

1

00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:05,250

This is a continuation of
a United States Holocaust

2

00:00:05,250 --> 00:00:07,800

Memorial Museum
volunteer collection

3

00:00:07,800 --> 00:00:13,740

interview with Klari
Rudnai conducted

4

00:00:13,740 --> 00:00:18,630

by Margaret Garrett on January
20, 1998 in Chevy Chase,

5

00:00:18,630 --> 00:00:25,050

Maryland-- tape number 2, side
A. And what happened next?

6

00:00:25,050 --> 00:00:33,690

Well, I met that
American soldier.

7

00:00:33,690 --> 00:00:37,620

And he was very good
looking-- very nice.

8

00:00:37,620 --> 00:00:39,400

How did you meet him?

9

00:00:39,400 --> 00:00:44,580

My sister's friend, who worked
at the American Embassy--

10

00:00:44,580 --> 00:00:48,270

mission, they called
it, not the embassy.

11

00:00:48,270 --> 00:00:55,140

And he introduced it to me
because he liked him very much.

12
00:00:55,140 --> 00:00:55,950
He was older.

13
00:00:55,950 --> 00:00:57,450
Yeah.

14
00:00:57,450 --> 00:01:00,150
And he was very good looking.

15
00:01:00,150 --> 00:01:01,560
How old were you?

16
00:01:01,560 --> 00:01:08,110
Then it was, let's see, 19.

17
00:01:08,110 --> 00:01:12,250
And my parents liked him.

18
00:01:12,250 --> 00:01:15,000
He was very [? fine. ?]
He was from South Dakota--

19
00:01:15,000 --> 00:01:18,940
not even [MUMBLING]
in South Dakota.

20
00:01:18,940 --> 00:01:23,290
But he was a lot in
Paris and everywhere.

21
00:01:23,290 --> 00:01:27,060
So he was much better
than from South Dakota.

22
00:01:27,060 --> 00:01:28,525
So we got married.

23
00:01:28,525 --> 00:01:34,830

24

00:01:34,830 --> 00:01:39,390
How long from the time you
met him until you got married?

25
00:01:39,390 --> 00:01:41,370
About six months.

26
00:01:41,370 --> 00:01:43,480
And my parents liked him.

27
00:01:43,480 --> 00:01:46,590
He was very nice, really.

28
00:01:46,590 --> 00:01:53,410
And I had a feeling,
I want to get out.

29
00:01:53,410 --> 00:01:57,210
I want my new life.

30
00:01:57,210 --> 00:02:02,010
I don't know why, I
felt I had enough fear.

31
00:02:02,010 --> 00:02:05,850
And I was surprised
that my father let me.

32
00:02:05,850 --> 00:02:06,930
He said yes.

33
00:02:06,930 --> 00:02:09,430
We talked about it.

34
00:02:09,430 --> 00:02:11,560
My sister said, I
don't want to go.

35
00:02:11,560 --> 00:02:13,800
I going to stay here.

36
00:02:13,800 --> 00:02:17,130

And then we came to Washington.

37

00:02:17,130 --> 00:02:19,650

So you wanted to get out.

38

00:02:19,650 --> 00:02:22,920

You wanted to get out of
Budapest, out of Europe, out

39

00:02:22,920 --> 00:02:23,790

of Hungary--

40

00:02:23,790 --> 00:02:24,600

what?

41

00:02:24,600 --> 00:02:26,100

I just wanted to go out.

42

00:02:26,100 --> 00:02:32,280

I had a feeling, I
want to go to America.

43

00:02:32,280 --> 00:02:35,330

He was very nice and
very good looking.

44

00:02:35,330 --> 00:02:38,010

And he was a very nice person.

45

00:02:38,010 --> 00:02:42,300

But I had a feeling,
I want to [? help. ?]

46

00:02:42,300 --> 00:02:44,610

My friends were all killed.

47

00:02:44,610 --> 00:02:47,830

48

00:02:47,830 --> 00:02:49,590

Your best friend Susan.

49

00:02:49,590 --> 00:02:50,100

Yeah.

50

00:02:50,100 --> 00:02:50,980

Your boyfriend.

51

00:02:50,980 --> 00:02:54,330

Boyfriend, and some
other ones too.

52

00:02:54,330 --> 00:02:54,830

Cousins?

53

00:02:54,830 --> 00:02:58,320

54

00:02:58,320 --> 00:03:02,350

I have one horrible
cousin in Canada.

55

00:03:02,350 --> 00:03:03,840

She's obnoxious.

56

00:03:03,840 --> 00:03:06,690

And that I have
one in Australia,

57

00:03:06,690 --> 00:03:08,080

and I never saw him before.

58

00:03:08,080 --> 00:03:12,150

But in that time, had
any of your family left?

59

00:03:12,150 --> 00:03:14,670

Yeah.

60

00:03:14,670 --> 00:03:19,380

My cousin and her mother,
they are in Canada.

61

00:03:19,380 --> 00:03:21,030
So they had already left?

62
00:03:21,030 --> 00:03:21,810
Yeah.

63
00:03:21,810 --> 00:03:24,390
But I don't know,
I had a feeling--

64
00:03:24,390 --> 00:03:25,560
I want to go out.

65
00:03:25,560 --> 00:03:27,060
And what was your life like?

66
00:03:27,060 --> 00:03:28,640
Were you in school at that time?

67
00:03:28,640 --> 00:03:30,230
No, I just finished.

68
00:03:30,230 --> 00:03:31,980
You had finished high school.

69
00:03:31,980 --> 00:03:32,950
Yeah, high school.

70
00:03:32,950 --> 00:03:33,450
Mm-hmm.

71
00:03:33,450 --> 00:03:38,640
And if you had stayed, would
you have gone to university?

72
00:03:38,640 --> 00:03:43,770
I don't even think that yet.

73
00:03:43,770 --> 00:03:45,570
You were not
interested in doing it?

74

00:03:45,570 --> 00:03:47,350

No, I wanted more.

75

00:03:47,350 --> 00:03:48,500

I don't know what I wanted.

76

00:03:48,500 --> 00:03:51,000

But you didn't want to
go to school anymore.

77

00:03:51,000 --> 00:03:53,370

Not for university, no.

78

00:03:53,370 --> 00:03:55,140

So you'd finished high school.

79

00:03:55,140 --> 00:03:56,670

Did you have a job, or?

80

00:03:56,670 --> 00:03:58,740

I didn't.

81

00:03:58,740 --> 00:04:04,470

Actually, no, I used to go off
to-- my father has an office,

82

00:04:04,470 --> 00:04:07,020

where he used to--

83

00:04:07,020 --> 00:04:08,790

and every time I go.

84

00:04:08,790 --> 00:04:09,450

He left.

85

00:04:09,450 --> 00:04:10,846

I sneaked out.

86

00:04:10,846 --> 00:04:13,747

[LAUGHS] It was just I
wasn't interested, really.

87
00:04:13,747 --> 00:04:15,330
So you worked in
your father's office.

88
00:04:15,330 --> 00:04:16,860
Just a little bit.

89
00:04:16,860 --> 00:04:19,050
Did he get his factories back?

90
00:04:19,050 --> 00:04:19,800
No.

91
00:04:19,800 --> 00:04:20,670
They were gone.

92
00:04:20,670 --> 00:04:21,430
They were gone.

93
00:04:21,430 --> 00:04:23,740
And so what did he
do for his work?

94
00:04:23,740 --> 00:04:29,370
Actually, he was an engineer.

95
00:04:29,370 --> 00:04:35,040
And he got a very big job
for certain areas there.

96
00:04:35,040 --> 00:04:36,270
He got a job in Budapest.

97
00:04:36,270 --> 00:04:38,310
In Budapest, yeah.

98
00:04:38,310 --> 00:04:39,900
What was the company--

99
00:04:39,900 --> 00:04:40,860

a Hungarian company?

100
00:04:40,860 --> 00:04:41,655
It's Hungarian.

101
00:04:41,655 --> 00:04:48,510
And it's actually where
he was to show people

102
00:04:48,510 --> 00:04:52,800
certain areas about
how to do iron

103
00:04:52,800 --> 00:04:56,070
and steel and things like that.

104
00:04:56,070 --> 00:04:59,070
Yeah, he traveled a lot.

105
00:04:59,070 --> 00:05:01,520
He had his office there, too--

106
00:05:01,520 --> 00:05:02,850
a different office.

107
00:05:02,850 --> 00:05:04,810
And what about your mother?

108
00:05:04,810 --> 00:05:06,710
What was her life like then?

109
00:05:06,710 --> 00:05:08,490
She came back to do the same.

110
00:05:08,490 --> 00:05:09,860
She was OK, yeah.

111
00:05:09,860 --> 00:05:12,690
So she sort of kept up
with her social life?

112

00:05:12,690 --> 00:05:13,190
Yeah.

113
00:05:13,190 --> 00:05:14,660
Were a lot of her friends gone?

114
00:05:14,660 --> 00:05:17,330

115
00:05:17,330 --> 00:05:20,930
I really don't know
too much about it.

116
00:05:20,930 --> 00:05:24,830
Because somehow she was
busy with my things,

117
00:05:24,830 --> 00:05:27,020
and she's always busy there.

118
00:05:27,020 --> 00:05:32,420
Now you told me that all of
your father's siblings died.

119
00:05:32,420 --> 00:05:35,150
What about your
mother's siblings?

120
00:05:35,150 --> 00:05:42,080
My mother's was-- yeah,
one went to Auschwitz-- one

121
00:05:42,080 --> 00:05:47,990
of his [? brothers. ?]
And the other one, I

122
00:05:47,990 --> 00:05:51,410
think he died in the war.

123
00:05:51,410 --> 00:05:56,220
And the other ones-- her
two sisters were here--

124

00:05:56,220 --> 00:05:57,080
three of them.

125

00:05:57,080 --> 00:06:00,740

126

00:06:00,740 --> 00:06:04,940
Two went to Canada,
and one was in Hungary.

127

00:06:04,940 --> 00:06:06,732
She was the old maid.

128

00:06:06,732 --> 00:06:11,330
[LAUGHS] But I
liked her very much.

129

00:06:11,330 --> 00:06:14,625
So she had a few--.

130

00:06:14,625 --> 00:06:15,770
She was socializing, yeah.

131

00:06:15,770 --> 00:06:18,250
--and she was able to carry
on with her socializing.

132

00:06:18,250 --> 00:06:19,160
Mm-hmm, yeah.

133

00:06:19,160 --> 00:06:25,790
And we tried to get
to the villas nice.

134

00:06:25,790 --> 00:06:29,150
And it's been better.

135

00:06:29,150 --> 00:06:35,430
And thanks God we had
enough to make everything.

136

00:06:35,430 --> 00:06:37,460

So at the time you
met the American,

137

00:06:37,460 --> 00:06:39,410

were you in your new villa?

138

00:06:39,410 --> 00:06:41,570

Yeah, mm-hmm.

139

00:06:41,570 --> 00:06:43,070

Yeah.

140

00:06:43,070 --> 00:06:46,730

So life was sort of
getting organized.

141

00:06:46,730 --> 00:06:48,770

It was organized a little bit.

142

00:06:48,770 --> 00:06:50,810

But you wanted to get out.

143

00:06:50,810 --> 00:06:52,550

Yeah, I wanted to get out.

144

00:06:52,550 --> 00:06:54,980

I had the feeling.

145

00:06:54,980 --> 00:06:58,170

Was it to America specifically
that you wanted to go?

146

00:06:58,170 --> 00:07:02,940

No, I felt-- all my
friends were gone.

147

00:07:02,940 --> 00:07:04,850

They had died.

148

00:07:04,850 --> 00:07:09,933

And I was closer to my friends

than maybe I was with my sister

149
00:07:09,933 --> 00:07:11,840
also.

150
00:07:11,840 --> 00:07:14,810
And I just don't know.

151
00:07:14,810 --> 00:07:18,800
I had the feeling,
I want to go out.

152
00:07:18,800 --> 00:07:20,050
So you liked this guy.

153
00:07:20,050 --> 00:07:20,550
Yeah.

154
00:07:20,550 --> 00:07:21,717
And he was going to America.

