

1
00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:01,240

2
00:00:01,240 --> 00:00:03,430
Oh, yes.

3
00:00:03,430 --> 00:00:08,320
So as I said, they came, these
Nazis, the Hungarian Nazis,

4
00:00:08,320 --> 00:00:11,320
what they call
the Nyilas Garaz--

5
00:00:11,320 --> 00:00:13,570
that was the Hungarian name--

6
00:00:13,570 --> 00:00:18,100
they were sometimes more
brutal and more perverse

7
00:00:18,100 --> 00:00:21,550
than the Germans,
if you can be more.

8
00:00:21,550 --> 00:00:22,480
The Minka?

9
00:00:22,480 --> 00:00:23,290
Nyilas.

10
00:00:23,290 --> 00:00:24,250
Nyilas.

11
00:00:24,250 --> 00:00:26,210
No, Minkas was in Romania.

12
00:00:26,210 --> 00:00:28,900
This was the Nyilas.

13

00:00:28,900 --> 00:00:32,140
So when he came to that to
this couple what I told you,

14
00:00:32,140 --> 00:00:36,250
that mother and father and
son, and take their papers

15
00:00:36,250 --> 00:00:39,430
and they did not
accept their papers.

16
00:00:39,430 --> 00:00:43,300
And they took them out, and of
course as I told at that time,

17
00:00:43,300 --> 00:00:47,710
there was such a big bombardment
That they didn't have time

18
00:00:47,710 --> 00:00:49,810
to take them to the
Danube, so they shot them

19
00:00:49,810 --> 00:00:51,770
all, the mother father and son.

20
00:00:51,770 --> 00:00:53,890
I found that out later.

21
00:00:53,890 --> 00:00:56,620
I didn't know that they were
shot right before the house.

22
00:00:56,620 --> 00:00:59,110
But that was not the
end of the story.

23
00:00:59,110 --> 00:01:04,160
As they walked out,
they looked at me.

24
00:01:04,160 --> 00:01:08,533

And I knew that in that
moment, in that how

25
00:01:08,533 --> 00:01:09,700
do they say that in English?

26
00:01:09,700 --> 00:01:12,220
That comes a moment of--

27
00:01:12,220 --> 00:01:13,130
Moment of truth.

28
00:01:13,130 --> 00:01:15,490
A moment of truth.

29
00:01:15,490 --> 00:01:18,070
In that moment of
truth, I didn't

30
00:01:18,070 --> 00:01:23,470
know will they tell me if
they take me she's Jewish too.

31
00:01:23,470 --> 00:01:26,150
Or they will say that or
they will not say that,

32
00:01:26,150 --> 00:01:29,920
but in order to save
that moment of truth--

33
00:01:29,920 --> 00:01:33,910
You see everybody had
the blanket or a quilt

34
00:01:33,910 --> 00:01:37,090
or we called it different.

35
00:01:37,090 --> 00:01:40,640
And in that moment when they
took them out I thought,

36

00:01:40,640 --> 00:01:41,140
I have to--

37
00:01:41,140 --> 00:01:44,200
You see, that time I
escaped from so many things

38
00:01:44,200 --> 00:01:47,290
already that I had a
little bit of experience

39
00:01:47,290 --> 00:01:52,330
and I was far from that naive
already what I was before.

40
00:01:52,330 --> 00:01:57,200
I said to the guy who
was standing beside me,

41
00:01:57,200 --> 00:02:01,090
I said, these
people, these Jews--

42
00:02:01,090 --> 00:02:02,620
I used the word--

43
00:02:02,620 --> 00:02:05,350
they had a very nice blanket
and I don't have one,

44
00:02:05,350 --> 00:02:06,250
can I have it?

45
00:02:06,250 --> 00:02:09,020

46
00:02:09,020 --> 00:02:17,150
Startled, the guy who checked
my paper, before I even gave him

47
00:02:17,150 --> 00:02:20,480
my papers the other
guy said, well, you

48
00:02:20,480 --> 00:02:21,800
don't have to check her out.

49
00:02:21,800 --> 00:02:23,900
She will have the new
blanket from the Jew

50
00:02:23,900 --> 00:02:26,060
and I will check her out.

51
00:02:26,060 --> 00:02:28,790
And he didn't even had
my papers in his hand

52
00:02:28,790 --> 00:02:31,550
because my papers was
even so I have it with me

53
00:02:31,550 --> 00:02:32,510
and they were not--

54
00:02:32,510 --> 00:02:38,030
I was a prostitute according
to that kind of papers I had.

55
00:02:38,030 --> 00:02:41,340
And I certainly acted
sometimes accordingly.

56
00:02:41,340 --> 00:02:48,110
So that's another story again
that in any case they went away

57
00:02:48,110 --> 00:02:50,120
and they took them out
and they shot them.

58
00:02:50,120 --> 00:02:54,650
Now I have to interject
here now a scene.

59

00:02:54,650 --> 00:02:59,450
These people whom they
shot before the house,

60
00:02:59,450 --> 00:03:02,100
she had a brother.

