

"paul's changes
through out all quiet
on the western front"



**ASSIGN
BUSTER**

Paul, a once hopeful, sensitive boy, enlisted into the war right out of school, faced traumatizing experiences that hanged him into a lonely man who saw life in a bitter, pessimistic way. In All Quiet on the Western Front, Paul comes into the war as a young and optimistic boy. The war is a fresh start for Paul and he holds many traits that eventually diminish through out the book.

Entering the war after being convinced by a schoolmaster, Paul is positive and content. His elation is shown when he says, " Here it is beautiful.

These are wonderfully carefree hours. Over us is the blue sky. On the horizon float the bright yellow, sunlit observation-balloons, and the many little white clouds of the anti-aircraft shells. Along with his positivism and happiness, Paul is also trusting. He demonstrates his trust for the elder soldiers in charge by saying, " We often made fun of them and played jokes on them, but in our hearts we trusted them.

The idea of authority, which they represented, was associated in our minds with a greater insight and a more humane wisdom. In the early times of the war Paul is also immature. He demonstrates an act of immaturity by dumping a latrine- bucket on Homeliness along with other practical jokes.

The war has not been deep yet and Paul, a boy who feels happiness, enthusiasm, and positivism, has yet to experience the harsh, life-changing factors of the war. While the war progresses.

Many factors and events cause Paul to become a different person than he started out as. The everyday struggles to survive in the war are causing Paul to become bitter and lost.

A main factor that has resulted in Paul changing is the overall violence and struggle to survive in the war. Seeing soldiers die around him and running from guns and fire has made Paul ruthless. Paul proves this by remarking, "If your own father came over with them you would not hesitate to fling a bomb at him." When Paul is on leave from the war and returns home to his family, he realizes how much the war has taken him away from civilization.

During his visit with his family, he sees old friends and remembers how it was when he lived there and says, "When I see them here, in their rooms, in their offices, about their occupations, I feel an irresistible attraction. In it, I would like to be here too and forget the war; but also it repels me, it is so narrow, how can that fill a man's life, he ought to smash it to bits; how can they do it, while out at the front the splintered are whaling Interferon sheets and comrades crouch in the trenches. They are different men here, men I cannot properly understand, whom I new and despise. The situation " here Paul begins to see the uselessness of the war and that his enemies are similar to him is when he kills the French soldier. In this situation Paul comments to the dead French soldier he has killed, "Forgive me, comrade, we always see it too late.

NH do they never tell us that you are poor devils like us, that your mothers are just as anxious as ours, and that we have the same fear of death, and the same dying and the same agony-Forgive me, comrade; how could you be my enemy? " These events and factors, along with many others, are the key points in causing Paul to change during the war.

As it gets deeper into the war, Paul changes from the boy he used to be when the war started. His experiences in the last few years have made him see things differently, depressed, and all alone in the world. After all he has been through, Paul is not out of place with the civilized world. " At that time I still knew nothing about the war, we had only been in quiet sectors. But now I see that I have been crushed without knowing it.

Find I do not belong here anymore, it is a foreign world. " This is how Paul feels after turning home to his family for a short time.

After going through traumatizing situations and experiencing the war, Paul is now mature and grown. He proves that he has changed from a boy to a man by commenting, " I would like to weep and be comforted too, indeed I am a little more than a child; in the wardrobe still hang short, boy's trousers-it is such a little time ago, why is it over? " Paul has lost many friends to the war, has seen many soldiers die in front of him, has lost touch with the outside Nor, and is now lonely and ready to face death. Paul says some of his last words, " I am very quiet.

Let the months and years come, they can take nothing from me, they can take nothing more. I am so alone, and so without hope that I can confront them Introit fear. " After bloody years at war where Paul faced more horror than most people ever will in lifetime, he dies. He came into the war as a young optimistic boy and went through many experiences, which changed him dramatically into a mature, hardened man. Erich Maria Armature, author of All Quiet on the Western Front, went on to write of Paul, " Turning him

over one saw that he could not have suffered long; his face had an expression of calm, as though almost glad the end had come.

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