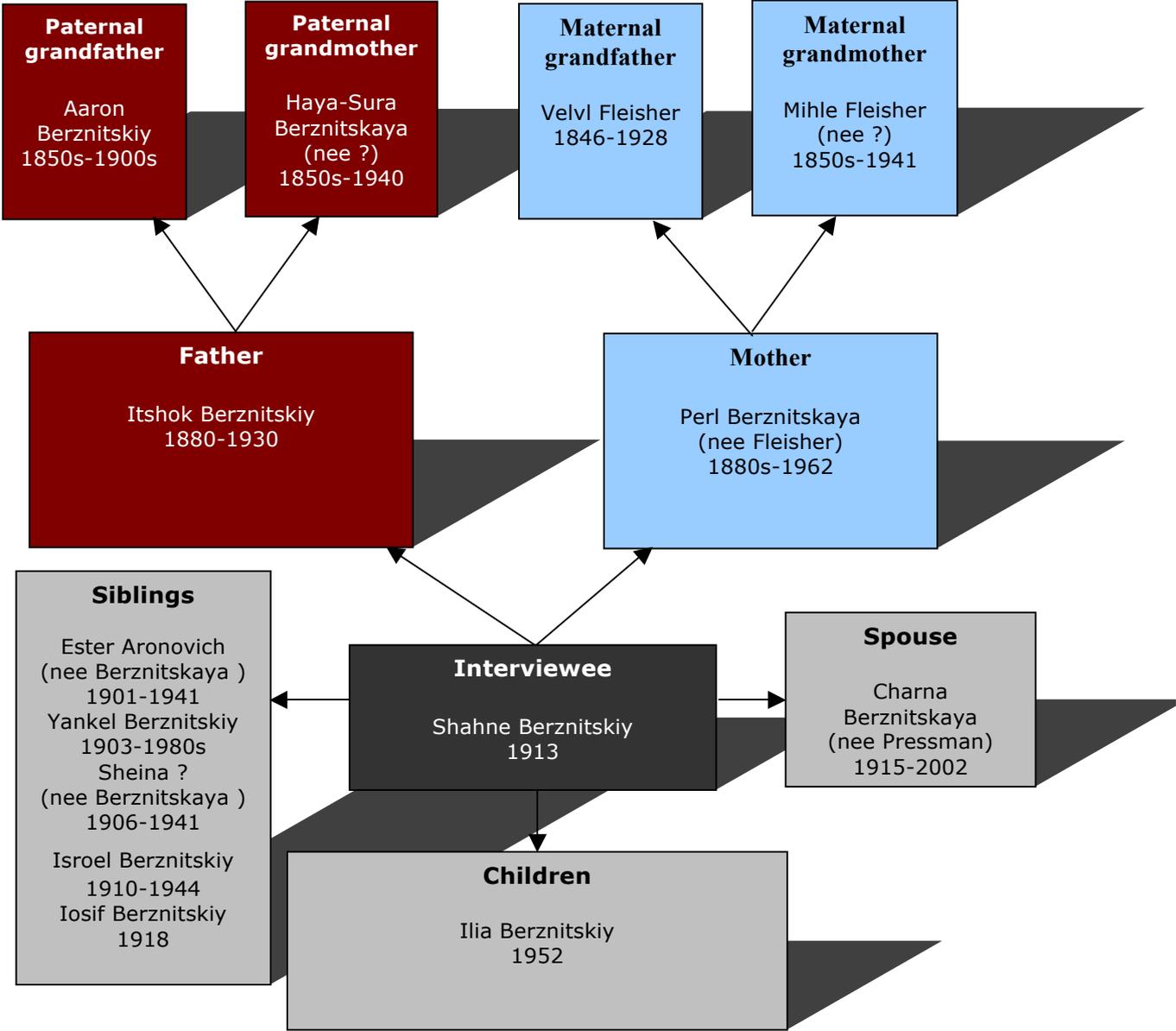


**Family Tree**



## The interviewee and his family

*Full name*

Shahne Berznitskiy

*Where and when were you born?*

Veisiejai, 15th May 1913

*Where else did you live?*

Alytus, Lazdijai, Kaunas, Kulebaki, Gorky oblast (today Russia), Vilnius

*Your educational level?*

Lithuanian lyceum

*What sort of work do/did you do?*

Before WWII – baker, after WWII - clerk, supplier

*How religious was your parents' home? How were you raised?*

My parents were very religious: Father wore a hat and Mother wore a kerchief, they prayed in the synagogue, marked all holidays and observed traditions and the kashrut.

