

1

00:00:00,000 --> 00:01:14,560

2

00:01:14,560 --> 00:01:17,560

Why don't you ask me so  
that I know when to start.

3

00:01:17,560 --> 00:01:18,980

Yes.

4

00:01:18,980 --> 00:01:22,270

OK, tell us who this  
is, where it was taken,

5

00:01:22,270 --> 00:01:24,820

and what year approximately.

6

00:01:24,820 --> 00:01:27,790

I do not remember  
where it was taken.

7

00:01:27,790 --> 00:01:33,940

The year must have been  
about 1919, maybe, or 1920.

8

00:01:33,940 --> 00:01:34,870

I was a little girl.

9

00:01:34,870 --> 00:01:37,400

I was born in 1914.

10

00:01:37,400 --> 00:01:42,310

So it's obvious I must have been  
four or five years old I guess.

11

00:01:42,310 --> 00:01:45,460

In those days it was  
very important to have

12

00:01:45,460 --> 00:01:47,020

a big bow in your head.

13  
00:01:47,020 --> 00:01:48,000  
OK.

14  
00:01:48,000 --> 00:01:49,900  
And where was this taken again?

15  
00:01:49,900 --> 00:01:52,420  
I do not remember.

16  
00:01:52,420 --> 00:01:56,170  
I do remember now one  
thing about the bow.

17  
00:01:56,170 --> 00:01:59,830  
When my grandparents had  
their 25th anniversary,

18  
00:01:59,830 --> 00:02:03,140  
I was all dressed up with  
a big bow in my hair.

19  
00:02:03,140 --> 00:02:06,880  
And my mother left me alone  
in the bedroom for a moment

20  
00:02:06,880 --> 00:02:10,720  
and I had seen my father  
putting the pomade in his hair.

21  
00:02:10,720 --> 00:02:11,740  
It was a big jar.

22  
00:02:11,740 --> 00:02:13,960  
I put the whole idea  
of pomade in my hair.

23  
00:02:13,960 --> 00:02:18,770

24  
00:02:18,770 --> 00:02:21,440  
OK, tell us about

this photo, please.

25

00:02:21,440 --> 00:02:25,020

Well this is myself  
and my brother.

26

00:02:25,020 --> 00:02:28,670

And it was taken in  
Berlin, that I know.

27

00:02:28,670 --> 00:02:32,900

The dress I remember was  
bought for the wedding

28

00:02:32,900 --> 00:02:34,820

of my mother's brother.

29

00:02:34,820 --> 00:02:44,330

I can remember the hem that  
had all these feathers.

30

00:02:44,330 --> 00:02:49,580

I don't know what kind  
of feathers they are.

31

00:02:49,580 --> 00:02:52,670

I don't remember  
exactly the year.

32

00:02:52,670 --> 00:02:57,350

I probably was maybe 10 or 12,  
between 10 or 12 years old,

33

00:02:57,350 --> 00:03:05,450

so '14, '20, '24 maybe or  
'26, somewhere around there.

34

00:03:05,450 --> 00:03:06,470

How many years older--

35

00:03:06,470 --> 00:03:10,970

My brother was born 1921,  
and he must have been there

36  
00:03:10,970 --> 00:03:14,090  
three or four years old.

37  
00:03:14,090 --> 00:03:18,510  
When he was very little he  
had beautiful curly hair,

38  
00:03:18,510 --> 00:03:19,490  
which I didn't.

39  
00:03:19,490 --> 00:03:22,190  
I was very jealous.

40  
00:03:22,190 --> 00:03:24,485  
Eventually, they cut his curls.

41  
00:03:24,485 --> 00:03:32,410

42  
00:03:32,410 --> 00:03:33,820  
Tell us about this  
photo, please.

43  
00:03:33,820 --> 00:03:37,300  
This was taken in a  
place about an hour

44  
00:03:37,300 --> 00:03:42,220  
from Berlin, in Petershagen,  
where my grandparents had

45  
00:03:42,220 --> 00:03:44,470  
bought a house to stay.

