

Once there was the flu. Do you think that they would let us go to the door? No, because they were afraid and make us stay inside and make us eat garlic. They give us something to smell to keep away the flu. That's my brother-in-law, you know the youngest one, he used to go and help people do things. He wouldn't dare to let us go. When he came up and delivered the water, we were surprised. What's going on, he couldn't do it, they had to hire somebody else to do it? He got sick, you can't talk to him and you can't move him. They called the undertaker to come and help him to coming up. The undertaker says you died, how can you get up? Some people believe that he died. Then when he started getting up he wants to climb. He woke up and tried to call the one who looked around there. Some people believe that when you die, you get up to get somebody else or something. So, he ran away; he didn't do anything for him. I think the ground was cold and when he fainted, you know, you can't talk to him; you can't move him and you can't do nothing. They thought he was dead and the cold ground caused him to get up. That is why the family wouldn't let us go to the door. If somebody knocked on the door, we sent the servant. The family takes good care of me but my mother didn't think of that. **My mother in law used to fight with everybody, but not with me. If she started complaining, I wouldn't pay attention.**

When I was in Long Beach, with my sister Jamila. She had to do all the work and I went to help her wash the floor. Her mother in law said, "There's work to be done, you have to do it." She didn't pay attention to her. We didn't have servants, there was work to be done and we did it.

When Jamil Afana moved to 449 Lawn (?) Avenue, Long Beach, somebody was building a building and gave him a store, free of rent, free of rent. A lady came in with an hand-embroidered blouse that was torn in several places. Having never used a needle and thread before, I threaded a needle and figured out how to stitch it back up for her, to weave it like the fabric was woven I just got it from my head – nobody teach me. My gosh, when she saw it, she was crazy about it. No foolin'. She paid \$12 (real) and the lady said I should have charged more. I thought 10 reals was plenty, but they paid me more.

Yacoub Hanania, he had the store across from my store, he wants knit clothes for the dolls and other knitted things. He wanted to pay me for my work. I could make dozens of things. I don't know how much that he could sell. Then when we moved to Long Beach we lived in that upstairs place. An American lived upstairs from Jamileh. I make beads, pearl beads; lots of them. I put it on the table and start doing it. I did it at the store and when I get home, I start doing it. He paid me for dozens and dozens. Really I work all the time. I always find something that needed to be done. Frankly I surprised myself. I see things and start to do that. Everything that I put in my mind, I do it, crochet and all. When I was in Mexico, I watched what they did and learned to crochet. Auntie (Jamila) didn't knit; she was good for the house. You have to have the desire to do it. In Mexico, I saw a girl who made a small crochet pocketbook. So I copied it. (Mary: I know what happened to it. Julia took it and gave it to Kathy.)

Jamila got sick when she was pregnant. She couldn't do too much. When she got Johnnie she was so bad that the doctor said she might not live. She couldn't nurse the baby, him. If he cried, she didn't wake up for him. She was really very, very sick. I slept in the other room and took care of him. The bathroom was in between the two rooms.

(Mary: How long were you with Auntie?) I tell you what.

I left there, Russia, in 1913, I think. We got married in 1914, in August. I don't remember which day. George was born in August. Julia was born in 1915. In 1916 when her dad passed away, I was, we were at home. **They called us to come see him because he was in bad condition and my mother-in-law, she was worried about me because I was pregnant and due any time. They put me on the train and took care of me. He passed away. He didn't last long. Before he died, they brought him a priest for the last rites. He died in somebody's home. I don't remember the name (Tawfish?).** The people were so nice. I don't know, it seemed like a dream; like it didn't happen to me.

After he died, we went back to the family house [in San Pedro]. It was a beautiful home. Then I don't know, the war [Mexican Revolution] started then. Julia's sister, Elena was about a year old before she passed away. When we left Mexico Julia was about 5 years old. It was about 1919; no, Julia was about 4 years old. The baby was starving because she couldn't keep food on her stomach. We took her to the doctor sometimes. The doctors don't know what to do. They gave her only rice water. She didn't last long.

Mary asked if Katherine had seen any of the old picture photographs recently. Katherine said, no I have seen hardly any of them. Julia put them in a big box to put them in an album. Maybe someday she will get them put in an album for the family.

