

1

00:00:00,000 --> 00:01:29,500

2

00:01:29,500 --> 00:01:30,850

Very few people came back.

3

00:01:30,850 --> 00:01:32,260

I don't know the numbers.

4

00:01:32,260 --> 00:01:36,820

Do you know how many were  
Jewish before the war?

5

00:01:36,820 --> 00:01:39,070

A large population was Jewish.

6

00:01:39,070 --> 00:01:41,710

Again, I have a hard  
time with numbers.

7

00:01:41,710 --> 00:01:47,290

I think they said something  
about 15,000 Jews were there

8

00:01:47,290 --> 00:01:49,310

and 70 came back.

9

00:01:49,310 --> 00:01:55,010

But I'm quite hesitant to  
give you these numbers.

10

00:01:55,010 --> 00:01:59,210

These are the numbers  
that I recall.

11

00:01:59,210 --> 00:02:01,460

We had a very large  
Jewish community,

12

00:02:01,460 --> 00:02:05,260

but it was separated, the

orthodox Jews and reformed

13

00:02:05,260 --> 00:02:07,780

Jews.

14

00:02:07,780 --> 00:02:10,449

Were there many Schultz?

15

00:02:10,449 --> 00:02:15,550

They were about three or four.

16

00:02:15,550 --> 00:02:20,935

They were members of the  
most modern reformed temple.

17

00:02:20,935 --> 00:02:23,980

18

00:02:23,980 --> 00:02:26,920

Do you recall whether  
any of your grandparents

19

00:02:26,920 --> 00:02:32,050

were religious Jews?

20

00:02:32,050 --> 00:02:34,510

Yes, they were.

21

00:02:34,510 --> 00:02:39,640

My mother's father  
and my father's father

22

00:02:39,640 --> 00:02:43,570

were always telling  
my father that he

23

00:02:43,570 --> 00:02:49,550

should give us more Judaism  
and be more involved.

24

00:02:49,550 --> 00:02:52,990

I remember that conversation.

25  
00:02:52,990 --> 00:02:55,810  
Did they speak to you,  
your grandfathers?

26  
00:02:55,810 --> 00:02:57,370  
They spoke to me.

27  
00:02:57,370 --> 00:02:59,200  
I thought Magda was--

28  
00:02:59,200 --> 00:03:03,160  
Magdalena she calls herself  
now-- she was the favorite.

29  
00:03:03,160 --> 00:03:05,140  
She was the favorite.

30  
00:03:05,140 --> 00:03:12,250  
My grandfather was hard of  
hearing and in his daily life

31  
00:03:12,250 --> 00:03:15,430  
the routine was for  
him, kind of a ritual,

32  
00:03:15,430 --> 00:03:17,720  
that he came to visit us.

33  
00:03:17,720 --> 00:03:20,950  
And when he came to visit  
us, he was hard of hearing

34  
00:03:20,950 --> 00:03:23,320  
and he had this  
black contraption

35  
00:03:23,320 --> 00:03:27,020  
that he put in his ear and we  
would have to talk into that.

36  
00:03:27,020 --> 00:03:31,600

So one day he didn't realize  
that everyone can hear him

37

00:03:31,600 --> 00:03:34,900  
because he spoke very loud and  
he thought he was whispering

38

00:03:34,900 --> 00:03:39,340  
to my sister's ear and said,  
don't tell your parents

39

00:03:39,340 --> 00:03:47,080  
that Ditzel is at my house now  
because she is cutting school.

40

00:03:47,080 --> 00:03:50,080  
And everybody heard it.

41

00:03:50,080 --> 00:03:56,350  
So when I came home, my father  
says, where were you today?

42

00:03:56,350 --> 00:04:01,570  
And boy did I know, did I know.

43

00:04:01,570 --> 00:04:03,070  
I tried to lie.

44

00:04:03,070 --> 00:04:04,780  
I became pretty manipulative.

45

00:04:04,780 --> 00:04:06,730  
You know my father  
was very charming,

46

00:04:06,730 --> 00:04:09,490  
and he would go to the  
coffee house to play cards.

47

00:04:09,490 --> 00:04:13,090  
And when I needed money, I knew  
if I go to the coffee house

48

00:04:13,090 --> 00:04:16,060

when my father is in  
front of his friends

49

00:04:16,060 --> 00:04:18,880

he's always going to be  
a very gallant gentleman

50

00:04:18,880 --> 00:04:21,670

and I got the money  
from him all the time.

51

00:04:21,670 --> 00:04:24,340

And then I go to the  
kitchen in the morning

52

00:04:24,340 --> 00:04:27,190

and ask my mother for  
money, so, I kind of

53

00:04:27,190 --> 00:04:31,810

learned to become as most  
young children become

54

00:04:31,810 --> 00:04:33,380

charming manipulators.

55

00:04:33,380 --> 00:04:36,280

I think I was one of those.

56

00:04:36,280 --> 00:04:39,890

How did you try to manipulate  
out of this situation?

57

00:04:39,890 --> 00:04:43,210

Well you know I'm telling  
you that I did everything

58

00:04:43,210 --> 00:04:44,980

in my power.

59

00:04:44,980 --> 00:04:49,090

What I was going to tell you  
that when we were getting out

60  
00:04:49,090 --> 00:04:53,410  
of Auschwitz and as we were  
going from one city to another,

61  
00:04:53,410 --> 00:04:55,120  
children were spitting at us.

