

Escaping From Paradise

By

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Chapter 1

It was all a dream.

The hot sun roasted the Arizona desert. The waves of heat looked like ponds of water.

Black smoke billowed out of a 1880s black old western train while it whistled and raced down the train tracks in the middle of the desert.

A horse with a cowboy raced in the desert leaving a trail of dust behind.

The cowboy on his white horse raced toward the speeding train. “Yaaaa, yaaaa!” Josh Bryant, an average looking thirty-one year old cowboy with black hair yelled at his horse. He looked determined to beat the train headed to a hump tied across in the tracks.

The old western train raced closer to the tied hump in the train tracks.

“Yaaaa!” Josh yelled out while he slapped his horse with the reins fearful he wouldn’t make it in time.

The horse picked up speed and raced to the tied hump on the tracks.

The hump in the train tracks was Kathy Watson, a thirty year old drop dead gorgeous brunette with big soft brown eyes and soft pouty lips. She was tied to the tracks with rope. She frantically tried to wiggle herself free but couldn’t. The rope was tied too tight.

“Help me!” she screamed out scared to death while she eyed the train with tons of weight racing down the tracks at her. “Please help me!” she screamed out again when she felt the vibration in the rails while the train raced closer to her.

She heard the sound of a horse galloping and craned her neck and saw John. “Save me Josh!” she yelled out.

Eight buzzards circled thirty feet above Kathy waiting for their dinner to finally die.

Josh saw the buzzards circling above Kathy. “Not while I’m a cowboy,” he said and looked determined while he raced his horse closer to Kathy.

The train raced closer to Kathy.

“Yaaaa, yaaaa!” Josh yelled out while he slapped his horse with his reins to make him move faster and just missed being pricked by a Saguaro cactus by inches.

The train raced closer to Kathy.

Josh screeched his horse to a dusty stop three feet from Kathy and the tracks.

He jumped off his horse and bolted over to her. He whipped out a six-inch shiny knife that was tucked inside a sheath in his right cowboy boot.

The train raced closer to Kathy and Josh.

The sun reflected off the shiny metal of the knife while Josh brought the knife down to the rope that kept Kathy a prisoner to the railroad tracks.

The train whistle blew a warning cry while it was nine feet from Kathy and Josh.

“Hurry up, Josh!” Kathy screamed out while Josh frantically cut on the rope with his knife.

The train was three feet from Kathy and Josh.

Josh finally cut away the rope and whisked Kathy off the tracks.

The train raced past and missed them by inches while they both tumbled in the dirt.

She gazed in Josh’s eyes and they welled up while she lay on top of him. “Josh Bryant, you’re my hero!” she called out while she lovingly touched his cheek.

Josh looked proud while got Kathy on her feet then shoved the knife back in sheath in his cowboy boot. He puffed out his chest, as he was the man.

They embraced in a passionate kiss while the train raced off down the track no longer a threat.

The buzzards above them realized their dinner wasn’t going to happen so they flew away into the sky.

They separated from their kiss and Kathy gazed in Josh’s eyes.

“Will you marry me, John Bryant?” she asked with a sparkle in her eyes.

“Yes Kathy Watson, I’d be happy to marry you,” he replied and was the happiest man in the world.

Josh escorted Kathy over to his horse and

assisted her up into the saddle. He got up in the saddle and sat behind her.

He turned the horse around and galloped away into the desert.

The next day in the dream, Josh and Kathy were inside the small church of Desert Town.

They stood before the Preacher who was an old man with thin hair and a week's growth of beard stubble.

"I now pronounce you mister and misses John Bryant," he told them. "You may now kiss your wife," he added.

Josh and Kathy kissed in front of the Preacher.

They held hands and ran down the aisle and headed to the front door of the church.

Outside the church, Josh assisted Kathy into the wooden seat of a buggy. He climbed up and sat down next to her. He grabbed the reins for the horse. "Yaaaa!" he yelled out and the horse walked the buggy away from the church. On the rear of the buggy was "Just Married" white washed on a wood plank with thirty tin cans trailing from string tied to the rear of the buggy.

A little while later, Josh carried Kathy across the threshold of their small white farmhouse with picket fence, barn, and a small corral with six cows, a pig pen with four pigs, and a chicken coup. This was Josh's farm and it was located

three miles outside Desert Town.

He immediately carried her into their small bedroom where they quickly disrobed and stood naked before each other for the first time.

Josh looked in awe at the sight of Kathy's perky B-cup breasts and quickly got her on her back on the bed.

He climbed on top of her and they passionately kissed.

The second Josh was about to deflower Kathy, loud footsteps were heard in the bedroom.

"Why are you naked with my wife?" Alvin yelled out at the two naked lovers.

Josh and Kathy looked at the door of the bedroom and saw Alvin, a thirty-five year old gunslinger standing with both of his hands above the handles of his Colt 45s. His fingers twitched above the pistol handles ready to move into action.

"You're wife?" Josh asked while he looked at Alvin then looked at Kathy for an answer.

"Sorry Josh, I sorta forgot to tell you that I was married," Kathy replied with a smirk.

Josh looked confused while he glanced back at Alvin who whipped out his Colt 45s and aimed them at the two lovers.

"No man sleeps with my wife and lives to tell about it!" Alvin yelled out in anger the he gritted his teeth.

Josh jumped off Kathy and stood naked before Alvin. I didn't know she was your wife.

Honest!” Josh pleaded for his life.

“That don’t matter!” Alvin replied then squeezed the triggers of his pistols.

The annoying sound of a digital alarm clock resonated in the room while the two Colt 45s fired their bullets.

Back to Josh’s reality, and it was May and six on a Thursday morning in the Hunters Creek area located south of Orlando, Florida.

Inside Josh’s home, his bedroom digital alarm clock blared that annoying sound that indicated it was the start of a new day.

Josh jumped up in a panic from his bed and immediately felt his chest for bullet holes. *It was a dream!* He thought to himself and felt relieved, as his immediate thought was that he was shot and killed.

Josh got out from under the covers and stretched by the bed in his Universal Studios souvenir tee shirt and blue boxer shorts.

He glanced over at his dresser and smiled at the framed pictures of Kathy and him at Sea World, Disney, Universal Studios, and in the sand at Cocoa Beach. All captures of precious moments with the love of his life.

Josh left his bedroom, walked down the hallway and went inside his bathroom.

Twenty minutes later, Josh was dressed in Khaki pants and a black golf shirt while he sat in

his kitchen and ate his breakfast of Chocolate Lucky Charms and orange juice.

Twenty minutes later, Josh drove his 2005 Sandy colored Toyota Corolla north on the Central Florida Greenway for his daily trek to work.

A little while later, Josh pulled into the parking lot of the All Solutions Software Company.

After he parked his car, he walked through the lot and scanned the other cars for Kathy's silver BMW Z3, but he couldn't find it parked in the lot.

Josh walked to the front entrance of the building and glanced over at the beautiful courtyard located to the side of the building. He thought Kathy might be enjoying her morning coffee on one of the benches, but she wasn't visible in the courtyard.

A little while later in a large room where it was a maze of cubicles, Josh entered his cubicle where on the cloth walls were pinned more pictures of Kathy and him having more good times at Cocoa Beach and the theme parks in Orlando. Nestled between all those pictures was a framed "Software Engineer Of The Year" award for Josh from last year.

Josh sat down and propped his shoes up on

his desk. He reached inside his pants pocket and removed a small engagement ring box. He opened up the ring box and smiled at the 14K white gold, one-fifth Carat four hundred engagement ring. He pondered on the exact words to use later tonight for that special moment that he longed for the first day he saw Kathy.

Ricky Abbot, a thirty eight supervisor, stepped inside Josh's cubicle. "Hey Josh, I was to tell you that Mister Marcus needs status on your program and wants it presented to the senior committee at six tonight. You can expect a long meeting," Ricky told Josh.

Josh looked upset when he heard that bit of news. "Ricky, can see if you can get it postponed until next week? I'm so far behind with that program," Josh asked with pleading eyes.

"Sorry, no can do buddy. Mister Marcus wants status and he wants it tonight," Ricky replied.

Josh opened up his engagement ring box and showed the engagement ring to Ricky. "But I'm having dinner with Kathy later making tonight that very special night," he said and begged with his eyes.

"I'm sorry Josh, but you know Mister Marcus and his demands. You better ask her after the meeting," Ricky replied then walked out of the cubicle.

"This job blows!" he said while he picked up

his phone and made a call.

On the other side of the office area, Kathy sat at her cubicle desk.

Paul Hargett, a thirty-five year old, handsome Accounting Manager with an athletic toned body sat on the corner of her desk.

“I’m so excited about starting flying lessons,” Kathy told him with a gleam in her eyes.

“I’m so looking forward to teaching you,” Paul replied with a warm smile while he looked into her eyes.

Kathy’s phone rang on her desk.

She leaned forward and looked at the caller ID window of the phone and wasn’t interested so she let it ring.

“Do you need to get that?” Paul asked while he stood up ready to leave her cubicle.

“Naw,” she replied then grabbed his hand and moved him back to her desk. “Its just Josh and he can wait,” she replied while the phone kept ringing.

The phone finally stopped ringing and Kathy looked relieved. “So you stated that you won’t charge me for being my flight instructor?” she asked while she looked up at Paul.

Paul lightly touched her shoulder. “No way, Miss Watson,” he replied with a warm smile.

Kathy returned a warm smile.

During the next thirty minutes, Josh lightly worked on his software program while he

continued to glance at his phone.

His phone rang; he quickly looked and saw “Kathy 8-8733” on the phone caller ID window.

He fumbled with the receiver while he quickly brought it to his ear. “Hey there,” he answered.

“I’m sorry I missed your call. I was in the bathroom and when I came back, Paul stopped off in my cubicle. We started talking about my program and lost track of time,” she fibbed on the phone.

“No problem. So, do you want to take a walk and stretch your legs?” he asked her into the phone.

There was a few seconds of silence. “Yeah, I guess so,” she replied after a little hesitation.

“I’ll meet you out in the courtyard,” he replied.

“Okay,” Kathy replied then disconnected her end of the call.

Josh hung up his phone, stood up and did a little victory dance while he headed out of his cubicle.

A few minutes later, Josh waited at the entrance of the courtyard outside their office building.

The courtyard was a maze of concrete paths with benches, trees, flower beds and landscaped shrubs. Management allowed their employees to take small breaks in the courtyard

figuring it was a good way to reduce stress, clear their heads, and made them more productive.

Josh's eyes lit up the second he saw Kathy walk over to the entrance of the courtyard.

When she got closer, he noticed that she typed a text message into her iPhone with a smile. He was a little curious but decided not to pry into her life right now.

"Hey," she said when she walked up to Josh with her iPhone in her hand.

They started walking down one of the paths.

"I need to find a new career," he told her hoping to gain some sympathy.

"Put your resume out there and look for another job," she replied while she glanced down at her iPhone.

Josh looked upset when he recalled Ricky's conversation. "I have to brief Mister Marcus and the senior committee about my project, so I can't meet you for dinner at six," he said.

"That's too bad," she replied with little sympathy for his situation and showed more interest in her iPhone.

"But I can run over to your place when I'm done. It might be around eight," he quickly replied with a gleam in her eyes.

Kathy quickly typed a message on her iPhone then she smiled. "It's unhealthy to eat late, so I'll just go to bed early and read a sexy romantic book," she replied with a gleam in her eyes then shoved her iPhone into one of her

back pockets of her jeans. “We’ll have dinner another night.”

Josh looked disappointed while they walked down another concrete path and passed by some beautiful flowers.

Kathy’s iPhone buzzed from her back pocket while they turned down another path. She quickly removed it and looked at the text message and smiled. “I just got called to a meeting,” she told Josh.

“Oh,” he replied a little disappointed that his time with her was cut short. “I understand,” he replied.

He went to give her a little kiss but Kathy turned around and rushed off down the path.

He watched while she headed to the entrance of their building.

Josh moped back down the path and headed back to the building.

For the rest of the work day, Josh tried to concentrate on his software program and his presentation to Senior Management. But it was difficult, since all of his thoughts were on Kathy and wondered why she didn’t called.

Six o’clock finally arrived and Josh nervously stood at a podium at the front of a large conference room that held one hundred people. Josh’s presentation for his software program was on the 70-inch LCD TV that hung on the wall behind the podium.

I'm so fired! He thought to himself knowing that Mister Marcus would blow a fuse once he realized Josh was months behind with his program.

He looked around the conference room and saw stuffy old men in suits that probably already had three drinks under their belts from the small bars in their offices. They chatted amongst themselves while they sat and waited for the boss man at a long expensive wooden conference table.

Ricky waited at the table amongst all the other stuffy old men.

Josh looked at his watch and saw it was now five after six that evening, and he was pissed for missing his romantic time with Kathy.

The conference room suddenly got quiet the second Mark Marcus, the seventy-five year old overweight white haired CEO of the company rushed into the room with his fifty year old nerdy and skinny male assistant.

“Sorry I’m late, let’s get started,” Marcus called out while he sat down at the head of the table. His assistant sat down at a chair by the conference room door.

Marcus looked at Josh while he stood at the podium. “Who are you?” he called out from across the long table.

All eyes in the room were on Josh, which made him nervous.

“I’m Josh Bryant and I’m presenting the status on my software for the Ford Motor

Company,” Josh said while his voice was shaky.

Marcus’ cell phone rang. “Excuse me,” he called while he removed his cell phone off his belt clip. “Marcus,” he answered the call then listened to the caller.

“Really?” he replied to the caller and looked concerned. “I’ll be there ASAP,” he replied then placed his cell phone back on his belt clip.

“Something extremely important came up and I have to cancel this briefing,” he told everybody at the table. “Mister Abbott, reschedule this presentation for next Thursday,” he said while he looked over at Rick.

“Yes sir,” Ricky replied.

Marcus got up and rushed out of the room with his nerdy assistant.

All the stuffy old men stood up from the table and walked out of the conference room.

Josh did a little victory dance while he turned off the computer at the podium.

He quickly made a call on his cell phone but the “Caller Unavailable” message was visible in the viewfinder. “She’s reading her romance book, so she’ll be in the mood,” he quietly said to himself while he placed his cell phone back on his belt clip.

Josh rushed out of the side door of the conference room.

A little while later, Josh was in his Corolla and raced north on the Central Florida Greenway.

A little while later, Josh drove through a neighborhood by the northeast of Lake Nona.

Josh soon parked his car along the curb in front of Kathy's house.

Josh got out of his car and looked concerned when he saw a red 2008 Corvette parked in Kathy's driveway.

He hesitated on heading to Kathy's front door but after he saw her light was on in her living room. But his curiosity started nagging at him so he proceeded up the driveway.

Josh walked to the front door and paused before knocking. He paced in a small circle on the front door stoop while he debated if he should knock on her door.

He glanced over at the living room curtains and saw a small opening.

He heard the *Love Is All Around* song by the The Troggs play from her CD player in the living room. He couldn't resist as something started to worry him.

Josh's curiosity peeked when he heard that romantic song and in the living room window.

Josh craned his neck to see what was going on in Kathy's living room.

His eyes widened in shock with what he saw in the reflection in her mirror that hung on the wall.

He saw Kathy and Paul in heated passion with lips locked on her couch while that romantic

song provided the mood for their moment. She had her blouse off and Paul was topless while they kissed.

He watched while Paul removed Kathy's bra and that was too much for Josh and he stepped away the second Paul started kissing his way down to her bare breasts.

He looked stunned while he moped through her front yard and headed back to his car.

He stopped when he got to his driver's door and stared back at her living room window. He looked back at the driveway and evil thoughts of keying Paul's Corvette ran through his mind. He shook that evil thought off knowing it would come back to bite him in his butt.

Josh's eyes welled up while he got inside her Corolla.

He started up his car and drove away.

It was ten o'clock that night.

Josh lay in bed while he stared at his bedroom ceiling. The heated scene of Kathy and Paul ran numerous times through his head.

It was now twelve thirty on Friday morning, and Josh was still wide awake in bed and stared at his bedroom ceiling. He could not get the heated scene of Kathy and Paul out of his head.

It was now two-forty in the morning and Josh was still wide awake in bed and stared at his bedroom ceiling while the heated scene of Kathy

and Paul still ran through his head.

Chapter 2

Josh only got three hours of sleep last night. It seemed that the harder and harder he tried to forget about what he saw earlier, the more and more it nagged at him and kept him awake.

Josh yawned during the entire drive to his office and all he could think about was Kathy.

After a couple of hours of staring at his computer in his cubicle, Josh got up and went into the Men's Room.

He exited the bathroom, moped and yawned while he walked down the hallway where other employees mingled and chatted.

Kathy walked into that hallway from another hallway and she spotted Josh. "How was the presentation last night?" she asked while she walked up to him.

Josh looked hurt at Kathy who waited for an answer. He continued to stare at Kathy for a few seconds and she felt that was peculiar. "So, was Paul Hargett the sexy romance book from last night?" he blurted out without thinking.

Kathy looked caught by his question and hesitated for a few seconds to respond.

The other employees in the hallway stopped chatting when they heard Josh's question and

they inched closer to eavesdrop on her answer.

Then while she thought about his question she got mad when it dawned on her how he might have known what she did last night. “Were you spying on me last night?” she asked in a raised tone.

“My presentation got cancelled so I rushed over to your house. I was going to make last night special,” Josh replied while he removed the small engagement ring box from his pants pocket. He opened up the box and showed Kathy the engagement ring.

The other employees inched a little closer when they heard Josh was going to propose to Kathy last night. But she was with another man. They loved juicy office gossip.

Kathy looked sorry when she saw the engagement ring. “Josh, I ah, I feel terrible. I should have said this sooner, but it’s over between us. I need something more and Paul offers me exactly what I need in my life right now. I’m so sorry,” she replied then quickly rushed off to avoid a fight in the hallway.

Josh stood there in the hallway stunned that he was just dumped by Kathy.

His fellow employees moved down the hallway and felt sorry for Josh.

For the remainder of the day, Josh stayed a recluse in his cubicle, while the news of Kathy dumping him spread like wildfire throughout the office.

Ricky entered Josh's cubicle and saw him slumped in his chair while he stared at his software program on the computer.

"Hey buddy, I haven't seen you around the building all day," said Ricky.

"I know, I'm just having trouble with this program of mine and worried about Thursday's presentation," Josh lied while he continued to stare at his computer monitor.

"Want to take a walk?" Ricky offered.

"Naw. I need to concentrate on this program."

Ricky looked concerned while Josh stared at his monitor and knew he wanted to be alone so he left the cubicle. Ricky heard the gossip about Josh being dumped by Kathy in front of some coworkers.

Later that night, Josh skipped supper since he didn't have an appetite.

Since it was a Friday night, he stayed up late and watched movies while he sat depressed on the couch. The engagement ring box was on the coffee table next to an empty Mint Chocolate Chip ice cream box.

Inside the ice cream box were all the pictures of Josh and Kathy torn up into tiny pieces.

The movie he watched just ended and Josh picked up his remote and surfed the channels.

He stopped on a channel of interest that had Rodney Winston, in front of a bunch of workers

that were answering telephones. Above their heads hung a lit “We’ll Find Ya” sign for the name of the TV show.

On a screen behind Rodney was a picture of Tony Moore, a forty-five year old man with a crew cut and rough pot marked complexion.

“Tonight’s stories features Tony Moore wanted for assault and battery and rape of men and women. Tony disappeared a day before his trial,” Rodney told the TV audience.

Josh flipped the channel, as that TV show appeared too boring for his tastes tonight.

On the TV was a western movie that showed a love scene between a cowboy hero and a young woman.

Josh kicked back on the couch and watched the movie.

Josh fell asleep on the couch at two thirty that morning while watching another western movie.

It was Saturday morning and Josh woke up around ten that morning. He was still depressed.

He got off the couch and moped into the bathroom.

A little while later, he moped into the kitchen and ate his standard Chocolate Lucky Charms cereal and made a pot of coffee.

While he drank his coffee and scanned the newspaper, his cell phone rang. “Hey baby,” he

quickly answered thinking it was Kathy and yesterday was all a bad dream.

“Since when did you call your male buddy at work baby?” Ricky answered from his cell phone.

“I’m sorry about that. My mind was somewhere else,” Josh replied on the cell phone.

“I heard about Kathy,” Ricky said.

Josh looked depressed while yesterday’s episode ran through his mind again. “I need a new life, Ricky.”

“Let’s go do something to get your mind off her,” Ricky replied.

Josh thought about his offer for a few seconds. “I really don’t feel like doing anything today,” Josh responded.

“Aw come on Josh, don’t give up. There’s a wonderful world out there with plenty of women better than her. Let’s go meet some.”

“I’ll think about it and talk to you later,” Josh said then disconnected the call.

Josh puts his cell down and drank the rest of his coffee and looked depressed.

He looked back at the newspaper and his eyes widened with interest when he saw an advertisement for the “Blaine Fisher’s Old Western World Train House” display in the West Palm Beach area.

Josh spent a few seconds thinking about the advertisement while he continued to glance at the newspaper. He opened up his cell phone

and made a call.

“Ricky, how about we take a drive over to the West Palm Beach area?” Josh asked.

“West Palm Beach? What’s down there?” Ricky replied from the cell phone.

“There’s a huge old western train set on display that sounds interesting. The newspaper claims it’s the largest in the world,” Josh responded.

“You’re finally coming back to life, that’s good,” Ricky replied then there was a brief silence. “I would love to go,” he added.

“Great, I’ll pick you up in an hour,” Josh replied then closed his cell phone.

Josh got up and went into the bathroom and showered.

Later that day, Josh picked up Ricky as his home.

During the drive down the Florida Turnpike to West Palm Beach there wasn’t any discussions about Kathy. They mainly talked about their interests in model trains.

Josh parked his Corolla in the parking lot of the Blaine Fisher’s Old Western World Train House.

He and Ricky entered the large foyer of the eight thousand square foot mansion located way out in the west area of West Palm Beach in twenty acres of seclusion.

Josh and Ricky looked was a little jealous on

how the rich lived, as compared to their no thrills home and life.

“It must me nice,” Ricky told Josh while they looked the foyer over and saw the fancy winding staircase that led to the upstairs rooms.

