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# ENDEAVOUR TO SURVIVE IN PATRICIA MCCORMICK'S NOVEL NEVER FALL DOWN (2012)

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## **Abstract**

This thesis is the analysis of a novel which written by Patricia McCormick entitled *Never Fall Down* (2012). It explores the issue of endeavour to survive which reflected by the main character. It is also intended to find out the contribution of fictional devices such as character, plot (conflict), and setting in revealing the issue of endeavour to survive. This analysis is related to the concept of life instinct which developed by Sigmund Freud that is supported by the text-based and context-based interpretation. The result of this analysis shows about the way the main character survive in dealing with any situation in his life by changing his mindset and behaviour.

**Key words:** *endeavour, survive, mindset, behaviour.* 

### A. INTRODUCTION

A novel entitled *Never Fall Down (2012)* by Patricia McCormick shows the issue about endeavour to survive. In this analysis, endeavour to survive refers to the way the main character deals with all the difficulties in his life. It is represented by the protagonist, Arn, an eleven-years-old Cambodian boy who was suddenly forced to leave his hometown by a radical Communist regime called Khmer Rouge. He had to take a long walk to the work camp in the countryside with hundreds of thousands of other Cambodians. He is separated from his family and forced to work very hard in the rice field along with other children. During in the camp, he often witnessed many people starving. He was even used to seeing people die because they were tortured by the Khmer Rouge. Arn had to hide his emotions in order to survive the cruelty of Khmer Rouge. Arn started a new life when he moved to America because he was adopted by an American. He also begin to learn forgiveness and starts to find a purpose in his life. He became an activist who gave a speech about the massacre he experienced in Cambodia and gave motivations to children who had a past like him. In this analysis, endeavour



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to survive can be seen through his mindset and behaviour in dealing with any situation.

The first way of endeavour to survive can be seen through mindset that is related to the way the main character speaks, thinks, or feels about someone or something. The main character learns to hide his emotion. He also improve his skill and abilities by learning new things around him. He builds relationship and makes good communication to other people around him so they could stay together with others. He helps others and protect them physically and mentally to stay alive.

The second way of endeavour to survive can be seen through behaviour that is related to the way the main character respond to all the problems that come up. The main character ables to adapt quickly to any situation he faces. He has strong determination and did not give up easily when things got worse. He learned to use important thing wisely. He dared to take dangerous risks in order to increase his chances of living. He becomes a competitive person who does not want to lose to anyone.

# B. RESEARCH METHOD

The analysis of this novel is done through text and context-based interpretation. Text based interpretation is done by analyzing character, plot (conflict), and setting. These fictional devices give the contribution in revealing the issue in the novel. Character and plot are used to reveal the act of endeavour to survive by analyzing the character's reaction towards the conflict. Then, the setting deals with the circumstances and atmosphere which experienced by the protagonist.

The analysis of this study deals with the concept of life instinct by Sigmund Freud. This is an instinct which are relied upon for survival, pleasure, and reproduction. It is an instinct which needs for sustaining the life. This instinct can be seen as simply the desire to develope, grow, and thrive. The concept of life instinct also encompasses all emotions and actions that makes people preserve their lives as well as they create new lives.

## C. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

This chapter discusses about the issue of endeavour to survive in Patricia McCormick's novel *Never Fall Down* (2012). Endeavour to survive in this analysis refers to the way the main character deals with all the difficulties in his life. It is represented by the protagonist, Arn, an eleven-years-old Cambodian boy who suffered a lot due to the brutality of a radical Communist regime, called the Khmer Rouge. This analysis also uses some fictional devices such as character, plot (conflict) and setting to reveal the meaning of the novel. In this analysis, endeavour to survive which is done by the main character can be seen through his mindset and behaviour in dealing with any situation.

## 1. Changing Mindset

The first way of endeavour to survive is reflected through the main character's mindset. The main character experienced changes in his mindset.

These changes occurred because of the invasion by the Khmer Rouge in Cambodia. Furhermore, these changes refers to the way he talks, feels and thinks from an ordinary child with a normal life to a child who is always thinking about how to survive. This can be seen in the following quotation below:

Tonight I study the crowd, find a lady—fat one, fat like milk fruit—and slowly, slowly, very sneaky, my brother and I, we hide behind her skirt, hold on so light she doesn't know, and pretend she's our mom. Kid with parent can see the movie for free. Kid like us, we pretend. (p.7)

The quotation above shows that the main character enjoy his life. The setting refers to the crowded situation. The utterance *Kid with parent can see the movie for free. Kid like us, we pretend* points out that he is a child with an ingenious mind. This is related to the concept of life instinct that seeks to get pleasure. He just thought about how to have fun in his life. He thought anything to satisfy his desire.

