## THE INTERVIEW

Mike Culiner interviewing his father Harry in 1978

M: What year were you were you born?

H: That's it 1883.

Then she looks at me remarkable, she didn't know what to think about of course, remarkable

#### RUSSIAN ARMY

M: How old were you when you left home when you went in the army?

H: 21 they conscripted you --1905

M: How long were you supposed to be in the army

H: I was supposed to be in the army for three years

M: How long were you in?

H: I was in, the most of the time in the hospital

M: how for how for how long were you in the army

H: you see I was in the army uh I went in now let's see a little before Christmas Yeah then I got away but most

M: And that's in April then

H: Uh huh. That was in April. Yeah, see in Pesach.

M: So that's four or five months

H: Yeah, but I was the most of the time in the hospital.

M: Why?

H: Didn't I tell you that I have punctured my ear?

M: You did it yourself?

H: Why of course I did it.

M: Nobody did it for you?

H: A man

M: Oh, a man did it.

H: went to Brest-Litovsk how *[Peace treaty signed 3rd March 1918. Currently in Belarus. It’s 110 miles northwest of Swinuch and 115 miles east of Warsaw*.]

M: Where the hell was that

H: Brest-Litovsk, you see it in the paper

M: Yeah, that, there was a peace treaty signed there

H: That was Russia, it belonged to Russia. All Poland belonged to Russia, there was no such thing as Poland.

M: So who was this guy? Who was this guy who did it?

H: I went to a man which I was recommended to go to him, and he got $5, I suppose, five rubles, or 10 rubles. And he put in a certain drop which should burn the – what, what do you call it there? The ear drum. Then, in all other time they would relieve you, they wouldn't let you go (in the army), but it was the Russian Japanese war and they said: “Take him”. That was in 1905 yeah.

M: So that was around Christmas of 1904?

H: 1904 I was called and they accepted me. They said *Russian.* Nebusha?

M: What's that mean?

H: Blow, blow. They could hear the whistling.

M: You mean before you even got in the army you had that

H: I did that before a few months before I had to go to be called in you see.

M: And then when you when they saw that they put you in the army.

H: Yeah, they put me in the army.

M: But why in the hell were you in the hospital?

H: Well, when I came to the army, they saw something wrong but they never came out. So they sent me into the hospital.

M: They didn't know that you had done this?

H: Well they expected it. A lot of people did that. You remember Zalman? He cut his big toe off.

M: *Oy veah*.

H: Another do the same thing.

M: Well did and he got out of the army that way?

H: No, he ran away too.

M: But he was in the army with his toe cut off

H: Yeah with, with the toe off.

M: Oy vey. So they put you in the army around April

H: So when I was in the hospital and they put me right near a door, and it got swollen

M: Oh you mean the draft

H: You see the draft from the door. So they kept me there until they cured it

M: I see

H: When they cured it then they sent me to take the legion

M: What do you mean the legion

H: The legion that is I accept

M: Oh allegiance

H: Yeah allegiance

M: I see

H: They had man, then they sent then a rabbi to take the allegiance. And after I came, after

M: You mean the rabbi had to swear you in?

H: Yeah, the rabbi had to swear me in.

M: Otherwise, if they did it, they'd say yeah you didn't have to live up to it.

H: So, listen. So what one of the commandeer, one of the officials says now [האָט דיר דער רבי געזאָגט געװיסט אַז זאָלסט אַנטלױפֿן] Culiner, what did the Rebbe say to you? Certainly that you should run away.

M: He didn't speak in Yiddish

H: No. Russian? *Yiddish* [*װאָס האָט דער רבי געזאָגט? געװיס אַז זאָלסט אַנטלױפֿן*] What did the rebbe say to you? Certainly that you should run away. And sure enough in a day or two it was all fenced around the place where I was standing was with a fence, a bridge.

M: What was it, an army camp?

H: An army camp, yeah.

M: Near where?

H: Right in Warsaw.

M: In Warsaw?

H: In the city of Warsaw.

M: I’ll be damned yeah.

#### AWOL

H: you see. And, so I put on my coat, and the strap, and the one who stands near where you go in and out there were openings, I told the man I just go to have a drink. So he let me go because I had my coat on, formal.

And right near, my father … now I've got to bring out, you see in the old country certain people belong to some, to certain rabbis like, the what do they call the Levia…, the big one

M: Emmanuel

H: No, uh, Lubavitcher. So my father belonged because being in that town, and he belonged also. Another thing, so I came in to a house where one of the Hasidim lived and I told them I am Burcharye’s (Baruch Areye’s) [*אַ ייִנגל]* I am Burcharye’s son*.* and they know my father because going to the same rabbi coming from our town going to that rabbi

M: So were you that close to Warsaw?

H: No, no see them travel hundreds of miles to a rabbi.

M: Oh I see.

H: You see. So therefore the Hasidim that belonged to that rabbi, most of them know each other. So I told them I my father is Brucharya. So immediately they changed my clothes. They took me

M: What do you mean they changed your clothes?

H: From I wear the army clothes. They took that off equipment to civilian clothes. They send me to the station where the train goes away. Since I'm a civilian

M: There's no problem.

H: There's no, no, and they don't start to look immediately for people who ran away until eight days after

M: How come?

H: They don't know they think perhaps he I went wrong, or went to sporting house or something like it. So they don't start to look for him for eight days. In eight days I came right near home but I went into a Russian, to a Ukrainian which he knew because he used to come to us. And I stay there overnight where they keep the grain. Overnight. And on the second night, it that was right near the Austrian border, so he took me across the border. He got 10 rubles for it. Once you cross the border, at that time the law was in Austria, you can't return. You can't return you see.

M: Who took you across the border?

H: That Russian where I stayed overnight. He knew our family because he used to come to us. I think I told you once, we had a factory where they make oil, sweet oil.

#### SWINUCH INN AND MILL

M: Who had a factory?

H: My, my mother looked after it.

M: But she had the inn.

H: She had the inn and the factory, as well, in the same building

M: Oh I see.

H: A great big, big place where they used to take in I don't know how many wagons they put into it there. You know horses. So, therefore, this Russian knew my father. He knew me because they used to come every winter to make oil. So, my father … the one who brought me there that was one of my brothers. She they paid him five or ten rubles and he just took me across the border at night.

#### CROSSED THE BORDER

M: How far away was it?

H: Only about like from here to San Francisco.

M: From here to where like from here into the city. San Francisco. About 17-18 miles.

H: That's all. Once I was across the border, I got free. Then I, as I told you, that my father belonged to Sfard[[1]](#footnote-1),  *[ דו װײסט, ספֿרדים]* You know, Sfardim?*The Reb Sfard?* And they … once I told … they didn't know my father but I told them that I am Brucharye’s *[ אַ ייִנגל]* I am Brucharye’s son and I'm related to you. So that they took it for granted. After a few days they asked me whether I'm a cohen. I say no. You know what a cohen is?