At the right of the foyer was a counter where Anita Fisher, the thirty year old overweight, blonde haired, blue-eyed woman worked.

Above her hung a huge oil painting of Blaine Fisher, her sixty-five year old father. Blaine had an eerie serious stare and was dressed in western attire with a cigar sticking out of his mouth.

Anita smiled the second she saw Josh and Ricky walk over to the counter. The second her eyes gazed into Josh’s eyes, she become smitten with him. She immediately stuck out her hand at Josh and he shook it.

“I’m Anita and welcome to the Fisher Train House,” she said with a warm smile and love in her heart.

“Hi Anita, I’m Josh and this is my friend Ricky,” he replied.

Ricky extended out his hand and Anita ignored him while her eyes concentrated on Josh. He pulled his hand back and felt rejected.

“It cost ten dollars to visit the huge train set that my father spent five years completing,” she said while her eyes stayed concentrated on Josh.

Ricky paid Anita twenty dollars and eyed the painting of Blaine. He got curious when he

remembered something in the news a few years ago. "Wasn't Blaine Fisher in trouble for the rape of a young woman?" Ricky asked her.

Anita looked bothered by Ricky's question. "That woman framed daddy and the courts found him not guilty. You should never trust what the news media prints anyway," she replied to Ricky with a snarl.

"What's your father doing these days?" Josh curiously asked to calm her down so she wouldn't beat on Ricky.

"Daddy's gallivanting around the world looking for interesting artifacts for this place," Anita replied while she couldn't take her eyes off Josh.

"Sounds like he lives an exciting life," Josh said.

"He does and he's also a great inventor. We haven't put his inventions on display yet, but if you would like, I can give you a private tour of them in the basement. And then I can show you daddy's pristine 1939 Buick in the garage," Anita offered with a warm smile. "I have the keys right here," she said while she opened up a drawer on the counter and removed the keys.

"Thanks for the kind offer, but I'll pass this time, since we have to make it all the way back to Orlando after seeing the train set," Josh replied.

Anita looked hurt with being rejected. "Please come back again as this is a standing offer," she said and hid her rejected feelings.

“I will,” Josh replied but didn’t have any intentions of coming back.

“Oh, head to the rear doors over at the end of the foyer and you’ll walk through a courtyard. At the end of the courtyard is a building where the train set is housed inside the Train House. Please take your time and enjoy daddy’s train set,” she added with a warm smile.

“Thank you,” Josh replied while Ricky looked away disinterested with Anita.

Josh and Ricky walked away from the counter and headed to the rear of the foyer.

Anita ran her tongue around her lips while she checked Josh while he walked to the rear doors. “Mmmm, now that’s some grade A beef,” she quietly said while she drooled over watching the backside of Josh while he and Ricky walked to the rear doors.

Josh and Ricky walked through the courtyard, which was landscaped with beautiful flowers, hedges, trees and stone walkways.

Some the guests also milled around the beautiful courtyard and sat on the provided benches to take in the beautiful sunny day.

Josh and Ricky walked down a stone path that led to a twenty-eight foot by forty foot building without windows and a metal door on three of the four walls. The “Blaine Fisher’s Old Western World Train House” sign was hung over the main entrance into the building located on the side of the building.

Josh and Ricky stepped inside the Train House where the inside was kept at a dry eight-five to ninety degree controlled environment. This was designed to give a desert feel inside the building. Since it was warm inside, numerous water stations were staged around the train set for the thirsty guests.

The lights inside the building also automatically turned on around six thirty in the morning to simulate sunrise and started to dim at seven thirty in the evening and eventually turned off at eight that evening to simulate nighttime.

During the daytime, the ceiling looked like a cloudless blue sky and at nighttime, small lights simulated twinkling stars. By the position of the fake sun in the ceiling, it was now two in the afternoon inside the Train House.

The fake sun was a large orange bulb that slowly moved across the sky starting at the town of Paradise for the simulated sunrise and went behind the peak of the mountains for sunset.

At nighttime, small twinkling lights appeared to simulate stars and a small white bulb was in the sky to simulate a full Moon.

Josh stopped and stared at the train set which filled up ninety percent of the room. The train set was positioned in a east to west orientation.

“That train set is humongous,” said Josh in

awe at the sight it.

“It must have cost a fortune to build this set,” Ricky replied while he stared in awe at the set.

The main entrance door opened up behind them and they moved over a little.

Sara Cooper, a cute and adorable thirty year old female with wavy shoulder length blonde hair entered the Train House and stood next to Josh while she eyed the set. “It’s so large!”

“A lot of women tell me that,” Ricky replied with a joyful smirk while he looked at Sara.

Josh frowned at Ricky. “Stop it,” he mouthed the words to him.

Sara didn’t catch Ricky’s sexual innuendo to her comment about the train set.

Sara walked down the walkway and started checking out the train set.

The Train House had a five-foot walkway along three of the four walls. The train set was on an eighteen foot by twenty-five foot platform placed four feet off the floor and was four hundred and fifty square feet of pure Disney type of imagination. A four-inch high pointed log fence ran all along the edge of the platform to help prevent the visitors from reaching and touching the displays.

At the far western end of the building was a fourteen foot by twenty-eight foot electrical room that housed all the controls for operating the fantasy train set.

The train set was laid out where you first saw the good size western town called Paradise

located at the far eastern end of the set.

At the far western end of the set were some tall rocky mountains where they peaked a foot under the ceiling. Behind those mountains was located that electrical room.

Located on the south side of the set a little ways from Paradise was a vegetable garden and large cornfield.

Located way to the west of the vegetable garden and cornfield was a fenced pasture with numerous cows, pigs, chickens and a large barn.

Located way to the west of the cow pasture was a sawmill where stacks of lumber were visible outside a large barn.

The vegetable garden, cow, pig, and chicken pasture, and sawmill were all in a grassy field. The grassy field also had a small cemetery with two tombstones in the ground located to the south of the sawmill.

The grassy field continued a little ways to the west toward the rocky mountains.

Then a thick forest started and continued to the west toward the mountains.

To the south of the forest was a lake with real water provided from the plumbing of the mansion. To the north of the forest was a large dark brown hole.

The forest ended then there was a desert filled with Saguaro cactus, large boulders, scrub brushes, and other numerous desert plants. The desert ran to the west to the base of the

mountains.

At the south side of the base of the mountains was a cave.

At the north side of the base of the mountains was an Indian camp.

A train track loop ran from the desert near the base of the mountains, snaked through the woods and headed through the field to the outskirts of Paradise where there was a train station.

A dirt trail also ran from the outskirts of Paradise alongside the left side of the train set through the field, through the forest, through the desert and ended at the cave in the mountains.

Josh and Ricky stared in awe at the train set.

“It looks like so life like,” Ricky told Josh.

“Like a miniature world,” Josh replied.

Josh and Ricky walked closer to the train set and stared at the town of Paradise.

The town of Paradise had an entrance on the western end of the town. The entrance consisted of a wood sign with “Paradise” painted on it. That entrance led to the main dirt street called Paradise Lane that ran east and west.

On Paradise Lane were situated a Court House, Marshall’s Office, Dining Hall, Hotel, Saloon, Paradise House of Pleasure, Bank, General Store, Doctor’s Office, Clothing Store, Stable, Laundry, Newspaper shop and a Church.

Each of the two side streets each had seven small Hotels with a row of outhouses.

On the outskirts of Paradise just off the west of the dirt trail was a large two-story fancy mansion with green grass and shade trees.

A wooden fence made out of telephone pole surrounded the town of Paradise and gave it a look of an old western Army fort. The poles were ten feet out of the ground.

Josh and Ricky noticed numerous miniature men, women, a few Cowboys that wore black shirts on horses staged all around the town to give the appearance it was alive.

Josh looked mesmerized while he stared at Paradise. "What a cool place. It looks so peaceful with nobody hurting each other," Josh said while he looked up and down the main street.

On the other wall leaned Charlie Fisher, a fifty-eight year old Train House employee, and brother to Blaine. He kept a watchful over the guests to make sure they don't damage the train set. He also heard Josh's comment and gave a little smile of approval.

The old western train with a one passenger car whistled and black smoke puffed out of its stack while it rolled down the track along the right side of the train set. The train headed to the train station on the outskirts of Paradise.

Josh and Ricky walked down the north side of the train set and watched while the train pulled into the station where there were a few

miniature people waiting.

“Let’s check the other side first then double back here,” Josh told Ricky who nodded in agreement.

They walked over to the south side of the train set and saw more of Paradise.

When they walked down the south walkway and saw the garden with miniature people that appeared to be working.

They looked past the garden and saw the pasture with cows, chickens, and a large pig pen. Then at the edge of the pasture was the barn and the doors were open.

Inside the barn were more cows, chickens, pigs, and more miniature people that appeared to be working.

The train whistle blew and puffs of black poured out of the smoke stack when he pulled away from the Paradise train station.

Josh and Ricky watched while the train headed down the tracks past the mansion, through the field and headed the forest.

Josh and Ricky walked a little farther down the walkway and saw the forest with the dirt trail, and lake.

At the shore of the lake was parked a wagon with a horse and four miniature people that appeared to be collecting water from the lake using buckets. Also on one side of the lake was a small sandy beach where a few miniature people appeared to be lounging on the beach and some were in the water.

Then watched while the train rolled down the tracks through the forest.

They walked a little farther down the walkway and saw a stagecoach, with four horses, staged in the direction toward Paradise on the dirt trail in the middle of the desert. Four Cowboys with black shirts were on horses and were staged just outside the forest on the trail and appeared to be racing at the stagecoach.

Josh and Ricky walked farther down the walkway and checked out the desert.

“This set looks so real,” Josh commented and Ricky nodded his head in agreement.

They got to the end of the walkway and check out the mountains that peaked almost to the ceiling.

They noticed that the dirt trail from Paradise ended at the cave.

“That cave must be for mining gold,” Josh said.

Ricky looked and nodded in agreement with his theory.

“I really love this train set,” Josh told Ricky while he stared at the mountains that looked so real.

“How are you enjoying our display?” Charlie asked Josh and Ricky while he walked up behind them.

“I absolutely love it!” Josh replied with a gleam in his eyes while he looked over the entire set.

“It’s a special place that’s for sure,” Charlie

replied.

“Let’s check out the other side,” Ricky told Josh who nodded in agreement.

Charlie was interested in Josh while he watched them walk back down the walkway and headed to the Paradise end.

While they walked down the walkway by the main entrance, Josh checked out Paradise again. His eyes lit up and looked a little surprised. “That’s weird.”

“What’s weird?” Ricky replied.

“It looks like some of those people in Paradise moved,” Josh told him.

They both stopped and looked at the town of Paradise.

“I believe you’re right,” Ricky responded.

“There must be some type of magnet under the platform that moves the people around to give the appearance the town is alive,” Josh surmised.

“That sounds logical,” Ricky answered then he headed down the walkway to the right of the train set.

They walked down the walkway and checked out the north side of the train set.

They saw the field, then the forest and walked by the desert.

They watched while the train rolled down the tracks while it ran alongside the edge of the mountains then curved back through the desert and headed toward the forest for its trip back to Paradise.

In the desert, they noticed that the four Cowboys on horses were along side the stagecoach that moved closer toward the forest.

“I love how these miniature people move like this train set is alive,” Josh said with a gleam in his eyes.

“This place is really something,” Ricky replied.

They walked to the end of the walkway and saw an Indian camp by the edge of the mountains with Indians, teepees, and a few horses.

The train whistle blew and black smoke puffed out of its smoke stack while the train rolled down the stacks in the forest.

“My great great grandfather was a train engineer back in the old west,” Josh told Ricky.

“Mine was a dirt farmer,” Ricky replied.

“Don’t you wish you lived during the old west days?” Josh asked Ricky.

“In a world without television, video games, and the Internet? No way!” Ricky replied while he looked back at the train set.

“You really love this place,” Charlie said while he walked up to Josh.

“I do,” Josh replied with a smile.

“Since you love this set, your next visit is free,” Charlie said while he handed Josh a free entrance ticket.

“Thank you and I’ll definitely take advantage of this,” Josh replied while he took the ticket.

“Good, we’re opened seven days a week,”

Charlie replied then turned around and walked back down the walkway.

Josh and Ricky exited the Train House and headed back to the mansion.

While they walked through the foyer of the mansion, Anita was busy with some customers, but she still eyed Josh with interest while he walked through the front doors with Ricky.

During the whole drive home back to Orlando and that night, all Josh could think about was that old western train set.

Chapter 3

It was eight that Sunday morning.

The thoughts of Kathy started to slip away from Josh's mind and were replaced by the train set display. So he got better nights sleep.

After his breakfast cereal, Josh drank his coffee from the couch in the living room in a tee shirt and boxers. He stared at the free entrance ticket into the Blaine Fisher's Old Western World Train House.

Josh jumped up from the couch and headed to the bathroom.

An hour later, Josh headed south on the Florida Turnpike for West Palm Beach.

Later that morning, Josh parked in the parking lot and went inside the Fisher mansion.

He entered the mansion foyer and saw Anita working behind the counter.

"You're back!" Anita called out and looked extremely happy to see Josh again.

"Yeah, one of your employees named Charlie gave me a free pass to visit the train set again," Josh replied while he walked over to the counter with the free entrance ticket in his hand.

"Why don't you keep that ticket for another

day? Today's entrance into the Train House is on me," Anita said when Josh handed her the ticket.

"Are you sure?"

"I'm sure," she replied with a warm smile.

"Thanks, you're sweet," he said while he shoved the ticket into his back pants pocket.

Anita smiled over his comment. "If you want, that offer to show you daddy's inventions in the basement is still available," she said with a loving smile.

"I really would love to but after I see the train set again, I need to head back to Orlando. Tomorrow is the start of another hectic week of slaving at my desk," he said.

Anita was disappointed again but hid it well behind her smile. "I understand," she replied.

Anita watched while Josh walked to the rear door of the foyer and stepped outside into the courtyard.

Josh walked through the courtyard where a few guests enjoyed the sunny Florida day and the beautiful flowers. The aroma was magnificent and they just wanted to sit on the benches and soak it all in.

He didn't notice Anita at the foyer doors at the mansion watching him with interest while he entered the Train House.

Josh walked over to the main entrance of the Train House.

He grabbed the handle to the right glass door and spotted Charlie Fisher walk through an all-metal exit door by the northwestern corner of the building with Sara Cooper.

He didn't think anything of it and opened the door and stepped inside the Train House.

Once he got inside the Train House he noticed that there were only four other guests checking out the train set.

He started looking over the town of Paradise from the north side of the set.

Josh noticed that the miniature people were in different positions in the dirt streets of Paradise. No big deal as he thought the magnets under the set were at work.

He walked down the south side of the set and checked out the vegetable garden and cow pasture.

He headed toward the forest and heard a low humming sound coming out from the wall behind the mountains. He didn't think anything about it while he looked at the lake and noticed that the wagon and the miniature people with buckets were gone.

Josh walked down to the desert area.

He then walked and checked out the mountains and saw a wagon with a horse outside the cave.

Josh saw a miniature man and a miniature woman with blonde hair standing just outside the cave by the wagon. He didn't think anything

about it while he turned around, walked down the walkway and headed toward the town of Paradise.

He walked back to the walkway by the main entrance and stopped to look at Paradise.

He could hear the faint sound of a piano playing in the Saloon; a sound he didn't hear yesterday. *That's cool.* He thought to himself thinking about the music coming from the Saloon.

He also thought he smelled the faint smell of steaks emitting from the restaurant.

Howingenious! He thought while he looked at Paradise and believed Blaine Fisher even provided sounds and smells to make Paradise come alive.

He heard the low humming sound coming out from the wall behind the mountains. He looked and noticed that the two miniature people that were by the cave were gone. He didn't think anything of it and walked around the set.

Josh spent ten more minutes checking out Paradise and enjoying the sounds and smells.

"You came back," Charlie voice was heard.

Josh looked and saw Charlie while he walked down the walkway from the other end where the right exit door was located.

"Yeah and thanks for the free pass," Josh replied.

"You're welcome. So, what's your name?" Charlie asked while he walked up to Josh.

“Josh Bryant.”

“I’m Charlie Fisher and my brother built this train set,” he said.

“Wow, I’m extremely impressed,” Josh replied while he glanced at the set and watched while the train bellowed out puffs of black smoke, and whistled while it rolled through the forest and headed toward Paradise. “I could stay here all day and watch this set, but I have to get back to my crappy life in Orlando,” Josh added.

Charlie’s ears perked up and knew this was his cue to pry. “What’s wrong my friend?” he asked and faked a look of concern.

“Well, my true love just dumped me for another man, and I hate my job with a passion,” Josh replied and looked sad.

“I’m sorry to hear about that,” Charlie replied and patted Josh’s shoulder to show his support.

“I sorta wished I lived in a town like Paradise,” Josh said while looked at the old western town.

Josh and Charlie watched while the train stopped at the train station in Paradise.

Charlie looked around and saw that the other four people were on the other side of the set by the mountains. The coast was clear so he leaned closer to Josh. “I’ll let you in on a secret. You know, this set is magical. And when I say magical, I mean it’s *magical*,” Charlie quietly told Josh.

Josh’s ears perked up and looked curious.

“What?”

Charlie inched closer to Josh. “There’s a portal that transcends you into another dimension,” he said quietly to Josh.

“Another dimension? What do you mean?”

Charlie looked around to make sure the other guests were not near them. “I mean, this set will come alive in this other dimension,” he told Charlie in a lower tone.

Josh looked at the set in awe. “You mean a real life old western town?”

“I mean a real peaceful life in loving western town,” Charlie replied.

“Man, I wish I could find a new life in a town like Paradise,” Josh said while he looked back at the town.

“The sixty-nine kind hearted people who live in Paradise are folks that don’t have any family here in this world and want a new life where they’ll be respected and loved,” Charlie told Josh with a warm smile.

“My parents are deceased and I was a lonely child. I have some cousins, but haven’t seen them in over twenty years,” he said while he continued to look at Paradise. “I could live there,” he added with a smile.

Charlie placed an arm around Josh’s shoulder. “Your new life in Paradise costs twenty thousand dollars.”

“Twenty thousand dollars? That’s a lot of cash,” Josh replied and looked a little worried about spending that amount of money.

“You told me your life sucks. So why not live in a beautiful permanent vacation like Paradise? You can live in a place where the women treat you with love and respect. You can live in a place where you no longer have to pay for room or for food,” Charlie replied.

“How do I know you’re not trying to swindle me?” Josh asked bluntly.

“I’ll give you an introductory tour for forty dollars and you can see for yourself that I’m not trying to swindle you,” Charlie replied. “We’ll come out where the wagon is parked at the cave,” Charlie added while he pointed at the cave.

Josh looked and saw the miniature wagon by the cave in the mountain. He nodded in agreement, as his curiosity was peaked.

“Follow me my friend,” Charlie told Josh.

He followed Charlie while he walked down the walkway and left the building through the main entrance door.

Josh followed Charlie to the northwestern corner of the building that all-metal door.

It had a cipher lock and an “Electrical Hazards – Do Not Enter” sign.

Charlie punched in a code into the cipher lock and a click was heard. “Please enter,” he said while he held the door open for Josh.

Josh entered a room and Charlie closed and the door automatically locked.

Josh looked around the room and saw it was full of numerous large electrical control panels full of gauges, switches and different colored lights, a computer monitor with keyboard, and a “Main Power” switch by the door.

There was a strange low frequency hum that emitted from all the electrical equipment.

There also appeared to be miles and miles of wires that ran from those electrical control panels to the roof of a glass booth.

“Wow!” Josh said while he looked around the room.

“This electrical room controls the train set and operates that glass booth that is the portal to the magical dimension of Paradise,” Charlie told him.

Charlie walked Josh to the glass booth and opened the door.

Josh stepped inside the booth.

Charlie entered the booth and closed the door.

The booth only had room for four people for a tight squeeze.

Josh saw a keyboard by a flat screen monitor near the door.

There was a rear door of the booth and all Josh saw was an eerie blackness on that side of the booth.

Charlie typed in his password then a “Paradise” program window appeared. Charlie clicked on the “Transport to Paradise” radio button and another page appeared that looked

like a control panel. Charlie used the mouse and did a sequence of clicking on buttons, typing in settings and flipping switches.

Bright lights filled the glass of the booth like fireworks.

A whirling sound filled the inside of the booth.

The entire booth vibrated.

Then psychedelic colors filled the glass of the booth.

The glass booth started spinning.

Josh and Charlie cringed in pain while the booth spun.

The spinning of the booth dissipated.

The psychedelic colors in the glass dissipated.

The vibration of the booth dissipated.

The firework lights from the glass dissipated.

There was silence and Josh looked around the booth a little dazed. He looked at the rear door and saw walls of a cave with lit Kerosene torches outside the glass booth.

Charlie opened the rear door with a wish. "Come my friend," he said.

Josh stepped out of the booth and Charlie joined him.

They walked through the cave where other kerosene torches were imbedded in the cave walls.

Josh and Charlie walked out of the cave

opening.

Josh looked around and stared in awe at the desert.

“It looks exactly like the train set!” he said then saw the wagon with the horse.

“I told you this place is magical,” Charlie replied with a pat on Josh’s back.

Josh looked up and the sky looked so blue and real with the sun in the one in the afternoon position. He looked extremely curious. “How come I can’t see the guests staring down at us? I mean, they would look like giants,” Josh asked while he looked all over the sky for some huge heads looking down at them.

“We are now in a magical dimension so the guests at the Train House don’t exist,” Charlie replied.

“Ah,” Josh replied while he continued to stare up at the sky.

The train whistle blew from the desert.

Josh saw the train while it rolled down the track and headed toward the cave.

“There’s the train and it’s just like the one from the set!” he called out all excited.

“That’s the one,” Charlie replied and got a kick out of Josh being so excited. He knew he had another bite.

Josh watched while the train rolled down the tracks and turned and headed in the direction of the Indian camp.

“This place is magical,” Josh said while he watched the train roll down the tracks.

“Now, like I said, if you want to live in Paradise, it costs twenty thousand dollars. That seems like a lot of money, but someone has to pay for running the town,” Charlie said.

Josh thought about his statement for a few seconds. “When you put it that way, it doesn’t seem like that much money,” Josh replied.

