

1
00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:04,690

2
00:00:04,690 --> 00:00:08,480
You were talking about
liberation and the American GIs

3
00:00:08,480 --> 00:00:10,820
trying to get you some meat.

4
00:00:10,820 --> 00:00:13,480
They went out to shoot a deer.

5
00:00:13,480 --> 00:00:17,230
They found in the kitchen
some of their comrades

6
00:00:17,230 --> 00:00:22,300
who was able to skin it and
clean it and prepare it.

7
00:00:22,300 --> 00:00:25,420
And they brought it
like, here's dinner.

8
00:00:25,420 --> 00:00:30,843

9
00:00:30,843 --> 00:00:35,700
The people of the
city were ordered to--

10
00:00:35,700 --> 00:00:41,880
everybody bring some cooked
food to a certain place

11
00:00:41,880 --> 00:00:44,040
where we were fed.

12
00:00:44,040 --> 00:00:51,840
So everybody brought a

huge [INAUDIBLE] with that.

13

00:00:51,840 --> 00:00:53,760

They threw it together,
mixed it together.

14

00:00:53,760 --> 00:00:55,210

It was wonderful.

15

00:00:55,210 --> 00:00:57,700

It was all the veggies in it.

16

00:00:57,700 --> 00:00:59,820

Somewhere, sometime,
probably even

17

00:00:59,820 --> 00:01:08,030

some meat or bone or
whatever, give it smells.

18

00:01:08,030 --> 00:01:12,350

And of course, now they
came with the questions

19

00:01:12,350 --> 00:01:14,430

of what our needs are.

20

00:01:14,430 --> 00:01:15,680

They know they cannot do more.

21

00:01:15,680 --> 00:01:19,880

But we had to get normal rooms.

22

00:01:19,880 --> 00:01:23,420

And the post office was
cleared away for us.

23

00:01:23,420 --> 00:01:26,810

And across the post
office was a hotel,

24

00:01:26,810 --> 00:01:28,460

and that was cleaned out for us.

25

00:01:28,460 --> 00:01:32,460

And the Germans were
made us [INAUDIBLE]..

26

00:01:32,460 --> 00:01:35,970

But they were to clean
for us and cook for us,

27

00:01:35,970 --> 00:01:39,460

which they didn't like to do.

28

00:01:39,460 --> 00:01:43,270

And we didn't like their food.

29

00:01:43,270 --> 00:01:45,570

But now we started
to be strong enough

30

00:01:45,570 --> 00:01:48,450

to have opinion
about food, you know.

31

00:01:48,450 --> 00:01:52,600

And they left
there until August.

32

00:01:52,600 --> 00:01:55,510

The American soldiers
were not allowed

33

00:01:55,510 --> 00:01:59,200

to mix with Germans,
with German girls.

34

00:01:59,200 --> 00:02:00,820

They couldn't see any.

35

00:02:00,820 --> 00:02:05,770

They were not allowed to
meet the Russian POWs.

36

00:02:05,770 --> 00:02:10,660

So only the
Jewish-Hungarian refugees

37

00:02:10,660 --> 00:02:12,850

were partners for them.

38

00:02:12,850 --> 00:02:15,790

So they were allowed to
make dances and invite

39

00:02:15,790 --> 00:02:18,070

us to go to dances.

40

00:02:18,070 --> 00:02:20,410

And of course, that meant
that we made friends.

41

00:02:20,410 --> 00:02:22,840

And they brought the cigarette
and brought some food.

42

00:02:22,840 --> 00:02:31,000

And they had resting groups
close to the outskirt

43

00:02:31,000 --> 00:02:39,250

of Friedberg where they
could go to the beach, too.

44

00:02:39,250 --> 00:02:40,960

And on the beach,
there was no one

45

00:02:40,960 --> 00:02:43,780

allowed to go up
with them but us.

46

00:02:43,780 --> 00:02:48,560

Not the Germans, not who lived
there, nothing, nobody, but we.

47

00:02:48,560 --> 00:02:50,950

So there I will have to
tell you fast this story.

48

00:02:50,950 --> 00:02:54,940

Because this is a good one.

49

00:02:54,940 --> 00:02:59,440

There was a man
on the pool side,

50

00:02:59,440 --> 00:03:05,750

sitting all completely
dressed, up to his--

51

00:03:05,750 --> 00:03:09,350

everything on him and
was sitting there alone

52

00:03:09,350 --> 00:03:12,800

and looking ahead of
him and doing nothing.

53

00:03:12,800 --> 00:03:18,840

And all the rest was enjoying
the rest and the sun.

54

00:03:18,840 --> 00:03:22,520

So it didn't take too long
that my friends were pushing

55

00:03:22,520 --> 00:03:24,830

me to go and talk to him.

56

00:03:24,830 --> 00:03:29,570

It turned out that he was
Ralph Katz from Cleveland.

57

00:03:29,570 --> 00:03:34,580

He had gas stations.

58

00:03:34,580 --> 00:03:38,160

When he had to

leave his wife home,

59

00:03:38,160 --> 00:03:41,580

they had their son
the day before.

60

00:03:41,580 --> 00:03:45,870

He was allowed to go to the
hospital to see them once.

61

00:03:45,870 --> 00:03:49,950

And right after that,
they got on the ship

62

00:03:49,950 --> 00:03:53,250

and went over, shipped out.

63

00:03:53,250 --> 00:03:56,910

So he didn't have another
chance to see his wife and child

64

00:03:56,910 --> 00:03:58,860

but that one, that
little son of his.

65

00:03:58,860 --> 00:04:01,790

66

00:04:01,790 --> 00:04:06,490

And he was crying
on our shoulder.

67

00:04:06,490 --> 00:04:10,390

We were crying on his shoulder,
which he had wonderful about.

68

00:04:10,390 --> 00:04:12,170

He never had sisters.

69

00:04:12,170 --> 00:04:16,310

His mother always wanted to
have daughters and never had.

70

00:04:16,310 --> 00:04:20,839

And as we became more and more
friends during this summer,

71

00:04:20,839 --> 00:04:23,960

he kept coming
practically daily to us.

72

00:04:23,960 --> 00:04:27,530

He came to ask first the
war to try to make it Friday

73

00:04:27,530 --> 00:04:29,660

night for him.

74

00:04:29,660 --> 00:04:31,570

So he brought that
blessing from the PX.

75

00:04:31,570 --> 00:04:35,690

He brought from the candles or
from the challah you name it,

76

00:04:35,690 --> 00:04:37,730

everything, the
soup in the big can.

77

00:04:37,730 --> 00:04:40,610

78

00:04:40,610 --> 00:04:43,320

And we had holiday.

79

00:04:43,320 --> 00:04:45,660

And we were crying
into his handkerchiefs.

80

00:04:45,660 --> 00:04:49,310

So he had to buy handkerchiefs,
handkerchiefs, handkerchiefs,

81

00:04:49,310 --> 00:04:53,350

because we need lots
of handkerchiefs.

82
00:04:53,350 --> 00:04:56,950
And we became so close
friends that he was asking me,

83
00:04:56,950 --> 00:05:00,100
and my camp sister, who
was in the same room

84
00:05:00,100 --> 00:05:06,310
with me, that we should
go to be his sisters,

85
00:05:06,310 --> 00:05:08,710
go to live with his mother.

86
00:05:08,710 --> 00:05:14,560
And he will guarantee
he will marry us off.

87
00:05:14,560 --> 00:05:17,080
It was awful hard for him
to understand that we still

88
00:05:17,080 --> 00:05:18,500
hope to see our husbands.

89
00:05:18,500 --> 00:05:25,160
So we will go back to Hungary
and not straight to America.

90
00:05:25,160 --> 00:05:32,070
And then, from Hungary, I wrote
him when I got married to Andy.

91
00:05:32,070 --> 00:05:35,250
Probably not even then,
but right after that,

92
00:05:35,250 --> 00:05:37,290
when I was already pregnant.

93
00:05:37,290 --> 00:05:37,900
Yes.

94
00:05:37,900 --> 00:05:42,880
And I asked him if they have
any of the baby things leftover

95
00:05:42,880 --> 00:05:45,940
after their first baby,
I would very appreciate.

