1 00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:00,650

2 00:00:00,650 --> 00:00:03,350 So here we go.

- 3 00:00:03,350 --> 00:00:07,100 We got interrupted a little bit, but now we're back on.
- 4 00:00:07,100 --> 00:00:11,600 And I believe we were talking about your Flemish family
- 5 00:00:11,600 --> 00:00:15,440 that you stayed with for a few years.
- 6 00:00:15,440 --> 00:00:21,290 Do you now know about what time, what month or year
- 7 00:00:21,290 --> 00:00:23,900 it was that you came to them after being
- 8 00:00:23,900 --> 00:00:26,420 in the convent for half a year?
- 9 00:00:26,420 --> 00:00:27,440 Yes.
- 10 00:00:27,440 --> 00:00:30,470 I have it here on this front page that the Belgium
- 11 00:00:30,470 --> 00:00:31,700 government sent me.
- 12 00:00:31,700 --> 00:00:33,170 OK.

13 00:00:33,170 --> 00:00:35,020 And it's-- so let me see.

14 00:00:35,020 --> 00:00:42,310

15 00:00:42,310 --> 00:00:44,590 It doesn't say from beginning to end.

16 00:00:44,590 --> 00:00:49,480 It says the entire time that I was in hiding.

17 00:00:49,480 --> 00:00:58,390 So it doesn't-- no, it doesn't say the length of time,

18 00:00:58,390 --> 00:01:01,370 which surprises me.

19 00:01:01,370 --> 00:01:03,890 What does it say?

20 00:01:03,890 --> 00:01:05,180 Well, it's in French.

21 00:01:05,180 --> 00:01:06,620 OK.

22 00:01:06,620 --> 00:01:08,540 Do you want me to read it to you?

23 00:01:08,540 --> 00:01:10,220 Do you understand French?

24 00:01:10,220 --> 00:01:12,920 I don't, but read it through because somebody

00:01:12,920 --> 00:01:16,670 who will be listening to this in the future, maybe they do.

26

00:01:16,670 --> 00:01:18,500 OK.

27

00:01:18,500 --> 00:01:20,510 It's says [SPEAKING FRENCH].

28

 $00:01:20,510 \longrightarrow 00:01:23,180$

29

00:01:23,180 --> 00:01:30,260 This is an original copy of a file from Hidden Children.

30

00:01:30,260 --> 00:01:35,510 And the result is Madame Aizenberg, Josiane, that's me.

31

00:01:35,510 --> 00:01:39,990

32

00:01:39,990 --> 00:01:45,514 Then it gives my date of birth, 21st [FRENCH] mars 1939

33

00:01:45,514 --> 00:01:50,310 [FRENCH] Ã Ixelles, was hidden, [FRENCH] pendant--

34

00:01:50,310 --> 00:01:57,520 was hidden during the war under the false name of Van Berg.

35

00:01:57,520 --> 00:02:01,840 They changed my name and gave me new papers

36

00:02:01,840 --> 00:02:05,800 with a name that is more

This is a verbatim transcript of spoken word generated with 3Play Media. It is not the primary source, and it may contain errors in spelling or accuracy.

Germanic, Van Berg, which is

37 00:02:05,800 --> 00:02:09,850 more Dutch really than Jewish.

38 00:02:09,850 --> 00:02:13,130 And Van Berg, Josiane [FRENCH] numéro--

39 00:02:13,130 --> 00:02:15,970 it then gives me the number of the code.

40 00:02:15,970 --> 00:02:21,970 [FRENCH]---- here they give the addresses where I was.

41 00:02:21,970 --> 00:02:26,140 Les Seours Spermalli, those are the nuns,

42 00:02:26,140 --> 00:02:29,380 [? Orphelinat ?] de Saint Croix à Bruges.

43 00:02:29,380 --> 00:02:31,874 Then I was with Debrackelaer, [FRENCH]

44 00:02:31,874 --> 00:02:36,490 dix-sept Rue de Devoir, Anderlecht,

45 00:02:36,490 --> 00:02:38,500 which is their address.

46 00:02:38,500 --> 00:02:44,320 And then at the end of the war when Belgium was liberated,

47 00:02:44,320 --> 00:02:49,570 I went to my mom's sister.

```
48
00:02:49,570 --> 00:02:51,700
She found me and picked me up.
```

49 00:02:51,700 --> 00:02:53,260 And then I was--

50 00:02:53,260 --> 00:02:56,530 it's part of-- but it's not the end of the war yet.

51 00:02:56,530 --> 00:03:00,880 It's Madame Paciorkowski, which is my mom's sister.

52 00:03:00,880 --> 00:03:03,830 And was that Rose or Terese?

53 00:03:03,830 --> 00:03:04,910 Terese.

54 00:03:04,910 --> 00:03:05,480 Terese?

55 00:03:05,480 --> 00:03:07,240 And how do I spell her last name?

56 00:03:07,240 --> 00:03:10,410

57 00:03:10,410 --> 00:03:11,220 Oh.

58 00:03:11,220 --> 00:03:12,195 OK.

59 00:03:12,195 --> 00:03:21,810 P-A-C-I-O-R-K-O-W-S-K-I.

60 00:03:21,810 --> 00:03:24,150 And let me repeat that. 61 00:03:24,150 --> 00:03:34,050 P, like Peter, A, C like circus, I, O, R like Richard,

62 00:03:34,050 --> 00:03:40,610 K like Karen, O, W like William, S like Sam, K like Karen, I.

63 00:03:40,610 --> 00:03:41,370 Correct.

64 00:03:41,370 --> 00:03:42,430 OK.

65 00:03:42,430 --> 00:03:42,930 OK.

66 00:03:42,930 --> 00:03:48,230 So your aunts-- your aunt [? Teresa, ?] how did

67 00:03:48,230 --> 00:03:49,670 she know where to find you?

68 00:03:49,670 --> 00:03:54,760

69 00:03:54,760 --> 00:03:58,660 My mom's two sisters were also in hiding through the church.

70 00:03:58,660 --> 00:04:01,270

71 00:04:01,270 --> 00:04:06,200 And as soon as Belgium was liberated,

72 00:04:06,200 --> 00:04:08,150 it was like a network. 73 00:04:08,150 --> 00:04:11,890 If you were-- through the underground,

74 00:04:11,890 --> 00:04:16,779 if you were hidden, you could find out where people were.

75 00:04:16,779 --> 00:04:19,390 And that's how people really found each other.

76 00:04:19,390 --> 00:04:21,579 So my aunt actually went--

77 00:04:21,579 --> 00:04:23,440 I don't know how she found me, but she

78 00:04:23,440 --> 00:04:27,160 went looking for me, probably went to the underground

79 00:04:27,160 --> 00:04:32,770 and got lists and found out where I was and actually came

80 00:04:32,770 --> 00:04:33,880 to pick me up.

81 00:04:33,880 --> 00:04:36,180 Do you remember that?

82 00:04:36,180 --> 00:04:37,410 I do.

83 00:04:37,410 --> 00:04:40,180 And what was that like?

84 00:04:40,180 --> 00:04:40,932 Oh. 85 00:04:40,932 --> 00:04:43,590 Pretty happy.

86 00:04:43,590 --> 00:04:44,340 Really?

87 00:04:44,340 --> 00:04:49,356 So did you remember her from before, or--

88 00:04:49,356 --> 00:04:56,170 I don't think so because I was only two or three.

89 00:04:56,170 --> 00:04:57,750 We were taken into hiding.

90 00:04:57,750 --> 00:05:03,520 So I don't-- it's all so vague.

91 00:05:03,520 --> 00:05:04,840 It's like pictures.

92 00:05:04,840 --> 00:05:07,380

93 00:05:07,380 --> 00:05:10,440 So, I-- yeah.

94 00:05:10,440 --> 00:05:15,210 Well, what I'm thinking of is a little girl who--

95 00:05:15,210 --> 00:05:19,350 you have disruptions in your early life.

96 00:05:19,350 --> 00:05:23,070 Whether it's conscious or not, when you're 13 years old, 00:05:23,070 --> 00:05:25,620 your father disappears.

98

00:05:25,620 --> 00:05:28,080 Whether you have memories of him or not, but he was there.

99

00:05:28,080 --> 00:05:30,180 And then he's gone.

100

00:05:30,180 --> 00:05:31,300 13 months old.

101

00:05:31,300 --> 00:05:31,900 13 months old.

102

00:05:31,900 --> 00:05:32,400 Yes.

103

00:05:32,400 --> 00:05:33,000 Excuse me.

104

00:05:33,000 --> 00:05:33,570 Yes.

105

00:05:33,570 --> 00:05:34,860 13 months old.

106

00:05:34,860 --> 00:05:39,960 And then in '42 before your mother is deported,

107

00:05:39,960 --> 00:05:43,140 these two strange ladies come to take you,

108

00:05:43,140 --> 00:05:44,372 and you don't want to go.

109

00:05:44,372 --> 00:05:45,580

Right.

00:05:45,580 --> 00:05:47,240 But they're your--

111

00:05:47,240 --> 00:05:49,870 And then you're in a place for half a year.

112

00:05:49,870 --> 00:05:53,040 And that becomes too dangerous.

113

00:05:53,040 --> 00:05:54,750 And then you're with a family.

114

00:05:54,750 --> 00:05:58,740 And did you get attached enough to that family

115

00:05:58,740 --> 00:06:02,950 so that when your aunt comes, here's another disruption?

116

00:06:02,950 --> 00:06:03,450 Yeah.

117

00:06:03,450 --> 00:06:07,650

118

00:06:07,650 --> 00:06:10,650 That's very, very interesting because, yeah, I

119

00:06:10,650 --> 00:06:14,430 was with the family, the Debrackelaer--

120

00:06:14,430 --> 00:06:15,270 they hid me.

121

00:06:15,270 --> 00:06:16,920

They fed me.

122

00:06:16,920 --> 00:06:18,600 They protected me.

123

00:06:18,600 --> 00:06:25,120 But I strongly felt that I wasn't part of the unit.

124

00:06:25,120 --> 00:06:34,280

125

00:06:34,280 --> 00:06:41,060 I do remember just visually seeing the three of them

126

00:06:41,060 --> 00:06:43,210 huddled together.

127

00:06:43,210 --> 00:06:47,535 And I would be on the floor playing by myself.

128

00:06:47,535 --> 00:06:50,070

129

00:06:50,070 --> 00:06:57,860 A child's recollections is not always accurate or valid.

130

00:06:57,860 --> 00:07:00,505 So I'm not really 100% sure.

131

00:07:00,505 --> 00:07:04,360 I mean, they're inner feelings that I had.

132

00:07:04,360 --> 00:07:09,390 So I think when I left, when my aunt came, Terese,

133

00:07:09,390 --> 00:07:16,000 to pick me up, I think I was just so happy to go.

00:07:16,000 --> 00:07:18,970 And I went to her place.