62  
00:04:55,120 --> 00:04:57,840

63  
00:04:57,840 --> 00:05:02,430  
And I said to myself,  
someday children I come home

64  
00:05:02,430 --> 00:05:05,250  
and I'm going to come back  
here and I will tell you

65  
00:05:05,250 --> 00:05:07,830  
that you don't have to hate me.

66  
00:05:07,830 --> 00:05:09,450  
And the wonderful  
part about that

67  
00:05:09,450 --> 00:05:13,200  
is that I take care of German  
families and a little girl

68  
00:05:13,200 --> 00:05:16,710  
comes in and sits on my  
lap and calls me Omma.

69  
00:05:16,710 --> 00:05:21,600  
So I'm very invested in somehow  
opening up communications

70  
00:05:21,600 --> 00:05:26,790  
and to find out as  
to concentrating

71  
00:05:26,790 --> 00:05:31,270  
on what you and  
I can do together

72  
00:05:31,270 --> 00:05:36,000  
so we would unite each other  
rather than create an us

73  
00:05:36,000 --> 00:05:38,580  
and them and a separation.

74  
00:05:38,580 --> 00:05:41,850  
So I did cross-cultural  
seminars in Hungary

75  
00:05:41,850 --> 00:05:45,540  
with Carl Rogers many years  
ago and we brought the East

76  
00:05:45,540 --> 00:05:47,280  
and the West together then.

77  
00:05:47,280 --> 00:05:51,150  
And I see a lot of  
powerful hopefulness.

78  
00:05:51,150 --> 00:05:54,750  
I think what I have learned  
in Auschwitz never to give up

79  
00:05:54,750 --> 00:05:58,590  
hope, to find hope  
in hopelessness,

80  
00:05:58,590 --> 00:06:02,880  
kind of perhaps seeing myself  
as the merchant of hope.

81  
00:06:02,880 --> 00:06:06,570

82

00:06:06,570 --> 00:06:10,950  
Because I came so close  
to death and given

83  
00:06:10,950 --> 00:06:16,180  
a second chance in life,  
every moment is so precious.

84  
00:06:16,180 --> 00:06:18,690  
I'm very invested in life.

85  
00:06:18,690 --> 00:06:23,970  
I'm very invested in showing  
people there are other choices,

86  
00:06:23,970 --> 00:06:25,995  
that suicide is not a choice.

87  
00:06:25,995 --> 00:06:29,570

88  
00:06:29,570 --> 00:06:32,860  
And I think that education  
came from Auschwitz, not

89  
00:06:32,860 --> 00:06:36,430  
from the university and  
not from the medical school

90  
00:06:36,430 --> 00:06:38,860  
and not from my internship.

91  
00:06:38,860 --> 00:06:43,490  
That's the best  
education that I cherish.

92  
00:06:43,490 --> 00:06:48,740  
What about from your family,  
your ability to manipulate?

93  
00:06:48,740 --> 00:06:51,760  
Is there now ability  
to compromise?



94  
00:06:51,760 --> 00:06:55,260  
Yeah, and negotiate,  
negotiate, negotiate.

95  
00:06:55,260 --> 00:06:55,760  
Yes.

96  
00:06:55,760 --> 00:06:57,560  
I bring families together.

97  
00:06:57,560 --> 00:07:01,130  
I do work like writing up  
constitutions for the family,

98  
00:07:01,130 --> 00:07:03,390  
that there is no freedom  
without responsibility,

99  
00:07:03,390 --> 00:07:05,060  
not take-y, no washy.

100  
00:07:05,060 --> 00:07:10,310  
I get into the freedom part  
and acknowledging that freedom

101  
00:07:10,310 --> 00:07:12,950  
without responsibility  
is anarchy.

102  
00:07:12,950 --> 00:07:15,320  
So I get the families together.

103  
00:07:15,320 --> 00:07:17,450  
I don't believe in  
coming to my office

104  
00:07:17,450 --> 00:07:20,030  
and talking about  
your toxic parents.

105  
00:07:20,030 --> 00:07:21,830

I don't find that good therapy.

106

00:07:21,830 --> 00:07:24,440

I want people to  
talk to each other.

107

00:07:24,440 --> 00:07:26,510

Now that I'm talking  
to you, I'm very much

108

00:07:26,510 --> 00:07:32,610

invested in people not to talk  
about someone who is not there.

109

00:07:32,610 --> 00:07:35,610

Because I know the stuff of  
which the enemy is made of I

110

00:07:35,610 --> 00:07:37,680

am made up too.

111

00:07:37,680 --> 00:07:39,030

I go back to Nuremberg.

112

00:07:39,030 --> 00:07:41,250

I know where the trial was.

113

00:07:41,250 --> 00:07:42,960

And believe me,  
what I can think of

114

00:07:42,960 --> 00:07:45,600

is that I could have  
been the German child.

115

00:07:45,600 --> 00:07:48,030

I could have been told that  
today Germany and tomorrow

116

00:07:48,030 --> 00:07:48,990

the whole world.

117

00:07:48,990 --> 00:07:51,350  
And I could have been  
brainwashed that Jews

118  
00:07:51,350 --> 00:07:53,200  
are cancer to society.

