

REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: IJAR-54403

Date: 20-10-2025

Title: Haunted Hands: Trauma, Ethics and the Moral Labyrinth of the War Doctor in Daniel Mason's "The Winter Soldier".

Recommendation:

Accept as it is
 Accept after minor revision.....
 Accept after major revision
 Do not accept (*Reasons below*)

Rating	Excel.	Good	Fair	Poor
Originality	✓			
Techn. Quality		✓		
Clarity		✓		
Significance	✓			

Reviewer Name: Khursheed Sultan

Reviewer's Comment for Publication

The manuscript offers a thoughtful and compelling literary exploration of trauma, resilience, and medical ethics in Daniel Mason's novel *The Winter Soldier*. The author successfully situates the narrative within the interdisciplinary field of trauma studies, drawing on theorists such as Cathy Caruth, Judith Herman, Dori Laub, Bessel van der Kolk, Dominick LaCapra, and Glenn E. Richardson. This theoretical framework is applied effectively to analyze the protagonist Lucius Krzelewski's moral and psychological transformation as a wartime physician, enriching the interpretive depth of the study.

The strength of the paper lies in:

- Its **original angle**, focusing not on soldiers but on combat doctors as overlooked victims of trauma literature.
- **Strong theoretical grounding** that demonstrates familiarity with trauma discourse.
- **Well-organized argumentation**, structured thematically across sections (trauma, resilience, moral injury, narrative structure, etc.).
- **Clarity of purpose** and contribution to scholarship in war narratives, medical humanities, and trauma studies.

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However, a few minor revisions are recommended before publication:

1. **Abstract Refinement** – The abstract is informative but could be tightened for coherence and conciseness. A clear research gap and thesis statement should be emphasized.
2. **Methodology Clarification** – The methodology section is present but brief. Clarifying how textual analysis was conducted (e.g., selection of key scenes, coding of themes) will improve academic rigor.
3. **Citation Consistency** – In-text citations vary in style (sometimes missing years or page numbers). Standardizing MLA/APA formatting throughout is necessary for scholarly presentation.
4. **Grammar and Language Polishing** – A few awkward sentences and typographical issues exist (e.g., spacing errors, missing articles, and repetitive phrasing).
5. **Conclusion Strengthening** – The conclusion is insightful but could benefit from explicitly restating the study's contribution to trauma studies or wartime medical narratives.

Final Evaluation:

This paper makes a meaningful and scholarly contribution to contemporary trauma literature and war fiction analysis. With **minor revisions**, it will be suitable for publication in a literary or interdisciplinary humanities journal.