

TAPE # LY-003, 1 of 4
LING YOUNG
08.25.02
JIM WHITAKER, Producer/Director
PROJECT REBIRTH

00.01.03 PICTURE UP – MAN SITTING IN CHAIR

(OFF CAMERA REMARKS)

JW: (MID-STATEMENT) where were you born? Can you tell me a little bit about (?)

00.14.06 LING YOUNG: Ok, I was born in Canton, China. I came out to Hong Kong when I was about 5 years old, and I went to school there. I actually went to Catholic school, ok? And when I was 11, I came to United State. So when I, when you were in Hong Kong, everything is tight, tight. Like I said, this is tight, is not considered tight.

00.14.26 A uh, let's say 2 or 3 bedroom apartment in Hong Kong you could live up to 4 to 5 families in there. (~JW~)

JW: Families?

00.14.35 LING YOUNG: Families, yes. And one family could live in one bedroom, and one bedroom mean a bunk bed and a kitchen, I mean, a table. You just, there was a table right in front of the bed ok, and we all cook in the one common area, which is the kitchen. Would you have a different stove, like a gasoline stove, and each one has their own. When you finish you bring everything back to your room.

00.14.58 Uh, the living room they also have bunk bed. You rent out the bed itself. So (LAUGHS) so you could have like 40, 50 people living in like a 2, 3 bedroom apartment, yeah. So when I came to the United State we were living at 48th Street between 9th and 10th Avenue. We had

an apartment. It was like wow, it was like, huge (LAUGHS). And so I uh, considered where I used to live. 'Cos I used to live. I live with uh, I sleep with my grandmother in a bunk bed. I mean, actually a small like a twin size bed. The two of us in one bed.

00.15.30 And at that time I uh, I had 2 brothers and one sister. And my parent. They stayed in that other room. So you could, can understand how crowded it was. And in 48th Street, that apartment we had like 2 bedroom. And the bedroom was huge. And it had, it had a kitchen, you had a bathroom, a bath tub and everything. But we didn't have any of those. So it was a change for us. So I went to school in Manhattan until I was uh, graduated from junior high.

00.16.00 I went to PS 111, down at uh, up at 52nd Street. Then I think PS 17 is at 47th Street and I went, and then we moved to Brooklyn. That's where I started high school.

JW: Before you get into that, can you tell me about your childhood growing up in Hong Kong?

LING YOUNG: In Hong Kong?

JW: Yeah, and your, you came from, you were the oldest of the (?)

00.16.19 LING YOUNG: Yes, I was the oldest out of four kids, ok? Uh, like I said I went to Catholic school. And the Catholic school is very strict. (~JW~) Sixty-five is the passing mark.

00.16.30 You don't pass 65, any, any points beyond that you would slapped on your wrist with a very thin bamboo uh, stake. And it hurts like hell. 'Cos quite, quite a few (LAUGHS) time I didn't pass, ok? And they slap you right there. Math at one time, the nun had tried to slap one of the kid, hit one of the kids near me, I got slapped in the face, right against my eyes. Uh, there's no if's and but's about discipline. I mean, you don't do anything right, you're gonna get spank.

00.17.00 One way or the other you're gonna get spank. And when we were growing up, we wasn't that, we wasn't rich, so it's a lot of thing we can't afford. But this one day my father did making, make sure of it we went to Catholic school. That was private school. And I had a, we had like a car service. That's a woman who actually drove us to school every day and drive us home. Uh, I was only there like I say a couple of years, so there wasn't too much I remember, except I remember it's very crowded. Uh, we did have a lot of fun in, in school OK?

00.17.30 Uh, we went on trips. It was almost the same thing, but a lots, lot stricter here. And if you don't do your homework, you're gonna get spank. You don't pass your test, you get spank. You don't do anything right, you get spank. And you cannot never, ever answer back. Ok, there's no such thing as answering back to the nun or any of your teacher. You do that, you're gonna get punish. And punishment either write the, the same, same sentence for 100 time, 200 time, or you got to get a good hit in, in your hand.

00.18.00

JW: I went to Catholic school for uh, it wasn't as strict but it was, I went until I was in 6th grade, and I had, I can remember very vividly uh, making some kind of mistake. I was talking in class on my (?)

LING YOUNG: (LAUGHS) Oh, yeah, you can't do that.

JW: No.

LING YOUNG: Oh, no. (LAUGHS).

JW: I remember in first grade, I was talking in class and I remember having to run like write a sentence, Run Spot, run, run to the red sun, a hundred times.

LING YOUNG: Yes, that's very typical with Catholic school, yes.

JW: It was like my third day in school. Like at all.

00.18.31 LING YOUNG: Oh, yeah, you, you can't do anything wrong. And so when you do something wrong you, you gonna get discipline. Like you say, write the thing a hundred times, same exact thing over hundred time. And you got to be neat. You can't just (?) finish it and get over with it. There's no such thing. You have to do it the right way. Otherwise, you get, you, it's almost to say you get, they'll get even. You can't get away with anything there. That's the difference.

JW: Now, I was the, I'm the youngest of 5 boys.

LING YOUNG: Oh, my goodness (LAUGHS).

(SIMULTANEOUS CONVERSATION)

JW: That's says, obviously a certain position in the family. And I would, I was gonna ask you how you would describe yourself in that family. For me, for example, I think I'm, I'm kind of being the youngest, I learned a lot from all my brothers, and I kind of get along with them all, if you will. Uh, how would you describe yourself (?)

00.19.16 LING YOUNG: I'm different, because since I'm the oldest, everything is on my shoulder, ok? I used to take care of my brother and sister when they were young. And we used to carry them in the back, like if you put them in the back and you carry them around and uh, while you're doing your homework or while you're doing some chores.

00.19.32 Uh, whatever goes wrong you're in trouble. Even though it's not your fault, and that's how I grew up. You're always the one that's gonna get blamed. Even as of now, I'm gonna be 50 within two weeks. I will still get blame. I could be sitting home doing nothing and I still get blamed. Because according to my parents, you're the oldest, you're supposed to take care of

everything. So there's no if's and but's about it. But it gotten to a point now is I really don't care (LAUGHS).

00.20.00 You know what I mean? Yes, I am the oldest, but they have their own lives. I don't, first of all, you can't tell them what to do. They're gonna tell you, mind your own business. So I (?) as I was growing up, everything would be on my shoulder. I make sure I have to take care of them, make sure that they get their things done, they get their homework done and uh, but I started working very early. I started working when I was like 13, 14. Right after school I go to the factory and I work with my mother in piecemeal.

00.20.28 That was during junior high and high school. Even during college when I was going to college.

JW: And what was that work?

00.20.33 LING YOUNG: That's like uh, a seamstress, garment, piecework garments. I used to sew pants, (?) like that. But of course the bad thing is, the wintertime you sew (?) summertime you do winter clothes. So it's hot. And that's wintertime, you do summer clothes. So it's the opposite. So you be like in the summertime you would die with no, no air conditioning, you'd be like sewing like heavy, heavy thick wool. But that's part of life. And we didn't mind it because we had a group of girls there that actually like us who work during the summer.

00.21.01 And we work hard, we work sometime work 7 days a week. And after school until like 7 o'clock at night, and we get home and uh, we, we would do our homework and we eat and we do uh, and do homework and go to sleep. So it's a long, full day. But that's how, that's when, how my family came from. Not with money. So we had to work for spending money, we had to work uh, for whatever we want.

JW: Do you have any early memories of your mom and dad?

00.21.29 LING YOUNG: Yes, and no. Because my father work six days a week and he doesn't come home, (he's?) only home one day. So he always like the father figure, there, I'm there like for what that one day, and when he comes home that day he goes to Chinatown. He would come up just for dinner. And he would just watch TV or do what he has to do, and we never really had the father figure there. He's there, I mean, making the money. My mother's also working 7 days a week. So it was always my (?) grandmother uh, was there always for us. So.

00.22.00 I remember like Christmas, we don't really have Christmas because we don't believe in Christmas. Even though we're Catholic, but we don't celebrate any of the American holidays. So we, you would go to school and say, well, what do you have for Christmas? And this one say I have this and I have that, and what do you have Christmas? Nothing. I mean, we don't have Christmas gift. So that made it my business to, to do it for myself. I said, when I have my own, I'm gonna make sure I have all this holiday. All the birthdays. We didn't have no such thing as birthday, birthday either. Never.

00.22.29 Until when I turned 16 I think my mother finally say, ok, I will give her a birthday party. So I had invited a couple of friend. We never had invited friends home for birthday. There's no such thing for us. And going to a uh, trip, there's hardly any trip. The first thing we can't afford it, ok? And uh, a trip to Boston was a, was a big deal for us. Other than that, that's all we went, to be honest with you. Or maybe a movie out in Chinatown, once in a while if, if I remember correctly. And that's about it.

00.23.00 We don't visit anybody. And uh, yeah, that's about it. It's like uh, pretty boring. Wasn't too much to do.

JW: You, it sounds like your grandmother was probably pretty uh, a pretty big influence?

00.23.16 LING YOUNG: Yes, definitely. She's always there. She's there 24 hours with us. She lived with us until she die in uh, 1976. So at that time, I was already married. I had my kid. I, I was (?) I was 24 when she die, but she was 70 years old, yeah, she was a big influence.

00.23.33 That was a big loss for me. 'Cos she was (?) with me for the, almost my whole life at that time, up to that point. And she was always there, she was there 7 days a week, 24 hours a day. And my mother was (?) home like late. And my father was only once a week. And that'd be like that for about long, long time, until just (I think?) the last 10, 15 years it wasn't like that. So.

JW: (?) the last 10 or 15 years (?)

00.23.57 LING YOUNG: Yeah. So my whole life my father was working 6 days a week. Or not even be home on the 7th day. So that was the whole deal. And they had vacation, but the vacation was like I said, maybe we have a chance we go to uh, go to Boston for a couple day visit uh, visit relative. And not even going out, just to visit relative or friends. And that would be like a 3 day week, three day weekend or three day trip. That's about it. But that was our biggest deal, our biggest trip.

(OFF CAMERA REMARKS)

JW: So, when and how old were you when you moved to New York City (?)

LING YOUNG: Uh, eleven.

JW: And what was the, what was your first memory uh, you started to explain it, but what was your first memory, part of it was that?

00.25.11 LING YOUNG: The apartment yeah. When I first got to the apartment, I looked at it and I was oh, my god. You know, I thought we were gonna share with other people, like we used to in Hong Kong. Like it was in Hong Kong, there was a two bedroom uh, a living room, consider what you call living room, and then the kitchen and then the bathroom.

- 00.25.28 Like actually that, that apartment was split between a friend of ours so we have like leased it. So my, my father got one bedroom and she got one bedroom. And the living room was like a living quarter for a lot of people, a lot of bunk bed. So when I got here, like I said, we had two huge bed, bedroom, plus a living room, plus the kitchen and the bathroom. So it was like a uh, it was like heaven to us. Of course the area we live in before I think they call Hell's Kitchen. It wasn't the greatest area, you could see all kinds of crime all over the place, but that's where we lived.
- 00.26.01 I uh, we lived then to I think '67. So it was a good, I was here '63, so it was a good two, three years we were there until we moved to Brooklyn . I was there like '67 and that's where I went to high school. In uh, I went to high school at Rathsman Hall High School. Uh, until I got married in '73, I was in Brooklyn since, from '70, '67 to uh, '73.
- 00.26.32 So it was quite a few years. But by then my uh, we also rented another apartment in Brooklyn, but also was huge. Bigger than the other one we had. So everything was larger and then finally in '70, '70 or '71, I remember correctly, that we bought a, like a commercial building, then we moved over, over there. But I used to share a bedroom with my sister, which is still good, OK?
- 00.26.57 That was like a 4 bedroom apartment. So everybody got their own bedroom. My sister and I had one, my two brother have one. My parent has his own bedroom and my grandparent had their own bedroom. So it was just like a perfect building for us. Or was, very, very old and we did a lot, a lot of work to it. But you know, it was worth it. But then I guess uh, growing up you see a different kind of friend, different kind of culture. And uh, I remember correctly when I was in uh, when I first came to United State, I had a great teacher.
- 00.27.30 And my teacher actually was a crazy woman, believe it or not. Ok, she would, if she doesn't like what you're doing, she beat the, she beat you up. I mean, she literally beat you up. But somehow she just adores me. Somehow I guess it must be one uh, at that time there was not that many Oriental coming into United State. So I guess I was a little different, I don't know

what it was. She treat me like her own, like her own daughter. She actually took me to World's Fair all by herself on, on days off.

00.27.59 Yeah, we went to the World's Fair all by ourselves. She came to my apartment, pick me up and took me there for a whole day and spent a whole day with me. And if anybody tried to bother me, you, you in deep trouble. I mean, she would beat the crap out of you (LAUGHS). It was very weird. Very, very weird. I understand she was crazy, only not crazy because she, her husband die in Vietnam. And she's not all there.

00.28.29 She's a great teacher, but she's just not mental, she's not all there, that's the only thing.

JW: Is she still alive?

LING YOUNG: No, you talk about 40 years ago, no. She was in her 50 back then.

JW: What was the World's Fair like?

00.28.40 LING YOUNG: Oh, it was very different. I mean, it's, for, for someone like me and oh, you see, you see all kinds of uh, buildings and different culture, a different. The world except that it was very, very exciting. And (?) we didn't finish in one day, as you know. It's very big. But we went to as many places you can think of.

00.28.59 I mean, I never had such a ball in my life. And I didn't even know what it was. That hit me. It was very, very special. And too bad we didn't take any pictures. And I don't have a picture to remember her of. 'Cos by then I got, lost contact and never think of her, that uh, you know what I should go visit her. But a matter of fact I did uh, visit her one time, 'cos my grandfather had a party somewhere down in the uh, West Side. And I happen to know that she (?) I remember she lived there. I did visit her once, but that's, you're talking about like a good 30 years ago.

00.29.29 And that was it, and I lost contact. And in the early '60's she was like in her 50's. So you talk about, I don't think she's around any more. If she is, she'd be like over a 100 years old. Yeah, I tried to looked it up, look her up but I couldn't, I couldn't find her, so.

JW: What would you say at that time you were most interested in?

00.29.52 LING YOUNG: I guess everything was going around the uh, the show that's in the World's Fair. I don't remember how, which one.

JW: Or just in general.

00.29.59 LING YOUNG: In, just in general, everything just so excited, 'cos it was huge, it was big. Like I said the only thing I went to was uh, even at that time, that's I just first came here, I didn't go to Boston yet, so I didn't know what Boston looked like at that time. All I know is 48th Street. Between 48th Street and go to school. You walk to school, you walk home. We were not allowed to go out, ok? You would just stay in home. After you come home from school, you stay inside. So we never get to go out like the kids go out in the street and play. We were not allowed to do that. So it was, between the apartment and the school and the school and the apartment.

00.30.31 So when I got to the 6th grade, the teacher got me into a, the uh, music class. Now my father's not believe in playing musics. So my, my teacher actually has to beg my father let me into the music group. And my father still wasn't too happy about it. But, but I got in. since then I was playing music until graduate from junior high. If you ask me to play music now, I don't remember a thing. That's too long ago, I don't remember.

JW: What did you play, what instrument?

00.31.00 LING YOUNG: Oh, my god, I played the flute. I had, I played the clarinet. I played the violin. I think the best I was at is the violin. The clarinet I don't have enough strength to play (LAUGHS) so during the concert I used to fake it. (LAUGHS) I mean, I couldn't uh, I

figured if they don't miss one (LAUGHS). It was like 40, 50 people. And so one they wouldn't miss, so. So you see my finger moving, but I wasn't playing. And if they would have known they would have killed me.

JW: Funny. Uh, uh, and, and then you went to, you're in junior high now, we're talking about now. What was uh, what were you (?) you know, were you, well, I should ask you one question. I would ask you that were you not, were you going back and forth because and not uh, going out because of the discipline in your family or was it because you were working or was it because (?)

00.31.49 LING YOUNG: No, no because of discipline you were not allowed to go out after school. We just stayed at home. At that time we didn't have friend coming in, either. We just come home and you just stayed home. That was the end of the story. That was our whole thing.

00.32.01 Now junior high (~JW~)

JW: Uh, let me ask you actually one question if you don't mind. You were at that time

(SIMULTANEOUS CONVERSATION)

LING YOUNG: Came, the whole, my whole family came.

JW: Including your grandmother?

00.32.13 LING YOUNG: Yes. Actually my grandfather was here, ok? My grandfather's the one who sponsored us here. So my parent, my grandmother and the four of us. So you're talking about a total of 8 of us, ok, living in that particular apartment. It was (?) still not a lot, not a lot of people compared to what we're used to.

