

1

00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:53,920

2

00:00:53,920 --> 00:00:59,260

I also want to mention that
when the winter started and we

3

00:00:59,260 --> 00:01:06,640

passed the c-section which
I mentioned, in the morning

4

00:01:06,640 --> 00:01:10,600

we saw a young women
who threw themselves

5

00:01:10,600 --> 00:01:14,470

against the electric
fence laying there.

6

00:01:14,470 --> 00:01:16,570

They just had enough
and gave up they

7

00:01:16,570 --> 00:01:21,640

threw themselves
and got electrocuted

8

00:01:21,640 --> 00:01:23,320

by the electricity.

9

00:01:23,320 --> 00:01:26,480

More and more every
day they had it.

10

00:01:26,480 --> 00:01:34,180

And I also told before that my
father was in the United States

11

00:01:34,180 --> 00:01:38,560

in a way a little bit
confused because thought these

12

00:01:38,560 --> 00:01:40,720

before certain things
and I don't know what

13

00:01:40,720 --> 00:01:42,040

will be left out or whatnot.

14

00:01:42,040 --> 00:01:45,460

15

00:01:45,460 --> 00:01:49,480

And that was the only reason
I really wanted to leave.

16

00:01:49,480 --> 00:01:53,500

Because I said, I don't
know about my brother,

17

00:01:53,500 --> 00:01:59,080

but if my father finds
out that he has nobody.

18

00:01:59,080 --> 00:02:02,290

So I said to myself,
unless they kill me,

19

00:02:02,290 --> 00:02:06,940

no matter how hard it is on
me, I will have to go on.

20

00:02:06,940 --> 00:02:10,580

And it did a lot to me.

21

00:02:10,580 --> 00:02:13,060

Because I tell you something.

22

00:02:13,060 --> 00:02:17,380

I told myself that
I'd rather be dead.

23

00:02:17,380 --> 00:02:20,560

I don't want to live in a world

where humans are doing this

24
00:02:20,560 --> 00:02:22,510
to humans.

25
00:02:22,510 --> 00:02:26,830
And I am sure if
not for that thought

26
00:02:26,830 --> 00:02:30,220
that I have this duty
toward my father,

27
00:02:30,220 --> 00:02:34,300
I wouldn't have gone on.

28
00:02:34,300 --> 00:02:39,700
And I did things,
only the things which

29
00:02:39,700 --> 00:02:41,825
was very, very hard on me.

30
00:02:41,825 --> 00:02:47,260
For example, if you were sick
in Auschwitz that was almost

31
00:02:47,260 --> 00:02:49,000
you were dead.

32
00:02:49,000 --> 00:02:55,480
If you didn't go to work and
you stayed in the barrack,

33
00:02:55,480 --> 00:02:59,500
they went around in
the barrack picking up

34
00:02:59,500 --> 00:03:04,270
those who stayed home
because they were sick.

35

00:03:04,270 --> 00:03:09,910
Because, and this is an
economic thing, later when

36
00:03:09,910 --> 00:03:13,690
the transports were not
coming so much anymore

37
00:03:13,690 --> 00:03:19,810
and they wanted to save on
things in the gas chamber,

38
00:03:19,810 --> 00:03:22,910
they wanted to fill it
up as much as possible.

39
00:03:22,910 --> 00:03:28,970
So in Auschwitz the biggest
thing was if you were sick.

40
00:03:28,970 --> 00:03:31,960
So nobody wanted to
say you were sick.

41
00:03:31,960 --> 00:03:36,760
Only then you were dead
already really next day you

42
00:03:36,760 --> 00:03:37,840
stayed there.

43
00:03:37,840 --> 00:03:38,830
So me too.

44
00:03:38,830 --> 00:03:42,250
I was sick quite a few
times with diarrhea,

45
00:03:42,250 --> 00:03:49,330
with all kinds of things, and
I made myself get up and go.

46
00:03:49,330 --> 00:03:53,960

And I run with high fever.

47

00:03:53,960 --> 00:03:59,260

I don't know why it was, I just
know I was sick, but I run.

48

00:03:59,260 --> 00:04:06,040

That's all the thing what I did,
consciously or unconsciously,

49

00:04:06,040 --> 00:04:06,880

to survive.

50

00:04:06,880 --> 00:04:13,420

But I really wasn't crazy
about to stay alive.

51

00:04:13,420 --> 00:04:15,970

Because everything
would have been better

52

00:04:15,970 --> 00:04:19,149

than a day in Auschwitz.

53

00:04:19,149 --> 00:04:28,930

Because first of all, now we see
and hear this guy at death row

54

00:04:28,930 --> 00:04:31,060

and we feel all bad about it.

55

00:04:31,060 --> 00:04:33,280

I am against capital punishment.

56

00:04:33,280 --> 00:04:36,460

I know that he did
something very wrong,

57

00:04:36,460 --> 00:04:41,320

but still I am against
to take a human life.

58

00:04:41,320 --> 00:04:46,090

There are other
punishments in this world.

59

00:04:46,090 --> 00:04:57,850

But anyway, I just did certain
things in order to, OK,

60

00:04:57,850 --> 00:05:01,420

if it depends on me I have to.

61

00:05:01,420 --> 00:05:04,240

But not because I--

62

00:05:04,240 --> 00:05:06,100

I really didn't feel like it.

63

00:05:06,100 --> 00:05:09,880

But there was one thing,
really, mainly that we

64

00:05:09,880 --> 00:05:11,710

knew the war can't last long.

65

00:05:11,710 --> 00:05:14,230

We know that.

66

00:05:14,230 --> 00:05:20,590

And so we thought that
maybe we could last as long.

67

00:05:20,590 --> 00:05:26,020

And also, this was important
what I'm just doing now.

68

00:05:26,020 --> 00:05:31,850

We all said we have to
survive to tell the world.