*What is your mother tongue?*

Yiddish

*What other languages do you speak?*

German, Russian, Lithuanian, a little bit of Ivrit

*If you were in an army, tell us which army and the dates*

Lithuanian army, 1936-1938, Soviet army, 1943-1945

*Where were you during the Holocaust?*

Evacuation in the town Kulebaki, then in the lines of the 16<sup>th</sup> Lithuanian division of the First Baltic Front

*What did you do after the Holocaust?*

Lived and worked in Vilnius, got married, raised a son

## Siblings

### *Their names*

Ester Aronovich (nee Berznitskaya)

Yankel Berznitskiy

Sheina ? (nee Berznitskaya)

Isroel Berznitskiy

Iosif Berznitskiy

### *Where and when were they born?*

All were born in Veisiejai

Ester: 1901

Yankel: 1903

Sheina: 1906

Isroel: 1910

Iosif: 1918

### *What is their mother tongue?*

All - Yiddish

### *Their educational level?*

Ester: Jewish elementary school

Yankel: cheder

Isroel: Realschule

Iosif: Realschule

### *Their occupations?*

Ester: housewife

Yankel: smith

Sheina: housewife

Isroel: teacher in Realschule

Iosif: before WWII – sleuth, NKVD officer, after WWII was in charge of the administration department of the Council of Ministers of Lithuania

### *Where do/did they live?*

Ester: Veisiejai

Yankel: Kaunas

Sheina: Veisiejai

Isroel: Kaunas

Iosif: Kaunas

*Where else did they live?*

Yankel: USA

Iosif: Klaipeda, Vilnius, Israel

*Do they have children?*

Ester: one daughter

Yankel: two daughters, Liza and Rohl

Sheina: one son and one daughter

Isroel: son Aaron, 1941–1956

Iosif: Yunona, 1950s, Alexander, 1960s

*Where and when did they die?*

Ester: Veisiejai, 1941

Yankel: USA, 1980s

Sheina: Veisiejai, 1941

Isroel: Kaunas, 1944

## Spouse

*Name?*

Charna Berznitskaya (nee Pressman)

*Where and when was he/she born?*

Moletai, 1915

*Where else did he/she live?*

Kaunas, Ural, Vilnius

*Is he/she Jewish?*

Yes

*What is his/her mother tongue?*

Yiddish

*His/her educational level?*

Jewish school

*Occupation?*

Housewife

*Where and when did he/she die?*

Vilnius, 2002

*Tell me anything you know about his/her siblings (Name, date of birth and death, occupation, place of residence, name of wife and children, whether their family is Before and whether it is religious).*

There were several siblings and all of them perished during the occupation in Moletai, but I did not know any of them

## Children

*Their names?*

Ilia Berznitskiy

*Were they raised Before/do they identify themselves as Jews?*

My son is a true Jew in his spirit, he marks Jewish holidays and goes to the synagogue.

*Where and when were they born?*

Vilnius, 1952

*Where else did they live?*

New York (USA)

*Their educational level?*

Vilnius Construction Engineering Institute

*Their occupations?*

Architect, artist-cartoonist, teacher at New York Academy of Art

*How many grandchildren do you have?*

Daniel, 1982, artist

## Father

*His name?*

Itshok Berznitskiy

*Where and when was he born?*

Veisiejai, 1880

*Where and when did he die?*

Veisiejai, 1930

*What sort of education did he have?*

Cheder

*What sort of work did he do?*

Smith

*How religious was he?*

Father was very religious, covered his head, went to the synagogue, marked holidays, observed Jewish traditions

*What was his mother tongue?*

Yiddish

*Army service: which army and what years?*

Did not serve

*Tell me about his brothers and sisters. (name, date of birth and death, occupation, place of residence, family, etc.)*

name	place and date of birth/death	occupation	biographical data and origins of spouse	biographical data of children	describe how religious they were
Mihl Berznitskiy	Veisiejai, 1880s- USA, 1980s	Smith, car mechanic	Esther Berznitskaya (nee Fleisher), Jew 1880s-?	Sander Berznitskiy 1910s-?	Was very religious, considered Jewish laws and traditions sacred, strictly observed the kashrut and marked holidays
? Berznitskiy (m)	Veisiejai, 1880s- USA, 1910s	Builder	None	None	Was very religious, considered Jewish laws and traditions sacred, strictly observed the kashrut and marked holidays
Lyuba ? (nee Berznitskaya )	Veisiejai, 1890s- Katishkes, 1941	Housewife	?, Jew 1890s-1941 horse-dealer	Three daughters and three sons: Meishe, Chnkel and Velvl perished in 1941. Two daughters left for Palestine in the 1930s	Was very religious, considered Jewish laws and traditions sacred, strictly observed the kashrut and marked holidays
Rohl Ruth (nee Berznitskaya)	Veiseya, 1890s- ?, 1941	Housewife	Benjamin Ruth Jew 1890s-1941 Baker	Two sons and two daughters, Esther, who perished in 1941, and Bella, who was in evacuation and died in the 1980s	Was very religious, considered Jewish laws and traditions sacred, strictly observed the kashrut and marked holidays

*Where was he during the Holocaust?*

Died before

## Paternal grandfather

*Your paternal grandfather's name?*

Aaron Berznitskiy

*Where and when was he born?*

Veisiejai, 1850s

*Where and when did he die?*

Veisiejai, 1900s

*What sort of education did he have?*

Cheder

*What sort of work did he do?*

Smith

*How religious was he?*

My grandfather was very religious, observed all Jewish traditions, wore a cap, raised his children in the Jewish tradition.