135

00:07:18,970 --> 00:07:23,080 She was married, had three boys just who were a little bit

136

00:07:23,080 --> 00:07:24,620 older than me.

137

00:07:24,620 --> 00:07:31,060 And they treated me like their little mascot,

138

00:07:31,060 --> 00:07:34,170 which was wonderful.

139

00:07:34,170 --> 00:07:40,070 I mean, I really felt I was with family.

140

00:07:40,070 --> 00:07:43,220 Well, you bring up something that is, I think,

141

00:07:43,220 --> 00:07:49,150 central in that little children perceive the world

142

00:07:49,150 --> 00:07:51,090 through the emotional prism.

143

00:07:51,090 --> 00:07:52,016 You know?

144

00:07:52,016 --> 00:07:52,750 Yeah.

145

00:07:52,750 --> 00:07:57,410 This is how you interact is entirely through an emotion.

146 00:07:57,410 --> 00:08:02,870 And it sounds like you're--

147 00:08:02,870 --> 00:08:05,030 it sounds like there's a conflict when

148 00:08:05,030 --> 00:08:07,880 it comes to the family in that your brain says,

149 00:08:07,880 --> 00:08:11,360 they did all these things that were good.

150 00:08:11,360 --> 00:08:13,700 You don't recall any kind of abuse.

151 00:08:13,700 --> 00:08:17,130 But you also felt like you didn't belong.

152 00:08:17,130 --> 00:08:17,630 Right.

153 00:08:17,630 --> 00:08:24,410 So is this something that you were ever able to reconcile,

154 00:08:24,410 --> 00:08:26,960 or it's just, that's what it was?

155 00:08:26,960 --> 00:08:29,880

156 00:08:29,880 --> 00:08:32,152 No.

157 00:08:32,152 --> 00:08:34,799 I did reconcile

because I mean, I

158 00:08:34,799 --> 00:08:39,980 think I understand what was happening inside me.

159 00:08:39,980 --> 00:08:44,570

160 00:08:44,570 --> 00:08:51,230 Also in the career I chose, working with children,

161 00:08:51,230 --> 00:08:55,030 social work and working with abused children

162 00:08:55,030 --> 00:09:00,360 I think probably had an impact on my early years.

163 00:09:00,360 --> 00:09:02,040 Oh, wow.

164 00:09:02,040 --> 00:09:04,150 Oh, wow.

165 00:09:04,150 --> 00:09:06,790 Did you feel like that has been--

166 00:09:06,790 --> 00:09:09,850 when you say abused children, does that

167 00:09:09,850 --> 00:09:12,760 mean that there is a certain kind of connection

168 00:09:12,760 --> 00:09:14,830 that you can feel with abused children 169 00:09:14,830 --> 00:09:19,910 where there's something about that experience

170 00:09:19,910 --> 00:09:21,770 that they go through that speaks to you?

171 00:09:21,770 --> 00:09:26,540 Well, I think-- my feeling is--

172 00:09:26,540 --> 00:09:31,490 I mean, the reason I chose this work--

173 00:09:31,490 --> 00:09:34,370 I work with Child Protective Services.

174 00:09:34,370 --> 00:09:41,840 And I think it's mainly wanting to protect children,

175 00:09:41,840 --> 00:09:45,590 making sure they're safe.

176 00:09:45,590 --> 00:09:50,060 I think that's always been a very strong area

177 00:09:50,060 --> 00:09:55,760 in wanting to do that.

178 00:09:55,760 --> 00:10:01,070 But maybe it has a lot to do with my early years.

179 00:10:01,070 --> 00:10:04,880 Do you remember-it's hard to ask now

180 00:10:04,880 --> 00:10:08,810 because I'm asking you questions about a time when

181

00:10:08,810 --> 00:10:10,930 you were so little.

182

00:10:10,930 --> 00:10:12,830

Yeah.

183

00:10:12,830 --> 00:10:16,070 And now you have an adult understanding

184

00:10:16,070 --> 00:10:18,590 of what was going on.

185

00:10:18,590 --> 00:10:19,340 Right.

186

00:10:19,340 --> 00:10:22,880 My question is though, do you remember being afraid?

187

00:10:22,880 --> 00:10:28,480

188

00:10:28,480 --> 00:10:36,410

You know, not being afraid of the family

189

00:10:36,410 --> 00:10:37,730 or what they would do to me.

190

00:10:37,730 --> 00:10:39,710

I mean, they--

191

00:10:39,710 --> 00:10:44,210

I wasn't harmed or hurt in any way.

192

 $00:10:44,210 \longrightarrow 00:10:47,400$

There were moments

when I did have fear.

193

00:10:47,400 --> 00:10:52,520 Those were different experiences that I went through with my mom

194

00:10:52,520 --> 00:10:56,210 being on a bus and a German coming up and looking

195

00:10:56,210 --> 00:11:02,840 at papers, the documents you were carrying.

196

00:11:02,840 --> 00:11:12,280 I strongly feel that the first three years of a child's

197

00:11:12,280 --> 00:11:16,260 development are so important.

198

00:11:16,260 --> 00:11:18,080 Absolutely.

199

00:11:18,080 --> 00:11:25,460 And giving the child the feeling of love and fear.

200

00:11:25,460 --> 00:11:32,990 And I guess I really think that my first three years I think

201

00:11:32,990 --> 00:11:37,850 were very, very nurturing.

202

00:11:37,850 --> 00:11:46,550 And I think that kind of stood me and protected me.

203

00:11:46,550 --> 00:11:49,120

00:11:49,120 --> 00:11:55,180 I think my closeness to my mom and my grandmother really

205

00:11:55,180 --> 00:12:02,110 made a difference in helping me and making

206

00:12:02,110 --> 00:12:04,355 me stronger as a child.

207

00:12:04,355 --> 00:12:07,040

208

00:12:07,040 --> 00:12:11,750 So those first-- yeah, I understand what you're saying.

209

00:12:11,750 --> 00:12:13,340 And I certainly share it.

210

00:12:13,340 --> 00:12:15,520 I'm a mother myself.

211

00:12:15,520 --> 00:12:19,670 And I remember very much caring about those first three years.

212

00:12:19,670 --> 00:12:21,560 I mean, I cared about all of the years.

213

00:12:21,560 --> 00:12:24,020 But the first three were the ones

214

00:12:24,020 --> 00:12:27,470 where you think the child needs foundation.

215

00:12:27,470 --> 00:12:31,790

She needs a

foundation of safety.

00:12:31,790 --> 00:12:34,610 More than that, she needs also to feel

217

00:12:34,610 --> 00:12:38,060 like she belongs, like she's loved, that she's cared for,

218

00:12:38,060 --> 00:12:40,010 all of those things.

219

00:12:40,010 --> 00:12:42,320 Yes.

220

00:12:42,320 --> 00:12:45,470 But you got that from what you're

221

00:12:45,470 --> 00:12:47,640 describing from your mother and your grandmother.

222

00:12:47,640 --> 00:12:48,140 Yes.

223

00:12:48,140 --> 00:12:49,880 But it sounds like there were also

224

00:12:49,880 --> 00:12:57,170 moments of threat to this like when you're on a bus with her,

225

00:12:57,170 --> 00:13:01,250 and there's inspection of the papers.

226

00:13:01,250 --> 00:13:06,270 Some part of that fear must have come through.

00:13:06,270 --> 00:13:08,670 Well, that's interesting.

228

00:13:08,670 --> 00:13:12,600 I think I was so young that I didn't really understand.

229

00:13:12,600 --> 00:13:16,350 But I was with my mom on a bus.

230

00:13:16,350 --> 00:13:18,165 We went on an outing.

231

00:13:18,165 --> 00:13:20,700 That's before I was put into hiding.

232

00:13:20,700 --> 00:13:24,180 And this German, this Nazi in uniform

233

00:13:24,180 --> 00:13:28,200 came on and wanted everybody's papers.

234

00:13:28,200 --> 00:13:31,920 And he was going up and down the aisle.

235

00:13:31,920 --> 00:13:38,100 And my mom took me to the last row to sit down.

236

00:13:38,100 --> 00:13:40,230 And we were waiting.

237

00:13:40,230 --> 00:13:42,660 My mother was shaking.

238

00:13:42,660 --> 00:13:45,100 And (CRYING) I didn't know why.

239

00:13:47,710 --> 00:13:51,760 But the thing is, the German came--

241

00:13:51,760 --> 00:13:55,120 he came up to the last row.

242

00:13:55,120 --> 00:13:59,950 And when he came to our row, he turned around and left.

243

00:13:59,950 --> 00:14:02,130 And didn't even look at the papers?

244

00:14:02,130 --> 00:14:02,950 No.

245

00:14:02,950 --> 00:14:03,730 Not ours.

246

00:14:03,730 --> 00:14:06,890 We were the only ones he didn't look at.

247

00:14:06,890 --> 00:14:09,230 And my mom of course stopped shaking.

248

00:14:09,230 --> 00:14:11,215 But I didn't know why she was shaking.

249

00:14:11,215 --> 00:14:13,100 I mean, I was three years old.

250

00:14:13,100 --> 00:14:14,300 Of course.

251

00:14:14,300 --> 00:14:14,900 Of course.

252

00:14:14,900 --> 00:14:16,460 I had no idea.

253

00:14:16,460 --> 00:14:22,435 So I had moments maybe of fear, but not understanding why.

254

00:14:22,435 --> 00:14:27,130

255

00:14:27,130 --> 00:14:29,290 I mean, certainly not understanding

256

00:14:29,290 --> 00:14:32,330 because I was Jewish.

257

00:14:32,330 --> 00:14:34,797 I don't think I knew what a Jew was.

258

00:14:34,797 --> 00:14:36,290 Mm-hmm.

259

00:14:36,290 --> 00:14:37,237 Of course not.

260

00:14:37,237 --> 00:14:37,820 Of course not.

261

00:14:37,820 --> 00:14:39,560 It's just a question of danger.

262

00:14:39,560 --> 00:14:42,080

A child feels danger.

263

00:14:42,080 --> 00:14:43,010

Yeah.

00:14:43,010 --> 00:14:43,535

Or threats.

265

00:14:43,535 --> 00:14:44,035

Yeah.

266

00:14:44,035 --> 00:14:47,000

267

00:14:47,000 --> 00:14:50,270

So when your aunt takes you and you

268

00:14:50,270 --> 00:14:57,650 then live with her and her

three children who also survived

269

00:14:57,650 --> 00:14:59,900

the war in Belgium, which must have

270

00:14:59,900 --> 00:15:02,070

been quite an accomplishment--

271

00:15:02,070 --> 00:15:02,570

Right.

272

00:15:02,570 --> 00:15:03,450

In the church.

273

00:15:03,450 --> 00:15:03,950

Right.

274

 $00:15:03,950 \longrightarrow 00:15:04,713$

In the church.

