Sink or Swim
A Novel of World War II
Written by Steve Watkins
Grades 4 & Up
272 pages
Blue Case / Heroes & Villains

About This Book

America is officially at war with Germany and Japan, and everyone wants to do their part. In twelve-year-old Colton’s case, that means stepping up at home once his older brother, Danny, ships out with the navy. But before Danny leaves for boot camp, the brothers are fishing on the Atlantic Ocean when Danny’s boat is capsized by a Nazi U-boat, nearly killing him.

With Danny’s life in the balance, Colton does the only thing he can think of to help his family and his country: he steals his brother’s enlisting papers and joins up instead.

Colton’s bold decision leads to a deadly journey. Even if he can keep his age a secret and survive boot camp, he’ll have to face Hitler’s ruthless submarines. But the longer he’s on the seas, the less sure Colton is that he and his shipmates can stop such a relentless enemy…

Steve Watkins weaves a story of courage in the face of danger, and hope in the face of defeat. Inspired by the true story of the youngest boy who served in World War II.

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