Skip rode passed Craig and Naomi and Bishop’s family.

He did not look at them, he wanted them to know he was not friendly.

He totally admired his doers, Tony and Chester.

But it was something there he could not put his finger on, because they were the parents of two of his twelve he will keep it in prayer.

Chester was walking among the troop and introducing himself.

He was watching each soldier and looking at their name tags.

He was thinking, “They came out of headquarters. Ill trained. I’m going to give them the opportunity to quit and receive their money and go on with their lives. But it cannot be a military life. Out of this hundred only three knew what the protocol was when I stopped.”

Chester was looking over the tents and fire and ammunition.

The office soldier ran out the office and waving a paper.

He ran to Chester.

He was out of breath.

Chester turned and looked at him.

The office soldier could not speak but held up the telegram.

Chester reached and took the telegram paper and read it. He looked down the road and saw no sign of Skip.

Chester said, “If this situation was not an emergency I would make you run to the governor’s tent…”

The office soldier looked at Chester.

Chester said, “Get on your horse and hand deliver this to the lead commander. He only. Am I clear?”

The soldier said, “Yes sir.”

The other soldiers tried to read their lips and figure out what was going on.

Chester learned the hard way to keep his back turned and say what he needed to say.

The office soldier got on his horse and rode out of camp.

Chester watched him as he rode.

Chester walked to a tent and saw the soldiers lurking about.

He thought all of them has to go, “Soldiers your name and rank.”

Chester said, “Thomas and Wilson follow me.”

The two soldiers looked at Chester.

Chester gave the soldiers a look that put fear in them.

The two soldiers followed Chester. They had to put on their boots.

Chester stopped and looked back at them.

The two soldiers walked to Chester.

He said, “We are going into battle and you don’t have on your shoes. What do you think. You put all of our lives on the line when you are not prepared and do your part. Pack your stuff, leave your credentials and all government issued weapons. Be out of this post by sunrise. Your last pay and papers will be mailed to the address you provided.”

The soldiers were stunned.

Chester stared them down.

The two soldiers turned and walked back to their tents and started packing their stuff.

They were full of venom.

One of the soldiers said, he announced he was the new captain. He said was on alert for a possible attack and ya’ll did not stand and salute the man. What do you think? He is not a temporary captain. He is a permanent captain for the head of the military to personally escort him here to us. And you guys were playing with him. Now you know.”

The soldiers were very mad.

The other soldiers were standing and looking.

One of the soldiers said, “now we know. I am out of here tonight.”

He began to walk to the command post to turn in his credentials.

The second in command, was in the office putting reports in folders.

The office already heard Chester fired them.

Everyone in the office turned and looked at the soldier.

He looked at the six soldiers and said, “I guess all of heard. Here...”

The soldier reached his credentials to the second in charge.

The second in charge walked to the soldier and took his credentials.

He said, “I need for you to sign these dismissal papers.”

The second in command went to the file cabinets and got the dismissal papers.

He filled out his portion and signed the document and gave it to the soldier to sign.

The soldier signed it and stood for a moment and said, “This is it after two years. I thought was going to be a career ended in shame.”

Chester walked in the tent.

Everyone stood in attention.

Chester looked at the soldier and passed him and went to his desk and sat.

Chester said to the second in command, “The procedure is for the on duty sentries to escort him off post. Now.”

The second in command walked out the tent and then immediately walked back in and saluted and said “Yes sir.”

Chester sat and gave him a look like you’re next.

The five soldiers left tried to do their job.

The second in command walked back to the tent and was trying to think, what he was to do next, what was protocol.

He walked in the tent and saluted and said,”Sir. The sentries are here.”

Chester looked at the second in command.

The second in command opened the tent flap for the soldier to walk out.

The soldier had his low and kind of turned to look back at Chester.

Chester looked at him.

When the soldier was out the tent.

The other soldiers turned back to their duties.

The office soldier Chester sent to give Skip the telegram was returning.

He saw the soldier being escorted by two sentries.

He wondered what was going on.

He saw the second in command and dismounted his horse and tied it to the rail.

He walked over to the second in command and said, “What is that?”

The second in command was standing with his hands on his hips watching the sentries escort the soldier off post.

The two groups at the beginning of the post saw them.

They waited until the soldier was off the post and ran to the sentries and said, “What happened?”

