



Daniel

Keith Yocum

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On Jan. 17, 1972, during some of the darkest days of the Vietnam War, an American soldier walked out of the jungle and onto an isolated US Army firebase in the Central Highlands. The stranger had no identification, was in good health and otherwise seemed normal. But there was a problem. While the stranger said his name was Daniel Carson, he could remember almost nothing else. Quiet and reserved, he could not explain where he came from or why he had mysteriously shown up on Firebase Martha. Attempts by the base commander to confirm Daniel's identity turned up even more odd details. Battalion reported that a soldier named Daniel Carson and fitting the description provided by the commander had been Killed In Action the week before. Who was Daniel? Was he a deserter? A faker? A lunatic? Or was he something altogether different? Was he a lucky charm or a savior sent to rescue the unfortunate soldiers on Firebase Martha? The answers to these questions are not revealed until 1976 when three survivors from the firebase meet after the war in a bar in Washington, D.C. and agree spontaneously to visit Daniel's parents in nearby suburban Virginia. What they find shakes them to the core.

Daniel Details

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Author : Keith Yocum

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From Reader Review Daniel for online ebook

Leigh Clayton says

I bought this book as it was only 50p on the Kindle and needed something to read on holiday. I didn't know what to expect but thought the book was rather good, if somewhat poorly written.

Ted Kendall says

I liked Matterhorn, a fictional account of Viet Nam and so this book was recommended to me by Amazon. I rate it just as highly as Matterhorn. Except better in terms of the suspense. Just when you think you have figured it out, this book takes some sharp hairpin turns and gets even better. An excellent, roller coaster ride of a book.

LILLIAN C. KNOCKE says

Daniel

Great story, beginning to end. I did not set this book down until I finished it. The Lord works in mysterious ways

Tom says

A really strange novel. Starts off a little slow, builds to an exciting middle, and ends suddenly in a totally different way than expected. Was Daniel real, was he a ghost, was he an angel?

John Podlaski says

Daniel, by Keith Yocum, is one of the most unique books that I've ever read about the Vietnam War. The story captivates you right from the start and keeps you guessing about this new visitor. For most of the book, I thought Daniel to be either a ghost or an Archangel with a mission to protect this outpost from being overrun by enemy soldiers. Yes, it is late in the war and many U.S. troops had already left the country, those remaining were simply in a defensive posture awaiting their turn - nobody wanted to be the last soldier killed in Vietnam.

The story is riveting and the reader can't read fast enough to see what will happen next. I thoroughly enjoyed this story! Keith did a wonderful job at describing those last days on Firebase Martha; the boredom, dust, loneliness and fear. I especially enjoyed reading about the main character's first encounter with the visitor in the middle of the night. The fear experienced in a situation like this can be paralyzing to the young soldier in the bunker. In the dark of night, the shadows played tricks on you; unnecessary firing at imagined enemy

soldiers attacking was always frowned upon. However, Keith describes the fear and emotions perfectly - something real is out there...it is walking directly toward you...you are mystified by the appearance...afraid...this can't be happening!

Daniel is a wonderful story...the last chapter left me breathless...rejoicing finally when it was all over. A great read and highly recommended!

Iris AE says

Excellent and not what one would ordinarily expect from a Vietnam novel at all. Fast paced and highly gripping.

Mary McGuire says

As a civilian, I give it a 5

I'm a 62 year old woman who has never really understood the Vietnam War, neither why we were in it or why we left it as we did. As part of completing my own bucket list I've decided to do some research. However, I did not want to start with dry, informative military books. I picked this up and could not put it down. Yes, it may seem far-fetched to some, but if you live long enough both magic and the supernatural comes back into your life. I won't insult those brave soldiers who fought that war by saying that the book made me understand their plight. But it did give me an ever so little taste of the fear they must have lived in throughout their tour. My only suggestion would have been to have just left Daniel to each character and reader to solve. It was a great first Vietnam read!

Judith S Reynolds says

Daniel

I don't read a lot of fiction but I'm changing my mind after reading this book. I really enjoyed this one. It was well written and. Very very exciting. I loved it!!!!

Stephen Newport says

Loved this book. Yocom is a great story-teller. The book is riveting without falling back on cheap tactics to keep you engaged.

Kendra says

I bought this book because I loved the concept. Unfortunately, the concept was poorly executed with bad prose, needless amounts of cussing, and too much telling instead of showing. I stuck with it to the end to find out the truth about Daniel, and frankly, it was the best part of the whole book. The truth about Daniel was far more thrilling than any of the action scenes, which mostly fall flat. I'm a fan of war stories but this one didn't do it for me.

Deborah says

Daniel

I don't usually read military fiction but I was intrigued by the mysterious Daniel. It was that mystery that kept me reading to the end. A good read.

Ronald says

I was interested in reading something regarding the Vietnam War. Nam was a big factor in our lives when I was in High School. This novel gave me good insight into what life was like on a base in country. It is interesting and I enjoyed the read. If your interested in Nam then you probably would enjoy it, if not skip it.

Richard Irwin says

A good read with a terrific twist!

Roger Gloss says

Daniel is worth reading, with a very engaging plot and a number of well-developed characters. The ending is also satisfying. It's impressive that Yocum can pull off this story about the Vietnam War without having participated in the conflict. The book is fiction, but Yocum's Postscript would seem to imply otherwise. I found that a little confusing. Also, in my view the author's pacing and writing style are somewhat uneven: too much trivial dialog, some awkward phrasing here and there, and a few laborious chapters. Yocum is at his best, though, when describing what's going through the heads of the participants.

In summary, high points are a very tight plot, well-developed characters, and an ending that lives up to the rest of the story. For me, these are three vital ingredients of a good novel.
