Willie Nelson once said, “Freedom is control in your own life”. In Jon Krakauer’s book, *Into the Wild*, Chris McCandless- also known as Alexander Supertramp- has complete control in his life. He has freed himself from all things stress related and he has lived life the way he wanted to live it. He has gotten rid of all of his money, he stopped talking to his family, and nobody knows who he really is. He has found ultimate freedom.

Chris had little interest in money. While growing up his family had a good amount of money and he was a little embarrassed by that. Chris did not think that money was an important aspect of life. In the author’s note, Krakauer told people about what Chris had done before he went on his Alaskan odyssey. He said, “He changed his name, gave the entire balance of a twenty four thousand dollar savings account to charity, abandoned his car and most of his possessions, burned all the cash in his wallet” (A.N). Chris wanted to go on his journey a free man and the money was a burden. He donated twenty four thousand dollars to OXFAM America- a charity for hungry people. Not long after he started his journey to Alaska he burned the remaining cash he had in his wallet. Jon had said, “one hundred- twenty three dollars in legal tender was promptly reduced to ash and smoke” (29). When the flash flood ruined his car Chris seen that as an opportunity to get rid of everything else he did not think he would need. All he kept was a couple pounds of rice and a few books. Money was not important to him.

Eventually, Chris stopped talking to his family. His parents and sister were extremely worried about him. Every hitch hiker Chris’s mother, Billy, seen looked liked Chris. She was going crazy. In an interview Jon had with Chris’s sister, Carine, she had said, “we were all worried when we didn’t hear from him, and I think my parents worry was mixed with hurt and anger” (125). Before Chris had left for Alaska he had promised his parents he would call every once in a while. He stuck with that promise for a while but before long he stopped calling and lost all contact with his family. Almost everybody who met Chris tried to get him to call his parents. Chris had gotten a ride from a man named Gaylord Stuckey who had also been interviewed by Krakauer. Jon recalls Stuckey saying “I also begged and pleaded with him to call his parents” (160). Chris never listened though. Stuckey was upset, not at Chris but at himself. He was upset that he did not try to get his parents number so he could call them himself. He, like most people wanted Chris to call his parents to let them know he was alright but he never did.

Chris did not want anybody to know who he was. When Chris thought people were starting to know too much he would leave. The last person to talk to Chris before he died was a man named Jim Gallien. When he picked up Chris on the highway he asked him what his name was. Chris had replied, “Just Alex” (4). Chris had changed his named to Alexander Supertramp in the begging of his journey. Anybody who asked him what his name was got the name Alex. He never told anybody anything about himself. When Chris ended up in Bullhead City, Arizona things changed. He got a job working at a local McDonalds and gave out his real identity. Jon had wrote in his book, “Curiously, when McCandless applied for the McDonalds job, he presented himself as Chris McCandless, not Alex, and gave his employers his real social security number” (40). Chris only had a couple of jobs while on his journey but he never gave any of his employers his real identity. It was really strange for him to let the people at McDonalds know who he really was.

Chris McCandless found ultimate freedom in his life. He had no worries and he was happy. He had no money, no family, and nobody knew who he really was. He completely free and he lived life the way he wanted to.