119  
00:07:53,200 --> 00:07:57,340  
So I don't see the Germans,  
the Nazis as monsters.

120  
00:07:57,340 --> 00:07:59,160  
I see them as  
ordinary people who

121  
00:07:59,160 --> 00:08:04,650  
grew up in families who  
were, unfortunately, trained

122  
00:08:04,650 --> 00:08:07,200  
to blindly adhere to authority.

123  
00:08:07,200 --> 00:08:08,700  
The children who  
were not allowed

124  
00:08:08,700 --> 00:08:10,350  
to express their feelings.

125  
00:08:10,350 --> 00:08:15,160  
The children who had to  
do the way they were told.

126  
00:08:15,160 --> 00:08:18,030  
And no one ever  
negotiated with the child.

127  
00:08:18,030 --> 00:08:21,270  
When the rules were  
rigid and non-negotiable.

128  
00:08:21,270 --> 00:08:23,040  
These are the things

I'm looking into.

129

00:08:23,040 --> 00:08:25,050

Hitler would have  
a real hard time

130

00:08:25,050 --> 00:08:28,230

maybe in Belgium or somewhere  
else, or in America.

131

00:08:28,230 --> 00:08:32,440

But that was easy when you  
blindly adhered to authority

132

00:08:32,440 --> 00:08:34,650

simply because  
that way you don't

133

00:08:34,650 --> 00:08:37,740

have to take responsibility  
for your life.

134

00:08:37,740 --> 00:08:40,260

And as much as people  
want to have freedom,

135

00:08:40,260 --> 00:08:44,520

they really are not taking  
it into their hands.

136

00:08:44,520 --> 00:08:47,100

Children blame.

137

00:08:47,100 --> 00:08:48,540

So the victims.

138

00:08:48,540 --> 00:08:50,730

And they always will  
look for the victimizer,

139

00:08:50,730 --> 00:08:55,050

so I want to be sure that  
I do everything in my power

140  
00:08:55,050 --> 00:08:57,840  
that people would  
stop blaming and take

141  
00:08:57,840 --> 00:09:02,370  
their lives into their hands  
and play the adult game not

142  
00:09:02,370 --> 00:09:05,580  
with baby rules.

143  
00:09:05,580 --> 00:09:08,790  
How do you see Hitler?

144  
00:09:08,790 --> 00:09:21,580  
Well-- What I read about Hitler  
and the description of Alice

145  
00:09:21,580 --> 00:09:25,870  
Miller, who writes about the  
drama of the gifted child

146  
00:09:25,870 --> 00:09:29,710  
and thou shall not be aware  
and for your own good.

147  
00:09:29,710 --> 00:09:34,870  
And she writes about the German  
authoritarian family, including

148  
00:09:34,870 --> 00:09:37,990  
Hitler, and how Hitler  
was beaten so severely

149  
00:09:37,990 --> 00:09:42,550  
by his father all the time that  
he never could really get even

150  
00:09:42,550 --> 00:09:46,360  
with his father, so he had to  
take it out on someone else.

151

00:09:46,360 --> 00:09:50,290

I don't know how much I  
adhere to that explanation.

152

00:09:50,290 --> 00:09:52,390

I know there were many  
children who were beaten

153

00:09:52,390 --> 00:09:55,060

and they didn't grow up  
to be mass murderers.

154

00:09:55,060 --> 00:10:00,940

I can tell you that  
I'm hoping to create

155

00:10:00,940 --> 00:10:05,770

a family within every  
individual that they would be

156

00:10:05,770 --> 00:10:08,350

able to be more self-reliant.

157

00:10:08,350 --> 00:10:11,800

That they would not depend  
on a benevolent dictator

158

00:10:11,800 --> 00:10:14,290

or a malevolent  
dictator like Hitler.

159

00:10:14,290 --> 00:10:18,370

That people would grow up and  
not depend on someone else

160

00:10:18,370 --> 00:10:20,050

to make them happy.

161

00:10:20,050 --> 00:10:24,010

I'm very strong in  
self-responsibility.

162

00:10:24,010 --> 00:10:26,110

I hold people's  
hand for a while,

163

00:10:26,110 --> 00:10:29,380

but then I'm moving on  
to some practicalities

164

00:10:29,380 --> 00:10:33,410

as to how can you stand and  
be grounded in this world

165

00:10:33,410 --> 00:10:38,080

rather than telling me that,  
I can't live without someone.

166

00:10:38,080 --> 00:10:41,890

So I am pretty  
strong in advocating

167

00:10:41,890 --> 00:10:45,130

that dependency  
breeds depression.

168

00:10:45,130 --> 00:10:47,500

But I believe in  
healthy dependency.

169

00:10:47,500 --> 00:10:49,270

I believe in interdependency.

170

00:10:49,270 --> 00:10:52,210

I believe in me being  
me and you being you

171

00:10:52,210 --> 00:10:55,120

and then together  
we are very strong.

172

00:10:55,120 --> 00:10:57,160

I believe in that  
interdependence

173

00:10:57,160 --> 00:11:01,240  
and I think in the 90s  
that's where I stand.

174  
00:11:01,240 --> 00:11:04,580  
So I don't have to be like you.

175  
00:11:04,580 --> 00:11:06,940  
I tried it for a  
long, long time.

