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The one book that's dramatically affected my life is "The Little Engine That Could" by Watty Piper. I realize this is a children's story but I have many reasons as to why this book has affected my life. The biggest reason is that it was the only book my father ever read to me when I was a child. My father has always been so busy working that he just was not around much. The other significant reason for this book being such a big part of who I am is because of the "I can" attitude I developed from hearing this story when I was a little girl. The best part of the book is when the little blue engine helps the toys and dolls get over the mountain because the engine had never done anything like that before and she was such a small size. This book has taught me that if you believe in yourself, you can do anything. If I had never heard this story I truly wonder if I would be who I am today. Coming back to college has been very hard on me this year. I'm a single mother and I work full-time, on top of being a full-time student. Every time things like school work or just being a mom gets too hard I think about the little engine who didn't give up, and I tell myself I can do this. This book is embedded into my memory and every time life gets hard or I try something new it pops up in my memory to remind me everything I do and want is possible as long as I don't give up! I'm hoping what I've said touches many lives to get people to keep reading this simple but amazing story to others, young or old. The only gift I can afford to give to others all year round is the knowledge and attitude I've gained from this delightful story about the little engine. I am currently passing it on to my daughter every night before bed. Any chance I get to with family and friends I try to talk about the attitude that's made my life so much fuller by never giving up on me. I hope my story is passed on for others to read to encourage others to read this book and to teach others a self-gratifying attitude.