

1
00:00:00,000 --> 00:01:07,780

2
00:01:07,780 --> 00:01:09,243
10 seconds, Peggy.

3
00:01:09,243 --> 00:01:18,420
[INAUDIBLE] OK.

4
00:01:18,420 --> 00:01:20,880
We're interviewing
Abraham Grossman.

5
00:01:20,880 --> 00:01:26,000
It is April 26, 1991.

6
00:01:26,000 --> 00:01:28,590
We're interviewing him for
the Holocaust Oral History

7
00:01:28,590 --> 00:01:30,660
Project at Temple Beth Sholom.

8
00:01:30,660 --> 00:01:35,520
My name is Peggy Coster,
and with me is Tanya Zatkin.

9
00:01:35,520 --> 00:01:39,100
OK, could you start by
saying where you were born

10
00:01:39,100 --> 00:01:40,120
and when you're born?

11
00:01:40,120 --> 00:01:43,170
And spell out the
name, if you can.

12
00:01:43,170 --> 00:01:46,410
My name is, as you mentioned,
is Abraham Grossman.

13

00:01:46,410 --> 00:01:49,110

But I was not born

Abraham Grossman.

14

00:01:49,110 --> 00:01:53,280

But I was born with the name of

Adolf Everybody calls me Ali,

15

00:01:53,280 --> 00:01:59,280

so when I came to

Israel in 1948,

16

00:01:59,280 --> 00:02:02,550

I changed my name to

Abraham, because Adolf

17

00:02:02,550 --> 00:02:05,550

wouldn't go very well along.

18

00:02:05,550 --> 00:02:09,300

I was born in a

small town in Germany

19

00:02:09,300 --> 00:02:11,490

in the province of Mecklenburg.

20

00:02:11,490 --> 00:02:16,350

The town is called GÃ¼strow, a

very small town of about 25,000

21

00:02:16,350 --> 00:02:17,340

inhabitants.

22

00:02:17,340 --> 00:02:23,610

In fact, I was back in

GÃ¼strow about nine months ago,

23

00:02:23,610 --> 00:02:25,620

and nothing has really changed.

24

00:02:25,620 --> 00:02:29,940

Even the population has remained
at the same number of people.

25
00:02:29,940 --> 00:02:32,640

26
00:02:32,640 --> 00:02:37,960
I grew up in GÅ¼strow to the
age of 11, and then I left it.

27
00:02:37,960 --> 00:02:41,850
But I'd like to come to
that a little bit later.

28
00:02:41,850 --> 00:02:46,510
My parents were born in Warsaw,
in the capital city of Poland.

29
00:02:46,510 --> 00:02:51,330
And my father emigrated
in the '20s to that town.

30
00:02:51,330 --> 00:02:58,260
And I'd like to go into how
he decided to go into Germany.

31
00:02:58,260 --> 00:03:03,000
What I know was my parents never
really spoke about their past.

32
00:03:03,000 --> 00:03:05,550
Apparently, their past
was something they

33
00:03:05,550 --> 00:03:07,900
didn't like to speak about.

34
00:03:07,900 --> 00:03:10,710
But from a sentence
here and a remark

35
00:03:10,710 --> 00:03:17,510
there, I gleaned certain facts,

how they came into Germany.

36

00:03:17,510 --> 00:03:22,530

We had a distant relative who served in the Russian army

37

00:03:22,530 --> 00:03:24,450

in the First World War.

38

00:03:24,450 --> 00:03:27,870

And he was incarcerated in a prisoner of war camp next

39

00:03:27,870 --> 00:03:30,720

to that town, GÅ¼strow.

40

00:03:30,720 --> 00:03:34,350

And when he was released, he decided to stay in the town

41

00:03:34,350 --> 00:03:36,480

and not return to Warsaw.

42

00:03:36,480 --> 00:03:40,180

So he notified by post, I suppose,

43

00:03:40,180 --> 00:03:45,060

my parents that a good living was to be made in the town,

44

00:03:45,060 --> 00:03:49,620

much better than in poverty-stricken Poland.

45

00:03:49,620 --> 00:03:53,890

So one day, my grandfather, my father's father,

46

00:03:53,890 --> 00:03:57,690

my paternal grandfather-- he was a glazier.

47

00:03:57,690 --> 00:04:02,100

And he used to go through the streets of the city repairing

48

00:04:02,100 --> 00:04:03,360

window panes.

49

00:04:03,360 --> 00:04:08,100

So one day, a shegetz, a gentile person,

50

00:04:08,100 --> 00:04:12,900

came and beat him up and broke all his panes.

51

00:04:12,900 --> 00:04:15,360

My father, hearing of it, went after the shegetz

52

00:04:15,360 --> 00:04:18,120

and beat him so much that he thought he had killed him.

53

00:04:18,120 --> 00:04:22,350

Feeling retribution, he decided to leave, that very night,

54

00:04:22,350 --> 00:04:22,900

Poland.

55

00:04:22,900 --> 00:04:26,130

And he crossed the border into Germany.

56

00:04:26,130 --> 00:04:29,010

Soon after that, he made a little bit of money,

57

00:04:29,010 --> 00:04:30,517

and he brought my mother over.

58

00:04:30,517 --> 00:04:32,100

And they were married
then in GÅ¼strow.

59
00:04:32,100 --> 00:04:35,180

60
00:04:35,180 --> 00:04:38,670
I had two brothers
and one sister.

61
00:04:38,670 --> 00:04:40,640
I was the youngest son.

62
00:04:40,640 --> 00:04:43,820
There was Jacob, there
was Bernard, and Adolf--

63
00:04:43,820 --> 00:04:45,590
that is me-- I was
the youngest son.

64
00:04:45,590 --> 00:04:49,220
And then, a few years later,
to the joy of my father,

65
00:04:49,220 --> 00:04:51,800
a girl was born, and
her name was Tzili.

66
00:04:51,800 --> 00:04:55,325
Unfortunately, her fate
was to die in Auschwitz.

67
00:04:55,325 --> 00:04:58,300

68
00:04:58,300 --> 00:05:01,160
I went to school,
to a German school.

69
00:05:01,160 --> 00:05:03,600
There were-- I don't recollect.

70

00:05:03,600 --> 00:05:07,150
There must have been about 20
to 25 children, Jewish children.

71

00:05:07,150 --> 00:05:10,150
But in my class,
I was the only one

72

00:05:10,150 --> 00:05:13,110
except a distant-related
cousin of mine.

73

00:05:13,110 --> 00:05:17,350
We were the only two
in the same class.

74

00:05:17,350 --> 00:05:19,150
I grew up in--

75

00:05:19,150 --> 00:05:23,800
it was before the advent of the
National Socialist Hitler, when

76

00:05:23,800 --> 00:05:26,080
he came to power in 1933.

77

00:05:26,080 --> 00:05:31,300
A natural playful child, I had
absolutely no apprehensions

78

00:05:31,300 --> 00:05:33,300
or no fright.

79

00:05:33,300 --> 00:05:39,790
And I grew up playfully, and
I played with gentile mates.

80

00:05:39,790 --> 00:05:44,650
And I can't say that I felt
any kind of discrimination

81

00:05:44,650 --> 00:05:48,340

against me whatsoever.

82
00:05:48,340 --> 00:05:52,630
Opposite us, there
was a bar which was

83
00:05:52,630 --> 00:05:56,950
patronized by the population.

84
00:05:56,950 --> 00:05:59,410
And it was full to
capacity every night

85
00:05:59,410 --> 00:06:03,550
and drinking and singing,
and it was joyful.

86
00:06:03,550 --> 00:06:07,053
And I used to, very often, stand
in the entrance of that bar

87
00:06:07,053 --> 00:06:08,720
and had a look inside
what was going on.

88
00:06:08,720 --> 00:06:11,590
It was a kind of a game.

89
00:06:11,590 --> 00:06:16,630
There was an old man.

90
00:06:16,630 --> 00:06:17,820
He had a parrot.

91
00:06:17,820 --> 00:06:20,470
And I remember it
because, when I went back

92
00:06:20,470 --> 00:06:23,835
nine months ago, the kind
of remembrance, to me,

93

00:06:23,835 --> 00:06:24,460
it's important.

94
00:06:24,460 --> 00:06:27,250
I don't know whether,
to this particular talk,

95
00:06:27,250 --> 00:06:28,630
it has any relevance.

96
00:06:28,630 --> 00:06:31,840
But it's so important to me
that I would like to mention it.

97
00:06:31,840 --> 00:06:35,620

98
00:06:35,620 --> 00:06:39,400
There was a kind of an
alleyway we used to play in.

99
00:06:39,400 --> 00:06:42,970
And every time we passed the
door of this lonely old man,

100
00:06:42,970 --> 00:06:45,850
the parrot used to
shout in perfect German,

101
00:06:45,850 --> 00:06:46,960
"Halt. Who goes there?"

102
00:06:46,960 --> 00:06:47,910
Halt. Who goes there?"

103
00:06:47,910 --> 00:06:52,990

104
00:06:52,990 --> 00:06:57,520
From time to time, the
man used to call me in,

105

00:06:57,520 --> 00:07:00,230
and I used to run
errands for him.

106
00:07:00,230 --> 00:07:04,030
And he used to reward me
always with some sticky candies

107
00:07:04,030 --> 00:07:07,930
and some few pfennigs.

108
00:07:07,930 --> 00:07:12,130
And so we grew up
till the advent

109
00:07:12,130 --> 00:07:16,720
of the National Socialists,
when they came to power in 1933.

110
00:07:16,720 --> 00:07:19,630
Things started to change.

111
00:07:19,630 --> 00:07:22,960
Suddenly, the people who
used to come into our house

112
00:07:22,960 --> 00:07:25,600
and in our shop-- by
the way, my father

113
00:07:25,600 --> 00:07:28,240
opened a shop where
he sold everything

114
00:07:28,240 --> 00:07:30,520
from buttons to
watches and shoes

115
00:07:30,520 --> 00:07:36,070
and coats, kind of a super shop.

116
00:07:36,070 --> 00:07:38,560
Everything was sold

to the populace.

117
00:07:38,560 --> 00:07:42,760
And there were lots of
farms around our town

118
00:07:42,760 --> 00:07:44,860
and their laborers.

119
00:07:44,860 --> 00:07:47,050
And that's how my
father made a living,

120
00:07:47,050 --> 00:07:50,860
and he made quite a decent
living, because he, in the end,

121
00:07:50,860 --> 00:07:51,760
purchased a house.

122
00:07:51,760 --> 00:07:55,630
And then he purchased
a second one.

123
00:07:55,630 --> 00:08:03,550
And when the Nazis
came to power,

124
00:08:03,550 --> 00:08:04,750
things started to change.

125
00:08:04,750 --> 00:08:10,240
Those people I had associated
with suddenly started--

126
00:08:10,240 --> 00:08:13,600
kind of a metamorphosis
overcame them.

127
00:08:13,600 --> 00:08:18,680
They became terrible,
terrible antisemites suddenly.

128

00:08:18,680 --> 00:08:20,680

In my childish mind--
here I was, 11 years old--

129

00:08:20,680 --> 00:08:23,770

I couldn't make out
why suddenly people

130

00:08:23,770 --> 00:08:27,440

should change in such a manner,
why suddenly they hated us.

131

00:08:27,440 --> 00:08:33,610

And the word of "Jew" and sau
Jude," which means "pig Jew,"

132

00:08:33,610 --> 00:08:35,799

was thrown around easily at us.

133

00:08:35,799 --> 00:08:39,460

I couldn't make it out why
suddenly my friends didn't

134

00:08:39,460 --> 00:08:41,950

speak to us any longer.

135

00:08:41,950 --> 00:08:44,960

But opposite us lived a man.

136

00:08:44,960 --> 00:08:50,050

His name was [Personal name] and
he had a bicycle repair shop.

137

00:08:50,050 --> 00:08:51,490

And he was a communist.

138

00:08:51,490 --> 00:08:57,370

And his son was ostracized
by his gentile friends,

139

00:08:57,370 --> 00:08:58,780

so he played always with us.

140
00:08:58,780 --> 00:09:03,280
In fact, when I went back
nine months ago to the town,

141
00:09:03,280 --> 00:09:03,970
I met him.

142
00:09:03,970 --> 00:09:07,810
And we exchanged
lots of memories.

143
00:09:07,810 --> 00:09:11,060
He had lots of knowledge
which I remembered,

144
00:09:11,060 --> 00:09:12,910
but I didn't think
that he could ever

145
00:09:12,910 --> 00:09:15,548
remember them, because they were
important and relevant to me.

146
00:09:15,548 --> 00:09:17,590
But he remembered everything,
and that amazed me.

147
00:09:17,590 --> 00:09:20,510

148
00:09:20,510 --> 00:09:23,090
So he used to play with us.

149
00:09:23,090 --> 00:09:25,700
And we used to do
a lot of tricks.

150
00:09:25,700 --> 00:09:28,670
And we had a synagogue,
a very nice synagogue,

151

00:09:28,670 --> 00:09:31,160
which served not
only the town but all

152
00:09:31,160 --> 00:09:35,060
the smaller towns and the
villages where Jews lived.

153
00:09:35,060 --> 00:09:39,470
It served those people, and
especially on the High Holy

154
00:09:39,470 --> 00:09:41,450
Days.

155
00:09:41,450 --> 00:09:46,700
They all used to come in order
to take part in the services.

156
00:09:46,700 --> 00:09:48,998
And the cantor, his
name was Blumenfeld.

157
00:09:48,998 --> 00:09:50,040
I remember him very well.

158
00:09:50,040 --> 00:09:53,450
He was a small kind of a man.

159
00:09:53,450 --> 00:09:55,340
And he used to be,
also, the shochet.

160
00:09:55,340 --> 00:09:58,670
And he used to teach us how
to read the prayer book.

161
00:09:58,670 --> 00:10:03,080
And I had an incident with
the man from time to time.

162
00:10:03,080 --> 00:10:05,660
He had a very broad finger.

163
00:10:05,660 --> 00:10:07,437
And when he wanted
me to read a word,

164
00:10:07,437 --> 00:10:09,020
he used to put his
finger on the word.

165
00:10:09,020 --> 00:10:11,690
And I invariably
got the wrong word.

166
00:10:11,690 --> 00:10:13,340
And that annoyed him.

167
00:10:13,340 --> 00:10:15,160
He took it as a
personal offense.

168
00:10:15,160 --> 00:10:17,660
And any time I read the wrong
word, he used to take a ruler,

169
00:10:17,660 --> 00:10:20,420
and he used to slap me
across the knuckles.

170
00:10:20,420 --> 00:10:21,768
I took it very badly.

171
00:10:21,768 --> 00:10:23,810
I couldn't make out why
he would do such a thing.

172
00:10:23,810 --> 00:10:26,450
But as things go, things pass.

173
00:10:26,450 --> 00:10:28,970
So I forgave him,
and he forgave me.

174

00:10:28,970 --> 00:10:30,810
Things were OK with him.

175
00:10:30,810 --> 00:10:33,710
But I remember my
mother used to send me

176
00:10:33,710 --> 00:10:37,130
with a chicken to be
slaughtered, to the shochet.

177
00:10:37,130 --> 00:10:38,900
He was the shochet.

178
00:10:38,900 --> 00:10:40,700
and I remember he
used to come down

179
00:10:40,700 --> 00:10:45,740
with a big sort of dressing gown
reaching down to his ankles.

180
00:10:45,740 --> 00:10:49,580
And he had a fez on
his top and a pompom.

181
00:10:49,580 --> 00:10:54,035
And he had Meerschum pipe
clenched between his teeth

182
00:10:54,035 --> 00:10:55,410
which reached down
to the ground.

183
00:10:55,410 --> 00:10:59,120
And that's how he used to
come down to kill the chicken.

184
00:10:59,120 --> 00:11:03,800
So he had a kind of a beautiful
case inlaid with purple velvet.

185
00:11:03,800 --> 00:11:06,560

And there was a big, huge
shiny knife in there.

186
00:11:06,560 --> 00:11:09,950
And I handed him the chicken,
and he took the chicken,

187
00:11:09,950 --> 00:11:15,350
and he put the knife in his
mouth with the dull edge first.

188
00:11:15,350 --> 00:11:17,480
And then he took the
chicken, and he pulled

189
00:11:17,480 --> 00:11:20,240
the head back of the chicken.

190
00:11:20,240 --> 00:11:23,300
And he felt it all
over for blemishes.

191
00:11:23,300 --> 00:11:26,210
Finding none, he took the knife,
and with one swift stroke,

192
00:11:26,210 --> 00:11:29,600
he cut the throat of the chicken
and threw into the next bush.

193
00:11:29,600 --> 00:11:33,920
And the chicken used to run,
cawing at the top of his voice,

194
00:11:33,920 --> 00:11:37,760
run around, run around till
it fell and breathed its last.

195
00:11:37,760 --> 00:11:39,830
So I used to take the
chicken home to my mother.

196
00:11:39,830 --> 00:11:44,810

And she-- it was [LAUGHS]
rather shocking to me.

197
00:11:44,810 --> 00:11:49,130
But then I ate the foods my
mother made of this chicken,

198
00:11:49,130 --> 00:11:52,135
so I soon forgot
about these incidents.

199
00:11:52,135 --> 00:11:55,780

200
00:11:55,780 --> 00:12:00,490
In 1936, my father got ill.

201
00:12:00,490 --> 00:12:03,520
And he died.

202
00:12:03,520 --> 00:12:09,220
So my mother decided
to send me to a--

203
00:12:09,220 --> 00:12:13,510
no, I must go back a
little bit in school.

204
00:12:13,510 --> 00:12:14,720
We had a teacher.

205
00:12:14,720 --> 00:12:16,510
His name was Kruger.

206
00:12:16,510 --> 00:12:17,860
And he was an art teacher.

207
00:12:17,860 --> 00:12:21,310
And he had a pronounced limp.

208
00:12:21,310 --> 00:12:27,940
And he always maintained that

the war was caused by the Jews.

209

00:12:27,940 --> 00:12:36,010

And he, in his demeanor,
in his behavior towards us

210

00:12:36,010 --> 00:12:39,870

two pupils in that class
was something outrageous.

211

00:12:39,870 --> 00:12:43,000

The man was something terrible.

212

00:12:43,000 --> 00:12:47,080

Anyway, one day in
1933, when a teacher

213

00:12:47,080 --> 00:12:49,480

used to come into the
class, all the children used

214

00:12:49,480 --> 00:12:52,360

to get up and say, good
morning, herr teacher.

215

00:12:52,360 --> 00:12:55,360

He never used to get up, and he
used to say, morning, sit down.

216

00:12:55,360 --> 00:13:00,460

One day, he comes in, and he had
a uniform on of the Brownshirt,

217

00:13:00,460 --> 00:13:01,930

of the SA.

218

00:13:01,930 --> 00:13:03,850

And he lifted his
hand in a Nazi salute,

219

00:13:03,850 --> 00:13:05,950

and he shouted heil Hitler.

220

00:13:05,950 --> 00:13:08,380

And from that day
on, everybody got up.

221

00:13:08,380 --> 00:13:10,990

And he told them when he said,
heil Hitler, everybody say,

222

00:13:10,990 --> 00:13:13,390

heil Hitler.

223

00:13:13,390 --> 00:13:17,470

One day, my mother went
to Poland, to Warsaw,

224

00:13:17,470 --> 00:13:22,070

to visit her folks, her parents
and her sisters and brothers.

225

00:13:22,070 --> 00:13:24,820

I had never known them.

226

00:13:24,820 --> 00:13:28,060

In fact, I didn't know anybody.

227

00:13:28,060 --> 00:13:30,610

But she went, and she
went to visit her parents.

228

00:13:30,610 --> 00:13:34,630

And when she came back
after a few weeks,

229

00:13:34,630 --> 00:13:37,450

she brought lots of beautiful
Jewish food with her.

230

00:13:37,450 --> 00:13:40,240

And we enjoyed all
that food, especially

231

00:13:40,240 --> 00:13:42,550

she bought a salami along.

232
00:13:42,550 --> 00:13:43,760
And I loved that salami.

233
00:13:43,760 --> 00:13:47,330
It was full of garlic,
knoblauch It was wonderful.

234
00:13:47,330 --> 00:13:50,090
I loved that garlic and
I loved that sausage.

235
00:13:50,090 --> 00:13:51,150
It was wonderful.

236
00:13:51,150 --> 00:13:54,460
Anyway, my mother made
sandwiches, wrapped them up

237
00:13:54,460 --> 00:13:57,520
in cellophane and gave it to
me, And I took it to school.

238
00:13:57,520 --> 00:13:59,560
I put it under my desk.

239
00:13:59,560 --> 00:14:02,920
And that morning, Kruger
came in, and he said, heil.

240
00:14:02,920 --> 00:14:04,480
And he couldn't finish his word.

241
00:14:04,480 --> 00:14:05,950
He couldn't finish "Hitler."

242
00:14:05,950 --> 00:14:09,490
He smelled the garlic.

243
00:14:09,490 --> 00:14:13,320
And he said-- in German, it's

knoblauch-- he said, knoblauch,

244

00:14:13,320 --> 00:14:14,320

knoblauch.

245

00:14:14,320 --> 00:14:18,160

Oh my, God, when I realized
immediately that there's

246

00:14:18,160 --> 00:14:19,820

going to be trouble.

247

00:14:19,820 --> 00:14:23,020

So he played a kind of a
game, cat-and-mouse game.

248

00:14:23,020 --> 00:14:26,230

He went all along the
desks of all the children

249

00:14:26,230 --> 00:14:27,700

and left me to the very last.

250

00:14:27,700 --> 00:14:32,720

And then when he came to my
desk, he looked below the desk,

251

00:14:32,720 --> 00:14:33,970

and he found those sandwiches.

252

00:14:33,970 --> 00:14:37,210

And he took them by the tip of
his fingers, lifting them up,

253

00:14:37,210 --> 00:14:41,650

and pulled a kind of a grimace
and disgusting kind of a way.

254

00:14:41,650 --> 00:14:44,813

And then he took me by the
scruff of my neck in the other.

