The telegram the medic received was they would bring two hundred assassins and several battery guns.

The captain of the new troop told his soldier to get an answer for him.

They knew all the battery guns were assigned to specific units.

Maybe this will help to uncover this assassin group that has marred and tarnish the image of the military.

The devil worshippers were running in the streets to get home.

Ida was looking out her bedroom window.

The military security posts were running around the house to get a better view.

Doreen and her husband heard some noise at that time of the morning.

They ran to the window and her husband let up the kitchen window.

They people running to their neighbor’s house in black robes.

Doreen screamed.

Her neighbors turned and looked at their house but did not see Doreen and her husband but knew they were in the windows.

Their neighbors did not know what the older couple saw.

The devil worshippers ran into their house and fell on their knees to peep out their bedroom window.

The three security men with William rode through the area to see where they could hide because they knew gunfire was coming.

They rode back to the camp.

The lead security man yelled, “The safest place is the abandoned buildings down the block.”

William ran to Laura and Clara and yelled, “Come on.”

Laura and Clara ran with William.

Laura and Clara looked down the street to Mellissa’s house.

Laura slowed up.

Clara pushed Laura and nodded towards the running men.

Clara grabbed Laura’s hand and said, “JESUS is taking care of Mellissa.”

Laura nodded her head for yes.

She and Clara continue to run with the men.

They ran into the abandoned building.

Laura ran to the door of the building and stopped and jerked her head back.

Clara pushed Laura into the building and the lead security man closed the ragged door.

Laura covered her nose with her sleeve and yelled “What is that stench?”

The lead security man, “It smells like rotten human flesh.”

William was trying to light his match.

Two of the security men felt around the dark room and stumbled onto the stairs.

William lit the match and held it up.

One security man said, “Come up here.”

The group ran up the stairs and opened the windows.

The cold fresh air of the late night was pouring into the building and giving Laura relief.

Clara said, “Laura. You and your nose. Momma and daddy always talked about you could stuff miles away.”

Laura laughed, but looked around the floor they were sitting.

The youngest driver walked a little distance and fell on the floor and slept.

He brought his blanket with him.

As he was falling into sleep, he thought he saw a shadow by Laura.

He said, “JESUS.”

Clara turned and looked at the younger driver.

She was sitting on her legs and tried to peep out the windows and see what was going on.

Laura closed her eyes and exhaled the stale fresh air.

She laid on the floor and went to sleep.

 Clara felt funny she stood up and begin to walk the floor.

She was walking into the walls and stumbling over broken floor boards.

William said to one of the surveyors, “What is she doing?”

Laura who was awaken by Clara’s walking said, “Whenever she feels evil she start walking.”

William said, “Why?”

The surveyor said, “This place is spooky.”

Laura said, “To let the evil ones know she controls the space. She has been doing that every since she was a child. She nearly drowned in the creek behind our house. I was screaming and momma put me down and ran to the creek. Daddy was working in the field and he heard me and momma screaming. He ran to the house and went and got Clara and momma. When they brought Clara to. She said, somebody pushed her in the water and held her dead down. She said later that night someone came to her bedroom and whispered to her don’t be afraid, always walk around the area you and you control it.”

William and the surveyor said, “Ok.”

Laura raised her head off the floor to see where Clara was because she thought she was walking by her.

William and one of the surveyors looked at Laura.

Laura raised up and sat on her left hip and looked around the room.

One of the security men whispered to another security man near him, “What’s that?”

They were quiet.

William and on e of the land surveyors did not move they sat by the window so they can look out.

Clara continued to walk the floor and started saying Psalm 23.

Laura looked over at Clara.

One of the surveyors said, “Why Psalm 23?”

Laura said, “That means great danger.”

They heard the three security men click the trigger of their guns.

Laura fell asleep on the floor.

She could hear the squeaking sound of the floor beneath them.

Three of the captain’s men eased into the lake just before daybreak.

They swam to the other side of the lake where their abandoned campsites were and held their heads just above the water.

They saw the sky lightning up and raised their guns just above the water.

Several snakes swam pass them.

The men held their positions.

They heard some rushing in the bushes and trees.

They saw the two soldiers exit the woods and with their horses.

They wanted to shoot but the captain, “Bring them back alive, if possible.”

One of the soldiers thought about the ambush of Bishop and said, “Not possible.”

The other two soldiers heard him.

They heard more horses and lowered their heads into the lake with their guns pointed at the group of six men who rode fast out the next town and stopped in front of the two soldiers.

One of the men reached a bag to one of the two soldiers.

The rest of the soldiers rode and began to fire upon the group of eight men.

The two traitors jumped on their horses and fled into the woods.

The three men in the lake were firing at the group of eight until their troop rode in their range.

 The soldier that thought about Bishop swam fast to the end of the lake and jumped out.

He ran through the woods.

He heard Bishop’s voice, “Danny fall on your knees and listen.”

Danny was startled.

He looked around and said, “Bishop?”

Danny had always been the hard headed one of the troop.

He fell on his knees.

He was still.

He could the birds began to chirp.

Then he heard the breathing of the horses as the two hid in the trees until the moment to escaped.

The two bucked from the trees and Danny began to shot from his back.

He rolled out their way just before they ran him over.

The two shot at Danny stood and looked at them.

The troop rode behind the two soldiers.

The other two soldiers ran to Danny.

They could not shoot because the soldiers from their troop were pursuing the two traitors and they did not have a clear shot.

The other two soldiers looked at Danny.

Danny walked back to the lake.

He saw the six men tied and bound.

They looked at Danny and he stood and looked at them.

The other two soldiers ran out the woods and back to the six men and held their guns on them until the six soldiers returned.

The third in command looked around and said, “Where’s Officer Thomas?”

The other two soldiers looked and saw Danny sitting by the lake.

The third in Command walked to Danny.

He sat with him for a minute.

He said, “Danny we lost Ryan and Craig.”

Danny said, “I know. But I will hunt them down forever.”

The third in command said, “I know. I will also. Let’s go and find out how we did.”

Danny stood up the other soldiers came and dressed while the third in command took the wagon they brought to carry bodies back to the command.

The third in command put the prisoners in the wagon and rode out the area.

Danny and the other two swimmers rode behind.

They went down the street in front of Ida’s house.

Ida was peeping out the window.

She knew they were going after the governor and his wife again.

When she saw the soldiers she ran on the porch and the two security soldiers the captain sent to ‘her ran around the front.

The three swimmers saw them flagging them down.

The three swimmers stopped.

Marc said to Danny, “What’s going on?”

Danny and the other two swimmers looked at Ida.

March and Joseph looked at Ida.

Marc said, “She is the governess for the governor’s children.”

Terry said, “Why are the governor’s children here?”

Narc said, “Because they are in danger and the captain sent us here to be their protection. What happened?”

Danny looked at the house and saw the children looking out the windows.

Terry said, “Get them out the windows, this may not be over.”

The two security men looked at Ida.

Ida ran to the window and told the children to go to their bedroom.

When Ida returned, Terry said, “Craig and Ryan were traitors. They killed Bishop and three others and hid out by the lake to get their pay. We got the six men who paid them but the troop medic who was the major player we did not get.”

Ida said, “So they went after the governor again. When will this end?

Marc and Joseph were sadden over Bishop.

Danny looked at them and said, “Bishop wanted us to do our very best. There were two hundred assassins last night with battery guns. We need to get back and see about the governor and our casualties are.”

The second troop rode into the town blowing the horn.

Joseph said, “Don’t forget us.”

Danny, Terry and Regan rode behind the troop that was due at ten am.

They arrived just after six am.

They rode all night, when they received the telegram the telegram from the first troop who made it early.

The supply wagons were directly behind the troop.

The soldiers driving the supply wagons saw Danny and Terry and Reagan and yelled, “What happened?”

Reagan said, “Traitors.”

One driver said, “Who Craig and Ryan.”

The supply wagon with the employees were holding onto their hats.

The soldiers heard much gunfire.

The drivers drove into the camp and the employees ran and took cover.

The kitchen tent was filled with prisoners and many armed soldiers.

The soldiers that drove the supply wagons jumped out the wagons and pulled their rifles and checked the ammunition and ran down the dirt road.

Bruce taught his troop to always to have a wagon full of ammunitions and guns.

One of the drivers of the supply wagon loaded the wagon with guns and ammunition and drove fast behind his comrades.

He yelled, “Get in and stay low.”

He passed the captain.

The captain was off his horse and standing in the dirt road and shooting the runners.

His horse was off to the side.

The soldiers at the brook and the soldiers surrounding the governor’s tent were shooting anyone entering the yard.

The third in charge and his men were guarding the prisoners.

The captain was determined he was not going to let anyone through.

The other captain and his troop rode through the command posts.

The new captain saw Bruce and rode to Bruce and said, “Bruce!”

Bruce was on the dirt road and shooting with both of his guns.

He told the new captain, “Cut off the battery guns from the front.”

The new captain and his men rode through.

Mattie ran and grabbed the sleeping Joshua and pulled him out the tent and they rolled

down the back slope to their hiding place.

The six soldiers in the wagon saw the captain shooting they jumped out the wagon and surrounded him and began to shoot.

