

1

00:00:00,000 --> 00:01:04,310

2

00:01:04,310 --> 00:01:08,420

OK, Eddy, why don you
start out by telling us,

3

00:01:08,420 --> 00:01:10,850

have you ever talked
about this before?

4

00:01:10,850 --> 00:01:11,780

No.

5

00:01:11,780 --> 00:01:13,940

I do talk a lot, for
the last 18 years,

6

00:01:13,940 --> 00:01:18,170

about what happened to
me between 1940 and 1945,

7

00:01:18,170 --> 00:01:21,080

as a non-professional speaker
who doesn't accept any fees--

8

00:01:21,080 --> 00:01:22,460

I emphasize that.

9

00:01:22,460 --> 00:01:26,270

But I never, except with
my wife and two children,

10

00:01:26,270 --> 00:01:31,940

never talked publicly about what
happened from our liberation

11

00:01:31,940 --> 00:01:34,670

till, say, today.

12

00:01:34,670 --> 00:01:37,430

And I feel I have
to talk about it.

13
00:01:37,430 --> 00:01:40,970
I don't know if I can
succeed, because it makes me--

14
00:01:40,970 --> 00:01:43,460
it is kind of reliving again.

15
00:01:43,460 --> 00:01:47,730
But I feel there is a
continuation of the Holocaust.

16
00:01:47,730 --> 00:01:51,020
The Holocaust will always be
in me if I like it or not.

17
00:01:51,020 --> 00:01:54,320
It will always affect my life
and is affecting my life.

18
00:01:54,320 --> 00:01:56,950

19
00:01:56,950 --> 00:02:02,650
And why don't you
start out by saying how

20
00:02:02,650 --> 00:02:06,040
you think it affects your life.

21
00:02:06,040 --> 00:02:08,350
During the interview,
it will come out

22
00:02:08,350 --> 00:02:09,610
how it affects my life--

23
00:02:09,610 --> 00:02:15,100
emotionally, physically,
where the anger comes from,

24

00:02:15,100 --> 00:02:16,180
the pain comes from.

25

00:02:16,180 --> 00:02:19,060

26

00:02:19,060 --> 00:02:21,790
Because when I was
liberated, I never

27

00:02:21,790 --> 00:02:23,650
realized till many,
many years ago--

28

00:02:23,650 --> 00:02:26,710

29

00:02:26,710 --> 00:02:29,675
I lived for 32 years--

30

00:02:29,675 --> 00:02:32,260

31

00:02:32,260 --> 00:02:36,100
actually, yes, in 1940,
when the Germans occupied

32

00:02:36,100 --> 00:02:41,950
my country, then
Holland, till 1972,

33

00:02:41,950 --> 00:02:46,330
I lived in a state of
shock, but I never realized.

34

00:02:46,330 --> 00:02:49,780
All my feelings were gone.

35

00:02:49,780 --> 00:02:54,100
I could not feel,
actually, real enjoyment,

36

00:02:54,100 --> 00:02:57,070
couldn't feel any pain.

37

00:02:57,070 --> 00:02:58,850
I was numb.

38

00:02:58,850 --> 00:03:03,340
I was told I was in the
freezer for 32 years.

39

00:03:03,340 --> 00:03:10,060
I've been slowly but surely
in a process of defrosting.

40

00:03:10,060 --> 00:03:12,920
I can talk about what
happened in the camps.

41

00:03:12,920 --> 00:03:18,260
And I will try to talk about
what happened after the camps.

42

00:03:18,260 --> 00:03:19,370
Yeah.

43

00:03:19,370 --> 00:03:23,270
What started this
defrosting process?

44

00:03:23,270 --> 00:03:26,420
That started in 1972 in a way.

45

00:03:26,420 --> 00:03:29,360
You mentioned something
about your 12-year-old son

46

00:03:29,360 --> 00:03:31,590
helped start this.

47

00:03:31,590 --> 00:03:32,090
Yeah.

48

00:03:32,090 --> 00:03:35,000

Now we jump to 1972, OK?

49

00:03:35,000 --> 00:03:37,540

Well, we could either do that
or we could go back and start.

50

00:03:37,540 --> 00:03:39,040

I'd rather start
from the beginning.

51

00:03:39,040 --> 00:03:39,790

OK, let's do that.

52

00:03:39,790 --> 00:03:42,440

But whatever is better for you.

53

00:03:42,440 --> 00:03:43,157

No, that's fine.

54

00:03:43,157 --> 00:03:43,990

Let's go ahead and--

55

00:03:43,990 --> 00:03:44,600

Is he taping now?

56

00:03:44,600 --> 00:03:45,170

Yeah, he is.

57

00:03:45,170 --> 00:03:46,680

Oh, I'm sorry.

58

00:03:46,680 --> 00:03:48,080

No, it's OK.

59

00:03:48,080 --> 00:03:49,580

Go ahead-- so why
don't you start

60

00:03:49,580 --> 00:03:52,220

talking about what

happened at liberation.

61

00:03:52,220 --> 00:03:58,010

I was liberated-- by the way, I
was born in Amsterdam, Holland.

62

00:03:58,010 --> 00:04:00,260

My whole family was murdered.

63

00:04:00,260 --> 00:04:05,780

I was liberated by the United
States Army 104th Infantry

64

00:04:05,780 --> 00:04:08,970

Division, nicknamed
the Timberwolves.

65

00:04:08,970 --> 00:04:12,680

But when I was liberated, I
didn't know who liberated me.

66

00:04:12,680 --> 00:04:15,860

I only saw American soldiers.

67

00:04:15,860 --> 00:04:22,880

I was, from April 1943 till
April 1945, exactly two years,

68

00:04:22,880 --> 00:04:27,440

at five different
camps as a teenager.

69

00:04:27,440 --> 00:04:28,680

I was never a teenager.

70

00:04:28,680 --> 00:04:30,740

I don't know what it
is to be a teenager.

71

00:04:30,740 --> 00:04:33,380

Because from 1940,
when the Germans

72

00:04:33,380 --> 00:04:37,340
invaded my country, then
Holland, I was 12 years old.

73

00:04:37,340 --> 00:04:40,423
And I never had a
normal childhood.

74

00:04:40,423 --> 00:04:41,840
I don't say that
to have sympathy,

75

00:04:41,840 --> 00:04:47,370
but that is the facts,
part of my life.

76

00:04:47,370 --> 00:04:52,790
It also said by professional
people, that survivors

77

00:04:52,790 --> 00:04:55,100
who were in the teens--

78

00:04:55,100 --> 00:04:58,610
and not many
teenagers survived--

79

00:04:58,610 --> 00:05:01,290
in their life,
generally speaking,

80

00:05:01,290 --> 00:05:04,430
have a much harder life than
people who were already adults

81

00:05:04,430 --> 00:05:06,600
when they went in the camp.

82

00:05:06,600 --> 00:05:10,970
Because the growing years,
from child to adult,

83

00:05:10,970 --> 00:05:13,490
I never experienced.

84
00:05:13,490 --> 00:05:17,660
But I was 17 years
old in age, but I

85
00:05:17,660 --> 00:05:20,810
was a very old man on
account of my experience

86
00:05:20,810 --> 00:05:24,150
in the concentration camps.

87
00:05:24,150 --> 00:05:25,940
I was one year in
Auschwitz-Birkenau.

88
00:05:25,940 --> 00:05:29,850
And that, by itself, was enough.

89
00:05:29,850 --> 00:05:33,750
I was 70 pounds, 7-0.

90
00:05:33,750 --> 00:05:34,560
I was a cripple.

91
00:05:34,560 --> 00:05:36,330
I am a cripple.

92
00:05:36,330 --> 00:05:38,820
All my ten toes are cut off.

93
00:05:38,820 --> 00:05:41,820
Again, what I'm talking about
is not for sympathy or pity.

94
00:05:41,820 --> 00:05:43,650
It is facts, it's history.

95
00:05:43,650 --> 00:05:48,550
Also, during this

interview, there's

96

00:05:48,550 --> 00:05:52,650

a possibility that people don't
like to hear it or don't agree.

97

00:05:52,650 --> 00:05:56,040

But as long as I tell the truth,
if people can't handle it,

98

00:05:56,040 --> 00:05:58,350

it is not my baby.

99

00:05:58,350 --> 00:06:01,950

I also feel very
strong that I have

100

00:06:01,950 --> 00:06:08,910

to do the interview as a message
to people and particularly

101

00:06:08,910 --> 00:06:13,500

to the younger generation,
born after World War II.

102

00:06:13,500 --> 00:06:21,987

50% of the population of our
country are born after 1940.

103

00:06:21,987 --> 00:06:28,610

So I was liberated in the
concentration camp Dora,

104

00:06:28,610 --> 00:06:32,420

near Nordhausen, where
the V-1 and V-2 rocket

105

00:06:32,420 --> 00:06:34,550

factories were underground.

106

00:06:34,550 --> 00:06:38,720

That was actually a
subcamp of Buchenwald.

107
00:06:38,720 --> 00:06:41,210
Near every big concentration
camp in the area,

108
00:06:41,210 --> 00:06:42,410
you had little subcamps.

109
00:06:42,410 --> 00:06:46,988

110
00:06:46,988 --> 00:06:47,920
Go on.

111
00:06:47,920 --> 00:06:50,230
Oh, OK.

112
00:06:50,230 --> 00:06:52,810
So you were in a
displaced persons--

113
00:06:52,810 --> 00:06:56,500
No, no, I was liberated
from a concentration camp.

114
00:06:56,500 --> 00:06:59,200
The American soldiers
opened the gates

115
00:06:59,200 --> 00:07:03,680
and experienced hell and death
they never were trained for.

116
00:07:03,680 --> 00:07:07,900

117
00:07:07,900 --> 00:07:10,240
What did you observe about
the American soldiers

118
00:07:10,240 --> 00:07:12,370
and how they reacted?

119

00:07:12,370 --> 00:07:13,750

I mean, I was completely numb.

120

00:07:13,750 --> 00:07:17,110

I said before, I was numb, in
a state of shock, from 1940

121

00:07:17,110 --> 00:07:18,580

until '72.

122

00:07:18,580 --> 00:07:20,350

I didn't have any
cause for celebration

123

00:07:20,350 --> 00:07:22,360

because my whole
family was murdered.

124

00:07:22,360 --> 00:07:25,390

I didn't feel any
enjoyment nor emotion.

125

00:07:25,390 --> 00:07:28,536

I was dead inside, no feelings.

126

00:07:28,536 --> 00:07:29,875

And now the American soldiers.

127

00:07:29,875 --> 00:07:34,270

128

00:07:34,270 --> 00:07:39,380

On April 11, one American
tank in the concentration

129

00:07:39,380 --> 00:07:44,570

camp with three members
of the United States Army.

130

00:07:44,570 --> 00:07:48,560

And I was fortunate, with

the other survivors, in 1986,

131
00:07:48,560 --> 00:07:51,500
they had a reunion,
my liberators,

132
00:07:51,500 --> 00:07:55,040
in South Sydney in
the airport Hilton.

133
00:07:55,040 --> 00:08:01,520
And it was the first
time after 41 years,

134
00:08:01,520 --> 00:08:03,590
that we could say thank you.

135
00:08:03,590 --> 00:08:08,870
And the people who liberated me,
the first tank, the only tank,

136
00:08:08,870 --> 00:08:12,020
were still alive.

137
00:08:12,020 --> 00:08:15,130
And they remembered.

138
00:08:15,130 --> 00:08:17,200
Then we cried and
laughed together.

139
00:08:17,200 --> 00:08:19,060
It goes without saying.

140
00:08:19,060 --> 00:08:22,840
Then, the next day,
on April 12, Americans

141
00:08:22,840 --> 00:08:24,430
came, all American soldiers.

142
00:08:24,430 --> 00:08:28,360

I remember I learned
English in high school.

143
00:08:28,360 --> 00:08:32,090
I was only a couple of
years in high school.

144
00:08:32,090 --> 00:08:39,510
And most people, the few
people who were in the camp--

145
00:08:39,510 --> 00:08:42,237
we were all, by the
way, skeletons--

146
00:08:42,237 --> 00:08:43,820
the American soldiers,
the first thing

147
00:08:43,820 --> 00:08:45,890
they did, the goodness
from their heart,

148
00:08:45,890 --> 00:08:50,570
the giving, they gave
us all military food,

149
00:08:50,570 --> 00:08:54,140
the canned goods,
the canned food.

150
00:08:54,140 --> 00:08:57,950
But our system
couldn't handle it.

151
00:08:57,950 --> 00:09:01,760
But they never experienced
so much inhumanity.

152
00:09:01,760 --> 00:09:02,600
Skeletons.

153
00:09:02,600 --> 00:09:05,970

154

00:09:05,970 --> 00:09:10,350

There are many who survived who
died on account of the food.

155

00:09:10,350 --> 00:09:12,540

But Americans are not to blame.

156

00:09:12,540 --> 00:09:14,400

Later, they realized
we had to stop it.

157

00:09:14,400 --> 00:09:18,780

Because it's something
foreign for them.

158

00:09:18,780 --> 00:09:21,300

They were trained to
fight the soldiers,

159

00:09:21,300 --> 00:09:23,310

there were not
prepared for what they

160

00:09:23,310 --> 00:09:26,670

saw when they opened the gates.

161

00:09:26,670 --> 00:09:28,680

But I was too ill to eat.

162

00:09:28,680 --> 00:09:34,200

But I do remember that the
Americans had Lucky Strike

163

00:09:34,200 --> 00:09:36,330

cigarettes.

164

00:09:36,330 --> 00:09:38,310

And everybody want
to have cigarettes.

165

00:09:38,310 --> 00:09:42,060

And I was the only one who could
speak a little bit of English.

166

00:09:42,060 --> 00:09:45,670

So the American soldiers
gave me cartons of cigarettes

167

00:09:45,670 --> 00:09:47,010

to give to the other fellows.

168

00:09:47,010 --> 00:09:51,330

And when I did light the
first cigarette, I fainted.

169

00:09:51,330 --> 00:09:52,860

I remember I fainted.

170

00:09:52,860 --> 00:09:55,928

Because I couldn't handle it.

171

00:09:55,928 --> 00:09:57,720

The American soldiers--
you asked me-- they

172

00:09:57,720 --> 00:10:00,280

were very angry.

173

00:10:00,280 --> 00:10:03,180

They were in a rage.

174

00:10:03,180 --> 00:10:09,090

They wanted to give all the
inmates who could walk weapons

175

00:10:09,090 --> 00:10:12,830

to go after the Germans.

176

00:10:12,830 --> 00:10:18,350

Some of the inmates who
could walk went to villages

177

00:10:18,350 --> 00:10:20,680
and killed Germans.

178
00:10:20,680 --> 00:10:22,940
One could say,
hey, that's crude.

179
00:10:22,940 --> 00:10:23,690
Innocent people.

180
00:10:23,690 --> 00:10:30,080
But around every concentration
camp, all camps in the area,

181
00:10:30,080 --> 00:10:31,310
were villages.

182
00:10:31,310 --> 00:10:33,827
And they knew.

183
00:10:33,827 --> 00:10:34,910
Like I said, it's inhuman.

184
00:10:34,910 --> 00:10:36,960
You can't kill people.

185
00:10:36,960 --> 00:10:39,550
But it was again
a kind of revenge.

186
00:10:39,550 --> 00:10:41,260
I couldn't participate.

187
00:10:41,260 --> 00:10:44,210
Maybe otherwise I
probably would have.

188
00:10:44,210 --> 00:10:45,460
What made you unable?

189
00:10:45,460 --> 00:10:45,940
You were physically unable?

190
00:10:45,940 --> 00:10:47,470
Not physically--
I couldn't walk.

191
00:10:47,470 --> 00:10:49,610
I didn't have any toes.

192
00:10:49,610 --> 00:10:51,646
OK, so it was physical.

193
00:10:51,646 --> 00:10:53,420
Physical, yes.

194
00:10:53,420 --> 00:10:57,520
The American soldiers told the
inmates, when go in the village

195
00:10:57,520 --> 00:11:01,660
and you see some
of the murderers,

196
00:11:01,660 --> 00:11:04,890
they changed clothes.

197
00:11:04,890 --> 00:11:08,020
They had civilian clothes.

198
00:11:08,020 --> 00:11:10,060
So some inmates
went in the villages

199
00:11:10,060 --> 00:11:12,920
and recognized the murderers.

200
00:11:12,920 --> 00:11:14,920
So the American soldiers
said, don't touch them,

201
00:11:14,920 --> 00:11:15,640
bring them in.

202

00:11:15,640 --> 00:11:18,930

203

00:11:18,930 --> 00:11:19,930

And they brought him in.

204

00:11:19,930 --> 00:11:22,760

205

00:11:22,760 --> 00:11:27,980

And what they did was,
just after the liberation,

206

00:11:27,980 --> 00:11:33,860

a short amount of liberation,
they told the ex-inmates,

207

00:11:33,860 --> 00:11:35,360

OK, beat them up.

208

00:11:35,360 --> 00:11:38,490

209

00:11:38,490 --> 00:11:41,220

And finally the Americans
shot them to death.

210

00:11:41,220 --> 00:11:42,930

No trial, nothing.

211

00:11:42,930 --> 00:11:46,530

But they saw there
was no time for trial.

212

00:11:46,530 --> 00:11:48,660

And then the commander--

213

00:11:48,660 --> 00:11:56,070

I think it was the ex-governor
of New York, Carey, C-A-R-E-Y,

214

00:11:56,070 --> 00:11:58,900
many years ago, he was
governor of New York.

215
00:11:58,900 --> 00:12:00,270
And I think he was in charge.

216
00:12:00,270 --> 00:12:01,980
He said, stop.

217
00:12:01,980 --> 00:12:03,390
We were not allowed to get out.

218
00:12:03,390 --> 00:12:06,930
Then we went to
Buchenwald, the main camp.

219
00:12:06,930 --> 00:12:10,320
Now, you want me to
continue to talk?

220
00:12:10,320 --> 00:12:12,670
Mm-hmm.

221
00:12:12,670 --> 00:12:14,230
I never saw a doctor.

222
00:12:14,230 --> 00:12:15,850
I can't remember.

223
00:12:15,850 --> 00:12:17,140
I'm talking at liberation.

224
00:12:17,140 --> 00:12:20,090
I can't remember
ever seeing a doctor.

225
00:12:20,090 --> 00:12:24,250
Because the war was
still continuing.

226
00:12:24,250 --> 00:12:25,570

It was April 11.

227

00:12:25,570 --> 00:12:29,560

Many of my liberators
were killed afterwards,

228

00:12:29,560 --> 00:12:32,920

between the 11th of
April and the 8th

229

00:12:32,920 --> 00:12:34,540

of May, the end of the war.

230

00:12:34,540 --> 00:12:35,470

The war wasn't over.

231

00:12:35,470 --> 00:12:38,950

232

00:12:38,950 --> 00:12:41,020

So we went to Buchenwald,
but it was liberated,

233

00:12:41,020 --> 00:12:44,020

I think, also April the 11th.

234

00:12:44,020 --> 00:12:47,740

Now, in the camp,
you were always bald.

235

00:12:47,740 --> 00:12:50,770

And before the liberation,
I was very, very ill.

236

00:12:50,770 --> 00:12:55,030

237

00:12:55,030 --> 00:12:56,040

My toes were cut off.

238

00:12:56,040 --> 00:12:59,490

And I had other

illnesses apparently.

239

00:12:59,490 --> 00:13:03,460

I don't remember what it was.

240

00:13:03,460 --> 00:13:07,470

And I never had my hair
shaved, the head shaved.

241

00:13:07,470 --> 00:13:10,890

So my hair was growing.

242

00:13:10,890 --> 00:13:14,270

And it was not allowed.

243

00:13:14,270 --> 00:13:18,530

And I remember-- now I go back
to before the liberation--

244

00:13:18,530 --> 00:13:20,610

the barber was a Belgian inmate.

245

00:13:20,610 --> 00:13:25,067

He said, hey, Dutchman,
come down, because you know,

246

00:13:25,067 --> 00:13:25,567

the haircut.

247

00:13:25,567 --> 00:13:27,520

I said, I'm too ill.

248

00:13:27,520 --> 00:13:29,270

But then they'll beat
the hell out of you.

249

00:13:29,270 --> 00:13:29,930

I said, I don't care.

250

00:13:29,930 --> 00:13:30,540

I'm too ill.

251

00:13:30,540 --> 00:13:32,700

I could not physically--

252

00:13:32,700 --> 00:13:34,360

and I could care less.

253

00:13:34,360 --> 00:13:38,490

So when I was liberated,
as a young child,

254

00:13:38,490 --> 00:13:39,810

I had a lot of wavy hair.

255

00:13:39,810 --> 00:13:42,660

I was always proud of
my hair, I remember.

256

00:13:42,660 --> 00:13:47,735

What I have now is still mine,
of course, but not as much.

257

00:13:47,735 --> 00:13:49,860

So when I was liberated,
I had a little bit of hair

258

00:13:49,860 --> 00:13:51,330

in a little wave.

259

00:13:51,330 --> 00:13:52,980

So when we arrived
in Buchenwald,

260

00:13:52,980 --> 00:13:54,950

they put us in barracks.

261

00:13:54,950 --> 00:13:57,490

This is after liberation,
I'm talking about.

262

00:13:57,490 --> 00:14:00,616

And then they had
German soldiers, POWs.

263
00:14:00,616 --> 00:14:01,860
They had to take care of us.

264
00:14:01,860 --> 00:14:06,360

265
00:14:06,360 --> 00:14:08,370
And they were very--

266
00:14:08,370 --> 00:14:12,660
of course they lost
the war, thank God--

267
00:14:12,660 --> 00:14:15,480
but they had a kind of fear.

268
00:14:15,480 --> 00:14:17,900
But I never realized it till
many years after the war,

269
00:14:17,900 --> 00:14:24,030
but I remember, very well, one
of the first things I did--

270
00:14:24,030 --> 00:14:29,160
by that time, I
only spoke German.

271
00:14:29,160 --> 00:14:31,240
Now I can't, and
I don't want to.

272
00:14:31,240 --> 00:14:32,370
Then.

273
00:14:32,370 --> 00:14:35,770
So I ordered them around the
way they ordered me around.

274
00:14:35,770 --> 00:14:40,140
I said, bring me a

comb and some soap,

275

00:14:40,140 --> 00:14:41,500
whatever you can find of water.

276

00:14:41,500 --> 00:14:46,270
I want to wash my head and
I want to comb my hair.

277

00:14:46,270 --> 00:14:47,600
And I want to see a mirror.

278

00:14:47,600 --> 00:14:51,130
This is the first
time I saw myself.

279

00:14:51,130 --> 00:14:52,490
So they brought it to me.

280

00:14:52,490 --> 00:14:54,580
And I hold up the mirror.

281

00:14:54,580 --> 00:14:55,495
And I never forget.

282

00:14:55,495 --> 00:14:57,470
There are things I never forget.

283

00:14:57,470 --> 00:14:59,800
And I told them--

284

00:14:59,800 --> 00:15:03,880
let me clean it up-- you idiot,
higher, higher, the mirror,

285

00:15:03,880 --> 00:15:04,980
I can't see it.

286

00:15:04,980 --> 00:15:06,250
Are you kind of a nut?

287

00:15:06,250 --> 00:15:07,220
But other language.

288
00:15:07,220 --> 00:15:11,950
The same words they used
to me, I used to them.

289
00:15:11,950 --> 00:15:15,680
One can say, why do you lower
yourself on their level?

290
00:15:15,680 --> 00:15:20,320
No, but for two
years, I only heard--

291
00:15:20,320 --> 00:15:23,260
the nice expression was, you
dirty Jew, you Jewish pig,

292
00:15:23,260 --> 00:15:31,180
you are not human,
the little ants

293
00:15:31,180 --> 00:15:33,940
are better than you are
We were not human beings.

294
00:15:33,940 --> 00:15:37,120
We were human
garbage in the camp.

295
00:15:37,120 --> 00:15:40,540
So and I understand it's
very hard for people

296
00:15:40,540 --> 00:15:45,080
to comprehend, to understand,
what it was all about

297
00:15:45,080 --> 00:15:46,990
if one always lived
in peace and freedom

298

00:15:46,990 --> 00:15:49,750
and slept in their own bed.

299
00:15:49,750 --> 00:15:50,920
I understand.

300
00:15:50,920 --> 00:15:57,340
But they have to try to
have some kind of compassion

301
00:15:57,340 --> 00:15:58,630
with people like myself.

302
00:15:58,630 --> 00:16:00,640
And I'm not the only
one been through.

303
00:16:00,640 --> 00:16:04,290

304
00:16:04,290 --> 00:16:08,370
And then I remember
they put us on a plane.

305
00:16:08,370 --> 00:16:12,930
I went back to Holland, to
the southern part of Holland.

306
00:16:12,930 --> 00:16:18,315
It was May 14.

307
00:16:18,315 --> 00:16:22,000
I have a tremendous
memory of dates.

308
00:16:22,000 --> 00:16:24,570
Now, May 14, a special
meaning that date.

309
00:16:24,570 --> 00:16:33,450
On May 14, 1940, the war between
Germany and Holland was over.

310

00:16:33,450 --> 00:16:36,210

Holland was completely occupied.

311

00:16:36,210 --> 00:16:39,750

On May 14, 1943, My
father and mother

312

00:16:39,750 --> 00:16:43,320

were murdered by the Germans in
the extermination camp Sobibor.

313

00:16:43,320 --> 00:16:46,390

314

00:16:46,390 --> 00:16:54,410

How ironic I arrived back
in Holland May 14, 1945.

315

00:16:54,410 --> 00:16:56,210

I hope I make sense to you.

316

00:16:56,210 --> 00:16:59,160

Yeah, it does.

317

00:16:59,160 --> 00:16:59,990

We went by plane.

318

00:16:59,990 --> 00:17:02,840

And I remember I was--

319

00:17:02,840 --> 00:17:03,800

I don't like to fly.

320

00:17:03,800 --> 00:17:08,150

But it was a military plane.

321

00:17:08,150 --> 00:17:10,310

We were on stretchers.

322

00:17:10,310 --> 00:17:14,319

And we went to the

southern part of Holland

323

00:17:14,319 --> 00:17:17,630
that was liberated in 1944.

324

00:17:17,630 --> 00:17:19,250
They were already liberated.

325

00:17:19,250 --> 00:17:22,339
The rest of Holland was
liberated May the 5th.

326

00:17:22,339 --> 00:17:27,410
Anyway, when we arrived
in Holland, I never saw.

