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Mrs. Graning

English

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The paternal bond of Elie and Shlomo

The book *Night*, is an excruciating tale of Elie Wiesel navigating the ugly waters of war. Fifteen-year old Elie, had to face 3 concentration camps that no child should ever encounter. Luckily there was one person who kept him sane, Shlomo, Elie's father. Throughout the treacherous journey, Wiesel and his father's relationship took the twists and turns, such as sacrificing, advice, and grief.

Sacrificing

Elie's sacrifices for his father were very touching and memorable.

On page 94, Elie gave his father his ration of soup even though he felt reluctant.

He said, "I gave him what was left of my soup. But I did it with a heavy heart. I felt I was giving it to him against my will." (Wiesel 94). Elie also had to make sure he didn't sleep in the snow or else he would've died on page 92. "Father! Get up from here! Immediately! You're killing yourself.. I seized him by the arm, he continued to groan." (Wiesel 92). The whole time his father was sickly, he stood by him, even though he knew he would pass.

Grief

Wiesel was only a child and had to face the slow and painful death of his father, after that Elie fell into a deep despair of depression. “I spent my days in a state of total idleness. And I had but one desire— to eat. I no longer thought of my father or of my mother.” (Wiesel 98).

Elie had spent all of his time weeping and thinking of others until his tears had ricocheted off of his emotions. “I did not weep, and it pained me that I could not weep, But I had no more tears .”(Wiesel 97)

Even though Shlomo’s death had a tragic aftermath on Elie, one thing was still memorable; Shlomo’s powerful guidance.

Advice

Throughout the entire book, Elie’s Father’s counsel guided Elie through the book. When Elie was exhausted from running, he sank down into the snow to fall asleep, but luckily Shlomo stopped Elie and told him to sleep in the shed nearby. “Don’t let yourself be overcome by sleep, Eliezer. It’s dangerous to fall asleep in the snow. You might sleep for good. Come on, come on. Get up.” (Wiesel 79). Another example of his smart advice was when they had just gotten to the 1st concentration camp, Elie had just swallowed his ration without thinking, and Shlomo had warned him not to do that next time, “ You don’t want to eat it all at once. Tomorrow’s another day.”(Wiesel 40).

Elie’s father was a well respected man, who people looked up to. People would say now that Elie followed in his footsteps.

conclusion

Elie and his father experienced grief, sacrifice, and counseling.

Ever since Elie wrote the heart wrenching story, *Night*, it has been a very informative and eye opening look at the true meaning of war. Ripped apart from Elie's childhood, desirium took place between Elie and his father.

Works Cited

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