

1
00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:06,430

2
00:00:06,430 --> 00:00:09,610
This is the United States
Holocaust Memorial Museum

3
00:00:09,610 --> 00:00:12,370
interview with Christine
Cohen, conducted

4
00:00:12,370 --> 00:00:17,980
by Margaret Garrett on January
5, 1997 in Bethesda, Maryland.

5
00:00:17,980 --> 00:00:24,200
Tape two, side A.
Mrs. Cohen, let's

6
00:00:24,200 --> 00:00:34,320
go back to you're talking
about the kids at church

7
00:00:34,320 --> 00:00:38,070
knowing you were Jewish and
saying bad things about you.

8
00:00:38,070 --> 00:00:39,690
What was it like in school?

9
00:00:39,690 --> 00:00:42,690
Did the children at school
know you were Jewish

10
00:00:42,690 --> 00:00:44,280
and say anything about it?

11
00:00:44,280 --> 00:00:45,420
Yes, they did.

12
00:00:45,420 --> 00:00:49,080

They knew it, and they said
things, all sorts of things.

13
00:00:49,080 --> 00:00:52,980
I remember the favorite
thing was Christ killer,

14
00:00:52,980 --> 00:00:59,220
and despite that, I
had a circle of friends

15
00:00:59,220 --> 00:01:00,930
who we never discussed--

16
00:01:00,930 --> 00:01:02,610
I mean, they knew I was Jewish.

17
00:01:02,610 --> 00:01:03,900
But we never discussed it.

18
00:01:03,900 --> 00:01:06,720
I never actually
would admit to it.

19
00:01:06,720 --> 00:01:08,910
It was never a discussion.

20
00:01:08,910 --> 00:01:11,890
I had a lot of friends
in spite of that.

21
00:01:11,890 --> 00:01:12,900
They were not Jewish?

22
00:01:12,900 --> 00:01:14,260
None of them were Jewish.

23
00:01:14,260 --> 00:01:16,470
There was not one Jewish
child in my whole school

24
00:01:16,470 --> 00:01:18,330

left in Warsaw.

25

00:01:18,330 --> 00:01:20,370

There were very few Jews left.

26

00:01:20,370 --> 00:01:24,340

I was the only one,
and like I said,

27

00:01:24,340 --> 00:01:26,620

I had a few close friends.

28

00:01:26,620 --> 00:01:29,920

And then when I got older,
dating, and all that,

29

00:01:29,920 --> 00:01:31,060

I never had a problem.

30

00:01:31,060 --> 00:01:32,740

I was very popular.

31

00:01:32,740 --> 00:01:36,220

How did the teachers treat you?

32

00:01:36,220 --> 00:01:41,770

I'm sure their treatment was
affected by how they felt,

33

00:01:41,770 --> 00:01:43,570

but I honestly don't remember.

34

00:01:43,570 --> 00:01:47,453

Because the thing is I
was a very good student,

35

00:01:47,453 --> 00:01:48,495

so I never had a problem.

36

00:01:48,495 --> 00:01:52,910

I had straight A's, and
I never had a problem.

37

00:01:52,910 --> 00:01:55,750

So it wasn't a
situation, where they

38

00:01:55,750 --> 00:01:58,870

would give me a lesser grade,
just because I was Jewish.

39

00:01:58,870 --> 00:02:00,670

But I'm sure it
entered their minds,

40

00:02:00,670 --> 00:02:04,810

because the teachers weren't
any different than the children.

41

00:02:04,810 --> 00:02:06,730

That's where the
children got it far from,

42

00:02:06,730 --> 00:02:08,155

from parents, from adults.

43

00:02:08,155 --> 00:02:11,090

44

00:02:11,090 --> 00:02:12,460

So I interrupted you.

45

00:02:12,460 --> 00:02:16,900

You said, when you started
dating, that seemed to go OK.

46

00:02:16,900 --> 00:02:20,950

It went OK, because
I was popular.

47

00:02:20,950 --> 00:02:26,560

And the people I dated didn't
openly act anti-Semitic,

48

00:02:26,560 --> 00:02:29,590
but I believe,
looking back, I don't

49
00:02:29,590 --> 00:02:36,370
know how they felt. But the
majority of the children

50
00:02:36,370 --> 00:02:39,430
and teenagers, they
were anti-Semitic,

51
00:02:39,430 --> 00:02:41,650
just like their parents.

52
00:02:41,650 --> 00:02:46,090
And they would say things, and
when I was little, it hurt.

53
00:02:46,090 --> 00:02:48,100
When I was older, it
hurt, too, but they were

54
00:02:48,100 --> 00:02:50,950
a little more subtle about it.

55
00:02:50,950 --> 00:02:53,530
How did you deal with it?

56
00:02:53,530 --> 00:02:54,910
Actually, I didn't.

57
00:02:54,910 --> 00:02:56,540
I didn't deal with it at all.

58
00:02:56,540 --> 00:02:59,990
I just was very
unhappy and let it go.

59
00:02:59,990 --> 00:03:02,920
Did you talk to your
mother about it?

60

00:03:02,920 --> 00:03:05,010

No, because at
that point, I knew

61

00:03:05,010 --> 00:03:08,640

I was old enough to know
that there was no way

62

00:03:08,640 --> 00:03:09,850

we could change anything.

63

00:03:09,850 --> 00:03:13,250

That's how Poland was.

64

00:03:13,250 --> 00:03:17,900

So you didn't talk to her,
and what did that mean to you

65

00:03:17,900 --> 00:03:21,980

at that time being Jewish?

66

00:03:21,980 --> 00:03:25,970

Well, I desperately didn't
want to be, even at that time.

67

00:03:25,970 --> 00:03:29,660

What did you think it
meant to be Jewish?

68

00:03:29,660 --> 00:03:33,950

To be somehow less than
someone else, to be less.

69

00:03:33,950 --> 00:03:35,900

I wasn't the same.

70

00:03:35,900 --> 00:03:39,920

I was trying to be the
same, but I wasn't the same.

71

00:03:39,920 --> 00:03:42,920

I had, basically, less rights.

72
00:03:42,920 --> 00:03:44,180
I was just less.

73
00:03:44,180 --> 00:03:46,830
I wasn't a person.

74
00:03:46,830 --> 00:03:48,828
So it didn't have any
other meaning for you,

75
00:03:48,828 --> 00:03:50,870
or did you have any other
understanding of what--

76
00:03:50,870 --> 00:03:54,830
you mean as in I felt Jewish,
or Jewish religion, or whatever,

77
00:03:54,830 --> 00:03:55,730
no.

78
00:03:55,730 --> 00:03:57,980
I desperately,
even as a teenager,

79
00:03:57,980 --> 00:04:00,860
even as a 16-year-old,
when I understood

80
00:04:00,860 --> 00:04:03,290
I can't change
things, I desperately

81
00:04:03,290 --> 00:04:08,120
wanted to be Catholic and not
Jewish, until we left Poland.

82
00:04:08,120 --> 00:04:13,890
Until the day we left Poland,
I did not want to be Jewish.

83

00:04:13,890 --> 00:04:17,240
So you left Poland when?

84
00:04:17,240 --> 00:04:20,470
1957.

85
00:04:20,470 --> 00:04:21,950
And you were 17.

86
00:04:21,950 --> 00:04:25,080
Uh huh, and I went to Israel.

87
00:04:25,080 --> 00:04:27,230
And then I could be Jewish.

88
00:04:27,230 --> 00:04:29,120
That's not the reason
we went to Israel,

89
00:04:29,120 --> 00:04:30,890
but this was the
only place we could

90
00:04:30,890 --> 00:04:33,770
go in order to leave Poland.

91
00:04:33,770 --> 00:04:36,470
What had happened, my
parents tried since '45

92
00:04:36,470 --> 00:04:38,240
to leave Poland.

93
00:04:38,240 --> 00:04:40,670
But my father being
an electrical engineer

94
00:04:40,670 --> 00:04:44,570
was involved in a bunch
of government projects,

95
00:04:44,570 --> 00:04:46,920

and they would let us go.

96

00:04:46,920 --> 00:04:49,450

But they wouldn't
let my father go,

97

00:04:49,450 --> 00:04:52,030

so they tried to go to
Sweden, to Australia.

98

00:04:52,030 --> 00:04:54,940

They tried to go everywhere
just to leave Poland.

99

00:04:54,940 --> 00:04:58,790

They would not let him go,
because they needed him.

100

00:04:58,790 --> 00:05:01,690

So they would give us a
visa for the three of us,

101

00:05:01,690 --> 00:05:04,550

and, of course, we didn't
want to leave without him.

102

00:05:04,550 --> 00:05:09,040

So finally, in '57, they still
didn't want to let him go.

103

00:05:09,040 --> 00:05:10,870

I don't exactly remember.

104

00:05:10,870 --> 00:05:15,370

But they said that
the only place

105

00:05:15,370 --> 00:05:19,017

you can go to leave Poland is
to Israel, if you're Jewish,

106

00:05:19,017 --> 00:05:19,600

and that's it.

107
00:05:19,600 --> 00:05:21,560
My parents didn't
want to go to Israel.

108
00:05:21,560 --> 00:05:23,800
They wanted to come to the
United States anywhere,

109
00:05:23,800 --> 00:05:25,540
but out of Poland.

110
00:05:25,540 --> 00:05:29,020
But they said, that's where
you can go, and my father--

111
00:05:29,020 --> 00:05:29,620
I don't know.

112
00:05:29,620 --> 00:05:31,250
They bribed somebody
or something.

113
00:05:31,250 --> 00:05:34,143
My father got out too,
and we moved to Israel.

114
00:05:34,143 --> 00:05:35,560
And we lived there
for five years,

115
00:05:35,560 --> 00:05:39,080
and finally, I was the
same as everybody else.

116
00:05:39,080 --> 00:05:42,790

117
00:05:42,790 --> 00:05:47,340
And I got over that
feeling of trying

118

00:05:47,340 --> 00:05:53,520
to hide the fact as if I'm
not worthy of something,

119
00:05:53,520 --> 00:05:57,360
or I don't know, like I
was less than a person.

120
00:05:57,360 --> 00:06:01,190
Going to Israel
actually helped me.

121
00:06:01,190 --> 00:06:03,500
After that, after we
moved out of Israel,

122
00:06:03,500 --> 00:06:07,310
I have no problem with being
Jewish other than the fact

123
00:06:07,310 --> 00:06:10,910
that I feel deprived of
my childhood, my family,

124
00:06:10,910 --> 00:06:13,610
and everything
that everybody has.

125
00:06:13,610 --> 00:06:18,290
And even after the war,
I feel that intense--

126
00:06:18,290 --> 00:06:20,540
my mother was very intense.

127
00:06:20,540 --> 00:06:22,110
She was so overprotective.

128
00:06:22,110 --> 00:06:25,530
Everything was so
intense, so I even

129
00:06:25,530 --> 00:06:28,580

feel that my mother died
early because of that.

130
00:06:28,580 --> 00:06:31,260
She still was a young woman.

131
00:06:31,260 --> 00:06:32,420
She had so many problems.

132
00:06:32,420 --> 00:06:34,100
She had a very high
blood pressure,

133
00:06:34,100 --> 00:06:35,900
and that was since the war.

134
00:06:35,900 --> 00:06:39,650
She didn't take care
of herself, and she

135
00:06:39,650 --> 00:06:42,770
developed congestive
heart failure and died.

136
00:06:42,770 --> 00:06:45,740
And all of it was
connected with the war,

137
00:06:45,740 --> 00:06:48,830
but the biggest tragedy with
her is she couldn't hear.

138
00:06:48,830 --> 00:06:51,440

139
00:06:51,440 --> 00:06:54,140
In the '50s, all of a sudden,
she went to the theater

140
00:06:54,140 --> 00:06:55,490
and lost her hearing.

141

00:06:55,490 --> 00:06:59,660
And it was all, again,
connected to the war

142
00:06:59,660 --> 00:07:02,060
as there were some nerves
paralyzed or whatever.

143
00:07:02,060 --> 00:07:05,440

144
00:07:05,440 --> 00:07:09,560
This was from the war, and
she wore a hearing aid.

145
00:07:09,560 --> 00:07:13,180
She could hear,
but not very well.

146
00:07:13,180 --> 00:07:16,420
And that affected
my life, but I feel

147
00:07:16,420 --> 00:07:18,850
that's a direct
result of the war.

148
00:07:18,850 --> 00:07:20,590
Everything that
has happened to me

149
00:07:20,590 --> 00:07:22,730
is a direct result of the war.

150
00:07:22,730 --> 00:07:26,180
I tried not to be
overprotective with my children.

151
00:07:26,180 --> 00:07:28,960
I tried very hard
to stop myself.

152
00:07:28,960 --> 00:07:34,510

I'm beginning to be almost like
my mother, so I stopped myself.

153
00:07:34,510 --> 00:07:37,060
Because I wasn't.

154
00:07:37,060 --> 00:07:39,400
Everything I do,
everything is intense.

155
00:07:39,400 --> 00:07:42,640
With me, I'm never
truly relaxed,

156
00:07:42,640 --> 00:07:46,450
even I could be
somewhere having fun.

157
00:07:46,450 --> 00:07:48,280
But it's like someone--

158
00:07:48,280 --> 00:07:52,030
I'm standing outside of
myself, observing myself.

159
00:07:52,030 --> 00:07:53,740
Like, oh, you're having fun.

160
00:07:53,740 --> 00:07:57,620
Something bad is going to
happen, that sort of thing,

161
00:07:57,620 --> 00:08:00,070
and I'm never--

162
00:08:00,070 --> 00:08:01,450
people let themselves go.

163
00:08:01,450 --> 00:08:04,600
They truly enjoy life
or enjoy something.

164

00:08:04,600 --> 00:08:09,280
I'm enjoying it, but
observing myself enjoying it.

165
00:08:09,280 --> 00:08:11,560
I don't know how
else to explain it.

166
00:08:11,560 --> 00:08:13,570
I've never truly, truly relaxed.

167
00:08:13,570 --> 00:08:16,110

168
00:08:16,110 --> 00:08:20,280
A little thing, like I
love dogs, a lot of people

169
00:08:20,280 --> 00:08:22,300
love dogs.

170
00:08:22,300 --> 00:08:26,980
But my feeling about dogs, a
psychiatrist friend of ours

171
00:08:26,980 --> 00:08:29,650
told me one time that the
reason I feel the way I do

172
00:08:29,650 --> 00:08:34,650
is because I identified
with the dogs.

173
00:08:34,650 --> 00:08:35,990
And this is true.

174
00:08:35,990 --> 00:08:38,360
We can be driving
down the street.

175
00:08:38,360 --> 00:08:41,179
I know my husband
likes to joke of it.

176
00:08:41,179 --> 00:08:43,740
I see a dog on the
side of the road,

177
00:08:43,740 --> 00:08:45,175
and I just go into hysterics.

178
00:08:45,175 --> 00:08:46,550
And my husband
says, don't worry.

179
00:08:46,550 --> 00:08:48,550
It's a person.

180
00:08:48,550 --> 00:08:51,250
I mean, it's a joke, but,
of course, [INAUDIBLE]..

181
00:08:51,250 --> 00:08:53,260
I see a homeless dog.

182
00:08:53,260 --> 00:08:56,730
My whole day, I can't
stop thinking about it.

183
00:08:56,730 --> 00:09:00,940
A lot of people love dogs,
but this is different.

184
00:09:00,940 --> 00:09:03,640
I really think I
identify myself with them

185
00:09:03,640 --> 00:09:07,660
as helpless creatures
that someone throws out,

186
00:09:07,660 --> 00:09:15,170
abuses, uses as property,
and I guess that's really

187

00:09:15,170 --> 00:09:17,600
what I brought from the war.

188
00:09:17,600 --> 00:09:23,553
I really think that, and I
think, if things go well,

189
00:09:23,553 --> 00:09:24,720
something's going to happen.

190
00:09:24,720 --> 00:09:28,540

191
00:09:28,540 --> 00:09:30,250
And it's not that I
walk around unhappy.

192
00:09:30,250 --> 00:09:31,480
I know how to have fun.

193
00:09:31,480 --> 00:09:36,310
I have a lot of friends,
and I do fun things.

