

INTERVIEW WITH EDALENA Ribas
November 4th, 2005

Interviewer – Patricia Pinto da Silva

Edalena: Oh My God Oly!
(Dog Barking in the background)

Interviewer: OK! Today is November 4, two o'clock in the afternoon. I am going to interview Edalena Ribas to learn about her experience and her life; she will talk a little bit with us.

Edalena: -OK! My name is Maria, Maria Edalena Ribas. Ribas is my husband, my husband's last name. In a while I will talk a little bit about us. We were both born in Vila Praia da Ancora, a little town near the ocean, in the North of Portugal. We grew up together, we were close neighbors and we lived very close to each other. Well, I don't know... I don't know what..

Interviewer: -Everything.

Edalena: -We were like any other kids in the middle of two different families but neighbors and we used to play outside; we grew up together. Luiz wasn't even a teenager yet and he used to say that he was in love with me. I was not. I used to see him as any other boy that was playing outside on the road, hum, with my brothers and myself. Well, I never really paid much attention to him. First, he wasn't my... what I though... well I didn't think that he was my type, the (unclear) right? So, I ended up not paying much attention to him. I was 19 years old, I had a brother who lived in France and I went to France for a while. I lived in Paris for a while and I worked in Paris. My brother was living in the country, country is like outside the city.

Interviewer: - Like in the country?

Edalena: - Yes, like two hours outside the city, a little bit far. I stayed with him for a period of time. It was a very nice country; very nice and I enjoyed very much being there. After that I decided... I missed my mother, father and brothers a lot, especially my younger brother. I was a very, very fun person. I used to love to go dancing and meet new people. When I went to France I didn't have friends over there. My brother was living very far from where I was and we just saw each other on the weekends. That's when I received, well, Luiz wrote me a letter asking me to be his girlfriend, well he was declaring his love for me (laugh). Embarrassed, I wrote him back telling him that I was

going back to Portugal. I also said that I wished that he could find a girlfriend, a woman that he deserved because I saw him as a brother not as a man. Well, he got very discouraged. I went back to Portugal and when I got there, I was very tired, I came by train traveling almost... (unclear). Luiz came to visit me at my house, that same night and he showed me his girlfriend's photograph. I don't know why, but this was the first time and how I realized that I was jealous. That woman had nothing to do with him. Who was she? I was the one who should be in his life, not her; she had nothing to do with his life. That was the first time that I realized I had feelings for him, but I couldn't understand what kind of feelings they were. There were many boys around, different types, shapes and sizes. One becomes confused, doesn't know, where to go, what to do, when he showed me the photograph, it shook me up and that was when I realized that I was in love with him. He started to keep his distance because he thought that I didn't like him. I didn't say anything and I didn't show my feelings for him, so he kept his distance from the house. That made me miss him. Since he was a little boy he used to come very often to my house, he would come and visit my brothers and everybody else and I used to go to his house. I invited him to come to my house and I asked him why did he stop coming to my house. He answered me that it wasn't worth it and it was hard for him to see me and not be able to be with me as a boyfriend. I didn't tell him that I loved him, but I showed him that we could talk and maybe we could agree on something and we did. He came to my house and told-me:

I am going to ask you something and I want you to answer me truthfully! That's when he asked if I wanted to be his girlfriend and I told him that I wanted to, I was ready.

Interviewer: - You were already in love...

Edalena: - Yes, I was ready to be with him, I was in love and at first I didn't know it (laugh) and it wasn't too late right?

Interviewer: - Thank God!

Edalena: -We were very poor and we came from very poor families. He had twelve brothers and sisters and I came from a family of seven brothers and sisters, father, mother and grand-father all living under the same roof. We wanted to have, well, he wanted to have a beautiful wedding. My family and I didn't have the money to make a beautiful wedding. My mother and father of course had just enough to make a small party just for the families and close friends, but Luiz really wanted to make it beautiful. At that time, I had a brother-in-law

working in Germany who got him a job over there. He was very young, seventeen, close to eighteen years old when we started going out together. That's when he decided to go to Germany, to the big factory ships. Those are the ships where they fish, freeze the fish, make flour, well they prepare everything related to fishing inside the ship. He went, got the job and worked for about two years. He came back after that and proposed matrimony to make sure I waited for him.

Interviewer: - Was it before he went back to Germany?

Edalena: -Yes, this was before he went to stay in Germany. He went there to make money and after two years we were married. I am not so sure, but I think we were married after two years.

Interviewer: -How long did he stay in Germany?

Edalena: -He stayed there for seven years. We got married and right after he had to go back. He stayed just a short time with me and went back. They went fishing and stayed away. We got married and he had to return in about eight days, maybe a week later, something like that. It was very difficult for me to be apart from him. We lived apart for a few years, about two years.

Interviewer: -Did you stay in Praia da Ancora?

Edalena: -I stayed with my mother, my father, with the family.

Interviewer: -Did you stay with your family?

Edalena: -Yes. I stayed with my family and he went back to Portugal, I mean, to Germany. He didn't have much time to come to visit me. He would lose two days just traveling. Even though he was flying he would just have 3, 4 days left to stay with me and it was already time to go back. It was a whole day to come and a whole day to go back. He would stay just 3, 4 days with me and it was already time to go back. It was very sad. Our life was very sad.

Interviewer: - How many times would he come in a year?

Edalena: -Well, it varied. Their trips would last for about three months, sometimes three and a half months before they would come back to land. It wasn't worth it because it was just a short period of time. You are happy but it is painful at the same time because the joy of seeing him coming and the sadness of knowing that in about two, three days he will be gone again. We were together and thinking that we will be

apart again, that we have to go back to that life again. It was a very sad life.

Interviewer: -Hum, hum.

Edalena: -He was making good money, very good money. I was also working because I like to be productive, I've always worked. I worked in restaurants. I used to work in the kitchens, cooking, helping the cooks. I did everything that they needed, washing dishes, anything. I made money wherever I went. I never liked to depend on him. I liked that when he came back I had a little extra money that he could use. We made a pretty good life, we were able to do it. I started going to Germany instead of Luiz coming to Portugal. I would go the day before so I could be there waiting for him to arrive in the boat.

Interviewer: -That was a good idea!

Edalena: - When the time came for me to leave, I went back to Portugal.

