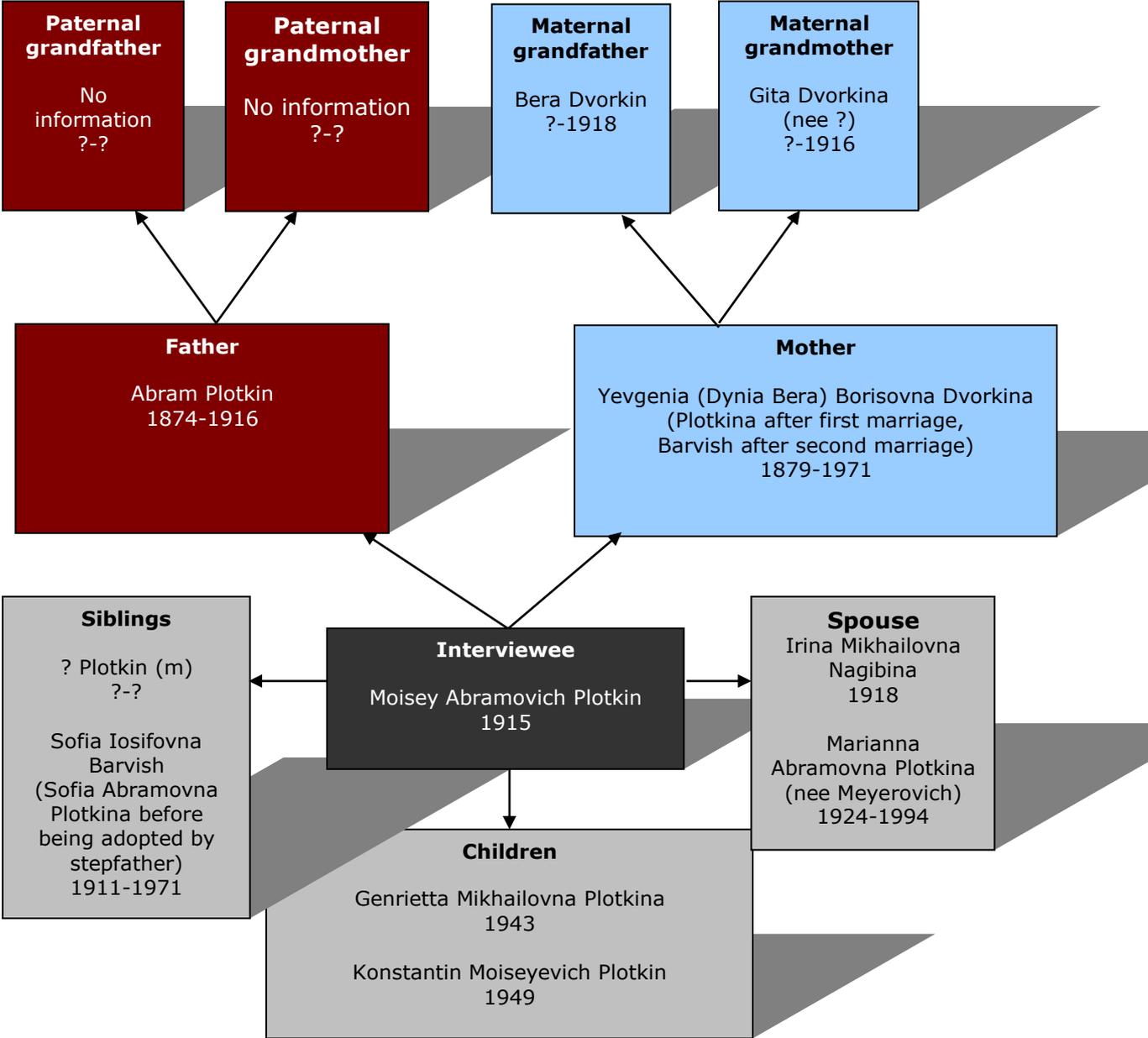


Family Tree



The interviewee and his family

Full name

Moisey Abramovich Plotkin (Common name: Mikhail, middle name: Itzhak)

Where and when were you born?

Chashniki borough, Vitebsk province (today Belarus), 1915

Where else did you live?

1915-1929: Chashkini, Vitebsk province;
1929-1934; 1935-1941; 1946-up to present time: Leningrad (today St. Petersburg)
1934-1935: Pervomaiskoye village, Chagodoschensky district, Leningrad region (today Novgorod region);
1941-1946: Izhevsk, Udmurtsk Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic

Your educational level?

1920-1922: cheder, Chashniki;
1922-1928: elementary school and fifth grade of high school, Chashniki;
1929-1932: factory-and-works school, Leningrad, lathe operator;
1934: National Education Regional courses, Leningrad, teacher of polytechnic labor and drawing;
1935-1936: workers' faculty (rabfak) at the Leningrad Institute of Fine Mechanics and Optics;
1936-1941: Leningrad Institute of Fine Mechanics and Optics, engineer-metrologist (diploma dated 1945)

What sort of work do/did you do?