46  
00:03:44,470 --> 00:03:49,750  
And on the second from the  
left is my father standing.

47  
00:03:49,750 --> 00:03:53,500  
The third from the left  
is my mother standing.

48  
00:03:53,500 --> 00:03:58,390  
The head next to her is  
my uncle, the husband

49  
00:03:58,390 --> 00:03:59,920  
of my mother's sister.

50  
00:03:59,920 --> 00:04:03,310

51  
00:04:03,310 --> 00:04:04,570  
His name was Leonard.

52  
00:04:04,570 --> 00:04:08,320

53  
00:04:08,320 --> 00:04:11,290  
The woman on the right,  
the first on the right

54  
00:04:11,290 --> 00:04:17,019  
is my mother's sister,  
the wife of this Leonard.

55  
00:04:17,019 --> 00:04:19,899  
The woman in the middle  
with the white blouse

56  
00:04:19,899 --> 00:04:23,680  
or whatever is my mother's  
mother, my grandmother.

57  
00:04:23,680 --> 00:04:26,140  
And the man kneeling  
in front of her

58  
00:04:26,140 --> 00:04:29,650  
is her husband, my grandfather.

59  
00:04:29,650 --> 00:04:35,140  
The other people are

cousins of my father

60

00:04:35,140 --> 00:04:39,670

and the boy kneeling is  
the son of one of them.

61

00:04:39,670 --> 00:04:42,190

62

00:04:42,190 --> 00:04:43,600

So you are not in this photo.

63

00:04:43,600 --> 00:04:44,890

I am not.

64

00:04:44,890 --> 00:04:45,490

OK.

65

00:04:45,490 --> 00:04:48,560

And that's your parents second  
from the left and third.

66

00:04:48,560 --> 00:04:50,770

Yeah.

67

00:04:50,770 --> 00:04:54,790

And that must have  
been taken, oh,

68

00:04:54,790 --> 00:05:00,480

I would say maybe 10=926  
or something like that.

69

00:05:00,480 --> 00:05:07,460

70

00:05:07,460 --> 00:05:08,900

Tell us about this  
photo, please.

71

00:05:08,900 --> 00:05:10,940

This is my brother.

72  
00:05:10,940 --> 00:05:13,600  
And I would guess  
that at the time

73  
00:05:13,600 --> 00:05:16,850  
he must have been me  
maybe 14 years old.

74  
00:05:16,850 --> 00:05:20,360  
When I left Germany  
he was 13, and I

75  
00:05:20,360 --> 00:05:23,615  
think this picture was  
sent to me after I left.

76  
00:05:23,615 --> 00:05:28,050

77  
00:05:28,050 --> 00:05:32,760  
He looked very much like my  
father except for his eyes.

78  
00:05:32,760 --> 00:05:37,440  
He had brown eyes, my father  
had blue eyes like I. Blue-gray.

79  
00:05:37,440 --> 00:05:46,070

80  
00:05:46,070 --> 00:05:48,110  
Tell us about this  
photo, please.

81  
00:05:48,110 --> 00:05:52,310  
This is when we were  
on vacation in what

82  
00:05:52,310 --> 00:05:54,230  
in Germany is called  
[SPEAKING GERMAN],,

83

00:05:54,230 --> 00:05:57,260

middle high mountains.

84

00:05:57,260 --> 00:05:59,840

And my mother, my  
brother in the middle,

85

00:05:59,840 --> 00:06:05,030

and I. I'm making a funny  
face, I don't know why.

86

00:06:05,030 --> 00:06:07,010

About how old were you?

87

00:06:07,010 --> 00:06:08,810

I'm about 12 or 13.

88

00:06:08,810 --> 00:06:15,480

89

00:06:15,480 --> 00:06:17,350

Tell us about this photo.

90

00:06:17,350 --> 00:06:18,390

This is my brother.

91

00:06:18,390 --> 00:06:22,680

And I think it was taken at  
the same time as the picture

92

00:06:22,680 --> 00:06:24,540

that you saw just before this.

93

00:06:24,540 --> 00:06:27,350

94

00:06:27,350 --> 00:06:28,860

And where was this?

