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The Day They Finally Came

Eduardo Hariton

They knew about it,
But they pretended not to.
They seemed to be fooled by the Germans,
But they knew exactly what was going on

Rumors said they were approaching,
But they took so long I believed the gossip no more.
The nervous officers confirmed the gossip,
But their words were not trustworthy anymore.

The Germans were dismantling everything,
And the chambers stopped producing smoke.
They tried to destroy our memories, too,
But what they did to us could never be forgotten.

In October, when the cold became unbearable,
They began to move us west.
The Red Army was approaching,
And they did not want us to be saved.

I was weak and feeble,
So they left me behind,
They condemned me to the chamber,
But there was not enough time

My father and older brother left
Running in the cold with rifles to their heads.
I don't know what happened to them,
But they never came back.

It was a cold morning,
Just like any other morning in January.
I was ready to die,
Just like any other morning in January.

The alarm sounded,
The Germans had fled.
The Red Army stormed in.
We were finally "free."
That was the day they finally came to Auschwitz.