M: Yeah.

#### COHANIM IN AUSTRIA

H: I say no. But they’re *cohanim.* So they went to the rabbi in that town and explained: I am not a cohen how could I be related? And so the rabbi got in touch with my father. My father explained: It's through my mother not my father.

M: You mean your mother was a cohen?

H: The ones in Austria they’re *cohen*.

M: Yeah, what about your mother?

H: My mother was their relative to the people where they took me.

That's why I am a [ישראל] Israel not a *cohen*. I want to explain that that I'm not a cohen because my father isn't a cohen but my mother, but my mother comes of that family in Austria. You see, so I am one of theirs

M: What was her name before?

H: My mother's name?

M: Not Raisele, but what was her family name?

H: Culiner, my father took the name Culiner?

M: No, I mean your mother's name before she married him.

H: I’ve forgotten the name like your friend, the one Mais...

M: Maislish? Oh she was a Maislish.

H: She was a Maislish.

M: I see. Yeah, yeah, yeah.

H: That's it.

M: All right, so all right how long were you there in Austria then?

H: In Austria I was there from, from Pesah until Shavous, is seven weeks.

M: Uh-huh.

#### TREK

H: I wanted to go to America. See they send me a hundred ruble

M: Who?

H: My people, they send me a hundred ruble. Then I went from, from that town, and went to Vienna, and travel. Walked Lemberg, walked to Lviv, and then Vienna and then to Triest. Triest was the port yes and I told them I want to go to America so they examined me and I find that my through my eyes they wouldn't let me in.

M: You also had Trachoma?[[2]](#footnote-2)

H: Yeah, I had Trachoma.

M: So how did you get in?

H: Just a moment. So this company didn't want to didn't want to sell me a ticket. Not far from this company was another company. And before the boat left, I ran in and bought a ticket, put on the boat without looking at me, without examining me. And I on the boat I was 30 days on the boat.

M: From Triest to where?

H: From Triest we went into, uh, in Italy. What's the name of that … in … all the bad times come from that …

M: Sicily?

H: In Italy, the port

M: Yeah, from Sicily

H: In Italy, the port

M: Genoa?

H: No, no, no, no, no. All the bad guys come from this

M: They're from … The bad guys are in Sicily, Sicilians.

H: Sicily, oh, from Sicily. Staying there for four or five days still loading nuts, wine. It was a great big boat.

M: What do you mean nuts? What are those nuts?

#### ARRIVED NEW YORK

H: Wine. For America. Exporting. So we're standing on that boat but I don't remember how many days. And then it took 30 days from Italy to New York. When I came to New York

M: July the 4th

H: On July the 4th. July the third but they wouldn’t

M: Yeah, on the fourth.

H: On the fourth and

M: They wouldn't the next day

H: The fifth

M: Yeah, yeah.

H: So at that time they were quite easy New York. They wouldn't, they just took a glance at me

M: They didn't look at your eyes?

H: I don't remember whether they did or not. All you had to do is show him the 10 rubles.

M: how much was 10 rubles worth?

H: Well a dollar was two rubles

M: Oh okay

H: Oh I had $10

M: Yeah, yeah.

H: $10 that means I'm not going to become a public charge.

M: Yeah, right.

H: So right there, there were an organization which took up the Jewish immigrants. We had to show him the address with the where I'm going, and he took me to my uncle.

M: Well how did you know the address where your uncle was?

H: Well that's it. In Austria, where people used to come to our town to buy fish with great big big thing barrels. And they used to stay in our place because it was an inn.

M: Right.

H: And they were coming for years into us and my father found out so then they knew the address from my uncle in New York.

M: The relatives knew?

H: Yeah

M: How come?

H: It was because those relatives had one brother who kept on traveling to New York and back

M: Doing what?

H: What he was doing. When I came to house there, he was there.

M: Oh I see. So he

H: But he came back from New York.

M: Yeah right.

H: And they knew where Vitlan lives.

M: Yeah.

H: So therefore my father got from those fishers the address, and that's the address he gave me. And they took me to my uncle in New York. When I came there, so the, my uncle asked the man, he looks at me and he's asking the man: “How much do I owe you”? He said: “25 cents”. He said: “Here’s 50 cents and take him back.”

H: I think I mentioned you my father has never corresponded.

M: Yeah I know.

H: Never told us that he has a brother in America.

M: Because he was

H: *Traif*. America’s *traif*, not kosher.

M: Yeah, yeah.

H: So he never mentioned until I had to leave Europe. Then he gave me. Then he gave me my uncle’s address.

#### BARUCH AREYE’S SIBLINGS

M: How many, how many brothers did your father have?

H: Two and two sisters.

M: All right so one was a Whitlan in New York

H: And one one was a Whitlin in New York.

M: Yeah.

H: And one was uh, I think I mentioned it to you once.

M: What about the sisters Papa?

H: Well the sisters married, they were married to other people

M: And living where?

H: Living one town not far from my town.

M: Oh I see.

H: 14 [װיאָרשט] You know, like from San Francisco or where mother lived. That's where your mother lived from our town was 20 [װיאָרשט] You know, but if you go through the swamp, you have only four miles.

M: Oh I see.

H: It was swampy. I’ve forgotten the other name.

#### ABRAHAM MILDER’S CHILDREN

M: Papa how come your mother had the inn?

H: Well from my grandfather.

M: Well didn't he have any other, didn't she have any brothers and sisters?

H: I remember this just like when I was a child, she had one more sister which she married in To Kolki, also a town not far away from our town. She married in there.

M: You don't remember her last name when she got married?

H: No I would not.

M: No, no so she only had one sister?

H: One sister.

M: No, no brothers?

H: Now listen I remember just like in a dream. A little boy going in a uniform. The uniform was for the school. It was one school which Jews were not permitted to go in there but my grandfather's child went to that school. But he died as a young kid.

M: How come he got in?

H: How come he died?

M: No, how come the little, your uncle got into that school?

H: That's because he was prominent. I don't know, in that town.

M: Maybe he you mean he had some money and stuff

H: Probably so because you take even uh Jews were not supposed to go to to Petersburg school. The one who had money was a *per vigili,* *per vigil* means a first class, a money man.

M: And your grandfather did that?

H: And my grandfather must have been a man of

M: Some means.

H: Yeah some means. And I remember that little boy, perhaps about Mark’s age, wearing a uniform going to school, but he died too young.

M: Yeah. So when your grandfather died your mother got the property.