255

00:14:44,813 --> 00:14:47,230

And then he propelled me toward
the door, opened the door,

256

00:14:47,230 --> 00:14:49,240

and threw the sandwiches out.

257

00:14:49,240 --> 00:14:51,490

And then he kicked me out.

258

00:14:51,490 --> 00:14:54,370

And I slid across the
corridor on the floor

259

00:14:54,370 --> 00:14:58,219

and I banged my head
against the opposite wall.

260

00:14:58,219 --> 00:14:59,205

How old were you?

261

00:14:59,205 --> 00:15:01,180

11.

262

00:15:01,180 --> 00:15:06,400

So I cursed him under
my breath, that monster.

263

00:15:06,400 --> 00:15:08,920

Even at those days, I thought
this terrible injustice,

264

00:15:08,920 --> 00:15:14,080

this kind of behavior towards a
child was not to be understood.

265

00:15:14,080 --> 00:15:17,830

Anyway, I went home and told
my mother about that story.

266

00:15:17,830 --> 00:15:19,870

And she said, come along.

267

00:15:19,870 --> 00:15:22,720

And she took me
straight back to school,

268

00:15:22,720 --> 00:15:28,630

and she entered the
office of the principal.

269

00:15:28,630 --> 00:15:31,870

I must, again, tell you,
I went back on my visit

270

00:15:31,870 --> 00:15:35,830

to that same office where the
principal received my mother.

271

00:15:35,830 --> 00:15:38,500

Nothing had changed
except principal.

272

00:15:38,500 --> 00:15:40,060

He was a young man.

273

00:15:40,060 --> 00:15:42,700

I looked back, and my heart--

274

00:15:42,700 --> 00:15:45,970

something happened to me
when I stood and sat there

275

00:15:45,970 --> 00:15:49,300

in that office, and I saw my--

276

00:15:49,300 --> 00:15:52,960

I remembered my mother
speaking to that principal.

277

00:15:52,960 --> 00:15:57,610

And my mother spoke German
with a very thick accent.

278

00:15:57,610 --> 00:16:00,850

Mainly we spoke Yiddish
at home, but she

279
00:16:00,850 --> 00:16:04,210
spoke German, but with
a thick accent, which

280
00:16:04,210 --> 00:16:06,070
caused me a lot of distress.

281
00:16:06,070 --> 00:16:08,860
I was mortified by her accent.

282
00:16:08,860 --> 00:16:10,030
In fact, today, I love it.

283
00:16:10,030 --> 00:16:11,920
I like people when they
speak with an accent.

284
00:16:11,920 --> 00:16:14,380
I love it if they speak
with a Yiddish accent.

285
00:16:14,380 --> 00:16:16,330
Well, in those days,
it was different.

286
00:16:16,330 --> 00:16:19,810
The Germans didn't like anybody
speaking only hochdeutsch,

287
00:16:19,810 --> 00:16:21,910
the best of German.

288
00:16:21,910 --> 00:16:23,080
So she complained.

289
00:16:23,080 --> 00:16:25,960
And the teacher said,
Mrs. Grossman, you know,

290

00:16:25,960 --> 00:16:28,450
we are living in
very difficult times.

291
00:16:28,450 --> 00:16:31,330
There's nothing I can do.

292
00:16:31,330 --> 00:16:33,200
And that's how it ended.

293
00:16:33,200 --> 00:16:35,950
There was nothing could be done,
but it had some after effects.

294
00:16:35,950 --> 00:16:38,830

295
00:16:38,830 --> 00:16:42,700
My classmates, from
that very day on,

296
00:16:42,700 --> 00:16:44,980
used to wait for me
outside the school

297
00:16:44,980 --> 00:16:47,380
and used to accompany me home.

298
00:16:47,380 --> 00:16:50,200
And they used to
chant, in unison,

299
00:16:50,200 --> 00:16:51,730
some antisemitic verses.

300
00:16:51,730 --> 00:16:55,460
In German, so it's impossible
to translate it into English.

301
00:16:55,460 --> 00:16:56,720
And they took me home.

302

00:16:56,720 --> 00:17:00,140
And the next morning, when I
was going to go back to school,

303
00:17:00,140 --> 00:17:01,160
they were there again.

304
00:17:01,160 --> 00:17:05,000
They congregated in
front of my house.

305
00:17:05,000 --> 00:17:07,220
And they took me back
to school, chanting

306
00:17:07,220 --> 00:17:12,890
all the way, again, these
terrible antisemitic verses.

307
00:17:12,890 --> 00:17:15,380
It became so bad.

308
00:17:15,380 --> 00:17:16,560
I don't know.

309
00:17:16,560 --> 00:17:19,760
In a way, I don't feel good,
because all these stories,

310
00:17:19,760 --> 00:17:24,650
they pale against these terrible
with people have passed through

311
00:17:24,650 --> 00:17:25,220
in the camps.

312
00:17:25,220 --> 00:17:27,050
And thank God, I didn't.

313
00:17:27,050 --> 00:17:29,712
My mother died,
and my sister died.

314

00:17:29,712 --> 00:17:31,670

But I, personally, didn't
go through the camps.

315

00:17:31,670 --> 00:17:35,120

So these things are small
things in comparison

316

00:17:35,120 --> 00:17:37,550

to what people went through.

317

00:17:37,550 --> 00:17:40,010

Yet I think, in a way,
it is important to tell

318

00:17:40,010 --> 00:17:47,480

my story because all this
led up later to the most

319

00:17:47,480 --> 00:17:51,320

terrible crime in human history
in the annals of mankind,

320

00:17:51,320 --> 00:17:53,030

that such things,
that people could

321

00:17:53,030 --> 00:17:59,250

have committed not only to my
people, to my family, to this--

322

00:17:59,250 --> 00:18:00,470

I'm outraged by it.

323

00:18:00,470 --> 00:18:02,960

It's unbelievable.

324

00:18:02,960 --> 00:18:06,380

In fact, the older I
grow, the angrier I get.

325

00:18:06,380 --> 00:18:07,970

I've been many times
back in Germany.

326
00:18:07,970 --> 00:18:10,940
In fact-- I will come back
to this a little bit later--

327
00:18:10,940 --> 00:18:14,340
I served in the British Army
and in the Jewish Brigade.

328
00:18:14,340 --> 00:18:16,370
And I was stationed in
Germany, in Bielefeld,

329
00:18:16,370 --> 00:18:19,135
in Westphalia, one
and a half years.

330
00:18:19,135 --> 00:18:21,260
And in the meantime, I'd
gone back many, many times

331
00:18:21,260 --> 00:18:21,830
to Germany.

332
00:18:21,830 --> 00:18:25,410

333
00:18:25,410 --> 00:18:30,440
So my father died, and the
business went down completely.

334
00:18:30,440 --> 00:18:36,520

335
00:18:36,520 --> 00:18:40,210
My mother decided to send me
to the next big town, which

336
00:18:40,210 --> 00:18:45,640
is Szczecin, in Pomerania,
which belongs today to Poland.

337
00:18:45,640 --> 00:18:47,080
It's called Szczecin.

338
00:18:47,080 --> 00:18:55,360
It was a huge harbor town--
harbor town, you say?

339
00:18:55,360 --> 00:18:55,900
Yeah.

340
00:18:55,900 --> 00:19:01,000
And there was a kind of an
home for Jewish children,

341
00:19:01,000 --> 00:19:03,040
and there was a Jewish school.

342
00:19:03,040 --> 00:19:07,270
And I went to school there.

343
00:19:07,270 --> 00:19:12,040
And things started, for
me, to be a little bit more

344
00:19:12,040 --> 00:19:15,070
comfortable because I moved
amongst Jewish children

345
00:19:15,070 --> 00:19:16,510
and Jewish teachers.

346
00:19:16,510 --> 00:19:22,610
Now, the principal and his
wife of that children's home,

347
00:19:22,610 --> 00:19:25,060
they were wonderful people.

348
00:19:25,060 --> 00:19:29,800
I have to express my admiration
and credit to those people.

349

00:19:29,800 --> 00:19:32,050

Unfortunately, they
are not alive today.

350

00:19:32,050 --> 00:19:34,450

But they did emigrate,
in the end, to Israel,

351

00:19:34,450 --> 00:19:36,280

and I met them there, too.

352

00:19:36,280 --> 00:19:38,950

And they were
wonderful educators.

353

00:19:38,950 --> 00:19:44,980

And I'd forgotten what people
were like in contrast to what

354

00:19:44,980 --> 00:19:49,810

had happened to me in the
school I went to in GÅ¼strow,

355

00:19:49,810 --> 00:19:53,260

in Mecklenburg.

356

00:19:53,260 --> 00:19:58,930

The Germans, in preparation
for the Second World War,

357

00:19:58,930 --> 00:20:01,390

decided to evict all
Polish nationals.

358

00:20:01,390 --> 00:20:03,520

I don't know whether
you know about this.

359

00:20:03,520 --> 00:20:06,580

It is well known, because
that triggered off

360

00:20:06,580 --> 00:20:09,100
the Kristallnacht--

361

00:20:09,100 --> 00:20:12,010
the night of the broken
glass, I believe,

362

00:20:12,010 --> 00:20:14,200
it is called in English.

363

00:20:14,200 --> 00:20:19,810
And one night-- it must have
been about after midnight,

364

00:20:19,810 --> 00:20:21,458
maybe 1 or 2 o'clock--

365

00:20:21,458 --> 00:20:23,500
this principal-- his name
was Mr. [Personal name]

366

00:20:23,500 --> 00:20:28,090
He woke me up and said, dress.

367

00:20:28,090 --> 00:20:29,670
I said, why?

368

00:20:29,670 --> 00:20:30,610
It's still night.

369

00:20:30,610 --> 00:20:31,840
He said, you must dress.

370

00:20:31,840 --> 00:20:33,220
You must come.

371

00:20:33,220 --> 00:20:34,030
And I dressed.

372

00:20:34,030 --> 00:20:36,220
And he says, then

you come to my room.

373
00:20:36,220 --> 00:20:37,420
And I came to the room.

374
00:20:37,420 --> 00:20:38,795
There were two
men sitting there.

375
00:20:38,795 --> 00:20:40,450
They looked, to me,
then I understood

376
00:20:40,450 --> 00:20:42,790
that they were Gestapo men.

377
00:20:42,790 --> 00:20:46,760
And I was a small child.

378
00:20:46,760 --> 00:20:49,660
And they looked at me and
said, this is Adolf Grossman?

379
00:20:49,660 --> 00:20:53,170
They expected maybe-- I don't
know what they did expect.

380
00:20:53,170 --> 00:20:56,620
And they said, you
come along with us.

381
00:20:56,620 --> 00:20:59,950
And I asked them where to,
and they said, you come along.

382
00:20:59,950 --> 00:21:01,900
So we went down the
stairs, and outside

383
00:21:01,900 --> 00:21:03,980
was a van filled with Jews.

384

00:21:03,980 --> 00:21:08,620

Oh, I could hear,
according to the actions,

385

00:21:08,620 --> 00:21:13,000

that they were from all
Ostland, from Poland.

386

00:21:13,000 --> 00:21:16,125

And I was very crestfallen.

387

00:21:16,125 --> 00:21:17,500

I didn't know what
was happening.

388

00:21:17,500 --> 00:21:21,850

And they took us to the
local police station.

389

00:21:21,850 --> 00:21:24,610

And I was put in with the women.

390

00:21:24,610 --> 00:21:27,250

I was too small to be
with the men, I reckon.

391

00:21:27,250 --> 00:21:32,710

So the next morning, they drove
us to the railway station.

392

00:21:32,710 --> 00:21:36,190

And while I was
entering the train,

393

00:21:36,190 --> 00:21:38,020

somebody shouted Ali, Ali.

394

00:21:38,020 --> 00:21:40,330

And I looked, and there
was Mr. [Personal name]

395

00:21:40,330 --> 00:21:41,560

He had come to the station.

396
00:21:41,560 --> 00:21:46,960
I don't know how he had even
thought that we would be

397
00:21:46,960 --> 00:21:48,650
taken to the railway station.

398
00:21:48,650 --> 00:21:50,890
But there he was, and
he was waving at me.

399
00:21:50,890 --> 00:21:52,660
And they wouldn't
let him come near me,

400
00:21:52,660 --> 00:21:56,890
but he was there to, so
to speak, see me off.

401
00:21:56,890 --> 00:22:05,170
Anyway, we were driven to
the nearest border crossing

402
00:22:05,170 --> 00:22:07,330
between Germany and Poland.

403
00:22:07,330 --> 00:22:08,560
And I said it was winter.

404
00:22:08,560 --> 00:22:13,060
I think it was maybe
September or October.

405
00:22:13,060 --> 00:22:15,670
It was bitter cold, and I wasn't
really dressed for the cold.

406
00:22:15,670 --> 00:22:18,020
And I must have
looked a pity sight.

407

00:22:18,020 --> 00:22:20,560

So a woman came up
to me and said to me,

408

00:22:20,560 --> 00:22:21,670

where are your parents?

409

00:22:21,670 --> 00:22:26,480

And I said, I have no idea.

410

00:22:26,480 --> 00:22:27,730

She said, are you by yourself?

411

00:22:27,730 --> 00:22:29,420

I said, I am.

412

00:22:29,420 --> 00:22:32,560

And she said, well, have
you any relations in Poland?

413

00:22:32,560 --> 00:22:38,650

And I said, I heard that
my parents, on both sides,

414

00:22:38,650 --> 00:22:43,300

had brothers and
sisters and parents.

415

00:22:43,300 --> 00:22:45,390

But I'd never met them.

416

00:22:45,390 --> 00:22:46,900

I do know that they
live in Warsaw.

417

00:22:46,900 --> 00:22:48,970

I even heard the
street they lived in.

418

00:22:48,970 --> 00:22:52,000

It was the Krochmalna and the
[Place name] It meant nothing

419

00:22:52,000 --> 00:22:53,680

to me, but my parents
always did talk

420

00:22:53,680 --> 00:22:55,500

about the streets they lived in.

421

00:22:55,500 --> 00:23:01,060

In fact, these two streets
became very, very infamous

422

00:23:01,060 --> 00:23:04,882

in all the books written on
the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising.

423

00:23:04,882 --> 00:23:07,090

That was part, later, of
the Warsaw Ghetto, these two

424

00:23:07,090 --> 00:23:07,600

streets.

425

00:23:07,600 --> 00:23:12,660

So apparently, my parents
lived in the Jewish section

426

00:23:12,660 --> 00:23:14,130

of Warsaw.

427

00:23:14,130 --> 00:23:16,380

I understood that.

428

00:23:16,380 --> 00:23:18,540

So she said to me,
I tell you what--

429

00:23:18,540 --> 00:23:23,760

I'll say to the border
guard that I am your mother.

430

00:23:23,760 --> 00:23:25,560

And we'll cross the

border into Poland,

431
00:23:25,560 --> 00:23:29,340
and then we'll take
a train to Warsaw.

432
00:23:29,340 --> 00:23:32,847
And then we'll go to
the Jewish community,

433
00:23:32,847 --> 00:23:34,680
and we'll find out where
your relations are.

434
00:23:34,680 --> 00:23:36,390
I do believe that your--

435
00:23:36,390 --> 00:23:38,670
I'm speaking about my
parents, but my father

436
00:23:38,670 --> 00:23:40,830
had died in '36 already.

437
00:23:40,830 --> 00:23:44,190
But my mother had remarried.

438
00:23:44,190 --> 00:23:47,128
She said that
probably they would be

439
00:23:47,128 --> 00:23:48,420
at a different border crossing.

440
00:23:48,420 --> 00:23:50,100
And you'll probably
meet them in Warsaw.

441
00:23:50,100 --> 00:23:52,140
You better come along with me.

442
00:23:52,140 --> 00:23:54,280

And I agreed.

443

00:23:54,280 --> 00:23:56,850

So we came to the
official on the border.

444

00:23:56,850 --> 00:24:00,240

And he stamping the
passport, and there I

445

00:24:00,240 --> 00:24:03,520

was, across in Poland.

446

00:24:03,520 --> 00:24:06,163

So we went to-- there was a
kind of a restaurant, a bar,

447

00:24:06,163 --> 00:24:06,830

so we sat there.

448

00:24:06,830 --> 00:24:10,500

And she ordered for me some
cocoa, and I was drinking then.

449

00:24:10,500 --> 00:24:12,840

We were sitting there
two or three hours,

450

00:24:12,840 --> 00:24:16,260

waiting for the train
to take us to Warsaw.

451

00:24:16,260 --> 00:24:20,770

While I was sitting
there, I made a decision

452

00:24:20,770 --> 00:24:23,320

at the age of 12--

453

00:24:23,320 --> 00:24:26,890

I made a decision which--

454

00:24:26,890 --> 00:24:32,200
by the grace of God, I'm sitting
here today-- saved my life.

455
00:24:32,200 --> 00:24:36,160
I had the impression of
Poland through the talks

456
00:24:36,160 --> 00:24:39,730
of my parents and their friends
and what I gleaned from them.

457
00:24:39,730 --> 00:24:44,140
My parents started to
work with the age of 11--

458
00:24:44,140 --> 00:24:47,530
three, four in a bed, in
one room, maybe 10 people--

459
00:24:47,530 --> 00:24:52,720
terrible, terrible poverty,
which I had no idea

460
00:24:52,720 --> 00:24:57,490
even existed, because Germany
was fundamentally a country

461
00:24:57,490 --> 00:24:59,590
where people didn't starve.

462
00:24:59,590 --> 00:25:01,090
There was no poverty.

463
00:25:01,090 --> 00:25:04,350
It was a clean country, and
people were decently clothed.

464
00:25:04,350 --> 00:25:05,350
And everybody had shoes.

465
00:25:05,350 --> 00:25:10,600
And everybody slept in a bed

and had a roof over his head.

466
00:25:10,600 --> 00:25:13,010
The impression I got of
Poland, in my childish mind,

467
00:25:13,010 --> 00:25:15,290
was a dark hole.

468
00:25:15,290 --> 00:25:18,940
It made a terrible impression
on me that Poland--

469
00:25:18,940 --> 00:25:21,250
and I had a vivid
imagination, I can assure you.

470
00:25:21,250 --> 00:25:26,670
So I went to the woman,
and I said, I'm going back.

471
00:25:26,670 --> 00:25:27,670
I'm not going to Poland.

472
00:25:27,670 --> 00:25:28,600
She said, why?

473
00:25:28,600 --> 00:25:30,580
What have you got
to do in Germany?

474
00:25:30,580 --> 00:25:31,600
You come.

475
00:25:31,600 --> 00:25:32,500
And I said, no.

476
00:25:32,500 --> 00:25:34,480
I decided that I wouldn't.

477
00:25:34,480 --> 00:25:37,060
So I went back to the border

guard, and I spoke to him.

478

00:25:37,060 --> 00:25:40,810

And he didn't understand German,
and I don't understand Polish.

479

00:25:40,810 --> 00:25:42,820

So somebody translated
for him and told him

480

00:25:42,820 --> 00:25:46,150

that I had had no passport and
that the woman had taken me

481

00:25:46,150 --> 00:25:49,000

over just illegally.

482

00:25:49,000 --> 00:25:52,840

So he started to curse
in Polish and told

483

00:25:52,840 --> 00:25:54,460

me to go back to Germany.

484

00:25:54,460 --> 00:25:56,660

That's what I did.

485

00:25:56,660 --> 00:26:01,120

I went back to the
German officials

486

00:26:01,120 --> 00:26:04,570

who had dealt with
this whole transfer.

487

00:26:04,570 --> 00:26:06,130

And I told them I
have no passport.

488

00:26:06,130 --> 00:26:07,505

And there were
another few people

489

00:26:07,505 --> 00:26:11,170
who were being sent back because
the Poles did not accept them.

490

00:26:11,170 --> 00:26:14,680
So we were-- that night,
I arrived again by train

491

00:26:14,680 --> 00:26:16,630
in the same town, Szczecin.

492

00:26:16,630 --> 00:26:19,060
And I phoned up to
Mr. [Personal name]

493

00:26:19,060 --> 00:26:21,220
the principal of
that children's home.

494

00:26:21,220 --> 00:26:25,240
And when he heard my
voice, he was full of joy.

495

00:26:25,240 --> 00:26:29,260
And he said, you come
home towards the home.

496

00:26:29,260 --> 00:26:31,900
And I and my wife
will come towards you.

497

00:26:31,900 --> 00:26:32,802
We'll meet.

498

00:26:32,802 --> 00:26:33,760
And that's what we did.

499

00:26:33,760 --> 00:26:35,200
And even the rabbi was there.

500

00:26:35,200 --> 00:26:38,930
I remember his name was

Richter what a wonderful man.

501

00:26:38,930 --> 00:26:40,930

They all died, except
[Personal name] of course.

502

00:26:40,930 --> 00:26:44,890

Richter died later,
I heard, in Lublin--

503

00:26:44,890 --> 00:26:47,020

what a wonderful young rabbi.

504

00:26:47,020 --> 00:26:49,960

He used to do sports with
us-- such a wonderful man.

505

00:26:49,960 --> 00:26:55,840

And to think of it, that
he was gassed and killed,

506

00:26:55,840 --> 00:26:59,540

it doesn't make
sense to me at all.

507

00:26:59,540 --> 00:27:03,700

Anyway, I continue
to go to school.

508

00:27:03,700 --> 00:27:08,020

And to tell a little bit
about the Kristallnacht, how

509

00:27:08,020 --> 00:27:11,800

it affected me,
amongst those people

510

00:27:11,800 --> 00:27:17,050

deported was a woman by
the name of Grynszpan.

511

00:27:17,050 --> 00:27:21,337

And one of the German

soldiers, one of the guards,

512
00:27:21,337 --> 00:27:21,920
he pushed her.

513
00:27:21,920 --> 00:27:25,900
And she fell, and she
broke part of her spine.

514
00:27:25,900 --> 00:27:27,730
And she fell.

515
00:27:27,730 --> 00:27:29,260
And then she had a son.

516
00:27:29,260 --> 00:27:32,330
He studied in the
Sorbonne in Paris.

517
00:27:32,330 --> 00:27:35,710
And when he heard of it,
he decided to take revenge.

