

My Mother Told Me I Was a Warrior

Annier Gonzalez Ayra

BEFORE YOU READ:

1. What is a warrior? Are you a warrior? If so, in what way? Do you know any warriors? Describe them.
2. While you are reading, be on the lookout for commas, a semi-colon, and quotation marks. What is the role of these forms of punctuation?

My journey to this country began six years ago. It was a long journey through different countries. I had many days of hard work, long walks, and thousands of dangers. I came through Guyana, then Brazil, Peru, Ecuador, and Colombia. In the jungle of Panama, I walked for ten days, resting at night. I didn't eat for three days. My feet were bloody and without skin.

I managed to reach Panama but unfortunately, I was deported to my country

She told me, "Stand up and fight because you are a warrior, and you need to find your path."

again. After such a big sacrifice, I had nothing. I had many days of stress. My mom suffered in silence. She knew my dreams. She

is a strong woman, and she told me, "Stand up and fight again because you are a warrior, and you need to find your path. It's not the end of the world. You have one life to live, and I'm sure you'll make it. I love you, my son."

My beautiful mom is the person I admire the most. She gave me life; everything I have now is thanks to her. She inspires me to reach my goals, and so does my little child and my brother. I need a good future for them and of course for me too.

I think that everyone in this world has the opportunity to fight for a better future. I know that it is not easy. But you can do it if you work



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Which countries can you identify on this map of South America and part of North America? Draw a line showing the part of the route that Annier took before he got deported.

hard and focus on your dreams. Every sacrifice you make to achieve your goal will fill you with pride and satisfaction. And you will enjoy the blessings obtained with your effort and dedication.

AFTER YOU READ: How do Annier and his mother show emotional intelligence in this story?

Annier Gonzalez Ayra is a student at Ysleta Community Learning Center in El Paso, Texas. He was born in Cuba, surrounded by a humble, honest, and hard-working family. He is currently 38 years old and living in the United States. He is blessed and grateful that this country opened its doors to him so that he could build a better future for his family and himself.

