

TAPE # JY 29 09.09.2005
Ling Young
JIM WHITAKER, Producer/director
PROJECT REBIRTH

01.01.01 PICTURE UP

(OFF CAMERA REMARKS)

- 01.01.55 LING YOUNG: I guess it's 9-11 coming, everybody's like recording each other, how you doing. Like this guy, Andy. Unfortunately, what happened to Andy was, it's one of the guy I think maybe Danielle talked, I'm not too sure. Maybe couldn't get a hold of him. He was in 93, I think I mentioned it to you a while back. He was in 93, and then 2001 happened, he totally freaked out. At that time, he was only like 33, 34. Young kid, has a wife, who he met during '93 blackout.
- 01.02.27 They met, they went out, got married, boom, boom, boom, three kid. He was drunk every day coming home, 'cos he was like, it was like high position. And 2001 came, totally lost it. He has not been the same, 'cos he was like a, like the, the bread winner. He's always, 'cos he never had a good, good life. He said to himself, I'm gonna make sure my family's good. So now he can't do anything. So he's like mad, he's frustrated. He used to drink and uh, pop all kinds of pill.
- 01.03.01 He would come to the meeting like this, shaking. That's how bad it is, and he use, he goes and buys guns. And talking about killing people, talk about, you name it, he's doing it. Took over 2 1/2 , almost 3 years, actually 2, 2 1/2 years, finally found a right psychologist, 'cos we keep on trying to tell him, go see a psychologist, not a psychiatrist. Ok, the pill's not working? I change to another pill. This not working, let's change another pill. But he hasn't really listened.

- 01.03.30 Finally he listened to us. He went to see a psychologist. Great. Actually it's the same one I'm seeing. Got him working, he started turning to be better. Boom, he has to move. Because the house he's keeping us in, it's costing him way too much. There's no income coming. He wasn't hurt. He just hurt, you know, mentally. So after he move, that's like 2 1/2, 3 hours ride. Unless he's all, let's say (?) you can't drive 2 1/2, 3 hours. (?) he'll be driving, he said, Judy, where we going?
- 01.04.04 'Cos our mind just completely just blanked off once in a while. Even like now when I'm talking to Marge, I would say, we're talking, and if I get interrupted (?) second, I have, I don't remember what I said. I say, Marge, what were we talking about? And she had to remind me, that's why Marge is great, she'd be like a constant backup for me. I, every morning is, is kind of funny. When I get up, ok, she gets my coffee, and I (we?) sit there and just chit-chat so I would just (?) out everything that what happened to me the night before.
- 01.04.36 And we'd blab about, I would just (?) for at least a half an hour, so. And then I'd just go do a little bit of my work, you know, I just like (?) around a little bit, and then we just kind of watch TV a little bit, she does all my other things, of course in between. She's like this (?) quick. I'm just saying, gee, Marge, you know, like this morning, we left the house by 9 o'clock. She gets in at 8:30, she already did everything already.
- 01.04.58 I said, gee, Marge, what the heck did you do? That's how fast she is. She's like me. Get the thing done, get over with. So after she's retired, I don't think I'm gonna be able to get anybody even to replace her. 'Cos I got some, forget it. I'd rather not have anybody. But with my problem, I don't know when my dizzy spell comes. But I don't want somebody to sit there and look at me like I'm crazy all day. That's my biggest problem.
- JW : You don't know about your dizziness?
- 01.05.28 LING YOUNG: I don't know when my dizzy spell comes. I do (?) oh, yeah, I do have that. Which I did not know was not documented. They pay all my bills. Like I say, they pay all my bills, they pay for my, all my MRI, all my ultrasound, all my nerve tests, everything you

can name off about my nerve (?) my, my loss of nerve. It was paid by Workman's Comp, but it was not brought up to the Workman's Comp board, in front of the judge.

01.05.58 Until the judge says this is what happened, that doesn't count. So that's why one time when they were complaining of my leg was burned, three times in a row, they could not come up with the records. So I opened my mouth. I said, didn't you guys just pay my bill? And the judge say, he looked at me, he pointed to me and said, talk to your lawyer. You're not even allowed to talk. And my file all right, my medical record is sky high.

01.06.29 This girl has a, about a half an inch of records, and she have no clue of my, what my condition is. Ok? That's how bad it is when you go to a Workman's Comp hearing. And the judge, in a way, had no idea what's going on, either. Even though he saw you a couple of times, but he care less what happen to you. In a way. He just there to do, like uh, I hate to say (he's a typical State?) worker, the workman comp was in your state. And I work with them.

01.07.00 So uh, lucky, one time I had this other judge, 'cos I guess he was, he was not there. And I went in short sleeve 'cos I have, I have a cast on. And I don't know if I ever told you this. And so what they established my PDST, establish certain things, and then this guy who's representing Workman's Comp saying that well, your honor, she was never examined by our doctor. Now here I am with a cast, just came out of my surgery, I'm in a big cast, you know, Dr. Chou's cast is huge.

01.07.32 And my arm, as you can see, was all exposed. My face was really like, my ears, remember I don't know if you remember, was all curled up like a big, red tomato. And the judge just looked at him, he said uh, do you want to put her through that? Do you think that she needs to like see another doctor? 'Cos technically we're supposed to go see a workman's comp doctor. But with all my surgery going on, it's constant, constant surgery, it wasn't like I'm gonna take a break for a year.

01.08.02 And the judge say, no. I don't think you need to put her through that. And he said it wasn't he didn't like the idea. He (?) but it doesn't matter. But he still never saw a doctor's. so it's just like kind of thing I have to deal with, so now I have to go back 'cos, 'cos of the fall I had in, in uh, August. And my workman's comp caseworker's I deal with, she was quite nice. She, she could retire later in the future. Then I get somebody brand new, doesn't know my case.

01.08.30 She said no.

JW : How many surgeries have you had?

01.08.32 LING YOUNG: Seventeen so far, not counting the one in the office. I had three out surgery in the office, too. (LAUGHS) I mean, like I would say about 9 in the office, 17 total that I have actually in the hospital and 17 hospital stays, uh, because I have a lot of, 'cos some surgery I had four surgery in one shot.

01.08.57 I had the first (?) hospital stay uh, I had four surgery, then I also went back for infection control. 'Cos my, infection was my biggest problem.

JW : Are you wearing your jacket?

(OFF CAMERA REMARKS)

01.09.22 LING YOUNG: You see right here? This part was all done already. Ok? This was really raced up a point was the infection to a point was, I was complaining about is smell. After I take a shower, it was like rotten food. It smelled like so rotten it's disgusting. I've been complaining and complaining. And they just listen to me, and that was the end of the story. Finally, it started to having infections. When I start having an infection, it could be like a little dot right here like this. The puss that will come out would wet a whole napkin, that's how bad it was.

01.09.57 It was like underneath. So Chou kept on taking it out, and when (?) takes it out, you talking about it, maybe about this big, and the hole's about could be an inch (?) deep, all the way in, and it was constant. I went to him like four times within ten days. So I had uh, quite a lot of those incisions at the office. Then he said no, no, no, this is crazy. So that's why he decided to take this whole thing out.

JW : Can you take me through the 17 surgeries?

(OFF CAMERA REMARKS)

01.10.46 LING YOUNG: (MID-STATEMENT) when I went home, my hand was moving. I was perfect. I, they start seeing scar, but you see my hand with none of this, all this line under this, it was very nice and smooth when I went home.

01.10.59 Then all the sudden, unfortunately, I went to a physical therapist really didn't work with me, that was the most important critical period was my first couple of month. I botched that up.

JW : Did you botch it up?

(OFF CAMERA REMARKS)

01.11.23 LING YOUNG: I might not be in this position, ok? What happened was, unfortunately mine was (?) Dr. Bauer called it a thermal burn. It was so bad, to a point is I think when I went to Cornell, they didn't realize how bad I was. And they cleaned me the way it supposed to, and they thought that there were so many people coming in, it was like boom, boom, boom, get you ready, cleaned up and then you're done. But not knowing everything is underneath baked in. And that's how I found out from my pain management, which I just came from today. Probably because of all the things that happened, everything just baked in, 'cos when the plane hit, I was thrown.

01.11.59 But I was sat there for awhile, too. So everything was coming down on me. And Mary Jo who told me that I looked white, I don't remember that. I thought I was looking good. So I guess all the, all the chemical whatever you want to call it, particle however you want to call it, was inside, so when they put the graft in, it was Ok. But after awhile, it start surfacing up, and Dr. Chou was telling me is it goes in between the two layers of skin.

01.12.27 So like I have surgery, like I said, I had, then all the sudden, this hand started to, to curled up on me. My scar. (~JW~)

JW : Do they know now what's going on?

01.12.47 LING YOUNG: No, they still don't know. They, they know this (?) (hyper topic?) scarring, but they don't understand why I'm still so active. 'Cos this is still called active.

JW : What does that mean?

01.13.00 LING YOUNG: Uh, (?) hyper tropic scar means like the, the scar just thicken, ok? Normally happen to Asian and blacks and uh, very dark skinned individuals. And we had I think, we have about less than 30 burn patient, and I'm the only one had that problem. So therefore, Dr. Bauer had tried everything humanly possible, medical possible, to try to help me fix it. It didn't work. No matter what he does, it does not work. So he was really frustrated. That's when I start seeing other doctor, with my hand.

01.13.31 Unfortunately that guy, that quote-unquote doctor, messed it up. When he messed it up because he didn't listen to me. After the first surgery, I said I, I feel weird under my armpit. Just go home and rub it, don't worry about it. Is aid no, no, no, something's not right. It's, it's hurting me in the arm, arm pit. Normally I have general anesthesia, I don't know he had gave me a nerve block. I don't know the difference, what the hell do I know? You know? So then (the graft?) it was gross. I mean, if you see some of the pictures, it was like completely blacked out here, it was really disgusting.

- 01.14.07 And I said no, no, no. That doesn't look like, 'cos Dr. Bauer's graft is gorgeous. It might not turn out later good. But right away, it's beautiful. But it's all like caked in. And he has like 4 pins, five pins going through it. It's gross. When he opened the bandage, I, I almost, I almost die, because like, like something stabbing at you.
- 01.14.29 It's like a big, thick, pins right here, and the pin going through it this way. So I said no, no, no, this graph looks dead. No, no, no, you don't know what you're talking about, you know? You, you're just jumping. I said all right. I didn't say anything. Guess what? Next week, I'm back again. Had a second surgery. Now this surgery everything seems Ok, and he tells the, the physical go and just crank her very aggressive, and just, just go ahead and do it.
- 01.14.58 And they were cranking me, and I was dying. And I find out he fused my finger. Instead of releasing my finger, he fused it. So that's why my finger over here is stiff. So I was very mad. I was gonna do something about it. But then I say, you know what? It's not worth it. Because he could blame it on my scar, blame on everything else. If you go through the protocol like they say, it's nothing you can do. I said, first of all, I'm not looking for the money. In a way, I wanted just to say that hey, you know what? You botch it up, I think you should take responsibility and maybe that will give him something to think about before he does something else.
- 01.15.35 But at the end I, I decide I'm not gonna do it, because that would just put me in, in another turmoil. And to put me on a witness stand, I don't want to, I don't want to be bothered with it. So I left it alone. I say, you know what, it's my luck. I left it alone. But then it got worse and worse as (?) time goes by. They start closing up on me. So but then I start having infection right here.
- 01.15.58 And it just opened up and it hurts, oh, my god, it hurts. And I'm very good in pain, but that pain right in between it here is like a burning sensation constantly. It's something that's burning, like acid burning you. So that'd gone on for like a year, year and a half. I complain. There nobody gonna listen to me. So finally I said ok, fine, this is crazy. So that's why I said,

I called Lorna Manning's husband, Greg Manning, and he recommend me to this hand surgeon at NYU.

01.16.30 And when I call him up, he said no, no. I think Dr. Chou's better 'cos he also does, deal more with burns. He's a plastic surgeon, but he's also a hand surgeon. So that's how I started out with Dr. Chou's actually in 2003. But before my surgery, I had an infection. 'Cos they worked so hard on my hand, they actually gave me an infection. And my hand was completely swelled up, just my finger. So before I went for surgery, I went in for infection (LAUGHS) first.

01.16.59 So that was that uh, the next thing you know, then I start having (?) calcium deposit. Nobody know what's going on with me. (?) I even went to the burn conference awhile back. They even flew in a doctor to talk to me. They just tell me that you cannot skin graft. But then what are you gonna do? You can't do too much without it. So when Chou did, when after so many surgery in the office, 'cos uh, what happened it started out with like oh, geez, it's kind of funny, 'cos it still smell.

01.17.32 I said, but it's all closed up, though. It's kind of funny, then you feel it kind of hot. The next thing you know, you see it kind of become black. That doesn't bother you yet. Now, when it really, I, I cannot even move my arm, that's when it's really has to come out. 'Cos you open it up and take it out, it doesn't do anything. It has to be almost like all the way comes up in the front. Then when he takes it out, and it's a big, fat hole in there. It takes about 2 months to heal.

01.18.00 Before this heals, something else happen, so it's just constant over here. So (?) he decided to take me in and rip up this whole piece. And when he ripped up this whole piece, because of a graft, it didn't really work out. 'Cos he had a cast on me, oh, my god, he had a cast on me, it must have been like weigh 20 pound. I can't get up, I can't sit down. I just can't do anything. After two day, all the sudden (?) I start seeing my stitches, I said, wait, wait, wait. Something's not right. I'm not supposed to see my stitches.

- 01.18.31 And they look like so bad, it looks lousy, (?) like he botched me up, like I'm (complete?) like a mummy. And I went back to him, I said, I don't know what this uh, it's so lousy this came off (LAUGHS) he said, I spent 2 hours doing that thing. (LAUGHS) And you tell me it's bad? I said, but it, it came off, the whole thing came off. So he took it out, because it was so heavy that so thick, and because of such awkward position, and he has to put something underneath me.
- 01.18.57 I didn't know why. He explained to me, he said because that was where the nerve is. If he doesn't do it this way, I could lose my nerve. I said, gee. He's also a uh, a nerve specialist. So he knows a little bit (?) he, he's a, he's a specialized in everything, 'cos I was really (?) why would you put a sponge on my, on my thing, you know? So he took that off. I think he gave me a, a different kind of cast. So took about, but still, a lot of spots are not healed up well. So that's why this is good. 'Cos now you don't see a lot of holes.
- 02.19.30 You just see a lot of scar, but it's not like in between holes. Not like, you know, like, not like here. That cause infection, like over here, in here caused infection. All this little thing could be causing infections, ok? Uh, he did all that so that was good. He did this in uh, in July which is kind of like (?) bubbly. He was supposed to expand my, had, had a skin expansion on me here. Which means that he would open me up, put a tube in there, and each week for the next two or three months, he would inject saline water, and that just like, almost like a Pop-eye like balloon?
- 01.20.08 And (after?) that all gets enough skin, this skin (?) supposed to expand. Then he would cut it off, cut off my scar and put flap it over. I'm lucky he didn't have to do that. He went in, (?) 'cos first of all, he doesn't believe in skin expansion. He said that's not good because uh, he said, when you ever you're expanding something, you're also expanding the muscles, and that could cause infections.
- 01.20.31 So he's a very old-fashioned doctor that believes in certain things. But since he can't cut me up anymore, so he said, let's try it. But lucky when he opened me up, he said, I have enough skin, I'm not doing it. That was a, that was a blessing, 'cos I don't think I would, actually (if

that's the case?) I would be having surgery right now. So I didn't have to do that, so see, and you can see a hand right here, but before this, you actually see this big, thick, thick uh, scar and has a lot of holes in between here.

01.21.02 I can't clean it. Started to, started to smell again, just like the top here. So I said, sooner or later, I know I'm gonna have problem. So that's the reason why I, I had it done. I know it was coming close to the wedding, I say, you know what? I can't take a chance of having an infection getting worse and then maybe like a week before (?) I would end up in the hospital. So I agreed to do it like in April, another was in April, July, and all my time as we were cutting it short, I say, you know, whatever it is, it is. I just cover myself up. Which I'm do, which I did anyway.

01.21.38 So I had this (?) was my last surgery. Now with my hand, like I said, I think I have 9 surgery on this part of the hand. Still doesn't work. He did the last time he did it where he opened this up. I was getting a grip, I was very happy about it. About a couple of months ago, I was holding a bottle, it slipped out of me. And I said huh, that sounds weird.

01.22.00 Then I realized I lost, I lost some of my function again. So you don't know when it's gonna happen until something happen to you. 'Cos I was holding the same thing, just (?) it just dropped right down. I said oh, gee, wonder why. And I realized I don't have the grip I used to have, when they first, when I first got the surgery, 'cos I was very happy. And all this I'll call C plastic surgery, what I, what they did was they used my (~JW~) good skin.

JW : Will you have another hand surgery soon?

01.22.34 LING YOUNG: I'm still having a lot of surgery because this face is still very pulled, ok? He think he's gonna do a little bit about this part. This part, he's explaining to me, he could give me the more function, but I have, it's got to be plastic joint. I'm still debating I want to do it or not. Plastic is plastic. Scar is scar. As you know, none of my scars are good.

01.22.58 Ok, now, before this surgery, my hand was like this. Ok? I cannot move, I cannot stretch this out, and I cannot bend my wrist. I was just like literally like this. Every time I want to stretch it, it was like, it was like pulling a rubbers. And what he did was as you can see, he cuts like, cut like in a zigzag, and he pulls the good skin and put it, and now I can stretch out. At the same time I could to a little wrist, that's a major improvement. Ok, I wasn't able to move at all. Howsoever. So he did quite a few (~JW~)

JW : How do you feel about that?

01.23.32 LING YOUNG: Well, actually I did, I'm so much better, better than like even from last year, ok? 'Cos you remember my ears are really like so curled up a point was, I couldn't hear. So I said (?) I don't know why I'm blasting this TV like to the max and poor Marge is listening to me. But I just barely make it. And they say what's wrong? I said, well, watching TV. I said, do you mind? I said no, well what, what are you talking about? Actually this whole thing was covering my, my ear completely.

01.24.01 So then he was giving me steroid shot, and steroid shot you can't get it for too, you can't do it too often. So I said ok, I was gonna think about doing it after the wedding. And he said to me, well, maybe by then it'll be too late. Because I don't know how your (cartilage?) is gonna be. I go, ok, what am I gonna do now? Says, ok, just do it. See, I trust him enough to that point already. Every time when he start writing, I say, Ok, what are we doing next?

01.24.29 Every time when he take out his drawing pad, I'm going in. Uh, that's a joke of mine. Whenever he start writing, I say, Ok, what are we gonna do next? 'Cos he does. He studies you a little bit, and then tells, he kind of like start writing, and when he start writing, Ok, what are you gonna do to me next? He kind of don't even bother ask anymore. He do what he think is necessary to get me back to certain (?) my, (?) for my mobility.

01.24.58 So I trust him to the point I guess he got comfortable enough, not even asking me, that I'm gonna do this to you. It just kind of like, well, this is what we're gonna do. Ok, so that's what he did. So when, (?) he sees my ear, he says you know what, I'm keeping you, giving you

shots. I really don't want to do that anymore. So I said, ok, well, can we do it after the wedding, 'cos you know, he said, well, you know, if you're gonna do after the wedding, I don't know how your ear's gonna be.

