

1  
00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:02,500

2  
00:00:02,500 --> 00:00:06,070  
This is a United States  
Holocaust Memorial Museum

3  
00:00:06,070 --> 00:00:11,590  
interview with Mrs. Dana  
Pomerantsaite-Mazurkevich

4  
00:00:11,590 --> 00:00:15,380  
in Boston, Massachusetts--  
excuse me, Brookline,

5  
00:00:15,380 --> 00:00:16,630  
Massachusetts--

6  
00:00:16,630 --> 00:00:20,230  
on September 25, 2019.

7  
00:00:20,230 --> 00:00:22,870  
Thank you very, very  
much, Mrs. Dana,

8  
00:00:22,870 --> 00:00:25,360  
for agreeing to  
speak with us today

9  
00:00:25,360 --> 00:00:30,070  
and to share some of your life  
experiences during World War II

10  
00:00:30,070 --> 00:00:33,010  
and what came to be  
known as the Holocaust.

11  
00:00:33,010 --> 00:00:34,030  
Thank you.

12  
00:00:34,030 --> 00:00:35,230

OK.

13  
00:00:35,230 --> 00:00:39,070  
I'm going to start our interview  
with the most basic questions,

14  
00:00:39,070 --> 00:00:40,840  
and we'll develop  
things from there.

15  
00:00:40,840 --> 00:00:41,340  
OK.

16  
00:00:41,340 --> 00:00:42,250  
OK?

17  
00:00:42,250 --> 00:00:45,040  
So the very first  
question I have,

18  
00:00:45,040 --> 00:00:50,740  
what was your name at birth, the  
name you were born and given?

19  
00:00:50,740 --> 00:00:51,430  
Given at birth.

20  
00:00:51,430 --> 00:00:52,240  
Yes.

21  
00:00:52,240 --> 00:00:54,610  
My name-- [CLEARS THROAT] sorry.

22  
00:00:54,610 --> 00:00:56,920  
Those was Bella.

23  
00:00:56,920 --> 00:01:01,420  
And sometimes my mother thought  
that she called me Susie.

24  
00:01:01,420 --> 00:01:01,947  
Susie?

25  
00:01:01,947 --> 00:01:02,447  
Yeah.

26  
00:01:02,447 --> 00:01:03,640  
I don't know why.

27  
00:01:03,640 --> 00:01:06,250  
Susie or Bella.

28  
00:01:06,250 --> 00:01:08,150  
But this was two names.

29  
00:01:08,150 --> 00:01:08,980  
OK.

30  
00:01:08,980 --> 00:01:12,580  
And your maiden name was what?

31  
00:01:12,580 --> 00:01:13,690  
Pomerantsaite.

32  
00:01:13,690 --> 00:01:14,840  
Pomerantsaite.

33  
00:01:14,840 --> 00:01:15,520  
Yes.

34  
00:01:15,520 --> 00:01:16,090  
OK.

35  
00:01:16,090 --> 00:01:20,890  
My father's name is  
Pomerants because he lived--

36  
00:01:20,890 --> 00:01:23,420  
I was born in Lithuania.

37  
00:01:23,420 --> 00:01:25,040  
And it was Pomerantsaite.

38

00:01:25,040 --> 00:01:27,040

My father was Pomerants.

39

00:01:27,040 --> 00:01:29,020

And your mother?

40

00:01:29,020 --> 00:01:31,220

Maiden name was Zulkov.

41

00:01:31,220 --> 00:01:32,030

Zulkov, OK.

42

00:01:32,030 --> 00:01:32,530

Yes.

43

00:01:32,530 --> 00:01:36,040

And when she got  
married, Pomeranciene.

44

00:01:36,040 --> 00:01:37,660

You know, like that endings.

45

00:01:37,660 --> 00:01:41,530

So it was your name,  
your father's name,

46

00:01:41,530 --> 00:01:43,330

your mother's had--

47

00:01:43,330 --> 00:01:46,000

or at least the two ladies,  
your mother's and yours,

48

00:01:46,000 --> 00:01:48,650

had Lithuanian language endings.

49

00:01:48,650 --> 00:01:49,150

Yes.

50

00:01:49,150 --> 00:01:53,620

OK, even though Pomerants

is a Jewish name?

51

00:01:53,620 --> 00:01:54,535

Jewish name, yes.

52

00:01:54,535 --> 00:01:55,780

Yes, OK.

53

00:01:55,780 --> 00:02:00,340

And so you were Bella,  
sometimes Susie, Pomerantsaite.

54

00:02:00,340 --> 00:02:00,970

Yes.

55

00:02:00,970 --> 00:02:03,977

And what was the place  
you were born in?

56

00:02:03,977 --> 00:02:04,810

Where were you born?

57

00:02:04,810 --> 00:02:10,479

When war started, my mother  
was pregnant with me.

58

00:02:10,479 --> 00:02:17,080

Then I was born October  
11, 1941, when war started.

59

00:02:17,080 --> 00:02:21,550

And my parents-- and of  
course, I was not born yet--

60

00:02:21,550 --> 00:02:23,950

was sent to Kaunas.

61

00:02:23,950 --> 00:02:26,530

I was born in Kaunas ghetto.

62

00:02:26,530 --> 00:02:27,070

Oh, my.

63  
00:02:27,070 --> 00:02:27,570  
Yeah.

64  
00:02:27,570 --> 00:02:29,740  
You were actually born  
in the Kaunas ghetto?

65  
00:02:29,740 --> 00:02:30,850  
Kaunas ghetto.

66  
00:02:30,850 --> 00:02:34,030  
And did your parents live  
in the city of Kaunas

67  
00:02:34,030 --> 00:02:36,460  
before they moved to the ghetto?

68  
00:02:36,460 --> 00:02:42,910  
Before they moved to the ghetto,  
my father was quite known,

69  
00:02:42,910 --> 00:02:46,330  
I would say maybe even  
very famous, violinist.

70  
00:02:46,330 --> 00:02:47,320  
OK.

71  
00:02:47,320 --> 00:02:48,570  
Should I maybe tell that here?

72  
00:02:48,570 --> 00:02:49,737  
Well, first, I want to know.

73  
00:02:49,737 --> 00:02:51,910  
Where did they live before  
they moved to the ghetto?

74  
00:02:51,910 --> 00:02:52,530  
In Kaunas.

75  
00:02:52,530 --> 00:02:53,030  
In Kaunas.

76  
00:02:53,030 --> 00:02:53,630  
Kaunas.

77  
00:02:53,630 --> 00:02:54,130  
OK.

78  
00:02:54,130 --> 00:03:01,090  
And because Germans--  
they had to go to ghetto,

79  
00:03:01,090 --> 00:03:02,500  
like all the Jews.

80  
00:03:02,500 --> 00:03:03,040  
OK.

81  
00:03:03,040 --> 00:03:08,050  
So that means, if you're  
born October 11, 1941,

82  
00:03:08,050 --> 00:03:11,590  
I believe it was two or  
three months before then

83  
00:03:11,590 --> 00:03:17,410  
that all the Jews of  
Kaunas were told, required,

84  
00:03:17,410 --> 00:03:19,450  
to move into the Kaunas ghetto.

85  
00:03:19,450 --> 00:03:20,270  
Right.

86  
00:03:20,270 --> 00:03:24,230  
And that was in what  
part of the city?

87

00:03:24,230 --> 00:03:28,070  
What part exactly of the city?

88  
00:03:28,070 --> 00:03:28,970  
Vilijampole.

89  
00:03:28,970 --> 00:03:29,690  
OK.

90  
00:03:29,690 --> 00:03:31,880  
It was in a section  
called Vilijampole?

91  
00:03:31,880 --> 00:03:32,870  
Vilijampole, yes.

92  
00:03:32,870 --> 00:03:33,620  
OK.

93  
00:03:33,620 --> 00:03:39,020  
And what else did I want  
to ask you about that?

94  
00:03:39,020 --> 00:03:42,590  
And from what I understand,  
the Germans attacked

95  
00:03:42,590 --> 00:03:45,140  
what was Soviet  
Union, and Lithuania

96  
00:03:45,140 --> 00:03:48,300  
was in part of it, in June 20--

97  
00:03:48,300 --> 00:03:49,700  
Second.

98  
00:03:49,700 --> 00:03:50,520  
--22, 1941.

99  
00:03:50,520 --> 00:03:51,380  
You're right.



100  
00:03:51,380 --> 00:03:54,230  
And so there's these  
months between June 22

101  
00:03:54,230 --> 00:03:57,360  
and October 11  
when you were born.

102  
00:03:57,360 --> 00:03:57,860  
Yes.

103  
00:03:57,860 --> 00:03:58,610  
OK.

104  
00:03:58,610 --> 00:04:01,310  
It's an unusual  
place to be born.

105  
00:04:01,310 --> 00:04:02,360  
Very unusual.

106  
00:04:02,360 --> 00:04:08,900  
I was born in a basement, yeah.

107  
00:04:08,900 --> 00:04:14,390  
And it was some kind  
of doctor there.

108  
00:04:14,390 --> 00:04:17,870  
But I was born, yeah,  
in the basement.

109  
00:04:17,870 --> 00:04:23,000  
But my mother said that  
she had a lot of milk.

110  
00:04:23,000 --> 00:04:27,560  
And somehow, that  
probably helped for me.

111  
00:04:27,560 --> 00:04:28,580

Yeah.

112  
00:04:28,580 --> 00:04:32,570  
If there was no food, at  
least you, as an infant--

113  
00:04:32,570 --> 00:04:33,440  
She had milk, yeah.

114  
00:04:33,440 --> 00:04:34,430  
She had milk.

115  
00:04:34,430 --> 00:04:36,650  
OK.

116  
00:04:36,650 --> 00:04:39,860  
And yes, you anticipated my  
question is, did she have

117  
00:04:39,860 --> 00:04:44,150  
medical attention at the birth?

118  
00:04:44,150 --> 00:04:49,270  
She said very, very  
little, very, very little.

119  
00:04:49,270 --> 00:04:55,820  
And of course, ghetto, food  
and sanitarian conditions--

120  
00:04:55,820 --> 00:05:01,820  
and October, it's already  
cold and basically no heating.

121  
00:05:01,820 --> 00:05:02,630  
And I don't know.

122  
00:05:02,630 --> 00:05:08,300  
I could tell you then when  
I was such a small baby.

123  
00:05:08,300 --> 00:05:12,950

Germans would say that they  
are taking children to children

124  
00:05:12,950 --> 00:05:15,050  
aktion, it was called.

125  
00:05:15,050 --> 00:05:19,730  
And I was 13 times in  
that kind of lines.

126  
00:05:19,730 --> 00:05:26,120  
Germans would count who  
today goes back home.

127  
00:05:26,120 --> 00:05:28,310  
To the right, to the left.

128  
00:05:28,310 --> 00:05:29,135  
Rechts, links.

129  
00:05:29,135 --> 00:05:30,545  
Rechts, links.

130  
00:05:30,545 --> 00:05:31,220  
Rechts, links.

131  
00:05:31,220 --> 00:05:38,420  
And for 13 times, I was exactly  
in that line to survive.

132  
00:05:38,420 --> 00:05:43,100  
That is, I mean, when  
we think of luck,

133  
00:05:43,100 --> 00:05:47,210  
then that is extraordinarily  
lucky that you

134  
00:05:47,210 --> 00:05:49,340  
could have easily been--

135  
00:05:49,340 --> 00:05:51,635

was your mother  
holding you each time?

136  
00:05:51,635 --> 00:05:52,580  
Yes, holding.

137  
00:05:52,580 --> 00:05:55,520  
And she said when  
she would come home,

138  
00:05:55,520 --> 00:05:59,900  
I was completely blue  
because she probably

139  
00:05:59,900 --> 00:06:01,670  
was not allowed to feed me.

140  
00:06:01,670 --> 00:06:06,530  
And it was very cold already  
in October in Lithuania.

141  
00:06:06,530 --> 00:06:09,950  
And I just would like to  
tell you another case.

142  
00:06:09,950 --> 00:06:14,150  
When Germans said, you have to  
bring all the children, yeah,

143  
00:06:14,150 --> 00:06:16,910  
and they would be killed.

144  
00:06:16,910 --> 00:06:20,570  
My mother put me  
just in a pillow.

145  
00:06:20,570 --> 00:06:23,060  
And what happened,  
this will happen.

146  
00:06:23,060 --> 00:06:27,470  
And Germans came, looked  
around, took that pillow,

147

00:06:27,470 --> 00:06:32,710

throw it to the wall, and  
couldn't find and left.

148

00:06:32,710 --> 00:06:38,770

And my mother said when they  
left, she opened the pillow.

149

00:06:38,770 --> 00:06:43,960

I was completely blue  
from probably injury.

150

00:06:43,960 --> 00:06:46,570

And at that time,  
somehow, they started--

151

00:06:46,570 --> 00:06:48,940

somebody wrote an  
article about me.

152

00:06:48,940 --> 00:06:52,750

It's called "Silent  
Child of Ghetto."

153

00:06:52,750 --> 00:06:54,760

I have that article.

154

00:06:54,760 --> 00:06:55,900

And one more.

155

00:06:55,900 --> 00:07:00,280

I have hundreds of  
details, but one more.

156

00:07:00,280 --> 00:07:05,230

What I think is somehow  
I had some kind of luck,

157

00:07:05,230 --> 00:07:11,050

if you would say, that, again,  
Germans said to bring children.

158

00:07:11,050 --> 00:07:16,030

My father took me in his  
hands and ran away and tried

159

00:07:16,030 --> 00:07:18,910

to hide in some bunker.

160

00:07:18,910 --> 00:07:22,480

And was one bunker where they  
said, oh, she's too small.

161

00:07:22,480 --> 00:07:24,160

She will start to cry.

162

00:07:24,160 --> 00:07:25,990

And somebody will find.

163

00:07:25,990 --> 00:07:28,510

And we went to five bunkers.

164

00:07:28,510 --> 00:07:31,000

And nobody let us in  
because I was too--

165

00:07:31,000 --> 00:07:33,820

sixth bunker, somebody said--

166

00:07:33,820 --> 00:07:36,520

it was rabbi in the  
sixth bunker said, oh, we

167

00:07:36,520 --> 00:07:38,680

have to let that girl in.

168

00:07:38,680 --> 00:07:41,170

How will we feel if  
something happens?

169

00:07:41,170 --> 00:07:45,910

And all these five  
bunkers were bombed.

170

00:07:45,910 --> 00:07:48,760

And sixth, which I  
was with my father--

171

00:07:48,760 --> 00:07:52,450

[COUGHS] sorry-- survived.

172

00:07:52,450 --> 00:07:53,980

They didn't find, Germans.

173

00:07:53,980 --> 00:07:56,380

These are the sort of  
things you can't explain.

174

00:07:56,380 --> 00:08:00,830

Yeah, there's something  
which you cannot explain.

175

00:08:00,830 --> 00:08:01,330

Yeah.

176

00:08:01,330 --> 00:08:02,788

Can we cut the  
camera for a second?

177

00:08:02,788 --> 00:08:05,620

Whoops.

178

00:08:05,620 --> 00:08:07,030

OK, Mrs. Dana.

179

00:08:07,030 --> 00:08:07,900

We started--

180

00:08:07,900 --> 00:08:08,960

You can call me Dana.

181

00:08:08,960 --> 00:08:09,460

Dana?

182

00:08:09,460 --> 00:08:10,270

Yeah.

183  
00:08:10,270 --> 00:08:11,280  
OK, thank you.

184  
00:08:11,280 --> 00:08:15,300

185  
00:08:15,300 --> 00:08:20,520  
This is quite a beginning for  
any life, including an infant

186  
00:08:20,520 --> 00:08:26,430  
and what an infant needs and  
what an infant went through.

187  
00:08:26,430 --> 00:08:29,880  
I would like to step back  
a little bit at this point

188  
00:08:29,880 --> 00:08:34,890  
and talk about things that  
happened before you were born.

189  
00:08:34,890 --> 00:08:37,740  
But maybe you can share  
with us what you know.

190  
00:08:37,740 --> 00:08:42,539  
And that would be a little bit  
about each of your parents.

191  
00:08:42,539 --> 00:08:44,280  
I'll start with your mother.

192  
00:08:44,280 --> 00:08:46,560  
And tell me again.

193  
00:08:46,560 --> 00:08:48,870  
What was her name?

194  
00:08:48,870 --> 00:08:50,820



Her name was Liucija.

195  
00:08:50,820 --> 00:08:51,540  
Lucy?

196  
00:08:51,540 --> 00:08:53,240  
Lucy, yeah, Zulkov.

197  
00:08:53,240 --> 00:08:53,740  
Zulkov.

198  
00:08:53,740 --> 00:08:56,850  
Zulkov was her maiden name.

199  
00:08:56,850 --> 00:09:00,340  
And was she born in  
Kaunas or somewhere else?

200  
00:09:00,340 --> 00:09:02,940  
No, she was born in Kretinga.

201  
00:09:02,940 --> 00:09:05,760  
And she had seven--

202  
00:09:05,760 --> 00:09:08,160  
it was a family  
of seven children.

203  
00:09:08,160 --> 00:09:09,010  
That's a lot.

204  
00:09:09,010 --> 00:09:11,250  
Yeah, it's a big family.

205  
00:09:11,250 --> 00:09:14,910  
And she studied in Germany.

206  
00:09:14,910 --> 00:09:18,840  
She is in some kind  
of German lyceum,

207

00:09:18,840 --> 00:09:24,390  
and children upbringing  
in languages.

208  
00:09:24,390 --> 00:09:27,600  
She was not a  
professional musician.

209  
00:09:27,600 --> 00:09:28,860  
Yeah.

210  
00:09:28,860 --> 00:09:34,590  
But when-- I don't  
know if I'm jumping.

211  
00:09:34,590 --> 00:09:36,000  
Yeah, let me ask a question.

212  
00:09:36,000 --> 00:09:37,320  
And then we'll go from there.

213  
00:09:37,320 --> 00:09:38,550  
What year was she born?

214  
00:09:38,550 --> 00:09:39,270  
Do you know?

215  
00:09:39,270 --> 00:09:41,880  
She was born--

216  
00:09:41,880 --> 00:09:47,940  
I think she was born 1912.

217  
00:09:47,940 --> 00:09:48,960  
OK.

218  
00:09:48,960 --> 00:09:53,310  
But she always wanted  
to look younger

219  
00:09:53,310 --> 00:09:57,420  
that even on her monument

when she passed away,

220

00:09:57,420 --> 00:10:03,750  
she wants 1915, which my  
mother always hide it.

221

00:10:03,750 --> 00:10:05,190  
Hid her age a little bit.

222

00:10:05,190 --> 00:10:09,300  
A little age that maybe she's  
upset now that I'm telling.

223

00:10:09,300 --> 00:10:15,540  
Now, so was the family Zulkov  
in Kretinga for generations?

224

00:10:15,540 --> 00:10:17,490  
Or had they come  
from somewhere else?

225

00:10:17,490 --> 00:10:19,930  
No, I think they  
were for generations.

226

00:10:19,930 --> 00:10:22,140  
So they were a real  
Litvack family.

227

00:10:22,140 --> 00:10:23,280  
Litvack family, right.

228

00:10:23,280 --> 00:10:24,150  
OK.

229

00:10:24,150 --> 00:10:26,760  
And her father or mother,  
do you know what they

230

00:10:26,760 --> 00:10:30,090  
did, how he fed seven children?

231

00:10:30,090 --> 00:10:32,940  
I think that he was a teacher.

232  
00:10:32,940 --> 00:10:36,870  
And her mother, I even  
don't know what she did.

233  
00:10:36,870 --> 00:10:41,700  
I know that my mother's  
mother was a teacher.

234  
00:10:41,700 --> 00:10:42,480  
OK.

235  
00:10:42,480 --> 00:10:46,525  
And your mother's father, your  
grandfather, also a teacher.

236  
00:10:46,525 --> 00:10:47,025  
Yes.

237  
00:10:47,025 --> 00:10:47,525  
Right.

238  
00:10:47,525 --> 00:10:48,360  
OK.

239  
00:10:48,360 --> 00:10:52,078  
And in the local schools  
there or in a Jewish school,

240  
00:10:52,078 --> 00:10:52,620  
do you think?

241  
00:10:52,620 --> 00:10:54,030  
I think in Jewish school.

242  
00:10:54,030 --> 00:10:54,810  
OK.

243  
00:10:54,810 --> 00:11:03,640  
So would this have been a shul

or a religious school, as well?

244

00:11:03,640 --> 00:11:05,790

I don't know if  
it was religious.

245

00:11:05,790 --> 00:11:07,605

I think it was shul.

246

00:11:07,605 --> 00:11:09,480

Probably, it was a  
religious school, I think.

247

00:11:09,480 --> 00:11:10,320

Yeah.

248

00:11:10,320 --> 00:11:16,070

And do you know the names  
of all her seven siblings?

249

00:11:16,070 --> 00:11:19,130

You know, I don't  
know all the names.

250

00:11:19,130 --> 00:11:23,840

251

00:11:23,840 --> 00:11:29,250

You know, I'm just afraid that  
I could be making a mistake.

252

00:11:29,250 --> 00:11:34,550

I know that one of her  
siblings was sent to Siberia.

253

00:11:34,550 --> 00:11:36,320

We'll talk about  
that in a minute.

254

00:11:36,320 --> 00:11:37,050

OK.

255

00:11:37,050 --> 00:11:40,820  
And then I don't  
know exactly names.

256  
00:11:40,820 --> 00:11:48,650  
One, two of her sisters, they  
moved to Israel before war.

257  
00:11:48,650 --> 00:11:49,320  
Before the war?

258  
00:11:49,320 --> 00:11:49,820  
Yeah.

259  
00:11:49,820 --> 00:11:50,930  
OK, so to Palestine.

260  
00:11:50,930 --> 00:11:51,645  
Yeah, Palestine.

261  
00:11:51,645 --> 00:11:53,960  
Yeah, exactly, Palestine.

262  
00:11:53,960 --> 00:11:56,200  
All the details-- no.

263  
00:11:56,200 --> 00:11:56,750  
OK.

264  
00:11:56,750 --> 00:12:00,230  
Do you remember any  
names of the siblings?

265  
00:12:00,230 --> 00:12:03,710  
You know, I have to  
look probably, even--

266  
00:12:03,710 --> 00:12:04,670  
at this point.

267  
00:12:04,670 --> 00:12:05,525  
No, not really.

268  
00:12:05,525 --> 00:12:06,025  
Yeah.

269  
00:12:06,025 --> 00:12:08,150  
Yeah.

270  
00:12:08,150 --> 00:12:10,130  
Because I never met any of them.

271  
00:12:10,130 --> 00:12:10,985  
That was the key.

272  
00:12:10,985 --> 00:12:11,485  
Yeah.

273  
00:12:11,485 --> 00:12:13,800  
You never met any of  
your mother's brothers.

274  
00:12:13,800 --> 00:12:23,060  
I met one of my mother's sister  
but very, very shortly, maybe

275  
00:12:23,060 --> 00:12:24,405  
in a train station.

276  
00:12:24,405 --> 00:12:24,905  
Really?

277  
00:12:24,905 --> 00:12:25,670  
Yeah.

278  
00:12:25,670 --> 00:12:28,740  
When she was going from--

279  
00:12:28,740 --> 00:12:31,490  
she came to Lithuania,  
was studying in Moscow.

280  
00:12:31,490 --> 00:12:34,070

And she was going  
back to Siberia.

281  
00:12:34,070 --> 00:12:38,630

And she already at that  
time, rehabilitated.

282  
00:12:38,630 --> 00:12:41,150

And I met her in Moscow.

283  
00:12:41,150 --> 00:12:42,620

And that was it.

284  
00:12:42,620 --> 00:12:43,220

That's it.

285  
00:12:43,220 --> 00:12:46,640

I didn't met any of her--

286  
00:12:46,640 --> 00:12:55,730

So one of her siblings,  
Zulkov family, at least one,

287  
00:12:55,730 --> 00:12:59,030

was deported to  
Siberia by the Soviets.

288  
00:12:59,030 --> 00:12:59,690

Right.

289  
00:12:59,690 --> 00:13:03,170

And this would have  
been what year?

290  
00:13:03,170 --> 00:13:06,740

She was deported '41.

291  
00:13:06,740 --> 00:13:09,710

And later, I had a  
little bit about her

292  
00:13:09,710 --> 00:13:13,430



that because she was  
deported to Siberia, somehow,

293  
00:13:13,430 --> 00:13:19,250  
she didn't die during Holocaust.

294  
00:13:19,250 --> 00:13:22,760  
Siberia, also a thousand--  
million people died.

295  
00:13:22,760 --> 00:13:24,290  
But somehow she survived.

296  
00:13:24,290 --> 00:13:28,070  
But she survived  
being in Siberia.

297  
00:13:28,070 --> 00:13:29,480  
Yeah.

298  
00:13:29,480 --> 00:13:31,775  
And this is the one that you  
met at the train station.

299  
00:13:31,775 --> 00:13:32,420  
Yes.

300  
00:13:32,420 --> 00:13:34,820  
Do you know why she was  
deported to Siberia,

301  
00:13:34,820 --> 00:13:36,830  
what the reason was?

302  
00:13:36,830 --> 00:13:41,150  
I don't think you had to  
have a reason to be deported.

303  
00:13:41,150 --> 00:13:44,180  
Very often, if you  
knocked one door--

304

00:13:44,180 --> 00:13:45,740  
they were very simple people.

305  
00:13:45,740 --> 00:13:49,520  
But if you knocked one door  
and that neighbor is not there,

306  
00:13:49,520 --> 00:13:52,950  
they knocked another door  
and take another family.

307  
00:13:52,950 --> 00:13:54,020  
I don't think that--

308  
00:13:54,020 --> 00:13:56,990  
even if they had  
maybe a little shop,

309  
00:13:56,990 --> 00:14:02,540  
they already were considered  
maybe not very poor.

310  
00:14:02,540 --> 00:14:03,830  
And maybe because--

311  
00:14:03,830 --> 00:14:08,060  
I don't think-- maybe somebody  
said something, you know?

312  
00:14:08,060 --> 00:14:10,940  
It didn't have to  
be a lot of reasons.

313  
00:14:10,940 --> 00:14:13,910  
Yeah, yeah.

314  
00:14:13,910 --> 00:14:18,290  
And this is the only sibling  
that of your mother's

315  
00:14:18,290 --> 00:14:19,085  
that you ever met.

316  
00:14:19,085 --> 00:14:19,585  
Yes.

317  
00:14:19,585 --> 00:14:20,660  
Right.

318  
00:14:20,660 --> 00:14:23,600  
And your mother herself,  
what kind of education

319  
00:14:23,600 --> 00:14:26,030  
did she have growing  
up in Kretinga?

320  
00:14:26,030 --> 00:14:28,310  
Did she go to this shul?

321  
00:14:28,310 --> 00:14:29,660  
She went to the shul.

322  
00:14:29,660 --> 00:14:34,130  
But then she went and  
studied, in German, Lyceum.

323  
00:14:34,130 --> 00:14:36,830  
And where in Germany  
would that have been?

324  
00:14:36,830 --> 00:14:41,060  
I don't know exactly the name,  
exactly, where she studied.

325  
00:14:41,060 --> 00:14:46,790  
But I know that, basically,  
she played piano, children

326  
00:14:46,790 --> 00:14:50,050  
education, and languages.

327  
00:14:50,050 --> 00:14:51,050  
That's what she studied?

328  
00:14:51,050 --> 00:14:51,365  
Yes.

329  
00:14:51,365 --> 00:14:53,135  
Languages, children's  
education, pedagogy.

330  
00:14:53,135 --> 00:14:54,380  
Yes.

331  
00:14:54,380 --> 00:14:57,020  
Well, the German border  
was actually not very far

332  
00:14:57,020 --> 00:14:57,647  
from Kretinga.

333  
00:14:57,647 --> 00:14:58,355  
Not far, exactly.

334  
00:14:58,355 --> 00:14:59,210  
Exactly.

335  
00:14:59,210 --> 00:15:00,830  
So it could have  
been Koenigsberg.

336  
00:15:00,830 --> 00:15:05,980  
It could have been somewhere  
in the Prussian area that--

337  
00:15:05,980 --> 00:15:07,310  
OK.

338  
00:15:07,310 --> 00:15:12,950  
And all of the other siblings  
perished in the Holocaust?

339  
00:15:12,950 --> 00:15:16,850  
Couple two sisters  
survived in Israel.

340  
00:15:16,850 --> 00:15:17,660  
OK.

341  
00:15:17,660 --> 00:15:19,070  
And everybody else, not?

342  
00:15:19,070 --> 00:15:19,760  
Yes.

343  
00:15:19,760 --> 00:15:21,180  
Including grandparents?

344  
00:15:21,180 --> 00:15:21,978  
Yeah, exactly.

345  
00:15:21,978 --> 00:15:22,520  
You're right.

346  
00:15:22,520 --> 00:15:24,510  
OK.

347  
00:15:24,510 --> 00:15:26,610  
Let's turn to your father now.

348  
00:15:26,610 --> 00:15:29,370  
You mentioned before that  
he was a very prominent,

349  
00:15:29,370 --> 00:15:31,470  
well-known violinist.

350  
00:15:31,470 --> 00:15:32,070  
Right.

351  
00:15:32,070 --> 00:15:33,660  
What was his first name?

352  
00:15:33,660 --> 00:15:34,560  
Daniel.

353

00:15:34,560 --> 00:15:35,580  
OK.

354  
00:15:35,580 --> 00:15:37,740  
And where was he born?

355  
00:15:37,740 --> 00:15:41,410  
He was born-- my mother  
was born in Kretinga.

356  
00:15:41,410 --> 00:15:44,670  
He was born in Siauliai.

