

## Interview Transcript:

Alberto Miranda Garcia and Maria José Romero Gallego  
with  
Mike Gross, Fabiola Garcia, and Eliana Hernandez

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*Transcripción sin grabación:*

*Entrevistadores:* Una parte del trabajo que estamos haciendo quieren que hagamos es recopilar el árbol genealógico de una familia que ha estado en el pueblo durante generaciones, para darles una idea de cómo se ha vivido durante varias generaciones. Así que nos piden 3 generaciones con información como la ocupación qué clase de trabajo hacían si emigraron y regresaron, familia, escuela y como conocimientos que pasaron entre generaciones, como por ejemplo personas que hacían techos con las tejas de antes, que pasaron de generaciones. Entonces eso es lo que vamos a estar discutiendo.

*Entrevistadores:* We are working with a newly-formed organization, called La Alcordanza and the hope is to gather information about this region and put it into an archive, that way it could be stored and that people can know the history of this area so that in twenty, a hundred years people can go back and they can understand the area and the culture and the history, because it is a very rich history here. Our hope is that in gathering information about these people and their lives that this could go into the archive so that people can understand in the future.

*Entrevistadores:* Al final del proyecto van a poner un están hablando de una página de internet y un reporte que se va a hacer y que al final del verano van a mandar a las comunidades donde hemos estado trabajando. No quieren que recaudemos la historia y llevárnosla, quieren que recaudemos la historia, la pongamos todo junto y regresarla aquí. Ya a la comunidad. Están hablando de una página de internet para que las fotos que hemos estado tomando ponerlas ahí y por ejemplo se va a donde esta La Losilla y salga todo esto y lo que usted nos está diciendo, nosotros nos vamos a asegurar de que no se termine. La información no es nuestra, la recaudamos y la devolvemos.

*Entrevistadores:* So, is it ok if we thank you very much. Did you guys put this together?

*Entrevistados:* No, lo hizo Pelayo. Pelayo leyendo los libros parroquiales. Como ven hay bautismos y bodas y muertes. Son las cosas que se registraban antes en los libros parroquiales, lo que hacía antes el CURP?. Entonces tenemos las pruebas, las sacamos de libros reales que estan ahí, que existen.

*Entrevistadores:* So if we start with Esteban

*Entrevistados:* Es nuestro hijo.

*Entrevistadores:* Ahh...Very nice.

*Entrevistadores:* Maybe you want to start with his grandpa?

*Entrevistados:* This is my father, this is my grandfather. And I didn't meet my grandfather because I was six months old when he died. I remember my grandmother, but I know something about my grandfather because Its here

*Entrevistadores:* ¿En qué año murió su abuelo?

*Entrevistados:* Nació en 1866, y murió en 1949 mi abuelo en 1949/Saturnino

*Entrevistadores:* Y la fecha no lo saben

*Entrevistados:* El día no, pero mes sería en junio... pues en diciembre. Diciembre del 49

*Entrevistadores:* Su cumpleaños es en este mes también?

*Entrevistados:* 9 de junio cumple

*Entrevistadores:* Oh, feliz cumpleaños atrasado

*Entrevistadores:* ¿Y su abuelo a qué se dedicaba?

*Entrevistados:* Mi abuelo era albañil. Eran personas que hacían un poco de todo. Tenían vacas, pocas, carpintero, era un poco... no tenía un oficio concreto pero se dedicaba a muchas cosas. Carpintería, hacía pues agricultura.

*Entrevistadores:* y él vivió siempre aquí en La Losilla

*Entrevistados:* sí, en La Losilla sí.

*Entrevistadores:* Él sí, pero tu abuela no, vivió en Madrid.

*Entrevistadores:* Where in La Losilla, do you know what house?

*Entrevistados:* Sí, en la casa roja que está arriba It was built by my father. Between the red house and the road. There is a blue. We can go after the... doors. They were the house, the stable down the house.

*Entrevistadores:* Dicen que eso era muy común, tenían el establo y la casa arriba.

*Entrevistados:* Para dar calor a la casa. El calor de los animales subía.

*Entrevistadores:* Remember what the architect said.

*Entrevistados:* Alberto lives in this house, with this situation. With the cows. Till 8 years old, but at 8 years old my father built the new house. But that time we lived there, for instance at that time there were no counters for electricity so we used the same electricity, the same bulb in our bedroom and in the stable.

## **[Empieza la grabación]**

**00:00**

**Alberto:** There was a hole in the floor, so we passed the bulb down to illuminate the stable [ríe], and when we're in the room we take the, the [ríe].

**M-** Wow.

**María:** And it was normal in all the...

**Alberto:** So imagine the smell, you know? 'Cause we live exactly, we slept exactly on the stable and we are on the other level.

**M-** So you could smell the animals all the time?

**Alberto:** Yea, but you don't know. *[ríe]* You feel normal.

**María:** Yes, between there were only a wood, a tabla

**Alberto:** With holes!

**E-** Y dijo que su mamá vivía en Madrid.

**Alberto:** No, mi mamá no.

01:00

**María:** No, la abuela, no, pero no todo el tiempo. Explicalo en ingles para que lo entiendan.

**Alberto:** My grandmother Matea, he eh...

**María:** She, she

**Alberto:** she lived in La Losilla when she was married. She came from other village that is 10 km from here.

**M-** Which village is that?

**Alberto:** Colle. So my grandmother comes here when she was married, she was the second wife of my grandfather. My grandfather his first wife died, and it was the second.

