

Farewell Letter Written by Ellie Kulka to Her Husband

Ellie Kulka, wife of prisoner no. 73043 wrote this letter to her husband on June 30th, 1944 whilst waiting to be taken to the gas chamber.

My darling,

On this, the last night of my life, I bid you farewell. Our days of happiness were short-lived, but beautiful. At this moment I am remembering our love, from its beautiful beginning until its cruel end. You were the love of my life, and I would willingly have sacrificed everything to save you. And our innocent little Otto – why has it been decreed that this rough, ruthless hand should put an end to his short life?

I remember my loved ones for the last time. If you are lucky enough to see them again, I send a last kiss to my beloved sister, to my brother and Olga, to Maxi and Lidi, and especially to Danny and Lianka, with all my heart. I wish them all a happier life than our own. They must fight bravely for our freedom and avenge the innocent blood of their loved ones.

My darling, thank you with all my heart for your devotion, your love, and for the happiness you have given me. Stay the way you are today – a dauntless hero who never gives in. I will think of you and pray for your rescue until my last breath. Lastly, please send my best wishes to all your friends.

Farewell, love of my life! Ellie and your little Otto send you kisses for the last time!

Goodbye

Auschwitz Birkenau

Source: O. Kraus and E. Kulka, *The Death Factory*, Translated from the Czech by Stephen Jolly, 1966, Pergamon Press, Oxford, pp. 209.

