Andrew and Tony rode back to the new settlement.

Andrew and Tony dismounted their horses and walked to the governor’s and checked on the governor and patients.

They walked out the tent and walked by the brook.

Andrew was looking but he did not see any sign of Wes’ body.

He stopped at a soldier.

The soldier saluted them.

Andrew said, “Where is the body of Dr. Ross?”

The soldier thought for a minute and said, “Can I leave post?”

Tony smirked.

Andrew said, “Yes.”

Andrew began to fell his sorrow for Betsy to swell.

The soldiers came back and walked a little further down by the brook and walked in a thicket of bushes.

They walked out and one said, “Sir. He’s here.”

Tony was about and Andrew did not move.

Tony waited.

The soldiers looked at Andrew.

Tony nodded at the soldiers.

The soldiers walked away and looked at Andrew.

Andrew finally got his nerves together and slowly walked to Wes.

Wes was covered.

Tony stood back near the brook to give Andrew some privacy.

Andrew exhaled and took steps in the thicket.

His legs were getting harder and harder to move.

He kneeled down and slowly pulled the cover off Wes’s head.

Wes had not changed.

He had not decomposed.

He was perfectly preserved.

Wes looked like he was sleep.

There were voices approaching them.

Tony stepped into the path way to see who it was,

Skip, Jake, Todd and Simmons were walking to Wes.

Skip saw Tony.

He knew Tony was still angry with him.

Tony saluted and stood back.

Jake walked and stood by Tony.

Skip took a deep breath.

He looked at Andrew and kneeled by Andrew.

Andrew broke.

Skip placed his arm around Andrew’s shoulder.

Skip cried over Wes.

Skip whispered in Andrew’s ear, “We have to help Betsy and her unborn twins and the two in her house.”

Andrew nodded his head for yes.

They stood for a minute.

They turned and Simmons and Todd walked in the bush and wrote the description of the wound.

Andrew was really taking it hard.

He walked away.

Jake looked at Andrew.

Tony looked at Andrew.

Skip said, “Tony.”

Tony slowly turned and looked at Skip.

Jake watched Tony.

Tony said, “Sir.”

Skip said, “I need you to be here for a little while. My heart is bothering me about this. All of this.”

Tony looked at Skip and said, “How long sir?”

Skip said,”I just don’t know. I feel strange.”

Todd stood.

Simmons covered Wes face and stood.

Jake said, “I did not know him, but he looks good.”

Skip turned and looked at Todd and Simmons and said, “You can go back. Get his suit and have it pressed. Andrew brought socks, shoes, shirt, tie and the suit. Shave him.”

Skip slightly turned and said, “You are dismissed.”

Tony walked into the path to leave.

Jake looked at Tony.

Skip said, “Not you Tony.

Skip was looking over in the bush at the covered Wes.

Skip said, “Jake, do you think we can have the other six out by tomorrow?”

Jake said, “We are pushing it.”

Skip said, “I am thankful I got the prisoners out of here but her. Greene would have killed those twenty eight imposters and Arnold would have killed the fifteen contractors. I do not know what Harold planned. But I needed them at headquarters.”

Tony could not believed what he was hearing from Skip.

He was thinking this man knows his employees and he blocked them from getting in trouble and this Jake is not any better.

Todd and Simmons walked down the path.

Skip turned and watched Todd and Simmons.

He said, “Something just don’t feel right. They are re-grouping.”

Jake said, “I think Sir, you need to concentrate on getting some of this paperwork out of your way. It appears that Dr. Wes was important to you and your boy.”

Skip said, “He saved my son’s life. And married my friend Betsy.”

Skip covered his eyes and cried.

Tony watched Skip.

Jake watched Tony.

Tony looked at Jake.

Jake said, “You don’t think he bleeds do you?”

Tony did not respond.

Skip said, “Tony, is your troop in order?’

Tony said, “Yes sir. They are having training for the next two weeks.”

Skip said, “I knew you had your troop in order. I need you to keep your ears opened. I see your friends are here. They have this area covered. But check on Chester’s troop. I just can’t put my finger on it and it’s like an itch that is driving you crazy and you can’t get to it. If women are at the head of this syndicate, then they will not give up. I wish that first lady will remember. Tony you said, she told Wes?”

Jake looked at Skip and said, “Sir. About Chester troop.”

Jake turned his head and looked towards the brook.

Tony stared at Jake.

Skip stared at Jake and said, “Oh GOD Jake don’t tell me you killed soldier?”

Jake said very calmly, “Oh no.”

Tony looked at Skip and could not tell if he saw relief in Skip’s face.

Skip looked at Jake.

Jake said, “I did arrest the second in command. He has been there for the past four days. I don’t know if they fed him or given him water.”

Tony stared at Jake.

Jake looked at Tony and pointed and said, “Should he be a part of this conversation?”

Skip said, “Tony walked Andrew to the house so we can complete Wes service.”

Tony head was becoming full and he had to think.

He said, “Yes sir.”

Jake and Skip looked at each other.

Tony watched the two.

He thought, “They are closer than me and Chester.”

Jake said, “I told the office soldier to blow the burgle to summon the troop to tell them of the alert. He goes and snatch the burgle out the soldier’s hand.”

Skip turned his head.

Skip said, “And you did what?”

Andrew was walking by with Tony.

Tony was watching Jake.

Jake looked out at the brook and said, “Well you know I might have bashed his head in.”

Tony looked at Jake and he looked at Skip like are you serious?”

