

1  
00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:03,100

2  
00:00:03,100 --> 00:00:05,590  
Did I tell you about when we--

3  
00:00:05,590 --> 00:00:08,590

4  
00:00:08,590 --> 00:00:10,750  
This a continuation of the  
United States Holocaust

5  
00:00:10,750 --> 00:00:13,360  
Memorial Museum volunteer  
collection interview

6  
00:00:13,360 --> 00:00:15,520  
with Marianne Roberts.

7  
00:00:15,520 --> 00:00:18,070  
This is track number two.

8  
00:00:18,070 --> 00:00:20,200  
And we were talking about  
how you and your sister

9  
00:00:20,200 --> 00:00:22,690  
got over to England.

10  
00:00:22,690 --> 00:00:24,630  
And what did you  
want to say now?

11  
00:00:24,630 --> 00:00:30,330  
And my sister was engaged.

12  
00:00:30,330 --> 00:00:44,280  
And she wanted to wait for  
the fiancée to come to London,

13

00:00:44,280 --> 00:00:46,580

but the fiancée  
had been a bad boy.

14

00:00:46,580 --> 00:00:51,060

He did some business in  
Germany that was illegal.

15

00:00:51,060 --> 00:00:56,600

And so he was not able to  
gain entry into London,

16

00:00:56,600 --> 00:00:59,110

something like that, I think.

17

00:00:59,110 --> 00:01:01,800

He was refused entry into  
something, must have been

18

00:01:01,800 --> 00:01:02,300

London.

19

00:01:02,300 --> 00:01:06,230

20

00:01:06,230 --> 00:01:09,140

How much money did you take  
with you when you left Germany?

21

00:01:09,140 --> 00:01:10,550

Well, my dear, love.

22

00:01:10,550 --> 00:01:12,020

That was Hitler.

23

00:01:12,020 --> 00:01:14,420

You don't think he  
let us take any money.

24

00:01:14,420 --> 00:01:15,200

You took no money.

25

00:01:15,200 --> 00:01:18,050

In other words, they  
allowed us to take

26

00:01:18,050 --> 00:01:22,460

the equivalent of  
four American dollars

27

00:01:22,460 --> 00:01:26,120

to travel to another continent.

28

00:01:26,120 --> 00:01:27,830

So you stayed in London.

29

00:01:27,830 --> 00:01:30,130

Did you know anybody in London?

30

00:01:30,130 --> 00:01:32,770

Or where did you stay?

31

00:01:32,770 --> 00:01:35,500

I probably didn't  
stay very long,

32

00:01:35,500 --> 00:01:37,960

but all I know is  
the following: I

33

00:01:37,960 --> 00:01:40,720

couldn't stay very long  
because London only

34

00:01:40,720 --> 00:01:46,090

gave us a limitation on the  
amount of stay in London.

35

00:01:46,090 --> 00:01:50,170

So we would need  
special permission.

36

00:01:50,170 --> 00:01:53,370

So me, being 14, 15--

37  
00:01:53,370 --> 00:01:55,750  
but I was always very sensible--

38  
00:01:55,750 --> 00:01:58,010  
I said, "Lottie, don't worry.

39  
00:01:58,010 --> 00:02:01,780  
I'll go to the government and  
I'll get permission for us

40  
00:02:01,780 --> 00:02:04,330  
to stay longer."

41  
00:02:04,330 --> 00:02:07,750  
Sure enough, I went to  
the Home Office in London.

42  
00:02:07,750 --> 00:02:10,900  
You know what that  
is, the Home Office?

43  
00:02:10,900 --> 00:02:14,320  
The Home Office in  
London, government, yeah.

44  
00:02:14,320 --> 00:02:21,790  
And so I was a little  
kid, but I had not only

45  
00:02:21,790 --> 00:02:24,820  
learned how to speak  
English in school,

46  
00:02:24,820 --> 00:02:29,500  
but my mother had always  
wanted us to learn languages.

47  
00:02:29,500 --> 00:02:36,100  
So without any further ado,  
she hired a woman from London,

48

00:02:36,100 --> 00:02:38,560  
but she spoke us  
the King's English.

49  
00:02:38,560 --> 00:02:42,270  
She taught us  
half-past, you know.

50  
00:02:42,270 --> 00:02:45,160  
So it made no  
difference, really.

51  
00:02:45,160 --> 00:02:50,330  
So I said to my  
sister, "Don't worry.

52  
00:02:50,330 --> 00:02:53,890  
I'll go and get an extension  
for your stay in London,

53  
00:02:53,890 --> 00:02:56,950  
then I will continue  
on to America."

54  
00:02:56,950 --> 00:02:57,790  
You know.

55  
00:02:57,790 --> 00:03:00,040  
You're 18, 19 at this point?

56  
00:03:00,040 --> 00:03:00,790  
No.

57  
00:03:00,790 --> 00:03:04,100  
This is early 1939?

58  
00:03:04,100 --> 00:03:06,200  
18, yeah.

59  
00:03:06,200 --> 00:03:08,950

60

00:03:08,950 --> 00:03:11,790  
What was her fiance's name?

61  
00:03:11,790 --> 00:03:13,770  
Her fiance's name?

62  
00:03:13,770 --> 00:03:15,455  
Ernest.

63  
00:03:15,455 --> 00:03:19,680  
And I didn't like  
him at all, no.

64  
00:03:19,680 --> 00:03:22,140  
But he was no good anyway.

65  
00:03:22,140 --> 00:03:22,790  
His last name?

66  
00:03:22,790 --> 00:03:24,960  
Do you know his last name?

67  
00:03:24,960 --> 00:03:28,350  
Lustig, Lostig, Lustig, yeah.

68  
00:03:28,350 --> 00:03:31,620  
So you tell your sister  
you'll go on by yourself.

69  
00:03:31,620 --> 00:03:34,170  
You were very brave.

70  
00:03:34,170 --> 00:03:36,990  
I told my sister  
first things first.

71  
00:03:36,990 --> 00:03:40,980  
I have to go to the  
English government for them

72  
00:03:40,980 --> 00:03:48,420  
to give her permit an

extension and also for me

73

00:03:48,420 --> 00:03:50,373

until I could leave for--

74

00:03:50,373 --> 00:03:53,530

75

00:03:53,530 --> 00:03:55,090

so I made an appointment.

76

00:03:55,090 --> 00:03:58,960

And I didn't think

it was as old as 18.

77

00:03:58,960 --> 00:04:03,680

I thought I was about

16, 17, but whatever.

78

00:04:03,680 --> 00:04:07,060

And so this man was

sitting opposite me.

79

00:04:07,060 --> 00:04:08,590

In my best English--

80

00:04:08,590 --> 00:04:12,880

because not only my mother

had hired a woman from London

81

00:04:12,880 --> 00:04:17,620

to give us English lessons

just for the sake of lessons,

82

00:04:17,620 --> 00:04:23,050

but also I had

English in school.

83

00:04:23,050 --> 00:04:25,960

84

00:04:25,960 --> 00:04:32,690

The first session in school,  
was an English lesson.

85  
00:04:32,690 --> 00:04:34,870  
The first one, yeah.

86  
00:04:34,870 --> 00:04:38,080  
So you got the extension  
for Lottie to stay,

87  
00:04:38,080 --> 00:04:42,200  
but you got yourself a  
trip across the Atlantic.

88  
00:04:42,200 --> 00:04:42,700  
Yeah.

89  
00:04:42,700 --> 00:04:45,865  
Just a minute, you're  
jumping ahead because--

90  
00:04:45,865 --> 00:04:49,970

91  
00:04:49,970 --> 00:04:52,020  
I said to Lottie, "Don't worry.

