

Sometimes I think that we didn't have luck when we was young. You and I and everybody. When you was with the [Farhat] family, you suffered a lot. I am telling you, in the old country, the girls are ruled over – they order her around and tell her what to do, and she has to comply. I wouldn't have left you if I had known that he [Jiryes, her grandfather] would have treated you so badly. He treated his sister [actually Hilweh, his daughter] badly. Jiryes even said, 'leave her here, leave her here, I'll take care of her and send her back to you with George. George was supposed to go to school, he [Jiryes] did a lot of things that your enemy would not do to you. Now, he want the money, he want everything. His sister, her [late] husband's family, her inlaws left a piece of land for the family, but they wouldn't give anything to her. My in-laws wanted money from us to buy back a piece of that land, and build on it. So he [Suleiman] sent him the money and he didn't buy the land. That's why the money disappear right away, really. You know, I believe people, but it's no good to. They [inlaws] begged me to come back to the old country. That's when I went. They told me that it's good to go meet your inlaws, see how they lived. Some people told me that the life there is different, you are used to life here, and over there, people will not treat you the same way. I didn't believe them. Afterwards, they said 'We told you not to go.' 'We told you not to go.'

After I married Suleiman we went to Mexico. We opened a store there. **We stopped at the border and bought goods for the store. Even the clothes I had, I sold. We opened in the morning, and closed for lunch, and afterwards, we go back to the store. Until today, when I go to see George Saade [in Mexico], they close the store for lunch.** We sold a little of this and a little of that and we didn't make much money. We closed it. We opened a second store. We closed the store early in the day so we could get something to eat. Then we opened later because that was the system in Mexico.

Mary asks, "After you came back to the US? **We waited until his wife got re-married. After that, we came back.** Fred was born in Los Angeles (*Lennox, actually*). The grocery store was slow and all that. We had very little money coming in. We stayed in the back of Jamila's house, like a garage. We stay there. **And then they wanted to sell the house. We moved to a different house next to another family, who were nice to us. We had a grocery store in Los Angeles when I was in a family way. But then somebody told us about Jerome Arizona.**

**13:00** Then his [ex] wife (Rabah) sent a letter, asking for money for their daughter. She said she was not obliged to raise her and that he needs to provide financially for her. He sent a little bit of money so they could bring her to the US. Next section is unclear, but grandmother offered to adopt the girl – 'one extra will not bother me.' She grew up to be strong-willed and mischievous. Later, when her mother died, she married the stepfather. They had many children together. He made lots of money. I didn't understand it.

*Topic shifts to Palestine.* I used to send them [Farhats?] money, I don't know what they did with it.

After Freddy was born, we wanted to close the business and move to Jerome, Arizona. But it wasn't easy because people were coming and buying from me.

**18:00** First when we were in Russia we have the apartments. (mostly **Arabic Discussion**) But then when we opened the store, we moved close to the store. Then we have an apartment like here (*our home in Durango*), we have upstairs and down stairs. In every room there was a family. They have bars on the windows because they don't want anybody to come in or out of the place. Someone [*Incula's wife*] was in labor, having contractions. Everybody woke up. So my Dad didn't know what to do. He ran to get the midwife. She didn't have any trouble, but the baby was sick. The doctor didn't think he would live, or if he did, he would always have this problem. And that was a smart doctor. [Note: the baby may have been George Saade) They had very little coffee in Russia, they drink it, but very little. Tea was much more important in Russia. They put the tea in 'samovars.' They put coal inside it in the middle to keep it hot. It's really beautiful. Even in school they used to do that. Water and tea. I didn't used to drink coffee, I drank tea. But in Mexico, everyone likes coffee, even the servants have to have their coffee every day. Between Jamila and Nezha, I started. Still, I don't drink too much [coffee]. I like it with cream and sugar.

**27:00** *Discussion of knitting.* She gives Mary a knitting lesson.