#### SWINUCH: THE MILL AND INN

H: Then the two sisters got the property. They had two sisters, so they got a property

M: Yeah.

H: Then they divided it. They gave sister a certain part, I remember the back part, and my mother had the front part, the inn. And she, and as I say, that machine.

M: To make oil yeah

H: By making oil all make me not for us, nah, all

M: All the peasants

H: All the peasants around. Taking off from the field, used to come to our town. There were two, my father and about *for* Meyer from across the road, another one the same business. So when they came with their packs to make oil, so us, as young boys, we used to go and pull them into our place. And the other one had a boy and a girl, they did the same thing pull them into them

M: Where did you make the oil from?

H: Uh, lone seed. They have such thing as

M: Linseed?

H: Linseed now that isn’t the only one. Four or five different grains to make oil.

M: I see.

H: You see. [*סימיע, רעטשקע, סימיע]* Linseed, buckwheat, linseed that’s the big one, and linseed, the linseed is flat and a bit slippy. Two or three of them, so the pe, the peasants used to come to us and stay overnight because it was busy. Put a bunch of straw in the hall, lie out overnight to stay until tomorrow till their time come. But that's what we did. But what did we get out of it? When the press it, then it leaves uh you know when you get the oil out

M: Yeah

H: It leaves

M: Yeah, leaves the seed.

H: Yeah

M: Yeah, dried out. Yeah, yeah.

H: So we got that.

M: What do you use that for?

H: Huh?

M: Why did?

H: To sell it.

M: For what?

H: To, for cows, to fatten cows.

M: I see to. All right, grain for the cow.

H: Yeah. It wasn't grain but it was like, like, like this, press

M: Compressed. Yeah, yeah.

H: Compressed the oil came out that got compressed so we saved them. And in the spring of the year, they used to come from Austria again and buying it to fatten their cattle.

M: I see.

H: You see we did a lot of business with Austria because we were near the border from Austria, or Galicia they called it, Galicia.

M: Oh I see Galatia.

H: So all the surroundings knew us and we knew practically every peasant living around there.

#### BARUCH AREYE

M: What did your father take part in that, or was he?

H: No my father, all he did was take us to shul.

M: What do you mean?

H: Well, to the Talmud.

M: But he didn't, he didn't do any of the work in the inn?

H: No, no.

M: So what he did was teach?

H: You see they accepted him as an educated boy, I told you that he was 16 years they took him in they want to make a rabbi out of him, whatever the case was. So he knew very little all he did …

#### BARUCH AREYE’S SONS

M: So your father wasn't much older than your oldest brother.

H: No, my oldest brother …

M: How old was your father when the first boy was born?

H: I don't really know. That's a thing which it's hard to say

M: Because he got married when he was 16.

H: Yeah.

M: So maybe the first baby came at 17 or 18 or 19

H: Something like that yes.

M: Sure.

H: I don't know how my older brother was when he died. He died too young during the war. I don't know.

M: Now how I want to know oh see all right, now Avrumke was how much older than you?

H: Avrumke, two years, he was 62.

M: He was only two years older than you

H: Yeah just two years older.

M: You were born in 1883, so he was born, Avrumka was born 1881. And the oldest one, was he much older than Avrumka?

H: I don't really know, I, I don't remember. …

M: Like Well when you left home you were 21, what, where was the oldest one?

H: He was in Europe.

M: Where? Was he in the same

H: In the same town that I came from

M: What, what was What did he do?

H: What he did?

M: Yeah.

H: Peddling around, buying cakes and things like that, eggs, wool, whatever you buy of the

M: From the peasants

H: From the peasants yeah

M: And then he sold it in town. What did a Avrumka do in the old country?

H: When he married Sima, I don't really remember what he did. Couldn't do much, no, I think he went to America.

M: You, you brought Avrumka to America you brought a

H: He was in America.

M: Avrumka?

H: Sure.

M: He came out before you did?

H: I brought out, I brought out Pesach and Yossi. Avrumka was here in business already amongst the colored people.

M: When you came?

H: When I came.

M: When you came to New York he was

H: Yeah. Not. When I came to New York he was in Baltimore. No, he worked with one of my uncles, sewing \_\_\_\_ sleeves.

M: Where?

H: In Brooklyn.

M: But he came before you did.

H: Oh, sure he did. He came much before.

M: Oh, I didn't know that, I thought, I thought you were the first one. So he was working.

H: He was working in the factory, sure.

M: So he was here when you to, he was in New York when you were in New York.

H: He was in Brooklyn and I was in New York, yeah.

M: I see.

H: Yeah.

M: And then later he went down to Baltimore.

H: He had a father-in-law in Baltimore and they took him out there.

M: I, Sima's brother.

H: Huh?

M: Sima’s brother?

H: Sima’s, no

M: Brother-in-law?

H: No, his wife’s people

M: Sima's people.

H: Not Sima.

M: Avrumka was married to Sima.

H: Avrumka was married to Sima. He left her home

M: In the old country?

#### GLASS AND GELLIS

H: In the old country. And he came into Brooklyn and he start to work for an uncle of mine, sewing in sleeves into jackets.

M: Which uncle?

H: The rich one, the one who put me in business

M: Gallas.

H: Gallas.

M: How was he? Was he your mother's? No he wasn't your mother's? How was he your uncle?

H: My mother's family.

M: Was, he wasn't your, but he wasn't your mother's brother.

H: No, he was an uncle, no she was related to me, to my mother.

#### GLASS’S WIFE WAS RELATED TO SIMA, AVRUMKA’S WIFE

M: Gallas’, Gallas's wife was related to Sima.

H: That's right.

M: But, so, he wasn't really an uncle.

H: No, no, but he was a wealthy man, and he start to work there.

M: Avrumka worked for Gallas for.

H: Yeah.

M: Oh

H: Glass, not Gallas, Glass was his name.

M: I thought you told me Gallas.

H: Gallas, Glass’ daughter was married to Gallas.

M: Oh, you may understand oh Glass

H: Yeah

M: I see

H: Yeah, Gallas were an old firm hundred years before, who knows.

M: What did What did the Gallas family do?

H: Gallas making [[װוּרשט sausage.

M: That's what I thought. But his, I see. Glass's daughter married Gellis.

H: That's right.

M: And Avrumka was working for Glass.

H: Working for Glass.

M: I see, all right then you came out

H: Then I came out.

#### GELLER AND KURTZER

M: Well how did, when did Morris Geller and Dave Kurtzer come?

H: They came, Geller came a year before and Kelzer came one year after me.

M: They both lived in the same shtetel as you?

H: They, we were together all those years.

M: But

H: We all went to Canada.

M: Yeah I know that but before you came to this country.

