

1  
00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:17,860

2  
00:00:17,860 --> 00:00:18,360  
OK.

3  
00:00:18,360 --> 00:00:23,420  
You were just concluding with  
the family, who in a sense

4  
00:00:23,420 --> 00:00:26,565  
rescued you and  
Chaim by hiding you.

5  
00:00:26,565 --> 00:00:27,440  
You were telling me--

6  
00:00:27,440 --> 00:00:27,975  
Oh, yeah.

7  
00:00:27,975 --> 00:00:28,850  
--that you were poor.

8  
00:00:28,850 --> 00:00:29,350  
Yeah.

9  
00:00:29,350 --> 00:00:30,880  
Yes, we were.

10  
00:00:30,880 --> 00:00:32,330  
They were very poor.

11  
00:00:32,330 --> 00:00:35,810  
And they did the best  
what they could, really.

12  
00:00:35,810 --> 00:00:41,000  
And we felt so sorry for  
ourselves laying there.

13

00:00:41,000 --> 00:00:46,860  
And on the end, I remember  
there was a little boy what

14  
00:00:46,860 --> 00:00:48,980  
was running after a bird.

15  
00:00:48,980 --> 00:00:53,780  
And it was already we heard  
already the Germans coming up.

16  
00:00:53,780 --> 00:00:58,340  
We hear already nearer coming  
the war coming, the front,

17  
00:00:58,340 --> 00:01:01,010  
we heard already bombs  
near coming to us.

18  
00:01:01,010 --> 00:01:05,540  
And a little boy  
went after this bird.

19  
00:01:05,540 --> 00:01:07,820  
And at once, he sees us.

20  
00:01:07,820 --> 00:01:11,610  
And thank god, a day  
later, were the Germans--

21  
00:01:11,610 --> 00:01:13,910  
we saw the Germans running away.

22  
00:01:13,910 --> 00:01:16,670  
And we got freed.

23  
00:01:16,670 --> 00:01:21,910  
And it was a very  
difficult time.

24  
00:01:21,910 --> 00:01:23,570  
We didn't have anything to do.

25

00:01:23,570 --> 00:01:26,370

Also once-- we were  
watching always

26

00:01:26,370 --> 00:01:30,680

the storks, the  
storks on the chimney.

27

00:01:30,680 --> 00:01:32,150

And we were watching  
the storks, we

28

00:01:32,150 --> 00:01:33,740

didn't have anything else to do.

29

00:01:33,740 --> 00:01:36,110

And the storks went away.

30

00:01:36,110 --> 00:01:41,990

And the farmers, they think  
it brings something to them.

31

00:01:41,990 --> 00:01:45,270

Or a fire, or something  
is coming to them

32

00:01:45,270 --> 00:01:47,060

when the storks going away.

33

00:01:47,060 --> 00:01:49,310

So one day, he said, what  
are you doing the whole day?

34

00:01:49,310 --> 00:01:50,810

Are you perhaps  
watching the storks?

35

00:01:50,810 --> 00:01:51,830

And we say, yes.

36

00:01:51,830 --> 00:01:55,790

So says already when the storks

going away, you have to go.

37

00:01:55,790 --> 00:01:59,870

We cannot have you anymore  
because then is something bad

38

00:01:59,870 --> 00:02:01,290

will happen to us.

39

00:02:01,290 --> 00:02:02,990

So we stopped  
watching the storks.

40

00:02:02,990 --> 00:02:05,930

And thank god the  
storks came back.

41

00:02:05,930 --> 00:02:09,740

And I was very weak.

42

00:02:09,740 --> 00:02:11,945

I didn't know that  
I was pregnant.

43

00:02:11,945 --> 00:02:15,560

44

00:02:15,560 --> 00:02:17,420

I didn't have my  
period all these years

45

00:02:17,420 --> 00:02:19,790

that I was in concentration  
camp and ever.

46

00:02:19,790 --> 00:02:22,240

And I was very weak.

47

00:02:22,240 --> 00:02:24,300

I couldn't walk any more.

48

00:02:24,300 --> 00:02:26,580

And I didn't get heavier.

49

00:02:26,580 --> 00:02:31,290

And I couldn't sit up  
almost, not anymore.

50

00:02:31,290 --> 00:02:33,900

And we didn't know  
anything what was going on.

51

00:02:33,900 --> 00:02:38,640

And the woman where we were  
hidden say that I was pregnant.

52

00:02:38,640 --> 00:02:41,850

I said, no, that's not  
true, and I don't grow.

53

00:02:41,850 --> 00:02:44,130

And when I didn't walk,  
and I was just laying.

54

00:02:44,130 --> 00:02:45,630

And she said, you have to go.

55

00:02:45,630 --> 00:02:47,040

We don't want you anymore.

56

00:02:47,040 --> 00:02:50,130

And later, we talked to  
the end that it was not so.

57

00:02:50,130 --> 00:02:55,710

And then in July, we went down.

58

00:02:55,710 --> 00:02:58,035

And then I found out I  
was six months pregnant.

59

00:02:58,035 --> 00:03:00,690

60

00:03:00,690 --> 00:03:04,140  
And that was-- we never  
told this in 40 years.

61  
00:03:04,140 --> 00:03:08,040  
And that was very bad, of  
course, when we thought,

62  
00:03:08,040 --> 00:03:09,060  
what will we do?

63  
00:03:09,060 --> 00:03:10,450  
We had nothing.

64  
00:03:10,450 --> 00:03:13,050  
We went, it was  
free, we were free.

65  
00:03:13,050 --> 00:03:19,050  
We had no money, we had  
nothing, absolutely nothing.

66  
00:03:19,050 --> 00:03:20,640  
No clothes.

