

## Journal 9

The book starts out by saying "There were all kinds of stories told about the war that made it sound as if it were happening in a faraway and different land. It wasn't until refugees started passing through our town that we began to see that it was actually taking place in our country...It was evident they had seen something that plagued their minds, something that we would refuse to accept if they told us all of it. At times I thought that some of the stories the passerby told were exaggerated."

What do you make of the passage above? What significance does it have? What is Ishmael Beah suggesting about human nature? Do you agree with what he is saying? Try to use specific examples from your life or from history that supports or disapproves what is implied in his writing.