275

00:15:04,713 --> 00:15:05,671

Hidden in the churches.

276

00:15:05,671 --> 00:15:07,920

Yeah.

00:15:07,920 --> 00:15:11,600 This is when you

feel like you belong.

278

00:15:11,600 --> 00:15:12,930

Yes.

279

00:15:12,930 --> 00:15:14,530

OK.

280

00:15:14,530 --> 00:15:17,710

And at that point, did anybody know

281

00:15:17,710 --> 00:15:20,220

if your mother had survived?

282

00:15:20,220 --> 00:15:23,050

No.

283

00:15:23,050 --> 00:15:23,950

OK.

284

00:15:23,950 --> 00:15:28,930

Do you remember how long you stayed with your aunt?

285

00:15:28,930 --> 00:15:31,760

286

00:15:31,760 --> 00:15:39,260

It actually-- on this

paper, it says June 1945.

287

00:15:39,260 --> 00:15:41,630

See, my mom was liberated--

288

 $00:15:41,630 \longrightarrow 00:15:47,660$

my mom was liberated

from Auschwitz in April.

00:15:47,660 --> 00:15:49,670 And then she was in a hospital.

290

00:15:49,670 --> 00:15:53,650 And the Red Cross eventually brought her back to Belgium.

291

00:15:53,650 --> 00:15:58,030 And we of course didn't know if she was alive or not.

292

00:15:58,030 --> 00:16:01,330 There was no way of knowing anything.

293

00:16:01,330 --> 00:16:06,670 And the first place she went was to her sister's apartment.

294

00:16:06,670 --> 00:16:10,800 And she actually knocked on the door, and there I was.

295

00:16:10,800 --> 00:16:12,890 Do you remember that?

296

00:16:12,890 --> 00:16:15,030 Yes.

297

00:16:15,030 --> 00:16:17,140 Wow.

298

00:16:17,140 --> 00:16:19,576 Did you know that--

299

00:16:19,576 --> 00:16:21,970 I just remember seeing her.

300

00:16:21,970 --> 00:16:24,080

I don't think--

301

00:16:24,080 --> 00:16:30,530 I was rationalizing that here she is finally and this.

302

00:16:30,530 --> 00:16:33,220 I don't think I understood.

303

00:16:33,220 --> 00:16:35,090 I think it was all a lot of emotion.

304

00:16:35,090 --> 00:16:39,690

305

00:16:39,690 --> 00:16:41,100 Did you recognize her?

306

00:16:41,100 --> 00:16:44,680

307

00:16:44,680 --> 00:16:46,430 My mom told me I did.

308

00:16:46,430 --> 00:16:53,180

309

00:16:53,180 --> 00:16:54,800 So you don't remember if you did,

310

00:16:54,800 --> 00:16:57,930 but she then later tells you?

311

00:16:57,930 --> 00:17:00,450 Yes.

312

00:17:00,450 --> 00:17:04,050 I mean, as you know, I interviewed your mom

313

00:17:04,050 --> 00:17:06,450

a few years ago.

00:17:06,450 --> 00:17:07,450 Oh, I didn't know.

315

00:17:07,450 --> 00:17:07,950 Yeah.

316

00:17:07,950 --> 00:17:10,760

317

00:17:10,760 --> 00:17:17,040 And I remember whether it was in the interview or at some point

318

00:17:17,040 --> 00:17:18,420 after--

319

00:17:18,420 --> 00:17:20,339 sometimes we'd have a break.

320

00:17:20,339 --> 00:17:24,780 But someone told me that when you

321

00:17:24,780 --> 00:17:29,310 were reunited with your mother that you

322

00:17:29,310 --> 00:17:32,340 would tie your nightgowns together so that you couldn't

323

00:17:32,340 --> 00:17:34,730 be split apart again.

324

00:17:34,730 --> 00:17:37,100 Right.

325

00:17:37,100 --> 00:17:37,880 It's true.

326

00:17:37,880 --> 00:17:40,700

327

00:17:40,700 --> 00:17:45,300 That is-- that's more

powerful in some ways

328

00:17:45,300 --> 00:17:49,460 than words as to what separation means.

329

00:17:49,460 --> 00:17:51,600

I know.

330

00:17:51,600 --> 00:17:53,636

I know.

331

00:17:53,636 --> 00:17:56,000

Yeah.

332

00:17:56,000 --> 00:18:01,170 Did your mom stay with her sister and her sister's family?

333

00:18:01,170 --> 00:18:01,670

No.

334

00:18:01,670 --> 00:18:02,170

No.

335

 $00:18:02,170 \longrightarrow 00:18:03,530$

What happened then after that?

336

00:18:03,530 --> 00:18:06,050

337

00:18:06,050 --> 00:18:12,970 We moved back into the attic apartment in the building

338

00:18:12,970 --> 00:18:16,660 that my dad and mom owned.

339 00:18:16,660 --> 00:18:21,800 And my dad eventually came back from England.

340

00:18:21,800 --> 00:18:25,960 He couldn't come back right after the war because he--

341

00:18:25,960 --> 00:18:29,320 by the way, joining the army, he was

342

00:18:29,320 --> 00:18:33,720 put in a factory making British uniforms.

343

00:18:33,720 --> 00:18:35,730 In Britain?

344

00:18:35,730 --> 00:18:41,040 In Britain, which was probably the best place for him to be.

345

00:18:41,040 --> 00:18:45,570 But anyhow, the house he was living in, in London

346

00:18:45,570 --> 00:18:47,100 was bombed.

347

00:18:47,100 --> 00:18:51,990 And he spent two years in a hospital.

348

00:18:51,990 --> 00:18:53,610 Oh, my.

349

00:18:53,610 --> 00:18:57,600 Yeah, he was pretty badly injured.

350

00:18:57,600 --> 00:19:02,370 So he actually came back in 1946,

351

00:19:02,370 --> 00:19:04,940 I think a year after the war.

352

00:19:04,940 --> 00:19:07,820 And of course I didn't know who he was.

353

00:19:07,820 --> 00:19:09,360 I didn't recognize him at all.

354

00:19:09,360 --> 00:19:12,800

355

00:19:12,800 --> 00:19:15,490 And my parents-- yeah.

356

00:19:15,490 --> 00:19:20,560 No, my parents decided they wanted to leave Europe.

357

00:19:20,560 --> 00:19:22,810 And that's when they made applications

358

00:19:22,810 --> 00:19:24,910 to come to the States.

359

00:19:24,910 --> 00:19:27,940 And did your fathers, brothers, and sister

360

00:19:27,940 --> 00:19:31,990 help in that endeavor?

361

00:19:31,990 --> 00:19:34,510 In other words, did they sponsor you in?

00:19:34,510 --> 00:19:35,800 No.

363

00:19:35,800 --> 00:19:36,310 No.

364

00:19:36,310 --> 00:19:39,630

My father sold the building he owned.

365

00:19:39,630 --> 00:19:40,330

OK.

366

00:19:40,330 --> 00:19:44,740 And they paid for his brother and family and us to come.

367

00:19:44,740 --> 00:19:48,250

368

00:19:48,250 --> 00:19:52,586 We weren't sponsored because we had enough money.

369

00:19:52,586 --> 00:19:53,390

Oh!

370

00:19:53,390 --> 00:19:57,110

We sold the building, and we bought tickets.

371

00:19:57,110 --> 00:20:00,260 And you had enough money then to show the US authorities

372

00:20:00,260 --> 00:20:03,720 that you could just support yourselves when you arrived.

373

00:20:03,720 --> 00:20:04,350

Right.

374

00:20:04,350 --> 00:20:07,200 And my parents both had a profession.

375 00:20:07,200 --> 00:20:09,900 My dad right away started working.

376 00:20:09,900 --> 00:20:11,880 As a tailor.

377 00:20:11,880 --> 00:20:12,970 As a tailor.

378 00:20:12,970 --> 00:20:17,450 He worked in the garment industry in New York.

379 00:20:17,450 --> 00:20:21,410 We settled in New Jersey because my mom had an elderly aunt

380 00:20:21,410 --> 00:20:22,220 there.

381 00:20:22,220 --> 00:20:25,370 And so we lived with her for about a

382 00:20:25,370 --> 00:20:29,030 month until my parents found an apartment and work.

383 00:20:29,030 --> 00:20:33,920 And we were pretty much--

384 00:20:33,920 --> 00:20:34,490 yeah.

385 00:20:34,490 --> 00:20:37,020 What did your mom do? 00:20:37,020 --> 00:20:43,800 She was extremely gifted and creative.

387 00:20:43,800 --> 00:20:48,720 She graduated from one of these technical designing colleges

388 00:20:48,720 --> 00:20:50,865 in Belgium.

389 00:20:50,865 --> 00:20:54,270 And when they graduate, the royal family

390 00:20:54,270 --> 00:20:58,680 would send some emissaries to pick a few students who

391 00:20:58,680 --> 00:21:02,100 they wanted to work with the royal family

392 00:21:02,100 --> 00:21:06,270 with their garments and designing and all that.

393 00:21:06,270 --> 00:21:08,940 My mother was actually chosen.

394 00:21:08,940 --> 00:21:11,370 And she worked for the royal household.

395 00:21:11,370 --> 00:21:12,690 Wow.

396 00:21:12,690 --> 00:21:15,390 That's pretty distinguishing.

397 00:21:15,390 --> 00:21:16,810 It is.

398 00:21:16,810 --> 00:21:21,270 She's-- really, she was very,

very gifted in creative.

399 00:21:21,270 --> 00:21:22,680 She designed clothes.

400 00:21:22,680 --> 00:21:25,860 And so when they came to the States,

401 $00:21:25,860 \longrightarrow 00:21:29,450$ she really had no problem getting a job.

402 00:21:29,450 --> 00:21:32,500 I see.

403 $00:21:32,500 \longrightarrow 00:21:39,020$ Did your mom ever talk to you about what her experiences

404 $00:21:39,020 \longrightarrow 00:21:41,171$ were like in Auschwitz?

405 00:21:41,171 --> 00:21:44,210 What what was like?

406 $00:21:44,210 \longrightarrow 00:21:45,220$ I'm sorry.

407 00:21:45,220 --> 00:21:49,390 Did your mom ever tell you about her own experiences

408 00:21:49,390 --> 00:21:53,000 after she was arrested and deported with her own parents?

409 00:21:53,000 --> 00:21:54,070 No.

410 00:21:54,070 --> 00:21:55,120 No.

411 00:21:55,120 --> 00:21:56,860 She really didn't talk.

412 00:21:56,860 --> 00:22:00,055 And things would come out in bits and pieces.

413 00:22:00,055 --> 00:22:02,660 Mm-hmm.

414 00:22:02,660 --> 00:22:08,268 I remember my mom (CRYING) having--

415 00:22:08,268 --> 00:22:10,230 I'm sorry.

416 00:22:10,230 --> 00:22:11,720 That's OK, Josiane.