- 01.25.27 I said oh, god, all right, go ahead. So he was having this uh, getting skin from here, giving me a flap here. A flap means like uh, pulling the skin from the back of the ear to the front. Adding, adding skins here, so I'm getting all cut up the way he's talking, getting cut here, getting some (cartilage?) from here, in case my (?) is cartilage, is that how it's (?). It's not working, I'm gonna be in the ICU for four days and you're gonna (?) now I'm freaking out.
- 01.25.58 Because I can't stay by myself. So I call workmen's comp, of course workmen's not gonna pay for it. So (?) to do anything. I do anything just to get somebody to stay with me. So I'm all worked up going into ICU, all by myself, with this window, and I'm picturing myself in ICU. It didn't work out. It was horrible. It's gonna be a 10-hour surgery. I said oh, god, ten hour means it's more. You know, every time he just say 10 hours, sometimes it's a lot more. He booked the whole day for me, 'cos he knows it's gonna be a very complicated thing.
- 01.26.31 He has to rebuild this whole ear and taking here, and putting there, the whole nine yard. He actually came out within 4 hours, 4 ½ hour. He said he's done. And when he work with Don, and Don says something happen? He says I'm done. He said, I didn't have to do anything. I was able to save the cartilage that was there, everything worked out. And he just rebuilt it, just like that. That was, I thought he was lying to me. He said, oh, you're done. I said yeah, right. And but then of course, again, I have an infection.
- 01.26.59 But lucky with that infection he gave me a choice. He was, then he started (?) I said wait, wait, wait. I just had anesthesia about, I think it was (?) three weeks ago, two weeks ago, three weeks ago. I said I, I can't go back in 'cos after 21 days, you had to take the blood test, EKG, the whole nine yards before you go in the hospital. And my EKG's always irregular now since 9-11.

JW : What about that?

- 01.27.23 LING YOUNG: I don't know what it is. I had like palpitation in my heart. I guess real quick, at the same time also my EKG started to be irregular. I never had that problem before about two years ago, maybe actually started with Dr. Chou. My first surgery was Ok, second surgery was OK. After that, my EKG became very abnormal, and they would not let me have surgery unless I get an OK from my intern. Internist. So every time when I get, get a test done, I know I'm gonna have (?) an irregular EKG. So automatically makes appointment to go see internist, get an Ok to go to the (?) to get, have surgery.
- 01.28.04 So I said oh, no, I got to go through this whole thing again, going to the NYU for the tests, then I go to my internist. He said, well, if you want, I could do it in the office. I said Ok, you gonna knock me out? He said no. I said no? I said, what are you gonna do? Well I give you a shot. I said ok, that's a choice between me going to the, going to the hospital, getting all knocked out, or have him give you a shot and play stupid.
- 01.28.31 So I said, Ok, let's do it in the office. Three hours (LAUGHS). Give me a big shot, (?) I mean, this needle was like, I don't know, I don't know how thick, that needle was big, 'cos my (?) looked at it and (?) oh, god it was big. So he did it. You could hear him (?) kinking, all this thing, you hear him sewing. Actually he was very good, 'cos (?) less than, about an inch, he had over 30 stitches in there.
- 01.29.00 I don't know how he did it. I mean, this guy is, is something, got to give him credit. To put 30 stitches within that little space right here, just this little space right here. Ok, so turn out well.
- JW : Were you taking a risk by having it done in the office?
- 01.29.19 LING YOUNG: Yes and no, 'cos I had (?) he had done it in the office for me on all my infections, and I knew this wasn't a big deal. It was an infection, it's a matter of cutting it out, and putting it back together. Yes, I am taking a risk, but I do have confidence in him enough that I know that he could do it.

JW : What about your heart?

01.29.42 LING YOUNG: With my heart, I do believe that he could do it. Otherwise, I wouldn't take a chance. That's how come I did it. It was, the infection was very small. The infection was maybe like less than a half an inch, but it's an infection. 'Cos you could tell 'cos it's yellow. And I tried (?) to uh, put all kinds of thing and try to save it, but it didn't work out.

01.30.02 So because of the cartilage and he didn't wanted to lose it. So he has to cut me up and do it. He said, if I don't do it, leave it out, I might lose it. So I don't want to take that chance. That chance I didn't want to take. But I didn't want to go in and have this whole nine yard again, because it just putting me under again. Every time you go under, you putting yourself at risk. To me, that's more as a risky than having this big, fat needle going through you.

01.30.29 And uh, when he went through the steroid shot, the needle was about this long. Ok? When it comes out, it was crooked (LAUGHS). I don't know what he did. Because it goes in, it goes around in a circle. And I came out and I happened to turn around. I said what kind of needle is that, it's crooked? It actually like an old (?) hook. He said, that needle wasn't crooked, it was straight before it went in. I said, you got to be kidding. It came out crooked. 'Cos he goes in and goes around in circle like really, I don't know how the needle doesn't break.

01.31.02 Don't ask me. It just, it just came out like one of those big question mark, that's how it came out. I said so what kind of needle is that? He said, no, that's a straight needle. I said why is it like that? He said well, because that's how it came out. Oh, that sounds nice. I'm hearing this, so that's why I said, if I complain about pain, you better listen to me. 'Cos I don't complain. That's (?) this doctor mess me up 'cos when I complain about it, he didn't listen to me. That's how I lost my nerve for over two years.

01.31.28 So that got to be documented. That's not on, on the book. So that's gonna be a lot of fun.

JW : Which part?

LING YOUNG: Oh, the, oh, the blood clot and all my, my dizziness and my vertigo, all this, it was not documented.

JW : What do you mean by not documented?

01.31.47 LING YOUNG: Ok, it's like through a couple of steps. Workmen's comp case, you got a case manager, who works with me OK. Like, like my doctor was sending to her, she gives us the Ok, Dr. Chou will have the surgery.

01.31.59 She takes, she knows all my history. Then when you go, then once in awhile you have to go for a hearing, which is what the workmen's comp board, which is like a, just New York state. All workmen comp cases go to them. It could be private, it could be with the state. I happened just with, with state insurance, which is state-sponsored. But let's say people with uh, Blue Cross, they have like uh, Cambridge (?) I'm just making up a name. They also go to Workmen's Comp board. But they are private insurance company.

01.32.29 Everybody, everyone has their own Workmen's Comp (?) carrier. Uh, then you go in, in front of the judge. And you say, she has such and such and such and such. They have to document it, and that has to be on record when the, after the hearing they said, ok, such and such is established, let's say uh, Ling Young uh, right leg is burned, right, left leg is burned. That's the reason why I said the one part, the little strip that I was burned was never mentioned in the report. That must be documented, even though they pay for my bill, even they pay for my surgery, they pay for everything.

01.33.05 Workmen's comp has it, but the board doesn't have it. Now why doesn't the Workmen's comp board give is to (?) the workmen's comp board? Don't ask. I have no clue. That's why I opened my mouth. Uh, then when I had this four, I called the uh, Workmen's Comp caseworker and I said this is what happened, I talked to Dr. Chou already. Dr. Chou tell me to go to the emergency room, get this, this thing done. It's ok, fine. She said make sure you document it.

- 01.3331 I said, what do you mean by document it? So if they don't have it on record, we don't pay for it. I said oh, wait, wait. Hold this. I said what do you mean by this? That's when I find out. She said, well, because if you, if they don't have (?) 'cos my last hearing's about two years ago. Two years ago they established I have PTSD, but after that they haven't called me. Ok. Last year, they actually call me, wrote to me, which is my Workmen's comp lawyer.
- 01.33.59 Saying that uh, I need such and such and such. So I mailed it back to them. I haven't heard from them since then. So she said that make sure everything's documented. I said, wait a minute. So are you saying to me if I don't have anything with the workmen's comp board I'm gonna have problem later, in the future? She said, yes. She said we won't pay for it. I said, oh, hold this. Do you have this, do you have this? They don't have any of them. So that means now I got to go back, actually lucky Richard had the PS schedule. When I went to the hospital (?) when I have the surgery and all this thing. I fax it over to the uh, the lawyer.
- 01.34.40 And I said I want you to look at it. I was gonna start making copies, but you know, my copy's no good. 'Cos I could alter it. You know how it is, it's not official? I said do me a favor. Instead of me going crazy trying to get the records, it's always easier for me to get, even though it's the lawyer's job. But it's always easier for you to call the doctor, write the doctor, please send them information?
- 01.35.01 'Cos you know, you know, you don't get no where. If you kept, wait for the workmen's comp lawyer to do all the work, they do quantity not quality. That's why every time you go to the hearing, you get different lawyers. And they all have no clue what (?) who are you. And that's, that's how come it's bad. So lucky I was working with this girl who's quite nice. She's a paralegal. So I said, do me a favor. I'm faxing you a list of all my surgery, all my problem.
- 01.35.30 See what you have on records. If you don't have anything, let me know. Let me know. That's been like two or three weeks (already?) I haven't heard from her. I figured I (?) like two or three months. (?) because it's a lot of work. You call them up, oh, yeah, this thing's right in front of my mouth, I'm looking at it now. Ok. If you believe that, fine, you know?

So I said, all right. So I left it alone. So I'm gonna wait until like maybe end of (?) October or so. Or the beginning of November. I will give them a call.

01.35.58 Oh, by the way, it's in the progress. 'Cos I don't want this to just get by and then forget about it. Now, with my dizziness and my, all my vertigo, that all is causes from supposedly because of my concussion. From the, from the explosion. Now five years down the line if I, if I have a, a blood clot in my brain, they not (?) say hey, listen it's not, it's not documented. I'm not paying. (?) you're talking about big buck. Just like the uh, emergency room. That particular day I must have spent \$4-5,000. Minimum, I think, in emergency room cost you whatever amount of money.

01.36.33 Uh, lucky that we drove our self, because I refuse to go in an ambulance. I did it one time, I had such pain. I don't know what it was, I went out to dinner. All the sudden, my whole from here down, front and back, I was in severe pain. It was a pain that I can't describe. That my whole upper body was completely numb and oh, I can't, it's like a weird, weird pain.

01.37.01 So I thought, oh, maybe 'cos the food I ate, but I said, I didn't (?) anything (?) from outside, I went to my cousin's house to eat. I wait a little bit, I wait a little bit, it didn't work out. Finally they said go, go, and Richard insist I go in an ambulance. I said all right, go in an ambulance. That ride, Jim, reminded me of everything that day. It was cold. I was in ambulance by myself. Now if we, got to remember, I don't remember anything, even I was in ambulance, except I was talking to Mary Jo like once or twice.

01.37.34 She said I didn't shut up, but I didn't remember the whole thing. That experience on that ambulance was so weird. And that reminded me of this whole picture, kind of bring back all my memories, the things that I don't remember before. How I remember how I went (in and they tagged me?) like one of those dead people with tag your legs. With (?) like little tag? I said I'll never do it again.

01.38.00 Unless I'm, I'm dying. I said don't put (?) put me in an ambulance. It was a very cold, eerie feeling.

JW : You don't feel like you remember it, but you must remember it?

01.38.15 LING YOUNG: Uh, that day, it seem like things are coming up. It was cold. It was like ok, I said, I feel weird. I literally feel like I'm, my heart's about to pop out. That's how weird I feel.

01.38.29 So I said don't ever put me in an ambulance again unless I'm dying. Unless I don't know what, what's going on. So that's why that day when I fell I just (?) told Donald to (drove?)

JW : It started with a fall?

LING YOUNG: Yeah.

JW : How did that happen?

01.38.44 LING YOUNG: Well, I walked out. I must have kicked something. The week before I was very light-headed. But then that week was very hot, was 103 degree. So it was really humid. But I did have appointments, and I went out, the minute I walk out from my appointment it's like this whole hot air comes in, I feel like oh, you know, like I got to shake my head a little bit.

01.39.02 So I, I figured it must be one of those things. And actually what came out of somebody's house. I was walking and the whole thing (?) I fall right, right on the floor, and I scraped my whole cheek and my shoulder. I was completely bruised up. I was black and blue like (puffed?) up. But that wasn't the point that was scaring me. It was the two sharp pain that went through my head that scared the heck out of me. So I called Dr. Bauer, who left already. We still have a good, close relationship.

01.39.29 I uh, I call him up, he said, no, Ling, you got to go to, to emergency room and get an x-ray or whatever you're gonna have to get, 'cos head injury could be anything. I said, yeah, but I

didn't fall on my head. I said, my cheek is, he said, your cheek is your head. I said well, (?) thinks that. He said probably it's the two vein, or two blood vessel that went through and just was went right through me. But then I said, wait a minute. Dr. Bauer's not my doctor anymore, ok, he's gone. Ok. I have to wait for Dr. Chou, so I'm trying to call Chou.

01.39.58 He's nowhere to be found. Which is very weird. He normally calls me back within a half an hour. That's his rule. If you don't call back half an hour, you better call again. So I waited over 45 minutes, and I said something's not right. Let me call him again. I'm sitting like a dummy in front of the emergency room, 'cos I don't want to go in. So he finally called me back. I explained the situation, yeah, go in and get an MRI. So I went in, they said, no I can't give you an MRI 'cos you don't have a prescription. I said fine, that's wonderful. Then I find out the reason why he didn't call me, he was in a plane. I didn't know he was in (LAUGHS) a play. He called me from the plane. (LAUGHS)

01.40.32 They, they must have thought I was dying. (LAUGHS) He says, you know where I was? I said no. He said, I was in a plane, and I said, oh, I didn't know that. So I was there like 4 or 5 hours, ok? They threw all the things, same thing my EKG said, same problem. But they didn't find any blood clot. And the reason why they gave me an extra test, 'cos the guy who worked there happens to know my brother. They went to school. It was like a (?) small world. They went to school together. He said, as a matter of fact, your brother gave me the first job.

01.41.02 So that's how it is. So he did an extra care for me, and then (?) after that I said you know what? Go get yourself an (OPA?). So I got a, I got an (OPA?) test. I don't know what that means. It's some, some other kind of test. So everything came out Ok. I figured I was gonna be OK, anyway 'cos I, I fell right here. So Chou said, well, you got to go see a neurologist. So that's why I went to see a neurologist last week.

01.41.29 But he can't come up with anything, 'cos my X-ray doesn't show much. My, my CAT scan doesn't show much. But he said, because of the concussion you have, ok, I can't really do anything about your vertigo. Which I'm lucky I found, I found records of it. Ok? I didn't

have any records whatsoever, because the physical therapy had treated me, did it off the book. That's something I learned never do it off the book. He said let me, let me try it, she said. If it works fine, doesn't work, I'll send you to a neurologist.

01.41.58 And when she tried it on, she, she maneuvered it, it was Ok, after, after 3-4 session of it. How she treat a, a vertigo patient. Physical therapy does that. And it worked, ok? Uh, but (~JW~)

JW : Give me an experience of it.

01.42.17 LING YOUNG: Oh, my god, vertigo is like your equilibrium, your ear, the, the mercury in your ears are not balanced. So I would get up and I would fall flat on the floor, and the whole thing just turned around in circles and, and then, and you feel nausea, you want to throw up.

01.42.31 And it's like, like (?) someone said (?) oh, so like a disease. People have it, some people just have it. And probably because the way I got hit. I remember, 'cos I went through the records like I said recently, I went to see the doctor in November and I (?) went to Kessler until December, 2001. So this must have happened in November. Which is like a month after I came home.

01.42.57 I got off bed (?) and then I just like complete, the whole house just turn around just keep on like in circles. And like 360 degree in circle, and you can't open your eyes. You just like literally feel like you're in the air. You feel very, very sick. So she treated me for that, and she taught me how to get off the bed, and if you feel a certain way, you got to lay in certain side, so she taught me a lot of, a lot of little trick or dealing with the vertigo. But still, I fall, 'cos I can't keep my balance.

01.43.31 Even when he try to test me last week, trying to put myself together and try, and I'm wobbling like a little duck. I can't be, stay still. Like (I say with?) your foot, foot together. I'm not balancing that way. So uh, but that's not a big deal according to him. Uh, he said

vertigo should, it should disappear soon. Uh, he's trying to give me, trying to change my pill. He said that maybe you should change your pill.

01.43.59 I said, well, I'm gonna see my pain management next week. So they were supposed to talk. I found out they never talk. Ok, that doesn't do anything. But he said the pill that he's gonna give me, it might cause heart problem. I said, well, I don't need that problem. I've already had a heart problem. I don't need another heart problem. So I talked to the pain management doctor today. He said, well, I don't think I'm gonna change anything. 'Cos he's been with me for like 3 years already with my pain. All my, he, he might have done my, my medication.

01.44.30 That's what this guy does for me. Like he was giving me (decipimen?) it's one of like anti-depression, also help me to sleep. That causes my palpitation. So he stopped that for, we stopped that a long, long time ago. But still didn't stop my uh, my heart problem. So he said, no. He said (decipimen?) actually is the milder of all this other one. He said, I'm not gonna give you anything above what you can't take. So he said, no, just take it, take whatever you're taking now and just leave it alone.

01.45.00 So he did not agree with that guy whatsoever. I guess that the guy don't, really don't know me. Ok? He only saw me for the first time. 'Cos I with that case. (~JW~)

(OFF CAMERA REMARKS)

01.45.16 END OF TAPE # JY29-2005

TAPE # JY30-2005
Ling Young
JIM WHITAKER, Producer/director
PROJECT REBIRTH

02.01.00 PICTURE UP

(OFF CAMERA REMARKS)

JW : I'm hearing you have flashbacks. I'd like to know about the day if you feel like it?

- 02.01.29 LING YOUNG: Yeah, I, I do get flashback once in (?) in a blue moon, ok? My, like I said, the one time was because of ambulance. The ambulance ride was one of the worst I think I encounter in a while. Because it's just kind of (?) actually I don't really remember what happened that day in the ambulance. The only thing I remember was like get uh, this girl called Judy Wynn, she was in there (?) in the ambulance, out, in and out. 'Cos she was not a burn victim. So my ambulance was (?) Cornell.
- 02.01.58 So they really didn't want to take her, 'cos she wasn't burned. So but then I remember, I don't know why I remember that day about Mary Jo, she having problem. 'Cos I told the guy we got to go. The guy said, no, no, we can't, 'cos that place is like fire. It was only me and her there. Another five minutes, no, no, you don't understand. Let's go now. I said, otherwise, you're gonna have, have a big problem. So the guy's all right. So we took (the other?) and Judy Wynn is the other woman. I found out later she had a puncture lungs and a little fracture, fractured ribs, so uh, all kinds of other kind of problem, but not a burn, burn per se patient.
- 02.02.37 So that's what I kind of remember. And then I also remember when the guy went around the block, three blocks, he opens the doors. I said holy, the building just collapsed. We're like ok. And that's what I remember. Other than that, I don't remember anything. And Mary said I didn't shut up. I was all the way out there. But I don't remember anything. I only remember like I said, when I got to the hospital, they tagged me like one of those dead people. The next thing uh, everybody's on top of me, like asking me question, my name.
- 02.03.05 I was still alert. Then I see myself popping up. Other than that, the next thing I remember I woke up, I was all bandaged up like a mummy. And that's it. So the ambulance ride wasn't a thing that I remember. Or how did I even get near the ambulance with all the things that goes

around, you know, all the sirens, the people screaming. I guess carry on. You know, I don't remember any of this.

