THREADS OF DORA'S LIFE

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Klianchyna veronika
Yeremitsa Anastasia
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Hey Iona, if you're Jewish, why are you studying in a Romanian school? My parents told me that there are no foreign schools in our town. I'm sorry to hear that. But would you like to go there if there was one? So, I'd be here with you.

When I was 10 or 11, my dad bought a record player. I was big enough to drink wine at the Sedert. So I decided that wasn't such a bad idea.

But I'm only 11. I also have to recite a poem tomorrow.

Sam, can I have one pork sausage please?

I hope my parents won't notice me.

Let this beanpole eat all she wants, just to gain a little weight.

When I came home, my father played records with Jewish music. And when guests came to us, we sang, danced and told each other different stories.
I remember how Bessarabia became part of the USSR in 1940. Then anarchy reigned on our streets.

Everyone went outside and escorted the Romanian soldiers. The euphoria of liberation quickly passed.

I didn't know a single Russian word. Later, I became one of the first pioneers in Făleşti.

Where should we study now if Romanian schools are closed?

I think we will be transferred to the Russian school. But we don't know Russian language.

A Russian school was opened in the town.

There was not enough food in the shops.
Attention:
Moscow speaks. We are sending you an important government message. Citizens and citizens of the Soviet Union. This morning at 4 am, without any declaration of war, German troops...

That day my grandfather Salome, aunt Sheind and her one-year-old daughter Ester, my mother's pregnant sister Nehama and her husband Shopea along with his mother were shot, the Germans also shot my father's sister Feige, her husband and their daughters. About 200 people were killed that day.

Order from the German command:
All the Jews who are in the Faleshty must appear on the city's main square.

Those who did not want to be killed were sent to the Ghetto. We were also sent there. Elderly people and children walked with us. Mothers carried babies in their arms.

They also shot many people in the forest. I didn't see it, but I heard the shots.
We were sent to the ghetto. It was guarded by Romanian gendarmes. We were accommodated in former cowbarns. It was very cold there and everyone wanted to eat.

Hey, what are you doing here? Where did you come from and how did you end up in Yampol?

There were nothing to eat. That's why my mother and I decided to start knitting clothes.

A Romanian soldier disappeared, and the Romanians shot 40 Jews in revenge.

I saw a group of Jews accompanied by gendarmes. It must be dangerous.

Think you

Here are your knitted clothes.

Come in!

Hei, tu ce faci aici. De unde ai venit si cum ai ajuns in Yampol?

Give these children something to eat!

I believe!

Well stay alive!
In April 1942, my sister and my cousin were born.

“I hope, she’s comfortable.”

A woman who lived near us taught me how to swaddle.

“We don’t have enough blood. I need some guys for a transfusion. I have to take all blood.”

In May 1943 another tragedy occurred. Wounded German soldiers were treated. They ran out of blood.

“Romanians ordered all the men to step forward. They were hanged on gallows.”

“Later, my father and other men were sent to build a bridge in Mykolayiv.”

“How far do you think we have to go?”

“I’m already tired.”

“Approximately 300 km.”

“Work faster!”

“Here you are.”
In the ghetto we did not observe Jewish traditions. Some people stopped believing in God.

We haven't celebrated our holidays in such a long time!

Yes, I feel sad about it too.

Ordinul Fuhrerului. Eliberati prizonierii. Vor muti oricum.

The Fuhrer's order: Release the prisoners. They will die anyway.

Da!

Yes!

My father was released. He dragged uncle or carried him on his back all the way.

At first Romanians left the village. We were scared and couldn't move.

On March 24, 1944 when Soviet troops entered the village of Cetya, we were liberated.

I remember that we walked along the front line. Despite of all the danger, we returned home.

24.03.1944

They successfully returned to the ghetto.
We moved to Chernivtsi. There were a lot of Jews in the city. We went to a synagogue. I finished Russian school with silver medal.

I think we'll like this city. I hope.... wow it is so beautiful

Finally, school is over! Now I can study in a university. Great job! I believed in you.

I entered the Biology university!

Many Jews started a campaign against the Komsomol members. Oh my God, what will happen next?

Perhaps this is a preliminary step to destroying us again.

I studied well in the university. I became the Komsomol leader of the students of my year. But later was almost expelled from the university.

I got married in 1952. My husband's name is Boris.

STALIN DIED!

We were sad. Then Khroushchev told us the truth about the tyranny of Stalin.

My parents wanted us to have a traditional Jewish wedding. But my husband was a communist. Therefore, it was unacceptable.

I was working there until I retired. I loved my job.
But before it I had some problems

Former residents of the
ghetto have problems with
pregnancy due to difficult living
conditions in childhood.
I am sorry.

Fortunately, everything is
fine now.

we celebrated Soviet
holidays at home.
we loved them
very much.

Also we celebrated
Jewish holidays
after the war.

My father died in
1968. Fifteen years
later, my mother died too.
We buried them in
Jewish cemetery.

Polina, my dear
Polina.

Your uncle is
working as an
engineer. He has a
wife and two children.
Now he lives in Israel.
Your aunt is working
as a craftsworker
in a shop.

Your uncle is
working as an
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wife and two children.
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Your aunt is working
as a craftsworker
in a shop.

Mom, how are
my aunt and
uncle doing?

Good luck!!

My siblings graduated
from the technical
school of light
industry in
Chernivtsi.

Polina graduated from
high school and music school.
But she entered the music
pedagogy college
in Ivano-Frankivsk.

After it she moved to
Chernivtsi and
became a music teacher.
In the late 1980s my husband and I made a club for elderly people.

I'm really glad to see you in our club!

Thank you for doing these essential things!

Thanks, dear!

Here is information you needed.

In 1995 my husband founded the radio program called "Dos Yiddish Wort!"

I help him collect material for the program. Every three months we release a program about Jewish stories.

It's necessary to talk about it if we don't want it to happen again.