

1
00:00:00,000 --> 00:01:18,460

2
00:01:18,460 --> 00:01:19,611
[INAUDIBLE]

3
00:01:19,611 --> 00:01:22,840

4
00:01:22,840 --> 00:01:24,950
Please tell us
about this picture.

5
00:01:24,950 --> 00:01:27,730
This is a picture which
was taken in England when

6
00:01:27,730 --> 00:01:33,140
I turned 16 years of age and
I needed an identity card,

7
00:01:33,140 --> 00:01:36,610
which was then required by
the British authorities.

8
00:01:36,610 --> 00:01:38,680
I was an alien.

9
00:01:38,680 --> 00:01:43,090
And this was a photo which
was taken by the authorities.

10
00:01:43,090 --> 00:01:44,540
And what year was that?

11
00:01:44,540 --> 00:01:50,900
In 1941, maybe.

12
00:01:50,900 --> 00:01:53,250
Please tell us
about this picture.

13
00:01:53,250 --> 00:01:59,240
This is a picture a maid,
which worked for us probably

14
00:01:59,240 --> 00:02:03,350
in 1928 or 1929.

15
00:02:03,350 --> 00:02:09,289
It has a connection with
when I visited East Germany

16
00:02:09,289 --> 00:02:11,190
about one year ago.

17
00:02:11,190 --> 00:02:13,190
I wrote a letter
to the mayor, which

18
00:02:13,190 --> 00:02:15,530
I'm going to read out later.

19
00:02:15,530 --> 00:02:19,100
And this letter was published
in the local newspaper.

20
00:02:19,100 --> 00:02:21,980
And apparently she
saw that article

21
00:02:21,980 --> 00:02:26,480
and, to her great
surprise, she found out

22
00:02:26,480 --> 00:02:28,070
that I was still alive.

23
00:02:28,070 --> 00:02:29,540
This is the house
where she lived?

24
00:02:29,540 --> 00:02:30,957

That is the house
where she lived.

25
00:02:30,957 --> 00:02:32,750
And then she wrote me
a very tearful letter

26
00:02:32,750 --> 00:02:34,460
begging me to answer.

27
00:02:34,460 --> 00:02:36,935
And she sent me a
photograph of herself

28
00:02:36,935 --> 00:02:38,060
and the house she lived in.

29
00:02:38,060 --> 00:02:39,143
And she begged me to come.

30
00:02:39,143 --> 00:02:41,600
And she told me that
I'd always be welcome.

31
00:02:41,600 --> 00:02:43,940
There would be a home
for me ready there.

32
00:02:43,940 --> 00:02:45,890
What year was this
photograph taken?

33
00:02:45,890 --> 00:02:46,920
I have no idea.

34
00:02:46,920 --> 00:02:48,650
And what town is
this photograph in?

35
00:02:48,650 --> 00:02:50,570
In GÅ¼strow Mecklenburg,
East Germany.

36

00:02:50,570 --> 00:02:51,850

Can you spell that?

37

00:02:51,850 --> 00:02:59,450

G-Ãœ-- two dots on
top --S-T-R-O-W.

38

00:02:59,450 --> 00:03:01,880

OK, please tell us
about this picture.

39

00:03:01,880 --> 00:03:05,480

This is a maid who worked
for us, and her husband.

40

00:03:05,480 --> 00:03:07,520

This must have been
taken many years

41

00:03:07,520 --> 00:03:10,280

ago because she is probably
very, very old today,

42

00:03:10,280 --> 00:03:11,930

probably in her 90s.

43

00:03:11,930 --> 00:03:14,240

I remember her husband.

44

00:03:14,240 --> 00:03:17,780

When I was a child, he used to
tell us stories about the First

45

00:03:17,780 --> 00:03:18,320

World War.

46

00:03:18,320 --> 00:03:20,660

I was enthralled by his stories.

47

00:03:20,660 --> 00:03:23,810

I don't remember his
face, but I do remember

48
00:03:23,810 --> 00:03:25,370
when he told us the stories.

49
00:03:25,370 --> 00:03:28,250
Did you ever visit
her or contact her

50
00:03:28,250 --> 00:03:29,990
after she wrote to you?

51
00:03:29,990 --> 00:03:30,560
No.

52
00:03:30,560 --> 00:03:34,010
When I was on a visit to
the town I was born in,

53
00:03:34,010 --> 00:03:36,530
my friend told me about her.

54
00:03:36,530 --> 00:03:37,550
And I had forgotten.

55
00:03:37,550 --> 00:03:38,690
And he reminded me.

56
00:03:38,690 --> 00:03:42,890
And some kind of memories
flooded back into my brain.

57
00:03:42,890 --> 00:03:45,180
And he said, she's old,
she's probably not alive.

58
00:03:45,180 --> 00:03:47,600
And I regretted this
because she was alive.

59
00:03:47,600 --> 00:03:49,430
Because she wrote me a letter.

60

00:03:49,430 --> 00:03:51,870

I missed that
opportunity to visit her.

61

00:03:51,870 --> 00:03:54,260

But I have made up my mind
that as soon as I can,

62

00:03:54,260 --> 00:03:55,312

I will go and visit her.

63

00:03:55,312 --> 00:03:57,020

When did you receive
the letter from her?

64

00:03:57,020 --> 00:03:57,980

After your visit?

65

00:03:57,980 --> 00:03:58,760

After my visit.

66

00:03:58,760 --> 00:04:01,820

When this letter I wrote
to the mayor was published.

67

00:04:01,820 --> 00:04:05,240

So she found this
article in the newspaper

68

00:04:05,240 --> 00:04:08,270

and she wrote me
back immediately.

69

00:04:08,270 --> 00:04:08,880

OK.

70

00:04:08,880 --> 00:04:11,300

And just for the record,
how do we spell Mecklenburg?

71

00:04:11,300 --> 00:04:16,850

M-E-C-K-L-E-N-B-U-R-G.

72
00:04:16,850 --> 00:04:18,547
What's your maid's name?

73
00:04:18,547 --> 00:04:19,589
What was the maid's name?

74
00:04:19,589 --> 00:04:24,900

75
00:04:24,900 --> 00:04:28,040
Her name is Stanislawa Jesper.

76
00:04:28,040 --> 00:04:31,320
She is from Poland really.

77
00:04:31,320 --> 00:04:32,150
Oh, OK.

78
00:04:32,150 --> 00:04:35,250
You probably should spell
that too because the--

79
00:04:35,250 --> 00:04:38,750
Her name is Stanislawa
Jesper and it's spelled

80
00:04:38,750 --> 00:04:43,640
S-T-A-N-I-S-L-A-W-A. that.

81
00:04:43,640 --> 00:04:45,020
Is her first name.

82
00:04:45,020 --> 00:04:51,685
And her second name
is J-E-S-P-E-R.

83
00:04:51,685 --> 00:04:52,185
Thanks.

84
00:04:52,185 --> 00:04:55,100

85
00:04:55,100 --> 00:05:00,440
OK, so this is the article that
the maid saw that ultimately

86
00:05:00,440 --> 00:05:01,670
caused her to contact you.

87
00:05:01,670 --> 00:05:02,228
Exactly, yes.

88
00:05:02,228 --> 00:05:03,770
So tell us about
this article please.

89
00:05:03,770 --> 00:05:05,615
And we'll make a
photocopy of this article

90
00:05:05,615 --> 00:05:06,740
so it'll be easier to read.

91
00:05:06,740 --> 00:05:09,650
I will only tell
you the headlines

92
00:05:09,650 --> 00:05:13,010
because I will read
that letter later, which

93
00:05:13,010 --> 00:05:14,330
I've translated to English.

94
00:05:14,330 --> 00:05:21,560
It says "a Jew comes
back after 53 years

95
00:05:21,560 --> 00:05:23,780
to the town of his birth."

96
00:05:23,780 --> 00:05:26,510

OK.

97

00:05:26,510 --> 00:05:28,230

Tell us about this
picture please.

98

00:05:28,230 --> 00:05:33,470

This is a picture my mother
gave me when I left her in 1938.

99

00:05:33,470 --> 00:05:36,800

It is her when she
was at the age of 16.

100

00:05:36,800 --> 00:05:42,060

Her father and her
siblings in Warsaw, Poland.

101

00:05:42,060 --> 00:05:45,570

And what year do you
think this was taken?

102

00:05:45,570 --> 00:05:46,770

1916.

103

00:05:46,770 --> 00:05:47,630

1916?

104

00:05:47,630 --> 00:05:48,540

No, no, no.

105

00:05:48,540 --> 00:05:49,410

One moment.

106

00:05:49,410 --> 00:05:54,060

She was-- probably
in 1915 or '14.

107

00:05:54,060 --> 00:05:57,570

I think she was
born maybe in 1898.

108

00:05:57,570 --> 00:05:59,340
So she's the tall
woman in the back?

109
00:05:59,340 --> 00:06:00,210
Yeah.

110
00:06:00,210 --> 00:06:01,530
And the small children?

111
00:06:01,530 --> 00:06:06,770
Her siblings, her brother
and sister and her father.

112
00:06:06,770 --> 00:06:07,968
What were their names?

113
00:06:07,968 --> 00:06:08,510
I don't know.

114
00:06:08,510 --> 00:06:09,343
I've never met them.

115
00:06:09,343 --> 00:06:12,320
I never heard of them.

116
00:06:12,320 --> 00:06:14,030
Did they survive the Holocaust?

117
00:06:14,030 --> 00:06:15,850
I don't think so.

118
00:06:15,850 --> 00:06:19,100
I have no idea, but
I don't think so.

119
00:06:19,100 --> 00:06:20,713
What was your mother's name?

120
00:06:20,713 --> 00:06:22,130
Her first name was
[Personal name]

121
00:06:22,130 --> 00:06:24,750
and her second
name was Kramkimmel.

122
00:06:24,750 --> 00:06:26,310
Can you spell those?

123
00:06:26,310 --> 00:06:34,080
K-R-A-M-K-I-M-E-L, Kramkimmel.

124
00:06:34,080 --> 00:06:37,150

125
00:06:37,150 --> 00:06:38,890
OK.

126
00:06:38,890 --> 00:06:40,660
Tell us about this
picture please.

127
00:06:40,660 --> 00:06:42,910
This is my mother again.

128
00:06:42,910 --> 00:06:48,070
And I was serving
in the British army.

129
00:06:48,070 --> 00:06:50,470
I arrived in Antwerp.

130
00:06:50,470 --> 00:06:58,240
And my mother and my sister went
illegally in 1938 to Belgium.

131
00:06:58,240 --> 00:07:01,180
And they were deported in 1942.

132
00:07:01,180 --> 00:07:03,790
I went to the former
Gestapo headquarters

133

00:07:03,790 --> 00:07:07,480

to find out the fate of
my mother and my sister.

134

00:07:07,480 --> 00:07:10,000

And he found the file and
he pulled out the file.

135

00:07:10,000 --> 00:07:12,550

And this picture
was in the file.

136

00:07:12,550 --> 00:07:14,290

And he gave me the picture.

137

00:07:14,290 --> 00:07:16,390

And he told me
according to the file

138

00:07:16,390 --> 00:07:21,100

that this transport,
which went to Auschwitz,

139

00:07:21,100 --> 00:07:23,740

there were no survivors.

140

00:07:23,740 --> 00:07:26,020

And who took the
photograph and what year?

141

00:07:26,020 --> 00:07:27,820

I have no idea, no idea.

142

00:07:27,820 --> 00:07:29,560

Did the Nazis take this picture?

143

00:07:29,560 --> 00:07:30,940

Probably, probably.

144

00:07:30,940 --> 00:07:33,190

Did they take a picture
of all the people

145
00:07:33,190 --> 00:07:34,600
they sent on transport?

146
00:07:34,600 --> 00:07:35,350
I have no idea.

147
00:07:35,350 --> 00:07:35,955
I think so.

148
00:07:35,955 --> 00:07:37,330
Probably in every
file there must

149
00:07:37,330 --> 00:07:39,880
have been a picture because
in the file of my mother

150
00:07:39,880 --> 00:07:41,290
was this picture.

151
00:07:41,290 --> 00:07:42,250
What about your sister?

152
00:07:42,250 --> 00:07:44,710
Also-- maybe I
brought it, maybe not.

153
00:07:44,710 --> 00:07:47,948
I found her picture too.

154
00:07:47,948 --> 00:07:49,490
I don't think I must
have brought it.

155
00:07:49,490 --> 00:07:50,782
I must have missed bringing it.

156
00:07:50,782 --> 00:07:52,460
I can send it.

157

00:07:52,460 --> 00:07:53,480
Maybe next time you can?

158
00:07:53,480 --> 00:07:56,210
Yeah, fine, fine.

159
00:07:56,210 --> 00:07:58,040
And tell us about
this drawing please?

160
00:07:58,040 --> 00:08:01,580
This is a drawing which
my little sister drew.

161
00:08:01,580 --> 00:08:05,240
It probably depicts
a Belgian policeman

162
00:08:05,240 --> 00:08:07,370
with his wife or his girlfriend.

163
00:08:07,370 --> 00:08:10,770
She sent it to me while I was
in England through the Swiss Red

164
00:08:10,770 --> 00:08:11,270
Cross.

165
00:08:11,270 --> 00:08:12,530
I received it.

166
00:08:12,530 --> 00:08:15,350
I had no idea that my
little sister was artistic.

167
00:08:15,350 --> 00:08:20,300
But I've kept it for many years
and it's very precious to me.

168
00:08:20,300 --> 00:08:26,240
And what year did she draw this
picture, and how old was she?

169

00:08:26,240 --> 00:08:28,550

Probably in '41
and she must have

170

00:08:28,550 --> 00:08:31,010

been about eight years old.

171

00:08:31,010 --> 00:08:33,590

And what town was she living
in when she drew the picture?

172

00:08:33,590 --> 00:08:35,890

In Brussels, Belgium.

173

00:08:35,890 --> 00:08:38,929

Was your sister sent on the
same transport as your mother?

174

00:08:38,929 --> 00:08:40,760

Yes, yes.

175

00:08:40,760 --> 00:08:42,309

So she didn't survive either?

176

00:08:42,309 --> 00:08:43,030

No.

177

00:08:43,030 --> 00:08:45,730

So you're saying the character
on the right is a policeman?

178

00:08:45,730 --> 00:08:47,200

Looks to me like a policeman.

179

00:08:47,200 --> 00:08:50,080

Any thoughts about the
character on the left?

180

00:08:50,080 --> 00:08:52,570

They look both like--
a little bit like cats.

181
00:08:52,570 --> 00:08:56,020
So she might have made
them into human beings.

182
00:08:56,020 --> 00:08:57,280
I really don't know.

183
00:08:57,280 --> 00:09:01,330

184
00:09:01,330 --> 00:09:03,000
Please tell us
about this picture.

185
00:09:03,000 --> 00:09:05,400
This is an army photo.

186
00:09:05,400 --> 00:09:07,710
And this was--

187
00:09:07,710 --> 00:09:10,260
I'm wearing a winter uniform.

188
00:09:10,260 --> 00:09:15,960
I was inducted in
1944 in January.

189
00:09:15,960 --> 00:09:19,900
It was before I
was sent overseas.

190
00:09:19,900 --> 00:09:23,720
And so what year was it taken,
and what town was it taken in?

191
00:09:23,720 --> 00:09:30,853
I think it was taken
in London in 1944.

192
00:09:30,853 --> 00:09:32,350
--please?

193

00:09:32,350 --> 00:09:34,955

I was serving in
Germany, in Westphalia,

194

00:09:34,955 --> 00:09:37,390

in the town of Bielefeld.

195

00:09:37,390 --> 00:09:40,960

And I was about 19
years old and I had

196

00:09:40,960 --> 00:09:44,380

my picture taken in Germany.

197

00:09:44,380 --> 00:09:46,840

And again, what year
would this have been?

198

00:09:46,840 --> 00:09:51,650

1945, after the war, after
the war had finished.

199

00:09:51,650 --> 00:09:54,020

Could you spell the town?

200

00:09:54,020 --> 00:09:59,390

Bielefeld, B-I-E-L-E-F-E-L-D.

201

00:09:59,390 --> 00:10:01,070

And Westphalia?

202

00:10:01,070 --> 00:10:06,920

W-E-S-T-P-H-A-L-I-A, Westphalia.

203

00:10:06,920 --> 00:10:08,270

Thanks.

204

00:10:08,270 --> 00:10:10,430

Tell us about this please.

205

00:10:10,430 --> 00:10:15,620

This is taken in Israel in the kibbutz, Kibbutz Lavi which

206
00:10:15,620 --> 00:10:18,350
was established in 1950.

207
00:10:18,350 --> 00:10:20,900
You can see the rocks
and the first [INAUDIBLE]

208
00:10:20,900 --> 00:10:22,970
having been erected.

209
00:10:22,970 --> 00:10:26,210
That's my wife and my
firstborn child, Benjamin.

210
00:10:26,210 --> 00:10:33,020
And I was sent on an officer's
course in the Israeli army.

211
00:10:33,020 --> 00:10:34,550
How did you spell
the name of that--

212
00:10:34,550 --> 00:10:41,210
Kibbutz L-A-V-I, Lavi,
which means lioness.

213
00:10:41,210 --> 00:10:43,070
What was your-- you
lived on the kibbutz

214
00:10:43,070 --> 00:10:45,620
but you were sent
away too I was sent

215
00:10:45,620 --> 00:10:47,750
by the kibbutz on
an officer's course

216
00:10:47,750 --> 00:10:52,130
in order to be made in charge

of the security of the region.

217

00:10:52,130 --> 00:10:54,940

What did the kibbutz grow?

218

00:10:54,940 --> 00:10:57,820

It's based on agriculture.

219

00:10:57,820 --> 00:11:01,570

And it has a hotel.

220

00:11:01,570 --> 00:11:02,170

Hotel?

221

00:11:02,170 --> 00:11:04,120

Hotel, beautiful hotel.

222

00:11:04,120 --> 00:11:07,570

And it has fruits
trees and vineyards.

223

00:11:07,570 --> 00:11:09,360

All those rocks, we
cleared those rocks.

224

00:11:09,360 --> 00:11:13,070

It took us 20 years
to clear them.

225

00:11:13,070 --> 00:11:16,000

It's very fruitful today.

226

00:11:16,000 --> 00:11:17,860

What was your job on that?

227

00:11:17,860 --> 00:11:21,760

I was a truck driver at
some time of my stay there.

228

00:11:21,760 --> 00:11:26,590

And I used to be in
charge of the repair shop.

229
00:11:26,590 --> 00:11:29,550

230
00:11:29,550 --> 00:11:31,720
Thanks.

231
00:11:31,720 --> 00:11:33,520
Please tell us
about this picture.

232
00:11:33,520 --> 00:11:40,540
When I visited the town I was
born in, a pastor contacted me.

233
00:11:40,540 --> 00:11:43,150
He heard that I was in town.

234
00:11:43,150 --> 00:11:46,090
And I went to him
and he was very

235
00:11:46,090 --> 00:11:49,150
interested in the
Jews, the local Jews,

236
00:11:49,150 --> 00:11:51,010
who lived in that town.

237
00:11:51,010 --> 00:11:53,230
And he gave me this
picture of the synagogue.

238
00:11:53,230 --> 00:11:55,900
Of course, it does
not exist any longer.

239
00:11:55,900 --> 00:12:00,070
It was destroyed in the
Kristallnacht in 1938.

240
00:12:00,070 --> 00:12:03,590

I was very interested to
receive these pictures.

241
00:12:03,590 --> 00:12:06,210
I remember the synagogue
very well indeed.

242
00:12:06,210 --> 00:12:07,960
Was there only one
synagogue in your town?

243
00:12:07,960 --> 00:12:10,800
Only one synagogue.

244
00:12:10,800 --> 00:12:12,000
Tell us about this please.

245
00:12:12,000 --> 00:12:13,950
This is the inside
of the synagogue.

246
00:12:13,950 --> 00:12:16,890
I also received this
from the same pastor.

247
00:12:16,890 --> 00:12:19,620
I remember the synagogue
very well indeed.

248
00:12:19,620 --> 00:12:21,570
What you see in the foreground--

249
00:12:21,570 --> 00:12:23,220
the director used to sit there.

250
00:12:23,220 --> 00:12:25,740
All the important
people who were

251
00:12:25,740 --> 00:12:29,310
the directors of
that synagogue, they

252

00:12:29,310 --> 00:12:32,100

used to sit in
there with top hats

253

00:12:32,100 --> 00:12:36,630

while the congregation
sat back at the benches.

254

00:12:36,630 --> 00:12:38,710

It brings back memories.

255

00:12:38,710 --> 00:12:40,795

I remember very,
very well indeed

256

00:12:40,795 --> 00:12:42,045

the synagogue from the inside.

257

00:12:42,045 --> 00:13:02,110

258

00:13:02,110 --> 00:13:04,000

And please tell us
about this photo.

259

00:13:04,000 --> 00:13:08,480

This is the mortuary
in the cemetery.

260

00:13:08,480 --> 00:13:10,510

Which, of course, doesn't
exist anymore either.

261

00:13:10,510 --> 00:13:14,290

But according to Jewish
law, every person who dies

262

00:13:14,290 --> 00:13:17,830

gets cleansed and then put
in a shroud and then buried.

263

00:13:17,830 --> 00:13:20,855

I remember that mortuary also.

264

00:13:20,855 --> 00:13:23,500

I remember my father
being bought there

265

00:13:23,500 --> 00:13:26,920

and the whole family went
there for his burial.

266

00:13:26,920 --> 00:13:28,670

So, of course, as
I mentioned before,

267

00:13:28,670 --> 00:13:30,220

it does not exist any longer.

268

00:13:30,220 --> 00:13:32,382

And this also was
destroyed on Kristallnacht?

269

00:13:32,382 --> 00:13:33,840

I don't know when
it was destroyed.

270

00:13:33,840 --> 00:13:35,800

I imagine that it was
destroyed the same day.

271

00:13:35,800 --> 00:13:43,940

272

00:13:43,940 --> 00:13:47,510

Would you please tell
us about this picture?

273

00:13:47,510 --> 00:13:51,920

This is a kind of a
supermarket the town

274

00:13:51,920 --> 00:13:54,650

built on the cemetery itself.

275

00:13:54,650 --> 00:13:58,760

This was probably the outer perimeter of the cemetery.

276

00:13:58,760 --> 00:14:03,260

And they built this supermarket on it.

277

00:14:03,260 --> 00:14:06,130

And what year did you take this photograph?

278

00:14:06,130 --> 00:14:11,030

In 1990, when I went back to visit the town.

279

00:14:11,030 --> 00:14:14,060

Is part of the Jewish cemetery still intact?

280

00:14:14,060 --> 00:14:15,300

No, it isn't.

281

00:14:15,300 --> 00:14:20,810

They took gravestones and put them aside.

282

00:14:20,810 --> 00:14:24,290

And they put a kind of an ornamental fence around it

283

00:14:24,290 --> 00:14:28,070

and a placard depicting that this is the Jewish cemetery.

284

00:14:28,070 --> 00:14:34,370

But I do not think it is the place where bodies are buried.

285

00:14:34,370 --> 00:14:35,960

So it's more of a commemorative site--

286

00:14:35,960 --> 00:14:37,330

Yes, but it's right next to it.

287

00:14:37,330 --> 00:14:38,705

--rather than an
actual cemetery.

288

00:14:38,705 --> 00:14:39,630

It's right next to it.

289

00:14:39,630 --> 00:14:41,900

And so the pictures you
have of the gravestones

290

00:14:41,900 --> 00:14:43,340

are from that
commemorative site?

291

00:14:43,340 --> 00:14:44,240

Yes, exactly.

292

00:14:44,240 --> 00:14:46,220

They took them and put them up.

293

00:14:46,220 --> 00:14:46,990

OK.

294

00:14:46,990 --> 00:14:48,770

Please tell us
about this picture.

295

00:14:48,770 --> 00:14:53,630

The person standing there is the
only person who I recognized.

296

00:14:53,630 --> 00:14:56,340

He was a former
schoolmate of my brother.

297

00:14:56,340 --> 00:14:58,500

He's slightly older than me.

298

00:14:58,500 --> 00:14:59,690

He took me around the town.

299

00:14:59,690 --> 00:15:01,770

He took me to the cemetery.

300

00:15:01,770 --> 00:15:04,260

So this is what remains
of the old cemetery?

301

00:15:04,260 --> 00:15:06,410

I wouldn't say it remained.

302

00:15:06,410 --> 00:15:10,160

I think that the authorities
took the grave stones

303

00:15:10,160 --> 00:15:13,220

from their original
places and put them

304

00:15:13,220 --> 00:15:15,830

slightly next to the
cemetery in order

305

00:15:15,830 --> 00:15:19,130

to commemorate the cemetery.

306

00:15:19,130 --> 00:15:21,840

So you think that the
people are not buried here?

307

00:15:21,840 --> 00:15:22,940

I do not think so.

308

00:15:22,940 --> 00:15:24,620

And what is your friend's name?

309

00:15:24,620 --> 00:15:26,000

Jonny Janoshka.

310

00:15:26,000 --> 00:15:28,040

Can you spell that
for us please?

311

00:15:28,040 --> 00:15:40,140

J-O-N-N-Y. And his second name
is Janoshka, J-A-N-O-S-H-K-A.

312

00:15:40,140 --> 00:15:42,180

And he is not Jewish?

313

00:15:42,180 --> 00:15:46,080

He is not Jewish, but he always
associated with us as children

314

00:15:46,080 --> 00:15:48,176

as his father was a--

315

00:15:48,176 --> 00:15:50,310

either a communist
or a social democrat.

316

00:15:50,310 --> 00:15:53,970

And he was at odds with
the German authorities.

317

00:15:53,970 --> 00:15:57,100

He gave me lots of
information of our childhood.

318

00:15:57,100 --> 00:15:59,162

I was amazed of what he knew.

319

00:15:59,162 --> 00:16:01,120

Have we talked about that
on the earlier tapes?

320

00:16:01,120 --> 00:16:01,620

Yes.

321

00:16:01,620 --> 00:16:02,220

Yes, we did.

322

00:16:02,220 --> 00:16:04,530

He appears there.

323

00:16:04,530 --> 00:16:08,130

Which authorities made
this kind of commemorative?

324

00:16:08,130 --> 00:16:09,240

The Russian authorities?

325

00:16:09,240 --> 00:16:10,620

No, the East German.

326

00:16:10,620 --> 00:16:11,850

The town.

327

00:16:11,850 --> 00:16:12,730

The town?

328

00:16:12,730 --> 00:16:15,120

The city.

329

00:16:15,120 --> 00:16:18,000

What happened to the Jewish
cemetery during the war?

330

00:16:18,000 --> 00:16:20,140

I have no idea.

331

00:16:20,140 --> 00:16:23,198

I have no idea what
happened to it.

332

00:16:23,198 --> 00:16:26,790

Well, as you know, they
built the supermarket on it.

333

00:16:26,790 --> 00:16:29,820

And they displaced the stones
and put them somewhere else

334

00:16:29,820 --> 00:16:33,240
near to it, quite close to it.

335
00:16:33,240 --> 00:16:35,220
Maybe this was even
part of the cemetery.

336
00:16:35,220 --> 00:16:36,750
I think so.

337
00:16:36,750 --> 00:16:40,410

338
00:16:40,410 --> 00:16:42,030
Tell us about this please.

339
00:16:42,030 --> 00:16:44,580
You see in the
foreground the iron fence

340
00:16:44,580 --> 00:16:49,550
which depicts the Jewish
candelabra, which Germans

341
00:16:49,550 --> 00:16:51,260
probably did, the East Germans.

342
00:16:51,260 --> 00:16:55,340
And it is, again, part of the
cemetery with the gravestones.

343
00:16:55,340 --> 00:16:57,470
And my friend Jonny
Janoshka standing there.

344
00:16:57,470 --> 00:17:07,040

345
00:17:07,040 --> 00:17:08,230
Tell us about this please.