H: So Geller was here already. But then, then we brought out Kurtzer.

 M: All right but they were from your shtetel.

H: Huh?

M: They were from your shtetel.

H: Oh, all from my shtetl, yeah.

M: Did they, were they yeshiva *buchers* (yeshiva boys) as well?

H: Heh?

M: What did they do in the old country?

H: Well (Morris?) Gelleswas in Odess in Odessa.

M: What was he doing in Odessa?

H: I don't know what he did there. Kurtzer, his father lived in a country, you know one family living in a country amongst peasants, that's Kurtzer was

M: M hm.

H: You see I got acquainted not with Geller, Geller’s father was my rabbi, to begin with.

M: Oh I see.

H: You see.

M: Where was your father then. Your father?

H: When I grow older, then my father took a hold of me.

M: I see.

H: You see but first, starting Talmud, it was Geller's father.

M: Oh, that I didn't know. I see and then later your father started with you.

H: Well then, my father, as we grew older, he took over. As soon we grow up, we started in Talmud, the father was our rebbe. Our father, my older brother, Avrumke, myself, and Pesah. M: And Yossi.

H: Well Yossi was still a younger.

M: Uh huh, I see. And that's all you did.

#### HARRY AND GELLER OPENED A STORE IN GLASS’ BUILDING

H: Yeah. And once, when I came to New York, and Geller was there, we come from the same town, his father was my rebbe, so we started a little store.

M: In New York.

H: Yeah.

M: And

H: In, in his, in his building. In my mother's, uh, what's his name, Glass.

M: Yes I see.

H: He started a little store there.

M: I see.

#### HARRY WENT INTO BUSINESS BY HIMSELF

H: Then 1907 I started some business for myself. Glass made a businessman out of me out of me. Then the crisis came and the, we was came to Canada, we all left Canada. Yeah.

M: Yeah. Well you came to Canada. Why did you, Why did you go there why didn't you come to California?

#### HARRY, GELLER, AND KURTZER WENT TO CANADA

H: Because there was forest.

M: Yeah, so what about it?

H: The forest in the old country was something you had to be a lord to own forest

M: And here you had a chance to have.

H: 160 acres, nothing but forest. I will become a wealthy man.

M: The only thing is

H: This happened to three of us I took one, Kurtzer took one, and Geller took one, 460 acres.

M: Near where? Was that up near \_\_\_\_\_ or what?

H: Near Engelhart.

M: Near Engelhart.

H: 8 miles south from Englehart.

M: Yeah. Is Englehart south of Timmins, or north of Timmins?

H: Well just ~~about~~. Timmins was built after

M: After Englehart?

H: Have a, a spare line into Timmins.

M: From Englehart

H: From the road coming from Englehart going up to Cochran was a spur, a spoiler, into Timmins when the gold mine opened up

M: The \_\_\_\_ opened in Timmins

H: Yes the \_\_\_\_ is in Timmins

M: Yeah I see

H: Yeah

M: All right so you were near Englehart

H: Yeah we came to

M: Yeah, so you had 160 acres what did you do?

H: On my farm happened to be a little clearing so we built a shack there. Then we start to walk in to Engelhart to buy bread, that's it, and work the barns. But our few dollars ended so we all quit.

H: They went up Cochran and opened up. So Geller and Kurtzer went to Cochran and they opened a store there.

M: Yeah right

H: Then I came and I also opened a store. That was in 1910. In 1911 I got, we all we all got burned out, but Kurtzer and Geller store did not burn.

M: Yeah. What, what happened between how long was it between the time you left Englehart you started the store? you came to

H: I came in 1908 from New York

M: Yeah to Englehart

H: Into Toronto

M: Into Toronto

H: And Toronto recommended us to go up there

M: In 1908

H: That's it

M: So you went up to Englehart

H: To begin with to begin we came to Toronto. Englehart was just a camp, the rail, the railroad ended at Englehart. They start out to build a road from Englehart on

M: Yeah all right

H: And I follow that. Geller and Kurtzer they opened up, then Cochran opened up, they went and opened a store in Cochran

M: And you still were down near Englehart

H: I was still working on the railroad

M: What were you doing on the railroad?

H: Cutting down the trees, a dollar a day

M: You worked for the railroad then for a while for how long?

H: On the railroad until … then I went down to Cobalt and I start to work in a mine, and then I start to carry mail

M: How long did you work in the mine?

H: Just a moment. And from there, from there, we went up to Cochran

M: How long did you work in the mine?

H: For about a year

M: In Cobalt

H: In Cobalt

M: Was that the gold mine?

H: Silver

M: Silver up near Cobalt

H: Yeah silver

E: How old were you Grandpa?

H: Huh

E: How old were you

H: Well, when I came I was 22, you see, I was called into the army when I was 21 when I came up there I was 22.

M: So you, you went down in the mines for a year?

H: No. In that year, I told you, I worked in the mine then to bring it the mail from Cobalt to the miners.

M: Oh I see.

H: Yeah, and then, from there I went in Englehart opened up. You see it's all new towns There was no Engelhart when I came to Canada.

M: So where

H: North Bay was

M: The end.

H: North Bay was the big town, and the end from the railroad. All right they start to build from North Bay on. So therefore that's why we follow there.

M: Right but where did you homestead?

H: My homestead was 8 miles from Mendela.

M: All right.

H: Just 8 miles south.

M: And then when you left the homestead, you went to work in the mine …

H: … trees, poplars. You know what a poplar is.

M: Yeah.

H: Then further on, you got into pine. Further on.

M: Yeah, further north you mean.

H: Yeah, further north.

M: Yeah.

H: But I quit. I worked on the railroad. The three of us we there on, on the on the farms, then Morris and Kurtzer then went Cochran and became Cochran, and opened the store there, and I still worked on the railroad. Then mother came in

M: Yeah.

H: We got married, and I opened the store in Cochran. And we were in Cochran for one year after opening the store there, a bushfire came and we got burned out.

M: Yeah, what year would that be Papa?

H: 1911.

M: 1911 you were burned out in Cochran.

H: No. Alek was born in Cochran, I was on the on the road. And mother

M: What were you doing on the road, peddling?

H: No, I told you, working on the railroad

M: Even though all right

H: Gravel trains. And as I say then if they brought out Mother

M: Yeah right.

H: Esther, Gelles brought out mother

M: Yeah

H: Because they were friends from the old country, and they made the shidduch

M: Yeah right

H: Between us you see. And then I opened up when I came to River I opened the first camp there, the first little store there.

M: You don't remember which river

H: I don't remember. I don't remember the rivers, that's strange.

M: All right so then you

H: Only 50 miles from Cochran

M: West

H: Going west, sure

M: Yeah and then Hearst was how much further?