Jake and Skip burst out in laughter.

Tony thought, “I need to find something else to do.”

Andrew stopped and said, “Dad did you bring money?”

Skip said, “Some.”

Andrew and Tony heard Skip and Jake burst out laughing.

They knew they were laughing at Andrew.

Tony said, “I am waiting for day my sons ask for money.”

Andrew looked at Tony and said, “Will you give it to them?”

Tony looked at Andrew and said, “Yeah.”

They saw a woman go into the governor’s tent.

They all paused and looked.

Tony thought, “Chester is in the tent and Steve is on the outside.”

Todd and Simmons waited for Skip and Jake and followed them up by the brook.

Jake and Skip stopped and looked out over the brook as the sun was setting.

Jake said, “This absolutely beautiful to be full of evil.”

Skip said, “This is beautiful. I wanted to come back and spend Christmas with Betsy and her twins. I guess she can come to the capitol.”

Jake looked around and said, “Watch that.”

Skip said, “I realized it but could not stop it from coming out.”

Skip said, “I see no hunting.”

They laughed but stood and watched the beauty of the only magnificent KING.

Andrew and Tony stood in silence and saw the beauty of the only TRUE and LIVING GOD fold up the day.

They continued to walk by the brook and they all saw Dr. Obersteen taking a moment and to give God Praise.

Dr. Obersteen really missed Wes.

He was lost because his world revolved around medicine, women and alcohol. Now he is fired and doesn’t have a job nor only a little bit left from Skip.

Dr. Obersteen saw the military walking down by the brook and he knew Wes must be there.

He did not want to know anything else.

He was not involved in any funeral arrangements because his mind had to be clear to take care of his patients and do Angelica physical therapy and take the licks from Joshua.

He thought, “GOD how much should a child endure in a short period of months?”

Dr. Obersteen was thinking.

Skip and Jake approached, they passed Andrew and Tony at the brook.

Dr. Obersteen tried to fight back the tears.

Skip said, “I know. How are holding up?”

Dr. Obersteen could not talk.

Skip and Jake watched this dignified man try not to break down.

Skip said, “This my brother and best friend Jake.”

Dr. Obersteen tried to turn and look at Jake and simply nodded his head.

Skip said, “Where is Betsy?”

Dr, Obersteen said, “In the house.”

Andrew and Tony walked up.

Skip said, “How is she doing?”

Dr. Obersteen said, “Terrible.”

Jake watched Skip.

Skip turned to Andrew.

Andrew looked at Skip.

Skip said, “How are they money wise?” I know Wes was not getting paid, he was here working.”

Dr. Obersteen said, “I don’t know. But what I have I ‘ll put that towards Wes…”

Dr. Obersteen broke down.

Andrew could not take anymore.

Emma walked out the tent in time.

She looked at the soldiers.

Skip stepped and looked at this attractive woman.

He stared at Emma for a time, he felt sorry for her and the bad time she had and the bad decisions she made which caused so much pain and misery for everyone else.

Andrew and Tony watched Skip.

Jake looked at Skip.

Skip said, “Hello Emma.”

Emma looked at Skip and said, “Hello.”

He said, “I am Bruce’s father and your soon to be father-in-law.”

Emma covered her face and cried and said, “I am not worthy.”

Andrew thought, “Not worthy to love?”

Tony peeped at Emma.

Todd and Simmons looked at Emma.

Bruce said, “Dad.”

Skip was looking at Emma.

Andrew said, “Bruce.”

He ran into the tent.

Skip walked into the tent.

Jake stood outside because he felt the two, Emma and Dr. Obersteen could not be left alone.

Tony walked into the tent and looked back at Emma.

Emma fell onto Dr. Obersteen and the held onto her and they cried.

Todd and Simmons watched everybody.

Andrew ran to Bruce whose eyes were opened.

Skip walked in and looked around and saw Newsom.

He walked to Bruce and held his other hand.

Tony walked in the tent and Bruce raised his head and saw his old friend and smiled.

Bruce said, “Dad Emma.”

Skip gripped Bruce’s hand.

Bruce said, “Wes said he’s gone.”

Andrew was stunned and stood still.

Tony was not sure he heard Bruce correctly.

Skip heard about visitations in the past and said, “Yes he’s gone.”

Bruce said, “Help. money.”

Bruce went back to sleep.

Skip kissed his son on his head.

The governor said, “Dad.”

Andrew turned his head.

Skip patted Andrew on his shoulder.

Tony grinned and turned his head.

Skip passed Tony and walked to the room and he looked at the room and said, “This was quick.”

Chester was laying in his bed listening.

Skip looked at Chester.

Skip looked at David and said, “Governor. I see you are getting better.”

David said, “Can you call those two soldiers in here?”

Skip looked David.

Chester sat up, so he could hear.

Skip said, “Andrew, Tony come in here.”

They looked at Skip and walked in the governor’s room.

David said, “Well Andrew.”

Andrew was seething.

Tony and Chester snickered.’

Skip looked at Andrew.

Andrew said, “Governor.”

David said, “You can’t have a little fun…”

He looked at Skip and said, “Some people take it to heart.”

Andrew stared at David.

Tony and Chester bit their lips to keep from laughing.

Steve was outside the tent laying on his back.

He hollered.

Skip looked up.

David looked at Tony and said, “Your again?”

Tony said, “Tony Brown.”

David said, “A good strong name.”

David started yawning.

