

1
00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:07,190

2
00:00:07,190 --> 00:00:09,260
This is the United
States Holocaust Memorial

3
00:00:09,260 --> 00:00:14,920
Museum, volunteer collection,
with Genia Miranski,

4
00:00:14,920 --> 00:00:22,360
conducted by Gail
Schwartz, on May 19, 2013,

5
00:00:22,360 --> 00:00:23,980
in Silver Spring, Maryland.

6
00:00:23,980 --> 00:00:28,030
It is in addition to
her father's interview,

7
00:00:28,030 --> 00:00:29,410
Elia Miranski.

8
00:00:29,410 --> 00:00:33,430
And she is adding some more
information as his daughter.

9
00:00:33,430 --> 00:00:37,690
This is tape number one.

10
00:00:37,690 --> 00:00:41,150
So your father has
already told us the story.

11
00:00:41,150 --> 00:00:45,490
So let's kind of fill in some of
the spots that we didn't cover.

12
00:00:45,490 --> 00:00:49,240

Could you tell me the names
of the children in the family?

13
00:00:49,240 --> 00:00:52,450
His siblings?

14
00:00:52,450 --> 00:00:54,050
And his parents' names?

15
00:00:54,050 --> 00:00:59,290
Yeah, the name of the
father was Isser--

16
00:00:59,290 --> 00:01:08,415
is Isaac, Genia, his mother, and
the brother was Israel Simchas.

17
00:01:08,415 --> 00:01:11,650

18
00:01:11,650 --> 00:01:17,935
Elia, Zlota, Tola, and--

19
00:01:17,935 --> 00:01:20,910

20
00:01:20,910 --> 00:01:22,460
There was a sixth child.

21
00:01:22,460 --> 00:01:25,260
Yeah, six children.

22
00:01:25,260 --> 00:01:28,350
And when your father
was young, growing up

23
00:01:28,350 --> 00:01:33,330
in Mir, which is where
he was born in 1922,

24
00:01:33,330 --> 00:01:37,020
was he a member of any

Zionist youth organizations?

25

00:01:37,020 --> 00:01:41,160

Yeah, he was a member
of Hashomer Hatzair.

26

00:01:41,160 --> 00:01:43,800

And he learned Hebrew.

27

00:01:43,800 --> 00:01:46,230

He went to cheder--

28

00:01:46,230 --> 00:01:48,300

they learned prayers.

29

00:01:48,300 --> 00:01:54,930

Actually, he was recital
[NON-ENGLISH SPEECH] when I was

30

00:01:54,930 --> 00:01:56,680

little.

31

00:01:56,680 --> 00:02:01,990

And he knew the holidays,
Jewish holidays, and prayers,

32

00:02:01,990 --> 00:02:05,770

because he had a
Jewish upbringing.

33

00:02:05,770 --> 00:02:14,630

And now let's go move up to
when the Germans came in 1939.

34

00:02:14,630 --> 00:02:17,150

What the changes were.

35

00:02:17,150 --> 00:02:21,770

When Germans came, they
gather all the Jewish people

36

00:02:21,770 --> 00:02:26,150

in the middle of the city, Mir.

37

00:02:26,150 --> 00:02:29,960

And they put everybody
together, and they

38

00:02:29,960 --> 00:02:34,130

start shooting everybody.

39

00:02:34,130 --> 00:02:39,560

People who could escape,
and they did shoot,

40

00:02:39,560 --> 00:02:43,070

they brought them to the castle.

41

00:02:43,070 --> 00:02:47,000

It was a castle in
the middle of Mir,

42

00:02:47,000 --> 00:02:50,180

and they turned
this castle to make

43

00:02:50,180 --> 00:02:56,210

a ghetto for people who they
want them to work for them.

44

00:02:56,210 --> 00:03:02,760

If somebody was too old,
or not able to work,

45

00:03:02,760 --> 00:03:04,790

they was killing
them right away.

46

00:03:04,790 --> 00:03:06,890

It wasn't no use.

47

00:03:06,890 --> 00:03:10,040

So your father went
into the castle.

48

00:03:10,040 --> 00:03:11,690

They went into the castle.

49

00:03:11,690 --> 00:03:12,740

With his family?

50

00:03:12,740 --> 00:03:15,290

With his siblings?

51

00:03:15,290 --> 00:03:19,100

With his brother, Isser.

52

00:03:19,100 --> 00:03:23,735

And some of the younger friends.

53

00:03:23,735 --> 00:03:26,540

54

00:03:26,540 --> 00:03:30,290

And did they have to do
any work while they were

55

00:03:30,290 --> 00:03:32,240

in that castle in the ghetto?

56

00:03:32,240 --> 00:03:37,640

In the castle in the ghetto,
they were sending to the work,

57

00:03:37,640 --> 00:03:44,300

to build bridges, and
build roads for Germans

58

00:03:44,300 --> 00:03:46,490

to bring their
supplies, so their cars

59

00:03:46,490 --> 00:03:50,150

could drive in and out.

60

00:03:50,150 --> 00:03:54,990

And so your father went out
to do this kind of work?

61
00:03:54,990 --> 00:03:58,010
They was working hard.

62
00:03:58,010 --> 00:04:03,620
And whoever was
not able to work,

63
00:04:03,620 --> 00:04:05,430
there was killing on the spot.

64
00:04:05,430 --> 00:04:06,860
So he saw this?

65
00:04:06,860 --> 00:04:07,880
He saw this.

66
00:04:07,880 --> 00:04:14,660
And actually, one of his
friends, they sent some dogs--

67
00:04:14,660 --> 00:04:23,360
they was like making jokes and
sending dogs to take person

68
00:04:23,360 --> 00:04:27,410
apart, like maul him to death.

69
00:04:27,410 --> 00:04:31,730
And that was in
front of his eyes.

70
00:04:31,730 --> 00:04:34,880
Do you know about his parents?

71
00:04:34,880 --> 00:04:37,580
Were his parents in
the castle, also?

72
00:04:37,580 --> 00:04:39,940

His parents was killed.

73

00:04:39,940 --> 00:04:41,780

They never went into the castle.

74

00:04:41,780 --> 00:04:45,830

They didn't go to the castle,
they was killed on the spot.

75

00:04:45,830 --> 00:04:52,100

And all the younger siblings,
because it was younger.

76

00:04:52,100 --> 00:04:56,750

And then your father jumped
out of the window of the castle

77

00:04:56,750 --> 00:04:58,370

and escaped into the forest?

78

00:04:58,370 --> 00:05:01,340

They jump from the
window from the castle,

79

00:05:01,340 --> 00:05:06,500

because of one of the guys
who German didn't know

80

00:05:06,500 --> 00:05:11,220

he was Jewish, and
his name was Oswald,

81

00:05:11,220 --> 00:05:14,370

he was working with a German.

82

00:05:14,370 --> 00:05:19,130

And he was telling the
people in a castle,

83

00:05:19,130 --> 00:05:22,790

in German, telling they
going to kill everybody.

84

00:05:22,790 --> 00:05:23,750

He was warning them.

85

00:05:23,750 --> 00:05:24,560

86

00:05:24,560 --> 00:05:25,860

He was warning them.

87

00:05:25,860 --> 00:05:29,630

They thought this guy
was Polish priest,

88

00:05:29,630 --> 00:05:33,710

because when they gather
all the Jewish people here,

89

00:05:33,710 --> 00:05:37,790

on the way to the
Polish convent,

90

00:05:37,790 --> 00:05:42,650

and the nuns told
Germans, he belonged here.

91

00:05:42,650 --> 00:05:45,960

So they didn't know
he wasn't Jewish.

92

00:05:45,960 --> 00:05:52,040

So he was working with people
in the castle, and warned them.

93

00:05:52,040 --> 00:05:55,730

So the windows was very high--

94

00:05:55,730 --> 00:06:01,550

they jumped from the
windows, and they crawl down

95

00:06:01,550 --> 00:06:03,680

and run through the forest.

