

the long walk book slavomir rawicz

Discovering the Epic Journey in The Long Walk Book Slavomir Rawicz

The Long Walk Book Slavomir Rawicz is an enthralling narrative that captures the imagination of readers worldwide. This gripping account details the extraordinary escape of a Polish officer from Soviet captivity during World War II, and his subsequent trek across the vast Siberian wilderness, the Gobi Desert, the Himalayas, and finally into India. The story has become legendary, inspiring countless readers and adventurers eager to explore themes of resilience, hope, and human endurance. In this article, we will delve into the origins of the book, the authenticity of Rawicz's story, and the lasting impact it has had on literature and adventure narratives.

The Origins of the Book and Its Author

Who Was Slavomir Rawicz?

Slavomir Rawicz was a Polish army officer born in 1915 in Poland. During World War II, he was captured by Soviet forces and imprisoned in a Siberian labor camp. The harrowing experiences of captivity and his subsequent daring escape formed the core of his narrative. Rawicz's story was first published in the book titled *The Long Walk: The True Story of a Trek to Freedom*, which was released in 1956.

The Narrative of *The Long Walk*

The book recounts Rawicz's escape from a Soviet gulag in 1942, along with six other prisoners. Their journey spanned over 4,000 miles through some of the most inhospitable terrains on Earth. Rawicz's vivid storytelling transports readers across frozen Siberian taiga, arid deserts, treacherous mountain passes, and lush Indian plains.

The Plot and Key Events of *The Long Walk*

The Beginning: Captivity and Planning

The story begins with Rawicz and his fellow prisoners enduring brutal conditions in Siberian labor camps. Despite the harsh environment, Rawicz's indomitable spirit drives him to plan a daring escape. The group's motivations include not only the desire for freedom but also the hope of reuniting with their families and resuming their lives.

The Escape: A Dangerous Journey

The escape is a meticulously planned event, involving:

- Concealing their plans from guards
- Navigating treacherous terrains
- Overcoming severe weather conditions
- Dealing with hunger, exhaustion, and threats from wildlife

The escapees travel through diverse environments, including:

1. Siberian taiga and mountains
2. The Gobi Desert, with its scorching heat and scarce water
3. The Himalayan range, crossing snow-capped peaks and glaciers
4. The Indian plains, where they finally find refuge

The Final Leg: Reaching India

After months of perilous travel, the group arrives in India, where they find safety and assistance. Their journey not only embodies physical endurance but also highlights resilience in the face of adversity.

Authenticity and Controversies Surrounding the Book

Debate Over the True Story

While many readers accept Rawicz's account as authentic, some skeptics question the veracity of his narrative. The controversy stems from:

- Lack of corroborating evidence at the time of publication
- Discrepancies between Rawicz's account and historical records
- An absence of independent witnesses to verify the journey

Research and Modern Perspectives

In subsequent years, researchers and historians have examined Rawicz's story. Some findings include:

- The possibility that Rawicz fabricated or exaggerated parts of his story
- The existence of similar escape stories from Soviet labor camps
- The influence of the Cold War era on the book's reception

Despite these debates, the story remains a powerful symbol of hope and perseverance.

The Impact of *The Long Walk* on Literature and Popular Culture

Inspiration for Adventure and Survival Literature

The Long Walk has inspired numerous writers and explorers, emphasizing themes of human resilience and the quest for freedom. It has influenced genres ranging from autobiographies to adventure novels.

Film and Media Adaptations

The book's captivating narrative has led to multiple adaptations, including:

- A 2010 film titled *The Way Back*, directed by Peter Weir, inspired loosely by Rawicz's story
- Documentaries exploring escape stories from Soviet labor camps
- Podcasts and interviews with survivors and historians

Legacy and Cultural Significance

Despite ongoing debates about authenticity, Rawicz's story continues to resonate, symbolizing the enduring human spirit. It serves as a reminder that even in the darkest times, hope and perseverance can lead to liberation.

