

1
00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:47,712

2
00:00:47,712 --> 00:00:49,450
Talk about black humor.

3
00:00:49,450 --> 00:00:50,680
Yeah.

4
00:00:50,680 --> 00:00:53,320
People, I think, the
tendency is for people

5
00:00:53,320 --> 00:00:57,940
who have survived
traumatic, very difficult,

6
00:00:57,940 --> 00:01:05,560
situations may develop
this type of humor

7
00:01:05,560 --> 00:01:08,350
where they look back
in some sort of way,

8
00:01:08,350 --> 00:01:19,210
in a way which we'll see also
the irony, the humorous aspects

9
00:01:19,210 --> 00:01:21,620
of tragedy.

10
00:01:21,620 --> 00:01:25,690
And I think that
certainly is not

11
00:01:25,690 --> 00:01:28,750
something necessarily
limited to Jews

12
00:01:28,750 --> 00:01:31,660

but limited to people who
have gone through hell

13
00:01:31,660 --> 00:01:34,240
and survived it
and look at it back

14
00:01:34,240 --> 00:01:39,490
and see some of the
[SNEEZES] humorous

15
00:01:39,490 --> 00:01:46,075
things which certainly have
escaped them while they

16
00:01:46,075 --> 00:01:47,860
are suffering through that.

17
00:01:47,860 --> 00:01:51,160
But after the fact, I
think, one can develop--

18
00:01:51,160 --> 00:01:53,920
and that has something to do
with some sort of a detachment

19
00:01:53,920 --> 00:02:00,310
and some sort of a distance
from the actual suffering.

20
00:02:00,310 --> 00:02:02,935
I mean, you do that, also, when
you go through a bad marriage.

21
00:02:02,935 --> 00:02:05,410
You know, when you go through
a bad marriage, my god,

22
00:02:05,410 --> 00:02:08,330
you know, you think you're
just going to suffocate,

23
00:02:08,330 --> 00:02:12,220

and it's a killer.

24

00:02:12,220 --> 00:02:15,220

And once you get through
that, and you look back

25

00:02:15,220 --> 00:02:19,720

at these sort of things, you
just see some of the humor--

26

00:02:19,720 --> 00:02:26,110

black humor-- in these dreadful
situations and the comedy,

27

00:02:26,110 --> 00:02:30,370

human comedy, in the
sort of things which

28

00:02:30,370 --> 00:02:32,290

were a killer at that time.

29

00:02:32,290 --> 00:02:35,110

But you're out of it now, and
you see it from a distance,

30

00:02:35,110 --> 00:02:37,210

from a different perspective.

31

00:02:37,210 --> 00:02:46,180

Also, the ridiculous
comes forth.

32

00:02:46,180 --> 00:02:49,900

And that is, I
think, an art which

33

00:02:49,900 --> 00:02:53,590

needs to be developed by
people who are indeed,

34

00:02:53,590 --> 00:02:58,250

in the real sense of
the word, survivors.

35

00:02:58,250 --> 00:03:00,650

Because if they're don't,
they're not survivors.

36

00:03:00,650 --> 00:03:04,070

The chances are they
may commit suicide.

37

00:03:04,070 --> 00:03:08,450

It is a real art of, in
the best sense of the word,

38

00:03:08,450 --> 00:03:09,428

defending themselves.

39

00:03:09,428 --> 00:03:09,970

That's right.

40

00:03:09,970 --> 00:03:12,968

41

00:03:12,968 --> 00:03:13,510

That's right.

42

00:03:13,510 --> 00:03:19,390

Because, you see, some of us,
and many of us-- and more will,

43

00:03:19,390 --> 00:03:21,400

in the future, the chances are--

44

00:03:21,400 --> 00:03:27,790

live lives where life is just
nothing else but a struggle

45

00:03:27,790 --> 00:03:33,220

and defending oneself
from aggressive forces

46

00:03:33,220 --> 00:03:36,670

of others or situations.

47
00:03:36,670 --> 00:03:42,850
And it's a dreadful thing.

48
00:03:42,850 --> 00:03:51,405
And if you can't find some sense
of humor in the whole thing,

49
00:03:51,405 --> 00:03:52,810
you bury yourself.

50
00:03:52,810 --> 00:03:57,020

51
00:03:57,020 --> 00:04:00,560
I'm thinking now
of how you ended

52
00:04:00,560 --> 00:04:09,463
your writings, in which you said
you felt that you had been--

53
00:04:09,463 --> 00:04:12,990
I'm not saying the exact words--
robbed of a certain capacity

54
00:04:12,990 --> 00:04:14,860
of happiness.

55
00:04:14,860 --> 00:04:21,880

56
00:04:21,880 --> 00:04:24,310
[SIGHS]

57
00:04:24,310 --> 00:04:24,820
All right.

58
00:04:24,820 --> 00:04:36,790
I think that's a very
important and profound,

59

00:04:36,790 --> 00:04:43,240

stimulating question, in a way,
stimulating a lot of responses

60

00:04:43,240 --> 00:04:45,530

and a lot of thoughts
and feelings, to be sure.

61

00:04:45,530 --> 00:04:48,060

62

00:04:48,060 --> 00:04:56,820

Depending on the age of a person
who survived and on the family

63

00:04:56,820 --> 00:05:04,910

situation, in terms
of the loss of family,

64

00:05:04,910 --> 00:05:07,490

there is virtually
anything which

65

00:05:07,490 --> 00:05:18,460

you can somehow overcome
and transcend emotionally,

66

00:05:18,460 --> 00:05:20,340

psychologically.

67

00:05:20,340 --> 00:05:28,250

But one thing I have not is the
loss of a extended family which

68

00:05:28,250 --> 00:05:30,410

functioned well.

69

00:05:30,410 --> 00:05:32,870

That is something
which I have not been

70

00:05:32,870 --> 00:05:37,910

able to come to terms with.

71

00:05:37,910 --> 00:05:42,020

Now, those people
lucky enough who

72

00:05:42,020 --> 00:05:44,630

have found some sort
of a substitute family

73

00:05:44,630 --> 00:05:49,070

by virtue of having created
it themselves, for themselves,

74

00:05:49,070 --> 00:05:50,990

are in a very
different position.

75

00:05:50,990 --> 00:05:55,370

But those of us who
really had been spoiled,

76

00:05:55,370 --> 00:05:59,270

as far as extended family
and immediate family,

77

00:05:59,270 --> 00:06:06,200

close family members concerned,
and have not found anything

78

00:06:06,200 --> 00:06:09,620

which would come close in terms
of family relations which they

79

00:06:09,620 --> 00:06:17,360

may have created for themselves
afterwards will find that this

80

00:06:17,360 --> 00:06:29,560

is the most difficult and tragic
predicament and cannot easily,

81

00:06:29,560 --> 00:06:32,055

if at all, be overcome.

82
00:06:32,055 --> 00:06:35,170

83
00:06:35,170 --> 00:06:44,830
And that is something
which I still suffer from.

84
00:06:44,830 --> 00:06:48,100
Because the loss was too great.

85
00:06:48,100 --> 00:06:53,320
And what I got
afterwards was not

86
00:06:53,320 --> 00:07:01,220
enough to compensate the loss.

87
00:07:01,220 --> 00:07:04,780

88
00:07:04,780 --> 00:07:10,810
And I would say that's
the tragedy of my life.

89
00:07:10,810 --> 00:07:18,520
And very frequently,
I reflect on that

90
00:07:18,520 --> 00:07:27,040
and still decry the loss
and what I don't have

91
00:07:27,040 --> 00:07:29,150
and what I used to have,
this sort of thing.

92
00:07:29,150 --> 00:07:31,420
Now, if people,
for example, didn't

93

00:07:31,420 --> 00:07:36,970
have anything which provides a
meaningful and satisfying frame

94
00:07:36,970 --> 00:07:40,675
of reference to which
they could refer

95
00:07:40,675 --> 00:07:43,990
or associate with
later on in life,

96
00:07:43,990 --> 00:07:45,710
then they've got a
different situation.

97
00:07:45,710 --> 00:07:50,944
But if you've had something
which I consider to be,

98
00:07:50,944 --> 00:07:56,290
at least to me, a
next-to-ideal situation, then I

99
00:07:56,290 --> 00:08:00,670
think the loss is more profound.

100
00:08:00,670 --> 00:08:05,770
And especially if you're not
lucky to have encountered

101
00:08:05,770 --> 00:08:11,050
people who would
have filled that gap,

102
00:08:11,050 --> 00:08:13,701
you are in a bad situation.

103
00:08:13,701 --> 00:08:18,620

104
00:08:18,620 --> 00:08:22,360
So some losses are

just never gotten over.

105
00:08:22,360 --> 00:08:23,800
No, no.

106
00:08:23,800 --> 00:08:26,620
To me, that is the,
perhaps, most serious

107
00:08:26,620 --> 00:08:28,690
of it all, particularly
when you were young

108
00:08:28,690 --> 00:08:33,909
and when you were not
ready to lose that family

109
00:08:33,909 --> 00:08:37,480
emotional cycle emotionally,
when indeed you were not

110
00:08:37,480 --> 00:08:40,929
in a position where, under
normal circumstances,

111
00:08:40,929 --> 00:08:47,270
developmental circumstances,
your umbilical cord is cut

112
00:08:47,270 --> 00:08:49,030
and when you're
not ready for it.

113
00:08:49,030 --> 00:08:50,980
I certainly wasn't ready.

114
00:08:50,980 --> 00:08:55,990
And for years, I
woke up at night.

115
00:08:55,990 --> 00:09:01,240
I wept because of
the losses, primarily

116
00:09:01,240 --> 00:09:04,450
because the loss of my
mother, who was the closest

117
00:09:04,450 --> 00:09:07,900
thing I've ever had in my life.

118
00:09:07,900 --> 00:09:11,200
And I never could come
to terms with that.

119
00:09:11,200 --> 00:09:15,310
It's still something which is
churning in me all the time--

120
00:09:15,310 --> 00:09:15,910
all the time.

121
00:09:15,910 --> 00:09:26,070

122
00:09:26,070 --> 00:09:28,410
I think it's one of the
problems of my generation-- that

123
00:09:28,410 --> 00:09:33,870
is to say, generation
of survivors.

124
00:09:33,870 --> 00:09:36,630
The ones who were
older, perhaps,

125
00:09:36,630 --> 00:09:38,250
may have been
slightly different,

126
00:09:38,250 --> 00:09:43,420
although there was no
systematic study on that at all.

127

00:09:43,420 --> 00:09:46,710

I mean, so little has
been done-- a lot of talk

128

00:09:46,710 --> 00:09:49,650

and a lot of horror stories.

129

00:09:49,650 --> 00:09:51,570

And it's understandable,
and people need

130

00:09:51,570 --> 00:09:52,830

to get it out of their system.

131

00:09:52,830 --> 00:09:58,780

But so little interpretation,
so little interpretation.

132

00:09:58,780 --> 00:10:01,440

And if you look
at all the things

133

00:10:01,440 --> 00:10:05,460

which you are generating
in your project

134

00:10:05,460 --> 00:10:08,520

and to what extent it's
going to be interpreted, who

135

00:10:08,520 --> 00:10:12,300

is going to interpret
it, it seems to me

136

00:10:12,300 --> 00:10:19,870

that how fruitful is it, really,
if it is not interpreted?

137

00:10:19,870 --> 00:10:25,380

Because people are getting
saturated with horror stories

138

00:10:25,380 --> 00:10:29,970

and somehow calloused.

139
00:10:29,970 --> 00:10:31,320
And so where does it get us?

140
00:10:31,320 --> 00:10:34,200
And I don't think it does get
us very far, just listening

141
00:10:34,200 --> 00:10:41,170
to this dreadful
ghastliness,

142
00:10:41,170 --> 00:10:47,290
if we don't have a
key to understanding

143
00:10:47,290 --> 00:10:52,990
and overcoming and preventing.

144
00:10:52,990 --> 00:10:56,170
And that, to me, is
what really motivated ,

145
00:10:56,170 --> 00:11:00,820
me after I was no longer in a
position to continue my medical

146
00:11:00,820 --> 00:11:03,900
studies back in Prague, when
I just was able to do that

147
00:11:03,900 --> 00:11:06,010
and starting it.

148
00:11:06,010 --> 00:11:07,900
I said, well, the
next best thing

149
00:11:07,900 --> 00:11:13,980
is, when I was in Australia
and then in the United States

150

00:11:13,980 --> 00:11:17,260
and, well, I don't know, in
Germany and all that, I said,

151

00:11:17,260 --> 00:11:21,730
the next best thing is
to study a discipline

152

00:11:21,730 --> 00:11:24,190
in the social sciences
which will enable

153

00:11:24,190 --> 00:11:28,720
me to better understand what
happened and how it happens

154

00:11:28,720 --> 00:11:31,390
and what can be
done to prevent it.

155

00:11:31,390 --> 00:11:34,180
Because if I don't do it,
I have wasted my life.

156

00:11:34,180 --> 00:11:36,340
What have I learned?

157

00:11:36,340 --> 00:11:40,000
And so many people
just simply get

158

00:11:40,000 --> 00:11:48,580
lost and get suffocated or
drown in their suffering

159

00:11:48,580 --> 00:11:54,460
without really getting out of
it to see what can be learned.

160

00:11:54,460 --> 00:11:56,770
And that's why I'm
doing what I'm doing.

161

00:11:56,770 --> 00:11:58,840

And that is why I
felt obligated--

162

00:11:58,840 --> 00:12:01,330

and I mean obligated,
particularly towards those

163

00:12:01,330 --> 00:12:03,370

who have not survived.

164

00:12:03,370 --> 00:12:06,790

And people who would
have indeed closed

165

00:12:06,790 --> 00:12:11,020

that gap which has been
created by the loss of family--

166

00:12:11,020 --> 00:12:15,670

my cousin, my
friends, people who

167

00:12:15,670 --> 00:12:21,850

were, in their way,
geniuses, musicians, artists,

168

00:12:21,850 --> 00:12:24,340

people of my generation,
slightly older--

169

00:12:24,340 --> 00:12:28,070

170

00:12:28,070 --> 00:12:32,880

who would have been ideal
companions and friends.