194
00:09:36,310 --> 00:09:37,990
What I do, I'm a travel agent.

195
00:09:37,990 --> 00:09:39,490
I enjoy it tremendously.

196
00:09:39,490 --> 00:09:40,990
I love traveling.

197
00:09:40,990 --> 00:09:41,890
I love dancing.

198
00:09:41,890 --> 00:09:42,610
I love all that.

199
00:09:42,610 --> 00:09:46,630
But I don't know why I can't
just be myself without,

200
00:09:46,630 --> 00:09:50,020
every time, stepping outside of
myself and looking at myself,

201
00:09:50,020 --> 00:09:51,880
like, what are you
doing having fun?

202
00:09:51,880 --> 00:09:52,900
You're having fun now.

203
00:09:52,900 --> 00:09:54,990
Wait, that sort of thing.

204
00:09:54,990 --> 00:09:57,820
So you're always fearful
that it won't last

205
00:09:57,820 --> 00:09:59,530
or that something
will happen to you.

206
00:09:59,530 --> 00:10:01,570
Mhmm.

207
00:10:01,570 --> 00:10:03,976
My husband, when we
first got married

208
00:10:03,976 --> 00:10:08,330
and he was five minutes late,
I didn't think the traffic.

209
00:10:08,330 --> 00:10:12,380
I thought he's laying
in a ditch somewhere.

210
00:10:12,380 --> 00:10:13,700
Same thing with my children.

211
00:10:13,700 --> 00:10:17,210

They were always very,
very good about calling,

212
00:10:17,210 --> 00:10:19,970
if they were late, once
they started driving,

213
00:10:19,970 --> 00:10:21,440
because they knew how I felt.

214
00:10:21,440 --> 00:10:24,770
I would never think they were
irresponsible, or they forgot.

215
00:10:24,770 --> 00:10:26,610
Time got away from them.

216
00:10:26,610 --> 00:10:28,170
I would think they were dead.

217
00:10:28,170 --> 00:10:30,280
What about when they
were little children?

218
00:10:30,280 --> 00:10:33,770
I was overprotective then,
because then they allowed me.

219
00:10:33,770 --> 00:10:35,930
When they got
older, they didn't.

220
00:10:35,930 --> 00:10:37,700
Were you able to
stay home with them?

221
00:10:37,700 --> 00:10:39,620
Yes, I did.

222
00:10:39,620 --> 00:10:40,453
That's what I chose.

223

00:10:40,453 --> 00:10:41,578
So you didn't have to work?

224
00:10:41,578 --> 00:10:42,397
No, I didn't have--

225
00:10:42,397 --> 00:10:43,730
I don't have to work now either.

226
00:10:43,730 --> 00:10:45,320
But now, I want to.

227
00:10:45,320 --> 00:10:48,380
I didn't, and I don't
want full time anyway.

228
00:10:48,380 --> 00:10:50,420
I didn't have to work,
and I didn't want to.

229
00:10:50,420 --> 00:10:58,090
I wanted to be with them,
and I was overprotective

230
00:10:58,090 --> 00:11:01,600
as I look back at it.

231
00:11:01,600 --> 00:11:06,910
My son who's actually--
you know, he was never

232
00:11:06,910 --> 00:11:09,570
a follower, even as a baby.

233
00:11:09,570 --> 00:11:11,770
He was more of a leader.

234
00:11:11,770 --> 00:11:13,570
He marches to his own drummer.

235
00:11:13,570 --> 00:11:16,270
If the whole world

said, do such and such,

236
00:11:16,270 --> 00:11:19,550
if he feels it's not right
for him, he won't do it.

237
00:11:19,550 --> 00:11:21,080
He was always an individual.

238
00:11:21,080 --> 00:11:22,810
I remember when he
was a little boy,

239
00:11:22,810 --> 00:11:25,660
and I used to bring him
to playgroups, or birthday

240
00:11:25,660 --> 00:11:26,590
parties, or whatever.

241
00:11:26,590 --> 00:11:29,950

242
00:11:29,950 --> 00:11:31,660
All the children were
playing together,

243
00:11:31,660 --> 00:11:35,320
and these could be kids he grew
up with, he knew very well.

244
00:11:35,320 --> 00:11:37,580
He would go off and
play by himself.

245
00:11:37,580 --> 00:11:38,890
He was happy.

246
00:11:38,890 --> 00:11:41,372
He amused himself,
but I used to push.

247

00:11:41,372 --> 00:11:43,330
I would say, Steve, go
with the other children,

248
00:11:43,330 --> 00:11:46,720
go with the other children,
until he was much older.

249
00:11:46,720 --> 00:11:49,300
And a very close
friend of mine told me.

250
00:11:49,300 --> 00:11:51,160
She says, leave him alone.

251
00:11:51,160 --> 00:11:52,780
He will do it when he's ready.

252
00:11:52,780 --> 00:11:56,770
Don't push him, but
that's what I was doing.

253
00:11:56,770 --> 00:11:58,450
And I try to catch myself.

254
00:11:58,450 --> 00:12:01,690
Since then, I try to catch
myself when I was doing that.

255
00:12:01,690 --> 00:12:04,720
He was perfectly happy
to be by himself,

256
00:12:04,720 --> 00:12:06,560
but I didn't want
him to be by myself.

257
00:12:06,560 --> 00:12:10,390
I wanted him to be
with other children,

258
00:12:10,390 --> 00:12:13,390
and I was always--

when the kids first

259

00:12:13,390 --> 00:12:16,450

started playing on the street,
when they were old enough,

260

00:12:16,450 --> 00:12:17,620

I was there.

261

00:12:17,620 --> 00:12:21,220

The other mothers weren't,
which in turn made the kids

262

00:12:21,220 --> 00:12:22,960

the laughing stock.

263

00:12:22,960 --> 00:12:26,680

And that wasn't good.

264

00:12:26,680 --> 00:12:28,670

Little things like that.

265

00:12:28,670 --> 00:12:31,540

But every time I did
something like that,

266

00:12:31,540 --> 00:12:34,540

I thought of what my mother
did, and I tried not to do it.

267

00:12:34,540 --> 00:12:38,100

I said, I'll never do that.

268

00:12:38,100 --> 00:12:39,790

And I'm trying.

269

00:12:39,790 --> 00:12:41,930

How was your mother
with your children?

270

00:12:41,930 --> 00:12:46,250

Oh, she adored them, but she was

just as overprotective of them.

271
00:12:46,250 --> 00:12:48,020
I mean, if she didn't--

272
00:12:48,020 --> 00:12:50,820
she would be in the house.

273
00:12:50,820 --> 00:12:51,320
Let's see.

274
00:12:51,320 --> 00:12:52,070
They were two and three.

275
00:12:52,070 --> 00:12:53,210
They were playing in their room.

276
00:12:53,210 --> 00:12:54,090
She didn't see them.

277
00:12:54,090 --> 00:12:55,490
She went into panic.

278
00:12:55,490 --> 00:12:58,520
I remember I went to
my brother's wedding.

279
00:12:58,520 --> 00:13:00,890
My daughter was 18.

280
00:13:00,890 --> 00:13:03,230
They had a wedding in Maine.

281
00:13:03,230 --> 00:13:06,080
His in-laws have a
summer home there

282
00:13:06,080 --> 00:13:09,980
on a lake, and everybody
rented houses around there.

283

00:13:09,980 --> 00:13:12,650
And that's where the wedding
was, and one was in this house.

284
00:13:12,650 --> 00:13:15,650
One in this after the wedding.

285
00:13:15,650 --> 00:13:16,160
Let's see.

286
00:13:16,160 --> 00:13:19,160
We went across the
lake to visit somebody,

287
00:13:19,160 --> 00:13:20,700
and my daughter went with us.

288
00:13:20,700 --> 00:13:26,700
She was 18, and my mother was
with my brother somewhere.

289
00:13:26,700 --> 00:13:28,150
She kept running into the woods.

290
00:13:28,150 --> 00:13:30,920
She was panicked, because she
couldn't find my daughter.

291
00:13:30,920 --> 00:13:32,010
She was with us.

292
00:13:32,010 --> 00:13:35,600
She was perfectly safe,
and they tried to tell her.

293
00:13:35,600 --> 00:13:37,970
But she was just panicking,
because she thought

294
00:13:37,970 --> 00:13:39,130
something happened to her.

295

00:13:39,130 --> 00:13:41,750

296

00:13:41,750 --> 00:13:45,220

She was just with my children.

297

00:13:45,220 --> 00:13:46,590

Is your husband Jewish?

298

00:13:46,590 --> 00:13:48,120

Mhmm.

299

00:13:48,120 --> 00:13:51,780

And how does he deal
with the children

300

00:13:51,780 --> 00:13:53,820

with your overprotectiveness?

301

00:13:53,820 --> 00:13:57,710

302

00:13:57,710 --> 00:14:04,860

I guess he balances it, and
he points it out to me gladly.

303

00:14:04,860 --> 00:14:07,700

304

00:14:07,700 --> 00:14:11,900

How has the war
affected you as far

305

00:14:11,900 --> 00:14:18,460

as the way you view national
events or international events,

306

00:14:18,460 --> 00:14:20,900

such as Bosnia?

307

00:14:20,900 --> 00:14:23,280

Did you have any

reactions to that?

308

00:14:23,280 --> 00:14:28,170

I do, but not the kind that
you would expect, that even

309

00:14:28,170 --> 00:14:33,120

I would expect, like feeling
some kind of bond with them.

310

00:14:33,120 --> 00:14:34,290

Whatever.

311

00:14:34,290 --> 00:14:39,930

I don't, and the thing is maybe
it's not a very nice thing

312

00:14:39,930 --> 00:14:41,130

to say.

313

00:14:41,130 --> 00:14:43,200

But when things happen
all over the world,

314

00:14:43,200 --> 00:14:45,600

and I realized, today, with
the media and everything.

315

00:14:45,600 --> 00:14:48,270

Everybody knows
about everything,

316

00:14:48,270 --> 00:14:53,310

but I'm also convinced the world
knows that everybody knew--

317

00:14:53,310 --> 00:14:54,930

maybe not to what extent.

318

00:14:54,930 --> 00:14:58,080

But everybody knew the Jews
were being killed in Europe,

319

00:14:58,080 --> 00:14:59,970
and no one lifted a hand.

320

00:14:59,970 --> 00:15:04,430
And it's terrible, and
selfish, and cold as it sounds.

321

00:15:04,430 --> 00:15:06,180
Of course, I wouldn't
want anything

322

00:15:06,180 --> 00:15:08,640
to happen to people anywhere.

323

00:15:08,640 --> 00:15:12,390
But I'm almost becoming
one of those people,

324

00:15:12,390 --> 00:15:14,250
like they didn't help me.

325

00:15:14,250 --> 00:15:17,170
Why should I be concerned
about someone else?

326

00:15:17,170 --> 00:15:20,010
Which is not the
feeling I should have.

327

00:15:20,010 --> 00:15:22,350
I know, and I feel
guilty about it.

328

00:15:22,350 --> 00:15:25,320
It's not that I'm with that
sympathy, but not enough

329

00:15:25,320 --> 00:15:28,260
to do something about it.

330

00:15:28,260 --> 00:15:32,450
Because I feel we were betrayed.

331
00:15:32,450 --> 00:15:33,800
It's not going to--

332
00:15:33,800 --> 00:15:37,770
I feel so bitter
about what happened.

333
00:15:37,770 --> 00:15:42,750
I have pictures of my family,
the ones that I did find,

334
00:15:42,750 --> 00:15:44,160
in my bedroom.

335
00:15:44,160 --> 00:15:47,790
Every morning, I wake up,
and I look at my family,

336
00:15:47,790 --> 00:15:49,540
the few pictures I have.

337
00:15:49,540 --> 00:15:54,880
And I feel like they
took them away from me.

338
00:15:54,880 --> 00:15:58,050
I never got to know
them, like I know

339
00:15:58,050 --> 00:16:00,150
there were millions of
people in that situation.

340
00:16:00,150 --> 00:16:04,380
But I feel almost like I'm
the only one, like my grief is

341
00:16:04,380 --> 00:16:06,750
more than anybody else's grief.

342
00:16:06,750 --> 00:16:09,450

And the strange thing is,
again, when I was growing up,

343
00:16:09,450 --> 00:16:13,080
when I was a teenager, I didn't
think about all these things.

344
00:16:13,080 --> 00:16:14,880
I really didn't.

345
00:16:14,880 --> 00:16:16,860
I knew that was my way of life.

346
00:16:16,860 --> 00:16:17,820
I didn't have family.

347
00:16:17,820 --> 00:16:19,840
So what?

348
00:16:19,840 --> 00:16:22,410
When you were five, you
had pretty strong feelings

349
00:16:22,410 --> 00:16:24,450
about the little German boy.

350
00:16:24,450 --> 00:16:26,910
But I guess then I buried it.

351
00:16:26,910 --> 00:16:29,550
And does it come out now?

352
00:16:29,550 --> 00:16:31,200
That's funny you should ask.

353
00:16:31,200 --> 00:16:32,250
Isn't it?

354
00:16:32,250 --> 00:16:34,800
I used to-- and now,
they're not close friends.

355

00:16:34,800 --> 00:16:36,090

Not because they're German.

356

00:16:36,090 --> 00:16:41,795

I used to have my closest friend
for years since I got married.

357

00:16:41,795 --> 00:16:44,580

It was a girl from
Germany, a German girl.

358

00:16:44,580 --> 00:16:47,280

359

00:16:47,280 --> 00:16:50,130

The only problem we ever had--

360

00:16:50,130 --> 00:16:51,550

we lived next door
to each other.

361

00:16:51,550 --> 00:16:53,020

The kids grew up together.

362

00:16:53,020 --> 00:16:57,720

In fact, she was the one that
told me I was pushing my son.

363

00:16:57,720 --> 00:16:59,110

Did she have a German accent?

364

00:16:59,110 --> 00:17:01,290

Yes, oh yes, she
came when I came

365

00:17:01,290 --> 00:17:03,090

from-- she came from Germany.

366

00:17:03,090 --> 00:17:04,349

She had a German accent.

367

00:17:04,349 --> 00:17:06,810

Her name is
[? Broonie, ?] Brunhilde.

368

00:17:06,810 --> 00:17:10,500

She was married
to an American GI.

369

00:17:10,500 --> 00:17:18,260

She came in '63, I
guess, and we met in '64.

370

00:17:18,260 --> 00:17:21,770

Her baby was a few months
old, and she was my next door

371

00:17:21,770 --> 00:17:23,460

neighbor in an apartment.

372

00:17:23,460 --> 00:17:25,310

I had no children.

373

00:17:25,310 --> 00:17:30,290

We met, and both of us were
learning how to speak English.

374

00:17:30,290 --> 00:17:32,560

We were learning everything.

375

00:17:32,560 --> 00:17:37,070

We sort of hung together, and
we became very good friends.

376

00:17:37,070 --> 00:17:40,640

And the fact that she was
German didn't bother me at all.

377

00:17:40,640 --> 00:17:42,350

We could talk about anything.

378

00:17:42,350 --> 00:17:46,490

We tried to stay away
from the war subject,

379
00:17:46,490 --> 00:17:49,670
although, she had told me.

380
00:17:49,670 --> 00:17:52,370
The one time that it
really hit me was--

381
00:17:52,370 --> 00:17:54,620
a lot of times, we looked
through pictures and things.

382
00:17:54,620 --> 00:17:58,280
And there was her
father in an SS uniform.

383
00:17:58,280 --> 00:17:59,930
That really hit me.

384
00:17:59,930 --> 00:18:01,100
I know her mother.

385
00:18:01,100 --> 00:18:02,810
I knew her sister.

386
00:18:02,810 --> 00:18:03,860
I was very close.

387
00:18:03,860 --> 00:18:07,250
My children call her
mother Alma, which

388
00:18:07,250 --> 00:18:09,240
is a grandmother in German.

389
00:18:09,240 --> 00:18:11,880
Because she's a lovely woman.

390
00:18:11,880 --> 00:18:15,050
My friend told me
that her father

391

00:18:15,050 --> 00:18:19,970
was in the SS, that he was the
meanest, most twisted person

392

00:18:19,970 --> 00:18:22,010
in the world.