00.32.32 So uh, like I said, like I said, my grandfather worked the same as my father, 6 days a week. My father worked (?) six days, my mother was 7 days a week in the way. But I mean, she

came home for dinner and everything. She was there for us. But wasn't really there. And my mother's pretty strict, and my mother's very old-fashioned. So it's a lot of things that uh, that she would not allow us to do. You wasn't allowed to talk to a boys.

00.32.59 That's how, how we were grown up. So when I went to my junior high prom, it was a, it was like hell for her. So of course she knows half she doesn't know half, so (LAUGHS).

(OFF CAMERA REMARKS)

JW: And was there, was there a particular reason you came to New York City, your family?

00.33.44 LING YOUNG: No, my grandfather was here, that's why. (~JW~) No special reason. He happened to be here, he actually he, he was in the World War II. He settled down in Rhode Island, then he came back to New York and settled down. And that's why we came here. No special reason. He happened to be here and it was sponsor and then we came here. That's when Kennedy was letting a lot of immigrant in.

00.34.03 That was the year 1963, and that's how we got out. The same way we got out from uh, from China. The Communists came and my father was in Hong Kong. So he sponsored us to, to Hong Kong. It's almost like we were running from one place or another, that's what we're running. But then my grandfather was here and then he sponsor us. And of course you, that was the United States was like a gold, gold town. And once you in United States you know, you're (?) gonna make millions. That's the attitude.

00.34.30 That's most immigrants' attitudes at those days. So uh.

JW: And getting back to I guess to junior high school. So you went to the prom?

00.34.42 LING YOUNG: Yeah (LAUGHS). I went to the prom. I mean, uh, actually took my cousin 'cos I didn't want to go with somebody. So I took my cousin. It was ok, you know, it was different. You know, you dance you know, at those days no such thing as uh, what was,

it wasn't a big deal. Not like today's day that you have the limousine and you, you know, you buy your, your prom date uh, it cost you, god, oh, \$5, \$600 or maybe a thousand now to go to prom, but those days you just wear a suit and you go to the prom.

00.35.08 And you know, you get a little dressed up, but it's not a big deal like today. And we had fun that day. I got home, I think I got beat up because I, I passed twelve o'clock or past 11 o'clock, I don't remember what it was. That's what my mother tells me, but I don't remember that. Because I wasn't uh, I wasn't home supposed to be a certain time whatever. But I guess when you go to a prom you stay late. I think I got beat up.

00.35.30 I don't remember (LAUGHS).

JW: Uh, and when did you meet your husband?

00.35.38 LING YOUNG: I met my husband actually he was working, he was like helping, he was doing electrical work. He was helping someone do electrical work and I was working upstairs in the factory. And my girlfriend introduce us. So that's how I met him. He was working and he, she I think she took me down stair to meet him. And I guess it was love at first sight for him, I guess. Whatever.

00.36.00 And that was it (LAUGHS). (~JW~)

JW: And she took you down?

00.36.04 LING YOUNG: Yes, she took me down. Said, oh, my cousin's working downstairs why don't I just go down and see what's going on. At that time I didn't know what was going on. I just, ok, it was early in the morning and so we went downstairs. Not knowing that's what happened. I found out later that is, that (~JW~) she was trying to introduce me to him. And that's how I found out. And uh, I know him what? For 33 years already. That's a long time.

JW: Do you remember your first date?

00.36.26 LING YOUNG: Oh, first date went to Bear Mountain, it was the most boring trip I took (LAUGHS). It was boring. And (?) we went to Bear Mountain with uh, with two other friends. And that was (?) our first date, that after that he took me to his uh, friends out on Long Island and we went fishing. That's the only and then other than that we go to, 'cos other than that you go to movie, you hang out at each other's house and that was the whole date. 'Cos you, you couldn't afford to do anything else. I mean, going to a movie at that time, he was working the movie theater that was free at that time, so that doesn't cost us anything.

00.37.00 But uh, or we go to the beach. In those day uh, I was a beach-goer. Not any more, I hate the beach now. First of all, now I can't even go to the beach because of the sun. But uh, what else do we go? That's about it, really. We don't go to many places in those day. Either the movie, you go to the beach, or you hang out at each other's house.

JW: Fishing?

00.37.22 LING YOUNG: Yeah, or fishing yeah. And fishing. 'Cos at those day you figure out you work Saturday, Sunday also sometime. You work Monday through Friday, so it's only like one or two day left. You got the summer, the summer you work six days or six, seven days a week, too. So you really don't have that much time. And he doesn't come from a, from a rich family, either. So he also has to work. So we work the whole summer. So we don't get a day off. (?) most of the days we do work up 'til 7 days a week. Once in a while you don't, we work six days. But it's a guarantee 6 day. Maybe not 7, but guarantee six.

00.37.58 Uh, and that's about whole, that whole adventure of dating. Wasn't that many things.

JW: Uh, and then the, when did you get married and, and have your first child?

00.38.10 LING YOUNG: I got married 1973, July 1st of /73. My first kid was uh, '75. September of '75. And that's how I met Mary Jones going back to school, 'cos I was working, I took a two year uh, degree first, 'cos I was afraid I'm not gonna finish the 4 year degree, so I, I went to a community college, NYCCC.

00.38.30 And when I graduated, that was in '73, I got married. Graduated in '73. But then I decided, you know what, I always wanted a 4 year degree, I'm going back, so I went back night time. That's where I met, Mary Jones. Then when uh, '73, '75, right. Then doing the uh, almost the last term, last year of my uh, my 4 year degree, I was pregnant. So Mary used to that uh, I met Mary in class and I found out we worked for the same department.

00.39.03 So we used to go to, go to school together. So I was pregnant and she would get in front of the subway, almost like push everybody away, ran inside, sits there and, and then wait for me to come in. And the minute I come in she gives me the seat. And that's how she did it. She just almost like knock everybody down and grab me the seat. When we get to school, I'm always so uncomfortable. We, we used to borrow the uh, the cushions for the uh, lounge, take them with us to class and then return it afterward. 'Cos I need it for my back.

00.39.34 We used to study together, did everything together. Until even when I was uh, my last years of uh, during final. See, we took our two years at (?) two years of a full credit class uh, finished it in two years in night time, 'cos that, that's how many credit we took. We took, we took a lot of credit, OK? We took a whole summer course.

00.39.59 I mean, we could take six, six, 12 credit in one summer. So any, any time, it take us, it take an individual two years to, in (?) full day class, we finish in two years. I took a half a year extra because I had the baby in September, 'cos I couldn't go back that semester. But we did it. Whatever time it took people, it took us and we did well. We both graduated with uh, with honors. Yeah, we were, we were good for each other, let's say this way. So uh, actually during the middle of uh, final.

- 00.40.31 And I thought I was having the baby and I thought (?) you know, I said to her, I said what do you want? And you're not supposed to talk during the final. And I said, I think I'm in labor (LAUGHS) and she almost dropped dead. She, she went to the professor, she said, I think Ling's in labor (LAUGHS). So professor said, well, then whatever you have to do, just get down to the hospital. Don't worry about the test, you know, 'cos we were running A's anyway. So she said, just, he, he said just get her out of her. But I went through the whole test without it. So I had thought I was in labor, but I didn't give birth until a month later.
- 00.41.02 But who know, you know, uh, I thought I had pain so I said, (?) you know, I think I'm in labor (LAUGHS). But she almost had a heart attack. She said, what do you, what (?) I said, I think I am (LAUGHS). Uh, that was fun. We had a lot of fun. We had a lot of fun with her. And then after, after we graduated, she was in a different sales tax, she was in sales, I was in income tax. So then we moved to the World Trade 1974.
- 00.41.29 And we worked together until 1990. then she, she went to Long Island and I went to Brooklyn, so we kind of lost (contact?) not lost contact, we just didn't call each other at all until we, I moved back to uh, Manhattan '98. Then we became, you know, close again and then of course this thing happened and uh, we've been close since then. We're so close each other like wherever I am she's (there?). When she's there, I'm there. We always like keep contact with each other. Always call each other (?) every couple of days to see how each other feeling.
- 00.42.00 But uh, it's a long term friendship, and because of her, she kind of saved my life because I remember her problem. She has a medical problem. That's how I remember. I said, oh, my God, you know, she has asthma. I said, she can't breathe. And I told the EMS guy, get her out of here. And they were oh, yeah, we've got wait for more. 'Cos there was only like 3 of us in the ambulance. I think they wanted 5 people. But there's nobody coming out. There were literally no injured individual coming out of the building. So we waited another 5 minute and I said, get her out of here. I said, she has a lot of problem.

00.42.31 So the guy, said, all right, all right, all right. And that's how we left. Otherwise we would have been stuck there. And that's, and funny that I (?) remember all those, 'cos normally my memory's not that great. But somehow I remember, 'cos I always remember she had a, a uh, metal uh, medical tag on her. So if everybody find her, that they know what to do. And that's what it is. Can I scratch?

00.42.56 (STOPS TO SCRATCH)

(OFF CAMERA REMARKS)

00.43.13 LING YOUNG: Oh, that feels good.

(OFF CAMERA REMARKS)

00.43.29 END OF TAPE # LY-003, 1 of 4

TAPE # LY-004, 2 of 4
LING YOUNG
08.25.02
JIM WHITAKER, Producer/Director
PROJECT REBIRTH

04.00.01 PICTURE UP

(OFF CAMERA REMARKS)

JW: So you had three children?

04.00.22 LING YOUNG: Yes, I have three. (~JW~) There's Donald, Jr., who was born in '75, Richard who was born in uh, '78 and Melissa's born in '81. So Richard and Jr. was born in

Chinatown. Ok, and we had like a railroad apartment. And my railroad apartment, at the end is my bedroom. You put the bed in, you have a dresser. If you open the dresser, you can't walk through. That's how (?) small the apartment is. It's a very, very small apartment. And next to it is their bedroom. I used to have a (?) a single bed and then the crib. And the kitchen. The kitchen, the bathtub is in the kitchen, ok?

04.01.00 It's like a over a hundred year old building. And then you have a small bathroom which is just a toilet. So every time you want to take a shower, what happen my husband made a uh, made a board that comes down when you're not, when you're not taking a shower. So we used that like for a counter top. And the kitchen is very small, as you can know. 'Cos the bathtub is right there, and then and you have a living room. Consider at that time that's pretty big in Chinatown, that is. And I was paying very cheep rent at that was in the '70's, I was paying like \$100 a rent.

04.01.29 But then you wasn't making anything, either, you know? So in, then they'd gotten to a certain age, then these two was (?) each other, they were getting small, there was not enough room and they were going to Chinatown, they went to PS 130. Actually , my husband went to PS 130 also. They coming back with words (~JW~)

JW: So you guys went to school together?

04.01.50 LING YOUNG: No, I didn't. I'm talking about my husband and my kid went to the school, same school. So they coming back with words, and I said, oh, this is time to move, 'cos at that, at those days the gangs were all over the place.

04.02.01 And knowing my kids, you never know what's gonna happen. So let's look for houses. I'm looking at, I'd been looking for like 2 or 3 years and I couldn't find anything. Finally, I uh, a co-worker of mine recommended Staten Island, but my husband didn't want to go to Staten Island. So one, one afternoon, I said, you know what the heck of it, let's see what it looks like. So we went. And uh, they were, it was a divorce case and the house looks very decent,

it's right off, and the subway's right uh, it was like 2 blocks away, it's very easy to go to work.

04.02.30 'Cos I don't drive. And we looked at it and we liked it. So we got the house. And (?) at that time was expensive, but I figured out with we both working it shouldn't be that bad. Alright so, we got it, and of course I moved in in March of '80, 'cos my daughter was born in '81. So it's another extra (?) mouth to feed. But it always worked out to a point that my brother moved in right, moved uh, moved in with us not too long ago. Not in with us, to Staten Island.

04.03.00 So he was kind of like driving my daughters to school and my, also my son to school. So everything worked, kind of worked out. I was, I was still able to work at the same time I still could be home for the kids. So since that, since my daughter was born I was almost like on part time. I always get to take like ten or twelve week off during the summertime. Yeah, you don't get pay, but there was a program that allows you to do that. So with my vacation and with this particular program, I was able to be home when they were home.

04.03.30 So it wasn't like I was not there for them. So after that (?) then there's another program you could get a cut in pay, but your accumulative time almost like your vacation, you take off whenever you feel like it. But of course it (?) they would reduce your pension, reduce everything else. I really didn't care at that time. So I took like a 20% cut in pay. So and if any time there's a Jewish holiday, I'm home. If there's a, any holiday, it doesn't matter, taking off. So since then for the last seventeen years, or 15 to 17 years, I was home I would say the last week of June, that's when the school stop, until after Labor Day I don't go back to work.

04.04.12 I was home during Christmas, I was home during Easter. You name the holiday, I had. I was almost like a teacher's schedule. That's what I had until uh, '98 I went back full time. So (~JW~)

JW: Interesting, you grew up and holidays weren't really celebrated.

04.04.28 LING YOUNG: I celebrate holiday you could think of. I always have Christmas, I always have birthday party for the kids. In almost saying whatever I had, they had. 'Cos I wanted it. 'Cos when you go back, go back after Christmas, they say what do you got for Christmas? We had nothing, not a thing. We don't (?) what we're to share. And when we had, I had a doll called Tammy many years where there's a doll almost like Barbie called Tammy. I'll never forget that. That's the only thing I had. There's no such thing as Christmas. I mean, they (?) my, my parent doesn't believe in Christmas.

04.04.58 So we would be like the whole Christmas session we're just staying home. What the heck we do it ourselves. I don't remember what we did, be honest with you. We just stayed home. And my mother didn't believe in Christmas. I mean, now my mother believe in Christmas only because everybody else is believing Christmas. Uh, there's no such thing as Easter before. I mean, we know it was a day off from school, but that's about it. But now we do other things. When (?) we young, we color eggs, we, you name, I did, I did.

JW: Obviously you purposely did that because you wanted (?) to give your kids the things (?)

04.05.29 LING YOUNG: Right, that I didn't have. And that's the thing to do. Ok, ok, Christmas come, god, they have gifts like I couldn't imagine how much gift they have. Anything's on, on the market they got. Ok, anything they wanted it almost like they got. And the next thing you know they opening and sitting in the corner the rest of the year (LAUGHS) It's a, was a waste of money, but I still did it. It was just something you did. Like the one time they had, they came out with this Cabbage Patch. You could think of (LAUGHS) some of the Cabbage Patch I had for my daughter. I had those Transformer for the, for the boys. They had almost every one of them.

04.06.01 So what, it was my job. (?) like a month before Christmas it was shopping, it was shopping where every day you go after (?) during lunch time you know, I had more than an hour for lunch even if they say you've got 45 minutes. You go shopping. You come back with bags

and (?) you drag a bag home with uh, on the bus. But that's what we did. That's what I did, actually. I make sure that they have every birthday they have. I invited friends over, (?) his friends over. So it was always like a gathering for us, at least a couple of times during the year just for birthdays.

04.06.31 I go to, and I also go to my girlfriend's uh, kids' uh, birthday. Or they go to their friends for birthday. It's always something to do. I think I only stopped it I think one day Richard about, after 10. That would be just family and then they have their oh, of course they have the Sweet 16, they had the 18 then the 21. you know, the big years. After like 10 or 12 years old I only had the big years. But they still had their friends coming over all the time. 'Cos I believe in knowing who your kids' friends are?

04.06.59 So they want to go out, my house is always the gathering (?) ground for them. I like to know who they're going out with. Even if I don't know, I might know 100% what they do, but still. I like to know you know, who, who they deal with. Who am I dealing with actually. I even became close with some of the uh, friends' uh, parents. And we keep contacts. We never did that when I was growing up. There was no such thing. I have no clue who my friends uh, or who my classmates' parents are. Never did. But I did keep uh, when I went to high school, I did keep uh, a few contact with a couple, couple of friends.

04.07.34 I would say about 2 or 3 of them. Even my junior high, I still know one friend from junior high. And another one from, no, two friend from junior high, and one from, from elementary school, I still (?) keep contact. As a matter of fact, I also have a uh, friend from Hong Kong that I kept contact with. So you talk about good over 40 years. 'Cos I'm here about almost 40 years already.

04.07.59 I still keep (?) She's in uh, (?) Nova Scotia. Yeah, so.

JW: She's the one?

04.08.05 LING YOUNG: Yeah, she's the one, yes, yes. She's the one, yes. (~JW~) She actually got married when she was 15. She (?) one of those mail bride? He came (?) he went back to Hong Kong to get married. She was 15, he was 28. So they, they met and within a week they were married. She was shipped here and that was the end of that story. Yeah.