One sentry said, “I was standing there, so I am going to tell you what happened. The new captain came by. He was inspecting each group, our positions, our weapons, everything…”

The second in command and the office soldier walked to the group so they could hear what was being said.

The sentry stopped talking.

The second in command and the office soldier stood.

The office soldier said, “We don’t want trouble. We just want to know what happened.”

The sentry continued, “I was putting on my uniform to start my duty and he was suppose to say ‘attention’ and announced the captain. He did not. He was sitting on his cot and did not move and did not say nothing. He did not have on his shoes. The new captain looked at him and the other one, he said follow me. I stood at attention along with the other seven in my group.”

The second in command stood still and listened.

The other soldiers said, “Shush.”

The sentry continued, “The captain walked to the next tent. They barely got up and put on their boots and walked behind him. That’s when he told them to go. I believe he was giving them a chance to correct their actions…”

The office soldier said, “What I understand.”

All the soldiers turned and looked at him.

The sentry pointed and said, “You’ll don’t know who he is !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!DAMN. He is just about a legend he and his twin brother. They fought back to back several times by themselves and killed troops of enemies…”

The other sentry was shaking his head for yes.

The second in command was awe struck.

The other sentry said, “He is all about his men, He will fight to the death. The headquarters had to dis band his troop because they were so well trained, that all of them were advancing up the ranks.”

The second in command said, “If he is so great why did not he advance?”

The soldiers looked back at the sentries the big sentry said, “He loves the soldiers. He will work your butt off.”

The other sentry said, “That’s what all his men said, when we were at headquarters training several months ago. They had new assignments and were being blended in different troops. They could run and fight at the same time and don’t get tired…”

The big sentry shook his head for yes he said, “You’ll he believe in his men. He will advance. He will help you. And look at this for the head of the military to personally escort him here. That says it all.”

The soldiers said, “Yeah.”

The office soldier said, “He wants us to do our job.”

The other sentry said, “Protocol! Protocol!”

Chester had walked upon all of them and said, “Exactly.”

All the soldiers were so shocked and none of them saw him nor heard him.

Chester looked at all the soldiers name tags and told them their exact positions for the anticipated battle.

The men were stunned at his mind.

The big sentry cut his eyes at the soldiers like did not I tell you.

Chester turned and looked at the big sentry and the other sentry and said, “You two follow me.”

They jumped immediatetly behind Chester.

Two of the soldiers started hitting and elbowing another soldier because he did not tell them Chester was there.

Chester instinctively turned and saw the soldiers hitting each other and said, When I walked up none of you followed protocol. How long do you think you will last. Here is a reason for protocol. To let you know who to take direction from and to win. I will demand from you what you don’t know you got. If you don’t have it, then I will let you go.”

The soldiers just stood and looked at Chester.

The big sentry and the other sentry were saluting trying to tell the other ones to salute finally the office soldier saw the sentries and saluted.

The rest of the soldiers saluted.

Chester said, “Dismissed.”

Chester exhaled and looked at the two sentries and said. “You had to them to salute.”

The sentries did not say anything.

Chester said, “Will you be leaving?”

The sentries understood Chester.

The office soldier walked behind the sentries thinking. This man is all about the government and helping his men be better. I won’t betray him.”

The second in command was stunned how Chester knew each soldier position per the reports and told the where they were to be.

He was quite impressed with Chester.

The second in command was thinking, “What do I have to do to move up. He is young like me and he is a high captain. All that killing he did and all the battles he saw it took him time to get his ranks. The headquarters disband his troop because they were given their own troops or advanced. That mean more money. Let me catch up with them.”

Chester said, “You Garrison and Smith. I want you to escort the doctor that’s taking care of the governor and the head of military to the big city hospital tomorrow.”

The sentries were surprised.

Chester said, “I will not repeat myself. I want everything as I say. Do you understand? Get a covered wagon, number eighteen is available. Load it with two days of water and food for them and two days of food and water for your return trip. Clean the wagon out and pad it with a sleeping bag and blankets. I need you to be heavily armed. And keep your mouths shut.”

The big sentry started crying and said, “Sir is he going to die?”

The office soldier and the second in command was standing with them.

Chester said, “Not tonight. He will see us through. To your duties.”

The sentries were crying.

Chester walked into the tent and prepared his guns and rifles and ammunitions.

The soldiers in the office stood in silence.