346
00:17:08,230 --> 00:17:11,740

Well, these are the gravestones
from the original cemetery.

347
00:17:11,740 --> 00:17:14,560
And it shows according
to the date when

348
00:17:14,560 --> 00:17:18,819
the person died how long
the inhabitants of this town

349
00:17:18,819 --> 00:17:20,530
lived in the town.

350
00:17:20,530 --> 00:17:23,589
Maybe 150, maybe
even more years,

351
00:17:23,589 --> 00:17:25,420
many years they must
have lived there.

352
00:17:25,420 --> 00:17:30,400
On this gravestone it looks
like the dates are 1790 to 1865.

353
00:17:30,400 --> 00:17:31,740
So that's 200 years.

354
00:17:31,740 --> 00:17:35,060
But I think that the history
might even go back much longer.

355
00:17:35,060 --> 00:17:39,510

356
00:17:39,510 --> 00:17:40,430
And this?

357
00:17:40,430 --> 00:17:41,810
Again, gravestones.

358

00:17:41,810 --> 00:17:45,170

And again, the dates
are of importance,

359

00:17:45,170 --> 00:17:50,270

showing how long Jews
lived in that town.

360

00:17:50,270 --> 00:17:52,490

Probably 1858, or
something like that.

361

00:17:52,490 --> 00:18:03,820

362

00:18:03,820 --> 00:18:04,930

Yes, this please.

363

00:18:04,930 --> 00:18:06,280

Again, another gravestone.

364

00:18:06,280 --> 00:18:09,230

One of those gravestones
I, of course,

365

00:18:09,230 --> 00:18:13,016

do not know any of these names.

366

00:18:13,016 --> 00:18:15,280

They were, of course,
inhabitants of the town.

367

00:18:15,280 --> 00:18:22,260

368

00:18:22,260 --> 00:18:24,480

Was your town destroyed
during the war?

369

00:18:24,480 --> 00:18:27,130

No, it wasn't even touched.

370

00:18:27,130 --> 00:18:30,540

I asked my friend what happened,
how the town was captured.

371

00:18:30,540 --> 00:18:32,970

He told me that the
Russians approached

372

00:18:32,970 --> 00:18:35,730

the town and the
burgermeister, the mayor,

373

00:18:35,730 --> 00:18:39,120

and all the notables of the
town went with a white flag

374

00:18:39,120 --> 00:18:41,160

and surrendered.

375

00:18:41,160 --> 00:18:41,820

Nothing.

376

00:18:41,820 --> 00:18:44,740

It wasn't even
shelled or bombed.

377

00:18:44,740 --> 00:18:46,870

What happened to all
the newer gravestones?

378

00:18:46,870 --> 00:18:49,450

I mean, did you look for
your father's gravestone?

379

00:18:49,450 --> 00:18:50,320

Nothing to look at.

380

00:18:50,320 --> 00:18:54,490

What you saw here was
very small indeed,

381

00:18:54,490 --> 00:18:56,775

maybe 10 or 12 or

15 gravestones.

382

00:18:56,775 --> 00:18:58,150

I went through
those gravestones.

383

00:18:58,150 --> 00:19:01,990

They were all old ones,
maybe 200 or 150 years old.

384

00:19:01,990 --> 00:19:06,880

There were no-- nothing
less than 200 years old.

385

00:19:06,880 --> 00:19:09,744

So I have no idea what
happened to those gravestones.

386

00:19:09,744 --> 00:19:14,390

387

00:19:14,390 --> 00:19:14,960

OK.

388

00:19:14,960 --> 00:19:16,640

Tell us about this please.

389

00:19:16,640 --> 00:19:21,020

When I went to the cemetery,
I saw the sign which says

390

00:19:21,020 --> 00:19:26,630

JÃ¼discher Friedhof, which
means Jewish cemetery.

391

00:19:26,630 --> 00:19:28,280

And I saw it standing crooked.

392

00:19:28,280 --> 00:19:32,460

And I was taken aback by this.

393

00:19:32,460 --> 00:19:33,870

And I tried to straighten it.

394
00:19:33,870 --> 00:19:35,190
It was impossible.

395
00:19:35,190 --> 00:19:38,070
So in my letter, which
I wrote to the mayor,

396
00:19:38,070 --> 00:19:48,810
I mentioned this crooked placard
which says Jewish cemetery.

397
00:19:48,810 --> 00:19:50,250
Did the mayor respond to that?

398
00:19:50,250 --> 00:19:51,930
Yes, I received a
letter from the mayor.

399
00:19:51,930 --> 00:19:53,550
But he did not respond to that.

400
00:19:53,550 --> 00:19:55,310
He did not respond
to the crooked signs?

401
00:19:55,310 --> 00:19:55,650
No.

402
00:19:55,650 --> 00:19:57,400
So you don't know if
they fixed it or not?

403
00:19:57,400 --> 00:20:00,060
I have no idea.

404
00:20:00,060 --> 00:20:02,010
Do you have any idea
why it's crooked,

405
00:20:02,010 --> 00:20:03,560

or why they just
leave it that way?

406
00:20:03,560 --> 00:20:04,410
Wear and tear.

407
00:20:04,410 --> 00:20:07,380
Nothing is repaired
in East Germany.

408
00:20:07,380 --> 00:20:10,320
Everything was in disrepair.

409
00:20:10,320 --> 00:20:11,250
They had no money.

410
00:20:11,250 --> 00:20:12,190
They had no workers.

411
00:20:12,190 --> 00:20:13,482
They had no materials.

412
00:20:13,482 --> 00:20:15,690
I suppose this wouldn't have
taken much to repair it.

413
00:20:15,690 --> 00:20:20,030
But when I do go back,
I will repair it myself.

414
00:20:20,030 --> 00:20:24,200
We need to spell that
for the transcriber.

415
00:20:24,200 --> 00:20:30,080
J-U-D-I-S-C-H-E-R
F-R-I-E-D-H-O-F.

416
00:20:30,080 --> 00:20:34,280
And below the Friedhof
says restanlage,

417

00:20:34,280 --> 00:20:36,870
which means "place of rest."

418
00:20:36,870 --> 00:20:37,370
OK.

419
00:20:37,370 --> 00:20:40,010

420
00:20:40,010 --> 00:20:42,590
Friedhof is-- what's
that word mean?

421
00:20:42,590 --> 00:20:44,220
Friedhof, cemetery.

422
00:20:44,220 --> 00:20:45,140
OK.

423
00:20:45,140 --> 00:20:46,520
Jewish cemetery.

424
00:20:46,520 --> 00:20:51,830
Fried means actually "peace"
and hof means yard, court.

425
00:20:51,830 --> 00:20:55,610
Court of peace in
literal translation,

426
00:20:55,610 --> 00:20:58,660
but it means cemetery.

427
00:20:58,660 --> 00:21:00,810
Thank you.

428
00:21:00,810 --> 00:21:03,060
--about this picture please.

429
00:21:03,060 --> 00:21:08,460
When I came to the cemetery
with my friend Jonny Janoshka,

430

00:21:08,460 --> 00:21:10,950

I tried to find out where
my father was buried.

431

00:21:10,950 --> 00:21:15,960

He died in 1936, so I
was eight years old.

432

00:21:15,960 --> 00:21:18,810

I thought that he was
buried in a different place.

433

00:21:18,810 --> 00:21:25,740

But he told me that he had been
present at the at the burial.

434

00:21:25,740 --> 00:21:28,170

And he said he thinks that
this is the place where

435

00:21:28,170 --> 00:21:30,540

my father is buried.

436

00:21:30,540 --> 00:21:33,990

So I photographed it
and I put on a yarmulke

437

00:21:33,990 --> 00:21:36,140

and I said Kaddish
in front of him.

438

00:21:36,140 --> 00:21:40,790

He looked at me,
but he understood.

439

00:21:40,790 --> 00:21:42,470

Where is that today?

440

00:21:42,470 --> 00:21:45,770

Is it near what is
the Jewish cemetery?

441

00:21:45,770 --> 00:21:49,350

Next to the supermarket,
it is there, exactly

442

00:21:49,350 --> 00:21:50,780

on the pictures you saw before.

443

00:21:50,780 --> 00:21:54,340

444

00:21:54,340 --> 00:21:55,520

I have my doubts.

445

00:21:55,520 --> 00:21:56,950

I think he was buried--

446

00:21:56,950 --> 00:22:01,180

but then, of course, I was
only seven or eight years old.

447

00:22:01,180 --> 00:22:03,490

And he must have
been about 11 or 12.

448

00:22:03,490 --> 00:22:06,010

He is five or six years older.

449

00:22:06,010 --> 00:22:09,130

He told me that my father would
be approximately buried there.

450

00:22:09,130 --> 00:22:14,240

451

00:22:14,240 --> 00:22:16,040

Tell us about this
photograph please.

452

00:22:16,040 --> 00:22:17,840

This is our house.

453

00:22:17,840 --> 00:22:20,870
This is the only one of the
Jewish houses still standing.

454
00:22:20,870 --> 00:22:24,650
And in fact, there are two
girls living in there-- one

455
00:22:24,650 --> 00:22:26,600
upstairs and one downstairs.

456
00:22:26,600 --> 00:22:30,170
Now, you see, the two
windows at the bottom.

457
00:22:30,170 --> 00:22:32,280
Those were put in later.

458
00:22:32,280 --> 00:22:33,530
They used to be a show window.

459
00:22:33,530 --> 00:22:35,370
We had a shop there.

460
00:22:35,370 --> 00:22:37,460
So my father had a shop.

461
00:22:37,460 --> 00:22:39,620
You see the bricks lying there.

462
00:22:39,620 --> 00:22:40,760
Nothing is repaired.

463
00:22:40,760 --> 00:22:42,180
I didn't even recognize.

464
00:22:42,180 --> 00:22:46,430
I didn't realize that
the roof was so steep.

465
00:22:46,430 --> 00:22:48,110
But eventually I

entered the house,

466

00:22:48,110 --> 00:22:53,270

and I was very much moved.

467

00:22:53,270 --> 00:22:59,470

I saw my family there in my mind

and everything came back to me.

468

00:22:59,470 --> 00:23:01,820

In fact, the house

was taken from us.

469

00:23:01,820 --> 00:23:04,700

And I am, at the

moment, in contact

470

00:23:04,700 --> 00:23:08,430

with the German authorities

in order to get it back.

471

00:23:08,430 --> 00:23:09,185

How is that going?

472

00:23:09,185 --> 00:23:10,310

What have they said to you?

473

00:23:10,310 --> 00:23:12,350

Oh, they sent me

from pillar to post.

474

00:23:12,350 --> 00:23:14,720

I wrote to the West

German authorities.

475

00:23:14,720 --> 00:23:17,900

They told me to contact the

council in that town, which

476

00:23:17,900 --> 00:23:18,630

I have done.

477

00:23:18,630 --> 00:23:20,490
I have received in the meantime.

478
00:23:20,490 --> 00:23:22,227
There really isn't
a break through.

479
00:23:22,227 --> 00:23:23,060
There's really what?

480
00:23:23,060 --> 00:23:24,710
No break through.

481
00:23:24,710 --> 00:23:27,190
It's not easy to.

482
00:23:27,190 --> 00:23:29,530
And it's very close to
the center of the town.

483
00:23:29,530 --> 00:23:33,040
So probably, it might
have some real estate

484
00:23:33,040 --> 00:23:34,060
value in the future.

485
00:23:34,060 --> 00:23:36,580
At the moment, I don't think so.

486
00:23:36,580 --> 00:23:38,720
But there might
be possibilities.

487
00:23:38,720 --> 00:23:43,270
And what years did you live
in this house originally?

488
00:23:43,270 --> 00:23:46,200
I think from about--

489
00:23:46,200 --> 00:23:49,350

maybe from 1928 to 1938.

490
00:23:49,350 --> 00:23:53,350
And this photograph
was taken in 1990?

491
00:23:53,350 --> 00:23:53,850
Yes.

492
00:23:53,850 --> 00:23:55,558
When I was there, I
took that photograph.

493
00:23:55,558 --> 00:23:58,320
And when you say it's the only
one of the Jewish houses left

494
00:23:58,320 --> 00:24:00,173
standing, what do
you mean by that?

495
00:24:00,173 --> 00:24:00,840
What transpired?

496
00:24:00,840 --> 00:24:03,613
Well, this is the only
house which people live in.

497
00:24:03,613 --> 00:24:05,030
The rest of the
houses are shells.

498
00:24:05,030 --> 00:24:06,870
They are ruins.

499
00:24:06,870 --> 00:24:08,700
I went into every single house.

500
00:24:08,700 --> 00:24:11,025
Was that because the
Jewish people lived there?

501

00:24:11,025 --> 00:24:13,150
Or just because they were
destroyed during the war,

502
00:24:13,150 --> 00:24:15,300
or they fell apart since then?

503
00:24:15,300 --> 00:24:20,090
Nothing was destroyed
during the war in that town.

504
00:24:20,090 --> 00:24:23,120
They looked, in a
way, burned out.

505
00:24:23,120 --> 00:24:28,590
And completely-- in a
way, it was a shell.

506
00:24:28,590 --> 00:24:31,380
You will see soon a picture
of my cousin's house

507
00:24:31,380 --> 00:24:36,780
who lived maybe 10 houses
up in the same street.

508
00:24:36,780 --> 00:24:38,010
And I went in that house.

509
00:24:38,010 --> 00:24:40,680
And everything which
could be taken out

510
00:24:40,680 --> 00:24:43,170
was taken out-- the
frames and the staircase

511
00:24:43,170 --> 00:24:45,810
and so forth, and the doors.

512
00:24:45,810 --> 00:24:47,910
And I have no idea

how that happened,

513

00:24:47,910 --> 00:24:49,250

why they let it go like that.

514

00:24:49,250 --> 00:24:52,890

But in essence, the

Germans in East Germany

515

00:24:52,890 --> 00:24:54,270

didn't repair anything.

516

00:24:54,270 --> 00:24:55,860

They didn't have workers.

517

00:24:55,860 --> 00:24:59,310

And the workers they had

were sent to Berlin, I heard.

518

00:24:59,310 --> 00:25:03,180

And they had no materials

to repair anything.

519

00:25:03,180 --> 00:25:04,913

Did you meet either

of the two women

520

00:25:04,913 --> 00:25:06,580

who are the current

tenant in the house?

521

00:25:06,580 --> 00:25:06,890

Yes, yes.

522

00:25:06,890 --> 00:25:08,390

Did they have

anything to say to you

523

00:25:08,390 --> 00:25:10,190

about the history of the house?

524

00:25:10,190 --> 00:25:12,855

No, they were young women.

525

00:25:12,855 --> 00:25:15,230

They didn't know anything
about the history of the house.

526

00:25:15,230 --> 00:25:18,470

My friend heard some of it.

527

00:25:18,470 --> 00:25:21,680

He said there was an ice cream
parlor there, and then a shop,

528

00:25:21,680 --> 00:25:27,050

and then it was turned into a
house for people to live in.

529

00:25:27,050 --> 00:25:28,700

And these two girls
didn't know much.

530

00:25:28,700 --> 00:25:31,500

They only were compassionate
and sympathetic.

531

00:25:31,500 --> 00:25:33,500

And they allowed me to
go through all the rooms.

532

00:25:33,500 --> 00:25:37,190

And I took pictures of the
inside and of the courtyard.

533

00:25:37,190 --> 00:25:39,110

But they were detached in a way.

534

00:25:39,110 --> 00:25:45,630

I don't think they could
have felt what I felt.

535

00:25:45,630 --> 00:25:47,020

--about this picture.

536

00:25:47,020 --> 00:25:49,210

This is one of the
rooms in our house.

537

00:25:49,210 --> 00:25:55,380

And I think it was the
room where I slept in.

538

00:25:55,380 --> 00:26:08,675

539

00:26:08,675 --> 00:26:09,550

--about this, please.

540

00:26:09,550 --> 00:26:10,930

This is a kitchen.

541

00:26:10,930 --> 00:26:14,290

I remember my mother working
in that kitchen making

542

00:26:14,290 --> 00:26:16,450

those wonderful Jewish foods.

543

00:26:16,450 --> 00:26:21,420

And all these thoughts
came back into my mind

544

00:26:21,420 --> 00:26:24,160

when she prepared
those foods and we

545

00:26:24,160 --> 00:26:26,530

sat around the
table on weekdays,

546

00:26:26,530 --> 00:26:29,110

on Shabbat, eating
her wonderful cooking.

547

00:26:29,110 --> 00:26:37,930

548
00:26:37,930 --> 00:26:39,830
Now, these are all taken
when you went back?

549
00:26:39,830 --> 00:26:40,330
Yes.

550
00:26:40,330 --> 00:26:44,110
So they're in this condition
the house is in now?

551
00:26:44,110 --> 00:26:47,200
They changed things a
little bit, not very much.

552
00:26:47,200 --> 00:26:49,750
Like these tiles, for
instance, weren't there.

553
00:26:49,750 --> 00:26:53,290
But fundamentally,
nothing has changed.

554
00:26:53,290 --> 00:26:55,130
Have the cooking
utensils changed much?

555
00:26:55,130 --> 00:26:56,160
Yes, they have changed.

556
00:26:56,160 --> 00:27:00,690
We used to have a stove that we
used to put in coal briquettes.

557
00:27:00,690 --> 00:27:02,630
Briquettes, you call it?

558
00:27:02,630 --> 00:27:03,230
Briquettes.

559
00:27:03,230 --> 00:27:04,443

Briquettes.

560
00:27:04,443 --> 00:27:05,610
And we used to put those in.

561
00:27:05,610 --> 00:27:07,430
And my mother used
to cook on those.

562
00:27:07,430 --> 00:27:09,620
I don't remember
what they cooked on.

563
00:27:09,620 --> 00:27:12,800
They haven't really advanced
in any way, the East Germans.

564
00:27:12,800 --> 00:27:14,030
Maybe today.

565
00:27:14,030 --> 00:27:17,780
Probably with the
reunification, probably things

566
00:27:17,780 --> 00:27:21,260
will pick up in Germany.

567
00:27:21,260 --> 00:27:22,010
Please?

568
00:27:22,010 --> 00:27:26,630
This is what we used
to call the dark room.

569
00:27:26,630 --> 00:27:28,750
In German, the
[GERMAN],, the dark room.

570
00:27:28,750 --> 00:27:30,590
It still looks dark.

571
00:27:30,590 --> 00:27:32,450

Yes but they put a window in.

572

00:27:32,450 --> 00:27:33,770

It did not have a window.

573

00:27:33,770 --> 00:27:34,970

That's where we used to eat.

574

00:27:34,970 --> 00:27:37,820

And we always used to have
electric light in there.

575

00:27:37,820 --> 00:27:42,270

And it was right next to the
shop we had, to the store.

576

00:27:42,270 --> 00:27:45,920

And I went in there
and, of course, again,

577

00:27:45,920 --> 00:27:47,300

all these memories
went back when

578

00:27:47,300 --> 00:27:50,840

we sat around that table,
the whole family eating.

579

00:27:50,840 --> 00:27:52,400

Were all houses
built so that they

580

00:27:52,400 --> 00:27:54,830

would have a dark room
or rooms without windows?

581

00:27:54,830 --> 00:27:55,800

In those days.

582

00:27:55,800 --> 00:27:59,180

They didn't have
much of architects.

583
00:27:59,180 --> 00:28:00,680
It was a good house.

584
00:28:00,680 --> 00:28:01,910
We grew up in that house.

585
00:28:01,910 --> 00:28:04,770

586
00:28:04,770 --> 00:28:05,910
Tell us about this please.

587
00:28:05,910 --> 00:28:08,730
Well, this is a lavatory
which my father had

588
00:28:08,730 --> 00:28:12,150
put in probably in 1935 or '34.

589
00:28:12,150 --> 00:28:15,990
It was most probably the first
water closet in the whole city.

590
00:28:15,990 --> 00:28:17,610
There was no such a thing.

591
00:28:17,610 --> 00:28:21,510
I, being a plumber today, have
no idea how he connected it

592
00:28:21,510 --> 00:28:22,410
to a sewer system.

593
00:28:22,410 --> 00:28:24,580
I don't know whether
there was a sewer system.

594
00:28:24,580 --> 00:28:26,220
But before that,
we had an outhouse

595

00:28:26,220 --> 00:28:27,930
in the yard which was used.

596
00:28:27,930 --> 00:28:32,280
And then once a
month, some people

597
00:28:32,280 --> 00:28:33,980
came and used to
empty that outhouse.

598
00:28:33,980 --> 00:28:38,100
It was-- it used to
create a terrible stench.

599
00:28:38,100 --> 00:28:42,180
So my father had this
water closet put in.

600
00:28:42,180 --> 00:28:47,670
And I don't think that the
system, the toilet itself,

601
00:28:47,670 --> 00:28:48,900
is from those days.

602
00:28:48,900 --> 00:28:55,033
But the sanitary installation
were put in by him.

603
00:28:55,033 --> 00:28:56,700
What's the difference
between the toilet

604
00:28:56,700 --> 00:28:58,560
and the sanitary installation?

605
00:28:58,560 --> 00:29:01,320
Well, the toilets were probably
different in those days.

606
00:29:01,320 --> 00:29:03,970
And the tank, which

is probably here,

607

00:29:03,970 --> 00:29:06,150

which you see in the
picture, is made of plastic.

608

00:29:06,150 --> 00:29:07,650

In those days,
they were higher up

609

00:29:07,650 --> 00:29:13,920

and it had a cast iron system
with a chain to pull it.

610

00:29:13,920 --> 00:29:15,120

This is a different thing.

611

00:29:15,120 --> 00:29:19,050

But the system, the sanitary
system, is probably the same.

612

00:29:19,050 --> 00:29:21,455

Only the utensils are different.

613

00:29:21,455 --> 00:29:22,830

One time when we
were talking you

614

00:29:22,830 --> 00:29:25,800

said that even today
many houses in that town

615

00:29:25,800 --> 00:29:27,960

have no indoor facilities?

616

00:29:27,960 --> 00:29:29,180

Yes, yes.

617

00:29:29,180 --> 00:29:32,720

There still is-- nothing has
really advanced in that town,

618

00:29:32,720 --> 00:29:35,440
in East Germany on the whole.

619
00:29:35,440 --> 00:29:38,700
Does that mean most houses don't
have indoor facilities today?

620
00:29:38,700 --> 00:29:40,410
I suppose today they do have.

621
00:29:40,410 --> 00:29:41,940
I would say that, yes.

622
00:29:41,940 --> 00:29:46,710
But in 1934 when my father had
this installed, none of them

623
00:29:46,710 --> 00:29:47,340
had.

624
00:29:47,340 --> 00:29:50,025
Or very few, at least,
had inside toilets.

625
00:29:50,025 --> 00:29:53,580

626
00:29:53,580 --> 00:29:54,630
And this please?

627
00:29:54,630 --> 00:29:57,510
This was a room my
two brothers slept in.

628
00:29:57,510 --> 00:30:00,710
This is also a bedroom.

629
00:30:00,710 --> 00:30:04,505
And I remember we used to
have battles with pillows.

630
00:30:04,505 --> 00:30:07,040

631
00:30:07,040 --> 00:30:11,720
In those days, we
were very happy kids.

632
00:30:11,720 --> 00:30:14,546
How many rooms
were in the house?

633
00:30:14,546 --> 00:30:16,040
Let me think.

634
00:30:16,040 --> 00:30:23,630
One, two, three, four, five,
six-- about eight homes.

635
00:30:23,630 --> 00:30:26,290
How many were bedrooms?

636
00:30:26,290 --> 00:30:28,252
About six.

637
00:30:28,252 --> 00:30:29,120
Six bedrooms?

638
00:30:29,120 --> 00:30:33,330
How big were the rooms
in terms of feet?

639
00:30:33,330 --> 00:30:40,710
To tell you, there were Maybe
10 by 6, something like that,

640
00:30:40,710 --> 00:30:42,690
on the average.

641
00:30:42,690 --> 00:30:47,740
Not very big rooms,
but big enough.

642
00:30:47,740 --> 00:30:50,920

There was a kitchen
and there was a stove.

643
00:30:50,920 --> 00:30:55,420
And there was a entrance
corridor and the stairs going

644
00:30:55,420 --> 00:30:58,540
upstairs, and a
big huge loft where

645
00:30:58,540 --> 00:31:01,570
we used to play when it rained.

646
00:31:01,570 --> 00:31:05,660
And my mother used to
put apples in store,

647
00:31:05,660 --> 00:31:07,520
and so we have
apples out of season.

648
00:31:07,520 --> 00:31:10,550
Or cucumbers, he used
to put in barrels.

649
00:31:10,550 --> 00:31:12,680
And those we used to eat.

650
00:31:12,680 --> 00:31:13,310
Very nice.

651
00:31:13,310 --> 00:31:17,360

652
00:31:17,360 --> 00:31:18,280
And this?

653
00:31:18,280 --> 00:31:22,370
This used to be the
store, the shop.

654

00:31:22,370 --> 00:31:26,210
And it was turned
into a living room.

655
00:31:26,210 --> 00:31:30,680
And I remembered all the
wares we had for sale

656
00:31:30,680 --> 00:31:33,180
then there on the
counters and so forth.

657
00:31:33,180 --> 00:31:35,330
So that did not
exist any longer.

658
00:31:35,330 --> 00:31:37,252
It was turned into
a living room.

659
00:31:37,252 --> 00:31:44,700

660
00:31:44,700 --> 00:31:45,960
OK, tell us about this please.

661
00:31:45,960 --> 00:31:48,060
This is my friend,
Jonny Janoshka standing

662
00:31:48,060 --> 00:31:50,100
in the courtyard of our house.

663
00:31:50,100 --> 00:31:52,950
And the girl with
her back towards us

664
00:31:52,950 --> 00:31:55,740
is one of the girls
living in that house.

665
00:31:55,740 --> 00:31:57,810
Now, the courtyard--

was that formed

666
00:31:57,810 --> 00:32:01,230
by several houses being
built around the courtyard,

667
00:32:01,230 --> 00:32:03,990
or was the courtyard in
the middle of your house?

668
00:32:03,990 --> 00:32:06,570
In the middle of the
house, middle of the house.

669
00:32:06,570 --> 00:32:10,360
And I don't know what the
back was [? difficult. ?]

670
00:32:10,360 --> 00:32:13,830
On one side I think was a
courtyard of a neighbor house.

671
00:32:13,830 --> 00:32:17,780

672
00:32:17,780 --> 00:32:18,500
And this?

673
00:32:18,500 --> 00:32:20,210
This is also the courtyard.

674
00:32:20,210 --> 00:32:24,830
You can see the
drainpipes which lead away

675
00:32:24,830 --> 00:32:26,660
the rainwater from the roofs.

676
00:32:26,660 --> 00:32:30,470
They made a kind of a concoction
to lead the water away,

677

00:32:30,470 --> 00:32:31,790
very primitive.

678
00:32:31,790 --> 00:32:36,260
As I mentioned before, they have
no materials and no craftsmen

679
00:32:36,260 --> 00:32:36,920
to do anything.

680
00:32:36,920 --> 00:32:38,975
They probably did
it by themselves.

681
00:32:38,975 --> 00:32:45,410

682
00:32:45,410 --> 00:32:46,130
And this?

683
00:32:46,130 --> 00:32:52,520
This was the washroom where my
mother used to boil the washing

684
00:32:52,520 --> 00:32:56,120
and she washed all
our clothes in.

685
00:32:56,120 --> 00:32:58,580
Now, those windows--
there was a broken window

686
00:32:58,580 --> 00:33:01,580
on the right-hand side, on
the lower right-hand side.

687
00:33:01,580 --> 00:33:05,120
And we used to invite all
our friends from the street.

688
00:33:05,120 --> 00:33:07,970
And we used to put up
[? bells ?] with planks.

