

1

00:00:00,000 --> 00:01:07,770

2

00:01:07,770 --> 00:01:11,550

Today is the 10th
of November, 1992.

3

00:01:11,550 --> 00:01:13,950

I'm Sandra Bendayan,
and I'm here

4

00:01:13,950 --> 00:01:17,880

interviewing Lore Gilbert
in part 3 of her interview.

5

00:01:17,880 --> 00:01:21,060

Our producer is
John Grant and this

6

00:01:21,060 --> 00:01:26,640

is an interview for the San
Francisco oral history project.

7

00:01:26,640 --> 00:01:31,200

Lore, you were just saying that
today was a very appropriate

8

00:01:31,200 --> 00:01:33,330

day to be doing this.

9

00:01:33,330 --> 00:01:35,730

Yes, because it's
the anniversary

10

00:01:35,730 --> 00:01:41,730

of the Kristallnacht in
1938, and November 10th

11

00:01:41,730 --> 00:01:47,430

is very important
Holocaust remembrance,

12

00:01:47,430 --> 00:01:49,446
day of remembrance.

13

00:01:49,446 --> 00:01:50,412
Yes.

14

00:01:50,412 --> 00:01:53,800
Yes, you're right.

15

00:01:53,800 --> 00:01:59,500
Well, I believe we stopped
part 2 of your interview

16

00:01:59,500 --> 00:02:02,590
at the point in which
you and your family

17

00:02:02,590 --> 00:02:07,150
were ready to come
to the United States.

18

00:02:07,150 --> 00:02:13,900
You were also going to elaborate
on your grandparents staying

19

00:02:13,900 --> 00:02:16,000
in France.

20

00:02:16,000 --> 00:02:18,295
And you said you had remembered
the name of the town.

21

00:02:18,295 --> 00:02:28,390
The name of the town where my
grandparents lived from 1941

22

00:02:28,390 --> 00:02:36,730
until my grandfather
died in October of 1944,

23

00:02:36,730 --> 00:02:39,780
and my grandmother survived

and came to the United States.

24

00:02:39,780 --> 00:02:43,570

25

00:02:43,570 --> 00:02:47,800

They were saved by
the Catholic church

26

00:02:47,800 --> 00:02:50,740

and French Catholic
church probably

27

00:02:50,740 --> 00:02:54,470

through the underground who
did a lot for young children

28

00:02:54,470 --> 00:02:55,555

and older people.

29

00:02:55,555 --> 00:02:59,170

30

00:02:59,170 --> 00:03:08,030

My grandfather was
fortunate enough

31

00:03:08,030 --> 00:03:12,320

considering the times
to die a natural death.

32

00:03:12,320 --> 00:03:15,610

33

00:03:15,610 --> 00:03:18,580

He had, I believe,
a massive stroke.

34

00:03:18,580 --> 00:03:20,515

He had had a number
of small strokes.

35

00:03:20,515 --> 00:03:23,020

36

00:03:23,020 --> 00:03:27,920

And my grandmother was
by his side when he died,

37

00:03:27,920 --> 00:03:32,440

and he had a beautiful
Jewish funeral

38

00:03:32,440 --> 00:03:34,570

and is buried there somewhere.

39

00:03:34,570 --> 00:03:36,130

We have been trying
to-- my sister

40

00:03:36,130 --> 00:03:40,820

has been trying to find out
exactly where he's buried.

41

00:03:40,820 --> 00:03:43,130

But we haven't been
able to find it.

42

00:03:43,130 --> 00:03:48,880

In fact, my sister has
written several times--

43

00:03:48,880 --> 00:03:54,310

first in English and then
also follow ups in French--

44

00:03:54,310 --> 00:04:00,370

to the town of Roma and
mainly to thank them

45

00:04:00,370 --> 00:04:04,930

for saving our grandparent's
lives and those others whom

46

00:04:04,930 --> 00:04:07,900

they sheltered at
the time and never

47
00:04:07,900 --> 00:04:11,620
received an answer
from them which we just

48
00:04:11,620 --> 00:04:14,410
talked about again a
couple of days ago.

49
00:04:14,410 --> 00:04:20,200
And she is very surprised
and puzzled that she

50
00:04:20,200 --> 00:04:21,220
couldn't get an answer.

51
00:04:21,220 --> 00:04:24,370
In fact, the last time
she was in Europe,

52
00:04:24,370 --> 00:04:29,530
she had intended to go to
Roma and see for herself what

53
00:04:29,530 --> 00:04:31,090
situation was.

54
00:04:31,090 --> 00:04:35,020
Turned out that the traveling
was so exhausting for her,

55
00:04:35,020 --> 00:04:38,710
she couldn't handle it.

56
00:04:38,710 --> 00:04:41,200
But she hasn't
given up on it yet.

57
00:04:41,200 --> 00:04:45,490
She's still determined to
get to the bottom of it

58

00:04:45,490 --> 00:04:50,524
and can't understand why she
hasn't gotten any responses.

59

00:04:50,524 --> 00:04:59,310
How was it that - that he
had a Jewish funeral in 1944?

60

00:04:59,310 --> 00:05:00,368
I don't know.

61

00:05:00,368 --> 00:05:03,120

62

00:05:03,120 --> 00:05:08,850
Obviously, there was this small
group of Jewish old people

63

00:05:08,850 --> 00:05:11,280
within the hospice.

64

00:05:11,280 --> 00:05:15,520
And maybe he's just buried
in the Catholic cemetery

65

00:05:15,520 --> 00:05:19,140
or maybe they allowed
that at the time.

66

00:05:19,140 --> 00:05:20,830
I really don't know.

67

00:05:20,830 --> 00:05:25,770
But I do have a copy
of the eulogy that

68

00:05:25,770 --> 00:05:32,580
was given by one of the other
German Jewish people that

69

00:05:32,580 --> 00:05:34,170

were with him at the time.

70

00:05:34,170 --> 00:05:36,160

And it's absolutely beautiful.

71

00:05:36,160 --> 00:05:39,090

72

00:05:39,090 --> 00:05:46,770

So I think that's very
unusual story that that

73

00:05:46,770 --> 00:05:49,890

happened in those days.

74

00:05:49,890 --> 00:05:54,540

And like it always happens
with the second and third

75

00:05:54,540 --> 00:06:01,310

generation, now I'm sorry that
I never asked my grandmother

76

00:06:01,310 --> 00:06:03,030

more detailed questions.

77

00:06:03,030 --> 00:06:07,020

In those days, we really
didn't talk about the war.

78

00:06:07,020 --> 00:06:09,240

We just wanted to forget it all.

79

00:06:09,240 --> 00:06:12,300

We never asked my grandmother
too many questions,

80

00:06:12,300 --> 00:06:18,240

what was life for her over
there, or what was it like.

81

00:06:18,240 --> 00:06:22,020

And she didn't talk
about it herself?

82
00:06:22,020 --> 00:06:26,520
I don't remember that she
talked about it all that much.

83
00:06:26,520 --> 00:06:28,830
She probably wanted to be asked.

84
00:06:28,830 --> 00:06:32,130
And whether my mother
and my uncle her, her son

85
00:06:32,130 --> 00:06:38,130
and daughter, discussed much
with her or not, I don't know.

86
00:06:38,130 --> 00:06:44,010
We probably knew all
the major things.

87
00:06:44,010 --> 00:06:49,350
She lived with my
uncle and aunt.

88
00:06:49,350 --> 00:06:56,220
And then later on, she lived
with my parents until she died.

89
00:06:56,220 --> 00:06:59,340
And she was almost 90 years old.

90
00:06:59,340 --> 00:07:02,790
She was 89 when she died.

91
00:07:02,790 --> 00:07:09,280
Lived long enough to meet two
of her great grandchildren.

92
00:07:09,280 --> 00:07:12,500

93

00:07:12,500 --> 00:07:16,560

I was asking how are her
spirits during those years?

94

00:07:16,560 --> 00:07:29,140

Well, my grandmother was a
very, very, very strong woman

95

00:07:29,140 --> 00:07:36,100

and very typically German in the
sense that she was very stoic

96

00:07:36,100 --> 00:07:43,330

and never really let on too
much what was going on for her.

97

00:07:43,330 --> 00:07:44,810

She was hard of hearing.

98

00:07:44,810 --> 00:07:47,380

So it was always
difficult for her.

99

00:07:47,380 --> 00:07:52,490

Even though she
wore a hearing aid,

100

00:07:52,490 --> 00:07:56,560

she always felt a
little bit removed

101

00:07:56,560 --> 00:07:59,750

and outside of everything else.

102

00:07:59,750 --> 00:08:04,660

And since we young
people spoke English

103

00:08:04,660 --> 00:08:10,210

and we just went on about our
life, so we kind of, in a way,

104

00:08:10,210 --> 00:08:14,900
ignored the older person
sitting there in the corner.

105
00:08:14,900 --> 00:08:18,100
I think that's the way
it was in those days.

106
00:08:18,100 --> 00:08:24,630
She was well and
she helped my aunt

107
00:08:24,630 --> 00:08:28,690
and then later on my mother
is as much in the house.

108
00:08:28,690 --> 00:08:30,610
She didn't like to go out.

109
00:08:30,610 --> 00:08:34,970
She never went out by herself
mainly because of her hearing.

110
00:08:34,970 --> 00:08:36,804
And she was old.

111
00:08:36,804 --> 00:08:41,830

112
00:08:41,830 --> 00:08:47,860
In 1949, we celebrated
her 80th birthday

113
00:08:47,860 --> 00:08:54,160
with a big, big celebration,
inviting all of her old friends

114
00:08:54,160 --> 00:08:56,890
and everybody in the family.

115
00:08:56,890 --> 00:09:01,680

116

00:09:01,680 --> 00:09:04,950

Did she have social life
at all after she got here?

117

00:09:04,950 --> 00:09:10,740

Well, there was an old
cousin who came to visit her

118

00:09:10,740 --> 00:09:16,350

and other older cousins and
relatives or friends that

119

00:09:16,350 --> 00:09:19,020

came to visit her occasionally.

120

00:09:19,020 --> 00:09:23,550

But she didn't go out unless
she went out for a walk

121

00:09:23,550 --> 00:09:25,740

with my aunt or with my mother.

122

00:09:25,740 --> 00:09:28,290

My mother stayed with her.

123

00:09:28,290 --> 00:09:30,720

We did not leave her alone ever.

124

00:09:30,720 --> 00:09:35,370

But she was too
frail to-- and then

125

00:09:35,370 --> 00:09:38,740

later on, she broke her hip
twice, as a matter of fact,

126

00:09:38,740 --> 00:09:41,920

when she was in
my mother's house.

127

00:09:41,920 --> 00:09:45,480

So she was very well

sheltered and cared

128
00:09:45,480 --> 00:09:50,310
for with a lot of
love in the family.

129
00:09:50,310 --> 00:09:54,990
But she didn't take any
initiative on her own

130
00:09:54,990 --> 00:10:00,120
anymore at that
point in her life.

131
00:10:00,120 --> 00:10:05,450
But when she was younger,
she was a very active woman.

132
00:10:05,450 --> 00:10:11,400
I understand in
her younger years,

133
00:10:11,400 --> 00:10:16,440
she worked with my grandfather
and in their wine merch.

134
00:10:16,440 --> 00:10:18,180
He was a wine merchant.

135
00:10:18,180 --> 00:10:21,450
She helped him in his business.

136
00:10:21,450 --> 00:10:31,200
And she was very
strict and maybe

137
00:10:31,200 --> 00:10:34,420
a little bit on the severe
side, although she was tiny.

138
00:10:34,420 --> 00:10:37,620
She was even smaller
than my daughter,

139

00:10:37,620 --> 00:10:41,520
and my daughter is under 5 foot.

140

00:10:41,520 --> 00:10:44,430
I think by the time
I was 12 or 13,

141

00:10:44,430 --> 00:10:49,500
I was probably about her
size, and I'm not tall.

142

00:10:49,500 --> 00:10:53,730
Did she practice
Judaism in any way?

143

00:10:53,730 --> 00:10:54,370
Oh, yes.

144

00:10:54,370 --> 00:10:54,870
Yes.

145

00:10:54,870 --> 00:10:58,160

146

00:10:58,160 --> 00:11:01,370
More as a--

147

00:11:01,370 --> 00:11:04,610
I don't know whether
she herself had a lot

148

00:11:04,610 --> 00:11:09,740
of inner religious feelings.

149

00:11:09,740 --> 00:11:13,250
She never did anything
like lighting candles.

150

00:11:13,250 --> 00:11:18,410
But she went to synagogue
every Friday night

151

00:11:18,410 --> 00:11:20,870
with my grandfather.

152

00:11:20,870 --> 00:11:28,220
I don't know whether she herself
was active in the synagogue.

153

00:11:28,220 --> 00:11:33,140
In the sisterhood,
she may have been.

154

00:11:33,140 --> 00:11:37,730
But my grandfather
was very, very active.

155

00:11:37,730 --> 00:11:40,310
And she probably
took the back seat,

156

00:11:40,310 --> 00:11:48,000
just staying home like the
traditional wife, Jewish wife

157

00:11:48,000 --> 00:11:48,500
and mother.

158

00:11:48,500 --> 00:11:51,680

159

00:11:51,680 --> 00:11:59,650
My grandfather was busy on the
synagogue council, I believe.

160

00:11:59,650 --> 00:12:04,410
But he also sang at
the high holidays.

161

00:12:04,410 --> 00:12:11,000
He sang solo, and he
sang in the choir.

162

00:12:11,000 --> 00:12:15,640
And he was also a very active
member of the chevra kadisha.

163
00:12:15,640 --> 00:12:20,330
I remember very well
hearing him talk about it

164
00:12:20,330 --> 00:12:26,510
as a young child being
very much involved

165
00:12:26,510 --> 00:12:28,490
with the chevra kadisha.

166
00:12:28,490 --> 00:12:31,970
And he also like to
pinch at lady's behinds.

167
00:12:31,970 --> 00:12:35,790
[LAUGHS] And he had a
wonderful sense of humor.

168
00:12:35,790 --> 00:12:37,020
He was great.

169
00:12:37,020 --> 00:12:40,280
He was my big love in my life.

170
00:12:40,280 --> 00:12:49,113

171
00:12:49,113 --> 00:12:51,520
Did she keep up
her practice at all

172
00:12:51,520 --> 00:12:53,580
after she came to
the United States?

173
00:12:53,580 --> 00:12:56,310
Within the family
circle, I don't

174
00:12:56,310 --> 00:13:06,530
know whether she went out to
services on the high holidays.

175
00:13:06,530 --> 00:13:13,750
As a matter of fact, our family
hardly observed any religious--

176
00:13:13,750 --> 00:13:20,030

177
00:13:20,030 --> 00:13:24,260
we observed the holidays by
getting together as a family

178
00:13:24,260 --> 00:13:27,320
and having dinner and so on.

179
00:13:27,320 --> 00:13:29,750
Didn't go to services very much.

180
00:13:29,750 --> 00:13:35,030
And the saying in the
family was mainly,

181
00:13:35,030 --> 00:13:38,330
it's not like the
synagogue in Worms.

182
00:13:38,330 --> 00:13:40,370
It doesn't look like it,
doesn't sound like it,

183
00:13:40,370 --> 00:13:43,200
and didn't give them
the same feeling.

184
00:13:43,200 --> 00:13:46,565
So they rather wouldn't go.

185
00:13:46,565 --> 00:13:50,460

Can I presume they didn't
keep kosher household.

186
00:13:50,460 --> 00:13:52,280
No, no, no.

187
00:13:52,280 --> 00:13:53,240
So it was more social?

188
00:13:53,240 --> 00:13:54,130
Yeah.

189
00:13:54,130 --> 00:13:57,320
The synagogue-- as I
had mentioned to you

190
00:13:57,320 --> 00:14:04,520
before, the synagogue in
Worms was so special because

191
00:14:04,520 --> 00:14:07,980
of its age and the community
having been so old.

192
00:14:07,980 --> 00:14:10,250
In fact, when I was
in Israel just now,

193
00:14:10,250 --> 00:14:17,270
they have a model of it
at the Diaspora museum

194
00:14:17,270 --> 00:14:22,790
that they just felt
it's not the same.

195
00:14:22,790 --> 00:14:28,760
They had such warm
feelings for the building

196
00:14:28,760 --> 00:14:32,870
and the community itself and
the way the services were.

197
00:14:32,870 --> 00:14:34,880
They just didn't
like the services.

198
00:14:34,880 --> 00:14:36,800
They didn't like the music.

199
00:14:36,800 --> 00:14:40,040
They didn't like the way that
they were singing, and so on.

200
00:14:40,040 --> 00:14:41,800
So they didn't go.

201
00:14:41,800 --> 00:14:45,040
You said so warmly
that your grandfather

202
00:14:45,040 --> 00:14:46,700
was so special to you.

203
00:14:46,700 --> 00:14:49,490
Do you have some memories
you'd like to talk about

204
00:14:49,490 --> 00:14:50,680
that you haven't yet?

205
00:14:50,680 --> 00:14:54,020
I think I have already
talked about that

206
00:14:54,020 --> 00:14:57,040
at my first interview.

207
00:14:57,040 --> 00:15:02,830
I don't think that I have
anything to add to that.

208
00:15:02,830 --> 00:15:08,075
OK, well, now what about you

and your perspective coming

209
00:15:08,075 --> 00:15:08,950
to the United States.

210
00:15:08,950 --> 00:15:11,800
You were going to
come with your sister.

211
00:15:11,800 --> 00:15:19,510
My sister and I came in March
of 1946 and our parents stayed

212
00:15:19,510 --> 00:15:24,640
behind in SosÅ°a in the
Dominican Republic.

213
00:15:24,640 --> 00:15:28,940
I remember that when
our visas arrived,

214
00:15:28,940 --> 00:15:31,120
I jumped about this high.

215
00:15:31,120 --> 00:15:33,170
I think it was the
only time I ever

216
00:15:33,170 --> 00:15:35,020
jumped that high in my life.

217
00:15:35,020 --> 00:15:36,010
I was so happy.

218
00:15:36,010 --> 00:15:39,580

219
00:15:39,580 --> 00:15:44,830
And I could care less that
I left my parents behind.

220
00:15:44,830 --> 00:15:48,970

I mean, it was after the
war, so I was just going

221
00:15:48,970 --> 00:15:51,910
for my life's big adventure.

222
00:15:51,910 --> 00:15:53,660
Everything was exciting.

223
00:15:53,660 --> 00:15:55,840
And I came to New York
with a lot of chutzpah.

224
00:15:55,840 --> 00:15:59,110
But I thought I would,
like everybody else,

225
00:15:59,110 --> 00:16:03,220
that I would just
conquer New York.

226
00:16:03,220 --> 00:16:04,475
So you came with your sister?

227
00:16:04,475 --> 00:16:04,975
Yes.

228
00:16:04,975 --> 00:16:08,570
And was she excited too?

229
00:16:08,570 --> 00:16:13,900
I don't think she was
quite as excited as I was.

230
00:16:13,900 --> 00:16:17,020
She had a boyfriend in
the Dominican Republic

231
00:16:17,020 --> 00:16:19,660
that she left behind.

232
00:16:19,660 --> 00:16:26,530

So she was a little bit
torn about that, I believe.

233
00:16:26,530 --> 00:16:35,150
And my sister three years
later had a nervous breakdown.

234
00:16:35,150 --> 00:16:43,910
And all of that was already
brewing and building up in her.

235
00:16:43,910 --> 00:16:52,790
So she was rather more
on the depressed side.