92  
00:04:52,020 --> 00:04:53,810  
I'll go to the  
English government

93  
00:04:53,810 --> 00:04:58,540  
and I'll get you an  
extension to stay."

94  
00:04:58,540 --> 00:05:04,450  
And so one day I found  
myself across this man

95  
00:05:04,450 --> 00:05:09,340  
sitting across the table  
and in perfect English--



96

00:05:09,340 --> 00:05:11,080

but the King's English--

97

00:05:11,080 --> 00:05:16,090

I told him what

happened and que pasa,

98

00:05:16,090 --> 00:05:21,540

that I wanted to continue

on and she wanted to stay.

99

00:05:21,540 --> 00:05:24,990

So he was so gracious.

100

00:05:24,990 --> 00:05:26,100

Oh, my God.

101

00:05:26,100 --> 00:05:28,020

He was such a nice man.

102

00:05:28,020 --> 00:05:31,410

I'm sure he had a lot of

respect for a young kid

103

00:05:31,410 --> 00:05:34,830

to undertake such a

mission, you know.

104

00:05:34,830 --> 00:05:40,140

So sure enough, he granted it

and she was waiting outside

105

00:05:40,140 --> 00:05:41,320

in the street for me.

106

00:05:41,320 --> 00:05:43,530

And I came out and said

Lottie you can stay.

107

00:05:43,530 --> 00:05:46,840

108

00:05:46,840 --> 00:05:49,180

Did you want to stay with  
her or did you really

109

00:05:49,180 --> 00:05:50,260

want to go to America.

110

00:05:50,260 --> 00:05:52,880

No, I wanted to go to America.

111

00:05:52,880 --> 00:05:54,080

Even by yourself.

112

00:05:54,080 --> 00:06:00,370

I had no reason to  
want to remain there.

113

00:06:00,370 --> 00:06:04,090

Her reason was a fiancée  
that incidentally

114

00:06:04,090 --> 00:06:07,050

never materialized,  
that didn't work out.

115

00:06:07,050 --> 00:06:08,830

But I was--

116

00:06:08,830 --> 00:06:12,250

How soon after did you  
sail to the United States?

117

00:06:12,250 --> 00:06:14,470

I guess very shortly.

118

00:06:14,470 --> 00:06:17,890

As soon as I could get a  
ticket to go, you know?

119

00:06:17,890 --> 00:06:22,918

I was always a very  
independent person, always.

120  
00:06:22,918 --> 00:06:24,460  
Which is different  
than what you said

121  
00:06:24,460 --> 00:06:26,168  
when you were very  
young, that you always

122  
00:06:26,168 --> 00:06:28,360  
depended on your sister  
when you were little.

123  
00:06:28,360 --> 00:06:30,535  
When I asked you, were  
you an independent child,

124  
00:06:30,535 --> 00:06:32,410  
you said you always  
looked up to your sister.

125  
00:06:32,410 --> 00:06:37,390  
I was dependent upon her  
when I was very young.

126  
00:06:37,390 --> 00:06:40,330  
And then furthermore,  
when she grew older

127  
00:06:40,330 --> 00:06:42,700  
and she had all  
her own friends, I

128  
00:06:42,700 --> 00:06:45,490  
was clinging to my  
mother's skirts.

129  
00:06:45,490 --> 00:06:49,150  
But once my mother died  
and she and I were alone,

130  
00:06:49,150 --> 00:06:54,550  
my sister, I became

independent, yeah.

131  
00:06:54,550 --> 00:06:56,350  
So what boat did you sail on?

132  
00:06:56,350 --> 00:06:59,230

133  
00:06:59,230 --> 00:07:00,670  
Cunard White Star.

134  
00:07:00,670 --> 00:07:02,420  
Cunard White Star.

135  
00:07:02,420 --> 00:07:02,920  
Yeah.

136  
00:07:02,920 --> 00:07:04,830  
Thank you, my dear.

137  
00:07:04,830 --> 00:07:08,110  
And were there any other  
refugees on that voyage?

138  
00:07:08,110 --> 00:07:11,410  
No, it had nothing  
to do with refugees.

139  
00:07:11,410 --> 00:07:14,810  
I got a boarded  
ticket and I went.

140  
00:07:14,810 --> 00:07:17,560  
As a regular a passenger.

141  
00:07:17,560 --> 00:07:21,160  
And then what did America  
mean to you at that age of 18?

142  
00:07:21,160 --> 00:07:23,740  
Freedom.

143

00:07:23,740 --> 00:07:25,600

How did you know that?

144

00:07:25,600 --> 00:07:29,860

Well, I mean, I went to school  
and I was fairly well educated.

145

00:07:29,860 --> 00:07:34,090

And I had one set  
of cousins who were

146

00:07:34,090 --> 00:07:36,160

living in the United States.

147

00:07:36,160 --> 00:07:39,250

And my mother, when  
she was still alive,

148

00:07:39,250 --> 00:07:43,500

she tried to her darndest  
for us to go to America.

149

00:07:43,500 --> 00:07:45,360

I knew that should be my goal.

150

00:07:45,360 --> 00:07:49,680

151

00:07:49,680 --> 00:07:54,210

Do you have any sad thoughts  
about leaving Germany?

152

00:07:54,210 --> 00:07:55,730

Was that hard for you?

153

00:07:55,730 --> 00:07:56,460

Oh.

154

00:07:56,460 --> 00:08:00,150

My dear girl, you didn't  
know Adolf Hitler.

155

00:08:00,150 --> 00:08:02,040

Yeah.

156

00:08:02,040 --> 00:08:05,190

I was thrilled to

death to be able to go.

157

00:08:05,190 --> 00:08:09,220

But did you feel German at that point, when you were leaving?

158

00:08:09,220 --> 00:08:10,037

Or Jewish?

159

00:08:10,037 --> 00:08:11,370

What did you feel that you were?

160

00:08:11,370 --> 00:08:14,310

Probably mostly

Jewish, probably.

161

00:08:14,310 --> 00:08:15,300

But--

162

00:08:15,300 --> 00:08:16,890

Not German.

163

00:08:16,890 --> 00:08:22,080

I couldn't tell you the

correct answer to that.

164

00:08:22,080 --> 00:08:25,830

The Germans, the kids

used to come and stick

165

00:08:25,830 --> 00:08:31,600

their fists in my chest and

say, "You killed Jesus Christ."

166

00:08:31,600 --> 00:08:35,610

So what should I

love about Germany?

167  
00:08:35,610 --> 00:08:38,809  
And now you dock in New York?

168  
00:08:38,809 --> 00:08:41,309  
When you're on the boat.

169  
00:08:41,309 --> 00:08:45,120  
Any memories of the  
voyage, anything special?

170  
00:08:45,120 --> 00:08:47,300  
Any special memories  
of your voyage?

171  
00:08:47,300 --> 00:08:47,990  
Of the voyage?

172  
00:08:47,990 --> 00:08:50,010  
From England to New York.

173  
00:08:50,010 --> 00:08:54,270  
Yeah, well, one of the  
officers tried to date me,

174  
00:08:54,270 --> 00:08:58,350  
but I was in no condition.

175  
00:08:58,350 --> 00:09:01,320  
So one story you  
used to tell me was

176  
00:09:01,320 --> 00:09:07,290  
that when you left Liverpool,  
and you saw England behind you,

177  
00:09:07,290 --> 00:09:09,450  
you said, "never look back."

178  
00:09:09,450 --> 00:09:13,340  
Yeah, because I was with my  
back to the boat, the way

179  
00:09:13,340 --> 00:09:14,800  
it was going.

