

Hope can be very hard to find when you're in an awful place. You feel like you're in a dark place with nothing to motivate you. Anne Lamott says it better than anyone else when she states, " Hope begins in the dark, the stubborn hope that if you just show up and try to do the right thing, the dawn will come. You wait and watch and work: You don't give up." Her quote shows that in a dark and scary time, hope is hard to find. But if you stick with it and wait and be patient and strive for the hope and don't give up then it will be there in the light.

During the time when the Japanese were attacking, Henry was striving for hope while he was fighting and not giving up. Henry knows that he has a job to do so that he gets closer to hope and survival. He explains that, " My job would be to lay down suppressing fire whenever they stopped shooting to reload. We had a dozen metal boxes of ammo for the .50 cal, and I hoped it would be enough." (Spradlin, 2017, pg.22) In this quote we see that Henry knows that he has important job to do and that he is also in search of hope. According to Anne Lamott, Henry is searching for the hope he can't find because of the dreadful time that he is in right now.

Henry knows that the Japanese aren't going to be nice but will be cruel so he does whatever the Japanese say, he goes on marches, and works. He doesn't give up, he thinks positive and stays alive. As Henry is thinking about everything that is happening he then explains, " Onward we marched. After a time I was convinced the brutality I'd witnessed was all a dream." (Spradlin, 2017, pg. 76) In this quote Henry has seen so much violence that he is being convinced that it is a dream since he wasn't used to seeing it. One could also tell that he was going on a dreadful march at the same time. According to Anne Lamott, Henry is kind of fading away from the search for hope but he is in away, he is still trying to reach hope.

In the end, Anne Lamott's quote tells a very short story of how hope is very hard to find in a time where one may give up. However, through this tough and very awful time Henry learns to think about a chance of death or defeat and so he keeps his body going and going like him and his brain and body are apart from each other so that Henry and his brain are yelling and commanding his body to not give up and keep going. If you give up on surviving and finding hope then you miss an opportunity for you to realize that you can get through a hard time and survive, you'll miss that because you've given up. I've learned from this book that if I never give up on finding hope, I will see that I can get through something that is challenging for my body and mind.