



NHS Summer Shared Read



The Boys in the Boat

Nine Americans and Their Epic Quest for Gold
at the 1936 Berlin Olympics

by Daniel James Brown



All Nonnewaug families and staff are invited to participate in this shared experience by reading, listening to, and learning about the highly acclaimed true story.

Copies of both the Young Adult and Unabridged texts are available in the NHS main office, at the Bethlehem and Woodbury Public Libraries, and at local and major retailers. Audiobooks are available on Sora, Libby, and retail sites. Contact kaseltine@ctreg14.org for assistance.


Book Discussion and Movie Night
Thursday, September 3rd, 6:30 pm at the
NHS Track or Auditorium Pending Weather

“The #1 *New York Times*–bestselling story about a stunning American Olympic triumph in Nazi Germany, the inspiration for a major motion picture directed by George Clooney, and the basis of the PBS documentary “The Boys of ‘36’.” Now over three years on the *New York Times* list.

For readers of *Unbroken*, out of the depths of the Depression comes an irresistible story about beating the odds and finding hope in the most desperate of times—the improbable, intimate account of how nine working-class boys from the American West showed the world at the 1936 Olympics in Berlin what true grit really meant.

It was an unlikely quest from the start. With a team composed of the sons of loggers, shipyard workers, and farmers, the University of Washington’s eight-oar crew team was never expected to defeat the elite teams of the East Coast and Great Britain, yet they did, going on to shock the world by defeating the German team rowing for Adolf Hitler. The emotional heart of the tale lies with Joe Rantz, a teenager without family or prospects, who rows not only to regain his shattered self-regard but also to find a real place for himself in the world. Drawing on the boys’ own journals and vivid memories of a once-in-a-lifetime shared dream, Brown has created an unforgettable portrait of an era.” - <https://www.danieljamesbrown.com/books/the-boys-in-the-boat/>
<https://washingtonrowing.com/history/the-boys-in-the-boat/>

Locations for Borrowing an Edition:

- Sora (NHS students & staff have access for free)- <https://soraapp.com/welcome>
 - How to Use Sora  Screen recording 2026-05-26 1.46.31 PM.webm
- Hoopla or Libby (Use your local library card to access)
- The Woodbury or Bethlehem Public Libraries
- Audiobook versions available on YouTube
- The Nonnewaug Main Office Summer Reading Bookshelf
- or Email Kaseltine@ctreg14.org for help

Locations for Purchasing an Edition:

- The Hickory Stick Bookstore in Washington Depot
- Barnes and Noble Southbury or [BarnesandNoble.com](https://www.barnesandnoble.com/s/1114985036):
<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/s/1114985036>
- Amazon.com:
 - <https://www.amazon.com/The-Boys-in-Boat-audiobook/dp/B00D67EOMO>
 - <https://www.amazon.com/Boys-Boat-Americans-Berlin-Olympics/dp/067002581>
- Audible, Chirp, Spotify, Google Play, and many other places where books are sold...

& Check Out These Events to Coincide with our Summer Reading!

- 8/15- ALZ Regatta on Bantam Lake: <https://www.litchfieldhillsrowing.org/alzregatta>
- 8/22 @ 11 am- Rowing Competition at Strongtown Fitness
Registration Link: <https://forms.gle/3BznQ4faNG9H6NnZ8>
- 9/1 @ 2:30 pm- “Rowing Towards the Medal” talk by Kate Peterson about her father’s crew experience, NHS Room A26
- 9/3 @ 6:30 pm- *The Boys in the Boat* (2023) Movie Night at NHS
(location weather pending)

Extra Credit for Students. Complete the Following Google Form. [Extra Credit](#)