02.03.28 I still as of today, I have no recollection of that. I don't hear no noise, I don't hear anything. Like that day was completely beautiful blank. But the ride to, to the, I feel cold. I feel chilly. Maybe the air conditioning, I don't know what it was. I just so, so weird. So I kind of open my eye and I see these lights. I said ok. That's it. Closing my eyes. So going in kind of reminded me of how I went in that day.

02.03.59 So I said, this is the last time (LAUGHS) I'm riding in this damn car. You're not getting me in an ambulance unless it's an emergency. But Richard said you don't understand. You have to go in ambulance. I said oh, no, I'm not. I said, you don't understand how I feel that day. It was a horrible experience. But I guess it just bring back some of the memory that I don't have. I don't know what it is. It's just the thought of in there. So that's what drove me nuts a little bit. So I, I said if I went in without chest pain (LAUGHS) that didn't help.

02.04.31 You know? But lucky after like many hours of all this EKG, right, I mean, they know about my irregular, irregular heart beat and other things like that. They couldn't find anything wrong. They just don't know what's wrong. (~JW~)

JW : They don't know what's wrong?

LING YOUNG: With my pain. They don't know why it, why it's causing all this pain. I'm in, I'm in real severe pain.

JW : Right now?

02.04.53 LING YOUNG: No, no. Not now. Uh, that day when I went with the ambulance. 'Cos it was a pain from here down. Which is so intense. I thought maybe just something I ate. It wasn't like that. And I was throwing up. And I said oh, my god. So I was debating, should I go, should I go? 'Cos it could be just you know, maybe something I ate. But I said I never

encountered this kind of pain, not from my head all the way to my waist, and front and back. It was like my whole half of my body's like intense. I can't even describe to you what the pain like, like a numbness, severe, penetrating pain like through my whole body.

02.05.30 My whole top. And I wasn't fighting it that day, I wasn't doing anything. It was just like on my way going home, all the sudden I just feel like kind of like funny on (STUMBLE) on my going home. When I got home it's like (?) kind of funny. So I sat down and, and it gets more intense and more intense. Finally I said, Ok, I'll go. And that's how come I went uh, I went with the ambulance. But that ride, I said to myself, I'll never do it again. I said, unless you knock me out, I'm not doing it again. That's how weird I feel.

02.06.00 And other times, you would, out of nowhere you, you feel some, something like hit you. Like you have a (~JW~)

JW : You feel that?

02.06.09 LING YOUNG: Yeah, I feel that. Like it would be like, I'm talking about awhile back, I would be like on a car ride. I normally don't look at the tunnel. I kind of like block it out when I go through a tunnel. I know I'm going through a tunnel, 'cos if I'm not blocked out, I would be thinking ok. Let's say they bombed a tunnel. What should I do? Should I go, you know how you go through a tunnel, it's like railings in the thing?

02.06.31 You have all kinds of crazy thought in your head, ok? Should I grab the, grab the rail, should I go run get off the car and run, you know like stupid things that coming out of your head. Or, I used to have a hat that covers my face. But that look like a Taliban hat. Ok? So I said, no way. And that, that was the time I think about, I don't know how long ago where they're having all these problems of shooting all those people? I said wait a minute. I'm not wearing this hat.

02.07.00 First of all, I'm in a black car. I'm covered. They don't know who the heck I am. I get killed for no reason. It's like (?) it was funny because I called Kathy (?) who was my workman's

comp caseworker. I said listen. I'm gonna get something else for my, for my sun, 'cos I cannot be in the sun. There was this particular umbrella like this kind of closes, special clothing. I said I want to get this umbrella, 'cos I'm not wearing this hat anymore. 'Cos I don't want to take a chance (~JW~) getting killed. Ok?

02.07.30 And she thought I was joking. So I finally met her, I said, see this hat, take a look at it. You see what I meant? And they start laughing, yeah. 'Cos you'd be like covered almost to the face, all you see is your eyes.

JW : You thought that since people were being hurt that were Muslim?

LING YOUNG: Of that, let's say Muslim people wears like everything covered (~JW~)

JW : Burka?

02.07.53 LING YOUNG: Right. And all you see is your eyes. (~JW~) Ok. And my hat, that's what exactly what my hat look like. My hat is absolutely like a hat, was completely covered, 'cos it's all surrounded, and all you see is my eyes. And that whole purpose, because I want to protect this from the sun. I said you understand why I don't want to wear this hat? And they looked and they laughed. He said, yeah, you're right. And that was a hat that they, you could see is seldom, 'cos it's called sun precaution. But if you in a car, they don't know who you are. 'Cos you're really just covered. All you see is eyeball. How do you know they're, I'm not one of them?

02.08.27 You know, people get crazy, they get very edgy. Just like now where I am, lot of uh, gas station that are owned by those people now, and I know my group are very conscious about it. You know, that, that wouldn't even phase me that they would, they are the owner of all those petroleum company, or gas station or even (Pen and ?). when he said it to me, then I start realizing, yeah, right. Every, single gasoline company where I am are owned by those people. And that kind of like give you a little creep.

02.09.00 'Cos anyway, they kind of control everything now. Like every time you turns around, they buy another one. And I'm telling you, down Route 9, if you remember coming to my house, down Route 9, there's quite a lot of gas station. Quite a lot of those Penn and (?) are owned by them. So it's like Ok, that sounds quite interesting.

JW : What does that mean to you?

02.09.25 LING YOUNG: It means that, to us means that they are almost like taking over quietly that you don't even know about it. That's what we kind of like (?) we, I guess because what we went through we're kind of like leery. Like what happened, 'cos they're all over the place, all over the world. You don't even know how they're controlling us that to a point that quietly. They're like taking over everything. So far now (?) as we know it, which I, like I said, I don't really look at, look into it.

02.09.57 Except one of my group member kind of notice it. And when he mentioned it, and I started to kind of being aware of it, and he said, oh, my god, you're, you're right. Every single gas station are owned by them. Owned by either Muslim or Pakistanian people. Ok? Not because we're prejudiced against them, whatever. But then you kind of get worried. Everything is oil, ok? Gasoline. This whole country's almost like dominated by everything's controlled by those, those kind of thing.

02.10.27 So we kind of get leery (~JW~)

JW : What would be your fear?

02.10.36 LING YOUNG: That they be doing something that I don't know where, that we don't know about. 'Cos they already got control everything. Now almost like you're going down Route 9, they're all controlled by them. If (?) they want to decide to do something, it's gonna happen. But then I say to myself, Ok. (?) wants. I figure if God wants me, I could be sitting home, thinking, that he'll take me somehow.

- 02.10.58 So I try to convince myself that way. Of course, I don't drive anyway, so I don't go to the gas station that often. So that helps a little bit. And for my friend, it doesn't help her, she, they drive. So he gets very angry, ok? He gets agitated, especially now (LAUGHS) he went through so much hell, because he saw everything. He, he even saw the second plane hit. So that's not a good sight. So he's freaked out, and his friend also died because he couldn't, he couldn't leave. I must have told you about that.
- 02.11.30 So he's psychologically he's a, he's a basket case. And then all the sudden there's workman comp quote-unquote psychologist who evaluate you. By them. They appoint you to certain people to evaluate you, and this particular doctor is a nut job. Known to be a nut job. He decided (?) he's, there's nothing wrong with her. He had decided that uh, he's, it's nothing wrong with him, he's exaggerating his illness.
- 02.11.56 In the meantime, he is so burned to a point that uh, he's burned but the problem with him is he cover himself up real good. He's afraid to show his scar, see? I'd gotten to a point is I don't care. If I'm hot, I'm gonna take my clothes off. Like if I'm hot, I will walk (?) people like give me this look. I don't care anymore. But it would bother them so much, that if someone gave them a look, that oh, my, god you have a scar. Now, their scar like from here up, you wouldn't know 'cos they would wear clothes up to here.
- 02.12.30 She would (?) he would like, he couldn't even have turtle neck, or like a long sleeve shirt, and then a shirt on top of it outside. Then their hands also grafted, but it's not that bad. 'Cos they (?) heal very well. So unless you go clothes, they don't know they actual are burned. With me, if I'm hot, I don't care. See, with them, they don't want to show it. So when you go, when she, when they go to them, they so covered up, then you look normal. Just almost like looking at you, what's wrong with you?
- 02.13.01 You gonna tell me you, you have a nightmare? No, I don't trust you. So now they fighting. That's why (?) when you're (playing around?) with workman's comp is, is really a big, big major part of your battle. They could, they could drive you, I guess (?) want to try to wear you out. That's the whole point. And the doctor says nothing wrong with you, you're cured.

So he went back to the psychologist, and there's, his psychologist said damn, I got to write a book. I'm such a miracle worker.

02.13.28 I didn't know that you guys are so perfect. And they were joking around it, but (CLEARS THROAT) but now they have to fight it. And the more he does that, the more aggravated he is. It's bad enough that he has to go through all this thing. Now he's got to fight a Workman's comp that he doesn't have that problem. And I know he has that problem. He still freaks out about fire or, or whatever. I actually watched, I was stupid, I watched the National Geographic portion of it (~JW~)

JW : What about that? I'm seeing the progression here, and you had until last year hadn't watched anything?

02.14.08 LING YOUNG: Yeah, I wasn't supposed to, but I said, supposed to be only on people. And I was supposed on the second part of it. They actually told me, the reason I went into it, they told me Jim Daily's gonna be on it. Jim Daily's the fire marshal who saved me. As you know, I have not been in any of the news or any of the program. I don't want to be bothered with it. I said I have you guys already, and way the first year, I did everything that you could possible thing of.

02.14.32 Richard had got me into it. And after I started with you guys, I said no. I don't want no article, none of this nonsense anymore because it's no need, ok? I don't need to publicize myself, I don't need to go out and try to get myself into a newspaper and articles. But they tell me oh, Jim Daily's gonna be in it, blahblahblah. I said Ok, you know what if (?) he's gonna be in it, I got to support him. All right, fine. Guess what? His name wasn't even mentioned. I was like oh, I was so mad (LAUGHS).

02.15.02 So I was talking to (?) Jennifer Lynn. Jennifer Lynn is the one who wrote the article uh, Philadelphia Enquirer. She said yeah, yeah, I understand, sometime you know, that's how it is, sometime they don't think this, this section uh, one of the things are good or bad. About uh, (?) they cut it off. So I said (?), you know, that's one main reason I went into it. Because

he was gonna be in it. They did mention oh, yeah, Ling Young was being brought down by a fire marshal.

02.15.30 Ok, can you just mention his name? He was supposed to be an interview, but I don't know what happened. I, I haven't talked to him, so I, I really don't know. So I was kind of mad. But I kind of watch a little bit (~JW~)

JW : What was your personal point of view?

02.15.48 LING YOUNG: Right, I only kind of watched a little bit of mine. I (?) there's four hours. I refused to watch the first two. Not even think about watching 'cos all they're saying is about how he became powerful. I care less how it become powerful. The second half (~JW~)

JW : Who?

02.16.02 LING YOUNG: Bin Laden, how he grew up. (~JW~) I really don't care, ok? The second part was supposedly on the people. They interview I don't know how many people. It must be like 20, 30 people. So I didn't even watch it. I only watch the, the last hour of it. Supposedly I'm on it. So I (said let me?) watch it. I watch it, it wasn't too much. I saw a little bit of the building and things like that. But that wasn't a good idea. I don't know why, but the next week, I was going through hell.

02.16.32 I don't know why I'm going through hell. It just don't fit in right with me. 'Cos I did talk to my psychologist about it, and he said maybe he says, he said that's kind of normal. Ok? It's not that anything I saw was so horrendous, 'cos it was, they wasn't really showing too much of it. But I guess it just, I, I can't describe it. I'm not myself, don't bother talk to me, because I don't want to bother.

02.17.00 Like I normally was people were call me, I'd chit-chat a little bit on the phone. I can't talk. I would just cut them off, I'd say you know what I'm doing something. Which I wasn't really doing something. So I trying to blank myself in front of TV, which I don't know what the

heck I'm (?) watching sometime. And I'm not talking about regular TV program like, like my long Chinese soap opera. That's long. That could be like 60 hours. If you want to call it. So I blank myself, even like this two weeks, I'm blanking myself out into that, something funny, ok?

02.17.30 Nothing like bloody or none of this nonsense. So. My mind is kind of blank for the last couple of weeks, ok? So of course, (?) everything else happens, so that doesn't help. But I don't think, I don't think, I, I even was telling my physiology the other day, I said, I said to him. I wasn't thinking. I can't think. It is nothing to think about. Even the wedding's coming, coming along. Like I have to do this, have to do that.

02.17.58 Well, Donald's all talk, because he don't know how to do anything. I still got to put all those people on certain table. I haven't gotten the response back. So that doesn't help me at all. But lucky I have Richard's wedding to, that I had before, at least I did half the work already. So, if certain people come, there goes that table. But last year, I had to take like cut out like putting names and (like?) playing puzzles. This year I decided I didn't have to do that part. So half the battle's over.

02.18.27 But it's just like a normal day, get up in the morning. Luckily Marge is around, chit-chat with her a little bit.

JW : What is your normal day like now, and is it different from last year?

02.18.41 LING YOUNG: Get up. My coffee (LAUGHS) as usual. I have to talk to Marge a little bit just air myself out a little bit, 'cos of all the things happening. And other than that uh, she does her thing, and I just do a little paperwork and then uh, we just watch TV, Ok? While we're watching she does whatever she has to do. And I mean, she's been like a godsend, which is the greatest thing on Earth, because I could tell anything.

02.19.03 And of course she sees everything. So. That helps. And uh, just like she said, don't think about it. Leave it along, and other things like that. And I have learned to take it, you know

what, it could be worse? Like my mother's case. Now, I should call my mother once in a while to see (?) to see what's going on. I can't even do that. Because like I said, I don't want to be the cause of anything.

02.19.30 She could just go off on the deep end, and then next thing you know, who knows what's gonna happen. I can't take that chance. That with my father, I'm afraid to call my father, 'cos if I call my father, she answers the phone. She might think it's somebody else (?) is calling, so it's like a lot of problem right there, so I just get my story from my brother how she's doing. She, her, her tumor came back. So they gave her some kind of other kind of new drug. They must have made it so strong, within a week she lost her hair.

02.19.59 That was quick. Then uh, then that was two weeks ago. Two weeks ago I said you know what? Actually I was supposed to go see her one week. Already to go, got a call from my brother and said don't show up. She's acted again, and I said oh, Christ, Ok, fine, so we didn't go. So following week we went. I thought everything was Ok. That didn't work that well. I didn't know we're not supposed to talk. I didn't know (?) was not supposed to open my mouth. So that didn't turn out right. So I (?) came home and since then it's been over 2 weeks already.

02.20.33 It just like I can't, I can't, I can't even make a phone call. And plus, I said to myself (~JW~)

JW : Why is that? You explained it to me downstairs?

02.20.43 LING YOUNG: Somehow, my mother and I never really had a close relationship. Somehow she's very mad at me for many, many reasons. Only because I have control of everybody else's things. Financial, not control.

02.20.59 I mean, said, I would, I do the taxes for my family. So I know how much my brother makes. How much my sister make. She would to ask me, and I said, no, I can't tell you. If you want to ask, go ask them. That's the way I am. I am very particular with certain things. That's why I said, if you have a, that's why I have ten million secrets, everybody could come and tell me

their secrets. I could die with all the secrets in my, I got, I could write a big book if I wanted to. So (LAUGHS) that's how bad I am. That's why I said, anything you could trust me on a lot of thing because you're not getting it out of me. Well, how come I'm the (?) I, I know, I don't know, and you know everything?

02.21.34 I said because I do tax return. Well, how much does he make? I said, well, ask him. So he would ask, she would go ask him, and he said well, mind, mind your own business. (LAUGHS) And I said (?) So that's how he tells my mother. So she's mad at me about that. She's mad at me because I have kids that's very good to me. Ok? 'Cos my kids are always there. And, and I'm very mushy with them, my mother never had that. 'Cos the old Chinese tradition, you don't, you don't hug and kiss each other. And there was, I don't think I ever hug my mother in my life.

02.22.06 I don't think I ever did. So she didn't like that. Ok? But it's not my fault, 'cos I grew up of not having it, and I say to myself, I'm gonna make it my business to do it. I'm gonna make it my business to be like a friend. Of course, when the kid grows up, once they get married or they have boyfriend and girlfriend, hey, mother's on the side. You know, I'm, I only call them when I need you. That kind of thing. But you, you learn to adapt.

02.22.32 She didn't like that. Everything that I do, it would be against her. So I would have a sweet 16, I got hell from my parents, for my daughter. When it comes to my niece having a sweet 16, she didn't have it. But my brother, actually my brother paid for the sweet 16. So when it came to my niece, because my sister-in-law wants to have a big fancy one, my brother don't want to have a fancy one. So they're having a bickering about it, they decide not to have it. Well, (?) what my brother did was how much I spend on the party?

02.23.01 I told him how much was it. He wrote her a check. So he was instead of having a party, she got the check. I got yelled at. All the sudden it's my fault. I told my brother not to have it. So it's like no matter what happen within my family, I'm always the one to get, get blamed.

JW : What does your mom think of what happened to you?

02.23.22 LING YOUNG: She said, she thinks this all prop. She thinks that's gonna come off one day just gonna disappear. Nobody really. How should I say it? No matter how you, your family supports you, whatever, unless you actually there like they say, you really don't understand it. As much as my family's very supportive, ok? Like not to say all men, ok, men normally is not good caretaker. Ok. Donald doesn't really know that even though he think he know what's going on with me, but he doesn't really. I could be trying to tell him this (two week?) I'm not in the mood to do anything. And he's driving me crazy with everything possible there is.

02.24.05 And finally, I said to myself, it's not worth it, ok? Chill off. 'Cos he would just pick on some stupid things, and we could just go off. And I try to tell him, I even sat him down, try to tell him, listen. Nine-eleven's coming, ok? I'm having a lot of problem. Ok? Just lay down lay low. Just leave me alone. But don't hit him. Like I'm talking to a brick wall. He doesn't know how to be a caretaker.

02.24.31 I did that over 30 years. So all the sudden the role reverse, it's so impossible for him to (?) understand how to do the role. So. And to him everything is a big thing, even though it's a small thing become a (?) big, major, big major thing.

JW : Like what?

02.24.50 LING YOUNG: It could be a small little thing. It could be like uh, how should I say it, we, we're laughing because uh, it could be like I say, you know, I mean, like a minor thing. It could turn to be ugly thing for no reason.

JW : Can you give me an example?

02.25.11 LING YOUNG: Well, I say if I want him to do something for me for argument's sake. Let's say I'm doing my checkbook (?) and I say, Donald, come here. Let me ask you a question, he would be like why do I have to come over to you? Why do you, what'd you think, I'd

have to call you and I have to drop everything? Well, 'cos I'm in the middle of doing it and I have a question to ask you.

