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Summary

Rose Nortman (née Ruchel Jungerman) born in 1920 in Volbrum, Poland; oldest of 6 (3 brothers, 2 sisters); father Motke Jungerman, well-known baker, mother Temman (nee Wiedling); Rose discusses leaving school age 12 to tend to ill father & eventual passing from asthma, brother assists family as designer women's clothing; Rose discusses post-war, return to family home (Sosnowiec) when Pole was surprised Rose had returned from the war alive; 1939 marriage-Moszek Nuchman (later changed to Morris Nortman); mother's despair when Rose was selected by Nazis, Rose able to flee; fate of Morris' sister's family, "One shot right in the grave"; Rose & Morris fleeing on foot, sadness saying goodbye to her mother - sister Manya, brother Herschel, mother murdered by Nazis; Rose & Morris' attempts to find shelter; separated from Morris, having to sell wedding ring, then that money is stolen; 8 mo. pregnant Rose struggles to find work, shelter; American soldier rescues sickly Rose, brings her to hospital, assists Rose & Morris' passage to Lvov, Poland where her brother & husband's brother lived; baby boy is born; summer 1943 Red Army soldiers force Rose & baby on crammed boxcar transport for several weeks, no food, bathroom, great sickness, suffering by arrival to Siberia but reunited with husband; Morris put in army, then sent back to Siberia where he catches malaria, Rose able to find wine to assist Morris' recovery; Rose returns to discussing her first meeting Morris at a dance, Nazis take Morris away shortly after their marriage on September 12, 1939; Rose returns to 1939 discussing her mother, Rose's ingenuity bartering, rationing food to survive, her mother urging Rose to flee, the suit her designer brother had made to enable her passage; Rose returns to discussing Siberia where Rose & Morris discuss giving baby up, unable to care for, taking son to a place for adoption but Rose unable to separate, 3 days later baby dies, since Morris is sick, Rose has to bury their son by herself; Rose (after marriage) shares story of a stranger thwarting attempted rape on Rose by a Polish soldier; Morris' brother assists their immigration to US; Rose returns to discussing Nazis catching them hiding their wedding ring in a loaf of bread, Morris arrested, Rose sweet-talks guard into enabling Morris' escape; Rose cuts her hair to diminish her looks in fear of being attacked; in Lvov, Rose arrested selling cigarettes made from grass, released; two of Rose's brothers survive the Holocaust-one of their wives did not because she didn't want to be separated from her baby at concentration camp; discussion how one sister survived but Rose's other sister did not survive; Rose returns to discussing living in Paris with friend after war, having two children, needing to seek a loan; discussion on the existence of God during the Holocaust; this interview was filmed long after husband Morris had died in 1991- with her children/niece present in interview room, Rose discusses their father/uncle's belief in God; Rose shares painting of husband's family & pre-war photographs of her family including one of her father's grave; passports, other documents from war.