The main character must changed his mindset in order to survive due to the situation that he faced. His normal life ended when the Khmer Rouge came to invade Cambodia. The main character does several things which reflected his mindset to help him survive. The main character learns to hide his emotion. He also improve his skill and abilities by learning new things around him. He builds relationship and makes good communication to other people around him. He helps others and protect them to stay alive.

The main character, Arn, learns to hide his emotion. He cannot show his expression freely towards something and must be careful in showing his emotions. He realized that showing his emotion would only put his life in danger. This statement can be seen in the following quotation below:

"You," he says to me. "You put them in the ditch." I don't want to do this, but I do it. My body does what this guy says. I push the people, very heavy, lot of blood. I push them into the grave. I do it. One guy, he's not even dead. They say to push him in anyway.

Then the guy with the ax, he look at me. Deep in the eye. To see what I feel.

I make my eye blank. You show you care, you die. You show fear, you die. You show nothing, maybe you live. (p. 35)

The quotation above shows about the danger of showing any emotion experienced by the main character. The setting refers to the terrible situation faced by the main character. The conflict refers to the main character who was forced to witness and did cruel things by the Khmer Rouge soldier. The utterance *I don't want to do this, but I do it. My body does what this guy says* points out that he cannot do anything but obey anything that ordered to him. He realized that he would also be beaten if he did not do what he was told. The utterance *I make my eye blank. You show you care, you die. You show fear, you die. You show nothing, maybe you live* shows about the way to survive in a harsh situation. The quotation above is related

to the survival instinct. Furthermore, hiding any emotions is an act to prevent himself from the pain. It is intended to remain in a safe condition and stay away from a dangerous situation in order to survive. Another quotation that supports about hiding his emotion in order to survive can be seen in the quotation below:

Inside my head I talk to them. You don't know what I can do. Before, I shoot guys like you. All my muscle, I need to hold back so I don't do what this tiger in my heart is telling me to do: kill these kid. (p.117)

The quotation above shows that the main character is able to decide what is good for him. The setting refers to feeling angry of the main character. The conflict is the main character is discriminated by his friends. The utterance All my muscle, I need to hold back so I don't do what this tiger in my heart is telling me to do: kill these kid shows that letting the anger control him would only bring chaos in his life. The word tiger can be seen as a symbol of his anger that needs to be controlled. It is related to the concept of life instinct because he tries to create a better life in a new place. Restraining the anger is needed in order to protect the new life. Furthermore, it is intended to keep his security in a new environment. Moreover, he managed to avoid the bad possibility that might happen in the future.

The main character also improve his skills and abilities by learning new things around him. He needs something different that makes him special compared to others to keep him survive. It can be seen in the following quotation below:

Next day, some new kid come to our camp. Dancer. Dancer who march and smile and sing about Angka. I learn these dance step, too, just volunteer myself so I can be in the dance show and also the band. So maybe I can get a little more famous. Because if I'm famous, everyone know me, maybe the Khmer Rouge won't kill me. (p. 48)

The quotation above shows that the main character is willing to learn new things in order to help him get through difficult situations. The setting here refers to the excited feeling of the main character. He realized that the more skills he mastered, the more useful it would be to help him survive in a deadly place. The utterance Because if I'm famous, everyone know me, maybe the Khmer Rouge won't kill me points out that there is still hope in facing the brutal situation in the camp. It proves that he has a good sense of survival instinct in dealing with any situation. Skill and abilities are a picture of the qualities that someone has. It triggers him to believes that he can gain the power to save his life by having many abilities that he can use at any time. The cruelty in the camp does not make him surrender to the treacherous situation that he faced. Another quotation that supports about improving his skill and abilities can be found in the following quotation below:

Volleyball now is my life. All day, every day, I study this game. Then at night when everyone else in bed, I sneak out and practice the jumping, the hitting, the move call spike. I do all these move at night when no one can see until I get good, very good. Next time I play, no kid will laugh at me. Next time, those two top player, Sojeat and Ravi, they will want me on their team. (p.101)