689
00:33:07,970 --> 00:33:11,360
And everybody had to pay
five pfenigs And I used

690
00:33:11,360 --> 00:33:12,980
to go through that window--

691
00:33:12,980 --> 00:33:14,930
the snake man.

692
00:33:14,930 --> 00:33:16,640
[LAUGHS]

693
00:33:16,640 --> 00:33:17,980
And what did you do?

694
00:33:17,980 --> 00:33:18,980
Went through the window.

695
00:33:18,980 --> 00:33:19,520
Just went through the window?

696
00:33:19,520 --> 00:33:20,780
And they had to
play five pfenigs

697
00:33:20,780 --> 00:33:22,155
to see me go
through that window.

698
00:33:22,155 --> 00:33:25,010
We make performances.

699
00:33:25,010 --> 00:33:26,378
How much did you make?

700
00:33:26,378 --> 00:33:29,870
[LAUGHTER]

701
00:33:29,870 --> 00:33:31,940

So these pictures
are all taken when

702
00:33:31,940 --> 00:33:34,113
you went back in 1990
and the condition

703
00:33:34,113 --> 00:33:35,030
the houses are in now?

704
00:33:35,030 --> 00:33:35,600
Correct.

705
00:33:35,600 --> 00:33:37,850
OK.

706
00:33:37,850 --> 00:33:39,050
Tell us about this please.

707
00:33:39,050 --> 00:33:41,600
This is the house I was born.

708
00:33:41,600 --> 00:33:43,010
I had no idea, really.

709
00:33:43,010 --> 00:33:45,620
But I did take my birth
certificate along.

710
00:33:45,620 --> 00:33:47,975
And then I saw the
street and the number.

711
00:33:47,975 --> 00:33:52,160
So I went to that house and
had myself photographed.

712
00:33:52,160 --> 00:33:55,460
This is the house I was born in.

713
00:33:55,460 --> 00:33:58,370
And so what year was that and

how long did you live there?

714
00:33:58,370 --> 00:33:59,130
I have no idea.

715
00:33:59,130 --> 00:34:04,200
I was born in 1925,
delivered by a midwife.

716
00:34:04,200 --> 00:34:08,030
And that was in this house.

717
00:34:08,030 --> 00:34:09,300
OK.

718
00:34:09,300 --> 00:34:10,480
Tell us about this please.

719
00:34:10,480 --> 00:34:16,860
This is the house my distant
related cousin lived in.

720
00:34:16,860 --> 00:34:18,310
As you can see, it's a shell.

721
00:34:18,310 --> 00:34:19,685
I don't know what
happened to it.

722
00:34:19,685 --> 00:34:21,780
Everything has been
taken out-- the doors,

723
00:34:21,780 --> 00:34:24,840
the staircases, window frames.

724
00:34:24,840 --> 00:34:30,690
I went in there and I
remembered their family

725
00:34:30,690 --> 00:34:33,060
sitting at the table

in the kitchen, eating.

726

00:34:33,060 --> 00:34:34,440

They had a maid, Marie.

727

00:34:34,440 --> 00:34:37,790

I mentioned it in
one of my audiences

728

00:34:37,790 --> 00:34:40,010

here that she used
to serve them.

729

00:34:40,010 --> 00:34:42,590

And she used to put
butter in her hair.

730

00:34:42,590 --> 00:34:44,510

And sometimes she
used to work for us,

731

00:34:44,510 --> 00:34:47,400

and sometimes she
used to work for them.

732

00:34:47,400 --> 00:34:48,519

I contacted my cousin.

733

00:34:48,519 --> 00:34:50,250

He lives in New Jersey today.

734

00:34:50,250 --> 00:34:51,750

And I sent him
those photographs.

735

00:34:51,750 --> 00:34:52,739

He seemed unmoved.

736

00:34:52,739 --> 00:34:55,320

He doesn't want to go back.

737

00:34:55,320 --> 00:34:58,160

Is the maid the woman whose pictures were at the beginning?

738
00:34:58,160 --> 00:34:58,660
No, no.

739
00:34:58,660 --> 00:34:59,230
Another one.

740
00:34:59,230 --> 00:35:00,230
That's a different maid.

741
00:35:00,230 --> 00:35:01,755
Another one.

742
00:35:01,755 --> 00:35:04,090
But in the street
we lived in, there

743
00:35:04,090 --> 00:35:06,540
were maybe six or
seven Jewish families

744
00:35:06,540 --> 00:35:09,870
who had stores, who had shops.

745
00:35:09,870 --> 00:35:14,460
And not a single house
remains, or it looks the same

746
00:35:14,460 --> 00:35:16,230
as you can see on
those photographs.

747
00:35:16,230 --> 00:35:21,520
The only house which is still
inhabitable is only ours.

748
00:35:21,520 --> 00:35:27,950
How many of the houses in your
town are inhabitable today?

749

00:35:27,950 --> 00:35:29,860

Are many of them
like these houses?

750

00:35:29,860 --> 00:35:32,140

No, no.

751

00:35:32,140 --> 00:35:35,260

Most of them are inhabited
by the population.

752

00:35:35,260 --> 00:35:37,060

Only Jewish homes
look like that.

753

00:35:37,060 --> 00:35:38,020

Only Jewish homes?

754

00:35:38,020 --> 00:35:39,400

Only Jewish homes.

755

00:35:39,400 --> 00:35:41,540

Did you find out why that is?

756

00:35:41,540 --> 00:35:43,540

No, no, I didn't ask.

757

00:35:43,540 --> 00:35:45,890

I do not know why.

758

00:35:45,890 --> 00:35:48,440

I mean, a house like that,
I mean, still standing.

759

00:35:48,440 --> 00:35:50,330

The fundamentals are there
the walls are there.

760

00:35:50,330 --> 00:35:54,210

it could be
rehabilitated, this house.

761

00:35:54,210 --> 00:35:57,630
But as I understood,
there was no money

762
00:35:57,630 --> 00:36:02,220
and there was no materials,
as I said, and no craftsmen.

763
00:36:02,220 --> 00:36:04,920
And so this is 10 blocks
away, you said, from the--

764
00:36:04,920 --> 00:36:05,698
No, 10 houses.

765
00:36:05,698 --> 00:36:06,990
10 houses Away from your house?

766
00:36:06,990 --> 00:36:08,190
10 houses away.

767
00:36:08,190 --> 00:36:09,780
Very close to our house.

768
00:36:09,780 --> 00:36:12,890
A minute away.

769
00:36:12,890 --> 00:36:14,430
And it's just the Jewish homes?

770
00:36:14,430 --> 00:36:14,930
Yeah.

771
00:36:14,930 --> 00:36:19,370
I think it's only the Jewish
homes which look like this.

772
00:36:19,370 --> 00:36:21,710
Obviously it's the
same courtyard.

773
00:36:21,710 --> 00:36:24,810

No, it's the same house, only
taken from a different angle.

774
00:36:24,810 --> 00:36:40,000

775
00:36:40,000 --> 00:36:41,380
Tell us about this please.

776
00:36:41,380 --> 00:36:44,860
This is a kind of
a yard on the left.

777
00:36:44,860 --> 00:36:51,058
It used to be a hotel which
served the travelers who

778
00:36:51,058 --> 00:36:52,100
used to come to the town.

779
00:36:52,100 --> 00:36:54,100
Today, it's a shell.

780
00:36:54,100 --> 00:36:56,483
On the very left--

781
00:36:56,483 --> 00:36:58,150
you can't see --it
was an entrance where

782
00:36:58,150 --> 00:37:01,030
they used to put their horses.

783
00:37:01,030 --> 00:37:04,960
In those days, we didn't have
cars but they had horses.

784
00:37:04,960 --> 00:37:07,600
And there was a kind of a stable
where the horses were put up

785
00:37:07,600 --> 00:37:08,200

for the night.

786
00:37:08,200 --> 00:37:09,790
We used to play in there.

787
00:37:09,790 --> 00:37:13,930
At the back where you see
the white kind of placard,

788
00:37:13,930 --> 00:37:17,740
we used to play football
and that was the goal.

789
00:37:17,740 --> 00:37:22,480
And very often, the ball
used to go over this gate.

790
00:37:22,480 --> 00:37:25,900
And me, being the smallest,
I had to go underneath

791
00:37:25,900 --> 00:37:28,030
to retrieve the ball.

792
00:37:28,030 --> 00:37:30,010
The yard beyond it
belonged to the city.

793
00:37:30,010 --> 00:37:33,580
They had all the
materials and tools there.

794
00:37:33,580 --> 00:37:35,498
So was that the origin
of your snake man

795
00:37:35,498 --> 00:37:36,790
routine, going under this gate?

796
00:37:36,790 --> 00:37:37,998
Part of it.

797

00:37:37,998 --> 00:37:43,150
[LAUGHTER]

798
00:37:43,150 --> 00:37:44,710
Tell us about this please.

799
00:37:44,710 --> 00:37:47,440
This is an annex
to the synagogue

800
00:37:47,440 --> 00:37:48,940
where the cantor used to live.

801
00:37:48,940 --> 00:37:52,090
And the cantor was also
the ritual slaughterer.

802
00:37:52,090 --> 00:37:55,660
There were also
rooms for classrooms

803
00:37:55,660 --> 00:37:58,720
where the children used to learn
Hebrew reading and writing.

804
00:37:58,720 --> 00:38:02,920
And sometimes services
were held there on weekdays

805
00:38:02,920 --> 00:38:06,190
because synagogue was
too big and the attendant

806
00:38:06,190 --> 00:38:07,720
were only a few.

807
00:38:07,720 --> 00:38:09,310
Maybe a minyan, maybe a 10.

808
00:38:09,310 --> 00:38:11,680
So a big synagogue was not used.

809

00:38:11,680 --> 00:38:16,920
But on weekdays, this
building was used for prayer.

810
00:38:16,920 --> 00:38:18,920
About how many children
would go to the classes?

811
00:38:18,920 --> 00:38:21,460

812
00:38:21,460 --> 00:38:22,660
Maybe 15 or 20.

813
00:38:22,660 --> 00:38:26,370

814
00:38:26,370 --> 00:38:27,420
This please?

815
00:38:27,420 --> 00:38:30,660
This is the same annex,
only from a different angle.

816
00:38:30,660 --> 00:38:34,150
That used to be the
entrance to the annex.

817
00:38:34,150 --> 00:38:35,950
And the two windows
you see, those

818
00:38:35,950 --> 00:38:38,840
were the rooms where we learned
to read and write Hebrew.

819
00:38:38,840 --> 00:38:45,890

820
00:38:45,890 --> 00:38:46,770
And this?

821

00:38:46,770 --> 00:38:49,360
It is the same building,
taken from a different angle.

822
00:38:49,360 --> 00:39:13,380

823
00:39:13,380 --> 00:39:15,190
And tell us about this please.

824
00:39:15,190 --> 00:39:18,270
This is the empty plot where
the synagogue used to stand.

825
00:39:18,270 --> 00:39:21,450
It was burned in
the Kristallnacht.

826
00:39:21,450 --> 00:39:23,760
And as you can see,
there is nothing

827
00:39:23,760 --> 00:39:26,750
left of it, no sign of it.

828
00:39:26,750 --> 00:39:31,620
And they want to put
up a monument depicting

829
00:39:31,620 --> 00:39:35,850
that this was a place where the
Jewish synagogue stood once.

830
00:39:35,850 --> 00:39:38,970
Are there any Jewish
inhabitants of this town today?

831
00:39:38,970 --> 00:39:40,350
None.

832
00:39:40,350 --> 00:39:44,100
In fact, the pastor
whom I had spoken to,

833
00:39:44,100 --> 00:39:45,750
he wanted to bring
in Russian Jews.

834
00:39:45,750 --> 00:39:48,120
Russian Jews are
coming into Germany.

835
00:39:48,120 --> 00:39:50,580
He wanted to rehabilitate
the buildings

836
00:39:50,580 --> 00:39:54,840
and house in those
buildings Russian Jews.

837
00:39:54,840 --> 00:39:57,720
And he asked me to try
and find funds for it.

838
00:39:57,720 --> 00:39:58,890
I didn't respond to that.

839
00:39:58,890 --> 00:40:03,510
I'm not interested in Russian
Jews would go to Germany.

840
00:40:03,510 --> 00:40:05,800
Please tell us about this.

841
00:40:05,800 --> 00:40:13,000
This is a letter my sister wrote
to my mother on Mother's Day,

842
00:40:13,000 --> 00:40:13,615
I suppose.

843
00:40:13,615 --> 00:40:14,240
It's in French.

844
00:40:14,240 --> 00:40:15,160

I don't speak French.

845
00:40:15,160 --> 00:40:18,160
She learned French
while living in Brussels

846
00:40:18,160 --> 00:40:21,910
and she sent it to me.

847
00:40:21,910 --> 00:40:24,100
I can see she has
a beautiful script.

848
00:40:24,100 --> 00:40:27,880
I didn't even realize
that she wrote so nicely.

849
00:40:27,880 --> 00:40:30,710
We'll make a Xerox
photocopy of the letter

850
00:40:30,710 --> 00:40:31,870
so it'll be easier to read.

851
00:40:31,870 --> 00:40:33,040
OK.

852
00:40:33,040 --> 00:40:35,220
Do you have a translation
of what it says?

853
00:40:35,220 --> 00:40:36,430
Somebody translated it.

854
00:40:36,430 --> 00:40:41,320
It talks about how she loves
her mother and wishes her--

855
00:40:41,320 --> 00:40:45,910
congratulates her
on Mother's Day.

856

00:40:45,910 --> 00:40:47,000
Something of that sort.

857
00:40:47,000 --> 00:40:51,060

858
00:40:51,060 --> 00:40:54,660
Actually, this has to do with
the last set of pictures.

859
00:40:54,660 --> 00:40:56,340
What was the
pastor's name who is

860
00:40:56,340 --> 00:41:00,180
so interested in the Jewish
people, who wants to bring

861
00:41:00,180 --> 00:41:01,380
Jewish people back here?

862
00:41:01,380 --> 00:41:13,460

863
00:41:13,460 --> 00:41:18,360
His name is Pastor
[Personal name]

864
00:41:18,360 --> 00:41:24,420
And he is a pastor of the most
beautiful church next door,

865
00:41:24,420 --> 00:41:26,040
a really nice church.

866
00:41:26,040 --> 00:41:29,370
A very compassionate man
and a true Christian.

867
00:41:29,370 --> 00:41:31,740
And we had a long talk.

868

00:41:31,740 --> 00:41:34,500
But I already spoke about this.

869
00:41:34,500 --> 00:41:40,950
And he went to the
mayor and wanted

870
00:41:40,950 --> 00:41:43,710
to speak to him about funds
of putting up a monument where

871
00:41:43,710 --> 00:41:45,270
the synagogue used to stand.

872
00:41:45,270 --> 00:41:47,820
And when he came
there, the mayor

873
00:41:47,820 --> 00:41:50,550
showed him the letter
I had written him.

874
00:41:50,550 --> 00:41:52,350
So I had quite a
correspondence with him,

875
00:41:52,350 --> 00:41:56,390
but I have somehow not
answered some of his letters.

876
00:41:56,390 --> 00:42:00,451
I just-- I suppose I should
do it, but I haven't done it.

877
00:42:00,451 --> 00:42:03,160

878
00:42:03,160 --> 00:42:04,900
This is interesting.

879
00:42:04,900 --> 00:42:07,540
You mentioned-- this is the
envelope that the pastor sent

880
00:42:07,540 --> 00:42:08,240
you a letter in.

881
00:42:08,240 --> 00:42:08,680
Yes.

882
00:42:08,680 --> 00:42:10,305
And you had a comment
about the stamps.

883
00:42:10,305 --> 00:42:11,380
Could you tell us please?

884
00:42:11,380 --> 00:42:16,720
Well, I was surprised after all
the relations we had with East

885
00:42:16,720 --> 00:42:21,520
Germany which were strained,
which were Russian-orientated,

886
00:42:21,520 --> 00:42:25,120
and there I saw a stamp with
the Jewish candelabra on it,

887
00:42:25,120 --> 00:42:26,914
and I was very much surprised.

888
00:42:26,914 --> 00:42:29,760

889
00:42:29,760 --> 00:42:34,050
You know, those articles
that have been in the paper

890
00:42:34,050 --> 00:42:38,460
lately about that East
German town that's had--

891
00:42:38,460 --> 00:42:43,398
I don't know if it was just

antisemitism, but they--

892
00:42:43,398 --> 00:42:44,190
Against foreigners.

893
00:42:44,190 --> 00:42:46,190
--through riots, they
kicked out all minorities.

894
00:42:46,190 --> 00:42:46,800
Yeah.

895
00:42:46,800 --> 00:42:51,630
Do you think that that could
be a problem in this town?

896
00:42:51,630 --> 00:42:55,493
I don't think the town
is a single foreigner.

897
00:42:55,493 --> 00:42:56,910
I mean do you think
the sentiment,

898
00:42:56,910 --> 00:42:59,610
so that if a foreigner
were to move in?

899
00:42:59,610 --> 00:43:00,975
Yes, certainly.

900
00:43:00,975 --> 00:43:02,280
I'm convinced of it.

901
00:43:02,280 --> 00:43:05,190
Because there's lots
of unemployment today

902
00:43:05,190 --> 00:43:08,910
in East Germany because of
the whole reconstruction

903

00:43:08,910 --> 00:43:10,710
of the economy.

904
00:43:10,710 --> 00:43:15,970
And in any case, they were very
bitter against their regime.

905
00:43:15,970 --> 00:43:19,660
So imagine that there would be
immigrants coming or foreigners

906
00:43:19,660 --> 00:43:23,500
coming into that town and
taking the few jobs which

907
00:43:23,500 --> 00:43:26,530
are available away from them.

908
00:43:26,530 --> 00:43:29,200
So I see no reason why they
shouldn't behave the way they

909
00:43:29,200 --> 00:43:31,150
behaved anywhere else.

910
00:43:31,150 --> 00:43:34,390
I always maintained
that fundamentally,

911
00:43:34,390 --> 00:43:36,700
that there's no change
within the Germans.

912
00:43:36,700 --> 00:43:38,140
They haven't changed at all.

913
00:43:38,140 --> 00:43:42,010
Even one talks about the new
generation, they're different.

914
00:43:42,010 --> 00:43:44,390
I, for one, think there's
absolutely no difference.

915
00:43:44,390 --> 00:43:45,820
I think they haven't changed.

916
00:43:45,820 --> 00:43:47,770
Why?

917
00:43:47,770 --> 00:43:50,290
I don't know why, but I do
think they haven't changed.

918
00:43:50,290 --> 00:43:53,200
I think it's within
the German psyche

919
00:43:53,200 --> 00:43:54,790
that they haven't changed.

920
00:43:54,790 --> 00:43:58,000
I think they're militant,
and I think they are--

921
00:43:58,000 --> 00:44:01,780
they have the capacity
of being brutal, which

922
00:44:01,780 --> 00:44:03,640
many other nations haven't got.

923
00:44:03,640 --> 00:44:05,530
I live in America
for some years,

924
00:44:05,530 --> 00:44:08,800
and I find a lot of compassion
here in this country.

925
00:44:08,800 --> 00:44:10,930
When I think back of
how the Germans behaved,

926
00:44:10,930 --> 00:44:13,240

I feel this great
lack of compassion.

927
00:44:13,240 --> 00:44:16,090
There are individuals, there
are just men in Germany.

928
00:44:16,090 --> 00:44:17,650
I'm not saying that.

929
00:44:17,650 --> 00:44:20,620
But on the whole, I think the
character of the German people

930
00:44:20,620 --> 00:44:23,820
has always been war-like.

931
00:44:23,820 --> 00:44:25,410
And I think it hasn't changed.

932
00:44:25,410 --> 00:44:27,510
And I don't think it can
be changed that easily.

933
00:44:27,510 --> 00:44:29,340
One talks about
democracy in Germany.

934
00:44:29,340 --> 00:44:33,810
I think democracy cannot be
hung like an ornament around

935
00:44:33,810 --> 00:44:34,980
somebody.

936
00:44:34,980 --> 00:44:37,200
It takes probably,
not only years,

937
00:44:37,200 --> 00:44:43,230
but generations to educate
people to be democratic.

938

00:44:43,230 --> 00:44:45,750

I don't think that works
in Germany that fast.

939

00:44:45,750 --> 00:44:49,230

I don't believe for one moment.

940

00:44:49,230 --> 00:44:50,550

Tell us about this please.

941

00:44:50,550 --> 00:44:55,350

This is a membership in the
Maccabi sports organization,

942

00:44:55,350 --> 00:44:58,470

a Zionist organization,
which transcended

943

00:44:58,470 --> 00:45:02,940

all political beliefs.

944

00:45:02,940 --> 00:45:06,750

It was for Jewish children
in the town I lived in.

945

00:45:06,750 --> 00:45:10,230

And I was a member of it, like
all other Jewish children.

946

00:45:10,230 --> 00:45:14,740

It showed that it was
given to me in 1937.

947

00:45:14,740 --> 00:45:15,240

OK.

948

00:45:15,240 --> 00:45:17,478

We'll make a Xerox
copy of this document

949

00:45:17,478 --> 00:45:19,020

so it'll be easier

for people to see.

950
00:45:19,020 --> 00:45:19,870
OK.

951
00:45:19,870 --> 00:45:20,760
--about this please.

952
00:45:20,760 --> 00:45:25,320
This is an East
German policeman.

953
00:45:25,320 --> 00:45:31,170
I was at a motorcycling
race and I was very tired.

954
00:45:31,170 --> 00:45:33,990
So I went among some trees to
take a rest and I fell asleep.

955
00:45:33,990 --> 00:45:37,683
And suddenly, he kicked me with
his boots and said, get up.

956
00:45:37,683 --> 00:45:39,850
He might have thought that
I was drunk or something.

957
00:45:39,850 --> 00:45:42,010
When I got up, I was
very annoyed with him.

958
00:45:42,010 --> 00:45:43,830
And he said he wanted
to see my papers.

959
00:45:43,830 --> 00:45:45,660
And I said, what papers?

960
00:45:45,660 --> 00:45:48,840
It reminded me very much of the
Nazis, the way he handled me.

961
00:45:48,840 --> 00:45:51,380
So I was--

962
00:45:51,380 --> 00:45:52,850
I said, I have no papers.

963
00:45:52,850 --> 00:45:55,007
He said, you have
got an identity card?

964
00:45:55,007 --> 00:45:56,090
Of course, I spoke German.

965
00:45:56,090 --> 00:45:58,220
He didn't know that
I was not German.

966
00:45:58,220 --> 00:46:01,580
So I pulled out my
Israeli passport.

967
00:46:01,580 --> 00:46:03,500
And in one side is Hebrew.

968
00:46:03,500 --> 00:46:04,970
And he opened that
side in Hebrew.

969
00:46:04,970 --> 00:46:06,300
And he asked me what it was.

970
00:46:06,300 --> 00:46:11,540
And I told him that I was an
Israeli and I was a tourist.

971
00:46:11,540 --> 00:46:14,750
He showed no kind of
reaction whatsoever.

972
00:46:14,750 --> 00:46:19,700
But I was very annoyed
by his handling of me,

973
00:46:19,700 --> 00:46:22,862
the way he kicked me and the
way he asked for my papers.

974
00:46:22,862 --> 00:46:23,570
But then he left.

975
00:46:23,570 --> 00:46:25,520
I took his photograph.

976
00:46:25,520 --> 00:46:26,830
And there he is.

977
00:46:26,830 --> 00:46:28,987
How did he feel about you
taking his photograph?

978
00:46:28,987 --> 00:46:30,320
Did he have a problem with that?

979
00:46:30,320 --> 00:46:30,920
He agreed.

980
00:46:30,920 --> 00:46:31,690
There were two.

981
00:46:31,690 --> 00:46:32,690
There were two, in fact.

982
00:46:32,690 --> 00:46:34,357
And I asked, can I
take your photograph?

983
00:46:34,357 --> 00:46:37,610
The other one walked
off, and he posed for me.

984
00:46:37,610 --> 00:46:39,530
Did you find out
what his name was?

985
00:46:39,530 --> 00:46:40,250
No.

986
00:46:40,250 --> 00:46:41,360
I never did.

987
00:46:41,360 --> 00:46:42,590
I wasn't interested in him.

988
00:46:42,590 --> 00:46:46,220

989
00:46:46,220 --> 00:46:47,920
And tell us about this please.

990
00:46:47,920 --> 00:46:52,090
This is one of the two lakes
in the town I lived in.

991
00:46:52,090 --> 00:46:55,150
And the whole family
used to go in summer,

992
00:46:55,150 --> 00:46:56,980
and we used to picnic there.

993
00:46:56,980 --> 00:46:59,320
And we had a
beautiful time there.

994
00:46:59,320 --> 00:47:01,600
And my father used
to own the boat.

995
00:47:01,600 --> 00:47:03,220
And all the family
went in that boat.

996
00:47:03,220 --> 00:47:06,070
And we used to go out into
the middle of the boat.

997

00:47:06,070 --> 00:47:08,290

Wonderful memories.

998

00:47:08,290 --> 00:47:10,060

Who's that person
in the bottom left?

999

00:47:10,060 --> 00:47:12,100

This is the wife of my friend.

1000

00:47:12,100 --> 00:47:13,540

Jonny's wife?

1001

00:47:13,540 --> 00:47:16,520

Jonny's wife.

1002

00:47:16,520 --> 00:47:18,090

I'm sorry, did I interrupt you?

1003

00:47:18,090 --> 00:47:19,632

Were you going to
say something else?

1004

00:47:19,632 --> 00:47:23,120

No, that is essentially what
I have to say about this lake.

1005

00:47:23,120 --> 00:47:25,130

What's the name of the lake?

1006

00:47:25,130 --> 00:47:26,050

Sumpfsee.

1007

00:47:26,050 --> 00:47:27,800

Could you spell that please?

1008

00:47:27,800 --> 00:47:36,050

S-U-M-P-F, and the
[? Csee ?] is a C-S-E-E.

1009

00:47:36,050 --> 00:47:37,170

Tell us about this please.

1010
00:47:37,170 --> 00:47:41,400
This is a East German
produced car called a Trabant,

1011
00:47:41,400 --> 00:47:42,990
which is being
scrapped right now.

1012
00:47:42,990 --> 00:47:45,010
It's [INAUDIBLE] car.

1013
00:47:45,010 --> 00:47:46,280
It so polluted.

1014
00:47:46,280 --> 00:47:50,910
It belches out such a lot
of smoke, it's unbelievable.

1015
00:47:50,910 --> 00:47:53,900
When I was at there
at the racing,

1016
00:47:53,900 --> 00:47:55,550
so many people drove those cars.

1017
00:47:55,550 --> 00:47:57,710
And in fact, you had to
wait maybe 7 to 10 years

1018
00:47:57,710 --> 00:48:01,514
to get such a rubbish car.

1019
00:48:01,514 --> 00:48:02,450
Terrible car.

1020
00:48:02,450 --> 00:48:05,205
Now, I read in the newspapers,
they're being scrapped.

1021
00:48:05,205 --> 00:48:08,803

I photographed it because I
heard about that car so much.

1022
00:48:08,803 --> 00:48:10,095
And it works like a motorcycle.

1023
00:48:10,095 --> 00:48:12,335
It makes a noise
of a motorcycle.

1024
00:48:12,335 --> 00:48:15,130

1025
00:48:15,130 --> 00:48:19,390
I went to East Germany
before the reunification.

1026
00:48:19,390 --> 00:48:21,160
They were talking
about reunification.

1027
00:48:21,160 --> 00:48:23,140
And I needed a visa.

1028
00:48:23,140 --> 00:48:24,850
And this is the border crossing.

1029
00:48:24,850 --> 00:48:29,470

1030
00:48:29,470 --> 00:48:31,632
What were the guards like
at the border crossing?

1031
00:48:31,632 --> 00:48:32,590
How did they treat you?

1032
00:48:32,590 --> 00:48:35,790

1033
00:48:35,790 --> 00:48:38,920
One had to show one's

passport and one's visa.