The driver of the wagon ran over several of the men.

He turned around and ran over several more and placed the wagon across the dirt road.

And he bent down and began to shoot the assassins from different angles around the wagon.

The captain saw him and ran to the wagon for bullets.

Emma were peeping and saw Bruce, her heart begin to hurt.

Mattie put her arm around Emma and said, “Let’s go.”

Mattie and Joshua pulled Emma back.

Bruce was re loading his guns.

He stepped around the wagon and begin to shoot the runners.

Danny, Reagan and Terry rode further in front of Bruce and was shooting the runners as they rode through them.

Bruce was bent down and reloading at the wagon and he looked up and saw Emma, Mattie, Joshua and the top of Betsy’s head.

Bruce waved his hand for them to run.

Two of the soldiers with Bruce saw them and they reloaded and ran to Betsy and Emma and covered them.

Bruce said, “God.”

Bruce and his soldiers were hiding around the wagon.

They heard the battery guns around the front.

Bruce reloaded and said, “I don’t know how many, but shoot the handler.”

The third in command sent two soldiers to the dirt road to shoot and see what was going on.

The people in the town heard all the gun fire.

Mellissa had a very peaceful night’s sleep.

She woke up and stretched.

She laid in the bed and looked across at Ray’s side.

Her eyes filled with tears.

She slid on the floor to pray and could not.

She had not prayed since Ray died.

She turned her back on God as HE turned HIS back on her.

Mellissa was on her knees.

She looked around her house.

She thought she heard something.

Mellissa heated her water to bathe.

She looked into closet and said, “I’m glad Clara and Laura are here. Maybe we can go shopping. I need something different.”

The three soldiers by Mike slid back in the woods.

It was getting light and they did not want the enemies to see them.

They saw the troop ride to the front of the new settlement.

They heard the artillery fire.

They peeped up at the front of the new settlement.

The soldiers could see Abraham and Richard hiding under the wagon.

One of the soldiers said, “They better moved.”

The captain at the brook and his troop began to advance against the assassins.

Many soldiers fell from the battery guns.

But they were able to kill all the battery gun shooters.

The captain and his men cut off the escape of the assassins.

They surrounded them and bound them.

They took all prisoners.

The father and the mother were ducking and looking out their windows,

The captain told his second in command to see about their wounded soldiers.

He and the rest of his troop pursued the enemies across the brook.

Bruce third in command looked at the prisoners and he counted his men.

He thought and said, “I need to go. If any of them move shoot to kill them.”

Ten of the soldiers wanted to go.

The third in command said, “No. I’ll take four and leave fifteen to kill the prisoners.”

Four soldiers loaded a wagon with guns and ammunitions and hopped in the wagon.

The third in command rode his horse.

The second supply wagon passed Bruce and Danny, Terry and Reagan.

Reagan yelled, “Out of bullets.”

The four men jumped out the wagons and began to shoot the runners.

Danny, Terry and Reagan rode to the supply wagon and reloaded each of their guns.

The third in command rode by shooting, the runners.

The third in command heard the artillery at the front of the new settlement and did not see the new troop and assumed it was the troop.

He looked towards Mike’s campsite and saw figures running.

He pursued them.

The captain did not want to move from the dirt road.

He yelled to Danny, “You three follow him.”

Danny, Terry and Reagan followed the third in command.

The captain and the five men were nearly out of bullets.

The supply wagon about a hundred feet in front of the captain had extra guns.

The captain taught them to always have more loaded guns in each supply wagon.

Mellissa made her coffee and a boiled egg.

She sat and ate breakfast and then dressed for school.

She walked out her front door and locked her door.

She normally doesn’t look around and did not look around that morning.

She began her short walk to school.

Ida was on her knees peeping out the window when she saw Mellissa

passing the house.

Ida looked at Mellissa,

She crawled to the front door and unlocked and opened the front door.

The security soldiers, Marc and Joseph saw Mellissa walking and appeared happy.

Ida yelled, “Mellissa!”

Mellissa looked around at the house and stepped back and finally saw Ida in the door on the floor.

Mellissa laughed and said,”Good morning.”

The security soldiers walked on the other side of the house to see Mellissa.

Ida said, “Step in here.”

Mellissa, “I can’t. I’m on the way to school.”

Ida said, “Fool do you see anyone else on the street?”

Mellissa did not like the fact that Ia called her a fool.

Mellissa looked around.

The street was empty.

She stood still.

Ida said, “Don’t you hear all that shooting? The military has been riding all night.”

Mellissa, “What is going on?”

Then she saw the two security soldiers looking at her like she was an idiot.

Mellissa pointed and said, “I have to get to the school. There maybe some students that come to school. up.”

Mellissa looked at the two security soldiers that were still looking at her as if she was an idiot.

Ida exhaled. She was exasperated.

Ida closed the door and crawled back to the window.

Lydia ran out their bedroom and was crawling around the house behind Ida.

Ida crawled in the kitchen.

She stood and cooked breakfast.

She looked around the kitchen and thought she had to get food.

She got their groceries from the troop.

Mellissa walked to work with her head down.

She thought, “Now three people I don’t know think I am an idiot.”

She looked up the street at Clara and Laura’s camp and wondered if they were there.

Mellissa walked to the school and unlocked the door.

She stood on the porch and looked around and saw no one on the streets.

She thought, “When was someone going to tell me. Huh.”

She walked in the school and put down her books and her lunch.

Mellissa looked and said, “I see that James is gone. Now I have to make a fire.”

Mellissa thought, “If I want a fire I better build one.”

She walked through the lunchroom and into the back and saw the coal was there. She went inside and looked around and found a pail.

She went back outside and loaded the pail with coal.

She returned inside and loaded the stove with coal and started a fire.

Mellissa thought, “I better get more coal for tomorrow. Then the week-end.”

She put the full pail in the lunchroom and locked the storage door.

She was looking around the nice lunchroom when she thought she heard someone.

She smiled and said, “A student.”

Mellissa walked in the schoolroom and did not see anyone.

She walked to the door and it was locked.

Mellissa looked at the door.

She peeped out the window and did not see anyone on the street.

She sat at her desk and looked around the schoolroom a long time.

She thought, “Where is Clara and Laura? They can join me for lunch.”

The new commander stood across the room with the scribe and just looked at Mellissa.

JESUS said, “The grief is the thief. It came to steal, kill and destroy her reasoning and ability to think logically.”

Mellissa walked to the door and looked out the window no person.

She peeped back and saw the telegram worker, “Finally.”

He ran into the telegram office.

Mellissa looked for others and saw no one.

She looked at the clock.

Noon.

She gathered her stuff.

She put out the fire in the stove and was putting on her coat and scarf.

When telegram worker ran and knocked on her door.

Mellissa opened the door and was about to speak to him and he reached her a telegram and said, “Here.”

He turned and ran home.

She stepped out on the porch and peeped after him.

She thought about her friends.

Mellissa looked around the schoolroom and locked the door and walked up the street.

She turned the corner to walk to Clara and Mellissa wagon.

William and a security man was looking out the window and yelled to Mellissa, “Clara and Laura are here!!”

Mellissa did not know what to think. She stood still.

Laura and Clara looked out the window and said, “Stay.”

Clara and Laura turned and were running down the steps and they stopped.

Laura begin to scream.

William and the security men ran to the stairs and looked and saw a large hexagram covered floor.

William and the surveyor ran passed Laura and Clara and out he building.

He youngest driver looked and said, “I thought I saw something moving last night.

The men stood and looked down.

The older driver said, “I knew something was strange about this town. Now we know.”

One of the security men said, “Nall. Now they are gonna be mad that we know.”

One of the security men said, “Does anybody have holy oi?”

Clara pushed a shaken Laura to the door and looked back at the satanic symbol.

Mellissa had wondered down to the building.

Clara pushed Laura outside the building and closed the door.

Laura had her hands up to her face and was crying.

Mellissa looked around Laura at the building and said, “What’s wrong?”

The rest of the group exited the building in a hurry,

Mellissa said, “What’s in that building?”

She playfully ran into the building and stood in the center of the symbol.

Laura said, “Can we leave that ass in the building so they can kill her,”

Clara said, “Mellissa, what the hell are you doing?”

Mellissa said, “What. I want to see where you girls were with all of these men.”

Laura said, “You are a fool.”

Mellissa looked at Laura.

Clara said to Laura, “Go to our stuff.”

Laura said, “No. Now this fool is going to have them come after us.”

Mellissa said, “Those guys.”

Clara said, “Mellissa look down.”

Mellissa looked at her shoes and said, “Yeah I know I need clothes.”

Laura started stomping and crying.

Clara looked at Laura.

She looked at Mellissa and said, “Mellissa I did not know you are stupid. You are standing in center of a satanic symbol. This is apparently their meeting place.”

Mellissa said, “Well why were you all here?”

Laura said, “Let’s leave her.”

Clara turned and she and Laura walked away from Mellissa.

Mellissa looked at the opened door and then down at the floor.

She just stood in the building.

The new commander said, “Clara go and get Mellissa.”

Clara turned and walked in the building and dragged Mellissa out the building and closed the door.

Clara stood and looked at Mellissa.

