

Unsinkable: From Russian Orphan to Paralympic Swimming World Champion

Deborah Le Starge

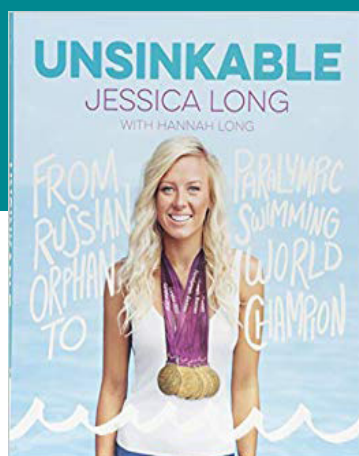
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Book Review

Unsinkable: From Russian Orphan to Paralympic Swimming World Champion

Author

Jessica Long and Hannah Long

Illustrator

Reviewer

Deborah Le Starge

Rating

Excellent

Level

Intermediate

Pages

112

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2018

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Houghton Mifflin Harcourt

ISBN

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Take a peek at the inspiring life of the Paralympic swimming world champion Jessica. Her story begins as a young orphan baby with malformed legs in Russia. After being adopted and receiving multiple surgeries, Long was able to learn new skills, including how to swim. Her love for swimming led her to compete in multiple Paralympics, earning gold, silver, and bronze metals. She eventually reunited with her birth family to share her joy with them. Through her life challenges and experiences, Long was able to look at her life in a positive way and recognize the plan God had for her.

This book would be a good resource for students to use when learning about autobiographies. Long does a great job of telling about her life experiences in a factual and interesting way while also revealing her feelings and thoughts during each significant event. Not only that, but this book inspires people to look at the challenges they've been given in life and see the positive aspects in them. There were a few times throughout Long's life that she was discouraged and ready to give up. During each of those times she was able to turn around, look at things differently, and accomplish something great. This book leads the reader to believe that just as Long was able to look at her life with optimism and a view of the possibilities, everyone can do the same in their own life.