

Analysis of regeneration novel by pat barker

Literature



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To different characters in the novel, it may be said to depict variable meanings based on the excruciating struggle of each individual in coping with the trauma in the battlefield where soldiers were ill-fated and those who managed to survive had suffered dreadful neurological incidences some of which Dr. Rivers had to deal with through the therapy he knew best.

To the poetic Siegfried Sassoon, regeneration was implied at the point he had indecisions whether to reject the idea of getting into war due to the horrifying aftermath it had brought or consider the noble purpose of taking part in the mission which claimed the lives of some of his friends. The thought of regeneration might come as trying to weigh which is the more rational side to take despite the previous experience of pain and the influence of poetry to his mental behavior.

For Dr. W. H. R. Rivers who had worked at Craiglockhart War Hospital, regeneration could mean attempts to figure the best solution for each patient whose personal encounter was unique compared to fellow soldiers. In which case, as a treating physician, he needed to go beyond his confines and look into each situation at depth then seek which resolution would rightfully work as the sensitivity of every subject under his current study still varied along with a wider degree range.

Billy Prior, on the other hand, may appear to have reflected the notion of regeneration through his own set of dilemmas and insecurities which the doctor could barely settle in the course of his treatment. Regeneration by means of recovering his normal memory functions would tremendously help

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him overcome mutism and move on especially that Billy ended up having a love interest with Sarah.

With the questions raised regarding the quality or level of creativity in his poetry, Wilfred Owen indicates the character type who would rather perceive regeneration as experimentation of elements in his writing as aided by Sassoon. Since he had an image of another poet he learned to look up to with the desired standards to match his skills and style, Wilfred would be found capable of adjusting beyond original potentials and acquiring diverse approach in handling his piece of work while he had Sassoon for a hero to fuel his passion.