

1  
00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:13,440

2  
00:00:13,440 --> 00:00:15,359  
Five sound roll fifty--

3  
00:00:15,359 --> 00:00:15,859  
--1.

4  
00:00:15,859 --> 00:00:16,845  
--1.

5  
00:00:16,845 --> 00:00:17,831  
Synch 25.

6  
00:00:17,831 --> 00:00:21,840

7  
00:00:21,840 --> 00:00:25,000  
Now, you left off--

8  
00:00:25,000 --> 00:00:27,400  
could you just say again,  
and painted many portraits

9  
00:00:27,400 --> 00:00:28,990  
for Germans in exchange for--

10  
00:00:28,990 --> 00:00:33,160  
Yes, one even brought  
me a whole bread.

11  
00:00:33,160 --> 00:00:36,340  
This was such an event, yes.

12  
00:00:36,340 --> 00:00:41,710  
Yes, later in the  
camps, when the German--

13  
00:00:41,710 --> 00:00:45,280

when they knew that  
I was an artist,

14  
00:00:45,280 --> 00:00:47,890  
they brought me photographs  
of their children,

15  
00:00:47,890 --> 00:00:50,290  
and their wives, and--

16  
00:00:50,290 --> 00:00:55,090  
once our commandant, who  
was a very bad German--

17  
00:00:55,090 --> 00:01:02,380  
he caught me drawing, and  
he came in and beat me up.

18  
00:01:02,380 --> 00:01:09,280  
So the other soldiers  
said, instead of a prize,

19  
00:01:09,280 --> 00:01:11,440  
you'll get beaten up.

20  
00:01:11,440 --> 00:01:13,480  
And then he came to me later.

21  
00:01:13,480 --> 00:01:17,980  
Look, I'm going on my leave,  
and please do my portrait,

22  
00:01:17,980 --> 00:01:19,330  
and tell me what you need.

23  
00:01:19,330 --> 00:01:20,440  
I will bring you.

24  
00:01:20,440 --> 00:01:26,140  
And then he brought me  
paper and China ink,

25

00:01:26,140 --> 00:01:31,250  
and in my little book,  
Jewesses in Slavery,

26  
00:01:31,250 --> 00:01:35,230  
there are drawings done  
with a pen and ink, yes.

27  
00:01:35,230 --> 00:01:38,740  
Overs I have done  
with a sliver of wood,

28  
00:01:38,740 --> 00:01:43,480  
with some ink that  
the Germans gave

29  
00:01:43,480 --> 00:01:51,250  
me to do write the numbers I  
had to write for numbering, yes.

30  
00:01:51,250 --> 00:01:53,710  
So there were  
different ones, yes,

31  
00:01:53,710 --> 00:01:56,230  
but they exchanged  
him later because he

32  
00:01:56,230 --> 00:02:03,840  
started a romance with one  
of the women in the camp.

33  
00:02:03,840 --> 00:02:08,620  
The next one was  
better, and then they

34  
00:02:08,620 --> 00:02:11,710  
overwhelmed me with work.

35  
00:02:11,710 --> 00:02:19,900  
And then they started to bring  
me every day a cup of soup

36

00:02:19,900 --> 00:02:24,370  
from the German kitchen, yes.

37  
00:02:24,370 --> 00:02:27,310  
I shared with the  
sick people because I

38  
00:02:27,310 --> 00:02:32,890  
could sit in the sick  
room for my drawings.

39  
00:02:32,890 --> 00:02:36,610  
It was warm there, yes.

40  
00:02:36,610 --> 00:02:41,200  
And once one of the Germans  
took me, in the evening,

41  
00:02:41,200 --> 00:02:45,430  
into town to draw  
his mistress, yes,

42  
00:02:45,430 --> 00:02:50,080  
and she brought me  
a package of onions.

43  
00:02:50,080 --> 00:02:54,430  
She has heard that we were  
so desperate for onions

44  
00:02:54,430 --> 00:02:56,725  
because onions had vitamins.

45  
00:02:56,725 --> 00:02:59,610

46  
00:02:59,610 --> 00:03:01,980  
It helped to survive.

47  
00:03:01,980 --> 00:03:05,190  
I always shared what I had.

48

00:03:05,190 --> 00:03:07,820  
And this was all at Stutthof?

49  
00:03:07,820 --> 00:03:10,890  
No, this was in the labor camp.

50  
00:03:10,890 --> 00:03:14,580  
In Stutthof, I  
had my story, too,

51  
00:03:14,580 --> 00:03:18,330  
because the kapo  
there had a mistress,

52  
00:03:18,330 --> 00:03:22,080  
and when she knew that I was  
doing portraits here and there,

53  
00:03:22,080 --> 00:03:26,130  
she came and she wanted  
her portrait done.

54  
00:03:26,130 --> 00:03:29,730  
And she said to me, if you  
don't make me beautiful,

55  
00:03:29,730 --> 00:03:32,940  
you will see what  
will happen to you.

