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Doris Fedrid (previously Dora Rosenstrauch), born June 26, 1927, describes growing up in Tarnopol when it was part of Poland (it's now un Ukraine); being raised by her parents Leah and David Rosenstrauch; living with her Orthodox grandparents, two cousins, and servants who took care of her; attending a school/yeshiva for the Deaf in Lvov named Kehana, with 30-50 Deaf children from various countries; learning Polish, Hebrew; being forced to lipread and punished for using sign language; becoming ill shortly after Russia invaded, prompting her to return home from school May 5, 1941, never completing her education; witnessing harassment and shootings of Jewish people in Lvov, as well as harassment of Deaf individuals; relying on a close Catholic friend to tell her who was and was not friendly toward Deaf people; her father working in a warehouse after the Russians forcefully seized his business and their family possessions; Germans invading Tarnopol in June 1941; being held at gunpoint and watching her grandfather get shot; burying him in their garden before later watching her father exhume his body for reburial; being locked with several women in a flooded basement; escaping and temporarily hiding in friends' homes; learning of her uncle's death after Nazis claimed they were sending him to work; her family being sent to the ghetto in Tarnopol on October 22, 1941; living in the ghetto with her parents, grandmother and grandmother's friend Sylvia; getting sick from rotten food; watching her mother give birth to her younger sister Esther in the ghetto on December 22, 1942, and hiding the baby from the Nazis; hiding the fact that she was Deaf from the Nazis after seeing other Deaf individuals killed; being forced to work in the gardens and watching her father working under constant supervision of the Nazis doing manual labor.

Doris recalls seeing people in the ghetto get pushed, hit, having their Payots and beards pulled off their faces; the "military"; her friend Sylvia Fisher's friends "Kolb" and "Loria" (all from Belgium) forced to be in the "military" made up of Jewish laborers who supervised others; hiding at least 22 times in her home, at work, apple tree orchards, and storage rooms; a Nazi named Max (2nd in command who worked near the train station) who her father worked, with frequently warning her father and others where to hide when it wasn't safe; her cousin Saleh getting caught after trying join groups of young girls including Catholics being sent to work; being unable to go anywhere alone in the ghetto for fear someone would discover that she was Deaf; her Uncle Abraham (born 1891) dying in the hospital December of 1942 of Typhus fever; Nazi's closing the ghetto's hospital (converted from an old meat factory) and gassing everyone inside; the ghetto being closed around June 22 or 24th 1943; a camp adjacent to the ghetto where her Grandmother Mariam died after mourning the death of her son Wolf; escaping July 13, 1943 under barbed-wire fences while hearing Nazi's shooting and killing other escapees; hiding in a flooded basement with her parents and Sylvia; Sylvia trying to convert to Catholicism and change her name; hearing of Sylvia being captured when trying to escape Tarnopol by train, after being identified as Jewish by her voice and appearance on the train, never hearing from her again; paying Mrs. Zulman to hide in her barn; hiding for 8 and a half months in a small crawl space her father made under the chicken coup barely big enough for her and her parents to lie down; being unable to move around and having mice crawl on them; getting boils on their bodies and being able to bathe only once per month; hiding from Mrs. Zulman's niece because her boyfriend was a Nazi; hearing of Mrs. Zulman's neighbors also hiding a Jewish family but

later killing them; her baby sister Esther being bundled and carried in bags to be hidden; later finding out that she was thrown in the trash and rescued to be taken to a convent and raised by nuns; hearing of Mrs. Zulman visiting the baby weekly claiming it to be her granddaughter; baby Esther getting adopted, only to be reunited to her family in 1944 after the war when the parents begged the adopted family for her; Leaving Mrs. Zulman's farm March 9, being barely able to walk; traveling various places and volunteering in Zbarazh, helping blind people at a red cross shelter; going back to Tarnopol to find very few Jewish people had survived; her uncle Izaak escaping to Italy (then later Israel); her father being arrested by the Russians for incorrectly being accused of being a spy; a distant family member's Russian wife helping her father get out of prison; trying to go to Krakow, Poland in June 1945 but since it was full, traveling from place to place until crossing the border into Czechoslovakia where police stripped them of all their possessions except for a small amount of money and valuables hidden in baby Ether's clothing; staying in Prague for two weeks before going to Ottobrunn, then Munich, Germany; sharing an apartment with a German family that included a former Nazi; getting denied a visa to the US for being Deaf and told that the US did not like or want more Deaf people and detained them on Ellis island for years; her Uncle Morris and other family members helping her get a visa and then travel to the US; leaving Europe January 8, 1947; spending 15 days on a military ship called "Marine Marlin" in stormy waters; arriving in the US January 24 and meeting extended family members (uncle Morris, aunt Helen, and cousins); learning some American Sign Language; making friends and going to events at a Deaf club in Brooklyn; working as a seamstress; moving to Denver for work; corresponding with Fred (another Deaf holocaust survivor she met in NY who survived 4 years in a camp with 2 other Deaf friends named Morris and Goldfeld); marrying Fred on November 21, 1948 in Denver; Fred working as a tailor until his death on January 6, 1963, after health complications from an operation and infection; working various jobs, mostly as a seamstress, raising three children, and working in Seattle for 8 years; her father dying of a stroke and mother living in Denver; losing eyesight in 1984 after battling glaucoma and Usher's syndrome; and passing her stories on to her 3 children and 7 grandchildren.