H: Then we went up to Missenaibi, River Missenaibi, and the company did not want to carry my - I want to open up a store Missanaibi, and the company who builded the roads wouldn't take my merchandise. They refused it. What happened after

M: Yeah

H: From Missenaibi, then I went up to 50 miles further. Then I opened the first building there from logs.

M: Where?

H: Up at Hearst. I don't remember the name of the river.

M: Yeah Hearst was on a river too?

H: Sure. All three rivers from Cochran and up to Hearst there's three rivers

M: How did you get your goods up there then?

H: Then the company .. I start to work with the company bringing up the Russians extra, you remember, he brought up train loads of Russians and I became their help in the office

M: Uh huh

H: And then they opened the town Hearst, so I got a lot there, and had to bring down my merchandise there

M: Now what was the name of Hurst before that

H: That's what I'm trying to think the name of the river

M: But what was the name, what, didn't Hurst have a different name then?

H: Sure it was not it sure there was not the name of the river. No I don't remember the name of the river.

M: Now what's Groundhog?

H: Huh

M: Groundhog

H: Groundhog

M: Where was that?

H: Groundhog I think that was the first river from Cochran

M: Uh-huh

H: Was Groundhog

M: Uh huh

H: Then when then I opened the store there and I can't I think that was Groundhog

M: M hm

H: And then the Sunabi

M: Yeah. And then Hearst.

H: And then it was no name Hearst, it was the river's name.

M: Yeah right

H: And then Hearst became premier, and we named the place Hearst [1911: Minister of Lands, Forests, and Mines. 1914: Premier]

M: After him

H: And the company that opened the office there, and as the Russians worked on the road, they used to come down there, and they called me in to tell the company what they're asking for. I became a big *macher*

M: What sort of a place did you build in Hearst?

H: Logs.

M: Did you do that yourself or did you have a

H: I had the French man helping me

M: French Canadian

H: French Canadian that's all we had there, French Canadians

M: How many of you?

H: I think two, or two and myself

M: How long did it take you to build a log

H: Take very long because we had a timber right there

M: How long you talking about a month?

H: About a month or two something like it. And mother was still at the first place, in Farmhawk

M: Oh I see.

H: 50 miles from Cochran.

M: I see.

H: Yeah.

M: So that … Yeah all right so you got to Hearst in, uh, let me see 1913.

H: In Hearst something around that because Jack was born there

M: And Jack was born in 1913 I think.

H: Jack was born in Hearst. Then I already had my building in the store there

M: Yeah right. Alex was born in 1911.

H: Alec in 1911 he was a boy of about four or five years, about … now let's see … no Alec was born in 1911, Jack in 1913, two years. Those two years mother was in Cochran with Mrs. Kurtzer, Mrs. Geller, and I was up on the line opening up a store.

M: Yeah right.

H: You see that's what it. And Jack was born right in Hearst. That's only two years

M: Yeah right

H: In those two years I traveled from the first river and mother was in Cochran. When I came to Cochran they told me "Here's your boy." And I picked up Alec and I see my father. The first glance I took then, it was my father. You see that

E: How did you travel?

H: huh?

M: How did you travel?

H: How did I travel? There wasn’t such a thing as travel. With a construction train, now come \_\_\_ was already established in Hearst, which it's only 130 miles from Cochran, we had to stay overnight in the in another camp, just open railroads camps

M: Construction camps.

H: Construction camps you see, they traveled down tracks which there are no bars there, no sand nothing, and that's it. Another thing

M: What do you how did you travel on a railroad train?

H: No, I got a speeder

M: You mean a hand car?

H: Not a hand car, a speeder - three wheels. A hand car was too heavy. now it was a Russian in Kanhok and they moved away and mother didn't want to stay alone there. So how the company line, you know a line just a line on little sticks from one camp to the other, so mother asked man to phone me up to Hearst that she is alone. So I took a speeder about 5:00 or 6:00

E: What's a speeder? What was a speeder?

H: You pump three wheels on the railroad

E: M hm

H: On tracks were lying there already, so I made it from 7 till midnight I made those 50 or 60 miles from Hearst to -Toronto? came in 12 or 01 at midnight and I can't mother shall not be alone because the working crew that\_\_\_ moved up, moved down to Cochran. It was some life but usually a \_\_\_ used to tell the story, you know, I took a \_\_\_ out there once, and I wanted to open another store in another place. So then he couldn't stay, there too much snow, and we didn't want there, and I got out. I sent the car with lumber from Cochran to build another store on the Canadian Northern, not the Canadian National, Canadian National, Canadian Northern, CPR three roads

M: Railroads

H: Railroads but two were being built the CPR was already there. So when the car with lumber came up from Cochran on the CPR to bring in the 50 miles, a heavy snow came and it got snowed in there, and my car was there for months standing there with the lumber.

M: Yeah

H: And, and Avrumke went back to Brooklyn to Glass to work on the sleeves.

M: I don't blame them I don't blame him

H: Sure who could stand that to as I say to tell you our life come to village was of course I don't remember everything I hadn't had time to mark down anything I was too busy

#### LIFE IN SWINUCH

M: Well all right so your life was tough there, but what was it like compared to when you were at home in the shtetl?

H: Was just the same thing, just a innocent boy knowing nothing

M: You lived in the inn

H: And that's it. Went, went to s*hule* as they call the *shule*, a *cheder* \_ [װוּ מע האָט געדאַװענט] where we prayed\_\_\_\_

E: No Grandpa how far back can you remember? Huh? how far back can you remember when you were a child

H: When I was a child

E: In your living with your family what do you remember from the beginning

H: Huh

E: What do you remember?

H: Well I will tell you at home we have a great big place a inn, factory everything. So I was sleeping under the roof. You see the main place and there was a roof. I must have been a very young boy, four or five from I remember …

M: No fast no

#### BAR MITZVA

H: You became bar mitzvah, you went to the *shtibel* [type of prayer space], they had a *­minyan* [a minyan is a quorum of 10 men, the minimum permitted to pray together), you had had a bottle of liquor, and [[עטלעכע קיכעלעךseveral cookiesmade from cakes, and that's all, you're bar mitzvah, so you become a bar mitzvah.

M: Well you mean you Well how did you

H: Well all I do they give me enough, they call me to the Torah to say the *brucha* (to say the blessing)

M: All right and

H: They read that from me and that was it

M: You mean you read that and that was it?

#### HARRY’S MOTHER

E: What was your mother like?

H: My mother. there were very many like her. Very few. There were very few like my mother, not because she was my mother, she only, she had a few friends - the *Pnei* in town. Now *Pnei* means the outstanding ones, that means *Pnei.* One, two, three, that's all she had. she associated with them.