171

00:12:32,880 --> 00:12:35,400

172

00:12:35,400 --> 00:12:38,600

And that's what I said, with
a great deal of trepidation,

173
00:12:38,600 --> 00:12:50,640
and that's my reflected opinion,
that the best of us have died,

174
00:12:50,640 --> 00:12:55,380
have not survived, and that
we are the ones who survived

175
00:12:55,380 --> 00:13:03,160
are not the best material of
that particular group of people

176
00:13:03,160 --> 00:13:04,420
who went through hell.

177
00:13:04,420 --> 00:13:09,230

178
00:13:09,230 --> 00:13:12,290
I was very fortunate,
particularly in Theresienstadt

179
00:13:12,290 --> 00:13:17,540
but even in Auschwitz, but
primarily in Theresienstadt,

180
00:13:17,540 --> 00:13:23,180
to meet with people who were
extraordinary in so many ways--

181
00:13:23,180 --> 00:13:30,510
talented, gifted, in music,
intellectually, scientists,

182
00:13:30,510 --> 00:13:35,200
human beings with
tremendous humanity.

183
00:13:35,200 --> 00:13:40,540
Not a single one-- not a

single one-- has survived.

184
00:13:40,540 --> 00:13:44,230
None of my friends whom
I've been closest to,

185
00:13:44,230 --> 00:13:46,480
not a single one has survived.

186
00:13:46,480 --> 00:13:49,660

187
00:13:49,660 --> 00:13:53,610
So besides the enormous
loss of your mother,

188
00:13:53,610 --> 00:13:58,240
the mass of the loss
of so many people

189
00:13:58,240 --> 00:14:03,290
you cared for has been too much.

190
00:14:03,290 --> 00:14:06,530
Right-- overwhelmed me.

191
00:14:06,530 --> 00:14:09,230
And then, of course,
you look at those people

192
00:14:09,230 --> 00:14:12,830
who you have put on the
pedestal, rightly or wrongly--

193
00:14:12,830 --> 00:14:14,930
I don't think wrongly,
but I think rightly.

194
00:14:14,930 --> 00:14:17,460
Because really, with
some sort of distance,

195

00:14:17,460 --> 00:14:19,400
I don't think I project
some sort of things

196
00:14:19,400 --> 00:14:22,490
because I still have
some of their products--

197
00:14:22,490 --> 00:14:31,650
poems, writings, thoughts
still available, and music.

198
00:14:31,650 --> 00:14:35,930
And if you just look at it all
and see who of these people

199
00:14:35,930 --> 00:14:40,610
created all this under those
unbelievable circumstances

200
00:14:40,610 --> 00:14:42,950
have survived, you don't
find any, hardly any.

201
00:14:42,950 --> 00:14:43,880
I haven't.

202
00:14:43,880 --> 00:14:45,710
Not in my environment,
I haven't.

203
00:14:45,710 --> 00:14:47,180
I'm sure there may be some.

204
00:14:47,180 --> 00:14:50,678
But none in my environment.

205
00:14:50,678 --> 00:14:53,310

206
00:14:53,310 --> 00:14:56,070
And that makes it
very difficult now.

207
00:14:56,070 --> 00:15:02,200

208
00:15:02,200 --> 00:15:03,840
And there is no
substitute for that.

209
00:15:03,840 --> 00:15:08,110
So I mean, there are so many
things which can be mended.

210
00:15:08,110 --> 00:15:10,450
And this is precisely
something which

211
00:15:10,450 --> 00:15:14,020
I think is very important for
me because I haven't come up

212
00:15:14,020 --> 00:15:15,258
with an answer.

213
00:15:15,258 --> 00:15:17,800
I haven't seen how these sort
of thing-- yet if you're lucky,

214
00:15:17,800 --> 00:15:24,040
if you really meet people, who
would be on a similar level

215
00:15:24,040 --> 00:15:29,710
of humanity and
sophistication, if you will,

216
00:15:29,710 --> 00:15:32,980
human accomplishment, whatever--

217
00:15:32,980 --> 00:15:40,300
talent-- then I think you are
in a very fortunate position.

218

00:15:40,300 --> 00:15:46,570
But I have not come
across anything which

219
00:15:46,570 --> 00:15:49,090
would come close, actually.

220
00:15:49,090 --> 00:15:50,980
And I feel deprived.

221
00:15:50,980 --> 00:15:52,720
And I feel very lonely
because of that.

222
00:15:52,720 --> 00:15:54,750
Yes.

223
00:15:54,750 --> 00:15:59,700
Do you think, saying that,
if you would meet someone

224
00:15:59,700 --> 00:16:01,500
like that, the
mere fact that you

225
00:16:01,500 --> 00:16:07,690
have been through your
experiences in the camps

226
00:16:07,690 --> 00:16:10,810
has made such a
dent in your life

227
00:16:10,810 --> 00:16:14,620
that true intimacy might
not be possible, anyway?

228
00:16:14,620 --> 00:16:23,100

229
00:16:23,100 --> 00:16:23,850
I don't know.

230

00:16:23,850 --> 00:16:25,970

It's a very complex--

231

00:16:25,970 --> 00:16:29,350

232

00:16:29,350 --> 00:16:35,050

very complex-- problem.

233

00:16:35,050 --> 00:16:41,660

And I would say
that in this regard,

234

00:16:41,660 --> 00:16:43,760

I am not that pessimistic.

235

00:16:43,760 --> 00:16:46,510

I think it is possible.

236

00:16:46,510 --> 00:17:01,180

But the chances which
may come along your way

237

00:17:01,180 --> 00:17:04,839

are remote, that you
would find people.

238

00:17:04,839 --> 00:17:06,329

There's no question
that you can.

239

00:17:06,329 --> 00:17:11,609

And I think you can relate,
and you can express,

240

00:17:11,609 --> 00:17:15,270

even though you
may find people who

241

00:17:15,270 --> 00:17:18,420

may have had a very
different type of experience,

242
00:17:18,420 --> 00:17:22,650
certainly very different
from the one which one had

243
00:17:22,650 --> 00:17:25,890
when one survived the camps.

244
00:17:25,890 --> 00:17:28,590
I still think you can
develop relationships

245
00:17:28,590 --> 00:17:35,160
which will be meaningful
and profound and deep.

246
00:17:35,160 --> 00:17:48,810
But to find people who will
fit this sort of requirement

247
00:17:48,810 --> 00:17:58,210
or, if you will, this
sort of situation,

248
00:17:58,210 --> 00:18:04,080
no, hope are remote,
unless you're lucky,

249
00:18:04,080 --> 00:18:06,030
and you just stumble
across it, and you'll

250
00:18:06,030 --> 00:18:08,460
see people here or there.

251
00:18:08,460 --> 00:18:15,920
But in my life, there
is some few, yeah.

252
00:18:15,920 --> 00:18:21,140
And either they
are not accessible

253

00:18:21,140 --> 00:18:23,700
or they are different
life situation.

254

00:18:23,700 --> 00:18:31,640
You just, simply, there
is not enough of what

255

00:18:31,640 --> 00:18:37,460
you need to heal for such
an encounter and all that.

256

00:18:37,460 --> 00:18:42,110
So some just pass
you by, so to speak.

257

00:18:42,110 --> 00:18:43,610
It's very difficult.
It's a question

258

00:18:43,610 --> 00:18:49,860
of tremendous fortune and luck.

259

00:18:49,860 --> 00:18:54,380

260

00:18:54,380 --> 00:18:58,280
As you said, some of these
elements were talked about,

261

00:18:58,280 --> 00:19:00,090
might have been
studied and haven't.

262

00:19:00,090 --> 00:19:03,920
But what thoughts do
you have about not only

263

00:19:03,920 --> 00:19:06,050
you, in particular,
but anyone who

264

00:19:06,050 --> 00:19:08,270
went through that
experience and how

265
00:19:08,270 --> 00:19:13,620
your own psyche and
emotions were eroded

266
00:19:13,620 --> 00:19:18,450
or you had to be so guarded
that it affects you ever after?

267
00:19:18,450 --> 00:19:27,208

268
00:19:27,208 --> 00:19:29,000
Well, I don't know
whether one can come out

269
00:19:29,000 --> 00:19:31,400
with any sort of generalization.

270
00:19:31,400 --> 00:19:33,590
I think that's pretty much--

271
00:19:33,590 --> 00:19:38,360
I guess the response would
be, from case to case,

272
00:19:38,360 --> 00:19:40,580
different, probably.

273
00:19:40,580 --> 00:19:48,350
But obviously, people who
have been hurt a great deal,

274
00:19:48,350 --> 00:19:55,380
in, particularly, the most
sensitive areas, we all

275
00:19:55,380 --> 00:20:00,420
want to prevent any
sort of hurt to recur

276
00:20:00,420 --> 00:20:03,030
and, therefore, will be guarded.

277
00:20:03,030 --> 00:20:04,980
That's, most likely,
the tendency.

278
00:20:04,980 --> 00:20:08,160

279
00:20:08,160 --> 00:20:15,690
And what I've found out, that,
in very many situations, people

280
00:20:15,690 --> 00:20:22,500
who may have had a
glimpse of the way

281
00:20:22,500 --> 00:20:30,240
you function and discovered
your sensitivities,

282
00:20:30,240 --> 00:20:38,190
instead of really being
sympathetic or empathetic,

283
00:20:38,190 --> 00:20:48,320
may actually use it to
lash out and hurt you.

284
00:20:48,320 --> 00:20:51,830
Because they know that you
are vulnerable, rather than

285
00:20:51,830 --> 00:20:55,430
and hey, you know, I'm
going to be loving,

286
00:20:55,430 --> 00:20:58,430
or I'm going to be
supportive, or I'm

287

00:20:58,430 --> 00:21:02,450
going to be this and that,
which will compensate for that.

288

00:21:02,450 --> 00:21:06,050
Most of the people are either
so callous that they don't

289

00:21:06,050 --> 00:21:16,780
give a damn, one, or, two, they
will exploit that situation

290

00:21:16,780 --> 00:21:20,380
and turn it against
you when it suits them.

291

00:21:20,380 --> 00:21:23,080
The cruelty, the
amount of cruelty,

292

00:21:23,080 --> 00:21:29,860
I've experienced in people
where you disclosed yourself,

293

00:21:29,860 --> 00:21:33,590
just opened up, and how they
took advantage of these things

294

00:21:33,590 --> 00:21:38,620
and just to really stab you in
the areas which still have not

295

00:21:38,620 --> 00:21:42,850
healed, which still are
bleeding, is just enormous.

296

00:21:42,850 --> 00:21:46,110
And I've got problems with
that, problems with that,

297

00:21:46,110 --> 00:21:48,520
understand that people can
be, actually, so cruel--

298
00:21:48,520 --> 00:21:51,380

299
00:21:51,380 --> 00:21:55,940
understanding that you're
vulnerable in these areas.

300
00:21:55,940 --> 00:21:57,800
And that has happened, yes.

301
00:21:57,800 --> 00:22:00,250
And that, of course,
teaches you a few lessons.

302
00:22:00,250 --> 00:22:04,010
And you know, I'm in no
position to expose myself

303
00:22:04,010 --> 00:22:09,440
to this sort of
continuous hurt, you know?

304
00:22:09,440 --> 00:22:11,930
And I've had my share.

305
00:22:11,930 --> 00:22:18,200
Therefore, I won't
expose myself.

306
00:22:18,200 --> 00:22:19,940
But that's a tremendous problem.

307
00:22:19,940 --> 00:22:22,920
Because if you don't
expose yourself--

308
00:22:22,920 --> 00:22:25,010
and that's something which
I wrote, I don't know,

309
00:22:25,010 --> 00:22:37,580

kind of thought in all of my
writings is to be related.

310
00:22:37,580 --> 00:22:43,430
And if you're not willing
to relate, you won't be.

311
00:22:43,430 --> 00:22:44,430
And that's all about it.

312
00:22:44,430 --> 00:22:46,222
And so, therefore, you
just can't avoid it.

313
00:22:46,222 --> 00:22:48,410
Because if you avoid it,
you're not going to relate.

314
00:22:48,410 --> 00:22:51,500
You're just going to never
have an intimate relationship

315
00:22:51,500 --> 00:22:55,490
and, therefore, not be satisfied
in those areas which we need

316
00:22:55,490 --> 00:22:57,860
to be satisfied
most, emotionally

317
00:22:57,860 --> 00:23:02,680
and psychologically,
sexually, whatever.

318
00:23:02,680 --> 00:23:08,530
And so, therefore, it's
a self-defeating sort

319
00:23:08,530 --> 00:23:09,400
of situation.

320
00:23:09,400 --> 00:23:12,740
And we have to open

up and take the risk.

321

00:23:12,740 --> 00:23:15,070

And that's what I have to
do, except I'm a little bit,

322

00:23:15,070 --> 00:23:16,720

hopefully, more
prudent because you

323

00:23:16,720 --> 00:23:24,100

learn to whom you will expose
yourself and to whom not.

324

00:23:24,100 --> 00:23:25,450

But that's not very easy.

325

00:23:25,450 --> 00:23:27,610

Because people in
different situations

326

00:23:27,610 --> 00:23:34,450

behave differently and are, in
so many ways, unpredictable.

327

00:23:34,450 --> 00:23:37,750

So it's very difficult to
assess the situation accurately

328

00:23:37,750 --> 00:23:39,400

and say, hey, you
know, I'm going

329

00:23:39,400 --> 00:23:41,140

to open up to this person.

330

00:23:41,140 --> 00:23:43,545

And I've opened up to the
wrong people very frequently.

331

00:23:43,545 --> 00:23:44,920

I say, hey, you
know, what have I

332
00:23:44,920 --> 00:23:49,180
learned in terms
of human knowledge,

333
00:23:49,180 --> 00:23:52,270
in terms of assessing
people correctly?

334
00:23:52,270 --> 00:23:54,970
And god, you know,
and mistakes I've made

335
00:23:54,970 --> 00:23:58,390
is just inexcusable, almost.

336
00:23:58,390 --> 00:24:01,240
And so there, you become
very cautious, yes.

337
00:24:01,240 --> 00:24:04,150
And that is something,
perhaps, which I think

338
00:24:04,150 --> 00:24:05,710
is very important to discuss.

339
00:24:05,710 --> 00:24:07,720
Because I don't
think many people you

340
00:24:07,720 --> 00:24:13,030
interview will come and
talk about these things,

341
00:24:13,030 --> 00:24:14,620
will go into this sort of depth.

