

Life of Pi

Life of Pi is a story about an Indian boy and a Bengal tiger who survived a devastating shipwreck in the Pacific Ocean. It's different from other adventure stories because the author *Yann Martel* adds the elements of fantasy, mystery and religion in the plot so readers can interpret this story from different points of view. To me, how religion affects a person and his perspectives and how to conquer fear are the two most impressive effects of this story.

In the story the main character Pi, a 16-year-old Indian boy, believed in three religions: Hinduism, Christianity, and Islam. Each had its own distinctive beliefs, but all of them inspired Pi during his life journey. For example, Christianity taught him to be courageous and keep on living. Hinduism led him to try all possible food sources to survive. Pi wasn't a sincere believer, but he always had faith and hope in his heart. Thus, he could confront danger and the challenges he faced. That is to say, when we are in difficult situation, positive spiritual guidance can be a crucial support for us.

In addition, Pi had to face the loss of his family and lack of food after surviving the horrible shipwreck. What was even worse is that he had an immediate threat next to him, a Bengal tiger, *Richard Parker*. His fears were thus multiplied, but Pi overcame them step by step. He initially started fishing and collecting rainwater to satisfy his basic needs. Then he fed Parker and talked with him, rather than killing him. He faced all the challenges bravely, and gradually turned his fear into the power that could keep him alive. At the

end of the story, Pi was no longer afraid of the tiger. He made friends with it. Although the tiger was an imaginary creature that represents the fear and instinct of humans, we can still learn that the only solution to coping with fear is to deal with it, not to hide from it.

Lastly, the most touching part in this book is the scene in which the tiger walked away when they reached the beach. The tiger ran away unexpectedly into the woods and never came back, but Pi didn't forget how much it meant to him. This tells us that we have some companions with us in our lives. No matter how long they stay, their existence shapes us. Their behavior shapes who we are now. Although the tiger doesn't stay with Pi for good, it still plays a very important role in Pi's life.

To conclude, the life journey of Pi is not only about bravery and adventure. The story contains a collection of inspiring life lessons. Having faith in oneself helps people find their direction in life. Moreover, the best way to overcome fear and difficulties is to face them and deal with them. Finally, the existence of the passengers in our lives has its special significance. No matter how long they stay with us, they to some extent influence what we think and what we become. So cherish the people around you, for they may change your life forever.