155
00:07:21,717 --> 00:07:23,000
He was very, very nice.

156
00:07:23,000 --> 00:07:25,460
He was in the intelligence.

157
00:07:25,460 --> 00:07:31,130
And he really was
doing very well.

158
00:07:31,130 --> 00:07:33,080
Til he was--.

159
00:07:33,080 --> 00:07:37,747
And then later on, I
had first my daughter.

160
00:07:37,747 --> 00:07:38,330
Wait a minute.

161

00:07:38,330 --> 00:07:39,950
That's skipping ahead.

162
00:07:39,950 --> 00:07:41,540
So you got married in--

163
00:07:41,540 --> 00:07:42,460
Budapest.

164
00:07:42,460 --> 00:07:43,040
In Budapest.

165
00:07:43,040 --> 00:07:44,660
And did you have a big wedding?

166
00:07:44,660 --> 00:07:48,950
Yeah, from the mission,
from the Americans,

167
00:07:48,950 --> 00:07:53,180
and a couple of hours-- not
that big It was very nice.

168
00:07:53,180 --> 00:07:55,328
It had to be Catholic.

169
00:07:55,328 --> 00:07:56,120
Had to be Catholic.

170
00:07:56,120 --> 00:07:57,980
Yeah, because he was Catholic.

171
00:07:57,980 --> 00:07:59,000
Yeah.

172
00:07:59,000 --> 00:08:01,880
And how did you feel
about marrying a Catholic.

173
00:08:01,880 --> 00:08:03,410
It didn't bother me.

174

00:08:03,410 --> 00:08:05,270

Then it didn't
bother me, really.

175

00:08:05,270 --> 00:08:06,260

176

00:08:06,260 --> 00:08:09,380

Now I would, but
then I wouldn't.

177

00:08:09,380 --> 00:08:11,390

And your mother,
how did she feel

178

00:08:11,390 --> 00:08:13,900

about your marrying a Catholic?

179

00:08:13,900 --> 00:08:15,530

They liked him very much.

180

00:08:15,530 --> 00:08:16,830

He was charming.

181

00:08:16,830 --> 00:08:19,670

He was very, very nice.

182

00:08:19,670 --> 00:08:23,870

And my parents
liked him very much.

183

00:08:23,870 --> 00:08:28,580

Even when I divorced
already, he and my mother

184

00:08:28,580 --> 00:08:30,410

came to Washington.

185

00:08:30,410 --> 00:08:33,260

He wanted to see him.

186

00:08:33,260 --> 00:08:34,850
When you divorced--

187
00:08:34,850 --> 00:08:35,720
I divorced him.

188
00:08:35,720 --> 00:08:38,299
Your first husband.

189
00:08:38,299 --> 00:08:40,280
You see, he traveled a lot.

190
00:08:40,280 --> 00:08:44,090
And the most the time,
he's in civilian,

191
00:08:44,090 --> 00:08:48,260
because he was in the highest--

192
00:08:48,260 --> 00:08:49,580
you know.

193
00:08:49,580 --> 00:08:51,920
And it was hard.

194
00:08:51,920 --> 00:08:56,660
At first, after I got
pregnant and I had Linda,

195
00:08:56,660 --> 00:08:59,000
we went to the Mojave Desert.

196
00:08:59,000 --> 00:09:03,230
Naturally, he wasn't always
away and on the Mojave

197
00:09:03,230 --> 00:09:06,440
Desert on a airport--

198
00:09:06,440 --> 00:09:08,060
airline there.

199

00:09:08,060 --> 00:09:10,710

It was terrible for me.

200

00:09:10,710 --> 00:09:14,060

Let's go back to
when you got married.

201

00:09:14,060 --> 00:09:15,980

We had to leave immediately.

202

00:09:15,980 --> 00:09:18,020

What was his name?

203

00:09:18,020 --> 00:09:22,880

It's Barney [? Wheelock. ?]

204

00:09:22,880 --> 00:09:25,850

And did he want you
to become Catholic?

205

00:09:25,850 --> 00:09:28,550

His mother wanted it.

206

00:09:28,550 --> 00:09:34,850

But I said, well, that you
are Catholic, I am Jewish.

207

00:09:34,850 --> 00:09:35,570

That's fine.

208

00:09:35,570 --> 00:09:36,290

You know.

209

00:09:36,290 --> 00:09:39,920

Did Barney want you
to become Catholic?

210

00:09:39,920 --> 00:09:42,450

He did a little, but
he was very nice.

211

00:09:42,450 --> 00:09:45,350

He said, well, you
went a lot on--

212

00:09:45,350 --> 00:09:46,670

Did a priest marry you?

213

00:09:46,670 --> 00:09:48,110

Yeah.

214

00:09:48,110 --> 00:09:49,040

In a Catholic church?

215

00:09:49,040 --> 00:09:51,300

Yeah, it was a
small little chapel.

216

00:09:51,300 --> 00:09:53,270

It was very nice.

217

00:09:53,270 --> 00:09:55,190

And did his family come?

218

00:09:55,190 --> 00:09:56,450

No, no.

219

00:09:56,450 --> 00:10:03,350

From South Dakota then and not
even knew where is Hungary.

220

00:10:03,350 --> 00:10:05,586

They were more primitive, his--

221

00:10:05,586 --> 00:10:06,560

yeah.

222

00:10:06,560 --> 00:10:11,190

They had eight children, and
they were farmers, that--

223

00:10:11,190 --> 00:10:11,690

yeah.

224
00:10:11,690 --> 00:10:14,970
So was he a little
primitive, also?

225
00:10:14,970 --> 00:10:23,390
Actually, because he was in the
intelligence, he was smart--

226
00:10:23,390 --> 00:10:24,800
very smart.

227
00:10:24,800 --> 00:10:29,630
And then he started
to go to college here.

228
00:10:29,630 --> 00:10:32,150
But he always had
to go somewhere.

229
00:10:32,150 --> 00:10:35,270
And we always traveled.

230
00:10:35,270 --> 00:10:37,400
So let's go back
to you got married.

231
00:10:37,400 --> 00:10:38,420
And right away--

232
00:10:38,420 --> 00:10:40,520
We had to leave right away.

233
00:10:40,520 --> 00:10:42,710
And you went where
when you left?

234
00:10:42,710 --> 00:10:44,540
We went to Washington.

235
00:10:44,540 --> 00:10:45,540
To Washington?

236
00:10:45,540 --> 00:10:46,940
Yeah.

237
00:10:46,940 --> 00:10:52,430
Because the next day we were
married, I had to leave.

238
00:10:52,430 --> 00:10:58,220
So everything happened at once--
a new husband, new country.

239
00:10:58,220 --> 00:10:58,820
Yeah.

240
00:10:58,820 --> 00:11:03,140
And what was that like for you,
to have all of that change--

241
00:11:03,140 --> 00:11:04,865
being married and
coming to Washington.

242
00:11:04,865 --> 00:11:07,100
You know what, we
went to Washington.

243
00:11:07,100 --> 00:11:12,810
As I said, when you're
young, it's so different.

244
00:11:12,810 --> 00:11:16,940
We arrived-- we flew, naturally.

245
00:11:16,940 --> 00:11:20,030
Now you can go in 12 hours.

246
00:11:20,030 --> 00:11:25,580
But we had to go to Azores,
Newfoundland, and Boston.

247
00:11:25,580 --> 00:11:29,240

But we came, then,
directly to Washington.

248
00:11:29,240 --> 00:11:32,360
And next day, he had to go
to the Pentagon [? been ?],,

249
00:11:32,360 --> 00:11:33,830
naturally.

250
00:11:33,830 --> 00:11:36,000
And you know what?

251
00:11:36,000 --> 00:11:40,860
It was cute, I always knew
then the American women

252
00:11:40,860 --> 00:11:44,930
have some corsets, or
something like that.

253
00:11:44,930 --> 00:11:48,090
I not even have a bra.

254
00:11:48,090 --> 00:11:49,850
We didn't do these things.

255
00:11:49,850 --> 00:11:53,930
And I went to
[? Woody's. ?] I took a cab,

256
00:11:53,930 --> 00:11:57,200
and I bought one
of these corsets.

257
00:11:57,200 --> 00:11:58,790
[LAUGHS]

258
00:11:58,790 --> 00:12:01,610
And I was not afraid.

259
00:12:01,610 --> 00:12:05,510

Then, I started to walk
around in Washington.

260
00:12:05,510 --> 00:12:06,885
You didn't wear corsets in--

261
00:12:06,885 --> 00:12:07,385
No.

262
00:12:07,385 --> 00:12:07,940
--Budapest.

263
00:12:07,940 --> 00:12:11,450
First of all, I'm always
skinny, but we never did that.

264
00:12:11,450 --> 00:12:14,520
And how did you
know that women--

265
00:12:14,520 --> 00:12:18,020
I knew from the mission--

266
00:12:18,020 --> 00:12:20,540
some of the girls
there, you know.

267
00:12:20,540 --> 00:12:23,510
And I said, oh, that's going
to be the first thing I'm

268
00:12:23,510 --> 00:12:24,312
going to buy.

269
00:12:24,312 --> 00:12:25,520
Because that would make you--

270
00:12:25,520 --> 00:12:26,270
American.

271
00:12:26,270 --> 00:12:27,090
--fit in here.

272
00:12:27,090 --> 00:12:27,590
Yeah.

273
00:12:27,590 --> 00:12:28,670
And then I went--

274
00:12:28,670 --> 00:12:30,030
I wasn't afraid.

275
00:12:30,030 --> 00:12:33,420
I went to the Capitol
all by myself.

276
00:12:33,420 --> 00:12:36,180
I took a cab, and I went.

277
00:12:36,180 --> 00:12:39,050
Right now, I wouldn't
like to go alone.

278
00:12:39,050 --> 00:12:44,550
But I went to the Capitol, and
the corset was really tight.

279
00:12:44,550 --> 00:12:48,170
And I went and I took it off.

280
00:12:48,170 --> 00:12:52,400
It was funny-- these
little things were so.

281
00:12:52,400 --> 00:12:56,840
But then we stayed
in Washington.

282
00:12:56,840 --> 00:12:59,390
Was your English pretty good?

283
00:12:59,390 --> 00:13:03,740
Not too much, but
I was able to--

284
00:13:03,740 --> 00:13:05,820
I picked it up pretty good.

285
00:13:05,820 --> 00:13:08,090
Before you met Barney,
did you know much--

286
00:13:08,090 --> 00:13:08,600
English?

287
00:13:08,600 --> 00:13:09,100
Mm-hmm.

288
00:13:09,100 --> 00:13:11,810

289
00:13:11,810 --> 00:13:19,100
I went to-- it was
in a very nice unit--

290
00:13:19,100 --> 00:13:26,060
a French school-- and I
started to start English.

291
00:13:26,060 --> 00:13:29,390
But I picked up
for him very fast.

292
00:13:29,390 --> 00:13:32,810
And we used to go with
the other Americans,

293
00:13:32,810 --> 00:13:37,640
and a couple of the
Hungarian girls met somebody.

294
00:13:37,640 --> 00:13:41,180
So I picked it up
pretty well, yeah.

295
00:13:41,180 --> 00:13:44,930

I was not afraid to
go to Garfinkel's.

296
00:13:44,930 --> 00:13:49,950
I came to Garfinkel's, and
it looked beautiful for me.

297
00:13:49,950 --> 00:13:54,650
So I went to the personnel.

298
00:13:54,650 --> 00:13:58,470
I said to them,
I came to America

299
00:13:58,470 --> 00:14:02,400
and so and so, and I
would like to work here.

300
00:14:02,400 --> 00:14:08,660
And they gave me the
cosmetic, for Revlon.

301
00:14:08,660 --> 00:14:11,660
And I worked there
quite many years, yeah.

302
00:14:11,660 --> 00:14:15,190
And how did you like
working at cosmetics?

303
00:14:15,190 --> 00:14:16,760
Oh, I still love it.

304
00:14:16,760 --> 00:14:23,990
I worked Saks 20 years,
and I stopped it.

305
00:14:23,990 --> 00:14:25,280
I loved it.