67  
00:03:20,640 --> 00:03:25,210  
Only what we had  
on, and that was it.

68  
00:03:25,210 --> 00:03:28,485  
So we went to Chelm.

69  
00:03:28,485 --> 00:03:30,660  
We thought we were the  
only Jews alive, of course.

70  
00:03:30,660 --> 00:03:33,630  
We thought every concentration  
camp was really like Sobibor.

71  
00:03:33,630 --> 00:03:38,130  
But we found more  
people alive in Chelm.

72  
00:03:38,130 --> 00:03:40,110  
We came in a home in Chelm.

73  
00:03:40,110 --> 00:03:43,450  
And Chaim had to go in the army.

74  
00:03:43,450 --> 00:03:46,930  
And I was there in  
Poland all alone.

75  
00:03:46,930 --> 00:03:49,960  
I didn't speak Polish  
and I had no money.

76  
00:03:49,960 --> 00:03:52,750  
So Chaim started  
working in the hospital.

77  
00:03:52,750 --> 00:03:55,210  
We saw that helps.

78  
00:03:55,210 --> 00:03:59,350  
And I also never forget.

79  
00:03:59,350 --> 00:04:01,600  
They all went back to Sobibor.

80  
00:04:01,600 --> 00:04:03,790  
Did all the Jews  
went back to Sobibor

81  
00:04:03,790 --> 00:04:07,240  
because all the Jews put so  
much money in the ground.

82  
00:04:07,240 --> 00:04:09,400  
And everybody went  
back to Sobibor

83  
00:04:09,400 --> 00:04:11,440  
to take the money

out of the ground.

84

00:04:11,440 --> 00:04:13,750

And they started fighting  
there and killing each other.

85

00:04:13,750 --> 00:04:17,320

So I said, Chaim, that's  
not worth it, you don't go.

86

00:04:17,320 --> 00:04:21,700

So we didn't go back to  
Sobibor to get the money out

87

00:04:21,700 --> 00:04:22,990

of the ground.

88

00:04:22,990 --> 00:04:24,430

Most Jews did it.

89

00:04:24,430 --> 00:04:25,660

And one Jew did.

90

00:04:25,660 --> 00:04:28,180

And one of the Jews--

91

00:04:28,180 --> 00:04:30,207

Chaim knows already  
a little bit around.

92

00:04:30,207 --> 00:04:31,290

He was always in business.

93

00:04:31,290 --> 00:04:33,460

And so he walked already  
a little bit around.

94

00:04:33,460 --> 00:04:35,180

And one give him \$100 bill.

95

00:04:35,180 --> 00:04:39,830

And Chaim say, I know a place



where I can change it for you.

96

00:04:39,830 --> 00:04:42,052

So perhaps I could  
change it for you.

97

00:04:42,052 --> 00:04:43,510

But of course, the  
number was gone,

98

00:04:43,510 --> 00:04:45,200

and that was not valuable.

99

00:04:45,200 --> 00:04:48,225

So we put it that  
night under our pillow.

100

00:04:48,225 --> 00:04:49,600

And middle in the  
night, somebody

101

00:04:49,600 --> 00:04:52,220

stole it under our pillow out.

102

00:04:52,220 --> 00:04:55,180

So the next day,  
Chaim told him, and he

103

00:04:55,180 --> 00:04:56,870

didn't believe it, of course.

104

00:04:56,870 --> 00:05:01,240

So the first money what Chaim  
made, I don't know made what.

105

00:05:01,240 --> 00:05:04,320

Made working in the hospital.

106

00:05:04,320 --> 00:05:05,470

Not to go in the army.

107

00:05:05,470 --> 00:05:07,970

When we thought that we get  
free in the army, and later that

108  
00:05:07,970 --> 00:05:08,800  
was not.

109  
00:05:08,800 --> 00:05:11,130  
Then he starts selling,  
I think, gasoline.

110  
00:05:11,130 --> 00:05:12,880  
I don't know what he  
did, really, exactly.

111  
00:05:12,880 --> 00:05:13,750  
I don't remember.

112  
00:05:13,750 --> 00:05:17,140  
And we paid this man off.

113  
00:05:17,140 --> 00:05:20,270  
So that was a very  
bad situation.

114  
00:05:20,270 --> 00:05:21,790  
I have to tell something done.

115  
00:05:21,790 --> 00:05:25,060  
20 years, 15 years  
later, we were in Israel.

116  
00:05:25,060 --> 00:05:28,240  
And we came together with  
all the Jews from Sobibor.

117  
00:05:28,240 --> 00:05:31,630  
And I said to the man, do  
you remember the \$100 what

118  
00:05:31,630 --> 00:05:33,520  
they stole under our pillow?

119

00:05:33,520 --> 00:05:36,550

Said, yeah, you still  
owe me the \$100.

120

00:05:36,550 --> 00:05:39,310

And the next day, he  
came with somebody,

121

00:05:39,310 --> 00:05:41,800

and we paid him the \$100.

122

00:05:41,800 --> 00:05:47,760

Because he say-- my husband  
say, when he needs the \$100

123

00:05:47,760 --> 00:05:52,580

so badly that he has to  
come to Israel to our house,

124

00:05:52,580 --> 00:05:54,850

then he needs it very badly.

125

00:05:54,850 --> 00:06:00,370

So when we went away from  
Sobibor, from this farmer,

126

00:06:00,370 --> 00:06:05,093

we stayed in Chelm  
a very short time.

127

00:06:05,093 --> 00:06:06,760

But you don't want  
to know that anymore.

128

00:06:06,760 --> 00:06:09,530

I want to ask you  
some other things.

