

# Night Review

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*Test: Friday, April 11*

# Identify the Characters

- Elie Wiesel – main character, narrator, and author. Young boy growing up as a Jew in the Holocaust. Survived. Cared for his father in the concentration camps. Winner of the 1986 Nobel Peace Prize. Ages 12-15 in the novel.
- Chlomo Wiesel – Elie's father. He and Elie care for one another throughout their torture at the camps. Dies calling Elie's name. Respected man in his community. Ran a store.
- Tzipora – Elie's beautiful baby sister. Killed as soon as they arrived at the first camp.
- Hilda – Elie's oldest sister.
- Martha – the Wiesels' maid. She offered to hide them in her village to protect them from the Nazis.

# Identify the Characters

- Juliek – violinist and friend to Elie. Played Beethoven as he died in Gleiwitz. Elie met him in Buna.
- Rabbi Eliahou – Rabbi whose son ran ahead of him during the 42-mile march through the snow to Gleiwitz.
- Franek – assisted Idek. Forced Elie to give up his gold crown by beating Elie's father when they were marching.
- Meir and his father – Meir's father saved some bread for both of them, but Meir killed him for a piece. Meir was then killed by men who took the bread from him.
- Moshe the Beadle – follower of Cabbala and “master” to Elie. Poor, foreign Jew. He survived a massacre by pretending he was dead (he was shot in the leg) and returned to warn the town, but no one believed him.



# Identify the Characters

- Idek – Kapo in Buna. He was bad-tempered, prone to fits, impatient, and violent. He whipped Elie for catching him with a girl from the town. Beat Elie and his father.
- The “French” girl – a German-speaking Jew. She was able to pose as an Aryan French girl because she had false papers. She speaks German to Elie to comfort him after Idek beats him (risks her life).
- Mengele – Nazi doctor who ran the selections. He performed horrible experiments on the prisoners.
- Madame Schacter – saw the “flames” in the train car on the way to Birkenau. She was beaten, bound, and gagged on the way to the camp.

# The Setting

- Birkenau – the first camp to which the Wiesels were sent. The women in Elie's family were killed when they arrived during the first selection. Here, the men are stripped, shaved, and disinfected before they are sent to Auschwitz. Reception center for Auschwitz.
- Auschwitz – first concentration camp that Elie and his father stayed at (for three weeks).
- Sighet – Elie's hometown in Romania. Symbolizes tolerance of evil, ignorance, and denial. Also represents home and childhood to Elie. Ghetto was located here later.

# The Setting

- Buchenwald – the camp where Elie’s father dies. This is the camp where Elie is liberated.
- Gleiwitz – the camp to which the prisoners are marched when the Russian front is approaching (42 miles). From Gleiwitz, the prisoners are loaded into cattle cars and sent to Buchenwald. Stayed three days.
- Israel – Jew’s “Promised Land” during the war. Idealized land of hope. “Heaven.”



# The Story

- At what age did Jews traditionally study Cabbala?  
30.
- Describe Elie's level of commitment to his religion. Highly faithful and devout student. Spent much of his time at the temple studying and praying. His faith was weakened as a result of his experiences.
- At the very beginning of the story, what happened to Moshe? Why was he selected? When he returned to tell his story, how did the other Jews react?  
Deported because he was a foreign Jew. He escaped a mass execution by pretending he was dead (he was shot in the leg). When he returned to warn everyone, they ignored his warnings.

# The Story

- In the beginning of the book, what two opportunities does Elie's father have to avoid deportation?  
Hide with their maid, warning from the mayor, flee to Palestine.
- Why did Elie's father turn down each opportunity?  
He did not think the problem was that bad; he did not want to leave his home.
- What did the Jews smell when they first arrived at Birkenau? What was the cause?  
Burning flesh. The Crematorium.



# The Story

- When they arrived at Birkenau, what ages did Elie and his father give? What were their real ages? Why did they lie?  
Elie – 18 (he was 15); father – 40 (he was 50). The inmate told them to in order to pass Selection.
- When was the last time Elie saw his mother and baby sister?  
When they got off the train at Birkenau and the men were separated from women and children.
- What is Elie's main goal at the concentration camps? (Not just staying alive!)  
Keep his father safe, to stay with his father.

# The Story

- Right before deportation, where are Elie and the other Jews of Sighet living? Describe their life in this place and how they feel about it.

