Disc One - 1st Era, 1st Part

1. Introduction to the film.
2. Simon Srebnik - The return of the singing child.
3. Chelmno peasants - They remember Simon Srebnik singing as a child.
4. Simon Srebnik - In the Chelmno forest, he recognizes the site of the furnaces where the Jews killed in the gas vans were burned.
5. Chelmno peasants - They speak of the irony of the Germans who made the child sing while they were killing people.
6. Michał Podchlebnik - The second Chelmno survivor. He wants to live and forget.
7. Hanna Zaidl: The daughter of Motke Zaidl, Vilna survivor. She only knows the full story of her father since Mr. Lanzmann’s arrival.
8. Motke Zaidl and Itzhak Dugin - Vilna survivors. In an Israeli forest that resembles the Ponari forest.
9. Jan Piwonski - The manhunt in the Sobibor forest. The forest conceals a death camp.
10. Michał Podchlebnik - He recognizes his wife and children when unloading bodies from a gas van at Chelmno.
11. Motke Zaidl and Itzhak Dugin - The reopening of the Ponari mass graves. Itzhak recognizes his mother, his sister and their children. The corpses like figures.
12. Richard Glazar - The fires of Treblinka. November 1942: hence forward, the gas victims’ bodies will be burned instead of being buried.
14. Simon Srebnik - Crushing the bones and shattering the ashes on the Ner.
15. Paula Biren - She has never returned to Poland and talks of her grandparents who died and were buried at the Lodz ghetto.
16. Pana Pietrya - The town of Auschwitz was 80% Jewish. The Jewish cemetery still exists. "They don’t bury there anymore."
17. Pan Filipowicz - Remembers the houses, trades and names of all the Jewish craftsmen and shopkeepers in the town of Wlodawa, formerly half Jewish.
18. Pana Pietrya - The Jews from the town of Auschwitz were evicted to Benzin and Sosnowiecze before being brought back to the camp to be killed.
19. Pan Filipowicz - The Jews of Wlodawa, old people, adults and children, were taken to Sobibor, 10 miles from their town.
20. Pan Filiborski - The deportation of Jews from Kolo to Chelmno.
21. Shot of the arrival of a train at Treblinka - The driver leans out of the engine and makes the sign of slitting his throat.
22. Abraham Bomba - The deportation of Jews from Czestochowa to Treblinka. In the ghetto, the Jews demand that one day they would be free.
23. Czeslaw Borowi - The arrival of the Jews beneath his gaze, at Treblinka Station, and their disappearance. The peasants were scared for their own lives.
24. Treblinka Peasants - Other peasants worked their fields at the edge of the camp. They would hear hideous cries, but "you get used to everything."
25. Czeslaw Borowi - At Treblinka Station, the trains were divided into twenty wagon sections, shunted one by one into the camp.
26. Treblinka railway workers - Polish railway workers describe how they would give water to Jews waiting in the wagons.
27. Treblinka peasants - The Jews’ arrival at Treblinka, packed in the wagons. The Ukrainian guards would kill any Jews who tried to escape.
28. Treblinka railway workers - The murder of a Jewish mother described by a railway worker in tears.
29. Treblinka peasants - The Ukrainians would fire at the side of the wagons.
30. Czeslaw Borowi - During the night, the Ukrainians would fire at the wagons to silence the Jews who were waiting at the station for their turn to enter the camp.
31. Abraham Bomba - The Jews would die of thirst in the wagons. "The overwhelming majority of Poles would laugh."
32. Henryk Gawkowski - He drove the engine of one of the Treblinka trains. Without the hard liquor given as a bonus, he would never have been able to bear the Jews’ cries.
33. Abraham Bomba - While waiting his turn, he saw the wagons of Jews leave Treblinka Station and return empty, one hour later.
34. Henryk Gawkowski - The station lies four miles from the Treblinka camp.
35. Abraham Bomba - Lies of the SS men who promised water in return for diamonds to the Jews arriving at Treblinka Station. The empty trains returned to the station.
36. Richard Glazar - The Czech Jews arrived at Treblinka in passenger carriages. A Polish peasant makes the sign of slitting his throat in front of them.
37. Treblinka peasants - All the peasants showed how they would make the sign of slitting their throats to the foreign Jews arriving at Treblinka in passenger carriages.
38. Czeslaw Borowi - He shows how he made the sign of slitting his throat to foreign Jews arriving, he claims, in Pullman carriages.
39. Henryk Gawkowski - He too saw the foreign Jews arrive in passenger carriages. At Malkinia, one of them, who had stepped off the train, ran after it as it was pulling out.
40. Czeslaw Borowi - He made the sign of slitting his throat to all the Jews.
41. Henryk Gawkowski - The trail of the old railway line from the station to the Treblinka camp. The locomotives didn’t pull the wagons but pushed them towards the ramp, inside the camp.
43. Rudolf Vrba - From his position on the Auschwitz ramp, he saw an endless succession of convoys. The ramp, the brutality, the deception, the cynicism and even the "humor" of the SS men.
44. Abraham Bomba - Screams and blows on arrival at the Treblinka camp.
45. Richard Glazar - The arrival at Treblinka amid the screams and confusion. Glazar selected for work.
46. Abraham Bomba - Selected for work at Treblinka. A mountain of clothes and shoes that must be removed in a flash.
47. Rudolf Vrba - "Total" cleansing of the Auschwitz ramp before the arrival of the next convoy.
48. Richard Glazar - The piles of clothing at Treblinka whose owners are missing. Glazar doesn’t yet realize they are dead.
49. Abraham Bomba - He realizes that all the missing people have been gassed.
50. Richard Glazar - He finds his friend Czarek Unger who has figured out that his family has been gassed. Glazar compares Treblinka to a raging sea where they have been shipwrecked.
51. **Abraham Bomba** – First night at Treblinka. Thoughts of the massacred families. Suicides.
52. **Richard Glazar** – First night at Treblinka. Suicides.
54. **Inge Deutschkron** – The deportation of the Berlin Jews from Grünwald Station as other Berliners look on indifferently.
55. **Franz Suchomel** – The first day of an SS man at Treblinka. Treblinka was hell. The opening of the gas chambers. Women's suicide. The stench in August. The cesspit.
56. **Filip Müller** – His discovery of the crematorium and the gas chamber at the original camp, Auschwitz I. The crematorium furnace breaks down. The Birkenau mass graves.
57. **Franz Suchomel** – The construction of the new gas chambers in Treblinka.