96
00:05:45,940 --> 00:05:49,550
Because there's practically
nothing available here.

97
00:05:49,550 --> 00:05:51,970
Then I didn't hear of them.

98
00:05:51,970 --> 00:05:54,370
I know that in
November he went back.

99
00:05:54,370 --> 00:05:56,420
He gave address and what not.

100
00:05:56,420 --> 00:05:58,120
So that's where we wrote.

101
00:05:58,120 --> 00:06:02,640
And we also sent a picture, my
girlfriend and me, two of us

102
00:06:02,640 --> 00:06:04,950
on the picture.

103
00:06:04,950 --> 00:06:06,570
That was later.

104
00:06:06,570 --> 00:06:09,520
Because that ended everything.

105

00:06:09,520 --> 00:06:15,520

The package what came
in was this large.

106

00:06:15,520 --> 00:06:19,000

I was seven months pregnant when
that arrived in [INAUDIBLE]..

107

00:06:19,000 --> 00:06:23,640

It was some 80 pounds, huge.

108

00:06:23,640 --> 00:06:25,900

There was one piece
on the top of it,

109

00:06:25,900 --> 00:06:31,830

what was a used piece, which
was kind of christening outfit.

110

00:06:31,830 --> 00:06:36,630

All the rest was packed
in a department store.

111

00:06:36,630 --> 00:06:39,680

And the department store
paper was put on top of it.

112

00:06:39,680 --> 00:06:41,310

And they [INAUDIBLE].

113

00:06:41,310 --> 00:06:42,900

They sent me a robe.

114

00:06:42,900 --> 00:06:44,015

They sent me slippers.

115

00:06:44,015 --> 00:06:46,890

116

00:06:46,890 --> 00:06:53,190

And we sent this picture to him.

117

00:06:53,190 --> 00:06:57,250

And by then, he wrote
of another baby.

118

00:06:57,250 --> 00:06:58,350

They have the second one.

119

00:06:58,350 --> 00:07:01,670

120

00:07:01,670 --> 00:07:04,790

So Andy and I, when we
started to physically

121

00:07:04,790 --> 00:07:09,080

be in better shape,
we bought something.

122

00:07:09,080 --> 00:07:11,750

But we thought it's
a nice gift item.

123

00:07:11,750 --> 00:07:13,250

And we had mailed it.

124

00:07:13,250 --> 00:07:18,980

We had two of it, one to his
mother and one to his wife.

125

00:07:18,980 --> 00:07:23,430

Not ever since then I
got a word from them.

126

00:07:23,430 --> 00:07:26,550

Either they got hurt that I
want to pay back what they did,

127

00:07:26,550 --> 00:07:29,160

or God knows what,
now I don't need,

128

00:07:29,160 --> 00:07:33,060

or the wife became jealous
because seeing our pictures.

129
00:07:33,060 --> 00:07:40,250
Now we are turned around
from what Ralph had seen.

130
00:07:40,250 --> 00:07:42,900
And I can very well
imagine that she did not

131
00:07:42,900 --> 00:07:45,540
like that friendship.

132
00:07:45,540 --> 00:07:50,190
And since we are not going
to become his sisters,

133
00:07:50,190 --> 00:07:52,530
I got married and
my girlfriend got

134
00:07:52,530 --> 00:07:56,790
married at the same time,
same day, under the same huppa

135
00:07:56,790 --> 00:08:01,760
And we did not go to them.

136
00:08:01,760 --> 00:08:06,140
But the men there on
that poor side, fully

137
00:08:06,140 --> 00:08:10,850
dressed because he's an Orthodox
Jew, he wouldn't get undressed.

138
00:08:10,850 --> 00:08:14,870
So you stayed till--

139
00:08:14,870 --> 00:08:16,220
how long did you stay?

140

00:08:16,220 --> 00:08:17,640

Well, it was August--

141

00:08:17,640 --> 00:08:19,250

beginning of August
when we came home.

142

00:08:19,250 --> 00:08:23,060

Not because we wanted to
stay, but because Hungary

143

00:08:23,060 --> 00:08:25,400

didn't ask for us.

144

00:08:25,400 --> 00:08:28,760

Now, some of our group
were from Yugoslavia.

145

00:08:28,760 --> 00:08:31,090

The Yugoslavs had
asked for the Jews.

146

00:08:31,090 --> 00:08:35,900

And for them buses
were given by the army.

147

00:08:35,900 --> 00:08:38,809

And somebody, a
young officer who

148

00:08:38,809 --> 00:08:42,409

wanted to find his
relatives in Theresienstadt,

149

00:08:42,409 --> 00:08:50,140

came down to be the
head of the group.

150

00:08:50,140 --> 00:08:52,480

And there was
enough room for us,

151

00:08:52,480 --> 00:08:55,480
a few from Hungary that
wanted to go with them

152
00:08:55,480 --> 00:08:56,915
and we could comfort them.

153
00:08:56,915 --> 00:08:58,070
So we came back home.

154
00:08:58,070 --> 00:09:00,912
So you went back to
your town, to your city.

155
00:09:00,912 --> 00:09:02,620
And what did you find
when you got there?

156
00:09:02,620 --> 00:09:05,110
First, I went to Budapest.

157
00:09:05,110 --> 00:09:10,840
After Budapest I looked
up my cousins and my aunts

158
00:09:10,840 --> 00:09:12,970
and uncles place.

159
00:09:12,970 --> 00:09:15,640
And I saw that my
aunt's apartment had

160
00:09:15,640 --> 00:09:19,780
a hole on the edge of a corner.

161
00:09:19,780 --> 00:09:21,370
But I went up anyway.

162
00:09:21,370 --> 00:09:23,390
And they found my and there.

163
00:09:23,390 --> 00:09:27,070

And she was screaming,
"Your father's home."

164
00:09:27,070 --> 00:09:28,740
Now this I did not expect.

165
00:09:28,740 --> 00:09:30,790
I mentioned to you my
father was a sick man

166
00:09:30,790 --> 00:09:33,400
from World War I time.

167
00:09:33,400 --> 00:09:36,970
I certainly did not expect
him be the survivor,

168
00:09:36,970 --> 00:09:39,900
but he was the only survivor.

169
00:09:39,900 --> 00:09:44,240
And so next day,
I got on a train

170
00:09:44,240 --> 00:09:48,056
and made it back to my hometown.

171
00:09:48,056 --> 00:09:52,540
My father knew of me
alive since the spring.

172
00:09:52,540 --> 00:09:56,770
They listened to the Red Cross
radio, and somebody at the city

173
00:09:56,770 --> 00:10:01,480
picked up my name
and came to tell him.

174
00:10:01,480 --> 00:10:04,480
But of course he didn't
know that I am coming now,

175

00:10:04,480 --> 00:10:07,930

and didn't know if

I am coming at all.

176

00:10:07,930 --> 00:10:11,270

He just know that I'm alive.

177

00:10:11,270 --> 00:10:16,730

And he was mighty happy that

his only daughter was alive.

178

00:10:16,730 --> 00:10:18,520

You just came home,

and he was there.

179

00:10:18,520 --> 00:10:19,437

Is that what happened?

180

00:10:19,437 --> 00:10:20,500

I went to the store.

181

00:10:20,500 --> 00:10:22,330

The store was open.

182

00:10:22,330 --> 00:10:23,890

The three old men were there.

183

00:10:23,890 --> 00:10:28,336

184

00:10:28,336 --> 00:10:30,312

I stepped into the store.

185

00:10:30,312 --> 00:10:34,270

186

00:10:34,270 --> 00:10:36,780

And his first question was

where did you leave your mother.

187

00:10:36,780 --> 00:10:41,330

188
00:10:41,330 --> 00:10:45,070
And the second was that
I am ashamed to show them

189
00:10:45,070 --> 00:10:46,180
that this is--

190
00:10:46,180 --> 00:10:47,440
I had arms like that.

191
00:10:47,440 --> 00:10:50,440
It was a or they were --
but it looked so good.

192
00:10:50,440 --> 00:10:52,990
So I happy like I
was full with life.

193
00:10:52,990 --> 00:10:56,290
And he was ashamed to
tell that I am the poor --

194
00:10:56,290 --> 00:10:58,000
from concentration
camp and look so good.

