



The Killing Sea

Richard Lewis

Download now

Read Online 

The Killing Sea

Richard Lewis

The Killing Sea Richard Lewis

Ruslan slipped away from the café and the curious onlookers. He began to run, not knowing exactly why, but instinct making him head away from the sea....

And in the distance, along the seafront of Ujung Karang, screams rose from a hundred, a thousand, mouths.

Aceh, Indonesia. December 2004. Ruslan, an Indonesian boy, and Sarah, an American girl, are brought together in the aftermath of the devastating tsunami. Ruslan is searching for his missing father, while Sarah is trying to get medical treatment for her sick brother. Together they travel through the destruction, barely believing all that they see.

The Killing Sea is a high-stakes survival story that puts a human face on a terrible tragedy. Richard Lewis, who lives in Indonesia, was there during the tsunami and worked as a relief worker in Aceh in the days and weeks following it. This novel is based on his firsthand experiences.

The Killing Sea Details

Date : Published December 5th 2006 by Simon Schuster Books for Young Readers (first published November 6th 2006)
ISBN : 9781416911654
Author : Richard Lewis
Format : Hardcover 192 pages
Genre : Young Adult, Fiction, Historical, Historical Fiction, Adventure, Survival

 [Download The Killing Sea ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online The Killing Sea ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online The Killing Sea Richard Lewis

From Reader Review *The Killing Sea* for online ebook

Elizabeth says

A tsunami hits. People die. People survive. Sarah, a teenager, has her little brother to take care of. Ruslan is looking for his father. The two travel together and try to cope with what has happened.

It was an interesting, unique read that intrigued me. I was invested in the story. I wanted to know what happened to them. I just wanted a little more out of the ending.

Yuji Yamada says

Yuji Yamada
Madelena Elshoff
English/Writing 9
6 December 2016

Familial Love In a Disaster: An Analysis of Richard Lewis' *Killing Sea*

Familial love is a strong adhesive for relationships, strongly welding the relationships together even in extremely severe situations, such as natural disasters. The historical fiction novel, *Killing Sea* by Richard Lewis is based on an actual natural disaster- the Indian Ocean earthquake and tsunami that happened in 2004. In the novel, Sarah and her family, who are foreigners, sail off to the coast of Indonesia. Forthwith, a huge tsunami attacks the Tiger island, Indonesia, breaking their father's leg during the strike. While their mother rescues their father, she tells Sarah and her brother to run away with their pet, Surf Cat. Ruslan, an Indonesian boy who lost his mother when he was young, also runs away to survive from the tsunami. He was alone because his father has gone to the rebel's village called "Ie Mameh" on the day of the tsunami. The two different characters go on a journey to find their parents. That was when they start to realise the essential aspect that they've been forgetting- "familial love". Straightaway, they become very friendly to each other as soon as they figure out their common distresses towards their familial love. Under those circumstances, the novel shows that the familial love can play a significant role among the characters. If that is the case, how does the author convey the overall importance of family love in this novel? In the novel *Killing Sea*, the author shows the substantial role of "family love" through the character development of Ruslan and Sarah, and through the use of figurative language.

First of all, the author conveys the significance of familial love by developing the character of Ruslan. Ruslan notices how the maternal love is critical for him as he travels along with Sarah, who also has a hard time with understanding familial love and finding Ruslan's father. During the journey, Indonesian rebels, as well as Ruslan's uncles, tell Ruslan the way his mother has died by saying, "Let me tell you something. Your mother ... died as a fighter, a rifle in her hands" (Lewis 167). The author implies that Ruslan does not know how the maternal love is crucial by mentioning that his mother has died as a soldier when he was little. However, he recognizes that the maternal love is vital that the children must receive. Ruslan mentions that "[All the mothers] love the children all the same" (Lewis 138). Contrastingly, Sarah disagrees to Ruslan's statement because she was born at "a pregnancy at the wrong time" (Lewis 139). In this sentences, the author implies that the characters have been living in the contrary familial environments by stating the characters' opposite thoughts and opinions with different perspectives. On the other hand, both of them have the exact same distress even though they have been living in the contrary environment because they share the same painful experiences. After then, he tries to understand the mother love by sympathizing Sarah's distresses about her familial love. Thereafter, Ruslan shows the sympathy towards Sarah by saying "You don't have to

