



Smithsonian Institution

National Anthropological Archives

Austria à la Carte lecture recording, Side A, Lisa Chickering and Jeanne Porterfield Collection

Extracted on Jul-02-2022 10:39:13

The Smithsonian Institution thanks all digital volunteers that transcribed and reviewed this material. Your work enriches Smithsonian collections, making them available to anyone with an interest in using them.

The Smithsonian Institution (the "Smithsonian") provides the content on this website (transcription.si.edu), other Smithsonian websites, and third-party sites on which it maintains a presence ("SI Websites") in support of its mission for the "increase and diffusion of knowledge." The Smithsonian invites visitors to use its online content for personal, educational and other non-commercial purposes. By using this website, you accept and agree to abide by the [following terms](#).

- If sharing the material in personal and educational contexts, please cite the National Anthropological Archives as source of the content and the project title as provided at the top of the document. Include the accession number or collection name; when possible, link to the National Anthropological Archives website.
- If you wish to use this material in a for-profit publication, exhibition, or online project, please contact National Anthropological Archives or transcribe@si.edu

For more information on this project and related material, contact the National Anthropological Archives. [See this project](#) and other collections in the Smithsonian Transcription Center.

WEBVTT

00:04:36.000 --> 00:04:43.000

<i>Lisa Chickering </i>: At last! Safely in. There's a way, and we're away.

00:04:43.000 --> 00:05:00.000

<i>Lisa Chickering </i>: Our competent pilot jettisoned us smoothly over the clouds, and before we knew it, we were in Frankfurt, Germany; a mere eight hours later. None the worse for wear, and ready to go on up north to Wolfsburg to pick up our car to take us on to Austria.

00:05:00.000 --> 00:05:12.000

<i>Lisa Chickering </i>: Wolfsburg is a modern thriving town where the world-popular Volkswagon is made. In fact, the entire reason for the livelihood of the town is the manufacturing of the little car. [[Laughter]]

00:05:12.000 --> 00:05:27.000

<i>Lisa Chickering </i>: In the mile-long factory, that's the long brown building in the distance, they turn out over 3,000 cars a day, and it's here we picked up our shiny red wagon, which was to be a faithful companion on the ensuing journey.

00:05:27.000 --> 00:05:46.000

<i>Lisa Chickering </i>: The population of the town is 60,000 and over 30,000 are employed here at the plant, which is quite a percentage. Their high wages have made Wolfsburg one of the most prosperous young towns in Germany. And, from the looks of the employees' parking lot, you can see they believe in the product they manufacture.

00:05:46.000 --> 00:05:53.000

<i>Lisa Chickering </i>: Don't you wonder how they manage to find their own car? [[Laughter]]

00:05:53.000 --> 00:06:06.000

<i>Lisa Chickering </i>: Just five miles east of the bustling town is the bleak, forbidding border between East and West Germany; armed guards are on either side, although you can't see them on the eastern side as they stay well-hidden from sight in dugouts.

00:06:06.000 --> 00:06:16.000

<i>Lisa Chickering </i>: It's hard to realize that this was once the busy main road to Liechtenstein, now overgrown and deserted. [[Silence]]

00:06:16.000 --> 00:06:30.000

<i>Lisa Chickering </i>: It's amazing what a change there can be in so short a distance: back in Wolfsburg, everything is new, shining and modern. The public buildings, schools, and churches all reflect the West, and progress.

00:06:30.000 --> 00:06:44.314

<i>Lisa Chickering </i>: The apartment buildings are colorfully decorated, and there's even an apartment building for the unmarried Volkswagen employees called the Bachelor House. And this bachelor must be trying to attract a wife: quite a new technique, glancing the sun off a mirror!



Smithsonian Institution

National Anthropological Archives

The mission of the Smithsonian is the increase and diffusion of knowledge - shaping the future by preserving our heritage, discovering new knowledge, and sharing our resources with the world. Founded in 1846, the Smithsonian is the world's largest museum and research complex, consisting of 19 museums and galleries, the National Zoological Park, and nine research facilities. Become an active part of our mission through the Transcription Center. Together, we are discovering secrets hidden deep inside our collections that illuminate our history and our world.

Join us!

The Transcription Center: <https://transcription.si.edu>

On Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SmithsonianTranscriptionCenter>

On Twitter: [@TranscribeSI](https://twitter.com/TranscribeSI)

Connect with the Smithsonian

Smithsonian Institution: www.si.edu

On Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Smithsonian>

On Twitter: [@smithsonian](https://twitter.com/smithsonian)