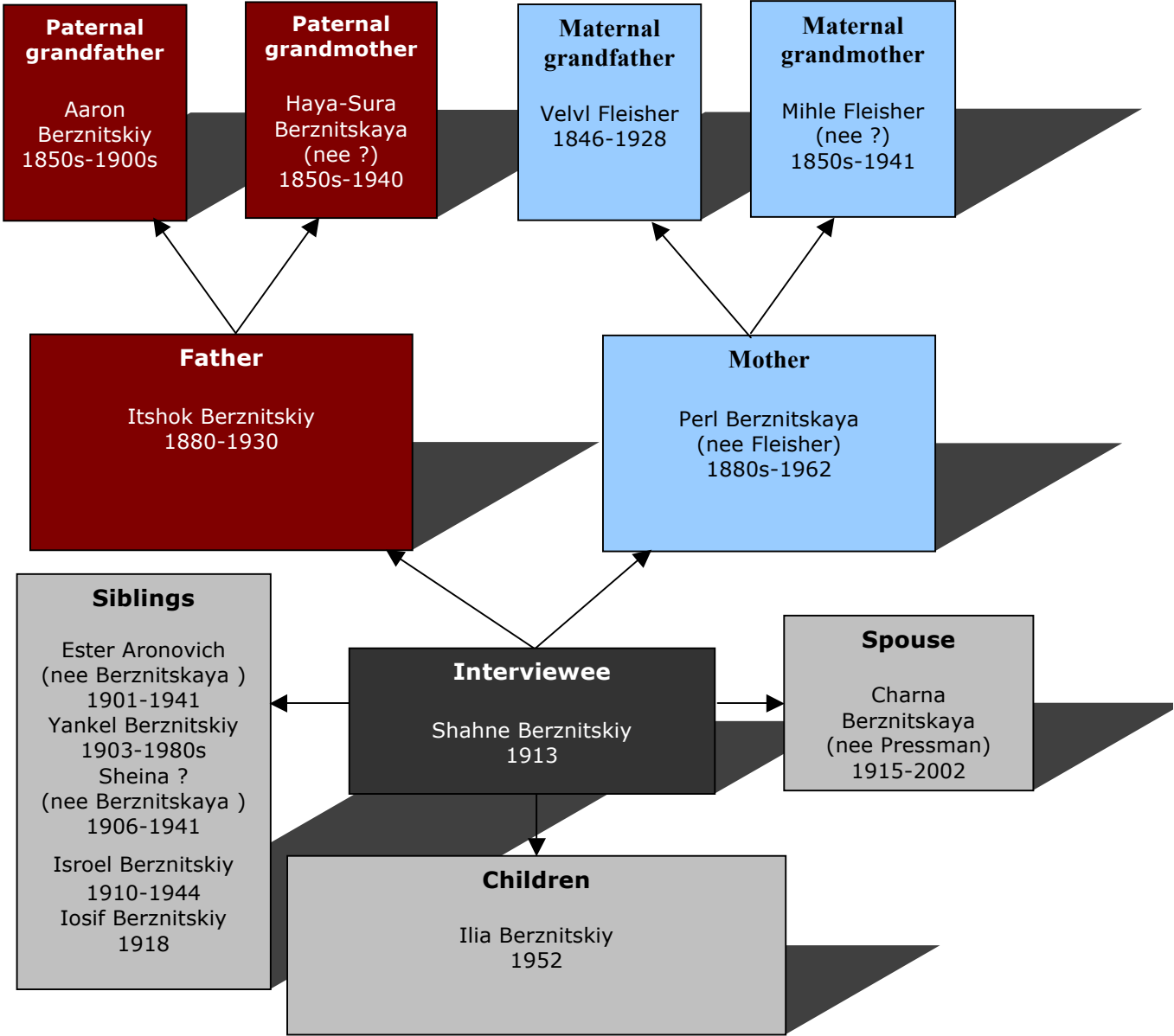


Family Tree



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 16th 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