**Literature of War: World War I and Now**

Class 4: Civilian: Target, Recruit, Refugee

October 30, 2018

**Greetings**: Syllabus for next week: *Exit West, pp. 117-end*

1. **Backtracking and Catching up**
   1. Questions or comments re. last week or overall course?
      1. Web links: Owen Ms *Apologia*; Rupert Brook in Brittain letter; U.S. in France
   2. Poems we didn’t get to: *(Anger, Doubt, Complexity)*
      1. “*Dulce et Decorum Est*,” by Wilfred Owen, (Reprise) p. 141
      2. “Insensibility” by Wilfred Owen (handout); paired with “*Apologia”*
      3. The Death-Bed,” by Siegfried Sassoon, p. 220, paired with *Testament of Youth*
   3. At Home: Contrast

*All Quiet on the Western Front*

“Parable of The Old Man and the Young” (*Scene from Behind the Lines)*

* 1. After the War
     1. “Base Details,” by Siegfried Sassoon, (handout)
     2. “Aftermath,” by Siegfried Sassoon, p. 267

1. **America Decides (Recruitment:** Tempting; Shaming; Identifying; Exploiting**)**

Maps and photos at <http://www.susannedumbleton.com>

1. **Standing back**: How would you describe what we have read and seen? What are overriding ideas, concerns, conflicts, drivers? Were you surprised?
2. **On to “Now” (**as in “World War I and Now”): ***Exit West***
   1. **Basic Literary Considerations (Voice, Setting, Conflict, Characters, Theme, Language)**
      1. Narration (Voice)
      2. Setting (time and place)
         1. Where does *Exit West* take place? (What clues? How much does it matter?)
         2. When? “What clues?
         3. What is the quality of the moment?
      3. Characters
         1. Who are the main figures? What qualities define Saeed and Nadia when they first meet? How do you know?
         2. What qualities to they share, and not?
         3. Who are the secondary figures that you have encountered so far? What define them?

BREAK

* + 1. Conflict / Plot
       1. What are the main incidents? conflicts?
       2. Where is the story going, do you think?
       3. In what way are the elements of the story impacting individuals?
    2. Language / Tone
       1. Are you aware of distinctive uses of language?
       2. What language strategies cause the surprises in the story?
    3. “Themes”
       1. What do you consider to be the main idea so far?
  1. **The Door:**
     1. Watching others, then Nadia and Saeed go through doors
     2. What do you think is happening?
  2. **Life on the run or on the quest?**