306
00:14:25,280 --> 00:14:28,955
But after when I got pregnant--

307

00:14:28,955 --> 00:14:30,650

And when was that?

308

00:14:30,650 --> 00:14:32,870

That was in '52.

309

00:14:32,870 --> 00:14:35,540

So that was about three
years after you came here.

310

00:14:35,540 --> 00:14:37,550

Yeah, I had couple.

311

00:14:37,550 --> 00:14:39,530

Did you plan to get pregnant?

312

00:14:39,530 --> 00:14:43,250

I wanted to, because
I had the mumps.

313

00:14:43,250 --> 00:14:46,430

I got pregnant, and
I got the mumps.

314

00:14:46,430 --> 00:14:49,280

It was six months.

315

00:14:49,280 --> 00:14:51,050

And it was double.

316

00:14:51,050 --> 00:14:52,010

[PHONE RINGS]

317

00:14:52,010 --> 00:14:53,232

Shall we stop the tape?

318

00:14:53,232 --> 00:14:53,732

OK.

319

00:14:53,732 --> 00:15:00,450

320
00:15:00,450 --> 00:15:02,940
You were saying
before we had to stop

321
00:15:02,940 --> 00:15:06,990
the tape that when you
were six month pregnant,

322
00:15:06,990 --> 00:15:08,330
you got the mumps.

323
00:15:08,330 --> 00:15:09,570
Uh-huh, yeah.

324
00:15:09,570 --> 00:15:10,770
And then what happened?

325
00:15:10,770 --> 00:15:14,280
I had the miscarriage.

326
00:15:14,280 --> 00:15:18,780
But then a couple months
later, I got pregnant again .

327
00:15:18,780 --> 00:15:24,390
Because I wanted a baby,
because I was alone.

328
00:15:24,390 --> 00:15:25,290
You were alone?

329
00:15:25,290 --> 00:15:26,040
Well, yeah.

330
00:15:26,040 --> 00:15:28,770

331
00:15:28,770 --> 00:15:32,520
I had some friends, but
I just wanted the baby.

332
00:15:32,520 --> 00:15:34,560
And what about your husband?

333
00:15:34,560 --> 00:15:35,850
He wanted it, yeah.

334
00:15:35,850 --> 00:15:36,990
Mm-hmm.

335
00:15:36,990 --> 00:15:40,440
Did you feel alone with him?

336
00:15:40,440 --> 00:15:41,460
Alone?

337
00:15:41,460 --> 00:15:42,840
With him, did you feel alone?

338
00:15:42,840 --> 00:15:44,460
Yeah, yeah.

339
00:15:44,460 --> 00:15:47,520
Yeah, we had some good
friends and things like that.

340
00:15:47,520 --> 00:15:51,510
But he started to drink.

341
00:15:51,510 --> 00:15:54,570
Yeah, it was hard.

342
00:15:54,570 --> 00:15:58,650
So here you were in this
country with no family--

343
00:15:58,650 --> 00:15:59,580
No family.

344
00:15:59,580 --> 00:16:01,140
--and no old friends.

345

00:16:01,140 --> 00:16:01,650

Yeah.

346

00:16:01,650 --> 00:16:03,040

I had one friend here--

347

00:16:03,040 --> 00:16:03,930

one friend.

348

00:16:03,930 --> 00:16:10,170

She was also from Budapest when
he was a pilot from America.

349

00:16:10,170 --> 00:16:11,920

Had you known her in Budapest?

350

00:16:11,920 --> 00:16:14,070

Yeah, mm-hmm.

351

00:16:14,070 --> 00:16:24,500

But we were not close to--
somehow it's different.

352

00:16:24,500 --> 00:16:26,010

He was smart.

353

00:16:26,010 --> 00:16:26,900

He was nice.

354

00:16:26,900 --> 00:16:27,890

He was very good.

355

00:16:27,890 --> 00:16:30,080

He loved me very much.

356

00:16:30,080 --> 00:16:31,730

But it was very hard.

357

00:16:31,730 --> 00:16:36,330

From the desert, we
had to go to Alaska.

358
00:16:36,330 --> 00:16:37,830
Wait a minute,
you're in Washington.

359
00:16:37,830 --> 00:16:39,732
In 1952, you lost the baby.

360
00:16:39,732 --> 00:16:40,690
You got pregnant again.

361
00:16:40,690 --> 00:16:41,850
Were you in Washington still?

362
00:16:41,850 --> 00:16:42,360
Yeah.

363
00:16:42,360 --> 00:16:43,580
You're still in Washington.

364
00:16:43,580 --> 00:16:44,510
Yeah.

365
00:16:44,510 --> 00:16:47,570
And then we had to go
to the Mojave Desert.

366
00:16:47,570 --> 00:16:49,040
Before the baby was born?

367
00:16:49,040 --> 00:16:51,170
Yeah.

368
00:16:51,170 --> 00:16:53,570
So you had to
leave your friend--

369
00:16:53,570 --> 00:16:54,070
Yeah

370
00:16:54,070 --> 00:16:55,760

--from Budapest, and
your other new friends.

371
00:16:55,760 --> 00:16:56,270
Mm-hmm.

372
00:16:56,270 --> 00:16:58,190
And you know on the--

373
00:16:58,190 --> 00:17:00,160
it was all these people--

374
00:17:00,160 --> 00:17:03,470
these military people.

375
00:17:03,470 --> 00:17:08,099
There was one couple,
they were very nice,

376
00:17:08,099 --> 00:17:10,099
but they had to leave--

377
00:17:10,099 --> 00:17:14,240
the couple months back home.

378
00:17:14,240 --> 00:17:17,540
So it we went just
to the commissary.

379
00:17:17,540 --> 00:17:20,180
And you know, it
was just nothing.

380
00:17:20,180 --> 00:17:21,680
I hated it.

381
00:17:21,680 --> 00:17:26,900
I was the worst
military [LAUGHTER]..

382
00:17:26,900 --> 00:17:29,990
And then we had

to go to Alaska--

383
00:17:29,990 --> 00:17:32,300
well-- Anchorage.

384
00:17:32,300 --> 00:17:37,190
And Linda was then about
2 and 1/2 years old.

385
00:17:37,190 --> 00:17:39,860
The baby was born when you
were in the Mojave Desert.

386
00:17:39,860 --> 00:17:40,400
Mm-hmm.

387
00:17:40,400 --> 00:17:42,230
And what was that like for you--

388
00:17:42,230 --> 00:17:43,115
Oh, it was horrible.

389
00:17:43,115 --> 00:17:43,907
--to have the baby?

390
00:17:43,907 --> 00:17:44,450
There?

391
00:17:44,450 --> 00:17:45,740
No, to have the baby.

392
00:17:45,740 --> 00:17:47,300
Oh, I was so happy.

393
00:17:47,300 --> 00:17:48,200
I loved it.

394
00:17:48,200 --> 00:17:49,490
And you named her Linda.

395
00:17:49,490 --> 00:17:50,300

Yeah, Linda.

396

00:17:50,300 --> 00:17:52,130

How did you choose that name?

397

00:17:52,130 --> 00:17:52,820

I don't know.

398

00:17:52,820 --> 00:17:57,870

Linda, it's pretty,
and she's very pretty.

399

00:17:57,870 --> 00:18:02,500

But it was just nothing.

400

00:18:02,500 --> 00:18:09,170

We had the nice little house,
and we went to the commissary.

401

00:18:09,170 --> 00:18:11,190

That was the big thing.

402

00:18:11,190 --> 00:18:15,320

Luckily, I had a
friend from Pasadena.

403

00:18:15,320 --> 00:18:18,440

And we used to go
almost every Sunday.

404

00:18:18,440 --> 00:18:26,720

She was in a concentration
camp, with Mengele.

405

00:18:26,720 --> 00:18:29,870

Yeah, she's a lovely woman.

406

00:18:29,870 --> 00:18:31,430

And thanks God, she's OK.

407

00:18:31,430 --> 00:18:37,700

But she was Can you imagine

Mengele [? did it ?]

408

00:18:37,700 --> 00:18:41,226

So then we went to Alaska.

409

00:18:41,226 --> 00:18:44,870

And I hated it more,

because it was cold.

410

00:18:44,870 --> 00:18:49,280

And I went to with

Linda's just little.

411

00:18:49,280 --> 00:18:52,910

And you couldn't hardly

walk from [LAUGHTER]

412

00:18:52,910 --> 00:18:55,400

And it was miserable.

413

00:18:55,400 --> 00:19:03,740

And again, I decide then I going

to come back to Washington.

414

00:19:03,740 --> 00:19:04,550

You decided?

415

00:19:04,550 --> 00:19:06,020

I decide myself.

416

00:19:06,020 --> 00:19:07,220

It's Linda.

417

00:19:07,220 --> 00:19:11,390

I told my husband, because

he was always anyhow

418

00:19:11,390 --> 00:19:15,020

flying all over, and I

didn't know where he's

419

00:19:15,020 --> 00:19:22,100

supposed to because it was--

420

00:19:22,100 --> 00:19:25,280

Would he be away from
home for many days?

421

00:19:25,280 --> 00:19:26,150

Yeah, mm-hmm.

422

00:19:26,150 --> 00:19:28,400

Like, how long would
you he be away?

423

00:19:28,400 --> 00:19:31,050

Oh, like a week, or
sometimes like that--

424

00:19:31,050 --> 00:19:32,820

And you would be
alone with Linda.

425

00:19:32,820 --> 00:19:33,830

It's alone.

426

00:19:33,830 --> 00:19:36,260

And I couldn't drive then.

427

00:19:36,260 --> 00:19:38,870

I didn't know how to drive yet.

428

00:19:38,870 --> 00:19:41,330

And anyhow in the snow,
you couldn't do it.

429

00:19:41,330 --> 00:19:43,700

And Linda was always sick.

430

00:19:43,700 --> 00:19:48,830

And we lived on the base.

431

00:19:48,830 --> 00:19:54,750

And it was a couple with one

child also, from New York.

432

00:19:54,750 --> 00:19:58,430

He was a psychiatrist.

433

00:19:58,430 --> 00:20:02,810

And it was funny,
because we were friends.

434

00:20:02,810 --> 00:20:05,480

And I was living
in the first floor.

435

00:20:05,480 --> 00:20:07,130

He was above us.

436

00:20:07,130 --> 00:20:10,160

And every time when
I come home, he

437

00:20:10,160 --> 00:20:14,330

said in the you are
always in the kitchen

438

00:20:14,330 --> 00:20:18,310

and cleaning your [? drawers. ?]
[LAUGHS] And I said, yeah,

439

00:20:18,310 --> 00:20:20,780

but what the hell can I do?

440

00:20:20,780 --> 00:20:25,700

The TV was just in the evening.

441

00:20:25,700 --> 00:20:27,500

And I had nothing.

442

00:20:27,500 --> 00:20:29,420

Telephone-- we had telephone.

443

00:20:29,420 --> 00:20:32,690

But I had nobody to talk to.

444

00:20:32,690 --> 00:20:37,550

And he said, you know what,
come to the psychiatric clinic,

445

00:20:37,550 --> 00:20:39,320

to me.

446

00:20:39,320 --> 00:20:42,470

You want to go back
to Washington, or not?

447

00:20:42,470 --> 00:20:44,910

They were Jewish.

448

00:20:44,910 --> 00:20:46,460

They were Jewish people, yeah.

449

00:20:46,460 --> 00:20:48,020

Did you go to the
psychiatric clinic?

450

00:20:48,020 --> 00:20:48,920

Yeah, I went there.

451

00:20:48,920 --> 00:20:49,470

To see him?

452

00:20:49,470 --> 00:20:49,970

No.

453

00:20:49,970 --> 00:20:53,210

He said, let's
go-- let's pretend.

454

00:20:53,210 --> 00:20:54,110

Oh, OK.

455

00:20:54,110 --> 00:20:56,070

This is pretend go to
the psychiatric clinic.

456

00:20:56,070 --> 00:20:57,030

Exactly.

457

00:20:57,030 --> 00:21:00,320

He said, just come a
couple times a week,

458

00:21:00,320 --> 00:21:04,550

a day, for a couple hours.

459

00:21:04,550 --> 00:21:07,490

And we are leaving.

