

Does not know her name, when or where she was born

Earliest memories are of a summer home at the seaside, then later living with her mother's sister and twin cousins in a compound with a playschool.

Remembers Polish soldiers in black uniforms and German soldiers in khaki uniforms

Stayed in hot stuffy cellar during raids - a father killed his own crying child

Germans ordered people out of the cellar- father taken away

She, stepmother, aunt and 2 cousins taken to countryside - lived in barracks

Taken to ditch- everyone shot, she clawed her way out, went back to barracks

Pushed into cattle cars with stepmother, taken to a camp feels it was Treblinka before the ovens

Women dug hole under the barrack floor - she escaped with step-mother and another child and mother, walked through fields of cut corn at night. Found a step-uncle in the forest

Was a runner for a partisan group - merged with other groups

Fall / Winter 1942 - very cold, feet wrapped in rags

stepmother killed during German raid, Esthy hit in chest and leg

peasant let her stay in hole in the ground of his storage room

Spring 1943 - took new name, went to another village in Ukraine -had the previous

peasant's family picture to show she was Catholic

had been baptized, brainwashed that Jews killed Christ

Worked as a cowhand - thinks she was 9 years old

Early 1944 - heard Katyushas and saw Russian soldiers

2 Jews came for her and kidnapped her - taken to a family in the city - given false papers saying she was born in 1935 in Koenigsberg

Went to Bratislava - was taken over the border to Barbizon, France to an orphanage run by the Schott family

Eleanor Roosevelt visited, called Esthy a boy because of lice her head was shaven

Met Kurt and Gina Lehman who were doctors with ORT

Left school at 14 to learn how to sew pants. Then went to private Jewish school

At 18, moved in with the Lehmans- took name Esterka Lehman, got degree in Philosophy

Met future husband, James Adler, an American soldier, in Heidelberg

Married at age 19 in 1956