worry about [that your mom did not love you]. I know because I know you” (Lewis 219). The readers can infer that he grasps Sarah’s struggles by sensing the sympathy from the quote on above. Consequently, Ruslan comprehends that the familial love is an essential element for him by going to a journey to find his father and meet someone who is having the same trouble as him. The author interprets the way how the familial love is being conveyed as an essential element to him in a pessimistic way by introducing speculation about the opposite perspective from Sarah. Ruslan and Sarah have an opinion crash about that “[Sarah’s] mother did not love [Sarah]” (Lewis 219). From this opinion crash, there are two perspectives with different opinions are being proposed as can be seen above. At that instant, the different point of views that are created by the contradictory ideas form affinity between the characters by perceiving each other’s trials, and leading into their biggest goal, which is to find Sarah and Ruslan’s parents. As a result, the author conveys the importance of familial love by developing a contrast between the characters.

To extend further, the author develops the character of Sarah who realises the criticality of familial love even though she has the past full of pain. Sarah mentions about the day when she has found her mother’s diary, then she introduces one of the sentences from the diary that shows her mother’s hatred towards Sarah, which is “My resentment of this child within me borders on hate ... I don’t want to have it” (Lewis 152). Sarah was born because of her mother’s accidental pregnancy. thus her mother hates Sarah. Because of the fact that her mother hates Sarah, the readers can infer that she is having a hard time understanding the mother love. In order to overcome the problem, she discusses and figures out with Ruslan who is in the same situation. As the evidence, the third person narrators explains the way she feels sad and sheds tears when Sarah sees “sketch of ... her mother” (Lewis 224) that Ruslan drew as “The water of grief came rushing in” (Lewis 225). The author implies her sadness towards her mother by using an implied metaphor. Along with, the author conveys the value of the familial love in an emotional way by the use of figurative language through describing the sadness and forgiveness towards mother’s unjustifiable behaviours against her child with “the water of grief” (Lewis 225), which made the teardrops into a metaphor. In addition, the narrator explains that “Sarah saw all the love that her mother had always had for her [in the Ruslan’s sketch]” (Lewis 224). This denies her anxiety towards her mother, which entails her forgiveness towards her mother’s behaviors. The author makes the tear that she sheds into a metaphor when she sees sketch of her mother by using the word “water” and “grief”, which simply means “water of sadness.” From the figurative language, the readers can infer that she finally succeeds to understand and forgive her mother by dropping tears when she looks at the painting of her mother. As a result, by sharing the same painful experiences with someone, and discussing the trouble with somebody else, she comprehends that the value of love never changes even though there are hatreds in the familial relationship. Through their discussions about their situations, the author demonstrates the characters’ opinion about familial love.

Furthermore, the author highlights the significance of familial love by using figurative language. To give an example, the narrator describes Ruslan’s dream as “the nightmare...” (Lewis 1). Moreover, the narrator mentions the monster (Lewis 2) appearing in Ruslan’s nightmare as black (Lewis 2). Since the monster is the main troubles of the story and the term repeatedly comes out in the story, “monster” is the symbol of the book. Black and the term “monster” figuratively symbolise the character’s anxiety towards the nightmare. Lewis uses a metaphor to show the Ruslan’s fear and anxiety towards the tsunami by describing the monster that comes out in his nightmare; however, ironically the monster brings everyone together through their shared pain and distress. Sarah says about her mother “She did her best, I know. Why can’t I feel? Am I a monster?” (Lewis 219), and in this context, the word “monster” is also being used by the author to describe someone who cannot understand and feel the necessity of the mother love. The author implies that the symbol contains multiple hidden meanings, not just simply one meaning. One is “nature as monster”, which makes the tsunami itself into a metaphor. The disaster of tsunami strongly welds the relationship together. Besides, another one is “people as monster”, which makes people’s anxiety towards the distress of the familial love into a metaphor. The monster in terms of “people’s anxiety” also bonds the relationship between the characters by making them realize that the love is the imperative substance and it leads them to solve each other’s problems. Even though the monster contains two different meanings in different ways, it