460

00:21:07,490 --> 00:21:10,400

And a couple weeks later--

461

00:21:10,400 --> 00:21:13,250

if you want, go
back to Washington.

462

00:21:13,250 --> 00:21:14,240

I said, oh, good.

463

00:21:14,240 --> 00:21:20,300

[LAUGHS] I got the
first class flight.

464

00:21:20,300 --> 00:21:22,930

465

00:21:22,930 --> 00:21:25,340

I knew some couple
who were there,

466

00:21:25,340 --> 00:21:28,627

so I [? made ?] I stayed
there for a couple days.

467

00:21:28,627 --> 00:21:29,210

In Washington?

468

00:21:29,210 --> 00:21:33,350

In Washington,
with Linda, alone.

469

00:21:33,350 --> 00:21:35,510

What did you tell your husband?

470

00:21:35,510 --> 00:21:37,010

He was nice.

471

00:21:37,010 --> 00:21:40,860

I told him, I just
can't stand it.

472

00:21:40,860 --> 00:21:42,380

I can't stand it.

473

00:21:42,380 --> 00:21:46,160

And Linda was always
sick, because it was cold.

474

00:21:46,160 --> 00:21:49,490

Now when you came
back to Washington,

475

00:21:49,490 --> 00:21:51,530

was it with the
idea that this was

476

00:21:51,530 --> 00:21:55,760

going to be a separation
from your husband?

477

00:21:55,760 --> 00:21:57,770

Halfway, I think.

478

00:21:57,770 --> 00:22:01,010

I think it was not for me.

479

00:22:01,010 --> 00:22:04,610

But he came once a while.

480

00:22:04,610 --> 00:22:05,480
He was able to.

481
00:22:05,480 --> 00:22:14,630
Because meanwhile just
before I came here,

482
00:22:14,630 --> 00:22:18,800
I realized I was
pregnant with Bobby.

483
00:22:18,800 --> 00:22:20,390
And was that planned?

484
00:22:20,390 --> 00:22:21,020
No.

485
00:22:21,020 --> 00:22:22,030
That was--

486
00:22:22,030 --> 00:22:22,620
Mm-hmm.

487
00:22:22,620 --> 00:22:23,120
Happened.

488
00:22:23,120 --> 00:22:25,010
Yeah, the last day.

489
00:22:25,010 --> 00:22:29,580
And so I got a nice apartment.

490
00:22:29,580 --> 00:22:32,630
I got my furniture.

491
00:22:32,630 --> 00:22:35,210
He stayed in Alaska.

492
00:22:35,210 --> 00:22:38,370
And your husband sent
you money to live.

493

00:22:38,370 --> 00:22:38,870

Mm-hmm.

494

00:22:38,870 --> 00:22:41,360

And was that a
problem to arrange

495

00:22:41,360 --> 00:22:42,710

for him to send you money?

496

00:22:42,710 --> 00:22:44,790

No, he did very well.

497

00:22:44,790 --> 00:22:51,800

Well, he was at the
officer's place there.

498

00:22:51,800 --> 00:22:57,140

And there I met
some nice people.

499

00:22:57,140 --> 00:22:59,290

Now were these Americans?

500

00:22:59,290 --> 00:22:59,790

Americans.

501

00:22:59,790 --> 00:23:00,650

Hungarians?

502

00:23:00,650 --> 00:23:01,160

Jewish?

503

00:23:01,160 --> 00:23:01,945

No.

504

00:23:01,945 --> 00:23:05,180

Survivors?

505

00:23:05,180 --> 00:23:08,420

Naturally, you always

feel who is Jewish.

506

00:23:08,420 --> 00:23:12,440

And when I became pregnant
and we were friends,

507

00:23:12,440 --> 00:23:17,000

we lived at the same
apartment building.

508

00:23:17,000 --> 00:23:18,660

And they were from Boston.

509

00:23:18,660 --> 00:23:22,760

And he was, I think, a dentist.

510

00:23:22,760 --> 00:23:24,890

And we became very good friends.

511

00:23:24,890 --> 00:23:25,920

And he was Jewish?

512

00:23:25,920 --> 00:23:26,420

Jewish.

513

00:23:26,420 --> 00:23:28,580

Yeah, they were
more Jewish, yeah.

514

00:23:28,580 --> 00:23:30,660

And she had a little girl.

515

00:23:30,660 --> 00:23:33,410

And so it was good.

516

00:23:33,410 --> 00:23:35,180

I had a good time.

517

00:23:35,180 --> 00:23:40,010

He came home a month
before Bobby was born.

518

00:23:40,010 --> 00:23:43,340

And he stayed in
Washington then.

519

00:23:43,340 --> 00:23:45,890

520

00:23:45,890 --> 00:23:47,660

So he moved back in with you?

521

00:23:47,660 --> 00:23:49,520

Back, yeah.

522

00:23:49,520 --> 00:23:51,410

And then what?

523

00:23:51,410 --> 00:23:57,080

And then I met my husband.

524

00:23:57,080 --> 00:23:59,720

Well, now Bobby was born--

525

00:23:59,720 --> 00:24:01,640

Yeah, he was just a baby.

526

00:24:01,640 --> 00:24:03,990

--while your husband and you
were living in Washington.

527

00:24:03,990 --> 00:24:04,490

Yeah.

528

00:24:04,490 --> 00:24:08,600

529

00:24:08,600 --> 00:24:12,230

When Bobby was born--

530

00:24:12,230 --> 00:24:15,515

he was seven-months
pregnant when he came back.

531
00:24:15,515 --> 00:24:19,040

532
00:24:19,040 --> 00:24:22,010
So your husband was living
with you when Bobby was born?

533
00:24:22,010 --> 00:24:22,790
Mm-hmm.

534
00:24:22,790 --> 00:24:29,710
And then one day something was
wrong, and one of my friends--

535
00:24:29,710 --> 00:24:31,730
a Hungarian girl--

536
00:24:31,730 --> 00:24:34,340
he said that I needed a doctor.

537
00:24:34,340 --> 00:24:37,280
I don't like the military
doctors, so and so.

538
00:24:37,280 --> 00:24:39,440
She said, oh, my
doctor is Hungarian.

539
00:24:39,440 --> 00:24:41,990
He's very, very good.

540
00:24:41,990 --> 00:24:44,270
And I went to him.

541
00:24:44,270 --> 00:24:49,090
And the moment I
walked in, it was OK.

542
00:24:49,090 --> 00:24:49,850
[LAUGHS]

543

00:24:49,850 --> 00:24:51,650
So you felt-- something clicked?

544

00:24:51,650 --> 00:24:52,580
Yeah.

545

00:24:52,580 --> 00:24:58,910
Well, you know what, first, I
didn't even think of divorcing.

546

00:24:58,910 --> 00:25:05,990
He was married-- very
intelligent woman-- married.

547

00:25:05,990 --> 00:25:13,760
But I don't know, he was very--

548

00:25:13,760 --> 00:25:17,930
he started to-- after
office, why don't you come?

549

00:25:17,930 --> 00:25:20,720
And then why don't
the kids come to him

550

00:25:20,720 --> 00:25:22,760
instead of the pediatrician?

551

00:25:22,760 --> 00:25:24,560
And you know how they are.

552

00:25:24,560 --> 00:25:25,730
[LAUGHS]

553

00:25:25,730 --> 00:25:31,850
And then his wife,
he wanted to divorce.

554

00:25:31,850 --> 00:25:34,460
And she went to Nairobi.

555

00:25:34,460 --> 00:25:39,710

Her dream was to go to
Africa and live there.

556

00:25:39,710 --> 00:25:43,370

So this Peter, he
was well to do.

557

00:25:43,370 --> 00:25:45,350

So they split the money.

558

00:25:45,350 --> 00:25:49,270

She got-- [? well ?],,
and we got-- [? well ?]..

559

00:25:49,270 --> 00:25:50,360

And we got married.

560

00:25:50,360 --> 00:25:54,210

So he decided to divorce,
and you decided to divorce?

561

00:25:54,210 --> 00:25:54,800

Yeah.

562

00:25:54,800 --> 00:25:57,830

And they did it very nicely.

563

00:25:57,830 --> 00:26:00,590

She wasn't, I guess too--

564

00:26:00,590 --> 00:26:02,300

the marriage wasn't so--

565

00:26:02,300 --> 00:26:05,420

she was different, you know?

566

00:26:05,420 --> 00:26:06,605

And that was nice.

567

00:26:06,605 --> 00:26:09,170

568

00:26:09,170 --> 00:26:11,390

C'est la vie.

569

00:26:11,390 --> 00:26:18,320

So you got married
to Dr. Rudnai when?

570

00:26:18,320 --> 00:26:25,430

In let's say '53, but '60.

571

00:26:25,430 --> 00:26:27,660

And he was born in Hungary?

572

00:26:27,660 --> 00:26:29,280

Yeah, he was in Hungary.

573

00:26:29,280 --> 00:26:29,990

In Budapest?

574

00:26:29,990 --> 00:26:30,890

Budapest.

575

00:26:30,890 --> 00:26:33,770

And was he there during the war?

576

00:26:33,770 --> 00:26:37,330

He was in the Holocaust, yeah.

577

00:26:37,330 --> 00:26:38,405

Where was he?

578

00:26:38,405 --> 00:26:41,420

He was in many
concentration camps, yes.

579

00:26:41,420 --> 00:26:44,810

Especially for doctors,
they had it, yeah.

580

00:26:44,810 --> 00:26:46,280

Yeah, he went.

581
00:26:46,280 --> 00:26:48,980
And he went together
with Dr. Talper, who

582
00:26:48,980 --> 00:26:51,420
I mentioned-- a millionaire.

583
00:26:51,420 --> 00:26:53,090
They were the best friends.

584
00:26:53,090 --> 00:26:55,040
He's much more religious.

585
00:26:55,040 --> 00:26:59,030
He went to a
religious gymnasium.

586
00:26:59,030 --> 00:27:03,920
And my husband was
really more religious.

587
00:27:03,920 --> 00:27:09,740
The first thing, he gave
me a book about Exodus--

588
00:27:09,740 --> 00:27:16,430
because I not even knew
Jewish type of book.

589
00:27:16,430 --> 00:27:19,610
And then he started
me to go Friday night

590
00:27:19,610 --> 00:27:22,790
to Washington Hebrew.

591
00:27:22,790 --> 00:27:26,440
Is this before you were
married that he started?

592

00:27:26,440 --> 00:27:26,970
Yeah.

593
00:27:26,970 --> 00:27:29,940
For a while we were
not, but then we got.

594
00:27:29,940 --> 00:27:30,440
No.

595
00:27:30,440 --> 00:27:33,830
But I mean his giving
you the book on Exodus--

596
00:27:33,830 --> 00:27:35,380
Oh, yeah, all these things.

597
00:27:35,380 --> 00:27:36,420
--and going to service.

598
00:27:36,420 --> 00:27:37,730
Yeah.

599
00:27:37,730 --> 00:27:39,260
That was before
you were married?

600
00:27:39,260 --> 00:27:40,730
Yeah.

601
00:27:40,730 --> 00:27:43,730
So you started getting
more interested.

602
00:27:43,730 --> 00:27:44,960
Oh, yeah.

603
00:27:44,960 --> 00:27:47,450
You know, we went to Israel--

604
00:27:47,450 --> 00:27:49,610
like these [? big ?] things.

605

00:27:49,610 --> 00:27:55,320

And we went every
Friday to services.

606

00:27:55,320 --> 00:27:59,090

And how did you feel about
that, getting more involved?

607

00:27:59,090 --> 00:28:01,100

I felt good, yeah.

608

00:28:01,100 --> 00:28:04,550

And what felt good
to you about that?

609

00:28:04,550 --> 00:28:08,900

Well, we heard so much
against the Jews--

610

00:28:08,900 --> 00:28:12,200

how they hate them,
how they did that.

611

00:28:12,200 --> 00:28:14,420

Then it was I
became very Jewish.

612

00:28:14,420 --> 00:28:17,300

613

00:28:17,300 --> 00:28:19,610

You heard so much
against the Jews.

