Dina Famin

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Education:

Brown University, Providence, RI

• PhD: Slavic Studies

Expected May 2031

Boston University, Boston, MA

• MFA: Literary Translation from Russian

- May 2024
- Capstone project: Translation with introduction of "My Lunar Friend: On Blok," Chapter
 1 of *Living Faces* by Zinaida Gippius (1925), advised by Professor Yuri Corrigan
- BA: History, Biology, Comparative Literature

May 2023

- o Cum Laude
- o Honors in History and Comparative Literature
 - Comparative Literature Honors Thesis: "Narrative Framework in Kafka's Ein Landarzt," advised by Professor Abigail Gillman
 - History Honors Thesis: "Boris Godunov and the Time of Troubles in Nineteenth Century Russian Literature and Historiography: Creating a National Narrative," advised by Professor Alexis Peri
- Minor in Global Medieval Studies

Publications:

- "In Scheherazade's Footsteps: The Fictionalization of the Orient in Pushkin's Fairytales," in *The Thousand and One Nights in the World Literary Imagination*, ed. Margaret Litvin and Sunil Sharma, Harvard University Press, forthcoming 2026/7.
- Co-author, "Is temporal synchrony necessary for effective Batesian mimicry?" *Proceedings of the Royal Society B*, January 2025.
- "Synopsis: Sunil Sharma, Lecture in Literary criticism on 'The Episodic Reception of Medieval Persian Women Poets," *BU Center for the Humanities*, March 2024, https://www.bu.edu/lecturesincriticism/past-lectures-2/current-lecture-series/.
- "The Tale of Tsaritsa Dinara: Military Power and Female Virtue," *Alexanderia: A Journal of the World Languages & Literatures Department at Boston University*, vol. 5, Spring 2023, pp. 31-39.
- "You and the Horse You Rode in On: Human-Animal Relationships in *The Poem of the Cid* and *The Song of Roland*," *Alexanderia: A Journal of the World Languages & Literatures Department at Boston University*, vol. 5 (Spring 2023), pp. 57-67.
- "Translation Excerpt: *Light Steps* by Veniamin Kaverin," *The Journal of the Core Curriculum*, vol. 32 (Spring 2023), pp. 29-32, https://www.bu.edu/core/files/2023/08/journal23.pdf.
- "Ferdowsi and Nezami in the Alexander Tradition: A Walk Through 'The Making of a Myth," *BU Medieval Studies Student Blog*, December 2022, https://www.bu.edu/medieval/community/student-blog/ferdowsi/.
- "Nobody Expects the Mexican Inquisition: The Trial of Donna Doña Teresa De Aguilera y Roche," *Aevum: Boston University's Journal of History*, vol. 1 (Winter 2022), pp. 27-34.

- "The Yiddish Theater and German Émigré Hollywood," *Alexandria: A Journal of the World Languages & Literatures Department at Boston University*, vol. 4 (Spring 2022), pp. 74-88.
- "The Unity of Science and Religion in Madeline L'Engle's *A Wrinkle in Time*," *Alexandria: A Journal of the World Languages & Literatures Department at Boston University*, vol. 3 (Spring 2021), pp. 91-101.

Presentations:

