Laura woke early the next morning.

She sat at the kitchen to complete the reports William brought to her.

She had to include Clara’s report she left for her on the kitchen table.

Laura tried to work by the small candlelight but was being distracted by the smell of honey and cinnamon.

She held the report papers in her hand and stared at the sweets Clara baked last night.

Clara was laying on the sofa listening.

Mellissa was tied to her bed and sleep.

The little boy and the little girl were sleep.

Laura looked around and raised out of her chair to peep at Clara.

Clara said, “Laura, we will fight this morning if you touched a crumb of the sweets. If you can’t contain, move and sit here in the dining room.”

Clara was sitting with her back to the sofa arm.

Clara was wrestling with devils all night. She was up after one am finishing her reports to Laura and her lesson plans.

The devils were attacking her concentration.

She knew the children were on different levels of learning and wanted to steer to their appropriate levels.

She never heard of a school where the mayor decided to stop any child over twelve attending school when these are state funded schools. She needed help.

When William left the town earlier that afternoon, she had him to send several telegrams to the governor’s office, to the superintendent over the schools, to the tax and auditor and to the state treasurer. She sent telegrams to the state’s elected official.

Clara knew it was the witches trying to destroy the little ones’ lives.

Clara was on her knees most of the night interceding for the children and the soldiers.

A freezing cold came over her while she was praying.

During the prayer, JESUS revealed it was a horrific devil presence in that town and foe her to continue to pray.

JESUS told Clara, “The victory look’s lost but I tell you it is great. Continue to seek ME and I will show you how to go deeper for a great victory.”

Clara woke.

She was on her knees asleep.

When Clara woke and sat on the floor.

She thought about hearing JESUS’ voice in her dream.

Was it a dream?

Clara crawled on the sofa and slept until she heard Laura in the kitchen.

She knew she had to find the children clothes and the woman Brianna.

Doreen did not like Brianna, but Clara could not perceive what it was about her.

She noticed how Johnna and Charles treated her.

Clara said, “Father GOD I have learned over the years that many who seem kind and good or needful or helpless or kind are not. I need to know about Johanna and Charles and those five children mother Brianna. I know YOU know all things. YOU know who all the enemies are. I want them from the beginning. I don’t want to have them around me and my sister. I pray for Mellissa’s mind to be unblocked by the devil. I pray for the Jason and Alice to go to the person YOU!!have chosen for them to stay with. I have a lot to do right now and I want to think about my personal happiness with that beautiful man you brought into my life. Bless Newsom, especially so he can come and get his money. Give me physical strength to help that man today. I know YOU have a reason for all of this.”

Clara began to cry hard before GOD.

JESUS stood and watched Clara.

Clara finally was able to mumble the close her prayer by saying, “In JESUS’ name.”

She sat with her back

The LORD GOD Almighty spoke to JESUS,

JESUS turned and looked at the LORD GOD Almighty.

The FATHER and JESUS agreed that Clara felt she was weak and unfit for this tremendous battle. She knew Jason and Alice were depending on her to fight their devil worshipping parents. She did not know how to fight for Mellissa’s mental health, now Newsom. She did not know if the government would come against the devil worshipping mayor and how to fight against the witches’ attacks against people. Clara thought she was thinking about her sex life and especially the last one too much.

JESUS extended HIS hands toward Clara.

Clara started breathing calmly and she bowed her head and slept until she heard Laura in the kitchen.

Laura walked out the kitchen and stared at Clara like she wanted to jump on her.

Clara looked at Laura.

Laura pulled the chair from the table.

Mellissa started moving on her bed and cried,”Please! Please!”

 Clara and Laura heard the soldiers outside.

Laura turned the chair loose and ran to the dining room window.

Clara jumped off the sofa and ran to the window.

She looked at Mellissa’s tied feet.

Her heart broke.

She said to herself, “Momma and daddy I don’t know what to do about Mellissa.”

Clara stood in the window with Laura and looked at the military patrol.

Laura saw the light at Ida’s place, she thought, “It’s too early.”

Clara said, “Laura, we both are mad with each other right now. I need to go to the next city and buy these children clothes. I an wanting for GOD to tell me about Brianna. I am going to close school for this week. Can you handle Mellissa by yourself and have Marc and Joseph to keep watch over hre until we get back.”

Laura did not say anything.

Clara was still looking out the window.

She felt the heat from Laura’s anger.

Clara thought, “We are about to fight.”

Michael walked in the room and stood between the two.

JESUS stood and watched them.

The little girl, Angelica, was praying or Clara. She felt Clara was crying because she was unworthy to help JESUS.

Mellissa was in the bedroom crying, “Please!! Please!!”

Clara said, “How much money do we have.

Clara said, “Where are they going?”

Laura turned and saw the soldiers stopping at Mellissa.

Clara said, “They heard Mellissa. Laura go and quiet her.”

Laura turned and walked to the dinning room table and pulled out her chair and sat.

Clara looked at Laura.

Clara could only think about busting Laura’s head.

Laura bowed her head and prayed over her work.

There was a booming knocked on the front door.

Clara did not know what to do.

Michael said, “Untie Mellissa’s feet and go to the door.”

Clara ran into Mellissa’s bedroom and untied her feet and ran into the living room and put the scarves they used to tie Mellissa with under the sofa cushion.

Clara ran to the door.

Jason and Alice were waken by the bamming on the door.

Clara was unlocking the door and pulled it opened and said to the children. “Go back to bed.”