129

00:06:09,530 --> 00:06:13,660

I want you to talk  
about how you lived

130

00:06:13,660 --> 00:06:16,750

from one minute to the next  
when you were in the camp.

131  
00:06:16,750 --> 00:06:22,410  
I want you to go back and tell  
me how you feel you survived.

132  
00:06:22,410 --> 00:06:23,607  
OK.

133  
00:06:23,607 --> 00:06:24,315  
I don't remember.

134  
00:06:24,315 --> 00:06:28,850

135  
00:06:28,850 --> 00:06:36,490  
We survived in Sobibor was  
most because we had each other.

136  
00:06:36,490 --> 00:06:37,960  
I don't think that--

137  
00:06:37,960 --> 00:06:40,420  
I would have been like  
all the Dutch people

138  
00:06:40,420 --> 00:06:44,500  
or died very quickly after that.

139  
00:06:44,500 --> 00:06:46,490  
I think that we had each other.

140  
00:06:46,490 --> 00:06:48,580  
And also, we were very close.

141  
00:06:48,580 --> 00:06:51,730  
I found a cousin  
there, first cousin.

142  
00:06:51,730 --> 00:06:56,440  
And a girl that came from

Holland, Ula, Ursula Stern.

143  
00:06:56,440 --> 00:06:59,950  
We stick together and we  
helped each other very much.

144  
00:06:59,950 --> 00:07:02,620  
Because I got typhus  
and she took care of me.

145  
00:07:02,620 --> 00:07:05,140  
And I took care of  
her when she was sick.

146  
00:07:05,140 --> 00:07:07,780  
And we took care of each other.

147  
00:07:07,780 --> 00:07:12,550  
The tense atmosphere  
in Sobibor was so bad

148  
00:07:12,550 --> 00:07:20,320  
that I don't want even to think  
back on that how bad it was.

149  
00:07:20,320 --> 00:07:23,110  
Because every minute  
of the day, we

150  
00:07:23,110 --> 00:07:24,940  
were called to do  
something else.

151  
00:07:24,940 --> 00:07:30,550  
Like even when we walked  
from camp two to camp one,

152  
00:07:30,550 --> 00:07:35,830  
we never could walk  
regular, we had to [GERMAN],,

153  
00:07:35,830 --> 00:07:37,390  
we throw ourself off the floor.

154

00:07:37,390 --> 00:07:40,390  
And we had to go up and a man  
with a whip on the back of us

155

00:07:40,390 --> 00:07:44,710  
that we had to do that till we  
almost not could walk anymore.

156

00:07:44,710 --> 00:07:48,265  
When we came on, we had  
to stay in line for food.

157

00:07:48,265 --> 00:07:50,260  
And sometimes there was no food.

158

00:07:50,260 --> 00:07:53,410  
And sometimes--  
once, I remember,

159

00:07:53,410 --> 00:07:55,930  
the cook, they killed  
him almost when

160

00:07:55,930 --> 00:07:58,660  
he was sitting middle of  
the place in the middle

161

00:07:58,660 --> 00:08:01,510  
from where we were sleeping.

162

00:08:01,510 --> 00:08:07,790  
And we couldn't get  
food on that day.

163

00:08:07,790 --> 00:08:12,950  
And I remember once, a young  
men, he was 16 years old,

164

00:08:12,950 --> 00:08:16,090  
and he was the favorite of  
one of the SSES, really.

165

00:08:16,090 --> 00:08:19,820

And he was sleeping, and one of Wagner came into his room,

166

00:08:19,820 --> 00:08:22,360

and he said, go out, [GERMAN].

167

00:08:22,360 --> 00:08:24,640

And he hit a little bit so with his whip.

168

00:08:24,640 --> 00:08:26,500

And he had this whip next to it.

169

00:08:26,500 --> 00:08:29,680

And the SSer took him out and shot him.

170

00:08:29,680 --> 00:08:39,070

And that was-- every minute of the day was such in danger.

171

00:08:39,070 --> 00:08:45,490

A danger about your own life that we try

172

00:08:45,490 --> 00:08:47,860

not to think about it at all.

173

00:08:47,860 --> 00:08:50,770

Because I remember that we had to go in the woods

174

00:08:50,770 --> 00:08:54,700

once and pick blueberries.

175

00:08:54,700 --> 00:08:58,210

And on the end of the day, they had to show our tongue of we

176

00:08:58,210 --> 00:09:00,152

had of eat one of

the blueberries.

177

00:09:00,152 --> 00:09:02,110

And we would have eaten  
one of the blueberries,

178

00:09:02,110 --> 00:09:05,220

they would have punished us  
with 40 whips, of 80 whips.

179

00:09:05,220 --> 00:09:09,880

And they didn't shoot so much  
woman, the more, the men.

180

00:09:09,880 --> 00:09:15,470

And everything what you did  
was scary and was dangerous.

181

00:09:15,470 --> 00:09:21,880

Also, we had to pick mushrooms  
in the woods, I remember.

182

00:09:21,880 --> 00:09:24,460

And I put it in my  
underpants all over.

183

00:09:24,460 --> 00:09:27,060

And they asked us, did  
you hide something?

184

00:09:27,060 --> 00:09:32,480

I was very heavy from the water,  
these things say, in the camp.

185

00:09:32,480 --> 00:09:35,800

So they didn't see it that  
I was full with mushrooms.

186

00:09:35,800 --> 00:09:39,640

But when they would  
have looked at it,

187

00:09:39,640 --> 00:09:43,210



they would have done  
something to punish me.

188  
00:09:43,210 --> 00:09:44,770  
But generally,  
and every time you

189  
00:09:44,770 --> 00:09:47,710  
saw somebody else got  
punished and got hit.