518
00:27:35,710 --> 00:27:37,180
And he went to the
German embassy.

519
00:27:37,180 --> 00:27:38,020
He waited in front.

520
00:27:38,020 --> 00:27:42,370
And an official came out by
the name of Ernst vom Rath,

521
00:27:42,370 --> 00:27:45,130
and he took a
revolver and shot him.

522
00:27:45,130 --> 00:27:48,340
After lingering on for a
bit, a day or two, he died.

523

00:27:48,340 --> 00:27:51,180
And that triggered
off the Kristallnacht.

524
00:27:51,180 --> 00:27:54,340
Hermann Goring-- he
was the, I think,

525
00:27:54,340 --> 00:27:57,760
the minister of the interior,
second in command of Hitler.

526
00:27:57,760 --> 00:28:00,280
He instigated the Kristallnacht.

527
00:28:00,280 --> 00:28:03,610
Every single synagogue
was burned that night.

528
00:28:03,610 --> 00:28:07,210
Every single pane in every
Jewish home was broken.

529
00:28:07,210 --> 00:28:09,190
That's why it's called
the Kristallnacht.

530
00:28:09,190 --> 00:28:13,240
And every male
above the age of 16

531
00:28:13,240 --> 00:28:17,320
was sent into the
concentration camp.

532
00:28:17,320 --> 00:28:23,710
And they said that we are
putting them in camps in order

533
00:28:23,710 --> 00:28:28,960
to save them from the anger
of the German population,

534

00:28:28,960 --> 00:28:30,190
to guard them against it.

535
00:28:30,190 --> 00:28:33,190
But it was all nonsense.

536
00:28:33,190 --> 00:28:35,890
That morning, when
the synagogues

537
00:28:35,890 --> 00:28:39,430
were burning, on
my way to school,

538
00:28:39,430 --> 00:28:41,047
I saw lots of people
standing there

539
00:28:41,047 --> 00:28:42,130
in front of the synagogue.

540
00:28:42,130 --> 00:28:44,320
I had to pass the synagogue
on my way to school.

541
00:28:44,320 --> 00:28:47,860
And I saw the flames shooting
out of the synagogue,

542
00:28:47,860 --> 00:28:50,950
out of the roof, and hundreds
of people standing there.

543
00:28:50,950 --> 00:28:53,560
And there was the
fire department,

544
00:28:53,560 --> 00:28:55,930
but they weren't
putting the fire out.

545
00:28:55,930 --> 00:29:02,110
They were only dousing the

homes and the property next.

546
00:29:02,110 --> 00:29:02,950
That shouldn't burn.

547
00:29:02,950 --> 00:29:07,240
But I could see that they were
not trying to put the fire out.

548
00:29:07,240 --> 00:29:10,330
They saw to it that
the synagogue burned.

549
00:29:10,330 --> 00:29:14,110
And I was blonde, and apparently
I didn't look so Jewish.

550
00:29:14,110 --> 00:29:15,580
So I mingled amongst the crowd.

551
00:29:15,580 --> 00:29:17,890
And I stood next to two
women, and one of them

552
00:29:17,890 --> 00:29:21,100
was holding a little
child in her arm.

553
00:29:21,100 --> 00:29:24,310
And I looked at her face, and
I thought this kind of woman

554
00:29:24,310 --> 00:29:26,620
can look at a burning
synagogue and not

555
00:29:26,620 --> 00:29:32,890
even remark that it is wrong
to burn the house of God.

556
00:29:32,890 --> 00:29:33,490
She didn't.

557

00:29:33,490 --> 00:29:38,020

She had the face of a
middle-class woman with her

558

00:29:38,020 --> 00:29:39,890

child--

559

00:29:39,890 --> 00:29:43,782

no remorse, no
compassion, no nothing.

560

00:29:43,782 --> 00:29:45,490

Again, it made no
sense to me that people

561

00:29:45,490 --> 00:29:47,950

could behave like that.

562

00:29:47,950 --> 00:29:51,520

Even as a child, I could
see something was wrong.

563

00:29:51,520 --> 00:29:55,600

Suddenly, I saw a man, a Jew
whom I had known, with a beard

564

00:29:55,600 --> 00:29:59,810

and with payots, running out
of the synagogue with a scroll,

565

00:29:59,810 --> 00:30:00,910

with a Torah in his arm.

566

00:30:00,910 --> 00:30:08,530

He tried to salvage
a Torah scroll.

567

00:30:08,530 --> 00:30:11,170

And there was an SS
man, really huge man--

568

00:30:11,170 --> 00:30:13,660

a bully, he looked to
me-- with an SS uniform

569
00:30:13,660 --> 00:30:17,260
and jackboots and cruel face.

570
00:30:17,260 --> 00:30:21,280
He got hold of that man, pulled
him by the scruff of the neck,

571
00:30:21,280 --> 00:30:22,180
threw him down.

572
00:30:22,180 --> 00:30:26,140
And then he rolled the
scroll out on the street,

573
00:30:26,140 --> 00:30:29,223
and he said to the
man, you dance on this.

574
00:30:29,223 --> 00:30:31,390
And he took a revolver and
held it next to his head.

575
00:30:31,390 --> 00:30:34,850
And I was standing
there shocked.

576
00:30:34,850 --> 00:30:36,080
I was shocked.

577
00:30:36,080 --> 00:30:39,190
I couldn't believe it.

578
00:30:39,190 --> 00:30:41,470
That I'd never seen.

579
00:30:41,470 --> 00:30:43,570
I mean, I heard the
ranting of Hitler

580

00:30:43,570 --> 00:30:48,700
on the radio, always
Jews, international Jewry,

581
00:30:48,700 --> 00:30:52,660
the banks are Jewish, and the
press are Jewish, and the Jews,

582
00:30:52,660 --> 00:30:54,320
and the Jews, and the Jews.

583
00:30:54,320 --> 00:30:56,830
You really could not make out
what he was talking about.

584
00:30:56,830 --> 00:30:59,290
But I always heard
Jews, the Jews.

585
00:30:59,290 --> 00:31:02,650
And we were-- we
were frightened.

586
00:31:02,650 --> 00:31:04,520
It was terrible.

587
00:31:04,520 --> 00:31:05,870
So he took the--

588
00:31:05,870 --> 00:31:12,370
that SS man, he took a revolver
to the head of that pious Jew.

589
00:31:12,370 --> 00:31:15,160
I don't think he was a
rabbi, but he was definitely

590
00:31:15,160 --> 00:31:17,090
a Talmid Chacham.

591
00:31:17,090 --> 00:31:20,690
He was one of the
sages of the town.

592
00:31:20,690 --> 00:31:21,693
And he said, you dance.

593
00:31:21,693 --> 00:31:23,110
And he put a
revolver on his head.

594
00:31:23,110 --> 00:31:27,010
And the Jew went on the
Torah, and he danced.

595
00:31:27,010 --> 00:31:31,260
And he danced like
a puppet, stiffly--

596
00:31:31,260 --> 00:31:32,160
like a zombie.

597
00:31:32,160 --> 00:31:34,860
It shook me.

598
00:31:34,860 --> 00:31:38,820
And there and then
I made a decision.

599
00:31:38,820 --> 00:31:41,160
There and then, I
became a Zionist.

600
00:31:41,160 --> 00:31:44,040
I said, if the Jewish
people will not

601
00:31:44,040 --> 00:31:45,780
have a state of
their own, a country

602
00:31:45,780 --> 00:31:49,530
of their own, their own army,
and their own government,

603

00:31:49,530 --> 00:31:55,710
and to be able to decide their
own fate, it can never be.

604
00:31:55,710 --> 00:31:59,650
And later on, I put this
decision into action.

605
00:31:59,650 --> 00:32:03,780
And I did become a soldier
in the British Army and even

606
00:32:03,780 --> 00:32:06,240
in the Jewish Brigade, although
I did not live in Palestine

607
00:32:06,240 --> 00:32:06,990
in those days.

608
00:32:06,990 --> 00:32:09,770

609
00:32:09,770 --> 00:32:11,030
So I went to school.

610
00:32:11,030 --> 00:32:12,950
I was shaken.

611
00:32:12,950 --> 00:32:15,560
I was shaken, completely shaken.

612
00:32:15,560 --> 00:32:18,270
And there was Mr. [Personal
name] the principal.

613
00:32:18,270 --> 00:32:20,540
He was also a teacher, by
the way, in the same school.

614
00:32:20,540 --> 00:32:24,650
And he said, sit down, children.

615

00:32:24,650 --> 00:32:26,132
Don't be nervous.

616
00:32:26,132 --> 00:32:26,840
Don't be excited.

617
00:32:26,840 --> 00:32:29,570
And he took a book,
and he read us a story.

618
00:32:29,570 --> 00:32:33,140
Suddenly, the door burst
open, and two Gestapo men

619
00:32:33,140 --> 00:32:36,500
came in, took the book out
of his hand very roughly,

620
00:32:36,500 --> 00:32:40,670
looked at it, closed the book,
and threw it into the corner,

621
00:32:40,670 --> 00:32:45,010
and took my teacher, Mr.
[Personal name] took him out,

622
00:32:45,010 --> 00:32:46,130
dragged him out.

623
00:32:46,130 --> 00:32:48,780
When I looked at it--
and I adored that man--

624
00:32:48,780 --> 00:32:51,440
I had so much respect for him,
and I saw him being dragged out

625
00:32:51,440 --> 00:32:54,570
of that classroom.

626
00:32:54,570 --> 00:32:55,852
And there was a van outside.

627

00:32:55,852 --> 00:32:57,560

And they pushed him
and all the teachers,

628

00:32:57,560 --> 00:32:59,360

they pushed into the van.

629

00:32:59,360 --> 00:33:02,030

And they took them to
the concentration camp.

630

00:33:02,030 --> 00:33:04,130

He was released later.

631

00:33:04,130 --> 00:33:05,870

But why do I say,
by the grace of God

632

00:33:05,870 --> 00:33:08,120

I'm sitting here, when
I made this decision

633

00:33:08,120 --> 00:33:11,720

to go back to Germany?

634

00:33:11,720 --> 00:33:15,470

Because my stepfather
was given the option that

635

00:33:15,470 --> 00:33:20,150

he would be released
from camp if he would

636

00:33:20,150 --> 00:33:22,740

leave Germany within 24 hours.

637

00:33:22,740 --> 00:33:29,780

That was before the Wannsee
Conference, where the plan was

638

00:33:29,780 --> 00:33:31,370

concocted to kill all the Jews.

639

00:33:31,370 --> 00:33:34,520

In those days, they were
going to get rid of the Jews.

640

00:33:34,520 --> 00:33:37,340

So my father took
this opportunity,

641

00:33:37,340 --> 00:33:39,560

and he came out of the
concentration camp.

642

00:33:39,560 --> 00:33:42,950

And immediately, there was what
we called the Kindertransport

643

00:33:42,950 --> 00:33:44,690

to England.

644

00:33:44,690 --> 00:33:47,270

They sent-- I believe
about 10,000 children were

645

00:33:47,270 --> 00:33:48,780

able to go to England.

646

00:33:48,780 --> 00:33:54,560

They were sent to England,
and I was one of the children.

647

00:33:54,560 --> 00:33:57,390

I was sent to England.

648

00:33:57,390 --> 00:34:02,700

And also, my two brothers
were sent to England.

649

00:34:02,700 --> 00:34:06,960

My stepfather, my mother, and
my sister, that very same night,

650

00:34:06,960 --> 00:34:09,989
crossed the border
illegally into Belgium.

651
00:34:09,989 --> 00:34:12,690
And they settled
down in Brussels.

652
00:34:12,690 --> 00:34:16,608
Later on, I came with the
forces, British forces,

653
00:34:16,608 --> 00:34:18,150
into Brussels, when
it was liberated.

654
00:34:18,150 --> 00:34:20,699
And I went to their
home where they

655
00:34:20,699 --> 00:34:24,080
lived, because I had
received, in the meantime,

656
00:34:24,080 --> 00:34:25,790
two letters through
the Swiss Red Cross.

657
00:34:25,790 --> 00:34:27,139
So I knew their addresses.

658
00:34:27,139 --> 00:34:31,489

659
00:34:31,489 --> 00:34:37,050
So I came to, first
of all, a camp

660
00:34:37,050 --> 00:34:38,850
in Dovercourt, near Harwich.

661
00:34:38,850 --> 00:34:41,770
After a few months, I was

transferred to London.

662
00:34:41,770 --> 00:34:43,290
And there was
another hostel where

663
00:34:43,290 --> 00:34:47,100
Jewish children of the same
background as me, from Germany,

664
00:34:47,100 --> 00:34:47,860
was established.

665
00:34:47,860 --> 00:34:51,644
And I went to school
in England for--

666
00:34:51,644 --> 00:34:56,219
till the war broke out on
the 3rd of September, 1939.

667
00:34:56,219 --> 00:34:59,820
And then we were evacuated.

668
00:34:59,820 --> 00:35:01,472
We were evacuated
to a small town

669
00:35:01,472 --> 00:35:03,180
called Hemel Hempstead,
in Hertfordshire.

670
00:35:03,180 --> 00:35:08,400
And I was taken in
by a gentile family.

671
00:35:08,400 --> 00:35:15,360
That was a kind of a plan the
British government worked out

672
00:35:15,360 --> 00:35:17,787
to take in children,
to take them away

673
00:35:17,787 --> 00:35:19,620
from London because
they thought that London

674
00:35:19,620 --> 00:35:22,830
was going to be bombed, which
it was later, as we know.

675
00:35:22,830 --> 00:35:24,630
And they transferred
all the schools

676
00:35:24,630 --> 00:35:28,470
from the cities which might have
been bombed to small satellite

677
00:35:28,470 --> 00:35:32,770
towns where they thought that
the Germans would not bomb,

678
00:35:32,770 --> 00:35:34,020
their bombs wouldn't reach it.

679
00:35:34,020 --> 00:35:36,390
There would be no interest
to bomb small towns.

680
00:35:36,390 --> 00:35:39,520

681
00:35:39,520 --> 00:35:46,950
So when I reached
the age of 16, I

682
00:35:46,950 --> 00:35:49,380
went to a technical
school, the old school,

683
00:35:49,380 --> 00:35:52,470
and I learned a trade.

684

00:35:52,470 --> 00:35:55,920
And when I reached
the age of 18,

685
00:35:55,920 --> 00:35:58,860
the Jewish Brigade was formed,
and I decided immediately

686
00:35:58,860 --> 00:35:59,760
to join the Army.

687
00:35:59,760 --> 00:36:02,010
In the meantime, I had
gone on hachsharah.

688
00:36:02,010 --> 00:36:05,580
Hachsharah is a kind of
a preparation for aliyah

689
00:36:05,580 --> 00:36:07,770
to, in those days,
it was Palestine.

690
00:36:07,770 --> 00:36:08,730
It wasn't Israel then.

691
00:36:08,730 --> 00:36:12,060
It was on the same system
as a kibbutz, exactly.

692
00:36:12,060 --> 00:36:14,670
So we were maybe
50 or 60 people.

693
00:36:14,670 --> 00:36:16,810
There must have been
about 10 hachsharah that.

694
00:36:16,810 --> 00:36:20,040
And it was a
religious hachsharah.

695
00:36:20,040 --> 00:36:21,720

I had a religious
background at home,

696
00:36:21,720 --> 00:36:28,500
so I wanted to be in a
religious environment.

697
00:36:28,500 --> 00:36:30,390
And that's where I met my wife.

698
00:36:30,390 --> 00:36:32,460
She was 16 years old.

699
00:36:32,460 --> 00:36:36,540
And we became friends.

700
00:36:36,540 --> 00:36:40,140
And eventually, we married,
but that at a later stage.

701
00:36:40,140 --> 00:36:42,360
She was an only child.

702
00:36:42,360 --> 00:36:47,490
And I would like to
digress, because I am really

703
00:36:47,490 --> 00:36:51,490
anxious to tell that story,
what happened to her parents.

704
00:36:51,490 --> 00:36:52,660
She was an only child.

705
00:36:52,660 --> 00:36:55,710
She was a very, very
beautiful child.

706
00:36:55,710 --> 00:36:57,000
She had a lovely voice.

707
00:36:57,000 --> 00:37:00,600

And she was a very
talented girl,

708
00:37:00,600 --> 00:37:02,610
although she had
never gone to school.

709
00:37:02,610 --> 00:37:05,010
And she left school
in Germany with 11.

710
00:37:05,010 --> 00:37:08,490
I went to school in England for
a few years, but she never did.

711
00:37:08,490 --> 00:37:12,150
She finished her schooling with
11 years, and that was that.

712
00:37:12,150 --> 00:37:13,800
And then she went on hachsharah.

713
00:37:13,800 --> 00:37:17,280
But later on, when
we were in Israel--

714
00:37:17,280 --> 00:37:19,530
as I say, I would like
to digress a little bit,

715
00:37:19,530 --> 00:37:23,100
because it seems important
to me to tell this story.

716
00:37:23,100 --> 00:37:27,470

717
00:37:27,470 --> 00:37:33,820
A relation of her
father came to Israel.

718
00:37:33,820 --> 00:37:39,250
He had survived the Holocaust.

719
00:37:39,250 --> 00:37:40,350
She was born in Berlin.

720
00:37:40,350 --> 00:37:42,360
Her parents lived in
Berlin, but things

721
00:37:42,360 --> 00:37:46,200
were getting so bad that they
decided to go back to Poland

722
00:37:46,200 --> 00:37:48,255
to their relations,
to their folks.

723
00:37:48,255 --> 00:37:49,630
And they went back
there in order

724
00:37:49,630 --> 00:37:51,930
to be with their parents
and brothers and sisters

725
00:37:51,930 --> 00:37:54,390
and so forth.

726
00:37:54,390 --> 00:37:56,460
And they went to the
same town where this

727
00:37:56,460 --> 00:37:59,640
survivor who came to Israel--

728
00:37:59,640 --> 00:38:02,100
I think it was Przemysl maybe--

729
00:38:02,100 --> 00:38:02,970
or Rzesz³w.

730
00:38:02,970 --> 00:38:07,230
I think it was Rzesz³w

where they went to.

731

00:38:07,230 --> 00:38:09,370

And he told us the following story.

732

00:38:09,370 --> 00:38:10,980

He said that, one day, the Germans

733

00:38:10,980 --> 00:38:14,310

rounded the whole population, the Jewish population,

734

00:38:14,310 --> 00:38:16,510

up and brought them to the nearest road.

735

00:38:16,510 --> 00:38:18,810

And there was a ditch prepared.

736

00:38:18,810 --> 00:38:24,562

And they put all the Jews along the ditch and shot them.

737

00:38:24,562 --> 00:38:25,770

And they fell into the ditch.

738

00:38:25,770 --> 00:38:29,320

And this relation who had escaped to Israel,

739

00:38:29,320 --> 00:38:33,210

he was able to hide himself in some bushes.

740

00:38:33,210 --> 00:38:36,940

And while he was lying there, he was watching what was going on.

741

00:38:36,940 --> 00:38:40,590

He saw the parents of my wife standing

742
00:38:40,590 --> 00:38:45,030
at the edge of a
ditch holding hands.

743
00:38:45,030 --> 00:38:46,650
As far as I understood
from my wife,

744
00:38:46,650 --> 00:38:50,350
they were a very loving sort
of husband and wife relation.

745
00:38:50,350 --> 00:38:55,500
And they loved their child, my
wife, in an extraordinary way.

746
00:38:55,500 --> 00:38:57,270
But it was an only child.

747
00:38:57,270 --> 00:38:58,992
And it was a little girl.

748
00:38:58,992 --> 00:39:00,450
And there they
stood holding hands.

749
00:39:00,450 --> 00:39:06,540
And in my imagination,
I always thought that--

750
00:39:06,540 --> 00:39:09,900
I was thinking, what were their
last thoughts while they were

751
00:39:09,900 --> 00:39:12,390
standing there holding hands?

752
00:39:12,390 --> 00:39:14,790
And I'm so convinced--
it's a kind of premonition,

753

00:39:14,790 --> 00:39:17,040
a kind of a feeling I've
got-- that they were thinking

754
00:39:17,040 --> 00:39:18,960
of their child, of Genya.

755
00:39:18,960 --> 00:39:21,240
And then he said there
was a burst of fire

756
00:39:21,240 --> 00:39:24,330
from a machine gun, and they
fell back into the ditch.

757
00:39:24,330 --> 00:39:28,070
That is the story of the
parents of my wife, Genya.

758
00:39:28,070 --> 00:39:32,630

759
00:39:32,630 --> 00:39:36,630
So when the Jewish Brigade
was formed in 1944,

760
00:39:36,630 --> 00:39:38,260
I decided to join.

761
00:39:38,260 --> 00:39:41,310
I was sent to Maidstone,
in England, in Kent.

762
00:39:41,310 --> 00:39:45,030
And I was given basic
training for about four weeks.

763
00:39:45,030 --> 00:39:48,060
And immediately-- and there
must have been about another 100

764
00:39:48,060 --> 00:39:51,810
who had the same idea

as I, to fight Germans.

765
00:39:51,810 --> 00:39:55,800
And we were sent immediately
over the Mediterranean,

766
00:39:55,800 --> 00:39:57,750
to Italy.

767
00:39:57,750 --> 00:40:01,500
I arrived in Naples
and we made our way up

768
00:40:01,500 --> 00:40:04,260
to the North of Italy.

769
00:40:04,260 --> 00:40:05,970
And we saw action
on the Senio River,

770
00:40:05,970 --> 00:40:09,510
and we even took some prisoners.

771
00:40:09,510 --> 00:40:11,550
And then the war ended.

772
00:40:11,550 --> 00:40:18,090
And I was stationed next to
the Yugoslav-Austrian border

773
00:40:18,090 --> 00:40:22,000
in Italy for maybe
three or four months.

774
00:40:22,000 --> 00:40:25,420
And then we were given
orders, the whole Brigade--

775
00:40:25,420 --> 00:40:27,780
there were 5,000--

776
00:40:27,780 --> 00:40:33,060

we were given orders to move
to Antwerp, in Brussels--

777
00:40:33,060 --> 00:40:35,340
I'm sorry, in Belgium.