Andrew started shaking thinking, “Good.”

Skip rolled his eyes at Andrew.

David said, “Skip, medals, awards and promotions for all the men. Ceremonies here. He and the twelve. I mean eleven, majors. Compensate.”

David fell asleep.

Thelma was tossing and said, “Ceremony. Dress.”

Everyone looked at Thelma.

Steve was quiet.

Andrew turned to Skip and said, “Can he do that?”

Skip, “Yes he can. As he has to do is sign the order.”

David made a signing motion with his hand.

Skip said, “That’s a lot of work.”

Everyone was quiet.

They stepped out the governor’s room.

Chester stood and walked out with them.

Skip walked back to Bruce and looked at his son.

He walked over to Newsom and looked at him.

He patted Newsom’s soldiers.

Terry walked in and was shocked.

He saluted Skip.

Skip looked at Terry and said, “Where have you been?”

Terry said, “To eat sir.”

Skip said, “Dr. Obersteen needs help.”

Terry looked at Skip.

Skip was thinking.

Skip walked out the tent and saw Dr. Obersteen and Emma holding onto each other while Todd and Simmons looked on.

Skip said, “Let’s go in the house.”

Dr. Obersteen looked at the tent.

Skip grabbed Dr. Obersteen by the arm.

Emma was still lying on his shoulder.

They walked to the house with Todd and Simmons following behind them.

Skip opened the door and saw Betsy wrapped in a blanket and her hair loose and flowing all over her head she sat and stared in front of her.

Angelica and Joshua were sitting in the window eating dinner, which had become their custom.

Angelica peeped around the door and was looking at the people coming in the house.

Dr. Obersteen walked and Emma stood by the dresser.

Todd and Simmons passed Skip and stood by the pretty bedroom.

They were looking at the bedroom.

Angelica watched them.

Then she saw more movement and looked.

Joshua said, “I can’t see who is it angelica?”

Tony and Andrew stepped inside behind Skip.

Angelica saw Andrew and stared at him.

Andrew really was not noticing Angelica.

He turned his head and saw Angelica staring at him.

Tony looked at Angelica and then Andrew.

Angelica looked at Andrew up and down and back in his eyes.

Tony had to turn his head.

Andrew said, “Is this child during this?”

Angelica said, “It’s him.”

Tony walked out the house and went back to the governor’s tent and hollered.

Chester got of his comfortable cot and walked in the freezing cold and sat on the cot.

Tony told Chester what Angelica said about Andrew.

Chester said, “That little girl told me to bring Laura, Clara and Mellissa to her Sunday, so she can tell them what to do to protect Jason and Alice.”

Tony said, “Are you going to do that?”

Bruce said, “Better.”

Tony looked at Bruce and then he looked at Chester.

Chester shooked his head.

Chester said, “Wes stopped me and said, she wanted to talk to me. I did not want to talk to her.”

Tony said, “Chester you are an uncle and someday a father. You have to get use to children. I noticed you yesterday with the girl and the little boy.”

Chester smiled and said,”I told you I have met the only one.”

He stopped grinning and looked at Tony.

Tony looked at Chester.

Chester said, I have to let her know I am ok.”

Tony said, “Didn’t you say they were summoned for Sunday.”

Chester held up his hands and said, “Woe. When is Wes’ funeral?”

Terry said, “Sunday.”

Tony stood and looked over at Terr, for him to shut up and get out their conversation.

Tony looked at Terry.

Terry kept his head down and reading the comics to Newsom.

Newsom moved his legs.

Terry did not see it because his eyes were on the comics.

Chester and Tony saw Newsom move.

Chester said, “The little girl told me that JESUS said I would be ambushed and to have my gun out because they were a quicker draw than me.”

Tony looked at Chester as they watched Newsom.

Chester said, “It happened just as she said. She said it was a woman over this and I knew the woman.”

Tony and Chester saw Newsom move again.

Tony looked at Terry and he walked out the tent and went to the house and knocked on the door and walked in.

Everyone looked at Tony.

Skip was sitting next to Betsy holding her.

Skip looked up at Tony.

Tony said, “Dr. Onersteen, Newsom is moving.”

Dr. Obersteen said,”Really?”

Dr. Obersteen gently moved Emma off his shoulder.

Tony grinned, because they figured he was scared of Emma.

Angelica said, “He’s trying to tell you’ll she is coming.”

Skip looked at Angelica.

Tony stared at Angelica.

Andrew turned his head because he did not want to hear anything from her.

Skip said, “Angelica.”

Tony looked at how gentle Skip addressed the little girl.

Jake was sitting on the front porch but decided to get a cup of coffee because he was freezing.

He went to the cooks and got a cup of coffee.

He sat at Betsy’s tent and drank his coffee.

Skip looked at a distraught Betsy and he looked at Andrew.

Andrew walked over to Betsy.

Joshua and Angelica watched Andrew.

Tony watched Angelica and Joshua.

Skip stood up and stretched his back.

He saw Joshua and Angelica watching Andrew like a hawk.

Skip said, “Tell me Angelica about the woman.”

Angelica was watching Andrew.

Skip looked back at Andrew.

Skip said, “Angelica that’s my son he won’t hurt Betsy they are friends.”

Angelica said, “That’s my momma. I don’t have a daddy no more.”

She and Joshua started crying.

Then Betsy and Emma started crying.

Andrew looked at Angelica and Joshua he thought,”Boarding school and military academy “.