327

00:17:27,410 --> 00:17:31,430
Because again, and I
repeat myself many times

328

00:17:31,430 --> 00:17:33,620
during the interview,
I know that already,

329

00:17:33,620 --> 00:17:38,150
about any kind of shock, no
feelings, no expectations.

330

00:17:38,150 --> 00:17:43,010

331

00:17:43,010 --> 00:17:46,460
I remember there were
people from the Red Cross,

332

00:17:46,460 --> 00:17:49,160
and ambulances.

333

00:17:49,160 --> 00:17:54,230
And they brought us to-- there
was nobody to say, I remember--

334

00:17:54,230 --> 00:17:55,820
welcome home.

335
00:17:55,820 --> 00:17:58,380
Nobody.

336
00:17:58,380 --> 00:18:01,290
Later I think I realized why.

337
00:18:01,290 --> 00:18:08,260
But it was many years later.

338
00:18:08,260 --> 00:18:09,865
Then I didn't--

339
00:18:09,865 --> 00:18:13,450
I only remembered what happened,
and no reasoning, nothing,

340
00:18:13,450 --> 00:18:14,750
and no feelings.

341
00:18:14,750 --> 00:18:17,068
I hope it makes sense to you.

342
00:18:17,068 --> 00:18:17,610
I'm not sure.

343
00:18:17,610 --> 00:18:21,730
Do you mean that
you just felt it--

344
00:18:21,730 --> 00:18:22,940
Many years later.

345
00:18:22,940 --> 00:18:24,310
You didn't feel it.

346
00:18:24,310 --> 00:18:26,732
Then, no, I didn't
feel anything.

347

00:18:26,732 --> 00:18:29,260

But when you finally did
realize why you thought

348

00:18:29,260 --> 00:18:31,232

it happened, why was it?

349

00:18:31,232 --> 00:18:32,770

Oh, a lot of anger came out.

350

00:18:32,770 --> 00:18:35,540

But it's much later in my life.

351

00:18:35,540 --> 00:18:40,630

But what I'm telling you,
I'm now back actually May 14,

352

00:18:40,630 --> 00:18:43,140

when I arrived in Holland, 1945.

353

00:18:43,140 --> 00:18:43,640

Right.

354

00:18:43,640 --> 00:18:44,500

Do I confuse you?

355

00:18:44,500 --> 00:18:45,450

No.

356

00:18:45,450 --> 00:18:46,720

Please tell me.

357

00:18:46,720 --> 00:18:49,170

Because again, I never
talked about it before.

358

00:18:49,170 --> 00:18:49,670

Yeah.

359

00:18:49,670 --> 00:18:50,720

No, I understand.

360
00:18:50,720 --> 00:18:52,670
And nobody was there at all.

361
00:18:52,670 --> 00:18:53,850
No.

362
00:18:53,850 --> 00:18:59,260
And I'm actually visualizing
what happened to me, even

363
00:18:59,260 --> 00:19:00,730
though I didn't see myself.

364
00:19:00,730 --> 00:19:02,550
And I'm sorry, what did you say?

365
00:19:02,550 --> 00:19:03,760
There was nobody there, no.

366
00:19:03,760 --> 00:19:05,800
Ambulances.

367
00:19:05,800 --> 00:19:07,230
Then they brought us to a--

368
00:19:07,230 --> 00:19:09,850

369
00:19:09,850 --> 00:19:14,650
I talk about "us,"
not only Jewish people

370
00:19:14,650 --> 00:19:18,730
were liberated, underground
fighters, people from Holland

371
00:19:18,730 --> 00:19:20,920
who were real, very ill.

372
00:19:20,920 --> 00:19:23,320

I think others went by
train, but I'm talking only

373
00:19:23,320 --> 00:19:25,420
what happened to me.

374
00:19:25,420 --> 00:19:28,780
They brought us to an
emergency hospital.

375
00:19:28,780 --> 00:19:34,340
It was a school
used as in hospital.

376
00:19:34,340 --> 00:19:37,677
I never forget when
they put me in a bed--

377
00:19:37,677 --> 00:19:38,510
and I couldn't walk.

378
00:19:38,510 --> 00:19:40,830
I was on a stretcher.

379
00:19:40,830 --> 00:19:48,270
I was a real bed, real pillows,
pillowcases, real sheets.

380
00:19:48,270 --> 00:19:52,560
I remember, all of us,
we only talked German.

381
00:19:52,560 --> 00:19:56,040

382
00:19:56,040 --> 00:19:57,855
And I-- I'll just
talk to the nurse.

383
00:19:57,855 --> 00:20:00,660

384

00:20:00,660 --> 00:20:05,452

And I told her, in
German, schwester--

385

00:20:05,452 --> 00:20:06,285

something like that.

386

00:20:06,285 --> 00:20:07,530

That means nurse.

387

00:20:07,530 --> 00:20:11,082

And then she said,
you are in Holland.

388

00:20:11,082 --> 00:20:15,690

Don't you know how
to say it in Holland?

389

00:20:15,690 --> 00:20:18,780

Because apparently, in the
camps, you're so brainwashed,

390

00:20:18,780 --> 00:20:21,270

or a robot, whatever.

391

00:20:21,270 --> 00:20:24,000

392

00:20:24,000 --> 00:20:26,120

I don't know if I ever
talked Dutch in the camps.

393

00:20:26,120 --> 00:20:28,140

I can't remember that part.

394

00:20:28,140 --> 00:20:32,640

In the camps in Germany and
in Poland, I'm talking about.

395

00:20:32,640 --> 00:20:34,500

I also was in camps in Holland.

396

00:20:34,500 --> 00:20:44,710
But anyway, again, the only
people who visited us were,

397
00:20:44,710 --> 00:20:46,180
every day, two nuns came.

398
00:20:46,180 --> 00:20:49,210

399
00:20:49,210 --> 00:20:52,660
And they knitted for
me a pair of slippers.

400
00:20:52,660 --> 00:20:56,090

401
00:20:56,090 --> 00:20:59,690
They never talked
about religion.

402
00:20:59,690 --> 00:21:03,380
They were real
good human beings.

403
00:21:03,380 --> 00:21:06,910
But I realized later
why they did it.

404
00:21:06,910 --> 00:21:09,850
Apparently they want to give
something from themselves.

405
00:21:09,850 --> 00:21:13,030
They knew-- not from me,
maybe from the doctors--

406
00:21:13,030 --> 00:21:15,370
I didn't have any toes.

407
00:21:15,370 --> 00:21:22,300
I was the youngest in the
big room, maybe 40, 50 guys.

408
00:21:22,300 --> 00:21:24,520
And I was the baby.

409
00:21:24,520 --> 00:21:27,800

410
00:21:27,800 --> 00:21:34,630
And I also remember the
nurses always tucked me in.

411
00:21:34,630 --> 00:21:37,510
They tucked me in in the night
and gave me a kiss on the cheek

412
00:21:37,510 --> 00:21:38,890
because I was a child.

413
00:21:38,890 --> 00:21:40,720
I was 17 years old.

414
00:21:40,720 --> 00:21:44,190
And I remember the other
inmates were jealous, gave me

415
00:21:44,190 --> 00:21:44,890
a bad time.

416
00:21:44,890 --> 00:21:49,000

417
00:21:49,000 --> 00:21:52,480
But by the way, I never knew--

418
00:21:52,480 --> 00:21:57,160
maybe, thinking back,
I had three sisters.

419
00:21:57,160 --> 00:22:00,170
One was married, had a baby--

420

00:22:00,170 --> 00:22:02,620
and a husband, of
course-- and was murdered,

421
00:22:02,620 --> 00:22:05,990
and two other sisters,
but I was the youngest.

422
00:22:05,990 --> 00:22:07,990
And the other, I think,
two sisters who were not

423
00:22:07,990 --> 00:22:11,230
married always spoiled me.

424
00:22:11,230 --> 00:22:15,490
So maybe the sisters who
spoiled me in my mind were,

425
00:22:15,490 --> 00:22:19,330
in my unconsciousness,
were my sisters

426
00:22:19,330 --> 00:22:23,293
when I was a little child,
before the war, who spoiled me.

427
00:22:23,293 --> 00:22:24,460
Does that make sense to you?

428
00:22:24,460 --> 00:22:25,166
Yeah.

429
00:22:25,166 --> 00:22:25,960
Yeah, it does.

430
00:22:25,960 --> 00:22:27,620
And then something happened.

431
00:22:27,620 --> 00:22:34,060
They brought in,
in the big room,

432

00:22:34,060 --> 00:22:36,520

kind of a big room, a
classroom, actually,

433

00:22:36,520 --> 00:22:40,540

but they had changed it
to put beds in, whatever--

434

00:22:40,540 --> 00:22:43,480

oh yeah, we got
German cigarettes.

435

00:22:43,480 --> 00:22:47,740

But German POWs who were
working downstairs, we heard,

436

00:22:47,740 --> 00:22:50,260

were smoking Camel
and Lucky Strike.

437

00:22:50,260 --> 00:22:52,510

So the adults-- not myself--

438

00:22:52,510 --> 00:22:55,750

from us raised hell.

439

00:22:55,750 --> 00:22:58,950

Oof did they raise hell.

440

00:22:58,950 --> 00:23:00,570

(GRUMBLING) The
bastards, I mean,

441

00:23:00,570 --> 00:23:02,400

they-- and we have the Germans.

442

00:23:02,400 --> 00:23:04,950

That was right they
changed and stopped.

443

00:23:04,950 --> 00:23:07,020

They got the Germans and

we got the good ones.

444

00:23:07,020 --> 00:23:13,570

I didn't raise hell, but I
remember that it happened.

445

00:23:13,570 --> 00:23:15,600

There's so much anger then.

446

00:23:15,600 --> 00:23:17,730

But I never realized
till many years

447

00:23:17,730 --> 00:23:23,900

later what they did to
us, the Germans, that is.

448

00:23:23,900 --> 00:23:26,090

I mention Germans, not
Nazis, because I only

449

00:23:26,090 --> 00:23:27,980

know about Germans.

450

00:23:27,980 --> 00:23:30,530

The people who did it
to my family and me

451

00:23:30,530 --> 00:23:33,960

never showed the ID of a member
of the Nazi party, whatever

452

00:23:33,960 --> 00:23:34,460

it were.

453

00:23:34,460 --> 00:23:37,640

The Germans-- I want to
emphasize that, the Germans

454

00:23:37,640 --> 00:23:38,660

during World War II.

455

00:23:38,660 --> 00:23:41,180

456

00:23:41,180 --> 00:23:44,690

Then, one day, they brought
in a young man, maybe my age.

457

00:23:44,690 --> 00:23:46,970

His whole body was open.

458

00:23:46,970 --> 00:23:50,570

And we found out he was a
Dutch young man who volunteered

459

00:23:50,570 --> 00:23:54,410

to fight the Russians.

460

00:23:54,410 --> 00:23:56,570

And he was kind of dying.

461

00:23:56,570 --> 00:23:58,580

And we could care less
if he raised hell.

462

00:23:58,580 --> 00:24:03,420

Get that traitor
off the room here.

463

00:24:03,420 --> 00:24:06,210

And he was always
crying and whatever.

464

00:24:06,210 --> 00:24:10,770

He was a volunteer and fought
the Allies, the Russians,

465

00:24:10,770 --> 00:24:11,593

whatever.

466

00:24:11,593 --> 00:24:13,260

So we didn't want to
have a part of him.

467

00:24:13,260 --> 00:24:17,340

Later we found out he died,
and we enjoyed it very much.

468

00:24:17,340 --> 00:24:20,730

Sounds inhuman, but he
was one of our enemies,

469

00:24:20,730 --> 00:24:24,130

regardless of his age,
because he went voluntarily.

470

00:24:24,130 --> 00:24:26,280

Yeah, he was a real volunteer.

471

00:24:26,280 --> 00:24:27,100

Yeah.

472

00:24:27,100 --> 00:24:27,600

Why?

473

00:24:27,600 --> 00:24:31,530

[GRUMBLING IN WONDER] But the
insensitivity started there.

474

00:24:31,530 --> 00:24:35,850

Why to put such a person
in the same room with all--

475

00:24:35,850 --> 00:24:39,585

Jews and non-Jew alike,
physically handicapped, we

476

00:24:39,585 --> 00:24:43,350

were all physically handicapped.

477

00:24:43,350 --> 00:24:47,240

You don't put such a
person together with us.

478

00:24:47,240 --> 00:24:48,560

Do I make sense to you?

479
00:24:48,560 --> 00:24:50,780
Yes, it makes sense to me.

480
00:24:50,780 --> 00:24:53,570
But again, of course, the
doctors and the nurses

481
00:24:53,570 --> 00:24:56,420
didn't realize what
we went through.

482
00:24:56,420 --> 00:25:01,960
Now, then, one day,
a young lady came.

483
00:25:01,960 --> 00:25:07,160

484
00:25:07,160 --> 00:25:11,930
And she was a Jewish young girl.

485
00:25:11,930 --> 00:25:15,740
Apparently she was maybe my
age, a couple of years younger,

486
00:25:15,740 --> 00:25:18,380
in hiding with her parents.

487
00:25:18,380 --> 00:25:20,420
And she made me--

488
00:25:20,420 --> 00:25:21,740
and I saved this.

489
00:25:21,740 --> 00:25:24,800
It is now 45 years old.

490
00:25:24,800 --> 00:25:31,400
"Netherlands Buchenwald," with
the flag from the Netherlands.

491

00:25:31,400 --> 00:25:36,860

And she wrote on the back,
"please remember me,"

492

00:25:36,860 --> 00:25:42,770

and her name, "Ruth Winter,"
as the climate, winter,

493

00:25:42,770 --> 00:25:44,540

and her address.

494

00:25:44,540 --> 00:25:46,250

And I saw her, I think, once.

495

00:25:46,250 --> 00:25:48,470

I didn't know how
she knew about me.

496

00:25:48,470 --> 00:25:50,600

I don't know.

497

00:25:50,600 --> 00:25:52,680

Oh, it was announced
on the radio.

498

00:25:52,680 --> 00:25:53,180

I'm sorry.

499

00:25:53,180 --> 00:25:56,480

It was announced on the radio
when survivors came back

500

00:25:56,480 --> 00:25:58,190

in Holland, and names.

501

00:25:58,190 --> 00:26:01,910

And we heard our own
names being announced.

502

00:26:01,910 --> 00:26:03,840

Maybe that's how she knew.

503

00:26:03,840 --> 00:26:06,350

I don't know.

504

00:26:06,350 --> 00:26:09,970

And I will never throw it away.

505

00:26:09,970 --> 00:26:12,820

It's very touching.

506

00:26:12,820 --> 00:26:16,270

People who visited us were
people from the neighborhood.

507

00:26:16,270 --> 00:26:20,635

And one day, a lady came
from the Dutch Red Cross.

508

00:26:20,635 --> 00:26:24,180

509

00:26:24,180 --> 00:26:25,830

I can laugh about it now.

510

00:26:25,830 --> 00:26:29,505

What she brought us was pencils
and paper, (FACETIOUSLY)

511

00:26:29,505 --> 00:26:31,210

just what we needed.

512

00:26:31,210 --> 00:26:33,690

Pencils and paper-- insensitive.

513

00:26:33,690 --> 00:26:36,470

514

00:26:36,470 --> 00:26:40,490

Besides the two
nuns, nobody of any--

515

00:26:40,490 --> 00:26:44,690

no rabbi ever showed
up, no priests, nobody.

516
00:26:44,690 --> 00:26:48,410
Only the two nuns came and
stood for a couple of minutes,

517
00:26:48,410 --> 00:26:50,120
every bed, how are you doing?

518
00:26:50,120 --> 00:26:53,850
And then, for me, they
made the slippers.

519
00:26:53,850 --> 00:26:57,030
And I needed slippers because
I couldn't walk on shoes.

520
00:26:57,030 --> 00:26:59,860
I couldn't walk at all then.

521
00:26:59,860 --> 00:27:03,490
But here is maybe my
anger slowly coming out.

522
00:27:03,490 --> 00:27:04,600
And that's all right.

523
00:27:04,600 --> 00:27:05,360
I let it come out.

524
00:27:05,360 --> 00:27:05,860
Why not?

525
00:27:05,860 --> 00:27:08,350
It was here long enough.

526
00:27:08,350 --> 00:27:11,040

527
00:27:11,040 --> 00:27:16,430
Then, one day-- my

mother had sisters,

528

00:27:16,430 --> 00:27:19,070

and everybody was murdered
except one sister, who

529

00:27:19,070 --> 00:27:21,230

was married with a non-Jew.

530

00:27:21,230 --> 00:27:23,997

He was a principal
of a high school.

531

00:27:23,997 --> 00:27:25,580

By the way, during
the war, he was not

532

00:27:25,580 --> 00:27:26,690

allowed to stay principal.

533

00:27:26,690 --> 00:27:29,750

They kicked him out because
even though he was non-Jewish,

534

00:27:29,750 --> 00:27:31,200

his wife was Jewish.

535

00:27:31,200 --> 00:27:33,230

They had one daughter.

536

00:27:33,230 --> 00:27:38,380

And one day, she came
with a girlfriend--

537

00:27:38,380 --> 00:27:42,250

how they knew that I survived,
I never asked, I don't know--

538

00:27:42,250 --> 00:27:42,940

to visit me.

539

00:27:42,940 --> 00:27:46,020

540
00:27:46,020 --> 00:27:51,600
But thinking back about it
and looking back to that time,

541
00:27:51,600 --> 00:27:53,460
I don't think I
had any feelings.

542
00:27:53,460 --> 00:27:55,260
Oh, they were sweet.

543
00:27:55,260 --> 00:27:56,820
They came, I think, by bike.

544
00:27:56,820 --> 00:28:01,830
Or they got some transportation.

545
00:28:01,830 --> 00:28:02,560
I don't know.

546
00:28:02,560 --> 00:28:04,200
Tremendous distance
from Amsterdam

547
00:28:04,200 --> 00:28:07,850
to the southern part of Holland.

548
00:28:07,850 --> 00:28:11,410
It was very sweet, but
I didn't feel anything.

549
00:28:11,410 --> 00:28:14,040
I hope it makes sense to you.

550
00:28:14,040 --> 00:28:17,710
But nothing-- no hugging, no
kissing, no holding hands,

551
00:28:17,710 --> 00:28:20,136
no tears, not from my side.

552

00:28:20,136 --> 00:28:24,310

It was dead, completely dead.

553

00:28:24,310 --> 00:28:29,640

It's hard maybe to understand or
to comprehend that a person can

554

00:28:29,640 --> 00:28:32,100

be completely without feelings.

555

00:28:32,100 --> 00:28:34,320

I think probably it is
hard for a lot of people

556

00:28:34,320 --> 00:28:35,130

to comprehend it.

557

00:28:35,130 --> 00:28:36,990

But I do comprehend it.

558

00:28:36,990 --> 00:28:39,970

Yeah, and I was told,
many, many years later,

559

00:28:39,970 --> 00:28:43,110

it was a part of my survival
in your unconscious.

560

00:28:43,110 --> 00:28:50,250

Unconsciousness, you
block everything out.

561

00:28:50,250 --> 00:28:53,280

So completely in the freezer.

562

00:28:53,280 --> 00:28:54,670

And a big fence around me.

563

00:28:54,670 --> 00:29:04,490

But anyway, then I had my 18th
birthday in that hospital.

564

00:29:04,490 --> 00:29:08,060

Before you move on, did you
ever see your family again,

565

00:29:08,060 --> 00:29:10,040

your mother's sister
and her daughter?

566

00:29:10,040 --> 00:29:10,590

Oh yeah.

567

00:29:10,590 --> 00:29:11,090

You did.

568

00:29:11,090 --> 00:29:11,390

OK.

569

00:29:11,390 --> 00:29:11,890

Oh yeah.

570

00:29:11,890 --> 00:29:15,566

571

00:29:15,566 --> 00:29:19,020

As I said before,
people did not visit.

572

00:29:19,020 --> 00:29:22,380

It still amazes me.

573

00:29:22,380 --> 00:29:26,970

Some of the fellows could walk.

574

00:29:26,970 --> 00:29:29,290

By the way, we did
not have any clothes.

575

00:29:29,290 --> 00:29:33,060

We still had our inmate
outfits, mind you.

576

00:29:33,060 --> 00:29:35,550

So they went-- they were
allowed, in daytime,

577

00:29:35,550 --> 00:29:39,420

to go walk around in that city.

578

00:29:39,420 --> 00:29:43,260

The city is-- ever heard about
the big Phillips Corporation?

579

00:29:43,260 --> 00:29:45,090

P-h-i-l-i-p-s.

580

00:29:45,090 --> 00:29:47,460

It is a giant nowadays.

581

00:29:47,460 --> 00:29:50,790

In that city, Eindhoven--

582

00:29:50,790 --> 00:29:52,230

you want me to spell it?

583

00:29:52,230 --> 00:29:53,170

Yeah, go ahead.

584

00:29:53,170 --> 00:29:54,480

E-i-n-d-h-o-v-e-n.

585

00:29:54,480 --> 00:29:58,110

586

00:29:58,110 --> 00:30:01,320

And they were allowed to walk.

587

00:30:01,320 --> 00:30:05,550

And when they saw people walking
in the pajama kind of outfit,

588

00:30:05,550 --> 00:30:07,350

they gave them presents

and everything.

589

00:30:07,350 --> 00:30:11,010

Oh, yeah, the population
was fantastic.

590

00:30:11,010 --> 00:30:12,870

And they brought it for us too.

591

00:30:12,870 --> 00:30:17,850

But people-- officially,
nobody visited us.

592

00:30:17,850 --> 00:30:21,870

But anyway, then I left.

593

00:30:21,870 --> 00:30:24,960

I couldn't walk, or hardly walk.

594

00:30:24,960 --> 00:30:29,130

I had to learn to walk again.

595

00:30:29,130 --> 00:30:31,680

Because when you have toes--

596

00:30:31,680 --> 00:30:33,670

I think, I don't even
remember anymore--

597

00:30:33,670 --> 00:30:35,970

I presume you go that
way when you walk.

598

00:30:35,970 --> 00:30:39,130

But I walk on my heels.

599

00:30:39,130 --> 00:30:41,080

There's a foot.

600

00:30:41,080 --> 00:30:45,330

So I had to learn to walk.

601

00:30:45,330 --> 00:30:47,390

And you still walk
that way, right?

602

00:30:47,390 --> 00:30:51,280

Oh, yes, to keep a balance.

603

00:30:51,280 --> 00:30:54,780

Does that cause other physical
problems, like with your back?

604

00:30:54,780 --> 00:30:56,700

No, my feet.

605

00:30:56,700 --> 00:30:59,070

And the older I get,
the worse it gets.

606

00:30:59,070 --> 00:31:02,010

But if you ask me
later about it,

607

00:31:02,010 --> 00:31:04,290

I'm more than happy to tell you.

608

00:31:04,290 --> 00:31:06,480

I don't want to be rude,
but otherwise I lose it.

609

00:31:06,480 --> 00:31:08,620

And again, I never
talked about it before.

610

00:31:08,620 --> 00:31:12,330

So it is not that easy to
keep the story straight.

611

00:31:12,330 --> 00:31:13,423

OK, I'm sorry.

612

00:31:13,423 --> 00:31:14,340

No, no, no, that's OK.

613
00:31:14,340 --> 00:31:17,680

614
00:31:17,680 --> 00:31:21,420
My feet didn't want to heal.

615
00:31:21,420 --> 00:31:23,670
But they were
amputated, my toes.

616
00:31:23,670 --> 00:31:28,650
But there was still
junk coming out.

617
00:31:28,650 --> 00:31:32,430
But I learned how
to put bandages on.

618
00:31:32,430 --> 00:31:34,230
We had doctors who looked at it.

619
00:31:34,230 --> 00:31:37,680
Yeah, once they found a little--

620
00:31:37,680 --> 00:31:41,670
because my toes were amputated
with a pair of scissors, not

621
00:31:41,670 --> 00:31:44,160
a regular amputation.

622
00:31:44,160 --> 00:31:46,320
And I was conscious.

623
00:31:46,320 --> 00:31:48,927
It was in the camp, of course.

624
00:31:48,927 --> 00:31:50,760
So they took a pair of
scissors, cut it off.

625

00:31:50,760 --> 00:31:54,900

Apparently there was
still bones left.

626

00:31:54,900 --> 00:31:59,670

So once I remember a
bone was growing out,

627

00:31:59,670 --> 00:32:02,340

out of the amputation.

628

00:32:02,340 --> 00:32:05,730

And then the doctors looked
at it and pulled it out.

629

00:32:05,730 --> 00:32:08,670

630

00:32:08,670 --> 00:32:11,430

Yeah, that happened once.

631

00:32:11,430 --> 00:32:17,370

So then I had to learn to
walk as a little child.

632

00:32:17,370 --> 00:32:19,350

Thank God for the
beautiful nuns.

633

00:32:19,350 --> 00:32:21,570

They made me the slippers.

634

00:32:21,570 --> 00:32:24,840

Otherwise I couldn't--
no shoes, of course.

635

00:32:24,840 --> 00:32:30,710

So I walked, in a
way, held by nurses,

636

00:32:30,710 --> 00:32:33,110

on slippers, on my heels.

637
00:32:33,110 --> 00:32:37,430
I was scared to death
to put my foot down.

638
00:32:37,430 --> 00:32:39,920
I walked that way.

639
00:32:39,920 --> 00:32:41,120
Now I walk that way.

640
00:32:41,120 --> 00:32:43,790

641
00:32:43,790 --> 00:32:47,840
I went in an ambulance, and
I went to my aunt and uncle

642
00:32:47,840 --> 00:32:50,030
and their daughter to live.

643
00:32:50,030 --> 00:32:57,040
Now, let me first tell
you, the people meant well.

644
00:32:57,040 --> 00:33:00,610
But I was 18 years old.

645
00:33:00,610 --> 00:33:05,170
Under the law, in Holland then,
you're a minor till you're 21.

646
00:33:05,170 --> 00:33:08,605

647
00:33:08,605 --> 00:33:14,140
In age, I was 18, but experience
of life, maybe I was 150 or 200

648
00:33:14,140 --> 00:33:16,540
or 500, I don't know.

649

00:33:16,540 --> 00:33:25,510

So they thought, here is Eddy
back, and he's 18 years old.

650

00:33:25,510 --> 00:33:28,080

And we'll treat him as
any other 18-year-old,

651

00:33:28,080 --> 00:33:29,740

as their own daughter.

