

“Numbers”

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Word Count: 360

Dedicated to Mr. Leon Greenman, survivor of Auschwitz, December 18, 1910-March 7, 2008

“Numbers”

98288

Numbers that defined who I was,

98288

Numbers that frightened me,

98288

Numbers that took all of my dignity,

98288

Numbers that obscured who I was,

98288

Numbers that gave me a title I did not want,

98288

Numbers that I did not want to live with, but had no choice,

98288

Numbers that were etched upon my body against my will,

98288

Numbers that pulled all hope from my grasp,

98288

Numbers that would never go away,

98288

Numbers that made some people hate me,

98288

Numbers that made me inanimate,

98288

Numbers that destroyed every part of me, slicing piece by piece,

98288

Numbers that took my wife and two year old son,

98288

Numbers that made me question; Why ?

98288

Numbers that haunted me every night, threatening me with death,

98288

Numbers that did not have meaning except to me after the Holocaust was over,

98288

Numbers that would remind me of the Holocaust day after day,

98288

Numbers that people did not want to see, or deal with, or try to comprehend,

98288

Numbers that told me I had survived while my family suffered to the point of death,

98288

Numbers that gave me pain beyond anything imaginable,

98288

Numbers that showed me how evil the world truly is,

98288

Numbers that made me regret my life,

98288

Numbers that made me want others to not forget what I went through,

98288

Numbers that tempted me to seek revenge on the evil-doers who caused me all this torture,

98288

Numbers that made me want to educate the unknowing population,

98288

Numbers that gave me the courage to tell my story of suffering,

98288

Numbers that helped me give insight to others on this atrocity,

98288

Numbers that caused others to respect me for what I had endured,

98288

Numbers that will go with me wherever I go,

98288

Numbers that can never be removed,

98288

Numbers that were still prominent when I died in 2008,

98288

Numbers that changed everything that I stood for,

98288

Numbers that will never be forgotten.

Works Cited

“Leon Greenman.” *The Telegraph*. The Telegraph, 2008. Web. 28. Jan. 2016.

“Leon Greenman’s story.” *Jewish Museum London*. Jewish Museum London. Web. 28. Jan. 2016.