417 00:22:11,720 --> 00:22:14,470 That's OK.

418 00:22:14,470 --> 00:22:18,310 I'm so sorry that this is bringing up such pain.

419 00:22:18,310 --> 00:22:19,150 No.

420 00:22:19,150 --> 00:22:20,020 It's not that.

421 00:22:20,020 --> 00:22:24,290 But whenever I think of my mom and what she went through,

422 00:22:24,290 --> 00:22:26,110 I mean, it was horrible.

423 00:22:26,110 --> 00:22:30,050

424

00:22:30,050 --> 00:22:35,080 I remember when we lived in New Jersey,

425

00:22:35,080 --> 00:22:39,580 very often during the night, she would wake up screaming

426

00:22:39,580 --> 00:22:41,710 and just run through the apartment.

427

00:22:41,710 --> 00:22:45,760 It was like she was having nightmares.

428

00:22:45,760 --> 00:22:49,600 So she never really talked about it.

429

00:22:49,600 --> 00:22:52,360 But once I got to be a teenager, I just

430

00:22:52,360 --> 00:22:58,790 started reading everything I could get my hands on.

431

00:22:58,790 --> 00:23:01,480 And that's very much how I learned.

432

00:23:01,480 --> 00:23:05,620 My mom really wasn't--

433

00:23:05,620 --> 00:23:07,360

she couldn't talk.

00:23:07,360 --> 00:23:11,020 Nobody wanted to listen to her.

435 00:23:11,020 --> 00:23:15,670 My father's family, one of the brothers

436 00:23:15,670 --> 00:23:21,670 who had been in the States since the early '30s, when

437 00:23:21,670 --> 00:23:25,450 my mom tried to talk, they would say, you know,

438 00:23:25,450 --> 00:23:27,230 that was a long time ago.

439 00:23:27,230 --> 00:23:29,530 We don't want-- that's sad.

440 00:23:29,530 --> 00:23:34,390 Let's talk about what good things are going to happen.

441 00:23:34,390 --> 00:23:37,348 So they wouldn't let her talk.

442 00:23:37,348 --> 00:23:37,848 Yeah.

443 00:23:37,848 --> 00:23:43,120

444 00:23:43,120 --> 00:23:46,360 In later years, did she ever open up

445 00:23:46,360 --> 00:23:50,590 when you were already an adult yourself and tell you things, 446 00:23:50,590 --> 00:23:56,380 or did it stay closed inside for always?

447 00:23:56,380 --> 00:24:00,220 It stayed closed inside, but she knew

448 00:24:00,220 --> 00:24:03,970 very much what I was reading.

449 00:24:03,970 --> 00:24:10,550 And in a roundabout way, we would talk

450 00:24:10,550 --> 00:24:12,380 about what was happening there.

451 00:24:12,380 --> 00:24:16,150

452 00:24:16,150 --> 00:24:19,860 I mean, for instance, I know right away at the selection

453 00:24:19,860 --> 00:24:23,560 when my mom got to Auschwitz, she

454 00:24:23,560 --> 00:24:28,430 and her mother were separated immediately

455 00:24:28,430 --> 00:24:30,975 because my grandmother was considered old.

456 00:24:30,975 --> 00:24:32,225 She must have been in her 50s.

457 00:24:32,225 --> 00:24:34,820 458 00:24:34,820 --> 00:24:37,230 And of course, they probably thought

459

00:24:37,230 --> 00:24:40,230 they couldn't use her for labor.

460

00:24:40,230 --> 00:24:47,130 But my mom did tell me that they were separated immediately.

461 00:24:47,130 --> 00:24:49,330 And my mom wanted to be with her mother,

462 00:24:49,330 --> 00:24:55,840 and the German actually swiped her, hit her and told her,

463 00:24:55,840 --> 00:24:57,550 you go where you're told.

464 00:24:57,550 --> 00:25:00,110

465 00:25:00,110 --> 00:25:04,200 So little drips and drabs I would hear.

466 00:25:04,200 --> 00:25:06,230 But it was also from reading.

467 00:25:06,230 --> 00:25:09,470 And she knew what I was reading.

468 00:25:09,470 --> 00:25:11,840 And she would say, what did you think about that?

469 00:25:11,840 --> 00:25:14,840 470 00:25:14,840 --> 00:25:16,955 It's almost like she was afraid to ask.

471 00:25:16,955 --> 00:25:21,770

472 00:25:21,770 --> 00:25:24,675 But I read as much as I could.

473 00:25:24,675 --> 00:25:28,740

474 00:25:28,740 --> 00:25:32,870 Did she-- so she never really went into detail?

475 00:25:32,870 --> 00:25:34,130 No.

476 00:25:34,130 --> 00:25:38,150 I knew they did medical experiments on her,

477 00:25:38,150 --> 00:25:43,800 and that's why I have no siblings because she

478 00:25:43,800 --> 00:25:46,730 couldn't have children after.

479 00:25:46,730 --> 00:25:49,160 But even the medical experimentation

480 00:25:49,160 --> 00:25:53,500 that they did on her, I've asked her so much.

481 00:25:53,500 --> 00:25:57,860 And she said she doesn't know any specifics what

482

00:25:57,860 --> 00:25:58,700 they did to her.

483

00:25:58,700 --> 00:26:01,330

484

00:26:01,330 --> 00:26:05,770 Well, during the interview that I had with her,

485

00:26:05,770 --> 00:26:08,230 I remember her telling--

486

00:26:08,230 --> 00:26:10,060 also mentioning this.

487

00:26:10,060 --> 00:26:11,020 Yeah.

488 00:26:11,020 --> 00:26:21,670 And that the experimentation had no--

489

00:26:21,670 --> 00:26:25,180 there was no painkillers.

490

00:26:25,180 --> 00:26:35,590 In other words, whatever they did, whatever it was, was full.

491

00:26:35,590 --> 00:26:39,760 She had no-- nothing to help ease the pain.

492

00:26:39,760 --> 00:26:40,380 Right.

493

00:26:40,380 --> 00:26:42,100 Right.

00:26:42,100 --> 00:26:46,080 And yeah.

495

00:26:46,080 --> 00:26:47,760 I can't imagine what--

496

00:26:47,760 --> 00:26:51,210 we can't imagine what that must have been like.

497

00:26:51,210 --> 00:26:51,720 You know?

498

00:26:51,720 --> 00:26:53,510 No.

499

00:26:53,510 --> 00:26:56,290 All she told me is she was tied to the bed.

500

 $00:26:56,290 \longrightarrow 00:27:01,220$

501

00:27:01,220 --> 00:27:06,080 One of the difficult or sad things--

502

00:27:06,080 --> 00:27:11,700 when my dad came back from England,

503

00:27:11,700 --> 00:27:19,650 their experiences had been so different that my mom, I think,

504

00:27:19,650 --> 00:27:23,385 really felt she really couldn't talk to my dad.

505

00:27:23,385 --> 00:27:26,060

506 00:27:26,060 --> 00:27:30,500 And because here he had gone through hell also.

507 00:27:30,500 --> 00:27:32,421 But not the same kind.

508 00:27:32,421 --> 00:27:32,921 No.

509 00:27:32,921 --> 00:27:39,590 So I think as a couple, things must

510 00:27:39,590 --> 00:27:42,070 have been so hard for them.

511 00:27:42,070 --> 00:27:49,443 It was not a happy kind of give-and-take relationship.

512 00:27:49,443 --> 00:27:51,750 Yeah.

513 00:27:51,750 --> 00:27:57,040 I do know that in the beginning of the interview that I

514 00:27:57,040 --> 00:28:02,150 had with your mom, she was reluctant to talk.

515 00:28:02,150 --> 00:28:07,220 So if you recall the first questions that I ask,

516 00:28:07,220 --> 00:28:09,770 these basic questions of where you're born,

517 00:28:09,770 --> 00:28:12,410 what was your name, when were you

518

00:28:12,410 --> 00:28:14,330

born, things like

that, we didn't

519

00:28:14,330 --> 00:28:16,880

start the interview that way.

520

00:28:16,880 --> 00:28:23,540

We started the interview of,

why is it difficult to talk?

521

00:28:23,540 --> 00:28:26,970

What have been the

hindrances for that?

522

 $00:28:26,970 \longrightarrow 00:28:34,750$

And it was-- she

was very precise.

523

00:28:34,750 --> 00:28:35,560

But--

524

00:28:35,560 --> 00:28:36,580

She was very what?

525

00:28:36,580 --> 00:28:37,810

Precise.

526

 $00:28:37,810 \longrightarrow 00:28:38,320$

You know?

527

00:28:38,320 --> 00:28:38,820

Yes.

528

00:28:38,820 --> 00:28:41,290

She could put words

to her feelings.

529

 $00:28:41,290 \longrightarrow 00:28:44,320$

And these are very deep

feelings about very--

530 00:28:44,320 --> 00:28:46,765 some of the most core painful things.

531 00:28:46,765 --> 00:28:49,280

532 00:28:49,280 --> 00:28:53,100 But this sort of reticence--

533 00:28:53,100 --> 00:28:58,530 now when you tell me about what her first experiences were,

534 00:28:58,530 --> 00:29:01,770 that can certainly inhibit somebody

535 00:29:01,770 --> 00:29:06,900 when others are not interested, when others change the subject.

536 00:29:06,900 --> 00:29:09,300 Exactly.

537 00:29:09,300 --> 00:29:15,100 Then you think, well, I can't do this.

538 00:29:15,100 --> 00:29:16,510 You know?

539 00:29:16,510 --> 00:29:18,550 And why should I risk it again?

540 00:29:18,550 --> 00:29:22,070 Why should I risk opening this up again?

541 00:29:22,070 --> 00:29:23,930 Of course.

542

00:29:23,930 --> 00:29:24,650

You're right.

543

00:29:24,650 --> 00:29:25,540

Absolutely.

544

00:29:25,540 --> 00:29:28,140

545

 $00:29:28,140 \longrightarrow 00:29:32,270$

And yet whenever

I talk about her

546

00:29:32,270 --> 00:29:35,640

or think about what she's

gone through, I just--

547

00:29:35,640 --> 00:29:37,210

I well up.

548

00:29:37,210 --> 00:29:37,710

Yeah.

549

00:29:37,710 --> 00:29:42,010

550

00:29:42,010 --> 00:29:46,390

Well, I do remember at

the time that people

551

00:29:46,390 --> 00:29:50,290

who knew your mom-- you see, I just met her the day

552

00:29:50,290 --> 00:29:52,590

that we had our interview.

553

00:29:52,590 --> 00:29:59,460

But they said that it took you as well as my colleague Steve

554 00:29:59,460 --> 00:30:02,060 as well as a few others-- yeah--

555

00:30:02,060 --> 00:30:06,450 to convince her to have this-to convince her to open up.

556

00:30:06,450 --> 00:30:08,940 So you were clearly in that camp of you

557

00:30:08,940 --> 00:30:11,428 wanted her story to be known.