236
00:16:52,790 --> 00:16:57,200
It was difficult
for her to, I think,

237
00:16:57,200 --> 00:17:02,000
to show a lot of
enthusiasm in those days.

238
00:17:02,000 --> 00:17:05,300
She worked very
hard and sacrificed

239
00:17:05,300 --> 00:17:12,680
a number of her years as a
young independent person,

240
00:17:12,680 --> 00:17:17,030
being able to go
out and meet people

241
00:17:17,030 --> 00:17:19,310
because she worked
in order for us

242
00:17:19,310 --> 00:17:23,750
to save money to bring our
parents to the United States.

243

00:17:23,750 --> 00:17:28,760

She worked as a baby
nurse and would live

244

00:17:28,760 --> 00:17:32,320

with families with new infants.

245

00:17:32,320 --> 00:17:33,950

So she would have
her room and board,

246

00:17:33,950 --> 00:17:38,450

and she was fairly well
paid in those days in 1946.

247

00:17:38,450 --> 00:17:43,080

I think \$75 a week
was good money.

248

00:17:43,080 --> 00:17:48,050

So she could save all
of that and put it aside

249

00:17:48,050 --> 00:17:49,970

for to bring our parents over.

250

00:17:49,970 --> 00:17:54,320

And I was feeling
very guilty because I

251

00:17:54,320 --> 00:17:55,640

earned much less money.

252

00:17:55,640 --> 00:18:00,230

I lived with my
uncle and aunt, and I

253

00:18:00,230 --> 00:18:06,320

paid for my room and board
and saved everything else.

254

00:18:06,320 --> 00:18:09,860

But in comparison

to what my sister

255

00:18:09,860 --> 00:18:13,940

was able to put away to
bring our parents over,

256

00:18:13,940 --> 00:18:19,220

I felt I wasn't
contributing as much.

257

00:18:19,220 --> 00:18:29,540

But by October of 1946, we
were able to bring them over,

258

00:18:29,540 --> 00:18:34,490

and we were able to
rent a little apartment

259

00:18:34,490 --> 00:18:39,270

from distant relatives
who moved to another--

260

00:18:39,270 --> 00:18:41,370

I mean, they moved
to another apartment.

261

00:18:41,370 --> 00:18:44,090

We were able to take
over their apartment.

262

00:18:44,090 --> 00:18:47,126

Were your parents
able to earn any money

263

00:18:47,126 --> 00:18:49,320

in the Dominican Republic?

264

00:18:49,320 --> 00:18:55,160

No, it was for my parents
like for everybody else.

265

00:18:55,160 --> 00:19:01,490

We got our sort of a pocket--

266
00:19:01,490 --> 00:19:07,460
well, it was more than
pocket money for my parents.

267
00:19:07,460 --> 00:19:10,400
I think it was a
certain amount of money

268
00:19:10,400 --> 00:19:15,440
a month that we would
get in lieu of--

269
00:19:15,440 --> 00:19:18,720

270
00:19:18,720 --> 00:19:21,690
since we were a
family, we didn't

271
00:19:21,690 --> 00:19:23,260
eat in the community kitchen.

272
00:19:23,260 --> 00:19:26,700
So we were given a certain
amount of money for our food.

273
00:19:26,700 --> 00:19:29,640

274
00:19:29,640 --> 00:19:35,370
And both of my parents
worked, and they received

275
00:19:35,370 --> 00:19:39,420
a small stipend for that--

276
00:19:39,420 --> 00:19:43,440
maybe \$10, \$15 a month.

277
00:19:43,440 --> 00:19:47,910
Whereas I, as a child,

I think I was given

278

00:19:47,910 --> 00:19:50,100
pocket money of \$3 a month.

279

00:19:50,100 --> 00:19:53,810

280

00:19:53,810 --> 00:19:58,580
And that's what we paid
our muchacha, the girl that

281

00:19:58,580 --> 00:20:00,620
helped us in the household.

282

00:20:00,620 --> 00:20:06,050
So \$3 could go quite
far in those days

283

00:20:06,050 --> 00:20:10,340
and in a Caribbean country.

284

00:20:10,340 --> 00:20:12,620
No, we paid her \$3
a week, I'm sorry.

285

00:20:12,620 --> 00:20:14,240
Not \$3 a month.

286

00:20:14,240 --> 00:20:19,430
And the children were
given \$3 a month.

287

00:20:19,430 --> 00:20:22,040
It cost me \$0.15 to
go to the movies.

288

00:20:22,040 --> 00:20:24,650
So I had enough money
to go to the movies,

289

00:20:24,650 --> 00:20:28,760

and that was all I needed.

290
00:20:28,760 --> 00:20:30,610
Who paid your
ticket to New York?

291
00:20:30,610 --> 00:20:32,500
We had to borrow the money.

292
00:20:32,500 --> 00:20:35,130
So actually, when
we had to do both,

293
00:20:35,130 --> 00:20:38,660
we had to repay the
money we borrowed,

294
00:20:38,660 --> 00:20:42,540
and we had to save
money for our parents.

295
00:20:42,540 --> 00:20:43,790
Did you borrow from relatives?

296
00:20:43,790 --> 00:20:45,208
Yeah.

297
00:20:45,208 --> 00:20:47,000
And what was the name
of the aunt and uncle

298
00:20:47,000 --> 00:20:48,830
you were staying with?

299
00:20:48,830 --> 00:20:51,620

300
00:20:51,620 --> 00:21:00,140
My mother's maiden name
was Care and her brothers--

301
00:21:00,140 --> 00:21:03,920

they were Henry and Carey Care.

302

00:21:03,920 --> 00:21:09,200

Then my cousin came
back from the army

303

00:21:09,200 --> 00:21:11,910

shortly after we
came to New York.

304

00:21:11,910 --> 00:21:14,990

So it was a great
family reunion.

305

00:21:14,990 --> 00:21:20,600

One of my father's
sisters also lived.

306

00:21:20,600 --> 00:21:25,880

So eventually, my grandmother,
my aunt Betty, and myself

307

00:21:25,880 --> 00:21:30,950

were all living with my
uncle and aunt and cousin.

308

00:21:30,950 --> 00:21:34,250

They were really a haven
for the whole family.

309

00:21:34,250 --> 00:21:40,100

They had left in 1937.

310

00:21:40,100 --> 00:21:48,440

It turned out that my
mother's brother Henry married

311

00:21:48,440 --> 00:21:53,510

my father's niece, Carey,
my father's oldest sister's

312

00:21:53,510 --> 00:21:55,640

daughter.

313
00:21:55,640 --> 00:22:01,550
So there was a double relation--

314
00:22:01,550 --> 00:22:06,390
we were related on both
sides of the family.

315
00:22:06,390 --> 00:22:10,940
So that's how my Aunt Betty,
who was my aunt from my father's

316
00:22:10,940 --> 00:22:17,480
side and also my aunt
on her mother's side,

317
00:22:17,480 --> 00:22:20,490
also stayed with them.

318
00:22:20,490 --> 00:22:30,530
And they were very,
very kind to us.

319
00:22:30,530 --> 00:22:33,800
And they were
struggling themselves.

320
00:22:33,800 --> 00:22:36,980
And then my cousin Walter
came back from the army,

321
00:22:36,980 --> 00:22:46,820
and he was just--

322
00:22:46,820 --> 00:22:52,970
we had always been very good
friends as young children.

323
00:22:52,970 --> 00:22:58,370
And he just took me
along and introduced me

324

00:22:58,370 --> 00:23:02,700
to his group of friends that
he had from before the war

325
00:23:02,700 --> 00:23:05,030
and that he was
going to school with.

326
00:23:05,030 --> 00:23:12,830
So I immediately had a
ready-made circle of friends

327
00:23:12,830 --> 00:23:16,280
and it was very nice.

328
00:23:16,280 --> 00:23:25,280
In fact, two of Walters'
friends from school

329
00:23:25,280 --> 00:23:32,360
came right away to see us and
say hello that even though we--

330
00:23:32,360 --> 00:23:36,380
Walter was still in the
army, and they were already

331
00:23:36,380 --> 00:23:37,850
out of the army.

332
00:23:37,850 --> 00:23:40,430
And they had heard that
Walter's cousins came.

333
00:23:40,430 --> 00:23:42,350
And so they came to
say hello, and they

334
00:23:42,350 --> 00:23:44,270
started taking us out on dates.

335
00:23:44,270 --> 00:23:46,460
And it was very--

336
00:23:46,460 --> 00:23:52,010
everybody did as much as they
could and were really nice.

337
00:23:52,010 --> 00:23:54,050
So how was your
adjustment in general

338
00:23:54,050 --> 00:23:56,030
when you got to New York?

339
00:23:56,030 --> 00:24:01,040
Well, I didn't have an
opportunity to really

340
00:24:01,040 --> 00:24:03,720
have a profession at trade.

341
00:24:03,720 --> 00:24:10,820
So I worked in--

342
00:24:10,820 --> 00:24:13,130
I always had wanted
to become an artist.

343
00:24:13,130 --> 00:24:17,450
So I looked in the
newspaper, and there

344
00:24:17,450 --> 00:24:24,610
were ads for hand
painting little chachkas.

345
00:24:24,610 --> 00:24:32,840
[LAUGHS] And I went there, I
applied, and I got some work.

346
00:24:32,840 --> 00:24:39,310
It was far from artistic,
but it was piecework.

347

00:24:39,310 --> 00:24:41,440
I was very, very hard work.

348
00:24:41,440 --> 00:24:44,310

349
00:24:44,310 --> 00:24:47,730
But I like the
atmosphere, and I like

350
00:24:47,730 --> 00:24:49,690
the people I've worked with.

351
00:24:49,690 --> 00:24:53,790
I was earning half
a penny apiece.

352
00:24:53,790 --> 00:24:57,600
And I had to work very
hard to make \$10 a day.

353
00:24:57,600 --> 00:25:01,210

354
00:25:01,210 --> 00:25:03,890
Yet, \$10 a day was
what [INAUDIBLE]??

355
00:25:03,890 --> 00:25:04,865
1,000 pieces.

356
00:25:04,865 --> 00:25:05,490
1,000 pieces.

357
00:25:05,490 --> 00:25:05,990
Yeah.

358
00:25:05,990 --> 00:25:08,570
And each piece, I had
to handle several times.

359
00:25:08,570 --> 00:25:16,050

360
00:25:16,050 --> 00:25:24,300
So that part was difficult
and it remained difficult.

361
00:25:24,300 --> 00:25:25,260
Wait a minute.

362
00:25:25,260 --> 00:25:29,620
A 1,000 pieces is
1 penny a piece.

363
00:25:29,620 --> 00:25:30,250
That's right.

364
00:25:30,250 --> 00:25:31,720
You'd need 2,000 pieces.

365
00:25:31,720 --> 00:25:34,431
Yeah, you're right.

366
00:25:34,431 --> 00:25:35,830
You're right.

367
00:25:35,830 --> 00:25:40,510
And some people-- some
women that were much older--

368
00:25:40,510 --> 00:25:44,500
I mean, women married that
were my mother's age--

369
00:25:44,500 --> 00:25:48,360

370
00:25:48,360 --> 00:25:53,490
they made as much
as \$12, \$14 a day.

371
00:25:53,490 --> 00:25:56,100
They worked like demons.

372
00:25:56,100 --> 00:25:58,220
They didn't even
break for lunch.

373
00:25:58,220 --> 00:26:02,200

374
00:26:02,200 --> 00:26:05,440
And I just couldn't.

375
00:26:05,440 --> 00:26:07,880
I always wanted to do
better and I couldn't.

376
00:26:07,880 --> 00:26:13,240
And I think the most they
could ever do was \$10 a day.

377
00:26:13,240 --> 00:26:17,080
Still, 2,000 pieces.

378
00:26:17,080 --> 00:26:22,990
I think I used to end up
anywhere between \$25 and \$45

379
00:26:22,990 --> 00:26:25,870
a week.

380
00:26:25,870 --> 00:26:30,366
So how long were you in New
York before your parents came?

381
00:26:30,366 --> 00:26:33,090

382
00:26:33,090 --> 00:26:36,540
About six months.

383
00:26:36,540 --> 00:26:39,840
So you and your sister were able
to save up all that much money

384
00:26:39,840 --> 00:26:41,130
in a pretty short time.

385
00:26:41,130 --> 00:26:41,880
Right.

386
00:26:41,880 --> 00:26:43,860
The problem with
that piecework was

387
00:26:43,860 --> 00:26:47,550
that the employers,
our employers,

388
00:26:47,550 --> 00:26:49,620
would have contracts.

389
00:26:49,620 --> 00:26:57,030
And when that contract was
finished, we would be laid off,

390
00:26:57,030 --> 00:27:02,160
and we would get unemployment
and all of that stuff

391
00:27:02,160 --> 00:27:07,140
until we found another
job in a related.

392
00:27:07,140 --> 00:27:10,290
But it was kind of--
you met the same kind

393
00:27:10,290 --> 00:27:13,410
of people in other jobs again.

394
00:27:13,410 --> 00:27:15,240
They went from place to place.

395
00:27:15,240 --> 00:27:21,330
And then, when after

I married Sam, I said,

396

00:27:21,330 --> 00:27:23,320

no, I don't want
to do that anymore.

397

00:27:23,320 --> 00:27:26,460

And I took some
courses in accounting,

398

00:27:26,460 --> 00:27:28,050

and I did bookkeeping.

399

00:27:28,050 --> 00:27:32,340

But then my son was
born, and then I

400

00:27:32,340 --> 00:27:37,080

didn't work anymore until
after my children were bigger.

401

00:27:37,080 --> 00:27:39,780

Were you able to
be in close touch

402

00:27:39,780 --> 00:27:42,060

with your sister in that period?

403

00:27:42,060 --> 00:27:45,540

She was living in
someone else's home.

404

00:27:45,540 --> 00:27:51,040

Well, she would be staying with
my uncle and aunt between jobs.

405

00:27:51,040 --> 00:27:55,650

So yes, we were always
in close touch and--

406

00:27:55,650 --> 00:27:56,280

In what form--

407

00:27:56,280 --> 00:28:01,170

And I used to visit her or
talk with her on the phone.

408

00:28:01,170 --> 00:28:04,738

So we were always in touch.

409

00:28:04,738 --> 00:28:07,196

Sounds like her life might have
been kind of lonely though.

410

00:28:07,196 --> 00:28:14,190

411

00:28:14,190 --> 00:28:21,135

I'm sure it was that she
never did have an easy life.

412

00:28:21,135 --> 00:28:25,490

413

00:28:25,490 --> 00:28:27,320

What are you meaning by that?

414

00:28:27,320 --> 00:28:31,090

415

00:28:31,090 --> 00:28:32,160

Well, she had the--

416

00:28:32,160 --> 00:28:35,142

417

00:28:35,142 --> 00:28:39,510

the don't think it's appropriate
for me to talk about this.

418

00:28:39,510 --> 00:28:43,280

419

00:28:43,280 --> 00:28:47,330

She ended up with a bad marriage and her husband

420
00:28:47,330 --> 00:28:51,150
leaving her with her child.

421
00:28:51,150 --> 00:28:55,250
So she was a single mother until she remarried.

422
00:28:55,250 --> 00:28:59,210
And she had two break downs.

423
00:28:59,210 --> 00:29:06,130
But I don't think it's right for me to talk about her life

424
00:29:06,130 --> 00:29:10,822
since this is something that goes into--

425
00:29:10,822 --> 00:29:14,140
That's OK.

426
00:29:14,140 --> 00:29:17,830
So were your parents glad to get to New York

427
00:29:17,830 --> 00:29:20,770
or was it hard for them to leave?

428
00:29:20,770 --> 00:29:24,470
My parents-- my mother wanted to come to New York.

429
00:29:24,470 --> 00:29:28,190
My father originally wanted to go back to Germany.

430
00:29:28,190 --> 00:29:31,300
And my mother-- and we --

431

00:29:31,300 --> 00:29:34,870

we children said
we're not going.

432

00:29:34,870 --> 00:29:38,530

If you want to go to Germany,
you're going without us.

433

00:29:38,530 --> 00:29:42,130

So I don't think he ever
would even consider that.

434

00:29:42,130 --> 00:29:47,140

But my father was afraid.

435

00:29:47,140 --> 00:29:50,590

He was about 60 years
old at the time,

436

00:29:50,590 --> 00:29:57,190

and he was afraid of how is
he going to support himself

437

00:29:57,190 --> 00:29:58,780

in a new country.

438

00:29:58,780 --> 00:30:04,060

And in Germany, he knew the
language, he'd still figured--

439

00:30:04,060 --> 00:30:06,250

he would have known
the people, and he

440

00:30:06,250 --> 00:30:10,240

thought he had a lot of pieces
that he could pick up there.

441

00:30:10,240 --> 00:30:13,780

442

00:30:13,780 --> 00:30:18,310

But in fact, my parents
never went back to Germany

443
00:30:18,310 --> 00:30:20,740
where other people in
the restitution business

444
00:30:20,740 --> 00:30:28,990
made many trips to go to
the authorities over there

445
00:30:28,990 --> 00:30:32,590
to get things moving.

446
00:30:32,590 --> 00:30:33,580
They never did.

447
00:30:33,580 --> 00:30:36,710

448
00:30:36,710 --> 00:30:41,290
But my father never
learned English.

449
00:30:41,290 --> 00:30:53,320
He had decided that he was
incapable of learning English.

450
00:30:53,320 --> 00:30:55,105
So he never did.

451
00:30:55,105 --> 00:30:58,540

452
00:30:58,540 --> 00:31:01,750
So he was really
very much afraid

453
00:31:01,750 --> 00:31:04,130
of what was he going to do.

454
00:31:04,130 --> 00:31:12,150

And when they first
came, my mother

455
00:31:12,150 --> 00:31:17,550
worked as a sort
of a lady's maid

456
00:31:17,550 --> 00:31:22,200
as a companion with
an older Jewish lady.

457
00:31:22,200 --> 00:31:25,560

458
00:31:25,560 --> 00:31:30,030
She cooked for her and
maybe dusted a little bit,

459
00:31:30,030 --> 00:31:36,210
but then kept her company,
ran her errands or whatever.

460
00:31:36,210 --> 00:31:37,560
Lived in or no?

461
00:31:37,560 --> 00:31:39,180
No, she came home.

462
00:31:39,180 --> 00:31:41,250
But she left dinner--

463
00:31:41,250 --> 00:31:43,200
she cooked her dinner
and left it there.

464
00:31:43,200 --> 00:31:49,140
That woman was living in
like a residential hotel.

465
00:31:49,140 --> 00:31:57,320
And my father started--

466

00:31:57,320 --> 00:32:03,710
he worked in a chocolate
factory in the refrigerator,

467
00:32:03,710 --> 00:32:08,450
in the cooling for a while.

468
00:32:08,450 --> 00:32:10,500
And he couldn't handle that.

469
00:32:10,500 --> 00:32:21,380
And then he got a job as a
sort of a nurse's aide porter

470
00:32:21,380 --> 00:32:23,760
in an old age home.

471
00:32:23,760 --> 00:32:29,480
And what he had to do there
was lifting people in beds

472
00:32:29,480 --> 00:32:30,860
and so on.

473
00:32:30,860 --> 00:32:32,640
And both of these things--

474
00:32:32,640 --> 00:32:36,630
what we didn't know that he was
building up to a heart attack.

