 --> 01:33:26,450

it was very difficult for him.

2080

01:33:26,450 --> 01:33:29,640

But our parents  
sheltered us from a lot.

2081

01:33:29,640 --> 01:33:34,665

And he became a very well known  
writer and television producer

2082

01:33:34,665 --> 01:33:35,880

in Israel.

2083

01:33:35,880 --> 01:33:38,420

But he could see  
the end of his life.

2084

01:33:38,420 --> 01:33:41,170

2085

01:33:41,170 --> 01:33:45,320

Did this leave a mark on you?

2086

01:33:45,320 --> 01:33:49,880

Well, probably less--  
there were six of us

2087

01:33:49,880 --> 01:33:51,710  
children who survived the war.

2088

01:33:51,710 --> 01:33:54,290  
You know the statistics, right?

2089

01:33:54,290 --> 01:33:58,780  
15,000 Jews started in Zolochiv.

2090

01:33:58,780 --> 01:34:00,970  
70 survived.

2091

01:34:00,970 --> 01:34:03,260  
And they were among us--

2092

01:34:03,260 --> 01:34:05,450  
the six children among them.

2093

01:34:05,450 --> 01:34:09,470  
So the odds were  
quite something.

2094

01:34:09,470 --> 01:34:12,260  
Edith probably also told  
you that one of the six

2095

01:34:12,260 --> 01:34:13,880  
won the Nobel Prize.

2096

01:34:13,880 --> 01:34:14,930  
No, she didn't.

2097

01:34:14,930 --> 01:34:18,740  
Yes, Nobel Prize in  
chemistry in 1981.

2098

01:34:18,740 --> 01:34:19,930  
What was that person's name?

2099

01:34:19,930 --> 01:34:22,020  
Roald Hoffmann.

2100  
01:34:22,020 --> 01:34:22,530  
Roald?

2101  
01:34:22,530 --> 01:34:23,760  
Roald Hoffmann.

2102  
01:34:23,760 --> 01:34:24,990  
Roald Hoffmann.

2103  
01:34:24,990 --> 01:34:28,360  
H-O-F-F-M-A-N-N.

2104  
01:34:28,360 --> 01:34:28,860  
OK.

2105  
01:34:28,860 --> 01:34:34,310  
So when you think of what  
was lost in the Holocaust.

2106  
01:34:34,310 --> 01:34:38,850  
But we were-- we were  
not the only ones who

2107  
01:34:38,850 --> 01:34:41,310  
survived with two parents.

2108  
01:34:41,310 --> 01:34:46,860  
But I think our parents were  
unusually solid and protective.

2109  
01:34:46,860 --> 01:34:53,770  
So I think both Edith and  
I came out much better

2110  
01:34:53,770 --> 01:34:55,350  
than some of the other children.

2111  
01:34:55,350 --> 01:34:58,230

2112

01:34:58,230 --> 01:35:01,010  
Like Sue Gold when  
we were hiding

2113  
01:35:01,010 --> 01:35:04,350  
and we were talking about  
splitting families up.

2114  
01:35:04,350 --> 01:35:08,750  
She had a little brother who  
was a year younger than I was.

2115  
01:35:08,750 --> 01:35:10,840  
And he cried a lot.

2116  
01:35:10,840 --> 01:35:16,410  
So when time came to  
hide in the actions,

2117  
01:35:16,410 --> 01:35:21,150  
his grandmother took the little  
boy into one hiding spot.

2118  
01:35:21,150 --> 01:35:25,390  
And Sue and her parents went  
into another hiding spot.

2119  
01:35:25,390 --> 01:35:30,560  
And they discovered the little  
boy and the grandmother,

2120  
01:35:30,560 --> 01:35:33,080  
who didn't survive.

2121  
01:35:33,080 --> 01:35:40,980  
So Sue, of course, was  
very much affected by that.

2122  
01:35:40,980 --> 01:35:45,250  
Edith and I both made it.

2123  
01:35:45,250 --> 01:35:49,000  
And I give her a lot



of credit because she

2124  
01:35:49,000 --> 01:35:52,120  
wouldn't stay given away.

2125  
01:35:52,120 --> 01:35:53,800  
She came back no matter what.

2126  
01:35:53,800 --> 01:35:54,580  
Yeah.

2127  
01:35:54,580 --> 01:35:57,210  
She came back when  
the time was right.

2128  
01:35:57,210 --> 01:36:00,310  
Now it's just to tell you  
how incredible this story

2129  
01:36:00,310 --> 01:36:06,610  
is, when we were  
in hiding, one day,

2130  
01:36:06,610 --> 01:36:14,370  
a whole group of SS troopers  
came in front of the house.

2131  
01:36:14,370 --> 01:36:19,455  
And they essentially  
commandeered the house

2132  
01:36:19,455 --> 01:36:20,850  
for themselves.

2133  
01:36:20,850 --> 01:36:24,750  
Of course, we all went  
into the hiding nook.

2134  
01:36:24,750 --> 01:36:29,940  
But Hela gave them  
this main room.

2135

01:36:29,940 --> 01:36:34,440  
At that time, it was the end  
of '43, beginning of '44.

2136  
01:36:34,440 --> 01:36:36,150  
So it's winter.

2137  
01:36:36,150 --> 01:36:38,130  
But they were very  
paranoid, the SS,

2138  
01:36:38,130 --> 01:36:41,640  
because there was a lot of  
partisan activities hunting

2139  
01:36:41,640 --> 01:36:43,410  
them for a change.

2140  
01:36:43,410 --> 01:36:48,390  
So they were outside a lot.

2141  
01:36:48,390 --> 01:36:51,590  
And they had the kitchen.

2142  
01:36:51,590 --> 01:36:53,190  
And they gave a  
lot of their food

2143  
01:36:53,190 --> 01:36:56,670  
to Hela, who give  
the food to us.

2144  
01:36:56,670 --> 01:37:00,990  
And the fact that there  
were SS around the house

2145  
01:37:00,990 --> 01:37:06,390  
protected the house from  
Ukrainian and Polish roaming

2146  
01:37:06,390 --> 01:37:07,530  
bands.

2147

01:37:07,530 --> 01:37:12,330

So we actually had protection  
with the SS people right there.

2148

01:37:12,330 --> 01:37:16,620

And this happened like a  
couple of different times.

2149

01:37:16,620 --> 01:37:18,270

Was the house ever--

2150

01:37:18,270 --> 01:37:22,170

I mean, did such bands ever  
really attack the house

2151

01:37:22,170 --> 01:37:23,250

or come to the house?

2152

01:37:23,250 --> 01:37:23,750

No.

2153

01:37:23,750 --> 01:37:24,890

No.

2154

01:37:24,890 --> 01:37:33,030

But our keepers sometimes  
did not feel comfortable

2155

01:37:33,030 --> 01:37:36,310

staying in the house at night.

2156

01:37:36,310 --> 01:37:41,970

So they would leave and  
just leave us there.

2157

01:37:41,970 --> 01:37:46,380

And there was one occasion  
when a group, a German group--

2158

01:37:46,380 --> 01:37:49,590

whether it was SS or  
Wehrmacht, I don't remember--

2159  
01:37:49,590 --> 01:37:52,540  
came into the--  
came in the front.

2160  
01:37:52,540 --> 01:37:56,100  
They started  
knocking on the door.

2161  
01:37:56,100 --> 01:37:58,690  
What us hidden Jews--

2162  
01:37:58,690 --> 01:38:01,640  
this is again from what  
I hear from my parents--

2163  
01:38:01,640 --> 01:38:07,410  
were afraid of if the house was  
empty, they would come inside,

2164  
01:38:07,410 --> 01:38:10,290  
and they would search,  
and they'll find us.

2165  
01:38:10,290 --> 01:38:12,960  
So Mother and Nusha--

2166  
01:38:12,960 --> 01:38:15,570  
everybody else went  
into the hiding place.

2167  
01:38:15,570 --> 01:38:19,800  
And Mother and Nusha went  
out and greeted the Germans

2168  
01:38:19,800 --> 01:38:22,480  
at the door.

2169  
01:38:22,480 --> 01:38:27,240  
Nusha spoke excellent  
German, even though she

2170

01:38:27,240 --> 01:38:30,000  
was warned not to talk Polish.

2171  
01:38:30,000 --> 01:38:33,210  
But she kind of  
panicked, and she forgot.

2172  
01:38:33,210 --> 01:38:38,380  
So they pretended that they  
were Polish ladies of the house.

2173  
01:38:38,380 --> 01:38:42,480  
So the SS guy said, how come  
you speak excellent German?

2174  
01:38:42,480 --> 01:38:44,910  
And she said, well, I was  
really working in Germany

2175  
01:38:44,910 --> 01:38:49,650  
during the war, but I came  
back to marry a Polish guy.

2176  
01:38:49,650 --> 01:38:53,520  
And the Germans couldn't  
have been more of gentlemen.

2177  
01:38:53,520 --> 01:38:58,050  
They came back with a  
box of candy and whatever

2178  
01:38:58,050 --> 01:39:01,170  
for Mother and Nusha.

2179  
01:39:01,170 --> 01:39:07,210  
And then they went  
out to do something.

2180  
01:39:07,210 --> 01:39:10,570  
And then Nusha  
panicked because she

2181  
01:39:10,570 --> 01:39:13,940

realized she spoke  
this excellent German,

2182  
01:39:13,940 --> 01:39:15,480  
and she shouldn't have.

2183  
01:39:15,480 --> 01:39:20,080  
So she went back into the  
hiding place, just left Mother--

2184  
01:39:20,080 --> 01:39:20,620  
Alone.

2185  
01:39:20,620 --> 01:39:21,120  
--alone.

2186  
01:39:21,120 --> 01:39:23,720  
And Mother did a very good job.

2187  
01:39:23,720 --> 01:39:26,200  
She was social, as  
I mentioned before.

2188  
01:39:26,200 --> 01:39:32,580  
She had good cold blood,  
and carried it off.

2189  
01:39:32,580 --> 01:39:37,410  
And then the Germans left.

2190  
01:39:37,410 --> 01:39:39,360  
So when our keepers--

2191  
01:39:39,360 --> 01:39:41,880  
but they said they'll  
be back the next day.

2192  
01:39:41,880 --> 01:39:45,200  
So when our keepers came home,  
they asked what happened,

2193  
01:39:45,200 --> 01:39:47,060

and they were told.

2194  
01:39:47,060 --> 01:39:48,840  
When the Germans  
came back, they said

2195  
01:39:48,840 --> 01:39:55,050  
who are those two lovely  
ladies that come out last time?

2196  
01:39:55,050 --> 01:39:58,980  
And Hela said, oh, they're our  
relatives from another city.

2197  
01:39:58,980 --> 01:40:01,140  
They went back home.

2198  
01:40:01,140 --> 01:40:07,260  
So these were the things  
that tested people's nerves.

2199  
01:40:07,260 --> 01:40:10,400  
And I'm just mentioning  
one or two occasions.

2200  
01:40:10,400 --> 01:40:16,660  
But there was a lot  
of very bloody--

2201  
01:40:16,660 --> 01:40:20,790  
and it was all blind  
/ I mean, how did--

2202  
01:40:20,790 --> 01:40:22,820  
Did people argue  
with each other?

2203  
01:40:22,820 --> 01:40:24,800  
Oh, yes.

2204  
01:40:24,800 --> 01:40:26,280  
Yes.

2205

01:40:26,280 --> 01:40:26,930

Yes.

2206

01:40:26,930 --> 01:40:31,010

As I said, a lot of  
people in a small area.

2207

01:40:31,010 --> 01:40:39,200

And this lady, Eva  
and [? Wusha. ?]

