

the short timers gustav hasford

The Short Timers Gustav Hasford: A Deep Dive into the Vietnam War Classic

the short timers gustav hasford is a phrase that resonates deeply with fans of Vietnam War literature and cinema alike. This phrase points directly to the groundbreaking novel "The Short-Timers," written by Gustav Hasford, which has left an indelible mark on how the Vietnam War is portrayed in popular culture. Whether you're a history buff, a literature enthusiast, or just curious about war narratives, understanding the context and significance of Hasford's work offers a fascinating glimpse into the gritty realities of combat and the soldiers who lived through it.

Who Was Gustav Hasford?

Before delving into "The Short-Timers," it's important to understand the man behind the story. Gustav Hasford was not just a novelist; he was a Vietnam War veteran himself. His firsthand experience as a combat correspondent in the U.S. Marine Corps during the Vietnam War lent authenticity and rawness to his writing. Hasford's unique perspective allowed him to capture the psychological and emotional turmoil of soldiers in ways that few other authors could.

His background also adds layers of complexity to "The Short-Timers," as it blurs the lines between fiction and memoir. Readers often find themselves questioning where Hasford's real experiences end and his creative storytelling begins, making the novel all the more compelling.

Exploring The Short-Timers: The Novel

At its core, "The Short-Timers" is a semi-autobiographical novel that chronicles the journey of a young Marine, Joker, through training, deployment, and combat in Vietnam. What sets this book apart from other war novels is its unflinching honesty and dark humor. Hasford does not glamorize war; instead, he exposes its absurdity, brutality, and the psychological scars it inflicts on those involved.

The Narrative Style and Themes

The narrative style of "The Short-Timers" is stark and visceral, often blending sharp satire with harrowing descriptions of violence. Hasford's prose is economical yet evocative, making every word count. Themes of dehumanization, survival, and the loss of innocence run throughout the novel,

offering an unvarnished look at the cost of war—not just in terms of lives lost, but also the mental and emotional toll on soldiers.

LSI Keywords in Context

In discussing "The Short-Timers," terms like Vietnam War novel, military fiction, combat experience, and war memoir frequently appear, as they are closely related to the book's subject matter. Fans often explore the novel alongside other Vietnam War literature such as "Dispatches" by Michael Herr or Tim O'Brien's "The Things They Carried" to gain a broader understanding of the era's literary landscape.

The Short-Timers and Its Cinematic Legacy

One of the most significant impacts of Gustav Hasford's novel is its adaptation into the film "Full Metal Jacket," directed by Stanley Kubrick. Released in 1987, the movie brought Hasford's story to an even wider audience and is often considered one of the greatest war films ever made.

From Page to Screen: The Adaptation Process

While "Full Metal Jacket" draws heavily from "The Short-Timers," Kubrick's adaptation introduces changes in structure and character focus that serve cinematic storytelling. The film divides the narrative into two distinct parts: boot camp training and the harrowing combat in Hue during the Tet Offensive.

Hasford's detailed descriptions of Marine training and the psychological breakdown of soldiers are vividly brought to life, especially in the portrayal of the intense drill instructor known as Gunnery Sergeant Hartman. This character, inspired by Hasford's own experiences, has become iconic in war film history.

Impact on Popular Culture

The influence of "The Short-Timers" via "Full Metal Jacket" extends far beyond literature and film buffs. The drill sergeant's biting lines and the movie's stark depiction of war have permeated popular culture, referenced in everything from television shows to video games. This cultural penetration underscores the enduring relevance of Hasford's work.

Why The Short-Timers Remains Relevant Today

Despite being written decades ago, "The Short-Timers" continues to resonate with readers and viewers because it touches on universal themes of conflict, duty, and humanity. Its raw portrayal of war contrasts sharply with sanitized or glorified versions often seen in media, providing a sobering reminder of the true costs of combat.