**E-** ¿Él está en la genealogia donde la esposa?

**María:** ¿La primera y la segunda? *[Miran y consultan entre ellos]* No only the secondia.

**E-** ¿Y cómo se llamaba ella?

**María:** Matea.

-La primera.

**María:** Ah, la primera?

02:00

**Alberto:** I don't remember.

**María:** Pero todas las cosas que no sepamos concretas se la podemos preguntar a Pelayo. Y él seguro que la busca y las acaba encontrando, para hacerlo mas completo. El nombre de la primera y el dia exacto de la muerte de tu abuelo, por

ejemplo podemos preguntarle. Explicale en inglés, que se fue a Madrid cuando la Guerra.

**Alberto:** In the war start, the Civil War start, my grandmother was in Madrid. Accidentally, just she went

**María:** She went to visit the family and in this day start the war, the Civil War.

**Alberto:** And start the war and she spend three years, the three war years, in Madrid.

**María:** She couldn't come during three years from Madrid to here. Even she had the small child here,

**03:00**

but it was not possible to travel through the country.

**Alberto:** The youngest was my father, was 14, but one of his brothers was killed, was 18 years, 18. Was killed in the beginning the war.

**María:** But killed without [*indescifrable*], he is burried in the...

**Alberto:** ... Not fighting, just taking just taken he from the house and he was shot in...

**María:** Candanedo, a village near here.

**Alberto:** Near Vegaquemada. He was buried there but we don't know exactly what the place. He has no... ¿defunción? ¿Acta de defunción?

**E-** No death certificate

**Alberto:** Officially is not dead, he is not dead because there is not document telling that he is, my uncle was dead.

**María:** He was a little,

**04:00**

I don't know en inglés... retrasado mental.

**E-** He was uh... he had a mental disability.

**María:** And he was playing with, with something of the military, something of the uniform and laughing and then they come catch him and kill him.

**M-** That's horrible.

**María:** And it was between his grandmother was in Madrid without know that.

**E-** Y como se llamaba?

**Alberto:** Se llamaba Anselmo

-I'm sorry, his name, again?

**Ambos:** Anselmo. *[Indescifrable]*

**María:** Is the same name than his older brother.

**M-** And so, that was the brother of your father.

**Alberto:** Yes, that's the brother that was killed, yeah. And there are other 2 brothers that emigrate to Argentina

**05:00**

during the, after, after the Civil War. And I never met them.

**E-** They still live in Argentina?

**Alberto:** No, they are dead, they have died.

**María:** But his daughter live in Argentina and we speak with them from time to time.

**E-** So you said your grandfather died when you were very young. Did your grandmother stay here or did she leave when he died?

**María:** No, stay here. Living with his family.

**Alberto:** Then after the war she came and she live here with my mother in the same house. He lived with us until she died.

**E-** Y los nombres estan ahi tambien, los que se murieron en Argentina?

**Alberto:** No, no, there's only the people that live here because my father Ramón,

**06:00**

my father was the the...

**María:** the only child that stayed here.

**Alberto:** The only that stayed in La Losilla, the rest of the family one was was; 2 in Madrid, 2 in Argentina, one killed, and my father.

**M-** So, the two who moved to Argentina do we know their names?

**Alberto:** Yes, Honorino and Delfino. Honorino and? Emmm.. *[María: Alberto no.]* Delfino I think.

**M-** So Delfino and...?

**María:** Honorino con hache. Alberto se llama Honorino, tú. *[ríe]* Bueno Honorino primero y Alberto después. *[entre risas]* Honorino con hache.

07:00

*E- [verifican la ortografía]* So, there was your father, Ramón Miranda

*Alberto:* He lived here

*E-* He lived here, and we have Anselmo was his brother

*Alberto:* Was killed

*E-* And then Honorino and Delfino.

*María:* That was in Argentina.

*E-* In Argentina. And were there any other brothers or sisters?

*Alberto:* Was another... stepsister?

*María:* Ramón Miranda y cuatro hermanos, debe de tener cuatro. [*Alberto susurrando:* ¿Cómo se llama mi tía?] ¿La de Madrid, Angelines?

*Alberto:* No, esos son los hijos. Emm... Another sister living in Madrid, half sister.

08:00

*Alberto:* Medio-hermana.

*María:* It was the daughter of the other woman, the first woman...

*Alberto:* ¿Cómo se llamaba?

*María:* Alberto has not good memory.

*Alberto:* No memory. [*risas*] Maybe in... 10 minutes I can remember, but now...

*María:* And his grandmother worked in. Dile que era comadrona, lo que lo de los muertos que ayudaba y todo eso...

*Alberto:* My grandmother didn't know how to write.

*E-* Oh, OK.

*Alberto:* She know, she knew how to read. Slowly, but she reads. But she never goes to school.

*María:* It was normal in these times.

*Alberto:* Yea at that time for women.

09:00

**Alberto:** So when I when we were a child we were child, we would try to help her, try to learn her how to. But she was get angry. *[ríe]* Because we would take the hands and try to and she didn't like it..

**E-** But she taught herself how to read?

**Alberto:** How to read, yes. Slowly, but she read just taking newspaper and... Yes, but emm... intelligent woman, but no preparation at all. But she was she worked like a man, a lot of strength, she worked in the field, *[María: With cows.]* I always say that my grandmother has no fear to anything.

**10:00**

And she helped people when... emm they died and had to clean them up... No se cómo se dice. Cuando se morían las personas ella ayudaba a limpiar los muertos, a prepararles. También ayudaba a los nacimientos... sin preparación ninguna, pero bueno, por experiencia y que era muy valiente que se atrevía con todo.