69

00:05:31,850 --> 00:05:34,630

I don't know how
much it's worth it,

70

00:05:34,630 --> 00:05:37,810

but this was a very
important thing for us

71

00:05:37,810 --> 00:05:43,410

to tell the world what
was going on in Auschwitz.

72

00:05:43,410 --> 00:05:51,680

So anyway, we heard already
gunfire in December.

73

00:05:51,680 --> 00:05:54,830

And also we heard something.

74

00:05:54,830 --> 00:06:02,300

The man who brought in the
supplies, I didn't hear them

75

00:06:02,300 --> 00:06:05,210

but it came through
the grapevine

76

00:06:05,210 --> 00:06:11,270

that they stopped gassing the
people at the end of November

77

00:06:11,270 --> 00:06:12,680

or something.

78

00:06:12,680 --> 00:06:22,850

That man who was Hitler's
next, not Goebbels, the guy

79

00:06:22,850 --> 00:06:24,680

he visited Auschwitz too.

80

00:06:24,680 --> 00:06:25,700

I don't know his name.

81

00:06:25,700 --> 00:06:28,790

Anyway, that he knew

that they lost the war

82

00:06:28,790 --> 00:06:33,560

and he wants to make a
peace affair for the Allies.

83

00:06:33,560 --> 00:06:35,330

I think which he did, too.

84

00:06:35,330 --> 00:06:39,380

And that's why he
stopped the gas.

85

00:06:39,380 --> 00:06:41,790

But who could know?

86

00:06:41,790 --> 00:06:44,370

I still don't know if
it was true or not.

87

00:06:44,370 --> 00:06:51,470

So the thing on the word
to say that from now on we

88

00:06:51,470 --> 00:06:53,450

won't gas you.

89

00:06:53,450 --> 00:06:56,750

So it was just a word,
I still don't know.

90

00:06:56,750 --> 00:07:03,410

So anyway, then Christmas came.

91

00:07:03,410 --> 00:07:07,810

And I have a very strong
feeling about this.

92

00:07:07,810 --> 00:07:09,460

I remember Christmas back.

93

00:07:09,460 --> 00:07:11,140

You know I have
Christian friends.

94
00:07:11,140 --> 00:07:14,290
We were invited to
their houses and you

95
00:07:14,290 --> 00:07:18,080
know like for Hanukkah
we invited them.

96
00:07:18,080 --> 00:07:23,200
And I remember we
were there working

97
00:07:23,200 --> 00:07:26,080
and I knew that
Christmas was coming,

98
00:07:26,080 --> 00:07:31,330
and I was wondering about
Christmas in Auschwitz.

99
00:07:31,330 --> 00:07:33,620
So I think we just
worked a half a day.

100
00:07:33,620 --> 00:07:40,650
But before I say
this, us there were

101
00:07:40,650 --> 00:07:44,680
the fence, the electric fence.

102
00:07:44,680 --> 00:07:48,260
Next to every section
outside the fence

103
00:07:48,260 --> 00:07:53,140
there was a cute little cottage.

104
00:07:53,140 --> 00:07:57,310
The SS guards used it.

105
00:07:57,310 --> 00:08:00,910
It belonged to them, the guards.

106
00:08:00,910 --> 00:08:06,890
And inside of the fence there
was a huge pine tree, very,

107
00:08:06,890 --> 00:08:11,950
very high, was always there we
went back and forth we saw it.

108
00:08:11,950 --> 00:08:14,890
So what happened?

109
00:08:14,890 --> 00:08:20,740
Before Christmas, they
lighted up the huge pine tree

110
00:08:20,740 --> 00:08:23,140
with contents of light outside.

111
00:08:23,140 --> 00:08:27,340
It was outside, next
to the guard cottage

112
00:08:27,340 --> 00:08:34,870
but inside next to the fence,
and they celebrated Christmas.

113
00:08:34,870 --> 00:08:38,780
And I was sitting there
at my table, and I said,

114
00:08:38,780 --> 00:08:41,110
this is really something.

115
00:08:41,110 --> 00:08:44,270

116
00:08:44,270 --> 00:08:46,940
Here in this place where

they killed millions

117

00:08:46,940 --> 00:08:50,780

of Jewish children, they
are celebrating the birth

118

00:08:50,780 --> 00:08:57,020

of Christ, the Jewish child
who was born a Jew, lived a Jew

119

00:08:57,020 --> 00:08:59,600

and died a Jew in
the land of Israel.

120

00:08:59,600 --> 00:09:03,020

And the SS
celebrating Christmas.

121

00:09:03,020 --> 00:09:07,010

And the thing was
there until New Year.

122

00:09:07,010 --> 00:09:10,685

It was Christmas in Auschwitz
in their own fashion.

123

00:09:10,685 --> 00:09:17,730

124

00:09:17,730 --> 00:09:19,920

OK.

125

00:09:19,920 --> 00:09:24,460

Christmas was over,
and I remember

126

00:09:24,460 --> 00:09:27,180

it was January the 1st.

127

00:09:27,180 --> 00:09:29,340

Yeah, exactly.

128

00:09:29,340 --> 00:09:35,220

That evening we were chased out
of the barrack and lined up.

129

00:09:35,220 --> 00:09:39,120

And then we marched
to the bathhouse.

130

00:09:39,120 --> 00:09:43,290

And after the bathhouse,
the same thing.

131

00:09:43,290 --> 00:09:45,870

We lined up.

132

00:09:45,870 --> 00:09:49,080

Yeah, but before
that, at one point,

133

00:09:49,080 --> 00:09:52,350

just a few days
before Christmas,

134

00:09:52,350 --> 00:09:59,880

Sarah had some very bad
case of the frostbite.

135

00:09:59,880 --> 00:10:02,100

And she couldn't
walk on her feet,

136

00:10:02,100 --> 00:10:06,450

so she had to go to
the hospital barrack.

