1 00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:30,012

2 00:00:30,012 --> 00:00:30,530 Mark.

3 00:00:30,530 --> 00:00:30,840 10

4 00:00:30,840 --> 00:00:31,340 Marker.

5 00:00:31,340 --> 00:00:36,920

6 00:00:36,920 --> 00:00:42,190 So pretty soon, it was the end of the ghetto.

7 00:00:42,190 --> 00:00:42,718 Right.

8 00:00:42,718 --> 00:00:43,510 Tell me about that.

9 00:00:43,510 --> 00:00:44,860 Yes.

10 00:00:44,860 --> 00:00:50,110 Now, before that, there were two camps outside of the ghetto.

11 00:00:50,110 --> 00:00:57,670 But within the city are also suburbs of Kaunas, Sanc,

12 00:00:57,670 --> 00:01:01,390 Sanciai, Sanciai or Sancai, something Lithuanian 00:01:01,390 --> 00:01:02,710 is like that.

14 00:01:02,710 --> 00:01:05,129 And Aleksot.

15 00:01:05,129 --> 00:01:08,830 And there was also a forced labor camp

16 00:01:08,830 --> 00:01:13,090 where the airport was.

17 00:01:13,090 --> 00:01:16,670 Perhaps it still is there, for all I know.

18 00:01:16,670 --> 00:01:22,420 And just prior to the liquidation

19 00:01:22,420 --> 00:01:27,370 of the ghetto, which came about, I think, in June or July,

20 00:01:27,370 --> 00:01:28,330 you know.

21 00:01:28,330 --> 00:01:29,290 I have trouble.

22 00:01:29,290 --> 00:01:30,598 Was this June or July?

23 00:01:30,598 --> 00:01:32,140 Both, it went all through the summer.

24 00:01:32,140 --> 00:01:34,060 Both, it went along, right.

25 00:01:34,060 --> 00:01:35,770 Now, in June, if that's the case--

26 00:01:35,770 --> 00:01:39,610 either the end of May or June, so at the beginning of June,

27 00:01:39,610 --> 00:01:44,440 for a couple of weeks, my father was ordered with his family

28 00:01:44,440 --> 00:01:47,290 to go to this camp to Sanc.

29 00:01:47,290 --> 00:01:51,990 So we were taken out of the ghetto by then.

30 00:01:51,990 --> 00:01:57,010 And from then, that point on, we were separated.

31 00:01:57,010 --> 00:02:02,400 We were, up to then, until my brother was taken away,

32 00:02:02,400 --> 00:02:04,560 our little family was intact.

33 00:02:04,560 --> 00:02:08,940 Until '44, until the end of March.

34 00:02:08,940 --> 00:02:13,380 And then, towards the end of the ghetto,

35 00:02:13,380 --> 00:02:16,440 towards the starting of the liquidation of the ghetto,

36 00:02:16,440 --> 00:02:18,780 we were separated

from my father, where

37 00:02:18,780 --> 00:02:23,160 we were in the same camp, but the women were in one barracks

38 00:02:23,160 --> 00:02:25,440 and the men were in a different barracks.

39 00:02:25,440 --> 00:02:32,220 So we could only get to see each other very, you know, briefly.

40 00:02:32,220 --> 00:02:34,290 In the evenings for a very-- like because

41 00:02:34,290 --> 00:02:35,850 we were working already.

42 00:02:35,850 --> 00:02:40,630 By then I had to work, too.

43 00:02:40,630 --> 00:02:43,930 And in the ghetto, too.

44 00:02:43,930 --> 00:02:49,540 They installed the workshops in the ghetto

45 00:02:49,540 --> 00:02:51,910 where I also worked to learn to sew.

46 00:02:51,910 --> 00:02:57,280 So that we would be useful citizens.

47 00:02:57,280 --> 00:03:04,720 So we would be able to show them that we are useful. 48 00:03:04,720 --> 00:03:09,850 And in this camp, too, we worked, the women and the men.

49 00:03:09,850 --> 00:03:10,810 But not together.

50 00:03:10,810 --> 00:03:14,140 And at night, briefly, we got to see my father.