M: Was she busy running the business or

H: Oh, she she was running the business.

M: So she didn't have much time

H: No, no, she didn't have much time but for friends were the Miller's, the Miller's wife, and in Baltimore was, what was his name, the guy his mother married in Baltimore? Zelda a Zelda don't think you know now. It was Zelda, and then Millers, and one more, the one who handled *clutcher*. *clutcher* is buying up, what do they call it here, which they packed in chairs, like a chair

M: Yeah yeah. Stuffing?

H: Stuffing, yeah. only those three women were my mother's friends.

M: How old how old did she live to be?

H: Well she died in the First World War, 1917, in a village near our town. That's what Peysi (Pesach, his brother) used to tell me she was only 17, I mean 57.

M: What happened?

H: During the war what had happened they didn't have anything to eat, nowhere to stay. Another thing the first world war, our town was a very, the most important battles came in our town

E: What was the name of that town? Of, of your, your hometown

H: My hometown?

M: What was the name?

H: Svinuch.

M: Svinuch

H: Then they named it Romanov. When the Romanovs became 300 year they named it Romanov. But the first name was Svinuch. A little town and about 200 *Yiddisheh* families I think.

M: How many goyim?

H: And surrounded with \_\_\_.

E: Why was your mother so special?

H: Well she was a very, very sensible person. I wouldn't call it clever, but very sensible. Another thing she came of a very, very fine family. The family at home means a lot. Family means everything you see. For instance, you would never think to marry a *shoester’s*, a shoemaker’s girl, or a carpenter’s girl, or any mechanic. How do they come to be, they're not my, my company, they're not nothing within. She the the girl may be the very finest girl in town yet mm-. Now we had a [רבֿ] Rabbi you know every town has a [[רבֿ Rabbi, a rebbi, you know that. My older brother used to like the *[[רבֿס מיידל* rabbi’sdaughter

#### EFRAIM

M: Which older brother?

H: The oldest .

M: Or the oldest

H: He never came to America.

M: Yeah right

H: They wouldn't let him in he had Trachoma.

M: Yeah they wouldn't let them in

H: He liked this girl and she loved him. Uh, but uh, I don't remember what it happened. Of course I told him you dare not marry the girl you love. I have a cousin which I was very much in love with her. Their house burned down and the family moved in to us, they send the girl to relatives to another town because we love each other.

#### FRIMA

M: How old were you then?

H: I must have been about 16 17 years, somewhere around there. They wouldn't they wouldn't leave her to come into our house.

M: Which one was that, not Blima?

H: She went She went

M: Blima?

H: Frima. She married the Paciornik.

M: She's the one in Brazil

H: In Brazil

M: Frima.

H: Frima.

M: I thought it was Blima

H: No Frima.

M: I see

H: She was a beautiful girl. The most beautiful girl you have ever met. She loved me and I loved her. But when they got burned out, another thing I'll tell you something. How did the house burned down? A thunder hit the house that got burned down.

M: Lightening

H: A lightening. When I came, *mincha* time, *mincha* time means uh, there's such a thing *mincha* and *ma’ariv*. When the sun sets, there's *mincha*. When I came to *shule*, so they're all standing there and talking. [װאָס איז דער װוּנדער] What's the wonder [װאָס דער ... האָט פֿאַרברענט די הױז, ס'איז דאָך אַ באָרדעל] burned down the house, it’s a bordello after all, but then, you know what the bordell means?

M: Bordello

H: A bordell a sporting house

M: Yeah

H: Why? Because I used to come sometime to talk to her. And the town saw that I went there to talk to her she was sitting on the veranda and me talk to her so much [ס'איז דאָך קיין װוּנדער רבנו־של־עולם מע האָט פֿאַרברענט די הױז] It’s no surprise, dear God, the house has been burned down. That's the kind of town I came from. The Mighty sent down that lightning and burn down the house.

E: Because you talked to her

H: Because I used to come there sometime to talk to her. It's a house which it

M: How close was she to .. was she your cousin?

H: A cousin.

M: First cousin?

H: No. Mine Zeda and her father they’re two brothers

M: Your grandfather and her father

#### SIX BROTHERS

H: Her father, my great, and my grandfather were brothers yeah. There were six brothers Sima's/Tzima’s father was one, our father was one, two were two blacksmiths in town, were two brothers, one was in Lutsk[[3]](#footnote-3), the city of Lutsk, he was a wealthy man why because he's got a building built of bricks, he had a mill for flour so there were six brothers.

M: So when did she go to Brazil?

H: Frima? I don't know what year. Zalman took them out. She had Zalman's

M: She married Zalman's brother?

H: Not a brother, his father's brother.

M: Oh. Yeah, yeah, yeah his …

H: Yeah his father's brother and Shulem, and Shaia they were kinder.

M: And Zalman was the second cousin of yours?

#### Zalman’s zeda \*\* Harry’s great grandfather’s sister

H: No no Zalman wasn't the second cousin, Zalman is more related to mom. To me Zalman’s Zeda

M: Yeah

H: Married my great grandfather's sister

M: Oh jeez. Yeah yeah. And Zalman was Mama's first cousin

H: Zalman is mama's, sure

M: First cousin

#### Zalman’s father \*\* Machla’s father’s sister

H: Because Zalman’s [טאַטע] father married mother's father's sister

M: Oh boy oh

H: O boy when we talk olden days

M: Heard he was leaving.

#### HARRY’S MOTHER

E: You tell me your mother was special your mother

H: Yeah they loved her who the whole town

M: How about you?

H: She loved me very much. I'll tell you something, but it happened. I revolted. When I became a boy of 14 - 15 I start to revolt. What do I do? I go and I cut my hairs (his side curls) shorter than I'm supposed to, and my father came in and it was Friday, Friday night, yeah, coming home from *shule* [Hebrew school], I \_\_\_ and he didn't see me in *shule*, and then he took a look at me he says: “Get out.” And I had to go to a blacksmith's daughter lived not far from us, right there and stay right there.

M: How old were you?

H: I must have been already a boy of about 14, 15, 16. I started to revolt you see because I cut that and then but no/what more in the old country they call it a *meinishke.* What is a *meinishke?* A paper collar like a pressed shirt. And I bought one. Then he came and, that was another time, throw it off me.

M: Was he pretty firm with the boys?

H: And he was no fanatic, but living in that town you see, in that family.

E: So what did your mother do?

H: Well my, she couldn't do very much. It didn't go against my father. They loved each other very much you know. And then she was the *balabust.* She did the business and all that, but she didn't do anything. If, if uh if Bruchariye thinks that it's wrong, I suppose it is. What do you do.

E: She forgave you?