475
00:32:36,630 --> 00:32:40,160
And of course, both being
in the cold and lifting

476
00:32:40,160 --> 00:32:42,860
was absolutely the
worst things that he

477
00:32:42,860 --> 00:32:45,560
could have possibly done.

478

00:32:45,560 --> 00:32:56,930
So he did have a heart attack
not too long, probably in 1947.

479
00:32:56,930 --> 00:33:06,270
And then my sister got sick.

480
00:33:06,270 --> 00:33:10,755

481
00:33:10,755 --> 00:33:12,540
Was she hospitalized?

482
00:33:12,540 --> 00:33:18,960
Well, she left-- she was
manic depressive at the time.

483
00:33:18,960 --> 00:33:26,390
And she left for California.

484
00:33:26,390 --> 00:33:30,170

485
00:33:30,170 --> 00:33:38,120
And I think that was the lowest
point in my father's life

486
00:33:38,120 --> 00:33:46,580
because he felt so helpless that
he couldn't help her at all.

487
00:33:46,580 --> 00:33:52,040
And somehow, he worked
his way through that,

488
00:33:52,040 --> 00:33:57,940
and he became well
again and strong again.

489
00:33:57,940 --> 00:34:00,920

490

00:34:00,920 --> 00:34:08,510
He had already all along
thought about restitution,

491
00:34:08,510 --> 00:34:11,239
by doing work for restitution.

492
00:34:11,239 --> 00:34:22,429
And he had an incredible
mind, legal mind,

493
00:34:22,429 --> 00:34:25,340
even though he had
never studied the law.

494
00:34:25,340 --> 00:34:28,730

495
00:34:28,730 --> 00:34:32,750
He just understood it
somehow, naturally.

496
00:34:32,750 --> 00:34:35,719
And he had apparently
a very good memory

497
00:34:35,719 --> 00:34:38,000
for all the different laws.

498
00:34:38,000 --> 00:34:46,750
And he just buried
him so steeped

499
00:34:46,750 --> 00:34:49,300
himself completely in
the restitutive law

500
00:34:49,300 --> 00:34:57,340
and first started working on his
own, our own family's things.

501
00:34:57,340 --> 00:35:02,290
And he was so good with it

that he decided after a while

502

00:35:02,290 --> 00:35:05,430

that he wanted to do it
for other people as well.

503

00:35:05,430 --> 00:35:09,220

504

00:35:09,220 --> 00:35:13,260

And then a lot of
acquaintances came to him,

505

00:35:13,260 --> 00:35:19,110

and he did started
working on their things

506

00:35:19,110 --> 00:35:25,390

and would sit there and
type with two fingers

507

00:35:25,390 --> 00:35:31,480

and get responses.

508

00:35:31,480 --> 00:35:35,780

And more and more people
started to come to him.

509

00:35:35,780 --> 00:35:40,300

And then he eventually
had to get a secretary,

510

00:35:40,300 --> 00:35:43,870

and he had to ask
people to give him

511

00:35:43,870 --> 00:35:47,560

an advance for towards expenses.

512

00:35:47,560 --> 00:35:53,395

And I remember it was like
\$25 just to cover postage.

513

00:35:53,395 --> 00:35:56,440

514

00:35:56,440 --> 00:36:00,370

And this kept snowballing.

515

00:36:00,370 --> 00:36:04,010

My parents had a
two room apartment.

516

00:36:04,010 --> 00:36:07,840

So my mother would make
the beds in the morning.

517

00:36:07,840 --> 00:36:11,750

And then the secretary would
come and sit in the bedroom.

518

00:36:11,750 --> 00:36:15,580

And all the folders
that were on the beds--

519

00:36:15,580 --> 00:36:17,650

that was the office.

520

00:36:17,650 --> 00:36:18,850

So did not earn money?

521

00:36:18,850 --> 00:36:22,240

And did he earn his
living [INAUDIBLE]??

522

00:36:22,240 --> 00:36:26,710

At that time in the beginning,
he had to start working,

523

00:36:26,710 --> 00:36:32,050

and he wasn't going to
get any money until people

524

00:36:32,050 --> 00:36:35,830

were getting some money and

then would pay him a commission.

525

00:36:35,830 --> 00:36:45,160

And his commission in those days
was 5% what the law gets now

526

00:36:45,160 --> 00:36:48,010

for any kind of a case.

527

00:36:48,010 --> 00:36:50,920

528

00:36:50,920 --> 00:36:53,320

And he really had it.

529

00:36:53,320 --> 00:36:58,360

It was really a mission,
his mission in life.

530

00:36:58,360 --> 00:36:59,860

And he would have--

531

00:36:59,860 --> 00:37:03,070

we used to say to him,
doctors have office hours

532

00:37:03,070 --> 00:37:05,110

and you don't
because I mean people

533

00:37:05,110 --> 00:37:08,350

would make phone calls during
dinner and on the weekend.

534

00:37:08,350 --> 00:37:13,200

And he'd never, never,
never, never said I'm sorry,

535

00:37:13,200 --> 00:37:15,490

I'm in the middle
of eating my dinner,

536

00:37:15,490 --> 00:37:18,820
I can't talk to you now would
never have occurred to him

537
00:37:18,820 --> 00:37:24,220
or that today is Sunday and
my children are visiting,

538
00:37:24,220 --> 00:37:26,140
I can't talk to you.

539
00:37:26,140 --> 00:37:28,360
It just was never in him.

540
00:37:28,360 --> 00:37:30,820
He just didn't do that.

541
00:37:30,820 --> 00:37:31,990
He was a workaholic.

542
00:37:31,990 --> 00:37:35,470
And that always came first.

543
00:37:35,470 --> 00:37:37,840
But it became a meaningful--

544
00:37:37,840 --> 00:37:40,210
It became a very
meaningful thing.

545
00:37:40,210 --> 00:37:42,890
And he lived for it.

546
00:37:42,890 --> 00:37:47,890
He had very bad heart disease
and was sick many, many times

547
00:37:47,890 --> 00:37:52,450
and in and out of the
hospital often later on.

548
00:37:52,450 --> 00:37:56,020

But he lived to be 79
and worked till the end

549
00:37:56,020 --> 00:38:06,740
and had his office later
in another apartment

550
00:38:06,740 --> 00:38:08,090
in the same building.

551
00:38:08,090 --> 00:38:11,580
So he would just go
upstairs for lunch

552
00:38:11,580 --> 00:38:17,600
and then lie down for a little
nap and go back to the office.

553
00:38:17,600 --> 00:38:20,780
And then he would bring these
papers upstairs with him.

554
00:38:20,780 --> 00:38:25,760
And he would work from 8
o'clock in the morning until 10,

555
00:38:25,760 --> 00:38:26,900
11 o'clock at night.

556
00:38:26,900 --> 00:38:30,170

557
00:38:30,170 --> 00:38:36,070
And he'd have a
problem with his hand,

558
00:38:36,070 --> 00:38:38,110
and he would have to
go to the hospital,

559
00:38:38,110 --> 00:38:41,320
and his secretary would
come to the hospital,

560

00:38:41,320 --> 00:38:45,820
and he would be dictating to
her from his hospital bed.

561

00:38:45,820 --> 00:38:51,310
But his biggest joy was when
the letter came from Germany

562

00:38:51,310 --> 00:38:54,160
that somebody got a pension.

563

00:38:54,160 --> 00:38:58,810
And people did get
pensions for life then.

564

00:38:58,810 --> 00:39:05,710
And they got sums of money
for property they lost.

565

00:39:05,710 --> 00:39:11,380
And then there was also a
loss of life, if people were--

566

00:39:11,380 --> 00:39:15,955
families, parents, or
siblings who were killed.

567

00:39:15,955 --> 00:39:18,940

568

00:39:18,940 --> 00:39:27,430
So eventually, he had
a very good business.

569

00:39:27,430 --> 00:39:30,610
But it really wasn't
the money that

570

00:39:30,610 --> 00:39:34,300
gave him the satisfaction,
although he needed

571

00:39:34,300 --> 00:39:37,120
to live like anybody else.

572

00:39:37,120 --> 00:39:39,280
Did he get reparations
for himself too?

573

00:39:39,280 --> 00:39:40,275
Yes.

574

00:39:40,275 --> 00:39:44,500
Does this includes you
at all or just him?

575

00:39:44,500 --> 00:39:48,850
Well, people really
only get reparations

576

00:39:48,850 --> 00:39:54,250
if they had been
old enough to work.

577

00:39:54,250 --> 00:40:01,990
What we younger people got was
a one time small amount of money

578

00:40:01,990 --> 00:40:06,830
for loss of education
that we had to say, well,

579

00:40:06,830 --> 00:40:10,330
if we had stayed in Germany, we
would have gone to University,

580

00:40:10,330 --> 00:40:12,800
we would have had
a good profession.

581

00:40:12,800 --> 00:40:16,300
And now we don't have
a profession at all.

582

00:40:16,300 --> 00:40:18,910
And that was like \$1,000.

583
00:40:18,910 --> 00:40:21,610
Didn't come up to much.

584
00:40:21,610 --> 00:40:23,320
How are your parents
able to get along

585
00:40:23,320 --> 00:40:25,750
until he started earning money?

586
00:40:25,750 --> 00:40:26,920
Well, my mother worked.

587
00:40:26,920 --> 00:40:30,120

588
00:40:30,120 --> 00:40:31,590
And I worked.

589
00:40:31,590 --> 00:40:38,100
So as long as I was
home, I turned over

590
00:40:38,100 --> 00:40:43,680
everything I earned to my
mother for the household.

591
00:40:43,680 --> 00:40:46,050
And it was very,
very, very tight

592
00:40:46,050 --> 00:40:48,270
in the early years, very tight.

593
00:40:48,270 --> 00:40:53,880
And when I got married,
I was feeling very guilty

594
00:40:53,880 --> 00:40:54,600

that I left.

595

00:40:54,600 --> 00:40:57,450

596

00:40:57,450 --> 00:41:02,560

And my sister was, at
that time, still at home.

597

00:41:02,560 --> 00:41:05,070

She didn't continue to
work as a baby nurse.

598

00:41:05,070 --> 00:41:08,310

She had a job as a
dental assistant.

599

00:41:08,310 --> 00:41:14,820

And then after a while,
she worked as a secretary

600

00:41:14,820 --> 00:41:17,550

in a doctor's office.

601

00:41:17,550 --> 00:41:19,866

When was her trip to
California in all this?

602

00:41:19,866 --> 00:41:23,820

603

00:41:23,820 --> 00:41:25,380

Actually, that happened later.

604

00:41:25,380 --> 00:41:28,890

That happened after
Sam and I got married.

605

00:41:28,890 --> 00:41:34,080

She was working as a doctor's--

606

00:41:34,080 --> 00:41:42,240

not receptionist, assistant--
as a nurse in a doctor's office.

607
00:41:42,240 --> 00:41:51,640
And somehow, my getting married
and having been the younger

608
00:41:51,640 --> 00:42:00,460
sister by seven years actually
is what kicked it off.

609
00:42:00,460 --> 00:42:07,430
And I was feeling very,
very guilty, very guilty

610
00:42:07,430 --> 00:42:09,110
about the whole thing.

611
00:42:09,110 --> 00:42:13,340
And yeah, I mean, I
tried to help my parents

612
00:42:13,340 --> 00:42:18,980
as much as I could and as
long as they needed it.

613
00:42:18,980 --> 00:42:21,920
How did your mother get
through those crises--

614
00:42:21,920 --> 00:42:23,870
your father has a heart
attack, your sister

615
00:42:23,870 --> 00:42:26,510
has had a nervous breakdown.

616
00:42:26,510 --> 00:42:27,378
Money was tight.

617
00:42:27,378 --> 00:42:30,800

618

00:42:30,800 --> 00:42:34,070

You know, you don't-- when
you're in those times,

619

00:42:34,070 --> 00:42:35,660

you don't think about it.

620

00:42:35,660 --> 00:42:37,310

You do what you have to do.

621

00:42:37,310 --> 00:42:41,920

And everybody else is
in the same situation.

622

00:42:41,920 --> 00:42:46,910

623

00:42:46,910 --> 00:42:58,190

Neither one of my parents got
the support, emotional support

624

00:42:58,190 --> 00:43:02,030

that they needed in those times.

625

00:43:02,030 --> 00:43:06,230

Nobody wanted to hear about
other people's problems.

626

00:43:06,230 --> 00:43:10,940

Everybody had their own
problems to the point

627

00:43:10,940 --> 00:43:15,530

where my mother, when
my sister got sick,

628

00:43:15,530 --> 00:43:19,750

wasn't even allowed to talk
to her relatives about it

629

00:43:19,750 --> 00:43:21,500

because they didn't

want to hear about it.

630
00:43:21,500 --> 00:43:25,640

631
00:43:25,640 --> 00:43:31,520
So it was very, very difficult,
very, very difficult.

632
00:43:31,520 --> 00:43:34,160
Had she learned English?

633
00:43:34,160 --> 00:43:37,760
My mother-- yes.

634
00:43:37,760 --> 00:43:41,960
My mother had learned
English in school

635
00:43:41,960 --> 00:43:45,050
in Germany as a young girl.

636
00:43:45,050 --> 00:43:48,050
And she always kept it up.

637
00:43:48,050 --> 00:43:53,420
And she took English and also
Spanish classes in Germany

638
00:43:53,420 --> 00:43:54,860
before we--

639
00:43:54,860 --> 00:43:57,920
because we realized
we were going

640
00:43:57,920 --> 00:43:59,840
to leave one way or another.

641
00:43:59,840 --> 00:44:03,470

642

00:44:03,470 --> 00:44:05,580

And she did very well.

643

00:44:05,580 --> 00:44:08,100

She picked it up right away.

644

00:44:08,100 --> 00:44:12,950

And as a matter of
fact, my grandmother

645

00:44:12,950 --> 00:44:21,260

had gone to gymnasium in
Germany a young child.

646

00:44:21,260 --> 00:44:28,370

And she spoke French, I
think she managed quite well

647

00:44:28,370 --> 00:44:30,080

in France with her French.

648

00:44:30,080 --> 00:44:34,460

And she spoke a little English.

649

00:44:34,460 --> 00:44:37,940

She still remembered a
little English from school

650

00:44:37,940 --> 00:44:39,890

when she came.

651

00:44:39,890 --> 00:44:42,230

So did you speak
English to some degree

652

00:44:42,230 --> 00:44:44,720

when she came to the
United States too?

653

00:44:44,720 --> 00:44:48,530

I think she could speak
a little bit, yeah.

654
00:44:48,530 --> 00:44:51,650
You had mentioned the
end of our last interview

655
00:44:51,650 --> 00:44:53,240
that at some point
along the way,

656
00:44:53,240 --> 00:44:55,640
your father also got depressed.

657
00:44:55,640 --> 00:44:58,250
Was that in relation to
the sickness or anything

658
00:44:58,250 --> 00:44:59,420
in particular because--

659
00:44:59,420 --> 00:45:05,870
He was, I mean, not
clinically depressed the way

660
00:45:05,870 --> 00:45:08,120
my sister was.

661
00:45:08,120 --> 00:45:11,522
It was just a very,
very low typical--

662
00:45:11,522 --> 00:45:14,750

663
00:45:14,750 --> 00:45:18,620
it was very difficult
for him when

664
00:45:18,620 --> 00:45:20,270
he came to the United States.

665
00:45:20,270 --> 00:45:23,840
He didn't know the language,

and he was past middle age.

666

00:45:23,840 --> 00:45:26,660

667

00:45:26,660 --> 00:45:35,420

And he had no way of supporting himself and his family.

668

00:45:35,420 --> 00:45:44,010

And he had been used to being in command.

669

00:45:44,010 --> 00:45:47,060

He was always very much in command of what

670

00:45:47,060 --> 00:45:50,420

was going on of his life.

671

00:45:50,420 --> 00:45:52,550

And not only his life-- he was always

672

00:45:52,550 --> 00:45:56,420

in command of the entire family.

673

00:45:56,420 --> 00:46:01,040

He was always the leader in the family.

674

00:46:01,040 --> 00:46:06,020

In his own business, he never worked for anybody else.

675

00:46:06,020 --> 00:46:09,965

As a young man he right away had his own business.

676

00:46:09,965 --> 00:46:12,560

677

00:46:12,560 --> 00:46:15,530

And he did very well
in his business,

678

00:46:15,530 --> 00:46:19,190

and he was a very
creative thinker

679

00:46:19,190 --> 00:46:23,150

as I had mentioned to you.

680

00:46:23,150 --> 00:46:27,440

The things that he did
in concentration camp--

681

00:46:27,440 --> 00:46:31,280

organizing the special
barracks for the older people

682

00:46:31,280 --> 00:46:35,930

and taking care of them,
helping them get washed,

683

00:46:35,930 --> 00:46:38,360

and walking them
to the latrines,

684

00:46:38,360 --> 00:46:40,560

and these kind of things--

685

00:46:40,560 --> 00:46:45,800

so that when he came to the
United States, all of a sudden

686

00:46:45,800 --> 00:46:47,510

he was nobody, nothing.

687

00:46:47,510 --> 00:46:54,500

And it was a terrible
blow to his self-esteem.

688

00:46:54,500 --> 00:47:03,680

In those days, we were

not conscious of people's

689

00:47:03,680 --> 00:47:06,800

self-esteem and
people's emotional state

690

00:47:06,800 --> 00:47:10,110

of emotional and mental health.

691

00:47:10,110 --> 00:47:17,330

It was all taken for granted
that you cope with it.

692

00:47:17,330 --> 00:47:19,610

And you better cope with
it, one way or another.

693

00:47:19,610 --> 00:47:22,760

694

00:47:22,760 --> 00:47:25,560

And everybody else was
in the same situation.

695

00:47:25,560 --> 00:47:31,540

So in fact, we had
little sympathy

696

00:47:31,540 --> 00:47:36,280

for the people who complained.

697

00:47:36,280 --> 00:47:38,890

They were complaining
us around, and we

698

00:47:38,890 --> 00:47:42,220

didn't want to be bothered with
those people who complained.

699

00:47:42,220 --> 00:47:44,680

They were probably healthier.

700

00:47:44,680 --> 00:47:45,460

I don't know.

701

00:47:45,460 --> 00:47:49,240

[LAUGHS]

702

00:47:49,240 --> 00:47:50,950

And how did your
father get along even

703

00:47:50,950 --> 00:47:54,190

in those two jobs he had without
speaking English, the chocolate

704

00:47:54,190 --> 00:47:57,370

factory and the nursing home?

705

00:47:57,370 --> 00:48:02,290

The Chocolate factory, I'm
sure he could speak German.

706

00:48:02,290 --> 00:48:07,780

It was a German Jewish company.

707

00:48:07,780 --> 00:48:10,450

And I imagine almost
everybody else

708

00:48:10,450 --> 00:48:13,660

would speak German there too.

709

00:48:13,660 --> 00:48:15,670

We lived in Washington Heights.

710

00:48:15,670 --> 00:48:21,860

It was also called
Frankfurt on the Hudson.

711

00:48:21,860 --> 00:48:24,590

712

00:48:24,590 --> 00:48:28,370

And yeah, there's a book
out that's called Frankfurt

713
00:48:28,370 --> 00:48:31,850
on the Hudson about the German
Jewish community in Washington

714
00:48:31,850 --> 00:48:32,870
Heights.

715
00:48:32,870 --> 00:48:39,650
So he got along very well
just in Washington Heights

716
00:48:39,650 --> 00:48:42,050
with German.

717
00:48:42,050 --> 00:48:46,460
He could go shopping, he could
go to the butcher and speak.