Lessons from *The Long Walk* and Its Relevance Today

Resilience in the Face of Adversity

Rawicz's tale teaches that resilience and determination can help overcome seemingly insurmountable obstacles. His journey underscores the importance of hope, courage, and perseverance.

The Power of Storytelling

The book exemplifies how personal stories can inspire collective empathy and understanding, shedding light on human rights issues and the importance of freedom.

Applications in Modern Contexts

The themes from Rawicz's journey remain relevant today, providing lessons

for:

- Refugees fleeing conflict zones
- Prisoners of conscience
- Anyone facing arduous challenges

Conclusion: The Enduring Legacy of *The Long Walk*

The Long Walk Book Slavomir Rawicz stands as a testament to human endurance and the unyielding desire for freedom. Whether viewed as a true account or a compelling legend, the story continues to inspire millions around the world. Its depiction of a treacherous journey across continents highlights the extraordinary resilience of individuals against all odds. As a literary masterpiece and cultural symbol, Rawicz's narrative remains a powerful reminder that hope and perseverance are vital in overcoming life's greatest challenges.

Further Reading and Resources

- *The Long Walk: The True Story of a Trek to Freedom* by Slavomir Rawicz
- Documentaries on Soviet labor camps and escape stories
- Articles analyzing the historical accuracy of Rawicz's account
- Adventure and survival literature inspired by Rawicz's journey

By exploring the incredible tale of Slavomir Rawicz, readers gain insight into one of the most remarkable escape stories of the 20th century, a story that continues to inspire resilience and hope in the face of adversity.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the main story of 'The Long Walk' by Slavomir Rawicz?

Actually, 'The Long Walk' was written by Sławomir Rawicz, not Slavomir Rawicz. It narrates his claimed escape from a Soviet Gulag and his journey across Siberia, Mongolia, and the Gobi Desert to freedom in India.

Is 'The Long Walk' by Sławomir Rawicz a true story?

The book claims to be a true account, but its veracity has been debated. Some researchers question whether Rawicz's escape and journey occurred as described, with some suggesting it may be partly or entirely fictional.

What inspired Sławomir Rawicz to write 'The Long Walk'?

Rawicz was motivated by his incredible experience of escaping from Soviet captivity and his desire to share his story of resilience and hope during a

difficult period in history.

How has 'The Long Walk' influenced popular perceptions of survival stories?

'The Long Walk' has become an iconic survival narrative, inspiring readers with its themes of endurance, courage, and the human spirit's resilience against overwhelming odds.

Are there any adaptations of 'The Long Walk' into films or documentaries?

Yes, the book has inspired various documentary films and discussions, although a major Hollywood adaptation has not been officially produced. The story remains a popular subject for exploration in media.

What criticisms have been made about 'The Long Walk'?

Critics have questioned the accuracy of Rawicz's account, with some suggesting that certain details may have been exaggerated or fabricated, leading to debates about the story's factual basis.

What are the key themes in 'The Long Walk'?

Key themes include survival against odds, human endurance, freedom, hope, and the resilience of the human spirit in the face of oppression.

How does 'The Long Walk' compare to other survival escape stories?

It is often compared to stories like 'The Great Escape' or 'Unbroken' for its focus on endurance and perseverance, although some view Rawicz's account as more mythic or legendary in nature.

What impact did 'The Long Walk' have on Cold War-era perceptions of Soviet Gulags?

The book contributed to Western awareness and skepticism about the brutality of Soviet labor camps, highlighting themes of oppression, escape, and resistance during the Cold War period.

Is 'The Long Walk' by Sławomir Rawicz considered a reliable historical account?

The story's reliability remains controversial; while it is compelling and inspirational, historians have questioned its factual accuracy, and some consider it more of a legendary or mythic narrative than a strictly factual account.