She turned and the soldier was at the door.

Clara stared at him.

The soldier stared at her.

Clara said,”Yes.”

Mellissa was crying and said, “Please! Please!”

Laura was sitting at the table working on her reports. She did not turn around.

The soldier looked at her and walked towards Mellissa’s bedroom.

Clara stood with the door opened.

The soldier stood and stared at Mellissa.

Mellissa held her hands up to the soldier and was crying and said, “Please. Please.”

The soldier walked towards Mellissa.

Clara slammed the living room closed and walked to Mellissa’s bedroom.

The children followed Clara and they stood in the large bedroom and looked at the soldier.

Laura yelled, “Don’t untie her. You will have to be here all day taking care of her.”

The soldier stepped back to see Laura who was hollering at him.

Jason said, “That’s our teacher.”

The soldier stooped down and looked at Jason and then Alice.

Jason, “She went crazy.”

The soldier looked at Alice who was nodding her head for yes.

There was a knock on the door.

Clara looked back.

Laura yelled, “Who is it?”

A voice came back, “Marc.”

Jason and Alice ran to the door and opened it.

Marc looked at the children and said, “Good morning.”

Marc looked around at Laura who was sitting at the dining room table and not moving but drinking coffee.

He liked the smell of the coffee.

He was hoping that was the kind they had for the Jake and the commander.

His thoughts were interrupted by Mellissa.

Mellissa was crying and pleading, “Please. Please.”

Marc was thinking how he stop the situation from getting worst.

He said, “Good morning Mellissa.”

Mellissa stopped crying and said, “Good morning Marc.”

The soldier stood and patted Jason and Alice on the head and looked at Clara and walked out the bedroom and looked at Laura who was flipping pages.

He looked at Marc nodded for him to step outside.

Marc said, “I’ll be back in a minute to get you’ll.”

Clara unfolded her arms and stared at Marc.

The children we are hungry.

Mellissa’s started crying again and pleading, “Help.”

Clara said, “Mellissa I am helping you the best way I can.”

Marc and the soldier walked outside to the other soldier still on his horse and watching the street.

The other soldier was staring.

The soldier that walked out Mellissa’s house with Marc said, “What you see?”

Marc said, “What?”

The soldier said, “You want believe it.”

Marc said, “Yes I will.”

The soldier walked to his horse and mounted and looked in the direction the other soldier was looking.

He said, “We have been hearing all kinds of weird noises and seeing things run into the dark shadows.”

The soldier said,”My tour is over and I am going to sleep.”

Marc said, “This town is full of witches.”

Both soldiers looked at Marc.

Joseph was bringing the Ida’s wagon for Clara to use it for the day.

The soldiers looked at Joseph.

Joseph said, “What’s going on?”

Marc said, “Mellissa was asking to be untied.”

Joseph said, “You didn’t untie her, because I am not running through the town looking for her especially with all these devil worshippers around.”

The two soldiers did not say anything but rode away and continued down the street.

They kept looking back at Marc and Joseph.

Joseph said, “Oh GOD I hope they believe in JESUS YOUR Son. If not, they will have a hard time.”

The two soldiers were asleep in their tents on the front porch of the boarded house across the street from the evil banker and his wife.

They could see Marc and Joseph in the street.

They walked up to them and spoke.

Marc pointed and said, “How was it last night?”

One of he soldiers said, “I slept. I slept with my gun across my chest. I don’t know how to fight a devil, but I know I can shoot flesh and blood and it die.”

The other two soldiers were coming back up the street and passed the four soldiers in the street.

The other soldier said, “I didn’t sleep. Every time I looked up that woman or that man were in the window looking at me.”

The soldiers stood and watched the captain of the hundred soldiers, who had twenty five of his soldiers at the lake to complete the identification of the assassins and process their information.

He had fifty soldiers going through the evil building.

He had twenty five soldiers helping to identify the assassins by William’s campsite and on the street and at Ida.

The captain did not know the lead commander was at the lake with his soldiers.

He was also the temporary captain over the troop of an hundred soldiers that were patrolling the streets of the evil town.

He was riding down the streets and he saw the two soldiers going to their campsite at the end of the town in the darkest part of the town.

The captain asked them, “Was everything quiet?”

The captain saw Marc, Joseph, the two other soldiers standing by Mellissa’s house talking.

The two soldiers said, “Yes sir.”

The captain was the one the sergeant and the Clara’s beau friend did not like.

Joseph was watching the captain.

Marc felt the captain was riding towards them.

Marc turned and walked to Mellissa’s door and knocked on it.

The little children were up and dressed in the same clothes from the day before and their shoes were outgrown.

Clara cooked them bacon and eggs and scones.

She squeezed them fresh orange juice.

Clara said, “My precious ones I had only enough juice for a half of cup of juice a piece. Do you mind?”

Alice reached for her glass and said, “I don’t mind.”

She took her glass and began to drink the juice.

She looked at Jason.

Jason looked at her and then at Miss Clara.

Miss Clara looked at Jason to figure out what was wrong.

Jason bowed his head.

Clara said, “Let’s hold hands and say the grace.”

Clara was thinking, “Please GOD teach these children YOU.”

Clara said, “Jason you want to say grace?”

Alice was watching Jason.

Jason shook his head for no.

Marc knocked on the door and walked in to avoid the captain.

Laura said, “Hey Marc. He just looked at you when you walked in the house.”

Marc said, “Hey Laura.”

