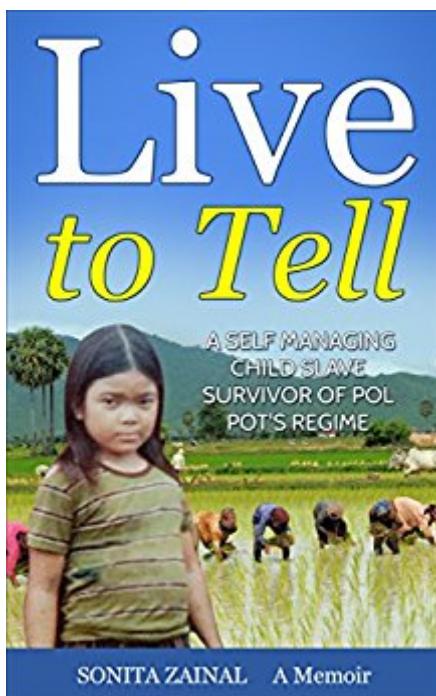


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# Live To Tell: A Self Managing Child Slave Survivor Of Pol Pot's Regime (True Story, Killing Fields, South East Asia History, Khmer Story, Khmer Rouge Genocide, Pol Pot Genocide, Cambodia History)



## Synopsis

Live to Tell is a gripping testimony from Sonita Zainal of bone true facts and emotional recollections “ showing the world how even when only a young girl, from age five; for four years, with amazing grit and determination. She endured and survived the horrendous Pol Potâ™s Khmer Rouge regime in Cambodia “ eventually escaping through jungle infested landmines to United Nations refugee camps in Thailand. After losing her beloved father when only six years old and already a victim of opportunistic abuse, Sonita became a child slave in a zone of barbaric atrocities “ constantly putting herself in danger; with determination and initiative, to avoid starvation. To enable her survival, she developed a stay alive against all odds attitude, relying only on her own personal initiative. So, Sonita quickly became an adult minded, responsible kid “ without a natural childhood; she only remembers two playthings, one she would rather have done without. The writer has presented shocking and unbelievable, yet unfortunately, true stories of victims and survivors of that barbaric and misguided regime; showing herself to be deeply empathetic to those “ particularly women “ who were themselves young at that time, and now live everyday with haunting memories of their traumatic experiences “ often, the loss of innocent loved ones. She has returned a number of times; of which she writes, to connect and research with survivors and family members in her birth and neighbouring countries. Sonita expresses her sadness to see, decades later, so many of those survivors still living in poverty “ often on their own; having had husbands murdered by that regime, or now separated from enforced marriage to Khmer Rouge men. They just struggle on with determination to survive, making the best of their lives for themselves and any children they may have, who often are helping their mothers or aunties to the best of their abilities. The writer shows how deeply touched she is when seeing, or meeting, desperate children scrounging for food items; or even more so, older ones, striving committedly with focused determination and initiative, to improve their own or family living conditions and life prospects. Which, as she states, reminds her so poignantly of her own survival endeavours, when in similar circumstances, at the same age span “ so powerfully written about. Sonita writes to clearly show how she thought and reacted, in those continually dangerous and unstable childhood years “ being always mindful to not overstate with knowledge that she did not have at the time; if not having detailed memory of an event, always mentions so, when complementing her story with later adult knowledge and insight. The book is not just a sequence of stories of events, but is impregnated with profound reflected understanding of behaviours and inspirational teaching, giving it worthy credit of being a meritorious literature. It is cleverly written, in the manner of the authorâ™s child mind at the time of events portrayed “ she is even able to show some fun and

humour; as a child may naturally seek to express “ even in appalling circumstances. Sonita impresses with her candid honesty, giving stark exposure of dreadful life situations that most of us from secure backgrounds, would find hard to imagine. She inspires as an admirable example of the fortitude of destitute children, showing determination to never give up in any adverse situation. Readers are sure to be captivated and enthralled by this book; finding it hard to put down until read. Those who have had a difficult childhood, will find an understanding, compassionate and inspiring friend. WARNING: Some of the stories in this memoir have reference to events of extreme violence, hardship and suffering; as well as incidents of child sexual abuse. Even though children will find many of the other stories entertaining, they should only read this book with adult guidance.

## **Book Information**

File Size: 4501 KB

Print Length: 142 pages

Publication Date: March 4, 2017

Sold by: Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B06XFCMG28

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Screen Reader: Supported

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #111,699 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #49 in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > History > Asia > Southeast #126 in Books > History > Asia > Southeast Asia #194 in Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Historical > Asia

## **Customer Reviews**

What a great read! This is a moving true story in which the author writes about her own experiences and what she had to endure as a child, during her time under the Pol Pot’s Khmer Rouge regime in Cambodia, and also while she was living in Thailand refugee camps.

I read the book and share the impressions. Very interesting book, in it I understood a lot of interesting things. Definitely recommended for reading! The author did an excellent job of writing!

Such great story about over coming adversity....Very inspiring.

It was bring me back to my childhood. Thanks for sharing us this unforgettable moments

Good book about her stories of growing up in Cambodia in the Khmer Rouge era. Easy to read but keeps you interested.

Great read!! Sonita really puts her heart and soul into this book. I was touched by some of her stories. Being a father of two little girls, the story that had the most emotional impact on me was Hide And Seek With Mr. Redcap. This is truly a great book for anyone who wants a true inside experience of what life was like living under the Pol Pot's Khmer Rouge regime in Cambodia. It's a book that's hard to put down. Great job Sonita!!

My childhood/teen yrs. were not pleasant. As a retired social worker, I can't even imagine what you had to endure. I later worked with adults. I pray for all children around the world who still go through day/day what you have gone through. Michael Jackson We are the children. Endurance & perseverance. You were in-deed a lucky 1. I hope life is better for you, it will never/ever be the same, but it sounds like you have moved on. God Bless. Pol Pot & Khmer Rouge. As sadistic & deranged as Adolph Hitler. paedophile (pedophile) Warning: This book is for adults only & contains extreme violent or graphic adult content or profanity &/or sexually explicit scenarios. It may be offensive to some readers. I did not receive any type of compensation for reading & reviewing this book. While I receive free books from publishers & authors, I am under no obligation to write a positive review. Only an honest one. A very awesome book cover, great font & writing style. A very well written memoir book. It was very easy for me to read/follow from start/finish & never a dull moment. There were no grammar/typo errors, nor any repetitive or out of line sequence sentences. Lots of exciting scenarios, with several twists/turns & a great set of unique characters to keep track of. This could also make another great cultural War movie, or better yet a mini TV series. There is no doubt in my mind this is a very easy rating of 5 stars. Thank you for the free author; EBooksdaily; Digital Services LLC.; book Tony Parsons MSW (Washburn)

Excellent read. This story really impressed me and I just couldn't wait until the moment the main hero is going to be in a safe place. This book describes one of the creepiest pages of the previous

century's history. I know many other people suffered and there is a lot of pain in the world today as well. However, this story really touched my heart.

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