195
00:10:58,000 --> 00:11:01,610

196
00:11:01,610 --> 00:11:05,700
This man he happy that
I'm looking so good.

197
00:11:05,700 --> 00:11:07,360
And then you spend--
what happened?

198
00:11:07,360 --> 00:11:11,160
Then he had already
by then invited

199

00:11:11,160 --> 00:11:13,950
a lot of people who didn't
have home where to go home to.

200

00:11:13,950 --> 00:11:17,770
And here was his big house
and there was nobody in there.

201

00:11:17,770 --> 00:11:22,120
Except he brought my aunt
and my mother's sister

202

00:11:22,120 --> 00:11:24,340
to cook for them
and clean for them.

203

00:11:24,340 --> 00:11:28,420
Because in Budapest there
was nothing to be eaten.

204

00:11:28,420 --> 00:11:30,280
They were hungry.

205

00:11:30,280 --> 00:11:32,740
And he thought that
he always would

206

00:11:32,740 --> 00:11:35,950
be able to make enough in the
store that we should have food.

207

00:11:35,950 --> 00:11:40,360
And all these people
put money together to--

208

00:11:40,360 --> 00:11:44,430
my aunt to go to the market and
whatever she can buy to buy.

209

00:11:44,430 --> 00:11:47,350
And so they were
living with her.

210

00:11:47,350 --> 00:11:49,805

What about your husband,
your first husband?

211

00:11:49,805 --> 00:11:53,080

There was not even a word
then about him-- much later--

212

00:11:53,080 --> 00:11:55,420

You still didn't know.

213

00:11:55,420 --> 00:11:58,600

It was in the fall,
first, when somebody

214

00:11:58,600 --> 00:12:02,140

came home who told
me that he was

215

00:12:02,140 --> 00:12:07,620

with him between
Gunskirchen and Mauthausen

216

00:12:07,620 --> 00:12:12,640

as they were marching
them toward Gunskirchen.

217

00:12:12,640 --> 00:12:15,430

And that he looked good,
and he was in good shape.

218

00:12:15,430 --> 00:12:18,520

219

00:12:18,520 --> 00:12:25,210

But the next morning the Germans
made them get up from that stop

220

00:12:25,210 --> 00:12:28,720

where they were
resting, fast and go,

221

00:12:28,720 --> 00:12:33,250
and who did not move
fast enough they shot.

222
00:12:33,250 --> 00:12:35,660
Nobody could tell me
what happened to him.

223
00:12:35,660 --> 00:12:38,800
But that was the most
probably way that we never

224
00:12:38,800 --> 00:12:41,330
heard of him again.

225
00:12:41,330 --> 00:12:43,675
And according to other
records that's what happened.

226
00:12:43,675 --> 00:12:51,660

227
00:12:51,660 --> 00:12:54,010
So you stayed in your
villa in your town.

228
00:12:54,010 --> 00:12:57,000
Yes, with my father.

229
00:12:57,000 --> 00:13:00,020
They wanted me to take over
the house, which I couldn't do.

230
00:13:00,020 --> 00:13:02,690
I wouldn't do the--

231
00:13:02,690 --> 00:13:08,360
in my mother's house what
was natural for her to do.

232
00:13:08,360 --> 00:13:14,830
But then, my aunt
home, and one morning

233
00:13:14,830 --> 00:13:18,910
when there was market
day, and old maid

234
00:13:18,910 --> 00:13:23,330
came to visit the city to
see if somebody is home.

235
00:13:23,330 --> 00:13:27,040
And when she found me
there, she begged herself

236
00:13:27,040 --> 00:13:30,800
that she doesn't want to
get paid just food with us--

237
00:13:30,800 --> 00:13:31,790
live with us.

238
00:13:31,790 --> 00:13:34,020
She wants to come back.

239
00:13:34,020 --> 00:13:35,490
And she came back to our family.

240
00:13:35,490 --> 00:13:38,070

241
00:13:38,070 --> 00:13:41,420
We had plenty to work there.

242
00:13:41,420 --> 00:13:43,430
The Germans were in that--

243
00:13:43,430 --> 00:13:50,340
first Hungarian officers, then
Germans, then the Munkácsis.

244
00:13:50,340 --> 00:13:55,640
Munkácsis were the
underground Hungarian left.

245

00:13:55,640 --> 00:13:57,260

And after that the Russian.

246

00:13:57,260 --> 00:14:00,530

And the Russians were dancing
on the top of the table,

247

00:14:00,530 --> 00:14:05,780

they pulled out the
wood for cooking.

248

00:14:05,780 --> 00:14:10,730

You name it, they
did quite the job.

249

00:14:10,730 --> 00:14:14,750

So we had quite a time
to clean the house.

250

00:14:14,750 --> 00:14:16,740

You stayed how long?

251

00:14:16,740 --> 00:14:21,810

I stayed there until
1950 when all of us--

252

00:14:21,810 --> 00:14:27,090

then my father's store was
nationalized by the Communists.

253

00:14:27,090 --> 00:14:32,070

My husband's business
was in danger.

254

00:14:32,070 --> 00:14:35,220

At what point did you remarry?

255

00:14:35,220 --> 00:14:36,870

'47.

256

00:14:36,870 --> 00:14:38,310

And how did that come about?

257

00:14:38,310 --> 00:14:46,250

Andy came home at Erev
Rosh ha-Shana of 1945.

258

00:14:46,250 --> 00:14:52,932

The farm was about 20
miles out of my city.

259

00:14:52,932 --> 00:14:57,780

And his brother was
already home much earlier.

260

00:14:57,780 --> 00:15:01,590

He came home from the
Russian front with the army,

261

00:15:01,590 --> 00:15:04,170

and he was--

262

00:15:04,170 --> 00:15:08,240

it was the winter time, and
he was already free man there.

263

00:15:08,240 --> 00:15:12,480

And then, Andy
came into the city,

264

00:15:12,480 --> 00:15:15,510

and went into my father's store.

265

00:15:15,510 --> 00:15:18,110

And was telling that he doesn't
want to spend the time out

266

00:15:18,110 --> 00:15:18,610

there.

267

00:15:18,610 --> 00:15:23,590

There's so little room
in farming left for them.

268

00:15:23,590 --> 00:15:25,660

That it's too little
for him alone--

269

00:15:25,660 --> 00:15:28,020

and not speaking
about his brother--

270

00:15:28,020 --> 00:15:29,100

the brother was married.

271

00:15:29,100 --> 00:15:32,860

But he wants to leave
it for his brother.

272

00:15:32,860 --> 00:15:35,290

He doesn't stay there.

273

00:15:35,290 --> 00:15:36,790

He's looking for
a place to stay.

274

00:15:36,790 --> 00:15:40,530

So my husband invited
him to stay in our house.

275

00:15:40,530 --> 00:15:41,646

Your father.

276

00:15:41,646 --> 00:15:42,620

Yeah.

277

00:15:42,620 --> 00:15:44,660

And he'll have a room there.

278

00:15:44,660 --> 00:15:48,420

And he brought him furniture,
so it was furnished.

279

00:15:48,420 --> 00:15:50,220

His first thing was
that he'd went out

280

00:15:50,220 --> 00:15:53,850
and exchanged farm
products for glass.

281

00:15:53,850 --> 00:15:56,070
So they put glass
in to our windows

282

00:15:56,070 --> 00:15:59,880
because it was kind of cold
with the time without window.

283

00:15:59,880 --> 00:16:03,000
And the next thing was that
he exchanged something else--

284

00:16:03,000 --> 00:16:04,470
it was all exchanged.

285

00:16:04,470 --> 00:16:07,530
There was nothing in
that part of the world

286

00:16:07,530 --> 00:16:09,990
but exchanged items.

287

00:16:09,990 --> 00:16:14,150
And then my father one nice day
stood in front of me and said,

288

00:16:14,150 --> 00:16:17,730
"My daughter, I want
to tell you something.

289

00:16:17,730 --> 00:16:23,010
You were not supposed to know
about that because the two

290

00:16:23,010 --> 00:16:28,140
friends would have been
forever enemies if they knew.