is being figuratively described as a negative figure. However, the monster bonds the character's relationships as well. Additionally, the narrator mentions Ruslan's reaction towards the familial love as "floating off the ground" (Lewis 210). When Ruslan gracefully reunites with his father, the author implies that there is a feeling of happiness towards the realisation of the familial love. He does this using the descriptive word "floating". According to Maya Angelou in Oprah's interview, she mentions that "[She has] learned that regardless of [one's] relationship with [one's] parents, [one will] miss them when they're gone from [one's] life." (Angelou, interview) The happiness of the reunion and the quote from Maya Angelou states the necessity of the parents in people's lives. No matter what kind of the relationship that he has had, the necessity of the familial love from his parents does not change at all. Thus, the author recounts us the priority of the familial love by using the figurative and descriptive language.

In conclusion, through the use of character development and figurative language, Richard Lewis conveys the significance of empathy and familial love in the lives of Ruslan and Sarah. The importance of familial love is being told by describing the nightmares of the tsunami, which is the main cause that bonds the family relationships through the use of irony and the figurative language. Next, the author describes the happiness towards the realisation of the familial love's value with descriptive languages. Further, the both of the characters debates and discusses about their distresses towards the familial love throughout the journey. As they discuss their experiences, both of them figure it out the importance of familial love. And they give sympathy towards their painful pasts and experiences, then they success to comprehend each other's unbearable pressures and problems. The literary devices that Richard Lewis used in *Killing Sea* led the reader to conclude that familial love is a strong magical potion that welds the relationships together.

Works Cited

Lewis, Richard. *The Killing Sea*. New York: Simon & Schuster for Young Readers, 2006. Print.
"Oprah's Interview." Interview by Oprah Gail Winfrey. *A Very Special Woman - MAYA ANGELOU*. Alan's Dream Writings, 1 Oct. 2012. Web. 5 Dec. 2016.

Katie Boehmer says

The *Killing Sea* is a great book that I would definitely recommend to others. In the beginning of the story, Sarah and her family are on vacation in Aceh, Indonesia. While they are there, a tsunami hits and their parents die. This is very upsetting for Sarah and Peter, but they know that they need to care for themselves and take care of each other. Then while Sarah and Peter are walking they meet Ruslan. Sarah did not notice at the time but Ruslan was the same boy that helped her dad with their boat the day before the tsunami. After several days of walking, Peter starts to feel very sick. This was very concerning for Sarah because she knew that if she did not find a hospital for Peter soon, he would die. The main problem that they faced though was that many of the cities were torn up because of the waves that went through the city. While all of this is

going on, Ruslan also is trying to find his dad. Even though there are several times when Ruslan wants to give up, he thinks about his dad and knows that he is still alive. This is a great book about adventure and I didn't want to put the book down.

Chloe Butalla says

This was a very interesting and good book. It held a lot of suspense and it was interesting to find out if everyone was ok.

Emmett L says

The Killing Sea is a great book. It combines the points of view of two teenagers that got caught by the tsunami. One of them is Sarah, an American girl on a sail boating vacation with her family. The other one Ruslan is a native of Aceh, the town that got the worst of the tsunami. I would recommend this book to people who like lots of action.

YJin C says

Being one of my favorite novels, I reread Lewis Richard's, "The Killing Sea." This novel was created by the author based on the Tsunami that took place in Aceh (Indonesia) on December 26, 2004. During that disaster, Lewis Richard was actually working as a relief worker in Aceh. Then after two years, in 2006 he created this novel.