176  
00:11:06,940 --> 00:11:11,450  
I like to enhance each  
other with our differences

177  
00:11:11,450 --> 00:11:13,630  
so we can live  
together in harmony

178  
00:11:13,630 --> 00:11:15,910  
rather than kicking  
into submission.

179  
00:11:15,910 --> 00:11:18,820  
I believe that's the beginning  
of the end of democracy.

180  
00:11:18,820 --> 00:11:21,370  
I cherish democracy.

181  
00:11:21,370 --> 00:11:24,170  
But Thomas Jefferson said  
all men are created equal.

182  
00:11:24,170 --> 00:11:25,750  
That doesn't mean  
we are the same.

183  
00:11:25,750 --> 00:11:27,280  
I'm not the same as you are.

184  
00:11:27,280 --> 00:11:29,620  
I'm not the same as my child is.



185  
00:11:29,620 --> 00:11:32,320  
I insist on the generation gap.

186  
00:11:32,320 --> 00:11:33,640  
I don't like their music.

187  
00:11:33,640 --> 00:11:35,530  
But I don't lie  
to them that I do.

188  
00:11:35,530 --> 00:11:38,440  
I don't have to like it.

189  
00:11:38,440 --> 00:11:42,640  
And I think at this  
time in my life

190  
00:11:42,640 --> 00:11:46,540  
I am now liberated that  
I can be me and connect

191  
00:11:46,540 --> 00:11:53,860  
with the part in me and grieve  
over the little girl that

192  
00:11:53,860 --> 00:11:58,300  
didn't have a childhood,  
grieving over not what happened

193  
00:11:58,300 --> 00:12:03,310  
but what didn't happen,  
what could have happened.

194  
00:12:03,310 --> 00:12:07,200  
So I created a whole  
theory on grief.

195  
00:12:07,200 --> 00:12:09,780  
And I borrowed from Elizabeth  
Kubler-Ross, the shock,

196

00:12:09,780 --> 00:12:11,040  
the denial, the anger.

197  
00:12:11,040 --> 00:12:13,620  
But then I'm moving  
beyond the anger.

198  
00:12:13,620 --> 00:12:16,110  
People ask me, are you angry?

199  
00:12:16,110 --> 00:12:19,620  
I say I moved beyond the anger.

200  
00:12:19,620 --> 00:12:22,740  
When I move beyond  
the anger, then things

201  
00:12:22,740 --> 00:12:26,820  
get worse because then  
you really feel the pain.

202  
00:12:26,820 --> 00:12:30,420  
I had the pain, I  
had to hurt, and then

203  
00:12:30,420 --> 00:12:34,570  
finally I accepted the reality.

204  
00:12:34,570 --> 00:12:36,360  
And that's the work  
I do that leads

205  
00:12:36,360 --> 00:12:39,870  
to restructuring your  
own life and giving birth

206  
00:12:39,870 --> 00:12:43,110  
to the real you.

207  
00:12:43,110 --> 00:12:45,720  
So that's where I  
stand today for myself.

208

00:12:45,720 --> 00:12:50,310

You ask me maybe am I angry,  
am I crying for justice?

209

00:12:50,310 --> 00:12:51,820

I believe in justice.

210

00:12:51,820 --> 00:13:00,630

I also believe to go on  
and free myself and not

211

00:13:00,630 --> 00:13:06,720

allow the Nazis to take  
residence in my body.

212

00:13:06,720 --> 00:13:08,460

So forgiveness  
doesn't mean to me

213

00:13:08,460 --> 00:13:11,190

that I forgive you for  
what you did to me.

214

00:13:11,190 --> 00:13:14,940

It means that I'm  
forgiving myself finally

215

00:13:14,940 --> 00:13:17,700

and I don't carry the pain.

216

00:13:17,700 --> 00:13:21,000

That I release and let go.

217

00:13:21,000 --> 00:13:23,550

I don't forget the past.

218

00:13:23,550 --> 00:13:26,380

I don't live in Auschwitz.

219

00:13:26,380 --> 00:13:31,250

If I would hate today, I  
would still be a prisoner.

220  
00:13:31,250 --> 00:13:32,500  
I have no time to hate.

221  
00:13:32,500 --> 00:13:43,960

222  
00:13:43,960 --> 00:13:47,350  
But you see that  
took me 40-some years

223  
00:13:47,350 --> 00:13:51,610  
to tell you that, so don't  
think it happened overnight.

224  
00:13:51,610 --> 00:13:55,570  
And I'm not covering up  
the garlic with chocolate.

225  
00:13:55,570 --> 00:13:59,530  
Many people do that,  
just bygone is bygone.

226  
00:13:59,530 --> 00:14:00,400  
No.

227  
00:14:00,400 --> 00:14:01,420  
I did that too.

228  
00:14:01,420 --> 00:14:03,160  
I ran away altogether.

229  
00:14:03,160 --> 00:14:06,310  
Remember I told you I wanted to  
become the first-class Yankee

230  
00:14:06,310 --> 00:14:09,040  
Doodle dandy.

231  
00:14:09,040 --> 00:14:12,790  
But I wasn't free until  
I was able to face

232  
00:14:12,790 --> 00:14:14,710  
that part of my  
life that I ran away

233  
00:14:14,710 --> 00:14:16,900  
from that actually  
was the richest

234  
00:14:16,900 --> 00:14:24,800  
part of my roots, my past,  
and finally making peace.