Angelica stared at Andrew and said, “JESUS you said boarding school for me and military academy for Joshua.”

Skip looked at Angelica and he slowly looked at Andrew.

Joshua said, “I don’t know who you are mister. Talking about sending me to military academy.”

Angelica said, “And me to boarding school. Whose going to take care of my back and feet?”

Simmons walked into the bedding and covered his mouth.

Tony looked at Simmons.

Skip said, “Angelica tell me about the woman.”

Angelica folded her arms and said, “No.”

Simmons had just walked back in the room when Angelica folded her arms and turned her head from Skip.

Skip said, “Andrew apologize.”

Andrew said, “You did not ask me if I said it.”

Skip stared at Andrew and said, “she’s a prophet and hears from GOD. Did you think it?”

Andrew was holding Betsy and said, “Well yea.”

Skip exhaled and looked at Andrew.

Angelica said, “You’re not my daddy.”

Joshua said, “Were just fine without you mister and turn her loose.”

Angelica said, “Momma make him turn you loose. Joshua go over there and move him.”

Joshua said, “Who are you talking to. You can’t tell me what to do and look at how big he is and I’m just a kid.”

Angelica turned her head from Joshua.

Skip said, “Angelica where is the woman.”

Angelica said, “I told you she is coming and she is your friend.”

Everyone looked at skip.

Skip said, “What is her name?”

Angelica was looking like she was listening and said,”I don’t know.”

Skip said, “Because you are made with Andrew and not concentrating.”

Angelica said, “ask your man. JESUS showed him.”

Skip, Tony, Dr. Obersteen, Simmons and Todd were walking out the door.

Angelica said,”Hey sir come and get your boy.”

Andrew stared at Angelica.

Skip was walking off the porch and yelled, “Andrew.”

Jake was watching the house from Betsy’s tent.

He saw them moving he knew it was big.

Jake ran and handed the cup to the cooks and ran to catch Skip.

Adam and Danny were in hiding behind the cooks.

They scared the cooks when they ran passed to catch Skip.

Andrew saw Danny and Adam running.

He sat Emma next to Betsy.

He looked at Angelica.

He walked out the door and saw Adam and Danny running.

Adam said, “What is happening?”

Andrew said, “Skip is listening to the little girl and she said, Newsom knows the woman name.”

Adam said, “How does she know it is a woman?”

Andrew looked at Adam.

Newsom was tossing and nearly falling out of bed and mumbling.

Terry and Chester tried to restrain him.

Dr. Obersteen walked in and Skip.

Dr. Obersteen checked Newsom’s IV and blood and vitals.

Skip said, “I think he is trying to say something.”

Dr. Obersteen stepped back.

Skip stepped to Newsom and said, “Son what are you saying?”

Andrew, Adam and Danny walked in the tent when Skip leaned over Newsom and heard a name.

Skip held his head down.

Skip said, “Son rest.”

Skip walked out the tent and stood by Jake, he said, “Newsom came out of his coma to give a name. I can put pieces together.”

Jake said, “Good. I need to get out of this freezer and go home and get a good night’s sleep in my own bed.”

Skip looked around and said,“I’m not concerned about an attack here. We have to bury our dead. And then Wes. I ordered his casket and it came this evening and Andrew brought his clothes. The family was not expecting. God I feel responsible for his death.”

Jake said, “Family clothes and food. You are gonna to use your cooks.”

Skip said,”Dr. Obersteen said Wes liked the brook. We can have a short service by the brook and have the repass at the house.”

Jake said, “Wait there is a tent they are not using and get fifty chairs and set up the tent and those contractors had three additional heaters.”

Skip said, “What for the repass?”

Jake said, “You know me fried chicken, turkey and ham and the fixins. And sweets.”

Skip said, “Sweets and coffee. I will have Andrew go to the poultry sop on his way back and pick up this food.”

Jake said, “Too much time.”

He looked at Todd and said, “Send Todd.”

Skip said,”Todd.”

Todd knew it was something Jake did.

Todd looked at Jake.

Jake had a blank look at Todd.

Todd said, “Sir.”

Skip said, “I need you to run personal errands. Tell Chester troop to bring the extra tent and chairs and table and set up by the brook tomorrow. You can send a telegram.”

Todd thought, “That’s not bad.”

Skip said, “I need you to go the big city and purchased the food for the repass. And I need you to purchase clothes and shoes for them. Ask those cooks for a menu that goes with fried chicken, ham and turkeys. Get Angelica white dress, Joshua is to have a navy suit and only black if no navy. I guess black dresses for the three women. Stop at the bake shop in Big city called Miss LULU. Best Boston Crème pies. Buy whatever she has. I need you back Saturday. Drive a supply wagon.”

Skip turned and looked at Todd and said, “Got it?”

Todd was writing down everything.

Todd was concentrating on his chores. He looked around and said, “Sir, we don’t have any more wagons until Saturday.”

Skip was thinking.

Todd said, “Sir theres’a wagon.”

Skip said, “Whose wagon is that?”

They walked to the wagon and saw the items and knew the wagon was Emma.

Skip said drive the wagon to Betsy’s tent down there and get two soldiers to help you unload it and take it.”

Todd was staring at Skip.

Skip said, “She won’t jump you.”

Skip to Jake and saw Todd passed him to get two soldiers to help.

Skip turned and said, “No drive the wagon to the tent and put all the items on one side of the tent. Use your brains and save your bodies.”

Todd was peeping for Emma.