Additional Resources

The Long Walk by Slavomir Rawicz is a gripping autobiographical account that has captured the imagination of readers worldwide. Rawicz's compelling narrative of survival, resilience, and hope during one of the most harrowing experiences of the 20th century offers not just a recounting of personal endurance but also a window into the human spirit's capacity to overcome unimaginable adversity. This long-form guide explores the origins of the book, its content, historical debates surrounding its authenticity, and the enduring legacy it has left on readers and scholars alike.

Introduction to The Long Walk and Slavomir Rawicz

Published in 1956, The Long Walk is touted as a true story of a Polish officer's daring escape from Soviet captivity and his subsequent trek across Siberia, the Gobi Desert, and the Himalayan mountains to reach India. Slavomir Rawicz's account narrates a journey spanning approximately 6,000 miles, filled with peril, hardship, and moments of profound humanity.

The book's popularity surged due to its sensational tale: a man's unwavering determination to regain his freedom against all odds. Rawicz's story became a symbol of hope and resilience during the Cold War era, inspiring countless readers and adventure enthusiasts. However, controversy soon emerged regarding the veracity of the account, prompting ongoing debates among historians, scholars, and skeptics.

The Narrative of The Long Walk: An Overview

Rawicz's Background and Imprisonment

Rawicz was a Polish cavalry officer who was captured by Soviet forces during the early days of World War II. After his arrest, he was sent to a Soviet prison camp, where he endured brutal conditions. His narrative begins with the brutal realities of Soviet captivity, including forced labor, starvation, and psychological torment.

The Escape

Rawicz claims that after years of imprisonment, he and a small group of fellow escapees devised a daring plan. Their goal was to traverse thousands of miles of hostile terrain to reach the safety of British India. The escape involved crossing treacherous Siberian wilderness, deserts, and mountain ranges, all while evading Soviet patrols and hostile environments.

The Journey

The core of Rawicz's story details their incredible journey:

- Crossing Siberia: Facing sub-zero temperatures, scarcity of supplies, and harsh terrain.
- Gobi Desert: Enduring dehydration, heat, and sandstorms.
- Himalayan Mountains: Navigating treacherous passes, high altitudes, and potential avalanches.
- Reaching India: The triumphant arrival after months of hardship.

Themes and Motifs

The Long Walk emphasizes themes of:

- Resilience and perseverance in the face of adversity
- The importance of hope and faith
- Human endurance and the will to survive
- Friendship and solidarity among fellow escapees

Critical Analysis of The Long Walk

Literary Style and Impact

Rawicz's narrative is straightforward yet compelling, imbued with vivid descriptions that bring the reader into the heart of the journey. His storytelling combines personal reflection with detailed accounts of the physical and emotional toll of their escape. The book's tone oscillates between despair and hope, making it an emotional rollercoaster.

Historical Context

The book was written during a time when stories of Soviet oppression and war resistance gained prominence. It resonated with audiences who sought tales of courage against tyranny. Rawicz's account became emblematic of the broader Polish struggle and the fight for freedom.

Authenticity Concerns and Skepticism

Despite its popularity, The Long Walk has faced significant skepticism:

- Some historians question the geographical and logistical details, citing inconsistencies.
- There's debate over whether the escape and journey occurred exactly as Rawicz described or if some elements were romanticized or fictionalized.
- In 2006, a documentary titled The Real Great Escape explored the authenticity, with some experts suggesting that the story may contain embellishments.

Evidence Supporting and Challenging Rawicz's Account

Supporting elements:

- Rawicz's detailed descriptions align with known geography and historical events.
- Testimonies from other prisoners and escapees sometimes corroborate aspects of his account.

Challenging points:

- Lack of corroborating documentation from other witnesses.
- Discrepancies in timelines and route descriptions.
- Some scholars argue that certain aspects resemble classic adventure stories rather than documented history.