Laura said, “No news on Newsom?”

Marc said, “I haven’t heard anything.”

He walked and looked in the kitchen.

Jason said, “We would be beaten with the strip that had nails if we prayed.”

Marc looked at Jason.

Laura turned from the dining room table and looked into the kitchen.

Mellissa said, “Babies. Babies.”

Marc walked in the room with Mellissa and said, “GOD bless you Mellissa.”

Laura heard Marc.

He stood and looked at Mellissa.

Mellissa said, “Thank you, Marc.”

Laura shrugged her shoulders and pointed.

Marc walked out Mellissa’s bedroom and shook his head for he did not know what to think.

He said, “I know to bless those who are cursed.”

Laura thought about that and turned back to her reports.

Laura said, “Marc we need our wagon. Who told yall to use our wagon for a burial wagon.”

Marc pointed and said,”Him.”

Laura looked out the window and continued to right.

Clara said, “Marc join us for breakfast,”

Marc said, “Not for breakfast but grace. I am on a fast.”

Laura looked at Marc and stood up and grabbed Clara’s shawl and threw it on.

Marc looked at Laura.

Clara said, “Laura, no breakfast. You’re fasting to?”

Laura rolled her eyes at Clara.

Jason said, “Miss Mellissa.”

Clara looked at Jason.

Jason said, “She needs to eat.”

Clara smiled and said, “Miss Mellissa and Laura normally eat by themselves.”

Alice said, “Can Miss Mellissa eat with us and say grace. She needs grace.”

Clara walked to get Mellissa.

Marc said, “We all need grace.”

He looked at Clara.

Clara looked at him and kept walking.

She went and untied Mellissa.

Mellissa jumped off the bed to run out the door.

Marc caught her and carried her into the kitchen.

Mellissa was screaming and fighting Marc.

Jason and Alice leaned over to keep Mellissa from kicking and hitting them.

The captain, Joseph, the two soldiers and Laura heard Mellissa screaming and hollering.

Larry and Doreen passed them and said, “Good morning.”

Laura said, “Clara is going to town, do you need anything?”

The captain looked at Laura who was indecent, with a pen and a receipt asking him to sign the paper he said for them to be reimbursed for the use of their wagon.

The captain looked at Doreen and Larry who stopped and were talking in the midst of Mellissa screaming and they could hear her knocking stuff over.

The captain dismounted his horse.

He told Laura, “Give me that piece of paper.”

He read it and signed it and shoved it back to Laura and he walked to Mellissa’s house and walked in without knocking.

Clara thought it was Laura until the captain walked and stood in the kitchen doorway next to her.

Clara looked at him.

He stood and saw Mellissa fighting Marc who was trying to sit her in a chair.

Jason and Alice looked at the captain and said, “Good morning captain.”

Jason stood and saluted the captain.

The captain looked at the children and was about to walk away and not speak.

Marc looked at the captain.

Clara accidentally bumped into him.

The captain saluted Jason.

He said, “Good morning to Alice.”

Laura was standing looking back at the house and said, “That so and so just walked in without knocking.”

Larry and Doreen walked to Laura and said, “We haven’t been out of this town in six months can we go?”

Laura said, “I don’t know. I don’t think she will be coming back until the next day. You’ll see I can’t handle Mellissa by myself.”

Clara and Alice walked the captain to the door.

Jason ran in the living and looked for the scarves to tie Mellissa.

Clara looked at him and gave him the scarves.

They heard Mellissa knocking Marc down.

Alice said, “Sir, you want to eat breakfast with us?”

The captain was listening to Mellissa beating Marc.

He was thinking, “What kind of soldier is he that he let a woman beat him.”

Clara and Alice watched the captain.

He was about to walk to the kitchen.

Clara said, “Alice just asked you SIR to join us for breakfast and you did not respond to her SIR.”

The captain looked at Clara.

Marc walked through the living with Mellissa whose hands were bound, followed by Jason.

The captain watched.

Clara reached and got Alice’s hand and walked to the kitchen.

The two soldiers outside talking to Joseph ran down the street to their post.

Laura, Larry and Doreen walked in the house and Laura bumped the captain with the door.

Laura did not apologize to the captain and walked to the kitchen and said, “Clara, Larry and Doreen want to go with you to town?

The captain stared Laura down.

Larry and Doreen looked at the captain.

Alice said, “Hello.”

Larry said, “Good morning beautiful. I have not meet you. I am Larry and this is my wife Doreen.”

Doreen smiled and said, “Hello.”

Jason heard the friendly voices and ran into the kitchen and said, “I’m Jason.”

Larry and Doreen said, “Good morning. How are you Jason.”

Laura curly hair was partially loose and she had on her glasses.

She walked to the captain and said, “Those children have been terribly physically and mentally abused. You were terribly rude to a child. That is not acceptable in my book.”

The captain said, “Laura I told you if I ever saw you again I’ll kill you.”

Marc walked out Mellissa’s bedroom and heard the captain.

Larry and Doreen heard the captain and they stepped back in the living room.

Clara ran into the living room.

Clara said, “Who are you!!!”

Laura was staring up in the captain’s face.

The children ran out the kitchen.

Clara reached for Laura.

Joseph heard the screaming but he could not understand the words being spoken.

He looked around and left the wagon and walked in the house.

Laura said, “Ricky I am not afraid of you anymore.”

Joseph said, “What is this. What is going on?”

The lead commander saw Joseph run into the house.

