

HOLOCAUST

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HUMANITY

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## **Agi Day**

### **Video Transcripts**

#### **Video 1: Leaving her Father**

My father like I said was doing well and he would've been able to send me on the Queen Mary, properly you know. That was not possible. I had to be sent as a refugee the same way my mother had been sent, and I had to be sent as a refugee as an immigrant, again through the same

And when the day came. Or a few days before probably, when my father begged me, would I stay with him. That was a very very difficult time. That memory is a very sad memory and very difficult memory because I loved him and I had to leave him.

But there was never a question for one second that I would not go to my mother. There was just, you know, again, but it was very, very difficult he begged me to stay with him I remember both of us crying but it just was never a question of that. And so eventually, and by that time I was in first year gymnasium.

#### **Video 2: Living With a Young Couple**

The priest found us, found my mother and my sister and my grandmother a convent where there about 40 other Jewish women. They were dressed as nuns. My sister who was 17 at the time or 16 at the time was dressed like an officiate, which was a nun in learning, learning how to be a nun.

But there was this four-year-old, me, and they couldn't put me in the convent. Because there were no children in the convent. I know there were convents, later on I've read there were convents that had schools attached to them and so some Jewish children were hidden in these schools but this convent did not.

So the priest found a couple, and I always said family but they're really a young couple because they had no children. And who said they would take me in, they would hide me. And so I was taken to this couple and there wasn't much explanation as to why I knew I'd be fine I just this is what you had to do.

And children of war, and besides children in Europe at that time, you didn't ask why or I don't want to, you just did what you were told. And I was told that I would be living with this couple. My name would be changed to I don't remember what it was. And that I was to pretend that I was a cousin from outside, from the countryside.

And I was to live with them because I couldn't live with my mother, and my grandmother and my sister because they had to go someplace else and that's all I was told. You know I am sure, I remember the one couple they had a rocking horse I was very glad for that because it's something for me to play with.

But, I'm not sure how I felt, I must have been scared, but I just did what my mother told me to do and I had to do it. And I don't remember whether I was happy with them, but I don't remember being unhappy either. Being unhappy being separated from my mother, yes, that was terrible for me.

### **Video 3: Hiding in a Priest's House**

My mother heard about this priest and that he was hiding some women and she approached him and he just said I can't help you there just, I've got the fill its just I can't help you. Well, if you recall I will, my mother being very strong and she would not take no for an answer.

And I guess she really hounded him and hounded him. Said you have to help us, please help us. Her family was at stake and she didn't let go, so finally he said, "Well, I'll hide you in my apartment." He was living in an apartment and, "I'll hide you in my apartment and we'll see what we can do."

So we were in his apartment for I don't know again, a couple of months. And now he was a priest but he had an apartment which I don't know if that's strange or not, because I know a lot of times but maybe because of the war or whatever because he wasn't living in a diocese or whatever he was just in his own apartment.

But he was living there alone. So there was my sister, my mother, my grandmother and myself. And so I remember we only could walk one person at a time, because he was living alone and if neighbors heard they should only hear one footstep at a time.

Well by that time, there were a lot of air raids and a lot of bombing going on in Hungary because Hungary really was an enemy of the allies. So Hungary, Budapest was being bombed. 01:46 And what happened is the apartment houses had these big cellars, and they had the people, all the people in all the apartment buildings had organized a way that the occupants of the apartments when there was an air raid everybody had to go to the cellar.

And I guess they had a whole system of making sure that you know, you were there, to make sure. They were taking care of each other all the people in the apartments to make sure that everybody would be safe.

So when there was an air raid everybody had to go to the cellar which meant the priest had to go to the cellar. We weren't there, we were non-entities so we hid in his little bathroom, and sometimes for hours and hours, cause air raids took hours and hours and in the little bathroom with no windows. And I very much remember the bombs, the air raids, the sirens. It took me a long, long time and even now sometimes when I hear a siren it doesn't feel good.

## Her Mother

My mother was a very, very incredible woman, she was extremely strong. And I guess she really, not I guess, she is the reason we have survived. And again later on in the story you'll hear just some of the things, they were all, it was all my mother, it was really all my mother

In terms of, in term of determination, in term of decision making, as to what should happen, what shouldn't happen, what's going, you know. Because if it hadn't been for her, just her own strength even the fact, that you know as I said going back to cleaning for these people, and taking care you know

Just for survival, so its really interesting the survival instinct in some people is much stronger than others and she was one of these people who for her family that was the most important thing

For her children, and to my mother always her children were the most important thing in the world and that's I think something that probably I've inherited from her too