Conditions in the Nazi Camps

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|  | **Loss of****Control/Identity** | **Living Conditions:****Food** | **Living Conditions:****Filth and Disease** | **Living Conditions:****Hard Labor** | **Dread and Death****Immersion** | **Personal Responses** |
| **Gerda Weissman Klein***All But My Life*pp.173-177 | many girls beaten for infraction of another.(collective responsibility) | beatings for stolen food.gift of raspberry.more food for hard labor. |  | exhausting hours.dangerous work.physically demanding. job reassignment – could benefit or not. | fear of "penalties" - particularly physical violence.fear of transports to Auschwitz. | friends essential for keeping up spirits/ hope.thinking of better times & going home – imagination. |
| **Primo Levi** *Survival in Auschwitz*pp.32-37,39-41 | status by triangle.“masters” are other prisoners.shaved heads & beards.strict routine. | difference in top and bottom of the soup.save every crumb.bread is money. | overcrowding.routine for lice/washing. importance of shoes | working without protection from the weather or hazardous materials.some skilled workers. work long hours of daylight. | fear of gallows.stealing necessary.fear of breaking camp rules—formal & informal. | keep clean to remain human.possess one power--to refuse consent.Italian Jews ceased to meet—too depressing. |
| **Marion Blumenthal Lazan***Four Perfect Pebbles*pp.68-73 | Blumenthals able to stay in the same camp: father & son on men’s side; mother & daughter on women’s side.No control over destiny. | food better before 1944 when camp was for political prisoners. food worse in 1944 asJews flooded into camp. | overcrowding.lack of clean water.inadequate latrines. killing lice.typhus.difficulty caring for wounded leg. |  | smell of death.too many bodies.tripping over dead.roll calls.vicious dogs. | preventing frostbite.trying to stay clean.kitchen job allows theft of steal food.longing for the three B’s. |
| **Elie Wiesel***Night*pp.69-80 | life controlled by bell. numbers used; no names. | father organized food. rations got smaller. | work injuries.dangers of operations. dysentery.dangerous in hospital. | moving heavy stones. up before dawn.belief: work would save. | father & son separated.“Muselman”fear of selections. | organizing food.bartering.friends keep up spirits/ help survive selections.faith/religion.kindness of others. |
| **Jack Mandelbaum***Surviving Hitler*by A. Warrenpp.54-61 | uniforms.wooden shoes—hard to walk.#16013—not Jack. | watery soup made with rotten, dirty vegetables.bread made with sawdust.constant hunger. | Aaron advised Jack to shower every morning and wash his uniform to prevent disease. | walking 3 miles to work site & back.pulling stumps to prepare for a road.hot—no water. | random beatings without provocation.cruelty of *kapos*.fear of theft. | other prisoners—esp. Aaron—looked out for Jack; explained the “rules” of the camp; shared food, advice, friendship. |

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