235  
00:14:24,800 --> 00:14:26,370  
So when I went  
back to Auschwitz,

236  
00:14:26,370 --> 00:14:30,600  
I remember when I came  
out I saw a soldier.

237  
00:14:30,600 --> 00:14:33,060  
And all of a sudden I  
thought I was back in a camp

238  
00:14:33,060 --> 00:14:36,000  
and I was facing the Nazi.

239  
00:14:36,000 --> 00:14:37,680  
But you know the  
realization that I

240  
00:14:37,680 --> 00:14:42,970  
had a blue American  
passport in my pocket, that

241  
00:14:42,970 --> 00:14:46,750  
became like Popeye,  
that I am what I am.

242  
00:14:46,750 --> 00:14:51,730  
For me, that was the final  
liberation 40 years later.

243  
00:14:51,730 --> 00:14:52,960  
And I was able to return.

244  
00:14:52,960 --> 00:14:59,640

245  
00:14:59,640 --> 00:15:04,860  
And your roots as you  
define them today are--

246  
00:15:04,860 --> 00:15:06,210  
I'm me.

247  
00:15:06,210 --> 00:15:06,840  
I'm me.

248  
00:15:06,840 --> 00:15:09,570  
Anything I do today is who I am.

249  
00:15:09,570 --> 00:15:15,570  
Anything I am has to do with  
not just what happened to me

250  
00:15:15,570 --> 00:15:18,510  
but who I was then.

251  
00:15:18,510 --> 00:15:23,460  
And to know that  
it's not about me

252  
00:15:23,460 --> 00:15:25,770  
and I don't have to  
carry the guilt anymore.

253  
00:15:25,770 --> 00:15:31,770  
That what happened to me,  
that, yes, I was a victim.

254  
00:15:31,770 --> 00:15:35,595  
And today I'm a survivor.

255

00:15:35,595 --> 00:15:38,600

256

00:15:38,600 --> 00:15:47,810

I was able to, many years  
later, to wonder about--

257

00:15:47,810 --> 00:15:51,830

when I already was  
getting my doctorate--

258

00:15:51,830 --> 00:15:56,780

I began to wonder what  
can I give to the world

259

00:15:56,780 --> 00:15:58,940

that I survived?

260

00:15:58,940 --> 00:16:01,580

What are some of the gifts  
that my parents gave me

261

00:16:01,580 --> 00:16:06,170

that I can hand it to my  
children and grandchildren?

262

00:16:06,170 --> 00:16:12,080

I remember when my granddaughter  
was in a very special class.

263

00:16:12,080 --> 00:16:15,260

She is a very gifted child,  
but somehow the teacher

264

00:16:15,260 --> 00:16:18,650

used to call her, my caboose.

265

00:16:18,650 --> 00:16:23,300

And I was very hurt why the  
teacher is calling her caboose?

266

00:16:23,300 --> 00:16:29,090

She was like 152 IQ child put  
into this among the geniuses

267  
00:16:29,090 --> 00:16:31,520  
and I could see that my  
little grandchild was

268  
00:16:31,520 --> 00:16:37,700  
kind of becoming the name  
that the teacher gave her.

269  
00:16:37,700 --> 00:16:39,920  
And not that I told  
my granddaughter

270  
00:16:39,920 --> 00:16:42,830  
about my Auschwitz  
experience, I just

271  
00:16:42,830 --> 00:16:48,020  
told her that she can  
prevail, that she can survive,

272  
00:16:48,020 --> 00:16:50,330  
that all problems  
are temporary and she

273  
00:16:50,330 --> 00:16:52,190  
can survive the teacher.

274  
00:16:52,190 --> 00:16:54,995  
That she mustn't drop  
out and to stay in.

275  
00:16:54,995 --> 00:16:59,420

276  
00:16:59,420 --> 00:17:02,540  
So the strength that I  
received in Auschwitz

277  
00:17:02,540 --> 00:17:05,630  
helps me to look



at the situation

278

00:17:05,630 --> 00:17:10,069

and stay and go through  
it rather than fight

279

00:17:10,069 --> 00:17:12,390

or to flee what I've done.

280

00:17:12,390 --> 00:17:13,369

That's what I did.

281

00:17:13,369 --> 00:17:17,540

I fought the past and I  
ran away from the past.

282

00:17:17,540 --> 00:17:20,775

I did that.

283

00:17:20,775 --> 00:17:25,050

You mentioned the gifts that  
your parents gave to you.

284

00:17:25,050 --> 00:17:26,880

What would they be?

285

00:17:26,880 --> 00:17:33,880

The gifts were the perseverance  
to concentrate on life.

286

00:17:33,880 --> 00:17:37,050

The way my mother  
was really telling me

287

00:17:37,050 --> 00:17:43,830

that life is hard,  
that life is not easy,

288

00:17:43,830 --> 00:17:45,630

that suffering is feeling.

289

00:17:45,630 --> 00:17:52,830

And without feelings that not  
to really try to avoid the pain

290  
00:17:52,830 --> 00:17:55,140  
and anesthetize the pain.