393

00:18:22,010 --> 00:18:23,750
She said it's a
terrible thing to say.

394

00:18:23,750 --> 00:18:26,370
She was a little
girl when he died,

395

00:18:26,370 --> 00:18:28,130
but she said she was
happy when he died.

396

00:18:28,130 --> 00:18:31,010

397

00:18:31,010 --> 00:18:33,800
She had a sister with whom
I was very, very close to.

398

00:18:33,800 --> 00:18:37,620
She since died of cancer.

399

00:18:37,620 --> 00:18:39,990
Her sister was-- although,
her sister was maybe 10,

400

00:18:39,990 --> 00:18:40,590
she was eight.

401

00:18:40,590 --> 00:18:42,960
When their father died, he
was in the Russian prison,

402

00:18:42,960 --> 00:18:47,040
and came back home,

and died, whatever.

403

00:18:47,040 --> 00:18:50,190

She said that at
the table, she just

404

00:18:50,190 --> 00:18:53,050

remembers from a
child's point of view.

405

00:18:53,050 --> 00:18:55,290

She doesn't know what he
did, what he didn't do.

406

00:18:55,290 --> 00:18:56,730

From a child's
point of view, she

407

00:18:56,730 --> 00:19:00,150

said they would sit down
at the table for dinner,

408

00:19:00,150 --> 00:19:02,160

and one of them would
say, pass the salt.

409

00:19:02,160 --> 00:19:05,730

And the father would slap
them, because children are not

410

00:19:05,730 --> 00:19:08,820

supposed to speak,
unless spoken to.

411

00:19:08,820 --> 00:19:13,230

She used to say he ran
that house, like an SS man.

412

00:19:13,230 --> 00:19:14,395

She hated him.

413

00:19:14,395 --> 00:19:16,020

She said, it's a

terrible thing to say,

414

00:19:16,020 --> 00:19:18,690
but I'm glad my father is dead.

415

00:19:18,690 --> 00:19:22,770
So I knew her feelings about
it, and lately, as a matter

416

00:19:22,770 --> 00:19:24,540
of fact, we talk about it more.

417

00:19:24,540 --> 00:19:28,410
Her mother was just a
housewife who went along

418

00:19:28,410 --> 00:19:30,510
with the husband on whatever.

419

00:19:30,510 --> 00:19:32,370
But occasionally,
things bothered me,

420

00:19:32,370 --> 00:19:35,760
like her mother is
very wealthy now.

421

00:19:35,760 --> 00:19:39,060
I don't know if she was
wealthy before the war.

422

00:19:39,060 --> 00:19:40,080
Very, very wealthy.

423

00:19:40,080 --> 00:19:42,630
She owns a lot of property.

424

00:19:42,630 --> 00:19:43,950
She has a restaurant.

425

00:19:43,950 --> 00:19:48,210
She has all kinds of things,

and I'm thinking to myself.

426

00:19:48,210 --> 00:19:49,890

And her mother is
innocent in all that.

427

00:19:49,890 --> 00:19:50,700

She doesn't know.

428

00:19:50,700 --> 00:19:51,700

She was a housewife.

429

00:19:51,700 --> 00:19:53,190

Her husband probably abused her.

430

00:19:53,190 --> 00:19:56,850

From what I gathered, her
husband was just awful.

431

00:19:56,850 --> 00:20:00,510

Everybody was afraid of him.

432

00:20:00,510 --> 00:20:04,400

I wonder, if he gathered
all that wealth,

433

00:20:04,400 --> 00:20:06,650

if he got it from the Jews.

434

00:20:06,650 --> 00:20:09,600

I couldn't help,
but wonder about it.

435

00:20:09,600 --> 00:20:14,120

But still, I love my friend,
and I love it till today.

436

00:20:14,120 --> 00:20:16,220

We're not as close for
another reason now.

437

00:20:16,220 --> 00:20:17,108

We're still close.

438
00:20:17,108 --> 00:20:18,650
I mean, if I really
needed something,

439
00:20:18,650 --> 00:20:21,110
she would be there for me,
and I would be there for her.

440
00:20:21,110 --> 00:20:22,820
And her mother is wonderful.

441
00:20:22,820 --> 00:20:27,260
She comes to visit all
the time, but there's

442
00:20:27,260 --> 00:20:31,430
this barrier between us
that, just recently--

443
00:20:31,430 --> 00:20:33,830
the reason were not
as close anymore is

444
00:20:33,830 --> 00:20:37,850
she divorced and married a man I
really don't like to be around.

445
00:20:37,850 --> 00:20:41,630
So I see her during the
day, but we're not as close

446
00:20:41,630 --> 00:20:42,450
as we used to be.

447
00:20:42,450 --> 00:20:44,870
And it has nothing to do
with her being German.

448
00:20:44,870 --> 00:20:49,220
It has to do with her husband,
and I love her daughters.

449
00:20:49,220 --> 00:20:51,053
They're like my daughters.

450
00:20:51,053 --> 00:20:52,220
They're always there for me.

451
00:20:52,220 --> 00:20:53,240
I'm there for them.

452
00:20:53,240 --> 00:20:57,230
I mean, the kids
grew up together.

453
00:20:57,230 --> 00:20:58,430
When my mother died--

454
00:20:58,430 --> 00:21:01,510

455
00:21:01,510 --> 00:21:03,880
well, first of all, my
mother loved her too.

456
00:21:03,880 --> 00:21:06,610
Even my mother, because
she was my best friend,

457
00:21:06,610 --> 00:21:08,350
my mother knew her well.

458
00:21:08,350 --> 00:21:09,530
She loved my mother.

459
00:21:09,530 --> 00:21:12,820
My mother loved her, and when we
moved my mother to the nursing

460
00:21:12,820 --> 00:21:14,920
home, though, she
came to see her.

461

00:21:14,920 --> 00:21:16,840

And my mother, she was
one of the few people

462

00:21:16,840 --> 00:21:19,390

my mother remembered actually.

463

00:21:19,390 --> 00:21:22,510

My mother loved her
without reservations, even

464

00:21:22,510 --> 00:21:24,520

with all of that.

465

00:21:24,520 --> 00:21:27,550

My mother really was
a very fair person.

466

00:21:27,550 --> 00:21:30,790

When my mother died,
more of it came out,

467

00:21:30,790 --> 00:21:34,360

because my brother wrote.

468

00:21:34,360 --> 00:21:38,580

Actually, he did it
for the unveiling.

469

00:21:38,580 --> 00:21:42,160

My brother is a poet,
so he wrote something

470

00:21:42,160 --> 00:21:46,750

about the Holocaust
and all that.

471

00:21:46,750 --> 00:21:49,030

I remember, at the funeral,
of course, she cried,

472

00:21:49,030 --> 00:21:50,140

because it was my mother.

473

00:21:50,140 --> 00:21:53,380

But when they went to
the unveiling, she cried.

474

00:21:53,380 --> 00:21:55,150

And then afterwards,
she told me,

475

00:21:55,150 --> 00:21:58,660

she realized the extent
of what happened,

476

00:21:58,660 --> 00:22:03,115

but she never felt it so
personally, until she heard.

477

00:22:03,115 --> 00:22:04,990

Because they read part
of it, and, of course,

478

00:22:04,990 --> 00:22:06,030

I gave her the booklet.

479

00:22:06,030 --> 00:22:06,910

So she read it.

480

00:22:06,910 --> 00:22:09,550

She couldn't put it down,
and this is the first time,

481

00:22:09,550 --> 00:22:13,120

I think, we talked about,
actually, what happened.

482

00:22:13,120 --> 00:22:15,310

Because up until then,
it was sort of taboo.

483

00:22:15,310 --> 00:22:18,170

484

00:22:18,170 --> 00:22:20,300

And how was it talking
with her about that?

485

00:22:20,300 --> 00:22:21,710

It was OK.

486

00:22:21,710 --> 00:22:26,180

It was OK, because I
don't feel any different

487

00:22:26,180 --> 00:22:27,320

than my mother did.

488

00:22:27,320 --> 00:22:28,050

I love her.

489

00:22:28,050 --> 00:22:30,575

She's a wonderful,
wonderful friend.

490

00:22:30,575 --> 00:22:32,690

The only reason we--

491

00:22:32,690 --> 00:22:35,270

you know, you change.

492

00:22:35,270 --> 00:22:35,990

You grow.

493

00:22:35,990 --> 00:22:39,350

You sort of grow apart,
but it has nothing

494

00:22:39,350 --> 00:22:40,970

to do with her being German.

495

00:22:40,970 --> 00:22:44,090

If she needed anything,
I would be there.

496

00:22:44,090 --> 00:22:45,690
So what about the
country Germany?

497
00:22:45,690 --> 00:22:47,190
Do you have any
feelings about that?

498
00:22:47,190 --> 00:22:49,280
Yes, I do, very strong.

499
00:22:49,280 --> 00:22:52,070
Years ago, we went to
Israel with our kids.

500
00:22:52,070 --> 00:22:53,450
My son was 13.

501
00:22:53,450 --> 00:22:58,220
My daughter was 11, and
again, this friend of mine,

502
00:22:58,220 --> 00:23:00,650
[? Broonie, ?] her
kids were the same age.

503
00:23:00,650 --> 00:23:03,320
It was two girls, and they grew
up, like brothers and sisters.

504
00:23:03,320 --> 00:23:06,020
They were going to visit
her mother in Germany

505
00:23:06,020 --> 00:23:09,080
with her first husband,
so they suggested

506
00:23:09,080 --> 00:23:10,800
her mother wanted us to come.

507
00:23:10,800 --> 00:23:14,670
So after Israel, we went

to Germany for a week.

508
00:23:14,670 --> 00:23:15,570
I love her mother.

509
00:23:15,570 --> 00:23:16,508
I loved being there.

510
00:23:16,508 --> 00:23:17,550
They've got a restaurant.

511
00:23:17,550 --> 00:23:18,717
They've got a bowling alley.

512
00:23:18,717 --> 00:23:20,100
There was a lot of excitement.

513
00:23:20,100 --> 00:23:24,750
Everything was great,
but we were driving.

514
00:23:24,750 --> 00:23:28,030
We rented a car, and her
husband, who was in the army,

515
00:23:28,030 --> 00:23:30,690
knew his way around.

516
00:23:30,690 --> 00:23:34,170
Everywhere we stopped,
people were so nice to us,

517
00:23:34,170 --> 00:23:35,910
asking directions or whatever.

518
00:23:35,910 --> 00:23:39,540
Well, she spoke German, so they
were very nice, very friendly

519
00:23:39,540 --> 00:23:41,730
with the little
flowers in the windows.

520
00:23:41,730 --> 00:23:45,060
And everything was
perfect and clean.

521
00:23:45,060 --> 00:23:48,000
And I'm thinking, I wonder
if this is the person who

522
00:23:48,000 --> 00:23:49,590
person who killed my father.

523
00:23:49,590 --> 00:23:51,210
I wonder if--

524
00:23:51,210 --> 00:23:52,470
I could wait.

525
00:23:52,470 --> 00:23:54,990
As much fun as we
had, I couldn't

526
00:23:54,990 --> 00:23:56,880
wait for the week to be over.

527
00:23:56,880 --> 00:23:59,610
When I came home,
I told my husband,

528
00:23:59,610 --> 00:24:02,220
I never ever want
to go to Germany.

529
00:24:02,220 --> 00:24:06,060
Not that I blame everybody,
not that I blame the country.

530
00:24:06,060 --> 00:24:09,840
But why should I wonder,
this person walking around,

531
00:24:09,840 --> 00:24:14,050

what did he do to my
family, that sort of thing?

532
00:24:14,050 --> 00:24:15,960
So I don't ever want
to go there again.

533
00:24:15,960 --> 00:24:21,990
Now, something I
cannot tell her.

534
00:24:21,990 --> 00:24:23,910
Have you gone back to Poland?

535
00:24:23,910 --> 00:24:26,910
Yes, one time, we went.

536
00:24:26,910 --> 00:24:31,120
It was just one day on
a cruise with the kids,

537
00:24:31,120 --> 00:24:32,580
and we stopped for one day.

538
00:24:32,580 --> 00:24:33,240
Then I went.

539
00:24:33,240 --> 00:24:37,540
There was a travel
agent trip for, I

540
00:24:37,540 --> 00:24:43,230
think, I went for about eight
days, 10 days, and I went.

541
00:24:43,230 --> 00:24:47,280
There were 22 travel agents
from around the country

542
00:24:47,280 --> 00:24:50,670
and was not for spouses,
just the travel agents.

543

00:24:50,670 --> 00:24:51,420

And we went.

544

00:24:51,420 --> 00:24:53,580

We were in Warsaw.

545

00:24:53,580 --> 00:25:00,190

I went back to where

I lived in Warsaw.

546

00:25:00,190 --> 00:25:02,550

My mother gave me the

address, you know,

547

00:25:02,550 --> 00:25:04,830

where we lived after the war.

548

00:25:04,830 --> 00:25:08,130

We went to the one synagogue

that was still there that

549

00:25:08,130 --> 00:25:10,350

was rebuilt. I mean, we.

550

00:25:10,350 --> 00:25:13,000

There was another lady that

was Jewish in the whole group,

551

00:25:13,000 --> 00:25:16,170

but she was born in Houston.

552

00:25:16,170 --> 00:25:19,170

But she was the

only one, you know,

553

00:25:19,170 --> 00:25:26,280

explained, that could, in some

way, understand how I felt.

554

00:25:26,280 --> 00:25:27,630

So she went with me.

555

00:25:27,630 --> 00:25:28,660

We just got friendly.

556

00:25:28,660 --> 00:25:30,930

I didn't know her, until
we got on the trip.

557

00:25:30,930 --> 00:25:35,100

Everybody else there
were travel agents,

558

00:25:35,100 --> 00:25:37,020

but they all had ties to Poland.

559

00:25:37,020 --> 00:25:41,730

Because they were all
descendants of Polish people,

560

00:25:41,730 --> 00:25:46,470

not Jewish Polish, and I
am saying it for a reason.

561

00:25:46,470 --> 00:25:47,730

Anyway, we went to Warsaw.

562

00:25:47,730 --> 00:25:50,850

We went to Krakow, where
my father was from,

563

00:25:50,850 --> 00:25:55,380

and, of course, I went to all
the places that I went to.

564

00:25:55,380 --> 00:25:57,540

I have a picture of the
hospital, where I was born,

565

00:25:57,540 --> 00:25:58,860

still standing.

566

00:25:58,860 --> 00:26:01,440

Not functioning as a

hospital, but still standing.

567

00:26:01,440 --> 00:26:05,700

I knew there was only one, and
I knew where the ghetto was.

568

00:26:05,700 --> 00:26:08,580

Well, they took us
around the former ghetto

569

00:26:08,580 --> 00:26:12,000

to show us the
monument and all that.

570

00:26:12,000 --> 00:26:15,640

Anyway, we went all over Poland.

571

00:26:15,640 --> 00:26:19,080

I love being in Poland,
because after all,

572

00:26:19,080 --> 00:26:21,090

that's where I was born.

573

00:26:21,090 --> 00:26:24,810

I like being able to
speak Polish fluently,

574

00:26:24,810 --> 00:26:27,360

and this was right after
the changes occurred.

575

00:26:27,360 --> 00:26:30,390

And people were just, oh, they
couldn't get enough Americans,

576

00:26:30,390 --> 00:26:32,350

and then I spoke Polish.

577

00:26:32,350 --> 00:26:34,350

So they are were
telling me everything.

578

00:26:34,350 --> 00:26:36,900

579

00:26:36,900 --> 00:26:42,530

We went to Auschwitz on
one of the excursions,

580

00:26:42,530 --> 00:26:45,420

and I knew it would
be very tough for me.

581

00:26:45,420 --> 00:26:49,220

But I needed to do it,
even though my family

582

00:26:49,220 --> 00:26:50,210

wasn't in Auschwitz.

583

00:26:50,210 --> 00:26:53,540

They were in Treblinka,
but there's no difference.

584

00:26:53,540 --> 00:26:56,210

Same thing.

585

00:26:56,210 --> 00:26:57,550

It was very difficult for me.