2208

01:40:39,200 --> 01:40:40,940

there was not good  
chemistry there.

2209

01:40:40,940 --> 01:40:41,990

So there were arguments.

2210

01:40:41,990 --> 01:40:45,230

You mean Eva and  
[? Wusha ?] were the mother

2211

01:40:45,230 --> 01:40:46,505

with the child who converted?

2212

01:40:46,505 --> 01:40:48,380

Right, was older then-- no, no.

2213

01:40:48,380 --> 01:40:51,460

Eva and [? Wusha ?] was the  
woman with the little girl

2214

01:40:51,460 --> 01:40:52,890

who converted to Christianity.

2215

01:40:52,890 --> 01:40:55,580

Right.

2216

01:40:55,580 --> 01:40:57,590

By the way, I'm just  
backtracking for a minute.



2217

01:40:57,590 --> 01:41:01,040

If you think how all these  
people slept in one room,

2218

01:41:01,040 --> 01:41:02,960

there was one bed there.

2219

01:41:02,960 --> 01:41:05,540

And Grandmother  
and I had the bed.

2220

01:41:05,540 --> 01:41:08,420

Everybody else had  
pallets on the floor.

2221

01:41:08,420 --> 01:41:09,065

Oh my goodness.

2222

01:41:09,065 --> 01:41:11,440

And they cleaned up afterwards.

2223

01:41:11,440 --> 01:41:15,500

And it was a four poster bed.

2224

01:41:15,500 --> 01:41:17,735

Memories are coming up  
as I'm talking to you.

2225

01:41:17,735 --> 01:41:18,235

Yeah, yeah.

2226

01:41:18,235 --> 01:41:19,040

Mm-hmm.

2227

01:41:19,040 --> 01:41:24,870

And I had nightmares that there  
were devils dancing on the four

2228

01:41:24,870 --> 01:41:29,630

poster areas of the bed, right.

2229

01:41:29,630 --> 01:41:35,900  
Well, no matter how much there  
is an attempt to protect you,

2230  
01:41:35,900 --> 01:41:37,293  
something comes through.

2231  
01:41:37,293 --> 01:41:38,960  
Yeah, there were  
periods we were scared.

2232  
01:41:38,960 --> 01:41:41,900  
No question, especially  
when we were in the tunnel.

2233  
01:41:41,900 --> 01:41:42,890  
Yeah.

2234  
01:41:42,890 --> 01:41:45,100  
And, yeah.

2235  
01:41:45,100 --> 01:41:50,720  
But again, Edith  
was a year older.

2236  
01:41:50,720 --> 01:41:55,010  
She had some good memories  
from before the war.

2237  
01:41:55,010 --> 01:41:56,990  
I didn't.

2238  
01:41:56,990 --> 01:42:03,800  
I didn't know any different,  
being scared and having

2239  
01:42:03,800 --> 01:42:04,670  
to hide.

2240  
01:42:04,670 --> 01:42:05,960  
And--

2241

01:42:05,960 --> 01:42:07,080  
That was normal for you.

2242  
01:42:07,080 --> 01:42:09,330  
That was normal, yeah.

2243  
01:42:09,330 --> 01:42:12,770  
Anyway, how we try and figure  
this out, it was normal.

2244  
01:42:12,770 --> 01:42:14,950  
And that's why I was very--

2245  
01:42:14,950 --> 01:42:18,290  
Edith wanted to go back  
after the war, which we did.

2246  
01:42:18,290 --> 01:42:21,180  
I was very apprehensive  
because I had no good memories.

2247  
01:42:21,180 --> 01:42:21,680  
But she did.

2248  
01:42:21,680 --> 01:42:23,570  
Edith wanted to do what?

2249  
01:42:23,570 --> 01:42:26,030  
Go back to Poland afterwards.

2250  
01:42:26,030 --> 01:42:26,630  
I didn't.

2251  
01:42:26,630 --> 01:42:28,080  
But I went, and I'm glad.

2252  
01:42:28,080 --> 01:42:28,660  
Yeah?

2253  
01:42:28,660 --> 01:42:30,080  
Yeah.

2254

01:42:30,080 --> 01:42:31,470

When did you go?

2255

01:42:31,470 --> 01:42:33,380

We went back in 1990.

2256

01:42:33,380 --> 01:42:34,790

So decades later.

2257

01:42:34,790 --> 01:42:35,330

Oh, yeah.

2258

01:42:35,330 --> 01:42:39,410

Well, the area we were  
in become part of Russia.

2259

01:42:39,410 --> 01:42:43,030

And they did not allow  
foreigners in that area

2260

01:42:43,030 --> 01:42:47,630

until Gorbachev and  
Glasnost Then we could come.

2261

01:42:47,630 --> 01:42:51,140

Yeah, and then you could visit.

2262

01:42:51,140 --> 01:42:52,260

Well, I'm jumping ahead.

2263

01:42:52,260 --> 01:42:56,150

But tell me, why are you  
glad that you went back

2264

01:42:56,150 --> 01:42:56,720

when you did?

2265

01:42:56,720 --> 01:43:01,590

2266

01:43:01,590 --> 01:43:08,170

This involves a little bit of thought to answer that one.

2267  
01:43:08,170 --> 01:43:12,820  
I guess I saw the house where I was born.

2268  
01:43:12,820 --> 01:43:13,890  
I saw the attic.

2269  
01:43:13,890 --> 01:43:16,512  
I saw where we were hiding.

2270  
01:43:16,512 --> 01:43:18,970  
And I remembered that there were good people that saved us,

2271  
01:43:18,970 --> 01:43:20,710  
I think.

2272  
01:43:20,710 --> 01:43:23,750  
But the city was Russian.

2273  
01:43:23,750 --> 01:43:25,900  
All the signs were Russian.

2274  
01:43:25,900 --> 01:43:28,510  
The street names were Russian.

2275  
01:43:28,510 --> 01:43:30,740  
It was not home anymore.

2276  
01:43:30,740 --> 01:43:35,310  
There was no feeling of going back to any roots.

2277  
01:43:35,310 --> 01:43:37,330  
We asked about Jews in town, and they

2278  
01:43:37,330 --> 01:43:40,550  
said there was one Jewish

man left, an old man.

2279

01:43:40,550 --> 01:43:44,750

But he left a little  
while before we left.

2280

01:43:44,750 --> 01:43:47,620

And there was like  
nothing to go back to.

2281

01:43:47,620 --> 01:43:55,930

But we did run into a woman  
that remembered Father.

2282

01:43:55,930 --> 01:43:56,980

That's something.

2283

01:43:56,980 --> 01:43:58,750

Yes.

2284

01:43:58,750 --> 01:44:02,920

And I was wondering  
how she would--

2285

01:44:02,920 --> 01:44:05,460

she said a couple of  
interesting things.

2286

01:44:05,460 --> 01:44:07,930

One of them, she went through  
the Russian occupation,

2287

01:44:07,930 --> 01:44:09,580

the German occupation.

2288

01:44:09,580 --> 01:44:13,180

And she really remembered  
him as a wonderful man

2289

01:44:13,180 --> 01:44:16,060

and a grand old time.

2290

01:44:16,060 --> 01:44:21,090  
And then she whispered  
to me, they're

2291  
01:44:21,090 --> 01:44:23,440  
going to kill all of us.

2292  
01:44:23,440 --> 01:44:26,690  
And I said, who's  
going to kill whom?

2293  
01:44:26,690 --> 01:44:31,480  
And she said, the Ukrainians  
are going to kill all the Poles,

2294  
01:44:31,480 --> 01:44:37,480  
because that part of Poland  
was given to Ukraine.

2295  
01:44:37,480 --> 01:44:41,350  
And a part of Germany was  
given back to the Poles.

2296  
01:44:41,350 --> 01:44:44,930  
And a lot of Poles  
left at that time.

2297  
01:44:44,930 --> 01:44:48,580  
So we're talking of  
post-war borders.

2298  
01:44:48,580 --> 01:44:53,140  
So the fate of this part  
of the world didn't change.

2299  
01:44:53,140 --> 01:44:56,980  
It still was transferred  
to somebody else.

2300  
01:44:56,980 --> 01:45:01,690  
And Poland then had her  
borders go further west.

2301

01:45:01,690 --> 01:45:02,200  
Correct.

2302  
01:45:02,200 --> 01:45:03,520  
She lost in the east.

2303  
01:45:03,520 --> 01:45:04,800  
She goes further in the west

2304  
01:45:04,800 --> 01:45:05,380  
Right.

2305  
01:45:05,380 --> 01:45:05,880  
OK.

2306  
01:45:05,880 --> 01:45:06,730  
Right.

2307  
01:45:06,730 --> 01:45:10,600  
And when we went also  
to the western part,

2308  
01:45:10,600 --> 01:45:14,530  
and there were lots  
of Poles there also.

2309  
01:45:14,530 --> 01:45:17,710  
But they said it's not going to  
last long because the Germans

2310  
01:45:17,710 --> 01:45:19,440  
are going to come back.

2311  
01:45:19,440 --> 01:45:21,060  
And they're not  
going to conquer us.

2312  
01:45:21,060 --> 01:45:23,900  
They're going to buy us.

2313  
01:45:23,900 --> 01:45:27,010  
And there were a lot of



## German factories and things

2314

01:45:27,010 --> 01:45:28,930

like that over there, yes.

2315

01:45:28,930 --> 01:45:33,250

Well, it's also said between

East and West Germany

2316

01:45:33,250 --> 01:45:37,450

that it's not so much that East

and West Germany united as West

2317

01:45:37,450 --> 01:45:40,120

Germany bought East Germany.

2318

01:45:40,120 --> 01:45:42,290

People talk about that.

2319

01:45:42,290 --> 01:45:43,950

They wanted it together, right.

2320

01:45:43,950 --> 01:45:44,450

Yeah.

2321

01:45:44,450 --> 01:45:47,550

2322

01:45:47,550 --> 01:45:50,560

But we started with

the question of,

2323

01:45:50,560 --> 01:45:54,100

you were glad that

you went back.

2324

01:45:54,100 --> 01:45:55,690

It gave you something.

2325

01:45:55,690 --> 01:45:56,860

It gave me something, yes.

2326

01:45:56,860 --> 01:45:59,020

And I'm wondering  
how to put into words

2327

01:45:59,020 --> 01:46:00,160

what that something was.

2328

01:46:00,160 --> 01:46:04,360

2329

01:46:04,360 --> 01:46:08,320

Again, great  
disappointment in Zolochiv

2330

01:46:08,320 --> 01:46:11,950

that it became a Russian city.

2331

01:46:11,950 --> 01:46:16,390

But the feeling of seeing  
the house where you were born

2332

01:46:16,390 --> 01:46:20,530

and the park where you used  
to play with, and there

2333

01:46:20,530 --> 01:46:23,810

was some reality to that.

2334

01:46:23,810 --> 01:46:26,380

That's what I really  
wanted to see,

2335

01:46:26,380 --> 01:46:30,690

to walk the streets  
where we used to walk.

2336

01:46:30,690 --> 01:46:38,180

And yes, everybody spoke Polish.

2337

01:46:38,180 --> 01:46:43,280

And I never felt  
that I was Polish.

2338  
01:46:43,280 --> 01:46:45,530  
I felt I was Jewish.

2339  
01:46:45,530 --> 01:46:47,723  
To this day when  
somebody asks me,

2340  
01:46:47,723 --> 01:46:48,890  
oh, you were born in Poland.

2341  
01:46:48,890 --> 01:46:49,940  
Are you Polish?

