

In The Mountain With Her Brother



This is me with my brother as children.

[My] brother is younger than I am. He was a child when the War [World War II] broke out. He was only 10. He also attended the Jewish school first. Then the bombardments started and we left for Sv.Vrach. We lived in rather miserable conditions [there]. The place was half a town, half a village. We hardly managed to find a place to live and practically we lived four people in a single room, which was big enough for two beds only - one for my parents and one for my brother and me.

He was a lively child. He was playing with all the other kids in the neighborhood. But he was a very good student. He finished high school and then became a medicine graduate.

There was a time when - my brother has a good taste for music - he declared he was going to study music. My father only told him that a musician couldn't take care of a family. But my brother gave up the idea all by himself. When I was a third year student, my brother enrolled in the university too and from then on we lived together. My father kept sending money to us and we did our best to survive with it, while Mum used to send us some food. Thanks God, we both did it well and became physicians.

[When they were children] my brother and I used to study in the kitchen, because there was no heating in the other rooms. That was the kind of life we lived until we graduated.

He went to work in some village as a physician and then started work in our town [Dupnitsa]. His wife is from Blagoevgrad. She is an assistant pharmacist. She wanted to become a pharmaceuticals graduate, but she got pregnant. I even remember that she came here [in Sofia] to pass her first exam and caught flu. Then my brother decided she had studied enough. They have a son who is also a physician, as well as his wife - we are a big medical family. Their son is now in the first class at the Jewish school. He has lived with his grandmother in Dupnitsa till now and he came here recently but he still cannot adapt himself. He hadn't spent a lot of time with his parents.

My brother is a very sociable person. It doesn't take him a long time to establish contacts with people. He had to work in Varna for several years. He worked as ship-doctor as well. Thus, he

visited lots of countries. In fact, that was the main reason to accept that job. Otherwise, it was impossible to travel [because it was too expensive]. He is retired now. He lives in Dupnitsa. Recently they called him to Belogradchik, as they needed a surgeon there. About a month ago, they asked him again to go there. His son is here [in Sofia].