

MAC ACTHUR

By Bob Ong

In the MacArthur Book, we all know that Mac Arthur is great known for the line "I shall return" saying. At first, I thought that the title was about poop or feces that keeps coming back, it's part where Cyrus snatched a necklace and he threw the drug in the toilet but it keeps coming back. But in a deep form, I guess it is entitled "MacArthur" because of returning to the same difficult, hopeless life, the cycle of poverty, crime, and broken dreams that the main characters experienced. No matter how hard they try to change their lifestyle, they keep coming back to the situation they want to escape.

It shows the heavy price people pay when they allow their pride and desire to win to control their actions. Sometimes people make bad decisions or choices because they think they have no other options. But, it also talks about how these choices can change our life and the lives of people around us. Just like the characters in *MacArthur*, they wanted to change their lives, they had so many ambitions they believed they could achieve. But they allowed drugs and addictions to take those ambitions away. Their addictions made them believe there were no other choices left and that change was impossible.

I learned the value of friendship, I was amazed how the characters in the book of MacArthur showed real friendship, even though they are doing bad things, I admire how they stood by each other during difficult times. It made me realize that the story could possibly happen in real life that there are people who have big dreams, but poverty stops them from achieving those dreams. No matter how hard they try to change, they always find themselves going back to the situation they wanted to escape from.

I also learned that no matter what happens, our family will always be on our side in any situation. Just like what happened to Noel — he struggled and asked for help from his friend Cyrus because he thought his family was mad at him or had already given up on him. But in the end, he realized that despite everything he had done and all the mistakes he made, his family still welcomed him back and supported him. It shows that family may get hurt, disappointed, or even angry, but they will never truly turn their backs on you.

Overall, I learned that we should not waste our time on unimportant things. These distractions can ruin everything in our lives; they can make us addicted and make us feel like we are no longer allowed to change because we are trapped by them. If we have goals and dreams in life, we should stay focused on the path we are taking. We should not let any distractions become the reason why we stop chasing our dreams. There is always a place for change and growth.