Mellissa saw hate in Clara’s eyes.

Clara said, “Go home Mellissa.”

Mellissa said, “No. I am going to stay. That way you have to stay with me. If anyone comes after me they will come after you too.”

Clara said, “JESUS please kill her.”

Mellissa sat on the steps.

Clara walked away from Mellissa and went to Laura.

Mellissa sat and peeped around the corner to see if Clara was coming back.

She sat there for hours and it started getting dark.

William and the youngest driver walked over to Clara and Laura and said, “Where is your friend?”

Clara said, “That fool brushed passed us and went into the building and stood in the center of that symbol.”
William, “Why?”

Laura said, “William I believe she is crazy. Her husband died last year and she doesn’t have anyone.”

William said, “Where is she? I did not see her pass.”

The youngest driver said, “It’s getting dark. Please go and get her.”

Clara said, “I hate her. I will not go back again to get her.”

William said, “Fellows Clara and Laura’s friend is still at the building trying to force them to come back and stay with her. Let’s go and get her and take her home. If she runs back then we can’t help her.”

William, the youngest driver, the oldest driver, one of the surveyors and two security men took lighted torches and walked down the street to the building.

The security men lit the soldiers fire.

Mellissa saw the men coming and jumped and ran into the building and locked the door and said, “You can’t get me.”

She ran up the stairs to the second floor.

William said, “They are going to kill her.”

One of the security men picked the locked and they ran in and grabbed Mellissa.

One of the security men threw her over his shoulders and she was kicking and hollering.

Then she started laughing.

William said, “She has lost her mind.”

One of the security men “Look around and get all of her stuff and our stuff and close the door back.

Mellissa was kicking and hollering all the way to William’s camp.

The security man put Mellissa down and she ran back to the building.

Everybody looked at him.

He walked back and grabbed her and dragged her back down the street.

William tied Mellissa’s hands and feet and he turned and gagged her mouth,

She cried and cried.

Laura and Clara did not look at her.

Mellissa was crying so hard.

She was looking at Clara for help.

Clara would not look at her.

Mellissa fell off the stump to try to crawl to Clara and Laura.

Clara went and begin to get ready for the bed.

Laura was looking over her reports.

JESUS Stood and watched Laura and Clara how they so quickly turn their love of Mellissa to hate.

William walked over to Laura and Clara along with the youngest driver and said, “What are we to do with her?”

Clara said, “If we live. Take her to the military and let them send her to the crazy house. She doesn’t have any family.”

The youngest driver said, “Wow. The military fought all morning. They have a lot to do. Then they will lock her up with the rest of the prisoners. What about her house and stuff?”

Clara said, “I told you if we live then we will resolve all these problems tomorrow.”

William and the youngest driver stood and looked at Clara.

Clara got a bottle of holy oil.

She walked down the street to the soldiers’ camp and sprinkle the holy oil around their camp and on the street in front of their camp.

The team watched her.

She dropped oil from the soldiers camp all the way to her camp and up the street about fifty feet.

William and the youngest soldier were tapping their foreheads.

Clara walked over and place holy oil on all their foreheads.

The security man that let Mellissa run away said, “I need two taps. I don’t know why I was not thinking.”

Clara put the holy oil on Mellissa’s head and both her ears.

Laura was under the wagon and expected Clara to come back and anoint her forehead.

Clara turned and walked down the street in the early evening darkness.

She saw Ida.

Ida came out the door and said, “Have you seen Mellissa?”

Clara said, “She came down to us and ran into an abandoned building with evil symbols and stood and was running playing in the building.”

The two security soldiers were standing on the side of the house and listened.

Ida said, “So the weakest person, they attacked with lunacy because yall were on their territory.”

Clara said, “Yes.”

Ida said, “Where are you going?”

Clara said, “To pray over Mellissa’s house until we get her to the military to take her away. She has no family.”

Ida said, “And no friends.”

She closed and locked her door.

Clara heard Ida, but she was so mad with Mellissa.

She went to Mellissa’s house and anointed the steps, the windows and her front door and the back.

Clara dropped holy oil around Mellissa’s house.

The devil worshippers neighbor said, “What are you doing?”

Clara did not look at them for she knew they were a part of the evil.

Clara said, “Keeping the evil away.”

Doreen and her husband peeped out their door.

Doreen’s voice was cracking under grief and said, “You are her friend?”

Clara thought that word again, “Yes.”

Doreen said, “Have you seen her? Is she alright?”

Clara said, “She is with us for tonight. She ran into an abandoned building with devil worshipping symbols and her mind has been attacked. I am anointing her house for holy protection.

Doreen was crying and her husband was holding her.

The devil worshippers snickered.

Doreen husband heard them and looked back.

Clara thought, “He heard them.”

Doreen’s husband said, “Mame can you put that holy oil around our house?”

Clara said, “I need light so I can see.”

Doreen’s husband ran in the house and returned with a candle.

Clara went around the house and anointed each window and door and dropped the holy oil in the yard.

The neighbors ran in the house.

Doreen’s husband watched them.

Doreen said, “What? They went in the house?”

He said, “Yeap.”

Clara put a drop on him and his foreheads.

Clara turned and walked up the street.

She dropped oil all the way to their camp and stopped and dropped holy oil in Ida’s yard.

The security soldiers called her.

Clara walked over and Marc said, “on our foreheads and in the backyard.”

Clara anointed the soldiers and she went around Ida’s house and anointed the house’s windows and doors.

Marc said, “Mame why are you so angry with Miss Mellissa?”

Clara looked at him and said, “Good night.”

Marc and Joseph said, “Good night.”

Marc said, “See you tomorrow.”

Clara said, “If we live through the night.”

They watched Clara walk up the street.

The security soldiers looked at each other and went and prayed and read their bibles.

They could not sleep, but they laid down.

Each one in their tents close to the edge of the house so they watch everything.

Ida put a candle in her window.

Doreen’s husband saw Ida’s candle.

He decided to put his candle in the living room window.

He and Doreen went to bed.

He held Doreen.

Doreen said, “It’s just seven in the evening. Why are we going to bed so early? Let’s play a game and at least stay up to seven thirty.”

Doreen’s husband started smiling.

Doreen hit his chest and he blew out the light.

The mother and father near the brook yelled at the troop of soldiers that were at the brook fighting, “Get off our property.”

The second in command shot at them and missed the mother by a hairpin.

She was so shocked and her husband ran from the door went and sat on the floor.

The little boy and the little girl were in their bed.

They slept the whole night.

The seven holy angels were in their room.

One of the soldiers said to the second in command, “She’s still in the door.”

The second in command said, “If she say’s anything else. I will shoot to kill, because she is interfering with military operations.”

The soldier looking back at her said, “Are you sure you don’t want me to do it? I am a cracker jack.”

The second in command thought and did not say anything.

He watched the corporal all morning.

They heard the door behind them closed.

The mother fell on the floor, her husband crawled over and pulled inside the door.

He slammed the door shut.

The little girl laid in the bed and watched the activity in the next town.

She felt bad for Miss Mellissa, because she did not have any friends.

The little girl went to sleep.

The older driver was shooting from the living room windows.

The men were trying to get to the governor’s tent.

The governor started crying and moving his legs.

The older driver yelled. “Wes. He’s moving.”

The older driver said, “Damn. Now they know he’s in here.”

Wes crawled out the bedroom.

The older driver said, “Wes I am sorry. Ny yelling. They know he’s in here.”

Wes said, “It’s not time for anything.”

Wes gave the governor more of the herbal sedative.

Wes crawled back to the bedroom.

The shooting was very intense.

The older driver was picking the men to shoot.

He older driver was shooing the men that came close to the house.

He said to himself, “This is war. This is crazy. They want to make an example out of him. The hell with that.”

Several men stormed the house.

Wes was on his stomach and shot them.

He older driver was impressed until a bullet passed his face.

Seven men ran to the house.

Bruce looked back and saw the men and he started running to the house.

Shooting as he ran.

The older driver shot two of the men.

Bruce shot three and Wes aimed and shot the other two.

Bruce ran into the house and saw the governor was ok.

Wes said, “Bruce, my family?”

Bruce was counting his bullets and said to the older driver, “Bullets?”

The older driver pointed to the table and Bruce got six bullets and ran out the door and was running back to the dirt road.

Bruce ran back and was shooting men while he was running back.

Bruce was thinking.

He was thinking this gun fight is going on too long.

The soldiers by Mike and the third in command subdued that part of the new settlement.

The new captain and his troop took the control of the battery guns.

The five soldiers at the beginning of the new settlement bound the assassins.

The new captain and his troop took control over the entire area, including Betsy’s home town.

The two soldiers with Emma ran out of bullets.

They ran to the wagon and reloaded.

Terry, Danny and Reagan went through the new settlement all the way to Shelia and looked at her walking out the tent as if nothing was going on.

Terry yelled at her and said, “Get in your tent now!’

Shelia turned and went back in her tent.

Danny, Terry and Reagan met the third in command. They rode by the brook and found three of the assassins.

The assassins threw up their hands to surrender.

The third in command said, “Trap.”

They stayed on their horses.

Terry said, “Walk out now.”

Day was breaking.

The three went for their guns.