“How long do people normally stay here?” Josh curiously asked.

“This place has been home for most of the residents for the past year,” Charlie told him.

“What if you wanted to leave?”

“Well, we’ve had a few people leave. We would prorate your money if you leave during the first two years. After that, we don’t offer any full refunds because of the cost of running the place.”

“That’s understandable,” Josh said while he watched the train way off in the distance head toward the Indian camp.

Josh glanced around the area again. He noticed the tall pointed poles that were the edge of this world. But in one sense, it looked like the stockade walls of an old western Calvary fort. Josh figured it was to prevent people from falling over the edge of this world. A world that started to intrigued him.

“And your taste of Paradise is over,” Charlie told Josh and motioned that they should venture back into the cave.

Charlie and Josh walked back through the

cave and walked to the glass booth.

Charlie opened the door to the booth and Josh stepped inside.

Charlie stepped inside the booth and closed the door.

Charlie typed in his password then the “Paradise” program console window reappeared. Charlie used the mouse and did the standard sequence of clicking on buttons, typing in settings and flipping switches.

Bright lights filled the glass of the booth like fireworks.

A whirling sound filled the inside of the booth.

The entire booth vibrated.

Then psychedelic colors filled the glass of the booth.

The glass booth started spinning.

Josh and Charlie cringed in pain while the booth spun.

The spinning of the booth dissipated.

The psychedelic colors in the glass dissipated.

The vibration of the boot dissipated.

The fireworks lights from the glass dissipated.

There was silence and Josh looked around the booth a little dazed. He looked at the front door and saw the numerous electrical panels inside the electrical room.

Charlie opened the front door and Josh stepped out of the booth.

While Charlie closed the door of the booth, Josh removed his wallet and removed forty dollars. He handed it to Charlie who shoved it in his pants pocket.

“What do you think?” Charlie asked Josh while he shoved the cash into his pocket.

“I’m thinking I want to live in Paradise,” Josh replied with a huge grin thinking he found a better life.

“Okay, be here at high noon on Tuesday. Anita at the counter can show you our special gift shop where you can buy some western attire appropriate for living in Paradise. Bring your twenty thousand dollars in cash in a cloth bag. And no weapons or electronic devices are allowed,” Charlie told him.

“Why cash and no electronic devices?”

“Because electronic devices, checks or credit cards didn’t exist in the old western days. We want it as authentic as we can make it,” Charlie replied.

“That makes sense,” Josh said.

Charlie placed a hand on Josh’s shoulder with a warm smile. “We’ll be your loving family and don’t tell a soul about this land of Paradise,” he said then chuckled. “Even if you did, nobody would believe you and think you went loony after we deny everything,” he added.

“I won’t,” Josh replied.

“Good, now, you can bring other cash for deposit in the Paradise National Bank for buying toiletries items and other small stuff. And don’t

worry, it's safe there in that bank," Charlie said with looked sincere.

"What if I wanted to return here for a couple of days to sell my house or take care of some other business?"

"That's not a problem, as lots of people come back for a month for that particular reason. But if you don't check back in with Anita after a week, we assume that you don't want to return and we'll prorate your refund by a couple of days," Charlie replied.

"That sounds reasonable," Josh.

"Well, go home and think it over and like I said earlier, be in the foyer at high noon on Tuesday. We only have an opening for one more individual. And if you decide to join us on Tuesday, use the entrance that states "For Employees Only" and you can park your car in that lot," Charlie said then he walked Jason to the door.

He punched in the cipher code he opened the door and stepped outside with Josh.

"Take care my friend and I really hope to see you again," Charlie said then he went back inside the electrical room. The door closed and locked.

Josh stared at the door for a few seconds and the thought of living in Paradise sounded appealing.

He walked back through the courtyard and headed to the mansion.

He entered the foyer and headed to the counter.

Anita's eyes lit up when she saw Josh walking to her counter.

"Did you enjoy your second visit?" she asked with a gleam in her eyes.

"Yes," Josh replied then looked to make sure nobody was close-by. "Charlie told me that I could purchase some western attire from you," he quietly asked.

"Ah, you went on the special tour," she replied with a wink. "Follow me," she said then placed a "Be Back In twenty Minutes" sign on the counter.

Josh followed Anita through the foyer, down a hallway to a locked door. After Anita unlocked the door, she escorted Josh into a room where men and women's old western clothes and hats were on display to be sold.

An hour later, Josh spent two hundred dollars on some cowboy boots, cowboy hat, jeans, western shirts, cloth bag, and an old western cloth suitcase.

Anita was in heaven knowing that Josh would live in Paradise while she reached in a drawer of the counter and removed a form.

"Have this application for Residency in Paradise filled out when you return on Tuesday," Anita said and handed Josh the form.

Josh took the form and looked it over. "Okay," he said then walked to the front door.

The drive back up the Florida Turnpike was filled with happy thoughts of living in Paradise.

Back in his home, Josh thought about Paradise all night while he watched old western movies on his DVD player.

Josh woke up at seven on Monday morning and was raring to prepare for a new life in Paradise.

After Josh showered, ate his Chocolate Lucky Charms and drank a few cups of coffee, he opened up his cell phone and punched in a number.

“George Branson,” he answered the call.

“George, Josh Bryan. Listen, I need to take care of some important business this morning. I’m going to take four vacation hours. I’ll be in after lunch,” Josh said into the cell phone.

“First of all, you’re late for work. Second, you know company policy on advance notice for vacation hours. Besides, I need status on your program at ten,” George replied and sounded a little pissed.

Josh looked at cell phone and got a smirk. “Like I said, I’ll be in sometime after lunch,” Josh snapped back.

“No!” George yelled back.

Josh disconnected the call with another smirk, got up and strutted out of the kitchen. It felt so good to disagree with his jerk of a boss.

Later that morning, Josh headed to his SunTrust bank and moved sixty percent of his money into a three-year CD. He was planning on staying in Paradise for three years and thought it would have a nice little next egg when he returned. He also got thirty thousand dollars in cash, which took a while for them to gather.

He then headed to the Post Office and placed a stop order on all his mail. He told the Post Office personnel he would return in a couple of weeks to pick up his mail.

It was one fifteen that afternoon.

Josh went to work and instead of heading straight to his cubicle, he decided to visit Kathy.

Josh started to enter Kathy's cubicle but stopped by the entrance the second he heard Paul's voice.

"So you and Josh are no longer an item?" Paul asked Kathy.

"We're finished. He's too boring for me and won't amount to much. Not like you, with all your high flying adventures," Kathy replied

Josh wanted to run in there and give Kathy a piece of her mind, but decided she wasn't worth the words.

He walked away and headed to his cubicle.

After Josh sat at his desk and powered up his computer, George Branson stormed inside

the cubicle.

“In my office now,” George barked out then stormed out of Josh’s cubicle.

“What ever,” Josh said quietly in a smartass tone to himself while he opened up a Word file on his computer and started typing out a letter.

Josh walked into George’s office a five minutes later.

“I said I wanted you in my office now!” George yelled at Josh.

Josh walked up to George’s desk with a smirk. He slapped a letter on the desk in front of his boss. “I quit,” Josh said with another smirk.

George was a little stunned while he picked up the paper and read Josh’s letter of resignation.

“But,” he said then stopped the rest of his words when he saw Josh leaving his office.

George rushed through the office area and went into Josh’s cubicle. It was empty and Josh was nowhere to be found.

George rushed to the side of the building where windows provided a view of the parking lot.

Later that night, Josh was in his kitchen and ate a huge dinner since he wanted to eat most of the food he had in the refrigerator. While he ate, he filled out the application for Residency in Paradise and looked forward to beginning his new life.

After dinner, Josh started securing his house then his cell phone rang and he removed it off his belt.

“Hey Ricky,” he answered when he looked at the viewfinder.

“What the hell is going on with you? I heard that you up and quit today with no advanced notice?” Ricky replied from the cell phone and sounded concerned.

“I really need a change in my life. They would probably fire me anyway once they found out I was so far behind on my Ford software program,” Josh replied.

“What are you going to do?”

“I’m going to leave the area for a while and try to start over with a new life.”

“Where are you going?” Ricky curiously asked.

“I’m heading out west,” Josh replied.

“Arizona?”

“Yeah,” Josh lied.

“Stay in touch. I’m also getting tired of my job, so maybe I’ll join you some day,” Ricky said.

“I’ll be back in a few months to sell my house and we can talk about that then,” Josh responded.

“Well, good luck my friend and we’ll talk when you return,” Ricky said.

“I will,” Josh replied then he disconnected the call.

He returned to securing his house for his new life in Paradise.

Chapter 4

Josh woke up bright and early at six on Tuesday morning.

He was so excited about spending a new life in Paradise.

After he showered, he went into his kitchen and ate a huge breakfast to help clean out his refrigerator.

Josh bagged all his perishables from the kitchen and threw them in a nearby restaurant dumpster. He also turned off his cable and terminated his cell phone contract.

It was now nine-thirty that morning and Josh was dressed up in one of his western outfits.

He turned off all the water and unplugged all his appliances, and locked his house and then headed south on the Florida Turnpike.

Josh pulled into the Employees Parking lot of the mansion at eleven fifty-six that morning.

He parked his car where there were three other cars and a pickup truck also parked in the employee's lot

He got out of his car with his cowboy hat, with cloth suitcase, and cloth bag in hand while he strutted to the mansion.

Josh entered the foyer of the mansion and saw Sara Cooper, in plain light blue western dress, laced up brown boots, while she waited by Linda Bronson, a thirty-two year old cute chubby woman in a plain brown western dress and laced up brown boots. Both ladies looked excited about living in Paradise while they waited by the counter.

“Hi Josh,” Anita called out from behind the counter with a gleam in her eyes at the sight of him.

“Howdy Anita,” Josh replied in a cowpoke tone.

On the wall behind them was a clock that chimed the second the hands met at high noon.

Josh walked up to the two ladies and removed his cowboy hat. “Good day, I’m Josh Bryant,” he greeted them still using his cowpoke tone.

“I’m Sara Cooper.”

“And I’m Linda Bronson.”

Charlie entered through the rear doors of the foyer dressed in old western attire and a cowboy hat.

“I see everybody showed up,” he said while he walked over to Josh and the ladies.

“Now, if I can have your application forms, I’ll process them into the computer,” he said while he held out a hand.

Josh, Sara, and Linda all handed Charlie their completed forms.

“I’ll be back in a few minutes,” Charlie told

them then he walked behind the counter and opened the door that led to a small office.

While Charlie was in the small office, Anita had love in her eyes while she stared at Josh, which started making him feel uncomfortable.

Five minutes later, Charlie came out of the small office and walked back over to everybody.

“I did background checks and everybody looks honest without a major criminal record and I also got you in our system,” Charlie said while he stopped at Laura and had a smirk while he discovered her minor arrest record.

He walked over and looked at Josh and Sara and looked over their attire. “Are you all ready for a life in Paradise?” Charlie asked with a huge smile.

“You bet!” Josh replied.

Sara and Linda nodded in agreement with huge grins.

“That’s great. Now I have to check for your cash, weapons or other electronic devices,” Charlie told them.

Charlie frisked Sara, checked her cloth suitcase and then she showed her cloth bag with cash.

Charlie frisked Linda, checked her cloth suitcase and found an iPhone. “Paradise can’t be the old west with electronic devices. You’ll get this back if you decide to leave,” Charlie said then placed her iPhone on the top of the counter.

“I’m sorry, I forgot,” Linda said.

“That’s okay my dear,” Charlie replied while he checked out her cloth bag with the cash.

Charlie frisked John, checked his cloth suitcase and then he showed his cloth bag with cash.

“Everything looks in order. Now, you’ll make your payment once you arrive in Paradise. So if you’ll follow me, I’ll take you to your new life,” Charlie told them with a warm smile.

Josh, Sara and Linda grabbed their cloth suitcases and followed Charlie through the foyer to the rear door.

Anita watched while Josh left and she had sweet thoughts of marrying him in the future and bearing his children. She wanted five kids.

Josh, Sara, and Linda followed Charlie while he walked through the courtyard and walked around to the other side of the Train House building.

Charlie opened the back door to the Train House and they all entered the electrical room.

Inside the room, Rodney Worley, a forty-five year old man with shoulder length brown hair waited inside by the glass booth wearing old western attire and a cowboy. He was cousin to Blaine and Charlie Fisher and donated one hundred thousand dollars for the construction of the land of Paradise.

Charlie closed and locked the door then looked at Josh, Sara and Linda. “That’s our

stagecoach driver, Rodney Worley. He's going to help me transport you to Paradise since the booth will be a tight fit with your suitcases," Charlie told them.

"I'll take the ladies first," Rodney said and motioned for Sara and Linda to join him at the booth.

Rodney opened up the front booth door and Sara and Linda entered with their suitcases. Rodney entered the booth and closed the door behind him.

Josh and Charlie watched while bright lights filled the glass of the booth like fireworks.

A whirling sound filled the inside of the booth.

The entire booth vibrated.

Then psychedelic colors filled the glass of the booth.

The glass booth started spinning.

Sara, Linda, and Rodney cringed in pain while the booth spun.

The spinning of the booth dissipated.

The psychedelic colors in the glass dissipated.

The vibration of the boot dissipated.

The lights from the glass dissipated.

Josh and Charlie saw that the booth was empty.

"They've arrived and it's now your turn," Charlie told Josh then walked him to the glass booth.

It was its normal beautiful sunny blue sky in the land of Paradise.

Outside the cave opening, Sara, and Linda waited by the stagecoach with their suitcases while Rodney climbed up and sat down in his small wooden bench seat.

Josh and Charlie walked out of the cave opening and headed to the stagecoach.

Charlie opened up the stagecoach door. "Ladies," he said in a polite tone.

Sara climbed inside the stagecoach with her suitcase and Charlie assisted.

Laura climbed inside the stagecoach with her suitcase and Charlie assisted.

Josh climbed inside stagecoach with his suitcase and Charlie closed the door.

Charlie leaned into one of the opened windows of the door. "Now, there's an Indian camp over there," Charlie said while he pointed in the direction of the Indians. "But don't be alarmed, we have pistols, the Indians don't but they're friendly and leave us alone," he added.

From inside the stagecoach, Sara and Linda sat across from Josh and they all looked a worried while they remembered all those Cowboys and Indian movies they've watched in the past.

"I forgot about the Indian camp," Josh said while he looked out the window and saw the Tee Pee's off in the desert.

"He did say they were friendly," Linda added

while she and Sara also saw the Tee Pee's off in the desert.

"The old west wouldn't be the old west without Indians," Josh said.

"Plus he said they don't have any guns," Sara added.

Josh and Linda nodded in agreement and they all felt safe with Indians living in the land of Paradise.

Charlie had a smirk while he climbed up and sat next to Rodney in the driver's seat. "Let's head to Paradise," he told Rodney.

Rodney grabbed the reins. "Yaaaa!" he called out while he snapped the reins.

The stagecoach bucked while the horses took off and headed down the dirt trail.

Sara, Linda and Josh all looked out their windows while the stagecoach rode down the dirt trail.

"I'm really looking forward for a simple life here in Paradise," Linda said.

"I figured I would stay for a couple of years. I thought it would be a new adventure," Sara added.

"I plan on staying for about three years. Unless I find a sweet woman to settle down with," Josh replied while he looked at Sara and Linda.

"That's a change from the guys I know," Linda replied.

"Tell me about it. That's the main reason I

wanted to get away. My husband divorced me and ran off with a twenty year old skinny woman,” Sara responded while her eyes welled up a little recalling that heart breaking experience.

“I was about to get fired from my job and when I was going to propose to my girlfriend, I caught her in a romantic encounter with a coworker,” Josh told the ladies while his eyes welled up a bit.

Sara and Linda felt sorry for Josh.

“I’m not in the market for another man, but I hope you find someone in Paradise,” Linda said with a comforting smile.

“I’m not either, but I also hope you find someone special,” Sara added with her comforting smile.

“Thanks,” Josh replied then the whistle of the train was heard.

They all looked and saw the old western train while it rolled down the track in the desert with train engineer Elmer working the engine.

They watched and saw the “Paradise Express” name on the passenger car with four people inside, while it rolled down the tracks.

“This place is so cool!” Josh said while he watched the Paradise Express roll down the tracks.

Sara and Linda both nodded in agreement while they watched the Paradise Express roll down the tracks.

Sara, Linda, and Josh checked out the

Saguaro cactus, scrub brushes and other desert vegetation.

Sara looked concerned. "I wonder if they have rattlesnakes out in the land of Paradise?" she asked Linda and Josh.

They all looked out in the desert for signs of the slithery creature.

"I hope not. I can't stand snakes," Josh said while he continued to look out his window.

A little while later, the stagecoach was down the dirt trail and in the forest full of pine and oak trees. There were some visible stumps where some trees were cut down for the sawmill to build the town.

Suddenly gunfire from a pistol was heard and it caused Sara, Laura, and Josh to jump startled.

"What's going on?" Linda asked a little scared.

"An Indian attack?" Sara asked a little scared.

They all looked scared then it dawned on Josh. "Charlie did state that the Indians don't have guns," he told the ladies.

More gunfire from two pistols was heard and Sara, Linda, and Josh looked scared to death.

"Whoa!" Rodney yelled out while he pulled back on the reins.

Sara, Linda and Josh almost fell out of their seats while the stagecoach came to a quick stop.

“I hope the Indians didn’t steal some guns and we’re going to be scalped!” Josh said while he ran his right hand through his hair.

The door to the stagecoach suddenly flung opened.

Outside were four Cowboys, Dale, Butch, with a face full of acne scars, Tim, and Billy, all wearing black shirts, black pants and black cowboy hats with both of their Colt 45 pistols drawn.

“Get out!” Butch yelled at everybody inside the stagecoach.

Josh, Sara, and Linda looked at each other in disbelief then they looked at the four Cowboys.

“He said, get out!” Billy yelled while he cocked his Colt 45 pistols.

“Bring your bags of cash!” Dale added while he cocked his Colt 45 pistols.

Josh got out then he assisted Sara, and Linda out of the stagecoach.

They stood by the stagecoach door and shook a little in fear.

“Give us those bags of cash!” Dale yelled.

Butch walked over to Linda and glared into her eyes.

Linda’s hand trembled while she held out her bag of cash.

Butch snatched the bag out of her hand and moved back to his four buddies.

Tim walked up to Sara and glared in her eyes.

Sara's hand trembled while she held out her bag of cash.

Tim stayed there, gazed into Sara's eyes, and he moved closer to her face.

She cringed, as Tim's breath was horrendous and she moved away.

Tim grabbed the back of her head, forced her lips to his and he kissed her.

Dale walked up to Josh while he held up his bag of cash. Dale snatched the bag out of Josh's hand and stepped away.

Josh looked and saw Sara while she tried to push Tim away from her lips, but he continued to force a kiss on her.

He moved away from Sara and she immediately slapped him across his face. Tim got pissed and he slapped Sara across her face. Tim went to slap her again but Josh jumped in and instantly grabbed his arm.

Tim got furious, and whacked Josh across his forehead with the butt of his pistol handle.

Josh dropped to the dirt unconscious.

Tim snatched Sara's bag out of her hand.

Dale, Tim, Butch, and Billy all had smirks on their faces at the sight of Josh on the ground.

They ran off and jumped on their horses.

"Yaaaa!" Billy yelled out and the four Cowboys raced their horses down the dirt trail toward the direction of Paradise.

Linda and Sara knelt down to Josh's aid.

Charlie and Rodney got down from the stagecoach and walked over to Sara and Linda.

They looked down at Josh still unconscious in the dirt.

Sara looked up at them and was upset. "Why didn't you help stop those robbers?"

Charlie and Rodney picked up Josh by his arms and legs then placed him inside the stagecoach.

"It's how you make your payment, old western style. One of the Cowboys was probably drunk," Charlie told the ladies.

"It's all a show to give you that old western feel," Rodney added.

"This forced kissing and hitting has never happened in the past. I'll bring it up with the Marshall and he'll send that cowboy out of Paradise since we have strict laws against violence," Charlie told the ladies.

Sara and Linda felt better with his explanation.

"Let's get back in the stagecoach and head to Paradise," Charlie said with a warm smile.

He assisted Sara and Linda in the stagecoach and closed the door.

Charlie and Rodney climbed up the stagecoach and sat back down in the seat.

Rodney grabbed the reins. "Yaaaa!" he yelled out and the horses pulled the stagecoach down the dirt trail.

Rodney and Charlie glanced at each other with the same smirk over what just happened.

Inside the stagecoach, Sara and Linda

looked at Josh who lay in the seat across from them still unconscious.

“I’m wondering if I made a mistake coming to Paradise?” Sara said to Linda.

Linda thought about Sara’s comment for a few seconds while she looked at Josh. “This could be a fluke like Charlie stated. He said they’ll make that cowboy leave Paradise,” Linda replied.

Charlie and Rodney heard Sara and Linda’s conversation down below and they both had smirks on their faces while the stagecoach raced down the dirt trail.

Later that day, the stagecoach pulled into Paradise on Paradise Lane.

Sara and Linda looked out the stagecoach windows and saw that all the building of Paradise was of wooden construction with siding exteriors. At the front of each building was an elevated wood plank sidewalk and porch roof with hitching posts. The buildings were not painted and the wood was allowed to weather for its natural color.

The stagecoach drove near the far northeastern end of Paradise lane.

It stopped at Doc Holloway’s Office building located on the north side of the street.

Charlie and Rodney climbed down from the stagecoach and walked over and opened up the door.

“Welcome to Paradise Ladies. If you please exit the coach, we’ll take Mister Bryant to see Doc Holloway and then we’ll escort you to your rooms,” Charlie said in a polite tone.

He assisted Sara and Linda out of the stagecoach then he reached inside and placed their suitcases on the dirt street.

Linda and Sara looked around and saw the saloon across the street with the Undertaker’s Office to its right. They saw the white church to the right of Doc Holloway’s Office and the laundry building to its right.

Charlie and Rodney got Josh out and carried him by his arms and legs to the door of Doc Holloway’s Office.

The inside of Doc Holloway’s Office had a main room, an examination room and two bedrooms for the patients.

Jenny Burns was a twenty five year old beautiful brunette with soft brown eyes in an old western nurses dress.

