## Journey:

Sighet -> the first (big) ghetto (Elie didn't have to move)-> second (little) ghetto (Lived in uncle's house)-> Kaschau (town on Czechoslovak frontier; by cattle wagons/train; shortstop for the German and Hungarian officers to collect any valuables they Jews still had) -> Birkenau (reception center of Auschwitz)-> Auschwitz Concentration Camp-> Buna -> Gleiwitz-> Buchenwald

## Characters

- 1. **Akiba Drumer** A Jewish Holocaust victim who gradually loses his faith in God as a result of his experiences in the concentration camp.
- 2. **Akiba Drumer:** A prisoner who had lost his faith in God. He was taken to the crematorium a few days later. No one said the Kaddish.
- 3. **Batia Reich:** relative living with Elie, who told them that someone (the Hungarian officer) was knocking on the boarded up window.
- 4. **Béa** Eliezer's middle sister. helped in the family shop
- 5. **Bela Katz**-son of a big tradesman from Elie's town (arrived at Birkenau 1 week before Elie) chosen for the Sonder-Kommando (unit which worked for crematories); had to put his own father's body into the crematory oven.
- 6. **Berkovitz**: friend of the family; warns them about the terror in the capital (Budapest)
- **7. Blockalteste:** Advised Elie to fend for himself and himself only, everyman for himself in these camps.
- 8. Cabbala: The secrets of Jewish mysticism.
- 9. **Dr. Mengele** When he arrives at Auschwitz, Eliezer encounters the historically infamous Dr. Mengele. Mengele was the cruel doctor who presided over the selection of arrivals at Auschwitz/Birkenau. Known as the "Angel of Death," Mengele's words sentenced countless prisoners to death in the gas chambers. He also directed horrific experiments on human subjects at the camp.(typical SS officer: cruel face, not devoid of intelligence, wearing a monocle)
- **10. Dentist:** (originally from Czechoslovakia) Secretly collect golden tooth, he tried to get Elie's but Elie avoided giving it by making excuses that he was sick and the dentist eventually got caught for running a private traffic of the golden tooth. Sent to prison to be hanged
- 11. **Dutch Oberkapo of the 52nd Cable Unit**: A kindly overseer, the Dutch Oberkapo is accused of sabotage. After weeks of torture for stockpiling arms and blowing up Buna's power station, the man refuses to name co-conspirators and is transferred to Auschwitz and never seen again.
- 12. **Elie's father-** (Shlomo) Even though he is the only character other than Eliezer who is present throughout the memoir. Respected by the entire Jewish community of Sighet, and by his son as well. He was a member of the Jewish Council in the big ghetto. He and Eliezer desperately try to remain together throughout their concentration camp ordeal. Dies of dysentery.