2342  
01:46:49,940 --> 01:46:52,940  
I always say, well,  
I was born in Poland,

2343  
01:46:52,940 --> 01:46:55,310  
but I'm a Polish Jew.

2344  
01:46:55,310 --> 01:46:57,140  
You do not feel--

2345  
01:46:57,140 --> 01:46:58,640  
like, you can be an American.

2346  
01:46:58,640 --> 01:47:02,450  
You don't say I'm American  
Catholic, Jewish, or Muslim.

2347  
01:47:02,450 --> 01:47:07,355  
But in Poland, you're a  
Catholic or you're the other.

2348  
01:47:07,355 --> 01:47:08,610  
You're strange.

2349  
01:47:08,610 --> 01:47:10,360  
And that was reinforced  
when we went back.

2350

01:47:10,360 --> 01:47:13,260

2351

01:47:13,260 --> 01:47:15,220

There was nothing in  
the Jewish cemetery.

2352

01:47:15,220 --> 01:47:17,690

There was nothing.

2353

01:47:17,690 --> 01:47:22,360

But we went to Kraków in  
the very early days before

2354

01:47:22,360 --> 01:47:24,850

Schindler's List.

2355

01:47:24,850 --> 01:47:27,900

And it was very sad.

2356

01:47:27,900 --> 01:47:31,080

And then when we came back  
after Schindler's List,

2357

01:47:31,080 --> 01:47:36,690

there was a museum, and  
there was so much rebuilding.

2358

01:47:36,690 --> 01:47:40,140

We were back  
actually three times.

2359

01:47:40,140 --> 01:47:40,830

To Poland.

2360

01:47:40,830 --> 01:47:41,940

To Poland.

2361

01:47:41,940 --> 01:47:45,600

And each time, we had  
an anti-Semitic incident

2362

01:47:45,600 --> 01:47:46,800  
that happened

2363

01:47:46,800 --> 01:47:48,333  
Oh, that's so sad.

2364

01:47:48,333 --> 01:47:49,060  
Yes.

2365

01:47:49,060 --> 01:47:51,360  
You see, the thing  
is we speak Polish.

2366

01:47:51,360 --> 01:47:54,850  
So it's easier for us to  
tell what people are saying.

2367

01:47:54,850 --> 01:47:59,280  
And I've had Americans come back  
saying, oh, this is wonderful.

2368

01:47:59,280 --> 01:48:04,780  
And I'm not sure that  
I see what's going on.

2369

01:48:04,780 --> 01:48:07,560  
Having said that,  
in each case, we

2370

01:48:07,560 --> 01:48:11,730  
had a Pole that interceded  
for us, saying we're

2371

01:48:11,730 --> 01:48:14,812  
not all like that.

2372

01:48:14,812 --> 01:48:16,640  
Don't--

2373

01:48:16,640 --> 01:48:18,830  
Don't carry this  
as the only image.

2374  
01:48:18,830 --> 01:48:19,772  
Yes.

2375  
01:48:19,772 --> 01:48:22,610  
OK.

2376  
01:48:22,610 --> 01:48:26,420  
Do you want to relay what some  
of those incidents were or not?

2377  
01:48:26,420 --> 01:48:26,960  
Sure.

2378  
01:48:26,960 --> 01:48:28,127  
Would you like to hear that?

2379  
01:48:28,127 --> 01:48:29,130  
Yeah, yeah.

2380  
01:48:29,130 --> 01:48:32,780  
Well, this was our  
first visit to Poland.

2381  
01:48:32,780 --> 01:48:33,730  
And--

2382  
01:48:33,730 --> 01:48:35,200  
That would have been 1990.

2383  
01:48:35,200 --> 01:48:36,950  
1990, right.

2384  
01:48:36,950 --> 01:48:44,240  
And we were coming  
back on a train from--

2385  
01:48:44,240 --> 01:48:46,130  
it's really pretty complicated.

2386  
01:48:46,130 --> 01:48:50,420

But anyway, at some point, we were on a train from Przemysl.

2387

01:48:50,420 --> 01:48:54,070

I think we were going to Krakow at that point.

2388

01:48:54,070 --> 01:48:57,770

And Polish trains are like European trains.

2389

01:48:57,770 --> 01:48:59,970

So you have the compartments, and there

2390

01:48:59,970 --> 01:49:03,720

are three people sitting in each side of a compartment.

2391

01:49:03,720 --> 01:49:09,590

So I was sitting by the door.

2392

01:49:09,590 --> 01:49:11,510

The next seat was empty.

2393

01:49:11,510 --> 01:49:14,960

And my friend, the one who lost her brother,

2394

01:49:14,960 --> 01:49:16,420

was in the end seat.

2395

01:49:16,420 --> 01:49:17,540

So that's Susan Gold.

2396

01:49:17,540 --> 01:49:19,040

Susan Gold, right.

2397

01:49:19,040 --> 01:49:20,930

And then Edith was across for me,

2398

01:49:20,930 --> 01:49:26,185  
and then Jack was  
on the other side.

2399  
01:49:26,185 --> 01:49:28,185  
And so there were four  
of us in the compartment.

2400  
01:49:28,185 --> 01:49:30,140  
There were two empty seats.

2401  
01:49:30,140 --> 01:49:35,080  
And the door opens, and  
a very, very drunken Pole

2402  
01:49:35,080 --> 01:49:37,610  
says, plenty of room, plenty  
of room, plenty of room.

2403  
01:49:37,610 --> 01:49:40,840  
And I said, no, there isn't  
plenty of room in here.

2404  
01:49:40,840 --> 01:49:45,140  
And they start inveighing  
against not only Jews,

2405  
01:49:45,140 --> 01:49:49,100  
Americans, dirty Jews.

2406  
01:49:49,100 --> 01:49:52,680  
And we were kind of shocked  
kind of sitting there.

2407  
01:49:52,680 --> 01:49:55,475  
So another Pole comes  
down the corridor

2408  
01:49:55,475 --> 01:49:59,090  
and grabs him by the scruff  
of his neck and says,

2409  
01:49:59,090 --> 01:50:02,810



we're not all like this, and--

2410  
01:50:02,810 --> 01:50:03,740  
Pushes him.

2411  
01:50:03,740 --> 01:50:07,083  
--pushes him away, right.

2412  
01:50:07,083 --> 01:50:09,250  
And then he was very helpful  
getting our luggage out

2413  
01:50:09,250 --> 01:50:10,830  
of the car and all of that.

2414  
01:50:10,830 --> 01:50:13,410  
OK.

2415  
01:50:13,410 --> 01:50:18,680  
And then we were at a  
Warsaw train station again.

2416  
01:50:18,680 --> 01:50:23,840  
And we were with a group before  
Poles and things like that.

2417  
01:50:23,840 --> 01:50:26,990  
And they said there's a lot of  
beggars around and all of that,

2418  
01:50:26,990 --> 01:50:29,975  
but don't give them money,  
which is problematical.

2419  
01:50:29,975 --> 01:50:33,020  
But usually, I tend  
to give people money.

2420  
01:50:33,020 --> 01:50:36,580  
So we go up to  
waiting for the train.

2421

01:50:36,580 --> 01:50:41,000  
We were going to go into  
Breslau, which is Wroclaw.

2422  
01:50:41,000 --> 01:50:44,130  
And we're standing there,  
and the middle-aged woman,

2423  
01:50:44,130 --> 01:50:50,050  
Polish woman, approaches  
us and asks for money.

2424  
01:50:50,050 --> 01:50:52,410  
And I didn't even say no.

2425  
01:50:52,410 --> 01:50:54,540  
I kind of hesitated.

2426  
01:50:54,540 --> 01:50:57,290  
And she started inveighing  
against all the Jews,

2427  
01:50:57,290 --> 01:51:01,550  
back again and taking our money  
again and stuff of that type.

2428  
01:51:01,550 --> 01:51:06,830

2429  
01:51:06,830 --> 01:51:07,600  
That's two.

2430  
01:51:07,600 --> 01:51:09,100  
The third one was  
just big swastikas

2431  
01:51:09,100 --> 01:51:15,320  
on Holocaust monuments.

2432  
01:51:15,320 --> 01:51:19,431  
So I'm afraid that's  
still there in Poland.

2433

01:51:19,431 --> 01:51:21,720

And yet I had my  
sister-in-law go

2434

01:51:21,720 --> 01:51:28,030

and had a wonderful time with a  
Jewish revival scene in Krakow.

2435

01:51:28,030 --> 01:51:28,710

I know of that.

2436

01:51:28,710 --> 01:51:33,900

2437

01:51:33,900 --> 01:51:40,140

Let's go back to  
Hela's farmhouse.

2438

01:51:40,140 --> 01:51:41,520

Yes.

2439

01:51:41,520 --> 01:51:44,110

Was there a woods nearby--

2440

01:51:44,110 --> 01:51:44,610

Yes.

2441

01:51:44,610 --> 01:51:45,820

--near the farm?

2442

01:51:45,820 --> 01:51:46,680

OK.

2443

01:51:46,680 --> 01:51:50,110

Were there other farm houses  
that could see her house?

2444

01:51:50,110 --> 01:51:51,422

Oh, no, no.

2445

01:51:51,422 --> 01:51:54,690

But the woods are  
the killing woods.

2446  
01:51:54,690 --> 01:51:57,790  
That's where they took all  
the Jews from the ghetto.

2447  
01:51:57,790 --> 01:51:58,990  
Oh.

2448  
01:51:58,990 --> 01:52:00,320  
And we knew that.

2449  
01:52:00,320 --> 01:52:03,570  
And we heard the shots  
for quite a few nights.

2450  
01:52:03,570 --> 01:52:04,245  
Oh my goodness.

2451  
01:52:04,245 --> 01:52:06,750  
Yeah.

2452  
01:52:06,750 --> 01:52:12,530  
And I think there are people  
that came recently from Israel

2453  
01:52:12,530 --> 01:52:14,574  
and put up some monuments there.

2454  
01:52:14,574 --> 01:52:17,360  
OK.

2455  
01:52:17,360 --> 01:52:20,990  
Now you say you stayed  
there until August '44.

2456  
01:52:20,990 --> 01:52:21,980  
Right.

2457  
01:52:21,980 --> 01:52:24,170  
What happened in August '44?

2458  
01:52:24,170 --> 01:52:27,700  
In August '44,  
the Russians came.

2459  
01:52:27,700 --> 01:52:31,760  
And they came in from the east.

2460  
01:52:31,760 --> 01:52:36,720  
And again, lots of  
bombing, and the Russians

2461  
01:52:36,720 --> 01:52:38,190  
were very well organized.

2462  
01:52:38,190 --> 01:52:43,720  
They wouldn't move until  
they bombed the cities flat.

2463  
01:52:43,720 --> 01:52:46,950  
And then they would come in.

2464  
01:52:46,950 --> 01:52:49,310  
And so they did.

2465  
01:52:49,310 --> 01:52:51,480  
And--

2466  
01:52:51,480 --> 01:52:53,890  
And you're seven or eight  
years old at this time.

2467  
01:52:53,890 --> 01:52:55,760  
This is 1940--

2468  
01:52:55,760 --> 01:52:56,260  
4.

2469  
01:52:56,260 --> 01:52:56,760  
4.

2470

01:52:56,760 --> 01:52:58,210  
So I'm eight.

2471  
01:52:58,210 --> 01:52:58,990  
Right.

2472  
01:52:58,990 --> 01:53:00,760  
So they came.

2473  
01:53:00,760 --> 01:53:04,690  
And Father went to  
meet them, and he

2474  
01:53:04,690 --> 01:53:06,690  
speaks Russian and all of that.

2475  
01:53:06,690 --> 01:53:12,330  
A lot of the officers in the  
Russian army were Jewish.

