

The Kaufmann Girls With Some Friends



These were my good friends, and they used to come over every Saturday afternoon and Sunday. From the left: Mihaly Politzer, Berkes, Manyi [Margit] Kaufmann, Rozsi Ignac, Anci [Anna] Kaufmann and myself. On these occasions my sister Manyi used to play the piano and Anci used to sing. The photo was taken in Carei in 1939

My sisters were loving and honest people. They weren't jolly, they were rather serious, because life treated them that way. Both my sisters finished elementary school and attended the Jewish school, and also four years of middle school. They didn't graduate. However, they educated themselves, spoke German and French, so they had the required liberal education. We had a piano at home, and my mother and sisters played the piano very well. The elder one sang and played the piano, while Manyi only played the piano, beautifully. I didn't want to learn because I hated the teacher, Ms. Dudus: her real name was Julia Jakobovits. I didn't like her because she always teased me, when I was a child, with the boys and this and that, and I didn't like it. So, unfortunately, I stopped learning to play the piano, and don't know how to play it, just because I didn't like the teacher. She was an older lady, a very distinguished, but also very hysterical person. She had an artist hair-style, short and bushy, and dark brown. Her face was also peculiar, anyway, you could see that she was an artist. Manyi used to go to the music school in Szatmar, to Mr. Bendiner, he was the headmaster of the school, but only for two years, and she didn't finish it.

As for myself, I was actually born on 31st December 1913, but was registered on 1st January 1914, so I gained a year in one night. We didn't really have toys, we only had some rag-dolls; we weren't spoiled because our family wasn't rich, and we were happy to have our daily bread.