JW: Still married?

LING YOUNG: Oh, she, well, he, he just passed away this year.

JW: (?)

04.08.30 LING YOUNG: They'd been married, oh, yeah, yeah, they been married. So she's in the business over 40 years. Yeah, interesting sure, yeah.

JW: (?) Small world.

04.08.41 LING YOUNG: But those days it was very common to have mail bride. You back to Hong Kong, within two week you're marry. They still do it but not as often. Now it's a month. (LAUGHS) Instead of a week, you know. That's the difference (LAUGHS). Yeah, you got to do everything in one month. That's why you got to (?) meet the girl, get engaged, get the wedding party and be home by within the month.

04.09.03 Two months, two months at the max. if you don't find a wife within two month, you're going back. You've got to come back at some other time to do it again. It's very common those day, and she happened to be one of those. And she, she's been happy. Yeah, she's been happy, so which is good in a way. 'Cos a lot of times, you know, you don't find a happy couple. But technically he doesn't know him, or she know him. But then you look at this, doesn't mean anything. You can know somebody for 20 years doesn't mean anything.

04.09.31 And it doesn't mean that, you know, you know what's going on. So they, she had four daughters. They're all grown already. The youngest is uh, 20, I think. Or 21, I don't

remember. And two of them is, one of them is married. The other (the other one's?) is not married yet. So she's going OK.

JW: So uh, my mom was, my mom didn't work. My mom was actually at home (?) a lot of times and at, when I came home and things like that. (?) Uh, and during the summers and so forth. Uh, I want to make a leap here, because my mom I think uh, controlled, not controlled, but sort of ran the house.

04.10.11 LING YOUNG: So did I (LAUGHS). I ran more than just the house. My husband just go to work and bring home the money and that's about it. I mean, I did, too. You know, I brought home the money, too. But if you ask my husband what's the money he doesn't know. Ask him what do we have, he doesn't know. What's going on, he has no clue. He does control the outside of the house. Uh, in the house. Any fixing up (I can say that?).

04.10.32 If you ask him what anything had to do with finance, he has no clue. No clue whatsoever. And sometime you, I wonder, I say you know what? You should learn how to do it. Yeah, yeah, yeah. And that's (?) you know, you put it aside. And since 9/11 came, and I really want him to know what's going on. Plus, and so now, as of today he has not learned it yet. 'Cos who knows? Assuming I was (?) perished in 9/11, it'd be a mess, 'cos I took care of everybody's problem. Like I said, my cousin's problem is my problem.

04.11..00 My sister's problem's my problem. My brother's problem is my problem. Any, any relative of my's problem is my problem. It's always Ling, Ling would take care of it. Which I did. For many, many years I've been doing it and as, even as of now I'm still doing some of it. But not everybody's problem. So comes to finance, I had handled my brother and my sister's finance. So when I went to the hospital, they were like lost. My sister never (?) balanced a checkbook before. She figured if I go to the bank and (?) if they say I have money in there, I have money in there.

04.11.31 I said, that's not the case. Just because the bank say you have money does not necessarily you have the money 'cos what happen if you write a check? And the check didn't come in

yet. Oh. That was the attitude. Oh. And that was it. And I used to uh, even pay her credit card bills. So when time comes, she give me all the receipt and checks and I pay the bill. So now she's learning how to do that. Ok, uh, even when it come to medical problem or any decision to be made, I'm the one who's making it for them.

04.12.02 So now they have to learn how to do that. Even my cousin. My cousin would normally turn to me, I've been taking care of his problem for since like 1987. Just recently, the daughter took over, and it's a mess. I mean, literally a mess. So they still call me up and ask me for advice, but I say, I can't be there for you. Ok, you have to start learn how to do everything. And which, which she is in a way. One of her daughter's actually learning how to do it. 'Cos he has uh, he has cancer.

04.12.30 And the oldest daughter book everything, the hospital and everything, getting ready to have the procedure done, and found out the, they don't take HIP. So back to Square One, so now they look for another hospital. So that has been postponed like over two weeks already. To have the procedure done. And then finally they're gonna have the procedure done in St. Luke's but, that's what happen, that's gonna be happening next Tuesday. But they learning, little bit at a time. So I'm also letting (?) them take care of their own problem now.

04.13.02 I still help their checking, but other than that they learn on their own. It takes a while. If they still coming back to me, but not as much as it used to be.

JW: How do you feel about that?

04.13.14 LING YOUNG: I'm relieved in a way, I don't have to worry about it. Plus I have too many problem of my own. That I had to worry about. I really can't think about them any more. I try sometime. Even when my other cousin was having problem, I used to take care of the paperwork. And I finally said, you know what? Get a friend to do it for you 'cos I cannot make the phone calls. I can't be on the phone trying to figure out, take care of the apartment, 'cos he just passed away.

04.13.37 Or call the Social Security office and find out what, what the rule is. I said, I can't be bothered. I, I don't have the energy to do it. So lucky she found a friend who's helping her. A very good friend of her's doing all the work and she also go out went out herself to a place that speaks Chinese. And learned how to do that. If not, I would be normally be doing it. Even while she was in the hospital I tell them what to do.

04.14.00 I said, do this and do that, ask for help and talk to the social worker. I said, they have to have a social worker that speaks Chinese in there. This is (?) in St. Vincent. Almost more than half of (?) the patients are Chinese, so they have to have someone that speaks Chinese. So. They said, Ok, but they never did did it. And I didn't bother to try. Somehow they came out of the hospital without it. Well, actually that's true, not, that's the first time. The second time around he never came out of the hospital.

04.14.29 So they really didn't need a social worker. But it's almost like if Ling will handle it, I don't have to worry about it. So I try, try to tell them, no, Ling is not handling any more. You guys just have to figure out another way out. Here's the number, go to Chinatown. They'll say uh, China uh, Chinatown Planning (?) Council. They will guide where do to. Ok, you just have to get yourself there and do it. 'Cos I have, I can't do that any more. Running 5 days a week, going to therapies and trying to handle this thing, I can't.

04.15.01 And I don't have the energy to sit on the phone like an hour just to listen to them or be on hold for 50 minutes. And that's what you do when you call the, you call those places. I said, get down there yourself. And I guess (?) they (?) finally realize that you know, guess she's not doing it. So they start learning how to do it.

JW: How do you think you became that person? Is it because as you said before your parents said, you're the oldest, you take care of it?

04.15.22 LING YOUNG: Yeah, somehow I'm the oldest I take care of it and uh, I don't know how I got myself involved. I have no idea.

JW: Well, you're obviously very capable.

04.15.30 LING YOUNG: Yeah, I am capable doing it. Ok uh, I guess I'm the one who, who both, I guess I'm the only one really in the whole like within my family that read and write Chinese. At the same time speak English. So any time there's a document, I'm the one trying to translate to them. So next thing you know by just translating a document, the next thing I end up with the whole problem. And I guess I never know how to say no. That's my biggest problem. That's my daughter says always my biggest problem. You just don't know how to say no. I said, well, how do you say no? (LAUGHS) you know, I'm saying?

04.16.01 It's not that easy. It's so easy for you to say I don't want to do it. But in the meantime you really can't. So the next thing you know, I end up with the, I'm telling you from the health insurance with their medical insurance to anything you can think of became my problem.

JW: Is it hard to day no because you don't, because you know you can do it or is hard to (?)

04.16.21 LING YOUNG: I guess (?) I don't know how, I guess, at that time. But now I am. I couldn't. I just couldn't. I, even I try. I try very hard but I can't concentrate any more. I can't do the right job.

04.16.32 So if I'm stay on the phone for more than 10, 15 minutes, I get very tired, and I have the earphone on and I don't want to be bothered. And I figured out, you know, you guys have to learn how to do it. And they do try and they're doing it. I guess before they just didn't want to be bothered. And I end up with it and I was doing ok, and that's (?) they'll probably say oh, it's great. You know, I got someone to do it. But now, since this, Ling is not available. So they took that little bit at a time.

04.17.01 It wasn't easy at the beginning, 'cos it was like they were so confused and keep on calling me. But calling me at certain things is better than just me handle the whole thing. But that's how we started it. So it's getting there, little bit at a time. Little bit.

JW: I want to talk about September 11th. Uh, but I want to ask you (?) a couple of favor in terms of talking about it. I know you've talked about it a lot uh, and your story. Uh, let me ask you uh, a couple of things. One is if you could take me slowly through it (if you don't mind?) uh, but also one of the things like I, I kind of like to say because, I guess it's because of the medium I work in that uh, one of the things we always try and understand, or at least I always try and understand is what people are feeling. And through feeling I often say to them, what do you remember smelling, what do you remember seeing, what do you remember hearing, what (?)

04.18.02 LING YOUNG: It's all my psychiatrist (LAUGHS).

(SIMULTANEOUS CONVERSATION)

LING YOUNG: Make sure you, assuming you were there that you smell and you hear and you're doing it.

JW: Well, it's because, I think you know, for, for me (?) uh, you work in film and of course we're recording sound and all that, but you know, it's (?) a visual medium, but so much of what I think emotionally gets conveyed to people. I mean, for example, I was sitting in your driveway last night, and I was thinking when I was 13 years old living in summers in Washington, D.C. on a hot after it rains (?)

(SIMULTANEOUS CONVERSATION)

JW: So you, you're, so much of how you translate your feelings can often come through your memories (that have to do with?) smell and (?)

(SIMULTANEOUS CONVERSATION)

JW: So uh, and slowly because it's important, if you could, if you could kind of uh, I would say the first thing I would ask is do you remember the day before everything happened?

04.19.02 LING YOUNG: Not quite, it's just like an ordinary day you go to work, you do your work, you go home. You get to the computer. You, normally I get home right away, I get into the computer and check my e-mails. You get upstairs, actually reverse. Take it back. The minute I get home, I go to the kitchen, I start cooking. Finish eating, I go down to the computer and do all my e-mail, do all my paperwork. And by the time I'm done, I would say roughly about an hour, two hours.

04.19.29 Then get up, get upstairs and do whatever I have to do and then get ready to go to bed. By then it would be about at least 10 o'clock or so. So my days are pretty full. With paper works and everything else. So, and then I normally, then I would normally have cook enough for me to bring to lunch, that's most of the time. So that's normally, that's the day before. So it's nothing unusual whatsoever what happened. Like I said, I just came back from vacation the week before. Ok, that was uh, we came back September 1st, ok?

04.20.00 Actually that weekend we went out to a dinner, which like in Chinese custom when you, after you bury a person after a month you have a dinner. And that's the dinner I went to is my uh, is my aunt's dinner. So I came back, just like ordinary one, went to a wonderful vacation we were there like 10 days, and went to LA, San Diego, and even went to Tijuana. Uh, went to Las Vegas there. We drove through Las Vegas from uh, San Diego. So we had a nice trip. And I was planning this big vacation in December with my family to China.

04.20.33 Singapore and everywhere. Of course it happened. I had to cancel that trip. So my whole day was going home, cook right away, eat, get downstairs, do my e-mail, plus planning vacation. That was my whole thing. Trying to get the best way out, beside planning my own vacation, I was also plan my brother's vacation. So it was like a job, it was almost like a second job at home afterward. And I didn't mind doing it. I, I enjoy doing it.

04.21.00 But then that was it, and then September 11 came (~JW~)

JW: Do you remember anything about the morning?

04.21.05 LING YOUNG: Nothing, nothing unusual. Came into work like usual. I normally get in like a little bit before 8 o'clock. And as usual, my girlfriend and I always in there early, very early. And we're the type that even though no one, no one watches us, but we are there before 8 o'clock, and my hours are 8 to 4. And she and I would make a cup of coffee, we sit down and chitchat before 8. Once eight o'clock comes, we, we go back to our desk. And that's us. We're very particular with ourselves.

04.21.32 But that day she wasn't there, so I (?) I'm by myself.

JW: Just so, (?) because that girlfriend is ?

LING YOUNG: Alive, she was not in (?)

JW: (?) that is Mary?

04.21.41 LING YOUNG: No. No, no, no. That was my another girlfriend, my, my, Barbara. She was out in the field. See, Mary Jones and I don't work in the same section. She actually had to go into a room through our doors, through our inside office. We're connected. She's in sales tax, I'm in income tax. So we work for (?) two different tax. And she (?) had uh, I'm just an ordered. So there's a difference. She's a higher position.

04.22.03 So like I said, I normally come in and make myself a cup of coffee, get my computer out, read my e-mail and uh, sometime go on the internet and look and see what's going on. Then I start taking out my work. Ok, and I start working at 8 o'clock. Doesn't matter whatever it is, I start. And I start taking out certain folders. Like certain folder would be phone calls and folder with a work on. I'm pretty organized in that respect.

04.22.31 So as I was doing that, and then everybody start coming in. Now there were quite, there a few of them 8 to 4. But they're not in my section. They're like on the other end of the (?) of the uh, of the office. So about 8:30, a little after 8:30 my supervisor comes in, 'cos that's

how normally (?) what time he comes in (Sincara?) He walk in with a smile as usual, and I normally say oh, my god, here he comes, 'cos he like to tell me story about what happened over the weekend, about which Indian temple he went to.

- 04.23.01 What, the uh, the Indian uh, group that he went to and I'm just, oh, my god, I have to listen to him. And he's very talkative. He loves to tell me about this whole religion thing. But I thought, I don't need that. But you don't want to be rude, so you sit down and listen to him. And he have a very heavy accent and sometime oh, my god, do I understand him? But I (?) get to know him, 'cos I was only with him since June. Actually, no, July, ok, so I was only (?) with him two months.
- 04.23.32 So I finally get to know his accent, that I know what he's talking about. And he's the type always say, listen, don't rush. No matter how fast you do it, the job's still gonna be there, so just take it easy. And I never find anybody like that, 'cos they normally they would say just get over with it and finish it. But with him it's don't rush me. You know, just do it, just take it easy. I say, ok. And you just can, and I'm the kind of person real quick and you can't do that with him. And I used to drive him crazy, he used to drive me crazy because of the way, you know, he's too slow and I'm too fast.
- 04.24.03 But we got to like each other 'cos he's (?) easy-going guy and I mean, as long as you don't try to do thing you're not supposed to, he really don't care what you do, in a way. So, so as he was coming in, he normally sits down like usual, he put his briefcase. Like (?) a routine, get up with his (?) cup and would get himself a cup of tea. And on his way back, he normally show us (?) the, the little tag there that has a little saying?
- 04.24.30 And while we're doing that, and I happened to be standing up at the desk in front of me. And we're chitchatting. I forgot what we were talking about. I must have been reading the, the little thing on, on the tea, as usual. And then he said, oh, my god, the plane just went into the building. And I just, I said, oh, I turned around and looked at it. All we saw was things flying all, you could hear it. You could actually hear the, the glass cracking like the tingling crack in the glass.

04.24.59 And we see papers all over the place, glass all over the place, and we actually felt the heat coming towards the window where we are. Because where I was standing it's like your position and my position. That's exactly how it was, and uh, we (?) I turned around and I said, oh, my god. So what are we gonna do? So the next thing we know, we (~JW~)

JW: You're looking at this point out a window?

LING YOUNG: Yes, 'cos.

JW: And how far is the window away?

04.25.24 LING YOUNG: I'm in Building 2, that was Building One. I don't know how, it would be uh, I'm facing, I'm not facing the Statue of Liberty. I'm facing up (?) that way. I would be, I would say in the middle was that uh, that plaza in, where the globe is? We can't be that far away. Ok, I would say maybe I can't do it by feet. I would say to the middle World Trade smack in front of it, but that's about it. We were not that far away (~JW~)

JW: The window, you were close to the window.

04.25.58 LING YOUNG: I wasn't that close to one, I was like about ten feet away from the window. 'Cos that's another row of (?) two row of desk right there, and the desks are pretty compact. 'Cos against the window was the desk, there's long way. And then we have a row of desk. And then we have another row of desk this way, and I was right next to third row. So it can't be. Each desk was no more than like 3 ½ feet (?) long. So you was, I would say about no more than ten feet away from the window. And when we saw that, we got, we panicked.

04.26.28 We thought, oh, my god, what are we gonna do? So it's, all right, let's get out of here, and I just grabbed my pocketbook and we ran outside. When I got outside, everybody was coming from the different office. We like a little cross each corner has an office. Like I said, Mary's office right next to me connected, connected to a room. Uh, as I was going out, everybody

start coming out from the different end. And Mary came out and then this other girl, Julienne who came out and she was crying and screaming, said, oh, my god, I saw everything. I saw the plane went in and what am I gonna do?

