

Living With What They Did

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704 Words

2 Living With What They Did

They say the war is over but a new one is starting in my heart.

Barb wire around my heart.

The joy screams and fights to get out.

It cannot

Step after step

Mile after Mile

Day after day

Closer and Closer to home

They say they won.

The Americans.

The Russians.

What have we won?

I sit here my heart screaming in pain and they see victory.

Step after step

Mile after Mile

Day after day

Closer and Closer to home

3 Living With What They Did

Humanity.

I saw no humanity.

I saw power hungry people.

I was surrounded.

He did not look at us as humans.

To him we were a mystery.

Step after step

Mile after Mile

Day after day

Closer and Closer to home

Never have a felt such hate.

He did it to her.

I try to not hate I try to not be like those who did it to her.

4 Living With What They Did

I lay here trying to sleep but her screams fill my heart until I'm shaking trying to cover my ears
from the voice inside my head.

Get out

Get out

Get out

Get out

Step after step

Mile after Mile

Day after day

Closer and Closer to home

The trains

Being in darkness for days at a time

I wanted light more than anything

My heart is full of darkness

As if it is locked in a train car

5 Living With What They Did

Step after step

Mile after Mile

Day after day

Closer and Closer to home

I hear a dog barking

A shudder runs through me

When we first arrived the dogs terrified my sister

She squeezed my hand

The same hand that went motionless in mine after she died

Schnell! Schnell! they yelled

When I lay at night I can still hear their voices.

Hurrying us to our deaths

to them we were no more than a mission, an order

I take steps

Step after step

Again and Again

Each step important

Each step taking me away from that nightmare and back home

6 Living With What They Did

I run

Trying to get away

As far away as possible

It stays with me

Though that nightmare is over a new one had begun

Life without her is a nightmare

I traded my physical pain for mental pain

Every time I close my eyes I see her face

So I don't close my eyes Step after step

Mile after Mile

Day after day

Closer and Closer to home

She lost her will

I haven't slept in days

My eyes are heavy willing me to close them

I tell them to stop no I don't want to sleep

7 Living With What They Did

no

no

no

no

no

I wake up in the morning

I left her

I failed her

I watched her die

I held her in my arms

Felt her go cold

We were so close

We could almost hold sweet freedom in our hands

But Leni could not reach it

So she gave up her will

So I walk step after step

Mile after Mile

Closer and closer to home

Closer and closer

Closer and closer

8 Living With What They Did

I'm here

I'm home

I'm back to where I've wanted to be

Home kept me going

Test after test

Humiliation after humiliation

It's not my home anymore

What makes a home a home is a family

My family's gone

I want to be mad at someone

But I can't figure out who to be mad at

Hitler, Dr. Mengele, my Parents

I narrow it down to one

Me

I let her die

I didn't save her

Now I have to live with that

9 Living With What They Did

It's time to start over

Make a new life

I wake up each day

and I fight for life to be normal again for it to be good but I know that will not happen so I fight
for okay

But I will not forget my previous life

I will not forget how the tested, poked and prodded, and killed.

They killed

And now I have to live with what they have done

Laney King

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10 Living With What They Did

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