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# **Death Coming Up The Hill**





## Synopsis

Itâ <sup>™</sup>s 1968, and war is not foreign to seventeen-year-old Ashe. His dogmatic, racist father married his passionate peace-activist mother when she became pregnant with him, and ever since, the couple, like the situation in Vietnam, has been engaged in a â œsenseless war that could have been prevented.â • Â Â Â When his high school history teacher dares to teach the political realities of the war, Ashe grows to better understand the situation in Vietnam, his family, and the wider world around him. But when a new crisis hits his parentsâ <sup>™</sup> marriage, Ashe finds himself trapped, with no options before him but to enter the fray.

# **Book Information**

Hardcover: 208 pages Publisher: HMH Books for Young Readers (October 7, 2014) Language: English ISBN-10: 054430215X ISBN-13: 978-0544302150 Product Dimensions: 5 x 0.9 x 8 inches Shipping Weight: 11.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies) Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 stars Â See all reviews (27 customer reviews) Best Sellers Rank: #257,608 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #125 in Books > Teens > Historical Fiction > Military #126 in Books > Teens > Historical Fiction > United States > 20th Century #349 in Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Boys & Men

## **Customer Reviews**

The year is 1968, and America is deep into the Vietnam War. Seventeen-year-old Ashe is all too familiar with fighting as he struggles to navigate his home life. His mother is a deeply passionate peace-activist who despises the war. His father is a racist, war-loving man who only married Asheâ <sup>™</sup>s mother when she became pregnant with him. Ashe has known since he was six years old that his parents stay together only out of love for him, not for each other. As he tries to make sense of the war overseas and the war in his own home, Ashe meets hippie girl Angela. Angela is beautiful, kind and Asheâ <sup>™</sup>s main source of happiness through the chaos in his life.Unfortunately, things go from bad to worse. The war in Vietnam is heating up and so is the tension between Asheâ <sup>™</sup>s parents. A surprising betrayal from Asheâ <sup>™</sup>s mother causes his father to finally end the marriage. Soon Ashe is put in the middle of a harsh battle between his mother and father. If he leaves his mother, he knows she wonâ <sup>™</sup>t be able to take care of herself. If he leaves his father, he

knows that he will be denied the college education heâ <sup>™</sup>s always wanted and instead be drafted into the war. Ashe must find the courage and wisdom to do what is right for himself and his family in the extremely moving novel DEATH COMING UP THE HILL.Asheâ <sup>™</sup>s story is one that will touch the hearts of many --- he is an amazing character who is thoughtful and kind but not without fault. He is terrified of being drafted to Vietnam, but his fear of going to war and of the destruction he knows he will witness makes him relatable and realistic. The love he shows every character in the novel, even those he doesnâ <sup>™</sup>t always agree with, is heartwarming. This makes the situation he is put in all the more heartbreaking for the readers to witness.

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