One of them said, “We heard. The head of the military came out here to see about us and to command his last battle.”

Another office soldier said, “Let’s honor him.”

The second in command begin to see people are actually giving their lives to save their lives. He was overwhelmed.

He went and readied his guns and rifle and followed Chester.

Chester stopped and looked back at the second in command.

The second in command said, “Sir. I want to be a better soldier and I believe you can show me how to be a great soldier.”

The sentries were taking care of the wagon.

The word spread that Skip was dying and would be leaving the next morning going to the big city hospital with Dr. Obersteen.

This was his last battle and he decided to be with them.

The troop was very emotional.

The office soldier sent telegrams to the other troops.

The commanders received the telegrams about Skip but stayed at their posts until daybreak.

The commanders left their posts and arrived at the governor’s tent when Skip and Dr. Obersteen were about to leave.

The four commanders met at the road that led out the evil town to the new settlement.

They did not know the others were going to escort Skip to the hospital.

Skip did not want to be with Bruce, because he did not want to take the medical attention from his son. He did not want to tax Wes.

If he were to die he did not want it to be around Bruce.

Andrew was on his way.

Sheryl was on her way.

Andrew rushed to Sheryl and told her to hurry and pack and take cash with her and leave immediately because his father was dying and he wanted her with him. He wanted his pajamas, robes and socks.

Sheryl was standing in the foyer.

Harold and Vivian drove up to Skip’s beautiful house.

Harold saw Andrew’s horse.

He jumped out the buggy and went around to help a distressed Vivian out the buggy.

Andrew ‘s horse was packed and ready to go.

Vivian and Harold ran to the house.

Donovan and Linda were peeping out the window.

Donovan said, “I hope that bastard is dead.”

Andrew was upstairs.

He went into the safe and got several thousands of dollars and put it in a bag.

He went and got a bag and threw Skips socks and pajamas and robes in the bag.

Harold stood in the bedroom door and watched Andrew.

Andrew sat on the bed for a few minutes and jumped up and went into their bedroom and his father second toiletry bag.

 Walked out the bedroom and did not look up and said, “Harold I will kill you tonight.”

Andrew gave Harold a look that let Harold he will do it.

Harold swallowed and said,” I am sorry.”

Andrew put his father toiletry bag in the large bag and pulled it off the bag and ran downstairs with it.

Vivian was carrying Sheryl upstairs.

Andrew was flying down stairs with Skips bag.

He dropped it by the door and handed Sheryl the bag and said, “There is two thousand dollars in this bag. Don’t lose it.”

Vivian said, “Oh.”

Andrew said, “I ordered you a military escort to the big city hospital they will be here any minute.”

Sheryl said, “I’m not going.”

Andrew snatched the bag of money out her hand and took Skip’s bag outside.

Harold ran down the stairs and looked at Sheryl then Vivian.

Vivian said, “Sheryl he’s your husband.”

Sheryl pushed Vivian away and walked up the stairs.

Harold was peeping out the door at Andrew.

He looked back and saw Sheryl walking up the stairs.

He looked at Vivian.

Vivian was mumbling and said, “You know why she does not want to go.”

Harold said, “You don’t know that damn Andrew he will shoot all of us.”

Vivian stood there.

Harold shouted, “Get her ready the military wagon is here.”

Harold was scared and nervous.

Vivian looked at her husband and saw he was genuinely scared of Andrew.

Vivian said, “Are you scared of your nephew?”

Harold looked back at the door and said, “Hell yes. He and Bruce are nice and civil, but don’t cross them. It is hell to pay. God!!!please don’t let Skip die.”

Vivian said, “I don’t believe you.”

Sheryl was standing at the top of the stairs and said, “It is true. I’ll be down. I took a vow. I’m going to keep my part.”

Harold exhaled and sighed, “Thank YOU JESUS.”

Sheryl threw a bag down the stairs and had her bag and Skip’s military papers and a shawl and hat on and was walking down the stairs putting on her gloves.

Andrew walked back in the house and saw Sheryl walking down the stairs.

Harold cut his eyes at Andrew.

Andrew waited until Sheryl stepped on the bottom step and said, “It’s a good thing you change of heart.”

Sheryl looked at Andrew and reached her hand out.

Andrew handed her the bag which contained the two thousand dollars.

Sheryl said turned and looked at Vivian and said, “Pack me a good bag and lock up here and join me in a few days.”