291  
00:17:55,140 --> 00:17:58,110  
The gifts my mother  
and father gave me

292  
00:17:58,110 --> 00:18:01,230  
that I have the  
richness within me

293  
00:18:01,230 --> 00:18:05,760  
to withstand, to be able  
to go through that shadow

294  
00:18:05,760 --> 00:18:09,300  
of the valley and not  
to get stuck in there.

295  
00:18:09,300 --> 00:18:11,460  
To go beyond.

296  
00:18:11,460 --> 00:18:15,510  
I cherish my experience  
with my parents now.

297  
00:18:15,510 --> 00:18:17,910  
And I can see how my  
mother and father were

298  
00:18:17,910 --> 00:18:21,510  
able to make a life for  
us and for themselves,

299  
00:18:21,510 --> 00:18:24,810  
even though they came from  
difficult backgrounds.

300  
00:18:24,810 --> 00:18:29,790  
So in some sense I guess

we're all victors or victims.

301

00:18:29,790 --> 00:18:31,500

I have no room for blaming.

302

00:18:31,500 --> 00:18:33,420

I think only children

blame and adults

303

00:18:33,420 --> 00:18:37,440

need to look at the situation

and make some decisions.

304

00:18:37,440 --> 00:18:42,570

The more choices we

have, the more choices

305

00:18:42,570 --> 00:18:48,510

I was able to create, the less

likely I felt like a victim.

306

00:18:48,510 --> 00:18:53,580

I developed a very spiritual

connectedness with God.

307

00:18:53,580 --> 00:19:02,550

I remember talking to

God September 29, 1944.

308

00:19:02,550 --> 00:19:10,790

And I was very angry

at God because I

309

00:19:10,790 --> 00:19:14,050

saw a child being put

on a tree and a Nazi

310

00:19:14,050 --> 00:19:16,070

was aiming at the

eye and the limb.

311

00:19:16,070 --> 00:19:20,390

And a woman who was pregnant

that they tied her legs.

312

00:19:20,390 --> 00:19:25,640

I mean terrible atrocities  
that I was witnessing.

313

00:19:25,640 --> 00:19:29,540

But you know I was able  
to change hatred to pity.

314

00:19:29,540 --> 00:19:31,430

And I was able to  
look at the guards

315

00:19:31,430 --> 00:19:36,020

and say to myself that you  
are more in prison than I was.

316

00:19:36,020 --> 00:19:41,120

And I felt some inner peace  
and some connectedness,

317

00:19:41,120 --> 00:19:46,170

that inner resource I  
never thought I had.

318

00:19:46,170 --> 00:19:49,910

So I think in Auschwitz we were  
able to develop traits we never

319

00:19:49,910 --> 00:19:52,780

thought was possible.

320

00:19:52,780 --> 00:19:55,540

And yes, I saw people  
running into the barbed wires

321

00:19:55,540 --> 00:19:57,560

and gotten electrocuted.

322

00:19:57,560 --> 00:19:59,300

I saw that.

323

00:19:59,300 --> 00:20:02,860

And when I came back  
this year consulting,

324

00:20:02,860 --> 00:20:07,510

I met one of the girls whose  
father did the same thing.

325

00:20:07,510 --> 00:20:11,680

And she tells me how  
proud she is of her father

326

00:20:11,680 --> 00:20:16,480

that he ran into  
the barbed wires

327

00:20:16,480 --> 00:20:21,020

because he took responsibility  
for the decision of his life.

328

00:20:21,020 --> 00:20:23,330

So this is one way  
of looking at things.

329

00:20:23,330 --> 00:20:25,570

That's why I'm saying  
I can only speak

330

00:20:25,570 --> 00:20:30,610

for the 16-year-old girl  
who never considered that

331

00:20:30,610 --> 00:20:32,590

as an option.

332

00:20:32,590 --> 00:20:35,210

I clung to life.

333

00:20:35,210 --> 00:20:38,380

No matter what,  
my option was not

334

00:20:38,380 --> 00:20:47,110  
running into the barbed wires  
and maybe I was a coward.

335  
00:20:47,110 --> 00:20:48,920  
And I'm here today.

336  
00:20:48,920 --> 00:20:52,190  
And I have three children  
and four grandchildren.

337  
00:20:52,190 --> 00:20:54,400  
And that's the best  
revenge to Hitler

338  
00:20:54,400 --> 00:20:56,860  
that I lead a very  
productive life.

339  
00:20:56,860 --> 00:20:59,470  
After two girls God  
gave me a son who

340  
00:20:59,470 --> 00:21:02,470  
was born with cerebral palsy.

341  
00:21:02,470 --> 00:21:06,100  
Believe me, my  
schooling in Auschwitz

342  
00:21:06,100 --> 00:21:10,210  
helped me a great deal to help  
my son with special needs,

343  
00:21:10,210 --> 00:21:14,170  
taking my son for occupational  
therapy, speech therapy.

344  
00:21:14,170 --> 00:21:17,170  
I took him to Johns Hopkins  
for a second opinion,

345  
00:21:17,170 --> 00:21:19,480

and the man said, your  
son is going to be,

346  
00:21:19,480 --> 00:21:21,910  
mother, what you make of him.

347  
00:21:21,910 --> 00:21:24,910  
And he may do everything  
what everybody else does

348  
00:21:24,910 --> 00:21:27,280  
but it's going to take  
him longer to get there.