558

00:30:11,428 --> 00:30:13,820 Yes.

559

00:30:13,820 --> 00:30:17,030 I mean, first of all, for all involved,

560

00:30:17,030 --> 00:30:19,220 I thought it was important.

561

00:30:19,220 --> 00:30:21,650 But I thought it was also important for her.

562

00:30:21,650 --> 00:30:24,880

563

00:30:24,880 --> 00:30:29,020 And did anything--

564

00:30:29,020 --> 00:30:33,860

565

00:30:33,860 --> 00:30:34,360

I know.

566

00:30:34,360 --> 00:30:37,090 Your phone is going on, isn't it?

567

00:30:37,090 --> 00:30:39,793 No, they're spam calls.

568

00:30:39,793 --> 00:30:41,486 Uh-huh.

569

00:30:41,486 --> 00:30:42,410 Spam calls.

570

00:30:42,410 --> 00:30:43,300

Yes, I know.

571

00:30:43,300 --> 00:30:44,880 I know.

572

00:30:44,880 --> 00:30:47,120 I mean, there's nothing to answer to.

573

00:30:47,120 --> 00:30:50,700 But it's annoying because I can't mute it.

574

00:30:50,700 --> 00:30:51,570 It's OK.

575

00:30:51,570 --> 00:30:52,145 It's OK.

576 00:30:52,145 --> 00:30:52,645 OK.

577

00:30:52,645 --> 00:30:53,880 It's finished.

578

00:30:53,880 --> 00:30:54,520

All right.

579 00:30:54,520 --> 00:30:58,890

580

00:30:58,890 --> 00:31:02,950

Was it better for her, do you think?

581

00:31:02,950 --> 00:31:04,120

[INAUDIBLE]?

582

00:31:04,120 --> 00:31:04,720

Yeah.

583

00:31:04,720 --> 00:31:05,440

Speaking?

584

00:31:05,440 --> 00:31:06,070

Yeah.

585

00:31:06,070 --> 00:31:07,930

I think-- I really--

586

00:31:07,930 --> 00:31:09,800

I do think so.

587

00:31:09,800 --> 00:31:10,780

OK.

588

00:31:10,780 --> 00:31:11,345

I do.

589

00:31:11,345 --> 00:31:16,820

590

00:31:16,820 --> 00:31:19,850

I do because she really--

591

 $00:31:19,850 \longrightarrow 00:31:23,780$

I don't think she

could talk to my dad.

00:31:23,780 --> 00:31:33,020 And I think there were very few people she could talk to.

593

00:31:33,020 --> 00:31:35,090 That's hard.

594

00:31:35,090 --> 00:31:37,060 I know.

595

00:31:37,060 --> 00:31:42,560 Did you ever tell her about what your--

596

00:31:42,560 --> 00:31:44,520 I mean, you were a child.

597

00:31:44,520 --> 00:31:47,220 But the things that we've talked about now,

598

00:31:47,220 --> 00:31:53,845 did you ever tell her any parts of those?

599

00:31:53,845 --> 00:31:54,345 No.

600

00:31:54,345 --> 00:31:59,080

601

00:31:59,080 --> 00:32:03,040 First of all, she never asked me.

602

00:32:03,040 --> 00:32:07,030 And I thought she probably didn't

603

00:32:07,030 --> 00:32:09,000 want to know because

it was too painful.

604 00:32:09,000 --> 00:32:11,980

605 00:32:11,980 --> 00:32:15,390 So it's strange.

606 00:32:15,390 --> 00:32:18,280 Like, we all kind of know what happened to each other,

607 00:32:18,280 --> 00:32:21,590 yet we couldn't talk about it.

608 00:32:21,590 --> 00:32:23,470 Yeah.

609 00:32:23,470 --> 00:32:31,120 Did you feel the same kind of disinterest, however, or--

610 00:32:31,120 --> 00:32:46,500 Well, I feel in many ways very fortunate that I--

611 00:32:46,500 --> 00:32:51,330 my husband, Freddie, that I could talk to him.

612 00:32:51,330 --> 00:33:01,450 And my relationship and my being able to talk to him, especially

613 00:33:01,450 --> 00:33:03,940 with his own childhood and what happened

614 00:33:03,940 --> 00:33:11,340 to him, made a big difference in being able to talk

615 00:33:11,340 --> 00:33:15,160 and understand each other.

616 00:33:15,160 --> 00:33:20,290 My mom never asked me.

617 00:33:20,290 --> 00:33:22,210 Did you feel that lack?

618 00:33:22,210 --> 00:33:25,670 Did you wonder why?

619 00:33:25,670 --> 00:33:29,740 I did because I very often--

620 00:33:29,740 --> 00:33:34,240 well, I felt like a child in the middle.

621 00:33:34,240 --> 00:33:39,210 My parents hardly spoke to each other about that time.

622 00:33:39,210 --> 00:33:42,270

623 00:33:42,270 --> 00:33:45,900 Also, I think there was a lot of anger.

624 00:33:45,900 --> 00:33:47,940 In some ways, I think there was anger

625 00:33:47,940 --> 00:33:50,420 because my father, although he was in the hospital

626 00:33:50,420 --> 00:33:54,960 and he was hurt, but he didn't have the concentration camp

627 00:33:54,960 --> 00:33:55,770 experience.

628 00:33:55,770 --> 00:33:59,830

629

00:33:59,830 --> 00:34:03,850 You know, Ina, it is so complicated.

630

00:34:03,850 --> 00:34:05,170 I know.

631

00:34:05,170 --> 00:34:06,250 I know.

632

00:34:06,250 --> 00:34:09,020 And it's very hard to put into words,

633

00:34:09,020 --> 00:34:11,860 even though that's what our attempt is here.

634

00:34:11,860 --> 00:34:17,320 But it is-- the things that you describe

635

00:34:17,320 --> 00:34:21,639 to me are interactions that take place over decades

636

00:34:21,639 --> 00:34:22,719 after the war.

637

00:34:22,719 --> 00:34:24,520 Yeah.

638

00:34:24,520 --> 00:34:26,130 Right.

639

00:34:26,130 --> 00:34:31,139

And it's-- we explore them.

00:34:31,139 --> 00:34:35,590 I ask about them because they're part of the after effects,

641

00:34:35,590 --> 00:34:36,090 you know?

642

00:34:36,090 --> 00:34:38,400 It is, what stays?

643

00:34:38,400 --> 00:34:40,330 What has changed?

644

00:34:40,330 --> 00:34:42,846 How has it affected people?

645

00:34:42,846 --> 00:34:44,199 How do they go on?

646

00:34:44,199 --> 00:34:48,130 I mean, all of these are the kinds of questions that we ask.

647

00:34:48,130 --> 00:34:53,590 And that when-- and it really is a gift when you open up

648

00:34:53,590 --> 00:34:57,780 and share that because it's so personal.

649

00:34:57,780 --> 00:34:58,380 Right.

650

00:34:58,380 --> 00:35:03,540 And I appreciate it because this is a public--

651

00:35:03,540 --> 00:35:06,000 this is something that will be open and available

652 00:35:06,000 --> 00:35:07,350 to the public.

653 00:35:07,350 --> 00:35:12,720 And it's a huge gift to do that, for someone else to listen in

654 00:35:12,720 --> 00:35:23,200 and to be able to hear what the cost was, what the effect was.

655 00:35:23,200 --> 00:35:27,040 I hesitate to say the word "damage" because that

656 00:35:27,040 --> 00:35:28,720 sounds like it can't be healed.

657 00:35:28,720 --> 00:35:30,860 Things can be healed.

658 00:35:30,860 --> 00:35:33,970 But just what happens to people-- from a little girl

659 00:35:33,970 --> 00:35:38,740 sitting on a bus all of a sudden seeing that her mom is shaking

660 00:35:38,740 --> 00:35:40,150 but not knowing why.

661 00:35:40,150 --> 00:35:41,110 You know?

662 00:35:41,110 --> 00:35:44,440 It's an event that takes place within a minute.

663 00:35:44,440 --> 00:35:47,380 A guy walks up and down across a bus.

664

00:35:47,380 --> 00:35:51,160 He has a uniform on, and someone is terrified.

665

00:35:51,160 --> 00:35:55,250 And it stays with you your whole life.

666

00:35:55,250 --> 00:35:57,020 And he doesn't even check your papers.

667

00:35:57,020 --> 00:36:01,610 He may have realized and just left you alone.

668

00:36:01,610 --> 00:36:04,050 Yeah.

669

00:36:04,050 --> 00:36:04,740 Who knows?

670 00:36:04,740 --> 00:36:05,630

Who knows?

671

00:36:05,630 --> 00:36:06,890

Who knows?

672

 $00:36:06,890 \longrightarrow 00:36:07,430$

Who knows?

673

00:36:07,430 --> 00:36:11,170

674

00:36:11,170 --> 00:36:14,830

I'm also-- I think I'm fortunate that--

675

00:36:14,830 --> 00:36:17,830

676 00:36:17,830 --> 00:36:22,890 studying-- when I went to graduate school to become

677

00:36:22,890 --> 00:36:24,600 a social worker--

678

00:36:24,600 --> 00:36:28,870 I became a clinical social worker, which

679

00:36:28,870 --> 00:36:31,480 means I can also do therapy.

680

00:36:31,480 --> 00:36:36,700 But because of that, I was in therapy myself,

681

00:36:36,700 --> 00:36:41,080 which I find that I was very fortunate that I

682

00:36:41,080 --> 00:36:42,875 was able to do that--

683

00:36:42,875 --> 00:36:43,750 What did it give you?

684

00:36:43,750 --> 00:36:45,490 --to be in therapy.

685

00:36:45,490 --> 00:36:46,240 I'm sorry?

686

00:36:46,240 --> 00:36:47,140 What did it give you?

687

00:36:47,140 --> 00:36:50,860

00:36:50,860 --> 00:36:54,410 I think it gave me an understanding (CRYING)

689 00:36:54,410 --> 00:37:05,590 of my behaviors, of why I feel the way I do in many things.

690 00:37:05,590 --> 00:37:11,160 And to me, therapy was like a gift.

691 00:37:11,160 --> 00:37:13,075 I'm mentioning that because my mom--

692 00:37:13,075 --> 00:37:15,760

693 00:37:15,760 --> 00:37:17,935 we encouraged her to go into therapy.

694 00:37:17,935 --> 00:37:23,040

695 00:37:23,040 --> 00:37:24,655 I happen to know the psychologist,

696 00:37:24,655 --> 00:37:27,480 and he works with survivors.

697 00:37:27,480 --> 00:37:32,270 And I thought he would be ideal for her.

698 00:37:32,270 --> 00:37:40,310 But she went a few times, and she didn't--

699 00:37:40,310 --> 00:37:43,850 700 00:37:43,850 --> 00:37:44,750 it's interesting.