137

00:10:06,450 --> 00:10:11,070

And we know that the hospital
was next to the crematorium.

138

00:10:11,070 --> 00:10:12,395

This is how it worked.

139

00:10:12,395 --> 00:10:16,410

You went to the hospital,
you usually never returned,

140

00:10:16,410 --> 00:10:21,420
and that was your last station
before the crematorium.

141

00:10:21,420 --> 00:10:24,310
So nobody wanted to
go to the hospital.

142

00:10:24,310 --> 00:10:29,520
And I talked to her, Sarah I
said, why do you think about

143

00:10:29,520 --> 00:10:30,660
to go there?

144

00:10:30,660 --> 00:10:35,980
Can't you see, I can't
ever get up on my foot.

145

00:10:35,980 --> 00:10:37,410
You know this anyway.

146

00:10:37,410 --> 00:10:40,320
So anyway she signed up.

147

00:10:40,320 --> 00:10:44,410
And then was another
friend of mine

148

00:10:44,410 --> 00:10:46,240
with whom we were together.

149

00:10:46,240 --> 00:10:50,100
And so New Years Eve and they
marched us to the bathhouse

150

00:10:50,100 --> 00:10:52,950
and they had another selection.

151

00:10:52,950 --> 00:10:57,810

This Sarah was on there, but
my girlfriend, the other,

152

00:10:57,810 --> 00:10:58,980

was there.

153

00:10:58,980 --> 00:11:05,550

So they selected the same way
and this time I didn't make it.

154

00:11:05,550 --> 00:11:10,350

Those who were still good,
like this friend of mine,

155

00:11:10,350 --> 00:11:12,000

they lined up
separately and they

156

00:11:12,000 --> 00:11:15,240

were told that tomorrow
they take them to Germany.

157

00:11:15,240 --> 00:11:18,000

And there was the
corner and I went there

158

00:11:18,000 --> 00:11:20,120

with the rest of
the unfortunate.

159

00:11:20,120 --> 00:11:28,290

So this is something which makes
a difference how you feel, how

160

00:11:28,290 --> 00:11:31,360

you felt. It is a difference.

161

00:11:31,360 --> 00:11:34,080

And so I was there,
and then they

162

00:11:34,080 --> 00:11:39,750

said to us to get out
in front of the barrack.

163
00:11:39,750 --> 00:11:42,550
It was dark at night already.

164
00:11:42,550 --> 00:11:43,800
And it was very cold.

165
00:11:43,800 --> 00:11:47,160
And we just get out of the bath.

166
00:11:47,160 --> 00:11:53,160
We had no towel, we just put on
our self the one piece of dress

167
00:11:53,160 --> 00:11:54,720
and the little
jacket what we had.

168
00:11:54,720 --> 00:11:58,590

169
00:11:58,590 --> 00:12:01,770
And thus we are standing
there in the dark,

170
00:12:01,770 --> 00:12:04,680
in the cold, across
the street was

171
00:12:04,680 --> 00:12:08,860
one of the main
crematorium from us.

172
00:12:08,860 --> 00:12:10,680
And we were standing
there and wondering

173
00:12:10,680 --> 00:12:13,800
what will be our fate.

174

00:12:13,800 --> 00:12:16,260

We thought about that
maybe it doesn't work,

175

00:12:16,260 --> 00:12:19,110

maybe they don't gas anymore.

176

00:12:19,110 --> 00:12:24,030

And we looked and I saw
there it was it was dark.

177

00:12:24,030 --> 00:12:30,780

There was no work going on,
as you could see from there.

178

00:12:30,780 --> 00:12:34,530

But it took a long time
for us to stand there.

179

00:12:34,530 --> 00:12:37,980

And I had there a little
girl who was about,

180

00:12:37,980 --> 00:12:44,500

I don't know, 14 years old
or so, also a relative to us.

181

00:12:44,500 --> 00:12:47,680

And we were standing
there, and at one point

182

00:12:47,680 --> 00:12:49,170

she started to cry.

183

00:12:49,170 --> 00:12:51,870

184

00:12:51,870 --> 00:12:55,080

And as she stood next
to me and she said,

185

00:12:55,080 --> 00:12:57,780

Julie, they will take

us to the crema--

186
00:12:57,780 --> 00:13:02,040
this was the nickname
for the crematorium.

187
00:13:02,040 --> 00:13:04,530
So I said, take a look.

188
00:13:04,530 --> 00:13:07,890
It doesn't look like there
is anything going on there.

189
00:13:07,890 --> 00:13:11,730
So she looked but she still
went on crying and crying.

190
00:13:11,730 --> 00:13:15,360
And at one point I
was nervous how should

191
00:13:15,360 --> 00:13:16,780
I know what was going on?

192
00:13:16,780 --> 00:13:18,130
I just wanted to calm her.

193
00:13:18,130 --> 00:13:21,310
But in the meantime,
I felt the same way.

194
00:13:21,310 --> 00:13:26,280
So when she went on crying,
at one point I yelled at her.

195
00:13:26,280 --> 00:13:28,740
I said, stop crying.

196
00:13:28,740 --> 00:13:33,000
We will see soon enough
what happens, no?

197

00:13:33,000 --> 00:13:36,360

Anyway, then they
told us to start,

198

00:13:36,360 --> 00:13:39,570

and we passed by
and a few yards what

199

00:13:39,570 --> 00:13:43,530

we passed by there we didn't
know if we were taken in there

200

00:13:43,530 --> 00:13:45,750

or what will happen.

201

00:13:45,750 --> 00:13:48,720

But we passed it
by and we went back

202

00:13:48,720 --> 00:13:52,560

and I remember this was the last
day when the Christmas tree was

203

00:13:52,560 --> 00:13:55,420

still there.

204

00:13:55,420 --> 00:14:00,220

And as we went through the gate,
this girl, I forget her name,

205

00:14:00,220 --> 00:14:02,580

she said to me,
Julie, you were right.

