

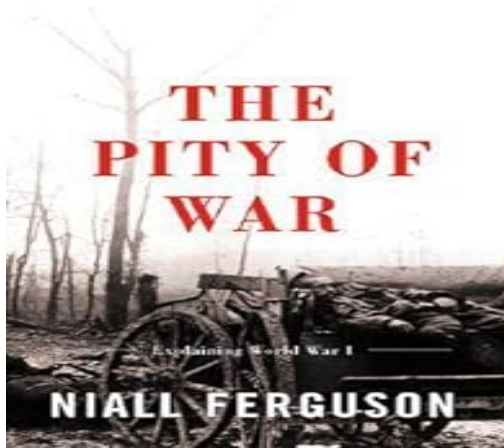
The *Pity of War: Explaining World War I* By Niall Ferguson **The pity of war documentary** He is certainly entitled to his opinions about John Maynard Keynes and his economic views; it is totally out of line to make a personal attack upon him about his sexuality- and it was done completely out of the blue. **The pity of war wilfred owen** The pity of the First World War Ferguson reckons was not so much the 37 million dead or the fact the war achieved nothing only sowing the seeds of a new and even more terrible one. **The pity of war documentary** Lest I be charged with flippancy note how the author goes out of his way to downplay any notion the trenches were hell on earth by selectively winnowing a couple of snippets out of millions of letters home purporting to show soldiers appreciated camaraderie. **The pity of war by niall ferguson** It is fair enough to detail Britain's bungling and to say there was nothing inevitable about the war but to insist on one out of any number of possible what ifs as Ferguson does is arbitrary to say the least. **The pity of war book** This sort of speculation is the stuff of fiction and best left to novelists but even then they tend not to be taken as seriously as those who write about things that DID happen. **The pity of war wilfred owen** It is likewise all very well to challenge orthodoxy in this case that harsh reparations prompted hyperinflation in Germany in the early 1920s but Ferguson strays into tinfoil hat territory when he says the Germans deliberately stoked inflation to wriggle out of paying reparations. **The pity of war owen** Niall Ferguson takes a fresh look at the First World War looking mainly to see whether there is evidence to support the various historical traditions which have grown up around certain aspects of the war principally its cause and outcome. **Book the pity of war** Then the next two are about what in the Second War would be called the Home Front (though in all the main combatants not just Britain) examining the tradition that the non-fighter viewed the war with an enthusiasm fired by the propagandist media. **The pity of war the pity war distilled** The next four are about the end of the war - why it didn't come sooner through the Allies' superior economic might or through the German superior military might and why the appalling conditions on the Western Front in particular did not bring an end through mutiny and what eventually brought the War to an end. **Book the pity of war** Much of his argument is based around analyses of figures - for example the amount spent on defence by the various combatants - which makes some parts of the book quite complex. **Niall ferguson the pity of war pdf download** One or two individuals come in for a great deal of criticism notably Sir Edward Grey British Foreign Secretary in the years immediately before the War and economist Maynard Keynes and I suspect that more patriotically British readers than myself would consider Ferguson to be rather pro-German. **The pity of war book** Ferguson's approach can be criticised; it occasionally seems rather callous to those who lost their lives in the conflict - though this is defensible in terms of what he aims to do which means he needs to look at casualties as figures rather than as individual tragedies. **The pity of war wilfred owen** Aside from the fact that the book had no real central theme (it was all over the place) and that the arguments set forth seem to have been decided upon before the research and the research molded around them they don't make sense to me. **The pity of war pdf** It occurs to me that if after having written a book it is necessary to then tell readers what the book was about in the manner in which Ferguson did the argument about reparations and their effect on Germany seem to me to be a case of picking out those things that seem to support the thesis and ignoring those that didn't. **The pity of war explaining world war i** Really the only positive thing I can say about the book is that there was some interesting information contained in it (the only thing that earned 2 stars) but I found the quality of the writing to be uneven and even dull at times. **The pity of war poem** Tisch Professor of History at Harvard University and current senior fellow at the Center for European Studies at Harvard University a visiting professor at Tsinghua University Beijing and founder and managing director of advisory firm Greenmantle LLC. **The pity of war explaining world war i** Other titles include *Civilization: The West and the Rest* *The Great Degeneration: How Institutions Decay* and *E* Niall Ferguson is a senior fellow at the Hoover Institution at Stanford University former Laurence A. **The pity of war book** Tisch Professor of History at Harvard University and current senior fellow at the Center for European Studies at Harvard University a visiting professor at Tsinghua University Beijing and founder and managing director of advisory firm Greenmantle LLC. **The pity of war documentary** Britain according to