701 00:37:44,750 --> 00:37:49,445 She couldn't-- she felt she couldn't talk.

702 00:37:49,445 --> 00:37:52,290

703 00:37:52,290 --> 00:38:02,230 And the therapist-- not wanting to give away anything

704 00:38:02,230 --> 00:38:05,430 for confidentiality--

705 00:38:05,430 --> 00:38:07,220 it just wasn't for her.

706 00:38:07,220 --> 00:38:16,415

707 00:38:16,415 --> 00:38:18,370 I don't know how to explain.

708 00:38:18,370 --> 00:38:20,020 Well, it's also--

709 00:38:20,020 --> 00:38:21,460 I would think--

710 00:38:21,460 --> 00:38:23,950 I would think this is a generational thing.

711 00:38:23,950 --> 00:38:24,790 Yeah.

712 00:38:24,790 --> 00:38:28,330 And this can affect people in that way.

713

00:38:28,330 --> 00:38:35,530 I don't know of many people of your mom's generation,

714

00:38:35,530 --> 00:38:41,230 born 1916 or those, let's say, born in those 20 years

715

00:38:41,230 --> 00:38:44,350 afterwards for whom this is something

716

00:38:44,350 --> 00:38:47,030 that could be natural.

717

00:38:47,030 --> 00:38:47,530 Right.

718

00:38:47,530 --> 00:38:48,856 You know?

1 ou know

719 00:38:48,856 --> 00:38:52,820 It is very-- it is, in some ways,

720

00:38:52,820 --> 00:38:56,580 like the technology today for my generation.

721

00:38:56,580 --> 00:38:57,080 Right.

722

00:38:57,080 --> 00:38:58,760 Right.

723

00:38:58,760 --> 00:39:02,090 We get to it, but it's not natural.

724

00:39:02,090 --> 00:39:08,520 It's not something that is part of what a normal life can be

725 00:39:08,520 --> 00:39:10,890 and that it can be something that of benefit.

726 00:39:10,890 --> 00:39:12,660 It is a strange thing.

727 00:39:12,660 --> 00:39:16,340

728 00:39:16,340 --> 00:39:23,260 But I can say this much is that when your mom did share

729 00:39:23,260 --> 00:39:27,520 in that interview, it was very powerful.

730 00:39:27,520 --> 00:39:29,230 And it too was a gift.

731 00:39:29,230 --> 00:39:32,590

732 00:39:32,590 --> 00:39:41,540 I'd like to turn, Josiane, if we can now to the museum.

733 00:39:41,540 --> 00:39:42,350 OK.

734 00:39:42,350 --> 00:39:43,910 Tell me-- I mean, is there more--

735 00:39:43,910 --> 00:39:46,790 if there's more that you want to add to what we have been

00:39:46,790 --> 00:39:51,242 speaking about, please do so.

737

00:39:51,242 --> 00:39:51,950

But I'm looking--

738

00:39:51,950 --> 00:39:54,890

No, no.

739

00:39:54,890 --> 00:39:56,768

And if we do in the

future, if there

740

00:39:56,768 --> 00:39:58,310

are things that come

up in the future

741

00:39:58,310 --> 00:40:03,350

that you'd like to share, we

can always make an appointment

742

00:40:03,350 --> 00:40:05,380

to talk again.

743

00:40:05,380 --> 00:40:06,640

OK.

744

00:40:06,640 --> 00:40:09,190

But I wanted now to

turn to the museum

745

00:40:09,190 --> 00:40:14,800

simply because it seemed like

a good, relevant kind of moment

746

00:40:14,800 --> 00:40:20,410

to do so in that it

sounds like it has been--

747

00:40:20,410 --> 00:40:24,060

it has been part of

your life for a while.

748 00:40:24,060 --> 00:40:24,990 Yes.

749 00:40:24,990 --> 00:40:28,005 And I'd like to explore how it began.

750 00:40:28,005 --> 00:40:30,650

751 00:40:30,650 --> 00:40:33,740 In what ways have you been involved?

752 00:40:33,740 --> 00:40:36,140 And what has it given you?

753 00:40:36,140 --> 00:40:39,440 So could you let me know?

754 00:40:39,440 --> 00:40:43,700 When was the first time that you went to the museum,

755 00:40:43,700 --> 00:40:47,270 came to the Holocaust Museum in Washington?

756 00:40:47,270 --> 00:40:58,425 Well, as a matter of fact, I didn't go for many years.

757 00:40:58,425 --> 00:41:02,300

758 00:41:02,300 --> 00:41:06,100 I really didn't want to go.

759 00:41:06,100 --> 00:41:07,940 I had a hard time to go.

00:41:07,940 --> 00:41:11,860 And I was fighting it.

761

00:41:11,860 --> 00:41:12,980 Really I was.

762

00:41:12,980 --> 00:41:14,090 I didn't want to go.

763

00:41:14,090 --> 00:41:17,800 I didn't want to be part of it.

764

00:41:17,800 --> 00:41:21,050 And my neighbor across the street

765

00:41:21,050 --> 00:41:25,795 was a docent and a lovely, lovely woman.

766

00:41:25,795 --> 00:41:31,660 And she kept on saying to me, Josy, you need to go.

767

00:41:31,660 --> 00:41:35,640 And I really didn't want to.

768

00:41:35,640 --> 00:41:36,140 Why?

769

00:41:36,140 --> 00:41:43,310

770

00:41:43,310 --> 00:41:46,190 I guess I didn't want to open things up again.

771

00:41:46,190 --> 00:41:48,960

772

00:41:48,960 --> 00:41:58,060

But one year, Freddie's niece, who was 18 at the time,

773 00:41:58,060 --> 00:42:02,530 stayed with us for a

little while from Israel.

774 00:42:02,530 --> 00:42:07,060 And she wanted to go to the museum.

775 00:42:07,060 --> 00:42:09,400 And I didn't want her to go by herself.

776 00:42:09,400 --> 00:42:12,530

777 00:42:12,530 --> 00:42:15,260 And so I went with her.

778 00:42:15,260 --> 00:42:20,750 And that was actually my first time at the museum.

779 00:42:20,750 --> 00:42:24,160 And-- what was that?

780 00:42:24,160 --> 00:42:28,710 Do you remember when this was, what year this might have been?

781 00:42:28,710 --> 00:42:30,780 Probably-- let me think.

782 00:42:30,780 --> 00:42:34,960 I started volunteering at the museum the year I retired,

783 00:42:34,960 --> 00:42:39,300 which is 2007.

784

00:42:39,300 --> 00:42:40,130 OK.

785 00:42:40,130 --> 00:42:44,750 And it must have been maybe a few years before.

786 00:42:44,750 --> 00:42:46,560 OK.

787 00:42:46,560 --> 00:42:57,790 And when I did retire, I went to the museum

788 00:42:57,790 --> 00:43:03,680 immediately and wanted to volunteer.

789 00:43:03,680 --> 00:43:10,130 And so I started with Visitor Services.

790 00:43:10,130 --> 00:43:16,400 And then I took a 14-week course to become a docent.

791 00:43:16,400 --> 00:43:23,250 And Freddie, my husband, actually also

792 00:43:23,250 --> 00:43:24,520 started volunteering.

793 00:43:24,520 --> 00:43:27,180

794 00:43:27,180 --> 00:43:33,570 He didn't take the course to be a docent for the PE,

795 00:43:33,570 --> 00:43:35,400 the permanent exhibit.

00:43:35,400 --> 00:43:41,475 But he did take the course for the Nazi Berlin Olympics.

797

00:43:41,475 --> 00:43:43,420 Mm-hmm.

798

00:43:43,420 --> 00:43:46,160 You mean a special exhibition?

799

00:43:46,160 --> 00:43:48,200 Yes.

800

00:43:48,200 --> 00:43:50,120 We both did that.

801

00:43:50,120 --> 00:43:54,650 And then Freddie joined the writing class.

802

00:43:54,650 --> 00:43:59,330 He became much more involved, which I thought was wonderful.

803

00:43:59,330 --> 00:44:00,950 And

804

00:44:00,950 --> 00:44:05,980 I gradually kind of did more and more.

805

00:44:05,980 --> 00:44:10,510 Then they started using me to speak.

806

00:44:10,510 --> 00:44:15,400 They sent me to schools, to universities also with Freddie.

807

00:44:15,400 --> 00:44:17,720 We would travel together.

00:44:17,720 --> 00:44:22,210 We went down to some universities in the South.

809

00:44:22,210 --> 00:44:27,870 And it was nice because the two of us would speak.

810

00:44:27,870 --> 00:44:34,100 We were both children, but very different experiences.

811

00:44:34,100 --> 00:44:34,783 Hello?

812

00:44:34,783 --> 00:44:35,450 Yeah, I'm there.

813

00:44:35,450 --> 00:44:36,300 I'm listening.

814

00:44:36,300 --> 00:44:37,010 I'm listening.

815

00:44:37,010 --> 00:44:39,830 I just thought I heard some noise.

816

00:44:39,830 --> 00:44:41,670 I thought I lost you.

817

00:44:41,670 --> 00:44:42,590 No, no, no.

818

00:44:42,590 --> 00:44:44,570 I'm here.

819

00:44:44,570 --> 00:44:46,930

Little by little, I

became more involved.

820

00:44:46,930 --> 00:44:51,170 And I had known the other survivors there

821 00:44:51,170 --> 00:44:56,920 because through other meetings and groups and things

822 00:44:56,920 --> 00:44:58,120 we belonged to.

823 00:44:58,120 --> 00:45:00,670 So I knew them.

824 00:45:00,670 --> 00:45:02,746 Outside of the museum?

825 00:45:02,746 --> 00:45:03,890 What was that?

826 00:45:03,890 --> 00:45:04,890 Outside the museum.

827 00:45:04,890 --> 00:45:05,390 Yeah.

828 00:45:05,390 --> 00:45:06,530 OK.

829 00:45:06,530 --> 00:45:13,310 There was a child survivor group.

830 00:45:13,310 --> 00:45:16,070 And then there was a Kindertransport group

831 00:45:16,070 --> 00:45:20,000 that my husband was in charge of because he

832 00:45:20,000 --> 00:45:25,220 came on the Kindertransport to England.

833

00:45:25,220 --> 00:45:30,890 So I would say little by little, I became much more involved

834 00:45:30,890 --> 00:45:37,330 and felt a great amount of satisfaction.

835 00:45:37,330 --> 00:45:39,060 I really did.

836 00:45:39,060 --> 00:45:40,570 So tell me, what--

837 00:45:40,570 --> 00:45:41,070 OK.

838 00:45:41,070 --> 00:45:42,060 I'm sorry to interrupt.

839 00:45:42,060 --> 00:45:44,220 But what took you in?

840 00:45:44,220 --> 00:45:47,640 When you went for the first time with your niece

841 00:45:47,640 --> 00:45:54,970 and accompanied her, were you surprised in some way?