96
00:06:03,680 --> 00:06:09,365
As there was hiding in
a forest inside the--

97
00:06:09,365 --> 00:06:13,640

98
00:06:13,640 --> 00:06:14,665
[NON-ENGLISH]?

99
00:06:14,665 --> 00:06:15,800

100
00:06:15,800 --> 00:06:16,300
Swamp.

101
00:06:16,300 --> 00:06:19,480
Swamp-- they was
hiding in a swamp,

102
00:06:19,480 --> 00:06:21,160
they were sitting in the swamp.

103
00:06:21,160 --> 00:06:21,970
In the water?

104
00:06:21,970 --> 00:06:23,260
In the water.

105
00:06:23,260 --> 00:06:28,630
And breathing through the
straw, when they heard the dogs

106
00:06:28,630 --> 00:06:30,730
was barking.

107
00:06:30,730 --> 00:06:32,230
Because they knew
the Germans was

108

00:06:32,230 --> 00:06:34,520
looking for people who escape.

109
00:06:34,520 --> 00:06:38,110
So they were sitting for
three days in the water,

110
00:06:38,110 --> 00:06:44,400
in the swamp, to
cover the trails.

111
00:06:44,400 --> 00:06:47,340
And then they walk
around the forest

112
00:06:47,340 --> 00:06:53,610
until they found the
group of the partisans who

113
00:06:53,610 --> 00:06:55,840
was fighting Germans.

114
00:06:55,840 --> 00:06:58,830
And let's talk a little
bit about his experience

115
00:06:58,830 --> 00:07:04,320
in the partisans, and to get
supplies, he would do what?

116
00:07:04,320 --> 00:07:05,940
To get food?

117
00:07:05,940 --> 00:07:09,810
To get supplies, sometimes
he was going to the city,

118
00:07:09,810 --> 00:07:13,740
and they was killing
the Germans who

119
00:07:13,740 --> 00:07:20,700
was guarding the German supply.

120
00:07:20,700 --> 00:07:24,510
Germans was gathering
food, and supplies,

121
00:07:24,510 --> 00:07:28,710
and clothes, and
everything from the people

122
00:07:28,710 --> 00:07:31,140
who live in the city.

123
00:07:31,140 --> 00:07:35,630
And they have like
a [NON-ENGLISH]----

124
00:07:35,630 --> 00:07:36,970
A store.

125
00:07:36,970 --> 00:07:39,940
Storage, yeah, warehouse.

126
00:07:39,940 --> 00:07:43,420
So it was one of
the thing for them

127
00:07:43,420 --> 00:07:46,810
for partisans to
go to get supplies,

128
00:07:46,810 --> 00:07:52,600
to kill the people who was
guarding these warehouses,

129
00:07:52,600 --> 00:07:54,430
and bring supplies.

130
00:07:54,430 --> 00:07:56,830
And your father
had said something

131
00:07:56,830 --> 00:07:59,020

about friction between
Jews and Jews--

132
00:07:59,020 --> 00:08:00,910
different Jewish
partisan groups.

133
00:08:00,910 --> 00:08:08,320
Different groups, was like,
doesn't like each other.

134
00:08:08,320 --> 00:08:10,120
And it was competition.

135
00:08:10,120 --> 00:08:15,880
And Russian partisans
sometime too, they

136
00:08:15,880 --> 00:08:18,760
didn't like Jewish people too.

137
00:08:18,760 --> 00:08:24,790
And in one instance, they killed
somebody who had little baby.

138
00:08:24,790 --> 00:08:29,530
And they wanted to have
a stroller for a baby.

139
00:08:29,530 --> 00:08:36,659
And the leader of another
partisan group, Jewish person,

140
00:08:36,659 --> 00:08:39,510
killed this father
because he didn't

141
00:08:39,510 --> 00:08:41,460
want them to have the stroller.

142
00:08:41,460 --> 00:08:44,890
[NON-ENGLISH SPEECH]

143

00:08:44,890 --> 00:08:47,840

144

00:08:47,840 --> 00:08:52,350

So they were blowing
up, as your father spoke

145

00:08:52,350 --> 00:08:54,300

about, on his interview,
they were blowing up

146

00:08:54,300 --> 00:08:55,590

railroad tracks.

147

00:08:55,590 --> 00:08:57,630

Yeah, they was going to--

148

00:08:57,630 --> 00:09:02,400

and we have to remember, this
was like 17, 18-year-olds.

149

00:09:02,400 --> 00:09:06,960

So it was a lot of
drinking going on too.

150

00:09:06,960 --> 00:09:08,040

Drinking alcohol.

151

00:09:08,040 --> 00:09:11,130

Alcohol, they was doing
moonshine in the forest.

152

00:09:11,130 --> 00:09:12,030

The partisans.

153

00:09:12,030 --> 00:09:12,970

Partisans, yes.

154

00:09:12,970 --> 00:09:13,470

Really?

155

00:09:13,470 --> 00:09:15,990
Because they was giving--

156
00:09:15,990 --> 00:09:18,210
the children was
very scared and they

157
00:09:18,210 --> 00:09:24,270
have this traumatic experience,
seeing their parents

158
00:09:24,270 --> 00:09:27,240
and siblings killing
in front of their eyes.

159
00:09:27,240 --> 00:09:34,690
So there were was like drinking
and then going for all this.

160
00:09:34,690 --> 00:09:36,610
Were there young--
young children

161
00:09:36,610 --> 00:09:37,640
in your father's group?

162
00:09:37,640 --> 00:09:38,140
Do you know?

163
00:09:38,140 --> 00:09:40,040
Did he ever talk about that?

164
00:09:40,040 --> 00:09:44,560
I know his friend, Joseph
Salabrinkof, he was 14.

165
00:09:44,560 --> 00:09:49,510
Yeah, that was one
of the youngest.

166
00:09:49,510 --> 00:09:51,550
I assume it was
another children too,

167
00:09:51,550 --> 00:09:54,000
because they had
different groups.

168
00:09:54,000 --> 00:09:58,060
They had groups who were
going to do all kind of--

169
00:09:58,060 --> 00:10:00,860

170
00:10:00,860 --> 00:10:01,850
Sabotage.

171
00:10:01,850 --> 00:10:04,490
--sabotage, and
there was groups was

172
00:10:04,490 --> 00:10:10,940
like family groups, who
was cooking and helping

173
00:10:10,940 --> 00:10:14,110
with household chores.

174
00:10:14,110 --> 00:10:16,083
Yeah.

175
00:10:16,083 --> 00:10:18,250
Anything else you wanted
to say about the partisans,

176
00:10:18,250 --> 00:10:22,820
your father's experience
with the partisans?

177
00:10:22,820 --> 00:10:26,330
Because then he went into
the army, the Russian army,

178
00:10:26,330 --> 00:10:27,580

after that.

179

00:10:27,580 --> 00:10:31,010

Then they went to the army.

180

00:10:31,010 --> 00:10:32,460

And he got badly wounded.

181

00:10:32,460 --> 00:10:34,460

And he got badly wounded.

182

00:10:34,460 --> 00:10:38,580

And they told him-- he was like
six months in the hospital.

183

00:10:38,580 --> 00:10:42,120

And they told him he was not
going to be able to work.

184

00:10:42,120 --> 00:10:45,320

And it can be infected.

185

00:10:45,320 --> 00:10:47,120

They didn't have
enough supplies.

186

00:10:47,120 --> 00:10:50,330

And they told him he'd
have to cut his arm off.

187

00:10:50,330 --> 00:10:52,600

And he said, no.

188

00:10:52,600 --> 00:11:02,410

And he-- after that, exercise
and to try to take care of,

189

00:11:02,410 --> 00:11:06,732

and get stronger, and he
lived productive life.

190

00:11:06,732 --> 00:11:07,910

Yeah.