51 00:03:14,140 --> 00:03:18,910 And soon after that, we were loaded into the boxcars

52 00:03:18,910 --> 00:03:24,640 and taken to Germany, wherever that was.

53 00:03:24,640 --> 00:03:26,530 We had no idea where we were being taken.

54 00:03:26,530 --> 00:03:29,650 But we were being deported.

55 00:03:29,650 --> 00:03:33,070 And as you were deported, did you see any

56 00:03:33,070 --> 00:03:34,480 of the burning of the ghetto?

57 00:03:34,480 --> 00:03:35,020 No.

58 00:03:35,020 --> 00:03:36,920 We were not within the ghetto then.

59 00:03:36,920 --> 00:03:37,890 I did not see that. 60 00:03:37,890 --> 00:03:38,848 And you didn't go back?

61 00:03:38,848 --> 00:03:40,560 We did not go back, no.

62 00:03:40,560 --> 00:03:43,930 OK I'm going to take you back and ask you a couple things.

63 00:03:43,930 --> 00:03:44,830 OK, sure.

64 00:03:44,830 --> 00:03:48,520 Mr. Rick has told you what happened

65 00:03:48,520 --> 00:03:50,470 to him just at the Ninth Fort.

66 00:03:50,470 --> 00:03:51,110 Yes.

67 00:03:51,110 --> 00:03:53,560 Tell me what he told you.

68 00:03:53,560 --> 00:03:58,735 He told me that bodies were piled up upon bodies.

69 00:03:58,735 --> 00:04:01,260

70 00:04:01,260 --> 00:04:04,080 They shot them as a threat.

71 00:04:04,080 --> 00:04:07,590 Like they just-- there were ditches, there were graves. 00:04:07,590 --> 00:04:10,550 And they shot them.

73

00:04:10,550 --> 00:04:13,080 I don't remember whether I said whether they should undress

74

00:04:13,080 --> 00:04:13,980 or not.

75

00:04:13,980 --> 00:04:17,910 I don't recall them having told them to undress

76

00:04:17,910 --> 00:04:19,230 before they were shot.

77

00:04:19,230 --> 00:04:21,149 That I don't remember.

78

00:04:21,149 --> 00:04:23,580 But he was left for dead.

79

00:04:23,580 --> 00:04:26,170

80

00:04:26,170 --> 00:04:28,330 Covered with bodies.

81

00:04:28,330 --> 00:04:32,110 And that's how he managed to get out from underneath

82

00:04:32,110 --> 00:04:34,090 and make himself back to the ghetto.

83

 $00:04:34,090 \longrightarrow 00:04:37,890$

84

00:04:37,890 --> 00:04:42,150

And he testified to that in

the court of law in Toronto.

85 00:04:42,150 --> 00:04:44,760 Had he been wounded or had?

86 00:04:44,760 --> 00:04:47,140 You know, I don't--

87 00:04:47,140 --> 00:04:48,070 I don't know.

88 00:04:48,070 --> 00:04:49,930 I don't think so.

89 00:04:49,930 --> 00:04:53,710 I don't think so.

90 00:04:53,710 --> 00:04:54,360 OK.

91 00:04:54,360 --> 00:04:57,180 Because had he been wounded, I don't know if he would have--

92 00:04:57,180 --> 00:04:59,770

93 00:04:59,770 --> 00:05:00,890 Been able to get back.

94 00:05:00,890 --> 00:05:01,730 --to get back.

95 00:05:01,730 --> 00:05:02,270 To get out.

96 00:05:02,270 --> 00:05:05,400 And the photo of you in the ghetto, how did that happen?

97 00:05:05,400 --> 00:05:07,760 Yes, OK.

98 00:05:07,760 --> 00:05:14,480 My mother had a cousin, who became

99 00:05:14,480 --> 00:05:20,990 a doctor during the Russian occupation of Lithuania.

100 00:05:20,990 --> 00:05:22,550 He became a doctor in Italy.

101 00:05:22,550 --> 00:05:24,680 When he came back, he was designated

102 00:05:24,680 --> 00:05:28,940 to practice in a small town.