She heard a bang on the door, walked over and opened it.

She moved aside while Charlie and Rodney carried Josh inside.

“What happened?” Jenny asked while she looked at Josh.

“Tim was a little too drunk and roughed up one of our new guests,” Charlie told her.

“Doc Holloway isn’t here at the moment, but you can place him in that room,” she said while

she walked them to a small bedroom.

Charlie and Rodney carried Josh into the bedroom and plopped him on the bed.

Jenny watched while they walked out of the room and headed to the front door.

After they left the office, Jenny walked into the bedroom to check out Josh.

Back on Paradise Lane, Charlie walked over to Sara and Linda while Rodney climbed back up to his seat on the stagecoach.

“Yaaaa!” Rodney called out while he snapped the reins and the horses pulled the stagecoach down Paradise Lane.

“Follow me ladies,” Charlie told them while he picked up their suitcases and walked down Paradise Lane.

The two ladies followed Charlie and were impressed he acted like a gentleman and carried their suitcases.

“I’m thinking I can get use to this way of life,” Sara told Laura.

“It’s been a long time since I had a man act like a gentleman,” Laura replied.

Sara nodded in agreement with Laura’s statement.

A little while later, Charlie walked Sara and Linda to the one of the seven Paradise Hotels located on both sides of a side street called Fisher’s Lane. It was located on the north side of Paradise.

This hotel was called Fisher's Lane Hotel #3 and was a one-story wooden building with six rooms.

There was another side street on the south side of town called Blaine's Lane where there were seven hotels located and each one was a one-story wooden building with six rooms. Behind each hotel were located two wooden outhouses.

A little while later, Sara and Linda were in their rooms, which was a nine-foot by ten-foot room with a single bed, chair, dresser and a stand-alone closet. It was a simple room for a simple old western lifestyle.

Sara settled into her room and relaxed until it was time for supper at the Paradise Dining Hall.

Laura also settled into her room and relaxed until it was time for supper.

Later that night, the sun had already disappeared and the sky was full of twinkling stars with a bright full Moon.

Kerosene lanterns lit up all the streets and building of Paradise.

Inside the bedroom of Doc Holloway's Office, Josh lay in the bed still unconscious in his clothes with a huge goose egg on his forehead.

Jenny walked into the room and looked over

Josh to make sure he was okay.

Josh stirred in the bed and his eyes slowly opened. He looked around, and was groggy, dazed and confused. His eyes lit up the second he saw Jenny looking down at him. “Are you an Angel?”

Jenny chuckled over his question. “No. You’re alive and in Paradise.”

Josh cringed in pain with a throbbing headache. “Oh yeah. They robbed and beat me and I have a pounding headache,” he said while he felt the goose egg on his forehead.

Jenny touched Josh’s shoulder. “You need your sleep. Let me give you some pain medicine to help you,” she said then she turned around and headed to the door.

Josh watched with interest while Jenny walked out of the room and headed to a medicine cabinet in the main room.

A little while later, Jenny walked back into the room with two pain pills and a glass of water.

She gave Josh the pills and water and he immediately swallowed the pills.

“My name is Josh Bryant and I just arrived in Paradise.”

“I’m Jenny Burns, the town nurse. Larry Holloway is the town doctor.”

Jenny walked over to a stand-up closet and opened the door and removed a blanket.

She walked back to Josh and covered him. “Get some sleep and I’ll see you in the morning,”

she said then blew out the Kerosene lantern in the room and closed the door when she left.

Jenny went into the extra bedroom and closed the door, as she used this room when a patient stayed in the other bedroom.

She got undressed and wore a long nightgown.

She got under the covers and started to think about Josh, as she was interested in him.

Chapter 5

The sun rose precisely at six-thirty that Wednesday morning in the land of Paradise.

Josh was sound asleep in the bedroom in Doc Holloway's Office.

"Ahhh!" Gus screamed from the examination area and Josh heard that and bolted up on his sleep.

"Ahhh!" Gus screamed again from the examination room and his screams filled the entire office.

Josh got curious and got out of the bed.

He rushed out of the bedroom and headed into the main area.

"Ahhh!" Gus screamed louder while Josh walked through the main area and headed to the examination room.

Josh walked to the doorway of the examination room as saw Gus Daily, a sixty-five year old man with a head full of white hair on his back on a wooden table.

Doc Larry Holloway, a sixty year old man with a rough complexion and red swollen drunkard's nose, sawed on Gus leg below the knee.

"Ahhh!" Gus squirmed while he screamed and was held down with rope tied around the table.

“Let’s give him something to knock him out,” Jenny told Doc Holloway.

Doc Holloway grabbed a nearby whiskey bottle off a table. He pulled the cork out with his teeth. He took a healthy swig. “Here Gus,” he said while he poured whiskey in Gus’ mouth causing him to gag.

Jenny felt Josh’s presence in the doorway and she smiled when she saw him. “Good morning, Josh,” she said with a warm smile.

Doc Holloway turned and saw Josh in the doorway.

Josh nodded while he stared in shock at the sight before him. Josh looked sick then he rushed away before he vomited on the floor.

Doc Holloway laughed at that sight.

Jenny looked bothered with Doc Holloway’s attitude.

Josh rushed into the bedroom, grabbed his cowboy hat and rushed out of the room.

Josh rushed out of Doc Holloway’s Office and stood in Paradise Lane. He could still hear the screams of Gus from inside the building.

Josh rushed away down Paradise Lane that had numerous piles of road apples left from the horses.

Josh looked in awe at the town of Paradise while he walked down Paradise Lane and felt like he stepped back in time into the old west.

“This place looks exactly like the train set,” he said while he saw the bank.

Joe and Wendy, a middle-aged married couple, approached Josh while they took their daily stroll down Paradise Lane.

“Hello,” Josh said in a warm polite tone.

“Hello,” Joe replied and Kathy gave Josh a warm smile while they walked past him.

Josh walked down Paradise Lane and passed by the Paradise National Bank that was on his right.

He looked to his left and saw the Paradise General Store across the street.

Josh walked a little farther down Paradise Lane and saw the Paradise Marshall’s Office to his right then looked to his left and saw the Paradise Dining Hall across the street.

Josh walked a little farther down Paradise Lane and saw the Paradise Court House to his right then looked to his left and saw the Paradise House of Pleasure across the street. Josh thought it was some type of nightclub.

Josh walked farther down Paradise Lane and a horse stable to his right where the stagecoach was housed. He looked across the street and saw the Paradise Main Hotel to his left across the street. This hotel was a two-story hotel with thirty-four rooms only for the Cowboys.

Josh glanced over at the front porch of the hotel where he saw more Cowboys that wore black shirts. There was Kirby, Hal, Frank, and Paul who stood on the front porch like they owned the hotel.

“Hello,” Josh said while he tipped his cowboy hat at the four Cowboys

Kirby, Hal, Frank, and Paul didn’t respond and just kept a cautious eye on Josh while he walked down the street.

“Not very friendly,” Josh quietly said to himself while he walked down the street.

Josh turned around and walked back down Paradise Lane.

He saw Mindy Stone, a thirty year old beautiful pregnant woman who moped depressed down the street staring at the dirt.

“Hello ma-am,” Josh said and tipped his cowboy hat at Mindy.

She just stared at the dirt while she headed in the direction of the Paradise Main Hotel and ignored Josh’s greeting.

Josh shrugged her off, as he walked down the street.

Josh got back down Paradise Lane near Doc Holloway’s Office and stopped. He looked down the street and glanced at all the buildings. He was looking forward to his new old western life.

Josh remembered the goose egg on his forehead and decided he had some business to attend.

He turned around and walked down Paradise Lane and headed back to the Marshall’s Office.

The Marshall’s Office was your typical office

with wooden floors, a pot belly stove with old fashion coffee pot that always contained strong coffee, two desks, two small six-foot by five-foot jail cells with small barred windows, and no Wanted posters on the wall.

Charlie lounged in one of the desk chairs with his cowboy boots kicked up on his desk. His cowboy hat was tipped forward and covered his eyes while he took a nap. He also had a deputy's badge pinned to his shirt and wore a holster with two Colt 45 pistols.

Josh walked up to Charlie's desk while he snored.

"Ah, excuse me," Josh said.

Charlie continued to snore in his chair.

Josh knocked on Charlie's desk.

Charlie slowly lifted his hat out of his eyes and glared at Josh. "Why did you wake me up?" he said a little pissed.

Josh's eyes widen with surprise when he recognized Charlie. "It's you!"

"Yep, Paradise recruiter and deputy," he replied with a cocky smirk.

"Then you know I got robbed and beaten yesterday,"

Charlie chuckled while he recalled yesterday's incident. "That's how you make your payment into Paradise. We thought that it would add to the old west feel," he said.

"By robbing us then beating you?" Josh snapped out pissed.

Charlie saw the goose egg on Josh's

forehead. "I'm so sorry one of my Cowboys hit you. He had a little too much to drink. It happens with Cowboys in the old west," he said.

"I want to press criminal charges," Josh said and looked determined.

Charlie looked irritated while he got up and walked over to Josh.

He placed a hand on the top of Josh's shoulder. "Listen son, it would be best if you just forget about everything. And I mean forget," he said with a quiet threatening tone while he tightened his grip on Josh's shoulder.

Josh cringed in pain while Charlie's finger tips dug into his shoulder.

"Now don't worry, that cowboy will be fired and sent away from Paradise, as soon as the Marshall returns," said Charlie.

"I'm satisfied with that," Josh replied only to get out from under Charlie's painful grip.

Charlie released Josh from his threatening grip and walked back to his desk. "There's a room for you at Fisher's Lane Hotel number three over on Fisher's Lane. Now leave me alone," he said then sat back down in his chair, kicked his cowboy boots back up on his desk, lowered his hat over his eyes and returned to his nap.

Josh looked upset while he walked out of the office but figured it might be in his best interest to forget about his beating.

He left the Marshall's Office.

Josh walked down Paradise Lane and noticed that everybody had smiles on their faces an indication they were happy living here.

Josh walked around Blaine Lane on the other side of town and saw seven hotels.

While he walked the streets, he saw more and more people that appeared very happy. That sight gave him a good feeling that he made the right choice and yesterday's beating was just a fluke.

A little while later, Josh walked down Fisher's Lane and walked up to Fisher's Lane Hotel #3.

Josh removed his cowboy hat the second he walked into the small lobby that had a front desk, a couch, and four chairs.

The lobby was quiet where Sidney stood behind the front desk and waited to assist a hotel guest.

Josh walked up to Sidney. "My name is Josh Bryant. Charlie Fisher told me you should have a room for me. I just arrived in Paradise yesterday," he said.

Sidney spotted the huge goose egg on Josh's forehead. "What happen to you?" he curiously asked.

"One of those Cowboys beat me after I went after him for forcing a kiss on a young lady then slapping her," Josh replied.

"Oh, I see," Sidney replied and appeared

concerned with Josh's story while he opened up a reservation book and flipped through some pages. "Ah yes, we have you in room six," he replied then annotated in the book that Josh showed up for his room.

Maggie was a bully of a woman around fifty-five years with a permanent mean bull dog facial expression old who dusted the lobby. She looked over at Josh and saw the goose egg on his forehead. She shrugged off Josh's story about being beaten and continued with her dusting.

"You'll be eating breakfast at six in the morning, and dinner at six in the evening all served in the Paradise Dining Hall located on Paradise Lane. The bath is at the end of the hall, and you're allowed fifteen minutes. Outouses are located out back," Sidney instructed Josh.

"What about lunch?"

"Lunch will be explained later," Sidney explained then waited for Josh to leave the front desk.

Josh looked curiously at Sidney. "Do I get room key?"

"We don't have locks on the doors in Paradise, as there's no crime in our beautiful town," Sidney replied.

"I can vouch for that," Josh replied while he lightly touched he goose egg that was still a tad painful.

Josh walked away and headed down the

hallway to the rooms.

Josh walked down the hallway that was lit from the outside light that shined through the large windows at both ends of the hallway.

He entered Room 6, his new home and saw that it was small with a single bed, chair, dresser, stand-up closet and two windows that provided light during the day.

Josh looked and saw his cloth suitcase was already placed in his room.

Forgot about my suitcase. He thought to himself while he looked at his watch and realized he missed breakfast and lunch.

He looked up at the ceiling and saw they built a water sprinkler system for fire into the building. "I guess this place isn't one hundred percent true old western," he said while he looked at the sprinkler heads.

He got on his new bed and decided to relax until it was time for dinner.

His stomach growled and he was starving since he hadn't eaten since yesterday morning.

His eyes closed and he drifted off to sleep.

Josh napped for two hours then woke up and felt dirty and gritty from being in Paradise and decided to take a bath.

He left his room.

Josh walked down to the end of the hallway to the bathroom and didn't notice Maggie who was in her room with her door cracked open.

He went into the bathroom and only saw a small counter with a sink and a bathtub.

Josh turned the hot and cold knobs and noticed that the water wasn't that hot. By the time the water filled the tub it was tepid.

Josh stripped naked and hung his clothes on the hook on the wall.

He got in the tub and then his eyes widened when he remembered something. "I forgot to bring soap and shampoo," he said then figured soaking in water would make him a little cleaner.

He closed his eyes, submerged his head under the water and relaxed.

Fifteen minutes passed and Josh was so relaxed in the tub that he was about to fall sleep in the water.

The door slammed open with a loud bang and caused Josh to almost jump out naked out of the tub.

"Your fifteen minutes are up!" Maggie barked out like a Marine Corps drill instructor.

Josh saw Maggie standing in the bathroom doorway with her arms crossed and she looked pissed. "Get out of the tub now!" she barked out another order.

Maggie glared at Josh from the doorway.

"If I could have some privacy, I'll get out of the tub," Josh said while he started to get nervous about sitting naked in the tub with Maggie in the room.

Maggie chuckled while she left and closed

the bathroom door.

Josh got out of the tub, stood naked and looked around the bathroom. "Ah man, I also forgot a towel," he said while he stood dripping wet on the wooden floor.

Josh got dressed in his clothes that covered his wet skin.

A few minutes later, he walked out of the bathroom and stepped in the hallway where Maggie waited to make sure he was out.

Maggie gave Josh an evil eye while she watched him walk to his room.

The wooden floor of the hallway creaked and Josh looked and saw Bob Jackson, a thirty-five year old man while he walked up to the next door room.

Bob lightly tapped on the door for Room 5, which was next to Josh's room.

"Howdy," Josh said the second he saw Bob.

Bob nodded with a small smile in response to Josh's greeting but was more interested in the inside of that hotel room.

Josh thought nothing of Bob's weak greeting and went inside his room.

As soon as he got inside his room, Josh grabbed his suitcase and walked over to the stand-up closet.

He opened up the closet and saw a "Welcome to Paradise" basket with soap, bottle

of shampoo, toothbrush and a tube of cheap toothpaste. There was also a Fisher's Lane Hotel #3 embroidered towel hanging in the closet.

Josh felt foolish for not finding that stuff before he took his bath.

"Oh my God! Mindy!" Bob's voice screamed out in a panic from the room next door.

Josh got curious and he rushed out of his room.

Josh rushed over to Room 5 and saw the door was left wide opened.

He peeked inside and saw Bob sobbing on the bed while he held Mindy's hand while she lay on the bed.

Josh saw that her throat was slit and blood ran from the bed covers down to the wooden floor next to a bloody knife.

Sara walked down the hallway and was about to open the door to Room 2, which was across from Mindy's but got curious when she saw Josh with his mouth open in shock while he stood in the doorway.

She walked over to Josh. "What's going on?" she curiously asked.

Sara quickly covered her mouth in shock and her eyes well up at the sight of Mindy. "Did she kill herself?" she asked Josh.

"I believe she did," Josh replied.

Bob continued to sob and didn't notice Josh and Sara standing in the doorway.

Maggie came out of the bathroom after

cleaning the tub from Josh's bath and rushed down the hallway.

She peeked in Mindy's room and saw her slit throat and blood all over the bedcovers and floor. "Shit, now I have to clean up that fucking mess," she said then rushed down the hallway.

Josh and Sara looked offended with her lack of sympathy for a young woman who just committed suicide.

Josh and Sara walked away speechless and both went inside their rooms.

Fifteen minutes later, Josh sat in his hotel room chair in disbelief that he saw a dead woman next door.

He heard footsteps running down the hallway while Charlie and four Cowboys ran to Mindy's room.

Twenty minutes later, there was a knock on Josh's hotel room door.

He got up from his chair, opened the door and saw Charlie standing outside.

"Mister Bryant, Maggie the hotel maid told me you were in the doorway of Mindy's room. What did you see?" Charlie asked while he stared at Josh's eyes.

"I heard that guy cry out Mindy's name like something was wrong. So I went over and saw him holding her hand and crying. Then I saw her throat was slit and blood was on the bed and on the floor. Then Sara walked up and saw the

same thing,” Josh told Charlie.

Charlie glared at Josh for a few seconds making him nervous. “That’s pretty much what Miss Cooper told me. This will be the first suicide we’ve had in Paradise,” Charlie told Josh then he looked down the hallway and watched while the four Cowboys, Harry, Jim, Saul, and Wesley carried Mindy’s dead body away. “Well Mister Bryant, I’m sorry you had to witness two bad events. This never happens in Paradise. Now, don’t forget to be at dinner at the dining hall at six,” Charlie said then gave Josh a warm smile and walked away.

Josh closed the door and walked over to one of his room windows.

He stared outside and saw a wooden wagon and horse pulled up to the front of the hotel. He watched while the four Cowboys carried Mindy’s dead body and placed her in the back of the wagon and covered her with a blanket.

From the window, he watched while Charlie walked away with Bob who was still crying.

Josh sat down in his chair and couldn’t believe what the first two days in Paradise brought him.

Chapter 6

It was six in the evening.

Josh walked over to Paradise Lane and headed to the Paradise Fisher Dining Hall.

The Dining Hall contained a huge dining room with seventeen tables for the seventy residents.

Six cooks, six waiters, and six waiter assistants/dishwashers worked in the Dining Hall.

Josh walked up to the doorway to the Paradise where Abby Willis, a forty year old cute woman with red hair and was six months pregnant, performed duties as the host of the Dining Hall. Abby stood at the doorway with a clipboard in her hand and looked bored.

“Good evening, ma-am, my name is Josh Bryant,” he told Abby and wanted to sound the part of being in the old west but Abby could care less.

Abby scanned down the list of names on her clipboard. “Mister Bryant, you’re seated at table twelve,” Abby told him with a little pretend smile.

“Thank you ma-am,” Josh replied then he stepped into the Dining Hall.

Abby watched while Josh walked into the dining room and she looked bothered while she rubbed her pregnant belly.

Josh walked through the Dining Hall where everybody was seated and waited to eat.

A few of the people gave Josh smiles for greeting while he walked through the maze of tables where people talked quietly amongst themselves. Josh's eyes lit up when he saw Jenny sitting at Table 4 while he walked to his table.

He finally walked up to Table 12 where Sara, Linda sat with two other men.

"Hi Sara and Linda," he said the second he walked up to the table.

The two men saw Josh while he walked up to the table.

"I'm Willard Peabody," a twenty-five year old average looking nerd said from the table next to Linda.

"I'm James Abramson," a sixty year old thin-framed man with salt and pepper hair said from the table and sat next to Sara.

"I'm Josh Bryant," he said while he sat down in the empty seat by the other side of Sara.

Eight waiters started bringing plates with a ten-ounce steak, green beans, and corn on the cob and a glass of milk to the people at the tables.

Walt, a fifty-five year old chubby man was the waiter for Tables 11 and 12. He walked up with two cheap dinner plates in his hands and placed them in front of Sara and Linda.

Kimmy, his twenty-three year old assistant female assistant with long shoulder length hair,

brought two tall glasses of milk.

A few minutes later, Walt had steak dinners in front of everybody at Table 12 with glasses of milk.

Charlie Fisher entered the Dining Hall with four other Cowboys named Henry, Lou, Greg, and Manny.

Charlie and his four Cowboys walked through the area and looked at everybody like prison guards making sure their prisoners are being good.

"I can't believe that woman killed in our hotel killed herself," Josh said to Sara while he cut his steak.

"I know. How sad," Sara replied.

"We heard about Mindy," James added while he ate some green beans.

"What a shame. She must have been bummed out about being pregnant," Willard replied then took a sip of milk.

"Who was the guy in her room? Her husband?" Josh curiously asked.

"That's her brother, Bob. He said he brought her here to escape her abusive husband," James said while he cut his steak.

"He must have got her pregnant just before she came to Paradise," Josh said then he ate a piece of steak. "He must have really screwed up her head," Josh added after he swallowed his steak.

Willard opened his mouth to say something

but kept it shut the second he saw Charlie walk over to their table with the four Cowboys.

“I need Sara, Linda and Josh to stay here after your breakfast in the morning for orientation,” Charlie told the three new comers.

Charlie walked away and the four Cowboys followed like obedient servants.

“Orientation?” Josh asked James.

“Yep. You get assigned a work detail,” James replied.

“Work?” Josh replied a confused. “I thought this was a like a vacation.”

Sara and Linda didn’t like hearing that either and they looked a little concerned.

“Everybody has a job to do. I work at the General Store,” James told Josh, Sara and Linda.

“I work in the garden,” Willard added while he held up his corn on the cob.

Josh glanced back at Charlie while he left the room with his Cowboys. “How did Charlie get to be the deputy and recruiter?”

“He’s the Sheriff’s brother,” James responded then he took a sip of milk.

“Oh yeah, I forgot,” Josh said.

“We better hurry up and finish. We only have thirty minutes for each meal,” James said then ate some more steak.

Josh looked at little bothered while he ate some green beans.

The Dining Hall was quiet except for the sound of steak being cut by knives.

Josh glanced over at Table 4 for a glimpse of Jenny. He watched while she ate her steak. She suddenly looked in Josh's direction. He felt caught and looked away and continued eating his steak.

The sun dropped below the mountains two hours ago and the land of Paradise cooled down to seventy degrees.

Josh walked out of his hotel room and decided to walk around town a little to kill some time. Life without television or a computer was different for Josh.

He walked down Paradise Lane and saw the full Moon and the sky was sprinkled with hundreds of twinkling stars.