357  
00:15:44,670 --> 00:15:45,240  
OK.

358  
00:15:45,240 --> 00:15:48,930  
And then he went  
to study Naujalis

359  
00:15:48,930 --> 00:15:51,245  
muzikos mokykla,  
school of music.

360  
00:15:51,245 --> 00:15:52,030  
Music, OK.

361  
00:15:52,030 --> 00:15:52,530  
Yeah.

362  
00:15:52,530 --> 00:15:56,740  
And then, being very  
young, with his brother--

363  
00:15:56,740 --> 00:16:00,000  
his name was Juliano or Yehuda.

364  
00:16:00,000 --> 00:16:01,590  
Yehuda, OK.

365  
00:16:01,590 --> 00:16:04,200  
They want to study in Berlin.

366  
00:16:04,200 --> 00:16:04,710  
Yeah.

367  
00:16:04,710 --> 00:16:08,310  
And my father studied  
in Berlin Conservatorium

368  
00:16:08,310 --> 00:16:15,000  
and also took some lessons from  
very known violinist Bronislaw

369  
00:16:15,000 --> 00:16:16,320  
Huberman.

370  
00:16:16,320 --> 00:16:18,060  
He was teaching in Vienna.

371  
00:16:18,060 --> 00:16:21,420  
And sometimes my father  
was going to Vienna

372  
00:16:21,420 --> 00:16:25,800  
and getting lessons from him.

373  
00:16:25,800 --> 00:16:31,140  
And he had very good career  
playing classical music

374  
00:16:31,140 --> 00:16:33,720  
and was very much enjoying.

375  
00:16:33,720 --> 00:16:37,050  
But at some point,  
he felt that he would

376  
00:16:37,050 --> 00:16:42,450  
like to become just violinist.

377  
00:16:42,450 --> 00:16:46,140  
I'm a little bit far from jazz.

378

00:16:46,140 --> 00:16:50,490

Even I like it, but I'm  
not playing any jazz.

379

00:16:50,490 --> 00:16:51,900

I wish, maybe.

380

00:16:51,900 --> 00:16:55,560

And he played in  
some jazz orchestra.

381

00:16:55,560 --> 00:16:57,490

Can I stop you  
just for a second?

382

00:16:57,490 --> 00:16:59,820

Do you know the  
year he was born?

383

00:16:59,820 --> 00:17:01,980

Oh, of course, 2004--

384

00:17:01,980 --> 00:17:03,060

2000s.

385

00:17:03,060 --> 00:17:05,910

1904.

386

00:17:05,910 --> 00:17:06,780

OK.

387

00:17:06,780 --> 00:17:11,400

So when he goes to  
study in Germany,

388

00:17:11,400 --> 00:17:13,470

is it during World War I?

389

00:17:13,470 --> 00:17:16,650

Is it before World War I?

390



00:17:16,650 --> 00:17:19,800

These times when his  
career is taking place,

391

00:17:19,800 --> 00:17:23,745

do you know how old he is, where  
he's studying, and then start--

392

00:17:23,745 --> 00:17:29,250

I think he was going there  
almost when he was around 16.

393

00:17:29,250 --> 00:17:31,080

So that would have  
been after World War I.

394

00:17:31,080 --> 00:17:31,770

Yeah.

395

00:17:31,770 --> 00:17:37,140

In the 1920s is when he studies  
there and his career develops.

396

00:17:37,140 --> 00:17:37,890

Right, right.

397

00:17:37,890 --> 00:17:38,430

OK.

398

00:17:38,430 --> 00:17:40,740

An interesting time  
to be in Berlin.

399

00:17:40,740 --> 00:17:42,390

Yeah, very interesting.

400

00:17:42,390 --> 00:17:43,730

Very interesting time.

401

00:17:43,730 --> 00:17:51,000

And about how many years was  
he a classical violinist?

402

00:17:51,000 --> 00:17:55,350

From childhood, of  
course, till about 20, 22,

403

00:17:55,350 --> 00:17:57,270

he was classical violinist.

404

00:17:57,270 --> 00:18:01,920

But then he played Marek  
Weber, I think, orchestra.

405

00:18:01,920 --> 00:18:05,340

And then he came  
back to Lithuania.

406

00:18:05,340 --> 00:18:11,650

He arranged Daniel  
Pomerants orchestra.

407

00:18:11,650 --> 00:18:16,060

And he played in  
that kavÄne, cafe.

408

00:18:16,060 --> 00:18:19,450

Classical music,  
very classical music.

409

00:18:19,450 --> 00:18:25,240

Maybe not Bach or something  
a little bit heavier.

410

00:18:25,240 --> 00:18:29,050

But he played a lot of  
Wieniawski, Sarasate,

411

00:18:29,050 --> 00:18:30,820

different composers.

412

00:18:30,820 --> 00:18:33,790

And he played in Konrad.

413

00:18:33,790 --> 00:18:37,270

It was the name of that cafe  
at that time, Konrad Cafe.

414  
00:18:37,270 --> 00:18:39,520  
And where was that  
Konrad Cafe located?

415  
00:18:39,520 --> 00:18:41,770  
In Kaunas, Laisves Aleja.

416  
00:18:41,770 --> 00:18:44,830  
So the Liberty Avenue,  
it would have been.

417  
00:18:44,830 --> 00:18:45,460  
Yes.

418  
00:18:45,460 --> 00:18:46,600  
OK.

419  
00:18:46,600 --> 00:18:51,910  
And he was extremely,  
extremely popular there.

420  
00:18:51,910 --> 00:18:58,930  
A lot of poets, writers,  
actors would come there just

421  
00:18:58,930 --> 00:19:00,640  
to listen to him--

422  
00:19:00,640 --> 00:19:01,240  
Play.

423  
00:19:01,240 --> 00:19:02,080  
Him play.

424  
00:19:02,080 --> 00:19:08,740  
So it sounds that he got his  
training with cultural elite

425  
00:19:08,740 --> 00:19:13,660

in Germany and  
himself becomes part

426  
00:19:13,660 --> 00:19:17,140  
of the cultural  
society when he returns

427  
00:19:17,140 --> 00:19:20,050  
to Lithuania during most of--

428  
00:19:20,050 --> 00:19:24,750  
I mean, if we're talking the  
mid-1920s is when he returns,

429  
00:19:24,750 --> 00:19:28,780  
those are years of great  
development and growth.

430  
00:19:28,780 --> 00:19:34,790  
And Kaunas was the center of  
it, being a provisional capital.

431  
00:19:34,790 --> 00:19:36,640  
Right.

432  
00:19:36,640 --> 00:19:40,240  
Did he ever tell you  
stories about this cafe life

433  
00:19:40,240 --> 00:19:45,430  
later, after the war, about  
what it was like before?

434  
00:19:45,430 --> 00:19:51,310  
I know a lot about him.

435  
00:19:51,310 --> 00:19:57,580  
He is not very much  
talkative, especially when he

436  
00:19:57,580 --> 00:20:00,650  
came after concentration camp.

437

00:20:00,650 --> 00:20:02,110

He told something.

438

00:20:02,110 --> 00:20:06,760

But a lot I've heard about his  
playing, about his personality

439

00:20:06,760 --> 00:20:10,400

is from my adoptive  
mother, Elena Petrauskiene

440

00:20:10,400 --> 00:20:12,940

and Petrauskas, who  
were constantly--

441

00:20:12,940 --> 00:20:15,860

or many, many other artists.

442

00:20:15,860 --> 00:20:20,770

I know to get to  
listen to him play,

443

00:20:20,770 --> 00:20:23,710

people were staying  
in lines and lines.

444

00:20:23,710 --> 00:20:27,460

Even president, Lithuanian  
Smetona at that time,

445

00:20:27,460 --> 00:20:29,440

also would come to--

446

00:20:29,440 --> 00:20:30,040

To hear him.

447

00:20:30,040 --> 00:20:31,150

To hear him play.

448

00:20:31,150 --> 00:20:35,230

Somehow he was very popular  
that when I, myself, played

449

00:20:35,230 --> 00:20:40,870  
in Chicago, one lady said  
that so many ladies had fallen

450

00:20:40,870 --> 00:20:44,600  
in love with him that she asked  
if she could, for memory, cut

451

00:20:44,600 --> 00:20:46,330  
a little bit of my hair.

452

00:20:46,330 --> 00:20:48,280  
And I said, you're welcome.

453

00:20:48,280 --> 00:20:51,910  
[LAUGHS] Wow.

454

00:20:51,910 --> 00:20:57,850  
And where did he  
meet your mother?

455

00:20:57,850 --> 00:20:59,420  
You know, it's very interesting.

456

00:20:59,420 --> 00:21:02,320  
He had many admirers.

457

00:21:02,320 --> 00:21:07,960  
But somehow, the way  
he talked and the way

458

00:21:07,960 --> 00:21:12,610  
my mother talked, that when he  
played something and suddenly

459

00:21:12,610 --> 00:21:14,980  
my mother came in--

460

00:21:14,980 --> 00:21:19,330  
and just one look,  
and he fell in love.

461  
00:21:19,330 --> 00:21:20,750  
He talks like that.

462  
00:21:20,750 --> 00:21:21,490  
OK.

463  
00:21:21,490 --> 00:21:23,290  
So at any rate, he noticed her.

464  
00:21:23,290 --> 00:21:26,200  
She came to one of his  
concerts, and he noticed her.

465  
00:21:26,200 --> 00:21:27,040  
Right, right.

466  
00:21:27,040 --> 00:21:27,880  
OK.

467  
00:21:27,880 --> 00:21:30,100  
So this was not an  
arranged marriage.

468  
00:21:30,100 --> 00:21:31,460  
Oh, no, no, no, no, no.

469  
00:21:31,460 --> 00:21:32,140  
No, no.

470  
00:21:32,140 --> 00:21:33,160  
OK.

471  
00:21:33,160 --> 00:21:36,420  
Do you know the year that they  
married, what year that was?

472  
00:21:36,420 --> 00:21:39,460  
I think they married one  
year before war started.

473

00:21:39,460 --> 00:21:43,060  
They married about 1940.

474  
00:21:43,060 --> 00:21:44,290  
OK.

475  
00:21:44,290 --> 00:21:48,220  
So he was part of  
this cultural life

476  
00:21:48,220 --> 00:21:56,290  
and playing with his orchestra  
up until World War II and even

477  
00:21:56,290 --> 00:21:57,970  
a little bit into World War II.

478  
00:21:57,970 --> 00:22:01,030  
Right, right.

479  
00:22:01,030 --> 00:22:04,690  
Let's turn a little bit now to  
your parents' personalities.

480  
00:22:04,690 --> 00:22:06,400  
I'd like to know.

481  
00:22:06,400 --> 00:22:11,800  
You mentioned just in passing  
that your father wouldn't

482  
00:22:11,800 --> 00:22:15,310  
talk or didn't talk much  
about his early years

483  
00:22:15,310 --> 00:22:18,790  
and his studying, and you  
learned from other people.

484  
00:22:18,790 --> 00:22:21,280  
What kind of a  
personality did he have?



485

00:22:21,280 --> 00:22:22,300

Was he reserved?

486

00:22:22,300 --> 00:22:24,340

Was he outgoing?

487

00:22:24,340 --> 00:22:25,420

What was he like?

488

00:22:25,420 --> 00:22:30,460

You know, about him, I  
can just talk nonstop.

489

00:22:30,460 --> 00:22:33,560

He was extremely kind.

490

00:22:33,560 --> 00:22:34,060

Just take--

491

00:22:34,060 --> 00:22:34,630

Sure, sure.

492

00:22:34,630 --> 00:22:35,172

Take a drink.

493

00:22:35,172 --> 00:22:37,050

Get emotional when  
I talk about him.

494

00:22:37,050 --> 00:22:37,550

Mm-hmm.

495

00:22:37,550 --> 00:22:40,360

496

00:22:40,360 --> 00:22:46,210

He was extremely kind  
personality, extremely warm,

497

00:22:46,210 --> 00:22:50,590

that I think he had

some kind of aura

498

00:22:50,590 --> 00:22:55,390

that I think why people  
were so attached to him--

499

00:22:55,390 --> 00:22:59,470

that he really  
radiated that aura.

500

00:22:59,470 --> 00:23:04,600

He was very, very  
kind, very giving.

501

00:23:04,600 --> 00:23:10,030

All the money-- I think  
he was quite successful.

502

00:23:10,030 --> 00:23:13,330

Poor people would come and  
constantly ask him money.

503

00:23:13,330 --> 00:23:19,690

And he was giving  
everything almost away.

504

00:23:19,690 --> 00:23:24,250

I think he had personality  
almost like child purity

505

00:23:24,250 --> 00:23:28,780

personality, that  
kind of personality.

506

00:23:28,780 --> 00:23:31,900

I know that when--

507

00:23:31,900 --> 00:23:35,920

my aunt told, when war started,  
there was some kind of market.

508

00:23:35,920 --> 00:23:38,260

And he had violin.

509  
00:23:38,260 --> 00:23:44,710  
He put the violin, put a note  
who will give him instead--

510  
00:23:44,710 --> 00:23:45,580  
oh, not violin.

511  
00:23:45,580 --> 00:23:46,180  
I'm sorry.

512  
00:23:46,180 --> 00:23:47,890  
Watch, he had a watch.

513  
00:23:47,890 --> 00:23:51,250  
Put a note-- please take  
a watch, but give me--

514  
00:23:51,250 --> 00:23:52,480  
Some money for it.

515  
00:23:52,480 --> 00:23:53,950  
Some bread.

516  
00:23:53,950 --> 00:23:56,710  
He was ready to  
exchange for bread.

517  
00:23:56,710 --> 00:23:59,200  
But somebody took that  
watch but, of course,

518  
00:23:59,200 --> 00:24:01,120  
didn't give any bread.

519  
00:24:01,120 --> 00:24:04,240  
That's what they say.

520  
00:24:04,240 --> 00:24:06,190  
You say with the  
purity of a child.

521  
00:24:06,190 --> 00:24:06,910  
Yes.

522  
00:24:06,910 --> 00:24:07,960  
OK.

523  
00:24:07,960 --> 00:24:11,950  
Some kind of almost naivete.

524  
00:24:11,950 --> 00:24:18,470  
I think he helped so many  
people and financially,

525  
00:24:18,470 --> 00:24:20,110  
not financially.

526  
00:24:20,110 --> 00:24:21,310  
To me, he's a saint.

527  
00:24:21,310 --> 00:24:22,540  
Aw.

528  
00:24:22,540 --> 00:24:25,150  
And this is, you say,  
from before the war

529  
00:24:25,150 --> 00:24:26,540  
as well as after the war.

530  
00:24:26,540 --> 00:24:27,400  
Yeah.

531  
00:24:27,400 --> 00:24:30,880  
Now, one thing I forgot to  
ask about his siblings--

532  
00:24:30,880 --> 00:24:33,700  
you mentioned a brother, Julian.

533  
00:24:33,700 --> 00:24:35,890  
Yeah, Yehuda or Julian.

534  
00:24:35,890 --> 00:24:36,430  
Yehuda.

535  
00:24:36,430 --> 00:24:38,220  
Entschuldige.

536  
00:24:38,220 --> 00:24:38,920  
Yehuda.

537  
00:24:38,920 --> 00:24:41,770  
And did he have any other  
brothers and sisters?

538  
00:24:41,770 --> 00:24:47,560  
He had all bro-- his family was  
very, very, very close, which

539  
00:24:47,560 --> 00:24:55,540  
I met-- he had a sister,  
Sarah, a sister, Fania, Fania,

540  
00:24:55,540 --> 00:25:00,640  
that brother,  
Yehuda, and Shmuel.

541  
00:25:00,640 --> 00:25:01,300  
Smuel?

542  
00:25:01,300 --> 00:25:02,785  
Yeah, who survived.

543  
00:25:02,785 --> 00:25:05,590

544  
00:25:05,590 --> 00:25:07,143  
My father survived.

545  
00:25:07,143 --> 00:25:07,810  
Yehuda survived.

546

00:25:07,810 --> 00:25:10,512  
Daniel, Yehuda.

547  
00:25:10,512 --> 00:25:12,160  
Sarah and Fania--

548  
00:25:12,160 --> 00:25:13,300  
Sarah survived and Fania.

549  
00:25:13,300 --> 00:25:14,500  
Other four--

550  
00:25:14,500 --> 00:25:17,140

551  
00:25:17,140 --> 00:25:18,648  
So there were four more.

552  
00:25:18,648 --> 00:25:19,690  
Four, yeah, each of them.

553  
00:25:19,690 --> 00:25:21,010  
There were four more children?

554  
00:25:21,010 --> 00:25:21,820  
Eight children.

555  
00:25:21,820 --> 00:25:23,320  
Eight children.

556  
00:25:23,320 --> 00:25:25,570  
And did they all--

557  
00:25:25,570 --> 00:25:26,890  
how did they--

558  
00:25:26,890 --> 00:25:28,450  
Concentration camp.

559  
00:25:28,450 --> 00:25:29,290  
OK.

560  
00:25:29,290 --> 00:25:31,780  
And do you know which one?

561  
00:25:31,780 --> 00:25:33,230  
I think they were--

562  
00:25:33,230 --> 00:25:38,200  
my Aunt Sarah and Fania,  
yeah, and Judith--

563  
00:25:38,200 --> 00:25:42,880  
Sarah and Judith I knew  
very well, very well.

564  
00:25:42,880 --> 00:25:45,220  
And Sarah, we are so close.

565  
00:25:45,220 --> 00:25:49,120  
She passed away, but she  
didn't have children.

566  
00:25:49,120 --> 00:25:52,330  
So I was like her daughter.

567  
00:25:52,330 --> 00:25:53,740  
Which year they--

568  
00:25:53,740 --> 00:25:59,230  
Sarah was in an  
concentration camp, Buchen--

569  
00:25:59,230 --> 00:26:00,190  
Buchenwald?

570  
00:26:00,190 --> 00:26:02,140  
Not Buchenwald.

571  
00:26:02,140 --> 00:26:05,410  
And maybe later I  
can-- on the letter B.

572  
00:26:05,410 --> 00:26:06,040  
OK.

573  
00:26:06,040 --> 00:26:09,490  
But it wasn't Bergen Belsen?

574  
00:26:09,490 --> 00:26:11,200  
Can maybe you  
stop, and I could--

575  
00:26:11,200 --> 00:26:12,340  
if you would like, I--

576  
00:26:12,340 --> 00:26:14,880  
No, we can look at it  
later during a break.

577  
00:26:14,880 --> 00:26:16,690  
We can determine this.

578  
00:26:16,690 --> 00:26:17,530  
OK.

579  
00:26:17,530 --> 00:26:20,350  
She was in that concen--

580  
00:26:20,350 --> 00:26:23,020  
they all were in that  
concentration camp.

581  
00:26:23,020 --> 00:26:25,510  
OK, so they were not  
in Siauliai ghetto.

582  
00:26:25,510 --> 00:26:26,080  
No.

583  
00:26:26,080 --> 00:26:27,820  
They were in Germany.

584  
00:26:27,820 --> 00:26:29,210



Yeah, exactly.

585

00:26:29,210 --> 00:26:33,490

And my father was also  
in Dachau, in Auschwitz.

586

00:26:33,490 --> 00:26:37,880

OK, but he still was in a  
ghetto in Lithuania before that.

587

00:26:37,880 --> 00:26:38,380

Yeah, right.

588

00:26:38,380 --> 00:26:39,400

OK.

589

00:26:39,400 --> 00:26:45,330

How did his father support  
eight children in Siauliai?

590

00:26:45,330 --> 00:26:46,570

I don't know.

591

00:26:46,570 --> 00:26:47,390

OK.

592

00:26:47,390 --> 00:26:48,630

I don't know.

593

00:26:48,630 --> 00:26:51,570

Were your grandparents  
on your father's side--

594

00:26:51,570 --> 00:26:55,360

had they already passed  
away before World War II?

595

00:26:55,360 --> 00:26:56,150

Yes.

596

00:26:56,150 --> 00:26:56,650

OK.

597  
00:26:56,650 --> 00:26:57,095  
Yes, for sure.

598  
00:26:57,095 --> 00:26:57,595  
I never--

599  
00:26:57,595 --> 00:27:02,040  
So there were eight children  
left, of which four survived.

600  
00:27:02,040 --> 00:27:02,550  
Yes.

601  
00:27:02,550 --> 00:27:06,750  
Daniel, Yehuda, Faige, and--

602  
00:27:06,750 --> 00:27:08,445  
Fania and Sarah.

603  
00:27:08,445 --> 00:27:09,510  
Fania and Sarah.

604  
00:27:09,510 --> 00:27:10,320  
OK.

605  
00:27:10,320 --> 00:27:11,940  
And Shmuel passed away?

606  
00:27:11,940 --> 00:27:12,450  
Yeah.

607  
00:27:12,450 --> 00:27:13,480  
I mean, was killed.

608  
00:27:13,480 --> 00:27:13,980  
Yeah.

609  
00:27:13,980 --> 00:27:16,460  
And do you know the names of  
the others who were killed?

610  
00:27:16,460 --> 00:27:17,320  
I don't know names.

611  
00:27:17,320 --> 00:27:21,170  
But I know they passed  
away in concentration camp.

612  
00:27:21,170 --> 00:27:21,990  
OK, OK.

613  
00:27:21,990 --> 00:27:25,140

614  
00:27:25,140 --> 00:27:26,190  
All right, I'm sorry.

615  
00:27:26,190 --> 00:27:28,630  
I should have asked this before.

616  
00:27:28,630 --> 00:27:30,090  
This is in the  
middle of when I'm

617  
00:27:30,090 --> 00:27:31,630  
asking about your father and--

618  
00:27:31,630 --> 00:27:32,130  
Yeah.

619  
00:27:32,130 --> 00:27:32,880  
All right.

620  
00:27:32,880 --> 00:27:37,830  
So what brought your mother  
to Kaunas from Kretinga?

621  
00:27:37,830 --> 00:27:39,750  
Kretinga is a small  
town, and Kaunas is

622

00:27:39,750 --> 00:27:42,450  
the capital city at that time.

623  
00:27:42,450 --> 00:27:46,770  
Probably, she decided to  
go maybe to see the city

624  
00:27:46,770 --> 00:27:51,210  
or to find some job there.

625  
00:27:51,210 --> 00:27:56,640  
I think she had her  
reasons to go to Kaunas

626  
00:27:56,640 --> 00:27:58,990  
and maybe to start  
to work in Kaunas.

627  
00:27:58,990 --> 00:27:59,800  
OK.

628  
00:27:59,800 --> 00:28:03,480  
Did she return to Kretinga  
after meeting your father?

629  
00:28:03,480 --> 00:28:05,580  
No, I don't think she returned.

630  
00:28:05,580 --> 00:28:07,020  
OK.

631  
00:28:07,020 --> 00:28:11,910  
And they meet.

632  
00:28:11,910 --> 00:28:14,340  
They marry in 1940.

633  
00:28:14,340 --> 00:28:19,860  
And was a big uproar, because  
my second mother, Petrauskiene

634  
00:28:19,860 --> 00:28:27,300

Elena, told that so many women were completely upset with him

635  
00:28:27,300 --> 00:28:30,240  
and wanted to ignore him in the beginning

636  
00:28:30,240 --> 00:28:33,300  
that he married because--

637  
00:28:33,300 --> 00:28:35,130  
Up until then, he's a--

638  
00:28:35,130 --> 00:28:36,420  
Was a hope.

639  
00:28:36,420 --> 00:28:37,080  
Oh, yeah.

640  
00:28:37,080 --> 00:28:38,730  
There was hope that this bachelor

641  
00:28:38,730 --> 00:28:40,030  
would choose someone else.

642  
00:28:40,030 --> 00:28:42,750  
Exactly.

643  
00:28:42,750 --> 00:28:45,330  
Well, that's kind of cute.

644  
00:28:45,330 --> 00:28:48,480  
I wonder if your father was aware of all this attention.

645  
00:28:48,480 --> 00:28:49,810  
I think he was aware.

646  
00:28:49,810 --> 00:28:52,510

647

00:28:52,510 --> 00:28:55,770

So later, we'll  
come to this part.

648

00:28:55,770 --> 00:28:59,820

Your adopted family, then,  
they knew your father

649

00:28:59,820 --> 00:29:01,330

from before the war.

650

00:29:01,330 --> 00:29:06,870

Yes, they knew because Kipras  
Petrauskas and my father--

651

00:29:06,870 --> 00:29:10,350

Kipras Petrauskas was a big  
opera singer, of course.

652

00:29:10,350 --> 00:29:14,790

And Elena  
Zalinkevicaite-Petrauskiene

653

00:29:14,790 --> 00:29:20,010

was a famous actress and poet.

654

00:29:20,010 --> 00:29:23,070

That was very,  
very famous family.

655

00:29:23,070 --> 00:29:27,650

And they lived on a  
street at that time

656

00:29:27,650 --> 00:29:29,520

named Kipras Petrauskas Street.

657

00:29:29,520 --> 00:29:31,750

So he already had a  
street named after him.

658

00:29:31,750 --> 00:29:32,460

Yeah.

659

00:29:32,460 --> 00:29:33,480

Yes.

660

00:29:33,480 --> 00:29:34,410

That's something.

661

00:29:34,410 --> 00:29:35,940

That's something, that.

662

00:29:35,940 --> 00:29:41,220

And because they went to listen  
my father play, of course,

663

00:29:41,220 --> 00:29:43,390

they knew each other very well.

664

00:29:43,390 --> 00:29:46,110

So when your father  
formed this orchestra,

665

00:29:46,110 --> 00:29:48,555

it wasn't just jazz  
music that he played.

666

00:29:48,555 --> 00:29:51,060

667

00:29:51,060 --> 00:29:53,040

You said some light  
classical music?

668

00:29:53,040 --> 00:29:53,650

Yeah.

669

00:29:53,650 --> 00:29:57,390

He played jazz and,  
with Lithuanians,

670

00:29:57,390 --> 00:30:00,510

artists like Dvarionas,

a singer, another singer.

671  
00:30:00,510 --> 00:30:03,030  
And he also played  
classical music.

672  
00:30:03,030 --> 00:30:03,540  
Yeah.

673  
00:30:03,540 --> 00:30:08,560  
Did he play popular music,  
such as tango music and things

674  
00:30:08,560 --> 00:30:09,060  
like that?

675  
00:30:09,060 --> 00:30:10,170  
With orchestra, yes.

676  
00:30:10,170 --> 00:30:11,330  
Yes.

677  
00:30:11,330 --> 00:30:14,370  
And that, his  
orchestra, Daniel Pom--

678  
00:30:14,370 --> 00:30:19,110  
he's considered father  
of Lithuanian jazz music.

679  
00:30:19,110 --> 00:30:20,730  
Oh, wow.

680  
00:30:20,730 --> 00:30:23,160  
Oh, wow.

681  
00:30:23,160 --> 00:30:29,040  
He played tango and  
waltzes with his orchestra.

682  
00:30:29,040 --> 00:30:30,960  
They had a very beautiful sound.



683  
00:30:30,960 --> 00:30:34,520  
And my father actually had  
beautiful, beautiful violin

684  
00:30:34,520 --> 00:30:35,970  
sometimes.

685  
00:30:35,970 --> 00:30:42,620  
I listen to his sound and  
thinking about my sound.

686  
00:30:42,620 --> 00:30:44,950  
Very little, of course,  
but I think there is some--

687  
00:30:44,950 --> 00:30:45,450  
Connection.

688  
00:30:45,450 --> 00:30:48,330  
Connection, yes,  
spiritual connection.

689  
00:30:48,330 --> 00:30:52,950  
And was any of his music  
recorded before the war?

690  
00:30:52,950 --> 00:30:54,190  
You know what?

691  
00:30:54,190 --> 00:30:55,750  
Actually, I would  
like to show you.

692  
00:30:55,750 --> 00:30:57,390  
OK, hang on just a--

693  
00:30:57,390 --> 00:31:05,970  
His orchestra did about  
11 records in London

694  
00:31:05,970 --> 00:31:07,920

by Columbia artists.

695  
00:31:07,920 --> 00:31:08,880  
Before the war?

696  
00:31:08,880 --> 00:31:09,540  
Yeah.

697  
00:31:09,540 --> 00:31:11,250  
We will film this later.

698  
00:31:11,250 --> 00:31:14,430  
At the end of the interview,  
we will film that.

699  
00:31:14,430 --> 00:31:15,660  
That's amazing.

700  
00:31:15,660 --> 00:31:22,170  
That is, to me, very sacred  
because somehow, somebody

701  
00:31:22,170 --> 00:31:27,540  
had these old recordings  
and gave them to me.

702  
00:31:27,540 --> 00:31:31,380  
That, to me, is unbelievable.

703  
00:31:31,380 --> 00:31:32,910  
And it's quite an achievement.

704  
00:31:32,910 --> 00:31:33,520  
Yes.

705  
00:31:33,520 --> 00:31:34,020  
11?

706  
00:31:34,020 --> 00:31:34,520  
11, yeah.

707

00:31:34,520 --> 00:31:36,330  
11 albums or records.

708  
00:31:36,330 --> 00:31:39,030  
With London, Columbia Records.

709  
00:31:39,030 --> 00:31:41,580  
And so did the whole  
orchestra go to London?

710  
00:31:41,580 --> 00:31:42,080  
Yes.

711  
00:31:42,080 --> 00:31:42,742  
Yes, yes.

712  
00:31:42,742 --> 00:31:43,575  
The whole orchestra?

713  
00:31:43,575 --> 00:31:44,075  
Yes.

714  
00:31:44,075 --> 00:31:46,730  
So it must have been quite  
an event in those days.

