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Night

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### The Excellence of Survival in Night

The book *Night* by Elie Wiesel is an important yet interesting topic for readers to learn about and listen to, also it shows how others should be treated no matter how different a person is. This book is nonfiction and based on the holocaust with the main character being named Elie Wiesel. He was fifteen years old and had been through five concentration camps also with additional ruff patches through his life. Elie was trying to keep himself alive through this whole process. In the book *Night* Elie has multiple survival traits including physical, spiritual, and emotional survival.

Elie is responsible for how he pushed himself to physically survive with troubles passing by. As soon as Elie and his father arrived they were told to lie about their ages to survive, “No, not fifty. Forty. Do you understand? Eighteen and forty.”(Wiesel 29). If anyone was younger than eighteen or older than fifty they would be considered to not be able to work and they would be killed. Elie, his father, and the other Jews had to run many miles to the next camp they would have to spend time at. Elie and his father had a good relationship, with that relationship it was hard for Elie to know that he will have to live without his father one day. Elie survived physically in many ways in which Elie is lucky to have God and still be alive.

Elie had struggled spiritually through his journey as well with letting God lead his life in his journey through life. He arrived at Birkenau and he saw children being thrown in fire. That was traumatic for Elie so it really hurt his faith and it changed his relationship with Christ. Elie saw so many things that changed his faith forever, but especially during this time in his life. When the Jewish year was almost over the Jews at Buna gathered to pray on their holiday, "On the eve of Rosh Hashanah, the last day of the accursed year, the whole camp was electric with the tension which was different from any other." (Wiesel 61). Elie had pushed himself through also seeing multiple people being hung on a gallo. Elie's spiritual survival shows that people can lose their faith in God but regain it as well.

Elie also had to endure and survive emotional trauma as well. The second Elie and his family arrived at Buna they were separated between genders. Elie knew that his sisters and mom would most likely not make it out of the concentration camps alive. Elie had to prove to himself that his family was not hurt in his mind. Elie and his father were beaten many times in this book but one time specifically is when Elie's father got beaten and Elie watched as all he wanted to do was help but his body wouldn't move a muscle. He emotionally struggled in the moment because he knew that if he would help his father that he would probably have the same thing done to him. Elie struggled emotionally with his guilt of not doing everything he could to help his father before he died. Elie's father even said Elie's name before his death, "Then my father made a rattling noise and it was my name: Eliezer." (Wiesel 97)

Elie Wiesel, with his survival skills such as, physical, spiritual, and emotional ways of survival are a great choice for a book and important for all people to learn about what happened to the Jews. Elie's long journey from all of his survival traits to his remarkable story, he is one

passionate man with a good story to tell his grandkids one day. Elie put his heart, soul, brain, and body into all he has got and deserves every bit of excellence that comes from it. Elie has shown his brilliance in more than one way but he sure can survive anything.