2476  
01:53:12,330 --> 01:53:15,330  
But they would not--

2477  
01:53:15,330 --> 01:53:17,340  
they would not confess to that.

2478  
01:53:17,340 --> 01:53:22,420  
They would tell  
Father, I'm Jewish.

2479  
01:53:22,420 --> 01:53:24,080  
But there was  
enough anti-Semitism

2480  
01:53:24,080 --> 01:53:27,210  
in the Russian  
army that they were

2481  
01:53:27,210 --> 01:53:31,710  
afraid to speak out  
loud that they're Jews,

2482

01:53:31,710 --> 01:53:33,840  
although some did.

2483  
01:53:33,840 --> 01:53:37,100  
But as soon as they-- they  
would ask us 'jevrej,"

2484  
01:53:37,100 --> 01:53:39,710  
and we said, "Jewish."

2485  
01:53:39,710 --> 01:53:43,850  
So then there was a couple  
of days everybody was saying,

2486  
01:53:43,850 --> 01:53:47,520  
oh my god, they brought us food,  
and they were really very good.

2487  
01:53:47,520 --> 01:53:50,910  
And then the Germans  
counterattacked.

2488  
01:53:50,910 --> 01:53:54,460  
So Hela said now everybody  
knows you're here.

2489  
01:53:54,460 --> 01:53:56,410  
You have to get out of here.

2490  
01:53:56,410 --> 01:54:00,610  
So after not being  
outside, we started

2491  
01:54:00,610 --> 01:54:03,220  
walking to get away  
from the front lines.

2492  
01:54:03,220 --> 01:54:06,100  
And I remember that  
very well also,

2493  
01:54:06,100 --> 01:54:09,860  
because the Russians had a

gun they called the Katyusha.

2494

01:54:09,860 --> 01:54:10,360

Katyusha.

2495

01:54:10,360 --> 01:54:12,490

You've heard of the Katyusha?

2496

01:54:12,490 --> 01:54:18,670

It sounds like very loud,  
very rapid machine gun fire.

2497

01:54:18,670 --> 01:54:22,670

So I remember walking  
along the pathway.

2498

01:54:22,670 --> 01:54:27,735

There was the tanks coming this  
way and the Katyushas overhead.

2499

01:54:27,735 --> 01:54:30,130

And I think I was  
beyond being scared.

2500

01:54:30,130 --> 01:54:33,840

It's just pretty overwhelming.

2501

01:54:33,840 --> 01:54:37,480

You just fall to the ground  
whenever you hear the Katyusha.

2502

01:54:37,480 --> 01:54:39,670

But there's a  
limit to how far we

2503

01:54:39,670 --> 01:54:43,300

would walk because we  
have not had any exercise

2504

01:54:43,300 --> 01:54:45,140

or anything like that.

2505



01:54:45,140 --> 01:54:47,590  
So I do remember that walk.

2506  
01:54:47,590 --> 01:54:49,840  
I don't know how far we walked.

2507  
01:54:49,840 --> 01:54:52,780  
But at some point, we stopped,  
and some Russian soldiers

2508  
01:54:52,780 --> 01:54:54,910  
gave us food.

2509  
01:54:54,910 --> 01:54:57,335  
And we waited in the fields.

2510  
01:54:57,335 --> 01:55:00,340  
Oh, so you were in the fields  
rather than in the woods.

2511  
01:55:00,340 --> 01:55:03,350  
Well, woods, there was a road.

2512  
01:55:03,350 --> 01:55:08,740  
And there was a woods  
right next to it.

2513  
01:55:08,740 --> 01:55:13,005  
But there was some  
grass in between,

2514  
01:55:13,005 --> 01:55:14,630  
because we didn't  
walk among the trees.

2515  
01:55:14,630 --> 01:55:17,470  
We walked on the grass.

2516  
01:55:17,470 --> 01:55:21,910  
And I think we stayed  
like a night at most,

2517

01:55:21,910 --> 01:55:24,010  
maybe two nights there.

2518  
01:55:24,010 --> 01:55:27,970  
And then the Russians  
counterattacked.

2519  
01:55:27,970 --> 01:55:30,925  
And we were able to get back.

2520  
01:55:30,925 --> 01:55:32,620  
OK.

2521  
01:55:32,620 --> 01:55:40,200  
And then once we got  
back, then Father said--

2522  
01:55:40,200 --> 01:55:44,730  
they waited until Zolochiv was  
liberated, which took a while.

2523  
01:55:44,730 --> 01:55:47,080  
And after that, he went--

2524  
01:55:47,080 --> 01:55:48,660  
it was only like four miles.

2525  
01:55:48,660 --> 01:55:50,490  
He went to town.

2526  
01:55:50,490 --> 01:55:54,090  
And in between, there  
were people coming out

2527  
01:55:54,090 --> 01:55:55,860  
of hiding and talking.

2528  
01:55:55,860 --> 01:56:00,466  
And they said that Zolochiv  
was demolished completely.

2529  
01:56:00,466 --> 01:56:02,550

What about my factory?

2530

01:56:02,550 --> 01:56:04,950

Completely demolished,  
completely demolished.

2531

01:56:04,950 --> 01:56:09,750

But when Father went back,  
he found that was not true.

2532

01:56:09,750 --> 01:56:13,530

There were a couple  
of bombs fell nearby.

2533

01:56:13,530 --> 01:56:17,370

But it was not  
completely demolished.

2534

01:56:17,370 --> 01:56:21,540

And a few of the workers  
were still there.

2535

01:56:21,540 --> 01:56:26,090

And they said to  
Father, come back.

2536

01:56:26,090 --> 01:56:32,390

And Father said, how  
can I be the one?

2537

01:56:32,390 --> 01:56:33,260

Everybody's gone.

2538

01:56:33,260 --> 01:56:34,210

There's nobody there.

2539

01:56:34,210 --> 01:56:37,880

If you come back, then  
maybe you can come back

2540

01:56:37,880 --> 01:56:41,350

to your apartment, the apartment  
you were talking about.

2541  
01:56:41,350 --> 01:56:45,590  
And Father was helped  
by a few of the workers.

2542  
01:56:45,590 --> 01:56:49,700  
They got the workers  
together and were

2543  
01:56:49,700 --> 01:56:52,190  
able to-- some of the  
machines were gone.

2544  
01:56:52,190 --> 01:56:54,210  
But a lot of them were left.

2545  
01:56:54,210 --> 01:56:56,010  
And the old story--

2546  
01:56:56,010 --> 01:57:00,760  
a bureaucratic army  
needs printers.

2547  
01:57:00,760 --> 01:57:07,340  
And Father had to Cyrillic  
font, which nobody else had.

2548  
01:57:07,340 --> 01:57:08,950  
So the Russians came in.

2549  
01:57:08,950 --> 01:57:12,530  
And again, can you  
do any printing?

2550  
01:57:12,530 --> 01:57:14,030  
But there was no paper.

2551  
01:57:14,030 --> 01:57:16,610  
The Russians said,  
we'll get your paper.

2552  
01:57:16,610 --> 01:57:21,620

And Father was able to  
get the factory working.

2553  
01:57:21,620 --> 01:57:24,140  
Of course, it was  
nationalized again

2554  
01:57:24,140 --> 01:57:26,210  
about four different times.

2555  
01:57:26,210 --> 01:57:29,750  
But again, he had different  
boss and everything.

2556  
01:57:29,750 --> 01:57:32,417  
But he was running the place.

2557  
01:57:32,417 --> 01:57:34,250  
Were you living in your  
old apartment again?

2558  
01:57:34,250 --> 01:57:37,420  
Yes, yes.

2559  
01:57:37,420 --> 01:57:42,360  
But it was a very uncertain.

2560  
01:57:42,360 --> 01:57:45,930  
There still were a lot of  
people being sent to Siberia.

2561  
01:57:45,930 --> 01:57:49,200  
I wanted to ask, do you  
know what happened to Hela?

2562  
01:57:49,200 --> 01:57:52,140  
If her husband had  
been a police chief,

2563  
01:57:52,140 --> 01:57:56,140  
that would not make her  
very safe at that point.

2564

01:57:56,140 --> 01:57:58,440

Well, I think the way  
they had it figured out--

2565

01:57:58,440 --> 01:58:02,400

and this is, again, overhearing  
what grown-ups were talking,

2566

01:58:02,400 --> 01:58:10,800

not my turn, that if the  
Russians and Americans won,

2567

01:58:10,800 --> 01:58:15,630

she and he would be protected  
because they hid Jews.

2568

01:58:15,630 --> 01:58:20,880

If the Germans won, he would  
probably betray his wife,

2569

01:58:20,880 --> 01:58:23,520

and he would be  
protected because he

2570

01:58:23,520 --> 01:58:27,490

was with the Ukrainians  
and the Germans.

2571

01:58:27,490 --> 01:58:28,130

I see.

2572

01:58:28,130 --> 01:58:29,020

Yes.

2573

01:58:29,020 --> 01:58:31,040

So they both survived.

2574

01:58:31,040 --> 01:58:34,327

He actually came back after a  
while, but then he left again.

2575

01:58:34,327 --> 01:58:35,910

I don't think they  
ever lived together

2576  
01:58:35,910 --> 01:58:38,830  
for any period of time.

2577  
01:58:38,830 --> 01:58:42,570  
[? Jashch ?] and  
Misha got married.

2578  
01:58:42,570 --> 01:58:43,460  
Yes.

2579  
01:58:43,460 --> 01:58:45,630  
For a while, it sounds  
like hippie land

2580  
01:58:45,630 --> 01:58:47,740  
out there on the farm.

2581  
01:58:47,740 --> 01:58:52,090  
And Hela slept with  
a lot of the Germans.

2582  
01:58:52,090 --> 01:58:56,990  
And that probably helped  
us all to survive.

2583  
01:58:56,990 --> 01:58:59,700  
Again, this is  
overhearing grown-ups.

2584  
01:58:59,700 --> 01:59:02,540  
This is not something  
that children figure out

2585  
01:59:02,540 --> 01:59:03,830  
on their own.

2586  
01:59:03,830 --> 01:59:04,680  
Yeah.

2587

01:59:04,680 --> 01:59:07,935  
But Hela unfortunately  
died of cancer.

2588  
01:59:07,935 --> 01:59:10,132  
[PHONE RINGS]

2589  
01:59:10,132 --> 01:59:11,088

2590  
01:59:11,088 --> 01:59:13,480  
Rolling.

2591  
01:59:13,480 --> 01:59:16,230  
So you were telling me about  
Hela and what happened to her.

2592  
01:59:16,230 --> 01:59:17,400  
Yes.

2593  
01:59:17,400 --> 01:59:22,920  
She unfortunately died  
of cancer in about 1956.

2594  
01:59:22,920 --> 01:59:25,800  
[? Jashch ?] and  
Misha got married.

2595  
01:59:25,800 --> 01:59:32,720  
And he was alive until I  
think mid-'70s maybe, '80.

2596  
01:59:32,720 --> 01:59:40,580  
Now, after everything ends, and  
as I had asked during this time

2597  
01:59:40,580 --> 01:59:43,820  
is that the stress was there,  
the nerves were frayed,

2598  
01:59:43,820 --> 01:59:49,250  
there were arguments and  
things, did people make up?



2599  
01:59:49,250 --> 01:59:50,150  
Oh, yes.

2600  
01:59:50,150 --> 01:59:54,200  
So these were not the kind  
of arguments that cause

2601  
01:59:54,200 --> 01:59:55,470  
rifts that can't be repaired.

2602  
01:59:55,470 --> 01:59:55,970  
No.