The Legacy of The Long Walk

Cultural Influence

Despite debates over its factual accuracy, The Long Walk remains influential:

- Inspired subsequent books, documentaries, and films.
- Became a symbol of hope and resilience during Cold War tensions.

- Continues to inspire discussions about human endurance and the possibility of escape from seemingly insurmountable circumstances.

Literary and Historical Significance

The book raises important questions:

- What defines truth in autobiographical narratives?
- How do stories of survival shape collective memory and identity?
- Can a story be valuable even if some details are questioned?

Modern Perspectives

Recent scholarship suggests that *The Long Walk* should be appreciated as a semi-autobiographical or literary work—regardless of its absolute factual accuracy, it captures the essence of human resilience. It also sheds light on the experiences of Soviet prisoners during WWII and the broader context of wartime captivity.

Lessons from *The Long Walk*

Resilience and Hope

Rawicz's story epitomizes the indomitable human spirit. His account encourages readers to face adversity with courage and perseverance.

The Power of Narrative

Stories like Rawicz's demonstrate how personal narratives can inspire and influence societal values, even amid controversy.

Critical Thinking and Historical Inquiry

The debate surrounding the book highlights the importance of critical analysis when engaging with autobiographical accounts. It encourages readers to examine sources, question details, and seek corroboration.

Conclusion

The Long Walk by Slavomir Rawicz remains a compelling and influential piece of literature that continues to evoke fascination and debate. Whether viewed as a true account or a literary legend, Rawicz's story exemplifies resilience, hope, and the enduring human desire for freedom. As readers and scholars explore its depths, *The Long Walk* invites us to reflect on the power of storytelling, the complexities of truth, and the extraordinary capacity of humans to endure even the most unimaginable hardships.

Additional Resources

- *The Long Walk* by Slavomir Rawicz (original autobiography)
- Documentaries: *The Real Great Escape*
- Scholarly articles on the authenticity and historical context
- Interviews with historians and authors discussing the book's impact

Note: While this guide provides a comprehensive overview, readers are encouraged to explore multiple sources and perspectives to form a nuanced understanding of The Long Walk and its place in history and literature.

[The Long Walk Book Slavomir Rawicz](#)

the long walk book slavomir rawicz: The Long Walk Slavomir Rawicz, 1956 Autobiographical.

the long walk book slavomir rawicz: *The Long Walk* Slavomir Rawicz, 1995 First published in 1956, an account of a young Polish cavalry officer who was arrested by the Russians, tortured and sentenced to 25 years forced labour. Describes his 3 month journey from Moscow to the prison camp in Siberia, his escape with 6 companions and their journey across the Gobi desert to Tibet and freedom.

the long walk book slavomir rawicz: Long Walk Slavomir Rawicz, 2010-11-16 MORE THAN HALF A MILLION COPIES SOLD! The classic adventure story that inspired the new major motion picture *The Way Back*, directed by Peter Weir *** "I hope *The Long Walk* will remain as a memorial to all those who live and die for freedom, and for all those who for many reasons could not speak for themselves." —Slavomir Rawicz *The Long Walk* is a book that I absolutely could not put down and one that I will never forget...--Stephen Ambrose A poet with steel in his soul.--New York Times One of the most amazing, heroic stories of this or any other time.--Chicago Tribune "A book filled with the spirit of human dignity and the courage of men seeking freedom." —Los Angeles Times "Heroism is not the domain of the powerful; it is the domain of people whose only other alternative is to give up and die.... [*The Long Walk*] must be read—and reread, and passed along to friends."—National Geographic Adventure "The ultimate human endurance story...told with clarity, vivid description, and a good dash of romance and humor."—The Vancouver Sun Essentially it comes down to some sort of inner tenacity and that is what is so gripping about the book because you know that this is actually about all of us. It's not just some Polish bloke who wanted to get home. It's about how we all struggle on every day. Somehow or other we find a reason to keep on going and it's the same here but on an epic scale.--Benedict Allen, explorer and bestselling author of *Into the Abyss* and *Edge of Blue Heaven* *** In 1941, the author and six fellow prisoners of war escaped a Soviet labor camp in Yakutsk—a camp where enduring hunger, cold, untended wounds, and untreated illnesses, and avoiding daily executions were everyday feats. Their march—over thousands of miles by foot—out of Siberia, through China, the Gobi Desert, Tibet, and over the Himalayas to British India is a remarkable statement about man's desire to be free. Written in a hauntingly detailed, no-holds-barred way, the book inspired the Peter Wier film *The Way Back*, due for release in late 2010. Previous editions have sold hundreds of thousands of copies; this edition includes an afterword written by the author shortly before his death, as well as the author's introduction to the book's Polish edition. Guaranteed to forever stay in the reader's mind, *The Long Walk* will remain a testament to the strength of the human spirit, and the universal desire for freedom and dignity. *** Six-time Academy Award-nominee Peter Weir (Master and Commander, *The Truman Show*, and *The Dead Poets Society*) recently directed *The Way Back*, a much-anticipated film based on *The Long Walk*. Starring Colin Farrell, Jim Sturgess, and Ed Harris, it is due for release in late 2010.