342
00:24:14,620 --> 00:24:18,430
Because so many people who
are survivors survived,

343

00:24:18,430 --> 00:24:22,710
but they are
walking in the mist.

344
00:24:22,710 --> 00:24:24,870
They have not walked
out of the mist

345
00:24:24,870 --> 00:24:27,810
and still in a fog-- fogged in.

346
00:24:27,810 --> 00:24:32,820
And their level of
consciousness is minimal.

347
00:24:32,820 --> 00:24:34,920
These are very difficult
subjects to talk about.

348
00:24:34,920 --> 00:24:37,210
That's right.

349
00:24:37,210 --> 00:24:38,930
But I think it has to be.

350
00:24:38,930 --> 00:24:39,610
It has to be.

351
00:24:39,610 --> 00:24:43,330
Because otherwise, as I said
before, if we can't learn

352
00:24:43,330 --> 00:24:46,078
from this, you know, forget it.

353
00:24:46,078 --> 00:24:47,290
So that's that.

354
00:24:47,290 --> 00:24:50,460
If we can't learn from that,
what will we learn from?

355

00:24:50,460 --> 00:24:54,040

356

00:24:54,040 --> 00:24:57,223

And most of the people I
know just simply don't see.

357

00:24:57,223 --> 00:24:59,390

They don't even understand
what we are trying to do,

358

00:24:59,390 --> 00:25:02,470

some of us, let's say, in
the Center and all that.

359

00:25:02,470 --> 00:25:08,400

They're just totally blind,
just not the slightest inkling.

360

00:25:08,400 --> 00:25:10,950

They're into it and all the
talk-- blah, blah, blah,

361

00:25:10,950 --> 00:25:14,490

all that, and all this whole
thing, but absolutely not

362

00:25:14,490 --> 00:25:18,310

understood what it's all about.

363

00:25:18,310 --> 00:25:21,615

And that's very discouraging,
at times-- very discouraging.

364

00:25:21,615 --> 00:25:31,020

365

00:25:31,020 --> 00:25:34,770

It sounds to me that,
despite that, there

366

00:25:34,770 --> 00:25:35,910

was optimism in you.

367
00:25:35,910 --> 00:25:40,500
You believed that one can
learn, one can analyze,

368
00:25:40,500 --> 00:25:43,450
and one can apply.

369
00:25:43,450 --> 00:25:43,950
Yeah.

370
00:25:43,950 --> 00:25:48,960
Because that's talking about
meaning and Victor Frankl

371
00:25:48,960 --> 00:25:51,790
and all this and that if you
don't find meaning in life,

372
00:25:51,790 --> 00:25:55,340
forget it because it's hopeless.

373
00:25:55,340 --> 00:25:56,882
And many people can't.

374
00:25:56,882 --> 00:25:58,340
And it's difficult
to find meaning.

375
00:25:58,340 --> 00:26:03,770
I'm not trying to
oversimplify that, at all.

376
00:26:03,770 --> 00:26:04,790
No, it's a struggle.

377
00:26:04,790 --> 00:26:06,260
Oh, it's a terrible struggle.

378
00:26:06,260 --> 00:26:09,290
And it's not something which
you have once you have found it.

379

00:26:09,290 --> 00:26:12,860

It's something which you
have to rediscover and work

380

00:26:12,860 --> 00:26:14,915

on all the time,
just like you have to

381

00:26:14,915 --> 00:26:16,130

with human relationships.

382

00:26:16,130 --> 00:26:19,530

You just can't, I have it
and then let it go and move.

383

00:26:19,530 --> 00:26:20,030

No.

384

00:26:20,030 --> 00:26:21,920

I mean, you have to
work at it every day.

385

00:26:21,920 --> 00:26:25,270

And if you don't, it's
going to fall apart.

386

00:26:25,270 --> 00:26:26,690

So there's no absolute meaning.

387

00:26:26,690 --> 00:26:28,280

No, no, absolutely not.

388

00:26:28,280 --> 00:26:30,230

Because absolute
meaning is Hitler.

389

00:26:30,230 --> 00:26:31,280

That's absolute meaning.

390

00:26:31,280 --> 00:26:34,280

391
00:26:34,280 --> 00:26:37,820
And some bloody
chauvinist Jews--

392
00:26:37,820 --> 00:26:45,870
fascists-- or any sort of
doctrinaire ideologues,

393
00:26:45,870 --> 00:26:49,560
absolutist ideologues.

394
00:26:49,560 --> 00:26:53,820
And no way.

395
00:26:53,820 --> 00:26:54,930
So, I mean, we learn.

396
00:26:54,930 --> 00:27:00,600
And if we just don't remain
open and change perspectives

397
00:27:00,600 --> 00:27:03,930
as we continue to
learn, I mean, we

398
00:27:03,930 --> 00:27:12,260
are doomed to be
rigid and insensitive.

399
00:27:12,260 --> 00:27:23,360

400
00:27:23,360 --> 00:27:28,880
Now, also, in terms of problems,
in terms of human relations

401
00:27:28,880 --> 00:27:35,210
and encounters,
some few months ago,

402
00:27:35,210 --> 00:27:41,720

I've had an interview with
one of the local papers.

403
00:27:41,720 --> 00:27:47,190
And a fairly sensitive
interview with an older lady

404
00:27:47,190 --> 00:27:47,960
and all that--

405
00:27:47,960 --> 00:27:53,410
fairly sensitive and
relatively sophisticated.

406
00:27:53,410 --> 00:27:57,040
And some of the
characteristics which

407
00:27:57,040 --> 00:28:00,010
she described as an
individual and all that,

408
00:28:00,010 --> 00:28:12,380
said conclusions that I have
no aptitude for small talk.

409
00:28:12,380 --> 00:28:15,200
Now, that was very important.

410
00:28:15,200 --> 00:28:17,050
And some people who
know me picked it up.

411
00:28:17,050 --> 00:28:21,200

412
00:28:21,200 --> 00:28:25,730
Because if you remain on
the level of small talk,

413
00:28:25,730 --> 00:28:30,650
you're not going to be
able to explore any depth,

414
00:28:30,650 --> 00:28:33,680
meaning, all the
things we discussed.

415
00:28:33,680 --> 00:28:37,160
Because that's not accessible.

416
00:28:37,160 --> 00:28:39,020
It's not in it.

417
00:28:39,020 --> 00:28:43,220
And because you're surrounded
by people who lose themselves

418
00:28:43,220 --> 00:28:48,500
in meaningless talk,
it's very difficult

419
00:28:48,500 --> 00:28:56,330
to find a partner with
whom you can really

420
00:28:56,330 --> 00:29:00,480
talk things and
discuss them in depth.

421
00:29:00,480 --> 00:29:02,460
And that's, again,
one of my problems.

422
00:29:02,460 --> 00:29:08,520
Because I don't find
these people very easily.

423
00:29:08,520 --> 00:29:11,910
They're just very
few in between.

424
00:29:11,910 --> 00:29:14,530
And therefore, if you don't
have anything in common

425

00:29:14,530 --> 00:29:21,180
and if these people view
life, or go through life,

426

00:29:21,180 --> 00:29:31,510
in this sort of haphazard,
fogged-in, superficial fashion,

427

00:29:31,510 --> 00:29:34,430
there's not much left in
terms of human relationships.

428

00:29:34,430 --> 00:29:40,420
And I think that's one
of the things which

429

00:29:40,420 --> 00:29:43,540
are very important in human
relationships in general terms.

430

00:29:43,540 --> 00:29:46,520
Because people may
develop in different ways.

431

00:29:46,520 --> 00:29:51,640
And if, somehow, they don't
keep up pace together,

432

00:29:51,640 --> 00:29:55,030
they will fall behind
each other to the extent

433

00:29:55,030 --> 00:29:57,080
that they become
estranged from each other

434

00:29:57,080 --> 00:30:02,580
and have found
out that they will

435

00:30:02,580 --> 00:30:09,550
be left empty-handed
and dissatisfied

436
00:30:09,550 --> 00:30:12,520
simply because they no longer
satisfy each other's needs.

437
00:30:12,520 --> 00:30:16,980
Because needs have changed.

438
00:30:16,980 --> 00:30:17,928
This is true.

439
00:30:17,928 --> 00:30:20,780

440
00:30:20,780 --> 00:30:23,490
Well, and that's the tragedy.

441
00:30:23,490 --> 00:30:29,860
So I mean, it's one thing
which I see in this society,

442
00:30:29,860 --> 00:30:31,970
that it's very
easy to be friendly

443
00:30:31,970 --> 00:30:34,850
and all that on a
superficial level.

444
00:30:34,850 --> 00:30:37,030
But once it gets into
the nitty-gritty,

445
00:30:37,030 --> 00:30:39,530
then people get scared
and shy away from it

446
00:30:39,530 --> 00:30:44,090
and are unable to really
explore it any further.

447
00:30:44,090 --> 00:30:47,950

And then that threatens
the hell out of them.

448

00:30:47,950 --> 00:30:54,460
And then, now you are left with
nothing, with just yourself.

449

00:30:54,460 --> 00:30:58,270
And that's something which I
am in a process of learning.

450

00:30:58,270 --> 00:31:01,390
I haven't learned at all.

451

00:31:01,390 --> 00:31:08,440
But learn to live by yourself
and satisfy your own needs,

452

00:31:08,440 --> 00:31:11,970
as well as you can, which
is a dreadful predicament.

453

00:31:11,970 --> 00:31:13,480
Yes because the loneliness--

454

00:31:13,480 --> 00:31:14,274
That's right.

455

00:31:14,274 --> 00:31:15,070
--is there, too.

456

00:31:15,070 --> 00:31:16,630
That's right.

457

00:31:16,630 --> 00:31:21,620
Because you can see, hey,
doesn't get me any place.

458

00:31:21,620 --> 00:31:23,320
So you may be
surrounded by people

459

00:31:23,320 --> 00:31:30,940
but feel a profound loneliness.

460
00:31:30,940 --> 00:31:37,030

461
00:31:37,030 --> 00:31:41,760
So you struggle on, day by day.

462
00:31:41,760 --> 00:31:47,960
Yeah, I think you can say
that, mm-hmm, very much so.

463
00:31:47,960 --> 00:31:52,960

464
00:31:52,960 --> 00:31:55,980
So that's why I can
empathize with just--

465
00:31:55,980 --> 00:32:00,880
I've had, still, something
I'm pondering about.

466
00:32:00,880 --> 00:32:03,070
We've had one of
our last encounters

467
00:32:03,070 --> 00:32:05,790
in terms of our Center activity.

468
00:32:05,790 --> 00:32:08,170
It was a lecture by
Bruno Bettelheim.

469
00:32:08,170 --> 00:32:12,070
And I had a occasion
to talk to him.

470
00:32:12,070 --> 00:32:15,190
And he pretty much expressed
similar things from his point

471

00:32:15,190 --> 00:32:18,040

of view, this unbelievable
loneliness, where

472

00:32:18,040 --> 00:32:20,560

he had a family,
a wife whom he was

473

00:32:20,560 --> 00:32:24,280

close to, but his children
totally removed, far removed,

474

00:32:24,280 --> 00:32:28,180

nothing very much in common,
and this dreadful loneliness,

475

00:32:28,180 --> 00:32:32,530

and his physical
condition and all that,

476

00:32:32,530 --> 00:32:35,830

and no one to talk
to, and going around

477

00:32:35,830 --> 00:32:38,920

to give tremendous,
fantastic lectures

478

00:32:38,920 --> 00:32:43,090

but not being able to
heal himself, in a way,

479

00:32:43,090 --> 00:32:45,370

by virtue of the fact
that he didn't have anyone

480

00:32:45,370 --> 00:32:48,620

to help him very much.

481

00:32:48,620 --> 00:32:54,500

And some of the things
he told me, you know,

482

00:32:54,500 --> 00:32:55,620

it's just really terrible.

483

00:32:55,620 --> 00:32:57,990

You wouldn't believe,
the fact that,

484

00:32:57,990 --> 00:33:02,910

in spite of as well-known
as he was, he was

485

00:33:02,910 --> 00:33:05,340

a very lonely person, deserted.

486

00:33:05,340 --> 00:33:09,340

487

00:33:09,340 --> 00:33:15,520

And then all the
physical problems

488

00:33:15,520 --> 00:33:19,060

he had because of old
age and deterioration

489

00:33:19,060 --> 00:33:29,280

and all, which then
put in a position

490

00:33:29,280 --> 00:33:31,829

where he felt he couldn't
get out of it with all

491

00:33:31,829 --> 00:33:32,954

his knowledge and all that.

492

00:33:32,954 --> 00:33:36,490

But to commit suicide
is just terrible thing.

493

00:33:36,490 --> 00:33:43,670

But I have great

understanding for it.

494

00:33:43,670 --> 00:33:46,680

Because I think about some
of these things except I

495

00:33:46,680 --> 00:33:48,630

don't particularly
feel that I can do it.

496

00:33:48,630 --> 00:33:56,220

Because all of the things which
I'm trying to develop and stand

497

00:33:56,220 --> 00:33:57,510

for would be destroyed.

498

00:33:57,510 --> 00:33:59,460

Because I would set
a precedent which

499

00:33:59,460 --> 00:34:02,070

would eradicate all the
things which I'm trying

500

00:34:02,070 --> 00:34:04,120

to constructively build up.

501

00:34:04,120 --> 00:34:05,590

So it's not a solution.

502

00:34:05,590 --> 00:34:11,580

So I suffer and say
people afraid of death.

503

00:34:11,580 --> 00:34:14,330

As a matter of fact, I'm not
so sure that they should be

504

00:34:14,330 --> 00:34:17,310

or they need to be because there
are worse things than death,

505
00:34:17,310 --> 00:34:18,190
maybe--

506
00:34:18,190 --> 00:34:18,690
maybe.

507
00:34:18,690 --> 00:34:21,810

508
00:34:21,810 --> 00:34:26,310
Had you thought
often of suicide?

509
00:34:26,310 --> 00:34:32,098
Well, I mean, I certainly toyed
with the idea, absolutely.

510
00:34:32,098 --> 00:34:35,922

511
00:34:35,922 --> 00:34:37,180
But you hang on.