180  
00:09:14,800 --> 00:09:17,820  
And I said to myself,  
"Marianne, never look back."

181  
00:09:17,820 --> 00:09:20,590  
It was a new start  
and I was a kid.

182  
00:09:20,590 --> 00:09:23,850  
You were very brave.

183  
00:09:23,850 --> 00:09:27,030  
And then you come into  
the New York Harbor.

184  
00:09:27,030 --> 00:09:30,150  
And any thoughts, any  
emotions, any memories

185  
00:09:30,150 --> 00:09:31,950  
of what you felt when  
you saw the United

186  
00:09:31,950 --> 00:09:33,990  
States for the first time?

187  
00:09:33,990 --> 00:09:36,450  
When I saw the  
Statue of Liberty,

188  
00:09:36,450 --> 00:09:38,920  
I really was all shook up.

189  
00:09:38,920 --> 00:09:39,840  
Were you?

190  
00:09:39,840 --> 00:09:40,340  
Yeah.



191  
00:09:40,340 --> 00:09:41,440  
That's true.

192  
00:09:41,440 --> 00:09:43,320  
Yeah.

193  
00:09:43,320 --> 00:09:45,120  
And then you get off the boat.

194  
00:09:45,120 --> 00:09:47,340  
And who met you?

195  
00:09:47,340 --> 00:09:50,360  
Some distant cousins,  
a husband and wife.

196  
00:09:50,360 --> 00:09:54,360  
And I stayed with them  
for just a few days.

197  
00:09:54,360 --> 00:09:55,650  
This is in New York City?

198  
00:09:55,650 --> 00:09:58,480  
Yeah, downtown New York.

199  
00:09:58,480 --> 00:09:59,985  
And the English was Anglish.

200  
00:09:59,985 --> 00:10:03,480

201  
00:10:03,480 --> 00:10:11,040  
It was-- toity- toid  
street on the toid floor.

202  
00:10:11,040 --> 00:10:14,610  
That's what it was, yeah.

203  
00:10:14,610 --> 00:10:16,530

And then you stayed  
with them for a few--

204  
00:10:16,530 --> 00:10:18,480  
I stayed with them  
for a few days.

205  
00:10:18,480 --> 00:10:22,700  
And then they got me a  
position in Brooklyn,

206  
00:10:22,700 --> 00:10:25,200  
where they were all  
two-family homes,

207  
00:10:25,200 --> 00:10:29,430  
with a lovely Jewish family as  
a companion to their daughter

208  
00:10:29,430 --> 00:10:31,410  
who was my age.

209  
00:10:31,410 --> 00:10:33,990  
So that was very nice, yeah.

210  
00:10:33,990 --> 00:10:41,230  
And I remember they always used  
to say how come that you always

211  
00:10:41,230 --> 00:10:43,360  
have to go to your dear sister?

212  
00:10:43,360 --> 00:10:45,580  
How come she never comes here?

213  
00:10:45,580 --> 00:10:46,720  
When did she come?

214  
00:10:46,720 --> 00:10:49,390  
When did Lottie come  
to the United States?

215

00:10:49,390 --> 00:10:51,632

How soon after you?

216

00:10:51,632 --> 00:10:54,200

It was a few weeks.

217

00:10:54,200 --> 00:10:56,070

Really?

218

00:10:56,070 --> 00:10:57,240

A few weeks?

219

00:10:57,240 --> 00:10:58,210

So it was a short time.

220

00:10:58,210 --> 00:11:00,420

Why did she come shortly after?

221

00:11:00,420 --> 00:11:01,070

What happened?

222

00:11:01,070 --> 00:11:04,470

Because she only had an  
extension for a few weeks

223

00:11:04,470 --> 00:11:05,460

to stay in England.

224

00:11:05,460 --> 00:11:08,410

225

00:11:08,410 --> 00:11:11,150

I was the one who got  
her the extension.

226

00:11:11,150 --> 00:11:13,340

So did she join  
you when she came?

227

00:11:13,340 --> 00:11:14,810

No, she didn't join me.

228

00:11:14,810 --> 00:11:17,390

And the people for  
whom I was working,

229

00:11:17,390 --> 00:11:21,440

they always used to say to  
me, "I don't understand.

230

00:11:21,440 --> 00:11:25,100

You always have to go on your  
day off to see your sister.

231

00:11:25,100 --> 00:11:26,980

Why does she never come here?"

232

00:11:26,980 --> 00:11:29,220

And she was busy.

233

00:11:29,220 --> 00:11:32,020

But I got a job with Eda.

234

00:11:32,020 --> 00:11:35,960

And she worked in a book  
publishing's office,

235

00:11:35,960 --> 00:11:40,860

so she got me a position  
there as a file clerk.

236

00:11:40,860 --> 00:11:42,130

Yeah.

237

00:11:42,130 --> 00:11:48,190

And I remember the boss was  
a little guy, little old man.

238

00:11:48,190 --> 00:11:55,420

There was a big barrel at the  
front of the office indoors,

239

00:11:55,420 --> 00:12:00,530

and people threw all

the paperwork in there.

240

00:12:00,530 --> 00:12:04,910

And he used to climb into  
this guy and jump up and down.

241

00:12:04,910 --> 00:12:06,050

It was so funny.

242

00:12:06,050 --> 00:12:09,350

It's the original compactor.

243

00:12:09,350 --> 00:12:10,970

Then you stayed  
there for how long?

244

00:12:10,970 --> 00:12:13,850

245

00:12:13,850 --> 00:12:15,370

I don't know for how long.

246

00:12:15,370 --> 00:12:15,870

OK.

247

00:12:15,870 --> 00:12:18,640

And where did you go after that?

248

00:12:18,640 --> 00:12:26,770

Well, then-- all I know  
is eventually my sister

249

00:12:26,770 --> 00:12:30,100

and I got a position  
at a doctor's office

250

00:12:30,100 --> 00:12:32,140

in Coney Island.

251

00:12:32,140 --> 00:12:38,990

And so first we worked  
as receptionists,

252  
00:12:38,990 --> 00:12:43,220  
and then the doctor  
showed us that he

253  
00:12:43,220 --> 00:12:49,700  
had a spare room lined up  
totally with X-ray equipment.

254  
00:12:49,700 --> 00:12:54,240  
So he saw, evidently, that  
we were good material.

255  
00:12:54,240 --> 00:12:58,860  
So he called in the  
head of Picker X-ray.

256  
00:12:58,860 --> 00:12:59,840  
The head.

257  
00:12:59,840 --> 00:13:03,670

258  
00:13:03,670 --> 00:13:08,560  
The result was that this  
head of Picker X-ray

259  
00:13:08,560 --> 00:13:11,830  
came several times  
to give us lessons

260  
00:13:11,830 --> 00:13:15,580  
how to take x-rays because  
the equipment was there.

261  
00:13:15,580 --> 00:13:19,060  
We were so lucky that  
this happened to us.

262  
00:13:19,060 --> 00:13:21,240  
Then, you didn't need a license.

263

00:13:21,240 --> 00:13:26,166

In more later years, we  
had to be state licensed

264

00:13:26,166 --> 00:13:28,750

to be an X-ray technologist.

265

00:13:28,750 --> 00:13:32,380

And so anyway, then the  
doctor made more money

266

00:13:32,380 --> 00:13:38,050

because he was able to X-ray  
patients, and we got a salary,

267

00:13:38,050 --> 00:13:39,940

and all was well.

268

00:13:39,940 --> 00:13:41,920

So that's what happened.