1034
00:48:38,920 --> 00:48:41,380
And I really thought that they
would remark upon the fact

1035
00:48:41,380 --> 00:48:45,550
that I had an Israeli
passport, because I don't think

1036
00:48:45,550 --> 00:48:48,010
there were hardly anybody
going into East Germany

1037
00:48:48,010 --> 00:48:50,410
with an Israeli passport.

1038
00:48:50,410 --> 00:48:52,840
But then it occurred
to me that this

1039
00:48:52,840 --> 00:48:55,960
was all of the crossing
which went to Berlin.

1040
00:48:55,960 --> 00:48:58,780
So probably many Israelis
went to Berlin, that crossing.

1041
00:48:58,780 --> 00:49:01,030
So there was really no reaction.

1042
00:49:01,030 --> 00:49:02,440
But they took my passport.

1043
00:49:02,440 --> 00:49:04,780
And he went to some office.

1044
00:49:04,780 --> 00:49:07,750
And they came back and I
had to add another few marks

1045

00:49:07,750 --> 00:49:09,640
in western currency.

1046
00:49:09,640 --> 00:49:12,070
I didn't really know
why, but I paid.

1047
00:49:12,070 --> 00:49:13,192
It was simple.

1048
00:49:13,192 --> 00:49:14,650
It was simple to
cross that border.

1049
00:49:14,650 --> 00:49:15,660
It was no problem.

1050
00:49:15,660 --> 00:49:19,480

1051
00:49:19,480 --> 00:49:20,710
And this please?

1052
00:49:20,710 --> 00:49:21,940
Again, the border crossing.

1053
00:49:21,940 --> 00:49:23,020
I think on my way back.

1054
00:49:23,020 --> 00:49:33,840

1055
00:49:33,840 --> 00:49:35,620
--tell a story about
your border crossing?

1056
00:49:35,620 --> 00:49:36,120
Yes.

1057
00:49:36,120 --> 00:49:39,180
On the way back when
I came to the border,

1058
00:49:39,180 --> 00:49:42,790
I had some East
German money left.

1059
00:49:42,790 --> 00:49:44,200
And I wanted to get rid of it.

1060
00:49:44,200 --> 00:49:46,080
So there was a
restaurant there and I

1061
00:49:46,080 --> 00:49:50,680
thought I might go into the
restaurant and have some food.

1062
00:49:50,680 --> 00:49:53,760
I had been five days in GÃ¼strow,
in the town I was born in.

1063
00:49:53,760 --> 00:49:55,810
And the food was terrible.

1064
00:49:55,810 --> 00:49:57,900
I don't eat non-kosher food.

1065
00:49:57,900 --> 00:50:01,960
And I had cheese
and maybe some fish.

1066
00:50:01,960 --> 00:50:04,540
It was so bad that my
stomach juices used

1067
00:50:04,540 --> 00:50:05,980
to come up during the night.

1068
00:50:05,980 --> 00:50:10,600
It was-- really, I suffered
a lot from the food.

1069
00:50:10,600 --> 00:50:14,180

But I thought maybe I'd find
some milk or some dairy food

1070
00:50:14,180 --> 00:50:14,680
in there.

1071
00:50:14,680 --> 00:50:15,513
And I went in there.

1072
00:50:15,513 --> 00:50:17,620
It was a big restaurant,
many people there.

1073
00:50:17,620 --> 00:50:21,310
So the waitress told
me to fill up a table.

1074
00:50:21,310 --> 00:50:23,440
It's not like in
America that you

1075
00:50:23,440 --> 00:50:25,420
don't fill up tables
you wait till you

1076
00:50:25,420 --> 00:50:26,823
get a table by yourself.

1077
00:50:26,823 --> 00:50:28,240
But there in
Germany, you fill up.

1078
00:50:28,240 --> 00:50:31,090
And there was a
man sitting there.

1079
00:50:31,090 --> 00:50:33,940
And the waitress came up to me
and said, what would you like?

1080
00:50:33,940 --> 00:50:36,140
And I said, well, have
you got some dairy food?

1081
00:50:36,140 --> 00:50:37,660
She said no.

1082
00:50:37,660 --> 00:50:39,490
I have some pork and this.

1083
00:50:39,490 --> 00:50:42,340
I said, well, I don't eat pork.

1084
00:50:42,340 --> 00:50:44,018
So she says, why
don't you eat pork?

1085
00:50:44,018 --> 00:50:45,310
I said, well, I don't eat pork.

1086
00:50:45,310 --> 00:50:47,780
I don't want any meat.

1087
00:50:47,780 --> 00:50:49,940
So the man opposite me
looked at me and said,

1088
00:50:49,940 --> 00:50:52,520
she doesn't know what kosher is.

1089
00:50:52,520 --> 00:50:54,470
So I was a little bit
surprised that the man

1090
00:50:54,470 --> 00:50:56,540
would know what kosher is.

1091
00:50:56,540 --> 00:50:58,620
So he started up a
conversation with me.

1092
00:50:58,620 --> 00:51:02,600
And he said, well, I'm from
Frankfurt and I'm on vacation.

1093

00:51:02,600 --> 00:51:05,490

I'm going into East Germany.

1094

00:51:05,490 --> 00:51:06,650

And he ordered his food.

1095

00:51:06,650 --> 00:51:09,620

And there wasn't much for me to order except some cheese, which

1096

00:51:09,620 --> 00:51:10,820

was also terrible.

1097

00:51:10,820 --> 00:51:12,980

It was so acidic.

1098

00:51:12,980 --> 00:51:15,430

It killed me, that food.

1099

00:51:15,430 --> 00:51:16,243

So I ate a bit.

1100

00:51:16,243 --> 00:51:17,160

I nibbled at the food.

1101

00:51:17,160 --> 00:51:18,118

I didn't really eat it.

1102

00:51:18,118 --> 00:51:20,880

Then suddenly, he came up and looked at me in my eyes

1103

00:51:20,880 --> 00:51:24,840

and he said to me, I have a problem.

1104

00:51:24,840 --> 00:51:25,980

Maybe you could help me?

1105

00:51:25,980 --> 00:51:29,983

I said, well, you

tell me your problem

1106
00:51:29,983 --> 00:51:31,650
but I don't know
whether I can help you.

1107
00:51:31,650 --> 00:51:33,180
I'll try my best.

1108
00:51:33,180 --> 00:51:38,610
He said, I have an elderly
mother who lives in my house.

1109
00:51:38,610 --> 00:51:41,970
And she still lives in the
era of the Nazis of Hitler.

1110
00:51:41,970 --> 00:51:48,720
She used to work for
big shots in the party.

1111
00:51:48,720 --> 00:51:50,520
And every time I
have visitors, she

1112
00:51:50,520 --> 00:51:54,248
bursts into the room she raises
her hand and shouts "Heil

1113
00:51:54,248 --> 00:51:56,650
Hitler."

1114
00:51:56,650 --> 00:51:57,520
So [LAUGHS].

1115
00:51:57,520 --> 00:52:01,300
I said, what can I tell you?

1116
00:52:01,300 --> 00:52:03,130
Not much I can tell you.

1117
00:52:03,130 --> 00:52:05,290

You could possibly do
one of two things--

1118
00:52:05,290 --> 00:52:08,590
when you have visitors, see
to it that your mother is

1119
00:52:08,590 --> 00:52:11,893
in a room and you close it that
she shouldn't embarrass you.

1120
00:52:11,893 --> 00:52:13,060
Or you can do another thing.

1121
00:52:13,060 --> 00:52:14,570
She is your mother.

1122
00:52:14,570 --> 00:52:17,410
You have to respect her
and you have to love her.

1123
00:52:17,410 --> 00:52:22,150
You might want to put her into
an institute if she's so old.

1124
00:52:22,150 --> 00:52:26,080
So I was taken aback by this
kind of advice he wanted of me.

1125
00:52:26,080 --> 00:52:29,440
Anyway, he said she lives still
in the glory of the olden days

1126
00:52:29,440 --> 00:52:31,390
and she can't forget it.

1127
00:52:31,390 --> 00:52:32,495
I said, she's your mother.

1128
00:52:32,495 --> 00:52:35,120
There's nothing much you can do
except one of those two things.

1129

00:52:35,120 --> 00:52:38,920
See to it that she cannot enter
the room when you have visitors

1130

00:52:38,920 --> 00:52:40,510
or you put her into
an institution.

1131

00:52:40,510 --> 00:52:41,260
And he thanked me.

1132

00:52:41,260 --> 00:52:42,843
And he said, you
gave me sound advice.

1133

00:52:42,843 --> 00:52:49,000
[LAUGHS]

1134

00:52:49,000 --> 00:52:50,320
Tell us about this please.

1135

00:52:50,320 --> 00:52:52,390
Well, this is a
picture with my friend

1136

00:52:52,390 --> 00:52:56,800
on a place where I stood 53
years earlier with my brother

1137

00:52:56,800 --> 00:52:58,960
and my sister, taken
in the same place.

1138

00:52:58,960 --> 00:53:01,420
When I showed my friend
the picture which

1139

00:53:01,420 --> 00:53:05,020
had been taken 53 years
earlier, he recognized the place

1140

00:53:05,020 --> 00:53:05,590

immediately.

1141
00:53:05,590 --> 00:53:07,150
And he said, I'll take you.

1142
00:53:07,150 --> 00:53:07,990
I'll take you there.

1143
00:53:07,990 --> 00:53:08,920
And he took me there.

1144
00:53:08,920 --> 00:53:12,080
And we were photographed
there in the same place.

1145
00:53:12,080 --> 00:53:12,580
OK.

1146
00:53:12,580 --> 00:53:16,000
In the next photograph, we'll
show the original photo of you

1147
00:53:16,000 --> 00:53:16,720
in the old place.

1148
00:53:16,720 --> 00:53:19,938

1149
00:53:19,938 --> 00:53:20,730
Tell us about this.

1150
00:53:20,730 --> 00:53:22,395
This is the original
photo you referred to?

1151
00:53:22,395 --> 00:53:22,895
Yes.

1152
00:53:22,895 --> 00:53:24,372
That was taken--

1153

00:53:24,372 --> 00:53:26,330

I don't know exactly in
what year, but probably

1154

00:53:26,330 --> 00:53:29,630

in 1936 or '37.

1155

00:53:29,630 --> 00:53:32,960

And left to right, the
three people are who?

1156

00:53:32,960 --> 00:53:35,900

On the very left, the little
girl is my little sister.

1157

00:53:35,900 --> 00:53:36,920

She looks so nice.

1158

00:53:36,920 --> 00:53:40,400

I didn't even realize I had
such a nice little sister.

1159

00:53:40,400 --> 00:53:43,400

And this is my brother,
the middle one.

1160

00:53:43,400 --> 00:53:47,130

And there on the right
am I with a school cap.

1161

00:53:47,130 --> 00:53:48,770

I was really a
terrible little chap.

1162

00:53:48,770 --> 00:53:50,630

I was always full of tricks.

1163

00:53:50,630 --> 00:53:52,868

You can see the way I
stand, I had no patience

1164

00:53:52,868 --> 00:53:53,660

to be photographed.

1165
00:53:53,660 --> 00:53:55,460
I wanted to get away and play.

1166
00:53:55,460 --> 00:53:56,570
The snake man.

1167
00:53:56,570 --> 00:53:57,770
[LAUGHS]

1168
00:53:57,770 --> 00:54:01,350
OK, and this photo is
reprinted from Tikvah magazine.

1169
00:54:01,350 --> 00:54:01,850
Correct.

1170
00:54:01,850 --> 00:54:03,260
And you have the original.

1171
00:54:03,260 --> 00:54:06,710
Tikvah had the original.

1172
00:54:06,710 --> 00:54:10,220
And Tikvah is
spelled T-I-K-V-A-H.

1173
00:54:10,220 --> 00:54:13,160
If you take this a page
further, you will see me.

1174
00:54:13,160 --> 00:54:14,840
I've written an article.

1175
00:54:14,840 --> 00:54:18,500
You-- this is another article
you wrote in the same Tikvah

1176
00:54:18,500 --> 00:54:19,340
News magazine?

1177

00:54:19,340 --> 00:54:23,210

No, this is an excerpt
of a book I'm writing.

1178

00:54:23,210 --> 00:54:26,000

I've written approximately
already 20 pages.

1179

00:54:26,000 --> 00:54:30,620

And they have taken out
an excerpt and printed it.

1180

00:54:30,620 --> 00:54:33,320

Hopefully if I have the
patience and the stamina,

1181

00:54:33,320 --> 00:54:34,790

I will finish that book.

1182

00:54:34,790 --> 00:54:37,760

1183

00:54:37,760 --> 00:54:40,385

If you would be interested, I
could send you those 20 pages.

1184

00:54:40,385 --> 00:54:41,360

They're interesting.

1185

00:54:41,360 --> 00:54:44,480

We would very much love
to have it, very much.

1186

00:54:44,480 --> 00:54:45,770

OK, I will send it to you.

1187

00:54:45,770 --> 00:54:47,780

I was bar mitzvah
then, 13 years old.

1188

00:54:47,780 --> 00:54:55,200

1189

00:54:55,200 --> 00:54:57,390

This is the same spot
from the earlier photo?

1190

00:54:57,390 --> 00:54:58,790

Yeah, exactly the same spot.

1191

00:54:58,790 --> 00:55:18,590

1192

00:55:18,590 --> 00:55:19,757

--about this please.

1193

00:55:19,757 --> 00:55:21,590

This is when I approached
the town, GÃ¼strow.

1194

00:55:21,590 --> 00:55:23,970

You see it on the
top on the right.

1195

00:55:23,970 --> 00:55:28,550

And I went out of my car
and I photographed it.

1196

00:55:28,550 --> 00:55:30,680

And all these names,
like Sternberg

1197

00:55:30,680 --> 00:55:34,820

and Wismar and Ventschow,
they were so familiar to me.

1198

00:55:34,820 --> 00:55:36,750

I'd forgotten about them.

1199

00:55:36,750 --> 00:55:40,790

And they brought back
all these memories.

1200

00:55:40,790 --> 00:55:44,930

We need to spell those

for the transcriber.

1201
00:55:44,930 --> 00:55:46,130
And this please?

1202
00:55:46,130 --> 00:55:49,100
This is the beginning,
the entrance to the town.

1203
00:55:49,100 --> 00:55:51,740
I thought I would never
reach it, and there I was.

1204
00:55:51,740 --> 00:55:53,660
I had reached it.

1205
00:55:53,660 --> 00:55:57,860
In my dreams, I always dreamed
I would be coming to the town

1206
00:55:57,860 --> 00:55:59,660
and I never really reached it.

1207
00:55:59,660 --> 00:56:00,500
And there I was.

1208
00:56:00,500 --> 00:56:01,280
I had arrived.

1209
00:56:01,280 --> 00:56:07,740

1210
00:56:07,740 --> 00:56:11,740
Did you get a lot of memories
and feelings as you entered?

1211
00:56:11,740 --> 00:56:12,793
Tremendously.

1212
00:56:12,793 --> 00:56:13,710
I couldn't believe it.

1213
00:56:13,710 --> 00:56:15,540
I was so euphoric.

1214
00:56:15,540 --> 00:56:17,945
When I spoke, I thought
somebody else was speaking.

1215
00:56:17,945 --> 00:56:19,887
You know that kind of feeling?

1216
00:56:19,887 --> 00:56:20,970
My head was in the clouds.

1217
00:56:20,970 --> 00:56:23,520
I couldn't-- I wasn't volatile.

1218
00:56:23,520 --> 00:56:25,680
I couldn't even
express an opinion.

1219
00:56:25,680 --> 00:56:28,510
I couldn't talk.

1220
00:56:28,510 --> 00:56:31,530
Something was happening to
me that I just wasn't myself

1221
00:56:31,530 --> 00:56:33,335
at all.

1222
00:56:33,335 --> 00:56:38,130
Well, next time I'll go, maybe
I'll be able to be different.

1223
00:56:38,130 --> 00:56:40,790
But something happened to
me there, I don't know.

1224
00:56:40,790 --> 00:56:43,310

1225

00:56:43,310 --> 00:56:43,810
You can go.

1226
00:56:43,810 --> 00:56:52,000
I'll give you an
[? invitation. ?]

1227
00:56:52,000 --> 00:56:58,080
I returned to the town I was
born in just over a year ago.

1228
00:56:58,080 --> 00:57:05,110
And I had contacted
the mayor of that town

1229
00:57:05,110 --> 00:57:06,890
in order to be
able to get a visa.

1230
00:57:06,890 --> 00:57:10,300
It was before the reunification.

1231
00:57:10,300 --> 00:57:16,100
And in order to get a visa,
one had to prove accommodation.

1232
00:57:16,100 --> 00:57:17,660
And that would have
taken too long.

1233
00:57:17,660 --> 00:57:20,480
So I wrote him a
letter that he should

1234
00:57:20,480 --> 00:57:22,910
help me to get a
visa fast in order

1235
00:57:22,910 --> 00:57:27,610
to be able to get into his town.

1236
00:57:27,610 --> 00:57:29,320
So he knew when I was coming.

1237
00:57:29,320 --> 00:57:32,330
And when I did come there
and I stayed five days.

1238
00:57:32,330 --> 00:57:37,240
And when I returned, I
stayed in a hotel in Hamburg.

1239
00:57:37,240 --> 00:57:40,270
And I wasn't able to
sleep, so I got up

1240
00:57:40,270 --> 00:57:43,510
in the middle of the night and I
wrote him the following letter.

1241
00:57:43,510 --> 00:57:46,060
I wrote it to him in
German, and this is

1242
00:57:46,060 --> 00:57:47,380
the translation into English.

1243
00:57:47,380 --> 00:57:49,900

1244
00:57:49,900 --> 00:57:52,150
"June 6, 1990.

1245
00:57:52,150 --> 00:57:56,170
Dear Mr. Mayor, I had informed
you that I would be staying

1246
00:57:56,170 --> 00:58:02,620
in your city, GÃ¼strow,
between April 19 and 25, 1990.

1247
00:58:02,620 --> 00:58:05,710
Yet you did not find it
necessary to either invite me

1248

00:58:05,710 --> 00:58:09,760
to your office or to inform
the local press that a former

1249

00:58:09,760 --> 00:58:12,730
resident of GÅ¼strow would
be visiting the house of his

1250

00:58:12,730 --> 00:58:18,130
parents and the city he was born
in after more than 50 years.

1251

00:58:18,130 --> 00:58:20,020
You did not pay me this respect.

1252

00:58:20,020 --> 00:58:23,200
And by this, you deprived
all former Jewish residents

1253

00:58:23,200 --> 00:58:25,810
of GÅ¼strow of this honor.

1254

00:58:25,810 --> 00:58:29,100
During my stay in GÅ¼strow, I
sat one day on a bench opposite

1255

00:58:29,100 --> 00:58:32,990
the City Hall where
your office is located.

1256

00:58:32,990 --> 00:58:35,980
And I looked at the
people passing before me.

1257

00:58:35,980 --> 00:58:39,490
I looked especially at the
people of the older generation.

1258

00:58:39,490 --> 00:58:41,950
And in my mind, I
saw these people

1259

00:58:41,950 --> 00:58:45,400

as they cheered when all the
remaining Jews of your city

1260
00:58:45,400 --> 00:58:48,370
were forced to sit on the
top of the Jewish hearse

1261
00:58:48,370 --> 00:58:51,670
while a few elderly Jews
were put in place of horses

1262
00:58:51,670 --> 00:58:54,880
and were made to pull the
hearse through the city.

1263
00:58:54,880 --> 00:58:57,310
I spent five sleepless
nights staring

1264
00:58:57,310 --> 00:59:00,280
at the ceiling of the
hotel you reserved for me

1265
00:59:00,280 --> 00:59:01,930
in the [Place name] Strasse.

1266
00:59:01,930 --> 00:59:05,800
And I saw the shadows of the
murdered Jewish community

1267
00:59:05,800 --> 00:59:07,930
pass before my eyes.

1268
00:59:07,930 --> 00:59:11,860
Those people who choked to death
in the gas chambers or were

1269
00:59:11,860 --> 00:59:14,200
burned alive in
the Warsaw ghetto.

1270
00:59:14,200 --> 00:59:17,830
I remember my mother and my

little sister whose ashes were

1271
00:59:17,830 --> 00:59:20,600
scattered into the Vistula.

1272
00:59:20,600 --> 00:59:23,810
A supermarket was built
on the grave of my father.

1273
00:59:23,810 --> 00:59:26,810
And the signpost
pointing out the site

1274
00:59:26,810 --> 00:59:30,920
of the former Jewish cemetery
stands crooked and is broken.

1275
00:59:30,920 --> 00:59:33,350
All this in contrast
to my people,

1276
00:59:33,350 --> 00:59:36,770
who, despite all persecutions
and humiliations,

1277
00:59:36,770 --> 00:59:39,290
stand straight and proud.

1278
00:59:39,290 --> 00:59:41,060
At the site of the
former synagogue,

1279
00:59:41,060 --> 00:59:44,990
I found an empty lot filled
with garbage and weeds.

1280
00:59:44,990 --> 00:59:48,290
Only the memories of the
prayers and hymns of the Jews

1281
00:59:48,290 --> 00:59:51,050
who prayed to the only
God for millennium

1282
00:59:51,050 --> 00:59:54,830
pass like ghosts in
front of my eyes.

1283
00:59:54,830 --> 00:59:57,860
I remembered when on Jewish
holidays and on the Sabbath,

1284
00:59:57,860 --> 01:00:00,860
the Jews came from all
directions toward the synagogue

1285
01:00:00,860 --> 01:00:02,960
to pray with their families.

1286
01:00:02,960 --> 01:00:04,970
I remember how with
devotion, we also

1287
01:00:04,970 --> 01:00:07,640
prayed for the well-being
of the German government

1288
01:00:07,640 --> 01:00:10,490
and for our fellow citizens.

1289
01:00:10,490 --> 01:00:14,330
I did not see one single street
named after Jewish personality

1290
01:00:14,330 --> 01:00:16,100
who lived in your city.

1291
01:00:16,100 --> 01:00:18,320
In the Bible we
are told that Sodom

1292
01:00:18,320 --> 01:00:20,240
was destroyed
because Abraham, who

1293

01:00:20,240 --> 01:00:23,210
begged God to spare the
town, was unable to find

1294
01:00:23,210 --> 01:00:25,250
a single righteous man.

1295
01:00:25,250 --> 01:00:30,230
During my visit in your
city, I searched and found

1296
01:00:30,230 --> 01:00:31,880
several righteous people.

1297
01:00:31,880 --> 01:00:35,300
And I believe that their
existence is a reason why

1298
01:00:35,300 --> 01:00:37,730
GÅ¼strow was spared
from destruction.

1299
01:00:37,730 --> 01:00:41,240
I am sure that our Jewish
dead have not yet found peace

1300
01:00:41,240 --> 01:00:43,160
in GÅ¼strow's Jewish cemetery.

1301
01:00:43,160 --> 01:00:46,910
Mr. Mayor, if you search,
I am sure that you will

1302
01:00:46,910 --> 01:00:48,830
find your image of God again.

1303
01:00:48,830 --> 01:00:52,110
Sincerely, Abraham Adolf
Grossman, Berkeley,

1304
01:00:52,110 --> 01:00:53,117
California."

1305
01:00:53,117 --> 01:01:00,210

1306
01:01:00,210 --> 01:01:00,710
Stop.

1307
01:01:00,710 --> 01:01:01,960
Did you--

1308
01:01:01,960 --> 01:01:02,485
10 seconds.

1309
01:01:02,485 --> 01:01:06,800

1310
01:01:06,800 --> 01:01:10,430
I received a reply from
the burgermeister, which he

1311
01:01:10,430 --> 01:01:15,210
wrote on the 26th of June 1990.

1312
01:01:15,210 --> 01:01:17,250
He wrote-- I will read
it in German first,

1313
01:01:17,250 --> 01:01:20,250
and then I will try and
translate it into English.

1314
01:01:20,250 --> 01:01:42,050
[SPEAKING GERMAN]

1315
01:01:42,050 --> 01:01:44,670
Can't read it.

1316
01:01:44,670 --> 01:02:04,000
[SPEAKING GERMAN]

1317
01:02:04,000 --> 01:02:08,820
I will try and translate

it now into English.

1318

01:02:08,820 --> 01:02:11,460

"Dear Mr. Grossman, I
would like to thank you

1319

01:02:11,460 --> 01:02:17,340

for your letter which you wrote
on the 6th of June 1990, which

1320

01:02:17,340 --> 01:02:21,420

moved me to my very depths.

1321

01:02:21,420 --> 01:02:23,310

I have to tell
you, though, that I

1322

01:02:23,310 --> 01:02:29,100

am only the mayor since
the 22nd of May 1990

1323

01:02:29,100 --> 01:02:32,730

as the mayor of the city.

1324

01:02:32,730 --> 01:02:37,260

My predecessor left
things, lots of work,

1325

01:02:37,260 --> 01:02:41,820

which I haven't been
able to attend to.

1326

01:02:41,820 --> 01:02:46,710

But I do work with the
Protestant church in GÃ¼strow

1327

01:02:46,710 --> 01:02:50,700

since July, and the first
steps are being taken in order

1328

01:02:50,700 --> 01:02:56,970

to revive and work on the
persecution of the Jewish

1329
01:02:56,970 --> 01:02:59,130
people in the city.

1330
01:02:59,130 --> 01:03:03,900
I would be very happy to greet
you in GÃ¼strow in this town.

1331
01:03:03,900 --> 01:03:10,510
Maybe there would
be in future time

1332
01:03:10,510 --> 01:03:15,910
an opportunity to greet you.

1333
01:03:15,910 --> 01:03:18,730
Best regards, Mr.
[Personal name] the mayor."

1334
01:03:18,730 --> 01:03:23,850

1335
01:03:23,850 --> 01:03:26,820
With your permission, I'd like
to write two stories which

1336
01:03:26,820 --> 01:03:29,460
I have written, of quite
a few stories which

1337
01:03:29,460 --> 01:03:33,300
have quite a connection
with the Holocaust.

1338
01:03:33,300 --> 01:03:36,360
It is called "The Tale
of the Dying Horse."

1339
01:03:36,360 --> 01:03:39,030
And I have written a
dedication to my children

1340

01:03:39,030 --> 01:03:43,830
and grandchildren, which I
would also like to read to you.

1341
01:03:43,830 --> 01:03:48,150
"This story is dedicated
to my four grandchildren.

1342
01:03:48,150 --> 01:03:50,550
[Personal name] the first
born, handsome and proud and

1343
01:03:50,550 --> 01:03:54,690
intelligent, serious and at
the same time light-hearted.

1344
01:03:54,690 --> 01:03:56,880
Tamar, his sister,
beautiful and sensitive,

1345
01:03:56,880 --> 01:03:59,550
the delight of my heart.

1346
01:03:59,550 --> 01:04:02,520
Natan the present given
by God in his mercy

1347
01:04:02,520 --> 01:04:05,400
to my beloved son, Benjamin,
and his wife, Lillian.

1348
01:04:05,400 --> 01:04:08,820
Intelligent child with
a compassionate heart.

1349
01:04:08,820 --> 01:04:12,360
[Personal name] the youngest, who
radiates beauty and adroitness

1350
01:04:12,360 --> 01:04:15,390
and has a marking of a
person who will go far.

1351

01:04:15,390 --> 01:04:17,520

All of them possess
a paramount virtue

1352

01:04:17,520 --> 01:04:19,650

to be found in a human being--

1353

01:04:19,650 --> 01:04:23,010

goodness of heart, and
love for their fellow man.

1354

01:04:23,010 --> 01:04:24,990

May the story, for
all it is worth,

1355

01:04:24,990 --> 01:04:27,840

be an indication of
the dangers lurking

1356

01:04:27,840 --> 01:04:30,240

in the shadows for
the Jewish people.