652

00:33:29,740 --> 00:33:32,740

But that didn't work out.

653

00:33:32,740 --> 00:33:35,110

Let me explain what I mean.

654

00:33:35,110 --> 00:33:37,510

Here we go, the
insensitivity of people.

655

00:33:37,510 --> 00:33:39,910

They're not bad people,
let me emphasize it.

656

00:33:39,910 --> 00:33:41,500

And my aunt was a sick woman.

657

00:33:41,500 --> 00:33:42,370

She had diabetes.

658

00:33:42,370 --> 00:33:51,050

659

00:33:51,050 --> 00:33:54,400

They treated me the same
as, say, their daughter.

660

00:33:54,400 --> 00:33:55,800

You know, you're 18 years old.

661

00:33:55,800 --> 00:33:58,760

You have to be home by
that time and whatever.

662

00:33:58,760 --> 00:34:00,290

And they meant well.

663

00:34:00,290 --> 00:34:06,590

But here, who came back
from death and hell,

664

00:34:06,590 --> 00:34:09,760

I don't want to be boxed in.

665

00:34:09,760 --> 00:34:12,016

I want to breathe.

666

00:34:12,016 --> 00:34:16,510

But they didn't realize that
they cut off my breathing.

667

00:34:16,510 --> 00:34:20,139

Not to hurt me, but didn't know.

668

00:34:20,139 --> 00:34:21,489

They saw an 18-year-old kid.

669

00:34:21,489 --> 00:34:24,469

670

00:34:24,469 --> 00:34:28,340

I didn't stay there long
because they couldn't handle me.

671

00:34:28,340 --> 00:34:36,810

672

00:34:36,810 --> 00:34:44,170

But while I stayed
there, they never asked--

673

00:34:44,170 --> 00:34:46,980

they did ask me, did you see
any one of the family, aunts,

674
00:34:46,980 --> 00:34:48,100
or uncles, whatever?

675
00:34:48,100 --> 00:34:49,840
I said no.

676
00:34:49,840 --> 00:34:52,449
They never asked me--

677
00:34:52,449 --> 00:34:55,480
actually, in the
hospital, nobody asked me.

678
00:34:55,480 --> 00:34:58,840
And that was the beginning
of my anger building up

679
00:34:58,840 --> 00:35:05,210
that came out after '72,
pain, and anger, and rage.

680
00:35:05,210 --> 00:35:09,440
No-- my own family, my aunt
or uncle, they never asked,

681
00:35:09,440 --> 00:35:14,630
Eddy, do you mind
to talk about it?

682
00:35:14,630 --> 00:35:16,230
Maybe I would have
said, no, I don't

683
00:35:16,230 --> 00:35:17,355
know want to talk about it.

684
00:35:17,355 --> 00:35:18,170
Oh, OK.

685

00:35:18,170 --> 00:35:21,380

You mean, do they do you want to
talk about it, not do you mind.

686

00:35:21,380 --> 00:35:22,835

Whatever.

687

00:35:22,835 --> 00:35:23,700

It just confused me.

688

00:35:23,700 --> 00:35:24,200

I'm sorry.

689

00:35:24,200 --> 00:35:30,380

No, no, they didn't ask
me, Eddy, do you mind,

690

00:35:30,380 --> 00:35:32,300

we'd like to know more.

691

00:35:32,300 --> 00:35:33,890

Do you think you
can talk about it?

692

00:35:33,890 --> 00:35:36,448

Will you tell us
what happened to you?

693

00:35:36,448 --> 00:35:37,490

They didn't want to know.

694

00:35:37,490 --> 00:35:38,490

No, no, no, no, no.

695

00:35:38,490 --> 00:35:39,350

It was never asked.

696

00:35:39,350 --> 00:35:42,110

697

00:35:42,110 --> 00:35:48,170

Later I realized, on account of

my counseling that I have, why.

698

00:35:48,170 --> 00:35:51,660

And it angers me tremendously.

699

00:35:51,660 --> 00:35:53,570

Maybe I don't make sense to you.

700

00:35:53,570 --> 00:35:55,850

They did not ask

me any questions.

701

00:35:55,850 --> 00:35:59,280

702

00:35:59,280 --> 00:36:01,903

They didn't ask me, what

happened to you, whatever.

703

00:36:01,903 --> 00:36:04,320

They didn't even ask me, how

come you don't have any toes?

704

00:36:04,320 --> 00:36:05,695

They knew I didn't

have any toes.

705

00:36:05,695 --> 00:36:07,410

They knew that.

706

00:36:07,410 --> 00:36:09,810

OK.

707

00:36:09,810 --> 00:36:12,720

Then, I didn't realize it.

708

00:36:12,720 --> 00:36:15,930

I wish they would have asked me,

not only them but other people.

709

00:36:15,930 --> 00:36:18,960

I would maybe be a

different person now.

710

00:36:18,960 --> 00:36:22,050

Thank God now, if you take
the Vietnam veterans--

711

00:36:22,050 --> 00:36:24,150

thank God, they deserve it--

712

00:36:24,150 --> 00:36:26,250

the delayed stress syndrome,
they get treatment,

713

00:36:26,250 --> 00:36:30,190

and they recognize
psychiatry, whatever.

714

00:36:30,190 --> 00:36:33,780

I never heard about
psychiatry or go to a doctor.

715

00:36:33,780 --> 00:36:36,540

So everything stayed frozen.

716

00:36:36,540 --> 00:36:40,980

Now, on account that I
was a handicapped person,

717

00:36:40,980 --> 00:36:44,140

I went to the
disability department

718

00:36:44,140 --> 00:36:48,210

to ask for a disability payment.

719

00:36:48,210 --> 00:36:50,250

Now, let me make it clear.

720

00:36:50,250 --> 00:36:54,810

I never in my life
asked for money

721

00:36:54,810 --> 00:36:57,120
because I think
people owed me money

722
00:36:57,120 --> 00:37:00,120
or they owe it to me on
account that I'm a survivor.

723
00:37:00,120 --> 00:37:03,870
No way, I'm too proud for that.

724
00:37:03,870 --> 00:37:08,510
But I thought, I was a
Dutchman then, right,

725
00:37:08,510 --> 00:37:11,670
I was a kid when
it happened to me.

726
00:37:11,670 --> 00:37:14,250
When I came back,
I was still a kid.

727
00:37:14,250 --> 00:37:16,560
My uncle by the way was
appointed by the court

728
00:37:16,560 --> 00:37:18,370
as official guardian.

729
00:37:18,370 --> 00:37:22,860
My aunt and uncle told me,
your father left money behind.

730
00:37:22,860 --> 00:37:25,500
Well, I didn't know.

731
00:37:25,500 --> 00:37:29,340
You have to pay us,
every week, 20 guilders--

732
00:37:29,340 --> 00:37:33,275
say \$20, but you have

an exchange, of course.

733

00:37:33,275 --> 00:37:35,400

But you don't work, of
course, because you're sick.

734

00:37:35,400 --> 00:37:37,030

We take that from the money.

735

00:37:37,030 --> 00:37:40,260

And when you're 21 years old--

736

00:37:40,260 --> 00:37:43,267

we wrote everything down,
and we're honest people.

737

00:37:43,267 --> 00:37:44,100

Don't misunderstand.

738

00:37:44,100 --> 00:37:46,880

I hope I make myself clear.

739

00:37:46,880 --> 00:37:49,610

So they charged me \$20
a week as a boarder.

740

00:37:49,610 --> 00:37:52,260

741

00:37:52,260 --> 00:37:56,220

And they took it from the
money they had from my father.

742

00:37:56,220 --> 00:37:57,690

OK, do it make sense?

743

00:37:57,690 --> 00:37:59,190

Mm-hmm.

744

00:37:59,190 --> 00:38:03,690

And when I was 21, it was
all honest and good people.

745
00:38:03,690 --> 00:38:11,100
But again, no warmth,
no hug, no nothing.

746
00:38:11,100 --> 00:38:12,840
It was cold.

747
00:38:12,840 --> 00:38:13,800
Maybe I was cold too.

748
00:38:13,800 --> 00:38:15,660
I don't know.

749
00:38:15,660 --> 00:38:18,060
Maybe in my unconscious,
I drove people maybe away.

750
00:38:18,060 --> 00:38:19,410
I don't know.

751
00:38:19,410 --> 00:38:20,820
Was this new after the war?

752
00:38:20,820 --> 00:38:23,760
Before the war, were they warmer
when you were around them?

753
00:38:23,760 --> 00:38:26,040
I was only a kid.

754
00:38:26,040 --> 00:38:27,040
So you don't remember?

755
00:38:27,040 --> 00:38:29,550
No, I remember them
from before the war.

756
00:38:29,550 --> 00:38:30,863
But I was not the same child.

757

00:38:30,863 --> 00:38:33,030
They thought they would see
the same child that they

758
00:38:33,030 --> 00:38:36,600
knew 11, 12 years old.

759
00:38:36,600 --> 00:38:40,380
They expected the
same apparently.

760
00:38:40,380 --> 00:38:44,810
And a person who came back
from the death and hell

761
00:38:44,810 --> 00:38:47,838
was a very old man at age 17.

762
00:38:47,838 --> 00:38:49,380
If I would be in
their shoes, maybe I

763
00:38:49,380 --> 00:38:53,800
would have acted the
same way they did.

764
00:38:53,800 --> 00:38:55,720
Do I make sense to you?

765
00:38:55,720 --> 00:38:56,790
Yeah, it does.

766
00:38:56,790 --> 00:38:59,640
Does it answer your question?

767
00:38:59,640 --> 00:39:00,780
Yeah.

768
00:39:00,780 --> 00:39:03,060
Did you find it just as
insensitive that they would

769

00:39:03,060 --> 00:39:04,920
charge this board from you?

770
00:39:04,920 --> 00:39:07,560
Not then.

771
00:39:07,560 --> 00:39:09,780
Again, I was in a state
of shock, no feelings.

772
00:39:09,780 --> 00:39:11,740
I could care less.

773
00:39:11,740 --> 00:39:13,110
I didn't have any feelings.

774
00:39:13,110 --> 00:39:15,270
It didn't touch me.

775
00:39:15,270 --> 00:39:17,278
Much later--

776
00:39:17,278 --> 00:39:18,570
Did that bother you later then?

777
00:39:18,570 --> 00:39:20,430
Oh, yeah.

778
00:39:20,430 --> 00:39:21,210
A lot of things.

779
00:39:21,210 --> 00:39:23,460
But I will talk about it
later if you don't mind.

780
00:39:23,460 --> 00:39:29,040
No, no, I was still
a robot in a way.

781
00:39:29,040 --> 00:39:32,880
But I never recognized
myself then as a robot.

782
00:39:32,880 --> 00:39:36,370
I was told years later,
during counseling.

783
00:39:36,370 --> 00:39:39,310

784
00:39:39,310 --> 00:39:41,710
So I went to the
department of unemployment.

785
00:39:41,710 --> 00:39:46,210
And I wanted to have an
unemployment disability.

786
00:39:46,210 --> 00:39:49,730
I'll never forget, it
was an elderly gentleman.

787
00:39:49,730 --> 00:39:53,017
I told him my background
and why I could hardly

788
00:39:53,017 --> 00:39:53,975
walk, only in slippers.

789
00:39:53,975 --> 00:39:57,070

790
00:39:57,070 --> 00:40:00,770
How it went, I don't remember.

791
00:40:00,770 --> 00:40:01,895
And the man started crying.

792
00:40:01,895 --> 00:40:05,240

793
00:40:05,240 --> 00:40:07,210
The bureaucrat was crying.

794

00:40:07,210 --> 00:40:10,700

And he said, I want
to prove to you

795

00:40:10,700 --> 00:40:13,682

that you can't get any money.

796

00:40:13,682 --> 00:40:15,050

He wanted to prove to me.

797

00:40:15,050 --> 00:40:17,390

And I remember he
opened the big book.

798

00:40:17,390 --> 00:40:19,760

He said, under article
whatever in the year

799

00:40:19,760 --> 00:40:25,940

1900 whatever, if you never
paid in, you can never collect.

800

00:40:25,940 --> 00:40:26,690

And he cried.

801

00:40:26,690 --> 00:40:29,510

He said he was an underground
fighter and he saved people.

802

00:40:29,510 --> 00:40:32,090

803

00:40:32,090 --> 00:40:37,730

It hurt him so much to
tell me, nothing for you.

804

00:40:37,730 --> 00:40:40,850

Again, I didn't have any pain.

805

00:40:40,850 --> 00:40:45,900

Then, at the
beginning of the war,

806
00:40:45,900 --> 00:40:50,630
my father and myself
gave to our neighbors.

807
00:40:50,630 --> 00:40:55,190
I helped my father
carrying-- it was in 1941,

808
00:40:55,190 --> 00:40:57,620
beginning of '42, '41, '42--

809
00:40:57,620 --> 00:41:02,540
carrying all kinds of stuff
to neighbors who we thought

810
00:41:02,540 --> 00:41:09,260
were honest, decent people, in
case that when we come back.

811
00:41:09,260 --> 00:41:14,540
It was silverware
but also my bike.

812
00:41:14,540 --> 00:41:16,840
So after the war, my aunt--

813
00:41:16,840 --> 00:41:20,510
and I was walking on slippers--

814
00:41:20,510 --> 00:41:24,410
I didn't have any shoes.

815
00:41:24,410 --> 00:41:28,840
I never heard about
orthopedic shoes, nothing.

816
00:41:28,840 --> 00:41:32,230
I went with public
transportation.

817
00:41:32,230 --> 00:41:35,530

So we went to see the people.

818

00:41:35,530 --> 00:41:39,490

And then I saw a beautiful
carpet from my mom and dad

819

00:41:39,490 --> 00:41:42,380

on the floor.

820

00:41:42,380 --> 00:41:44,060

First of all, after
they took us away

821

00:41:44,060 --> 00:41:48,320

in 1943, before the
Germans came to plunder it

822

00:41:48,320 --> 00:41:50,975

and sent it to
Germany, neighbors--

823

00:41:50,975 --> 00:41:52,580

it happened all over
the place-- went

824

00:41:52,580 --> 00:41:55,077

in the homes of the
Jewish people and grabbing

825

00:41:55,077 --> 00:41:55,910

whatever they could.

826

00:41:55,910 --> 00:41:58,650

827

00:41:58,650 --> 00:42:02,110

I don't say they're bad people,
but this is what they did.

828

00:42:02,110 --> 00:42:05,070

So I saw the carpet.

829

00:42:05,070 --> 00:42:10,690

So I asked him not
even about the carpet.

830

00:42:10,690 --> 00:42:15,760

I want to have my bike back, I
want to have the crates back.

831

00:42:15,760 --> 00:42:17,740

Then there was a big fight--

832

00:42:17,740 --> 00:42:19,390

not physically.

833

00:42:19,390 --> 00:42:22,790

The oldest son, who later
became a member of the clergy,

834

00:42:22,790 --> 00:42:27,500

mind you, worked
part-time for the police.

835

00:42:27,500 --> 00:42:28,930

And he threatened me.

836

00:42:28,930 --> 00:42:31,490

Here I'm just back
from hell and death.

837

00:42:31,490 --> 00:42:33,470

If I don't leave their
home, they will go,

838

00:42:33,470 --> 00:42:34,865

they will get the police.

839

00:42:34,865 --> 00:42:37,550

They'd arrest me,
put me back in jail.

840

00:42:37,550 --> 00:42:44,530

Here I am just 18 years
old, emotional a cripple,

841
00:42:44,530 --> 00:42:47,470
one can say,
physically a cripple.

842
00:42:47,470 --> 00:42:51,190
Besides being a cripple,
the experience--

843
00:42:51,190 --> 00:42:54,670
I only came to get
what was legally mine.

844
00:42:54,670 --> 00:42:57,320

845
00:42:57,320 --> 00:42:59,910
Finally he gave me
only my bike back.

846
00:42:59,910 --> 00:43:01,610
But he took off the tires.

847
00:43:01,610 --> 00:43:02,600
Would you believe that?

848
00:43:02,600 --> 00:43:05,110

849
00:43:05,110 --> 00:43:07,450
The tires of the bike.

850
00:43:07,450 --> 00:43:11,710
There were very religious
Christian people.

851
00:43:11,710 --> 00:43:13,870
Now, I have to jump a
couple of years later.

852
00:43:13,870 --> 00:43:16,060
I'll come back to that later.

853
00:43:16,060 --> 00:43:18,700
In that same period,
'41, '42, I helped

854
00:43:18,700 --> 00:43:23,320
my married sister
bring all kind of stuff

855
00:43:23,320 --> 00:43:28,080
to neighbors for safekeeping.

856
00:43:28,080 --> 00:43:29,810
A lot of Jewish
people thought they

857
00:43:29,810 --> 00:43:31,190
had neighbors they could trust.

858
00:43:31,190 --> 00:43:34,720

859
00:43:34,720 --> 00:43:39,700
I also went there because I
was close to my married sister,

860
00:43:39,700 --> 00:43:42,690
especially on account of her
little baby, who was murdered

861
00:43:42,690 --> 00:43:43,690
when she was 1 year old.

862
00:43:43,690 --> 00:43:46,540
But I always loved
her very much,

863
00:43:46,540 --> 00:43:49,450
even though I was only, when
she was born, 14 years old.

864
00:43:49,450 --> 00:43:52,936

865

00:43:52,936 --> 00:43:57,370

So I went to the
neighbors of my sister's.

866

00:43:57,370 --> 00:43:59,170

And here's what they told me.

867

00:43:59,170 --> 00:44:02,230

Before, when your sister
brought the stuff,

868

00:44:02,230 --> 00:44:04,990

they give us instructions--
don't give it to anybody

869

00:44:04,990 --> 00:44:08,980

except to us when we come back.

870

00:44:08,980 --> 00:44:11,620

I said, I brought it over
with my sister myself.

871

00:44:11,620 --> 00:44:13,060

Because I know you.

872

00:44:13,060 --> 00:44:14,920

I know your name
because we visited.

873

00:44:14,920 --> 00:44:19,350

When I visited my sister,
we visited you next door.

874

00:44:19,350 --> 00:44:21,300

Very religious people.

875

00:44:21,300 --> 00:44:23,740

I never got it back.

876

00:44:23,740 --> 00:44:29,920

Then I talk now about
people who took advantage.

877
00:44:29,920 --> 00:44:34,060
But then my father, who had
a wholesale business in fruit

878
00:44:34,060 --> 00:44:37,210
and vegetables for many, many
years, a wholesale business,

879
00:44:37,210 --> 00:44:41,700
in Amsterdam, had
clients of course.

880
00:44:41,700 --> 00:44:45,000
And as a child, I
was always working--

881
00:44:45,000 --> 00:44:48,510
and really working-- with
my father in the business.

882
00:44:48,510 --> 00:44:52,960
He'd say, you can visit,
but you have to work.

883
00:44:52,960 --> 00:44:54,280
On account that I helped him--

884
00:44:54,280 --> 00:44:57,270
It was till 1941.

885
00:44:57,270 --> 00:44:58,670
I was born in 1927.

886
00:44:58,670 --> 00:45:01,570
So as far as I
know, it was always

887
00:45:01,570 --> 00:45:04,325
on the wholesale
market, not the retail.

888
00:45:04,325 --> 00:45:05,950
You'd start in the
middle of the night.

889
00:45:05,950 --> 00:45:13,480
Anyway, I always had
to carry heavy crates.

890
00:45:13,480 --> 00:45:15,520
Maybe that helped me survive.

891
00:45:15,520 --> 00:45:19,715
Somebody told me, years ago,
that I had such strong arms

892
00:45:19,715 --> 00:45:20,590
that I could do work.

893
00:45:20,590 --> 00:45:22,090
I don't know.

894
00:45:22,090 --> 00:45:25,000
But he had two clients
who I knew very well.

895
00:45:25,000 --> 00:45:27,550

896
00:45:27,550 --> 00:45:31,390
And in the old country,
you would never

897
00:45:31,390 --> 00:45:33,880
say, to older people,
by their first name.

898
00:45:33,880 --> 00:45:34,980
You never call them Joe.

899
00:45:34,980 --> 00:45:38,560
It was always Uncle Joe and

Aunt Mary, for instance.

900
00:45:38,560 --> 00:45:39,830
Never by first name.

901
00:45:39,830 --> 00:45:41,170
Oh, you're kidding.

902
00:45:41,170 --> 00:45:42,580
No way.

903
00:45:42,580 --> 00:45:46,360
So I remember them
as Uncle So-and-so.

904
00:45:46,360 --> 00:45:50,450
So they saw me growing up.

905
00:45:50,450 --> 00:45:54,050
And one came to me one day.

906
00:45:54,050 --> 00:45:57,500
And he said, Eddy, your
father gave me money.

907
00:45:57,500 --> 00:46:00,120

908
00:46:00,120 --> 00:46:01,890
And I want to give
it back to you.

909
00:46:01,890 --> 00:46:03,312
I didn't know about it.

910
00:46:03,312 --> 00:46:04,020
I was only a kid.

911
00:46:04,020 --> 00:46:06,840
My father never
told me about it.

912

00:46:06,840 --> 00:46:09,420

I said, that is beautiful.

913

00:46:09,420 --> 00:46:10,720

Do you have children?

914

00:46:10,720 --> 00:46:16,490

He said, I had a son, and
he was killed after the war.

915

00:46:16,490 --> 00:46:19,300

916

00:46:19,300 --> 00:46:22,420

And he started crying
because I wanted to give

917

00:46:22,420 --> 00:46:26,020

something as a thank you.

918

00:46:26,020 --> 00:46:29,530

He was not a religious person.

919

00:46:29,530 --> 00:46:32,110

He was non-Jewish
but not religious.

920

00:46:32,110 --> 00:46:36,130

Then, about the same time,
another client of my dad

921

00:46:36,130 --> 00:46:38,350

brought me--

922

00:46:38,350 --> 00:46:40,210

had the jewelry from my parents.

923

00:46:40,210 --> 00:46:44,310

I didn't know what
they were hiding.

924

00:46:44,310 --> 00:46:48,790
They were non-Jewish
people, both.

925
00:46:48,790 --> 00:46:49,750
As far as I remember--

926
00:46:49,750 --> 00:46:52,300
I got to know them quite well--

927
00:46:52,300 --> 00:46:54,340
never went to church.

928
00:46:54,340 --> 00:46:56,590
So going to church,
maybe there are

929
00:46:56,590 --> 00:46:58,870
people who don't like--
how could you say that?

930
00:46:58,870 --> 00:47:00,970
But going to a
synagogue or church

931
00:47:00,970 --> 00:47:03,610
doesn't make
somebody good or bad.

932
00:47:03,610 --> 00:47:04,900
It is inside of people.

933
00:47:04,900 --> 00:47:08,150
And I experienced that.

934
00:47:08,150 --> 00:47:12,320
And I emphasize, nor a
synagogue, nor a church.

935
00:47:12,320 --> 00:47:16,500
I believe, for myself,
if God is around me,

936

00:47:16,500 --> 00:47:18,680

I don't go to a
place to worship.

937

00:47:18,680 --> 00:47:21,290

I don't have to.

938

00:47:21,290 --> 00:47:27,356

But being a churchgoing person,
two families, they stole.

939

00:47:27,356 --> 00:47:30,110

The other two never
went to church.

940

00:47:30,110 --> 00:47:32,494

They were honest.

941

00:47:32,494 --> 00:47:36,110

Later I realized that going
to a synagogue, a church,

942

00:47:36,110 --> 00:47:39,740

doesn't make anybody
good, regardless

943

00:47:39,740 --> 00:47:43,680

how much donations they give
to the church or synagogue.

944

00:47:43,680 --> 00:47:49,670

But anyway, so I
got my bike back.

945

00:47:49,670 --> 00:47:52,107

I hope I make myself clear--
my bike back without tires.

946

00:47:52,107 --> 00:47:55,030

947

00:47:55,030 --> 00:47:59,590

But I didn't have an occupation
nor an education, only

948
00:47:59,590 --> 00:48:01,690
two years high school.

949
00:48:01,690 --> 00:48:02,840
I couldn't go to school.

950
00:48:02,840 --> 00:48:03,840
I have to make a living.

951
00:48:03,840 --> 00:48:07,750
But I didn't have an occupation.

952
00:48:07,750 --> 00:48:12,310
Then I went to the Salvation
Army and had second-hand shoes,

953
00:48:12,310 --> 00:48:16,060
because I had to have shoes.

954
00:48:16,060 --> 00:48:21,490
And I put in cotton to
fill up the shoes where

955
00:48:21,490 --> 00:48:24,340
the toes were supposed to be.

956
00:48:24,340 --> 00:48:27,130
And all kind of
layers in so I could--

957
00:48:27,130 --> 00:48:30,880
I had to walk very careful
because I could feel

958
00:48:30,880 --> 00:48:32,870
the stones through the soles.

959
00:48:32,870 --> 00:48:35,740
But I had to walk.

960
00:48:35,740 --> 00:48:40,630
No organization-- the
government of Holland then,

961
00:48:40,630 --> 00:48:44,970
the philosophy was
the Jews came back,

962
00:48:44,970 --> 00:48:48,940
but they were not
political prisoners,

963
00:48:48,940 --> 00:48:54,310
were not underground fighters,
there is no law for them.

964
00:48:54,310 --> 00:48:57,660

965
00:48:57,660 --> 00:49:00,240
OK?

966
00:49:00,240 --> 00:49:03,580
Later, it all accumulated-- and
maybe now I make myself more

967
00:49:03,580 --> 00:49:04,320
and more clear--

968
00:49:04,320 --> 00:49:06,615
but it happened after the war.

969
00:49:06,615 --> 00:49:08,250
It was building up,
but I never knew

970
00:49:08,250 --> 00:49:10,890
it was building up, because
it was not there, the feeling.

971
00:49:10,890 --> 00:49:13,020

It was still building up.

972

00:49:13,020 --> 00:49:14,680

Do I make sense so far.

973

00:49:14,680 --> 00:49:16,500

Yeah, I understand.

974

00:49:16,500 --> 00:49:18,420

I mean, you can have
lots and lots of feelings

975

00:49:18,420 --> 00:49:20,370

and not feel any of them.

976

00:49:20,370 --> 00:49:21,310

Nothing.

977

00:49:21,310 --> 00:49:22,560

Right, I didn't feel anything.

978

00:49:22,560 --> 00:49:27,900

979

00:49:27,900 --> 00:49:31,670

I wanted to have the
business from my father back.