02.25.27 It's just like (?) then after that it will be like a big fiasco thing. Then all the sudden it's like I'm trying to do work and you're trying to bother me, and I'm trying to do this and I'm trying to do that. And I'm trying to do, do everything here, and, and I got to drop everything 'cos you call me. I didn't say that. I just in the, I said I'm sitting here, I'm in the middle of doing the checkbook. I want to ask you a question. It's not a big deal if you (?) have to get yourself up and just answer the question. But to him, like, like he think (what do you think?) I'm a dog, I have to come it's just like back and forth. Unfortunately, he grew up like not having a parent in a way.

02.26.03 His mother has to work 7 days a week sometime. His father (?) to work, ok? So that is just something like he doesn't really know how to deal with everything. He never have to deal with anything. I did everything. He worked, that was it. Talking about the kids and everything, I dealt with all the problems. And if there was a problem, then it was my problem. Because I let the kid do whatever they want. But sometime you have to understand what the kid is going through.

02.26.32 You just have to be there. So therefore, that's why when, in my house, you see all kinds of people coming to my house. They like using my house like a meeting ground. 'Cos I'm very easy (?) with them, and sometime they would say man, they say boy, your mom's more cooler than you are. 'Cos I just mingle with them. They my, my daughter have a barbecue, I'm one of the (?) I'm one of the crowd. And they just love to talk to me, too, 'cos I just talk like them.

02.26.59 I figured out, you got to be, beside being a mother, I do put my foot down. I'm a mother, I'm still your mother. Ok, but in the meantime, I could still mingle with you like one of your friends. As a matter-of-fact, they're coming, since 9-11, they were watching Lost, ok? I was watching Lost, but then all the sudden, I hear this big boom. I said oh, wait a minute, I don't know what the heck is going on. This was (?) a plane crash. I wasn't crazy about it, but my

daughter insisted that I watch, I should watch it with her. Besides, I don't know. I just think that was so like (?) a big gorilla or a big, big ape.

02.27.33 A big bear, a polar bear sometimes in that, remember that TV series, Lost?

(OFF CAMERA REMARKS)

02.27.47 LING YOUNG: But it was a big, big stumble, it was like a big, scary sound. And my daughter's falling asleep, I say wait, wait, wait. I'm not watching this by myself, this is nonsense. I'm not watching this. Ok? So (LAUGHS) so.

02.27.59 So now this weekend they're supposed to come in and watch it with me together. This is how I mingle with, with their friend, too. They sit down with me, they even watch Sex And The City with me, and laugh, you know, 'cos it, it's funny. So that was our Saturday supposedly they want to spend time with me, just to watch TV. I said all right. 'Cos I said (?) I said, Melissa, we got to go and get the pictures done, and they said, yeah, and (?) maybe we could go to Chinatown and then we're gonna send the rest of the invitation and then at the same time we go see your grandmother. She said momma, I don't know.

02.28.28 We have a date. I said, we do? What date do we have? Don't forget we have a date with the girl, I said oh, we do? So I kind of don't remember what happened. She said yeah, you, we're supposed to watch TV. I said oh, that thing. So they coming over to watch TV with me together.

(OFF CAMERA REMARKS)

JW : Your daughter gets it?

02.28.57 LING YOUNG: Well, she's kind of like, she don't want to go out this weekend because of me, I guess. And so she having her girlfriend come over, just to watch TV and hang out. And I think the other kids are coming Sunday, ok, I guess just hang out a little bit. So that's

what I've been doing for the last couple of years. One year, I was uh, I was away with a couple of friends. The first year I went to one of my girlfriend's house. She's (?) also from 9-11. So we're trying to do something, and I understand that 2007's on a Tuesday. That's kind of eerie.

02.29.28 We talk about that, too, in our group. 'Cos one of the fire, EMT worker goes down every September 11th for the memorial and the whole, the whole nine yard. Uh, but he said, that'll be the first year I don't think I'm gonna go. That's actually on a Tuesday, so that's gonna be like kind of funny.

JW : Can you explain that?

02.29.50 LING YOUNG: It just (?) It's 'cos it's the same day, it's the same Tuesday, and it's like is it gonna happen again just for the heck of happening? Because that would be 7 years, right? Six years, seven years (?) seven years. So that was the first time he said that I might not want to go, because it's a Tuesday. Actually, this week we had a uh, uh, just like another example with Donald. We have a, a reggae person come in, supposedly some people really very adapt to this particular therapy. And they swear that they see things.

02.30.29 I guess maybe I don't really believe in it. I don't see anything that anything's happening. I see the harmony in certain things, but they (~JW~)

JW : What therapy is this?

02.30.37 LING YOUNG: It's called reggae. Like you, it's kind of spiritual. And the lady would come and talk to you and then she got this crystal and then you, and they put some lavender and you smelled it, and supposed to put your (?) mind at ease and they, and she sense, she talks to you while you, your eyes are closed, and they tell you, she would tell you to go to this place with water or a place with green acres, things like that.

- 02.31.02 So your mind feel at ease, and then next thing you know, everybody's saying I see this and I see that, and I'm thinking, I didn't see anything. It's like it's some kind of a, like a, not a (?) hypnotism, it's some kind of like a spiritual guidance, almost like a (?) almost like a psychologist (?) session, but it's not. And swear to you, some people see a friend who's dead, and one person was see exactly the same thing as the other one sees, like the husband and wife, they saw exactly the same thing. (?)
- 02.31.36 I saw a woman, ok, and uh, the facilitator for the group said that uh, she saw a fireman or EMT worker right next to Bob, which is also the EMT worker. That kind of weird things like that. They actually see all these things. With me, I don't see a damn thing. Because I guess I don't really, I'm not into it.
- 02.31.58 And people feeling what they feeling, they start crying like crazy. They get very, very emotional, 'cos they see things that I don't see. So, so actually it's all, like I was saying, so I shut off my phone. So before, before I shut off the phone, I got a phone call from him saying that well, tell Bob to take you home 'cos I don't think, I don't think I'm gonna finish. Of course, you got to shut off the phone when you're doing all this. Unfortunately, we went late. We went beyond the 7 o'clock. So I called him up, I say, you know, get ready.
- 02.32.29 He starts screaming and carrying on, and I've been trying to call you for the last 45 minutes, and I'm waiting over here (blahblahblah?) I said, you tell me to tell Bob to take me home. Well, (why the hell?) you didn't, when you shut off the phone, why didn't you call me? I said, why would I call you when I shut off the phone? I already know I was going home. So it's like a big fiasco thing from nothing. I mean, you told me that you were to tell me, tell Bob to take me home. Next minute, when you decide you finish early, you rushed it, you didn't do it, you did it for me.
- 02.32.58 Well, how am I supposed to know, when you already told me to go home? So it was like a big thing. Then that's when I started to having problems. I said Ok, Ling. Calm down. I just shut myself up. Because if I continue, I know where I'm gonna be. I have learned to control myself that (?) way. That's something my psychology taught me.

JW : Does it have to do that he's more worried about you since the attack?

02.33.22 LING YOUNG: I don't know. I think that's the way he is when he's, like I said, I think it's just maturity, to be honest with you. He never, he was the only child. He never had anybody to guide him, and unfortunately I met him very young. Since then I did everything. You know, there was not a thing that he has to worry about. I did all the dirty work, I did all the worrying, I did everything you could think of.

JW : Except now?

02.33.49 LING YOUNG: Except now it's the reverse. I can't really do too much. Ok. I even try when I got this hand back, when I thought I got it back, I did quite a few things. I was trying to, trying to cut when Marge is around. Of course (?) quite a few times, if I don't do it right (LAUGHS). I could almost cut my hand. But once then, once I lost that function again, then I can't hold anything. If you can't hold, you can't cut. I mean, there are people who has, was very handicapped, could do a lot of things. But I'm just so afraid to do it, and get cut, and the next thing you know I don't know what else problem I have. 'Cos it's not like before I get cut out, big deal, you get burned, big deal.

02.34.26 Now to me, everything could be a big deal. I could cut one of my vein, who know what's gonna happen to me. So I'm kind of edgy of doing things. So since I have Marge anyway, a lot of times she does thing uh.

JW : That must be hard to?

LING YOUNG: Oh, it drives me crazy that I can't do anything.

JW : Would you say most of it is complete role reversal and doing certain things before?

02.34.58 LING YOUNG: Oh, yeah. It's just like crazy things comes in your head. So now I gotten to a point I block it out.

JW : What do you mean by block it out?

LING YOUNG: That doesn't exist.

JW : Like what?

LING YOUNG: If I'm going through a tunnel, that tunnel's not there.

JW : You close your eyes?

02.35.13 LING YOUNG: No. It's just not there. I learned to do that. Don't ask. I just, as it goes, I don't see anything around me. Like it's a blank space. It's weird but it's, that's exactly how it is. I don't see anything.

02.35.28 I can see it but in my head it's not a, it's not a tunnel. (~JW~) that's how we, I don't know, that's how I was taught, try to focus like almost like, like this uh, the psychologist said to me, if you seeing something you're having such a hard problem, just turn your face and do something else. And that's what I did. So now I'm a lot better. If I go through a tunnel, it doesn't phase me anymore. Once in awhile it does, but it won't be like oh my god, you know, like you, you're feeling this inside attack, it's gonna attack you. I was oh, crap, ok. Let's do something else, and I would just blab my mouth with, with Marge and then the next thing you know we're out.

02.36.06 I don't, I literally do not know that I'm in a tunnel. It's just like it doesn't phase me at all.

JW : What other things don't phase you?

02.36.16 LING YOUNG: If I see, well, like Katrina. Even though I'm seeing it, but I'm not seeing it. It's not sinking in. Just like the World Trade collapsing isn't, still not sinking in. Like there was one part I saw it collapse.

02.36.34 I see it, but it's not, it's not like deep down I'm not understanding it. 'Cos to me it, it's a movie. That's all I could see it as a movie. It doesn't feel real to us at all. Our mind, it's not just me. Nothing feels real, everything just like a dream that, Ok, you wake up one day, things gonna be gone. We know it's not. But we don't have the feeling for it, ok.

02.37.00 Either you are completely numb about it or whatever reason (?) however you want to call it, we don't see it like it's happening. We, we knew it happened.

JW : You believe it did happen?

02.37.16 LING YOUNG: It did happen, but it's not real. So like we contradicting ourselves. It doesn't happen, but, but it's not real. So as of today, I know it happened. I'm looking at myself happened.

02.37.29 But if you tell me that it's sinking right in that that's what happened, no. It's not. It's not how you, how I remember it now, what I compare with, I, I saw Independence Day. Ok, that's how it kind of remind me, ok? Also, I could see a little bit more about explosive, because I don't how should I see it, I uh.

02.37.57 I didn't see the explosion itself, ok? I felt the explosion, I remember all the elevators being shattered and all the fire and things like that. I really didn't see it, I see orange color. Maybe there was fire, I don't know. But I don't actually see the thing, not like (Grace and?) Eddie one of the other survivor actually saw the plane hit. 'Cos she, they were in the first building. They had the whole first floor as the, like a fireball, like a fire, the whole place is full of fire. That's why I say if you ever talk to your sponsor, ask about her.

02.38.34 She might be able to help you a lot with that. Ok?

JW : I appreciate your stories and I'd like to hear things from your perspective.

(OFF CAMERA REMARKS)

JW : What about going back to Independence Day?

02.39.10 LING YOUNG: Well, Independence Day was like a lot of explosion, remember, it was like the White House and all these other thing. And uh, that's kind of remind me it's like a movie. Yeah, big deal. Exploded, fire and all these other thing, but it's a movie. Next thing you know it's over. The same thing when I saw the, watched that film that day, there was a few (?) script of the Pentagon, a few script of uh, of the uh, of the World Trade Center.

02.39.39 And I also saw a few, few thing about the women who was trapped, or how, how she was in, I think she was in the penthouse, a black woman, how her hand was like burning and all this kind of thing. It didn't bother me at that moment. I saw it. It was blank, and that was it, but then I feel miserable for the next two weeks, or one week, I don't remember how long.

02.40.01 And I wasn't the only one. The fireman Bob, we call him Fireman Bob, he said I should never watch the film. And he's not the kind of guy that's uh, afraid of watching anything. He said, I should have never watch it, he feel like crap.

JW : What do you think that is?

02.40.17 LING YOUNG: I don't know. Nobody knows. We just don't feel like doing anything. It's don't bother me, don't talk to me, uh, our mind is completely just like wipe, blank piece of paper. Like I guess we're trying to avoid, I don't know we trying to avoid or not, I don't know, nobody (?) I mean, we sat down, we were talking with each other.

02.40.337 What everybody come out with the same answer is I don't know. My, my other friend uh, Donna, she said I've been miserable, I've been crying all day long. And I don't want Ted to

come and ask me what's wrong. (?) oh, what's wrong? Don't ask. Just stay away from us. That's the kind of attitude we have now, it's like just don't ask. So with me, I stay in front of the TV.

02.41.01 Now, sometime I, I'm watching the next day say gee, did I watch this yet? You don't remember, 'cos you actually you just focusing on that screen. 'Cos I don't have no commercial and of course you have commercial, Chinese, Chinese (?) we just skip through the commercial. But it's not nothing explosive. You don't see no Katrina in there anymore, you don't see any of these other (?) coming anymore. But every time you turn on a computer, you got this whole thing in front of you. And you kind of drawn to it. (~JW~) Yeah, you're kind of drawn to it, kind of watch it.

02.41.31 'Cos like they said now, we're on the other side of the fence. My mom (?) was saying that. She's very emotional because now we, she's seeing, seeing them as she was seeing ourselves beforehand.

JW : What about you, what do you see when you see Katrina?

02.41.51 LING YOUNG: I'm seeing like when they talk about the bodies, they talk about that, and I'm just thinking about what happen with the bodies at that day what happened. Of course, stupid me, 'cos she saw some picture on the World Trade Center image of you (?) you know about that picture thing, that they have on their website? That it was supposedly only open to the people who, who was deceased, ok, who died that day, to the family member, look at the picture, any picture belongs to you? So now they're (?) open to everyone. So I've been trying to get on because she swears to us she saw me on one of the picture. So I want to see. Is my picture in there. But then it kind of got me like grossed out because some of the picture really bad.

02.42.30 I mean, bad, they're smeared with you know, (?) what the heck was smeared in it, and some picture are so sad because then you see a family pictures. And see a wedding pictures, and you see baby pictures. So I said Ok, that was enough. I looked at, I looked through those uh,

pictures. That wasn't me. It's just somebody looks like me. So that was kind of like make me went a little blank. I was gonna go into (?) and I think that's enough for the day. I just looked at that batch 'cos I didn't want to go further, 'cos I don't know what else you see.

02.43.01 And then I did see a lot of uh, picture with you know, how you go up to the (?) Windows Of The World, I guess, or the observation deck, how they take pictures. I didn't even know there were such pictures. They said the uh, the Top OF The World, and you see two building, and then you see people taking pictures. Those, those are probably all tourists. That they had a picture left there that day, or maybe at the uh, 100 and some-odd floor, where the observation deck is? Or maybe there are negative. I don't know what it was. Was just lots and lots of pictures like this, of that.

02.43.36 So because they hit the some-odd floor, I guess everything from that top floor I guess just blew out the street. So those pictures look pretty good. Pretty intact. But the rest of the pictures horrible. I mean, they are crumble up, you name it. It's just. After the, after I found the pictures that I was pretty sure that was a pictures you think that was me. I kind of stopped it.

02.43.58 That so I said Ok, I think we should, normally I don't shut down the computer right away. I shut down the computer, time to go see (?) watch TV. So I'm (~JW~)

JW : Katrina?

02.44.10 LING YOUNG: No, watching my Chinese soap (LAUGHS) opera. I didn't want to watch anything about the Katrina. I did what I'm supposed to do. I mean, I can't do anything else, even (?) the guy, Fireman Bob wants to go down. I said, Bob. You can't do any of this, Ok? Number one, your back is no good. He can't even lift anything. He got hurt 'cos he was working uh, at the Ground Zero (?) for many weeks.

02.44.34 And he didn't care. He, his back is completely shot. So shot to a point that he can't lift anything. That's how bad it is. Uh, he said, I'm gonna go down there. I said, Bob, no you

cannot go down there. Ok? Number one, you have a bad back. Number two, you're workman comp case. If god forbid they even see you lifting a piece of paper, they could just turn around and say hey, wait, wait, wait. You know, you lose everything that you have worked so hard for?

JW : How does that make you feel, since you have workmen's comp issues?

02.45.08 LING YOUNG: I can't do anything, either. I, we could actually do certain things. But god forbid, you never know who's come up in, in your back, to stab you in the back and do something. It's almost like (~JW~)

JW : Are you prevented from doing things?

LING YOUNG: Let's say you want to do something. The only thing we can do is financially.

JW : Give me an example?

01.45.29 LING YOUNG: Well, we could just say (~JW~) like one of the guy, one, one person would say that you know, you could (?) in our letters. Or let's say even put stamps on the letters or whatever, anything. But you are forbidden almost like by the (?) guidebook, there's not much you can do. If you are disabled, you better be disabled completely. And this guy was telling me, they actually come around taking pictures. I said I don't want to be stuck trying to argue my case, and I guess this, this friend of mine, who's going through hell, and the guys say you OK.

02.46.02 You exaggerating, and we know he's not. I mean, there are people that exaggerate. I guarantee you that much. And I know quite a few of them exaggerate. Exaggerate to a point that she actually got herself into a mode that she was that crazy. She actually became crazy. Now that's sad. The same thing with, we talk about Katrina. The people that's gonna get help is not gonna get help. The people who doesn't deserve help, it's gonna take advantage.

- 02.46.29 As usual, of all kinds. Ok? The only thing I said Bob, all you can do is financially send them a check. Because you can't go even down there, be like such quote-unquote like a councilor. 'Cos you really could listen to story, but that doesn't really help us. 'Cos by listening to other people's sad story is going to bring us into another different, different mode. We cannot, I said we cannot take a chance. 'Cos we work so hard to get where we are. If we go backward, I don't know what's gonna bring us.
- 02.47.02 So he's so mad, he said, but I want to get there, I said, I said, Bob, we know how much you care. We all care. Unfortunately, there's not much we can do, Ok? Uh, what can you really do? Listen to the story? What that's gonna do you? 'Cos we're not (?) we're not equipped to do it. Can you help them clean up? No, you can't, neither you or I can't do it. (?) you, you with your bad back, me with my one hand? I said (LAUGHS) what the hell we gonna do? Ok?
- 02.47.29 So he said, it gets me so mad I can't do it, I said, yeah, it does. 'Cos it gets him very frustrated. He's very active. I'm also very active. It gets me very frustrated. I used to (?) cook. Now I can't do any of this, yeah, I try to do some when, with Marge's help, but it's not the same. I tried one time. I said you know what, this is BS, let me just do it. And the whole thing just plop on the floor. I said, ok, that's it, I'm (?) done. And I just left it on the floor, I said come clean it up. I'm not doing it.
- 02.47.57 I mean, there are people more handicapped than I am. But I guess we, we learn how to adapt, I'm learning to adapt to trying to do certain thing myself. I can't have Marge the rest of my life. As a matter of fact, she's supposed to retire last year. She didn't do it because her husband is very sick and she's like I can't be home with my husband all day long. Not 24 hours (LAUGHS). She, he's just as bad as Donald. I said we can't (LAUGHS) it's so sad. We're laughing at it, but it's sad, ok?
- 02.48.26 So because all (?) you do is (?) is (LAUGHS) did you call the doctor? No. She's in pain, did you take (?) pain medication? No. Well. Hello, you know what I mean? That's the kind of thing that we have to deal with. So, so I mean.