Sheryl smiled at her sister and hugged her.

Harold was still.

Andrew held the door and Sheryl passed Harold.

Andrew looked at Harold.

Harold turned and looked out the door.

Vivian looked out the door.

Several of the commands heard of Skip’s request and decided to go to the big city hospital.

Harold took Vivian by the hand and stepped out on the porch and he saluted to the commanders.

Andrew told the drivers the way to go to cut a day off.

Andrew and the commanders took off and rode hard.

The commanders did not rest but rode hard for two straight days and cut Skip getting ready to enter the big city hospital.

Skip had the sentries stop and help him out the wagon and onto his horse.

Andrew watched his father maybe for the last time, lead his commanders.

All Andrew thought about was his mother Shirley and now his best friend Skip.

Andrew said, “Honor and Integrity”.

Dr. Obersteen nearly broke.

But he knew he had to help Skip.

Skip trusted him and no one else.

Skip rode his horse by Dr. Obersteen.

Dr. Obersteen looked at Skip.

Skip looked at Dr. Obersteen and rode his horse.

Skip was in much pain but was determined to do his soldiers and friends good.

The commanders fell in line behind the four that stayed with him.

Dr. Obersteen had wired the big city hospital to be out front and have a whole ward for Skip and have all the test he listed ready from the moment they arrived.

Samuel and Zachery worked all night to have everything ready.

The full staff was waiting outside as the military rode into town.

People on the street stood still at these truly looking honorable warriors.

People started cheering.

The three soldiers that were driving the wagon with Bill’s body, reached the command post and were told about Skip and they just left to take him to the big city hospital.

They hurried and drop off Bill’s body for it to buried.

They dis-connected the four horses and left a horse with Chester.

The three rode and caught the wagon and the commanders and escorted Skip to the big city hospital.

Chester and his troop lined on both sides of the dirt road.

The soldier had the flags at the entrance of the new settlement.

Craig and Naomi and Cate and Bishop’s family stood at attention as Skip and Dr. Obersteen passed followed by the four commanders.

The night before when Skip rode back to the governor’s tent.

He dismounted his horse and a soldier ran and moved his horse and tied it with the other horses.

Skip had a commanding presence on the ground.

He knew that troop had no commander and he walked along and walked down the sides of the brook.

He was checking the soldiers weapons and how they were holding the weapons.

The commander at the brook saw Skip.

He walked to meet Skip.

They stood and look out over the brook.

Skip said, “I am going to let you retire and move away Malcolm.”

Malcolm turned and looked at Skip.

Skip was taking a deep breathe.

Malcolm stuttered and could not speak.

Skip said, “I hope you are the last one of this evil conspiracy in headquarters, against David and his wife and children end.”

Malcolm begin to cry.

Skip turned and looked at him and said, “Do you know why I sent you to this troop?”

Malcolm quivering lips said, “No.”

Skip said, “So you can see the number of dead bodies you are held accountable for.”

Malcolm became weak in his knees.

He said to Skip, “I’ll tell you who he is.”

Skip said, “Save your conscious. I already know.”

Skip had his hands behind his back and stared Malcolm in the face and walked away.

Several of the troops were listening and they put two and two together.

They watched as Skip walked away in dignity and integrity.

They saw as Malcolm fell to his knees and wept.

Chester’s friend, Sergeant Pearson and several soldiers from the burial troop heard the conversation they were angry. They wanted to kill Malcolm.

Sergeant Pearson said, “I know your feelings. We have a job to do. Let’s bring this evil to an end.”

The soldiers went back to their positions.

Some in the bushes, in the trees, laying flat on the ground and laying flat at the brook.

Skip walked back to the cute house.

The soldiers were glad to see him.

Skip stood outside the governor’s tent and called Wes.

Dr. Obersteen was changing Newsom’s bandages.

Dr. Obersteen said, “Sunday evening.”

David laughed slightly.

Skip was trying to think what that meant.

He heard David laugh.

Skip said, “Oh.”

Skip said, “Dr. Obersteen I need to talk to you then.”

Dr. Obersteen said, “Second. Ok.”

David laughed.

Then David said, “Hurt.”

Dr. Obersteen said, “Of course.”

David moved and grunted in pain.

Dr. Obersteen said, “I’ll be there in a few minutes.”

Dr. Obersteen bought him fur boots and vest he was fine.