980

00:49:31,670 --> 00:49:37,490

In '41, a Dutch
German sympathizer

981

00:49:37,490 --> 00:49:40,250

came and stole
Jewish businesses,

982

00:49:40,250 --> 00:49:42,137

not only from my dad,
from other people too.

983

00:49:42,137 --> 00:49:44,220

So he stole the private

money, the business money,

984

00:49:44,220 --> 00:49:45,860

kicked people out.

985

00:49:45,860 --> 00:49:46,580

He was a robber.

986

00:49:46,580 --> 00:49:51,560

We would call him,
today, a robber, a thief.

987

00:49:51,560 --> 00:49:54,950

And he became a
German sympathizer

988

00:49:54,950 --> 00:50:00,960

on account of making money of
the stolen Jewish businesses.

989

00:50:00,960 --> 00:50:05,030

So after the war, I want
to have that business back.

990

00:50:05,030 --> 00:50:08,630

But I was not trained on
anything about doing business.

991

00:50:08,630 --> 00:50:10,250

Let me emphasize that.

992

00:50:10,250 --> 00:50:14,300

And I thought, I'm the sole
beneficiary of my family.

993

00:50:14,300 --> 00:50:15,560

I could prove that.

994

00:50:15,560 --> 00:50:18,440

That my family was murdered.

995

00:50:18,440 --> 00:50:19,625

But it's not easy.

996

00:50:19,625 --> 00:50:22,130

Now, I had to take a lawyer.

997

00:50:22,130 --> 00:50:28,100

The Dutch government created
the Justice Department--

998

00:50:28,100 --> 00:50:29,720

Reinstatement of Justice.

999

00:50:29,720 --> 00:50:33,610

1000

00:50:33,610 --> 00:50:38,990

I always call it
Continuation of Injustice.

1001

00:50:38,990 --> 00:50:43,430

One of the reasons I talk about
it today is about justice--

1002

00:50:43,430 --> 00:50:45,350

not about money, justice.

1003

00:50:45,350 --> 00:50:48,960

I fight for justice.

1004

00:50:48,960 --> 00:50:51,300

I will not accept injustice.

1005

00:50:51,300 --> 00:50:55,080

There are no conditions I
compromise with justice.

1006

00:50:55,080 --> 00:50:59,790

Because I know what it
means to live under a system

1007

00:50:59,790 --> 00:51:02,040

where you don't have justice.

1008
00:51:02,040 --> 00:51:04,530
I fight for my rights.

1009
00:51:04,530 --> 00:51:07,395
Because they took
everything the rights away.

1010
00:51:07,395 --> 00:51:09,750
They took away civil
rights, legal rights,

1011
00:51:09,750 --> 00:51:14,980
and human rights, and my
human dignity, during the war.

1012
00:51:14,980 --> 00:51:17,580
So I made up my mind, when
I came out of the freezer,

1013
00:51:17,580 --> 00:51:18,720
to fight for it.

1014
00:51:18,720 --> 00:51:23,910
But apparently I start fighting
then, but I never realized it.

1015
00:51:23,910 --> 00:51:25,950
If I would have
been open then, I

1016
00:51:25,950 --> 00:51:27,790
would have been
another person today.

1017
00:51:27,790 --> 00:51:32,040
But anyway, I had
to go to a lawyer.

1018
00:51:32,040 --> 00:51:35,940
And yes, they gave
me the business back.

1019

00:51:35,940 --> 00:51:38,490

Then what happened?

1020

00:51:38,490 --> 00:51:45,320

To Dutch German sympathizer
was punished in court to go to

1021

00:51:45,320 --> 00:51:47,840

jail, many of them.

1022

00:51:47,840 --> 00:51:50,690

1023

00:51:50,690 --> 00:51:54,210

But slowly but surely, they
helped him out because,

1024

00:51:54,210 --> 00:51:56,040

quote unquote, they were "ill."

1025

00:51:56,040 --> 00:51:57,150

They became "ill."

1026

00:51:57,150 --> 00:51:58,785

Got a piece of
paper from a doctor.

1027

00:51:58,785 --> 00:52:01,310

1028

00:52:01,310 --> 00:52:02,825

OK, and they were released.

1029

00:52:02,825 --> 00:52:08,123

1030

00:52:08,123 --> 00:52:09,540

And they had their
own businesses.

1031

00:52:09,540 --> 00:52:12,840

But the Dutch government
appointed people to run them,

1032
00:52:12,840 --> 00:52:15,070
to be in charge of the business.

1033
00:52:15,070 --> 00:52:18,420
So the thief who stole
my father's business

1034
00:52:18,420 --> 00:52:22,230
and private money
was allowed, after he

1035
00:52:22,230 --> 00:52:24,990
was feeling better mind you--

1036
00:52:24,990 --> 00:52:26,290
he was never punished.

1037
00:52:26,290 --> 00:52:30,940
He was never required to
pay the money back, never.

1038
00:52:30,940 --> 00:52:33,450
That's why I called it the
continuation of injustice

1039
00:52:33,450 --> 00:52:35,070
office.

1040
00:52:35,070 --> 00:52:39,090
So it's more justice
for the wrong ones.

1041
00:52:39,090 --> 00:52:42,450
More and more I realize still
today, it gets stronger.

1042
00:52:42,450 --> 00:52:47,100
We, the innocent ones, we
become the guilty ones.

1043

00:52:47,100 --> 00:52:51,890

And the guilty ones
became the innocent ones.

1044

00:52:51,890 --> 00:52:54,680

Do I make sense
what I want to say?

1045

00:52:54,680 --> 00:52:58,060

Yeah, except I'm a
little bit confused.

1046

00:52:58,060 --> 00:53:00,790

Maybe I will make it clear.

1047

00:53:00,790 --> 00:53:04,780

1048

00:53:04,780 --> 00:53:07,870

The Dutch government appointed--

1049

00:53:07,870 --> 00:53:11,210

they were put in jail, right,
punished for what they did,

1050

00:53:11,210 --> 00:53:15,340

the Dutch German sympathizers.

1051

00:53:15,340 --> 00:53:18,850

After the war, they
went to jail, say,

1052

00:53:18,850 --> 00:53:20,930

a sentence of three
years or whatever.

1053

00:53:20,930 --> 00:53:23,260

But after a couple of
months, they were freed.

1054

00:53:23,260 --> 00:53:24,300

Because of the doctors.

1055
00:53:24,300 --> 00:53:25,660
Yeah.

1056
00:53:25,660 --> 00:53:27,100
And money of course.

1057
00:53:27,100 --> 00:53:29,980
Now, were they sent to jail
because you prosecuted them?

1058
00:53:29,980 --> 00:53:34,060
No, no, I didn't, because
I didn't know the man then.

1059
00:53:34,060 --> 00:53:37,480
Apparently others did.

1060
00:53:37,480 --> 00:53:42,100
Maybe he did, in other city, the
same what he did in Amsterdam.

1061
00:53:42,100 --> 00:53:45,310
Because he came from another
city, from Rotterdam.

1062
00:53:45,310 --> 00:53:47,230
You ever heard about Rotterdam?

1063
00:53:47,230 --> 00:53:50,590
The big port, the biggest
port in Europe, I think.

1064
00:53:50,590 --> 00:53:54,850
Yeah, my grandparents
sailed from there.

1065
00:53:54,850 --> 00:53:56,950
Right.

1066
00:53:56,950 --> 00:53:59,030
They go to England.

1067
00:53:59,030 --> 00:54:02,168
I left from Rotterdam to
go to the United States.

1068
00:54:02,168 --> 00:54:02,710
That's right.

1069
00:54:02,710 --> 00:54:08,480

1070
00:54:08,480 --> 00:54:16,700
Now, so that man was allowed to
work in his own business again,

1071
00:54:16,700 --> 00:54:19,220
the similar business
my father had.

1072
00:54:19,220 --> 00:54:23,180
But he was not a free
man to do business.

1073
00:54:23,180 --> 00:54:24,183
He was not in charge.

1074
00:54:24,183 --> 00:54:25,100
He was only a manager.

1075
00:54:25,100 --> 00:54:27,290
He was not the owner.

1076
00:54:27,290 --> 00:54:31,070
The Dutch government
appointed somebody, an owner,

1077
00:54:31,070 --> 00:54:36,020
say, for two, three, four years,
as part of his punishment.

1078
00:54:36,020 --> 00:54:37,400
But he was manager.

1079

00:54:37,400 --> 00:54:41,260

And this was-- what, formally,
was your father's business?

1080

00:54:41,260 --> 00:54:43,490

OK, maybe I don't
make myself clear.

1081

00:54:43,490 --> 00:54:45,110

He had his own
business in Rotterdam.

1082

00:54:45,110 --> 00:54:47,210

I'm sorry, I didn't say that.

1083

00:54:47,210 --> 00:54:49,010

The man who stole
my father's business

1084

00:54:49,010 --> 00:54:52,280

had his own wholesale
business in Rotterdam.

1085

00:54:52,280 --> 00:54:54,980

But he stole businesses
in Amsterdam.

1086

00:54:54,980 --> 00:54:56,720

And incorporated them
into his business?

1087

00:54:56,720 --> 00:54:58,580

I don't know.

1088

00:54:58,580 --> 00:55:01,130

But he stole it.

1089

00:55:01,130 --> 00:55:05,870

No, no, no, he kept it
and he ran it in Amsterdam

1090

00:55:05,870 --> 00:55:09,340
during the war, and in
Rotterdam had his own business.

1091
00:55:09,340 --> 00:55:12,500
Everything flourished because
he made a lot of money,

1092
00:55:12,500 --> 00:55:16,580
besides stealing a fortune, not
from my dad, from other people

1093
00:55:16,580 --> 00:55:20,330
too, business, money,
and private accounts.

1094
00:55:20,330 --> 00:55:21,546
Do I make sense to you now?

1095
00:55:21,546 --> 00:55:22,340
Yes.

1096
00:55:22,340 --> 00:55:22,850
You sure?

1097
00:55:22,850 --> 00:55:24,176
Uh huh.

1098
00:55:24,176 --> 00:55:28,220
If I don't make sense,
it's my mistake, OK?

1099
00:55:28,220 --> 00:55:30,080
So anyway, he was
allowed to go back

1100
00:55:30,080 --> 00:55:34,010
to his own business
in Rotterdam.

1101
00:55:34,010 --> 00:55:36,140
But he was not the owner.

1102

00:55:36,140 --> 00:55:41,600

Somebody appointed by
the court was the owner.

1103

00:55:41,600 --> 00:55:44,090

After the war--
that's kind comple--

1104

00:55:44,090 --> 00:55:46,010

How do I explain it?

1105

00:55:46,010 --> 00:55:49,940

During the war, there was
no free trade in Holland.

1106

00:55:49,940 --> 00:55:55,070

Every wholesale dealer
got a percentage

1107

00:55:55,070 --> 00:55:58,090

from what he had before because
there was hardly any food.

1108

00:55:58,090 --> 00:56:00,020

There was not
actually free trade,

1109

00:56:00,020 --> 00:56:03,650

because retailers were more than
happy to pay whatever to get

1110

00:56:03,650 --> 00:56:07,040

some food for the people.

1111

00:56:07,040 --> 00:56:09,000

So a big organization
was formed in the war.

1112

00:56:09,000 --> 00:56:11,070

I found that out after the war.

1113

00:56:11,070 --> 00:56:15,380

So he-- you didn't
have to do anything.

1114
00:56:15,380 --> 00:56:17,450
You got so much business.

1115
00:56:17,450 --> 00:56:20,438
And automatically, the next
morning, the retailers came.

1116
00:56:20,438 --> 00:56:21,980
You didn't have to
say, hey, you want

1117
00:56:21,980 --> 00:56:23,690
to buy beautiful cauliflowers?

1118
00:56:23,690 --> 00:56:25,470
No, (URGENTLY) can I have it?

1119
00:56:25,470 --> 00:56:26,860
No, I can only give you so much.

1120
00:56:26,860 --> 00:56:29,360
You know, it was no business.

1121
00:56:29,360 --> 00:56:31,820
There was hardly
any food, especially

1122
00:56:31,820 --> 00:56:32,960
at the end of the war.

1123
00:56:32,960 --> 00:56:34,800
But they made good money.

1124
00:56:34,800 --> 00:56:41,450
So the Dutch thief made money on
account of what my father sold.

1125
00:56:41,450 --> 00:56:46,070
They took what did you sell

from '35 to '40, for instance.

1126

00:56:46,070 --> 00:56:49,850

From that, total, what you
sold, you get so much percentage

1127

00:56:49,850 --> 00:56:53,030

as your part and your
part, to be fair to all

1128

00:56:53,030 --> 00:56:53,990

the wholesale dealers.

1129

00:56:53,990 --> 00:56:56,570

1130

00:56:56,570 --> 00:56:57,440

Do I make sense?

1131

00:56:57,440 --> 00:56:59,780

Yeah, they just give
you the same proportion.

1132

00:56:59,780 --> 00:57:00,830

Correct.

1133

00:57:00,830 --> 00:57:04,025

And I think they took the
income tax or whatever you pay.

1134

00:57:04,025 --> 00:57:06,050

It's complicated.

1135

00:57:06,050 --> 00:57:07,570

I found that after the war.

1136

00:57:07,570 --> 00:57:08,300

What did I know?

1137

00:57:08,300 --> 00:57:11,210

So after the war,
when I came back,

1138
00:57:11,210 --> 00:57:17,210
there was money accumulated
in my father's business that

1139
00:57:17,210 --> 00:57:22,400
was then stolen,
owned by that Dutch--

1140
00:57:22,400 --> 00:57:25,268
I say bastard.

1141
00:57:25,268 --> 00:57:28,080
I hope that is acceptable.

1142
00:57:28,080 --> 00:57:33,900
But he made money on what my
father sold from '35 to 1940,

1143
00:57:33,900 --> 00:57:36,500
before the war.

1144
00:57:36,500 --> 00:57:40,580
So after the war, after
going through lawyers again--

1145
00:57:40,580 --> 00:57:44,900
I hardly had any
money to pay lawyers--

1146
00:57:44,900 --> 00:57:49,610
I got money that was
accumulated from 1945 till 1947,

1147
00:57:49,610 --> 00:57:51,270
after the war.

1148
00:57:51,270 --> 00:57:53,820
I'm talking now after the war.

1149
00:57:53,820 --> 00:57:56,250
There was still hardly any food.

1150
00:57:56,250 --> 00:57:58,830
The same organization
still existed,

1151
00:57:58,830 --> 00:58:00,680
but not in a free country.

1152
00:58:00,680 --> 00:58:02,580
Holland was liberated '45.

1153
00:58:02,580 --> 00:58:06,260
So they gave me
an amount of money

1154
00:58:06,260 --> 00:58:09,080
that was due me as a
beneficiary of my dad

1155
00:58:09,080 --> 00:58:14,750
on what he sold
between 1935 and '40.

1156
00:58:14,750 --> 00:58:22,040
And he, the bastard, the thief,
made money from 1941 to '45

1157
00:58:22,040 --> 00:58:25,220
also was my father, because
he stole the business.

1158
00:58:25,220 --> 00:58:27,290
So I got the money.

1159
00:58:27,290 --> 00:58:29,870
It's not a lot of
money, but money.

1160
00:58:29,870 --> 00:58:35,750
Then I got a letter, it was
unbelievable in my mind,

1161

00:58:35,750 --> 00:58:43,260
in my opinion, from the
man who was in charge

1162
00:58:43,260 --> 00:58:46,950
of his business in Rotterdam.

1163
00:58:46,950 --> 00:58:53,640
Mr. Wynschenk, you owe this
corporation the money you

1164
00:58:53,640 --> 00:58:58,860
received after the
war, in '47-'48.

1165
00:58:58,860 --> 00:59:01,050
I said, what?

1166
00:59:01,050 --> 00:59:11,540
This money due what my
father sold 1935-'40.

1167
00:59:11,540 --> 00:59:12,510
I couldn't believe it.

1168
00:59:12,510 --> 00:59:16,330
And I said right away, no,
I'm not going to pay a penny.

1169
00:59:16,330 --> 00:59:19,060
I have to be the thief
who stole everything

1170
00:59:19,060 --> 00:59:21,250
from my father and my mom--

1171
00:59:21,250 --> 00:59:25,210
private money, business
money, stole everything?

1172
00:59:25,210 --> 00:59:28,810
After the war, he
continues to plunder?

1173
00:59:28,810 --> 00:59:32,260
I went to a lawyer.

1174
00:59:32,260 --> 00:59:33,550
I said, I'm not going to pay.

1175
00:59:33,550 --> 00:59:36,100
He said, here's what you do.

1176
00:59:36,100 --> 00:59:40,510
Pay him \$10 a month,
and then stop.

1177
00:59:40,510 --> 00:59:42,365
And then you get letters.

1178
00:59:42,365 --> 00:59:43,490
And then you pay him again.

1179
00:59:43,490 --> 00:59:45,340
I said, I don't want to pay.

1180
00:59:45,340 --> 00:59:47,950
But I was not strong
as I am today inside.

1181
00:59:47,950 --> 00:59:51,940

1182
00:59:51,940 --> 00:59:55,472
I was threatened, mind
you, if I don't pay,

1183
00:59:55,472 --> 00:59:56,930
they would take
the furniture away.

1184
00:59:56,930 --> 01:00:00,370
I was married in '49.

1185

01:00:00,370 --> 01:00:01,480
History repeated itself.

1186
01:00:01,480 --> 01:00:04,540
Because the Germans
took our furniture away.

1187
01:00:04,540 --> 01:00:07,280
In '49, they want
to do the same,

1188
01:00:07,280 --> 01:00:10,890
but it was the Dutch government.

1189
01:00:10,890 --> 01:00:13,680
The guy was appointed
by the Dutch government.

1190
01:00:13,680 --> 01:00:16,470
Maybe he was, during the war,
also a German sympathizer.

1191
01:00:16,470 --> 01:00:17,260
I don't know.

1192
01:00:17,260 --> 01:00:19,158
I never met the man.

1193
01:00:19,158 --> 01:00:20,700
Now I'm going to
tell you what people

1194
01:00:20,700 --> 01:00:23,727
don't like to hear maybe.

1195
01:00:23,727 --> 01:00:24,810
I was just married in '49.

1196
01:00:24,810 --> 01:00:29,810

1197
01:00:29,810 --> 01:00:35,751

And it was happening--
yeah, about 1950, whatever.

1198
01:00:35,751 --> 01:00:38,340
I hope it makes sense so far.

1199
01:00:38,340 --> 01:00:43,140
I knew where the business was in
Rotterdam I lived in Amsterdam.

1200
01:00:43,140 --> 01:00:44,850
I never met that bastard.

1201
01:00:44,850 --> 01:00:46,180
I never met anyone.

1202
01:00:46,180 --> 01:00:47,190
I found his address.

1203
01:00:47,190 --> 01:00:52,500
And I told my wife, I'm going,
and I'm going to kill that man.

1204
01:00:52,500 --> 01:00:55,530
She said, you can't kill people.

1205
01:00:55,530 --> 01:00:59,820
No, you can't kill
people, but I said it.

1206
01:00:59,820 --> 01:01:04,320
My father-in-law and my
wife talked me out of it.

1207
01:01:04,320 --> 01:01:06,960
But I went.

1208
01:01:06,960 --> 01:01:09,810
And he never met me.

1209
01:01:09,810 --> 01:01:14,340
He was general manager in

his own business, the thief.

1210

01:01:14,340 --> 01:01:18,660

So I never forget,
when I walked in there,

1211

01:01:18,660 --> 01:01:22,860

I said, where is the
thief and war criminal--

1212

01:01:22,860 --> 01:01:24,600

I'll spell the name for you--

1213

01:01:24,600 --> 01:01:29,400

B-i-j-l, pronounced "bile."

1214

01:01:29,400 --> 01:01:36,065

And I went at a time that was
a very busy time, on purpose.

1215

01:01:36,065 --> 01:01:40,930

And people came to me, you
want to talk to Mr. Bijl?

1216

01:01:40,930 --> 01:01:43,670

I said, yes, where is he?

1217

01:01:43,670 --> 01:01:45,960

And I yelled.

1218

01:01:45,960 --> 01:01:48,310

Didn't realize it was
already my anger coming out.

1219

01:01:48,310 --> 01:01:51,050

I didn't realize that.

1220

01:01:51,050 --> 01:01:55,470

So they brought me to an
office and they introduced me.

1221

01:01:55,470 --> 01:01:57,060

And the guy wanted
to shake my hand.

1222
01:01:57,060 --> 01:01:59,800
Uh uh.

1223
01:01:59,800 --> 01:02:01,110
I said, do you know who I am?

1224
01:02:01,110 --> 01:02:03,096
He said no.

1225
01:02:03,096 --> 01:02:04,500
He said no.

1226
01:02:04,500 --> 01:02:08,490
And I said, I am the
son of Moses Wynczenk.

1227
01:02:08,490 --> 01:02:11,770

1228
01:02:11,770 --> 01:02:14,580
You stole everything
from my father--

1229
01:02:14,580 --> 01:02:19,050
business, money, private
money, and now you

1230
01:02:19,050 --> 01:02:21,630
want to have all the money back?

1231
01:02:21,630 --> 01:02:24,127
I said, you're lucky because
my wife and my father-in-law

1232
01:02:24,127 --> 01:02:24,960
talked me out of it.

1233
01:02:24,960 --> 01:02:26,793
Otherwise I would have

killed you right now.

1234

01:02:26,793 --> 01:02:29,360

1235

01:02:29,360 --> 01:02:32,880

Because in a way, you
helped kill my family.

1236

01:02:32,880 --> 01:02:35,870

My father worked for 25,
30 years in his business.

1237

01:02:35,870 --> 01:02:38,468

And by stealing his business,
it was the beginning

1238

01:02:38,468 --> 01:02:39,260

of my father's end.

1239

01:02:39,260 --> 01:02:40,550

I remember that.

1240

01:02:40,550 --> 01:02:45,500

I realized that many
years later in life.

1241

01:02:45,500 --> 01:02:49,415

He said, right away, Mr.
Wynschenk, quiet down.

1242

01:02:49,415 --> 01:02:53,870

And he said, now, wait a minute,
this is not the war anymore.

1243

01:02:53,870 --> 01:02:56,390

I was very aggressive.

1244

01:02:56,390 --> 01:02:57,350

I yelled.

1245

01:02:57,350 --> 01:03:00,210

I remember that.

1246

01:03:00,210 --> 01:03:02,070

He said, I am not free.

1247

01:03:02,070 --> 01:03:03,960

And it was true.

1248

01:03:03,960 --> 01:03:06,030

I'm only a general manager.

1249

01:03:06,030 --> 01:03:09,400

But in a couple of
years, I am free.

1250

01:03:09,400 --> 01:03:12,870

I promise you, if I'm free,
I'll write you a letter

1251

01:03:12,870 --> 01:03:14,430

that I don't want
to have your money.

1252

01:03:14,430 --> 01:03:19,520

1253

01:03:19,520 --> 01:03:23,560

After we say, he kept his word

1254

01:03:23,560 --> 01:03:25,090

Now, justice.

1255

01:03:25,090 --> 01:03:27,590

I had to pay him.

1256

01:03:27,590 --> 01:03:31,950

I never got back what
he stole from my father.

1257

01:03:31,950 --> 01:03:34,470

If it's a dollar or
\$10,000, I don't care.

1258
01:03:34,470 --> 01:03:37,110
The stealing, the plundering.

1259
01:03:37,110 --> 01:03:41,600
Because they stole everything
from us in the war,

1260
01:03:41,600 --> 01:03:42,770
again and again.

1261
01:03:42,770 --> 01:03:46,570
But the stealing continued after
war in a free country, Holland.

1262
01:03:46,570 --> 01:03:50,630
Now, I started to get my
father's business back.

1263
01:03:50,630 --> 01:03:52,640
I had to go to
court to fight it.

1264
01:03:52,640 --> 01:03:54,050
And I opened a business.

1265
01:03:54,050 --> 01:03:55,910
But I could hardly walk.

1266
01:03:55,910 --> 01:03:58,280
And I failed.

1267
01:03:58,280 --> 01:03:59,030
I went bankrupt.

1268
01:03:59,030 --> 01:04:02,240
Because I was 18, 19 years old.

1269
01:04:02,240 --> 01:04:03,410
I never did any business.

1270

01:04:03,410 --> 01:04:05,120
I helped my dad as a kid.

1271
01:04:05,120 --> 01:04:06,245
I didn't know business.

1272
01:04:06,245 --> 01:04:08,870

1273
01:04:08,870 --> 01:04:11,116
I thought I knew, but I didn't.

1274
01:04:11,116 --> 01:04:14,780
And I hardly had any money.

1275
01:04:14,780 --> 01:04:20,640
Now, I paid all the
debts, and then closed up.

1276
01:04:20,640 --> 01:04:23,760
And I remember, I named
the business still

1277
01:04:23,760 --> 01:04:27,900
the same as if my father would
have been alive-- not my name,

1278
01:04:27,900 --> 01:04:34,970
in honor of my father
and in memory of my dad.

1279
01:04:34,970 --> 01:04:36,680
But I didn't have
any occupation.

1280
01:04:36,680 --> 01:04:38,240
And there was no--

1281
01:04:38,240 --> 01:04:41,740
it was strange--
no organizations,

1282

01:04:41,740 --> 01:04:47,197
be it Jewish or non-Jewish,
where I could go to--

1283
01:04:47,197 --> 01:04:49,280
and I'm not talking about
money-- to ask for help,

1284
01:04:49,280 --> 01:04:50,735
for job or whatever.

1285
01:04:50,735 --> 01:04:53,520

1286
01:04:53,520 --> 01:04:55,460
The only thing I
got after the war

1287
01:04:55,460 --> 01:04:59,330
was one package of
the Dutch Red Cross.

1288
01:04:59,330 --> 01:05:04,400
Then on account I
hardly had any clothes,

1289
01:05:04,400 --> 01:05:05,705
the American Jewish people--

1290
01:05:05,705 --> 01:05:08,250

1291
01:05:08,250 --> 01:05:11,750
and I had a close
friend after the war

1292
01:05:11,750 --> 01:05:13,790
who was with me in the camp.

1293
01:05:13,790 --> 01:05:16,010
I lost sight of him,
but we met again.

1294
01:05:16,010 --> 01:05:17,180
My age.

1295
01:05:17,180 --> 01:05:19,760
And I found out last
week that he passed away

1296
01:05:19,760 --> 01:05:21,750
a couple of years ago.