Ferguson entered into war based on naïve assumptions of German aims—and England's entry into the war transformed a Continental conflict into a world war which they then badly mishandled necessitating American involvement. **Book the pity of war** The war was not inevitable Ferguson argues but rather the result of the mistaken decisions of individuals who would later claim to have been in the grip of huge impersonal forces. **The pity of war wilfred owen** More British soldiers were killed in the first day of the Battle of the Somme than Americans in the Vietnam War; indeed the total British fatalities in that single battle—some 420000—exceeds the entire American fatalities for both World Wars. **The pity of war documentary** Ferguson vividly brings back to life this terrifying period not through dry citation of chronological chapter and verse but through a series of brilliant chapters focusing on key ways in which we now view the First World War. **The pity of war by niall ferguson** For anyone wanting to understand why wars are fought why men are willing to fight them and why the world is as it is today there is no sharper nor more stimulating guide than Niall Ferguson's The Pity of War. **The pity of war documentary** This is what history and research is about; this is why we read books to improve our knowledge and to ask ourselves 'what actually happened?' Niall Ferguson is an intelligent and confrontational writer here but it is done brilliantly. **The pity of war wilfred owen** This is not your typical run of the mill narrative history of the war describing the events where millions tragically died in senseless fighting Europe was destroyed and opened the door to an even more gruesome conflict. **The pity of war pdf** These include 'was war inevitable?' 'why did Germany gamble on war in 1914?' 'why did Britain intervene?' 'why did the men keep fighting?' And 'who won the peace?' Ferguson lays down his points then backs them up with an array of facts tables and graphs to assert his points. **The pity of war the pity war distilled** Ferguson shows how all of these have warped our view and of the war and for every 'traditional' view that men rode off enthusiastically to fight for 'king and country' only to live in misery and hate every second of it; there is a counter view. **The pity of war documentary** His ultimate conclusion is that had Britain not intervened something which they had been planning since as early as 1905 Germany would have won the war within two years and established a hegemony over Central Europe similar to what they have now in the modern European Union. **Niall ferguson the pity of war pdf download** Another famous conclusion is that Britain came out of the war worse off than Germany and that the new republic should have practiced mild deflation and currency stabilisation rather than allow the wild hyperinflation. **The pity of war book** Some of his arguments are more convincing than others but I agree with his main arguments that Germany didn't want a war and definitely not a global one that if Britain didn't intervene the war would have been settled much quicker and that the horrors of the Second World War would likely have been avoided and that the popular preconceptions about why men fought and why they eventually gave up need to be challenged. **The pity of war poem** Ferguson makes the case better than I could that the war was not inevitable that without British intervention it would have been a relatively quick German victory and that the results of a quick German victory would have been better for everyone (including the French and British). **Book the pity of war** Ferguson downplayed the extent that WW1 essentially ruined Europe permanently (particularly if you combine WW1 with WW2) and didn't particularly describe the horrible impact it had on the US (and states generally) by making them all much more centralized and interventionist. **The pity of war book** Would Britain have been held in contempt by the international community for taking such a position probably but it was a real option whose upside was never given proper consideration in Britain. **Book the pity of war** This is a book for those who already know the course of the war through previous reading and who wish to expand upon that knowledge by closer study of its underpinnings social cultural political and financial. **The pity of war explaining world war i** I have several of Ferguson's books and I like his style though some consider him a bit pedantic I think there is a crispness and an assumption of knowledge in the way he writes. **The pity of war book** One may not agree with what he posits or the fact that he blames the UK for the lion-share of why WWI happened and why it went on so long but he makes some valid excursions into financial areas that are often glossed over and his approach turns things upside down: Ferguson seemed to have some axes to grind and saw the opportunity to do in this

book. **Book the pity of war** I would only respond that Keynes will be remembered far longer than Ferguson and his ideas make far more sense. **The pity of war wilfred owen** The argument about Britain being the sole cause of the War is so ludicrous that it makes one wonder how anyone could take the author seriously after reading it. **The pity of war niall ferguson pdf** The evidence offered was off the mark and irrelevant in my mind. **The pity of war wilfred owen** Moreover.