614

00:28:19,610 --> 00:28:21,320

Anti-Semitism.

615

00:28:21,320 --> 00:28:22,020

From who?

616

00:28:22,020 --> 00:28:23,020

Where did you hear that?

617
00:28:23,020 --> 00:28:23,930
Everywhere.

618
00:28:23,930 --> 00:28:24,740
In Hungary.

619
00:28:24,740 --> 00:28:28,160

620
00:28:28,160 --> 00:28:32,900
My first husband,
they were Catholic.

621
00:28:32,900 --> 00:28:37,760
And they made some remarks
and things like that.

622
00:28:37,760 --> 00:28:39,830
His family made
remarks about you.

623
00:28:39,830 --> 00:28:44,690
No, just to anybody--
you know, all the Jews.

624
00:28:44,690 --> 00:28:48,510
And I just couldn't take it.

625
00:28:48,510 --> 00:28:50,390
He knew I was Jewish.

626
00:28:50,390 --> 00:28:53,900
And how did that make
you more interested

627
00:28:53,900 --> 00:28:56,680
in getting involved and being--

628
00:28:56,680 --> 00:28:57,840
With my husband?

629
00:28:57,840 --> 00:28:58,550
Mm-hmm.

630
00:28:58,550 --> 00:29:04,700
Yeah, we went every
Friday, and it was nice.

631
00:29:04,700 --> 00:29:12,530
We were not kosher, but we
went to all the holidays.

632
00:29:12,530 --> 00:29:15,590
Even I knew something
once it was--

633
00:29:15,590 --> 00:29:17,270
I don't know, high holidays.

634
00:29:17,270 --> 00:29:23,390
And we went just
for the dead people

635
00:29:23,390 --> 00:29:26,780
to pray in the afternoon.

636
00:29:26,780 --> 00:29:28,250
And I washed my car.

637
00:29:28,250 --> 00:29:29,630
He came home.

638
00:29:29,630 --> 00:29:33,230
He said, don't you ever do that.

639
00:29:33,230 --> 00:29:35,300
Why do you have to
wash it just now?

640
00:29:35,300 --> 00:29:37,040
I said, I have time.

641

00:29:37,040 --> 00:29:41,900

But he was in these
things much religious.

642

00:29:41,900 --> 00:29:43,850

His mother was very religious.

643

00:29:43,850 --> 00:29:45,350

644

00:29:45,350 --> 00:29:47,250

Did you know his parents?

645

00:29:47,250 --> 00:29:52,310

I met his father,
and his mother died.

646

00:29:52,310 --> 00:29:56,060

No, I forgot that.

647

00:29:56,060 --> 00:30:03,080

In Budapest when the Russian
came and everybody was already

648

00:30:03,080 --> 00:30:07,460

in concentration
camp and ghetto,

649

00:30:07,460 --> 00:30:10,440

his mother was very religious.

650

00:30:10,440 --> 00:30:11,840

She was in.

651

00:30:11,840 --> 00:30:18,120

And they left her alone, because
she was full of [? good ?]

652

00:30:18,120 --> 00:30:19,460

[? bugs ?] and everything.

653

00:30:19,460 --> 00:30:22,550
And she was almost dead already.

654
00:30:22,550 --> 00:30:26,180
And then he came
home from Budapest.

655
00:30:26,180 --> 00:30:29,070
First thing he
went to the ghetto.

656
00:30:29,070 --> 00:30:31,070
And she was almost dead.

657
00:30:31,070 --> 00:30:38,660
And that thing held it
in her hand and said,

658
00:30:38,660 --> 00:30:41,240
just stay, take it.

659
00:30:41,240 --> 00:30:44,000
It wasn't a diamond
my husband put it in.

660
00:30:44,000 --> 00:30:46,070
It was just a little ruby.

661
00:30:46,070 --> 00:30:49,770
But he said, always keep
[INAUDIBLE] four-leaf

662
00:30:49,770 --> 00:30:50,270
[INAUDIBLE].

663
00:30:50,270 --> 00:30:52,280
Oh, it's what
you're wearing now.

664
00:30:52,280 --> 00:30:53,790
And I never take it off.

665

00:30:53,790 --> 00:30:59,210
Could you describe that,
because the tape can't see it.

666
00:30:59,210 --> 00:31:03,290
It is just-- this is
platinum and that is gold.

667
00:31:03,290 --> 00:31:08,840
And it had a little ruby in it.

668
00:31:08,840 --> 00:31:11,210
And I didn't like
the ruby too much,

669
00:31:11,210 --> 00:31:15,740
so my husband gave
me the diamond.

670
00:31:15,740 --> 00:31:17,780
And I always leave it.

671
00:31:17,780 --> 00:31:19,100
I never take it off.

672
00:31:19,100 --> 00:31:21,270
I have beautiful necklaces.

673
00:31:21,270 --> 00:31:24,530
I put it inside them.

674
00:31:24,530 --> 00:31:28,550
And so that was something that
your mother-in-law was wearing

675
00:31:28,550 --> 00:31:29,730
at the end of the ghetto?

676
00:31:29,730 --> 00:31:30,230
Yeah.

677
00:31:30,230 --> 00:31:31,660

And she gave you hers.

678

00:31:31,660 --> 00:31:37,220

And you know when
he met his mother,

679

00:31:37,220 --> 00:31:39,830

right after when
he came to Hungary,

680

00:31:39,830 --> 00:31:41,990

he walked to the ghetto.

681

00:31:41,990 --> 00:31:45,560

And this was a long time--

682

00:31:45,560 --> 00:31:48,020

long line, because it was far.

683

00:31:48,020 --> 00:31:52,190

And he got a little
some kind of thing

684

00:31:52,190 --> 00:31:58,400

and took it to the cemetery.

685

00:31:58,400 --> 00:32:04,010

Because the moment he
went there, she died.

686

00:32:04,010 --> 00:32:06,860

And he told me,
never take it off.

687

00:32:06,860 --> 00:32:10,910

So giving this to him was
one of the last things

688

00:32:10,910 --> 00:32:13,010

she did before she died.

689

00:32:13,010 --> 00:32:14,480

Yeah.

690
00:32:14,480 --> 00:32:17,120
So that was that.

691
00:32:17,120 --> 00:32:18,850
So you never met her?

692
00:32:18,850 --> 00:32:21,830
No, no.

693
00:32:21,830 --> 00:32:24,380
I met the father.

694
00:32:24,380 --> 00:32:27,860
He came back to
America from Budapest.

695
00:32:27,860 --> 00:32:30,470
He brought him later on.

696
00:32:30,470 --> 00:32:35,630
And I talked to him
once in a while.

697
00:32:35,630 --> 00:32:37,610
So that was that.

698
00:32:37,610 --> 00:32:40,580
And your parents
stayed in Hungary.

699
00:32:40,580 --> 00:32:42,050
Yeah.

700
00:32:42,050 --> 00:32:43,280
And my sister, too.

701
00:32:43,280 --> 00:32:45,500
And your sister.

702

00:32:45,500 --> 00:32:47,990
My mother came to Washington
a couple of times.

703
00:32:47,990 --> 00:32:48,725
To visit you.

704
00:32:48,725 --> 00:32:49,490
Yeah.

705
00:32:49,490 --> 00:32:51,230
My father never came.

706
00:32:51,230 --> 00:32:52,490
I don't know why.

707
00:32:52,490 --> 00:32:56,930
Did you ever think when your
marriage was in trouble,

708
00:32:56,930 --> 00:32:59,720
and when you were so miserable
in Alaska, did you ever

709
00:32:59,720 --> 00:33:01,820
think of going back to Hungary?

710
00:33:01,820 --> 00:33:03,200
No.

711
00:33:03,200 --> 00:33:06,980
I just couldn't get a visit.

712
00:33:06,980 --> 00:33:09,590
I couldn't then because
of the Russian were there.

713
00:33:09,590 --> 00:33:11,980
The Communists were there.

714
00:33:11,980 --> 00:33:17,930
But the first time when

they were able to travel,

715

00:33:17,930 --> 00:33:19,940

my mother came here.

716

00:33:19,940 --> 00:33:24,080

She stayed here three

months, I think.

717

00:33:24,080 --> 00:33:27,762

But you never thought that

you would want to go back

718

00:33:27,762 --> 00:33:28,720

to be with your family?

719

00:33:28,720 --> 00:33:30,980

No, I didn't.

720

00:33:30,980 --> 00:33:32,510

I like America.

721

00:33:32,510 --> 00:33:35,450

I like New York.

722

00:33:35,450 --> 00:33:40,730

And apart from your

marriage, how hard

723

00:33:40,730 --> 00:33:44,900

was it for you to adjust to

living in a different country?

724

00:33:44,900 --> 00:33:46,730

Nothing.

725

00:33:46,730 --> 00:33:48,305

You know, it's funny, I just--

726

00:33:48,305 --> 00:33:50,990

727

00:33:50,990 --> 00:33:52,555

as I told you, I
went right to work.

728

00:33:52,555 --> 00:33:56,090

729

00:33:56,090 --> 00:33:58,760

Then, I learned to drive.

730

00:33:58,760 --> 00:34:04,340

And I don't know,
maybe I'm not normal.

731

00:34:04,340 --> 00:34:10,550

But I wrote my parents
every Monday morning.

732

00:34:10,550 --> 00:34:14,810

There was not one
time I didn't write.

733

00:34:14,810 --> 00:34:17,210

Was that your duty, or
did you feel that you

734

00:34:17,210 --> 00:34:18,469

wanted to talk to them?

735

00:34:18,469 --> 00:34:23,719

And I tried to call
them, too, yeah.

736

00:34:23,719 --> 00:34:25,389

We have to turn over the tape.

737

00:34:25,389 --> 00:34:32,109

738

00:34:32,109 --> 00:34:36,489

This is a continuation of
a United States Holocaust

739
00:34:36,489 --> 00:34:39,340
Memorial Museum
volunteer collection

740
00:34:39,340 --> 00:34:50,900
interview with Klari Rudnai
Tape number 2, side B.

741
00:34:50,900 --> 00:34:53,150
Could you talk
about your children?

742
00:34:53,150 --> 00:34:54,810
You have Bobby.

743
00:34:54,810 --> 00:34:59,000
Bobby, he's very intelligent.

744
00:34:59,000 --> 00:35:01,770
He's with ABC, NBC--

745
00:35:01,770 --> 00:35:04,760
he traveled all over the world.

746
00:35:04,760 --> 00:35:09,380
As I say, even Arafat liked him.

747
00:35:09,380 --> 00:35:14,780
No, he's senior
producer now at ABC.

748
00:35:14,780 --> 00:35:19,310
And he's very, very wonderful.

749
00:35:19,310 --> 00:35:25,260
And you have here a picture
of your son Bobby and Arafat.

750
00:35:25,260 --> 00:35:25,760
Yeah.

751

00:35:25,760 --> 00:35:27,240

And they're both smiling.

752

00:35:27,240 --> 00:35:28,490

Yeah.

753

00:35:28,490 --> 00:35:35,330

When I heard they
don't want some of them

754

00:35:35,330 --> 00:35:39,740

to go to the Holocaust
Museum two days ago--

755

00:35:39,740 --> 00:35:41,930

they don't want Arafat to come--

756

00:35:41,930 --> 00:35:43,370

I was furious.

757

00:35:43,370 --> 00:35:46,460

And I thought, I am going
to take that picture

758

00:35:46,460 --> 00:35:48,500

and show it to them--

759

00:35:48,500 --> 00:35:49,820

if he can do it.

760

00:35:49,820 --> 00:35:53,450

And Bobby said to
them-- he was arriving.

761

00:35:53,450 --> 00:35:59,320

He said, he knows I'm
Jewish, so I'm Jewish.

762

00:35:59,320 --> 00:36:03,950

So it was nice, but
he's really very good.

763

00:36:03,950 --> 00:36:06,590

He's always met a lot
in the White House.

764

00:36:06,590 --> 00:36:10,250

He traveled everywhere.

765

00:36:10,250 --> 00:36:14,410

So you have some pretty strong
feelings about the Mideast.

766

00:36:14,410 --> 00:36:15,230

Oh yeah.