291

00:16:28,140 --> 00:16:33,090

But Andy loved you, and
he told so to your mother.

292

00:16:33,090 --> 00:16:36,300

And your mother taught him not
to ever mention a word to you

293

00:16:36,300 --> 00:16:38,470

because you don't
see anybody but Paul,

294

00:16:38,470 --> 00:16:42,480

and it would be just
hurting everybody."

295

00:16:42,480 --> 00:16:45,900

"But I can see," my father
said, "the day that he will

296

00:16:45,900 --> 00:16:48,510

stop and talk to you about it.

297

00:16:48,510 --> 00:16:51,780

His wife didn't come
home with his child.

298

00:16:51,780 --> 00:16:53,830

You are here alone.

299

00:16:53,830 --> 00:16:57,180

I can see that soon he
will talk to you about it.

300

00:16:57,180 --> 00:16:59,310

And I tell you I
would be very, very

301

00:16:59,310 --> 00:17:03,100

happy to know that if I died I
have a man like him with you."

302

00:17:03,100 --> 00:17:08,240

303

00:17:08,240 --> 00:17:12,690

It didn't matter
where I stand, there

304

00:17:12,690 --> 00:17:20,670

were two men who would be
happy, my father and Andy.

305

00:17:20,670 --> 00:17:23,609

I can not be happy
anymore in this life.

306

00:17:23,609 --> 00:17:26,130

I lost my happiness.

307

00:17:26,130 --> 00:17:27,700

So why not.

308

00:17:27,700 --> 00:17:30,820

And well soon Andy talked to me.

309

00:17:30,820 --> 00:17:31,330

I agreed.

310

00:17:31,330 --> 00:17:34,100

311

00:17:34,100 --> 00:17:40,950

And so in May of
'46 we got married.

312

00:17:40,950 --> 00:17:44,230

And he had only one
request, to have, again,

313

00:17:44,230 --> 00:17:47,640

a child as soon as possible--
tells him that he'd like--

314

00:17:47,640 --> 00:17:52,690
the one already he had,
that was what he missed.

315
00:17:52,690 --> 00:17:56,490
And yes, quite soon
I became pregnant.

316
00:17:56,490 --> 00:18:00,927

317
00:18:00,927 --> 00:18:04,550
In April of '47 I had my son.

318
00:18:04,550 --> 00:18:06,085
And your son's name?

319
00:18:06,085 --> 00:18:07,810
Paul, after my first husband.

320
00:18:07,810 --> 00:18:13,830

321
00:18:13,830 --> 00:18:16,770
And then you stayed in Hungary.

322
00:18:16,770 --> 00:18:17,270
Yes.

323
00:18:17,270 --> 00:18:18,380
We stayed in Hungary.

324
00:18:18,380 --> 00:18:22,880
First we stayed in Hungary
Miskolc until 1950.

325
00:18:22,880 --> 00:18:25,550
Then as I mentioned to
you, my father's business

326
00:18:25,550 --> 00:18:27,690
was nationalized.

327
00:18:27,690 --> 00:18:30,920
Our half of apartment
was taken away.

328
00:18:30,920 --> 00:18:35,000
And Andy felt that this
is the time we escape.

329
00:18:35,000 --> 00:18:36,358
We go.

330
00:18:36,358 --> 00:18:38,900
So he gave me money that I shall
buy an apartment-- no matter

331
00:18:38,900 --> 00:18:40,660
what it cost and where,
it is in Budapest

332
00:18:40,660 --> 00:18:41,900
and we disappear from here.

333
00:18:41,900 --> 00:18:44,280
That was enough for me.

334
00:18:44,280 --> 00:18:50,180
And then we went on to
Budapest in October of 1950.

335
00:18:50,180 --> 00:18:53,510
That was the time when they
were putting the people out

336
00:18:53,510 --> 00:18:56,120
of their apartments,
of their homes.

337
00:18:56,120 --> 00:18:59,330
All around us they were
stopping during the night.

338

00:18:59,330 --> 00:19:04,040

The truck came and the
shops, everybody went.

339

00:19:04,040 --> 00:19:06,020

So we tried that too.

340

00:19:06,020 --> 00:19:08,420

We had to fight
not only the Nazis,

341

00:19:08,420 --> 00:19:11,870

we had to fight
the Communists too.

342

00:19:11,870 --> 00:19:16,570

My father died in 1955.

343

00:19:16,570 --> 00:19:19,420

For our 10th wedding
anniversary we

344

00:19:19,420 --> 00:19:25,240

decided to give each other
that we are making his stone,

345

00:19:25,240 --> 00:19:29,506

having the names of everybody
from the two families.

346

00:19:29,506 --> 00:19:31,930

And we did.

347

00:19:31,930 --> 00:19:35,240

And it had this stone--

348

00:19:35,240 --> 00:19:38,080

This is a gravestone.

349

00:19:38,080 --> 00:19:43,410

And six weeks later, the
revolution broke out.

350

00:19:43,410 --> 00:19:48,270

351

00:19:48,270 --> 00:19:49,890

We took advantage of it.

352

00:19:49,890 --> 00:19:52,345

We left Hungary then, '56.

353

00:19:52,345 --> 00:19:56,130

354

00:19:56,130 --> 00:19:58,200

You came to the United States?

355

00:19:58,200 --> 00:19:59,960

Yes.

356

00:19:59,960 --> 00:20:02,600

We waited a long time
in Austria before we

357

00:20:02,600 --> 00:20:06,890

could come because we didn't
have close relatives here.

358

00:20:06,890 --> 00:20:09,080

But then we came here.

359

00:20:09,080 --> 00:20:11,450

The three of you-- your
husband and your son.

360

00:20:11,450 --> 00:20:13,090

And where did you settle first?

361

00:20:13,090 --> 00:20:13,880

New York.

362

00:20:13,880 --> 00:20:16,150

We had a friend there.

363
00:20:16,150 --> 00:20:17,720
And because of
them, because they

364
00:20:17,720 --> 00:20:21,830
tried to make us as
comfortable as possible.

365
00:20:21,830 --> 00:20:25,610
And as Jewish ways
as possible-- they

366
00:20:25,610 --> 00:20:28,160
didn't let us go out to
Arkansas so but the Joint

367
00:20:28,160 --> 00:20:31,820
wanted us to go because
my husband's diploma was

368
00:20:31,820 --> 00:20:34,050
to be usable they much better.

369
00:20:34,050 --> 00:20:38,010
He was a doctor at
animal husbandry.

370
00:20:38,010 --> 00:20:43,130
On Park Avenue, on Fifth Avenue,
there's no animal husbandry.

371
00:20:43,130 --> 00:20:47,360
But by the time we
settled ourself,

372
00:20:47,360 --> 00:20:51,680
my son became a
little American boy.

373
00:20:51,680 --> 00:20:53,990
We stayed in New York.

374

00:20:53,990 --> 00:20:57,580

And then I retired and
my husband retired,

375

00:20:57,580 --> 00:21:00,620

and Paul was already
down here since 1969.

376

00:21:00,620 --> 00:21:02,930

What kind of work did you do?

377

00:21:02,930 --> 00:21:06,650

I work-- I did
office work always.

378

00:21:06,650 --> 00:21:09,680

Because of the little
English what I had,

379

00:21:09,680 --> 00:21:14,720

it helped me not to start
as a physical worker.

380

00:21:14,720 --> 00:21:18,860

And then in '68, I got
to the Ford Foundation.

381

00:21:18,860 --> 00:21:21,830

And I was with them for 16
1/2 years before I retired.

382

00:21:21,830 --> 00:21:24,750

383

00:21:24,750 --> 00:21:27,740

And then you moved
to Washington.

384

00:21:27,740 --> 00:21:29,920

Not then because my
husband still worked.

385

00:21:29,920 --> 00:21:35,770

He was working until 1986
for the Deutsche Bank.

386

00:21:35,770 --> 00:21:37,655

And then he retired too.

387

00:21:37,655 --> 00:21:40,570

Then my son said, oh, what
are you doing still there.

388

00:21:40,570 --> 00:21:41,480

Let's go down.

389

00:21:41,480 --> 00:21:43,300

And that's when we came down.

390

00:21:43,300 --> 00:21:46,560

Was it hard to adjust to
life in the United States?