2603  
01:59:55,970 --> 01:59:58,560

2604  
01:59:58,560 --> 02:00:01,790  
Well, I think as far as  
our family was concerned,

2605  
02:00:01,790 --> 02:00:03,350  
that was true.

2606  
02:00:03,350 --> 02:00:07,010  
But Fred and Nusha  
I don't think ever

2607  
02:00:07,010 --> 02:00:11,680  
recovered from their arguments  
with Eva and [? Wusha ?]

2608  
02:00:11,680 --> 02:00:13,905  
because the four of  
them went to Israel.

2609  
02:00:13,905 --> 02:00:17,750  
And when we went to  
Israel to visit them,

2610  
02:00:17,750 --> 02:00:21,500  
Fred discouraged

us very strongly

2611  
02:00:21,500 --> 02:00:24,920  
from visiting  
[? Wusha ?] and Eva.

2612  
02:00:24,920 --> 02:00:26,810  
And they were  
difficult, I must admit.

2613  
02:00:26,810 --> 02:00:31,010  
They were difficult.  
And they tried

2614  
02:00:31,010 --> 02:00:34,850  
to convert me to  
Catholicism and our parents

2615  
02:00:34,850 --> 02:00:38,892  
were worried, because they  
thought Edith had more brains

2616  
02:00:38,892 --> 02:00:42,110  
and that I was more  
susceptible, perhaps.

2617  
02:00:42,110 --> 02:00:48,240  
But I think in  
the end, everybody

2618  
02:00:48,240 --> 02:00:51,480  
realized we are  
in this together.

2619  
02:00:51,480 --> 02:00:56,310  
But still, human beings  
are human beings.

2620  
02:00:56,310 --> 02:00:57,120  
So that was--

2621  
02:00:57,120 --> 02:01:00,300

2622  
02:01:00,300 --> 02:01:02,580  
For those of us who have  
not been through something

2623  
02:01:02,580 --> 02:01:06,840  
like that, it is, for  
me, always a mystery

2624  
02:01:06,840 --> 02:01:12,300  
and a bit of a wonder  
of when sometimes people

2625  
02:01:12,300 --> 02:01:15,330  
cross the line that  
can never be repaired,

2626  
02:01:15,330 --> 02:01:19,520  
and sometimes when  
it can be stretched.

2627  
02:01:19,520 --> 02:01:22,310  
But they realize that it's  
the circumstances that

2628  
02:01:22,310 --> 02:01:27,980  
made these things happen rather  
than the differences that

2629  
02:01:27,980 --> 02:01:29,930  
are inherent between people.

2630  
02:01:29,930 --> 02:01:33,560  
I don't think there  
were any lines that

2631  
02:01:33,560 --> 02:01:35,450  
couldn't be repaired.

2632  
02:01:35,450 --> 02:01:39,480  
But when you think  
about the pressure

2633

02:01:39,480 --> 02:01:44,240

that everybody was  
under, it's amazing.

2634

02:01:44,240 --> 02:01:47,550

I mean, I was thinking  
of our parents.

2635

02:01:47,550 --> 02:01:51,140

And they were  
playing games with us

2636

02:01:51,140 --> 02:01:54,530

and teaching us and doing  
so many things with us.

2637

02:01:54,530 --> 02:01:57,860

And I know that is  
not true because I

2638

02:01:57,860 --> 02:02:01,260

know some other children who  
are in similar circumstances,

2639

02:02:01,260 --> 02:02:05,580

and their parents did not hold  
up the way our parents did.

2640

02:02:05,580 --> 02:02:06,710

It's incredible.

2641

02:02:06,710 --> 02:02:09,860

Because at the same time  
as they're playing games,

2642

02:02:09,860 --> 02:02:13,430

they have to be aware of  
all these other things

2643

02:02:13,430 --> 02:02:14,630

and keep that in mind.

2644

02:02:14,630 --> 02:02:17,170  
And we were very well schooled.

2645  
02:02:17,170 --> 02:02:19,920  
And Fred deserves  
a lot of credit.

2646  
02:02:19,920 --> 02:02:21,860  
I still remember him trying to--

2647  
02:02:21,860 --> 02:02:22,910  
I'm a monotone.

2648  
02:02:22,910 --> 02:02:24,920  
I can't sing.

2649  
02:02:24,920 --> 02:02:28,220  
I still remember him  
trying to sing me--

2650  
02:02:28,220 --> 02:02:32,620  
there's a song, very  
patriotic Polish song

2651  
02:02:32,620 --> 02:02:37,150  
that the young boy is dying from  
a bullet wound in his chest,

2652  
02:02:37,150 --> 02:02:38,600  
and he's bleeding.

2653  
02:02:38,600 --> 02:02:41,390  
And he's just singing  
to his mother,

2654  
02:02:41,390 --> 02:02:43,070  
"The only thing  
I'm sorry about is

2655  
02:02:43,070 --> 02:02:47,010  
I'm leaving you behind  
and Poland behind."

2656

02:02:47,010 --> 02:02:50,780

And he tried to get me  
to sing that on key.

2657

02:02:50,780 --> 02:02:51,760

Never made it.

2658

02:02:51,760 --> 02:02:52,480

[LAUGHS]

2659

02:02:52,480 --> 02:02:53,840

You could never get that one.

2660

02:02:53,840 --> 02:02:54,340

No.

2661

02:02:54,340 --> 02:02:55,670

I think Edith got it finally.

2662

02:02:55,670 --> 02:02:57,380

OK.

2663

02:02:57,380 --> 02:03:01,130

Did your parents' personalities  
change, do you think?

2664

02:03:01,130 --> 02:03:04,240

2665

02:03:04,240 --> 02:03:08,950

Well, I know that my mother was  
pretty anxious after the war.

2666

02:03:08,950 --> 02:03:10,900

Now, whether that was  
because of the war,

2667

02:03:10,900 --> 02:03:15,995

because I didn't know her  
that much before the war.

2668

02:03:15,995 --> 02:03:18,790  
But there was  
anxiety there, yes.

2669  
02:03:18,790 --> 02:03:20,950  
And your father?

2670  
02:03:20,950 --> 02:03:26,580  
My father probably less so.

2671  
02:03:26,580 --> 02:03:28,382  
Probably less so.

2672  
02:03:28,382 --> 02:03:32,920  
Because I think he was  
very, here's the problem.

2673  
02:03:32,920 --> 02:03:41,490  
Let's find the solution, rather  
than overthinking it, yes.

2674  
02:03:41,490 --> 02:03:44,850  
What happened with Grandfather,  
and when did it happen?

2675  
02:03:44,850 --> 02:03:47,570  
And when did you find out?

2676  
02:03:47,570 --> 02:03:52,010  
Well, Father called right  
after we were liberated.

2677  
02:03:52,010 --> 02:03:57,370  
And he was told by some people  
they were in a concentration

2678  
02:03:57,370 --> 02:03:59,520  
camp in Lvov.

2679  
02:03:59,520 --> 02:04:03,110

2680

02:04:03,110 --> 02:04:04,480  
But that was in Lvov.

2681  
02:04:04,480 --> 02:04:08,140  
When they had an action to  
take them to one of the mains

2682  
02:04:08,140 --> 02:04:15,750  
places like Auschwitz or Dachau,  
that Grandfather took poison.

2683  
02:04:15,750 --> 02:04:19,450  
But Father-- there were several  
people who told him that.

2684  
02:04:19,450 --> 02:04:21,000  
But Father never believed that.

2685  
02:04:21,000 --> 02:04:23,350  
And for years and  
years afterwards, he

2686  
02:04:23,350 --> 02:04:31,450  
would scour every source,  
check every source

2687  
02:04:31,450 --> 02:04:33,790  
of possible knowledge,  
and was never

2688  
02:04:33,790 --> 02:04:37,900  
able to find anything,  
any sign that he survived.

2689  
02:04:37,900 --> 02:04:41,650  
So it's most probably  
that people who said

2690  
02:04:41,650 --> 02:04:44,070  
that he took poison were true.

2691  
02:04:44,070 --> 02:04:46,665  
Mm.



2692  
02:04:46,665 --> 02:04:48,290  
And they were in  
their early '50s.

2693  
02:04:48,290 --> 02:04:52,150

2694  
02:04:52,150 --> 02:04:56,580  
But people say we were so  
lucky, which we were so lucky.

2695  
02:04:56,580 --> 02:04:59,160  
So when we came  
to America, there

2696  
02:04:59,160 --> 02:05:02,520  
were headlines in the  
newspapers that a intact family

2697  
02:05:02,520 --> 02:05:04,000  
has arrived.

2698  
02:05:04,000 --> 02:05:05,550  
But Father lost  
both his parents.

2699  
02:05:05,550 --> 02:05:12,190

2700  
02:05:12,190 --> 02:05:15,010  
So we didn't quit make it.

2701  
02:05:15,010 --> 02:05:17,260  
Yeah, it wasn't  
completely unscathed.

2702  
02:05:17,260 --> 02:05:20,710  
Wasn't completely unscathed, no.

2703  
02:05:20,710 --> 02:05:26,530  
And I suspect that

in that situation,

2704

02:05:26,530 --> 02:05:30,860

it is very bittersweet because,  
yes, you know you're lucky.

2705

02:05:30,860 --> 02:05:33,520

But that doesn't mean that  
there wasn't suffering

2706

02:05:33,520 --> 02:05:41,020

and that there wasn't fear and  
that there wasn't great danger,

2707

02:05:41,020 --> 02:05:44,470

as you have described for us.

2708

02:05:44,470 --> 02:05:45,100

Yes.

2709

02:05:45,100 --> 02:05:47,410

And I know there were periods--

2710

02:05:47,410 --> 02:05:53,970

again, listening when our hosts  
would go away for several days,

2711

02:05:53,970 --> 02:05:54,850

we had no food.

2712

02:05:54,850 --> 02:05:57,310

And we know we would  
go hungry for a while.

2713

02:05:57,310 --> 02:06:00,110

I think the kids, they  
were always short,

2714

02:06:00,110 --> 02:06:01,900

but said there were  
periods of hunger

2715

02:06:01,900 --> 02:06:04,570  
and certainly limited  
food in the ghetto

2716  
02:06:04,570 --> 02:06:06,780  
and before all of that.

2717  
02:06:06,780 --> 02:06:10,000  
But we were so much luckier  
than people who wound up

2718  
02:06:10,000 --> 02:06:11,780  
at a concentration camp.

2719  
02:06:11,780 --> 02:06:13,600  
And we knew that.

2720  
02:06:13,600 --> 02:06:16,730  
We knew that, yes.

2721  
02:06:16,730 --> 02:06:22,400  
So for a while then, you  
come back to Zolochiv.

2722  
02:06:22,400 --> 02:06:22,910  
Yes.

2723  
02:06:22,910 --> 02:06:25,850  
Your father goes  
back to the factory.

2724  
02:06:25,850 --> 02:06:29,420  
It gets nationalized and  
the same sort of-- it

2725  
02:06:29,420 --> 02:06:31,460  
sounds like deja  
vu all over again.

2726  
02:06:31,460 --> 02:06:34,840  
Deportations start  
again and some shootings

2727  
02:06:34,840 --> 02:06:37,250  
of people who were  
enemies of the state

2728  
02:06:37,250 --> 02:06:38,960  
and things of that type.

2729  
02:06:38,960 --> 02:06:42,200  
And Father decides  
that he needs to leave.

2730  
02:06:42,200 --> 02:06:48,710  
And because this part of  
Poland was given to Russia,

2731  
02:06:48,710 --> 02:06:51,680  
people who were Polish  
were given permission

2732  
02:06:51,680 --> 02:06:53,900  
to move to the western part.