**María:** One time they told us that they. *[suspira]* In English it's terrible. aquí hay un sistema de riego, de las tierras, que es por tiempo: un día le toca a uno, otro día le tocaba otro. Y entonces a ella le tocaba ese día, pero como era una mujer, y viuda, pues vino un hombre, un vecino, y le quitó el agua. Pues fue para allá la abuela Matea y le pegó al hombre! *[ríe]* Y recupero su turno de regar.

**11:00**

**E- *[Traduce al inglés]*** That's great

**Alberto:** When I was a child, one guy, a guy older than me, hit me. I never go to my father or my mother to tell them "oh, that guy". No, I went always to my grandmother. And she didn't forget it, so one other day, she hit this guy. *[risas]*

**12:00**

She was terrible, terrible. I never go to my father to say that. Always my grandmother.

**M-** Wow, that's great. So she was a very brave woman.

Oh yes, very brave.

**María:** And it was very difficult here in Spain after the Civil War without nearly nothing to eat and a lot of problems. But she was wonderful.

**M-** That's great. *[Miran sus apuntes]* Anything that she passed along to you guys, like to you and your brothers...? Things that she used to do like

**13:00**

how to take care of the cows or things like that? Anything that you remember from her?



**Alberto:** From my grandmother? When we had cows at the time, and one of the functions of my grandmother was to take the cows to the fields, and at that time we have no electrical fences, we had to stay with the cows all the time, for 2 to 3 hours at a time. So we always go with my grandmother and... she knew a lot about the herbs. She didn't know how to read, but she knew about the different herbs. She didn't know how to read, but she knew how to use the different herbs for different things, you have bad stomach or pains

**14:00**

in one thing... she knew a lot about herbs in the fields. And that is eh... one of the things that I remember is stay with her in the fields taking care of the cows and no no more. Normally she helped my mother because we are 6, help my mother to take care of the boys and children, take care of the children.

**E-** Y de que murió su abuela?

**Alberto:** Ehm... they were very ill, very old.

**María:** Se quedo ciega los ultimos años.

**Alberto:** My grandmother, yes.

**María:** And she never watched TV before quedarse ciega, then she

**15:00**

doesn't understand the TV at all.

**Alberto:** She never understood the TV, because she was blind totally blind, totally totally . You could get a torch and she never moved the... totally blind and we explained to her that we can see people, because she knew radio, but not the television, and I explained to her, we explained to her that we could see the people talking and the football matches, and bull rings, bullfighting...

**María:** She said be careful with the small child because maybe the balón maybe [risas]...

**Alberto:** she start here in the television... [suenta el timbre]

**María:** Bueno, será el cartero... [Alberto se levanta]

**16:00**

[regresa]

**María:** Is a woman of La Losilla but is a little.... yes at the end of the street.

**Alberto:** She always say at the door, why do you allow them to come in? Shut the door! And there was a bullfighting, because now there is no bullfighting on television, but at the time was in the television and she say "how many bulls they

kill? Six? Six here, and six in the other, “ she know that the other neighbors had them (TV) “Six here and six in the other neighbors” so many bulls.

**17:00**

*M-* My great great-grandmother was 98 when she passed away, and I remember that we showed her television, I must have been maybe 5, and we showed her a television and she didn't, she was scared, she didn't wanna see it, she didn't understand..

*M-* Cuantos años tenia cuando murio ella?

*Alberto:* Mi abuela tendria, 88

*María:* No lo pone, no, in the genealogy it is not the die date?

*M-* No...

*Alberto:* La tía nació en el 81...

*María:* ¿y en que año murió?...

*Alberto:* ya tendría, ya tenía 20 años. Cuando murió mi abuela.

**18:00**

*María:* ¿en el 69?

*Alberto:* ¿Cuándo murió el 69?

*María:* En el 69 murio.

*Alberto:* 69 mas 19?

*María:* Ehmm... 88.

*E-* Wow, she lived a full life. She sounds like a very amazing woman.

*M-* So then you mentioned that your father, Oh, I'm sorry, that you were one of 6 children? Tell me about your brothers and sisters.

*Alberto:* Well, about my father!

*E-* You skipped his dad.

*M-* Oh, I'm sorry! I did, eh!

*E-* So your dad is... Ramón

*María:* Have you seen our webpage? In the page with Ramón...?

*E-* Is that on the history of La Losilla?

19:00

**María:** No, in the history of La Losilla hay un apartado de fotos, fotos antiguas, y ahí hay muchas fotos hechas por su padre.

*[Beetle comes in]*

**Alberto:** It is not dangerous, not problem.

**E-** You wanna look?

**M-** Sure. Oh wow. Is that a beetle?

**E-** Es un... It was like a fly... *[Echan el insecto]*

20:00

**Alberto:** my father was a, main occupation was a miner. But then I was the photographer. The village and the ibia. He was the haircut. Barbero. At that time that were many people that cut the hair not only to shave, with knives, no with the new... so eh... and also he was, we had cows, so... and also a builder. So he was many, many occupation. He was an intelligent man.

**María:** You can see him in the page page of La Losilla, a lot of photo

21:00

one or two photo of him and the rest of the family and the neighbors and... procesiones y muchas cosas.