From the quotation, it shows that having great abilities can be a way to get the attention from the people. The setting refers to feeling motivated to achieve the goal. The utterance *Then at night when everyone else in bed, I sneak out and practice the jumping, the hitting, the move call spike. I do all these move at night when no one can see until I get good, very good points out that the main character has a plan that can make his life better in a new place. This situation creates positive moves to achieve his goals. This is related to the concept of life instinct due to the way he develops his skill. The conflict of being mocked by many people drives him to train himself harder than anyone else. Moreover, he has a strong intention to learn something new to support his life.* 

The main character builds relationship and makes good communication to other people around him. He realizes that he needs help from others to survive. It can be seen in the following quotation below:

I take it and sneak over to the building where Mek sleep. I hold this sugar in the air and drop it on his chest. When he wake up, I tell him that the spirit, the one with the sugar, finally has come. We break this treasure in two and eat it very, very slow, melting on our tongue. Then I lie down next to Mek. We sleep close, like father and son, until the morning, and I sneak back to my building. (p.49)

The quotation above shows about the strong bond between the main character and his fellow. The setting refers to the warm feeling of the main character. He shows his kindness to others even though he was in the same difficult situation as them. The utterance *Then I lie down next to Mek. We sleep close, like father and son, until the morning, and I sneak back to my building* points out that having a solid relationship can help them reduce the pressure that they feel. This is related to the concept of life instinct due to the love and care that they share with one another. Instead of ignoring others and thinking only about himself, he chooses to cooperate with them to survive. Furthermore, they stick together to overcome the misery in order to them survive from the brutality in the camp. Having a strong bond with others is a way to release the burden they had felt so far. In addition, it also motivates them to strengthen their desire to stay alive. It can also be found in the following quotation below:

One night, so much misery in my building, I go see Mek, but I have no treat to give. No corn, no sugar. Small stone instead, I drop it on his chest. He wake up; now he's expecting sugar and he bite it. He can't believe it, this trick! He give me fake spanking, smiling very big, then he says, this time, he has a treat for me. We lie down; and very, very quiet he hum me old song, song illegal now in Year Zero. Old Cambodian love

song, but also the Beatle, also American song. No word, this small humming in his throat, like purr, like Mek is giant cat. And me, I burrow to his side like I am the small cat. (p.53)

The quotation above shows that the relationship between them is valuable. The way the main character acts to his fellow indicates that he is very pleased to have a good relationship. It allows him to forget the bad condition due to the ruthlessness in the camp for a while. The setting refers to an enjoyable situation. The utterance He give me fake spanking, smiling very big, then he says, this time, he has a treat for me points out that he and his fellow gives a comfortable feeling to each other. This feeling can build their relationship stronger. The utterance No word, this small humming in his throat, like purr, like Mek is giant cat. And me, I burrow to his side like I am the small cat shows that they shared their feelings and emotions with each other. The life instinct which appears in the quotation above refers to the harmonious cooperation that they have built. Furthermore, it drives them to protect each other from their pressures and helps them to be more relaxed. This act leads them to become more solid in a hard situation.

The main character helps other people to survive. He also protect them to stay alive in any dangerous situation. He makes other people fight for their future. This statement can be found in the following quotation below:

This guy not really asleep, just looking far away into air. I shake him, say, "Wake up. They gonna kill you if you don't teach us to play good."

He says he doesn't care. He says already he's dead in his heart. His children, all dead; his wife, he doesn't know where she is. Once before he already prepared to die, after his baby boy starve to death. He lit incense, pray to Buddha, and wait to die himself. Then the Khmer Rouge tell him to come be a music teacher. No choice. He goes. But he hate this music, this music about blood and about hard work, about the glory of Angka. He refuse to learn it.

"So they can kill me," he says. "It's okay."

I hit this guy with my fist. "Okay if you die!" I say. "But what about us You don't teach us to play, we die too. Us kid. Like your kid die, we will die also."

Now he wake up. First time any light in his eye. (p.37)

The quotation above shows that the main character gives new hope to others. The setting here refers to a serious situation. The conflict is the refusal of other people to stand up from their problems. The utterance *I shake him, say, "Wake up. They gonna kill you if you don't teach us to play good."* shows about the effort to make other people realize the bad consequences of being careless about the situation that they faced. He does not want anyone to be tortured. The utterance *Now he wake up. First time any light in his eye* points out he creates hope for others even in a deadly place. The quotation above is related to the concept of life instinct. He convinces his fellow not to give up on their situation. Moreover, he drives others

to have the desire to sustain their own lives by dealing with difficult times. This statement can also be found in the following quotation below:

I tell the guard it was my fault. I say, "I trip him, I guess." I don't know why I say this, but I don't feel afraid. I feel like I have to protect this big clumsy guy who trip on his feet, this kid who always try not to cover my face with the flag.