586

00:26:57,550 --> 00:27:00,010

After that, I felt
like I had worked

587

00:27:00,010 --> 00:27:01,990

in the mines for 20 hours.

588

00:27:01,990 --> 00:27:05,290

I was physically,
emotionally drained.

589

00:27:05,290 --> 00:27:07,550

I had to go through it.

590

00:27:07,550 --> 00:27:10,960

It was a dark, dingy,
rainy day, and I

591

00:27:10,960 --> 00:27:13,570

remember one of the
agents remarking,

592

00:27:13,570 --> 00:27:16,300

oh, it's so depressing
with the rain.

593

00:27:16,300 --> 00:27:18,550

And I'm thinking to myself,
and if it was sunny,

594

00:27:18,550 --> 00:27:20,560

would it be less depressing?

595

00:27:20,560 --> 00:27:24,460

But they couldn't
feel the way I felt.

596

00:27:24,460 --> 00:27:27,670

I walked through the barracks,
walked through everything.

597

00:27:27,670 --> 00:27:30,640

I tried to feel like--

598

00:27:30,640 --> 00:27:35,050

I try to be one of them, not me.

599

00:27:35,050 --> 00:27:36,010

Otherwise, I couldn't.

600

00:27:36,010 --> 00:27:37,650

I had to be detached.

601

00:27:37,650 --> 00:27:38,920

I wasn't even thinking.

602

00:27:38,920 --> 00:27:39,850

I couldn't think.

603

00:27:39,850 --> 00:27:42,580

I just went, just
like all of them.

604

00:27:42,580 --> 00:27:46,180

Otherwise, I couldn't handle it.

605

00:27:46,180 --> 00:27:50,530

We went to the crematoria,
and I guess maybe it

606

00:27:50,530 --> 00:27:54,160

was to ease the tension.

607

00:27:54,160 --> 00:27:58,810

Or maybe that's typical, even
of Americans of Polish descent.

608

00:27:58,810 --> 00:28:01,360

609

00:28:01,360 --> 00:28:08,000

They started joking
there, and like I said,

610

00:28:08,000 --> 00:28:09,320

there was another Jewish lady.

611

00:28:09,320 --> 00:28:11,480

But she didn't go
through all that,

612

00:28:11,480 --> 00:28:13,250

and she didn't say anything.

613

00:28:13,250 --> 00:28:17,600

One young man from Philadelphia,
who was not Jewish, finally,

614

00:28:17,600 --> 00:28:24,290
spoke up, a very sensitive,
young man and told them that--

615

00:28:24,290 --> 00:28:26,330
because they all knew about me.

616

00:28:26,330 --> 00:28:28,820
I told him, because
on a bus going there,

617

00:28:28,820 --> 00:28:31,820
we almost had a fight
with one agent, which

618

00:28:31,820 --> 00:28:34,290
is about the whole thing.

619

00:28:34,290 --> 00:28:37,820
So he told them
that they were being

620

00:28:37,820 --> 00:28:41,780
very insensitive to whatever,
because they were laughing.

621

00:28:41,780 --> 00:28:45,860
They were making jokes about
the crematoria, about the ovens.

622

00:28:45,860 --> 00:28:50,680
Now, this is American
agents, and they stopped.

623

00:28:50,680 --> 00:28:54,280
But on the way there, one
of the agents from Miami--

624

00:28:54,280 --> 00:28:56,250
again, all these people
have grandparents

625

00:28:56,250 --> 00:28:57,780
from Poland or whatever.

626
00:28:57,780 --> 00:29:03,330
They all had Polish
ties on that trip.

627
00:29:03,330 --> 00:29:07,170
On the way there,
we were talking.

628
00:29:07,170 --> 00:29:10,710
Oh, as soon as we left the
Auschwitz and were on a bus

629
00:29:10,710 --> 00:29:13,230
going back to wherever
we were going,

630
00:29:13,230 --> 00:29:17,370
I see on the side of an
apartment building, graffiti.

631
00:29:17,370 --> 00:29:22,920
And there was a hangman's
noose, and hang all the Jews.

632
00:29:22,920 --> 00:29:27,735
That's what I see when I
leave in today's Poland.

633
00:29:27,735 --> 00:29:31,020
It kind of cured me
of wanting to go back.

634
00:29:31,020 --> 00:29:34,080
Anyway, on the way
there, one of the agents

635
00:29:34,080 --> 00:29:38,100
started to say that in
Auschwitz, a lot of Poles died,

636

00:29:38,100 --> 00:29:39,130
and this, and that.

637
00:29:39,130 --> 00:29:42,285
And I said, yes, we
got into a discussion.

638
00:29:42,285 --> 00:29:43,860
She says, well, they died.

639
00:29:43,860 --> 00:29:44,740
I don't remember.

640
00:29:44,740 --> 00:29:48,300
I had one, but I said
something right or wrong.

641
00:29:48,300 --> 00:29:49,740
They died for a cause.

642
00:29:49,740 --> 00:29:53,400
They were political
prisoners, which they were.

643
00:29:53,400 --> 00:29:54,810
They stood for something.

644
00:29:54,810 --> 00:29:56,070
I said it's all wrong.

645
00:29:56,070 --> 00:29:58,920
It's inhumane, but they
stood for something.

646
00:29:58,920 --> 00:30:02,010
I said, what did the Jews stand
for other than being Jewish?

647
00:30:02,010 --> 00:30:04,440
They died, because
they were Jewish.

648

00:30:04,440 --> 00:30:06,010
And we really got into it.

649
00:30:06,010 --> 00:30:08,770
Finally, I figured I'm not
going to enlighten her,

650
00:30:08,770 --> 00:30:10,500
so I gave it up.

651
00:30:10,500 --> 00:30:15,210
But that was the feeling, so
I want to go back to Poland.

652
00:30:15,210 --> 00:30:20,046
Because I love the
country, and I'm not

653
00:30:20,046 --> 00:30:22,500
going to make friends with
everybody there anyway.

654
00:30:22,500 --> 00:30:23,340
So I don't care.

655
00:30:23,340 --> 00:30:26,600
But to Germany, I can't
go, because everybody

656
00:30:26,600 --> 00:30:29,100
that's the right age-- and I'm
not talking about the younger

657
00:30:29,100 --> 00:30:29,600
people.

658
00:30:29,600 --> 00:30:34,140
But I see someone in
their 70s or older,

659
00:30:34,140 --> 00:30:36,120
and I think they
killed my father.

660
00:30:36,120 --> 00:30:38,610
They killed my grandfather.

661
00:30:38,610 --> 00:30:42,690
Maybe they're the ones,
and I can't handle it.

662
00:30:42,690 --> 00:30:45,628

663
00:30:45,628 --> 00:30:47,545
What was it like for you
going back to Israel?

664
00:30:47,545 --> 00:30:50,190

665
00:30:50,190 --> 00:30:50,913
I lived there.

666
00:30:50,913 --> 00:30:51,830
What do you mean back?

667
00:30:51,830 --> 00:30:53,060
No, you said you went back.

668
00:30:53,060 --> 00:30:53,768
Oh, that's right.

669
00:30:53,768 --> 00:30:54,900
I went back to Israel.

670
00:30:54,900 --> 00:30:55,850
Fun.

671
00:30:55,850 --> 00:30:57,080
I thought of it.

672
00:30:57,080 --> 00:31:01,130
See, when I lived in Israel, I

did not want to leave Israel.

673

00:31:01,130 --> 00:31:05,660

I was very happy there,
but my parents always

674

00:31:05,660 --> 00:31:07,820

wanted to come to
the United States.

675

00:31:07,820 --> 00:31:11,000

So the only way they could
do it is go to France

676

00:31:11,000 --> 00:31:14,820

and wait for a
visa or something.

677

00:31:14,820 --> 00:31:19,180

So we moved to Paris, and I
didn't want to leave Israel.

678

00:31:19,180 --> 00:31:21,350

Well, when I was in Paris,
I didn't want to leave.

679

00:31:21,350 --> 00:31:24,920

I had even more fun,
and then we left.

680

00:31:24,920 --> 00:31:28,490

So in Israel, it was just
kind of coming home, again,

681

00:31:28,490 --> 00:31:33,800

but I treated it more as fun
and more showing my children

682

00:31:33,800 --> 00:31:36,050

their heritage.

683

00:31:36,050 --> 00:31:39,680

But I didn't have

any special feelings,

684
00:31:39,680 --> 00:31:41,480
like I would want to
go and live there.

685
00:31:41,480 --> 00:31:44,990
Because I wouldn't,
but I like the country.

686
00:31:44,990 --> 00:31:46,030
I like going there.

687
00:31:46,030 --> 00:31:49,660

688
00:31:49,660 --> 00:31:51,550
I guess getting back
to this business

689
00:31:51,550 --> 00:31:53,410
of hiding that I
was Jewish, I almost

690
00:31:53,410 --> 00:31:57,610
feel like Israel liberated me.

691
00:31:57,610 --> 00:32:02,500
I didn't have to
be someone else,

692
00:32:02,500 --> 00:32:08,230
but it took me many, many years
to feel comfortable, confident.

693
00:32:08,230 --> 00:32:13,090
There were times, and I'm
talking when I was 18, 19, 20.

694
00:32:13,090 --> 00:32:16,150
I always felt
comfortable with men,

695

00:32:16,150 --> 00:32:19,030
because I was very attractive.

696

00:32:19,030 --> 00:32:20,440
I was very popular.

697

00:32:20,440 --> 00:32:21,580
I walked into the room.

698

00:32:21,580 --> 00:32:24,860
Men looked, but I
never felt comfortable.

699

00:32:24,860 --> 00:32:27,130
So I felt comfortable
about my looks,

700

00:32:27,130 --> 00:32:30,520
but I never felt comfortable
about anything else.

701

00:32:30,520 --> 00:32:34,540
Or confident rather, and there
could be a group of people.

702

00:32:34,540 --> 00:32:39,940
They were talking about
something as silly as a movie,

703

00:32:39,940 --> 00:32:43,570
and I always felt that
I didn't measure up.

704

00:32:43,570 --> 00:32:44,230
I didn't know.

705

00:32:44,230 --> 00:32:45,670
What if I say something wrong?

706

00:32:45,670 --> 00:32:47,620
What if it doesn't
come out right?

707
00:32:47,620 --> 00:32:53,350
That sort of thing, and
it took me many years.

708
00:32:53,350 --> 00:32:57,730
Now, my husband says, I'm very
opinionated, the other way.

709
00:32:57,730 --> 00:33:00,220
Now, I'm not afraid
to speak in public.

710
00:33:00,220 --> 00:33:05,320
I enjoy talking, and I
feel good about myself.

711
00:33:05,320 --> 00:33:07,830
But I still have that--

712
00:33:07,830 --> 00:33:08,520
I don't know.

713
00:33:08,520 --> 00:33:09,930
--anxiety in me.

714
00:33:09,930 --> 00:33:14,310
As much as I try, I tell myself,
relax, relax, physically relax.

715
00:33:14,310 --> 00:33:18,460
I do biofeedback, because
I have migraine headaches.

716
00:33:18,460 --> 00:33:21,390
So that's one of the treatments
along with my medication.

717
00:33:21,390 --> 00:33:25,680
I do take a lot of
medication for preventive,

718

00:33:25,680 --> 00:33:26,980
so I do biofeedback.

719
00:33:26,980 --> 00:33:30,460
So I relax myself, and I
still have that anxiety.

720
00:33:30,460 --> 00:33:35,320
I can't get rid of
it, and like I said,

721
00:33:35,320 --> 00:33:38,610
it took me many, many years
to be confident enough.

722
00:33:38,610 --> 00:33:41,430
I mean, even 15, 20
years ago, I don't

723
00:33:41,430 --> 00:33:45,690
think I could talk to someone.

724
00:33:45,690 --> 00:33:47,580
I remember we were
at a restaurant,

725
00:33:47,580 --> 00:33:51,080
waiting for a table, and
a few years ago, someone

726
00:33:51,080 --> 00:33:52,680
asked if they could wait there.

727
00:33:52,680 --> 00:33:56,310
And they said then,
two minutes later, we

728
00:33:56,310 --> 00:33:58,530
started talking about
traveling, and they said

729
00:33:58,530 --> 00:34:00,060
they want to go to Germany.

730
00:34:00,060 --> 00:34:01,845
I take out my card.

731
00:34:01,845 --> 00:34:02,940
I handed it to him.

732
00:34:02,940 --> 00:34:05,160
I need, any trip arrangements?

733
00:34:05,160 --> 00:34:06,570
Call me.

734
00:34:06,570 --> 00:34:11,130
And he called me, needless to
say, and the guy was laughing.

735
00:34:11,130 --> 00:34:12,540
He said, you know what?

736
00:34:12,540 --> 00:34:17,250
One hour with a psychiatrist
would cure you of your shyness.

737
00:34:17,250 --> 00:34:20,770
He was being funny,
but that's what I mean.

738
00:34:20,770 --> 00:34:24,300
I would never have
done it years ago.

739
00:34:24,300 --> 00:34:25,469
I'd wait for someone.

740
00:34:25,469 --> 00:34:26,960
Now, I don't wait for someone.

741
00:34:26,960 --> 00:34:29,280
And do you think it's
the years in Israel that

742
00:34:29,280 --> 00:34:30,712
helped with that?

743
00:34:30,712 --> 00:34:33,239
The helped with it.

744
00:34:33,239 --> 00:34:38,000
The Jewish was OK, and
then once I came here,

745
00:34:38,000 --> 00:34:39,810
I really didn't see
that much difference.

746
00:34:39,810 --> 00:34:43,340
And, of course, in
France, they believe live,

747
00:34:43,340 --> 00:34:45,590
and everybody is equal.

748
00:34:45,590 --> 00:34:49,370
So once I left Poland, actually,
I don't know, if it was Israel,

749
00:34:49,370 --> 00:34:51,440
if it was France,
if it was America.

750
00:34:51,440 --> 00:34:54,840
All of it together,
once I left Poland,

751
00:34:54,840 --> 00:34:57,950
I was just as good or
better than a lot of people.

752
00:34:57,950 --> 00:35:08,130
That's how I felt, and I don't
have those feelings anymore.

753
00:35:08,130 --> 00:35:10,380

But I don't have
feelings of peace, luck.

754
00:35:10,380 --> 00:35:11,490
Everything is wonderful.

755
00:35:11,490 --> 00:35:12,990
Enjoy the moment.

756
00:35:12,990 --> 00:35:16,070
I don't know how to do that.

757
00:35:16,070 --> 00:35:19,330
So it sounds as though that's
more worried about something

758
00:35:19,330 --> 00:35:23,200
happening to you rather
than you're not good enough.

759
00:35:23,200 --> 00:35:25,960
Oh, no, no, I don't
have that anymore.

760
00:35:25,960 --> 00:35:28,270
Just something
happening, taking away

761
00:35:28,270 --> 00:35:33,880
what I love, because a lot of it
was already taken away from me.

762
00:35:33,880 --> 00:35:34,870
That sort of thing.

763
00:35:34,870 --> 00:35:36,190
We have to turn over the tape.

764
00:35:36,190 --> 00:35:36,690
OK.

765
00:35:36,690 --> 00:35:56,610

766

00:35:56,610 --> 00:35:59,880

This is a United States
Holocaust Memorial Museum

767

00:35:59,880 --> 00:36:02,460

interview with Christine Cohen.

768

00:36:02,460 --> 00:36:10,650

Tape two, side B. Mrs. Cohen,
you said a little while ago

769

00:36:10,650 --> 00:36:17,640

that your mother told you more
about the period during the war

770

00:36:17,640 --> 00:36:22,230

when you asked her, which
was after you were married.

771

00:36:22,230 --> 00:36:27,610

What was that like for you,
hearing about all of this?

772

00:36:27,610 --> 00:36:32,720

Well, I almost started
reliving it for her.

773

00:36:32,720 --> 00:36:36,020

It was, like, at that point,
I wasn't really thinking

774

00:36:36,020 --> 00:36:39,980

as much about me as about her,
what she had gone through.

775

00:36:39,980 --> 00:36:43,070

After all, the
grandparents, and the aunts,

776

00:36:43,070 --> 00:36:46,100

and uncles that I

lost, I didn't know.