**E-** Si, vimos las fotos de las procesiones.

**María:** Pues el fotografo es su padre.

**Alberto:** That photos was made by my father.

**María:** Y en una de ellas, una de las fotos él esta llevando las andas con la Virgen, la trae asi imprimida.

**E-** We've got to check that out.

**M-** Definitely

**María:** Es, se parece a Alberto, osea que murio más joven, murió a los 47 años. Y Alberto tiene ya 73. Pero se parece mucho.

**E-** Falleció joven, verdad?

**Alberto:** Si, 47 años, but he was an accident, he work in a mine as, have you went to Cisterna? The road Boñar to Cisterna was em...

22:00

the mine was 15 km from Boñar on this road, and he was driving and he crash against a lorry and he died. He was dead in year seven...ty, 1970. *[Lo apuntan]* And one of his dreams was not that any of his sons go to the mine to work, so we study and... my eldest brother is engineer, I'm a technical engineer and I have two sisters are nurse and one is...

23:00

**María:** Derecho social. Social something similar than

**Alberto:** Social something. So from six children, 5 we have studies, universities.

**María:** Except the youngest.

**Alberto:** Except the youngest. He was the er, more handsome and... *[risas]* He like to other things than to study

**María:** Thinking in woman. *[Risas]*

**E-** A womanizer.

**Alberto:** And because he's died, his father has died if not, I think it was different. Because he was 9 years when my father died. I think that he need father. My father leave my young brother changed a lot.

**M-** And what is his name? Your youngest brother?

**Alberto:** Pedro.

24:00

**María:** He is the president of the La Losilla.

**E-** Y que es la profesion de Pedro?

**María:** He work in the estaba en el ayuntamiento de León. En la parte de deporte. En la consejería de deportes... in the deports. En el ayuntamiento.

**M-** So you mentioned that your oldest brother is a mechanical engineer?

**Alberto:** No, is engineer.

**María:** Industrial engineer.

**M-** And what is his name?

**Alberto:** Anselmo,

**María:** The same name as em... as his son.

**M-** And you have two sisters?

**Alberto:** Three, three sisters. Two are nurse, and one is social something.

**M-** And what are their names?

**25:00**

**María:** Is eh.. Maria Angeles, Olga y Maria Luisa.

**M-** So, which ones, is Olga a nurse?

**María:** No, Olga is a social algo, *[Suena el teléfono, Alberto contesta]* and she work in the university of León, is secretary. Someplace in the University of León. Maria Luisa is nurse and she work in the Hospital of León and Maria Angeles is nurse too, but she is early retire because she have a... she's ill a... esclerosis múltiple.

*[Traducen]*

**M-** And I'm sorry, what was her name, one more time?

**E-** Maria Angeles?

**María:** Mariángeles, es enfermera but she is early retire.

**E-** And... Maria Luisa? She is a nurse and she works at the hospital in León.

**26:00**

**María:** And Olga work in the University of León.

**M-** Thank you, I know it is a lot of information, thank you very much.

**E-** And then Alberto.

**María:** Alberto is the second brother. After him is Maria Angeles, after is Olga, after is Maria Luisa and the last, Pedro. Always two years between them. Because it was the normal in Spain. 2 years dando el pecho, I don't know in English

**E-** Two years breastfeeding

**María:** and after that, the next pregnant.

**M-** And then Esteban is your son.

**María:** Yes, Alberto has two sons, older. Alberto was married with a Scottish woman

**27:00**

and they had 2 sons.

**M-** And what are their names?

**María:** Alan is the oldest, and Daren, «darren» escrito. Is the second.

**M-** And what do they do? What is their job?

**María:** Alan is living here in León, and now in this week he is em.. en paro.

**E-** He is on strike?

**María:** No, huelga no. Without job because his company, he was working in a company of placas solares, and this company, this factory has closed.

**M-** In California, many solar panel factories, same thing. They're closed. It's sad.

**28:00**

**E-** So he's unemployed.

**María:** Unemployed, unemployed yes. He is married and has a small boy, 1 years old.

**M-** How old is he?

**María:** 34, Alan. He's 34 years old.

**E-**No sabe el nombre del niño de Alan?

**María:** De Alan? Si, se llama Aarón «a-a-rón»

**E-** Interesante, tienen nombres ingleses, españoles...

**María:** Alan y Daren because his woman... but is normal. For example, Maria Luisa is em... the otra hermana, tiene un hijo que se llama Edgar y una hija que se llama Tania, un nombre Ruso. Hay una mezcla ahí.

**E-** Y cual era la otra hermana?

**29:00**

**María:** No, cuñada. Eran hermanos de Alberto.

**E-** Y cual era Maria Angeles?

**María:** Maria Angeles esta retirada ya por enfermedad.

**E-** Y cual es la que tuvo los hijos...

**María:** De los nombres raros? Maria Luisa.

**E-** Y el otro muchacho, Daren?

**María:** Daren vive en, Darren lives in Scotland, near in Bernés. He is married, too... he is 30 years old. He is married, too, and has a small girl, Sofía.

*[Alberto consulta algo desde el teléfono]*

**30:00**

**E-** Y luego ya se caso con usted?

**María:** Luego se divorciaron y luego no, we knowed the in Erikson in the company, he was my boss. But he see, I see that he can cook. *[risas]* So in one year, I catch him. *[risas]* And then we were married and had Esteban.

**M-** And so Esteban is 11? 11 years old?

**María:** Ah, eleven, yes, eleven years old.

**E-** En que año se casaron ustedes?

**María:** No we were married here in La Losilla... and we don't remember exactly because our wedding was a little not normal, especial

**31:00**

because we were working in the other house, and one day in the week, a normal day, we went to the ayuntamiento in Vegaquemada and the alcalde sign, and nothing more, nothing else. Then I don't remember the day... maybe in May, May was the month, maybe 2003 no, 3 or 4 I don't remember. 3.