04.27.01 And you know, I don't mind dying but I, I have a very young kid, 'cos she just had a kid not a couple of months old, crying and crying and we say, calm down, just take it easy you know, nothing's gonna happen. We were calm. I don't, I don't think anybody was really screaming except her. And then I saw Mary and I didn't see Mary until later. So she, and now so my other girlfriend, Virginia, she was crying. She was oh, my god, where's Manny? Manny's her husband who works up (?) a floor above. So someone went and get him.

04.27.31 So somehow while we're talking between these talks and so should we pull the fire extinguisher and no one's answering. Everybody's just running around and like no clue what to do. So as we were talking, somehow I got up, got in the elevator. I don't know how we did it. But we got it, into the elevator and we got down to the 78th floor. And we got out the elevator with packed with people.

JW: What floor were you on?

04.27.56 LING YOUNG: Eighty-sixth. Our office on the 86th and part of 87. Uh, eight-six like I said, is the for tax, is the corporation income tax, sales tax and also called Revenue Crime Bureau. It's a special, special tax. And then upstairs is the uh, conference and also PAD B is the petroleum uh, tobacco unit. So somehow like I said, we got down stair to the 78th by elevator. And so we were standing there, everybody was confused by then. Everybody don't know what to do.

04.28.28 But the floor of the sky lobby was jam-packed. You could hardly breathe. There was like back to back with people. It was like (?) you know, tight with people.

JW: Like at a subway station?

- 04.28.39 LING YOUNG: Yeah, almost like in a subway that you can't breathe. Then all of the sudden I start smelling things coming through the vent. I said, oh, my god, you know, I'm smelling like burning rubber. And one of the girls say, no, no, not sure. We have two separate uh, ventilation. I said, but, wait a minute. I'm smelling rubber. I thought this doesn't sound good. Oh, don't worry about it. So I was gonna take, pick up my phone so I can call my husband. 'Cos my husband kind of know about the building.
- 04.29.01 The phone ring, but no one answers the phone. I said, well, I guess the phone didn't work. So I put it away. Then we, then all the sudden we, from the intercom say, you know, don't leave, you know, stay where you are or go back to work. So after we heard that we were still kind of confused. We don't know what to do, and I know by then people was going down the elevator. Now I don't know (~JW~)
- JW: What was your reaction to hearing?
- 04.29.24 LING YOUNG: We didn't think anything of it. We just uh, we just kind of ignored it in a way. We didn't think of it. We definitely wasn't going upstairs. That much we know for a fact. We were just deciding what should we do. Should we leave now or stay here on the 78th floor. I think that's what we were, if I remember correctly that's how we were deciding what to do. But before we even think about what to do, the plane hit. At that time I didn't know it was a plane. It was an explosion. Uh, it was loud, loud explosion. Next thing you know, I went from one end to another. And I don't know how long was I lost consciousness, I have no clue. I don't remember.
- 04.30.00 All I know, I remember is getting up and I think I have some debris on me, but it wasn't so heavy to a point I can't, I couldn't get up. I got up, I couldn't see, ok, I took off my glasses, my glasses was all with blood, completely filled with blood. So I did remember that my glasses tend to come off and if it comes off, I can't see. So I took it out very carefully. I happen to have a undershirt on, I wiped it, I cleaned it very carefully and I put it back on. And I looked around, I see nothing but people laying down.

- 04.30.31 I mean, like, it was like grayish looking, it was very dark and it was like that, a little darker than, than the hallway. Uh, I said, oh, my god. So at that time I did not to be scared. I was just oh, my god. Ok. I looked around and then I saw my boss Sincara. He just happened to (?) get up. He wasn't hit. (?) he seemed like he was hurt but he was like wet. So somehow, I don't know where he got a shirt from, he was wrapping his head with a shirt. I don't remember if it was jacket. 'Cos his brother asked me was his jacket.
- 04.31.02 I said, I don't remember, I know is something was wrapped around his head. He's Indian. He's, he's his Moslem I think. Uh, yeah, I think he's Moslem. So he wrapped it around his head. Then I looked around of course I then I saw another guy coming towards me from the other end. He said, I'm on fire, I'm on fire. So somehow we (?) everybody ignored him, including me. I guess we didn't know what to do with him whatever, I don't know. Uh, but I do remember someone saying, I'm on fire, I'm on fire.
- 04.31.31 And he was trying to roll over people I guess to try to get the fire off. But he wasn't lit up 100%. It was a little patch, a little patch here. (~JW~)
- JW: When you describe the other people lying down?
- 04.31.43 LING YOUNG: It was like motionless, with nobody moving. Was nobody moving whatsoever, ok? After I cleared out my glasses. But then I saw, I Sincara. I saw Diane Urban, which is the other boss that I had her for a while. Uh, she got up, she don't look dirty at all, if I remember correctly, she was clean like a whistle.
- 04.32.03 I mean, clean. She got up, she said, Ok, everybody don't panic, now this is not her character. She'd be the first one to scream and carry on. And yell. She was calm. She'd just say, don't worry, someone's gonna come and help us, don't worry. This is her, and I'm like ok. To me, as I now remember, I said, that's not her. That is definitely not her. She's the one I worked for a year and a year and she gave me hell.

- 04.32.31 She's the one I couldn't handle for a year. I worked there 28 year and never had a problem. But she would yell at you out of no reason. If you do something, she would say, why do you do it that way? I said, well, 'cos that's the (?) Well, you're not supposed to do it that way, and she would just scream. Out of, stop (?) I don't know. And I had, the last thing I had with her was problem was she went and had a meeting, she want to have a meeting with me, and like I say, I come in at 8 o'clock. She comes in 8, too.
- 04.33.02 She didn't say anything, she just said, oh, yeah, (?) so and so called and we're gonna discuss it later. I said, ok. I wait and I waited. And about 11 o'clock she came over to me and said, I'm gonna go to the bathroom. When I come back we'll do it. I said, ok. Of course she went to the bathroom, she went to get her coffee. By the time it's like ten minute. Then I just say, you know what? It's gonna be a long meeting. I said, let me just go to the bathroom. She was livid. She said, how come you didn't go when I, when I went to the bathroom? I said, well, I didn't have to go. You know, this is the type of person she is.
- 04.33.29 And after I came back she starts screaming and carrying on. She took the folder and threw it at me. I said, Ok, this is it. Ok. I said, I let you scream at me all you want, you could carry on all you want, ok? But the (?) minute you start throwing things at me, this is it. So I went to her boss, which is Dianne Gladstone. That's the one that helped with coming down, the one who broke her ankle? She said, it's nothing we can do. You know how she is. I said, wait a minute. Now she's throwing thing at me now. Ok.
- 04.33.59 Well, I can't do anything about it, so talk to Sam, which is our, our uh, (?) department head. Not just the department, (?) he's the head of everybody now, including Mary. So I went to him and he said, oh, you know how she is, you know, uh, and let me talk to her. Ok, so talk to her all you want, but, but I said, this is it. I have to get out of here. Ok, you, she, she can't treat people like that. So he said, why don't I talk to her. So he did talk to her, and then I went on vacation and I was trying to file a grievance, but with a union you got 30 days to do it. They didn't tell me that.

04.34.31 I never had to do anything like this. But they didn't, they didn't tell me that. Said, oh, don't worry about it, go on vacation and (?) be fine when you come back. So I trusted them and went on vacation and when I came back well, I was one day late to file grievance. I said, oh, wait a minute, I said now you guys are trying to trick me. I said, first of all, this woman had a lot of problem there for many years, you guys know about it. People just left the company because they weren't get, couldn't handle her. They rather leave the company. So they never had to deal with her period.

04.34.58 But now they're facing me, I'm there 28 years, I'm not about to leave anywhere. I'm there for good. So now they can't get rid of me 'cos I'm not leaving. So they're trying to con me into saying that she's gonna be nice from now on, and she did. I swear to god, Jim, she was the best thing you could ever think of all the sudden. And I mean, before this, my work was no good. I wasn't doing what I'm supposed to do. I'm doing everything wrong. Everything you could think of I was wrong. And I came from income tax. I know what I'm doing. I've been on order for 20 some odd years, ok?

04.35.30 I had to deal with top-notch accountant. Top notch (?) I didn't care who you were. Actually I left the, the other job 'cos I didn't want to be testify as a witness. The other job is you have to testify as a (?) expert witness in front of all these people. And I didn't want to do that. In front of the grand jury was easy, but once you get into trial, you know, the (all?) the other lawyer's gonna chew you up, ok, and I couldn't handle that. Ok. I really could not handle it. I could handle the grand jury, they could ask me question all they want. But I went to one trial and those, that lawyer really chewed my girlfriend up.

04.36.01 I mean, chew her and spit her out. I said, I'm not gonna go through this. So I want to get out, so I went, I said I want to go back to a uh, to a tax that I know best, which is income tax. You know, even though I was out of income tax for many years, but I do my own income tax. I did all my family's income tax, you know, for nothing of course. So but when I got to that department, she didn't know how to handle me. 'Cos technically I know a lot more than her, I hate to say it. 'Cos I had other experience she never had. I had, I was in corporation tax for over 8 years, 7 years.

- 04.36.31 So I know, I knew corp. tax. The only thing (?) wasn't 100% sure was the sales tax, 'cos I never was in it. So she didn't know how to handle me. So not knowing how to handle me, she want to treat me like somebody just come out from the street, just graduate from high school, from, from college. So like everything I did was wrong, and if I say you know, this is the same way they're doing it, no you don't (?) like you don't know what you're talking about. So once I wanted to complain all of a sudden my work became the most best work you could, she could ever find. Everything I did was perfect.
- 04.37.01 You can't find a thing wrong with my work. So I even (?) at that time, I was a friend with Mary by then 'cos I, we were moved back together. I said, Mary something is wrong. I mean, yesterday I wasn't, I was an idiot, I was a moron and today I'm just so perfect. And I don't know what the hell wrong with me (LAUGHS). You know, that's the kind of attitude. So when she was so calm and I said, oh, my god, this is not the same person. And (?) there was a complete change in the original. She was just like say, calm down, everybody. Don't panic. We're gonna wait for help.
- 04.37.30 And I said, ok. Am I hearing the same person, 'cos this would be a person screaming and carrying on. Even uh, in her obituary, somebody wrote that she was the most nasty, she had the most pistol tongue, she was nasty, she didn't care who she would (?) tell off. I mean, you had to read this (?) it's the weirdest thing. That's exactly how she was. Nasty, really nasty. And you couldn't find a nastier person that stands on this (earth?) other than this (?) lady. So she really didn't care who you are. She was screaming and carrying on. (?) that's why they didn't want to bother to deal with her.
- 04.38.08 And any time there's a problem, people left, so they didn't have to deal with it. But here I am 28 years, I wasn't moving. So and then finally they said, ok, ok. Can you just try? I said, no. I'm not gonna try. I said if she gonna throw something at me like that, uh, what I'm not gonna take a chance. So her boss, which is Gladstone, the one she helped out, she said, but it's only a piece of paper.

- 04.38.30 I said, wait a minute. Are you telling me a piece of paper or folder is OK? Are you telling me that if she puts a, throws a chair at me, then you would do something about it? I said, not. It doesn't work that way. So this time I got the union involved. Even though they lied to me, but I still got the union involved. I said, if you don't want to do (?) something, I would get (?) myself a lawyer, because I am not gonna work under this condition. That I know she's been very nice to me, but that's not her, and you know it. Ok? And you know her for over 23, she's there 30 some odd years.
- 04.39.00 And you people know that's not her. Ok? And don't expect me to (?) believe that she had changed. I said, no. Uh, I was being very adamant at that time. I wasn't taking a no for an answer. So I was there from April to the end of June. I was supposed to be transfer. And they never did. They, 'cos they tried to see if maybe I would calm down. And forget about it. I said, no, not gonna happen this time. It will not happen. So uh, then he took me in. I said, you know what? She's trying so hard to be nice, and she's being very nice.
- 04.39.32 I said, I said, Sam, you know that's not true, Ok? Oh, no, no, no, she's been nice. I've had a 4 hours' talk with her. She's gonna be very, very nice to you from now on. I said, you know that's not true, ok? I said, please transfer me. So and then he said, oh, yeah, but it doesn't look right for me transfer you, then everybody know what's going on. I said, everybody know what's going on. I mean, what do you mean people don't know what's going on? But it's not good for the morale of the office. I said, ok. You do what you have to do and I do what I have to do, ok? But I am not staying with her, ok?
- 04.40.01 If you can't do it, then let me know. So they finally, he said, ok, fine we're gonna hire new people. We're gonna juggle the people around. At that time I will juggle you around. I said, ok. I waited and I waited. Comes the end of June I don't see anything happen. So I finally said, wait a minute. What is going on? On, no, no, no, you're being transferred. And you're going to Sincara's team. I said, yeah, but she's not telling me anything. Even as the day that I was transferred she didn't tell me anything. She would not tell me anything. All I know is from, from other people that I'm transferring. So I finally got, got to Sincara's team I think like sometime the first week of July.

04.40.37 But she still was my work back, because I had a case (?) it's a lot of money. And that's the case I did by myself for someone who's stupid, supposedly. Ok, I did everything myself, even the thing that she didn't want me to do. That she didn't think I was gonna get, get what I wanted? I said, I will do it, and I'll show you that I could do it. And I called the accountant, Ok, and the accountant tried to bluff me 'cos he's like one of those big accountants that's trying to bluff me.

04.41.01 And I did a piece of, and I did a work paper and I faxed it over to him. That's the thing. When you guys coming here like after certain day you become New Yorker? If you have an apartment here, I know you know about this kind of rule. Ok, 183 day rule. I need one day to prove that he was a New Yorker, OK, and this lady happen to have an apartment here, works here, has a business here, and his other home is in Connecticut which is 2 hours away. Ok, I gave a little list of only 9 days out of the 12 month.

04.41.30 And I'm missing two months that I don't have that she came back from Florida 10:30 at night, and next morning, in New York, she rented a car to go to Washington, D.C. at 6 o'clock in the morning. I said, I don't think she went home, ok? I gave her like 9 days I listed out. He called me back and he said, Miss Young, I think you are right. I had over \$500,000 on that. (~JW~)

JW: (?)

04.41.51 LING YOUNG: I hit her with \$500,000 on that. Of course no name mentioned, I hit a \$500,000, which supposedly should be like a hundred grand. And she's the one said, don't do it because it might backfire. He knows the commissioner. I said I don't care who he knows. (Luckily?) he think I'm stupid. That's number one. One thing you don't do with me you don't think I'm stupid. Ok, you, I, I'm pretty easy. I mean, I don't expect you to give me 100%. But you give me enough, 90%, 95%, I'm pretty happy. But if you're gonna think I'm stupid. 'Cos I was, I just came back about a year into that tax, so he never dealt with me.

And I never dealt with him in other (?) issues, on other taxes. So he probably think that you know, she doesn't know what the hell is going on.

04.42.30 And here you are, the supervisor's always with me on every step. So he probably thought I didn't know what I was doing. So he's trying to bluff me. (?) he tried to, he actual, this case has been, four people have worked on it already. It's been over there three years, that's how old this case was. Everybody worked on it, left, worked on it and left. That's all from her team now mind you. And people had left, because they can't stand her. So I got stuck with this case. So I, when I looked at it, I had never done a uh, residency case for a long time. (But?) simple issue.

04.43.03 It was simple, either you, you're in or you're out. But she didn't think I was qualified and then she thinks she was, she think that she wanted to grab whatever she can. So she tell me not to, not to push the issue 'cos it might backfire on me. I said, wait a minute. Look at my paperwork. I have it right there, black and white. I've got nine days (already?) out of, out of 10 months of bills. You don't think I could get the (two extra?) days? And I pinpoint how it was and I even said to her, write down, saying that back from Florida at 10:15 at uh, whatever uh, I think JFK/ LaGuardia.

04.43.32 Six, Six AM, rental car to D.C. Do you think she went home and sleep? I don't think so. She had a penthouse in Manhattan. You know, she doesn't do that. So I did all that little detail and I gave it to him. And he called back, he said, Miss Young, you're right. I don't think we're gonna fight that year. I said, ok, then I sent out the bill. She was like shocked, and when I left, she make sure that case went back to her name. She wouldn't give it to the other guy. And so I still had to work with her afterward.

04.43.59 But she was so civilized at that time, she was trying to be nice. And oh, Ling this and Ling that. But after that, she back to the same. Same old self. And that's why I was very shocked that she was so calm and so, I (?) don't know what the word to say about her at that day. It's like a complete different person. And when we were going down, Gladstone was the one who hurt the ankle, she put her arm around me. Urban was holding her on the other end, and

when she put the arm on me, I said, ouch, I couldn't do it, and told me to drag her through that.