777

00:36:46,100 --> 00:36:47,330

But she grew up with them.

778

00:36:47,330 --> 00:36:48,020

She knew them.

779

00:36:48,020 --> 00:36:52,770

They were her family,
what she had gone through,

780

00:36:52,770 --> 00:36:58,630

and I just kept feeling sorry
for my mother at that point.

781

00:36:58,630 --> 00:37:00,700

That's really mostly
what I thought about.

782

00:37:00,700 --> 00:37:03,940

Now that my mother is
gone, I think about me.

783

00:37:03,940 --> 00:37:10,710

But all that time, what my
mother had gone through,

784

00:37:10,710 --> 00:37:15,060

and it was almost I was
obligated to do anything

785

00:37:15,060 --> 00:37:15,660

she wanted.

786

00:37:15,660 --> 00:37:19,650

Because she wouldn't have--
not that it was ever implied.

787

00:37:19,650 --> 00:37:23,010

My mother never ever made
me feel, like, you know,

788

00:37:23,010 --> 00:37:24,180
the saying.

789

00:37:24,180 --> 00:37:26,760
I carried you, or
I saved your life.

790

00:37:26,760 --> 00:37:28,530
So now, you have to
do such and such.

791

00:37:28,530 --> 00:37:32,020
Never ever, but I felt that way.

792

00:37:32,020 --> 00:37:34,890
So if she told me to be home at
10:00 when everybody else was

793

00:37:34,890 --> 00:37:38,280
home at 1:00, I
was home at 10:00

794

00:37:38,280 --> 00:37:41,700
because of what
she went through.

795

00:37:41,700 --> 00:37:48,150
You loaned me a tape of a TV
program, where your mother had

796

00:37:48,150 --> 00:37:55,070
a reunion with her cousin after
44 years of not seeing him.

797

00:37:55,070 --> 00:37:57,450
On the tape, I
thought you seemed

798

00:37:57,450 --> 00:38:00,060
to be protective of your mother.

799

00:38:00,060 --> 00:38:04,260

Yes, as we got older,
the roles were reversed,

800
00:38:04,260 --> 00:38:07,470
and I tried very hard,
although, my mother

801
00:38:07,470 --> 00:38:11,550
was very capable almost
till the day she died.

802
00:38:11,550 --> 00:38:13,710
Very capable of taking
care of herself,

803
00:38:13,710 --> 00:38:16,920
but my father died in '77.

804
00:38:16,920 --> 00:38:19,770
She was left in New York,
but, well, she had friends.

805
00:38:19,770 --> 00:38:22,440
But she had
absolutely no family.

806
00:38:22,440 --> 00:38:30,210
Her hearing was bad, which
affected her life greatly.

807
00:38:30,210 --> 00:38:34,110
And she had to cope with
that, and I always felt bad.

808
00:38:34,110 --> 00:38:38,370
When my father died, I tried to
get her to move to San Antonio

809
00:38:38,370 --> 00:38:43,200
and put deposits on
countless apartments.

810
00:38:43,200 --> 00:38:45,540

And she wanted to, because
she didn't want to be alone.

811
00:38:45,540 --> 00:38:48,040
But at the last minute,
she was backed out.

812
00:38:48,040 --> 00:38:53,130
My husband couldn't
understand it, but I did.

813
00:38:53,130 --> 00:38:57,720
After what she went through,
she could not depend on anybody.

814
00:38:57,720 --> 00:39:02,550
To her, it was frightening, even
if it meant depending on me.

815
00:39:02,550 --> 00:39:03,630
She didn't drive.

816
00:39:03,630 --> 00:39:06,360
In San Antonio, the only way
you get around is driving.

817
00:39:06,360 --> 00:39:09,060
In New York City,
she had friends.

818
00:39:09,060 --> 00:39:09,870
She could pick up.

819
00:39:09,870 --> 00:39:12,480
She could get on a
bus, on the subway,

820
00:39:12,480 --> 00:39:14,730
go wherever she wanted to.

821
00:39:14,730 --> 00:39:16,540
She could take care of herself.

822

00:39:16,540 --> 00:39:18,130

She didn't have to depend.

823

00:39:18,130 --> 00:39:21,600

Had she moved, she would
depend on me for everything,

824

00:39:21,600 --> 00:39:22,470

and she couldn't.

825

00:39:22,470 --> 00:39:26,250

To her, it was
frightening, so I always

826

00:39:26,250 --> 00:39:30,600

felt bad that she was
there all by herself.

827

00:39:30,600 --> 00:39:33,630

And there was
nothing I could do.

828

00:39:33,630 --> 00:39:37,530

And I guess that's why I
felt protective towards her,

829

00:39:37,530 --> 00:39:38,940

like I needed to protect her.

830

00:39:38,940 --> 00:39:46,410

Because, at that point, she
had such horrible experiences.

831

00:39:46,410 --> 00:39:50,310

She needed someone to protect
her, to take care of her.

832

00:39:50,310 --> 00:39:54,170

And I guess, as I grew
more confident in myself,

833

00:39:54,170 --> 00:39:57,290

I felt like I could
be protecting her,

834
00:39:57,290 --> 00:40:00,930
where before, I needed it.

835
00:40:00,930 --> 00:40:02,850
Was her English fluent?

836
00:40:02,850 --> 00:40:04,740
No, because of the--

837
00:40:04,740 --> 00:40:08,060
fluent enough to, where,
if she read books,

838
00:40:08,060 --> 00:40:09,480
she could understand everything.

839
00:40:09,480 --> 00:40:12,270
My mother spoke six languages.

840
00:40:12,270 --> 00:40:15,090
But because of her
hearing, it wasn't fluent,

841
00:40:15,090 --> 00:40:18,800
because she didn't
hear the words clearly.

842
00:40:18,800 --> 00:40:22,850
But her hearing
impairment started when?

843
00:40:22,850 --> 00:40:26,870
It showed up in the early
'50s, but it really started,

844
00:40:26,870 --> 00:40:30,200
the damage started
during the war.

845

00:40:30,200 --> 00:40:33,050
So when she came to
New York, she already

846
00:40:33,050 --> 00:40:35,720
had difficulty with hearing,
and that interfered.

847
00:40:35,720 --> 00:40:39,380
Yes, even in Israel.

848
00:40:39,380 --> 00:40:42,990
That interfered with--

849
00:40:42,990 --> 00:40:45,960
I'm sure after what my
mother had gone through,

850
00:40:45,960 --> 00:40:47,702
she had that feeling
of persecution.

851
00:40:47,702 --> 00:40:50,970

852
00:40:50,970 --> 00:40:54,210
I understand it, and that's
what made me feel always bad.

853
00:40:54,210 --> 00:40:57,180
Because when you came
here and people around you

854
00:40:57,180 --> 00:41:00,000
are talking, first
of all, she always

855
00:41:00,000 --> 00:41:02,610
thought someone was
plotting against her,

856
00:41:02,610 --> 00:41:05,130
and it wasn't paranoia.

857
00:41:05,130 --> 00:41:09,090
I mean, that's how she lived,
and then, all of a sudden,

858
00:41:09,090 --> 00:41:11,520
she can hear what
people are saying.

859
00:41:11,520 --> 00:41:16,020
She could hear one
on one, talking.

860
00:41:16,020 --> 00:41:18,900
But a whole group of
people, she didn't hear,

861
00:41:18,900 --> 00:41:21,540
and it was very
difficult for her.

862
00:41:21,540 --> 00:41:23,790
If the phone rang and
someone talked on the phone,

863
00:41:23,790 --> 00:41:26,670
if they talked quickly, she
couldn't hear or understand.

864
00:41:26,670 --> 00:41:33,060
So she felt threatened, and all
of these things bothered me.

865
00:41:33,060 --> 00:41:37,320
And all of these things,
I attribute to the war.

866
00:41:37,320 --> 00:41:40,590
It just hurt me to see
my mother like that,

867
00:41:40,590 --> 00:41:43,140
and then to see her dying

and going through the war

868

00:41:43,140 --> 00:41:48,460

all over, again,
was just horrible.

869

00:41:48,460 --> 00:41:53,370

And I guess that's when my
feelings really got intense,

870

00:41:53,370 --> 00:41:55,530

because she re-lived that war.

871

00:41:55,530 --> 00:41:59,310

She thought Hitler was there,
and ever corner, the Germans.

872

00:41:59,310 --> 00:42:01,350

When I left her in
the nursing home,

873

00:42:01,350 --> 00:42:03,840

it was a nice,
Jewish nursing home.

874

00:42:03,840 --> 00:42:06,870

I was there almost every day.

875

00:42:06,870 --> 00:42:10,320

When I was leaving, she was
afraid that the Germans--

876

00:42:10,320 --> 00:42:12,060

it broke my heart to leave her.

877

00:42:12,060 --> 00:42:16,730

But I couldn't do anything else.

878

00:42:16,730 --> 00:42:19,665

It's as if she--
you know, one time

879

00:42:19,665 --> 00:42:21,290
is more than enough
to live through it.

880
00:42:21,290 --> 00:42:23,780
But she lived through it twice.

881
00:42:23,780 --> 00:42:27,590
And since she died, my
feeling about the whole thing

882
00:42:27,590 --> 00:42:29,690
are more and more intense.

883
00:42:29,690 --> 00:42:32,530
I feel robbed of
everything, robbed

884
00:42:32,530 --> 00:42:34,330
of family, even my mother.

885
00:42:34,330 --> 00:42:38,900

886
00:42:38,900 --> 00:42:42,150
So you're here in
Bethesda, visiting family.

887
00:42:42,150 --> 00:42:45,380
Yes, as a matter of
fact, that's the cousin

888
00:42:45,380 --> 00:42:47,440
that they met on TV on the show.

889
00:42:47,440 --> 00:42:47,990
Yes.

890
00:42:47,990 --> 00:42:49,280
From Richmond.

891
00:42:49,280 --> 00:42:51,980

His granddaughter
was batmitzvah,

892
00:42:51,980 --> 00:42:55,220
so we all met here
for batmitzvah.

893
00:42:55,220 --> 00:42:56,810
And how was that for you?

894
00:42:56,810 --> 00:42:57,740
It's wonderful.

895
00:42:57,740 --> 00:43:01,160
I had gotten even closer
to them since my mother

896
00:43:01,160 --> 00:43:05,060
died, because they're the
last link to my mother.

897
00:43:05,060 --> 00:43:06,470
There's no one left.

898
00:43:06,470 --> 00:43:10,820
On my father's side, and I'm
talking my natural father,

899
00:43:10,820 --> 00:43:13,040
I have family in San Antonio.

900
00:43:13,040 --> 00:43:14,070
Not large.

901
00:43:14,070 --> 00:43:15,510
Most of them died.

902
00:43:15,510 --> 00:43:16,640
I have cousins.

903
00:43:16,640 --> 00:43:20,060
My aunt's died since then.

904

00:43:20,060 --> 00:43:25,220

I'm close to them, but not
as close to this family.

905

00:43:25,220 --> 00:43:31,940

Because my father is almost
like a mythical figure to me.

906

00:43:31,940 --> 00:43:36,630

I never knew him when
my mother is real to me.

907

00:43:36,630 --> 00:43:38,430

She was with me always.

908

00:43:38,430 --> 00:43:43,830

In fact, my father, Leon,
that she married after the war

909

00:43:43,830 --> 00:43:45,570

had a sister in London.

910

00:43:45,570 --> 00:43:48,030

She just died a few months ago.

911

00:43:48,030 --> 00:43:49,620

I was very close to her.

912

00:43:49,620 --> 00:43:51,250

I used to go visit her.

913

00:43:51,250 --> 00:43:52,720

So you had another loss.

914

00:43:52,720 --> 00:43:53,520

Another loss.

915

00:43:53,520 --> 00:43:56,850

Just a few months ago, she was
going on her way to Bridge,

916
00:43:56,850 --> 00:44:00,780
play Bridge, and fell,
hit her head, and died.

917
00:44:00,780 --> 00:44:06,800
It was a freak accident,
but what I'm trying to say,

918
00:44:06,800 --> 00:44:08,570
that's Leon's sister.

919
00:44:08,570 --> 00:44:11,810
And I felt much closer to them,
because Leon, to me, was real.

920
00:44:11,810 --> 00:44:13,220
He was my father.

921
00:44:13,220 --> 00:44:17,780
The other one, as wonderful
as he was as I hear,

922
00:44:17,780 --> 00:44:20,540
it's like reading a story.

923
00:44:20,540 --> 00:44:21,830
So I guess that's what--

924
00:44:21,830 --> 00:44:24,510
I mean, I love my
family in San Antonio.

925
00:44:24,510 --> 00:44:28,040
But I don't have the same
feeling, and this family,

926
00:44:28,040 --> 00:44:29,600
they're my mother's family.

927
00:44:29,600 --> 00:44:33,320
That's all that I have
left, so like I said,

928
00:44:33,320 --> 00:44:35,975
I'm even closer to
them than I was before.

929
00:44:35,975 --> 00:44:40,360

930
00:44:40,360 --> 00:44:43,380
And not only that.

931
00:44:43,380 --> 00:44:45,630
Growing up, I must have.

932
00:44:45,630 --> 00:44:50,940
I tried not to, but I must
have made my children feel

933
00:44:50,940 --> 00:44:53,310
like family was all important.

934
00:44:53,310 --> 00:44:57,030
Because they seem to-- without
really saying too much,

935
00:44:57,030 --> 00:45:01,590
they seem to be missing
not having extended

936
00:45:01,590 --> 00:45:06,170
family, especially my son.

937
00:45:06,170 --> 00:45:14,730
He's very family oriented,
and he really feels the loss.

938
00:45:14,730 --> 00:45:17,530
My daughter doesn't talk about
it, but I'm sure she does too.

939
00:45:17,530 --> 00:45:20,770

940

00:45:20,770 --> 00:45:24,740

And it must have been the way
I was that they picked up on,

941

00:45:24,740 --> 00:45:27,830

because I certainly didn't
tell them, by the way,

942

00:45:27,830 --> 00:45:31,940

you don't have a great
grandfather or something.

943

00:45:31,940 --> 00:45:35,690

You don't have whatever,
but they picked up on that

944

00:45:35,690 --> 00:45:37,850

because of the way I feel.

945

00:45:37,850 --> 00:45:39,650

So you have told them?

946

00:45:39,650 --> 00:45:42,860

947

00:45:42,860 --> 00:45:45,470

As a matter of fact,
they were at the--

948

00:45:45,470 --> 00:45:49,250

when we were in the
meeting with the cousin,

949

00:45:49,250 --> 00:45:51,050

they were in Hollywood,
too, with me.

950

00:45:51,050 --> 00:45:52,960

They were in the audience.

951

00:45:52,960 --> 00:45:53,960

So they know everything.

952

00:45:53,960 --> 00:45:54,620

They know.

953

00:45:54,620 --> 00:45:56,420

They've seen the
tape many times.

954

00:45:56,420 --> 00:45:59,090

They've read what
my brother wrote.

955

00:45:59,090 --> 00:46:00,920

My mother never
discussed it with them,

956

00:46:00,920 --> 00:46:02,590

but they know
everything about it.

957

00:46:02,590 --> 00:46:06,470

In fact, my son is, right
now, at the Holocaust Museum.

958

00:46:06,470 --> 00:46:09,350

Do you talk to other
people about it?

959

00:46:09,350 --> 00:46:11,960

Yes, if they ask me.

960

00:46:11,960 --> 00:46:14,090

I mean, I don't walk around
it, but if they ask me,

961

00:46:14,090 --> 00:46:16,170

I tell them.

962

00:46:16,170 --> 00:46:19,470

And is that hard for
you, easy for you?

963

00:46:19,470 --> 00:46:21,620

It's not hard for me at all.

964

00:46:21,620 --> 00:46:25,850

I feel like, you
know, people listen.

965

00:46:25,850 --> 00:46:29,120

It happened so many years ago.

966

00:46:29,120 --> 00:46:30,860

They weren't in that situation.

967

00:46:30,860 --> 00:46:34,880

No one they know was in that
situation, so for most people,

968

00:46:34,880 --> 00:46:38,510

it's hard to imagine
that it really happened.

