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Reading / English

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Survival

One of the most important factors of the concentration camp is survival. Elie Wiesel endured the worst conditions yet he still survived. You should worry about your own survival, survival is the key to live and is possible even in the worst conditions.

Elie Wiesel wasn't just focused on his survival but on his father's survival as well. As a result of his deep bond and sense of familial duty, he became skinnier, sacrificing his already meager rations for his father's sustenance. This selflessness illustrates the powerful connection between them, a bond that pain and suffering could not sever. There were moments when the stakes were high, forcing him to fight for his father's life, which led to severe injuries that only compounded his already dire situation.

. His journey through suffering showcased not only the fragility of life under such oppressive conditions but also the strength of the human spirit. He survived harrowing long treks, including a grueling forty-two-mile march to another camp that tested the limits of his endurance.

The relentless beatings they faced were not just physical; the emotional scars ran just as deep. Among these aggressors was Idek, the Kapo, whose brutal lashes reminded the prisoners

that cruelty often came from those clinging to power amidst the chaos. Each blow Elie endured was not just a personal injury but represented the ongoing assault on their humanity.

The brutality of selections and the dehumanizing experiences of no water, no food, and sheer despair marred their existence yet fortified their will to endure. Wiesel's tale poignantly highlights that survival is always possible, even in the direst of circumstances. Survival is not merely about a will to live; it encapsulates the essence of connection and sacrifice. It demonstrates that resilience is often a collective endeavor, rooted in love, loyalty, and the indomitable human spirit.

Through Elie's eyes, we learn that the questions of existence go beyond the solitary quest to stay alive. Survival became a multi-faceted challenge entwined with profound personal relationships, ultimately illustrating how interdependence on our loved ones can propel us forward. As Wiesel narrates the extreme vicissitudes of his experience, he sheds light on the lessons that flowered amid the desolation. Survival, in this narrative, shines as a critical pillar of human existence recognized through shared suffering.

Yet beyond the physical endurance, there lies a compelling lesson about moral courage and conscientiousness. As Elie navigates the stark challenges of the camp, he learns the importance of maintaining one's humanity in the face of overwhelming adversity. In the cruel environment designed to dehumanize and strip away individuality, the ability to associate survival with compassion—exhibited through his love for his father—became paramount.

Wiesel's narrative thus encapsulates the essence of human resilience. Despite myriad obstacles, the manner in which he and his father tried to hold onto their familial bond amidst tribulation sends a profound message about the importance of relationships.

In conclusion, through Wiesel's harrowing testament, we glean that survival isn't merely an instinct; it's intricately woven into the tapestry of our connections with others. His journey highlights the truth that while the body may endure extreme hardships, it is the heart that fights hardest for survival, often drawing strength from those closest to us.

Work cited

Wiesel, Elie. *Night*. EMC Paradigm, 1956.