2733  
02:06:53,900 --> 02:06:55,510  
And you were citizens of Poland.

2734  
02:06:55,510 --> 02:06:57,540  
We were citizens of Poland.

2735  
02:06:57,540 --> 02:07:01,250  
So we would theoretically  
be free to leave,

2736  
02:07:01,250 --> 02:07:03,790  
except they wouldn't  
let Father go

2737  
02:07:03,790 --> 02:07:09,170  
because he was indispensable to  
the operating of the factory.

2738  
02:07:09,170 --> 02:07:11,850

2739  
02:07:11,850 --> 02:07:16,940  
But Mother and us  
were able to go.

2740  
02:07:16,940 --> 02:07:17,920  
And did you?

2741  
02:07:17,920 --> 02:07:19,040  
And we did.

2742  
02:07:19,040 --> 02:07:21,860  
And Father was  
able to sneak away

2743  
02:07:21,860 --> 02:07:25,460  
when his boss was on vacation.

2744  
02:07:25,460 --> 02:07:29,090  
But believe it or  
not, it was not

2745  
02:07:29,090 --> 02:07:36,720  
safe to travel as Jews  
in Poland at that time.

2746  
02:07:36,720 --> 02:07:42,435  
So we actually used those  
Polish Christian papers we had.

2747  
02:07:42,435 --> 02:07:42,935  
Really?

2748  
02:07:42,935 --> 02:07:43,435  
Yes.

2749  
02:07:43,435 --> 02:07:45,020  
When you were-- what was it?

2750  
02:07:45,020 --> 02:07:46,340  
Your name was Bulka?

2751  
02:07:46,340 --> 02:07:47,270  
Bulski.

2752  
02:07:47,270 --> 02:07:47,770  
Bulski.

2753  
02:07:47,770 --> 02:07:51,320  
By the way, I still have  
the cross that I wore.

2754  
02:07:51,320 --> 02:07:53,690  
Again, since I was  
Jewish looking,

2755  
02:07:53,690 --> 02:07:56,210  
they gave me a big cross.

2756  
02:07:56,210 --> 02:07:58,280  
And Edith was not  
so Jewish looking,

2757  
02:07:58,280 --> 02:08:01,570  
just had a little medallion.

2758  
02:08:01,570 --> 02:08:02,720  
And I still have the cross.

2759  
02:08:02,720 --> 02:08:04,860  
I have it here because I  
have given it to someone.

2760  
02:08:04,860 --> 02:08:06,150  
They gave it back to me.

2761  
02:08:06,150 --> 02:08:09,640  
Well, we didn't realize that  
that was a mourning cross

2762  
02:08:09,640 --> 02:08:12,140  
because it's inlaid  
with ebony, and there's

2763

02:08:12,140 --> 02:08:14,650  
a little statue of Jesus on it.

2764

02:08:14,650 --> 02:08:15,560  
Oh, my.

2765

02:08:15,560 --> 02:08:22,250  
So we changed our names  
to travel through Poland.

2766

02:08:22,250 --> 02:08:23,650  
What year was this?

2767

02:08:23,650 --> 02:08:27,512  
This was in the  
beginning of 1945.

2768

02:08:27,512 --> 02:08:29,750  
Ah, so the war is  
still going on.

2769

02:08:29,750 --> 02:08:30,750  
Yes.

2770

02:08:30,750 --> 02:08:31,250  
Yes.

2771

02:08:31,250 --> 02:08:32,680  
OK, the war is not over.

2772

02:08:32,680 --> 02:08:33,500  
All right.

2773

02:08:33,500 --> 02:08:35,373  
But in our part, it is over.

2774

02:08:35,373 --> 02:08:36,040  
Yeah, of course.

2775

02:08:36,040 --> 02:08:37,640  
But it's not over--

2776  
02:08:37,640 --> 02:08:38,630  
In Germany.

2777  
02:08:38,630 --> 02:08:40,220  
--in Germany, right.

2778  
02:08:40,220 --> 02:08:44,960  
So we're again traveling,  
and there's a number

2779  
02:08:44,960 --> 02:08:47,740  
of towns we go through.

2780  
02:08:47,740 --> 02:08:49,910  
And finally, Father--  
by the way, Father

2781  
02:08:49,910 --> 02:08:51,530  
has bleeding ulcers.

2782  
02:08:51,530 --> 02:08:55,040  
So in all of this, he  
had several major attacks

2783  
02:08:55,040 --> 02:08:57,320  
that were life-threatening.

2784  
02:08:57,320 --> 02:08:59,090  
But he recovers.

2785  
02:08:59,090 --> 02:09:03,020  
And then he runs, in a  
town called Katowice,

2786  
02:09:03,020 --> 02:09:08,570  
into a man that had the  
biggest pharmaceutical printing

2787  
02:09:08,570 --> 02:09:10,970  
factory in Poland.



2788

02:09:10,970 --> 02:09:12,560

So his competitor.

2789

02:09:12,560 --> 02:09:14,120

His competitor.

2790

02:09:14,120 --> 02:09:17,750

Except he was the salesman.

2791

02:09:17,750 --> 02:09:22,790

And his technical guy, who  
was Ukrainian, had to leave.

2792

02:09:22,790 --> 02:09:25,970

So he asked Father  
would he join with him

2793

02:09:25,970 --> 02:09:30,200

to run the factory, still  
under an assumed name

2794

02:09:30,200 --> 02:09:33,890

because that guy was  
Polish Christian.

2795

02:09:33,890 --> 02:09:35,420

So we are living there.

2796

02:09:35,420 --> 02:09:36,797

But does he know the real name?

2797

02:09:36,797 --> 02:09:37,880

Does he know it's really--

2798

02:09:37,880 --> 02:09:38,480

He does.

2799

02:09:38,480 --> 02:09:38,980

He does.

2800

02:09:38,980 --> 02:09:40,940

He knows who your  
father really is.

2801  
02:09:40,940 --> 02:09:44,180  
But the decision was it's safer.

2802  
02:09:44,180 --> 02:09:49,490  
Because when the Jews came out  
of hiding, a lot of Poles said,

2803  
02:09:49,490 --> 02:09:52,080  
well, the Germans didn't  
do a good enough job

2804  
02:09:52,080 --> 02:09:53,970  
and things of that type.

2805  
02:09:53,970 --> 02:10:00,250  
So the decision was made that he  
would live under assumed names.

2806  
02:10:00,250 --> 02:10:02,460  
It was a town called Cieszyn.

2807  
02:10:02,460 --> 02:10:06,180  
It was right next  
to Czechoslovakia.

2808  
02:10:06,180 --> 02:10:12,400  
And so we get enrolled in school  
with good Catholic children.

2809  
02:10:12,400 --> 02:10:17,900  
I am in a panic  
because I'm getting

2810  
02:10:17,900 --> 02:10:20,070  
ready for first communion.

2811  
02:10:20,070 --> 02:10:23,660  
And if God finds  
out that I'm Jewish

2812  
02:10:23,660 --> 02:10:25,850  
and I get first communion--

2813  
02:10:25,850 --> 02:10:26,840  
You poor thing.

2814  
02:10:26,840 --> 02:10:28,470  
--first communion under--

2815  
02:10:28,470 --> 02:10:29,495  
Under false pretenses.

2816  
02:10:29,495 --> 02:10:32,370  
--under false pretenses, I'm  
going to burn in hell forever.

2817  
02:10:32,370 --> 02:10:36,770  
So this is not a happy  
period for me, right.

2818  
02:10:36,770 --> 02:10:40,940  
And Father is beginning  
to get very concerned

2819  
02:10:40,940 --> 02:10:44,120  
that people will recognize him.

2820  
02:10:44,120 --> 02:10:46,910  
Because the  
pharmaceuticals, he already

2821  
02:10:46,910 --> 02:10:50,460  
runs into people who  
remember him from old times.

2822  
02:10:50,460 --> 02:10:53,060  
He says, we have  
to get out of here.

2823  
02:10:53,060 --> 02:10:57,960  
So we cross the border from  
Poland to Czechoslovakia.

2824  
02:10:57,960 --> 02:11:00,740  
You can have a day  
pass illegally.

2825  
02:11:00,740 --> 02:11:03,290  
And I'm the chief  
smuggler because I'm

2826  
02:11:03,290 --> 02:11:05,350  
very small and thin.

2827  
02:11:05,350 --> 02:11:09,083  
So they gave me just about,  
which is filled maybe

2828  
02:11:09,083 --> 02:11:09,750  
with some money.

2829  
02:11:09,750 --> 02:11:10,840  
I don't know.

2830  
02:11:10,840 --> 02:11:11,670  
Maybe jewels.

2831  
02:11:11,670 --> 02:11:13,970  
And I put it there on my waist.

2832  
02:11:13,970 --> 02:11:18,940  
And then the family just goes  
for a day trip over the border

2833  
02:11:18,940 --> 02:11:20,740  
and get rid of the stuff.

2834  
02:11:20,740 --> 02:11:21,680  
You don't come back.

2835  
02:11:21,680 --> 02:11:22,520  
You come back.

2836

02:11:22,520 --> 02:11:24,590

We did this two or  
three or four times.

2837

02:11:24,590 --> 02:11:25,320

Oh, really?

2838

02:11:25,320 --> 02:11:25,820

Yes.

2839

02:11:25,820 --> 02:11:27,620

So you went over,  
and you come back.

2840

02:11:27,620 --> 02:11:29,580

And you come back.

2841

02:11:29,580 --> 02:11:32,000

And then finally,  
when we get the stuff

2842

02:11:32,000 --> 02:11:37,520

we need to Czechoslovakia,  
we go to Czechoslovakia.

2843

02:11:37,520 --> 02:11:40,910

Again, traveled for  
a number of towns.

2844

02:11:40,910 --> 02:11:44,870

Father wants to make contact  
with the United States forces

2845

02:11:44,870 --> 02:11:46,550

in Germany.

2846

02:11:46,550 --> 02:11:48,980

So all kinds of adventures.

2847

02:11:48,980 --> 02:11:51,290

And finally, the  
only way you can

2848

02:11:51,290 --> 02:11:53,990

get across the German  
border is what's

2849

02:11:53,990 --> 02:11:59,270

happening today between the  
United States and Mexico.

2850

02:11:59,270 --> 02:12:03,670

You hire guards, and  
they smuggle you.

2851

02:12:03,670 --> 02:12:08,090

And you go in the middle of  
the night through the forest.

2852

02:12:08,090 --> 02:12:10,200

And was the war over?

2853

02:12:10,200 --> 02:12:10,700

Pardon me?

2854

02:12:10,700 --> 02:12:13,790

At this point, the  
war is over, yes.

2855

02:12:13,790 --> 02:12:17,450

Because the United  
States troops are in--

2856

02:12:17,450 --> 02:12:18,050

Bavaria.

2857

02:12:18,050 --> 02:12:18,860

--Bavaria.

2858

02:12:18,860 --> 02:12:25,910

So this is essentially  
the end of 1945.

2859

02:12:25,910 --> 02:12:33,200

And so essentially,

Father hires a guide.

2860  
02:12:33,200 --> 02:12:36,680  
And I, again, remember  
this, the immigrant children

2861  
02:12:36,680 --> 02:12:38,600  
going through the woods.

2862  
02:12:38,600 --> 02:12:45,780  
And we get essentially  
caught by the Polish guards.

2863  
02:12:45,780 --> 02:12:50,000  
I'm sorry, Czech guards because  
we're in Czechoslovakia.

2864  
02:12:50,000 --> 02:12:52,460  
And they take away the luggage.