1297
01:05:21,750 --> 01:05:22,580
I am now 62.

1298
01:05:22,580 --> 01:05:25,310
So maybe he lived till age 59.

1299
01:05:25,310 --> 01:05:29,220
He lost half a leg
and half a foot.

1300
01:05:29,220 --> 01:05:36,058
And I remember we went to a
Jewish organization in 19--

1301
01:05:36,058 --> 01:05:38,806

1302
01:05:38,806 --> 01:05:40,422
oh, let me see--

1303
01:05:40,422 --> 01:05:43,100

1304
01:05:43,100 --> 01:05:45,200
'48, '49.

1305
01:05:45,200 --> 01:05:49,960
They had all clothes from
American Jewish people.

1306
01:05:49,960 --> 01:05:55,180

Now, we hardly had any clothes
because we came back naked.

1307
01:05:55,180 --> 01:05:57,880
Only our inmate outfits.

1308
01:05:57,880 --> 01:06:02,770
So we went there not to expect
an expensive, tailor-made suit.

1309
01:06:02,770 --> 01:06:04,930
But they had rags.

1310
01:06:04,930 --> 01:06:06,550
In the camp, we walked in rags.

1311
01:06:06,550 --> 01:06:09,680

1312
01:06:09,680 --> 01:06:15,280
Again, we did not expect
beautiful clothes, but decent.

1313
01:06:15,280 --> 01:06:19,010
My wife, myself, we would never
give, to Salvation Army, junk.

1314
01:06:19,010 --> 01:06:23,354
We'd give decent clothes,
or we'd throw it away.

1315
01:06:23,354 --> 01:06:27,350
Because human beings
are human beings.

1316
01:06:27,350 --> 01:06:32,300
Maybe because my wife,
myself, experienced in life,

1317
01:06:32,300 --> 01:06:36,275
in World War II, what only
a few people survived.

1318

01:06:36,275 --> 01:06:39,150

1319

01:06:39,150 --> 01:06:41,330

So we were outraged.

1320

01:06:41,330 --> 01:06:42,470

But I needed clothes.

1321

01:06:42,470 --> 01:06:48,110

So I-- and my anger
was still not there--

1322

01:06:48,110 --> 01:06:54,200

I picked out an army coat,
from United States Army.

1323

01:06:54,200 --> 01:06:56,630

But they painted it dark blue.

1324

01:06:56,630 --> 01:06:59,000

It was warm, heavy.

1325

01:06:59,000 --> 01:07:00,740

Ugly, but beautiful warm, heavy.

1326

01:07:00,740 --> 01:07:02,150

It was a good coat.

1327

01:07:02,150 --> 01:07:03,950

The rest was rags.

1328

01:07:03,950 --> 01:07:05,720

Apparently, in our
unconsciousness,

1329

01:07:05,720 --> 01:07:09,050

we didn't want to
have any rags anymore.

1330

01:07:09,050 --> 01:07:12,680

Again, we did not expect
expensive, beautiful clothes.

1331
01:07:12,680 --> 01:07:13,625
No, decent.

1332
01:07:13,625 --> 01:07:16,145
There's a difference
between decent and rags.

1333
01:07:16,145 --> 01:07:18,917

1334
01:07:18,917 --> 01:07:20,750
The American Jewish
people listened to that,

1335
01:07:20,750 --> 01:07:22,550
they say, oh, what does
the survivor expect?

1336
01:07:22,550 --> 01:07:23,592
Do we give them diamonds?

1337
01:07:23,592 --> 01:07:25,400
No.

1338
01:07:25,400 --> 01:07:27,590
If you give, you
give with your heart.

1339
01:07:27,590 --> 01:07:29,615
But don't give rags.

1340
01:07:29,615 --> 01:07:36,734

1341
01:07:36,734 --> 01:07:38,630
Do you want me to
continue to talk?

1342
01:07:38,630 --> 01:07:41,128

Do I make sense?

1343

01:07:41,128 --> 01:07:42,920

You can feel now the
anger was building up,

1344

01:07:42,920 --> 01:07:43,940

but it never came out.

1345

01:07:43,940 --> 01:07:51,260

1346

01:07:51,260 --> 01:07:52,610

I was in boarding homes.

1347

01:07:52,610 --> 01:07:54,806

I was under 21.

1348

01:07:54,806 --> 01:07:57,265

My aunt and uncle put me
from one boarding home

1349

01:07:57,265 --> 01:07:58,390

in the other boarding home.

1350

01:07:58,390 --> 01:07:58,890

Why?

1351

01:07:58,890 --> 01:07:59,570

I don't know.

1352

01:07:59,570 --> 01:08:05,260

1353

01:08:05,260 --> 01:08:09,480

I never asked them because they
made the payments to the person

1354

01:08:09,480 --> 01:08:13,020

in charge of the boarding homes.

1355

01:08:13,020 --> 01:08:19,140

I was in about six or seven
boarding homes in about 4

1356

01:08:19,140 --> 01:08:25,180

and 1/2 years from '45 to '49.

1357

01:08:25,180 --> 01:08:27,760

I never realized how much
pain I had from that,

1358

01:08:27,760 --> 01:08:30,569

until many years after
the war, when I opened up.

1359

01:08:30,569 --> 01:08:33,580

I come back to that every time.

1360

01:08:33,580 --> 01:08:37,899

Because since 1943, I never
had a normal home life

1361

01:08:37,899 --> 01:08:39,490

till they took us away.

1362

01:08:39,490 --> 01:08:43,240

My normal life stopped 1940.

1363

01:08:43,240 --> 01:08:46,225

My aunt and uncle never
had the common sense

1364

01:08:46,225 --> 01:08:49,359

to say, listen, we have
some money from your dad.

1365

01:08:49,359 --> 01:08:52,090

Why don't you go on
a little vacation?

1366

01:08:52,090 --> 01:08:52,990

Go out with girls.

1367

01:08:52,990 --> 01:08:55,450
I'd never knew what girls were.

1368

01:08:55,450 --> 01:08:58,330
No, I mean, the
child had stopped.

1369

01:08:58,330 --> 01:09:00,850
You come back 17.

1370

01:09:00,850 --> 01:09:07,010
I don't know what holding
hands or kissing or dating was.

1371

01:09:07,010 --> 01:09:09,649
From 12 years old,
I became an old man.

1372

01:09:09,649 --> 01:09:12,229

1373

01:09:12,229 --> 01:09:14,990
So I pay a price for it, I know.

1374

01:09:14,990 --> 01:09:16,460
Nobody can change it.

1375

01:09:16,460 --> 01:09:22,250
But I never had
the forming years.

1376

01:09:22,250 --> 01:09:24,800
The parents nowadays
say, in a normal life,

1377

01:09:24,800 --> 01:09:28,760
oh, my 17-year-old, he drives--
or she drives-- me nuts.

1378

01:09:28,760 --> 01:09:29,990
I never had it.

1379

01:09:29,990 --> 01:09:34,094

1380

01:09:34,094 --> 01:09:37,890

I mean, I never had a
sexual relationship.

1381

01:09:37,890 --> 01:09:41,109

I didn't know what sex was.

1382

01:09:41,109 --> 01:09:43,630

You interview me, and
I want to be open.

1383

01:09:43,630 --> 01:09:45,160

I have nothing to hide.

1384

01:09:45,160 --> 01:09:49,700

And thank God nowadays
we can talk about sex.

1385

01:09:49,700 --> 01:09:50,540

But I didn't know.

1386

01:09:50,540 --> 01:09:56,600

1387

01:09:56,600 --> 01:10:01,520

So my aunt and uncle
should have said, OK,

1388

01:10:01,520 --> 01:10:08,090

why don't we make a reservation
in a summer place, whatever,

1389

01:10:08,090 --> 01:10:13,893

in summer of 1945, when
I came back, and stayed

1390

01:10:13,893 --> 01:10:14,810

for a couple of weeks.

1391

01:10:14,810 --> 01:10:16,450

And we have money from your dad.

1392

01:10:16,450 --> 01:10:18,340

And we pay for that.

1393

01:10:18,340 --> 01:10:21,120

No, there was no
rest in between.

1394

01:10:21,120 --> 01:10:25,880

There was no-- to recoup my--

1395

01:10:25,880 --> 01:10:29,030

to be human again.

1396

01:10:29,030 --> 01:10:31,040

In the camp, apparently,
I fought for survival

1397

01:10:31,040 --> 01:10:32,930

but I didn't realize.

1398

01:10:32,930 --> 01:10:35,470

After the war, I had to
keep fighting for survival.

1399

01:10:35,470 --> 01:10:37,490

And I always said,
the Holocaust, for me,

1400

01:10:37,490 --> 01:10:38,270

will never stop.

1401

01:10:38,270 --> 01:10:40,664

Would stop when I die.

1402

01:10:40,664 --> 01:10:42,280

The Holocaust is still in me.

1403

01:10:42,280 --> 01:10:45,670

Somebody said, you can take
the Jew out of the camp,

1404
01:10:45,670 --> 01:10:49,126
but the camp never out of a Jew.

1405
01:10:49,126 --> 01:10:52,410
Maybe other survivors don't
agree or don't feel it.

1406
01:10:52,410 --> 01:10:56,230
But I agree with that
because I feel very strongly.

1407
01:10:56,230 --> 01:11:00,280

1408
01:11:00,280 --> 01:11:03,180
So I never had edification.

1409
01:11:03,180 --> 01:11:08,640
I needed special shoes,
orthopedic shoes.

1410
01:11:08,640 --> 01:11:20,210
I had to fight with the Dutch
government until 1953-'54.

1411
01:11:20,210 --> 01:11:25,490
I had to sign a paper that
this time we give you--

1412
01:11:25,490 --> 01:11:33,020
you can go to
orthopedic shoemaker

1413
01:11:33,020 --> 01:11:34,820
and we pay for this only once.

1414
01:11:34,820 --> 01:11:38,340
The rest of your
life, never come back.

1415

01:11:38,340 --> 01:11:42,260

And I never asked for money,
never asked for favors.

1416

01:11:42,260 --> 01:11:45,020

But I needed orthopedic shoes.

1417

01:11:45,020 --> 01:11:46,160

I could hardly walk.

1418

01:11:46,160 --> 01:11:49,860

1419

01:11:49,860 --> 01:11:51,620

I hope it makes sense to you.

1420

01:11:51,620 --> 01:11:54,330

It's not for pity or sympathy,
but it's a fact of life.

1421

01:11:54,330 --> 01:11:57,210

Now, the Dutch government--
and I give them credit--

1422

01:11:57,210 --> 01:12:00,480

made a special law for the
underground fighters who

1423

01:12:00,480 --> 01:12:03,660

were in concentration camps,
caught by the Germans,

1424

01:12:03,660 --> 01:12:04,530

who came back.

1425

01:12:04,530 --> 01:12:09,600

They were treated
fantastically, deservedly so.

1426

01:12:09,600 --> 01:12:13,810

Many came back maybe as
much of a wreck as I was,

1427
01:12:13,810 --> 01:12:15,960
and the after-effects, whatever.

1428
01:12:15,960 --> 01:12:20,160
I was in the hospital after the
war together with many of them.

1429
01:12:20,160 --> 01:12:21,870
And they deserve
everything they get.

1430
01:12:21,870 --> 01:12:27,300
But for Jewish survivors,
there was nothing at all.

1431
01:12:27,300 --> 01:12:30,780

1432
01:12:30,780 --> 01:12:35,450
It's hard to comprehend
or understand.

1433
01:12:35,450 --> 01:12:36,920
I hope it makes sense to you.

1434
01:12:36,920 --> 01:12:38,420
There is bitter, yes.

1435
01:12:38,420 --> 01:12:41,150
Now anger, yes, a lot of anger.

1436
01:12:41,150 --> 01:12:43,590
Not oh, let me give
the guy \$1,000 a week.

1437
01:12:43,590 --> 01:12:44,960
I'm not talking about it.

1438
01:12:44,960 --> 01:12:46,160
There are other ways.

1439

01:12:46,160 --> 01:12:48,860

For instance, if I
could go back to school

1440

01:12:48,860 --> 01:12:53,300

and the government had said,
OK, we'll give you 20 a month

1441

01:12:53,300 --> 01:12:55,820

or a week so you can
pay the boarding home,

1442

01:12:55,820 --> 01:12:58,077

then maybe I could
finish my education.

1443

01:12:58,077 --> 01:12:59,660

Because without a
high school diploma,

1444

01:12:59,660 --> 01:13:00,970

it's hard to get a job.

1445

01:13:00,970 --> 01:13:04,910

So I failed in my
father's business.

1446

01:13:04,910 --> 01:13:08,000

I just was out of the
camp, 18 years old.

1447

01:13:08,000 --> 01:13:10,790

How I even tried
it, for me, it's

1448

01:13:10,790 --> 01:13:13,627

unbelievable that I even tried
it when I look back at it.

1449

01:13:13,627 --> 01:13:14,960

But I didn't have an occupation.

1450

01:13:14,960 --> 01:13:19,010

So I worked in a factory,
in a leather factory.

1451

01:13:19,010 --> 01:13:21,410

And I have to stand the
whole day on my feet.

1452

01:13:21,410 --> 01:13:25,010

1453

01:13:25,010 --> 01:13:26,690

But I did.

1454

01:13:26,690 --> 01:13:30,380

And my feet were swollen, and
my amputation was still not

1455

01:13:30,380 --> 01:13:32,000

healed.

1456

01:13:32,000 --> 01:13:37,310

But then, in the old fashioned
way, you didn't get a paycheck,

1457

01:13:37,310 --> 01:13:39,980

you got a little brown bag.

1458

01:13:39,980 --> 01:13:44,780

So you earned 25 guilders
or \$10, whatever.

1459

01:13:44,780 --> 01:13:46,340

They put it in a
little brown bag.

1460

01:13:46,340 --> 01:13:48,290

And on Saturday, they
gave you that money.

1461

01:13:48,290 --> 01:13:50,740

You worked five hour days.

1462

01:13:50,740 --> 01:13:54,925

It was the same
as American then.

1463

01:13:54,925 --> 01:13:56,550

There was no checking
account, nothing.

1464

01:13:56,550 --> 01:14:00,610

So I was not allowed, because
I was a minor, to handle money.

1465

01:14:00,610 --> 01:14:02,943

I was in a boarding home
on one side of the city,

1466

01:14:02,943 --> 01:14:04,860

and my aunt and uncle
lived on the other side.

1467

01:14:04,860 --> 01:14:08,940

I had to borrow money for
public transportation,

1468

01:14:08,940 --> 01:14:13,410

mind you, to bring that little
brown bag that I earned.

1469

01:14:13,410 --> 01:14:16,630

They turned around, they gave me
2 guilders and 50 cents pocket

1470

01:14:16,630 --> 01:14:17,130

money.

1471

01:14:17,130 --> 01:14:20,655

1472

01:14:20,655 --> 01:14:23,030

If I wanted to go to a movie,
I didn't have enough money.

1473

01:14:23,030 --> 01:14:26,810

1474

01:14:26,810 --> 01:14:30,290

Then I started realizing that
there is such a thing as girls

1475

01:14:30,290 --> 01:14:31,760

in the world.

1476

01:14:31,760 --> 01:14:34,640

But you can't take a girl
out for a cup of coffee.

1477

01:14:34,640 --> 01:14:36,450

I didn't have any money.

1478

01:14:36,450 --> 01:14:39,590

So that was building up in me.

1479

01:14:39,590 --> 01:14:42,350

Then I did something.

1480

01:14:42,350 --> 01:14:46,190

I had a tremendous
good boardinghouse,

1481

01:14:46,190 --> 01:14:48,350

but I couldn't
handle it anymore.

1482

01:14:48,350 --> 01:14:51,320

The pressure from
my aunt and uncle,

1483

01:14:51,320 --> 01:14:55,540

they treated me, still
under 21, as a little child.

1484

01:14:55,540 --> 01:14:56,480

I couldn't breathe.

1485

01:14:56,480 --> 01:14:58,220
I was choking.

1486
01:14:58,220 --> 01:15:00,860
I went in hiding.

1487
01:15:00,860 --> 01:15:03,020
After the war, I went in hiding.

1488
01:15:03,020 --> 01:15:06,410

1489
01:15:06,410 --> 01:15:08,300
I made a big mistake.

1490
01:15:08,300 --> 01:15:10,790
I made a lot of
mistakes in my life.

1491
01:15:10,790 --> 01:15:16,680
I had money accumulated somehow.

1492
01:15:16,680 --> 01:15:19,070
And I had a cab.

1493
01:15:19,070 --> 01:15:22,250
And I ordered a cab
with an open roof that--

1494
01:15:22,250 --> 01:15:27,980
you had it, and for everybody to
see I don't know why I did it.

1495
01:15:27,980 --> 01:15:28,490
I left.

1496
01:15:28,490 --> 01:15:31,790
Everybody could see that I left.

1497
01:15:31,790 --> 01:15:34,970
I went to the railroad
station in Amsterdam,

1498
01:15:34,970 --> 01:15:38,510
and went to a friend,
a survivor, who lived

1499
01:15:38,510 --> 01:15:40,700
in another part in Holland.

1500
01:15:40,700 --> 01:15:46,670
In hiding, mind you, in hiding.

1501
01:15:46,670 --> 01:15:48,950
One day, the police came.

1502
01:15:48,950 --> 01:15:51,740
What apparently happened,
the guardian, my uncle,

1503
01:15:51,740 --> 01:15:57,870
went to the juvenile
police, and said, he's gone.

1504
01:15:57,870 --> 01:15:59,130
So they were looking for me.

1505
01:15:59,130 --> 01:16:01,005
I didn't commit a crime,
but I was in hiding.

1506
01:16:01,005 --> 01:16:03,390
I went goodbye.

1507
01:16:03,390 --> 01:16:05,590
And I remembered--

1508
01:16:05,590 --> 01:16:08,760
So I had to come back.

1509
01:16:08,760 --> 01:16:11,280
And then I had a long
conversation with the inspector

1510

01:16:11,280 --> 01:16:13,330
of the police.

1511

01:16:13,330 --> 01:16:15,630
And when I talked,
the man cried.

1512

01:16:15,630 --> 01:16:16,860
He said, I can't blame you.

1513

01:16:16,860 --> 01:16:19,570
I can't blame you what you did.

1514

01:16:19,570 --> 01:16:21,250
But here I wish I
would have tried

1515

01:16:21,250 --> 01:16:22,740
to go in hiding in the war.

1516

01:16:22,740 --> 01:16:25,410
But after the war?

1517

01:16:25,410 --> 01:16:28,860
Also, many years later,
I found out that somehow,

1518

01:16:28,860 --> 01:16:35,310
somehow, people who wanted to
be good to me, I pushed away.

1519

01:16:35,310 --> 01:16:37,830
Some people wanted
to be warm and good.

1520

01:16:37,830 --> 01:16:41,820
Later I learned, through
counseling, it was normal--

1521

01:16:41,820 --> 01:16:43,870
even though it was not nice--

1522

01:16:43,870 --> 01:16:45,480
that I didn't realize it.

1523

01:16:45,480 --> 01:16:49,200
Because goodness
in people I lost--

1524

01:16:49,200 --> 01:16:54,330
in the camps, if
certain people want

1525

01:16:54,330 --> 01:16:58,050
this you want to have some
extra bread or whatever,

1526

01:16:58,050 --> 01:17:01,080
there was always, hey, why?

1527

01:17:01,080 --> 01:17:01,950
What is behind it?

1528

01:17:01,950 --> 01:17:03,900
Why nice?

1529

01:17:03,900 --> 01:17:08,010
The Germans also used a tactic
all over the place, whoever

1530

01:17:08,010 --> 01:17:09,900
comes in railroad
station at 10 o'clock

1531

01:17:09,900 --> 01:17:11,790
in the morning gets extra bread.

1532

01:17:11,790 --> 01:17:16,320
In the Warsaw uprising,
in 1943, remember?

1533

01:17:16,320 --> 01:17:17,580
Mm-hmm.

1534

01:17:17,580 --> 01:17:19,630

They use it all over the place.

1535

01:17:19,630 --> 01:17:24,460

So people were good
to you, apparently

1536

01:17:24,460 --> 01:17:27,210

in my unconsciousness,
hey, wait a minute.

1537

01:17:27,210 --> 01:17:28,200

That's not kosher.

1538

01:17:28,200 --> 01:17:29,496

Go away.

1539

01:17:29,496 --> 01:17:32,040

So I pushed--

1540

01:17:32,040 --> 01:17:34,910

I can never make up for it-- but
afterward, a lot of good people

1541

01:17:34,910 --> 01:17:35,410

away.

1542

01:17:35,410 --> 01:17:38,010

1543

01:17:38,010 --> 01:17:41,610

And I didn't realize
why I did it.

1544

01:17:41,610 --> 01:17:43,070

I was still in a camp.

1545

01:17:43,070 --> 01:17:44,820

I was told, you were
still living in camp.

1546

01:17:44,820 --> 01:17:46,950
You're still in a camp.

1547
01:17:46,950 --> 01:17:50,820
Now, do I go too,
too slow or too fast?

1548
01:17:50,820 --> 01:17:51,718
Or do I make sense?

1549
01:17:51,718 --> 01:17:52,510
No, you make sense.

1550
01:17:52,510 --> 01:17:55,050
Do you have any questions?

1551
01:17:55,050 --> 01:17:58,290
Well, I'm kind of
interested in how

1552
01:17:58,290 --> 01:18:02,880
did you manage to do those jobs
when you didn't have any toes.

1553
01:18:02,880 --> 01:18:04,780
I didn't have any choice.

1554
01:18:04,780 --> 01:18:07,230
I had to make a living.

1555
01:18:07,230 --> 01:18:10,320
And how did you get,
eventually, support

1556
01:18:10,320 --> 01:18:13,260
so you could support yourself?

1557
01:18:13,260 --> 01:18:16,430
I don't know what you mean?

1558
01:18:16,430 --> 01:18:19,530
Till age 21, I was a child

under the law, right?

1559

01:18:19,530 --> 01:18:20,030

Right.

1560

01:18:20,030 --> 01:18:23,300

So I could not buy a
shirt or a handkerchief.

1561

01:18:23,300 --> 01:18:24,710

They bought everything.

1562

01:18:24,710 --> 01:18:27,530

They meant well,
my aunt and uncle.

1563

01:18:27,530 --> 01:18:33,080

In their mind, they did exactly
what the law told them to do.

1564

01:18:33,080 --> 01:18:35,930

But there was no love
or understanding.

1565

01:18:35,930 --> 01:18:38,640

Now, maybe I would
have done the same

1566

01:18:38,640 --> 01:18:40,265

if I would have been
in their position.

1567

01:18:40,265 --> 01:18:43,660

1568

01:18:43,660 --> 01:18:45,480

So people say, hey,
you walk funny.

1569

01:18:45,480 --> 01:18:49,410

1570

01:18:49,410 --> 01:18:53,140
And I remember saying,
I don't have any toes.

1571
01:18:53,140 --> 01:18:58,900
Nobody ever asked-- yeah, but
it happened after the war,

1572
01:18:58,900 --> 01:19:03,910
people asked me, I
am so-and-so, Jewish,

1573
01:19:03,910 --> 01:19:06,530
I heard you are a
survivor, did you know

1574
01:19:06,530 --> 01:19:09,550
my uncle, blah blah blah,
the normal questions.

1575
01:19:09,550 --> 01:19:11,230
I'd have to say no.

1576
01:19:11,230 --> 01:19:14,980
Nobody, Jew and non-Jewish
alike, in Holland,

1577
01:19:14,980 --> 01:19:18,250
ever asked me, over
all the years--

1578
01:19:18,250 --> 01:19:22,030
I lived in Holland
from '45 to '56--

1579
01:19:22,030 --> 01:19:23,350
do you mind talking about it?

1580
01:19:23,350 --> 01:19:25,000
Can I ask you a
question what happened?

1581
01:19:25,000 --> 01:19:26,950

Nobody.

1582

01:19:26,950 --> 01:19:31,720

I was told the good
Jews were murdered,

1583

01:19:31,720 --> 01:19:32,860

and the bad ones came back.

1584

01:19:32,860 --> 01:19:35,328

1585

01:19:35,328 --> 01:19:37,620

Apparently you survived
because you did terrible things

1586

01:19:37,620 --> 01:19:39,390

in the camps.

1587

01:19:39,390 --> 01:19:40,090

Oh yes.

1588

01:19:40,090 --> 01:19:43,820

1589

01:19:43,820 --> 01:19:46,370

You came back, Jew,
but you better shut up.

1590

01:19:46,370 --> 01:19:47,510

You're lucky to be alive.

1591

01:19:47,510 --> 01:19:50,330

Don't make any waves.

1592

01:19:50,330 --> 01:19:52,234

That was the non-Jewish
who told me that.

1593

01:19:52,234 --> 01:19:57,010

1594

01:19:57,010 --> 01:19:58,260

You're kind of shocked, right?

1595

01:19:58,260 --> 01:19:59,440

I'm very shocked.

1596

01:19:59,440 --> 01:20:00,910

I can see it.

1597

01:20:00,910 --> 01:20:02,310

Yeah, I was shocked then.

1598

01:20:02,310 --> 01:20:03,930

Now I feel angry.

1599

01:20:03,930 --> 01:20:06,057

By the way, in a way, it
is still the same here,

1600

01:20:06,057 --> 01:20:07,890

and different, but I'll
tell you that later.

1601

01:20:07,890 --> 01:20:10,650

But anyway, that
was my country then.

1602

01:20:10,650 --> 01:20:15,900

Again, I never asked, please
help me with money, no, no.

1603

01:20:15,900 --> 01:20:18,840

I want to have a
chance to live life.

1604

01:20:18,840 --> 01:20:21,840

Then they bottled me up.

1605

01:20:21,840 --> 01:20:26,040

Justice-- I never,
never, ever got justice.

1606

01:20:26,040 --> 01:20:27,270

Till today, never.

1607

01:20:27,270 --> 01:20:30,170

1608

01:20:30,170 --> 01:20:32,360

So nobody asked.

1609

01:20:32,360 --> 01:20:35,760

Maybe, and I repeat myself,
maybe I would have said,

1610

01:20:35,760 --> 01:20:37,190

I don't want to talk about it.

1611

01:20:37,190 --> 01:20:38,000

That's fine.

1612

01:20:38,000 --> 01:20:43,353

But looking back so many years,
if they would have asked me,

1613

01:20:43,353 --> 01:20:45,020

I would have been
different maybe today.