04.44.30 I really couldn't drag her through all the body. So when, when uh, when Wells came out the stairs and I found the stair and follow me, and when I found out that Urban was helping her, I kind of let her do it, and I was following Wells, and that's how I was walking. If I would stayed, I don't think I would have done it. They probably were, I'm almost positive they were on their way down. And uh, there wasn't too many people on the 78th floor that came out alive. I don't really remember. So uh, whoever was coming down never made it.

04.45.02 And there wasn't too many people hurt at that floor, either.

(OFF CAMERA REMARKS)

04.45.17 END OF TAPE # LY-004, 2 of 4

TAPE # LY-005, 3 OF 4
LING YOUNG
08.25.02
JIM WHITAKER, Producer/Director
PROJECT REBIRTH

05.00.00 PICTURE UP

05.00.02 LING YOUNG: (MID-STATEMENT)and we all went down different elevator. And they hug, it was, she was embracing him, embracing her. To tell her to calm down. She was still crying and crying. And uh, my other girlfriend, Virginia was also crying and her husband was uh, saying what (?) are you worried about? It's not our building. What are you worried

about? And she said, (?) got to get out of here. And somehow they did get out. So while I was in the hospital I thought they wasn't alive, 'cos I thought they went down the elevator and got stuck.

05.00.28 So I was so worried I thought they, (?) they didn't come out alive, but they did come out. They came out unharmed. As a matter of fact, Manny, (excuse me?) is the husband. He trying to go down and, and get the car. And his wife said, are you out of your mind? Let's get out of here. He was gonna go down to the basement, pick up his car and leave. He wasn't gonna be able to leave with the car anyway. Lucky they didn't. But they did recover the car, believe it or now. Yeah, I don't know, what kind of shape it is, but they did recover the car. I guess the basement never wasn't hurt, I don't know. I didn't see they recovered a car.

05.01.01 I don't know what kind of shape.

JW: Uh, can you step back for a second 'cos I know you know this better than I, but on that floor you were on, can you tell me actually what happened, not to you at that moment per se, but actually what happened at the time. The plane?

05.01.20 LING YOUNG: We heard a big explosion, like I said, and we did not know it was a plane.

JW: Beside from your experience, what actually, the plane hit that floor?

05.01.28 LING YOUNG: Yes, I understand yes, that's what I understand. Yeah, the plane hit the floor, but somehow the wings tilted a little bit. And that's why on, on our side, the people are alive. Uh, not too many. They way I only understood why I was alive, maybe because I was so short, I was shield by a lot of people. I'm just guessing, Ok? Uh, and I was also close, I think I was very close to the, to our local elevator. I was not close to the uh, the uh, express elevator going down stairs. 'Cos all the doors were all crooked.

- 05.02.03 And I think because of the impact, the lady I saw against a wall, I don't know what kind of impact or she was like cut in half. I mean, literally like evenly cut off. It was like gross. It was no, (?) I don't remember this blood coming out. That's how cut, even cut was it. I mean, unless there was, I, I didn't see. She was just leaning against the elevator door moaning.
- 05.02.28 And then next thing you know, everybody on the floor was like motionless. There was nobody around. That was standing up except a couple was. There might been other people alive, but I wasn't aware of it. The only thing I'm aware of is the co-worker I'm, I'm working with. Maybe they're wrong, but I uh, I wasn't paying any attention to. We sat like uh, like in front of each other like that on the floor, waiting to be, get help. And while we sit in the floor, we're looking around, and said, ok, where's the stairs?
- 05.02.57 And we don't know where it is, there's no sign whatsoever, and one of us know where the stairs was. Not one of us. So we decided to sit down and wait for help. And we were chatting but we don't know what we were chatting about. We did look around and on my uh, on the other end of the elevator back was, I understand was Fuji bank. That was empty. No one was there. It was an empty office. Light was coming in from uh, from the outside, almost like light from this thing like that. Uh, then in front of me uh, I'm, uh, my back was against the express elevator, in front of me was the local elevator.
- 05.03.33 And there was this small little elevator by itself. I think that's the elevator that takes the people up to the observation deck. And I see like orange color coming up. Ok. Very, very light smoke. It wasn't too much smoke at all, so we did not breathe in any smoke whatsoever. It wasn't smoky, whatever, I mean, you see a little fire on the other end, was fire. You could see the fire coming from the floor, but like very little like little drips and drabs.
- 05.04.00 Now if there was heavy fire, I would think we would've been running, but it wasn't so bad that it worry us. So we sat down and wait for help. And uh, at that time I remember we asked for water, too. But we didn't know where to get it. So we were about to go to the

office and see we have any spring water, but none of us moved so we just sat around and wait.

JW: Was there air coming through or?

05.04.28 LING YOUNG: We didn't feel suffocated, so I don't know if there was air or not. We did not feel that we suffocated. We were breathing normally. Seemed like nothing had happened to us. I mean, I didn't feel like anything. I said, ok, now we're here. We're sitting down, I did not know I was hurt at all. I did not know that I was bleeding from my head, from my forehead. I did not know I was burned. I didn't feel it. I felt even when I get to the hospital, I didn't feel it. And then (start?) seen thing bubble up. I said oh, no big deal, you know, even laying in the hospital bed, I said, Ok, I still planning my vacation.

05.05.00 I figure I'll be here like a month or so, or two weeks at uh, a month max. Two weeks, I'm out. You know, you get burned, how you (?), you get burned you get out. Not knowing I got second and third degree burn all over the place. Now I know my face could be grafted or anybody is gonna be, everywhere else is gonna be grafted. Never had my, never in my dreams that I would be in this position. I don't even know what graft is all about, until it happen to me. And then you never hear of things like that. You know, you never heard (?) anything about graft or burns until it happen to me.

05.05.31 'Cos you don't think of it. Of course now it's like it's nothing new. So uh.

JW: Now when you uh, just so I, the supervisor who you told the story about uh, that used to come by and bring you tea (?) what was his?

LING YOUNG: Sincara.

JW: Was he there at the time?

- 05.05.52 LING YOUNG: Yes, he was one of those that are alive, yeah. He was Sincara, Yesh was another one. He had broken knee cap, and the one I just told you the story about being real nasty, she was there even the supervisor I had complained her to was there. Gladstone. She was there. 'Cos when I complained to her, she was saying you know how she is, you know, she's going through, you know, she's an unhappy person. But unhappy does not necessarily mean that we should be unhappy, too. I said that to her. Said, oh, just, just hang in there, you know, just. When she yell at you, you just ignore it and just go over your head. And I did that for about a year. I did.
- 05.06.28 Whenever she start screaming, everybody start laughing. They said, oh, it's your turn. You know, that's the kind of attitude that everybody had. 'Cos as long as you're not under her, she really can't bother you. But if you're under her, she start screaming and carry on. And one of them is on probation, so he's not bother say anything. And somehow she adores him. 'Cos he doesn't say anything. The other one just ignore the hell out of her. Every time when she start screaming and he just looked at her like she's crazy. So that's Ok. But I can't just ignore you completely. So that's why it bothers her.
- 05.07.01 And plus she didn't, she don't know how to handle me. And of course I found out later she said the real reason is (?) that she don't know how to handle you. 'Cos here I am, I'm there twenty some odd years. I haven't been in income tax in a while, but in meantime, she doesn't know what I know and not what I don't know, but I'm showing her work. So every time she gives me something, I'm done. So I (?) got to be doing something right. But she don't care. She's just didn't care. And to her, everybody is a crook, so that I can't handle. That's one thing I cannot handle.
- 05.07.31 When, I said, when you go on audit, you cannot assume someone's a crook. You don't do that. And that, that's her. Well, how do you know she doesn't do, how do you know they don't (start?) uh, at the end of the day they start putting their hands into the cash pocket, cash machine. I said, I don't. I really don't know. Like I had one who's a uh, who's also producer like you, wasn't a producer, it was a high uh, high executive in one of those uh, what you may call it. He had a uh, a maid in the house and cook.

- 05.08.01 So he does the whatever work. So the guy forgot to file his withholding tax for this lady. So I said, you know, this is what happened. And since it's a small amount, (?) two hundred and some odd dollars. So she said, how do you know she doesn't have chauffeur? Well how do you know she doesn't have a uh, body guard. How do you? I said, I don't. I'm unless they tell you, you don't unless you do, you stand, you go to the building and ask the uh, the guard. Uh, actually you don't. I mean, how could you assume that? You don't know that. All these ritzy people and this does that. I said, well, I don't know that.
- 05.08.31 I said, unless you want me to go do a full investigation this is what I got in the, OK. Either you believe or you don't. And uh, then I got very, then I called California. They moved to California. I happened to talk to the wife and they were doing a house. And the she said that uh, well, you shouldn't get chummy with the wife. I said, ok, I wasn't getting chummy with the wife. The wife happened to be very nice. She was telling me about oh, everything what's going on and I happened to be listening. But when I talk on the phone, sometime you think I'm talking on a personal phone, but it wasn't a personal phone, 'cos I get very friendly with the, with the people.
- 05.09.04 And they do tell me thing and (?) I listen. But you wasn't supposed to do that. I said, ok. And what else you want me to do? And that's her. She always doesn't think that people are honest. Oh, yeah, they, you have a lot of people that's not honest. I'm not saying they do. But you can go in on an attitude knowing, thinking they may not. And that's not an auditor should be. And we were told not to be doing it that way, which is true.
- 05.09.29 You can't go in thinking they, they being crook. And that's how she kind of wants me to go in, and I, and I, this is something I would tell, I tell upfront I will not do that. That's something I haven't been doing and I (?) am not doing it. (?) got her, you know, tick off. But I really didn't care. 'Cos I have my way of doing things. I'm not going in with an attitude. And that's me. And maybe that's the reason why I got along so well with, with the accountant whatever. But that's part of audit.

JW: Why were you surprised her, you (?) mentioned several times her voice was calm and so I knew that was strange. And then what did that make you think?

05.10.08 LING YOUNG: When I think back of it, it's almost like when you, you know how people say when you die you uh, before you die you, you have an attitude change? And that's what really make me think of her that way. 'Cos she, you never see her calm. Never. That, as much as I know of her for a year. And even people know her for many, many years never saw her being nice, never (as to one?) Ok, I don't think (?) any people see the nice side of her, but that day she was so calm, I mean calm.

05.10.36 I mean, her voice was calm. She was saying, I mean, she was sounding, don't panic. Help's gonna come. To that effect. I mean, a very calm voice. And normally she would start screaming and carrying on, oh, my god, what happened (?) That would be a typical her. What's going on? Just (carrying on in a?) pitch voice. But she was calm and just like talking ordinary. Very calm voice.

05.11.01

JW: And nice?

05.11.02 LING YOUNG: Very nice. That's what's kind of shocking me, you, very nice. Very, very nice and I'm almost like, geez, is that her? You know, you think of what, is that her? 'Cos you never hear her nice. I mean, even with a small, small thing about having a party, she would carry on like a, like a lunatic. Finally the people would say, you know what? We have like a long section. Like under two section head. We're supposed to be one unit. So there was nobody around and this guy was leaving. And one guy suggested let's have a party.

05.11.32 And she was the one with the most (?) seniority. So they asked her to do the, do the collection. She carry on like the, the world's coming to an end. Screaming and carrying on, I don't know why I have to do this. I don't know I have to do the paperwork. I don't, just on and on and on for God knows how long. Finally at the end of the party and they say, you

know what? From now on, you guys have your party, we have our party. We're not having it together. That's how bad it had gotten into. And the funny thing was it was with my supervisor.

05.12.04 That was (funny with?) Sincara. And he was gonna go complain about her to him. And she beats him to it. (LAUGHS) I don't know what the heck she did. She beat him to it to complain. Finally he said, you know what? She's not even worth my headache. So he didn't bother. She was just on and on, carrying on from the time it started the party until it stopped the party. She didn't stop complaining. (?) the word bitching. But she did not stop, that's how bad she was. And that's the kind of personality she has.

05.12.34 She had problem with everyone you could encounter. Even with coming moving her house, she would call the lady up, no call the lawyer up. The lady's supposed to move and she didn't move. And she didn't finish packing or some nonsense like that and she would call the lawyer up and said, I don't understand why, she's not working. She's sitting her butt home, I got to make for a living, and then her husband is, on and on and on and on. Now this is somebody that just said that she's not moving that day.

05.13.00 She's just like asking for a day or two extension. She's carrying on, how come she's home sitting on her butt not doing anything and I got to make a living. And she can't pack and go away? This is the kind of person she is. And when it comes to moving, we laugh because she was pushing to move before Christmas, and she got a mover and they didn't do it or whatever. She cussed them out. So she found another mover. Finally they wanted to charge her something else. So she went back to the mover and she moved, she moved on the worst storm of the day, and we all laughed because we kind of say, well, she deserved it.

05.13.33 That's kind of person, you know, that's uh, we joke around, you know. That's, she deserved it. She moved like, I don't know what day it was, it was the biggest storm that we had. Snowstorm. And she moved on that day. And she very particular. God forbid she get anything dirty. Now, you know how dirty that place is gonna be, right? After moving on a wet day (LAUGHS). So we kind of laughed.

JW: Do you think she knew she was gonna die?

05.13.58 LING YOUNG: No, I don't think anybody think we're gonna die. I don't think anybody think we would die. That's why we were so calm. If you get out uh, while the explosion came already, and then we just sat around. No, I don't think anybody would, even when we were going down, the firemen said, you know, take it easy.

JW: So I missed that part. So you were waiting around and then someone came?

05.14.17 LING YOUNG: Right, (?) would just, just came, came through the door and said I found the stairs. Follow me and only help the one you can. So I guess he meant that whoever you can help. And I know I got up, she got up and the other, we picked up the other lady uh, Gladstone.

05.14.33 We're about to leave. Then I, she put her arm around me and I said, ouch. I couldn't do it, 'cos she's hurting me. Of course now I know I was burned, you know, I was burned in the back. So then she's, I want my pocketbook, 'cos I took her pocketbook, it was heavier and it was almost like 15, 20 pound, that pocketbook was really heavy. I said, you want everything? And she said, well, my keys are there. And I said, ok, and I gave it back to her. So I tried to help her but she's taller and I couldn't drag her out there. So then I, I figured out, Urban is helping her.

05.15.00 I said, ok, and I just left with Wells. That's how I went out. And I know she was following me, but I don't know how fast, because, you know, she had a broken, uh, Gladstone had a broken ankle. And Sinara was helping Yesh, Yesh, who had a broken knee. And understanding that carrying somebody on your shoulder whatever, and trying to go over all these people it's not that easy. It's not like a smooth row, you just drag it out. So they probably had gotten to the stairs and walking down, but I don't know how far they went down. I really don't know.

05.15.30

JW: Who was the fireman?

05.15.32 LING YOUNG: The fireman was the uh, it was the fire marshal Jim Devy. Ok, he had met me down at the 50th, he told me he saw me on the 51st floor. That I had my eyes closed walking down and my hand was out. He knew I was burnt or hurt. I was in shock. He knew that, I didn't know that. So he kind of escorted me down. Ok. I don't remember that part too well, but I did remember vividly very (?) very uh, clearly that when I got off the elevator a voice said, let me escort her out.

05.16.05 That I remember very, very clearly because we were walking down, we were walking outside. We got through the concourse, the concourse was clean. Nobody was there. There's no debris like everybody say. They must have been in that Building One. We had nothing like that whatsoever. Everything was clean. Walked through (?) the, go through the revolving door. That's where Chase Bank is and Citibank. Then we had a guy with the loud uh, microphone and saying that uh, the phone saying that uh, you know, go through Victoria's Secret, the try on station.

05.16.37 I looked at uh, I (?) looked at him and I said, I don't remember where it is. I think I know but I can't swear to where it is. He said, well let's walk. So we walk and walk and walk and then we say Vischi Street, the entrance. It's bright, it's bright like, like the, today. And uh, I said, he said, you know what? Let's go outside to EMS. Uh, God said to the (?) EMS. I said, ok.

05.17.00 So I just follow him out and we walking outside the minute we got outside there was a woman taking pictures, snapping picture away. So ok, so we continue walking and I understand he was dragging me. I didn't know that. He said there were a lot of thing on the floor, which I didn't know. I didn't see anything. My face was like this, just like looking forward, looking straight, I didn't see anybody falling. I didn't see any debris coming out. I

saw nothing, ok? To me it was a blank. I don't remember seeing anything dirty or falling or whatsoever.

05.17.33 So I was just walking straight, and then I heard a voice, Mary call out for me. And she said, Ling, you know and I said, oh, my god. And I went in and I took a peak. It was Mary laying in a stretcher. And uh, we were talking and some how I ended up in the ambulance together with her. I don't know how I got there, but somehow I got up there.