269

00:13:41,920 --> 00:13:43,580

And then?

270

00:13:43,580 --> 00:13:45,600

And did you have a  
social life at all?

271

00:13:45,600 --> 00:13:47,990

Did you meet anybody?

272

00:13:47,990 --> 00:13:53,280

Well, my sister was the social  
butterfly, and the woman--

273

00:13:53,280 --> 00:13:56,780

the neighbor who lived over  
there in the doctor's upstairs,

274

00:13:56,780 --> 00:14:00,030

in the doctor's office,  
she once pulled me aside.

275

00:14:00,030 --> 00:14:05,520

And my sister was a  
divorcee after all.

276

00:14:05,520 --> 00:14:06,720

Didn't I mention that?

277

00:14:06,720 --> 00:14:07,720

Yeah.

278

00:14:07,720 --> 00:14:12,510

And so this woman, well-meaning,  
she pulled me aside

279

00:14:12,510 --> 00:14:16,240

and she says, "Your  
sister is taking

280

00:14:16,240 --> 00:14:21,270

the way the boyfriend  
from Sylvia,

281

00:14:21,270 --> 00:14:24,450

from the doctor's secretary."

282

00:14:24,450 --> 00:14:29,920

She said, "You should be  
the one to be taking a guy

283

00:14:29,920 --> 00:14:31,190

or whatever."

284

00:14:31,190 --> 00:14:33,510

But of course, that  
was not my cup of tea.

285

00:14:33,510 --> 00:14:36,276

286

00:14:36,276 --> 00:14:39,390

So you stayed at the  
doctor's office for how long?



287

00:14:39,390 --> 00:14:42,690

Well, the doctor's  
office, it was a house,

288

00:14:42,690 --> 00:14:48,540

and upstairs was like a railroad  
apartment that was empty.

289

00:14:48,540 --> 00:14:53,580

So we lived upstairs, and we  
were on call for the doctor

290

00:14:53,580 --> 00:14:54,300

day and night.

291

00:14:54,300 --> 00:14:56,010

And how long did you stay there?

292

00:14:56,010 --> 00:14:57,070

I don't remember.

293

00:14:57,070 --> 00:14:59,680

Were you still there  
when you met dad?

294

00:14:59,680 --> 00:15:02,220

295

00:15:02,220 --> 00:15:04,220

I don't think so, no.

296

00:15:04,220 --> 00:15:04,720

No.

297

00:15:04,720 --> 00:15:05,220

OK.

298

00:15:05,220 --> 00:15:08,375

Then you met your  
future husband.

299

00:15:08,375 --> 00:15:09,625

How did you meet your husband?

300

00:15:09,625 --> 00:15:12,160

301

00:15:12,160 --> 00:15:12,930

Ah!

302

00:15:12,930 --> 00:15:13,430

I know.

303

00:15:13,430 --> 00:15:16,060

304

00:15:16,060 --> 00:15:20,410

In those days, in  
Brooklyn, there

305

00:15:20,410 --> 00:15:23,830

used to be dances,  
social dances.

306

00:15:23,830 --> 00:15:30,990

And so I had a friend and  
she was a do-er and go-er.

307

00:15:30,990 --> 00:15:35,680

And so, "Come, Marianne,  
Let's go to the dance."

308

00:15:35,680 --> 00:15:39,520

So this is how I met Murray.

309

00:15:39,520 --> 00:15:43,250

And when did you get married?

310

00:15:43,250 --> 00:15:47,450

June, July the 10th, I think.

311

00:15:47,450 --> 00:15:48,410

'49.

312  
00:15:48,410 --> 00:15:50,000  
1949?

313  
00:15:50,000 --> 00:15:50,920  
Yeah.

314  
00:15:50,920 --> 00:15:55,280  
And was your husband  
also from Europe?

315  
00:15:55,280 --> 00:15:56,120  
Was my husband what?

316  
00:15:56,120 --> 00:15:58,070  
Also born in Europe?

317  
00:15:58,070 --> 00:16:00,920  
No, he was American.

318  
00:16:00,920 --> 00:16:04,280  
And it was not the  
best choice for me.

319  
00:16:04,280 --> 00:16:05,430  
No, no.

320  
00:16:05,430 --> 00:16:08,720  
C'est la vie, such is life.

321  
00:16:08,720 --> 00:16:10,850  
But you had children  
by your husband?

322  
00:16:10,850 --> 00:16:11,350  
Yes.

323  
00:16:11,350 --> 00:16:14,200

324

00:16:14,200 --> 00:16:16,490  
Two very wonderful children.

325  
00:16:16,490 --> 00:16:20,050  
My son Mark and Joan.

326  
00:16:20,050 --> 00:16:21,860  
They're wonderful.

327  
00:16:21,860 --> 00:16:26,450  
And so can we talk a  
little bit now just

328  
00:16:26,450 --> 00:16:29,540  
about your feelings  
for a moment?

329  
00:16:29,540 --> 00:16:33,690  
What are your thoughts  
about Germany today?

330  
00:16:33,690 --> 00:16:35,670  
Did you ever go back?

331  
00:16:35,670 --> 00:16:39,450  
One time, it was  
a business deal.

332  
00:16:39,450 --> 00:16:41,910  
My husband and I,  
we had to go back.

333  
00:16:41,910 --> 00:16:50,010

334  
00:16:50,010 --> 00:16:56,380  
There came a time when  
the German government

335  
00:16:56,380 --> 00:17:00,970  
told each mayor to invite  
the Jewish people that

336

00:17:00,970 --> 00:17:06,550  
had been thrown out of there,  
to show them a wonderful time.

337

00:17:06,550 --> 00:17:08,934  
In other words, this  
is like in Spain.

338

00:17:08,934 --> 00:17:11,740

339

00:17:11,740 --> 00:17:15,780  
In Spain, the Jewish were--

340

00:17:15,780 --> 00:17:17,290  
After the Inquisition, right.

341

00:17:17,290 --> 00:17:20,010  
Yeah, yeah.

342

00:17:20,010 --> 00:17:24,579  
So we went back in 1997.

343

00:17:24,579 --> 00:17:25,560  
To Germany.

344

00:17:25,560 --> 00:17:28,600  
Or 1998, Yeah.

345

00:17:28,600 --> 00:17:33,790  
So they were certainly  
showing us a wonderful time

346

00:17:33,790 --> 00:17:35,330  
and everything, but--

347

00:17:35,330 --> 00:17:39,990  
But what are your thoughts  
today about Germany?

348

00:17:39,990 --> 00:17:43,660

I went there once and  
it was enough for me.

349  
00:17:43,660 --> 00:17:46,960  
Of course, my parents  
graves are there.

350  
00:17:46,960 --> 00:17:50,140  
I couldn't find my mother's  
grave, but my father's grave,

351  
00:17:50,140 --> 00:17:53,920  
I could because he was  
at the very beginning

352  
00:17:53,920 --> 00:17:57,970  
of the Jewish cemetery  
that had just been opened.

353  
00:17:57,970 --> 00:18:00,190  
But my mother's grave  
I couldn't find.

354  
00:18:00,190 --> 00:18:04,660  
And what happened to your  
extended family in Germany?

355  
00:18:04,660 --> 00:18:06,120  
Who is my extended family?

356  
00:18:06,120 --> 00:18:07,268  
Like cousins.

357  
00:18:07,268 --> 00:18:07,810  
Your cousins.

358  
00:18:07,810 --> 00:18:09,310  
Cousins?

359  
00:18:09,310 --> 00:18:10,690  
Were they able to leave Germany?