He came into town by Brianna’s house.

William saw them and knew they went around the other way to the lake.

William called one of the flunkies and said, “Which way did you come back from?”

The flunky said a mile back and it thirty minutes.”

William waved and said, “Thanks.”

He looked at the surveyors.

One of the surveyors said, “We have been busy, with all the killings and stuff...”

He rolled his eyes at William.

He said, “… but we will go over there today.”

One of the surveyors said, “While the soldiers are here, I want to go over on that side of town. There are five streets over there and the people are all weird especially that telegram man.”

William looked at the surveyor who rolled his eyes at him and said, “I know it has been terrible. I apologize for not taking that into consideration. I want the governor to be proud, when he returns to his office. Let’s survey the evil part of the town today and write down the addresses of all the vacant lands and the houses.”

Another surveyor said, “Who wants to live here?”

William said, “A fallen soldier. The one they buried out by the lake wanted his family to move here. His family got here yesterday.”

The lead commander saw Joseph run into Mellissa’s house.

He stopped his horse and dismounted followed by half his flunkies.

He opened the door.

He saw Marc and Joseph and Larry and Doreen and the little children.

The lead commander looked at Laura in the captain’s face.

He heard Clara screaming.

The lead commander looked at the captain and said, “Arrest him and take him back to the post. He said Stevens take over his command.”

They all walked out the house.

The lead commander saw the two soldiers who were saluting when he passed them.

They saw four subordinate commanders surround the captain and ride him away.

The two soldiers ran into the street and watched them ride to the post.

The sentries that were on duty rode to the street and looked at the subordinate commanders escorting he captain with his hands bound back to the post.

The lead commander rode to the building with the other four subordinate commanders and he walked every inch of the building.

He saw the large pentagram’

He the blood stain that he believed to be Bruce’s.

The lead commander walked upstairs and saw the number of bullet holes and he stood with his hands behind his back and looked out the window over the beautiful view and asked, “When will they starte demolishing this building?”

One of the subordinate commanders said, “We don’t know since the captain is gone.”

The lead commander turned to him and said, “You were to say, Sir, I will contact his second in command and find out and bring you the report back.”

The other subordinate commanders looked at the subordinate commander.

The lead commander said, “Move!”

The subordinate commander walked down the stairs and fell the other commanders ran and picked him up.

He came to and said, “Somebody tripped me.”

The lead commander and another subordinate commander stood upstairs and looked down at the pentagram.

The other soldiers ran in.

The lead commander said, “When is this building to be demolish.”

The lead soldier said, “Now.”

The lead commander said, “How many soldiers do you have to do this job?”

The lead soldier said, “Seventy five and the twenty five at the lake.”

The lead commander said, “Start with the seventy five soldiers. Leave the twenty five soldiers at the lake for now. Be very careful in this building. Burn every piece of this building.”

The lead said, “Where?”

The lead commander said, “Where is the safest place?”

The lead soldier said, “The captain was to find out today.”

The lead commander said, “Take out to the brook where they burned that house down. How many wagons do you have?”

The lead soldier said, “We have five wagons sir.”

The lead commander said, “That’s enough. I don’t want the government’s money to go into this building.”

The lead commander said, “Bring me a mallet.”

The lead soldier turned to one of his soldier and told him to bring the commander a mallet.

The lead commander stood and looked around the building he said, “Your report said, a dead body was in this building, how did he die?”

The lead soldier said, “Whoa. Sir you read the report?”

The lead commander looked at the lead soldier and said, “Yes.”

The lead soldier said, “The residents were too afraid to speak to us, but the cause of death was stranglation.”

The lead commander took off his coat and handed it to one of his subordinate commanders.

The lead commander said, “Get the mayor and make him look at the body and tell you who it is. He knows. If he does not want to bury the body then put it in the mass grave with the assassins.“

The lead commander reached for the mallet and he walked to the center of the pentagram and begin to break the floor.

He felt sick but he continued to break the wood.

Skip said to himself, “The first thing I did was to get on my knees and prayed to JESUS. Go to hell satan.”

He broke the pentagram and tore the pieces of the wood out the floor and walked outside and said, “Where are the wagons.”

The soldiers pulled Clara and Laura’s wagon to the lead commander.

The lead commander worked on the tearing down the pentagram.

He looked over at the blood stain against the wall.

He walked over and begin to beat the wall down.

The seventy five soldiers walked in after they saw the head over headquarters not afraid and tearing down the evil temple.

The evil banker and his wife heard the noise.

They ran out of their house to the street and watched the soldiers tear down their temple.

The other ten subordinate commanders rode into the town and found the head over headquarters tearing down the devil’s temple.

He watched several of his commanders looked at some of the soldiers.

He remembered them.

Skip said, “Read the reports.”

The commanders read the report of the number of dead assassins. The head over headquarters said, “Contact the captain over the burial and make sure it is completed today. Next.”

They reported that Bruce and Newsom were still in critical condition and the other medical doctor and his assistant arrived that morning around six am.

Skip said, “The parents of some small children. Charge them with child abuse and interfering with military operations and working with the assassins, have them removed from the post now and taken to the capital to the prison. Have a four soldier escort for them and the two drivers. Tell Jamison, Wilson and Walker to escort her. Give me the order so I can sign it.”