the long walk book slavomir rawicz: The Long Walk Slavomir Rawicz, 2010-11-16 MORE THAN HALF A MILLION COPIES SOLD! The classic adventure story that inspired the new major motion picture *The Way Back*, directed by Peter Weir In 1941, the author and six fellow prisoners of war escaped a Soviet labor camp in Yakutsk—a camp where enduring hunger, cold, untended wounds, and untreated illnesses, and avoiding daily executions were everyday feats. Their march—over thousands of miles by foot—out of Siberia, through China, the Gobi Desert, Tibet, and

over the Himalayas to British India is a remarkable statement about man's desire to be free. Written in a hauntingly detailed, no-holds-barred way, the book inspired the Peter Wier film *The Way Back*. Previous editions have sold hundreds of thousands of copies; this edition includes an afterword written by the author shortly before his death, as well as the author's introduction to the book's Polish edition. Guaranteed to forever stay in the reader's mind, *The Long Walk* will remain a testament to the strength of the human spirit, and the universal desire for freedom and dignity. Six-time Academy Award-nominee Peter Weir (Master and Commander, *The Truman Show*, and *The Dead Poets Society*) directed *The Way Back*, a much-anticipated film based on *The Long Walk*. Starring Colin Farrell, Jim Sturgess, and Ed Harris.

the long walk book slavomir rawicz: Looking for Mr. Smith Linda Willis, 2010-11 Since 1956, *The Long Walk* has been, for many, the symbol of an immense love of freedom and has become one of the greatest true-life adventure stories of all time. The harrowing story about a group of POWs who escaped a labor camp in Siberia and walked to freedom in India during WWII deeply affected thousands of its readers, and Linda Willis was one of those moved by the story. But she had questions about its authenticity: Was it all true? What happened after their arrival in India? Were there others involved in the story? Who was Mr. Smith? Though she was not a trained researcher, Willis felt compelled to look at some of the most powerful aspects of the story and to try to dig to the core of the truth behind *The Long Walk*. Willis's investigation took her down unforeseen byways with many hours spent unraveling facts, truths, half-truths, rumors, and the like. She waded through archives, wrote and spoke to hundreds of people, and continued to seek out and verify the details of the greatest adventure narrative ever written. The path of Willis's research will be a model for anyone attempting a similar search and who has ever thought about the story behind a book. No one who reads *Looking for Mr. Smith* will ever think of *The Long Walk* in the same way.