One day we decided that was better for me to move to Germany and I did. I moved in with my brother-in-law, Luiz's brother who was already there. Luiz would get off the boat in a town that was very far from where I lived and he didn't want me to stay by myself. The town where he lived was a very small town, like Provincetown, at the seaside, very small but also very pretty. I was in a big city, very big, called Norenberg and since it was very far away, he was again wasting time when he would get off the boat and waited for me at the train. The time we spent together was very short because of the train trip, back and forth and he wasn't comfortable with it. He was working a lot. We didn't have any kids at that time so, to take advantage of my free time I started working to make money. That way I would be able to help him as always. I got a job at the post office as a janitor. It was a very big place. I speak German, but it wasn't easy. My boss, a very, very nice lady who used to pave streets during the war, Hitler's war you know... To raise her daughter.

Interviewer: - Hum, hum.

Edalena: - She didn't have any hair and she wore a wig. She saw that I was a good worker so she gave me many extra hours, so I made lots of money. She paid me cash and that made me very happy. I use the work to pass my time and not to think so much of my husband's absence. We were newly weds and didn't have any children. We just had his family close by, his brother and his children. He had two

daughters whom I loved. I loved them as if they were my own, it helped to pass the time. I really didn't like that kind of life, so I asked to be transferred to the city where he was working.

Interviewer:- Was it a small city?

Edalena:- Yes. It was a small city. I moved there to a friend's house. Later on we found a little house just for the two of us and I would go see him get in and off the boat. I got another job, this time at a hotel-restaurant, at the seaside. My job was to help in the kitchen, wash dishes as always. I didn't go to school, I didn't even make it to the fourth grade. I always had to do hard work, very hard but I never cared so much because it was like that since I was a little girl. We had to work hard to make money to go to school, the government didn't help, we had to do it ourselves. We had to get used to this type of life and it wasn't so hard to have to work like that. So, Luiz and I were trying to have a baby. We wanted to have a baby. We made plans to have a baby after two years, until then we could dedicate ourselves to one another and get to know each other better. We knew each other since we were kids but life is very different when you are just friends, we see each other for some hours and then we go home. One can not really know someone when one gets together for some hours, some nights. We missed that. In the first two years we would get to know each other, make plans, talk about anything. We had very similar dreams. Luiz is a free spirit, more than I am. I am more like a home body, I like to be with my family, cling to the family, children and husband. That's how my life is and I like it. If I was rich, I always said to Luiz that if I was a rich woman I wouldn't be able to live my life out in the world like rich people do. They are always busy with one party or meeting today and another tomorrow. I could never live like that, to me this is a crazy life. My life, for me to be happy has to be like "give us this daily bread." Do you know what I mean? I don't need to be rich or to have lots of money to be happy, I just want the essentials. I want to be able to get up every day, walk, be healthy to be able to go to work and have food to put on the table for my husband and children. Do you understand? That's all I want, I don't need a lot to be happy and I don't ask too much from life. Anyway, we wanted to have a baby and I couldn't get pregnant. I didn't know why and I started to think that something was wrong. I went to see the doctor and he said that I was very young and he asked me what kind of lifestyle Luiz and I had. I told him that he didn't spend so much time with me, he laughed and said that he knew the reason why I didn't get pregnant yet. He told me that I was ready to be a mother, that I didn't have any problem and the problem was in my mind. When I was with my

husband I was already thinking that he was going to leave me again. When my husband would tell me that he was coming on vacation, then I was going to get pregnant and that is how it happened. Right away I got pregnant. He came home and told me he was on vacation, and right away I got pregnant. The army was calling him and he didn't want to go because he didn't want to stop working, making money.

Interviewer: - Of course, of course.

Edalena: -He didn't come when it was time to enlist in Portugal. At that time he told me that he had come to enlist for service, that's when I got pregnant and didn't know it. We went back to Portugal.

Interviewer: - Did he go to the army?

Edalena: - Yes. He did go to the army.

Interviewer: - Did he go to Africa?

Edalena: - No. He didn't go. He was married and I was pregnant, they make it easier in a situation like this. They would call him just if it was really necessary. He was married, I was pregnant and on top of that he had an accident and hurt his foot. This changed everything, the way he was walking, everything so, that was an excuse to send him back home, meaning that he didn't go to service. He stayed there just for 3 months. He went to the hospital to have some test done to see his capability, all these things, you know all the regulations, well he ended up not going to service and we stayed in Portugal and he didn't go back to Germany. He got out of the army and I was pregnant with Bruno without knowing it. Bruno was born, we both were very happy but it was a very difficult time. Bruno was a healthy boy when he was born. Honestly, when he was born he was a normal or I would say almost a normal baby. Nobody had noticed that he had problems, since he was born with a normal weight. We could see that his skin was as if he was an undernourished baby because I had a very bad pregnancy. Bad, very bad pregnancy. When he was born, neither the doctor or anyone else realized that he had problems. After a month and six days he got very sick, his color changed completely, it was very odd. I took him to the doctor and they kept him in the hospital. They found out he was anemic. I felt guilty, I thought that it could be some of my fault because I was anemic and I didn't take the medications as prescribed. I was forgetful. I think sometimes it is lack of knowledge and of life experience, right? Today I am prepared, I am a good mother, I feel prepared to give advice to a son or to a pregnant daughter-in-law and even take care of the baby if it is necessary,

because I don't want them to have the same problems. When they kept him in the hospital, he stayed in the pediatric unit in Cascalho, the closest town, they told us that he was anemic. He had to stay in the hospital because they had to put in an intravenous to give him some medications to treat him. There was a bad sickness in the babies at that time, in the pediatric unit, affecting the bowels, strong gastritis, very strong and all the kids were affected by it. I saw it when I took my son there. I saw the kids, they looked like Ethiopian kids, have you ever seen them?

Interviewer: -I know, I know.

Edalena: - Have you ever seen them in the news? I used to cry so much when I used to see them so undernourished.

Interviewer: Skinny.

Edalena: - Yes. With very big bellies, very big, that's how I picture them. My son also caught the virus and that was a time, the worse time of my life. It was horrible, we suffered a lot, I suffered so much that I thought I was going nuts. Bruno got very sick, he was very sick. The doctors were trying to keep the nutrients down to fight the anemia but because of the bowel's problem he couldn't keep the nutrients down in his stomach. I couldn't stand it anymore. I would look for the doctor and tell him that all I wanted to do was to die. I was going nuts, I just wanted to die, to die with my son. I was so desperate, out of my mind that I wasn't the same person anymore. Well, I am catholic, I have faith and I know that there is someone stronger than us so, I was taught to pray and ask God for the things we expect from life, whatever we want. Some people laugh at that but I don't laugh about these things. I am catholic and even if I am wrong that's how I see things. I was very desperate at that time. I used to look at my baby's face and I knew he was alive just because of his little eyes, his little eyes were open. The rest, his little body, his skin had that color like those people that are not alive anymore. I asked God, if he did the miracle of giving me a son why wouldn't he let me be his mother, why would he take this little one from me, why wouldn't he give me the opportunity to be the mother of a child that I waited for so long? Well, with so much suffering the doctor came to me and told me, the next day when he came to me... I couldn't accept it. Luiz was very desperate, we were both very desperate. He would take me for a car ride until I was tired. My son's bed was right next to me and he wouldn't let me look at my baby's face because I would cry all night. I would fall asleep and would start crying again, that's all I use to do.