767

00:36:15,230 --> 00:36:17,780

Is there anything
about that you would

768

00:36:17,780 --> 00:36:23,160

like to say for this interview,
or would you rather not?

769

00:36:23,160 --> 00:36:26,300

It's nothing that is really--

770

00:36:26,300 --> 00:36:29,930

because he travels all the time.

771

00:36:29,930 --> 00:36:34,080

And his wife is
very intelligent--

772

00:36:34,080 --> 00:36:35,360

very nice girl.

773

00:36:35,360 --> 00:36:36,570

So you're very proud of him.

774

00:36:36,570 --> 00:36:37,070

I'm very.

775

00:36:37,070 --> 00:36:38,570
And she's very intelligent.

776
00:36:38,570 --> 00:36:41,120
But I didn't know whether
you had any personal views

777
00:36:41,120 --> 00:36:43,810
about the Mideast that
you wanted to say,

778
00:36:43,810 --> 00:36:46,160
or whether you'd rather not.

779
00:36:46,160 --> 00:36:51,500
No, maybe, because of
this politically here,

780
00:36:51,500 --> 00:36:54,500
it's better-- because
they don't like to.

781
00:36:54,500 --> 00:36:56,870
You never know,
something can happen

782
00:36:56,870 --> 00:36:59,810
from one of the Arab stance.

783
00:36:59,810 --> 00:37:01,640
You know, it's better not to.

784
00:37:01,640 --> 00:37:02,300
OK.

785
00:37:02,300 --> 00:37:04,030
And you have a daughter--

786
00:37:04,030 --> 00:37:04,530
Rita.

787
00:37:04,530 --> 00:37:07,310

I have a daughter, yeah.

788

00:37:07,310 --> 00:37:10,370

And then I have
six grandchildren.

789

00:37:10,370 --> 00:37:11,960

She has four.

790

00:37:11,960 --> 00:37:14,010

And Bobby has adorables.

791

00:37:14,010 --> 00:37:16,130

He has 1 and 1/2.

792

00:37:16,130 --> 00:37:19,140

And he never sleeps.

793

00:37:19,140 --> 00:37:19,640

[INAUDIBLE]

794

00:37:19,640 --> 00:37:21,320

Do they both live near you?

795

00:37:21,320 --> 00:37:22,430

Yeah, in Potomac.

796

00:37:22,430 --> 00:37:25,250

And so you get to see them
and your grandchildren?

797

00:37:25,250 --> 00:37:25,790

Mm-hmm.

798

00:37:25,790 --> 00:37:28,430

And what is that like for
you to have grandchildren?

799

00:37:28,430 --> 00:37:29,570

Oh, it's fun.

800

00:37:29,570 --> 00:37:33,590
I always say, these are my toys.

801
00:37:33,590 --> 00:37:37,820
Because Linda is 21 years old.

802
00:37:37,820 --> 00:37:46,620
And the others are 17,
15, and 14 years old.

803
00:37:46,620 --> 00:37:48,640
So they're good--big girls.

804
00:37:48,640 --> 00:37:52,610
And then Bobby had just
the two [INAUDIBLE]..

805
00:37:52,610 --> 00:37:53,620
Yeah.

806
00:37:53,620 --> 00:37:57,640
Let's talk about your
experience with the Museum.

807
00:37:57,640 --> 00:38:02,290
The Museum-- I tell you,
I started at the Museum

808
00:38:02,290 --> 00:38:04,582
before it opened.

809
00:38:04,582 --> 00:38:07,950
And I started to work
a little bit then.

810
00:38:07,950 --> 00:38:10,810

811
00:38:10,810 --> 00:38:14,050
Yeah, before it opened,
how did you hear about it?

812

00:38:14,050 --> 00:38:16,180
How did you get involved?

813
00:38:16,180 --> 00:38:18,150
Well, I heard a lot about it.

814
00:38:18,150 --> 00:38:22,570
And you know we went
around the Museum outside--

815
00:38:22,570 --> 00:38:26,890
how it looks and
things like that.

816
00:38:26,890 --> 00:38:28,690
Where did you hear about it?

817
00:38:28,690 --> 00:38:33,560
Well, you hear--
heard many were--

818
00:38:33,560 --> 00:38:35,830
they heard about it.

819
00:38:35,830 --> 00:38:40,480
And then I went to the archive.

820
00:38:40,480 --> 00:38:42,880
I started to work
at the archives.

821
00:38:42,880 --> 00:38:46,420
And how did you know
they wanted volunteers?

822
00:38:46,420 --> 00:38:48,310
I heard about it [INAUDIBLE].

823
00:38:48,310 --> 00:38:48,910
I don't know.

824
00:38:48,910 --> 00:38:52,810

I just wanted to work there.

825

00:38:52,810 --> 00:38:57,188

And why did you
want to work there?

826

00:38:57,188 --> 00:38:57,730

I don't know.

827

00:38:57,730 --> 00:39:03,390

I felt like to be
there to be resp--

828

00:39:03,390 --> 00:39:05,470

the whole thing.

829

00:39:05,470 --> 00:39:09,190

I went first and I looked at--

830

00:39:09,190 --> 00:39:14,470

first, we sat down to talk But
[INAUDIBLE] said he called me.

831

00:39:14,470 --> 00:39:17,860

He said, Klari you
know, he was funny--

832

00:39:17,860 --> 00:39:19,915

I gave 1 million dollars.

833

00:39:19,915 --> 00:39:22,330

That-- is that-- is named.

834

00:39:22,330 --> 00:39:25,150

But he's a good friend,
and they were Jewish.

835

00:39:25,150 --> 00:39:31,490

And so we went together and
his daughter to the [INAUDIBLE]

836

00:39:31,490 --> 00:39:35,320

and opened the Museum.

837

00:39:35,320 --> 00:39:38,980

And then a couple
weeks later, I went

838

00:39:38,980 --> 00:39:44,380

to see if I can get a
volunteer to do something.

839

00:39:44,380 --> 00:39:47,780

And I went to the
archives [INAUDIBLE]..

840

00:39:47,780 --> 00:39:51,040

And it was very hard for me.

841

00:39:51,040 --> 00:39:54,880

First of all-- and
I forgot the name.

842

00:39:54,880 --> 00:39:57,580

He passed away
last year, I think.

843

00:39:57,580 --> 00:40:02,440

I went to the archive there
and there were certain things--

844

00:40:02,440 --> 00:40:06,580

I didn't know certain American
English sayings, or even

845

00:40:06,580 --> 00:40:08,650

Hungarian things.

846

00:40:08,650 --> 00:40:10,720

And it was not in--

847

00:40:10,720 --> 00:40:11,270

like--

848

00:40:11,270 --> 00:40:15,940
And I was trying to find
out some dictionaries.

849
00:40:15,940 --> 00:40:18,610
But the gentleman
who was in charge,

850
00:40:18,610 --> 00:40:20,860
he never told me anything.

851
00:40:20,860 --> 00:40:24,670
And I didn't know the
machines to how to work.

852
00:40:24,670 --> 00:40:27,050
There was a very nice lady.

853
00:40:27,050 --> 00:40:30,955
She used to help me
out with the papers.

854
00:40:30,955 --> 00:40:33,670

855
00:40:33,670 --> 00:40:38,930
But I started to work
about three or four months.

856
00:40:38,930 --> 00:40:46,720
And I found some of my
friends' names who had died

857
00:40:46,720 --> 00:40:49,690
and who were killed.

858
00:40:49,690 --> 00:40:53,930
The ones who was in
Romania when I was very--

859
00:40:53,930 --> 00:40:59,230
After Romania, everybody was
killed, really, in the cities.

860
00:40:59,230 --> 00:41:00,550
And I just came home.

861
00:41:00,550 --> 00:41:04,300
And I thought, why
do I torture myself?

862
00:41:04,300 --> 00:41:07,990
And then I saw some
from Budapest, too.

863
00:41:07,990 --> 00:41:11,140
And then I thought, I
can't take it anymore.

864
00:41:11,140 --> 00:41:12,130
I came home.

865
00:41:12,130 --> 00:41:14,410
I couldn't sleep.

866
00:41:14,410 --> 00:41:17,770
So I went downstairs,
and I talked to them.

867
00:41:17,770 --> 00:41:19,750
And I said, can I do anything--

868
00:41:19,750 --> 00:41:24,620
volunteer downstairs--
even whatever you want me.

869
00:41:24,620 --> 00:41:26,185
And ever since then, I do that.

870
00:41:26,185 --> 00:41:28,710

871
00:41:28,710 --> 00:41:31,690
And so you work--

872

00:41:31,690 --> 00:41:33,040

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

873

00:41:33,040 --> 00:41:34,540

Once a week-- Friday.

874

00:41:34,540 --> 00:41:35,800

And you work downstairs.

875

00:41:35,800 --> 00:41:36,490

Downstairs

876

00:41:36,490 --> 00:41:37,840

And what do you do downstairs?

877

00:41:37,840 --> 00:41:44,521

You see, else every half an
hour, we go somewhere else.

878

00:41:44,521 --> 00:41:49,330

You can go to the elevator.

879

00:41:49,330 --> 00:41:54,850

You can go to give tickets out--

880

00:41:54,850 --> 00:41:55,780

everything.

881

00:41:55,780 --> 00:41:58,640

What things do you
especially like to do?

882

00:41:58,640 --> 00:42:02,960

I like everything, really,
because I like people.

883

00:42:02,960 --> 00:42:04,570

I like to be with people.

884

00:42:04,570 --> 00:42:07,150

And are there any

parts of it that you

885

00:42:07,150 --> 00:42:10,180
don't like to do so much?

886

00:42:10,180 --> 00:42:16,480
I really wanted to give
some groups with children.

887

00:42:16,480 --> 00:42:20,080
One time it was a bunch of
them, and they were running

888

00:42:20,080 --> 00:42:22,000
and jumping and everything.

889

00:42:22,000 --> 00:42:24,130
And then I told Larry--

890

00:42:24,130 --> 00:42:27,340
I said, I don't want
to have [CHUCKLING]..

891

00:42:27,340 --> 00:42:31,150
Because why should
I scream for kids?

892

00:42:31,150 --> 00:42:35,080
But just this last
Friday, I said, well,

893

00:42:35,080 --> 00:42:41,200
I think maybe let's try again
to do-- but just small groups.

894

00:42:41,200 --> 00:42:45,550
I do some groups of my friends--

895

00:42:45,550 --> 00:42:49,430
many times-- when they
come from out of town,

896

00:42:49,430 --> 00:42:51,170
or from out of state.

897
00:42:51,170 --> 00:42:53,990
And then I said, OK, let's go.

898
00:42:53,990 --> 00:42:56,150
And I saw you.

899
00:42:56,150 --> 00:42:59,940
And I do it certain days--

900
00:42:59,940 --> 00:43:03,320
whatever they want to.

901
00:43:03,320 --> 00:43:06,890
And you know what, I
feel good in there.

902
00:43:06,890 --> 00:43:08,390
I have peace there.

903
00:43:08,390 --> 00:43:10,580
And why do you think that is?

904
00:43:10,580 --> 00:43:11,600
I don't know.

905
00:43:11,600 --> 00:43:17,930
Sometimes I say, I really
don't know then why I come in.

906
00:43:17,930 --> 00:43:23,480
Like two weeks ago, I
was still on the floor.

907
00:43:23,480 --> 00:43:27,620
I was still a little bit
dizzy the whole year.

908
00:43:27,620 --> 00:43:29,330
I had the flu.

909
00:43:29,330 --> 00:43:30,792
I'm still hoarse.

910
00:43:30,792 --> 00:43:36,380
[CLEAR THROAT] and I said,
oh, I'm going to the Museum.

911
00:43:36,380 --> 00:43:41,060
And this friend of mine,
he's a very nice man.

912
00:43:41,060 --> 00:43:44,780
And I go with him now
since a couple of years.

913
00:43:44,780 --> 00:43:49,880
And he's not Jewish, but
he's not anti-Semitic.

914
00:43:49,880 --> 00:43:52,370
He said, no, don't
go to the Museum,

915
00:43:52,370 --> 00:43:55,010
because you shouldn't have yet.

