

A Long Way Gone – Ishmael Beah

Episode #2

“The Creation Of A Child Soldier”

1. It is Ishmael Beah’s first-hand account of what he experienced as a _____ during Sierra Leone’s long armed conflict.
2. It was funded by what we call _____ diamonds.
3. They are the exact profile of the nation’s most _____ assassins.
4. Most authors define child _____ as all people under the age of 18, who are recruited either to a country’s armed forces, or to a non-government agency.
5. Most child soldiers come from rural impoverished areas or marginalized sectors of _____.
6. For many cultures all over the world, participating in military pursuits has been and perhaps still is a common rite of _____.
7. There is nothing _____ about war.
8. When we look at the perspective of the families of the boys fighting, often they are very _____ of their sons who are enlisting.
9. All countries, even the wealthiest among us, have yet to do all they need to do to fulfill the _____ of every child.
10. Children in war torn areas... have been _____ of their childhoods almost entirely.
11. “I just sat their staring into the night as if _____ for something.”
12. “Afraid that nighttime would turn over the uncertain pages of our _____.”
13. These children are in the most _____ state imaginable.
14. He is resting on the hope that he would one day be reunited with his family, but now even that _____ is gone.
15. The _____ that he expresses in this passage cannot really be expressed with words.
16. Beah is surround by nothing but _____.

17. "In the forest there are men waiting to _____ all of your lives."
18. "They are totering automatic weapons slaughtering innocent civilians and _____ the rule of law."
19. Children go expecting _____ and _____, but they get neither.
20. "Anything I wanted to do I did. I was _____."
21. He specifically highlights this special relationship, this weird bond he has with his _____.
22. These boys associated what they were doing more with _____ things, like movies or video games.
23. They are not even old enough to conceptualize the _____ between what they are seeing in movies and video games and the actual people that they are killing in real life.
24. The bottom line is that, in many cases, children are just _____.
25. We observe Beah transform into a child soldier; we cannot forget to talk about the role of _____.
26. "I had become addicted to them. They gave me a lot of _____."
27. After several doses of these drugs all I felt was _____ to everything."
28. 'The forces that we slept in became my home. My squad was my _____. My gun was my provider and protector.
29. More than Beah's childhood was gone; his _____ had left him.
30. The taking away of that gun is the taking away of Beah's _____.