103 00:05:28,940 --> 00:05:34,820 And so when his parents, who happened to be fairly rich,

104 00:05:34,820 --> 00:05:38,990 were deported as bourgeois to Siberia by the Russians,

105 00:05:38,990 --> 00:05:41,580 just a week before the war broke out,

106 00:05:41,580 --> 00:05:43,610 he was not there to be deported with them.

107 00:05:43,610 --> 00:05:48,260 And he remained in Lithuania.

108 00:05:48,260 --> 00:05:53,630 The war broke out, he had friends, non-Jewish friends, 109

00:05:53,630 --> 00:05:56,120 who were willing to hide him.

110

00:05:56,120 --> 00:05:58,380 And they did.

111

00:05:58,380 --> 00:06:04,490 So he lived with the friends in the city of Kaunas.

112

00:06:04,490 --> 00:06:07,490 We didn't know what happened to him at that time.

113

00:06:07,490 --> 00:06:11,540 We didn't know that he lived that way until my mother was

114

00:06:11,540 --> 00:06:13,670 contacted by one of the officials

115

00:06:13,670 --> 00:06:19,130 of the committee of the ghetto, of the Jewish committee.

116

00:06:19,130 --> 00:06:23,210 And he came to talk to my mother,

117

00:06:23,210 --> 00:06:29,210 would she be willing to help out in hiding him and looking

118

00:06:29,210 --> 00:06:35,110 after him, because he must be in the ghetto, but also hidden.

119

00:06:35,110 --> 00:06:40,480 His whereabouts are not to be told to anybody.

120

00:06:40,480 --> 00:06:42,970 Because they could very well find him in the ghetto

121 00:06:42,970 --> 00:06:46,990 and take him away, too.

122 00:06:46,990 --> 00:06:50,200 Well, of course, my mother, she wasn't

123 00:06:50,200 --> 00:06:55,910 to tell a soul at that time, agreed.

124 00:06:55,910 --> 00:06:58,550 And she was told where he would be hidden.

125 00:06:58,550 --> 00:07:03,200 And the reason I knew about it was because she cooked food

126 00:07:03,200 --> 00:07:05,540 for him whenever she could.

127 00:07:05,540 --> 00:07:07,910 And I would take it to him.

128 00:07:07,910 --> 00:07:12,470 And he shared his quarters with a colleague of his,

129 00:07:12,470 --> 00:07:16,640 who was also a professional doctor, and a specialty

130 00:07:16,640 --> 00:07:18,800 gynecology.

131 00:07:18,800 --> 00:07:24,030 And by sheer coincidence, he was there when I was born. 132 00:07:24,030 --> 00:07:26,810 He was my mother's doctor.

133 00:07:26,810 --> 00:07:33,498 And this person, by the name of Dr. Nabriskin, said to me,

134 00:07:33,498 --> 00:07:34,665 I want to take your picture.

135 00:07:34,665 --> 00:07:35,610 It's for the archives.

136 00:07:35,610 --> 00:07:38,510

137 00:07:38,510 --> 00:07:45,680 And I don't remember whether I came with a small milk can

138 00:07:45,680 --> 00:07:47,120 or he handed it to me.

139 00:07:47,120 --> 00:07:49,260 I don't remember how it happened.

140 00:07:49,260 --> 00:07:52,010 But I remember him taking the picture.

141 00:07:52,010 --> 00:07:55,400 And I remember him telling me for archives.

142 00:07:55,400 --> 00:07:56,885 By then I was 11.

143 00:07:56,885 --> 00:08:01,900

144

00:08:01,900 --> 00:08:05,850 I knew what was going on.

145

00:08:05,850 --> 00:08:10,240 So I knew what archives meant.

146

00:08:10,240 --> 00:08:12,760 So he photographed me.

147

00:08:12,760 --> 00:08:17,350 But that was the last thing that ever

148

00:08:17,350 --> 00:08:20,140 occurred to me was to worry about this picture.

149

00:08:20,140 --> 00:08:21,400 I never thought of it.

150

00:08:21,400 --> 00:08:24,940 It never occurred to me that it would ever, ever

151

00:08:24,940 --> 00:08:30,730 survive and end up in Washington in the Holocaust Museum.