1357

01:04:30,240 --> 01:04:33,810

I have never spoken to my
grandchildren nor to my sons

1358

01:04:33,810 --> 01:04:37,110

about those dangers as I know
they really cannot understand

1359

01:04:37,110 --> 01:04:41,760

them, for all of them were born
free people in a free country

1360

01:04:41,760 --> 01:04:43,440

in a Jewish land.

1361

01:04:43,440 --> 01:04:45,870

May God bless my grandchildren
and their parents,

1362

01:04:45,870 --> 01:04:48,000

Benjamin and Lillian,
[Personal name]

1363
01:04:48,000 --> 01:04:49,774
and his lovely wife,
[Personal name].

1364
01:04:49,774 --> 01:04:52,670

1365
01:04:52,670 --> 01:04:55,430
The Tale of the Dying Horse.

1366
01:04:55,430 --> 01:04:59,180
The whole country was filled
with the fragrance of oranges.

1367
01:04:59,180 --> 01:05:01,100
It was the month of January.

1368
01:05:01,100 --> 01:05:03,680
And in the orange groves,
the branches of the trees

1369
01:05:03,680 --> 01:05:06,680
were weighed down with
luscious and juicy fruit.

1370
01:05:06,680 --> 01:05:09,470
Hundreds of trucks made
their way to the markets

1371
01:05:09,470 --> 01:05:12,530
and to the harbors with
tons of fruit to be sold

1372
01:05:12,530 --> 01:05:15,230
or to be shipped to
all parts of the world.

1373
01:05:15,230 --> 01:05:17,540
The skies were overcast
and a steady rain

1374
01:05:17,540 --> 01:05:20,150
fell to clear and
refreshen the air.

1375
01:05:20,150 --> 01:05:22,880
After a long hot
and parching summer,

1376
01:05:22,880 --> 01:05:25,130
the whole countryside
turned to green.

1377
01:05:25,130 --> 01:05:26,730
And what had been
lifeless and dull

1378
01:05:26,730 --> 01:05:31,720
was reborn in glorious
and invigorating splendor.

1379
01:05:31,720 --> 01:05:35,410
I had won a bid for 100-unit
housing development project

1380
01:05:35,410 --> 01:05:38,290
to install the plumbing
in all those units.

1381
01:05:38,290 --> 01:05:40,300
The engineer in charge
of this enterprise

1382
01:05:40,300 --> 01:05:43,780
advised me to get acquainted
with the building site

1383
01:05:43,780 --> 01:05:46,570
and to get in touch with
the project manager.

1384
01:05:46,570 --> 01:05:49,780
I drove my car on a rainy

day to the building site

1385
01:05:49,780 --> 01:05:52,720
and arrived there at midday.

1386
01:05:52,720 --> 01:05:55,270
Recognizing the
prefabricated hut

1387
01:05:55,270 --> 01:05:58,450
which was the only building,
I knocked on the door.

1388
01:05:58,450 --> 01:06:01,390
And on hearing a gruff
voice bidding me to enter,

1389
01:06:01,390 --> 01:06:03,340
I stepped inside.

1390
01:06:03,340 --> 01:06:05,890
The foreman, with a
full face and heavy set,

1391
01:06:05,890 --> 01:06:08,380
was in the process
of eating his lunch.

1392
01:06:08,380 --> 01:06:11,650
He turned toward me and with
his mouth filled with food,

1393
01:06:11,650 --> 01:06:15,710
introduced himself and
said, my name is Shimon.

1394
01:06:15,710 --> 01:06:18,270
Ali is my name, I
introduce myself.

1395
01:06:18,270 --> 01:06:20,930
I am the person who will
do all the plumbing here.

1396
01:06:20,930 --> 01:06:23,480
He seemed unconcerned
and continued

1397
01:06:23,480 --> 01:06:27,460
to eat his lunch while
completely ignoring me.

1398
01:06:27,460 --> 01:06:29,890
I watched him eat and
a feeling of aversion

1399
01:06:29,890 --> 01:06:33,010
overcame me as I saw
him gulp his food down.

1400
01:06:33,010 --> 01:06:35,650
He held a chicken in his
hand and was devouring it

1401
01:06:35,650 --> 01:06:37,090
ravenously.

1402
01:06:37,090 --> 01:06:39,940
His mouth was filled
with food to capacity.

1403
01:06:39,940 --> 01:06:41,620
His cheeks blown out.

1404
01:06:41,620 --> 01:06:43,840
He tore at the chicken
almost without chewing,

1405
01:06:43,840 --> 01:06:45,520
in the manner of dogs.

1406
01:06:45,520 --> 01:06:48,490
Grease was dripping down
from both sides of his mouth

1407

01:06:48,490 --> 01:06:50,620
and running down his chin.

1408
01:06:50,620 --> 01:06:53,890
Eating noisily while
constantly smacking his lips,

1409
01:06:53,890 --> 01:06:57,580
only interrupted from time
to time by a tremendous burp.

1410
01:06:57,580 --> 01:07:00,490
He seemed oblivious
of my presence.

1411
01:07:00,490 --> 01:07:03,100
I was so taken aback
by the spectacle

1412
01:07:03,100 --> 01:07:07,120
that a remark escaped me which
I was to regret to my dying day.

1413
01:07:07,120 --> 01:07:11,800
I said, can't you eat
like a decent human being?

1414
01:07:11,800 --> 01:07:13,715
As soon as I have
made this remark,

1415
01:07:13,715 --> 01:07:14,965
I was appalled at my behavior.

1416
01:07:14,965 --> 01:07:19,370

1417
01:07:19,370 --> 01:07:21,500
It was a slip of the tongue.

1418
01:07:21,500 --> 01:07:23,990
Instead of a
well-deserved admonition,

1419
01:07:23,990 --> 01:07:26,660
Shimon to turn slowly
toward me on his round chair

1420
01:07:26,660 --> 01:07:31,530
and replied, listen, I
want to tell you a story.

1421
01:07:31,530 --> 01:07:33,530
I had just turned
14 years of age

1422
01:07:33,530 --> 01:07:35,930
when the Germans
decided to evacuate

1423
01:07:35,930 --> 01:07:38,960
all the remaining inmates of
the Auschwitz-Birkenau complex

1424
01:07:38,960 --> 01:07:42,680
to the west, away from
the advancing Red Army.

1425
01:07:42,680 --> 01:07:45,710
I had already been three
years in various camps

1426
01:07:45,710 --> 01:07:48,020
and weighed less than 50 pounds.

1427
01:07:48,020 --> 01:07:52,160
Of 30,000 people who were let
out of the camp, only 5,000

1428
01:07:52,160 --> 01:07:55,010
survived this terrible ordeal.

1429
01:07:55,010 --> 01:07:56,720
They dropped by the
side of the road

1430

01:07:56,720 --> 01:07:59,810

from starvation, exhaustion,
and succumbed and froze

1431

01:07:59,810 --> 01:08:01,880

to the death from
the bitter cold.

1432

01:08:01,880 --> 01:08:04,340

All those who still
had some life in them

1433

01:08:04,340 --> 01:08:06,440

were shot by the brutal guards.

1434

01:08:06,440 --> 01:08:09,950

I was scantily dressed
in a striped uniform

1435

01:08:09,950 --> 01:08:11,990

and a similar cap on my head.

1436

01:08:11,990 --> 01:08:15,890

I had no shoes and I had several
layers of old newspaper wrapped

1437

01:08:15,890 --> 01:08:18,760

around my feet.

1438

01:08:18,760 --> 01:08:20,800

I did not feel my toes.

1439

01:08:20,800 --> 01:08:22,479

They were frostbitten.

1440

01:08:22,479 --> 01:08:26,380

I walked dazed in a stupor,
dreadfully famished,

1441

01:08:26,380 --> 01:08:28,930

shivering from the cold,
along with the column.

1442
01:08:28,930 --> 01:08:32,410
From time to time, the column
closed as more and more people

1443
01:08:32,410 --> 01:08:34,090
dropped by the side.

1444
01:08:34,090 --> 01:08:37,540
I walked and walked,
12 hours each day

1445
01:08:37,540 --> 01:08:39,470
with only one ladle
of watery soup

1446
01:08:39,470 --> 01:08:41,529
doled out to the prisoners.

1447
01:08:41,529 --> 01:08:43,060
Suddenly, a person
who had closed

1448
01:08:43,060 --> 01:08:45,880
ranks was walking next
to me turned his head

1449
01:08:45,880 --> 01:08:48,460
and said, isn't
your name Shimon?

1450
01:08:48,460 --> 01:08:51,790
Are you not from Rzesz³w
I looked up and recognized

1451
01:08:51,790 --> 01:08:55,899
a former schoolmate of
mine by the name of Jonny.

1452
01:08:55,899 --> 01:08:58,240
He looked as
emaciated as myself.

1453

01:08:58,240 --> 01:09:01,899

He was my age, but
look a wizened old man.

1454

01:09:01,899 --> 01:09:05,319

I saw your father a few
columns back, he told me.

1455

01:09:05,319 --> 01:09:07,390

I stared at him unbelievably.

1456

01:09:07,390 --> 01:09:10,160

And slowly, without drawing
the attention of the guards,

1457

01:09:10,160 --> 01:09:12,590

I retreated line by line.

1458

01:09:12,590 --> 01:09:14,770

All of us were herded
like cattle, punctuated

1459

01:09:14,770 --> 01:09:16,510

with beatings and whippings.

1460

01:09:16,510 --> 01:09:19,120

Anyone who screamed or
caused any inconvenience

1461

01:09:19,120 --> 01:09:23,020

to the murderers could reckon on
being gunned down on the spot.

1462

01:09:23,020 --> 01:09:25,540

All pleas for mercy were
answered with disdain.

1463

01:09:25,540 --> 01:09:28,750

1464

01:09:28,750 --> 01:09:31,060

Suddenly, I

recognized my father.

1465

01:09:31,060 --> 01:09:33,399

And what I saw
caused me to weep.

1466

01:09:33,399 --> 01:09:37,899

My proud father, still a young
man, looked like a skeleton.

1467

01:09:37,899 --> 01:09:40,630

His hair was shorn
and he was unshaven.

1468

01:09:40,630 --> 01:09:43,750

All his teeth were gone
and his cheeks were sunken.

1469

01:09:43,750 --> 01:09:47,870

Also, he had no shoes and was
walking barefoot in the snow.

1470

01:09:47,870 --> 01:09:51,160

A number like my own was
tattooed on his left arm.

1471

01:09:51,160 --> 01:09:54,370

Rage against the Germans
built up in my chest.

1472

01:09:54,370 --> 01:09:57,040

The day of reckoning
has yet to come.

1473

01:09:57,040 --> 01:09:59,530

I was filled with anguish
that I could do nothing

1474

01:09:59,530 --> 01:10:00,970

to help my father.

1475

01:10:00,970 --> 01:10:02,830

This sense of sense

of helplessness

1476

01:10:02,830 --> 01:10:04,730

left me with the
feeling of guilt,

1477

01:10:04,730 --> 01:10:06,280

which will never leave me.

1478

01:10:06,280 --> 01:10:08,800

I walked next to my
father, supporting him.

1479

01:10:08,800 --> 01:10:15,070

When a Polish peasant on a cart
torn by a horse passed by us.

1480

01:10:15,070 --> 01:10:18,280

Suddenly, the horse stumbled
on the ice and fell down.

1481

01:10:18,280 --> 01:10:22,060

The peasant jumped from his cart
and in a woeful voice cried out

1482

01:10:22,060 --> 01:10:24,160

that his horse had
broken its leg.

1483

01:10:24,160 --> 01:10:26,845

A German guard took
his rifle, pointed it

1484

01:10:26,845 --> 01:10:29,140

at the head of the horse,
and pulled the trigger.

1485

01:10:29,140 --> 01:10:32,620

A jet of blood and brains
spurted from the horse's head.

1486

01:10:32,620 --> 01:10:34,240

The prisoners,

crazed from hunger,

1487
01:10:34,240 --> 01:10:37,570
threw themselves upon the
horse like flies around honey,

1488
01:10:37,570 --> 01:10:39,700
and started to devour the horse.

1489
01:10:39,700 --> 01:10:42,160
The German guards who
were wearing belts

1490
01:10:42,160 --> 01:10:46,270
on whose buckles was written,
[GERMAN],, "God with us,"

1491
01:10:46,270 --> 01:10:49,300
started to beat the people
with the butt of their rifles,

1492
01:10:49,300 --> 01:10:50,860
but to no avail.

1493
01:10:50,860 --> 01:10:52,990
Only when there was
nothing left of the horse

1494
01:10:52,990 --> 01:10:54,970
did the prisoners desist.

1495
01:10:54,970 --> 01:10:58,030
Of the horse, only the
bones and hooves remained.

1496
01:10:58,030 --> 01:11:01,690
Everything had been eaten,
even the skin with the hairs.

1497
01:11:01,690 --> 01:11:06,100
My father and also I had
taken part in this orgy.

1498

01:11:06,100 --> 01:11:08,800

Shocked to the core by this
narrative, I sat there pale

1499

01:11:08,800 --> 01:11:09,790

and shaken.

1500

01:11:09,790 --> 01:11:11,500

And the thought flashed
through my mind,

1501

01:11:11,500 --> 01:11:14,860

how can those Germans have the
chutzpah to count themselves

1502

01:11:14,860 --> 01:11:17,110

as part of the human race?

1503

01:11:17,110 --> 01:11:19,900

You see, he said,
whenever I eat,

1504

01:11:19,900 --> 01:11:23,290

I am always afraid that the
food will be taken away from me.

1505

01:11:23,290 --> 01:11:26,530

That is the reason
why I eat so fast.

1506

01:11:26,530 --> 01:11:28,090

I did not utter one word.

1507

01:11:28,090 --> 01:11:31,060

In my heart, I asked
God for forgiveness.

1508

01:11:31,060 --> 01:11:33,020

This day I learned
a valuable lesson

1509

01:11:33,020 --> 01:11:34,990

which has guided me ever since.

1510

01:11:34,990 --> 01:11:37,990

Do not judge a flask
by its exterior,

1511

01:11:37,990 --> 01:11:40,730

but look for what
is in the inside.

1512

01:11:40,730 --> 01:11:42,910

Thus says the Lord,
the people who

1513

01:11:42,910 --> 01:11:47,320

survive the sword shall find
grace in the wilderness.

1514

01:11:47,320 --> 01:11:49,700

When Israel goes to
seek rest from afar,

1515

01:11:49,700 --> 01:11:55,000

the Lord appeared saying, with
everlasting love, I love you.

1516

01:11:55,000 --> 01:11:57,670

Hence, I draw you to
me with affection.

1517

01:11:57,670 --> 01:11:59,440

Again, I shall build
you and you shall

1518

01:11:59,440 --> 01:12:01,930

be restored, maiden of Israel.

1519

01:12:01,930 --> 01:12:04,510

Again, you shall array
yourselves in your temples

1520

01:12:04,510 --> 01:12:06,340

and join the merry dances.

1521

01:12:06,340 --> 01:12:09,550
Again shall you plant vineyards
on the hills of Samaria.

1522

01:12:09,550 --> 01:12:12,310
The planter shall plant
and enjoy the fruit.

1523

01:12:12,310 --> 01:12:16,180
The day will come when the
watchman among the [INAUDIBLE]

1524

01:12:16,180 --> 01:12:17,350
shall call.

1525

01:12:17,350 --> 01:12:21,610
Let us rise and go up to
Zion, to the Lord, our God."

1526

01:12:21,610 --> 01:12:25,120

1527

01:12:25,120 --> 01:12:26,090
That's a true story?

1528

01:12:26,090 --> 01:12:26,590
Yes.

1529

01:12:26,590 --> 01:12:29,310

1530

01:12:29,310 --> 01:12:30,700
Can I read the second?

1531

01:12:30,700 --> 01:12:32,380
Yes, please.

1532

01:12:32,380 --> 01:12:33,320
Good story?

1533

01:12:33,320 --> 01:12:33,820
Yes.

1534
01:12:33,820 --> 01:12:39,440

1535
01:12:39,440 --> 01:12:43,840
It is called, "A
Dispatch From the Front."

1536
01:12:43,840 --> 01:12:44,670
Is it on?

1537
01:12:44,670 --> 01:12:45,650
Yes.

1538
01:12:45,650 --> 01:12:48,650
"A Dispatch From the Front.

1539
01:12:48,650 --> 01:12:50,630
I could not fall asleep.

1540
01:12:50,630 --> 01:12:54,410
Only from time to time I fell
into a fitful slumber which

1541
01:12:54,410 --> 01:12:56,540
only lasted a few minutes.

1542
01:12:56,540 --> 01:13:00,740
I was wrapped up in a military
overcoat inside a sleeping bag,

1543
01:13:00,740 --> 01:13:03,800
but the bitter desert cold
penetrated to my bones

1544
01:13:03,800 --> 01:13:07,880
and left me shivering and
unable to get some rest.

1545
01:13:07,880 --> 01:13:11,540

I gazed at the firmament
above me, this vast expanse

1546
01:13:11,540 --> 01:13:13,670
with millions of stars.

1547
01:13:13,670 --> 01:13:17,540
I recognized the Big Dipper, and
the small one, the North Star

1548
01:13:17,540 --> 01:13:19,340
and the star Cassiopea.

1549
01:13:19,340 --> 01:13:24,200
pointing towards my home,
so near and yet so far.

1550
01:13:24,200 --> 01:13:26,900
I realized that my not
being able to sleep

1551
01:13:26,900 --> 01:13:31,730
was not only caused by the
cold, but also by my thoughts.

1552
01:13:31,730 --> 01:13:34,250
I thought of my two
sons who were somewhere

1553
01:13:34,250 --> 01:13:36,200
facing terrible danger.

1554
01:13:36,200 --> 01:13:42,800
It was the first time that
all three of us were called up

1555
01:13:42,800 --> 01:13:45,590
and my thoughts were
wholly focused on them.

1556
01:13:45,590 --> 01:13:49,700
On prior similar emergency,
it was only myself had to go

1557
01:13:49,700 --> 01:13:51,620
and my family stayed at home.

1558
01:13:51,620 --> 01:13:54,680
I thought of my wife who
stood by the main arteries,

1559
01:13:54,680 --> 01:13:57,620
handing out food and
refreshments to the passing

1560
01:13:57,620 --> 01:13:59,360
troops.

1561
01:13:59,360 --> 01:14:02,870
I was immersed in prayer on Yom
Kippur in our local synagogue

1562
01:14:02,870 --> 01:14:05,420
when suddenly, I heard the
noise of passing traffic

1563
01:14:05,420 --> 01:14:08,750
and loudspeakers making
incomprehensible announcements.

1564
01:14:08,750 --> 01:14:10,550
On Yom Kippur, the
holiest of holiest

1565
01:14:10,550 --> 01:14:12,440
of festivals in
the Jewish faith,

1566
01:14:12,440 --> 01:14:15,230
it was unprecedented
that a single vehicle

1567
01:14:15,230 --> 01:14:17,120
could be driven on this day.

1568

01:14:17,120 --> 01:14:20,600
I hurried outside and I was
able to understand what's been

1569
01:14:20,600 --> 01:14:22,760
announced on the loudspeakers--

1570
01:14:22,760 --> 01:14:26,840
go home everybody and turn on
your television and radios.

1571
01:14:26,840 --> 01:14:28,530
Go home, go home.

1572
01:14:28,530 --> 01:14:32,660
I reached home and as soon
as I turned on the TV,

1573
01:14:32,660 --> 01:14:35,270
I heard all the
secret code words--

1574
01:14:35,270 --> 01:14:41,070
dark knight, open windows,
steel and fire, running water.

1575
01:14:41,070 --> 01:14:43,430
I recognized the
codes of my two sons

1576
01:14:43,430 --> 01:14:45,800
and also the code
relevant to me.

1577
01:14:45,800 --> 01:14:48,560
Both my sons took their
uniforms and weapons

1578
01:14:48,560 --> 01:14:52,550
and made their way immediately
to their respective units.

1579
01:14:52,550 --> 01:14:55,100

I suddenly realized that
only two weeks before

1580
01:14:55,100 --> 01:14:57,650

I was given orders
to join another unit.

1581
01:14:57,650 --> 01:14:59,900

I had served with my
unit for 20 years,

1582
01:14:59,900 --> 01:15:02,180

and apparently it was
time to transfer people

1583
01:15:02,180 --> 01:15:05,060

of my age out of crack
units into other less

1584
01:15:05,060 --> 01:15:07,310

strict and demanding brigades.

1585
01:15:07,310 --> 01:15:10,280

My unit belonged to the 11th
brigade of the southern front.

1586
01:15:10,280 --> 01:15:13,550

A unit which had distinguished
itself in many wars

1587
01:15:13,550 --> 01:15:14,930

and in many battles.

1588
01:15:14,930 --> 01:15:17,780

My eldest son was in the
Navy on a missile boat.

1589
01:15:17,780 --> 01:15:20,990

And my youngest son was in
the Army Corps in the north.

1590
01:15:20,990 --> 01:15:23,060

According to the

media, the Egyptians

1591

01:15:23,060 --> 01:15:26,330
had taken us by surprise
and crossed the Suez Canal

1592

01:15:26,330 --> 01:15:29,510
with great success and
there were fierce battles.

1593

01:15:29,510 --> 01:15:31,850
Without telling my wife,
I left and made my way

1594

01:15:31,850 --> 01:15:34,220
to the headquarters
of my former unit.

1595

01:15:34,220 --> 01:15:36,350
The fortress was
empty of soldiers.

1596

01:15:36,350 --> 01:15:38,840
Where there was always
a hum of activity,

1597

01:15:38,840 --> 01:15:40,850
now there was an eerie quiet.

1598

01:15:40,850 --> 01:15:43,220
In one of the offices,
I found a woman soldier

1599

01:15:43,220 --> 01:15:48,470
who told me my unit had left
to Sinai two days earlier.

1600

01:15:48,470 --> 01:15:50,840
I decided on the
spot to join my unit.

1601

01:15:50,840 --> 01:15:54,320
In uniform and carrying

an Uzi submachine gun,

1602
01:15:54,320 --> 01:15:57,980
I hitched to Bir Gofgofa the
biggest encampment in Sinai.

1603
01:15:57,980 --> 01:16:00,973
While passing Gaza and
El Arish on the way,

1604
01:16:00,973 --> 01:16:02,390
I had the feeling
that we were not

1605
01:16:02,390 --> 01:16:04,730
being told the true situation.

1606
01:16:04,730 --> 01:16:07,130
In the demeanor of
the Arabs I passed,

1607
01:16:07,130 --> 01:16:09,530
I noticed something I
had never seen before--

1608
01:16:09,530 --> 01:16:10,550
arrogance.

1609
01:16:10,550 --> 01:16:11,750
They were different.

1610
01:16:11,750 --> 01:16:13,640
Making our way through
the streets of Gaza

1611
01:16:13,640 --> 01:16:15,530
with our military
vehicle, they were

1612
01:16:15,530 --> 01:16:19,100
slow to make way for us, as
if they owned the streets.

1613

01:16:19,100 --> 01:16:21,560

Arriving in Bir

Gofgofa I went straight

1614

01:16:21,560 --> 01:16:24,170

to my former unit's

offices and was

1615

01:16:24,170 --> 01:16:26,630

told that the whole

brigade was at the front.

1616

01:16:26,630 --> 01:16:30,100

1617

01:16:30,100 --> 01:16:33,190

No transport being

available, I hitched my way

1618

01:16:33,190 --> 01:16:36,490

towards the front a command

car took me halfway and then

1619

01:16:36,490 --> 01:16:38,560

disappeared in a

different direction.

1620

01:16:38,560 --> 01:16:40,870

The sun was setting

and I was alone

1621

01:16:40,870 --> 01:16:45,100

in the vast desert, only sand

and sky, not a single tree

1622

01:16:45,100 --> 01:16:46,300

or bush.

1623

01:16:46,300 --> 01:16:51,100

I laid down on my pack

for a pillow, a loaded Uzi

1624

01:16:51,100 --> 01:16:53,630
and a spare magazine beside me.

1625
01:16:53,630 --> 01:16:55,810
I hope for a vehicle to pass.

1626
01:16:55,810 --> 01:16:57,670
I must have dozed
off when I was woken

1627
01:16:57,670 --> 01:17:01,030
by the noise of an
approaching vehicle.

1628
01:17:01,030 --> 01:17:03,250
Egyptian commanders
were roaming the desert,

1629
01:17:03,250 --> 01:17:05,950
attacking our forces
in lightning strikes

1630
01:17:05,950 --> 01:17:08,680
and disappearing in the
darkness of the night.

1631
01:17:08,680 --> 01:17:10,450
I had to make a
desperate decision

1632
01:17:10,450 --> 01:17:12,790
whether to show myself
or remain in hiding.

1633
01:17:12,790 --> 01:17:16,330
It was too dark to discern
whether the approaching vehicle

1634
01:17:16,330 --> 01:17:18,460
was ours or that of the enemy.

1635
01:17:18,460 --> 01:17:21,570
I had only 30 seconds

to make a decision.

1636
01:17:21,570 --> 01:17:24,640
I stood up and
stood in the middle

1637
01:17:24,640 --> 01:17:27,730
of the road waving to the
approaching vehicle to stop.

1638
01:17:27,730 --> 01:17:31,870
It came to a screeching halt
and two soldiers jumped off,

1639
01:17:31,870 --> 01:17:36,550
weapons pointed at me, not
knowing if I was one of them

1640
01:17:36,550 --> 01:17:38,050
or one of ours.

1641
01:17:38,050 --> 01:17:41,560
One of the soldiers pulled out
a flashlight and lit up my face.

1642
01:17:41,560 --> 01:17:43,390
Grossman, you crazy bastard.

1643
01:17:43,390 --> 01:17:46,210
What in hell are you doing
in this desert by yourself?

1644
01:17:46,210 --> 01:17:48,610
They were my buddies
from my unit.

1645
01:17:48,610 --> 01:17:51,880
I hopped onto the command
car heaving a sigh of relief.

1646
01:17:51,880 --> 01:17:55,030
Apparently, God looks
after the ignorant.

1647
01:17:55,030 --> 01:17:57,790
The welcome I received on
arriving at the encampment

1648
01:17:57,790 --> 01:17:59,248
was memorable.

1649
01:17:59,248 --> 01:18:01,540
David, the brigade commander,
gave me a hug and kiss me

1650
01:18:01,540 --> 01:18:04,680
on both cheeks, exclaiming,
this is unbelievable,

1651
01:18:04,680 --> 01:18:06,130
this is unbelievable.

1652
01:18:06,130 --> 01:18:07,960
David briefed me
on the situation.

1653
01:18:07,960 --> 01:18:09,280
It was serious.

1654
01:18:09,280 --> 01:18:12,580
The Egyptians had crossed the
canal, established a foothold,

1655
01:18:12,580 --> 01:18:15,070
and had captured every
bastion along the Suez Canal

1656
01:18:15,070 --> 01:18:19,480
from Port Said in the north
to Bea Tawfik in the south.

1657
01:18:19,480 --> 01:18:22,180
Only one single
bastion stood fast.

1658

01:18:22,180 --> 01:18:26,450
The fuel line along the
canal had failed to ignite.

1659
01:18:26,450 --> 01:18:30,440
Egyptian frogmen had sabotaged
it secretly and successfully.

1660
01:18:30,440 --> 01:18:32,710
The Syrians had
recaptured the Golan

1661
01:18:32,710 --> 01:18:35,470
and were approaching the
borders of the state of Israel.

1662
01:18:35,470 --> 01:18:38,560
The task of our brigade was
to prevent the Egyptian forces

1663
01:18:38,560 --> 01:18:40,780
from reaching the
Gidi and Mitla passes,

1664
01:18:40,780 --> 01:18:42,490
for this was the
key on which hinged

1665
01:18:42,490 --> 01:18:46,060
the possibility of recapturing
the Sinai peninsula.