Skip continued and said, “The governor’s mother-in-law should be dried out. Let her stay until tomorrow and have two soldiers to drive her home. Issue a decree that if anyone at the post give her so much as a drink of alcohol. I will personally have them court martial. Rotate them with the two soldiers stationed there. Give me the order so I can sign it.”

The head of headquarters said, “The commanders should have completed their interrogation of the traitor commanders and have their statements and processed them. Have them out the camp no later than noon. Send them in two wagons and have four drivers assigned to each wagon and twenty armed soldiers to each wagon. I need Gipson, Harrison, Johnson, Lewis, Mitchell to escort them. Take them to the capital to prison until their trial. Give me the order so I can sign it.”

Skip continued, “The woman Shelia have her transported by herself to the capital to stand trial. Send two drivers and four armed soldiers. She should be hanged for killing her five children. The judge may give her life in prison. Have subordinate commanders Garrison, Woodson and Greene escort her. But I want her out the post now. I’ll sign the order.

The lead soldier was so impressed with the head of headquarters he stood in awe.

Andrew saw the lead soldier.

Skip continued, “The soldier Dexter, the gambler that was entrapped by the assassins to owe them money. Get him out the camp by noon. Transport him in a separate wagon and be escorted by two drivers and six armed soldiers. I need two of you commanders, Russell and Symthe to leave and follow them back to the capital. Give me the orders. So I can sign them.”

The lead commander said, “The agent Charlotte, put her in a separate wagon and drive her to the capital. Have one of the medical doctors to travel with her and take care of her. Take care of her needs. Send two drivers and four soldiers. Andrew you escort her home and give the judge her written testimony and send Mr. Williamson a telegram that she is on her way and to meet her and secure a hospital for her to be in until she is healed.”

The commander continued, “Rotate those twenty five soldiers from the governor’s compound. It is cold as hell there. Reduced the number soldiers to twenty. Have seven along the brook, three where the doctor and his wife’s…”

He smiled to himself and said, ”… tent and eight around the governor’s tent and two sentries stationed at the entrance of the ground.”

The lead commander said, “Give me the telegrams.”

Andrew handed him the telegrams.

The lead commander said, “Your mother.”

Andrew smiled because it was his stepmother, asking for a souvenir.

The head of headquarters said, “This soldier Bishop’s family arrived yesterday and the soldier Danny has been relieved of duty to help them settle in and find a house. Have the vacant and abandoned houses and lands been counted?”

Andrew said, “I will find out and leave the information for you sir.”

The head commander shook some telegrams he said, “The three soldiers that were killed in the line of duty families want their bodies. One live in the small city next to the capital, one live in the big city up from the capital and one lived in the big city next to the town. There are twenty four soldiers from the captain’s troop left. Send three drivers and two soldiers with the first, he needs to get home quickly. Send a telegram to his family of their estimated arrival and make sure the burial site is secure. The one from the big city up from the capital send three drivers and two armed escorts. The one from the big city send two drivers and two escorts. Send telegrams to each family. Prepare all beneficiary papers and send with the escorts. Make sure they can bury the soldiers, If, they cannot have the soldiers buried and send the bill to the headquarters. Have those ninety soldiers report back to the base at the capital.”

The head said, “Have the remaining ten complete an inventory of every tent, wagon, coffin, blanket, down to every spoon. I want that completed in two days. I saw two wagons with supplies. Have them unload the wagons. Then they can return to base when they finish.”

Skip said, “Make sure those cooks set up the mess hall and kitchen, per protocol. I did not like the messiness of the cooking area. I know they just came. If they follow protocol then it will line up with the intentions of not having grease fires, slippery floors and accidents. Count the assassins’ guns and ammunition and have it sent to the capital by those ten soldiers when they leave.”

Andrew said, “Yes sir.”

The head of headquarters said, “See if the soldiers that freezing new settlement need additional blankets and quilts and immediately send it to them. They were not prepared for the environment. Let them purchase the knitted coverings for their tents from the woman there. If the soldiers don’t have the money allow them two knitted coverings and write a bill and take the money out of petty cash.”

Andrew said, “Anything else sir?”

The head of headquarters said,”Send the governor’s office the list of the dead assassins and the wounded assassins. Have the medical doctors completed attending the wounded assassins?”

Andrew said, “I will check. I believe they have.”

Skip said, “I want them out the camp today. Put them in two wagons and have the captain at the beginning of this town send four drivers and sixteen of his soldiers to escort them to the capital. Have the subordinate commanders, Bennet, Brown and Woodrow to escort them to the capital. The governor’s office can release the names of the assassins. The first round of executions will take place in two days. I will decide if I want the body to be released to the family.”

Andrew knew Betsy had requested it for Joshua.”

The head commander said, “I will be in this building for another hour. Both of you bring back my report now.”

The head of headquarters begin signing the orders.

Andrew looked at the lead soldier and said, “Sir follow me.”

The lead soldier followed Andrew.

Andrew watched several of the subordinate commanders cut their eyes.

H begin to release they did not like that god’s temple was being torn down. He saw several soldiers that were not working tearing down the building.

Andrew developed sharp hearing while he was in college and three of them walked out to their horses and one said, “He is ending us away.”

One said, “We can’t be sure of that he is sending his son away to and leaving only three commanders in the post.”

Andrew saw the subordinates were angry.

He put his attention to the lead soldier and looked at his name tag.

Andrew said, “The head of headquarters has an excellent memory. He will see if you do what he tells you to how he tells you to do it.”