190  
00:09:47,710 --> 00:09:51,655  
And we have to look all the  
time when they give 45 whips.

191  
00:09:51,655 --> 00:09:54,190

192  
00:09:54,190 --> 00:09:57,110  
All the time, we had to look  
that they did things like that.

193  
00:09:57,110 --> 00:10:03,220  
And I think that we  
didn't got insane it

194  
00:10:03,220 --> 00:10:08,180  
was because we had each, Chaim  
and I. We were always together.

195  
00:10:08,180 --> 00:10:08,680  
We tried.

196  
00:10:08,680 --> 00:10:10,240  
Not when we worked,  
most of the time

197  
00:10:10,240 --> 00:10:12,280  
in daytime, when we  
had to go in the woods.

198  
00:10:12,280 --> 00:10:14,290  
But then I was a

worry if I was here.

199

00:10:14,290 --> 00:10:17,050

Once we were on a roll call.

200

00:10:17,050 --> 00:10:21,010

And there was  
somebody had run away.

201

00:10:21,010 --> 00:10:26,110

So every 10 people, they  
took out of the roll call.

202

00:10:26,110 --> 00:10:27,610

And Chaim was number nine.

203

00:10:27,610 --> 00:10:29,980

And I was standing  
there, you know.

204

00:10:29,980 --> 00:10:33,430

You were always,  
always in danger.

205

00:10:33,430 --> 00:10:37,120

Many times, we had to stay  
the whole night on roll call

206

00:10:37,120 --> 00:10:40,270

because there was a dog or  
cat run on one of the mines,

207

00:10:40,270 --> 00:10:42,130

and they thought  
that we ran away.

208

00:10:42,130 --> 00:10:46,560

And Chaim and I, we always  
tried to stay together.

209

00:10:46,560 --> 00:10:54,130

And I think that that made us  
that we are, we stayed sane.

210  
00:10:54,130 --> 00:10:55,900  
I really think that  
saved our life.

211  
00:10:55,900 --> 00:10:58,650

212  
00:10:58,650 --> 00:11:01,260  
Before the war, tell me about--

213  
00:11:01,260 --> 00:11:01,760  
OK.

214  
00:11:01,760 --> 00:11:07,120

215  
00:11:07,120 --> 00:11:08,520  
Just one more.

216  
00:11:08,520 --> 00:11:09,020  
Good.

217  
00:11:09,020 --> 00:11:17,170

218  
00:11:17,170 --> 00:11:20,560  
I want you to tell  
me about the choices

219  
00:11:20,560 --> 00:11:26,080  
that you think the Germans and  
the Lithuanians had as guards.

220  
00:11:26,080 --> 00:11:27,070  
How do you mean?

221  
00:11:27,070 --> 00:11:30,010  
Did they do things of  
their own free will?

222

00:11:30,010 --> 00:11:31,660  
Or were they following orders?

223  
00:11:31,660 --> 00:11:36,790  
And then what choices  
did the Jews have?

224  
00:11:36,790 --> 00:11:39,700  
The Germans could do  
with us what they want.

225  
00:11:39,700 --> 00:11:42,460  
They had no orders whatsoever.

226  
00:11:42,460 --> 00:11:45,790  
They could kill us, they could  
harm us, they could punish us,

227  
00:11:45,790 --> 00:11:48,700  
they could do  
anything they wanted.

228  
00:11:48,700 --> 00:11:50,800  
The Ukrainians, I  
don't know much about.

229  
00:11:50,800 --> 00:11:53,860  
Because I didn't  
speak Polish and I

230  
00:11:53,860 --> 00:11:55,420  
couldn't talk with them at all.

231  
00:11:55,420 --> 00:11:57,370  
And they were always  
more on the outside.

232  
00:11:57,370 --> 00:11:59,900  
I really don't  
remember much about it.

233  
00:11:59,900 --> 00:12:05,500  
But they were also

such antisemites.

234

00:12:05,500 --> 00:12:07,060

They were there at free will.

235

00:12:07,060 --> 00:12:10,660

And the Germans were in Sobibor  
because of the free will.

236

00:12:10,660 --> 00:12:11,980

They didn't have to come.

237

00:12:11,980 --> 00:12:16,540

They didn't have to go in  
the war fighting on the front

238

00:12:16,540 --> 00:12:18,320

when they went to a  
concentration camp.

239

00:12:18,320 --> 00:12:20,035

So they went by  
themselves to the SS.

240

00:12:20,035 --> 00:12:22,540

241

00:12:22,540 --> 00:12:26,140

The Germans, they had free will.

242

00:12:26,140 --> 00:12:28,450

They could do anything.

243

00:12:28,450 --> 00:12:30,160

And they did.

244

00:12:30,160 --> 00:12:35,470

That was their biggest  
pleasure, to tell each other

245

00:12:35,470 --> 00:12:36,340

that we killed--

246  
00:12:36,340 --> 00:12:39,010  
one of the SSes  
told once that he

247  
00:12:39,010 --> 00:12:42,190  
could kill-- he had a  
very big whip made--

248  
00:12:42,190 --> 00:12:45,550  
that he could kill a Jew  
in 10 whips instead of 40

249  
00:12:45,550 --> 00:12:48,580  
for somebody else or 50.

250  
00:12:48,580 --> 00:12:52,960  
And once, he had a  
friend so telling

251  
00:12:52,960 --> 00:12:58,510  
that he shows babies in the fire  
from the transports what they

252  
00:12:58,510 --> 00:13:01,900  
came on, what was too much  
work to put them, perhaps,

253  
00:13:01,900 --> 00:13:04,900  
in the gas chamber.

254  
00:13:04,900 --> 00:13:06,940  
They could do  
anything they want.