360

00:18:10,690 --> 00:18:13,300

Well, the cousins  
were the first ones

361

00:18:13,300 --> 00:18:16,600

to come to the United  
States and to Israel.

362

00:18:16,600 --> 00:18:17,900

Oh, OK.

363

00:18:17,900 --> 00:18:19,700

I see.

364

00:18:19,700 --> 00:18:22,740

So they were able to get out.

365

00:18:22,740 --> 00:18:24,190

Well that was before--

366

00:18:24,190 --> 00:18:26,760

well, I don't  
remember whether it

367

00:18:26,760 --> 00:18:28,380

was at the beginning of Hitler.

368

00:18:28,380 --> 00:18:30,820

Whatever it was,  
they had a reason

369

00:18:30,820 --> 00:18:33,450

to flee as quickly as possible.

370

00:18:33,450 --> 00:18:34,740

Must have been Hitler.

371

00:18:34,740 --> 00:18:39,170

Did what you had gone through  
and the difficult times from

372

00:18:39,170 --> 00:18:41,620

'33 to '39--

373

00:18:41,620 --> 00:18:44,790  
which were very difficult  
and frightening--

374

00:18:44,790 --> 00:18:48,840  
did that influence you in  
how you raised your children,

375

00:18:48,840 --> 00:18:49,578  
do you think?

376

00:18:49,578 --> 00:18:50,620  
Did it make a difference?

377

00:18:50,620 --> 00:18:51,300  
Oh, no.

378

00:18:51,300 --> 00:18:58,770  
My children were raised the  
way I wanted to raise them.

379

00:18:58,770 --> 00:19:02,360

380

00:19:02,360 --> 00:19:05,240  
Are you asking me whether  
I asked my children

381

00:19:05,240 --> 00:19:06,470  
to hate Germany?

382

00:19:06,470 --> 00:19:06,970  
No, no, no.

383

00:19:06,970 --> 00:19:09,680  
No, I didn't mean  
that, I just meant--

384

00:19:09,680 --> 00:19:10,620  
no, not at all.



385  
00:19:10,620 --> 00:19:12,680  
I just meant in the way  
that you raised them,

386  
00:19:12,680 --> 00:19:13,970  
were you strict with them?

387  
00:19:13,970 --> 00:19:16,070  
Did you try to get  
them to be independent?

388  
00:19:16,070 --> 00:19:19,220  
Because you knew later in life  
you had to be very independent.

389  
00:19:19,220 --> 00:19:20,680  
Well, absolutely.

390  
00:19:20,680 --> 00:19:22,980  
I mean, you had been through  
a very difficult time.

391  
00:19:22,980 --> 00:19:24,100  
Yes.

392  
00:19:24,100 --> 00:19:27,020  
Joanie always says to me,  
Mom, you can do anything.

393  
00:19:27,020 --> 00:19:28,760  
And I say do you know why?

394  
00:19:28,760 --> 00:19:31,910  
Because I went through  
a lot of tough times.

395  
00:19:31,910 --> 00:19:32,990  
That's what it is.

396  
00:19:32,990 --> 00:19:33,960  
Right, right.

397

00:19:33,960 --> 00:19:37,430

And you became very  
independent, as you said.

398

00:19:37,430 --> 00:19:42,140

When your children were  
the ages of 13 to 19,

399

00:19:42,140 --> 00:19:47,220

which is when you had  
your difficult times,

400

00:19:47,220 --> 00:19:51,220

did that remind you of  
what you had gone through?

401

00:19:51,220 --> 00:19:52,970

When they were the  
same age that you were?

402

00:19:52,970 --> 00:19:55,970

They never had to--  
thank God-- to go

403

00:19:55,970 --> 00:19:59,150

through what I went  
through, so there

404

00:19:59,150 --> 00:20:01,680

was no need for comparison.

405

00:20:01,680 --> 00:20:05,780

But you did not  
speak about Germany

406

00:20:05,780 --> 00:20:08,330

at all until we were grown up.

407

00:20:08,330 --> 00:20:10,280

I was not aware of that.

408

00:20:10,280 --> 00:20:11,480  
Would you believe this?

409  
00:20:11,480 --> 00:20:13,910  
I was not aware of it.

410  
00:20:13,910 --> 00:20:17,720  
It was something that happened,  
and it never occurred to me

411  
00:20:17,720 --> 00:20:20,750  
that it might be of  
value to you children

412  
00:20:20,750 --> 00:20:24,740  
to hear about it because  
it was not a good news.

413  
00:20:24,740 --> 00:20:25,240  
No.

414  
00:20:25,240 --> 00:20:27,950

415  
00:20:27,950 --> 00:20:32,210  
Were you ever active in  
the Civil Rights Movement?

416  
00:20:32,210 --> 00:20:35,090  
I mean, here you lived in  
a country that deprived you

417  
00:20:35,090 --> 00:20:37,580  
of your civil rights.

418  
00:20:37,580 --> 00:20:43,250  
The Jewish people were  
never able to join those.

419  
00:20:43,250 --> 00:20:46,803  
No, I meant in the United  
States, in the 1960s, 1970s.

420

00:20:46,803 --> 00:20:48,470

The height of the  
Civil Rights Movement.

421

00:20:48,470 --> 00:20:52,250

My Civil Rights  
Movement is the fact

422

00:20:52,250 --> 00:20:58,130

that for years and years and  
hopefully much longer, anywhere

423

00:20:58,130 --> 00:21:02,360

and every place, I get up and  
I speak about the Holocaust.

424

00:21:02,360 --> 00:21:06,560

Anywhere and everywhere.

425

00:21:06,560 --> 00:21:08,000

This is my gift.

426

00:21:08,000 --> 00:21:09,140

Where do you speak?

427

00:21:09,140 --> 00:21:14,240

In schools, in colleges, in  
universities, any club that

428

00:21:14,240 --> 00:21:16,250

wants to hear.

429

00:21:16,250 --> 00:21:19,370

I have spoken, for  
example, I swear to you,

430

00:21:19,370 --> 00:21:23,150

in front of 1,000  
students in Chapel Hill.

431

00:21:23,150 --> 00:21:27,080

I remember what's her

name was with me, in fact,

432

00:21:27,080 --> 00:21:31,070  
and she came in to see how it  
was done, which I didn't know.

433

00:21:31,070 --> 00:21:34,970

434

00:21:34,970 --> 00:21:39,800  
Just this spring,  
2012, you have spoken

435

00:21:39,800 --> 00:21:44,240  
in front of 900  
eighth graders who

436

00:21:44,240 --> 00:21:45,890  
were studying the Holocaust.

437

00:21:45,890 --> 00:21:48,450  
And many more besides that.

438

00:21:48,450 --> 00:21:50,270  
And why do you do this?

439

00:21:50,270 --> 00:21:50,930  
Why?

440

00:21:50,930 --> 00:21:52,760  
Yes.

441

00:21:52,760 --> 00:21:55,700  
I do it because of  
what I went through.

442

00:21:55,700 --> 00:22:00,690

443

00:22:00,690 --> 00:22:03,693  
Well, what lessons do you want  
to impart to the children,

444  
00:22:03,693 --> 00:22:04,360  
to the students?

445  
00:22:04,360 --> 00:22:07,180

446  
00:22:07,180 --> 00:22:10,230  
Not to honor Hitler.

447  
00:22:10,230 --> 00:22:12,730  
But you as you say  
in your speeches,

448  
00:22:12,730 --> 00:22:15,350  
this must never happen again.

449  
00:22:15,350 --> 00:22:17,770  
So there's your  
answer, actually.