(OFF CAMERA REMARKS)

02.49.09 END OF TAPE # JY30

TAPE # JY31 09.09.05
Ling Young
JIM WHITAKER, Producer/director
PROJECT REBIRTH

03.00.46 PICTURE UP

(OFF CAMERA REMARKS)

JW : How important is this group to you?

03.02.16 LING YOUNG: I think It's, I think it's for us to (?) speak our feelings and do everything. It is very important to me. Donald doesn't see the importance (?) unfortunately. And a lot of time, if I have a problem, I can't even (?) I can't even bring it up to saying that this is what's happening, because he could use that as an excuse that that group is not doing anything but just trouble.

03.02.37 I, so I don't really talk about the group with him.

JW : You're in a bind?

03.02.41 LING YOUNG: I'm in a bind. I don't really discuss it because that is like a saving grace for me in a way. I mean, we don't really do too much, but just like air out. Because you're airing out to a person that exact, know exactly what happen. You, if I'm complaining, oh, my god I feel like crap. And the guy next to you understand because he went through the same thing

you went through. It's not like you're going to another kind of group that had nothing to do with it. These are strictly either you're hurt or you're not hurt.

- 03.03.10 Ok. Uh, the, the worst part is the one is, of course if you're hurt you get a little bit money from the federal government. If you're not hurt, you're in trouble. Like I said, two of them already sold their house, 'cos otherwise they have to go bankrupt. One is actually in bankruptcy. The other one is trying to go in bankruptcy, but she couldn't do it, some other reason I don't know what the reason was.
- 03.03.32 You had to be certain kind of rule. She gotten to be such a point that she working two jobs, all right? The one who got the money, which is OK, 'cos they are, (?) but the thing is the one who got the money, the other spouse works, so it doesn't really matter too much. Just like me. Makes no difference to me, 'cos Donald works. I'm not in such a financial bind because of the, of the way I am, because he works. I wasn't making anything.
- 03.03.58 So what, big deal. As a matter-of-fact, I'm better of now, because I'm collecting Social Security. But the other people (?) in a different situation. Like this guy who's just had a kid. Now he has an extra mouth to feed. In the meantime, the wife has this, and then he has to travel 3 hours to go to work. And every time quote-unquote anything happen in Manhattan, it always happen around him. At one time they had like a, a bomb scare and these uh, (?) that's exactly where he works. He said (?) I need that like a hole in the head. So like everything is happening, and uh (~JW~)

JW : Do you like listening and talking and giving advice to other people?

- 03.04.37 LING YOUNG: I do. They call me Momma Ling Dear (LAUGHS). 'Cos I'm always laughing. 'Cos they say to me is, I go maybe 'cos it makes me feel good that I could do something, maybe, because I do go like this. I'm not trying to hide any of my injury, 'cos to me makes no difference. You're gonna like me, you love me the way I am, ok? I do get edgy when people start like giving you that kind of funny looks, which I'm gonna get no matter what.

03.05.04 And that's another thing I'm trying to block out now. I'm kind of like, ok, don't like the way I look, fine. You can ask me a question, and a kid asked me, I said yeah, I had a boo-boo, 'cos they wouldn't understand that anyway. Ok? If you really want to ask me really deep question, I didn't know like I (?) did not know that A&E has this thing on constantly this week, 'cos so many people come and asking me. I saw it in tears, what are you talking about? I just went shopping the other day and people say, can I ask you a question?

03.05.32 I said yeah. What's your name? I say, Ling. (?) what is your full name? I said Ling Young. He said I saw you on TV. I said, you did? I said what are you talking about? Then I found out A&E must be airing this because of 9-11 coming up. They've been airing this one with Mary Jo constantly. They really bother me. They ask me, I, I talk. But I'm not gonna go, I don't elaborate on the whole thing, ok? If they ask me a little bit more, I, I answer. But I'm not gonna sit there and (?) oh, yeah, this happen to me, that happen.

03.05.59 It's not necessary. That's how I see it. Uh.

JW : What about the Momma?

03.06.06 LING YOUNG: Yeah, they call me Momma Ling, 'cos (LAUGHS) I guess my whole life I'm always like a mother to everybody. Doesn't matter, office, or whatever. Like I said, when I was working, I do the party. Once I was gone, there's no party. It was like dead, this is it. So when I had my retirement, my girlfriend did the party, she said you're lucky it was you. Ok. You would never see me doing anything like this. So.

03.06.30 I kind of like, they said to me, this is the main thing they always say to me. They say, I don't know why I'm complaining, 'cos I look at you, I shut up. Because they see me going through all kind, you know, they, they see me going through hell for the last couple of years with my surgery. My problem, you name it. I go in there with all kinds of splint, all kinds of cast, you name, I have. And I was in a wheelchair for over a year. So they see me going through all kinds of thing, and, and they said I shouldn't complain.

03.07.00 'Cos I don't, like I said, I don't hide myself. And everybody trying to hide their scar and everything. What good is it, it's (STUTTER) still gonna be there. No matter how you look at it, it's gonna be there. So I don't hide it. And, and they think for that they gave them something to think about. They said, I don't complain, even Bob with all his problem, he said I look at you, Ling. I keep my mouth shut. He said, what the hell am I complaining? So in a way that's why they call me Momma Ling. Then they sometime (?) once in a while, they joke around, they say oh, Momma Ling spoke. Shut up now, let's talk (LAUGHS). So they are kind of, we kind of like, like one big happy family.

03.07.36 And we all talk about personal problem, we all talk about how the other spouse doesn't understand what's going on. Uh.

JW : You've lost control over your life?

LING YOUNG: Oh, yes, I did. I'm trying to get (~JW~) back to it, but it's not easy.

JW : You're trying?

03.08.02 LING YOUNG: Trying to get back a little control, but it's not easy. Like even with my financial thing, I used to take care of everybody's, I can't do it anymore. So last year I decided, ok, everyone is gonna take their own thing back. I gave everything back. I even have my kid doing their own. 'Cos I used to take care of everything, so this way they don't have to worry about it. Like their 401-K, the bank account, all this I, I took care of. I even tell them how to do their uh, the uh, financing.

03.08.29 I taught them all, I said here it is, take them back. 'Cos I can't function like I was used to function anymore. I start doing things I don't know what the heck I did. I mean, I would do a checkbook, god, what the heck is this? That's why I don't believe in paying anything on line 'cos I don't remember. I want to see the actual check coming back to me. Like now, they have the new banking now, you don't see the check. I said no, no, no. I want the check. I don't

want no images, I don't want no full photocopies. I don't care how much it'll cost me. I want those actual checks back, 'cos I want to have it in physical evidence.

03.09.05 'Cos if not, I don't remember what I did. So everybody have their own now. It used to be my mail's about this thick every day. Now it's down to this. 'Cos everybody got their own thing back. Even my sisters. And my sisters are kind of, we're not really in that. I'm not mad at her. Ok, but somehow, uh, actually I talked to (telling?) Croi, I have a nephew now he, he's in Burma.

03.09.30 He was not going to school, ok, he was like in and out of school. And then, then he decided not to go, period. Now, unfortunately he live with my parents, and my (?) mother said, oh, he's a good kid, (?) so what he doesn't go to school? But United States doesn't let you do that. You in United States of America, your kid under 17 doesn't go to school, or 16 I guess, it's also your responsibility. So one day he and my sister said, she has to go to court. And the next thing you know, there's an airline ticket sending him to Burma.

03.10.02 So I said, ok. So I had a funny feeling either it's, either she put him back to school or she's going to jail. You know how (?) those social worker works. If your kids are not doing what supposed to be, there's (?) it's your parents' responsibility. In meantime you send him to school, you watch him going in, the next thing you know, he disappear on the other end. Happened to my girlfriend. She was actually driving the kid to school every, single night, picking him up 4 hours later. Do you know he never went to one class? So I think that's what happen.

03.10.34 Then I get a phone call from my father, screaming at me, what the hell did you say? I said, what happen? What did you say to her that uh, Brendon's away? I said, nothing. And he start carry on what kind of a monster I am, how I took the only, only life in their, only peace of mind in their life, that now we, we raise him for 15, 16 year, now you're giving it back to him for nothing.

03.10.59 It was just, don't ask me why, just on and on. It's my fault.

JW : I don't understand, where did he go?

03.11.06 LING YOUNG: He, he went to Burma because I had a funny feeling that it was a choice, either my sister go to jail or send him back to school. So the best thing he probably, she probably went there and say I'm sending him back to his father. They were, they divorced. And he is in Burma. And that's how come he end up there and since then hasn't been back. And I know it's eating my parents away.

03.11.30 And I suggested uh, for him to come back. But I found out that wasn't a good suggestion, 'cos god forbid he comes back and runs away. That'll be on me again. So I'm leaving it alone. And a matter-of-fact my brother say why don't you go find out how much a ticket is and (?) send Brendon back, that's his name. I said no. If you want to do anything, you do it. (~JW~) I'm not getting involved.

JW : What about getting back to the control, it must make you feel a certain way to show your scars?

03.12.07 LING YOUNG: I don't know if it's a strain is (?) or it's because I'm way too hot anyway (LAUGHS). I can't, I cannot put three layers of clothes on, ok? I know you could get used to it, but it's not me. So when I go in to a meeting, I normally would have sleeve. And us see everything. I mean, now it looks good, actually, 'cos before it was really thick, thick, real thick, thick scar.

JW : It seems to have improved.

02.13.34 LING YOUNG: Yeah, it improve a lot. But today actually is quite nice. But once in awhile is very, very bright red. And when I say not mature, I mean, you see how red it is? It should not be that color. It should be like here. That's what it should be. That's called maturity. (CLEARS THROAT) And seeing as how I'm this color, like I say, you could (?) put a

pinhole in there and my, the blood would go (?). It gush out. All the veins is on top here. That's the reason why any touch of it, any scar, any scratch, the blood would just gush out.

03.13.10 That's why when Dr. Chou did my first surgery, which he didn't know me at that time, it took him over an hour to two hours to control my bleeding. That's how bad, that's why my first surgery took six hours. It was like 3 hours (?) then. He didn't know me too well, and now of course I didn't know that that's what my problem was.

03.13.31 Of course, after the first surgery, he knew. He said, just controlling my bleeding was a, was a major task. 'Cos all you do is just open me up and (?) like, like a water faucet. He probably got scared (LAUGHS) with surprise. So he, he, I didn't know about it, he told me, he said it took me two hours I think something like that just to control your bleeding. I said what are you talking about? He said, you just don't stop bleeding. I said, now I know. So I guess now they, the first thing they do is try to stop my bleeding, whatever.

03.14.00 But once you stop that, my hand turns purple. The same thing when if you try to give me a uh, take my, my blood pressure, you better do it quick. Even when they want to draw blood. You better do, I, I try to explain to them, some people take (?) as being like I'm telling them what to do. Get everything ready means everything to the dot. Don't tie me up until you're 100 percent ready, means the needle's in the hand, ready to go.

03.14.30 Because if you tie me up even for the half a second, if you don't draw the blood right away, I start turning purple. That's Ok, but it's not getting to be like intense itch. And my hand's about to explode. Even as of now, like I was standing down stair with you, I'm having problem. 'Cos I still like the blood coming down and I'm starting to itch. I'm still wearing my (jopes?) but this is gone four years already. I didn't wear them now 'cos I'm still waiting for my (?) to come in.

JW : Wearing your?

- 03.15.03 LING YOUNG: My jopes. That's like a pressure garment. I'm still wearing it, people only wear it for a year, year and a half. I don't have to wear it, if I don't wear it, everything start popping up. The next thing you know, I'm like, like my scar, my leg is still as thick as this, still bright red like this. See, that's why I said no doubt from the same way. It should heal within a year, year and a half, two years max. Even this uh, Thailand girl who had a thick scar on her, like right here like this, almost like a quarter inch thick, hers went down.
- 03.15.37 She's Asian. I got this black guy, he's Ok. I mean, there were quite a few other burn victim. Everybody's doing Ok. I'm the only weird one. Every time you talk about it to a doctor, I'm unique. I'm special. Uh, I'm one-of-a-kind. I said, well, can you just be I'm just one of a, one of a kind that you could take care of?
- 03.16.02 No. As of today they don't know what's wrong with me. They don't know why, even my doctor who left. I'm still very close to him. He do checks up on me once in awhile, and he said any time you need anything, just give me a call. I still have my license. And of course, this is off the book, you know? Uh, just let me know. And that's how good. He, he's, it's almost like he put his life working with me, 'cos he wants to get me better.
- 03.16.30 But it didn't work out. He tried so many things. Everything you could name on a medical book, to stop my uh, my problem with my leg. It didn't work, until finally decided you're just not moving. You stay in a wheelchair, the only time you're allowed to move is go (LAUGHS) to the bathroom or take a shower. And that's what I did for over a year. Is like from here to there to the bathroom and go upstairs to sleep or take a shower. And that's, that's all I did. I was literally like bed-bound for over a year. And that finally stopped the bleeding, stopped all the blistering, because I could get up and the thing just shears my whole (?) thing.
- 03.17.07 And forms a blister. And let's say like the size of a, a nickel. By the end of the day would be this big. And it's filled with water. And normally with a blister you just let it go, let it dried up. With mine, you got to cut it open. And then put the thing on. It just like, he tried pigskin, you name it, he try.

03.17.30 Finally he said you know what, the only way it's gonna do it is if she doesn't move. 'Cos every time I get up, the blood goes down. And that's how it killed it. But uh, I still (~JW~)

JW : Are you still feeling that?

03.17.42 LING YOUNG: I still feeling the urge, but it doesn't open as, as what it used to be. Ok. Everything's Ok now. But I still have once in awhile here and there. But it's nowhere near, 'cos once in awhile it'd be so intense that you don't care what happen, you just like rip it up. And then the next thing you know, back to the (?) patches and all these (LAUGHS) other thing.

03.18.04 But it takes a lot less time to heal, it maybe takes two weeks or so. Before it was over a year, two years, almost. Before I got out of this thing. Uh, get out of the, this bleeding. I used to go around, sitting on a pad. I don't remember that. I was used to carry a pad with me. (?) it would go right through. So I was like you know, it, it's hard, but uh, thank god that's over. All this surgery (?) now had done a lot of good.

03.18.31 'Cos I don't have a lot of holes now that I have to worry about infection. And I do get like sun like this now, I do get blisters. And when I see it, I (?) better (?) either kind of like rip it off. That's how I, that's the only way it heal. I try a couple of time not doing it, just like draining it. It doesn't work. I got to take the whole skin off. It's kind of weird, but.

JW : How do you feel?

03.19.05 LING YOUNG: How do I feel? I don't know. Can't describe, 'cos every day's different. It's like uh, I got my good day, got my bad days. The good days mean I could wake up and not having a lot of shooting pains, 'cos I still have a lot of shooting pains. But since the last year or so, I have so many surgery which did a lot of good.

03.19.30 As you can see, like I said, this, this was done in December. The infection doesn't happen anymore, 'cos it's, you see a lot of scar, but you don't see a lot of holes and you know, you don't see a lot of pockets, that, that's the word for it. And after this one, I definitely feel it's ten times better now, 'cos then it was a big pocket right here, and I'm having so much problem cleaning it. It, I mean, you name it, I use. Toothbrush, water pick, it doesn't matter 'cos it's inside. You really can't clean it. Then when I start smelling it, I say, ok, this is time definitely got to go.

03.20.03 Then uh, then he did my worst phase. That make me feel like a, he did this and I could straighten my hand a little bit. So it's a lot of thing, a lot of improvement I make that I could say to myself, I'm, I'm more mobile than I was year I saw you. 'Cos I saw you sometime in March, I think? Well, since then I got 6 or 7 surgeries, so that's (?) a lot. Every other month you see me going in. If I'm not going in there, I'm going to his office, so it's like it was like a non-stop.

03.20.32 But because all this revision, we're not doing it for look. We strictly doing it for mobility. Uh, like my face, I won't let him touch it yet, because that's gonna be like a, a big healing process, and I don't want to do it before the wedding. And then like I said, about this other thing, I'm still be debating. I mean, I did read up a little bit on it uh.

03.20.59 They said it's been around for 20 years, and that's what they use for hip replacement, I think. But I'm not too sure I want to go through this plastic joint, which you so call it. He is a hand surgeon, though. So. I'm kind of like, I don't know. I still don't know what, how I feel, let's say it this way. Because I can't describe it.

JW : Can you try?

03.21.25 LING YOUNG: Try? Let's see, try. I guess I would be, I'm ok with, I'm ok, let's say, let's say with Marge around, I could we could really laugh our head off, 'cos we were watching, watch soap opera. And we make up our own stories and we just laugh. And then after that, after she's gone. Let's say the day when she's not coming, I feel like I, I lost something,

because I have nobody to talk to. I'm like, like I'm lost, completely lost. I feel (?) edgy. Like you, you feel the inside coming up on, up on you that you want to like, like want to bust out, ok?

03.22.03 Lucky with my happy pill, I call them my happy pill. There was a particular pill that I take, supposedly for anxiety or whatever you want to call it. When I would get to that point, I just pop one in. I don't pop half, I pop one in, ok? (LAUGHS) The doctor knows, it's not that he doesn't know about it. And if I really feeling bad, there goes two. But I'm not really (?) it did get to a point that I'm gonna do it every, single time, three times a day, four times a day.

03.22.28 I do it on a daily basis before I sleep, but I do pop extra if I'm really like having problem with uh, You-Know-Who. Because if I don't do it, I don't know how I turn out to be, because then I'll go a little crazy. Uh, when my pain comes, I, I accepted the pain, because right now my finger hurts. If I touch, it hurts, if I go like this, it hurts (~JW~) yeah. It's that (?) arthritis pain. It's, I said to myself, it could be worse. I always say to myself, it could be worse. So I think that's how I go get by.

03.23.02 I get very frustrated if I drop something I can't pick it up, I get frustrated. But then I say you know what? Then use the other hand. So I'm learning to cope with everything I have. And then I look at it, it's uh, it could be worse. I could have lost completely, like, like my face is really uh, actually it was funny. I looked at myself yesterday. I said oh, (?) this is pretty big. And it was a big, pretty big scar. But then I said, it could be worse. So that's why I laugh about when I got this little tiny mark here. I say, well, I got to even it out.

03.23.30 I try to give myself something to laugh about so this way I don't go crazy. Because if I'm gonna be worried about what I look like, how people look at me, I'll never live. That's the reason I keep up myself, I try to be happy as much as all the things happening to me, all this craziness going around. I get very upset. But I try to block it out, too. So I try to block out quite a lot of things. I learn how block out quite, quite a few things.

03.24.00 And my memory's shot, that much I know. Because my kids can tell me that.

JW : What did they tell you and how did that happened?

03.24.09 LING YOUNG: (Mom?) you just did that uh, you just said that to me. I did? And they swear to, to me that I say certain thing, and I could swear to you I had, I would never say anything like this. So I have no clue what I did. Uh. Or, like I said, I'm talking to Marge, and if someone interrupted me for one second, and I was completely no idea what I was talking about.