715  
00:31:46,730 --> 00:31:47,540  
Yes, of course.

716  
00:31:47,540 --> 00:31:49,770  
Do you know what year  
this was recorded?

717  
00:31:49,770 --> 00:31:57,170  
I think it was actually  
'30-something, '36 or something

718  
00:31:57,170 --> 00:31:57,920  
like that.

719  
00:31:57,920 --> 00:31:59,720  
OK.

720  
00:31:59,720 --> 00:32:04,530  
Now, of course, you're born in  
the basement in a ghetto and so

721  
00:32:04,530 --> 00:32:05,030  
on.

722  
00:32:05,030 --> 00:32:08,870  
Do you know what kind of  
place your parents lived in

723  
00:32:08,870 --> 00:32:10,970  
before they had to leave it?

724  
00:32:10,970 --> 00:32:14,120  
Did they ever describe the  
home they had together?

725  
00:32:14,120 --> 00:32:17,840  
No, they didn't  
describe what home.

726  
00:32:17,840 --> 00:32:21,830  
I think probably  
it was a nice home

727  
00:32:21,830 --> 00:32:23,450  
because what I  
would like to say,

728  
00:32:23,450 --> 00:32:28,500  
that my father's family  
was very, very close.

729  
00:32:28,500 --> 00:32:29,960  
That what my father--

730  
00:32:29,960 --> 00:32:33,020  
because like I said,  
he was so giving.

731

00:32:33,020 --> 00:32:35,480  
He built a house.

732  
00:32:35,480 --> 00:32:38,990  
And in that house, all his  
eight brothers and sisters

733  
00:32:38,990 --> 00:32:40,340  
lived together.

734  
00:32:40,340 --> 00:32:41,990  
That shows.

735  
00:32:41,990 --> 00:32:44,690  
And when my mother got married--

736  
00:32:44,690 --> 00:32:48,320  
not my mother,  
father got married,

737  
00:32:48,320 --> 00:32:50,490  
they lived in the same house.

738  
00:32:50,490 --> 00:32:52,250  
So this was a house  
he built in Kaunas.

739  
00:32:52,250 --> 00:32:53,180  
Yes, in Kaunas.

740  
00:32:53,180 --> 00:32:55,700  
And so all of his eight  
brothers and sisters

741  
00:32:55,700 --> 00:32:57,080  
were also in Kaunas.

742  
00:32:57,080 --> 00:32:58,560  
Yeah, exactly.

743  
00:32:58,560 --> 00:33:03,260  
And so when they had to leave--

744

00:33:03,260 --> 00:33:06,320  
that is, when everyone was told  
they have to go to the ghetto--

745

00:33:06,320 --> 00:33:09,560  
did all of these eight brothers  
and sisters go together?

746

00:33:09,560 --> 00:33:13,790  
I don't know if they got  
together in the ghetto.

747

00:33:13,790 --> 00:33:17,045  
I will tell you  
my father before--

748

00:33:17,045 --> 00:33:19,400  
not my father, Yehuda.

749

00:33:19,400 --> 00:33:20,720  
Yehuda, your uncle.

750

00:33:20,720 --> 00:33:24,910  
Yeah, my uncle went to Italy.

751

00:33:24,910 --> 00:33:25,910  
Before the war.

752

00:33:25,910 --> 00:33:27,490  
Yeah, he was a pianist.

753

00:33:27,490 --> 00:33:30,460  
And he was a composer.

754

00:33:30,460 --> 00:33:32,830  
I met him many times.

755

00:33:32,830 --> 00:33:36,100  
And my father, many  
people were musicians.

756

00:33:36,100 --> 00:33:38,890

And he went to Italy.

757

00:33:38,890 --> 00:33:43,240

And he survived there because  
he met an Italian woman.

758

00:33:43,240 --> 00:33:45,280

And somehow, he managed.

759

00:33:45,280 --> 00:33:46,060

I see.

760

00:33:46,060 --> 00:33:46,750

OK.

761

00:33:46,750 --> 00:33:50,380

But the rest of the siblings  
were living in this house.

762

00:33:50,380 --> 00:33:51,430

Living in the house.

763

00:33:51,430 --> 00:33:54,340

And when everybody  
had to go together,

764

00:33:54,340 --> 00:33:59,200

I don't know if exactly at  
the same time or somebody

765

00:33:59,200 --> 00:34:01,540

was sent immediately  
in concentration camp.

766

00:34:01,540 --> 00:34:03,580

I don't know that for sure.

767

00:34:03,580 --> 00:34:07,840

But I know that Sarah  
and Fania and my father,

768  
00:34:07,840 --> 00:34:09,070  
they went together.

769  
00:34:09,070 --> 00:34:12,310  
OK, so at least the  
three were all in there.

770  
00:34:12,310 --> 00:34:13,224  
OK, OK.

771  
00:34:13,224 --> 00:34:16,389

772  
00:34:16,389 --> 00:34:19,420  
So I think that  
brings me up back

773  
00:34:19,420 --> 00:34:24,400  
to where we had been  
before, which is,

774  
00:34:24,400 --> 00:34:27,940  
is there anything else  
from your parents' pasts

775  
00:34:27,940 --> 00:34:31,989  
that you think is significant  
that they told you, that

776  
00:34:31,989 --> 00:34:34,270  
is of interest to you,  
that you would like

777  
00:34:34,270 --> 00:34:36,159  
to share with other people?

778  
00:34:36,159 --> 00:34:39,710  
Because I try to go  
back a little bit.

779  
00:34:39,710 --> 00:34:41,560  
What is back?



780  
00:34:41,560 --> 00:34:43,030  
I think this what--

781  
00:34:43,030 --> 00:34:46,330  
I don't know anything more.

782  
00:34:46,330 --> 00:34:47,590  
Got it.

783  
00:34:47,590 --> 00:34:50,620  
Because you know  
what I think is--

784  
00:34:50,620 --> 00:34:56,409  
when my parents there  
went through Holocaust,

785  
00:34:56,409 --> 00:34:59,800  
went to concentration  
camp, my father, yeah--

786  
00:34:59,800 --> 00:35:05,890  
when they came back, somehow,  
I cannot say that they were

787  
00:35:05,890 --> 00:35:10,720  
talking so much about the past.

788  
00:35:10,720 --> 00:35:13,690  
And I asked my father  
about concentration camp.

789  
00:35:13,690 --> 00:35:16,840  
And I understood.

790  
00:35:16,840 --> 00:35:22,570  
When I wanted to know more, I  
understood that, for him, it

791  
00:35:22,570 --> 00:35:24,190  
became almost like a fork.

792  
00:35:24,190 --> 00:35:26,980

793  
00:35:26,980 --> 00:35:32,500  
Even I know some details, but I  
know that they were not so much

794  
00:35:32,500 --> 00:35:35,010  
talkative, yeah, about that.

795  
00:35:35,010 --> 00:35:39,160  
Yeah, many people report that.

796  
00:35:39,160 --> 00:35:41,120  
They wanted to forget.

797  
00:35:41,120 --> 00:35:46,210  
They wanted to go forward  
for whatever reason,

798  
00:35:46,210 --> 00:35:53,350  
whether not talking  
helped to go forward.

799  
00:35:53,350 --> 00:35:55,240  
Your mother's personality.

800  
00:35:55,240 --> 00:35:57,130  
You told me a little  
bit about your father.

801  
00:35:57,130 --> 00:35:59,480  
Tell me about your mother.

802  
00:35:59,480 --> 00:36:05,840  
You know, I think probably  
because they got married,

803  
00:36:05,840 --> 00:36:10,700  
probably if another woman  
would be like my father,

804  
00:36:10,700 --> 00:36:14,130  
I'm not sure if they  
would be able to survive.

805  
00:36:14,130 --> 00:36:17,030  
I think my mother is a  
different personality.

806  
00:36:17,030 --> 00:36:19,940  
It's a little bit down to earth.

807  
00:36:19,940 --> 00:36:23,210  
If my father was  
constantly flying,

808  
00:36:23,210 --> 00:36:26,798  
my mother was walking  
on the ground.

809  
00:36:26,798 --> 00:36:28,340  
That's a beautiful  
way of putting it.

810  
00:36:28,340 --> 00:36:28,840  
Yeah.

811  
00:36:28,840 --> 00:36:32,764

812  
00:36:32,764 --> 00:36:34,215  
I understand that.

813  
00:36:34,215 --> 00:36:35,770  
I understand that.

814  
00:36:35,770 --> 00:36:40,440  
But when I was adopted, for me--

815  
00:36:40,440 --> 00:36:41,770  
maybe we'll go later, yeah.

816

00:36:41,770 --> 00:36:43,062

We'll come to that later, yeah.

817

00:36:43,062 --> 00:36:48,180

That was a little bit some  
kind of difficulty for me.

818

00:36:48,180 --> 00:36:50,340

OK.

819

00:36:50,340 --> 00:36:55,200

But she was very  
caring, very caring.

820

00:36:55,200 --> 00:36:58,770

Because my father was  
very hugging and kissing.

821

00:36:58,770 --> 00:37:02,670

And my mother was a  
little bit on colder side.

822

00:37:02,670 --> 00:37:05,310

She was not so outgoing.

823

00:37:05,310 --> 00:37:08,580

That, I felt difference.

824

00:37:08,580 --> 00:37:11,070

So she was a bit more reserved.

825

00:37:11,070 --> 00:37:11,820

Exactly.

826

00:37:11,820 --> 00:37:14,420

More reserved, a little  
bit more down to earth.

827

00:37:14,420 --> 00:37:15,240

Yes.

828

00:37:15,240 --> 00:37:17,400

Well, you know, they  
say opposites attract.

829

00:37:17,400 --> 00:37:17,940

Yes, yes.

830

00:37:17,940 --> 00:37:20,130

Yeah.

831

00:37:20,130 --> 00:37:22,680

And often, a couple needs that.

832

00:37:22,680 --> 00:37:26,192

If somebody flies, somebody  
has to be on the ground.

833

00:37:26,192 --> 00:37:26,692

I agree.

834

00:37:26,692 --> 00:37:27,192

I agree.

835

00:37:27,192 --> 00:37:29,790

836

00:37:29,790 --> 00:37:30,600

All right.

837

00:37:30,600 --> 00:37:32,210

Now we're back in the ghetto.

838

00:37:32,210 --> 00:37:35,010

839

00:37:35,010 --> 00:37:38,310

Did your parents ever tell you  
what kind of living quarters

840

00:37:38,310 --> 00:37:42,330

they had in the ghetto  
where you were born?

841  
00:37:42,330 --> 00:37:46,480  
It was some kind of one room.

842  
00:37:46,480 --> 00:37:49,710  
When I was filming my movie--

843  
00:37:49,710 --> 00:37:54,030  
not my movie, but movie about  
me and my adopted parents

844  
00:37:54,030 --> 00:37:55,020  
and my parents--

845  
00:37:55,020 --> 00:37:59,430  
I went to that part  
where it was, ghetto,

846  
00:37:59,430 --> 00:38:05,220  
and it was some little houses  
with still stink, even now.

847  
00:38:05,220 --> 00:38:08,850  
I don't know if you  
can say a house.

848  
00:38:08,850 --> 00:38:09,700  
It's not a house.

849  
00:38:09,700 --> 00:38:11,460  
It's one room and--

850  
00:38:11,460 --> 00:38:12,150  
A shack.

851  
00:38:12,150 --> 00:38:13,020  
A shack, yeah.

852  
00:38:13,020 --> 00:38:16,770  
And it's just  
unbelievable conditions.

853

00:38:16,770 --> 00:38:17,610

OK.

854

00:38:17,610 --> 00:38:22,350

So you saw the general area of  
what the ghetto houses were,

855

00:38:22,350 --> 00:38:25,930

not necessarily the specific  
house that they lived in.

856

00:38:25,930 --> 00:38:27,150

Yeah.

857

00:38:27,150 --> 00:38:32,070

Well, you had luck  
for 13 attempts.

858

00:38:32,070 --> 00:38:34,350

And it's amazing that--

859

00:38:34,350 --> 00:38:37,020

I would have thought  
if you had cried,

860

00:38:37,020 --> 00:38:38,687

then that would have  
sealed your fate.

861

00:38:38,687 --> 00:38:39,270

Yeah, exactly.

862

00:38:39,270 --> 00:38:42,030

If you were in line  
or in the pillow

863

00:38:42,030 --> 00:38:45,030

or in any of these situations--

864

00:38:45,030 --> 00:38:45,750

The bunker, yeah.

865

00:38:45,750 --> 00:38:47,730

In the bunker.

866

00:38:47,730 --> 00:38:51,370

So that article called "The  
Silent Child" certainly sounds

867

00:38:51,370 --> 00:38:51,870

appropriate.

868

00:38:51,870 --> 00:38:52,370

Right.

869

00:38:52,370 --> 00:38:54,900

870

00:38:54,900 --> 00:38:57,900

But I will tell you once,  
when I cried a little bit.

871

00:38:57,900 --> 00:38:58,960

You did, OK.

872

00:38:58,960 --> 00:38:59,460

Yeah.

873

00:38:59,460 --> 00:39:00,330

All right.

874

00:39:00,330 --> 00:39:05,280

So your parents  
are there with you.

875

00:39:05,280 --> 00:39:08,700

And there is aktion  
after aktion, roll call

876

00:39:08,700 --> 00:39:10,890

after roll call.

877

00:39:10,890 --> 00:39:13,140



I take it that when  
you were in the pillow

878  
00:39:13,140 --> 00:39:15,780  
is when the Germans  
come into whatever

879  
00:39:15,780 --> 00:39:19,290  
living quarters they have  
and are looking for children.

880  
00:39:19,290 --> 00:39:20,670  
Yeah.

881  
00:39:20,670 --> 00:39:22,350  
And they don't find you.

882  
00:39:22,350 --> 00:39:24,880

883  
00:39:24,880 --> 00:39:27,020  
What happens then?

884  
00:39:27,020 --> 00:39:31,450  
My mother, because she  
was more realistic,

885  
00:39:31,450 --> 00:39:35,680  
she had that feeling that--

886  
00:39:35,680 --> 00:39:39,070  
she was sure that  
I will not survive.

887  
00:39:39,070 --> 00:39:43,300  
How many times can you be lucky?

888  
00:39:43,300 --> 00:39:48,280  
Then she asked somebody who  
had sleeping pills, yeah,

889  
00:39:48,280 --> 00:39:53,020

to give me unbelievable-- now,  
in beginning, amount of pills.

890  
00:39:53,020 --> 00:39:54,940  
I don't know, maybe one, two.

891  
00:39:54,940 --> 00:39:56,680  
And I couldn't fall asleep.

892  
00:39:56,680 --> 00:40:00,680  
Because my mother  
met one person.

893  
00:40:00,680 --> 00:40:03,430  
His is Simanauskas, yeah.

894  
00:40:03,430 --> 00:40:04,330  
Who was Simanauskas?

895  
00:40:04,330 --> 00:40:07,480  
Balys Simanauskas.

896  
00:40:07,480 --> 00:40:08,530  
He was Lithuanian.

897  
00:40:08,530 --> 00:40:12,550  
He worked in a fur factory.

898  
00:40:12,550 --> 00:40:14,260  
Yeah, factory.

899  
00:40:14,260 --> 00:40:16,840  
And my mother spoke  
with him if he

900  
00:40:16,840 --> 00:40:20,440  
would be able, in  
a sack of potato,

901  
00:40:20,440 --> 00:40:26,350  
to put me in because he had  
possibility to come to ghetto.

902  
00:40:26,350 --> 00:40:28,990  
Now, how did she meet  
him in a fur factory?

903  
00:40:28,990 --> 00:40:31,240  
She knew probably him before.

904  
00:40:31,240 --> 00:40:31,870  
OK.

905  
00:40:31,870 --> 00:40:34,270  
And because my mother also--

906  
00:40:34,270 --> 00:40:39,400  
Germans were asking  
sometimes to take peoples who

907  
00:40:39,400 --> 00:40:42,730  
worked in some kind of factory.

908  
00:40:42,730 --> 00:40:47,650  
A little bit a type of ghetto,  
I think they were working.

909  
00:40:47,650 --> 00:40:49,150  
Somehow, she met.

910  
00:40:49,150 --> 00:40:52,210  
And he said yes.

911  
00:40:52,210 --> 00:40:54,340  
Try to make her asleep.

912  
00:40:54,340 --> 00:40:57,010  
And I will try to get her out.

913  
00:40:57,010 --> 00:41:01,060  
Now, did she already have  
some place for you to go?

914

00:41:01,060 --> 00:41:02,440  
Oh, yeah.

915  
00:41:02,440 --> 00:41:05,500

916  
00:41:05,500 --> 00:41:11,410  
My mother knew Elena  
Petrauskiene, yes.

917  
00:41:11,410 --> 00:41:17,770  
What had happened-- when  
she was so underground,

918  
00:41:17,770 --> 00:41:21,970  
she got in touch  
with Petrauskiene.

919  
00:41:21,970 --> 00:41:27,520  
And they agreed my mother, when  
she walked outside of ghetto,

920  
00:41:27,520 --> 00:41:33,610  
she agreed to meet Petrauskiene,  
Elena, in a small--

921  
00:41:33,610 --> 00:41:38,560  
it was a small monastery, some  
kind of church or monastery.

922  
00:41:38,560 --> 00:41:40,540  
And she agreed to meet there.

923  
00:41:40,540 --> 00:41:44,500  
But Petrauskiene didn't  
know what is the reason.

924  
00:41:44,500 --> 00:41:47,740  
And my mother came.

925  
00:41:47,740 --> 00:41:50,950  
And she met her.

926

00:41:50,950 --> 00:41:54,580

And she said, what  
you would like?

927

00:41:54,580 --> 00:41:56,380

You look terrible.

928

00:41:56,380 --> 00:42:00,550

What you would like to tell me?

929

00:42:00,550 --> 00:42:04,150

And it's exactly  
not more than less.

930

00:42:04,150 --> 00:42:06,040

My mother said--

931

00:42:06,040 --> 00:42:09,610

I saw that in  
another documentary.

932

00:42:09,610 --> 00:42:13,120

I cannot normally  
even tell about that.

933

00:42:13,120 --> 00:42:16,910

My mother said, I  
have a baby girl.

934

00:42:16,910 --> 00:42:20,560

She has blue eyes, blond hair.

935

00:42:20,560 --> 00:42:23,260

She doesn't look  
like a Jewish girl.

936

00:42:23,260 --> 00:42:25,540

She looks not like a Jew.

937

00:42:25,540 --> 00:42:27,490

Could you save her?

938

00:42:27,490 --> 00:42:34,420  
And Elena didn't think even one  
second, thinking because she

939

00:42:34,420 --> 00:42:38,160  
had her own three children,  
was very famous, living

940

00:42:38,160 --> 00:42:40,150  
on the name of their street.

941

00:42:40,150 --> 00:42:41,890  
She said, bring her.

942

00:42:41,890 --> 00:42:44,410  
Try to somebody to bring her.

943

00:42:44,410 --> 00:42:45,940  
How do you know?

944

00:42:45,940 --> 00:42:46,450  
I'm sorry.

945

00:42:46,450 --> 00:42:47,658  
I'm playing devil's advocate.

946

00:42:47,658 --> 00:42:49,780  
How do you know that  
it wasn't even a second

947

00:42:49,780 --> 00:42:51,207  
before she says, bring her?

948

00:42:51,207 --> 00:42:53,055  
My mother told that.

949

00:42:53,055 --> 00:42:54,760  
My mother told that.

950

00:42:54,760 --> 00:42:55,750  
And I will tell you.

951  
00:42:55,750 --> 00:43:01,210  
When we were in that  
church corridor, yes?

952  
00:43:01,210 --> 00:43:01,900  
The courtyard.

953  
00:43:01,900 --> 00:43:03,580  
Yeah, courtyard.

954  
00:43:03,580 --> 00:43:05,980  
And I must tell you.

955  
00:43:05,980 --> 00:43:13,450  
And her daughter, Ausra, and  
myself, they were filming.

956  
00:43:13,450 --> 00:43:14,650  
We both cried.

957  
00:43:14,650 --> 00:43:17,326  
And then a monakhina?

958  
00:43:17,326 --> 00:43:18,610  
How you say, monakhina?

959  
00:43:18,610 --> 00:43:20,770  
Oh, is it a monk?

960  
00:43:20,770 --> 00:43:23,440  
Monk, but woman.

961  
00:43:23,440 --> 00:43:24,230  
Monakhina?

962  
00:43:24,230 --> 00:43:26,950  
Abbess, maybe, or  
nun or something.

963  
00:43:26,950 --> 00:43:28,940

She said, why are you crying?

964

00:43:28,940 --> 00:43:31,000

And we shortly told that story.

965

00:43:31,000 --> 00:43:32,830

And she started to cry.

966

00:43:32,830 --> 00:43:36,760

Because in that courtyard,

I had goose bumps

967

00:43:36,760 --> 00:43:40,150

because it felt like

it's happening there,

968

00:43:40,150 --> 00:43:42,040

what almost in the air.

969

00:43:42,040 --> 00:43:43,360

You felt the connection.

970

00:43:43,360 --> 00:43:46,600

Yeah, I felt that

here, something had--

971

00:43:46,600 --> 00:43:49,630

and then it was the question,

how to get to me out of ghetto?

972

00:43:49,630 --> 00:43:53,410

I want to interrupt

in this point

973

00:43:53,410 --> 00:43:58,600

and say thank you for telling

me about the film that

974

00:43:58,600 --> 00:44:02,200

was made about you and your

parents and the Petrauskas

975



00:44:02,200 --> 00:44:02,830  
family.

976  
00:44:02,830 --> 00:44:04,370  
Film was done a few years ago.

977  
00:44:04,370 --> 00:44:04,870  
Yeah.

978  
00:44:04,870 --> 00:44:07,090  
Now it's 2019.

979  
00:44:07,090 --> 00:44:12,850  
And in that film,  
this episode is

980  
00:44:12,850 --> 00:44:18,400  
mentioned with the  
added information

981  
00:44:18,400 --> 00:44:22,000  
that your mother in the  
ghetto, when she leaves,

982  
00:44:22,000 --> 00:44:25,420  
calls by phone Mrs.  
Petrauskas and pretends

983  
00:44:25,420 --> 00:44:27,970  
to be somebody else.

984  
00:44:27,970 --> 00:44:31,630  
It's not that she called.

985  
00:44:31,630 --> 00:44:34,870  
When my mother wanted  
to meet Elena--

986  
00:44:34,870 --> 00:44:35,740  
To meet her.

987  
00:44:35,740 --> 00:44:41,410

Because my mother had a  
sister who was in Kretinga.

988  
00:44:41,410 --> 00:44:45,880

Her husband was a  
very famous doctor

989  
00:44:45,880 --> 00:44:48,850

who actually was also  
a very nice doctor, who

990  
00:44:48,850 --> 00:44:55,450

was healing and sick and  
very poor, didn't have money.

991  
00:44:55,450 --> 00:44:58,870

And Elena Petrauskiene  
and my mother's

992  
00:44:58,870 --> 00:45:02,110

sister, very close friends.

993  
00:45:02,110 --> 00:45:04,360

Do you remember the name  
of this mother's sister?

994  
00:45:04,360 --> 00:45:05,560

Karlinskiene.

995  
00:45:05,560 --> 00:45:10,030

And I will give you  
last name, Karlinskiene.

996  
00:45:10,030 --> 00:45:12,240

But first name, at  
this point-- some also.

997  
00:45:12,240 --> 00:45:12,910

OK.

998  
00:45:12,910 --> 00:45:15,220

So Karlinskiene, your  
mother calls and says

999

00:45:15,220 --> 00:45:16,420

she's Karlinskiene?

1000

00:45:16,420 --> 00:45:20,860

My mother called and  
said she is Karlinskiene.

1001

00:45:20,860 --> 00:45:27,030

And when in that courtyard,  
because my mother was afraid--

1002

00:45:27,030 --> 00:45:29,500

what about she would not come?

1003

00:45:29,500 --> 00:45:33,010

If Petrauskiene would not come  
if she just presents herself

1004

00:45:33,010 --> 00:45:33,800

as herself?

1005

00:45:33,800 --> 00:45:34,300

Yes.

1006

00:45:34,300 --> 00:45:35,758

Because they don't  
know each other.

1007

00:45:35,758 --> 00:45:38,460

They're not, yeah, very known.

1008

00:45:38,460 --> 00:45:42,490

But Karlinskiene was  
then very good friend.

1009

00:45:42,490 --> 00:45:46,420

Then when Petrauskiene  
came and saw my mother,

1010

00:45:46,420 --> 00:45:49,770

she said, I don't recognize you.

1011  
00:45:49,770 --> 00:45:51,250  
This was a new look.

1012  
00:45:51,250 --> 00:45:52,650  
So what's happened?

1013  
00:45:52,650 --> 00:45:53,680  
Something like that.

1014  
00:45:53,680 --> 00:45:54,180  
OK.

1015  
00:45:54,180 --> 00:45:59,160  
So your mother just pretended  
she was her own sister.

1016  
00:45:59,160 --> 00:46:00,990  
Yeah, but then she told.

1017  
00:46:00,990 --> 00:46:02,910  
I was afraid that  
you will not come.

1018  
00:46:02,910 --> 00:46:04,400  
Come and so on and so forth.

1019  
00:46:04,400 --> 00:46:05,790  
Yeah.

1020  
00:46:05,790 --> 00:46:08,970  
And then this man,  
Simanovichus--

1021  
00:46:08,970 --> 00:46:11,580  
Then they gave me  
big amount of pills,

1022  
00:46:11,580 --> 00:46:16,020  
and I couldn't sleep, like  
having had that premonition

1023

00:46:16,020 --> 00:46:18,990  
that something will happen.

1024

00:46:18,990 --> 00:46:24,000  
Finally, like my mother,  
they gave me a horse dose.

1025

00:46:24,000 --> 00:46:26,040  
I fall asleep.

1026

00:46:26,040 --> 00:46:29,040  
Simanovichus, he  
risked his life.

1027

00:46:29,040 --> 00:46:30,970  
Definitely, he risked his life.

1028

00:46:30,970 --> 00:46:36,210  
He took me in that sack,  
put potatoes, put on his--

1029

00:46:36,210 --> 00:46:37,270  
I think on his shoulder.

1030

00:46:37,270 --> 00:46:37,770  
On his back?

1031

00:46:37,770 --> 00:46:38,290  
Mm-hmm.

1032

00:46:38,290 --> 00:46:43,650  
And at that moment, when we  
were passing ghetto border,

1033

00:46:43,650 --> 00:46:45,780  
I probably didn't  
have enough air,

1034

00:46:45,780 --> 00:46:48,358  
and I maybe started to cry.

1035

00:46:48,358 --> 00:46:49,650  
This is what I'm talking about.

1036  
00:46:49,650 --> 00:46:51,390  
I said, [WHIMPERS].

1037  
00:46:51,390 --> 00:46:52,050  
Like that?

1038  
00:46:52,050 --> 00:46:52,560  
Yeah.

1039  
00:46:52,560 --> 00:46:56,200  
And that German soldier  
asked, "was is das?"

1040  
00:46:56,200 --> 00:46:57,340  
Who is that?

1041  
00:46:57,340 --> 00:47:00,840  
And he said, "eine  
kleine Schweine."

1042  
00:47:00,840 --> 00:47:01,650  
A little piglet.

1043  
00:47:01,650 --> 00:47:02,010  
A little pig.

1044  
00:47:02,010 --> 00:47:02,510  
[LAUGHS]

1045  
00:47:02,510 --> 00:47:05,880  
And then he said, let's go.

1046  
00:47:05,880 --> 00:47:06,520  
He let him out.

1047  
00:47:06,520 --> 00:47:07,020  
Yeah.

1048

00:47:07,020 --> 00:47:12,480  
And Simanovichus still said when  
he brought to Petrauskiene's

1049  
00:47:12,480 --> 00:47:15,390  
house, he knocked.

1050  
00:47:15,390 --> 00:47:17,490  
In the beginning,  
nobody answered.

1051  
00:47:17,490 --> 00:47:22,950  
And he said, if nobody is  
home, I will take that girl.

1052  
00:47:22,950 --> 00:47:30,240  
Because he said I was so sweetly  
sleeping with so much dose.

1053  
00:47:30,240 --> 00:47:31,800  
But opened.

1054  
00:47:31,800 --> 00:47:36,130  
And Elena asked,  
what is her name?

1055  
00:47:36,130 --> 00:47:37,560  
And he said, I don't know.

1056  
00:47:37,560 --> 00:47:41,100  
And they decided  
to call me Danute.

1057  
00:47:41,100 --> 00:47:43,740  
And this is how my name is now.

1058  
00:47:43,740 --> 00:47:45,780  
And so you have stayed Danute.

1059  
00:47:45,780 --> 00:47:47,520  
Dana then and now Danute.

1060

00:47:47,520 --> 00:47:48,060  
OK.

1061  
00:47:48,060 --> 00:47:49,450  
That name's disappeared.

1062  
00:47:49,450 --> 00:47:49,950  
All right.

1063  
00:47:49,950 --> 00:47:54,840  
So Danute is a nickname,  
sort of like a--

1064  
00:47:54,840 --> 00:47:57,113  
No, Dana and Danute.

1065  
00:47:57,113 --> 00:47:57,780  
Dana and Danute.

1066  
00:47:57,780 --> 00:47:58,280  
Yeah.

1067  
00:47:58,280 --> 00:47:59,700  
Danute is the name  
in Lithuanian.

1068  
00:47:59,700 --> 00:48:02,070  
But in Lithuania, when  
I go to Lithuania,

1069  
00:48:02,070 --> 00:48:03,370  
everybody calls me Danute.