718
00:48:46,460 --> 00:48:49,070
And everybody down
the street, at once he

719
00:48:49,070 --> 00:48:53,340
started his business, they
were all his customers.

720
00:48:53,340 --> 00:48:57,380
He could go in there and
speak German to them.

721
00:48:57,380 --> 00:48:59,220
They would never--
as a matter of fact,

722
00:48:59,220 --> 00:49:03,200
I don't think anybody in
those stores spoke English.

723
00:49:03,200 --> 00:49:11,730
It's like having been in some

of the other areas in Brooklyn

724

00:49:11,730 --> 00:49:13,670
and Brownsville where
my husband grew up

725

00:49:13,670 --> 00:49:15,760
where everybody spoke Yiddish.

726

00:49:15,760 --> 00:49:19,100
It was a little ghetto.

727

00:49:19,100 --> 00:49:20,270
And how about your mother?

728

00:49:20,270 --> 00:49:22,190
How's her adjustment
in the United States?

729

00:49:22,190 --> 00:49:24,800
Sounds like she was more
interested in coming.

730

00:49:24,800 --> 00:49:25,370
Yeah.

731

00:49:25,370 --> 00:49:29,340
Well, I think women are
always more flexible

732

00:49:29,340 --> 00:49:31,340
and so was my mother.

733

00:49:31,340 --> 00:49:37,730
She spoke English,
she had that one job,

734

00:49:37,730 --> 00:49:39,110
and then later she became--

735

00:49:39,110 --> 00:49:41,960

736
00:49:41,960 --> 00:49:47,990
she helped my father
as much as possible.

737
00:49:47,990 --> 00:49:50,540
And then she had my
grandmother to take care of,

738
00:49:50,540 --> 00:49:53,150
and she always had
my father to take

739
00:49:53,150 --> 00:49:58,910
care of because his health
was very precarious.

740
00:49:58,910 --> 00:50:06,400
And so she needed to be
there to cater to him.

741
00:50:06,400 --> 00:50:08,140
And that was my mother's life.

742
00:50:08,140 --> 00:50:15,480
I mean, she always had to
be there to at the Beck

743
00:50:15,480 --> 00:50:20,670
and call of her husband a
mother or children or whatever.

744
00:50:20,670 --> 00:50:23,130
That's the way it was.

745
00:50:23,130 --> 00:50:31,560
And she never, never
expressed any desire of--

746
00:50:31,560 --> 00:50:34,170
never even gave
us an inclination

747

00:50:34,170 --> 00:50:38,060
of what she would have liked.

748

00:50:38,060 --> 00:50:38,560
Yes.

749

00:50:38,560 --> 00:50:41,310

750

00:50:41,310 --> 00:50:45,870
What kinds of things did your
parents do for their enjoyment?

751

00:50:45,870 --> 00:50:47,440
My mother liked music.

752

00:50:47,440 --> 00:50:51,310
I mean, that was the only thing
that was important to her.

753

00:50:51,310 --> 00:50:57,135
She liked music, and she would
listen to music on the radio.

754

00:50:57,135 --> 00:51:01,370

755

00:51:01,370 --> 00:51:04,010
My father, being a workaholic--

756

00:51:04,010 --> 00:51:06,320
and he was in Germany too.

757

00:51:06,320 --> 00:51:12,500
They spent really
all of their time,

758

00:51:12,500 --> 00:51:16,730
if it wasn't with
work, with the family.

759

00:51:16,730 --> 00:51:21,090

And we can sit and
make any difference.

760

00:51:21,090 --> 00:51:26,300

They had-- finally after
not in the early years,

761

00:51:26,300 --> 00:51:28,235

they took no time
at all for friends.

762

00:51:28,235 --> 00:51:30,750

763

00:51:30,750 --> 00:51:37,670

But once my father made a little
money, they took a few days

764

00:51:37,670 --> 00:51:44,150

and went to the Catskills
or to New Hampshire.

765

00:51:44,150 --> 00:51:46,850

Eventually, they had some
friends that had a car.

766

00:51:46,850 --> 00:51:49,880

And they went away for a
short vacation with them.

767

00:51:49,880 --> 00:51:51,650

And that was it.

768

00:51:51,650 --> 00:51:57,990

My mother might go to a concert
with some of her girlfriends.

769

00:51:57,990 --> 00:52:02,630

My mother and some girlfriends
still from Germany.

770

00:52:02,630 --> 00:52:10,130

And she might meet one of
them sometime for an afternoon

771
00:52:10,130 --> 00:52:11,390
or so.

772
00:52:11,390 --> 00:52:17,900
But especially as long as
my grandmother was alive,

773
00:52:17,900 --> 00:52:22,910
she always had to stay
with my grandmother.

774
00:52:22,910 --> 00:52:28,310
And even when my grandmother
lived with my uncle and aunt,

775
00:52:28,310 --> 00:52:29,660
they would go away.

776
00:52:29,660 --> 00:52:39,020
They had a very active social
life and take off on weekends.

777
00:52:39,020 --> 00:52:41,390
So my mother stayed
with my grandmother

778
00:52:41,390 --> 00:52:42,770
to take care of her.

779
00:52:42,770 --> 00:52:46,160

780
00:52:46,160 --> 00:52:47,780
So they had very little--

781
00:52:47,780 --> 00:52:51,200
took very little time.

782
00:52:51,200 --> 00:52:53,180

Did your family--

783
00:52:53,180 --> 00:52:57,050
I presume they
pursued seeing who

784
00:52:57,050 --> 00:53:00,680
might have survived of your
larger family or friends.

785
00:53:00,680 --> 00:53:01,710
Of course.

786
00:53:01,710 --> 00:53:03,890
That was the first
thing everybody did--

787
00:53:03,890 --> 00:53:06,570

788
00:53:06,570 --> 00:53:11,340
to find out if they were
organizations and listings

789
00:53:11,340 --> 00:53:12,120
and so on.

790
00:53:12,120 --> 00:53:16,070

791
00:53:16,070 --> 00:53:22,090
And I don't think it took
very long to find out

792
00:53:22,090 --> 00:53:24,730
that hardly anybody was left.

793
00:53:24,730 --> 00:53:32,210
And the few people that
were, as far as I know,

794
00:53:32,210 --> 00:53:36,130

they were mostly people
that we already knew from

795
00:53:36,130 --> 00:53:41,380
before that they were in
Canada or in South America

796
00:53:41,380 --> 00:53:44,560
or in the United States.

797
00:53:44,560 --> 00:53:47,500
My father had some
cousins in Canada

798
00:53:47,500 --> 00:53:53,210
that he was corresponding with
from the Dominican Republic.

799
00:53:53,210 --> 00:53:55,460
I mean, these were people
who left Germany very early.

800
00:53:55,460 --> 00:53:56,110
Right.

801
00:53:56,110 --> 00:53:58,270
Yeah, people that
had left earlier.

802
00:53:58,270 --> 00:54:00,970

803
00:54:00,970 --> 00:54:12,220
But from our immediate
family that was left behind

804
00:54:12,220 --> 00:54:16,300
and even a cousin of my
mother's that my mother was very

805
00:54:16,300 --> 00:54:19,540
close with, nobody survived.

806

00:54:19,540 --> 00:54:27,682

807

00:54:27,682 --> 00:54:29,830

Some of the people in--

808

00:54:29,830 --> 00:54:33,250

the young people
that we were friendly

809

00:54:33,250 --> 00:54:40,930

with in the concentration
camp in France, most of those

810

00:54:40,930 --> 00:54:42,010

survived.

811

00:54:42,010 --> 00:54:48,970

Not their parents, but they
did because of the underground

812

00:54:48,970 --> 00:54:50,290

who saved them in France.

813

00:54:50,290 --> 00:54:53,250

814

00:54:53,250 --> 00:54:56,070

And when again did your
grandmother leave France

815

00:54:56,070 --> 00:54:59,630

and came to New York?

816

00:54:59,630 --> 00:55:04,210

I think it was in May of 1946.

817

00:55:04,210 --> 00:55:05,230

May of '46.

818

00:55:05,230 --> 00:55:07,660

It was shortly after
my sister and I came.

819
00:55:07,660 --> 00:55:08,200
I see.

820
00:55:08,200 --> 00:55:10,980
She was the second one and your
parents came around October,

821
00:55:10,980 --> 00:55:11,500
you said.

822
00:55:11,500 --> 00:55:12,000
Yeah.

823
00:55:12,000 --> 00:55:13,090
Mm-hmm.

824
00:55:13,090 --> 00:55:19,270
And my aunt, my
father's older sister--

825
00:55:19,270 --> 00:55:22,960
actually, she came during the
war because she and her husband

826
00:55:22,960 --> 00:55:27,100
had gone to India from Germany.

827
00:55:27,100 --> 00:55:31,060
And she stayed
with us because she

828
00:55:31,060 --> 00:55:37,300
had one son who was in
India and one son who

829
00:55:37,300 --> 00:55:40,060
was in the United States.

830
00:55:40,060 --> 00:55:44,290

And after her husband
died in India,

831
00:55:44,290 --> 00:55:46,840
she wanted to come
to the United States

832
00:55:46,840 --> 00:55:50,530
and be with her younger son.

833
00:55:50,530 --> 00:55:54,444
And she came from
India on a troopship.

834
00:55:54,444 --> 00:55:55,270
I see.

835
00:55:55,270 --> 00:55:57,080
Yeah.

836
00:55:57,080 --> 00:56:02,480
So she had already been in
New York living with my uncle

837
00:56:02,480 --> 00:56:05,390
when my sister and I arrived.

838
00:56:05,390 --> 00:56:07,370
So after your parents
got there, you

839
00:56:07,370 --> 00:56:09,620
say they were able to
get a small apartment.

840
00:56:09,620 --> 00:56:11,900
You lived with them.

841
00:56:11,900 --> 00:56:16,220
Yeah, actually, I lived
with my uncle and aunt.

842

00:56:16,220 --> 00:56:23,810
And there was a struggle,
a power struggle

843
00:56:23,810 --> 00:56:25,610
where I should be.

844
00:56:25,610 --> 00:56:27,680
They all wanted me.

845
00:56:27,680 --> 00:56:29,510
Great.

846
00:56:29,510 --> 00:56:31,550
My uncle and aunt wanted me.

847
00:56:31,550 --> 00:56:35,030
My aunt had always
wanted a daughter,

848
00:56:35,030 --> 00:56:41,090
and she was very happy
to have me there.

849
00:56:41,090 --> 00:56:49,360
And then, of course,
when my parents came,

850
00:56:49,360 --> 00:56:51,430
she wanted me to stay.

851
00:56:51,430 --> 00:56:52,390
But I couldn't do that.

852
00:56:52,390 --> 00:56:53,800
I had to go back.

853
00:56:53,800 --> 00:56:57,910
And I had liked it at my
uncle and aunt's house

854
00:56:57,910 --> 00:57:06,280

because they were more fun,
they joked around a lot.

855
00:57:06,280 --> 00:57:11,440
And my parents were
much more serious.

856
00:57:11,440 --> 00:57:13,070
And then my cousin was there.

857
00:57:13,070 --> 00:57:20,080
So that was sort of a more
lighthearted, fun atmosphere.

858
00:57:20,080 --> 00:57:22,430
And in a way, I
wanted to stay there.

859
00:57:22,430 --> 00:57:24,190
On the other hand,
I was really torn.

860
00:57:24,190 --> 00:57:26,740

861
00:57:26,740 --> 00:57:29,210
I had to be loyal to my parents.

862
00:57:29,210 --> 00:57:32,690
It was only three or
four blocks difference.

863
00:57:32,690 --> 00:57:35,440
So it was fine.

864
00:57:35,440 --> 00:57:38,050
I could be either in
one or the other place.

865
00:57:38,050 --> 00:57:41,050
And then my grandmother
was with my uncle and aunt

866

00:57:41,050 --> 00:57:42,460
in those days.

867

00:57:42,460 --> 00:57:49,930
And my grandparents had
lived with us in Germany

868

00:57:49,930 --> 00:57:52,090
after the Kristallnacht.

869

00:57:52,090 --> 00:57:54,670
I had mentioned that
to you that they

870

00:57:54,670 --> 00:57:57,610
came to live with us because
they had nothing left.

871

00:57:57,610 --> 00:58:00,640

872

00:58:00,640 --> 00:58:03,540
So how was it adjusting back
living with your parents

873

00:58:03,540 --> 00:58:07,920
now that you have
this walk of freedom.

874

00:58:07,920 --> 00:58:15,210
Well, it was difficult at first.

875

00:58:15,210 --> 00:58:20,850
In the very beginning, we
didn't get that little apartment

876

00:58:20,850 --> 00:58:24,210
for my parents right away.

877

00:58:24,210 --> 00:58:28,890
The first place we had were--

878

00:58:28,890 --> 00:58:33,210

we sub-led to rooms
in an apartment

879

00:58:33,210 --> 00:58:40,290

with a widower who
had a large apartment

880

00:58:40,290 --> 00:58:46,440

and let my parents
use two of his rooms.

881

00:58:46,440 --> 00:58:50,880

But he was very, very kosher
and wouldn't allow my mother

882

00:58:50,880 --> 00:58:53,250

to use the kitchen.

883

00:58:53,250 --> 00:58:59,400

So my mother had to cook on
the floor on a little burner

884

00:58:59,400 --> 00:59:03,240

just the way you see
nowadays when you--

885

00:59:03,240 --> 00:59:13,730

sometimes, you see in the paper
immigrants, Mexican immigrants,

886

00:59:13,730 --> 00:59:18,740

Puerto Rican immigrants
living in a big apartment

887

00:59:18,740 --> 00:59:21,260

and cooking on the
floor on a little--

888

00:59:21,260 --> 00:59:24,350

that's just the
way we kept house.

889

00:59:24,350 --> 00:59:30,740
And he would not allow us even
to use the sink in his kitchen.

890

00:59:30,740 --> 00:59:35,240
We had to use the bathroom
sink to wash our dishes.

891

00:59:35,240 --> 00:59:41,750
And my mother had this
little electric hot plate

892

00:59:41,750 --> 00:59:43,715
with two burners.

893

00:59:43,715 --> 00:59:47,180

894

00:59:47,180 --> 00:59:50,090
That lasted straw
for a short while.

895

00:59:50,090 --> 00:59:54,770
And I think at that time, I
stayed with my uncle and aunt.

896

00:59:54,770 --> 00:59:57,320

897

00:59:57,320 --> 00:59:59,030
I'm not sure if I slept there.

898

00:59:59,030 --> 01:00:02,450

899

01:00:02,450 --> 01:00:07,520
But then once we got
the other apartment--

900

01:00:07,520 --> 01:00:10,050
and that apartment didn't
have a kitchen either.

901
01:00:10,050 --> 01:00:17,630
It just had a little kitchenette
wall in the living room.

902
01:00:17,630 --> 01:00:21,050
And that remained--
that eventually

903
01:00:21,050 --> 01:00:23,480
became my father's office.

904
01:00:23,480 --> 01:00:28,400
And so my parents lived
there for quite a few years

905
01:00:28,400 --> 01:00:32,205
until they got a little bigger
apartment in the same building.

906
01:00:32,205 --> 01:00:35,450

907
01:00:35,450 --> 01:00:36,980
So were you working--

908
01:00:36,980 --> 01:00:39,860
were you painting at that period
when you're with your parents?

909
01:00:39,860 --> 01:00:40,680
Yeah.

910
01:00:40,680 --> 01:00:41,180
Yeah.

911
01:00:41,180 --> 01:00:44,220
And that's how I met my husband.

912
01:00:44,220 --> 01:00:46,190
We were painting neckties.

913

01:00:46,190 --> 01:00:47,340

He was painting neckties?

914

01:00:47,340 --> 01:00:48,230

You were too?

915

01:00:48,230 --> 01:00:48,950

Yeah.

916

01:00:48,950 --> 01:00:51,905

At that point, I got a
job painting neckties.

917

01:00:51,905 --> 01:00:54,830

918

01:00:54,830 --> 01:00:57,170

I didn't know how to do
it, and he had to show me.

919

01:00:57,170 --> 01:01:02,510

[LAUGHS] Was he a worker
or he was a manager or--

920

01:01:02,510 --> 01:01:05,240

He's an artist, and
he was a worker.

921

01:01:05,240 --> 01:01:05,980

Yeah.

922

01:01:05,980 --> 01:01:10,040

Yeah, he was one of the
other artist working there.

923

01:01:10,040 --> 01:01:12,930

And his name is
Sam, you've said.

924

01:01:12,930 --> 01:01:14,810

And was he a survivor also?

925
01:01:14,810 --> 01:01:15,650
No.

926
01:01:15,650 --> 01:01:16,820
Was he American born?

927
01:01:16,820 --> 01:01:17,960
American born, yeah.

928
01:01:17,960 --> 01:01:18,680
Jewish?

929
01:01:18,680 --> 01:01:21,010
Yeah.

930
01:01:21,010 --> 01:01:22,300
And how old were you--

931
01:01:22,300 --> 01:01:24,820
That was very important
to me, incidentally.

932
01:01:24,820 --> 01:01:34,360
I really didn't want
to date other refugees.

933
01:01:34,360 --> 01:01:37,480
I did belong to a
youth organization

934
01:01:37,480 --> 01:01:39,310
that was mainly refugees.

935
01:01:39,310 --> 01:01:41,020
And I did date them.

936
01:01:41,020 --> 01:01:45,920
But I really had my heart set
on meeting some Americans.

937
01:01:45,920 --> 01:01:50,710

It was very difficult.
I didn't necessarily

938
01:01:50,710 --> 01:01:54,820
have my heart set on
marrying an American.

939
01:01:54,820 --> 01:01:57,370

940
01:01:57,370 --> 01:02:00,820
But I wanted to get to
know American young people

941
01:02:00,820 --> 01:02:01,930
and the circles.

942
01:02:01,930 --> 01:02:09,340
I mean, everything
was very segregated.

943
01:02:09,340 --> 01:02:12,250
Actually, the American
Jewish community

944
01:02:12,250 --> 01:02:15,310
didn't want any part
of us in those days.

945
01:02:15,310 --> 01:02:16,750
Really?

946
01:02:16,750 --> 01:02:18,245
Oh, absolutely.

947
01:02:18,245 --> 01:02:26,885

948
01:02:26,885 --> 01:02:33,335
They felt very-- they at
least acted very superior.

949

01:02:33,335 --> 01:02:42,180

950

01:02:42,180 --> 01:02:45,010

And they also had
a lot of prejudice.

951

01:02:45,010 --> 01:02:47,400

They said, oh, you
German Jews, you all

952

01:02:47,400 --> 01:02:48,585

came with a lot of money.

953

01:02:48,585 --> 01:02:51,840

954

01:02:51,840 --> 01:02:53,130

And that was so--

955

01:02:53,130 --> 01:02:57,940

and you're not religious,
you all had Christmas trees.

956

01:02:57,940 --> 01:03:01,590

And they had such
ridiculous pre--

957

01:03:01,590 --> 01:03:06,396

958

01:03:06,396 --> 01:03:07,230

what is it?

959

01:03:07,230 --> 01:03:08,270

Preconceptions.

960

01:03:08,270 --> 01:03:10,320

Yeah, preconceptions.

961

01:03:10,320 --> 01:03:13,050

962

01:03:13,050 --> 01:03:22,080

And I really didn't know any
Americans, American Jews,

963

01:03:22,080 --> 01:03:24,240

until I met Sam.

964

01:03:24,240 --> 01:03:31,170

A few in some of the workplaces,
but I worked with them.

