Summary

I read the book *The Crossing* by Gary Paulsen. This book is about a young 14 year old boy named Manny. Manny was abandoned by his mother when he was younger in an alley. He now lives in an alley in a cardboard box in Mexico. His father also left his mother when he was a baby and he has no siblings. He also doesn’t know any of his possible family members.

Manny wants a better life and will do anything to get it. Manny creates a plan to get across the border from Mexico to the United States. He will stop for no one. He is tired of his life in Mexico and wants a fresh start.

While Manny is trying to cross the border he gets caught. A Vietnam veteran named Robert catches him. This is the beginning of a relationship which leads to the veteran's death and Manny's chance for survival. Manny fights for his life and a better one because that is the thing he wants most in the world. This book is mainly about Manny trying to get across the border and the distractions along the way.

Recommendation

I sort of liked this book. The book wasn’t very interesting. It was very boring and depressing at times but also very thrilling and adventurous.

The reason it was boring because most of the book was about him crossing the boring and when there weren’t many things going on.

It was thrilling because he was fighting so much and trying so hard to get across the border for a better life. It was very suspenseful.

It was adventurous because he is all alone and by himself trying to get into a different country illegally. That wouldn’t be very easy to do by yourself. It is an adventure with the obstacles along the way. This book really makes you reading.

I thought this book was depressing at times. They talk about how Manny is homeless and how he has to live in a cardboard box because his mother abandoned him. It makes you really think that there are actually people out there that have those kinds of lives. This book made me thankful for the life I had.

I would say this book had a sad setting and plot. When they talk about his struggle to survive and how he is living in a cardboard box and never knows where he is going to sleep that night. That makes the book very sad.

So I would recommend anyone who likes sad, depressing, adventurous and thrilling books I would also recommend this book to anyone that is interested in Mexican culture. This book really makes you think about the struggles people have just to have a better life in America.