*Night by Elie Wiesel Toolkit #\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

Passage from pg 20 - 21

***Repetition***: mother is repeating this to convince herself

We settled in. (What a word!) I went looking for wood, my sisters lit a fire. Despite her fatigue, my mother began to prepare a meal.

***Sentence Length:***

Short sentence emphasizes ability to leave and that they had a choice and could escape. This is even demonstrated by the fact that their former maid is able to enter into the ghetto to warn them.

***Hopeful language:***

*“morale was not so bad” and “voiced optimism”*

We cannot give up, we cannot give up, she kept repeating.

People's morale was not so bad: we were beginning to get used to the situation. There were those who even voiced optimism. The Germans were running out of time to expel us, they argued... Tragically for those who had already been deported, it would be too late. As for us, chances were that we would be allowed to go on with our miserable little lives until the end of the war.

***Short Sentence:***

*“My father wouldn’t hear of it.”*

Refuses to listen much less actually consider leaving.

***Contrasting Ideas:***  contrasts calmness of Elie’s father with Maria

“Sobbing” – think of terror, loss, death, tragedy, great despair

The ghetto was not guarded. One could enter and leave as one pleased. Maria, our former maid, came to see us. Sobbing, she begged us to come with her to her village where she had prepared a safe shelter.

***Ellipsis …***

Trails off but really expressing his disappointment and the emotional effects of the family being divided if his children were to leave possibly to create guilt.

***“If you wish”* –** not authoritative, gives children choice, doesn’t insist or even encourage that children leave. Has chance to ensure safety of children and doesn’t take it.

My father wouldn't hear of it. He told me and my big sisters, "If you wish, go there. I shall stay here with your mother and the little one...

*“Naturally” – think of instinct, obvious events in nature like changing of seasons, inevitable, makes sense*

*“Naturally” - Naturally tells us that the children would never have chosen to leave their parents which means that by saying, “if you wish,” their father*

*did NOT really give them a choice at all.*

Naturally, we refused to be separated.

***Absolutes:*** *My father wouldn’t hear of it*

***Absolute****: we refused*

1. **Context**: Not knowing why, Elie and his family, along with the rest of the Jews who were living in the larger Ghetto, are forced by the Hungarian police to march then run to a smaller one within their village where they will then be transported to some unknown place. Upon their arrival, it is obvious that those who were there before them left quickly.

2. **Summary**: This passage is about the night the Jews arrive in the smaller ghetto, and how everyone feels and is responding to the situation.

3. **Definitions**

* Deported – the forced removal of people from a place
* Ghetto – a small area of a city to which the Jewish people were restricted and from which they were forbidden to leave

4. ***Stylistic Devices*** (see above)

5. ***Connotations*** (see above)

6. **Topics** – paternal relationships, delusion, inaction, hope, survival

7. **Theme** - Deceiving or lying to ourselves in desperate situations that can cost us our freedom and even lives can also cost us our children who are likely to suffer the same fate.