**E-** ¿Y luego Esteban?

**María:** Esteban was born in 2001. Esteban was born before.

**E-** Su fecha?

**María:** 23 de enero del 2001.

**M-** Is he in school right now in León?

**María:** No, he is in the school in Boñar.

**M-** Oh yea

**32:00**

**María:** This is the last day- tomorrow is the last day of the school.

**E-** Is he excited?

**María:** No, he likes the school because he is with a lot of boys and plays every time, nearly. And after that here in La Losilla and only has one, friend. He likes school a lot.

**M-** When I was his age, I lived in California, in a small town very much like this and during the summers I loved to run around in the fields and... explore, and the cows and... yeah.

**María:** Is good time. *[ríe]*

**M-** So, then tell me about your family?

**María:** My family?

**M-** Yes, your mother and your father and...

**María:** I was born in Badajoz, in Extremadura, in the south of Spain. Near Andalucía.

**33:00**

**María:** And my father and my mother lives now there in the village, in our village. The name of the village is Castuera. I study engineer, too, like Alberto... and after, after I finish, I have to go, I was very happy to go to Madrid to work, in Erikson. My father was agricultor.

**E-** Farmer?

**María:** Farmer, yes. We had a small land, 10 hectáreas.

**E-** Acres *[NdE: hectares, que no acres]*

**María:** And they worked my father and my mother.

**34:00**

**María:** They had cows, too. And pig and gallinas, and hens...

**E-** ¿Cuántos años trabajó usted para Erikson?

**María:** Dieciséis, 16 years. Only.

**E-** Y era ingeniera.

**María:** Yes, and the same month than Alberto was early retired I voluntary say bye-bye too... but I was fortunate, afortunada, because in this time Erikson had a ERE (Expediente de Regulación de Empleo.) you don't...

**E-** They had like this thing like, they had like a folder of employment, employment records.

**35:00**

**María:** It's an agreement with the government to fire people. But I had I was voluntary to fire. Then I had a lot of money I think. 55 days of salary a year of money per year, and 2 years in unemployment, unemployed but eh... cobrando. Earning from the government money. 2 years.

**E-** Oh, so they had an agreement with the government to lay off people, but she took voluntary layoff, so she took 55 days for every year she worked, and also 2 years of unemployment.



**M-** Wow, very nice.

**María:** In this two years, we buy the other house and we repair and we start the business in my name, the business is mine. *[risas]* Now from before, from this part of the business I am autónoma. Autónomo is

**E-** She's autónoma, independent

**36:00**

**María:** Autónomo is, es una categoría de trabajador, cuando tú tienes por ejemplo una tienda, un negocio propio, tú te das de alta en la Seguridad Social como autónomo y pagas la seguridad social cada mes.

*[Traducen]*

**M-** Its similar in California, yeah.

**E-** El hace lo mismo.

**María:** The name here is autonomo.

*[Pequeña discusión con la traducción]*

**37:00**

*[Conversación sobre los niveles de habilidad lingüística de los estudiantes]*

**38:00**

**María:** The son of Alan living here in León, only speaks Spanish. And Sofia living in Scotland, only English. Is a pity.

**39:00**

*[Mike se excusa para ir al baño]*

*[Bromas sobre los hombres y la tapa del bater]*

**E-** Mike le queria preguntar algo de la bed and breakfast? Es que queremos...

**F-** Si, Mike tiene la idea de que si nos podía rentar un cuarto para nosotros un dia, por que quiere ver como vive la gente en la noche.

**María:** Ah, pues una idea... ¿Cualquier noche?, es que nosotros nos vamos el lunes a mi tierra, a mi pueblo y volvemos hasta el 4 o el 5 de Julio no volvemos, entonces tendría que ser antes.

**F-** Por que el quiere venir y ver como vive la gente cuando no está el sol.

**María:** Una Buena noche para eso seria en la noche del sábado,

**40:00**

la noche de San Juan. Es la única noche en la que hay vecinos en la calle cuando ya se pone el sol. Por que las demas noches, cada uno a su casa y bajan las persianas y aquí no se ve nadie. Entonces esa noche hacemos una hoguera ahí. Entonces vamos todos los vecinos, comemos sopa de ajo, que es típico de por aquí, chocolate.

**Alberto:** Yo hago la sopa de ajo...

**María:** Entonces esa noche sería Buena.

**F-** Si, si. Si estaria bien.

**Alberto:** Por que podeis ver un poquitin algo que hacemos el pueblo juntos. aquí tenemos en el pueblo tres celebraciones. Que nos juntamos, no todo el pueblo... pero, en la noche de San Juan que hacemos la hoguera y tenemos ahí pues... hacemos esa cena ahí... el día 8 de septiembre que es digamos la festividad del pueblo, que vamos, que ahora lo que hacemos es una procesion que es de aquí desde la iglesia la hermita de San Adrián,

**41:00**

ahí hacemos una misa y después ponemos pinchos y bebida para tomar algo ahí y ya no solemos hacer más. Antes habia bailes y esas cosas pero ahora no hacemos más que eso. Y despues en marzo, que es el patrón del pueblo, San Adrián y Santa Natalia, que es lo que hacemos es tambien una misa en el pueblo y vamos a comer a un restaurante todos. Unas 50 personas o asi vamos a comer.

