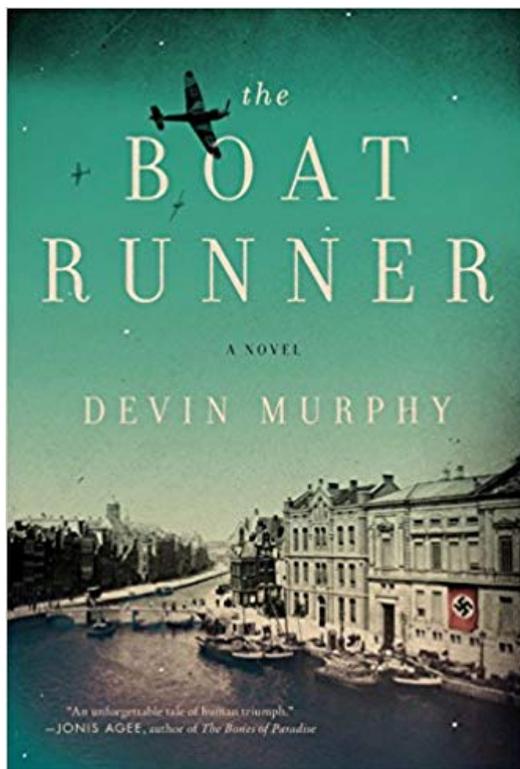


What I'm Reading: The Boat Runner

I just finished up the audio book [The Boat Runner](#) by Devin Murphy. The description for this book said, "In the tradition of *All The Light We Cannot See* and *The Nightingale*, comes an incandescent debut novel about a young Dutch man who comes of age during the perilousness of World War II." How could I not give it a try. It came from Hoopla (have I said lately how much I love Hoopla?)



I ended up liking the book. It was a different perspective of WWII. This time we are in the Netherlands learning the fate of family whose father is the local light bulb factory owner. Jacob the youngest struggles between knowing who is blame for the things that happen to his family..the Nazi's or his own country. This was an interesting perspective.

Here's what Amazon had to say: "*Beginning in the summer of 1939, fourteen-year-old Jacob Koopman and his older brother,*

Edwin, enjoy lives of prosperity and quiet contentment. Many of the residents in their small Dutch town have some connection to the Koopman lightbulb factory, and the locals hold the family in high esteem.

On days when they aren't playing with friends, Jacob and Edwin help their Uncle Martin on his fishing boat in the North Sea, where German ships have become a common sight. But conflict still seems unthinkable, even as the boys' father naively sends his sons to a Hitler Youth Camp in an effort to secure German business for the factory.

When war breaks out, Jacob's world is thrown into chaos. The Boat Runner follows Jacob over the course of four years, through the forests of France, the stormy beaches of England, and deep within the secret missions of the German Navy, where he is confronted with the moral dilemma that will change his life—and his life's mission—forever.

Epic in scope and featuring a thrilling narrative with precise, elegant language, The Boat Runner tells the little-known story of the young Dutch boys who were thrown into the Nazi campaign, as well as the brave boatmen who risked everything to give Jewish refugees safe passage to land abroad. Through one boy's harrowing tale of personal redemption, here is a novel about the power of people's stories and voices to shine light through our darkest days, until only love prevails."

Amazon readers gave the book 4.5 stars. I think I'd give 4.2. It did like the book. I am a believer that when an event happens, there are many differing views of the event. With WWII, this is so true. I've read so many books about it. Some fiction, most non fiction. Each time I read one I feel like I get and clearer and clearer picture of it. I wish this book would have wrapped up a few loose ends a little better. I also wish a chapter or two would have been added to end...I needed more.