



## Liesel's Story, Chapter 5

I landed in Newcastle and linked up with my mother [photo: Carter0022] but unfortunately because she was working as a domestic she couldn't have me with her because the people she was working for didn't want a young child running around so I ended up in 3 different foster homes until I came to Leeds. The first foster home I wasn't very happy. Like all young children I didn't like to eat vegetables and my mother used to say I, she would give me dinner and put me down for an afternoon nap and when I woke up I had vegetables in the sides of my face. She called me a squirrel face. This family that I was with in Hull force fed me. They held me down and they forced me to eat cabbage or something and of course I was sick and I wasn't happy there. Then I was with another family in Goathland which was very nice and I had my fifth birthday there and the last time I had strawberries and cream was for my birthday in August 1940 in Goathland. Then we came to Leeds, my mother was working for a refugee family in Harrogate and I eventually ended up with my foster parents who I lived with until I got married, Jack and Mary Wynn.

Her parents were Russian, they'd come to Leeds at the turn of the century, and they had a shop that sold china up what was then classed the Leylands in Leeds. Mary was one of 13 children and it was a very big family, lots of quote unquote cousins and aunts and uncles so that was good, yes. They did want to adopt me but my mother said no and I just stayed with them until I got married. I was very close to Uncle Jack. He spoilt me rotten, more so than Auntie Mary, but they were good to me. They gave me a home.

my mother always hoped that I would eventually go back and live with her but it didn't happen. She married again in 1944 and my stepfather didn't want me with them so I stayed here in Leeds and I was always in touch with my mother, I used to see my mother all the school holidays and when I was working all the holidays I'd go to London and have a whale of a time but unfortunately I lost my mother when I was 27, 1963. By that time I had my own family. I had a very nice husband who I adored and three wonderful kids who have been very important in my life because not having a family of my own I wanted a family, I always wanted to be married and have a family and this is, this was me. This was important.