JW: You mentioned uh, there was a moment when they weren't moving forward. Tell me, tell me about that. (?) in the ambulance, right?

05.18.03 LING YOUNG: Yeah. We were standing there waiting. Uh, was only me and Mary at that time. And then Judy Ring coming, came around, 'cos I remember that that was her. She had a uh, a splint on her, and they put her on the ambulance, they took her off, 'cos she wasn't supposedly a burn patient. This was on to uh, the burn clinic. Took off again, they put her back on, they took her off, they finally put her in. So ok, fine. Then we had three people now. So uh, then I realized Mary's having problem breathing.

05.18.31 I said to the EMS guys, you know, she's you know, she has problems. Oh, yeah, yeah, we have to wait a little bit. Ok, ok, fine. So we wait another five minute or so, and said you know what? You better get her out of her, because I said, she has a lot of problem. I said if you don't get her out uh, she's gonna be in trouble. And the guy said, all right, all right, all right. We will. So we left. We went around from, we were on Church and Vichy street. So we got through Vichy street going towards Park Row and all of a sudden the guy just opened the back door.

05.19.00 And he said, oh, my god, the building just collapsed. And I, we saw the tail end of it. That's what we did, 'cos he opens the back door. And Mary and I looked at each other and we were like, stunned. We didn't know what to say to each other. I think the only thing we said to each other, oh, my god, we were lucky. And that was it. And the next thing you know I was in the hospital. I don't remember the whole ride. Mary may remember a little bit more than

me, but I don't remember the whole ride. All I remember, I got to the hospital, they opened the door, they tagged me with a tag, a little thing. Got me into the emergency room and everybody's working on me.

05.19.31 And they of course they keep on asking, what's your name? What's your birthday, to see if you are alert or not. And I keep on giving all kinds of phone number to call. I said, call the phone number and see if they can reach anyone to tell them I'm ok. They finally got a hold of my brother somehow, in Edison, New Jersey. So he, he talked to me and I just say tell everybody I'm ok. I'm in the hospital. I'm alive and that's it. But I don't remember too much. The next thing you know you were in, you were out. I was completely drugged out, I think. Between surgery, between the tank room, between the all the medicine they're giving me, all the pain killer.

05.20.07 I'm like in and out. I don't think I remember too much. Who came to visit me, and they said, yeah, yeah, I said, yeah you did? You know, like I don't remember. I really don't remember. Just, I had so many people come and visit me. I really don't remember. The day I was there, it's uh, I was ok, you know, like I don't want to say that I'm being rude. When they talked to my husband, say, yeah, I saw your wife and blahblahblah.

05.20.29 And I said, and he said, my wife didn't tell me. And he asked me, I said, I don't remember. I really did not remember too many. Of course my mother I always remember because she always comes all the time. (Whoever?) came more than a couple of time, I remember. If you came in once, you can forget it. I really did not remember.

JW: Tell me about the boy in the red bandanna.

05.20.47 LING YOUNG: Ok, that was Wells. I was, what happened when we were waiting, waiting for the stairs and waiting for everything. That all of a sudden he appeared out of nowhere. Like we're sitting down, sitting like this facing with each other, and he said, I found the stairs. We all looked up.

05.21.01 He said, I found the stairs and I remember (?) he has on his hand or something like that. He was kind of wet, too. Like wearing a tee shirt like you, wet. And he said, I found the stairs. Only help the one you can help and follow me. I said, ok. We all got up, that's when we all got up to do it. So we got to the stairs and he said, it was me and this other tall gentleman. Uh, very tall, ok, slim. He was bleeding. I noticed he was bleeding, and me. And him. At that time, I did not know he has a, a woman in back of him.

05.21.33 We were just walking. The other, the tall gentleman I (~JW~)

JW: When you say, what do you mean a woman in back of him?

LING YOUNG: He was carrying, Wells was carrying a woman in back of him . I did not know that. Until later.

JW: On his back?

05.21.44 LING YOUNG: Yes, on his back. I didn't know that, because the tall gentleman I was walking in front, he was in back of us. And we, the minute we got to the stairs, he said, why don't you pick up a (?) fire extinguisher and take it with you, 'cos I don't know, you know, we may need it. I said, Ok, so the gentleman and I picked up one.

05.22.03 We got to the stairs, the walls are cracked, water's coming out, but there's no smoke, though. The stair was bright, the light was on, seemed like nothing was wrong except the stairs were cracked. So we took the fire extinguisher, we're walking down. Didn't bother us, we, we're holding it and walking down. We're walking very carefully. After about I don't know how many, it might be a couple of flight, the wall looks perfect. I mean, no crack whatsoever, and then you see a lot of firemen coming up.

05.22.32 And they were asking is there anybody up there? And we said, yeah, we, there's a lot of people up there and they're on the 78th floor. So they continued walking up. I mean, just, all you see is firemen coming up. We don't see anybody like us civilians going down at all

(whatsoever?) It's just me and this other gentleman. Then after I don't know what flight is it, then and also he keep on saying, stay together. Don't go too fast, you know, just stay together. I said ok. So the gentleman and I were staying together.

05.22.59 Then after I don't know how many steps, the next thing you know I turn around and I saw him drop off the woman. And this woman said oh, I don't feel good, I'm dizzy. And so he said, no, I'm going back upstairs. Ok? So, so he just kind of left her in the, in there 'cos she wasn't hurt anyway. The way I see it she wasn't really hurt. She was a light skinned black, young, I think, maybe in the late 20 or something like that. Maybe I, I don't remember. Uh, so he, he went back up. I don't know what happen to the woman 'cos the other gentleman and I keep on walking down.

05.23.29 And after a while I said, do you think we still need the fire extinguisher? And he said, no I don't think we need it 'cos everything was working perfect. So we uh, we left it in the corner. I make sure I put it in a corner. That's how I said Judy remembers seeing a fire extinguisher in the corner of the stairs. So we continue walking down. Then it's, I understand that's when Jim found me on the 51st floor. When we got to the 40th, it was wall to wall of firemen there. Ok? And he said, go to the uh, elevator. Now, at that time I wasn't thinking, 'cos normally they said on fire you're not supposed to go to the elevator.

05.24.02 I was just following instructions. Whatever they tell me to do, I was listening. So we walked down this long, long corridor. I mean, long. Very, very long. Got into the elevator. And they were waiting for people. They wasn't going down. Says oh, we're waiting for more. I said, wait, I says there's nobody coming down. And he say, no? No. At that time I think Judy came already. So they looked out, there was nobody there. I mean, this was a long one, it was very, very long. So somehow we uh, so he said, ok, we're going down.

05.24.31 And that's how we went down. And I (understand that?) said Judy said that we were the last elevator going down, I'm not too sure. After that it was just completely it just went. It took us about what? Less than 2 minutes to get downstairs, or whatever? By the time we get

outside and everything. But I'm not too sure how, how true that is that we were the last one out from the service elevator, I'm not too sure. There's only too long?

JW: Just the two of you.

LING YOUNG: Oh, you're kidding.

JW: No, is that what uh, uh, (?)

05.25.00 LING YOUNG: No, there's three of us in the elevator. Maybe some other people, I don't know. Uh, I don't know, I don't remember.

JW: And the (building went down?) probably (about ten minutes later?)

05.25.08 LING YOUNG: Yeah, I think so. 'Cos I figured I got downstairs I saw Mary, within ten minute we left. I would say no more than ten, fifteen minutes before the building collapsed. I would say it took me another five minute to get outside. Ten, another ten minute for us to get out of, get out of the ambulance. No more than ten, fifteen minutes. But if there's nobody coming down the elevator, even the elevator went back up, there's nobody coming down.

05.25.31 And the other people who are survivors of 74, they walked down, I understand. I don't know who else took the service elevator. I don't know. Like I said, I didn't read the story, so I don't know who else took the service elevator. And I'm still thinking is the other man alive? Because if he went to the triad station, he might be stuck there. So I don't know. (~JW~) The, the tall gentleman that came down with me. (~JW~) I don't know where he is. Yeah, I don't know. I don't know if he was one of the 12 that was alive or not, I don't know.

05.26.02 Uh, I haven't really read the article. Like I said, I know a couple. I know Donna. That's Donavan, it's me, Mary and Judy. There's only five of them that I could identify. That's from the 78th floor. Ok, there's another 7 more that I didn't look into the article to find out if is a he or she. I kept on saying I want to do it but I never did. So, you know. But I will.

05.26.28 I wanted to. 'Cos I want to see who's alive, just like I want to know that when I saw the picture of Jim, I want to know he's alive or not. I said, even though he's not alive, I would at least like to thank his family. If he didn't take me down, I wouldn't be in there. And I'm glad, like the other day I found out the one who took the picture, that woman with the photographer, the Post. She called me a week ago. I was, I was happy to hear from her 'cos I know and I know she was alive. You know, how you take picture and you give the film to somebody else and then you might be buried there?

05.26.58 She was alive. Yeah. (~JW~)

JW: Did she show you a picture?

05.27.02 LING YOUNG: No. I uh, we, actually my niece saw the picture in a, in a magazine, and she said, that look like my aunt, and that's how we got the picture. But she called me and saying that I'm the one who took the picture. I'm responsible for taking the picture of you and your fire marshal.

JW: So I haven't seen this picture. (There's a picture?) that picture was in (?)

05.27.22 LING YOUNG: Oh, you never saw the magazine me and the fire marshal? Oh, Richard has it, yeah, Richard has it. It's at the uh, (magazine?) God Bles America or something like that. Uh, it's an issue by (?) American (?) Media. And she's from the Post. She sold the picture to them. For very little money, that is. Yeah. And she also took Mary's picture.

JW: Now what's the chances of you going to school with your best friend?

05.27.51 LING YOUNG: Oh, it's like a miracle. Going to school (with your?) best friend. Getting on the same ambulance and staying in the hospital next to each other, in the next room next to each other. I was 403, she was 404. Very, very slight chance, especially with all the people in the hospital that day. A very, very slight chance. So it's always like if my fam's

not there, his, her husband is there. He husband not there, my family was there. It's always like checking on each other. Oh, it's the chances are very slim, be honest with you. Especially went to school together and went through the thing we went through together? Very, very slim chance. (~JW~)

05.28.29 And then we the only two that got out alive, mind you. My uh, on my uh, company. We are the only two alive. Either you're alive or you're dead. We lost, I lost 40 co-workers. And we're the only two got hurt. Either you got out alive or wasn't at work. My (?) department's the field audit. So you're supposed to be in the field. It's field work. So either you're not at work or you're at work and got out alive, or dead. We're the only two that got hurt.

05.29.01 That's weird, isn't it? It could have been six, but of course the other four didn't make it. The other four that was alive, they never made it out.

JW: The ones that walked up?

LING YOUNG: Yeah, never made it out. That's the one that, that Urban, Gladstone, Yesh and Sincara. They never made it out. And the rest were dead.

JW: Have you had contact with their family?

05.29.24 LING YOUNG: Uh, actually their family had contacted me. They wanted to know where were they when it happened. And I only could tell them that they were at the 78th floor when it happened, and I said if it happened, they were probably on their way down. But I said, if the building collapsed, I don't think they even felt it. At least that make them feel a little bit better, I think. At least they know they were on their, they were on their way down. It wasn't that they lost in somewhere else. Like some of them are on the 86th floors refused to leave. They probably just got, god knows what happened. So that's the (~JW~)

JW: Did you speak to the family of the woman you had problems with?

05.29.59 LING YOUNG: No, no, no. I don't think the family even they were never that close. That's the problem. Ok? She had a, she had a sister, but they were not close, either. They weren't even talking terms, that's how bad it was. So she was like you know, she really didn't have too many, she does have some friends, though uh, believe it or not. Some kids just adores her tremendously. So she has a side that we don't know about. But not at work that is. That's the difference. But I guess that that day, she looks very, she sound so different.

05.30.30 It's not the same person that I know, or anybody know that is. That's the difference.

JW: And touched you?

05.30.37 LING YOUNG: Yeah, it's kind of weird. You know how people say you become a good person when you die? That's uh, I mean, she was not an evil person, evil. She's just (?) a very unhappy person. And nothing uh, I don't (know anything that makes?) her happy. She was finally happy that she just finally bought a house. She moved in in December. She was gonna doll it up. It didn't last for long.

05.30.59 She was always so particular, she finally got her own house. At 50. She turned 50, she finally got a house, she was gonna do so much work to it. She had all of this planned, and in five years she would retire. And I guess it didn't work that way. Even this guy, this lady Gladstone, she was supposed to retire in April. And I don't know why she (?) didn't retire 'cos she's 57. She had like 30, almost 40 years of service. I guess she wanted to wait one extra year and that one extra year took her life. So that wasn't, that wasn't easy.

JW: Do you believe in fate with Mary Jo?

05.31.33 LING YOUNG: Oh, yeah. Yeah, (?) with Mary Jo, yeah. Everything is like meant to be. I said, figure it out, I say, if Wells didn't come up to the stairs, if Jim didn't pick me up and if Mary didn't need, I didn't remember Mary's complain about her health. I don't think I'd be here. I do. And then be together at the same place, same ambulance, same hospital. Next door to each other. No, yes, I do. It's meant to be just even like Rhonda Bucher is the uh, the

fire marshal, like his wife said, you know, it's meant to be that you and Jim should be here, and that's what she said to us.

- 05.32.12 Because if Jim didn't pick me up, I guess Jim wouldn't take me outside and he would have been going up just like, like everybody else is. They would have just gone up. I mean, there were lots and lots of firemen going up. And they were, by the time they, I guess when they reached about 74 they looked like they were half dead.
- 05.32.30 It was time they were carrying all this heavy equipment. But uh, they were still going up. They weren't hesitating going up. They would just keep on going and going, but I guess they didn't know what's gonna happen. I mean, it didn't happen they uh, you know it would have been, history would be different, let's say it this way. There'd be a lot of people safe and uh, I don't know. I don't know what to tell you. But fate got a lot to do with it. It's meant to be, I guess.
- 05.33.02 I guess when God wants you, you're gone. When it's not your time, you are not yet. That's how I see it. And uh, when I was laying in the hospital, I didn't think I was that hurt. I feel (?) it was a big deal. It would be OK, until this uh, (?) came in and showed me my garment and she said, you've got to wear this for six months to a year. I said, you've got to be joking? She said, a year, roughly about a year. Now it's a year is all over I'm still wearing it.
- 05.33.29 I haven't worn my garment on my arm because I'm, I've got so many openings. But it's hell. It's like (?) a real thick, tight girdle. That's how (?) wearing it. Like I have a couple of layers underneath here. It's very hot. But that's supposed to reduce your scar. I don't know how true it me but it does help some other people. As of now it's not really helping me. But you're still supposed to wear it. And I figure oh, it's no big deal. You'll wear it and you'll go on vacation.
- 05.34.02 That's not the case (LAUGHS). I thought I was gonna go, go away this year. It's not the case any more as you can see. I'm hoping by the end of next year, at the beginning of 2004,

hopefully that I would do something. But not with all these things. It's impossible to go away. 'Cos you have to bring, you might as well bring my whole medicine cabinet with me. So I'm still, I'm still having uh, surgery done, I'm still probably have reconstruction done, and I'll probably have another skin graft here to reduce all this. I don't even know what's going on yet.

- 05.34.31 It's like a uh, unknown to me now. I know I will have something done, but I don't know what yet. So I'll find out more detail soon, I hope. 'Cos I'm not maturing at all whatsoever, I'm still very red. In order to be mature you got to turn light color, and I'm still very, very bright red as you can see. So I've got a long way to go. But everybody's doing great. I'm the only one going backward. Like Mary Jones said, you know, she takes two step forward, only one step back.
- 05.35.00 And I take two step forward and three step back. That's me. Every time I thought something was doing OK and something else happen. It never fails on me. Even though this hand was doing Ok, I waiting for a clinic appointment, the next thing I know I'm end up in the hospital for like a week. 'Cos they don't know what the hell's wrong, they don't know what's wrong with me. I had like a uh, blotch all over the place. So he thought it was an infection, it might be fungus, they had me on antibiotic for almost a week, five days. And I think at least 5 days.
- 05.35.30 Still doesn't work. So that all of a sudden disappear. So (?) I'm on, I think I'm (?) like unknown to them in a way. Yeah. They had never seen so scaring before. (~JW~) yeah. Never did. Not, not (?) like this. I have a (?) problem they never saw. I shouldn't be in a wheelchair, I walked out of the hospital with no problem. Then started something, everything started opening up on me. I mean, literally opens up on me.
- 05.36.01 Then finally he say, you know what? The only way it's gonna solve it. You're gonna sit in a wheelchair and don't move. And that's what I've been doing since December. So you see me walking back and forth, that's a lot. See, before this, two months ago, I wasn't able to do that. Now I'm doing a little bit better, but I still cannot walk and stand up for a while. (That

it?) doesn't (?) I still get blister, but not nowhere near what I used to get. I used to get blister this big.