965

01:03:31,170 --> 01:03:35,340

But mainly, as a matter of fact,
the type of work that I did

966

01:03:35,340 --> 01:03:38,850

and the places that I worked
at were mainly also owned

967

01:03:38,850 --> 01:03:43,680

by German Jews refugees.

968

01:03:43,680 --> 01:03:46,770

And most of the other
people that worked

969

01:03:46,770 --> 01:03:49,530

there were also refugees.

970

01:03:49,530 --> 01:03:54,940

And the two penny,
a half a penny

971

01:03:54,940 --> 01:03:59,680

apiece places, they
were all refugees.

972

01:03:59,680 --> 01:04:07,420

But then the tie painting
place was American.

973

01:04:07,420 --> 01:04:12,150
And that's how I met Sam.

974
01:04:12,150 --> 01:04:14,550
Was it hurtful or
shocking to you

975
01:04:14,550 --> 01:04:16,200
that the American
Jews felt this way?

976
01:04:16,200 --> 01:04:17,940
It was hurtful, yeah.

977
01:04:17,940 --> 01:04:19,020
It was very hurtful.

978
01:04:19,020 --> 01:04:22,440

979
01:04:22,440 --> 01:04:26,355
As a matter of fact, I
took some evening classes.

980
01:04:26,355 --> 01:04:32,170

981
01:04:32,170 --> 01:04:37,400
As I said I wanted to be in
the arts, and I took some--

982
01:04:37,400 --> 01:04:40,840
I remember taking some
sketch classes and also

983
01:04:40,840 --> 01:04:45,820
some photo retouching.

984
01:04:45,820 --> 01:04:50,350
And I didn't get to know or get
friendly with anybody there.

985

01:04:50,350 --> 01:04:54,130
I felt very isolated.

986
01:04:54,130 --> 01:05:02,980
And Sam was really the
first American that

987
01:05:02,980 --> 01:05:05,200
befriended me and accepted me.

988
01:05:05,200 --> 01:05:07,823

989
01:05:07,823 --> 01:05:09,240
So you started
going out with him?

990
01:05:09,240 --> 01:05:11,280
Yeah.

991
01:05:11,280 --> 01:05:13,450
And how old were you then?

992
01:05:13,450 --> 01:05:16,500
I was just 20.

993
01:05:16,500 --> 01:05:19,980
As a matter of fact, I wasn't--
no, I wasn't even 20 yet.

994
01:05:19,980 --> 01:05:21,525
I was still 19.

995
01:05:21,525 --> 01:05:27,000
I met Sam in March, and
my birthday was in May.

996
01:05:27,000 --> 01:05:29,720
But by that time, we
were already engaged.

997
01:05:29,720 --> 01:05:31,320

Only two months?

998

01:05:31,320 --> 01:05:33,570

Took about six weeks.

999

01:05:33,570 --> 01:05:34,650

And--

1000

01:05:34,650 --> 01:05:35,800

I was very eager.

1001

01:05:35,800 --> 01:05:40,530

[LAUGHS] My parents
were shocked.

1002

01:05:40,530 --> 01:05:43,370

1003

01:05:43,370 --> 01:05:48,110

And especially since we
came from a small town

1004

01:05:48,110 --> 01:05:50,300

and they had no idea--

1005

01:05:50,300 --> 01:05:52,520

who is this man?

1006

01:05:52,520 --> 01:05:56,860

How do you know who he is?

1007

01:05:56,860 --> 01:06:00,210

And he was 10 years old
and was already divorced.

1008

01:06:00,210 --> 01:06:04,630

So that was--

1009

01:06:04,630 --> 01:06:05,540

Did he had children?

1010

01:06:05,540 --> 01:06:06,040
No.

1011
01:06:06,040 --> 01:06:10,270

1012
01:06:10,270 --> 01:06:13,330
So you marry when?

1013
01:06:13,330 --> 01:06:15,190
We married right away.

1014
01:06:15,190 --> 01:06:16,060
In May?

1015
01:06:16,060 --> 01:06:16,690
In June.

1016
01:06:16,690 --> 01:06:19,120
In June.

1017
01:06:19,120 --> 01:06:21,990
And obviously, you moved out
of the house by that time.

1018
01:06:21,990 --> 01:06:22,490
Yeah.

1019
01:06:22,490 --> 01:06:27,470

1020
01:06:27,470 --> 01:06:29,420
I guess did your parents
come to accept him

1021
01:06:29,420 --> 01:06:32,150
or they were standoffish or--

1022
01:06:32,150 --> 01:06:34,370
They came to accept
him very quickly.

1023

01:06:34,370 --> 01:06:39,890

I mean, once they met him and
they and they got to know him,

1024

01:06:39,890 --> 01:06:42,050

they liked him right away.

1025

01:06:42,050 --> 01:06:47,990

And then since we didn't waste
any time getting engaged,

1026

01:06:47,990 --> 01:06:50,140

once they met my mother-in-law--

1027

01:06:50,140 --> 01:06:52,762

1028

01:06:52,762 --> 01:06:56,690

the only thing my parents
were concerned of--

1029

01:06:56,690 --> 01:07:04,250

they wanted to make sure that
I married an honest and decent

1030

01:07:04,250 --> 01:07:07,370

person and anything else.

1031

01:07:07,370 --> 01:07:08,630

They really were not--

1032

01:07:08,630 --> 01:07:12,050

I'm very proud of them.

1033

01:07:12,050 --> 01:07:18,980

They didn't give me
any other guidelines

1034

01:07:18,980 --> 01:07:26,115

other than to make sure that
I marry an honest, decent man.

1035

01:07:26,115 --> 01:07:29,240

1036

01:07:29,240 --> 01:07:35,030

As a matter of fact, I
remember having a conversation

1037

01:07:35,030 --> 01:07:45,060

with my parents many, many years
later, maybe 20 years later.

1038

01:07:45,060 --> 01:07:47,210

Couldn't have been 20 years.

1039

01:07:47,210 --> 01:07:53,240

49-- my father died in '65.

1040

01:07:53,240 --> 01:07:57,960

1041

01:07:57,960 --> 01:08:05,930

So it had to be
maybe 15 years later.

1042

01:08:05,930 --> 01:08:07,610

I think it was--

1043

01:08:07,610 --> 01:08:12,770

my father was still
alive when I said you--

1044

01:08:12,770 --> 01:08:18,200

at that time, you don't
let your children date

1045

01:08:18,200 --> 01:08:20,819

any non Jews and so on.

1046

01:08:20,819 --> 01:08:22,790

That was so much
of that going on

1047

01:08:22,790 --> 01:08:27,800

around where we
lived in the suburbs

1048

01:08:27,800 --> 01:08:32,600

when my children were
little and young.

1049

01:08:32,600 --> 01:08:37,140

1050

01:08:37,140 --> 01:08:42,090

And I said to my
parents, you never

1051

01:08:42,090 --> 01:08:45,420

said anything like that to
us when we were growing up.

1052

01:08:45,420 --> 01:08:48,000

You never said you can't
go out with somebody

1053

01:08:48,000 --> 01:08:49,729

that isn't Jewish.

1054

01:08:49,729 --> 01:08:53,569

1055

01:08:53,569 --> 01:08:56,890

And their answer was because
it never occurred to them.

1056

01:08:56,890 --> 01:08:59,819

[LAUGHS] We didn't
know anybody else.

1057

01:08:59,819 --> 01:09:01,510

It never occurred to them.

1058

01:09:01,510 --> 01:09:03,630

And I said, you wouldn't

have said anything

1059

01:09:03,630 --> 01:09:09,160
if I had brought home a black
man or an Indian or whatever?

1060

01:09:09,160 --> 01:09:11,760
Then they said,
don't kid yourself.

1061

01:09:11,760 --> 01:09:13,729
We wouldn't have
liked that at all.

1062

01:09:13,729 --> 01:09:17,020
It just never even entered our
minds that this could happen.

1063

01:09:17,020 --> 01:09:17,520
I see.

1064

01:09:17,520 --> 01:09:20,250
It Absolutely certain.

1065

01:09:20,250 --> 01:09:22,560
Right, exactly.

1066

01:09:22,560 --> 01:09:24,740
But still, you
had that feeling--

1067

01:09:24,740 --> 01:09:30,180
I had that feeling that I was--
yeah, because that was really

1068

01:09:30,180 --> 01:09:32,310
when I met Sam.

1069

01:09:32,310 --> 01:09:34,710
The only thing
that they required

1070

01:09:34,710 --> 01:09:39,340
what does he do or
does he have any money.

1071
01:09:39,340 --> 01:09:45,090
They could have cared less
as long as he's a decent man.

1072
01:09:45,090 --> 01:09:55,010
And once they met Sam's
mother and parents

1073
01:09:55,010 --> 01:10:01,070
who were very typical
immigrants from Poland--

1074
01:10:01,070 --> 01:10:04,100
and my mother-in-law didn't even
know how to read and write--

1075
01:10:04,100 --> 01:10:07,310

1076
01:10:07,310 --> 01:10:12,460
they saw that these were honest
people and decent people.

1077
01:10:12,460 --> 01:10:14,560
And that's all they
were interested in.

1078
01:10:14,560 --> 01:10:16,030
Well, I presume that--

1079
01:10:16,030 --> 01:10:20,560
Because after the
Holocaust, the other stuff

1080
01:10:20,560 --> 01:10:22,975
really didn't matter
anymore to my parents.

1081
01:10:22,975 --> 01:10:29,250

1082
01:10:29,250 --> 01:10:34,980
His name-- you speak
of Polish heritage.

1083
01:10:34,980 --> 01:10:37,050
Was his name always Gilbert?

1084
01:10:37,050 --> 01:10:38,520
Gelbard.

1085
01:10:38,520 --> 01:10:40,050
It had been Gelbard.

1086
01:10:40,050 --> 01:10:51,900
And it was changed when my
oldest sister-in-law started

1087
01:10:51,900 --> 01:10:54,570
going to school and
the teacher didn't

1088
01:10:54,570 --> 01:10:56,140
know how to write Gelbard.

1089
01:10:56,140 --> 01:10:57,540
So she wrote Gilbert.

1090
01:10:57,540 --> 01:11:01,690
And that's how it
eventually became Gilbert.

1091
01:11:01,690 --> 01:11:02,550
So you married.

1092
01:11:02,550 --> 01:11:05,790
Did you get an apartment
nearby to your family?

1093
01:11:05,790 --> 01:11:06,748
Yeah.

1094
01:11:06,748 --> 01:11:08,040
Were you working then yourself?

1095
01:11:08,040 --> 01:11:08,490
Yeah.

1096
01:11:08,490 --> 01:11:09,407
You continued to work?

1097
01:11:09,407 --> 01:11:11,880

1098
01:11:11,880 --> 01:11:12,840
Oh, yeah.

1099
01:11:12,840 --> 01:11:14,745
Yeah, I continued working.

1100
01:11:14,745 --> 01:11:17,340

1101
01:11:17,340 --> 01:11:18,450
He was born--

1102
01:11:18,450 --> 01:11:24,870
I married in 1949 and
he was born in '53.

1103
01:11:24,870 --> 01:11:27,710
And what's his name?

1104
01:11:27,710 --> 01:11:29,840
Daniel, Dan.

1105
01:11:29,840 --> 01:11:30,860
Dan Gilbert.

1106
01:11:30,860 --> 01:11:36,680
And then our daughter, Karen,
by the time she was born,

1107
01:11:36,680 --> 01:11:39,110
it was seven years later.

1108
01:11:39,110 --> 01:11:47,250
And we'd lived in Connecticut,
outside New Haven.

1109
01:11:47,250 --> 01:11:51,080
Did you move there for
business purposes or because--

1110
01:11:51,080 --> 01:11:54,600
We moved there
because we didn't want

1111
01:11:54,600 --> 01:11:57,120
to have a family in Manhattan.

1112
01:11:57,120 --> 01:12:00,900
We didn't want to
live in Manhattan.

1113
01:12:00,900 --> 01:12:03,510
Everybody was moving
out to Long Island.

1114
01:12:03,510 --> 01:12:10,470
And my husband said, I'm not
going to commute on the subway.

1115
01:12:10,470 --> 01:12:17,790
He was never one for being
pushed around like a Herring,

1116
01:12:17,790 --> 01:12:20,010
like a sardine on the subway.

1117
01:12:20,010 --> 01:12:22,380
And he wanted to leave New York.

1118
01:12:22,380 --> 01:12:25,210

He didn't like
living in New York.

1119
01:12:25,210 --> 01:12:28,650
So he looked for a job
outside of New York.

1120
01:12:28,650 --> 01:12:31,800
And the first opportunity
we had, we moved away.

1121
01:12:31,800 --> 01:12:35,640
And we're very happy
we made that decision.

1122
01:12:35,640 --> 01:12:36,840
We never went back--

1123
01:12:36,840 --> 01:12:39,060
I mean, we went back
to New York to visit

1124
01:12:39,060 --> 01:12:42,810
and always glad
to get out again.

1125
01:12:42,810 --> 01:12:45,030
Well, in raising
your children, did

1126
01:12:45,030 --> 01:12:48,360
you talk to them about
your Holocaust experiences

1127
01:12:48,360 --> 01:12:50,950
and your points of view?

1128
01:12:50,950 --> 01:12:52,200
Yes, of course.

1129
01:12:52,200 --> 01:13:01,620
I mean, they were weaned on it.

1130

01:13:01,620 --> 01:13:07,890

Their cousins, their aunts
and uncles and grandparents

1131

01:13:07,890 --> 01:13:14,630

and everybody on that side
of the family was a refugee.

1132

01:13:14,630 --> 01:13:16,440

So they knew that.

1133

01:13:16,440 --> 01:13:21,090

And I used to take them
along to our SosÃ'a meetings.

1134

01:13:21,090 --> 01:13:25,080

People from the
Dominican Republic,

1135

01:13:25,080 --> 01:13:27,870

they still do meet to this day.

1136

01:13:27,870 --> 01:13:30,750

They still meet
on a regular basis

1137

01:13:30,750 --> 01:13:32,160

at least once or twice a year.

1138

01:13:32,160 --> 01:13:37,170

And many are
together practically

1139

01:13:37,170 --> 01:13:39,090

on a daily basis in Florida.

1140

01:13:39,090 --> 01:13:42,100

1141

01:13:42,100 --> 01:13:44,980

Do you go to these
meetings, by the way?

1142
01:13:44,980 --> 01:13:49,570
I haven't since
I'm in California,

1143
01:13:49,570 --> 01:13:58,920
other than the anniversary of
the 50th anniversary reunion.

1144
01:13:58,920 --> 01:14:04,630
But I did as long as I was
living on the East Coast.

1145
01:14:04,630 --> 01:14:07,600
I did regularly when I
was living in New York.

1146
01:14:07,600 --> 01:14:09,460
And once we moved
to Connecticut,

1147
01:14:09,460 --> 01:14:12,400
it became a little
more difficult.

1148
01:14:12,400 --> 01:14:17,450
But I did go whenever I could.

1149
01:14:17,450 --> 01:14:19,065
And you were talking
to your children

1150
01:14:19,065 --> 01:14:21,850
about the experience
in the camp in France?

1151
01:14:21,850 --> 01:14:24,100
I mean, because you were
saying that people couldn't--

1152
01:14:24,100 --> 01:14:27,670
I guess-- no, I guess I didn't.

1153

01:14:27,670 --> 01:14:29,080

I did.

1154

01:14:29,080 --> 01:14:33,730

I would say sometimes, I mean,
my time in the concentration

1155

01:14:33,730 --> 01:14:44,530

camp was so short that it was
easy to forget, fortunately.

1156

01:14:44,530 --> 01:14:49,840

But I did say sometimes-- and I
never said concentration camp.

1157

01:14:49,840 --> 01:14:55,210

I used to say the camp or Gurs.

1158

01:14:55,210 --> 01:14:58,900

But my daughter told
me not too long ago--

1159

01:14:58,900 --> 01:15:02,230

she said, mom, I always
heard you talk about when

1160

01:15:02,230 --> 01:15:03,220

you were in the camp.

1161

01:15:03,220 --> 01:15:05,360

And I always thought
you went to summer camp

1162

01:15:05,360 --> 01:15:06,970

like I went with my camp.

1163

01:15:06,970 --> 01:15:08,248

[LAUGHS]

1164

01:15:08,248 --> 01:15:09,100

What a difference.

1165

01:15:09,100 --> 01:15:10,960

Yeah.

1166

01:15:10,960 --> 01:15:14,590

Then have you ever gone
back to Germany as an adult?

1167

01:15:14,590 --> 01:15:15,270

No.

1168

01:15:15,270 --> 01:15:16,060

No.

1169

01:15:16,060 --> 01:15:17,510

Why?

1170

01:15:17,510 --> 01:15:20,380

I have no desire to go.

1171

01:15:20,380 --> 01:15:21,280

You have no desire.

1172

01:15:21,280 --> 01:15:23,656

Are you repeled to go or--

1173

01:15:23,656 --> 01:15:27,550

1174

01:15:27,550 --> 01:15:33,130

I don't know that I would
be repeled to go today.

1175

01:15:33,130 --> 01:15:39,340

But as I mentioned to you, this
was my first trip to Europe

1176

01:15:39,340 --> 01:15:41,230

since I'm in the United States.

1177

01:15:41,230 --> 01:15:44,575

And my first priority was

Israel, certainly not Germany.

1178

01:15:44,575 --> 01:15:48,100

1179

01:15:48,100 --> 01:15:52,800

So that's one of
the main reasons.

1180

01:15:52,800 --> 01:15:55,500

But we had considered--

1181

01:15:55,500 --> 01:15:57,570

we had talked about--

1182

01:15:57,570 --> 01:15:58,650

I shouldn't say we.

1183

01:15:58,650 --> 01:16:03,570

I. My husband wasn't
interested at all--

1184

01:16:03,570 --> 01:16:07,100

should we go to
Germany from Israel

1185

01:16:07,100 --> 01:16:13,410

since I said, let's go somewhere
else, let's make another stop.

1186

01:16:13,410 --> 01:16:19,380

But we decided against it, and
we really weren't interested.

1187

01:16:19,380 --> 01:16:24,540

My sisters come back many
times and she-- yeah, to Worms

1188

01:16:24,540 --> 01:16:26,350

and it pulls her.

1189

01:16:26,350 --> 01:16:28,770

It doesn't pull me at all.

1190

01:16:28,770 --> 01:16:33,690

Because she feels positive
about her trips back.

1191

01:16:33,690 --> 01:16:35,040

Well, what my sister did--

1192

01:16:35,040 --> 01:16:39,390

1193

01:16:39,390 --> 01:16:47,370

she started a very large project
in Worms at the synagogue.

1194

01:16:47,370 --> 01:16:53,670

Synagogue in Worms was
rebuilt in the 1960s.

1195

01:16:53,670 --> 01:17:02,460

And my sister-- going to the
cemetery in New York at one

1196

01:17:02,460 --> 01:17:13,710

point back in around
1978, 1976 maybe--

1197

01:17:13,710 --> 01:17:19,230

got the idea a lot of
people had little memorials

1198

01:17:19,230 --> 01:17:24,240

for some of the people that
were killed, relatives,

1199

01:17:24,240 --> 01:17:25,300

at the cemeteries.

1200

01:17:25,300 --> 01:17:28,020

1201

01:17:28,020 --> 01:17:33,480
And she thought, well, the
appropriate thing to do really

1202
01:17:33,480 --> 01:17:40,800
is to have a plaque at
the synagogue in Worms

1203
01:17:40,800 --> 01:17:43,770
where the people came
from as a Memorial.