191

00:11:07,910 --> 00:11:15,600

So then he leaves the army
and comes back to Mir.

192

00:11:15,600 --> 00:11:17,900

And stays in Mir.

193

00:11:17,900 --> 00:11:22,760

Yeah, he stayed in Mir
for a little while.

194

00:11:22,760 --> 00:11:24,832

And then--

195

00:11:24,832 --> 00:11:26,540

Well, he said for
seven years, didn't he?

196

00:11:26,540 --> 00:11:27,700

Seven years.

197

00:11:27,700 --> 00:11:30,620

And then he went to Minsk.

198

00:11:30,620 --> 00:11:31,730

Minsk.

199

00:11:31,730 --> 00:11:39,050

And in '58, was all the people
who was from Poland descent,

200

00:11:39,050 --> 00:11:43,970

because Mir was Poland
before Russia took this part

201

00:11:43,970 --> 00:11:44,960

and become Belarus.

202

00:11:44,960 --> 00:11:45,590

Right.

203
00:11:45,590 --> 00:11:47,570
So all the people
who had Polish--

204
00:11:47,570 --> 00:11:49,700
Papers.

205
00:11:49,700 --> 00:11:53,060
--citizenship could
emigrate to Israel.

206
00:11:53,060 --> 00:11:55,550
They let them go to Israel.

207
00:11:55,550 --> 00:12:01,980
This why a lot of people in
'58 left and went to Israel

208
00:12:01,980 --> 00:12:03,230
and went to United States.

209
00:12:03,230 --> 00:12:04,220
Yeah.

210
00:12:04,220 --> 00:12:07,550
So he want to emigrate,
but my mother wasn't ready.

211
00:12:07,550 --> 00:12:13,550
Because all her family,
after war, got together.

212
00:12:13,550 --> 00:12:18,290
She lost a lot of members
and her parents to the war.

213
00:12:18,290 --> 00:12:21,020
And your mother's name?

214
00:12:21,020 --> 00:12:21,740
Zila.

215

00:12:21,740 --> 00:12:24,740

And do you know her maiden name?

216

00:12:24,740 --> 00:12:27,208

Her maiden name
was Soloveitchik.

217

00:12:27,208 --> 00:12:32,710

Oh, Soloveitchik, related
to the famous rabbis?

218

00:12:32,710 --> 00:12:33,610

The Soloveitchiks?

219

00:12:33,610 --> 00:12:36,230

I have no idea.

220

00:12:36,230 --> 00:12:37,240

OK.

221

00:12:37,240 --> 00:12:46,310

And so she is- had her sisters--

222

00:12:46,310 --> 00:12:47,800

Were still in Minsk.

223

00:12:47,800 --> 00:12:48,620

--was in Minsk.

224

00:12:48,620 --> 00:12:54,590

And she didn't want to
go by herself to Israel.

225

00:12:54,590 --> 00:12:57,380

So she didn't emigrate in '58.

226

00:12:57,380 --> 00:12:59,360

So you were born in 1958.

227

00:12:59,360 --> 00:13:00,190

Yes.

228
00:13:00,190 --> 00:13:02,750
And your brother was born--

229
00:13:02,750 --> 00:13:07,100
He was born in 40--

230
00:13:07,100 --> 00:13:08,416
[NON-ENGLISH SPEECH]

231
00:13:08,416 --> 00:13:08,916
'46.

232
00:13:08,916 --> 00:13:11,790

233
00:13:11,790 --> 00:13:16,650
But your-- so his
mother was different?

234
00:13:16,650 --> 00:13:23,230
My brother-- he wasn't married,
but he had a son after the war.

235
00:13:23,230 --> 00:13:24,050
Your father did.

236
00:13:24,050 --> 00:13:24,330
Yeah.

237
00:13:24,330 --> 00:13:24,830
Yeah.

238
00:13:24,830 --> 00:13:26,150
And this is your brother.

239
00:13:26,150 --> 00:13:26,870
He-- yeah--

240
00:13:26,870 --> 00:13:27,370

Yeah.

241
00:13:27,370 --> 00:13:29,215
Because he's my brother.

242
00:13:29,215 --> 00:13:30,100
Yes.

243
00:13:30,100 --> 00:13:32,470
And my mother actually
brought him up.

244
00:13:32,470 --> 00:13:37,360
Because his mother, how much
I remember from the stories,

245
00:13:37,360 --> 00:13:38,950
put him in the orphanage home.

246
00:13:38,950 --> 00:13:40,120
Orphanage, yeah.

247
00:13:40,120 --> 00:13:42,280
And they pick him
up from orphanage.

248
00:13:42,280 --> 00:13:44,800
Yeah, OK.

249
00:13:44,800 --> 00:13:50,600
And so then they
stayed in Minsk.

250
00:13:50,600 --> 00:13:55,550
And then his brother,
your uncle, Israel,

251
00:13:55,550 --> 00:13:58,880
went to Israel in 1958--

252
00:13:58,880 --> 00:14:00,750
your uncle, your

father's brother.

253

00:14:00,750 --> 00:14:01,250

Yeah.

254

00:14:01,250 --> 00:14:03,440

He went to Israel in '58, yes.

255

00:14:03,440 --> 00:14:04,310

Right.

256

00:14:04,310 --> 00:14:07,790

And we couldn't have any--

257

00:14:07,790 --> 00:14:08,990

Any contact.

258

00:14:08,990 --> 00:14:11,360

--contact or relationship.

259

00:14:11,360 --> 00:14:13,600

I never saw my uncle in my life.

260

00:14:13,600 --> 00:14:14,100

Because--

261

00:14:14,100 --> 00:14:16,058

Because you were all
still in the Soviet Union.

262

00:14:16,058 --> 00:14:17,270

We was in Soviet Union.

263

00:14:17,270 --> 00:14:22,140

And when we immigrate to
Israel, he died, in '72.

264

00:14:22,140 --> 00:14:27,000

So he didn't have an
opportunity to see him either.

265

00:14:27,000 --> 00:14:29,730

And then can you
talk a little bit

266

00:14:29,730 --> 00:14:31,980

about the underground
bakery in Minsk that your--

267

00:14:31,980 --> 00:14:36,420

Yeah, in Minsk, my
father, because he

268

00:14:36,420 --> 00:14:42,600

had a Jewish
upbringing, before '38,

269

00:14:42,600 --> 00:14:48,780

he had a good idea what
you do in the holidays.

270

00:14:48,780 --> 00:14:53,040

And he wanted to be informed
what going on with Israel.

271

00:14:53,040 --> 00:14:55,600

And he was following
all the news,

272

00:14:55,600 --> 00:15:00,030

what going on with
Israel in a the Six Day

273

00:15:00,030 --> 00:15:01,570

Wars and everything.

274

00:15:01,570 --> 00:15:04,020

And I remember,
as a child, he was

275

00:15:04,020 --> 00:15:10,440

hiding in the bathroom
with a little radio.

276

00:15:10,440 --> 00:15:13,710
And putting pillows
against the walls so

277
00:15:13,710 --> 00:15:18,090
neighbor not going to hear
his listening to Kol Israel

278
00:15:18,090 --> 00:15:25,660
and BBC, Golos America,
from Voice of America, what

279
00:15:25,660 --> 00:15:26,610
going on.

280
00:15:26,610 --> 00:15:33,150
And then for Passover, it
was underground bakery.

281
00:15:33,150 --> 00:15:37,920
And Jewish people who
want to have matzo they

282
00:15:37,920 --> 00:15:41,720
had to bring flour to this.

283
00:15:41,720 --> 00:15:45,170
And they was baking at
night, just at night,

284
00:15:45,170 --> 00:15:48,410
so nobody can see them.

285
00:15:48,410 --> 00:15:54,470
And he was bringing home,
like in a suitcase, the matzo.

286
00:15:54,470 --> 00:15:58,520
And all of my Russian actually
friends was telling me,

287
00:15:58,520 --> 00:16:00,010
can we try this Jewish cracker?