1070  
00:48:03,370 --> 00:48:07,080  
Here, people call  
me Dana, "Day-na."

1071  
00:48:07,080 --> 00:48:09,210  
OK.

1072  
00:48:09,210 --> 00:48:11,100  
Let's step back a little bit.



1073  
00:48:11,100 --> 00:48:14,340  
Tell me what you know  
about Mr. Simanovichus.

1074  
00:48:14,340 --> 00:48:16,035  
What was his first name?

1075  
00:48:16,035 --> 00:48:16,920  
Balys.

1076  
00:48:16,920 --> 00:48:18,000  
Balys.

1077  
00:48:18,000 --> 00:48:21,510  
And you say he worked  
in a fur factory?

1078  
00:48:21,510 --> 00:48:23,280  
Yes.

1079  
00:48:23,280 --> 00:48:26,580  
What else do you know about  
him, about his family,

1080  
00:48:26,580 --> 00:48:29,310  
about his background?

1081  
00:48:29,310 --> 00:48:32,910  
I know that he  
had his wife, yes.

1082  
00:48:32,910 --> 00:48:37,650  
And I know his  
granddaughter, which

1083  
00:48:37,650 --> 00:48:42,816  
is now director of Vilnius--

1084  
00:48:42,816 --> 00:48:44,340  
Gaon.

1085

00:48:44,340 --> 00:48:46,230

Yeah, Museum, Holocaust Museum.

1086

00:48:46,230 --> 00:48:47,580

Uh-huh, Gaon Museum.

1087

00:48:47,580 --> 00:48:48,330

Yes.

1088

00:48:48,330 --> 00:48:54,030

And actually, October 17,  
she's coming to Boston.

1089

00:48:54,030 --> 00:48:54,870

Oh, how nice.

1090

00:48:54,870 --> 00:48:57,780

And she will stay  
with us in our house.

1091

00:48:57,780 --> 00:48:58,470

OK.

1092

00:48:58,470 --> 00:49:01,170

But of his background--

1093

00:49:01,170 --> 00:49:05,460

again, I'm referencing  
the film that was seen--

1094

00:49:05,460 --> 00:49:09,840

is that he ends up in  
Siberia after the war.

1095

00:49:09,840 --> 00:49:10,470

Yes.

1096

00:49:10,470 --> 00:49:11,610

Do you know why?

1097

00:49:11,610 --> 00:49:14,040

I don't know why.

1098  
00:49:14,040 --> 00:49:16,330  
But we spoke also with--

1099  
00:49:16,330 --> 00:49:19,170  
Camille is her name.

1100  
00:49:19,170 --> 00:49:23,070  
I don't think that it  
was any reason to send.

1101  
00:49:23,070 --> 00:49:24,180  
So he was deported.

1102  
00:49:24,180 --> 00:49:25,620  
Deported, exactly.

1103  
00:49:25,620 --> 00:49:28,620  
He was deported, but  
there was no reason

1104  
00:49:28,620 --> 00:49:30,735  
that you know of  
why he was deported.

1105  
00:49:30,735 --> 00:49:32,100  
No.

1106  
00:49:32,100 --> 00:49:38,010  
Do you know if he was a  
well-to-do person, whether he

1107  
00:49:38,010 --> 00:49:39,570  
was an owner of anything?

1108  
00:49:39,570 --> 00:49:43,470  
I think probably he was  
because he worked in that--

1109  
00:49:43,470 --> 00:49:47,830  
probably he was maybe owner, but

I don't know why they deported.

1110  
00:49:47,830 --> 00:49:48,390  
I don't know.

1111  
00:49:48,390 --> 00:49:49,770  
OK, OK.

1112  
00:49:49,770 --> 00:49:50,270  
All right.

1113  
00:49:50,270 --> 00:49:54,030  
But he was rehabilitated.

1114  
00:49:54,030 --> 00:49:54,790  
Rehabilitated.

1115  
00:49:54,790 --> 00:49:55,770  
Yes, exactly.

1116  
00:49:55,770 --> 00:49:56,520  
OK.

1117  
00:49:56,520 --> 00:49:58,440  
Did you ever meet  
him after that?

1118  
00:49:58,440 --> 00:49:59,990  
No, no.

1119  
00:49:59,990 --> 00:50:01,270  
Oh, I see.

1120  
00:50:01,270 --> 00:50:02,220  
I never met him.

1121  
00:50:02,220 --> 00:50:04,912  
So even later after the war--

1122  
00:50:04,912 --> 00:50:06,370  
of course, he wasn't

there anymore.

1123  
00:50:06,370 --> 00:50:08,370  
Yeah, right.

1124  
00:50:08,370 --> 00:50:09,300  
OK.

1125  
00:50:09,300 --> 00:50:10,830  
So let's go back now.

1126  
00:50:10,830 --> 00:50:16,260  
And you are newly named  
in the Petrauskas family.

1127  
00:50:16,260 --> 00:50:17,370  
The door opens.

1128  
00:50:17,370 --> 00:50:19,200  
Mrs. Petrauskas is there.

1129  
00:50:19,200 --> 00:50:19,980  
Yeah.

1130  
00:50:19,980 --> 00:50:22,030  
And then what happens?

1131  
00:50:22,030 --> 00:50:24,690  
Then everybody  
starts to say, how

1132  
00:50:24,690 --> 00:50:28,140  
come you have that little girl?

1133  
00:50:28,140 --> 00:50:32,760  
Then she said that  
her relative who

1134  
00:50:32,760 --> 00:50:38,100  
lived in Ukraine  
because of war asked

1135

00:50:38,100 --> 00:50:42,540

her to take care of this  
child for her for a while.

1136

00:50:42,540 --> 00:50:44,910

That's how she told.

1137

00:50:44,910 --> 00:50:49,590

Do you think that  
explanation worked?

1138

00:50:49,590 --> 00:50:54,480

I don't think that it worked  
because she remembered--

1139

00:50:54,480 --> 00:51:00,330

she told me that when she  
went to wash my little blouse,

1140

00:51:00,330 --> 00:51:09,330

and she didn't notice  
that it was that star.

1141

00:51:09,330 --> 00:51:10,560

And she put it outside.

1142

00:51:10,560 --> 00:51:14,600

And somebody said,  
what you have?

1143

00:51:14,600 --> 00:51:19,470

And she said she felt  
that she has to leave.

1144

00:51:19,470 --> 00:51:25,090

And she went to  
area near Palanga.

1145

00:51:25,090 --> 00:51:25,590

All right.

1146

00:51:25,590 --> 00:51:27,270

Tell us what is Palanga.

1147  
00:51:27,270 --> 00:51:28,150  
What is Palanga?

1148  
00:51:28,150 --> 00:51:31,050  
Palanga is Lithuanian.

1149  
00:51:31,050 --> 00:51:34,560  
It's a summer resort  
near the ocean.

1150  
00:51:34,560 --> 00:51:35,590  
Oh, OK.

1151  
00:51:35,590 --> 00:51:37,790  
So it's an ocean resort.

1152  
00:51:37,790 --> 00:51:38,760  
Yes, yes.

1153  
00:51:38,760 --> 00:51:39,480  
OK.

1154  
00:51:39,480 --> 00:51:42,990  
And so when she  
washed your blouse,

1155  
00:51:42,990 --> 00:51:46,500  
was that soon after you  
came or after a year or two?

1156  
00:51:46,500 --> 00:51:47,430  
No, no, no.

1157  
00:51:47,430 --> 00:51:49,260  
After I just came.

1158  
00:51:49,260 --> 00:51:50,530  
After you just came.

1159

00:51:50,530 --> 00:51:51,240  
Yeah.

1160  
00:51:51,240 --> 00:51:54,420  
So she leaves with you.

1161  
00:51:54,420 --> 00:51:55,260  
Yes, yes.

1162  
00:51:55,260 --> 00:51:57,870  
And what about her own children?

1163  
00:51:57,870 --> 00:52:00,780  
She had all her three children.

1164  
00:52:00,780 --> 00:52:01,950  
That's what they say.

1165  
00:52:01,950 --> 00:52:05,790  
She risks her life,  
her husband's life,

1166  
00:52:05,790 --> 00:52:08,760  
and her three children's life.

1167  
00:52:08,760 --> 00:52:12,630  
If Germans would  
find out, of course,

1168  
00:52:12,630 --> 00:52:14,680  
all the family would be killed.

1169  
00:52:14,680 --> 00:52:17,850  
But despite that,  
being by herself,

1170  
00:52:17,850 --> 00:52:21,360  
unbelievable beautiful,  
unbelievable beautiful.

1171  
00:52:21,360 --> 00:52:23,730  
Very talented, very warm.



1172  
00:52:23,730 --> 00:52:27,405

1173  
00:52:27,405 --> 00:52:29,340  
She risked-- unbelievable.

1174  
00:52:29,340 --> 00:52:31,940  
What are the names of her  
children, the three children?

1175  
00:52:31,940 --> 00:52:32,730  
Ausra.

1176  
00:52:32,730 --> 00:52:33,510  
Ausra.

1177  
00:52:33,510 --> 00:52:34,440  
Goda.

1178  
00:52:34,440 --> 00:52:35,010  
Goda.

1179  
00:52:35,010 --> 00:52:35,670  
Luka.

1180  
00:52:35,670 --> 00:52:36,600  
Luka.

1181  
00:52:36,600 --> 00:52:38,820  
And Luka is a girl or a boy?

1182  
00:52:38,820 --> 00:52:39,450  
Boy.

1183  
00:52:39,450 --> 00:52:41,940  
And Goda, girl or a boy?

1184  
00:52:41,940 --> 00:52:42,810  
Girl.

1185  
00:52:42,810 --> 00:52:44,190  
And Ausra?

1186  
00:52:44,190 --> 00:52:44,770  
Girl.

1187  
00:52:44,770 --> 00:52:46,030  
Girl, so two girls and a boy.

1188  
00:52:46,030 --> 00:52:46,530  
Yeah.

1189  
00:52:46,530 --> 00:52:47,790  
Ausra is alive.

1190  
00:52:47,790 --> 00:52:49,270  
Goda and Luka passed away.

1191  
00:52:49,270 --> 00:52:49,770  
OK.

1192  
00:52:49,770 --> 00:52:55,580

1193  
00:52:55,580 --> 00:52:59,260  
I mean, everything that we've  
talked about up until now

1194  
00:52:59,260 --> 00:53:02,740  
is really things  
that people told you

1195  
00:53:02,740 --> 00:53:05,160  
because you were a baby.

1196  
00:53:05,160 --> 00:53:05,770  
Yeah.

1197  
00:53:05,770 --> 00:53:09,700  
I'd like to ask you now  
about your earliest memories.

1198  
00:53:09,700 --> 00:53:12,130  
What are the first  
things in your own mind

1199  
00:53:12,130 --> 00:53:14,610  
that you remember  
from your childhood?

1200  
00:53:14,610 --> 00:53:19,910

1201  
00:53:19,910 --> 00:53:24,910  
Actually, very early,  
I remember when

1202  
00:53:24,910 --> 00:53:30,430  
we started to run  
when war was going,

1203  
00:53:30,430 --> 00:53:34,180  
Russians coming,  
and Germans coming.

1204  
00:53:34,180 --> 00:53:39,910  
And everybody started  
to run away going west.

1205  
00:53:39,910 --> 00:53:44,140  
And I remember that  
constantly bombarding.

1206  
00:53:44,140 --> 00:53:45,730  
You were three years  
old at the time.

1207  
00:53:45,730 --> 00:53:46,880  
Yeah, yes.

1208  
00:53:46,880 --> 00:53:49,480  
That, I remember.

1209

00:53:49,480 --> 00:53:51,640  
And what I remember--

1210  
00:53:51,640 --> 00:53:59,350  
I remember that warmth of my  
adopted mother and her children

1211  
00:53:59,350 --> 00:54:02,290  
and especially her.

1212  
00:54:02,290 --> 00:54:08,470  
For example, I remember when it  
was very big shortage of food.

1213  
00:54:08,470 --> 00:54:14,820  
And she would take a hair  
and get the bread and measure

1214  
00:54:14,820 --> 00:54:18,535  
by that hair that all  
children, including me,

1215  
00:54:18,535 --> 00:54:21,210  
would get the same amount.

1216  
00:54:21,210 --> 00:54:22,140  
Wow.

1217  
00:54:22,140 --> 00:54:23,160  
Wow.

1218  
00:54:23,160 --> 00:54:26,860  
And also, I don't know  
if it's connected.

1219  
00:54:26,860 --> 00:54:32,040  
But I remember then when  
we were in train station.

1220  
00:54:32,040 --> 00:54:35,850  
And we had to go into train.

1221

00:54:35,850 --> 00:54:42,060  
But this, Ausra told me  
that suddenly, I got lost.

1222  
00:54:42,060 --> 00:54:44,460  
I remember me quite early.

1223  
00:54:44,460 --> 00:54:46,650  
And I started to look, to look.

1224  
00:54:46,650 --> 00:54:48,900  
And you know, when  
1,000 people--

1225  
00:54:48,900 --> 00:54:52,290  
and I fall asleep.

1226  
00:54:52,290 --> 00:54:55,630  
Somebody had some package,  
you know what, and whatever.

1227  
00:54:55,630 --> 00:54:57,450  
I was so small.

1228  
00:54:57,450 --> 00:54:59,510  
I fall asleep.

1229  
00:54:59,510 --> 00:55:01,640  
And they couldn't  
go to that train

1230  
00:55:01,640 --> 00:55:04,280  
because they couldn't find me.

1231  
00:55:04,280 --> 00:55:07,040  
Finally, they found me.

1232  
00:55:07,040 --> 00:55:08,120  
That train left.

1233  
00:55:08,120 --> 00:55:09,830  
It was late.

1234  
00:55:09,830 --> 00:55:13,700  
And five minutes later,  
the train was bombed.

1235  
00:55:13,700 --> 00:55:15,560  
My goodness, another miracle.

1236  
00:55:15,560 --> 00:55:16,520  
Another miracle.

1237  
00:55:16,520 --> 00:55:18,080  
Like the bunker.

1238  
00:55:18,080 --> 00:55:19,190  
Like the bunker.

1239  
00:55:19,190 --> 00:55:22,710  
Now, when Elena moved with  
her children to Palanga,

1240  
00:55:22,710 --> 00:55:25,040  
did they have a summer  
resort there, a summer

1241  
00:55:25,040 --> 00:55:26,100  
house in Palanga?

1242  
00:55:26,100 --> 00:55:27,950  
They didn't had their own house.

1243  
00:55:27,950 --> 00:55:30,950  
But they stayed  
in a summer house.

1244  
00:55:30,950 --> 00:55:33,200  
OK.

1245  
00:55:33,200 --> 00:55:33,980  
Sorry.

1246

00:55:33,980 --> 00:55:39,890  
Petrauskas he went  
to another residence

1247  
00:55:39,890 --> 00:55:42,920  
because he liked  
fishing and hunting.

1248  
00:55:42,920 --> 00:55:47,700  
But then he couldn't come back  
because already, it was closed.

1249  
00:55:47,700 --> 00:55:48,200  
All right.

1250  
00:55:48,200 --> 00:55:51,290  
But what I want to try  
and establish-- again,

1251  
00:55:51,290 --> 00:55:53,960  
I'm going back a little bit.

1252  
00:55:53,960 --> 00:55:59,570  
When you come to her home,  
if you're born in 1941,

1253  
00:55:59,570 --> 00:56:03,990  
you are probably at least a year  
old or a year and a half old.

1254  
00:56:03,990 --> 00:56:04,490  
Yeah.

1255  
00:56:04,490 --> 00:56:09,260  
So it would be  
1942 or early 1943

1256  
00:56:09,260 --> 00:56:12,290  
that you were in her  
home on the street

1257  
00:56:12,290 --> 00:56:15,770  
that her husband is named--

is named after her husband.

1258

00:56:15,770 --> 00:56:22,610

And she washes the little blouse  
right away or soon afterwards,

1259

00:56:22,610 --> 00:56:25,730

hangs it up without thinking  
because it has the star on it.

1260

00:56:25,730 --> 00:56:30,660

And it's noticed, which sounds  
to me like she leaves Kaunas--

1261

00:56:30,660 --> 00:56:31,520

Exactly.

1262

00:56:31,520 --> 00:56:32,370

Right away.

1263

00:56:32,370 --> 00:56:34,340

She no longer lives in Kaunas.

1264

00:56:34,340 --> 00:56:35,810

Yes, exactly.

1265

00:56:35,810 --> 00:56:38,010

Her husband does not join her.

1266

00:56:38,010 --> 00:56:40,850

Her husband stays  
there in Kaunas.

1267

00:56:40,850 --> 00:56:44,810

No, her husband,  
Kipras Petrauskas,

1268

00:56:44,810 --> 00:56:52,340

goes to their residence in the  
countryside because he said,

1269

00:56:52,340 --> 00:56:54,120



I will come later.

1270  
00:56:54,120 --> 00:56:55,670  
OK.

1271  
00:56:55,670 --> 00:57:01,310  
But again, nevertheless,  
even if you're there in 1943,

1272  
00:57:01,310 --> 00:57:06,650  
it's at least a year and a half  
before you are three years old

1273  
00:57:06,650 --> 00:57:07,920  
and you hear the bombs.

1274  
00:57:07,920 --> 00:57:08,420  
Yeah.

1275  
00:57:08,420 --> 00:57:11,840  
So in this year and a  
half, they lived apart?

1276  
00:57:11,840 --> 00:57:13,450  
Yes, exactly.

1277  
00:57:13,450 --> 00:57:14,180  
OK.

1278  
00:57:14,180 --> 00:57:17,750  
And the place where he had  
another residence, what

1279  
00:57:17,750 --> 00:57:19,460  
part of the country was it in?

1280  
00:57:19,460 --> 00:57:23,900  
Maybe later, even I  
have somewhere written.

1281  
00:57:23,900 --> 00:57:26,090  
Now I don't remember the name.

1282  
00:57:26,090 --> 00:57:26,780  
OK.

1283  
00:57:26,780 --> 00:57:30,020  
Was it in Samogitia,  
Aukstaitija?

1284  
00:57:30,020 --> 00:57:30,650  
Samogitia.

1285  
00:57:30,650 --> 00:57:31,800  
It was in Samogitia.

1286  
00:57:31,800 --> 00:57:32,300  
Yeah.

1287  
00:57:32,300 --> 00:57:34,070  
The reason I'm  
asking is I'm trying

1288  
00:57:34,070 --> 00:57:39,320  
to establish, geographically,  
the distance between them.

1289  
00:57:39,320 --> 00:57:41,480  
And does he join them?

1290  
00:57:41,480 --> 00:57:42,560  
Doesn't he join them?

1291  
00:57:42,560 --> 00:57:43,550  
Mm-hmm.

1292  
00:57:43,550 --> 00:57:45,080  
No, he didn't join them.

1293  
00:57:45,080 --> 00:57:45,980  
He did not join them.

1294  
00:57:45,980 --> 00:57:46,480

Yeah.

1295

00:57:46,480 --> 00:57:49,040

Did he continue working  
throughout the war?

1296

00:57:49,040 --> 00:57:53,400

Did he continue singing while  
there was a German occupation?

1297

00:57:53,400 --> 00:57:57,980

This, I don't know, during  
occupation if he was singing

1298

00:57:57,980 --> 00:57:58,790

or not.

1299

00:57:58,790 --> 00:58:00,650

OK.

1300

00:58:00,650 --> 00:58:03,560

Do you know whether, during  
the first Soviet occupation,

1301

00:58:03,560 --> 00:58:05,150

he was singing or not?

1302

00:58:05,150 --> 00:58:08,120

I think that he  
was singing, yeah,

1303

00:58:08,120 --> 00:58:12,980

because before, he was  
singing a lot of Italy,

1304

00:58:12,980 --> 00:58:14,120

in Italy and Milan.

1305

00:58:14,120 --> 00:58:17,090

And I read one review  
which they said,

1306

00:58:17,090 --> 00:58:19,850  
he had 15-minute  
standing ovation.

1307  
00:58:19,850 --> 00:58:20,780  
Oh, wow.

1308  
00:58:20,780 --> 00:58:22,220  
Yeah.

1309  
00:58:22,220 --> 00:58:27,110  
And I know that he was singing  
in Rio de Janeiro, in London,

1310  
00:58:27,110 --> 00:58:31,100  
in all the biggest opera  
houses in the world.

1311  
00:58:31,100 --> 00:58:34,520  
And they together were  
traveling in Paris.

1312  
00:58:34,520 --> 00:58:38,690  
They spent a lot of time abroad.

1313  
00:58:38,690 --> 00:58:43,610  
So you're born into a family  
with a prominent violinist.

1314  
00:58:43,610 --> 00:58:44,120  
Yes.

1315  
00:58:44,120 --> 00:58:47,570  
And you get adopted by a family  
that has a very prominent opera

1316  
00:58:47,570 --> 00:58:48,070  
singer.

1317  
00:58:48,070 --> 00:58:49,880  
Exactly, yeah.

1318

00:58:49,880 --> 00:58:50,435  
In Lithuania.

1319  
00:58:50,435 --> 00:58:51,143  
And she, actress.

1320  
00:58:51,143 --> 00:58:52,025  
And she's an actress.

1321  
00:58:52,025 --> 00:58:53,254  
Drama, theater, actress.

1322  
00:58:53,254 --> 00:58:54,170  
OK.

1323  
00:58:54,170 --> 00:58:56,390  
But I take it, during the war--

1324  
00:58:56,390 --> 00:58:58,190  
that is, during the  
German occupation--

1325  
00:58:58,190 --> 00:58:59,510  
I don't think that--

1326  
00:58:59,510 --> 00:59:01,590  
Neither was working in  
there for the Russians.

1327  
00:59:01,590 --> 00:59:02,270  
Exactly.

1328  
00:59:02,270 --> 00:59:02,770  
OK.

1329  
00:59:02,770 --> 00:59:06,000

1330  
00:59:06,000 --> 00:59:08,400  
What else did I want  
to ask about Palanga?

1331

00:59:08,400 --> 00:59:10,560

Do you have any  
memories of Palanga?

1332

00:59:10,560 --> 00:59:13,240

At that time?

1333

00:59:13,240 --> 00:59:15,660

Not too many.

1334

00:59:15,660 --> 00:59:18,400

So what you really  
start remembering

1335

00:59:18,400 --> 00:59:22,135

is when you're on the road,  
when there's the bombing.

1336

00:59:22,135 --> 00:59:23,890

Yeah, exactly.

1337

00:59:23,890 --> 00:59:26,590

And do you know  
which train station

1338

00:59:26,590 --> 00:59:28,300

it was that they lost you?

1339

00:59:28,300 --> 00:59:30,280

No, I don't know  
so many details.

1340

00:59:30,280 --> 00:59:31,540

OK, OK.

1341

00:59:31,540 --> 00:59:32,290

It's OK.

1342

00:59:32,290 --> 00:59:35,410

I asked them, and I  
realize that I am asking

1343

00:59:35,410 --> 00:59:37,150  
somebody who's three years old.

1344

00:59:37,150 --> 00:59:40,330  
And if someone  
asked me, what were

1345

00:59:40,330 --> 00:59:42,218  
you doing at three years old?

1346

00:59:42,218 --> 00:59:44,260  
I would not be able to  
tell them with the clarity

1347

00:59:44,260 --> 00:59:45,460  
that you are telling me.

1348

00:59:45,460 --> 00:59:47,890  
So I realize this.

1349

00:59:47,890 --> 00:59:50,382  
And now especially,  
being a little bit older.

1350

00:59:50,382 --> 00:59:50,965  
[LAUGHS] Yeah.

1351

00:59:50,965 --> 00:59:55,550

1352

00:59:55,550 --> 00:59:57,500  
So where were you moving to?

1353

00:59:57,500 --> 01:00:04,460  
That is, if there is movement,  
where is everybody going?

1354

01:00:04,460 --> 01:00:06,920  
At this time, the  
way I understand

1355

01:00:06,920 --> 01:00:11,930  
when we spoke with Ausra,  
Germans were pressing

1356  
01:00:11,930 --> 01:00:14,840  
and Russians were pressing, yes?

1357  
01:00:14,840 --> 01:00:18,530  
And some people, they moved.

1358  
01:00:18,530 --> 01:00:23,060  
And some people were also afraid  
of Russians because, also,

1359  
01:00:23,060 --> 01:00:24,035  
of Russians' history.

1360  
01:00:24,035 --> 01:00:26,870

1361  
01:00:26,870 --> 01:00:31,160  
Finally, we finished  
with all the bombing.

1362  
01:00:31,160 --> 01:00:35,510  
I remember that we were  
hiding under the tree

1363  
01:00:35,510 --> 01:00:38,600  
or in some kind of hole.

1364  
01:00:38,600 --> 01:00:42,560  
Finally, we  
finished, in German--

1365  
01:00:42,560 --> 01:00:43,880  
how they call that?

1366  
01:00:43,880 --> 01:00:46,790

1367  
01:00:46,790 --> 01:00:49,880



How you call that?

1368  
01:00:49,880 --> 01:00:51,920  
Exiled people.

1369  
01:00:51,920 --> 01:00:53,400  
Like refugees?

1370  
01:00:53,400 --> 01:00:55,130  
Refugee camp.

1371  
01:00:55,130 --> 01:00:56,810  
You were in a  
displaced persons--

1372  
01:00:56,810 --> 01:01:00,470  
Oh, exactly, displaced  
refugee camp.

1373  
01:01:00,470 --> 01:01:03,950  
Well, that's a long  
way from Palanga.

1374  
01:01:03,950 --> 01:01:05,060  
Probably, yeah.

1375  
01:01:05,060 --> 01:01:07,710  
A very long way.

1376  
01:01:07,710 --> 01:01:11,690  
Do you know what sector you  
were in in the displaced persons

1377  
01:01:11,690 --> 01:01:12,440  
camps?

1378  
01:01:12,440 --> 01:01:18,210  
I think we were  
in Effelbaum Maybe

1379  
01:01:18,210 --> 01:01:21,860  
I'm not pronouncing

exactly that city.

1380  
01:01:21,860 --> 01:01:23,900  
Or in two cities.

1381  
01:01:23,900 --> 01:01:27,410  
Was it in the American  
sector or the British sector?

1382  
01:01:27,410 --> 01:01:31,490  
I think it was American,  
displaced people sector.

1383  
01:01:31,490 --> 01:01:32,630  
In American sector.

1384  
01:01:32,630 --> 01:01:35,040  
Yeah, I think,  
because at some point,

1385  
01:01:35,040 --> 01:01:40,160  
we started to get a  
little bit of egg powder,

1386  
01:01:40,160 --> 01:01:42,500  
American egg powder.

1387  
01:01:42,500 --> 01:01:47,700  
Because food was big, big  
shortage, big, big shortage.

1388  
01:01:47,700 --> 01:01:50,180  
So what this also  
tells me is that

1389  
01:01:50,180 --> 01:01:53,630  
as a three-year-old  
little girl, aside

1390  
01:01:53,630 --> 01:01:55,700  
from the memories that  
you tell me about,

1391

01:01:55,700 --> 01:02:01,280

about the bombs and the  
planes and the train station,

1392

01:02:01,280 --> 01:02:03,140

you don't have a  
memory of really

1393

01:02:03,140 --> 01:02:06,260

traveling from  
Palanga all the way

1394

01:02:06,260 --> 01:02:08,480

to the western part of Germany.

1395

01:02:08,480 --> 01:02:09,480

Yes.

1396

01:02:09,480 --> 01:02:10,460

OK.

1397

01:02:10,460 --> 01:02:13,685

I have the just  
memory, the traveling

1398

01:02:13,685 --> 01:02:17,420

when it was bombing,  
bombing, bombing.

1399

01:02:17,420 --> 01:02:17,960

OK.

1400

01:02:17,960 --> 01:02:20,840

That is somehow some  
kind of traveling.

1401

01:02:20,840 --> 01:02:21,840

And it's connected.

1402

01:02:21,840 --> 01:02:22,340

Yes.

1403

01:02:22,340 --> 01:02:23,720

It's all connected.

1404

01:02:23,720 --> 01:02:25,190

Who was with you, then?

1405

01:02:25,190 --> 01:02:32,660

It was your adopted mother,  
her three children, and you.

1406

01:02:32,660 --> 01:02:36,050

Me and her mother--

1407

01:02:36,050 --> 01:02:37,850

Elena, my adopted mother.

1408

01:02:37,850 --> 01:02:38,750

Yeah.

1409

01:02:38,750 --> 01:02:41,060

And actually, I probably  
forgot to mention

1410

01:02:41,060 --> 01:02:45,700

that when she adopted me, my  
name became not Pomerantsaite

1411

01:02:45,700 --> 01:02:47,360

but Petrauskaite.

1412

01:02:47,360 --> 01:02:48,650

I had--

1413

01:02:48,650 --> 01:02:50,840

You had papers.

1414

01:02:50,840 --> 01:02:54,080

Maybe I will show you.

1415

01:02:54,080 --> 01:02:57,500

I'd become Danute Petrauskaite.

1416  
01:02:57,500 --> 01:02:59,900  
Now, did you know  
you were adopted?

1417  
01:02:59,900 --> 01:03:02,280  
No.

1418  
01:03:02,280 --> 01:03:05,270  
So this is your real mother,  
as far as you're concerned.

1419  
01:03:05,270 --> 01:03:06,410  
100%.

1420  
01:03:06,410 --> 01:03:12,380  
I don't want to jump ahead,  
but that was quite big,

1421  
01:03:12,380 --> 01:03:16,220  
I would say, almost tragedy  
for me, for a child.

1422  
01:03:16,220 --> 01:03:17,360  
Later, later.

1423  
01:03:17,360 --> 01:03:18,470  
Yeah, yeah.