03.24.33 See, I'm continuing now a kind of a remember, 'cos if you just stop me for two second and come back, I might ask you, Jim, what did I say? And that kind of scary because I actually watch a movie with, with my daughter about Notebook. That's about uh, you (?) heard about that (?)

(OFF CAMERA REMARKS)

LING YOUNG: I said, oh, my god, that could happen?

JW : What was the movie about, I didn't see it?

03.24.57 LING YOUNG: It was about a love story about this couple and it started out with back and forth, back and forth, you know, how they, is it James Garner and somebody, some other woman. And he was in a nursing home and he keep on reading her this, this, this book. And it's like a diary about how this guy met this girl and how they fell in love and all this other thing. It was actually a story about the two of them. Ok, she had Alzheimer's. (?) uh, what, maybe.

03.25.30 And as, as the story goes by, they tell you what happened beforehand, and how they really got married. And then one day they were visited by a group of kids. And oh, this is my kid. At that time, I still didn't know they were, they were related, husband and wife. Then we find out, oh, yeah, you come on Dad, you know, you got to go home, we'll take care of Mom,

you know, we'll take turn. I said wait a minute. You mean, that's the wife? So kind of she had, she had a dementia and Alzheimer's completely. She doesn't know who he is.

03.26.00 So kind of (?) scared me a little bit because oh, my god, imagine I'm in that position. I mean, you hear about Alzheimer's, you hear about this other thing. And (?) now I'm seeing it in my mother. It's a very scary thought, only because you have no clue what's going on. You are in a complete different world by yourself, like everybody surrounding you is completely strangers. That's how this was the kids was to this woman. They were all strangers. Oh, wow, you have (?) you have wonderful kids. Actually it was her own kids. That she doesn't even know.

03.26.34 So as the story goes by and then finally she kind of remember what's going on, and they were dancing. The next thing you know she's like oh, darling, she who you calling and all the sudden she went back to her, to the other stage. So it's like scary how you see that thing. And I'm looking and I said oh, my god, that could have been me. That got me scared a little bit. That wasn't a great movie because to me it was like (?) I don't know.

03.26.59 Give me the thought about what happened if my mind goes this way, 'cos I'm actually not remembering a lot of things now. I'm starting to like, memory that it could be two second ago. I, I don't know what happened. So Marge kind of constantly reminding me, I said after she's gone I'm in trouble. I mean, she got to retire soon. Like I said, she was supposed to retire last year. And what happens if she retire? So I'm like who the hell am I gonna talk to now (LAUGHS)?

03.27.27 I'm not a, I used to be like a phone person. But now I'm not. Especially these couple of weeks. I have not called anybody. I don't talk to anybody. I was even surprised. I wrote this big email to Danielle about the (?) the website, but it was just like, but it took me a long time, you know, you saw (?) this big paragraph, but it was like a long time it takes me to do it. I can't really concentrate and sit down and write this whole thing.

03.27.54 So you, if you see me email, you see one, one letter I mean, one line or two line, that's the max you're gonna see me do. Uh, (CLEARS THROAT) of course now, I'm, I'm kind of busy with the, the wedding, but now it's a standstill 'cos no one really reply yet. So you can't do anything. And the wedding in Texas is in uh, two weeks, three weeks? That we just have to fly down and that was the end of the story, say, I'm there 2 days, 3 ½ days, 2 ½ days. And I'm done. 'Cos everything just you go, you go home.

JW : What about your short term memory problems verses long term? Would you forget this interview?

03.28.37 LING YOUNG: No, I wouldn't, I wouldn't say that. I would remember the interview, but if you ask me everything I talk about, no. That I couldn't tell you. I'd probably like if I sit down really stress on it, I probably remember bits and bits. I haven't had any, like I said, I've had nightmare, but I don't remember anything. These last two weeks, I have all kinds of crazy nightmares. I'm running from something, or I'm doing something, but the minute I get up, I won't remember it.

03.29.04 But I don't really have too many dreams. I mean, I, the only time I have really bad, bad nightmare when I was in the hospital the first time. I mean, really bad nightmares.

JW : Which was the first time?

03.29.16 LING YOUNG: The when I was first got hit, got hurt. I was in the hospital for 5 weeks. That I really have bad, bad nightmare. Bad nightmares to a point I (?) thought I was on fire. That's kind of nightmare I had. I was so edgy to a point that my heart just went (?). See, 'cos I was (~JW~)

JW : Do you remember those nightmares?

03.29.35 LING YOUNG: I don't remember, I do remember part of it. Believe it or not, 'cos that's kind of stuck in here. It was a part that it was kind of weird (?) 'cos remember I told you Junior,

my other son, was working in Building 7. And we were running away from this explosion. And all the sudden it's like stairs, almost like staircase like from the Grand Central. Like all kinds of weird part of the city went into the picture.

- 03.30.03 And it's all kinds of explosion and the fires are coming down and everything is coming down. And then we were like trying to hide from it. Then all the sudden we see a fire truck, look like flat beds, like layers and layers of plywood. And you see bodies like all laying there. And then I think we're getting shot at and then it was (?) oh, no, no, don't shoot us. And then that was the end of it. That's one of them.
- 03.30.35 Another one of them we try to climb out of the World Trade Center or I don't know you call the World Trade Center whatever, there was like a big hole, let's say like it's right here somewhere. And we're trying to get up there. And we couldn't get up there. 'Cos I remember how we try we can get up the. Finally we kind of like somehow, someway we got up there and I said, but it's nothing there. Its' all you see is the light on the other side. I don't know where we're going.
- 03.31.01 Uh, that's only that part. And then the other part was, that was afterward, though. But when I was in the hospital, I just feel like it's a whole fireball surrounding me. I was just hot. Like I was just heated up to a point I was screaming. That's how (?) I don't know about it but they told me. But I remember being so hot and so intense that wasn't like hot flash I was going through, which is heat was like burning.
- 03.31.31 I cannot describe to you. All I know is I did wake up, I got the nurse attention 'cos (?) you got to remember, I have, always people staying with me. I think that there was Richard or Melissa, one of them was staying with me. I must have screamed so loud, everybody came. And all I remember, I was burning. It was so bad that I was just crazy for at least the next 12 hour, more. And that was during the, towards like the late evening, maybe during the towards the middle of the night.

03.32.00 That's one of the worst one I have. And after that it would be just every time I go through certain thing like, like if I'm like closing my eye, I hit a bump, I feel like I'm sinking, ok?

JW : Is that a dream or you mean in a car?

03.32.14 LING YOUNG: No, in a car. That's not a dream. That's just like every time (?) seem like I'm completely like a down, like a freefall. But that had, that doesn't happen to me for awhile already, but once in a blue moon it does. It all depends like it creeps up on you whenever they feel like it. Or even just like my girlfriend tell me, she went through the 9-11, she was downstairs, she saw the building, she saw all these thing.

03.32.37 She never bothered to take care of herself. But she saw the, the movie called Destiny, I think uh, not Destiny. Uh, about somebody was going on a plane and they didn't, they didn't make the plane. They all survived it when everyone die afterward. What movie was that?

JW : Final Destination?

LING YOUNG: Final Destination, whatever. She said that movie actually freaked her out. Everything start happening, and she, she went crazy for a long time. See, it's almost the same thing with us. Once in awhile comes up, but then no reason, there's no specific reason why it happened. There's no specific reason that uh, it happened or not happened. It just creeps up on you. Just like I said the ambulance.

03.33.10 There's no reason why I remember all the sudden everything's like (?) clamming on me. Everything's like closing in on me. I feel like I'm isolated. I'm like all by myself. Like I'm, like I'm about to die. Like something's gonna happen to me like that. Or, like I said, I'm gonna go through a tunnel.

03.33.33 I don't really notice the tunnel anymore. But once in a blue moon, oh, ok. Now you see the tunnel. All right now, what happen? Just like the last time what uh, (?) awhile back there was a blackout? The first thing that came to everyone of our mind, ok, that's terrorists.

Before anything happened, because (?) it just went out like this. And to us, that's it. Now what happened? Now of course you knew it was New York that made it worse.

03.34.02 So now you're scared, 'cos now your kids are at work, your husband's at work. Your daughter's here. You know, like everything just start cramping up in this, then you see where you starting to get, I started to get like a little crazy. Uh, let's say this way, you never know when it's gonna happen to you. I did talk to my psychologist. I said I don't really remember anything. And it's a good thing, because I really don't know what happened.

03.34.30 But it's also a bad thing 'cos when it comes back, it's gonna be really pretty bad. It's gonna come back and hit me right sock me like this. That's is when we're not. I don't know. That's something I cannot control. That's sometimes scares me.

JW : Do you think it's going to come back?

03.34.47 LING YOUNG: No one can tell. Even the psychologist. It could, it could not. It depends on if you trick it off or not. Like I said, when I went to the burn conference, when the firework triggered off the explosion. I was literally shaking to a point that it just almost like make me feel like it, it's happening that moment, the same moment when I, the explosion come hit me like that, like this. That's what I feel like, that I was being just thrown against the whole thing again. Start from scratch.

03.35.18 Now, out of nowhere did I expect that to happen? No.

JW : What happened?

03.35.23 LING YOUNG: We went to the burn conference, and after that they had a baseball game. So we wanted to see a baseball game. (?) they have firework. I see firework all the time, it's no big deal. But the firework was so intense, because it was right there, all the sudden when they go (?) like this, and that's when I remember the explosion, and just brought me right back to

that (?) moment at the explosion, and then I just freaked out. That was sit, that was the end of me.

JW : What happened?

03.35.52 LING YOUNG: I just was total, I totally lost it. And I couldn't like, I was shaking, I was completely and I, you couldn't move, you can't go nowhere. It's the middle of the firework, where you gonna go?

03.36.02 So I literally was sitting, standing, sitting at the chair, lucky there were chairs still (?) at the baseball game. And I was standing there shaking, completely all the way to the end. And it took a while for me to get back to normal.

JW : Was Don with you?

03.36.19 LING YOUNG: Everybody was with me. My daughter was with me, all my kids with me. 'Cos we went to the, you heard about the World Burn (?) Conference, yeah? I was supposed to go this year, but unfortunately Junior's in-law came over and so I didn't go. And when you go to those conference, you'd be amazed what, what could people survive. And that I learned a lot from that.

03.36.38 That's why I went about two years, three years ago I think. That made my whole life change tremendously. 'Cos what I go through, I can't compare to those people. As much as what I'm seeing here. I mean, there were people really, really deformed to a point that, and they're doing so much. I mean, I actually saw a woman with nothing.

03.37.01 All she had the head and the, and a top torso. That's all she have. No arm, no leg, nothing. I mean, literally nothing. And she's surviving. And she's uses her mouth to do the computer. And I'm like (LAUGHS) what the hell am I complaining? It's amazing, because that's the first night we went there. We wanted to uh, Hard Rock Café to eat 'cos there's nothing in

Cleveland, Ohio, really. And I saw this woman pushing her in. And I said holy Christ, this lady got nothing.

03.37.29 She got herself into the booth. She was eating. Now of course, I wasn't watching, 'cos I don't want to stare. Then I found out she was actually at the conference. And she got a medal because she'd being taken care of 24 hours. But the thing is, she still, she survive. She got this disease when she was young, I think 8 years old. Now she's like in the 40s now. This is a lady (?) I mean, nothing. I mean, this is all she got, and her head. And I said, what am I complaining? I'm walking.

03.38.01 And you see people there with no arms; matter of fact, at that time, that was the year they had the uh, Rhode Island night club fire. Yeah, that was it. We went in uh, October, I think. It happened like 6 months before. We got, they got, they got burn patient there from Rhode Island. And (?) they were like (?) I mean, burnt, ok? So I'm looking at it and I said (?) so I'm looking at all these people around me.

03.38.32 And one of them, one lady was really, really burned to a point her whole head, Jim I swear to god, her head, the color's like that color white. I thought almost like a Halloween mask that's what you're looking at. Her whole face is like, you know, those white uh, white whale, like those big, big like (?) layers of cotton ball, like that. That's what she looked like.

03.39.02 It's pretty scary when you look at it. But of course after awhile you know her, you not you don't look at her that way. That's what she looked like. This poor lady must have went through hell to be looking like this. She, that's what she, really looked like. If you put a, like a uh, a body of a whale on her, that's how her head look like. Completely white, but stack up like stack on, on top of each other. And I said wow. That's some lady. Ok?

03.39.30 And you see so many burn patient there, it's very amazing what you see and you see burn patient. Of course it doesn't help you a lot because they tell you, you talk about itch? That's gonna be the rest of your life. Which is gee, thanks. I thought it was gonna go away. (LAUGHS) She said, oh, no, no, no. I had it for twenty, I was burned 25 years go and it still,

I said oh, Christ. I said I don't need to hear this. So you hear good thing, you see bad things, and you say that's why I, I learn a lot. It's not gonna go away. They already told me that you're gonna have cataract.

03.40.00 Ok, you're gonna have that problem. I already found out just from my recent, 'cos I fell and I went for my, my checkup, I already found out I have a blind spot in my right eye. That sounds wonderful. 'Cos my other girlfriend's having problem seeing already. I said ok, that sounds nice. Uh, then you're gonna have arthritis, very early stage arthritis, I said oh, that sounds wonderful. Which we're gonna have anyway, right? Just so many things that we're gonna have later in the future that we're not looking forward to it, but you're not gonna escape it. So I figured out, when time comes I'll worry about it.

03.40.37 'Cos (?) different ages, the kids, you see adults. You see older people who got burned. And the one, the, the founder of the, the congress is the guy who got burned really, really bad, and he said you know what? This is a time for people to get together. And uh, actually we could discuss it, how to cope with it, and they got makeup class on how you could hide your makeup.

03.41.03 And the one who actually doing the makeup is a person who was burned, very badly, and doesn't even have a hand. And she's clicking the camera like this, no tomorrow. I said ok, look at this chick. She don't even have her fingers, and she's holding this, not a tiny little camera. Those big camera, you know like those uh, I don't know, whatever you want to call it. And I'm looking at them and I said Ok, it's the same thing what they look at me in my group. They inspire me 'cos I'm looking at them.

03.41.29 I said, look at them, what they're going through. (~JW~)

JW : They inspire your group?

03.41.33 LING YOUNG: Well, they said by looking at me, what, what am I complaining, when look at what Ling's going through. 'Cos every day I'm going, coming in with different things.

Like I'm (?) a constant thing. Constant problem, it's not like one week they see me, oh Ling, you look great. There's no such thing. Now they could say gee, Ling, you look great. But other than that, every week you come in, you see me with different things. If I don't have a patch here, I'm gonna have a patch here. I'm always have something going in like not like this is clean.

03.42.00 But normally I would either come in with a cast or a big bandage here, big bandage, it's always something in me that's all wrapped up. So now I look great, considering, 'cos I only have one or two patches. But (?) so to me, to, to them, they said to (?) themselves, you know, I can't complain, 'cos Ling going through ten times worse than I am. Like when I went to the burn conference, I said to myself, I can't complain. Look at what all these people going through.

03.42.29 So it kind of give me a different kind of (?) perspective and uh, since then I be a little different. And I do support them once in awhile, uh, every year because I decided that's the way you know, that's how it goes. That's, they also go, go by uh, donation and all these other thing. That's the only, the least I can do. Other than that, I can't do too much. But everything I do, I keep it quiet. Only because Donald's very funny. He could be the most generous guy on Earth, but he could be a pain in my butt on everything.

03.43.00 So I just do my share. I do (?) all the paperwork anyway, so whatever goes, goes. Ok. Uh, uh.

JW : Is there a certain amount of acceptance?

03.43.20 LING YOUNG: I don't have a choice. I mean, is it gonna change me, no. If I don't accept it, they (?) always say to me, how could you just, just laugh about it?

03.43.30 I said what do you expect me to do? I could sit here and cry all day long. Is this gonna change me, it's gonna make me better? It's not, so forget it. Not always the (?) what am I gonna do? I accept the way I am, oh, yeah, you get frustrated once in awhile, 'cos you say oh,

Christ, I look like crap, you know. 'Cos everybody look at you like oh, gee. But what can you do? Can I change it, can I take all this scar away? No.

- 03.43.57 Can I get better? As of now, no. No one's gonna get me better because that's the way I am. So far, no one have find a cure for me. And uh, this, supposing this neurologist was to call my pain management doctor, who never did. He said there's this guy in NYU is doing some kind of uh, study on (?) this scarring. And I said to myself, Dr. Chou would never let me do it. All doctor think they own me. It's just very funny. Every doctor I goes to, they own me.
- 03.44.30 They don't want anybody to touch me (LAUGHS). They want them to be, I'm like their sole thing. That's why Dr. Powell, my burn surgeon, kind of mad at me when I, at the beginning, that I went to some place else. But there's not much he can do for me anymore. 'Cos then (?) got into my hand and I need a hand specialist. So but we, we had a talk, so we had understanding. And he was just mad only because he said I'm so frustrated 'cos I can't help you. I'm mad at myself, actually he said, I'm mad at myself, because I cannot see you through, and I want to get you better.
- 03.45.04 And I just can't do it, and it just frustrate me. So that's what happened. And he even cursed when this guy messed it up. He said what, what happened (?). You know, I didn't want to use those word. I said, yeah, I understand, I understand. You know whatever happens. So once we get understanding, we, we get past that, then we became best friends. Actually we became friend beside being a doctor and patient relationship. We're very open with each other.
- 03.45.28 And uh, and now with Dr. Chou, I'm his piece of trophy. I'm (?) because I'm so, so unique. Everybody wanted to do something to be, put me down in a book or something like that. So it's like, I said, once they have me, they own me (LAUGHS). It's just like, I laugh at it. Don't you touch it, you know, like, like Chou now? I'm his. Like don't anybody touches it. 'Cos he owns me in a way, like this is what he's gonna do. If I decide, I say I'm gonna go to see another guy for something else, boy I'll probably never hear (?) the end of it.

03.46.03 He's also very good. He's very particular. He is well-known, ok? He is, supposedly he's well-known. So he does it, people will come all over the place. Unfortunately, this could be (?) the book, unfortunately my burn doctor's very, very good, because he's very good (?) you know I mean? He don't want to keep you. Yeah. That's politics, you know? (~JW~)

03.46.30 Well, he's very good, he did something very good. And uh, they didn't like the idea. And after he did that job, he knew his days were numbered. Unfortunately.

JW : Did he get kicked out of his job?

LING YOUNG: Yeah, kind of. They never renew his contract.

JW : 'Cos he did something good?

LING YOUNG: No, no, no, he did something else for somebody else (~JW~)

(OFF CAMERA REMARKS)

LING YOUNG: So he knew his days were numbered, but after he's gone, like there's nobody else anymore.

JW : Do you have a doctor now?

03.47.01 LING YOUNG: Yeah, Dr. Chou's now is my main doctor. But he hates writing letters. He hates writing anything. So to get him, get him to write me a report for anything, it would be like pulling teeth. But I guess now, quote-unquote, he think now, now he knows he's the main guy now, so when I hit my head, he started writing report, I was like I, I almost like fainted. When he called me up and said, Ling, tell me a little bit about it, what happened. I said, I said why? He said, I'm writing a report.

03.47.30 I, I almost choke. I said, excuse me, what are you doing? He never wrote anything for me.

JW : The reports are critical why?

