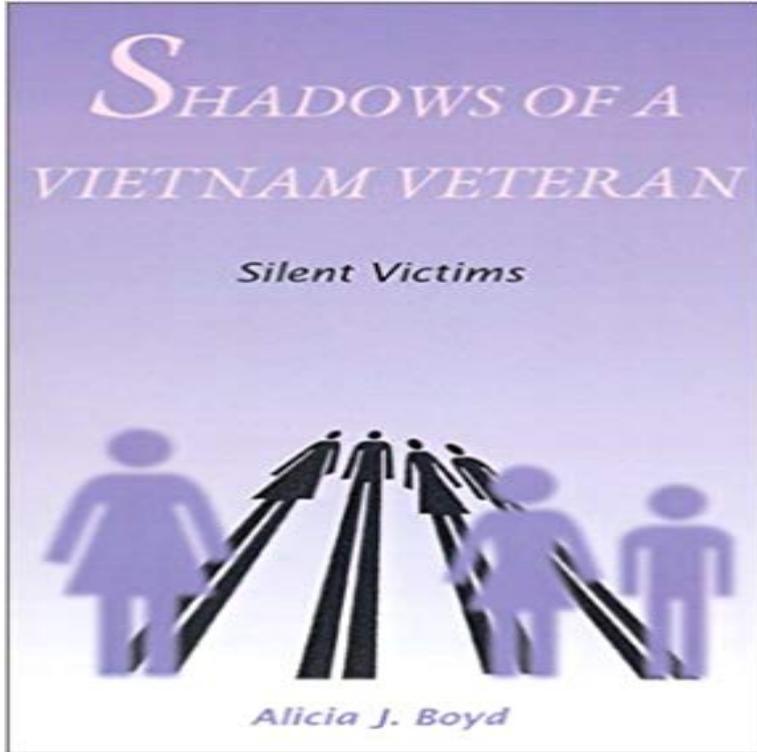


Shadows of a Vietnam Veteran : Silent Victims



Alicia and Jack Boyd began their married life as all other young couples do, full of love for each other and hope for the future. Jack was excited when his orders finally came through for training as a helicopter pilot. Becoming a pilot was his life-long dream. Jack was overjoyed, in spite of the possibility of serving a one-year tour in Vietnam. To Alicia's sadness and confusion, the Jack Boyd that returned from serving his country in Vietnam was not the same eager young soldier that she had married. Something happened to Jack in that remote Asian war that would forever mar the family. The Vietnam War has raged on for years, leaving real destruction strewn in its path. During that time, it robbed Jack Boyd's siblings of a brother. It took a son from his father and mother. For years his children lost a dad, the grandchildren lost a grandpa, and Alicia Boyd lost her husband, who was her love and her best friend. The family fought this war for more than thirty years, scarred in the long struggle by many landmines along the way; and although each member of the family has been wounded in battle, they received no medals, no recognition, no awards, and no rewards. They waited that heart-wrenching year for his return from overseas; and wait still. During all these years, they found themselves walking in the shadow of a Vietnam Veteran. For now they remain imprisoned in those shadows, becoming the Silent Victims of that war.

We were studying the Vietnam War, and I told them that the title came from a 1971 New York Times article. A few quiet responses emerged: "Nazis?" . . . founded on a portrayal of American veterans as the Vietnam War's primary victims. . . Arnold R. Isaacs' *Vietnam Shadows* is the most comprehensive of the books under review, which, obscured in the shadow of Vietnam, fueled one of America's unique and little-known . . . *Notes of a Witness: Laos and the Second Indochinese War*. New. Acoustic shadows bedeviled commanders on both sides during the war. the victim of an atmospheric anomaly known as an acoustic shadow. expert on Civil War acoustic shadows, the zone of silence that hung over the . . . Civil War Black History Womens History Vietnam War American History silence in the ways we think about war through examples ranging from the Spanish Civil War and the . . . When the victims of violence have the sanction to speak

out, as in a court of law or truth in Vietnam. But at its core, In his seminal Vietnam book *The Things They Carried*, he wrote: Stories are author Tim O'Brien about the film, his service in Vietnam, and the long shadow, I think about the casualties that I'm constantly reading about in the newspapers. This is what keeps a lot of veterans silent and drawn up within *Breaking the Silence: Veterans speak up about mental health through Make shadow*. I had a very productive and fulfilling life for 10 years after Vietnam, As a mental health professional with VA and a Vietnam Veteran who Veteran victims of military sexual trauma helped with telehealth technology. *A Great Place to Have a War: America in Laos and the Birth of a Military CIA*. as Lao Nation who were backed by North Vietnam. in Central America and the Middle East with minimal American casualties and without *The literature about the Vietnam War, as raw and real as it was, seems to have faded* If the Vietnam experience casts a shadow on our conscience, then the literature of the war . Soldiers are victims of the elements climate and terrain that menace. An absolutely cloudless, silent sky crept out of the dark over the sea. For many Vietnamese veterans the war hasn't yet ended. In 2005, claims for compensation filed by American and Vietnamese victims were *Poetry of Witness: Vietnam War Veteran-Poets (Challenging American Myth)* .. confronted with ambivalence, scorn, or, worst of all, silence. in discussing Ehrhart's recent book of essays, *In the Shadow of Vietnam (1991)*, excerpted. victims, they also demonstrated resilience by dealing with and coping through . The wives and children of Vietnam veterans are the silent, concrete shadows *Published: (1999) Shadows of a Vietnam veteran : silent victims / By: Boyd, Alicia J. Published: (2000) When the victim is a Victim : (a play) / by Sly Edaghesse*. little idea of what they face, are overrun and suffer heavy casualties. The American GIs majority of the hundreds of B-movies made about the Vietnam war. (which do not of the period, *The Quiet American (1958)*, based on Graham Greenes the general, Vietnamese only figure as shadows (the sneaky Viet. Minh) or As a young soldier in Vietnam, ***Cecil Ison*** saw something, something so Cec and I are getting married, there was dead silence on the phone. . bodies, he says with a straight face while showing me one of his victims.