61
00:03:02,100 --> 00:03:05,060
And after the war, when we
were still in that house,

62
00:03:05,060 --> 00:03:10,190
the brother came to pick
up whatever they had.

63
00:03:10,190 --> 00:03:14,840
And then he said, I heard
that there was somebody here,

64
00:03:14,840 --> 00:03:19,640
some shiksa here who took
away my dead brothers whom

65
00:03:19,640 --> 00:03:21,590
they shot before the house.

66
00:03:21,590 --> 00:03:24,470
I want to confront that woman.

67
00:03:24,470 --> 00:03:27,500
And I was still-- because
that time was still

68
00:03:27,500 --> 00:03:29,010
not safe to go out.

69
00:03:29,010 --> 00:03:31,730
But even so that the
Russians took already over,

70
00:03:31,730 --> 00:03:34,800
the Germans sometimes
came back and forth,

71
00:03:34,800 --> 00:03:39,490
so it was not safe yet
to give yourself away.

72
00:03:39,490 --> 00:03:40,520
And I never did that.

73
00:03:40,520 --> 00:03:41,780
Some people did it.

74
00:03:41,780 --> 00:03:44,450
They gave themselves away and
then the Germans came back.

75
00:03:44,450 --> 00:03:46,220
That was the end of them.

76
00:03:46,220 --> 00:03:50,810
I still didn't because
I knew that they come.

77
00:03:50,810 --> 00:03:53,420
Budapest is two parts--

78
00:03:53,420 --> 00:03:55,280
Buda and Pest.

79
00:03:55,280 --> 00:03:59,270
And in Buda was the Germans
in Pest was the Russians.

80
00:03:59,270 --> 00:04:02,080
And they went back and
forth and it took two,

81
00:04:02,080 --> 00:04:07,100
three weeks until finally
the Russians took over.

82
00:04:07,100 --> 00:04:10,610
So he wanted to confront me

that who is that who took her

83

00:04:10,610 --> 00:04:13,670
and to tell me certain things.

84

00:04:13,670 --> 00:04:17,690
And when he came there
and confronted me,

85

00:04:17,690 --> 00:04:21,980
and it was even so the time that
the Russians were there already

86

00:04:21,980 --> 00:04:24,410
and I was still
afraid, I said, just

87

00:04:24,410 --> 00:04:26,390
don't make too much commotion.

88

00:04:26,390 --> 00:04:28,220
I did that to save my life.

89

00:04:28,220 --> 00:04:31,400
I'm Jewish too.

90

00:04:31,400 --> 00:04:36,260
We talked there some time and
he says, well, in that case

91

00:04:36,260 --> 00:04:38,420
I understand it.

92

00:04:38,420 --> 00:04:41,730
So that was the
aftereffect of that case.

93

00:04:41,730 --> 00:04:46,340
So in any case, we were
there in that shelter

94

00:04:46,340 --> 00:04:50,270

all the way until January 18.

95

00:04:50,270 --> 00:04:54,350

In the night, one the
Russian guy comes down.

96

00:04:54,350 --> 00:04:56,360

You see there I talk
about the Russians

97

00:04:56,360 --> 00:04:59,630

so much because the Russians
are the ones who liberated us.

98

00:04:59,630 --> 00:05:02,360

Not the Russians, I'm not here.

99

00:05:02,360 --> 00:05:04,490

This is 1945 already.

100

00:05:04,490 --> 00:05:10,310

That is 1945, January 18.

101

00:05:10,310 --> 00:05:17,210

So my war lasted
from 1941 till 1945.

102

00:05:17,210 --> 00:05:22,290

So I was 4 and 1/2
years wherever.

103

00:05:22,290 --> 00:05:25,280

So when the first Russians
came in-- and mind you,

104

00:05:25,280 --> 00:05:28,070

I was still with
Catholic papers there.

105

00:05:28,070 --> 00:05:32,750

When the first Russians
came in, somehow you

106

00:05:32,750 --> 00:05:36,780

know I, in any case, [INAUDIBLE]
already with the bombardment is

107

00:05:36,780 --> 00:05:39,560

just catching the
parents and everything,

108

00:05:39,560 --> 00:05:44,630

I am quite sure that I was
mentally really not right,

109

00:05:44,630 --> 00:05:46,700

and understandably so.

110

00:05:46,700 --> 00:05:49,580

So I was really, really
on the end of my line.

111

00:05:49,580 --> 00:05:52,680

I couldn't take too
much more anymore.

112

00:05:52,680 --> 00:05:55,610

And when I saw the
first Russian I

113

00:05:55,610 --> 00:05:58,030

sat there with other young
people around everywhere,

114

00:05:58,030 --> 00:06:00,290

wherever we were
living in the shelter.

115

00:06:00,290 --> 00:06:02,720

That was in the basement,
of course, and half of it

116

00:06:02,720 --> 00:06:04,710

was bombed and everything.

117

00:06:04,710 --> 00:06:06,560
And I wanted to
run to that Russian

118
00:06:06,560 --> 00:06:09,160
and kiss him from top to toe.

119
00:06:09,160 --> 00:06:10,100
I'm free!

120
00:06:10,100 --> 00:06:10,670
I'm free!