206

00:14:02,580 --> 00:14:04,830

They didn't take
us to the crema,

207

00:14:04,830 --> 00:14:08,670

just like a child would say,
OK, that as I mentioned I always

208

00:14:08,670 --> 00:14:12,270

compare these to the child
was taken to the dentist

209
00:14:12,270 --> 00:14:16,020
and it wasn't as bad.

210
00:14:16,020 --> 00:14:17,640
So she's relieved.

211
00:14:17,640 --> 00:14:18,900
It wasn't as bad.

212
00:14:18,900 --> 00:14:22,860
So she was relieved because
we didn't go into the crema.

213
00:14:22,860 --> 00:14:30,630
After a while, these things are
so casual to you, so common.

214
00:14:30,630 --> 00:14:32,580
I can't explain how it is.

215
00:14:32,580 --> 00:14:35,760
But it would be here a
big, big thing, like it is

216
00:14:35,760 --> 00:14:37,080
and he should be.

217
00:14:37,080 --> 00:14:41,760
After a while it was like
the normal way of life.

218
00:14:41,760 --> 00:14:45,960
Not because we took it
like that, but it became--

219
00:14:45,960 --> 00:14:51,270
I can't explain it any
better that human nature gets

220

00:14:51,270 --> 00:14:56,130
used to everything, I guess

221
00:14:56,130 --> 00:15:00,660
And so next day I went to work.

222
00:15:00,660 --> 00:15:04,530
And the three of us were
best friends to the end.

223
00:15:04,530 --> 00:15:07,530
And one of them who were
selected for Germany

224
00:15:07,530 --> 00:15:09,100
wasn't there anymore.

225
00:15:09,100 --> 00:15:13,960
And I was sitting at the table
and I felt very, very sad.

226
00:15:13,960 --> 00:15:14,970
I felt alone.

227
00:15:14,970 --> 00:15:18,310
Sarah was away, who
knows what is with her.

228
00:15:18,310 --> 00:15:20,910
My other best
friend went Germany.

229
00:15:20,910 --> 00:15:22,410
And I was alone there.

230
00:15:22,410 --> 00:15:27,430
So I look up, Sarah
walked in here.

231
00:15:27,430 --> 00:15:29,085
So I said to her, Are you back?

232

00:15:29,085 --> 00:15:29,980
I couldn't believe.

233
00:15:29,980 --> 00:15:31,540
I thought she was dead.

234
00:15:31,540 --> 00:15:32,440
She says, no.

235
00:15:32,440 --> 00:15:35,800
She said, I've
heard some rumors,

236
00:15:35,800 --> 00:15:39,520
but nobody was taken
away while I was there.

237
00:15:39,520 --> 00:15:43,510
So I still don't know if it was
a rumor, but maybe it wasn't.

238
00:15:43,510 --> 00:15:44,740
But they shot people.

239
00:15:44,740 --> 00:15:46,190
They shoot people.

240
00:15:46,190 --> 00:15:50,110
It wasn't just the only way
to kill people you know.

241
00:15:50,110 --> 00:15:53,500
And at the same
time they brought

242
00:15:53,500 --> 00:15:56,410
in a bunch of Polish
people and they shot

243
00:15:56,410 --> 00:15:58,610
them next to the crematorium.

244

00:15:58,610 --> 00:16:01,400
So evidently it doesn't work.

245
00:16:01,400 --> 00:16:02,260
I don't know.

246
00:16:02,260 --> 00:16:05,825
I can't say that it
worked or didn't.

247
00:16:05,825 --> 00:16:09,070

248
00:16:09,070 --> 00:16:13,360
So we were working there and
it was cold and there was snow.

249
00:16:13,360 --> 00:16:16,120
At one point, Sarah
says a couple of days

250
00:16:16,120 --> 00:16:18,670
after, Julie, I
tell you something.

251
00:16:18,670 --> 00:16:20,740
I want to go back
to the hospital.

252
00:16:20,740 --> 00:16:22,660
My foot still hurts.

253
00:16:22,660 --> 00:16:24,860
And she says, not because of--

254
00:16:24,860 --> 00:16:25,630
Let me tell you.

255
00:16:25,630 --> 00:16:27,310
I don't know what it is.

256
00:16:27,310 --> 00:16:32,470

But in the hospital we
were only two to a cot

257
00:16:32,470 --> 00:16:36,280
and even had a
pillow and a blanket.

258
00:16:36,280 --> 00:16:40,060
And they gave some very, very
little food, less than here,

259
00:16:40,060 --> 00:16:42,670
but it was warm.

260
00:16:42,670 --> 00:16:43,780
And I looked at her.

261
00:16:43,780 --> 00:16:46,750
I thought she was crazy.

262
00:16:46,750 --> 00:16:50,530
I said, here I am just happy
to see that you came back

263
00:16:50,530 --> 00:16:51,550
and you want to go back.

264
00:16:51,550 --> 00:16:53,800
She says, Julie, doesn't matter.

265
00:16:53,800 --> 00:16:58,410
If I have to die, I rather
die in the warm barrack.

266
00:16:58,410 --> 00:16:59,170
OK.

267
00:16:59,170 --> 00:17:03,220
Now I couldn't visualize
myself being there alone.

268
00:17:03,220 --> 00:17:09,310

I mean, I wasn't alone but
our group wasn't there.

269
00:17:09,310 --> 00:17:14,589
So the other girl went and she
will go and I will be alone.

270
00:17:14,589 --> 00:17:20,500
So she said to me, whey
don't you come too?

271
00:17:20,500 --> 00:17:26,247
And then I told her about
what it meant before to go.

272
00:17:26,247 --> 00:17:27,680
[COUGHS]

273
00:17:27,680 --> 00:17:34,750
Sorry, but when I
took a lot it happens.

274
00:17:34,750 --> 00:17:40,480
Anyway, she didn't
give up on this idea.