288
00:16:00,010 --> 00:16:02,560

289
00:16:02,560 --> 00:16:04,300
So we tried.

290
00:16:04,300 --> 00:16:07,720
My mother had no idea
about the Jewish holidays

291
00:16:07,720 --> 00:16:10,390
because she grew
up in Soviet Union.

292
00:16:10,390 --> 00:16:15,490
And she just knew Yiddish, but
she didn't know about holidays.

293
00:16:15,490 --> 00:16:19,580
And my father was
know how to pray.

294
00:16:19,580 --> 00:16:23,050
He was telling in
Hebrew different prayers

295
00:16:23,050 --> 00:16:26,434
for different holidays,
and kiddush for Shabbat.

296
00:16:26,434 --> 00:16:28,090
Right.

297
00:16:28,090 --> 00:16:32,620
And then your family
decided to move.

298
00:16:32,620 --> 00:16:35,780
Well, tell me--

299
00:16:35,780 --> 00:16:41,090

OK, anything else in Minsk
before you moved to Israel?

300
00:16:41,090 --> 00:16:44,570
It was a lot of anti-Semite--

301
00:16:44,570 --> 00:16:45,530
Semitism.

302
00:16:45,530 --> 00:16:49,460
--anti-Semitism
going on in Minsk.

303
00:16:49,460 --> 00:16:53,480
And the people was
calling us [NON-ENGLISH]..

304
00:16:53,480 --> 00:16:56,770
[NON-ENGLISH] it's derogatory.

305
00:16:56,770 --> 00:16:59,560
I remember as little child,
from all my schooling,

306
00:16:59,560 --> 00:17:03,230
we had me and another
Jewish person.

307
00:17:03,230 --> 00:17:06,920
And I remember I was
fighting with one child.

308
00:17:06,920 --> 00:17:12,089
And he told him, so
go to your country.

309
00:17:12,089 --> 00:17:14,599
And I knew-- we were already
working in the paper,

310
00:17:14,599 --> 00:17:17,359
so I told him, I will.

311

00:17:17,359 --> 00:17:19,940

And it was very good feeling.

312

00:17:19,940 --> 00:17:24,010

Because we went to Israel in
a couple months after that.

313

00:17:24,010 --> 00:17:30,510

It took us a year and a half
to make visa to go to Israel.

314

00:17:30,510 --> 00:17:35,820

My father had a lot of
medals from the war.

315

00:17:35,820 --> 00:17:41,010

And they call him and they
told him he's a trader.

316

00:17:41,010 --> 00:17:44,520

And they took all
his medals away.

317

00:17:44,520 --> 00:17:49,590

Took all his-- like
certificate of the war

318

00:17:49,590 --> 00:17:55,730

and they throw him
away from work.

319

00:17:55,730 --> 00:17:59,610

And I couldn't stay
in my house when

320

00:17:59,610 --> 00:18:02,270

we was packing and everything.

321

00:18:02,270 --> 00:18:05,810

I went to live with my
aunt because my parents was

322

00:18:05,810 --> 00:18:09,650
afraid the neighbors going to
go-- we immigrated to Israel,

323
00:18:09,650 --> 00:18:13,010
so they're going to
do something with me.

324
00:18:13,010 --> 00:18:14,810
So they send me away.

325
00:18:14,810 --> 00:18:18,170
So I wasn't-- like for three
or four months before we left,

326
00:18:18,170 --> 00:18:20,570
I didn't go to school.

327
00:18:20,570 --> 00:18:23,360
Because it was like
a really big secret.

328
00:18:23,360 --> 00:18:25,340
We couldn't tell nobody
we're going to school.

329
00:18:25,340 --> 00:18:28,195

330
00:18:28,195 --> 00:18:34,850
So when we immigrate to Israel,
finally we got the papers.

331
00:18:34,850 --> 00:18:37,820
It took a long time
to get all the papers.

332
00:18:37,820 --> 00:18:39,525
And we went to Israel.

333
00:18:39,525 --> 00:18:41,060
In 1972.

334

00:18:41,060 --> 00:18:45,340

In '72, we live
in Nazareth Illit.

335

00:18:45,340 --> 00:18:49,090

Actually, in Israel they built--

336

00:18:49,090 --> 00:18:51,370

it's called [PLACE NAME] Shalom.

337

00:18:51,370 --> 00:18:54,070

It's a neighborhood of peace.

338

00:18:54,070 --> 00:18:58,240

And it was between
Nazareth Illit

339

00:18:58,240 --> 00:19:03,280

and downtown, where all the
Arabs was living in Nazareth.

340

00:19:03,280 --> 00:19:03,780

Yeah.

341

00:19:03,780 --> 00:19:06,390

342

00:19:06,390 --> 00:19:07,450

You're 14 years old.

343

00:19:07,450 --> 00:19:09,970

I'm 14, yeah.

344

00:19:09,970 --> 00:19:13,720

And I remember we went
to the Arab market

345

00:19:13,720 --> 00:19:16,960

to buy food and clothes.

346

00:19:16,960 --> 00:19:22,390

And they built [PLACE NAME]
shalom, neighborhood of peace.

347
00:19:22,390 --> 00:19:27,650
Just all the new immigrants
come to this place to live.

348
00:19:27,650 --> 00:19:31,630
And if somebody was coming
there to ask questions

349
00:19:31,630 --> 00:19:34,350
in Hebrew, like where is
the bus stop or whatever,

350
00:19:34,350 --> 00:19:35,200
nobody could tell.

351
00:19:35,200 --> 00:19:39,700
Because nobody speak Hebrew
in this part of the city.

352
00:19:39,700 --> 00:19:44,530
And all the Arabic neighborhood
downtown in Nazareth

353
00:19:44,530 --> 00:19:47,560
actually start speaking
Yiddish and Russian

354
00:19:47,560 --> 00:19:52,090
because they want business
with Jewish people.

355
00:19:52,090 --> 00:19:57,950
And in '73, one year
after we came to Israel,

356
00:19:57,950 --> 00:20:03,440
it was Milhemet Yom HaKipurim.

357
00:20:03,440 --> 00:20:05,000
The Yom Kippur War.

358
00:20:05,000 --> 00:20:07,080
The Yom Kippur War.

359
00:20:07,080 --> 00:20:13,600
And I remember,
we was going out.

360
00:20:13,600 --> 00:20:14,940
It was completely dark.

361
00:20:14,940 --> 00:20:22,340
And people have to be in
their underground bunkers.

362
00:20:22,340 --> 00:20:26,750
And people couldn't stay
in their apartments.

363
00:20:26,750 --> 00:20:29,680
And you have to
turn off the lights.

364
00:20:29,680 --> 00:20:33,280
And as children, was like
running outside and screaming

365
00:20:33,280 --> 00:20:37,540
at the neighbors, like turn off
the light, turn off the light.

366
00:20:37,540 --> 00:20:42,020
My father was working
day and night.

367
00:20:42,020 --> 00:20:43,090
He wasn't with us.

368
00:20:43,090 --> 00:20:48,940
Because he was working
on the ships, warships.

369

00:20:48,940 --> 00:20:51,700
And they had to
prepare the ships, what

370
00:20:51,700 --> 00:20:54,280
was going for a war.

371
00:20:54,280 --> 00:20:59,020
So they was working
extra time and staying,

372
00:20:59,020 --> 00:21:03,370
sleeping, at workplace.

373
00:21:03,370 --> 00:21:07,850
And then it's finished.

374
00:21:07,850 --> 00:21:12,480
And yeah, they make us stop.

375
00:21:12,480 --> 00:21:22,680
Actually, the war-- when
Israel start winning,

376
00:21:22,680 --> 00:21:23,910
they make us stop.

377
00:21:23,910 --> 00:21:30,090
So it's-- we don't do
a complete destruction.