969

00:46:38,510 --> 00:46:41,240

They know something
happened, but I

970

00:46:41,240 --> 00:46:47,380

think I feel like, if I talk
about it, at least, some of it,

971

00:46:47,380 --> 00:46:49,330

they will believe.

972

00:46:49,330 --> 00:46:51,880

Because I think the world
doesn't want to believe it.

973

00:46:51,880 --> 00:46:56,780

It's still hard to believe,
and as time goes on,

974

00:46:56,780 --> 00:47:00,860

there are less people to say it.

975
00:47:00,860 --> 00:47:05,602
So if I say, my mother saw
a girl being buried alive,

976
00:47:05,602 --> 00:47:07,310
maybe they won't
believe the whole thing.

977
00:47:07,310 --> 00:47:11,480
But they will believe that they
pull a Jewish girl of the train

978
00:47:11,480 --> 00:47:12,110
and killed her.

979
00:47:12,110 --> 00:47:16,980

980
00:47:16,980 --> 00:47:19,080
And it's not that I'm
looking for sympathy.

981
00:47:19,080 --> 00:47:23,900
I just feel like
people should know,

982
00:47:23,900 --> 00:47:28,830
and I have no qualms
talking about that.

983
00:47:28,830 --> 00:47:31,740
Is there anything else that
you'd like to talk about?

984
00:47:31,740 --> 00:47:34,350
Well, we were talking
about my brother.

985
00:47:34,350 --> 00:47:38,460
Even though he was born in
'48, it affected him greatly,

986
00:47:38,460 --> 00:47:45,210
because my parents were
what life made them.

987
00:47:45,210 --> 00:47:48,640
And he is a writer.

988
00:47:48,640 --> 00:47:51,600
He's very sensitive,
very intuitive,

989
00:47:51,600 --> 00:47:56,050
and he feels that
he felt it for them.

990
00:47:56,050 --> 00:48:00,060
He feels it for me
that I went through it.

991
00:48:00,060 --> 00:48:04,210
He's a very, very
kind, kind person,

992
00:48:04,210 --> 00:48:11,220
and he truly feels it
almost as if he was there.

993
00:48:11,220 --> 00:48:15,380
He never had a grandfather, or a
grandmother, or anybody either.

994
00:48:15,380 --> 00:48:18,390
And he feels that loss.

995
00:48:18,390 --> 00:48:21,770
When do you think
he learned about it?

996
00:48:21,770 --> 00:48:24,860
You said that you asked
after you were married.

997

00:48:24,860 --> 00:48:31,790
Well, he is eight years
younger than I am.

998
00:48:31,790 --> 00:48:34,970
He lived with my parents
in New York as a teenager,

999
00:48:34,970 --> 00:48:36,060
went to school.

1000
00:48:36,060 --> 00:48:41,400
I measured in those years being
inquisitive and being a writer.

1001
00:48:41,400 --> 00:48:44,250
I'm sure he asked
all the time and more

1002
00:48:44,250 --> 00:48:47,140
questions than I ever did.

1003
00:48:47,140 --> 00:48:49,500
So he probably learned
in his teenage years,

1004
00:48:49,500 --> 00:48:52,540
because then he
went away to school.

1005
00:48:52,540 --> 00:48:56,760
And after that, he never
lived at home anymore,

1006
00:48:56,760 --> 00:49:00,362
so I'm sure, most
of it, he found out

1007
00:49:00,362 --> 00:49:01,320
when he was a teenager.

1008
00:49:01,320 --> 00:49:05,240

1009

00:49:05,240 --> 00:49:11,740
And it's something that affected
him almost as deeply as it

1010

00:49:11,740 --> 00:49:15,980
affected me, even though I
lived through it, and he didn't.

1011

00:49:15,980 --> 00:49:18,800
You showed me some
poems that he wrote.

1012

00:49:18,800 --> 00:49:22,250
Poems, and he wrote--

1013

00:49:22,250 --> 00:49:26,300
he had a couple of
short stories published.

1014

00:49:26,300 --> 00:49:28,850
And now, it's like a booklet.

1015

00:49:28,850 --> 00:49:29,405
It's a book.

1016

00:49:29,405 --> 00:49:32,210

1017

00:49:32,210 --> 00:49:36,230
And it tells of the family
before the war and the war

1018

00:49:36,230 --> 00:49:43,200
experiences, actually, up
until the time my mother died

1019

00:49:43,200 --> 00:49:44,790
and just the family thing.

1020

00:49:44,790 --> 00:49:50,770
And he wrote that, too, and I'm

sure he's not finished writing.

1021
00:49:50,770 --> 00:49:54,090
He'll write some more about it.

1022
00:49:54,090 --> 00:50:00,900

1023
00:50:00,900 --> 00:50:05,360
Is there anything else that
you'd like to talk about?

1024
00:50:05,360 --> 00:50:07,400
I can't think of
anything, because I

1025
00:50:07,400 --> 00:50:11,060
think I'll be repeating myself.

1026
00:50:11,060 --> 00:50:14,390
It's just that, again, I
will be repeating myself.

1027
00:50:14,390 --> 00:50:19,910
It seems like with each day,
I live it more and more.

1028
00:50:19,910 --> 00:50:25,110
And it bothers me, because
I have a good life.

1029
00:50:25,110 --> 00:50:27,290
I have a wonderful
husband, two children.

1030
00:50:27,290 --> 00:50:28,290
I have a lot of friends.

1031
00:50:28,290 --> 00:50:30,030
I live in a city I like.

1032
00:50:30,030 --> 00:50:35,010

I do what I want, and I would
like to just enjoy what I have

1033
00:50:35,010 --> 00:50:36,210
and be happy.

1034
00:50:36,210 --> 00:50:38,850
But I can never be
completely happy,

1035
00:50:38,850 --> 00:50:40,980
because I can't let
go of this whatever

1036
00:50:40,980 --> 00:50:44,610
it is inside that's either
the threat that something

1037
00:50:44,610 --> 00:50:50,070
will happen or the regret that
something already happened.

1038
00:50:50,070 --> 00:50:54,540
Regret is not maybe a good word,
but the pain that something did

1039
00:50:54,540 --> 00:50:55,650
happen.

1040
00:50:55,650 --> 00:50:58,890
And there's no way
for me to change it.

1041
00:50:58,890 --> 00:51:01,350
There are times I think
to myself, if I only

1042
00:51:01,350 --> 00:51:03,630
had one wish, if I
could change things,

1043
00:51:03,630 --> 00:51:05,640
if I could just

change that, this

1044

00:51:05,640 --> 00:51:10,920
would be the only thing I'd
want to change in my life.

1045

00:51:10,920 --> 00:51:12,180
So it's always with you.

1046

00:51:12,180 --> 00:51:13,620
Always, always.

1047

00:51:13,620 --> 00:51:15,540
I have nightmares at night.

1048

00:51:15,540 --> 00:51:17,670
I didn't, until my mother died.

1049

00:51:17,670 --> 00:51:21,930
Now, I have a recurring
nightmare that I'm somewhere,

1050

00:51:21,930 --> 00:51:23,880
and it's not that
frightening, like I'm

1051

00:51:23,880 --> 00:51:26,070
in a forest lost with bears.

1052

00:51:26,070 --> 00:51:28,350
I'm in a city somewhere.

1053

00:51:28,350 --> 00:51:32,700
And whether I'm driving,
or walking, or whatever,

1054

00:51:32,700 --> 00:51:35,130
I lost my directions.

1055

00:51:35,130 --> 00:51:36,930
And I don't know how
to get whether it's

1056
00:51:36,930 --> 00:51:40,290
to a home or the
hotel, where I'm at,

1057
00:51:40,290 --> 00:51:42,810
and I can't find my way back.

1058
00:51:42,810 --> 00:51:46,050
Since my mother died, it's
a recurring nightmare,

1059
00:51:46,050 --> 00:51:49,080
and I'm always lost,
nothing frightening,

1060
00:51:49,080 --> 00:51:51,780
not monsters or anything.

1061
00:51:51,780 --> 00:51:56,370
Just any city, USA, or
anywhere else, Pick any city.

1062
00:51:56,370 --> 00:51:58,540
I'm not in San Antonio.

1063
00:51:58,540 --> 00:51:59,590
I'm somewhere else.

1064
00:51:59,590 --> 00:52:02,970
I don't know where I am, and
I'm walking to the hotel.

1065
00:52:02,970 --> 00:52:06,180
I just left hotel, and I
can't find my way back.

1066
00:52:06,180 --> 00:52:10,150
And I forgot the name of the
hotel, or I'm driving back.

1067
00:52:10,150 --> 00:52:14,430

I can't find my way back,
and I usually wake up.

1068
00:52:14,430 --> 00:52:17,400
But this is just a
recurring nightmare.

1069
00:52:17,400 --> 00:52:18,880
And it's since your mother died?

1070
00:52:18,880 --> 00:52:19,380
Yes.

1071
00:52:19,380 --> 00:52:19,890
Before that?

1072
00:52:19,890 --> 00:52:23,490
Before that, I didn't have it.

1073
00:52:23,490 --> 00:52:24,855
Just since my mother died.

1074
00:52:24,855 --> 00:52:27,710

1075
00:52:27,710 --> 00:52:29,570
And that was a year
and a half ago?

1076
00:52:29,570 --> 00:52:33,680
She died, this March,
will be two years.

1077
00:52:33,680 --> 00:52:34,660
So that's a long time.

1078
00:52:34,660 --> 00:52:37,920
Mhmm, and my
husband keeps saying

1079
00:52:37,920 --> 00:52:39,600
I need some grief counseling.

1080
00:52:39,600 --> 00:52:48,490
I probably do, but I keep trying
to get myself better on my own.

1081
00:52:48,490 --> 00:52:55,240
But I may have to give
in, because it's always

1082
00:52:55,240 --> 00:52:56,630
the city's different.

1083
00:52:56,630 --> 00:53:00,020
The situation is different,
but the same is the same.

1084
00:53:00,020 --> 00:53:01,310
And the feeling is the same.

1085
00:53:01,310 --> 00:53:02,450
The feeling is the same.

1086
00:53:02,450 --> 00:53:04,880
How am I going to
find my way home,

1087
00:53:04,880 --> 00:53:06,140
but with nothing frightening?

1088
00:53:06,140 --> 00:53:09,650
Like people after me
with guns or something,

1089
00:53:09,650 --> 00:53:10,710
nothing like that.

1090
00:53:10,710 --> 00:53:12,370
But enough to wake you up.

1091
00:53:12,370 --> 00:53:16,810
I always wake up, because
I never find my way home.

1092
00:53:16,810 --> 00:53:22,640
So I wake up, but I would
say, without exaggeration,

1093
00:53:22,640 --> 00:53:23,960
three or four times a week.

1094
00:53:23,960 --> 00:53:27,250

1095
00:53:27,250 --> 00:53:29,170
Sometimes, I'm almost
afraid to go to sleep,

1096
00:53:29,170 --> 00:53:31,360
because what if I get
lost, where there are

1097
00:53:31,360 --> 00:53:34,060
people with guns or something?

1098
00:53:34,060 --> 00:53:37,460
So far, the situation
hasn't been threatening.

1099
00:53:37,460 --> 00:53:40,090
I'm just lost, but I don't know.

1100
00:53:40,090 --> 00:53:43,160

1101
00:53:43,160 --> 00:53:46,000
But that is really
one of the ways

1102
00:53:46,000 --> 00:53:49,070
in which it's coming out now.

1103
00:53:49,070 --> 00:53:51,260
I don't know it.

1104

00:53:51,260 --> 00:53:53,130

It's probably-- I don't know.

1105

00:53:53,130 --> 00:53:54,710

We probably would
need a psychiatrist

1106

00:53:54,710 --> 00:53:58,670

to figure that one
out, but my mother

1107

00:53:58,670 --> 00:54:03,020

was the one that saved
me from all the danger.

1108

00:54:03,020 --> 00:54:07,070

And now, my mother is gone,
so who's going to save me now?

1109

00:54:07,070 --> 00:54:11,240

I also notice, over the
years, and that's been always

1110

00:54:11,240 --> 00:54:12,530

as long as I remember.

1111

00:54:12,530 --> 00:54:15,530

And I don't remember
when it started.

1112

00:54:15,530 --> 00:54:18,680

I don't like loud noises.

1113

00:54:18,680 --> 00:54:24,920

I hate dark rooms, like I
hate this room, dark, narrow.

1114

00:54:24,920 --> 00:54:32,150

When I hear a fire engine or
an ambulance siren, I cringe.

1115

00:54:32,150 --> 00:54:35,750

I don't know if it has to do
with when they had they made

1116
00:54:35,750 --> 00:54:39,950
you go in the cellar
when they had grades

1117
00:54:39,950 --> 00:54:42,450
or whatever and the noise.

1118
00:54:42,450 --> 00:54:44,360
But I'm absolutely
frightened of it.

1119
00:54:44,360 --> 00:54:45,950
I can see it's an ambulance.

1120
00:54:45,950 --> 00:54:49,370
I can see it's a police car,
but I'm still frightened.

1121
00:54:49,370 --> 00:54:51,560
The noise frightens
me incredibly.

1122
00:54:51,560 --> 00:54:53,260
Now, is that since
your mother died?

1123
00:54:53,260 --> 00:54:54,515
Oh no, that's always.

1124
00:54:54,515 --> 00:54:55,070
Always.

1125
00:54:55,070 --> 00:54:57,560
Always, as long as I remember.

1126
00:54:57,560 --> 00:55:00,590
That has nothing to
do with my mother,

1127

00:55:00,590 --> 00:55:02,420
because it doesn't have
to be an ambulance.

1128
00:55:02,420 --> 00:55:04,340
It can be a police
car chasing somebody.

1129
00:55:04,340 --> 00:55:10,370
The siren is what
just makes me panic,

1130
00:55:10,370 --> 00:55:13,670
and I will not-- like I'm not
claustrophobic or anything.

1131
00:55:13,670 --> 00:55:15,800
But say, I go to
a doctor's office,

1132
00:55:15,800 --> 00:55:19,970
and they all have these
little examining rooms.

1133
00:55:19,970 --> 00:55:22,480
I make them leave the door open.

1134
00:55:22,480 --> 00:55:24,190
An elevator doesn't bother me.

1135
00:55:24,190 --> 00:55:29,080
I'm not claustrophobic, but
I don't like anything dark,

1136
00:55:29,080 --> 00:55:32,200
dingy, small.

1137
00:55:32,200 --> 00:55:37,810
My house is practically,
completely glassed in.

1138
00:55:37,810 --> 00:55:40,060
It's very contemporary,

so it goes.

1139
00:55:40,060 --> 00:55:43,075
But that's how I like it, light.

1140
00:55:43,075 --> 00:55:45,600

1141
00:55:45,600 --> 00:55:48,030
But even the darkness
doesn't bother me as much

1142
00:55:48,030 --> 00:55:50,610
as the sirens.

1143
00:55:50,610 --> 00:55:54,340
Always, sirens, always,
and it not just bothers me.

1144
00:55:54,340 --> 00:55:56,860
It scares me.

1145
00:55:56,860 --> 00:56:02,110
Like I said, ambulance, I
can see being upset, fire.

1146
00:56:02,110 --> 00:56:04,150
But if a policeman
is chasing somebody,

1147
00:56:04,150 --> 00:56:08,170
that shouldn't upset
me, but it's the noise.

1148
00:56:08,170 --> 00:56:10,930
Maybe that's what I
heard as a little girl.

1149
00:56:10,930 --> 00:56:14,620
Maybe before there was a raid,
there were bombs that they had,

1150

00:56:14,620 --> 00:56:18,040
these sirens, and
everybody went.

1151
00:56:18,040 --> 00:56:19,510
Because my mother taught me.

1152
00:56:19,510 --> 00:56:23,170
We went to hide in
the cellar or wherever

1153
00:56:23,170 --> 00:56:25,600
you hide during that time.

1154
00:56:25,600 --> 00:56:30,320
So I honestly think that
has to do with it, you know?

1155
00:56:30,320 --> 00:56:33,880
I don't like anything very loud.