1614

01:20:45,020 --> 01:20:47,270

I would start talking
about it slowly but surely,

1615

01:20:47,270 --> 01:20:51,480

the same as we talk, and
if we did about eight,

1616

01:20:51,480 --> 01:20:56,990

nine months ago, I would maybe
inside be a different person.

1617

01:20:56,990 --> 01:20:59,720

Nowadays, people hear,
ah, Holocaust survivor.

1618
01:20:59,720 --> 01:21:02,420
Still talk about 45
years after the war.

1619
01:21:02,420 --> 01:21:04,430
They don't know.

1620
01:21:04,430 --> 01:21:08,990
Thank God they don't
know, but don't kick me.

1621
01:21:08,990 --> 01:21:10,850
Don't minimize me
as a human being.

1622
01:21:10,850 --> 01:21:13,730

1623
01:21:13,730 --> 01:21:15,170
I'm very easily angered.

1624
01:21:15,170 --> 01:21:17,760
Of course I am.

1625
01:21:17,760 --> 01:21:20,160
I talk about it the same
way-- the first time ever

1626
01:21:20,160 --> 01:21:25,020
I talked about that part that I
go to schools and universities

1627
01:21:25,020 --> 01:21:28,080
or whatever, radio,
TV if I'm invited.

1628
01:21:28,080 --> 01:21:29,260
I undress myself.

1629
01:21:29,260 --> 01:21:31,260
I was so-- you undressed

yourself when you talk.

1630
01:21:31,260 --> 01:21:32,635
Say yeah, I have
nothing to hide.

1631
01:21:32,635 --> 01:21:39,277

1632
01:21:39,277 --> 01:21:43,120
In 1948, so I
worked in a factory.

1633
01:21:43,120 --> 01:21:45,790
A leather factory.

1634
01:21:45,790 --> 01:21:53,200
In 1948, when I became 21
years old, 18th of July, 1948.

1635
01:21:53,200 --> 01:21:54,040
I was a free man.

1636
01:21:54,040 --> 01:21:59,000

1637
01:21:59,000 --> 01:22:02,070
They gave me all the papers.

1638
01:22:02,070 --> 01:22:03,540
My father gave me so much money.

1639
01:22:03,540 --> 01:22:06,530
My aunt and uncle that is, and
we spent so much on underwear

1640
01:22:06,530 --> 01:22:07,410
and so much a sock.

1641
01:22:07,410 --> 01:22:08,400
What do I care?

1642

01:22:08,400 --> 01:22:10,340

Oh, they had all receipts.

1643

01:22:10,340 --> 01:22:14,330

They were beautiful
people that were honest.

1644

01:22:14,330 --> 01:22:17,060

Only, they were not warm.

1645

01:22:17,060 --> 01:22:17,810

No love.

1646

01:22:17,810 --> 01:22:21,887

1647

01:22:21,887 --> 01:22:22,720

You know what I did?

1648

01:22:22,720 --> 01:22:25,330

I quit my job.

1649

01:22:25,330 --> 01:22:26,800

I became an alcoholic.

1650

01:22:26,800 --> 01:22:30,190

1651

01:22:30,190 --> 01:22:34,190

Because I want to die.

1652

01:22:34,190 --> 01:22:37,745

By being an alcoholic, I
wanted to commit suicide.

1653

01:22:37,745 --> 01:22:40,040

But what I tell you, I
tell the younger generation

1654

01:22:40,040 --> 01:22:41,690

when they go to school.

1655
01:22:41,690 --> 01:22:45,348
I didn't want to live anymore.

1656
01:22:45,348 --> 01:22:46,890
Apparently, I'm my
own consciousness,

1657
01:22:46,890 --> 01:22:48,140
I couldn't handle to be alone.

1658
01:22:48,140 --> 01:22:52,050

1659
01:22:52,050 --> 01:22:55,660
I never had a role
model in life.

1660
01:22:55,660 --> 01:22:57,970
In normal life, a band
can be a role model.

1661
01:22:57,970 --> 01:23:02,920
A brother, a sister, an
aunt, an uncle, whatever.

1662
01:23:02,920 --> 01:23:08,230
And that is the price, I think,
that these teenage survivors

1663
01:23:08,230 --> 01:23:09,100
pay.

1664
01:23:09,100 --> 01:23:10,773
All survivors pay
a terrible price,

1665
01:23:10,773 --> 01:23:12,100
but we pay a heavier price.

1666
01:23:12,100 --> 01:23:15,960
In my judgment, because

we were children,

1667

01:23:15,960 --> 01:23:18,400

we were never allowed
to be children.

1668

01:23:18,400 --> 01:23:20,085

Only in age of a children.

1669

01:23:20,085 --> 01:23:22,880

1670

01:23:22,880 --> 01:23:26,310

So I became alcoholic,
and spent money.

1671

01:23:26,310 --> 01:23:29,160

Oh my gosh, I went
out with girls.

1672

01:23:29,160 --> 01:23:31,990

Then finally as I went out
with girls, oh, I was wild.

1673

01:23:31,990 --> 01:23:33,480

I couldn't care less.

1674

01:23:33,480 --> 01:23:33,980

Working?

1675

01:23:33,980 --> 01:23:35,610

No way.

1676

01:23:35,610 --> 01:23:39,790

Then one man, he kicked me.

1677

01:23:39,790 --> 01:23:40,780

Not physically.

1678

01:23:40,780 --> 01:23:43,450

He kicked my behind.

1679

01:23:43,450 --> 01:23:48,530

And I fought with
him with my mouth.

1680

01:23:48,530 --> 01:23:50,990

He never asked me, what
happened in the past.

1681

01:23:50,990 --> 01:23:53,200

He knew I came back
from the camps.

1682

01:23:53,200 --> 01:23:55,492

There was the expression,
you came back from the camps.

1683

01:23:55,492 --> 01:23:59,560

1684

01:23:59,560 --> 01:24:03,740

And he hit me, and I
accepted his hitting.

1685

01:24:03,740 --> 01:24:05,810

How did he hit you?

1686

01:24:05,810 --> 01:24:07,970

By talking to me.

1687

01:24:07,970 --> 01:24:09,560

The first time ever--

1688

01:24:09,560 --> 01:24:12,140

he was kind of a
stranger-- he talked to me.

1689

01:24:12,140 --> 01:24:13,070

About the camps?

1690

01:24:13,070 --> 01:24:14,990

No, about life.

1691

01:24:14,990 --> 01:24:18,730

1692

01:24:18,730 --> 01:24:21,690

Yeah, not about camps.

1693

01:24:21,690 --> 01:24:23,970

He knew I came back
from the camps.

1694

01:24:23,970 --> 01:24:25,530

He knew I didn't have any toes.

1695

01:24:25,530 --> 01:24:28,300

1696

01:24:28,300 --> 01:24:32,260

For instance, before
the war in Europe,

1697

01:24:32,260 --> 01:24:34,840

the sport was and is soccer.

1698

01:24:34,840 --> 01:24:37,360

You know that, right?

1699

01:24:37,360 --> 01:24:40,412

Here also, of course,
but not as big.

1700

01:24:40,412 --> 01:24:41,620

Here's baseball and football.

1701

01:24:41,620 --> 01:24:44,380

In Europe and South
America, there is soccer.

1702

01:24:44,380 --> 01:24:47,077

So I grew up a soccer player,
and I was not a bad one.

1703

01:24:47,077 --> 01:24:49,160

I didn't say excellent,
but I was a very good one.

1704

01:24:49,160 --> 01:24:52,772

I was tall as a kid.

1705

01:24:52,772 --> 01:24:55,230

Then the man who kicked me
said, why don't you play soccer?

1706

01:24:55,230 --> 01:24:57,640

I said, are you
out of your mind?

1707

01:24:57,640 --> 01:24:59,820

I don't have ant toes.

1708

01:24:59,820 --> 01:25:03,510

I never can-- how
can I play soccer.

1709

01:25:03,510 --> 01:25:07,000

My feet on aren't even here.

1710

01:25:07,000 --> 01:25:09,850

He said, can you
buy soccer shoes,

1711

01:25:09,850 --> 01:25:13,220

and let them somehow build
a way to protect your feet.

1712

01:25:13,220 --> 01:25:16,325

I said, but I can't run.

1713

01:25:16,325 --> 01:25:17,670

Do you know the game of soccer?

1714

01:25:17,670 --> 01:25:18,870

You have to run a lot.

1715

01:25:18,870 --> 01:25:20,280
You also have a goalie, right?

1716
01:25:20,280 --> 01:25:23,490
The same as-- the
same as hockey.

1717
01:25:23,490 --> 01:25:24,330
Correct?

1718
01:25:24,330 --> 01:25:28,710
Yeah, I don't know soccer, but--

1719
01:25:28,710 --> 01:25:33,540
You have a goalie in ice hockey,
for instance, or field hockey.

1720
01:25:33,540 --> 01:25:34,620
Right?

1721
01:25:34,620 --> 01:25:36,135
You have to get--

1722
01:25:36,135 --> 01:25:39,760
with soccer you have to
kick the ball in the nets.

1723
01:25:39,760 --> 01:25:41,340
Yeah.

1724
01:25:41,340 --> 01:25:45,000
He said, why don't
you become a goalie.

1725
01:25:45,000 --> 01:25:45,865
I never play goalie.

1726
01:25:45,865 --> 01:25:46,740
I was always forward.

1727
01:25:46,740 --> 01:25:49,335
Anyway, I said,

but no organization

1728

01:25:49,335 --> 01:25:52,770

would like to have
a cripple like me.

1729

01:25:52,770 --> 01:25:57,930

And he found one, and told
apparently my background.

1730

01:25:57,930 --> 01:25:59,800

I mean, that I
don't have any toes,

1731

01:25:59,800 --> 01:26:01,050

and I lost my toes in the war.

1732

01:26:01,050 --> 01:26:05,190

That's all he said because
that's all he ever knew.

1733

01:26:05,190 --> 01:26:10,890

And they said, OK,
will you try it?

1734

01:26:10,890 --> 01:26:13,710

So to get to the
point, I tried it.

1735

01:26:13,710 --> 01:26:17,160

1736

01:26:17,160 --> 01:26:21,360

And on account that I--

1737

01:26:21,360 --> 01:26:26,160

He was so smart that man
he touched apparently

1738

01:26:26,160 --> 01:26:29,630

one spot that was opened
that was my youth and soccer.

1739

01:26:29,630 --> 01:26:33,110

1740

01:26:33,110 --> 01:26:34,280

It was my hobby.

1741

01:26:34,280 --> 01:26:35,780

It was my life.

1742

01:26:35,780 --> 01:26:39,935

I remember when I came home
from school before the war,

1743

01:26:39,935 --> 01:26:42,090

my mom would say, homework.

1744

01:26:42,090 --> 01:26:43,010

I want to play soccer.

1745

01:26:43,010 --> 01:26:46,430

Uh-uh, homework
first then soccer.

1746

01:26:46,430 --> 01:26:49,640

1747

01:26:49,640 --> 01:26:54,058

And it was very normal
in that time of life.

1748

01:26:54,058 --> 01:26:55,975

The parents were very
conservative but anyway.

1749

01:26:55,975 --> 01:27:01,150

1750

01:27:01,150 --> 01:27:04,630

I don't think I really enjoyed
it because remarks were made.

1751

01:27:04,630 --> 01:27:07,420
Look, a cripple.

1752
01:27:07,420 --> 01:27:11,230
The guy who walk and play
soccer as a cripple, whatever.

1753
01:27:11,230 --> 01:27:15,580
And I didn't really enjoy it.

1754
01:27:15,580 --> 01:27:20,020
I stopped it, and
physically, I couldn't do it.

1755
01:27:20,020 --> 01:27:20,980
My heart, yes.

1756
01:27:20,980 --> 01:27:23,020
Oh, yeah, but I couldn't do it.

1757
01:27:23,020 --> 01:27:25,570

1758
01:27:25,570 --> 01:27:26,590
Then I stopped drinking.

1759
01:27:26,590 --> 01:27:30,370
I never touch any alcohol
anymore from that time on.

1760
01:27:30,370 --> 01:27:31,760
Never.

1761
01:27:31,760 --> 01:27:33,940
What caused that?

1762
01:27:33,940 --> 01:27:38,050
Because he talked me out
of it to stop drinking

1763
01:27:38,050 --> 01:27:39,172
and don't commit suicide.

1764
01:27:39,172 --> 01:27:40,380
He didn't say commit suicide.

1765
01:27:40,380 --> 01:27:43,972
Later in life, I realized
I was committing suicide.

1766
01:27:43,972 --> 01:27:45,430
By the way, there
are survivors who

1767
01:27:45,430 --> 01:27:50,522
committed suicide after the war
who couldn't handle it anymore.

1768
01:27:50,522 --> 01:27:52,480
Apparently, we could
handle to a certain extent

1769
01:27:52,480 --> 01:27:56,560
what happened in the camp, not
what happened after the camp.

1770
01:27:56,560 --> 01:27:58,150
I was going to ask.

1771
01:27:58,150 --> 01:28:02,440
Do you think it was more
often the memories or the way

1772
01:28:02,440 --> 01:28:04,390
you were treated afterwards?

1773
01:28:04,390 --> 01:28:06,790
Afterwards.

1774
01:28:06,790 --> 01:28:08,170
No justice.

1775
01:28:08,170 --> 01:28:17,430
No, I got married, and

I was a different--

1776

01:28:17,430 --> 01:28:20,610

I was still frozen, right?

1777

01:28:20,610 --> 01:28:23,500

I was still in a state of shock.

1778

01:28:23,500 --> 01:28:24,480

So when I got married--

1779

01:28:24,480 --> 01:28:26,920

if I would have been

today, I would cry.

1780

01:28:26,920 --> 01:28:30,310

And I would feel pain, because

I would miss my parents.

1781

01:28:30,310 --> 01:28:31,170

I never cried.

1782

01:28:31,170 --> 01:28:34,045

1783

01:28:34,045 --> 01:28:37,120

I didn't even think about

birthdays of my family.

1784

01:28:37,120 --> 01:28:39,240

But I do-- for many years-- now.

1785

01:28:39,240 --> 01:28:46,485

1786

01:28:46,485 --> 01:28:49,450

It was never talked about.

1787

01:28:49,450 --> 01:28:52,240

That part was

never talked about.

1788

01:28:52,240 --> 01:28:55,240

I think I told-- this
was my first wife.

1789

01:28:55,240 --> 01:28:56,200

I told her.

1790

01:28:56,200 --> 01:28:59,450

She knew about my feet.

1791

01:28:59,450 --> 01:29:02,580

Oh, another thing
that people said.

1792

01:29:02,580 --> 01:29:05,650

I hope I don't confuse you.

1793

01:29:05,650 --> 01:29:07,990

You think you had a rough
time in the camp, right?

1794

01:29:07,990 --> 01:29:09,690

So I say, yeah, pretty rough.

1795

01:29:09,690 --> 01:29:10,690

Hah.

1796

01:29:10,690 --> 01:29:13,490

You should have been here
in Holland, because we

1797

01:29:13,490 --> 01:29:14,830

had a terrible hunger winter.

1798

01:29:14,830 --> 01:29:19,210

True-- the winter of 1944-1945.

1799

01:29:19,210 --> 01:29:21,160

Many people died on
account of starvation.

1800

01:29:21,160 --> 01:29:22,537
Not in camps.

1801
01:29:22,537 --> 01:29:23,620
There was hardly any food.

1802
01:29:23,620 --> 01:29:26,630

1803
01:29:26,630 --> 01:29:28,180
So the people minimized.

1804
01:29:28,180 --> 01:29:29,930
Oh, you think you had
it hard in the camp.

1805
01:29:29,930 --> 01:29:33,230
Now, they didn't know what had
happened because nobody asked.

1806
01:29:33,230 --> 01:29:35,090
You should have been here.

1807
01:29:35,090 --> 01:29:38,870
Now I can say, I wish
I would have been here.

1808
01:29:38,870 --> 01:29:44,490
So they even minimized and
compared with their hunger.

1809
01:29:44,490 --> 01:29:48,840
But they could go on
their bike or walk.

1810
01:29:48,840 --> 01:29:53,460
And try to find something to
eat without the fear of being

1811
01:29:53,460 --> 01:29:55,410
put in a gas chamber.

1812

01:29:55,410 --> 01:29:59,730

All the years, they
slept in their own beds.

1813

01:29:59,730 --> 01:30:01,920

Not the freedom, but
slept in their own bed.

1814

01:30:01,920 --> 01:30:04,740

1815

01:30:04,740 --> 01:30:06,840

And I don't say--

1816

01:30:06,840 --> 01:30:09,160

one Jew is killed, the
underground fighters

1817

01:30:09,160 --> 01:30:09,660

or whatever.

1818

01:30:09,660 --> 01:30:13,090

I'm talking about,
generally speaking,

1819

01:30:13,090 --> 01:30:20,400

the people said, you know,
you should have been here.

1820

01:30:20,400 --> 01:30:23,168

You think you had it hard.

1821

01:30:23,168 --> 01:30:23,960

People tell me now.

1822

01:30:23,960 --> 01:30:25,377

I would jump on
them with my mouth

1823

01:30:25,377 --> 01:30:27,730

and I would teach
them something.

1824
01:30:27,730 --> 01:30:29,930
Then, apparently--

1825
01:30:29,930 --> 01:30:31,640
Well, what would
happen inside when

1826
01:30:31,640 --> 01:30:33,000
people would say this to you?

1827
01:30:33,000 --> 01:30:34,000
It didn't come out.

1828
01:30:34,000 --> 01:30:35,730
It was building up.

1829
01:30:35,730 --> 01:30:36,900
I'm still building up.

1830
01:30:36,900 --> 01:30:40,200
But I'm telling you now,
it's still accumulating here.

1831
01:30:40,200 --> 01:30:41,430
Yeah.

1832
01:30:41,430 --> 01:30:42,360
Does that makes sense?

1833
01:30:42,360 --> 01:30:42,860
Yes.

1834
01:30:42,860 --> 01:30:44,950
It is there, but
I didn't feel it.

1835
01:30:44,950 --> 01:30:47,340
Did you feel like
you were two people?

1836
01:30:47,340 --> 01:30:50,100

No, nothing.

1837

01:30:50,100 --> 01:30:53,060

I didn't feel anything.

1838

01:30:53,060 --> 01:30:55,030

So you never split or
anything like that.

1839

01:30:55,030 --> 01:30:55,630

I'm sorry?

1840

01:30:55,630 --> 01:30:56,800

You never split?

1841

01:30:56,800 --> 01:30:58,180

No.

1842

01:30:58,180 --> 01:31:01,690

Because that happens a lot of
times under stress like that.

1843

01:31:01,690 --> 01:31:03,950

No.

1844

01:31:03,950 --> 01:31:05,442

I don't think so.

1845

01:31:05,442 --> 01:31:07,150

I also went back to
the old neighborhoods

1846

01:31:07,150 --> 01:31:08,233

where I grew up, whatever.

1847

01:31:08,233 --> 01:31:11,140

1848

01:31:11,140 --> 01:31:13,240

I thought I'd go and
say hi to the people.

1849
01:31:13,240 --> 01:31:14,850
Hey, I'm back.

1850
01:31:14,850 --> 01:31:15,810
Not for sympathy.

1851
01:31:15,810 --> 01:31:17,780
To say hi, I was born there.

1852
01:31:17,780 --> 01:31:22,210
And people completely
ignored me.

1853
01:31:22,210 --> 01:31:23,980
Even when you would say hi?

1854
01:31:23,980 --> 01:31:24,760
Yeah.

1855
01:31:24,760 --> 01:31:26,510
They would walk by
like you weren't there?

1856
01:31:26,510 --> 01:31:28,140
Yeah.

1857
01:31:28,140 --> 01:31:31,405
Physically ignored me.

1858
01:31:31,405 --> 01:31:33,250
Did everybody do that?

1859
01:31:33,250 --> 01:31:35,720
I can only tell you
what happened to me.

1860
01:31:35,720 --> 01:31:39,130
Did everybody you
met there do that?

1861
01:31:39,130 --> 01:31:40,930

Except the clients of my dad.

1862
01:31:40,930 --> 01:31:42,700
They were nice to me.

1863
01:31:42,700 --> 01:31:45,962
But where I grew up.

1864
01:31:45,962 --> 01:31:47,920
I can't remember anybody
saying, hey, come here

1865
01:31:47,920 --> 01:31:49,390
for a cup of coffee or whatever.

1866
01:31:49,390 --> 01:31:49,890
No.

1867
01:31:49,890 --> 01:31:53,120

1868
01:31:53,120 --> 01:31:56,430
Or they would say, hi, and--

1869
01:31:56,430 --> 01:32:00,250
I know now why.

1870
01:32:00,250 --> 01:32:01,330
I'll talk about it later.

1871
01:32:01,330 --> 01:32:01,930
Oh, yeah.

1872
01:32:01,930 --> 01:32:03,820
I know why.

1873
01:32:03,820 --> 01:32:05,680
OK.

1874
01:32:05,680 --> 01:32:07,000
So I got married.

1875
01:32:07,000 --> 01:32:09,820

1876
01:32:09,820 --> 01:32:12,280
My first wife was not Jewish.

1877
01:32:12,280 --> 01:32:13,870
But what did I care?

1878
01:32:13,870 --> 01:32:19,890

1879
01:32:19,890 --> 01:32:22,650
I worked in a leather
factory, of course.

1880
01:32:22,650 --> 01:32:23,677
My income was about--

1881
01:32:23,677 --> 01:32:24,510
when I got married--

1882
01:32:24,510 --> 01:32:25,950
22 guilders a week.

1883
01:32:25,950 --> 01:32:28,490
And I got a raise
to 27 guilders.

1884
01:32:28,490 --> 01:32:30,450
The price was low.

1885
01:32:30,450 --> 01:32:32,640
But I didn't get an education.

1886
01:32:32,640 --> 01:32:35,400
And she had a job.

1887
01:32:35,400 --> 01:32:38,430
And we lived with her parents,

so the rent was very low.

1888

01:32:38,430 --> 01:32:44,820

1889

01:32:44,820 --> 01:32:52,740

Then in the beginning of
the '50s, I wrote Adenauer.

1890

01:32:52,740 --> 01:32:56,600

Remember, the first chancellor--

1891

01:32:56,600 --> 01:32:58,410

Chancellor.

1892

01:32:58,410 --> 01:32:59,995

Of Germany.

1893

01:32:59,995 --> 01:33:00,870

I wrote him a letter.

1894

01:33:00,870 --> 01:33:03,550

1895

01:33:03,550 --> 01:33:06,000

So I said my name is
so-and-so, whatever.

1896

01:33:06,000 --> 01:33:08,550

1897

01:33:08,550 --> 01:33:11,590

This is what happened to me.

1898

01:33:11,590 --> 01:33:15,730

I only ask because the
Germans are responsible.

1899

01:33:15,730 --> 01:33:18,010

I'm not.

1900

01:33:18,010 --> 01:33:26,460

I only ask for the payment
of orthopedic shoes

1901

01:33:26,460 --> 01:33:29,250

and a pension on account
that I'm a cripple.

1902

01:33:29,250 --> 01:33:31,980

1903

01:33:31,980 --> 01:33:36,540

I don't even ask you for all
the mental suffering, nothing.

1904

01:33:36,540 --> 01:33:38,490

I got a letter back.

1905

01:33:38,490 --> 01:33:40,200

I wrote letters.

1906

01:33:40,200 --> 01:33:43,740

I remember my wife then said,
no, they'll put you in jail.

1907

01:33:43,740 --> 01:33:46,045

I said, listen, I write
the truth when I feel it.

1908

01:33:46,045 --> 01:33:47,670

They put me in jail,
I could care less.

1909

01:33:47,670 --> 01:33:51,480

1910

01:33:51,480 --> 01:33:54,350

I sometimes have cramp
on account of my feet.

1911

01:33:54,350 --> 01:33:56,280

Do you want to stop and
walk around a little?

1912
01:33:56,280 --> 01:33:58,350
No, that's OK.

1913
01:33:58,350 --> 01:34:01,110
I got a letter back
from Adenauer, yeah.

1914
01:34:01,110 --> 01:34:03,180
It's terrible what
happened to you.

1915
01:34:03,180 --> 01:34:06,720
But you were a Dutch citizen.

1916
01:34:06,720 --> 01:34:08,940
You have to go to
the Dutch government.

1917
01:34:08,940 --> 01:34:11,293
I said, wait a minute.

1918
01:34:11,293 --> 01:34:12,960
The Dutch government
didn't do it to me.

1919
01:34:12,960 --> 01:34:16,110

1920
01:34:16,110 --> 01:34:17,597
I wrote the Dutch government.

1921
01:34:17,597 --> 01:34:20,400

1922
01:34:20,400 --> 01:34:23,730
I got a reply it's terrible
what happened to you,

1923
01:34:23,730 --> 01:34:25,210
but the Germans are responsible.

1924

01:34:25,210 --> 01:34:28,530

We don't have any laws
for people like you.

1925

01:34:28,530 --> 01:34:31,080

Justice?

1926

01:34:31,080 --> 01:34:33,860

But it was all the anger
building up, correct?

1927

01:34:33,860 --> 01:34:36,390

1928

01:34:36,390 --> 01:34:39,600

So the Germans said, no,
you have to go to Dutch.

1929

01:34:39,600 --> 01:34:42,000

The Dutch said, you have
to go to the Germans.

1930

01:34:42,000 --> 01:34:44,700

And we don't have any
laws for people like you.

1931

01:34:44,700 --> 01:34:48,090

1932

01:34:48,090 --> 01:34:54,750

And I remember at
certain times, the anger

1933

01:34:54,750 --> 01:34:56,490

came out loud and clear.

1934

01:34:56,490 --> 01:34:58,530

Because when I wrote
the letter to Adenauer

1935

01:34:58,530 --> 01:35:03,090

and to the Dutch government,

to the Secretary of State,

1936
01:35:03,090 --> 01:35:04,490
there was a knife
in the letters,

1937
01:35:04,490 --> 01:35:05,490
if you know what I mean.

1938
01:35:05,490 --> 01:35:08,110
I didn't hold back.

1939
01:35:08,110 --> 01:35:08,610
Right?

1940
01:35:08,610 --> 01:35:09,110
Right.

1941
01:35:09,110 --> 01:35:11,110
And especially Adenauer.

1942
01:35:11,110 --> 01:35:12,790
I kicked the behinds
of the Germans,

1943
01:35:12,790 --> 01:35:16,750
because that's the way I
felt. And after the letter,

1944
01:35:16,750 --> 01:35:18,810
I would close
everything up again.