450  
00:22:17,770 --> 00:22:22,260  
It must never happen again  
because I've had my share,

451  
00:22:22,260 --> 00:22:27,790  
and other children shouldn't  
have to go through this.

452  
00:22:27,790 --> 00:22:29,500  
Do you think it  
could happen again?

453  
00:22:29,500 --> 00:22:32,740

454  
00:22:32,740 --> 00:22:41,270  
Well, it depends who is in  
government, how fair people are

455  
00:22:41,270 --> 00:22:44,630  
who are in place in government.

456  
00:22:44,630 --> 00:22:49,230  
I would not want it to  
happen to a dog, really.

457  
00:22:49,230 --> 00:22:52,070

458  
00:22:52,070 --> 00:22:56,270  
I cannot say I don't believe  
it will never happen again

459  
00:22:56,270 --> 00:22:58,640  
because I don't know  
who is in charge.

460  
00:22:58,640 --> 00:23:05,770

461  
00:23:05,770 --> 00:23:08,850  
How do you feel about coming  
to the Holocaust Museum?

462  
00:23:08,850 --> 00:23:11,550  
What is it like for you to  
walk into this building?

463  
00:23:11,550 --> 00:23:14,910  
I feel I've come home.

464  
00:23:14,910 --> 00:23:20,550  
I am so elated to be here  
today, you have no idea.

465  
00:23:20,550 --> 00:23:21,918  
Because?

466  
00:23:21,918 --> 00:23:25,780  
Because of the relationship  
and the memories

467  
00:23:25,780 --> 00:23:28,800

it brings, good and bad.

468

00:23:28,800 --> 00:23:33,090

This is my field,  
the Holocaust Museum.

469

00:23:33,090 --> 00:23:34,440

I'm very happy.

470

00:23:34,440 --> 00:23:36,550

And don't think for one moment--

471

00:23:36,550 --> 00:23:39,990

I appreciate so much  
what you're doing,

472

00:23:39,990 --> 00:23:45,190

but I can tell  
you it ain't easy.

473

00:23:45,190 --> 00:23:48,330

It isn't, really.

474

00:23:48,330 --> 00:23:51,340

But it's something  
that needs to be done.

475

00:23:51,340 --> 00:23:55,530

It needs to be talked about,  
that this should never, ever

476

00:23:55,530 --> 00:23:56,790

happen again.

477

00:23:56,790 --> 00:24:02,840

And the more people hear about  
it, the more important it is.

478

00:24:02,840 --> 00:24:06,380

And this has been your mission  
in life for the last 20 years.

479



00:24:06,380 --> 00:24:08,860  
Yeah.

480  
00:24:08,860 --> 00:24:10,290  
To speak about the Holocaust?

481  
00:24:10,290 --> 00:24:12,450  
Oh, yes.

482  
00:24:12,450 --> 00:24:13,530  
How did it first start?

483  
00:24:13,530 --> 00:24:17,740  
Did someone come  
to you to ask you?

484  
00:24:17,740 --> 00:24:23,940  
The rabbi asked on the  
day of the Holocaust

485  
00:24:23,940 --> 00:24:27,630  
that six people of  
his members in temple

486  
00:24:27,630 --> 00:24:31,050  
would come up and light  
six candles, each one

487  
00:24:31,050 --> 00:24:32,250  
light a candle.

488  
00:24:32,250 --> 00:24:33,735  
This is in North Carolina?

489  
00:24:33,735 --> 00:24:36,600

490  
00:24:36,600 --> 00:24:37,890  
Was this North Carolina?

491  
00:24:37,890 --> 00:24:39,240  
No, that was in Florida.

492  
00:24:39,240 --> 00:24:40,980  
In Florida.

493  
00:24:40,980 --> 00:24:42,540  
Yeah, Florida.

494  
00:24:42,540 --> 00:24:44,820  
What would I do without you?

495  
00:24:44,820 --> 00:24:53,280  
So anyway, then  
I lit the candle.

496  
00:24:53,280 --> 00:25:00,150  
And he said to me, "Marianne,  
I would like to ask you,

497  
00:25:00,150 --> 00:25:03,540  
how about speaking about it?"

498  
00:25:03,540 --> 00:25:07,350  
And this is what got me started.

499  
00:25:07,350 --> 00:25:15,620  
Very soon after, I found myself  
before 1,000 temple members--

500  
00:25:15,620 --> 00:25:20,610  
he was a very  
young modern rabbi,

501  
00:25:20,610 --> 00:25:25,620  
and I found myself before  
1,000 temple members.

502  
00:25:25,620 --> 00:25:28,890  
I was standing up there  
and I was looking around,

503  
00:25:28,890 --> 00:25:33,510  
and I said to myself, "How

come you don't feel anything?"

504

00:25:33,510 --> 00:25:35,640

It's because of my youth.

505

00:25:35,640 --> 00:25:37,890

My parents owned movie houses.

506

00:25:37,890 --> 00:25:40,650

We were always in the  
limelight, and I always

507

00:25:40,650 --> 00:25:43,980

had to shake hands  
and say good day

508

00:25:43,980 --> 00:25:47,410

and make a curtsy  
when I was a child.

509

00:25:47,410 --> 00:25:52,530

So this is why to this  
day, nothing bothers me.

510

00:25:52,530 --> 00:25:54,000

Nothing bothers me.

511

00:25:54,000 --> 00:25:58,020

I'm a lucky duck, really,  
to say nothing bothers me.

512

00:25:58,020 --> 00:26:03,090

And so the rabbi had  
to ask me to give

513

00:26:03,090 --> 00:26:07,560

1,000 people in our  
congregation, which

514

00:26:07,560 --> 00:26:11,700

was a reform congregation.

515

00:26:11,700 --> 00:26:19,460  
And I spoke and it I had  
ear-breaking applause.

516  
00:26:19,460 --> 00:26:22,170

517  
00:26:22,170 --> 00:26:26,880  
The next step was the high  
school in back of the temple.

518  
00:26:26,880 --> 00:26:30,030  
Again, they put all the  
different classes in,

519  
00:26:30,030 --> 00:26:31,980  
1,000 students.

520  
00:26:31,980 --> 00:26:34,280  
And from that day  
on, that was it.

521  
00:26:34,280 --> 00:26:40,900

522  
00:26:40,900 --> 00:26:44,260  
Up to 20 years ago,  
before that, would you

523  
00:26:44,260 --> 00:26:46,330  
tell people what you  
had gone through?

524  
00:26:46,330 --> 00:26:48,160  
Did people ask you?

525  
00:26:48,160 --> 00:26:51,640  
Well, of course, because I  
spoke with a foreign accent.

526  
00:26:51,640 --> 00:26:53,800  
And you were willing to  
say what had happened.

527

00:26:53,800 --> 00:26:57,550

Well, I don't remember, but  
I'm sure that I must have said.

528

00:26:57,550 --> 00:27:01,360

Maybe I didn't talk  
about it too much.

529

00:27:01,360 --> 00:27:05,530

When you meet people,  
Jews from Germany

530

00:27:05,530 --> 00:27:08,680

or other countries in Europe,  
do you feel a special connection

531

00:27:08,680 --> 00:27:10,570

to them?

532

00:27:10,570 --> 00:27:13,390

I tell you the truth,  
I have not as yet

533

00:27:13,390 --> 00:27:20,550

met any Jewish people that  
came from the same environment.

534

00:27:20,550 --> 00:27:23,980

There is some  
Polish people, yes.

535

00:27:23,980 --> 00:27:28,630

The Polish people  
suffered a great deal,

536

00:27:28,630 --> 00:27:32,560

but not from Germany.