1156
00:56:33,880 --> 00:56:35,920
Like when my kids
were growing up,

1157
00:56:35,920 --> 00:56:38,190
you know, they liked
the music loud.

1158
00:56:38,190 --> 00:56:40,400
It drove me crazy.

1159
00:56:40,400 --> 00:56:44,630
Not the usual mother crazy,
but it really bothered me.

1160
00:56:44,630 --> 00:56:45,740
It scared you.

1161
00:56:45,740 --> 00:56:47,000
It scared me.

1162

00:56:47,000 --> 00:56:48,530
Anything loud.

1163
00:56:48,530 --> 00:56:50,120
I don't like arguments.

1164
00:56:50,120 --> 00:56:52,860
I try to--

1165
00:56:52,860 --> 00:56:58,371
I will do anything to
avoid arguments, anything.

1166
00:56:58,371 --> 00:56:59,500
I'll give in.

1167
00:56:59,500 --> 00:57:00,190
You want this?

1168
00:57:00,190 --> 00:57:07,470
Fine, just not to hear
arguments, and not

1169
00:57:07,470 --> 00:57:08,340
that I ever--

1170
00:57:08,340 --> 00:57:12,360
I mean, other than, of course,
when I said I was little,

1171
00:57:12,360 --> 00:57:16,020
I think I was abused physically
in the sense that I was hit.

1172
00:57:16,020 --> 00:57:18,990
Because I have just
tremendous fear.

1173
00:57:18,990 --> 00:57:21,900
If someone ever-- no
one ever slapped me.

1174

00:57:21,900 --> 00:57:24,850

My parents never laid
a hand on me, no one.

1175

00:57:24,850 --> 00:57:28,890

But if someone did, I'd
be petrified of any kind

1176

00:57:28,890 --> 00:57:34,070

of physical violence.

1177

00:57:34,070 --> 00:57:36,080

Did you ever spank
your children?

1178

00:57:36,080 --> 00:57:39,240

Yeah, but on the bottom.

1179

00:57:39,240 --> 00:57:41,180

Yeah, you were able to do that.

1180

00:57:41,180 --> 00:57:47,360

I was able to do that, but
I am absolutely petrified.

1181

00:57:47,360 --> 00:57:49,880

If I confronted someone,
I had a fight with someone

1182

00:57:49,880 --> 00:57:52,340

on the street.

1183

00:57:52,340 --> 00:57:55,040

I'd be scared to death that
they were going to hit me.

1184

00:57:55,040 --> 00:57:56,150

I wouldn't die from it.

1185

00:57:56,150 --> 00:57:59,340

They could maybe slap me,
but I'd be scared to death.

1186

00:57:59,340 --> 00:58:04,060

I'm afraid of any
kind of physical pain.

1187

00:58:04,060 --> 00:58:08,530

1188

00:58:08,530 --> 00:58:10,930

I was able to hit them on
the bottom, but believe me,

1189

00:58:10,930 --> 00:58:11,920

not very hard.

1190

00:58:11,920 --> 00:58:13,000

And I felt worse.

1191

00:58:13,000 --> 00:58:17,980

You know, the saying, I feel
worse than you do, was true.

1192

00:58:17,980 --> 00:58:22,730

But my parents never, no
matter what I did, of course,

1193

00:58:22,730 --> 00:58:24,430

they never punished me any way.

1194

00:58:24,430 --> 00:58:27,170

My mother would promise me, oh,
you're going to be grounded.

1195

00:58:27,170 --> 00:58:28,800

You're going to do this, that.

1196

00:58:28,800 --> 00:58:30,550

Half an hour later,
she couldn't stand it,

1197

00:58:30,550 --> 00:58:31,690

and I did what I wanted.

1198

00:58:31,690 --> 00:58:36,220

So they were lucky that
I was a good child,

1199

00:58:36,220 --> 00:58:39,560

but they spoiled rotten.

1200

00:58:39,560 --> 00:58:41,990

And I tried not to do
that with the kids.

1201

00:58:41,990 --> 00:58:45,550

I mean, once I said,
you go to your room,

1202

00:58:45,550 --> 00:58:48,610

I always stop myself from
saying, I felt sorry for them.

1203

00:58:48,610 --> 00:58:50,790

I felt that immediately
as soon as I said it.

1204

00:58:50,790 --> 00:58:51,830

I said, no.

1205

00:58:51,830 --> 00:58:54,340

So it was hard for you,
but you stuck to your guns.

1206

00:58:54,340 --> 00:58:58,120

I did most of the time, we
can only be so consistent,

1207

00:58:58,120 --> 00:59:01,630

but it was very hard
for me to follow through

1208

00:59:01,630 --> 00:59:03,610

with any kind of--
and I'm not talking

1209

00:59:03,610 --> 00:59:07,400
about spanking or
beating, but taking away

1210
00:59:07,400 --> 00:59:09,800
a privilege or whatever.

1211
00:59:09,800 --> 00:59:12,200
Very, very hard,
and I'm sure there

1212
00:59:12,200 --> 00:59:13,390
were times when I gave in.

1213
00:59:13,390 --> 00:59:17,530
But I tried very hard not
to do what my mother did,

1214
00:59:17,530 --> 00:59:20,860
because I was never
disciplined after the war.

1215
00:59:20,860 --> 00:59:24,880
I mean, if I was a bad kid,
I could have killed somebody.

1216
00:59:24,880 --> 00:59:29,530
There was no discipline, because
I could do no wrong, according

1217
00:59:29,530 --> 00:59:32,700
to both my parents.

1218
00:59:32,700 --> 00:59:37,900
So I don't remember I was dating
somebody they didn't approve,

1219
00:59:37,900 --> 00:59:40,060
so I was taking piano lessons.

1220
00:59:40,060 --> 00:59:42,470
And my mother--
it's a long story.

1221
00:59:42,470 --> 00:59:45,550
But anyway, my mother told me
I couldn't date him since they

1222
00:59:45,550 --> 00:59:48,050
were going to piano lessons.

1223
00:59:48,050 --> 00:59:49,090
I went out with him.

1224
00:59:49,090 --> 00:59:52,570
I snuck out, and my mother
was paying the piano

1225
00:59:52,570 --> 00:59:53,920
teacher for half the year.

1226
00:59:53,920 --> 00:59:56,590
And I never went for a
lesson, and the piano teacher

1227
00:59:56,590 --> 00:59:58,990
was taking the money.

1228
00:59:58,990 --> 01:00:00,790
Of course, my mother caught me.

1229
01:00:00,790 --> 01:00:03,730
The promise is I'll never see
him, again, and this, and that.

1230
01:00:03,730 --> 01:00:06,850
And I'll never leave
the house, whatever.

1231
01:00:06,850 --> 01:00:08,740
A week later, we
went to the coast,

1232
01:00:08,740 --> 01:00:12,730
because we always went every

summer for three months.

1233

01:00:12,730 --> 01:00:15,130

And he talked his father
into bringing him there.

1234

01:00:15,130 --> 01:00:18,450

There he was, and
my mother gave in.

1235

01:00:18,450 --> 01:00:20,640

And I forget why she
didn't want me to see him.

1236

01:00:20,640 --> 01:00:21,570

He wasn't a bad guy.

1237

01:00:21,570 --> 01:00:25,065

I don't even remember, but
my mother never, ever--

1238

01:00:25,065 --> 01:00:27,660

1239

01:00:27,660 --> 01:00:29,940

she never went through
with her promise

1240

01:00:29,940 --> 01:00:32,160

of denying me something.

1241

01:00:32,160 --> 01:00:33,570

She couldn't.

1242

01:00:33,570 --> 01:00:36,640

And I don't know, if
my dad couldn't either,

1243

01:00:36,640 --> 01:00:37,950

or because of her, he didn't.

1244

01:00:37,950 --> 01:00:41,060

But he didn't either.

1245
01:00:41,060 --> 01:00:42,770
So you got pretty
much what you wanted.

1246
01:00:42,770 --> 01:00:44,180
Mhmm, and it's a good thing.

1247
01:00:44,180 --> 01:00:45,950
Like I said, it's a
good thing I never

1248
01:00:45,950 --> 01:00:50,920
really took advantage
of it, but I think

1249
01:00:50,920 --> 01:00:53,080
I grew up a little mixed up.

1250
01:00:53,080 --> 01:00:58,000
Well, it sounds as though
this whole experience

1251
01:00:58,000 --> 01:00:59,956
had many, many, many--

1252
01:00:59,956 --> 01:01:00,456
Many.

1253
01:01:00,456 --> 01:01:03,360
--different effects on you.

1254
01:01:03,360 --> 01:01:05,790
Well, if I think,
even that alone, you

1255
01:01:05,790 --> 01:01:09,880
know, here, first
part of the war,

1256
01:01:09,880 --> 01:01:11,500

I don't know how
I was mistreated,

1257
01:01:11,500 --> 01:01:13,480
but I was mistreated.

1258
01:01:13,480 --> 01:01:16,940
Then I go on doing
whatever I want.

1259
01:01:16,940 --> 01:01:18,918
There are no boundaries.

1260
01:01:18,918 --> 01:01:19,460
There's none.

1261
01:01:19,460 --> 01:01:21,580
No one tells me, you
can do this or that.

1262
01:01:21,580 --> 01:01:24,070
Because I can do
anything I want.

1263
01:01:24,070 --> 01:01:28,540
That alone doesn't fill
you with confidence,

1264
01:01:28,540 --> 01:01:33,430
and then add to that the
noise, the bombs, the hiding,

1265
01:01:33,430 --> 01:01:38,360
the running, family
disappearing at the age of two.

1266
01:01:38,360 --> 01:01:40,660
If you see your
grandparents every day,

1267
01:01:40,660 --> 01:01:42,880
you kind of know that
there's someone there,

1268
01:01:42,880 --> 01:01:44,620
and all of a sudden,
they disappear.

1269
01:01:44,620 --> 01:01:49,100
My father, until I
was two, he was there.

1270
01:01:49,100 --> 01:01:56,000
So very frightening, and I guess
I never resolved any of it.

1271
01:01:56,000 --> 01:01:59,710
And I feel like I never will.

1272
01:01:59,710 --> 01:02:04,510
I never will, because as time
goes on, rather than saying,

1273
01:02:04,510 --> 01:02:06,750
OK, enjoy what you have now.

1274
01:02:06,750 --> 01:02:10,380
You've lost the-- I try to
tell myself, you've lost a lot.

1275
01:02:10,380 --> 01:02:12,120
You've lost more
than most people,

1276
01:02:12,120 --> 01:02:15,030
because you start
feeling sorry for myself.

1277
01:02:15,030 --> 01:02:19,000
But then, right now, you
have more than most people,

1278
01:02:19,000 --> 01:02:19,970
which is true.

1279

01:02:19,970 --> 01:02:20,750
I do.

1280
01:02:20,750 --> 01:02:22,830
I never had to work.

1281
01:02:22,830 --> 01:02:26,730
My husband is doing
very, very well.

1282
01:02:26,730 --> 01:02:29,310
I can have anything I want.

1283
01:02:29,310 --> 01:02:32,760
I choose to be a travel
agent, because I enjoy it.

1284
01:02:32,760 --> 01:02:36,480
My children are good children.

1285
01:02:36,480 --> 01:02:38,940
I mean, you know,
never gave me trouble.

1286
01:02:38,940 --> 01:02:40,000
I have a lot of friends.

1287
01:02:40,000 --> 01:02:41,400
We have everything.

1288
01:02:41,400 --> 01:02:45,960
I can leave town any time I
want to, and I love to travel.

1289
01:02:45,960 --> 01:02:50,420
And I can't fully enjoy it.

1290
01:02:50,420 --> 01:02:51,580
So it's hard--

1291
01:02:51,580 --> 01:02:52,390
It's very hard.

1292
01:02:52,390 --> 01:02:53,765
--to fit all the
pieces together.

1293
01:02:53,765 --> 01:02:56,930
It's very hard, and I
think part of my migraines.

1294
01:02:56,930 --> 01:02:58,880
That's part of my migraines
that I've been to.

1295
01:02:58,880 --> 01:03:01,100
Everybody I go to,
a headache clinic,

1296
01:03:01,100 --> 01:03:02,700
they give me
preventive medication.

1297
01:03:02,700 --> 01:03:06,530
They tried the biofeedback,
which is basically relaxation

1298
01:03:06,530 --> 01:03:10,510
therapy, which helps anything.

1299
01:03:10,510 --> 01:03:11,400
And I still get them.

1300
01:03:11,400 --> 01:03:16,590
My mother had terrible migraines
after the war, after the war,

1301
01:03:16,590 --> 01:03:20,400
and I started having migraines
when I went to Texas.

1302
01:03:20,400 --> 01:03:23,910
I never had any, until I
was 22 when I got married.

1303

01:03:23,910 --> 01:03:27,480

And right before I got married,
I had my first migraine,

1304

01:03:27,480 --> 01:03:28,650

and that made me--

1305

01:03:28,650 --> 01:03:30,900

I mean, there were
times getting back

1306

01:03:30,900 --> 01:03:35,550

to the friend that's German,
she was next door to me.

1307

01:03:35,550 --> 01:03:38,640

When my children were little,
if I didn't have her help--

1308

01:03:38,640 --> 01:03:39,630

I usually had help.

1309

01:03:39,630 --> 01:03:42,510

But if I didn't have
help, they were little.

1310

01:03:42,510 --> 01:03:45,510

I would wake up, and I
wasn't able to function.

1311

01:03:45,510 --> 01:03:47,460

Because I couldn't
even stand up.

1312

01:03:47,460 --> 01:03:49,170

I couldn't stand or lie.

1313

01:03:49,170 --> 01:03:52,483

Truly, truly sick, she would
take the children for the day

1314

01:03:52,483 --> 01:03:53,400

and take care of them.

1315
01:03:53,400 --> 01:03:54,840
I never had to worry about it.

1316
01:03:54,840 --> 01:03:59,040
She was always there for me,
but that's how I used to be.

1317
01:03:59,040 --> 01:04:01,680
Since I started going
to the head ache clinic,

1318
01:04:01,680 --> 01:04:05,440
they tried to prevent
it as much as possible,

1319
01:04:05,440 --> 01:04:07,710
and I'm able to at least
work, do something.

1320
01:04:07,710 --> 01:04:12,250
Because before, I couldn't
plan for the next day,

1321
01:04:12,250 --> 01:04:14,580
because I didn't know
what was going to happen.

1322
01:04:14,580 --> 01:04:20,040
And I'm firmly convinced it has
to do with my being so tense

1323
01:04:20,040 --> 01:04:22,150
all the time.

1324
01:04:22,150 --> 01:04:24,492
Tension will bring
on a migraine.

1325
01:04:24,492 --> 01:04:26,190
Sure, so that's another.

1326

01:04:26,190 --> 01:04:28,730

Another physical aspect of it.

1327

01:04:28,730 --> 01:04:31,850

My neck, it's never relaxed.

1328

01:04:31,850 --> 01:04:36,200

No matter what I do, I
feel tense, and it hurts.

1329

01:04:36,200 --> 01:04:38,360

I'm always tense.

1330

01:04:38,360 --> 01:04:39,200

I drive.

1331

01:04:39,200 --> 01:04:41,030

I don't like driving.

1332

01:04:41,030 --> 01:04:44,660

Has that always been true that
you haven't liked driving?

1333

01:04:44,660 --> 01:04:46,960

Whenever I get a chance that
someone else is driving,

1334

01:04:46,960 --> 01:04:48,510

I let them drive.

1335

01:04:48,510 --> 01:04:50,930

I'm always afraid
something will happen.

1336

01:04:50,930 --> 01:04:53,430

Not that I'm a bad driver.

1337

01:04:53,430 --> 01:04:54,750

What about traveling?

1338

01:04:54,750 --> 01:04:56,880

Do you worry that
something will happen,

1339
01:04:56,880 --> 01:04:58,710
like some people
are afraid to fly?

1340
01:04:58,710 --> 01:04:59,763
Oh, no, no, no.

1341
01:04:59,763 --> 01:05:01,680
So you don't worry that
something will happen?

1342
01:05:01,680 --> 01:05:03,540
Not that, not when I fly.

