

Tragedy of 911

Terrorist attacked World Trade Center twintowers with hijacked planes September 11th.

Rubeola Sirén was one of thousands that were trapped inside the buildings when this happened. She survived.

When did you realize what was happening?

- I'm not sure, everyone had their own theories, some said that it was an earthquake, some thought that the world was ending. I did hear something about airplanes, but I didn't find out what really had happened until I got out.

In what tower and floor were you when the plain crashed?

- I work in the South tower. I was on the 24th floor, searching for some files I needed. Thank God for that, if I would have been above where the plain crashed, I would be a goner.

How did you manage to get out?

- Everyone helped each other, and when we had made it a couple floors down, some firefighters told us to keep going and breathe in as little smoke as possible. They gave a couple breathing masks, and kept climbing up the stairs.



What went through your mind?

- I was really scared. I immediately started thinking about the fight with my mother that I had had earlier, and how I probably won't ever see her again.

How long did it take to get out?

- I don't know. I lost track of time, but it felt like forever.

What did Manhattan look like when you finally got outside?

- Chaos. People crying and screaming, smoke fire and ambulances everywhere. The most horrible sight I have ever seen.

Describe your feelings when you saw the North tower crash?

- I didn't actually see it. I didn't want to. I was just hoping that everyone would survive, which obviously was impossible.

The firefighters that helped people to get out are really brave and the whole country should be proud of them.

I am very thankful to still be alive.

I am very sorry for what you've been through, and it must be very tough. Anything you would like to add?

- Yes. To everyone that has lost loved ones or has loved ones fighting for their lives; hang on there. I wish you the best of luck and I would like to send you all of my love.

Thank you for the interview, Ms. Sirén.

Over 2 900 people died in this horrible terrorist-attack.