121
00:06:10,670 --> 00:06:12,050
You know the movies?

122
00:06:12,050 --> 00:06:15,110
And they were holding me
back and they said, don't you

123
00:06:15,110 --> 00:06:16,820
know what the
Russians are doing?

124
00:06:16,820 --> 00:06:19,670
They did a lot of
raping, you know that.

125
00:06:19,670 --> 00:06:21,710
And they didn't care
about whether they rape

126
00:06:21,710 --> 00:06:23,630
18-year-old or 88 years old.

127
00:06:23,630 --> 00:06:24,980
They didn't care.

128
00:06:24,980 --> 00:06:30,470
But the difference it was that
the first fighting group who

129

00:06:30,470 --> 00:06:36,950
fights for a city is always
the elite of the military

130
00:06:36,950 --> 00:06:39,470
and they do not do any raping.

131
00:06:39,470 --> 00:06:41,360
They are not the
one who does it.

132
00:06:41,360 --> 00:06:45,950
The occupying troops are the one
who does it when all kind of it

133
00:06:45,950 --> 00:06:46,910
was free.

134
00:06:46,910 --> 00:06:48,910
Free robbery, free raping.

135
00:06:48,910 --> 00:06:49,940
You could do everything.

136
00:06:49,940 --> 00:06:54,530
But the first elite group
didn't do too much raping.

137
00:06:54,530 --> 00:06:58,070
But I wanted to go out, and
then the girl next to me

138
00:06:58,070 --> 00:07:01,430
said, what are you so happy
about to see the Russian?

139
00:07:01,430 --> 00:07:05,930
Wasn't that-- She started
because she really

140
00:07:05,930 --> 00:07:07,470
didn't know who I am.

141

00:07:07,470 --> 00:07:10,760

She just knew, hi, my
name is [[Jotko Maria ?].

142

00:07:10,760 --> 00:07:13,790

So she was holding me
back and I didn't go.

143

00:07:13,790 --> 00:07:15,800

But the second day,
because then they

144

00:07:15,800 --> 00:07:18,680

came more and more Russians
to the basement looking

145

00:07:18,680 --> 00:07:23,600

for men who were hiding also.

146

00:07:23,600 --> 00:07:28,190

And that young man who stood
beside me and he said--

147

00:07:28,190 --> 00:07:31,310

148

00:07:31,310 --> 00:07:37,520

You know that was up on the
floor it was a department store

149

00:07:37,520 --> 00:07:41,450

and they had in the department
store they had honey left.

150

00:07:41,450 --> 00:07:44,030

Food was a big thing that time.

151

00:07:44,030 --> 00:07:47,630

And he comes to me and he says,
before yet the Russians came,

152

00:07:47,630 --> 00:07:49,550

he said, you know what?

153

00:07:49,550 --> 00:07:54,350

There is a big, big
container of honey there.

154

00:07:54,350 --> 00:07:57,890

We will go up there and I
will give you a lot of honey.

155

00:07:57,890 --> 00:08:02,240

And honey, that was
gold at that time.

156

00:08:02,240 --> 00:08:06,080

And that was already after
that incident with the Germans.

157

00:08:06,080 --> 00:08:08,640

So I said, no I don't
need it anymore.

158

00:08:08,640 --> 00:08:10,820

But as he said, you know what?

159

00:08:10,820 --> 00:08:12,770

I will give you the honey.

160

00:08:12,770 --> 00:08:14,180

I saved your life.

161

00:08:14,180 --> 00:08:17,720

But he knew already that the
Russians are on the corner.

162

00:08:17,720 --> 00:08:21,960

But when it comes to
it, will you save mine?

163

00:08:21,960 --> 00:08:23,540

Well, how can I
say what he said?

164

00:08:23,540 --> 00:08:25,730
You know how you can save it.

165

00:08:25,730 --> 00:08:30,410
So he knew who I was
because he wouldn't ask me

166

00:08:30,410 --> 00:08:33,900
that question that whether
I can save your life or not.

167

00:08:33,900 --> 00:08:38,210
So when the Russians came
in, when they were already

168

00:08:38,210 --> 00:08:45,470
in looking for Hungarian
soldiers or non-Jews,

169

00:08:45,470 --> 00:08:49,730
he came to me and he said,
help me to get out of here.

170

00:08:49,730 --> 00:08:52,530
I helped you, you help me.

171

00:08:52,530 --> 00:08:55,220
And I did help him to escape.

172

00:08:55,220 --> 00:09:00,590
Whether I did it right or wrong
but I did it and he did escape.

173

00:09:00,590 --> 00:09:02,420
I don't know what happened.

174

00:09:02,420 --> 00:09:04,190
Well, in any case
then the Russians

175

00:09:04,190 --> 00:09:06,720
came in and then of

course it started--

176
00:09:06,720 --> 00:09:10,340
I don't know whether you
know about the aspect of how

177
00:09:10,340 --> 00:09:11,540
the Russians behaved.

178
00:09:11,540 --> 00:09:14,960
I mean it was soup
kitchens again

179
00:09:14,960 --> 00:09:18,260
and it was again
standing in the line.

