

In sister, that was the
last time



**ASSIGN
BUSTER**

In 1944, in a very small village of Sighet, Romania, we are introduced to a young boy named Elie Wiesel. He grew up with a very loving family.

He had three sisters, and two comforting parents. Elie was always interested in various religious texts, and was very curious about Kabbalah, an ancient Jewish tradition of mystical interpretation of the Bible. However, Kabbalah was not allowed by his father.

Elie's teacher was a man named Moishe the Beadle, he helped Elie learn about the Talmud. Sadly, Moishe the Beadle was expelled from Sighet, due to being a foreign Jew. It rumored that they were in Galicia, working, and even that they were content with their fate.

Moishe came back to Sighet, and warned all civilians that German soldiers will soon be coming to take over their lives. No one chooses to listen to Moishe, people thought he might have been mentally ill. However, in spring, cattle cars full of Jews from Sighet were being sent to the Auschwitz-Birkenau camp. Elie and his family were the last group to be sent out.

Due to the size of the cattle car, the only option for everyone to fit was to stand shoulder to shoulder throughout the entire journey to Auschwitz. One of the Jewish deportees made the entire cattle car frustrated and worried when she claimed seeing flames coming out of furnaces, she had to be struck multiple times in order to stay calm. No one knew how she was seeing these flames, the people, scared and worried, chose not to listen to this poor lady.

It was a calm night on the third day of the Jews journey. The Jews look outside of their windows to find terrifying flames and smoke filling the sky in front of

them. Furnaces were seen providing the fire its food, along with a disturbing smell of human insides. They were in Auschwitz, and there was suddenly chaos.

Nazi's forced the Jews out of the cattle car and separated the Elie and his mother and sister, that was the last time he would see his mother and youngest sister. Elie and his father lied about their age so they could be working in the camp, instead of being burned in a pit. Elie and his father were taken to work at a factory, called Buna, where they are forced to sort electrical parts in a scary, old warehouse. This was very hard for all people working, and it would be normal to see a person suddenly pass away beside you. As liberation forces were moving closer to Buna, SS troops fled.

Everyone, including Elie and his father, were evacuated and forced to run through cold, snowy darkness. The inmates were running for forty-two miles. Elie hurts his foot during his run, and is forced to put a blanket over the wound. For the next three days, people suffered while running, and whoever lost durability was killed by German soldiers. The inmates pile up for a long train ride to Buchenwald, a place in central Germany. By this time, only 10 people were able to hold on to their life. However, Elie's father passed away in wooden bunks from malnutrition, and wounds that could not be rehabilitated.

Elie is now alone, and can't help but fear for his life. Soon after his father's passing, American forces liberate the camp in Buchenwald. Elie is hopeful for the first time in months. He and very few others were taken to safety, and Elie lived to tell his story.