378
00:21:30,090 --> 00:21:36,340
But it's OK for other people
to have destruction of Israel.

379
00:21:36,340 --> 00:21:39,610

380
00:21:39,610 --> 00:21:43,090
So then you stayed.

381
00:21:43,090 --> 00:21:46,610

And your story-- so your father
continued to work in Israel.

382
00:21:46,610 --> 00:21:47,110
Yeah.

383
00:21:47,110 --> 00:21:47,560
Yeah.

384
00:21:47,560 --> 00:21:48,070
Yeah.

385
00:21:48,070 --> 00:21:52,300
And then your life after
that, did you go to school?

386
00:21:52,300 --> 00:21:54,340
Yeah, I went to school.

387
00:21:54,340 --> 00:21:59,950
And I went to live in
Jerusalem, actually.

388
00:21:59,950 --> 00:22:01,840
I was a student in Jerusalem.

389
00:22:01,840 --> 00:22:03,490
Were you?

390
00:22:03,490 --> 00:22:05,830
In--

391
00:22:05,830 --> 00:22:06,970
What were you studying?

392
00:22:06,970 --> 00:22:09,850
I was studying early
childhood education.

393
00:22:09,850 --> 00:22:12,920

394

00:22:12,920 --> 00:22:15,370

At a teachers seminary?

395

00:22:15,370 --> 00:22:17,140

At a teacher's

college or something?

396

00:22:17,140 --> 00:22:19,085

Yeah.

397

00:22:19,085 --> 00:22:20,770

[NON-ENGLISH].

398

00:22:20,770 --> 00:22:29,220

I actually was-- for our first
year, I was [NON-ENGLISH]..

399

00:22:29,220 --> 00:22:35,740

I went to-- it was special
classes, for two days,

400

00:22:35,740 --> 00:22:43,860

[NON-ENGLISH],, to learn
more about the Tanakh Bible

401

00:22:43,860 --> 00:22:46,800

and Jewish studies.

402

00:22:46,800 --> 00:22:55,850

Because to have-- to
finish high school,

403

00:22:55,850 --> 00:22:59,730

you have to actually
pass Bible studies exam.

404

00:22:59,730 --> 00:23:01,890

So I went to Jerusalem.

405

00:23:01,890 --> 00:23:05,390

And then I went to the seminar.

406

00:23:05,390 --> 00:23:10,190
And our parents was trying too.

407

00:23:10,190 --> 00:23:13,940
It was pretty hard
to start new life.

408

00:23:13,940 --> 00:23:14,660
Yes.

409

00:23:14,660 --> 00:23:17,150
They was over 50.

410

00:23:17,150 --> 00:23:18,850
And they learn new language.

411

00:23:18,850 --> 00:23:19,890
Yes.

412

00:23:19,890 --> 00:23:23,170
They make new friends.

413

00:23:23,170 --> 00:23:28,380
And life in Israel
was very, very nice.

414

00:23:28,380 --> 00:23:32,400
For teenagers, and
people was very friendly.

415

00:23:32,400 --> 00:23:38,780
And for me, I was
feeling like I'm at home.

416

00:23:38,780 --> 00:23:42,710
So it was very good feeling.

417

00:23:42,710 --> 00:23:47,030
And then when did you
come to the United States?

418

00:23:47,030 --> 00:23:50,630
I came to United States in '85.

419
00:23:50,630 --> 00:23:56,360

420
00:23:56,360 --> 00:23:58,670
And with the intent to stay?

421
00:23:58,670 --> 00:23:59,660
Or did you--

422
00:23:59,660 --> 00:24:01,820
Actually, not with
intent to stay.

423
00:24:01,820 --> 00:24:06,970
I came to visit one of my
mother's sisters immigrate

424
00:24:06,970 --> 00:24:10,580
to United States
and I come to visit.

425
00:24:10,580 --> 00:24:11,998
And then I met my husband.

426
00:24:11,998 --> 00:24:13,790
You met your husband
in the United States--

427
00:24:13,790 --> 00:24:13,915
Yes.

428
00:24:13,915 --> 00:24:14,540
--or in Israel?

429
00:24:14,540 --> 00:24:15,320
in the United States.

430
00:24:15,320 --> 00:24:15,830
Yes.

431
00:24:15,830 --> 00:24:17,840
And we got married and I stayed.

432
00:24:17,840 --> 00:24:19,880
And you stayed, yeah.

433
00:24:19,880 --> 00:24:21,630
And you have the two children.

434
00:24:21,630 --> 00:24:22,130
Yes.

435
00:24:22,130 --> 00:24:23,330
Yes.

436
00:24:23,330 --> 00:24:25,010
Yeah.

437
00:24:25,010 --> 00:24:26,510
Can I ask you this--

438
00:24:26,510 --> 00:24:28,790
and then your parents
came after that.

439
00:24:28,790 --> 00:24:31,130
Yeah, after this my
parents came because--

440
00:24:31,130 --> 00:24:32,360
In '95, 1995.

441
00:24:32,360 --> 00:24:38,680
--it was very hard for them
to get along by themselves

442
00:24:38,680 --> 00:24:41,540
when they was like
80s, since the 80s.

443

00:24:41,540 --> 00:24:43,305
Right.

444
00:24:43,305 --> 00:24:44,930
And when you came to
the United States,

445
00:24:44,930 --> 00:24:46,640
did you come to
Washington right away?

446
00:24:46,640 --> 00:24:47,610
Or did you--

447
00:24:47,610 --> 00:24:48,110
Yeah.

448
00:24:48,110 --> 00:24:48,680
You did.

449
00:24:48,680 --> 00:24:49,280
Maryland.

450
00:24:49,280 --> 00:24:50,330
To Maryland, yeah.

451
00:24:50,330 --> 00:24:54,090

452
00:24:54,090 --> 00:24:56,070
Tell me your thoughts
about being the daughter

453
00:24:56,070 --> 00:24:58,270
of a Holocaust survivor.

454
00:24:58,270 --> 00:25:00,733
What is that like?

455
00:25:00,733 --> 00:25:02,400
How has that affected
you, do you think?

456
00:25:02,400 --> 00:25:06,090
It's affect my life,
because every time--

457
00:25:06,090 --> 00:25:08,130
through the years--
from the beginning,

458
00:25:08,130 --> 00:25:11,500
I didn't pay attention
for all his stories.

459
00:25:11,500 --> 00:25:17,950
And every time when he was
like sad or getting together

460
00:25:17,950 --> 00:25:20,230
with his friends,
he start like thing

461
00:25:20,230 --> 00:25:23,680
by thing telling a
little bit about.

462
00:25:23,680 --> 00:25:33,880
And I didn't have any
grandparents, uncles, cousins,

463
00:25:33,880 --> 00:25:36,400
extended family.

464
00:25:36,400 --> 00:25:44,770
No holidays with the family,
like big family gathering.

465
00:25:44,770 --> 00:25:51,240
And even right now, I
see in other families--

466
00:25:51,240 --> 00:25:53,630
I see in other families
getting together

467
00:25:53,630 --> 00:25:54,830
and visiting each other.

468
00:25:54,830 --> 00:25:57,260
I don't have nobody.

469
00:25:57,260 --> 00:26:05,700
And I didn't get any
grandparents interactions.

470
00:26:05,700 --> 00:26:12,210
And my father tried to be
the best father he could be.

471
00:26:12,210 --> 00:26:16,110
Because I cannot even imagine
how he put his life together

472
00:26:16,110 --> 00:26:18,340
after he went through.

473
00:26:18,340 --> 00:26:21,160
But he was very good husband.

474
00:26:21,160 --> 00:26:25,910
Very, very good,
supportive to my mom.

475
00:26:25,910 --> 00:26:29,660
And I really don't know what
was going on in his mind.

476
00:26:29,660 --> 00:26:34,970
Because they didn't get any
post-traumatic counseling

477
00:26:34,970 --> 00:26:39,860
and psychological
evaluation or whatever.

