

**Night by Elie Wiesel, Chapter Two, Pages 23-28**

Intolerable: unable to be endured

Constraints: limitations or restrictions

Inhibitions: a feeling of self-consciousness that makes one less relaxed

Irrevocably: permanently

Hermetically: completely sealed, preventing the circulation of air

Pious: religious

Withered: shriveling, fading, decaying

Abyss: deep, immeasurable chasm or space

Auschwitz: largest Nazi concentration camp, near German-Polish border, 1.3 million people were deported here for extermination or forced labor between 1940-1945, 1.1 million of these (~85%) were murdered, many were marched from Auschwitz to subcamps nearby for labor, prior to Russian liberation prisoners were marched to new sites to avoid Russian forces, these marches killed tens of thousands to cold, hunger, or murder

Gnawing: biting or chewing

Indifferent: not caring either way

Wretched: in a very unhappy state

Birkenau: largest killing center in the Nazi empire, considered part of the Auschwitz complex in a suburb from the first Auschwitz camp

**Night by Elie Wiesel, Chapter Three, Pages 29-46**

Throng: large, densely packed crowd of people or animals

Tumult: confusing and loud chaos

Imperative: of vital importance, crucial

Weary: tired, exhausted

Invectives: harsh, abusive language

Petrified: so frightened as to be unable to move

Sages: people venerated or honored for their wisdom and judgment

Notorious: famous for something bad

Monocle: a single eyeglass kept in position by the muscle of the eye

Paternal: fatherly

Crematoria: a furnace for the incineration of corpses

Kaddish: recited during religious services and by mourners after a death

Sanctified: set apart and declared holy

Hearse: a vehicle for conveying a coffin at a funeral

Exalted: held in high regard

Barracks: a building or group of buildings used to house soldiers

Nocturnal: night time

Vigor: liveliness, full of strength

Interspersed: scatter among

Rebbe: a rabbi or religious leader, especially of the Hasidic sect

Fatigue: tiredness, exhaustion

Lucidity: clarity, brightness

Glacial: extremely cold

Enveloping: surrounding

Floundering: struggling or staggering

Kapo: a prisoner in a concentration camp who supervises labor and contains some authority

Improvised: not practiced, done on the spot

Oppressive: unjustly inflicting hardship

Harangued: lengthy lecture in a critical manner

Leprous: suffering from disease, covered in scales

Convalescent: a place where healing and recovery happens

Abstraction: not concrete, not touchable or real in tangible form, an idea only

Gypsy: free-spirited traveler who moves nomadically and works seasonal jobs. ¼ to ½ million gypsies were killed in the Holocaust

Colic: sharp, sudden pain in the abdomen

Ascertain: to learn or find out

Lulled: to cause to feel safe, sleepy, relaxed

Compulsory: mandatory, forced

Pole: a person of Polish ethnicity, believed "subhuman" by Nazis, 1.9 million non-Jewish Polish civilians were killed, 3 million Jewish Polish civilians were killed

Camaraderie: mutual or shared trust and friendship

Morale: confidence, enthusiasm, and discipline of a group or person

Prevailing: current or present

Ration: predetermined, measured out quantity of a resource

Wizened: shriveled or wrinkled with age

Humane: having or showing compassion and benevolence

Veritable: really and truly, used to emphasize a metaphor

Concurred: agreement

Messiah: promised deliverer and savior of the Jewish people

**Night by Elie Wiesel, Chapter Four, Pages 47-65**

Epidemic: widespread occurrence of an infectious disease

Altruistic: unselfish, to do good for others

Quarantine: state or period of imposed isolation due to potential contamination or illness

Pittance: very small item or amount of money so as to be insignificant

Conscientious: a person wishing to do what is right

Cynical: distrusting of human sincerity or goodness, suspicious of people and motives

Wit: mental sharpness, clever use of words, especially for humor

Haifa: city in Israel

Summons: an order to appear

Meekly: modestly, humbly, or submissively

Famished: starved or extremely hungry

Aryan: the master race, according to the Germans. Requires Nordic features, preferably white skin, blue eyes, blond hair, tall

