

TO ESCAPE FROM WAR

Brief Synopsis

Daniel Rubin is a typical young American who was taught to be patriotic and love his country. He was urged by his father to transfer after his first year of college to West Point. Daniel is not as enthused as his father but he doesn't want to disappoint him; the military meant a whole lot to his father. A telling sign that Daniel does not share his father's enthusiasm occurs during his graduation from the Army academy. While the other graduating officers throw their white uniform hats high in the air with great glee, Daniel holds onto his hat. The expression on Daniel's face is stoic and distant as if he is wondering why there is such joy about entering into a military career.

Daniel leaves the army after an incident in which a little local boy and his family are killed during a conflict between US military operations and Middle Eastern anarchists. He is haunted by the image of that little boy throughout his life. Daniel takes up painting and his creative works focus on the turmoil around the world—the image of the little dead boy often appears in them.

As Daniel matures his position on the military and in particular on war solidifies. After a violent incident in the small town in Iowa where he settled down occurs, he and his girlfriend move on to Paris. But things just get worse—a terrorist attack brings down the Eiffel Tower. After this event, Daniel and his girlfriend part and he is on a quest to find the one place in the world that is peaceful. To his dismay there are signs of unrest, conflict and war—either current day or rich in the histories of the areas—at every place he flees to. In the end, he understands that “war” isn't the adversary... it is “mankind” that is its own worst enemy.