The Psychological Insight

One of the most valuable aspects of Hasford's writing is its exploration of the psychological impact of war. From the dehumanizing effects of boot camp to the trauma experienced on the battlefield, "The Short-Timers" delves into the complexities of a soldier's mind. This perspective has helped foster a greater understanding of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and the challenges veterans face upon returning home.

Lessons for Modern Readers and Writers

For modern readers interested in military fiction or historical narratives, "The Short-Timers" offers several key takeaways:

- **Authenticity matters:** Hasford's firsthand experience brings credibility and depth that enrich the narrative.
- **Balance of humor and horror:** The novel's dark humor serves as a coping mechanism, making the harsh realities more digestible.
- **Complex characters:** Soldiers are depicted as multifaceted individuals, not just heroes or villains.

Writers seeking to portray war realistically can learn much from Hasford's approach, particularly in avoiding clichés and focusing on human stories.

Gustav Hasford's Life Beyond The Short-Timers

While "The Short-Timers" remains Hasford's most famous work, his life and career were marked by both creative brilliance and personal struggles. After the success of the novel and the film adaptation, Hasford continued to write but never quite escaped the shadow of his first major work.

His battles with legal and health issues, as well as his untimely death at a relatively young age, add a layer of tragedy to his legacy. Nonetheless, Hasford's contribution to Vietnam War literature and his candid portrayal of soldiers' experiences remain influential.

Other Works and Contributions

Aside from "The Short-Timers," Hasford penned other novels like "The Phantom Bloop," which serves as a sequel and continues exploring the aftermath of war. Though these works did not achieve the same level of fame, they are essential for fans wanting a deeper dive into Hasford's perspective and literary style.

Final Thoughts on The Short-Timers Gustav Hasford

Engaging with "the short timers gustav hasford" opens a window into one of the most intense and personal depictions of the Vietnam War in literature. From the gritty realism of the novel to its powerful cinematic adaptation, Hasford's work challenges readers and viewers to confront the complexities of warfare beyond headlines and history books. Whether you're exploring the novel for the first time or revisiting it through the lens of its film counterpart, the story's enduring power lies in its honest portrayal of soldiers' lives—raw, flawed, and profoundly human.

Frequently Asked Questions

Who is Gustav Hasford, the author of 'The Short-Timers'?

Gustav Hasford was an American novelist, poet, and journalist, best known for his novel 'The Short-Timers,' which is a semi-autobiographical account of the Vietnam War.

What is the main theme of 'The Short-Timers' by Gustav Hasford?

'The Short-Timers' explores the brutal realities of the Vietnam War, focusing on the experiences of U.S. Marines and the psychological effects of combat and military training.

How did 'The Short-Timers' influence popular culture?

'The Short-Timers' was the basis for the critically acclaimed 1987 film 'Full Metal Jacket,' directed by Stanley Kubrick, which brought the novel's themes and story to a wider audience.

What is the structure of 'The Short-Timers' by Gustav Hasford?

The novel is divided into three sections—'The Spirit of the Bayonet,' 'Body Count,' and 'Grunts'—each depicting different phases of a Marine's journey through training and combat in Vietnam.

Was Gustav Hasford involved in the film adaptation of 'The Short-Timers'?

Gustav Hasford co-wrote the screenplay for 'Full Metal Jacket' along with Stanley Kubrick and Michael Herr, although he faced legal disputes over screenwriting credits and royalties.

What makes 'The Short-Timers' stand out among Vietnam War literature?

Its raw, unfiltered portrayal of soldier life, dark humor, and psychological depth provide a unique and candid perspective on the Vietnam War, distinguishing it from other war novels.

Additional Resources

The Short Timers Gustav Hasford: An In-Depth Exploration of a Vietnam War Classic

the short timers gustav hasford is a phrase that resonates deeply within the realm of Vietnam War literature and cinematic adaptation. Gustav Hasford, a former Marine and Vietnam veteran, crafted this semi-autobiographical novel with a raw authenticity that remains unparalleled. First published in 1979, The Short-Timers offers a gritty, unvarnished look at the complexities of war, the psychological toll on soldiers, and the often absurd nature of military life. This article delves into the significance of The Short-Timers, its author Gustav Hasford, and how the work continues to influence both literature and popular culture decades after its release.