275
00:17:40,480 --> 00:17:44,890
And she said Julie, if you
come or not, I'm going.

276
00:17:44,890 --> 00:17:47,620
Because if I come back
here, I have to work hard.

277
00:17:47,620 --> 00:17:49,270
I am sitting in the cold.

278
00:17:49,270 --> 00:17:50,680
I have nothing to eat.

279
00:17:50,680 --> 00:17:55,360
And what I have there a
few days is much better,

280
00:17:55,360 --> 00:17:57,430
whatever it costs.

281
00:17:57,430 --> 00:18:04,460
So we went back to the barracks
and she signed up for next day

282
00:18:04,460 --> 00:18:07,840
to enter the hospital barrack.

283
00:18:07,840 --> 00:18:11,470
And I did too.

284
00:18:11,470 --> 00:18:14,320
And all night I was
thinking, my God, no.

285
00:18:14,320 --> 00:18:19,090
I am doing exactly the
same thing, which I was

286
00:18:19,090 --> 00:18:22,010
so afraid all during this time.

287
00:18:22,010 --> 00:18:26,110
I am entering the
hospital barrack.

288
00:18:26,110 --> 00:18:27,820
But now I really
was at the point

289
00:18:27,820 --> 00:18:30,430
I didn't want to be
alone, whatever it was.

290
00:18:30,430 --> 00:18:34,300
And I didn't care too much
what will be one way or another

291
00:18:34,300 --> 00:18:34,990

anyway.

292

00:18:34,990 --> 00:18:40,590

The next morning, we
went, and she was right.

293

00:18:40,590 --> 00:18:41,550

We entered.

294

00:18:41,550 --> 00:18:44,660

We said that I was her daughter.

295

00:18:44,660 --> 00:18:48,690

This is what we said because
in this way, let's say,

296

00:18:48,690 --> 00:18:51,480

not because they
don't separate you,

297

00:18:51,480 --> 00:18:55,230

but we figured it's
better if we say this.

298

00:18:55,230 --> 00:19:00,780

So I was known there
that she's my mother.

299

00:19:00,780 --> 00:19:08,460

So we got a cot, and it a
really very nice, much better.

300

00:19:08,460 --> 00:19:16,950

And after a few days,
we heard very close

301

00:19:16,950 --> 00:19:23,370

by guns and bombs
and everything.

302

00:19:23,370 --> 00:19:28,500

And we knew that
something is happening

303
00:19:28,500 --> 00:19:34,380
not far, that the war is
coming toward Auschwitz.

304
00:19:34,380 --> 00:19:42,360
And one morning
we wake up and we

305
00:19:42,360 --> 00:19:47,520
hear shoveling coals
and something going on.

306
00:19:47,520 --> 00:19:52,890
And we see two barrack women who
worked in the barrack brought

307
00:19:52,890 --> 00:19:56,555
in some coal from
somewhere and they

308
00:19:56,555 --> 00:19:58,980
are shoveling it under the bed.

309
00:19:58,980 --> 00:20:02,160
We were thinking,
why they need it?

310
00:20:02,160 --> 00:20:03,450
So they are smart.

311
00:20:03,450 --> 00:20:07,830
They knew what was going on and
they wanted to have some coal.

312
00:20:07,830 --> 00:20:11,100
They stole it from
some barrack so they

313
00:20:11,100 --> 00:20:15,780
could have coal in the barrack.

314

00:20:15,780 --> 00:20:20,260
And then when it got
light in the morning,

315
00:20:20,260 --> 00:20:26,670
somebody come in and said
that the electricity went out

316
00:20:26,670 --> 00:20:28,410
of the fence.

317
00:20:28,410 --> 00:20:30,210
You know what it meant.

318
00:20:30,210 --> 00:20:31,380
We couldn't believe it.

319
00:20:31,380 --> 00:20:33,240
How come the
electricity went out?

320
00:20:33,240 --> 00:20:37,440
So everybody went
outside and it was true.

321
00:20:37,440 --> 00:20:39,540
The electricity went
out of the fence

322
00:20:39,540 --> 00:20:42,090
and we hoped that
the SS left too.

323
00:20:42,090 --> 00:20:45,960
But there were SS walking
around and the little guy

324
00:20:45,960 --> 00:20:48,150
pulls which I mentioned before.

325
00:20:48,150 --> 00:20:53,100
Papers were thrown out
and all over around.

326
00:20:53,100 --> 00:20:56,940
They were official papers
or what I don't know.

327
00:20:56,940 --> 00:20:57,770
They threw out.

328
00:20:57,770 --> 00:21:08,580
So this showed already some
kind of very unusual thing.

329
00:21:08,580 --> 00:21:18,200
And then Sarah and I went around
and we saw a woman bringing on

330
00:21:18,200 --> 00:21:20,760
her arm some clothing.

331
00:21:20,760 --> 00:21:22,300
And we said, where
did you get it?

332
00:21:22,300 --> 00:21:24,060
Just go and get it.

333
00:21:24,060 --> 00:21:29,370
There was a barrack which
has clothing and it's open

334
00:21:29,370 --> 00:21:31,710
and you can go inside.

335
00:21:31,710 --> 00:21:36,270
So we were like, you
dunderhead, eat something.

336
00:21:36,270 --> 00:21:43,320
The electricity is not in the
fence and everything looked

337
00:21:43,320 --> 00:21:45,570

like it was coming to the end.

338

00:21:45,570 --> 00:21:49,860

So we went with Sarah and we
picked up just a few things.

339

00:21:49,860 --> 00:21:54,990

I remember boots and a
coat and if few sweaters.

340

00:21:54,990 --> 00:21:56,050

I don't know.

341

00:21:56,050 --> 00:21:58,500

And we were coming
back on one side

342

00:21:58,500 --> 00:22:01,950

and we saw an SS walking
on the other side

343

00:22:01,950 --> 00:22:06,030

and of course I thought that
he will shoot us right away.