- 03.47.38 LING YOUNG: Because I have to put on records that this is, this happened to me. That could be because from prior injury, ok? Before 9-11, I was very, very healthy. I don't even have a cold. That's how healthy I am. Ok, I might be skinny then, then, but I was very healthy. I mean, my whole house could have fevers and running down wit everything you could think of, I would not have it. I'd be the only one doesn't have it. Now, forget it. So far I still doesn't have any of those problems 'cos I still, I'm taking medication like uh, my (surtax?) I take for my itch.
- 03.48.16 But because of the antihistamine, it keeps me away from all the cold and all these other nonsense. I'm taking tons of vitamin, 'cos they want me to take vitamin, you name it I'm taking. So I have like 7, 8 pill, 9 pill a day. Of different kind, vitamins and pain killer and antidepressant, sleeping pill and itch pills.
- 03.48.38 All this thing combined. I guess it stopped me from all these other problem. But (neurotin?) I try to cut down a little bit (?) I even talk to my pain management, and this (?) neurologist, oh, no, no, no, don't cut it. So I did explain to this doctor today, I said, I was talking to Dr. the neurologist, and he said to me uh, don't stop.
- 03.49.02 Don't cut it down. He said no, don't worry about it. He said, as long as you take the night one, to make sure, you could try to weed it down. 'Cos I don't want all this thing in my body. 'Cos (?) then it'll be, you're so adapted to it, it's, it doesn't work anymore. Just on my pain medication. I've been taking so much to a point I (?) was throwing up. 'Cos when they do my physical therapy, they really kill me. And that's the only time I take it because it was so intense. To a point one time I was grabbing something when I was doing it, with this hand. To a point I, I have trigger finger 'cos I, I was grabbing it so tight.
- 03.49.38 'Cos it was very painful. When they, what they got to remember when they bend you, they like crack you. And they crack you (?) even like (?) oh, you know, like you're dying there.

And that was taking the pill. Uh, it was very funny, 'cos I take the pill at the same time they had this (?) pop. So I had like three (?) sticking in my mouth in therapy. (LAUGHS) She looks, this is very weird. But the weird thing is what the hell is she doing, she's having candy? But it's really not candy.

03.50.04 Those are like uh, pain medication to go through your gum. Ok? Have, but instead of one I got three of those sticking in my mouth. After I took the pills, I'm over there with three thing, and they were clanking and I'm over there like grabbing this thing. So it, it's a very funny sight when you look at it. But (LAUGHS) after awhile, that doesn't work anymore. And I start throwing up. And I couldn't understand it. I said, why am I throwing up? And Marge, you know what? Every time you, you stop the pill 'cos you, you have Friday, Saturday and Sunday off, on your physical therapies.

03.50.35 And you go back Monday you take the pill, that's when you start throwing up. You know, like that's why she's very good. She picks up all these things that I don't pick up. When I had the ultrasound, I didn't know I had a blood clot. She picked it up, 'cos she knew the term. And she stopped the guy. She said, you mean blood clot? And the guy would kind of look at her like who the hell is she? See, I wouldn't know the difference.

(OFF CAMERA REMARKS)

03.51.04 END OF TAPE # JY31

TAPE # JY32 09.09.2005
Ling Young / B ROLL
JIM WHITAKER, Producer/director
PROJECT REBIRTH

04.01.01 PICTURE UP

(OFF CAMERA REMARKS)

04.01.08 LING YOUNG: (MID-STATEMENT) he was so proud of it 'cos it's all right there. He had it for years and years. And now. That's it. And besides, it's too hard for him now 'cos his whole back is burned. And even though he doesn't go out in the sun, if it's hot, he get blistered. But he's the guy that wears everything to the (?) to here. And heck, when it's hot, take it off (LAUGHS).

(OFF CAMERA REMARKS)

JW: Do you worry about developing an addiction?

04.01.54 LING YOUNG: Yeah, I am. I can't sleep without the pill. I try. It don't work, ok? Uh, I try to cut it down, made it worse. So I'm now actually increase on it because the 30 milligram (?) doesn't work anymore. Used to like when you first take it, it takes a half an hour, you're done. You know, you go to sleep for a couple of hours. You're really not sleeping in. 'cos you like you're tossing and turning. We don't, if I get 4, 5 hour deep sleep would be great. But it's not, doesn't happen to us. (~JW~) That's the sad part.

INTERVIEWER: For you, how many hours do you get?

04.02.30 LING YOUNG: We get, 5, 5 hour or so, but it's not sleep. You're like half asleep. So therefore, but I don't sleep during the day, either. I don't get tired during the day. That's my other problem. Now if I'm tired during the day, that means that I had such a restless night, and if I'm in a car and when the car moving back and forth, I just doze off. And I would just completely knocked out, but then I'm in trouble, 'cos at night, take the pill, forget it. You, you in deep trouble.

04.02.59 So 4 or 5 hours for us is great. But it's great if you have complete, completeness, but It's not completeness. You still like on and off. So you're sleeping but you're really not sleeping. So maybe you get an hour or two, maybe, that you're conked out because when the medicine

really worked on it. Now, now it takes me at least an hour, two hours just for the medicine to kick in, and sometime don't even kick in. That's just, that's the problem. Then I just have to pop another one, just to make sure it kicked in. So that's my biggest problem. Actually all our problem, every one of us.

INTERVIEWER: What are you gonna do?

- 04.03.46 LING YOUNG: I have no choice, I have to take the pill. I know it's gonna be (?) it's very addictive, I've been taking it for four years already. I started with Ambien. Ambien was doing great, then all the sudden, I take it, I wake up after an hour, and then I'm in trouble. Then I start doing crazy things, which I don't know about. I mean, I'd be like making phone calls. I told you I (?) made phone call to Hong Kong, I have no clue I did it.
- 04.04.00 And someone else would tell me that, ok? My kids would tell me I did such and such and such. And I have no recollection of it. Then they're afraid that I could open the door and just fall right down the stairs. So that stopped that one. So they gave me the new pill. And the new pill was doing Ok with 15. Then fifteen didn't work, and I went to 25, that didn't work, then I went to 35. That didn't work. So now I'm up to 45. But is it gonna continue going on? I was waiting to be, my body to be a little bit more healed up, I say I'm gonna stop.
- 04.04.33 So I tried it. Once in awhile it does, but it doesn't really work. And I need that couple of hour just to just to be knocked out a little bit. 'Cos if not, I'll be like miserable and I feel edgy, I feel like uncomfortable. I feel just like it could be, you, that you could explode. That's how (?) it is. Like this two weeks like I said. Anything could trigger this off. We could just go out, go off like, like firework.
- 04.05.01 No reason sometime. Uh, (CLEARS THROAT) now I'm dealing with (?) now with my daughter. She want to move out, which is fine with me. I explained to her, which is great, but there is certain thing you got to look out when you're moving out. And when you're moving out, there's a lot of thing you're gonna be responsible for, ok? You just can't say I'm gonna move out and just everything like Sex And The City, how they watch it. Oh, it's great in the

city. You're gonna do a lot of thing. Well, in the meantime, you don't have the kind of money to do everything.

04.05.29 Especially when you're home you don't pay anything. I said it's great for you to have, have your independence, but in meantime, you have to learn that there's a lot of thing you have to sacrifice. You can't do what you want to do anymore. So I'm dealing with that problem. Dealing with my husband, dealing all these little thing, doesn't help when 9-11's coming up. It doesn't really help. So when everything's add up together, lucky in a way my mind is blank. Because if I'm start thinking what I used to do, I about went crazy already.

04.06.00 I gave myself, I say if I can't do it, shut up. Let's do something else. So if I really don't want to be dealing with it, I just say get the you-know-what out, go, don't, out of my face, don't bother with me. Let's not discuss it. We don't want to talk about it. Or I would just say, please, out. And like my daughter being (calling?) me, say why you don't want to (?) I say you know what? I'm really in the mood to talk. Ok? Can we just discuss it, 'cos these two days she's living in Jersey City.

04.06.31 Uh, is easy for her 'cos she has meeting. Uh, I said, why don't we talk about it when get home. It's not, I said I really don't feel like talking the phone. Especially now she's working the cubicle. It's not like she has an office, she can talk all she wanted. Now you can't hardly hear her. It's bad enough I can't hear, and when you start whispering, forget it. How do I know what you're talking about? So she's coming home, and she's coming home tonight. And like I said, tomorrow, I think, we're gonna spend the day with her girlfriend, whatever you want to call that. Uh. How should I say it? I don't know what's gonna happen this weekend, because we don't know.

04.07.08 I know they're coming over. How am I gonna react, I don't know. I, I promise myself I'm not watching any TV. We're gonna block ourselves out of it. Because of what I watch in National Geographic, it didn't do any good. It just made, made us worse. So I'm not planning to watch any of this. 'Cos I'm almost, that's why I think maybe that's why A&E has just keep on repeating us backward and forward.

- 04.07.35 Maybe that's what everybody's doing. Everybody's repeating everything. Uh, because of what I watch, and then make me feel so miserable. We (?) actually we all promise ourselves we're not gonna do this. We're staying away from the TV and uh, like they said, Eddie got some movies and this one got that, and somebody's going to another party. You know, that's just like just to get away from all these other things that's happening.
- 04.08.03 'Cos you know the TV's gonna be pounding and pounding, all the pictures and all this thing what happened. All this, all this problem. So we're not gonna, I promising myself I'm not gonna do it. If they want to watch downstairs, I could always go upstairs. And that's what I'm gonna do this week. I'm not gonna to put myself into what I did two (?) weeks ago. 'Cos I thought it was really nothing. I mean, it's four years, what, what could it be wrong with just (?) listen to people?
- 04.08.32 But we don't know why it just make us so miserable, so, so that we such an out of control that we got this anxiety like all built up here that we want to blow up, but we can't express it. And Bob was just saying I should never watch it. I don't know why make me watch it. I don't know why I watch it, 'cos I, he just keep on saying it over and over again. I said, Bob, don't feel bad. I feel the same way.
- 04.09.00 So we try to like comfort each other, because I know how it feels, he know how it feel. The other people know how it feel, 'cos we all been there. But if you talk about spouse-wise, they have no clue. Even Mary, as much as Mary's husband is very supportive, (?) say, doesn't matter, it's not the same. 'Cos it's really not the same unless it happens to you. I mean, you were down there like right afterward, you know how bad that was. So it's just, and the reason I like my psychologist because he was in a trauma team.
- 04.09.32 He was down there for two weeks. So he knew what was going on. As a matter of fact, his team now is in uh, New Orleans now. So he's on call like this.

INTERVIEWER: Does it make you angry?

LING YOUNG: That wasn't really never my issue. I don't know what it is.

INTERVIEWER: What emotion would you say would describe people not getting it?

04.09.59 LING YOUNG: It gets you very frustrated. And, and then finally it would just, I would just say, you know what, you're not there, so. Let's not discuss it. Because there's no way in hell you would ever understand what (?) we went through or how I feel, or what I'm, what position I'm in. 'Cos no matter how you try to be, they said to try to understand, but they don't. Because it's something that you, if you don't experience this, I don't care how sympathetic you are, how much you think that you like I'm not talking about you in general, how you, how everybody perceive it.

04.10.33 You were not there that day. I, if you were there to be the rescue worker, let's say you actually was down in Ground Zero when there's all these things happening. You might have a little better picture. But compared to some other people who just saw on TV, oh, please get over with something like that or just oh, I understand how you feel. That gets people real mad, and some people say you don't know how I feel, you have no clue what we feel.

04.10.59 You were not down there, you watch it on TV (~JW~)

INTERVIEWER: Is that how you feel?

04.11.04 LING YOUNG: If that's what people come and tell me, yes, I would feel, I would, I would be mad. You really don't know stuff. And I would just leave it that way 'cos I wouldn't want to go, go further 'cos if you go further, it would boil us up. That could get us very angry. That's the only time I would get angry. Or even though one time (?) I remember one time my brother kind of said, oh, please get over it. I said don't every say that. Ok? That's not something you just get over. That's not something you say ok, uh, forget about, it didn't happen.

04.11.32 Not when you look at yourself every day, I'm a constant reminder of myself. You can't just get over this. So I kind of got mad at him. But I just say do me a favor, keep your opinion to yourself. Do not ever say get over it, especially to people who it happened to. 'Cos that's not something somebody's gonna get over. You can't get over this. There's not something (?) is gonna disappear, it's not gonna disappear. If I'm looking at myself, how am I gonna say that, let's get over it?

04.11.59 If I look at myself every day I can't move my hand, that's a constant reminder. How can I just say, it never happened? You can't.

INTERVIEWER: How often do you think about it?

04.12.11 LING YOUNG: Not too often, only because I don't let myself do it. Because if not, I would be crazy. I would not put myself in that position 'cos I don't think it's worth it. Uh, and plus I'm not gonna change the fact it's gonna happen to me. And it's not gonna change the fact it happened already, it's not gonna change the fact that I might have ten million different surgery later down the road, or whatever happen's gonna happen to me.

04.12.33 I just hope that I'm equipped to face it when time comes, 'cos you really can't, cannot depend on your other, other spouse to do any of the, the caretaking, because they really don't understand. In my case, it's more difficult because he was never equipped to do it. So you figured out this thing would change, no. He sees me the same one, same person as I was before.

04.13.01 And I, sometime it get, that gets me very angry. Sometime I would just get to a point I'd say, I am not the same person. You not, you keep on forgetting, I'm not the same person. I cannot do 90% of the thing I used to do. Ok? He would say let's do this, and I'd say hello. I can't do it. Just like, let's say he wants to go here or go there. I cannot do that anymore. I cannot be in the sun. I just can't.

- 04.13.29 Like he would say oh, uh, we're gonna do this and we're gonna go fishing. I said, sure that sounds great to you, but I can't. what am I gonna do? First of all, I can't do any of this, I can't be in the sun too long, I get burned. When we get burned, we get burnt. Burnt to a point means that we get blisters. Do I want to go through that and open another blister for the heck of doing it, no. I'm not putting myself through that. That's why the people (?) laughing, oh, yeah, we're gonna come down for vacation. I said, yeah, definite, count me out. Except January, February and March ok (LAUGHS).
- 04.13.59 Anything after that three month do not count us in. Or count me in, 'cos I just (?) he's not hurt, he's moving to Arizona. So come visit, I said, yeah, definitely. You see this four over here? You never see us in the summertime, 'cos it was four, four of us burned there. This four over here, we never see us in, in the summertime. Maybe in January and February you see us down in Arizona. And that's, and we joke around like this. 'Cos we can't do half the things, not because (?) we can't go in the sun. You can't enjoy what you used to be enjoying, I used to hate the sun.
- 04.14.30 Now I would love the sun to be hitting on me. But I can't have that. So this it goes, and I was trying to go get my glasses, lady says, why don't you just get yourself a pair of sunglasses? I said, I can't, I don't, I, I can't, I can't use it, 'cos I'd have to keep on changing. And on top of it, I have umbrella all the time, anyway. 'Cos I have to protect myself. I said, what good is (?) sunglasses gonna do me? It's not gonna do any good. So that's the kind of thing we have to face. I have to say to myself, hey. This is what my life's gonna be.
- 04.15.00 This is how much I can do. I don't think too much of it, because I don't know what the future's gonna hold. But I do (?) I must say that I gain a lot of function since the last time I saw you. I'm in a better position ok? Uh, I don't have the infection I used to have. I mean, there was, it was horrible because after when it gets mature, you literally cannot even move your arm. It was so painful, you can't even lift it. And then that's ready to take it out. And once it's taken out, it's drained, then you feel like a new person. But then you have a hole. Which is like deep, deep hole.

- 04.15.36 That's gonna take weeks and weeks of like cleaning and preparation and bandaging, you name it. For like two months. It heals. But before this one healed, something else comes up. So it's like you're constantly backward and forward like (?) I don't know how many months. Uh, oh, my god, it must be like two, three months before he finally said this is it.
- 04.15.59 I was there like four time in ten days. That's pretty bad. And he's like Friday and Saturday, uh, Thursday and Friday he's in surgery. So that means there was two or three days that he can't even see me. So when he saw that many infection like 4 or 5 time, he said, what, this is it. Let's do this whole thing, and that's what he did. It wasn't bad, actually. Considering it, I think that was very good. But. Looks like hell, but who cares?
- 04.16.26 That's how I see it. I say, you have to see me the way I am, that's the way it's gonna be. Uh. If you want some other picture I saw, this used to be real raised. Like thick, thick, thick. This is really good. So.

INTERVIEWER: What about going on vacation?

- 04.16.46 LING YOUNG: Yeah, I try. As a matter-of-fact, I have to go to Texas for a wedding. Lucky it's in October, 'cos I told Junior, I even call up the guy, I said listen. It's supposed to be outdoor. I said (LAUGHS) oh. Do you have a tent? Uh, they said, why you hold an umbrella?
- 04.17.00 I said what do you, how does it look like I'm holding an umbrella, (?) poking somebody's eye hold it for like 20, 30 minute? It's not happening, ok? So I called the guy up myself, I said, Alison, his name's Alison, I said do you have a tent? I said, I cannot stay in the sun. Ok? I cannot even have an umbrella, 'cos it, it's still coming from all over you. Ok? You don't want me to look like a, a mummy with things surrounding me? So he say he's gonna put a tent that's good enough like 4 people.

04.17.27 But it's still gonna be very hot. I don't care it is October, still hot I think. And uh, I have a sleeveless dress. But because of my arm I have this, I have to have something cover it, so I'm still gonna be like (?).

INTERVIEWER: What about gloves?

04.17.42 LING YOUNG: No. I, well, I will have my glove. But I'm gonna have like a shawl to cover this part. 'Cos I have sleeveless, 'cos if I put something with sleeve on, it's gonna be very hot. So I decided the best thing is to have sleeveless. And put a shawl over it. And kind of like you can't even see it. So that was the deal.

04.17.59 Uh, flying. I'm very good at it now because I don't sleep, I take the pill right before it starts. I'm conked out, and I wake up, oh, it's there. That's something (~JW~) I learned.

INTERVIEWER: In regards to the addiction, are you worried about that?

04.18.22 LING YOUNG: I do, but I, I can't control it. I don't have a choice. I mean, (neurotin?) is for my nerve pain. If I don't take it, the way I'm supposed to take it, let's say I forgot about it, you know right way 'cos it started to (?) you know, it comes like shooting pains. It's oops, I forgot.

INTERVIEWER: What do you see in the future?

04.18.42 LING YOUNG: I don't know. As of now, I'm not in very high doses. They said (neurotin?) could go up to as high as 3200. and they said oh, no big deal. But then I just heard on the news there's some, something wrong with it. I never, I haven't read up on it yet, almost like the uh, Vioxx. I have taken Vioxx by the way.

04.19.00 And actually I got a call from NYU telling me if you're taking it, stop. And I said, gee that's a long time ago. That's what I used, I did take for the uh, scar. When they was contracting. Took it for awhile, matter-of-fact. Uh, I took prednisone for awhile, too. I took all kinds of

uh, pill. The, the only thing I'm afraid of is the addiction is if, if I don't take it, I don't go to sleep. What's gonna happen? How long do I have to go through this whole nine yard?