The Origins and Authorship of The Short-Timers

Gustav Hasford's experience as a combat correspondent in the Vietnam War provided the foundation for *The Short-Timers*. Written during the late 1970s, the novel draws heavily from Hasford's firsthand observations, blending dark humor, brutal realism, and poignant commentary. Hasford's unique perspective as both a participant and chronicler of the war lends *The Short-Timers* a distinctive voice that separates it from other Vietnam War narratives.

The novel is semi-autobiographical, following the protagonist, James T. "Joker" Davis, through boot camp, deployment, and combat in Vietnam. Hasford's portrayal of Joker's transformation from an inexperienced recruit to a hardened soldier reflects the psychological shifts common among veterans. The narrative structure, divided into three parts—"The Spirit of the Bayonet," "Body Count," and "Grunts"—provides a comprehensive view of the soldier's journey and the varying stages of war.

Literary Style and Themes

The Short-Timers stands out not only for its content but also for Hasford's writing style. His prose is terse and visceral, often employing stark imagery and sardonic wit. This approach effectively captures the chaos and absurdity of war while maintaining a humanizing focus on individual soldiers.

Realism and Authenticity

One of *The Short-Timers*' most praised features is its uncompromising realism. Unlike romanticized war novels, Hasford's work confronts the reader with the grim realities of combat, including the moral ambiguities and psychological scars borne by soldiers. This authenticity stems from Hasford's own military background and his refusal to sanitize the narrative.

Psychological Impact of War

The novel delves deeply into the mental and emotional toll that war inflicts. Through Joker and his comrades, Hasford explores themes of fear, camaraderie, survival, and disillusionment. The short timers's portrayal of PTSD and alienation was ahead of its time, predating widespread public discourse on the subject.

Satire and Critique of Military Bureaucracy

Beyond the battlefield, *The Short-Timers* critiques the military hierarchy and bureaucracy. Hasford exposes the often senseless regulations and the disconnect between commanding officers and enlisted men. His satirical tone underscores the absurdities of military life, highlighting the contradictions inherent in the war effort.

The Short-Timers in Popular Culture and Film Adaptation

The influence of *The Short-Timers* extends beyond literature, most notably through its film adaptation, Stanley Kubrick's acclaimed 1987 movie *Full Metal Jacket*. While the film diverges from the novel in several respects, it retains the core themes and characters, particularly the depiction of boot camp and the psychological transformation of soldiers.

Comparing Novel and Film

Kubrick's *Full Metal Jacket* captures the spirit of Hasford's narrative but adapts it for cinematic purposes. The film emphasizes visual storytelling, with iconic scenes such as the drill instructor's intense training sessions and the haunting portrayal of combat in Hue City.

Differences include the exclusion of certain parts of the novel and a stronger focus on the character development of Joker and his fellow Marines. While some critics argue that the film softens the novel's darker elements, it nevertheless serves as a powerful complement and introduction to Hasford's work.

Legacy and Continued Relevance

The Short-Timers remains a seminal work in Vietnam War literature, studied in academic settings and appreciated by readers interested in military history and psychological narratives. Hasford's influence is evident in subsequent war novels and films that strive for authenticity and nuanced portrayals of soldiers' experiences.

Gustav Hasford: The Man Behind The Short-Timers

Understanding Hasford's background enriches appreciation of *The Short-Timers*. Born in 1947, Hasford enlisted in the Marine Corps and served as a combat correspondent in Vietnam. After his military service, he pursued a career in writing, producing poetry and fiction centered on his wartime experiences.

Hasford's life was marked by both critical acclaim and controversy. His struggles with health and personal challenges, including legal battles over authorship of Full Metal Jacket's screenplay, colored his post-war years. Tragically, Hasford died in 1993 at the age of 46, leaving behind a legacy defined largely by *The Short-Timers*.