The lead soldier said, “He knew everything that was going on in the troops and what everybody was suppose to be doing and he was assigning soldiers to tasks and he was counting in his head.”

Andrew said, “you need to do what he said. Where are the surveyors that’s here?”

The lead soldier said, “I have to pass them.”

Andrew saw the covered body and said, “Where did that come from?”

The lead soldier said, “From inside. They apparently killed him and left his body in there for weeks. I was told to get the mayor and bring him back here to identify the man.”

Andrew and the lead rode away and passed the group of thirteen men.

The lead soldier said, “Why are they standing there?”

Andrew said, “They don’t like their temple is being torn down.”

The lead soldier stared at Andrew and he pointed at William and rode away.

Andrew said, “ I am Andrew. I need a list of the most upto date vacant and abandoned homes and lands. Who do I talk to?”

William pointed and waved and said, “Me.”

Andrew reeled his head back and said, “You’re a child.”

William said, “I meet you yesterday.”

Andrew said, “And you are still a child today.”

The surveyors held their heads down and began to snickered.

William looked at them and said, “I am still your boss.”

William looked at Andrew and said, “We are making copies now. We have not surveyed those five streets from here to the end of town and those three streets to the command post.”

Andrew said, “When will you?”

William pointed and said, “That area is being surveyed today. The three streets to the command post will not be survey until tomorrow or the day after.”

The surveyor that was writing down the vacant houses and lands said, “William” and reached him a copy of their lists.

William walked to Andrew and gave him the list.

William said, “Why aren’t those five soldiers in there helping to tear the building down?”

Andrew took his eyes from the list for a minute and looked back at the group thirteen and said, “Their temple is being torn down.”

William mouth dropped open.

The lead soldier was on his way to the mayor’s office.

He found the mayor’s office.

He looked around and tied his horse to a rail.

The lead soldier looked in the faces of the people and children. They had a strange look to them.

He thought about what the subordinate commander said about their temple.

He knew they knew something and he walked into the mayor’s office and the mayor was peeping out the window at the soldier.

Doreen was watching the mayor and trying to figure out how she was going to leave work for the next day.

The lead soldier walked in and said, “Good morning I need to see the mayor.”

The mayor stood in the middle of the floor and said, “I am the mayor. Why are you tearing down one of a building without asking me?”

The lead soldier said, “This is a military operation and we do not ask anything.”

The lead soldier stared at the mayor.

Doreen was peeping at the stare down between the mayor and the soldier.

The mayor said, “What do you want?”

Doreen was surprise because the mayor was so nasty with people he would say what he wanted them to know and walk off.

The lead soldier said, “There is a male body at your temple. Identify the body and determined if you are going to bury it or do you want us to bury it.”

The mayor started walking away from the lead soldier and said, “I am not identifying anything.

Doreen was stuck on the soldier said to the mayor, ‘your temple’ and the mayor did not object.

She thought,”I have to get out of here but we have no money.”

The lead soldier jumped the little swing gate and grabbed the mayor by the collar and whipped out a rope and tied the mayor’s hands and said, “You are under military arrest.”

The lead soldier pulled the mayor out of his office and put him on his horse.

The banker and his wife were walking to work and saw the mayor on the back of the soldier’s horse with his hands tied.

Doreen started packing her bag and her lunch to leave the office she said, “Thank You God.

Doreen locked all the cabinets and cleared her desk she was grinning and singing and sat at her desk.

When she looked up she was looking at the evil banker and his wife.

Doreen thought, “I know I did not hear them come in.”

The evil banker said, “What happened?”

Doreen was trying to catch her breath and get rid of her fear said, “I could not hear. I did hear a body was in a building. I have to go That was upsetting to me.”

Doreen stood up.

Jessica said, “You’re not going anywhere. You are getting to sit down and work.”

Doreen became angry and got her purse and walked out the door.

She saw others that were looking at her as she passed them on the street going home.

She thought I am going shopping.

The mayor’s wife was rubbing and twisting her hands at Doreen.

The banker and his wife walked to their bank.

The evil banker’s wife Jessica ran and put her bags down and ran into the window and continued to mumble and rub and twist her hands at Doreen.

The more Doreen walked home the more she got sick and she thought she would not make it home.

 Laura was at home with Mellissa.

She started feeling sick in her stomach.

Laura held onto the wall and passed out.

Laura was mumbling and when she came to Mellissa was sitting on the floor looking at her and reading a children’s book.

Laura started saying, “JESUS. JESUS. JESUS.”

She got up and ran out the kitchen door and was throwing up.

Laura ran to the water pump and began to pump water in he hands and drink and rinsed out her mouth.

She leaned against the back of the back and was breathing hard.

Then Doreen passed out on the ground.

The two soldiers up the street saw her and ran to Doreen.

They saw Laura standing outside and they could smell the vomit.

They yelled at Laura and said, “Ma am.”

Laura slowly turned her head to see.

She saw them picking up Doreen.

Laura pointed to the house.

The soldiers brought Doreen into the house.

One of the soldiers said, “Where?”

Mellissa was sitting on the floor and said, “Sofa.”

Laura could only mouth sofa.

The soldiers walked out the house and looked at Laura and said, “Ma am.”

Laura had to throw up again.

The soldiers started running.

Clara, Jason and Alice cleaned Jakes house.

Jason was very impressed with his rewards.

Alice was looking out the door and saw her mother and father passed by in a military wagon.

Alice and stared.

Clara saw her and said, “Alice why are you in cold door?”

