

Tabl Rubel With Her Husband Shapsha Rubel And Sister Feiga Kleiman



My mother Tabl Rubel is standing on the left, my father Shapsha Rubel is standing in the center, and Mother's sister Feiga Kleiman is sitting on the right. The picture was taken shortly before my parents' wedding in Vad-Rashkov in 1924.

My father was born in 1894. Father worked as a loader at the creamery. He loaded milk and butter and delivered it to the sales agents. Owing to his intelligence and good sense he became the assistant to the owner. During one of his trips he met Moishe Lerner, the owner of the creamery located in the small town of Vad-Rashkov. He invited him to come over to his house. Shapsha was rapt by the beauty of Moishe's daughter Tabl and began to make frequent trips to his colleague from Vad-Rashkov. In a couple of months Shapsha sent a shadkhan to Moishe and in 1924 my parents got married.

My mother, Tabl Lerner, born in 1904, wasn't the most beautiful, but she was the most intelligent out of all the children of Moishe and Sura. She was able to express reasonable thoughts and make wise decisions. Mother was an intellectual person, though she only had elementary education. She was very good at Russian as she studied it at school, and later on she was fond of Russian literature. She knew the works written by Pushkin, Lermontov. She was also attracted to Lev Tolstoy and Fyodor Dostoevsky. My mother was self-taught. She had an insatiable appetite for learning.

Mother had many friends and admirers. But she liked Shapsha, who called on her father all of a sudden, at once. When my adolescent parents met, they soon began dating. Father came to Vad-Rashkov, and Mother used to come to Rezina. On 11th November 1924 they got married. I have a picture of the gorgeous newly-weds. Mother was dressed in a posh dress and Father in a new suit. The wedding took place in the synagogue in Vad-Rashkov under a chuppah. There were a lot of bride's and groom's relatives. Mother said it was very merry. Klezmer music was played and the guests danced till dawn. The tables were abundant in delicious dishes, mostly cooked by my grandmother and great-grandmother Haya. The bride had a dowry. I don't know what amount was given to my father, but it was enough to buy a small house in Vad-Rashkov, where Shapsha and Tabl settled.

Mother's younger sister Feiga, born in 1907, was a very beautiful woman. She got elementary education. She was married to Shneer Kleiman, who worked as a steward in the store owned by his rich relatives from a small Jewish town, located not far from Vad-Rashkov. Unfortunately, I don't remember the name of the town. Feiga and Shneer had two children – Rimma, born in 1928, and David, born in 1930. Feiga was a housewife. She took care of the household and raised their children.