Today’s college student-veterans returning from conflict overseas face a readjustment period, which can be a difficult time for many. This creative project addressed this contemporary college-veteran issue by studying the experiences of one Iraq veteran, who served as a representative profile for other Iraq-War veterans.

Using in-depth reporting, immersion journalism, and narrative writing techniques, this creative project chronicled Jessica Robinson’s experiences from her enlistment in the Army National Guard when she was seventeen, through her deployment to Baghdad, Iraq, from May 2008 to March 2009, and her extensive transition period. This work of literary journalism examined issues from her personal situation such as posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and other emotional problems (anger, depression, and isolation from others) facing veterans who are readjusting to civilian life, with an emphasis on those veterans returning to a college environment.