512
00:34:37,180 --> 00:34:39,078
You feel it would
deny everything

513
00:34:39,078 --> 00:34:40,120
that you have worked for.

514
00:34:40,120 --> 00:34:42,250
That's right.

515
00:34:42,250 --> 00:34:44,889
That's exactly right.

516
00:34:44,889 --> 00:34:46,900
And that may--

517
00:34:46,900 --> 00:34:48,999
I wouldn't say how

I'll feel tomorrow.

518
00:34:48,999 --> 00:34:50,980
But no, I don't
particularly think

519
00:34:50,980 --> 00:34:53,372
it's a constructive
solution, you see.

520
00:34:53,372 --> 00:34:54,790
I don't.

521
00:34:54,790 --> 00:34:57,070
But I have understanding
for it, and I would never

522
00:34:57,070 --> 00:35:00,160
condemn anyone who
do it, particularly

523
00:35:00,160 --> 00:35:02,760
in a justified situation.

524
00:35:02,760 --> 00:35:05,230
I think there are certain
limits, you know, why you do it

525
00:35:05,230 --> 00:35:06,050
and all that.

526
00:35:06,050 --> 00:35:08,730
But I mean, this is just up
to the individual difference,

527
00:35:08,730 --> 00:35:09,230
you see.

528
00:35:09,230 --> 00:35:10,230
I mean, you just can't--

529
00:35:10,230 --> 00:35:12,940

530
00:35:12,940 --> 00:35:17,070
but I certainly have
understanding for it.

531
00:35:17,070 --> 00:35:26,210
I just really do relate to that
as some sort of a solution.

532
00:35:26,210 --> 00:35:28,490
But I don't condone
it, and I don't

533
00:35:28,490 --> 00:35:35,922
think this is a
constructive alternative.

534
00:35:35,922 --> 00:35:39,620

535
00:35:39,620 --> 00:35:41,885
And that's why I feel
it's a tragedy in terms

536
00:35:41,885 --> 00:35:43,100
of Bruno Bettelheim.

537
00:35:43,100 --> 00:35:47,810
It's a tragedy that a person who
was a significant other to so

538
00:35:47,810 --> 00:35:50,810
many, a role model
to so many people,

539
00:35:50,810 --> 00:35:52,760
finds himself in
a situation where

540
00:35:52,760 --> 00:35:57,208
this is the only solution,
apparently, to him,

541
00:35:57,208 --> 00:35:58,500
though, it's the only solution.

542
00:35:58,500 --> 00:36:00,417
Otherwise, he would have
probably not done it.

543
00:36:00,417 --> 00:36:09,140

544
00:36:09,140 --> 00:36:14,250
So then, there's the question
of how, not only to live,

545
00:36:14,250 --> 00:36:18,060
on the one hand, a
hair above desperation

546
00:36:18,060 --> 00:36:22,170
but how to live a life
that has some riches in it.

547
00:36:22,170 --> 00:36:25,110

548
00:36:25,110 --> 00:36:25,610
Right.

549
00:36:25,610 --> 00:36:28,880
You know, the riches, I
think, more and more, I

550
00:36:28,880 --> 00:36:30,680
think, particularly
in our situation,

551
00:36:30,680 --> 00:36:37,340
where this reality has changed
very much from reality,

552
00:36:37,340 --> 00:36:39,720

let's say, 20, 30,
40, 50 years ago.

553
00:36:39,720 --> 00:36:42,980

554
00:36:42,980 --> 00:36:44,750
If you don't find
the riches yourself,

555
00:36:44,750 --> 00:36:48,740
the chances are not many people
will help you to find them.

556
00:36:48,740 --> 00:36:50,870
And that's a terrible
thing, you know.

557
00:36:50,870 --> 00:36:54,347
It makes you a very
isolated sort of individual.

558
00:36:54,347 --> 00:36:57,210

559
00:36:57,210 --> 00:36:58,980
There's no question
about the riches.

560
00:36:58,980 --> 00:37:00,510
But I think people
have become less

561
00:37:00,510 --> 00:37:04,710
and less able to find them and
help each other to find them.

562
00:37:04,710 --> 00:37:09,060
They make it more difficult
for each other, if anything.

563
00:37:09,060 --> 00:37:11,540
How so?

564
00:37:11,540 --> 00:37:17,450
Put such big roadblocks
in your way to find them.

565
00:37:17,450 --> 00:37:24,180
And that's terrible.

566
00:37:24,180 --> 00:37:28,440
Because I think we live
in a much worse world

567
00:37:28,440 --> 00:37:32,940
than the one which I experienced
when I was a child, in terms

568
00:37:32,940 --> 00:37:36,600
of precisely this sort of thing,
how people support each other

569
00:37:36,600 --> 00:37:41,100
and satisfy each other's
needs and develop

570
00:37:41,100 --> 00:37:43,620
this sort of concern
for each other

571
00:37:43,620 --> 00:37:45,510
and the compassion
and the affection.

572
00:37:45,510 --> 00:37:47,640
And I don't see it very
much in this world--

573
00:37:47,640 --> 00:37:52,770
less and less in this
nightmarish technology

574
00:37:52,770 --> 00:37:55,650
in which we spend more
time and concern--

575
00:37:55,650 --> 00:37:57,720
I see that with my son--

576
00:37:57,720 --> 00:38:05,060
with things, with things,
rather than with human beings.

577
00:38:05,060 --> 00:38:08,715
How did you begin to put
your life back together again

578
00:38:08,715 --> 00:38:10,940
in Prague after the war?

579
00:38:10,940 --> 00:38:16,760
There, I'm sure
you must have been

580
00:38:16,760 --> 00:38:18,980
devastated with the
loss of your mother

581
00:38:18,980 --> 00:38:24,110
and compounded with the
correct with your father,

582
00:38:24,110 --> 00:38:32,505
after that good relationship,
your own health problems.

583
00:38:32,505 --> 00:38:41,750
Well, what my priority
at that particular time

584
00:38:41,750 --> 00:38:47,210
was just to catch up in my
education and what I missed.

585
00:38:47,210 --> 00:38:48,620
That was, to me, very important.

586

00:38:48,620 --> 00:38:53,930
That was a priority, a
long stretch and priority.

587
00:38:53,930 --> 00:38:58,160
And so I concentrated on that
against all the various odds.

588
00:38:58,160 --> 00:39:00,740
Because I had to work.

589
00:39:00,740 --> 00:39:03,180
There was no money
left, nothing there.

590
00:39:03,180 --> 00:39:05,130
And I had to work.

591
00:39:05,130 --> 00:39:07,910
And I worked for the
United Nations Relief

592
00:39:07,910 --> 00:39:11,490
and Rehabilitation, which
was the Czech part of it.

593
00:39:11,490 --> 00:39:16,160
And that was a very
good job and all that.

594
00:39:16,160 --> 00:39:20,000
Simultaneously, I just
wanted to catch up

595
00:39:20,000 --> 00:39:22,760
so that I could finish
my, whatever, gymnasium

596
00:39:22,760 --> 00:39:23,580
and all that.

597
00:39:23,580 --> 00:39:25,880
And I had to do that

during the night.

598

00:39:25,880 --> 00:39:32,420

And since we were fed, and I,
at the time, I had tuberculosis.

599

00:39:32,420 --> 00:39:41,030

I had lots of handicaps,
and psychologically and

600

00:39:41,030 --> 00:39:45,110

of emotional nature, whatever.

601

00:39:45,110 --> 00:39:46,310

But I willed it.

602

00:39:46,310 --> 00:39:49,190

I said, that's a very
important thing which

603

00:39:49,190 --> 00:39:52,170

I need to accomplish
in order to function

604

00:39:52,170 --> 00:39:56,270

and in order to be useful
and be creative in some way

605

00:39:56,270 --> 00:39:56,820

or another.

606

00:39:56,820 --> 00:40:00,920

And instead of, in spite
of, the fact that my father

607

00:40:00,920 --> 00:40:02,630

dissuaded me and all that--

608

00:40:02,630 --> 00:40:06,410

what I've said already and said
you should do something else,

609

00:40:06,410 --> 00:40:10,100
and you're not intelligent
enough, and all that and that--

610
00:40:10,100 --> 00:40:14,070
I just decided that I
wanted to pursue that.

611
00:40:14,070 --> 00:40:18,140
And I've done it and
then got active very much

612
00:40:18,140 --> 00:40:19,940
into the political life--

613
00:40:19,940 --> 00:40:25,310
very, very active and
certainly I would call it

614
00:40:25,310 --> 00:40:28,670
not just someone who sits
back, but I was an activist by,

615
00:40:28,670 --> 00:40:31,340
certainly, the real
sense of the definition.

616
00:40:31,340 --> 00:40:35,190
And then the communist
situation came, the threat.

617
00:40:35,190 --> 00:40:38,000
And I tried to oppose it
and do everything else,

618
00:40:38,000 --> 00:40:42,850
was arrested, and was,
for a few days, in jail

619
00:40:42,850 --> 00:40:49,220
and beat up by
communist officials.

620

00:40:49,220 --> 00:40:51,530

And then just had
just a hell of a time.

621

00:40:51,530 --> 00:40:54,330

622

00:40:54,330 --> 00:41:04,470

But things I responded to just
took up a shape, you know.

623

00:41:04,470 --> 00:41:07,600

And that was something concrete
I could respond to and work

624

00:41:07,600 --> 00:41:10,490

with, or work against.

625

00:41:10,490 --> 00:41:12,320

And so that's what I did.

626

00:41:12,320 --> 00:41:14,080

Then, finally, I
decided that I'm not

627

00:41:14,080 --> 00:41:19,810

going to go through hell again,
and one totalitarian regime

628

00:41:19,810 --> 00:41:20,410

was enough.

629

00:41:20,410 --> 00:41:21,640

And I could not prevail.

630

00:41:21,640 --> 00:41:25,120

So I talked to one people
about this sort of predicament.

631

00:41:25,120 --> 00:41:30,610

And this one happened to be also
a person I knew before the war

632
00:41:30,610 --> 00:41:31,930
and also was in Dachau.

633
00:41:31,930 --> 00:41:35,560
And he was then
archbishop of Prague,

634
00:41:35,560 --> 00:41:42,820
called Josef Beran whom I
respected very much because

635
00:41:42,820 --> 00:41:46,990
of his humanity, not necessarily
because of his Catholicism

636
00:41:46,990 --> 00:41:47,560
or whatever.

637
00:41:47,560 --> 00:41:53,630
He was a mensch, you know, and
a very, very important one, role

638
00:41:53,630 --> 00:41:54,130
model.

639
00:41:54,130 --> 00:41:56,410
He behaved-- he stood
up to the Nazis,

640
00:41:56,410 --> 00:41:57,700
stood up to the communists.

641
00:41:57,700 --> 00:42:02,080
And he was just a very
unusual human being,

642
00:42:02,080 --> 00:42:03,970
precisely the type
of human being

643
00:42:03,970 --> 00:42:06,220
you want to encounter

you have a need for.

644

00:42:06,220 --> 00:42:13,690

So I went to his palace there,
archbishop in Prague, and said,

645

00:42:13,690 --> 00:42:16,055

here I am, brother.

646

00:42:16,055 --> 00:42:19,240

You know, brother-- we are
brothers because we all called

647

00:42:19,240 --> 00:42:22,450

ourselves brothers--

648

00:42:22,450 --> 00:42:25,430

survivors, inmates, former
inmates or brothers.

649

00:42:25,430 --> 00:42:28,780

Well, I said, brother Joseph
or Baron, whatever I said,

650

00:42:28,780 --> 00:42:32,000

I'm here just to discuss
something very important.

651

00:42:32,000 --> 00:42:33,940

I don't want to skip
the country because

652

00:42:33,940 --> 00:42:39,190

of some sort of
cowardice and all that,

653

00:42:39,190 --> 00:42:42,040

but I think there's
nothing I can change here.

654

00:42:42,040 --> 00:42:43,570

I know there's only
going to suffer,

655

00:42:43,570 --> 00:42:45,862
and I don't want to go through
the whole thing, I said.

656

00:42:45,862 --> 00:42:48,310
And he said, no, leave.

657

00:42:48,310 --> 00:42:49,210
Go with my blessing.

658

00:42:49,210 --> 00:42:49,900
Want to leave?

659

00:42:49,900 --> 00:42:50,400
OK.

660

00:42:50,400 --> 00:42:52,930

661

00:42:52,930 --> 00:42:55,960
And then he gave me an
address and safekeeping,

662

00:42:55,960 --> 00:42:58,210
and addresses in
Italy because I was

663

00:42:58,210 --> 00:43:02,230
going by Italy and all that,
which was exceedingly helpful.

664

00:43:02,230 --> 00:43:12,200
I mean, I had tremendous support
from a mixed marriage situation

665

00:43:12,200 --> 00:43:15,810
where wife was a Czech,
and he was Italian.

666

00:43:15,810 --> 00:43:30,425
And he happened to be a colonel

in the Italian military.

667

00:43:30,425 --> 00:43:31,310

What do you call it?

668

00:43:31,310 --> 00:43:37,140

The Special Guard.

669

00:43:37,140 --> 00:43:41,670

And so they really were
exceedingly supportive.

670

00:43:41,670 --> 00:43:43,410

They housed me,
and they helped me

671

00:43:43,410 --> 00:43:46,050

and helped me to
get the boat which

672

00:43:46,050 --> 00:43:49,350

I was to catch because that
was paid from the United

673

00:43:49,350 --> 00:43:51,453

States, a trip to Australia.

674

00:43:51,453 --> 00:43:54,270

But what was that arrangement?

675

00:43:54,270 --> 00:43:57,000

Oh, well, these were
distant relatives

676

00:43:57,000 --> 00:43:59,430

who happened to be-- well,
distant, not so distant

677

00:43:59,430 --> 00:44:02,370

actually, not distant, really,
cousins, second cousins.

678

00:44:02,370 --> 00:44:09,570
And they were-- the Jewish
name was Petschek actually,

679
00:44:09,570 --> 00:44:12,900
the Petschek who
supported Hilberg's study,

680
00:44:12,900 --> 00:44:14,380
for all practical purposes.

681
00:44:14,380 --> 00:44:16,600
They were all
related to one clan.

682
00:44:16,600 --> 00:44:26,670
And so this [INAUDIBLE]
Petschek was born pauper and was

683
00:44:26,670 --> 00:44:28,050
a cousin of my mother's.