H: Oh sure. As I say she loved me. I know that. But deep in his heart he loved me too but they wouldn't show it.

E: Why do you say that?

H: Huh

E: Why do you say he wouldn't show it?

H: Well on account of the other four brothers. I was a little different than my brothers as I am the only one who (re)volted.

M: What did your what did your mother do when you decided to leave?

M: To go to America.

M: What did your mother do?

H: Oh, that's a different story all together. It was a, a necessity not to go to the army. Yeah. But I think I told you what my father did. Yes he, he lost a son.

E: What did your mother do?

M: What? Your father did?

H: What, he cut his clothes you know.

E: What did your mother do?

H: Well

E: Do you remember?

H: I don't know. I suppose she didn't like it but, but I … I'll tell you another thing perhaps you never heard of it. I was married once before you know that for four months

#### HARRY’S FIRST MARRIAGE

E: How old were you

H: I was about 21 just before I was recruited they married me, four months before I have to be called to the army. So I got married.

M: To whom?

H: Huh?

M: Who did they?

H: To another town all together, another family

M: Somebody made a *shidduch*

H: Well yeah sure. My my people like that, you see, but immediately as soon I got married, I was stay there for a week or two, I went back to my town to take off weight - they shall not take me you see. And then they, I was recruited and they took me into the army and that that finished it. Nothing they could do about it. They didn't want me to be in the army. I not they didn't want it, I didn't like the idea, the Russian, Russian Japanese war, and I didn't feel like to go into the Russian army. So, what happened, when I came to America she died. And she had a boy too and he died. Which I never saw, never knew, she died as they say the old country, [[פֿאַר האַרצװייטיק you know the [האַרצװייטיקן] heartbreak, you know the heartbreak

M: Heartbreak. Nice woman?

H: Oh yeah, she was a nice girl. Another thing, she was, I don't know what, what she did for the prince and governors there. You know in the old country they have all kinds of officials, and she used to be acquainted with them, or doing, I think sewing something for them.

M: Yeah.

H: And they liked her very much. And then she once introduced me to one. She took me along and introduced me and I said *dziekuje* [Polish: thank you] and *dziekuje* is, the \_\_\_\_ say thank you, but they don't say *dziekuje.* They have another expression for it. So thank you. What's the expression in Russian? s*pasibo [Russian: thank you],* yeah, *spasibo*, and I said *dziekuje* because that's all I live here of, of all the people coming our house. She didn't feel the \_\_\_ but still and all. Another thing. I came to America from her money. It was her money not mine. They gave me *נדן]]* you know what [[*נדן* means you know

M: A dowry

H: A dowry $500. So that was the money I used to come here. My father could not afford to do it. I didn't know whether you know that I was married once

M: I forget how, but I knew.

#### THE ARMY

H: Yeah. I, I knew very little of them because I had, I wasn't there very much, perhaps a few weeks. Then it was me, Paciornik, Zalman Paciornik, and a few others, all we had to be recruited. That's what we did. Fasting, not to eat. [[שטיבל לערנען גאַנצע נעכט Go to the *shtibl* to study, whole nights, to be up, not to sleep, and not to eat. that's what we did.

M: Zalman Paciornik was a remote cousin of my father and my mother's first cousin, and he's one of Paciorniks from Brazil, but I knew him because they lived in Marion Ohio.

H: See Zalman Paciornik was about two years older than I am.

M: Uh huh

H: He was called the third time, I was called the first time, that was the third time they called him, yet they recruited them on the third time.

M: M hm

H: Me they took a look at me, and I complained that I suffer. I'm here. They say now blow so I did. So one says *Russian?* see they felt so bad they are Jewish boys had, all of them had something made to eliminate, the, not to go into the army. */Russian?*. But when I came to Warsaw, I had, and I decided to leave, immediately a family which belonged to the same rabbi, to the Lubavitchers as you call them, the same rabbi told them I am Bruchariye’s [*אַ ייִנגל] son*. immediately they took off my uniform and put me in civilian clothes took me to the train ­­­­­\_\_\_

M: But the Lubavitcher is a very, uh, fanatic Hasidim, aren't they?

H: They are extreme.

M: So how come

#### HIS FATHER’S RABBI

H: But they're no, no better than any other form. Furthermore, the rabbi which my father belonged to, I'll tell you something, you know in the old country they wear uh, a small *talis* under your jacket, then the big *talis*. That thread, the that thread was a blue one, that for this rabbi said he caught that fish which it has the, the blood comes of that fish, the color *theles* [turquoise]*,* so I wore *theles.* Here the big ­­rebbe, the Lubavitzer, because he's the only one who makes success around here the Hasidim.

M: M hm

H: Now in our town there are three different rabbis. *Adtzima (Tuczyn?), aloitzka (Olyka), one* from another town. They used to come to our town once a year

M: That's all?

H: Oh boy.

#### THE GIRLS

E: When you when you were in school and the girls were looking in the windows at you

H: That's right, that's right, yeah. Another thing, you take [*shabas ba tog] שבת ביי טאָג]* Saturday during the day. Saturday in the afternoon in our town was no place where to go but it was a *magazine* [Polish for warehouse]. every town had a *magazine* with we saving in case it happened something. So all the girls used to get together, five or six of them, and walk to the *magazine*. And they have to walk, walk through our street. And when I saw the six girls I just fell in to the where you dig out for, for the water to run off [AI: the gutter]. I fell in.

E: You do that to watch them?

H: Just because the six [[ס'אַיז געװען דעם רבֿס טאָכטער it was the rabbi’s daughter, Frima, and another three if I'll tell you the names you wouldn't know many of

M: If you like them could you tell them?

H: Huh

M: If you liked a girl could you tell her?

H: No of course not. No as I say, I loved Frima and she loved me, but I couldn't tell her, dare not. I told you when they got burned out they sent her to another town not to live in our house.

M: All right, now you were about 16 when you were in love with Frima?

H: About 16 - 17 years yeah.

M: How old were you when you went to Brazil? You went to Brazil in 1946

H: 45

M: 45 so that's uh this is 78 that's 32 33 years ago

H: Yeah so I'll tell you what happened.

M: 32, 33 so you were about 63. E: What happened?

H: What happened they told Frima Arenke is due. She want, naturally she was wanted to see me, so she dolled herself up nicely because she was a woman already having two boys from a doctor and the other one going I don't remember but we went for. What was she, was she excited when she saw me and says: “Is that you Arenke?” I say: “Is that you Frima? You know you changed in so many years.” ‘Nother thing I was quite stout if you remember I was quite stout and she looks at me says [דאָ ביסטו איין קינד, איין פֿרום קינד] you’re a child, a frum child

M: [Laughter] You were about 63 when you went to Brazil.