04.19.31 That I know for a fact. I can't take the rest of my life. I want to get to a point that I take it only if I have to take it, but I haven't gotten to this stage yet. And people, like they would tell me for the time being, since you're still going through all these things, just leave it, don't worry about addition. This is what my psychologist is telling me. When time come when you're ready, you're gonna be ready. Don't worry about it now, he said.

04.19.58 So that I'm not gonna worry about it right now. Even though it does come through my head once in awhile, but I'm gonna try to not to. And once in awhile I say, you know, let's not take it. But (?) when 2 o'clock comes, you're not sleeping, you know, take the damn pill. I don't have a choice.

INTERVIEWER: Where do you think you'll be in the future?

04.20.21 LING YOUNG: I can't go too far. Ok? Because you don't know what's gonna happen to me. Can't really take certain vacation, because you can't be in the sun. you can't go certain places. Ok? If you do go, you got to be all geared up, with everything. You'd be like dying out of heat. I would love to take a trip to China, which I always wanted to, but I don't know when. Ok? Uh, I know after the wedding next year I have some kind of surgery, I don't know where yet. I know definitely it's gonna be here or here. I haven't decided yet. But uh, where I'm gonna go, unfortunately Don is retiring next year, that doesn't do me any good (LAUGHS).

04.21.06 He might be retiring next year. But that's the end of next year, so I have long time to think about, not be like I don't know about that. That's 24 hours, I'm not too sure. Uh, but the only thing I'm afraid of now is if Donald or my daughter get uh, butting head, and that's what, the only thing I'm, I'm fearing, but I said to Marge. Marge keep on reminding me, that's why I said Marge is like my uh, sidekick.

04.21.32 Ling, don't worry about it, when time come you worry about it. It's true. I can't worry about things in advance anymore. I can't, I don't have the energy to do that. So. She push me down and calms me down, and that's why Larry, Larry's funny, Larry (?) is a nut. So he, when we go out to go on an appointment, and we have fun, those, those hour or two. 'Cos we insult each other like, you know, just to get the kick out of it. Uh.

INTERVIEWER: Is that great?

04.22.01 LING YOUNG: Yeah, (?) we're three crazy people. But that's how it gets me going, you know like I would look forward to it. I look forward to seeing Marge, and Marge look forward to seeing me, and then we watch movie and we just, we just out loud making up stories and telling what to do and we would scream and carry on. You know, how soap operas gets a little crazy, you know, and we just like get on it. And then after that it's ok. So she goes the rest of the day and go do her thing, and I do my things.

04.22.27 So our day go by real quick. And when she's not around, it's oh, (?) what am I gonna do now? And especially the day she's not coming. I said, oh, god, what am I gonna do here? (?) then I be moping. All day. It's not fun. Uh, I normally not supposed to be here by myself, so sometime I have my sister-in-law come in. But still not the same. You know what I mean, 'cos she's like babysitting you. I'm not a baby. But I don't want anything to happen. Then I, have more problem. I don't need anymore problem. This is what I say to myself. So I try to take everything lighter as usual.

04.23.03 I try not to get myself into argument. Ok? I do but, because I can't control it. If I say to myself, ok, Ling, this is not helping, 'cos you're just gonna get yourself crazy. Then I just try to pull myself back. Of course, with Marge around, she just say, Ling, ok, let's go. So that's how I get myself by. He's home two weeks, of course, gonna drive me nuts. But uh, but she's, she's around, Marge is around.

04.23.31 But unfortunately she's going through hell herself with her husband's going through all kinds of headache. And for three years, he has an operation, he doesn't know what's going on.

They finally found out they think they know what it is. But let's hope. They just, I mean, they feel his back (swears?) there was a problem, there wasn't a problem. Then afterward, they decided was to screw, then that wasn't the problem. It's just, just like constant, constant. So uh, my future's gonna be like actually I don't know. Now the kids' gonna be out of the house, so it's like oh, Christ. At least my daughter comes home and (?) tell me how I'm frustrated,

04.24.05 I'm this, this happened, that happened. Now I don't have that. So that's another thing that I have to get used to. 'Cos if she come home, she still blab, blab, blab (?) like at least a half an hour of what happened at work. This happened, that happens, good and bad, doesn't, things like that. But if she move out that's gonna be gone. So it'd be like me, me, myself and I. And Donald, if he's around. So uh, I'm not too sure I'm really that, that much looking forward to it.

INTERVIEWER: What were the highlights of the retirement party?

04.24.42 LING YOUNG: Actually it's funny because they (?) everybody's insulting each other (LAUGHS). That, actually like, it wasn't really (?) anything about me, but they were insulting each other, you know like the guy was there, and the MC was insulting every one of my friends. How this one doesn't do work, how (?) that's what (?) said, I never knew you guys were that funny.

04.25.02 I said yeah, my group is really crazy. My group when we get together, I mean, we, I used to love to come to work. That was the old group I was talking about. It would be like I can't wait to get to work, 'cos you go in, you laugh until you go home. And we'd make all kinds of noise. We'd still do our work, mind you, but we still have so much fun. We watch the kid grow up. I mean, we, I would say like 30 years.

04.25.26 So the one who prepare the party, I knew her since 1973. And we had babies together, you know like it was just like, oh, our kids were in the same age. As a matter-of-fact, her son's like a month older than my kids. And I didn't want to have a party, ok, I never wanted a

party. And uh, ok, so (but they said?) they gonna do for you anyway that you like it or not, they're gonna throw you a party. I said oh, crap. That's not gonna do me any good. So I said all right, what the hell. Let's do it. So uh, they were gonna do it without me anyway. With or without your permission they're gonna do it. That's all right.

04.26.00 That's the case, let's do it. But it was fun. I saw a lot of people who never showed up before showed up, ok? I had a guy who retire over 15 years ago because of disability, he showed up. He could hardly move, this guy. He showed up. It was quite a lot of retiree was there. Which I was very surprised. And I guess I had a ball. I was just laughing all the way. I guess I didn't shut up. It was, it was very, very different. And unfortunately they though it's gonna be pretty small.

04.26.33 So next thing you know I think they have about 80, 90 people showed up, and it's like (?) ok, that was it, you know? That's why the place was so jammed up. And uh, lucky that the restaurant guy was pretty good, was very cooperative. But that's the reason why that it's very hard, and when you, you deal with, at least you're dealing with American people. The Chinese wedding is chaos. Nobody listen to nobody. Everybody's on top of each other.

04.27.01 It was just that it's really chaotic things. And 90% not gonna talk, doesn't understand English. And that's like a big thing, and with my mother, she already hates my, hates my guts that I'm getting all this attention. I said imagine she sees it again, she might flipped out. She's already flipped out now because in her mind she's stick, she's fixed on one issue. She think my father's having an affair.

04.27.28 That issue stick in her mind, she'd be like, every two seconds she's watching my father's move. It, the minute (?) he gets up, her eye just follows him. And if he goes out, to the yard, she's just like (?) like, like a robot, automatic just gets up and go right after him and start screaming. She's just lost it. So I said, imagine if I have that coming, of doing any (film?) or whatever it is, she might just start up because I'm getting attention again. Somehow I even ask her point blank, I said what seems to be your problem?

- 04.28.01 Are you jealous? And she went, came right out says yes, I am. So why do you have this or why do you have that? Why do you know how much your brother make, uh, why you (?) you have kids good to you? I'm like, is it my fault? I mean, it's not my fault if I have all this. I work very hard for it. Well, you don't have to worry about it, your husband comes home and gives you the paycheck and this and this. I said, because he doesn't know how to take care of the checkbook, not because he's just, Chinese men doesn't do that.
- 04.28.31 That's (?) another reason why. Not because he's so whatever. I do all the bills. And I'm, I make it my business to be, to be tight with my kid because I know what I saw myself growing up as, and I want to change that. And I did do it for my own, for my own sake, also for my kids' sake. So I took a job that pays me almost nothing, because I was on part time. And I was home with the kid. So we had a relationship, very different which my mother never did.
- 04.29.00 Even now with my nephews and nieces, they don't go bother my mother. They don't even bother to visit her, they don't do any of this. Unless I do the, do the coordination. Otherwise, nobody shows up. When it comes to birthdays, and uh, Mother's Day, Father's Day, even birthdays, ok, they go by the Chinese, Chinese calendar. My mother's birthday is near Thanksgiving, my father's near Christmas. How hard is it for you to remember? If I don't do it, nobody does it.
- 04.29.30 And since I haven't been doing for three years, no one do anything. So but if anything happen, I get blamed. I could be sitting at home doing nothing, I could be sitting home in my, my own, own chair, I get a phone call that I make, I make something happen. So my mother has been really like pounding, pounding, and finally the last time when he calls, so she calls up and complaining. That time I kind of got, 'cos I wasn't in a good, good mood that day. I said listen, all you do is complain and complain. It's been 60 years ago, almost 60 years already. 'Cos they were engaged before they even they married. I'm 53, so you're talking about 58 years.

- 04.30.05 Why go back to all this problem? (?) It's just on and on and carrying and screaming at me. I said listen. I said, I'm in pain, ok? You going back to things about 50-some odd years ago, it's not gonna change. You're half dead, and I really actually said that. I said you're half dead. He's half to the grave 'cos he's, he's in dialysis three days a week.
- 04.30.28 And he look like hell. From what I saw from last year, from the wedding, Richard's wedding, he's like ten years older. He hardly couldn't move. I said what do you think he's gonna do? Oh, you don't understand. And he's doing this, this he's doing. I said Ok, fine. You think what you want to think 'cos I wasn't, I'm getting like a jury. I said you think what you want to think. I cannot talk to you, I cannot convince you otherwise. And I hang up on her. And since then I was afraid to talk to her. 'Cos then of course now by then I'm, I'm on the bottom of the list.
- 04.31.00 Before I was on the bottom list, so right now I'm really buried. So (LAUGHS) I'm like Ok. I stay away for good, even though when I found out she was in hospital, I was ready to go visit her. I tell my kids go. But when I got there that day, after like two weeks or later, she was in hospital at least 3, 4 weeks, she was kind of half conscious. So she really couldn't talk. And then I waited another week, I was gonna go visit her with my kids. And I got called out and my brother said don't go today. She's acting up again. I said Ok.
- 04.31.30 So scrap all the plan to go visit her. So we went the following week with the (?) after. I got there, like I said, she start up again. So and I got yelled at because my brother said I told you to be, you guys be quiet. I said, we wasn't doing anything. We're just like talking. So I tell you she start acting up, you guys supposed to be, be quiet. I said ok, so now I can't even talk. So I said ok, fine, so we shut up. We kept quiet. We just ate like, like mummies. We ate and we left, and that was the last time I saw her, which is over two weeks ago.
- 04.32.03 And I wouldn't go, I can't call. 'Cos I call, if I happen to, if she answer the phone, let's say she don't like the way I sound, whatever the, whatever reason she goes into an attack, she dies on me, I can never live with myself. Even though I know it's not my fault. Would have been me causing it. Or if I call and my father answer the phone, and she might think that

somebody else called, or let's say she think that the woman call, whatever, whoever that is in her mind, then she go into another tantrum.

04.32.32 I said ok, I don't call. I just call my brother, how's she doing? Uh, she's not doing that great, ok? Uh, her chemo's way too strong. 'Cos they changed it because it's, her tumor just grew back, just like that. So they trying something else, but it was so strong to a point that she lost her hair within one week, I mean, complete bald. Then my father's dialysis is doing like, uh, like this. When he has it, he looks like half dead. Unfortunately the day the wedding is a Saturday. He's had dialysis in the morning. Then he's back to smoking.

04.33.07 But he's in, he has blood clot. He has a clot that they had to put, like a wire to clean it. That's how thick the, the plaque was in his body. And he's no good anymore. He could be like minutes, could be days, could be months, could be instant. So that's why it's such a, why bother? But now she's in another stage of mind, she doesn't know what she's doing anymore.

04.33.31 And my brother (won't listen?). I said to her, maybe there's some pill to calm her nerve. No, no, I'm not gonna give it to her (?). I said ok, you're the boss. And he's the only one they listen to. So that's why I just, I stay away from it because if I don't, I'm gonna put myself in a very bad shape. So I learn how to stay away. Even my friends say, Ling, don't you learn from all these years, 'cos anybody who grew up with me or stay with me for many years, that's what I told Danielle, who know my story.

04.34.05 'Cos no matter what I do, I'm always the no-good. And everybody, every time I complain, they say, Ling, haven't you learned? I say, yeah, ok, I won't do it again. He said yeah, that's right. To, later, two months down the line, you're gonna do the same thing. And that's been going on for years and years. But last two years or so, I kind of like took a big step back. I said no, it's not gonna happen to me anymore. Because (~JW~)

INTERVIEWER: Is it because of where you are right now?

- 04.34.32 LING YOUNG: Yeah. 'Cos I would take everything in and I try to make it better for everybody. But it's not gonna change the fact. They not gonna listen. My mother's still gonna feel the same way, so what am I gaining from it? Except getting myself so aggravated and try to fix the problem when, when they don't want the problem to be fixed. Like I say, if I don't get the people together, no one does anything. Even for Mother and Father's Day isn't that's you supposed to do something? No.
- 04.35.00 It doesn't phase them, unless I do the initiation, nobody does anything. My nephew and nieces, is not close to my mother whatsoever. And my kids' the only one that actually go there and give them a hug. None of them does, does anything. I make sure when they go in and say hello to them, none of my nephew and nieces does that. But I can't control that. 'Cos they, actually it's the parents' fault. But if my brothers and my sister-in-law doesn't know how to do that, that's not my place. Before when they were young, I could yell at them, and now they say mind your own business.
- 04.35.30 So (LAUGHS) what you gonna do? So, and so as long as I figured out, and so if my kid does it, and sometime when Donald say well why should so and (?) I said listen. I really don't care what my brother or my sister-in-law do. As long as I know I do what I'm supposed to do, I care less. That's what I tell him, because they were saying why don't he, this one do it (?) that's, I said no. I don't want to hear it, I don't really care. Because they are not me, and I, I am not them.
- 04.36.00 I do what I'm supposed to do as a daughter, and that's all I care. Ok? I make sure my kid go see them once in awhile. I make sure that if they in the hospital, I say I don't care how your schedule is, you make it your business to go there. And that's how I tell them, and they make it their business to go there. And that's all I want to know. I do my part. And like, like Junior, or Richard don't have no time? I said I don't care. There's five days, seven days a week, you make it one day to go. And they, and they do it.

04.36.28 And I think that's the right thing to do. And they know that's the right thing to do, so. They would definitely once in awhile they would go (?) see, see them. But other than that you won't see my nephew, you will not see my niece. (~JW~) Which is sad.

(OFF CAMERA REMARKS)

INTERVIEWER: Anything else you wanted to say or anything that we haven't covered?

04.39.59 LING YOUNG: Not really I guess. Good luck to you and me (LAUGHS). That's about it. Uh, think about coming down, ok? I'll talk to you again, talk to you over the phone again.

(OFF CAMERA REMARKS)

04.37.56 LING YOUNG: (MID-STATEMENT) and everybody kind of like, I guess, they decided we just gonna sit home and just hang out and just watch TV. I mean, not TV - TV, but just watch movies, whatever, just to take our minds off. And mainly the, the families are together. Ok. Uh, I think my family's definitely is coming to the house. I was gonna go out, I guess we're not going out. On the Saturday, that's tomorrow. Uh, other than that I'm pretty happy what I, where I am now in a way because I'm moving a little bit more. I'm not like, like this, you know, like, like stranded in the point that I cannot stretch or do anything like this, 'cos I had a hard time stretching.

04.38.35 Now I could actually stretch. Even though it hurts, but it, I could stretch it. So that's a big improvement. He, he did a lot of, lot of zigzag here. You can see. All kinds of zigzag. But uh, you can see (?) you see this thing right here? It was a little hole right here. He actually pulled the skin and pulled it over here. (LAUGHS) It's amazing how plastic surgery can do, (LAUGHS) do for you, ok?

04.39.00 And this whole thing was from this thing right here, and is pulled over. Uh, it, it's weird. It's really weird what they can do in plastic surgery. Uh, this is getting very, very tight, you can see uh, (?) like this. And it's, that's why it's pulling my, my thing backward. So but uh. If I

don't tell you, you wouldn't know that my hand's not moving. So that's why at least I got my (limb?).

04.39.30 I mean, the other woman I was telling you doesn't have so unfortunately. She's only (?) no, now she's in her 40s. So that's when I was telling you, you know, she could do you a lot of good. I think. Talk to him about it. Uh. That's it. We'll see what happen this weekend. (~JW~) And that's it, I don't know what to tell you. Ok?

(OFF CAMERA REMARKS)

04.40.44 B ROLL

04.41.08 LING YOUNG: Well, I guess that this was an infection that was really, really bad. It was almost like a honeycomb. It's a lot of holes, a lot of pockets. And uh, it just get infected. Supposedly what happened is the infection goes underneath (?) in between the two skin and it gets trapped there. And it gets like painful and then it gets pocketed and then the next thing you know it gets very, all pusses in there.

04.41.34 Uh, until it's actually mature, the infection mature, it doesn't work. And once it mature, you can move, and once you cannot move, that means cut it out and drain the whole thing, and after it's drained, you got a big hole. And the big hole, what happen is then it takes at least a month or two months, minimum, to heal. And then after so many, he decided to take this whole thing apart.

04.42.01 And that was a major one, that was a major, major operation. And uh, that was I think like 8 or 9 hours, I don't remember how, how long was it. (LAUGHS) that was the, the time that he misses his uh, daughter's uh, prom. And his daughter's not talking to him for (LAUGHS) months. And after that he uh, also did other, other one. He was gonna have a skin expansion here. He decided, when he opened it up, he didn't have to.

04.42.28 Then he did my ears, which was all curled up before, my ears. It's like a big like deformed ears. He actually built it back very, very nicely. Uh, then was on this other hand it was a big, big scar that it was my, my arm actually could not stretch out, and I could not bend my wrist. He did a lot of C plastic to actually make my hand flexible, which is like I could stretch it with a, a little strength.

04.43.01 But, but I could bend my, my wrist uh, as I'm bending now. I wasn't able to do any of this. So it was quite a lot of improvement since last time, 'cos everything happened last year and this year. So I did a lot of work. Since the last time.

(OFF CAMERA REMARKS)

04.43.22 LING YOUNG: Well, what happened was this hand after the, the other failed surgery, this whole, pull my fingers up close together. And I couldn't clean it. So the other last surgery on this hand, what he did was he opened up like (?) the web space. So now it's open, even though I cannot move it, but I don't have to worry about infection coming between my, my web space. And he also did the calcium deposit right here, which he did it like twice. Uh, it's still here, but it's not as thick as it used to be. So I'll probably have to do it again, I don't know when, but whenever.

(OFF CAMERA REMARKS)

04.44.06 LING YOUNG: So. It look like a little spider web. But uh, it's still very active. Because it's still so bright red. So. But now nobody know why. That's, that's the bad part about it. And I guess my (?) fingers are getting stiff and stiffer by the days. It's not getting better, but it could be worse. As I see it.

(OFF CAMERA REMARKS)

04.45.18 LING YOUNG: It's still not perfect, but it's still, I could move it.

04.45.24 END OF TAPE # JY32 2005