916
00:43:55,010 --> 00:43:57,320
I said, no, I go.

917
00:43:57,320 --> 00:44:01,080
But I like it there.

918
00:44:01,080 --> 00:44:02,540
I really do.

919
00:44:02,540 --> 00:44:07,000
The girls are nice, and
the people are nice.

920
00:44:07,000 --> 00:44:09,710
I like to talk to people.

921
00:44:09,710 --> 00:44:14,510
And even like in the
information desk,

922
00:44:14,510 --> 00:44:17,330
they're very nice
everybody, everybody.

923
00:44:17,330 --> 00:44:20,810
You mean the other volunteers?

924
00:44:20,810 --> 00:44:23,870
Yeah, we have very
nice volunteers.

925
00:44:23,870 --> 00:44:28,520
Like last week, we
were just two of us.

926
00:44:28,520 --> 00:44:31,610
But it's nice.

927
00:44:31,610 --> 00:44:34,190
I look forward to--

928
00:44:34,190 --> 00:44:37,970
even if-- I remember
last year it snowed.

929
00:44:37,970 --> 00:44:40,190
I was the only one who went in.

930
00:44:40,190 --> 00:44:43,520

931
00:44:43,520 --> 00:44:47,900
And I take the Metro,
because it's hard on the car.

932
00:44:47,900 --> 00:44:52,170
And I feel good there.

933
00:44:52,170 --> 00:45:05,300
Like last Friday, I had to
go and put some candles.

934
00:45:05,300 --> 00:45:07,880
And I prayed there.

935
00:45:07,880 --> 00:45:11,240
And then I had tears
in my eyes, then.

936
00:45:11,240 --> 00:45:14,750
It's nice.

937
00:45:14,750 --> 00:45:17,270
And when you're there
and feeling good,

938
00:45:17,270 --> 00:45:19,460
what do you think about?

939
00:45:19,460 --> 00:45:26,060
Oh, first of all,
naturally, I miss my family.

940
00:45:26,060 --> 00:45:29,870
And I hope my children are good.

941
00:45:29,870 --> 00:45:32,720
And yeah, just look around.

942
00:45:32,720 --> 00:45:37,780
And I put some candles to the--

943
00:45:37,780 --> 00:45:42,020
one for Auschwitz-- the
other from different here

944
00:45:42,020 --> 00:45:43,100
and the other one.

945

00:45:43,100 --> 00:45:46,760

I just go around and

I pray a little bit.

946

00:45:46,760 --> 00:45:49,400

And it was very

nice last Friday,

947

00:45:49,400 --> 00:45:51,080

because we were not busy.

948

00:45:51,080 --> 00:45:56,390

And because I am there till 4

o'clock, I said, can I come up?

949

00:45:56,390 --> 00:45:57,830

We are not busy.

950

00:45:57,830 --> 00:46:02,810

And one of the girls there

said, oh just, go ahead--

951

00:46:02,810 --> 00:46:04,160

you can.

952

00:46:04,160 --> 00:46:11,990

But I don't know, I don't

know why I like it there.

953

00:46:11,990 --> 00:46:14,790

954

00:46:14,790 --> 00:46:16,620

And we should have it, you know?

955

00:46:16,620 --> 00:46:17,120

We should.

956

00:46:17,120 --> 00:46:20,600

957

00:46:20,600 --> 00:46:21,530

It was funny.

958

00:46:21,530 --> 00:46:27,500

If you come in my bedroom,
I have all the Jewish books

959

00:46:27,500 --> 00:46:29,030

and everything else.

960

00:46:29,030 --> 00:46:30,380

And I went one day.

961

00:46:30,380 --> 00:46:34,880

I had just finished
a book about Poland.

962

00:46:34,880 --> 00:46:37,940

And I was up by the Cape.

963

00:46:37,940 --> 00:46:41,780

And I came home, and
I went to a bookstore.

964

00:46:41,780 --> 00:46:47,150

I said, let me get a very
good sexy, juicy book,

965

00:46:47,150 --> 00:46:51,230

because I cried there
is so many books.

966

00:46:51,230 --> 00:46:53,780

But it was so sad.

967

00:46:53,780 --> 00:46:55,480

And she was laughing.

968

00:46:55,480 --> 00:46:58,670

She said, well, let's see that.

969

00:46:58,670 --> 00:47:01,730

So you read a lot
about the Holocaust?

970
00:47:01,730 --> 00:47:05,210
Yeah, come on in my bedroom.

971
00:47:05,210 --> 00:47:08,997
And what is it like
for you reading so much

972
00:47:08,997 --> 00:47:09,830
about the Holocaust?

973
00:47:09,830 --> 00:47:10,880
I don't know.

974
00:47:10,880 --> 00:47:11,780
I just read.

975
00:47:11,780 --> 00:47:15,450
And I used to read a lot
of other things, too.

976
00:47:15,450 --> 00:47:22,010
And almost every week or so,
I go to the bookstore there

977
00:47:22,010 --> 00:47:23,480
and I buy a book.

978
00:47:23,480 --> 00:47:25,790
And then I come
home and read it.

979
00:47:25,790 --> 00:47:28,220
And what books
about the Holocaust?

980
00:47:28,220 --> 00:47:34,560
What kinds of Holocaust subjects
are you especially drawn to?

981

00:47:34,560 --> 00:47:38,610

I think everything--
everything that happened.

982

00:47:38,610 --> 00:47:42,204

Personal accounts,
or historical?

983

00:47:42,204 --> 00:47:44,685

Historical.

984

00:47:44,685 --> 00:47:47,940

From Hitler on and
the Hungarian there

985

00:47:47,940 --> 00:47:51,950

was a worse summer than Hitler.

986

00:47:51,950 --> 00:48:00,540

And I can see when all my best
friends were hung up or killed.

987

00:48:00,540 --> 00:48:03,525

And just I am reading this book.

988

00:48:03,525 --> 00:48:06,150

989

00:48:06,150 --> 00:48:09,960

We'll have to shut the tape
off, because she's walking away.

990

00:48:09,960 --> 00:48:14,050

991

00:48:14,050 --> 00:48:19,830

So you brought this book
in Gerda Weissmann Klein,

992

00:48:19,830 --> 00:48:21,900

A Memoir, All But My Life.

993

00:48:21,900 --> 00:48:23,690
It's wonderful.

994
00:48:23,690 --> 00:48:24,570
Did you read it?

995
00:48:24,570 --> 00:48:25,240
No, I haven't.

996
00:48:25,240 --> 00:48:25,770
You should.

997
00:48:25,770 --> 00:48:27,540
If I finish, I'd
like to have it.

998
00:48:27,540 --> 00:48:28,510
Thank you.

999
00:48:28,510 --> 00:48:30,660
Why do you like this book?

1000
00:48:30,660 --> 00:48:37,110
Well, actually, it
came from the family.

1001
00:48:37,110 --> 00:48:45,790
And then, unfortunately,
it went to the family.

1002
00:48:45,790 --> 00:48:49,320
The mother and father
left, and they took them.

1003
00:48:49,320 --> 00:48:51,450
And then she was--

1004
00:48:51,450 --> 00:48:54,270
and friend and boyfriend--

1005
00:48:54,270 --> 00:48:55,800
and the same thing.

1006
00:48:55,800 --> 00:49:00,930
And the way-- how they suffered.

1007
00:49:00,930 --> 00:49:03,780

1008
00:49:03,780 --> 00:49:08,740
For about two, three
years, they suffered.

1009
00:49:08,740 --> 00:49:12,000
And they hardly ate anything.

1010
00:49:12,000 --> 00:49:15,030
And she had one of her
girlfriends and the rest.

1011
00:49:15,030 --> 00:49:17,100
And they had to work.

1012
00:49:17,100 --> 00:49:24,810
And they were bleeding
all this from their hands.

1013
00:49:24,810 --> 00:49:27,570
And the suffering is terrible.

1014
00:49:27,570 --> 00:49:33,180
Now that's the end almost,
and it's going to be dead.

1015
00:49:33,180 --> 00:49:36,450
What do you think kept her
going through all that?

1016
00:49:36,450 --> 00:49:38,730
She was young, too.

1017
00:49:38,730 --> 00:49:39,510
She was young.

1018

00:49:39,510 --> 00:49:44,550

If you are young, you know you
have so much more strength.

1019

00:49:44,550 --> 00:49:50,280

Because it was cold and they
had maybe one piece of bread.

1020

00:49:50,280 --> 00:49:53,070

Sometimes they not
even got the bread.

1021

00:49:53,070 --> 00:49:56,250

And they had just one piece.

1022

00:49:56,250 --> 00:49:58,830

She had the [? boost, ?]
and that was all.

1023

00:49:58,830 --> 00:50:01,080

And some of it was hot.

1024

00:50:01,080 --> 00:50:04,830

And it was just terrible.

1025

00:50:04,830 --> 00:50:07,470

Do you think there was anything
else that kept her going,

1026

00:50:07,470 --> 00:50:09,870

other than being young?

1027

00:50:09,870 --> 00:50:15,810

I don't know, because she
got married soon in America.

1028

00:50:15,810 --> 00:50:18,420

So I don't know
when she left there.

1029

00:50:18,420 --> 00:50:21,540

1030
00:50:21,540 --> 00:50:32,220
Just now then the Americans
came to get out the people.

1031
00:50:32,220 --> 00:50:34,680
You read a lot of
books on the Holocaust.

1032
00:50:34,680 --> 00:50:40,230
There's a lot in the newspapers
about Holocaust matters.

1033
00:50:40,230 --> 00:50:44,020
Do you follow that closely
also in the newspapers?

1034
00:50:44,020 --> 00:50:44,520
Mm-hmm.

1035
00:50:44,520 --> 00:50:47,160

1036
00:50:47,160 --> 00:50:50,250
Three days ago, when I
just saw the Holocaust.

1037
00:50:50,250 --> 00:50:51,470
Today, I saw it.

1038
00:50:51,470 --> 00:50:53,760
And now finally they let--

1039
00:50:53,760 --> 00:50:57,150
No, I read them, yeah.

1040
00:50:57,150 --> 00:51:03,990
But I don't bring these
Jewish uh--they--uh-- things--

1041
00:51:03,990 --> 00:51:07,410
newspapers, I don't have them.

1042
00:51:07,410 --> 00:51:14,250
And have you always been able
to talk about your experiences?

1043
00:51:14,250 --> 00:51:17,400
For many, many years, I didn't.

1044
00:51:17,400 --> 00:51:19,140
I didn't.

1045
00:51:19,140 --> 00:51:24,120
And then I started to say--

1046
00:51:24,120 --> 00:51:26,700
I think since the
Holocaust, really.

1047
00:51:26,700 --> 00:51:28,065
Since the Holocaust Museum?

1048
00:51:28,065 --> 00:51:29,160
Yeah, Museum.

1049
00:51:29,160 --> 00:51:30,210
Then it started.

1050
00:51:30,210 --> 00:51:33,240
Yes, I was here in so and so.

1051
00:51:33,240 --> 00:51:39,540
And this friend of mine
who lives here, luckily

1052
00:51:39,540 --> 00:51:45,150
is Greek Orthodox, but
he's not anti-Semitic.

1053
00:51:45,150 --> 00:51:51,420
But sometimes I think he
used to have some friends.

1054

00:51:51,420 --> 00:51:54,270

And they were Greek
and talked about it.

1055

00:51:54,270 --> 00:51:59,640

And sometimes they say
something about Jews.

1056

00:51:59,640 --> 00:52:02,310

But now he never goes
to these friends.

1057

00:52:02,310 --> 00:52:04,710

They come to my friends.

1058

00:52:04,710 --> 00:52:06,930

But it's very nice.

1059

00:52:06,930 --> 00:52:09,020

He's very good looking, too.

1060

00:52:09,020 --> 00:52:09,520

[LAUGHS]

1061

00:52:09,520 --> 00:52:11,580

No, but he's a
very good person--

1062

00:52:11,580 --> 00:52:12,850

very, very good.

1063

00:52:12,850 --> 00:52:14,640

He's very good to my children.

1064

00:52:14,640 --> 00:52:16,770

And my children like him.