Writing Style and Influence

Hasford's narrative voice combines journalistic precision with literary flair. His background in reporting lends a factual foundation to his storytelling, while his command of language engages readers emotionally. This dual approach has inspired a generation of writers tackling war narratives.

Controversies and Legal Issues

In addition to literary contributions, Hasford was involved in disputes over the credits for *Full Metal Jacket*. Although he co-wrote the screenplay with Stanley Kubrick and Michael Herr, initial screen credits did not fully acknowledge his role. This controversy highlights the complexities of adapting literary works and the challenges faced by authors in Hollywood.

Why *The Short-Timers* Remains Essential Reading

For readers seeking a candid portrayal of the Vietnam War, *The Short-Timers* offers a compelling and multifaceted narrative. Its blend of personal experience, sharp critique, and literary craftsmanship distinguishes it within the war genre.

- **Authentic Perspective:** Draws directly from Hasford's Vietnam experience, providing unmatched realism.
- **Character Depth:** Explores complex psychological states of soldiers beyond mere action sequences.
- **Thematic Richness:** Tackles issues of morality, identity, and institutional critique.
- **Cultural Impact:** Influences both literature and film, shaping public understanding of the Vietnam conflict.

The continued study and discussion of *The Short-Timers* in literary and military circles attest to its enduring relevance.

By examining the short timers gustav hasford crafted, readers gain insight not only into the Vietnam War but also into the broader human condition under extreme circumstances. Hasford's work challenges assumptions, provokes reflection, and invites empathy, ensuring its place as a cornerstone of war literature for generations to come.

The Short Timers Gustav Hasford

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the short timers gustav hasford: The Short-timers Gustav Hasford, 1979

the short timers gustav hasford: *Full Metal Jacket* Stanley Kubrick, Michael Herr, Gustav Hasford, 1987

the short timers gustav hasford: Unnützes Militärwissen Norbert Golluch, 2022-04-17 Das unterhaltsame Wissensbuch rund um Soldaten, Kriege, Waffen und die Armeen der Welt Wussten Sie, dass der längste Krieg 335 Jahre gedauert hat, der kürzeste hingegen nur 38 Minuten? Dass 25 Staaten der Erde ohne Militär auskommen und keine Armee unterhalten oder dass drei australische Soldaten mit zwei Maschinengewehren im Emu-Krieg von 1932 gegen 20 000 Straußenvögel gekämpft und letzten Endes verloren haben? Dieses Buch steigert das militärische Wissen und die intellektuelle Wehrkraft mit überzeugenden Erkenntnissen. Hier erfahren Sie, dass der Landser das Hühnerfrikassee Sprenghuhn nennt, der Matrose das Zäpfchen gegen Seekrankheit Arschtorpedo und der Flieger seinen Hubschrauber Flap-Flap.

the short timers gustav hasford: »Welcome to My Bunker« - Vietnamkriegserfahrung im Internet Roland Leikauf, 2015-12-15 »Willkommen zurück!« - Auf tausenden Websites begrüßen Vietnamveteranen die Besucher in ihrer neuen Heimat: dem Internet. Das Netz hat für viele Beteiligte des längsten und umstrittensten Kriegs, den Amerika je geführt hat, eine wichtige Bedeutung gewonnen. Der Historiker Roland Leikauf zeigt: Hier findet nicht weniger als die radikale Redefinition der Konzepte »Vietnamveteran« und »Vietnamkrieg« statt. Die Studie lässt deutlich werden, warum die Kriegsverarbeitung im virtuellen »Raum« auch für die Veteranen aktueller Kriege immer wichtiger wird.

the short timers gustav hasford: Combat Death in Contemporary American Culture Agnieszka Soltysik Monnet, 2020-12-16 *Combat Death in Contemporary American Culture: Popular Cultural Conceptions of War since World War II* explores how war has been portrayed in the United States since World War II, with a particular focus on an emotionally charged but rarely scrutinized topic: combat death. Agnieszka Soltysik Monnet argues that most stories about war use three main building blocks: melodrama, adventure, and horror. Monnet examines how melodrama and adventure have helped make war seem acceptable to the American public by portraying combat death as a meaningful sacrifice and by making military killing look necessary and often even pleasurable. Horror no longer serves its traditional purpose of making the bloody realities of war repulsive, but has instead been repurposed in recent years to intensify the positivity of melodrama and adventure. Thus this book offers a fascinating diagnosis of how war stories perform ideological and emotional work and why they have such a powerful grip on the American imagination.

