

# In a long way gone by ishmael beah

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In *A Long Way Gone*, by Ishmael Beah the main character Ishmael struggles to do good in a society that demands evil. As Ishmael feels he is doing good, the lines of good and evil become extremely blurred. During Ishmael's first battle, he fought angrily to avenge the death of the R. U. F killing mercenary as it shows in text "Every time I stopped shooting to change magazines and saw my lifeless friend, I angrily pointed my gun into the swamp and killed more people" (119). Later in the text Ishmael is no longer guided by revenge nor fairness.

He starts to kill without any conscious what so ever, as shown when Ishmael is not protected, and is willing to protect himself by standing up for his country and fighting for rights. "Killing those they had already severely wounded" (122). In this quote it shows how Ishmael is doing extra work and taking his anger out on his enemies, that were doing harsh actions to Ishmael's people.

As Ishmael becomes a full cold blooded soldier he seemingly forgets the reasons he fought for the R. U. F after U. N. I. C. E. F takes Ishmael and some of his comrades, they begin to hate the thing they fought for. In the text: "They have lost every that makes them human. They don't deserve to live, that is why we must kill every single one of them" (108). To analyze this quote, Ishmael points out that the rebels don't deserve to live due to what the rebels were doing to innocent people. According to Ishmael he wants to kill all of them for all of the things they were doing to his people, and show them that he has power.