Interviewer: - Was your son out of the hospital at that point?

Edalena: -No. He was in the hospital.

Interviewer: - Was he in the hospital.

Edalena: - I would stay there all day with him but we were not permitted to stay at night. After what happened with my son, the mothers got together, although they were in the same circumstances, they all got together and found a way for us to stay in and take care of our sick children.

Interviewer: - Of course, it make's sense.

Edalena: -I wanted to stay but because I was so desperate, so tired they wouldn't let me stay. They used to say that even if I wanted to stay I couldn't. They used to say: "You have to go home and try to rest." They didn't know I wasn't able to rest, I wasn't able to sleep. One day, the doctor came to me and told me: "Look, Bruno has to have a blood transfusion, I have to call your husband." Luiz was working at that time in a auto shop because in reality he wasn't a fisherman.

Interviewer: -What was Luiz doing after he came back from Germany?

Edalena: -He went to look for a job at an auto shop, where he worked when he was a young boy.

Interviewer: -Hum, OK!.

Edalena: -The auto shop...

Interviewer: -Did he fish in Praia da Ancora?

Edalena: -No, no.

Interviewer: -Was that a place where they would fish?

Edalena: - Yes, but Luiz was never a fisherman in Praia da Ancora. Since he was a kid, about twelve years old, something like that, he started to work in an auto shop. He was an electrician by trade. He didn't stay without working, when he came back from Germany he went to work at this auto shop, the same one he worked as a young boy. He would take me to the hospital that was in the same town where he was working, I would stay all day long with my son and then he would pick me up again at night, after work.

Interviewer: -Did Bruno get a blood transfusion?

Edalena: -They gave him a blood transfusion, to die, to live or to die, we didn't know where this would take us until he started to get better and started to recuperate, thank God!

Interviewer: -What about the transfusion?

Edalena: -He recuperated from the anemia, the bowels, everything got better and he was fine, but when he was growing up it was very difficult, I think that this affected his development. He had difficulties through the years as a child, he had problems in school. As a son, now at 23 he is a model son, he has no addictions, the only thing is his difficulty to learn. He always had to go to reinforcement classes until he was able to graduate from high school. He tried, he would get up in the morning and go to school until he graduated. After that he went to a school to learn mechanics, like in a college, it was something that he wanted to do. Two, three years after that he left, he actually left school two years into it.

Interviewer: -How old was he when he came from Portugal?

Edalena: -He was 4 years old when he came from Portugal and Andreia, I had a girl four years later. It took me long to get pregnant again because I was afraid.

Interviewer: -I can imagine it.

Edalena: -The first pregnancy scared me a lot, the first time scared me a lot, I was very scared of (unclear), but then I went to two different doctors, I was afraid of just one opinion. I was traumatized, I was very traumatized but I decided after four years to get pregnant again and then I had Andreia, four years younger. Andreia was eight months old when she came from Portugal, she was very small. It was also a very difficult time because I didn't speak English. Luiz would go fishing and I would stay some times 7, 8,9 days alone with my kids.

Interviewer: -What about Luiz? Did you know anybody in New Bedford or...? Did you come...?

Edalena: -No. The story goes like that... This way I can tell you the whole story. Luiz went back to Germany when my boy Bruno left the pediatrics, the hospital. He was(unclear). Listen to me, the story is very... I like to, sometimes I think that... I like to tell but sometimes I get very sad because it was a very sad time when Bruno left the hospital. Luiz was working at the auto shop and I was very happy but

he already had in mind to go back to Germany. Luiz was going back to Germany because they were recruiting people to go to the boats so, he went once more back to Germany I had to take my boy to the hospital for treatment, Luiz dropped me off, he was in treatment because(unclear) they injected his legs so many times that he got an abscess and the antibiotic was so strong that left a hole in his legs. So, I had to go by train (unclear) every day for my son's treatment. The day Luiz was going to Germany and I went to change the dressing in my son and I noticed that it wasn't normal, didn't look good. I took him back to the hospital and they kept him over there again.

Interviewer: It was the day when Luiz went back?

Edalena: Yes. The day that Luiz went back to Germany.

Interviewer: -Did he have to stay in the hospital again?

Edalena: - Luiz left at the hospital and took off to Germany and if that day I didn't have my older sister with me, she was a woman... My sister is ten years older than me, if I didn't have her with me because she is a very strong woman. She had five children and suffered a lot with her husband. He was an alcoholic and he used to push her, treated her very badly. She was very strong, really strong and I was very pampered. Compared with her I didn't have that strength yet. You know how it is. First of all, I never had suffered so much before, my first pain was to see my son like that, but this was a (unclear). I never had things like that to prepare me to face situations like this so, If she wasn't with me at that time, I just wanted to kill myself and if I was by myself I would have killed myself. I was going so crazy that I would be able to do something bad. I was desperate seeing my son staying in the hospital for the second time and see my husband leaving.

Interviewer: -Without your husband next to you right?

Edalena: - My husband going away. I felt no support because with Luiz it was always like a pillar, he was always beside me, right? A woman is more sensitive, a mother deals with the problems but the heart is always with the children. A mother, a mother I think... A father can adore his children but a mother is different, do you know what I mean? We carry them inside us, we are the ones who know how to care for them. We mothers are the ones who know everything, it seems that we can feel them, if they are happy and we just need to look into their eyes to know that something is wrong with them. Mothers are very observant, do you know?

I felt horrible that day. I wanted to end my life because I thought that my son wasn't going to survive. I didn't have my husband next to me and if my son died I wanted to die also. Fortunately he just stayed in the hospital for a couple of days and he came home, they discharged him. I learned many things at the hospital because I was there with him every day. I learned how to care for the children and how to help the nurses, because many mothers don't have the courage to help, one really needs lots of courage to help. I became very strong, I became a very strong woman, so strong that the nurses were calling me to help draw blood from the children and my son. They drew my son's blood every day from his neck. They had to shave his head three times, poor thing. He was bald.

