

A violin was given to a 25 year old young man who couldn't play a single note. He was shivering, and the violin song sounded like screeching. The SS mockingly said, You want me to give you food for this? And they started beating and kicking him, and the kapos kicked him to death.

While they were pulling him out of the room I tried to sneak back into the barrack, but a kapo grabbed me and forced me to the middle of the floor and gave me the violin and says, Play! When I first entered that room, I thought that I'm going to play if I have a chance a sonatino by Dvorak or a piece by Fritz Kreisler, but in that bloodied room, nothing came to my mind, absolutely nothing, and I said, Oh my God, how does the sonatino start? How does the Fritz Kreisler piece start? How does anything start? I was so scared.

From my side of the eye, I notice that a kapo picked up an iron pipe and was walking toward me. Every nerve in my body knew that I'm gonna die, that it's the end, and I started saying within me, Shema Yisroel Adonai Eloheinu. He was less than two steps from me when my left hand and right hand started to move in perfect harmony and this beautiful Blue Danube came out with joy—loud, clear, like if I would have been playing that forever. Forgive me for putting it this way—like Heifetz would have played it.

And this kapo is waiting and just looking at the SS—when should I hit him? The SS held up his hand and he started to beat the rhythm—oompapa, oompapa, oompapa, because I played the Blue Danube—it's in three-quarter time. So he was beating and then he said hold it. From that time on, right then and there, I could play anything that I

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wanted.

Now I'm gonna tell you something that you're not going to believe. I had never played the Blue Danube in my life before. Never. So, how did I play so gloriously the violin? In that room where the SS killed already two persons, or told the kapo to kill them? How? What happened there? How could that happen? It's only God, it's only God—God's hands were on my violin. There's no other way—that's how strongly I believe in God—it's a miracle—it was a miracle.

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