684
00:44:28,050 --> 00:44:30,860
And they're the richest
people in Czechoslovakia,

685
00:44:30,860 --> 00:44:33,840
or one of the richest,
if not the richest.

686
00:44:33,840 --> 00:44:37,750
And so they left
in time, of course,

687
00:44:37,750 --> 00:44:39,180
as most of the rich people did.

688
00:44:39,180 --> 00:44:42,150
Because they had
different opportunities

689
00:44:42,150 --> 00:44:43,950
and information and all that.

690
00:44:43,950 --> 00:44:46,050
And many of these
people were very close

691
00:44:46,050 --> 00:44:50,430
in terms of network
and family relations.

692
00:44:50,430 --> 00:44:53,100

693
00:44:53,100 --> 00:44:59,520
So they left in time, before
that, and with, obviously,

694
00:44:59,520 --> 00:45:01,500
a great deal of loss
but still enough

695
00:45:01,500 --> 00:45:04,560
to live terrific lives here.

696
00:45:04,560 --> 00:45:14,040
So we approached them, and they
paid \$1,000 first class cabin

697
00:45:14,040 --> 00:45:18,540
fair from Geneva to Australia.

698
00:45:18,540 --> 00:45:20,460
And I didn't have
a handkerchief,

699
00:45:20,460 --> 00:45:24,550
but I had a first class ticket.

700
00:45:24,550 --> 00:45:26,265
Did you have to go
to Australia, or you

701
00:45:26,265 --> 00:45:27,390

didn't care where you went?

702

00:45:27,390 --> 00:45:34,330

Well, no, you see, first of all,
my first choice was, of course,

703

00:45:34,330 --> 00:45:35,160

the United States.

704

00:45:35,160 --> 00:45:40,620

But I mean, it was a
very long waiting time

705

00:45:40,620 --> 00:45:42,300

because of the quotas.

706

00:45:42,300 --> 00:45:44,880

And the Czech quota
that was not very

707

00:45:44,880 --> 00:45:46,510

high at that particular time.

708

00:45:46,510 --> 00:45:48,270

And so I couldn't.

709

00:45:48,270 --> 00:45:51,570

I couldn't get a visa.

710

00:45:51,570 --> 00:45:54,150

711

00:45:54,150 --> 00:45:58,830

So I had relatives,
close relatives--

712

00:45:58,830 --> 00:46:01,830

my mother's sister and
my cousin, first cousin--

713

00:46:01,830 --> 00:46:07,260

lived in Australia and

got there via England

714
00:46:07,260 --> 00:46:11,580
because they left after
the Anschluss of Austria.

715
00:46:11,580 --> 00:46:13,200
Because they were Austrians.

716
00:46:13,200 --> 00:46:16,410

717
00:46:16,410 --> 00:46:17,670
And so I met them.

718
00:46:17,670 --> 00:46:20,190
And prior to that, I
had a great, great uncle

719
00:46:20,190 --> 00:46:21,390
who was a black sheep.

720
00:46:21,390 --> 00:46:23,730
And he started a family
there in Melbourne

721
00:46:23,730 --> 00:46:26,670
because he had some sort
of-- he was a womanizer, did

722
00:46:26,670 --> 00:46:31,380
some things which the family
didn't, apparently, approve of,

723
00:46:31,380 --> 00:46:32,400
morally and otherwise.

724
00:46:32,400 --> 00:46:34,000
So they shipped
him to Australia,

725
00:46:34,000 --> 00:46:35,670

which is the best thing
they could have done to him,

726
00:46:35,670 --> 00:46:36,415
you know.

727
00:46:36,415 --> 00:46:39,105
[LAUGHS]

728
00:46:39,105 --> 00:46:44,280
And he instead of just starting
a dreadful family back up there

729
00:46:44,280 --> 00:46:49,130
in Prague, which was doomed,
you know, little did they know.

730
00:46:49,130 --> 00:46:51,030
And so they just
punished him, which

731
00:46:51,030 --> 00:46:53,760
happened to be the best thing
they could have done for him,

732
00:46:53,760 --> 00:46:56,900
just to really reward him.

733
00:46:56,900 --> 00:47:00,240
And so the punishment
turned out to be a reward.

734
00:47:00,240 --> 00:47:06,300
And he married a Scottish lady
and started the first biscuit

735
00:47:06,300 --> 00:47:07,530
factory in Melbourne--

736
00:47:07,530 --> 00:47:11,010
[LAUGHTER]

737

00:47:11,010 --> 00:47:13,620
--and had a ball, see?

738
00:47:13,620 --> 00:47:16,670
And so these people are there.

739
00:47:16,670 --> 00:47:20,910
And so that was the
logical place to go,

740
00:47:20,910 --> 00:47:24,900
and I just did, which
was a good thing.

741
00:47:24,900 --> 00:47:26,010
And I've learned a lot.

742
00:47:26,010 --> 00:47:29,310
Maybe I should
have stayed there.

743
00:47:29,310 --> 00:47:33,060
Did you have any other emotional
support, or people support,

744
00:47:33,060 --> 00:47:35,730
back in Prague besides--

745
00:47:35,730 --> 00:47:37,320
this archbishop helped you out.

746
00:47:37,320 --> 00:47:38,760
But who was your sustenance?

747
00:47:38,760 --> 00:47:39,270
Oh, yeah.

748
00:47:39,270 --> 00:47:45,030
Well, I had some people
whom I knew since childhood,

749
00:47:45,030 --> 00:47:49,050

and some of the people who
were some sort of mentors.

750
00:47:49,050 --> 00:47:52,290
And so I had some
people then, yeah.

751
00:47:52,290 --> 00:47:59,730
I had some people there who
were very supportive but very

752
00:47:59,730 --> 00:48:00,750
cautious, you know.

753
00:48:00,750 --> 00:48:06,610
And they themselves were under
pressure because some of them

754
00:48:06,610 --> 00:48:11,010
were partially German and
had to leave, got kicked out,

755
00:48:11,010 --> 00:48:15,840
and had to leave
Czechoslovakia because of that.

756
00:48:15,840 --> 00:48:18,840
And some other people
were very provincial

757
00:48:18,840 --> 00:48:21,750
in some of their perspectives
but very, very good people,

758
00:48:21,750 --> 00:48:23,760
too.

759
00:48:23,760 --> 00:48:28,950
And some other people
were just playmates

760
00:48:28,950 --> 00:48:32,970
of mine, childhood

playmates, and then

761
00:48:32,970 --> 00:48:36,930
had developed in different
directions, which may or may

762
00:48:36,930 --> 00:48:38,000
not have much in common.

763
00:48:38,000 --> 00:48:41,280
Then, of course, politics
entered the picture.

764
00:48:41,280 --> 00:48:43,620
And many of the
people then became

765
00:48:43,620 --> 00:48:46,920
communists, which, from
the very beginning,

766
00:48:46,920 --> 00:48:48,900
I could see that's
the lesson I've

767
00:48:48,900 --> 00:48:51,370
learned from Dachau, from this
poor fellow who was beaten,

768
00:48:51,370 --> 00:48:52,770
beaten to death.

769
00:48:52,770 --> 00:48:55,060
So I said, hey, what
do they have there?

770
00:48:55,060 --> 00:49:05,190
And he told me about-- he was
the first to really expose me

771
00:49:05,190 --> 00:49:06,180
to the realities--

772

00:49:06,180 --> 00:49:09,990

I mean, not expose me, just
simply explain the realities

773

00:49:09,990 --> 00:49:13,530

to me as they existed
in the Soviet Union.

774

00:49:13,530 --> 00:49:17,130

And so that, to me, was very
clear from the very beginning

775

00:49:17,130 --> 00:49:25,050

that this was another type
of absolutist ideology

776

00:49:25,050 --> 00:49:28,560

with consequences which were
exceedingly similar to those

777

00:49:28,560 --> 00:49:30,700

I had just survived.

778

00:49:30,700 --> 00:49:34,260

So I fought it teeth and
nose and just risked my life

779

00:49:34,260 --> 00:49:38,190

and did a lot of things which
other people wouldn't have.

780

00:49:38,190 --> 00:49:42,450

But at that point, I felt that,
by virtue of being a survivor,

781

00:49:42,450 --> 00:49:44,610

I have tremendous obligations.

782

00:49:44,610 --> 00:49:51,240

And I just simply cannot
permit myself to make similar

783

00:49:51,240 --> 00:49:54,870
mistakes, existentially
and politically,

784
00:49:54,870 --> 00:49:57,870
than those my parents
may have made.

785
00:49:57,870 --> 00:50:01,380
And also, my parents
actually were not to blame.

786
00:50:01,380 --> 00:50:03,480
Because I was to be
shipped to England.

787
00:50:03,480 --> 00:50:06,990
And I've mentioned that already
in the previous interview.

788
00:50:06,990 --> 00:50:10,320
So they really tried
to be very responsible

789
00:50:10,320 --> 00:50:12,900
and saw the writing on the wall.

790
00:50:12,900 --> 00:50:17,880
But somehow, it was limited to
me rather than the entire clan.

791
00:50:17,880 --> 00:50:21,540
And they had enough money, but
they just, simply, some of them

792
00:50:21,540 --> 00:50:24,540
didn't want to part with
some of the real estate

793
00:50:24,540 --> 00:50:26,610
and some of the
things which were

794

00:50:26,610 --> 00:50:28,800
home and all this and that.

795
00:50:28,800 --> 00:50:32,130
Because they said, we
haven't done anything.

796
00:50:32,130 --> 00:50:34,010
We are guilty of nothing.

797
00:50:34,010 --> 00:50:35,670
How much can really happen?

798
00:50:35,670 --> 00:50:39,643
And there is not that much which
can happen to us because we

799
00:50:39,643 --> 00:50:40,560
haven't done anything.

800
00:50:40,560 --> 00:50:41,790
We are innocent.

801
00:50:41,790 --> 00:50:44,460
And that was a dreadful
mistake but understandable.

802
00:50:44,460 --> 00:50:46,410
Many people don't
understand that.

803
00:50:46,410 --> 00:50:49,020
Because if I don't
feel any guilt

804
00:50:49,020 --> 00:50:51,300
and I haven't done
anything and my resources

805
00:50:51,300 --> 00:50:55,860
are possibly limited and
in the other countries,

806

00:50:55,860 --> 00:51:00,960

they're not going to
receive me with open arms--

807

00:51:00,960 --> 00:51:03,390

in other words, the
future is very insecure,

808

00:51:03,390 --> 00:51:06,540

although very many friends, very
close friends and relatives,

809

00:51:06,540 --> 00:51:08,130

left.

810

00:51:08,130 --> 00:51:09,450

But they didn't.

811

00:51:09,450 --> 00:51:12,150

And my parents didn't.

812

00:51:12,150 --> 00:51:14,700

Because that was a step they
were not prepared to take.

813

00:51:14,700 --> 00:51:17,970

But they prepared me to do it.

814

00:51:17,970 --> 00:51:22,020

But then, fate, as
it would, had it

815

00:51:22,020 --> 00:51:24,540

that they closed the borders.

816

00:51:24,540 --> 00:51:28,320

Did your father consider leaving
when the communists came in,

817

00:51:28,320 --> 00:51:28,830

as you did?

818

00:51:28,830 --> 00:51:30,690

Oh, yes, of course.

819

00:51:30,690 --> 00:51:35,430

But he was more
willing to adjust.

820

00:51:35,430 --> 00:51:37,320

But he didn't have
any illusions.

821

00:51:37,320 --> 00:51:39,030

But I mean, he was more willing.

822

00:51:39,030 --> 00:51:41,250

Because he was very
successful after the war

823

00:51:41,250 --> 00:51:43,450

in terms of his profession.

824

00:51:43,450 --> 00:51:46,860

And he was very
successful when I hadn't

825

00:51:46,860 --> 00:51:49,620

gone to Australia all that.

826

00:51:49,620 --> 00:51:52,740

He was very successful in what
he was doing, professionally

827

00:51:52,740 --> 00:51:56,610

speaking, and always
somehow landed on his feet,

828

00:51:56,610 --> 00:51:57,300

so to speak.

829

00:51:57,300 --> 00:52:01,080

830

00:52:01,080 --> 00:52:02,220

But I couldn't.

831

00:52:02,220 --> 00:52:04,530

He was more willing
to play the game.

832

00:52:04,530 --> 00:52:06,240

But I was not willing
to play the game.

833

00:52:06,240 --> 00:52:08,580

Because I understood a
little bit more than he

834

00:52:08,580 --> 00:52:10,590

did, maybe, the consequences.

835

00:52:10,590 --> 00:52:13,770

And I am a different person,
a different personality--

836

00:52:13,770 --> 00:52:16,780

characteristics,
disposition, whatever.

837

00:52:16,780 --> 00:52:20,520

And so I was not willing to
do that, not to compromise.

838

00:52:20,520 --> 00:52:23,790

So I got myself into
very bad situations.

839

00:52:23,790 --> 00:52:29,010

And the only way, short of
being shipped to another camp

840

00:52:29,010 --> 00:52:32,580

or slave labor
camp, communist van,

841

00:52:32,580 --> 00:52:34,490
was to get out, which I did.

842
00:52:34,490 --> 00:52:35,490
How did you manage that?

843
00:52:35,490 --> 00:52:37,440
Did you get false papers?

844
00:52:37,440 --> 00:52:38,818
That's right, that's right.

845
00:52:38,818 --> 00:52:39,360
That's right.

846
00:52:39,360 --> 00:52:39,870
You got false papers.

847
00:52:39,870 --> 00:52:40,560
Yeah.

848
00:52:40,560 --> 00:52:41,700
How did you go, by train?

849
00:52:41,700 --> 00:52:43,245
By train, yeah.

850
00:52:43,245 --> 00:52:46,800
And when did you leave?

851
00:52:46,800 --> 00:52:52,170
In February 1949.

852
00:52:52,170 --> 00:52:53,870
You had a false identity?

853
00:52:53,870 --> 00:53:01,600
Well, an identity
which was kind of shady

854
00:53:01,600 --> 00:53:06,410

and enabled me to get
out with impunity,

855
00:53:06,410 --> 00:53:14,510
you know, at that time and
lots of dealing and wheeling

856
00:53:14,510 --> 00:53:15,700
and all that.