Torches with small flames provided some light down all the streets.

Josh walked by the Paradise Saloon where he heard a piano play a song that he didn't recognize. He also heard some small laughter while everybody had a good time inside drinking and playing poker.

Josh walked toward Doc Holloway's Office where the main area lantern just turned off and the front door opened.

Jenny stepped out of the office in a long plain brown dress and walked off the porch to the street.

"Hello," Jenny said the second she saw Josh while he walked toward the office.

"Hi," Josh said while he walked over to

Jenny.

She looked at his forehead. "I see your bump is looking a little smaller," she replied while she looked over the bump.

"The pain has gone away," he replied.

"I'm glad," she replied then looked down the street.

Josh fidgeted a little while he debated in his mind if he should ask. "May I walk with you? I was thinking of walking around Paradise to get familiar with the place. I would love a tour guide," he finally asked feeling a little brave.

There was a brief moment of silence while Jenny looked at Josh. "Actually, I was thinking of taking a ride on the Paradise Express. It relaxes me so I can get a good nights sleep," she replied with a warm smile.

Josh looked disappointed. "I understand," he said then walked away.

"But, I would actually love some company, if you're up for a train ride," she called out.

Josh turned around and smiled over the opportunity. "I would love an evening train ride."

Josh and Jenny walked down the street.

"I can't believe the doctor cut off that man's leg yesterday," he said to get their conversations going.

"Poor Gus came here with gangrene and we use old western medical techniques," she replied and didn't look proud of yesterday.

"Don't you have medicine to knock you out?"

"Of course. But Holloway's a drunken

quack,” she said without thinking and cringed thinking Josh would repeat what she said. “I’m sorry, but I’ve shouldn’t have said that. I take it back,” she quickly added.

“Actually, I was thinking he was a quack myself,” he replied.

Jenny looked relieved believing she could trust him.

“Why would they let a quack be the town doctor?”

“He’s the Marshall’s cousin,” she quietly answered.

Suddenly gunfire was heard from a nearby alley. That startled Josh and he turned around after they stopped dead in their tracks.

“Get back here!” someone yelled from the alley.

Jerry Barrow, a twenty-eight year old man ran out of the alley while pulling up his pants.

Cowboy Butch ran out of the alley with his pants round ankles and was pulling up his boxer shorts. He aimed his Colt 45 pistol at Jerry who bolted past Josh and Jenny.

Josh immediately shielded Jenny for protection.

Butch fired his pistol at Jerry the second Jerry bolted down a side street.

Butch tried to run after Jerry and forgot he had his pants around his ankles and fell flat on his face into the dirt.

Josh grabbed Jenny’s hand and rushed her down Paradise Lane.

Jenny smiled while Josh rushed her down the street. "No man has never done that for me," she said.

"Well pretty lady, it's just the daily duty of a cowpoke," Josh replied while he did a goofy John Wayne walk down the street.

Jenny chuckled at the sight of Josh's goofy walk.

Butch got back up on his feet, pulled his pants back up to his waist and wiped the dirt away from his mouth. He looked around for Jerry and was pissed while bent down and picked up his cowboy hat. He turned around and stormed off down Paradise Lane.

Josh stopped his goofy cowboy walk and looked concerned while he glanced down the side street Jerry bolted down.

"I wonder what happened back there to cause that cowboy to fire his pistol?" Josh asked and looked a little concerned.

"It's in our best interest not to get involved with cowboy matters," Jenny said in a warning tone.

Josh looked over at Jenny and saw her concerned look.

A few minutes later, Jenny and Josh walked out of the main gate of Paradise.

To the left was the wooden building of the Train Station.

At the rear of the Train Station was the dock for passengers to wait for the train.

The Paradise Express train waited at the dock. Engineer Sheldon greased the wheels with his grease gun for train's next trip.

Josh and Jenny walked past cowboy Nate who leaned against the Train Station building and smoked a cigarette. Nate kept a watchful eye on Jenny and Josh while they walked to the passenger car.

Jenny and Josh walked to the front door of the passenger car where he assisted her up the small steps.

Inside the passenger car, were two lit Kerosene torches on each side of the passengers and provided a little light. But it was also just enough light to make it romantic.

Jenny and Josh walked down the aisle and sat down in one of the twenty bench seats near the front with her by the window.

Jerry Barrow cowered down low and nervous on the floor of one of the seats near the middle of the car. He snuck aboard when Nate had his back turned to the train.

"All aboard!" the night shift train station employee Niles called out while he walked up and down the dock.

Nate got on the passenger car from the rear door and immediately sat down a seat by the door.

The whistle of the Paradise Express blew while it jerked and moved away from the dock.

Josh looked out the window while the train

picked up speed and moved down the track.

“So I take it that riding the train is free?” he asked Jenny.

“Your hotel room is free, your food is free, and the train ride is free. You do get paid for your work so you can buy toiletries and other stuff from the General Store,” she replied while she looked out the window while the Paradise Express rolled down the track and the whistle continued to blow.

Nate reclined in his seat and tipped his cowboy hat forward over his eyes. He started to doze off, as this was always boring duty.

From Jenny’s window, they watched while the train rolled down the tracks they saw Cowboys, Chester, Bubba, Tim, and Lester while they sat around a campfire with rifles next to the dirt trail that led to the mansion off the main dirt trail. They passed around the whiskey of bottle and eyed the Paradise Express while it rolled down the tracks.

“Is that some type of security gate for the mansion?” he asked Jenny while they looked at the Cowboys who looked back at them.

“Yeah,” she replied.

Josh’s eyes widened when he saw cowboy Tim. “There’s the bastard!”

“What bastard?” Jenny said while she looked at Josh.

“The cowboy that hit me when they robbed the stagecoach during my first. I thought that Charlie said he would be fired.”

“It’s to our best interest,” she responded while she held Josh’s hand.

“I know, not to get involved with the activities of the Cowboys,” he interrupted her and finished her warning statement.

The Paradise Express rolled down the tracks and Josh saw the huge mansion to the right.

“Who lives there?” he asked.

“The Marshall of Paradise.”

“He must be some kind of Marshall to live in a huge fancy mansion,” he said.

“Yeah, he’s something alright,” Jenny replied while she looked at her window to avoid looking at the mansion.

“Why did you come to live in Paradise?” he curiously asked her.

Jenny looked sad while she thought about her life. “I was going to marry Rodney and thought he was my soul mate. Until I came home unexpected and found him in bed with another man,” she said. “I never had a clue.”

“I’m sorry about that,” Josh replied.

“Why are you here?” she curiously asked.

“I caught my girlfriend with another man the night I was going to ask her to marry me, and I hated my job with a passion,” he said.

From the windows, the full Moon lit the grassy field a little while the train rolled down the tracks.

Jenny placed a hand on Josh’s hand. “I’m also sorry.”

Jenny and Josh looked out the window and enjoyed the view of the Moon lit grassy field.

The train rolled down the track and headed into the forest.

“Maybe we could take a horse ride in the country some day?”

“We’re only allowed to ride the train. The horses are restricted for Cowboys only,” Jenny replied.

“That’s too bad,” Josh replied and started to wonder that maybe Paradise won’t be such a fun place.

Jenny and Josh watched while the train rolled down the tracks through the forest.

It was quiet in the passenger car while the Paradise Express rolled down the tracks and came out of the forest and headed through the desert.

Jenny and Josh were quiet while they looked out her window and saw the desert that was visible from the full Moon.

Jerry peeked over the seat he hid and saw Nate relaxed in his seat with his hat tipped over his eyes.

Jerry slowly got up and tiptoed to the front door by Josh and Jenny.

Jenny and Josh felt Jerry’s presence and looked at him while he tiptoed to the front door.

“That’s the guy the cowboy fired a shot at back in Paradise,” Josh said while they watched Jerry tiptoe to the front door.

Jerry leaped off the train the second he got to the front door.

Jenny and Josh watched while Jerry tumbled in the desert then he quickly got up and ran toward the mountains.

Gunfire echoed inside the passenger car while Nate fired a shot at Jerry from the rear door.

Jenny and Josh jumped up startled. They turned around and saw Nate while he looked out the rear door.

Nate looked at Jenny and Josh. "You two better mind your own business," he said with a threatening tone.

Jenny and Josh turned back around and kept quiet while the train rolled down the tracks and made the loop back to Paradise.

The rest of the train ride was quiet for Jenny and Josh while they privately thought about the recent events with Jerry and the Cowboys.

After they got off the Paradise Express while it was at parked the train station, they had a quiet walk through Paradise Lane were very few folks were walking around.

Jenny looked at her watch and saw it was nine forty-five that evening. "We better get to our rooms. Curfew starts at ten," she said.

"Curfew? Nobody said anything about curfew?" Josh replied.

"I guess it's their way of controlling crime,"

she said.

They walked a few a little farther down the street and got close to Doc's Holloway's office. "I live in a hotel room on that side of town," she said while they got closer and pointed to the hotels located on Blaine Lane.

They walked to the entrance of Blaine Lane by the Paradise Undertaker's building.

"Thanks for allowing me to accompany you on the train ride," Josh said with a warm smile.

"Thank you for the protection earlier," she replied.

Josh looked at Jenny and he hesitated and then he looked nervous. He quickly gave her a little smooch on her left cheek.

"Good night, Jenny," he said.

"Good night, Josh," she replied then walked Blaine Lane and headed to her hotel.

Josh walked across the street and headed to the entrance of Fisher's Lane located next to the Paradise Laundry and headed to his hotel with a spring in his step while he had lovely thoughts about Jenny.

Chapter 7

Josh was in a deep sleep in the comfortable bed in his hotel room. It was five twenty that Thursday morning. Josh was having another dream.

In Josh's dream, he raced his white horse in the desert and headed toward another woman, with a hood over her head, that was tied to the railroad tracks while the Paradise Express also raced toward the woman.

"Yaaaa, yaaaa!" Josh yelled out while he slapped his horse with his reins to make his horse move faster and just missed being pricked by some Saguaro cactus.

The Paradise Express raced closer to the woman tied to the tracks.

Josh screeched his horse with dirt flying everywhere to a stop five feet from the woman.

He jumped off his horse and ran over to the woman tied to the tracks. He whipped out a six-inch shiny knife that was tucked inside a sheath in his right cowboy boot.

The Paradise Express raced closer to woman and Josh.

The sun reflected off the shiny metal of the large Bowie knife while Josh brought the knife down to the rope that kept the woman prisoner to the threatening railroad tracks.

While Josh sawed on the rope with his knife, the faint sound of a bell was heard coming from the desert.

The train whistle blew while the Paradise Express raced at Josh and the hooded woman.

The sound of the bell from desert got louder.

There was a loud bang sound from the desert, which sounded like a door being slammed opened.

The bell sounded louder by Josh's ear.

The train whistle was louder while it was fifteen feet down the track.

"Time to get up!" a woman's voice yelled at Josh from the desert sky.

Josh looked confused with those bell sounds and the voice of a woman. He saw the Paradise Express, which was two feet away from running him over.

"I said, time to get up!" the woman yelled louder from the desert sky.

Josh froze while he looked for the source of the woman's voice. His eyes widened in fear then he saw the train was inches from his body.

Back to Josh reality in Paradise, Josh jumped up scared in his bed the second the train impacted his body in his dream. He looked around dazed and confused then he got startled when he saw Maggie standing near his bed with her hands on her hips.

"It's time to get up!" she yelled at him then turned around and stormed out of his room

slamming the door shut behind her.

Josh got out of bed and walked to his stand-up closet.

Eighteen minutes later, Josh was back in his room fresh from his bath and dressed in a cleaner pair of western attire. He made sure he didn't take longer than his allowed fifteen minutes in the bathroom, as he didn't want a visit from Maggie the bathroom cop.

Josh grabbed his cowboy hat and left his room.

Josh walked over to the row of two wooden outhouses that was assigned to his hotel.

There was a line of five people who waited their turn and Josh walked up behind Sara.

"Good morning, Sara," he greeted her with a smile.

Sara sniffed the air. "The morning doesn't smell so good," she said in a jokingly manner.

Josh sniffed the air. "I know what you mean," he replied with a light chuckle.

They looked sickened over the stench from the outhouses and Larry, a forty-seven year old man in front of them noticed. "Don't worry, you'll get use to the smell in about a month or two," he said and didn't appear to be happy with life in Paradise.

"I sure hope so," Josh replied.

"I'm not liking Paradise so far," Sara quietly replied while she pinched off her nose to stop

the stench from filling up her nasal cavities.

Josh pinched off his nose. "I know what you mean," told her with a nasal tone.

Ten minutes later, Sara and Josh were finished with their business in the outhouses.

Sara and Josh walked down Paradise Lane and headed into the Fisher Dining Hall.

Sara and Josh were seated at Table 12 and Walt brought them their plates of scrambled eggs, bacon and biscuit. Kimmy brought everybody at the table their glasses of milk.

The dining room was filled with small idle chat while everybody ate breakfast.

Fifteen minutes later, people started getting up from their tables and headed out of the dining hall to start their workday.

Charlie Fisher walked into the room with Cowboys Henry, Lou, Greg, and Manny.

They all walked over to Table 12. "Don't forget, I need Josh, Sara and Linda to stay for orientation.

Willard and James finished their breakfast and got up from the table and headed to the door.

After a few minutes, Sara, Linda and Josh were the only people left in the Dining Hall except for Charlie and his Cowboys.

Marshall Blaine Fisher entered in the Dining Hall with a Marshall's badge pinned to his black shirt. Blaine had a full head of white hair, white handle bar moustache and goatee, two Colt 45 pistols in a holster and a clipboard in hand. He was also known to always be puffing on a Cuban cigar he illegally obtained through his connections.

Tony, Ray, Mark, and Steve were all Cowboys in black shirts with two Colt 45 pistols in their holsters, followed Blaine like obedient servants. Cowboy Tony was the meanest cowboy in the bunch of Cowboys and would take a bullet for the Marshall.

Josh looked surprised when he saw Blaine. "Oh my god, it's Blaine Fisher. I thought his daughter said he was traveling around the world?" Josh said.

Charlie walked up and smacked the back of Josh's head. "Shut up, boy. You shouldn't be talking about the Marshall like that."

Josh couldn't believe Charlie's attitude toward him and while he watched Blaine strut up to their table, so he started to have a bad feeling in his gut.

"Good morning and welcome to Paradise. I'm Marshall Fisher. Call out your name so I know it's really you," he said while he looked at his clipboard. "Josh Bryant."

"Here."

"Sara Cooper."

"Here."

“Linda Bronson.”

“Here.”

Marshall Fisher looked up from his clipboard while he puffed on his cigar. “Good, now,” he said.

“I changed my mind. I want to go back home,” Sara blurted out and interrupted the Marshall.

Marshall Fisher looked irritated with Sara interrupting him. “You just got here little lady.”

“I know, but Paradise isn’t for me,” she said and looked like she was going to cry any second.

Fisher thought for a seconds then motioned to Charlie to come over.

Charlie walked up to Marshall Fisher who whispered in Charlie’s ear.

Charlie nodded that he understood, walked away and headed to the door and his four Cowboys tagged behind him.

“You can leave tomorrow afternoon, Sara,” Marshall Fisher told her with a smile.

Sara looked relieved she would be out of his place.

Fisher looked back at his clipboard. “We have Sara and Josh working the gardens and that shift starts at seven thirty,” he said.

Sara looked a little baffled. “Why am I working if I’m going back home?”

“Until you leave tomorrow, you’re a resident of Paradise and that means you will work for today’s meals. Do you understand?” he replied

and glared at her.

She looked intimidated and nodded in agreement and figured that maybe working will help today go by faster.

“Now, you two will be meeting with Bo Whitfield in front of the General Store,” he said then glanced back down at his clipboard. “Linda will work at the Paradise House of Pleasure. Everybody works Monday thru Saturday and you’ll be fed lunch at your work site. There’s one exception in that the ladies of the Paradise House of Pleasure only get Sunday mornings off. They still work Sunday evenings,” he told everybody.

“Excuse me, did you say, Paradise House of Pleasure? What’s that?” Linda interrupted him and didn’t like the name of that place.

“It’s the place where my Cowboys can relieve stress thanks to pretty women like you,” Marshall Fisher replied with a smile, which showed off his brown stained teeth from smoking.

The Cowboys near the table all smiled while they looked at Linda and had nasty thoughts of getting naked with her.

Linda thought for a second and then it hit her like a ton of bricks. She looked furious. “No way in hell!”

Fisher nodded at his Cowboys.

Cowboys Tony and Ray grabbed Linda and yanked her out of her seat.

Josh looked at cowboy Tony and something

about him seemed familiar, but he couldn't place a finger on where he's seen him before.

The Cowboys escorted Linda away toward the door.

"I want to go home!" Linda cried out while they walked her out of the Dining Hall.

Marshall Fisher looked at Josh and Sara. "Payday is on Fridays, now go meet Bo at the General Store," he said then turned around, walked back to the door and Cowboys Mark and Steve tagged along like obedient little doggies.

Sara's eyes welled up and Josh looked concerned while they got up from the table.

Sara and Josh walked out of the Dining Hall and headed to the General Store, which next store. Both of them were speechless on what just happened back in the Dining Hall.

Sara, and Josh walked over to the General Store where Willard waited along with Gary, Ernie, Gail, Dave and Harold.

Jenny walked out of the General Store, and smiled when she saw Josh with the other folks.

"Good morning, Josh," Jenny said with a warm smile while she walked up to him.

Josh smiled and Paradise was now a place he enjoyed. "Good morning, Jenny."

"What are you doing out here?" she asked, "I'm working as a gardener."

"Very good. We get to eat some healthy vegetables thanks to you," she said with a smile then walked down the street and headed toward

the doctor's office.

Josh looked happy while he watched Jenny walk down the street.

He looked a little scared when he saw the Indian Chief Merijildo, a seventy year old Indian with long white braided hair, while he rode bareback on his horse down Paradise Lane.

Four Indian on horses followed Chief Merijildo and they surrounded Jerry Barrow who rode on a horse with his hands tied behind his back.

"It's him," Josh said the second he saw Jerry tied on the horse.

"Who?" Sara asked.

"We saw some cowboy shoot at him last night while he ran out of an alley and pulling up his pants. Then he got onboard the Paradise Express and jumped off when he was in the desert. Another cowboy fired a shot at him," Josh told everybody while he looked at Jerry who was scared to death.

Willard looked bothered at the sight of Jerry and he turned and looked away.

While Chief Merijildo and his Indians rode to the Marshall's Office, his eyes lit up at the sight of Sara's beauty. He continued to glare at Sara with love in his eyes while they stopped at the Marshall's Office.

The Chief's glares gave Sara the creeps so she looked away.

The Indians dismounted off their horses and tied the reins to the hitching post.

Two of the Indians pulled Jerry off his horse and he landed on his back with a painful thud.

The two Indians picked up Jerry by his arms and walked him inside the Marshalls office.

A wooden wagon being pulled by a horse rode up to the store. Bo Whitfield, a bully of a man, who was a close friend of Blaine Fisher, sat in the seat of the wagon with a double barrel shotgun by his side.

“Are you two Sara Cooper and Josh Bryant?” Bo asked when he stopped the wagon.

“Yes,” Josh answered.

“Hop in the back of the wagon,” he told them.

Josh, Sara, Gary, Ernie, Willard, Gail, Dave and Harold all hopped in the back of the wagon.

Bo turned his the wagon around and headed down Paradise Lane toward the entrance.

While the wagon rode down the street, Sara and Josh saw Chief Merijildo and his four Indians walk out of the Marshall’s Office with one of the Indians carrying a small wooden case of whiskey bottles.

Sara got the creeps again while Chief Merijildo had a smile while he watched her in the wagon. Chief Merijildo turned around and went back into the Marshall’s Office.

Josh looked back at the Indians. “Are those Indians a threat?”

“Don’t worry, Sheriff Fisher has them under control,” Bo said while they rode down the street.

Josh and Sara looked relieved.

The wagon drove past the Paradise House of Pleasure, which was a two-story house with eight small bedrooms on the second floor. The first floor was a parlor and bar for entertaining the guests before they spent their hour of pleasure with a whore.

On the front porch stood of the Paradise House of Pleasure four whores named Candy, Sadie, Prudence, and Sweet Pea took a smoke break while Linda stood with Cowboys Tony and Ray.

Casey the fifty-five year old two hundred and fifty pounds of pure bitch madam walked out to the porch. She was once a whore that Blaine Fisher frequented when he was married to Anita's mother.

"This one is fresh meat and just arrived a little while ago," cowboy Tony told Casey while he placed an arm around Linda.

"Good," Casey said then grabbed Linda by her arm and forced her inside the Paradise House of Pleasure.

Cowboys Tony and Ray went inside to christen Linda into the Paradise House of Pleasure.

The remaining four whores waved and blew kisses at the guys inside the wagon.

Josh and Sara looked concerned with the scene they witnessed with Linda and knew that

the Paradise House of Pleasure was a
whorehouse.

Three Cowboys walked over to the front
porch of the Paradise House of Pleasure.

One cowboy grabbed Sweet Pea by her arm
and took her inside.

One cowboy grabbed Prudence by her arm
and took her inside.

The remaining cowboy grabbed Sadie by
her arm and took her inside.

Everybody remained quiet in the back of the
wagon while Bo rode down the dirt trail and
headed out of the town of Paradise.

Chapter 8

It was later that day and the sun warmed the land of Paradise up to eighty degrees.

The large garden contained broccoli, carrots, green beans, lettuce, potatoes, and zucchini.

Next to the garden was a large cornfield.

Next to the cornfield was some apple and orange trees. Way off in the north from the fruit trees was the sound of wood being cut from a power saws from the sawmill that housed eight workers.

Under a large oak shade tree near the garden, Cowboys Nick, Butch, Howard, and Billy relaxed while their horses grazed in the grass.

The Cowboys took turns drinking whiskey from a bottle while they eyed the garden and cornfield.

In the vegetable garden, Harold Nicholson was a thirty year old chubby geek with glasses. He looked exhausted while he picked green beans and placed them in a bushel basket.

In the cornfield, Josh, Sara and Willard looked exhausted while they picked corn and dropped them in bushel baskets.