The main story of this novel focuses on two main characters Ruslan and Sarah in the aftermath of the Tsunami. In this novel, Ruslan is introduced as an Indonesian boy who searches for his father. While Sarah is introduced as an American girl who tries to find medical treatment for his sick brother. During this process of searching and finding, those two meet each other and together, they go on a journey helping each other not only for survival but for their own purposes. Through this novel, the author uses these two main characters to introduce the themes of ingenuity, resourcefulness, and reliance in those two characters' survival.

Much like typical survival novels, I really enjoyed reading "The Killing Sea," because many parts from the novel incorporate real life/nonfiction experiences from the actual event. Moreover, I could actually imagine how cataclysmic and chaotic that region might have been during and after the Tsunami. Furthermore, I could also learn the inner conflicts that people might have been through during these disasters. It was very interesting that I could feel people's emotions being both heart broken that they couldn't do anything and at the same time glad, knowing that they weren't the ones involved in the Tsunami. This novel written in the author's experience is very detailed and thoroughly goes over the themes mentioned above in true depths. Thus, I would recommend it to people who are interested in this genre.

Kennedy says

Adventure, romance, mystery, and the lose of many..... The Killing Sea by Richard D. Lewis. The two most very important characters are Ruslan and Sarah. I will not give any spoilers but In the beginning they do not know each so they are going through the same disasters but they both have they own experience. Many have died what about the other what they do with the dead is pretty nasty. After they meet each other they start the turn on each other one needs to go one way the other needs to go the other way.

In the beginning I think all of it is unnecessary it is just really slow it could have been a little faster" Ruslan sat down at a rickety plywood table shaded by one of the palm trees." That is pretty much what he does half the whole chapter it would be cool if they could just. get right to the good stuff. The authors perspective is great in one chapter he is one charterer and in other chapters his a different charterer and how they are getting through this disaster. This books make me feel for the people who went through all of this and of the people that were lost it really makes me think twice. I have a connection with this book because Sarah lost people she really loved and so have I.

Think about all the people in different parts of the world that are going through a really hard time that we don't even think about. In the end the book was really good. My favorite part was when they first start the book and how different their lives are compared to the end. It was a little slow in the beginning thought. My final choice about the book is... I loved it!

Zachary Viola27973 says

The Killing Sea was a fantastic book.It always had me on the edge of my seat during every chapter.It is filled with suspense and non-stop action.For example,the character's stumble into all kinds of problems.It starts with the tsunami,but then it gets worse for all of the people.The writing for this book was well done and descriptive.The strengths for this book would probably be all of the problems and drama.Although,at the end of most of the chapters,it sort of repeats the same ending.It's also a little slow in the beginning.If this book was a series,I would definitely read the following books.My reason for this is this it kept me engaged and interested.I think people would appreciate it because of its action and suspense.I think people would appreciate it like this because a good amount of people love a suspenseful and action-packed book.If you are looking for a book that keeps you thinking,"what's gonna happen?"Then this is the book for you.

Joseph Escobar says

The killing sea is a excellent book. It was written very well. While i'm reading the book and i have to take a break, it makes me eager to want to read more. There is endless action and amazing imagery that always keeps you on the edge of your seat. The story is really easy to follow as long as your paying attention and not skipping pages. They way Richard Lewis wrote this book In a very special way. The first paragraph was about the first character who is native to the country. The author tells his side of the tsunami story. The second paragraph is about the second character, whose name is sarah, who is a visitor of the country. It tells her side of the tsunami story. The author makes each side of the story interesting and enjoyable to read. Both of the characters are relatable to people because everyone either is that character or knows someone who is that character. There is a lot of drama and action. This is a perfect book for someone who loves action and drama.

I would recommend this to everyone that I know. This has to be the best book that I have ever read. It is not only written well, it is presented as well. This book deserves a reward or prize. This should also become a movie as well.

Shannez says

This book is about a young boy named Ruslan who survived the tsunami in 2004. Ruslan then found another survivor, Sarah and Ruslan and Sarah helped each other as they were both finding their parents. The story is very interesting as the author describes the challenges they both faced in order to find their parents. Overall, I really enjoyed this book as the plot of the story is very interesting and the plot was also explained in detail.