857
00:53:15,700 --> 00:53:16,780
But I learned that.

858
00:53:16,780 --> 00:53:18,277
That's something
which I still do.

859
00:53:18,277 --> 00:53:18,985
I just practiced.

860
00:53:18,985 --> 00:53:21,520
I still practice it,
dealing and wheeling.

861
00:53:21,520 --> 00:53:26,080
I still do things, even those
which are not necessarily

862
00:53:26,080 --> 00:53:29,200
viewed as dreadfully
immoral because somehow, I

863
00:53:29,200 --> 00:53:32,890
feel I need to maintain some
degrees of skills in case

864
00:53:32,890 --> 00:53:34,900
I should need them.

865
00:53:34,900 --> 00:53:37,240
I'm crazy, you know, about--

866

00:53:37,240 --> 00:53:41,890
Do you mean telling
a pretended story

867
00:53:41,890 --> 00:53:45,340
in a anxiety-producing
situation?

868
00:53:45,340 --> 00:53:47,300
Well, not necessarily.

869
00:53:47,300 --> 00:53:48,970
No, no, not at all.

870
00:53:48,970 --> 00:53:53,560
But, for example, just
to get into situations

871
00:53:53,560 --> 00:53:56,680
where I will benefit without
me being seen or caught

872
00:53:56,680 --> 00:53:58,510
or something, where I just--

873
00:53:58,510 --> 00:54:01,780
I might be with a bunch
of generals, or just

874
00:54:01,780 --> 00:54:04,110
a group of people,
who kiss each other

875
00:54:04,110 --> 00:54:05,800
and hand each other things.

876
00:54:05,800 --> 00:54:08,620
And I'll be kissing them, and
they don't know me from Adam.

877
00:54:08,620 --> 00:54:15,410

878

00:54:15,410 --> 00:54:20,260

Or just simply be the recipient
of some sort of benefits

879

00:54:20,260 --> 00:54:22,570

without really
necessarily having

880

00:54:22,570 --> 00:54:25,870

worked for it simply because
I get myself in a situation

881

00:54:25,870 --> 00:54:27,070

where I'll get it.

882

00:54:27,070 --> 00:54:29,140

Like being in line
at a movie theater.

883

00:54:29,140 --> 00:54:32,380

Oh, yeah, for example, I can
get into any movie, virtually--

884

00:54:32,380 --> 00:54:35,236

almost any movie--
without paying.

885

00:54:35,236 --> 00:54:36,880

They won't see me.

886

00:54:36,880 --> 00:54:39,690

They don't see you, even
when a ticket is expected?

887

00:54:39,690 --> 00:54:42,430

Oh, yeah, sure.

888

00:54:42,430 --> 00:54:45,610

And that's not only--

889

00:54:45,610 --> 00:54:47,530

I'm getting a charge

out of it, too.

890
00:54:47,530 --> 00:54:48,730
I get a charge out of it.

891
00:54:48,730 --> 00:54:51,130
And also, it just
keeps me on my toes

892
00:54:51,130 --> 00:54:54,226
because I really feel I need to.

893
00:54:54,226 --> 00:54:57,640
Get into certain situations
other people don't from where

894
00:54:57,640 --> 00:55:00,380
you can benefit, in one way
or another, maybe material

895
00:55:00,380 --> 00:55:03,680
or psychologically or
whatever-- emotionally.

896
00:55:03,680 --> 00:55:05,770
And so I practiced that.

897
00:55:05,770 --> 00:55:13,270
Because still, it's part of
the survival, a skill which

898
00:55:13,270 --> 00:55:15,520
I learned in the camp.

899
00:55:15,520 --> 00:55:18,430
And also, it's in
your repertoire

900
00:55:18,430 --> 00:55:19,900
in case the need arises again.

901
00:55:19,900 --> 00:55:21,280

That's right.

902
00:55:21,280 --> 00:55:22,452
Absolutely.

903
00:55:22,452 --> 00:55:25,170

904
00:55:25,170 --> 00:55:28,830
For example, I wouldn't
have a passport

905
00:55:28,830 --> 00:55:32,250
so that I skip the
country tomorrow

906
00:55:32,250 --> 00:55:33,470
or something of that nature.

907
00:55:33,470 --> 00:55:34,620
You wouldn't have a passport?

908
00:55:34,620 --> 00:55:35,120
Yeah.

909
00:55:35,120 --> 00:55:37,920
I would have a valid
passport or things.

910
00:55:37,920 --> 00:55:41,340
Some things, I just put things
in a suitcase-- preferably,

911
00:55:41,340 --> 00:55:44,125
have already a packed suitcase,
which I don't-- but I mean,

912
00:55:44,125 --> 00:55:45,375
this is you know -- so that --

913
00:55:45,375 --> 00:55:48,090

914
00:55:48,090 --> 00:55:52,360
In other words, just like when
we got the soup and the soup

915
00:55:52,360 --> 00:55:57,000
bowl, if you luck has it--
and even Auschwitz-Birkenau,

916
00:55:57,000 --> 00:56:00,990
it happened once or twice
that we had pea soup with meat

917
00:56:00,990 --> 00:56:02,220
in it.

918
00:56:02,220 --> 00:56:04,410
So I don't want to be the first.

919
00:56:04,410 --> 00:56:06,240
Because then, I get the water.

920
00:56:06,240 --> 00:56:09,500
So I wait and let
other people go.

921
00:56:09,500 --> 00:56:10,770
Woo.

922
00:56:10,770 --> 00:56:14,700
So just organize it
and say, hey, you know.

923
00:56:14,700 --> 00:56:17,020
And they learned
that skill, also?

924
00:56:17,020 --> 00:56:17,520
Hmm?

925
00:56:17,520 --> 00:56:19,210
Haven't they learned

that skill, also?

926

00:56:19,210 --> 00:56:19,710

Who?

927

00:56:19,710 --> 00:56:21,810

The others, waiting in
line, to wait till--

928

00:56:21,810 --> 00:56:22,893

No, they haven't, you see.

929

00:56:22,893 --> 00:56:24,268

And that's the
interesting thing.

930

00:56:24,268 --> 00:56:25,950

Because that's what
life is all about,

931

00:56:25,950 --> 00:56:28,140

that some people have
never learned these skills

932

00:56:28,140 --> 00:56:34,590

and that they haven't taken
advantage of the ignorance.

933

00:56:34,590 --> 00:56:44,170

You don't get rich by working
hard, not that I'm rich.

934

00:56:44,170 --> 00:56:48,240

But I could do things which are
crooked, but I wouldn't do it.

935

00:56:48,240 --> 00:56:55,980

So I'm a underpaid
professor, which

936

00:56:55,980 --> 00:56:59,276

is not to say that I'm not
open to making a fast buck.

937
00:56:59,276 --> 00:57:02,608
[LAUGHTER]

938
00:57:02,608 --> 00:57:06,900

939
00:57:06,900 --> 00:57:08,970
And that's what I'm
doing, for example.

940
00:57:08,970 --> 00:57:12,940
This is something which is
important, also professionally.

941
00:57:12,940 --> 00:57:17,920
Now, I have some
sort of recognition

942
00:57:17,920 --> 00:57:20,740
back in Germany and all that.

943
00:57:20,740 --> 00:57:24,360
So this is about the
third or fourth year

944
00:57:24,360 --> 00:57:27,870
I'm going to Europe, and
the Germans pay for it.

945
00:57:27,870 --> 00:57:30,450

946
00:57:30,450 --> 00:57:33,000
Because I'm doing
the Nazi stuff,

947
00:57:33,000 --> 00:57:36,160
you know, which is terrific
because I think it's great.

948
00:57:36,160 --> 00:57:37,500

I do, too.

949

00:57:37,500 --> 00:57:42,150

And this time, I just
had the first time.

950

00:57:42,150 --> 00:57:45,510

This summer, I was
there just for one day,

951

00:57:45,510 --> 00:57:46,710

actually, working--

952

00:57:46,710 --> 00:57:48,310

well, I prepared
for it much longer,

953

00:57:48,310 --> 00:57:50,790

of course, and all that.

954

00:57:50,790 --> 00:57:56,040

But this broadcast, which I
consider to be very important,

955

00:57:56,040 --> 00:57:59,910

Table Talk, a dialogue, for
the first time in public,

956

00:57:59,910 --> 00:58:03,840

with former members of
the SS, some of whom

957

00:58:03,840 --> 00:58:05,225

were perpetrators--

958

00:58:05,225 --> 00:58:10,610

959

00:58:10,610 --> 00:58:11,790

at least one of them.

960

00:58:11,790 --> 00:58:13,700

And so that never has been done.

961

00:58:13,700 --> 00:58:17,090

So I say, hey let's get into
it and telling them what

962

00:58:17,090 --> 00:58:20,270

is the SS and all this and
stimulate the discussion

963

00:58:20,270 --> 00:58:21,590

and the response.

964

00:58:21,590 --> 00:58:25,640

And I consider that to
be exceedingly important.

965

00:58:25,640 --> 00:58:30,230

Because it is historic because
no one has done it before.

966

00:58:30,230 --> 00:58:32,030

It's the first time.

967

00:58:32,030 --> 00:58:34,010

And I've got tapes and all that.

968

00:58:34,010 --> 00:58:35,600

And we'll see what
will come of it.

969

00:58:35,600 --> 00:58:39,840

But, I mean, apparently it has
been sufficiently successful

970

00:58:39,840 --> 00:58:40,957

that it's being repeated.

971

00:58:40,957 --> 00:58:42,290

And it's already the third time.

972

00:58:42,290 --> 00:58:43,670

They are paying.

973

00:58:43,670 --> 00:58:49,460

And I'm doing things which I consider to be very important.

974

00:58:49,460 --> 00:58:51,560

They may not be necessarily discovered now,

975

00:58:51,560 --> 00:58:55,340

but in the future they will be, for sure, sooner or later.

976

00:58:55,340 --> 00:58:57,300

And I'm getting paid for it.

977

00:58:57,300 --> 00:58:58,520

I think that's good.

978

00:58:58,520 --> 00:59:01,460

Yes.

979

00:59:01,460 --> 00:59:03,920

It's not happiness, but it's satisfaction.

980

00:59:03,920 --> 00:59:05,000

Well, yes.

981

00:59:05,000 --> 00:59:06,320

Happiness?

982

00:59:06,320 --> 00:59:08,780

Happiness, no because there's nothing to do with happiness.

983

00:59:08,780 --> 00:59:11,120

But satisfaction, absolutely.

984

00:59:11,120 --> 00:59:17,270

Because I'm attaining some of

the goals I've set for myself

985

00:59:17,270 --> 00:59:19,940
and leaving something
for posterity.

986

00:59:19,940 --> 00:59:22,040
And that's exactly
what gives me--

987

00:59:22,040 --> 00:59:24,770
talking about meaning and
talking about Victor Frankl

988

00:59:24,770 --> 00:59:28,190
and all this sort of things,
his notions and his thought

989

00:59:28,190 --> 00:59:30,920
processes--

990

00:59:30,920 --> 00:59:34,260
and to me that's very
important that I leave a trail.

991

00:59:34,260 --> 00:59:36,290
What do I leave when
I'll kick the bucket?

992

00:59:36,290 --> 00:59:39,620
And to me, it's important
that I leave something which

993

00:59:39,620 --> 00:59:41,570
may be useful to posterity.

994

00:59:41,570 --> 00:59:44,420
And that's the only thing
which really keeps me going.

995

00:59:44,420 --> 00:59:47,060
Because I don't have
that much in life

996
00:59:47,060 --> 00:59:48,450
in terms of satisfaction.

997
00:59:48,450 --> 00:59:49,820
Yes, you were saying.

998
00:59:49,820 --> 00:59:53,210
Because no one gives
a damn, very much--

999
00:59:53,210 --> 00:59:55,310
very few.

1000
00:59:55,310 --> 00:59:57,530
So I mean, that's
what I'm doing.

1001
00:59:57,530 --> 01:00:01,340
I have to create
my own resources.

1002
01:00:01,340 --> 01:00:03,950
And they are meager, to be sure.

1003
01:00:03,950 --> 01:00:08,810
But I mean, at least I
can say, well, my life,

1004
01:00:08,810 --> 01:00:10,640
by virtue of the fact
that I've survived,

1005
01:00:10,640 --> 01:00:14,840
at times I say, hey, some
people make such a big thing out

1006
01:00:14,840 --> 01:00:16,940
of being a survivor.

1007
01:00:16,940 --> 01:00:19,280
I even don't know if that

is such a lucky thing

1008
01:00:19,280 --> 01:00:21,680
to do, to be in this situation.

1009
01:00:21,680 --> 01:00:24,620
I'm not at all
convinced of that.

1010
01:00:24,620 --> 01:00:28,520
And it probably would have been
much easier not to survive.

1011
01:00:28,520 --> 01:00:32,930
But since I am, I
just try to feel

1012
01:00:32,930 --> 01:00:36,830
that I have not wasted my life.

1013
01:00:36,830 --> 01:00:43,550
And I derive some
satisfaction out of that.

1014
01:00:43,550 --> 01:00:44,910
And rightfully so.

1015
01:00:44,910 --> 01:00:47,150
In fact, it's
getting kind of late,

1016
01:00:47,150 --> 01:00:51,620
but I would like to,
in the next session,

1017
01:00:51,620 --> 01:00:55,310
elaborate a lot more on what
your life's work has been,

1018
01:00:55,310 --> 01:00:55,810
right?

1019

01:00:55,810 --> 01:00:57,710
Mm-hmm.

1020
01:00:57,710 --> 01:00:59,890
So I'd like to stop now
so that I can give Carol

1021
01:00:59,890 --> 01:01:02,720
a chance to ask some questions.

1022
01:01:02,720 --> 01:01:05,450
I don't think she's
prepared very well this time

1023
01:01:05,450 --> 01:01:06,350
because she's got--

1024
01:01:06,350 --> 01:01:08,840
Well, [INAUDIBLE]
just the session.

1025
01:01:08,840 --> 01:01:14,930
--her own Magen David to carry--

1026
01:01:14,930 --> 01:01:17,810
you know, the Jewish
star to carry.

1027
01:01:17,810 --> 01:01:20,695
I can't say cross
because she's Jewish--

1028
01:01:20,695 --> 01:01:22,070
Yeah, mine is
heavier than yours.

