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Night

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Have you ever wondered what exactly happened to the Jews in the concentration camps? Elie Wiesel made a memoir based on his experiences in the concentration camps, this memoir was called night. Elie was separated from his mother and sisters almost immediately after their arrival and only had his father left with him. Elie's experience will forever inspire people and show how cruel some people can be. The Jews only cared about survival in the camp, they did anything for food, they turned on their own family, and suffered through harsh environments to survive.

When Elie first arrived to camp Buna he was always hungry. Elie expresses how much he craved his daily bread and soup, he is nothing more than a starved stomach is what he says. (Wiesel 47) When Elie and his father were being transferred to a new camp, they had to ride in a train car for 10 days with no food, and no water. Elie witnessed several men getting killed by others on the train car just for a piece of bread. This was life for Elie now, death, hunger, and pain. Elie once witnessed a man so hungry for soup he risked his life to go and get it, he died in the end. (Wiesel 52)

Elie has also had many experiences having to watch people kill each other to survive the camp. While being transferred to Buchenwald Elie had witnessed men killing each other for a

piece of bread. He had witnessed a son beat his own father for the bread in his hand, and then that son later died to others. (Wiesel 89) Elie has also had experiences with himself losing his humanity just because of the conditions of the camp. While Elie's father was sick, Elie was kind of wishing for him to die, because he was too much of a burden for Elie. (Wiesel 96) Elie has done this more than once and this makes him realize how much the camp has changed him. When Elie's father died Elie was somewhat relieved and guilty for feeling this way at the same time. (Wiesel 97)

Elie also experienced extreme pain in the camps along with his father. Elie and his father were beaten many times while in the concentration camps, Elie had once been whipped 25 times for catching his kapo and a woman together. (Wiesel 51) Elie and his father were also transferred to different camps several times, one time in particular Elie describes in great detail. During Elie's time running to gleiwitz, he was freezing in the cold and could not fall asleep otherwise he would die. Once they have to ride in a train car, they are snowed on and almost freeze to death. (Wiesel 87) While in the camp Elie and his father are tortured in many different ways. Elie and his father are starved countless times throughout the book night, Elie even describes a man so hungry that he risks his life for a pot of soup and eventually dies in the end. (Wiesel 52)

Elie and his father went through several things to survive, They were tortured through starvation, pain, grief, and realization. Elie also had to witness his father and many other men being beaten. He has also witnessed children and women being murdered brutally just because of their race. People like Elie Wiesel should inspire us to try and prevent things like this from happening again. No one should ever have to go through the pain and suffering that the Jewish

race had to go through. The book night shows everyone how disgustingly awful some societies or peoples mindsets can be.

Works Cited

Wiesel, Elie. *Night*. MacGibbon & Kee 1960