## May 2020 Entry (on boxing ourselves in)

Scene from the movie <u>Journey's End</u>, 2018, the 100th Anniversary of the <u>1918 Spring</u> <u>Offensive</u> portrayed in the movie:

WWI trenches, German shells are raining down causing havoc with heavy and accurate fire. The British defenders, under the command of Capt. Stanhope, have previously extended their defenses all around the flanks because he didn't trust the other companies to protect their flanks and they are instructed to not retreat. Mr. Raleigh, Capt. Stanhope's girlfriend's younger brother, has been hit.

Capt. Stanhope: [Screaming] "We need to get him down the line." Soldier: "We can't, Sir." Capt. Stanhope: "We must!" Soldier: "We can't, Sir. We've hemmed ourselves in!"

Mr. Raleigh dies a minute or two later, as Capt. Stanhope realizes his error and complicity. Stanhope tries to climb the steps back to the trenches, but is knocked back by a shell explosion. Stunned, he gets back up and in a daze, walks back into the inferno of fire.

By Charles W. Phillips