1666
01:18:46,060 --> 01:18:47,980
I was put in charge
of my old unit

1667
01:18:47,980 --> 01:18:50,980
and a feeling of confidence
was felt by all the soldiers

1668
01:18:50,980 --> 01:18:52,820
and also by myself.

1669

01:18:52,820 --> 01:18:54,970

I was back in my
natural element.

1670

01:18:54,970 --> 01:18:56,950

That same night,
our brigade moved

1671

01:18:56,950 --> 01:18:59,020

and fierce battles ensued.

1672

01:18:59,020 --> 01:19:01,120

We stood fast and in
the end prevailed,

1673

01:19:01,120 --> 01:19:03,940

though suffering considerable
losses in armor and men.

1674

01:19:03,940 --> 01:19:06,950

In that battle, the
Egyptian lost 600 tanks.

1675

01:19:06,950 --> 01:19:10,480

I had my first night's rest
when the battle was done.

1676

01:19:10,480 --> 01:19:13,630

It was bitterly cold
and I could not sleep.

1677

01:19:13,630 --> 01:19:16,750

My thoughts were with my sons.

1678

01:19:16,750 --> 01:19:18,850

Some soldiers feeling
the terrible cold

1679

01:19:18,850 --> 01:19:21,130

had lit the fire to
warm their bones.

1680

01:19:21,130 --> 01:19:23,320

I got up and told
them to douse it.

1681
01:19:23,320 --> 01:19:25,540
There were lots of Egyptian
commanders and soldiers

1682
01:19:25,540 --> 01:19:27,470
who had been separated
from their units.

1683
01:19:27,470 --> 01:19:29,360
Those soldiers were desperate.

1684
01:19:29,360 --> 01:19:33,550
They were searching for water
to slake their agonized thirsts.

1685
01:19:33,550 --> 01:19:36,730
The field telephone rang and
my commander was on the line.

1686
01:19:36,730 --> 01:19:38,620
A Piper plane will
come in 20 minutes

1687
01:19:38,620 --> 01:19:40,720
to take you to
Jerusalem, he told me.

1688
01:19:40,720 --> 01:19:42,070
Pack up your gear.

1689
01:19:42,070 --> 01:19:45,130
He put down the phone before
I could ask any questions.

1690
01:19:45,130 --> 01:19:47,140
I got ready and the plane came.

1691
01:19:47,140 --> 01:19:49,750
An hour and a half later,
I was in Jerusalem.

1692

01:19:49,750 --> 01:19:53,140
We landed at Atarot airfield and
a waiting staff car whisked me

1693

01:19:53,140 --> 01:19:56,440
to the line fortress in
Shuafat, headquarters

1694

01:19:56,440 --> 01:19:57,910
of the central command.

1695

01:19:57,910 --> 01:20:00,460
My transfer had come
through at last.

1696

01:20:00,460 --> 01:20:02,290
While walking
through the fortress,

1697

01:20:02,290 --> 01:20:06,070
I passed a glass-plate
window and saw my image.

1698

01:20:06,070 --> 01:20:09,520
My uniform was covered with
yellow sand from the desert.

1699

01:20:09,520 --> 01:20:12,190
Storm goggles were
hanging around my neck.

1700

01:20:12,190 --> 01:20:14,440
My hair was
disheveled and dusty.

1701

01:20:14,440 --> 01:20:18,070
My 12-day-old beard had
turned gray in those 12 days.

1702

01:20:18,070 --> 01:20:20,680
My eyes were bloodshot
from lack of sleep.

1703
01:20:20,680 --> 01:20:23,500
I reached the office of
the executive officer.

1704
01:20:23,500 --> 01:20:27,190
A high-ranking officer was
sitting in a comfortable chair

1705
01:20:27,190 --> 01:20:28,420
smoking a cigar.

1706
01:20:28,420 --> 01:20:30,220
He gave me my new appointment.

1707
01:20:30,220 --> 01:20:32,620
You shall be a liaison
officer between the military

1708
01:20:32,620 --> 01:20:33,970
and the civilian arm.

1709
01:20:33,970 --> 01:20:36,820
With this appointment, you
shall hold the rank of captain.

1710
01:20:36,820 --> 01:20:39,280
It dawned upon me what
this appointment meant.

1711
01:20:39,280 --> 01:20:41,590
One of many duties,
it also entailed

1712
01:20:41,590 --> 01:20:45,280
visiting the families who
had lost the next of kin--

1713
01:20:45,280 --> 01:20:48,670
a husband, a son, or a father
who had fallen in battle.

1714

01:20:48,670 --> 01:20:52,420
I wanted to object but the
officer told me, that is all.

1715
01:20:52,420 --> 01:20:55,720
Proceed to the Kirya in
Tel Aviv immediately.

1716
01:20:55,720 --> 01:20:57,640
In the meantime, the
brigade of [name]

1717
01:20:57,640 --> 01:20:59,620
had crossed the
canal, established

1718
01:20:59,620 --> 01:21:01,210
bridgehead and
proceeded to destroy

1719
01:21:01,210 --> 01:21:05,050
the SAM-2 and SAM-3
surface-to-air missiles that

1720
01:21:05,050 --> 01:21:07,120
had been playing
havoc with our planes.

1721
01:21:07,120 --> 01:21:09,610
The decision to cross the
canal and destroy the missiles

1722
01:21:09,610 --> 01:21:12,610
on their launching site
turned the tide of the war.

1723
01:21:12,610 --> 01:21:14,320
The second and
third Egyptian army

1724
01:21:14,320 --> 01:21:16,420
on the west side of
the canal were cut off

1725

01:21:16,420 --> 01:21:18,970

from all the possibility
of getting supplies.

1726

01:21:18,970 --> 01:21:23,080

Half a million Egyptian soldiers
were at the mercy of the IDF.

1727

01:21:23,080 --> 01:21:25,720

They had no water,
no food, no fuel.

1728

01:21:25,720 --> 01:21:29,110

After a few days, Israel gave
permission for water and food

1729

01:21:29,110 --> 01:21:31,240

to be brought their
mortal enemies.

1730

01:21:31,240 --> 01:21:35,170

We had reached a point of
101 kilometers from Cairo.

1731

01:21:35,170 --> 01:21:37,510

The situation in the
north was similar.

1732

01:21:37,510 --> 01:21:40,255

The Golan Heights
were recaptured

1733

01:21:40,255 --> 01:21:43,870

and our soldiers were within
14 kilometer of Damascus.

1734

01:21:43,870 --> 01:21:46,660

The Arab armies had suffered
a terrible and devastating

1735

01:21:46,660 --> 01:21:48,700

defeat.

1736

01:21:48,700 --> 01:21:50,770

I was attending the
funeral of a soldier who

1737

01:21:50,770 --> 01:21:53,140

had died in the Battle
of the Chinese Farm.

1738

01:21:53,140 --> 01:21:55,570

I was there to
represent the IDF.

1739

01:21:55,570 --> 01:21:58,510

He was of Moroccan ancestry
and the shrieks and wailing

1740

01:21:58,510 --> 01:22:00,280

of the family were unsettling.

1741

01:22:00,280 --> 01:22:01,750

I had seen too much of death.

1742

01:22:01,750 --> 01:22:04,820

I had a surprising
feeling of impatience.

1743

01:22:04,820 --> 01:22:06,650

I was standing apart
from the mourners

1744

01:22:06,650 --> 01:22:09,910

when suddenly I noticed a
person a few feet from me

1745

01:22:09,910 --> 01:22:11,500

with his back towards me.

1746

01:22:11,500 --> 01:22:13,960

Somehow he seemed familiar.

1747

01:22:13,960 --> 01:22:16,030

His clothes hung from

his body, his shirt

1748

01:22:16,030 --> 01:22:19,210
outside his pants, shoes dirty,
and his curly, white hair

1749

01:22:19,210 --> 01:22:20,230
disheveled.

1750

01:22:20,230 --> 01:22:21,790
I sidled up to him.

1751

01:22:21,790 --> 01:22:23,770
I recognized him immediately.

1752

01:22:23,770 --> 01:22:25,240
It was Mihail.

1753

01:22:25,240 --> 01:22:26,950
He turned his face toward me.

1754

01:22:26,950 --> 01:22:28,450
His eyes were glazed.

1755

01:22:28,450 --> 01:22:30,910
No light of recognition
sparked in them.

1756

01:22:30,910 --> 01:22:32,470
His face was vacant.

1757

01:22:32,470 --> 01:22:34,030
There was something
about the stance

1758

01:22:34,030 --> 01:22:38,530
I recognized as a kind of post
endemic to deranged people.

1759

01:22:38,530 --> 01:22:41,830
I said to him, Mihail,
I'm Ali, your old friend.

1760
01:22:41,830 --> 01:22:43,330
Don't you know me?

1761
01:22:43,330 --> 01:22:45,700
It seemed as if he
had not heard me.

1762
01:22:45,700 --> 01:22:48,580
I had met Mihail
in the fall of '52

1763
01:22:48,580 --> 01:22:51,580
when I was a member of a kibbutz
and I was a truck driver.

1764
01:22:51,580 --> 01:22:55,000
Every day I used to drive to
Tiberius to bring provisions

1765
01:22:55,000 --> 01:22:56,140
to the kibbutz.

1766
01:22:56,140 --> 01:22:58,930
I also brought water in
a tank to the kibbutz

1767
01:22:58,930 --> 01:22:59,770
in the beginning.

1768
01:22:59,770 --> 01:23:03,850
It had not been connected to the
national water supply system.

1769
01:23:03,850 --> 01:23:05,830
Mihail was the
owner of a laundry

1770
01:23:05,830 --> 01:23:09,800
and I brought the laundry of
the kibbutz to him to be washed.

1771

01:23:09,800 --> 01:23:11,170
We became friends.

1772
01:23:11,170 --> 01:23:13,300
He had black, curly hair
and was always singing

1773
01:23:13,300 --> 01:23:14,710
at the top of his voice.

1774
01:23:14,710 --> 01:23:16,900
Invariably, he had
something good to eat--

1775
01:23:16,900 --> 01:23:20,200
a juicy slice of watermelon,
some bananas from the Jordan

1776
01:23:20,200 --> 01:23:23,230
Valley, wonderful grilled
fish from the Kinneret

1777
01:23:23,230 --> 01:23:26,050
or some hummus or [INAUDIBLE]
steeped in olive oil.

1778
01:23:26,050 --> 01:23:28,480
When I left the kibbutz
a few years later,

1779
01:23:28,480 --> 01:23:35,300
I settled in the developed
town in the south.

1780
01:23:35,300 --> 01:23:38,480
While visiting a neighboring
town which had a hospital,

1781
01:23:38,480 --> 01:23:42,680
I met Mihail who had
become an ambulance driver.

1782
01:23:42,680 --> 01:23:46,010

We gave cries of surprise when
we met up with each other.

1783
01:23:46,010 --> 01:23:48,420
I had not seen Mihail
for a considerable time

1784
01:23:48,420 --> 01:23:50,840
when I recognized
him at the cemetery.

1785
01:23:50,840 --> 01:23:54,740
He asked me in an eerie voice,
a freakish smile on his lips,

1786
01:23:54,740 --> 01:23:56,660
whether I would like
to meet his son.

1787
01:23:56,660 --> 01:23:58,970
I readily agreed
and said, of course,

1788
01:23:58,970 --> 01:24:02,540
I would be delighted
to meet him.

1789
01:24:02,540 --> 01:24:04,130
Mihail took me by
the hand and led me

1790
01:24:04,130 --> 01:24:06,560
to a grave that had
a military headstone.

1791
01:24:06,560 --> 01:24:09,170
The name of his son was
engraved upon the stone,

1792
01:24:09,170 --> 01:24:12,290
the day of his birth,
and the day when he fell.

1793

01:24:12,290 --> 01:24:14,900
He spoke to his son and
introduced him to me.

1794
01:24:14,900 --> 01:24:17,660
Then he turned into himself and
forgot that I was standing next

1795
01:24:17,660 --> 01:24:18,470
to him.

1796
01:24:18,470 --> 01:24:21,020
I turned slowly and
walked to some trees.

1797
01:24:21,020 --> 01:24:25,370
I covered my eyes with
my hands and wept.

1798
01:24:25,370 --> 01:24:28,220
I could not remember the
last time I had cried.

1799
01:24:28,220 --> 01:24:32,090
By Nebo's lonely mountain
on this side Jordan's wave,

1800
01:24:32,090 --> 01:24:35,770
in a veil in the land of Moab,
there lies a lonely grave."

1801
01:24:35,770 --> 01:24:46,186

1802
01:24:46,186 --> 01:24:49,180
[INAUDIBLE]

1803
01:24:49,180 --> 01:24:51,580
Tell us your story about
your writing please.

1804
01:24:51,580 --> 01:24:55,540
Well, I was once

invited to give a talk.

1805
01:24:55,540 --> 01:24:58,610
And I really never
did public speaking.

1806
01:24:58,610 --> 01:25:01,570
I have done so
little bit lately.

1807
01:25:01,570 --> 01:25:04,240
And I was telling
part of my life story

1808
01:25:04,240 --> 01:25:09,160
when I noticed an elderly man
looking at me all the time.

1809
01:25:09,160 --> 01:25:12,145
And I was a little
bit taken aback

1810
01:25:12,145 --> 01:25:13,270
by the way he looked at me.

1811
01:25:13,270 --> 01:25:15,700
But I didn't know him.

1812
01:25:15,700 --> 01:25:17,420
When I had finished,
he came up to me

1813
01:25:17,420 --> 01:25:19,180
and he introduced himself.

1814
01:25:19,180 --> 01:25:22,430
And he said that his
name was Max Knight.

1815
01:25:22,430 --> 01:25:25,235
And he said that he is a writer.

1816

01:25:25,235 --> 01:25:26,610

He is a writer
who writes a book.

1817

01:25:26,610 --> 01:25:27,527

And he is from Vienna.

1818

01:25:27,527 --> 01:25:30,840

And he said to me, you
know, you should write.

1819

01:25:30,840 --> 01:25:34,260

I teach writing
in the university.

1820

01:25:34,260 --> 01:25:38,700

And please write and write
10 pages and give them to me.

1821

01:25:38,700 --> 01:25:42,780

Well, I wrote 20 pages and
I sent them to him by mail.

1822

01:25:42,780 --> 01:25:44,410

And the very next day.

1823

01:25:44,410 --> 01:25:47,000

He phoned me up very
excited, and he said,

1824

01:25:47,000 --> 01:25:49,000

I'd like you to come up
to my house immediately.

1825

01:25:49,000 --> 01:25:49,610

And I came up.

1826

01:25:49,610 --> 01:25:51,210

I had no idea.

1827

01:25:51,210 --> 01:25:54,180

I was a little bit
embarrassed by my writing

1828
01:25:54,180 --> 01:25:56,380
because I didn't
know the value of it.

1829
01:25:56,380 --> 01:25:59,700
When I came to his
house, he told me

1830
01:25:59,700 --> 01:26:01,290
he was very impressed
by my writing.

1831
01:26:01,290 --> 01:26:06,920
It was so simple way, a
modest way of writing.

1832
01:26:06,920 --> 01:26:10,190
I don't quite know what he
really meant by all that.

1833
01:26:10,190 --> 01:26:13,220
So forthright,
without complications.

1834
01:26:13,220 --> 01:26:16,820
At least, maybe, I
became a little bit vain.

1835
01:26:16,820 --> 01:26:20,430
So he encouraged me
all the time to write.

1836
01:26:20,430 --> 01:26:22,130
So I started to write stories.

1837
01:26:22,130 --> 01:26:25,430
I've written more stories than
those two I read just now.

1838
01:26:25,430 --> 01:26:28,220
And they seem to strike
a chord within people

1839

01:26:28,220 --> 01:26:34,840

because whomever I have given
it to, they all liked it.

1840

01:26:34,840 --> 01:26:37,650

It does something very nice
to me to be able to write.

1841

01:26:37,650 --> 01:26:41,430

And maybe it's a gift from
God, which I have never

1842

01:26:41,430 --> 01:26:43,560

really utilized it.

1843

01:26:43,560 --> 01:26:44,670

I intend to write a book.

1844

01:26:44,670 --> 01:26:49,450

I've and started to write
a book on my childhood.

1845

01:26:49,450 --> 01:26:51,720

And hoping to this
day, coming to America,

1846

01:26:51,720 --> 01:26:52,880

I hope to finish that book.

1847

01:26:52,880 --> 01:26:54,630

[LAUGHS] It's a lot of work.

1848

01:26:54,630 --> 01:26:58,830

It needs a lot of
editing and spelling

1849

01:26:58,830 --> 01:27:00,990

and whatever writing entails.

1850

01:27:00,990 --> 01:27:03,960

Hopefully I'm able

to write a book.

1851
01:27:03,960 --> 01:27:10,090
In fact, I sent it
to a journalist.

1852
01:27:10,090 --> 01:27:12,365
And she said it would make
wonderful film material.

1853
01:27:12,365 --> 01:27:13,950
That is even better.

1854
01:27:13,950 --> 01:27:27,170

1855
01:27:27,170 --> 01:27:28,220
OK?

1856
01:27:28,220 --> 01:27:28,850
OK.

1857
01:27:28,850 --> 01:27:32,540
Well, earlier we were talking
about Germany and the Germans

1858
01:27:32,540 --> 01:27:39,290
today and what do you
think about whether or not

1859
01:27:39,290 --> 01:27:42,750
Germans have changed.

1860
01:27:42,750 --> 01:27:47,600
Well, I maintained all
the time that there

1861
01:27:47,600 --> 01:27:48,890
is no change Germany.

1862
01:27:48,890 --> 01:27:51,980
Of course, it was

based on only feelings.

1863
01:27:51,980 --> 01:27:55,840
But it was certainly
strengthened

1864
01:27:55,840 --> 01:28:00,130
by the fact when I did go back
to the town I was born in,

1865
01:28:00,130 --> 01:28:01,600
I didn't see any change.

1866
01:28:01,600 --> 01:28:08,240
Although, I didn't feel any
antisemitism there whatsoever.

1867
01:28:08,240 --> 01:28:10,940
People didn't react to the
fact that I was Jewish,

1868
01:28:10,940 --> 01:28:13,220
although I was being
introduced as being Jewish.

1869
01:28:13,220 --> 01:28:21,560
But the fact that in my mind--

1870
01:28:21,560 --> 01:28:24,920
I have no indication of
it, but people didn't

1871
01:28:24,920 --> 01:28:26,120
seem changed to me at all.

1872
01:28:26,120 --> 01:28:30,440
Except I was the only one
who had changed because I

1873
01:28:30,440 --> 01:28:32,130
wasn't a frightened
person any longer.

1874

01:28:32,130 --> 01:28:38,060
I was completely self-confident
and have an Israeli passport

1875

01:28:38,060 --> 01:28:39,200
with an Israeli flag.

1876

01:28:39,200 --> 01:28:40,820
And I have a land of my own.

1877

01:28:40,820 --> 01:28:43,430

1878

01:28:43,430 --> 01:28:46,960
I felt that because
of the situation

1879

01:28:46,960 --> 01:28:50,200
with the reunification
of Germany,

1880

01:28:50,200 --> 01:28:58,980
the economy is not
in a sound situation.

1881

01:28:58,980 --> 01:29:03,490
Many East Germans are
reading the newspapers don't

1882

01:29:03,490 --> 01:29:05,260
like the idea of
the reunification

1883

01:29:05,260 --> 01:29:07,240
because they lost their jobs.

1884

01:29:07,240 --> 01:29:09,380
All the factories are outdated.

1885

01:29:09,380 --> 01:29:12,580
They need to-- everything
has to be renewed.

1886
01:29:12,580 --> 01:29:14,650
And of course it'll take time.

1887
01:29:14,650 --> 01:29:17,350
I'm sure that in
time Germany is going

1888
01:29:17,350 --> 01:29:20,350
to be very prosperous with
the influx of another 36

1889
01:29:20,350 --> 01:29:22,330
million Germans.

1890
01:29:22,330 --> 01:29:23,908
But in the meantime,
things are bad.

1891
01:29:23,908 --> 01:29:25,700
And we see it in the
newspapers, of course,

1892
01:29:25,700 --> 01:29:29,080
that there are riots against
foreigners and immigrants.

1893
01:29:29,080 --> 01:29:30,730
And that is typical of Germany.

1894
01:29:30,730 --> 01:29:33,850
Now, I know in America
there are immigrants

1895
01:29:33,850 --> 01:29:36,190
and there are blacks and
whites and yellow-- all kinds

1896
01:29:36,190 --> 01:29:37,395
of people.

1897
01:29:37,395 --> 01:29:40,460

And it would be
inconceivable that there

1898
01:29:40,460 --> 01:29:43,520
should be riots against
immigrants or newcomers

1899
01:29:43,520 --> 01:29:44,330
or whatever.

1900
01:29:44,330 --> 01:29:46,050
It doesn't happen in America.

1901
01:29:46,050 --> 01:29:47,210
Everybody is accepted.

1902
01:29:47,210 --> 01:29:50,120
If there is
unemployment, poverty

1903
01:29:50,120 --> 01:29:54,320
is not blamed on blacks,
on whites, on yellows.

1904
01:29:54,320 --> 01:29:56,450
Whatever it's blamed
on, I don't quite know.

1905
01:29:56,450 --> 01:29:59,790
But in Germany, I know that--

1906
01:29:59,790 --> 01:30:01,370
I read the newspaper,
for instance,

1907
01:30:01,370 --> 01:30:07,730
that a German said, pointing
towards a black person, that he

1908
01:30:07,730 --> 01:30:11,720
could even maintain that he
is German because he's black.

1909

01:30:11,720 --> 01:30:13,910

He couldn't conceive
that a black person

1910

01:30:13,910 --> 01:30:15,680

could call himself a German.

1911

01:30:15,680 --> 01:30:18,800

That again shows only how
the Germans are concerning

1912

01:30:18,800 --> 01:30:23,060

their theory under the
Hitler dream of the purity

1913

01:30:23,060 --> 01:30:26,270

of the race, that only
whites can be German,

1914

01:30:26,270 --> 01:30:30,480

and not Jews or Gypsies
or Blacks or whatever.

1915

01:30:30,480 --> 01:30:35,000

So I do believe that given
certain circumstances,

1916

01:30:35,000 --> 01:30:37,880

that the Germans would
be very antisemitic.

1917

01:30:37,880 --> 01:30:40,830

1918

01:30:40,830 --> 01:30:45,340

I don't know whether this, what
happened under the Nazi regime

1919

01:30:45,340 --> 01:30:48,770

could ever happen
again, but who knows.

1920

01:30:48,770 --> 01:30:51,590
But I am not able to
trust the Germans.

1921
01:30:51,590 --> 01:30:53,750
I think they have
a military past.

1922
01:30:53,750 --> 01:30:59,328
And Germans are aggressive.

1923
01:30:59,328 --> 01:31:00,370
They are very aggressive.

1924
01:31:00,370 --> 01:31:07,900
They easily become excited
and they will have fights.

1925
01:31:07,900 --> 01:31:08,920
I've seen those fights.

1926
01:31:08,920 --> 01:31:11,500
I've seen those fights
when I was a child.

1927
01:31:11,500 --> 01:31:14,710
And I have seen fights when
I was stationed in Germany.

1928
01:31:14,710 --> 01:31:18,258
I've seen fights when I
was there not long ago,

1929
01:31:18,258 --> 01:31:19,550
people fighting in the streets.

1930
01:31:19,550 --> 01:31:21,290
I've been nine
years in America, I

1931
01:31:21,290 --> 01:31:24,280
haven't seen a single
fight in the streets.

1932
01:31:24,280 --> 01:31:26,260
America is different
from Germany.

1933
01:31:26,260 --> 01:31:30,880
I don't believe that
Germany will become--

1934
01:31:30,880 --> 01:31:35,690
it is a democracy
in words, in theory.

1935
01:31:35,690 --> 01:31:39,130
But I don't believe that
Germany is a true democracy yet.

1936
01:31:39,130 --> 01:31:43,020
It'll take not years, but
it'll take generations.

1937
01:31:43,020 --> 01:31:46,480
One has to change not
only the mentality,

1938
01:31:46,480 --> 01:31:47,980
but history will
have to be changed.

1939
01:31:47,980 --> 01:31:50,420
It'll take a long time before
Germany becomes a member

1940
01:31:50,420 --> 01:31:54,290
of the nations of the world.

1941
01:31:54,290 --> 01:31:55,625
I don't believe it.

1942
01:31:55,625 --> 01:31:56,750
I cannot trust the Germans.

1943

01:31:56,750 --> 01:31:59,560

1944

01:31:59,560 --> 01:32:03,820

Do you think there was a
reaction among younger Germans

1945

01:32:03,820 --> 01:32:06,130

now, the grandchildren
of the people

1946

01:32:06,130 --> 01:32:16,180

who lived in the Hitler area,
that to react to the blame

1947

01:32:16,180 --> 01:32:17,530

by denying the blame--

1948

01:32:17,530 --> 01:32:18,790

do you know what I'm saying?

1949

01:32:18,790 --> 01:32:21,170

Yes, I understand
exactly what you mean.

1950

01:32:21,170 --> 01:32:23,050

Let me put it this way.

1951

01:32:23,050 --> 01:32:25,210

I will not answer your
question directly,

1952

01:32:25,210 --> 01:32:28,570

but by giving you a
kind of a picture.

1953

01:32:28,570 --> 01:32:32,950

I compare the remorse the
Germans feel-- there are

1954

01:32:32,950 --> 01:32:35,082

many Germans who have remorse.

1955

01:32:35,082 --> 01:32:37,540

And they want to make up what they did to the Jewish people

1956

01:32:37,540 --> 01:32:40,030

by doing all kinds of things, even going to Israel

1957

01:32:40,030 --> 01:32:42,250

and helping Israel by going into a kibbutz

1958

01:32:42,250 --> 01:32:44,410

or into the army to help.

1959

01:32:44,410 --> 01:32:49,570

I would say if a thief, as long as he steals and is not

1960

01:32:49,570 --> 01:32:52,000

found out, he feels good.

1961

01:32:52,000 --> 01:32:56,000

But as soon as he's found out, he has remorse.

1962

01:32:56,000 --> 01:32:58,000

That kind of thing applies to the German people.

1963

01:32:58,000 --> 01:33:03,680

As long as they won in the war, they had no remorse.

1964

01:33:03,680 --> 01:33:06,890

They had only remorse when they were defeated.

1965

01:33:06,890 --> 01:33:10,250

If the Germans, God forbid, would have won the war

1966

01:33:10,250 --> 01:33:13,560
and would have captured the
whole world, which was--

1967

01:33:13,560 --> 01:33:16,740
it was would have been possible
in a certain stage of the war,

1968

01:33:16,740 --> 01:33:18,070
they were very victorious.

1969

01:33:18,070 --> 01:33:20,610
They had captured
half the world.

1970

01:33:20,610 --> 01:33:23,010
Hitler would have been
today buried in a mausoleum

1971

01:33:23,010 --> 01:33:25,440
and he would have been
revered by the German people.

1972

01:33:25,440 --> 01:33:28,368
He would have been a
great hero, like Napoleon.

1973

01:33:28,368 --> 01:33:29,910
And there would have
been no remorse.

1974

01:33:29,910 --> 01:33:32,880
There would have been
only a glorification

1975

01:33:32,880 --> 01:33:34,950
of the Hitler regime and
especially of Hitler.

1976

01:33:34,950 --> 01:33:37,650
They would have made
out of him a saint.

1977

01:33:37,650 --> 01:33:39,630
And only because
they lost the war,

1978
01:33:39,630 --> 01:33:43,180
like a thief when he is found
out, then there is remorse.

1979
01:33:43,180 --> 01:33:46,400
This remorse, in my
opinion, is not genuine.

1980
01:33:46,400 --> 01:33:48,700
It's not true.