**E-** Las celebraciones aquí son en otra parte...

**María:** Claro, no hay restaurante...

**E-** Si no, pues estaría bien el sábado, no?

**María:** Entonces os invitamos el sábado. A estar con nosotros.

**E-** Si y dice Mike, vamos y les preguntamos y sirve que nos tomamos un descanso de todos. Es que si, vivir con tanta gente como que...

**María:** Claro, cansa un poco no?

**E-** Si, ya que llegamos de burgos ya como que ahora si venimos enfadados...

**María:** Claro, es normal, cuando se está tanto tiempo compartiendo todo

**42:00**

pues acaban saliendo las diferencias.

**E-** Si, como que nadie estamos acostumbrados a ir con tanta gente...

**F-** Como todos vivimos solos, imagínese, luego de repente tienes como 15 compañeros, pues es bastante difícil.

**María:** Bueno pues, entonces quedamos en eso. El sábado cuando queráis, os invitamos a quedaros en nuestra casa.

**E-** Bueno, no nos va a invitar...

**María:** Bueno, bueno, ¿cómo vamos a cobraros?

**E-** ¿Por qué no? ¡Esto es un negocio!

**María:** Ya, pero bueno, afortunadamente es un negocio que no... que nosotros podemos vivir bien sin él, porque en los pueblos como se gasta poco. Entonces me da más tranquilidad para mi incluso hasta invitaros. Así no estoy tan pendiente, ¿verdad? Entonces invitamos y ya.

*[Mike vuelve, le explican lo ocurrido]*

**43:00**

**M-** I thought about how... I love this area, and I've thought about, in the future, how nice it would be to maybe come back here with family or visit... I like it.

**44:00**

**Alberto:** From the states we had some guests. Last year we had a family. With the the boys that played there *[indescifrable]*

**María:** No, this family was from Holland.

**M-** The bathroom is very modern, I like it. So, how long did it take to prepare the house to renovate the house and rebuild it?

**Alberto:** This one? Less than a year.

**María:** 6 months or so. The other was 1 year, all year. But this one was half of the year, six months.

**Alberto:** It started in October and we have to stop and before December...

**María:** Because it was snowing a lot.

**45:00**

**Alberto:** And start again in March, and in summer was prepared.

**M-** So, is it a stone structure, or what?

**Alberto:** The stone is that wall, that wall is stone untill the middle and from the middle to the top it was adobe. That was the only house in the village with adobe. But we keep the adobe, because is very good for isolation. Very good for isolation So there is now bricks, with adobe in the middle. So now the wall is like this, but in the middle is the old adobe.

**M-** So this all, you kept it original stone?

**46:00**

**Alberto:** This is bricks, this is a column iron column inside and this bricks, but in the middle, there is a column, iron column.

**E-** It has the iron bars, like the foundation, the structure ones, then they're covered by bricks.

**Alberto:** Yes, and the structure this is em not brick, this is a column of stone. More or less like that one *[indescifrable]* this is a column. Because at the here on the front there was stones, the house was stones but we take it out, everything, just to make all this windows

**47:00**

because in the old days there was few windows. Because the house was till here to there, and from here to there was stable, a place for hay and cows and things like that.

**E-** Es suyo el diseño?

**María:** Si, es piedra de Boñar.

**E-** La verdad es que se debería de dedicar a eso.

**María:** Si no hubiera crisis de la construcción....

**Alfonso:** A very good idea, yes.

**E-** Usted cuantos años trabajo en Erikson?

**Alberto:** 30... 30 yeah, 29 I think, 29.

**48:00**

**E-** ¿Cuándo se movió para Madrid, cuantos años tenía?

**Alberto:** Well, I left the village when I was eleven. Because then at the beginning I was to a school that belongs to the monks.

**E-** Like boarding school.

**Alberto:** Yea, and the idea that was I was there to study to be a monk. But I changed my mind when I was 14. So I was in with the monks from 11 to 14, 3 years.

**M-** What made you change your mind?

**Alberto:** Because I didn't like that type of life. *[ríe]* But when you are 11 really you don't know. But when you are 14

**49:00**

you are start thinking... so I decide to leave this school.

**María:** It was usual in these years that the cura y monja came for the village looking for more children to pay... vamos a ver, venían por los pueblos para pagarles una educacion, les daban la educación, gratis. [Alberto: No era] Pero un porcentaje de esos niños se quedaban siendo curas o monjes, entonces era como un negocio.

**Alberto:** Because it is a very good business, to be a monk is a very good business for this organization which, because you are going to work for the rest of your life for this organization. I remember that the monks were very angry with me when we decide to leave because. My brother, my eldest brother was with me, we were

**50:00**

very good students, we have a lot of abilities, made music, sports, and so we have a very good potential for them, for the future. So we decided they were angry with us. So then I started continued study in León until university.

**M-** And what university did you go to?

**Alberto:** I went to Bilbao. [risas] But it wasn't a very good time, at that time Franco lived, he was alive. Because I finished my studies in '72 and Franco died in '75, so at that time there was a lot of problems in the Basque Country.

**M-** So what was it like, living under Franco's rule?

**51:00**

**Alberto:** Well, it wasn't very good. You are thinking, you don't think it was normal life, but if you like and you have [María: Libertad] You want to think and to be free and to know what is happen in reality it was very very bad. Because the newspapers, radios, everything was controlled. So you the news you hear is the news that they wanted you to hear so it was really very very bad. For us, Franco's time was a disaster.