255  
00:13:06,940 --> 00:13:14,620  
There was not such a thing  
humanity in these Germans

256  
00:13:14,620 --> 00:13:15,130  
at all.

257

00:13:15,130 --> 00:13:18,760  
Perhaps one what  
give me the boots.

258  
00:13:18,760 --> 00:13:25,960  
But like Frenzel,  
and Wagner, and Wolf

259  
00:13:25,960 --> 00:13:28,540  
what was sometimes nice to us.

260  
00:13:28,540 --> 00:13:30,880  
Also he was eating  
bread and he said,

261  
00:13:30,880 --> 00:13:32,560  
you would like to have a piece?

262  
00:13:32,560 --> 00:13:35,170  
And we say no most of the time.

263  
00:13:35,170 --> 00:13:38,410  
And they let us singing  
and dancing all the time

264  
00:13:38,410 --> 00:13:39,790  
when the fire was there.

265  
00:13:39,790 --> 00:13:40,960  
We had to do.

266  
00:13:40,960 --> 00:13:46,870  
No, I don't think there was one  
decency in these people's blood

267  
00:13:46,870 --> 00:13:48,460  
whatsoever.

268  
00:13:48,460 --> 00:13:50,430  
But I don't.

269  
00:13:50,430 --> 00:13:54,490

In the Ukraine, I don't  
know much about it.

270  
00:13:54,490 --> 00:13:56,650  
The Polish Jews,  
they know more about

271  
00:13:56,650 --> 00:14:00,280  
that because they could  
talk to their language.

272  
00:14:00,280 --> 00:14:01,268  
What about the Jews?

273  
00:14:01,268 --> 00:14:02,185  
Did they have choices?

274  
00:14:02,185 --> 00:14:05,060

275  
00:14:05,060 --> 00:14:07,730  
Talk about the choice to  
leave or not to leave.

276  
00:14:07,730 --> 00:14:09,030  
No, it was no choice.

277  
00:14:09,030 --> 00:14:11,520  
We had no choice for anything.

278  
00:14:11,520 --> 00:14:12,710  
We had no choice.

279  
00:14:12,710 --> 00:14:15,633  
I remember once, I walked.

280  
00:14:15,633 --> 00:14:16,550  
I don't know how come.

281  
00:14:16,550 --> 00:14:18,410  
I walked by myself.



282

00:14:18,410 --> 00:14:21,140

And I saw people from my  
hometown sitting there

283

00:14:21,140 --> 00:14:24,845

on the side, the  
cantor from our temple.

284

00:14:24,845 --> 00:14:25,970

And then I saw [INAUDIBLE].

285

00:14:25,970 --> 00:14:26,790

I say hi to them.

286

00:14:26,790 --> 00:14:28,910

And then I remember, I  
better don't say anything

287

00:14:28,910 --> 00:14:30,640

whenever he say hi to me.

288

00:14:30,640 --> 00:14:33,890

Then they will say, oh,  
you want to sit there, too?

289

00:14:33,890 --> 00:14:38,360

And that's the end of me.

290

00:14:38,360 --> 00:14:41,130

We didn't have anything.

291

00:14:41,130 --> 00:14:45,710

We just were like a  
hoarder of sheeps.

292

00:14:45,710 --> 00:14:48,650

And we had to do  
everything what they say.

293

00:14:48,650 --> 00:14:49,510

And god forbid.

294

00:14:49,510 --> 00:14:50,300

We did.

295

00:14:50,300 --> 00:14:52,850

We tried to do everything  
what the Germans say.

296

00:14:52,850 --> 00:14:57,020

I remember once, also  
through a window,

297

00:14:57,020 --> 00:15:01,320

that I saw a whole family  
from my hometown walking.

298

00:15:01,320 --> 00:15:05,530

Whole family-- father,  
mother, and children.

299

00:15:05,530 --> 00:15:10,460

And I just made sure that  
they wouldn't see me.

300

00:15:10,460 --> 00:15:14,940

When they would have seen  
me, what would I have said?

301

00:15:14,940 --> 00:15:18,300

And I know that I see  
them still walking.

302

00:15:18,300 --> 00:15:21,300

And after the years,  
I forgot the names.

303

00:15:21,300 --> 00:15:24,850

Many times, I saw  
people what I know

304

00:15:24,850 --> 00:15:30,000

from face walking to the death.

305

00:15:30,000 --> 00:15:31,900  
We didn't have anything  
to say in the camp.

306  
00:15:31,900 --> 00:15:32,400  
Nothing.

307  
00:15:32,400 --> 00:15:35,400  
We just made sure that we  
were always in the background

308  
00:15:35,400 --> 00:15:36,630  
and that we didn't--

309  
00:15:36,630 --> 00:15:39,750  
and especially Chaim always  
told me, be in the background.

310  
00:15:39,750 --> 00:15:43,000  
Don't let them know who you are.

311  
00:15:43,000 --> 00:15:45,160  
And we tried that  
so much as possible.

312  
00:15:45,160 --> 00:15:49,830  
And I think that was  
one of the things

313  
00:15:49,830 --> 00:15:53,790  
that we were safe, that we were  
not [? martled ?] to death.

314  
00:15:53,790 --> 00:15:57,720  
Because a lot of them were  
[? martled ?] to death.

315  
00:15:57,720 --> 00:15:59,550  
Especially Dutch people.

316  
00:15:59,550 --> 00:16:05,800  
But somehow-- they saved a  
lot the Dutch women, the women

317  
00:16:05,800 --> 00:16:07,920  
somehow.

318  
00:16:07,920 --> 00:16:11,610  
The men was more  
in danger always.

319  
00:16:11,610 --> 00:16:14,550  
And Chaim always  
tried to push me.