Karen Ball says

Sarah and Peter Bedford and their parents are sailing on a yacht in Indonesia in December 2004. The yacht has engine trouble, and they pull into Meulaboh, a small village near Aceh, where they meet Ruhlan. Ruhlan directs them to his father, Yusuf the mechanic, who fixes their engine. In the hours afterward, an earthquake strikes and the infamous monster tsunami hits Aceh and all of the surrounding villages (and continues on to devastate a vast portion of the region). Sarah and Peter's mother is killed, and their father is missing, as is Ruhlan's. The destinies of the three are intertwined, as they search for their fathers and also for a doctor for Peter, who has become seriously ill. This is an amazing story of the resilience of the human spirit in the face of unimaginable suffering, and a phenomenal survival tale as well. Richard Lewis was raised in Indonesia, and volunteered in Aceh after the tsunami. This may be fiction, but it is solidly based on what he witnessed there after the disaster. He is also donating a portion of the royalties from the sales of his book to local Indonesian organizations working to relieve the suffering and need there.

Nitya Jacob says

The novel "The Killing Sea" is about a boy named Ruslan and a girl named Sarah working together to get her sick brother, Peter to a help when a major tsunami strikes Aceh, Indonesia. While Sarah and Ruslan don't really know each other, they get to know each other as they save Peter from an up-turned boat, get shot at by rebels as they drive through a swamp, and try to rush Peter to the hospital. I was very intigued at how powerful this natural disasteer! THE characters, a teenage girl, a younger boy, and a local Acehnese boy had very easy-to-believe personalities in the book-- they helped make the story come alive.

"The Killing Sea" by Richard Lewis is a very interesting book, but I found it to be too graphic for me. I found myself wincing again and again as the author brought details up; like when a dead little girl's eyes had been eaten, and realized how horrible this tsunami must of actually been in real life. But also, I found this book interesting because of it's suspenese and well-written words, but was unable to a lack of emotion in the characters. Even though I didn't like this book because of it's graphic nature, I think people who want to know want happened in the "tsunami that stunned the world" and people who enjoy an adventure story would like to read a book like this. I also recommend this book to people who have experienced first-hand in the real tsunami tnat killed thousands, so they can relate to the book easily. This is why I gave the "Killing

Sea" by Richard Lewis 3 stars.

Valerie says

Vivid portrayal of one of the greatest disasters in recent years, good for upper elementary and up. Disturbing images but little graphic human-on-human violence; some implied or threatened. And rather unrealistically, (spoiler alert) the cat lives... Also addresses Indonesian and Western attitudes toward Western tourist privilege, in a passing and not heavy-handed manner. I'll recommend to students who like historical fiction or adventure novels.

Changjun Kim says

I rated this book 5 out of 3 because although I think the story line was fun I thought it could have been more realistic because there wasn't a lot of emotion in the book. For example when Sarah was burying her mom I felt like that was fake. No human being would have that little emotion when they were burying their own mom. The other parts of the books were pretty realistic though. Of how Sarah and Peter care for each other and how Sarah and Ruslan fell in love so overall I thought it was okay book to read.

Max Rabey says

The Killing Sea by Richard Lewis, is a survival story that takes place on Tiger Island, Indonesia. The theme of this book is determination of getting what you need in a survival situation. After a tsunami destroys Tiger Island, the three main characters Sarah, her younger brother Peter and their friend Ruslan struggle to get to a mainland where there is food, water and health care. The most scary scene is when the tsunami hits and all the villagers run as fast as they could away from it. The main character Ruslan runs, he sees the water behind him and describes it as a "hungry killer wanting to eat the whole village". This is the most scary scene for me because as he is running up the hill, it was sending chills up my spine, because I didn't want Ruslan to get hurt. I would recommend this book to anyone who loves survival stories and tense survival moments. I say this because there are moments when the main character is about to die and other moments when they are running for their lives.