The third in command shoot the three quickly and the seventeen assassins jumped up and from the ground and Danny, Reagan and Terry and the soldiers by Mike shot the seventeen down.

Mike finally emerged from his tent was stretching and went to urinate and then he saw the soldiers and ran into his tent and laid on the ground and covered his head.

Danny and Terry rode further down the brook and met the soldiers from the first troop.

They secured the perimeter.

The front and the back were secured.

Now Bruce had to secure the governor.

He yelled for the five soldiers to cover him and take down the rest of the assassins that would try to escape.

The two soldiers ran back to the family.

Bruce looked to see his family.

Emma looked at Bruce.

Bruce ran to the cute house and laid low and shot as many assassins he saw.

He ran towards Wes and Betsy’s tent and got the guns of the two soldiers.

He checked the guns and was about to run to the house and heard two sets of footprints.

He laid down by the two dead soldiers and had his fingers on the triggers.

The two ran passed him.

One was the missing medic and the next was someone Bruce could not believe.

Bruce thought, “God he is a better shot than me.”

The strange mand was standing by Bruce and said, “Aim an additional three degrees to the left and shoot.”

Bruce looked around and saw nobody.

He tiled the gun slightly and fired.

The medic dropped dead before they reached the cute house.

Bruce said, “God he can shoot and be out in less than a minute.”

The strange man said crawl fast and shoot rotating the gun.”

Bruce looked around and did not see anyone.

The soldiers on the dirt road and the two with Emma and the five that were to cover Bruce turned towards the cute house.

The assassin made it to the porch.

The captain saw his two soldiers were dead that was covering him from the dirt road.

The strange man said, “Now.”

Bruce shot the assassin across his which caused him to drop his gun.

Bruce was getting up to run towards the assassin.

The strange man said, “Not yet.”

Bruce check his gun and three of his men ran to help the assassin.

Bruce was angry.

The strange man said, “Now.”

Bruce ran and was shooting as he ran.

He shot his three soldiers down and continued to fire upon the assassins

His other troop members ran to the cute house.

They saw the three assassins from their troop, which were on the supply wagons.

Bruce looked at them and said, “That’s why you rushed to get back here.”

Bruce turned and looked in the face of Harry Westerbrook.

The captain said to his soldiers, “Move them to the ground. I don’t want their blood on this porch.”

Bruce watched his soldiers bind up the prisoners.

Bruce sent for the medics of the two troops to bind up the assassins’ wound to get them to the state capital.

After two hours Bruce went into the cute house.

He was surprised. No bullets.

He looked at the sleeping governor and his wife.

Bruce saw the governor eyes that he was trying to come out of the sleep.

He looked at Wes picking the little girl up and placing her in the bed.

Bruce saw the little girl’s back.

Bruce turned his head.

He looked for Natalie and saw her feet.

Joshua walked into the house.

He looked around and went to the bedroom and fell out on the floor.

Wes looked at Natalie and covered her with her quilt.

Wes put coal on the fire and walked out and closed the bedroom door.

Frank and Glenda were hiding amongst the horses.

They stood up and looked around.

They went to Abraham and Richard.

The four went to Mike.

They saw the bodies of all the assassins.

Frank and Glenda started taking the dead assassins money.

The soldiers near Mike yelled at them and ran them off.

Frank and Glenda did not stop running until they got to Richard and Abraham.

They used the weapons wagon to transport dead soldiers.

The medics from the two troops treated the wounded soldiers.

The wounded soldiers were sent to the big city hospital to Dr. Obersteen.

The captain sent a telegram to Dr. Obersteen that the soldiers would be there in two days

The new captain processed all the prisoners and his troop escorted the seventy assassins to the state capital, to be executed with the first group of assassins.

The first troop that arrived early took Harry Westerbrook and the medic to the state capital to be operated on.

Wes refused to touch them.

The captain’s men re-establish the governor’s tent and put their campsite back together.

The governor and the first lady were taken to the tent.

Ten soldiers were left to secure the governor.

It took most of the day to remove he dead bodies.

The dead bodies of the assassins, they processed and put them in a mass grave in the town.

The dead soldiers were processed and buried in the beautiful scenery of the second town.

The second troop processed the guns and the battery guns.

A wagon transported the battery guns to the command headquarters.

The investigation was under way for all involved with the assassination attempt on the governor and his wife.

The second security lead and several men knocked on a door.

Harry Westerbrook’s father answered the door. He looked back in the house at his relatives and Harry’s wife and children. The security men stepped inside the house and arrested him and bound him. His neighbors were rushing out of their houses. The children were running home to tell their parents.

He was bound and placed in the back of a wagon and taken to the state capital to stand trial for the assassination attempt on the governor’s life.

Wes checked the governor and his wife’s vital signs. Cleaned their wounds. Bathed them and gave them their medication.

The older driver helped Wes out.

He filled the black pot full of water and started the fires around the cute house.

Feed the horses and gave them water.

He took coal in the house and restarted the fires in the fireplace.

He woke Natalie to go bathe.

He cleaned the living room and brought the water into the house.

He saw Joshua and the little girl were sleep.

A soldier knocked on the door.

The older driver walked to the opened door.

The soldier said, “The captain wants the dirty laundry. The employees are here from the governor’s mansion to do the laundry. They do not want them to know the location of this place.”

The older driver said, “Where’s your wagon?” The soldier looked at the older driver.

The two of the put much laundry in the wagon, once they removed the white washcloths, towels and sheets that were sent.

Natalie came from the wash shed and looked around at all the new wash clothes, that were washed and dried.

She put them in the chest of drawers.

Natalie went back into the bedroom and closed the door.

She laid on the floor and the three of them slept passed noon.

The older driver was sitting in the living room with his boots off and arms folded and he slept until noon.

Wes looked at the cute house and went all around the house and said, “Whoa. No damage.”

The attendant smiled.

The strange man laughed.

Wes went and looked at his tent.

He saw a lot blood.

He covered the blood and looked in his tent.

He went to the house.

Joshua walked into the living room and said, “What’s to eat.”

The older driver was about to get up but Wes said, “I’m up.”

Joshua sat on the sofa.

He looked at the older driver and the older driver looked at Joshua.

They both turned their heads.

Wes into the governor’s stashed and gave Joshua food from the stashed.

Wes saw the many washcloths and sheets from the governor’s mansion and he saw the dirty laundry was gone.

Joshua ate his dried meats and cheese.

Wes gather the little girl’s bath essentials and went into the bedroom and bathed the little girl.

Natalie sat on the floor.

She looked straight ahead.

The little girl was sitting up in the bed and Wes was bathing her.

The little girl looked at Natalie.

Wes watched Natalie.

Natalie got up and went out the house and made the little girl some oats.

Natalie did not say anything but reached for the little girl and the little girl reached for Natalie.

Natalie walked in the living room and sat and feed the little girl.

The little girl said, “Wes, Natalie not talking.”

The older driver looked.

Wes was watching Natalie.

He answered the little girl and said, “I know.”

The older driver looked at Natalie.

Wes said to Natalie, “Are you alright?”

Joshua looked at Natalie.

He went and laid down in the bedroom on his pallet.

The older driver was watching Natalie.

Natalie finished feeding the little girl and gave her to Wes.

Wes took the little.

The little girl tried to look back in the bedroom. She said to Wes, “I want Joshua.”

Wes was watching Natalie.

He picked up the little girl and took her to the bedroom and covered her up.

Joshua was playing with his sailboat and said, “Wes, will Natalie be ok?”

Wes looked at Joshua and said, “I want her to be ok.”

Wes closed the bedroom and took the little girl’s bath water outside.

He discarded the bath water and cleaned the bath shed.

It was time for the governor and his wife’s two hour herbal treatment.

He went into the governor’s tent and gave them the two hour medication.

Wes unrolled his quilts and slept for the next two hours.

He continued to wake and give the governor and his wife the two hour herbal therapies.

Wes slept and got rest for that day.

Emma, Mattie and Betsy went to their campsite.

They cleaned and re-arrange the campsite.

Frank and Glenda came to their old homesite and got their remaining horses.

They looked around and wanted to stay.

Mattie stopped sweeping and stared at them.

Frank bowed his head and spoke,

Glenda smiled and spoke.

Mattie did not speak.

Emma and Betsy stopped sweeping and looked at them.

They watched Glena and Frank get the horses.

Mattie yelled at them and said, “Get back and clean this mess up.”

Frank yelled back, “We will be back.”

Glenda said to Frank, “You said we weren’t going to clean up the horses mess.”

Frank said, “With all of this going on Glenda. I don’t want to be put out.”

Cate finally emerged out of her tent.

Mattie saw Cate and waved.

Cate waved.

She walked to the dirt road and looked up and down the road and tried to lean back and watch Frank and Glenda.

She walked to Mattie and looked around.

Emma had lost patience with the socially inadequate Cate.

Betsy saw Emma’s face.

Betsy said, “Hello Cate. How are you doing?”

Cate said, “Ok.”

Emma blew.

Betsy watched Emma.

Mattie said to Cate, “Where were you this morning with the war that was ranging here?”

Cate said, “I was sleep.”

