

On *A Rainy River*

On June 17, 1968 college graduate Tim, receives a draft notice to go to the Vietnam War.

In college Tim took a stand against the war. He's too good to participate.

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Working all summer in a meat packing plant, Tim contemplates how to get out of fighting in the war he so strongly opposes.



Finally, Tim panics. He abruptly leaves work, packs a bag, and makes a run for the Canadian border.



He comes to a final stop that the Tip Top Lodge right on the Canadian border. Here he meets old man Elroy, the groundskeeper of the old cabin resort.



Tim spends 6 days at the Tip Top cabin. He and Elroy work side by side, mostly in silence. Elroy never asks Tim any questions. It is understood he knows Tim is struggling internally after being drafted.



On Tim's last day at the lodge, Elroy takes him fishing on the Rainy River. As they stop on the river Tim notices they are in the Canadian territory. He burst into tears as he hallucinates at the crowds, on the edge of the river, cheering him to make a decision to swim for the border or to make his family proud.



In the end Tim choses to go off to the Vietnam War; not because he agrees with the draft, but because he's too embarrassed not to.

