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Mrs. Graning

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Father-son relationship

Night by Elie Wiesel shows examples of a father-son relationship, and how they've stayed together and worked through everything. Elie and his dad have been through hard times together, never left, and gotten separated from their mother, wife, sister, and daughter all in one. They went through everything together. They had God with them the whole time even though Elie questioned his faith at times they never completely stopped believing. In the book *Night* the father-son relationship shows struggle, trust, and dedication not only to each other but many others and readers.

The most recognizable thing in the relationship between Elie and his father is the struggle they went through. Right from their arrival at Auschwitz Concentration Camp, the camp in Birkenau, the struggle was obvious. Their struggle goes beyond being separated from their family, as they are brutally beaten, death threats and a loss of faith. Prisoners frequently engaged in conflicts with one another over rations rather than offering mutual assistance. When Elie was beaten his father was struggling to watch, he couldn't say anything or he would be shot right then. They were threatened by Nazi police officers to be shot.

The trust that was put into their relationship was very important. Both of them trusted each other with everything. When they were being put into work groups they had to trust that they wouldn't be separated and they would stay together. When his father says "no, my son. We cannot do this." Elie is resisting Franck who wants his gold crown because of the advice he

receives from his father. Which shows that Elie trusts his father's judgment and still sees him as an authority figure. When Elie and his father were in Auschwitz. His father reassures his son that his mother "must be in a labor camp" along with his daughter who is "a big girl now". Eliezer acknowledges the falsehood of this statement; however, he chooses to appease his father to maintain their morale. This illustrates a bond of trust, as both the father and son depend on one another for their mental resilience.

Dedication is key in the book *Night* by showing Elie and his father's dedication to helping each other survive. Elie and his father were there for each other through thick and thin when one of them needed help the other was there and it went both ways. When Elie gave his father lessons in marching step, to help him survive. And his father gave Elie his rations of bread when he needed extra food. Elie and his father exemplify their steadfast commitment to one another through various actions, such as dividing their limited food supplies to guarantee each other's survival, shielding one another from acts of violence, and drawing upon their relationship as a source of resilience in the face of the atrocities within the concentration camps. Elie frequently places his father's welfare above his own, even when his own safety is jeopardized.

In the book *Night* the father-son relationship shows struggle, trust, and dedication not only to each other but to many others and readers. Elie and his father share a commonality in their deep religious devotion, particularly evident in the early chapters of the book. Additionally, they both recognize their roles within the household; their responsibilities lie in the pursuit of education and engagement with the community, while the women are tasked with managing domestic affairs. The impact of the father-son relationship between Elie and his father shows to never give up and stay with each other.

Works Cited Page

Wiesel, Elie. Night. EMC Paradigm, 1956.