H: Some about 60, 62, or 63.

M: My age.

H: That's right your age.

M: I'll be 61 soon.

H: Yeah, just about.

M: Papa, about 3-4 weeks ago I saw an old girlfriend of mine I hadn't seen in 30 years.

H: Oh

M: She, she was at a meeting that Edie and I went to. 30 years, makes a difference.

H: Is that you Morris?

M: No. I, I said Janet? She, I didn't have my name on. She recognized me immediately. 30 years that's a long time.

H: That's right.

E: And he's been looking for her for 30 years

H: That's what happened.

E: Oh dear. grandpa you didn't have any sisters.

H: Never

E: Any sisters

H: Oh no.

#### NO SISTERS – THE ABORTION

E: No girls in your family.

H: No, never had a sister just the five boys \_\_\_\_\_

E: Too bad. It makes a difference don't you think?

H: No I should say.

E: Too bad

H: It would have been quite a help to mother. But, now I may just just as well tell you, perhaps you don't know about it, but I would have had another brother but Pearl Kurtzer, you remember Mrs

M: Oh sure I remember Pearl

H: Yeah. She took mother to be

M: Having. of Is that right? No that I didn't know.

H: No you didn't know that. In Toronto. She, she became pregnant. She took her to this doctor and just tell it's the first time I've ever told it anyone.

M: Lucky that she came out okay.

H: Was a doctor that to me things like that sounded strange. I didn't know what they do.

M: Your mother? What are you talking about Pearl taking her to a doctor in Toronto?

H: Mrs Kurtzer took her to a doctor.

M: Took who?

H: Huh?

M: Took who? Who’d did who did she take?

H: She took mother there.

M: My mother.

H: Oh yeah, sure your mother.

M: Yeah.

H: Taking 25 rubles.

M: What are you talking about rubles in Toronto?

H: Huh?

M: What are you talking about? You say my mother or your mother?

H: Your mother.

M: You mean $25.

H: Yeah.

M: Not rubles.

H: Ruble

M: In Toronto, rubles?

H: Oh Canada, Canada oh in Canada. I don't mind talking about Russia in Canada

M: Yeah, yeah.

H: Pearl Kurtzer recommended. I suppose she did the same thing before. She found out about it and then soon … she. My mother used to be quite close to her, that you know, this Kurtzer, you

M: My mother

H: Yeah. So yeah that was in Canada. That's my …

M: Before me or after me?

H: After you.

M: While we're still living on Grace Street?

H: Sure yeah. An abortion.

1:33:29

2:06.40:

E: How old were you

H: I must have been quite a big boy.

M: How old

H: I don't remember it was the old country, 18, 17, 18, 19. I asked her "Which way does does a child come?" She says "Don't you know? The same from [*vanen es kumt*] װאַנען עס קומט] from where it comes it

M: It goes to where it came from. E: Comes from

H: But not knowing which way a woman has child, and I as I say I was a boy in those years anyhow. I don't ask her that question.

#### BRAZIL

E: Who is she? M: Frima. E: Who was Frima? M: That was his girlfriend. but that's how innocent they were in those days.

H: You know what she remind me when I was in Brazil, we started to talk about all things. Then she asked me "Do you remember when you took me off the chair in our in our house, not in the house, but in the big” everything, was you know, vagons, horses.

M: In the yard.

H: I told her I don't remember that. All I remember is just look at your face, just to look at you, that's all I remember from those years. I don't remember taking you off the chair to put down. Oh boy.

M: Papa you've lived a couple of lifetimes already.

H: Yeah.

M: Yeah.

#### PESAH AND YOSSI

H: I say, my father liked Pesach the best.

M: Why?

H: A [גוטער לערנער] a good student.

M: He was a good student?

H: Oh yeah. A very good student.

M: Is that right

H: Yeah, was a good student and he did what father wanted.

M: And, and that's all Pesah ever wanted to do Even when he came to America he didn't want to do anything else

H: No of course not. I, I when he came to Canada (AI: 1924)

M: Yeah.

H: And I put him into business, put in $5,000, and before I look around there's nothing. Then he comes into the city, still doing nothing.

M: Yeah I remember.

H: Yeah. but it was a [גטער לערנער] good student

M: What about Yossi? E: \_\_ don't remember much about

H: He was the after 1905 (AI: Yossi arrived 1923)

M: Yeah. How old was Yossi then?

H: Then oh I don't know, Yossi was still a youngster.

M: Yeah.

H: Yossi was still a youngster. Of my brothers I wouldn't say I was in love with either one of them. I don't want to

E: Really? Why?

H: I don't know why why I don't know oh just look at them just I was just passive, just passive. Why I don't know. just because I come I start to evolve and they didn't. You see I was the only one start to evolve. I wanted wear bright color, I wanted to have a haircut like

#### THE MOTOR CAR

M: I remember we used to go down to Baltimore every year to see Avrumke and Yossi

H: Oh yeah. Used to go down there

M: You remember, Papa, when we drove back from Baltimore and the motor burned because

H: Didn't put enough oil in

M: He didn't put … We had

H: We went to Toronto, not far away

M: Oh is that right? We had the oil changed that my father took it into a service station in Baltimore, the car

H: And they cheated.

M: It they didn't fill it with oil

H: Yeah that's right miles all from Toronto

M: Oh is it that close?

H: Motor was burned out, no oil, and as I say not far from Toronto

M: Lucky we were that close. I don't know why that sticks in my mind but I remember that too. E: Grandpa didn't you when you were young

H: Huh?

#### HARRY AND HIS BROTHERS

E: When you were young didn't you have fun with your brothers?

H: If I didn't like my brother?

E: You have fun with them don't you remember enjoying them

H: I don't know, I don't know why. There's certain streaks in me I don't know. I told you I never liked an old man, never did

E But your brothers were young

H: Huh?

E: But your brothers were young

H: Yes I know but they they weren't like I am. As I say I'm the only one which my father didn't like, to do things, as I did, that's why weren’t so close

M: They

H: They listened what father told them.

M: Papa you, you didn't wrestle with your father the way Mark does with me? You didn't squeeze him on the neck the way he does?

H: No, no, no, my father wasn't like that, no, no. He may loved us

M: Sure

H: He loved us all right but no such a foolish things.

M: No everybody different places have different ways of acting. Different families act differently.

1. Sfard: One of the primary distinguishing factors of the Hasidic movement, from its eighteenth century origins, was its adoption of *Nusah Sfard*, a distinctive liturgy derived from, but not identical to, that of the Sephardic Jews. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Trachoma: An eye infection affecting both eyes. The world’s leading cause of infections blindness. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Lutsk: Now called Luck [↑](#footnote-ref-3)