

Ferenc Sandor, His Mother Julia Sandor, His Sister Sara Sandor, And His Grandmother Janka Rosenthal



My mother, me, my sister, and my grandmother, Janka. My grandmother drew a fairly good pension after my grandfather's death. We had a huge family scattered throughout the country from Sopron to Bekescsaba. We were the only ones who lived in Budapest, so we put up everyone who came to Budapest from the countryside on any business. In the apartment house where we lived, there was a front staircase, and a back one, which was normally called the "servant staircase." We had to use the back staircase, but all the same, we lived in a sunlit, airy apartment on the third floor. The toilet was at the end of the corridor. For a time we had a proper housemaid who lived with us. Later on, a cleaning lady came regularly. The first housemaid, Roza, accompanied us when we moved to the capital from Veszto. Later, when I spent my vacation with my uncle in Veszto, I went to see her. She lived at the edge of the village in dire poverty. In my mind's eye, I can still see her child, who suffered from consumption, and whom she unwrapped as if it were some small bundle. The housemaid was always a family member to us.