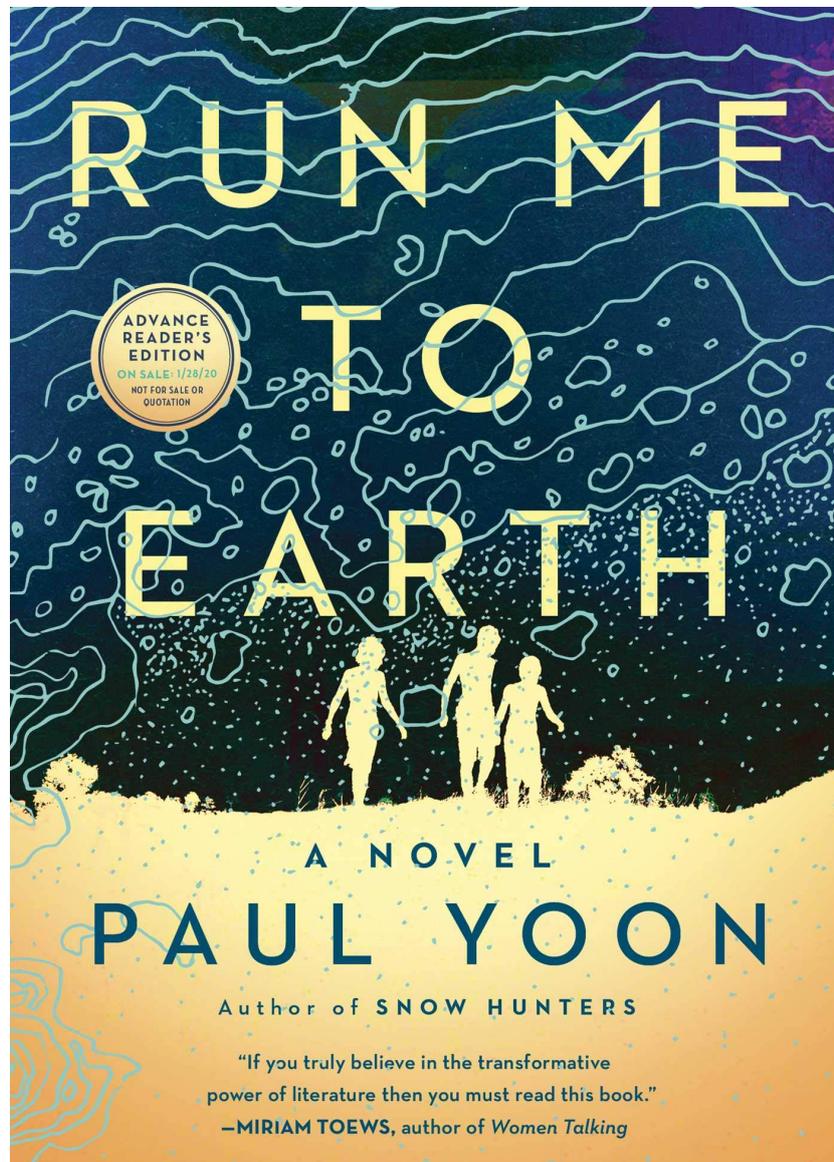


## Run Me to Earth Book PDF Download



By:  
Paul Yoon

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## What people Say:

### Roxane

This is a novel about friendship and war and trauma and separation and suffering, how people try to maintain their humanity even when they are treated like animals. The first section is gloriously good and overall, this is an outstanding novel. I admire the elegance of the structure. With each progressive section, though, the story starts to fall apart as if the writer didn't quite know where to go. Khit's characterization falters. She feels incomplete. But I absolutely swallowed this book, read

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How lush is that title? Goddamn.

### Angela M

I have read and been moved by the beautiful writing and affecting stories by Paul Yoon with two

other books, one a novel and one a collection of stories, but this one - omg - is just so stunningly horrific and beautiful at once! It's eye opening, shedding light on a conflict in Southeast Asia, not Vietnam and Cambodia which I felt I knew a little more about, but the conflict going on in Laos in the 1960s. The CIA with the Royal Lao Government fighting the Communist Pathet Lao with bombings,

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Three children, Prany and his sister Noi and their friend Alisak, left without parents during this cruel and horrific time, - all they had was each other as they barely manage to survive. The description of the lives they lived was heartbreaking. Then they are hired by Vang, a doctor who watches out for them as they perform dangerous errands for supplies, traveling by motor bike through fields of undetonated bombs and help care for the wounded. I held my breath multiple times while reading this. Seven years later he finds a way out for them, but they get separated. In these multiple narratives moving forward in the decades that follow, we learn their fate and what this war has done to them. I can't stop thinking about Prany and Noi and Alisak. I wish I could do this justice and say something more original than it was gut wrenching and heartbreaking and beautifully written. This is a one that I won't soon forget. Now I need to read the other collection of stories that Yoon has written and try to be patient for his next book.