349  
00:21:27,280 --> 00:21:30,250  
And I dropped out of  
school and I went home

350  
00:21:30,250 --> 00:21:35,290  
and I took that little son  
and he graduated as a top 10

351  
00:21:35,290 --> 00:21:37,480  
student from the  
University of Texas,

352  
00:21:37,480 --> 00:21:40,120  
even though five doctors  
told me he may not even

353  
00:21:40,120 --> 00:21:42,760  
make it to high school.

354  
00:21:42,760 --> 00:21:43,780  
See, I don't give up.

355  
00:21:43,780 --> 00:21:44,470  
I don't give in.

356  
00:21:44,470 --> 00:21:46,000  
If I can't get in  
the front door,

357

00:21:46,000 --> 00:21:48,390

believe me I'm going  
to try the side window.

358

00:21:48,390 --> 00:21:50,890

And if that doesn't work, I'm  
going to look for the chimney.

359

00:21:50,890 --> 00:21:55,780

I'm always looking for  
practical solutions to be moving

360

00:21:55,780 --> 00:22:01,480

and not to sit and waiting for  
somebody come to rescue me.

361

00:22:01,480 --> 00:22:03,040

That's what I tell  
parents today.

362

00:22:03,040 --> 00:22:05,380

Don't spoil your children.

363

00:22:05,380 --> 00:22:08,230

Don't do the child what the  
child can do for themselves.

364

00:22:08,230 --> 00:22:10,750

Don't kiss the boo-boo so fast.

365

00:22:10,750 --> 00:22:12,535

Don't medicate the pain so fast.

366

00:22:12,535 --> 00:22:17,890

367

00:22:17,890 --> 00:22:21,010

And my two girls  
felt that somehow I

368

00:22:21,010 --> 00:22:26,680

spent so much time with



John that they didn't

369

00:22:26,680 --> 00:22:30,280

get the attention,  
so my big daughter

370

00:22:30,280 --> 00:22:35,600

became the little mother  
to my middle child.

371

00:22:35,600 --> 00:22:38,780

And the two of them  
had this dynamic duo

372

00:22:38,780 --> 00:22:44,620

of how they're going  
to not like John.

373

00:22:44,620 --> 00:22:47,860

So you know people  
think of me, maybe

374

00:22:47,860 --> 00:22:51,220

I want them to think of me  
as this ordinary woman who

375

00:22:51,220 --> 00:22:53,440

had the same problems  
with the jealousy

376

00:22:53,440 --> 00:22:55,940

with the sibling rivalry  
with the same thing.

377

00:22:55,940 --> 00:22:58,600

There is nothing  
exceptional here.

378

00:22:58,600 --> 00:23:03,310

I tried very hard to fit  
in and be what I'm not.

379

00:23:03,310 --> 00:23:07,060

And I feel very good  
now that I can finally

380  
00:23:07,060 --> 00:23:11,410  
show you the real me rather  
than the mask that I put on

381  
00:23:11,410 --> 00:23:13,840  
and the chameleon  
that I have become.

382  
00:23:13,840 --> 00:23:15,700  
That getting the  
doctorate was really

383  
00:23:15,700 --> 00:23:19,660  
just so I would think that  
I deserved to survive.

384  
00:23:19,660 --> 00:23:25,330  
And now I don't have to  
perform in order to be loved.

385  
00:23:25,330 --> 00:23:27,970  
And that's what I  
tell parents, to love

386  
00:23:27,970 --> 00:23:32,860  
your child for what the child  
is, not what the child does.

387  
00:23:32,860 --> 00:23:37,730  
Because each of us are God's  
special, very special, unique,

388  
00:23:37,730 --> 00:23:40,930  
one-of-a-kind little treasures.

389  
00:23:40,930 --> 00:23:43,610

390  
00:23:43,610 --> 00:23:45,950  
And it's OK for me to be me.

391  
00:23:45,950 --> 00:23:48,840

392  
00:23:48,840 --> 00:23:52,370  
That's all I can give you.

393  
00:23:52,370 --> 00:23:58,070  
It's been an incredible time  
that you shared with us,

394  
00:23:58,070 --> 00:23:59,810  
and we're about finished.

395  
00:23:59,810 --> 00:24:04,750  
Thank you for taking your  
time out and volunteering

396  
00:24:04,750 --> 00:24:05,850  
and giving.

397  
00:24:05,850 --> 00:24:08,120  
And now it's us  
together that are

398  
00:24:08,120 --> 00:24:13,010  
going to do something together.

399  
00:24:13,010 --> 00:24:18,050  
It takes you to ask me and takes  
me to give you what I know.

400  
00:24:18,050 --> 00:24:20,390  
And I really respect  
you and honor you

401  
00:24:20,390 --> 00:24:22,880  
for what you're doing.

402  
00:24:22,880 --> 00:24:24,530  
You are the one [INAUDIBLE].

403

00:24:24,530 --> 00:24:34,737

404

00:24:34,737 --> 00:24:36,320

I was just going to  
ask you one thing.

405

00:24:36,320 --> 00:24:40,840

You were talking about  
your father earlier

406

00:24:40,840 --> 00:24:42,920

and I think you had a  
very special relationship

407

00:24:42,920 --> 00:24:44,150

with your father.