He cleaned up Newsom. Newsom swallowed.

Dr. Obersteen was shocked and looked at Newsom.

He cleaned up the bandages and put everything in the burn barrel.

He changed his gloves and ran to David.

He gave David a new IV and the pain therapy.

David said, Morphine.”

Dr. Obersteen said, “No.”

He walked to the tent door and opened it and looked at the four critical patients and saw they were resting.

Dr. Obersteen said, “They are decent.”

Skip walked into the tent and looked at the patients and at Bruce.

Dr. Obersteen watched Skip.

Skip’s lips started quivering.

Dr. Obersteen said, “Is this about Bruce?”

Skip still looking at Bruce said, “No. The doctors told me I have a very bad heart and I can die any day…”

Dr. Obersteen was shocked because of Skip’s vitality for his age.

Skip continued and said, “I sent for my wife and son. I want to leave with you tomorrow and go to the big city hospital. I have ask…”

Skip fought back tears.

Dr. Obersteen reached and touched Skip’s shoulder.

Skip said, “There’s things I need to finish. I need more time.”

Dr. Obersteen said, “Of course.”

Wes walked in the tent and saw Skip’s tears and turned and looked at Bruce.

Wes cut off his smile.

Dr. Obersteen slightly turned to Wes and said, “Skip will be leaving with me tomorrow.”

Wes looked at Dr. Obersteen and said, “Why?’

He looked back at Skip.

Dr. Obersteen said, “He has a very bad heart and he can die any day and he want to be at the hospital. But we are going to see about that.”

Wes said, “Skip do you mind if I…”

Dr. Obersteen was pulling the stethoscope from his neck to hand to Wes and said, “We.”

Wes had Skip to sit in the chair by Newsom.

Wes was listening to Skip’s heart and he turned his head and saw Newsom wiggle his toes.

Wes stopped listening to Skip’s heart and stared at Newsom.

Dr. Obersteen grabbed Wes by his neck and said, “You needed that.”

Dr. Obersteen took the stethoscope and listened several times to Skip’s heart.

He did not say anything.

Wes did not say anything.

Skip said,”Doc can you give me more time to finish some things.”

Dr. Obersteen was thinking.

Wes was thinking.

They did not answer Skip.

Skip said, “Since I did not get an answer from you doctors can I see Betsy and say bye?”

Dr. Obersteen was standing with his arms folded and staring at Skip.

Wes was standing staring at Skip.

Skip said, “Wes is Betsy decent?”

Wes stood for a minute.

Skip said, “Doctor shift to husband.”

Wes came to his sense and said, “Oh. She should be. Nothing you haven’t seen before.”

Dr. Obersteen said, “What? Skip? You old dog.”

Skip smiled and walked out the governor’s tent.

Wes said,”Let’s not talk around the patients.”

Dr. Obersteen looked around at the patients and followed Wes outside.

Wes looked back at the cute house and said, “I hope Skip is not telling Betsy he is dying.”

Terry was so excited about working with Wes, he looked at them and walked into the tent and put on gloves and took the entire barrel outside to burn.

Wes and Dr. Obersteen looked at Terry.

Dr. Obersteen said, “Well, it was on the ground in the tent.”

Wes looked at Dr. Obersteen.

Skip knocked on the front door.

Betsy was laying on the sofa smiling.

She knew it was not Wes or Dr. Obersteen.

She sat up and pressed her hair down.

Skip was walking in the door.

Betsy smiled at him.

He stood for a moment and looked at the closed bedroom door.

Betsy said, “They are quite.”

She looked up at Skip and smiled.

Skip sat next to Betsy and said, “We had fun.”

Betsy grinned.

Skip looked deep into Betsy’s eyes.

Betsy knew.

She took Skips hands and raised them to her mouth and kissed them.

They sat for a few minutes in silence.

Skip muttered, “I’ll leave with Dr. Obersteen in the morning my darling Betsy.”

Betsy leaned forward and held Skip’s hands to her lips.

She stopped crying and looked him in his face and said, “We had fun.”

He kissed her gently on her lips as a friend and stood up.

He looked back at the bedroom and said, “Tell the little ones I said bye.”

Angelica and Joshua both yelled, “By Commander Skip.”

Betsy grinned and looked up at Skip.

Skip walked to the bedroom and opened it.

Joshua was on his pallet playing with his sailboat.