After I stayed with Jamila and Jamil Afana I got married to your father. **They knew him and introduced me to him. She talked me into it. They thought that it was a good idea to marry him. They said, he's from our country, it's better than marrying someone we don't know. So I decided, well everything would be all right. We didn't get married in the church – it was a civil wedding. He was married before so he couldn't get married the second time in the church. Jamileh was the maid of honour. His first wife was jealous and came after us. The second or third day after we were married, we went to Mexico. Jamileh didn't know what happened to us. We were scared to come back until his uncle came to tell us that his first wife remarried and we were free to go back.** In Mexico [Hermosillo, Sonora] we had a store; we buy the merchandise and everything. **He did not know what to do.** I would go to buy the merchandise from the people at the border and bring it in. The Customs people would ask me why are you doing this? It's the man's job to do that. Well I say, I have to do it because there is nobody else to do it for me. And I would not have the proper papers but they would take pity on me and let me bring it in anyway.

When in Russia we did not play much games. We jumped rope and we ran and like that. We don't do too much. There is a lot of snow and people are afraid to walk in the snow. For school the girls were up the stairs and the boys down the stairs. We didn't see each other. The boys played on one side of the school and the girls played on the other. I really enjoyed Russia, really. It was nice. It did not get very cold and we dressed up with heavy coats for it, in heavy clothes. It rained a lot like New York. I think, that what they say.

My brother Mitri have a very strong head. Mitri, because he was the youngest boy, he was spoiled. They really spoiled him, anything he says they will do it for him. He wanted to go back to Palestine and learn Arabic, so that's why we went. He was a little older than me. I was about 13 when we came from Russia and he was about 17 or 17 ½, something like that. When he wants something, he does it outside there.

Inclua and Saleh have their business. When Incula and Saleh go to Palestine, I was already in Mexico. They came there after my husband died. When they went to Mexico I was in Long Beach. I used to live with your father, we have a business in Jerome, Arizona. Then they, Incula and Saleh, came from Palestine. I think Freddy was in my arms when I went to see Saleh. Not the Saleh and Incula who were my brothers, there was a Saleh and Inclua who were in California. You know in Jamila's house, in the back there was a room they lived in. I lived there too for a while when I went to Long Beach. Saleh and Incula lived there and they

used to make pearl beads necklaces and sell them wholesale. They used to make it all right. They was in Long Beach for a while and somebody talked to Na'me. Then somebody talked on them because they were in the United States illegally. The police put them in jail. I went a couple of time to see them. I don't remember how long they stay in jail. Anyway the police said they would release them from the jail but they would have to leave the United States. So they went to Mexico. They wanted to go to Palestine to see my mother and father but they didn't have the money to go there. Saleh, my brother tried to help them while they were in Mexico.

My mother and father came to Mexico. Metri's wife [from Romania] had a baby and she and the baby died. So they came up here to go to Bethlehem because they didn't know what to do. **They asked Mitri why he wanted to go to Palestine. He wanted to go there because that is where his family lived and that's why he wanted to go there. He remarried someone that my parents did not approve of and she insulted my parents and mistreated the kids. Mitri had two little girls; he didn't know what to do with them. Nusa's sister Leda adopted one of Mitri's little girls. Because of the wife and the way he brought up the children. My mother and father went crazy – they didn't want her. It's bad to say that about my brother, but that's the way he is. Then she (the other girl?) went back to the old country and married several times.**

Mitri was the youngest. They always want a boy to keep the family name. In Russia, Saleh and Incula both worked in the store but Mitri didn't like working there. He wanted to do this and he wanted to do that. He liked to ski. He loved to ski. One time he wanted to climb on the mountain. He went with the skies you know and he fall down and hurt himself. He was so bad that my father took him to the doctor. He couldn't walk on his feet. It bothered him so much you know. My mother was so mad. Do you know what she did? She took all our skates, all of them and hide it. She wouldn't let nobody to skate; she don't want any more of those problems. But the girls used to be careful. We all went to the park. They had so many places to go. Around the high school they had one place and around the other places they have another one. Now it seems like a dream, you can't remember everything.

You know, the girls in our country always stays with her family and listens to them. Whatever they want, she agrees with. We don't get spanking, no. I don't ever remember getting a spanking to tell you the truth, that's what we train to do. When I was in school in Bethlehem they let me do what I wanted to do. They don't care as long as I am all right in the yard they don't bother. I don't know if they still do that with their children, put them in the school. **Jaffer's daughters**, their father had a store and friends around you know. They used to pay money like my father used to pay money. When you pay money they respect you, taking care of you. They watch you. (**Arabic discussion**)