

January 5, 1959.

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Dear thelma:

(First part of this letter pertains to cooking instructions. SM.)

Second part:

Now I will begin to write , as I promised, (about our relatives SM). I will begin with my fathers side of the family, and will write in small installments. My grandfathers name was Gershon, and my grandmothers name was Esther-Frieda. They lived on a ranch. (Probably a large landord's estate SM) The family name was Mirochnik. My grandfather died when my father was only 7 years old. Soon after that my grandma was blinded in both ~~xxx~~ eyes from a kick in the face by a cow. It became my fathers task then to take care of his mother. My fathers name was Alter-Shmuel. He ~~was~~ Had great abilities and was known as a fine student. (learner.) ^H He did receive a lot of help, ~~from~~ ^{from} his mother, from many people. He was married when he was 20 years old, and my mother's age was also 20 years. Grandma Esther-Frieda lived in Zhitomir, and was being helped out by many friends. She died in the (Jewish SM) hospital in Zhitomir the 7-th day of Passover in ~~x~~ ~~x~~ 1887. I was 12 years at the time.

My father had a step-sister by the name of Tzeitel. She had red hair. She had several children. Her oldest daughter named Idassia, lived in Philadelphia at the time you came to America. Later she moved to New York. About 6 years ago she became very sick, and thought that she would ~~nt~~ not live very long. She wanted to see me and came to Houston. She stayed with me 4 weeks and also with my brother Hershel one day. ~~She~~ returned to New York and died soon after .

I do not know when my aunt Tzeitel died/.

Idassia was married in Zhitomir in 1905. Idassia Had a sister Sarah, but I do not know where she is. ~~IX~~ There was also a brother named Froike. His English name is Frank and his last name is Cohen. You should ~~remember~~ remember him. He lived in Philadelphia, the year you came here. I sent him to Europe to bring you (the Family SM) here. ~~XX~~ Not being a citizen, I could not go myself, ~~so~~ so I sent him, who was a citizen of this ~~cx~~ country, to help you get here.

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He went at my expense, and I wish I ~~zinz~~ had as much money now, that was spent on that trip. You have met him first in Rovno, and later in Warsaw, Poland.

A few years ago he was on a pleasure trip to Mexico with his wife and son. He and his wife stayed at our house overnight and they slept in your bed. His son went to a hotel.

Now, I believe, he is a very rich person. I do not know ~~wherx~~ where he is now. (He was a contractor-builder SM). His son became a lawyer. I do not know the rest of his family.

I will have a lot to tell about my mothers side of the family, and will continue to write in small installments.

Right now I can barely move my fingers.

Your Father Gershon