Angelica was in the bed brushing her hair.

Skip kneeled down to Joshua and said, “You know that sailboat got on Dr. Obersteen’s nerves.”

Joshua said, “I know, but he gave it to me for Christmas.”

Betsy hollered.

Skip said, “Bye my lad.”

He stood up and leaned over to Angelica and said, “My beauty my I have a kiss.”

Angelica leaned over so Skip could kiss her.

Skip kissed her on her forehead.

Angelica said, “It is really, really pretty there.”

Skip stopped.

Betsy held her breathe.

Angelica said, “JESUS said HE is giving you two…”

Holding up two fingers on her right hand because most of her fingers on the left were eaten. But the left hand was healed.

Betsy was listening.

She to hear better.

Angelica said, “years to finish his works.”

Skip kissed her and said, “I needed that.”

Joshua sat up on his pallet and got on his knees and looked at Angelica and said, “Where is my daddy?”

Angelica said, “JESUS said for you to seek HIM and HE will show.”

Skip said, “Joshua I had his earthly brought back for you. He will be here tomorrow.”

Betsy walked to the bedroom and looked at Joshua and smiled.

She looked at Angelica and winked.

Betsy touched Skip’s back and he stood up straight and looked at the children.

He said, “I want some grandchildren, but those boys of mine.”

Betsy laughed.

Skip waved at Joshua and Angelica.

Angelica and Joshua said, “Bye.”

Angelica said,”For now.”

Skip looked at Angelica.

Betsy looked bac at Angelica and continued to walk out the bedroom.

Skip whispered, “Bill’s body will be here in the morning. Sleep on the floor tonight.”

Betsy smiled. She was thinking about her insurance policy.

Finally she and Wes will have some money.

Skip read her mind and said, “I have left orders for Wes and Dr. Obersteen to be paid.

Betsy smiled and said, “You always think ahead.”

Angelica said, “Momma Betsy can you order me two pairs of shoes now you have some money?”

Betsy held her head down and said, “Yes baby.”

Betsy said, “You Joshua?”

Joshua said, “Not if that money is coming from my daddy being dead.”

Betsy was holding onto Skip’s arm.

Angelica said, “How you know Joshua that’s not the way he fixed it so you could get some money.”

Joshua said, “Angelica go to sleep.”

Betsy grinned.

Skip stood still.

Betsy looked at him and said, “Come and sit. I’ll go and get Wes.”

Skip held Betsy’s hand and patted it.

Betsy was confused.

Skip stood and walked out the cute house.

Betsy smiled.

Angelica said, “Commander Skip will be ok. Momma Betsy can I brush your hair?

Betsy heart will always be with Skip but her full love will always be with Wes.

She turned and walked to the bedroom.

Betsy sat on the bed and let Angelica brush her hair.

While Angelica was brushing Betsy’s hair she was yawning.

 She tried but could not stay awake.

Betsy felt her little head hit her back.

Betsy turned and laid Angelica on her side.

She stood and picked up the brush and walked to the dresser.

Betsy went into the living room and got her quilt n made a pallet next to Joshua.

She put more coal on the fireplace in the living room.

She walked into the bedroom and put coal in the bedroom fireplace.

She stood for a minute and stared into the fire.

Joshua said, “Why Commander Skip said for you to sleep on the floor? More trouble?’

Betsy said, “I don’t know Joshua. Maybe.”

Betsy turned from the fireplace and walked and kneeled on her quilt and held Joshua and they went to sleep.

Joshua put his boat under Angelica’s bed.

He turned and faced Betsy and yawned and went to sleep.

Betsy laid there holding Joshua and prayed for Joshua and Skip to have peace. Then she grinned big.

Terry stood and dumped all the burn items in the burn barrel.

He stood back and struck a match.

He saw an image lying flat on the ground.

Bishop taught him to step back to draw his weapon, because the enemy has already drawn theirs.

Terry knew never to turn his back on an enemy.

Terry pretended to be getting more items out the burn barrel when he was able to pull his gun.

Skip was walking to Wes and Dr, Obersteen.

Skip nearly fell and the soldiers in the front ran to Skip.

Terry kept his eyes on the figure on the ground and pulled the burn barrel around and fired several times.

Skip yelled to the soldiers,”Go!.”

The soldiers ran to the shooting.

Wes and Dr. Obersteen helped Skip up.