1981
01:33:48,700 --> 01:33:51,750
Of course, the
younger generation

1982
01:33:51,750 --> 01:33:53,250
wasn't at fault.
They weren't alive.

1983
01:33:53,250 --> 01:33:56,720
But I should say that
the Jewish people

1984
01:33:56,720 --> 01:33:59,540
should take heed and
be very careful of what

1985
01:33:59,540 --> 01:34:00,400
Germans are doing.

1986
01:34:00,400 --> 01:34:03,800
Especially I would like to say
that during the Yom Kippur War

1987
01:34:03,800 --> 01:34:08,920
when Israel was in dire,
in dire, in dire danger.

1988
01:34:08,920 --> 01:34:13,960

The situation in Israel
was unprecedented.

1989
01:34:13,960 --> 01:34:18,160
That America under Nixon
sent armament to Israel

1990
01:34:18,160 --> 01:34:20,500
and they needed it fast.

1991
01:34:20,500 --> 01:34:24,460
And Germany did not allow for
the American planes to land.

1992
01:34:24,460 --> 01:34:26,920
In order to refuel, they had
to be refueled in the air.

1993
01:34:26,920 --> 01:34:31,450
So when you talk about
Germany, I will not,

1994
01:34:31,450 --> 01:34:34,750
I cannot accept anything which
can be said for Germany at all.

1995
01:34:34,750 --> 01:34:38,790

1996
01:34:38,790 --> 01:34:40,980
So do you think part of
the reason there's still

1997
01:34:40,980 --> 01:34:46,420
a problem today is the
difference between real remorse

1998
01:34:46,420 --> 01:34:49,480
and remorse?

1999
01:34:49,480 --> 01:34:52,797

2000

01:34:52,797 --> 01:34:54,630

I'm not sure I want to
call it fake remorse.

2001

01:34:54,630 --> 01:34:56,650

I mean, I think it's
probably genuine remorse,

2002

01:34:56,650 --> 01:35:00,890

but it's based on "we got
caught" sort of thing.

2003

01:35:00,890 --> 01:35:03,150

The difference between true
repentance and repentance

2004

01:35:03,150 --> 01:35:04,530

because you got caught.

2005

01:35:04,530 --> 01:35:07,770

Do you think that if it
had been true remorse

2006

01:35:07,770 --> 01:35:11,850

that Germany and Germans
would be different today?

2007

01:35:11,850 --> 01:35:13,630

Well, let me put it this way.

2008

01:35:13,630 --> 01:35:17,610

Again, I'd like to repeat what
I said, if they would have won.

2009

01:35:17,610 --> 01:35:21,180

And kept -- the question of
remorse wouldn't have come up,

2010

01:35:21,180 --> 01:35:22,380

not at all.

2011

01:35:22,380 --> 01:35:25,428

Now because of these
terrible revelations,

2012
01:35:25,428 --> 01:35:26,970
these terrible crimes
they committed,

2013
01:35:26,970 --> 01:35:31,410
these inhuman crimes,
never before happening

2014
01:35:31,410 --> 01:35:33,450
in the annals of human history.

2015
01:35:33,450 --> 01:35:36,720
This is something extraordinary
what people could do.

2016
01:35:36,720 --> 01:35:39,480
I mean, after all,
they had families.

2017
01:35:39,480 --> 01:35:40,230
They had children.

2018
01:35:40,230 --> 01:35:40,855
They had wives.

2019
01:35:40,855 --> 01:35:42,060
They had parents.

2020
01:35:42,060 --> 01:35:48,000
This complete disregard
for human life, which is--

2021
01:35:48,000 --> 01:35:51,190
I don't think anybody
can explain that.

2022
01:35:51,190 --> 01:35:57,100
So I would say that
had they won the war,

2023

01:35:57,100 --> 01:35:58,540
you couldn't talk about remorse.

2024

01:35:58,540 --> 01:36:02,100
You would have only
talked about like Germany

2025

01:36:02,100 --> 01:36:09,130
has had lots of stories
about their ancestors,

2026

01:36:09,130 --> 01:36:14,610
like the Greek--

2027

01:36:14,610 --> 01:36:15,480
God, the Greek gods?

2028

01:36:15,480 --> 01:36:15,980
No, no.

2029

01:36:15,980 --> 01:36:18,380
The Greek stories.

2030

01:36:18,380 --> 01:36:23,250
The Greek-- whatever the--

2031

01:36:23,250 --> 01:36:24,600
mythology.

2032

01:36:24,600 --> 01:36:27,480
Also Germany has
German mythology.

2033

01:36:27,480 --> 01:36:29,407
And they revere their heroes.

2034

01:36:29,407 --> 01:36:30,990
And the heroes are
the most important.

2035

01:36:30,990 --> 01:36:33,270

But the Jewish people have
their profits and their God

2036

01:36:33,270 --> 01:36:35,190
and their religion and the laws.

2037

01:36:35,190 --> 01:36:39,120
We don't revere heroes
who won battles,

2038

01:36:39,120 --> 01:36:40,770
except maybe the
Maccabeans, but that

2039

01:36:40,770 --> 01:36:43,350
was a war against oppression.

2040

01:36:43,350 --> 01:36:49,270
The Germans always revered war.

2041

01:36:49,270 --> 01:36:54,880
And it is only because
of these revelations.

2042

01:36:54,880 --> 01:36:57,700
Because they lost the war,
that's why there is remorse

2043

01:36:57,700 --> 01:36:59,170
and why they want to make up.

2044

01:36:59,170 --> 01:37:01,690

2045

01:37:01,690 --> 01:37:03,130
I have had contact with Germans.

2046

01:37:03,130 --> 01:37:05,200
I've had contact with
German authorities.

2047

01:37:05,200 --> 01:37:09,100

I went-- several times I
had to go to the consulate.

2048
01:37:09,100 --> 01:37:12,000
I felt there's no remorse.

2049
01:37:12,000 --> 01:37:15,967
If I would belong
to a nation who

2050
01:37:15,967 --> 01:37:17,550
had done such terrible
things, I don't

2051
01:37:17,550 --> 01:37:19,717
think I would want to be
part of that nation at all.

2052
01:37:19,717 --> 01:37:21,120
I would probably emigrate.

2053
01:37:21,120 --> 01:37:22,860
I would not stay
in such a nation.

2054
01:37:22,860 --> 01:37:25,680
I would be ashamed
of such a nation.

2055
01:37:25,680 --> 01:37:28,560
But you don't have Germans
say I'm ashamed of Germany,

2056
01:37:28,560 --> 01:37:30,990
I don't want to belong to
that nation any longer.

2057
01:37:30,990 --> 01:37:34,250
That, I have never heard.

2058
01:37:34,250 --> 01:37:37,910
And only two or three weeks ago,
I went to the German consulate

2059
01:37:37,910 --> 01:37:39,210
in San Francisco.

2060
01:37:39,210 --> 01:37:41,000
And she knew I was Jewish.

2061
01:37:41,000 --> 01:37:43,580
And she knew I was Israeli.

2062
01:37:43,580 --> 01:37:46,910
One could have felt
maybe a kind of a sign --

2063
01:37:46,910 --> 01:37:50,390
a special kind of
relationship, a kind

2064
01:37:50,390 --> 01:37:52,490
of a behavior towards me.

2065
01:37:52,490 --> 01:37:53,980
None.

2066
01:37:53,980 --> 01:37:55,647
None whatsoever.

2067
01:37:55,647 --> 01:37:57,230
I think they resent
the fact that they

2068
01:37:57,230 --> 01:37:59,840
had to pay so much restitution
to the Jewish people.

2069
01:37:59,840 --> 01:38:01,360
I have that kind of feeling.

2070
01:38:01,360 --> 01:38:03,400
If somebody comes
and maybe would

2071

01:38:03,400 --> 01:38:07,640

like to inquire for
pension, I think

2072

01:38:07,640 --> 01:38:10,560

the feeling is you've had
enough, how much do you want?

2073

01:38:10,560 --> 01:38:12,390

That's my definite
feeling, that they

2074

01:38:12,390 --> 01:38:14,800

think that the Jewish people
are only grasping for money

2075

01:38:14,800 --> 01:38:17,010

and they want something
that doesn't belong to them.

2076

01:38:17,010 --> 01:38:20,010

They don't realize what they
have taken not only in life,

2077

01:38:20,010 --> 01:38:26,530

but in actual monies and
properties and destruction

2078

01:38:26,530 --> 01:38:30,035

and so forth of their
livelihood and so forth.

2079

01:38:30,035 --> 01:38:31,660

I'm talking about
taking of life, which

2080

01:38:31,660 --> 01:38:34,030

can't be repaid in any way.

2081

01:38:34,030 --> 01:38:39,520

So my definite opinion
is that the remorse

2082

01:38:39,520 --> 01:38:45,430

is genuine but under these
certain circumstances.

2083

01:38:45,430 --> 01:38:47,350

I guess the reason I
was asking the question

2084

01:38:47,350 --> 01:38:52,840

between true remorse and
remorse based on getting caught

2085

01:38:52,840 --> 01:38:56,500

is because I hear a lot
about there must never

2086

01:38:56,500 --> 01:38:59,050

be another Holocaust and we
must do everything we can

2087

01:38:59,050 --> 01:39:01,210

to prevent another Holocaust.

2088

01:39:01,210 --> 01:39:07,580

And I'm thinking of
motivation as being

2089

01:39:07,580 --> 01:39:09,230

the reason for the Holocaust.

2090

01:39:09,230 --> 01:39:12,280

Ultimately, some
motivation was the reason.

2091

01:39:12,280 --> 01:39:18,160

So the reason I was asking that
is how do you change people?

2092

01:39:18,160 --> 01:39:20,920

How do you change motivations?

2093

01:39:20,920 --> 01:39:23,860

How do you think, so that
in fact we could actually

2094

01:39:23,860 --> 01:39:26,590
prevent another Holocaust?

2095

01:39:26,590 --> 01:39:30,160
The only way to prevent a
Holocaust is to be strong,

2096

01:39:30,160 --> 01:39:33,370
to support Israel
completely, and to be united,

2097

01:39:33,370 --> 01:39:35,920
and to educate, not
only the Germans,

2098

01:39:35,920 --> 01:39:38,830
but to educate ourselves,
the Jewish people.

2099

01:39:38,830 --> 01:39:41,920
That the only way we
can protect ourselves

2100

01:39:41,920 --> 01:39:46,450
is to have a strong army,
and to be purposeful,

2101

01:39:46,450 --> 01:39:51,160
and not to give in to anybody.

2102

01:39:51,160 --> 01:39:53,220
I believe the
Salvation can only come

2103

01:39:53,220 --> 01:39:55,260
from the Jewish people itself.

2104

01:39:55,260 --> 01:39:58,530
Any promise-- and there
have been plenty of promises

2105
01:39:58,530 --> 01:40:01,530
--isn't worth the
paper it is written on.

2106
01:40:01,530 --> 01:40:06,840
The only way we can
preserve ourselves and see

2107
01:40:06,840 --> 01:40:10,350
that we are safe,
us and our children,

2108
01:40:10,350 --> 01:40:13,260
is through the Jewish
people-- through Israel

2109
01:40:13,260 --> 01:40:14,890
and the Jewish people.

2110
01:40:14,890 --> 01:40:20,480
I don't think--
we haven't changed

2111
01:40:20,480 --> 01:40:23,827
the outlook, fundamentally,
of Christianity

2112
01:40:23,827 --> 01:40:24,910
towards the Jewish people.

2113
01:40:24,910 --> 01:40:26,400
I don't think so.

2114
01:40:26,400 --> 01:40:29,640
I don't believe for one moment
that these things have changed.

2115
01:40:29,640 --> 01:40:32,300
I mean, there are,
of course, people

2116

01:40:32,300 --> 01:40:35,103
of the church who are
benevolent and understanding

2117
01:40:35,103 --> 01:40:36,020
towards Jewish people.

2118
01:40:36,020 --> 01:40:39,290
Fundamentally, I don't think
the Jewish people have ever

2119
01:40:39,290 --> 01:40:44,690
been forgiven for having, so
to speak, "killed their Savior,

2120
01:40:44,690 --> 01:40:45,560
Jesus Christ."

2121
01:40:45,560 --> 01:40:50,070
I think that is ingrained
in many, many people,

2122
01:40:50,070 --> 01:40:53,780
especially in the
Catholic church.

2123
01:40:53,780 --> 01:41:01,580
And when it comes to
to the real crunch.

2124
01:41:01,580 --> 01:41:02,640
To the what?

2125
01:41:02,640 --> 01:41:06,304
To the crunch, to the real
crunch, to the point where--

2126
01:41:06,304 --> 01:41:07,180
To the crunch.

2127
01:41:07,180 --> 01:41:13,895
To the crunch, then I think
there's no forgiveness

2128
01:41:13,895 --> 01:41:14,770
of the Jewish people.

2129
01:41:14,770 --> 01:41:18,780

2130
01:41:18,780 --> 01:41:20,500
For?

2131
01:41:20,500 --> 01:41:22,830
For what they have done.

2132
01:41:22,830 --> 01:41:26,610
I mean, for, I think, first
and foremost that they

2133
01:41:26,610 --> 01:41:29,820
have crucified Jesus Christ.

2134
01:41:29,820 --> 01:41:32,010
And there is no--
it doesn't seem--

2135
01:41:32,010 --> 01:41:33,565
they don't seem to
be able to forgive

2136
01:41:33,565 --> 01:41:34,690
the Jewish people for that.

2137
01:41:34,690 --> 01:41:36,460
And that is the basis of it.

2138
01:41:36,460 --> 01:41:39,210
And then, of course, in history.

2139
01:41:39,210 --> 01:41:42,650
When you read
Shakespeare about Shylock

2140

01:41:42,650 --> 01:41:52,310
and then you read Charles
Dickens about Fagin and all

2141
01:41:52,310 --> 01:41:53,985
these things which were--

2142
01:41:53,985 --> 01:41:55,610
I mean, plenty of
things are happening.

2143
01:41:55,610 --> 01:41:58,997
I hear it on the radio
and television sometimes.

2144
01:41:58,997 --> 01:42:01,580
People come up with questions,
very venomous against the Jews.

2145
01:42:01,580 --> 01:42:02,690
They haven't changed.

2146
01:42:02,690 --> 01:42:04,580
Of course, I'm not
saying that everybody.

2147
01:42:04,580 --> 01:42:07,725
Many people have changed
and are true friends

2148
01:42:07,725 --> 01:42:08,600
of the Jewish people.

2149
01:42:08,600 --> 01:42:12,463
But again, one has to take heed.

2150
01:42:12,463 --> 01:42:13,380
One has to be careful.

2151
01:42:13,380 --> 01:42:14,420
One has to be strong.

2152

01:42:14,420 --> 01:42:16,280
One has to be united.

2153
01:42:16,280 --> 01:42:19,603
And-- it's OK.

2154
01:42:19,603 --> 01:42:21,520
Well, those people that
you said really, truly

2155
01:42:21,520 --> 01:42:26,530
did change, what caused
them to change do you think?

2156
01:42:26,530 --> 01:42:29,830
Again, this is a phenomenon.

2157
01:42:29,830 --> 01:42:31,530
I think, too,
religion has changed.

2158
01:42:31,530 --> 01:42:34,780
And you see, to be a
religious person is not easy.

2159
01:42:34,780 --> 01:42:38,950
One has to be a truly
religious and to keep

2160
01:42:38,950 --> 01:42:43,060
all the Commandments of the
Christian religion, which is

2161
01:42:43,060 --> 01:42:45,370
based on love and forgiveness.

2162
01:42:45,370 --> 01:42:48,750
And if you are a true
Christian, then salvation

2163
01:42:48,750 --> 01:42:51,450
can lie within this context.

2164

01:42:51,450 --> 01:42:55,410

But if you are only
religious in name and say,

2165

01:42:55,410 --> 01:42:57,232

I'm a Christian, that
isn't good enough.

2166

01:42:57,232 --> 01:42:59,190

You have to practice true
Christianity in order

2167

01:42:59,190 --> 01:43:02,310

to forgive and to understand.

2168

01:43:02,310 --> 01:43:03,790

And that isn't easy.

2169

01:43:03,790 --> 01:43:05,040

Most people are not like that.

2170

01:43:05,040 --> 01:43:07,375

But I have many friends
who are true friends

2171

01:43:07,375 --> 01:43:08,250

of the Jewish people.

2172

01:43:08,250 --> 01:43:09,510

They are true friends of mine.

2173

01:43:09,510 --> 01:43:14,388

I do believe that they are
certainly not antisemitic.

2174

01:43:14,388 --> 01:43:16,430

But that isn't good enough
to have a few friends.

2175

01:43:16,430 --> 01:43:19,320

I think, fundamentally,
there must be a change.

2176
01:43:19,320 --> 01:43:22,080
The change won't
come from without.

2177
01:43:22,080 --> 01:43:22,920
From without?

2178
01:43:22,920 --> 01:43:25,470
Yeah, from-- it will not
come from the Gentiles.

2179
01:43:25,470 --> 01:43:29,530
It'll have to come
within the Jewish people.

2180
01:43:29,530 --> 01:43:32,800
It hasn't changed for
how many centuries?

2181
01:43:32,800 --> 01:43:34,660
For 2,000, 3,000 years.

2182
01:43:34,660 --> 01:43:38,450
I don't see any reason
why it should change now.

2183
01:43:38,450 --> 01:43:41,830
Especially with this
problem in the Middle East.

2184
01:43:41,830 --> 01:43:44,500
This is even exasperating
the whole problem.

2185
01:43:44,500 --> 01:43:46,430
It's making it even worse.

2186
01:43:46,430 --> 01:43:48,010
How?

2187
01:43:48,010 --> 01:43:52,060

Well, the Jews have
been considered victims

2188
01:43:52,060 --> 01:43:55,510
all their lives, all
throughout history.

2189
01:43:55,510 --> 01:43:57,560
And suddenly we are
not victims any longer.

2190
01:43:57,560 --> 01:44:00,920
As long as we were victims,
then the poor Jewish people.

2191
01:44:00,920 --> 01:44:02,620
They might have helped them.

2192
01:44:02,620 --> 01:44:04,280
Might not have helped.

2193
01:44:04,280 --> 01:44:06,430
But we are looked upon
now as oppressors.

2194
01:44:06,430 --> 01:44:08,500
You know, we are
pressing the Arabs.

2195
01:44:08,500 --> 01:44:12,160
And we have taken the
lands and so forth.

2196
01:44:12,160 --> 01:44:14,300
People don't like it.

2197
01:44:14,300 --> 01:44:18,080
But I, personally, don't
care about this opinion.

2198
01:44:18,080 --> 01:44:21,605
I care about oppressing
another nation, which I think

2199

01:44:21,605 --> 01:44:23,240

one should solve this problem.

2200

01:44:23,240 --> 01:44:27,800

I think one should solve
the Israeli-Arab conflict.

2201

01:44:27,800 --> 01:44:30,492

Hopefully, the
peace negotiations

2202

01:44:30,492 --> 01:44:31,450

have started yesterday.

2203

01:44:31,450 --> 01:44:34,820

I am crossing my
fingers that peace

2204

01:44:34,820 --> 01:44:36,740

will come out of it after all.

2205

01:44:36,740 --> 01:44:37,490

I have children.

2206

01:44:37,490 --> 01:44:38,870

I have grandchildren
who will eventually

2207

01:44:38,870 --> 01:44:39,912

have to go into the army.

2208

01:44:39,912 --> 01:44:43,290

And I have been in the
army almost all my life.

2209

01:44:43,290 --> 01:44:44,477

I don't want--

2210

01:44:44,477 --> 01:44:46,310

I really want peace
more than anything else,

2211
01:44:46,310 --> 01:44:49,390
but not under any price.

2212
01:44:49,390 --> 01:44:50,590
We have to be--

2213
01:44:50,590 --> 01:44:53,680
people don't understand
that the security

2214
01:44:53,680 --> 01:44:58,220
problem is the most crucial
problem with this conflict.

2215
01:44:58,220 --> 01:45:02,420
If we haven't got security,
we can't give anything up.

2216
01:45:02,420 --> 01:45:05,960
But on the other hand, I do
believe that we should not

2217
01:45:05,960 --> 01:45:07,980
rule another people.

2218
01:45:07,980 --> 01:45:15,530
I think they should have their
own political and national

2219
01:45:15,530 --> 01:45:16,140
aspirations.

2220
01:45:16,140 --> 01:45:17,840
They have a right to it.

2221
01:45:17,840 --> 01:45:19,700
How and when, I don't know.

2222
01:45:19,700 --> 01:45:21,560
But first and
foremost, security.

2223
01:45:21,560 --> 01:45:33,560

2224
01:45:33,560 --> 01:45:36,860
I want to go back to
some other questions

2225
01:45:36,860 --> 01:45:41,210
I had ready to ask you today.

2226
01:45:41,210 --> 01:45:44,450
I believe we left at just
about the time that you were

2227
01:45:44,450 --> 01:45:46,400
to go on a Kindertransport.

2228
01:45:46,400 --> 01:45:54,140

2229
01:45:54,140 --> 01:46:04,950
So how did you get the chance
to go on the Kindertransport?

2230
01:46:04,950 --> 01:46:08,940
Well, it was after the
Kristallnacht and the 10th

2231
01:46:08,940 --> 01:46:15,690
of November 1938, when all Jews,
male Jews over the age of 16

2232
01:46:15,690 --> 01:46:18,390
were taken to
concentration camps.

2233
01:46:18,390 --> 01:46:23,040
And then when they were released
but given the opportunity

2234
01:46:23,040 --> 01:46:24,240

to emigrate.

2235

01:46:24,240 --> 01:46:29,680

In those days, Jews
were allowed to leave.

2236

01:46:29,680 --> 01:46:32,335

But then after the war, they
couldn't leave any longer.

2237

01:46:32,335 --> 01:46:33,460

I think Hitler was trapped.

2238

01:46:33,460 --> 01:46:35,620

He didn't know what
to do with the Jews,

2239

01:46:35,620 --> 01:46:38,830

so he started to annihilate
the Jews I think.

2240

01:46:38,830 --> 01:46:41,890

Beforehand, Jews could leave.

2241

01:46:41,890 --> 01:46:47,630

So the situation was
so bad that all Jews

2242

01:46:47,630 --> 01:46:48,660

wanted to leave Germany.

2243

01:46:48,660 --> 01:46:55,340

So a organization was founded by
the Jewish community in England

2244

01:46:55,340 --> 01:46:58,610

and maybe together with
the British government,

2245

01:46:58,610 --> 01:47:01,220

and they took almost
10,000 children

2246

01:47:01,220 --> 01:47:05,720
from the age of very young to
the age of maybe 16 or 17 who

2247

01:47:05,720 --> 01:47:07,250
were allowed to go to England.

2248

01:47:07,250 --> 01:47:08,630
I was amongst those children.

2249

01:47:08,630 --> 01:47:12,110

2250

01:47:12,110 --> 01:47:13,880
Where did you go to--

2251

01:47:13,880 --> 01:47:15,110
how did you get there?

2252

01:47:15,110 --> 01:47:16,760
By boat, train?

2253

01:47:16,760 --> 01:47:20,840
We were brought to Berlin.

2254

01:47:20,840 --> 01:47:26,700
And from there, we were
taken by train to Holland.

2255

01:47:26,700 --> 01:47:29,000
To Hoek van Holland, which
is a town in Holland.

2256

01:47:29,000 --> 01:47:34,230
I think it's a town
by the sea somewhere.

2257

01:47:34,230 --> 01:47:39,420
And then we were brought
over by ferry to Dovercourt,

2258

01:47:39,420 --> 01:47:41,280
near Harwich in England.

2259

01:47:41,280 --> 01:47:44,820
And there I stayed for three
months in a kind of a camp.

2260

01:47:44,820 --> 01:47:49,770
And then we were taken
to London into a hostel.

2261

01:47:49,770 --> 01:47:50,648
In a hostel?

2262

01:47:50,648 --> 01:47:51,690
Yeah, I stayed in hostel.

2263

01:47:51,690 --> 01:47:54,390
When the war broke out, we
were evacuated with our schools

2264

01:47:54,390 --> 01:47:55,380
to smaller towns.

2265

01:47:55,380 --> 01:47:58,460

2266

01:47:58,460 --> 01:48:01,460
How big was the hostel?

2267

01:48:01,460 --> 01:48:03,230
Maybe 25 children.

2268

01:48:03,230 --> 01:48:04,190
All Jewish?

2269

01:48:04,190 --> 01:48:04,940
All Jewish.

2270

01:48:04,940 --> 01:48:06,530
All from the Kindertransport.

2271

01:48:06,530 --> 01:48:09,660

Who ran it?

2272

01:48:09,660 --> 01:48:11,830

The Jewish community, I believe.

2273

01:48:11,830 --> 01:48:14,970

And there was a matron there.

2274

01:48:14,970 --> 01:48:19,300

And we had accommodations
and slept there and so forth,

2275

01:48:19,300 --> 01:48:20,340

and ate there.

2276

01:48:20,340 --> 01:48:23,032

And we went to school.

2277

01:48:23,032 --> 01:48:24,530

What was school like?

2278

01:48:24,530 --> 01:48:26,647

The British schools
are kind of--

2279

01:48:26,647 --> 01:48:27,605

have a real reputation.

2280

01:48:27,605 --> 01:48:28,520

[LAUGHTER]

2281

01:48:28,520 --> 01:48:29,660

I don't know.

2282

01:48:29,660 --> 01:48:32,060

I didn't know any English
when I came to England,

2283

01:48:32,060 --> 01:48:35,090

and so it was

pretty tough for me.

2284

01:48:35,090 --> 01:48:38,900

And then I was stunted by
going to German schools.

2285

01:48:38,900 --> 01:48:41,270

I was always frightened what
the teachers would do next,

2286

01:48:41,270 --> 01:48:41,818

you know?

2287

01:48:41,818 --> 01:48:42,860

What they would do to me.

2288

01:48:42,860 --> 01:48:45,860

And I wasn't really a good
pupil because of this.

2289

01:48:45,860 --> 01:48:47,540

I had no fundament.

2290

01:48:47,540 --> 01:48:49,730

I had no-- I couldn't learn.

2291

01:48:49,730 --> 01:48:53,270

I was always persecuted
in the German schools.

2292

01:48:53,270 --> 01:48:54,290

So I came to England.

2293

01:48:54,290 --> 01:48:56,720

I was a mediocre kind of.

2294

01:48:56,720 --> 01:48:58,280

But I learned
English pretty fast.

2295

01:48:58,280 --> 01:49:01,970

And it was a grammar school.

2296
01:49:01,970 --> 01:49:06,240
And I learned all
the usual subjects.

2297
01:49:06,240 --> 01:49:08,880
We had decent
teachers, except one.

2298
01:49:08,880 --> 01:49:11,190
He was an Irishman.

2299
01:49:11,190 --> 01:49:12,910
He didn't like the Jews.

2300
01:49:12,910 --> 01:49:14,160
His name was Mr. Flanagan.

2301
01:49:14,160 --> 01:49:15,870
I remember him very well.

2302
01:49:15,870 --> 01:49:17,910
And he always used
to run the Jews down.

2303
01:49:17,910 --> 01:49:22,110
And he had almost the same
kind of theory about the Jews

2304
01:49:22,110 --> 01:49:23,040
like the Germans.

2305
01:49:23,040 --> 01:49:24,300
The Jews looked different.

2306
01:49:24,300 --> 01:49:27,180
That they had long noses,
and long fingernails,

2307
01:49:27,180 --> 01:49:28,080
and kinky hair.

2308

01:49:28,080 --> 01:49:31,470

All this kind of nonsense.

2309

01:49:31,470 --> 01:49:33,270

And they let him teach you?

2310

01:49:33,270 --> 01:49:34,170

Yes.

2311

01:49:34,170 --> 01:49:36,930

I asked him.

2312

01:49:36,930 --> 01:49:39,240

Even being only 14 years
old, I went up to him.