478
00:26:39,860 --> 00:26:41,420

They have to start working.

479

00:26:41,420 --> 00:26:46,670

And getting food, or
clothes, or something,

480

00:26:46,670 --> 00:26:48,560

they start with zero.

481

00:26:48,560 --> 00:26:50,840

And I have no idea how.

482

00:26:50,840 --> 00:26:55,260

But it's pretty hard.

483

00:26:55,260 --> 00:26:58,777

And they did the
best they could.

484

00:26:58,777 --> 00:27:00,360

What was your mother--
just generally,

485

00:27:00,360 --> 00:27:04,710

what was your mother's
story during the war?

486

00:27:04,710 --> 00:27:05,220

My mother--

487

00:27:05,220 --> 00:27:06,420

Is your mother alive?

488

00:27:06,420 --> 00:27:07,730

No, she died two years ago.

489

00:27:07,730 --> 00:27:08,544

Oh, sorry.

490

00:27:08,544 --> 00:27:09,360

I'm sorry.

491

00:27:09,360 --> 00:27:15,270

She was with her family
when Germans came.

492

00:27:15,270 --> 00:27:17,910

They actually, like a
lot of Jewish families

493

00:27:17,910 --> 00:27:20,280

too, they went deep into the--

494

00:27:20,280 --> 00:27:21,660

Forrest?

495

00:27:21,660 --> 00:27:24,540

South-- no, like--

496

00:27:24,540 --> 00:27:25,770

She was in Minsk?

497

00:27:25,770 --> 00:27:26,670

She was in Minsk.

498

00:27:26,670 --> 00:27:27,753

And then the Germans came.

499

00:27:27,753 --> 00:27:29,910

They went to Kazakhstan.

500

00:27:29,910 --> 00:27:34,393

And all kind of stans.

501

00:27:34,393 --> 00:27:37,850

Yeah, right.

502

00:27:37,850 --> 00:27:45,940

She, and her two sisters,
and her mother, [INAUDIBLE]

503

00:27:45,940 --> 00:27:49,090

another little sister

was in a school,

504

00:27:49,090 --> 00:27:52,330

like a kindergarten
in the same day.

505

00:27:52,330 --> 00:27:55,250

And kindergarten
immigrate somewhere.

506

00:27:55,250 --> 00:27:57,400

They took them right away.

507

00:27:57,400 --> 00:28:01,300

And she couldn't find
until the last moment.

508

00:28:01,300 --> 00:28:03,370

She was looking for
her younger sister.

509

00:28:03,370 --> 00:28:05,740

She couldn't find her.

510

00:28:05,740 --> 00:28:10,750

Another sister, she was a
little bit younger than her,

511

00:28:10,750 --> 00:28:15,760

they evacuated them together
from work, or from school.

512

00:28:15,760 --> 00:28:17,980

She was at school
at the same time.

513

00:28:17,980 --> 00:28:21,180

And they couldn't find
them through the war.

514

00:28:21,180 --> 00:28:25,170

She was I think 16.

515

00:28:25,170 --> 00:28:32,010

And my mother's mother
died in the evacuation

516

00:28:32,010 --> 00:28:35,700

because all her children
was all over through there.

517

00:28:35,700 --> 00:28:39,510

Her older brother
was under Leningrad--

518

00:28:39,510 --> 00:28:41,250

Leningrad blockade.

519

00:28:41,250 --> 00:28:43,110

And he was in the army.

520

00:28:43,110 --> 00:28:48,080

And they received a
letter he was killed.

521

00:28:48,080 --> 00:28:50,180

His name was Haim.

522

00:28:50,180 --> 00:28:53,010

I know about him because
he liked to play guitar

523

00:28:53,010 --> 00:28:55,590

and my mom liked to play guitar.

524

00:28:55,590 --> 00:28:58,160

They was playing
guitar together.

525

00:28:58,160 --> 00:29:04,580

And so she lost two of
her sisters, her brother,

526

00:29:04,580 --> 00:29:09,110

and her mother died

through the war.

527

00:29:09,110 --> 00:29:11,750

When the war was
finished, they came--

528

00:29:11,750 --> 00:29:15,030

I know with her older sister--

529

00:29:15,030 --> 00:29:20,750

her husband, she was married,
and her husband was in the war.

530

00:29:20,750 --> 00:29:28,460

And her little daughter was in
the evacuation with them too.

531

00:29:28,460 --> 00:29:32,540

So when they came back
to Minsk after the war

532

00:29:32,540 --> 00:29:38,070

they start looking for
siblings who got lost.

533

00:29:38,070 --> 00:29:42,600

They found the
sister who got lost

534

00:29:42,600 --> 00:29:46,380

when she was 16, who
evacuated with the school.

535

00:29:46,380 --> 00:29:49,620

But the little one, they
couldn't find until last.

536

00:29:49,620 --> 00:29:51,870

And she was looking
for her all the time.

537

00:29:51,870 --> 00:29:55,020

And she think maybe--

538
00:29:55,020 --> 00:29:56,870
maybe she was killed.

539
00:29:56,870 --> 00:30:01,390
But maybe they changed her name
or maybe somebody adopted her.

540
00:30:01,390 --> 00:30:06,220
Maybe she doesn't remember her
name and what is her last name.

541
00:30:06,220 --> 00:30:09,020

542
00:30:09,020 --> 00:30:13,100
One of the Minsk
family, who when

543
00:30:13,100 --> 00:30:16,930
we was doing all the
paperwork to go to Israel,

544
00:30:16,930 --> 00:30:21,010
her name was Genia, the
lady's name was Genia.

545
00:30:21,010 --> 00:30:24,670
And my mother was thinking
she was her younger sister.

546
00:30:24,670 --> 00:30:30,550
She was asking her all the time
about her roots and everything.

547
00:30:30,550 --> 00:30:34,420
Because one of the
sister's was named Genia.

548
00:30:34,420 --> 00:30:38,260
The little sister who
lost, her name was Rya.

549

00:30:38,260 --> 00:30:40,330

But they thought maybe
she didn't remember.

550

00:30:40,330 --> 00:30:42,550

She said her name is Genia.

551

00:30:42,550 --> 00:30:46,630

So this why she was
like really excited,

552

00:30:46,630 --> 00:30:48,079

but she couldn't find her.

553

00:30:48,079 --> 00:30:52,970

554

00:30:52,970 --> 00:30:57,540

And you've lived in
different countries.

555

00:30:57,540 --> 00:31:00,420

Do you think you would have
been a very different person

556

00:31:00,420 --> 00:31:02,310

if you hadn't gone
through what you

557

00:31:02,310 --> 00:31:06,270

went through living and your
parents being survivors?

558

00:31:06,270 --> 00:31:07,860

Yeah.

559

00:31:07,860 --> 00:31:10,290

For sure, I wouldn't be.

560

00:31:10,290 --> 00:31:14,370

Because I wouldn't learn
from this experience.

561
00:31:14,370 --> 00:31:20,810
I'm thinking a lot about
how Holocaust could happen,

562
00:31:20,810 --> 00:31:24,050
like very, very educated.

563
00:31:24,050 --> 00:31:29,450
And people who love opera,
and ballet, and everything

564
00:31:29,450 --> 00:31:38,410
could be so primitive and so
hateful toward another people.

565
00:31:38,410 --> 00:31:44,730
And we have to be
very careful about--

566
00:31:44,730 --> 00:31:49,290
Jewish people try
to survive in wars.

567
00:31:49,290 --> 00:31:54,930
And I have a lot of conversation
with American Jewish people

568
00:31:54,930 --> 00:31:58,010
here about what--

569
00:31:58,010 --> 00:32:00,780
how they see it.

570
00:32:00,780 --> 00:32:04,640
And they're very comfortable
to live in this country.

571
00:32:04,640 --> 00:32:08,930
And sometimes they
don't support Israel

572

00:32:08,930 --> 00:32:12,620
how they should support Israel.

