The Secret Battle: Emotional survival in the Great War


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Abstract

What did home mean to British soldiers and how did it help them to cope with the psychological strains of the Great War? Family relationships lie at the heart of this book. It explores the contribution letters and parcels from home played in maintaining the morale of this largely young, amateur army. And it shows how soldiers, in their turn, sought to adapt domestic habits to the trenches. Pursuing the unconscious clues within a rich collection of letters and memoirs with the help of psychoanalytical ideas, including those formulated by the veteran tank commander Wilfred Bion, this study asks fundamental questions about the psychological resources of this generation of young men. It reveals how the extremities of battle exposed the deepest emotional ties of childhood, and went on marking the post-war domestic lives of those who returned.

Item Type: Book

Subjects: D History General and Old World > D History (General) > D501 World War I
        H Social Sciences > HN Social history and conditions, Social problems, Social reform

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On the former see M. Roper, The secret battle: emotional survival in the Great War (Manchester, 2009), pp. 159–203. On the latter see Keith Grieves, 'The propinquity of place: home, landscape and soldier poets of the First World War’, in J. Meyer, ed., British popular culture and the First World War (Leiden, 2008), pp. 21–47. Dan Todman also accords great weight to memory with his thesis that the popular view of the war as ‘tragedy and disaster’ is more a product of modern mythology than the events of the
war itself (D. Todman, The Great War: myth and memory (London, 2005), p. xii). 158 J. Winter, Remembering war: the Great War between memory and history in the twentieth century (New Haven, CT, 2006), p. 115. 1 result for "the secret battle emotional survival in the great war by michael roper paperback". Skip to main search results. Amazon Prime. Prime members enjoy FREE Delivery on millions of eligible domestic and international items, in addition to exclusive access to movies, TV shows, and more. > Get started. Back to top. The Secret Battle book. Read reviews from world's largest community for readers. What did home mean to British soldiers and how did it help them to cope … It reveals how the extremities of battle exposed the deepest emotional ties of childhood, and went on marking the post-war domestic lives of those who returned. ...more. Get A Copy. Amazon.