She said, “Looking at mommy and daddy.”

Jake said, “Where?”

Clara heard the wagon and said, “Come out the door baby.”

Jake looked at Clara.

Clara shook her head for no.

Jake was closing the door when Marc and Joseph brought in two chairs from Ida.

Marc said, “A neighbor had a few extra chairs and said you can have them.”

They put the chairs in the living room.

Joseph and Marc sniffed the air.

Marc said, “Smells better.”

Clara scrubbed the floors and cleaned the kitchen.

The children liked the horses, because the horses came up to the house and looked in.

The horses scared Clara and caused her to jump.

Clara was cleaning the sink and she looked at the broken down dishes.

Jake saw how Clara was looking.

He said, “My caretaker stole everything. She was even stealing my metals and March and Joseph went and got them yesterday.

Jason and Alice were in the kitchen listening.

Jake pointed and said, “Madame and Gentleman, You may have a seat at the guess of honor.”

The children laughed and ran and were seated in the chairs.

The neighbor came back from the City and dropped off the soap for Jake.

The second neighbors came and dropped off the bales of hay.

They told Jake the bales were seventeen dollars.

Jake gave them the twenty dollar bill.

Clara had folded her arms and rubbing them together. She had given Jason and Alive her coat.

She said, “Sir it’s cold in this house why is that window in the bedroom opened?”

Jake said, “I froze last night. I was so sick for the past year and my body was burning up. The doctors did not know what was wrong with me. The only way I got relief was the air coming in through the window.

Jake closed and locked the window.

He said, “I know I saw something in that window the other day.”

Clara looked at him.

She said, “Your caretaker took your curtains even while you were in you bed sick?”

Marc and Joseph moved the bales of hay and fed the horses and gave them water.

They locked the gate.

Clara said, “You have nothing to sleep on?”

Clara set the coffee and sweets on the fire mantle and made them look good.

Alice and Jason were eyeing the sweets.

Clara pointed her finger at them and said, “These are for our new friend. Let’s go home.”

The children started laughing.

Joseph said, “I’ll take you all home.”

Jason and Alice looked at each other and said, “Not the evil home but the good home?”

Clara said, “The good home.”

Alice and Jason started laughing.

They got to the house and saw the two soldiers leaving from the back.

Joseph and Clara looked.

They looked at the house.

Clara said, “Precious ones stay in the wagon until I come back.”

Alice said, “Are we going back?”

Clara got down and looked in the wagon and said, “I don’t know yet.”

Clara took the key and unlocked the door and stopped.

Joseph looked.

Clara looked at him and walked into the house.

She saw Doreen laying on the sofa.

She ran through the house and saw Mellissa sitting on the floor.

Mellissa said, “I didn’t run away.”

Clara saw the back door opened and screamed, “Laura!”

Laura pulled herself to the back door.

Clara helped Laura in the house and sat her at the kitchen table.

She closed and locked the back door.

She ran to Doreen and checked her pulse.

She put a cold washcloth on Doreen’s forehead.

A thought came to her to get her holy oil.

Clara and got the holy oil out the kitchen and touched Laura and she caught Mellissa trying to run out the back door. She put holy oil on her head.

She went to Doreen and put holy oil on her forehead.

Doreen started to come to.

Mellissa sat on the floor behind the sofa and read.

Larry was on his way home and he was tap dancing as he was walking.

The telegram man was rolling his eyes at Larry, as he went to his shop.

Clara said, “Doreen what happened?”

Doreen said, “A soldier came and got the mayor so he could identify a body. Dave and Jessica wanted to know what happen. I told them I did not know and was going home. Jessica was very nasty and told me I was to sit and stay at work and I worked out. I thought I was going to die.”

Larry was standing in the door and he listened.

Clara looked at Larry and got up and went to see about Laura.

Clara said, “We can’t leave today with you being sick.”

Laura tuned her head on the kitchen table and stared at Clara.

Clara in her usual manner had folder her hands and were leaning against the wall.

She was thinking.

She said, “Laura, I am going to that general some of our stuff.”

Clara went and got two blankets and she saw curtains that Mellissa said was going in the trash.

She said, He has no candles and lights.

She walked in the living room and Larry was sitting on the sofa.

Clara said, “I have to run an errand. I will be right back. Please stay until I get back.”

Larry winked his eye and said, “Of course.”

Joseph had gotten out the wagon and said we only have fifteen minutes before the commander comes.

I hope Marc is on his way to direct him to Jake.

They sped down the street.

Marc was leaving Jake’s house and riding fast to make it back by twelve.

Clara said, “My helpers stay in the wagon.”

Jake had changed clothes and looked striking. She thought. “And he is sick.”

She ran into the bedroom and put the two blankets.

She looked at the curtains Mellissa and saw they were short curtains.

She ran into the kitchen and used pins and pinned the curtains to the kitchen window and door.

The kitchen looked good.

Marc took all the trash outside and said, he would come back another day to remove it or burn it.

Clara brought some candles.

She put two in the living room.

One in the kitchen and one in the bedroom.

She left the matches.

She said, “We suppose to be going shopping in the next, but everyone got sick all of a sudden.”

Jake was thinking and said, “Sorry to hear that.”

Clara said, “You really need to get that wagon out there up and repaired.”

Jake said, “That’s Mellissa and Jake’s wagon. I was just keeping it here.”

Clara looked at Jake.

She turned to walk out the door.

Jake was reaching her the hundred dollars.