1945
01:35:18,810 --> 01:35:20,140
It was very strange.

1946
01:35:20,140 --> 01:35:23,470

1947
01:35:23,470 --> 01:35:26,110
And my wife said, oh,
they'll put you in jail.

1948
01:35:26,110 --> 01:35:28,708
Put me in jail-- for what?

1949
01:35:28,708 --> 01:35:31,820
The kind of language, my God.

1950
01:35:31,820 --> 01:35:32,320
Why?

1951
01:35:32,320 --> 01:35:33,190
It's truth.

1952
01:35:33,190 --> 01:35:35,930
It's my feelings.

1953
01:35:35,930 --> 01:35:36,430
Big deal.

1954
01:35:36,430 --> 01:35:37,000
Put me in jail.

1955
01:35:37,000 --> 01:35:37,980
Send me back to Auschwitz.

1956
01:35:37,980 --> 01:35:38,480
Big deal.

1957
01:35:38,480 --> 01:35:41,290

1958
01:35:41,290 --> 01:35:45,020
So I never got
justice in Holland.

1959
01:35:45,020 --> 01:35:47,560
There's no law for
people like myself,

1960
01:35:47,560 --> 01:35:51,850
not only for Eddy Wynschenk,

but for many people like myself.

1961

01:35:51,850 --> 01:35:56,200

There's maybe a lot of Jewish
survivors left Holland--

1962

01:35:56,200 --> 01:35:59,490

Dutch Jewish survivors, maybe.

1963

01:35:59,490 --> 01:36:03,070

Before I go on, you
have any questions?

1964

01:36:03,070 --> 01:36:06,580

How was your
marriage working out?

1965

01:36:06,580 --> 01:36:07,450

Your first marriage.

1966

01:36:07,450 --> 01:36:09,075

Because you said you
didn't talk to her

1967

01:36:09,075 --> 01:36:10,420

at all about your experiences.

1968

01:36:10,420 --> 01:36:13,060

I think I did.

1969

01:36:13,060 --> 01:36:16,870

About the feet, of course.

1970

01:36:16,870 --> 01:36:21,400

And I presume I talked,
but I don't know in detail.

1971

01:36:21,400 --> 01:36:22,270

I don't remember.

1972

01:36:22,270 --> 01:36:25,240

Of course, she knew about--

1973
01:36:25,240 --> 01:36:29,470
because she was a
girlfriend of my cousin.

1974
01:36:29,470 --> 01:36:32,800

1975
01:36:32,800 --> 01:36:34,780
But wasn't it hard
to have a marriage

1976
01:36:34,780 --> 01:36:37,330
when you were having all
this anger building up?

1977
01:36:37,330 --> 01:36:37,860
I think.

1978
01:36:37,860 --> 01:36:41,314

1979
01:36:41,314 --> 01:36:44,500
Let me tell you.

1980
01:36:44,500 --> 01:36:48,140
I'm married now for
the second time.

1981
01:36:48,140 --> 01:36:54,320
But I admire every spouse who
marries a Holocaust survivor,

1982
01:36:54,320 --> 01:36:57,080
be they he or a she.

1983
01:36:57,080 --> 01:36:59,870
I admire them all.

1984
01:36:59,870 --> 01:37:02,270
Because it's not
easy to be married

1985

01:37:02,270 --> 01:37:08,240
to a survivor who is not in the
freezer anymore and who erupts.

1986

01:37:08,240 --> 01:37:12,510
I admire the children
of survivors.

1987

01:37:12,510 --> 01:37:16,560
The survivor-- only one or two.

1988

01:37:16,560 --> 01:37:20,340
How hard it was
for them when they

1989

01:37:20,340 --> 01:37:24,090
were children to grow up with
sometimes an angry parent

1990

01:37:24,090 --> 01:37:31,110
or to be a witness
to whatever it is.

1991

01:37:31,110 --> 01:37:35,310
Because children of survivors,
in my judgment, most of them

1992

01:37:35,310 --> 01:37:37,290
are victims, too.

1993

01:37:37,290 --> 01:37:39,250
Well, they've got a
symptom called children

1994

01:37:39,250 --> 01:37:40,450
of Holocaust survivors.

1995

01:37:40,450 --> 01:37:40,950
Right.

1996

01:37:40,950 --> 01:37:43,770

1997

01:37:43,770 --> 01:37:46,410

I wish I could make up
for it, but I was not

1998

01:37:46,410 --> 01:37:49,560

nice enough to my two
children, who are adults now.

1999

01:37:49,560 --> 01:37:51,988

There's no way I
can make up for it.

2000

01:37:51,988 --> 01:37:54,030

And probably bad for his
wife-- it was not always

2001

01:37:54,030 --> 01:37:56,000

very pleasant at all.

2002

01:37:56,000 --> 01:37:57,120

Later.

2003

01:37:57,120 --> 01:37:59,850

I'll talk about it later.

2004

01:37:59,850 --> 01:38:03,570

I wish I could make up
for it, but I can't.

2005

01:38:03,570 --> 01:38:09,653

But my second wife, Marianne--
we are married now seven years.

2006

01:38:09,653 --> 01:38:10,320

We're different.

2007

01:38:10,320 --> 01:38:14,090

She knew what kind
of person I was.

2008

01:38:14,090 --> 01:38:18,310

2009

01:38:18,310 --> 01:38:20,990

Still, I admire that she
had the guts to marry me.

2010

01:38:20,990 --> 01:38:23,995

2011

01:38:23,995 --> 01:38:26,920

With the pain.

2012

01:38:26,920 --> 01:38:28,990

I just want to say that
I don't think that.

2013

01:38:28,990 --> 01:38:30,880

You're probably not
the hardest person

2014

01:38:30,880 --> 01:38:34,120

to be married to, because
you're open to the idea

2015

01:38:34,120 --> 01:38:41,170

that your past has these
effects on your life.

2016

01:38:41,170 --> 01:38:43,010

The past has a tremendous
effect on my life.

2017

01:38:43,010 --> 01:38:43,510

Right.

2018

01:38:43,510 --> 01:38:47,050

But what you don't
seem to be doing is--

2019

01:38:47,050 --> 01:38:48,130

I'm always right.

2020

01:38:48,130 --> 01:38:50,350

And you don't know anything.

2021

01:38:50,350 --> 01:38:54,370

I think that that makes
a person much easier

2022

01:38:54,370 --> 01:38:58,725

to live with when they are--

2023

01:38:58,725 --> 01:39:00,850

the way you phrased it--
coming out of the freezer.

2024

01:39:00,850 --> 01:39:02,560

I just want you to know.

2025

01:39:02,560 --> 01:39:05,410

I don't think that you're
probably the worst person.

2026

01:39:05,410 --> 01:39:06,160

No, not the worst.

2027

01:39:06,160 --> 01:39:07,540

Thank you for the compliment.

2028

01:39:07,540 --> 01:39:09,090

There are maybe one or
two walking around that

2029

01:39:09,090 --> 01:39:10,180

are worse than Eddy Wynczenk.

2030

01:39:10,180 --> 01:39:10,680

I'm sorry.

2031

01:39:10,680 --> 01:39:12,210

Can we get that off the tape?

2032

01:39:12,210 --> 01:39:14,090

We keep it on, Joan.

2033

01:39:14,090 --> 01:39:15,540

Leave it running.

2034

01:39:15,540 --> 01:39:18,100

I'll call the lawyers, send
you a lawsuit to explain it.

2035

01:39:18,100 --> 01:39:19,810

Well, you know I mean.

2036

01:39:19,810 --> 01:39:22,840

I think that it's just
taken so much courage

2037

01:39:22,840 --> 01:39:28,055

for you to go out and
start talking about it.

2038

01:39:28,055 --> 01:39:29,180

That's something different.

2039

01:39:29,180 --> 01:39:31,660

But later, I'll talk about
the rage and the anger

2040

01:39:31,660 --> 01:39:33,520

and explosions.

2041

01:39:33,520 --> 01:39:35,620

I call them explosions.

2042

01:39:35,620 --> 01:39:37,600

OK.

2043

01:39:37,600 --> 01:39:39,100

But I thank you
for the compliment.

2044

01:39:39,100 --> 01:39:42,260

But I don't agree with you.

2045
01:39:42,260 --> 01:39:44,010
I don't agree with you
what you just said.

2046
01:39:44,010 --> 01:39:46,270
About what?

2047
01:39:46,270 --> 01:39:50,830
That it's not that bad or
whatever you just said.

2048
01:39:50,830 --> 01:39:52,780
Easy, it's not too hard.

2049
01:39:52,780 --> 01:39:58,600
Yes, I think it is
hard to live with,

2050
01:39:58,600 --> 01:40:03,010
to be married with a
survivor, be they he or she,

2051
01:40:03,010 --> 01:40:05,500
who's out of the freezer.

2052
01:40:05,500 --> 01:40:07,330
You think it's more
difficult than being

2053
01:40:07,330 --> 01:40:11,770
with one who still has their
emotions under control?

2054
01:40:11,770 --> 01:40:12,460
Of course.

2055
01:40:12,460 --> 01:40:14,380
I had it for a long time.

2056
01:40:14,380 --> 01:40:14,880
Sure.

2057
01:40:14,880 --> 01:40:17,770

2058
01:40:17,770 --> 01:40:23,550
I didn't feel anything
from 1945 to 1972.

2059
01:40:23,550 --> 01:40:25,080
That's 27 years, right?

2060
01:40:25,080 --> 01:40:25,580
Right.

2061
01:40:25,580 --> 01:40:28,740

2062
01:40:28,740 --> 01:40:31,200
Please remind me to
talk about it later--

2063
01:40:31,200 --> 01:40:34,570
about the rage and the
anger and the explosions.

2064
01:40:34,570 --> 01:40:35,980
Yeah.

2065
01:40:35,980 --> 01:40:38,330
Could you turn this
off for one second?

2066
01:40:38,330 --> 01:40:38,830
All right.

2067
01:40:38,830 --> 01:40:45,190

2068
01:40:45,190 --> 01:40:47,020
So we got married in 1949.

2069

01:40:47,020 --> 01:40:51,610
Of course, I didn't
have any family.

2070
01:40:51,610 --> 01:40:55,560
So there was nobody
from my side.

2071
01:40:55,560 --> 01:40:58,950
And I never felt any
loss-- no pain, no tears.

2072
01:40:58,950 --> 01:41:00,390
Because I was still--

2073
01:41:00,390 --> 01:41:02,400
everything was numb.

2074
01:41:02,400 --> 01:41:04,590
State of shock.

2075
01:41:04,590 --> 01:41:05,220
In the freezer.

2076
01:41:05,220 --> 01:41:10,320

2077
01:41:10,320 --> 01:41:12,540
But I wrote the
German government

2078
01:41:12,540 --> 01:41:15,900
and the Dutch government.

2079
01:41:15,900 --> 01:41:17,370
But I didn't come to first base.

2080
01:41:17,370 --> 01:41:23,040

2081
01:41:23,040 --> 01:41:25,515
So I was again, a person

without any rights.

2082

01:41:25,515 --> 01:41:30,710

2083

01:41:30,710 --> 01:41:34,190

No justice happened.

2084

01:41:34,190 --> 01:41:37,020

But they took away-- the
Germans in World War II--

2085

01:41:37,020 --> 01:41:40,590

our rights, all my rights.

2086

01:41:40,590 --> 01:41:43,800

And of course, only
injustice being done.

2087

01:41:43,800 --> 01:41:49,760

In a different way, but still
they continued the injustice.

2088

01:41:49,760 --> 01:41:50,780

No rights.

2089

01:41:50,780 --> 01:41:53,180

Because if I would
have gotten my rights--

2090

01:41:53,180 --> 01:41:58,880

but do I have to pay the thief
who stole my father's business

2091

01:41:58,880 --> 01:41:59,600

after the War?

2092

01:41:59,600 --> 01:42:02,860

2093

01:42:02,860 --> 01:42:05,280

I ow him money.

2094
01:42:05,280 --> 01:42:09,100
If I tell people that I deserve
money, they would say yes.

2095
01:42:09,100 --> 01:42:10,380
I have his name.

2096
01:42:10,380 --> 01:42:12,320
That's facts.

2097
01:42:12,320 --> 01:42:15,030
I remember the name
of the man who--

2098
01:42:15,030 --> 01:42:18,420
now I remembered,
the Dutch government

2099
01:42:18,420 --> 01:42:21,665
appointed guardian over
him for a short time.

2100
01:42:21,665 --> 01:42:23,040
He could only be
general manager.

2101
01:42:23,040 --> 01:42:24,610
And the name was
misspelled for you.

2102
01:42:24,610 --> 01:42:27,090
I remember, my gosh.

2103
01:42:27,090 --> 01:42:34,280
D-I-R-K-Z-W-A-G-E-R.

2104
01:42:34,280 --> 01:42:35,090
He was a fanatic.

2105
01:42:35,090 --> 01:42:35,770
He was after me.

2106
01:42:35,770 --> 01:42:36,480
I never met him.

2107
01:42:36,480 --> 01:42:37,600
And I don't know why.

2108
01:42:37,600 --> 01:42:41,850
So he really worked hard
to get this money that--

2109
01:42:41,850 --> 01:42:44,140
For-- yeah.

2110
01:42:44,140 --> 01:42:46,510
For the group.

2111
01:42:46,510 --> 01:42:47,950
Yeah.

2112
01:42:47,950 --> 01:42:51,550
And understand, Peggy, that
I don't believe in justice.

2113
01:42:51,550 --> 01:42:52,600
I can understand that.

2114
01:42:52,600 --> 01:42:54,550
Until today, I don't
believe in justice.

2115
01:42:54,550 --> 01:42:57,370
Yeah.

2116
01:42:57,370 --> 01:43:01,185
Hard for people to
understand or comprehend.

2117
01:43:01,185 --> 01:43:02,560
And again, I don't
have sympathy.

2118

01:43:02,560 --> 01:43:05,290

But that's life.

2119

01:43:05,290 --> 01:43:08,980

Still today, never got justice.

2120

01:43:08,980 --> 01:43:11,650

I fight for justice.

2121

01:43:11,650 --> 01:43:13,840

Did you ever actually
pay any of this money?

2122

01:43:13,840 --> 01:43:17,080

A little bit, at the
advice of a lawyer.

2123

01:43:17,080 --> 01:43:18,520

But I didn't want to.

2124

01:43:18,520 --> 01:43:21,988

I wanted to get the furniture,
because my father-in-law

2125

01:43:21,988 --> 01:43:23,530

said, if they come
for the furniture,

2126

01:43:23,530 --> 01:43:25,150

don't worry about it.

2127

01:43:25,150 --> 01:43:26,080

It was my furniture.

2128

01:43:26,080 --> 01:43:30,370

You rent here first
apartment, don't forget.

2129

01:43:30,370 --> 01:43:33,250

I said, thank you, but no way.

2130

01:43:33,250 --> 01:43:37,800

Nobody ever will take
furniture away from me.

2131

01:43:37,800 --> 01:43:39,320

I said it.

2132

01:43:39,320 --> 01:43:42,230

So in my unconscious
now, because then

2133

01:43:42,230 --> 01:43:45,826

I went back to 1943.

2134

01:43:45,826 --> 01:43:47,822

Does that makes sense to you?

2135

01:43:47,822 --> 01:43:48,930

Does that makes sense?

2136

01:43:48,930 --> 01:43:49,430

Yeah.

2137

01:43:49,430 --> 01:43:51,847

That you went back to where
they took your furniture away.

2138

01:43:51,847 --> 01:43:52,580

The Germans.

2139

01:43:52,580 --> 01:43:58,250

So nobody ever, over
my dead body-- never.

2140

01:43:58,250 --> 01:44:01,100

It's hard for people
to understand.

2141

01:44:01,100 --> 01:44:02,810

And thank God they
don't understand,

2142

01:44:02,810 --> 01:44:05,120
because they don't
know what it is.

2143
01:44:05,120 --> 01:44:08,815
But that part after
the war had to be told.

2144
01:44:08,815 --> 01:44:11,720
It had to be known.

2145
01:44:11,720 --> 01:44:13,280
Not only for me--

2146
01:44:13,280 --> 01:44:16,760
not for sympathy,
for understanding.

2147
01:44:16,760 --> 01:44:20,420
The people should accept,
be they Vietnamese

2148
01:44:20,420 --> 01:44:22,580
who went through
hell or World War II

2149
01:44:22,580 --> 01:44:31,262
veteran or soldier who fought
the Korean during the police

2150
01:44:31,262 --> 01:44:34,730
action, Holocaust survivor.

2151
01:44:34,730 --> 01:44:38,510
Accept them the way they are.

2152
01:44:38,510 --> 01:44:42,882
And in my judgment, till
today, people don't.

2153
01:44:42,882 --> 01:44:44,090
And I'll talk about it later.

2154

01:44:44,090 --> 01:44:44,590

They don't.

2155

01:44:44,590 --> 01:44:47,860

2156

01:44:47,860 --> 01:44:50,950

That was one of the
reasons that I made up

2157

01:44:50,950 --> 01:44:54,820

my mind to be interviewed
about this after the War.

2158

01:44:54,820 --> 01:44:57,160

Otherwise, I would
never have done it.

2159

01:44:57,160 --> 01:45:01,050

Not only for myself,
but for other people.

2160

01:45:01,050 --> 01:45:02,445

Yeah.

2161

01:45:02,445 --> 01:45:05,290

If one person who
watches this program--

2162

01:45:05,290 --> 01:45:10,960

or two-- will change
from pushing people away.

2163

01:45:10,960 --> 01:45:14,230

With my background, other
similar backgrounds.

2164

01:45:14,230 --> 01:45:15,130

But accept them.

2165

01:45:15,130 --> 01:45:18,440

That it is worthwhile

what I go through now.

2166

01:45:18,440 --> 01:45:22,810

I hope I make sense to you.

2167

01:45:22,810 --> 01:45:27,220

Anyway, I wanted

to leave Holland.

2168

01:45:27,220 --> 01:45:33,280

And I wanted to go to Canada or

Australia, but my wife said no.

2169

01:45:33,280 --> 01:45:34,630

Then I'm in America.

2170

01:45:34,630 --> 01:45:41,290

There was a new law, signed

by President Eisenhower,

2171

01:45:41,290 --> 01:45:43,135

who made it possible for--

2172

01:45:43,135 --> 01:45:45,010

normally, when you come

to the United States,

2173

01:45:45,010 --> 01:45:45,820

you have a sponsor.

2174

01:45:45,820 --> 01:45:47,445

And you have to wait

three, four, five,

2175

01:45:47,445 --> 01:45:50,168

six years or whatever.

2176

01:45:50,168 --> 01:45:53,320

An organization sponsored me.

2177

01:45:53,320 --> 01:45:56,140

2178
01:45:56,140 --> 01:45:59,360
There was a law made for
victims of World War II.

2179
01:45:59,360 --> 01:46:00,910
I'm not talking
about Jewish people--

2180
01:46:00,910 --> 01:46:01,410
victims.

2181
01:46:01,410 --> 01:46:03,935

2182
01:46:03,935 --> 01:46:04,820
All victims.

2183
01:46:04,820 --> 01:46:05,450
I'm sorry?

2184
01:46:05,450 --> 01:46:06,750
All victims.

2185
01:46:06,750 --> 01:46:07,250
Yeah.

2186
01:46:07,250 --> 01:46:08,833
Who want to come to
the United States.

2187
01:46:08,833 --> 01:46:11,080
And you have to go
through the process.

2188
01:46:11,080 --> 01:46:13,670
The police check
you out in Holland.

2189
01:46:13,670 --> 01:46:15,170
And have gone
through everything.

2190
01:46:15,170 --> 01:46:17,003
And you have to be in
good health, whatever.

2191
01:46:17,003 --> 01:46:20,460

2192
01:46:20,460 --> 01:46:23,100
And before I came
to United States,

2193
01:46:23,100 --> 01:46:24,815
you have to go back and forth.

2194
01:46:24,815 --> 01:46:28,410
It was understandable.

2195
01:46:28,410 --> 01:46:30,380
And I had to go--

2196
01:46:30,380 --> 01:46:32,470
they called me.

2197
01:46:32,470 --> 01:46:36,510
with a note that I had to
come to the police station.

2198
01:46:36,510 --> 01:46:40,830
I thought, I didn't
know what I did wrong.

2199
01:46:40,830 --> 01:46:45,110
But they needed
questions about me.

2200
01:46:45,110 --> 01:46:50,470
A question about if I was
a communist or whatever.

2201
01:46:50,470 --> 01:46:53,790
But I didn't feel

any pain about it.

2202

01:46:53,790 --> 01:46:57,780

But I wanted to leave
Holland very badly.

2203

01:46:57,780 --> 01:47:01,740

2204

01:47:01,740 --> 01:47:03,510

But later hurt me.

2205

01:47:03,510 --> 01:47:07,938

And maybe people will
watch this program.

2206

01:47:07,938 --> 01:47:10,260

who don't like in
particular Dutch people.

2207

01:47:10,260 --> 01:47:13,800

2208

01:47:13,800 --> 01:47:17,630

There were war
criminals in Holland

2209

01:47:17,630 --> 01:47:21,960

who were responsible for
the death of, for instance,

2210

01:47:21,960 --> 01:47:25,050

100,000 Jewish people.

2211

01:47:25,050 --> 01:47:28,820

That's 100,000.

2212

01:47:28,820 --> 01:47:31,860

And Germans.

2213

01:47:31,860 --> 01:47:35,880

They were in jail.

2214
01:47:35,880 --> 01:47:38,000
And they got the death penalty.

2215
01:47:38,000 --> 01:47:40,980
And the Queen of Holland then--

2216
01:47:40,980 --> 01:47:43,190
better that came out last
year that I tell you now.

2217
01:47:43,190 --> 01:47:45,970

2218
01:47:45,970 --> 01:47:48,640
The Queen of Holland
then, Juliana--

2219
01:47:48,640 --> 01:47:51,310
now Beatrix.

2220
01:47:51,310 --> 01:47:55,270
So they're the mass murderers.

2221
01:47:55,270 --> 01:48:01,530
One, I experienced some things
from that person myself.

2222
01:48:01,530 --> 01:48:03,980
Person-- no, he is
not even an animal.

2223
01:48:03,980 --> 01:48:06,130
He was inhuman.

2224
01:48:06,130 --> 01:48:08,040
He was responsible
of over 100,000

2225
01:48:08,040 --> 01:48:09,310
Jews lead to their death--

2226

01:48:09,310 --> 01:48:12,430

Dutch Jewish people.

2227

01:48:12,430 --> 01:48:15,700

And the date was set
that he was going

2228

01:48:15,700 --> 01:48:18,190

to be executed after the War.

2229

01:48:18,190 --> 01:48:20,230

War is over.

2230

01:48:20,230 --> 01:48:28,970

And the Queen said,
if you execute him,

2231

01:48:28,970 --> 01:48:30,938

I will not be a queen anymore.

2232

01:48:30,938 --> 01:48:33,750

2233

01:48:33,750 --> 01:48:35,490

That came out last year.

2234

01:48:35,490 --> 01:48:37,740

Now, what happened apparently--

2235

01:48:37,740 --> 01:48:39,427

That wasn't Pieter
Menten, was it?

2236

01:48:39,427 --> 01:48:43,140

2237

01:48:43,140 --> 01:48:44,130

No.

2238

01:48:44,130 --> 01:48:45,150

Not Menten, no.

2239
01:48:45,150 --> 01:48:47,030
Menten was a little
war criminal.

2240
01:48:47,030 --> 01:48:48,030
Oh, he died, by the way.

2241
01:48:48,030 --> 01:48:48,905
You know that, right?

2242
01:48:48,905 --> 01:48:49,560
He passed away.

2243
01:48:49,560 --> 01:48:51,710
Yeah.

2244
01:48:51,710 --> 01:48:54,920
No, it was in German.

2245
01:48:54,920 --> 01:48:56,300
There were several in jail.

2246
01:48:56,300 --> 01:48:59,060
Several went back--
for medical reasons,

2247
01:48:59,060 --> 01:49:03,920
were released by the Dutch
government, mind you.

2248
01:49:03,920 --> 01:49:04,790
For poor health.

2249
01:49:04,790 --> 01:49:07,970
One of them-- L-A-G-E-S--

2250
01:49:07,970 --> 01:49:11,210
was released while I was already
living in the United States.

2251

01:49:11,210 --> 01:49:15,950
And a doctor or doctors
convinced the Dutch government

2252
01:49:15,950 --> 01:49:17,870
that he had cancer.

2253
01:49:17,870 --> 01:49:19,802
Oh, he was a war criminal.

2254
01:49:19,802 --> 01:49:21,260
It's hard for people
to comprehend.

2255
01:49:21,260 --> 01:49:24,530
Oh, he's responsible for 10,000
people who died-- or 50,000,

2256
01:49:24,530 --> 01:49:25,310
or 30,000.

2257
01:49:25,310 --> 01:49:29,340
Or he shot himself
15 people, whatever.

2258
01:49:29,340 --> 01:49:31,860
That's nothing.

2259
01:49:31,860 --> 01:49:34,555
Being sarcastic now, of course.

2260
01:49:34,555 --> 01:49:36,180
And they convinced
the Dutch government

2261
01:49:36,180 --> 01:49:37,360
that he was dying of cancer.

2262
01:49:37,360 --> 01:49:39,390
So they let him go to Germany.

2263
01:49:39,390 --> 01:49:41,790

I think he's still alive.

2264

01:49:41,790 --> 01:49:45,290

He fooled them.

2265

01:49:45,290 --> 01:49:46,190

Cancer is terrible.

2266

01:49:46,190 --> 01:49:47,720

Dying of cancer is terrible.

2267

01:49:47,720 --> 01:49:50,360

But that kind of people
don't belong on the street.

2268

01:49:50,360 --> 01:49:51,740

They should be against the wall.

2269

01:49:51,740 --> 01:49:53,060

Or at least for life--

2270

01:49:53,060 --> 01:49:56,780

no parole, nothing.

2271

01:49:56,780 --> 01:49:58,460

But there's a lot of
politics behind it,

2272

01:49:58,460 --> 01:50:00,530

because Germany put
a lot of pressure.

2273

01:50:00,530 --> 01:50:02,390

Germany becomes stronger again--

2274

01:50:02,390 --> 01:50:02,890

an issue.

2275

01:50:02,890 --> 01:50:07,040

They put pressure on
the Dutch government.

