



# Regeneration

By Pat Barker

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**Regeneration** By Pat Barker

**"The trilogy is trying to tell something about the parts of war that don't get into the official accounts" –Pat Barker**

**The first book of the Regeneration Trilogy and a Booker Prize nominee**

In 1917 Siegfried Sasson, noted poet and decorated war hero, publicly refused to continue serving as a British officer in World War I. His reason: the war was a senseless slaughter. He was officially classified "mentally unsound" and sent to Craiglockhart War Hospital. There a brilliant psychiatrist, Dr. William Rivers, set about restoring Sassoon's "sanity" and sending him back to the trenches. This novel tells what happened as only a novel can. It is a war saga in which not a shot is fired. It is a story of a battle for a man's mind in which only the reader can decide who is the victor, who the vanquished, and who the victim.

One of the most amazing feats of fiction of our time, *Regeneration* has been hailed by critics across the globe. As August 2014 marks the 100-year anniversary of World War I, this book is as timely and relevant as ever.

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### Regeneration By Pat Barker Bibliography

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## Editorial Review

### Amazon.com Review

**Regeneration**, one in Pat Barker's series of novels confronting the psychological effects of World War I, focuses on treatment methods during the war and the story of a decorated English officer sent to a military hospital after publicly declaring he will no longer fight. Yet the novel is much more. Written in sparse prose that is shockingly clear -- the descriptions of electronic treatments are particularly harrowing -- it combines real-life characters and events with fictional ones in a work that examines the insanity of war like no other. Barker also weaves in issues of class and politics in this compactly powerful book. Other books in the series include *The Eye in the Door* and the Booker Award winner *The Ghost Road*.

### From Library Journal

In 1917, decorated British officer and poet Siegfried Sassoon wrote a declaration condemning the war. Instead of a court-martial, he was sent to a hospital for other "shell-shocked" officers where he was treated by Dr. William Rivers, noted an thropologist and psychiatrist. Author Barker turns these true occurrences into a compelling and brilliant antiwar novel. Sassoon's complete sanity disturbs Dr. Rivers to such a point that he questions his own role in "curing" his patients only to send them back to the slaughter of the war in France. World War I decimated an entire generation of European men, and the horrifying loss of life and the callousness of the government led to the obliteration of the Victorian ideal. This is an important and impressive novel about war, soldiers, and humanity. It belongs in most fiction collections.

- C. Christopher Pavek, *National Economic Research As socs. Lib., Washington, D.C.*

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### From Kirkus Reviews

In this fact/fiction hybrid, Barker (Union Street, 1983, etc.) turns from the struggle for survival of northern England working- class folk to the struggle back to sanity by British officers unhinged by WW I trench warfare. Craiglockhart War Hospital, a grim psychiatric facility outside Edinburgh, is the setting. The framework is the arrival of Siegfried Sassoon at Craiglockhart in the summer of 1917, and his discharge back to France in November. Sassoon is treated by the eminent neurologist (and Army captain) William Rivers, whose job is to restore his damaged warriors to fighting condition. Sassoon is a relatively easy assignment. Despite his public statement protesting the war, Sassoon is no pacifist; this complex poet feels at home in the Army and is an exceptionally courageous officer, beloved by his men, to whom he feels a blood-debt that can be paid only by his return. For all the sparring between Sassoon and Rivers, only a hair separates them, for the latter is also a man of enormous integrity, profoundly troubled by the horrors his patients must endure. And it is these horrors (not the clipped exchanges of Sassoon and Rivers) that linger in the mind: Burns's vomiting nightmares caused by a mouthful of decomposing German flesh; Prior's being rendered mute after handling a human eye. At the center is Rivers, a model therapist, whose unstinting support may give even the wretched Burns a chance at a normal life. Barker has also provided some workmanlike off-base romance for Prior, her one developed fictional character; but the heart of the work, where the big fish swim, is Rivers's consciousness, his insights into front- line behavior enriched by his anthropological straining. Don't look here for the dramatic sweep of a war novel; instead, you get a scrupulously fair reconstruction of Craiglockhart, plus a moving empathy for both doctors and patients. The extent of that empathy earns Barker's work a place on the shelf of WW I literature. -- Copyright ©1992, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved.

## **Users Review**

### **From reader reviews:**

#### **Bradley Loy:**

Within other case, little folks like to read book Regeneration. You can choose the best book if you like reading a book. Providing we know about how is important some sort of book Regeneration. You can add knowledge and of course you can around the world by just a book. Absolutely right, simply because from book you can recognize everything! From your country right up until foreign or abroad you will be known. About simple thing until wonderful thing you are able to know that. In this era, we could open a book or searching by internet product. It is called e-book. You may use it when you feel uninterested to go to the library. Let's learn.

#### **Terri Wiggins:**

The publication with title Regeneration possesses a lot of information that you can discover it. You can get a lot of benefit after read this book. This book exist new information the information that exist in this publication represented the condition of the world now. That is important to yo7u to understand how the improvement of the world. That book will bring you inside new era of the globalization. You can read the e-book with your smart phone, so you can read the idea anywhere you want.

#### **Daniel Caudle:**

In this era globalization it is important to someone to obtain information. The information will make someone to understand the condition of the world. The condition of the world makes the information much easier to share. You can find a lot of personal references to get information example: internet, newspaper, book, and soon. You can observe that now, a lot of publisher this print many kinds of book. The book that recommended to your account is Regeneration this reserve consist a lot of the information in the condition of this world now. This specific book was represented how does the world has grown up. The language styles that writer require to explain it is easy to understand. The writer made some study when he makes this book. This is why this book ideal all of you.

#### **Michael Mantz:**

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