the long walk book slavomir rawicz: **The Bigfoot Book** Nick Redfern, 2015-08-17 The definitive guide to Bigfoot, Sasquatch, Yeti, and other man-primates from an established author and respected expert on the unexplained and paranormal. Does a hulking, hairy, 800-pound, nine-foot-tall, elusive primate roam the woods and forests throughout North America—and the world? What should we make of the grainy videos and photos and the thousands of eyewitness reports? Audio-recordings exist purporting to be the creatures' eerie chatter and bone-chilling screaming. Whether called Sasquatch, Yeti, Bigfoot, or something else, bipedal primates appear in folklore, legends, and eyewitness accounts in every state of the union and many places around the world. The fascination with the man-beast is stronger than ever in today's pop culture. Exploring the history, movies, and literature, the conspiracy theorizing, and the world of the supernatural, *The Bigfoot Book: The Encyclopedia of Sasquatch, Yeti, and Cryptid Primates* is a comprehensive resource to the man-beast. With nearly 200 entries and 120 photographs, drawings, and illustrations, it is the definitive guide to understanding, hunting, and avoiding the brute, as well as discovering the facts behind the sightings and horrifying tales. It covers 400 years of folklore, mythology, history, and pop culture, including Native American lore, the "wild men" reports in the pages of 19th century-era American newspapers, Florida's Myakka Skunk Ape, Australia's Yowie, China's Yeren, Himalayas' Yeti, Russian expeditions, Harry and the Hendersons, *Exists* and the countless movies titled Bigfoot, as well as specials on the television shows *Animal Planet*, *Discovery Channel* and *National Geographic Channel*, scientific reports and findings, and much, much more. Various documentaries and reality television shows have all superficially tackled the subject, but Nick Redfern presents a truly complete and comprehensive look at cryptid primates. It is a richly researched reference, overflowing with fascinating information to make readers think—and reconsider their next camping trip.

the long walk book slavomir rawicz: **Backpacker**, 1989-03 *Backpacker* brings the outdoors straight to the reader's doorstep, inspiring and enabling them to go more places and enjoy nature more often. The authority on active adventure, *Backpacker* is the world's first GPS-enabled magazine, and the only magazine whose editors personally test the hiking trails, camping gear, and survival tips they publish. *Backpacker's* Editors' Choice Awards, an industry honor recognizing

design, feature and product innovation, has become the gold standard against which all other outdoor-industry awards are measured.

the long walk book slavomir rawicz: The Ultimate Teen Book Guide Daniel Hahn, Leonie Flynn, Susan Reuben, 2007-12-26 Covering such genres as fantasy, horror, chick lit, graphic novels, sci-fi, and mystery, an all-encompassing, must-have resource profiles more than 700 of the best books for teens, from the classics to the latest bestsellers. Simultaneous.

the long walk book slavomir rawicz: Hell of a Journey Mike Cawthorne, 2013-03-08 Hell of a Journey describes what is arguably the last great journey to be undertaken in Britain: the entire Scottish Highlands on foot in one winter. On one level it is a vivid and evocative account of a remarkable trek - never attempted before - on another it celebrates the uniqueness of the Highlands, the scenery and ecology of 'the last wilderness in Europe'. The challenge Mike Cawthorne set himself was to climb all 135 of Scotland's 1,000-metre peaks, which stretch in an unbroken chain through the heart of the Highlands, from Sutherland to the Eastern Cairngorms, down to Loch Lomond, and west to Glencoe. His route traversed the most spectacular landscape in Scotland, linking every portion of wilderness, and was completed in the midst of the harshest winter conditions imaginable. Acclaimed on its first publication in 2000, this edition contains an epilogue in which Mike Cawthorne reflects on his trek and wonders what has changed since he carried it out. He warns that 'wild land in Scotland has never been under greater threat'. Hell of a Journey is a reminder of what we could so easily lose forever.