When Sara and Josh got to the end of her row, she saw Chief Merijildo and four other Indians while they sat on their horses. Chief Merijildo eyed Sara and a smile grew on his

face.

Sara saw the Chief and leaned over to Josh. "That Indian is staring at me again and he's giving me the creeps," she quietly told Josh.

Josh looked over at the Chief and his four Indians. They turned around and rode off toward the forest.

Sara's eyes well up and the train whistle was heard while the train rolled down the track near the garden.

Willard walked out of his row in the cornfield and he carried a bushel basket full of corn to the wagon.

From the shade tree, Butch took a drink from the whiskey bottle and saw Willard while he walked over to the wagon. He smiled at the sight of Willard then passed the bottle onto Nick.

"I got an itch to scratch," he told his cowboy buddies who grinned, as they knew what Butch meant.

Butch stood up and walked over to his horse and jumped in the saddle.

Willard set his filled basket then grabbed an empty bushel basket from the back of the wagon.

He walked back into the cornfield.

Willard started picking more corn at the row next to Josh and Sara.

"Willard, I need to see you," Butch called out from his horse at the edge of the cornfield.

Willard looked nervous while he pretended

he didn't hear Butch's request.

"Willard! I said I want to see you and you can't fight it. So let's get it over with!" Butch yelled out a little pissed.

Willard hesitated on coming out of the cornfield.

"Don't make me come in there after you," Butch called out.

Willard hated life while he placed his basket down in the row, reluctantly walked down the row and headed toward Butch.

Josh and Sara got curious and they quietly inched down their row to the end.

They both peaked out of the cornfield and saw Butch rode his horse to the forest with Willard walking behind him.

"What the hell is going on?" Josh quietly asked Sara.

"I don't know, but I can't wait to get out of this place," Sara quietly replied while they watched Willard follow Butch on his horse to the forest.

"It's best if you just ignore some of the things you might see around here," Gail quietly said while she pushed her way through some corn stalks from the next row with a basket full of corn.

Gail walked past Josh and Sara and walked out of the cornfield and headed toward the wagon.

Josh and Sara looked at each other and they feared the worse for Willard.

“It’s not break time!” Bo yelled from the wagon when he saw Josh and Sara poking their heads out of the cornfield.

Josh and Sara quickly return to their work picking corn.

Bo looked and saw Butch while he walked his horse to the forest and saw Willard trailing behind him. He didn’t like it but knew he had to keep his mouth shut.

Butch walked his horse into the forest then he dismounted. He waited by his horse for Willard to walk over to him.

Butch walked over to a nearby tree and waited.

Willard reluctantly walked over to Butch.

Butch unbuckled his belt and lowered his pants to his ankles. He then lowered his boxer shorts down to his ankles. “You know the routine, Willard” he said with a horny grin.

“Please, I don’t want to do this anymore,” Willard pleaded.

Butch removed one of his Colt 45 pistols from his holster. “Now, now, Willard don’t make me waste a bullet by shooting you in your head,” he threatened then cocked his pistol.

Willard walked up to Butch and he dropped to his knees. He wanted to vomit while he stared at Butch’s naked crotch.

Ten minutes later, Willard walked back into the cornfield and he looked sick and ashamed of

himself. He remained quiet during the rest of the day while he worked in the garden. Sara and Josh felt it was best not to quiz Willard since he looked really bothered.

The work day was over.

It was a quiet during the journey in the back of the wagon to Paradise.

Sara, Josh, Gary, Willard, Gail, Dave and Harold all walked exhausted behind the wagon that Bo drove where the back was packed with bushel baskets of vegetables, fruit, and corn.

In Doc Holloway's Office, Jenny was alone since the doctor was at the saloon for his afternoon drinking of whiskey. She just finished sweeping the floor and it was a slow day, as nobody was sick. She looked up at the clock on the wall and saw it was four thirty that afternoon.

She smiled while she placed the broom in the closet and walked to the front door.

Jenny stepped out of Doc Holloway's Office and looked down Paradise Lane and saw Bo's wagon in front of the Dining Hall. Her eyes lit up the second she saw Josh walk out of the Dining Hall.

While he walked to the wagon, Josh looked down Paradise Lane, and saw Jenny standing out in front of the doctor's office. Josh waved at her and his eyes lit up when she waved back.

"So I see you fancy someone," Sara said

while she walked up to Josh.

“Yeah, she’s special,” he replied while he eyed Jenny.

“The sooner you get these baskets into the dining hall, the sooner your work day is over,” Bo yelled at the two.

Sara and Josh grabbed a basket of corn and walked back to the Dining Hall.

They passed by Willard who had his head down and was still in deep thought about today’s forced event with cowboy Butch.

All the baskets of fruit, corn, and vegetables were taken into the kitchen area of the Dining Hall.

Josh, Sara, and Willard waited with all the other folks by the empty wagon.

Bo walked over and checked the back of his wagon and was satisfied that all the baskets have been taken into the Dining Hall.

“Okay, I’ll see you in the morning. Have a great evening,” Bo told his crew then he climbed up and sat in the wagon seat. He grabbed the reins and drove the wagon away.

A wagon driven by Russell drove down Paradise Lane with some slabs of beef from the slaughterhouse barn. The wagon turned down a back alley and headed to the rear of the Dining Hall.

Sara and Josh walked down Paradise Lane and Willard tagged quietly behind them.

They walked back to their hotel on Fisher’s Lane and went to their rooms and relaxed before

dinner.

It was six that evening and Josh sat at Table 12 with Sara, Willard, and James. Linda's seat was empty since the whores never leave the Paradise House of Pleasure and they have their own private dining room.

Dinner was quiet at Table 12 while everybody ate their slabs of steak, green beans, baked potato and glass of milk.

"Do we get steak every night?" Josh asked James.

"We get ham on Friday and Tuesday nights," James replied with a mouthful of steak.

Josh didn't look thrilled with having only steak and ham for dinner.

"We heard they might be stocking the lake with fish in the future," James said while he cut another piece of steak.

Josh still didn't look thrilled with the dinner menu.

Sara looked excited about leaving in the morning.

While everybody was in the Dining Hall eating their dinners, Charlie stepped in the doorway with his four Cowboys. He looked the place over and left when everybody seemed to be content with his or her meals.

A few minutes later, Josh couldn't hold it in any longer. "Willard, why did that cowboy take you into the woods?"

Willard looked down at his steak dinner and got embarrassed. "I don't want to talk about it."

Willard ate his steak and avoided eye contact with everybody at the table.

Josh shrugged it off then looked at Sara. "What time are you leaving tomorrow?"

"I'm suppose to see the Marshall tonight sometime after dinner," she replied with a smile thinking about going home.

"You might want to reconsider," James said with a fatherly tone.

"Why?" Sara asked.

James opened his mouth to answer.

"May I have your attention," Charlie called out from the doorway of the Dining Hall.

The room got quiet and all eyes were on Charlie and his four Cowboys. "Marshall Fisher needs everybody out by the court house right now," he called out then turned around and left.

His four Cowboys stayed behind and watched while people got up from their tables.

"What's going on?" Josh curiously asked James.

"You'll see in a minute," James replied and didn't look happy.

Willard looked pale and sweaty while he got up from the table.

Josh and Sara got up from the table and followed the crowd out of the Dining Hall.

It was a full Moon and the night sky was filled with twinkling stars.

Josh, Sara, Willard, and James followed out of the Dining Hall to where a wooden gallows was previously wheeled out in front to the Court House across the street.

The gallows had a hanging noose to the center of the street. The platform of the gallows was ten feet off the ground and provided a view for all of the seventy residents of Paradise.

There were thirty-four black shirt Cowboys that walked around the edge of the crowd and they all had a hand on their Colt 45 pistols in case someone got unruly.

At the Paradise House of Pleasure, Casey, Linda and the other seven whores stood out in the street and looked at the gallows.

In the crowd, Josh and Sara stood slack jawed the second they saw the noose and knew this wasn't going to be a pretty sight.

Josh's eyes lit up the second he saw Jenny near the edge of the crowd. He tried to get her attention but she looked bothered by the sight of the noose.

The door of the Marshall's Office opened and Marshall Fisher with another Cuban cigar in his mouth walked out and headed to the gallows.

Cowboys Tony and Steve escorted out Jerry Barrow who was handcuffed out of the Marshall's Office.

Cowboys Mark and Ray walked out of the

Marshall's Office and followed the other Cowboys.

Charlie stepped out of the Marshall's Office and stood on the front porch, looked at the gallows then eyed the crowd.

Marshall Fisher walked up the side steps of the gallows.

Marshall Fisher walked on the platform of the gallows and headed to the noose. He faced the crowd and waited for Jerry to arrive.

Tony and Steve walked Jerry up the side steps to the gallows.

Mark and Ray walked up the side steps to the gallows.

Jerry dug his heels into the wood while he fought from being escorted over to the noose. "I didn't do anything wrong!" he screamed out.

Steve punched Jerry in his kidneys and he dropped to his knees in pain.

Tony and Steve dragged Jerry over to the noose with his knees leaving two trenches in the dirt.

Steve pulled Jerry up by his hair and stood him up in front of Marshall Fisher.

Marshall Fisher addressed the crowd who looked upset with what was about to happen. "It gives me great displeasure to stand before you with another individual who thinks he can just up and leave Paradise without permission," he told the crowd.

"No!" Jerry cried out while Steve placed a noose around his neck.

Tony struggled to tighten the noose around Jerry's neck while Jerry fought to get free.

"I was raped!" Jerry screamed out in a muffled tone while the noose was tight around his vocal cords.

Marshall Fisher nodded at Mark who moved a wooden lever.

The trap door opened up under Jerry's boots and he dropped into the opening. His neck snapped and that was a sound that would haunt the minds of most of the town folk of Paradise.

They silently watched in horror while Jerry's lifeless body dangled from the rope.

Bob Jackson stood in the middle of the crowd and had hatred in his eyes while he watched Marshall Fisher walking over to the steps of the gallows.

Josh and Sara looked in horror at each other and her eyes welled up.

"I'm never leaving this place," she said while her lips quivered while she glanced back at Jerry's lifeless dangling body.

The town folk quietly walked away from the gallows and headed to their respective hotels.

Bob walked down the street and headed to the saloon.

Sara sobbed and Josh comforted her while they walked down Paradise Lane to their hotel.

While he walked Sara down Paradise Lane, he saw Jenny while she turned down one of the side streets and headed to her hotel.

A little while later, Sara and Josh sat on her bed in her hotel room.

From her opened bedroom window, the sound of horses galloping down the street was heard.

“I can’t believe they hung a man for trying to leave this town. I thought Charlie said we could leave if we didn’t like Paradise,” she said while she wiped tears away from her eyes. “This was a bad idea. A really bad idea,” she added while more tears filled her eyes.

Josh placed an arm around her shoulder to comfort her.

Her hotel room door slammed opened, and Charlie entered with Cowboys Alfred, Tim, Bart and Jesse trailing behind him.

“Sara, Marshall Fisher wants to see you about your departure from Paradise,” Charlie said while he walked up to her bed and looked serious.

Sara looked scared to death at the sight of Charlie and the Cowboys.

Charlie walked over and grabbed her by the arm.

She tried to fight him off while he lifted her off the bed.

“I’ve changed my mind. I want to stay,” she pleaded while her eyes continued to well up.

Sara dug her heels in the floor while Alfred and Jesse each grabbed one of her arms and escorted her to the door.

Josh stood to protest but his eyes widened

the second he sat cowboy Tim strut over.

“One move and I’ll repeat what I did the other day,” Tim said while he patted one of the handles of his Colt 45 with a smirk.

Josh sat back down on Sara’s bed and watched while they escorted her out of the room.

Josh peeked out one of her bedroom windows and watched while Charlie and the four Cowboys escorted Sara down the street and headed toward Paradise Lane.

He walked out of her room and heard a thud in the hallway. He looked and saw Bob on the floor by a room door and he rushed over to help.

“Are you okay?” he asked while he shook Bob.

“I’m fine,” Bob slurred out his words.

Bob reeked of booze and Josh immediately knew he was stinking drunk. He helped Bob up on his feet where he swayed. “I hate the fucking bastard,” Bob slurred out his words.

“I know you do,” Josh replied not knowing whom he meant but had an idea. “You better get some sleep. Where’s your room?” Josh asked.

Bob looked around the hall then he squinted at the number on the door by him. “There,” he slurred out his words.

Josh held Bob up and the both of them almost fell over while Josh opened up the door for Room 2.

Josh walked Bob into the room and plopped him on the bed.

Bob immediately fell asleep.

Josh walked out of the room and closed the door behind him.

Josh walked down the hallway and went inside his bedroom.

An hour had passed and Josh lay in his bed and couldn't sleep since tonight's events filled his head.

His room door opened and he saw Willard while he rushed inside in a panic. "They're taking Sara away!" he quietly told Josh the second he got to his bed.

Josh shoot up in bed and looked concerned. "What?"

"Come quick," Willard called out.

Josh got off his bed and followed Willard to the door.

Josh and Willard ran out of the hotel and down Fisher Lane.

They ran down another down the back alley past the Paradise Bank.

They ran down the east side of the Court House and stopped at the corner of the building.

Josh and Willard peeked around the corner of the building and saw four Indians that stood by their horses in front of the Marshall's Office

The door to the Marshall's Office opened and Cowboys Tim, and Alfred manhandled Sara outside while she kicked and squirmed to free herself from their grips.

"No!" she yelled out in a panic and tried to

fright from their grips.

They walked her over to the four Indians.

Charlie and had a huge smile on his face while he glanced at Sara being escorted to the Indians.

Sara kicked Alfred in his knee and he dropped to the ground in pain.

Sara squirmed and almost slipped away until Tim whacked her on her head with the butt of one of his Colt 45s. She dropped down to the ground out cold.

Tim and Jesse picked up Sara and carried her to the four Indians.

Two of the Indians grabbed Sara and threw her over one of the bareback horses.

Charlie walked up to the Indians. "Tell Chief Merijildo, I hope he likes his new bride."

The Indians smiled and got on their horses with one of the Indians on the horse with Sara.

They rode off down Paradise Lane and headed out of town.

Tim helped Alfred get up out of the dirt. "I need a drink," he told Alfred and they walked down the street and headed to the saloon with Alfred walking with a limp.

Josh and Willard moved away from the corner of the Court House and ran back to their hotel.

A little while later, Josh and Willard sat on his bed in Josh's hotel room.

Willard's eyes well up and Josh noticed.

"What happened at the forest today?"

"I really don't want to talk about it," Willard replied while he looked upset.

"You can trust me."

"Please, it's too embarrassing and I can't stand it anymore. So I'm getting out of here," Willard replied and looked determined.

"How? They hung Jerry and Sara got taken away with the Indians," Josh said and looked concerned.

Willard thought for a second. "That's the risk I'm willing to take."

Josh looked at Willard and then he realized that it must have been forced sex in the woods when he remembered seeing Jerry Barrow run out of that alley pulling up his pants.

"Did that cowboy rape you?" Josh quietly asked.

Willard hesitated while he looked at Josh's concerned eyes. "That asshole Butch makes me give him a blowjob a couple times a week. In fact, he forces his way on a few of the young guys here in Paradise," Willard replied then he started having the dry heaves while memories of blowing Butch ran through his mind.

Josh felt sorry for Willard and knew why he wanted to leave.

"I'll rather have a noose around my neck that suck on that bastard's cock again," Willard replied and looked determined.

"You don't know how to activate the

machine that transports us back home,” Josh said.

“I’m a genius with computers. I’ll find a way,” Willard replied and looked determined.

“Then why did you choose to live here in Paradise?”

“I needed some easy money so I became a hacker and almost got caught. I figured I could hide out here in Paradise until things cooled down. But I think it’s safer to go back home.”

“Paradise doesn’t sound so safe,” Josh replied.

“Why don’t you come with me?” Willard asked.

Josh thought for a second but thoughts of Jenny filled his mind. “I’m stuck here and I don’t want a noose around my neck. So I’ll wait until there’s a guarantee I can get out alive with someone that means a lot to me.”

Willard shook Josh’s hand. “Good luck my friend and when I get out, I’ll come back with the police,” he said then got off the bed.

Josh watched while Willard rushed out of his room and thought that if he succeeded, Paradise could be a nice place under honest leadership.

A little while later, Josh got into bed after brushing his teeth. He tried to sleep but he tossed and turned while thoughts of today’s events were running rampant in his mind.

Chapter 9

It was Friday morning and Josh only got two hours sleep and woke up exhausted.

After Josh took his fifteen minute bath, he got dressed and went to the stinky outhouses, dropped his clothes off at the Paradise Laundry, and ate breakfast, then he waited by General Store with the other folks for the wagon.

While they waited, they heard horses riding down Paradise Lane from the entrance.

They looked and saw four Indians riding bareback with Willard on a lone horse with his hands tied behind his back.

Josh saw the fear in Willard's eyes when they rode past everybody.

Bo drove his wagon up to everybody.

"Let's get going," Bo said while he stopped his wagon by Josh and everybody.

Everybody climbed in the rear of the wagon.

Bo snapped his reins and turned his wagon around and headed out of Paradise.

While the wagon rode down the street, Josh looked back down the street and saw the Indians while they escorted Willard into the Marshall's Office. He looked away and wasn't looking forward for the rest of the day.

Meanwhile at the Indian camp by the mountains, Sara was dressed in a female's

Indian outfit and she sat next to Chief Merijildo outside his teepee.

On the other side of Chief Merijildo sat Diana, a twenty-five year old female with auburn hair and freckled pale white skin and she was four months pregnant.

Sara and Diana both looked lifeless while six male Indians danced around them in some type of wedding ceremony ritual.

All the other male and female Indians sat nearby and watched the ceremony that would make Sara the second wife of Chief Merijildo.

After a few minutes later, the Indians stopped dancing and an older Indian woman walked up with a multi-colored blanket.

She spread the blanket out on the dirt in front of Chief Merijildo.

Two Indian females walked up and each grabbed one of Sara's arms.

Sara looked concerned when they brought her to her feet. The two female Indians started to undress Sara who fought back when she realized what they were doing.

But the two female Indians won and they removed Sara's Indian outfit and she stood bare ass naked in front of the whole Indian tribe. She immediately tried to cover her naked body with her arms and hands, but the two female Indians forced her hands and arms away.

"No!" Sara said while she saw Chief Merijildo stand up and removed his Indian outfit and

stood there naked with his saggy wrinkly skin.

The two Indians tried to move Sara down to the blanket but Sara started to squirm away.

Two other female Indians rushed over and helped and they forced Sara down on her back on the blanket.

“No!” Sara screamed while the Indians spread out her legs and arms and held her down on the blanket. “Rape!” she screamed out while Chief Merijildo climbed on top of Sara. “No!” she screamed out and tried to squirm away the second Chief Merijildo penetrated her.

Sara closed her eyes while they welled up while Chief Merijildo grunted while he forced himself on her.

Three minutes had passed and Chief Merijildo was finished.

He climbed off Sara and then the entire tribe cheered an Indian cheer.

Sara glanced at Chief Merijildo’s wrinkly saggy naked skin and she felt sick.

She bolted up and covered her mouth. She ran over to the backside of the Chief’s teepee and got on her hands and knees. She heard chuckles from the Indians while she vomited into the dirt.

Back in the garden, Josh looked depressed while he picked corn and dropped them into a bushel basket. His thoughts flipped flopped between Jenny and Sara.

It was four that afternoon and the wagons were loaded with bushel baskets of vegetables, corn and fruit.

“Let’s head back to Paradise,” Bo told everybody while he climbed up his wagon and sat down in his seat. He snapped the reins and the horses pulled the wagon toward the dirt road.

Josh and everybody walked behind the wagon.

The other four wagon drivers followed Bo and the other workers walked following their assigned wagons.

Fifteen minutes later, Bo drove his wagon down Paradise Lane and stopped in front of the Dining Hall.

Josh and everybody immediately started grabbing the baskets and talking them into the Dining Hall.

While Josh carried a basket of corn into the Dining Hall, he looked down the street and saw Jenny while she stood outside and waved. He smiled and it was the sight of her that made Paradise worth wild.

Ten minutes later and all the wagons were unloaded except for a bushel of apples in Bo’s wagon.

“Josh, take those apples to the General Store then you can head to the bank. Today’s

payday,” he said then climbed up his wagon and sat down in the wagon seat.

Josh removed the basket of apples from the rear of Bo’s wagon.

Bo snapped the reins and the horse pulled the wagon down the street and the other four wagons followed.

Josh looked down the street and saw Jenny while she walked back inside the doctor’s office.

Josh carried the basket of apples to the General Store and went inside.

The inside of the General Store was full of clothes, medicine, toiletries, candy and occasional fruit.

Melvin was the sixty-five year old chubby and balding manager of the Paradise General Store and he got this job because he was a close chum to Blaine Fisher. He also invested one hundred thousand of his own money into the construction of the land of Paradise and that entitled him to other fringe benefits.

James swept the floor while Josh entered with the bushel of apples.

“Bo said to bring these apples here to the store,” Josh said while he walked up to the counter where Melvin worked behind the cash register.

Melvin looked at the basket and looked over by the candy rack. “Place it over by the candy,” he said then went back to work tallying up today’s sales.

Josh walked the basket of apples over to the candy rack and placed it on the floor.

Josh walked over to James who was sweeping by the back door.

“Are they going to have a hanging later?” he quietly asked James.

“I heard Marshall Fisher had another court session today,” James quietly replied.

“I saw the Indians bringing Willard in this morning,” Josh quietly said.

“What did he do?” James quietly said and stopped sweeping.

“He told me he was going to escape from Paradise,” Josh quietly replied.

“Doesn’t that dope know there’s no escaping from Paradise,” James quietly responded and looked upset with Willard.

Melvin looked over at Josh and James and looked bothered. “James, I want you to take inventory of the entire store.”

“I’ll see you at dinner,” James told Josh then he walked away to a broom closet at the other side of the room.

Josh walked to the front door of the store and went outside.

Josh walked out of the store and walked down Paradise Lane and headed to the bank.

Inside the Paradise National Bank, Cowboys Clint and Richard stood guard by the front door and kept a watchful eye on the customers.

Josh entered the bank, walked over and

stood in line behind the other workers from the garden.