1424  
01:03:18,470 --> 01:03:20,060  
I didn't know.

1425  
01:03:20,060 --> 01:03:24,230  
She gave so much  
love and so much

1426  
01:03:24,230 --> 01:03:30,320  
warmth and care about me that  
I'm like her own children.

1427  
01:03:30,320 --> 01:03:41,510  
And in some ways, being

from actors, poet, traveling

1428  
01:03:41,510 --> 01:03:47,330  
the world, it's  
amazing, you know?

1429  
01:03:47,330 --> 01:03:49,780  
To start with that little baby.

1430  
01:03:49,780 --> 01:03:50,280  
OK.

1431  
01:03:50,280 --> 01:03:53,030

1432  
01:03:53,030 --> 01:03:55,830  
But at this stage,  
this is your mother.

1433  
01:03:55,830 --> 01:04:00,170  
Your father is out still  
in his summer residence

1434  
01:04:00,170 --> 01:04:01,760  
someplace in Samogitia.

1435  
01:04:01,760 --> 01:04:03,050  
Adopted father.

1436  
01:04:03,050 --> 01:04:04,340  
I know, I know.

1437  
01:04:04,340 --> 01:04:07,350  
But for you, at that  
point, he's your father.

1438  
01:04:07,350 --> 01:04:08,290  
Yes.

1439  
01:04:08,290 --> 01:04:09,350  
OK.

1440

01:04:09,350 --> 01:04:11,718

And you don't see him much  
because you leave Kaunas.

1441

01:04:11,718 --> 01:04:12,260

No, not much.

1442

01:04:12,260 --> 01:04:13,610

Yes, exactly.

1443

01:04:13,610 --> 01:04:15,080

All right.

1444

01:04:15,080 --> 01:04:20,120

And why doesn't he  
join the family?

1445

01:04:20,120 --> 01:04:22,640

Because in the beginning,  
he decided that he

1446

01:04:22,640 --> 01:04:24,890

would like to go hunting.

1447

01:04:24,890 --> 01:04:29,120

He didn't like that resort area.

1448

01:04:29,120 --> 01:04:32,480

And he had his house  
there that he decided

1449

01:04:32,480 --> 01:04:35,030

to go hunting and fishing.

1450

01:04:35,030 --> 01:04:38,570

He was a very good  
hunter when he--

1451

01:04:38,570 --> 01:04:41,520

in older age, he  
still was hunting.

1452

01:04:41,520 --> 01:04:44,960

But when he decided  
to come, then it

1453

01:04:44,960 --> 01:04:49,220

was war already  
didn't let him go.

1454

01:04:49,220 --> 01:04:51,643

So in other words, the  
front was at that--

1455

01:04:51,643 --> 01:04:52,310

The front, yeah.

1456

01:04:52,310 --> 01:04:56,900

--was at that spot where he  
was on one side, one army,

1457

01:04:56,900 --> 01:04:58,040

and the other army.

1458

01:04:58,040 --> 01:05:00,740

So he was on the  
Soviet side where

1459

01:05:00,740 --> 01:05:02,180

there was the Soviet army.

1460

01:05:02,180 --> 01:05:07,350

And the Nazi army, the  
German army, is on the other.

1461

01:05:07,350 --> 01:05:10,040

And as you're retreating--

1462

01:05:10,040 --> 01:05:13,460

that is, with your adopted  
mother, but for you,

1463

01:05:13,460 --> 01:05:14,990

real mother--



1464  
01:05:14,990 --> 01:05:20,060  
and her children and her mother,  
her father came, too, or not?

1465  
01:05:20,060 --> 01:05:21,890  
Or just was her mother?

1466  
01:05:21,890 --> 01:05:23,010  
Mother and father.

1467  
01:05:23,010 --> 01:05:23,570  
OK.

1468  
01:05:23,570 --> 01:05:28,520  
So the two grandparents, the  
three children, and she, Elena.

1469  
01:05:28,520 --> 01:05:29,720  
And her sister.

1470  
01:05:29,720 --> 01:05:30,710  
And her sister?

1471  
01:05:30,710 --> 01:05:32,660  
Yeah, and her sister's children.

1472  
01:05:32,660 --> 01:05:33,433  
Oh my goodness.

1473  
01:05:33,433 --> 01:05:34,475  
So this was quite a clan.

1474  
01:05:34,475 --> 01:05:35,570  
Yeah, it was a--

1475  
01:05:35,570 --> 01:05:36,440  
A big group.

1476  
01:05:36,440 --> 01:05:38,940  
Yeah, a big group.

1477  
01:05:38,940 --> 01:05:41,690  
All of you are leaving.

1478  
01:05:41,690 --> 01:05:43,250  
All of you are traveling.

1479  
01:05:43,250 --> 01:05:46,670  
And he couldn't  
come just because it

1480  
01:05:46,670 --> 01:05:48,260  
was caught in the middle.

1481  
01:05:48,260 --> 01:05:49,370  
OK.

1482  
01:05:49,370 --> 01:05:53,090  
And you end up in the  
American zone in west Germany

1483  
01:05:53,090 --> 01:05:55,430  
where eventually you  
get powdered eggs.

1484  
01:05:55,430 --> 01:05:56,180  
Yeah.

1485  
01:05:56,180 --> 01:05:57,470  
OK.

1486  
01:05:57,470 --> 01:06:00,360  
What can you tell me  
about the circumstances?

1487  
01:06:00,360 --> 01:06:03,140  
What was around you  
in West Germany?

1488  
01:06:03,140 --> 01:06:07,250  
What do you remember  
of where you lived?

1489  
01:06:07,250 --> 01:06:13,280  
I just somehow-- would say  
I don't remember too much.

1490  
01:06:13,280 --> 01:06:16,610  
Don't remember too much.

1491  
01:06:16,610 --> 01:06:19,550  
Probably everything  
is a little bit foggy.

1492  
01:06:19,550 --> 01:06:21,590  
OK.

1493  
01:06:21,590 --> 01:06:23,540  
Do you remember how  
long you stayed there?

1494  
01:06:23,540 --> 01:06:26,160

1495  
01:06:26,160 --> 01:06:31,370  
I remember, like Ausra said,  
that if some soldier would

1496  
01:06:31,370 --> 01:06:35,270  
come, Italian soldiers  
came, I would somehow

1497  
01:06:35,270 --> 01:06:40,040  
try to pretend something  
till the end of the war,

1498  
01:06:40,040 --> 01:06:43,610  
till the end of the war.

1499  
01:06:43,610 --> 01:06:45,170  
All right.

1500  
01:06:45,170 --> 01:06:48,200  
Well, by the time it

became the American zone,

1501

01:06:48,200 --> 01:06:53,780

that's already after the war  
because Germany is partitioned.

1502

01:06:53,780 --> 01:06:56,690

So you reach there,  
maybe, before the end--

1503

01:06:56,690 --> 01:06:58,970

Before, before end of the war.

1504

01:06:58,970 --> 01:07:04,010

And if you don't remember  
it, do you know now

1505

01:07:04,010 --> 01:07:08,390

how long you stayed there in  
that displaced persons camp?

1506

01:07:08,390 --> 01:07:13,670

I think we came back  
because my mother got

1507

01:07:13,670 --> 01:07:16,010

in touch with Red Cross.

1508

01:07:16,010 --> 01:07:18,620

Petrauskas got in touch somehow.

1509

01:07:18,620 --> 01:07:20,670

We got in touch.

1510

01:07:20,670 --> 01:07:25,910

And I think they  
came back in '48.

1511

01:07:25,910 --> 01:07:28,490

So that means you were  
there three years.

1512

01:07:28,490 --> 01:07:31,490  
I think '48.

1513  
01:07:31,490 --> 01:07:35,640  
So you're in a displaced  
persons camp for three years.

1514  
01:07:35,640 --> 01:07:37,490  
That's a long time.

1515  
01:07:37,490 --> 01:07:38,520  
I think so.

1516  
01:07:38,520 --> 01:07:39,320  
I think so.

1517  
01:07:39,320 --> 01:07:41,450  
OK.

1518  
01:07:41,450 --> 01:07:44,400  
And you're still a little girl.

1519  
01:07:44,400 --> 01:07:44,900  
Yeah, when--

1520  
01:07:44,900 --> 01:07:47,210  
You're still only six  
or seven years old.

1521  
01:07:47,210 --> 01:07:51,897  
Yeah, I remember when we  
came already when we--

1522  
01:07:51,897 --> 01:07:52,480  
you know what?

1523  
01:07:52,480 --> 01:07:53,540  
OK, maybe I'll jump.

1524  
01:07:53,540 --> 01:08:00,230  
And when we came  
back in Lithuania,

1525  
01:08:00,230 --> 01:08:05,220  
in Kaunas, train station  
there, hundreds and hundreds

1526  
01:08:05,220 --> 01:08:10,740  
of people with cameras  
and photojournalism,

1527  
01:08:10,740 --> 01:08:16,529  
maybe because of my father,  
that whole story of Petrauskas.

1528  
01:08:16,529 --> 01:08:26,520  
And my mother and father, by  
height, they're not very tall.

1529  
01:08:26,520 --> 01:08:30,569  
And Petrauskas was  
very, very tall.

1530  
01:08:30,569 --> 01:08:33,630  
And I remember when  
my father grabbed me.

1531  
01:08:33,630 --> 01:08:35,680  
And he was not shaving.

1532  
01:08:35,680 --> 01:08:37,529  
And my mother grabbed me.

1533  
01:08:37,529 --> 01:08:40,439  
And I said to myself,  
what the hell?

1534  
01:08:40,439 --> 01:08:41,199  
Who is--

1535  
01:08:41,199 --> 01:08:42,390  
Who are these people?

1536  
01:08:42,390 --> 01:08:45,479

Who are these people?

1537

01:08:45,479 --> 01:08:48,090

So you're talking now  
about your real parents.

1538

01:08:48,090 --> 01:08:50,640

I'm talking first  
time when I met my--

1539

01:08:50,640 --> 01:08:53,550

coming back to Lithuania.

1540

01:08:53,550 --> 01:08:56,310

Let's stop there for  
the moment because we've

1541

01:08:56,310 --> 01:09:00,689

got the three years that I want  
to focus on even if you don't

1542

01:09:00,689 --> 01:09:02,130

have many memories of them.

1543

01:09:02,130 --> 01:09:05,689

1544

01:09:05,689 --> 01:09:12,899

How does Elena find out if your  
parents, your real parents,

1545

01:09:12,899 --> 01:09:15,240

survived the Holocaust?

1546

01:09:15,240 --> 01:09:19,380

Because my father was in  
Dachau, in concentration camp

1547

01:09:19,380 --> 01:09:22,170

in Auschwitz, also.

1548

01:09:22,170 --> 01:09:27,490

Somehow, my mother,  
who, during war, she

1549  
01:09:27,490 --> 01:09:30,609  
was not in  
concentration camp, she

1550  
01:09:30,609 --> 01:09:34,550  
was hiding in Petrauskas'  
house in Kaunas.

1551  
01:09:34,550 --> 01:09:35,050  
In Kaunas?

1552  
01:09:35,050 --> 01:09:37,779  
In Kaunas, yeah.

1553  
01:09:37,779 --> 01:09:42,370  
When she escaped  
from ghetto, yeah,

1554  
01:09:42,370 --> 01:09:49,450  
she went and asked people,  
where is Kipras Petrauskas?

1555  
01:09:49,450 --> 01:09:53,560  
And she looked  
probably-- not probably--

1556  
01:09:53,560 --> 01:09:54,340  
terrible.

1557  
01:09:54,340 --> 01:09:57,070  
She came to that house.

1558  
01:09:57,070 --> 01:09:58,940  
Which Elena no longer lived in.

1559  
01:09:58,940 --> 01:10:00,700  
No, no longer.

1560  
01:10:00,700 --> 01:10:04,330



And she was hiding  
in that house.

1561  
01:10:04,330 --> 01:10:06,310  
With Kipras Petrauskas  
himself there?

1562  
01:10:06,310 --> 01:10:07,690  
No, nobody lived that.

1563  
01:10:07,690 --> 01:10:12,130  
No, a maid opened, let her in.

1564  
01:10:12,130 --> 01:10:14,470  
They colored her hair.

1565  
01:10:14,470 --> 01:10:19,930  
And when Germans, because  
some kind of another house

1566  
01:10:19,930 --> 01:10:22,420  
where Germans lived--

1567  
01:10:22,420 --> 01:10:23,590  
then they came in.

1568  
01:10:23,590 --> 01:10:27,460  
And they decided that she also  
is a maid because my mother

1569  
01:10:27,460 --> 01:10:29,050  
studied in Germany.

1570  
01:10:29,050 --> 01:10:31,120  
Then she knew good--

1571  
01:10:31,120 --> 01:10:32,170  
Speak German.

1572  
01:10:32,170 --> 01:10:32,830  
German.

1573

01:10:32,830 --> 01:10:39,190

And she colored yellow  
hair, yeah, light hair.

1574

01:10:39,190 --> 01:10:42,640

And they came looking  
probably for her.

1575

01:10:42,640 --> 01:10:45,700

And they decided  
that she's a maid.

1576

01:10:45,700 --> 01:10:48,380

She told that she's  
Petrauskas' maid.

1577

01:10:48,380 --> 01:10:49,270

OK.

1578

01:10:49,270 --> 01:10:52,420

So that suggests maybe  
we should retrace

1579

01:10:52,420 --> 01:10:55,240

your parents' steps, your real  
parents' steps, as to what

1580

01:10:55,240 --> 01:10:55,810

really--

1581

01:10:55,810 --> 01:10:59,380

after you are taken away  
in the sack of potatoes,

1582

01:10:59,380 --> 01:11:01,750

they continue living  
in the ghetto.

1583

01:11:01,750 --> 01:11:03,790

They continue living  
in the ghetto.

1584

01:11:03,790 --> 01:11:08,240  
But my father had a small  
orchestra in the ghetto,

1585  
01:11:08,240 --> 01:11:10,120  
yeah, which they were playing.

1586  
01:11:10,120 --> 01:11:10,870  
Playing.

1587  
01:11:10,870 --> 01:11:11,650  
Yeah.

1588  
01:11:11,650 --> 01:11:18,820  
But at some point, my father  
was taken to concentration camp.

1589  
01:11:18,820 --> 01:11:24,160  
And his sister, Sarah, also  
taken to concentration camp.

1590  
01:11:24,160 --> 01:11:26,770  
And Fania also taken  
to concentration camp.

1591  
01:11:26,770 --> 01:11:28,060  
The same camp?

1592  
01:11:28,060 --> 01:11:29,050  
The same camp.

1593  
01:11:29,050 --> 01:11:31,090  
So they were all  
taken to Dachau?

1594  
01:11:31,090 --> 01:11:32,890  
No, actually, mistaken.

1595  
01:11:32,890 --> 01:11:33,880  
Not the same.

1596  
01:11:33,880 --> 01:11:35,440

But my father, Dachau.

1597

01:11:35,440 --> 01:11:38,180

And they on letter Buchen--

1598

01:11:38,180 --> 01:11:39,190

on letter B.

1599

01:11:39,190 --> 01:11:40,255

Oh, this is on that B.

1600

01:11:40,255 --> 01:11:40,755

Mm-hmm.

1601

01:11:40,755 --> 01:11:42,070

OK, OK.

1602

01:11:42,070 --> 01:11:47,530

And so that's his

fate is that he

1603

01:11:47,530 --> 01:11:51,240

is taken to concentration camp.

1604

01:11:51,240 --> 01:11:54,070

And actually, I don't

know if I'm jumping,

1605

01:11:54,070 --> 01:11:57,610

but I would like to

talk about, again,

1606

01:11:57,610 --> 01:12:04,030

so many miracles that how my

father, being so fragile--

1607

01:12:04,030 --> 01:12:11,070

about violin, which somehow

goes in both of our lives.

1608

01:12:11,070 --> 01:12:15,880

In concentration camp, he had

frozen hands or something.

1609

01:12:15,880 --> 01:12:22,080

But some German who liked  
very much music, he said,

1610

01:12:22,080 --> 01:12:24,900

what you did before war?

1611

01:12:24,900 --> 01:12:27,780

And he said, I was violinist.

1612

01:12:27,780 --> 01:12:30,520

And he brought some kind  
of violin and asked him--

1613

01:12:30,520 --> 01:12:31,020

To play.

1614

01:12:31,020 --> 01:12:32,380

To play.

1615

01:12:32,380 --> 01:12:35,340

And my father said,  
a couple times,

1616

01:12:35,340 --> 01:12:37,950

he gave him a piece of bread.

1617

01:12:37,950 --> 01:12:40,750

1618

01:12:40,750 --> 01:12:46,420

Once, he couldn't play because  
he had very bad hands, frozen,

1619

01:12:46,420 --> 01:12:50,200

that he beat him unbelievable.

1620

01:12:50,200 --> 01:12:51,280

That same German?

1621

01:12:51,280 --> 01:12:52,330

The same German.

1622

01:12:52,330 --> 01:12:55,450

But when he came from  
concentration camp,

1623

01:12:55,450 --> 01:12:58,430

I think he was a  
little bit foggy.

1624

01:12:58,430 --> 01:13:02,500

Let's put it this way.

1625

01:13:02,500 --> 01:13:10,000

But when he liked when he  
played, somehow, he gave him--

1626

01:13:10,000 --> 01:13:13,500

he said that it helped  
him, that little--

1627

01:13:13,500 --> 01:13:14,850

That little piece of bread.

1628

01:13:14,850 --> 01:13:15,640

Yeah.

1629

01:13:15,640 --> 01:13:22,600

And why I feel that connection,  
this is not the war now.

1630

01:13:22,600 --> 01:13:28,180

When I was studying at  
Moscow Conservatory,

1631

01:13:28,180 --> 01:13:32,770

we were going on a concert  
tour in Kamchatka, which is

1632

01:13:32,770 --> 01:13:35,350

not far from Japanese border.

1633  
01:13:35,350 --> 01:13:41,050  
And I put my violin  
here, holding my back,

1634  
01:13:41,050 --> 01:13:44,830  
because I had premonition,  
which I very often had,

1635  
01:13:44,830 --> 01:13:46,510  
that something would happen.

1636  
01:13:46,510 --> 01:13:47,710  
And we were here.

1637  
01:13:47,710 --> 01:13:50,050  
People were sitting near me.

1638  
01:13:50,050 --> 01:13:52,120  
And we were going  
that direction.

1639  
01:13:52,120 --> 01:13:56,290  
And from that direction,  
a truck was coming.

1640  
01:13:56,290 --> 01:14:00,190  
And our driver-- it was  
a small little bus--

1641  
01:14:00,190 --> 01:14:02,890  
felt that he couldn't stop.

1642  
01:14:02,890 --> 01:14:07,960  
He jumped from the car  
and let our little bus

1643  
01:14:07,960 --> 01:14:13,480  
completely collide in  
high speed, winter time,

1644  
01:14:13,480 --> 01:14:16,330

with that truck.

1645

01:14:16,330 --> 01:14:20,200

And I, because I was  
holding my violin--

1646

01:14:20,200 --> 01:14:21,550

In your back.

1647

01:14:21,550 --> 01:14:25,120

That I crushed my  
violin in small pieces.

1648

01:14:25,120 --> 01:14:26,005

Oh, just-- [COUGHS]

1649

01:14:26,005 --> 01:14:27,310

Mm-hmm.

1650

01:14:27,310 --> 01:14:28,300

Let's cut the camera.

1651

01:14:28,300 --> 01:14:31,490

1652

01:14:31,490 --> 01:14:33,230

OK.

1653

01:14:33,230 --> 01:14:35,750

I had my violin on my lap.

1654

01:14:35,750 --> 01:14:38,990

But the last  
minute, I held here.

1655

01:14:38,990 --> 01:14:40,520

And I hold my violin.

1656

01:14:40,520 --> 01:14:42,680

And I crush my violin--

1657



01:14:42,680 --> 01:14:45,770  
and actually, I brought here,  
if you would like to film--

1658  
01:14:45,770 --> 01:14:48,410  
in tiny, tiny pieces.

1659  
01:14:48,410 --> 01:14:51,230  
And I was thrown  
out from cuvette--

1660  
01:14:51,230 --> 01:14:55,940  
into cuvette with all my  
violin pieces on the snow.

1661  
01:14:55,940 --> 01:14:59,480  
And all the people  
around me died.

1662  
01:14:59,480 --> 01:15:00,860  
Are you the only survivor?

1663  
01:15:00,860 --> 01:15:02,750  
Yes.

1664  
01:15:02,750 --> 01:15:09,860  
That again, how my father said  
that violin in concentration

1665  
01:15:09,860 --> 01:15:14,540  
camp who gave him to play  
helped him to survive,

1666  
01:15:14,540 --> 01:15:16,580  
and how my violin.

1667  
01:15:16,580 --> 01:15:19,430  
How old were you when  
this incident happened?

1668  
01:15:19,430 --> 01:15:21,920  
I was a student at  
Moscow Conservatory.

1669  
01:15:21,920 --> 01:15:23,370  
So 20, 22?

1670  
01:15:23,370 --> 01:15:23,870  
Yeah.

1671  
01:15:23,870 --> 01:15:27,440  
I studied with David Oistrakh,  
one of the most famous

1672  
01:15:27,440 --> 01:15:30,530  
violinists in the world.

1673  
01:15:30,530 --> 01:15:31,280  
And you know what?

1674  
01:15:31,280 --> 01:15:36,230  
With that violin,  
again, I didn't had my--

1675  
01:15:36,230 --> 01:15:37,880  
I was without violin.

1676  
01:15:37,880 --> 01:15:41,750  
Then when I studied, I was  
given by government Stradivarius

1677  
01:15:41,750 --> 01:15:44,480  
because everybody  
knew that story.

1678  
01:15:44,480 --> 01:15:50,930  
But when we left Soviet Union,  
I couldn't take that violin.

1679  
01:15:50,930 --> 01:15:55,400  
I was dreaming to find a--

1680  
01:15:55,400 --> 01:15:59,060  
to have a violin and  
jokingly told my husband,

1681  
01:15:59,060 --> 01:16:02,960  
oh, maybe I will meet some  
old man and he fall in love

1682  
01:16:02,960 --> 01:16:04,940  
and present me violin.

1683  
01:16:04,940 --> 01:16:07,610  
And we usually played  
in Philadelphia.

1684  
01:16:07,610 --> 01:16:10,340  
And really, after  
that, some came--

1685  
01:16:10,340 --> 01:16:11,085  
Somebody came?

1686  
01:16:11,085 --> 01:16:11,780  
Came.

1687  
01:16:11,780 --> 01:16:15,020  
We started to speak  
stories and that and that.

1688  
01:16:15,020 --> 01:16:16,640  
And he said, come to New York.

1689  
01:16:16,640 --> 01:16:19,040  
I have two violins.

1690  
01:16:19,040 --> 01:16:25,230  
And he presented us and that  
violin which I play now.

1691  
01:16:25,230 --> 01:16:26,940  
Was it also a Stradivarius?

1692  
01:16:26,940 --> 01:16:31,200  
Nikolo Gagliano, which  
is also very high level.

1693  
01:16:31,200 --> 01:16:32,280  
Wow.

1694  
01:16:32,280 --> 01:16:33,210  
Wow.

1695  
01:16:33,210 --> 01:16:34,680  
And it was just present.

1696  
01:16:34,680 --> 01:16:41,160  
So in your life and  
in your father's life,

1697  
01:16:41,160 --> 01:16:42,870  
violin meant life.

1698  
01:16:42,870 --> 01:16:43,980  
Yeah, exactly.

1699  
01:16:43,980 --> 01:16:44,880  
Exactly.

1700  
01:16:44,880 --> 01:16:49,050  
You exactly expressed right.

1701  
01:16:49,050 --> 01:16:49,830  
OK.

1702  
01:16:49,830 --> 01:16:54,600  
So your father, of the memories  
that he tells you from Dachau,

1703  
01:16:54,600 --> 01:16:57,900  
this is one where  
the violin saved him.

1704  
01:16:57,900 --> 01:16:59,010  
Yes.

1705  
01:16:59,010 --> 01:17:01,950

And in the meantime,  
when he's in Dachau,

1706  
01:17:01,950 --> 01:17:04,520  
your mother is in  
Petrauskas' home.

1707  
01:17:04,520 --> 01:17:07,130  
Petrauskas' house like a maid.

1708  
01:17:07,130 --> 01:17:10,470  
Yeah, hiding and  
posing as a maid.

1709  
01:17:10,470 --> 01:17:12,857  
And that's how she spends--

1710  
01:17:12,857 --> 01:17:14,565  
at some point, the  
ghetto was liquidated.

1711  
01:17:14,565 --> 01:17:15,320  
Yeah, right.

1712  
01:17:15,320 --> 01:17:19,360  
And so he's taken one place,  
and she is able to run away.

1713  
01:17:19,360 --> 01:17:19,860  
Yes.

1714  
01:17:19,860 --> 01:17:22,380  
And this is where she stays.

1715  
01:17:22,380 --> 01:17:25,170  
Now, when you're with  
your adopted mother

1716  
01:17:25,170 --> 01:17:30,900  
in the American sector in  
west Germany, do you find out?

1717

01:17:30,900 --> 01:17:35,380  
Does she find out that your  
real parents are alive?

1718  
01:17:35,380 --> 01:17:37,110  
She found out.

1719  
01:17:37,110 --> 01:17:40,120  
And she had agreement  
with my mother

1720  
01:17:40,120 --> 01:17:45,030  
that if I'm alive,  
that she will return.

1721  
01:17:45,030 --> 01:17:46,230  
And if they're alive.

1722  
01:17:46,230 --> 01:17:48,960  
If everybody's alive, yeah.

1723  
01:17:48,960 --> 01:17:55,050  
But when we returned,  
yeah, and even when

1724  
01:17:55,050 --> 01:17:57,990  
we returned that first  
moment, nobody told me

1725  
01:17:57,990 --> 01:18:01,500  
that I have different parents.

1726  
01:18:01,500 --> 01:18:04,300  
I sometimes hear, let's  
say in United States

1727  
01:18:04,300 --> 01:18:07,240  
or probably anywhere,  
they call you,

1728  
01:18:07,240 --> 01:18:11,670  
prepares you that you  
have different parents.

1729

01:18:11,670 --> 01:18:18,930  
And suddenly, being already six  
years old about, from blue sky,

1730

01:18:18,930 --> 01:18:25,440  
I was told one day after  
that, here is my parents.

1731

01:18:25,440 --> 01:18:26,460  
And I must tell you.

1732

01:18:26,460 --> 01:18:31,540  
That, for me, was such a shock  
because I was very, very--

1733

01:18:31,540 --> 01:18:32,040  
Attached.

1734

01:18:32,040 --> 01:18:35,910  
Attached to her and to  
Ausra, to all the children.

1735

01:18:35,910 --> 01:18:38,280  
Very, very attached.

1736

01:18:38,280 --> 01:18:43,710  
My mother tried to bring me  
and my father to her home

1737

01:18:43,710 --> 01:18:46,500  
but without any preparation.

1738

01:18:46,500 --> 01:18:51,300  
And of course, I  
would start to cry.

1739

01:18:51,300 --> 01:18:52,950  
And I lost my hair.

1740

01:18:52,950 --> 01:18:54,820  
And I was vomiting.

1741  
01:18:54,820 --> 01:18:56,580  
I couldn't accept that.

1742  
01:18:56,580 --> 01:18:58,140  
So you were in stress.

1743  
01:18:58,140 --> 01:18:59,520  
Unbelievable.

1744  
01:18:59,520 --> 01:19:01,050  
Unbelievable stress.

1745  
01:19:01,050 --> 01:19:04,560  
And then I was  
going in that house

1746  
01:19:04,560 --> 01:19:07,290  
and in that house and  
that house, that house.

1747  
01:19:07,290 --> 01:19:13,670  
And finally, even one  
day was like that, that I

1748  
01:19:13,670 --> 01:19:15,780  
was in my mother's house.

1749  
01:19:15,780 --> 01:19:23,190  
And I was thinking that she  
was not very nice to me.

1750  
01:19:23,190 --> 01:19:25,650  
And I went to adopted  
parents' house.

1751  
01:19:25,650 --> 01:19:30,870  
They lived quite far on a  
hill, quite far, in Vilnius.

1752  
01:19:30,870 --> 01:19:31,508  
Back in Kaunas?



1753  
01:19:31,508 --> 01:19:32,300  
Oh, now in Vilnius.

1754  
01:19:32,300 --> 01:19:33,180  
No, in Vilnius.

1755  
01:19:33,180 --> 01:19:35,120  
So both parents now  
live in Vilnius.

1756  
01:19:35,120 --> 01:19:35,620  
In Vilnius.

1757  
01:19:35,620 --> 01:19:38,070  
Yes, I a little bit jumped.

1758  
01:19:38,070 --> 01:19:42,660  
And being in Vilnius in adopted  
parents' house, I went to bed

1759  
01:19:42,660 --> 01:19:48,080  
and suddenly start to feel  
guilty, guilty that now

1760  
01:19:48,080 --> 01:19:49,830  
probably my mother is crying.

1761  
01:19:49,830 --> 01:19:51,000  
How I can do--

1762  
01:19:51,000 --> 01:19:57,620  
at 2 o'clock at night, I went  
back to my real parents' house.

1763  
01:19:57,620 --> 01:19:59,270  
My mother opened the door.

1764  
01:19:59,270 --> 01:20:01,670  
I came in.

1765

01:20:01,670 --> 01:20:03,140  
I was not spoiled.

1766  
01:20:03,140 --> 01:20:06,060  
But my bed, nobody waited.

1767  
01:20:06,060 --> 01:20:08,600  
I can see my bed is not made.