Interviewer: -Why? Because of the...

Edalena: -Because they applied the intravenous through the head.

Interviewer: -Interesting.

Edalena: -I don't know but seems as if the intravenous was through the head veins to the point that they didn't have any other place to stick the needle, all the veins in the front.

Interviewer: -Ouch!

Edalena: - It got to the point that they didn't have any other place to stick the needle and one day I got there, at the hospital and he was lying on his side. One side was normal but the other wasn't, the head was this big. The needle had gone out of the vein and the fluid that was supposed to be going into his body started to go all over his head. I screamed! I screamed so loud when I saw my son like that. My son! I started to scream. The nurses came to calm me down and told me that it was normal, that he was OK, that had just happened with him (unclear).

It looked like was... it looked very bad, very bad. That was a mother who doesn't understand anything about medicine, nothing about what is going on and sees her son like that, right?

They explained to me how that happened and it was normal and it was really normal because soon his head went back to normal, but it was very hard, very hard.

So, Luiz came back because the company that he was working for was having financial difficulties and they started selling the boats and laying off the staff. Luiz was one of the new employees in the company and he lost his job together with many others. They got a small compensation for the time they worked for that company. So, Luiz

decided to come here to America because I had a sister who was living over here. He got a job and came here, but I stayed in Portugal. I couldn't live apart from Luiz anymore and he used to say if I couldn't come he would go to Portugal and I would say if he couldn't go I would come.

Interviewer: -Laugh...

Edalena: - I really wanted him to go back, I never had the passion to come to America, I really liked(unclear) I liked to live in Germany, but I didn't want to immigrate, do you know? I didn't have it in my mind. I felt comfortable in the heart of the family, my brothers, we all used to get together and I missed that, I missed that support. Luiz came and I didn't want to live without my husband so after and 5, 6 months I went to the consulate and got a tourist visa and I came. I had a sister, well I have a sister living here for many years. I am here for over 20 years and she is here for over 40 years.

Interviewer: - How many years was she here in the States?

Edalena: - Many. I know that she was here for over 20 years when I came. We use to see each other.

Interviewer: -OK! Was her husband a fisherman?

Edalena: -A fisherman here in Provincetown.

Interviewer: -Fisherman in Provincetown?

Edalena: -They were living here in Provincetown. She asked Luiz if he wanted to come here to be near them.

Interviewer: -Why did he go to New Bedford instead of Provincetown?

Edalena: -The boats in New Bedford were bigger and they were making more money. He went there and when I came I went straight there.

Interviewer: -So, he came first here and then he went to new Bedford.

Edalena: -Yes, yes.

Interviewer: -Did you and the kids meet him over there in New Bedford?

Edalena: - He was working in the boats close to New Bedford and I stayed there with him.

Interviewer: -Same type of fishing?

Edalena: -Yes. Same type.

Interviewer: -Cod fish and more?

Edalena: - All that. I stayed there with him and once in a while I would come here to Provincetown to visit my sister.

Interviewer: -Hum hum. To see Provincetown. Did you know anybody else in New Bedford besides your sister? Did you have anybody to give you support?

Edalena: - I had friends, girls from my country, that had come months before I did and months after. Some started to come and work with me. We didn't talk to each other over there, but for good manners if we saw each other on the streets we would say good morning, good afternoon. We weren't friends, we became friends over here. I came and just after I came a girl came and today she is working with me. We became friends, going out with the kids to get to know each other. We didn't speak English, but New Bedford is a Portuguese city, there are many Portuguese people over there. One can go almost everywhere without speaking English.

Interviewer: -It is possible to do everything without speaking English.

Edalena: - Everything without speaking English. The Pediatrician was Portuguese.

Interviewer: -Doctors, everything.

Edalena: -Everything in Portuguese. There was a Portuguese pediatrician that they referred me because of my difficulty with the language. The funny thing was that I went to see him but I didn't like the way he treated my kids. I went there for my kids checkup and he just looked at them and everything was fine and he wouldn't do anything else. I didn't like it. If I am paying him to examine my kids, I mean, I didn't like it. I was a mother who was very afraid, traumatized because of what happened with Bruno. Anything they felt, if they cried, if they called for me and I wasn't certain of it, I would run to the doctor. I didn't like his way, so I automatically changed for an American doctor. My friends would comment...

Interviewer: - Just because a person speaks Portuguese doesn't mean that he or she will do a good job.

Edalena: -Of Course, of course. So, I decided to change. I didn't like that doctor. I don't like them because they want to make money at my expenses and don't treat my kids when needed, as I am used to having them treated. No, I didn't want that.

I decided to look for an American doctor and my friends laughed at me, they asked me how I was going to do these things, how I was going to understand the doctor. I said that I would do it and I would understand it and I went.

Interviewer: -Mother knows it.

Edalena: -He sat down with me and told me that he was going to take the time, he said with my(unclear). With half a dozen words, a correct word in an incorrect sentence I was able to make him understand what happened, to tell him Bruno's story so he would have a record, knowing what happened to my son, he would be able to do tests and see if he was fine or not and I never went back to the Portuguese doctor. That's how it was. They got older. Andreia was 10 years old. I was tired of that life, I was always alone and I was a mother and a father to my kids.

Interviewer: -What about Luiz?

Edalena: - Luiz was at sea.

Interviewer: -Did he stay at sea for a long period of time?

Edalena: -Yes, he would stay at sea for like 8, 9, 10 days at sea. He would come and stay 1, 2 days with us and then go back again. That wasn't a good way to live.

Interviewer: -Even if he was there more frequently it wasn't the same thing as being there every day.

Edalena: -I didn't have my husband with me, with the family, because he is part of my family, he is my family.

Interviewer: -It would be like when you sit down to have dinner right?

Edalena: - My family is my husband, my two kids, the other family is secondary. When you get married you devote yourself to your husband and Kids, they become the main family. Your other family, as much you love them, they are secondary. As much as you love your mother, your father you will you follow that man, make a new life with him and with your kids and nobody else. The others are secondary. You are

able to live without them.. I missed his presence, the father figure. I didn't like that. First of all I didn't like the winter. I would come to visit my sister and it was too far away, I like the calmness, I always liked the countryside, liked nature but I knew I had to live without it. I lived in New Bedford, seeing my friends, we used to get together every day to have a cup of coffee, to talk, watch TV.

Interviewer: -A social life.

Edalena: -Yes. A different social life. I would come here and they were always inside the house playing cards. I didn't know how to play cards. I don't know and I don't like it. They spent all their time in the house playing cards without socialize and I would crochet, that how it was and I didn't like it.