The guard, he doesn't like this. I think he knows that maybe I'm not telling the truth. He makes a mad face, but he says, "Okay, get back to work."

And I know then I have power. Power from playing the khim and leading the other singer. Power from also being a dancer. Power from being a little bit a star in the show. I feel big with this power—tall, not like little kid—like right now I just stop Siv from probably dying. No one here talks back to the Khmer Rouge, no one challenge them. But maybe I can now. (p.51)

The quotation above shows that the main character has strong solidarity to protect his friends. The setting refers to the difficult conditions due to the Khmer Rouge's control. The conflict refers to the harsh treatment that is often carried out by the Khmer Rouge soldier. The Khmer Rouge would torture anyone who dares to oppose them. The utterance I tell the guard it was my fault. I say, "I trip him, I guess." I don't know why I say this, but I don't feel afraid points out that he feels pity about his friend's misfortune. In addition, he is willing to save others even though it is dangerous for him. This act proves that he considers all of his friends are valuable to him. Furthermore, he has a good sense of survival instinct by using his power to protects his friends. He does not want to lose anyone that close to him.

# 2. Changing Behaviour

The second way of endeavour to survive is reflected through the main character's behaviour. The main character experienced behavioral changes. These changes occurred because of an invasion by the Khmer Rouge in Cambodia. Furthermore, these changes refer to the way the main character respond to the situations. Before the invasion of the Khmer Rouge, he can do anything that he wanted without worrying about the consequences. This statement can be seen in the following quotation below:

This game, it's easy for me. You draw a circle on the ground and put money there. You throw your shoe. You hit the money, you take it. I lose sometime, but most the time I win. I play not only with kid, I get so good, many time I play with the men, the cyclo driver. I tease them. I say, "You so fat, you can't see over your belly, man," and they get mad and they throw the shoe like crazy and I win. (p.9)

The quotation above shows about the freedom of the main character. The setting refers to the comfortable feeling of the main character. The utterance *I lose sometime, but most the time I win. I play not only with kid, I get so good, many time I play with the men, the cyclo driver. I tease them points out that he feels happy with his life. This is related to the concept of life instinct that seeks for pleasure. He tries to do something that makes him happy. Furthermore, he enjoy his life by doing anything delightful for him. Moreover, he does not worry about the consequences about what he has done.* 

The main character must change his behaviour in order to survive. The changes of his behaviour occur when the Khmer Rouge came to invade cambodia. He could not act as freely as before in order to avoid dangerous situation. These changes is related to the way the main character respond to all the problem that come up. He is able to adapt quickly to any situation. He has strong determination and did not give up easily when things got worse. He learned to use important thing wisely. He becomes a competitive person who does not want to lose to anyone.

The main character is able to adapt quickly to any situation. He knows the best way to react to the situation around him. This statement can be found in the following quotation below:

Today, the Khmer Rouge does a new thing to decide who is good and who is the enemy. They classify your skin. They call a meeting and look at each kid in the face. If you have a smooth skin or a light skin, they say, "You must be middle class. You don't work in the sun." They point to their own skin, very dark, like copper, and they say, "You see, we are dark skin; we work all day under the sun. We are peasants. Revolutionaries."

I use dirt, smear it on my face so I can look dark. I do this while the Khmer Rouge look at another boy, a light-skin boy. "This one can go to the mangogrove," they say. And that boy, they take him away and we don't see him again. (p.29)

The quotation above shows that the Khmer Rouge ruled everything in the camp. The Khmer Rouge makes all the labors powerless by depriving their freedom. The setting refers to the helpless condition that caused by the Khmer Rouge. They will get rid of anyone that they think is useless. This condition triggers the main character to do something that can save him. The utterance *I use dirt, smear it on my face so I can look dark. I do this while the Khmer Rouge look at another boy, a light-skin boy* points out that he is aware of the horrible condition in the camp. The quotation above is related to the survival instinct due to his creativity to overcome the difficulties. He managed to act calmly in the tense condition that he faced. The way he reacts to the situation proves that he is a smart person. Furthermore, he has faith that he can get through bad situations with great courage. Another statement that supports about being able to adapt quickly to any situation can also be found in the following quotation below:

One day I see this guy from my hometown, the taxi driver, the one with the big belly, the one I gamble and beat. Same guy, but skinny now, no belly, skin sagging off his bone. I see him kneeling in the square, his hands tie behind, and I think: this guy can get me kill only by looking at me. So I rub dirt on my face, make it very dark, and look only at my feet as I walk toward him. (p.44)

The quotation above shows that the main character can read the situation quickly. The setting refers to the terrible condition in the labor camp. The conflict refers to the harsh treatment that done by Khmer Rouge soldier. They have no mercy and even killed people without hesitation. The utterance So I rub dirt on my face, make it very dark, and look only at my feet as I walk toward him points out that he does not want to make his life in danger. Moreover, he has good survival instinct to evade from the problems that suddenly come up in an unexpected situation. The terrible conditions did not affect him to be panic. Furthermore, it triggers him to make a quick decision in a short time. In addition, this decision helps him to avoid all the dangers.

The main character has a strong determination to survive. He did not give up easily when things get worse. He also wants to fight for his life. This statement can be found in the following quotation below:

So hungry all the time now, my stomach it eat itself, a pain like never I had before in my life. And so tire, I think sometime I sleep standing up. Other time I think maybe I will just lie down in the field; the ground, it call my name.

I see some kids die in the field. They just fall down. Maybe it's malaria. Or maybe they starve. They fall down, they never get up. Over and over I tell myself one thing: never fall down. (p.29)

The quotation above shows about the strong desire of the main character. He wants to live no matter how difficult the situation. The setting refers to the helpless condition of the main character. He cannot do anything to make his situation better. The Khmer Rouge forced him and other labors to work hard most of the time without getting enough food. They used the labors to fulfill their goals. They even beat anyone who did not obey their orders. This condition makes the main character has no choice but to obey them while struggling to stay alive. The utterance *They fall down, they never get up. Over and over I tell myself one thing: never fall down* points out he does not want to give up on his difficulties. Furthermore, he has a firm will to fight for his life even though he suffered a lot of pain. It proves that he has good sense of survival instinct due to his persistence in maintaining his life. The oppression that he felt did not stop him to keep moving forward. This statement can also be found in the following quotation below:

I stand up, see myself cover in blood—so dark, almost black, like ink. I think maybe I should wash it, get rid of it. But I think maybe it can protect me, this boy's

blood on my body, so I paint myself with it—wipe it on my face, my throat, my arms. I take his gun also and strap it across my chest, two guns on me now.

I go see Phat, the Khmer Rouge boy who say I'm not real soldier. So he can see what I am now. (p.75)

The setting refers to the tense situation that experienced by the main character during the war. The utterance But I think maybe it can protect me, this boy's blood on my body, so I paint myself with it—wipe it on my face, my throat, my arms proves about the strong intention to survive. The quotation above is related to the survival instinct due to his strong determination. He shows that he has the courage and ready to face the horrible condition around him. He will do anything to increase his chances of living. Furthermore, he managed to use the things around him as a tool to help him survive. All the chaos that has happened makes him to grow up and lose his innocence. It proves about the seriousness of his strong determination to survive.

The main character learns to use important thing wisely. He did it in order to support his life and avoid the danger. This statement can be found in the following quotation below:

Now the band, it get better every day. And every night I give a little of my soup away. One night to the drum player, another night to Kha. These kid think maybe I'm crazy. "Why you give us your food?" Kha says. You can say maybe it's a gift. Or maybe you can say it's also payment for my life. These kids eat better, maybe they learn the song better. They learn the song, the Khmer Rouge let us live. They can live, I can live, we all can live. They don't learn the song, none of us can live. (p.38)

The quotation above shows that the main character realizes he cannot survive if he is alone. He needs other people to help him increase the chances of living. The setting refers to the positive feeling of the main character. The brutality of the Khmer Rouge does not make him lose his faith. He believes that he can survive. the utterance *You can say maybe it's a gift. Or maybe you can say it's also payment for my life. These kids eat better, maybe they learn the song better points out that he tries to improve the spirit of his friend. The quotation above is related to the concept of life instinct due to the social cooperation to support their lives. He realizes that they do not have anything else. Furthermore, it makes rice are valuable to them. It can be useful to support them to survive in a crucial condition. This statement can also be found in the following quotation below:* 

That night, again, the kitchen girl give me extra food. She says I'm a star in the show. I stay and maybe flirt a little bit. Also, I steal some rice for the big guy who always forget and put the flag in my face. Rice and also a corncob. So maybe his stomach can remember. (p.48)

The quotation above shows about the awareness of the main character about the situation that happened around him. The setting refers to the warm feeling of the

main character. He knows that rice are the most valuable thing in the camp, but he still wants to share it with his friends. The utterance Also, I steal some rice for the big guy who always forget and put the flag in my face. Rice and also a corncob. So maybe his stomach can remember points out that he still does not lose his hope in the deadly camp. Moreover, he believes that if he can cooperate with others well, he could avoid all kinds of the bad things that happened in the camp.

