



# Run, Boy, Run

*Uri Orlev*

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## **Run, Boy, Run** Uri Orlev

Run, Boy, Run is the extraordinary account of one boy's survival of the Holocaust. Srulik is only eight years old when he finds himself all alone in the Warsaw ghetto. He escapes into the countryside where he spends the ensuing years hiding in the forest, dependent on the sympathies and generosity of the poor farmers in the surrounding area. Despite the seemingly insurmountable odds, several chases, captures, attempted executions, and even the loss of his arm, Srulik miraculously survives.

## **Run, Boy, Run Details**

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# From Reader Review Run, Boy, Run for online ebook

## Keri says

Kerima McLucas

Historical fiction

Run, Boy, Run is a story of Srulik, a young Jewish boy who is able to survive the Holocaust. He is torn from his mother and father who are fleeing from the German soldiers. Srulik lives mostly in the forests of the Warsaw Ghetto, where he meets some boys that teach him how to survive. He is taken in by several families that treat him good, but turn on him later. When there is trouble and the German's look for Srulik, he is told to move on. Srulik finds food and shelter, just enough to stay alive. As the war ends and Hitler is killed, it would appear that he would be safe with his new adopted family, but more turmoil will present itself before he is able to be free.

Uri Olev and translator Hillil Halkin have created a wonderful novel in Run, Boy, Run. The feelings and terror that Srulik must deal with are very real. The young child is only 8 when he experiences the loss of his family. Against all odds, he is able to survive. Any young adult or teen reader will be able to understand and value the characters and events of Srulik. Once this book is selected, the reader will struggle to put it down before it is finished.

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## Hannes Spitz says

mitreißende Abenteuergeschichte vor dem Hintergrund historischer Ereignisse, dem Warschauer Ghetto, dem 2. Weltkrieg und der Shoah. Schnörkellos erzählt in einfacher Sprache, deswegen wohl auch ein ausgewiesenes Jugendbuch... Dann bin ich noch Jugendlicher...

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## Hangg says

The book I'm reviewing is "Run, Boy, Run" written by Uri Orlev. It's a fiction book. Orlev's theme teaches people to never give up easily and keep a promise to live everywhere by a nice lying, contains to continue to live although a lot of terrible events happened to oneself.

The main character in "Run, Boy, Run" is Srulik. He lost his father when he and his mother moved to Germany from Poland, and left his two brothers and one sister. When Srulik and his mother came to Germany successfully, that several days, Srulik's mother lost. He joined a gang and learned how to steal, live and find food in the forest, and climb to the trees. He began to be a member in many new gangs and a lot of new families. Everyday, he had to exchange his strength to work for families to get foods. If he worked well, some farmers would give him clothes, shoes for living in seasons, especially winter. When he was about to die because German soldiers knew that he was Jewish boy, so he changed and tried to forget his origin, he became a Christina named Jurek. From that, he used that name to work for a lot of farmers. Luckily, he always was helped by good families by hiding him when German soldiers coming. One day, he knew a new family, who helped soldiers to give him to them, he lost one arm by their shoots. From that, his life was complicated without one arm. He couldn't climb or find foods as quick as before. However, from a flood of

Russian tribe, he became a flood victim and was helped to find his original family by Pani Rappaport. Although he didn't remember who was his family, their names, and even his old name, but he still had a little memory about his house in Poland. Finally, Jurek could imagine their faces and names after a good neighbor told them when they came to Jurek's old tribe. Because of adopting of Pani Rappaport, Jurek was learned and became a Mathematic teacher with a nice wife, and his children.

The book is memorable and interesting, because I admire Srulik when he could live through a lot of storms in his life. He never gave up without his family, helping by anyone. Everything was made up just by only his one arm and a strong spirit inside himself. Especially, the part he was shot his one arm by German soldiers, I was almost cry when I see how he started his life by another arm of his. In my heart, I have an unique quote to describe his spirit "strong as stone, brave as hero! Srulik". I really love Srulik.

I would recommend "Run, Boy, Run" for children, especially nine to twelve years old. It's because this book teaches them to look at Srulik as an excellent example child to live Srulik is nine years old in this book, but he lost his family and he lived, found foods by himself. He worked to earn food, ran quickly when German soldiers wanted to kill him, took blueberries and drank river in the forest when he hid. It was a hard life to a nine-years-old boy without family, but he still grew up and became a teacher at all. Well, if you read "Esperanza", you might like this book, because both of stories was similar. The young ages that they had to struggle for their lives, and be good, be true in their futures.