778
00:40:35,340 --> 00:40:38,520
So the whole Brigade,
about 5,000, 6,000 men,

779
00:40:38,520 --> 00:40:43,200
a self-contained brigade with
its artillery and mortars

780
00:40:43,200 --> 00:40:47,370
and infantry and signals,
complete self-contained

781
00:40:47,370 --> 00:40:52,800
brigade, moved over the
Brenner Pass through Germany.

782
00:40:52,800 --> 00:40:57,990
I'd like to mention that the
insignia on our shoulders

783
00:40:57,990 --> 00:40:58,740
was in Hebrew.

784
00:40:58,740 --> 00:41:00,690
It said [HEBREW],,
which means, not

785
00:41:00,690 --> 00:41:03,960
soldier, but
[HEBREW],, which means

786
00:41:03,960 --> 00:41:06,000
"Fighting Jewish Brigade Force."

787
00:41:06,000 --> 00:41:09,570
And there was a big
Magen David on our arm,

788
00:41:09,570 --> 00:41:15,930
with the blue white
and blue, which

789
00:41:15,930 --> 00:41:19,140
later became the Jewish flag.

790
00:41:19,140 --> 00:41:22,560
And of course, I was awfully
proud to walk around with it.

791
00:41:22,560 --> 00:41:28,422
The badge of shame had become
a badge of honor and pride.

792
00:41:28,422 --> 00:41:30,630
Very proud, I used to walk
with my arms stretched out

793
00:41:30,630 --> 00:41:33,660
a little bit in order to--

794
00:41:33,660 --> 00:41:36,000
that was probably a
conditioned reflex,

795
00:41:36,000 --> 00:41:39,210
just to show that
there was absolutely

796
00:41:39,210 --> 00:41:44,370
no indignity of wearing
the yellow badge.

797
00:41:44,370 --> 00:41:47,340
And here I had this
golden Magen David

798
00:41:47,340 --> 00:41:52,290
on my left arm walking around
in Europe, in Germany, later.

799

00:41:52,290 --> 00:41:55,970

800

00:41:55,970 --> 00:42:01,280

So one -- we bivouacked
in a little village.

801

00:42:01,280 --> 00:42:06,830

And suddenly, we were
woken up by a commotion.

802

00:42:06,830 --> 00:42:11,090

And I woke up, and I
saw a barn burning.

803

00:42:11,090 --> 00:42:12,500

And we ran towards a barn.

804

00:42:12,500 --> 00:42:13,870

It was straw inside.

805

00:42:13,870 --> 00:42:15,440

There's no way of
putting it out,

806

00:42:15,440 --> 00:42:16,700

and nobody had any intention.

807

00:42:16,700 --> 00:42:19,043

That was in Germany, by the way.

808

00:42:19,043 --> 00:42:20,960

We had, of course, no
intention to put it out,

809

00:42:20,960 --> 00:42:23,180

but it burned to the ground.

810

00:42:23,180 --> 00:42:24,980

And then there was--

811

00:42:24,980 --> 00:42:26,780
we had a rabbi with us.

812
00:42:26,780 --> 00:42:31,850
His name was Rabbi Casper,
and he became later the Chief

813
00:42:31,850 --> 00:42:33,980
Rabbi of South Africa.

814
00:42:33,980 --> 00:42:37,530
He took all 5,000 men
and gave us a speech.

815
00:42:37,530 --> 00:42:39,300
And I was amazed at his speech.

816
00:42:39,300 --> 00:42:43,010
He said, we should be ashamed
of ourselves, whoever did this,

817
00:42:43,010 --> 00:42:46,400
to burn a barn down with straw.

818
00:42:46,400 --> 00:42:49,310
We Jews don't do these things.

819
00:42:49,310 --> 00:42:53,330
And people shouted,
you talk about a barn?

820
00:42:53,330 --> 00:42:57,080
While they killed 6 million
people, you talk about a barn.

821
00:42:57,080 --> 00:42:59,960
I think he must have felt
that he had made a mistake.

822
00:42:59,960 --> 00:43:01,520
Talking about a barn--

823

00:43:01,520 --> 00:43:02,750
we didn't kill anybody.

824
00:43:02,750 --> 00:43:04,310
We didn't destroy anything.

825
00:43:04,310 --> 00:43:05,000
We didn't loot.

826
00:43:05,000 --> 00:43:06,230
We didn't rape.

827
00:43:06,230 --> 00:43:09,050
And it was a barn that went
up in fire, so big deal.

828
00:43:09,050 --> 00:43:13,400
And the most amazing thing was
that the owners of the barn,

829
00:43:13,400 --> 00:43:16,400
some farmer and his wife--
they were pretty young--

830
00:43:16,400 --> 00:43:17,410
standing at the window.

831
00:43:17,410 --> 00:43:21,560
And they were shouting and
waving their fists at us.

832
00:43:21,560 --> 00:43:25,880
And I took my rifle,
and I was so disgusted.

833
00:43:25,880 --> 00:43:29,420
I was so disgusted I
was going to shoot them.

834
00:43:29,420 --> 00:43:30,230
But I didn't.

835

00:43:30,230 --> 00:43:33,320
But the urge in me was
to shoot these people.

836
00:43:33,320 --> 00:43:36,980
They were complaining
about a barn?

837
00:43:36,980 --> 00:43:39,655
It seemed to be incongruous
to me that they I mean --

838
00:43:39,655 --> 00:43:41,810
they didn't hide under the beds.

839
00:43:41,810 --> 00:43:45,510

840
00:43:45,510 --> 00:43:48,870
So we continued through
Germany, and we arrived

841
00:43:48,870 --> 00:43:51,516
at the town of Landsberg.

842
00:43:51,516 --> 00:43:53,520
I'd like to remind
you that Landsberg

843
00:43:53,520 --> 00:43:57,150
was a fortress where Hitler
was imprisoned in the '20s.

844
00:43:57,150 --> 00:44:00,490
And that's where he wrote
his book, Mein Kampf,

845
00:44:00,490 --> 00:44:04,330
this infamous book, Mein Kampf.

846
00:44:04,330 --> 00:44:06,310
And it had been
made into a DP camp.

847
00:44:06,310 --> 00:44:09,910

848
00:44:09,910 --> 00:44:11,380
And the whole Brigade--

849
00:44:11,380 --> 00:44:15,370
and I'd like to point out
that, in all the trucks and all

850
00:44:15,370 --> 00:44:19,090
the tanks and all
the half-tracks

851
00:44:19,090 --> 00:44:21,310
was the same emblem,
the Magen David

852
00:44:21,310 --> 00:44:24,460
on the background, the flag.

853
00:44:24,460 --> 00:44:27,100
And we went through the main
gate, through the courtyard,

854
00:44:27,100 --> 00:44:28,270
and out the back.

855
00:44:28,270 --> 00:44:31,720
And there were thousands of
survivors standing there.

856
00:44:31,720 --> 00:44:34,390
And their hair had
grown maybe an inch.

857
00:44:34,390 --> 00:44:40,390
It must have been a few weeks
only after the liberation.

858
00:44:40,390 --> 00:44:44,680

I can hear now how they
yelled and how they cried,

859
00:44:44,680 --> 00:44:46,900
almost animal-like.

860
00:44:46,900 --> 00:44:50,830
They saw themselves on the cars
and they kissed Magen David.

861
00:44:50,830 --> 00:44:54,670
They grabbed the rifles from
our hands and kissed the rifles.

862
00:44:54,670 --> 00:44:56,770
Only imagine that
they suddenly saw

863
00:44:56,770 --> 00:45:00,040
these big burly
Palestinians as Jews,

864
00:45:00,040 --> 00:45:04,300
singing at top of their voices
with deep, masculine voices,

865
00:45:04,300 --> 00:45:07,780
just strength coming
out of all of them.

866
00:45:07,780 --> 00:45:08,800
This is unbelievable.

867
00:45:08,800 --> 00:45:14,240
This picture never leaves me,
how they went and they stopped.

868
00:45:14,240 --> 00:45:17,290
They wouldn't-- didn't want--
they wanted to keep us forever.

869
00:45:17,290 --> 00:45:21,440
They couldn't imagine that

suddenly Jewish soldiers

870
00:45:21,440 --> 00:45:25,740
with armament, with tanks,
with rifles, with machine guns,

871
00:45:25,740 --> 00:45:29,770
with artillery, with mortars--

872
00:45:29,770 --> 00:45:32,330

873
00:45:32,330 --> 00:45:34,310
it's an unbelievable picture.

874
00:45:34,310 --> 00:45:38,330
I believe maybe a picture
should be made of this.

875
00:45:38,330 --> 00:45:41,780
A film should be made
only of this incident

876
00:45:41,780 --> 00:45:44,650
when we went through this
Landsberg from the main gate,

877
00:45:44,650 --> 00:45:47,330
through the courtyard,
through the back.

878
00:45:47,330 --> 00:45:51,050
And while we had to go
on-- we couldn't stop.

879
00:45:51,050 --> 00:45:53,630
I mean, we had an aim to get
into Antwerp, into Belgium.

880
00:45:53,630 --> 00:45:55,880
They ran, thousands
of people ran

881
00:45:55,880 --> 00:46:00,920
after till we saw them
disappearing in the background.

882
00:46:00,920 --> 00:46:02,270
It left me--

883
00:46:02,270 --> 00:46:03,860
I'm a sensitive kind of person.

884
00:46:03,860 --> 00:46:06,800
It left me shaken.

885
00:46:06,800 --> 00:46:10,350
And I had a feeling that
Hitler had achieved nothing.

886
00:46:10,350 --> 00:46:14,120
He had not broken an iota
of the Jewish spirit.

887
00:46:14,120 --> 00:46:15,380
There they were.

888
00:46:15,380 --> 00:46:18,620
I mean if somebody would be told
all the time, you're no good,

889
00:46:18,620 --> 00:46:20,810
and the Jews are this,
and the Jews are that.

890
00:46:20,810 --> 00:46:22,550
And we are nothing.

891
00:46:22,550 --> 00:46:23,210
We are dirt.

892
00:46:23,210 --> 00:46:28,460
And here they are, their pride
coming out of the very pores--

893

00:46:28,460 --> 00:46:29,990
not denying their Jewishness.

894

00:46:29,990 --> 00:46:32,720
And when they saw
Magen David, they--

895

00:46:32,720 --> 00:46:37,310
I mean, a question could
be asked, where was God?

896

00:46:37,310 --> 00:46:38,490
Where is the Jewish God?

897

00:46:38,490 --> 00:46:39,170
What did he do?

898

00:46:39,170 --> 00:46:41,850
Why did he allow this?

899

00:46:41,850 --> 00:46:45,350
Of course, in the question
of faith, it's a dilemma.

900

00:46:45,350 --> 00:46:47,510
Sometimes I believe,
and sometimes I

901

00:46:47,510 --> 00:46:49,940
have my moments of doubt.

902

00:46:49,940 --> 00:46:52,910
But I do believe that
those moments of doubt

903

00:46:52,910 --> 00:46:56,720
are part of the struggle
we all go through.

904

00:46:56,720 --> 00:46:59,090
I fervently believe
in the Jewish God.

905
00:46:59,090 --> 00:47:02,050
I have never really
gone away from Him.

906
00:47:02,050 --> 00:47:04,490
I believe very strongly in God--

907
00:47:04,490 --> 00:47:05,600
not that I'm religious.

908
00:47:05,600 --> 00:47:09,020
I'm not religious, but I
believe very strongly in God.

909
00:47:09,020 --> 00:47:14,210
Even though, how can I say,
that God has done it to us,

910
00:47:14,210 --> 00:47:16,470
or people have done it
to us, I have no idea.

911
00:47:16,470 --> 00:47:19,720
But God didn't help
us in those days.

912
00:47:19,720 --> 00:47:21,007
Righteous people died.

913
00:47:21,007 --> 00:47:21,590
Children died.

914
00:47:21,590 --> 00:47:23,900
Women died who had done nothing.

915
00:47:23,900 --> 00:47:24,620
And they died.

916
00:47:24,620 --> 00:47:28,280
They died a most
horrible, horrific death--

917
00:47:28,280 --> 00:47:31,910
not that you get a bullet, and
you die, but these tortures,

918
00:47:31,910 --> 00:47:33,470
these things they went through.

919
00:47:33,470 --> 00:47:36,260

920
00:47:36,260 --> 00:47:41,420
So eventually, we
arrived in Antwerp.

921
00:47:41,420 --> 00:47:45,990
And as I told you before,
the first thing I did,

922
00:47:45,990 --> 00:47:51,020
I went to Brussels in order
to see what I could find out

923
00:47:51,020 --> 00:47:51,770
about my parents.

924
00:47:51,770 --> 00:47:53,570
And I went to the address.

925
00:47:53,570 --> 00:47:54,710
And the man came down.

926
00:47:54,710 --> 00:47:56,810
He was the owner of the house.

927
00:47:56,810 --> 00:47:58,970
And I had taken a person
along with me who spoke

928
00:47:58,970 --> 00:48:01,400
French to interpret for me.

929
00:48:01,400 --> 00:48:02,600
And he didn't interpret.

930
00:48:02,600 --> 00:48:03,230
He spoke.

931
00:48:03,230 --> 00:48:05,030
And I asked him translate.

932
00:48:05,030 --> 00:48:07,710
It was a horrible situation.

933
00:48:07,710 --> 00:48:10,670
I couldn't make-- but I did
see the man was nervous.

934
00:48:10,670 --> 00:48:13,280
He was shaking.

935
00:48:13,280 --> 00:48:15,698
I had the impression,
of course, it can't be--

936
00:48:15,698 --> 00:48:17,240
I can't prove it--
had the impression

937
00:48:17,240 --> 00:48:20,630
that he had something to do with
maybe giving my parents away.

938
00:48:20,630 --> 00:48:21,420
I have no idea.

939
00:48:21,420 --> 00:48:23,140
Maybe he was he was an informer.

940
00:48:23,140 --> 00:48:25,440
I have no idea.

941
00:48:25,440 --> 00:48:28,550

But a man came down, a Jew.

942

00:48:28,550 --> 00:48:29,880

And he said, who are you?

943

00:48:29,880 --> 00:48:32,450

And I said who I am.

944

00:48:32,450 --> 00:48:33,958

And I said, my
parents lived here.

945

00:48:33,958 --> 00:48:35,000

And my sister lived here.

946

00:48:35,000 --> 00:48:36,080

He said, your parents?

947

00:48:36,080 --> 00:48:39,300

I know them and
your sister, Tzili.

948

00:48:39,300 --> 00:48:41,730

Oh, we were in--

949

00:48:41,730 --> 00:48:45,560

I forgot now where they
were put in a [GERMAN]

950

00:48:45,560 --> 00:48:47,690

in order to be
deported to Auschwitz.

951

00:48:47,690 --> 00:48:49,050

You had such a lovely sister.

952

00:48:49,050 --> 00:48:50,450

You used to dance and sing.

953

00:48:50,450 --> 00:48:53,000

I said, how did you escape?

954
00:48:53,000 --> 00:48:55,640
He said, well, I am a
South African citizen--

955
00:48:55,640 --> 00:48:57,477
not South African,
South American citizen.

956
00:48:57,477 --> 00:48:59,810
And I had a passport, and the
Germans couldn't touch me.

957
00:48:59,810 --> 00:49:01,070
So I was released.

958
00:49:01,070 --> 00:49:03,230
But I know your parents,
wonderful people.

959
00:49:03,230 --> 00:49:04,590
I wish to go and visit them.

960
00:49:04,590 --> 00:49:08,060
I had my first contact and my
only contact with my parents.

961
00:49:08,060 --> 00:49:10,580
He told me-- but he
said, you know what?

962
00:49:10,580 --> 00:49:14,525
You go to the former
Gestapo headquarters.

963
00:49:14,525 --> 00:49:16,400
They have all the records
there of people who

964
00:49:16,400 --> 00:49:18,920
lived in Antwerp, in Brussels.

965
00:49:18,920 --> 00:49:20,708

So I made my way to that office.

966

00:49:20,708 --> 00:49:23,000

And there was the Gestapo
headquarters, former Gestapo.

967

00:49:23,000 --> 00:49:27,750

And it was staffed now
by Belgian officials.

968

00:49:27,750 --> 00:49:30,170

And I went in there, and I
spoke to one of the officials.

969

00:49:30,170 --> 00:49:31,670

And he spoke pretty
good English.

970

00:49:31,670 --> 00:49:35,450

And I said, look, my parents
lived here in Antwerp,

971

00:49:35,450 --> 00:49:41,480

in [Place name] I still
remember the street.

972

00:49:41,480 --> 00:49:45,620

And maybe you could help me to
find out what was their fate.

973

00:49:45,620 --> 00:49:47,127

And he said, what
was their name?

974

00:49:47,127 --> 00:49:47,960

And I gave the name.

975

00:49:47,960 --> 00:49:49,190

And he went along the files.

976

00:49:49,190 --> 00:49:50,810

There were hundreds of files.

977

00:49:50,810 --> 00:49:53,900

And he pulled out a file,
and he opened the file.

978

00:49:53,900 --> 00:49:56,450

And there was the
picture of my mother

979

00:49:56,450 --> 00:50:00,920

and my sister, which
I have right here.

980

00:50:00,920 --> 00:50:03,380

And he said-- I asked him,
can I have this picture?

981

00:50:03,380 --> 00:50:04,250

He said, please.

982

00:50:04,250 --> 00:50:06,052

He pulled out the picture.

983

00:50:06,052 --> 00:50:07,760

And he pulled out a
picture of my sister,

984

00:50:07,760 --> 00:50:08,640

and he gave it to me.

985

00:50:08,640 --> 00:50:13,100

I said, tell me, do you
know, by any chance,

986

00:50:13,100 --> 00:50:14,840

according to this
file, what happened?

987

00:50:14,840 --> 00:50:18,140

What was the fate of my
mother and my sister?

988

00:50:18,140 --> 00:50:21,800

And I saw a big V in red.

989

00:50:21,800 --> 00:50:25,520

He said, this means
vernichtung, extermination.

990

00:50:25,520 --> 00:50:28,560

Those people weren't
even selected--

991

00:50:28,560 --> 00:50:31,250

not right and not left,
not to work, not--

992

00:50:31,250 --> 00:50:31,880

Oh.

993

00:50:31,880 --> 00:50:33,760

It doesn't matter.

994

00:50:33,760 --> 00:50:36,610

[? Let ?] [? me ?] [? get-- ?]
the tape [? going to ?] start.

995

00:50:36,610 --> 00:50:38,725

[INAUDIBLE] the tape
to the correct speed.

996

00:50:38,725 --> 00:50:42,850

997

00:50:42,850 --> 00:50:44,470

OK, I'd say any time.

998

00:50:44,470 --> 00:50:45,901

Any time I'm ready.

999

00:50:45,901 --> 00:50:48,550

OK.

1000

00:50:48,550 --> 00:50:50,210

Tell me when.

1001
00:50:50,210 --> 00:50:53,170
OK.

1002
00:50:53,170 --> 00:50:57,490
So we were stationed in Antwerp.

1003
00:50:57,490 --> 00:51:04,810
And our job was now to
guard trains, provisions

1004
00:51:04,810 --> 00:51:08,380
and munition, prisoners
of war, to all kinds

1005
00:51:08,380 --> 00:51:09,980
of directions, all over Europe.

1006
00:51:09,980 --> 00:51:13,030
So we were in the last wagon.

1007
00:51:13,030 --> 00:51:15,122
There was a stove
potbellied stove in there

1008
00:51:15,122 --> 00:51:16,330
where we used to make a fire.

1009
00:51:16,330 --> 00:51:21,500
And we used to make our
Army rations and so forth.

1010
00:51:21,500 --> 00:51:27,670
And that's how we spent
time, guarding trains.

1011
00:51:27,670 --> 00:51:30,340
So I had a very
good friend with me

1012
00:51:30,340 --> 00:51:33,610
whom I went through this

whole campaign with me.

1013

00:51:33,610 --> 00:51:35,140

And his name was Henry Stern.

1014

00:51:35,140 --> 00:51:40,990

He's now a member of the kibbutz
which I also was a member of.

1015

00:51:40,990 --> 00:51:44,080

And I was a founder
of that kibbutz,

1016

00:51:44,080 --> 00:51:47,335

which is in the Lower Galilee,
right next to Tiberias.

1017

00:51:47,335 --> 00:51:50,020

1018

00:51:50,020 --> 00:51:53,770

One day, he received
a notification

1019

00:51:53,770 --> 00:51:55,930

that his brother is in
the South of France,

1020

00:51:55,930 --> 00:52:01,300

and he had survived
the Holocaust.

1021

00:52:01,300 --> 00:52:05,500

So he went to the chaplain and
asked for compassionate leave.

1022

00:52:05,500 --> 00:52:08,420

He said, look, that's
the only person which

1023

00:52:08,420 --> 00:52:09,490

has survived my family.

1024

00:52:09,490 --> 00:52:11,950

I need to go and see my brother.

1025

00:52:11,950 --> 00:52:15,880

And he gave him permission,
for one week, to go.

1026

00:52:15,880 --> 00:52:18,880

And before he went, I
said to him, you know,

1027

00:52:18,880 --> 00:52:22,690

Henry, before I
left my mother, she

1028

00:52:22,690 --> 00:52:25,570

gave me an address of my uncle.

1029

00:52:25,570 --> 00:52:28,990

And this uncle lived in Paris,
and he has got four sons.

1030

00:52:28,990 --> 00:52:32,630

But I believe that they
are not alive any longer.

1031

00:52:32,630 --> 00:52:34,795

I think they also were deported.

1032

00:52:34,795 --> 00:52:37,950

But you know, if you
maybe are in Paris--

1033

00:52:37,950 --> 00:52:40,250

he said, I am going
to be in Paris.

1034

00:52:40,250 --> 00:52:42,820

He had to go to the South
of France somewhere, Nice.

1035

00:52:42,820 --> 00:52:46,180

I am going to be in Paris,
and if I can possibly,

1036
00:52:46,180 --> 00:52:49,840
I'll check over for you.