**Disc Two - 1st Era, 2nd Part**

1. **Franz Suchomel** – Comparison between the primitive death chain at Treblinka and the factory-like process at Auschwitz. Old and new gas chambers: Belzec as a laboratory.
2. **Joseph Oberhauser** – In Munich, at the Franziskaner alehouse, Oberhauser, a Belzec SS officer, refuses to answer Lanzmann's questions.
3. **M. Spiess** – The prosecutor at the Treblinka trial talks about the incompetence of the Treblinka officers. Reorganization of the camp by Stangl. The gas chambers, the only permanent structures.
4. **Jan Piwonski** – The construction of the Sobibor camp. The arrival of the first convoy for extermination. The "ideal" silence of the next morning.
5. **Filip Müller** – For the first time, the Sonderkommando witnesses the lies and tricks of the SS men designed to lure the Jews into the gas chambers.

6. **Raul Hilberg** – The Nazis didn't invent anything where anti-Jewish propaganda was concerned. Their only major invention was the "final solution," the mass execution of the Jewish people.
7. **Franz Schalling** – The process of execution by gas vans at Chelmno Castle, as seen by a member of the German police.
8. **Michał Podlechbnik** – The same process as seen by one of the two Jewish survivors of Chelmno.
9. **Frau Michelschn** – The shuttling of the gas vans seen by the wife of the Nazi schoolteacher at Chelmno.

**Disc Three - 2nd Era, 1st Part**

1. **Franz Suchomel** – The song of Treblinka. The station. The ramp. The role of the different command groups. The walk along the "funnel" to the gas chambers. The cold at Christmas.
2. **Abraham Bomba** – Cutting the women's hair inside the gas chamber.
3. **Franz Suchomel** – The women before entering the gas chamber. Running and shouting: "that was the technique." The anguish of death. The "hospital" where old people and children were killed.
4. **Richard Glazar** – The "hospital's diving board" and Miete's "pill.
6. **Filip Müller** – A description of the crematorium at Birkenau and of the death process. The undressing room. The gas chamber. The death struggle. The bodies entwined like slabs of basalt.
7. **Corfu** – The few surviving Jewish craftsmen today, and death, in the past, at Birkenau.
8. **Moshe Mordo** – Four pigs make one Hitler.
Disc Four – 2nd Era, 2nd Part