152

00:08:30,730 --> 00:08:33,640 I'm shocked now.

153

00:08:33,640 --> 00:08:35,130 What about some of the songs.

154

00:08:35,130 --> 00:08:36,909 Could you sing a song or two?

155

00:08:36,909 --> 00:08:39,280 Oh my goodness.

156

 $00:08:39,280 \longrightarrow 00:08:42,020$

Can I sing a song or two?

157 00:08:42,020 --> 00:08:44,350 Some of the songs were--

158 00:08:44,350 --> 00:08:48,640 but they were, the words were composed to old tunes.

159 00:08:48,640 --> 00:08:53,290 Borrowed tunes of other songs.

160 00:08:53,290 --> 00:08:58,420 Now, there was one song about the Jewish brigades that

161 00:08:58,420 --> 00:09:02,020 went out to work every morning and came back

162 00:09:02,020 --> 00:09:04,790 every day, every night from work.

163 00:09:04,790 --> 00:09:07,870 And it happens to be a Polish melody, I found later.

164 00:09:07,870 --> 00:09:10,000 I didn't know that it was even a Polish melody.

165 00:09:10,000 --> 00:09:12,250 Not only a Polish melody, but I think

166 00:09:12,250 --> 00:09:15,700 it's a very patriotic Polish melody.

167 00:09:15,700 --> 00:09:17,300 And it goes to that effect. 168

00:09:17,300 --> 00:09:19,756 Now, forgive me my voice, it's--

169

00:09:19,756 --> 00:09:21,310 it goes [YIDDISH].

170

 $00:09:21,310 \longrightarrow 00:09:34,960$

171

00:09:34,960 --> 00:09:40,030 Now, in translation, it means that the Jewish brigades go day

172

00:09:40,030 --> 00:09:44,700 in and day out to work, to slave,

173

00:09:44,700 --> 00:09:55,360 and they are bearing their pain with great, with lots of mood,

174

00:09:55,360 --> 00:09:59,590 with good spirits.

175

00:09:59,590 --> 00:10:00,230 I don't know.

176

00:10:00,230 --> 00:10:03,700 I don't even know how to translate [YIDDISH],, because it

177

00:10:03,700 --> 00:10:11,850 means with gusto, with feeling.

178

00:10:11,850 --> 00:10:13,600 But maybe hope or something.

179

00:10:13,600 --> 00:10:14,150 I don't know.

180

00:10:14,150 --> 00:10:15,260

It says a lot.

181

00:10:15,260 --> 00:10:18,680

182

00:10:18,680 --> 00:10:21,340 And there is this song that was also not--

183

00:10:21,340 --> 00:10:23,930 excuse me, that's a very important song.

184

00:10:23,930 --> 00:10:27,500 And it's about the Kinder Shack, it's about the children.

185

00:10:27,500 --> 00:10:30,020 And you may have heard of it.

186

00:10:30,020 --> 00:10:34,640 And it's about a mother who takes her child

187

00:10:34,640 --> 00:10:39,790 to be with non-Jews, and how he is not to tell.

188

00:10:39,790 --> 00:10:44,670 That you know, whenever I think of this song,

189

00:10:44,670 --> 00:10:46,620 even I get a lump in my throat.

190

00:10:46,620 --> 00:10:49,250 And it goes, let me think how it goes.

191

00:10:49,250 --> 00:10:51,990

00:10:51,990 --> 00:10:54,050 Oh, my god, I don't--

193

00:10:54,050 --> 00:10:57,595 I have a mental block because I got mixed up

194

00:10:57,595 --> 00:10:58,470 with that other song.

195

 $00:10:58,470 \longrightarrow 00:11:05,550$

196

00:11:05,550 --> 00:11:07,760

Oh, my goodness.

197

00:11:07,760 --> 00:11:08,505 [YIDDISH]

198 00:11:08,505 --> 00:11:12,660

199

00:11:12,660 --> 00:11:13,730

OK.

200

00:11:13,730 --> 00:11:14,980 Do they have to change a tape?

201

00:11:14,980 --> 00:11:15,480 Yeah.