Finally, I want to wish for Srulik, he will find the last member in his family, and live happily with his wife and children. To myself, after I read this book, I also learn the way to live by myself, and be independent person in my family. I have to make up everything and decide some ways to prove my troubles like Srulik did by myself. Well, between Srulik and Jurek, I like the name Srulik mostly, because it's his real name that was created by his parents. I really like and have a lot of emotions when I read this book. I hope people, who have a free time in life, or want to read book, let find this book to question that do they have common opinion with me?

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## **Jill says**

A boy must forget his family and religion in order to survive the Nazi holocaust. He story tells of the horrors faced with limited graphic details. There is also hope and inspiration. Identifying circumcised males as Jewish may cause some confusion amongst young American boys since circumcision is so popular in America.

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## **Mary Ann says**

Could you live in the forest? With no family, no tent, no sleeping bag, and no food? All while being chased by soldiers intent on taking you prisoner? No, this isn't The Hunger Games -- it's real life. After losing his family, eight-year old Jewish boy, Srulik Frydman, had to live like this in the Poland countryside during World War II. Uri Orlev tells Jurek's compelling tale of survival in this book for children. During his time in hiding, Srulik changed his name to "Jurek Staniak," and occasionally found work on farms for kind, and not-so-kind, farmers. He lost an arm when a doctor refused to operate on him because he suspected Jurek was Jewish. Jurek was caught, then released, by a kind German soldier. Finally, he lived with a Polish family, who treated him like a son. When the war ended, Jurek was sent to a children's home for Jewish orphans, where he was able to continue his education. Uri Orlev does not embellish Jurek's terrible hardships: just the telling of them is sufficient. Publisher's Weekly notes that "It is this perspective—authentic, childlike and

wrenching—that will pierce the audience's heart.” Run, Boy, Run was originally written in Hebrew and received the Batchelder Award for most outstanding translated book of the year in 2004. Translator Hillel Halkin has translated two other books that received the Batchelder Award as well.

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### **Alfredo Scognamiglio says**

Per il giorno della memoria quest'anno è stato distribuito il film omonimo per soli tre giorni e in pochi cinema, e non potendo andarci ho letto il libro.

La vera storia di Yoram Friedman, oggi professore in Israele, è stata trasformata in questo bel libro da Uri Orlev che l'aveva ascoltata direttamente da lui.

Un bambino che sfugge alla furia nazista unico sopravvissuto della propria famiglia, che correndo passa da una precarietà all'altra senza quasi mai trovare respiro. Il padre morendo gli raccomanda di dimenticarsi di tutto: il proprio nome vero, il papà e la mamma, fingendosi cristiano per salvarsi, ma di non dimenticare ma di essere ebreo. Così fa questo bambino obbedendo all'ordine paterno di "sopravvivere" e ci narra dell'orrore, ma anche di qualche "giusto" incontrato qua e là.

Un libro molto bello, per lo sguardo insolito di un bambino sui fatti terribili della persecuzione di un popolo. "Se questo è un uomo" è il mio "testo sacro" sull'argomento, ma questo signor Friedman mi ha fatto un bel dono oggi.

LEGGETELO

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### **Luke Pensallorto says**

This book was a very outstanding realistic fiction book. It told the story of a young boy and how he escaped his ghetto and went on the run from the Nazis. This book was full of twist and turns. A mid paced book but the scene changed everyone once in awhile. I really liked this because it told different adventures that I personally enjoyed. I would recommend this book.

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### **Lesley says**

This book has been translated to English. This is a true story of a Jewish boy that lived in hiding during the war, sometimes in the woods, sometimes with the kindness of others. Such a story of survival! Sometimes heartbreaking sad. I do wonder what his life would have been if not for the war and I wonder what happened to the people that risked their life to help him.

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### **Tomáš says**

Přítel hvězdiček je málo.

Ztratil jsem slova a veškeré názory.

Až tak moc mě to zasáhlo.

A tak rychle to uteklo.

A tolik se toho stalo.

Přetěte si to, vřec nad tím nepřemýšlejte.