Interviewer: - Did this happen in Provincetown?

Edalena: -Yes. When I was here to visit or to spend some time with my sister. I used to find it so boring.

Interviewer: -Was this the same sister that was there with you when your son was sick?

Edalena: -No.

Interviewer: -So, this is another one. Are both of your sisters older than you are?

Edalena: -Yes. This sister, the one who lives here, she got married with this man and came to America, I was still single when she came.

Interviewer: -OK, OK! Did she marry a Portuguese man?

Edalena: -Yes. Yes. Also with a Portuguese man, in Portugal. He was also working in Germany, and he was the one who got the job for Luiz. He came to America, he didn't get Luiz a job over here but he gave him all the support he needed.

Interviewer: -Do you think their paths have any impact?

Edalena: -Yes. It did have an impact in my path.

Interviewer: -Did it also have an impact in yours?

Edalena: -Yes. The life in Provincetown captivated me. They would go to sea and at night they would stay at home with the family. This captivated me.

Interviewer: -Hum, hum. Going fishing but at the same time having the family close to you, right?

Edalena: -So, my kids were getting into the teen years, Andreia was 10 and Bruno, 14, they needed their father's and mother's strength right? The mother sometimes makes a lot of mistakes, we need that male strength close to us. That's why they say it is important to be a couple. You see as an example when couples get divorced, those kids have a hole in their hearts. They have to share the love for two people that are not always close by. The love is not shared together, and I didn't like the way we were living, it was as if he was always out, so we decided to move here. Even though I didn't, well, he didn't make a lot of money here I did. I was a housekeeper. They gave me a supervisor job, they asked me to accept the job. I am a supervisor in the hotel. I had the same job for about 11, 12 years.

Interviewer: -Twelve years? How long have you been here?

Edalena: -Nine years.

Interviewer: -Where you already working here?

Edalena: -I was working here and living in New Bedford.

Interviewer: -Was it the same way as the other girls?

Edalena: -I did the same way as everybody else. Back and forth every day. I was the one who set up the group to come here.

Interviewer: -Because you knew your sister who was already living here and through her friends...

Edalena: -NO. A friend that was working here, it wasn't even my sister. It never entered my mind to come here, so far. I would come here with Luiz to visit my sister and it was such a long trip, very tiring.

Interviewer: -I imagine.

Edalena: -A friend told me about the job and we decided to come and see it, see the type of work and see if we liked it. We came and the man, who spoke some Portuguese, liked us so much. We were three women in the group. First, I am sorry (unclear), the accent, so we came.

One thing that I have to live with constantly is the fish smell. He comes from the ocean and the first thing that comes to me is the fish smell. Anyway, we always try to make life a little easier, washing the clothes, forgetting the fish smell and this way life goes on. That type of

work, spending all that time in the factory, cleaning fish, it didn't appeal to me. If I really needed to make money to raise my kids and I didn't have any other choice, I would do it because I always worked and this is a matter of mental attitude. I will do it and that is that. What I liked to do was to clean houses, that's what I've known and what I always did, my whole life. One gets used to the way one lives one's life, right? That's when I decided. Luiz didn't like me going by myself, he didn't want me to go by myself to the houses, he was afraid. One never knows when one doesn't know the people. This friend of mine suggested and we came here. The man was very nice and the salary was very good, much better than working in the factory. Well, we liked it, the job was good, the hours were fantastic but it wasn't worth it, I started to say, of course, of course, but what about the gasoline?

Interviewer: - That's why you all started coming and going back in a group, otherwise wouldn't be worth it to do the job, just the cost wouldn't be worth it right?

Edalena: - It wasn't worth it, it wasn't.

Interviewer: -That's why you all got together and formed a group?

Edalena: -Yes. The man already liked us, he didn't want to lose us. He saw the kind of people we were and he decided to help us with the gasoline and we started. I left a woman taking care of my kids, but I didn't want her going to my house. We lived in a very narrow road and she would stay at her window, her house was just across the street from ours. I taught the kids, since they were little, how to get dress by themselves. I would lay out the clothes there and watch them getting dress, I was preparing them. I never did it for them I just taught them how to brush their teeth, wash their faces, comb their hair, everything since they were very little. So, when I went to work I told her not to go to the house but to watch them because they would walk, the school was very close to the house. Everything was very easy. Her daughter was Bruno's teacher. She(unclear) took care of Andreia and was very funny, she uses to say that Andreia would walk very slowly. Andreia was always very slow, very calm and Bruno very fast, fast doing things, talking very fast. He likes to get over with things and everything that he has to do, he does it very fast. So, she would say that was funny to see them on the road, she walked very slow and Bruno would stop, turn back and say: " Come on Andreia, come on Andreia". She wouldn't move and he would come back for her and pull her. Well, they also had their time.

On the weekends I would pick them up at school. I would leave work earlier but later on they started giving us more hours. They would get home and I would give them lunch and cook for us. Luiz was in the boat, he was at sea.

Interviewer: -In New Bedford?

Edalena: -Yes. In New Bedford, that's why I decided to come here, for us to stay together. They were already teenagers and this is the time when they need us the most. A mother sometimes is chicken and this is not good. As a mother I know how Luiz is missed. He is missed a lot, do you understand? A good father is always missed. If it is a good father. If I've said a Portuguese, any father, I would be lying. A good father is missed. We have so much love for kids, we care so much for them that we let things go by, you know, they have their own things and we get very soft, we get very weak to say no to them and they use the opportunity to take advantage of us. They want something and they start to come around us when they are teenagers. Someday you will know that, you will be a mother, you know what to do right?

Interviewer: -I always say, one day...

Edalena: - Children are part of it, we are father, mother, we know the value(unclear). They weren't bad, however it is tiring with a teenage daughter. The best thing I could've done in my life was to move to Provincetown. I go to work in the morning, come back and do my things. Luiz goes to sea and at night we are all together, we are able to sit down at the table to have dinner together. When my son and daughter didn't have to go to school, they had to be at the table, the four of us. I didn't approve of them not being at the table with us. That was the time we had to get together and talk. If we had any problems we wouldn't fight, we would talk at the table. We talked about anything with them. I think we should be open with the kids, if they are to ask something we have to answer it. When we grew up it wasn't very dangerous around but now it is three times more dangerous right? We can't say that we are the mother and this is the end of the conversation. It can't be like that. We have to remember that when we were young, how we were, how we use to think, how did we like to be. We do have to go back in time when we were teenagers and remember the respect we had for our parents and teach that to our children right? I didn't like anybody telling me what to do, so I don't tell them what to do. We advise them, we guide them without imposing. I didn't like anyone to impose an idea that wasn't mine right? That's what we have to do with our children. Luiz and I always tried to go along like that, to talk, both of us every night. Educating

the kids without big problems. My daughter now is 19 years old, she is at school, she wants to be a veterinary. Bruno is at sea, he goes fishing because he needs to make money.