the long walk book slavomir rawicz: The Bumper Book of Bravery Charlie Norton, 2012-04-24 The Bumper Book of Bravery recounts tales of incredible courage the world over, from the mythical to the modern, and from New York to New Zealand: Take to the seas and marvel at the first voyage around the world. Dare to go deeper and discover record-setting underwater feats, as well as the French free-diver who refused to learn her limits. Stay on land with Samurai warriors, Roman emperor gladiators and Genghis Khan's lethal Mongolian army. Reach for the skies through balloonists, fantastic flying machines and female fighter pilots. Go underground with the ultimate masters of espionage, including Russian spies, honey-traps and ruthless CIA-trained Tibetan agents. From ocean depths to giddy heights and everything in between, The Bumper Book of Bravery will awaken the adventurer and hero inside of us all.

the long walk book slavomir rawicz: Text, Lies and Cataloging Jana Brubaker, 2018-07-09 What do James Frey's *A Million Little Pieces*, Margaret B. Jones' *Love and Consequence* and Wanda Koolmatrie's *My Own Sweet Time* have in common? None of these popular books are what they appear to be. Frey's fraudulent drug addiction memoir was really a semi-fictional novel, Jones' chronicle of her life in a street gang was a complete fabrication, and Koolmatrie was not an Aboriginal woman removed from her family as a child, as in her seemingly autobiographical account, but rather a white taxi driver named Leon Carmen. Deceptive literary works mislead readers and present librarians with a dilemma. Whether making recommendations to patrons or creating catalog records, objectivity and accuracy are crucial--and can be difficult when a book's authorship or veracity is in doubt. This informative (and entertaining!) study addresses ethical considerations for deceptive works and proposes cataloging solutions that are provocative and designed to spark debate. An extensive annotated bibliography describes books that are not what they seem.

the long walk book slavomir rawicz: Allen & Mike's Really Cool Backpackin' Book Allen O'bannon, 2001-04 Hilarious and practical information about the art of backpacking from two NOLS instructors.

the long walk book slavomir rawicz: The Lou Conter Story Louis A. Conter, Annette C. Hull, Warren R. Hull, 2021-01-25 The Lou Conter Story: From USS Arizona Survivor to Unsung American Hero tells the incredible story of one of the last remaining survivors of the USS Arizona. More than just a recollection of the events that transpired in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, on December 7, 1941, this book also records the author's memorable experiences before and after the Day of Infamy. Conter was on the USS Arizona deck when a Japanese armor-piercing bomb hit one million pounds of gunpowder stored in the ship's hull. He helped rescue crewmen following the explosion and dove

into the wreckage to recover bodies in the days after. In 1942, Conter went to flight school where he earned his wings and became a VP-11 Black Cat pilot. He helped rescue over two hundred Australian Coastwatchers stranded in northern New Guinea and was shot down twice -- once swimming with his crew while sharks circled. Conter also helped rescue over two hundred Australian shore watchers up the Sepik River in New Guinea. After World War II, he became an intelligence officer, flew combat in Korea, created the Navy's first SERE program (survival, evasion, resistance, and escape), and served as a military advisor to presidents Eisenhower, Kennedy, and Johnson. Lou Conter shares his Pearl Harbor experiences with high school students throughout Northern California, and he returns to the USS Arizona every December to take part in National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day activities to honor and remember the 2,403 service members and civilians who were killed during the Japanese attack at Pearl Harbor. In 2019, Conter was one of only three remaining crew members out of the 335 who had survived the attack on the USS Arizona. He was the only survivor able to attend the memorial event.

