Sink or Swim: A Novel of World War II

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BYU ScholarsArchive Citation
McMillan, Tessa (2018) "Sink or Swim: A Novel of World War II," Children's Book and Media Review: Vol. 39 : Iss. 5 , Article 68. Available at: https://scholarsarchive.byu.edu/cbmr/vol39/iss5/68

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Sink or Swim is a gripping novel loosely based on the true story of Calvin Graham. It is very apparent that Watkins did extensive research to authentically showcase what many WWII sailors experienced. Because of Watkins’ thorough research, he can spend quality time developing Colton’s character. Colton starts off as an insecure tween, but when desperate times call for desperate measures, Colton rises to the challenge to provide for and protect his family. However, Colton has moments where he just wants to be a kid and stop facing the horrors of war. So it comes as a relief when Colton’s true age is revealed and he’s discharged from the Navy. He can return to being a teenager, but he has the discipline of his experiences to confidently navigate his future. This is a fantastic historical fiction story for ages twelve and up.

*Contains mild violence.