344

00:22:06,030 --> 00:22:10,320

He saw us and he
didn't do nothing.

345

00:22:10,320 --> 00:22:12,660

So we came back to the barrack.

346

00:22:12,660 --> 00:22:16,230

We put down the clothes
and we went out.

347

00:22:16,230 --> 00:22:20,550

And somebody came with
a huge, like this,

348

00:22:20,550 --> 00:22:24,670

with bread, 10 or
15 pieces of bread.

349
00:22:24,670 --> 00:22:26,280
So where did you get it?

350
00:22:26,280 --> 00:22:30,480
Go, there is a barrack
you could get it.

351
00:22:30,480 --> 00:22:32,220
So we went.

352
00:22:32,220 --> 00:22:41,040
And there was a barrack and
there was a chicken-wire fence.

353
00:22:41,040 --> 00:22:43,680
And Sarah went under
the chicken-wire

354
00:22:43,680 --> 00:22:46,260
and went into the
barrack and she

355
00:22:46,260 --> 00:22:50,920
told me to stay there at the
fence, not to go with her.

356
00:22:50,920 --> 00:22:53,580
So she said, I will
bring the bread,

357
00:22:53,580 --> 00:22:56,100
I hand it to you
one under the fence

358
00:22:56,100 --> 00:22:59,550
and you will pick them up.

359
00:22:59,550 --> 00:23:04,020
In the meantime, SS
came right there.

360

00:23:04,020 --> 00:23:09,210

And he shoot up into the
air and we looked around

361

00:23:09,210 --> 00:23:11,070

and we thought that
maybe he will shoot us.

362

00:23:11,070 --> 00:23:15,270

I mean, just yesterday
he would have done that.

363

00:23:15,270 --> 00:23:17,400

But I hear something.

364

00:23:17,400 --> 00:23:21,360

And you see bread with
the hungry stomach

365

00:23:21,360 --> 00:23:25,710

you forget that you could
be shot, dragged away.

366

00:23:25,710 --> 00:23:26,760

You don't care.

367

00:23:26,760 --> 00:23:27,870

Nobody cared.

368

00:23:27,870 --> 00:23:32,310

He didn't, as far as I know,
he didn't shoot anybody.

369

00:23:32,310 --> 00:23:39,270

So Sarah came and she gave me
the stuff, shoved it under.

370

00:23:39,270 --> 00:23:42,390

She came over and we
went back to the barracks

371

00:23:42,390 --> 00:23:44,560

with all the bread.

372
00:23:44,560 --> 00:23:48,780
We were fortunate because we
were not really, really sick.

373
00:23:48,780 --> 00:23:52,140
Food became better
and I was very weak

374
00:23:52,140 --> 00:23:54,450
but we were not sick,
so we could get around.

375
00:23:54,450 --> 00:23:59,130
And many of them like
Irene was laying there.

376
00:23:59,130 --> 00:24:03,330
He's the time when I
met Irene, you know,

377
00:24:03,330 --> 00:24:06,780
who was laying next to us.

378
00:24:06,780 --> 00:24:09,970

379
00:24:09,970 --> 00:24:14,500
And so this miracle started
to happen in Auschwitz.

380
00:24:14,500 --> 00:24:18,340
But we didn't know what
happened because we didn't know.

381
00:24:18,340 --> 00:24:20,950
The SS was still there.

382
00:24:20,950 --> 00:24:23,000
They still could
come and kill us all.

383

00:24:23,000 --> 00:24:25,450

And then we were
wondering if they

384

00:24:25,450 --> 00:24:31,450

will leave a place like
this for the world to see

385

00:24:31,450 --> 00:24:33,650

and is there alive.

386

00:24:33,650 --> 00:24:44,130

So then we went on
in no man's land.

387

00:24:44,130 --> 00:24:49,410

The Russians were not
there and then the SS left.

388

00:24:49,410 --> 00:24:53,190

In a couple of days we
didn't see any more SS

389

00:24:53,190 --> 00:24:57,670

and we hoped that the
Russians will come,

390

00:24:57,670 --> 00:24:58,990

but we didn't know when.

391

00:24:58,990 --> 00:25:02,110

So this is what happened
that I described today

392

00:25:02,110 --> 00:25:05,170

when two Germans
came in and killed

393

00:25:05,170 --> 00:25:09,190

the man who had the girlfriend.

394

00:25:09,190 --> 00:25:17,070

And also I told before that

there was a few days later--

395

00:25:17,070 --> 00:25:22,040

396

00:25:22,040 --> 00:25:25,490

It was again I know the day
but I don't know the date,

397

00:25:25,490 --> 00:25:28,010

but I know it was
a Thursday evening.

398

00:25:28,010 --> 00:25:29,360

We were in the old barrack.

399

00:25:29,360 --> 00:25:36,110

And old barrack lead there
was a very high-class

400

00:25:36,110 --> 00:25:39,980

Polish gentlewoman.

401

00:25:39,980 --> 00:25:44,480

I remember she walked
through the cots

402

00:25:44,480 --> 00:25:51,410

on the road between our
cots there with a cigarette

403

00:25:51,410 --> 00:25:54,020

holder in her mouth.

404

00:25:54,020 --> 00:25:54,710

Powerful woman.

405

00:25:54,710 --> 00:25:57,470

I think she was some
Polish aristocrat who

406

00:25:57,470 --> 00:26:02,250

they put her there for some
political reason or something.

407
00:26:02,250 --> 00:26:07,670
But anyway, this Thursday
evening somebody comes in

408
00:26:07,670 --> 00:26:19,500
and they said some SS came from
somewhere else to the camp.

409
00:26:19,500 --> 00:26:23,600
So we know already that
this is not the Russians.

