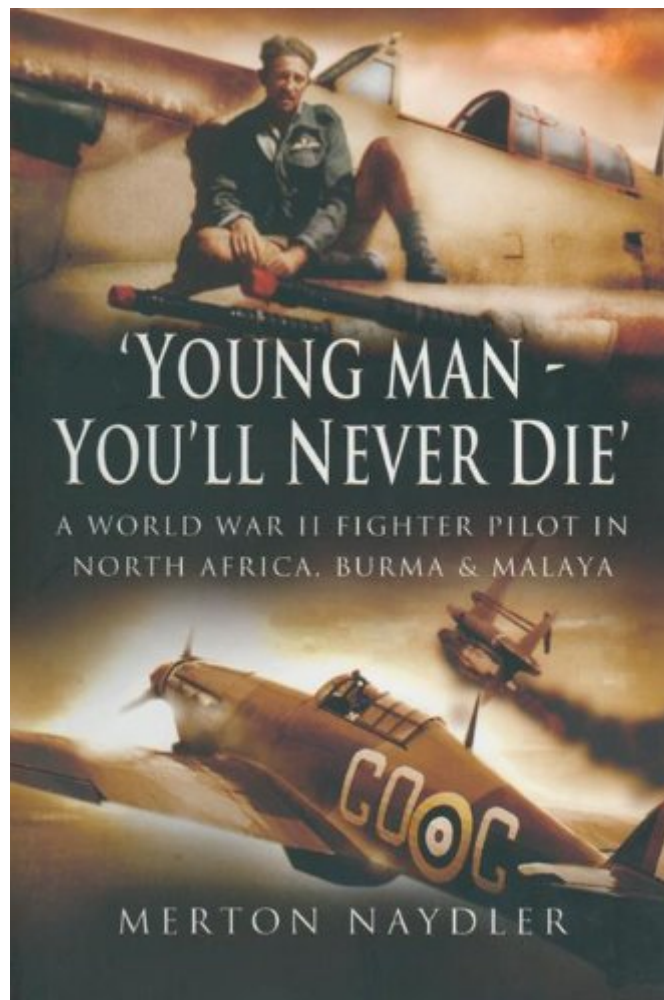




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Young Man You'll Never Die: A World War II Fighter Pilot In North Africa, Burma & Malaya



Synopsis

Merton Naydler joined the RAF at the age of nineteen and served for the next six years until May 1946. He flew Spitfires and Hurricanes during a tour of duty that took him to North Africa, Burma and Malaya. This well written and extremely entertaining memoir portrays wartime life in the desert environment where sand and flies and life under canvas made living and flying a daunting experience. When the author was posted to Burma he was filled with 'a deep and genuine dread'. After a long uncomfortable trip he joined 11 Squadron and was now faced with Japanese Zeroes in combat over dense tropical jungle rather than Bf 109s over a barren desert terrain. 'Daytime flying was hot as hell, the humidity intense' - the author's description of his new posting that goes on to describe life in 'Death Valley', named because of the likeliness of falling victim to tropical disease rather than enemy aircraft. This is the story of a sergeant pilot who learned his trade the hard way, in action over Africa and then honed his combat skills in the skies over Japanese-held tropical forests where he was eventually commissioned.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This book is more about the people and their reactions to the living conditions they faced than it is

about their aerial and terrestrial conquests. He describes the people in a way I could imagine them. Great job!

An honest, well written and often humorous account of life of a World War II RAF fighter pilot in North Africa and Burma.

Told with humor and nostalgia, this is a fascinating story of a young man who survived almost the entire span of WWII in the air. He served honorably in the Middle East and Asia and spins his story well. Highly recommended!

love it

Whilst this isn't "The Big Show" or "The Blue Arena" it is a record of a young man doing his part in a now unimaginable, world-wide conflict, in a rather forgotten theatre. I'd've loved more combat flying anecdotes but still enjoyed this more cerebral tome. I thank the author for his service...

A great read but not your normal "air ace" story. The author tells of his experiences as he is posted to various isolated locations - the hardships, boredom and daily life. He has a comedic style and keeps the reader entertained throughout.

Way too long and boring. It needs to be cut in about half. Very little combat and mostly just personal anecdotes.

Too much verbage

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