391

00:21:46,560 --> 00:21:49,030

Well, let me put it
this way, not for me

392

00:21:49,030 --> 00:21:51,730

because I loved the Americans.

393

00:21:51,730 --> 00:21:55,520

I mean I had money,
everything what

394

00:21:55,520 --> 00:21:57,910

was American was OK with me.

395

00:21:57,910 --> 00:21:59,960

My husband had a
very, very hard time

396

00:21:59,960 --> 00:22:01,885

and never could go
back to his profession.

397

00:22:01,885 --> 00:22:06,220

I didn't have a profession,
but he who had a doctorate,

398

00:22:06,220 --> 00:22:07,550

who could not do anything.

399

00:22:07,550 --> 00:22:10,510

France, he didn't know
what to do with it either.

400

00:22:10,510 --> 00:22:13,390

But should he have known,
the Ford Foundation

401

00:22:13,390 --> 00:22:15,520

would have given him a nice job.

402

00:22:15,520 --> 00:22:19,810

He would have had
a gorgeous future

403

00:22:19,810 --> 00:22:22,950

being in charge of third
world countries agriculture.

404

00:22:22,950 --> 00:22:26,470

So there was lots to do here
in New York, except nobody

405

00:22:26,470 --> 00:22:28,000

knew what to do with this.

406

00:22:28,000 --> 00:22:30,660

407

00:22:30,660 --> 00:22:32,280

Yes.

408

00:22:32,280 --> 00:22:35,040

We were refugees.

409

00:22:35,040 --> 00:22:39,330

We were very proud that
nobody gave us anything.

410

00:22:39,330 --> 00:22:42,570

We were a perfect welfare case,
but we didn't know about it.

411

00:22:42,570 --> 00:22:44,860

And we didn't want
to know about it.

412

00:22:44,860 --> 00:22:47,640

And what I have, what you
see, we, the two of us,

413

00:22:47,640 --> 00:22:49,190

worked together and no--

414

00:22:49,190 --> 00:22:50,740

I don't owe anybody.

415

00:22:50,740 --> 00:22:52,350

OK.

416

00:22:52,350 --> 00:22:53,370

That is very good.

417

00:22:53,370 --> 00:22:56,700

418

00:22:56,700 --> 00:23:02,160

If we can now talk a little bit
about the effect of all this.

419

00:23:02,160 --> 00:23:05,695

How is this, your
experiences, affected

420

00:23:05,695 --> 00:23:06,945

your feelings of being Jewish?

421

00:23:06,945 --> 00:23:10,510

422

00:23:10,510 --> 00:23:14,330

I never would have
changed out from Judaism.

423

00:23:14,330 --> 00:23:20,450

But I did not have anything
to do with the religion,

424

00:23:20,450 --> 00:23:24,740

I thank God, which let
that happen as it was.

425

00:23:24,740 --> 00:23:29,540

And I completely lost
all interest in it

426

00:23:29,540 --> 00:23:32,610

until my baby first moved in me.

427

00:23:32,610 --> 00:23:36,050

That brought me back
to it, and accepting

428

00:23:36,050 --> 00:23:40,250

that there is somebody above
us who knows more than we do.

429

00:23:40,250 --> 00:23:43,980

No, I never really became a
religious Jew in that sense.

430

00:23:43,980 --> 00:23:48,500

But I know a lot, probably
more than most of the girls

431

00:23:48,500 --> 00:23:50,180

had known of religion.

432

00:23:50,180 --> 00:23:52,850

My father was very
proud of that.

433
00:23:52,850 --> 00:23:55,250
He always hoped for
a boy, and he didn't

434
00:23:55,250 --> 00:23:59,150
have a son so he taught me.

435
00:23:59,150 --> 00:24:02,390
He felt good about
me knowing some.

436
00:24:02,390 --> 00:24:05,630
And I felt good about myself--

437
00:24:05,630 --> 00:24:11,280
that my grandparents
were so happy with me.

438
00:24:11,280 --> 00:24:14,430
You had talked about
how your thoughts--

439
00:24:14,430 --> 00:24:17,630
you still have thoughts 50
years later about your mother--

440
00:24:17,630 --> 00:24:21,210
in any other way
has your experience

441
00:24:21,210 --> 00:24:23,950
stayed with you, in other ways?

442
00:24:23,950 --> 00:24:26,240
That experience stays
with you forever.

443
00:24:26,240 --> 00:24:27,590
You try to forget it.

444

00:24:27,590 --> 00:24:31,225

You try to push it out of your
mind because you cannot live

445

00:24:31,225 --> 00:24:33,210

constantly with this.

446

00:24:33,210 --> 00:24:39,180

My husband whenever he had
heard or seen something--

447

00:24:39,180 --> 00:24:41,280

he could not watch
on a television show,

448

00:24:41,280 --> 00:24:45,180

which started with a train--

449

00:24:45,180 --> 00:24:45,990

and that was that.

450

00:24:45,990 --> 00:24:48,570

For three weeks he
had the nightmares.

451

00:24:48,570 --> 00:24:50,700

He was yelling and
screaming each time

452

00:24:50,700 --> 00:24:53,310

he had a cold, that he
had a little temperature.

453

00:24:53,310 --> 00:24:54,360

He was fighting.

454

00:24:54,360 --> 00:24:58,620

He was seeing himself going
through what he went through.

455

00:24:58,620 --> 00:25:01,860

He went from

Auschwitz to Dachau.

456

00:25:01,860 --> 00:25:05,130

And the [INAUDIBLE]
people had hurt his back.

457

00:25:05,130 --> 00:25:08,280

He went on through his own hell.

458

00:25:08,280 --> 00:25:12,390

So we had tried to
not to talk about it,

459

00:25:12,390 --> 00:25:17,020

and definitely did
not want to talk

460

00:25:17,020 --> 00:25:18,760

about it in front of our child.

461

00:25:18,760 --> 00:25:21,220

We did not even know
that our child knew

462

00:25:21,220 --> 00:25:28,960

where we were before until
in 1969, the first time

463

00:25:28,960 --> 00:25:33,220

he went back to Europe after
he graduated from engineering

464

00:25:33,220 --> 00:25:33,720

school.

465

00:25:33,720 --> 00:25:35,380

This is your son.

466

00:25:35,380 --> 00:25:37,950

The first place he
went was Dachau.

467

00:25:37,950 --> 00:25:42,760
He stopped in Munich and asked
our friends who lived there

468
00:25:42,760 --> 00:25:45,330
how to go out to Dachau,
and he went to Dachau

469
00:25:45,330 --> 00:25:47,620
the next morning.

470
00:25:47,620 --> 00:25:50,020
I still to this day, I
don't know how he knew,

471
00:25:50,020 --> 00:25:53,530
who mentioned that in front
him, or who else taught him

472
00:25:53,530 --> 00:25:57,070
because we certainly did not.

473
00:25:57,070 --> 00:26:01,840
I couldn't imagine that I
can hurt my child with pain

474
00:26:01,840 --> 00:26:04,870
like that that I shall
be telling all these what

475
00:26:04,870 --> 00:26:10,870
I was telling you
or even more to him.

476
00:26:10,870 --> 00:26:13,880
I wanted to save him
from that forever.

477
00:26:13,880 --> 00:26:16,030
I just couldn't bring
myself to talk about it.

478
00:26:16,030 --> 00:26:18,820

479

00:26:18,820 --> 00:26:25,300

The first time I was talking
about all that was in 1990.

480

00:26:25,300 --> 00:26:28,570

We were sitting in the front
of the operating room when

481

00:26:28,570 --> 00:26:33,450

his father was operated on
at Georgetown University

482

00:26:33,450 --> 00:26:37,900

hospital, when I first talked
to him about where I'd been.

483

00:26:37,900 --> 00:26:40,440

484

00:26:40,440 --> 00:26:44,360

He came home once
earlier and said

485

00:26:44,360 --> 00:26:49,020

I belong to this
second generation,

486

00:26:49,020 --> 00:26:51,350

and they are
encouraging us to ask

487

00:26:51,350 --> 00:26:54,620

you to give us oral history.