2313

01:49:39,240 --> 01:49:41,160

I said Mr. Flanagan,
why don't you like Jews?

2314

01:49:41,160 --> 01:49:43,577

I said, if you're going to hit
me-- because in those days,

2315

01:49:43,577 --> 01:49:44,460

you were being caned.

2316

01:49:44,460 --> 01:49:46,770

Had a cane and they
slapped you across the hand

2317

01:49:46,770 --> 01:49:53,160

with the most terrific force,
without any compassion, the way

2318

01:49:53,160 --> 01:49:54,750

to hit a child.

2319

01:49:54,750 --> 01:49:58,063

Anyway, this doesn't seem
today sensible to hit.

2320

01:49:58,063 --> 01:49:58,980

You're not allowed to.

2321

01:49:58,980 --> 01:50:02,580

In those days, you were beaten.

2322

01:50:02,580 --> 01:50:05,113

I thought he was going to
cane me, but he didn't.

2323

01:50:05,113 --> 01:50:06,780

He said, you know why
I don't like Jews?

2324

01:50:06,780 --> 01:50:10,140

And he said it in a very
sort of venomous manner.

2325

01:50:10,140 --> 01:50:13,410

He said, because one day I
went to the East End of London

2326

01:50:13,410 --> 01:50:15,540

and I bought a jacket
and he cheated me.

2327

01:50:15,540 --> 01:50:17,220

And he was a Jew.

2328

01:50:17,220 --> 01:50:19,830

So I asked him-- only
14 years, I said,

2329

01:50:19,830 --> 01:50:21,390

didn't Christians
ever cheat you?

2330

01:50:21,390 --> 01:50:23,010

And he was very angry with me.

2331

01:50:23,010 --> 01:50:27,366

2332
01:50:27,366 --> 01:50:29,560
[LAUGHS] He's a stupid man.

2333
01:50:29,560 --> 01:50:31,090
He's a teacher.

2334
01:50:31,090 --> 01:50:34,660
The authorities never talked
to him about his attitude?

2335
01:50:34,660 --> 01:50:35,430
I don't remember.

2336
01:50:35,430 --> 01:50:36,138
I don't think so.

2337
01:50:36,138 --> 01:50:40,360

2338
01:50:40,360 --> 01:50:43,510
You know, there's
antisemitism in England

2339
01:50:43,510 --> 01:50:45,890
as well as anywhere
else in the world.

2340
01:50:45,890 --> 01:50:50,050
Always stupid England
people, you find them.

2341
01:50:50,050 --> 01:50:52,642
More than I would
like them to be.

2342
01:50:52,642 --> 01:50:57,540
You went to a regular
English public--

2343
01:50:57,540 --> 01:50:58,750
their terms are different.

2344
01:50:58,750 --> 01:51:00,000
No, it wasn't a public school.

2345
01:51:00,000 --> 01:51:03,444
It was a--

2346
01:51:03,444 --> 01:51:05,030
A regular English day school?

2347
01:51:05,030 --> 01:51:05,900
Yeah.

2348
01:51:05,900 --> 01:51:07,070
With other English children?

2349
01:51:07,070 --> 01:51:07,570
Yes.

2350
01:51:07,570 --> 01:51:10,170

2351
01:51:10,170 --> 01:51:13,710
What was it like?

2352
01:51:13,710 --> 01:51:16,610
Is it like all the rumors
are about English schools?

2353
01:51:16,610 --> 01:51:20,640
Well, I didn't
make many friends.

2354
01:51:20,640 --> 01:51:23,700
They called us Germans
because the war broke out

2355
01:51:23,700 --> 01:51:26,160
and there was lots of
propaganda against the Germans.

2356

01:51:26,160 --> 01:51:29,920
And then German refugees were
interned on the Isle of Man.

2357
01:51:29,920 --> 01:51:30,840
Were you interned?

2358
01:51:30,840 --> 01:51:31,770
No, I was too young.

2359
01:51:31,770 --> 01:51:34,080
Over the age of 16,
they were all interned.

2360
01:51:34,080 --> 01:51:36,270
Like the Japanese
were interned here,

2361
01:51:36,270 --> 01:51:39,240
they thought anybody
German is a spy.

2362
01:51:39,240 --> 01:51:41,880
Until they realized that
we were Jewish refugees,

2363
01:51:41,880 --> 01:51:44,700
until they sorted things out,
there was a panic in England.

2364
01:51:44,700 --> 01:51:47,250
Hitler had captured
France and they

2365
01:51:47,250 --> 01:51:49,680
were about to invade England.

2366
01:51:49,680 --> 01:51:50,820
So they went into a panic.

2367
01:51:50,820 --> 01:51:52,860
But slowly, they were
released and they were

2368
01:51:52,860 --> 01:51:55,110
even able to join the army.

2369
01:51:55,110 --> 01:51:59,100
So things started to get normal.

2370
01:51:59,100 --> 01:52:00,510
But the children
in school when--

2371
01:52:00,510 --> 01:52:02,197
I had a German
accent, of course.

2372
01:52:02,197 --> 01:52:03,280
They thought I was German.

2373
01:52:03,280 --> 01:52:05,900
They didn't quite
realize the difference

2374
01:52:05,900 --> 01:52:06,900
being German and Jewish.

2375
01:52:06,900 --> 01:52:10,620

2376
01:52:10,620 --> 01:52:12,840
Were there a lot
of culture shock?

2377
01:52:12,840 --> 01:52:13,380
For me?

2378
01:52:13,380 --> 01:52:14,340
For you.

2379
01:52:14,340 --> 01:52:15,700
You can't talk about culture.

2380

01:52:15,700 --> 01:52:18,180

What culture does
a boy of 14 got?

2381

01:52:18,180 --> 01:52:19,340

I left my parents.

2382

01:52:19,340 --> 01:52:20,340

It was tough, of course.

2383

01:52:20,340 --> 01:52:22,890

I had to eat at
somebody else's table.

2384

01:52:22,890 --> 01:52:27,390

And I was
fundamentally very shy.

2385

01:52:27,390 --> 01:52:32,840

And there I was taken away from
my home, go somewhere else.

2386

01:52:32,840 --> 01:52:36,120

And not easy.

2387

01:52:36,120 --> 01:52:38,940

When I look at children of
14 I'm surprised-- and 13,

2388

01:52:38,940 --> 01:52:40,340

I was really when I left.

2389

01:52:40,340 --> 01:52:44,450

That a child like that can be
taken away from the parents

2390

01:52:44,450 --> 01:52:46,430

and brought into the big world.

2391

01:52:46,430 --> 01:52:49,430

And has to fend, in a
way, for themselves.

2392
01:52:49,430 --> 01:52:50,290
Not materially.

2393
01:52:50,290 --> 01:52:50,960
We had to eat.

2394
01:52:50,960 --> 01:52:54,150
And we had, of course,
all these material things.

2395
01:52:54,150 --> 01:52:56,120
But spiritually, we had
to fend for ourselves.

2396
01:52:56,120 --> 01:52:58,610
We couldn't go to a
parent and maybe cry

2397
01:52:58,610 --> 01:53:02,000
or ask for advice
or to be consoled.

2398
01:53:02,000 --> 01:53:05,240
I had nowhere to go
to for the child.

2399
01:53:05,240 --> 01:53:10,660
These elementary
things a child needs,

2400
01:53:10,660 --> 01:53:11,930
I didn't have those anymore.

2401
01:53:11,930 --> 01:53:12,850
That was gone.

2402
01:53:12,850 --> 01:53:16,700
Nobody at the school at least
tried to, to some degree,

2403
01:53:16,700 --> 01:53:17,720
fulfill that function?

2404
01:53:17,720 --> 01:53:18,450
None.

2405
01:53:18,450 --> 01:53:20,350
I never had it since
I left my parents.

2406
01:53:20,350 --> 01:53:21,190
I haven't.

2407
01:53:21,190 --> 01:53:24,220
That was gone.

2408
01:53:24,220 --> 01:53:25,390
It was gone.

2409
01:53:25,390 --> 01:53:32,170
I sometimes think about these
things that a child of 13--

2410
01:53:32,170 --> 01:53:38,080
really never did I have anybody
whom I could confide in or look

2411
01:53:38,080 --> 01:53:39,270
for sympathy.

2412
01:53:39,270 --> 01:53:41,170
That was gone.

2413
01:53:41,170 --> 01:53:43,630
That, -- the Nazis
took away from us.

2414
01:53:43,630 --> 01:53:47,320
They took away our childhood,
took away our youth completely.

2415
01:53:47,320 --> 01:53:48,970
And that can never be repaid.

2416

01:53:48,970 --> 01:53:52,330

Whatever they paid, gave
us in restitution money,

2417

01:53:52,330 --> 01:53:54,280

there's no way.

2418

01:53:54,280 --> 01:53:57,110

Some don't realize that maybe.

2419

01:53:57,110 --> 01:53:59,960

I don't think the authorities
are concerned about things.

2420

01:53:59,960 --> 01:54:04,030

They're concerned about, we
have an agreement with the Jews

2421

01:54:04,030 --> 01:54:05,400

to pay them and that's it.

2422

01:54:05,400 --> 01:54:05,900

We've paid.

2423

01:54:05,900 --> 01:54:07,297

That's all we can do.

2424

01:54:07,297 --> 01:54:09,505

Maybe the other people who
work on-- maybe the church

2425

01:54:09,505 --> 01:54:12,610

or intellectuals or people
who deal with these things.

2426

01:54:12,610 --> 01:54:15,940

They probably will realize
what has been done.

2427

01:54:15,940 --> 01:54:18,140

Books have been
written about it.

2428
01:54:18,140 --> 01:54:20,605
But the German authorities
deal with figures.

2429
01:54:20,605 --> 01:54:23,210

2430
01:54:23,210 --> 01:54:28,320
How did not having anybody
to talk to anymore affect you

2431
01:54:28,320 --> 01:54:30,600
throughout your life?

2432
01:54:30,600 --> 01:54:32,790
You know, I'm fundamentally
a very strong person.

2433
01:54:32,790 --> 01:54:36,450
And I adapt myself easily.

2434
01:54:36,450 --> 01:54:42,510
But there were times when I
had to go through crises.

2435
01:54:42,510 --> 01:54:44,910
Sometimes I remember the
Shabbat with my family.

2436
01:54:44,910 --> 01:54:49,990
And I remember even today,
I remember my parents.

2437
01:54:49,990 --> 01:54:52,170
And in fact, it gets worse even.

2438
01:54:52,170 --> 01:54:55,230
When I was a child
somehow it was deflected.

2439
01:54:55,230 --> 01:54:58,770

But now sometimes suddenly I
see a picture of my sister,

2440
01:54:58,770 --> 01:55:01,080
like today, and I
almost want to cry.

2441
01:55:01,080 --> 01:55:04,050
But I haven't done it before.

2442
01:55:04,050 --> 01:55:05,700
It's gone.

2443
01:55:05,700 --> 01:55:07,710
Very difficult to define.

2444
01:55:07,710 --> 01:55:10,660
And then I saw my mother's
picture here suddenly.

2445
01:55:10,660 --> 01:55:14,990
And I realized suddenly that
she was a beautiful woman.

2446
01:55:14,990 --> 01:55:17,850
As a woman, a young girl
of 16, she looked so nice.

2447
01:55:17,850 --> 01:55:21,710
And I never looked at my mother
as somebody who was beautiful.

2448
01:55:21,710 --> 01:55:25,530
Mother, you know, she was
maybe when she died, 38.

2449
01:55:25,530 --> 01:55:28,740
Or when I knew her she
was maybe 32 or 33 or 34.

2450
01:55:28,740 --> 01:55:30,420
So she was an old woman.

2451

01:55:30,420 --> 01:55:35,070

You know, I looked at
my mother like a child

2452

01:55:35,070 --> 01:55:36,240

looks at the mother.

2453

01:55:36,240 --> 01:55:42,060

He doesn't look at his mother
as if she were also once young

2454

01:55:42,060 --> 01:55:43,180

or she was a child.

2455

01:55:43,180 --> 01:55:47,400

But for me, she was a mother,
another generation, old.

2456

01:55:47,400 --> 01:55:49,020

But now when I look
at those pictures,

2457

01:55:49,020 --> 01:55:51,220

the thoughts flood into my mind.

2458

01:55:51,220 --> 01:55:52,810

She was a child.

2459

01:55:52,810 --> 01:55:55,920

She was an adolescent.

2460

01:55:55,920 --> 01:55:58,380

These things come only late.

2461

01:55:58,380 --> 01:55:59,790

And this is a--

2462

01:55:59,790 --> 01:56:03,060

well, this is a terrible
crime, what they did.

2463

01:56:03,060 --> 01:56:04,740
It is.

2464
01:56:04,740 --> 01:56:09,640
You see, honestly, I want
to tell, I can't forgive.

2465
01:56:09,640 --> 01:56:12,160
We talk about today,
you must forgive

2466
01:56:12,160 --> 01:56:14,680
but you must never forget.

2467
01:56:14,680 --> 01:56:15,910
It's not for me to forgive.

2468
01:56:15,910 --> 01:56:17,350
It's for the dead to forgive.

2469
01:56:17,350 --> 01:56:19,280
The victims to forgive.

2470
01:56:19,280 --> 01:56:21,680
Who am I to forgive?

2471
01:56:21,680 --> 01:56:24,420
I will never
forgive the Germans.

2472
01:56:24,420 --> 01:56:30,140
The question is, of course,
what does a new generation--

2473
01:56:30,140 --> 01:56:31,880
difficult. I don't know.

2474
01:56:31,880 --> 01:56:35,060
I can't, I can't deal
with the Germans,

2475
01:56:35,060 --> 01:56:38,180

whether it's a new generation
or the old generations.

2476
01:56:38,180 --> 01:56:39,290
I will not deal with this.

2477
01:56:39,290 --> 01:56:41,330
I won't even think
of it because it's

2478
01:56:41,330 --> 01:56:45,890
too difficult even to
analyze and crystallize

2479
01:56:45,890 --> 01:56:48,700
this whole situation.

2480
01:56:48,700 --> 01:56:52,640
But I have, I carry rancor in
my heart against the Germans.

2481
01:56:52,640 --> 01:56:56,670
Outrageous, disgusting people to
do such things to other people.

2482
01:56:56,670 --> 01:57:00,330
It's beyond my
comprehension, just beyond.

2483
01:57:00,330 --> 01:57:01,450
I can't make it out.

2484
01:57:01,450 --> 01:57:03,790
I know when I see a
dog or a cat suffering,

2485
01:57:03,790 --> 01:57:06,270
I mean, I have
compassion, or men

2486
01:57:06,270 --> 01:57:08,420
begging for money or hungry.

2487

01:57:08,420 --> 01:57:15,180

Without these feelings,
well, I have no idea.

2488

01:57:15,180 --> 01:57:17,020

Even people who deal
with these things,

2489

01:57:17,020 --> 01:57:19,530

I don't think there's an
explanation for that at all.

2490

01:57:19,530 --> 01:57:21,760

But don't talk to me
about forgiveness.

2491

01:57:21,760 --> 01:57:22,620

I will not forgive.

2492

01:57:22,620 --> 01:57:30,090

2493

01:57:30,090 --> 01:57:32,160

When you were sent
away from them,

2494

01:57:32,160 --> 01:57:35,338

how long did you
live in the hostel?

2495

01:57:35,338 --> 01:57:40,070

2496

01:57:40,070 --> 01:57:42,150

Oh, maybe about
seven, eight months.

2497

01:57:42,150 --> 01:57:44,240

And the war broke out.

2498

01:57:44,240 --> 01:57:48,430

And we were all evacuated

to a small town.

2499

01:57:48,430 --> 01:57:51,140

All school children were
evacuated from London,

2500

01:57:51,140 --> 01:57:53,410

which was bombed, as you know.

2501

01:57:53,410 --> 01:57:54,970

And they were sent
to smaller towns.

2502

01:57:54,970 --> 01:57:58,810

And the schools were erected
there in those little towns.

2503

01:57:58,810 --> 01:58:00,310

Where were you sent?

2504

01:58:00,310 --> 01:58:02,620

To a place called Hemel
Hempstead in Hertfordshire,

2505

01:58:02,620 --> 01:58:06,240

maybe an hour from London.

2506

01:58:06,240 --> 01:58:13,770

And I stayed with a
Gentile family, very nice.

2507

01:58:13,770 --> 01:58:16,950

The problem only
arose when their son

2508

01:58:16,950 --> 01:58:18,360

was set to join the army.

2509

01:58:18,360 --> 01:58:22,440

So he joined the 6th airborne
army, which were parachutists.

2510

01:58:22,440 --> 01:58:23,745
And he was sent to Palestine.

2511
01:58:23,745 --> 01:58:26,010
[LAUGHS] And there
were those, you know,

2512
01:58:26,010 --> 01:58:28,700
those terrorists, the
Etzel and the Lehi

2513
01:58:28,700 --> 01:58:33,042
the Jewish underground
playing havoc with the 150,000

2514
01:58:33,042 --> 01:58:33,750
British soldiers.

2515
01:58:33,750 --> 01:58:37,410
So he used to write home letters
what the dirty Jews do to them.

2516
01:58:37,410 --> 01:58:40,180
[LAUGHS] And I was
in his parents' home.

2517
01:58:40,180 --> 01:58:42,630
So that created a
little bit of a problem.

2518
01:58:42,630 --> 01:58:47,830

2519
01:58:47,830 --> 01:58:49,080
How people were in the family?

2520
01:58:49,080 --> 01:58:50,340
How many children?

2521
01:58:50,340 --> 01:58:53,010
Oh, they were an elderly couple.

2522

01:58:53,010 --> 01:58:57,660

And they had two
daughters and this son.

2523

01:58:57,660 --> 01:59:03,320

And one daughter had a husband.

2524

01:59:03,320 --> 01:59:05,240

His name was Benjamin.

2525

01:59:05,240 --> 01:59:07,340

And he was a very bright man.

2526

01:59:07,340 --> 01:59:10,790

But what he used to do,
he used to deliver bread.

2527

01:59:10,790 --> 01:59:12,530

And on the weekend I
used to go with him.

2528

01:59:12,530 --> 01:59:14,630

Delivered bread in a
van and I helped him.

2529

01:59:14,630 --> 01:59:17,160

And he told me
wonderful stories.

2530

01:59:17,160 --> 01:59:19,970

He came from a very
religious home, Christian.

2531

01:59:19,970 --> 01:59:22,640

And his parents made him go
to church three times a day

2532

01:59:22,640 --> 01:59:23,930

or something like that.

2533

01:59:23,930 --> 01:59:25,400

He rebelled.

2534

01:59:25,400 --> 01:59:28,580

And he joined the army
to get away from them.

2535

01:59:28,580 --> 01:59:29,960

And he joined the Air Force.

2536

01:59:29,960 --> 01:59:32,840

And unfortunately, he was shot
down over the Gulf of Biscay

2537

01:59:32,840 --> 01:59:34,200

and he died.

2538

01:59:34,200 --> 01:59:37,730

And I was really heartbroken
because he was something

2539

01:59:37,730 --> 01:59:39,840

which I could relate to.

2540

01:59:39,840 --> 01:59:41,570

He got somebody
I could speak to.

2541

01:59:41,570 --> 01:59:43,880

The others were really--

2542

01:59:43,880 --> 01:59:47,040

English working
people are primitive.

2543

01:59:47,040 --> 01:59:48,050

They are not educated.

2544

01:59:48,050 --> 01:59:50,277

They have very little knowledge.

2545

01:59:50,277 --> 01:59:51,860

You know, I could
never speak to them.

2546

01:59:51,860 --> 01:59:53,120

Although, I was only a child.

2547

01:59:53,120 --> 01:59:56,105

But some things I could
maybe speak to them about.

2548

01:59:56,105 --> 01:59:58,430

About Judaism,
about my religion,

2549

01:59:58,430 --> 02:00:02,820

about my life in Germany and
so forth, about my parents.

2550

02:00:02,820 --> 02:00:05,540

I couldn't talk
to them about it.

2551

02:00:05,540 --> 02:00:07,220

They talked about
their daily lives

2552

02:00:07,220 --> 02:00:10,670

and about their
livelihood and maybe

2553

02:00:10,670 --> 02:00:14,030

about football and about beer.

2554

02:00:14,030 --> 02:00:15,780

That's the things
they talked about,

2555

02:00:15,780 --> 02:00:17,510

which was even
then strange to me.

2556

02:00:17,510 --> 02:00:20,155

But Ben was a little bit
of a knowledgeable man.

2557

02:00:20,155 --> 02:00:21,780
He was a little bit
of an intellectual.

2558
02:00:21,780 --> 02:00:24,670
He had read things.

2559
02:00:24,670 --> 02:00:28,000
So I had spiritual
contact with him.

2560
02:00:28,000 --> 02:00:29,203
And I liked him very much.

2561
02:00:29,203 --> 02:00:31,120
And then when he died
over the Gulf of Biscay,

2562
02:00:31,120 --> 02:00:32,170
I was heartbroken.

2563
02:00:32,170 --> 02:00:37,550
He was one link which
I had that went.

2564
02:00:37,550 --> 02:00:39,450
So did that leave you
feeling very lonely?

2565
02:00:39,450 --> 02:00:39,950
Very.

2566
02:00:39,950 --> 02:00:40,880
I was always lonely.

2567
02:00:40,880 --> 02:00:42,440
I was always lonely.

2568
02:00:42,440 --> 02:00:45,620
I was living in a Gentile home.

2569
02:00:45,620 --> 02:00:49,280

And I had to eat the Gentile
food, even bacon and pork,

2570
02:00:49,280 --> 02:00:50,750
which I would never touch.

2571
02:00:50,750 --> 02:00:56,570
I had to sort of fall in with
the pattern of their living.

2572
02:00:56,570 --> 02:00:58,280
I couldn't be any different.

2573
02:00:58,280 --> 02:00:59,960
But it irked me.

2574
02:00:59,960 --> 02:01:04,090
It irked me that
I had no choice.

2575
02:01:04,090 --> 02:01:06,737
And the terrible
loneliness about me.

2576
02:01:06,737 --> 02:01:07,570
I was all by myself.

2577
02:01:07,570 --> 02:01:10,200

2578
02:01:10,200 --> 02:01:14,870
And thank God, I don't think
it has left on me any mark.

2579
02:01:14,870 --> 02:01:20,030
Because I feel myself to be
a normal person, thank God.

2580
02:01:20,030 --> 02:01:22,270
Was the food a culture shock?

2581
02:01:22,270 --> 02:01:22,770

Yeah.

2582

02:01:22,770 --> 02:01:25,460

Well, if you know about English food with the Yorkshire pudding

2583

02:01:25,460 --> 02:01:30,440

and everything's boiled, and the cup of tea with the milk

2584

02:01:30,440 --> 02:01:31,850

and so forth, you know?

2585

02:01:31,850 --> 02:01:33,710

I acclimatized myself to it.

2586

02:01:33,710 --> 02:01:34,325

I lived.

2587

02:01:34,325 --> 02:01:36,200

And of course, there was rationing in England

2588

02:01:36,200 --> 02:01:38,950

in those days during the war.

2589

02:01:38,950 --> 02:01:41,320

And the way of eating--

2590

02:01:41,320 --> 02:01:45,280

everybody had to eat with a peculiar mannerism.

2591

02:01:45,280 --> 02:01:47,530

The fork isn't held like this, but it's

2592

02:01:47,530 --> 02:01:49,180

held the other way around and peculiar.

2593

02:01:49,180 --> 02:01:51,550

The fork is built in
such a way that there's

2594
02:01:51,550 --> 02:01:53,110
a hollow the food
should go into.

2595
02:01:53,110 --> 02:01:56,140
But the British hold it
the other way around.

2596
02:01:56,140 --> 02:01:57,130
So I learned all that.

2597
02:01:57,130 --> 02:01:59,650
They have a good table
manners, the British.

2598
02:01:59,650 --> 02:02:02,560
But they're very
sparse in eating.

2599
02:02:02,560 --> 02:02:03,700
They don't eat a lot.

2600
02:02:03,700 --> 02:02:07,990
They're very careful
with what they spend.

2601
02:02:07,990 --> 02:02:10,540
But I was never hungry.

2602
02:02:10,540 --> 02:02:11,892
It was OK.

2603
02:02:11,892 --> 02:02:12,850
What was the food like?

2604
02:02:12,850 --> 02:02:14,950
What did you get with rations?

2605
02:02:14,950 --> 02:02:16,900

Oh, bread wasn't
rationed, for one thing.

2606
02:02:16,900 --> 02:02:17,920
Butter was rationed.

2607
02:02:17,920 --> 02:02:19,720
Milk was rationed.

2608
02:02:19,720 --> 02:02:20,770
Tea was rationed.

2609
02:02:20,770 --> 02:02:21,430
Meat was.

2610
02:02:21,430 --> 02:02:22,990
Everything was rationed.

2611
02:02:22,990 --> 02:02:25,750
But it was enough
to keep you going.

2612
02:02:25,750 --> 02:02:28,570
There was no petrol,
gas for the car.

2613
02:02:28,570 --> 02:02:31,140
No cars ran.

2614
02:02:31,140 --> 02:02:33,847
But I think everything
was rationed.

2615
02:02:33,847 --> 02:02:35,430
Maybe bread, I think,
was not rationed

2616
02:02:35,430 --> 02:02:36,450
if I remember correctly.

2617
02:02:36,450 --> 02:02:38,440
Eggs were rationed.

2618
02:02:38,440 --> 02:02:38,940
Fish.

2619
02:02:38,940 --> 02:02:39,450
Everything.

2620
02:02:39,450 --> 02:02:41,283
Everything had to be
bought on ration cards.

2621
02:02:41,283 --> 02:02:45,600

2622
02:02:45,600 --> 02:02:50,640
I was talking to a
British woman whose mother

2623
02:02:50,640 --> 02:02:53,590
was alive during the war.

2624
02:02:53,590 --> 02:02:58,200
And this woman told
me that all of--

2625
02:02:58,200 --> 02:02:58,920
she said all of.

2626
02:02:58,920 --> 02:03:00,600
I don't know if it
was really all of.

2627
02:03:00,600 --> 02:03:05,630
All of the British mothers
would have arsenic or cyanide,

2628
02:03:05,630 --> 02:03:06,470
some poison.

2629
02:03:06,470 --> 02:03:09,350
But they kept it in the house in
case the Germans ever actually

2630
02:03:09,350 --> 02:03:10,570
would be landing.

2631
02:03:10,570 --> 02:03:12,605
And they intended to kill
their children with it

2632
02:03:12,605 --> 02:03:13,510
and gas themselves.

2633
02:03:13,510 --> 02:03:14,570
I don't think so.

2634
02:03:14,570 --> 02:03:17,150
Maybe there were
some who thought.

2635
02:03:17,150 --> 02:03:20,850
I know that the woman I
lived with, with the family,

2636
02:03:20,850 --> 02:03:22,850
she said if the
Germans would come,

2637
02:03:22,850 --> 02:03:24,830
she would put her head
into the gas oven.

2638
02:03:24,830 --> 02:03:26,288
Now, if the Germans
would have come

2639
02:03:26,288 --> 02:03:28,010
I doubt that she
would have done that.

2640
02:03:28,010 --> 02:03:32,450
After all, the Germans did
capture the Netherlands

2641

02:03:32,450 --> 02:03:33,770
and Belgium and France.

2642
02:03:33,770 --> 02:03:36,380
And the whole population
didn't commit suicide.

2643
02:03:36,380 --> 02:03:38,900
Some people were taken away
for slave labor and so forth.

2644
02:03:38,900 --> 02:03:39,900
Some people were killed.

2645
02:03:39,900 --> 02:03:44,720
But on the whole, the
whole population survived.

2646
02:03:44,720 --> 02:03:46,520
I mean, they left them in peace.

2647
02:03:46,520 --> 02:03:48,500
Now, they wouldn't have killed--

2648
02:03:48,500 --> 02:03:49,000