

## *Multi Genre Paper*

Concentration camps in WWII had extremely harsh living conditions. There was a small amount of food given each day, and the food that was given was low in nutrients. The prisoners worked long hard hours and got little sleep giving them less energy. There were also no latrines in concentration camps and terrible hygiene that caused many to die of disease. Cramped conditions were another problem in concentration camps. When you went to bed there would be four other people sleeping with you. This caused the transfer of sickness to become much easier. It is important that we are educated about the Holocaust because people need to fully understand what happened during this period in time. The sad thing is, that many people don't know the true horrors that occurred in the concentration camps, and some people only know that a lot of people died. An important part of the story "Night" that shows just what these concentration camps did to people can be found when people are betraying their friends and family. Two examples of this are when men are taking the food from sick men so that they may not hunger. The other example is a rabbi's son abandoning him while running so that he may survive. In this essay you will read multiple stories from multiple different genres that will shed some light on the true harshness of the Holocaust

The first story is a tall tale about an ordinary American teenager who joins the army in WWII and becomes a hero.

It was an average Saturday of John Sanderson. He did what he always did and went to read the paper. However today there was no comics section instead there was a flyer that said all men at the age of eighteen and above were to enlist in the army today. He went upstairs and told his mother about the flyer, and she told him she would drive him down to the enrollment building. John got dressed and was driven by his mother to be enrolled. At the enrollment building he was interviewed by a man named Andrew Holder. After the interview Andrew shook John's hand and said, "Welcome to the Army son." John was sent to a training camp to learn how to shoot. When they tested John to see what he was best at he turned out to be a natural born sniper. He was assigned to squad twenty four and was immediately dispatched to Germany to liberate concentration camps. As John's squad was marching they were ambushed by two hundred Nazi soldiers. John quickly grabbed his rifle from off of his back and shot a Nazi full in the face. He quickly ran up a small hill and shimmied up an oak tree. Once he was on a high enough branch he readied his sniper rifle and shot until he was out of ammunition. He had landed every bullet he shot. Once he reloaded he continued shooting. When the Nazis finally retreated John only saw two other soldiers standing, one was Captain Andrew Holder, and the other was Private Sam Kelly. The three of them decided they should still try to liberate the next concentration camp. They sent out a radio signal to base and headed toward their next target. When they arrived they came up with a plan, John was going to climb a maple tree and cover Capt. Holder and Sam. As the two soldiers were sneaking towards the gate there was a spray of bullets and Sam was dead. Capt. Holder ran for cover taking shelter behind a fallen log.

Then John let loose, shooting as fast as he could to give his commanding officer cover. He never missed a shot. Since the Nazis were distracted Capt. Holder started running towards the gate, when he reached it he planted an explosive charge and blew straight through the fence. He went in and lit up the concentration camp with his firearm. John was continuously shooting and keeping most of the heat off of Capt. Holder. Then John pulled the trigger to his gun and nothing happened. He quickly lowered the gun to reload. As he was doing so he heard the sound of an automatic weapon. He looked up and saw Capt. Holder lying on the ground in a pool of blood. Enraged by this John finished reloading and shot every Nazi he could see. Once he had run out of all ammunition, he ran and picked up a dead Nazi's rifle and finished off the last of the Nazis. As he released the prisoners he saw that they had been beaten and starved. They were all dirty and some were very ill. Thankfully one of them spoke English and John told him that he was going to take them to safety. When he finally made it to the American base he was exhausted. He made sure all the prisoners from the concentration camp were taken care of then he was told that he had received a heroism award for his bravery. After the war was over, he attended the funeral of Capt. Holder, telling everyone of the man's great bravery. He also told everyone what had happened to the people in the concentration camp, how they were starved and filthy, and beaten. He wanted them to be aware that evil does exist in this world and only a fool doesn't recognize that.

The next story is a science fiction story about a time traveler who experiences the horrors of concentration camps firsthand.

James was a time traveler; he had a time machine that could take him to any point in history. He was on his way back from the Renaissance and his time machine started making a noise like a screeching bird. Red lights started flashing and suddenly his time machine stopped. When he walked out he saw many people that he didn't recognize. From the situation he assessed that he was not nearly close to his time period, but that he wasn't in the future either. He could tell this because even the most rural places were booming cities in his present day and age, but this place was mostly farmland. He walked around and started asking people questions, but they all spoke German instead of English. He went back into his time machine and got a piece of equipment that would enable him to speak and understand any language. He went to an elder woman and asked her what the year was. She gave him a funny look before telling him the year was 1939. James started to panic as he knew WWII started around this year. As he looked through mechanical shops looking for the parts he needed, he heard screaming in the streets. When he went outside he saw Nazis rounding people up into cars and shipping them off. He was awestruck at how brutal the Nazis were treating the villagers. He saw them beating them with the butts of their guns and small clubs. He tried to stop a Nazi from hitting a small child with a club, but ended up taking a hit himself. He was put into a car and shipped off; he knew where the Nazis were taking them. They were all being taken to a concentration camp where many of them would die. He had all the parts he needed to repair his time machine except his fusion reactor core. Unfortunately his time machine was still back in the village. When they arrived at the