I received an advanced copy of this book from Simon & Schuster through Edelweiss.

## Dorie - Cats&Books :)

This novel starts out in Laos in 1969 and revolves around three orphan teenagers. Prany, his younger sister Noi and their friend Alisak. We are quite quickly immersed into the storyline of these three as they ride their motorcycles across bomb laden fields. They have been hired by Yang, the medical doctor at the field hospital, to run errands, fetch medical supplies, etc back and forth from one field hospital to another. The teenagers love the thrill of riding the motorcycles and the money that

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The novel is written through the voices of the characters, back and forth, past through present. I did have some problem with the flow, it was not always easy to follow and because we visit the same times/places with each character I found it repetitive at times. This isn't an easy book to read, there is so much sadness and death. The civilians are the ones who must suffer while their homes are being bombed, their fields decimated and they find themselves homeless and starving. They are often apolitical but are forced to choose a side in order to live or die. Many just want things to go back to the way they were.

I marked many passages in this book, here is one that was especially heartbreaking. Noi is speaking as if from a dream "She wondered, too, what proof of herself, of them, would remain in this house after they were gone. The motorcycles, perhaps. The piano with its loose panel and those pouches and their fingerprints on each and every key they touched but never pressed down. There was the dirt stain from her shirt against a closet wall as she and her brother sought cover from a bomb. The mop she used in the ward without realizing how bloody the water was until she saw it all over her palms".

Later in the book we will find out what happened to these characters and how they were forever linked to each other. The novel is sparse but beautifully written, I can tell that the author poured his heart into it.

I read historical fiction because I love to learn about places that I've never visited. The area in Laos where the story takes place is hilly with many pine trees. The "Plain of Jars" is described as the location of thousands of stone jars, scattered around the foothills. Their history dates back to the Iron Age about 500 BC. There is also mention of old statues of Buddha which have fallen or been bombed and now lie in the forest covered by vegetation. Yet the people endure, they still consider this their home and hope for peace.

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I received an ARC of this novel directly from the publisher. It is set to publish January 28, 2020 by Simon and Schuster.

## Diane Sâ”

Powerful and intense, the war i bomb torn Laos is brought to life in the stories of three teenagers. Alisak, Prango and Noi, along with the doctor Vang are first introduced to the reader as they are working in an old farmhouse converted to a hospital. Outside is a field strewn with land mines. These characters and screw more are weaved throughout the six connecting stories.

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Beauty alongside violence, displacement alongside friendship, cruelty alongside those, who had great risks to themselves, stayed to help those they could. The tone is dark. melancholy, as we discover what happens to each of these characters. This is not a happy story but there are moments that transcend the circumstances. Laos was the most bombed city of the Vietnam war and this, I feel a necessary book to show what innocent civilians went through in the name of war. The innocent paid a high price for a war that garnered nothing.

Thankfully, the book ends in a moment of grace and hope.

## Nilufer Ozmekik

Breathe in. Breathe out. One more time: Breathe in. Breathe out. Another book crushed my soul and sledgehammered and stabbed my heart several times. Another stunning, emotional, heartbreaking reading.

Normally I have high pain tolerance and I never mind reading gory, crude, dark stories but this book took place in Laos on 1969, very gruesome war zone. At the very same war zone, three little orphans riding on motorbikes, travelling through the fields filled with the bombs, delivering medical

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They think they're playing game even though they're middle of the hell, the violence, the massacre! It reminded me a father's efforts to trick his son they were playing a treasure hunt game when they were construction camp. Yes, I'm talking about the movie: La Vita e bella ( Life is beautiful)

But in this story, the situations, the heart throbbing threats and terror those little children endured were not beautiful. Prany, his little sister Nio and their friend Alisak are trying their bests to keep their heads above the water. 7 years later we find out they are separated and we read their lives by going back and forth between present and past.

I have to emphasize: the author described the effects of the war for the civilians incredibly realistic. They lost their homes, their fields and they don't want to involve in politics but when it's war time and if you want to survive, you cannot stay in the middle of the road. They crash you. So you have to choose a side even though it means you will pay for the consequences of the choices you've made.

I enjoyed the poetic, mind spinning, powerful writing and the characterization. Only thing I found a little problematic that made me cut my one star was too many POVED storytelling and too many flashbacks that made me confused and distracted my attention so several times I stopped and read the previous pages again to make sure I was at the right track.

Overall: Paul Yoon is the one the greatest and talented storyteller and I'm looking forward to read more books of him.

Special thanks to Edelweiss and Simon & Schuster for sending this epic journey's ARC COPY in

exchange my honest review.