1204
01:17:43,770 --> 01:17:47,640
And she started to
call people together

1205
01:17:47,640 --> 01:17:51,510
and really started
an organization

1206
01:17:51,510 --> 01:18:04,860
that is flourishing and
started this project of getting

1207
01:18:04,860 --> 01:18:13,290
to find out exactly who is
still alive and where people are

1208
01:18:13,290 --> 01:18:17,520
and who was actually killed.

1209
01:18:17,520 --> 01:18:24,090
And we have that Memorial
plaque of all the people

1210
01:18:24,090 --> 01:18:32,850
that were living in Worms
with their names inscribed

1211
01:18:32,850 --> 01:18:35,070
at the synagogue in Worms.

1212
01:18:35,070 --> 01:18:37,920

1213
01:18:37,920 --> 01:18:43,800
And it was a big
project, and she

1214
01:18:43,800 --> 01:18:50,940
got the cooperation of a
lot of the present residents

1215
01:18:50,940 --> 01:18:53,990
of the town in Worms.

1216
01:18:53,990 --> 01:18:59,340
The archivist of
the city of Worms

1217
01:18:59,340 --> 01:19:06,690
became very, very much involved
and there's another man

1218
01:19:06,690 --> 01:19:08,820
who became very much involved.

1219
01:19:08,820 --> 01:19:12,150
And a lot of the
young Jewish people

1220
01:19:12,150 --> 01:19:14,280
that we were going
to school with--

1221
01:19:14,280 --> 01:19:17,310

1222
01:19:17,310 --> 01:19:23,340
a lot of the former Worms became
involved in the organization.

1223
01:19:23,340 --> 01:19:27,100

1224

01:19:27,100 --> 01:19:31,920
And one of the people
that became active

1225
01:19:31,920 --> 01:19:45,330
is a historian, a professor of
history at Brooklyn College.

1226
01:19:45,330 --> 01:19:49,365
He was four or six years
old when he left Worms.

1227
01:19:49,365 --> 01:19:52,260

1228
01:19:52,260 --> 01:19:57,150
But he ended up writing a book
about the Jewish community

1229
01:19:57,150 --> 01:20:00,210
in Worms.

1230
01:20:00,210 --> 01:20:04,540
And he also wrote a
book about our teacher.

1231
01:20:04,540 --> 01:20:07,740

1232
01:20:07,740 --> 01:20:10,530
We had a teacher at the
Jewish school whose name

1233
01:20:10,530 --> 01:20:13,950
was Herta Mansbacher.

1234
01:20:13,950 --> 01:20:21,050
She had been a
teacher originally

1235
01:20:21,050 --> 01:20:25,570
in the regular
German school system.

1236
01:20:25,570 --> 01:20:34,690
And then in 1935, when the
Jewish school was opened,

1237
01:20:34,690 --> 01:20:37,810
she became a teacher there.

1238
01:20:37,810 --> 01:20:47,500
She was from Worms and had
been quite a character,

1239
01:20:47,500 --> 01:20:51,400
very eccentric
character, as we always

1240
01:20:51,400 --> 01:20:56,710
made fun of her as children.

1241
01:20:56,710 --> 01:21:08,100
And she really became
a martyr and a heroine

1242
01:21:08,100 --> 01:21:18,240
through because she
refused opportunities

1243
01:21:18,240 --> 01:21:22,080
to leave Germany, decided
to stay behind and stay

1244
01:21:22,080 --> 01:21:25,120
with the children.

1245
01:21:25,120 --> 01:21:31,770
And was thus deported with
the rest of the children.

1246
01:21:31,770 --> 01:21:53,490
She also actually tried to stop
the hoodlums 54 years ago today

1247

01:21:53,490 --> 01:21:55,650
towards the synagogue.

1248
01:21:55,650 --> 01:21:58,240
She physically
tried to stop them.

1249
01:21:58,240 --> 01:22:06,040
And my sister really
was the one who said,

1250
01:22:06,040 --> 01:22:08,630
we have to do
something about that.

1251
01:22:08,630 --> 01:22:13,420
We have to make
sure that this is

1252
01:22:13,420 --> 01:22:18,760
known because we've had the
reputation of not fighting

1253
01:22:18,760 --> 01:22:19,690
back.

1254
01:22:19,690 --> 01:22:26,440
And here was this 50 or
55-year-old chubby little

1255
01:22:26,440 --> 01:22:31,930
schoolteacher who put
her body between herself

1256
01:22:31,930 --> 01:22:33,880
and the synagogue.

1257
01:22:33,880 --> 01:22:36,670
She didn't succeed,
but she tried

1258
01:22:36,670 --> 01:22:42,080
to actually stop the hoodlums

from torching the synagogue.

1259

01:22:42,080 --> 01:22:46,420

And I think she actually
was able to hold them

1260

01:22:46,420 --> 01:22:50,470

back long enough so
that some people could

1261

01:22:50,470 --> 01:22:52,645

run in and save the Torahs.

1262

01:22:52,645 --> 01:22:55,540

1263

01:22:55,540 --> 01:22:58,300

I'm not entirely
sure of that anymore.

1264

01:22:58,300 --> 01:23:10,560

But Henry Huttenbach
has written a book

1265

01:23:10,560 --> 01:23:15,240

about her telling her story,
her entire life story.

1266

01:23:15,240 --> 01:23:20,120

1267

01:23:20,120 --> 01:23:22,300

The biggest love in
her life were the cats.

1268

01:23:22,300 --> 01:23:25,460

She was always going--

1269

01:23:25,460 --> 01:23:30,230

in the morning when we were
children came to school,

1270

01:23:30,230 --> 01:23:32,810
we would hear her, here,
pussy, pussy, pussy.

1271
01:23:32,810 --> 01:23:35,420
And her nickname was
pussy because of that

1272
01:23:35,420 --> 01:23:37,040
calling the cats.

1273
01:23:37,040 --> 01:23:40,820
And she would take the hard
boiled egg off her bread

1274
01:23:40,820 --> 01:23:43,940
and butter an egg sandwich,
take the egg off her sandwich

1275
01:23:43,940 --> 01:23:46,550
and give it to the cats.

1276
01:23:46,550 --> 01:23:51,170
And her slip was always showing
and her hair was tied together

1277
01:23:51,170 --> 01:23:52,220
with shoelaces.

1278
01:23:52,220 --> 01:23:55,880
She was really a character.

1279
01:23:55,880 --> 01:24:01,670
But she was very, very
devoted to the children

1280
01:24:01,670 --> 01:24:04,970
and apparently had
relatives who wanted to give

1281
01:24:04,970 --> 01:24:08,390
her affidavits to leave.

1282

01:24:08,390 --> 01:24:13,640

And she refused because she
felt that the children needed

1283

01:24:13,640 --> 01:24:15,740

to get the education.

1284

01:24:15,740 --> 01:24:19,910

And even after the schools
were no longer permitted,

1285

01:24:19,910 --> 01:24:26,100

she was still teaching
them at home and whatever.

1286

01:24:26,100 --> 01:24:28,170

She used to hit me in my face.

1287

01:24:28,170 --> 01:24:33,590

And I remember when I had
the sore throat one time

1288

01:24:33,590 --> 01:24:39,740

and I wanted to-- she was my
first and second grade teacher.

1289

01:24:39,740 --> 01:24:43,160

And I said I wanted to go home
because my throat was hurting

1290

01:24:43,160 --> 01:24:43,910

me.

1291

01:24:43,910 --> 01:24:48,110

She had this big finger
and it was full of chalk

1292

01:24:48,110 --> 01:24:53,360

and she put it on my tongue
and looked down my throat.

1293

01:24:53,360 --> 01:24:55,040

And I think she was satisfied.

1294

01:24:55,040 --> 01:24:56,900

It was read enough
that I could go.

1295

01:24:56,900 --> 01:25:01,850

1296

01:25:01,850 --> 01:25:12,030

But it was really due to my
sister's initiative that--

1297

01:25:12,030 --> 01:25:17,670

and then she put an ad
in a number of newspapers

1298

01:25:17,670 --> 01:25:21,630

who knew Herta Mansbacher
and got an enormous amount

1299

01:25:21,630 --> 01:25:23,220

of responses.

1300

01:25:23,220 --> 01:25:32,370

And people would write anecdotes
about her and also send photos.

1301

01:25:32,370 --> 01:25:37,180

And then Henry Huttenbach ended
up writing this book about her.

1302

01:25:37,180 --> 01:25:40,620

And as a matter of
fact, a few years ago,

1303

01:25:40,620 --> 01:25:47,430

the current generation of
high school students in Worms

1304

01:25:47,430 --> 01:25:50,430

did a play about
her now in German.

1305
01:25:50,430 --> 01:25:57,120
I have a copy of the German
tape of what they did about her.

1306
01:25:57,120 --> 01:26:00,720
And yeah, it really
started from--

1307
01:26:00,720 --> 01:26:02,970
I mean, it snowballed.

1308
01:26:02,970 --> 01:26:07,670
But Miriam is the originator
of the whole thing.

1309
01:26:07,670 --> 01:26:09,300
So she's been very active.

1310
01:26:09,300 --> 01:26:15,120
In the 1980, there
was a big dedication

1311
01:26:15,120 --> 01:26:19,170
of the plaque at the
synagogue in Worms.

1312
01:26:19,170 --> 01:26:22,200
And many, many people
from Worms went there.

1313
01:26:22,200 --> 01:26:26,400
And I mean, Jews from
all over the world

1314
01:26:26,400 --> 01:26:32,640
went back for the
dedication of the plaque.

1315
01:26:32,640 --> 01:26:36,960
And they had a
week of ceremonies

1316

01:26:36,960 --> 01:26:51,530

that the city of Worms
participated in with candle,

1317

01:26:51,530 --> 01:26:54,800

lighting, and crawling
up all the names.

1318

01:26:54,800 --> 01:26:58,580

And a very, very
dear friend of mine

1319

01:26:58,580 --> 01:27:01,940

who was in Auschwitz
with her mother

1320

01:27:01,940 --> 01:27:05,960

and survived
Auschwitz from Worms

1321

01:27:05,960 --> 01:27:10,580

went back and was able
to address the Germans

1322

01:27:10,580 --> 01:27:13,140

and telling them
about Auschwitz.

1323

01:27:13,140 --> 01:27:17,960

And I mean, I would have
never been able to do that.

1324

01:27:17,960 --> 01:27:20,510

You ask me, would I have--

1325

01:27:20,510 --> 01:27:22,970

it's incredible how she
was able to do that.

1326

01:27:22,970 --> 01:27:25,560

She's just a great woman.

1327

01:27:25,560 --> 01:27:27,830

What Germans was she addressing?

1328

01:27:27,830 --> 01:27:30,650

To the Wormsers who were
terribly anti-Semitic.

1329

01:27:30,650 --> 01:27:31,820

I mean, she spoke.

1330

01:27:31,820 --> 01:27:36,200

But it was a Jewish
ceremony, but they were also

1331

01:27:36,200 --> 01:27:38,105

a lot of Gentile guests.

1332

01:27:38,105 --> 01:27:41,900

1333

01:27:41,900 --> 01:27:45,950

They were many-- she was
talking at the ceremony,

1334

01:27:45,950 --> 01:27:48,660

but then they also
had dinners and so on.

1335

01:27:48,660 --> 01:27:52,010

And she spoke.

1336

01:27:52,010 --> 01:27:54,510

And that takes a
lot of strength,

1337

01:27:54,510 --> 01:27:57,980

a lot of strength to do that.

1338

01:27:57,980 --> 01:28:04,850

And I had always pictured
myself, asked myself,

1339

01:28:04,850 --> 01:28:10,520
how would I act if I
were to go back there?

1340
01:28:10,520 --> 01:28:14,810
And my anger was so
bad that I just didn't.

1341
01:28:14,810 --> 01:28:16,550
I couldn't deal with it.

1342
01:28:16,550 --> 01:28:23,720
I couldn't-- I didn't want to
see anybody and talk to them.

1343
01:28:23,720 --> 01:28:26,240
You didn't want to see any
German people and talk to them.

1344
01:28:26,240 --> 01:28:26,900
Right.

1345
01:28:26,900 --> 01:28:32,700
I couldn't talk German to
German Gentiles until maybe 10,

1346
01:28:32,700 --> 01:28:33,980
15 years ago.

1347
01:28:33,980 --> 01:28:35,540
Now, I can.

1348
01:28:35,540 --> 01:28:40,610
But I could talk
German only with Jews.

1349
01:28:40,610 --> 01:28:43,160
If I knew somebody who
was a German Gentile,

1350
01:28:43,160 --> 01:28:45,860
I couldn't speak German to them.

1351

01:28:45,860 --> 01:28:46,900

That was your anger?

1352

01:28:46,900 --> 01:28:49,070

And so--

1353

01:28:49,070 --> 01:28:51,740

It just wouldn't come out.

1354

01:28:51,740 --> 01:28:54,920

And when you were able to,
was there some resolution

1355

01:28:54,920 --> 01:28:56,051

in you about this?

1356

01:28:56,051 --> 01:28:58,530

1357

01:28:58,530 --> 01:28:59,030

Yeah.

1358

01:28:59,030 --> 01:29:03,500

I think time takes care of it.

1359

01:29:03,500 --> 01:29:12,480

But I had to do a lot of
healing before I could do that.

1360

01:29:12,480 --> 01:29:16,860

Do you feel like it
was forgiving, that you

1361

01:29:16,860 --> 01:29:18,260

were being forgiving?

1362

01:29:18,260 --> 01:29:22,760

1363

01:29:22,760 --> 01:29:25,100

No.

1364
01:29:25,100 --> 01:29:26,850
I don't think so.

1365
01:29:26,850 --> 01:29:39,820
I just finally could
internalized the fact

1366
01:29:39,820 --> 01:29:43,450
that the people that-- the
person that I spoke to,

1367
01:29:43,450 --> 01:29:47,020
I'm speaking to right now
really didn't have anything

1368
01:29:47,020 --> 01:29:49,300
to do with it.

1369
01:29:49,300 --> 01:29:52,460
What do you think
about Germany today?

1370
01:29:52,460 --> 01:29:57,730
I had been very so distrustful
of any German Gentile

1371
01:29:57,730 --> 01:30:02,380
before that I could
only think about who

1372
01:30:02,380 --> 01:30:04,900
are you when I spoke to them.

1373
01:30:04,900 --> 01:30:07,210
And it just took
me all these years

1374
01:30:07,210 --> 01:30:12,540
before I could get over that.

1375
01:30:12,540 --> 01:30:15,170

But what is your
thinking and feeling

1376
01:30:15,170 --> 01:30:17,600
about the current Germany?

1377
01:30:17,600 --> 01:30:21,510

1378
01:30:21,510 --> 01:30:26,430
From what I hear,
the young generation

1379
01:30:26,430 --> 01:30:33,560
is supposed to be
quite wonderful.

1380
01:30:33,560 --> 01:30:38,330

1381
01:30:38,330 --> 01:30:43,250
I'm aware of the lunatic
fringe of the skinheads.

1382
01:30:43,250 --> 01:30:47,630
But for that again, I have
to bring out my sister

1383
01:30:47,630 --> 01:30:49,910
all the time.

1384
01:30:49,910 --> 01:30:54,320
As part of the project
that they have done,

1385
01:30:54,320 --> 01:30:59,420
they also brought over-- they
asked some high school students

1386
01:30:59,420 --> 01:31:03,500
in Worms to write essays
about their feelings

1387

01:31:03,500 --> 01:31:05,420
about the Holocaust.

1388

01:31:05,420 --> 01:31:09,410
And I think they said
the four best ones

1389

01:31:09,410 --> 01:31:10,895
would win a trip to New York.

1390

01:31:10,895 --> 01:31:13,430

1391

01:31:13,430 --> 01:31:27,380
And so my sister had contact
with these young people.

1392

01:31:27,380 --> 01:31:31,110
And she speaks very
highly of them.

1393

01:31:31,110 --> 01:31:39,320
And as a matter of fact,
there is the daughter of one

1394

01:31:39,320 --> 01:31:47,450
of the people who were very
much involved in this project

1395

01:31:47,450 --> 01:31:53,600
that I was telling you about
with my sister from Worms who

1396

01:31:53,600 --> 01:32:04,240
actually admits to the
fact that he was in the SS

1397

01:32:04,240 --> 01:32:15,120
or he was a Nazi, but
certainly has done his--

1398

01:32:15,120 --> 01:32:16,920

what do you call it--

1399

01:32:16,920 --> 01:32:21,030

his penance and regrets.

1400

01:32:21,030 --> 01:32:28,020

And his daughter studied

Judaism, Jewish culture.

1401

01:32:28,020 --> 01:32:29,200

That's her profession.

1402

01:32:29,200 --> 01:32:34,170

She's-- whatever you

call it, I'm not sure.

1403

01:32:34,170 --> 01:32:37,140

And she studied at the

Yeshiva in New York,

1404

01:32:37,140 --> 01:32:44,740

and she studied in Jerusalem

at the Yad Vashem or--

1405

01:32:44,740 --> 01:32:47,910

I'm not sure you know where

she studied in Jerusalem.

1406

01:32:47,910 --> 01:32:52,520

And she speaks Hebrew

fluently, I guess.

1407

01:32:52,520 --> 01:32:58,340

And she's certainly

very much involved.

1408

01:32:58,340 --> 01:33:02,190

1409

01:33:02,190 --> 01:33:07,580

As a matter of fact,

I was told recently

1410

01:33:07,580 --> 01:33:20,910

that she was writing about
the current Jewish community

1411

01:33:20,910 --> 01:33:21,510

in Germany.

1412

01:33:21,510 --> 01:33:24,600

1413

01:33:24,600 --> 01:33:27,420

And have you read--

1414

01:33:27,420 --> 01:33:32,670

did you see the
movie Nasty Girl?

1415

01:33:32,670 --> 01:33:40,560

Well, her experience
was the flip side

1416

01:33:40,560 --> 01:33:42,960

of the Nasty Girl moments.

1417

01:33:42,960 --> 01:33:48,450

She went to the Jewish
community in Cologne

1418

01:33:48,450 --> 01:33:55,560

and wanted to look at their
archives since after the war.

1419

01:33:55,560 --> 01:33:58,760

And they did not
give her access.

1420

01:33:58,760 --> 01:33:59,590

Really?

1421

01:33:59,590 --> 01:34:00,090

What?

1422

01:34:00,090 --> 01:34:02,640

1423

01:34:02,640 --> 01:34:04,590

Apparently, they
have a lot to hide.

1424

01:34:04,590 --> 01:34:08,430

The Jewish community in
Cologne has a lot to hide?

1425

01:34:08,430 --> 01:34:09,638

What might they be hiding?

1426

01:34:09,638 --> 01:34:15,380

1427

01:34:15,380 --> 01:34:18,600

I don't know exactly.

1428

01:34:18,600 --> 01:34:19,490

I don't know exactly.

1429

01:34:19,490 --> 01:34:25,180

1430

01:34:25,180 --> 01:34:30,460

But I think a lot of the illegal
business and the prostitution

1431

01:34:30,460 --> 01:34:34,570

business and all of that
seems to be in Jewish hands

1432

01:34:34,570 --> 01:34:35,920

now-a-days--

1433

01:34:35,920 --> 01:34:38,740

The current
prostitution [INAUDIBLE]

1434

01:34:38,740 --> 01:34:40,190
Yes.