842 00:45:54,970 --> 00:45:57,850 What was your reaction after having

843 00:45:57,850 --> 00:46:00,760 resisted for such a long time?

844 00:46:00,760 --> 00:46:04,870 $\label{thm:contact} \textbf{Contact reference@ushmm.org for further information about this collection Well, I knew what had happened.}$

845

00:46:04,870 --> 00:46:08,900 I mean, I knew about it the war.

846

00:46:08,900 --> 00:46:14,800 But I think visually seeing it, actually

847

00:46:14,800 --> 00:46:18,800 I was quite impressed the way it was put together.

848

 $00:46:18,800 \longrightarrow 00:46:21,740$

849

00:46:21,740 --> 00:46:24,950 I really was.

850

00:46:24,950 --> 00:46:29,940 And I met some of the people, and I knew some of the people.

851

00:46:29,940 --> 00:46:36,890 So I think I just felt comfortable.

852

00:46:36,890 --> 00:46:39,680 And my mom was a volunteer.

853

00:46:39,680 --> 00:46:41,780 She had been working there.

854

00:46:41,780 --> 00:46:44,780 She was doing translations and different things.

855

00:46:44,780 --> 00:46:47,140 Even before you?

856

00:46:47,140 --> 00:46:49,290

Yeah.

857 00:46:49,290 --> 00:46:53,410 She was involved when the museum opened.

858

00:46:53,410 --> 00:46:58,270 So she didn't have that sense of resistance or sense

859

00:46:58,270 --> 00:47:00,190 of reserve about it?

860

00:47:00,190 --> 00:47:00,820 No.

861

00:47:00,820 --> 00:47:02,940 No.

862

00:47:02,940 --> 00:47:04,708 That's interesting.

863

00:47:04,708 --> 00:47:05,500 That's interesting.

864

00:47:05,500 --> 00:47:06,060 Yeah.

865

00:47:06,060 --> 00:47:14,660 I think for her, in a way, it was like a relief

866

00:47:14,660 --> 00:47:17,800 that she could see it and go through it.

867

00:47:17,800 --> 00:47:25,060

868

 $00:47:25,060 \longrightarrow 00:47:32,070$

Now, she didn't want to be a docent.

869 00:47:32,070 --> 00:47:35,290 But she liked speaking to people.

870 00:47:35,290 --> 00:47:40,110 She also liked being sent out to different schools

871 00:47:40,110 --> 00:47:43,280 and different places.

872 00:47:43,280 --> 00:47:47,030 She really did like doing that.

873 00:47:47,030 --> 00:47:48,510 And what was it like--

874 00:47:48,510 --> 00:47:49,020 yeah.

875 00:47:49,020 --> 00:47:49,520 OK.

876 00:47:49,520 --> 00:47:50,020 Go ahead.

877 00:47:50,020 --> 00:47:51,690 Yeah.

878 00:47:51,690 --> 00:47:53,400 I interrupted for no reason.

879 00:47:53,400 --> 00:47:55,450 Go ahead.

880 00:47:55,450 --> 00:47:55,950 No.

881 00:47:55,950 --> 00:47:59,190 882 00:47:59,190 --> 00:48:01,290 I forgot.

883 00:48:01,290 --> 00:48:08,880 So my question for you is, did it give you something?

884 00:48:08,880 --> 00:48:15,420 When you started to speak with groups, what kind of experience

885 00:48:15,420 --> 00:48:18,480 was this for you?

886 00:48:18,480 --> 00:48:24,070 Well, what inspired me is the fact that people

887 00:48:24,070 --> 00:48:34,854 were interested because you go through life, and people--

888 00:48:34,854 --> 00:48:38,760 my background and my life, it's not

889 00:48:38,760 --> 00:48:41,080 something I talked about to anyone

890 00:48:41,080 --> 00:48:44,140 unless it's somebody very close to me.

891 00:48:44,140 --> 00:48:45,430 It really wouldn't come up.

892 00:48:45,430 --> 00:48:48,110

893 00:48:48,110 --> 00:48:54,670 So seeing that people

were really interested

894

00:48:54,670 --> 00:48:57,750 gave me a sense of satisfaction.

895

00:48:57,750 --> 00:49:07,340 And it was good for me to see that people were interested.

896

00:49:07,340 --> 00:49:11,000 A lot of people that I've talked to, survivor volunteers,

897

 $00:49:11,000 \longrightarrow 00:49:14,780$ highlight that aspect of it, this interaction

898

00:49:14,780 --> 00:49:18,590 and this realization that there are people who care

899

00:49:18,590 --> 00:49:21,100 and who are interested.

900

00:49:21,100 --> 00:49:23,040 Exactly.

901

00:49:23,040 --> 00:49:25,880 Exactly.

902

 $00:49:25,880 \longrightarrow 00:49:33,500$ And the tours I was doing before the virus,

903

00:49:33,500 --> 00:49:37,890 I do mainly law enforcement--

904

 $00:49:37,890 \longrightarrow 00:49:44,310$ the FBI, police, judges.

905

 $00:49:44,310 \longrightarrow 00:49:52,060$

And I really enjoy

it when I interact

906 00:49:52,060 --> 00:49:55,790 and when they ask questions and when you could

907 00:49:55,790 --> 00:49:58,960 see they're really interested.

908 00:49:58,960 --> 00:50:05,550 And it's a good feeling.

909 00:50:05,550 --> 00:50:08,140 It sounds like it brings a lot of meaning.

910 00:50:08,140 --> 00:50:09,000 You know?

911 00:50:09,000 --> 00:50:10,682 Yeah.

912 00:50:10,682 --> 00:50:12,460 Yes.

913 00:50:12,460 --> 00:50:16,540 So what do you think then that the museum,

914 00:50:16,540 --> 00:50:19,900 having been part of it and having been involved

915 00:50:19,900 --> 00:50:23,410 in these different activities--

916 00:50:23,410 --> 00:50:25,360 and we haven't even mentioned First Person,

917 00:50:25,360 --> 00:50:28,390 because I know that you have

been involved in the First

918

00:50:28,390 --> 00:50:32,740 Person program too where you meet once a week,

919

00:50:32,740 --> 00:50:38,860 or it's a public meeting with the public.

920

00:50:38,860 --> 00:50:42,580 And there's an interview there where you're on stage.

921

00:50:42,580 --> 00:50:46,390 But it is all, again, in this interaction with the public,

922

00:50:46,390 --> 00:50:48,910 with other people who are hearing this.

923

00:50:48,910 --> 00:50:53,330 What do you think the museum provides for us as a country,

924

00:50:53,330 --> 00:50:54,760 as a society?

925

00:50:54,760 --> 00:51:02,340 What do you think of the impact or the opportunity?

926

00:51:02,340 --> 00:51:06,740 Well, I think it's wonderful.

927

00:51:06,740 --> 00:51:11,650 And I think it's opened people's eyes

928

00:51:11,650 --> 00:51:13,840 to see really, really what happened

929 00:51:13,840 --> 00:51:19,030

because many people at the end of the tour actually say to me,

930

00:51:19,030 --> 00:51:22,800

I didn't realize it was like that.

931

 $00:51:22,800 \longrightarrow 00:51:28,140$

People really don't realize it.

932

 $00:51:28,140 \longrightarrow 00:51:32,310$

And it's good to know that it's more personalized when

933

00:51:32,310 --> 00:51:35,880

the museum educates people, which I think

934

 $00:51:35,880 \longrightarrow 00:51:38,520$ is so crucial and so important.

935 $00:51:38,520 \longrightarrow 00:51:43,670$

936

00:51:43,670 --> 00:51:48,230

It's just, for me, I

miss it terribly now,

937

00:51:48,230 --> 00:51:53,010

not having been there

for several months.

938

00:51:53,010 --> 00:51:57,650

But I look upon the staff

there who deal with our--

939

00:51:57,650 --> 00:52:01,280

and even the other survivors--

940

00:52:01,280 --> 00:52:05,308

I really look upon it like family.

941

00:52:05,308 --> 00:52:06,670 How wonderful.

942

00:52:06,670 --> 00:52:09,310 I really-- yeah, it is.

943

00:52:09,310 --> 00:52:10,790 I feel wonderful.

944

00:52:10,790 --> 00:52:12,190 I really do.

945

00:52:12,190 --> 00:52:16,510 And the nice thing is also my husband feels the same way.

946

00:52:16,510 --> 00:52:20,500

947

00:52:20,500 --> 00:52:25,840 And this interview is taking place

948

00:52:25,840 --> 00:52:28,250 during the midst of the coronavirus.

949

00:52:28,250 --> 00:52:31,270 And we are talking now when it's been

950

00:52:31,270 --> 00:52:34,840 five months that the museum has been closed.

951

00:52:34,840 --> 00:52:38,470 And it's been a year,

I know, of loss for you

952

00:52:38,470 --> 00:52:44,200 when you lost your husband in February, even a month before.

953 00:52:44,200 --> 00:52:45,640 Yes.

954 00:52:45,640 --> 00:52:50,210 So it's been that kind of a year, a tough year.

955 00:52:50,210 --> 00:52:51,530 Yes.

956 00:52:51,530 --> 00:52:55,040 There have been many losses--

957 00:52:55,040 --> 00:52:58,850 Freddie and my family there.

958 00:52:58,850 --> 00:53:03,330 I mean, I regard it as my family.

959 00:53:03,330 --> 00:53:05,280 Well, that's a huge compliment.

960 00:53:05,280 --> 00:53:07,520 That really is a very huge compliment

961 00:53:07,520 --> 00:53:14,590 that it has become a place for you that

962 00:53:14,590 --> 00:53:18,276 is a place you can be at home.

963 00:53:18,276 --> 00:53:20,070 Yes.

964 00:53:20,070 --> 00:53:20,760 Yes.

965 00:53:20,760 --> 00:53:23,700 Absolutely.

966 00:53:23,700 --> 00:53:26,250 Well, Josiane, we're coming close

967 00:53:26,250 --> 00:53:30,130 to the end of our interview today.

968 00:53:30,130 --> 00:53:32,340 Is there anything else that you'd

969 00:53:32,340 --> 00:53:34,950 like to share with us that I haven't asked you

970 00:53:34,950 --> 00:53:41,880 about that you would want people to understand, people to know,

971 00:53:41,880 --> 00:53:42,990 anything like that?

972 00:53:42,990 --> 00:53:46,860

973 00:53:46,860 --> 00:53:49,380 I can't think of anything right now.

974 00:53:49,380 --> 00:53:52,840 And it doesn't mean that there's not probably a lot more to say.

975 00:53:52,840 --> 00:54:04,640 But for me, I think the museum has been really a good place 976

00:54:04,640 --> 00:54:08,000 for me to be in every way--

977

00:54:08,000 --> 00:54:13,638 emotionally-- especially emotionally.