488

00:26:54,620 --> 00:26:58,280

And I jumped up from the chair
where I was sitting and run out

489

00:26:58,280 --> 00:27:00,940

to the kitchen, and he knew that
he cannot ask me again about

490
00:27:00,940 --> 00:27:01,440
it.

491
00:27:01,440 --> 00:27:04,080

492
00:27:04,080 --> 00:27:06,880
It's been much
later, in the '70s

493
00:27:06,880 --> 00:27:12,090
sometimes, when I first was able
to talk to non-Jewish people

494
00:27:12,090 --> 00:27:15,060
mentioning where I was.

495
00:27:15,060 --> 00:27:20,474
I kind of-- it just
came out of me.

496
00:27:20,474 --> 00:27:25,040
It was-- I don't know what
I wanted to do with them.

497
00:27:25,040 --> 00:27:30,100
If I wanted to scared
them or what I wanted.

498
00:27:30,100 --> 00:27:34,400
But I couldn't say that
to anybody who was Jewish.

499
00:27:34,400 --> 00:27:37,171
I just didn't want
to talk about it

500
00:27:37,171 --> 00:27:42,850
at all to Jewish people for
years and years and years.

501

00:27:42,850 --> 00:27:45,910
And when they were talking
about the Holocaust Museum,

502
00:27:45,910 --> 00:27:49,150
my husband and I were
both dead set against it.

503
00:27:49,150 --> 00:27:50,650
I couldn't see it.

504
00:27:50,650 --> 00:27:53,170
I still cannot understand it.

505
00:27:53,170 --> 00:27:55,630
I still feel, to
a certain degree,

506
00:27:55,630 --> 00:27:59,230
that this is guilt money
from the American government

507
00:27:59,230 --> 00:28:01,660
and from the American Jews.

508
00:28:01,660 --> 00:28:06,730
They all feel much, much easier
to put the money into something

509
00:28:06,730 --> 00:28:09,490
than their hearts.

510
00:28:09,490 --> 00:28:13,670
And we will be always different.

511
00:28:13,670 --> 00:28:15,910
We cannot be understood
by the Americans.

512
00:28:15,910 --> 00:28:20,050
And the Americans cannot be
understood by us thoroughly.

513

00:28:20,050 --> 00:28:22,510

I still have that bitterness.

514

00:28:22,510 --> 00:28:26,500

515

00:28:26,500 --> 00:28:35,830

I had a boss in the end of the
'50s whose family was perished.

516

00:28:35,830 --> 00:28:38,120

He says to me that
"Well, Susan you

517

00:28:38,120 --> 00:28:41,360

will have to tell me how
my relatives perished."

518

00:28:41,360 --> 00:28:44,825

So in lunchtime when he was
sitting on the switchboard,

519

00:28:44,825 --> 00:28:46,820

and I was brown
bagging my lunch,

520

00:28:46,820 --> 00:28:51,180

and I was eating at the
desk, he said just tell me.

521

00:28:51,180 --> 00:28:54,470

And so I started to tell
him that, "Mr. Rosengarten,

522

00:28:54,470 --> 00:28:55,580

I don't know.

523

00:28:55,580 --> 00:28:58,600

I didn't know your relatives
so I don't know how they--

524

00:28:58,600 --> 00:29:01,510

I only can tell you
what was the average."

525
00:29:01,510 --> 00:29:04,430
And I started to tell him and
three, four minutes his stop

526
00:29:04,430 --> 00:29:04,930
me.

527
00:29:04,930 --> 00:29:06,525
He said, "Susan, don't say it.

528
00:29:06,525 --> 00:29:08,580
It hurts too much."

529
00:29:08,580 --> 00:29:14,180
And I think that this is
what any American Jew fears.

530
00:29:14,180 --> 00:29:16,550
I spoke to quite
a few just lately

531
00:29:16,550 --> 00:29:19,520
who said they don't want
to go down to the museum.

532
00:29:19,520 --> 00:29:21,920
They don't want to see it.

533
00:29:21,920 --> 00:29:25,370
And they don't know
nothing about it.

534
00:29:25,370 --> 00:29:29,240
There is a lady here who
I appreciate very much

535
00:29:29,240 --> 00:29:35,860
as a intelligent,
deep-feeling, good person.

536

00:29:35,860 --> 00:29:41,960

A few months ago
somehow it came to me

537

00:29:41,960 --> 00:29:45,920

that she was asking about
how Andy lost his life.

538

00:29:45,920 --> 00:29:47,870

And I said, [INAUDIBLE].

539

00:29:47,870 --> 00:29:51,140

She had [INAUDIBLE] on her arm.

540

00:29:51,140 --> 00:29:52,047

And she looked at me.

541

00:29:52,047 --> 00:29:54,380

I said don't you know that
everybody who went there were

542

00:29:54,380 --> 00:29:55,340

[INAUDIBLE].

543

00:29:55,340 --> 00:29:56,360

No, I didn't know that.

544

00:29:56,360 --> 00:30:00,262

And I became so very,
very angry on that

545

00:30:00,262 --> 00:30:06,170

that I wanted to organize
this seminar here

546

00:30:06,170 --> 00:30:11,390

that a few people who
I know were survivors

547

00:30:11,390 --> 00:30:13,850

should talk to these people.

548

00:30:13,850 --> 00:30:17,510

I don't want them to hear
all the most awful things.

549

00:30:17,510 --> 00:30:20,330

I'm ready to tell them some
story which probably makes

550

00:30:20,330 --> 00:30:22,460

them even smile sometimes.

551

00:30:22,460 --> 00:30:26,630

But they should know some of
the feelings we went through.

552

00:30:26,630 --> 00:30:27,900

They don't want to know it.

553

00:30:27,900 --> 00:30:32,390

554

00:30:32,390 --> 00:30:35,730

So that's all I can tell you.

555

00:30:35,730 --> 00:30:37,470

I am not a good person.

556

00:30:37,470 --> 00:30:38,550

I am still angry.

557

00:30:38,550 --> 00:30:41,490

558

00:30:41,490 --> 00:30:44,280

Thank you so much for
speaking of your experiences.

559

00:30:44,280 --> 00:30:46,790

560

00:30:46,790 --> 00:30:50,420

This concludes the
interview of Suzanne Foldes.

561
00:30:50,420 --> 00:30:54,290
It took place on
January 25th, 1996

562
00:30:54,290 --> 00:30:56,510
in Silver Spring, Maryland.

563
00:30:56,510 --> 00:30:58,115
It was conducted
by Gail Schwartz.

564
00:30:58,115 --> 00:31:12,490

565
00:31:12,490 --> 00:31:14,710
This is tape three,
side two, and we

566
00:31:14,710 --> 00:31:19,160
were talking about your
feelings and your reflections

567
00:31:19,160 --> 00:31:20,440
about your experience.

568
00:31:20,440 --> 00:31:21,900
You said you're still angry.

569
00:31:21,900 --> 00:31:22,400
Yes.

570
00:31:22,400 --> 00:31:26,240

571
00:31:26,240 --> 00:31:28,460
I think that the pressure,
which won't leave me

572
00:31:28,460 --> 00:31:29,450

until I not alive.

573

00:31:29,450 --> 00:31:34,650

574

00:31:34,650 --> 00:31:35,940

I cannot find solace.

575

00:31:35,940 --> 00:31:38,560

576

00:31:38,560 --> 00:31:45,180

And nothing can give me
solace, not Yad Vashem, not

577

00:31:45,180 --> 00:31:50,070

this museum, not Miami.

578

00:31:50,070 --> 00:31:51,270

None of them is enough.

579

00:31:51,270 --> 00:31:54,780

But the one in Yad Vashem
would be just the very thing

580

00:31:54,780 --> 00:31:55,530

to be at.

581

00:31:55,530 --> 00:32:01,440

I don't think that these
small little things are not

582

00:32:01,440 --> 00:32:05,880

breaking it up, making
it less a whole tragedy--

583

00:32:05,880 --> 00:32:08,880

make it a small tragedy,
make it something

584

00:32:08,880 --> 00:32:10,190

what we just disappear.

585
00:32:10,190 --> 00:32:14,800

586
00:32:14,800 --> 00:32:17,050
Well, you had talked
earlier about how

587
00:32:17,050 --> 00:32:20,800
devastated you were about
what happened to your mother.