1029
01:01:22,070 --> 01:01:24,345
[LAUGHS]

1030
01:01:24,345 --> 01:01:28,670
--for reasons which, I think
to some extent, escape her,

1031
01:01:28,670 --> 01:01:30,000
but we won't go into that.

1032
01:01:30,000 --> 01:01:30,500
[LAUGHS]

1033
01:01:30,500 --> 01:01:32,850
Whatever.

1034
01:01:32,850 --> 01:01:34,400
But anyway, what do you think--

1035
01:01:34,400 --> 01:01:35,930
What was the last
thing you said?

1036
01:01:35,930 --> 01:01:38,330
What escapes me?

1037
01:01:38,330 --> 01:01:39,680
Why you're Jewish.

1038
01:01:39,680 --> 01:01:40,840
Why I'm Jewish.

1039
01:01:40,840 --> 01:01:44,690
Well, we're not here to
videotape my life story.

1040
01:01:44,690 --> 01:01:46,190
Because I could
explain some things.

1041
01:01:46,190 --> 01:01:47,180
Well, it's never too late.

1042
01:01:47,180 --> 01:01:48,380
I'm Jewish because
of the Holocaust.

1043
01:01:48,380 --> 01:01:49,790

But that's another subject.

1044
01:01:49,790 --> 01:01:51,920
Do you have any
questions that you would

1045
01:01:51,920 --> 01:01:53,730
like to ask at this point?

1046
01:01:53,730 --> 01:01:54,230
Yes.

1047
01:01:54,230 --> 01:01:57,200
In a way, it means going
back into some material,

1048
01:01:57,200 --> 01:01:59,630
so I don't know how
well it'll flow.

1049
01:01:59,630 --> 01:02:00,340
Well, go ahead.

1050
01:02:00,340 --> 01:02:01,640
And I'm kind of
concerned about that.

1051
01:02:01,640 --> 01:02:02,180
Don't worry.

1052
01:02:02,180 --> 01:02:03,290
Just go ahead.

1053
01:02:03,290 --> 01:02:05,510
OK.

1054
01:02:05,510 --> 01:02:16,410
Back when he was talking
about his losses and the pain

1055
01:02:16,410 --> 01:02:22,410
of having lost his family

and what he ends up

1056

01:02:22,410 --> 01:02:26,190
with in his life
as a consequence,

1057

01:02:26,190 --> 01:02:30,870
I wanted to talk about the fact
that those of us who know you

1058

01:02:30,870 --> 01:02:32,920
and those of us who
have been around you

1059

01:02:32,920 --> 01:02:35,490
for some time in
the Holocaust Center

1060

01:02:35,490 --> 01:02:41,340
and in the lecture series
were very painfully impacted

1061

01:02:41,340 --> 01:02:45,600
by your story and your
life and these things that

1062

01:02:45,600 --> 01:02:46,710
have happened to you.

1063

01:02:46,710 --> 01:02:52,140
And it brings up
the concept that not

1064

01:02:52,140 --> 01:02:57,400
only was this very hard for
you and your life but then,

1065

01:02:57,400 --> 01:02:59,910
it also has a deep
impact on anyone who

1066

01:02:59,910 --> 01:03:03,580
is involved with you in

your life in any close way,

1067

01:03:03,580 --> 01:03:05,730

whether it's a student
of yours, whether it's

1068

01:03:05,730 --> 01:03:07,500

someone who's in a
relationship with you,

1069

01:03:07,500 --> 01:03:09,450

whether it's your child--

1070

01:03:09,450 --> 01:03:13,440

whatever-- that there's
this rippling impact that

1071

01:03:13,440 --> 01:03:17,592

happens for anyone who has
close contact with someone who's

1072

01:03:17,592 --> 01:03:18,730

been through that trauma.

1073

01:03:18,730 --> 01:03:25,090

And some of us feel that we are
willing to take on this pain

1074

01:03:25,090 --> 01:03:27,850

because the wisdom
and the insight

1075

01:03:27,850 --> 01:03:32,055

that we get from it are
worthwhile as a part

1076

01:03:32,055 --> 01:03:32,680

of the bargain.

1077

01:03:32,680 --> 01:03:36,290

1078

01:03:36,290 --> 01:03:38,930
But I have a lot of
anxiety about the future

1079
01:03:38,930 --> 01:03:44,930
in terms of our
having to carry on,

1080
01:03:44,930 --> 01:03:49,760
in a sense, this history
and this painful aspect

1081
01:03:49,760 --> 01:03:50,880
of human nature.

1082
01:03:50,880 --> 01:03:53,750
And I feel that,
in studying this,

1083
01:03:53,750 --> 01:03:57,020
I've turned to people
like you for wisdom

1084
01:03:57,020 --> 01:03:58,730
and for some
strength of character

1085
01:03:58,730 --> 01:04:01,850
that you've developed,
having gone through this

1086
01:04:01,850 --> 01:04:04,820
and having reflected on
it and having studied it--

1087
01:04:04,820 --> 01:04:07,160
really, spent your whole
life on it, in a sense.

1088
01:04:07,160 --> 01:04:10,140

1089
01:04:10,140 --> 01:04:12,350

But I have a real
anxiety of not knowing

1090
01:04:12,350 --> 01:04:17,480
how we, the next generation,
are going to carry it on.

1091
01:04:17,480 --> 01:04:19,692
Because each of us who
is willing to be involved

1092
01:04:19,692 --> 01:04:21,900
with the Holocaust or willing
to be involved with one

1093
01:04:21,900 --> 01:04:25,610
of the survivors is taking
on some small aspects

1094
01:04:25,610 --> 01:04:29,420
of it, even the video-taper,
the interviewer, I and the work

1095
01:04:29,420 --> 01:04:30,930
that I do.

1096
01:04:30,930 --> 01:04:35,180
But I feel that
it's so inadequate

1097
01:04:35,180 --> 01:04:38,870
and that, in fact, if you feel
that the lessons of that time

1098
01:04:38,870 --> 01:04:41,480
have not been learned
and the lessons are not

1099
01:04:41,480 --> 01:04:44,090
really integrated
into our culture,

1100
01:04:44,090 --> 01:04:48,350

into our society's
values, I don't

1101
01:04:48,350 --> 01:04:49,600
know how we're going to do it.

1102
01:04:49,600 --> 01:04:52,365
And I'm still looking to you.

1103
01:04:52,365 --> 01:04:53,740
I'm still looking
back, in a way,

1104
01:04:53,740 --> 01:04:55,448
even though I'm an
adult, even though I'm

1105
01:04:55,448 --> 01:04:57,490
becoming an educator,
even though I know so much

1106
01:04:57,490 --> 01:04:58,570
about the Holocaust now.

1107
01:04:58,570 --> 01:05:00,415
And I'm learning more
about it all the time,

1108
01:05:00,415 --> 01:05:01,540
just from being around you.

1109
01:05:01,540 --> 01:05:04,240

1110
01:05:04,240 --> 01:05:07,240
I don't know how to carry
the meaning of it forward.

1111
01:05:07,240 --> 01:05:14,840
And I have a real fear
that when you are gone

1112

01:05:14,840 --> 01:05:20,110
and your generation is gone,
I don't know how to continue.

1113
01:05:20,110 --> 01:05:23,840
Well, you see, we can do
only the next best thing.

1114
01:05:23,840 --> 01:05:27,960
And that's what we
are doing right now.

1115
01:05:27,960 --> 01:05:33,880
And that's why I have
a great deal of respect

1116
01:05:33,880 --> 01:05:38,740
and am very supportive of
projects of this nature.

1117
01:05:38,740 --> 01:05:40,780
That's why we do what
we do in the Center.

1118
01:05:40,780 --> 01:05:43,090
And if we can
videotape these things

1119
01:05:43,090 --> 01:05:49,270
and do it, which will make
available those things which

1120
01:05:49,270 --> 01:05:51,830
we are discussing here from
different perspectives,

1121
01:05:51,830 --> 01:05:55,330
different points of view,
different survivors and all

1122
01:05:55,330 --> 01:06:00,340
that, this is an idea which will
have some degree of permanence.

1123

01:06:00,340 --> 01:06:12,420

You never can actually
relate sufficiently

1124

01:06:12,420 --> 01:06:16,800

in the type of depth
which reflects experience

1125

01:06:16,800 --> 01:06:22,020

of that person who is the
discussant or the person who

1126

01:06:22,020 --> 01:06:22,800

relates that.

1127

01:06:22,800 --> 01:06:25,320

1128

01:06:25,320 --> 01:06:26,370

That cannot be done.

1129

01:06:26,370 --> 01:06:29,010

So short of that
experience, I think

1130

01:06:29,010 --> 01:06:33,510

we do all we can in
order to preserve

1131

01:06:33,510 --> 01:06:36,630

the notions of those who
are survivors, and perhaps

1132

01:06:36,630 --> 01:06:37,500

a bit verbal.

1133

01:06:37,500 --> 01:06:40,440

And I've reflected on
it, although I am not

1134

01:06:40,440 --> 01:06:43,410

dreadfully optimistic how

many survivors have actually

1135
01:06:43,410 --> 01:06:46,500
reflected in depth about
what actually happened

1136
01:06:46,500 --> 01:06:48,420
to them, other than dwelling--

1137
01:06:48,420 --> 01:06:51,090

1138
01:06:51,090 --> 01:06:56,460
understandably so--
on their suffering.

1139
01:06:56,460 --> 01:06:59,950
And I like to transcend
that, as I said before.

1140
01:06:59,950 --> 01:07:08,140
And that's exactly what is quite
realistically possible for you

1141
01:07:08,140 --> 01:07:11,950
to continue or for anyone
who wants to carry the ball

1142
01:07:11,950 --> 01:07:17,470
and hand it, so to
speak, or throw it,

1143
01:07:17,470 --> 01:07:19,058
to the next generation.

1144
01:07:19,058 --> 01:07:20,350
And that's the best you can do.

1145
01:07:20,350 --> 01:07:23,440
We only can do that
much, short of having

1146

01:07:23,440 --> 01:07:25,240
that experience yourself.

1147
01:07:25,240 --> 01:07:27,040
Hey, who wants that experience?

1148
01:07:27,040 --> 01:07:28,712
I can do without it.

1149
01:07:28,712 --> 01:07:30,520
I'm not advocating
for having it.

1150
01:07:30,520 --> 01:07:31,150
That's right.

1151
01:07:31,150 --> 01:07:34,180
I mean, it's terrible.

1152
01:07:34,180 --> 01:07:35,410
I don't want it.

1153
01:07:35,410 --> 01:07:36,910
But I have to live with it.

1154
01:07:36,910 --> 01:07:39,100
Now, also, I think,
we should not

1155
01:07:39,100 --> 01:07:42,370
become obsessed
with the Holocaust.

1156
01:07:42,370 --> 01:07:43,450
That's the danger.

1157
01:07:43,450 --> 01:07:46,390
And that is also
one of the reasons

1158
01:07:46,390 --> 01:07:50,050
why my wife has

left me, in a way,

1159
01:07:50,050 --> 01:07:53,980
is because she had
her fill, in a way.

1160
01:07:53,980 --> 01:07:57,100
And that's one of
many, many things.

1161
01:07:57,100 --> 01:07:59,680
But I mean, it's still--

1162
01:07:59,680 --> 01:08:04,898
and particularly if you don't
relate to these sort of things

1163
01:08:04,898 --> 01:08:05,440
and all that.

1164
01:08:05,440 --> 01:08:07,810
Because I don't think we
should become obsessed,

1165
01:08:07,810 --> 01:08:10,000
and I think we should have
some other things which

1166
01:08:10,000 --> 01:08:10,960
we are interested in.

1167
01:08:10,960 --> 01:08:14,470
And I'm doing it
because I'm an educator.

1168
01:08:14,470 --> 01:08:17,560
But I don't intend to stay
within this sort of field

1169
01:08:17,560 --> 01:08:20,680
and really concentrate and
just think about the Holocaust.

1170

01:08:20,680 --> 01:08:21,740

I think it's deadly.

1171

01:08:21,740 --> 01:08:22,990

I don't think it's healthy.

1172

01:08:22,990 --> 01:08:24,550

I don't think it should be done.

1173

01:08:24,550 --> 01:08:27,743

I think we should have enough
other things which we do,

1174

01:08:27,743 --> 01:08:29,660

and that's why I'm telling
you so many things.

1175

01:08:29,660 --> 01:08:33,130

Let's do something,
do things which

1176

01:08:33,130 --> 01:08:37,420

will provide some sort of change
and all this and all the other.

1177

01:08:37,420 --> 01:08:39,505

But because of my
role as educator

1178

01:08:39,505 --> 01:08:42,640

and because the
unfortunate incident

1179

01:08:42,640 --> 01:08:46,149

that I'm where I am and
feel obligated to that,

1180

01:08:46,149 --> 01:08:51,819

and so few people can
take it and carry the ball

1181

01:08:51,819 --> 01:08:55,479

and do what I think
I can do, I still

1182
01:08:55,479 --> 01:08:57,609
am in a position
where I have to do it.

1183
01:08:57,609 --> 01:08:59,439
But I don't intend
to do it forever.

1184
01:08:59,439 --> 01:09:03,310
You know, I may die in
the process forward.

1185
01:09:03,310 --> 01:09:04,425
I don't know.

1186
01:09:04,425 --> 01:09:05,425
But that's not intended.

1187
01:09:05,425 --> 01:09:08,300

1188
01:09:08,300 --> 01:09:10,939
But I still have this deep
sense that so many people

1189
01:09:10,939 --> 01:09:13,310
don't understand--

1190
01:09:13,310 --> 01:09:14,210
Of course not.

1191
01:09:14,210 --> 01:09:15,390
--the deeper lessons.

1192
01:09:15,390 --> 01:09:17,240
Absolutely.

1193
01:09:17,240 --> 01:09:18,080
Absolutely.

1194
01:09:18,080 --> 01:09:21,930
And that's for you and
other people interested

1195
01:09:21,930 --> 01:09:23,840
to make that work on it.

1196
01:09:23,840 --> 01:09:26,810
Because we are not
going to work it out.

1197
01:09:26,810 --> 01:09:33,620
We just show perhaps
some direction,

1198
01:09:33,620 --> 01:09:36,350
in terms of which
direction to pursue.