2865  
02:12:52,460 --> 02:12:56,780  
And the guide say,  
forget your luggage.

2866  
02:12:56,780 --> 02:12:58,830  
Go through.

2867  
02:12:58,830 --> 02:13:01,100  
Father says, no.

2868  
02:13:01,100 --> 02:13:04,280  
Because in that suitcase,  
you'll see a lot of pictures

2869  
02:13:04,280 --> 02:13:08,570  
here, like my mother, my  
grandmother, and all of that.

2870  
02:13:08,570 --> 02:13:12,830  
And I have to  
backtrack a little bit.

2871

02:13:12,830 --> 02:13:17,360  
When we came back to Zolochiv  
after we were liberated,

2872  
02:13:17,360 --> 02:13:20,810  
we found somebody  
was in our apartment.

2873  
02:13:20,810 --> 02:13:23,530  
And we had all these  
albums, these pictures.

2874  
02:13:23,530 --> 02:13:25,400  
And they tore all  
the pictures out,

2875  
02:13:25,400 --> 02:13:27,200  
and they were all  
over the floor.

2876  
02:13:27,200 --> 02:13:29,040  
And Father gathered them all.

2877  
02:13:29,040 --> 02:13:31,130  
This were pre-war pictures.

2878  
02:13:31,130 --> 02:13:35,540  
So he hid them in that  
suitcase that the Czech guards

2879  
02:13:35,540 --> 02:13:37,640  
took away.

2880  
02:13:37,640 --> 02:13:40,050  
So Father says he was  
not leaving without it.

2881  
02:13:40,050 --> 02:13:42,020  
People said it was crazy.

2882  
02:13:42,020 --> 02:13:46,820  
So he goes to the station,  
to the Czech station.



2883  
02:13:46,820 --> 02:13:49,250  
And he tells the  
officer in charge

2884  
02:13:49,250 --> 02:13:53,000  
that these are pictures of my  
parents and my grandparents.

2885  
02:13:53,000 --> 02:13:55,160  
I can't leave them behind.

2886  
02:13:55,160 --> 02:13:57,880  
So the officer  
opens the suitcase.

2887  
02:13:57,880 --> 02:14:01,520  
And there was my  
grandfather's picture, which

2888  
02:14:01,520 --> 02:14:04,760  
we have there right on top.

2889  
02:14:04,760 --> 02:14:06,980  
And he closes the  
suitcase, and he

2890  
02:14:06,980 --> 02:14:09,840  
says, go with God or  
something like that.

2891  
02:14:09,840 --> 02:14:14,840  
And he lets Father go  
with all of his luggage.

2892  
02:14:14,840 --> 02:14:18,420  
So we cross over Germany.

2893  
02:14:18,420 --> 02:14:20,330  
And then again,  
lots of adventures.

2894

02:14:20,330 --> 02:14:23,330  
We can't go through them  
in a short period of time.

2895  
02:14:23,330 --> 02:14:28,380  
But eventually, Father makes  
contact with the American army

2896  
02:14:28,380 --> 02:14:30,700  
and he's hired by HIAS.

2897  
02:14:30,700 --> 02:14:31,700  
Ah.

2898  
02:14:31,700 --> 02:14:34,020  
Because Father speaks  
a lot of languages.

2899  
02:14:34,020 --> 02:14:39,080  
So he was helping with displaced  
people from a lot of countries.

2900  
02:14:39,080 --> 02:14:45,830  
And we were quartered,  
I remember that,

2901  
02:14:45,830 --> 02:14:51,530  
in Munich in a house of a  
German woman within like--

2902  
02:14:51,530 --> 02:14:54,940  
her husband was a  
prisoner of war.

2903  
02:14:54,940 --> 02:14:58,250  
She wasn't too happy about it.

2904  
02:14:58,250 --> 02:15:03,100  
But we make contact with  
some wonderful Americans.

2905  
02:15:03,100 --> 02:15:07,370  
It was somebody called

Dr. Elias and some others.

2906

02:15:07,370 --> 02:15:12,760

And then after a while,  
Father was given--

2907

02:15:12,760 --> 02:15:17,260

we had an uncle in  
Brooklyn, who sponsored us.

2908

02:15:17,260 --> 02:15:19,870

So we were actually  
on the second ship

2909

02:15:19,870 --> 02:15:24,040

of displaced persons,  
came over in 1946.

2910

02:15:24,040 --> 02:15:24,940

That's early.

2911

02:15:24,940 --> 02:15:26,680

It was great here.

2912

02:15:26,680 --> 02:15:28,480

And do remember the  
name of the ship?

2913

02:15:28,480 --> 02:15:30,745

Marine Flasher.

2914

02:15:30,745 --> 02:15:32,120

I've heard Marine  
Flasher before.

2915

02:15:32,120 --> 02:15:33,370

You've heard that name before.

2916

02:15:33,370 --> 02:15:34,910

Yeah, yeah.

2917

02:15:34,910 --> 02:15:37,150

And I think it  
sailed from Bremen.

2918  
02:15:37,150 --> 02:15:38,970  
It usually did, from--

2919  
02:15:38,970 --> 02:15:39,880  
or was yours from--

2920  
02:15:39,880 --> 02:15:40,380  
Bremerhaven.

2921  
02:15:40,380 --> 02:15:42,160  
It was from Bremerhaven.

2922  
02:15:42,160 --> 02:15:43,960  
There was a very--

2923  
02:15:43,960 --> 02:15:49,000  
accident on that-- when we  
were on it, we heard somebody

2924  
02:15:49,000 --> 02:15:50,110  
jumped overboard.

2925  
02:15:50,110 --> 02:15:52,965

2926  
02:15:52,965 --> 02:15:54,340  
And we later heard  
that there was

2927  
02:15:54,340 --> 02:15:57,530  
an SS officer who was  
pretending to be Jewish,

2928  
02:15:57,530 --> 02:15:59,770  
and somebody recognized him.

2929  
02:15:59,770 --> 02:16:01,480  
Oh my goodness.

2930

02:16:01,480 --> 02:16:04,210

Oh my goodness.

2931

02:16:04,210 --> 02:16:07,360

Your father had a great  
deal of foresight.

2932

02:16:07,360 --> 02:16:08,620

I mean, if you just--

2933

02:16:08,620 --> 02:16:13,130

I mean-- I mean,  
this was five years.

2934

02:16:13,130 --> 02:16:16,940

And when you think of  
everything that he did.

2935

02:16:16,940 --> 02:16:19,900

But he always said,  
there were other people

2936

02:16:19,900 --> 02:16:25,993

who are just as foresighted as  
I was, but their luck ran out.

2937

02:16:25,993 --> 02:16:28,468

And that was true.

2938

02:16:28,468 --> 02:16:30,610

That was true.

2939

02:16:30,610 --> 02:16:33,039

We were just incredibly lucky.

2940

02:16:33,039 --> 02:16:34,480

OK.

2941

02:16:34,480 --> 02:16:39,350

Because if you think that 70  
people remain out of 15,000.

2942

02:16:39,350 --> 02:16:42,980

And I must say that Father--

2943

02:16:42,980 --> 02:16:46,360

and he was very proud of it.

2944

02:16:46,360 --> 02:16:49,959

There were Jews, believe  
it or not, collaborated.

2945

02:16:49,959 --> 02:16:53,170

There were people that  
joined the Judenrat.

2946

02:16:53,170 --> 02:16:55,639

And he was asked many  
times to join the Judenrat,

2947

02:16:55,639 --> 02:16:58,570

and we'd get extra  
rations and everything.

2948

02:16:58,570 --> 02:17:00,090

He would never do that.

2949

02:17:00,090 --> 02:17:02,330

We came here, we  
didn't have a penny.

2950

02:17:02,330 --> 02:17:03,440

Well, not quite true.

2951

02:17:03,440 --> 02:17:07,510

Father-- when we went  
into hiding, there

2952

02:17:07,510 --> 02:17:12,950

was a Ukrainian woman that was  
engaged to a Jewish man who

2953

02:17:12,950 --> 02:17:14,440

didn't survive.

2954  
02:17:14,440 --> 02:17:16,834  
But Mother gave her  
some of our jewelry.

2955  
02:17:16,834 --> 02:17:18,587  
[PHONE RINGS]

2956  
02:17:18,587 --> 02:17:20,680

2957  
02:17:20,680 --> 02:17:23,889  
Mother gave us some  
of her jewelry.

2958  
02:17:23,889 --> 02:17:27,280  
And she gave back  
every bit of it.

2959  
02:17:27,280 --> 02:17:28,000  
Oh, my.

2960  
02:17:28,000 --> 02:17:31,030  
A lot of people whom Father  
and Mother gave things, they

2961  
02:17:31,030 --> 02:17:33,850  
just said it either  
was stolen, or they

2962  
02:17:33,850 --> 02:17:36,639  
had to live on it,  
which was probably true.

2963  
02:17:36,639 --> 02:17:40,000  
But we had these few  
pieces of jewelry,

2964  
02:17:40,000 --> 02:17:43,200  
which enabled us  
to have something

2965

02:17:43,200 --> 02:17:45,309  
when we came to United States.

2966  
02:17:45,309 --> 02:17:50,889  
But still, we had enough to give  
a couple of things to the kids.

2967  
02:17:50,889 --> 02:17:54,700  
And Father-- I mean, both  
my parents were lawyers.

2968  
02:17:54,700 --> 02:17:59,570  
Father worked as a  
night-time cashier at a place

2969  
02:17:59,570 --> 02:18:03,850  
like [INAUDIBLE],, one of those  
24 hours, went to school,

2970  
02:18:03,850 --> 02:18:10,930  
got an MBA, and became vice  
president for Remco toy

2971  
02:18:10,930 --> 02:18:12,820  
company.

2972  
02:18:12,820 --> 02:18:17,469  
And Mother started a new  
luncheon in Greenwich Village.

2973  
02:18:17,469 --> 02:18:21,408  
And so we always had food.

2974  
02:18:21,408 --> 02:18:22,450  
And they just kept going.

2975  
02:18:22,450 --> 02:18:25,268  
And your grandmother  
came with you.

2976  
02:18:25,268 --> 02:18:27,430  
Your maternal grandmother  
came with you.



2977

02:18:27,430 --> 02:18:29,950

Yes, and that was quite a story.

2978

02:18:29,950 --> 02:18:33,330

As we disembarked  
from Ellis Island,

2979

02:18:33,330 --> 02:18:39,590

her sweetheart from 45 years  
ago was there to meet us.

2980

02:18:39,590 --> 02:18:43,260

His wife had just  
died a year ago.

2981

02:18:43,260 --> 02:18:47,910

And they met, and they  
got married again.

2982

02:18:47,910 --> 02:18:48,940

They got married.

2983

02:18:48,940 --> 02:18:51,240

Unfortunately, he didn't  
live long after that.

2984

02:18:51,240 --> 02:18:53,340

But that was a real--

2985

02:18:53,340 --> 02:18:55,260

What a lovely ending for her.

2986

02:18:55,260 --> 02:18:56,940

That was a wonderful ending.

2987

02:18:56,940 --> 02:19:04,110

And by the way, she  
never let go of kashrut.

2988

02:19:04,110 --> 02:19:07,160

And she would not touch

any meat or anything.

2989

02:19:07,160 --> 02:19:08,719

And you know something?

2990

02:19:08,719 --> 02:19:13,990

Every person who hid us or  
who came to us respected her.

2991

02:19:13,990 --> 02:19:16,520

And they went out of  
the way to get some food

2992

02:19:16,520 --> 02:19:18,200

that she could eat.

