

OUR BOYS



April, 1922

Photo by Blanchard

"The Day of the Beast"—

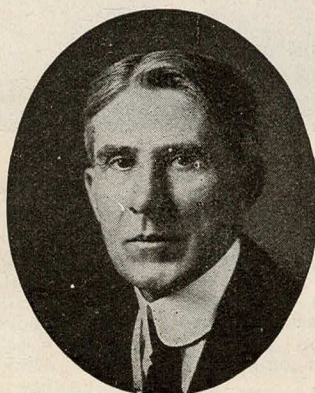


LOOK at this picture! See the two soldiers standing on the deck of the big ocean liner. They are wounded American soldiers returning to their native land after two years overseas.

The thin one is Daren Lane. Two years before he marched through the streets of New York with flags flying, bands playing, and great crowds cheering the brave soldiers off to war. He and his comrades were called heroes—Pershing's Crusaders—saviours of France.

When he returned, how different! As he slowly descended the gangplank, no one offered to help him—no one was waiting with a smile or a handclasp of welcome for this shell-shocked soldier, wounded, with his lungs torn by German gas.

Back from France at last



Zane Grey

On his breast shone the Croix de Guerre, the coveted French decoration awarded for bravery; but no one called him a hero, no flags were flying in his honor, no cheers were heard. People hardly noticed him as he slowly made his way to the railroad station. Daren Lane was going home—back to Middleville, back to his home town—with only one year to live.

He returned to Lorna, finding his kid sister with her hair bobbed, painted face and cigarette-stained fingers—a different girl from the one he left. Back to his old home, filled with young men, sleek, soft, well-fed—who didn't go to war—slackers.

by Z



Lorna—Daren Lane's sister

Poor soldier! What had he gained? On the glory of a life done for one's country.

But did he get what he wanted? No—he was coming of age. No—he was with all his might and main to the people. He had made him better. He had made more worthy citizens of this country—United States of America. He had spent every hour trying to make his fellow townsmen give up their foolish

ish way of living. He had only a year to live, but he made that count.

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During the war Zane Grey's books were probably the most popular among the soldiers. He, personally, spent thousands of dollars sending his books to the hospitals and training camps.

These soldiers learned to love Zane Grey and he received hundreds of letters from soldiers all over the country, telling him how happy they were to read his stories and begging him to write some more about them—a story of those who answered their country's call.

Mr. Grey visited these men and his great heart was nearly broken by what he saw and heard. He had been working on a new novel, but

by Zane Grey



*Lorna—
Daren
Lane's
sister*

Poor soldier! What had he gained? Only the glory of a duty done for others.

But did he go to bed and wait the coming of death? No—he worked with all his might and main to make the people about him better and more worthy citizens of this great country—the United States of America. He spent every waking hour trying to make his fellow-townsmen give up their foolish, self-

ish way of living. He had only one year to live, but he made that year count.

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Mr. Grey visited these men and his great heart was nearly broken by what he saw and heard. He had been working on a new novel, but he

dropped it half finished, and wrote "The Day of the Beast," of which the opening of this article is a description. It starts in the April 1 issue of THE COUNTRY GENTLEMAN.

He sent the finished story to Mr. Pickett, Editor of the C. G., with this simple message: "I had to write this."

"The Day of the Beast" is one of the most forceful stories ever printed in THE COUNTRY GENTLEMAN, and you want to be sure to urge your C. G. prospects to read it. Tell them that it is the best novel Zane Grey has ever written.

Almost everybody, everywhere, has heard of Zane Grey. His books have a larger sale than those of any other present-day author. He is one of America's most popular writers.

Now—don't forget—his latest story commences in the April 1st COUNTRY GENTLEMAN!

*The crippled
soldier returns
home*