Ten minutes later and it was Josh's turn to see Jackie the female bank teller.

"Name," Jackie asked when Josh approached her window.

"Josh Bryant."

Jackie looked at a piece of paper then she opened up the cash drawer and removed some bills.

She handed Josh four one bills.

Josh looked at the bills and saw they looked like real money but had Blaine Fisher's picture instead of George Washington. "This looks like counterfeit money," Josh said while he looked at the bills.

Cowboy Clint rushed over and grabbed Josh by his arm and rushed him to the door.

"What did I do?" Josh asked and looked baffled.

Clint remained quiet while Richard opened up the door for Clint.

Outside the bank, Clint marched Josh to the Marshall's Office with numerous town folk watching.

Inside the Marshall's Office, Charlie sat with his cowboy boots kicked up on the desk. He played a western tune on his harmonica.

Marshall Fisher had his boots kicked up on

his desk while he slouched in his chair with his cowboy hat over his eyes while he took a catnap.

From one of the two jail cells, Willard lay on his bunk and looked scared while he stared at the ceiling.

The door opened and Clint rushed Josh inside by his arm.

Charlie stopped playing his harmonica and Marshall Fisher sat up and took off his hat.

“What happened?” Marshall Fisher asked.

“This dork made comments that our money is counterfeit,” Clint replied.

Marshall Fisher and Charlie got up from behind their desks and marched over to Josh, pissed.

“Are you going to be giving me more trouble, Mister Bryant?” Marshall Fisher asked.

Willard got off his bunk and walked to his cell bars to see what was going on with Josh.

Josh’s eyes widened when he saw Willard in the cell and Willard looked scared to death.

Charlie walked up to Clint and Josh.

Marshall Fisher nodded at Charlie.

Charlie punched Josh in his stomach.

Josh dropped to the floor in pain.

Marshall Fisher pulled Josh up by his hair and got in his face.

“I’m seeing that we’ll have to teach this boy some manners. Take him to Wilbur and I want him helping out for the rest of his shift,” Marshall Fisher said while he looked at Charlie.

“Yes sir,” Charlie replied then.

Charlie grabbed Josh’s arm and escorted him to the door with Clint trailing behind.

Marshall Fisher walked back over to his chair, sat down and kicked his boots up on his desk.

Willard walked back to his jail cell bunk and sat down.

Charlie and Clint marched Josh out the office door.

Once they got outside, Charlie and Clint escorted Josh to the outhouse row by the hotels on Fisher’s Lane.

Charlie and Clint marched Josh up a “Use Outhouse On Other Side of Town” sign at the beginning at the alley leading to the outhouses.

Charlie and Clint marched Josh over to seventy year old Wilbur while he worked behind one of the outhouses. He had a wooden wagon with horse by the outhouse.

Wilbur strained where he lifted a wooden bucket with rope handles and placed it on the rear of a wagon where there were three other buckets.

When Josh was escorted past the wagon, the stench of human waste from the buckets was overpowering and he started to get the dry heaves.

Charlie got a smirk over the sight of Josh. “Wilbur.”

Wilbur looked over at Charlie. “What?”

“The Marshall wants this turd to help you for the rest of your shift,” Charlie said then threw Josh into the dirt.

Charlie and Clint turned around and rushed away, as the stench was starting to make them sick.

Wilbur walked up to Josh while he stood up.

“The job’s simple. We drag the buckets of shit and piss out from under the outhouses and put it in the rear of the wagon. Then we empty them in the pit in the forest and put them back under the outhouses,” he told Josh.

Josh pinched his nose and nodded that he understood the instructions.

Wilbur walked over to another outhouse, and he unlatched a door at the bottom. He reached underneath the outhouse and dragged out a wooden bucket where some of the waste splashed out onto the dirt. Wilbur looked at Josh who stood there pinching off his nose. “Get your ass over here and help,” he said in a raised tone.

Josh walked over and grabbed one rope handle while Wilbur grabbed the other handle.

The bucket sloshed while they carried it to the wagon with Josh having dry heaves all the way.

They both lifted and placed in the rear of the wagon.

Wilbur walked over, climbed up the wagon and sat down in the drivers seat.

Josh stayed at the rear of the wagon and

Wilbur noticed. "We're not done yet. Climb aboard," he called out while he grabbed the reins.

Josh walked over, climbed up and got in the wagon's seat next to Wilbur.

Wilbur snapped the reins and the horse pulled the wagon away.

A little while later, Wilbur drove the wagon out of Paradise and down a smaller dirt trail deep into the forest.

"You must have pissed off Marshall Fisher to get this duty today."

"I called his money counterfeit when I was at the bank."

"Ouch. I pissed him off big time and he put me on permanent outhouse duty," Wilbur replied and looked upset. "I guess you can say I'm the head turd," he added with a chuckle then he looked sad.

Josh chuckled then looked sad.

"The bastard had my wife working as his personal cook," Wilbur added.

"Had?"

Wilbur wiped away a tear. "My wife Dorothy died and Marshall Fisher buried her without a funeral and told me a week later. So I punched him in his mouth, hence this job," he said with anger still brewing inside while he thought about that day.

"This place isn't Paradise and I can't believe you get hung for trying to leave," Josh replied

and he looked sad while he thought about Jerry being hung and Willard waiting in jail.

“Everybody had their own reasons for coming to Paradise with the belief it would be a better life. Boy were we all duped,” Wilbur said.

“I guess my life back home wasn’t so bad after all,” Josh replied.

“The grass is often never greener on the other side,” said Wilbur.

Josh nodded in agreement while Wilbur drove the wagon to a huge hole.

He stopped the wagon and climbed down off the wagon.

Josh sniffed the air and got the dry heaves over the strong stench of human waste.

“It’s time to unload,” Wilbur said while he walked to the rear of the wagon.

Josh got down from the wagon and walked over to Wilbur.

He helped Wilbur remove a bucket of crap from the back of the wagon.

They walked the bucket over to the large pit of human waste. They dumped the contents of the bucket into the pit where some waste splashed up at them.

His eyes widen and he rushed over to a tree and immediately dropped his hands and knees.

Wilbur laughed at the sight of Josh on his hands and knees vomiting.

Josh stood up and looked pale.

“Did I ever tell you the problem I have?” Wilbur asked Josh while he walked back to the

wagon.

“No,” Josh replied when he got to the wagon.

“I have this problem in that everything I eat turns to shit,” Wilbur said with a grin.

Josh looked at the pit of shit and turned around and bolted back to the tree. He dropped to his hands and knees and vomited again.

Wilbur laughed from the wagon at the sight of Josh.

Josh got up still pale and walked back to the wagon. “Please be nice,” he pleaded while he climbed up and sat down next to Wilbur.

“Okay,” Wilbur replied then snapped the reins and the horse pulled the buggy away from the pit.

The farther and farther the wagon drove away from the pit, the more and more Josh quit feeling like he was going to vomit.

Chapter 10

It was five thirty later that evening.

Josh finished his crap detail and returned to his hotel room where he immediately soaked in the bathtub.

There was a light tapping sound on the bathroom door and then the door slowly opened.

Josh sat straight up and looked irritated. "I still have five minutes," he yelled out thinking it was Maggie performing her duties, as the bathroom police.

The door continued to slowly open and Josh quickly covered his crotch.

"Stupid maid," Josh said under his breath while the door continued to creak open. His eyes lit up with joy the second he saw Jenny enter the bathroom with a clean pair of pants, and shirt.

She closed the door behind her and she smiled at the sight of Josh. "Rub a rub dub dub, sexy man in a tub."

Josh loved her comment.

Jenny held up the clean clothes. "I heard about your detail so I thought you could use some fresh clothes."

"Paradise isn't Paradise," he replied.

Jenny hung his fresh clothes up on the hooks on the wall.

"I know. You better hurry before that maid

busts in here and arrests you for excessive tub time,” she jokingly said then winked at Josh and left the bathroom.

Josh looked at his fresh clothes and didn't know where she got them but didn't want to know. He was happy that Jenny was thoughtful and thinking about him. He smiled and wondered if he had a chance with her.

A little while later, Josh walked out of his hotel and headed to the Dining Hall afraid that if he didn't show up for dinner, they might hang him.

Josh just made it into the Dining Hall before the doors were closed. He rushed over to Table 12 and eyed Table 4 where Jenny was already seated.

Josh sat down next to James and they both stared at the three empty seats.

Walt dropped off their steak dinners with corn on the cob, broccoli, and mash potatoes.

Kimmy came up behind Walt and dropped off their two glasses of milk.

James started cutting his steak while Josh suddenly lost his appetite.

“Did Sara go home?” James asked while he looked at the empty seats.

Josh opened up his mouth to respond but shut it the second he saw Charlie standing in the doorway with Cowboys Bart, Jesse, Sam and Jimmy.

“May I have your attention?” Charlie called out from the door to the Dining Hall.

It was quiet in the room and all eyes were on Charlie.

“Marshall Fisher wants everybody outside by the court house. You can finish dinner afterwards,” he addressed everybody.

The room was quiet while everybody got up from their tables and headed to the door. They knew what was going to happen next.

Josh and James walked out of the Dining Hall with all the other folks and stood in the street. They saw the gallows in the middle of the street and Josh and James both knew this was meant for Willard.

The door to the Marshall’s Office opened and Marshall Fisher with another cigar in his mouth strutted out and headed to the gallows.

Cowboys Tony and Steve escorted Willard out who was handcuffed out of the Marshall’s Office.

Cowboys Mark and Ray walked out of the Marshall’s Office and followed the other Cowboys.

Charlie stepped out of the Marshall’s Office and stood on the front porch with his arms crossed while he looked at the gallows then eyed the crowd.

Marshall Fisher walked up the side steps of the gallows.

Marshall Fisher walked on the platform of

the gallows and headed to the noose. He faced the crowd and waited.

Tony and Steve walked Willard up the side steps to the gallows.

Mark and Ray walked up the side steps to the gallows.

Willard dug his heels into the wood while he fought from being escorted over to the noose. "Please don't let them kill me!" he screamed out to the crowd of town folk that felt sorry for Willard, but knew they couldn't save his life.

Steve punched Willard in his stomach and he dropped to his knees in pain.

Tony and Steve dragged Willard over to the noose.

Steve pulled Willard up by his hair and stood him up in front of Marshall Fisher.

Marshall Fisher paced back and forth while he addressed the crowd who looked upset with what was about to happen. "It gives me great displeasure to stand before you with another individual who thinks he can just up and leave Paradise without permission," he told the crowd.

"Please don't kill me!" Willard cried out while Steve placed a noose around his neck.

Tony struggled to tighten the noose around Willard's neck while he fought to get free.

Marshall Fisher got in Willard's face. "I built this beautiful place for people like you. People who wanted to get away from their miserable lives. And you repay me by trying to leave?" Marshall Fisher yelled in Willard's face.

“I was forced to perform oral sex on Butch the faggot!” Willard screamed out in a muffled tone while the noose was tight around his vocal cords.

Butch looked at the gallows from the edge of the crowd he monitored and was furious with Willard’s comment.

“And now this guy lies in my face about one of my good Cowboys who keeps crime out of Paradise!” Marshall Fisher told the audience.

A huge wet spot formed in Willard’s crotch while he peed his pants afraid of dying.

Marshall Fisher nodded at Mark who moved a wooden lever.

The trap door opened up under Willard’s boots and he dropped into the hole. His neck snapped and that was a sound that would again haunt the minds of most of the town folk of Paradise.

They silently watched in horror while Willard’s lifeless body dangled from the rope.

Josh’s eyes welled up while he saw his short-term friend’s lifeless body dangle from the noose.

Marshall Fisher looked satisfied while he looked down at Willard’s dead body. “Get this piece of trash out of here,” he ordered his Cowboys.

Cowboy Steve removed a large Bowie knife and started cutting away at the rope.

Marshall Fisher watched puffing on his cigar.

After a few minutes of Steve cutting through the rope, Willard's dead body dropped to the dirt with a thud.

"To brighten up this sad moment, we're having a dance tonight in the dining hall in two hours and the drinks are on me. In addition, everybody can have Saturday off from work except for the General Store, which will close at high noon that day. So please go to your rooms and freshen up, dance and have a grand time tonight," Marshall Fisher told the town folks while Cowboys Steve, Ray, Mark and Tony all walked down the steps and went underneath the gallows.

The Cowboys picked up Willard by his arms and legs and carted him off to a wagon parked by the side of the Marshall's Office.

Marshall Fisher walked down the steps of the gallows and headed to his office while the Cowboys tossed Willard's dead body into the back of the wagon.

Everybody started walking down Paradise Lane in a somber mood and headed toward their respective hotels.

Bob stood in the street and he had fire in his eyes while he eyed Marshall Fisher when he walked over to his office.

Bob walked away and headed toward the saloon.

Josh saw Jenny and his eyes lit up and headed to her to ask her to dance tonight. But he stopped dead in his tracks when he saw

Marshall Fisher walk over and started chatting with her.

He was disappointed while he walked down a side street and headed to his hotel.

Two hours later, Josh and the rest of the town folk of Paradise headed to the Paradise Dining Hall for the dance.

Inside the Dining Hall, all the tables were removed for the party. All the chairs were placed up against three walls for the residents to sit and relax if desired.

Against the fourth wall was an area for the band, which consisted of Paul the fiddle player, George the banjo player, Lenny the guitar player, Joey the cigar box guitar player, and Hank the stand-up bass player.

To the right side of the band was a makeshift bar that served beer, whiskey, and apple juice.

The band was tuning up their instruments while the folks started entering the room in fresh clothes.

Josh entered the room and immediately scanned the room for Jenny but couldn't find her amongst the twenty folks that already arrived.

He walked through the waiting folks and headed to the bar.

"Beer please," Josh told Wendell the Paradise Saloon bartender that had a wad of chewing tobacco in his mouth.

Josh spotted Bob Jackson who sat depressed in a seat by the wall and drank his mug of beer.

Wendell spat some tobacco into a brass spittoon while he poured some beer into a glass mug from a keg then handed it over to Josh.

He turned around and took a sip of beer while he looked the room over for Jenny.

Flocks of town folks entered and Josh continued his search for Jenny while he sipped his beer and walked around the room.

After ten minutes of walking around all of the town folk, Josh finally saw Jenny, in a new brown dress, while he stood near the door.

He walked over to her. "Hello Miss Burns, you look lovely tonight," he said.

"Thank you Mister Bryant, and I should add that you look handsome tonight," she replied with a warm smile.

Josh looked a little nervous while he hesitated to say something. "So Jenny, may I accompany you at this dance?" he asked with hopeful eyes.

Jenny took a few seconds to respond and Josh thought she was going to turn him down.

"I would love for you to accompany me at the dance," she replied with a loving smile.

Josh held Jenny's hand and walked her over and placed the empty beer mug on the bar.

The band started playing a slow song.

"May I have this dance my beautiful lady?"

he asked while he held out his hand.

Jenny smiled while they walked over to the center of the room where other couples started slow dancing.

Josh placed his arms around Jenny and they started slow dancing with the other couples.

“What the hell is going on here?” he whispered into his ear as he felt he could trust her.

“It’s best to forget things that you recently saw. Marshall Fisher can make your life miserable if you complain about anything,” she whispered back in his ear.

“I was lied to by Charlie,” he whispered back into her ear.

“We all were,” she whispered back into his ear.

“Fisher didn’t build this place for us. He built it for his own sick perversion to be a dictator,” he whispered back.

“I know,” she whispered.

“We need to find a way out of here,” he whispered back.

“We’re stuck here for good, so pretend you love this place,” she whispered back.

Josh looked determined to find a way out of here but he didn’t want to leave Jenny behind in this hellhole.

A hand appeared and pulled Josh apart from Jenny.

“I’m going to dance with her,” Marshall Fisher said with another cigar in his mouth while

he pushed Josh out of the way.

Marshall Fisher grabbed Jenny and forced her body up against his and started slow dancing with her.

Jenny turned her head away from the cigar smoke that irritated her eyes.

Josh looked pissed at that sight but decided to leave it alone when he saw Cowboys Tony, Steve, Ray and Mark near him.

Steve and Tony each grabbed one of Josh's arms.

"She's his date for the evening," Steve said while he and Tony walked Josh away and took him over to the bar.

"Give this boy a beer," Steve told Wendell the bartender.

Wendell poured Josh some beer in a mug and handed it to him.

Steve and Tony walked away and headed back through the crowd to Marshall Fisher.

Josh stood by the bar and sipped his beer while he eyed the crowd dancing for a sight of Jenny.

The band ended their song.

Josh finally saw Jenny while Marshall Fisher talked with her by the door. He grabbed Jenny by her hand.

Jenny looked back at the crowd and saw Josh at the bar. She looked concerned while Marshall Fisher walked her out the door and went outside.

Josh rushed through the crowd and headed

to the door.

Josh rushed out the door and walked to the front porch of the Dining Hall. He looked down Paradise Lane and saw Marshall Fisher escort Jenny with the four Cowboys trailing to his mansion.

Cowboys Jesse and Bart walked up to Josh. "Get back inside the dance," Jesse told Josh.

"Nobody is allowed out of the dining hall until the dance is over," Bart added with a mean glare.

Josh went back inside the Dining Hall and hated every minute of the dance, as all he could think about was Jenny being with Marshall Fisher.

After the dance, everybody was allowed to leave the Dining Hall and return to their respective hotel rooms.

Josh glanced back at Fisher's mansion and silently prayed that the Marshall wasn't having his way with Jenny.

He moped back to his hotel room.

Chapter 11

Josh finally fell asleep around three forty that Saturday morning, and when he did, he tossed and turned while having another dream.

Josh's dream, he and Jenny were able to get a wagon and took a ride into the forest.

Josh stopped the wagon by the lake where there was a sandy beach.

Josh got down out of the wagon then assisted Jenny out like a gentleman.

He removed a blanket and picnic basket from the back of the wagon.

They walked hand in hand to the sandy beach.

Josh spread the blanket out in the sand and placed the picnic basket on one corner.

Josh held Jenny's hands and gazed into her eyes and then their lips met. Their kissing soon turned passionate and he slowly lowered her to the blanket. Josh got on top of Jenny and they passionately kissed on the blanket.

Josh was suddenly pulled off Jenny and he was now staring into the eyes of Cowboys Steve, Tony, Mark, Jesse, Bart, and Ray.

Marshall Fisher walked over and glared at Josh. "She's my girl now," he yelled and punched Josh in his stomach. "Take him away and I'll be along a little while later," Marshall

Fisher told his Cowboys.

Steve and Tony each grabbed one of Josh's arms and walked him over to another wagon.

They threw Josh in the back then Steve and Tony got inside with Josh while Mark and Ray climbed up and sat in the drivers seat.

"No!" Jenny screamed out while the wagon drove away.

Josh turned around and saw Cowboys Bart and Jesse forcing Jenny down on the blanket while Marshall Fisher had his pants down around his ankles and he was raping her.

Josh tried to get out of the back of the wagon to help Jenny, but Steve and Tony's grips were too strong.

He listened in horror to the screams of Jenny while the Marshall was raping her.

A little while later, the wagon stopped at the Marshall's Office. Steve and Tony grabbed one of Josh's arms and dragged him out of the wagon.

Mark and Ray rushed on the front porch and opened the door to the Marshall's Office.

Steve and Tony escorted Josh into the Marshall's Office and rushed him over to one of the jail cells.

They threw him inside the cell where he hit the floor with a thud. Steve slammed the door shut and walked away.

Josh sat down on the bunk in his jail cell and

the screams of Jenny being raped filled the air.

Then he heard the faint would sound of a bell ringing.

The bell ringing got louder.

The bell ringing got louder.

Josh looked around the cell for the source of the bell ringing.

“Get your ass out of bed!” Maggie’s nagging voice filled the air.

Josh looked around for Maggie and she was nowhere to be found.

He felt an invisible slap across his cheek.

Back to Josh’s reality in Paradise, it was now five in the morning.

Josh opened up his eyes and saw Maggie standing over him while he lay in bed.

“Get your lazy ass out of bed!” she yelled while she rang the bell in his ear.

Josh jumped up in a panic and looked dazed and a little confused while he stared at Maggie.

She chuckled while she walked to the door and left his room.

Josh got out of bed and grabbed his towel and toothpaste and toothbrush and left his room.

He walked down the hallway and found there was two other people waiting in line for their fifteen minute turn in the bathroom.

“Ah man,” he said under his breath while he stood in line.

Twenty minutes later and Josh rushed his

bath was out of the bathroom and dressed in some fresh clothes.

He left the hotel and rushed down Paradise Lane to the Dining Hall.

Josh entered the Dining Hall after being checked in by Abby.

While Josh walked through the maze of tables, he saw Table 4 and noticed that Jenny was not seated at the table. He got concerned while he continued through the maze and walked to his table.

He sat down next to James at Table 12.
“Good morning.”

“Good morning to you good sir,” James replied.

Josh glanced over at the doorway hoping to see Jenny enter the room.

Walt walked up with two plates of scrambled eggs, and bacon and placed them in front of Josh and James.

Kimmy walked up with two glasses of home made apple juice and set them in front of Josh and James.

“What are your plans for today?” James asked while he scooped up some eggs with his fork.

“I don’t know. Maybe take a train ride,” Josh replied while he glanced over at the door for Jenny.

“I’m off duty from the General Store at noon, if you can wait until then, I would love to tag

along,” James said then took a sip of milk.

“Ah sure,” Josh replied while he glanced over in the area of Jenny’s table and saw her empty seat.

“Great, meet me outside the General Store at high noon,” James replied then munched on a slice of bacon.

“Sure,” Josh replied while he looked a little concerned for Jenny’s whereabouts.

Josh and James continued to eat breakfast with some idle chit chat.

After breakfast, Josh walked with James to the General Store. After James went inside to report for work, Josh walked down Paradise Lane.

Josh walked down the street and went to Doc Holloway’s Office. He saw the “Closed” sign in the door window but still peeked inside in search of Jenny.

He stepped off the porch and looked concerned while he walked down Paradise Lane.

Josh walked up and down Paradise Lane a few times.

He then walked up and down Blaine and Fisher’s Lanes and was soon completely bored after he saw all the sights he could see in Paradise.

He walked back to this hotel room and relaxed until it was time to meet with James.