Skip looked back and said, “All of them left. They left the front unguarded.”

The soldiers by Wes tent were still in their positions and the cooks were prepared.

Chester and d the soldiers heard the shooting.

They stood still.

Chester was listening.

He held up his rifle and shoot several times.

The second in command and the soldiers dropped on the ground.

Chester ran into the area by the shed and brook.

He ran upon the soldier that was shoot.

The troop started running to the area.

The assassin pulled out his knife and wanted to fight Chester with the knife.

Half the troop ran to see.

Chester said, “You will stand trial.”

The assassin took his knife and cut his throat.

The soldiers said, “Ugh.”

His blood poured out over the ground.

Chester walked and looked over the brook area.

He could hear the gurgling sound of the assassin.

The second in command watched Chester.

The office soldier turned his head.

Chester walked and stopped.

He looked around in the darkness to see if he saw any movement or shadows.

Chester walked back to the dying assassin and said, “Two soldiers go and to the governor’s tent and bring back a report.”

The office soldier and another soldier ran to their horses and rode to the governor’s tent.

Skip turned around to see who was riding into the yard.

The soldiers by Wes’ tent had their rifles up and aiming.

The soldiers by the brook heard the shoots.

Malcolm held his head down.

The sergeant and others were looking.

The sergeant and Chester’s friend ran down the brook.

The soldiers saw them.

One soldier said, “I believe they shot somebody.”

The sergeant and Chester’s friend continue running to the cute house.

The soldiers picked the figure off the ground.

They checked the figure for weapons and removed the knives.

The soldiers bound the assassin and dragged him to Skip.

Wes looked at the young man. He saw he had a little blood on his shoulder.

Dr. Obersteen walked over and looked at the wound.

Dr. Obersteen saw the tattoo.

He walked to Skip and,”Whispered a tattoo.”

Skip looked at the young man.

He said, “A graze. We can clean this up in a minute.”

The two soldiers from Chester saluted Skip.

The office soldier said, “Commander Brown. I’m sorry Commander Skip…”

Skip was thinking about promoting Chester to commander over Bruce.

The office soldier said, “The captain wants a report.”

Skip said, “Captured a barely injured assassin. All is well. And you?”

The office soldier made a cutting motion.

The assassin looked up.

One soldier held his head down.

Skip did not say anything,

The office soldier said, “He died by self affliction of cutting his own throat, as opposed to being arrested.”

The assassin on the ground tried to kick the soldiers so they would shoot him dead.

Skip told them earlier to shoot to wound not to kill.

The soldiers moved back.

Skip said,”Tie his legs and put him in the wagon. Team escort him to the capitol.”

Skip chose eight soldiers.

Four drivers. They were to drive without step but to rest for two hours and stay at headquarters and sleep in the dormitory and rest for two days and return.

There was a wagon already prepared for the assassins.

Skip said, “Take the boy of the other one and buried it in the mass grave.”

Dr. Obersteen walked out the tent with the bandages and antiseptics and cleaned the wound and placed a bandage on it.

He gave the bottle of antiseptic and bandages to a soldier who was a part of the group.

Skip signed the papers and sent them away.

Skip sent a soldier to the command post to give an update to the post and send an update to the different positions.

Skip saw the sergeant and Chester friend run up to the governor’s tent.

The two soldiers from Chester mounted their horses and reported to Chester.

Skip looked at the two soldiers from the brook and said, “We believe there were less than five assassins. We knew they had to military, because they had uniforms and blending in with the soldiers One was captured by Captain Chester Brown…”

Chester’s friend smiled.

Skip saw him smile.

Skip said, “The captured assassin cut his own throat as opposed to being arrested. You have to bury him tomorrow. I will be leaving with Dr. Obersteen in the morning go to the big city hospital.”

The sergeant said, “May I ask if you are alright sir.”

The soldiers looked at Wes.

Wes walked in the governor’s tent.

Dr. Obersteen was in the cute house checking on Betsy. Joshua and the little girl. They were all asleep.

D. obersteen walked out the cute house with his fur vest and boots.

The soldiers from the brook looked at him.

Skip said, “Sergeant Pearson, thank you for asking…”

Skip said, “Where is soldier Pearson?”

The soldiers called Terry to come to Skip.

Terry was talking to Bishop.

Terry walked with some life in him and Skip said, “Well done.”