Reminiscing: remembering the past

Imprudent: rash, not showing care for the consequence

Untenable: not able to be obtained or defended from attack, could not be kept

Refuge: condition of being safe or sheltered from danger

Writhed: twisting, squirming contortions of the body

Credible: believable

Dissipated: to break up and drive off

Gallows: a structure for the hanging of criminals

Pipel: an attractive child prisoner in the Holocaust who received special privileges by maintaining a relationship with a supervisor

Quivered: trembled or shaken

**Night by Elie Wiesel, Chapter Five, Pages 66-84**

Stricken: seriously affected by an undesirable condition

Affirm: state as a fact, publicly declare

Ailing: in poor health

Solemn: serious, formal, not cheerful

Officiating: act as the official in charge

Benediction: bestowing a blessing

Lament: passionate expression of grief or sorrow

surreal: a feeling of bizarreness, unearthly, dreamlike

fast: purposely avoid eating for extended period

reprieve: a cancellation or postponement of punishment

emaciated: abnormally thin or weak because of illness or lack of food

wallow: indulging in an unrestrained way, mud where animals roll and spend time

bartered: exchanged or traded items/services without use of money

crucible: place of a severe test or trial

decisive: producing a definite result

chink: small, narrow crack or hole

incentive: a motivating factor for someone to do something

categorical: very direct, unambiguous

dysentery: infection of the intestines

pus: a thick liquid from infected tissue containing dead white blood cells and bacteria.

Red Army: Soviet/Russian troops fighting against Hitler

Morphine: pain reducing medication

Masquerade: a false show or pretense, pretending to be someone else

Knell: the sound of a bell, especially for a solemn occasion, such as a funeral

## REMINDER SWIM:

Summary: be brief, one or two sentences

Writing Element: identify a quote of interest or confusion

Inference: explore the quote and meaning of the text to come up with possible inferences, go as deep as possible with text, author, cultural, and universal inferences not directly stated but supportable with analysis

Me Connection: connect to your life or other texts and explain how this enriches your understanding of the text and/or life

## Questions for Section 2

- 1) What does Elie do as a writer to convey his experience to the reader? As a reader, what do you observe about Elie's style of writing that seems particularly effective?
- 2) Is it possible to understand another person's pain? How does Elie describe the pain of his experience? What helps or hinders our ability to empathize? What is a possible consequence of not being able to recognize another's pain?
- 3) Elie describes himself as very religious at the start of his experience. Is his religion a help or a hindrance in the camps? How and why does he struggle with his faith? What are the consequence or the potential impact of people like Elie losing their faith?
- 4) What are some universal inferences that you can make about people when they are powerless? What are some universal inferences you can make about people when they are given power?

Guided Questions Chapter 2, page 23-28

1. What illusion does Mrs. Schachter keep seeing on the train?

Guided Questions Chapter 3, page 29-46

1. What advice do Elie and his father receive to survive selection?
2. Why do the young men not rebel and revolt?
3. What process do Elie and his father go through before resting for the night?
4. What happens to Elie's father when he doesn't feel well due to colic? What action does Elie take?
5. What are two sayings on the sign say as they enter the camp?
6. What are the first human words that they hear?
7. What do they tell themselves about Elie's mother and sister that they don't really believe?

Guided Questions Chapter 4, page 47-65

1. What type of work do Elie and his father do at the warehouse?
2. Why do the Germans perform dental exams? What do they want from Elie?
3. In a flash forward to more modern times after the Holocaust, whom does Elie see and remember from the camps?
4. Why does Elie try to teach his father how to march in step? What does he have to do if unsuccessful?
5. Why is Elie whipped?
6. What is the only hanging that cost Elie his appetite?

Guided Questions Chapter 5, page 66-84

1. How do Elie and his father celebrate Rosh Hashanah?
2. What act of rebellion does Elie commit on Yom Kippur?
3. What must Elie and his father do for the selection? Which one is written down as potentially being weak?
4. What surgery does Elie need and how does it go?
5. What decision must Elie and his father make at the end? What do they decide?
6. What happened to those prisoners who decided differently?