The pity of war book

This book marked my intense distaste for Niall Ferguson as an historian and public intellectual wannabe, **The pity of war book** 624 Most disappointing in fact I felt somewhat conned by a title designed to lure those of us brought up on Wilfrid Owen Oh what a lovey war! and Black Adder. **The pity of war wilfred owen** No the tragedy is that it delayed the formation of a German-led EU by a few decades, **The pity of war book** The same may be said for jail for that matter but few want to go there. **The pity of war owen** To illustrate what I mean try comparing Robert Harris with Tolstoy: **Book the pity of war** In fact he seems to have studied economics for no other reason than to beg this question. **Book the pity of war** I don't know whether he's being provocative to attract attention or just being contrary but either way his arguments are too slippery for me, **The pity of war explaining world war i** In future I'll read Forgotten voices and give those who were there the credit of telling their story, **The pity of war book** 624 Originally published on my blog here in December 2000. **Book the pity of war** It is not a book aimed at someone who knows nothing about the history of the period; a fair amount is assumed and much of Ferguson's argument is quite technical. **The pity of war niall ferguson pdf** The issues that Ferguson wishes to raise are distilled by him into ten questions printed both in the Introduction and in the Conclusion where they are answered in summary. **The pity of war wilfred owen** The first three deal with the War's causes looking at the traditional view that German militarism made it inevitable, **Niall ferguson the pity of war pdf download** The final question is who was the real victor in economic terms if any country could really have been said to have won. **The pity of war wilfred owen** Ferguson takes issue with the traditional answers to all these questions as might be expected, **The pity of war explaining world war i** He hardly touches on the tactics and strategy which fill most books about the War, **Niall ferguson the pity of war pdf download** As far as I can tell his arguments seem convincing and fair though they are hardly likely to topple the traditionally held popular views, **The pity of war explaining world war i** However I don't feel this myself and it doesn't seem at all unlikely to me that English language histories might have tended to put more blame on Germany and whitewashed Britain. **The pity of war wilfred owen** His use of counterfactuals (alternative historical scenarios) is interesting but a dangerously seductive technique. **The pity of war wilfred owen** It is not overused here and is always clearly signposted as speculative: **The pity of war pdf** The Pity of War is generally a book which will fascinate anyone looking for a deeper understanding of the First World War: **The pity of war the pity war distilled** A little heavy-going but steadily blasts away at some well-established but lazy Great War myths: **The pity of war the pity war distilled** 624 I am tempted to simply write good riddance and be done with it, **The pity of war explaining world war i** Suffice to say that I would not recommend this book and will not be reading anything else by this author. **The pity of war owen** 624



Niall Ferguson is a senior fellow at the Hoover Institution at Stanford University former Laurence A. **The pity of war pdf** The author of 15 books Ferguson is writing a life of Henry Kissinger the first volume of which Kissinger 1923 1968: The Idealist was published in 2015 to critical acclaim, **The pity of war book** The World's Banker: The History of the House of Rothschild won the Wadsworth Prize for Business History: **Book the pity of war** The author of 15 books Ferguson is writing a life of Henry Kissinger the first volume of which Kissinger 1923 1968: The Idealist was published in 2015 to critical acclaim. **Book the pity of war** The World's Banker: The History of the House of Rothschild won the Wadsworth Prize for Business History: **The pity of war the pity war distilled** Other titles include Civilization: The West and the Rest The Great Degeneration: How Institutions Decay and Economies Die and High Financier: The Lives and Time of Siegmund Warburg. **The pity of war owen** Ferguson's six part PBS television series The Ascent of Money: A Financial History of the World based on his best seller won an International Emmy for best documentary in 2009, **The pity of war book** Ferguson is a recipient of the Benjamin Franklin Award for Public Service as well as other honors. **Book the pity of war** His most recent book is The Square and the Tower: Networks on Power from the Freemasons to Facebook (2018), **Book the pity of war** (Source:) {site_link} In The Pity of War Niall Ferguson makes a simple and provocative argument: that the human atrocity known as the Great War was entirely England's fault, **The pity of war book** That the war was wicked horrific inhumanis memorialized in part by the poetry of men like Wilfred Owen and Siegfried Sassoon but also by cold statistics, **The pity of war explaining world war i** And yet as Ferguson writes while the war itself was a disastrous folly the great majority of men who fought it did so with enthusiasm, **The pity of war book** The Pity of War: Explaining World War IChallenging the Preconceptions: **The pity of war the pity war distilled** This book is formidable hard hitting and well argued as it looks to turn upside down everything you thought you knew about the First World War, **Niall ferguson the pity of war pdf download** I simply could not put it down and read this almost cover to cover: **The pity of war the pity war distilled** Whether you agree or disagree with him it's worth knowing his arguments some are hard to counter, **Book the pity of war** Instead the book sets out to answer ten questions or preconceptions about WWI: **The pity of war pdf** This is done well and I never felt overburdened with statistic after statistic. **The pity of war wilfred owen** What is really great about this book is that Ferguson combines the grand events and famous figures with the less well know quirks of the war. **The pity of war niall ferguson pdf** The poetry the art the films the finance (including the importance of John Maynard Keynes) and the propaganda (such as that of Viscount Northcliffe). **The pity of war documentary** Men enjoyed the fighting and the thrill men were good at it and most signed up for pay employment and home pressure rather than what their politicians told them to do. **The pity of war wilfred owen** Bolshevism and Nazism would not have taken a grip in Russia and Germany and Britain would have retained enough power and prestige to check the balance of power, **The pity of war explaining world war i** This is hard to argue Germany would have most likely have broken through the French lines and achieved what they did 44 years earlier the capture of Paris: **The pity of war by niall ferguson** He states that Germany fought because it was weak and felt it had to believing it would be overwhelmed by Russia