The soldiers clapped.

Dr. Obersteen grinned at Terry and said to Skip, “You need to sleep.”

Skip went into the governor’s tent and Wes had a pallet for him because he Skip would not sleep in the house.

Dr. Obersteen said, “I’ll sleep in the house.”

Dr. Obersteen walked out the tent to the cute house and pulled off his fur boots and fur vest and took a blanket from the chest of drawer and put it over him and slept

Skip laid down by Newsom and covered up with the many quilts.

Wes completed the patients’ therapy.

The patients rested.

Wes laid in his quilts on the floor in the governor’s tent and slept for nearly two hours.

Chester was in his office when the two soldiers return.

Chester told the soldiers to go and bring him the second wagon he had the sentries to prepare.

He had the wagon prepared to transport a live prisoner not a dead assassin

He stooped by the dying assassin and searched his clothes.

Chester found small pieces of paper and a key.

He held up the key and looked at it.

He had an envelope in his chest pocket. He took it out and the soldiers saw it and said, “Whoa.”

Chester put the small pieces of paper and the key in the envelope.

Chester searched the body for tattoos or markings.

The second in command looked at Chester and said, “What are you doing?”

Chester looked up at the second in command and said, “You don’t know?”

He saw the two soldiers had return from the governor’s tent.

Chester looked around at his soldiers and said, “You searched the bodies of the dead and the alive for any markings or tattoos. Most of the markings or tattoos will identify the group they belong to. You record an accurate drawing of the tattoos and markings.”

The big sentry and the other sentry ran down to the shed area to see was taking place.

They looked at each other.

The other sentry said, “Whoa.”

Chester flipped the dying assassin over and they a markings on his upper buttocks of the pentagram.

Chester drew the design.

The soldiers started bending down and looking.

The dying assassin was trying to say something about satan.

Chester said, “You will be with him soon.”

The other soldiers drove the wagon to the shed.

Chester stood up with the envelope in his hand and the drawing of the pentagram on it.

Chester said, “Mahoney and Bright give your report.”

The soldiers were about to put the dying assassin in wagon.

Chester did not turn around and said, “He has to be dead. He is still alive you cannot put him in the wagon. He expires I have to sign off on the papers and give you a copy to give to the officers over the burial of the enemies.”

Officer Bright saluted first.

Chester nodded his head and saluted.

Bright said, “The other assassin was slightly wounded and a bandage was place on it. He tried to kick the soldiers…”

Chester said, “A normal reaction to be shoot and killed.”

Bright said, “He was searched as this one and he had a pentagram on his inside right wrist. He was being transported to the capitol and they expect to be there on Tuesday.”

The group heard the dying assassin take his last breath.

Chester walked over and stoop at the dead assassin and then his watch.

He confirmed the assassin was dead at the time.

Chester took the order for burial out of his pocket and wrote, “Cut own throat, “Pentagram.”

Chester signed the paper and gave a copy to the soldiers to dispose the body and he handed the paper to Office Bright to file.

He stood and watched the soldiers put the dead assassin in the wagon.

Chester said, “Burn that blanket and anything his body has touched.

The soldiers disbanded and went to their tents.

The sentries patrol the camp.

Chester sent telegram to his brother about the events, especially about Skip.

Tony’s officer soldier ran to him and knocked on his tent and woke Tony.

Tony read the telegram and got up and dressed and pack.

He called his second and third in command.

Told them about Skip.

He was looking over a map and he decided to go straight and cut across the state.

Tony told the third in command to follow the training and practice schedules.

He told the second in command to run the troop until his return.

Tony mounted his horse and flew to see about Skip.

When he exited the city he was stationed, he saw Andrew and the other commanders.

He rode with them to the big city hospital.

Chester had a cot brought into the command center.

He laid down, but could not sleep.

He thought about Tony and what he thought about Naomi being in the new settlement.

Tony had one mindedness on Skip.

But he was playing Chester’s telegram over in his head.

He thought, “Mom was to be helping Colleen out with the boys.”

Tony shook his head he had to think on his primary mission which was to get to Skip and know his condition and foe the commanders to be riding in silence it was not good.”

He thought, “Who would replace Skip? Only Chester, but he doesn’t have the rank, only the governor can appoint him.” Oh, God help me I should not be thinking like this. But can You make me a wise and noble leader. In JESUS’ name.”