1768  
01:20:08,600 --> 01:20:10,430  
It doesn't matter  
that made or not made.

1769  
01:20:10,430 --> 01:20:12,530  
But I feel that nobody--

1770  
01:20:12,530 --> 01:20:13,700  
I wrote a note.

1771  
01:20:13,700 --> 01:20:17,580  
I went to mother  
who loves me more.

1772  
01:20:17,580 --> 01:20:22,200  
And at 2 o'clock again, it  
shows a child turbulence.

1773  
01:20:22,200 --> 01:20:25,320

1774  
01:20:25,320 --> 01:20:28,560  
And then the next day,  
it was in newspapers.

1775  
01:20:28,560 --> 01:20:32,700  
My mother went and  
saw that little paper

1776  
01:20:32,700 --> 01:20:36,980  
that I did like that,  
wrote, I went to mother--

1777

01:20:36,980 --> 01:20:41,790  
what I say that, it was a  
lot, a lot of turbulence.

1778  
01:20:41,790 --> 01:20:46,410  
Finally, I felt like I  
had lived in two houses.

1779  
01:20:46,410 --> 01:20:49,350  
Well, one of the  
questions that I have

1780  
01:20:49,350 --> 01:20:52,210  
is, how did both  
mothers handle this?

1781  
01:20:52,210 --> 01:20:58,110  
How did your real mother  
understand it and react?

1782  
01:20:58,110 --> 01:21:01,650  
And how did your  
adopted mother react?

1783  
01:21:01,650 --> 01:21:04,770  
I think that they--

1784  
01:21:04,770 --> 01:21:07,620  
one would not say,  
no, you cannot go.

1785  
01:21:07,620 --> 01:21:11,610  
Another would say, you know--

1786  
01:21:11,610 --> 01:21:16,470  
they probably had  
some kind of freedom

1787  
01:21:16,470 --> 01:21:19,290  
because with  
Petrauskas, my adopted,

1788  
01:21:19,290 --> 01:21:21,690

I always would get summer time.

1789

01:21:21,690 --> 01:21:25,980

I would go with them  
for whole summer.

1790

01:21:25,980 --> 01:21:29,010

Then I would live one  
month in that house,

1791

01:21:29,010 --> 01:21:31,110

one month in that house.

1792

01:21:31,110 --> 01:21:35,120

It was some kind of  
not very logical--

1793

01:21:35,120 --> 01:21:35,700

No.

1794

01:21:35,700 --> 01:21:39,000

But the other thing is  
that it's also very unusual

1795

01:21:39,000 --> 01:21:40,890

that your real mother  
would take your note

1796

01:21:40,890 --> 01:21:42,510

and bring it to the newspapers.

1797

01:21:42,510 --> 01:21:46,380

That was a little  
bit surprise, yeah.

1798

01:21:46,380 --> 01:21:48,330

To me, it sounds like  
she was angry with you.

1799

01:21:48,330 --> 01:21:49,710

She probably was angry.

1800

01:21:49,710 --> 01:21:51,960  
And I can see that.

1801  
01:21:51,960 --> 01:21:54,430  
I can see.

1802  
01:21:54,430 --> 01:21:56,370  
I understand my turbulence.

1803  
01:21:56,370 --> 01:21:59,730  
But I can see that to  
hide that kind of note,

1804  
01:21:59,730 --> 01:22:04,410  
I went to mother who loves me  
more, it's a big insult to her.

1805  
01:22:04,410 --> 01:22:05,610  
Yeah.

1806  
01:22:05,610 --> 01:22:07,740  
Especially now, being  
myself a mother,

1807  
01:22:07,740 --> 01:22:09,450  
I understand that it's--

1808  
01:22:09,450 --> 01:22:12,390  
But at the same  
time, you're a child.

1809  
01:22:12,390 --> 01:22:13,270  
And she is an adult.

1810  
01:22:13,270 --> 01:22:13,770  
Exactly.

1811  
01:22:13,770 --> 01:22:16,540  
And children say things.

1812  
01:22:16,540 --> 01:22:17,040  
Yes.

1813  
01:22:17,040 --> 01:22:21,460  
And then that adopted  
mother, it's her personality.

1814  
01:22:21,460 --> 01:22:23,010  
She's very, very warm.

1815  
01:22:23,010 --> 01:22:29,250  
And my mother, when  
she gave me away,

1816  
01:22:29,250 --> 01:22:32,190  
she had to cut something,  
because how you--

1817  
01:22:32,190 --> 01:22:33,390  
even it's war.

1818  
01:22:33,390 --> 01:22:37,350  
Of course, I can think she  
did something unbelievable.

1819  
01:22:37,350 --> 01:22:40,290  
She saved, also, my  
life, giving me away.

1820  
01:22:40,290 --> 01:22:42,450  
But in order to  
give away, you have

1821  
01:22:42,450 --> 01:22:44,850  
to cut something in yourself.

1822  
01:22:44,850 --> 01:22:50,610  
When I came back, probably  
she cut that for her,

1823  
01:22:50,610 --> 01:22:54,330  
to get that warmth was  
probably difficult.

1824

01:22:54,330 --> 01:22:57,397  
Did you feel guilty?

1825  
01:22:57,397 --> 01:22:57,980  
You know what?

1826  
01:22:57,980 --> 01:22:58,795  
I felt guilty.

1827  
01:22:58,795 --> 01:23:01,340

1828  
01:23:01,340 --> 01:23:06,470  
My mother adopted her  
sister's daughter,

1829  
01:23:06,470 --> 01:23:11,600  
who Balys Simanovichus  
also took out from ghetto

1830  
01:23:11,600 --> 01:23:13,085  
and in different--

1831  
01:23:13,085 --> 01:23:15,950  
Lithuania, in some  
village, left that.

1832  
01:23:15,950 --> 01:23:17,750  
Her name was Ruta.

1833  
01:23:17,750 --> 01:23:18,800  
The daughter.

1834  
01:23:18,800 --> 01:23:20,640  
Daughter, that of her sister.

1835  
01:23:20,640 --> 01:23:23,120  
The one whose husband  
was the doctor

1836  
01:23:23,120 --> 01:23:24,560  
who was very good to people?

1837  
01:23:24,560 --> 01:23:25,760  
Or was this another sister?

1838  
01:23:25,760 --> 01:23:27,350  
No, it's another sister.

1839  
01:23:27,350 --> 01:23:30,830  
My mother had another sister.

1840  
01:23:30,830 --> 01:23:33,440  
It's confusing.

1841  
01:23:33,440 --> 01:23:38,690  
When my mother decided that  
she didn't had any information,

1842  
01:23:38,690 --> 01:23:43,940  
she went to that village  
and adopted that girl, Ruta.

1843  
01:23:43,940 --> 01:23:45,920  
Because her own  
sister didn't survive?

1844  
01:23:45,920 --> 01:23:47,150  
Yeah, exactly.

1845  
01:23:47,150 --> 01:23:48,140  
Exactly.

1846  
01:23:48,140 --> 01:23:51,990  
That Ruta became my sister.

1847  
01:23:51,990 --> 01:23:57,498  
And what I feel, I feel--

1848  
01:23:57,498 --> 01:23:59,290  
well, oh, again Sache --

1849  
01:23:59,290 --> 01:24:06,360



that I had two parents,  
adopted and my birth parents.

1850  
01:24:06,360 --> 01:24:09,360  
And her parents were killed.

1851  
01:24:09,360 --> 01:24:13,153  
So you feel guilty about  
her not having any parents.

1852  
01:24:13,153 --> 01:24:14,070  
And we lived together.

1853  
01:24:14,070 --> 01:24:18,450  
And she was so beautiful.

1854  
01:24:18,450 --> 01:24:23,970  
She was unbelievable beautiful,  
unbelievable good heart.

1855  
01:24:23,970 --> 01:24:29,490  
But she always felt that  
she didn't have her parents.

1856  
01:24:29,490 --> 01:24:33,120  
That part made me feel--

1857  
01:24:33,120 --> 01:24:34,110  
oh, thank you.

1858  
01:24:34,110 --> 01:24:39,600  
That part made me feel  
always guilty that I

1859  
01:24:39,600 --> 01:24:44,020  
thought that, even I  
suffered a lot in my life.

1860  
01:24:44,020 --> 01:24:46,690  
But I'm this person.

1861  
01:24:46,690 --> 01:24:47,250

I don't know.

1862  
01:24:47,250 --> 01:24:51,750  
By nature, I am optimistic.

1863  
01:24:51,750 --> 01:24:55,850  
And she was a little  
bit more depressed.

1864  
01:24:55,850 --> 01:25:00,080  
And I always protected her.

1865  
01:25:00,080 --> 01:25:02,075  
She would be my eye, you know?

1866  
01:25:02,075 --> 01:25:05,660  
To me, everything was to  
give each other, to her.

1867  
01:25:05,660 --> 01:25:08,720  
If I had candy I would not  
eat, I would give to her.

1868  
01:25:08,720 --> 01:25:10,290  
Was she older or  
younger than you?

1869  
01:25:10,290 --> 01:25:12,260  
She was older.

1870  
01:25:12,260 --> 01:25:16,520  
And we were closer like twins.

1871  
01:25:16,520 --> 01:25:19,220  
Very, very, very  
extremely close.

1872  
01:25:19,220 --> 01:25:22,940  
But she passed away a  
few years ago of cancer.

1873  
01:25:22,940 --> 01:25:25,370

But she was very beautiful soul.

1874

01:25:25,370 --> 01:25:32,510

The guilt I feel about her,  
that she is such a beautiful--

1875

01:25:32,510 --> 01:25:33,800

didn't had her parents.

1876

01:25:33,800 --> 01:25:35,030

And you had two sets.

1877

01:25:35,030 --> 01:25:37,460

And in some ways, I had--

1878

01:25:37,460 --> 01:25:39,370

not in some ways, in real ways.

1879

01:25:39,370 --> 01:25:40,139

You were doubled.

1880

01:25:40,139 --> 01:25:41,056

I am doubled, exactly.

1881

01:25:41,056 --> 01:25:41,803

You're doubled.

1882

01:25:41,803 --> 01:25:43,220

She has none, and  
you have double.

1883

01:25:43,220 --> 01:25:44,090

Yeah.

1884

01:25:44,090 --> 01:25:51,830

I always, all my life, felt that  
I have to do something for her.

1885

01:25:51,830 --> 01:25:59,990

I helped her to go to the  
best resorts, her best clothes

1886

01:25:59,990 --> 01:26:01,220

that she would--

1887

01:26:01,220 --> 01:26:03,560

better than I was

here, send her that she

1888

01:26:03,560 --> 01:26:07,950

would have the best

food, took her to eat

1889

01:26:07,950 --> 01:26:10,050

early together, some kind--

1890

01:26:10,050 --> 01:26:12,965

Well, there's no way that you

could ever fill that hole.

1891

01:26:12,965 --> 01:26:16,130

Yeah, to spoil her a little bit.

1892

01:26:16,130 --> 01:26:20,760

I felt that life didn't spoil

her, that at least I can.

1893

01:26:20,760 --> 01:26:21,260

You can.

1894

01:26:21,260 --> 01:26:22,430

I can spoil her.

1895

01:26:22,430 --> 01:26:24,590

Yeah.

1896

01:26:24,590 --> 01:26:30,530

But you didn't feel this kind

of feeling about the turmoil

1897

01:26:30,530 --> 01:26:34,444

that you felt with

both sets of parents.

1898

01:26:34,444 --> 01:26:37,140

Maybe I was not so sensitive.

1899

01:26:37,140 --> 01:26:39,290

Oh, I don't know if it

has to do with that.

1900

01:26:39,290 --> 01:26:45,950

I just felt I

needed both parents.

1901

01:26:45,950 --> 01:26:49,730

I was very much

at that probably--

1902

01:26:49,730 --> 01:26:56,780

when you're in your childhood,

from 1 and 1/2 years old,

1903

01:26:56,780 --> 01:26:59,270

you know these just parents.

1904

01:26:59,270 --> 01:27:06,050

Then somehow, probably, it's

difficult, accept other--

1905

01:27:06,050 --> 01:27:08,210

I accepted later.

1906

01:27:08,210 --> 01:27:15,680

For example, when Kaunas opera

theater, opera theater stayed

1907

01:27:15,680 --> 01:27:19,250

in Kaunas, and my father

who, after war, played

1908

01:27:19,250 --> 01:27:23,090

in symphony orchestra,

they moved to Vilnius.

1909

01:27:23,090 --> 01:27:23,985

Your father, Daniel?

1910  
01:27:23,985 --> 01:27:24,485  
Daniel.

1911  
01:27:24,485 --> 01:27:25,600  
Yes, yeah.

1912  
01:27:25,600 --> 01:27:28,400  
That period, for me,  
was very difficult

1913  
01:27:28,400 --> 01:27:31,940  
because before, I  
could go in both.

1914  
01:27:31,940 --> 01:27:38,240  
And then later, that opera  
theater also came to Vilnius.

1915  
01:27:38,240 --> 01:27:42,140  
And I will show you one letter  
when I was in Lithuania.

1916  
01:27:42,140 --> 01:27:47,190  
I see this amount of  
letters which I wrote

1917  
01:27:47,190 --> 01:27:48,950  
to my adopted mother, Elena.

1918  
01:27:48,950 --> 01:27:51,650

1919  
01:27:51,650 --> 01:27:54,550  
And one letter, I brought here.

1920  
01:27:54,550 --> 01:27:56,290  
You can film.

1921  
01:27:56,290 --> 01:27:57,780  
It's unbelievable.

1922  
01:27:57,780 --> 01:27:59,620  
It really touched me very much.

1923  
01:27:59,620 --> 01:28:01,060  
It means how much--

1924  
01:28:01,060 --> 01:28:03,100  
You loved her.

1925  
01:28:03,100 --> 01:28:05,407  
Well, maybe we need  
to stop a little bit.

1926  
01:28:05,407 --> 01:28:09,680

1927  
01:28:09,680 --> 01:28:14,030  
So you were still very  
attached to Elena,

1928  
01:28:14,030 --> 01:28:15,860  
who became your adopted mother.

1929  
01:28:15,860 --> 01:28:18,360  
Yes.

1930  
01:28:18,360 --> 01:28:22,520  
She also was very good to  
Ruta, also very good, also felt

1931  
01:28:22,520 --> 01:28:23,870  
sorry for her.

1932  
01:28:23,870 --> 01:28:27,953  
And what about the relations  
between the two women?

1933  
01:28:27,953 --> 01:28:28,820  
Ausra?

1934

01:28:28,820 --> 01:28:29,900

Oh, no, no, no.

1935

01:28:29,900 --> 01:28:32,960

Between Elena and  
your own mother.

1936

01:28:32,960 --> 01:28:35,690

I think they had  
good relationship.

1937

01:28:35,690 --> 01:28:39,050

It was not like,  
why you took her

1938

01:28:39,050 --> 01:28:46,410

or why-- no, I think  
I would say normal.

1939

01:28:46,410 --> 01:28:50,230

Maybe it was not--

1940

01:28:50,230 --> 01:28:55,840

probably my mother felt very  
grateful to her, I'm sure.

1941

01:28:55,840 --> 01:28:56,560

I'm sure.

1942

01:28:56,560 --> 01:28:59,710

1943

01:28:59,710 --> 01:29:01,130

It was normal.

1944

01:29:01,130 --> 01:29:02,530

It was normal.

1945

01:29:02,530 --> 01:29:05,320

Well, it was a price to pay.

1946

01:29:05,320 --> 01:29:09,730



Maybe for my mother,  
also, was a bit difficult

1947  
01:29:09,730 --> 01:29:15,880  
because she probably felt  
that I would like to go--

1948  
01:29:15,880 --> 01:29:19,210  
I was torn because I adored--

1949  
01:29:19,210 --> 01:29:22,690  
like I said, my  
father is saint, yeah.

1950  
01:29:22,690 --> 01:29:25,570  
And I adored my--

1951  
01:29:25,570 --> 01:29:26,590  
Adopted mother.

1952  
01:29:26,590 --> 01:29:27,850  
Adopted mother.

1953  
01:29:27,850 --> 01:29:33,560  
And it's conflicted.

1954  
01:29:33,560 --> 01:29:40,010  
My mother, of course, was caring  
and giving food and clothes.

1955  
01:29:40,010 --> 01:29:42,580  
Really, really caring.

1956  
01:29:42,580 --> 01:29:47,695  
But maybe I needed  
more that warmth.

1957  
01:29:47,695 --> 01:29:51,850  
Have to explain something.

1958  
01:29:51,850 --> 01:29:58,150  
Nobody tried to work

with me how war came

1959

01:29:58,150 --> 01:30:02,170

and how that came that

I have two parents.

1960

01:30:02,170 --> 01:30:07,420

But on another hand, because

I am very spiritual person,

1961

01:30:07,420 --> 01:30:11,920

myself, and I have students

that have a child or husbands,

1962

01:30:11,920 --> 01:30:14,200

grandchild.

1963

01:30:14,200 --> 01:30:16,690

I'm very connected to people.

1964

01:30:16,690 --> 01:30:20,440

I don't know, somehow, always--

1965

01:30:20,440 --> 01:30:21,030

I don't know.

1966

01:30:21,030 --> 01:30:23,350

I meet person, accept person.

1967

01:30:23,350 --> 01:30:25,820

Somehow, somebody hugs me.

1968

01:30:25,820 --> 01:30:31,120

They say, I know you 2,000

years, 20,000 years ago

1969

01:30:31,120 --> 01:30:32,050

or something.

1970

01:30:32,050 --> 01:30:35,020

I feel that connection.

1971

01:30:35,020 --> 01:30:40,840

In some ways, I'm lucky  
because I had two parents.

1972

01:30:40,840 --> 01:30:42,580

I have music.

1973

01:30:42,580 --> 01:30:44,620

I'm teaching.

1974

01:30:44,620 --> 01:30:48,220

I have my students,  
teaching at university.

1975

01:30:48,220 --> 01:30:54,280

I can express my feelings and my  
immortal soul music, you know?

1976

01:30:54,280 --> 01:30:56,380

And that is  
unbelievable, which I

1977

01:30:56,380 --> 01:31:00,500

think many people,  
Holocaust survivors or not

1978

01:31:00,500 --> 01:31:04,850

Holocaust survivors, I think  
music really helps you.

1979

01:31:04,850 --> 01:31:10,520

And because of that, I  
saw recently one person.

1980

01:31:10,520 --> 01:31:12,140

He said, you always smile.

1981

01:31:12,140 --> 01:31:12,810

I don't know.

1982

01:31:12,810 --> 01:31:14,240

Maybe I smile.

1983  
01:31:14,240 --> 01:31:15,410  
But I see a bird.

1984  
01:31:15,410 --> 01:31:15,970  
I smile.

1985  
01:31:15,970 --> 01:31:18,560

1986  
01:31:18,560 --> 01:31:19,160  
I don't know.

1987  
01:31:19,160 --> 01:31:21,170  
It's hard to explain, to me.

1988  
01:31:21,170 --> 01:31:22,680  
Well, as you're telling me--

1989  
01:31:22,680 --> 01:31:24,620  
I'm not bitter.

1990  
01:31:24,620 --> 01:31:30,140  
Maybe to say that what I,  
in some ways, suffered,

1991  
01:31:30,140 --> 01:31:32,990  
I didn't turn to bitterness.

1992  
01:31:32,990 --> 01:31:37,850  
I really turned more  
to love, to my family,

1993  
01:31:37,850 --> 01:31:40,490  
to people, to my students.

1994  
01:31:40,490 --> 01:31:47,000  
But that, I think, maybe I could  
be, in some ways, maybe proud

1995  
01:31:47,000 --> 01:31:51,600

that I knew how to turn.

1996  
01:31:51,600 --> 01:31:57,020  
I'm not unhappy person.

1997  
01:31:57,020 --> 01:31:59,480  
As you're telling  
me these things,

1998  
01:31:59,480 --> 01:32:01,700  
different thoughts  
go through my mind

1999  
01:32:01,700 --> 01:32:04,940  
when we're talking  
about these relations.

2000  
01:32:04,940 --> 01:32:10,970  
Number one is when you find  
out that your parents are not

2001  
01:32:10,970 --> 01:32:12,980  
your parents, that  
other people are

2002  
01:32:12,980 --> 01:32:18,110  
your parents, these short people  
and a man with a beard who

2003  
01:32:18,110 --> 01:32:19,250  
hugs and kisses you--

2004  
01:32:19,250 --> 01:32:19,792  
Didn't shave.

2005  
01:32:19,792 --> 01:32:25,220  
--and didn't shave  
and so on, it sounds

2006  
01:32:25,220 --> 01:32:28,365  
like it was a trauma,  
an absolute trauma.

2007

01:32:28,365 --> 01:32:29,240

Of course, of course.

2008

01:32:29,240 --> 01:32:33,110

Because the world that you  
had known that had given you

2009

01:32:33,110 --> 01:32:36,860

security, that you were  
attached to, all of a sudden

2010

01:32:36,860 --> 01:32:38,780

doesn't belong to you.

2011

01:32:38,780 --> 01:32:40,340

You belong to someone else.

2012

01:32:40,340 --> 01:32:41,990

And that world  
was never supposed

2013

01:32:41,990 --> 01:32:43,872

to be yours to begin with.

2014

01:32:43,872 --> 01:32:45,950

Right.

2015

01:32:45,950 --> 01:32:51,050

And still, you're six  
or seven years old.

2016

01:32:51,050 --> 01:32:56,750

And what you learned was  
reality is actually not reality.

2017

01:32:56,750 --> 01:33:00,410

And the confusion that  
results from that,

2018

01:33:00,410 --> 01:33:05,300

that this is where the loss is,  
is that, who can you believe?

2019

01:33:05,300 --> 01:33:07,820

I mean, this is  
how I interpret it.

2020

01:33:07,820 --> 01:33:11,233

Who can you believe will  
ever tell you the truth?

2021

01:33:11,233 --> 01:33:13,400

Because the people that you  
thought were telling you

2022

01:33:13,400 --> 01:33:15,740

the truth were not  
telling you the truth.

2023

01:33:15,740 --> 01:33:19,610

The people who are strangers  
are supposed to be your parents.

2024

01:33:19,610 --> 01:33:21,990

And yet they don't--

2025

01:33:21,990 --> 01:33:27,200

and yet every single  
person in this drama

2026

01:33:27,200 --> 01:33:30,590

has an enormous loss.

2027

01:33:30,590 --> 01:33:33,260

If you say your  
natural mother had

2028

01:33:33,260 --> 01:33:38,990

to cut herself, cut  
something inside of herself,

2029

01:33:38,990 --> 01:33:41,060

it's one thing to  
give away a child.

2030

01:33:41,060 --> 01:33:44,480

2031

01:33:44,480 --> 01:33:48,650

But it's another to  
realize that once you've

2032

01:33:48,650 --> 01:33:53,080

given away that child, she  
may never be yours again.

2033

01:33:53,080 --> 01:33:56,950

It could be that someone  
else comes in that place,

2034

01:33:56,950 --> 01:33:59,770

and you no longer have that.

2035

01:33:59,770 --> 01:34:04,210

Many young women who will  
have children out of wedlock

2036

01:34:04,210 --> 01:34:07,810

and give them up  
mourn that they can't

2037

01:34:07,810 --> 01:34:11,540

be the mother anymore because  
somebody else has taken it

2038

01:34:11,540 --> 01:34:12,040

over.

2039

01:34:12,040 --> 01:34:14,020

I mean, I'm assuming here.

2040

01:34:14,020 --> 01:34:15,220

I'm making assumptions.

2041

01:34:15,220 --> 01:34:15,865

I'm supposing.



2042

01:34:15,865 --> 01:34:17,290

I'm this, I'm that.

2043

01:34:17,290 --> 01:34:23,950

But I can imagine that  
each person in this circle

2044

01:34:23,950 --> 01:34:26,080

went through enormous grief.

2045

01:34:26,080 --> 01:34:28,300

Yeah.

2046

01:34:28,300 --> 01:34:32,823

Your adopted mother, because  
she got attached to you.

2047

01:34:32,823 --> 01:34:33,490

Yeah, very much.

2048

01:34:33,490 --> 01:34:34,870

But you don't fully--

2049

01:34:34,870 --> 01:34:37,390

she doesn't have  
full rights to you.

2050

01:34:37,390 --> 01:34:39,370

Someone else does.

2051

01:34:39,370 --> 01:34:44,380

And it sounds like  
it was, of course,

2052

01:34:44,380 --> 01:34:51,570

on the outside, a wonderful  
situation that you have

2053

01:34:51,570 --> 01:34:55,530

parents who survived, adopted  
parents who were loving,

2054

01:34:55,530 --> 01:34:56,760

wonderful, good.

2055

01:34:56,760 --> 01:34:58,710

All of these are  
beneficial things.

2056

01:34:58,710 --> 01:35:05,790

But within that circle, there  
is these losses and this,

2057

01:35:05,790 --> 01:35:08,430

how do we come  
out of here whole?

2058

01:35:08,430 --> 01:35:12,820

This situation that we were put  
in, how do we grow out of this

2059

01:35:12,820 --> 01:35:13,500

and be whole?

2060

01:35:13,500 --> 01:35:14,490

Right.

2061

01:35:14,490 --> 01:35:19,050

And I can see it in how you  
tell me that it hurts still.

2062

01:35:19,050 --> 01:35:21,060

It's true.

2063

01:35:21,060 --> 01:35:25,020

I think when you go through  
your memories, of course,

2064

01:35:25,020 --> 01:35:26,820

it hurts you.

2065

01:35:26,820 --> 01:35:29,160

Yeah.

2066

01:35:29,160 --> 01:35:32,520

It hurts, maybe you're going  
again through that pain.

2067

01:35:32,520 --> 01:35:34,867

Yeah, you touch it again.

2068

01:35:34,867 --> 01:35:36,575

It doesn't mean you're  
an unhappy person.

2069

01:35:36,575 --> 01:35:37,075

Yes.

2070

01:35:37,075 --> 01:35:40,520

But it means that this is  
something that was deep.

2071

01:35:40,520 --> 01:35:41,250

Yeah, it's true.

2072

01:35:41,250 --> 01:35:42,000

But you know what?

2073

01:35:42,000 --> 01:35:47,160

I would like to say that  
some people who, let's say,

2074

01:35:47,160 --> 01:35:50,190

were abused, they  
become abusers.

2075

01:35:50,190 --> 01:35:53,520

People who had  
trauma, somehow they

2076

01:35:53,520 --> 01:35:56,640

create a new trauma  
in their life.

2077

01:35:56,640 --> 01:35:58,760

I think I learned--

2078  
01:35:58,760 --> 01:36:03,600  
maybe it's not so shy  
to speak about me.

2079  
01:36:03,600 --> 01:36:08,940  
From that trauma, I think  
if I would not have that,

2080  
01:36:08,940 --> 01:36:14,040  
I would not be that  
person which I am.

2081  
01:36:14,040 --> 01:36:16,010  
I didn't turn to bitterness.

2082  
01:36:16,010 --> 01:36:24,420  
But I feel for my letters from  
my students or my friends,

2083  
01:36:24,420 --> 01:36:26,190  
from my daughter.

2084  
01:36:26,190 --> 01:36:30,270  
I just could start to cry  
because it's so much how

2085  
01:36:30,270 --> 01:36:34,770  
it is changing  
their life connected

2086  
01:36:34,770 --> 01:36:39,630  
with what I could give to them.

2087  
01:36:39,630 --> 01:36:43,770  
It's trauma, but trauma  
is there, of course.

2088  
01:36:43,770 --> 01:36:48,690  
But I turned different.

2089  
01:36:48,690 --> 01:36:49,930

OK.

2090  
01:36:49,930 --> 01:36:56,760  
But I think another aspect is  
that everybody in this circle

2091  
01:36:56,760 --> 01:36:59,920  
was good hearted that you  
were telling me about.

2092  
01:36:59,920 --> 01:37:00,840  
Yes.

2093  
01:37:00,840 --> 01:37:03,600  
There was no cruel  
person in here.

2094  
01:37:03,600 --> 01:37:05,580  
It was a cruel situation.

2095  
01:37:05,580 --> 01:37:06,446  
Yes, exactly.

2096  
01:37:06,446 --> 01:37:10,140

2097  
01:37:10,140 --> 01:37:12,420  
And yes, that is--

2098  
01:37:12,420 --> 01:37:14,970

2099  
01:37:14,970 --> 01:37:16,380  
OK, I have a few questions.

2100  
01:37:16,380 --> 01:37:18,480  
But I want to stop  
here for a moment.

2101  
01:37:18,480 --> 01:37:20,820  
I want to change directions.

2102  
01:37:20,820 --> 01:37:21,370  
May I tell--

2103  
01:37:21,370 --> 01:37:21,870  
Sure, sure.

2104  
01:37:21,870 --> 01:37:23,490  
--one thing?

2105  
01:37:23,490 --> 01:37:27,660  
When you said that  
nobody told me the truth,

2106  
01:37:27,660 --> 01:37:32,460  
that I will tell you, when  
Elena Petrauskiene adopted

2107  
01:37:32,460 --> 01:37:39,990  
me and it was war, how she knew  
if my parents will survive?

2108  
01:37:39,990 --> 01:37:42,300  
And that time,  
psychology was not

2109  
01:37:42,300 --> 01:37:46,110  
so developed like now,  
for example, especially

2110  
01:37:46,110 --> 01:37:48,960  
in the United States.

2111  
01:37:48,960 --> 01:37:53,880  
I think she didn't tell  
me that I'm not her--

2112  
01:37:53,880 --> 01:37:58,020  
she is not my mother  
in order to protect.

2113  
01:37:58,020 --> 01:37:59,790  
You understand what I mean?

