THE END OF THE WAR AS WE KNOW IT

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When comparing the article, “The End of The War as we Know it,” to the novel, *All Quiet on the Western Front*, I found one archetype that fits both stories. In the journey archetype, the hero confronts trials along the way, however not all trials are overcome successfully in both stories. Paul faced bombings, warfare, wounds, and failures during WWI. Mrs. A also faced wartime obstacles, becoming a refugee in Turkey, and losing her sons in the fighting in Syria. Paul’s detachment from pre-war life made it difficult for him to return to civilian life. Mrs. A was disrupted by the war in Syria and she does not want to return for fear of more fighting. She is convinced that the peace treaties between Turkey and Syria will not hold. Both Paul and Mrs. A do not have a good conclusion. Paul tries to save his friend’s life, but his friend dies before he makes it to the hospital. Mrs. A cannot even make the trip to her sons’ grave because the journey is too long and she is too old. In both stories, the protagonist under­goes a journey, but neither journey ends successfully.