*What was his mother tongue?*

Yiddish

*Army service: which army and what years?*

None

*Tell me about his brothers and sisters.*

name	place and date of birth/death	occupation	biographical data and origins of spouse	biographical data of children	describe how religious they were
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No information

*Where was he during the Holocaust?*

Died before

## Paternal grandmother

*Your paternal grandmother's name?*

Haya-Sura Berznitskaya (nee ?)

*Where and when was she born?*

Veisiejai, 1850s

*Where and when did she die?*

Veisiejai, 1940

*What sort of education did she have?*

Illiterate

*What sort of work did she do?*

Housewife

*How religious was she?*

Grandmother was very religious, wore a wig, observed all Jewish traditions, went to the synagogue, marked holidays

*What was her mother tongue?*

Yiddish

*Tell me about his brothers and sisters.*

name	place and date of birth/death	occupation	biographical data and origins of spouse	biographical data of children	describe how religious they were
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No information

*Where was she during the Holocaust?*

Died before

## Mother

*Her name?*

Perl Berznitskaya (nee Fleisher)

*Where and when was she born?*

Veisiejai, 1880s

*Where else did she live?*

Ural, Vilnius

*Where and when did she die?*

Vilnius, 1962

*What sort of education did she have?*

Jewish elementary school

*What sort of work did she do?*

Housewife, in the 1930s owned a store

*How religious was she?*

Mother was very religious, wore a kerchief, went to the synagogue, marked Jewish holidays, observed traditions and the kashrut

*What was her mother tongue?*

Yiddish

*Tell me about his brothers and sisters.*

name	place and date of birth/death	occupation	biographical data and origins of spouse	biographical data of children	describe how religious they were
Esther Berznitskaya (nee Fleisher)	Veisiejai, 1880s- USA, ?	Housewife	Mihl Berznitskiy 1880s-1980s Jew Smith and car mechanic	Sender Berznitskiy 1910s-?	Was very religious, considered Jewish laws and traditions sacred, strictly observed kashrut and marked holidays
Zlata ? (nee Fleisher)	Veisiejai, 1880s- USA ?	Housewife	Jew (no further information)	Names of children unknown	Was very religious, considered Jewish laws and traditions sacred, strictly observed the kashrut and marked holidays
Reizl ? (nee Fleisher)	Veisiejai, 1890s- USA, ?	housewife	Jew (no further information)	Names of children unknown	Was very religious, considered Jewish laws and traditions sacred, strictly observed the kashrut and marked holidays
Alter Fleisher	Veisiejai, 1890s- USA, ?	?	No information	Names of children unknown	Was religious, observed the kashrut and marked holidays
Noex Fleisher	Veisiejai, 1880s- USA, ?	?	No information	Names of children unknown	Was religious, observed the kashrut and marked holidays

*Where was she during the Holocaust?*

In evacuation: Ural

*If she survived, what did she do after?*

Lived in Vilnius, housewife, raised grandchildren

## Maternal grandfather

*Your maternal grandfather's name?*

Velvl Fleisher

*Where and when was he born?*

Veisiejai, 1846

*Where and when did he die?*

Veisiejai, 1928

*What sort of education did he have?*

Cheder

*What sort of work did he do?*

Fisherman

*How religious was he?*

Grandfather was very religious, covered his head, went to the synagogue on Sabbath and on holidays, prayed, observed traditions and marked holidays

*What was his mother tongue?*

Yiddish

*Army service: which army and what years?*

None

*Tell me about his brothers and sisters.*

name	place and date of birth/death	occupation	biographical data and origins of spouse	biographical data of children	describe how religious they were
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No information

*Where was he during the Holocaust?*

Died before

## Maternal grandmother

*Your maternal grandmother's name?*

Mihle Fleisher (nee ?)

*Where and when was she born?*

Veisiejai, 1850s

*Where and when did she die?*

Veisiejai, 1941

*What sort of education did she have?*

Illiterate

*What sort of work did she do?*

Housewife

*How religious was she?*

Grandmother was very religious, wore a wig, prayed, went to the synagogue, observed traditions and marked holidays

*What was her mother tongue?*

Yiddish

*Tell me about his brothers and sisters.*

name	place and date of birth/death	occupation	biographical data and origins of spouse	biographical data of children	describe how religious they were
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No information

*Where was she during the Holocaust?*

Was in occupation in Veisiejai, murdered by fascists