Interviewer: -Why fishing? Why not...

Edalena: -He tried. He went to school to learn mechanics, he didn't do very well, because he, as I've said, has some difficulties learning. He stayed in school for eighteen months but didn't learn what he needed to learn. He actually worked here in an auto shop, but you know how things are, he didn't make money lots of money at the beginning, he learned the theory but he wasn't experienced, they paid very little and he was almost like "gofer". Tie a screw here, take a screw off there, like that right?

Interviewer: -It is always like that.

Edalena: -It is not worth it. He is 23 years old, bought a car and we helped him finance the car, his father helped him get credit. He bought it and now he has to pay for it every month, has to make money to pay for it because we are helping with the insurance. He went to school, he was the one who chose to go. He went there and registered himself. I am very proud of my son because despite his limitations he tried to be something different. He tried not to go to the ocean because he didn't want to go, he didn't want to be a fisherman.

Interviewer: -He didn't?

Edalena: - No he didn't. He saw the hard times that people many times go through. The hard times his father went through. There were times they couldn't go because of bad weather or because the ocean was closed for fishing so, it was frustrating. Some times they fish but they can't bring it with them because the law prohibits it. He saw his father's frustration and he didn't want to go through it so, he didn't want to be a fisherman.

He went to school but he didn't do very well. His father told him that if he wanted to go to school he would have to pay for it after he graduated. He started going, didn't get too far but had to pay for it anyway. He was working in the auto shop but wasn't making enough money, it wasn't even enough to pay for the school and he also had the car expenses. He had to make money so he decided to go fishing. He had to make more money, he couldn't stay at home, he had to make money, so he chose to go fishing.

Interviewer: -Does he fish with his father?

Edalena: -He fishes in another boat that is close by.

Interviewer: -Does this boat have another captain?

Edalena: -Yes. He doesn't go with his father, he used to go with him when he was on school vacation. He was about 12, 13 years old, and he was already going to sea with his father. Even though he wasn't making anything, Luiz always gave him some money for him to get motivated. Then he realized that even if he was going to be making little money it would be enough to cover these two expenses, the school and the car.

This will make him understand that he has his own life and when he doesn't have these expenses anymore he will be able to do better right?

We are still helping him, he is still living in our house. He doesn't pay anything but he has to have money and he likes to have his own money in the bank. I also like him to have money. He doesn't smoke or drink, doesn't spend money foolishly, and he always likes to save that is why I, we like to help him, do you understand? He has to be responsible anyway. Every month he gets his paycheck, pays the school and the car. He didn't make the most of his course, the money he made, he now appreciates. He didn't make use of it, he didn't so now he has to pay for something that he probably is not going to use so, he lost the money.

Interviewer: -Do you get worried with your husband and son going to sea?

Edalena: -A lot, a lot. Sometimes I even dream of it. When the weather is good I am fine but when there is a strong wind and they can't see or they didn't tell me about the weather and they told me not to worry about it. It depends on what kind of wind, if it is around here I get crazy and I call them to see if they are fine.

Interviewer: -Can you call them?

Edalena: -There is a telephone.

Interviewer: -I know, they are close enough to get to the phone.

Edalena: -Yes. It is very rare not to be able to communicate with them. Sometimes we can't communicate but when Luiz gets a break he goes to the phone and sees that I called then he calls me right back to see what I want or to see if everything is OK. I ask him about the weather because I get very worried and because we used to have a big iron boat when we were in New Bedford. When Luiz had a partnership in

New Bedford. Luiz got into a partnership in a boat, it didn't go very well. He didn't get along very well with the man, our partner and he sold our share to him. With this money he bought another boat in partnership with someone else. The boat was big but it was old, very banged up, but Luiz invested all our money in this boat, the little money we had, the money we had to build our house, our own house, and he said that's why he had to keep the partnership with this man and he did. He invested all the money in there, bought the parts and fixed it. I did everything I could've done. One day I was working here in Provicentown, I was still going back and forth, we were ready to get in the car when a friend of mine received a phone call. She started getting pale, very pale, no color at all, she looked at me and got paler. I knew someone was on the other side of the line and seeing her face I asked her: "What is it?" "Why are you making this face?" "Do you want to tell me something?" "What is going on Berta?"

Interviewer: -Say it.

Edalena: -So, she said that Luiz, well... Luiz and I are her younger son's god-parents and she started saying Luiz, the boat, she couldn't speak at all, she couldn't tell me what was going on. It was so frightening, the boat caught on fire at sea, Luiz's boat.

Interviewer: -The one made of steel?

Edalena: -The one he had bought, caught fire at sea with all his crew members in it. Luiz and three more. When it caught on fire they weren't able to cease the fire. Luiz was at the front, with the young boy. The young boy...

Interviewer: -I get goose bumps just thinking about it.

Edalena: -He thought he was down there sleeping and he could've died in his sleep. He had the sole of his feet all burnt already and even so he went to rescue the young boy who had escaped. The only one who was still in danger was my husband, he was the last one to leave the boat. They sent a raft.

Interviewer: -Did they have to leave the boat?

Edalena: -They had to leave, they sent a raft, there was a raft. Do you know what a raft is?

Interviewer: -I know, I know.

Edalena: -They sent the raft to sea and they put everything in the raft and Luiz was the last one to get into the raft. They asked the Coast Guard for help, but they didn't know how to get to the raft. It took too long to get to the raft. The boy was sending messages to the boat and he was telling us everything. The whole ride was a despair, such a despair all the way, craziness.

Interviewer: -When did this happen? What year?

Edalena: -I don't remember. Let me see, what year was it?

Interviewer: -Fifteen years? No. Twelve?

Edalena: -I think it was nine, ten. Ten years ago, just about. I got so desperate, I got so crazy that I couldn't even take my car. I was the one who used to drive, we were in two cars but I couldn't even take my car. I left my car with the other girls, we went all the way and the boy was calling, but the Coast Guard didn't know, they didn't know if the people were in the raft, they saw a sign but they didn't know how many of them had survived or if any of them had fallen into the sea, well, they didn't know anything. When I got the news, because they weren't too far from Cape Cod, Luiz was fishing but not too far from Cape Cod, they were closer to Cape Cod than they were from New Bedford. They said they were coming to the hospital, they were alive, and the Coast Guard was able to get in contact with them. They got them, they rescued them, took them in a helicopter and they were able to communicate with me and tell me that they were alive and fine, but they were going to the hospital just to make sure that everything was fine.