320  
00:16:14,550 --> 00:16:18,360  
When I'm already  
quickly go in the front,

321  
00:16:18,360 --> 00:16:20,400  
and do things, and  
come up for people.

322  
00:16:20,400 --> 00:16:22,770  
But he always told me, stay  
out of it, stay out of it,

323  
00:16:22,770 --> 00:16:23,730  
leave it alone.

324  
00:16:23,730 --> 00:16:25,970  
And you couldn't  
do anything anyway.

325  
00:16:25,970 --> 00:16:28,260  
There was nothing  
that we could do.

326  
00:16:28,260 --> 00:16:29,400  
You could nothing do.

327  
00:16:29,400 --> 00:16:30,990  
Was nothing, nothing.

328  
00:16:30,990 --> 00:16:32,790

You had to just take  
care of yourself

329  
00:16:32,790 --> 00:16:36,920  
and to sabotage  
against the Germans.

330  
00:16:36,920 --> 00:16:38,650  
Whatever to sabotage.

331  
00:16:38,650 --> 00:16:40,970  
Where we once were in  
the camp where we slept,

332  
00:16:40,970 --> 00:16:42,420  
that then was the  
only thing what

333  
00:16:42,420 --> 00:16:43,962  
you could do, stay  
in the background,

334  
00:16:43,962 --> 00:16:47,810  
and don't show yourself  
so much in the front.

335  
00:16:47,810 --> 00:16:49,040  
That's all.

336  
00:16:49,040 --> 00:16:54,110  
Before the war, can you tell  
me about the J on the passport,

337  
00:16:54,110 --> 00:16:56,480  
and how the underground  
removed yours?

338  
00:16:56,480 --> 00:16:58,208  
And then how you got found out?

339  
00:16:58,208 --> 00:16:59,000  
Tell me the whole--

340

00:16:59,000 --> 00:17:03,890

I don't remember much how  
they did it at the time.

341

00:17:03,890 --> 00:17:06,869

When I was home.

342

00:17:06,869 --> 00:17:09,990

And there came a Catholic  
priest what lived in our street.

343

00:17:09,990 --> 00:17:14,589

And he came to me and  
he say, how do you

344

00:17:14,589 --> 00:17:16,089

think you can save your life?

345

00:17:16,089 --> 00:17:21,910

And I say to him, the only way  
is it that I be as a non-Jew,

346

00:17:21,910 --> 00:17:23,859

that somebody takes me up.

347

00:17:23,859 --> 00:17:26,500

And somebody else came to pick  
me up early in the morning.

348

00:17:26,500 --> 00:17:28,900

That was a coincidence,  
my English teacher.

349

00:17:28,900 --> 00:17:32,320

And he picked me up early  
in the morning at 5 o'clock,

350

00:17:32,320 --> 00:17:34,810

and we went with the bicycle,  
and that was the last time

351

00:17:34,810 --> 00:17:39,180

that I saw my mother and  
my brothers, my family.

352  
00:17:39,180 --> 00:17:41,080  
I never saw them again.

353  
00:17:41,080 --> 00:17:46,080  
And I think I came to a  
nurse from my hometown.

354  
00:17:46,080 --> 00:17:48,350  
De Groot was her name.

355  
00:17:48,350 --> 00:17:51,620  
And she drew her--

356  
00:17:51,620 --> 00:17:54,050  
she knows when she was  
in the underground.

357  
00:17:54,050 --> 00:17:58,160  
And through her, they took  
the J from my passport.

358  
00:17:58,160 --> 00:18:03,340  
Because that's the only way  
that I was by a woman what was--

359  
00:18:03,340 --> 00:18:04,760  
where she was good.

360  
00:18:04,760 --> 00:18:07,610

361  
00:18:07,610 --> 00:18:12,524  
I went after three months  
of hiding with her.

362  
00:18:12,524 --> 00:18:14,150  
She took a whole family in.

363  
00:18:14,150 --> 00:18:16,340

And I had to go  
to another family.

364  
00:18:16,340 --> 00:18:19,610

And the other family  
were traitors,

365  
00:18:19,610 --> 00:18:21,140  
what I found out after the war.

366  
00:18:21,140 --> 00:18:22,250  
I didn't know.

367  
00:18:22,250 --> 00:18:26,130  
And I was hidden  
there three months.

368  
00:18:26,130 --> 00:18:30,530  
And they had 28  
Jews hidden there.

369  
00:18:30,530 --> 00:18:31,550  
And they all got caught.

370  
00:18:31,550 --> 00:18:33,050  
And they didn't do  
anything to them.

371  
00:18:33,050 --> 00:18:35,930

372  
00:18:35,930 --> 00:18:40,850  
And you want to tell you  
about how I was caught?

373  
00:18:40,850 --> 00:18:42,890  
OK.

374  
00:18:42,890 --> 00:18:45,830  
When I was hidden there, I was  
all alone always in the house.

375



00:18:45,830 --> 00:18:47,960  
And I was 19 years old.

376  
00:18:47,960 --> 00:18:49,850  
And I was very depressed.

377  
00:18:49,850 --> 00:18:51,820  
And had to clean the house.

378  
00:18:51,820 --> 00:18:52,720  
I was the maid there.

379  
00:18:52,720 --> 00:18:54,600  
And I was a spoiled  
brat from home.

380  
00:18:54,600 --> 00:18:55,880  
I never had to do anything.

381  
00:18:55,880 --> 00:18:57,740  
And I had to do  
everything there.

382  
00:18:57,740 --> 00:18:59,810  
And they went away  
the whole day.

383  
00:18:59,810 --> 00:19:01,850  
And I didn't get  
anything to eat.