180
00:09:18,260 --> 00:09:22,760
It was all the ruins.

181
00:09:22,760 --> 00:09:24,110
And I had nobody.

182
00:09:24,110 --> 00:09:28,250
I just walked on the streets,
you know, and saw people

183
00:09:28,250 --> 00:09:30,290
coming out from the ghetto.

184
00:09:30,290 --> 00:09:32,630
And everybody said,
oh [? Yancika ?]..

185
00:09:32,630 --> 00:09:35,420
[? Elzika ?] [? Pistika ?]
[? Jurika ?] And I went there

186
00:09:35,420 --> 00:09:39,200
and I had nobody
because everybody died.

187

00:09:39,200 --> 00:09:42,170
So I said, well, I
will look for my aunt.

188
00:09:42,170 --> 00:09:44,270
You know that aunt
who didn't believe?

189
00:09:44,270 --> 00:09:46,790

190
00:09:46,790 --> 00:09:53,570
They were in the ghetto and
they were the rich aunts

191
00:09:53,570 --> 00:09:56,180
in the family because they
had a house in Hungary,

192
00:09:56,180 --> 00:10:00,200
and that was like having a
house in New York at that time.

193
00:10:00,200 --> 00:10:02,660
So they had some
six, seven rooms,

194
00:10:02,660 --> 00:10:05,480
and that was an awful
lot of room in Hungary.

195
00:10:05,480 --> 00:10:07,610
Here you know people
who work and can have

196
00:10:07,610 --> 00:10:09,740
four rooms too it's nothing.

197
00:10:09,740 --> 00:10:12,150
So in any case they did survive.

198
00:10:12,150 --> 00:10:13,670
And I did go to them.

199

00:10:13,670 --> 00:10:16,430

And it was a big,
beautiful reunion.

200

00:10:16,430 --> 00:10:18,170

Of course they took
away their house

201

00:10:18,170 --> 00:10:19,820

and they took away
their apartment

202

00:10:19,820 --> 00:10:23,720

and they gave them the room
where the maid used to live.

203

00:10:23,720 --> 00:10:25,970

And there where the
maid used to live,

204

00:10:25,970 --> 00:10:28,670

there I was living
with them for a while

205

00:10:28,670 --> 00:10:30,770

until they got another
room attached to--

206

00:10:30,770 --> 00:10:32,840

They got back their own room.

207

00:10:32,840 --> 00:10:36,260

Not the house, just a room,
because the Russians of course

208

00:10:36,260 --> 00:10:38,690

won't give them back the house.

209

00:10:38,690 --> 00:10:43,820

And what was life, you will
ask me, after the bombardment,

210
00:10:43,820 --> 00:10:45,800
after the Russians came in?

211
00:10:45,800 --> 00:10:47,150
It was a tough life.

212
00:10:47,150 --> 00:10:50,180
It was, first of all,
the first days were--

213
00:10:50,180 --> 00:10:52,640
the first week,
rather-- after the war

214
00:10:52,640 --> 00:10:54,650
it was also interesting.

215
00:10:54,650 --> 00:10:56,500
You know we lived
on the fourth floor

216
00:10:56,500 --> 00:10:58,880
when we didn't go
to the shelter.

217
00:10:58,880 --> 00:11:02,000
And after the so-called
, fighting I went up

218
00:11:02,000 --> 00:11:04,290
on the fourth floor and
looked out the window,

219
00:11:04,290 --> 00:11:09,350
because I was more or less like
freer because after five years

220
00:11:09,350 --> 00:11:12,270
you felt, well,
Mommy, I survived.

221
00:11:12,270 --> 00:11:14,780

And I was rather
careless that time

222
00:11:14,780 --> 00:11:16,590
and I went and I
looked out the window

223
00:11:16,590 --> 00:11:18,740
because I wanted to
see what is a war.

224
00:11:18,740 --> 00:11:23,030
You see this is not a war like
here they drop an atomic bomb

225
00:11:23,030 --> 00:11:25,220
and everybody's boom finished.

226
00:11:25,220 --> 00:11:29,990
There they are fighting
corner to corner.

227
00:11:29,990 --> 00:11:33,440
And I went up on the
window and I looked down

228
00:11:33,440 --> 00:11:36,050
I saw this one is Germans
and this one is Russian.

229
00:11:36,050 --> 00:11:37,010
They are shooting.

230
00:11:37,010 --> 00:11:39,920
And I look out of the
window, so they shot up

231
00:11:39,920 --> 00:11:41,750
and they almost
shot my head off.

232
00:11:41,750 --> 00:11:45,630
So I got, well, because

I didn't know better.

233

00:11:45,630 --> 00:11:48,650

So I went back until
things subsided.

234

00:11:48,650 --> 00:11:51,470

That time houses were
closed yet and Russians

235

00:11:51,470 --> 00:11:53,030

were standing all over.

236

00:11:53,030 --> 00:11:56,120

And slowly, slowly life
got back to it everything.

237

00:11:56,120 --> 00:11:57,560

You couldn't buy nothing.

