

## Wedding Picture



The photographer Sender took it in 1947, at our wedding, we had a picture taken, then we went home, then we went to Heybeli ada. We stayed at Heybeli hotel for a few days.

We were married in Istanbul in the Ashkenazi synagogue at Yüksekaldırım with my wife. My wife is Sephardic. I registered her to our community with a paper I took from the Sephardic community to be able to get married. They have an agreement among themselves, they do not compete. There is a difference in the way we get married in the synagogue. Now, when you go to the temple, the groom comes with his mother and father just like the Sephardim, with us, I came with my mother, because there was no father, my older brother took his place. With us, when the bride comes, she does not enter the temple directly. She goes up the stairs, there is the first gallery there, she waits. The rabbi comes, takes me and my mother, we go upstairs. We open the veil to see that it is my wife. We say o.k. I go down alone, my mother stays with the bride and they descend together. And this is why, it is in our history, Rachel for Leah. This is it. Because the guy wanted Rachel, they gave him Leah.

The wedding went very well. There was no evening party. We got married, we immediately went home, undressed, changed, took a small suitcase and went immediately to the hotel. We went to Heybeli ada (the third one of the Princess islands, on the Marmara sea, south of Istanbul) for our honeymoon. We stayed at a hotel there, Halki Palas, it was a nice hotel, the food was very good. I remember there was a dish where they placed an egg on toast. An egg over a toast, the yolk in the middle, however they did it, it was fantastic. We stayed for 3-4 days there. We were married on August 31st. Our friends came too. We went out on a boat.

For the first 3 years of our marriage we lived with my wife's mother in the 6th section. Then we

moved to Elmadag. And we started to live on our own.