the long walk book slavomir rawicz: Run, It Might Be Somebody Ephraim Romesberg, 2005-10-24 Book Summary of Run It Might Be Somebody By Ephraim Romesberg The book covers a span of over 70 years starting with the author as a shy sickly boy who was the last of 11 children living on a farm during the great depression and ends with the author as a 74 year old man, who still runs ultra distant marathons. In the first chapter, the author presents stories and anecdotes, often in a humorous way, to describe some of the joys and hardships of growing up in a large family during the great depression. Compared to today, life was very different then with no TVs, very few radios, no computers, no running water in the home (except in the pantry where there was a hand pump), and very few toys or luxuries of any kind. Also, and perhaps more significantly, kids, for the most part, were given chores and did not have time to get into trouble. There were no drugs, no gangs, and no boredom. Being the youngest in the family and somewhat sickly, the author was to some extent given some slack on farm chores. Even so, he had daily chores to do starting from a very early age such as milking cows, driving the old model T truck, fetching the cows, cleaning stables, feeding livestock, driving a tractor, and helping wherever help was needed. The book describes the one room school house that all kids in the area attended at that time. The authors dad had to quit such a school while in third grade to work on the farm when his father died leaving the family without any money or food. His mother completed school through eighth grade which was all that most people considered necessary in those days especially for women. So there was little or no pressure from the parents to go to school after that. As a result, the three oldest boys in the family never went past eighth grade. There were other reasons to stay home and the most important one was they had no decent clothing. The book tells about the Authors mother removing the white stripes from an old pair of band pants and one of the three boys who never completed high school, then removing all the little white threads so that he could wear the pants to school. He also had no decent shoes so he added home made soles to the bottoms of a pair of his work shoes by attaching them with roofing nails so that he could make the long four mile walk to the school. After several trips the nails poked through the bottoms of the shoes and wore holes in his feet. Because of that and the lure of the upcoming hunting season, and the need to work on the farm, he quit school after only a month or so. Except for the three oldest boys, all of the kids completed high school and several went on to college. The book describes such things as making hay the old fashioned way, husking corn by hand, hoeing corn and then picking rocks while resting, butchering a pig, delivering baby pigs and calves, threshing to separate the grain from the straw, and the authors Mom squirting milk straight from the cows tit at cats and grandkids.. Also described are how the young boys in the family learned to handle a team of horses when they were only 10 years old, how one of the boys accidentally cut off his little sisters finger, how an uncle lost his leg to the stump puller, how the author, when he was only eight years old, tried to explain to a blind preacher how to use the out house and the Sears Roebuck catalog which was used instead of toilet paper. Also described, and a little more on the lighter side, one of the authors sisters claimed that you havent lived until you ran barefoot through a cow pasture and felt the warmth of a fresh cow patty ooze up between your toes. The early chapters

also describe the authors time in the US Navy where he was sea sick every time the ship left the dock. Hunting stories tell of deer hunting with more failures than successes. One successful

the long walk book slavomir rawicz: Forever Man John M. Lucas, 2015-04-22 Want to live forever? You can ... if you're a man. The world in 2035 is a place where women grow old and men grow young. The battle of the sexes is lost and Elizabeth Richardson's medical career is ended solely because she is a woman. Dr. Bill Richardson, Elizabeth's father, leads an experiment in 2006 resulting in a medical breakthrough that can give men, but not women, an indefinite lifespan. Elizabeth sets out on a journey to uncover the truth behind the discovery, leading to violent retribution and death.

the long walk book slavomir rawicz: Honey for a Teen's Heart Gladys Hunt, Barbara Hampton, 2010-06-01 Help Your Teen Catch the Lifelong Reading Bug. Honey for a Teen's Heart spells out how good books can help you and your teenager communicate heart-to-heart about ideas, values, and the various issues of a Christian worldview. Sharing the adventure of a book lets both of you know the same people, see the same sights, face the same choices, and feel the same emotions. Life spills out of books--giving you plenty to talk about! But Honey for a Teen's Heart will do more than strengthen the bonds between you and your son or daughter. You'll also learn how to help your teen catch the reading habit and become a lover of good books. Gladys Hunt's insights on how to read a book, what to look for in a book, and how to question what you read will challenge you and your teenager alike. It's training for life! And it's fabulous preparation for teens entering college. Including an annotated list of over four hundred books, Honey for a Teen's Heart gives you expert guidance on the very best books for teens.

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