1435
01:34:40,190 --> 01:34:42,050
Although prostitution is legal.

1436
01:34:42,050 --> 01:34:48,790
But I think there maybe
some other illegal things

1437
01:34:48,790 --> 01:34:53,420
that they were involved with
that they don't want generally

1438
01:34:53,420 --> 01:34:53,920
to be known.

1439
01:34:53,920 --> 01:34:56,860
They were involved with
in the '30s and '40s--

1440
01:34:56,860 --> 01:34:57,920
No, no, no.

1441
01:34:57,920 --> 01:34:59,110
Oh, she wants the current--

1442
01:34:59,110 --> 01:35:01,210
She wanted from post-war.

1443
01:35:01,210 --> 01:35:07,570
And that's what I'm talking
about from 1945 to 1992.

1444
01:35:07,570 --> 01:35:10,360
OK.

1445
01:35:10,360 --> 01:35:15,250
Well, you referred
to the young people.

1446
01:35:15,250 --> 01:35:20,860

I'm maybe assuming that you feel
that the older generation has

1447
01:35:20,860 --> 01:35:22,070
a different point of view.

1448
01:35:22,070 --> 01:35:25,520

1449
01:35:25,520 --> 01:35:29,590
I mean, the older
German generation.

1450
01:35:29,590 --> 01:35:33,320
I'm sure that varies
like anywhere else.

1451
01:35:33,320 --> 01:35:40,810
I'm sure that many of them
learned their lesson and some

1452
01:35:40,810 --> 01:35:43,210
of them didn't.

1453
01:35:43,210 --> 01:35:46,495
Do you think that kind of
anti-Semitism or Holocaust

1454
01:35:46,495 --> 01:35:47,500
could happen again?

1455
01:35:47,500 --> 01:35:54,160

1456
01:35:54,160 --> 01:35:56,160
I don't know.

1457
01:35:56,160 --> 01:35:56,740
I don't know.

1458
01:35:56,740 --> 01:35:59,500

1459
01:35:59,500 --> 01:36:01,810
From what we see
now, we certainly

1460
01:36:01,810 --> 01:36:12,330
see a large increase
in racial prejudice.

1461
01:36:12,330 --> 01:36:15,760

1462
01:36:15,760 --> 01:36:17,950
But I just heard on
the radio yesterday

1463
01:36:17,950 --> 01:36:23,500
that they had a demonstration
of 350 Germans including

1464
01:36:23,500 --> 01:36:29,420
a lot of government
people in solidarity,

1465
01:36:29,420 --> 01:36:33,230
showing solidarity
with foreigners

1466
01:36:33,230 --> 01:36:37,970
and wanting to prove to
the world that that is--

1467
01:36:37,970 --> 01:36:44,900
the element doesn't
represent the average German.

1468
01:36:44,900 --> 01:36:49,150

1469
01:36:49,150 --> 01:36:50,750
So that's kind of hopeful.

1470

01:36:50,750 --> 01:36:51,810
It's interesting.

1471
01:36:51,810 --> 01:37:00,960
When I was in Israel just now, I
met with my sister's old school

1472
01:37:00,960 --> 01:37:06,090
friend who was my sister's
age and lives in Israel.

1473
01:37:06,090 --> 01:37:11,070
And she keeps her--

1474
01:37:11,070 --> 01:37:17,670
she's listed with an
organization in Tel Aviv.

1475
01:37:17,670 --> 01:37:20,310
They call her when
visitors come and they

1476
01:37:20,310 --> 01:37:22,830
want to see an Israeli home.

1477
01:37:22,830 --> 01:37:29,550
And she told me, I
have lots and lots

1478
01:37:29,550 --> 01:37:32,700
of American Jewish
visitors coming,

1479
01:37:32,700 --> 01:37:36,150
and they know absolutely
nothing about Israel.

1480
01:37:36,150 --> 01:37:40,980
And the Germans that come
are very well educated

1481
01:37:40,980 --> 01:37:42,280
about Israel.

1482
01:37:42,280 --> 01:37:44,820
They ask a lot of
intelligent questions,

1483
01:37:44,820 --> 01:37:47,160
and they really want to know.

1484
01:37:47,160 --> 01:37:53,250
And the Americans just come, and
they sit, and they don't even--

1485
01:37:53,250 --> 01:37:54,570
they don't know about anything.

1486
01:37:54,570 --> 01:37:57,330

1487
01:37:57,330 --> 01:37:58,970
So how was it for
you to go to Israel?

1488
01:37:58,970 --> 01:38:01,640
Did you ever entertain
the idea of living there?

1489
01:38:01,640 --> 01:38:03,590
No, no.

1490
01:38:03,590 --> 01:38:05,330
Well, we just got to see.

1491
01:38:05,330 --> 01:38:07,550
It was very exhausting.

1492
01:38:07,550 --> 01:38:11,180
It was very exciting
and very exhausting.

1493
01:38:11,180 --> 01:38:13,503
I had mentioned to you before.

1494

01:38:13,503 --> 01:38:14,170

What time is it?

1495

01:38:14,170 --> 01:38:15,420

It's already 3 o'clock?

1496

01:38:15,420 --> 01:38:15,920

Uh-huh.

1497

01:38:15,920 --> 01:38:16,650

My God.

1498

01:38:16,650 --> 01:38:19,190

1499

01:38:19,190 --> 01:38:24,320

I just want to tell
you that little story

1500

01:38:24,320 --> 01:38:27,020

that I had wanted to tell you.

1501

01:38:27,020 --> 01:38:32,840

1502

01:38:32,840 --> 01:38:35,690

This goes back to Germany.

1503

01:38:35,690 --> 01:38:40,670

My father had an acquaintance,
a German acquaintance,

1504

01:38:40,670 --> 01:38:41,585

casual friend.

1505

01:38:41,585 --> 01:38:44,670

1506

01:38:44,670 --> 01:38:48,740

I don't think that I told
you that story at the time

1507
01:38:48,740 --> 01:38:51,230
of my first interview.

1508
01:38:51,230 --> 01:38:52,010
Go ahead anyway.

1509
01:38:52,010 --> 01:38:58,000

1510
01:38:58,000 --> 01:39:04,090
When we moved to Heidelberg,
he came to visit us.

1511
01:39:04,090 --> 01:39:07,540
And he had joined the
Nazi party and used

1512
01:39:07,540 --> 01:39:16,900
to come to our house wearing
his little that Nazi pin.

1513
01:39:16,900 --> 01:39:23,920
And I remember my
father saying that he's

1514
01:39:23,920 --> 01:39:29,320
a very harmless
opportunist, this man.

1515
01:39:29,320 --> 01:39:38,868
And it was very gutsy of him
to come to visit us as a Nazi.

1516
01:39:38,868 --> 01:39:39,660
What are you doing?

1517
01:39:39,660 --> 01:39:42,810
They're going to-- I mean,
the building we lived in

1518
01:39:42,810 --> 01:39:44,040

was a Jewish building.

1519

01:39:44,040 --> 01:39:49,320

1520

01:39:49,320 --> 01:39:51,930

Sometimes, he was a hunter.

1521

01:39:51,930 --> 01:39:57,690

He would go hunting, and he
sometimes brought us some meat.

1522

01:39:57,690 --> 01:40:02,430

If he shot deer, he
would bring us some meat,

1523

01:40:02,430 --> 01:40:05,580

which it was very nice of him.

1524

01:40:05,580 --> 01:40:12,270

And he brought us
piece of a venison

1525

01:40:12,270 --> 01:40:18,400

just a few days before we
were deported to France.

1526

01:40:18,400 --> 01:40:23,660

And my mother had made it into--

1527

01:40:23,660 --> 01:40:27,000

she had pickled it and
made it into a pot roast.

1528

01:40:27,000 --> 01:40:32,610

And when the Gestapo came
that morning to deport us,

1529

01:40:32,610 --> 01:40:42,050

they said to us, take along
some food for your trip.

1530

01:40:42,050 --> 01:40:45,440
You'll need to have something
to eat, which was nice of them.

1531
01:40:45,440 --> 01:40:53,480
And they were not acting
with us the way it's usually

1532
01:40:53,480 --> 01:41:00,200
shown later, the way you
see, the way they acted later

1533
01:41:00,200 --> 01:41:03,770
in the 1940s, later in the '40s.

1534
01:41:03,770 --> 01:41:10,400
This was in 1940.

1535
01:41:10,400 --> 01:41:14,480
And so my mother took--

1536
01:41:14,480 --> 01:41:16,580
she took the venison.

1537
01:41:16,580 --> 01:41:18,320
And that's what we ate.

1538
01:41:18,320 --> 01:41:21,935
We went to concentration camp
eating venison on the train.

1539
01:41:21,935 --> 01:41:24,337
The food of the Nazi.

1540
01:41:24,337 --> 01:41:25,295
Isn't that interesting?

1541
01:41:25,295 --> 01:41:26,165
Yes.

1542
01:41:26,165 --> 01:41:27,150
What an irony.

1543
01:41:27,150 --> 01:41:27,650
Yeah.

1544
01:41:27,650 --> 01:41:30,480

1545
01:41:30,480 --> 01:41:36,810
So I mean our story is not
like the train and the usual

1546
01:41:36,810 --> 01:41:37,690
that you're hear.

1547
01:41:37,690 --> 01:41:41,370

1548
01:41:41,370 --> 01:41:42,870
Not everybody had a seat.

1549
01:41:42,870 --> 01:41:48,930
But we did have regular
tourists wooden benches.

1550
01:41:48,930 --> 01:41:53,730
And we sat down and we were able
to eat our venison sandwiches.

1551
01:41:53,730 --> 01:41:56,190
[LAUGHS]

1552
01:41:56,190 --> 01:41:59,010
And it was not a big struggle
from the other passengers

1553
01:41:59,010 --> 01:42:00,440
who are deportees really.

1554
01:42:00,440 --> 01:42:02,430
About food?

1555

01:42:02,430 --> 01:42:06,810
No, everybody had, I think--
and if somebody didn't have any,

1556
01:42:06,810 --> 01:42:08,235
there was enough to share.

1557
01:42:08,235 --> 01:42:13,040

1558
01:42:13,040 --> 01:42:14,720
You also mentioned
that you wanted

1559
01:42:14,720 --> 01:42:18,020
to talk about your
terrible struggle

1560
01:42:18,020 --> 01:42:19,370
with the prescription drugs.

1561
01:42:19,370 --> 01:42:24,890

1562
01:42:24,890 --> 01:42:27,125
Yeah, just very briefly.

1563
01:42:27,125 --> 01:42:31,450

1564
01:42:31,450 --> 01:42:32,730
And this is something that--

1565
01:42:32,730 --> 01:42:37,920
I mean, I realize now
that I was just totally--

1566
01:42:37,920 --> 01:42:40,740

1567
01:42:40,740 --> 01:42:45,370
my whole being was full of fear.

1568
01:42:45,370 --> 01:42:50,650
And in retrospect, I realize
that that's how I grew up

1569
01:42:50,650 --> 01:42:53,690
from the time I was born.

1570
01:42:53,690 --> 01:42:58,030
I was four years old,
and I was just terrified

1571
01:42:58,030 --> 01:43:03,130
of anything outside of me.

1572
01:43:03,130 --> 01:43:13,440
And I had to have a constant
struggle to overcome that,

1573
01:43:13,440 --> 01:43:14,520
to deal with that.

1574
01:43:14,520 --> 01:43:19,110
And when my son was
born, I used to wake

1575
01:43:19,110 --> 01:43:26,850
up shaking with anxiety
during the night.

1576
01:43:26,850 --> 01:43:29,850
And I had no idea what
the shaking came from.

1577
01:43:29,850 --> 01:43:33,255

1578
01:43:33,255 --> 01:43:37,590
He had a hernia problem and
I had some health problems.

1579
01:43:37,590 --> 01:43:39,510

I had many health problems.

1580

01:43:39,510 --> 01:43:41,505

What were your health problems?

1581

01:43:41,505 --> 01:43:44,370

I, later on, got

very bad colitis

1582

01:43:44,370 --> 01:43:49,270

and a few ulcerative colitis.

1583

01:43:49,270 --> 01:43:52,590

But at that time,

after my son was born,

1584

01:43:52,590 --> 01:43:58,410

I had a very unusual kind

of internal hernia that was

1585

01:43:58,410 --> 01:44:00,720

extremely painful all the time.

1586

01:44:00,720 --> 01:44:05,670

1587

01:44:05,670 --> 01:44:10,080

And we had no money,

and I had this baby

1588

01:44:10,080 --> 01:44:13,140

who had to have

surgery, this infant.

1589

01:44:13,140 --> 01:44:17,580

And I just felt

terribly insecure.

1590

01:44:17,580 --> 01:44:21,460

And I was very young, and

I had a responsibility,

1591

01:44:21,460 --> 01:44:25,090
and it was quite overwhelming.

1592
01:44:25,090 --> 01:44:30,270
So I woke up with
shaking anxiety.

1593
01:44:30,270 --> 01:44:33,610
But I didn't know what it was.

1594
01:44:33,610 --> 01:44:37,770
And so eventually, I was given--

1595
01:44:37,770 --> 01:44:41,700
in those days, it
was called Miltown.

1596
01:44:41,700 --> 01:44:48,690
And so I took that, and then
later, I was given Valium.

1597
01:44:48,690 --> 01:44:50,580
At first, I thought,
hey, this is great.

1598
01:44:50,580 --> 01:44:55,120
I have something that helps me.

1599
01:44:55,120 --> 01:45:04,200
And then after my
daughter was born in 1964,

1600
01:45:04,200 --> 01:45:09,150
I started with very
bad ulcerative colitis.

1601
01:45:09,150 --> 01:45:13,050
And I was hospitalized
with it many times.

1602
01:45:13,050 --> 01:45:17,100
And I still have it even--

1603

01:45:17,100 --> 01:45:20,250

once you have it, you
don't ever get rid of it.

1604

01:45:20,250 --> 01:45:22,170

But one of the
ways it was treated

1605

01:45:22,170 --> 01:45:26,760

was also with Valium to keep
to the intestines quiet.

1606

01:45:26,760 --> 01:45:30,170

1607

01:45:30,170 --> 01:45:33,680

So I became addicted to it.

1608

01:45:33,680 --> 01:45:44,500

And then I never
really increased it

1609

01:45:44,500 --> 01:45:47,420

because as far as
I was concerned,

1610

01:45:47,420 --> 01:45:51,410

it was always a medicine.

1611

01:45:51,410 --> 01:45:54,590

And I take as prescribed.

1612

01:45:54,590 --> 01:45:57,130

And so I never
abused it in any way.

1613

01:45:57,130 --> 01:46:01,270

But I took it for over 30
years, almost 35 years.

1614

01:46:01,270 --> 01:46:04,030

1615
01:46:04,030 --> 01:46:07,990
I mean, and then after, then
I developed sleeping problems.

1616
01:46:07,990 --> 01:46:12,760
So I didn't take it
three times a day, no.

1617
01:46:12,760 --> 01:46:18,490
But I took it every
night to go to sleep

1618
01:46:18,490 --> 01:46:23,140
and changed it to Ativan.

1619
01:46:23,140 --> 01:46:26,590
After Ativan came out, the
doctor said, take this,

1620
01:46:26,590 --> 01:46:29,800
it's better than the Valium.

1621
01:46:29,800 --> 01:46:31,900
And eventually,
one of my doctors

1622
01:46:31,900 --> 01:46:35,080
said, no, I'm not going to
give you another prescription.

1623
01:46:35,080 --> 01:46:38,590
And she urged me to
go to the hospital

1624
01:46:38,590 --> 01:46:43,720
and get detoxed,
which I did and--

1625
01:46:43,720 --> 01:46:46,600
Were you worried about yourself
anywhere along the way there?

1626

01:46:46,600 --> 01:46:48,400

I was always worried
about myself.

1627

01:46:48,400 --> 01:46:51,790

I mean, your
connection to the drug.

1628

01:46:51,790 --> 01:46:55,570

You mean, did I ever
consider if I was addicted?

1629

01:46:55,570 --> 01:46:57,640

Yeah.

1630

01:46:57,640 --> 01:47:00,040

It was very typical that if--

1631

01:47:00,040 --> 01:47:01,870

you don't want to look at that.

1632

01:47:01,870 --> 01:47:04,120

I mean, I learned.

1633

01:47:04,120 --> 01:47:08,740

I then checked myself
into Stanford hospital

1634

01:47:08,740 --> 01:47:20,150

and was really
had an eye opened,

1635

01:47:20,150 --> 01:47:27,950

got my eyes open to all of
that and to the entire--

1636

01:47:27,950 --> 01:47:32,270

what do you call
it-- of addiction.

1637

01:47:32,270 --> 01:47:39,220

And yeah, my daughter

had bought me the book,

1638
01:47:39,220 --> 01:47:41,630
I'm Dancing as Fast as I Can.

1639
01:47:41,630 --> 01:47:45,370
And she kept urging me,
mom, read it, read it.

1640
01:47:45,370 --> 01:47:49,300
And I'm an avid reader, and
I never picked up that book.

1641
01:47:49,300 --> 01:47:50,320
I didn't want to.

1642
01:47:50,320 --> 01:47:52,760
In fact, I think I gave
it to somebody else.

1643
01:47:52,760 --> 01:47:54,010
I didn't want to read it.

1644
01:47:54,010 --> 01:47:56,950
I was afraid that I might
find myself in there.

1645
01:47:56,950 --> 01:47:59,530

1646
01:47:59,530 --> 01:48:02,994
But that was never
really actually--

1647
01:48:02,994 --> 01:48:07,850

1648
01:48:07,850 --> 01:48:13,460
I never even thought
in those words.

1649
01:48:13,460 --> 01:48:19,970

It was just instinctive and
yes, my husband and my family

1650
01:48:19,970 --> 01:48:24,080
everybody was saying to me for
years, don't take those pills.

1651
01:48:24,080 --> 01:48:26,930
And I would think,
you don't understand.

1652
01:48:26,930 --> 01:48:27,750
I need this.

1653
01:48:27,750 --> 01:48:30,260
I need this to live.

1654
01:48:30,260 --> 01:48:32,750
You just don't understand.

1655
01:48:32,750 --> 01:48:39,890
But then it was made
quite clear to me

1656
01:48:39,890 --> 01:48:42,890
while I was at
Stanford hospital--

1657
01:48:42,890 --> 01:48:47,690
they gave me a name,
they gave me a diagnosis.

1658
01:48:47,690 --> 01:48:52,440
And they called it
post-traumatic stress.

1659
01:48:52,440 --> 01:48:58,310
And obviously, this is what I've
walked around with all my life.

1660
01:48:58,310 --> 01:49:03,260
So yes, I felt I wanted
to bring that out.

1661
01:49:03,260 --> 01:49:08,090
I don't see no reason in this
context to go into any detail.

1662
01:49:08,090 --> 01:49:11,810
That's another side.

1663
01:49:11,810 --> 01:49:13,940
But I'm sure I'm
not the only one.

1664
01:49:13,940 --> 01:49:16,730
This is what I'm trying to say.

1665
01:49:16,730 --> 01:49:21,860
It's something that I
carried with me all my life

1666
01:49:21,860 --> 01:49:24,140
and will never get rid of.

1667
01:49:24,140 --> 01:49:29,690
So this was another awful
legacy of Germany that--

1668
01:49:29,690 --> 01:49:30,433
Right.

1669
01:49:30,433 --> 01:49:31,850
--was that terrible
fear you have.

1670
01:49:31,850 --> 01:49:32,900
Absolutely.