238

00:11:57,560 --> 00:12:00,740

And as I said, I was
secretary for a lawyer and I

239

00:12:00,740 --> 00:12:03,020

had to make something to--

240

00:12:03,020 --> 00:12:08,070

Money didn't mean anything and
I had nothing anymore to sell.

241

00:12:08,070 --> 00:12:12,420

The only thing it is to
work and get food for it.

242

00:12:12,420 --> 00:12:17,160

And the lawyer where I worked,
whom I worked before once,

243

00:12:17,160 --> 00:12:19,050

he took me back.

244

00:12:19,050 --> 00:12:21,780
Some people came to get
advice and they gave him

245
00:12:21,780 --> 00:12:27,510
eggs and bread or pork fat
or whatever they gave him

246
00:12:27,510 --> 00:12:31,030
he gave me part of it as
a payment to the secretary

247
00:12:31,030 --> 00:12:31,530
until--

248
00:12:31,530 --> 00:12:35,490
Things didn't get
back to more or less

249
00:12:35,490 --> 00:12:37,530
I couldn't call it
normal because this

250
00:12:37,530 --> 00:12:39,600
was far from normal.

251
00:12:39,600 --> 00:12:45,810
Until I met one day, a friend
of our father and mother who did

252
00:12:45,810 --> 00:12:46,520
survive.

253
00:12:46,520 --> 00:12:51,870
Her family didn't survive, but
her house, her room was bombed

254
00:12:51,870 --> 00:12:53,910
and she lived in a small room.

255
00:12:53,910 --> 00:12:56,790
And her living room got
the full hit from the bomb

256
00:12:56,790 --> 00:12:59,200
and it had the
hole in the middle.

257
00:12:59,200 --> 00:13:02,430
And so I lived in the
little room in that house.

258
00:13:02,430 --> 00:13:04,920
And she was very attached
to me because I was young

259
00:13:04,920 --> 00:13:07,020
and I worked.

260
00:13:07,020 --> 00:13:11,010
Budapest has many, many
beautiful, beautiful bridges

261
00:13:11,010 --> 00:13:13,800
which were all bombed,
all the bridges.

262
00:13:13,800 --> 00:13:16,840
So people went through
the Danube back to Buda

263
00:13:16,840 --> 00:13:19,800
to get potatoes or flowers.

264
00:13:19,800 --> 00:13:22,170
So I sometimes
brought it back so she

265
00:13:22,170 --> 00:13:24,510
was attached to me
because she knew

266
00:13:24,510 --> 00:13:28,440
that being young I will
bring something also.

267

00:13:28,440 --> 00:13:33,690

And by the way, that time
there was another incident

268

00:13:33,690 --> 00:13:41,040

what maybe I will tell you
certain main aspects of it.

269

00:13:41,040 --> 00:13:45,210

There was a couple of days
after things settled down.

270

00:13:45,210 --> 00:13:51,720

There was a so-called
free looting.

271

00:13:51,720 --> 00:13:55,110

So people went with big bags
in these big department stores

272

00:13:55,110 --> 00:13:58,050

and whatever they found
they put it in the bag

273

00:13:58,050 --> 00:13:59,280

and they took it home.

274

00:13:59,280 --> 00:14:00,120

It was free loot.

275

00:14:00,120 --> 00:14:03,190

The Russians stood there
and told you to take it.

276

00:14:03,190 --> 00:14:05,070

If you went out
empty handed, they

277

00:14:05,070 --> 00:14:07,860

sent you back to take something.

278

00:14:07,860 --> 00:14:11,820

So I live there in that
house where above it

279
00:14:11,820 --> 00:14:14,760
was a department store.

280
00:14:14,760 --> 00:14:16,270
And in this department store.

281
00:14:16,270 --> 00:14:18,120
I thought I will go looting too.

282
00:14:18,120 --> 00:14:19,680
Why not, other people do?

283
00:14:19,680 --> 00:14:22,980
But I didn't prepare myself
for the proper looting.

284
00:14:22,980 --> 00:14:25,060
I didn't have a bag,
I didn't have a knife,

285
00:14:25,060 --> 00:14:27,840
I didn't have the scissor,
so I was not quite

286
00:14:27,840 --> 00:14:30,330
made for this looting business.

287
00:14:30,330 --> 00:14:32,840
And there was big,
giant men that

288
00:14:32,840 --> 00:14:35,100
are cutting materials
and everything.

289
00:14:35,100 --> 00:14:36,150
And I was just there.

290
00:14:36,150 --> 00:14:40,230

If they make me, I was
some 85, 90 pounds.

291
00:14:40,230 --> 00:14:43,740
If they gave me a push
I would just fall down.

292
00:14:43,740 --> 00:14:46,950
And they said, if you want
to live, you better go away.

293
00:14:46,950 --> 00:14:51,300
But I want to loot, so I
went down where the food was.

294
00:14:51,300 --> 00:14:53,700
And there in the
food people went also

295
00:14:53,700 --> 00:14:56,770
and took the silverware
and whatever it is.

296
00:14:56,770 --> 00:15:00,600
And finally, one
guy lifted me up

297
00:15:00,600 --> 00:15:03,180
and put me on a bag of flour.

298
00:15:03,180 --> 00:15:05,700
And he said, you stay here
if you want to be alive.