1037
00:52:49,840 --> 00:52:52,450
I had the address, and
I gave him the address.

1038
00:52:52,450 --> 00:52:55,570
And he went off to the South of
France and to meet his brother.

1039
00:52:55,570 --> 00:52:58,510
And after a week, he came back.

1040
00:52:58,510 --> 00:53:05,320
And he told me stories about his
brother which is hair-raising.

1041
00:53:05,320 --> 00:53:07,600
His brother had a job
of burying people,

1042
00:53:07,600 --> 00:53:10,600
but he was somewhere
in Lithuania.

1043
00:53:10,600 --> 00:53:14,050
And doing the work there,
he had to bury the dead.

1044
00:53:14,050 --> 00:53:16,960
And the ground was so
hard they had to use

1045
00:53:16,960 --> 00:53:18,640
dynamite to open the ground.

1046
00:53:18,640 --> 00:53:25,420
And he spoke-- he told to me
in detail how he exploded,

1047
00:53:25,420 --> 00:53:31,210
how he dynamited the ground
and how they put the people in.

1048
00:53:31,210 --> 00:53:32,890
Well, we all know about this.

1049
00:53:32,890 --> 00:53:37,280
It's not necessary to go
do these eerie details.

1050
00:53:37,280 --> 00:53:41,590
And so I asked him
after he had told me

1051
00:53:41,590 --> 00:53:46,510
at length about his brother,
what he had gone through.

1052
00:53:46,510 --> 00:53:48,070
I asked him, tell
me, did you manage

1053
00:53:48,070 --> 00:53:51,180
to go to the address I
gave you of my family.

1054
00:53:51,180 --> 00:53:55,400
He said, yes, I met them all.

1055
00:53:55,400 --> 00:53:57,120
I said, you met my uncle?

1056
00:53:57,120 --> 00:54:01,550
He was the brother of my
father, also Grossman.

1057
00:54:01,550 --> 00:54:05,460
And I said, I can't believe it.

1058
00:54:05,460 --> 00:54:06,183

And his sons?

1059
00:54:06,183 --> 00:54:07,850
He said they're all
there, four of them.

1060
00:54:07,850 --> 00:54:08,840
And his wife?

1061
00:54:08,840 --> 00:54:10,370
She's all there.

1062
00:54:10,370 --> 00:54:11,690
I said, how did they survive?

1063
00:54:11,690 --> 00:54:15,140
He said, well, he told
me that he had gone.

1064
00:54:15,140 --> 00:54:17,270
He had fled to
Vichy France, which

1065
00:54:17,270 --> 00:54:22,460
was the part of France which
was first given independence

1066
00:54:22,460 --> 00:54:23,360
from Germany.

1067
00:54:23,360 --> 00:54:26,270
And later, Germany took
it over completely.

1068
00:54:26,270 --> 00:54:28,130
And they hid in a village.

1069
00:54:28,130 --> 00:54:30,330
I went straight to the chaplain.

1070
00:54:30,330 --> 00:54:32,480
I said, I want

compassionate leave.

1071
00:54:32,480 --> 00:54:33,620
And he said, what for?

1072
00:54:33,620 --> 00:54:38,780
I said, well, I found an uncle
of mine, the only survivor,

1073
00:54:38,780 --> 00:54:39,752
with his four sons.

1074
00:54:39,752 --> 00:54:40,460
And I need to go.

1075
00:54:40,460 --> 00:54:42,470
He said, I can't give you leave.

1076
00:54:42,470 --> 00:54:45,710
I said, can you arrange for me,
on one of those trains which

1077
00:54:45,710 --> 00:54:50,480
goes towards Paris, of those
trains which we guarded also

1078
00:54:50,480 --> 00:54:51,470
went to Paris--

1079
00:54:51,470 --> 00:54:53,650
can you at least
arrange that for me?

1080
00:54:53,650 --> 00:54:54,650
He said, I will try.

1081
00:54:54,650 --> 00:54:59,690
And after a few days, I was
given the job, the task,

1082
00:54:59,690 --> 00:55:04,820
of guarding a train to Paris.

1083
00:55:04,820 --> 00:55:06,740
So it took maybe 10 days.

1084
00:55:06,740 --> 00:55:09,680
It stopped, and it
changed and wagons--

1085
00:55:09,680 --> 00:55:12,410
and a hell of a journey.

1086
00:55:12,410 --> 00:55:16,130
So one late night,
we arrived in Paris.

1087
00:55:16,130 --> 00:55:21,530
And we were quartered in an
army hostel, terrible hostel.

1088
00:55:21,530 --> 00:55:24,350
It was icy cold, and I
was black from that coal.

1089
00:55:24,350 --> 00:55:25,100
You can't imagine.

1090
00:55:25,100 --> 00:55:26,600
There was no way of washing.

1091
00:55:26,600 --> 00:55:29,630
You washed in a
bowl with a maybe--

1092
00:55:29,630 --> 00:55:31,430
on a tap and a faucet--

1093
00:55:31,430 --> 00:55:32,720
no way we could really wash.

1094
00:55:32,720 --> 00:55:35,200
And it was icy cold, but I
just couldn't stand myself

1095
00:55:35,200 --> 00:55:35,700
any longer.

1096
00:55:35,700 --> 00:55:38,690
I remember somewhere in the
loft, there was a shower.

1097
00:55:38,690 --> 00:55:40,280
And I went into that shower.

1098
00:55:40,280 --> 00:55:42,230
And it was icy cold ice.

1099
00:55:42,230 --> 00:55:43,490
It was January.

1100
00:55:43,490 --> 00:55:47,090
So I had a cold shower,
icy cold shower.

1101
00:55:47,090 --> 00:55:50,180
I washed myself and I
caught a kind of a cold.

1102
00:55:50,180 --> 00:55:52,070
I could hardly talk.

1103
00:55:52,070 --> 00:55:56,510
But I got myself up the next
morning with my overcoat,

1104
00:55:56,510 --> 00:56:02,520
my army overcoat, and put on
my beret, took a map of Paris,

1105
00:56:02,520 --> 00:56:05,750
and walked towards Rue de ClÃ©ry.

1106
00:56:05,750 --> 00:56:07,670
That's where he lived.

1107

00:56:07,670 --> 00:56:12,110
And I came to Rue de ClÃ©ry,
which is also the Jewish part

1108

00:56:12,110 --> 00:56:15,800
of Paris, where all the
people lived who are tailors.

1109

00:56:15,800 --> 00:56:18,830
And I came and I saw Rue de
ClÃ©ry, number whatever it was.

1110

00:56:18,830 --> 00:56:23,533
And I saw an old house
steps worn by maybe

1111

00:56:23,533 --> 00:56:24,575
by the times of Napoleon.

1112

00:56:24,575 --> 00:56:26,750
They were all worn
out, [LAUGHS] really

1113

00:56:26,750 --> 00:56:28,820
worn by people passing
on those stairs.

1114

00:56:28,820 --> 00:56:30,620
So I walked up those stairs.

1115

00:56:30,620 --> 00:56:32,600
Suddenly, a young man came down.

1116

00:56:32,600 --> 00:56:33,960
And I looked at his face.

1117

00:56:33,960 --> 00:56:35,730
And he looked like family.

1118

00:56:35,730 --> 00:56:37,130
He looked Grossman.

1119

00:56:37,130 --> 00:56:39,080

A very handsome boy,
he was the eldest.

1120

00:56:39,080 --> 00:56:40,280

His name was Bernard.

1121

00:56:40,280 --> 00:56:41,990

And my father was Bernard.

1122

00:56:41,990 --> 00:56:43,980

And he looked at me,
and he had, of course,

1123

00:56:43,980 --> 00:56:48,500

heard that I might come because
my friend had told him earlier.

1124

00:56:48,500 --> 00:56:49,130

And they heard.

1125

00:56:49,130 --> 00:56:53,360

They never saw me or
never ever met me.

1126

00:56:53,360 --> 00:56:55,720

But they heard that
I was existing.

1127

00:56:55,720 --> 00:56:59,150

And they knew all the
names of the children.

1128

00:56:59,150 --> 00:57:03,050

And I went up, and he made a
U-turn and came up behind me.

1129

00:57:03,050 --> 00:57:05,690

So I walked up the stairs,
and I knocked on one door.

1130

00:57:05,690 --> 00:57:08,060

And a Frenchman came out,
and I said, family Grossman.

1131
00:57:08,060 --> 00:57:08,960
I don't speak French.

1132
00:57:08,960 --> 00:57:11,750
And he says, upstairs.

1133
00:57:11,750 --> 00:57:12,730
So I went upstairs.

1134
00:57:12,730 --> 00:57:14,910
It was the very top.

1135
00:57:14,910 --> 00:57:16,700
And there were some
rooms, and there

1136
00:57:16,700 --> 00:57:18,830
must have been six sewing
machines with six girls

1137
00:57:18,830 --> 00:57:20,240
sewing, sewing, sewing, sewing.

1138
00:57:20,240 --> 00:57:21,435
They were making textiles.

1139
00:57:21,435 --> 00:57:22,560
They were making something.

1140
00:57:22,560 --> 00:57:24,440
And there I saw my uncle.

1141
00:57:24,440 --> 00:57:28,880
And my god, he looked
the image of my father--

1142
00:57:28,880 --> 00:57:33,110
the exact, exact
image of my father.

1143
00:57:33,110 --> 00:57:35,340
I looked at him in my heart.

1144
00:57:35,340 --> 00:57:38,150
And over my heart
went, into my throat.

1145
00:57:38,150 --> 00:57:40,070
I looked at him,
and he looked at me.

1146
00:57:40,070 --> 00:57:44,270
And there was a British soldier
in uniform, and he said, Ali.

1147
00:57:44,270 --> 00:57:46,665
And he came in and embraced
me, and there was his wife.

1148
00:57:46,665 --> 00:57:47,540
And they embraced me.

1149
00:57:47,540 --> 00:57:49,580
And they were all working.

1150
00:57:49,580 --> 00:57:52,600
They were all working
on sewing machines.

1151
00:57:52,600 --> 00:57:54,850
And he sent all the girls home.

1152
00:57:54,850 --> 00:57:57,460
He folded up the
sewing machines,

1153
00:57:57,460 --> 00:57:59,800
and he put them on top, and
he put them under the bin.

1154
00:57:59,800 --> 00:58:02,710

It was so small, you can't
imagine where he put them all.

1155
00:58:02,710 --> 00:58:07,930
And it was 1st of
January, the New Year.

1156
00:58:07,930 --> 00:58:10,120
And he made a big party for me--

1157
00:58:10,120 --> 00:58:12,580
food, and they put
big bottles of wine.

1158
00:58:12,580 --> 00:58:14,350
And they all poured
bottles of wine

1159
00:58:14,350 --> 00:58:17,290
in glasses filled
to the very brim.

1160
00:58:17,290 --> 00:58:19,780
Up they went, and then next.

1161
00:58:19,780 --> 00:58:20,740
And then up they went.

1162
00:58:20,740 --> 00:58:23,120
And I was able only
to manage this much.

1163
00:58:23,120 --> 00:58:25,010
And then my head started to go--

1164
00:58:25,010 --> 00:58:26,120
maybe this bit.

1165
00:58:26,120 --> 00:58:30,070
And then I looked at them
with wonderment and amazement

1166

00:58:30,070 --> 00:58:33,100
how they could manage
to drink so much wine.

1167
00:58:33,100 --> 00:58:36,375
They were conditioned to it, I
think, the whole constitution

1168
00:58:36,375 --> 00:58:37,750
of drinking wine
in France, which

1169
00:58:37,750 --> 00:58:39,690
is a natural thing, though.

1170
00:58:39,690 --> 00:58:42,130
[LAUGHS] They were
conditioned for it.

1171
00:58:42,130 --> 00:58:43,100
My head was spinning.

1172
00:58:43,100 --> 00:58:46,540
I just couldn't--
couldn't take this wine.

1173
00:58:46,540 --> 00:58:49,930
Anyway, we talked and
talked and talked.

1174
00:58:49,930 --> 00:58:53,530
It was one of the highlights
of my life, to meet, suddenly,

1175
00:58:53,530 --> 00:58:57,040
family that's the only
family I ever met.

1176
00:58:57,040 --> 00:59:00,020
And they were really
wonderful people.

1177
00:59:00,020 --> 00:59:02,650

The unfortunate thing
was that all four of them

1178
00:59:02,650 --> 00:59:06,040
are communists,
terrible communists,

1179
00:59:06,040 --> 00:59:09,340
extremely so-- fanatics.

1180
00:59:09,340 --> 00:59:12,070
And they talked-- and there
was no state of Israel then,

1181
00:59:12,070 --> 00:59:14,140
but they talked about
the rights of the Arabs.

1182
00:59:14,140 --> 00:59:16,510
And it really annoyed me.

1183
00:59:16,510 --> 00:59:20,260
We got in hot discussions
and my uncle, in his wisdom,

1184
00:59:20,260 --> 00:59:22,220
said, look, we will not
talk about politics.

1185
00:59:22,220 --> 00:59:23,822
We will talk about
family, anything.

1186
00:59:23,822 --> 00:59:25,530
And he stopped us
talking about politics.

1187
00:59:25,530 --> 00:59:29,710
It was getting really
to a state where I

1188
00:59:29,710 --> 00:59:32,370
felt great, great aggravation.

1189
00:59:32,370 --> 00:59:34,120
Did you stay in contact
with this family?]

1190
00:59:34,120 --> 00:59:34,620
Pardon?

1191
00:59:34,620 --> 00:59:35,440
I'm sorry.

1192
00:59:35,440 --> 00:59:38,200
Did you stay in contact
with these family?

1193
00:59:38,200 --> 00:59:40,080
I'll come to that in a minute.

1194
00:59:40,080 --> 00:59:41,830
I'll come to that in a minute.

1195
00:59:41,830 --> 00:59:49,480
So it was, again, as I say,
it was, to me, upsetting

1196
00:59:49,480 --> 00:59:52,930
that, after, the Jews
won't learn from history.

1197
00:59:52,930 --> 00:59:55,990
they won't learn throughout
history, from the Inquisition

1198
00:59:55,990 --> 01:00:02,170
to the pogroms, to the very
contemporary days, where

1199
01:00:02,170 --> 01:00:03,400
6 million Jews got killed.

1200
01:00:03,400 --> 01:00:05,320
And they got away with murder.

1201
01:00:05,320 --> 01:00:07,750
That whole family
survived, which is so rare.

1202
01:00:07,750 --> 01:00:10,420
And I said, look, look--

1203
01:00:10,420 --> 01:00:12,310
he said, no, we are Frenchmen.

1204
01:00:12,310 --> 01:00:13,960
And they talked
about French culture.

1205
01:00:13,960 --> 01:00:16,300
And I said, you have
your own Jewish culture.

1206
01:00:16,300 --> 01:00:20,140
It's very nice French culture,
but you have your own Jewish--

1207
01:00:20,140 --> 01:00:22,570
I couldn't make it [? break. ?]
And then I was only 19.

1208
01:00:22,570 --> 01:00:27,920
How much-- if I would talk to
them today, I'd talk different.

1209
01:00:27,920 --> 01:00:31,150
So in later years, they
all visited me in Israel.

1210
01:00:31,150 --> 01:00:33,298
And they became
very pro-Zionist.

1211
01:00:33,298 --> 01:00:34,840
I thought, what
about your communism?

1212

01:00:34,840 --> 01:00:37,750

They used to say, we were young.

1213

01:00:37,750 --> 01:00:39,760

So they dropped their
communism, all of them,

1214

01:00:39,760 --> 01:00:44,590

and they became, all them, in
those days, in later years,

1215

01:00:44,590 --> 01:00:48,700

all their vacations were spent
in Poland or in Hungary and all

1216

01:00:48,700 --> 01:00:50,200

these communist countries.

1217

01:00:50,200 --> 01:00:53,560

In later years, they all
came invariably, every year,

1218

01:00:53,560 --> 01:00:54,983

to Israel.

1219

01:00:54,983 --> 01:00:57,400

And I mean, there are things
to be said about whether they

1220

01:00:57,400 --> 01:00:58,770

couldn't--

1221

01:00:58,770 --> 01:01:02,580

the enthusiasm on
Israel was so great

1222

01:01:02,580 --> 01:01:05,970

that there could be nothing,
for them, bad in Israel.

1223

01:01:05,970 --> 01:01:08,070

And that was, of

course, a source

1224
01:01:08,070 --> 01:01:11,297
of great gratification for me.

1225
01:01:11,297 --> 01:01:13,630
Did they tell you what they
saw when they visited Poland

1226
01:01:13,630 --> 01:01:14,870
and the communist countries?

1227
01:01:14,870 --> 01:01:15,260
Pardon?

1228
01:01:15,260 --> 01:01:16,500
Did they tell you what they--

1229
01:01:16,500 --> 01:01:18,333
No, we didn't-- they
didn't need to tell me.

1230
01:01:18,333 --> 01:01:21,240
I mean, [LAUGHS] I knew what
was going on in those countries.

1231
01:01:21,240 --> 01:01:26,010
But they were so imbued with
the ideology of communism

1232
01:01:26,010 --> 01:01:27,690
that nothing could be wrong.

1233
01:01:27,690 --> 01:01:30,420
Or even if it were
wrong, communism

1234
01:01:30,420 --> 01:01:34,110
would be the ultimate aim to
save the world and humanity.

1235
01:01:34,110 --> 01:01:35,610

So today, we are
having a hard time.

1236
01:01:35,610 --> 01:01:37,020
But you will see--

1237
01:01:37,020 --> 01:01:40,560
you will see how
communism was going

1238
01:01:40,560 --> 01:01:43,300
to change the world for
the good of all of us.

1239
01:01:43,300 --> 01:01:44,740
That was the way of thinking.

1240
01:01:44,740 --> 01:01:49,920
And I remember they took me to a
meeting of the Communist Party.

1241
01:01:49,920 --> 01:01:51,870
And then my cousin,
he was a little bit

1242
01:01:51,870 --> 01:01:56,190
of a macher, a little bit of
an active person in that thing.

1243
01:01:56,190 --> 01:01:59,520
He got up on the stage and said,
I have a wonderful announcement

1244
01:01:59,520 --> 01:02:00,660
to make to you.

1245
01:02:00,660 --> 01:02:01,650
And he spoke in French.

1246
01:02:01,650 --> 01:02:03,840
I didn't know, but my
uncle translated for me.

1247

01:02:03,840 --> 01:02:07,050

We spoke in Yiddish,
my uncle and me.

1248

01:02:07,050 --> 01:02:11,460

And he said, I would like
to tell you that Russia

1249

01:02:11,460 --> 01:02:13,440

has got the atom bomb.

1250

01:02:13,440 --> 01:02:14,750

And everybody cheered.

1251

01:02:14,750 --> 01:02:16,890

I said, oy, goodness gracious.

1252

01:02:16,890 --> 01:02:19,100

That's what he
he's talking about,

1253

01:02:19,100 --> 01:02:21,970

that Russia has
got the atom bomb--

1254

01:02:21,970 --> 01:02:22,650

so big deal.

1255

01:02:22,650 --> 01:02:25,990

1256

01:02:25,990 --> 01:02:31,390

My time-- oh, then we--

1257

01:02:31,390 --> 01:02:34,270

so the Jewish Brigade
was disbanded.

1258

01:02:34,270 --> 01:02:36,370

They were sent
back to Palestine.

1259

01:02:36,370 --> 01:02:40,810

I, not being a Palestinian
but, so to speak, British,

1260

01:02:40,810 --> 01:02:44,650

I joined the British
Army and was transferred

1261

01:02:44,650 --> 01:02:47,260

to the Jewish Brigade.

1262

01:02:47,260 --> 01:02:49,150

I was not allowed
to go to Palestine.

1263

01:02:49,150 --> 01:02:52,630

They were sent back and
demobilized, discharged

1264

01:02:52,630 --> 01:02:54,550

from the Army in Palestine.

1265

01:02:54,550 --> 01:02:56,270

And I had to
continue my service.

1266

01:02:56,270 --> 01:02:59,050

I was transferred to Germany
into Bielefeld, which is

1267

01:02:59,050 --> 01:03:03,070

in Westphalia, in Lower Saxony.

1268

01:03:03,070 --> 01:03:05,410

And again, we did guard duties.

1269

01:03:05,410 --> 01:03:10,240

But I spent most of my
time going to DP camps.

1270

01:03:10,240 --> 01:03:16,180

DP camps were spotted all over

Europe, displaced persons camp,

1271

01:03:16,180 --> 01:03:23,110
by the Jewish agency, organized
in the most difficult way

1272

01:03:23,110 --> 01:03:27,460
to get people organized
in the DP camps

1273

01:03:27,460 --> 01:03:31,390
and, eventually, bring them
over illegally into Palestine.

1274

01:03:31,390 --> 01:03:34,090
So whenever I was
free, I used to hitch

1275

01:03:34,090 --> 01:03:37,270
down into one of those
camps in order to be,

1276

01:03:37,270 --> 01:03:41,710
first and foremost, amongst
Jews, amongst survivors.

1277

01:03:41,710 --> 01:03:49,960
And one day, I
came to a DP camp.

1278

01:03:49,960 --> 01:03:51,970
And there were all
these lists there

1279

01:03:51,970 --> 01:03:54,400
of who were in those camps.

1280

01:03:54,400 --> 01:03:57,570

1281

01:03:57,570 --> 01:04:01,370
And I saw, suddenly,
the name Eduard Berger.

1282
01:04:01,370 --> 01:04:02,900
And I knew an Eduard Berger.

1283
01:04:02,900 --> 01:04:06,080
He was in my class in Szczecin.

1284
01:04:06,080 --> 01:04:10,460
He was from a family of very,
very talented and bright

1285
01:04:10,460 --> 01:04:13,040
children, good people.

1286
01:04:13,040 --> 01:04:14,370
So they were outstanding.

1287
01:04:14,370 --> 01:04:16,580
So I remembered them very well.

1288
01:04:16,580 --> 01:04:18,890
There were about four
or five children,

1289
01:04:18,890 --> 01:04:23,030
and they were all rosy
cheeked and very, very blond.

