

MyHeritage at RootsTech 2025: Innovations in Storytelling and Family History

Webinar Syllabus

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Produced by: Legacy Family Tree Webinars / MyHeritage

Duration: Approx. 1 hour

Webinar Summary

This special MyHeritage session, recorded live at RootsTech 2025, showcases three innovative tools that expand the possibilities of family history storytelling: MyStories, LiveMemory, and the MyHeritage Wiki. These features help genealogists move beyond charts and records to preserve the emotions, voices, and traditions that define family legacies.

Learning Objectives

- Explain how MyStories helps capture and publish personal or family narratives.
- Use LiveMemory on the MyHeritage mobile app to animate historic photos.
- Navigate and contribute to the MyHeritage Wiki to expand research knowledge.
- Integrate storytelling, multimedia, and community knowledge into genealogical work.

Intended Audience

Intermediate to advanced family historians and genealogists interested in preserving modern family stories, exploring AI-powered tools, and collaborating in global genealogy projects.

Part 1: MyStories by Shahar Bitton

Topic: Telling Your Life Stories with MyStories

MyStories guides users through writing one story per week via emailed prompts. Participants can add photos, edit entries, and compile them into a high-quality 6×9-inch hardcover book.

- 416 inspirational prompts and flexible pacing.
- Custom cover design, photo integration, and reordering tools.
- Full-color printed book or downloadable PDF output.

Membership Details

Annual membership: \$99, includes weekly prompts, one hardcover book, and worldwide shipping. Additional copies \$49 each; no auto-renewal.

Future Enhancements

- Adjustable prompt scheduling.
- AI voice-to-text dictation tools.
- Proofreading and integration with family trees.

Key Quote

"Now is the time to shift from documenting our ancestors' genealogy to building our descendants' genealogy."

Part 2: LiveMemory by Megan Nusink

Topic: Bring Your Photos to Life

LiveMemory uses AI to transform still photos into short video clips, adding subtle animation or emotional gestures to faces and figures.

Creating a LiveMemory

- Choose a photo from your device or gallery.
- Select animation type: relive the memory or custom gestures.
- Wait 10–20 minutes for processing, then view or download the result.

Technical Requirements

- Minimum 512×512 pixels; under 20 MB file size.
- Avoid cropped or pixelated images; fewer than 10 people recommended.

Ethical Reminder

Always use the feature respectfully—avoid altering sensitive images or misrepresenting historical realities.

Part 3: MyHeritage Wiki by Maor Malul

Topic: Transforming Family History with the MyHeritage Wiki

The MyHeritage Wiki is a community-led encyclopedia for genealogy, genetics, and family history. It allows users to collaborate, learn, and share expertise worldwide.

Categories

- Genealogy Research by Location (e.g., Greece military records)
- Genetic Origins (DNA types and inheritance patterns)
- Naming Traditions (Basque, Italian, Sicilian)
- Primers on Historical Records (e.g., delayed birth records)
- How-to Guides (e.g., ancestors lost at sea)

Community Model

Volunteers contribute, translate, and review articles. Every entry is peer-reviewed for accuracy, and the WYSIWYG editor makes contribution easy for all levels of experience.

Key Quote

“When you and I started doing genealogy, we didn’t know as much as we do now. What we’ve learned, we can give back so others can connect with their roots.”

Additional Resources

- [FamilyTreeWebinars.com/MyHeritage](https://familytreewebinars.com/MyHeritage) for replays and handouts.
- [MyStories.com](https://mystories.com) and the MyHeritage mobile app.
- Join the MyHeritage Wiki contributor community via QR code.