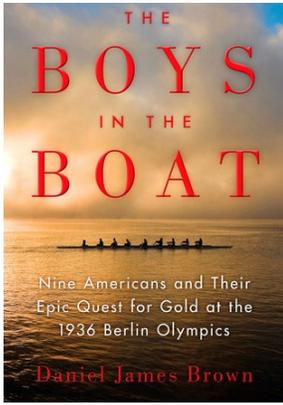


The Boys in the Boat

by Daniel James Brown



[Daniel James Brown](#)

[*The Boys in the Boat*](#)

Summary: Daniel James Brown’s robust book tells the story of the University of Washington’s 1936 eight-oar crew and their epic quest for an Olympic gold medal, a team that transformed the sport and grabbed the attention of millions of Americans. The sons of loggers, shipyard workers, and farmers, the boys defeated elite rivals first from eastern and British universities and finally the German crew rowing for Adolf Hitler in the Olympic Games in Berlin, 1936.

“All were merged into one smoothly working machine: they were in fact a poem of motion, a symphony of swinging blades.”

*The Boys
in the Boat*

The emotional heart of the story lies with one rower, Joe Rantz, a teenager without family or prospects, who rows not for glory, but to regain his shattered self-regard and to find a place he can call home. The crew is assembled by an enigmatic coach and mentored by a visionary, eccentric British boat builder, but it is their trust in each other that makes them a victorious team. They remind the country of what can be done when everyone quite literally pulls together—a perfect melding of commitment, determination, and optimism.

Drawing on the boys’ own diaries and journals, their photos and memories of a once-in-a-lifetime shared dream, *The Boys in the Boat* is an irresistible story about beating the odds and finding hope in the most desperate of times—the improbable, intimate story of nine working-class boys from the American west who, in the depths of the Great Depression, showed the world what true grit really meant.

More Fun Stuff!

[*The Boys in the Boat* Book Club Guide](#)

[*The Boys in the Boat* Snacks & Sips Menu](#)

[1936 Berlin Olympic Games](#)

[*The Boys in the Boat* – Official Book Trailer](#)

[Washington’s 1936 Olympic Team – *The Boys in the Boat*](#)

