

Liza Lukinskaya With Her Aunt Katya Dubossarskaya



This is my aunt (my mother's sister Katya Dubossarskaya) and I. The picture was taken in Romny in 1920.

My mother's parents were from Ukraine. Most likely they were born in Romny in the 1870s. Mother's father, Tsal Dubossarskiy was also a merchant. He was very rich. I don't know what exactly his business was. I didn't know Grandfather – he died in 1922 after our family came back to Lithuania. Grandmother Anna was a housewife and brought up the children. After her husband's death Anna moved to Kharkov, where she lived before the beginning of the Great Patriotic War. During the war my grandmother was in evacuation in Ural. When the war was over, she came back to Kharkov. After the war she lived only for two years. I didn't see her then and was not able to find out about her life.

My maternal grandparents observed Jewish traditions and celebrated holidays as did the paternal ones. They also went to the synagogue, but in my mother's words they did it because it was customary for the Jews, not because of their religiousness. They tried to raise their children – two daughters and three sons – to respect Jewish traditions, but they kept abreast with the times. Mother told me that they had governesses who taught them foreign languages and music.

I didn't know my mother's brothers and their children. I don't remember the names of all of them. My mother's only sister Katya was much younger than she. I have a picture, where teenage Katya held me in her arms. I was four months old in that picture. I don't remember Katya. She stayed in

Ukraine. She died from pneumonia about two years after we had left. She was only 17.