1. **Ruth Elias** – Arrival at Birkenau of the Czech Jews from Theresienstadt.
2. **Rudolf Vrbka** – The Czech Jews from the family camp at Theresienstadt have extraordinary living conditions at Auschwitz. “Special treatment with 6 month’s quarantine.”
3. **Filip Müller** – He learns that all the Jewish families will be gassed within 48 hours.
4. **Rudolf Vrbka** – The suicide of Freddy Hirsch, spiritual leader of the family camp and the impotence of the resistance movement.
5. **Filip Müller** – The SS men display extraordinary violence against the Jews from the family camp to force them into the gas chamber.
6. **Rudolf Vrbka** – Rudolf and his friend Watzler manage to escape from Auschwitz on April 7, 1944. They want to alert the world to what is happening there.
7. **Jan Karski** – The Jewish leaders in Warsaw beseech Jan Karski to inform the allies of the unprecedented massacre of Jews and to ask for weapons. The account of Karski’s visit to the ghetto.
8. **Franz Grassler** – In his journal, Czerniakow mentions Franz Grassler, assistant to the Nazi commissioner of the Warsaw ghetto, several times. Grassler pretends not to remember a thing.
9. **Raul Hilberg** – Czerniakow’s diary is like a window through which we can observe the agony of a Jewish community.
10. **Franz Grassler** – He claims that he rarely went into the ghetto. “Why was there typhus in the ghetto?” Lanzmann asks.
11. **Raul Hilberg** – The tale of the loving woman, taken from Czerniakow’s diary. For the Germans, Czerniakow “doesn’t have a word of loathing; he’s beyond that.”
12. **Franz Grassler** – He claims that the Germans wanted to keep the ghetto going despite the crowded conditions and lack of food. The philosophical question of a ghetto’s significance.
13. **Raul Hilberg** – Czerniakow likens himself to the captain of a sinking ship. He carries on, “as if life would continue,” but he knows that the ghetto is heading for the rocks.
14. **Franz Grassler** – The reasons, seen by Grassler, for Czerniakow’s suicide at the moment of the Treblinka deportations. The Jews had excellent secret services. They knew more and better than us what would happen to them.
15. **Raul Hilberg** – Czerniakow commits suicide on July 23, 1942, the day after the first transport to Treblinka. “He lost his war.”
16. **Franz Grassler** – Grassler continues to maintain his ignorance of the extermination of the Jews, despite the clarity of the death project that Claude Lanzmann shows him.
17. **Gertrude Schneider and her mother** – Yiddish song of the ghetto survivors.
19. **Izhak Zuckermann, alias “Antek”** – Second in command of the Jewish Combat Organization. “If you could lick my heart, you would be poisoned.”
20. **Simha Rotten** – “No human language can describe the horror that we experienced in the ghetto.” The ruins. A woman’s voice, from the rubble. Silence and solitude.
21. **Shot of a train** – Endlessly travelling in the dusk.
"It's hard to recognize, but it was here... They burned people here. A lot of people were burned here... Yes, this is the place... No one ever left here again... The gas vans came in here. There were two huge ovens, and afterward the bodies were thrown into these ovens, and the flames reached to the sky. It was always this peaceful here. Always. They burned two thousand people—Jews—everyday; it was just as peaceful. No one shouted.

Everyone went about his work. It was silent. Peaceful. Just as it is now."

— Simon Srebnik, survivor of Chelmno

The story begins in the present at Chelmno, on the Narew River, in Poland. Fifty miles northwest of Lodz, in the heart of a region that once had a large Jewish population, Chelmno was the place in Poland where Jews were first exterminated by gas. At Chelmno four hundred thousand Jews were murdered in two separate periods, but the way in which death was administered remained the same throughout: the gas vans.

Of the four hundred thousand men, women and children who went there, only two came out alive: Mikael Podchlebnik and Simon Srebnik. Srebnik was a boy of thirteen when he was sent to Chelmno. His father had been killed before his eyes in the ghetto in Lodz; his mother died in a gas van at Chelmno. The SS placed him in one of the "Jewish work details," assigned to maintaining the extermination camps and slated in turn for death...

During the night of January 18, 1945, two days before Soviet troops arrived, the Nazis killed all the remaining Jews in the "work details" with a bullet in the head. Simon Srebnik was among those executed. But the bullet missed his vital brain centers. When he came to, he crawled into a pigsty. A Polish farmer found him there. The boy was treated and healed by a Soviet Army doctor. A few months later Simon left for Tel Aviv along with other survivors of the death camps. I found him in Israel and persuaded him to return to Chelmno with me. He was then forty-seven years old.

— Claude Lanzmann