1932-1933: lather operator, Lapse foundry, Leningrad
1934-1935: teacher of polytechnic labor and drawing, secondary school, Pervomaiskoye village, Chagodoschensky district, Leningrad region (today Novgorod region);
1935: lathe operator, Second Five-year Plan paper-manufacturing machines'

plant, Leningrad

1941-1946: engineer-metrologist, Head of CML (Central Measurement Laboratory), Izhevsk arms plant, Izhevsk

1946-1975: Head of CML, later - CMTL (Central Measurement Tools Laboratory), 'Radiopribor' plant, Leningrad

1976-1986: inspector foreman (after reaching pension age and retiring), 'Radiopribor' plant, Leningrad

What was the level of religiosity in your parents' home? How were you raised?

My childhood passed in traditional Jewish borough atmosphere until 1929. All Jewish holidays were celebrated in my grandfather's family. Grandfather took me with him to the synagogue, where we sat in the first row. We were considered kohanim and thus were blessed separately from the others. Grandfather observed all Judaism instructions in the strictest order. When the Soviet power became firmly established with its militant atheism, the influence of Judaism abruptly slackened even in the borough surroundings. In 1922 my friends and I stopped attending cheder. The synagogue was also empty, only the old gathered. I did not have a bar mitzvah, because my mother and all relatives fled to Leningrad from the kulaks' dispossession. I was left all alone. When after several months I joined my mother in Leningrad, the atmosphere there was very far from Jewish tradition. Her second husband Barvish was a worker and his grown-up sons were Communists. Influence of official ideology prevailed at school as well as at home, which considered religion a bad remnant. Nevertheless we all remembered our Jewish origins. Relatives gathered at the table with Jewish meals on holidays. When Mother died in 1971, I buried her in the Jewish cemetery after traditional ceremonies at the Ablution House and after the Kaddish was recited. That was her last will. I hope my son will see me off to my last journey like that as well.

What is your mother tongue?

Yiddish

How many languages do you speak?

Russian (since 1929)

English

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

I was subject to the draft up to 1965, later was taken off the army register in the rank of a Soviet Army reserve captain. However, I did not serve in the army.

Where were you during the Holocaust?

1941-1945: evacuation, Izhevsk

Siblings

Their names

? Plotkin (m) (died as a young boy; no further information)
Sofia [Sonya] Iosifovna Barvish (Sofia Abramovna Plotkina before being adopted by stepfather)

Where and when were they born?

Chashniki, Vitebsk province (today Belarus), 1911

What is their mother tongue?

Yiddish

Their educational level?

1919-1926 – elementary school and high school, Chashniki, Vitebsk province
1927-1929 - Soviet high school, Leningrad (today St. Petersburg)
1930-1935 - Financial Economic Institute, engineer-economist, Leningrad

Their occupations?

1936-1942 – A.V. Lunacharsky music instruments' factory, Leningrad, engineer-economist
1942-1945 – kolkhoz, accountant
1945-1966 – A.V. Lunacharsky music instruments' factory, Leningrad, head of labor and salary department
1966-1971 – retired

Where do/did they live?

Chashniki, Vitebsk province

Where else did they live?

1911-1927 – Chashniki borough, Vitebsk province
1927-1942 – Leningrad

1942-1945 – Cherepanovo village, Novosibirsk region

1945-1971 – Leningrad (today St. Petersburg)

Do they have children?

None

Where and when did they die?

Leningrad, 1971

Spouse

Name?

Irina Mikhailovna Nagibina
Marianna Abramovna Plotkina (nee Meyerovich)

Where and when was he/she born?

Irina: Leningrad (today St. Petersburg), 1922
Marianna: Leningrad, 1924

Where else did he live?

Irina: 1942-1944, Izhevsk
Marianna: 1941-1945, Omsk

Is he/she Jewish?

Irina: No
Marianna: Yes

What is his/her mother tongue?

Irina: Russian
Marianna: Russian

His/her educational level?

Irina: 1939-1942, 1944-1947 – Leningrad Institute of Fine Mechanics and Optics, Leningrad, engineer-metrologist
Marianna: 1941-1943, aircraft industry school, Omsk, technician
1944-1948, Medical Institute, Omsk-Leningrad, physician-microbiologist

Occupation?

Irina: Doctor of technical sciences, Professor, Leningrad Institute of Fine Mechanics and Optics
Marianna: Physician-microbiologist, Children's Infections' Hospital in Leninsky district, Leningrad

Where and when did he/she die?

Marianna: Leningrad (today St. Petersburg), 1994

Children

Their names?