1199
01:09:36,350 --> 01:09:38,810
But I don't think we'll
leave with these really

1200
01:09:38,810 --> 01:09:40,142
profound solutions.

1201
01:09:40,142 --> 01:09:40,850
I don't think so.

1202
01:09:40,850 --> 01:09:42,890
But I think, yeah,
we're working on it.

1203
01:09:42,890 --> 01:09:45,540
And other people will
take it up and work on it

1204
01:09:45,540 --> 01:09:49,910
some more, without necessarily
having experienced anything

1205

01:09:49,910 --> 01:09:51,927
which would as traumatic.

1206
01:09:51,927 --> 01:09:53,510
And I think that's
what we need to do.

1207
01:09:53,510 --> 01:09:55,820
And that's what you can
do, and other people, which

1208
01:09:55,820 --> 01:09:58,100
is being done right
now, whether it's

1209
01:09:58,100 --> 01:10:01,160
just with the help of a
camera, just doing that.

1210
01:10:01,160 --> 01:10:04,790
Because, obviously, if they
would not relate to this thing

1211
01:10:04,790 --> 01:10:07,040
and understand the
importance of that

1212
01:10:07,040 --> 01:10:10,863
and have enough optimism to say
that it will make a difference,

1213
01:10:10,863 --> 01:10:11,780
they wouldn't be here.

1214
01:10:11,780 --> 01:10:14,710

1215
01:10:14,710 --> 01:10:20,908
And that, to me, is absolutely--

1216
01:10:20,908 --> 01:10:22,450
I mean, that's why
I'm doing what I--

1217
01:10:22,450 --> 01:10:26,380
because I don't
particularly enjoy dwelling

1218
01:10:26,380 --> 01:10:29,410
on this type of past, for sure.

1219
01:10:29,410 --> 01:10:31,060
Isn't that sort
of the way history

1220
01:10:31,060 --> 01:10:33,250
is analyzed, in general, though?

1221
01:10:33,250 --> 01:10:34,930
I mean, we look
back at ancient Rome

1222
01:10:34,930 --> 01:10:36,520
or at the Spanish
Inquisition, and I

1223
01:10:36,520 --> 01:10:39,970
think historical distance
gives us that perspective.

1224
01:10:39,970 --> 01:10:43,510
The further away we are from the
event, the more dispassionate

1225
01:10:43,510 --> 01:10:45,070
we can be about it.

1226
01:10:45,070 --> 01:10:46,810
I think some of us
are still too close,

1227
01:10:46,810 --> 01:10:48,970
and that's why maybe
they cannot analyze.

1228

01:10:48,970 --> 01:10:50,620
All they can do is recite.

1229
01:10:50,620 --> 01:10:52,090
This is what happened to me.

1230
01:10:52,090 --> 01:10:54,460
They give that to
the next generation,

1231
01:10:54,460 --> 01:10:56,260
and they sift
through it, and they

1232
01:10:56,260 --> 01:10:58,690
pass what they've distilled
down to the next generation.

1233
01:10:58,690 --> 01:11:00,190
Maybe they're the
ones who are going

1234
01:11:00,190 --> 01:11:05,410
to figure it out, find out the
lessons, the core of it all.

1235
01:11:05,410 --> 01:11:08,963
I certainly don't think
that the Caesars had

1236
01:11:08,963 --> 01:11:11,380
the historical distance to
understand what they were doing

1237
01:11:11,380 --> 01:11:14,590
to Rome any more than
we necessarily know

1238
01:11:14,590 --> 01:11:16,360
what we're doing to the Earth.

1239
01:11:16,360 --> 01:11:18,380
I think that's a

very important point.

1240
01:11:18,380 --> 01:11:21,370
And the difference is that
we have a different means

1241
01:11:21,370 --> 01:11:23,980
to process history.

1242
01:11:23,980 --> 01:11:25,300
And they didn't have that.

1243
01:11:25,300 --> 01:11:26,170
We have that.

1244
01:11:26,170 --> 01:11:32,440
And to make videotapes of
people still alive, for reasons

1245
01:11:32,440 --> 01:11:38,620
which may escape them, it's a
very important contribution.

1246
01:11:38,620 --> 01:11:41,110
Because the old Romans or
the Greeks didn't have it.

1247
01:11:41,110 --> 01:11:43,960
Because if they had, we may
have learned more from them,

1248
01:11:43,960 --> 01:11:44,950
the chances are.

1249
01:11:44,950 --> 01:11:46,710
It's a possibility, isn't it?

1250
01:11:46,710 --> 01:11:47,210
All right.

1251
01:11:47,210 --> 01:11:49,000
So I mean, that's

what we are doing.

1252

01:11:49,000 --> 01:11:56,020

Now, who is going to view the material and put it together

1253

01:11:56,020 --> 01:11:59,800

and what have you is another thing.

1254

01:11:59,800 --> 01:12:03,700

To what extent it may get buried someplace and forgotten

1255

01:12:03,700 --> 01:12:04,630

is another thing.

1256

01:12:04,630 --> 01:12:07,900

It just depends on the awareness of those people who

1257

01:12:07,900 --> 01:12:10,360

will stay behind.

1258

01:12:10,360 --> 01:12:13,360

And there, I don't have a great deal of optimism

1259

01:12:13,360 --> 01:12:17,500

because I think people have become

1260

01:12:17,500 --> 01:12:19,720

more ignorant by the day.

1261

01:12:19,720 --> 01:12:23,650

Well, they are becoming more ignorant by the day.

1262

01:12:23,650 --> 01:12:25,830

So depends what they will do.

1263

01:12:25,830 --> 01:12:31,400
But I only can do what I can,
or we can do what we can do.

1264
01:12:31,400 --> 01:12:34,330
And if we do that to
the best of our ability,

1265
01:12:34,330 --> 01:12:36,700
we can die peacefully,
so to speak.

1266
01:12:36,700 --> 01:12:38,800
I think, too, that there
are people involved

1267
01:12:38,800 --> 01:12:41,275
in this program, for example,
who are historians, who

1268
01:12:41,275 --> 01:12:43,210
are doing it for
the historical value

1269
01:12:43,210 --> 01:12:45,390
as much as they're
doing it for--

1270
01:12:45,390 --> 01:12:47,440
But the historical
value is valueless

1271
01:12:47,440 --> 01:12:49,300
if it is not
interpreted and if we

1272
01:12:49,300 --> 01:12:50,740
don't learn our lesson from it.

1273
01:12:50,740 --> 01:12:53,722
They're the ones who
are going to interpret.

1274

01:12:53,722 --> 01:12:55,180
And I think there
are always people

1275
01:12:55,180 --> 01:12:56,680
who are fascinated by history.

1276
01:12:56,680 --> 01:12:57,670
And maybe--

1277
01:12:57,670 --> 01:12:58,600
But that's not enough.

1278
01:12:58,600 --> 01:13:01,620
To be fascinated by history
is simply not enough.

1279
01:13:01,620 --> 01:13:04,360
But in any case,
I say I thank you

1280
01:13:04,360 --> 01:13:09,190
for taking the hours and the
psychic, intellectual, and

1281
01:13:09,190 --> 01:13:12,070
emotional energy to
come and do this.

1282
01:13:12,070 --> 01:13:18,100
You I mean, to some degree
we can predict, perhaps,

1283
01:13:18,100 --> 01:13:20,920
who will use the material
and who will interpret it.

1284
01:13:20,920 --> 01:13:24,977
But I think that it will go
forward in the education,

1285
01:13:24,977 --> 01:13:26,560
as you've been

talking, just as you've

1286
01:13:26,560 --> 01:13:28,537
been doing, just as
you've been doing

1287
01:13:28,537 --> 01:13:38,230
and that it's a extremely
draining but very, very

1288
01:13:38,230 --> 01:13:42,030
valuable thing
that you're doing.

1289
01:13:42,030 --> 01:13:43,780
Well, it's important,
for example,

1290
01:13:43,780 --> 01:13:45,840
since we're talking about
it, these sort of get

1291
01:13:45,840 --> 01:13:48,600
togethers which I missed because
I was in Europe because you've

1292
01:13:48,600 --> 01:13:51,150
had this--

1293
01:13:51,150 --> 01:13:52,320
Survivor reception?

1294
01:13:52,320 --> 01:13:54,780
Reception and all that.

1295
01:13:54,780 --> 01:13:56,330
I think that's very important.

1296
01:13:56,330 --> 01:13:59,490
It just depends who
is going to really get

1297

01:13:59,490 --> 01:14:04,500
the kind of recognition and
how these people will mix,

1298
01:14:04,500 --> 01:14:05,830
who will be who and all that.

1299
01:14:05,830 --> 01:14:09,050
And sometimes, the wrong
people come on top, you see.

1300
01:14:09,050 --> 01:14:10,620
And that's something
which we really

1301
01:14:10,620 --> 01:14:12,780
ought to avoid if we can.

1302
01:14:12,780 --> 01:14:18,000
But the more conscious we are
of some of the ramifications

1303
01:14:18,000 --> 01:14:20,860
and some of the details,
the better position

1304
01:14:20,860 --> 01:14:22,440
we are to avoid that.

1305
01:14:22,440 --> 01:14:26,220
But I have to work with
people who I would prefer

1306
01:14:26,220 --> 01:14:27,750
not to work with, you see.

1307
01:14:27,750 --> 01:14:30,305
And simply because
I'm in that position,

1308
01:14:30,305 --> 01:14:34,735
it's really difficult to
say, I won't work with you.

1309
01:14:34,735 --> 01:14:37,050
Yeah, their understanding
is so minimal--

1310
01:14:37,050 --> 01:14:37,688
That's right.

1311
01:14:37,688 --> 01:14:38,730
--of such a huge subject.

1312
01:14:38,730 --> 01:14:39,690
Exactly that.

1313
01:14:39,690 --> 01:14:41,520
And also, of there
are survivors,

1314
01:14:41,520 --> 01:14:43,650
it's just unbelievable
how myopic they are.

1315
01:14:43,650 --> 01:14:45,810
They just haven't learned
their lesson at all.

1316
01:14:45,810 --> 01:14:47,940
And they talk about,
lecture and talk about it

1317
01:14:47,940 --> 01:14:51,900
and just haven't learned
a thing, other than trying

1318
01:14:51,900 --> 01:14:59,280
to be in limelight and enjoy
the fact of being limelight

1319
01:14:59,280 --> 01:15:06,860
and reap some reward
from it or whatever.

1320

01:15:06,860 --> 01:15:08,780
Some odd kind of status.

1321
01:15:08,780 --> 01:15:11,780
The status of the victim.

1322
01:15:11,780 --> 01:15:14,210
Clues to explain ourselves.

1323
01:15:14,210 --> 01:15:15,245
Well, we're trying.

1324
01:15:15,245 --> 01:15:18,260

1325
01:15:18,260 --> 01:15:19,880
I'm still trying to
get over the idea

1326
01:15:19,880 --> 01:15:24,776
that such a profound trauma
in recent history on humanity,

1327
01:15:24,776 --> 01:15:29,000
on society, ought to
have as its balance

1328
01:15:29,000 --> 01:15:33,200
some kind of profound
behavioral and consciousness

1329
01:15:33,200 --> 01:15:39,150
transformation that would be
the commensurate natural balance

1330
01:15:39,150 --> 01:15:39,650
to that.

1331
01:15:39,650 --> 01:15:42,650
And I think that I'm
so idealistic and naive

1332

01:15:42,650 --> 01:15:43,340
in this sense.

1333
01:15:43,340 --> 01:15:45,620
Because I don't know.

1334
01:15:45,620 --> 01:15:46,738
That would be fair.

1335
01:15:46,738 --> 01:15:47,780
Yeah, that would be fair.

1336
01:15:47,780 --> 01:15:49,280
And life is not fair.

1337
01:15:49,280 --> 01:15:51,620
Well, but you see,
I don't know exactly

1338
01:15:51,620 --> 01:15:53,360
whether I would call it naive.

1339
01:15:53,360 --> 01:15:55,190
Because I still expect it.

1340
01:15:55,190 --> 01:15:57,920
And I'm disappointed when
people who are survivors

1341
01:15:57,920 --> 01:16:01,850
behave, in a way, as if they
had not learned a thing.

1342
01:16:01,850 --> 01:16:04,470
And that, to me, is a
terrible disappointment.

1343
01:16:04,470 --> 01:16:08,000
Some kind of [INAUDIBLE].

1344
01:16:08,000 --> 01:16:11,300
So maybe I'm very hard

on them and all that.

1345

01:16:11,300 --> 01:16:13,250

But I think, what
the hell have you

1346

01:16:13,250 --> 01:16:17,240

gotten out of all this yourself
before you just espouse

1347

01:16:17,240 --> 01:16:20,120

some sort of things or
talk to other people

1348

01:16:20,120 --> 01:16:23,450

and try to tell them about
what you have experienced.

1349

01:16:23,450 --> 01:16:26,300

And yes, I'm getting
very impatient

1350

01:16:26,300 --> 01:16:28,010

and rather intolerant.

1351

01:16:28,010 --> 01:16:30,530

But yes, I still think
we can expect it.

1352

01:16:30,530 --> 01:16:35,270

Because if we can't expect
it from these situations,

1353

01:16:35,270 --> 01:16:38,720

what do we have to go
through before we wake up?

1354

01:16:38,720 --> 01:16:42,380

And that, to me, is one
of the crucial questions.

1355

01:16:42,380 --> 01:16:53,230

What sort of suffering do I

have to go through or survive

1356
01:16:53,230 --> 01:16:57,100
before I wake up and
start reflecting on it

1357
01:16:57,100 --> 01:17:00,760
and behave in a
fashion which will

1358
01:17:00,760 --> 01:17:04,750
reflect some degree
of understanding,

1359
01:17:04,750 --> 01:17:05,940
which would make a change?

1360
01:17:05,940 --> 01:17:09,000

1361
01:17:09,000 --> 01:17:12,820
That is probably the
all-time question.

1362
01:17:12,820 --> 01:17:17,167

1363
01:17:17,167 --> 01:17:19,500
Perhaps we should end there
and start with that question

1364
01:17:19,500 --> 01:17:20,610
again next time.

1365
01:17:20,610 --> 01:17:22,760
OK, yeah.

1366
01:17:22,760 --> 01:19:23,200