Betsy watched Emma who turned and gripped hard the handle of the broom in her hand.

Harold was walking down the dirt road.

He stopped and said, “Hello yall.”

Emma and Betsy spoke.

Mattie just looked at Harold.

Cate kept her back turned to Harold.

Harold new why Mattie did not speak but he said, “Cate is just ignorant. She does not have any manners.”

The three women looked at Cate who had no facial expression.

Emma told Betsy. “I’m tired of her now.”

Betsy said, “Harold where are you going?”

Harold said, “To see if they are all right?”

Emma saw Shelia walking down the dirt road.

She turned to Betsy and said, “Here comes another one. I can’t take too much more of them. They decided to stay and they …”

Emma cut off her talking.

Harold knew she was saying something bad about them because the way Betsy was looking at Emma.

Shelia walked up with a quilt around her.

Cate had on several knitted coverings.

Harold had on his coat and a quilt.

Shelia stood.

Mattie and Harold looked at her.

Emma kept her back turned and Betsy did not move.

Harold watched Emma and Betsy because he heard them over Christmas talking about their senile grandmother.

He knew they did not like crazy people.

Mike drove the wagon down the dirt road.

Harold flagged him down.

Mike stopped.

Harold said, “Are you going to the house?”

Mike said, “Nall I’m leaving.”

Harold saw the wagon was packed with Mike belongings.

Harold looked down the dirt road but could not see Mike’s campsite.

Emma said, “Whoop di doo.”

Everyone turned and looked at Emma.

Emma kept sweeping.

Harold said, “You’re moving on and not coming back.”

Mike looked at Emma and Betsy and said, “I may.”

Harold said, “Why are you leaving?”

JESUS, the angel over the new settlement and the attendant were watching Mike.

JESUS had visited Mike during the morning when the fighting was taking place.

He gave Mike a vision of who he was accused of raping those children

Mike had forgotten what he did.

He was on the run for a long time and left his family to bare his shame.

JESUS gave Mike the courage to go back and face the criminal charges and prison.

Mike had not ask God for forgiveness of his sins.

He had not accepted JESUS Christ as his Savior.

JESUS was working with Mike to receive the redemption.

Mike’s mother prayed before Mike and his sister were born that her children and their children would be saved and receive JESUS Christ as their Savior. Both went into the world and did everything they could and walked in all kinds of sins.

But his mother held on and prayed for years for her children’s salvation.

She did not know where her daughter was nor what she was doing.

When she received Mike’s telegram a couple of months ago, she knew JESUS was going to make everything alright.

She held onto Acts16:31, “And they said, “Believe in the LORD JESUS CHRIST, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.”

Mike’s mother had that scripture in every room in her house and on the ceiling over her head.

She went to sleep each night thinking on the promise of God And JESUS.

HE never failed her.

When everyone turned against her because of Mike’s evil doings.

When they tried to burn her house down, God sent a heavy rain that put out the fire.

When her church turned against her and put her out the church. A church she was going to since she was born.

She cried for months and could not pray.

She would fall on her knees and cry.

JESUS spoke to her heart and said, “They did you a favor. I told you a long time ago to leave that church.

You believe because the church is where you grew up in that would die in that church. You have not grown in forty five years. I need for you to grow in me. Learn who I Am. I have a church I prepared for you to attend so you can grow. I want all of my children to grow in ME. I will show you the place.”

Mike’s mother began to hold onto that dream that promise from the LORD as she was holding onto Acts 16:31.

She was fired because of Mike.

She had no food.

She could not go to no one in the community for any help or food.

Mike’s mother was sitting on her porch reading her bible one day and she was looking for a scripture and did not find it. But her fingers flipped to Psalm 37:25.

The strange man was sent to turn her bible to Psalm 37:25.

She began to read,”I have been young and now I am old…”

She said that’s true.

Mike’s mother continued, ”… yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread.”

She sat and did not say anything.

During this period of time JESUS was showing her all of her sins.

Her nasty ways.

Her ungodly ways.

The world accepted her nasty heart as being Christian, because she tithe and helped around the church.

But JESUS saw her whole heart.

HE saw how in her heart she talked about people, talked about the children, had world goods and when the poor or vagabonds nocked on her door she would mistreat them and run them away.

She would even scold the poor children.

But the church folks would tell her, “You did right child. I would not give them nothing,”

One church member said, “I told them to get away from my door, I even took my hot water I was getting to take my bath and threw on the children on my porch begging for food and their parents were standing out in my yard.”

Mike’s mother looked and said, “What did their parents do?”

The woman replied, “Do? They ran like hell with those children of theirs.”

Mike’s mother would flirt with some of the men in the church.

That’s why Mike’s father left her when they finished high school, because he said a married woman of God had no business flirting with men.

He truly believed she was going with or had gone with some of the men.

He said, “I don’t know if these evil children are mines. They have your evil heart and it’s manifested in their deeds. Take care of you and your children.”

He got on his horse and rode away.

Their mother stood in the door and walked on the porch and yelled. “Ok. Boy come on back.”

He heard her but kept riding.

The neighbors were out in their yards and sitting on their porches.

His mother was trying to save face with them.

She waved at the neighbors and walked in the house and closed the door.

She fell on the floor and cried for days.

He told her the day he left that all her evil ways will be returned on her head and she had to pay GOD back for how she dishonored HIM and JESUS.

She would run the children away from in front of her house as they stopped and played in the street.

The children would say,”That old mean lady.”

Some new children in the neighborhood would pass her each morning going to school and would speak and happily say, “Good morning.”

She would holler and say, “Get away from here.”

The children told their mother.

The mother said, “You don’t have to speak to.”

The father said, “But speaking is due to every body.”

The mother said, “Not in bible. And nobody will mistreat my children. Apparently she has been doing this a long time.”

Her husband kissed and patted the children on their heads.

He left for work a little earlier that morning.

The mother walked out the house a little later.

She stood and watched the old lady.

He son spoke to her but not their daughter.

The daughter did not look at her.

The mean old lady did not care.

She was hungry.

All her bills were due and the taxes on her house.

Her house needed a lot of repair work.

Mike’s mother had not searched her heart to see her sins.

The children father walked and stood next to his wife.

He said, “I don’t like it. But this is the world we live in.”

His wife waked away from him and to the old mean lady.

She said, “Morning.”

The old mean lady looked at her and said, “What’s good?”

The children mother said, “I did not say “Good”. I said morning. You don’t listen nor do you hear well.”

Mike’s mother looked at her and said ,”Get away from my house.”

The children father knew his wife was angry and he better not say a word.

The children mother pointed and said, “Those two children are mines. I have stood and watch them speak to you everyday since we moved here. You have turned them a bad answer everyday. I don’t like it.”

The new commander was standing by the children’s mother.

The mean old lady said, “I don’t have to be nice to your children.”

The children mother said, “I have heard about your good children.”

The children father walked away holding his arms over his head.

The mean old lady stood on the porch and tried to storm in her house but the new commander caught her heel in the crack of the badly need of repaid porch.

The children mother stepped back and peruse the house.

She saw the cross signs on her windows.

The children mother said, “You ain’t nothing but a hypocrite. You got those cross signs on your windows. You don’t know JESUS and HE does not know you! You got an evil heart and you are going to hell. I don’t care nothing about your lies. You have brought shame to the name of JESUS. I can look at you and tell you are in GOD’s judgement. You are poor, lonely and need food. You need a job. Your house need to be repaired and you have no family and no friends. Nobody loves you. You have been put out of your church. And you still don’t see that you are full of sin and iniquity. You think GOD will by pass HIS word for you. You think GOD will hear your prayers and answer them over your sin and filth. HE would be as evil as you.”

The children mother shook her hands at Mike’s mother and continue, “You got your bible. You read and you don’t comprehend because you are not saved.”

Mike’s mother yelled, “I am saved.”

The children mother was drawing a crowd.

Her husband was looking around at the people and tried to smile.

The children mother continued, “Go you sinner and read John 9:31. And because you don’t know the WORD of GOD.

The children mother was yelling said, “Since you can’t hear GOD. Hear me, Now we know that God heareth not sinners…
Who are you? You are a sinner that need to repent. WHY? Because the scripture says, But if any man be a worshipper of God, ”and doeth his will, him he heareth.”

The children mother waved her hand at Mike’s mother house and at her and said, “Look at this sinner’s mess.”

She said,”You don’t hear GOD because you don’t Know HIM. All you do is read the bible out loud to hear the words so you can pretend you some great holy woman. You don’t listen to the WORD of GOD because only those with an ear, which comes from being saved can hear what the Spirit is saying.”

She shook her head and walked away.

Her husband ran around to the front of the house to see Mike’s mother reaction.

She pulled her shoe heel loose and it came off on the porch.

The children father looked at the lone ragged shoe heel.

The new commander turned her heel loose and went back to JESUS.

He walked to JESUS who was not standing far from a window like opening.

The new commander said, “Your message was delivered LOUD and CLEAR.”

The ONE sitting on the throne behind them laughed.

The LORD GOD Almighty said, “That one will get my point across.”

The neighbors continued on their way to work, school or business.

The children mother went home and locked the door.

Her husband ran home to talk to her about being loud and causing a scene.