299
00:15:05,700 --> 00:15:08,400
Because they were strong
people and I was just

300
00:15:08,400 --> 00:15:11,250
the wind could blow
me away that time.

301
00:15:11,250 --> 00:15:13,830

And I was seeing that
people took everything

302
00:15:13,830 --> 00:15:17,250
and I stood there
on the bag of flour

303
00:15:17,250 --> 00:15:19,170
until everything was looted out.

304
00:15:19,170 --> 00:15:21,090
And I stood there
with the bag of flour.

305
00:15:21,090 --> 00:15:23,400
Of course, I couldn't
take the bag of flour

306
00:15:23,400 --> 00:15:26,850
and that was full with pickles
and jams and everything

307
00:15:26,850 --> 00:15:28,230
and on me.

308
00:15:28,230 --> 00:15:31,210
But I still was sitting
on a bag of flour.

309
00:15:31,210 --> 00:15:32,100
So what did I do?

310
00:15:32,100 --> 00:15:35,100
I had one and only dress,
and I took the flour

311
00:15:35,100 --> 00:15:39,060
and I put it in here
like this in there.

312
00:15:39,060 --> 00:15:42,120
And I went all the way walked
that way to my landlady

313
00:15:42,120 --> 00:15:44,340
and I said, here we
have flour we make bread

314
00:15:44,340 --> 00:15:46,410
from it, which we
took out the glass

315
00:15:46,410 --> 00:15:48,510
and we did make bread from it.

316
00:15:48,510 --> 00:15:51,180
But after a while it
was not humorous anymore

317
00:15:51,180 --> 00:15:54,120
with the soup kitchens
and everything.

318
00:15:54,120 --> 00:15:58,620
And I left that time.

319
00:15:58,620 --> 00:16:00,690
I went away from
my aunt and I lived

320
00:16:00,690 --> 00:16:04,170
in a friend of mine, the
same friend who was together

321
00:16:04,170 --> 00:16:07,170
with me in the camp.

322
00:16:07,170 --> 00:16:09,660
I went to that
house and I lived.

323
00:16:09,660 --> 00:16:14,280
And there was they call
it belated reactions when

324

00:16:14,280 --> 00:16:19,140
you know you survived, when
you know five years went away

325
00:16:19,140 --> 00:16:22,440
and you survived,
alone, but you survived.

326
00:16:22,440 --> 00:16:24,330
And then after
that when you know

327
00:16:24,330 --> 00:16:29,820
that it comes that psychological
for what and for whom

328
00:16:29,820 --> 00:16:31,290
and for why?

329
00:16:31,290 --> 00:16:36,440
And that was on the fourth
floor where I lived that time.

330
00:16:36,440 --> 00:16:38,720
And it was in December.

331
00:16:38,720 --> 00:16:40,775
And I was just alone.

332
00:16:40,775 --> 00:16:45,250

333
00:16:45,250 --> 00:16:46,730
I came to the
point that I needed

334
00:16:46,730 --> 00:16:50,990
help, which I, of course,
didn't get psychological help.

335
00:16:50,990 --> 00:16:54,260
So I opened the window and
I went on the windowsill.

336
00:16:54,260 --> 00:16:56,120
And I thought, well--

337
00:16:56,120 --> 00:16:58,070
Many people did
that, by the way.

338
00:16:58,070 --> 00:16:59,660
I was not the only one.

339
00:16:59,660 --> 00:17:02,460
And I said, well,
let's finish it up.

340
00:17:02,460 --> 00:17:06,210
And my landlady, who
was a very nice lady,

341
00:17:06,210 --> 00:17:09,890
she came into the
room, and she says,

342
00:17:09,890 --> 00:17:12,440
Elizabeth, you must be crazy.

343
00:17:12,440 --> 00:17:14,720
You are opening the window
and the whole heat what

344
00:17:14,720 --> 00:17:16,970
I put up here it goes away.

345
00:17:16,970 --> 00:17:20,240
I mean, I don't heat here that
you open here the windows.

346
00:17:20,240 --> 00:17:23,599
And I am standing on the
window ledge, jumping.

347
00:17:23,599 --> 00:17:26,650

And I got very mad.

348

00:17:26,650 --> 00:17:31,190

And I got so mad that I went to
her and I started to hit her.

349

00:17:31,190 --> 00:17:35,460

And I hit her and I hit her
and she knelt down beside me

350

00:17:35,460 --> 00:17:38,600

and said, oh, Elizabeth,
don't do that.

351

00:17:38,600 --> 00:17:39,710

Don't do that.

352

00:17:39,710 --> 00:17:42,770

She did that and said
that just to bring me back

353

00:17:42,770 --> 00:17:45,526

from the ledge.

354

00:17:45,526 --> 00:17:47,870

She was a nice lady.

355

00:17:47,870 --> 00:17:51,230

So after that I said, well, OK.

356

00:17:51,230 --> 00:17:52,670

Let's start living.

357

00:17:52,670 --> 00:17:57,830

And I went to the soup
kitchen and I asked for a job

358

00:17:57,830 --> 00:17:59,630

in the soup kitchen.

