

BOOK CLUB DISCUSSIONS

RELUCTANT WARRIORS OR REDEMPTION

These two books have short stories about World War II. They include persons, male and female, from all over our country. One of the main reasons for writing the books was that the reader might compare life then to now. In your comparisons you might want to keep the following in mind:

It was typical during the war than our men came right out of civilian life and wound up driving and flying our most complicated tanks and planes, and perhaps becoming the executive officer of a submarine. That would not be the case today where it takes years to master our best technology. During the war, our citizen soldiers, which I have dubbed reluctant warriors, were put on the front lines against the best professional enemy soldiers of Germany and Japan. I hope you are interested in these comparisons of today with a time seventy years ago.

THE MEN FIRST.

1. WAS IT DIFFERENT 70 YEARS AGO FOR OUR MEN TO FACE COMBAT? WAS THEIR PATRIOTIC FEVER DIFFERENT FROM TODAY.
2. WHAT WERE THE DIFFERENCES IN BACKGROUND FOR OUR SOLDIERS THEN AND NOW?
 - A. In education
 - B. How was the country different then?
3. DO YOU BELIEVE OUR MEN TODAY ARE AS "RELUCTANT" TO TAKE A LIFE AS THE MEN PORTRAYED HERE?

THE WOMEN ARE AN EQUAL PART OF THIS.

1. DESCRIBE THE SUFFERING THAT THE WOMAN ARE PUT THROUGH IN WAITING DURING ANY WAR. USE EXAMPLES FROM ONE OF THE BOOKS.
2. IS THEIR SUFFERING WORSE THAN WHAT THE MEN WENT THROUGH?