She slowly turned and looked at her husband from the kitchen door that was half glass.

Her husband turned and whistled all the way to work.

She sat at her kitchen table and prayed and read her bible.

The new commander was standing across from her and he spoke to her as she was getting up to start dinner.

Take her a plate of food and bake her a blue berry pie.

The children mother said, “No Michael. I know that is you.”

Michael repeated her instructions.

The children mother began to stomp and holler and run through the house screaming, “I don’t want to. I know I don’t have to.”

JESUS appeared and spoke to her, “I am working on her. She has been fasting.”

The children’s mother was wiping her tears laughed.

JESUS knew that would cause her to laugh.

She said, “JESUS . I will give her a plate of food and bake her a pie because YOU said to feed the hungry and visit the widows. I don’t like her, and I don’t want to be a part of her life.”

JESUS stood and was thinking.

The children mother began to prepare the pie.

She said, “I know her name must have been written in YOUR book of life from the foundation of the world and now is the time for her to be delivered and accept and to receive salvation. But I just don’t want to be her friend. But YOU know I will do whatever YOU say but can you excuse me from being a part of her life?”

JESUS was standing and thinking.

The children’s mother said, “And I know YOU always hear me because I belong to you. Can you please help us get new furniture. I don’t want this furniture anymore.”

JESUS said, “Would you give it to her?”

The children mother turned her head and exhaled, “Yes LORD.”

JESUS and Michael walked back to heaven.

JESUS opened a large book and was reading.

HE wanted the two to be friends because they had gifts HE put in them before the foundation of the world that would help HIS body to grow.

HE stood at a large opening and was thinking.

JESUS knew why the children’s mother hated Mike’s mother and the gifts HE put in Mike’s mother would help to deliver the children mother.

HE never makes a mistake.

He watched Mike’s mother go into the house and sit on the sofa on a spring.

She jumped up.

She went to the kitchen and had no chair because they all were broken and she put them on the back porch so no one could see her ragged furniture, that’s why she sat on the porch all the time reading.

Because the metal swing was only broken on one side.

No one offered to help her.

Like she treated the people who she ran off from her house.

She sat on her bed and a swing stuck her.

She jumped up.

The ONE that sit on the throne said, “It’s hard to kick against the pricks.”

JESUS turned HIS head to listen.

The children’s mother had made the crust for the blueberry pie.

She cried every second making the pie crusts.

She walked out the kitchen and cried.

She remembered how evil that woman treated her and her brother when they were poor.

They would run through the neighborhood and asked for bread.

One old woman threw hot water on her and her brother.

An older man saw it.

We had nothing to eat.

Mommy and daddy could work anymore.

Working at the plant made them sick.

The older man our parents trying to comfort us.

We went to her house and she screamed at us like we were dogs and ran us from her porch.

We cried and walked all the way home.

Our ragged house across the railroad tracks.

Me and my brother cried all night.

There was a knock on our door,

That older man had followed us home and he went and bought us plenty of food.

We were so happy.

Momma was not well but she and daddy made us grits and scrambled eggs.

The older man handed daddy a lot of money.

He said, “I have been saving this up for someone. They don’t need it. Get yourselves in a better situation.”

After the food was gone we moved with our father’s brother upstate.

He was kind to us and took care of momma and daddy until they died a year later.

Uncle Ricky was rich and he and his wife and three kids did not need anything.

Their children were in boarding schools.

They did not know if we should stay with them because we were grieved or go off to boarding.

Uncle Ricky, who loved our father, called me and my brother to him and he said, “You two are our family. It was only me and your father. He worked at the plant so I could go to the best boarding schools and colleges. When I got on my feet, I was to do the same thing for him. But he met your mother and married. He had this beautiful little girl and two years later he had a bold little boy. He said he had to work and provide your care. So he did not get a chance to get a better education and a better job. So me and wife want you to decide. Do you want to stay here with us or do you want to go to boarding schools like our children.”

Me and my brother looked at each other.

Then we looked at Uncle Ricky and his wife Mary, who was really trying to be nice to us.

Uncle Ricky said, “What?”

We looked at each other and said, “Will be separated?”

Uncle Ricky turned around from the fireplace he was standing next to the seated Aunt Mary and his pipe in his hand, said “Oh my God I did not think about. I told your mom and my brother I would not separate you.”

He looked at his wife and said, “What boarding school can we send both of them?”

Aunt Mary turned to Uncle Ricky and said, “I really don’t know. We have to check and see.”

Uncle Ricky said to us, “If we can find a boarding school the that takes boys and girls would you go?’

Me and my brother smiled and shook our heads for yes.

They found a boarding school but my brother had to be twelve.

We stayed with Uncle Ricky and Aunt Mary for two years and attended the city’s best preparatory school. We met great fiends we have even until today.

Uncle Ricky would always come to our activities and he loved seeing my brother playing rugby.

He would be so excited because he was a rugby champion himself.

Uncle Mary did not like Uncle Ricky spending so much time with us.

They would argue late at night when they thought we were sleep.

One night my brother and I heard a very bad argument.

Uncle Ricky said, “What do you want?”

Aunt Mary said, “Send them away. I don’t want anything to taken from my children.”

Uncle Ricky said, “How dare you. I will not put my brother’s children. Woman do you hear me. Children on the street. I am a very good father. I provided for my children. I provide for you. Look at this house. Look at your clothes. Look at where our children go to boarding school. You woman would have none of this if it weren’t for their father. If I was poor and working in the mill would you had married me? I can tell you the answer to that.NO! I rule this house I will not kick children and especially not my brother’s children on the street and not care for them. I will not treat them any differently than I treat my children. That‘s why GOD has blessed me with a bigger house and more furniture and extra wagons and buggies. This have nothing to do with your relationship with GOD but mines. I loved my brother and that kind of self sacrificing love he had for me doesn’t go away.”

They were standing in the foyer of the house.

They had returned from a banquet they were looking forward to for weeks.

Everyone of importance were there and Uncle Ricky and Aunt Mary were dressed very good.

We

Aunt Mary yelled, “Either me or your brother’s children.”

Uncle Ricky was walking away from Aunt Mary and he stopped as if a sword had pierced his heart.

He stood for a moment

He turned to look at Aunt Mary. She looked up at him and that is when they saw all of us children looking at them through the barrister.

Their children had come home for the holidays.

Uncle Ricky and Aunt Mary did not say another word.

My brother and I ran into our connecting rooms and jumped in our beds and cried.

Their children were crying.

Uncle Ricky sat on the stairs between his children.

He hugged them all and said, “Look at these messy faces. Children this is something between me and your mother.”

Aunt Mary sat on the stairs and tried to comfort her children.

Peter their youngest boy said to his mother, “Why you don’t like them mother? Would you feel that way about Cindy or Lucas if they died and I took their kids in.”

Uncle Ricky looked at Aunt Mary.

He looked at her as if for the very first time.

Aunt Mary said, “That’s different.”

Lucas said, “Different how?”

Aunt Mary said, “Go to bed.”

Uncle Ricky tucked his children in the bed and then came to me and my brother.

He decided to sleep in my princess bed.

We held onto each and cried.

Uncle Ricky tiptoed in the room from my brother’s room.

He sat on my bed and shook my leg and my brother’s leg and said, “Don’t cry. I am not sending you away or putting you on the street. Give my time to put the pieces together. I will not betray you nor your mother and father. Put this night behind you and let us enjoy the holidays.”

The next day me and my brother dressed for school and went down to breakfast.

Aunt Mary acted her same polite self.

Like nothing happen.

She said to her children, “Have you seen your father?”

They looked at us.

Lucas said, “No.”

That was Aunt Mary’ s way of letting us know we were not her family.

Cindy her daughter watched our reaction to her mother.

Me and my brother were fine with it because Uncle Ricky told us he was not putting us out.

Me and my brother went to school and had a great time at school and got home a little late.

When we returned home many wagons were in front of house.

We went inside and Aunt Mary and her children were crying.

One neighbor said to another, “Those are the children they have taken care.”

The men and women looked at me and my brother like we were outcasts.

Cindy ran over and slapped me and said,”It’s all your fault.”

I began to cry.

The housekeeper grabbed me and my brother by the shoulders and took us into the kitchen.

I saw Aunt Mary stopped crying for a minute to watch us.

The housekeeper and her husband bent down and told us Uncle Ricky had died from a heart attack.

I passed out and when I woke several people were standing over me including Aunt Mary.

She had no concern for me but wanted to put on a good show.

I saw bags in the kitchen.

The housekeeper had packed all of stuff and brought it downstairs.

When everyone was gone out of the kitchen I said, “Where are we going?”

She put her finger up to her mouth and peeped through the kitchen door crack and said, “I don’t now and don’t care. Probably to the local orphanage.”

Aunt Mary was standing at the door listening.

She pushed the door open and reached me twenty dollars and the housekeeper snatched.

Aunt Mary looked at the housekeep and laughed.

She saw the housekeeper’s husband a had a wagon and said, “Where is he going with my wagon?”

The housekeeper nodded at us and said, “Mame it won’t look right.”

Aunt Mary looked at us and said, “Hurry back for to finish dinner.”