Interviewer: -To have a check up.

Edalena: -A checkup to see if they were fine, and how they would react.

Interviewer: -In general.

Edalena: -They could've being traumatized, anything like that. Luiz was very calm person, this is a good thing. It is good that Luiz is like that, if the crew members that he had on board, if they were all like Luiz, for example(Unclear), maybe they wouldn't be in that state because the nervous system can affect a person right? Luiz is a very calm man, stays calm, he acts cold, do you understand? Thank God he was able to keep everything under control. At least that. We lost everything. We had put all our money there and we lost everything.

Interviewer: -Why? Didn't you have insurance?

Edalena: -We lost because they owed money to the bank, so the insurance covered that and we didn't have anything left for us. Whatever we invested in that boat, Luiz had also bought a computer, everything was gone. We started all over from zero, again we didn't have anything but I was happy because my husband was there.

Interviewer: - He was alive.

Edalena: - He was there and he was alive.

Interviewer: -At least.

Edalena: -Those are the moments when I used to see him sad I would say to him: "Luiz I don't think you should be sad, you have to thank God because the boat is gone but you are here. We started from zero, and this is not the first time but we are alive and ready to work." I would say that sometimes it was painful, it was very painful. It was painful to go through this phase because of what he went through, how he had worked in that boat, what he had put in that boat and to end like this. He was feeling worse than I, he got very frustrated, do you understand? That's why I say that what could happen with some couples if there isn't a lot of understanding, love above all, following the love, understanding and respecting each other. Give when he needs it, and give without asking for retribution, do you understand? If I was at that time a different kind of a woman, I could've made him more desperate because...

Interviewer: -Complaining. Saying that you didn't want this.

Edalena: -That partnership that he got into was against my will. I wanted us to buy a house and after a while if we could we would go for the boat, but he wanted it, he insisted so, I said OK. Even if I say no you are going ahead with the business, you are going ahead anyway right? He said yes, so I said OK, you already have it in your mind so, go ahead do it. He did it against my will, do you understand? He felt worse than I did. Because it was against my will, he got very frustrated after what happened, but I wasn't going to curse life, he was fighting for both of us, it wasn't just for him, he was looking for something.

Interviewer: -It was as if you had to choose in that moment, complaint about what he had done with the money or thank God for him to be alive.

Edalena: -I said... That's what I said. The fight isn't just yours, it is our fight, we have to fight, start to fight again. Many times when we are talking he tells me: "You were right woman, our money is there, it is

gone." And I would say: "It is true but we can't do anything now, it is done, lets go on, life goes on, we are alive, we have two kids to fight for. We just have to work, this is nothing.

Interviewer: -Another day you said that your salary and the salary of many other fisherman's wife that is..)

Edalena: -That is what comes in, many times in a house, because the fisherman for example, Luiz goes to sea and is able to make in one day what he would be making in a week, but sometimes, how many weeks they are not able to go to sea, how many days? Sometimes they can't go because the fishing zone is closed, like here it is closed in May, no April, May, seems like it is in April. No, they close it in May. They still have some good days where they can go far away from the fishing zones right? They can still make some money. The boats are small, made out of wood, can't make money because they are boats made for the coast, and if the coast is closed they have to go far away and they know that they just have certain numbers of hours to fish because the wind starts to blow in the afternoon and they can not stay out there. "What do they go there for?" Just to dragnet and come back, they don't even make up for what they have spent.

Interviewer: -It Isn't worth it.

Edalena: -No. It is not worth it. So, they spend two months without work, almost without something to look for.

Interviewer: -So, the fisherman can't exist, he is not a fisherman if he doesn't have a wife.

Edalena: -He can, but can't get married and have kids.

Interviewer: -Go live with his parents, brother or his wife.

Edalena: - It has to be like that if he wants to be a fisherman. I am not saying that my husband doesn't make enough money.

Interviewer: -I know.

Edalena: -For us, do you understand?

I can't live, because maybe by myself I wouldn't be able to carry the house expenses

Interviewer: -It is a supplement.

Edalena: -I am not, I don't make a lot of money, I do well, I do well and at least we can count on it every week. This is not like that with

Luiz, there isn't any money going into the bank every week, but with God's blessing I am able to cover the(unclear), do you understand? That is why I say: "To be a fisherman is like the unknown, sometimes they have something to do, they go and do it and sometimes they can't even make for the hook or anything else and we don't even have a story to tell. When they make some money they still have to know how to save it for the time when they can't make it. Do you know what I mean?"

Interviewer: -Do you still go to New Bedford?

Edalena: -Yes. I have a sister living there. After I came to Provincetown, my sister moved back to New Bedford. My brother-in-law had a heart attack, he wasn't able to work anymore, he didn't go back to being a fisherman. She moved to New Bedford, she bought a house over there and I moved here. That's how we became separated. Now I go there sometimes to see my sister. I have all my friends over there, the ones who work with me and I go to visit them. When I need to do shopping in bulk I go to BJ's, because life is very expensive over here in Provincetown.

Interviewer: -It is.

Edalena: -I take a day off, go to BJ's, do my shopping, see my friends and I come back, that way I can have some fun too.

Interviewer: -What about the Portuguese products that don't they sell over here?

Edalena: - Yes. They sell everything over there, we can't find anything here. If I need any Portuguese products I go there and bring it so, I always have my shopping done and that's it.

Interviewer: -Let's talk a little more about Praia da Ancora, what kind of.. Did your parents use to fish over there? Does it have anything to do?

Edalena: -Nothing to do with fishing. Nobody in my family or Luiz's family was connected to fishing.

Interviewer: -Is this the same story with many other fisherman?

Edalena: -My father-in-law was a driver, my father worked for the government, he was a guard for the rivers, nothing connected with fishing. None of my brothers were fisherman, the only one that became a fisherman was my brother-in-law. Luiz has another brother that is a fisherman by circumstances, he also wasn't a fisherman, but

sometimes to try to make some more money, you cheat your own profession and try a different one. This happened with Luiz and he never left the fisherman profession.

Interviewer: - What about Luiz? Did he ever think about going back to Praia da Ancora and be a fisherman over there?

Edalena: -No.

Interviewer: -No? Wasn't it even an option?

Edalena: -I don't even think that he thought about it.

Interviewer: -Does the fishing community have anything to do with his background? You didn't come from a traditional fishermen's family...