95

00:06:28,860 --> 00:06:31,082

That was in the



middle high mountains.

96

00:06:31,082 --> 00:06:33,040

And what's the writing  
behind him, do you know?

97

00:06:33,040 --> 00:06:34,660

I don't remember.

98

00:06:34,660 --> 00:06:37,180

[SPEAKING GERMAN] I don't  
know what that means.

99

00:06:37,180 --> 00:06:38,920

I have no idea.

100

00:06:38,920 --> 00:06:42,610

Maybe that was the name  
of a restaurant or an inn

101

00:06:42,610 --> 00:06:43,806

or something.

102

00:06:43,806 --> 00:06:47,732

103

00:06:47,732 --> 00:06:49,190

Tell us about this  
picture, please.

104

00:06:49,190 --> 00:06:51,680

This is my father.

105

00:06:51,680 --> 00:06:57,350

Unfortunately, I don't have  
any good pictures of my parents

106

00:06:57,350 --> 00:06:58,655

It's not a very good picture.

107

00:06:58,655 --> 00:07:01,586

108  
00:07:01,586 --> 00:07:04,010  
Do you happen to know when  
and where it was taken?

109  
00:07:04,010 --> 00:07:08,150

110  
00:07:08,150 --> 00:07:12,840  
It must have still been some  
time before the Hitler period,

111  
00:07:12,840 --> 00:07:16,940  
so I would say  
maybe the late '20s.

112  
00:07:16,940 --> 00:07:20,660  
Why do you think it was  
before the Hitler period?

113  
00:07:20,660 --> 00:07:23,300  
Because I don't have  
any pictures from--

114  
00:07:23,300 --> 00:07:25,597  
Nobody saved any  
after that period.

115  
00:07:25,597 --> 00:07:30,070

116  
00:07:30,070 --> 00:07:31,930  
Tell us about this  
photo, please.

117  
00:07:31,930 --> 00:07:34,660  
This is my mother,  
and I imagine that it

118  
00:07:34,660 --> 00:07:36,580  
must have been  
about the same time

119

00:07:36,580 --> 00:07:39,110

that my father's  
picture was taken.

120

00:07:39,110 --> 00:07:41,350

I had some pictures  
that were taken

121

00:07:41,350 --> 00:07:44,560

when she came to the United  
States, but I didn't bring any.

122

00:07:44,560 --> 00:07:51,770

123

00:07:51,770 --> 00:07:54,920

And tell us what  
this photograph is.

124

00:07:54,920 --> 00:07:58,760

This is the village  
of Casacalenda,

125

00:07:58,760 --> 00:08:01,790

in the province of Campobasso.

126

00:08:01,790 --> 00:08:04,520

And that little  
cross you see on top

127

00:08:04,520 --> 00:08:07,790

is the place where the  
concentration camp was.

128

00:08:07,790 --> 00:08:09,900

That little arrow in the middle.

129

00:08:09,900 --> 00:08:10,400

Yeah.

130

00:08:10,400 --> 00:08:14,770

131  
00:08:14,770 --> 00:08:20,770  
And the village was kind  
of up on top of a hill.

132  
00:08:20,770 --> 00:08:24,100  
The railroad station  
was way down.

133  
00:08:24,100 --> 00:08:25,060  
You had to walk up.

134  
00:08:25,060 --> 00:08:27,460  
There was no cable  
car or anything.

135  
00:08:27,460 --> 00:08:29,110  
You had to walk up.

136  
00:08:29,110 --> 00:08:31,900  
To your knowledge, were  
any pictures taken of it

137  
00:08:31,900 --> 00:08:35,360  
during the internment period?

138  
00:08:35,360 --> 00:08:35,860  
No.

139  
00:08:35,860 --> 00:08:45,550

140  
00:08:45,550 --> 00:08:47,920  
Tell us what this is, please.

141  
00:08:47,920 --> 00:08:50,800  
This I don't actually  
have to say because it's

142  
00:08:50,800 --> 00:08:51,910  
written in English.