410
00:26:23,600 --> 00:26:34,290
Yet so it was evening and
dark, and this barrack lady

411
00:26:34,290 --> 00:26:39,000
went to our barrack and
she told us, in this bar

412
00:26:39,000 --> 00:26:44,380
there are no Jews, meaning--

413
00:26:44,380 --> 00:26:46,090
that's all what she said--

414
00:26:46,090 --> 00:26:49,690
meaning that if
they come for us,

415
00:26:49,690 --> 00:26:52,420
because they wanted
to take individuals,

416
00:26:52,420 --> 00:26:54,440
that we are not Jews.

417
00:26:54,440 --> 00:26:57,760
Maybe that woman.

418

00:26:57,760 --> 00:27:00,220

So anyway, through
the open door we

419

00:27:00,220 --> 00:27:06,160

heard they we chasing out of
the other barracks the girls.

420

00:27:06,160 --> 00:27:08,920

Noise, crying and everything.

421

00:27:08,920 --> 00:27:13,600

And Sarah and another
girl decided that they

422

00:27:13,600 --> 00:27:16,390

will go under the beds.

423

00:27:16,390 --> 00:27:19,630

In case they come in,
they are not there.

424

00:27:19,630 --> 00:27:22,360

I with my honest
mind all the time

425

00:27:22,360 --> 00:27:25,430

I didn't want to do anything
which wasn't honest,

426

00:27:25,430 --> 00:27:27,640

so I put on my coat.

427

00:27:27,640 --> 00:27:29,110

I was ready.

428

00:27:29,110 --> 00:27:35,710

I stood at the end
of my bed and I said,

429

00:27:35,710 --> 00:27:38,350

if they come in, if

I hide under the bed

430

00:27:38,350 --> 00:27:41,950
and they chase me out then
they know why I am hiding.

431

00:27:41,950 --> 00:27:45,730
But maybe if I stay
here, standing up,

432

00:27:45,730 --> 00:27:48,520
I only go when they
want me badly to go.

433

00:27:48,520 --> 00:27:50,470
But otherwise, I won't.

434

00:27:50,470 --> 00:27:52,750
So anyway I stood there.

435

00:27:52,750 --> 00:27:55,000
Later, Sarah and
the girl came out

436

00:27:55,000 --> 00:27:57,950
because they said it
was very uncomfortable.

437

00:27:57,950 --> 00:28:02,560
So the next thing the
SS came to the door

438

00:28:02,560 --> 00:28:07,600
and told that all
the Jews get out.

439

00:28:07,600 --> 00:28:11,680
And the barrack lady went
through the barrack and said,

440

00:28:11,680 --> 00:28:14,500
all those who are Jews get out.

441

00:28:14,500 --> 00:28:19,760
So we didn't know if she changed
her mind or not what she said.

442

00:28:19,760 --> 00:28:26,460
But she told us before
we don't have to move.

443

00:28:26,460 --> 00:28:27,720
We are not Jews.

444

00:28:27,720 --> 00:28:29,430
That's what she meant.

445

00:28:29,430 --> 00:28:35,940
So they stood there, the
SS, for a little while,

446

00:28:35,940 --> 00:28:38,220
and nobody moved and they left.

447

00:28:38,220 --> 00:28:41,340
And that was the last of them.

448

00:28:41,340 --> 00:28:46,920
We had a few days, from
Thursday to Saturday evening,

449

00:28:46,920 --> 00:28:54,660
when finally somebody came and
said the Russians are here.

450

00:28:54,660 --> 00:28:57,660
But in the morning, after
when the SS went out

451

00:28:57,660 --> 00:29:01,470
in the morning, and
the unfortunate girls,

452

00:29:01,470 --> 00:29:05,910
the blanket rolled

up on their back,

453

00:29:05,910 --> 00:29:12,490

and ready when they
walked outside the fence,

454

00:29:12,490 --> 00:29:17,610

I don't know how many
we counted who were shot

455

00:29:17,610 --> 00:29:19,800

during that little visit there.

456

00:29:19,800 --> 00:29:22,150

I don't know if they
said they can't walk,

457

00:29:22,150 --> 00:29:27,870

what they wanted to get
off of the group or what,

458

00:29:27,870 --> 00:29:29,700

but there were many.

459

00:29:29,700 --> 00:29:34,410

Also, we went into a
barrack, Sarah and I,

460

00:29:34,410 --> 00:29:35,410

looking for something.

461

00:29:35,410 --> 00:29:38,340

We looked already
for things maybe

462

00:29:38,340 --> 00:29:43,530

we need in case we
survive after the SS.

463

00:29:43,530 --> 00:29:46,170

And there was these what
they call heitzgerat.

464

00:29:46,170 --> 00:29:49,980

I don't know if you
heard the German word.

465

00:29:49,980 --> 00:29:54,750

It was a heating thing.

466

00:29:54,750 --> 00:29:58,900

It was built through
the whole barrack.

467

00:29:58,900 --> 00:30:01,500

It wasn't really a
heater, but it was there.

468

00:30:01,500 --> 00:30:03,930

Anyway, we went
into this barrack

469

00:30:03,930 --> 00:30:08,190

and there was a
woman laying there

470

00:30:08,190 --> 00:30:12,510

and her face was shot out.

471

00:30:12,510 --> 00:30:15,660

And they just shot
wherever they went.

472

00:30:15,660 --> 00:30:22,890

So as I said, they came in
that the Russians are coming.

473

00:30:22,890 --> 00:30:27,000

And there was no
electricity, only candle.

474

00:30:27,000 --> 00:30:32,370

And the barrack
leader lit of a candle

475

00:30:32,370 --> 00:30:37,500
and was in the front, not
outside, inside, and those

476
00:30:37,500 --> 00:30:44,350
of us who could walk,
we went up there.

477
00:30:44,350 --> 00:30:48,570
And after about a
young rosy-cheeked

478
00:30:48,570 --> 00:30:52,020
Russian soldier came in.