Genrietta Mihailovna Plotkina
Konstantin Moiseyevich Plotkin

Were they raised Jewish/do they identify themselves as Jews?

My children were raised in a standard Soviet manner, far from the Jewish culture and traditions, but they always identified themselves as Jews and felt that way.

Where and when were they born?

Genrietta: Izhevsk, 1943
Konstantin: Leningrad (today St. Petersburg), 1949

Where else did they live?

Genrietta: Leningrad (1945 to present)
Konstantin: Pskov (1980 to 1999)

Their educational level?

Genrietta:
1950-1960: secondary school #51 in Leningrad
1960-1966: Leningrad State University, Faculty of Mathematics – Mechanics
Konstantin:
1956-1966: secondary school #41 in Leningrad
1966-1971: Leningrad State University, Faculty of History

Their occupations?

Genrietta: Teacher at the sub-faculty of mathematics of the Polytechnic University, Leningrad
Konstantin: Assistant professor at the sub-faculty of History of the A. I. Herzen Russian State Pedagogical University

How many grandchildren do you have?

Genrietta: Ilya, born in 1969, soifer and musician;
Julia, born in 1972, sociologist

Father

His name?

Abram Plotkin

Where and when was he was born?

Parichi borough, Bobruisky district, Minsk province (today Belarus), 1874

Where else did he live?

1874-1910 – Parichi, Bobruisky district, Minsk province

1910-1916 – Chashniki, Vitebsk province (today Belarus)

Where and when did he die?

Chashniki, 1916

What sort of education did he have?

1881-1885, cheder

What sort of work did he do?

Estate manager, changed several places of work

What was his level of religiosity?

He was a Hasid and observed all Jewish traditions.

What was his mother tongue?

Yiddish

Army service: Which army and what years?

Died during the Russian Army draft

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

No information

Where was he during the Holocaust?

Died before

Paternal grandfather

Your father's father name?

No information (My father died when I was six months old. I don't have any information about his family.)

Paternal grandmother

Your father's mother's name?

No information (My father died when I was six months old. I don't have any information about his family.)

Mother

Her name?

Yevgenia Borisovna Barvish (nee Dynia Bera Dvorkina, Plotkina after first marriage)

Where and when was she was born?

Chashniki, Vitebsk province (today Belarus), 1879

Where else did she live?

1879-1929 – Chashniki

1929-1942; 1945-1971 – Leningrad (today St. Petersburg)

1942-1945 – Cherepanovo village, Novosibirsk region

Where and when did she die?

Leningrad, 1971

What sort of education did she have?

Home education

What sort of work did she do?

1918-1929 –inn-keeper, Chashniki

1929-1971 - housewife

What was her level of religiosity?

She was brought up in a traditional atmosphere of a Jewish borough and observed all Jewish traditions. She had to adapt herself to the family of her second husband, whose sons were Communists; and to the irreligious life in a big city after moving to Leningrad in 1929.

What was her mother tongue?

Yiddish

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

Mother had two brothers and seven sisters. They were all born in Chashniki borough, Vitebsk region. Two sisters died at an early age. Brothers Mulia and Folia, sisters Sarah, Dvoira and Musia lived in Leningrad since the end of 1920s. They died there after the war. Sisters were housewives; Sarah was married to a goldsmith and had three children. The brothers were considered craftspeople and were occupied with home craft and household.

Where was she during the Holocaust?

1941-summer 1942 – Leningrad, besieged by the German army
1942-1945 – Cherepanovo village, Novosibirsk region, evacuation

If she survived, what did she do after?

1945-1971 – Leningrad, housewife

Maternal grandfather

Your mother's father's name?

Bera Dvorkin (nicknamed Kharakovers)

Where and when was he born?

Kharakovichi village, Vitebsk province (today Belarus), mid-19th century

Where else did he live?

Chashniki borough, Vitebsk province

Where and when did he die?

Chashniki, 1918

What sort of education did he have?

Cheder

What sort of work did he do?

Inn-keeper in Chashniki

What was his level of religiosity?

He was an Orthodox Jew and observed all Jewish traditions and customs.

What was his mother tongue?

Yiddish

Army service: Which army and what years?

No information

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

No information

Where was he during the Holocaust?

Died before

Maternal grandmother

Your mother's mother's name?

Gita Dvorkina (nee ?)

Where and when was she born?

Place unknown, mid-19th century

Where else did she live?

Chashniki, Vitebsk province (today Belarus)

Where and when did she die?

Chashniki, 1916

What sort of education did she have?

No information

What sort of work did she do?

Housewife

What was her level of religiosity?

She was an Orthodox Jew, observed all Jewish traditions and customs.

What was her mother tongue?

Yiddish

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

No information

Where was she during the Holocaust?

Died before