Skip saw Todd and said, “Let me tell Emma I am using her wagon.”

He turned from Jake and walked to the cute house and knocked on the door.

He entered and saw Joshua and Angelica looking at the door.

He said, “Emma…”

Emma looked up at Skip.

He said, “I have no wagons I need your wagon to get everything done by Sunday.”

Emma said, “Yes sir.”

Skip said, “Betsy I need you to tell me where you want to bury Wes.”

Betsy said, “Not here. This is a place for life.”

Skip did not tell Betsy they got the telegram back that Wes’ father preceded him in death that morning. He will wait a few weeks or months and then tell her.

Skip said, “Do you think with his family plot?”

Betsy nodded her head in agreement.

Skip heard Emma’s wagon and said, “I had the soldiers to place everything out the wagon into Betsy’s tent.”

Skip said, “His family is from the city outside of the capitol. I will telegram his family for the burial site and for them to meet him and anyone else to take him to his final earthly resting place.”

Betsy began to cry.

Emma leaned her head on Betsy’s head.

Todd was standing outside with Jake.

Todd was thinking Skip really likes this family.

He is spending his own money on this doctor. He bought him a very expensive casket.

Skip turned to walk out the house.

Both Emma and Betsy had their heads on each other and was not aware of Skip.

Joshua and Angelica were sitting at the window and turned around and watching Emma and Betsy.

Skip looked at the sad Angelica and tearful Joshua.

He said, “GOD how much more pain do they have to endure before they can begin to be kids again?”

JESUS was watching them and listening.

JESUS caused Skip to look down at Angelica’s feet and he saw her socks.

He looked at Joshua’s feet and saw socks.

Skip turned and looked at Betsy and Emma’s worn boots.

Skip said to himself, “GOD they were busy with my son and I did not pay them right. Forgive me.”

JESUS took Skip’s book and wrote his request for forgiveness.

Angelica was ready to go to bed and knew Emma was busy crying.

Angelica raised her arms to Skip.

Skip was so into his prayer for forgiveness, he felt a nudge and looked and saw Angelica’s outstretched arms.

Skip said, “Baby I don’t have the strength to pick you up.”

Angelica started screaming.

Jake and Todd and the soldiers looked.

Andrew heard Angelica and slowly walked to the tent door and walked outside.

He saw Skip opened the door and called Todd.

Todd ran to Skip.

Skip said, “Carry her to her bed.”

Todd walked in the house and he looked at Angelica.

Angelica grab her cup and held it up to throw at Todd.

Skip walked back in the house and said, “No Angelica put down that cup. He works for me. You want to go to bed he has to carry you. I am not strong enough to carry you.”

Andrew had rushed to the house and walked in behind Skip and was standing beside Skip and watching Angelic.

Angelica put the cup down.

Joshua got out of his chair and said, “Angelica I’ll carry you.”

She reached for Joshua.

Joshua helped her out the chair and she held onto Joshua’s neck.

Joshua said, “Angelica you are getting heavy. You have been eating too much. Where is your wheelchair?”

Todd looked at Skip who was amazed at Joshua’s care for Angelica.

Joshua dragged Angelica to the bedroom and she pulled herself upon the bed and covered up.

Andrew, Skip and Todd turned and watched them.

Joshua came out and walked to the dresser and looked for Angelica’s wheelchair and he looked behind the dresser and did not see it.

He looked at Betsy and Emma.

Todd looked at Betsy and Emma.

Joshua went back to the bedroom.

Angelica said, “Where is my wheelchair?”

Joshua said, “It’s gone like Wes.”

Angelica and Joshua begin to cry and he closed the bedroom door.

Emma slightly turned at the children’s cry.

Skip thought about Andrew and Bruce when their mother died.

He walked out the house.

He pointed at the chairs.

Todd ran and turned the chairs around.

He thought this is really a nice house.

Andrew stood for a moment and watched Betsy and Emma.

He turned to walk out the door and looked back at the closed bedroom door.

Jake and Skip stood and talk about preparing everything for the soldiers.

Todd stood and watched Andrew walk out the house and close the door.

Andrew walked back to the governor’s tent.

Skip looked at Todd and said, “Add shoes for everyone on the list.”

Todd said, “Sir can I leave tonight?”

Skip said, “Yes.”

The cook walked up and saluted and reached Todd the grocery list.

Skip said, “What is that?”

Todd said, “Sir, it is a menu and the ingredients for the food.”

Skip said, “Give it to me.”

Jake just stared at Todd because he thought Todd was sorry.

Todd looked at Jake and turned his head.

Skip said, “This is fine. Go and tell the cooks to come here.”

Todd pass Jake.

Jake looked at Todd.

Skip said, “Angelica said the woman was my friend. The name Newsom gave me before he went back into the coma. I do not recognize.”

Todd returned with the cooks.

The cooks saluted.

Skip said, “There is twenty soldiers assigned to this site and add about thirty people for Dr. Wes’ funeral can you cook that amount of food?”

One cook said, “Sir, what about desserts and beverages?”

Skip said, “The desserts are taken care of. What about coffee and punch?”

The cooks looked at each other.

The same cook said, “We don’t have enough plates and forks and glasses.”

Todd looked at Skip and said, “We have a few plates but not that many.”

The other cook said, “Sir, There is a place in the big city that sells that and they sell punch bowls and all ready made punch. That will really help us out.

Skip looked at Todd and said, “Get the details from them.”

Jake said, “What about ice?”