479
00:30:52,020 --> 00:30:55,290
He had a white sheet
over his uniform.

480
00:30:55,290 --> 00:31:03,180
These what they wore in
that time through the snow.

481
00:31:03,180 --> 00:31:06,150
They became one with the
snow with the white sheet.

482
00:31:06,150 --> 00:31:08,670

483
00:31:08,670 --> 00:31:12,660
And he came in and the
blockalteste was there--

484
00:31:12,660 --> 00:31:16,830
blockalteste, I say it in
German, the barrack leader--

485
00:31:16,830 --> 00:31:20,610
she was standing there
with a candle in her hand.

486
00:31:20,610 --> 00:31:24,220

And she said, thank
you for coming.

487
00:31:24,220 --> 00:31:28,320
This is the moment
was very powerful.

488
00:31:28,320 --> 00:31:30,990
And he didn't know
where he was, I think.

489
00:31:30,990 --> 00:31:35,100
He went through the
barrack and he went out.

490
00:31:35,100 --> 00:31:37,680
And we realized that
now we were free.

491
00:31:37,680 --> 00:31:44,400
And I remember the pain I
had knowing that I was alive

492
00:31:44,400 --> 00:31:47,610
and just a few
yards away millions

493
00:31:47,610 --> 00:31:50,400
were killed, and
among my dear ones.

494
00:31:50,400 --> 00:31:52,920
I threw myself on the
bed and cried and cried.

495
00:31:52,920 --> 00:31:55,680
I think that was
my last big cry.

496
00:31:55,680 --> 00:31:58,950
Because after a while
I just stopped crying.

497

00:31:58,950 --> 00:32:01,740

So anyway this was
the time for Irene

498

00:32:01,740 --> 00:32:06,370

what I related to you
that she was there.

499

00:32:06,370 --> 00:32:09,280

And she was very sick.

500

00:32:09,280 --> 00:32:12,480

And we tried to do everything
with her to keep her alive.

501

00:32:12,480 --> 00:32:15,360

502

00:32:15,360 --> 00:32:24,160

And every night she had all
kinds of pain and everything.

503

00:32:24,160 --> 00:32:27,610

And so I went to her because
she was laying there and I said,

504

00:32:27,610 --> 00:32:29,980

Irene, we are free.

505

00:32:29,980 --> 00:32:32,520

You will be fine
and we are free.

506

00:32:32,520 --> 00:32:35,160

But she didn't respond.

507

00:32:35,160 --> 00:32:41,010

I remember she was laying
there and her eyes looked

508

00:32:41,010 --> 00:32:46,020

into the distance and
like a smile she had on.

509
00:32:46,020 --> 00:32:52,950
And so next day it was
Sunday, and I saw her.

510
00:32:52,950 --> 00:32:56,970
I sat next to bed
and watched her.

511
00:32:56,970 --> 00:32:58,520
And the same thing.

512
00:32:58,520 --> 00:33:02,460
And around 10 o'clock
in the morning she died.

513
00:33:02,460 --> 00:33:05,286
And we took her out to the--

514
00:33:05,286 --> 00:33:10,230
There was a huge pile
of dead bodies already.

515
00:33:10,230 --> 00:33:13,980
There were many, many
deaths during this period

516
00:33:13,980 --> 00:33:17,940
in the barracks, natural death.

517
00:33:17,940 --> 00:33:21,270
I don't know the excitement
or what I don't know.

518
00:33:21,270 --> 00:33:27,340
But I know one thing
there were two sisters not

519
00:33:27,340 --> 00:33:28,990
far from our bed.

520
00:33:28,990 --> 00:33:30,710

And as I walked, I saw them.

521

00:33:30,710 --> 00:33:37,210

The young girl was sick,
but they looked OK.

522

00:33:37,210 --> 00:33:38,500

They shared the same bed.

523

00:33:38,500 --> 00:33:46,570

And just during this period
as I walked one morning

524

00:33:46,570 --> 00:33:50,440

and the older was crying
but the younger one was

525

00:33:50,440 --> 00:33:53,050

laying there next to her.

526

00:33:53,050 --> 00:33:54,220

So I said, don't cry.

527

00:33:54,220 --> 00:33:55,360

She will be better.

528

00:33:55,360 --> 00:33:57,550

She looked up and
said, are you crazy?

529

00:33:57,550 --> 00:34:01,050

Can't you see she's dead?

530

00:34:01,050 --> 00:34:02,910

The little sister
just died there

531

00:34:02,910 --> 00:34:06,720

and was still laying there.

532

00:34:06,720 --> 00:34:07,980

The last days.

533
00:34:07,980 --> 00:34:10,159
So you say that the
last days people died?

534
00:34:10,159 --> 00:34:10,659
Yeah.

535
00:34:10,659 --> 00:34:12,300
In the barrack.

536
00:34:12,300 --> 00:34:15,300
Many more than before.

537
00:34:15,300 --> 00:34:16,260
I don't know what was.

538
00:34:16,260 --> 00:34:18,690
Maybe they were
ready, I don't know.

539
00:34:18,690 --> 00:34:25,139
There was a Czech woman also
who died right next to us there.

540
00:34:25,139 --> 00:34:26,880
And quite a few.

541
00:34:26,880 --> 00:34:35,580
Sarah helped them to carry them
out to the pile already frozen.

542
00:34:35,580 --> 00:34:39,150
And I helped Irene to get
there, but she didn't.

543
00:34:39,150 --> 00:34:42,610

544
00:34:42,610 --> 00:34:43,120
OK.

545

00:34:43,120 --> 00:34:48,340

So now I told how I got home
but I don't want to get in it.

546

00:34:48,340 --> 00:34:50,380

I hope it is there.

547

00:34:50,380 --> 00:34:53,550

Yes, and actually the
next person has arrived.

548

00:34:53,550 --> 00:34:55,159

OK.

549

00:34:55,159 --> 00:37:03,000