359

00:17:59,630 --> 00:18:02,570

And in there there

are so many incidents.

360

00:18:02,570 --> 00:18:06,110

So many incidents happened there
during the war, after the war,

361

00:18:06,110 --> 00:18:10,370

during the bombing, in the
ghetto where it is interesting

362

00:18:10,370 --> 00:18:15,020

but as I told it to Henry, you
cannot go into every aspect.

363

00:18:15,020 --> 00:18:17,100

Well, you can tell any
ones that you would like.

364

00:18:17,100 --> 00:18:22,010

Well, what is really standing
out I told you with the--

365

00:18:22,010 --> 00:18:27,460

So one day when I went
home to my landlady I met--

366

00:18:27,460 --> 00:18:30,970

You see, I was
working with a lawyer.

367

00:18:30,970 --> 00:18:35,470

And in that law office,
I met a young Jewish man

368

00:18:35,470 --> 00:18:38,140

who also survived
the war and who

369

00:18:38,140 --> 00:18:39,790

met me in that soup kitchen.

370

00:18:39,790 --> 00:18:41,980

He went not for

soups, because he

371

00:18:41,980 --> 00:18:46,240
was at that time in the
black market business.

372

00:18:46,240 --> 00:18:47,470
And he started to make--

373

00:18:47,470 --> 00:18:50,403
That time people made only money
because there was no business.

374

00:18:50,403 --> 00:18:51,070
There's nothing.

375

00:18:51,070 --> 00:18:54,220
That was only black markets,
and he started the black market

376

00:18:54,220 --> 00:18:56,620
business very successfully.

377

00:18:56,620 --> 00:19:02,290
And he always had an eye on me,
but I was not too interested.

378

00:19:02,290 --> 00:19:06,250
But after the war when
he gave me a proposition,

379

00:19:06,250 --> 00:19:07,330
he said, you know what?

380

00:19:07,330 --> 00:19:08,530
I mean what is that?

381

00:19:08,530 --> 00:19:09,850
You work in the soup kitchen.

382

00:19:09,850 --> 00:19:11,500
I have money.

383
00:19:11,500 --> 00:19:14,110
You will come and
live with me and we

384
00:19:14,110 --> 00:19:15,880
will see what we will do.

385
00:19:15,880 --> 00:19:20,770
I probably would have become
what papers I had before.

386
00:19:20,770 --> 00:19:22,660
And I said, OK.

387
00:19:22,660 --> 00:19:26,380
And I went to my landlady
and I had, as I said,

388
00:19:26,380 --> 00:19:29,770
one dress which I washed
was full of flour.

389
00:19:29,770 --> 00:19:32,560
And I said to her, well, I
have a date with that man.

390
00:19:32,560 --> 00:19:36,940
And he was standing
down with the car.

391
00:19:36,940 --> 00:19:39,860
I lived on the second
floor that time.

392
00:19:39,860 --> 00:19:42,400
And I told my
landlady he's waiting,

393
00:19:42,400 --> 00:19:45,340
and my landlady said OK
because she wanted something

394

00:19:45,340 --> 00:19:47,200
from me too.

395

00:19:47,200 --> 00:19:49,490
And I opened the
window and I said,

396

00:19:49,490 --> 00:19:51,180
I'm coming down five minutes.

397

00:19:51,180 --> 00:19:53,020
As I said, I had one dress.

398

00:19:53,020 --> 00:19:55,510
And I went down
to go on the road

399

00:19:55,510 --> 00:20:00,520
what could end like Madame
X or who knows what.

400

00:20:00,520 --> 00:20:02,560
I don't know what
would have become.

401

00:20:02,560 --> 00:20:05,440
But as I walked
down the steps going

402

00:20:05,440 --> 00:20:09,790
to the guy who was waiting for
me on the house before the car,

403

00:20:09,790 --> 00:20:12,640
a Russian soldier
comes up the steps.

404

00:20:12,640 --> 00:20:16,150
And I see a Russian soldier
I run because I had incidents

405

00:20:16,150 --> 00:20:19,120

with a Russian soldier
which I didn't tell you

406
00:20:19,120 --> 00:20:21,710
which I wrote about it
if you are interested,

407
00:20:21,710 --> 00:20:29,470
a jar of pickles, where you know
the Russians did their plenty.

408
00:20:29,470 --> 00:20:32,410
So when I saw Russian I run.

409
00:20:32,410 --> 00:20:34,840
This was my experience.

410
00:20:34,840 --> 00:20:38,170
And the Russian guy tells
me, well, Elizabeth.

411
00:20:38,170 --> 00:20:39,880
Don't you recognize me?

412
00:20:39,880 --> 00:20:43,210
And I didn't recognize
him because he

413
00:20:43,210 --> 00:20:45,520
was in a partisan
uniform with a red star.

414
00:20:45,520 --> 00:20:47,570
To me that was Russian.

415
00:20:47,570 --> 00:20:51,610
So then I looked at
him and then I saw.

416
00:20:51,610 --> 00:20:53,950
And I went back with
him to my landlady,

417

00:20:53,950 --> 00:20:56,870

and landlady opened
the door and said,

418

00:20:56,870 --> 00:20:59,980

are you crazy bringing
a Russian here?