2993

02:19:18,200 --> 02:19:22,790

And she really feels that that's  
what's saved us, that she never

2994

02:19:22,790 --> 02:19:24,568

let go of God, right.

2995

02:19:24,568 --> 02:19:27,260

Yeah.

2996

02:19:27,260 --> 02:19:30,049

Well, it sounds like  
we've come close to--

2997

02:19:30,049 --> 02:19:30,900

An end.

2998

02:19:30,900 --> 02:19:33,700

Yes, yes.

2999

02:19:33,700 --> 02:19:37,400

I'm sure there are many things  
that we could add to it.

3000

02:19:37,400 --> 02:19:39,809

In one interview, you

can never capture it all.

3001  
02:19:39,809 --> 02:19:41,709  
I mean, it's five years, right.

3002  
02:19:41,709 --> 02:19:43,930  
Yeah.

3003  
02:19:43,930 --> 02:19:47,290  
I'd like to give you the  
final word in the sense

3004  
02:19:47,290 --> 02:19:49,810  
of, what would you like  
people to take away

3005  
02:19:49,810 --> 02:19:53,470  
when they hear your story,  
when they listen to it?

3006  
02:19:53,470 --> 02:19:57,310  
What would you like them  
to understand from it?

3007  
02:19:57,310 --> 02:20:04,270  
Well, it's still appalls  
me the evil that exists.

3008  
02:20:04,270 --> 02:20:06,790  
But then in spite  
of all of that,

3009  
02:20:06,790 --> 02:20:11,010  
when you think of the people  
who saved us and helped us

3010  
02:20:11,010 --> 02:20:15,400  
all along, who  
would've been killed

3011  
02:20:15,400 --> 02:20:19,150  
and their families would've  
been killed, it's amazing.

3012  
02:20:19,150 --> 02:20:21,610  
I sometimes think what  
I would have done if I

3013  
02:20:21,610 --> 02:20:24,800  
was in a situation like that.

3014  
02:20:24,800 --> 02:20:27,580  
And I'm very glad that's  
Helena Szczulczewska

3015  
02:20:27,580 --> 02:20:30,110  
is recognized on the  
Wall of the Righteous

3016  
02:20:30,110 --> 02:20:32,080  
in the Holocaust Museum.

3017  
02:20:32,080 --> 02:20:37,470  
And I just found out that  
[? Gresh ?] [? Tiss, ?] who is

3018  
02:20:37,470 --> 02:20:42,980  
the Ukrainian man, is on  
the Wall of the Righteous

3019  
02:20:42,980 --> 02:20:44,290  
in Israel.

3020  
02:20:44,290 --> 02:20:45,220  
OK.

3021  
02:20:45,220 --> 02:20:47,800  
Yes.

3022  
02:20:47,800 --> 02:20:49,870  
Because there would  
have been no miracle

3023  
02:20:49,870 --> 02:20:55,530  
without these

incredibly brave people.

3024  
02:20:55,530 --> 02:20:57,950  
And Father talked  
to us about that,

3025  
02:20:57,950 --> 02:21:02,865  
that the reason they  
did it was because they

3026  
02:21:02,865 --> 02:21:03,740  
were people of faith.

3027  
02:21:03,740 --> 02:21:07,290

3028  
02:21:07,290 --> 02:21:10,340  
I couldn't think of a  
better note to end on.

3029  
02:21:10,340 --> 02:21:11,770  
Thank you very, very much.

3030  
02:21:11,770 --> 02:21:16,506  
Well, thank you for  
coming and for listening.

3031  
02:21:16,506 --> 02:21:18,290  
Wow.

3032  
02:21:18,290 --> 02:21:19,570  
It's an honor.

3033  
02:21:19,570 --> 02:21:20,500  
It's an honor.

3034  
02:21:20,500 --> 02:21:23,940  
Well, I tend to--

3035  
02:21:23,940 --> 02:21:28,240  
it's odd, but for a long, long  
time, I wouldn't talk about it.

3036  
02:21:28,240 --> 02:21:31,670  
My children say that I  
never talk to them about it.

3037  
02:21:31,670 --> 02:21:33,730  
But I'm 83.

3038  
02:21:33,730 --> 02:21:36,940  
So it feels at some  
point, you feel

3039  
02:21:36,940 --> 02:21:39,660  
you're like the last generation.

3040  
02:21:39,660 --> 02:21:45,630  
And you really need to  
make people realize.

3041  
02:21:45,630 --> 02:21:49,560  
And I just hope that something  
like that never happens.

3042  
02:21:49,560 --> 02:21:53,590  
But if you look  
around the war now--

3043  
02:21:53,590 --> 02:21:55,110  
Yeah, evil is still there.

3044  
02:21:55,110 --> 02:21:56,790  
Hate is still there.

3045  
02:21:56,790 --> 02:22:00,960  
And innocent people  
still are suffering.

3046  
02:22:00,960 --> 02:22:02,910  
No question about it.

3047  
02:22:02,910 --> 02:22:04,920  
No question about it, yeah.

3048  
02:22:04,920 --> 02:22:08,230  
And I know that the  
museum, that only looks--

3049  
02:22:08,230 --> 02:22:10,980

3050  
02:22:10,980 --> 02:22:13,380  
people are saying, yes, there  
are different holocausts,

3051  
02:22:13,380 --> 02:22:16,320  
which is true.

3052  
02:22:16,320 --> 02:22:19,170  
But when you think of  
what we went through,

3053  
02:22:19,170 --> 02:22:24,300  
which is five-year-old children  
being herded into gas chambers,

3054  
02:22:24,300 --> 02:22:30,210  
our problem was that we thought  
that west was civilized,

3055  
02:22:30,210 --> 02:22:32,214  
I think.

3056  
02:22:32,214 --> 02:22:33,530  
Yeah.

3057  
02:22:33,530 --> 02:22:37,790  
You never know what  
beast is in there.

3058  
02:22:37,790 --> 02:22:41,370  
How could people do  
things like that?

3059  
02:22:41,370 --> 02:22:45,360

I mean, that's an  
unanswered question.

3060  
02:22:45,360 --> 02:22:48,930  
As much as one can do  
historical research

3061  
02:22:48,930 --> 02:22:52,640  
and look at ideology and  
beliefs and all of that,

3062  
02:22:52,640 --> 02:22:54,765  
it still remains a great  
unanswered question.

3063  
02:22:54,765 --> 02:22:55,524  
Yes.

3064  
02:22:55,524 --> 02:22:57,420  
Yeah.

3065  
02:22:57,420 --> 02:22:58,230  
Thank you.

3066  
02:22:58,230 --> 02:22:59,030  
Thank you.

3067  
02:22:59,030 --> 02:22:59,720  
OK.

3068  
02:22:59,720 --> 02:23:01,110  
And thank you, Gus.

3069  
02:23:01,110 --> 02:23:01,865  
OK.

3070  
02:23:01,865 --> 02:23:05,190  
He was standing all along.

3071  
02:23:05,190 --> 02:23:08,850  
And I will say that this  
concludes the United States



3072  
02:23:08,850 --> 02:23:13,200  
Holocaust Memorial Museum  
interview with Mrs. Selma

3073  
02:23:13,200 --> 02:23:18,840  
Tennenbaum Rossen on  
September 20, 2019.

3074  
02:23:18,840 --> 02:23:19,470  
Thanks again.

3075  
02:23:19,470 --> 02:23:22,630  
And thank you.

3076  
02:23:22,630 --> 02:23:25,850  
So tell me, who is in this  
photograph right here?

3077  
02:23:25,850 --> 02:23:29,640  
These are my maternal  
grandparents, Basha

3078  
02:23:29,640 --> 02:23:32,070  
and Solomon Horowitz.

3079  
02:23:32,070 --> 02:23:37,500  
Solomon unfortunately died  
just after the First World War

3080  
02:23:37,500 --> 02:23:39,750  
in a railroad accident.

3081  
02:23:39,750 --> 02:23:41,100  
An agrarian accident.

3082  
02:23:41,100 --> 02:23:42,360  
Yes.

3083  
02:23:42,360 --> 02:23:49,570  
And Basha survived the war,  
came with us to New York.

3084  
02:23:49,570 --> 02:23:55,620  
And when we disembarked  
at Ellis Island,

3085  
02:23:55,620 --> 02:24:01,080  
her sweetheart of 45 years  
ago was waiting for her.

3086  
02:24:01,080 --> 02:24:03,930  
And they got married  
after she came here.

3087  
02:24:03,930 --> 02:24:06,615  
She was 65 years old.

3088  
02:24:06,615 --> 02:24:08,090  
What a lovely story.

3089  
02:24:08,090 --> 02:24:10,020  
It is a wonderful story, yes.

3090  
02:24:10,020 --> 02:24:11,010  
OK.

3091  
02:24:11,010 --> 02:24:12,820  
Thank you for  
sharing that photo.

3092  
02:24:12,820 --> 02:24:14,930  
OK, now you want--

3093  
02:24:14,930 --> 02:24:15,450  
OK.

3094  
02:24:15,450 --> 02:24:17,310  
Tell me, what is  
this photograph of?

3095  
02:24:17,310 --> 02:24:19,610  
These are our parents.

3096

02:24:19,610 --> 02:24:24,090  
These are my parents, who met  
when they were very young.

3097

02:24:24,090 --> 02:24:27,960  
I think they were both  
16 or 17 at this point.

3098

02:24:27,960 --> 02:24:31,830  
And they were both in gymnasium,  
which is a high school.

3099

02:24:31,830 --> 02:24:34,050  
And you can see how they  
feel about each other.

3100

02:24:34,050 --> 02:24:34,970  
[LAUGHS]

3101

02:24:34,970 --> 02:24:37,680  
And they went through  
high school together,

3102

02:24:37,680 --> 02:24:39,300  
and they went to  
college together,

3103

02:24:39,300 --> 02:24:41,100  
and they went to  
a life together.

3104

02:24:41,100 --> 02:24:42,120  
Oh, my.

3105

02:24:42,120 --> 02:24:45,510  
And so on the left is  
Elizabeth Horowitz.

3106

02:24:45,510 --> 02:24:47,040  
Elizabeth Horowitz.

3107

02:24:47,040 --> 02:24:49,290

And on the right--

3108  
02:24:49,290 --> 02:24:53,130  
Was Lipa Shmul Tennenbaum.

3109  
02:24:53,130 --> 02:24:54,750  
Now he was a little upset--

3110  
02:24:54,750 --> 02:24:56,340  
or, no, he wasn't upset.

3111  
02:24:56,340 --> 02:24:58,920  
His mother was upset  
when he was named

3112  
02:24:58,920 --> 02:25:04,740  
by a very Orthodox grandfather,  
who was Lipa Shmul.

3113  
02:25:04,740 --> 02:25:08,770  
And Mother was named  
by a much more secular.

3114  
02:25:08,770 --> 02:25:10,380  
So she was Elizabeth.

3115  
02:25:10,380 --> 02:25:11,360  
I see.

3116  
02:25:11,360 --> 02:25:12,860  
OK.

3117  
02:25:12,860 --> 02:25:16,040  
And this photo you think is  
taken when they're teenagers?

3118  
02:25:16,040 --> 02:25:17,510  
16 or 17, yes.

3119  
02:25:17,510 --> 02:25:18,530  
OK.

3120

02:25:18,530 --> 02:25:21,230

All right, so this would have  
been the mid-'20s, sometime

3121

02:25:21,230 --> 02:25:21,770

around then.

3122

02:25:21,770 --> 02:25:22,520

Yes.

3123

02:25:22,520 --> 02:25:24,300

All right, thank you very much.

3124

02:25:24,300 --> 02:25:25,550

Absolutely.