



Interviewed: Elfreda & Alec Levine

Oral History Clip Title: Leaving Your Heart in South Africa

Theme: Canadian Identity

Interviewer: Miriam Borden

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(Elfreda)

That and Alec had to go home, the one time his Mom passed away. And when he phoned me, the one time, he said you know, "I can't wait to get home, are you listening [laughing], I can't wait to get home". And I think that's when he started to, I think...I've still got to...I still have a little feeling that I... my heart is still a little bit in South Africa.

(Alec)

Well, you still go and see your brother.

(Elfreda)

I have family there.

(Alec)

More than here.

(Elfreda)

But we have, without realizing it, you start to laugh, you start feeling comfortable, and talking about home you realize the home you're talking about is here. So that's when we started, but it took years.

(Interviewer)

Do you feel Canadian?

(Elfreda)

Um, do I?

(Alec)

What does a Canadian feel like?

[laughter]

(Alec)

Well, I'm getting used to the weather and so on, and participating in things and seeing things, so yeah.

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**OJASALP.ORG**



(Elfreda)

Actually, we do, yes, yes. No, we do, we think more now of the politics of Canada, we do. I think we've become very involved, we've become much more. We hear about the stories in South Africa, because we follow the family. But somehow I don't think we can relate anymore to those, the trauma and the drama that is happening there. It's much more here.

(Alec)

Things are happening around us so, yeah.

(Elfreda)

Yeah, I think we are Canadians now.

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**OJASALP.ORG**