Chapter 3

As soon as they get off the train, the <u>men</u> and women are Elie <u>parts</u>	
from his mother and sisters. As the new arrivals enter the camp, a	
prisoner advises Elie and his father to <u>lie</u> about their ages so they could be together.	
Another prisoner points to the chimney of theand warns them that it is	
the place of their <u>graves</u> .	
In the middle of the square, <u>Dr. Mengele</u> , an SS officer with a conductor's	
in his hand, separates the men according to who can work and who cannot.	
Elie and his father remain together. As the new prisoners march toward the barracks, they	
witness babies being thrown into a ditch filled with flames. The Jews cannot believe their	
eyes; it is like a They begin to recite the <u>Kaddish</u> , the Jewish	
for the dead. For the first time, Elie begins to feel a sense of	
against a God who would allow something like this to happen. As he nears the flames of the ditch, Elie thinks about jumping to his death. But at the last moment, he	16
chooses to live. Two steps from the pit, they are ordered to turn left. That first night in	
camp is forever etched into the memory of Elie Wiesel:	
"Never shall I forget that night, the first night in camp, which has turned my life into one	
long night, seven times cursed and seven times sealedNever shall I forget those moments	;
which murdered my God and my soul and turned my dreams to dust. Never shall I forget	
these things, even if I am condemned to live as long as God Himself. Never."	
The new arrivals are taken to the, shaven at the <u>barber</u> , and given work clothes. Elie notices that both he and his father have changed during the grueling process of being turned into of camp. Elie feels that the child in him has died; he is no longer the young, studious boy he once was:	
"The night was gone. The morning star was shining in the sky. I too had become a completely	V
different person. The student of the Talmud, the child that I was, had been consumed in the	•
flames. There remained only a shape that looked like me. A dark flame had entered into my	
soul and devoured it."	
An SS officer, with an "odor of the Angel of Death," tells the prisoners that they are at	
and that they should remember this forever. He warns the prisoners the	nt
anyone who cannotwill be sent to the crematory.	۷,
The prisoners are assigned to their respective blocks. After the meal, the prisoners are	
engraved with their prison numbers. Elie becomes <u>A-7713</u> .	
On the eighth day, Elie and his father come across <u>Stein of Antwerp</u> , ao	f
theirs. He asks them about the whereabouts of his wife and children. Although Elie does no	t
know, heand says that he has heard news about them. Stein weeps with joy	
He continues to visit, bringing with him extra rations of for Elie. On	e
day, a transport from Antwerp arrives and Stein finds out the about his	

family. Elie does r	not hear from him again.
In the evenings, t	he Jews spend time talking about the mysteries of God. <u>Akiba Drumer,</u> a _ man with a deep, solemn voice, sings Hasidic melodies. Elie, however,
	He sympathizes with Job when he says, "I did not deny God's loubted His absolute <u>justice</u> ."
The prisoners sta work camp,	y in Auschwitz for three weeks; after which they are relocated to a new