56  
00:03:32,940 --> 00:03:38,565  
Well, she was satisfied, and  
then she give me a whole bread.

57  
00:03:38,565 --> 00:03:42,390

58  
00:03:42,390 --> 00:03:45,438  
We got a slice.

59  
00:03:45,438 --> 00:03:48,370  
I had a whole bread.

60

00:03:48,370 --> 00:03:51,760

We made a feast with my friends.

61

00:03:51,760 --> 00:03:55,300

So the other things happened  
in the concentration camp?

62

00:03:55,300 --> 00:03:58,260

Yes, this was in the  
concentration camp.

63

00:03:58,260 --> 00:04:00,528

This was where the little--

64

00:04:00,528 --> 00:04:04,990

65

00:04:04,990 --> 00:04:10,200

let's say, little light  
that got up here and there.

66

00:04:10,200 --> 00:04:12,300

It never lasted, yes.

67

00:04:12,300 --> 00:04:17,850

It never lasted because  
the Germans were exchanging

68

00:04:17,850 --> 00:04:19,890

the personnel all the time.

69

00:04:19,890 --> 00:04:23,100

They were afraid that  
we were fraternizing.

70

00:04:23,100 --> 00:04:25,830

71

00:04:25,830 --> 00:04:28,920

Back in time--

72

00:04:28,920 --> 00:04:29,560  
What I want--

73  
00:04:29,560 --> 00:04:31,870  
--back to October 28,  
I want you to tell me--

74  
00:04:31,870 --> 00:04:32,370  
October--

75  
00:04:32,370 --> 00:04:36,330  
--28, 1941, the Great Action.

76  
00:04:36,330 --> 00:04:39,470  
Oh, the Great Action, yes, yes.

77  
00:04:39,470 --> 00:04:40,420  
Just tell me that day.

78  
00:04:40,420 --> 00:04:42,270  
Yes, yes.

79  
00:04:42,270 --> 00:04:48,600  
Well, there was an announcement  
that everybody but everybody

80  
00:04:48,600 --> 00:04:56,520  
had to go with his whole family  
to the big Demokratu Square,

81  
00:04:56,520 --> 00:05:01,210  
and there will be a  
count of the population.

82  
00:05:01,210 --> 00:05:03,870

83  
00:05:03,870 --> 00:05:06,170  
How do you call it?

84  
00:05:06,170 --> 00:05:09,110  
There is one word for it.

85

00:05:09,110 --> 00:05:14,990  
And whoever will be found in his  
home will be shot on the spot.

86

00:05:14,990 --> 00:05:18,980  
So everybody, of course,  
was very, very much afraid,

87

00:05:18,980 --> 00:05:22,400  
and then everybody  
came, but at the time

88

00:05:22,400 --> 00:05:26,330  
there were already brigades.

89

00:05:26,330 --> 00:05:30,710  
These were groups of people who  
were protected by the Germans,

90

00:05:30,710 --> 00:05:34,760  
yes, who worked for them  
in town or somewhere.

91

00:05:34,760 --> 00:05:40,700  
They came to fetch them,  
people with professions, yes.

92

00:05:40,700 --> 00:05:45,240  
And they were separated,  
not to touch them.

93

00:05:45,240 --> 00:05:50,570  
And I went with my sister.

94

00:05:50,570 --> 00:05:56,800  
My brother-in-law was already  
away with the 500 intellectuals

95

00:05:56,800 --> 00:06:03,020  
they had taken in the beginning  
of the ghetto, my sister



96

00:06:03,020 --> 00:06:06,740  
with her two-year-old, yes.

97

00:06:06,740 --> 00:06:12,290  
And the young man who had  
helped me with my drawings--

98

00:06:12,290 --> 00:06:18,830  
he came with us, and he  
said that we were his family

99

00:06:18,830 --> 00:06:24,530  
because he was a brigadier  
in a detachment that

100

00:06:24,530 --> 00:06:28,880  
worked at the airfield,  
and he had his privileges.

101

00:06:28,880 --> 00:06:34,130  
And his uncle was in  
the Council of Elders.

102

00:06:34,130 --> 00:06:41,390  
He had the [NON-ENGLISH],,  
the jordan paper.

103

00:06:41,390 --> 00:06:46,020  
That was the paper  
that saved people.

104

00:06:46,020 --> 00:06:52,190  
And on that day, 10,000 people  
were separated and driven

105

00:06:52,190 --> 00:06:55,280  
to the little ghetto first.

106

00:06:55,280 --> 00:06:59,330  
At the beginning,  
no one knew what--

107

00:06:59,330 --> 00:07:04,850  
maybe they wanted to renew  
the little ghetto because it

108  
00:07:04,850 --> 00:07:09,230  
was very crowded here,  
and they said now

109  
00:07:09,230 --> 00:07:12,590  
they had to send  
people to Germany

110  
00:07:12,590 --> 00:07:17,510  
for other work in other camps.