202

00:11:15,480 --> 00:11:16,020 OK.

203

00:11:16,020 --> 00:11:17,490

So maybe it'll come to me now.

204

00:11:17,490 --> 00:11:18,210

It will, yes.

205

00:11:18,210 --> 00:11:33,510

206 00:11:33,510 --> 00:11:34,010 Marker.

207

00:11:34,010 --> 00:11:39,170

208

00:11:39,170 --> 00:11:42,170 Now, as I was saying, there's a song

209

00:11:42,170 --> 00:11:44,480 about the children that were taken away,

210

00:11:44,480 --> 00:11:49,280 and about the mother who tries to anticipate

211

00:11:49,280 --> 00:11:56,300 this terrible event, and takes her child

212

00:11:56,300 --> 00:11:58,250 to a non-Jewish family.

213

00:11:58,250 --> 00:11:59,960 And it goes like this.

214

00:11:59,960 --> 00:12:00,890 [YIDDISH]

215

00:12:00,890 --> 00:13:08,780

216

00:13:08,780 --> 00:13:10,550 Now, there is more.

217

00:13:10,550 --> 00:13:16,070 But this tells you what it is really all about.

it is really all about.

```
218
00:13:16,070 --> 00:13:18,700
```

219 00:13:18,700 --> 00:13:19,550 And that's the song.

220 00:13:19,550 --> 00:13:23,800

221 00:13:23,800 --> 00:13:25,180 Now, how can I go on from here?

222 00:13:25,180 --> 00:13:25,900 What do I say?

223 00:13:25,900 --> 00:13:28,600

224 00:13:28,600 --> 00:13:29,500 What else?

225 00:13:29,500 --> 00:13:31,240 Now, should I translate it?

226 00:13:31,240 --> 00:13:31,960 A little.

227 00:13:31,960 --> 00:13:32,900 OK.

228 00:13:32,900 --> 00:13:33,400 Some words.

229 00:13:33,400 --> 00:13:33,900 Some.

230 00:13:33,900 --> 00:13:35,980 OK, now, this is about a mother, as I 231

00:13:35,980 --> 00:13:40,150 said earlier, who takes her child to a non-Jewish family.

232

00:13:40,150 --> 00:13:42,160 The children look out the window.

233

00:13:42,160 --> 00:13:44,110 And there are children with blonde--

234

00:13:44,110 --> 00:13:48,280 the girls have blonde braids and the boys have flaxen hair.

235

00:13:48,280 --> 00:13:51,610 And together with them, there is this little child

236

00:13:51,610 --> 00:13:56,580 who has got dark eyes and curly, dark hair.

237

00:13:56,580 --> 00:13:58,770 And his mother brought him here.

238

00:13:58,770 --> 00:14:02,010 And she explained to him that she brings him here

239

00:14:02,010 --> 00:14:05,120 because his life is in danger.

240

00:14:05,120 --> 00:14:10,130 And from now on, he must not utter a single Yiddish word

241

00:14:10,130 --> 00:14:11,990 or anything to that effect.

242

00:14:11,990 --> 00:14:14,870

Because from now on, he's not Jewish anymore.

243

00:14:14,870 --> 00:14:16,850 And he better not forget that.

244

00:14:16,850 --> 00:14:22,505 He must always remember that he is not a Jew anymore.

245

00:14:22,505 --> 00:14:24,281 So this is the gist of it.

246

00:14:24,281 --> 00:14:26,930

247

00:14:26,930 --> 00:14:29,870 Tell me any other things that I haven't asked you

248

00:14:29,870 --> 00:14:32,450 about that are vivid memories for you in the ghetto.

249

00:14:32,450 --> 00:14:38,750

250

00:14:38,750 --> 00:14:43,550 You know, I've been worried a lot about lapses.

251

00:14:43,550 --> 00:14:47,040 I am going to be 65 this September.

252

00:14:47,040 --> 00:14:54,050 See, truly a senior citizen by all standards.