The ghetto was a fenced-in area to which all the Jews of Sighet were confined. They were actually happier here for a while because the Gestapo were not in the ghetto, and they did not have to face the hatred/persecution of the Germans. It was a small self-contained Jewish community.

- What is the significance of Madame Schacter to the story? Describe what she does and how the other Jews treat her. Foreshadows the crematoriums. She screams about the fire, acts hysterical. The others bound and gagged her to quiet her on the train.

# The Story

- When the Nazis first arrived in Sighet, how did they treat the Jews? Provide one example.  
Courteously. One Nazi brought his Jewish hostess a box of chocolates.
- List some of the restrictions the Nazis placed on the Jews prior to forcing them into ghettos.  
6 pm curfew, wear the star of David at all times, surrender all valuables, could not own a business, could not dine in a restaurant, could not travel by rail.
- What did the Nazis use to transport the Jews? How many people were forced into each of these?  
Cattle cars on trains. 80 people to each car. After being in the camps, they fit 100 people into the cattle cars.



# The Story

- During deportation, what do the guards threaten if a Jew escapes?  
To kill the Jew placed in charge of the cattle car.
- When Elie refused to give up his gold crown, how does Franek force him to give it up? What does Elie do to prevent this from working? How is it eventually removed from Elie's tooth?  
He beats his father because he cannot march correctly. Elie teaches his father how to march. A dentist friend of Franek removed it with a rusty spoon.
- What is A-7713?  
Elie's ID tattoo from the camp.

# The Story

- What job do Elie and his father have at Buna?  
Counting bulbs, bolts, and other electrical hardware at a warehouse.
- Describe Idek, the Kapo. How does he treat Elie and his father? Give two examples.  
Bursts of anger, short-tempered. He whips Elie 25 times when he catches him with a girl. He beats Elie and his father once.
- How does the “French” girl risk her life for Elie? What is her real identity?  
She speaks German to him; her real identity is Jewish.

# The Story

- Describe the effect of the death of the child, the pipel, on Elie and the other Jews. How was this different from the other hangings? What did it symbolize? The prisoners were emotionally moved; the soup tasted terrible to Elie. First time they hung a child; particularly cruel because he was slowly dying as they all walked past. He looked like a “sad-eyed angel”. Symbolizes the death of Elie’s faith.
- What is Elie’s “inheritance” that his father gives him when he has failed selection? A knife and a spoon.



# The Story

- Why was Elie in the hospital? What happened to the prisoners who remained in the hospital after Buna was evacuated?  
Elie's right foot was swollen from the cold; he could no longer stand on it. He had to have surgery. The prisoners who stayed in the hospital were liberated three days later.
- Describe the march following the evacuation of Buna. How long? What was the weather like?  
42+ miles (2 days) in the snow with no food or rest. If anyone stopped, they were tramped to death.
- How is Elie's father saved from selection?  
They have a second selection, and he proves himself useful.
- When is Elie liberated?  
April 5, 1945.

# The Story

- Describe the tone/mood at the end of Night.  
The author's tone is depressed and empty. The reader's mood is the same. Elie is dead inside, sees himself as a living corpse. Meant to show the impact of such inhumane treatment. "From the depths of the mirror, a corpse was contemplating me."
- When he is older, why is Elie bothered by an older woman tossing coins to some children? Of what does it remind him?  
She is tossing them into the group to watch the children fight violently over them. She does it for amusement, not charity. German workers tossing bread into the cattle cars to watch starving men fight to the death for a few crumbs.

# Vocabulary

- Totenkopf – “the death’s head”; symbolically displayed to threaten Jews.
- Pipel – a young boy in the prison camp under the protection of an older man.
- Kaddish – Jewish prayer for the dead.
- Caballa – a system of Jewish mysticism developed by medieval rabbis.
- Ghetto – a segregated section with barbed wire and contained living in which all Jews were required to live.
- Selection – medical inspection of prisoners; sorted into two groups – workers and those to be killed.



# Vocabulary

- Beadle – church officer who keeps order during services.
- Deportation – to expel or send out of a country.
- Muselmann – prisoner ready for death as evidenced by his emaciated skeletal appearance.

## Additional Review

- There is a review game available on-line:

[www.quia.com/rr/462612.html](http://www.quia.com/rr/462612.html)