The cooks looked at each other and then at Jake.

One said cook said, “We fill buckets of the brooks water and let the buckets sit in the freezing water overnight. Then we chip it out.”

They heard the chipping.

Skip and Jake laughed.

Jake said, “I was wondering what that noise was.”

Skip said, “Tell Todd the amount you need so you can cook the food for the soldiers too.”

The cooks said, “Thank you Sir.”

Skip said, “I would not burden you two like that way.”

The cooks told Todd how much to buy.

Todd told Skip, “Sir, it’s a lot of money.”

Andrew walked to the tent door and was watching Jake and Skip.

He did not trust those two old friends.

He saw the cooks and wanted to know what was happening.

He walked and stood behind Skip and heard Todd say, it was a lot of money.

Skip looked at Andrew and said, “You will be there, take care of it.”

Andrew reached for Todd’s list.

He said, “We’re feeding the military?”

Skip said, “Yes,”

He and Jake walked away and got on their horses and rode back to the post.

Andrew walked to the dirt road to watch Skip and Jake ride to the post as far as he could.

Tony walked out the tent and saw Andrew standing in the dirt road.

He walked to Andrew.

Andrew looked at Tony and said, “I don’t trust those two.”

Todd was peeping down the dirt road at Skip and Jake.

Tony stood next to Andrew and watched Skip and Jake and said, “Neither do I. I thought I would be spying on my sons when they reached puberty not two old geezers.”

Andrew and Tony laughed.

They heard someone out laughing them.

They turned and it was Todd.

They stopped laughing.

Todd cleared his throat and stopped laughing.

Andrew said, “This Lulu sounds familiar.”

He held the paper and then he said, “The soldier I will be escorting home tomorrow last name is Lulu.”

Tony said, “I hope it’s not his family.”

Andrew reached in his chest pocket and pulled out his wallet and handed Todd a hundred dollars.

Todd said, “Sir suppose I run over.”

Andrew said, “You better not.”

The cooks were watching Todd.

Tony said, “Come on tightwad.”

The cooks run to Todd and said, “One of us want to ride with you to big city.”

Todd said, “Why?”

The cook said, “I want to shop and send a telegram home.”

Todd said, “You better not be sending any of that many that was in the horses saddle.”

The other cook said, “Look boy I will Skip you were talking about him.”

Todd said, “I was talking about Jake.”

The cook shrugged his shoulder and made a face and said, “Skip, Jake sound the same to me.”

Todd said, “I will them you are a liar.”

The cook said, “You already got a bad report with Jake, Skip’s brother. Who are they going to believe.”

The cooks turned around and started walking back to their kitchen.

Todd yelled and said, “Alright.”

The other cook pulled off his apron.

Todd said, “Not you. You’re a gambler. I am not getting put in jail with the commander’s food.

The cook thought about it and told the chief cook to go.

The cook took out his list and money and gave it to the chief cook.

The soldiers in the front yard said,” Wait he can’t cook only gamble.”

The cook was running to Todd and counting his money and said, “He can cook oatmeal and eggs.”

The soldiers yelled and said, “We aint eating eggs and oatmeal for two days.”

The soldier that yelled at Angelica said, “That is slop.”

Andrew heard the soldiers fussing.

He eased out the tent.

Tony walked to the tent door with Adam.

Adam looked and said, “That’s the one that hollered at Angelica calling her cripple.”

He walked away from the door.

Tony turned the door loose and walked back to Bruce.

Tony looked at Newsom.

Terry was sitting watching Newsom.

Andrew could not tell what the argument was about.

The chief cook saw Andrew and said, “Damn.”

The soldiers shut up.

Andrew said, “Problem?”

The soldiers said, “No sir.”

Andrew looked at Todd, “Where are you suppose to be?”

Todd ran to the wagon and turned it around.

Andrew looked at the soldiers.

The chief cook was cutting his eyes watching Todd.

Andrew turned to walk to the tent.

The chief cook flew and grabbed on the wagon.

Andrew heard running feet and he turned and did not see the chief cook.

The soldiers were cutting their eyes at Andrew.

Todd heard something hit the wagon.

He looked around and did not see anything.

The cook grabbed onto the wagon and was swinging as he passed Craig and Marcus.

He climbed in the back of the wagon.

Todd looked back and he was furious.

The chief cook said, “You thought you can out run me. I have been married twice I learned how to run.”

The chief cook was winded and he fell into in the back of the wagon and slept until they got to the big city.

Jake continued home and he turned around.

He saw Skip rode back to the road to watch him home.

Jake said, “I caught you this time.”

Skip said, “I could not move as fast as when we were younger. What is it?”

Jake said, “Preacher for Wes and singer and you to give comments.”

Skip said, “Thanks Jake. I knew I had to speak, but I thought maybe Dr. Obersteen could say a few words.”

Jake said, “I only saw him today and I can tell you, no. You got a bible college certified preacher and a powerful singer in this troop. I don’t remember their names.”

Skip said, “Jake you are getting old.”

Jake called one of the sentries and said, “What is the third in command name and the soldier that be with him do you know?”

The sentry said, “Yes sir. Him.”

Skip and Jake looked up and saw both of them walking out the dining tent.

Skip said, “Go and get them and bring them to me.”

The sentry ran and stop Richard and Reagan and told them to go to Skip.

Richard and Reagan were thinking.

They were trying to think if they had done something wrong.

Richard Snow, the third in command said, “I don’t believe I have done anything you?’