588
00:32:20,800 --> 00:32:26,590
And this person helped
you, looked out for you.

589
00:32:26,590 --> 00:32:30,560
After that, what kept you going?

590
00:32:30,560 --> 00:32:33,850
What do you think kept you going
through this terrible, terrible

591
00:32:33,850 --> 00:32:34,900
time?

592
00:32:34,900 --> 00:32:35,980
There's only one thing.

593
00:32:35,980 --> 00:32:38,320
I can tell you what I told
the people in Hungary.

594
00:32:38,320 --> 00:32:41,360
I was trying to keep them alive.

595
00:32:41,360 --> 00:32:43,550
I kept telling them
that think about it

596
00:32:43,550 --> 00:32:51,820
as a badly administered

[INAUDIBLE] excursion.

597

00:32:51,820 --> 00:32:54,490

We will struggle with it.

598

00:32:54,490 --> 00:32:55,830

We will get through with it.

599

00:32:55,830 --> 00:32:58,230

It's just ugly, and we

have to be in it now.

600

00:32:58,230 --> 00:32:59,930

But we will get out of it.

601

00:32:59,930 --> 00:33:05,530

And I did believe that

if you let yourself go,

602

00:33:05,530 --> 00:33:07,350

you cannot live.

603

00:33:07,350 --> 00:33:12,370

And the only way to do it

is if you keep yourself

604

00:33:12,370 --> 00:33:17,620

clean and clean and clean.

605

00:33:17,620 --> 00:33:20,860

Wash as much as you can.

606

00:33:20,860 --> 00:33:22,880

Clean as much as you can.

607

00:33:22,880 --> 00:33:23,850

That's the only thing.

608

00:33:23,850 --> 00:33:27,990

It's not eating,

It's cleanliness.

609

00:33:27,990 --> 00:33:30,330

Because once you
get lice, you go.

610

00:33:30,330 --> 00:33:32,900

611

00:33:32,900 --> 00:33:39,480

In our room in the camp,
which was the outskirts--

612

00:33:39,480 --> 00:33:42,370

I mean the outer
lager of Buchenwald--

613

00:33:42,370 --> 00:33:46,510

we had this little
lady, the rabbi's wife.

614

00:33:46,510 --> 00:33:50,320

She kept on her head
a turban constantly.

615

00:33:50,320 --> 00:33:51,910

Never removed it.

616

00:33:51,910 --> 00:33:53,370

Never washed.

617

00:33:53,370 --> 00:33:56,080

It was full with lice.

618

00:33:56,080 --> 00:33:58,630

And we just decided
that we won't

619

00:33:58,630 --> 00:34:01,710

get in danger because of her.

620

00:34:01,710 --> 00:34:04,800

And we decided-- she
was never out working.

621
00:34:04,800 --> 00:34:05,680
She never came out.

622
00:34:05,680 --> 00:34:08,800
Somehow, I don't
know how, she managed

623
00:34:08,800 --> 00:34:10,989
that she never had to come out.

624
00:34:10,989 --> 00:34:13,420
And we decided in
the factory that we

625
00:34:13,420 --> 00:34:14,920
are going to take home some--

626
00:34:14,920 --> 00:34:17,848

627
00:34:17,848 --> 00:34:24,940
what's the-- it's a fluid
what you cleaned with--

628
00:34:24,940 --> 00:34:28,040
petrol from the factory.

629
00:34:28,040 --> 00:34:30,210
And we will wash
her hair with it.

630
00:34:30,210 --> 00:34:31,590
And we did.

631
00:34:31,590 --> 00:34:33,150
And we threw away her turban.

632
00:34:33,150 --> 00:34:34,920
And she was screaming.

633

00:34:34,920 --> 00:34:36,210
And she told about it.

634
00:34:36,210 --> 00:34:38,699
We cut another turban for her.

635
00:34:38,699 --> 00:34:39,420
We washed her.

636
00:34:39,420 --> 00:34:44,929

637
00:34:44,929 --> 00:34:47,989
No that's the only way
you could stay alive.

638
00:34:47,989 --> 00:34:50,730
What kept you alive.

639
00:34:50,730 --> 00:34:54,260
And of course, I
had my aunt there.

640
00:34:54,260 --> 00:34:58,810
Not that I loved her so dearly.

641
00:34:58,810 --> 00:35:02,290
But she was still the
sister of my father.

642
00:35:02,290 --> 00:35:04,300
So you wanted to
take care of her.

643
00:35:04,300 --> 00:35:07,805
You wanted to bring her.

644
00:35:07,805 --> 00:35:10,260
And I did.

645
00:35:10,260 --> 00:35:15,500
Did you form any close

friendships with people, not

646

00:35:15,500 --> 00:35:16,690

your relatives, but new--

647

00:35:16,690 --> 00:35:17,870

Oh, yes.

648

00:35:17,870 --> 00:35:21,740

There were two ladies who I
became very close friend of.

649

00:35:21,740 --> 00:35:24,980

The one I mentioned to you
as a lager sister who got

650

00:35:24,980 --> 00:35:26,340

married the same day I did.

651

00:35:26,340 --> 00:35:29,470

And she lived in our house
after she got married.

652

00:35:29,470 --> 00:35:31,340

And another one who was a--

653

00:35:31,340 --> 00:35:34,820

654

00:35:34,820 --> 00:35:40,040

her husband's family
had a bakery in Miskolc.

655

00:35:40,040 --> 00:35:44,000

And she was a strange lady.

656

00:35:44,000 --> 00:35:46,940

She was not well-educated.

657

00:35:46,940 --> 00:35:53,960

But she had such a smooth
way of being friend.

658
00:35:53,960 --> 00:35:57,560
Probably she was
too feminine that I

659
00:35:57,560 --> 00:36:00,680
would do they think about her
that I want her for friend.

660
00:36:00,680 --> 00:36:02,450
I would have right
away a second thought

661
00:36:02,450 --> 00:36:04,400
that probably she's lesbian.

662
00:36:04,400 --> 00:36:09,530
She was that kind of lady.

663
00:36:09,530 --> 00:36:15,740
But then she was very
good to be a friend there.

664
00:36:15,740 --> 00:36:20,750
We were carrying
the bombs together.

665
00:36:20,750 --> 00:36:28,625
And we were remembering
old songs, old poems.

666
00:36:28,625 --> 00:36:31,600

667
00:36:31,600 --> 00:36:33,620
We had to use our
brains, you know.

668
00:36:33,620 --> 00:36:36,660
That was also very important.

669
00:36:36,660 --> 00:36:39,620

We were trying to
[INAUDIBLE] good.

670
00:36:39,620 --> 00:36:41,570
And she lived, whatever.

671
00:36:41,570 --> 00:36:43,235
We needed to remember things.

672
00:36:43,235 --> 00:36:48,310

673
00:36:48,310 --> 00:36:51,220
She was good for that.

674
00:36:51,220 --> 00:36:56,208
Are there any sounds or smells
that bring thoughts back

675
00:36:56,208 --> 00:36:56,708
to you.

676
00:36:56,708 --> 00:36:59,580

677
00:36:59,580 --> 00:37:02,000
That bitter almond.

678
00:37:02,000 --> 00:37:07,240

679
00:37:07,240 --> 00:37:13,060
There's a drink which is
made of almond flavored.

680
00:37:13,060 --> 00:37:14,000
I can't drink it.

681
00:37:14,000 --> 00:37:18,700

682

00:37:18,700 --> 00:37:20,350

And of course I
never learned how

683

00:37:20,350 --> 00:37:22,960

to wash something clean white.

684

00:37:22,960 --> 00:37:25,600

Everything becomes
gray in my hand.

685

00:37:25,600 --> 00:37:28,870

And I was washing there,
and all my fingers

686

00:37:28,870 --> 00:37:31,930

were bleeding but I
couldn't make it white.

687

00:37:31,930 --> 00:37:34,640

688

00:37:34,640 --> 00:37:36,180

There are two things
my mother never

689

00:37:36,180 --> 00:37:40,650

made me learn around the
household, to wash and iron.