1065

00:52:16,770 --> 00:52:18,960

But I don't want to get married.

1066

00:52:18,960 --> 00:52:20,100

Why not?

1067

00:52:20,100 --> 00:52:21,990

I like it like that.

1068

00:52:21,990 --> 00:52:24,810

He's on the 18th floor.

1069

00:52:24,810 --> 00:52:26,087

I'm on the 10th floor.

1070

00:52:26,087 --> 00:52:28,170

So you can be good friends,
without being married.

1071

00:52:28,170 --> 00:52:29,100

Yeah, good friends.

1072

00:52:29,100 --> 00:52:31,410

We can go to--

1073

00:52:31,410 --> 00:52:32,550

Two is enough.

1074

00:52:32,550 --> 00:52:34,500

Yeah, it really is not.

1075

00:52:34,500 --> 00:52:36,470

Yeah.

1076

00:52:36,470 --> 00:52:38,820

Back to talking
about the Holocaust--

1077

00:52:38,820 --> 00:52:43,770

did you tell your children
about your experiences?

1078

00:52:43,770 --> 00:52:45,930

I have the tape.

1079

00:52:45,930 --> 00:52:47,370
I gave it to Bobby.

1080
00:52:47,370 --> 00:52:48,330
You have a tape?

1081
00:52:48,330 --> 00:52:48,900
Yeah.

1082
00:52:48,900 --> 00:52:49,920
Did you make the tape?

1083
00:52:49,920 --> 00:52:51,120
No.

1084
00:52:51,120 --> 00:52:55,650
Somebody called me
on the telephone.

1085
00:52:55,650 --> 00:52:59,490
It is in the upstairs
in the archive.

1086
00:52:59,490 --> 00:53:00,602
At the Museum?

1087
00:53:00,602 --> 00:53:01,650
Mm-hmm.

1088
00:53:01,650 --> 00:53:04,710
I don't know who was it.

1089
00:53:04,710 --> 00:53:05,820
And it's on tape?

1090
00:53:05,820 --> 00:53:06,630
On tape, yeah.

1091
00:53:06,630 --> 00:53:09,420
And somebody from the Museum
put your story on tape?

1092

00:53:09,420 --> 00:53:13,640

Yeah, just a short one.

1093

00:53:13,640 --> 00:53:16,610

Is it similar to

what we're doing now?

1094

00:53:16,610 --> 00:53:19,940

Well, on the

telephone we did that.

1095

00:53:19,940 --> 00:53:20,750

Yeah.

1096

00:53:20,750 --> 00:53:22,580

Do you remember how

long ago that was?

1097

00:53:22,580 --> 00:53:24,320

Only about a year ago.

1098

00:53:24,320 --> 00:53:25,400

A year ago.

1099

00:53:25,400 --> 00:53:29,060

And I gave it to Bobby to read.

1100

00:53:29,060 --> 00:53:36,590

And he said, I'm going

to put it in my lock.

1101

00:53:36,590 --> 00:53:40,160

And I don't want anybody

to see that would happen.

1102

00:53:40,160 --> 00:53:43,438

1103

00:53:43,438 --> 00:53:45,230

Have you told Linda

about your experiences?

1104

00:53:45,230 --> 00:53:48,890

Linda, no, not quite as much.

1105

00:53:48,890 --> 00:53:52,250

But had you told Bobby, or
you just gave him the tape?

1106

00:53:52,250 --> 00:53:53,300

I gave him the tape.

1107

00:53:53,300 --> 00:53:54,360

You didn't tell him?

1108

00:53:54,360 --> 00:53:54,860

Hmm?

1109

00:53:54,860 --> 00:53:56,210

You didn't tell him.

1110

00:53:56,210 --> 00:53:57,810

He read it.

1111

00:53:57,810 --> 00:54:00,950

No, but before the tape,
you didn't tell him.

1112

00:54:00,950 --> 00:54:02,480

No.

1113

00:54:02,480 --> 00:54:06,620

And did they know anything
about what you had been through

1114

00:54:06,620 --> 00:54:07,940

during the war?

1115

00:54:07,940 --> 00:54:08,788

Bobby knows.

1116

00:54:08,788 --> 00:54:09,330

Linda knows--

1117
00:54:09,330 --> 00:54:12,140
No, when they were
growing up, did they know?

1118
00:54:12,140 --> 00:54:16,730
Yeah, a little bit,
but not too much.

1119
00:54:16,730 --> 00:54:19,490
Did you just decide that
you would not tell them,

1120
00:54:19,490 --> 00:54:23,960
or did you just never
feel that you could?

1121
00:54:23,960 --> 00:54:28,010
First, they were younger,
you didn't want to.

1122
00:54:28,010 --> 00:54:36,800
And later, because of Linda's
husband, he always said,

1123
00:54:36,800 --> 00:54:39,170
I'm the goyim.

1124
00:54:39,170 --> 00:54:42,470
He's obnoxious-- call
your mother the goyim.

1125
00:54:42,470 --> 00:54:43,790
Why does he say that?

1126
00:54:43,790 --> 00:54:45,160
He's ugly.

1127
00:54:45,160 --> 00:54:47,810

1128
00:54:47,810 --> 00:54:50,990

And he not even was
in the Holocaust.

1129
00:54:50,990 --> 00:54:54,110
He was younger.

1130
00:54:54,110 --> 00:55:01,020
And he goes to the
temple, and he terrible

1131
00:55:01,020 --> 00:55:03,850
the grandmother is here.

1132
00:55:03,850 --> 00:55:07,810
And she went to the Museum now.

1133
00:55:07,810 --> 00:55:09,450
And she walks from the Museum.

1134
00:55:09,450 --> 00:55:10,700
She had naturally some of the.

1135
00:55:10,700 --> 00:55:13,305
You know she was in
concentration camp.

1136
00:55:13,305 --> 00:55:16,260

1137
00:55:16,260 --> 00:55:20,250
She walks around not
just a Holocaust Museum--

1138
00:55:20,250 --> 00:55:23,850
in the Giant, in the
Safeway, look at me.

1139
00:55:23,850 --> 00:55:25,260
Look at me.

1140
00:55:25,260 --> 00:55:29,000
So Linda hates it.

1141
00:55:29,000 --> 00:55:29,500
Like that.

1142
00:55:29,500 --> 00:55:32,440

1143
00:55:32,440 --> 00:55:34,870
Well, we've covered
a lot of material.

1144
00:55:34,870 --> 00:55:37,630
Is there anything else
that you would like

1145
00:55:37,630 --> 00:55:40,000
to talk about before we stop?

1146
00:55:40,000 --> 00:55:41,860
I don't think so.

1147
00:55:41,860 --> 00:55:46,180
I would think maybe later
on, but I think I did enough.

1148
00:55:46,180 --> 00:55:53,650
Really, it-- Anyway, I
became very much American.

1149
00:55:53,650 --> 00:55:57,520
In America, I love it.

1150
00:55:57,520 --> 00:56:00,550
I always say, I am
here and I'm there.

1151
00:56:00,550 --> 00:56:02,870
I go to Budapest.

1152
00:56:02,870 --> 00:56:04,810
I am there every year--

1153

00:56:04,810 --> 00:56:12,970

or every half a year, I have
to go-- because It was my--

1154

00:56:12,970 --> 00:56:14,410

I love it.

1155

00:56:14,410 --> 00:56:19,260

But after 10 days, I hardly
can wait to come back.

1156

00:56:19,260 --> 00:56:21,430

Yeah.

1157

00:56:21,430 --> 00:56:25,900

Well, thank you very much
for giving us your testimony.

1158

00:56:25,900 --> 00:56:29,170

I hope it was not too messy.

1159

00:56:29,170 --> 00:56:29,950

It was fine.

1160

00:56:29,950 --> 00:56:31,820

Thank you.

1161

00:56:31,820 --> 00:56:32,670

This concludes--

1162

00:56:32,670 --> 00:56:36,160

Do you know Mrs. Adler
here in the building?

1163

00:56:36,160 --> 00:56:37,190

No, I don't.

1164

00:56:37,190 --> 00:56:39,460

Yeah, she has it, then.

1165

00:56:39,460 --> 00:56:44,860

She was born in Germany.

1166
00:56:44,860 --> 00:56:47,650
And now she has heard.

1167
00:56:47,650 --> 00:56:50,650
It's here in the Museum.

1168
00:56:50,650 --> 00:56:53,320
She was born as a baby.

1169
00:56:53,320 --> 00:56:57,340
And the parents, they took
to France immediately.

1170
00:56:57,340 --> 00:56:57,850

1171
00:56:57,850 --> 00:57:01,060
After that event,
she went to Austria--

1172
00:57:01,060 --> 00:57:04,270
this in orphanage.

1173
00:57:04,270 --> 00:57:09,220
And from Austria, she
went to Lessing, Poland.

1174
00:57:09,220 --> 00:57:13,030
From Poland, they
put her some peasants

1175
00:57:13,030 --> 00:57:19,390
in a big thing outside,
covered up during daytime.

1176
00:57:19,390 --> 00:57:23,620
And they brought her on
the [INAUDIBLE] at night.

1177
00:57:23,620 --> 00:57:24,980

And that went on.

1178
00:57:24,980 --> 00:57:27,320
And she went to Brussels.

1179
00:57:27,320 --> 00:57:30,170
And she ended up in Paris.

1180
00:57:30,170 --> 00:57:36,250
She met a American GI.

1181
00:57:36,250 --> 00:57:40,690
And he fell in love with her.

1182
00:57:40,690 --> 00:57:43,540
He went first to Washington.

1183
00:57:43,540 --> 00:57:45,070
He went back.

1184
00:57:45,070 --> 00:57:46,910
They got married.

1185
00:57:46,910 --> 00:57:50,560
She is a multi,
multi-millionaire.

1186
00:57:50,560 --> 00:57:51,820
She's right here.

1187
00:57:51,820 --> 00:57:55,720
I going to have lunch
with [INAUDIBLE]----

1188
00:57:55,720 --> 00:57:57,520
Estelle Adler.

1189
00:57:57,520 --> 00:57:59,200
So there are lots of stories.

1190
00:57:59,200 --> 00:58:01,090

Lots of stories.

1191
00:58:01,090 --> 00:58:04,330
But you know what, she
never talks about it.

1192
00:58:04,330 --> 00:58:05,170
Never

1193
00:58:05,170 --> 00:58:06,190
But you know.

1194
00:58:06,190 --> 00:58:08,260
She told me in and you.

1195
00:58:08,260 --> 00:58:11,090
And when they went
to her, she said,

1196
00:58:11,090 --> 00:58:13,180
I don't want to talk about it.

1197
00:58:13,180 --> 00:58:15,930
I don't want anything.

1198
00:58:15,930 --> 00:58:17,560
They are Jewish.

1199
00:58:17,560 --> 00:58:20,260
They keep Jewish, I know.

1200
00:58:20,260 --> 00:58:24,100
But she said, I don't want
to talk about the Holocaust

1201
00:58:24,100 --> 00:58:24,770
at all.

1202
00:58:24,770 --> 00:58:28,150
I said, would you like to
come to the Holocaust Museum?

1203
00:58:28,150 --> 00:58:30,820
She said no.

1204
00:58:30,820 --> 00:58:33,770
She's very intelligent.

1205
00:58:33,770 --> 00:58:36,790
So she has an interesting
story and approach also.

1206
00:58:36,790 --> 00:58:37,343
Yeah.

1207
00:58:37,343 --> 00:58:39,510
Well, thank you very much
for telling us your story.

1208
00:58:39,510 --> 00:58:43,750
Oh, I am glad I met you.

1209
00:58:43,750 --> 00:58:46,570
My English, when
it comes like that,

1210
00:58:46,570 --> 00:58:50,530
I get a little tense-- then
it's a little worse, usually.

1211
00:58:50,530 --> 00:58:52,030
It was fine.

1212
00:58:52,030 --> 00:58:53,080
Thank you.

1213
00:58:53,080 --> 00:58:56,650
This concludes the United
States Holocaust Memorial Museum

1214
00:58:56,650 --> 00:59:01,950
volunteer collection
interview with Klair Rudnai.

1215

00:59:01,950 --> 00:59:13,000