

Prior to reading and reviewing All Quiet on the Western Front, I was honestly a bit discouraged and fearful. Although I do enjoy reading, books of war have never been my forte. Also, writing has never been one of my strong suits, so naturally, I was slightly dreading having to write a review, specifically about a war story. My expectations were that the book would be hard to read and comprehend, and that I would have a difficult time keeping interest in the subject matter.

I found that Remarque's writing style was very interesting to read. Throughout the book, Remarque continues to accelerate the story forward in a way that makes it hard for the reader to stop reading. He doesn't dwell too long on any one subject, including the deaths of his comrades. Instead he chooses to keep a matter-of-fact rhythm and tone in his language. His straight forward and to-the-point style is evident when Baumer is talking about Kemmerich's boots as Kemmerich is dying. "But as it is the boots are quite inappropriate to Kemmerich's circumstances, whereas Muller can make good use of them. Kemmerich will die; it is immaterial who gets them. Why, then, should Muller not succeed to them? ... We have lost all sense of other considerations, because they are artificial. Only the facts are real and important for us. And good boots are scarce" (Remarque 21). Another example is when describing the recruits being sent to the front. "Although we need reinforcement, the recruits give us almost more trouble than they are worth. They are helpless in this grim fighting area, they fall like flies" (Remarque 129).

"Their sharp, downy, dead faces have the awful expressionlessness of dead children" (Remarque 130). "Between five and ten recruits fall to every old hand" (Remarque 131).

Remarque's writing style was easy to understand. He utilizes words, phrases, and adjectives that not only make his style easily understandable, but also make it possible for the reader to visually imagine the conditions that he describes. "We see men living with their skulls