978

00:54:13,638 --> 00:54:16,790

979

00:54:16,790 --> 00:54:18,410 I mean, it really is.

980

 $00:54:18,410 \longrightarrow 00:54:21,710$

981

00:54:21,710 --> 00:54:24,180 It's also given me a sense of purpose.

982

00:54:24,180 --> 00:54:26,950

983

00:54:26,950 --> 00:54:31,900 And I'm really glad to be involved,

984

00:54:31,900 --> 00:54:35,490 and I miss it really very much.

985

00:54:35,490 --> 00:54:36,380 I really do.

986

00:54:36,380 --> 00:54:42,460

987

00:54:42,460 --> 00:54:43,120 Thank you.

988

 $00:54:43,120 \longrightarrow 00:54:46,540$

989 00:54:46,540 --> 00:54:52,300 I enjoy meeting the people, especially on tours.

990

00:54:52,300 --> 00:54:56,050 And I've had some very interesting

991

00:54:56,050 --> 00:55:00,820 personal experiences from some of the people I've toured.

992

00:55:00,820 --> 00:55:07,120 So it's been really interesting.

993

00:55:07,120 --> 00:55:09,900 Did you hear about the judge who I toured?

994

00:55:09,900 --> 00:55:10,400 No.

995

00:55:10,400 --> 00:55:13,850 Tell me about that.

996

00:55:13,850 --> 00:55:25,200 I did a tour with circuit court judges from DC.

997

00:55:25,200 --> 00:55:31,650 And very nice group of people, asking a lot of questions.

998

00:55:31,650 --> 00:55:38,260 And a day after my tour, I get a call from the museum.

999

00:55:38,260 --> 00:55:41,710 Can they please give my telephone number out

1000

00:55:41,710 --> 00:55:45,250 to a private person?

1001

00:55:45,250 --> 00:55:50,350 And it turns out that one of the judges I was speaking to,

1002

00:55:50,350 --> 00:55:53,350 her mother lives in Florida.

1003

00:55:53,350 --> 00:55:58,230 And she spoke to her mother after the tour

1004

00:55:58,230 --> 00:56:02,640 and told her mother that she had gone on a tour at the museum.

1005

00:56:02,640 --> 00:56:07,693 And the mother said, well, what was your docent like?

1006

00:56:07,693 --> 00:56:12,490 She said, well, it was a woman from Belgium, very interesting.

1007

00:56:12,490 --> 00:56:18,880 And so this woman, the mother, says, you know,

1008

00:56:18,880 --> 00:56:23,350 I knew somebody in New Jersey who came from Belgium.

1009

00:56:23,350 --> 00:56:27,840

1010

00:56:27,840 --> 00:56:31,650 And so the judge called me.

1011

00:56:31,650 --> 00:56:37,870 And as it turns out, to cut a very long story short, 1012 00:56:37,870 --> 00:56:42,040 when my parents came to the United States,

1013

00:56:42,040 --> 00:56:44,290 it was just before my 10th birthday.

1014

00:56:44,290 --> 00:56:46,450 It was in January.

1015

00:56:46,450 --> 00:56:48,880 And my birthday's in March.

1016

00:56:48,880 --> 00:56:52,240 And my mom wanted to give me a birthday party,

1017

00:56:52,240 --> 00:56:54,460 but she didn't know any kids.

1018

00:56:54,460 --> 00:56:56,380 And she didn't know who to invite.

1019

00:56:56,380 --> 00:57:01,130 So she went to this elderly Jewish couple and said,

1020 00:57:01,130 --> 00:57:03,520 could you get some kids for me, and I'll

1021

00:57:03,520 --> 00:57:06,400 give Josy a birthday party?

1022

00:57:06,400 --> 00:57:12,640 So this older couple invited a bunch of kids,

1023

00:57:12,640 --> 00:57:14,930

and I had a birthday party.

1024

00:57:14,930 --> 00:57:18,850 The judge's mother was at my birthday party.

1025

00:57:18,850 --> 00:57:21,690 Oh my goodness.

1026

00:57:21,690 --> 00:57:24,380 Oh my goodness.

1027

00:57:24,380 --> 00:57:24,900 I know.

1028

00:57:24,900 --> 00:57:27,170 Can you imagine?

1029

00:57:27,170 --> 00:57:32,780 So as it turns out, the judge's mother came up.

1030

00:57:32,780 --> 00:57:34,270 She lives in Florida.

1031

00:57:34,270 --> 00:57:37,550 She came up, and we all met in a restaurant,

1032

00:57:37,550 --> 00:57:41,270 including my mom and Freddie and the judge.

1033

00:57:41,270 --> 00:57:44,630 And it was just lovely.

1034

00:57:44,630 --> 00:57:47,460 Oh, what a wonderful connection.

1035

00:57:47,460 --> 00:57:50,210

What a reestablishment.

1036 00:57:50,210 --> 00:57:51,260 I know.

1037 00:57:51,260 --> 00:57:54,560 And apparently there's a newsletter

1038 00:57:54,560 --> 00:57:57,890 for the lawyers in DC or the judges,

1039 00:57:57,890 --> 00:58:00,761 and they wrote about it.

1040 00:58:00,761 --> 00:58:02,120 This is so unusual.

1041 00:58:02,120 --> 00:58:05,570

1042 00:58:05,570 --> 00:58:11,510 Well, and without this center point of the museum

1043 00:58:11,510 --> 00:58:16,940 bringing together such people and having in place

1044 00:58:16,940 --> 00:58:20,780 such programs, such a reconnection

1045 00:58:20,780 --> 00:58:22,030 wouldn't have happened.

1046 00:58:22,030 --> 00:58:22,530 Yeah.

1047 00:58:22,530 --> 00:58:25,380

1048

00:58:25,380 --> 00:58:25,920 I know.

1049

00:58:25,920 --> 00:58:30,280 And I think it's important.

1050

00:58:30,280 --> 00:58:34,810 They send police and security from every area.

1051

00:58:34,810 --> 00:58:39,460 And I think it's so important for people to really know.

1052

00:58:39,460 --> 00:58:45,790 And it bothers me when I hear people invoke the word

1053

00:58:45,790 --> 00:58:53,510 Holocaust at different stages where it doesn't really belong.

1054

00:58:53,510 --> 00:58:58,690 They just use the word kind of in a different meaning.

1055

00:58:58,690 --> 00:59:01,700

1056

00:59:01,700 --> 00:59:02,795 It bothers me.

1057

00:59:02,795 --> 00:59:06,770 It really does because there was only one Holocaust.

1058

00:59:06,770 --> 00:59:12,530 It's not horrible things that happen all the time.

1059

00:59:12,530 --> 00:59:16,880

It is taking an event and politicizing it. 1060 00:59:16,880 --> 00:59:17,990 Yeah.

1061

00:59:17,990 --> 00:59:19,520 Yeah.

1062

00:59:19,520 --> 00:59:23,360 And politicizing I don't mean in a direct way,

1063

00:59:23,360 --> 00:59:26,420 but in whatever purposes one has.

1064

00:59:26,420 --> 00:59:30,320 It takes that event and not let it stand on its own

1065 00:59:30,320 --> 00:59:36,390 with its own voice and its own story

1066 00:59:36,390 --> 00:59:43,010 and so on, but then applies it in places where it's tenuous.

1067 00:59:43,010 --> 00:59:44,660 Yes.

1068 00:59:44,660 --> 00:59:46,670 Yes.

1069 00:59:46,670 --> 00:59:51,080 And in a way, the word Holocaust becomes meaningless.

1070 00:59:51,080 --> 00:59:53,840 As a result-- is that what you're saying?

1071 00:59:53,840 --> 00:59:55,210 Yeah.

1072

00:59:55,210 --> 00:59:58,850

Or it has a totally different meaning.

1073

00:59:58,850 --> 01:00:00,240

Yeah.

1074

01:00:00,240 --> 01:00:00,740

Yeah.

1075

01:00:00,740 --> 01:00:03,750

1076

01:00:03,750 --> 01:00:07,220

Ina, what is this

going to be used for?

1077

01:00:07,220 --> 01:00:10,420

Is it just in the archives, or--

1078

01:00:10,420 --> 01:00:13,438

Well, we're coming

close to the end,

1079

01:00:13,438 --> 01:00:14,980

and I'm going to

wrap up in a minute,

1080

01:00:14,980 --> 01:00:17,200

but I'll answer your

question right now.

1081

01:00:17,200 --> 01:00:23,950

All of our interviews such

as your mom's and the ones

1082

01:00:23,950 --> 01:00:27,100

that you've done before,

they get archived.

1083

01:00:27,100 --> 01:00:28,930 They become part of our archives,

1084 01:00:28,930 --> 01:00:32,480 and they are available to the public.

1085 01:00:32,480 --> 01:00:34,780 So this will be an audio interview

1086 01:00:34,780 --> 01:00:37,960 that if somebody ever looks up your name,

1087 01:00:37,960 --> 01:00:40,670 they'd be able to find it.

1088 01:00:40,670 --> 01:00:41,380 I see.

1089 01:00:41,380 --> 01:00:43,840 Now, if you don't want that, if you

1090 01:00:43,840 --> 01:00:48,400 don't want it to be that public, then we have to talk about this

1091 01:00:48,400 --> 01:00:51,550 and see in what way it could be accessible, in what way

1092 01:00:51,550 --> 01:00:53,920 it could be restricted.

1093 01:00:53,920 --> 01:00:54,550 I see.

1094 01:00:54,550 --> 01:00:58,390 But I would hope that you agree to have it available 1095 01:00:58,390 --> 01:01:00,940 like your mom's interview was available,

1096 01:01:00,940 --> 01:01:05,230 like your First Person interviews are available.

1097 01:01:05,230 --> 01:01:06,280 Yes.

1098 01:01:06,280 --> 01:01:07,180 Sure.

1099 01:01:07,180 --> 01:01:09,590 Are you fine with that?

1100 01:01:09,590 --> 01:01:10,460 I am.

1101 01:01:10,460 --> 01:01:11,300 OK.

1102 01:01:11,300 --> 01:01:12,810 Thank you.

1103 01:01:12,810 --> 01:01:16,770 And right now I will wrap up our interview,

1104 01:01:16,770 --> 01:01:19,740 and I will then stop the recording

1105 01:01:19,740 --> 01:01:23,160 and talk just a little bit with you on some other questions

1106 01:01:23,160 --> 01:01:24,430 afterwards. 1107 01:01:24,430 --> 01:01:26,940 So I will say at this point, this

1108 01:01:26,940 --> 01:01:30,780 concludes the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum

1109 01:01:30,780 --> 01:01:40,110 interview with Josiane Traum on August 26, 2020 in Washington.

1110 01:01:40,110 --> 01:01:41,750 Thank you.

1111 01:01:41,750 --> 01:01:43,460 Thank you so much, Josy.

1112 01:01:43,460 --> 01:01:45,370 Thank you.