

Cameron Jennings

Mrs. Gunn

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### Perseverance Leads to Success

In the face of trauma or constant setbacks how could perseverance bring success in life? The stories from “Can A Devastating Shark Attack Really Lead to a Better Life?” by Melanie Greenberg, “New Survivors” by Pamela Weintraub, and “Letters from Wilbur Wright” by Wilbur Wright show those who challenged the impossible. Despite this, they are able to persevere through shark attacks, cancer, and the setbacks in trying to achieve human flight and still succeed in all features of life.

For example, after losing her arm in a shark attack while surfing Bethany Hamilton shows how one can succeed through hard work and tenacity. She had thought that her life as a surfer and normal person was over, but she refused to accept that. Hamilton would work hard to recover and according to the article she would “return to surfing, eventually winning a world championship” to show that losing her arm only made her better at doing what she loves (Greenberg Par. 1). Furthermore, Hamilton would go to “Thailand with her Church youth group and used her surfing to help children affect by the tsunami” (Greenberg, Par. 4). This shows that Hamilton’s own experiences with her trauma had helped her immensely. She used her trauma and time recovering to learn to put others first and find a deeper love for her passions.

Additionally, even Jasan Zimmerman who experienced cancer on three separate occasions would grow like Hamilton and find fulfillment in speaking out about his trauma. The article shows how after falling into a pit of anger and fear for cancer Zimmerman wanted an

escape; however, he would learn that “only by embracing his role as a survivor and speaking out to many of the 1.4 million Americans diagnosed with the disease each year” could he overcome his past and grow as a person (Weintraub Par. 5). Zimmerman found a purpose in giving hope to others and helping people other than himself embrace being survivors, not victims. He has shown tremendous perseverance in the face of death itself and has become selfless in his act of spreading hope.

Furthermore, when facing the impossible the Wright brothers continued to grow on their journey of achieving the first human flight. Despite failing in many aspects with the engine and body, by December 14, 1903 only 4 years after beginning to build the airplane there was “no question of final success” (Wright Par. 9). Later on in “December 17, 1903, the Wright brothers flew their machine for 59 seconds covering 852 feet” and achieved the first ever successful flight of an airplane in the history of the world (Wright, Par. 10). This expresses that by maintaining resolve and perseverance success is imminent. With unyielding positivity in the face of failure, the brothers were able to achieve actual human flight only three days after proclaiming their success. This would forever mark history as a huge step in science, innovation, and a show for how far perseverance can get someone.

In conclusion, through ordeals of trauma from losing an arm and cancer to attempting to achieve the impossible, these people show that through perseverance success is only a few steps away. To prove this Bethany Hamilton was able to become a better person by persevering through life without an arm, Jack Zimmerman would give others hope by working past his trauma as a three time cancer survivor, and Wilbur Wright, along with his brother, achieved the impossible by never backing down from repeated challenges and roadblocks. Because of this it is

shown that while facing trauma and setbacks perseverance does lead one to success and fulfillment.

Works Cited

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