537

00:27:32,560 --> 00:27:34,670

So you stayed in New  
York for how long?

538

00:27:34,670 --> 00:27:37,710

539

00:27:37,710 --> 00:27:42,405

From 1939 until 1980.

540

00:27:42,405 --> 00:27:46,590

And that's when you  
went to Florida?

541

00:27:46,590 --> 00:27:49,280

And then 2001 to North Carolina.

542

00:27:49,280 --> 00:27:51,635

I see.

543

00:27:51,635 --> 00:27:54,820

Well, is there anything  
you wanted to add?

544

00:27:54,820 --> 00:27:56,230

Anything you wanted to say?

545

00:27:56,230 --> 00:27:58,480

Any message you wanted to leave?

546

00:27:58,480 --> 00:28:01,260

I think I'm emptied out.

547

00:28:01,260 --> 00:28:04,030

Any message to young people?

548

00:28:04,030 --> 00:28:07,330

I'm a lucky duck to be living  
in the United States, that's

549

00:28:07,330 --> 00:28:09,270

all I have to say.

550

00:28:09,270 --> 00:28:15,130

And my mother always wanted

to, and unfortunately she

551

00:28:15,130 --> 00:28:16,450  
couldn't come with us.

552

00:28:16,450 --> 00:28:19,000

553

00:28:19,000 --> 00:28:22,010  
How did she know so much  
about the United States

554

00:28:22,010 --> 00:28:25,930  
and what do you  
attribute that to?

555

00:28:25,930 --> 00:28:28,270  
The Jewish people  
were all talking

556

00:28:28,270 --> 00:28:31,040  
about the haven,  
the United States

557

00:28:31,040 --> 00:28:35,970  
and which other country  
would take in Jewish people.

558

00:28:35,970 --> 00:28:40,280  
It was a mixture, a melange  
of different things.

559

00:28:40,280 --> 00:28:45,810  
That is, the United  
States was the hay--

560

00:28:45,810 --> 00:28:50,320  
in the United States, people  
could live and have freedom.

561

00:28:50,320 --> 00:28:54,370  
That's what we didn't  
have in Germany, you know?

562

00:28:54,370 --> 00:29:00,340

When you meet a German today,  
what are your thoughts?

563

00:29:00,340 --> 00:29:02,650

A non-Jewish German?

564

00:29:02,650 --> 00:29:05,110

Well, of course,  
I can very easily

565

00:29:05,110 --> 00:29:08,050

say I have no love  
for any one of them

566

00:29:08,050 --> 00:29:12,460

because I remember some  
very sad things in Germany

567

00:29:12,460 --> 00:29:14,560

when I was a little girl.

568

00:29:14,560 --> 00:29:17,740

And I was maybe in  
third grade and there

569

00:29:17,740 --> 00:29:23,920

was one girl, a Gentile  
girl, who was very beautiful

570

00:29:23,920 --> 00:29:27,260

and I admired her  
so for her beauty.

571

00:29:27,260 --> 00:29:32,840

And we went home with  
the same trolley car,

572

00:29:32,840 --> 00:29:37,610

so she sat near the window  
and I sat on the inside.



573

00:29:37,610 --> 00:29:42,500

And I always admired  
this girl for her beauty.

574

00:29:42,500 --> 00:29:45,020

And so this was  
the first time we

575

00:29:45,020 --> 00:29:47,820

had a real good conversation.

576

00:29:47,820 --> 00:29:51,020

And then I was the first one  
to get out off the trolley car

577

00:29:51,020 --> 00:29:53,510

because that was home.

578

00:29:53,510 --> 00:29:56,270

And as I got up and  
walked away, there

579

00:29:56,270 --> 00:29:59,090

were two seats  
between her and me.

580

00:29:59,090 --> 00:30:03,770

She looked at me after all  
the nice conversation we had

581

00:30:03,770 --> 00:30:06,980

and she said, "You dirty Jew!"

582

00:30:06,980 --> 00:30:09,950

So I said to myself,  
"How could you

583

00:30:09,950 --> 00:30:12,155

love people like that, really?"

584

00:30:12,155 --> 00:30:14,390

"You dirty Jew," she said.

585  
00:30:14,390 --> 00:30:18,140  
And then I remember in  
front of our movies,

586  
00:30:18,140 --> 00:30:22,700  
there used to be other kids my  
age and was a little bit older

587  
00:30:22,700 --> 00:30:29,030  
perhaps, and they would put  
their fists into my chest

588  
00:30:29,030 --> 00:30:32,870  
and say, "You killed  
Jesus Christ."

589  
00:30:32,870 --> 00:30:34,910  
So I personally did this--

590  
00:30:34,910 --> 00:30:37,940

591  
00:30:37,940 --> 00:30:41,660  
Was the family movie theater  
destroyed on Kristallnacht?

592  
00:30:41,660 --> 00:30:43,590  
Was it damaged?

593  
00:30:43,590 --> 00:30:47,240  
Well, yes, it was.

594  
00:30:47,240 --> 00:30:55,550  
And also they made such  
a horrible mess of it.

595  
00:30:55,550 --> 00:30:57,110  
You remember.

596  
00:30:57,110 --> 00:30:59,480  
It was very sad to lose.

597  
00:30:59,480 --> 00:31:00,890  
They destroyed it, period.

598  
00:31:00,890 --> 00:31:01,660  
They destroyed it.

599  
00:31:01,660 --> 00:31:04,450  
So it wasn't fixable,  
wasn't put back together.

600  
00:31:04,450 --> 00:31:06,850  
It was destroyed.

601  
00:31:06,850 --> 00:31:09,475  
I think they made a  
candy store out of it.

602  
00:31:09,475 --> 00:31:10,850  
What was the name  
of the theater?

603  
00:31:10,850 --> 00:31:12,840  
The Rheingold.

604  
00:31:12,840 --> 00:31:16,740  
Rheingold because it was  
near the River Rhein.

605  
00:31:16,740 --> 00:31:19,680  
And Rheingold was a  
big deal over there,

606  
00:31:19,680 --> 00:31:22,720  
the gold of the Rhein.

607  
00:31:22,720 --> 00:31:25,530  
But it is totally  
destroyed on Kristallnacht.

608  
00:31:25,530 --> 00:31:32,010  
Well, it was, yes,

destroyed, but disfigured.

609

00:31:32,010 --> 00:31:34,470

They made a candy  
store out of it.

610

00:31:34,470 --> 00:31:35,280

I was sick.

611

00:31:35,280 --> 00:31:38,430

You know, I was sorry I  
had Joanie with me to see,

612

00:31:38,430 --> 00:31:42,280

because I always told her  
how Daddy could have stood--

613

00:31:42,280 --> 00:31:45,160

we always have said the  
movies could have been here

614

00:31:45,160 --> 00:31:46,420

on Broadway.

615

00:31:46,420 --> 00:31:47,920

It was so gorgeous.

616

00:31:47,920 --> 00:31:51,370

Because my father was  
such an entrepreneur,

617

00:31:51,370 --> 00:31:56,290

he had such great big wonderful  
ideas, but c'est la vie.

618

00:31:56,290 --> 00:31:58,500

What can you do?

619

00:31:58,500 --> 00:32:01,754

I look pretty disgusting  
here, don't I?

620

00:32:01,754 --> 00:32:03,780

Can we have time to  
tell you about this?

621

00:32:03,780 --> 00:32:06,070

Mom, this is the  
left ear picture.

622

00:32:06,070 --> 00:32:08,160

Do you want to tell  
her about that?

623

00:32:08,160 --> 00:32:08,960

Yeah.