1343
01:05:03,540 --> 01:05:08,303
I the only thing I'm
worried about is, if I go,

1344
01:05:08,303 --> 01:05:10,470
when the children were
younger, I left them at home.

1345
01:05:10,470 --> 01:05:12,240
I worried about them.

1346
01:05:12,240 --> 01:05:14,760
Now, I worry I have two dogs.

1347
01:05:14,760 --> 01:05:15,990
I worry about them.

1348
01:05:15,990 --> 01:05:18,660

1349
01:05:18,660 --> 01:05:21,390
Or whoever I leave,
like, if I go by myself

1350
01:05:21,390 --> 01:05:23,010

without my husband,
a lot of times,

1351
01:05:23,010 --> 01:05:26,040
there is a travel agent
deal that I go on,

1352
01:05:26,040 --> 01:05:27,955
and I worry about him too.

1353
01:05:27,955 --> 01:05:30,090
I worry about
everybody that's left.

1354
01:05:30,090 --> 01:05:31,150
Not about me.

1355
01:05:31,150 --> 01:05:35,310
I'm ready for an adventure,
and nothing scares me really.

1356
01:05:35,310 --> 01:05:38,580
I can go myself
around the world.

1357
01:05:38,580 --> 01:05:40,950
That wouldn't bother me,
but I worry about the people

1358
01:05:40,950 --> 01:05:45,880
I left behind, people and dogs.

1359
01:05:45,880 --> 01:05:49,650
Is there anything else
that you want to tell us?

1360
01:05:49,650 --> 01:05:51,870
I can't think of
anything right now.

1361
01:05:51,870 --> 01:05:57,720

1362

01:05:57,720 --> 01:06:01,500

I keep harping on that, but
it's just like everything

1363

01:06:01,500 --> 01:06:03,840

is all mixed up.

1364

01:06:03,840 --> 01:06:07,110

It sounds melodramatic, but
it's like a cross to carry,

1365

01:06:07,110 --> 01:06:08,760

so to speak.

1366

01:06:08,760 --> 01:06:12,990

Everything is a result
of what happened,

1367

01:06:12,990 --> 01:06:14,280

and I have to live with it.

1368

01:06:14,280 --> 01:06:18,990

1369

01:06:18,990 --> 01:06:23,610

I guess that's why I've been
reluctant to go for counseling,

1370

01:06:23,610 --> 01:06:24,660

which is not right.

1371

01:06:24,660 --> 01:06:29,060

I should, because I feel like,
what are they going to do?

1372

01:06:29,060 --> 01:06:31,410

Are going to give
me my family back?

1373

01:06:31,410 --> 01:06:36,120

Are they going to give
me my childhood back?

1374
01:06:36,120 --> 01:06:40,290
They're not, and I realize
that's not very bright.

1375
01:06:40,290 --> 01:06:46,020
Because you learn to
cope with it, because I'm

1376
01:06:46,020 --> 01:06:48,330
not coping very well.

1377
01:06:48,330 --> 01:06:49,650
On the outside, I am.

1378
01:06:49,650 --> 01:06:51,740
Everybody thinks
I'm a lot of fun.

1379
01:06:51,740 --> 01:06:53,100
I go to parties.

1380
01:06:53,100 --> 01:06:54,030
People like me.

1381
01:06:54,030 --> 01:06:55,530
People like to be around me.

1382
01:06:55,530 --> 01:06:56,220
I'm funny.

1383
01:06:56,220 --> 01:06:56,760
I'm this.

1384
01:06:56,760 --> 01:06:59,850
I'm that.

1385
01:06:59,850 --> 01:07:01,800
But on the inside, I'm not that.

1386
01:07:01,800 --> 01:07:04,800

I remember we were talking
to someone at the office had

1387
01:07:04,800 --> 01:07:07,980
a baby shower, and
one of the girls

1388
01:07:07,980 --> 01:07:11,250
said something about
having positive thoughts.

1389
01:07:11,250 --> 01:07:14,220
And she said, well, you
know, when you're pregnant,

1390
01:07:14,220 --> 01:07:19,240
how you feel, it will affect
the baby if you're very tense

1391
01:07:19,240 --> 01:07:19,740
or whatever.

1392
01:07:19,740 --> 01:07:23,720

1393
01:07:23,720 --> 01:07:25,560
It will affect the baby.

1394
01:07:25,560 --> 01:07:29,940
I said, that explains me, and
these are people I work with.

1395
01:07:29,940 --> 01:07:32,070
The lady at the
[? dance ?] agency

1396
01:07:32,070 --> 01:07:34,520
is a friend of
mine for 30 years.

1397
01:07:34,520 --> 01:07:35,430
We're close friends.

1398

01:07:35,430 --> 01:07:36,750

She knows me well.

1399

01:07:36,750 --> 01:07:40,560

She knows my whole history,
and they all said--

1400

01:07:40,560 --> 01:07:44,820

I said that explains
why I'm the way I am.

1401

01:07:44,820 --> 01:07:47,190

They said, oh, you're
a happy person.

1402

01:07:47,190 --> 01:07:48,750

I said, no, I'm not.

1403

01:07:48,750 --> 01:07:51,368

I'm very intense, and I'm very--

1404

01:07:51,368 --> 01:07:52,410

they couldn't believe it.

1405

01:07:52,410 --> 01:07:55,140

Because I don't show it.

1406

01:07:55,140 --> 01:07:59,540

It explains because of
your mother's situation

1407

01:07:59,540 --> 01:08:01,372

when she was pregnant with you.

1408

01:08:01,372 --> 01:08:05,370

Well, that's what I related it
to, but the people that know me

1409

01:08:05,370 --> 01:08:07,560

well don't see me that way.

1410

01:08:07,560 --> 01:08:08,400
So you hide it well.

1411
01:08:08,400 --> 01:08:11,490
I hide it, which makes
it even more difficult.

1412
01:08:11,490 --> 01:08:12,930
It's like working at it.

1413
01:08:12,930 --> 01:08:13,950
Because it's a strain.

1414
01:08:13,950 --> 01:08:16,979
It's a strain for me,
but that's what I do.

1415
01:08:16,979 --> 01:08:20,939
Not that I couldn't,
but everybody's happy.

1416
01:08:20,939 --> 01:08:26,149
I don't want them not
to be, so I hide it.

1417
01:08:26,149 --> 01:08:30,950
And it's like almost
leading a double life.

1418
01:08:30,950 --> 01:08:34,069
Here, I am this person that
everybody thinks, oh, she's

1419
01:08:34,069 --> 01:08:36,680
got a great life,
anything she wants.

1420
01:08:36,680 --> 01:08:37,350
She travels.

1421
01:08:37,350 --> 01:08:37,850
She's this.

1422

01:08:37,850 --> 01:08:39,200

She's that.

1423

01:08:39,200 --> 01:08:43,120

She's got friends, and
everybody loves to be around me.

1424

01:08:43,120 --> 01:08:46,270

And here, I'm this other person.

1425

01:08:46,270 --> 01:08:52,840

It's really miserable, because
I can't relax for one minute.

1426

01:08:52,840 --> 01:08:56,659

And people don't know that
that's what's going on.

1427

01:08:56,659 --> 01:08:59,260

No, and I guess I'm
afraid deep down that,

1428

01:08:59,260 --> 01:09:02,500

if they did, that
I'm never relaxed,

1429

01:09:02,500 --> 01:09:05,529

people wouldn't want to be
around me, like they do now.

1430

01:09:05,529 --> 01:09:09,830

So I show another
person to them.

1431

01:09:09,830 --> 01:09:12,710

That is not to say I have a
couple of very close friends.

1432

01:09:12,710 --> 01:09:16,729

If I'm upset about something
specific, I can talk about it,

1433

01:09:16,729 --> 01:09:19,250
and they're always there for me.

1434
01:09:19,250 --> 01:09:22,557
But they want to help me.

1435
01:09:22,557 --> 01:09:23,640
They want to do something.

1436
01:09:23,640 --> 01:09:25,569
They can't undo the past.

1437
01:09:25,569 --> 01:09:28,130
They want me to be happy,
so I'm happy to them.

1438
01:09:28,130 --> 01:09:30,810

1439
01:09:30,810 --> 01:09:34,649
So people want to be around me.

1440
01:09:34,649 --> 01:09:36,540
Otherwise, I feel
like they never

1441
01:09:36,540 --> 01:09:39,450
want to be around me,
which I can understand.

1442
01:09:39,450 --> 01:09:43,170
If I was around someone
that's always unhappy,

1443
01:09:43,170 --> 01:09:44,939
I wouldn't want to be
around them either.

1444
01:09:44,939 --> 01:09:48,880
I don't want to be
around me sometimes.

1445

01:09:48,880 --> 01:09:51,550
And what do you do then?

1446
01:09:51,550 --> 01:09:52,600
Not much.

1447
01:09:52,600 --> 01:09:55,780
I think I usually
come up with a trip.

1448
01:09:55,780 --> 01:09:59,680
That usually cures it
for a while anyway.

1449
01:09:59,680 --> 01:10:04,370
You can't escape from
yourself, but I love trips.

1450
01:10:04,370 --> 01:10:07,820
I love going with my
husband, but I actually

1451
01:10:07,820 --> 01:10:09,950
love going by myself.

1452
01:10:09,950 --> 01:10:16,130
Because I guess for the first
time in the last 10 years,

1453
01:10:16,130 --> 01:10:18,410
I've sort of become
more independent.

1454
01:10:18,410 --> 01:10:20,660
I was always
dependent on somebody.

1455
01:10:20,660 --> 01:10:22,340
First, it was my mother.

1456
01:10:22,340 --> 01:10:26,120
Then it was my husband, and
then I became independent.

1457
01:10:26,120 --> 01:10:29,720
And I feel adventurous that
I can do this by myself,

1458
01:10:29,720 --> 01:10:34,220
that by myself, and I'm
not worried about anything.

1459
01:10:34,220 --> 01:10:35,870
And I just get away
from everything.

1460
01:10:35,870 --> 01:10:40,220
I forget about worrying about
anything when I'm by myself.

1461
01:10:40,220 --> 01:10:42,450
So you feel sometimes
more relaxed

1462
01:10:42,450 --> 01:10:43,450
when you're by yourself.

1463
01:10:43,450 --> 01:10:47,540
Yeah, I do when I'm by
myself, because I'm myself.

1464
01:10:47,540 --> 01:10:50,740

1465
01:10:50,740 --> 01:10:52,970
So I try to do stuff.

1466
01:10:52,970 --> 01:10:54,340
My husband is a CPA.

1467
01:10:54,340 --> 01:10:56,690
So between January--
as a matter of fact,

1468
01:10:56,690 --> 01:10:58,090

that's why he left today.

1469
01:10:58,090 --> 01:11:01,240
January and April 15,
he doesn't go anymore.

1470
01:11:01,240 --> 01:11:05,350
So I'll either go by myself,
if it's a travel agent thing,

1471
01:11:05,350 --> 01:11:07,660
or I have a very good
friend who will go with me.

1472
01:11:07,660 --> 01:11:11,680
We've gone to London,
Paris, just to get away.

1473
01:11:11,680 --> 01:11:12,970
Because he can't go.

1474
01:11:12,970 --> 01:11:14,350
Like I said, he's very good.

1475
01:11:14,350 --> 01:11:18,190
He doesn't mind at
all, and then this

1476
01:11:18,190 --> 01:11:20,530
is a very, very close friend.

1477
01:11:20,530 --> 01:11:22,900
Another friend,
not the German one.

1478
01:11:22,900 --> 01:11:26,230
And if I feel like
sulking, I can sulk.

1479
01:11:26,230 --> 01:11:26,740
She doesn't.

1480

01:11:26,740 --> 01:11:27,010
It's fine.

1481
01:11:27,010 --> 01:11:28,343
So you can be yourself with her.

1482
01:11:28,343 --> 01:11:29,720
I can be myself with her.

1483
01:11:29,720 --> 01:11:31,450
That's why I like
traveling with her.

1484
01:11:31,450 --> 01:11:34,130

1485
01:11:34,130 --> 01:11:35,780
She's not Jewish.

1486
01:11:35,780 --> 01:11:37,760
We spend all the
holidays together.

1487
01:11:37,760 --> 01:11:39,680
We go over there for Christmas.

1488
01:11:39,680 --> 01:11:41,430
They come for the
Jewish holidays.

1489
01:11:41,430 --> 01:11:45,978
We're like one family,
the kids and everything.

1490
01:11:45,978 --> 01:11:51,710

1491
01:11:51,710 --> 01:11:55,660
She's really the only one
that I can-- she will say--

1492
01:11:55,660 --> 01:11:56,690

and you know what?

1493
01:11:56,690 --> 01:12:00,180
In spite of myself, she
usually cheers me up,

1494
01:12:00,180 --> 01:12:03,240
even though I'm determined
to be miserable.

1495
01:12:03,240 --> 01:12:04,260
Sometimes, I am.

1496
01:12:04,260 --> 01:12:06,090
How does she cheer you up?

1497
01:12:06,090 --> 01:12:06,840
I don't know.

1498
01:12:06,840 --> 01:12:09,210
She will just--
she's so positive.

1499
01:12:09,210 --> 01:12:11,700
I guess that's what
I love about her.

1500
01:12:11,700 --> 01:12:13,890
She's much younger than I am.

1501
01:12:13,890 --> 01:12:15,630
She has an eight-year-old child.

1502
01:12:15,630 --> 01:12:17,550
She's 40 now.

1503
01:12:17,550 --> 01:12:21,000

1504
01:12:21,000 --> 01:12:22,890
I call her,
sometimes, Pollyanna.

1505
01:12:22,890 --> 01:12:25,410
I don't mean to make
fun of her, but she

1506
01:12:25,410 --> 01:12:28,030
has such a positive
outlook on everything.

1507
01:12:28,030 --> 01:12:33,540
And she didn't grow up, you
know, sheltered and spoiled.

1508
01:12:33,540 --> 01:12:36,030
She had a very hard life.

1509
01:12:36,030 --> 01:12:39,180
She's been married before,
very, very hard life.

1510
01:12:39,180 --> 01:12:42,250
But to her, people
are wonderful.

1511
01:12:42,250 --> 01:12:45,360
Everybody has some
redeeming qualities.

1512
01:12:45,360 --> 01:12:48,360
Every situation has
something good in it,

1513
01:12:48,360 --> 01:12:49,980
and it's not preaching.

1514
01:12:49,980 --> 01:12:52,750
She truly believes it.

1515
01:12:52,750 --> 01:12:57,680
Sometimes, I hate to bring her
down, but she's incredible.

1516

01:12:57,680 --> 01:13:00,640

In fact, when I get
upset, my husband

1517

01:13:00,640 --> 01:13:04,330

will tell me, go over to
Elisha, and get some positive

1518

01:13:04,330 --> 01:13:07,150

from her or whatever.

1519

01:13:07,150 --> 01:13:10,960

Because she's just very
positive, very devoted

1520

01:13:10,960 --> 01:13:13,880

to her friends, her family.

1521

01:13:13,880 --> 01:13:18,050

There's nothing she wouldn't
do for me or I for her.

1522

01:13:18,050 --> 01:13:21,410

But she is completely different
than I am in that respect.

1523

01:13:21,410 --> 01:13:25,900

She sees good in everything.

1524

01:13:25,900 --> 01:13:27,670

I guess that's why I'm drawn--

1525

01:13:27,670 --> 01:13:31,010

I'm actually drawn
to people like that.

1526

01:13:31,010 --> 01:13:34,340

And like I said, she didn't
have an easy life either.

1527

01:13:34,340 --> 01:13:36,170

I mean, nothing like what I had.

1528

01:13:36,170 --> 01:13:39,020

But it wasn't like
she grew up pampered,

1529

01:13:39,020 --> 01:13:41,750

and she thinks the
world is wonderful.

1530

01:13:41,750 --> 01:13:44,800

She knows the world
is not wonderful,

1531

01:13:44,800 --> 01:13:48,000

but she's making it that way.

1532

01:13:48,000 --> 01:13:49,560

And I'd like to be like that.

1533

01:13:49,560 --> 01:13:52,490

We have to turn over the tape.

1534

01:13:52,490 --> 01:13:53,000