1290
01:04:23,030 --> 01:04:28,010
And so I said, could that be
Eduard Berger, the one I know?

1291
01:04:28,010 --> 01:04:31,370
And a person passed me,
and I said to him, tell me,

1292
01:04:31,370 --> 01:04:32,480
do you know Eduard Berger?

1293
01:04:32,480 --> 01:04:33,090
He said, sure.

1294

01:04:33,090 --> 01:04:34,730

I said, could you
tell me where he is?

1295

01:04:34,730 --> 01:04:36,890

He said, oh, he's right
there playing ping-pong.

1296

01:04:36,890 --> 01:04:41,780

And I saw somebody a
little bit stout, blown up.

1297

01:04:41,780 --> 01:04:44,690

They were a blown up
from after the camps

1298

01:04:44,690 --> 01:04:48,260

until they regain
their natural stature.

1299

01:04:48,260 --> 01:04:51,200

And he was playing ping-pong
with his back to me.

1300

01:04:51,200 --> 01:04:53,030

It was outside.

1301

01:04:53,030 --> 01:04:55,850

And I walked up, and I
looked from the side.

1302

01:04:55,850 --> 01:05:00,600

And it was Eduard
Berger, my schoolmate.

1303

01:05:00,600 --> 01:05:02,910

And I said, Eduard?

1304

01:05:02,910 --> 01:05:05,830

And he turned to me, and
he said, who are you?

1305

01:05:05,830 --> 01:05:09,300
I was in uniform, a soldier.

1306
01:05:09,300 --> 01:05:11,040
I said, do you remember me?

1307
01:05:11,040 --> 01:05:12,900
My name is Ali Grossman.

1308
01:05:12,900 --> 01:05:15,750
We were in the same
class in Szczecin.

1309
01:05:15,750 --> 01:05:18,240
He said Ali, and
he remembered me.

1310
01:05:18,240 --> 01:05:21,720

1311
01:05:21,720 --> 01:05:26,430
And he dropped the bat, and
he set on a kind of a hillock,

1312
01:05:26,430 --> 01:05:27,300
and we talked.

1313
01:05:27,300 --> 01:05:30,720
And I said, what happened to
the community of Szczecin.

1314
01:05:30,720 --> 01:05:33,450
There was a cantor,
[Personal name]

1315
01:05:33,450 --> 01:05:38,460
He had such a beautiful voice,
and he told me the bar mitzvah.

1316
01:05:38,460 --> 01:05:42,240
And I remember, when I came
up to the read the Torah,

1317

01:05:42,240 --> 01:05:43,230

I was too short.

1318

01:05:43,230 --> 01:05:44,250

I was too small.

1319

01:05:44,250 --> 01:05:45,690

I remember he put
a bench under me

1320

01:05:45,690 --> 01:05:48,390

that I could reach
the Torah to read it.

1321

01:05:48,390 --> 01:05:52,260

That was [Personal name] When
he made a kiddush, it was--

1322

01:05:52,260 --> 01:05:55,620

and it was a Reform
synagogue with an organ.

1323

01:05:55,620 --> 01:05:58,830

He had such a voice
it was unbelievable.

1324

01:05:58,830 --> 01:06:00,600

I said, what happened
to the community?

1325

01:06:00,600 --> 01:06:05,940

He said, we were all sent to
Lublin and then to Auschwitz.

1326

01:06:05,940 --> 01:06:08,130

And he told me his
story, as well.

1327

01:06:08,130 --> 01:06:10,500

I do not want to go
into the same thing.

1328

01:06:10,500 --> 01:06:12,540
He went through terrible things.

1329
01:06:12,540 --> 01:06:14,460
He said, I don't
know where my father

1330
01:06:14,460 --> 01:06:17,010
is, my sister, my mother.

1331
01:06:17,010 --> 01:06:18,090
But he says, you know--

1332
01:06:18,090 --> 01:06:20,190
I said, he could have
a brother, Felix.

1333
01:06:20,190 --> 01:06:21,630
He was older than us.

1334
01:06:21,630 --> 01:06:22,530
He says, yes.

1335
01:06:22,530 --> 01:06:24,090
I said, where's Felix.

1336
01:06:24,090 --> 01:06:27,720
Well, he went, before
the war, to America.

1337
01:06:27,720 --> 01:06:29,600
I said, he went to America?

1338
01:06:29,600 --> 01:06:30,600
Do you know where he is?

1339
01:06:30,600 --> 01:06:31,620
Do you have his address?

1340
01:06:31,620 --> 01:06:32,160
He said, no.

1341

01:06:32,160 --> 01:06:35,770

1342

01:06:35,770 --> 01:06:38,740

So I said, you
know, how old is he?

1343

01:06:38,740 --> 01:06:40,850

About 21.

1344

01:06:40,850 --> 01:06:42,790

I said, he must be
serving in the Army.

1345

01:06:42,790 --> 01:06:45,730

He must be in the Army,
and maybe he's in England.

1346

01:06:45,730 --> 01:06:49,060

1347

01:06:49,060 --> 01:06:51,970

Maybe he-- but how
can I find him?

1348

01:06:51,970 --> 01:06:54,220

I said, look,
Eduard, in two days,

1349

01:06:54,220 --> 01:06:56,530

I'm going to England
on compassionate leave.

1350

01:06:56,530 --> 01:06:58,090

I'm getting six days.

1351

01:06:58,090 --> 01:06:59,110

I'll see what I can do.

1352

01:06:59,110 --> 01:07:00,572

But I really didn't think--

1353

01:07:00,572 --> 01:07:01,780

I didn't know where to start.

1354

01:07:01,780 --> 01:07:04,390

How does one start such a thing, to look for a soldier?

1355

01:07:04,390 --> 01:07:07,150

There were 2 million British soldiers in England.

1356

01:07:07,150 --> 01:07:09,640

The island was about to sink.

1357

01:07:09,640 --> 01:07:11,500

So many soldiers were there.

1358

01:07:11,500 --> 01:07:13,360

You can't imagine, from all over the world,

1359

01:07:13,360 --> 01:07:16,940

from India, from New Zealand, from Australia,

1360

01:07:16,940 --> 01:07:20,800

from South Africa, from France, from Denmark, from Holland.

1361

01:07:20,800 --> 01:07:23,275

England was full of soldiers.

1362

01:07:23,275 --> 01:07:25,870

1363

01:07:25,870 --> 01:07:28,740

So I went over on the ferry to England,

1364

01:07:28,740 --> 01:07:30,450

and there was another Jewish soldier

1365
01:07:30,450 --> 01:07:32,400
from the brigade with
me, and he said to me,

1366
01:07:32,400 --> 01:07:33,483
where are you going to go?

1367
01:07:33,483 --> 01:07:36,870
I said, I have nobody.

1368
01:07:36,870 --> 01:07:39,030
But I used to go to
England on leave.

1369
01:07:39,030 --> 01:07:40,450
I used to go in
an Army hospital.

1370
01:07:40,450 --> 01:07:42,390
And at night,
Friday night, I used

1371
01:07:42,390 --> 01:07:44,310
to walk past and look
into the windows.

1372
01:07:44,310 --> 01:07:48,450
And when I saw candles
lit on Erev Shabbat,

1373
01:07:48,450 --> 01:07:52,290
I used to look in and
cry and remember my days

1374
01:07:52,290 --> 01:07:55,080
I sat with my parents and
my brothers and sisters,

1375
01:07:55,080 --> 01:07:57,000
and we had a Shabbat.

1376

01:07:57,000 --> 01:07:58,260
And then I saw--

1377
01:07:58,260 --> 01:08:00,930
of course, I didn't knock on
the door and say, I'm Jewish.

1378
01:08:00,930 --> 01:08:02,400
Can I partake in your meal?

1379
01:08:02,400 --> 01:08:04,920
But I looked at the
candles and that

1380
01:08:04,920 --> 01:08:07,350
was a wonderful feeling for me.

1381
01:08:07,350 --> 01:08:12,210
That was great gratification
to see candles on Shabbat.

1382
01:08:12,210 --> 01:08:14,227
So I said, well,
the usual thing.

1383
01:08:14,227 --> 01:08:15,060
I'll go to a hostel.

1384
01:08:15,060 --> 01:08:17,477
I'll walk around in the streets
of London, where I would--

1385
01:08:17,477 --> 01:08:21,450
or maybe go to a
canteen, or to a,

1386
01:08:21,450 --> 01:08:24,720
what we call in English, the
NAAFI, I think it's called,

1387
01:08:24,720 --> 01:08:27,614
the PX stores and
the American term.

1388
01:08:27,614 --> 01:08:29,910
NAAFI, well, you
know, the soldiers

1389
01:08:29,910 --> 01:08:34,200
go and drink beer and play and
all kinds of things, and music.

1390
01:08:34,200 --> 01:08:35,790
And sometimes there was vomit.

1391
01:08:35,790 --> 01:08:38,133
These were the canteens
for the British Army.

1392
01:08:38,133 --> 01:08:39,300
I said, that's what I'll do.

1393
01:08:39,300 --> 01:08:40,529
What else can I do?

1394
01:08:40,529 --> 01:08:44,220
He said, you know, there's
a Jewish family in London

1395
01:08:44,220 --> 01:08:46,740
who only want to
invite Jewish soldiers.

1396
01:08:46,740 --> 01:08:50,700
They made it their
aim that any time--

1397
01:08:50,700 --> 01:08:54,270
the day, night makes no
difference-- there's always

1398
01:08:54,270 --> 01:08:55,800
a meal for a Jewish soldier.

1399
01:08:55,800 --> 01:08:57,510

And that's where
Jewish soldiers meet--

1400
01:08:57,510 --> 01:09:08,130
a couple who made it their
aim to invite Jewish soldiers.

1401
01:09:08,130 --> 01:09:10,470
So I said, I'm a little bit shy.

1402
01:09:10,470 --> 01:09:14,260
But he said, no, you
are doing them a favor.

1403
01:09:14,260 --> 01:09:17,910
It's a problem for them
to invite Jewish soldiers

1404
01:09:17,910 --> 01:09:19,020
to eat at their table.

1405
01:09:19,020 --> 01:09:20,729
I said, well, OK.

1406
01:09:20,729 --> 01:09:21,660
So he came along.

1407
01:09:21,660 --> 01:09:23,370
And I was sitting
there, very shy.

1408
01:09:23,370 --> 01:09:24,810
I was sitting there by myself.

1409
01:09:24,810 --> 01:09:28,470
And the hostess was a woman,
was a wonderful women,

1410
01:09:28,470 --> 01:09:29,729
Jewish heart.

1411
01:09:29,729 --> 01:09:32,460

And she saw what I
was, and I was so shy.

1412
01:09:32,460 --> 01:09:35,130
And she came up to me
and said, don't be shy.

1413
01:09:35,130 --> 01:09:36,330
Eat, be happy.

1414
01:09:36,330 --> 01:09:37,260
You are in family.

1415
01:09:37,260 --> 01:09:41,609
We're all Jewish and so forth.

1416
01:09:41,609 --> 01:09:43,770
So I just came out
and I said to her,

1417
01:09:43,770 --> 01:09:46,319
you know, I met a schoolmate.

1418
01:09:46,319 --> 01:09:49,724
He's the first person,
just living being,

1419
01:09:49,724 --> 01:09:51,930
who knew anything of my past.

1420
01:09:51,930 --> 01:09:53,550
And I'm so full of it.

1421
01:09:53,550 --> 01:09:54,510
And he has a brother.

1422
01:09:54,510 --> 01:09:58,590
His name is-- maybe he's
an American soldier.

1423
01:09:58,590 --> 01:10:00,040
Where can I start

to look for him?

1424

01:10:00,040 --> 01:10:01,410

I want to help him.

1425

01:10:01,410 --> 01:10:04,350

I want to bring them together,
if that's at all possible.

1426

01:10:04,350 --> 01:10:05,730

She says, well,
what is his name.

1427

01:10:05,730 --> 01:10:07,500

I said, Felix Berger.

1428

01:10:07,500 --> 01:10:09,180

She said, Felix Berger?

1429

01:10:09,180 --> 01:10:11,100

Three days ago he was here.

1430

01:10:11,100 --> 01:10:12,670

He's an American soldier.

1431

01:10:12,670 --> 01:10:13,740

He ate in our house.

1432

01:10:13,740 --> 01:10:15,390

I said, what?

1433

01:10:15,390 --> 01:10:16,775

I can't believe it.

1434

01:10:16,775 --> 01:10:18,512

She says, yes.

1435

01:10:18,512 --> 01:10:19,470

What does he look like?

1436

01:10:19,470 --> 01:10:22,350

She said, well, he's a little
bit stout, and he's blond,

1437
01:10:22,350 --> 01:10:23,520
and he's got rosy--

1438
01:10:23,520 --> 01:10:25,440
I said, my god, that's Felix.

1439
01:10:25,440 --> 01:10:27,570
His father looked
exactly the same--

1440
01:10:27,570 --> 01:10:31,770
light complexion, rosy
cheeks, blond hair.

1441
01:10:31,770 --> 01:10:32,910
I said, I can't believe.

1442
01:10:32,910 --> 01:10:33,540
Where is he?

1443
01:10:33,540 --> 01:10:37,650
She said, well, he was
shipped over to Germany.

1444
01:10:37,650 --> 01:10:39,660
Only three days ago,
he came to say goodbye

1445
01:10:39,660 --> 01:10:45,565
and thanked me for having
being in hospitable to him

1446
01:10:45,565 --> 01:10:48,210
and opening our house,
which of course, it

1447
01:10:48,210 --> 01:10:49,770
is the privilege
for us, not for him.

1448
01:10:49,770 --> 01:10:52,310
He doesn't know that.

1449
01:10:52,310 --> 01:10:55,190
I said, I can't believe it.

1450
01:10:55,190 --> 01:10:56,325
What can I do to find him?

1451
01:10:56,325 --> 01:10:57,200
She said, no problem.

1452
01:10:57,200 --> 01:11:00,470
She gave me an address to
an American liaison office.

1453
01:11:00,470 --> 01:11:02,363
And I went there,
and I said, could I

1454
01:11:02,363 --> 01:11:04,030
please have the address
of Felix Berger.

1455
01:11:04,030 --> 01:11:04,655
They looked up.

1456
01:11:04,655 --> 01:11:08,090
He says, here's hi
post office thing.

1457
01:11:08,090 --> 01:11:10,850
Every army personnel
has a hasn't

1458
01:11:10,850 --> 01:11:14,720
got an address, but a number.

1459
01:11:14,720 --> 01:11:16,520
So I couldn't wait for
the day to go back.

1460

01:11:16,520 --> 01:11:18,937

And immediately, I went back to the camp where Eduard was.

1461

01:11:18,937 --> 01:11:20,187

And I said, Eduard, come here.

1462

01:11:20,187 --> 01:11:21,290

I must tell you something.

1463

01:11:21,290 --> 01:11:22,250

He said, what?

1464

01:11:22,250 --> 01:11:23,390

He'd forgotten.

1465

01:11:23,390 --> 01:11:27,890

He hadn't even thought that's a possibility, the feasibility,

1466

01:11:27,890 --> 01:11:31,880

was even remotely that I would find his brother.

1467

01:11:31,880 --> 01:11:34,010

I mean, that's something.

1468

01:11:34,010 --> 01:11:35,280

I said, I found your brother.

1469

01:11:35,280 --> 01:11:36,830

He said, (EXCITEDLY) what?

1470

01:11:36,830 --> 01:11:37,490

Where is he?

1471

01:11:37,490 --> 01:11:39,420

I said, he's right here in Germany.

1472

01:11:39,420 --> 01:11:42,320

And here's his address,
and I've sent a telegram.

1473
01:11:42,320 --> 01:11:43,620
I sent a telegram.

1474
01:11:43,620 --> 01:11:45,200
He's going to contact you.

1475
01:11:45,200 --> 01:11:46,790
And he contacted
him within two days.

1476
01:11:46,790 --> 01:11:48,500
Within four days, they met.

1477
01:11:48,500 --> 01:11:50,960
And his brother had,
already, information

1478
01:11:50,960 --> 01:11:53,270
that his mother and his
sister had been saved,

1479
01:11:53,270 --> 01:11:55,520
and they were sent to
Switzerland into a sanitarium

1480
01:11:55,520 --> 01:11:57,260
because they had tuberculosis.

1481
01:11:57,260 --> 01:11:58,010
The rest all died.

1482
01:11:58,010 --> 01:11:58,970
They were a big family.

1483
01:11:58,970 --> 01:12:01,910
They're must have been eight
or 10 children, all talented,

1484
01:12:01,910 --> 01:12:03,290

all beautiful children.

1485
01:12:03,290 --> 01:12:06,413
Only his sister and his
mother and Felix, of course,

1486
01:12:06,413 --> 01:12:07,580
he [? wasn't ?] [INAUDIBLE].

1487
01:12:07,580 --> 01:12:08,750
They survived.

1488
01:12:08,750 --> 01:12:12,140
And he emigrated later
to America, Eduard.

1489
01:12:12,140 --> 01:12:13,400
And I have lost track of him.

1490
01:12:13,400 --> 01:12:15,617
I would very much
like to find him.

1491
01:12:15,617 --> 01:12:17,075
Again, I don't know
where to start.

1492
01:12:17,075 --> 01:12:21,650
[LAUGHS] I would very
much like to reach him.

1493
01:12:21,650 --> 01:12:29,080
Anyway, one day, I came to
a DP camp, and it struck me,

1494
01:12:29,080 --> 01:12:31,690
it struck me that
everything was organized.

1495
01:12:31,690 --> 01:12:33,850
There were schools
and kindergarten

1496

01:12:33,850 --> 01:12:39,650

and cultural activities,
and there were concerts.

1497

01:12:39,650 --> 01:12:41,920

People who had been
only a short time ago,

1498

01:12:41,920 --> 01:12:44,740

they were the
dregs of the Earth.

1499

01:12:44,740 --> 01:12:46,520

There were just a nonentity.

1500

01:12:46,520 --> 01:12:48,050

They were nothing.

1501

01:12:48,050 --> 01:12:51,480

this -- and there they were--

1502

01:12:51,480 --> 01:12:55,330

as if you were going into a
kind of an amusement world,

1503

01:12:55,330 --> 01:12:57,130

kind of a--

1504

01:12:57,130 --> 01:12:59,170

I can't explain it.

1505

01:12:59,170 --> 01:13:00,250

Kind of a club--

1506

01:13:00,250 --> 01:13:01,480

everybody was happy.

1507

01:13:01,480 --> 01:13:03,160

Everybody was singing.

1508

01:13:03,160 --> 01:13:06,040

They didn't look like
people from camps

1509
01:13:06,040 --> 01:13:07,870
who, only maybe a month
or two months ago,

1510
01:13:07,870 --> 01:13:10,000
came out of camps
that were saved.

1511
01:13:10,000 --> 01:13:12,620
And there they were, organized.

1512
01:13:12,620 --> 01:13:16,240
There was a toastmaster,
and there was a-- no,

1513
01:13:16,240 --> 01:13:19,090
and she was a woman,
wonderful woman.

1514
01:13:19,090 --> 01:13:20,920
She had this number
on her arm and so.

1515
01:13:20,920 --> 01:13:24,550
She was directing the whole
thing, introducing and happy,

1516
01:13:24,550 --> 01:13:26,150
and in a beautiful voice.

1517
01:13:26,150 --> 01:13:28,540
It was an elderly woman,
but a wonderful voice,

1518
01:13:28,540 --> 01:13:30,430
singing very resonant.

1519
01:13:30,430 --> 01:13:33,070
And she was singing, and
I couldn't make this out.

1520
01:13:33,070 --> 01:13:34,765
I thought people would be--

1521
01:13:34,765 --> 01:13:37,250
you know, all these
terrible experiences,

1522
01:13:37,250 --> 01:13:39,480
they would be down.

1523
01:13:39,480 --> 01:13:41,780
And I think they-- and
then it occurred to me now,

1524
01:13:41,780 --> 01:13:44,710
in later years, there
are Arabs sitting

1525
01:13:44,710 --> 01:13:48,190
in those camps for 40 years,
and nothing is happening.

1526
01:13:48,190 --> 01:13:51,290
And there we Jews are up.

1527
01:13:51,290 --> 01:13:54,140
We are up, and we
are doing things.

1528
01:13:54,140 --> 01:13:57,470
And we are creating things.

1529
01:13:57,470 --> 01:13:59,360
Well, what can I tell you?

1530
01:13:59,360 --> 01:14:01,400
I feel so proud
of my Jewishness,

1531
01:14:01,400 --> 01:14:04,280
just because of this

resilience and this courage

1532

01:14:04,280 --> 01:14:06,740
and this determination.

1533

01:14:06,740 --> 01:14:10,400
I mean, when I think of my
Jewishness, my chest swells.

1534

01:14:10,400 --> 01:14:13,820
I'm so proud of being Jewish.

1535

01:14:13,820 --> 01:14:15,140
We cannot be beaten.

1536

01:14:15,140 --> 01:14:19,790
All the nations of all cultures
of the Earth are gone--

1537

01:14:19,790 --> 01:14:23,810
the Romans and the Greeks and
the Mamluks and the crusaders.

1538

01:14:23,810 --> 01:14:25,080
They don't exist anymore.

1539

01:14:25,080 --> 01:14:28,580
And we Jews, despite the
fact that we have been so

1540

01:14:28,580 --> 01:14:31,040
persecuted, we are right here.

1541

01:14:31,040 --> 01:14:32,080
And look how we look.

1542

01:14:32,080 --> 01:14:35,070

1543

01:14:35,070 --> 01:14:38,420
What struck me, that people came
in there-- they were strangers.

1544
01:14:38,420 --> 01:14:41,630
And when you meet strangers,
you either introduce them,

1545
01:14:41,630 --> 01:14:42,545
or you talk.

1546
01:14:42,545 --> 01:14:43,670
There's one thing they did.

1547
01:14:43,670 --> 01:14:46,660
They took each other by the arm,
and they turned the arm around

1548
01:14:46,660 --> 01:14:49,100
and looked at the numbers--

1549
01:14:49,100 --> 01:14:50,630
a sign of recognition.