**María:** But not for all the Spanish people are alike.

**52:00**

**María:** Some of the Spanish are agree with Franco and his years. La ultraderecha. But maybe not only the ultraderecha, normal people. That don't... que no sufrieron el problema de franco, pero si que había entonces ... cuando hay un dictador no hay violencia callejera, no roban, por que al que roba, le cortan el cuello. Al que protesta, le cortan el cuello, entonces hay mucha paz, mucha tranquilidad, asi que some of the people in Spain echan de menos this years.

**Alberto:** You know that the worst thing it wasn't the war, the three years of war, the worst thing was after war. Because the country became very poor because most of the teachers had to emigrate or they went they taking out from the teaching.

**53:00**

**Alberto:** Because it wasn't near to Franco's... So most of the teachers, more than 60,000 teachers, was, ¿cómo se dice? Depurados.

**M-** Deported

**Alberto:** Not deported, they could continue here but without teaching.

**María:** They could continue here without teaching, without speaking. Without living.

**Alberto:** Only to continue teaching. No teaching.

**M-** Why did he do that?

**Alberto:** Because it wasn't because maybe they wanted teacher when the with the Republic, before the war, so that people was were taken out. So at that time, the teachers in the villages, there were people that know only how to read or write, no more. No not real teachers,

**54:00**

**Alberto:** so the population became poor in knowledge, poor in education... so it was really really bad.

**M-** So if you had a... if you disagreed with Franco's government and you said something, what could happen to you?

**Alberto:** Better not to say anything.

**María:** The least thing is to go to jail, to the carcel.

**Alberto:** Before, you get... ¿tortura?

**E-** Tortured.

**María:** Trabajos forzados.

**Alberto:** You know for instance, my father never never tell me anything about my

**55:00**

uncle that was killed, never. Any word. The people never talkabout. [María: It was dangerous] Very dangerous. There was a lot of fear, because in the villages the people knew that other people were thinking other in the other ways, but no one talked about it. It was really really really bad, really bad. And Franco killed a lot of people after the war, and it wasn't shooting, it was in the jail, and ever day was killing, killing, killing.

*M-* I don't know about you guys but, um, in school in the United States we learned about Hitler and Stalin but...

**56:00**

*María:* Nothing about Franco.

*E-* Yeah, there is nothing about Franco.

*María:* Maybe Hitler and Stalin was worse because they kill millions of people. Judios y... here no millions, but... [Alberto: A lot, a lot] maybe the difference is that Hitler and Stalin was Died with only small years in governing, but Franco was here 40 years. And during these 40 years nobody tell nothing. Then after 40 years... it is something similar to Pinochet in Chile. Pinochet was a dictator similar to Franco but with a lot of years governing, gobernando. Maybe is the difference.

*Alberto:* And one of the worse things was that the Church was with francos side.

*María:* Of course. Because they are always with the dictators

**57:00**

*Alberto:* The Church is always with the dictators and that's one thing that, not I hate the church, but in some ways I hate.

*M-* Yea, because they didn't stand up for what was right.

*Alberto:* And they don't help poor people, they are always with the power. And in this case was really, really... because during the war the Republic, [María: The people] the people that was against Franco killed around 4,000 priest. Around that.

*María:* And destroyed the church and a lot of the...

*Alberto:* Yea, but in one way the explanation was was not because these people was not against the religion, was against the power that represented religion. It was that difference. Now they try to represent that they were against the religion,

**58:00**

but now, they was against the people that represent the religion and was connected with the power.

*M-* So were there ever any priests that you knew that stood up against Franco, or?

*Alberto:* Yes, there was some that was against Franco and they were killed by Franco, but I, one thing that is very very important. The priests that were killed by the Republic, now they are santos, beatos... but the priests that were killed by Franco no.

*María:* Even now in these years.

**Alberto:** Those that were killed by the Republic now they are saints, beatos, before...

**59:00**

**Alberto:** different grades, but they are in their way to be saints. But the priests that were killed by Franco, they are forbidden, they are doesn't exist.

**María:** And it is the same with the rest of the people. The people that the Republic kill, in the war, was in all the village in a stone, in the place, or in the church, with the name and surname and..., but not the people that Franco killed during 40 years.

**Alberto:** Doesn't exist. That's why there is still problem here, because the people that the Republic killed, they are now in the churches, and say "Muertos por Dios y por España" and the list, but the people that was killed by Franco, during the war and after the war, don't appear in any place.

**María:** For example, his uncle.

**1:00:00**

**Alberto:** For instance my uncle.

**María:** And you know you can read in the newspaper that now we have problem because some people are looking in fosas communes, with a lot of dead people looking for who are there, who are they, in order to bury in a normal place. And most of the people in Spain, people, normal people, people in the PP, ¿partido? «p-p» don't like this, they are no agree with looking for these people.

E-Why?

**María:** We don't know exactly.

**Alberto:** Because they say that we have to forget it, we have to, because the... las heridas.

E- the wounds

**Alberto:** to not keep them open, because there are many, many people that there are maybe 80, 70, they know where

**1:01:00**

their fathers are buried were when they were killed. But they are not in the, they are in the fields, but they cant take it out, these stones and take it to their place, you know? And that's the things that still, we have these problems here.

E- So, during the postwar you sere working for Erikson, you went to work for Erikson right away or for somewhere else?

**Alberto:** No, I was to the military service [María: It was obligatory] and then started to work in Erikson in 74.



*E-* So hizo 4 años de servicio military?

*Alberto:* No, only 14 months, 14 months.

**1:02:00**

*M-* Now was that, the 14 months in the military and um... why did you join the military?

