

Tsylia Liatun And Her Sister Rebecca Kann



This is me (first from left) and my sister Rebecca Kann. This photo was taken in Riga in 1927.

I was born on 26 February 1923. I had a happy childhood. I had a nanny since my mother had to assist father at the store. I had a Latvian nanny that spent a lot of time with me taking me for walks and entertaining me. She didn't allow other people even to look at me, she protected me from the evil eye. When I grew older my parents hired a governess that had professional education. She was called 'Miss' in the house. She was Russian, but she was a Catholic. I spent my days with the 'Miss'. Once she took me to the cathedral. It was beautiful there. It smelled of incense and there were candles burning. I liked it there and shared my impressions with my parents in the evening. My mother told the governess off and even thought of firing her out, but then she was forgiven.

Rebecca was born in 1921. She went to the 'Riga Jewish school and grammar school'. Rebecca was a talented girl and always had a hobby that interfered with her studies, but since she was quick and smart she had best marks at school. Rebecca was a kind girl. She always brought home homeless or ill cats. She was very good at music. She went to a music school studying to play the piano. There were often music parties arranged at our home where Rebecca and our cousin brothers and sisters played various musical instruments. We spoke Yiddish in the family and said prayers in Hebrew. My sister and I had our small siddurim.