- 13. **Eliezer** The narrator of Night and the stand-in for the memoir's author, Elie Wiesel. Night traces Eliezer's psychological journey, as the Holocaust robs him of his faith in God and exposes him to the deepest inhumanity of which man is capable. Despite many tests of his humanity, however, Eliezer maintains his devotion to his father. It is important to note that we learn Eliezer's last name only in passing, and that it is never repeated. His story—which parallels Wiesel's own biography—is intensely personal, but it is also representative of the experiences of hundreds of thousands of Jewish teenagers
- **14. Franek** Eliezer's foreman at Buna. Franek notices Eliezer's gold tooth and gets a dentist in the camp to pry it out with a rusty spoon.
- 15. Gestapo: German police
- 16. **Gypsy/Gypsies:** first gypsy struck Elie's Father when he asked for directions to the bathroom (Elie did not react) 10 gypsies helped the supervisors
- 17. **Hans**: A Berlin musician in the orchestra block, he eases Elie's concern about his assignment to the electrical warehouse.
- 18. **Hersch Genud**: well versed in the cabbala, spoke of the end of the world and of the coming of the Messiah pg 42
- 19. Hilda Eliezer's oldest sister. (was going to be married)???
- 20. **Hungarian Officer**: Elie's Dad's friend; was going to warn them if they were in danger; knocked on boarded up window, but they did not get to speak to him.
- 21. **Hungarian POLICE**: the Jews' first oppressors; Elie hated them; they beat everyone during deportation.
- 22. **Horthy**: Forced to ask one of the leaders of Nyilas party for a new government.
- 23. **Idek** Eliezer's Kapo (a prisoner conscripted by the Nazis to police other prisoners) at the electrical equipment warehouse in Buna. Despite the fact that they also faced the cruelty of the Nazis, many Kapos were as cruel to the prisoners as the Germans. During moments of insane rage, Idek beats Eliezer.
- 24. **Juliek** A young musician whom Eliezer meets in Auschwitz. Juliek reappears late in the memoir, when Eliezer hears him playing the violin after the death march to Gleiwitz.
- 25. **Kapos**: Prisoners who are in charge of keeping other prisoners in order. They may be in charge of the barracks, overseeing the labor work, and possibly transports.
- 26. **Madame Schächter** A Jewish woman from Sighet who is deported in the same cattle car as Eliezer. Madame Schächter is taken for a madwoman when, every night, she screams that she sees furnaces in the distance. She proves to be a prophetess, however, as the trains soon arrive at the crematoria of Auschwitz.
- 27. **Madame Khan:** Housed German soldier; got a box of chocolates.
- 28. Malka- Young girl (moshe the beadle met her when he was expelled) took 3 days to die
- 29. Martha: old servant of Elie's family; begged them to come to her house for safe refuge
- 30. **Meir Katz** Eliezer's father's friend from Buna. In the cattle car to Buchenwald, Katz saves Eliezer's life from an unidentified assailant.

- 31. **Meir**: A ravenous son who kills his father for a crust of bread. Meir dies when others attack him and grab the stolen bread.
- 32. **Moshe the Beadle** Eliezer's teacher of Jewish mysticism, Moshe is a poor Jew who lives in Sighet. He is deported before the rest of the Sighet Jews but escapes and returns to tell the town what the Nazis are doing to the Jews. Tragically, the community takes Moshe for a lunatic. Fled during the three day containment.
- 33. **Old Man:** (character is every Wiesel story); Elie's Dad's friend; head of his household; Elie warned him to pack for the deportation.
- 34. Polish Kapo: Spoke the first human words to them; told them not to lose faith and to help each other; was killed and replaced for being too nice.
- **35**. **Rabbi of Borsche:** Famous rabbi-Elie's grandfather came over for New Years to attend his service
- 36. **Rabbi Eliahou** A devout Jewish prisoner whose son abandons him in one of many instances in Night of a son behaving cruelly toward his father. Eliezer prays that he will never behave as Rabbi Eliahou's son behaves.
- 37. Reizel: Wife of Stein; Niece of Elie's mom; cousin of Elie; taken to Antwerp with her children and hasn't been heard from since.
- 38. Sighet: Elie Wiesel's home town. It is a small town in Transylvania, Romania
- 39. SS Officer: warned them about Auschwitz (scared them) the opposite of the Polish Kapo
- 40. **Stein** Eliezer's relative from Antwerp, Belgium, whom he and his father encounter in Auschwitz. Trying to bolster his spirit, Eliezer lies to Stein and tells him that his family is still alive and healthy.
- 41. Stranger (Prisoner): told Elie to say he's 18; Elie's father to say he's 40
- 42. Stern:former tradesman who became a policeman who summoned Elie's dad to the council meeting.
- **43**. **The Pipel:** A young boy who was hung for his "crime." His death outraged a lot of prisoners.
- 44. **Tibi and Yosi** Two brothers with whom Eliezer becomes friendly in Buna. Tibi and Yosi are Zionists. Along with Eliezer, they make a plan to move to Palestine after the war.
- 45. Yechiel: brother of the rabbi of Sighet
- 46. **Tzipora** Eliezer's youngest sister. (baby of the family) 7 years old
- 47. **Zalman** One of Eliezer's fellow prisoners. Zalman is trampled to death during the run to Gleiwitz.
- **48. Tobias**: Tailor (moshe the beadle met him when he was expelled) begged to be killed before his sons.