573
00:32:12,620 --> 00:32:16,610
Because without Israel, even
people in the United States

574
00:32:16,610 --> 00:32:21,680
don't have house, don't have
home, don't have homeland.

575
00:32:21,680 --> 00:32:26,340
And the United
States very nice home

576
00:32:26,340 --> 00:32:31,320
homeland for all kinds of
religions and everything.

577
00:32:31,320 --> 00:32:35,520
But history can
repeat them self.

578
00:32:35,520 --> 00:32:40,770
And we really, really have to
support Israel and everything

579
00:32:40,770 --> 00:32:42,020
what they're doing to survive.

580
00:32:42,020 --> 00:32:44,640

581
00:32:44,640 --> 00:32:48,030
To survive, because they
support all the Jewish people

582
00:32:48,030 --> 00:32:50,190
from each country.

583
00:32:50,190 --> 00:32:55,890
And if start being really,
really bad in any country,

584
00:32:55,890 --> 00:32:58,720
we always have home.

585
00:32:58,720 --> 00:33:00,380
So Israel is your home?

586
00:33:00,380 --> 00:33:02,650
Yes.

587
00:33:02,650 --> 00:33:06,210
What are your thoughts
about Germany?

588
00:33:06,210 --> 00:33:12,930
Oh right now, I
still don't accept

589
00:33:12,930 --> 00:33:19,380
they fully understand what
exactly their ancestors did

590
00:33:19,380 --> 00:33:24,090
to my ancestors.

591
00:33:24,090 --> 00:33:28,620
I don't know exactly how
the education in Germany,

592
00:33:28,620 --> 00:33:31,770
teaching them
about the Holocaust

593
00:33:31,770 --> 00:33:38,050
and how they really
behaved in the war.

594
00:33:38,050 --> 00:33:45,120
And they should be more
supportive of Israel.

595
00:33:45,120 --> 00:33:49,170

I know they move out.

596

00:33:49,170 --> 00:33:56,160

But I still cannot understand
how they can change so much

597

00:33:56,160 --> 00:33:59,280

from everything what they
did and now be completely

598

00:33:59,280 --> 00:34:02,370

different.

599

00:34:02,370 --> 00:34:07,390

I don't know how exactly.

600

00:34:07,390 --> 00:34:09,400

They still have neo-Nazis.

601

00:34:09,400 --> 00:34:13,629

They still have people who
support different groups.

602

00:34:13,629 --> 00:34:17,179

603

00:34:17,179 --> 00:34:20,330

Are you more comfortable
around immigrants

604

00:34:20,330 --> 00:34:22,739

than you are native
born Americans?

605

00:34:22,739 --> 00:34:23,780

No.

606

00:34:23,780 --> 00:34:26,750

I actually very comfortable.

607

00:34:26,750 --> 00:34:30,929

Because of different experience,

I live in different places.

608
00:34:30,929 --> 00:34:35,770
And I have friends
from all walks of life.

609
00:34:35,770 --> 00:34:37,739
I am very comfortable.

610
00:34:37,739 --> 00:34:41,489
I love Americans.

611
00:34:41,489 --> 00:34:45,940
I have a lot of immigrants
from different countries.

612
00:34:45,940 --> 00:34:50,639
My, actually, almost like
a sister, my best friends,

613
00:34:50,639 --> 00:34:52,170
they're from India.

614
00:34:52,170 --> 00:34:54,020
They're not even Jewish.

615
00:34:54,020 --> 00:35:00,380
I have a lot of people who are
my friends from different--

616
00:35:00,380 --> 00:35:02,465
like Lebanon.

617
00:35:02,465 --> 00:35:06,610
I have very good neighbors--

618
00:35:06,610 --> 00:35:09,250
I have very good neighbors
from different countries.

619
00:35:09,250 --> 00:35:18,170
And I really, really love

people in the United States

620

00:35:18,170 --> 00:35:19,610

because they're very friendly.

621

00:35:19,610 --> 00:35:21,950

They're very open people.

622

00:35:21,950 --> 00:35:26,780

And I like experience
different cultures too.

623

00:35:26,780 --> 00:35:27,980

Tell me about your husband.

624

00:35:27,980 --> 00:35:29,990

Is he from America?

625

00:35:29,990 --> 00:35:31,590

My husband's Israeli.

626

00:35:31,590 --> 00:35:32,930

He's Israeli.

627

00:35:32,930 --> 00:35:36,270

He was born in Israel.

628

00:35:36,270 --> 00:35:39,390

His parents is from Romania.

629

00:35:39,390 --> 00:35:40,860

And when they moved--

630

00:35:40,860 --> 00:35:42,540

they immigrated too.

631

00:35:42,540 --> 00:35:45,570

When they move to Israel,
he was born right away.

632

00:35:45,570 --> 00:35:46,860

Were they survivors too?

633

00:35:46,860 --> 00:35:52,050

They're survivors
too from Romania.

634

00:35:52,050 --> 00:35:54,240

From where in Romania?

635

00:35:54,240 --> 00:35:59,100

From Iasi, from
Iasi, from Romania.

636

00:35:59,100 --> 00:36:04,680

And I was blessed with
the best mother-in-law

637

00:36:04,680 --> 00:36:06,390

and father-in-law.

638

00:36:06,390 --> 00:36:10,740

Because when my parents was in
Israel, and I was living here,

639

00:36:10,740 --> 00:36:13,020

they took my parents like they--

640

00:36:13,020 --> 00:36:15,700

like closest relative.

641

00:36:15,700 --> 00:36:20,610

And they had good relationship.

642

00:36:20,610 --> 00:36:21,827

So again, are you--

643

00:36:21,827 --> 00:36:23,910

I know you said you're
comfortable with all people

644

00:36:23,910 --> 00:36:25,740

from all different

backgrounds, but are you

645

00:36:25,740 --> 00:36:27,330

even more comfortable
with people

646

00:36:27,330 --> 00:36:33,690

whose parents and grandparents
were survivors and immigrants?

647

00:36:33,690 --> 00:36:34,478

Yes, because--

648

00:36:34,478 --> 00:36:35,520

Do you feel a connection?

649

00:36:35,520 --> 00:36:36,780

I feel a connection.

650

00:36:36,780 --> 00:36:42,230

I feel they understand
more what exactly--

651

00:36:42,230 --> 00:36:45,010

652

00:36:45,010 --> 00:36:47,650

people from former
Soviet Union, they

653

00:36:47,650 --> 00:36:51,280

went through the same
upbringing and experiences

654

00:36:51,280 --> 00:36:53,050

what I experience.

655

00:36:53,050 --> 00:36:57,340

And people who
immigrated to Israel

656

00:36:57,340 --> 00:37:00,940

went through
immigration process,

657
00:37:00,940 --> 00:37:10,190
have similar experiences too,
how to fit in new society.

658
00:37:10,190 --> 00:37:13,730
So this is how I--

659
00:37:13,730 --> 00:37:16,100
and I like new people.

660
00:37:16,100 --> 00:37:18,290
I like to meet new
people, because I really

661
00:37:18,290 --> 00:37:27,440
like these new experiences and
experience different people,

662
00:37:27,440 --> 00:37:30,680
different kinds of people.

663
00:37:30,680 --> 00:37:33,920
Do you think your-- and
your husband's name is--

664
00:37:33,920 --> 00:37:34,860
Israel.

665
00:37:34,860 --> 00:37:36,890
Israel.

666
00:37:36,890 --> 00:37:39,680
Do you think your and
your husband's experiences

667
00:37:39,680 --> 00:37:42,170
influenced your children?

668
00:37:42,170 --> 00:37:43,070

Yeah.

669
00:37:43,070 --> 00:37:44,420
You're second generation.

670
00:37:44,420 --> 00:37:45,560
They're third generation.

671
00:37:45,560 --> 00:37:47,060
Yes.