2276

01:50:07,040 --> 01:50:10,160

Also, from what I
read, Prince Bernhard

2277

01:50:10,160 --> 01:50:11,750

had a deal with the
German government.

2278

01:50:11,750 --> 01:50:14,912

And he actually tried to
betray Juliana's country,

2279

01:50:14,912 --> 01:50:15,620

from what I read.

2280

01:50:15,620 --> 01:50:18,050

No, I never heard about that.

2281

01:50:18,050 --> 01:50:20,655

He fled, but he was on the--

2282

01:50:20,655 --> 01:50:23,390

He fled, but it was a secret.

2283

01:50:23,390 --> 01:50:26,090

The book I read it in was
a book about Pieter Menten.

2284

01:50:26,090 --> 01:50:28,550

Oh, Pieter Menten.

2285

01:50:28,550 --> 01:50:30,900

He was a war criminal
and a thief, of course.

2286

01:50:30,900 --> 01:50:31,400

Right.

2287

01:50:31,400 --> 01:50:36,650

And Prince Bernhard saved
Menten right after the War,

2288

01:50:36,650 --> 01:50:37,890

that he stopped the--

2289

01:50:37,890 --> 01:50:38,390

I'm sorry.

2290

01:50:38,390 --> 01:50:39,920

I never heard about it.

2291

01:50:39,920 --> 01:50:41,930

But I can't accuse.

2292

01:50:41,930 --> 01:50:46,030

It's kind of funny-- it's sad.

2293

01:50:46,030 --> 01:50:51,340

The grandmother of the current
Queen Beatrix was Wilhelmina.

2294

01:50:51,340 --> 01:50:54,040

During World War II,
we had Wilhelmina.

2295

01:50:54,040 --> 01:50:55,180

Her husband was a German.

2296

01:50:55,180 --> 01:50:57,750

2297

01:50:57,750 --> 01:51:00,900

Julianna married a German--

2298

01:51:00,900 --> 01:51:02,690

Bernhard.

2299

01:51:02,690 --> 01:51:08,280

Beatrix, the current queen,
married a German Waffen SS man.

2300

01:51:08,280 --> 01:51:09,150

Really?

2301
01:51:09,150 --> 01:51:09,990
Would I lie?

2302
01:51:09,990 --> 01:51:12,480
I make a statement here.

2303
01:51:12,480 --> 01:51:16,090
There were big
riots in Amsterdam.

2304
01:51:16,090 --> 01:51:18,570
Can you imagine?

2305
01:51:18,570 --> 01:51:21,690
Waffen SS, there
were a special unit.

2306
01:51:21,690 --> 01:51:24,930

2307
01:51:24,930 --> 01:51:27,180
Hitler's special units.

2308
01:51:27,180 --> 01:51:28,350
His name is Claus--

2309
01:51:28,350 --> 01:51:33,210
C-L-A-U-S. Can you imagine?

2310
01:51:33,210 --> 01:51:35,770

2311
01:51:35,770 --> 01:51:37,600
You're flabbergasted, I presume.

2312
01:51:37,600 --> 01:51:39,790
That's the truth.

2313
01:51:39,790 --> 01:51:43,000
Of course, he became a

citizen when he got married.

2314

01:51:43,000 --> 01:51:47,030

But still, he's about my age.

2315

01:51:47,030 --> 01:51:48,760

You know what?

2316

01:51:48,760 --> 01:51:51,860

But he was not a regular
in the regular army.

2317

01:51:51,860 --> 01:51:52,360

No.

2318

01:51:52,360 --> 01:51:55,030

Waffen SS is
something different.

2319

01:51:55,030 --> 01:51:56,590

That was army, right?

2320

01:51:56,590 --> 01:51:57,880

Yeah, but they were murderers.

2321

01:51:57,880 --> 01:51:59,180

SS.

2322

01:51:59,180 --> 01:52:00,430

You seem them in the camp, SS.

2323

01:52:00,430 --> 01:52:02,440

There was a Waffen SS.

2324

01:52:02,440 --> 01:52:09,340

The Waffen SS, for instance
killed American POWs.

2325

01:52:09,340 --> 01:52:11,440

in the Battle of the Bulge.

2326

01:52:11,440 --> 01:52:12,568
You remember in '44?

2327
01:52:12,568 --> 01:52:13,360
You heard about it?

2328
01:52:13,360 --> 01:52:14,770
You read about it?

2329
01:52:14,770 --> 01:52:16,240
The Battle of the Bulge--

2330
01:52:16,240 --> 01:52:20,170
B-U-L-G-E-- in Belgium.

2331
01:52:20,170 --> 01:52:22,270
Near the Ardennes.

2332
01:52:22,270 --> 01:52:23,530
Yeah, it was the last attempt.

2333
01:52:23,530 --> 01:52:24,030
Correct.

2334
01:52:24,030 --> 01:52:26,620
In winter, '44 if
memory is correct.

2335
01:52:26,620 --> 01:52:32,860
And the Germans
had American POWs.

2336
01:52:32,860 --> 01:52:34,600
So against the
Geneva Convention,

2337
01:52:34,600 --> 01:52:36,680
they undressed
American soldiers,

2338
01:52:36,680 --> 01:52:38,680
put them in civilian

clothes, and tied the hands

2339

01:52:38,680 --> 01:52:42,130

behind the back, and
shot them to death.

2340

01:52:42,130 --> 01:52:45,730

Crimes against humanity and
against Geneva Convention.

2341

01:52:45,730 --> 01:52:47,860

The Waffen SS killed them.

2342

01:52:47,860 --> 01:52:49,030

And one of the members--

2343

01:52:49,030 --> 01:52:50,800

I don't say he did it himself.

2344

01:52:50,800 --> 01:52:54,190

But a member of that Waffen
SS is the current husband

2345

01:52:54,190 --> 01:52:55,510

of Beatrix.

2346

01:52:55,510 --> 01:52:59,430

Can you imagine.

2347

01:52:59,430 --> 01:53:01,140

I'm not surprised.

2348

01:53:01,140 --> 01:53:06,400

Now, in '56, we went to America.

2349

01:53:06,400 --> 01:53:09,850

And then still
everything was frozen.

2350

01:53:09,850 --> 01:53:13,860

I never felt sorry
that I left Holland.

2351
01:53:13,860 --> 01:53:18,180
I came in Philadelphia,
where I was sponsored.

2352
01:53:18,180 --> 01:53:22,050
I stayed a year in Philadelphia,
never talked about it.

2353
01:53:22,050 --> 01:53:24,840
Started from scratch, of course.

2354
01:53:24,840 --> 01:53:28,620
Didn't have any family--
no friends, nobody.

2355
01:53:28,620 --> 01:53:32,737
And we came with the attitude
of America didn't need us.

2356
01:53:32,737 --> 01:53:34,320
America doesn't have
to adjust to us--

2357
01:53:34,320 --> 01:53:35,450
we have to adjust to them.

2358
01:53:35,450 --> 01:53:38,490

2359
01:53:38,490 --> 01:53:40,890
A lot of kind of
funny things happened.

2360
01:53:40,890 --> 01:53:44,370
But we didn't have money
for a car, of course.

2361
01:53:44,370 --> 01:53:45,630
No furniture, nothing.

2362
01:53:45,630 --> 01:53:47,820

We came with \$70 or \$90.

2363

01:53:47,820 --> 01:53:49,710

But a lot of immigrants
came with nothing.

2364

01:53:49,710 --> 01:53:52,080

That's nothing special.

2365

01:53:52,080 --> 01:53:54,230

And the organization
who sponsored us,

2366

01:53:54,230 --> 01:53:57,000

we went there because America--

2367

01:53:57,000 --> 01:54:00,840

2368

01:54:00,840 --> 01:54:02,340

about jobs.

2369

01:54:02,340 --> 01:54:04,140

First thing we ask--

2370

01:54:04,140 --> 01:54:07,620

how do you go about jobs?

2371

01:54:07,620 --> 01:54:11,230

Now, my first job wife was
a fantastic office worker.

2372

01:54:11,230 --> 01:54:12,540

She could blind type.

2373

01:54:12,540 --> 01:54:14,070

You know blind typing?

2374

01:54:14,070 --> 01:54:16,470

You type, but you're only--

2375

01:54:16,470 --> 01:54:18,930

I think 70 or 80,
90 words a minute.

2376

01:54:18,930 --> 01:54:22,410

She was fantastic.

2377

01:54:22,410 --> 01:54:24,450

In different languages.

2378

01:54:24,450 --> 01:54:26,190

But I didn't have
a good occupation

2379

01:54:26,190 --> 01:54:28,048

for the United States.

2380

01:54:28,048 --> 01:54:29,340

I worked in the letter factory.

2381

01:54:29,340 --> 01:54:35,080

2382

01:54:35,080 --> 01:54:37,700

And the Jewish organization,
the Jewish Family Service

2383

01:54:37,700 --> 01:54:41,780

of Philadelphia, who
co-sponsored us--

2384

01:54:41,780 --> 01:54:46,550

I said, we would
like to have a job.

2385

01:54:46,550 --> 01:54:47,540

Take it easy.

2386

01:54:47,540 --> 01:54:49,920

We said, no, we didn't
come here to take it easy.

2387

01:54:49,920 --> 01:54:55,010

By the way, we arrived here
the 28th of April, 1956.

2388

01:54:55,010 --> 01:54:59,180

We left Holland April 18, 1956.

2389

01:54:59,180 --> 01:55:02,810

We left Holland the
day that the late Grace

2390

01:55:02,810 --> 01:55:06,340

Kelly got married with
the Prince of Monaco.

2391

01:55:06,340 --> 01:55:06,840

Right?

2392

01:55:06,840 --> 01:55:07,640

Yeah.

2393

01:55:07,640 --> 01:55:09,740

So I always made that joke.

2394

01:55:09,740 --> 01:55:12,365

We came back by boat
and I became seasick.

2395

01:55:12,365 --> 01:55:15,410

2396

01:55:15,410 --> 01:55:18,680

I always made the joke--

2397

01:55:18,680 --> 01:55:21,740

one famous person
left Philadelphia.

2398

01:55:21,740 --> 01:55:24,710

2399

01:55:24,710 --> 01:55:26,790

Grace Kerry came from
Philadelphia, right?

2400
01:55:26,790 --> 01:55:27,290
Mm-hm.

2401
01:55:27,290 --> 01:55:31,480
And another famous one
is going to Philadelphia.

2402
01:55:31,480 --> 01:55:33,790
And Jimmy Durante could
make it with his long nose,

2403
01:55:33,790 --> 01:55:35,020
so I can make it, too.

2404
01:55:35,020 --> 01:55:36,880
I always make that
joke on the boat.

2405
01:55:36,880 --> 01:55:39,010
The other boat was
not on the sea yet.

2406
01:55:39,010 --> 01:55:41,470
Because I became seasick.

2407
01:55:41,470 --> 01:55:45,980
But anyway, then it
was not that funny.

2408
01:55:45,980 --> 01:55:49,060
But anyway, we told the
people in Philadelphia,

2409
01:55:49,060 --> 01:55:52,040
we came here to
start a new life.

2410
01:55:52,040 --> 01:55:53,320
How can we find a job?

2411

01:55:53,320 --> 01:55:56,020

2412

01:55:56,020 --> 01:56:01,480

Again, we were never asked
and I was never asked

2413

01:56:01,480 --> 01:56:02,770

about the background-- never.

2414

01:56:02,770 --> 01:56:05,730

2415

01:56:05,730 --> 01:56:07,275

But I was still in
a freezer in '56.

2416

01:56:07,275 --> 01:56:12,000

2417

01:56:12,000 --> 01:56:14,700

We didn't have a place to stay.

2418

01:56:14,700 --> 01:56:17,280

In Holland, there
were no-- and still,

2419

01:56:17,280 --> 01:56:18,720

I think, you have
a waiting list.

2420

01:56:18,720 --> 01:56:20,760

You can't rent a
place like here.

2421

01:56:20,760 --> 01:56:25,000

You look around for an
apartment for rent, whatever.

2422

01:56:25,000 --> 01:56:31,260

So we lived with my
in-laws in Amsterdam.

2423

01:56:31,260 --> 01:56:34,650
And then somehow, because my
father-in-law was very ill

2424

01:56:34,650 --> 01:56:35,340
and became ill.

2425

01:56:35,340 --> 01:56:40,230
He couldn't handle the
noise from young people.

2426

01:56:40,230 --> 01:56:41,670
And doctors checked it out.

2427

01:56:41,670 --> 01:56:44,670
And then we got an
apartment on our own.

2428

01:56:44,670 --> 01:56:45,630
We were very lucky.

2429

01:56:45,630 --> 01:56:52,730

2430

01:56:52,730 --> 01:56:55,500
In Holland, you
don't have signs--

2431

01:56:55,500 --> 01:56:57,640
vacancies.

2432

01:56:57,640 --> 01:56:59,100
Philadelphia's a very big city.

2433

01:56:59,100 --> 01:57:01,680

2434

01:57:01,680 --> 01:57:04,850
Now I start laughing--
here is what we did.

2435

01:57:04,850 --> 01:57:07,020

We go to find a place to live.

2436

01:57:07,020 --> 01:57:09,390

No idea where to look, to go.

2437

01:57:09,390 --> 01:57:11,220

We never heard about
real estate offices.

2438

01:57:11,220 --> 01:57:12,908

We don't have that.

2439

01:57:12,908 --> 01:57:14,700

To the government, you
have a waiting list.

2440

01:57:14,700 --> 01:57:15,370

How many children?

2441

01:57:15,370 --> 01:57:16,440

You have three children.

2442

01:57:16,440 --> 01:57:17,982

Oh, you wait about
three, four years.

2443

01:57:17,982 --> 01:57:21,780

And you could see maybe your
in-laws could take you in.

2444

01:57:21,780 --> 01:57:26,080

Because there's shortage
of homes, apartments.

2445

01:57:26,080 --> 01:57:31,770

So downtown Philadelphia-- did
you ever go to Philadelphia?

2446

01:57:31,770 --> 01:57:37,830

You start counting by 1st
street up to 60th Street.

2447
01:57:37,830 --> 01:57:41,650
1st Street is near downtown,
if memory is correct.

2448
01:57:41,650 --> 01:57:45,540
So we were looking
for a place to live.

2449
01:57:45,540 --> 01:57:47,520
We remembered, we saw big signs.

2450
01:57:47,520 --> 01:57:49,240
No money for a car.

2451
01:57:49,240 --> 01:57:52,920
We had only a couple of dollars,
so no public transportation.

2452
01:57:52,920 --> 01:57:55,830
Because we have all
the saved-up money.

2453
01:57:55,830 --> 01:57:58,740
The Jewish organization
paid one month's rent,

2454
01:57:58,740 --> 01:58:00,130
then we found an apartment.

2455
01:58:00,130 --> 01:58:00,760
That's true.

2456
01:58:00,760 --> 01:58:01,260
\$50.

2457
01:58:01,260 --> 01:58:04,300

2458
01:58:04,300 --> 01:58:06,950
They did not help
us to find a job.

2459
01:58:06,950 --> 01:58:08,230
We don't know anybody.

2460
01:58:08,230 --> 01:58:11,800
Later, I found out
that in Philadelphia,

2461
01:58:11,800 --> 01:58:13,360
10% of the population
is Jewish--

2462
01:58:13,360 --> 01:58:16,660
and businesses,
whatever, at least.

2463
01:58:16,660 --> 01:58:21,370
the anger-- I felt similar
with Holland, somehow.

2464
01:58:21,370 --> 01:58:23,590
When the knew that I'm
a Holocaust survivor,

2465
01:58:23,590 --> 01:58:25,420
that I was being pushed away.

2466
01:58:25,420 --> 01:58:26,800
I didn't feel it.

2467
01:58:26,800 --> 01:58:28,660
Later, it came out.

2468
01:58:28,660 --> 01:58:29,800
Don't come close to me.

2469
01:58:29,800 --> 01:58:31,180
Keep distance.

2470
01:58:31,180 --> 01:58:33,480
I'll tell you later
why, in my judgment,

2471
01:58:33,480 --> 01:58:36,270
that feeling existed
and still exists.

2472
01:58:36,270 --> 01:58:39,840

2473
01:58:39,840 --> 01:58:40,890
We look for a job.

2474
01:58:40,890 --> 01:58:42,780
And they told us, look
in the Yellow Pages.

2475
01:58:42,780 --> 01:58:43,890
In Holland, you don't
have Yellow Pages,

2476
01:58:43,890 --> 01:58:45,348
but that's the way
I found the job.

2477
01:58:45,348 --> 01:58:47,976

2478
01:58:47,976 --> 01:58:50,595
Looking into the Yellow Pages
and going to all the factories

2479
01:58:50,595 --> 01:58:54,210
who do similar work to
what I did in Holland.

2480
01:58:54,210 --> 01:58:56,070
And my first job,
I made \$1 an hour.

2481
01:58:56,070 --> 01:58:59,310
That was a lot of
money then in '56.

2482

01:58:59,310 --> 01:59:01,440
\$1 an hour, gross.

2483
01:59:01,440 --> 01:59:03,820
And my wife made
\$1 an hour, gross.

2484
01:59:03,820 --> 01:59:06,760
In the meantime, we
needed a place to live.

2485
01:59:06,760 --> 01:59:10,380
And we saw all
signs of buildings--

2486
01:59:10,380 --> 01:59:13,590
vacancy, vacancy, vacancy.

2487
01:59:13,590 --> 01:59:15,930
And I'm not making it up, Peggy.

2488
01:59:15,930 --> 01:59:18,180
People say, you have
a good sense of humor.

2489
01:59:18,180 --> 01:59:21,352
They say, that maybe
helped you survive, maybe.

2490
01:59:21,352 --> 01:59:24,015
I told my wife, the
people are cuckoo here.

2491
01:59:24,015 --> 01:59:25,830
She said, what are
you talking about?

2492
01:59:25,830 --> 01:59:29,010
Who is going on a vacation
and put a sign in the window?

2493
01:59:29,010 --> 01:59:31,080
The burglars can go in.

2494
01:59:31,080 --> 01:59:36,450
Because vacancy-- in Dutch,
you have the word "vakantie."

2495
01:59:36,450 --> 01:59:40,360
It's only spelled a little
different-- vacancy.

2496
01:59:40,360 --> 01:59:47,845
In Holland, you spell
T-I-E. This is so similar.

2497
01:59:47,845 --> 01:59:49,470
Oh my.

2498
01:59:49,470 --> 01:59:51,060
And I couldn't get over it.

2499
01:59:51,060 --> 01:59:54,600
And we walked from block one to
block two, till the 50th block.

2500
01:59:54,600 --> 01:59:57,000
And I have a hard time walking.

2501
01:59:57,000 --> 01:59:58,050
Thank God, no hills.

2502
01:59:58,050 --> 01:59:59,760
It was flat.

2503
01:59:59,760 --> 02:00:03,420
And I could not get over
how stupid people in America

2504
02:00:03,420 --> 02:00:05,580
are to put a sign
and go on vacation.

2505
02:00:05,580 --> 02:00:07,410
You don't do that.

2506
02:00:07,410 --> 02:00:12,338
And I was not that upset.

2507
02:00:12,338 --> 02:00:13,755
I say, are the
people here cuckoo?

2508
02:00:13,755 --> 02:00:14,863
Are they stupid?

2509
02:00:14,863 --> 02:00:15,780
I would never do that.

2510
02:00:15,780 --> 02:00:16,890
We never did it.

2511
02:00:16,890 --> 02:00:19,230
Not realizing that vacancy--

2512
02:00:19,230 --> 02:00:21,570
what it means.

2513
02:00:21,570 --> 02:00:24,570
So then we didn't know
what to do, where to go,

2514
02:00:24,570 --> 02:00:28,585
because where do you look for
a place in another country?

2515
02:00:28,585 --> 02:00:30,460
Somebody told us, go to
a real estate office.

2516
02:00:30,460 --> 02:00:32,043
We said, what is a
real estate office?

2517
02:00:32,043 --> 02:00:33,870
So we went to the
real estate office.

2518
02:00:33,870 --> 02:00:36,900
And then I said, will
you explain to me

2519
02:00:36,900 --> 02:00:38,940
why people put the
signs up for vacation?

2520
02:00:38,940 --> 02:00:40,800
He said, vacation?

2521
02:00:40,800 --> 02:00:41,850
The guy broke up.

2522
02:00:41,850 --> 02:00:43,270
And then I learned something.

2523
02:00:43,270 --> 02:00:45,330
I felt embarrassed that--

2524
02:00:45,330 --> 02:00:46,770
my God.

2525
02:00:46,770 --> 02:00:49,210
In my mind, maybe I
insulted American people.

2526
02:00:49,210 --> 02:00:50,607
I didn't mean to.

2527
02:00:50,607 --> 02:00:52,440
My God, these people
on vacation put a sign.

2528
02:00:52,440 --> 02:00:53,910
Oh my God.

2529
02:00:53,910 --> 02:00:58,590
But then with his help,
we found a nice place.

2530

02:00:58,590 --> 02:01:04,230

But we walked the block till
55th Street, in the 50s.

2531

02:01:04,230 --> 02:01:05,700

I'll never forget.

2532

02:01:05,700 --> 02:01:07,360

We could have had
an apartment maybe

2533

02:01:07,360 --> 02:01:09,240

in the first block
already, but we didn't

2534

02:01:09,240 --> 02:01:11,280

know that there was an opening.

2535

02:01:11,280 --> 02:01:15,900

So we stayed about a
year in Philadelphia.

2536

02:01:15,900 --> 02:01:18,120

And we saved money.

2537

02:01:18,120 --> 02:01:20,910

And we couldn't handle
the climate anymore,

2538

02:01:20,910 --> 02:01:22,710

because the humidity
was too much.

2539

02:01:22,710 --> 02:01:27,520

2540

02:01:27,520 --> 02:01:28,590

We didn't have a car.

2541

02:01:28,590 --> 02:01:33,840

Whenever we went shopping, we
went by public transportation.

2542
02:01:33,840 --> 02:01:36,160
We had a nice landlord.

2543
02:01:36,160 --> 02:01:40,620
They would pick us up when
we went for grocery shopping

2544
02:01:40,620 --> 02:01:41,150
once a week.

2545
02:01:41,150 --> 02:01:44,490

2546
02:01:44,490 --> 02:01:47,100
I always made a joke about it.

2547
02:01:47,100 --> 02:01:49,155
My first wife's birthday
was March the 7th.

2548
02:01:49,155 --> 02:01:52,670

2549
02:01:52,670 --> 02:02:01,910
And we arrived in Philadelphia
at the end of April, 1956.

2550
02:02:01,910 --> 02:02:02,750
Correct.

2551
02:02:02,750 --> 02:02:06,110
So in '57, we made up our mind.

2552
02:02:06,110 --> 02:02:09,590
We are going to
leave Philadelphia.

2553
02:02:09,590 --> 02:02:11,000
Let's go to the West Coast.

2554

02:02:11,000 --> 02:02:12,680
We didn't know anybody.

2555
02:02:12,680 --> 02:02:14,890
We didn't know any people.

2556
02:02:14,890 --> 02:02:17,140
We heard about an
elderly couple,

2557
02:02:17,140 --> 02:02:20,440
but they never-- no
family, no relation to us.

2558
02:02:20,440 --> 02:02:21,670
How to go?

2559
02:02:21,670 --> 02:02:25,185
So we saved money to buy a car,
but I know nothing about cars.

2560
02:02:25,185 --> 02:02:31,220

2561
02:02:31,220 --> 02:02:33,180
In the meantime,
nobody ever asked me

2562
02:02:33,180 --> 02:02:36,420
whatever questions about it.

2563
02:02:36,420 --> 02:02:38,350
They thought I walked funny.

2564
02:02:38,350 --> 02:02:38,850
That's all.

2565
02:02:38,850 --> 02:02:44,538

2566
02:02:44,538 --> 02:02:45,330
What is the matter?

2567
02:02:45,330 --> 02:02:47,770
You walk funny.

2568
02:02:47,770 --> 02:02:49,870
See, I don't have any toes.

2569
02:02:49,870 --> 02:02:50,370
Oh.

2570
02:02:50,370 --> 02:02:51,750
That was the end of it.

2571
02:02:51,750 --> 02:02:53,700
I never volunteered
to talk about it.

2572
02:02:53,700 --> 02:02:55,800
Nobody asked me.

2573
02:02:55,800 --> 02:02:59,970
Because I felt it was mine.

2574
02:02:59,970 --> 02:03:02,690
Probably.

2575
02:03:02,690 --> 02:03:04,760
So I made a joke.

2576
02:03:04,760 --> 02:03:05,870
I told my wife, OK.

2577
02:03:05,870 --> 02:03:09,250
I buy you a lipstick for your
birthday or we buy a car.

2578
02:03:09,250 --> 02:03:11,930

2579
02:03:11,930 --> 02:03:14,220
Of course, the cost

of a car is different.

2580

02:03:14,220 --> 02:03:15,800

And we only had
money for a second,

2581

02:03:15,800 --> 02:03:21,100

so we bought a second-hand car
with the help from somebody.

2582

02:03:21,100 --> 02:03:25,200

\$500 or \$700.

2583

02:03:25,200 --> 02:03:28,530

We were members
of, say, the AAA.

2584

02:03:28,530 --> 02:03:33,028

Their name over there--
sister organization of AAA.

2585

02:03:33,028 --> 02:03:33,570

We filled up.

2586

02:03:33,570 --> 02:03:35,310

You want to go to San Francisco.

2587

02:03:35,310 --> 02:03:37,770

Again, Holland is a
very small country.

2588

02:03:37,770 --> 02:03:42,250

Very small-- compared
with America, of course.

2589

02:03:42,250 --> 02:03:44,220

So we look at the
map from America.

2590

02:03:44,220 --> 02:03:46,080

You go from here to here to her.

2591

02:03:46,080 --> 02:03:50,110

No idea what a trip.

2592

02:03:50,110 --> 02:03:51,930

And the distance.

2593

02:03:51,930 --> 02:03:53,250

Yeah.

2594

02:03:53,250 --> 02:03:57,780

So we bought a car and I
went for my driver's license.

2595

02:03:57,780 --> 02:04:00,180

And I passed the first time.

2596

02:04:00,180 --> 02:04:01,950

First shot-- driver's license.

2597

02:04:01,950 --> 02:04:05,550

Then we bought a car and we
bought a car near downtown.

2598

02:04:05,550 --> 02:04:09,270

And I said to my wife,
we go right downtown

2599

02:04:09,270 --> 02:04:11,810

over small streets and--