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## Blogging for Progress



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by Rachel Setzer



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S'06 BfP Scholar



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## CSM English

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## A day in the life of a Solider....

A man, young man, returns home from his 18 month stay in Iraq. He holds a strong presence and even manages to smile more than expected. He is proud that he is in the Army and he holds his memories dear to him. One day, he asked me if I wanted to see his pictures. I said sure, I have no idea what it is like to be in Iraq- why don't you tell me what these photos mean. He had pictures of where they stayed, his platoon, the Iraqi children who adored the presence of the US Soliders and the picture of his best friend. Oh, so is he home too- that was the question I presented after he showed me that photo. No, he was killed. I saw it happen. Goose bumps and tears flooded my body. I just assumed his friend was safe too.

We grew close and he would open up more and more about his experience. Being away from his family, seeing people die everyday, missing his best friend, and hating the therapy sessions he was assigned

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## Spring '06 BfP Scholars



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CSM English 848 students, you can find your class blog and all links [here](#).

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- MeNotYou
- Jenni
- chscjc
- TheDude0980
- maggiecb7
- OliveSocrates
- martins10
- jluben
- pedophile expert
- Shocking Erin
- ...

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to go to every week. He wanted to get this all behind him, and felt by bringing up the horrible images he saw in his mind was not the way to do so. Regardless, this man was a man of character and dignity. He has been researching a way to start a fund for his dead best friends child who is only a toddler, he took it upon himself to put up flags to display how many fellow soliders have fallen in the war in Iraq and he has went back to school. This man is only 22 years old. He has lived more lifetimes than I think I will ever see in my entire life.

One story stands out over the rest- He told me how on the way home- his platoon had to ride a bus through a town in Texas-I believe it was Texas- and protesters of the war were throwing trash and beer bottles at the bus. Wow, I thought the protesters were about peace and humanity. Did they not realize these men, many being YOUNG men, just risked their life fighting for the USA? This vivid image will never leave my mind.

So with that- I am asking you to take a stand. Choose to support and love the men and women who are in Iraq. Send them a letter of thanks or even a goody package.

Go to <http://www.anysoldier.com/WhereToSend/> and you will be able to find their address so that you can send them a ray of sunshine!

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