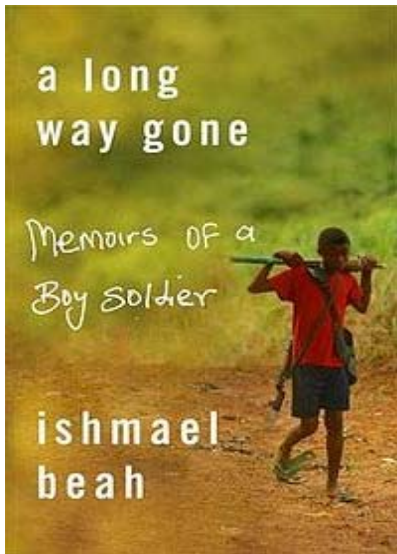




# Come and see **Ishmael Beah** on Friday, October 9, 2009 @ 11:30 a.m. in the FPA Auditorium



## **Ishmael Beah - BIOGRAPHY**

Ishmael Beah was born in Sierra Leone on November 23, 1980. He moved to the United States in 1998 and finished his last two years of high school at the United Nations International School in New York. He graduated from Oberlin College in 2004 with a degree in Politics. He is a member of the Human Rights Watch Children’s Rights Division Advisory Committee and has spoken before the Council on Foreign Relations, the Center for Emerging Threats and Opportunities (CETO) at the Marine Corps War fighting Laboratory, and many other NGO panels on children affected by war. He has also spoken before the United Nations on several occasions. His work has appeared in *Vespertine Press* and *LIT* magazine. He lives in New York City.

## **AWARDS AND RECOGNITION**

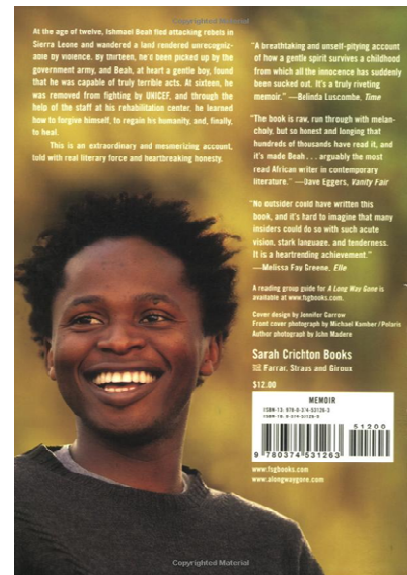
*A Long Way Gone* was named one of the Top 10 Nonfiction books of 2007 by Time Magazine. It was nominated for a Quill Award in the Best Debut Author category in 2007.

## **BOOK PREVIEW**

At the age of twelve, Ishmael Beah fled attacking rebels in Sierra Leone and wandered a land rendered unrecognizable by violence. By thirteen, he’d been picked up by the government army, and Beah, at heart a gentle boy, found that he was capable of truly terrible acts. At sixteen, he was removed from fighting by UNICEF, and through the help of the staff at his rehabilitation center, he learned how to forgive himself, to regain his humanity, and finally, to heal.

This is an extraordinary and mesmerizing account, told with real literary force and heartbreaking honesty.

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“Everyone in the world should read this book...We should read it to learn about the world and about what it means to be human.” — Carolyn See, *the Washington Post*