624

00:32:08,960 --> 00:32:09,670

All right.

625

00:32:09,670 --> 00:32:17,140

626

00:32:17,140 --> 00:32:18,780

You had a picture taken?

627

00:32:18,780 --> 00:32:21,820

By whom?

628

00:32:21,820 --> 00:32:25,690

Yes, as a matter of fact, I did.

629

00:32:25,690 --> 00:32:32,140

You see, each city was  
able to devise plans

630

00:32:32,140 --> 00:32:37,210

to embarrass and hurt the Jew.

631

00:32:37,210 --> 00:32:41,410

So therefore, in  
our particular city,

632

00:32:41,410 --> 00:32:47,890

the guys who ran the City  
Hall, there were a bunch of--

633  
00:32:47,890 --> 00:32:51,320

634  
00:32:51,320 --> 00:32:56,420  
So they called me up and I  
should come over to City Hall.

635  
00:32:56,420 --> 00:32:57,560  
So I went--

636  
00:32:57,560 --> 00:33:00,150  
I don't remember whether  
my sister was with me.

637  
00:33:00,150 --> 00:33:01,800  
I think I was alone.

638  
00:33:01,800 --> 00:33:04,842  
I was about 14 years old or 16.

639  
00:33:04,842 --> 00:33:06,150  
16.

640  
00:33:06,150 --> 00:33:06,800  
Yeah.

641  
00:33:06,800 --> 00:33:18,620  
So I came to City Hall and the  
elevator there, it never stops.

642  
00:33:18,620 --> 00:33:22,350  
Yeah the elevator there  
going upstairs in City Hall,

643  
00:33:22,350 --> 00:33:23,640  
it never stops.

644  
00:33:23,640 --> 00:33:26,640  
You have to leap up

on to the elevator.

645

00:33:26,640 --> 00:33:29,440

646

00:33:29,440 --> 00:33:37,120

OK, so I went to them and they asked me questions and so on.

647

00:33:37,120 --> 00:33:46,030

So finally they said, "OK expose your left ear."

648

00:33:46,030 --> 00:33:48,240

I was afraid to ask why.

649

00:33:48,240 --> 00:33:54,330

They saw I looked, and they said the Jewish left ear

650

00:33:54,330 --> 00:33:57,980

is different from Gentile left ears.

651

00:33:57,980 --> 00:34:01,280

So I knew that this was such garbage like I never

652

00:34:01,280 --> 00:34:07,050

heard in my life, you know, but I didn't dare oppose them.

653

00:34:07,050 --> 00:34:13,159

So this is the picture they took of me here,

654

00:34:13,159 --> 00:34:16,010

with the left ear exposed.

655

00:34:16,010 --> 00:34:20,810

I was 16 years old here, I look like I was 90.

656

00:34:20,810 --> 00:34:23,420

Look how dejected I am.

657

00:34:23,420 --> 00:34:24,590

Disgusting.

658

00:34:24,590 --> 00:34:27,840

They gave you a  
copy of the picture?

659

00:34:27,840 --> 00:34:29,230

This is the original.

660

00:34:29,230 --> 00:34:31,940

So they gave you the picture.

661

00:34:31,940 --> 00:34:33,219

I guess they must have.

662

00:34:33,219 --> 00:34:35,210

It's many a moon ago, you know.

663

00:34:35,210 --> 00:34:38,500

And then they asked you to  
sign your name as Sarah.

664

00:34:38,500 --> 00:34:42,770

Sign my name as Sarah, and  
the men's name would be--

665

00:34:42,770 --> 00:34:43,462

Israel.

666

00:34:43,462 --> 00:34:46,020

--Israel, yeah.

667

00:34:46,020 --> 00:34:46,520

So

668

00:34:46,520 --> 00:34:52,570

It was an identification card



that they made for you, Sarah,

669

00:34:52,570 --> 00:34:53,920  
with this picture.

670

00:34:53,920 --> 00:34:55,040  
Yeah.

671

00:34:55,040 --> 00:34:56,810  
So that's why we have this.

672

00:34:56,810 --> 00:35:00,200  
The Holocaust Museum  
here, they have

673

00:35:00,200 --> 00:35:01,850  
this picture up on the wall.

674

00:35:01,850 --> 00:35:05,380

675

00:35:05,380 --> 00:35:09,010  
Did your sister have to go  
in and have her left ear

676

00:35:09,010 --> 00:35:10,240  
photographed?

677

00:35:10,240 --> 00:35:11,440  
I don't think so.

678

00:35:11,440 --> 00:35:14,860  
Well, she probably did, but  
we don't have the picture.

679

00:35:14,860 --> 00:35:16,930  
I don't remember.

680

00:35:16,930 --> 00:35:19,100  
Did anybody else you  
know have to do that,

681

00:35:19,100 --> 00:35:21,160

or were you the only--

682

00:35:21,160 --> 00:35:23,290

I really wouldn't know.

683

00:35:23,290 --> 00:35:26,980

I was so disgusted and so glad  
to get the hell out of there

684

00:35:26,980 --> 00:35:31,390

that I didn't care who else  
had to expose their ear.

685

00:35:31,390 --> 00:35:33,070

Bunch of idiots.

686

00:35:33,070 --> 00:35:38,470

In other words, each city  
comprised their own way

687

00:35:38,470 --> 00:35:40,310

to humiliate us.

688

00:35:40,310 --> 00:35:41,450

That's all I can say.

689

00:35:41,450 --> 00:35:44,580

690

00:35:44,580 --> 00:35:46,390

I look like an old lady on here.

691

00:35:46,390 --> 00:35:48,450

Take a look at this!

692

00:35:48,450 --> 00:35:49,920

I'm 16 years old.

693

00:35:49,920 --> 00:35:51,120

Look at this.

694  
00:35:51,120 --> 00:35:51,930  
I'm so dejected.

695  
00:35:51,930 --> 00:35:55,100

696  
00:35:55,100 --> 00:35:57,110  
Well, before we  
finish, is there,

697  
00:35:57,110 --> 00:35:58,940  
as I said before, any  
other final words?

698  
00:35:58,940 --> 00:36:01,960  
I think if we don't  
finish pretty soon,

699  
00:36:01,960 --> 00:36:05,540  
then I'm going to  
disappear from this earth.

700  
00:36:05,540 --> 00:36:07,650  
Well, we don't want  
that to happen.

701  
00:36:07,650 --> 00:36:09,830  
So thank you so much for  
doing this interview.

702  
00:36:09,830 --> 00:36:11,110  
Thank you for asking me.

703  
00:36:11,110 --> 00:36:12,860  
It's a wonderful  
addition to the archives.

704  
00:36:12,860 --> 00:36:14,110  
Thank you.

705  
00:36:14,110 --> 00:36:15,330

Thank you.

706

00:36:15,330 --> 00:36:17,075

Thank you for asking me, really.

707

00:36:17,075 --> 00:36:20,050

708

00:36:20,050 --> 00:36:22,190

You know after a  
while, you become

709

00:36:22,190 --> 00:36:26,840

so angry when you have to  
rehash this whole thing.

710

00:36:26,840 --> 00:36:29,780

And that's what started  
to happen to me.

711

00:36:29,780 --> 00:36:33,460

I became so worn out.

712

00:36:33,460 --> 00:36:36,920

As I said, we appreciate  
what you've done today.

713

00:36:36,920 --> 00:36:39,890

This concludes the United  
States Holocaust Memorial Museum

714

00:36:39,890 --> 00:36:43,220

interview with Marianne Roberts.

715

00:36:43,220 --> 00:36:45,070