419

00:20:59,980 --> 00:21:02,890

I said, he's not a Russian,
he's not a Russian.

420

00:21:02,890 --> 00:21:05,380

He's Jewish and I know
him from the ghetto.

421

00:21:05,380 --> 00:21:08,560

And then she said, but
he's waiting downstairs

422

00:21:08,560 --> 00:21:09,340

with the car.

423

00:21:09,340 --> 00:21:10,990

And I said--

424

00:21:10,990 --> 00:21:13,450

But you know it's
interesting, and I

425

00:21:13,450 --> 00:21:15,600

don't want to be
sentimental about it,

426

00:21:15,600 --> 00:21:22,020

and we are old enough not
to be, but five years I

427

00:21:22,020 --> 00:21:24,000

fought for my life.

428

00:21:24,000 --> 00:21:26,860

And in the minute he
came into my life,

429
00:21:26,860 --> 00:21:30,330
I said, well, that's it for me.

430
00:21:30,330 --> 00:21:32,310
Now take over.

431
00:21:32,310 --> 00:21:35,140
And he did.

432
00:21:35,140 --> 00:21:36,900
And that was how we met.

433
00:21:36,900 --> 00:21:38,820
No more do you ask me now.

434
00:21:38,820 --> 00:21:40,440
What do you want to know more?

435
00:21:40,440 --> 00:21:44,400
I think that should
probably do it.

436
00:21:44,400 --> 00:21:50,940
And then of course we dated
and then we went to Vienna.

437
00:21:50,940 --> 00:21:53,460
And from Vienna we
went to the consulate.

438
00:21:53,460 --> 00:21:56,170
And the consulate said
the quota is closed.

439
00:21:56,170 --> 00:21:59,340
And then suddenly my
brother kept sending me

440
00:21:59,340 --> 00:22:01,440

affidavits and everything.

441

00:22:01,440 --> 00:22:03,840

And meanwhile I
got pregnant and we

442

00:22:03,840 --> 00:22:08,190

thought we'd settle down in
Vienna like many other Jews.

443

00:22:08,190 --> 00:22:10,870

But then one day the
consulate writes me a letter,

444

00:22:10,870 --> 00:22:12,330

the Polish quota is open.

445

00:22:12,330 --> 00:22:14,650

So the Polish quota is open.

446

00:22:14,650 --> 00:22:15,930

Let's go to America.

447

00:22:15,930 --> 00:22:18,122

448

00:22:18,122 --> 00:22:20,080

You mentioned something
about a trip to Israel.

449

00:22:20,080 --> 00:22:21,038

That was just to visit.

450

00:22:21,038 --> 00:22:23,730

The trip to Israel was
before when we knew already

451

00:22:23,730 --> 00:22:24,870

that we come to America.

452

00:22:24,870 --> 00:22:27,490

And we had brothers

that time in Israel

453

00:22:27,490 --> 00:22:29,620

so we went to Israel As
a matter of- Barbara,

454

00:22:29,620 --> 00:22:33,550

our daughter, the first move
what she made was in Israel.

455

00:22:33,550 --> 00:22:35,250

So that was the
trip before we go.

456

00:22:35,250 --> 00:22:41,040

But one thing I want to
tell you more in the tape

457

00:22:41,040 --> 00:22:44,490

because that was
also a nice incident.

458

00:22:44,490 --> 00:22:47,760

We came with the Mauretania.

459

00:22:47,760 --> 00:22:52,770

And when you're nearing
the Statue of Liberty,

460

00:22:52,770 --> 00:22:56,160

the captain, and
especially at that time--

461

00:22:56,160 --> 00:22:57,960

By the way, we were
one of the last

462

00:22:57,960 --> 00:23:00,840

who didn't go to Ellis Island.

463

00:23:00,840 --> 00:23:03,150

Before us, they still
went to Ellis Island.

464

00:23:03,150 --> 00:23:06,000

When we came it was not
Ellis Island anymore.

465

00:23:06,000 --> 00:23:08,490

So there were two incidents
what I want to tell you.

466

00:23:08,490 --> 00:23:11,100

So when we were
on the boat and we

467

00:23:11,100 --> 00:23:14,130

were nearing the
Statue of Liberty,

468

00:23:14,130 --> 00:23:22,000

and the captain of the
boat was reading that,

469

00:23:22,000 --> 00:23:24,790

"Give me your tired,
your poor," and we

470

00:23:24,790 --> 00:23:28,010

were standing, Henry and I,
and he had his story to tell

471

00:23:28,010 --> 00:23:29,410

and I had my story.

472

00:23:29,410 --> 00:23:32,070

And I was pregnant
and we went to America

473

00:23:32,070 --> 00:23:34,060

and we were holding
hands, and we

474

00:23:34,060 --> 00:23:36,010

were looking at the
Statue of Liberty

475

00:23:36,010 --> 00:23:41,740

and I said, well, we made it.

476

00:23:41,740 --> 00:23:44,160

That's the end of the story.

477

00:23:44,160 --> 00:23:46,000