the short timers gustav hasford: *Fiktionalität von Zeitgeschichte - Die Oliver Stone Trilogie im Kontext des Vietnamkriegsfilms* Sandro Antonio Palazzolo, 2011-02-24 Inhaltsangabe:Einleitung:

Kein Krieg hat die amerikanische Nation so nachhaltig beeinflusst wie der Vietnamkrieg. Der Einfluss dieses Krieges und die Auseinandersetzung mit diesem zeigen sich unter anderem im amerikanischen Film. Mit dem Beginn des Krieges und vor allem mit dem Kriegsende tauchte eine Fülle von Filmen auf, die sich dem Konflikt in Vietnam widmeten. Es stellt sich die Frage, auf welche Art und Weise alle diese Filme das reale Ereignis des Vietnamkrieges fiktionalisiert haben. Die Annahme, dass die fiktionale Darstellung des Vietnamkrieges im Film mögliche Deutungsmuster, Verarbeitungsprozesse, politische und gesellschaftliche Aussagen sowie persönliche Erfahrungen über den Krieg offenbaren könnten, steht in dieser Arbeit im Mittelpunkt. Das primäre Interesse dieser Arbeit gilt der fiktionalen Verarbeitung des Vietnamkrieges im Film. Den Fokus dieser Arbeit bilden 13 ausgewählte Filme, in dessen Mittelpunkt die Vietnamfilmtrilogie von Oliver Stone steht. Der Filmregisseur Oliver Stone, der aus einem wohlhabenden Elternhaus stammt, brach 1965 sein Studium an der Yale Universität ab, um nach Vietnam zu gehen. Stone bezeichnete sich selbst als Patriot und glaubte an das John Wayne Bild Amerikas. Erst nach seinem Vietnameinsatz verschwand diese Einstellung zum Krieg. Er kehrte desillusioniert und drogenabhängig aus Vietnam zurück und landete schließlich in einem Gefängnis in Mexiko. Stone begann an Filmskripten zu arbeiten und besuchte die New Yorker Filmhochschule. Während dieser Zeit entstanden einige Kurzfilme sowie das Skript *Break*, welches später als Vorlage für den erfolgreichen Film *Platoon* (1986) dienen sollte. Nach seinem Abschluss drehte er seinen ersten eigenen Film, der jedoch unter seinen Erwartungen blieb. Stone arbeitete zunächst als Drehbuchautor. Zu dieser Zeit entstanden u.a. die Drehbücher für *Midnight Express* (1978), *Conan der Barbar* (1982) oder auch *Scarface* (1983). Im Jahre 1986 gelang es ihm schließlich mit den Filmen *Salvador* (1986) und *Platoon* (1986) als Regisseur erfolgreich zu werden. Besonders zu *Platoon* (1986) hatte Stone einen besonderen Bezug, da er hier seinen persönlichen Frust und seine persönlichen Erfahrungen aus Vietnam darlegen konnte. Stone meinte hierzu: *I felt that the truth of this war had not been shown.* Nach *Platoon* (1986) folgten die Filme *Wall Street* (1987), *Talk Radio* (1988) und schließlich sein zweiter Film zum Vietnamkrieg *Born On The Fourth Of July* (1989). Hier verarbeitete Stone [...]

