"unbroken" by laura hillenbrand essay sample

War



"Unbroken" by Laura Hillenbrand Essay Sample

Laura Hillenbrand's "Unbroken" is about Louie Zamperini's life story. Growing up, Louie was a very mischievous boy. He was constantly on the edge of being put into a juvenile detention or jail. Luckily, a police officer recommended sports and Louie found his passion for running. Once Louie realized how great of a runner he really was, he strived to be the best. Louie entered World War 2 in 1941, and soon after in 1943 his B24 crashed in the Pacific. During his his journey on the life raft, he realizes what he must do in order to survive. Part of what kept him going was his family. Louie is traumatized by the ongoing beatings he went through at the Japanese POW camps, but comes to peace with himself and the enemies when he becomes closer to God.

Throughout the true story of "Unbroken", the main character, Louie Zamperini, goes through numerous situations that make him a more determined, motivated, and faithful as an individual. As a boy Louie got into trouble all the time. When a police officer recommended Louie to get involved in a sport he began to run. Not only did he stay out of trouble, but he actually turned out to be incredibly fast. He set his high school's mile time record of 4 minutes and 21 seconds. That time earned him a scholarship to University of Southern California where he ran track. Running brought out a powerful trait in him: determination. His older brother, Pete, kept him focused on what is important. In 1936, he made it to the Berlin Olympics where he finished the 5, 000 meter in eighth place, but with an outstanding finish.