The main character becomes a competitive person. He does not want to lose to anyone around him. This statement can be found in the following quotation below:

Today I join the volleyball game. I don't wait to be ask; I just go. And I do it: I jump, I hit, I spike, and now no one laughing. Now all I hear is clapping. Not like in Khmer Rouge time, everyone start and stop at the same time. Real clapping, cheering. A sound I like. Very much. (p.101)

The quotation above shows that the main character has a goal that he wants to achieve. The setting refers to the confident feeling of the main character. The utterance *Today I join the volleyball game. I don't wait to be ask; I just go. And I do it: I jump, I hit, I spike, and now no one laughing* points out that he believes the skill that he has. He wants to conquer the game that he just learned. The conflict of being insulted triggers him to prove that he can be the best among them. Moreover, he believes that he can beat them and become the best player. This statement can also be found in the following quotation below:

One teacher here in short pant; he teach the kid to play game. Crazy. In America they have teacher for everything, even to teach kid to play. In Cambodia, kid know how to play, no grown-up to teach them. This game here, it's soccer. I know this game; I know this from home. I even play it one time with Khmer Rouge. So I get the ball and I run and run—so little, I can go in out the big hairy leg of American kid—till I kick it hard, and it fly in the net. Like in volleyball, like spike, like anything I ever try to do, I do it to get attention, to get a little famous. Also I do it to show I can behave good and have something I can give. I can do it, kick the ball more hard than other kid, run faster than other kid, because maybe I want it more bad. And now I'm a little bit famous. This morning, I'm monkey; this afternoon, hero. (p.118)

The quotation above shows that the main character can do something better than the other kid. The setting refers to the satisfied feeling of the main character. The utterance I can do it, kick the ball more hard than other kid, run faster than other kid, because maybe I want it more bad. And now I'm a little bit famous. This morning, I'm monkey; this afternoon, hero points out that he feels glad because he managed to show that he will not lose to anyone. This quotation is related to the concept of life instinct. He proves that he can also compete with other kid around

him. The conflict of being discriminated in school trigger him to beat all his opponents. Furthermore, he proves that he can be superior compared to other kid.

### D. CONCLUSION

A novel entitled *Never Fall Down* (2012) by Patricia McCormick shows the issue of endeavour to survive. In this analysis, endeavour to survive refers to the way the main character deals with all the difficulties in his life. This analysis is done through text-based and context-based interpretation by focusing on fictional devices such as character, plot (conflict), and setting. This analysis deals with the concept of life instinct which developed by Sigmund Freud. It is represented by the main character named Arn, an eleven-years-old Cambodian boy who was suddenly forced to leave his hometown by a radical Communist regime called Khmer Rouge. He was forced to work hard in the rice field and had to witness many people die due to the brutality of the Khmer Rouge. Thus, he decides to fight for his life and give a lot of endeavour to survive. It can be seen through his mindset and behaviour in dealing with any situation.

The first way of endeavour to survive can be seen from the changes of the main character's mindset. It is related to the way the main character speaks, think, or feels about someone or something. The main character hides his emotion as a way to avoid a dangerous situation. He improves his skill and abilities to gain power to survive. He builds relationships and good communication with others as a way to make things easier. He protects other people to stay alive in any dangerous situation.

The second way of endeavour to survive can be seen from the changes of the main character's behaviour. It is related to the way the main character respond to all the problems that come up. The main character is able to adapt quickly to any situation. He has strong determination to survive in any place. He learns to use important thing wisely to increase his chances of living in a harsh environment. He becomes a competitive person who does not want to lose to anyone.

The whole novel shows that endeavour to survive is a process of persistence in achieving goals by changing mindset and behaviour. The main character managed to overcome any problems that he faced due to the strong determination that he has. He bravely to keep moving forward even in a horrible atmosphere. He has the willingness and strong commitment in order to survive. He is able to make quick decisions in a tense conditions. He also motivates himself to keep fighting and not give up on the situation.

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