the short timers gustav hasford: *Mythologizing the Vietnam War* Jennifer Good, Brigitte Lardinois, Paul Lowe, 2014-10-16 The Vietnam War is evolving from contemporary memory into history. Fifty years on, it still serves as a benchmark in the history of war reporting and in the representation of conflict in popular culture and historical memory. However, as contemporary culture tries to come to terms with the events and their political, psychological and cultural implications, the 'real' Vietnam War has been appropriated and changed into a set of mythologies which implicate American and Vietnamese national identities specifically, and ideas of modern conflict more broadly, particularly in shaping the mediation of the twenty-first century 'War on Terror'. This collection of interdisciplinary critical essays explores the cultural legacies of the US involvement in South East Asia, considering this process of 'mythologising' through the lenses of visual media and tracing the war's evolution from contemporary reportage to subsequent interpretation and consumption. It reassesses the role of visual media in covering and remembering the war, its memorialisation, mediation and memory. The origin of this collection of essays was an international conference, titled "Considering Vietnam", held at the Imperial War Museum, London, in February 2012, co-organised by the museum and the University of the Arts London Photography and the Archive Research Centre (PARC).

the short timers gustav hasford: *The My Lai Massacre in American History and Memory* Kendrick Oliver, 2006 This book examines the response of American society to the My Lai massacre and its ambiguous place in American national memory. The author argues that the massacre revelations left many Americans untroubled. It was only when the soldiers most immediately responsible came to be tried that opposition to the conflict grew, for these prosecutions were regarded by supporters of the war as evidence that the national leaders no longer had the will to do what was necessary to win.

the short timers gustav hasford: *Stanley Kubrick and the Art of Adaptation* Greg Jenkins, 2015-08-13 Paring a novel into a two-hour film is an arduous task for even the best screenwriters

and directors. Often the resulting movies are far removed from the novel, sometimes to the point of being unrecognizable. Stanley Kubrick's adaptations have consistently been among the best Hollywood has to offer. Kubrick's film adaptations of three novels--*Lolita*, *The Shining* and *Full Metal Jacket*--are analyzed in this work. The primary focus is on the alterations in the characters and narrative structure, with additional attention to style, scope, pace, mood and meaning. Kubrick's adaptations simplify, impose a new visuality, reduce violence, and render the moral slant more conventional. Instructors considering this book for use in a course may request an examination copy here.

the short timers gustav hasford: Victimhood in American Narratives of the War in Vietnam Aleksandra Musiał, 2020-03-02 This book revisits the American canon of novels, memoirs, and films about the war in Vietnam, in order to reassess critically the centrality of the discourse of American victimization in the country's imagination of the conflict, and to trace the strategies of representation that establish American soldiers and veterans as the most significant victims of the war. By investigating in detail the imagery of the Vietnamese landscape recreated by American authors and directors, the volume explores the proposition that Vietnam has been turned into an American myth, demonstrating that the process resulted in a dehistoricization and mystification of the conflict that obscured its historical and political realities. Against this background, representations of the war's victims--Vietnamese civilians and American soldiers--are then considered in light of their ideological meanings and uses. Ultimately, the book seeks to demonstrate how, in a relation of power, the question of victimhood can become ideologized, transforming into both a discourse and a strategy of representation--and in doing so, to demythologize something of the Vietnam of American cultural narrative.

the short timers gustav hasford: You are the Messiah and I should know Justin Lewis-Anthony, 2013-04-11 Is 'Leadership' a useful sociological tool in the increasing professionalisation of the Church's ministry and mission, or a dangerous threat, akin to a heresy? Every human endeavour, from a primary school to the government, needs leadership. The Church believes itself to have a clear understanding of what constitutes Christian leadership, but advocates of leadership have been unable to give a clear, concise and universally accepted definition of the term. Justin Lewis-Anthony argues that our understanding of both secular ('managerial') and religious ('missional') leadership has been fatally compromised by the unconscious functioning of 'mythic' leadership, presented through the medium of the dominant culture of our own day, popular Hollywood film. We describe our leaders as if they should be collaborative, enabling, saints and/or expect them to show our enemies who is boss. We search for the 'great man' who will rescue us from all our problems through redemptive violence - within the Church, we talk about Jesus Christ but we expect John Wayne. This book shows how leadership is, at best, a 'contested concept' and at worst a dangerous, violent and totalitarian heresy.

