



## **Ibi's Story, Chapter 4**

Now after the selection – we had to wait until everybody was selected. Meanwhile I saw that another train had arrived and people were coming out from there. Also they brought out of the camp some female women and one was given to us – one was given 1000 of us and she was going to be our Kapo or the woman who was in charge of us. So she told us we had to stand in fives because that is an easy way to count as we were going past. And we have to do as we are told and everything will be alright. Now whilst I was standing there I had enough time to think, what's going to happen to us? And I thought, I know. The first thing will be they will ask those who speak German to stand out because Hungarians didn't speak other languages, only Hungarian. And I said to my sister and another 3 sisters from my town, "We don't understand German" and they soon realised what I meant. I said "We don't want to do their dirty work". And I was right. That was the first thing that happened. Those who understand German stand out, step out. So some of them did. We didn't move. And straight away they gave them great big sticks in their hands that if we don't do what is told they have to use it. So I thought "This is one way of surviving, by not volunteering." And we began to move finally and as we are going my sister said to me "Look back, the man, the men are coming behind us". They were also in fives and we saw father and father saw us and we waved to him so I knew that he was on our side.

And as we walked – we walked probably a mile or so – we passed on our right hand side these huge big camps and they were surrounded by barbed wire but real big efficient wires and between the two wires there was a huge big ditch. And the outside wire was electrified and there was a constant humming from it, the power was so strong that you could smell it, it had this scorching smell, and every so often there were lookout towers where an SS was standing with guards with a machine gun just in case somebody goes to the wire and nobody ever managed to get out of Auschwitz. And out of the camp there were two people who did manage to get out of Auschwitz but not through the camp, they got out while they were working outside because if you went near that wire half a yard and you were just sucked in and you were electrocuted. And as I said some bizarre things were happening. Right I saw there an orchestra from women in stripy uniforms standing at a building and they were playing. I don't know what it was but it was classical music I remember and I thought "What

are they doing there?” Later I found out that that was somewhere near the crematoria and since then I met one lady played in the orchestra there.