672
00:37:47,060 --> 00:37:52,390
My children pretty
much brainwashed

673
00:37:52,390 --> 00:37:55,690
about Holocaust experience.

674
00:37:55,690 --> 00:38:00,070
And I told him never forget
from where you come from.

675
00:38:00,070 --> 00:38:04,630
I told him, you have
to love your people

676
00:38:04,630 --> 00:38:12,120
and be good to Jewish people,
because every another ethnic

677
00:38:12,120 --> 00:38:16,370
group support each other.

678
00:38:16,370 --> 00:38:19,250
My children love Israel.

679
00:38:19,250 --> 00:38:21,330
I teach him about Israel.

680
00:38:21,330 --> 00:38:22,670
They have to love Israel.

681

00:38:22,670 --> 00:38:27,350

And Israel have to-- for
them, like I told him,

682

00:38:27,350 --> 00:38:30,710

you cannot do no
wrong in my eyes.

683

00:38:30,710 --> 00:38:33,080

And it has to be
in their eyes too.

684

00:38:33,080 --> 00:38:35,540

And they have to be
remembered, like I grew up

685

00:38:35,540 --> 00:38:38,030

without grandparents, they
have to be thankful they

686

00:38:38,030 --> 00:38:39,890

have grandparents.

687

00:38:39,890 --> 00:38:43,040

And so they have to be thankful
of everything what they got,

688

00:38:43,040 --> 00:38:47,750

because people went
through everything

689

00:38:47,750 --> 00:38:50,890

for them to have a future.

690

00:38:50,890 --> 00:38:53,160

So, yeah my children
know exactly--

691

00:38:53,160 --> 00:38:55,770

Have you taken them to Israel?

692

00:38:55,770 --> 00:38:56,860

Have they been to Israel?

693

00:38:56,860 --> 00:38:58,600

Yes, my children
have been in Israel.

694

00:38:58,600 --> 00:39:00,030

And their names are--

695

00:39:00,030 --> 00:39:01,180

Karen and Avi.

696

00:39:01,180 --> 00:39:01,680

Right.

697

00:39:01,680 --> 00:39:03,330

And how old are they now?

698

00:39:03,330 --> 00:39:06,385

My son's 22 and
my daughter is 18.

699

00:39:06,385 --> 00:39:06,885

18.

700

00:39:06,885 --> 00:39:11,840

701

00:39:11,840 --> 00:39:14,330

Well, is there
anything else you would

702

00:39:14,330 --> 00:39:20,230

like to add that we
haven't covered or--

703

00:39:20,230 --> 00:39:27,040

Yeah, I just want to wish
all of Israel, Jewish people,

704

00:39:27,040 --> 00:39:29,710

so they're going to have peace.

705
00:39:29,710 --> 00:39:33,800
This is the most
important peace.

706
00:39:33,800 --> 00:39:37,660
And so Israel going
to grow and prosper,

707
00:39:37,660 --> 00:39:40,180
and all the Jewish
people have to support.

708
00:39:40,180 --> 00:39:43,660
So we're not going to
have another Holocaust.

709
00:39:43,660 --> 00:39:47,620
We have to understand
our enemies.

710
00:39:47,620 --> 00:39:49,600
They want to wipe--

711
00:39:49,600 --> 00:39:54,170
wipe all Israel out of
the face of the world.

712
00:39:54,170 --> 00:39:58,540
We cannot-- they don't
want to talk to us.

713
00:39:58,540 --> 00:40:01,030
They don't want to compromise.

714
00:40:01,030 --> 00:40:03,630
This what they want to do.

715
00:40:03,630 --> 00:40:06,090
And this what we
have to remember.

716

00:40:06,090 --> 00:40:08,510
Do you feel Russian in any way?

717
00:40:08,510 --> 00:40:11,490
Yes, I feel a little
bit of Russian culture.

718
00:40:11,490 --> 00:40:14,460
Because I like Russian food.

719
00:40:14,460 --> 00:40:16,030
I like Russian music.

720
00:40:16,030 --> 00:40:19,960
I like to read
Russian literature.

721
00:40:19,960 --> 00:40:27,700
And I like to watch a
Russian concert on YouTubes.

722
00:40:27,700 --> 00:40:32,230
And yeah, I like
Russian culture.

723
00:40:32,230 --> 00:40:36,910
But on the same note, I
really like everything Jewish.

724
00:40:36,910 --> 00:40:38,090
So it's a combination.

725
00:40:38,090 --> 00:40:40,300
Do you feel American?

726
00:40:40,300 --> 00:40:43,620
I don't feel much American.

727
00:40:43,620 --> 00:40:48,330
I feel American because I
speak English to my children.

728

00:40:48,330 --> 00:40:55,050
And I feel American because
my close friend, it's America,

729
00:40:55,050 --> 00:40:59,380
it's a melting pot,
and whoever know me,

730
00:40:59,380 --> 00:41:01,220
all my friends is melting pot.

731
00:41:01,220 --> 00:41:05,020
I have big group of people
who is really like really

732
00:41:05,020 --> 00:41:08,290
supportive of each other.

733
00:41:08,290 --> 00:41:11,560
Like my best
friend's from India.

734
00:41:11,560 --> 00:41:13,990
Another best friend
from Puerto Rico.

735
00:41:13,990 --> 00:41:19,390
And we're doing potlucks,
everybody bring food

736
00:41:19,390 --> 00:41:21,520
from different countries.

737
00:41:21,520 --> 00:41:25,120
And yeah, I feel I like
America because I'm

738
00:41:25,120 --> 00:41:27,850
involved in American culture.

739
00:41:27,850 --> 00:41:32,410
I like music, American movies.

740

00:41:32,410 --> 00:41:34,570

[INAUDIBLE]

741

00:41:34,570 --> 00:41:38,070

How did you feel about the
fall of communism in '89--

742

00:41:38,070 --> 00:41:40,240

1989?

743

00:41:40,240 --> 00:41:42,340

I'm very happy about it.

744

00:41:42,340 --> 00:41:44,230

Because they was
telling they're going

745

00:41:44,230 --> 00:41:47,140

to be more democratic
and more open.

746

00:41:47,140 --> 00:41:51,250

But it doesn't look like
it's really working out.

747

00:41:51,250 --> 00:41:57,110

And it's continue.

748

00:41:57,110 --> 00:41:59,150

Hopefully, they're not
going to go backwards.

749

00:41:59,150 --> 00:42:02,040

750

00:42:02,040 --> 00:42:07,320

Well, again, any final,
final thoughts-- final,

751

00:42:07,320 --> 00:42:08,070

final thoughts.

752

00:42:08,070 --> 00:42:13,230

Yeah, I want to thank
you for your patience.

753

00:42:13,230 --> 00:42:17,280

And for my father
it was very nice.

754

00:42:17,280 --> 00:42:18,960

So somebody talking to him.

755

00:42:18,960 --> 00:42:20,460

He is 91-year-old.

756

00:42:20,460 --> 00:42:21,240

Yes.

757

00:42:21,240 --> 00:42:26,370

And it's very hard
for him to remember.

758

00:42:26,370 --> 00:42:29,070

But it's very
important, so people

759

00:42:29,070 --> 00:42:30,540

know exactly what happened.

760

00:42:30,540 --> 00:42:31,200

Yes.

761

00:42:31,200 --> 00:42:34,920

And people respect
what our parents

762

00:42:34,920 --> 00:42:42,370

went through and
acknowledge their suffering.

763

00:42:42,370 --> 00:42:45,040

Well, that's a very
meaningful note to end on.

764

00:42:45,040 --> 00:42:48,160

That's very meaningful.

765

00:42:48,160 --> 00:42:51,820

This concludes the United
States Holocaust Memorial Museum

766

00:42:51,820 --> 00:42:55,140

interview with Genia Miranski.

767

00:42:55,140 --> 00:42:58,000