384  
00:19:01,850 --> 00:19:04,520  
And there was not  
much food in Holland.

385  
00:19:04,520 --> 00:19:08,270  
It was really just  
starting to get no food,

386  
00:19:08,270 --> 00:19:10,970  
and people were very hungry.

387

00:19:10,970 --> 00:19:14,930  
And I was alone.

388  
00:19:14,930 --> 00:19:17,875  
And there was in the  
street where a lawyer there

389  
00:19:17,875 --> 00:19:19,550  
were Jewish people hidden.

390  
00:19:19,550 --> 00:19:21,810  
And after that I was  
there a few months,

391  
00:19:21,810 --> 00:19:24,990  
they say I could go  
there and visit him.

392  
00:19:24,990 --> 00:19:28,430  
And when the minute I  
come in, the Germans come.

393  
00:19:28,430 --> 00:19:31,040  
Sort of was that somebody  
told the Germans.

394  
00:19:31,040 --> 00:19:35,150  
And the Germans-- and the  
police, the Dutch police came.

395  
00:19:35,150 --> 00:19:37,940

396  
00:19:37,940 --> 00:19:40,730  
And when I was there,  
I say to them--

397  
00:19:40,730 --> 00:19:42,110  
they asked me the passport.

398  
00:19:42,110 --> 00:19:43,670  
And I show my passport.

399

00:19:43,670 --> 00:19:46,880

And I say, oh, I am a  
nurse, and I come here

400

00:19:46,880 --> 00:19:48,290

to help these people.

401

00:19:48,290 --> 00:19:50,450

And they hold my  
passport to the light.

402

00:19:50,450 --> 00:19:57,150

And the light they saw there  
was a J from Jew was in there.

403

00:19:57,150 --> 00:20:00,410

And so there was nothing  
what they could do.

404

00:20:00,410 --> 00:20:02,840

So they right away took me.

405

00:20:02,840 --> 00:20:05,440

And also the family  
what was there

406

00:20:05,440 --> 00:20:08,180

was a father, and  
mother, and two children.

407

00:20:08,180 --> 00:20:09,530

And they all had asthma.

408

00:20:09,530 --> 00:20:11,480

I remember they were so sick.

409

00:20:11,480 --> 00:20:14,720

Asthma comes up when  
they are nervous.

410

00:20:14,720 --> 00:20:16,310

And they were so sick.

411  
00:20:16,310 --> 00:20:19,850  
And the woman where  
they were hidden

412  
00:20:19,850 --> 00:20:22,470  
was an older lady  
from 80 years old.

413  
00:20:22,470 --> 00:20:25,520  
So the Germans asked  
me where I was hidden.

414  
00:20:25,520 --> 00:20:30,570  
And I didn't want to tell  
them because the day before

415  
00:20:30,570 --> 00:20:33,720  
was came another Jewish  
family and living upstairs.

416  
00:20:33,720 --> 00:20:37,200  
And I thought when they find out  
that I was caught, that perhaps

417  
00:20:37,200 --> 00:20:38,670  
they have a chance to get away.

418  
00:20:38,670 --> 00:20:41,400  
And that was happened.

419  
00:20:41,400 --> 00:20:46,260  
They somehow got to know  
that the German took us,

420  
00:20:46,260 --> 00:20:47,790  
of the police.

421  
00:20:47,790 --> 00:20:51,240  
And they had time to get away.

422  
00:20:51,240 --> 00:20:56,070

They, after the war, they  
sent me a letter that thanks.

423  
00:20:56,070 --> 00:21:00,750  
But the women were, the older  
lady when we were caught,

424  
00:21:00,750 --> 00:21:03,450  
she told the Germans  
where I was hidden.

425  
00:21:03,450 --> 00:21:07,005  
And they went later over  
there and they took--

426  
00:21:07,005 --> 00:21:09,120  
what it was, I  
don't know exactly.

427  
00:21:09,120 --> 00:21:12,000  
I went down to Utrecht  
in the police station.

428  
00:21:12,000 --> 00:21:14,290  
And I stayed there eight days.

429  
00:21:14,290 --> 00:21:17,970  
And I had a chance to get away.

430  
00:21:17,970 --> 00:21:19,760  
But somehow, I didn't.

431  
00:21:19,760 --> 00:21:21,660  
I didn't want to go away.

432  
00:21:21,660 --> 00:21:23,330  
First of all, I had no money.

433  
00:21:23,330 --> 00:21:26,060  
And I thought, I didn't know  
the underground was already

434

00:21:26,060 --> 00:21:27,080  
that strong.

435  
00:21:27,080 --> 00:21:32,650  
And I didn't want to go out.

436  
00:21:32,650 --> 00:21:35,390  
The police gave me  
little note that say,

437  
00:21:35,390 --> 00:21:37,020  
your brother like  
to take you out.

438  
00:21:37,020 --> 00:21:38,480  
Your brother like  
to take you out.

439  
00:21:38,480 --> 00:21:40,640  
And I didn't get along  
with my sister-in-law.

440  
00:21:40,640 --> 00:21:41,960  
She's still alive.

441  
00:21:41,960 --> 00:21:43,910  
I didn't get along  
with my sister-in-law.

442  
00:21:43,910 --> 00:21:45,530  
And I visit once my brother.

443  
00:21:45,530 --> 00:21:48,230  
And they were locked up in a  
little room with the two kids,

444  
00:21:48,230 --> 00:21:51,020  
and it was dirty,  
and it was miserable.

445  
00:21:51,020 --> 00:21:54,230  
And I say, I'd rather go  
to my mother in Poland

446  
00:21:54,230 --> 00:21:56,660  
than go to my brother  
when I get out.