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## **Peyton Nicaastro says**

A novel that will bring tears and smiles

A lonely eight year old Jewish boy fights for his life in the hard Holocaust times. The book starts out with Srulik living with his family in the Warsaw ghetto. An event happens that leaves Srulik living on his own in the dark woods dodging German soldiers. He and his real identity must remain hidden from all Germans or his life is on the line. He sometimes jumps from farm to farm looking for work and safety. One women is particularly nice to Srulik and helps him out. But can he trust her? Srulik faces many challenges along the way, especially one tragic life changing event that leaves him with lots of grief. He shows that no matter what challenges life throws at you, you can overcome them. Will Srulik be able to survive the treacherous Holocaust?

“Run, Boy, Run” left me with many emotions. I loved how it always left you on the edge of your seat and wanting to the read the next chapter. There were really sad and happy moments. This novel put into perspective how bad and difficult the Holocaust really was. The book was a little confusing at the beginning, but things cleared up as the story went on. Uri Orlev did a fantastic job describing the setting and characters’ emotions and appearances. Orlev’s description makes you feel like you are there living with Surlik through the hard times. This book is a great book for anyone interested inhaving more sympathy for all the lives lost during the Holocaust. One thing I wish Orlev did was make the epilogue longer with more information. I liked the book and give it four stars. I don’t give it a full five stars because the ending is quick. I feel that Orlev could of explained more of what happened to Surlik. I would not read this novel again, but I would recommend it. “Run, Boy, Run” is great for someone who wants to feel emotions for the people in the Holocaust and to show everyone that there were good German people.

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## **Nancy Leeds says**

An amazing young boy. I just finished reading it and went to see the movie. The movie did a good job of tolling the book. If you can't read this do see the movie

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## **Catherine Gillespie says**

We started studying World War II, and so the kids are reading a lot about that time period. I’m attempting to keep up somewhat with their books so that we can discuss issues. My son (age 8) read Run, Boy, Run, a true story of a young boy who escaped the Warsaw ghetto and lived on the run until the end of the war. It’s an amazing story, and the references to difficult things are oblique enough that younger kids might not catch them.

I probably wouldn’t do this book as a read-aloud, but for independent reading to later discuss with a parent I think it’s a good choice. I had really good discussions with the older two kids based on this book, and my son especially seemed impacted by the story, since the main character started the war as an eight-year-old, which is my son's age. It was interesting to talk about whether my son would forget how his family looked and even

our names if he had to run away and live off the land for years like the boy in the story did.

Read more of my reviews of books and read-alouds for kids on [A Spirited Mind](#).

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### **Jorge Perez says**

*Run, Boy, Run* by Uri Orlev is a true account about an 8 year old young Jewish boy named Srulik who lived during WWII as a resident in the Warsaw Ghetto. Srulik was forced to escape the ghetto after his family was killed by Nazi soldiers. Srulik's journey through the Polish countryside has him being tested on surviving as he struggles on finding shelter from strangers, finding enough food, and hiding from people who would turn in Jews to the Nazis.

I personally liked this book because Srulik's journey through the countryside genuinely felt like an adventure as he faces a multitude of conflicts. Each problem that Srulik encounters has the reader feeling anxious on what would happen next. Overall, I found the book generally being enjoyable to read and I would recommend it to those who enjoy reading about survival stories.

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### **Anke says**

*Run, Boy, Run* by Uri Orlev has won several awards including the IBBY Hans Christian Anderson Award and the 2004 Batchelder Award (an award given to outstanding literature that was originally written in a foreign language and translated into English—this book was originally written in Hebrew). It is based on the true story of Srulik Frydman, a young Polish boy who was also Jewish, during World War II. In the beginning of the novel he's living with his family in the Polish Warsaw Ghetto, but soon loses everyone either through death or unexplained disappearances. He escapes the Ghetto and his struggle to survive on his own is told in a simple, straightforward style, yet the reader inevitably feels his pain while turning the pages. Unlike a movie when we can close our eyes and listen to the audio, or maybe peek through our fingers and turn down the volume, the words on the page need to be processed in our minds and sometimes it's hard to do.

This little boy grows up quickly when he learns that he's all alone in a world filled with hate. He changes his name to Jurek Staniak and takes the identity of an orphaned Polish Catholic boy. Srulik hides in forests, gets occasional work and a temporary safe place to stay here and there with different people and families in the countryside. Things get gruesome, bitter and ugly when he loses his right arm. (A doctor refuses to operate on his arm because "he is a Jew."—his arm could have been saved.) Fortunately, Srulik survives through this awful war and eventually immigrates to Israel.

