



BLIND AMBITION

How to Envision Your Limitless Potential and Achieve the Success You Want

PATRICIA WALSH

CHAMPION PARATRIATHLETE



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WRITERS WHO INSPIRE

In honor of our "Influencers" issue, we are focusing on fierce female figures in literature, including a true pioneer. Get ready to be awed and inspired by these women, many of whom don't seem to enjoy taking no for an answer. *By Barbara Bellesi*

"DIRTY CHICK" Antonia Murphy

In this hilarious memoir, Murphy details the first year of her family's journey from being upright urbanites in San Francisco to down-and-dirty artisanal farmers in rural New Zealand. Sound crazy? Well, it made perfect sense to Murphy and her husband, who wanted a better chance for their developmentally delayed 5-year-old son. Never mind that they didn't have any farming experience; they eventually assimilate to life with the cows, goats, chickens, and sheep, but not without gaining a sincere appreciation of the phrase "dirty work." Murphy's philosophy is that poop happens – most especially on a farm.

"LETTERS FROM THE WAY" Barbara V. Anderson

Walking has proven to be not just an exercise for the body, but for the mind and soul as well. In this little gem of a book, Anderson shares her 600-mile solitary stroll from Arles, France to Puento la Reina, Spain. Her goal was to empower fellow baby boomers and encourage them to explore the world and, in turn, learn more about themselves. She wrote and emailed letters that were shared and shared again among friends so that by the end of her trek, Anderson had established quite a fan base.

"PIONEER GIRL" Pamela Smith Hill, Editor

Readers of "Little House on the Prairie," rejoice! Here is Laura Ingalls Wilder's previously unpublished autobiography that tells the real-life stories behind her much-loved novels that were based on her family and their travels through Kansas, Missouri, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, and the Dakota Territory. Hill, the award-winning author of Wilder's biography, has annotated the manuscript that has been tucked away since the 1930s, enabling "Little House" fans to see the true story of our beloved Laura as she grew from little girl out on the prairie to wife and mother and, of course, to acclaimed novelist.

"BLIND AMBITION" Patricia Walsh

A brain tumor left Walsh blind at the age of 5, but it didn't take away her vision. This award-winning computer engineer is also an IRONMAN world record holder and a paratriathlete who smashed the record for blind triathletes in 2011 by a whopping 50 minutes. She's done all this and more because she fervently believed she wouldn't be restricted by any limitations. In this fiercely motivating book, Walsh shares her Fuel/Fire/Blaze approach to reaching goals. Fuel: Set your base goals and daily tasks. Fire: Map out major milestones and stay motivated towards them. Blaze: Discover your highest goals and desires. Walsh has consistently proven there is always a way to surpass obstacles.

