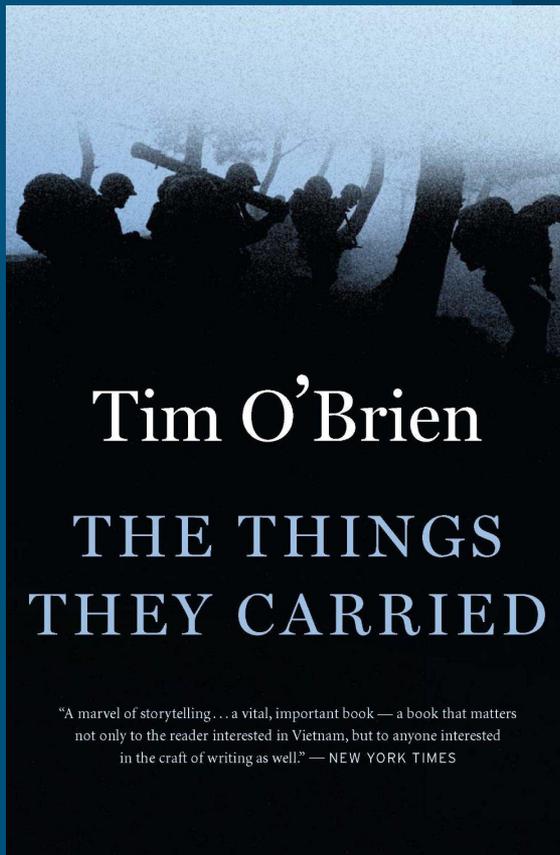
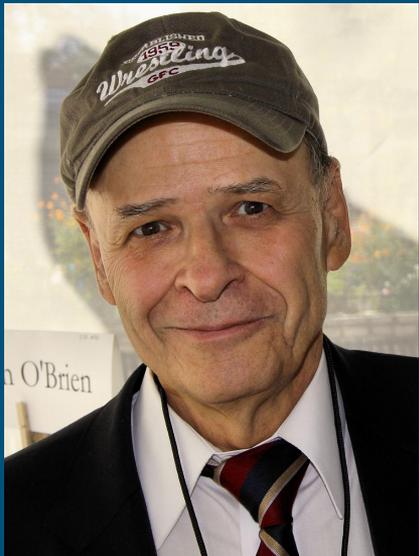




Book Talk

A report by Mrs. Rutan





Title:

The Things They Carried

Author:

Tim O'Brien

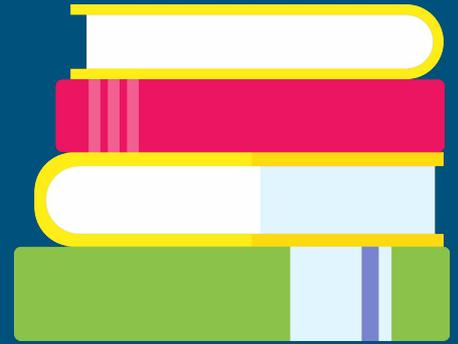
Genre:

War Fiction/Short Story Collection

Copyright Date:

1990

Summary



- The book follows a platoon in Vietnam.
- You have the same characters in each short story (Lt. Cross, Henry Dobbins, Curt Lemon...), but different tales taking place.
- It depicts the trauma of war, friendships, violence vs. peace, and so much more.
- Tim O'Brien is the narrator in most of the stories, and pulls in his own experiences to create the fictional accounts on the page.

What I Like About the Book...

O'BRIEN WRITING STYLE

1. *It is modern, honest, and really creative:*

“They carried diseases, among them malaria and dysentery. They carried lice and ringworm and leeches and paddy algae and various rots and molds. They carried the land itself-- Vietnam, the place, the soil--a powdery orange-red dust that covered their boots and fatigues and faces” (O’Brien, 14-15).

THE SETTING and STORY

2. *I never really study war literature, or the Vietnam War period. I learned so much from this book and this very tense time in American history.*





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UNDER A SWEATSHIRT**

With a cropped top and wide-legged pants, it bares just a hint of belly. Very cool-girl-at-the-party.

H&M top, \$40. TESS GIBERSON blouse. EMPORIO ARMANI pants, \$645. CELINE necklace, \$1,300. NARCISO RODRIGUEZ flats, \$795. Go to glamour.com/magazine for more shopping information.

Imagine this:

Guys: You are in war, and decide to bring your high school girlfriend/fiance to base to “hang out.”

Then, your sweet, innocent “American-Pie” girlfriend starts to change...She isn’t so sweet and innocent anymore. Vietnam has gotten to her!

My All-Time Favorite Character and Story...

“Odd movements, odd shapes. Late at night, when the Greenies were out on ambush, the whole rain forest seemed to stare in at them—a watched feeling—and a couple of times they almost saw her sliding through the shadows. Not quite, but almost. She had crossed to the other side. She was part of the land. She was wearing her culottes, her pink sweater, and a necklace of human tongues. She was dangerous. She was ready for the kill” (O’Brien, 116).

Do you want:

- excitement?
- something new? A new writing style and voice?
- want to better understand war and the military?
- have something shorter to read?

READ THIS BOOK!