2114  
01:37:59,790 --> 01:38:05,280  
Because in that cruel  
war, during war,

2115  
01:38:05,280 --> 01:38:09,690  
concentration-- who would  
even probably think that

2116  
01:38:09,690 --> 01:38:13,590  
could be that miracle that my  
family and mother and my father

2117  
01:38:13,590 --> 01:38:14,880  
survived?

2118  
01:38:14,880 --> 01:38:20,250  
I think that she probably  
decided that she will not tell.

2119  
01:38:20,250 --> 01:38:26,430  
And they told me when we met.

2120  
01:38:26,430 --> 01:38:28,740  
Maybe it was a  
little bit too late.

2121  
01:38:28,740 --> 01:38:30,990  
Maybe it was a  
little bit too late.

2122  
01:38:30,990 --> 01:38:33,100  
But this is how she chose.

2123  
01:38:33,100 --> 01:38:36,480  
So in other words, she didn't  
want to traumatize you.

2124  
01:38:36,480 --> 01:38:39,810  
I think she didn't tell  
the truth because she

2125

01:38:39,810 --> 01:38:41,820  
didn't want that to traum--

2126  
01:38:41,820 --> 01:38:43,590  
for sure, for sure.

2127  
01:38:43,590 --> 01:38:44,900  
OK.

2128  
01:38:44,900 --> 01:38:49,620  
And if my parents would not  
survive, she definitely--

2129  
01:38:49,620 --> 01:38:51,520  
You would have continued  
being her daughter.

2130  
01:38:51,520 --> 01:38:53,230  
Yeah, 100%.

2131  
01:38:53,230 --> 01:38:53,730  
OK.

2132  
01:38:53,730 --> 01:38:58,460

2133  
01:38:58,460 --> 01:39:04,210  
Do you think this was the stamp  
the Holocaust left on you, what

2134  
01:39:04,210 --> 01:39:05,470  
we just talked about?

2135  
01:39:05,470 --> 01:39:07,030  
Yes.

2136  
01:39:07,030 --> 01:39:10,180  
Yes, there's no  
question, no question.

2137  
01:39:10,180 --> 01:39:13,280  
OK, OK.



2138  
01:39:13,280 --> 01:39:14,520  
I want to go back now.

2139  
01:39:14,520 --> 01:39:15,020  
OK.

2140  
01:39:15,020 --> 01:39:17,560

2141  
01:39:17,560 --> 01:39:22,060  
When you leave west Germany  
to go back to Lithuania

2142  
01:39:22,060 --> 01:39:29,910  
in 1948, number one, that was  
a very unusual thing to happen.

2143  
01:39:29,910 --> 01:39:32,120  
Most people did not  
go back eastwards.

2144  
01:39:32,120 --> 01:39:34,660

2145  
01:39:34,660 --> 01:39:38,930  
And most people, when they  
did go back eastwards,

2146  
01:39:38,930 --> 01:39:40,370  
went really east.

2147  
01:39:40,370 --> 01:39:43,190  
That is, they went east of  
Kaunas, east of Vilnius,

2148  
01:39:43,190 --> 01:39:47,240  
east of Moscow, all the way  
up to the Arctic Circle.

2149  
01:39:47,240 --> 01:39:49,190  
But I will tell you.

2150  
01:39:49,190 --> 01:39:55,010  
Her mother, Elena Petrauskiene's  
mother, went to Australia.

2151  
01:39:55,010 --> 01:40:01,500  
So Luka's son and Goda  
went to Australia.

2152  
01:40:01,500 --> 01:40:06,490  
Her sister with two  
children went to Australia.

2153  
01:40:06,490 --> 01:40:10,870  
Elena Petrauskiene, Ausra,  
which we grew together,

2154  
01:40:10,870 --> 01:40:16,955  
and myself, we went  
back to Lithuania.

2155  
01:40:16,955 --> 01:40:17,455  
Why?

2156  
01:40:17,455 --> 01:40:21,860  
Because first of  
all, Petrauskiene

2157  
01:40:21,860 --> 01:40:29,540  
promised that if my parents  
will be alive, she will give me.

2158  
01:40:29,540 --> 01:40:31,940  
I will choose where  
I would like to live.

2159  
01:40:31,940 --> 01:40:33,950  
But she didn't tell me that.

2160  
01:40:33,950 --> 01:40:35,390  
But later, she said.

2161

01:40:35,390 --> 01:40:37,940  
And Petrauskas was  
in touch with her.

2162  
01:40:37,940 --> 01:40:41,120  
And Petrauskas wanted his wife.

2163  
01:40:41,120 --> 01:40:41,630  
Back.

2164  
01:40:41,630 --> 01:40:44,860  
Back, yeah.

2165  
01:40:44,860 --> 01:40:47,200  
What I want to say,  
and this will probably

2166  
01:40:47,200 --> 01:40:49,720  
be guilt inducing, as well--

2167  
01:40:49,720 --> 01:40:54,970  
but that's a huge  
step because people

2168  
01:40:54,970 --> 01:41:00,880  
who, let's say, politically,  
ideologically have

2169  
01:41:00,880 --> 01:41:03,730  
other language,  
they would say she

2170  
01:41:03,730 --> 01:41:07,000  
stepped from freedom  
back into slavery,

2171  
01:41:07,000 --> 01:41:11,110  
those who were communist and  
anti-communist, and saying she

2172  
01:41:11,110 --> 01:41:14,460  
left the possibility of  
living in the free world.

2173  
01:41:14,460 --> 01:41:15,460  
In the free world, yeah.

2174  
01:41:15,460 --> 01:41:19,810  
And returns to  
Lithuania, which was not

2175  
01:41:19,810 --> 01:41:24,340  
under a free soc-- that's  
what the others would say.

2176  
01:41:24,340 --> 01:41:25,090  
I understand that.

2177  
01:41:25,090 --> 01:41:26,460  
And I heard that.

2178  
01:41:26,460 --> 01:41:26,960  
Did you?

2179  
01:41:26,960 --> 01:41:27,730  
Yeah.

2180  
01:41:27,730 --> 01:41:30,220  
Who did you hear this from?

2181  
01:41:30,220 --> 01:41:34,030  
We spoke a lot with Ausra.

2182  
01:41:34,030 --> 01:41:35,676  
We grow up together.

2183  
01:41:35,676 --> 01:41:38,840  
And then I'm living in two  
houses with Ausra, of course,

2184  
01:41:38,840 --> 01:41:41,305  
considering also two sisters.

2185  
01:41:41,305 --> 01:41:43,810

With Ausra, I don't  
have that guilt

2186  
01:41:43,810 --> 01:41:45,910  
because she had  
her parents alive.

2187  
01:41:45,910 --> 01:41:47,620  
But we were very close.

2188  
01:41:47,620 --> 01:41:49,180  
So you really have two sisters.

2189  
01:41:49,180 --> 01:41:49,680  
Yeah.

2190  
01:41:49,680 --> 01:41:51,340  
Ruta and Ausra.

2191  
01:41:51,340 --> 01:41:52,330  
100%.

2192  
01:41:52,330 --> 01:41:52,830  
OK.

2193  
01:41:52,830 --> 01:41:56,440  
But like I said, through  
it, I felt very, very sorry

2194  
01:41:56,440 --> 01:41:57,430  
and guilty.

2195  
01:41:57,430 --> 01:42:00,280  
With Ausra, I didn't  
feel because, no,

2196  
01:42:00,280 --> 01:42:04,040  
to have your parents  
and they're alive.

2197  
01:42:04,040 --> 01:42:10,690  
But I heard people say, how,

from free world, she comes to--

2198  
01:42:10,690 --> 01:42:11,380  
Occupied.

2199  
01:42:11,380 --> 01:42:12,820  
Occupied, occupied.

2200  
01:42:12,820 --> 01:42:20,260  
But her husband was in  
Lithuania, in Kaunas, yeah.

2201  
01:42:20,260 --> 01:42:22,990  
Her husband wanted to have--

2202  
01:42:22,990 --> 01:42:24,490  
Her back.

2203  
01:42:24,490 --> 01:42:27,800  
Definitely, he wanted her back.

2204  
01:42:27,800 --> 01:42:31,210  
And she probably wanted  
also to have her husband.

2205  
01:42:31,210 --> 01:42:35,760  
And Ausra wanted to go back.

2206  
01:42:35,760 --> 01:42:36,870  
I think that's what it--

2207  
01:42:36,870 --> 01:42:39,900  
So this was Ausra's free  
will, your sister's free will,

2208  
01:42:39,900 --> 01:42:41,760  
to return to Lithuania?

2209  
01:42:41,760 --> 01:42:42,650  
I don't know.

2210

01:42:42,650 --> 01:42:47,970  
Actually, I didn't ask  
if she asked Ausra.

2211  
01:42:47,970 --> 01:42:51,780  
Because Ausra, OK, she was  
a little bit older, three,

2212  
01:42:51,780 --> 01:42:53,190  
four years older.

2213  
01:42:53,190 --> 01:42:58,210  
I don't know if a child  
makes that decision.

2214  
01:42:58,210 --> 01:43:08,040  
But I think she had that wish  
to go, I think, to Petrauskas.

2215  
01:43:08,040 --> 01:43:14,250  
I don't think she knew too  
much about that system.

2216  
01:43:14,250 --> 01:43:16,470  
Because when she  
came, in beginning,

2217  
01:43:16,470 --> 01:43:18,930  
she started to work  
in drama theater.

2218  
01:43:18,930 --> 01:43:23,010  
But then because she  
was kicked out from it,

2219  
01:43:23,010 --> 01:43:26,460  
yeah, she was kicked  
out from the theater.

2220  
01:43:26,460 --> 01:43:30,960  
I cannot say that her life was  
also easy when she came back.

2221

01:43:30,960 --> 01:43:33,930

Do you think that she ever  
regretted coming back?

2222

01:43:33,930 --> 01:43:39,000

2223

01:43:39,000 --> 01:43:40,650

I don't know, to tell you.

2224

01:43:40,650 --> 01:43:44,220

2225

01:43:44,220 --> 01:43:49,470

I know that Lithuania  
was occupied.

2226

01:43:49,470 --> 01:43:57,330

And Petrauskas was invited  
to sing when Lithuania was--

2227

01:43:57,330 --> 01:44:00,030

to many, many opera houses.

2228

01:44:00,030 --> 01:44:01,800

He probably could leave.

2229

01:44:01,800 --> 01:44:07,650

But I think probably, for  
some people, to leave to that,

2230

01:44:07,650 --> 01:44:10,630

he was a country boy, yes?

2231

01:44:10,630 --> 01:44:13,410

To grow up in a village.

2232

01:44:13,410 --> 01:44:15,420

And he became very known.

2233

01:44:15,420 --> 01:44:17,340

To live in that,



probably there is

2234

01:44:17,340 --> 01:44:20,160

that connection  
with your country,

2235

01:44:20,160 --> 01:44:23,910

would be that occupied  
or not occupied.

2236

01:44:23,910 --> 01:44:25,260

It's his home.

2237

01:44:25,260 --> 01:44:28,290

There is that kind  
of feeling of home.

2238

01:44:28,290 --> 01:44:34,260

Because for example, I can see  
people who immigrated, yeah.

2239

01:44:34,260 --> 01:44:40,750

I can feel that somebody's  
still longing to go.

2240

01:44:40,750 --> 01:44:44,613

There are people who  
are actually going back.

2241

01:44:44,613 --> 01:44:47,370

Or there are people who  
were dreaming of Israel.

2242

01:44:47,370 --> 01:44:49,580

They went to Israel.

2243

01:44:49,580 --> 01:44:53,610

And they would like to  
go different places.

2244

01:44:53,610 --> 01:44:56,100

I think, especially  
Petrauskas, I

2245  
01:44:56,100 --> 01:45:00,780  
remember when he was birthday--

2246  
01:45:00,780 --> 01:45:05,190  
people from his village  
came with birbinas,

2247  
01:45:05,190 --> 01:45:07,590  
and were singing near his--

2248  
01:45:07,590 --> 01:45:08,420  
Home.

2249  
01:45:08,420 --> 01:45:09,090  
His home.

2250  
01:45:09,090 --> 01:45:14,880  
I think, by nature, he was  
that kind of country boy.

2251  
01:45:14,880 --> 01:45:17,800  
And I'm not sure even  
if he would have,

2252  
01:45:17,800 --> 01:45:20,340  
abroad, these millions.

2253  
01:45:20,340 --> 01:45:24,140  
I think probably, for him,  
would be difficult to leave.

2254  
01:45:24,140 --> 01:45:26,850

2255  
01:45:26,850 --> 01:45:29,850  
But I know there are different--

2256  
01:45:29,850 --> 01:45:36,960  
It just struck me as a  
very huge step to go back,

2257

01:45:36,960 --> 01:45:38,160  
a very huge step.

2258

01:45:38,160 --> 01:45:45,150  
And most people who were  
induced to come back

2259

01:45:45,150 --> 01:45:50,580  
by Soviet authorities were  
then imprisoned for that.

2260

01:45:50,580 --> 01:45:54,880  
Why was she not imprisoned?

2261

01:45:54,880 --> 01:45:58,260  
Maybe because that big name.

2262

01:45:58,260 --> 01:46:05,900  
I don't have that answer  
why she was not imprisoned.

2263

01:46:05,900 --> 01:46:11,030  
Maybe because they  
lived on the name of--

2264

01:46:11,030 --> 01:46:15,650  
maybe that name  
was so, so known.

2265

01:46:15,650 --> 01:46:18,650  
And like I said, they  
lived on Petrauskas Street.

2266

01:46:18,650 --> 01:46:21,420  
Maybe they came back.

2267

01:46:21,420 --> 01:46:24,530  
They lived in that house.

2268

01:46:24,530 --> 01:46:27,020  
And I went to Kaunas.

2269

01:46:27,020 --> 01:46:28,160

I saw.

2270

01:46:28,160 --> 01:46:36,320

Maybe the government  
was afraid to send them.

2271

01:46:36,320 --> 01:46:38,930

I don't have that answer.

2272

01:46:38,930 --> 01:46:43,700

The other point that you made  
and that comes to my mind

2273

01:46:43,700 --> 01:46:49,430

is that not only do you come  
back, and she is not arrested.

2274

01:46:49,430 --> 01:46:50,000

Yeah.

2275

01:46:50,000 --> 01:46:52,760

Which I'll say for the  
camera, the Soviets

2276

01:46:52,760 --> 01:46:59,030

often did with people who  
had fled to the western zones

2277

01:46:59,030 --> 01:47:00,080

and Germany.

2278

01:47:00,080 --> 01:47:01,790

And they either  
enticed them back.

2279

01:47:01,790 --> 01:47:04,970

But because of the exposure  
and because they had even fled,

2280

01:47:04,970 --> 01:47:06,260

they were considered traitors.

2281  
01:47:06,260 --> 01:47:07,760  
And so that's why  
they were arrested

2282  
01:47:07,760 --> 01:47:13,910  
and deported to Siberia or  
imprisoned, at the very least.

2283  
01:47:13,910 --> 01:47:16,580  
But not only did  
that not happen,

2284  
01:47:16,580 --> 01:47:21,410  
but there were cameras and  
news people and filming

2285  
01:47:21,410 --> 01:47:22,370  
at the train station.

2286  
01:47:22,370 --> 01:47:23,330  
Yes, yes.

2287  
01:47:23,330 --> 01:47:24,350  
Was many people.

2288  
01:47:24,350 --> 01:47:25,170  
Why?

2289  
01:47:25,170 --> 01:47:26,870  
Why did these cameras come?

2290  
01:47:26,870 --> 01:47:28,070  
Why was that there?

2291  
01:47:28,070 --> 01:47:35,600  
I think that story  
became very big.

2292  
01:47:35,600 --> 01:47:41,610  
My father, for example, he  
survived concentration camp,

2293  
01:47:41,610 --> 01:47:42,110  
yeah?

2294  
01:47:42,110 --> 01:47:45,650  
I know that every night,  
my mother and my father

2295  
01:47:45,650 --> 01:47:49,460  
were afraid that they  
would be sent to Siberia.

2296  
01:47:49,460 --> 01:47:53,960  
Many people who survived  
or even soldiers

2297  
01:47:53,960 --> 01:47:56,720  
who were not killed  
by Germans, I

2298  
01:47:56,720 --> 01:48:00,530  
remember when Stalin would  
say, why you were not killed?

2299  
01:48:00,530 --> 01:48:03,530  
Why you in German  
prison, for example?

2300  
01:48:03,530 --> 01:48:05,390  
You know, like a soldier.

2301  
01:48:05,390 --> 01:48:08,750  
Then when they finally were  
released from German prison

2302  
01:48:08,750 --> 01:48:14,570  
and would come back, they were  
sent to Siberia concentration.

2303  
01:48:14,570 --> 01:48:21,720  
Everybody knew my father, a very  
famous violinist, a little bit

2304

01:48:21,720 --> 01:48:24,800  
like a rock star.

2305

01:48:24,800 --> 01:48:29,510  
Everybody knew Petrauskas.

2306

01:48:29,510 --> 01:48:35,420  
Everybody knew that big  
family took a Jewish child.

2307

01:48:35,420 --> 01:48:40,250  
At that point, I  
was not a musician.

2308

01:48:40,250 --> 01:48:44,600  
But later, especially  
even now, I

2309

01:48:44,600 --> 01:48:50,220  
became quite known violinist,  
a teacher in the world,

2310

01:48:50,220 --> 01:48:53,870  
traveling to many countries with  
my concert and with my husband,

2311

01:48:53,870 --> 01:48:55,430  
with my concert.

2312

01:48:55,430 --> 01:49:00,740  
That all combination,  
even now when I come back,

2313

01:49:00,740 --> 01:49:02,450  
there is that kind of--

2314

01:49:02,450 --> 01:49:07,490  
I had many TVs and many  
interviews and hundreds,

2315

01:49:07,490 --> 01:49:10,930  
I would say, that maybe

there is that kind of aura

2316  
01:49:10,930 --> 01:49:12,290  
of that story.

2317  
01:49:12,290 --> 01:49:18,590  
A Jewish child was adopted  
by Lithuanian, very famous.

2318  
01:49:18,590 --> 01:49:21,170  
Father was in Dachau,  
father survived.

2319  
01:49:21,170 --> 01:49:22,830  
Father was famous.

2320  
01:49:22,830 --> 01:49:23,780  
For example.

2321  
01:49:23,780 --> 01:49:26,240  
I think that all combination.

2322  
01:49:26,240 --> 01:49:27,490  
I see, I see.

2323  
01:49:27,490 --> 01:49:30,590  
For example, even  
now, even now, when

2324  
01:49:30,590 --> 01:49:35,120  
it was parliament, some kind  
of meeting or something,

2325  
01:49:35,120 --> 01:49:39,230  
quite big, I even didn't know.

2326  
01:49:39,230 --> 01:49:44,570  
Everybody got pictures  
of myself, photos.

2327  
01:49:44,570 --> 01:49:47,330  
They got child which



survived ghetto.

2328

01:49:47,330 --> 01:49:50,000

I even was thinking,  
nobody asked me

2329

01:49:50,000 --> 01:49:53,386

if I want to give that.

2330

01:49:53,386 --> 01:49:56,090

What I'll say, even  
now, I have calendars

2331

01:49:56,090 --> 01:49:59,150

which is with my picture.

2332

01:49:59,150 --> 01:50:01,460

I don't have explanation.

2333

01:50:01,460 --> 01:50:04,690

But I think that it's a  
little bit that story.

2334

01:50:04,690 --> 01:50:09,020

It's not probably me,  
like me, but that story

2335

01:50:09,020 --> 01:50:11,203

of the famous people.

2336

01:50:11,203 --> 01:50:11,870

There's context.

2337

01:50:11,870 --> 01:50:12,370

Yeah.

2338

01:50:12,370 --> 01:50:15,350

In this country,  
in this Lithuania,

2339

01:50:15,350 --> 01:50:17,300

these people were

well known, were

2340

01:50:17,300 --> 01:50:22,040

prominent, were cultural  
figures, and so on.

2341

01:50:22,040 --> 01:50:24,980

And well, you know--

2342

01:50:24,980 --> 01:50:26,070

OK, go ahead.

2343

01:50:26,070 --> 01:50:29,145

There are many families,  
Lithuanian families,

2344

01:50:29,145 --> 01:50:29,645

who saved--

2345

01:50:29,645 --> 01:50:32,540

2346

01:50:32,540 --> 01:50:35,070

for example, Petrauskas  
and Petrauskiene

2347

01:50:35,070 --> 01:50:38,210

got Righteous Around  
the Nations in Israel.

2348

01:50:38,210 --> 01:50:42,080

I brought some letters.

2349

01:50:42,080 --> 01:50:46,420

And sometimes, their names  
not always are known.

2350

01:50:46,420 --> 01:50:48,960

There are many who don't know--

2351

01:50:48,960 --> 01:50:51,290

there are some, maybe--

2352  
01:50:51,290 --> 01:50:54,830  
that story is very  
known, very known.

2353  
01:50:54,830 --> 01:50:55,580  
Your story.

2354  
01:50:55,580 --> 01:50:57,890  
My story, yeah.

2355  
01:50:57,890 --> 01:51:01,820  
And maybe because it's  
that famous people,

2356  
01:51:01,820 --> 01:51:04,940  
that whole combination.

2357  
01:51:04,940 --> 01:51:08,060  
Well, it's interesting.

2358  
01:51:08,060 --> 01:51:12,090  
Again, this is just thoughts  
coming into my mind.

2359  
01:51:12,090 --> 01:51:17,950  
Your father gets a little bit  
of bread because of a violin.

2360  
01:51:17,950 --> 01:51:22,470  
You have your life saved  
because of a violin.

2361  
01:51:22,470 --> 01:51:28,230  
Postwar protection from,  
let's say, Soviet policy

2362  
01:51:28,230 --> 01:51:31,890  
could be because, if not  
violin, then the world

2363  
01:51:31,890 --> 01:51:34,470

of culture, the world of music.

2364  
01:51:34,470 --> 01:51:40,120  
The world of arts  
was so well known

2365  
01:51:40,120 --> 01:51:45,790  
that it made no sense to--

2366  
01:51:45,790 --> 01:51:50,380  
one creates more  
martyrs and more bad

2367  
01:51:50,380 --> 01:51:54,820  
publicity for oneself if  
you apply the same policies

2368  
01:51:54,820 --> 01:51:56,920  
that you would to  
somebody who's not known.

2369  
01:51:56,920 --> 01:51:58,210  
Yes, yes.

2370  
01:51:58,210 --> 01:52:01,930  
I mean, again, I'm supposing.

2371  
01:52:01,930 --> 01:52:03,900  
Yeah, there is  
something in that.

2372  
01:52:03,900 --> 01:52:04,400  
Yeah.

2373  
01:52:04,400 --> 01:52:04,900  
Yeah.

2374  
01:52:04,900 --> 01:52:09,710  
And what you talk about now  
with this world, this context,

2375  
01:52:09,710 --> 01:52:13,660

this aura lasts until  
the current day.

2376  
01:52:13,660 --> 01:52:14,780  
Yeah, exactly.

2377  
01:52:14,780 --> 01:52:15,500  
Exactly.

2378  
01:52:15,500 --> 01:52:16,150  
Exactly.

2379  
01:52:16,150 --> 01:52:17,290  
OK.

2380  
01:52:17,290 --> 01:52:23,770  
Well, let's take your life,  
then, after you come back.

2381  
01:52:23,770 --> 01:52:28,780  
And you then travel between  
both sets of parents.

2382  
01:52:28,780 --> 01:52:31,840  
And tell us a little bit  
about your future studies,

2383  
01:52:31,840 --> 01:52:33,040  
your career.

2384  
01:52:33,040 --> 01:52:34,750  
You've mentioned music.

2385  
01:52:34,750 --> 01:52:37,030  
You've mentioned that you,  
yourself, are a violinist.

2386  
01:52:37,030 --> 01:52:40,520  
Tell us about all that and how  
you end up in the west again.

2387  
01:52:40,520 --> 01:52:41,020

Yeah.

2388

01:52:41,020 --> 01:52:44,320

2389

01:52:44,320 --> 01:52:48,310

When I came back,  
almost very soon,

2390

01:52:48,310 --> 01:52:50,590

even Elena Petruskiene  
felt that I

2391

01:52:50,590 --> 01:52:53,530

have some kind of musical  
talent because I would

2392

01:52:53,530 --> 01:52:55,700

take some kind of comb and--

2393

01:52:55,700 --> 01:52:58,600

[BLOWS AIR] get  
some kind of music.

2394

01:52:58,600 --> 01:53:03,580

And my father decided  
to teach me violin.

2395

01:53:03,580 --> 01:53:04,750

What a teacher.

2396

01:53:04,750 --> 01:53:05,830

Yes.

2397

01:53:05,830 --> 01:53:09,460

But of course, a child  
doesn't listen too much

2398

01:53:09,460 --> 01:53:11,470

when the father is teaching.

2399

01:53:11,470 --> 01:53:14,560

My first teacher  
was Livontas, which

2400  
01:53:14,560 --> 01:53:18,580  
was quite known  
violinist in Lithuania.

2401  
01:53:18,580 --> 01:53:23,980  
And then I showed  
some kind of talent.

2402  
01:53:23,980 --> 01:53:25,840  
And it was in  
Moscow Conservatory,

2403  
01:53:25,840 --> 01:53:30,850  
was a very famous in the  
world teacher, David Oistrakh.

2404  
01:53:30,850 --> 01:53:33,250  
And he heard me play.

2405  
01:53:33,250 --> 01:53:35,650  
And he decided  
that, even he would

2406  
01:53:35,650 --> 01:53:39,940  
take not too many students,  
he took me like a student.

2407  
01:53:39,940 --> 01:53:43,720  
And then I took part  
in competitions,

2408  
01:53:43,720 --> 01:53:48,140  
which was also successful.

2409  
01:53:48,140 --> 01:53:52,670  
Then I met my husband,  
who was also a student.

2410  
01:53:52,670 --> 01:53:53,390  
In Moscow?

2411  
01:53:53,390 --> 01:53:54,020  
In Moscow.

2412  
01:53:54,020 --> 01:53:57,680  
David Oistrakh introduced us.

2413  
01:53:57,680 --> 01:53:59,360  
And we got married.

2414  
01:53:59,360 --> 01:54:01,640  
And your husband is--  
what is his name?

2415  
01:54:01,640 --> 01:54:03,260  
Yuri Mazurkevich.

2416  
01:54:03,260 --> 01:54:05,040  
And where is he from?

2417  
01:54:05,040 --> 01:54:07,895  
He was born in Ukraine in Lvov.

2418  
01:54:07,895 --> 01:54:08,870  
Lviv, Lvov.

2419  
01:54:08,870 --> 01:54:09,920  
OK.

2420  
01:54:09,920 --> 01:54:13,050  
Well, Lvov, Lviv is  
between Poland and Ukraine.

2421  
01:54:13,050 --> 01:54:13,550  
Yes.

2422  
01:54:13,550 --> 01:54:14,830  
Once, it was part of Poland.

2423  
01:54:14,830 --> 01:54:15,090  
Poland, you're right.



2424  
01:54:15,090 --> 01:54:16,215  
Now it's part of Ukraine.

2425  
01:54:16,215 --> 01:54:20,240

2426  
01:54:20,240 --> 01:54:23,730  
And when we finished  
conservatorium,

2427  
01:54:23,730 --> 01:54:28,280  
was in post-graduation,  
all this stuff, then we

2428  
01:54:28,280 --> 01:54:31,580  
were invited to teach  
to Kiev Conservatory.

2429  
01:54:31,580 --> 01:54:35,390  
And this was about what years?

2430  
01:54:35,390 --> 01:54:36,410  
What years?

2431  
01:54:36,410 --> 01:54:39,930  
When we finished, probably  
around '70s, I think.

2432  
01:54:39,930 --> 01:54:41,510  
OK, in the 1970s.

2433  
01:54:41,510 --> 01:54:42,800  
Yeah, I think so.

2434  
01:54:42,800 --> 01:54:45,230  
Not very good with numbers.

2435  
01:54:45,230 --> 01:54:48,500  
My husband said, do you  
remember when we got married?

2436  
01:54:48,500 --> 01:54:49,390  
I said--

2437  
01:54:49,390 --> 01:54:51,053  
[LAUGHS]

2438  
01:54:51,053 --> 01:54:54,110

2439  
01:54:54,110 --> 01:54:57,380  
And then we played--

2440  
01:54:57,380 --> 01:55:01,490  
we never were allowed  
to leave at some point

2441  
01:55:01,490 --> 01:55:04,340  
abroad together, because  
somebody would think

2442  
01:55:04,340 --> 01:55:06,470  
that maybe we would escape.

2443  
01:55:06,470 --> 01:55:10,410  
But when we decided  
to immigrate, even

2444  
01:55:10,410 --> 01:55:13,010  
in Soviet Union, we  
played in Soviet Union

2445  
01:55:13,010 --> 01:55:15,070  
quite a few concerts.

2446  
01:55:15,070 --> 01:55:16,650  
Then we came here.

2447  
01:55:16,650 --> 01:55:21,440  
We got invitation to  
not one university.

2448

01:55:21,440 --> 01:55:24,830  
And we became almost--

2449  
01:55:24,830 --> 01:55:27,440  
in one or two days,  
we got invitations

2450  
01:55:27,440 --> 01:55:32,060  
to many universities and  
McGill and another university.

2451  
01:55:32,060 --> 01:55:36,650  
And we just turned towards,  
and we decided to stay,

2452  
01:55:36,650 --> 01:55:41,840  
to accept London University  
of London, Ontario in Canada.

2453  
01:55:41,840 --> 01:55:46,620  
Meanwhile, we were concertizing  
almost in many countries.