253

00:14:54,050 --> 00:15:02,790 Now, I remember having worked within the ghetto, too. 254

00:15:02,790 --> 00:15:06,450 This goes back, I think, to the era, to that time,

255

00:15:06,450 --> 00:15:11,700 to that quiet time, where they were

256

00:15:11,700 --> 00:15:16,830 planting fields of vegetables.

257

00:15:16,830 --> 00:15:22,320 And certain privileged people were allowed to work within.

258

00:15:22,320 --> 00:15:26,320 So they didn't have to go out the ghetto.

259

00:15:26,320 --> 00:15:30,600 So they were allowed, but they had to work.

260

00:15:30,600 --> 00:15:34,260 So they were allowed to work on this field, in these gardens.

261

00:15:34,260 --> 00:15:36,870 But the fields were where I said earlier,

262

00:15:36,870 --> 00:15:41,100 where the beaches were, too, further on.

263

00:15:41,100 --> 00:15:47,510 And somehow, my mother got me to work there.

264

00:15:47,510 --> 00:15:51,840 So I remember working there.

265

00:15:51,840 --> 00:15:54,480 I remember singing.

266

00:15:54,480 --> 00:15:57,310 Like I always like to sing.

267

00:15:57,310 --> 00:15:59,380 And I had an ear.

268

00:15:59,380 --> 00:16:00,950 I was like a sponge.

269

00:16:00,950 --> 00:16:05,170 I heard a tune and words, and it was--

270

00:16:05,170 --> 00:16:05,890 I got it.

271

00:16:05,890 --> 00:16:08,230 It was in me.

272

00:16:08,230 --> 00:16:15,160 So we did have the half-hour break, I would gather,

273

00:16:15,160 --> 00:16:18,290 and I would sing.

274

00:16:18,290 --> 00:16:22,950 But those times were very few and far in between.

275

00:16:22,950 --> 00:16:26,910 What other things do you tell the school kids about?

276

00:16:26,910 --> 00:16:30,090 You know, the thing is about the school kids is like this.

277

00:16:30,090 --> 00:16:33,540

My time is usually limited.

278

00:16:33,540 --> 00:16:34,320

It's within--

279

00:16:34,320 --> 00:16:36,090

No, I mean, just tell me any other things.

280

00:16:36,090 --> 00:16:36,600

OK.

281

00:16:36,600 --> 00:16:42,570

So what I tell them mostly are certain--

282

00:16:42,570 --> 00:16:47,370 I tell them, unfortunately, the bad things, all the bad things.

283

 $00:16:47,370 \longrightarrow 00:16:49,320$

I mean, there are no good things, really.

284

00:16:49,320 --> 00:16:51,870

How can you say that, good things?

285

00:16:51,870 --> 00:16:55,110

But the lighter times, if you can call them that,

286

00:16:55,110 --> 00:16:55,740

as you said.

287

00:16:55,740 --> 00:16:58,380

There was a lull, so to speak, for a while.

288

00:16:58,380 --> 00:17:00,480

I don't even remember

how long it took.

289

00:17:00,480 --> 00:17:01,620 I don't know.

290

00:17:01,620 --> 00:17:03,750 I remember the

lull, so to speak.

291

00:17:03,750 --> 00:17:07,740

Because our ghetto, actually lasted longer

292

00:17:07,740 --> 00:17:10,619 than most ghettos did.

293

00:17:10,619 --> 00:17:13,970 From '41 till '44.

294

00:17:13,970 --> 00:17:17,329 The Vilna ghetto-- people from the Vilna ghetto, I remember,

295

00:17:17,329 --> 00:17:18,680 were brought.

296

00:17:18,680 --> 00:17:22,250 When the Vilna ghetto was liquidated before the Kovno

297

00:17:22,250 --> 00:17:25,520 from the ghetto was, and they were brought to our ghetto.

298

00:17:25,520 --> 00:17:29,060 Those who were not deported anyplace else.

299

00:17:29,060 --> 00:17:30,350 And I remember that vividly.

300

00:17:30,350 --> 00:17:34,390

301 00:17:34,390 --> 00:17:40,310 So bad times as well as not so bad times.

302 00:17:40,310 --> 00:17:41,660 They go.

303 00:17:41,660 --> 00:17:44,143 What about keeping warm in the winter?