1671
01:49:32,900 --> 01:49:34,580
Yes.

1672
01:49:34,580 --> 01:49:36,320
I ended up--

1673

01:49:36,320 --> 01:49:37,310

I mean, it took--

1674

01:49:37,310 --> 01:49:42,770

I had to go through
the education

1675

01:49:42,770 --> 01:49:48,050

that I got at Stanford hospital,
which is really recently,

1676

01:49:48,050 --> 01:49:52,040

to identify that
feeling as fear.

1677

01:49:52,040 --> 01:49:56,240

1678

01:49:56,240 --> 01:50:03,680

And I also always
kept myself aside.

1679

01:50:03,680 --> 01:50:09,920

I never really had the feeling
that I belonged anywhere.

1680

01:50:09,920 --> 01:50:13,040

I always felt as an outsider.

1681

01:50:13,040 --> 01:50:19,700

And I transferred that
feeling all the way

1682

01:50:19,700 --> 01:50:26,690

to the present until the time
that I ended up at Stanford

1683

01:50:26,690 --> 01:50:27,290

hospital.

1684

01:50:27,290 --> 01:50:31,370

From the time I was a little

Jewish girl in Germany,

1685
01:50:31,370 --> 01:50:37,070
I always found another excuse
in the context of my life

1686
01:50:37,070 --> 01:50:39,350
to take that place.

1687
01:50:39,350 --> 01:50:45,350
I was I was too young, I was too
old, I was not from New York,

1688
01:50:45,350 --> 01:50:48,110
I was not from Connecticut,
I was not from here,

1689
01:50:48,110 --> 01:50:51,830
I was not from there, I don't
know this, I can't do this.

1690
01:50:51,830 --> 01:51:00,440
So I had to keep myself somehow
separated so that I never

1691
01:51:00,440 --> 01:51:06,950
felt whole even, to some
extent, my own family around me.

1692
01:51:06,950 --> 01:51:11,830
I had to be separate.

1693
01:51:11,830 --> 01:51:15,190
And when did you go to Stanford?

1694
01:51:15,190 --> 01:51:16,990
1986.

1695
01:51:16,990 --> 01:51:19,600
December of 1986.

1696
01:51:19,600 --> 01:51:22,820

It's only a few years.

1697
01:51:22,820 --> 01:51:24,430
And how long were
you in the hospital?

1698
01:51:24,430 --> 01:51:27,910
And then it's through
that that I had enough

1699
01:51:27,910 --> 01:51:30,610
that I can even talk now
because I couldn't do that.

1700
01:51:30,610 --> 01:51:33,940
I wouldn't have been
able to do that before.

1701
01:51:33,940 --> 01:51:36,730
I was in the
hospital for 12 days.

1702
01:51:36,730 --> 01:51:42,420
But then I went on for a
long time with treatment.

1703
01:51:42,420 --> 01:51:47,230
And it was horrible.

1704
01:51:47,230 --> 01:51:49,780
It was worse than anything else.

1705
01:51:49,780 --> 01:51:56,320
I've had a mastectomy
two years after that.

1706
01:51:56,320 --> 01:51:59,770
And that was nothing
compared to it.

1707
01:51:59,770 --> 01:52:01,130
Absolutely nothing.

1708

01:52:01,130 --> 01:52:02,450

It was easy.

1709

01:52:02,450 --> 01:52:08,400

It was a breeze compared to
what the other stuff was.

1710

01:52:08,400 --> 01:52:11,610

How long did it take
before the terrible pains

1711

01:52:11,610 --> 01:52:16,730

of desire for the drug left?

1712

01:52:16,730 --> 01:52:18,380

About a year and a half.

1713

01:52:18,380 --> 01:52:22,760

What gave you the strength
to go through that?

1714

01:52:22,760 --> 01:52:24,130

I have a lot of strength.

1715

01:52:24,130 --> 01:52:28,830

1716

01:52:28,830 --> 01:52:30,670

You had the will to
break [INAUDIBLE]..

1717

01:52:30,670 --> 01:52:33,090

Yes, I don't have
physical strength.

1718

01:52:33,090 --> 01:52:34,470

But I have a lot of--

1719

01:52:34,470 --> 01:52:37,062

1720

01:52:37,062 --> 01:52:38,400
that's how they tell me.

1721
01:52:38,400 --> 01:52:39,288
[LAUGHS]

1722
01:52:39,288 --> 01:52:40,620
It must be so.

1723
01:52:40,620 --> 01:52:43,050
Yeah.

1724
01:52:43,050 --> 01:52:45,330
You have to, because
there are many times

1725
01:52:45,330 --> 01:52:47,160
when I didn't want to go on.

1726
01:52:47,160 --> 01:52:49,485
It was awful.

1727
01:52:49,485 --> 01:52:50,860
You mean the sense
that he wanted

1728
01:52:50,860 --> 01:52:52,720
to take the drug again or--

1729
01:52:52,720 --> 01:52:55,678
No, I never wanted to--
yeah, I wanted to die.

1730
01:52:55,678 --> 01:52:57,220
I didn't want to
take the drug again.

1731
01:52:57,220 --> 01:52:58,170
I wanted to die.

1732
01:52:58,170 --> 01:53:04,800

1733
01:53:04,800 --> 01:53:08,340
And you just hung on?

1734
01:53:08,340 --> 01:53:10,410
Yeah, thinking about my
grandchildren, that's

1735
01:53:10,410 --> 01:53:13,440
really what made
me hang in there.

1736
01:53:13,440 --> 01:53:14,910
You had grandchildren by then?

1737
01:53:14,910 --> 01:53:15,930
Yeah.

1738
01:53:15,930 --> 01:53:16,950
Oh, I had one.

1739
01:53:16,950 --> 01:53:18,795
At that time, I only had one.

1740
01:53:18,795 --> 01:53:22,230
The second one wasn't born.

1741
01:53:22,230 --> 01:53:26,700
And what about that sense
of fear and anxiety today?

1742
01:53:26,700 --> 01:53:28,740
It's gone.

1743
01:53:28,740 --> 01:53:31,020
It's gone.

1744
01:53:31,020 --> 01:53:32,505
I mean, not completely.

1745
01:53:32,505 --> 01:53:39,600

[LAUGHS] But I understand it now, and I can cope with it.

1746

01:53:39,600 --> 01:53:42,780

I mean, I still have sleeping problems

1747

01:53:42,780 --> 01:53:45,780

and still have a lot of problems.

1748

01:53:45,780 --> 01:53:49,500

But I cope with them in a different way now.

1749

01:53:49,500 --> 01:53:52,080

Did you have nightmares?

1750

01:53:52,080 --> 01:53:52,580

Yes.

1751

01:53:52,580 --> 01:53:55,385

1752

01:53:55,385 --> 01:53:57,760

Are they nightmares related to your Holocaust experience?

1753

01:53:57,760 --> 01:53:58,510

Yes.

1754

01:53:58,510 --> 01:53:59,320

Yes.

1755

01:53:59,320 --> 01:54:02,680

I mean, not always, but a lot.

1756

01:54:02,680 --> 01:54:07,720

Nightmares all my life of always the deportation

1757

01:54:07,720 --> 01:54:11,730

again and again in
one way or another.

1758
01:54:11,730 --> 01:54:13,180
Is that your main
sleeping problem

1759
01:54:13,180 --> 01:54:15,790
that you wake with nightmares?

1760
01:54:15,790 --> 01:54:18,160
No.

1761
01:54:18,160 --> 01:54:20,530
My sleeping problem is
that I can't go to sleep.

1762
01:54:20,530 --> 01:54:23,290

1763
01:54:23,290 --> 01:54:32,070
And then when you're
taking a lot of that stuff,

1764
01:54:32,070 --> 01:54:35,280
you don't dream all that much.

1765
01:54:35,280 --> 01:54:38,790
But if I did dream,
I had nightmares.

1766
01:54:38,790 --> 01:54:43,610
I never had any
other kind of dreams.

1767
01:54:43,610 --> 01:54:47,750
And they're not completely gone,
but they're much, much better.

1768
01:54:47,750 --> 01:54:49,550
Were you maybe
afraid to go to sleep

1769

01:54:49,550 --> 01:54:50,690
for fear of the nightmares?

1770

01:54:50,690 --> 01:54:52,998
No, no.

1771

01:54:52,998 --> 01:54:55,290
Because you must have been
exhausted a lot of the time.

1772

01:54:55,290 --> 01:54:59,430
It's the benzodiazepine.

1773

01:54:59,430 --> 01:55:08,590
The medication kills off the
endorphins in your brain.

1774

01:55:08,590 --> 01:55:13,630
So there is a real
physical biological reason

1775

01:55:13,630 --> 01:55:15,550
why you can't sleep.

1776

01:55:15,550 --> 01:55:18,100
It takes a long
time to heal itself.

1777

01:55:18,100 --> 01:55:19,420
--of your own endorphins?

1778

01:55:19,420 --> 01:55:20,170
Right.

1779

01:55:20,170 --> 01:55:26,870
Takes years before
that heals itself.

1780

01:55:26,870 --> 01:55:30,950
Well, that seems like it was
very, very, very brave of you

1781

01:55:30,950 --> 01:55:33,170
to go through all that.

1782

01:55:33,170 --> 01:55:34,305
I really had no choice.

1783

01:55:34,305 --> 01:55:37,910

1784

01:55:37,910 --> 01:55:46,510
I was very glad once
somebody else told me

1785

01:55:46,510 --> 01:55:49,060
that my family never
used the word addiction.

1786

01:55:49,060 --> 01:55:52,240

1787

01:55:52,240 --> 01:55:55,730
They just said get off
that, stop taking that.

1788

01:55:55,730 --> 01:56:00,790
But once the doctor
said to me, then--

1789

01:56:00,790 --> 01:56:06,100
but at first I thought I
can handle that myself.

1790

01:56:06,100 --> 01:56:08,140
Of course, I always
had the excuse.

1791

01:56:08,140 --> 01:56:12,160
You said, did I ever
have any doubts?

1792

01:56:12,160 --> 01:56:15,310
Yeah, in the sense that

I always ask the doctor,

1793
01:56:15,310 --> 01:56:18,580
can I get addicted for years.

1794
01:56:18,580 --> 01:56:20,890
And they always said, no.

1795
01:56:20,890 --> 01:56:23,710
And when I had very
bad colitis, the doctor

1796
01:56:23,710 --> 01:56:32,740
said to me, well, which
is more important?

1797
01:56:32,740 --> 01:56:34,510
I mean, I had it very, very bad.

1798
01:56:34,510 --> 01:56:37,630

1799
01:56:37,630 --> 01:56:43,400
So they said this is the lesser.

1800
01:56:43,400 --> 01:56:49,460
So even if you do get addicted,
one doctor said to me,

1801
01:56:49,460 --> 01:56:54,470
it's not as bad as your colitis.

1802
01:56:54,470 --> 01:56:56,870
So you never had trouble
getting prescriptions at all?

1803
01:56:56,870 --> 01:56:57,980
No.

1804
01:56:57,980 --> 01:57:00,850
It was easy?

1805

01:57:00,850 --> 01:57:01,350

Yeah.

1806

01:57:01,350 --> 01:57:05,260

And that wasn't the problem.

1807

01:57:05,260 --> 01:57:10,500

And as I said, I
never abused it.

1808

01:57:10,500 --> 01:57:18,990

But what happened was that I was
sort of in a halfway withdrawal

1809

01:57:18,990 --> 01:57:23,950

stage because my body really
wanted more, and I didn't know.

1810

01:57:23,950 --> 01:57:26,190

So I was forever
feeling sick and awful,

1811

01:57:26,190 --> 01:57:27,600

and I didn't know why.

1812

01:57:27,600 --> 01:57:30,670

1813

01:57:30,670 --> 01:57:33,660

Must have been really
hard all those years.

1814

01:57:33,660 --> 01:57:35,256

Yeah.

1815

01:57:35,256 --> 01:57:38,240

And then you said
you had a mastectomy.

1816

01:57:38,240 --> 01:57:39,910

So you must have had a lump.

1817
01:57:39,910 --> 01:57:41,140
That was afterwards.

1818
01:57:41,140 --> 01:57:42,580
Right, but--

1819
01:57:42,580 --> 01:57:43,930
No, I didn't.

1820
01:57:43,930 --> 01:57:45,100
That's a different story.

1821
01:57:45,100 --> 01:57:49,010
[LAUGHS] I had Paget's disease.

1822
01:57:49,010 --> 01:57:49,510
What's that?

1823
01:57:49,510 --> 01:57:53,710

1824
01:57:53,710 --> 01:57:55,400
We don't have to
do this on the--

1825
01:57:55,400 --> 01:57:55,900
No.

1826
01:57:55,900 --> 01:57:58,966
If you don't want to, we won't.

1827
01:57:58,966 --> 01:58:02,600
If you don't want
to, we can not.

1828
01:58:02,600 --> 01:58:08,030
I mean, I'll be glad to tell
you, but not on the camera.

1829
01:58:08,030 --> 01:58:08,530
OK.

1830
01:58:08,530 --> 01:58:10,510
But anyway, you had a
major health problem

1831
01:58:10,510 --> 01:58:14,410
obviously in surgery
three years later.

1832
01:58:14,410 --> 01:58:17,960
Yeah, it's a form
of breast cancer.

1833
01:58:17,960 --> 01:58:19,790
It's just not very common.

1834
01:58:19,790 --> 01:58:20,710
It's very rare.

1835
01:58:20,710 --> 01:58:21,410
Really?

1836
01:58:21,410 --> 01:58:23,060
Yeah.

1837
01:58:23,060 --> 01:58:26,060
And since then, how is your
health been [INAUDIBLE]??

1838
01:58:26,060 --> 01:58:28,850

1839
01:58:28,850 --> 01:58:31,720
My health has never
been very good.

1840
01:58:31,720 --> 01:58:35,620
I've always had some
kind of problems.

1841
01:58:35,620 --> 01:58:42,760
And most of your married life,

did you work or you didn't?

1842
01:58:42,760 --> 01:58:44,500
Not while my children
were growing up.

1843
01:58:44,500 --> 01:58:51,440
But since 1971, I've worked.

1844
01:58:51,440 --> 01:58:52,540
Doing what?

1845
01:58:52,540 --> 01:58:54,160
So for the last 20 years--

1846
01:58:54,160 --> 01:58:56,890

1847
01:58:56,890 --> 01:58:58,120
office work.

1848
01:58:58,120 --> 01:58:59,768
Accounting.

1849
01:58:59,768 --> 01:59:01,810
How did you manage with
all these health problems

1850
01:59:01,810 --> 01:59:03,160
and sleep problems?

1851
01:59:03,160 --> 01:59:04,960
It was difficult.

1852
01:59:04,960 --> 01:59:08,260
I mean, you could get to
work and stay awake even?

1853
01:59:08,260 --> 01:59:08,920
Oh, yeah.

1854

01:59:08,920 --> 01:59:13,080
No, that was never a problem.

1855
01:59:13,080 --> 01:59:17,520
And I only worked--

1856
01:59:17,520 --> 01:59:23,550
when my colitis was
very bad, I didn't work.

1857
01:59:23,550 --> 01:59:25,560
That was before.

1858
01:59:25,560 --> 01:59:33,910
It was in between 1964 and '71.

1859
01:59:33,910 --> 01:59:37,020
And when it was
really, really very bad

1860
01:59:37,020 --> 01:59:40,020
was when my mother was dying.

1861
01:59:40,020 --> 01:59:42,330
So that's when it hit me.

1862
01:59:42,330 --> 01:59:46,300

1863
01:59:46,300 --> 01:59:55,780
She went through a very long,
very, very slow deterioration

1864
01:59:55,780 --> 01:59:57,550
of cancer.

1865
01:59:57,550 --> 02:00:03,592
And that's when my colitis was
the worst during those years.

1866
02:00:03,592 --> 02:00:05,760
Was she living with you?

1867
02:00:05,760 --> 02:00:08,010
For a time, yeah.

1868
02:00:08,010 --> 02:00:18,882
And then she was in a nursing
home near me in New Haven.

1869
02:00:18,882 --> 02:00:23,700
That must have been
grueling for both of you.

1870
02:00:23,700 --> 02:00:25,370
You said your father
had already died?

1871
02:00:25,370 --> 02:00:26,420
Yeah.

1872
02:00:26,420 --> 02:00:27,996
Heartbroken, I assume?

1873
02:00:27,996 --> 02:00:32,830

1874
02:00:32,830 --> 02:00:37,600
So now, your children are grown.

1875
02:00:37,600 --> 02:00:41,110
Are they both-- are they
working, married, not?

1876
02:00:41,110 --> 02:00:49,190
Yeah, they're both working
and married and parents.

1877
02:00:49,190 --> 02:00:51,310
How many grandchildren
do you have?

1878
02:00:51,310 --> 02:00:54,518
I have one little

girl on each side.

1879
02:00:54,518 --> 02:00:57,130
How old are they?

1880
02:00:57,130 --> 02:01:00,610
8 and 1/2 and 4.

1881
02:01:00,610 --> 02:01:02,980
Are you talking to them at
all about your experience

1882
02:01:02,980 --> 02:01:04,690
with your history?

1883
02:01:04,690 --> 02:01:06,790
To the older one, yeah.

1884
02:01:06,790 --> 02:01:09,580
The little one is too young.

1885
02:01:09,580 --> 02:01:10,870
But the older one--

1886
02:01:10,870 --> 02:01:19,130

1887
02:01:19,130 --> 02:01:25,270
what I've done a few
years is talk about--

1888
02:01:25,270 --> 02:01:28,540
I thought that the
most appropriate thing

1889
02:01:28,540 --> 02:01:32,890
to do on Passover is to
talk about my own exodus

1890
02:01:32,890 --> 02:01:35,590
to the family rather than--

1891

02:01:35,590 --> 02:01:40,930

my husband never wants to do
much reading in the Haggadah.

1892

02:01:40,930 --> 02:01:43,570

And I love Passover.

1893

02:01:43,570 --> 02:01:49,510

So that's what I've
done for a few years.

1894

02:01:49,510 --> 02:01:53,530

Are both your children
living nearby?

1895

02:01:53,530 --> 02:01:56,020

No, my daughter
lives in Los Angeles.

1896

02:01:56,020 --> 02:01:57,040

And your son lives--

1897

02:01:57,040 --> 02:02:00,220

He lives here, yeah,
in Mill Valley.

1898

02:02:00,220 --> 02:02:02,317

Is that why you
came to California?

1899

02:02:02,317 --> 02:02:02,817

Mm-hmm.

1900

02:02:02,817 --> 02:02:06,090

1901

02:02:06,090 --> 02:02:11,740

And do you have any kind
of message or anything

1902

02:02:11,740 --> 02:02:15,450

you would like to say

having now reviewed

1903
02:02:15,450 --> 02:02:17,340
a good part of your life?

1904
02:02:17,340 --> 02:02:22,340

1905
02:02:22,340 --> 02:02:23,695
A message--

1906
02:02:23,695 --> 02:02:25,380
If you wish.

1907
02:02:25,380 --> 02:02:26,800
I probably would.

1908
02:02:26,800 --> 02:02:32,560

1909
02:02:32,560 --> 02:02:35,980
I think that our
Jewish heritage is

1910
02:02:35,980 --> 02:02:41,650
very precious, very
important, very important

1911
02:02:41,650 --> 02:02:45,790
to keep our history.

1912
02:02:45,790 --> 02:02:54,520
And I hope there'll be a world
to hope and pray that the--