2454  
01:55:46,620 --> 01:55:50,220  
Did you know that this is what--

2455  
01:55:50,220 --> 01:55:52,080  
you would have this  
kind of success

2456  
01:55:52,080 --> 01:55:54,910  
when you came to the west?

2457  
01:55:54,910 --> 01:55:57,090  
We did not probably  
that we would

2458  
01:55:57,090 --> 01:55:59,520  
have that kind of success.

2459  
01:55:59,520 --> 01:56:03,150  
But probably, we felt that  
something, we would have,

2460  
01:56:03,150 --> 01:56:07,350  
because we had very, very  
good schooling, yeah,

2461  
01:56:07,350 --> 01:56:10,780  
studying with the best  
teacher in the world.

2462  
01:56:10,780 --> 01:56:12,640  
Moscow Conservatory  
at that time was

2463  
01:56:12,640 --> 01:56:15,930  
very big, the biggest,  
biggest names in the world,

2464  
01:56:15,930 --> 01:56:19,240  
the best and teaching,  
studying there.

2465  
01:56:19,240 --> 01:56:25,590  
And we already had some kind  
of name in Soviet Union.

2466  
01:56:25,590 --> 01:56:28,110  
When we came here,  
we didn't have

2467  
01:56:28,110 --> 01:56:32,190  
to prove like  
probably many people.

2468  
01:56:32,190 --> 01:56:35,430  
Somehow, for us,  
I would say was--

2469  
01:56:35,430 --> 01:56:39,210  
What year did you emigrate  
from the Soviet Union?

2470  
01:56:39,210 --> 01:56:42,180  
We were in Kiev, yeah,

when we were teaching.

2471

01:56:42,180 --> 01:56:46,750

We decided that in order  
to immigrate, in Kiev,

2472

01:56:46,750 --> 01:56:52,510

situation was politically  
not very flexible.

2473

01:56:52,510 --> 01:56:56,920

You would-- we probably  
would lose job, everything.

2474

01:56:56,920 --> 01:56:58,750

And wait, and you don't know.

2475

01:56:58,750 --> 01:57:02,380

Then what we did, we  
moved to Lithuania.

2476

01:57:02,380 --> 01:57:04,480

We moved to Lithuania.

2477

01:57:04,480 --> 01:57:05,770

And we got jobs.

2478

01:57:05,770 --> 01:57:10,120

And everybody probably felt  
that maybe we will leave.

2479

01:57:10,120 --> 01:57:14,620

But everybody was very  
friendly, very supportive.

2480

01:57:14,620 --> 01:57:18,370

And we applied-- not  
like we applying,

2481

01:57:18,370 --> 01:57:21,730

but we applied, like  
my parents applying.

2482

01:57:21,730 --> 01:57:24,640

And we're going, because  
they're old people,

2483

01:57:24,640 --> 01:57:27,220

and we would like  
to go with them.

2484

01:57:27,220 --> 01:57:31,150

So your parents were still  
alive when you emigrated.

2485

01:57:31,150 --> 01:57:31,660

Yes.

2486

01:57:31,660 --> 01:57:34,180

And did they emigrate, as well?

2487

01:57:34,180 --> 01:57:35,140

Yes, together.

2488

01:57:35,140 --> 01:57:37,330

And where did they  
go, also to the--

2489

01:57:37,330 --> 01:57:38,015

To Toronto.

2490

01:57:38,015 --> 01:57:38,515

To Toronto.

2491

01:57:38,515 --> 01:57:39,910

Where we stayed, yeah.

2492

01:57:39,910 --> 01:57:41,710

So it was the four of you?

2493

01:57:41,710 --> 01:57:42,310

Four.

2494

01:57:42,310 --> 01:57:45,390

And did you have a child at that point?

2495  
01:57:45,390 --> 01:57:45,940  
Yes.

2496  
01:57:45,940 --> 01:57:47,080  
So five of you?

2497  
01:57:47,080 --> 01:57:48,100  
Yeah, five of you.

2498  
01:57:48,100 --> 01:57:48,610  
Five.

2499  
01:57:48,610 --> 01:57:51,790  
Of us, yeah.

2500  
01:57:51,790 --> 01:57:55,540  
Did your parents ever return to the Soviet Union, to Lithuania?

2501  
01:57:55,540 --> 01:57:56,710  
No, no.

2502  
01:57:56,710 --> 01:57:58,575  
So they passed away in Canada?

2503  
01:57:58,575 --> 01:58:00,200  
Yeah, passed away in Canada.

2504  
01:58:00,200 --> 01:58:00,700  
Yeah.

2505  
01:58:00,700 --> 01:58:02,290  
When did your father pass away?

2506  
01:58:02,290 --> 01:58:03,850  
What year was that?

2507  
01:58:03,850 --> 01:58:06,610

My father passed away 2002.

2508  
01:58:06,610 --> 01:58:07,930  
Wow.

2509  
01:58:07,930 --> 01:58:09,280  
He lived a good, long time.

2510  
01:58:09,280 --> 01:58:13,030  
Yeah, he lived a good, long--  
and my mother, I have to--

2511  
01:58:13,030 --> 01:58:16,130  
I can refresh my memory.

2512  
01:58:16,130 --> 01:58:20,290  
My mother also lived longer,  
even, than my father.

2513  
01:58:20,290 --> 01:58:20,810  
Really?

2514  
01:58:20,810 --> 01:58:21,520  
Yeah.

2515  
01:58:21,520 --> 01:58:22,885  
And into this century?

2516  
01:58:22,885 --> 01:58:24,610  
Yeah, for sure.

2517  
01:58:24,610 --> 01:58:26,680  
OK, OK.

2518  
01:58:26,680 --> 01:58:30,740  
And when they got  
older, did they

2519  
01:58:30,740 --> 01:58:33,830  
share more of what  
their stories had been?



2520

01:58:33,830 --> 01:58:37,170

Or were they always  
kind of closed about it?

2521

01:58:37,170 --> 01:58:39,440

I don't think that they shared.

2522

01:58:39,440 --> 01:58:43,670

Now, maybe, I a  
little bit regret

2523

01:58:43,670 --> 01:58:46,670

because I wonder  
that I maybe had

2524

01:58:46,670 --> 01:58:50,955

to try to get as much as I can.

2525

01:58:50,955 --> 01:58:53,630

2526

01:58:53,630 --> 01:58:58,680

For example, my aunt, who  
survived concentration camp,

2527

01:58:58,680 --> 01:59:05,120

and I think her child was  
killed in concentration camp.

2528

01:59:05,120 --> 01:59:11,480

And once, very gentle, very  
gentle, I was going around

2529

01:59:11,480 --> 01:59:15,170

and tried to get that answer.

2530

01:59:15,170 --> 01:59:18,290

And she said, if I didn't  
speak about that, it

2531

01:59:18,290 --> 01:59:20,540

means I don't want to speak.

2532  
01:59:20,540 --> 01:59:21,720  
That was closed.

2533  
01:59:21,720 --> 01:59:23,600  
That's what they say.

2534  
01:59:23,600 --> 01:59:27,800  
Somehow, probably,  
people doesn't

2535  
01:59:27,800 --> 01:59:29,880  
want to go back to their pain.

2536  
01:59:29,880 --> 01:59:33,110  
Yeah, yeah.

2537  
01:59:33,110 --> 01:59:36,500  
And here's another question.

2538  
01:59:36,500 --> 01:59:42,600  
Because you were attached so  
much to your adopted family

2539  
01:59:42,600 --> 01:59:48,640  
and integrated into  
that family, do you

2540  
01:59:48,640 --> 01:59:51,880  
feel a difference in identity?

2541  
01:59:51,880 --> 01:59:53,020  
Are you Jewish?

2542  
01:59:53,020 --> 01:59:55,807  
Are you Lithuanian?

2543  
01:59:55,807 --> 01:59:56,390  
Good question.

2544  
01:59:56,390 --> 01:59:58,390

Did that question come up?

2545

01:59:58,390 --> 02:00:02,830

That question come up, and  
that question come up in me.

2546

02:00:02,830 --> 02:00:05,200

It's a very good question.

2547

02:00:05,200 --> 02:00:10,210

For a time, I felt  
more Lithuanian.

2548

02:00:10,210 --> 02:00:13,990

I felt more Lithuanian.

2549

02:00:13,990 --> 02:00:22,550

When I came to this country,  
I started more to question me,

2550

02:00:22,550 --> 02:00:25,820

to question my parents,  
and to question

2551

02:00:25,820 --> 02:00:29,150

that all my family was--

2552

02:00:29,150 --> 02:00:34,040

almost everybody was  
killed in such a history.

2553

02:00:34,040 --> 02:00:38,660

That Holocaust is  
such a history.

2554

02:00:38,660 --> 02:00:42,080

And I started who  
I am, you know?

2555

02:00:42,080 --> 02:00:46,310

And then my daughter  
was growing up.

2556

02:00:46,310 --> 02:00:49,550

And when she was  
growing up, somehow I

2557

02:00:49,550 --> 02:00:53,330

didn't teach her  
Jewish tradition

2558

02:00:53,330 --> 02:00:56,720

because I felt mostly like--

2559

02:00:56,720 --> 02:01:00,350

and part of me is Jewish  
but somehow Lithuanian,

2560

02:01:00,350 --> 02:01:03,410

because mostly, I  
speak Lithuanian.

2561

02:01:03,410 --> 02:01:05,660

This is my first language.

2562

02:01:05,660 --> 02:01:09,710

Danute, Dana is my  
Lithuanian name.

2563

02:01:09,710 --> 02:01:12,890

But when we came here,  
I started to think.

2564

02:01:12,890 --> 02:01:17,720

And my daughter started  
to ask, but you never

2565

02:01:17,720 --> 02:01:19,520

told me about your days.

2566

02:01:19,520 --> 02:01:22,400

You never told me  
about any traditions.

2567

02:01:22,400 --> 02:01:31,200

Then she presented to me  
a book, Jewish for Dumb.

2568  
02:01:31,200 --> 02:01:32,780  
[LAUGHS] Jewish for Dummies?

2569  
02:01:32,780 --> 02:01:33,280  
Dummies.

2570  
02:01:33,280 --> 02:01:35,950

2571  
02:01:35,950 --> 02:01:38,870  
Yeah, that I would  
know a history.

2572  
02:01:38,870 --> 02:01:40,800  
That you know a little  
bit about who they are.

2573  
02:01:40,800 --> 02:01:41,300  
Yeah.

2574  
02:01:41,300 --> 02:01:43,790  
Because my husband  
is also not Jewish.

2575  
02:01:43,790 --> 02:01:50,690  
And somehow, when we came  
here, I must tell you.

2576  
02:01:50,690 --> 02:01:55,070  
Ukrainian community, when  
they asked me who I am--

2577  
02:01:55,070 --> 02:02:00,920  
because some was in Moscow,  
when there is persecution.

2578  
02:02:00,920 --> 02:02:03,140  
First time when I  
applied, I was not

2579

02:02:03,140 --> 02:02:05,990  
accepted because I'm Jewish.

2580

02:02:05,990 --> 02:02:08,120  
Of course, I wrote.

2581

02:02:08,120 --> 02:02:11,300  
In some ways, if  
I'm very open, I

2582

02:02:11,300 --> 02:02:14,000  
must tell you that  
I almost hide it.

2583

02:02:14,000 --> 02:02:14,660  
Really?

2584

02:02:14,660 --> 02:02:15,230  
Yeah.

2585

02:02:15,230 --> 02:02:20,000  
For example, then my  
husband asked me who I am--

2586

02:02:20,000 --> 02:02:20,880  
When you first met?

2587

02:02:20,880 --> 02:02:21,380  
Yeah.

2588

02:02:21,380 --> 02:02:23,150  
I said, I'm Lithuanian.

2589

02:02:23,150 --> 02:02:27,740  
But then I started to say,  
yes, but I have to tell you.

2590

02:02:27,740 --> 02:02:33,920  
And because that atmosphere, if  
you tell that you are Jewish,

2591

02:02:33,920 --> 02:02:36,570  
it's nothing  
positive about that.

2592  
02:02:36,570 --> 02:02:37,910  
I tried to hide.

2593  
02:02:37,910 --> 02:02:38,990  
In the Soviet Union?

2594  
02:02:38,990 --> 02:02:40,280  
In Soviet Union.

2595  
02:02:40,280 --> 02:02:43,430  
I told my husband that  
I'm from Lithuania.

2596  
02:02:43,430 --> 02:02:48,060  
But then we already  
got each other

2597  
02:02:48,060 --> 02:02:51,540  
and were planning to marry  
that I said, no, you know,

2598  
02:02:51,540 --> 02:02:52,470  
I'm Jewish.

2599  
02:02:52,470 --> 02:02:56,130  
And he was very shocked  
and very surprised,

2600  
02:02:56,130 --> 02:03:02,160  
somehow, I'm not sure even 100%  
understanding in the beginning.

2601  
02:03:02,160 --> 02:03:11,150  
Then when we came to  
Canada, yes, somebody

2602  
02:03:11,150 --> 02:03:14,200  
asked my husband am I Jewish.

2603

02:03:14,200 --> 02:03:16,800

He said half.

2604

02:03:16,800 --> 02:03:18,030

Half Jewish.

2605

02:03:18,030 --> 02:03:21,270

He thought that I will  
be better accepted,

2606

02:03:21,270 --> 02:03:23,790

especially in some communities,  
not Jewish communities.

2607

02:03:23,790 --> 02:03:25,890

Jewish, of course--

2608

02:03:25,890 --> 02:03:27,900

I remember when  
somebody asked me--

2609

02:03:27,900 --> 02:03:29,070

Was there truth to that?

2610

02:03:29,070 --> 02:03:31,720

2611

02:03:31,720 --> 02:03:35,150

In some communities, maybe.

2612

02:03:35,150 --> 02:03:37,100

Or maybe we had  
that imagination.

2613

02:03:37,100 --> 02:03:39,280

I cannot say.

2614

02:03:39,280 --> 02:03:44,170

somebody asked me which  
half of me is Jewish.

2615



02:03:44,170 --> 02:03:47,350  
I forgot what he  
said, my mother or--

2616  
02:03:47,350 --> 02:03:49,912  
this half of me is  
Jewish or that half.

2617  
02:03:49,912 --> 02:03:52,080  
I didn't know what to answer.

2618  
02:03:52,080 --> 02:03:53,650  
Finally, I said, look--

2619  
02:03:53,650 --> 02:03:56,620  
finally, then when I  
was starting to think,

2620  
02:03:56,620 --> 02:03:58,660  
I said, no, I'm Jewish.

2621  
02:03:58,660 --> 02:04:01,630  
Now, for sure, I feel Jewish.

2622  
02:04:01,630 --> 02:04:03,130  
OK.

2623  
02:04:03,130 --> 02:04:04,915  
Do you now feel Jewish inside?

2624  
02:04:04,915 --> 02:04:05,480  
Yeah, yeah.

2625  
02:04:05,480 --> 02:04:06,930  
OK, OK.

2626  
02:04:06,930 --> 02:04:09,580  
Still, there is  
Lithuanian inside of me.

2627  
02:04:09,580 --> 02:04:12,190  
Well, there are some people

who would say you can be both.

2628

02:04:12,190 --> 02:04:19,150

Yes, there is Lithuanians still  
because it cannot be not to be.

2629

02:04:19,150 --> 02:04:21,670

But I feel Jewish.

2630

02:04:21,670 --> 02:04:24,940

And what makes you feel that?

2631

02:04:24,940 --> 02:04:28,210

Some kind of memory.

2632

02:04:28,210 --> 02:04:32,290

That's what survived my parents.

2633

02:04:32,290 --> 02:04:38,690

And almost nobody is alive,  
all brothers or sisters,

2634

02:04:38,690 --> 02:04:41,260

my father's brothers, my  
mother's all sisters--

2635

02:04:41,260 --> 02:04:42,850

nobody is alive--

2636

02:04:42,850 --> 02:04:48,910

that I feel it's my duty  
to keep their tradition.

2637

02:04:48,910 --> 02:04:56,505

My daughter now is more intense  
that we celebrate or Rosh

2638

02:04:56,505 --> 02:05:00,550

Hashanah, something like that.

2639

02:05:00,550 --> 02:05:02,710

There's something.

2640  
02:05:02,710 --> 02:05:06,250  
Well, Dana, Danute.

2641  
02:05:06,250 --> 02:05:07,210  
Danute, yes.

2642  
02:05:07,210 --> 02:05:09,610  
Danute.

2643  
02:05:09,610 --> 02:05:13,315  
I think that we've come close  
to the end of our interview.

2644  
02:05:13,315 --> 02:05:14,230  
Yes.

2645  
02:05:14,230 --> 02:05:17,020  
Maybe, if you just  
would like to--

2646  
02:05:17,020 --> 02:05:17,950  
Of course.

2647  
02:05:17,950 --> 02:05:21,040  
But what I'll do right  
now is I will formally

2648  
02:05:21,040 --> 02:05:22,270  
close the interview.

2649  
02:05:22,270 --> 02:05:24,850  
And then we'll film  
some of the items

2650  
02:05:24,850 --> 02:05:26,320  
that you were telling me about.

2651  
02:05:26,320 --> 02:05:26,820  
OK.

2652

02:05:26,820 --> 02:05:27,400  
OK?

2653  
02:05:27,400 --> 02:05:32,350  
So I will say this concludes  
the United States Holocaust

2654  
02:05:32,350 --> 02:05:36,420  
Memorial Museum  
interview with Mrs. Dana

2655  
02:05:36,420 --> 02:05:43,240  
Pomerantsaite-Mazurkevich  
on September 25, 2019

2656  
02:05:43,240 --> 02:05:45,250  
in Brookline, Massachusetts.

2657  
02:05:45,250 --> 02:05:46,210  
Thank you very much.

2658  
02:05:46,210 --> 02:05:47,710  
Thank you very much.

2659  
02:05:47,710 --> 02:05:51,000  
Thank you very much.

2660  
02:05:51,000 --> 02:05:53,070  
OK.

2661  
02:05:53,070 --> 02:05:55,670  
Mrs. Dana, I'm sorry  
I say it that way.

2662  
02:05:55,670 --> 02:05:56,250  
Dana, Dana.

2663  
02:05:56,250 --> 02:05:57,030  
OK.

2664  
02:05:57,030 --> 02:05:59,160  
Tell me, who is this

a photograph of?

2665

02:05:59,160 --> 02:06:03,900

This is a photo of my birth  
father, violinist Daniel

2666

02:06:03,900 --> 02:06:04,770

Pomerants.

2667

02:06:04,770 --> 02:06:07,830

And do you know about when  
this photograph was taken?

2668

02:06:07,830 --> 02:06:14,970

That photograph is taken  
before they did that recording.

2669

02:06:14,970 --> 02:06:17,490

But like I say, I'm not  
very good with numbers.

2670

02:06:17,490 --> 02:06:22,260

It's 1935 or '36.

2671

02:06:22,260 --> 02:06:23,490

OK, all right.

2672

02:06:23,490 --> 02:06:26,250

And now we're going to  
go to the other side.

2673

02:06:26,250 --> 02:06:29,250

And there's a photograph  
of another young man there.

2674

02:06:29,250 --> 02:06:31,390

And what is his name?

2675

02:06:31,390 --> 02:06:34,440

Here is the name of Dvarionas.

2676

02:06:34,440 --> 02:06:36,270

What's his first name?

2677

02:06:36,270 --> 02:06:38,610

Vladis, I think

it's-- no, Antanas.

2678

02:06:38,610 --> 02:06:39,840

Antanas Dvarionas.

2679

02:06:39,840 --> 02:06:45,180

He was a singer and made,

actually, in that recording,

2680

02:06:45,180 --> 02:06:48,487

many with my father's orchestra.

2681

02:06:48,487 --> 02:06:50,820

So in other words, he sang

with your father's orchestra.

2682

02:06:50,820 --> 02:06:51,870

Orchestra, exactly.

2683

02:06:51,870 --> 02:06:52,760

Exactly.

2684

02:06:52,760 --> 02:06:56,400

And this is his photograph

from then and his biography,

2685

02:06:56,400 --> 02:06:57,190

it looks like.

2686

02:06:57,190 --> 02:06:57,690

Yes.

2687

02:06:57,690 --> 02:07:00,240

And was he an opera singer?

2688

02:07:00,240 --> 02:07:02,160

Or was he more of a--

2689

02:07:02,160 --> 02:07:04,110

I think not opera singer.

2690

02:07:04,110 --> 02:07:07,610

He's more singing

liaudies dainos.

2691

02:07:07,610 --> 02:07:08,250

Folk songs.

2692

02:07:08,250 --> 02:07:10,800

Folk songs, yes.

2693

02:07:10,800 --> 02:07:14,160

Not just folk songs,

but not opera singer.

2694

02:07:14,160 --> 02:07:15,680

Was he more popular music?

2695

02:07:15,680 --> 02:07:16,840

Popular music, definitely.

2696

02:07:16,840 --> 02:07:17,950

So jazz, as well.

2697

02:07:17,950 --> 02:07:18,720

Yeah.

2698

02:07:18,720 --> 02:07:20,080

Definitely.

2699

02:07:20,080 --> 02:07:20,580

All right.

2700

02:07:20,580 --> 02:07:24,300

Now, what you're holding,

where this photograph is,

2701

02:07:24,300 --> 02:07:27,660

is actually the 11 records?

2702  
02:07:27,660 --> 02:07:31,290  
Yes, it's 11 records  
my father did

2703  
02:07:31,290 --> 02:07:36,150  
in London, England, Columbia,  
very famous Columbia record.

2704  
02:07:36,150 --> 02:07:37,020  
OK.

2705  
02:07:37,020 --> 02:07:39,900  
If you could hold it  
up again like it was.

2706  
02:07:39,900 --> 02:07:40,650  
Oh, OK.

2707  
02:07:40,650 --> 02:07:42,640  
And we'll see the index.

2708  
02:07:42,640 --> 02:07:43,140  
Hold on.

2709  
02:07:43,140 --> 02:07:45,570  
Let's see the index so  
that he can pan that.

2710  
02:07:45,570 --> 02:07:50,500

2711  
02:07:50,500 --> 02:07:54,100  
And tell us, can we flip  
it a little bit so we

2712  
02:07:54,100 --> 02:07:56,210  
see the different albums?

2713  
02:07:56,210 --> 02:07:58,010  
Here's number one.



2714  
02:07:58,010 --> 02:08:01,180  
Number two.

2715  
02:08:01,180 --> 02:08:05,530  
I have to put that  
another record.

2716  
02:08:05,530 --> 02:08:09,060  
One record, I gave to Vilnius.

2717  
02:08:09,060 --> 02:08:12,640  
They asked me for  
Vilnius Holocaust Museum.

2718  
02:08:12,640 --> 02:08:14,110  
Oh, the Vilnius Gaon Museum.

2719  
02:08:14,110 --> 02:08:15,010  
Gaon, yeah.

2720  
02:08:15,010 --> 02:08:15,740  
Gaon Museum.

2721  
02:08:15,740 --> 02:08:19,490  
I'm not sure if it's  
called the Gaon Museum or--

2722  
02:08:19,490 --> 02:08:19,990  
Gaon?

2723  
02:08:19,990 --> 02:08:20,860  
Yeah.

2724  
02:08:20,860 --> 02:08:23,470  
That's why it's empty,  
because they have that.

2725  
02:08:23,470 --> 02:08:26,210  
I see.

2726  
02:08:26,210 --> 02:08:27,890

Number three.

2727

02:08:27,890 --> 02:08:31,440

Here is number four.

2728

02:08:31,440 --> 02:08:32,190

Number five.

2729

02:08:32,190 --> 02:08:35,830

2730

02:08:35,830 --> 02:08:37,090

That's quite something.

2731

02:08:37,090 --> 02:08:43,240

And these all were  
recorded in the '30s

2732

02:08:43,240 --> 02:08:45,760

with your father's orchestra.

2733

02:08:45,760 --> 02:08:46,750

Yes.

2734

02:08:46,750 --> 02:08:53,080

That's what they say, that my  
father did a fantastic job.

2735

02:08:53,080 --> 02:08:53,890

Yeah.

2736

02:08:53,890 --> 02:08:55,280

And there we are again.

2737

02:08:55,280 --> 02:08:57,050

And here we are again.

2738

02:08:57,050 --> 02:08:58,890

OK.

2739

02:08:58,890 --> 02:08:59,400

Thank you.

2740  
02:08:59,400 --> 02:09:02,680

2741  
02:09:02,680 --> 02:09:05,110  
So tell me, who is  
this a photograph of,

2742  
02:09:05,110 --> 02:09:06,550  
this lovely young woman?

2743  
02:09:06,550 --> 02:09:10,930  
This photo is of  
my birth mother.

2744  
02:09:10,930 --> 02:09:11,950  
And her name again?

2745  
02:09:11,950 --> 02:09:14,020  
Liucija Zulkov.

2746  
02:09:14,020 --> 02:09:16,690  
And here is her mother.

2747  
02:09:16,690 --> 02:09:18,190  
In the distance,  
in the background?

2748  
02:09:18,190 --> 02:09:19,450  
Yeah, in the background, yes.

2749  
02:09:19,450 --> 02:09:22,510  
And do you know about when  
this photograph was taken?

2750  
02:09:22,510 --> 02:09:23,375  
I don't know.

2751  
02:09:23,375 --> 02:09:24,000  
You don't know.

2752

02:09:24,000 --> 02:09:24,940

I don't know.

2753

02:09:24,940 --> 02:09:27,730

Do you think she was  
married yet or not?

2754

02:09:27,730 --> 02:09:29,860

At that time, I think  
she was not married.

2755

02:09:29,860 --> 02:09:30,850

OK.

2756

02:09:30,850 --> 02:09:33,380

So this is Liucija  
Zulkov as a young woman.

2757

02:09:33,380 --> 02:09:34,330

Yeah, right.

2758

02:09:34,330 --> 02:09:35,290

All right, thank you.

2759

02:09:35,290 --> 02:09:37,940

2760

02:09:37,940 --> 02:09:38,510

OK.

2761

02:09:38,510 --> 02:09:40,220

And who's this lovely lady?

2762

02:09:40,220 --> 02:09:45,320

This lovely lady is my  
adopted mother, Elena

2763

02:09:45,320 --> 02:09:48,170

Zalinkevicaite-Petrauskiene.

2764

02:09:48,170 --> 02:09:51,380

And do you know about when  
this photograph was taken?

2765

02:09:51,380 --> 02:09:53,240

I don't know exactly.

2766

02:09:53,240 --> 02:09:56,120

But I have many  
photographs of her

2767

02:09:56,120 --> 02:09:58,772

where she's in the film roles.

2768

02:09:58,772 --> 02:10:00,360

In costumes in the theater.

2769

02:10:00,360 --> 02:10:01,730

Yeah, in the theater, yeah.

2770

02:10:01,730 --> 02:10:04,280

But it looks like it would  
have been a pre-war photograph.

2771

02:10:04,280 --> 02:10:05,210

Yeah, pre-war.

2772

02:10:05,210 --> 02:10:06,200

This is pre-war, OK.

2773

02:10:06,200 --> 02:10:07,170

Yeah, pre-war.

2774

02:10:07,170 --> 02:10:09,800

OK, thank you very much.

2775

02:10:09,800 --> 02:10:12,800

[NON-ENGLISH].

2776

02:10:12,800 --> 02:10:16,640

OK, and what is this that you're  
holding in your arms here?

2777

02:10:16,640 --> 02:10:22,310

This is record of my adopted  
father, singer, opera singer,

2778

02:10:22,310 --> 02:10:24,140

Kipras Petrauskas.

2779

02:10:24,140 --> 02:10:27,760

That recording, I don't  
know which year it's done.

2780

02:10:27,760 --> 02:10:32,540

It's re-recorded  
maybe a few years ago.

2781

02:10:32,540 --> 02:10:40,710

But originally, it was recorded  
by EMI records in London.

2782

02:10:40,710 --> 02:10:41,370

UK.

2783

02:10:41,370 --> 02:10:41,870

UK.

2784

02:10:41,870 --> 02:10:43,490

OK.

2785

02:10:43,490 --> 02:10:46,580

It's an album that says  
Kipras Petrauskas, "Folk

2786

02:10:46,580 --> 02:10:49,020

Songs and Operatic Arias."

2787

02:10:49,020 --> 02:10:49,520

Yes.

2788

02:10:49,520 --> 02:10:55,822

I can show another side, which  
he's here in different roles.

2789  
02:10:55,822 --> 02:10:56,322  
OK.

2790  
02:10:56,322 --> 02:10:59,090

2791  
02:10:59,090 --> 02:11:00,650  
Have you got it?

2792  
02:11:00,650 --> 02:11:01,850  
Thank you.

2793  
02:11:01,850 --> 02:11:04,550  
So tell me, what is  
this photograph of?

2794  
02:11:04,550 --> 02:11:09,980  
This photograph of my  
adopted mother and myself.

2795  
02:11:09,980 --> 02:11:12,440  
And about what year  
was this one taken?

2796  
02:11:12,440 --> 02:11:16,820  
It's about '47, probably.

2797  
02:11:16,820 --> 02:11:19,860  
So you're a five-year-old,  
almost six-year-old girl.

2798  
02:11:19,860 --> 02:11:20,570  
Yes.

2799  
02:11:20,570 --> 02:11:21,380  
OK.

2800  
02:11:21,380 --> 02:11:23,635  
And this would have been  
done in west Germany?

2801

02:11:23,635 --> 02:11:25,130

Yeah, exactly.

2802

02:11:25,130 --> 02:11:26,270

All right.

2803

02:11:26,270 --> 02:11:28,270

All right, thank you.