447  
00:21:56,660 --> 00:22:00,860  
I have to go to my brother  
and be there and help him

448  
00:22:00,860 --> 00:22:02,120  
with the little kids.

449  
00:22:02,120 --> 00:22:05,440  
I didn't know there was a gas  
chamber or something like that.

450  
00:22:05,440 --> 00:22:07,880  
I say, I go rather to  
my mother in Poland

451  
00:22:07,880 --> 00:22:12,560  
than I be locked up  
with my brother there.

452  
00:22:12,560 --> 00:22:17,030  
So I didn't get out  
of the police station.

453  
00:22:17,030 --> 00:22:22,730  
And from there, they sent me,  
we were in Amsterdam in jail.

454  
00:22:22,730 --> 00:22:24,770  
In three months, I was in jail.

455  
00:22:24,770 --> 00:22:29,240  
And we were with 10  
women in a little room.

456  
00:22:29,240 --> 00:22:31,880  
And it was very interesting  
because everybody

457

00:22:31,880 --> 00:22:32,930  
tells the life story.

458

00:22:32,930 --> 00:22:35,210  
And they were all-- one  
was a professor's wife,

459

00:22:35,210 --> 00:22:37,690  
and one was a girl from the  
street, and one was that.

460

00:22:37,690 --> 00:22:42,890  
And it was-- we didn't  
feel any danger.

461

00:22:42,890 --> 00:22:49,100  
And anyway, I didn't  
think anything.

462

00:22:49,100 --> 00:22:51,560  
And we got my family  
from Amsterdam

463

00:22:51,560 --> 00:22:54,230  
where we were sent me  
sometimes packages.

464

00:22:54,230 --> 00:22:59,480  
And one of the guards would open  
the door, recognized somehow

465

00:22:59,480 --> 00:23:05,870  
that my brother was in hotel  
school, and that she knows him.

466

00:23:05,870 --> 00:23:07,850  
And from that time out,  
we can double food.

467

00:23:07,850 --> 00:23:11,120  
All of us in the  
cell got extra food.



468

00:23:11,120 --> 00:23:16,460

So we didn't have it  
that bad in the jail.

469

00:23:16,460 --> 00:23:19,430

It was-- we had to  
walk every morning.

470

00:23:19,430 --> 00:23:21,950

So like you see in the  
Sing Sing where they always

471

00:23:21,950 --> 00:23:24,110

saw sometimes movies from.

472

00:23:24,110 --> 00:23:25,910

And we stayed there--

473

00:23:25,910 --> 00:23:27,360

I stayed there three months.

474

00:23:27,360 --> 00:23:31,010

And then I went out of there.

475

00:23:31,010 --> 00:23:33,140

And we went to a  
concentration camp.

476

00:23:33,140 --> 00:23:37,760

And in the office, I met a  
whole bunch of Dutch girls.

477

00:23:37,760 --> 00:23:42,650

I met these Dutch girls, we  
stayed together till Sobibor.

478

00:23:42,650 --> 00:23:46,490

And from there,  
we went to Vught.

479

00:23:46,490 --> 00:23:49,820

We were in a concentration

camp in Holland three months.

480  
00:23:49,820 --> 00:23:51,920  
And I was also very lucky.

481  
00:23:51,920 --> 00:23:53,900  
There comes a man  
to me, and he say,

482  
00:23:53,900 --> 00:23:56,630  
are not the daughter  
from the Weinberg

483  
00:23:56,630 --> 00:23:58,280  
from the hotel in Zwolle?

484  
00:23:58,280 --> 00:23:59,420  
And I say, yes.

485  
00:23:59,420 --> 00:24:01,140  
Said he, I have a job for you.

486  
00:24:01,140 --> 00:24:03,590  
And he was there,  
a big shot already,

487  
00:24:03,590 --> 00:24:05,750  
and the camp was just opened.

488  
00:24:05,750 --> 00:24:12,110  
And he give me a job sorting  
clothes in the laundromat.

489  
00:24:12,110 --> 00:24:15,160  
And I worked in the laundromat.

490  
00:24:15,160 --> 00:24:18,700  
And it was very good  
because I was there.

491  
00:24:18,700 --> 00:24:21,850  
I had to tell people

what they had to do.

492

00:24:21,850 --> 00:24:24,130

And I could get away  
from there, too.

493

00:24:24,130 --> 00:24:26,040

I could have gone  
in the laundry room,

494

00:24:26,040 --> 00:24:30,830

in the baskets sit in very easy.

495

00:24:30,830 --> 00:24:34,840

But I didn't know that there  
was an underground in Holland.

496

00:24:34,840 --> 00:24:35,980

And I didn't have money.

497

00:24:35,980 --> 00:24:38,380

When I would have had  
some money in my pocket,

498

00:24:38,380 --> 00:24:40,750

I would have done it.

499

00:24:40,750 --> 00:24:43,420

But I thought, when I come  
out of here, where do I go?

500

00:24:43,420 --> 00:24:46,380

They could right  
away see I'm Jewish.

501

00:24:46,380 --> 00:24:48,682

And I don't know why  
I thought this way

502

00:24:48,682 --> 00:24:50,890

that they right away could  
have seen that I'm Jewish.

503

00:24:50,890 --> 00:24:51,807

That's what I thought.

504

00:24:51,807 --> 00:24:53,980

Because in my hometown  
was a not so big town,

505

00:24:53,980 --> 00:24:57,040

they would have right  
away recognized me.

506

00:24:57,040 --> 00:25:02,290

And so from there out,  
after three months,

507

00:25:02,290 --> 00:25:04,530

I went to Westerbork.

508

00:25:04,530 --> 00:25:08,090

And in Westerbork,  
I told the story.