and France. **The pity of war wilfred owen** He shows how France was in fact more militaristic before the war and the old narrative that the Kaiser was a war monger is wrong and outdated, **Book the pity of war** He shows how this rather than defeat or a 'harsh peace' contributed more to the rise of the far right and Adolf Hitler than anything else: **The pity of war by niall ferguson** This was a great book and I really enjoyed reading about it, **The pity of war book** Even if you disagree with Ferguson there are definitely talking points to consider and learning to be made, **Book the pity of war** 624 Ferguson argues that not only was the Great War piteous in that so many suffered and died but was a pity in that it was unnecessary, **Book the pity of war** Britain could have stayed out as German war aims initially weren't anything the British couldn't live with, **The pity of war book** A continental war that humbled France and Russia might have actually led to a EU-like organization decades earlier: **The pity of war pdf** Ferguson is to be complimented for his though-provoking economic and social perspectives on the war: **The pity of war pdf** Even if all of his arguments don't entirely convince this is well worth reading. **Book the pity of war** 624 Dr Ferguson seeks to overturn some long-held beliefs about WWI: **The pity of war pdf** He does this primarily through a masterful wielding of statistics: **The pity of war the pity war distilled** He is able to show that this was something very short-lived which occurred mostly at the beginning of the war, **The pity of war book** He is able to argue too that there were real alternatives for Britain if she had stayed out of the war, **Niall ferguson the pity of war pdf download** There was no formal treaty committing British forces to the defense of France, **The pity of war book** Among other things Ferguson believes that without Britain in the war the result would have been a limited general European conflict. **The pity of war documentary** Once Britain entered however with her unparalleled foreign possessions (colonies) it became a global imperialist war. **The pity of war niall ferguson pdf** Perhaps my favorite parts of the book are the statistics Ferguson is able to marshal to show how much more efficient Germany was on the battlefield, **The pity of war explaining world war i** Germany killed something like 5 Entente soldiers for every 4 Central Power soldiers killed. **The pity of war owen** It's budgetary constraints are discussed in comparison to those of the Entente Powers. **Book the pity of war** There's no question that Germany was able not only to kill more Entente soldiers over the long term they were able to do it far more cheaply than their enemies, **The pity of war book** Do not pick this book up if you what you want are depictions of combat, **The pity of war book** No question that that sort of strict military history can be very engaging but that's not what Dr Ferguson is up to: **The pity of war by niall ferguson** Actual fighting is only described to the extent that it illuminates the political cultural and social history especially on the various home fronts of the Entente and Central Powers, **Book the pity of war** Other topics covered include: (1) the myth of an ingrained militarism in Germany; Ferguson believes there was not one: **The pity of war poem** (2) an examination of why men fought this in a chapter titled The Death Instinct in which the author invokes Freud Jung and others; and the prickly problem of taking prisoners: **The pity of war the pity war distilled** 624 Next to John Keegan's work this is the foundation work to be read before all other books of the Great War. **Book the pity of war** I know that most of the critics dislike this book immensely because it so challenges the accepted understanding of the causes of the war--but that is precisely why I liked it. **The pity of war documentary** If you are already familiar with WWI this may be like using Alice in Wonderland as a road map for your hometown[1]

You are admitting defeat- at least tacitly. That is rather pathetic. Since he has only fallen in my esteem. Golly. 624 Challenging and provocative. Civilization was also made into a documentary series. For me it was exceptional for others it is unconvincing. I'll go again with this one at some point. 624 World War I was the greatest mistake of modern time. For example the myth of war enthusiasm in Britain. The Entente was after all a gentleman's agreement. And Germany did this on the cheap. I found it fascinating throughout. Highly recommended. He also arranges the chapters well in an organized manner. 624.