- Panel participant and organizer: "Reading Interstitially: Rethinking World Literature in Translation," discussion of English and Russian Franz Kafka translation traditions, ALTA48: Visions and Versions Conference, November 8, 2025, Tucson, AZ.
- Panel participant and organizer: "Translation's Voice and its Various Aspects," discussion of illustrations in children's literature as an aspect of voice, ALTA47: Voices in Translation Conference, October 27, 2024, Milwaukee, WI.
- Reading participant: "Bilingual Reading: Slavic Potpourri," original translation of "Many Good People and One Who Envies" by Veniamin Kaverin (Много хороших людей и один завистник), ALTA47: Voices in Translation Conference, October 28, 2024, Milwaukee, WI.
- Graduate program speaker: "Department of World Languages & Literatures Commencement," May 19, 2024, Boston, MA.
- Reading participant: "Speaking in Tongues: A Poetry Reading by WLL," original translation of "She entered from the frost..." by Alexander Blok (Она пришла с мороза...), April 18, 2024, Boston, MA.
- MFA capstone public presentation and defense: "Translation with introduction of 'My Lunar Friend: On Blok,' Chapter 1 of *Living Faces* by Zinaida Gippius (1925)," May 6, 2024, Boston MA.
- Student panelist presentation: "Pushkin and the 1001 Nights," Big Fat Books Symposium: The 1001 Nights, April 5, 2024, Boston, MA.
- Guest lecture/class talk: "Looking the Gift Horse in the Mouth: The Conspicuous Absence of Bucephalus in the Persian Alexander Romances," November 15, 2023, Boston, MA.
- Senior capstone presentation: "Withholding Narrative Guidance in Kafka's *A Country Doctor*," December 6, 2022, Boston, MA.
- Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program Symposium poster presentation: "The Theatrical Dimensions of German Émigré Theater in Los Angeles, 1925-1950," October 21, 2022, Boston, MA.
- Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program Symposium poster presentation: "The Artist in Franz Kafka's Fiction," October 22, 2021, Boston, MA.
- Departmental research presentation: "The Plural Self in Franz Kafka's *Contemplation*," April 27, 2021, Boston, MA (remote).

Awards:

Mouse Magazine Irena C. Katz Translation Prize, Honorable Mention, January 2025: For a translation from Russian of 'Много хороших людей и один завистник' – "Many Good People and One Who Envies" by Veniamin Kaverin

- BU Robert Fitzgerald Prize in Literary Translation, Second Prize, May 2024: For a translation from Russian of 'Много хороших людей и один завистник' – "Many Good People and One Who Envies" by Veniamin Kaverin
- BU CAS College Prize for Excellence in World Languages & Literatures, May 2023
- Alice M. Brenner Award in the Humanities from the BU Center for the Humanities, Spring 2022
- BU Medieval Studies Best Undergraduate Essay Prize: First place in Junior/Senior essay category, AY 2021–2022: "Looking the Gift Horse in the Mouth: The Conspicuous Absence of Bucephalus in the Persian Alexander Romances"

Grants, Boston University:

- Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program
 - Summer 2022: "The Theatrical Dimensions of German Émigré Theater in Los Angeles, 1925-1950," supervised by Professor James Schmidt (History)
 - Summer 2021: "The Artist in Franz Kafka's Fiction," supervised by Professor Abigail Gillman (World Languages & Literatures)
 - Spring 2021: "The Plural Self in Franz Kafka's Contemplation," supervised by Professor Abigail Gillman (World Languages & Literatures)
- Herbert and Mary Greig Scholarship in American History
 - o Full tuition, AY 2021–2022, AY 2022–2023

Literary and Student Journals

- Copy-Editor, *The Thousand and One Nights in the World Literary Imagination*, edited by Margaret Litvin and Sunil Sharma, Harvard University Press, forthcoming 2026/7
- Chief Executive Assistant, *Asymptote Journal*, June 2025 Present; Executive Assistant, June 2024 May 2025
- Editor-in-Chief and Head Layout Editor, September 2021 August 2023, Copy and Content Editor, January 2021 August 2023, *Alexandria: A Journal of the World Languages & Literatures Department at Boston University*
- Treasurer and Backup Editor, Aevum: Boston University's Journal of History, March 2022 May 2023

Skills

- Languages: English, Russian (native fluency); French, German (intermediate reading); Persian (beginner)
- Simultaneous verbal translation (Russian to English, English to Russian); literary translation (Russian to English)
- Audio transcription of dictation and interview recordings
- Archival research; document digitization
- Editing; Chicago Manual of Style and institutional style (Boston University)