1550
01:14:50,630 --> 01:14:55,860
The numbers could probably tell
them in which camp they were

1551
01:14:55,860 --> 01:15:00,087
and what kind of work they
did and all kinds of things,

1552
01:15:00,087 --> 01:15:01,170
which I really don't know.

1553
01:15:01,170 --> 01:15:03,760
And they said, oh, you
were here, you were there,

1554
01:15:03,760 --> 01:15:05,848
according maybe to the
size of the number.

1555
01:15:05,848 --> 01:15:06,390
I don't know.

1556
01:15:06,390 --> 01:15:10,740
But it struck me as
something very pathetic--

1557
01:15:10,740 --> 01:15:13,200
that's how to recognize
a person, by his number.

1558
01:15:13,200 --> 01:15:22,640

1559
01:15:22,640 --> 01:15:25,250
Suddenly, I received from
my girlfriend, Genya,

1560
01:15:25,250 --> 01:15:32,590
who became my wife later, a
notification that her aunt,

1561
01:15:32,590 --> 01:15:35,650
the wife of her
uncle, the uncle,

1562
01:15:35,650 --> 01:15:41,370
the brother of her
mother, she had survived.

1563
01:15:41,370 --> 01:15:43,190
She is in Berlin.

1564
01:15:43,190 --> 01:15:45,420
Again, I went to the
padre, to the chaplain.

1565
01:15:45,420 --> 01:15:47,750
And I said, look, I need
compassionate leave.

1566
01:15:47,750 --> 01:15:51,230
I found an aunt in Berlin,
and I need to go there.

1567

01:15:51,230 --> 01:15:52,908

And he said--

1568

01:15:52,908 --> 01:15:54,450

I don't know what
was wrong with him.

1569

01:15:54,450 --> 01:15:54,990

He said, no.

1570

01:15:54,990 --> 01:15:55,850

Everything was no with him.

1571

01:15:55,850 --> 01:15:57,080

I said, look, you're the padre.

1572

01:15:57,080 --> 01:15:58,790

You should have
compassion in your heart.

1573

01:15:58,790 --> 01:16:03,710

Your Christianity is based
on love, on compassion.

1574

01:16:03,710 --> 01:16:04,910

You have no compassion.

1575

01:16:04,910 --> 01:16:06,230

We Jews have compassion.

1576

01:16:06,230 --> 01:16:07,860

You have no-- and
he didn't like it.

1577

01:16:07,860 --> 01:16:10,520

He didn't like the
way I talked to him.

1578

01:16:10,520 --> 01:16:14,600

I said, look, where's your
way of showing me your love?

1579

01:16:14,600 --> 01:16:15,440

He wouldn't do it.

1580

01:16:15,440 --> 01:16:17,060

I said, I'll show you.

1581

01:16:17,060 --> 01:16:19,430

So I stole one night
into the leave office,

1582

01:16:19,430 --> 01:16:22,550

and I took out a form, filled
it out, stamped it, and wrote

1583

01:16:22,550 --> 01:16:24,865

down, Colonel Lokshen Kugel.

1584

01:16:24,865 --> 01:16:26,490

That's how I signed
it, Colonel Lokshen

1585

01:16:26,490 --> 01:16:27,532

Kugel, just to show them.

1586

01:16:27,532 --> 01:16:29,840

You know what lokshen kugel is?

1587

01:16:29,840 --> 01:16:35,780

This is a Yiddish
food, lokshen kugel.

1588

01:16:35,780 --> 01:16:40,010

[LAUGHS] So I signed it
as Colonel Lokshen Kugel.

1589

01:16:40,010 --> 01:16:42,230

It's a wonderful Jewish food.

1590

01:16:42,230 --> 01:16:44,390

And with that, and I
wrote myself out a letter.

1591

01:16:44,390 --> 01:16:45,560

I typed it out that night.

1592

01:16:45,560 --> 01:16:48,035

I broke into the-- went
through the window, typed out

1593

01:16:48,035 --> 01:16:51,770

a letter, and "to whom it
may concern, this soldier

1594

01:16:51,770 --> 01:16:55,010

it's on an urgent
mission into Berlin.

1595

01:16:55,010 --> 01:16:56,960

Please give him all assistance."

1596

01:16:56,960 --> 01:16:59,840

I took that, stamped it,
and put it into my pocket.

1597

01:16:59,840 --> 01:17:01,730

And that night, I
went to Hanover,

1598

01:17:01,730 --> 01:17:03,830

waited till the midnight
train to Berlin--

1599

01:17:03,830 --> 01:17:06,110

there were only midnight
trains to Berlin, sealed.

1600

01:17:06,110 --> 01:17:08,120

It had to go through
the Russian sector.

1601

01:17:08,120 --> 01:17:11,120

And I went AWL,
Absent Without Leave,

1602

01:17:11,120 --> 01:17:13,340
just disappeared and
went into Berlin.

1603
01:17:13,340 --> 01:17:17,450
All night, the train
went, sealed, into--

1604
01:17:17,450 --> 01:17:21,620
in the morning, I
arrived in Berlin.

1605
01:17:21,620 --> 01:17:25,550
And I had the
address of her aunt.

1606
01:17:25,550 --> 01:17:29,670
And then I beckoned a
Volkswagen. And I said,

1607
01:17:29,670 --> 01:17:32,447
I'll give you 10 cigarettes if
you take me to this address.

1608
01:17:32,447 --> 01:17:33,530
(EXCITEDLY) 10 cigarettes?

1609
01:17:33,530 --> 01:17:35,060
Come.

1610
01:17:35,060 --> 01:17:37,717
I went into this Volkswagen,
and he drove to the address.

1611
01:17:37,717 --> 01:17:38,800
And I knocked on the door.

1612
01:17:38,800 --> 01:17:41,730

1613
01:17:41,730 --> 01:17:42,530
Nobody was there.

1614
01:17:42,530 --> 01:17:44,000
It was empty.

1615
01:17:44,000 --> 01:17:45,650
Not empty, it was closed.

1616
01:17:45,650 --> 01:17:48,223
There was nobody there.

1617
01:17:48,223 --> 01:17:49,640
So I knocked on
the door opposite,

1618
01:17:49,640 --> 01:17:51,710
and I said, do you
know Frau Tuchman.

1619
01:17:51,710 --> 01:17:53,338
She said, yes, I
know Frau Tuchman.

1620
01:17:53,338 --> 01:17:54,380
Does she still live here?

1621
01:17:54,380 --> 01:17:57,350
She said, yes.

1622
01:17:57,350 --> 01:17:59,390
I said to her,
where could she be?

1623
01:17:59,390 --> 01:18:01,940
She said, oh, she's always
in a DP camp in Berlin.

1624
01:18:01,940 --> 01:18:03,590
It was another DP camp.

1625
01:18:03,590 --> 01:18:06,080
She had two girls
which she's raising,

1626

01:18:06,080 --> 01:18:08,047
two survivors, two lovely girls.

1627

01:18:08,047 --> 01:18:09,380
And she's like a mother to them.

1628

01:18:09,380 --> 01:18:10,970
She's always there.

1629

01:18:10,970 --> 01:18:12,620
I said, how can I get there.

1630

01:18:12,620 --> 01:18:15,510
She said, oh, it's
difficult to explain.

1631

01:18:15,510 --> 01:18:18,050
I said, would you please
give her a message.

1632

01:18:18,050 --> 01:18:22,460
I wrote out a note that I'm
the friend of Genya, her niece.

1633

01:18:22,460 --> 01:18:26,450
And I'll be back at 6
o'clock that afternoon.

1634

01:18:26,450 --> 01:18:29,010
In the meantime, I went again
to a hostel and washed myself

1635

01:18:29,010 --> 01:18:30,290
and so forth.

1636

01:18:30,290 --> 01:18:34,100
At 6 o'clock, I came,
and there she was.

1637

01:18:34,100 --> 01:18:37,490
What happiness, what joy
in this story she told.

1638
01:18:37,490 --> 01:18:42,720
Now, everybody knows what
people went through, the camps.

1639
01:18:42,720 --> 01:18:46,490
I don't want to sin here.

1640
01:18:46,490 --> 01:18:49,970
But it is worse not
to be in a camp.

1641
01:18:49,970 --> 01:18:54,808
What she did, every night,
she slept somewhere else.

1642
01:18:54,808 --> 01:18:56,850
Once she went to the
cemetery next to her husband

1643
01:18:56,850 --> 01:18:59,420
that died and slept
next to his grave.

1644
01:18:59,420 --> 01:19:00,860
When there was a
raid on, she used

1645
01:19:00,860 --> 01:19:04,280
to go mingle with the Germans
and go into the underground,

1646
01:19:04,280 --> 01:19:05,720
into the subway.

1647
01:19:05,720 --> 01:19:08,510
Once, she told me, she had
befriended a prostitute.

1648
01:19:08,510 --> 01:19:11,360
So she slept with the
prostitute when the prostitute

1649

01:19:11,360 --> 01:19:12,140
had her business.

1650

01:19:12,140 --> 01:19:13,490
And she was under the bed.

1651

01:19:13,490 --> 01:19:16,150

1652

01:19:16,150 --> 01:19:20,140
I said to her, Tante
Rosa, I said, Aunt Rosa,

1653

01:19:20,140 --> 01:19:24,550
how did it occur to you to hide.

1654

01:19:24,550 --> 01:19:26,560
After all, I mean,
nobody could have

1655

01:19:26,560 --> 01:19:29,830
realized that the Germans are
going to do what they did.

1656

01:19:29,830 --> 01:19:32,290
What made you do such a thing?

1657

01:19:32,290 --> 01:19:36,190
It always sort of
bothered me that by--

1658

01:19:36,190 --> 01:19:38,830
after all, they were told
they're going to camps to work,

1659

01:19:38,830 --> 01:19:40,792
so you know what.

1660

01:19:40,792 --> 01:19:42,250
They never were
told that they were

1661

01:19:42,250 --> 01:19:43,540
going to be killed, of course.

1662

01:19:43,540 --> 01:19:46,640
So what made you-- she said,
I'll tell you the story,

1663

01:19:46,640 --> 01:19:48,700
She said, I was alone.

1664

01:19:48,700 --> 01:19:49,600
I have no children.

1665

01:19:49,600 --> 01:19:51,640
My husband died after
the Kristallnacht.

1666

01:19:51,640 --> 01:19:52,332
He was released.

1667

01:19:52,332 --> 01:19:54,790
He was beaten so much, one day
had a heart attack and died.

1668

01:19:54,790 --> 01:19:56,120
I'm here by myself.

1669

01:19:56,120 --> 01:19:58,780
So I always was with friends.

1670

01:19:58,780 --> 01:20:01,810
Every night, I went to
the house with my friends.

1671

01:20:01,810 --> 01:20:04,450
And she had to wear that star,
and she had to go to work.

1672

01:20:04,450 --> 01:20:08,020
And she said she worked so
hard with so little rations.

1673

01:20:08,020 --> 01:20:12,790

And when she came home on the subway, she wasn't able to sit.

1674

01:20:12,790 --> 01:20:14,590

Jews were not able to sit.

1675

01:20:14,590 --> 01:20:18,610

Jews were only allowed to stand.

1676

01:20:18,610 --> 01:20:23,650

They were not allowed to lean against the wall of the subway.

1677

01:20:23,650 --> 01:20:25,900

And she said-- she's a little bit dramatic-- she said,

1678

01:20:25,900 --> 01:20:28,030

I was so tired.

1679

01:20:28,030 --> 01:20:30,548

I needed to lean against the wall.

1680

01:20:30,548 --> 01:20:32,590

And I leaned once against the wall for tiredness.

1681

01:20:32,590 --> 01:20:36,250

So a German came and said [GERMAN] and pulled me away.

1682

01:20:36,250 --> 01:20:39,560

Don't you touch with your shoulder a German wall.

1683

01:20:39,560 --> 01:20:42,280

And she had to stand there like that for an hour's journey

1684

01:20:42,280 --> 01:20:46,750

after 12 hours terrible work
with very little calories,

1685
01:20:46,750 --> 01:20:49,000
little rations.

1686
01:20:49,000 --> 01:20:52,300
So one night, she
was at her friend's.

1687
01:20:52,300 --> 01:20:56,022
And the door burst open, and
the Gestapo came in with a list.

1688
01:20:56,022 --> 01:20:56,980
And they read the list.

1689
01:20:56,980 --> 01:20:57,790
They said, down.

1690
01:20:57,790 --> 01:20:59,230
And the van was waiting.

1691
01:20:59,230 --> 01:21:00,700
And she wasn't called.

1692
01:21:00,700 --> 01:21:03,700
And she said,
please take me, too.

1693
01:21:03,700 --> 01:21:07,400
And thy said to her,
you're not on our list.

1694
01:21:07,400 --> 01:21:08,360
We can't take you.

1695
01:21:08,360 --> 01:21:11,050
See, the Germans--
we can't take you.

1696
01:21:11,050 --> 01:21:13,210

But if you hurry
home where you live,

1697
01:21:13,210 --> 01:21:15,320
maybe they'll get you there.

1698
01:21:15,320 --> 01:21:17,228
So she said, oh,
[INAUDIBLE] we'll see.

1699
01:21:17,228 --> 01:21:17,770
I'll see you.

1700
01:21:17,770 --> 01:21:19,090
I'll see you very soon.

1701
01:21:19,090 --> 01:21:21,430
So she rushed down in
order to go to her house,

1702
01:21:21,430 --> 01:21:24,680
in order to be taken to
be together with them.

1703
01:21:24,680 --> 01:21:27,100
So when she rushed down,
suddenly, she passed the door.

1704
01:21:27,100 --> 01:21:32,320
A man came out and pulled
her inside by her arm.

1705
01:21:32,320 --> 01:21:34,510
And the man said, come
inside, Frau Tuchman.

1706
01:21:34,510 --> 01:21:35,740
She said, how do you know me?

1707
01:21:35,740 --> 01:21:37,660
He said, your husband.

1708

01:21:37,660 --> 01:21:43,720
I have a cigar shop I sell
cigarettes, tobacco shop.

1709
01:21:43,720 --> 01:21:46,270
And your husband used to
be a customer of mine.

1710
01:21:46,270 --> 01:21:49,150
He used to buy his
cigars and cigar--

1711
01:21:49,150 --> 01:21:49,780
for years.

1712
01:21:49,780 --> 01:21:51,340
I know him very well.

1713
01:21:51,340 --> 01:21:52,240
I knew him very well.

1714
01:21:52,240 --> 01:21:53,517
I know he died.

1715
01:21:53,517 --> 01:21:54,850
And I know that you're his wife.

1716
01:21:54,850 --> 01:21:55,672
Please sit down.

1717
01:21:55,672 --> 01:21:56,380
She said, no, no.

1718
01:21:56,380 --> 01:21:58,870
I have to hurry, she said.

1719
01:21:58,870 --> 01:22:01,870
He said, please take five
minutes to let me tell you.

1720
01:22:01,870 --> 01:22:03,610
He said, I swear to you--

1721
01:22:03,610 --> 01:22:07,120
I swear-- I beg
of you, do not go.

1722
01:22:07,120 --> 01:22:10,660
Look, my daughter died
in an air raid attack.

1723
01:22:10,660 --> 01:22:12,640
I have her papers.

1724
01:22:12,640 --> 01:22:14,650
Take the papers and hide.

1725
01:22:14,650 --> 01:22:16,150
She said, no, I
don't want to hide.

1726
01:22:16,150 --> 01:22:19,600
I want to go with my friends.

1727
01:22:19,600 --> 01:22:21,010
He said to her, hide.

1728
01:22:21,010 --> 01:22:22,000
I beg you.

1729
01:22:22,000 --> 01:22:23,170
I beg you.

1730
01:22:23,170 --> 01:22:26,620
The Germans are up to no good.

1731
01:22:26,620 --> 01:22:28,150
He didn't say kill.

1732
01:22:28,150 --> 01:22:30,070
I met the man.

1733
01:22:30,070 --> 01:22:34,660

So she made a decision, like
I made a decision when I was

1734
01:22:34,660 --> 01:22:36,260
11 years old to listen to him.

1735
01:22:36,260 --> 01:22:39,220
So she stayed with him for
a bit and got the papers.

1736
01:22:39,220 --> 01:22:42,520
And from then on, as I told you,
she went from place to place.

1737
01:22:42,520 --> 01:22:47,380
And one day, she went onto a
farm and spoke to the farmer

1738
01:22:47,380 --> 01:22:50,980
and said, please,
allow me to work here.

1739
01:22:50,980 --> 01:22:52,090
Berlin is being bombed.

1740
01:22:52,090 --> 01:22:53,940
I can't stand it anymore.

1741
01:22:53,940 --> 01:22:56,080
I haven't slept for weeks.

1742
01:22:56,080 --> 01:22:57,880
Please allow me to stay here.

1743
01:22:57,880 --> 01:22:59,158
I'll work.

1744
01:22:59,158 --> 01:23:00,200
You don't have to pay me.

1745
01:23:00,200 --> 01:23:00,742
I'll pay you.

1746
01:23:00,742 --> 01:23:01,960
The farmer agreed.

1747
01:23:01,960 --> 01:23:05,840
A big [INAUDIBLE],,
wonderful thing for him.

1748
01:23:05,840 --> 01:23:07,210
So she worked.

1749
01:23:07,210 --> 01:23:09,700
And one day, the
farmer's son came

1750
01:23:09,700 --> 01:23:12,310
home, furloughed from Russia.

1751
01:23:12,310 --> 01:23:14,860
And while they were talking,
he was telling all the exploits

1752
01:23:14,860 --> 01:23:16,660
of the wonderful
victories in Russia

1753
01:23:16,660 --> 01:23:18,820
and how they stood
in front of Moscow.

1754
01:23:18,820 --> 01:23:22,390
And Stalingrad
hadn't happened yet.

1755
01:23:22,390 --> 01:23:23,800
And he said to her.

1756
01:23:23,800 --> 01:23:28,060
And he said to his parents
while she was present, he said,

1757
01:23:28,060 --> 01:23:29,650

we are getting rid
of all the Jews.

1758
01:23:29,650 --> 01:23:30,850
That's it.

1759
01:23:30,850 --> 01:23:35,170
We are-- we are solving
the Jewish problem.

1760
01:23:35,170 --> 01:23:36,640
That was a kind
of a German motto,

1761
01:23:36,640 --> 01:23:40,640
to solve the Jewish problem,
getting rid of them.

1762
01:23:40,640 --> 01:23:42,370
And she hadn't known.

1763
01:23:42,370 --> 01:23:44,980
And she looked at him.

1764
01:23:44,980 --> 01:23:46,230
And he said, what do you mean?

1765
01:23:46,230 --> 01:23:48,313
He said, well, we are
getting rid of all the Jews.

1766
01:23:48,313 --> 01:23:49,660
We are killing and hanging them.

1767
01:23:49,660 --> 01:23:51,760
We are just shooting them.

1768
01:23:51,760 --> 01:23:54,080
So she started to cry.

1769
01:23:54,080 --> 01:23:56,380
And he said, why do

you care about Jews?

1770
01:23:56,380 --> 01:23:57,860
Maybe you like Jews?

1771
01:23:57,860 --> 01:23:59,933
She said, no, but they're
human beings, too.

1772
01:23:59,933 --> 01:24:00,850
He said, human beings?

1773
01:24:00,850 --> 01:24:02,710
They are vermin.

1774
01:24:02,710 --> 01:24:06,910
And then she realized
for the first time

1775
01:24:06,910 --> 01:24:11,230
that Jews were
being exterminated.

1776
01:24:11,230 --> 01:24:12,680
Why did this come up?

1777
01:24:12,680 --> 01:24:16,660
A very profound question,
because I maintained

1778
01:24:16,660 --> 01:24:19,690
all the time they
all knew, they must

1779
01:24:19,690 --> 01:24:22,720
have known, because they
worked in factories.

1780
01:24:22,720 --> 01:24:25,000
And they were led to the
streets, and in the factories

1781

01:24:25,000 --> 01:24:26,230
also were Germans.

1782
01:24:26,230 --> 01:24:28,450
And of course,
thousands of people

1783
01:24:28,450 --> 01:24:31,510
must have been associated with
the annihilation, the trains,

1784
01:24:31,510 --> 01:24:35,050
the maintenance,
the guards, rumors.

1785
01:24:35,050 --> 01:24:38,620
I mean, it is out of
the question that--

1786
01:24:38,620 --> 01:24:40,690
and there she says
to me, I didn't know.

1787
01:24:40,690 --> 01:24:43,600
I said, you didn't know because
you didn't speak to Germans.

1788
01:24:43,600 --> 01:24:44,980
You were hiding all the time.

1789
01:24:44,980 --> 01:24:46,300
That's why you didn't know.

1790
01:24:46,300 --> 01:24:49,720
That's why you had this
revelation by this soldier who

1791
01:24:49,720 --> 01:24:50,965
came on furlough.

1792
01:24:50,965 --> 01:24:52,090
That's why you didn't know.

1793

01:24:52,090 --> 01:24:56,410

But I maintain to this day that
there wasn't a single German

1794

01:24:56,410 --> 01:24:57,940

who didn't know.

1795

01:24:57,940 --> 01:25:01,330

The only thing is they
didn't want to know.

1796

01:25:01,330 --> 01:25:04,210

The question, profound
question, is, of course, what

1797

01:25:04,210 --> 01:25:05,990

could they have done?

1798

01:25:05,990 --> 01:25:07,503

What could the
Germans have done?

1799

01:25:07,503 --> 01:25:08,920

Because if they
would have helped,

1800

01:25:08,920 --> 01:25:14,232

in the most minute way,
a Jew, the punishment

1801

01:25:14,232 --> 01:25:15,190

would have been severe.

1802

01:25:15,190 --> 01:25:16,482

I'm not talking about shooting.

1803

01:25:16,482 --> 01:25:17,740

That could have been, too--

1804

01:25:17,740 --> 01:25:20,510

not only on them,
but on their family.

1805

01:25:20,510 --> 01:25:25,510

Another thing-- in Europe,
there were undergrounds

1806

01:25:25,510 --> 01:25:27,340

who fought against the Germans.

