

Luba Semaniuk

LS - My father's entire family died.

Interviewer – *Where were they? In the same village?*

LS – In the same village, but they all died. I remember, when I was older, that he had one sister who survived. But his two brothers died of starvation.

There were three of us, and I remember my two year old brother died.

Interviewer – *From starvation?*

LS – From starvation. I remember it as if it were a bad dream. When I think about it, I remember. My sister and I were left.

I remember in the winter, I'm not sure if I should say this, my mother sent me to the neighbors, with some corn soup for them. I went to their house, but nobody answered. So I opened the door, and went home, and told my mother, "They're all sleeping." My mother said that was impossible, so she went to the house, and found three children and their mother, lying there, no longer alive. I remember this.

They didn't have a house, it was a *zemlianka* [earthen dugout], and they were lying there. My mother went with the neighbors to take a look, and they were all dead. But I don't remember where they were taken, or how they were buried.

Interviewer – *Did your mother tell you that they had died?*

LS – Yes. My mother said, "They're not sleeping. They're in the next world."