690

00:37:40,650 --> 00:37:42,060

She said for that
you always will

691

00:37:42,060 --> 00:37:43,320

have somebody do it for you.

692

00:37:43,320 --> 00:37:46,150

How wrong she was.

693

00:37:46,150 --> 00:37:55,050

But everything else
she wanted me to know.

694

00:37:55,050 --> 00:37:56,970

How to give orders.

695

00:37:56,970 --> 00:38:02,260

She said you cannot give orders
unless you know how to do it.

696

00:38:02,260 --> 00:38:07,346

And she always expected me to
just be ready to give orders.

697

00:38:07,346 --> 00:38:09,540

Do you get reparations?

698

00:38:09,540 --> 00:38:10,980

No.

699

00:38:10,980 --> 00:38:15,230

I got very little in the
late '50s or early '60s.

700

00:38:15,230 --> 00:38:16,650

A minimal amount was given.

701

00:38:16,650 --> 00:38:22,770

And since then, whenever
I asked I was negate fast.

702

00:38:22,770 --> 00:38:25,690

703

00:38:25,690 --> 00:38:27,460

There was no birth of something.

704

00:38:27,460 --> 00:38:28,930

Somebody was telling
us that there

705

00:38:28,930 --> 00:38:32,230

is something being now given.

706

00:38:32,230 --> 00:38:36,570

But I didn't even go
to make a telephone

707

00:38:36,570 --> 00:38:38,400

call to ask about that.

708

00:38:38,400 --> 00:38:39,850

Not interested any more.

709

00:38:39,850 --> 00:38:43,720

It hurts too much when
they say, oh, you don't.

710

00:38:43,720 --> 00:38:46,000

Why?

711

00:38:46,000 --> 00:38:48,760

Because I guess still the
Germans are deciding on--

712

00:38:48,760 --> 00:38:51,590

713

00:38:51,590 --> 00:38:55,040

and then there is
always a group of Jews

714

00:38:55,040 --> 00:38:58,340

who are serving them very well.

715

00:38:58,340 --> 00:39:01,580

Just like they were
Jews in Hungary

716

00:39:01,580 --> 00:39:04,640

when the Germans came
in, and the Jews were--

717

00:39:04,640 --> 00:39:07,370

718

00:39:07,370 --> 00:39:10,490

congregations giving
out names, giving out

719

00:39:10,490 --> 00:39:12,440

who is the rich out of them.

720

00:39:12,440 --> 00:39:14,390

You name it, everything.

721

00:39:14,390 --> 00:39:17,390

They gave the synagogue
buildings for them

722

00:39:17,390 --> 00:39:20,020

to hoard all the goods--

723

00:39:20,020 --> 00:39:22,980

the silvers and
the golds and the--

724

00:39:22,980 --> 00:39:26,990

there always will be Jew
who side with the Germans.

725

00:39:26,990 --> 00:39:28,780

They usually will be
German Jews though.

726

00:39:28,780 --> 00:39:31,730

727

00:39:31,730 --> 00:39:36,170

Is there any message you want
to leave your family with,

728

00:39:36,170 --> 00:39:37,670

your grandchild--

729

00:39:37,670 --> 00:39:39,200

anything special?

730

00:39:39,200 --> 00:39:43,490

My grandchild is
a wonderful child.

731

00:39:43,490 --> 00:39:47,140

The child of a
non-Jewish mother.

732

00:39:47,140 --> 00:39:49,882

733

00:39:49,882 --> 00:39:57,610

Who two years ago was--

734

00:39:57,610 --> 00:40:00,100

his father I were
talking about something.

735

00:40:00,100 --> 00:40:02,860

And his father was saying
that only the two of us

736

00:40:02,860 --> 00:40:06,160

will be there who
were born Jewish.

737

00:40:06,160 --> 00:40:08,110

Well, he met me.

738

00:40:08,110 --> 00:40:11,500

And my grandson
chimed in, "And me."

739

00:40:11,500 --> 00:40:14,590

He feels Jewish
when he is with us.

740

00:40:14,590 --> 00:40:16,810

He's always spending
the holidays with us.

741

00:40:16,810 --> 00:40:19,480

742
00:40:19,480 --> 00:40:23,270
And then you spends the other
holidays with his mother--

743
00:40:23,270 --> 00:40:26,240
her house and the
grandparents' house.

744
00:40:26,240 --> 00:40:27,440
He's a sweetheart.

745
00:40:27,440 --> 00:40:31,580
He loves us dearly.

746
00:40:31,580 --> 00:40:35,570
I never talked to
him about all this.

747
00:40:35,570 --> 00:40:40,490
I didn't there and I was
not encouraged either.

748
00:40:40,490 --> 00:40:43,870
However, he was here
a few months ago.

749
00:40:43,870 --> 00:40:51,080
And God knows how, he said
something when I said, "Did you

750
00:40:51,080 --> 00:40:54,850
go to see Schindler's List?"

751
00:40:54,850 --> 00:40:55,750
And he said, "Yes.

752
00:40:55,750 --> 00:40:59,566

753
00:40:59,566 --> 00:41:03,550

I saw it twice."

754

00:41:03,550 --> 00:41:08,510

He was completely
wiped out by it.

755

00:41:08,510 --> 00:41:12,140

And I dared to ask, which I
had asked his father sometimes

756

00:41:12,140 --> 00:41:12,640

to go.

757

00:41:12,640 --> 00:41:16,940

And he does not have the
nerve to face the Holocaust

758

00:41:16,940 --> 00:41:18,500

Museum either.

759

00:41:18,500 --> 00:41:19,640

And I asked Michael.

760

00:41:19,640 --> 00:41:24,260

And he said he would like to go
but he want to go with father.

761

00:41:24,260 --> 00:41:27,720

So I said, "If you want me to
go with you tell me about it."

762

00:41:27,720 --> 00:41:30,260

And then I ask if his
school shouldn't go.

763

00:41:30,260 --> 00:41:31,580

And he said it's a good idea.

764

00:41:31,580 --> 00:41:33,800

Probably it should.

765

00:41:33,800 --> 00:41:38,710

But then since then I haven't
spoken to him about that.

766
00:41:38,710 --> 00:41:44,340
It's very good that now
I know that he wants.

767
00:41:44,340 --> 00:41:49,770

768
00:41:49,770 --> 00:41:53,890
When his friends were bar
mitzvahs and bat mitzvahs

769
00:41:53,890 --> 00:41:57,390
and he kept going
to them, his father

770
00:41:57,390 --> 00:41:59,780
was asking him if he doesn't
want to become Jewish.

771
00:41:59,780 --> 00:42:03,640
But then his grandfather
was still alive.

772
00:42:03,640 --> 00:42:05,160
And he said to
his father that he

773
00:42:05,160 --> 00:42:07,640
would have nothing against
it, except going up there.

774
00:42:07,640 --> 00:42:10,410

775
00:42:10,410 --> 00:42:14,630
So I just have to
accept it this way.

776
00:42:14,630 --> 00:42:15,130
It hurts.

777
00:42:15,130 --> 00:42:17,700

778
00:42:17,700 --> 00:42:22,200
He got the bigger birthday
present of his 13th.

779
00:42:22,200 --> 00:42:24,720
We had give it to
him with telling him

780
00:42:24,720 --> 00:42:29,210
that if he was now
Jewish he would

781
00:42:29,210 --> 00:42:34,050
have a mark on his birthday,
but without that, a Jewish boy

782
00:42:34,050 --> 00:42:36,490
is bat mitzvahed at
13 no matter what.

783
00:42:36,490 --> 00:42:43,870

784
00:42:43,870 --> 00:42:47,010
Is there anything you'd like
to add before we finish--

785
00:42:47,010 --> 00:42:49,380
any thought, final thought?

786
00:42:49,380 --> 00:42:50,050
No.

787
00:42:50,050 --> 00:42:52,870
I'd rather don't melt away.

788
00:42:52,870 --> 00:42:56,627
I don't want to melt away now.

789

00:42:56,627 --> 00:42:57,460

Thank you very much.

790

00:42:57,460 --> 00:43:00,010

Well, thank you for
doing the interview.

791

00:43:00,010 --> 00:43:02,430

Thank you so very much.

792

00:43:02,430 --> 00:43:06,000