05.36.29 And my whole leg was like completely blister out. It's not too many good spot that you can say that you know, that's not blister. If it's not, it will become a blister. That's how bad it was. But it's getting there, I think. I think. I don't know.

JW: Uh, it's a hard question to ask, but (I feel like I?) have to. Uh, do you ask yourself why you?

05.36.52 LING YOUNG: Yeah, we do ask that questions. But sometimes we don't (get no?) definite answer. Uh, when you get very emotion and then, emotional and you would say, why me? But then you say to yourself, you know, what, thank god it's me because otherwise you'd be ashes. Like (?) most of my friends which they didn't find. They only found maybe like four or five people, Ok. One of them they found a badge. They, they know he's not alive. Uh, a young girl was like in her 20's, they found a drawer. They did find one body that was pretty intact. Somehow, I don't know how it got there, he, they found him in J and R.

05.37.32 The building about 2 blocks away, the top, the roof of the, of that building. Pretty much intact. So I don't know how they (?) where he was. He must have been by the force from the, he might be on 86th floor and he was blown 2 blocks away, OK? Uh, that's about they found. They really didn't find too many people. So I would assume that either they were in the elevator being gone 'cos I know Cindy is the girl I was talking about, they found the uh, I think a jaw (?) a set of teeth or whatever. She was in the elevator trapped for 45 minutes or more.

05.38.08 Talking to her husband. And I think that's the only phone that worked. Was a Nextel, Nextel or something it's the only phone that works. 'Cos I had a cell phone and the funny thing about my cell phone was when I got blown, I lost my pocketbook, I couldn't find my pocketbook. Well, I was sitting around I heard a phone ring. I said, oh, my good, good, we

have a cell phone. We ducked through all this rubbish and take it out, that was my pocketbook.

05.38.31 It's weird. I got all my ID back, everything back. And that was my phone. Of course I tried to call out, but I couldn't. I know someone was trying to call me, but I couldn't hear it. There was not reception whatsoever. And looking at the phone, I think it was my daughter's phone that was calling me. You can know who's calling you but you can't hear a word. But it was funny that I got my pocketbook back, got everything back. And that's how come I got my pocketbook on my shoulder when I was coming down. And I must be walking like this, with my arms out.

05.39.00 And that's how Jim said that I was in shock. That he, that I needed help. Thank God he was there to take me out. 'Cos otherwise, I wouldn't know where to go. I probably should keep on walking, probably get to the service elevator, but it wouldn't be, so it wouldn't be somebody guiding me. So anyway, he's my guardian angel. And like I said, (?) I was his, 'cos it wasn't me I wouldn't take him down. 'Cos he was downstairs helping others. But I guess when he saw the second building collapse, I think he ran. Now he has a lot of problems breathing, now.

05.39.30 Anybody stayed behind, starting (?) a lot of problems breathing. 'Cos (?) very dusty. See, I really didn't see, like I said, I didn't see too much film I didn't see much. I did see a uh, one or two clips about people that were all white. That's from all the dust. That's about it I saw. I don't remember seeing too much.

JW: Are you going to?

05.39.53 LING YOUNG: I don't know. I may not. To me, I was so into my psychiatrist. She's saying it's a part of history but my attitude was if I didn't see it, why do I have to? 'Cos why do I want to put more in my mind that I don't need to. So what they say what happen if you (accidentally?) see, and I said, well, then you know what? It's always a button to turn it off, that's how I see it. So I'm not too crazy about it. Just like one time I watching the news.

Actually someone send me the news, it was Philadelphia news, and it was me with the school kids. 'Cos of an article in (?) the Philadelphia Inquirer.

- 05.40.33 There's a lot of response from school kid. So instead of writing back to them thanking them, 'cos I hate writing, besides the point. So I was, maybe I would just visit school and do it in one shot. There's over a hundred some odd kid in this school, and you're talking about three school. So we talk about a couple of hundred thank you note, and I said I couldn't do that. And you can't write it, print the whole thank you note, saying (thanks, 'cos?) that doesn't sound right. Ok, so I said I went to visit the school. It's about an hour, hour and a half away. It wasn't too bad. So they taped it, somehow they got a wind that I was gonna visit the school, so one of the uh, local channel came in.
- 05.41.03 There were quite a few local channel. So they send me a tape. So I was watching it, and thing, the first thing they show was the plane going into Building Two and I went a little berserk. So I said, ok, that was it and I didn't watch it. So from now on they have to screen the, screen the program. I am not gonna watch anything that come on, 'cos I don't know what they're gonna put. That, that bothers me for a while that actually saw the plane went in. And that was exactly what they showed, that's the first thing they showed, 'cos I was in Building Two and they actually showed it.
- 05.41.31 How the building, how the plane went right into the building. So I wasn't too crazy about it. So since then I haven't watched any news. Uh, I avoid those. Even when you hear 9/11, I don't, I don't listen to it, either. So when 9/11 comes, everybody's gonna be home. And that was the deal. I'm not gonna watch TV, 'cos I don't know how, what they gonna show. I can't trust what's coming out of the TV. They must show, they must show very graphic (?) detail, I don't know.
- 05.42.01 So I'm not taking a chance. I'll, I'll read my books. I'll watch my uh, my tape or uh, but I'm definitely not gonna watch any program until they watch it first. See they, they watched it, they watched the HBO and everything, but I haven't watched that. I didn't watch the uh, the Frenchman one, either. Or any other one. I've not watch any of them.

JW: How uh, how let me ask this question once again, sort of a little bit differently if you don't mind. But uh, how, you're alive. And if, if you should believe in fate and I believe in fate and I believe in when it's your time, it's your time (?) I'll put it that way, do you have any, and if you're thoughtful and you think about all of this, you know, stuff that I gather you do, and ('cos I think you do?) probably, do you have any sense of a reason or do you, do you see anything different in your life now that might have been, might be indicating, a kind of a path or a reason or a destiny (?)

LING YOUNG: You mean, why I'm here?

JW: Yeah.

05.43.13 LING YOUNG: When you say you believe in fate, yes, I do. And that's like your time is your time. If it's your time, you can be sitting home and the thing just come down on you, and I'm more, I'm more and more beginning to believe that a lot more than I used to, ok?
(~JW~)

JW: How do you mean when you say that?

05.43.31 LING YOUNG: I like I said, I used to believe when it's your time, it's your time. Ok, but now I'm beginning a lot more believing in it. It's almost just like Mary and I are meant to be here now, to take care of whatever we, we didn't take care of. Like if I would have gone, be gone that day, I would have left a lot of mess. I mean, a big mess to a point that I might as well, have no idea what I have. Ok? I mean, I'm pretty organized, but it would take them God knows how long to figure out what is, what is going on financially with me. All you would, any of the family.

05.44.00 They all have to say, what happened to me? Ok, well, you ask my sister what's going on, she would have no clue what she have, either. Ok, I take care of all of that. Or even my cousin, I have all my cousin's paperwork. Even my kids' paper work. I've got them. I had them all

stack in, in a certain drawer, but still. They have to really go through everything to reconstruct what I, what I had done. And so in time when I do things, I to a way that I would understand it. Not necessarily what anybody else understand it. So now what I'm doing now I will make sure that people understand it.

- 05.44.32 If god forbid someday I, I don't appear any more. So I'm beginning to take that kind of precaution. Which I never did before. I never think of anything. Just like I never bought long term disability insurance, or even short term disability insurance. I never thought I was gonna be in this kind of position. My kids were grown. I got into travel, ok, I was having a ball. I had traveled I think 8 trip in two years. That's a lot. I mean, I went to, where the heck, I went to Las Vegas twice, I went to Florida, I went to the West Coast for a week. I went to Hong Kong, I went to Thailand.
- 05.45.07 And December I was gonna go to Hong Kong and China. And Singapore. And uh, where else did I go? Uh, everywhere you can think of, because I got a job now that I do have time. If we do it right you can take the time off the way you want to take off. You know, you put all the vacation together and the holiday together, instead of taking 2 week you take like 7, 8 days. And also my husband got a job now also that, before he got to the job the understanding is if this jobs are slow he's gonna take off, and we've been doing that.
- 05.45.38 And we take a lot of vacation. And I had a lot of plans, and my brother even went and bought an extra time share so I could use it. So everything was going perfect. So all day long when I come home after dinner is plan my vacation. You know, take time to plan the vacation. And a lot of time I plan my vacation, lot of time I don't pay for it. Because what all the things that are going on with the point and everything, if you know how to do it right, you don't pay.
- 05.46.02 Like my uh, Hong Kong trip, my and my China trip. At Hong Kong it cost me like \$125 for (five of us?) with point that is, ok, with your miles. And at that time they had like a discount on miles. It was weird. It normally take 70,000 miles to go to Hong Kong. It was 25,000

miles. It was like wow. Ok, then on Singapore I always had miles from many years ago. And I'm talking about miles from 1987 when I took the trip.

05.46.31 Which is weird that they saved it, it was united as a matter of fact. I was paying also like a hundred some odd dollars to go to Singapore, ok, and I was gonna live in Hilton. Hilton in Hong Kong was \$700 American US Dollars a night. I was gonna pay like \$50 a night, 'cos I had my brother's points. So everything was all perfect. It wasn't gonna cost me too much. The only thing that's gonna cost me is food and whatever I want to buy. So it was a great tip, I was gonna take my kid back to where I came from, China. So that was like my whole thing.

05.47.03 And because this happened now, I cant' travel for a while, ok. And I'm not too sure I'm afraid to travel or not, I'm not too sure. But as you say faith, I have not things used to bother me that do not bother me any more, ok. And also like I said now, I take precautions and do a lot of thing. If I do some paperwork, I want to make sure that if anything happens to me, if someone look at that piece of paper, they know what's going on. Or if I have an account under let's say my daughter's name, the money doesn't belong to my daughter because of a certain reason, you receive a big note right there, that this money belong to so and so.

05.47.39 So I had kind of like structured to a point that if anything happened to me, it wouldn't take that long for them to understand. And I have changed my lifestyle a little bit. Like I said, things that used to bother me does not bother me any more. My mother used to drive me insane. I mean, (STOPS)

(OFF CAMERA REMARKS)

05.48.02 END OF TAPE # LY-005, 3 of 4

TAPE # LY-006, 4 of 4
LING YOUNG
08.25.02
JIM WHITAKER, Producer/Director
PROJECT REBIRTH

06.00.45 PICTURE UP

(OFF CAMERA REMARKS)

JW: Things don't bother you?

- 06.01.01 LING YOUNG: Yeah. Things doesn't bother me that used to bother me to a point that I can't sleep. I was like all night thinking about it. My, my mother used to drive me insane. My mother's the type that you're the oldest you have to take care of everybody's problems. So my brother's problem is my problem, my sister's problem is my problem. And I try to explain to them, to her, they not, they could be my problem, but I cannot do anything about it. Ok, they're an adult, it's none of my business. But you can't get through my mother.
- 06.01.29 And everything I do is wrong. No matter what I do is wrong. That's a quote in my mother's dictionary. So used to drive me insane. She would call me and start complaining, and I thought this one, about that one, and I used to tell, I can't do anything. And she then would yell at me, well, I don't know why you don't understand it. And on and on and on, and that used to bother me, I can't sleep. Now, my mother could complain all she want, and I would just listen and I swear I will just ignore it. And I don't lose sleep over any more.
- 06.01.58 I, all I was saying was you know what? I'm too busy. (LAUGHS) You know, I would just say, I'm doing something. I can't talk to you. And she would say, you always do that and no matter how, even before this, you still, you busy. I said, listen, I do have things to do, OK. I'm very busy, I have no time. And she would talk about things 40 years ago, 50. Who cares? I said, what's gone is gone, who cares? But she, she would say you don't understand,

I don't understand why you can't talk to me about it. I said, no, I don't want to. And that's me. Or, or let's say if uh, and the most of these recent couple months, I have so many deaths uh, close to me that uh, that caused a lot of, a lot of my emotions.

- 06.02.38 I have a girlfriend, my maid of honor, who just lost a son about two months ago, from a shooting. Which is to her bigger surprise 'cos her kid was such a wonderful kid. Somehow she got into a wrong gang, a wrong group. She was, he was killed. And he was, that was murder. Then the husband, he couldn't take the pressure, he had a stroke. He died.
- 06.03.01 So she buried two loved ones within two months. And my girlfriend from Canada, this all happened this year, her husband just was diagnosed with cancer last year. He died. My cousin die. And this other cousin of mine is going to another test, who knows what's gonna happen to him? He has uh, lung cancer. But it's not operable. So we don't know what's gonna happen. So many close friend is dying on me. That uh, and I think life is so fragile.
- 06.03.31 I mean, today you talking to him, tomorrow you (?) you're not even sure you'll be able to talk to them. I mean, like, like my friend Johnny from uh, Canada. I talked to him as a matter of fact in March, even though he has cancer, he was sounding great. He's oh, yeah, I'm doing great, I'm doing Ok. And I said, I want to visit him, but I have, I was so, I was bleeding all over the place, I couldn't even get out of the house. Uh, I'd wake up in the morning and my bed sheet looked like a war just went through. That's how bad my bed sheet was (all stained?) I said, I can't travel like that.
- 06.04.00 So I was waiting to, sometime in May, to go to uh, Canada. But it didn't happen. He died before that. But uh, it was just so, I mean, you'd be talking to a friend today, just like my friend who, who's just recently died. He would come over to my house with his wife, and then she would cook up the storm for me, just go to the (?) or go to the market and bought, buy all kinds of stuff and come into my house and just dominate the kitchen. My daughter hates it 'cos she's very sloppy.

- 06.04.30 Just cook up a pot of soup and put in container for me so I could, so I could drink it over the next month or so. And he used to tell me about his uh, religion. His Buddhism, how he believe in it and how he uh, go, go to different places in China to uh, supposed to quote unquote, look for the spirit. And he's really much into it. And uh, he (as a matter of fact?) he was going on a trip uh, in September just to go away.
- 06.04.59 Actually was supposed to go in July, but then this thing happened, his son thing happened. And after his son he said you know what? We got to go away somewhere just to release our tension. So they were gonna go away in uh, September. Of course that didn't happen. He just died. So now she's very bitter, ok? She believe in the, the Buddhism before and now she's very bitter. She said I don't, I don't want to pray any more. 'Cos I said, why don't you just sit home and relax and pray? She said, I don't want to pray any more, 'cos He didn't help me when I needed it. So she's very bitter about her religion now.
- 06.05.31 But I'm very worried about her because she's has high blood pressure. She's diabetic and 'cos she has heart trouble. So I don't know if this two loss is gonna hit her, or she's strong enough to be for her daughter. So that's another concern I have. So I call once, like once, twice a week minimum just to see how she's doing. So I'm, like I say, I just talked to the guy about a month ago. Next thing you know, I, we buried him last week. So I can be talking to someone today and I'm not gonna know (if ?) I'm gonna be able to see him tomorrow.
- 06.06.02q So I take one day at a time. I used to have all kinds of plan, I don't plan ahead. People say what, what are you gonna do are you planning a vacation? I said, no. I said, I have a plan all I want, I guess. And (?) planned on I'm gonna be Ok this year. 'Cos they said I won't have to (wear the junk?) six months to a year. So I'm looking at it, oh, (?) that's be great. I'll be going on December. This is coming September. I'm still in a wheelchair. I still got surgeries scheduled for next month. So I'm not going nowhere. So I can't plan too much ahead.
- 06.06.31 I'm gonna do one day at a time or one week at a time, whatever it has to be. And when my time comes, I guess it will come. I do get worried a little bit sometime. I said, what happen

if I go and I never come out? That's why I said, when I do my things now, I'm doing it in a way that I'm prepared. God forbid something happen.

JW: You mean surgery when you say go (?)