Kirkus Reviews gives this book an age range of 10 years; Scholastic gives it an interest level of 6th through 8th grade and a grade level equivalent of 5.8. Its lexile is 570L. This would be an excellent book to pair with a social studies text when covering World War II. However, pre-teaching is necessary as well as giving the students a thorough and honest book talk prior to reading it. It contains graphic information, swear words and it's not glossed over to make the reader comfortable; it tells the truth.

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## Htar Naing says

This book takes place approximately between 1941- 1945 because the setting of this book is during the holocaust era. It is also during the World War II. The settings of this books are in Warsaw and Poland. Since it is during the holocaust, the Jews are the people who are having a very hard time. The dictator, Hitler, is eventually causing the Jews' genocide. This book is a historical fiction based on the real story.

The main protagonist of this book is an eight year old boy, Srulik Frydman. He is a Jewish boy. He lives in Warsaw, Germany with his family. There are struggles in his family because they were forced to leave their village. One day, when he was searching for food in the trash cans, he got separated from his mother. He got lost. But, he met with the homeless boys. In order to survive, he joined the gang.

This book can be applied to marxist theory because there are different type of social classes. The homeless or impoverished are on the bottom of the social class. However, the dictator is the one who is on the top of everyone. The lower people have nothing to eat or no place to stay since the cruel dictator is killing all the Jews. They are even struggling to survive. The upper class people are very wealthy. There are a lot of differences between the upper class and the lower class. For evidence, in the novel, the author states, "It took two weeks for Srulik's mother to recover enough to go foraging with him again in the ghetto's garbage bins" (4). This shows that in order to eat, Srulik's mother needs to search through the garbage cans. She is not buying food from the grocery store like the upper class or the middle class. I wonder why the upper class people don't share a little bit of money with the lower class. Why don't they at least beg for money in Warsaw? Why are there no auxiliary groups? If we see through Marxist lens, we can see that the amount of money they have determine their class.

Srulik has to go through both internal conflicts. One of the internal conflicts that Srulik has is whether changing his daily life style in order to be able to join the gang. He doesn't want to act like the gang of homeless boy. For evidence, Moishle asks Srulik, "Do you smoke?" But once he answers "No," Moishle says, "You have to if you want to join the gang." This shows that he is being forced to smoke even he doesn't want to. He can't be a candid anymore. He needs to act like a gang star. Even though his real good personality is hampering him back, he has to do it since he has no where to be at. He needs to steal stuffs, beg for money and smoke. These are the character traits for Polish homeless boys. If he wants to be safe and away from German soldiers, he needs to be with the homeless boys.

One of the themes in this novel is "Freedom." Since the German soldiers are killing all the Jews, all the Jewish people have no freedom in Warsaw. Even though his mother is killed by a German soldier and his father gets captured, he doesn't give up easily. He knows that if he keeps staying in Warsaw, the expedient of his life is on its way. He is going to die since he is a Jew. He needs to go far away from the German soldiers. We can also characterized him as an intrepid boy. He might be scared since he is eight but he doesn't relinquish easily. He runs to Poland in order to survive. He knows how to be alive. He is matured enough to know what is good and bad.

Srulik always have to run away from the German soldiers. For evidence, it states, "The wagon came to a stop. A soldier ran toward it on studded boots. He made a German remark and Srulik felt something cold slide past his right leg, rip his pants and slide into the heap of garbage" and the German shouts in Polish, "Get a move on! There is no boy in there" (18). This shows that he hides in the trash to not get caught. I can connect that back to the title because the title of this novel is "Run, Boy, Run," which gives a reader a hint that Srulik is always running away from the German soldiers. He needs to keep running away in order to survive. He can't give up running. I can also make an inference that he might also get separated from the



gang of homeless boys. He always get lost alone.

I can also connect this book to the movie "Pianist." The movie always about the Germans causing the Jewish genocide. The main actor has to hide from the German in order to not get killed. He also needs to run like Srulik. The main actor has nothing to eat like Srulik. They both have courage. They both not only have courage but also they got separated from their family. Their lifestyles are a lot similar. Their identities are also similar since both of them are Jews.

I would recommend this book to someone who is interested about the Jews during the holocaust. This book is a really good book so far. Every word is written in the novel with the messages behind it. The difficulties that the Jews have to go through during the holocaust are harsh. Jews that survive during the holocaust are probably because of their luck or their bravery. It is venture to go to Poland since there are a lot of Germans. But Srulik goes anyway because he wants freedom. The dictator wants to dwindle Jews which affects a lot of Jews' lives. This is a great book to read if someone wants to know about the history of the lives of Jews.

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