1807

01:25:27,340 --> 01:25:30,423

In Germany, there
was no underground.

1808

01:25:30,423 --> 01:25:31,840

There was only an
underground when

1809

01:25:31,840 --> 01:25:34,240

they saw the Germans
were being defeated.

1810

01:25:34,240 --> 01:25:36,010

And the underground
wasn't by the--

1811

01:25:36,010 --> 01:25:37,630

the rebellion wasn't
by the people,

1812

01:25:37,630 --> 01:25:41,920

it was by officers who
tried to assassinate Hitler.

1813

01:25:41,920 --> 01:25:45,430

But the people-- nothing.

1814

01:25:45,430 --> 01:25:47,020

After, the shame on them --

1815

01:25:47,020 --> 01:25:48,430

Germany.

1816

01:25:48,430 --> 01:25:51,820

Only when they saw that
the war was hopeless,

1817
01:25:51,820 --> 01:25:53,950
then the officers
decided to get rid

1818
01:25:53,950 --> 01:25:56,282
of Hitler, which of course,
they didn't succeed.

1819
01:25:56,282 --> 01:25:57,490
But that's a different story.

1820
01:25:57,490 --> 01:26:00,810

1821
01:26:00,810 --> 01:26:02,070
Now, this aunt is living.

1822
01:26:02,070 --> 01:26:04,500
She's very old now, but
she lives in Israel.

1823
01:26:04,500 --> 01:26:06,070
And we always talk
about the time

1824
01:26:06,070 --> 01:26:07,350
when I came and visited her.

1825
01:26:07,350 --> 01:26:09,180
I bought her food,
and I brought--

1826
01:26:09,180 --> 01:26:12,630
she never forgets that I
bought her a needle and yarn.

1827
01:26:12,630 --> 01:26:14,380
She never forgot that
I brought-- that was

1828

01:26:14,380 --> 01:26:16,210
something which wasn't there.

1829

01:26:16,210 --> 01:26:21,310
She could sew her whatever was
torn, her clothes or her socks.

1830

01:26:21,310 --> 01:26:23,830
She didn't talk about
the nice foods I brought,

1831

01:26:23,830 --> 01:26:28,660
the salami and then
the tins and so forth.

1832

01:26:28,660 --> 01:26:30,270
I brought a lot of things.

1833

01:26:30,270 --> 01:26:32,590
She was always talking about
the needle and the yarn.

1834

01:26:32,590 --> 01:26:34,404
You brought me needle and yarn.

1835

01:26:34,404 --> 01:26:38,590
[LAUGHS] Every time I visit
her, she tells me about it.

1836

01:26:38,590 --> 01:26:43,630
Anyway, she took me to
the grave of her husband.

1837

01:26:43,630 --> 01:26:45,760
And there she stood there,
and to my embarrassment,

1838

01:26:45,760 --> 01:26:48,200
she spoke to the grave, to
her husband, and said, look,

1839

01:26:48,200 --> 01:26:50,800

he is Ali, the [NON-ENGLISH]
of Genya, [NON-ENGLISH],,

1840
01:26:50,800 --> 01:26:52,330
the [NON-ENGLISH] of Genya.

1841
01:26:52,330 --> 01:26:56,770
And he's come here,
out of the free world.

1842
01:26:56,770 --> 01:26:58,970
And you know she talked
to him and cried.

1843
01:26:58,970 --> 01:27:01,480
I stood, as a child almost, 19.

1844
01:27:01,480 --> 01:27:06,520
I was embarrassed by it,
talking to a mound of earth.

1845
01:27:06,520 --> 01:27:10,440
Anyway, she said
to me, you know,

1846
01:27:10,440 --> 01:27:16,390
Genya's father, in order to eke
out a little bit of a living,

1847
01:27:16,390 --> 01:27:18,870
he used to deliver milk in
an urn-- urn, you call it?

1848
01:27:18,870 --> 01:27:19,620
Mhm.

1849
01:27:19,620 --> 01:27:20,220
An urn.

1850
01:27:20,220 --> 01:27:20,785
[INAUDIBLE]

1851

01:27:20,785 --> 01:27:21,285
Pardon?

1852
01:27:21,285 --> 01:27:21,785
A can.

1853
01:27:21,785 --> 01:27:23,670
A can.

1854
01:27:23,670 --> 01:27:26,310
And finally, in the
middle of Berlin

1855
01:27:26,310 --> 01:27:30,480
was a cow shed where
a man milked his cows.

1856
01:27:30,480 --> 01:27:36,400
And then he used to sell the
milk to the neighborhood.

1857
01:27:36,400 --> 01:27:38,380
So her father used
to go and sell milk.

1858
01:27:38,380 --> 01:27:41,080
And she said, he owes him money.

1859
01:27:41,080 --> 01:27:41,965
We'll get that money.

1860
01:27:41,965 --> 01:27:43,840
And you should know,
that money wasn't worth,

1861
01:27:43,840 --> 01:27:47,070
in those days, maybe 1,000
marks, two cigarettes.

1862
01:27:47,070 --> 01:27:50,530
It was worth nothing, and
he owed him maybe 300 marks.

1863

01:27:50,530 --> 01:27:54,162

300 marks wasn't worth a
grain of a bit of coffee.

1864

01:27:54,162 --> 01:27:55,870

It wasn't worth nothing,
but a principle.

1865

01:27:55,870 --> 01:27:57,610

I'm a principled man.

1866

01:27:57,610 --> 01:27:58,610

So we went there.

1867

01:27:58,610 --> 01:28:03,100

And when he saw her, the
man who owned the cow shed,

1868

01:28:03,100 --> 01:28:04,900

he turned pale.

1869

01:28:04,900 --> 01:28:07,660

I don't know why, but
he turned very pale.

1870

01:28:07,660 --> 01:28:11,380

And she said to him, you
owe Mr. Zucker money.

1871

01:28:11,380 --> 01:28:14,233

He said, yes, but I
don't know where he is.

1872

01:28:14,233 --> 01:28:16,900

He made himself what we call
{?_{?[NON-ENGLISH],_?},_?} he made

1873

01:28:16,900 --> 01:28:19,467

himself out [INAUDIBLE].

1874

01:28:19,467 --> 01:28:20,800

I said, do you know where he is?

1875
01:28:20,800 --> 01:28:21,700
You know where he is.

1876
01:28:21,700 --> 01:28:25,210
Where all the Jews went,
that's where he was.

1877
01:28:25,210 --> 01:28:28,190
So she said, how
much do you owe him?

1878
01:28:28,190 --> 01:28:29,555
He said, 200 marks.

1879
01:28:29,555 --> 01:28:30,610
So he said, I give.

1880
01:28:30,610 --> 01:28:31,160
I give.

1881
01:28:31,160 --> 01:28:32,878
So he gave me the
200 marks, which was,

1882
01:28:32,878 --> 01:28:33,920
of course, worth nothing.

1883
01:28:33,920 --> 01:28:39,020
I tore it to pieces and threw
it in his face and left.

1884
01:28:39,020 --> 01:28:41,390
And while we were
waiting for the tram

1885
01:28:41,390 --> 01:28:44,220
to take us back into the
western part of Berlin--

1886
01:28:44,220 --> 01:28:47,600
I was in the east, by the

way, in the Russian Zone.

1887

01:28:47,600 --> 01:28:51,530

And in those days, Allied
soldiers were disappearing.

1888

01:28:51,530 --> 01:28:52,822

The Russians were killing them.

1889

01:28:52,822 --> 01:28:54,280

I don't know whether
you know that.

1890

01:28:54,280 --> 01:28:55,250

They were kidnapped.

1891

01:28:55,250 --> 01:28:57,042

They disappeared off
the face of the-- they

1892

01:28:57,042 --> 01:28:57,950

were sent to Siberia.

1893

01:28:57,950 --> 01:29:00,330

I think, to this day, they
don't know where many--

1894

01:29:00,330 --> 01:29:04,190

I mean, it has completely
disappeared now, this episode.

1895

01:29:04,190 --> 01:29:06,530

But there were soldiers
who disappeared.

1896

01:29:06,530 --> 01:29:07,682

Communist Russia took them.

1897

01:29:07,682 --> 01:29:08,390

I don't know why.

1898

01:29:08,390 --> 01:29:09,980

Out of malice?

1899

01:29:09,980 --> 01:29:10,622

I have no idea.

1900

01:29:10,622 --> 01:29:11,330

They disappeared.

1901

01:29:11,330 --> 01:29:14,730

Did they disappear out of West and East Berlin or just East?

1902

01:29:14,730 --> 01:29:17,570

1903

01:29:17,570 --> 01:29:22,200

I think maybe, when American or British soldiers,

1904

01:29:22,200 --> 01:29:24,180

they to go into the East Zone.

1905

01:29:24,180 --> 01:29:26,760

I don't think they kidnapped them out of the West.

1906

01:29:26,760 --> 01:29:28,800

They just took them.

1907

01:29:28,800 --> 01:29:30,090

They disappeared.

1908

01:29:30,090 --> 01:29:31,740

If you look into history books, you

1909

01:29:31,740 --> 01:29:34,770

will find that I'm correct about that.

1910

01:29:34,770 --> 01:29:37,950

So I was standing there.

1911

01:29:37,950 --> 01:29:40,440

Suddenly, a Russian
officer comes up to me.

1912

01:29:40,440 --> 01:29:44,145

He hadn't shaven, and
his coat was very drab.

1913

01:29:44,145 --> 01:29:45,270

He didn't look [INAUDIBLE].

1914

01:29:45,270 --> 01:29:47,055

And he asked me for a papirosi.

1915

01:29:47,055 --> 01:29:49,620

He wanted a cigarette of me.

1916

01:29:49,620 --> 01:29:52,060

So my aunt says, give
him, give it to him.

1917

01:29:52,060 --> 01:29:53,457

She was frightened.

1918

01:29:53,457 --> 01:29:54,540

So I gave him a cigarette.

1919

01:29:54,540 --> 01:29:56,130

After all, he was
an Allied soldier.

1920

01:29:56,130 --> 01:29:58,050

He was a comrade
in arms with me,

1921

01:29:58,050 --> 01:30:00,090

so I gave him some cigarettes.

1922

01:30:00,090 --> 01:30:02,730

A minute later, a
German policeman

1923

01:30:02,730 --> 01:30:04,710

comes up to me with
a bicycle and says,

1924

01:30:04,710 --> 01:30:07,390

[GERMAN], your papers.

1925

01:30:07,390 --> 01:30:11,950

That was really the last straw--
a German policeman should ask

1926

01:30:11,950 --> 01:30:14,640

a British soldier for papers?

1927

01:30:14,640 --> 01:30:18,575

So I told him to make
his way backward.

1928

01:30:18,575 --> 01:30:20,177

I'm not showing you no papers.

1929

01:30:20,177 --> 01:30:21,760

And my aunt says,
show him the papers.

1930

01:30:21,760 --> 01:30:25,080

She was still so
intimidated-- unbelievable.

1931

01:30:25,080 --> 01:30:28,240

I said, I'm not going
to show no papers.

1932

01:30:28,240 --> 01:30:29,040

I said, you go off.

1933

01:30:29,040 --> 01:30:30,790

He said, if you don't
show me your papers,

1934

01:30:30,790 --> 01:30:32,550

I have to take you to
the police station.

1935
01:30:32,550 --> 01:30:35,600
And there I was in
the Russian Zone.

1936
01:30:35,600 --> 01:30:39,920
And I said, you'll
see no papers from me.

1937
01:30:39,920 --> 01:30:43,140
So he said, then I have to
take you in, he said to me.

1938
01:30:43,140 --> 01:30:44,990
I said, well, you
better take me in then,

1939
01:30:44,990 --> 01:30:46,310
because you're not going to.

1940
01:30:46,310 --> 01:30:47,840
So he took me to
the police station.

1941
01:30:47,840 --> 01:30:50,300
And there was a police there.

1942
01:30:50,300 --> 01:30:52,340
And I spoke in perfect German.

1943
01:30:52,340 --> 01:30:53,510
I speak very good German.

1944
01:30:53,510 --> 01:30:56,420
And I said, I'm not going
to show no paper to nobody.

1945
01:30:56,420 --> 01:30:59,090
I'm a British soldier, and
that's all there is to it.

1946

01:30:59,090 --> 01:31:01,790

They said, OK, {?_{?[GERMAN]._?}._?}

Excuse us, please.

1947

01:31:01,790 --> 01:31:02,310

You can go.

1948

01:31:02,310 --> 01:31:02,900

So I went.

1949

01:31:02,900 --> 01:31:07,260

1950

01:31:07,260 --> 01:31:11,450

So a week or two later,
I received another letter

1951

01:31:11,450 --> 01:31:18,590

from Genya, from my wife, that
her uncle is in Bergen-Belsen.

1952

01:31:18,590 --> 01:31:21,220

Her uncle-- that's,
again, her mother's

1953

01:31:21,220 --> 01:31:23,380

brother, another brother.

1954

01:31:23,380 --> 01:31:24,910

He is in Bergen-Belsen.

1955

01:31:24,910 --> 01:31:25,860

It's an hour from me.

1956

01:31:25,860 --> 01:31:28,580

1957

01:31:28,580 --> 01:31:29,380

His name is Max.

1958

01:31:29,380 --> 01:31:31,470

He's living in Israel, too.

1959

01:31:31,470 --> 01:31:33,320

I said, he's in Bergen-Belsen?

1960

01:31:33,320 --> 01:31:35,900

1961

01:31:35,900 --> 01:31:38,450

And one day, it was a
day later, only I hadn't

1962

01:31:38,450 --> 01:31:40,340

had the opportunity yet to go.

1963

01:31:40,340 --> 01:31:43,100

By the way, I had been to
Bergen-Belsen many times.

1964

01:31:43,100 --> 01:31:44,960

I came very soon
after the liberation,

1965

01:31:44,960 --> 01:31:49,220

and still there were
things going on--

1966

01:31:49,220 --> 01:31:53,170

burials, and they
exhumed bodies.

1967

01:31:53,170 --> 01:31:56,255

It was something terrible.

1968

01:31:56,255 --> 01:31:58,820

I have pictures,
also, of the gas

1969

01:31:58,820 --> 01:32:01,700

chambers and the crematoriums.

1970

01:32:01,700 --> 01:32:04,370

I have them here.

1971

01:32:04,370 --> 01:32:10,770

So one day, while I was in my room, a soldier comes up to me.

1972

01:32:10,770 --> 01:32:14,650

He says there's somebody at the gate who wants to speak to you.

1973

01:32:14,650 --> 01:32:16,260

So I said, who is it?

1974

01:32:16,260 --> 01:32:19,720

He says, no, he only speaks German.

1975

01:32:19,720 --> 01:32:22,810

He was also born in Berlin.

1976

01:32:22,810 --> 01:32:25,068

And I said, who could that be, for crying out loud?

1977

01:32:25,068 --> 01:32:26,110

Who wants to speak to me?

1978

01:32:26,110 --> 01:32:28,360

I thought maybe a German wants to speak to me.

1979

01:32:28,360 --> 01:32:29,480

I have no idea.

1980

01:32:29,480 --> 01:32:33,370

So I walked down, and there was a handsome man there.

1981

01:32:33,370 --> 01:32:35,170

And he said, are you Ali?

1982

01:32:35,170 --> 01:32:36,670

I said, yeah.

1983

01:32:36,670 --> 01:32:39,400

He said, I'm the uncle of Genya.

1984

01:32:39,400 --> 01:32:41,720

I said, what?

1985

01:32:41,720 --> 01:32:44,595

And he said, I'm with my
wife and my two daughters

1986

01:32:44,595 --> 01:32:45,303

in Bergen-Belsen.

1987

01:32:45,303 --> 01:32:48,780

Bergen-Belsen had been
made into a DP camp.

1988

01:32:48,780 --> 01:32:50,830

I said, where were
you during the war?

1989

01:32:50,830 --> 01:32:53,600

I said, well, I was
deported to Poland, like me.

1990

01:32:53,600 --> 01:32:55,660

I made the decision to go back.

1991

01:32:55,660 --> 01:32:58,150

And then with the German
advance into Poland,

1992

01:32:58,150 --> 01:33:00,370

I fled to Russia,
like many Jews.

1993

01:33:00,370 --> 01:33:01,870

You must know about
that, of course.

1994

01:33:01,870 --> 01:33:04,420
Many Jews went to
Russia, and then they

1995
01:33:04,420 --> 01:33:07,750
were deported to Siberia.

1996
01:33:07,750 --> 01:33:12,660
And he-- in fact, they caught
him doing some business

1997
01:33:12,660 --> 01:33:16,530
with either money
or bread or food,

1998
01:33:16,530 --> 01:33:22,320
and he was in prison for
seven years in a Russian jail.

1999
01:33:22,320 --> 01:33:26,680
Seven years he was in for
trying to feed his family.

2000
01:33:26,680 --> 01:33:28,110
But he seemed happy enough.

2001
01:33:28,110 --> 01:33:29,790
And oh, yeah, yeah,
he was so happy.

2002
01:33:29,790 --> 01:33:30,760
So I said, you wait.

2003
01:33:30,760 --> 01:33:33,300
I went to the PX store, and
although I didn't have much

2004
01:33:33,300 --> 01:33:35,290
money-- we got very
little money in the Army--

2005
01:33:35,290 --> 01:33:39,480
I bought all the things I

could buy and bring him.

2006

01:33:39,480 --> 01:33:43,410

And then, of course,
we met several times.

2007

01:33:43,410 --> 01:33:45,570

I went to Bergen-Belsen
to visit him, his wife,

2008

01:33:45,570 --> 01:33:50,890

and his daughters, beautiful
daughters, and little children.

2009

01:33:50,890 --> 01:33:53,610

They spoke Polish and
Russian and German.

2010

01:33:53,610 --> 01:33:56,280

And now they're all in Israel,
and they're very well off

2011

01:33:56,280 --> 01:33:59,620

and very happy, a happy family.

2012

01:33:59,620 --> 01:34:04,100

So there I was in
Germany 1 and 1/2 years.

2013

01:34:04,100 --> 01:34:07,698

And in principle, I
never spoke to Germans.

2014

01:34:07,698 --> 01:34:09,490

Germans used to pass
me with a Volkswagen--

2015

01:34:09,490 --> 01:34:12,050

They said do you want
to hitch in town.

2016

01:34:12,050 --> 01:34:14,000

I said, I'm walking.

2017
01:34:14,000 --> 01:34:16,160
I wasn't going to
talk to any German.

2018
01:34:16,160 --> 01:34:19,550
In fact, there was a
non-fraternization law

2019
01:34:19,550 --> 01:34:22,130
in the beginning, that
Allied soldiers were not

2020
01:34:22,130 --> 01:34:24,380
allowed to speak to Germans.

2021
01:34:24,380 --> 01:34:26,330
But later on, that
was lifted, and we

2022
01:34:26,330 --> 01:34:29,000
were able to speak to
Germans, but I never.

2023
01:34:29,000 --> 01:34:35,900
But I did go sometimes
into nightclubs.

2024
01:34:35,900 --> 01:34:39,800
And the Germans used to come and
try and make all kinds of deals

2025
01:34:39,800 --> 01:34:42,750
with us, for cigarettes and
coffee and all kinds of things.

2026
01:34:42,750 --> 01:34:46,700
And these Germans, I
would like to point out,

2027
01:34:46,700 --> 01:34:50,570
these proud Germans who strutted
all over with their jackboots

2028

01:34:50,570 --> 01:34:54,320
all over Europe,
dominating people, killing

2029

01:34:54,320 --> 01:34:57,800
people, and ruthless people--

2030

01:34:57,800 --> 01:35:01,130
they were selling their
wives and their daughters

2031

01:35:01,130 --> 01:35:02,630
for one pound of coffee.

2032

01:35:02,630 --> 01:35:05,030
They were offering you,
I have a beautiful wife.

2033

01:35:05,030 --> 01:35:07,130
I have a beautiful daughter.

2034

01:35:07,130 --> 01:35:09,030
10 cigarettes, you can have her.

2035

01:35:09,030 --> 01:35:10,310
And I looked at these Germans.

2036

01:35:10,310 --> 01:35:14,060
I said, my god, how can
you compare yourself

2037

01:35:14,060 --> 01:35:15,620
to us Jewish people?

2038

01:35:15,620 --> 01:35:19,160
You were going to think
that you are the supermen?

2039

01:35:19,160 --> 01:35:21,950
You are super?

2040

01:35:21,950 --> 01:35:24,350

I was so taken aback.

2041

01:35:24,350 --> 01:35:27,800

In fact, I was so, in a way,
disgusted with these Germans.

2042

01:35:27,800 --> 01:35:29,540

They were cringing almost.

2043

01:35:29,540 --> 01:35:33,500

Every time they came,
the way, their demeanor,

2044

01:35:33,500 --> 01:35:36,650

how they talked to me, they
used to sort of bow down

2045

01:35:36,650 --> 01:35:38,660

a little bit.

2046

01:35:38,660 --> 01:35:41,630

Actually, it was
pitififying to see them.

2047

01:35:41,630 --> 01:35:46,610

There they were, these proud
Germans in their uniforms.

2048

01:35:46,610 --> 01:35:51,800

And in their defeat,
they were outrageous--

2049

01:35:51,800 --> 01:35:53,390

outrageous.

2050

01:35:53,390 --> 01:35:57,170

I wonder sometimes what
would happen to anybody else

2051

01:35:57,170 --> 01:36:00,610

if, God forbid, there's a

defeat, how people would react.

2052

01:36:00,610 --> 01:36:02,720

But when I saw those
Germans react in that way,

2053

01:36:02,720 --> 01:36:06,080

it was a disillusionment almost.

2054

01:36:06,080 --> 01:36:12,160

Anyway, the time came
for me to be demobilized.

2055

01:36:12,160 --> 01:36:14,920

And I went back to England.

2056

01:36:14,920 --> 01:36:19,804

And very soon, I got married
to my beautiful Genya.

2057

01:36:19,804 --> 01:36:22,750

Can I interrupt you?

2058

01:36:22,750 --> 01:36:24,900

Want to stop a minute?

2059

01:36:24,900 --> 01:38:24,000