111  
00:07:17,510 --> 00:07:27,310  
But the next morning, we noticed  
that big, big numbers of people

112  
00:07:27,310 --> 00:07:31,480  
went up to the Ninth  
Fort, that road

113  
00:07:31,480 --> 00:07:35,020  
that we called the Via Dolorosa.

114  
00:07:35,020 --> 00:07:37,720  
And then it was told  
that they shot them all,

115  
00:07:37,720 --> 00:07:42,430  
and then no one  
wanted to believe

116  
00:07:42,430 --> 00:07:50,390  
until a woman who survived under  
the corpses and crawled out--

117  
00:07:50,390 --> 00:07:54,146  
and she came and told the story.

118  
00:07:54,146 --> 00:07:56,560  
And still no one--

119  
00:07:56,560 --> 00:07:59,050  
look, you couldn't take it.

120  
00:07:59,050 --> 00:08:00,470  
You just couldn't take it.

121  
00:08:00,470 --> 00:08:03,120

122  
00:08:03,120 --> 00:08:04,530  
A woman came back?

123  
00:08:04,530 --> 00:08:07,260  
A woman came back because  
they shot the people,

124  
00:08:07,260 --> 00:08:09,780  
and sometimes they  
didn't shoot them.

125  
00:08:09,780 --> 00:08:11,520  
They only wounded them.

126  
00:08:11,520 --> 00:08:15,060  
So they crawled out  
back again, yes,

127  
00:08:15,060 --> 00:08:18,630  
and somehow they found their  
way back to the ghetto.

128  
00:08:18,630 --> 00:08:21,690  
And they were telling  
their stories.

129  
00:08:21,690 --> 00:08:22,860  
Did you talk to her?

130  
00:08:22,860 --> 00:08:24,445  
Yes, I talked to her.

131

00:08:24,445 --> 00:08:26,190

I talked to her.

132

00:08:26,190 --> 00:08:28,260

She was a young woman of 30.

133

00:08:28,260 --> 00:08:30,510

She looked like 50, 60.

134

00:08:30,510 --> 00:08:31,740

And I write about her.

135

00:08:31,740 --> 00:08:35,144

I just went through my  
material to remember.

136

00:08:35,144 --> 00:08:40,740

137

00:08:40,740 --> 00:08:44,490

Did you see-- the next day,  
you saw people coming back

138

00:08:44,490 --> 00:08:48,030

with the baby buggies?

139

00:08:48,030 --> 00:08:56,990

Yes, the next day,  
back from the mountain,

140

00:08:56,990 --> 00:09:04,010

they came with lorries,  
with trucks full of clothing

141

00:09:04,010 --> 00:09:08,660

and full of baby  
buggies, all the things

142

00:09:08,660 --> 00:09:13,940

they had dropped from  
the people they executed.

143

00:09:13,940 --> 00:09:19,490

But from me you wanted  
to know about the culture

144

00:09:19,490 --> 00:09:22,520

in the ghetto, so  
I wanted to mention

145

00:09:22,520 --> 00:09:23,930

that there were musicians.

146

00:09:23,930 --> 00:09:27,560

There were many musicians  
that, at a certain time,

147

00:09:27,560 --> 00:09:30,620

were organized in an orchestra.

148

00:09:30,620 --> 00:09:34,100

And there were  
orchestra performances.

149

00:09:34,100 --> 00:09:41,090

Even the Gestapo people  
came to listen to them.

150

00:09:41,090 --> 00:09:46,790

And there were writers,  
and we had lectures.

151

00:09:46,790 --> 00:09:49,340

I even gave a lecture on art.

152

00:09:49,340 --> 00:09:55,910

There were doctors who  
lectured on medicine,

153

00:09:55,910 --> 00:10:06,380

and there was some quiet  
in the middle of '43.

154

00:10:06,380 --> 00:10:10,970

And when I went for my  
lecture, they already

155  
00:10:10,970 --> 00:10:18,540  
talked about sending people  
from Kovno to Estonia,

156  
00:10:18,540 --> 00:10:22,610  
and I even thought of  
canceling my lecture.

157  
00:10:22,610 --> 00:10:26,175  
But people were already  
assembling there, and I did it.

158  
00:10:26,175 --> 00:10:27,010  
I delivered.

159  
00:10:27,010 --> 00:10:29,840

160  
00:10:29,840 --> 00:10:36,110  
But this time never came again,  
and then came the parcellation

161  
00:10:36,110 --> 00:10:41,930  
and the sending to the satellite  
camps and the dissolution

162  
00:10:41,930 --> 00:10:45,160  
of the ghetto.

163  
00:10:45,160 --> 00:10:49,210  
And then a new commandant  
came, a new commandant

164  
00:10:49,210 --> 00:10:52,660  
who had been in Mauthausen.

165  
00:10:52,660 --> 00:10:58,780  
He had been he had  
orchestrated the gassing

166

00:10:58,780 --> 00:11:05,870

and the extermination of  
hundreds of thousands,

167

00:11:05,870 --> 00:11:11,130

and he came to be our  
head in the ghetto--

168

00:11:11,130 --> 00:11:38,000