304 00:17:44,143 --> 00:17:44,810 Do you remember?

305 00:17:44,810 --> 00:17:46,145 Keeping warm in the winter.

306 00:17:46,145 --> 00:17:51,960

307 00:17:51,960 --> 00:17:54,510 We had our home, so to speak.

308 00:17:54,510 --> 00:17:56,990 We were not in barracks.

309 00:17:56,990 --> 00:18:00,560 We were in our own quarters, especially

310 00:18:00,560 --> 00:18:04,610 when we had our house from before the war.

311 00:18:04,610 --> 00:18:05,810 We lived there.

312 00:18:05,810 --> 00:18:10,760 There was always wood to heat.

313 00:18:10,760 --> 00:18:12,830 Because that was the way of heating

314

00:18:12,830 --> 00:18:17,840 the homes to begin with.

315

00:18:17,840 --> 00:18:21,110 You had like a fireplace.

316

00:18:21,110 --> 00:18:22,730 You heat a fireplace with wood.

317

00:18:22,730 --> 00:18:27,200 Our homes were heated with this kind of wood.

318

00:18:27,200 --> 00:18:31,510 That was my father's trade, actually, now,

319

00:18:31,510 --> 00:18:33,230 come to think of it.

320

00:18:33,230 --> 00:18:36,350 To build the places where you could put in,

321

00:18:36,350 --> 00:18:40,430 and then they would put in sort of units

322

00:18:40,430 --> 00:18:45,510 where you could either cook in them or put in wood into them.

323

00:18:45,510 --> 00:18:47,330 And it would heat.

324

00:18:47,330 --> 00:18:48,980 The homes were not large.

325

00:18:48,980 --> 00:18:51,510

Like the home that we had, like I said before,

326

00:18:51,510 --> 00:18:53,990 there were two rooms and a kitchen.

327

00:18:53,990 --> 00:18:57,740 And the oven that we had, it was--

328

00:18:57,740 --> 00:19:01,100 one part of it went into the bedroom.

329

00:19:01,100 --> 00:19:05,750 And the front-- the back was in the bedroom and the front

330

00:19:05,750 --> 00:19:08,802 was in the living room, dining room part.

331

00:19:08,802 --> 00:19:10,460 Let me ask you something else?

332

00:19:10,460 --> 00:19:10,960 Yes.

333

00:19:10,960 --> 00:19:11,950 Did you ever have--

334

00:19:11,950 --> 00:19:14,440 did you get interested in boys in the ghetto?

335

00:19:14,440 --> 00:19:16,720 Or did they get interested in you?

336

00:19:16,720 --> 00:19:18,370 Nice and interesting question.

337 00:19:18,370 --> 00:19:24,210

338

00:19:24,210 --> 00:19:24,710 Probably.

339

00:19:24,710 --> 00:19:27,370

340

00:19:27,370 --> 00:19:30,190

You know, not to that extent where

341

00:19:30,190 --> 00:19:33,040 it would really be memorable.

342

00:19:33,040 --> 00:19:34,990

I looked after my brother, mostly.

343

00:19:34,990 --> 00:19:37,570

I was with my brother all the time.

344

00:19:37,570 --> 00:19:39,100

Did you, and did you--

345

 $00:19:39,100 \longrightarrow 00:19:41,840$

I had friends.

346

00:19:41,840 --> 00:19:43,430

And you have fun

with some of them.

347

00:19:43,430 --> 00:19:45,500

Yes, I had friends.

348

00:19:45,500 --> 00:19:49,190

The friends had--

one friend had a cat.

349

00:19:49,190 --> 00:19:52,140 As a matter of fact, then, we used to make fun of the cat.

350 00:19:52,140 --> 00:19:54,770 And of course, we all spoke Yiddish.

351 00:19:54,770 --> 00:19:58,280 And the cat-- and in those days, I loved animals.

352 00:19:58,280 --> 00:20:02,120 We were exposed an awful lot to animals.

353 00:20:02,120 --> 00:20:05,060 And this cat, I would hold it on my lap,

354 00:20:05,060 --> 00:20:08,750 and I would say to the cat, cat, do you have a father?