*Alberto:* Because it was [María: compulsory] If you are if you didn't go to the military service you are taken by the police and taken to jail, so there was, no compulsory, but an obligation.

*María:* It was an obligation till 20 years or... less, yeah.

*Alberto:* Yes, now there is no obligation, now they are professional. At that time the army was not profession, it was people like me that don't like guns at all...

*María:* We don't like bulls and guns and... nothing like that.

**1:03:00**

*E-* Anything else?

*M-* Have we got much information about her family? Do we want to do that now? What does your guys schedule look like?

*María:* In English, slow.

*M-* I'm sorry. What does your schedule look like, today?

*E-* We are going to see Pelayo, later. Podemos regresar mañana?

*María:* Mmm, cuanto mas cerca del domingo pues menos tiempo. Por que nos vamos el lunes, pues tengo muchas cosas que preparar, que dejar, entonces...

**1:04:00**

*M-* So maybe could we finish up the genealogy. Or?

*E-* We 'gotta go, we already took like over an hour of their time.

*María:* Bueno, pero para un rato siempre tenemos tiempo. No tengo cuatro horas pero para media hora, una hora o algo.

*E-* ¿Si tenemos alguna pregunta podemos pasar o...?

*María:* ¡Si! Además como vais a venir el Sábado podemos hablar un rato también.

[Traduce]

*M-* Muchas gracias.

**Alberto:** One thing that we was talking we were walking yesterday... in the United States something confuses, because the republicanos, we think that for the republic here, is the left side and democratic,

**1:05:00**

**Alberto:** but there is vice-versa! Republic in our ideas is the left, the right the more traditional, religion and things like that and the democratics.

**María:** We are in the left side, here.

**Alberto:** Left left [gesticulando]

**M-** So technically here, you would be called republicans.

**Alberto:** Well, the Republica here, because we have king, royal family... you never have royal family in the United States, we have royal family, so in the 22nd se declaró la República, so the royal family had to go out from Spain.

**1:06:00**

**María:** The grandfather of the actual king.

**Alberto:** So we have republic,

**María:** But only during 4 years.

**Alberto:** From [del 31 al 36] yes 31 al 36.

**María:** And now in general for idea we are republican. We like la republica. No somos republicanos como los de Estados Unidos. We prefer republica in general, but we like a lot the King Juan Carlos, is different. We can be republicanos and like el rey Juan Carlos, en concreto. This person, these people.

**Alberto:** There was an action that become this King very important, that in [María: ochenta y tres] 83 we have a golpe de Estado.

**María:** The military go to the Congress

**Alberto:** And try to change the system to

**1:07:00**

military service, military system again. So that time the Congress was em.. ¿cómo se dice?, El Congreso fue [María: secuestrado] secuestrado.

**E-** They abducted Congress, the military

**María:** But the King...

**Alberto:** One night, from maybe from 7 to the evening to the next morning was the Congress was people there, we can still we can see the holes in the parament, yea.

And the Juan Carlos at that time, was in front of the [María: Militares] militars and say stop.

*María:* So he saved us from another dictadura

**1:08:00**

*María:* militar. Then most of the people, most of the Spanish people like Juan Carlos.

*Alberto:* Yes, that fact was very important.

*M-* That's very neat.

*María:* Even, Juan Carlos fue puesto rey por Franco. Juan Carlos es el sucesor de Franco, por que Franco quiso. Pero como luego se volvió democrata y bien y actuo bien, pues most of the people like Juan Carlos. But after Juan Carlos, who knows?  
[risas]

*Alberto:* But for idea we don't like, I think that monarchy is silly thing because is a dynasty,

*María:* Por la gracia de Dios.

*Alberto:* There is Juan Carlos, the king, but we have the princes, the prince, Felipe. He is quite a nice a nice guy, intelligent, and he has a good preparation,

**1:09:00**

*Alberto:* but if it is a symbol... it is still the, you know? So is important that the president is intelligent.

*María:* And if you don't like the president, after 4 years, he change and another...but if you have a king, the king is for all the... time, not a normal thing.

*Alberto:* And we have to pay.

*E-* Yeah, the taxes pay for the royal family, right?

*María:* But is there is the same as if you pay for the president of the Republica, more or less it's the same. But you can change the president and you cannot change the king. The difference.

*Alberto:* And normally with president you pay for the presindent, not the whole family.

*M-* In the US they, I think one thing that we do well, not a lot of things, but one thing.

*Alberto:* Many things. [Ríe Mike]

**1:10:00**

**M-** We, the president only makes like \$140,000 a year and that's it in the United States.

**María:** No, but this is his salario, salary. But he has a lot of expenses when he travel, the white house, the all the peoples around, it's the same than here..

**E-** Secret service...

**M-** That's true.

**Alberto:** The expenses around

**María:** But is normal, the same in all the countries.

**Alberto:** And one president needs to have a high salary, because if they has a low salary, any people that come with money can say you have to do that...

**María:** And only the silly people want to be president, because with a low salary...in this way normal people...

**1:11:00**

**Alberto:** I thik at that point is more important the power than the money.

**M-** Definitely.

**E-** It's a very stressful job, you can tell, Obama aged like 10 years in 2 years. Like when first started president he looked very young, now old...

**María:** This is normal too... Rajoy only lleva 6 months being president, and heeee....  
[gesticula; risas] the crisis. No sleep, you can tell. [Risas]

**M-** Thank you very much! I know a lot of information, but thank you.

**María:** No, it's OK, it's funny. We like speak about this.

**[Fin de entrevista]**