concentration camp the Nazis sent him through all sorts of horrible places. When he finally got some food it was nothing but thin broth and dried bread crusts. The next day he was woken early and forced to do labor. Many Nazis beat him that day for no reason and once a Nazi actually spat on him. Over the course of a few weeks James grew accustomed to the schedule. He was starving and tired and filthy, but alive. It seemed as every minute went by another person was beaten for working too slow. One day the warden came, he had an interesting walking stick that had a ball of what looked like radioactive waste attached to the top. James realized that it was his fusion reactor core. Many months later he was able to steal a pair of pliers from a Nazi dentist. He told a family that was going to be killed the next day that he was going to help them escape. In the late night he snuck them out of their building through a loose board at the back of their building. He then told them to wait for him. He snuck into the warden's cabin and stole his fusion reactor. When he met the family at the fence, he used the pliers to cut a small hole through. He quickly ushered them through, then followed making sure not to be seen. They walked for days and eventually made it back to the town. When he got there he quickly fixed his time machine and took the family into the future with him. He told them that they would be safe with him and that they would never have to go back to the concentration camp. James never forgot those months of agony he spent in the concentration camp.

This story is a realistic fiction about a Greek teenager that is sent to Auschwitz.

Demetrius was in school learning about how Caesar the great was assassinated when he heard gunfire outside the class. Suddenly a man in a military suit broke down the class door. He demanded they all leave school. He went home to his family and from there was put on a boat crammed with people. He saw his friend Vasili and went over to talk to him. Vasili thought that they might just be going to a different island in Greece, but Demetrius heard the soldiers say they were going to take them to someplace called Auschwitz. Either way Demetrius was worried about what would become of him and his family. When they finally arrived Demetrius found out he would be separated from his mother and sister. When the Nazis tried to separate them he punched one Nazi in the face. He was then mercilessly beaten with clubs, as blow after blow rained down upon him he felt true hatred for the first time in his life. When he awoke it was to the sound of yelling and more painful blows. When he finally managed to get out of bed he was given a crust of bread to eat. "What's this?" he said to a soldier, "Are we to be treated like wild animals and to not even be given a proper meal?" His remark earned him a face full of the Nazi's combat boot and he lost his food. He was forced to work out in the freezing cold all day with his father. One day there was a bombing and his block had a hole blown in the back. Demetrius saw that the fence was blown up and made a run for it. There were bombs going off all around him, but he still kept running. When he was outside he remembered his father, but when he looked back he so his father telling him to go. Demetrius promised himself he would come back for his family, and then ran into the woods. He was able to stowaway onto a ship that was leaving Poland. When the ship finally stopped he walked out into the U.S.A. He quickly went to the army registration to try and enlist. Fortunately he had learned English when he lived in Greece

and was able to make it into the army. When he went to the training camp he learned how to shoot a rifle. He practiced night and day to become better and more accurate. When a team was being put together to liberate Auschwitz, he was the first person to sign up. Finally they announced who would be going on the mission. They called the names of fifty men including Demetrius. When they finally made it to the concentration camp, he was the first person through the gate. He shot better than he had ever shot before, leaving no Nazis alive. After the Nazis had surrendered he was reunited with his family. He had never been so happy in his life.

This story is a mystery where a prisoner in a concentration camp has had one of his possessions stolen.

Matthew was getting ready to eat his thin soup after his long day of work. He had been in that God forsaken concentration camp for nearly two years now. He reached into his pillow to get his spoon, but couldn't feel it. He distinctly remembered putting his spoon in his pillow this morning but couldn't find it anywhere. Matthew went to a few of his friends asking them for help to find his spoon. They started asking people if they'd seen it, but with no luck. Then finally, they met a man who told them that Alex had stolen it. Alex was the strongest prisoner in the camp and used his strength to bully people and steal their rations. Matthew went to their building guard and told him what had happened. The guard forced Alex to give back the spoon and sent him to bed. Matthew sat down in his bunk and ate his dinner quietly praying that he would be free soon.

The last story is a romance where a Nazi falls in love with a Jewish girl in a concentration camp.

Paul was a Nazi soldier that was assigned to work at a concentration camp. On his first day there a young Jewish girl named Mary caught his eye. Even in her shabby clothes he thought she was easily the most beautiful thing he had ever seen. Whenever he saw her he said hello and he always gave her extra rations. One day he helped her in the fields and got to know her better. She was nineteen years old with a fascination in doctoring and medicine. For the next few weeks he helped her in the fields and the two of them became companions. One night while the other soldiers were drinking, Paul told one of his friends he thought he loved her. However, everyone simply laughed at him calling him a fool to fall in love with someone who was going to die. Over the next nights he came up with a plan to help Mary escape so he could try to win her love. The next time he helped Mary he told her his plan, but she refused it saying that she would only leave if her family could come too. Over the next week he spent every night trying to find a way to get her entire family out. When he finally did, he told Mary to alert her parents and brother to what would happen. That night he went to the building that Mary's brother and father were in. He was able to move a loose board in the back of their building and sneak them out. He put them in the back of his car and put a blanket over them so that no one could see them. He then went to the building that had Mary and her mother. He went to the guard of the building and relieved him of his duties. Paul then located Mary and her mother. Once he had done this he released all the

prisoners in the building. This caused a distraction for him to get Mary and her mother to his car. Once they were in his car, he drove them all to a port where they took a boat to America. Two weeks later Paul and Mary were wed.

I hope that these stories showed you the true hardship and horrors of concentration camps. People need to know what people did to each other, how people were maltreated, how they starved to death, and how people would betray each other over the pettiest things. The whole world needs to know about this so that it can never happen again.