Edalena: -No. Nothing compared to a traditional fishing family.

Interviewer: -Because sometimes we think about the fishing in Provincetown as a traditional Portuguese fishing but the people involved don't necessarily come from...

Edalena: - From Portuguese families? No. No. We had no connections with fishermen.

Interviewer: -Even the people in New Bedford? Is it just a link for them to get here and be able to start a life?

Edalena: -Yes. Some of them were fishermen in Portugal, my friends' husbands were fishermen there.

Interviewer: -Were they?

Edalena: -At least most of them were, the ones that are fishermen over here.

Interviewer: -They were. Ok!

Edalena: -Do you understand? Some others weren't, not necessarily, some times it is just because of the circumstances. I had a brother who died at sea. He wasn't a fisherman and he came here to work as a fisherman just to make money. He was a construction worker, it was totally different. Can you see?

He came here but construction here is very different, everything is made with wood not concrete as it is over there and he didn't understand about the construction work over here.

Interviewer: -The methods, the ways.

Edalena: -No, nothing like it was over there. He came to make money and he had to subject himself to be a fisherman so, he went to sea.

Interviewer: -Here with you husband?

Edalena: -He was in another boat, but he was a fisherman here in New Bedford and he died here at 33 years old. He left two daughters a wife behind and his wife died few years ago with cancer.

Interviewer: -Did the family stay here?

Edalena: -They never came. He came and stayed with us, but the wife and the girls stayed in Portugal. After a while he died and after a few years the cancer started and she also died, just the children are alive.

Interviewer: -He died. I remember well about this. It wasn't a fishing boat but it was a recreation boat, right?

Edalena: - Yes, it was a recreation boat. He had gone to Portugal, he had gone on vacation, then he came back, he was here for a few days before he was supposed to go back to work, it was like he was on vacation still. Some of his friends invited him to go to the ocean in a little recreational boat, and he already had some physical problems the doctor had already told him about. He was having some kind of attacks, they said that it was like a vein that could've burst and this could've happened at any moment. My dead brother wasn't suppose to drink. Unfortunately because his wife and kids were in Portugal and he missed them so much he started drinking a lot. he used to drink to try to forget. He was still here as a tourist, he wasn't a permanent resident yet.

Interviewer: - For the time to go by fast...

Edalena: -He went to the ocean and we didn't know if he was drinking. It was unknown, his friends, the ones that were with him said that he was seating in the boat with them, it was a boat like a torpedo boat, like(unclear) and he fell into the ocean. They didn't even see when he fell. When they realized it, they wanted to go back to the place to look for him, but they weren't sure exactly where it was. One said that they went back and when they went back they saw my dead brother but they couldn't get him. Something happened and he fell and we never knew what really happened. The autopsy came back as if he had drowned and he was a lifeguard swimmer. I think that after he fell into the water, he felt something and he wasn't able to swim or do anything because I know that he was a very good swimmer.

Interviewer: -What is your role in the festival?

Edalena: -Portuguese?

Interviewer: -Yes. Portuguese.

Edalena: -Here?

Interviewer: -Yes.

Edalena: -My role is not a big one I just help with the blessings here. When we first came here to Provincetown, about a half a dozen people would come for the blessings, nobody else. I heard that in the past they would cook on board, these things, anything, lots of parties. They used to do it like that, they used to invite friends, get together on the boat but that whole thing was over. Luiz wanted to bring a little of this back, this way of celebrating and do it ourselves. So, we started it in the first year we were here. We had a small boat, the one we still have now so we started to have a party on that day right? The people appreciated it, they all wanted to come to our party. We had food, I started cooking a lot, I cooked a lot and the people started to ask to come to our boat, some we invited right? Some people we invited and others would ask to come and I would always say to everybody that they could come. Some time it is hard to fit everybody in the boat, sometimes there were so many people in the boat that we couldn't even move.

Interviewer: -Did you ever think about opening up a catering business? Cook for parties, things like that?

Edalena: -No. I never thought about it. Luiz thought about having a restaurant, I like to cook, I like it very much. I worked a lot in restaurants.

Interviewer: -But maybe for a catering business you won't need a big initial investment and you won't have people placing orders every day.
Edalena: -Just once in a while.

Interviewer: -Yes, and you know about quantity, things will not go bad, things like that, who knows? Say it, you can say it.

Edalena: -Bruno, please go outside to get Oly please, put her upstairs. Put her in the bedroom.

Bruno: - In which bedroom?

Edalena: - Put her in your bedroom with you or without you. Poor thing, go get her.

Bruno: -Catering? Does it make a lot of money?

Interviewer: -Catering.

Bruno: -Good money!

Interviewer: -Yeah! It is really good money and she cooks really well!

Bruno: - She is pretty good.

Interviewer: I could speak much better English than Portuguese.

Bruno: Well, you speak Portuguese... she is not Brazilian, well, she can't be.

Interviewer: -My parents are from Portugal, I lived in Brazil for some years but never lived in Portugal. I mean I went there to visit my family but in terms of consecutive years I spent more time in Brazil than Portugal. When I talk with the people from Brazil I try to use more the accent from Brazil because they don't understand or they have some difficulty over there. Of course the Brazilians over here are more familiarized with the Portugueses and there are more.

Edalena: -Yes.

Interviewer: -My mother thinks I have a jungle accent.

Edalena: -You have a Brazilian accent, right? One can see that you have to speak the real Portuguese, our Portuguese right?. But you have the Brazilian accent.

The ones over here, of course, my husband loves the Brazilian accent, loves the Brazilian speech. Take it upstairs.

Bruno: -That's really good money, I don't know why my dad, my mom don't do that.

Interviewer: -I think that's hum ... we should ...

Bruno: -She makes good food, she might as well...

Interviewer: -It's the best food! Yeah! I was on that boat.

Edalena: -I like to cook and everything but do you know what keeps me from opening a restaurant and go into a restaurant business? I

worked in a restaurant in Portugal, in the kitchen. I worked in restaurants in Germany and I worked here in my sisters' restaurant and this is a very imprisoned life.

Interviewer: -Yes, I am recording it, it is not a problem.

Edalena: -Yes, it is an imprisoned life and I am like a little bird.

Interviewer: -I know how it is. It is seven days a week, there is no time for vacation. That is why I thought about catering.

Edalena: -In catering.

Interviewer: -Yeah!

Edalena: -Yeah! How come I never thought about it like that?

Interviewer: -Yeah! Who knows?

Edalena: -For example.

One can even start... my boss loves my "*risoles*."