355 00:20:08,750 --> 00:20:10,310 In Yiddish.

356 00:20:10,310 --> 00:20:16,250 [YIDDISH] And the cat would-and I'd blow in its ear.

357 00:20:16,250 --> 00:20:19,215 So the cat would go like this and shake its head.

358 00:20:19,215 --> 00:20:23,030 You know, we would think it's funny that we asked the cat,

359 00:20:23,030 --> 00:20:26,420 does she/he have a father?

360 00:20:26,420 --> 00:20:28,400 And the cat would shake its head and no.

361

00:20:28,400 --> 00:20:33,140 So that was-- things like that.

362

00:20:33,140 --> 00:20:36,365 And did you try to keep your brother out of sight, mostly?

363

00:20:36,365 --> 00:20:40,800

364

00:20:40,800 --> 00:20:48,980 Not really, because until that time, when the children were

365

00:20:48,980 --> 00:20:51,110 specifically-- so the ghetto was surrounded,

366

00:20:51,110 --> 00:20:52,940 specifically take away children.

367

00:20:52,940 --> 00:21:00,040 Somehow there was not this threat.

368

00:21:00,040 --> 00:21:03,310 So we hung around the house.

369

00:21:03,310 --> 00:21:04,810 I cooked.

370

00:21:04,810 --> 00:21:09,130 I remember, I made dough out of water with flour

371

00:21:09,130 --> 00:21:10,420 that my mother brought in.

372

00:21:10,420 --> 00:21:11,590

The flour, obviously.

373 00:21:11,590 --> 00:21:19,150 And I learned how to roll out a very nice round,

374

00:21:19,150 --> 00:21:21,990 like you would call it a pizza.

375

00:21:21,990 --> 00:21:27,840 And then I would roll it up and slice it thin to make noodles.

376

00:21:27,840 --> 00:21:28,814 [YIDDISH]

377

00:21:28,814 --> 00:21:33,720

378

00:21:33,720 --> 00:21:35,670 You know, and there was a potato.

379

00:21:35,670 --> 00:21:37,080 With this, it was a meal.

380

00:21:37,080 --> 00:21:39,640

381

00:21:39,640 --> 00:21:41,680 So when my parents did come home,

382

00:21:41,680 --> 00:21:44,220 and when I didn't have to work, that's what I used to do.

383

 $00:21:44,220 \longrightarrow 00:21:47,490$

384

00:21:47,490 --> 00:21:49,890

And like I said before, I

used to go out to the corner

385 00:21:49,890 --> 00:21:52,470 and sell either a trade or sell.

386 00:21:52,470 --> 00:21:55,500 I don't even remember that too well.

387 00:21:55,500 --> 00:21:58,700 I remember doing it.

388 00:21:58,700 --> 00:22:01,070 Thank you very much.

389 00:22:01,070 --> 00:22:02,110 We're just about out.

390 00:22:02,110 --> 00:22:05,180 And I'm very grateful.

391 00:22:05,180 --> 00:22:06,077 Thank you very much.

392 00:22:06,077 --> 00:22:07,160 I know this was very hard.

393 00:22:07,160 --> 00:22:08,860 You're very welcome.

394 00:22:08,860 --> 00:22:13,100 There is, I tell you the way I got liberated.

395 00:22:13,100 --> 00:22:13,600 I know.

396 00:22:13,600 --> 00:22:14,880 But you can't-- I don't--

397 00:22:14,880 --> 00:22:16,410 I can't.

398

00:22:16,410 --> 00:22:16,950 I know.

399

00:22:16,950 --> 00:22:17,850 It's OK.

400

00:22:17,850 --> 00:22:20,190 It's OK.

401

00:22:20,190 --> 00:22:21,660 And then I'll wish I had you when

402

00:22:21,660 --> 00:22:23,795 I made the liberation film.

403

00:22:23,795 --> 00:22:24,420 Wait, we have--

404

00:22:24,420 --> 00:22:26,360 Oh, if you have the liberation.

405

00:22:26,360 --> 00:22:29,680 You mean, this is a different--

406

00:22:29,680 --> 00:24:46,315