

Let me ask you about your small brother, your youngest brother.

All right.

Now, let's see you said that was Ephraim, right?

Yes.

Do you remember when he was born?

Well, matter of fact, I do remember when he was born. I was a little girl myself, but it was like we were already six but there was sort of an excitement when he was born. And being that he was the youngest, all the kids sort of felt that he was their little toy.

Right, he was the little baby.

Yeah. Everybody was involved with him.

So now you said that he was born six years after yours, so that would be about 1934?

Yeah, right. No, '36. Wait a minute. I was born in '28.

So six years later would have been '34. If you were born a '28, six years would have been '34.

Oh, '34. OK.

Do you remember his birthday?

No.

All right. Had he started school yet in 1939? Probably not.

No. Because we went on with the Hungarians. He used to come into the cheder and just sometimes annoy and they would throw him out of the room. But most of the time they would keep him there. Sometimes he would be good and sometimes--

Was he mischievous as a little boy?

He was a little, yeah. He was a spoiled little kid because the kids spoiled him. It wasn't so much that my mother and father had that much time for him. But he was like the kids' toy. He was a loving little kid so everybody picked him up and hugged him. And I think that's what made him so loving because we had so many people.

Did he do special chores when he was younger? Did he have to do things before the farm was taken away, the livestock?

I don't remember the specifics that they would give him something to do.

Were there games that he liked to play with you guys?

Yeah, hide and seek. He would like to hide and we would have to run after him and find him, like a child.

Did he like to read too?

Oh, he just had an [SPEAKING YIDDISH] book. I remember it. And I'm telling you, he would carry this book around

and he wouldn't show it just to anybody. He had to be your friend in order for him to show you that book.

What kind of book was it?

[SPEAKING YIDDISH]. It was like an ABC book. In Yiddish they called it the [SPEAKING YIDDISH] book. He called it the Olive Bible but it was the ABC book. ABC BOOK. And he loved that book.

He carried it, he went to sleep with. It was like he would own who knows what. But to get a book like that wasn't so easy either in the war. So it wasn't that this book can be replaced so easily. For my children's birthdays and my grandchildren's birthdays, I always love my children's birthdays. There was a present. There was always a book. But even for my grandchildren's birthdays when they were little I always went and bought a few little books. And I send it to them for presents. I don't know why, but they knew when their birthday will come they'll get books from me. Little books.

Books are a good thing to give, they make you smart.

Well, because you see an American child does not understand that the European child, even a non-Jewish child, was not that lucky to get this education. A lot of people don't when I was raised. Maybe now it's different. Now maybe it's different. Probably here it's different too. But when I was raised, a book, an education was scarce. People didn't have the money and didn't have the means.

Did your parents teach you? You said they were very educated in Jewish history and things like that. Did they teach that to you?

They did. And they also used it. If I think back, like for instance if let's say I did something that they didn't like, they would bring out a quote from the Bible what's wrong and what's right. Like they would tell me you know-- And they would say, God gave you that you can choose from right and wrong. Now do you think God will be happier with you if you choose the right or the wrong? They didn't understand that me as a child could not many times understand what I'm doing wrong, thought I'm doing right. And it's not that I did such terrible wrong. Maybe I didn't like something that they told me to do and I didn't want to do it.

So what I'm trying to say is that they used their education sort of raising us. There was never physical. I don't ever remember, even when we were seven kids, there was never physical abuse. There was no physical punishment but there was a lot of Bible quoting. We had to do the right thing. Children don't always know the right thing, and children sometimes want to laugh and sometimes they want to fight.

Well, I think I know your brother's story with your mother. So I think that's all the questions I have.

OK.

Thank you very much for speaking to me.

Well, you're very welcome, Tony. And it was really a pleasure meeting you.

Thank you.