

I believe the message the author is trying to get across, is that while the only proof we have of the holocaust is the eyewitnesses testimony, it is impossible for them to fully recount the story accurately without making it into a sort of story. Their knowledge on the events are far more intelligent and real than any historian, but it is not as easy for them to come forward and recount an event as it is from someone removed from the event. They have to depend on their memory as opposed to having some sort of hard text in front of them. In addition to all of this a lot of what happened to them during this time is unexplainable or believable to someone who didn't go through the same thing. As well, there are gaps in these stories that survivors need to find ways to fill that leave the audience with questions and leaves them to their own interpretation of the events. They themselves cannot explain what happened to them.

Just as our hunger is not that feeling of missing a meal, so our way of being cold has need of a new word. We say "hunger," we say "tiredness," "fear," "pain," we say "winter" and they are different things. They are free words, created and used by free men who lived in comfort and suffering in their homes.

In a way I found this quote kind of funny. Not funny in the regular haha type of way, but in a sick and cruel almost uncomfortable type of way. When I read this quote I thought of the last thing i said today, the things I complain to my friends about. How I react when I'm "desperate" for coffee. We use such powerful, important words for such mundane things as often as we speak. How often do we say, we are starving, having eaten at least one thing that day? How many times have we said we are exhausted, having slept multiple hours the night before and not having your bodies to pushed to their limits, day in and day out? We are "scared" of spiders and getting a bruise causes us "pain". To think about how drastically people in the Holocaust experienced all of these things, made me laugh a little. We all have so much, while they had so little. We have everything to look forward to in each coming day, while they had nothing. We take for granted what kind of spoiled lives we live. So that's why I chose this quote, because of the sick feeling the words made me feel, and what a personal connection to this writing I was able to create.

I am so excited to meet the holocaust survivors coming to speak to us next week. Not only do I feel so privileged to be able to meet some of the last living generation of Holocaust survivors, but I am genuinely interested in their stories. As I have mentioned before I am super interested in learning about the female perspective of the Holocaust as we are usually just exposed to the male perspective. What was it like in a female concentration camp? To be able to receive such an

interesting and new story is overwhelmingly lucky and exciting. I feel lucky that these strong women are still alive to share with us.