the short timers gustav hasford: MovieCon Special: Full Metal Jacket (Hintergründe und Analysen) Markus Brüchler, 2024-05-21 "FULL METAL JACKET - HINTERGRÜNDE UND ANALYSEN" bietet eine faszinierende und tiefgreifende Betrachtung eines der bedeutendsten Werke in der Geschichte des Kriegsfilms. Stanley Kubricks meisterhafter Film FULL METAL JACKET, basierend auf Gustav Hasfords Roman "The Short-Timers", dient als Ausgangspunkt für dieses umfassende Werk.

the short timers gustav hasford: Chasing the Light - Die offizielle Biografie Oliver Stone, 2020-10-11 Manipulativ, gewaltverherrlichend, zu politisch oder nicht politisch genug - den Filmen von Meisterregisseur Oliver Stone wurde schon vieles vorgeworfen, aber kalt ließen sie niemanden. Nun erzählt der kontroverse Oscar-Preisträger in seiner Biografie erstmals von seiner Kindheit in New York, dem Vietnamkrieg, aus dem er verwundet zurückkehrte, seiner Zeit als Taxifahrer, seinen Kämpfen und Triumphen und den Dreharbeiten zu Filmen wie *Wallstreet*, *Natural Born Killers* und *Scarface*. Er gewährt intime Einblicke in seine Karriere, insbesondere in das aufregende und verrückte Leben im Hollywood der 1970er- und 1980er-Jahre.

the short timers gustav hasford: The American Novel of War Wallis R. Sanborn, III,

2012-10-30 In song, verse, narrative, and dramatic form, war literature has existed for nearly all of recorded history. Accounts of war continue to occupy American bestseller lists and the stacks of American libraries. This innovative work establishes the American novel of war as its own sub-genre within American war literature, creating standards by which such works can be classified and critically and popularly analyzed. Each chapter identifies a defining characteristic, analyzes existing criticism, and explores the characteristic in American war novels of record. Topics include violence, war rhetoric, the death of noncombatants, and terrain as an enemy.

the short timers gustav hasford: Inventing Vietnam Michael Anderegg, 1991-10-11 The Vietnam War has been depicted by every available medium, each presenting a message, an agenda, of what the filmmakers and producers choose to project about America's involvement in Southeast Asia. This collection of essays, most of which are previously unpublished, analyzes the themes, modes, and stylistic strategies seen in a broad range of films and television programs. From diverse perspectives, the contributors comprehensively examine early documentary and fiction films, postwar films of the 1970s such as *The Deer Hunter* and *Apocalypse Now*, and the reformulated postwar films of the 1980s--*Platoon*, *Full Metal Jacket*, and *Born on the Fourth of July*. They also address made-for-television movies and serial dramas like *China Beach* and *Tour of Duty*. The authors show how the earliest film responses to America's involvement in Vietnam employ myth and metaphor and are at times unable to escape glamorized Hollywood. Later films strive to portray a more realistic Vietnam experience, often creating images that are an attempt to memorialize or to manufacture different kinds of myths. As they consider direct and indirect representations of the war, the contributors also examine the power or powerlessness of individual soldiers, the racial views presented, and inscriptions of gender roles. Also included in this volume is a chapter that discusses teaching Vietnam films and helping students discern and understand film rhetoric, what the movies say, and who they chose to communicate those messages. Excerpt Read an excerpt from Chapter 1 (pdf). Contents Acknowledgments Introduction - Michael Anderegg 1. Hollywood and Vietnam: John Wayne and Jane Fonda as Discourse - Michael Anderegg 2. All the Animals Come Out at Night: Vietnam Meets Noir in *Taxi Driver* - Cynthia J. Fuchs 3. Vietnam and the Hollywood Genre Film: Inversions of American Mythology in *The Deer Hunter* and *Apocalypse Now* - John Hellmann 4. Charlie Don't Surf: Race and Culture in the Vietnam War Films - David Desser 5. Finding a Language for Vietnam in the Action-Adventure Genre - Ellen Draper 6. Narrative Patterns and Mythic Trajectories in Mid-1980s Vietnam Movies - Tony Williams 7. Rambo's Vietnam and Kennedy's New Frontier - John Hellmann 8. Gardens of Stone, *Platoon*, and Hamburger Hill: Ritual and Remembrance - Judy Lee Kinney 9. Primetime Television's *Tour of Duty* - Daniel Miller 10. Women Next Door to War: *China Beach* - Carolyn Reed Vartanian 11. Male Bonding, Hollywood Orientalism, and the Repression of the Feminine in Kubrick's *Full Metal Jacket* - Susan White 12. Vietnam, Chaos, and the Dark Art of Improvisation - Owen W. Gilman, Jr. 13. Witness to War: Oliver Stone, Ron Kovic, and *Born on the Fourth of July* - Thomas Doherty 14. Teaching Vietnam: The Politics of Documentary - Thomas J. Slater Selected Bibliography Selected Filmography and Videography The Contributors Index About the Author(s) Michael Anderegg is Professor of English at the University of North Dakota, and author of two other books: *William Wyler and David Lean*. Contributors: Cynthia J. Fuchs, John Hellman, David Desser, Ellen Draper, Tony Williams, Judy Lee Kinney, Daniel Miller, Carolyn Reed Vartanian, Susan White, Owen W. Gilman, Jr., Thomas Doherty, Thomas J. Slater, and the editor.