143

00:08:51,910 --> 00:08:56,800

I was working for the American  
Joint Distribution Committee

144

00:08:56,800 --> 00:08:59,110

as a secretary.

145

00:08:59,110 --> 00:09:03,610

And Giuseppe Levi, the signature  
you see on the left-hand side,

146

00:09:03,610 --> 00:09:08,950

he was the executive director.

147

00:09:08,950 --> 00:09:11,200

And then you have  
Horowitz on the other side

148

00:09:11,200 --> 00:09:14,140

that was another director.

149

00:09:14,140 --> 00:09:18,040

And we all had to have a  
card, because otherwise you

150

00:09:18,040 --> 00:09:19,380

couldn't get into the building.

151

00:09:19,380 --> 00:09:26,550

152

00:09:26,550 --> 00:09:32,810

At that time I was about,  
oh, maybe 30, 32 years old,

153

00:09:32,810 --> 00:09:34,350

something like that.

154

00:09:34,350 --> 00:09:38,830

Flip that over so we  
can see the other side.

155

00:09:38,830 --> 00:09:39,475

Same document.

156

00:09:39,475 --> 00:09:44,280

157

00:09:44,280 --> 00:09:48,630

Yeah, that's the signature,  
valid for January, February,

158

00:09:48,630 --> 00:09:51,390

March 1948.

159

00:09:51,390 --> 00:10:05,170

So 1948 I would have been 34.

160

00:10:05,170 --> 00:10:07,480

Tell us about this  
document, please.

161

00:10:07,480 --> 00:10:12,910

This is an identification  
card after I came back

162

00:10:12,910 --> 00:10:16,000

from the concentration  
camp to Rome.

163

00:10:16,000 --> 00:10:19,720

And on hand of this we were  
getting food stamps, which

164

00:10:19,720 --> 00:10:22,780

of course was illegal under  
the German occupation,

165

00:10:22,780 --> 00:10:27,610

but the Roman agency who  
was in charge of that

166

00:10:27,610 --> 00:10:28,855

was giving it to us anyway.

167  
00:10:28,855 --> 00:10:33,160

168  
00:10:33,160 --> 00:10:35,710  
And so what year was  
that photograph taken?

169  
00:10:35,710 --> 00:10:38,350  
I think-- Doesn't it say '44?

170  
00:10:38,350 --> 00:10:43,930  
I can't quite see '44,  
'45, something like that.

171  
00:10:43,930 --> 00:10:48,340  
Because I came back  
to Rome in '43,

172  
00:10:48,340 --> 00:10:51,430  
so this must have been  
during that period.

173  
00:10:51,430 --> 00:10:53,710  
I don't know.

174  
00:10:53,710 --> 00:10:56,050  
This bears your real  
name, Hanna Cassel.

175  
00:10:56,050 --> 00:11:00,490  
Yeah, this is '44 I think  
it says, doesn't it?

176  
00:11:00,490 --> 00:11:03,070  
Looks like '44.

177  
00:11:03,070 --> 00:11:03,910  
I can't tell.

178  
00:11:03,910 --> 00:11:08,780

179  
00:11:08,780 --> 00:11:10,160  
'44 on the bottom right.

180  
00:11:10,160 --> 00:11:11,990  
I think it says '44.

181  
00:11:11,990 --> 00:11:21,510  
So that was

182  
00:11:21,510 --> 00:11:22,105  
Same document.

183  
00:11:22,105 --> 00:11:28,750

184  
00:11:28,750 --> 00:11:36,320  
There's my birth date on the  
left-hand side, 6/12/1914.

185  
00:11:36,320 --> 00:11:36,820  
Berlin.

186  
00:11:36,820 --> 00:11:41,790

187  
00:11:41,790 --> 00:11:43,260  
I don't know what else it says.

188  
00:11:43,260 --> 00:11:48,980

189  
00:11:48,980 --> 00:11:52,040  
Maybe those are the signatures  
of the people who signed it.

190  
00:11:52,040 --> 00:11:53,860  
I don't know.

191  
00:11:53,860 --> 00:13:55,414