Clara ran in the kitchen to check the coffee.

They heard the horses.

Jake said, “Ma am take this and buy me some thermals and socks and order me some coal.”

Clara said, “That’s right we didn’t get you any coal. Oh, God let me think. Good meeting you Jake.”

Jake said, “Thanks Clara.”

Clara ran out the house and spoke to the lead commander as she ran to the wagon with the money in her hand.

Marc thought, “I know she did not take money from him.”

Joseph said, “Jason and Alice that man is over the entire military.

They said “Whoa.”

Clara got in the wagon with the money in her hand.

Joseph said, “Did you take money from Jake?”

Clara said, “I don’t like your tone sir. He asked me to buy him thermals and socks and order him coal.”

Joseph said, “That’s right we did not get him coal.”

Clara said, “Ida has a cellar full. Ask her for some. And whether can use her wagon for the next two days to go shopping.”

Clara got Alice out the wagon.

Joseph helped Jason out the wagon.

Joseph went to Ida and the children were in the dining room window and saw Joseph putting coal in the wagon.

Jason said, “Miss Clara he got coal.”

Clara laughed.

The children heard them and laughed.

Clara walked Larry and Doreen out the back door and she said, “Laura it really smells out here.”

Larry and Doreen went home.

Clara got a shovel and cleaned covered it with dirt.

Clara brought water in the house for al of them to bathe.

She looked at the three horses Larry and Doreen have.

She locked.

And before she turned from the door she said, “I wondered if they checked the saddles.”

Laura repeated. “The saddles.”

Clara hid a few sweets for Jason and Alice.

Clara gave them the sweets and they sat in the window and watched the wagons pass by going to the capital.

Clara closed the backdoor and ran and knocked on Larry and Doreen’s door.

Larry came to the door.

Clara stepped inside.

Doreen looked at Clara.

Clara looked at their house which was in bad shape.

Clara walked to Doreen and caught Larry by his arm and said, “You still have the saddles from the horses. Some of the soldiers said the assassins had money in the saddle.”

Doreen said, “I doubt that.”

Clara said, “The soldiers are very thorough. They went yesterday and started taking the saddles back.”

Doreen became irrational and jumped up from her ragged sofa and said, “Those are our saddles.”

Larry looked at her and said, “Doreen nothing belongs to us but the horses they gave us. What is the matter with you. You are acting like we are dastardly poor.”

Clara walked to the door and Larry followed her.

She whispered to Larry,”Check check the saddles.”

Larry shook his head for yes.

He turned from the door and looked at Doreen and said, “If they come for the saddles, we have to give them the saddles. “

He looked at Doreen and said, “We do need to ride with them and get hay for the horses and a fork. I need to give them some water. I’ll be right back.”

Clara was back home and walked in the kitchen and locked the back door.”

Laura had her head on the kitchen table.

Clara walked over and rubbed he back.

She looked in the living room and saw Mellissa laying on the floor sleep.

She walked in the living room and watched Jason and Alice look out the window.

Clara stood between the living room and the kitchen, thinking.

Captain Ricky was in detention until the head decided he will press charges.

He sat on the cot and was angry with himself and even more so with Laura.

He laid on the cot with his arms behind his head and saw images of him choking Laura.

He said, “I don’t know what stopped me.”

The lead soldier brought the mayor back to their temple.

The lead soldier said, “Get off the horse and walk over here and tell me who this is.”

The mayor slid off the horse and walked over and looked at the body.

He said, “James.”

The lead soldier said, “Does he have family?”

The mayor said, “No.”

The lead soldier said, “Do you want the body to bury or do you want us to bury the body?’

The head over headquarters was watching the lead soldier and the devil worshippers.

The mayor, “I don’t want the body.”

The lead soldier took out a piece of paper and said, “His full name?”

The mayor said, “James Ocew.”

The lead soldier untied the mayor’s hand and said, “The next time the arrest will be permanent.”

The lead soldier looked at the five devil worshippers and said, “You two come and put the body in a wagon and take it to the soldiers at the brook.”

He looked at the subordinate commanders looking at him.

He said to one,”Get that wagon and take the mayor back to his office.”

And he said, You two get a wagon each and take this wood to the soldiers at the brook and tell them to burn it. I’ll down in a minute.”

The lead soldier looked at the subordinate commanders and remembered their names.

Andrew gave his father the partial list from William and went back to the post and sent all the telegrams. He told all the soldiers and the subordinate commanders who they were assigned to.

The subordinate commanders packed up their tents and waited for their prisoners.

They left the camp.

The soldiers lined up and gave the three fallen soldiers a salute.

The eight devil worshippers’ subordinate commanders left and rode back to the command post.

The head over headquarters watched them.

The head over headquarters called the remaining subordinate to him and handed him all the orders.

Andrew was completing the beneficiary papers when the eight returned to post.

Joseph took the coal to Jake and made a fire in the living room and made a small fire in the bedroom.

The head of headquarters turned the chairs so he could watch the troops leaving.

Joseph went back to Ida and asked if Clara and the rest could use her wagon for a few days.

Ida said, “As long as they are back by Sunday. I think we can go and visit the governor.”

He governor’s children jumped up and were shouting for joy.”

The lead soldier passed and rode to the brook and saw the sergeant and said, “He was confirmed the soldiers were bring their temple to be burned and to bury James Ocew with the assassins in the mass grave.”

The sergeant and the lead soldier, who was a sergeant became friends.