408

00:24:44,150 --> 00:24:48,290

Were there any things that  
he taught you in terms of

409

00:24:48,290 --> 00:24:49,580

to feel good for yourself?

410

00:24:49,580 --> 00:24:52,200

411

00:24:52,200 --> 00:24:57,200

My negative image of myself  
was helped tremendously

412

00:24:57,200 --> 00:25:02,330

when my father looked  
at me and told me that I

413

00:25:02,330 --> 00:25:04,620

have something to be proud of.

414

00:25:04,620 --> 00:25:06,080

I have a posture.

415

00:25:06,080 --> 00:25:10,310

I have my femininity in a  
best sense of the world.

416

00:25:10,310 --> 00:25:13,090

That I'm going to be  
the best-dressed girl.

417

00:25:13,090 --> 00:25:15,830

And somehow it gave  
me a shine that I

418

00:25:15,830 --> 00:25:19,610

didn't have to look down  
anymore and become a non-person.

419

00:25:19,610 --> 00:25:22,070

I could come out  
of the woodwork.

420

00:25:22,070 --> 00:25:26,150

That I could say,  
c'est moi, that's me.

421

00:25:26,150 --> 00:25:30,290

So I think my father was  
kind of like Mr. Higgins,

422

00:25:30,290 --> 00:25:33,680

like, by God she's got it!

423

00:25:33,680 --> 00:25:37,170

And I trusted my father and  
I believed in my father.

424

00:25:37,170 --> 00:25:40,970

And when I dressed today,  
I knew he would be saying,

425

00:25:40,970 --> 00:25:46,055

gee, wow, I gave you that  
oomph, that little extra.

426

00:25:46,055 --> 00:25:48,970

427

00:25:48,970 --> 00:25:52,540

So he gave me an image of  
myself from the outside.

428

00:25:52,540 --> 00:25:56,170

My mother gave me a tremendous  
strength from the inside.

429

00:25:56,170 --> 00:25:59,530

And the two together,  
the external

430

00:25:59,530 --> 00:26:02,650

but mostly the internal,  
the two together

431

00:26:02,650 --> 00:26:05,140

is what I carry with me.

432

00:26:05,140 --> 00:26:11,440

The strength that I can make  
it in spite of or because of

433

00:26:11,440 --> 00:26:14,530

and never give up  
and never to give in.

434

00:26:14,530 --> 00:26:16,850

Both my father had  
that, my father

435

00:26:16,850 --> 00:26:20,050

who was a prisoner himself  
and look what he did.

436

00:26:20,050 --> 00:26:25,240

He kind of came from the  
ashes to fly like a Phoenix.

437

00:26:25,240 --> 00:26:29,650

That's what I was  
given, that gift.

438

00:26:29,650 --> 00:26:33,310

And I carry the torch and  
I give it to the children

439

00:26:33,310 --> 00:26:37,180

and grandchildren.

440

00:26:37,180 --> 00:26:43,910

It's so wonderful to cry from  
joy, you know, that I am here.

441

00:26:43,910 --> 00:26:46,960

And I am here and I  
live in the present.

442

00:26:46,960 --> 00:26:49,750

And that my children  
can look at me,

443

00:26:49,750 --> 00:26:54,190

and children who I speak to in  
a classroom, they look at me

444

00:26:54,190 --> 00:26:57,730

and they say, someday  
I want to be like you.

445

00:26:57,730 --> 00:27:01,600

And I feel so honored that  
I can be a model to them.

446

00:27:01,600 --> 00:27:06,520

That no matter what happens  
to you, stay with it.

447

00:27:06,520 --> 00:27:08,860

The sunshine is there,  
and out of darkness

448

00:27:08,860 --> 00:27:12,070  
comes light, and out of  
prison comes freedom.

449  
00:27:12,070 --> 00:27:15,740

450  
00:27:15,740 --> 00:27:19,010  
But I was not free,  
you see, until I didn't

451  
00:27:19,010 --> 00:27:21,720  
deny what happened to me.

452  
00:27:21,720 --> 00:27:25,640  
So I highly encourage for you  
to find the other survivors,

453  
00:27:25,640 --> 00:27:28,850  
encourage the families  
to tell their stories,

454  
00:27:28,850 --> 00:27:33,740  
and see how the families could  
get together, that the children

455  
00:27:33,740 --> 00:27:37,460  
and grandchildren  
would not have to carry

456  
00:27:37,460 --> 00:27:41,120  
the pain of their parents  
and the grief that

457  
00:27:41,120 --> 00:27:42,980  
were unexpressed.

458  
00:27:42,980 --> 00:27:45,560  
So I'm very much  
invested in uniting

459  
00:27:45,560 --> 00:27:49,550  
the families, especially



460

00:27:49,550 --> 00:27:52,160  
and grandchildren,  
so they can finally

461

00:27:52,160 --> 00:27:56,600  
feel that what happened  
to them is not something

462

00:27:56,600 --> 00:27:59,060  
to be ashamed of  
or run away from.

463

00:27:59,060 --> 00:28:03,480

464

00:28:03,480 --> 00:28:04,130  
Thank you.

465

00:28:04,130 --> 00:28:04,630  
Thank you.

466

00:28:04,630 --> 00:28:06,230  
Thank you.

467

00:28:06,230 --> 00:29:08,000