- 06.06.52 LING YOUNG: Yeah, you never know, things happen. I just (?) we met some lady at the uh, burn support group. She went in for a procedure. She came out burnt. 'Cos they had left her with a ungrounded wire. She was on fire on the operation room. She went in for a procedure (?) with her uh, with her (?) going through her throat. She ended up getting burnt on her neck and everywhere. So she had no (?) she didn't feel it because she was under anesthesia. So the doctor came out and said that uh, I have good news, I have bad news. The procedure went well, but (?) your wife is burned.
- 06.07.29 So how can you take this? I mean, it's like ok, she wasn't just burned, she was burned from her neck down, I mean, you know, all over her. She was a mess. So you never know what happen. So that's how I see things now. The more I see things, the more I say to myself, you don't know what's gonna happen tomorrow. I'm gonna take one day at a time. I can't even plan I. And uh, like I said, things doesn't bother me any more like they used to. Used to, I usually can't sleep because of certain things (?) doing now. Of course now I have sleeping pill, that help a little bit, too.
- 06.07.59 But I don't, I don't see myself think about too much of it, and if I do thing about something bad, and if something bothers me, I right away I jump and do something else. 'Cos I do have other problems uh, not within my own family, my immediate family that bothers me tremendously. But I can't dwell on it because I do, I will go crazy. So what I do is I will run and put on a tape or put on a TV show, so it's a quick, get my minds away, so I don't think about it. I learned to do that. But before I would sit there and think about, ok, what should I do? Should I do this or should I do that? And try to help the situation.
- 06.08.31 I now realize you know, the whole situation is none of my business, and I have no right to say anything. So I have to stay out of it. But uh, I try but.

JW: In a sense do you think in some respect in a good way learned to say no?

06.08.49 LING YOUNG: Yeah. I think that's the only time I did start saying no. Uh, I did say no to a lot of things. Like I said, this cousin of my was complaining I don't know how to do that, I don't know how to do that. And I say, you know what?

06.09.02 Go to Chinatown, ok? The Chinese Planning Council has Chinese interpreter. You ask them what to do, ok? If they don't know what to do, they will guide you to another place. It's the point is now is you guys just have to do the, to do the walking. Before I used to make all the phone calls for them. Even (when another ?) friend of mine, she's also having a lot of problems. She has 4 kids. None of her kid would do anything. I used to take off from work to go with her down to her Medicaid office or a doctor's appointment.

06.09.33 I used to take off to do that. In the meantime, she had 3 kid living in New York City and none of them would do that for her. Now, you're on your own. And uh, of course, because of this happened, they all learning how to take care of (?) everything themselves. And they're learning. 'Cos like I say, I can't be there for them anymore.

JW: That's probably good.

06.09.55 LING YOUNG: It's good. They, they're forced to do what they have to do. Before they don't want to be bothered, because they, Ling will take care of it. And I've been doing that. And like I, I know more stuff, more about how (I know more stuff about her?) than some of her kids. Her biggest problem was she gave away her house before, before she retired. So now she has nothing, no place to live in a way. Because one of the son took her in but (?) the relationship wasn't good, so she's not happy there. And the other one's living with the mother-in-law, so she can't be there. And the other one's all by herself.

06.10.27 She really doesn't want her mother hanging around in a studio apartment, you know, she has friends coming in. And the other one's in Arizona. So how are you gonna deal with that?

So she was kind of like lonely. It's sad when you have four kid, you're lonely. Her husband died about ten years ago. So I said to my kids, you're not getting my money 'til I'm dead. That's the way it is. (LAUGHS)

JW: (that's what my mom said?)

06.10.46 LING YOUNG: Yep. I'm gonna enjoy it. If I have left, fine. If nothing left it's your problem. (?) make it on your own. I did. And that's what it should be, I think. I mean, if you have extra, it's great to give. But not anything beforehand, that's how I see it, and that's what your mom said, right?

JW: Yeah, and she died about a year and a half ago. (?)

LING YOUNG: Oh, I'm sorry.

JW: No, no, that's ok. It was uh, it was probably, there were some very good things in many respects (?)

(SIMULTANEOUS CONVERSATION)

LING YOUNG: She's sick?

JW: Yeah, she was sick but uh, but my dad, you know, my dad has some money for him and it was distributed to our family and there was some money there. And that, you know, she said, you know.

06.11.27 LING YOUNG: That's his to spend.

JW: Yeah. (?) and you know, that was the way (?) that was the right thing to do. Uh, since I haven't known you before now, just hearing some of the things I've heard, it sounds like in a some, odd way uh, I don't know if the word happier seems a little strong, but calm?

06.11.52 LING YOUNG: Oh, yeah. Yeah, I'm a lot more. I guess I used (?) be (?) I'm still a little maniac once in a while, but it all depend my mood, but I'm a lot calmer and, and I like I said, I don't go crazy about, over things that used to bother me. 'Cos I literally would (?) sit around and thinking what I can do to, to fix this situation. And that used to mean sleepless night. And I could like not sleep at all. It would drive me insane. Now it doesn't bother me. And (what will be will ?) be, I don't have to live with it, and I just left it alone.

06.12.33 Even my kids situation, I don't bother with them any more. That used to drive me crazy. Now, ah, I don't live with them, I don't care. And that's how I see it. I'm very surprised how I am, really (?) that. But I said, I could have been dead. Why (?) would I, if I'm dead I would never have to worry about all these problems, so now I'm here, so you know what? It's not gonna bother me.

JW: It's interesting uh, the time when my mom actually was dying, my brother, Bob, uh, relayed a story to me. (Remember that Rob's?) the doctor and he said that uh, a lot of people have this experience, 'cos I was asking (?) what happens (when you die, what happens when you die?) you know? And I mean, thinking, going over just (?) in my head, and he said that uh, a doctor he knew very well had written uh, a book about his experience of a near-death experience (?) Almost dying and the light the tunnel, the whole thing. And being alive. (He said?) that person from now on is, has almost (?) not no fear but everything seems to (?)

06.13.39 LING YOUNG: It's very different, yes. And my cousin, my cousin go into a procedure. He knows it not operable, ok, even though they do this operation, he might get two to five years. So sooner or later it doesn't matter when, he will go. So in a way he's, he's seems a lot more calmer and he will say to me, it's like well, you know, I'm gonna die soon. I'm gonna die one day anyway. So he's going into this procedure hoping he'll get an extra year or so, 'cos if not, I think they give him six months to live. He looks great, though. I mean, if you don't know he is sick, you really don't know he is sick. But because of the thing in his lung, they want to put in a uh, some kind of a procedure, that they like a balloon to kind of

stop the uh, cancer from spreading. Uh, I never heard of that procedure. But that's supposed to be a very minor procedure, not an operation.

- 06.14.30 So we'll see what happens. She's supposed to stay in the hospital like five days. Who knows what's gonna happen? And I know a friend who had cancer, breast cancer. I only knowed her about a couple of years. A couple of months, excuse me. And she's going through the chemo, she's losing all her hair (already?). So it's like you know, it depends how you (?) She was healthy like, like nothing happen to her. I had a girlfriend also had breast cancer. She healthy, I mean, really healthy. Next thing you know, that was it. And one thing I also learn is because I, all this experience.
- 06.15.01 If I'm gonna, if I know somebody's in the hospital sick, I'll be the first one there to go see it, because I had an experience that I didn't have a chance to go. And (?) that was my uncle, and he die on me. So same thing when I found out about my friend who's in the hospital. I found out Friday, I went that Saturday. 'Cos I wasn't gonna allow my chance not to go there, just in case. Lucky I did, because the following week, I made a phone call Thursday and the daughter said, it doesn't look good at all.
- 06.15.29 And they went to the doctor and the doctor said, you know, (?) it doesn't look good. And I know from the nurse saying that he had (?) a major stroke, and they were only trying to take down his uh, blood pressure. But I didn't know that he was already brain dead, I didn't know that. So when I talked to her, his daughter Thursday, and I said to my husband, I was gonna go Saturday. I said, you know what? No, let's do a Friday. Well, Friday one of the worst traffic as (you ?) encounter. One of the worst traffic. But I said, I don't care.
- 06.15.59 You come home, we're gonna leave, ok? We get there 'cos the ICU unit is only like half an hour, you got to be 8 to 8:30, and there's many people there. So I said, I don't care, I'm gonna go. So (?) so we all went up there. And Saturday they pulled the plug. So I was like, thank God I went. It's not that he know I was there. I just want to be there. So from now on, like I said, anytime I hear somebody if it's dying or not dying, if they're in the hospital,

I'm gonna be there, 'cos you never know what's gonna happen. Like him. He was doing perfect, he was doing great.

06.16.31 I mean, I understand he was going through mourning, but I didn't know he was gonna have a major stroke. I didn't know he was gonna die within two months, right after he'd just buried a son. And the paper was not (?) even uh, dry yet, the ink's not been dry. And now she has go burying her husband. So life is very, very funny. It's so funny that you don't know what's gonna happen to you tomorrow. So that's why I'm taking it one day at a time. I say it, sometime I don't mean it because you know, you say that and then the next thing you know, well, let's plan this, let's plan that.

06.17.03 And (?) I used to plan like a year ahead, half a year ahead. You're never gonna see me do that again. Maybe a couple months ahead at the most, only because I say, if you want to plan a trip you've got to do things a couple of months, but you never see me planning that much ahead. That things gonna happen, just like New York. They gonna expect something else different. Something else coming down. We don't know what it is, but every time I go through the tunnel, it gives me the creep. And I get off the tunnel I (STUTTER) have a sense of relief. It's not that I'm afraid to go through it, it's just like I close my eyes.

06.17.38 I normally have, most of the time I sleep through anyway, so that was good. It gives me the creep. I say, when is going to be the end of the tunnel? And when you see the light it's Ok. You think about things like, what if this happen, you know, you're underneath the water, you can't get out. (?) you get up to run, things like that come onto your mind. Weird things come through you mind when you go through a tunnel when I'm awake.

06.18.00 So. Most of the time I'm sleeping, so that was good. That helped tremendously. Uh, and that's about it.

JW: Can I ask you just a couple more questions?

LING YOUNG: Sure.

JW: Uh, one is, has it been hard for you to go from being the one whose taking care of everybody in the family to a kind of a specifically with the family (?)

LING YOUNG: Like standstill?

JW: Well, it was you know, I thought it was it was quite touching and uh, quite emotional to watch the care that your family is taking with you.

06.18.35 LING YOUNG: Oh, my (own family, yeah?)

JW: Yeah. And uh, obviously you're very, family's very important (?) you and you've always been the center of it. (?) Uh, I just wanted to know how you felt about that.

06.18.47 LING YOUNG: Well, it brought us a lot closer. Ok, and like I said, I even tell them, I say, what I used to do (?) one person uh, only me. Now the four of you are doing it and you guys are complaining. I don't know what the hell you guys are complaining about, ok?
(LAUGHS)

06.19.02 I mean, it's like I used to do everything myself. I said, once in a while we have party, everybody chip in to clean up. Other than that, I (?) did everything. I did the cleaning, the cooking, the ironing. You name it, I did. And my husband did the outside, ok? All the paperwork. They have to do, just go to school and go out, and that was about it, really. And uh, but because of this, everybody chipped in. Even my wound, like I said, my wound normally take 3 to 4 hours. What you saw yesterday it just part of my wound care. Ok, when I had my leg, it was like major job.

06.19.33 Really a major job. Even trying to get my garment on, just my shirt on, it takes like sometime five to ten minutes. You can't get it right, it got to be perfect. It have to, the seam got to be certain way. Otherwise, it would hit the graft. Uh, like my daughter, my other son learn to cook Chinese, which they never did. My daughter didn't know how to cook before.

I mean, she could do, cook a little bit, but wasn't good cooking. So now she learn how to cook. Like a lot of role that I used to take, they had taken from me.

06.20.00 But now all I really can do was eat, sleep and sit and watch TV. I do some of my paperwork once in a while, but it gets very tiring, and I cannot concentrate as much. So and then my brother took back some of his work, my sister's doing some of his, her bill. Not much, but some of her bills. But other than that, uh, I don't do much anymore. They actually, everybody take their role back a little bit. And of course at home, everybody's trying to help me. And I've gotten, it's actually brought us a lot, lot closer.

06.20.33 And uh, I don't know what else I can add..

JW: The future?

LING YOUNG: The future (~JW~)

JW: You've given a lot to be here, and I appreciate that. And this is a film that's about (?)

06.20.50 LING YOUNG: The future, I hope I have a little longer life than I expected, ok? Give me a (?) good ten years or so or more. Then I could, hope I could do a lot, a lot of things that I wanted to do, like I really want to travel. Ok? And uh, that was our main thing anyway when we retire, want to travel. So now I probably gonna be, I won't be able to go back to work in at least a year or two, if I am ever gonna go back. Minimum. The way I am. 'Cos my job, like I said, is a travel job. You don't think I'm gonna be able to travel this, ok? And uh, to get that and the concentration's the most important thing. Are we gonna be able to be able to concentrate and go out and do an audit? That's very, very hard to say 'cos as of now we have no concentration whatsoever.

06.21.32 I could be reading an article and I would have to read it a couple of times to know what's going on. You're not gonna be able to do that in an audit. You're not gonna be able to sit down with an accountant and an accountant tell you something and you're gonna say excuse

me, can you repeat it again and again and again? It's not gonna happen. And to get, to go back in gear, to actual work on the case, I don't think we, I'm capable of doing. Because that take a lot of intense concentration.

- 06.21.59 And to go back to the computer and learn all the new things they got, that goes on, that's another issue. Ok, 'cos we take our laptop out to work. So I don't think I remember how to uh, to click onto to go into my website and my uh, my job anymore. I've been out a year almost. So uh, that's another thing. Am I gonna go back to work or not? I have no clue. (Ok?) 'cos I have no clue how long this gonna take me. Until I get my function back there's no, not much I can do.
- 06.22.31 And I hoping this surgery will do the trick, but who knows? Like I said, this is five times already. This will be the sixth time on this, this end of the hand. Not counting the rest that they're gonna do. So I don't know. My face, I have to do something because it's pulling my eyes. And that's the only reason I'm gonna have my face done. Otherwise the scar's not the one I'm concerned with. I'm concerned that it's gonna pull my eye in. And it's doing it. Once I turn (?) so, that's a lot of thing I have to concern with. My face and my arm I have to redo. And uh, this got to redo.
- 06.23.04 And this, they're gonna redo, so there's so many reconstruction that's gonna be done, so no clue what's gonna be, and hopefully within a couple of month I'll be walking, for good. And that's provided nothing else happens. So. So my future's kind of like I don't know. I can't think about it yet, 'cos I, like I say, every time I think something's gonna work out, it didn't work out. If I thought I'm hearing on this end, oh, great, it's hearing and something else would happen.
- 06.23.33 So it's like a never-ending story. So I don't want to think too far ahead, because to me, it's (?) I'll probably jinx it. So I keep my mouth shut. Just like blister. Oh, gee it's great. I guarantee you tomorrow something else happen. Not even doing anything exciting. Not even doing anything, walking or whatever. It just popped up on me. I got one donor site was

doing great, nice and smooth. I thought, oh, wow, finally one donor side was doing good, that was this hand. Next thing you know, I got blistered up all over me.

06.24.04 So I'm (?) have four layers just to stop it from bleeding. And I'm still bleeding, so I don't know how long it's gonna take to heal. It might take a month (?) it might take two months. After this heal, some new one might come up in between. So it doesn't end. And I don't think the doctor know what's going on with me, either. And now he's saying that, in the beginning he said, with the Asian skin, and now he's thinking it maybe it's the gene.

06.24.27 So they got no clue. They have never seen anything like it. So I'm like one of a kind. So he's like out of his option already.

JW: He's what?

06.24.38 LING YOUNG: He's like gone through all his option on me, on me already. So that's why I'm going to a uh, a hand surgeon for my uh, for my, for my hand. 'Cos now it's function now. It didn't do with burn any more. It strictly has to do with my function. 'Cos when I went home I couldn't make a fist. And a couple months go, I couldn't. so that's why I went for the surgery.

06.25.00 So then after the surgery, I still can't do it. Everything still stiffed up. So I'm going for my, for my release. Hoping that will work. So I'm keeping my fingers crossed, that is. And no other complication will come up to make it worse. So. I don't know. I don't know what my future will be. So I'm hoping it works out. So.

06.25.29 I don't know.

(OFF CAMERA REMARKS)

06.24.37 LING YOUNG: So yesterday I didn't have this blister, and now I am seeing a couple here and I saw the one here. It's like water underneath, bubble water, and it oozes out. And with

me is, you got to take it out. Normal situation is you let it dry. Mine does not dry, it just gets worse. If I don't take a needle like you saw yesterday, take it out, it will turn out double by tonight.

06.26.00 So I'm just very different. In most cases. And that's why I have syringe needle at home and I, you can name I have home. And they actually go in, it was too big to cut it out. They cut the skin out. And they put the dressing on and wrapped me. So that's why. I'm just a little different (LAUGHS).

JW: That's not bad.

LING YOUNG: Oh, not too good, though, not for my case.

JW: Thank you again.

(OFF CAMERA REMARKS)

06.27.21 ROOM TONE

06.28.12 END OF TAPE # LY-006, 4 of 4