The housekeeper yelled at us and said, “Get your bags.”

Aunt Mary stepped back to the kitchen and said in front of her guess, “Don’t talk like that to the children.

Two of the men there watched everybody and said nothing.

One of the men waited until everyone was departed to the living room drinking coffee and tea and eating sweet biscuits.

He reached his hand to the housekeeper and she gave him a piece of paper written by my Uncle Ricky.

The other came into the kitchen pretending he wanted something else to eat besides the sweet biscuits.

He looked at us and looked over the shoulder of the younger man and was reading the paper.

The younger man put the paper in his breast pocket and over to us and said. “Your Uncle Ricky loved you and this paper proves it. Go with the housekeeper and her husband for now.”

Me and my brother were twelve and fourteen and I had two more years to go in school and he had four more years.

I thought as we were leaving the house through the kitchen and turned around and looked at the younger mand and I remembered him.

He would sit with Uncle Ricky at my brother’s rugby games.

They would be talking and whispering sometimes Uncle Ricky would give me money to get treats for everybody.

When I returned the man would always be gone.

I would act disappointed, but ate his treat.

Uncle Ricky knew me well he would say, “You’re disappointed as you can eat his treat. One day he’s going to be here and you can’t eat his treat.”

I would lean on Uncle Ricky and he would cheer on John.

We walked out the door never to return to that beautiful house again.

The housekeeper and his wife drove the wagon for hours.

John asked me,”Where are they taking us. What orphanage?”

I told him, “I don’t know. We are older and can run away if it’s really bad.”

The housekeeper and her husband pulled up in front of a small hose.

We jumped out the wagon and could hear the ocean and felt the icy cold of the wind blowing off the water.

It was cold and dark.

We could not see.

The housekeeper’s husband lighted the torches around the house and she unlocked the door.

John and I stood in the middle of the floor.

She and her husband brought our bags into the house.

He lit all the fireplaces in the house and she went and made up our beds and put a lot of food in the kitchen.

The housekeeper said, “Come here you two.”

We walked to her.

She said, “Being mean to you was an act. Those two men that was reading that paper were your uncle’s attorney. For what I could read, he left this very nice beach house to you so you can always have a place no one knows about and to keep it secret. I know he paid for you to attend a boarding school together and no one can take the money nor stop you from going. “

John said, “What happens next?”

The housekeeper said. “I don’t know. You have plenty of food to keep you. I know this is not the Christmas you were expecting but those two attorneys are the best in the state and they will make sure you get what your Uncle Ricky said.”

John said, “Uncle Ricky is dead, so how can he make them do their jobs?”

The housekeeper said, “I know your Uncle Ricky said, his lawyers don’t get paid until he does. He was one of the shrewdest business in the state not the city but the whole state. He was very hard but very fair. Watch his funeral.”

John and I starting crying.

Her husband said, “What you do that far and give her that twenty dollars.”

I reached out my hand and the housekeeper gave me the twenty dollars.

When holiday was over John and I went to the same boarding school in another city.

It was a boarding school Aunt Mary did not know. It was in the opposite direction from her children

We were not invited to Uncle Ricky’s funeral. The holidays were very sad without his laughter.

That’s when I started hearing Michael talk to me.

When school was out for the summer, John and I would go with some of our friends for the summer.

Only for the Christmas holiday would go to the beach house.

When we would look at the beach house we realized Uncle Ricky actually bought the beach house for John and I so we could have our own special place. My father and mother loved the beach but could not go.

Uncle Ricky’s lawyers told us he said our parents loved the beach.

We agreed that the beach house would never be sold or given to Aunt Mary.

His lawyers keep paying Aunt Mary’s expenses for two years until I was of age to sign the papers for me and John.

I turned sixteen, we went papers at school of a court hearing.

Uncle Ricky’s lawyers had taken care of our expenses.

They sent extra money for John to buy a suit and for me to buy a dress.

John was becoming known for his superb rugby skills.

He was traveling all over the country playing rugby.

I had to go to the court hearing by myself.

I kept John’s suit money.

I bought a nice dree and shoes and made my hair pretty.

When I arrived for the court hearing Aunt Mary was there with her new husband.

He was a barrister.

Uncle Ricky’s lawyers said, “Don not say a word. You should not be asked any questions only me. Look at me.”

Every sat at a long table.

Aunt Mary looked at me and pointed and said, “Who is she?”

Her husband looked and said, “You are?”

I looked at them and then Uncle Ricky’s lawyer and he nodded his head.

I said, “I am Elisabeth Fowkles.”

I stood, when the judge was entering and sat at the table he was the older man that was one of my uncles lawyers.

Michael told me to stand.

I stood and said, “I am the eldest daughter of the late William and Elizabeth Fowkles.”

Then I sat.

I saw Cindy twist like she wanted to get out of her chair and slap me again.

I said, “Michael I am taking her down.”

He said, “After,”

The judge looked at me.

Lucas and Peter stared and said, “Where’s John?”

Uncle Ricky’s lawyer smiled.

My mother told me she named me not after her but the queen of England and for me to always act like a queen. She would be watching. She told me the queen was a fighter. She fought for her country and her people.

The judge said, “After the hearing.”

The will was read.

The only thing Aunt Mary got was the house, that she loved.

Uncle Ricky believed she would marry quick and no man was going to live in luxury over him.

Aunt Mary was stunned.

Uncle Ricky’s lawyer told her the stipulation of his will.

He wanted his children to be well taken care and no man come in over his children.

He also considered me and John us his children.

Uncle Ricky’s will stated if she married before the two year period prior to probating then she gets no money.

The money would pay all bills, including all our schooling.

Then the remaining money will be equally divided amongst the five children.

Because his brother left an inheritance to his children.

Aunt Mary protested.

The judge said, “You protest what?”

Cindy jumped over and ran to me and I heard Michael say, “Now!”

Uncle Ricky’s lawyer jumped up to stop her, but it was too late.

She slapped me and stood there and smirked.

I hit her so hard in her stomach that she slowly fell to the floor.

The judge said, “Ladies not in my court.”

The children were stunned.

But not Lucas. He followed his father around to all his business meetings and his father was teaching him business techniques.

He knew he and Peter would be fine.

I had mine and John money to be put in trusts.

I signed all the papers for both John and I and left, never to see them again.

I met my husband at the previous preparatory school. We went across the country to different colleges.

I studied music.

He was in the school of divinity and architecture.

We are constantly moving.

I wake when the children were knocking on the kitchen door.

I sat and said “Whoa. Oh GOD what was that about. I can take her the plate but I don’t know about the blueberry pie.”

I opened the door for my children and told them what happened between me and the mean older woman.

My children were surprised.

I told them my name was Elisabeth for a reason.

I started the pie filing.

I said, “Oh GOD. I don’t have enough blueberries for the pie. But I started the pie and when I put it in the belly of the stove it cooked faster.

I set the table when my children completed their homework.

I went to the piano and began to practice the music for Sunday Church service.

My husband came home.

I told him of the LORD telling me to take her a plate and a blueberry pie.

He said,”What about us?”.

I said, “Right.”

I made her a plate of fried chicken, peas, carrots and biscuits.

I told my family I was going to take the food to her and the blueberry pie.

My husband said, “You little stinker.”

I said, “What?”

He pulled two pies out the stove belly.

I was so shocked at JESUS.

HE cannot be outdone.

Whenever I submit to HIS will and HIS desire, especially when I think I am going to lose something HE turns around and do a Job and give me more than I ever had. HE always make the rough places smooth. A lot of time I can only see the smooth pathway when I have come through it. Without JESUS life is hard, but with HIM it is so much better.

I looked around to see how to carry the food.

My husband said, “Let’s go.”

I looked and he and the children were walking out the door.

I closed the door behind me.

Some neighbors from the morning show watched me.

We spoke.

We walked the short half block to the mean old mean lady’s house.

We told our son to run and knock on the door and run back.

I looked at the house.

I remembered everything. I saw the window she had the blueberry pie and me and my brother were sure she would give us a slice.

I said, “JESUS, I am about to mess this up. JESUS. JESUS. JESUS. Help. Help. HELP!!!!!!!!!!!!!”

My husband was looking at my face.

I looked at him.

He turned his head.

I am just about tired of him too. “How old are my children?” How much do I have left from my trust?”

My husband nudge me and nodded at the door.

I said, “JESUS told me you were fasting and to bring you a plate and a blueberry pie.”

Mike’s mother said, “I don’t take food from strangers.”

I yelled, “HUH.HUH.”

My children and husband looked at me.

The old mean lady looked at me.

I said, “You just said it.”

My husband looked at me.

The old lady looked at me.

I said, “You said you don’t take food from strangers and I specifically said JESUS told me to bring you a plate and a blueberry pie, because you had been fasting. You said JESUS is a stranger to you. You are a sinner, but HE loves you and wants to save you and make you new and give you a vision and a purpose and an expectant end. JESUS said, you are a stranger to HIM. HE said read, Jeremiah 29:11-13. JESUS said, “...HE know the thoughts HE think towards you...thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end. Then shall ye call upon me and ye shall go and pray unto me, and I will hearken unto you. And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart. JESUS said Mike is coming home and you need to get saved so you can pray for him and HE will hearken unto you.”