Reagan Smith, whispered, “I don’t think so.”

They walked to Skip who looked very stately.

They looked at Jake.

Jake winked at them.

Reagan and Richard saluted and said, “Sir?”

Skip aid, “I was told one of you is a preacher and the other a singer of gospel music?’

Reagan said, “Yes sir.”

Richard said, “Yes sir.”

Skip said, “A friend of mine’s Dr, Wes was killed by that prisoner and we will have his service on Sunday at eleven am at the new settlement I would appreciate if you, which one is the preacher?”

Richard said, “I am.”

Skip said, “If you could speak words from the bible to his family?”

Richard said, “Sir. I will do so.”

Skip said, “Thank you.”

Skip looked at Reagan who was about to hyper ventilate and said, “I believe you are the singer?”

Reagan saluted again.

Jake turned his head and said, “Chuck.”

Skip heard Jake and said, “Can you prepare two songs maybe three for the funeral service at the brook for Sunday at eleven am?”

Reagan was awestruck and could not speak.

The sentries looked at him.

Jake looked at him.

Skip looked at Reagan.

Richard elbowed Reagan and said, “Sir. Yes. Sir.”

Jake said, “Shush.”

Skip said, “Wear your official uniforms cleaned and pressed.”

Skip said, “Dismiss.”

He rode to his office.

Jake watched Skip and leaned down and said, “I can’t help you two. You better not embarrass me.”

Jake peeped at Skip dismounting his horse.

The countries looked at Reagan.

Jake turned to ride home and said to the sentries, “Don’t be too hard on them.”

Reagan looked at the sentries and said, “I’m sorry. That’s like the president talking to you.”

One sentry said, “You better not embarrass us.”

Richard caught Reagan by the neck and they walked to their tents.

Reagan got on his knees and prayed to GOD for a promotion, then the thought came to him he will sing before the heads of the military.

Reagan said, “Thank You God. Which songs do You want me to sing to them?”

Reagan stayed on his knees until he thought about three songs.

Richard went to his tent and picked up his bible and said, “God this doctor I believe was Your servant. You know what You want his family to hear. Prepare me as a vessel to give them Your message.”

Jake passed the sentries who saluted.

He stopped and looked at Barnes and Waters post.

He passed Mellissa.

Jake wondered what was going on with them but he will find out tomorrow.

He looked at the five soldiers at the buildings.

He looked up the street at William’s campsite and at the two security soldiers at Ida.

Then he thought, “Chester said for the governor’s children to come Sunday and visit the governor.”

Jake continued home and feed the horses and locked up for the night.

Skip told Foster to go to his wagon and get Wes clothes and shoes and his uniform and have them pressed.

Skip read over the reports and reviewed all telegrams.

He sat there for a few minutes and thought about how well Jake handled everything.

Then he thought about the second in command under Chester.

Skip said, “Send a telegram to Captain Chester’s troop and have the second in command be brought to me now.”

Tony peeped in at the governor and Thelma and walked and looked at Terry.

Danny and Adam looked at Tony.

Tony said, “The governor told Skip to make us twelve majors.”

They heard Steve, who was outside the tent clapping.

Steve plan to retire in June and work on his farm until he die.

He put most of his money away and live vey modestly.

He wanted to retire with a high ranking.

He had a small church on his fam.

The parishioners worked the farm and sold what they wanted and kept what they want until Steve returned.

Adam said, “Why?”

Chester said, “he knows we are the ones who saved him and his wife.”

Adam said, “I don’t’ know. Everybody will know.”

Tony said, “I did not think about that.”

David said, “Just say I was drunk when I signed the papers.”

Andrew closed his eyes.

Dr. Obersteen continued to work on the first lady she screamed.

They all looked in the room.

Dr. Obersteen moved his hands off of Thelma and said, “Thelma you should not have that degree of pain.”

Thelma said, “Reflex.”

David, “Put her out.”

Dr. Obersteen stood for a minute.

Steve was laughing.

Dr. Obersteen looked around.

Tony said, “Doctor that is not Wes that is Steve on the outside.”

Danny walked and looked at Dr. Obersteen.

Dr. Obersteen exhaled.

He finished stitching Thelma’s wound.

Thelma was grunting.

Dr. Obersteen was really concentrating on Thelma.

Chester walked to the door.

He watched Dr. Obersteen.

Chester turned and said, “You know, if he was not here I would have died.”

Andrew whispered, ”He was fired by someone the governor fired.”

Dr. Obersteen said, “I can hear you.”

The governor said, “Me too.”

Andrew walked to the governor’s door.

Chester looked at him.

Tony said, “Andrew.”

Andrew saw the flap earlier he was looking for it.

Dr. Obersteen looked at Andrew.

Thelma said, “No scars John.”

Dr. Obersteen looked at Thelma and said, “You scared me Thelma!”

Chester said, turned from the door and looked at everybody.

David said, “Good John.”

Dr. Obersteen walked to the curtain and closed it with one hand and had Thelma’s container in his other hand.

Danny went to his knees.

Steve was sitting with his back against the room and he fell over on his side laughing.

They could hear Steve inside the tent.

Tony was speechless.

Dr. Obersteen walked and pulled off his gloves and disposed of them.

He put up Thelma’s container.

Terry said, “Somebody come and see about Newsom.”

Dr. Obersteen pulled down Bruce’s container. He turned and looked at Newsom.

He ran to Newsom.