the short timers gustav hasford: "Reading the Wind" Timothy J. Lomperis, John Clark Pratt, 1987 The decade following the American defeat in Vietnam has been filled with doubts about American politics and values, confusion over the lessons of the war, and anger about the physical and psychological suffering that occurred during the war as well as thereafter. In the years since the U.S. withdrawal, our need to make sense of Vietnam has prompted an outpouring of thinking and writing, from scholarly reappraisals of American foreign policy to highly personal accounts of participants. On the tenth anniversary of the final U. S. withdrawal, the Asia Society sponsored a conference on the Vietnam experience in American literature at which leading writers, critics,

publishers, commentators, and academics wrestled with this phenomenon. Drawing on the synergy of this conference, Timothy J. Lomperis has produced an original work that focuses on the growing body of literature—including novels, personal accounts, and oral histories—which describes the experiences of American soldiers in Vietnam as well as the experience of veterans upon their return home.

the short timers gustav hasford: Pulp Vietnam Gregory A. Daddis, 2020-10-22 In this compelling evaluation of Cold War popular culture, *Pulp Vietnam* explores how men's adventure magazines helped shape the attitudes of young, working-class Americans, the same men who fought and served in the long and bitter war in Vietnam. The 'macho pulps' - boasting titles like *Man's Conquest*, *Battle Cry*, and *Adventure Life* - portrayed men courageously defeating their enemies in battle, while women were reduced to sexual objects, either trivialized as erotic trophies or depicted as sexualized villains using their bodies to prey on unsuspecting, innocent men. The result was the crafting and dissemination of a particular version of martial masculinity that helped establish GIs' expectations and perceptions of war in Vietnam. By examining the role that popular culture can play in normalizing wartime sexual violence and challenging readers to consider how American society should move beyond pulp conceptions of 'normal' male behavior, Daddis convincingly argues that how we construct popular tales of masculinity matters in both peace and war.

the short timers gustav hasford: Spiritual and Political Dimensions of Nonviolence and Peace David Boersema, Katy Gray Brown, 2006 This book is a collection of philosophical papers that explores theoretical and practical aspects and implications of nonviolence as a means of establishing peace. The papers range from spiritual and political dimensions of nonviolence to issues of justice and values and proposals for action and change.

the short timers gustav hasford: Contemporary American Cinema Williams , Linda Ruth, Hammond , Michael, 2006-05-01 This is a comprehensive introduction to post-classical American film. Covering American cinema since 1960, the text looks at both Hollywood and non-mainstream cinema.

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