I turned to my children and said, “Come to dinner.”

I was walking away with the plate of food and felt to look at hands and I turned around and set the plate on her doorsteps and walked to my waiting children and we put our arms around each other arms and walked home.

We sat and ate dinner.

I washed the dishes and cleared the kitchen.

I put the children to bed and prepared myself for bed.

My head was hitting the pillow when he walked in the house.

He locked the door and went and looked on the children and came in our bedroom.

He dressed for bed and sat on my side of the bed and said, “Honey. I invited her to church on Sunday.”

I said, “I don’t care. Did you bring my plate back? The pie dish you can get later.”

He said, “Honey. Are you angry with me? About this morning. And now your tone about a plate.”

I began to snore.

He got in the bed and said, “Nobody goes to sleep that fat. Oh yeah you been working hard all day, telling people off.”

He instantly fell asleep.

I laid awake and thought about moving to the beach house. Johnny still comes for Christmas only.

He brings his lovely wife and three bad boys.

Laughed.

I can play at different churches or start my own career back and have concerts. Maybe concerts on the beach during the summer. I can make money…

The next thing I knew the children were running in our bedroom and said, “Wake up.”

I got up and hurried and put breakfast on and got the children dress and prepared their lunch.

They left to get to school on time.

I stood in the kitchen door and smiled t my wonderful children. I know there will be problems in their lives, but I pray to GOD in the name of JESUS to give us victory, peace and joy.

I closed the kitchen door and turned and my husband was standing in the floor.

I looked at him he said, “Are you leaving me?”

I said, “I don’t know yet.”

He picked up his hat and walked out the door.

I went and locked the door. And walked into the living room and got my bible.

I thought about what my husband said, “I was tired because I fussed yesterday.”

I sat at the kitchen table and put my bible on the table.

I begin to pin my hair up.

I thought about dinner and I have to go to the market.

After I prayed and read my bible. I was falling asleep.

I heard a knock on the kitchen door. I knew no one was to come.

I peeped out the window and she was standing on the back porch.

I opened the door and saw she had my plate in her hand.

I took my plate. She was looking around my kitchen.

I thought, “I am not cooking no food.”

I closed the door and went and got dressed to go to the market.

I rushed out the door and it came to me I was very rude to here. I was acting towards her as she did me when she treated me like I was a dog or something less than a human.

I walked passed her house and did not care to look and see if she was on the porch.

I was thinking about leaving my husband. We married on the beach at eighteen. We have been married twelve years and have two children, eleven and ten. This the six time we have moved to go to his church. He has to find work. I use my trusts to tie us over until he gets a job. He thinks that type of living is fine.

I walked to the fish market and got very good fish. I know I heard buy her a fish.

I looked around and saw no human and I know Michael was not telling me to buy her a fish.

I opened my purse and counted my money.

I bought red snapper for my family and got her a few pieces of ocean perch.

When I left the fish market I went to the fruit stand and got some apples and a few vegetables.

Finally I reached the end of my calculations. Yes I can leave Harvey and the children will be taken care. I can live off the trust quite nicely and playing my piano and harp will provide extra money.

I stopped in front of her house and handed her th ocean perch fish a fe applies and some vegetables.

She said, “Prefer red snapper.”

I ignored her and kept walking home.

I undressed and prepared my dinner.

I was really tired. I laid down and took a long nap. And woke in time to unlock the door for my children.

I sat the table and went and practice my piano until their father arrived home.

We sat for dinner and had very nice dinner conversation.

I went back to the piano and Harvey left the house.

My daughter said, “Where’s daddy going?”

I said, “Dear I don’t know.”

Now I can see that I can make it on my own and do what I love the most the music of the piano and harp.

Harvey walked back in the house after about an hour.

He walked in the living room, I had just sat at the piano from cleaning the kitchen, and asked me if I knew a particular song.

I told him I was not playing that old song that has no meaning.

The children stopped playing and listened.

He sat on the floor and played checkers with the children. Until they went to bed.

I finished playing my classical music and went to bed.

Harvey was sitting on the floor watching me.

I slept long that night, I believe I was restless for months because I had to make a decision about my husband. Once I made that decision that day all the weight dropped off My shoulder. I finally slept.

I heard the children up with their father.

They went to a rugby game.

I was happy.

I did laundry and prepared the children clothes for the next week.

I left and went to the do my weekly grocery shopping. I passed a dress shop and then shoe shops.

My husband and children were across at the rugby game.

I left for home and I heard “Chicken”. I turned around and went back to the market for a chicken and eggs and milk and bread.

I did not understand why was being lead to keep going back to the market. People watching me like I was crazy.

I stopped by her house and gave her a bag of grocery.

I left and went home. And put the food away and prepared for our weekly baths and pulled our clothes out to wear to church the next day.

I sat on the piano bench and realized I was tired. I was tired of not having the type of life I deserved and told him I wanted. He seems to think our life is fine and no need for improvements.

I turned around and began to play my classical music.

My family walked in the house and into the living room. My eyes were closed and I played with my whole heart. And I played for hours, and tears fell. I was finally free. I finally knew why I was tired and I got relief through my music.

My children were standing at the piano watching me.

They did not know I could play with such beauty because all Harvey wanted to hear was church music. I was free. I was free.

I said to my children, “I did not cook dinner. I have to cook you scramble eggs. Go and take your baths first.”

Harvey said, “I notice you did not cook dinner.”

I continued to play.

I said, “Harvey until the end of the school year. I’m taking the children and leaving.”

Harvey sat on the sofa and could not move. I began to feel about him the way I felt about the old mean woman up the street.

I played until the children finished their baths. I stopped and cooked the family eggs for dinner.

I did not prepare Sunday’s dinner that night, because I had no intention of ever attending another one of his church services.

Harvey went outside to take care of the horses and buggy for Sunday’s service.

After I cleaned the house I went and got a blanket and fell out on the living room sofa.

I did not hear him come in.

He was trying to wake me so he can sleep on the sofa.

He sat on the sofa and cried.

I heard him in my sleep.

The next morning he woke me.

I got up and prepared breakfast.

He said, “You maybe angry with me but listen to me I told our old mean lady neighbor she can ride with us to church and I want her to come to dinner.”

I said, “I don’t care.”

Harvey stood in the living room floor.

I told him, “I am not going to church today nor any Sunday with you. You have someone at the church to play instruments. You can pick her up and she can sit up front. But I do not want her sitting by my daughter. I will continue to sleep on the sofa it’s only for two more months. I don’t want anything from you Harvey.”

He was walking back and forth from the bedroom to the living room tying and untying his tie.

 Our children sat and asked, “What’s wrong with daddy?”

I told them,”I don’t know.”

Harvey did not know what to think.

I became concern for my children.

They left and I prayed and read my bible.

I just sat for a while. Not thinking about anything. Just blank thoughts.

I got up and washed the morning dishes and prepare the Sunday’s dinner.

I splurged and bought a roast and all the trimmings.

I made a pie and a cake.

I cried last week when I told my children we were having pork chops for dinner.

They were so excited.

Children should not have to be excited about food. It is a right to eat. Harvey acts like we are so poor and we should be thankful for beans and cornbread. I cannot take anymore. He throws up in my face, I think I am privilege because I have a trust and my rich uncle paid for me and John to go to the preparatory school and his parents had to get charitable help.

I said, “I’m glad he doesn’t know about the other trust fund. Whew.”

Everything was prepared and I went to bed and slept.

Harvey tried to wake me, but I was truly sleep.

A few hours later he walked the old mean woman home.

The children cleared the table and got another slice of cake and sat in the living room until bedtime.

I finally woke up and saw Harvey standing in the bedroom watching me.

I got up and washed the dishes and put the children to bed.

I went right back to sleep on the sofa.

Harvey said, “Lis let’s talk.”

I sat up on the sofa and stared at him. Because I know he just did not give me a command like I am inferior to him or submissive to him. I don’t want nothing from him or to do with him.

He looked at me and saw my facial expression and said, “Good night.”

I thought, “Whew GOD I am so glad to get rid of him.”

I had peaceful sleep.

I got up ad prepared breakfast and got my children ready for school and prepared dinner,

I would play my classic music all day while they were gone. I had an empty house.

One day there was a knocked on the kitchen door.

I got up and looked out the door and it was her.

She had my additional pie dish.

I opened the door.

She reached me the pied pan.

I said. “You can have it.”

She tried to talk, I closed the door. And went back to my harp for that day.

She knocked on my door again.

I did not go to the door, but eased into the kitchen and locked the dor.

I was getting happy only a month left to go.

Harvey’s parent were coming for the summer.

I did not understand why they could not come for a month.

Harvey told them I had a trust fund and they were coming to lay up and eat it up.

I am taking my son to rugby camp and after that we are going to the beach house.

Mrs. Mamie died and left me her cottage in the city. I t is very nice. I think we may live there during the winter.

Mrs. Mamie was our boarding school director.

She loved me and John and I loved her.

When she died she will her very nice cottage to me.

 Harvey does not know about the cottage, if he did he would try to sell it and use the money.

I said,
Oh GOD I’m glad I can fix this terrible mistake I made.