Dr. Obersteen started checking Newsom and yelled, “No Newsom, you better come back. I need you to come back.”

Terry stood and walked out the tent.

Chester, Adam and Tony stood still.

Steve ran from the outside and saw them and looked at Dr. Obersteen fighting for Newsom.

Dr. Obersteen said, “Newsom there is no reason for you to die. Please I can’t live if you die.”

The soldiers heard Dr. Obersteen.

Steve walked over and said, “Doc he said he is tired. Tell Laura to keep the money.”

Steve began to pray and said, “Laura who?”

Steve said, “With the horses.”

Angelica begin screaming.

Andrew turned and ran to the tent door and looked out at the house.

Chester said, “What was that?”

Steve said, “Newsom. He’s gone.”

Tony stood still he was not breathing because he was afraid of spirits.

Ever since he was about two years of age he said things were following him.

\He had grown up being tormented.

He would run home or walk fast because he said things were following him.

He saw things under his bed that would be grabbing at him when he would be sleep or trying to go to sleep.

His daddy was so frustrated with Tony.

He would get up with his gun and go through the house and look for things.

He knew Tony was not lying because a couple of times he saw something in his house. He worried because he was at sea most of the time that Tony and Chester were growing up.

Craig talked to one of his Naval buddies and told him what was happening to Tony.

Craig told his buddy that he saw something he could not explain.

The man said, “A door of evil has been opened. Is Tony the oldest of the twins?”

Craig said, Yes,”

The man said, “JESUS blocked this evil and give both of the children peace.”

Naomi was not writing complaining about Tony anymore.

Tony had a normal life.

Tony’s wife Colleen wrote him and said she is being to have problems with their sons and his mother said she would help her out and would not.

Andrew was standing and looking at house.

He looked at the soldiers.

The soldiers were listening to Dr. Obersteen pleading with Newsom to live.

Andrew moved and said, “What?”

He turned and saw everyone looking at him.

He looked around the room.

Tony walked and sat on his cot.

Adam and Danny nearly ran out the tent.

Chester did not know what to do.

He looked at Tony and then Steve.

The strange man walked Newsom out in the yard.

Newsom looked around and he could feel life flowing through his entire body,

He could smell better.

Newsom could see throughout the world.

He could hear throughout the earth.

He knew each language he heard,.

He heard everything that had life praising GOD.

Newsom stood in amazement of such life he never knew existed.

JESUS said, “Angelica, I showed you Newsom leaving so you can explain to people as long as their love one has accepted ME, they cannot die but live in eternity with ME. Peace Angelica.”

Angelica begin to calm down,

Betsy ran to Angelica and fell on the bed and held Angelica.

Joshua was lying down and sat up on his mat and looked at Angelica.

Emma ran and grabbed Joshua and put him in her lap and rocked him.

The new commander looked at Angelica.

The attendant heard Angelica but he was across the state preparing the land for Melvin to buy.

Newsom looked at his body which was pure light.

He lifted his hands in front of him and was amazed at how good he felt.

The strange man watched Newsom.

Newsom looked at the strange man.

He turned his head to one side and looked at the strange man.

The strange man looked at him.

The strange man said, “Your question.”

Newsom said, “I hate my family will that kept me out of heaven?”

The strange man said, “Your eternal salvation was bought with JESUS’ blood.”

JESUS was sitting with Newsom’s book in HIS hands.

HE closed Newsom’s book.

Newsom said, “I don’t want my family that caused me to hate them to use that hate to keep me out of heaven.”

Newsom looked around because he felt peace.

He had joy. Something he never had since he was born.

Newsom looked in front of him and JESUS stood.

Newsom cried at the beauty of the SON of GOD.

He dropped to his knees and said “JESUS I don’t want anything to block me from being with YOU.”

JESUS said, “Do you feel hate for your family?”

Newsom stop he turned his head.

The strange man watched Newsom.

Newsom said, “KING JESUS I do not feel hatred nor any evil.”

JESUS said, “I have not given you the spirit of fear, but power, love and a sound mind. There is no hate here. I allowed you to stay for these weeks to accept ME as your SAVIOR. You asked me for forgiveness and you repented of your sins. If you would have died that day you would have been in hell for ever then in the lake of fire.”

Newsome heard screams and he knew it was hell.

He recognized some of the screams as his friends.

Newsom thought,”How JESUS delayed his death to give him time to choose eternal life and to repent and ask for forgiveness and ask to accept JESUS as his redeemer.”

Newsom fell prostrate before JESUS and wailed.

JESUS said, “I want you to pray that your family be saved.”

JESUS stooped down and picked up Newsom and they walked through a door where all the angels were waiting to welcome Newsom.

The door closed.

The strange man was walking back to the governor’s tent.

Andrew was standing at the tent door.

Steve put Newsom hand down and covered his face.

Dr. Obersteen walked and sat in the chair.

David and Thelma were quiet.

Terry was packing his bag.

Sergeant Pearson was told by some of the soldiers that they believed Newsom was dying.

Sergeant Pearson and Robert ran all the way from the brook to the governor’s tent.

When they walked in the tent Steve was covering Newsom’s face.

Sergeant Pearson dropped to his knees.

He said, “Newsom I prayed everyday for JESUS to save you.”

Newsom was walking into the door with JESUS and that was the last thing Newsom heard from earth.

He looked at JESUS.

JESUS said, “I will him know you are here. The prayer of the righteous saved your soul.”

The door closed.