

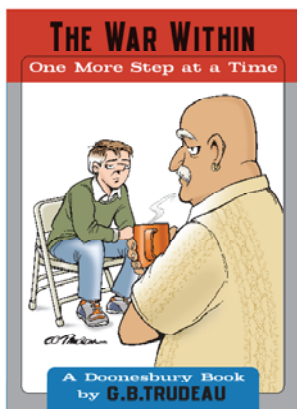
The War Within: One More Step at a Time by G.B. Trudeau

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Contact: Jennifer Collet
(800) 851-8923 ext. 6675

Healing “The War Within” Not An Easy Mission

“One step at a time” rings in the ears of Lieutenant B.D., in his efforts to cope with both post-traumatic stress disorder and an amputated leg. The beloved *Doonesbury* character’s recovery began in *The Long Road Home: One Step at a Time*, but his inner struggle to return to normalcy remains a tough task in this sequel. To outsiders it looks as if B.D. is managing the transitional period quite well, with his new prosthetic leg and college football coaching job at Walden, but the truth is that B.D.’s struggles are multiplying.



G.B. Trudeau’s portrayal of B.D.’s recovery allows the rest of the world to understand the personal challenges soldiers must negotiate when readjusting to civilian life. B.D. finally comes to terms with his problems when he is forced by family and friends to start attending psychiatrist sessions at the Veterans Center. Ellias, B.D.’s devoted counselor and fellow veteran, slowly helps him find the path home.

For Trudeau “the process of creating a comic strip is mostly preparation.” B.D.’s struggles are based on Trudeau’s interviews with soldiers at various military and VA hospitals. These soldiers gave Trudeau a better understanding of the traumatic emotional struggles faced when making the transition from military culture to the homefront. Trudeau believes longer, more developed story lines created with intimate research, ultimately matter the most to the readers.

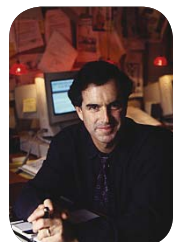
Trudeau’s powerful and heartwarming cartoon is great source of entertainment and inspiration, and allows civilians to get a glimpse of the difficulties our courageous fighting men cope with when adjusting to returning home. The foreword for *The War Within* is written by General Richard B. Myers, 15th Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Proceeds from sales benefit the Fisher House, “a home away from home” for families of patients receiving medical care at military and VA hospitals.

“What our servicemembers want very much is to get on with the rest of their lives. I ask America to appreciate what they have done and recognize their sacrifices. And Garry Trudeau, with his series on B.D.’s wounding and recovery, does exactly that.”

—General Richard B. Myers, USAF, Retired. Former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff

About the Author

The Pulitzer Prize-winning *Doonesbury* is currently in its 35th year, tracking its seventeenth presidential administration. G.B. Trudeau maintains his home in Manhattan and updates his Web site daily at www.doonesbury.com.



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