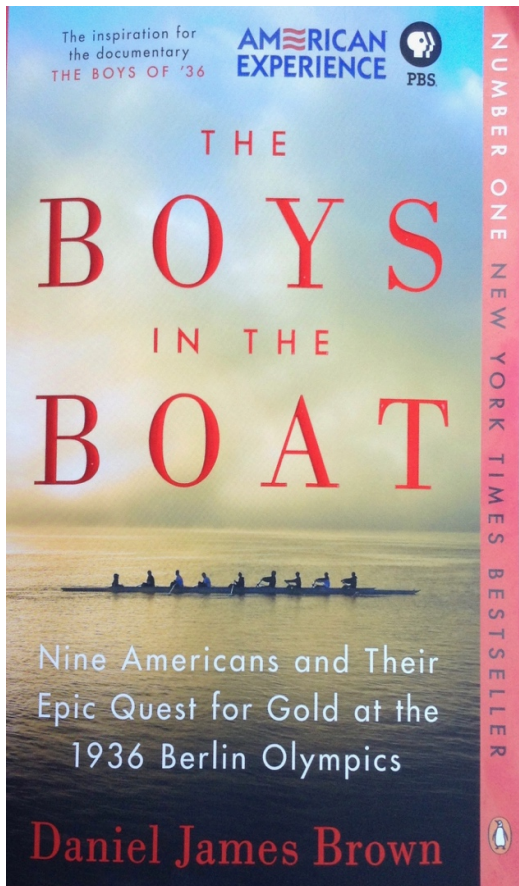


The Boys in the Boat

by Daniel James Brown



- *The Boys in the Boat* celebrates the 1936 U.S. men’s Olympic eight-oar rowing team — nine working class boys ...
- Sons of loggers, shipyard workers, and farmers from the American West, the boys took on and defeated ... the sons of bankers and senators rowing for elite eastern universities.
- They vanquished the sons of British aristocrats rowing for Oxford and Cambridge.
- In an extraordinary race in Berlin they stunned the Aryan sons of the Nazi state as they rowed for gold in front of Adolf Hitler.
- They reaffirmed the American notion that merit, in the end, outweighs birthright... reminded the country of what can be done when everyone quite literally pulls together.
- Provided hope that ... the ruthless might of the Nazis would not prevail over American grit, determination, and optimism.

“The Boys of ‘36” recounts the story of the nine rowers from UW who seemed to come out of nowhere and capture the world’s interest.

“Seattle was this frontier town back in the early part of the 20th century. These weren’t Ivy Leaguers, they were struggling guys,” Grossi said. “At that time in Seattle, your options were [to work in] the lumberyards or on fishing boats, it seemed, and so I think they knew they had to have a very strong work ethic in order to succeed and I think that made a difference. That kind of work ethic was just automatic.” — Rob Owens, *The Seattle Times*