At high noon, Josh walked over to the General Store where James was already waiting on the porch.

They walked down Paradise Lane and headed to the train station.

Josh and James waited at the dock of the train station where there were eight other town folks waiting for a ride.

The train whistle was heard and a puff of black smoke was visible while the train rolled down the tracks and headed to the train station.

Everybody at the dock stood in line for the Paradise Express.

The train stopped and everybody started boarding the passenger car.

Cowboy Doug sat in the rear of the passenger car and kept a watchful eye on the passengers.

Josh and James sat down on the left side of the passenger car.

The train whistle blew and the Paradise Express pulled away from the station.

Josh watched while the train rolled out of Paradise and headed toward Fisher's mansion.

Josh eyed Fisher's mansion while the Paradise Express rolled down the tracks.

"What brought you to Paradise?" Josh curiously asked James while the train started to roll down the tracks and headed through the grassy field.

James glanced out the window. "Well, I worked for a major aerospace program for thirty years. And then our politicians in Washington canceled the government program we worked on and I was out of work for a year. Then my wife died of cancer and I moped around for another couple more years feeling sorry for myself. Then I found out about Paradise and figured I could start a new life here," James replied.

"Some Paradise," Josh quietly said in a sarcastic tone.

"I know, but we can't leave so we have to tolerate it and pretend we love it," James quietly replied.

"I know," Josh quietly responded but still looked determined to find a safe way out of his hell hole.

"How did you get the easy duty working at the General Store?"

"I worked the gardens at first, and when Mickey, an old man died of old age, Marshall Fisher put me in there. I guess I got lucky," James replied.

Josh and James remained quiet and looked out the window while the Paradise Express rolled down the tracks through the forest.

Josh and James remained quiet and looked out the window while the train rolled down the tracks through the desert.

The Paradise Express rolled around the bend and Josh and James saw four Indians that

made a camp near the cave in the mountains.

“What are those Indians doing there?” Josh curiously asked James.

“Marshall Fisher pays them in whiskey to guard the cave for anybody trying to escape,” James replied while he looked out the window and saw the Indians passing around the whiskey bottle.

Josh and James continued to stare out the window while the Paradise Express rolled down the tracks with the mountains to the left.

“Paradise sure is a beautiful place,” Josh said while he looked at the mountains. “Except for the criminals,” he muttered under his breath.

They both looked at the windows and saw the Indian camp.

Josh’s eyes lit up. “There’s Sara,” he told James.

James looked and saw Sara sitting outside Chief Merijildo’s teepee. “It looks like the Chief has another wife,” James replied.

“Another wife?”

“A little while back, another young girl names Diana was taken away by the Indians when she asked Marshall Fisher if she could go home,” James replied.

“I wondered what happened when a guy asked the Marshall if he could go home,” Josh curiously asked.

“He’s the pleasure property of some of the Cowboys that love guys,” James replied.

Josh stared at the Indian camp while the

Paradise Express rolled down the tracks and felt so sorry for Sara.

Josh and James were both quiet during the rest of the ride back to Paradise.

After the train ride, Josh and James went back to their hotels rooms and relaxed.

Josh paced back and forth in his room, as he was so bored without a life of television or DVD movies.

To kill some time, Josh left his hotel room after twenty minutes of boredom and pacing. He walked up and down all the streets where there were numerous other couples also walking too fight the boredom.

After walking the streets numerous times, it was time for lunch and Josh met James back at the Dining Hall where they were served ham sandwiches and milk.

While he ate his sandwich, Josh looked around the room in search of Jenny. She was no where to be found. He got concerned but knew he couldn't ask anybody in fear that the Cowboys would march him to Marshall Fisher.

Josh and James ate lunch with idle chit chat.

After lunch, Josh walked over to the Paradise Saloon where it was packed, as some folks choose drinking and playing poker to kill the boredom.

Josh stood at the bar and drank a few beers

at twenty-five cents a mug and listened to the Ralph, the day shift piano player, while he played old western songs on the old standup piano.

After spending thirty minutes in the noisy Saloon, Josh left and walked up and down the streets of Paradise again.

Josh walked down the alley behind the Paradise House and saw four outhouses reserved for the whores.

One of the outhouse doors opened and Linda stepped outside.

“Josh!” she said the second she saw Josh walking near the outhouses.

“I was worried about you,” Josh said while he rushed over to her.

Linda got closer to Josh. “I’m alive but hate every moment those stinking Cowboys climb on top of my naked body,” she quietly told him.

“Why did he pick you to work there?” Josh curiously asked.

Linda hesitated to respond and looked a little ashamed. “He must have found out that I was arrested for prostitution five years ago. At that time, I was desperate for money and worked as an escort for six months until I got busted,” she replied.

“This place is a huge lie,” Josh quietly replied.

“I know, but we can’t escape. You saw what happened to those two guys that tried,” Linda

replied and her eyes welled up thinking she would spend the rest of her life as a whore.

Josh opened his mouth to tell her about Sara but closed it when he saw Casey the madam from the Paradise House of Pleasure walk over looking pissed.

“Get back to work Linda,” Casey said in a raised tone to indicate she was displeased with her whore chatting with a non-cowboy.

“Yes ma-am,” Linda politely replied and rushed over to the Paradise House.

Casey got in Josh’s face while Linda rushed over to the back door of the Paradise House of Pleasure and went inside. “Only the Cowboys or special guests are allowed to fraternize with my whores. If I catch you again, I’ll have Marshall Fisher deal with you,” Casey said while he continuously poked Josh in his chest with the middle finger of her right hand to intimidate him.

“Yes ma-am,” Josh responded and rushed away fearful she might deck him.

Casey glared at Josh while he rushed down the back alley and then turned down a side street and disappeared.

Casey strutted over to the back door of the Paradise House of Pleasure and went inside to supervise her whores.

Josh walked down the alley and headed to Fisher’s Lane and went back inside his hotel.

Josh paced back and forth in his small room

for most of the night.

Paradise is boring! He screamed inside his mind while he paced back and forth from wall to wall in his room.

Meanwhile, back at the Indian camp, Sara and Diana sat inside the Chief's teepee.

"Did he get you pregnant?" Sara quietly asked her while she stared at the pouchy belly.

"Yeah, I vomited for days after he has his nasty way with me," Diana quietly replied while her eyes welled up.

"I wonder what he'll do with me when he finds out I can't bear children," Sara said and looked worried.

Diana looked at Sara, and Sara could see it in Diana's eyes that the Chief would probably kill her. She wanted to scream but her eyes welled up instead.

It seemed like time stood still for Josh while he waited until it was time for dinner for something to help pass the time.

Josh joined James for their standard steak, mashed potatoes, corn on the cob and a glass of milk dinner.

While Josh ate, he kept on eyeing the door and the tables for Jenny, but she still didn't return from Marshall Fisher's mansion.

After dinner, Josh and James took a stroll over to the saloon, which was packed again.

Josh and James watched while some of the guys played poker and listened to Bernie, the night shift piano player, while he played old western songs on the old standup piano.

After an hour of drinking numerous mugs of beer, Josh and James had a pretty good buzz and they decided to take a train ride.

They walked down Paradise Lane and headed to the train station.

A little while later, Josh and James sat in the passenger car where another couple joined them for an evening ride.

Cowboy Doug sat in the back and he slouched in his seat, tipped his hat over his eyes when the train whistle blew and it slowly moved away from the station. All the Cowboys that had this duty used it as an opportunity to get some shut-eye.

The Paradise Express soon rolled down the tracks and headed closer to Marshall Fisher's mansion.

Josh's eyes lit up when from the large living room windows he saw Jenny slow dancing with Marshall Fisher in the living room of the mansion where the band played. Josh looked depressed since he was really falling in love with Jenny.

After the train ride, Josh and James headed back to their hotel rooms and retired for the

night. Since Saturday was so boring for Josh, he didn't have any trouble falling fast asleep.

Chapter 12

Josh tossed and turned while he had another dream.

In Josh's dream, it was in the middle of the night.

Josh broke out of his jail cell when he realized his small barred window on the back wall was loose.

Josh climbed through the small window and hit the ground with a thud.

He got up and ran down the back alley and headed in the direction of the mansion.

Josh was able to sneak past all the Cowboys while he headed to the mansion.

Josh ran to one of the sides of the mansion and pushed up on a wooden framed window. The window opened and he cautiously climbed inside the dining room.

Inside the mansion, Josh stood up in the dark dining room and he looked around the area.

"No!" he heard Jenny cry out from the upstairs rooms.

Josh ran out of the dining room like a super hero and bolted up the stairs.

He raced down and body slammed the

closed door the end of the hallway.

The bedroom came crashing down to the floor with Josh.

He quickly sprang up and stood in the doorway in a super hero stance. He saw Marshall Fisher naked on top of Jenny and forcing himself up on this fair lady.

“Let go of that young lady!” Josh yelled at Marshall Fisher.

Marshall Fisher just turned and grinned while he played with his handlebar mustache then he returned to forcing himself on Jenny.

“Please help me Josh!” she screamed out while Marshall Fisher forced his lips upon her lips.

“Never fear, Josh is here!” he replied in his super hero voice.

Josh moved to rescue Jenny but something grabbed his arms and flung him backwards and slammed him down to the floor.

He looked up and there were twelve Cowboys glaring down at Josh.

“Take him to the gallows!” Marshall Fisher yelled out from the bed.

Josh tried to fight to free himself but the Cowboys were stronger and took him down the hallway.

Josh was now on top of the gallows where the noose hung before his eyes.

Marshall Fisher walked up and looked at people in the street. “Josh will hang for stopping me from having sex with my beautiful Jenny,” he

told all the town folk that cheered and clapped.

Josh looked and saw Jenny was in the street where she blew Marshall Fisher kisses.

One of the Cowboys placed the noose around Josh's neck and the faint sound of a bell was heard coming from the air.

Josh looked up and the bell ringing got a little louder.

Nobody heard that bell but Josh as everybody watched the noose around his neck.

Josh heard the lever being moved while the bell ringing got closer.

Josh heard the trap door open and the bell got louder.

The second Josh dropped into the hole and the noose got tighter around his neck, the bell ringing was loud and in his face.

Back to Josh's reality in Paradise, it was five that Sunday morning.

Josh jumped up in bed in a panic gasping for air and his head slammed into the bell that Maggie was ringing above his head.

"It's time for breakfast and then church!" Maggie yelled at Josh.

Josh looked around the room and was dazed and confused.

"I said it's time for breakfast and then church!" Maggie yelled again.

"Church?" Josh asked still a little confused and still dazed from his dream.

"You heard me. Everybody goes to church

every Sunday morning immediately after breakfast,” she said then turned around and rushed off to the door.

Josh got out of bed, used the stinky outhouses, and had to wait his turn for the bathroom.

Josh joined James at breakfast in the Dining Hall and he still couldn't find Jenny and was really concerned.

After breakfast, Josh and James walked down the far end of Paradise Lane where the Paradise Holy Church was located next to Doc Holloway's Office.

It was a stand alone building painted white with a large cross on the steeple.

Inside the Paradise Holy Church, it was packed with all the residents of Paradise and the Cowboys all stood around the walls keeping a watchful eye on everybody.

Preacher Stan, another good friend of Marshall Fisher, stood at the podium with a hymn book and bible in his hands while he watched everybody pile inside the church and sit in the pews.

Jason and James entered the church from the rear door and sat in the end spaces in one of the pews at the rear.

Josh looked around for Jenny and she

wasn't seen in the church at this time.

More people poured into the church, Josh looked for Jenny and she wasn't anywhere in sight.

After a few minutes, all the town folk were sitting in the pews in the church waiting for the preaching to start.

Bob Jackson entered, sat down at one of the last pews by the rear door and he showed no emotions of life.

Josh's eyes widened when he saw Marshall Fisher enter through the side door with Jenny by his side and Charlie trailing.

They sat down in the front pew reserved for the Marshall and his guests.

Josh didn't know what to think about Jenny spending the weekend with the Marshall.

"Good morning my Paradise flock," Preacher Stan called out from the podium.

"Good morning," everybody called out except for Josh.

Preacher Stan opened up his hymn book. "Let's sing hymn number one," he said while he looked at a page.

Everybody grabbed hymn books from the back of the pew in front of them and opened up to that page.

"Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me," everybody sang out except for Josh who couldn't carry a tune in a bucket so he quietly sang out the words.

While the entire church sang the hymn, Josh

eyed the back of Jenny's head and looked worried.

After a few minutes, the church was finished with the *Amazing Grace* hymn and Preacher Stan dove into his sermon about loyalty to others who try to give you a better life and then betraying them.

Twenty minutes later, Preacher Stan was finished preaching his sermon about being loyal. Most of the folks in the pews fought to stay awake.

Marshall Fisher got up and walked over to Preacher Stan. "Thank you for a wonderful service with a powerful message, Preacher Stan," he said while they shook hands.

Marshall Fisher looked at Jenny in the front pew. "Will Jenny Burns please come up here," he asked her.

Josh's ears perked up when he heard Jenny's name, and he craned his neck to watch.

Jenny looked worried while she walked over to Marshall Fisher and stood by his side.

Fisher placed an arm around her. "I am so happy to announce, that Jenny Burns will be my wife," he told the audience with a huge smile.

Jenny looked stunned over hearing this news for the first time.

All the town folk clapped, except for Josh who looked upset.

Marshall Fisher grinned from ear to ear and waited until the clapping ceased. "We'll have

our wedding in a few days and the whole town is invited!”

The audience clapped again and it was louder.

“Church is dismissed!” Marshall Fisher called out during the clapping.

Everybody stopped clapping and got up from their pews and started piling out of the church.

Josh stood up with James and he saw Preacher Stan congratulating Marshall Fisher and Jenny.

He moped out of the church with James by his side.

A little while later, Josh walked into the Paradise Saloon and headed over to the bar.

“Whiskey please,” Josh told Wendell the bartender.

Wendell spat out some tobacco into a brass spittoon poured Josh a shot of whiskey.

While Josh drank it, he saw Bob Jackson over at a table all by himself with five empty shot glasses. Bob looked lifeless while he held his sixth shot glass in his hand at stared at the whiskey.

Josh saw Doc Holloway passed out drunk at a table at the other side of the bar.

Josh gulped down his shot of whiskey. “Another shot,” he told Wendell.

While the shot glass was being filled, Josh saw Bob sway in his chair while he gulped down

his shot.

“Why thank you. Miss Burns is a beautiful woman and will be a dedicated wife,” Marshall Fisher was heard outside the saloon talking to one of the town folk.

Bob eyed the saloon doors with looks that could kill the second he heard the Marshall’s voice. He saw five Cowboys drinking whiskey at the bar and they all were stinking drunk.

Bob got up from his table with a smirk on his face while he walked over to the bar near the Cowboys.

“Whiskey,” Bob slurred out the words while he handed Wendell the shot glass.

Josh gulped down his second shot of whiskey and headed to the door.

Josh walked out of the saloon and saw Marshall Fisher talking with four couples in the middle of the street about the wedding.

Josh moped down Paradise Lane to get away from the Marshall.

He eventually moped by the Paradise House of Pleasure, and saw Linda standing on the front porch looking lifeless.

Cowboys Dale and Jesse entered the Paradise House of Pleasure looking horny.

Cowboys Mitch and Saul exited the Paradise House of Pleasure and looked satisfied while they smoked a rolled up cigarette.

Josh looked over at Linda.

“Help me, Josh!” she mouthed the words.

Cowboy Wesley walked out on the front porch and grabbed Linda by her arm. "I don't have all day," he yelled and pulled her into the building.

Josh walked down the street, passed by Gus, who hobbled on crutches with one leg, and he looked depressed.

Josh saw Marshall Fisher's mansion, turned around and walked back toward the Saloon to get drunk.

Meanwhile, Anita, in an old western blue dress, rode one of the horses that belonged to the Indians into town. She was able to obtain the horse from the Indians for a bottle of whiskey.

Josh walked back down to the saloon and saw Marshall Fisher still chatting about his upcoming wedding with those couples.

Bob bolted out of the saloon with a pistol that he lifted out of a holster of one of those drunken Cowboys. "Fisher!" he yelled out in anger.

Marshall Fisher turned around, and saw Bob in the street, swaying with the pistol in his hand.

All the town folk on Paradise Lane ran to a safe distance and watched the show.

Anita stopped her horse and dismounted by the Marshall's Office. She looked in awe at the town her father built.

"Marshall Fisher, you bastard!" Bob yelled

out while he swayed and tried to aim his pistol.

Anita looked down the street and saw Bob aiming his pistol at her father.

Josh stopped dead in his tracks when he saw Bob aiming his pistol at Marshall Fisher.

Jenny stepped out of Doc Holloway's Office and saw Bob with a pistol aimed at Marshall Fisher.

"You and your goons raped my sister Mindy. That's why she killed herself!" Bob yelled out in anger.

Marshall Fisher looked pissed with being threatened by Bob. "Now Bob, it's best you go sleep this off. We'll talk about it in the morning," he said.

Bob swayed, closed one eye while he aimed his pistol at Marshall Fisher. "You don't deserve to breath our air," he yelled out while he continued to sway with his pistol aimed.

Josh had a smile thinking Bob would take care of his problem with the Marshall marrying Jenny.

A pistol was fired from behind Bob.

It was like slow motion when Bob's forehead blew open and brain and blood flew in the air when the bullet exited. Bob dropped face first into the ground dead with a blank stare in his eyes.

Cowboy Tony was the meanest cowboy in the bunch and he fired the fatal shot into the back of Bob's head. He blew across the barrel, twirled his pistol and dropped it into his holster

with a smirk.

Everybody in the street looked stunned while Bob lay with blood oozing out of his forehead into the dirt.

Josh looked again at cowboy Tony and tried to remember why his face looked so familiar but couldn't recall.

Marshall Fisher walked over to Bob's dead body.

Tony walked over to Bob's dead body.

"Thanks Tony," Marshall Fisher said with a pat on his back.

Tony looked proud at Bob's dead body. "My pleasure, boss."

Anita ran over to Marshall Fisher, and looked down at Bob's dead body. "Daddy, what happened? He said you raped a woman?"

Marshall Fisher looked at Anita then at Bob in the dirt. "He was drunk and acting stupid."

Cowboy Tony walked away and headed back into the saloon.

Marshall Fisher looked bothered with Anita. "What are you doing here?"

"Don't worry. Everything's secured at the mansion and I put up a closed for two weeks repairs sign. I just had to see this place," she replied while she looked around the town in awe.

"I'll have one of my Cowboys escort you back to the cave later today. I need you there guarding the train house."

Anita looked excited. "Daddy, I have a new idea to run by you. Plus, can't I stay for a few

days? I want you find me a husband,” she asked with pleading eyes.

Marshall Fisher looked at Anita’s pleading eyes. “Sure thing, darling,” he replied with a warm smile, as she had him wrapped around her little finger. “I need some drinks,” Marshall Fisher told her. “By the way, I’m getting married and her name is Jenny. She’s the town nurse and I’ll take you to the doctor’s office later to meet her,” he told Anita while they walked to the mansion.

A wagon rode down the street from one of the side streets and was driven by cowboy Sam with cowboy Jimmy sitting next to him.

Sam stopped the wagon by Bob’s dead body.

Sam and Jimmy got down off the wagon and picked up Bob’s body. They tossed the corpse into the rear of the wagon and climbed back up to the seat.

Sam drove the wagon down Paradise Lane and headed down the street to the Undertaker’s building.

Josh saw Jenny while she walked back inside Doc Holloway’s Office.

Josh walked away and headed to a side street.

A little while later, Josh walked down an alley and went to the rear of Doc Holloway’s Office. He tapped on the glass of the rear door window.

The door opened and Jenny appeared. "Can we talk?" Josh asked with pleading eyes.

She looked behind her to make sure nobody was entered the office. "Come inside," she said then stepped aside.

The second Josh stepped inside the doctor's office he started pacing. "I can't believe my luck. I meet a beautiful woman and she's forced to marry the town Marshall."

Jenny wiped away a tear. "I don't want to marry that old goat. He makes my skin crawl at the thought of him lying naked on top of me. Plus his breath is horrible from cigar smoke and those brown stained teeth make you want to vomit."

"What about Bob? He said Fisher raped Mindy."

Jenny's eyes welled up as she started pacing. "I heard those claims from some of the women."

Josh looked bothered by something. "That guy that shot Bob. He looked very familiar," he said while he tried to recall why.

After a few seconds of pacing it dawned on Josh. His eyes widened. "I saw him on a TV show that hunts down fugitives. He's wanted for rape and vanished from the law," Josh told her.

"That's Tony and his main job is to stand guard outside Fisher's bedroom when he's in the mansion," Josh told her then he paced around some more. "What the hell is going on here?"

“You said the magic word; hell,” she replied.

“There was Sara who came the same day I did. She was kidnapped and given to the Indians to the Chief’s bride.”

“I heard of another woman, Diana, was also given to the Indians a little while ago,” she told Josh.

“I can’t take it anymore. We need to get out of here,” he told her.

“He pays the Indians in booze to guard the cave. And that’s the only way out of here. And you know he’ll hang us for trying.”

Josh continued to pace circles around Jenny while he pondered their situation. “That’s the risk we’ll have to take. Or you can live the rest of your life as his wife,” he told her.

Jenny thought about his comment for a second. “I’ll rather risk a noose around my neck than that creep crawling all over me for the rest of my life,” she said.

Josh walked over to her and gave her a hug. They kissed, it turned passionate and then they started undressing each other.

Within a few minutes, they were both naked and fell on top of her bed.

Chapter 13

It was later that Sunday evening, and Josh and Jenny lay naked under her bed covers after dozing off from their session of sex.

Jenny woke up and looked at Josh then kissed his forehead and lightly kissed his lips.

Josh woke up and smiled the second he saw Jenny's face. "Hello beautiful."

"Hello handsome," she replied with a loving smile.

Josh lightly kissed her lips. "Why didn't we meet in the other world?" he said while he held her hand.

"We could be having a beautiful loving life together instead of me having a boring and life with that old creep," she replied and looked sick.

"That's where our paradise is, back home," he responded.

Josh and Jenny kissed.

The sound of cowboy boots on the front porch was heard while someone approached the door of the doctor's office and coughed up some phlegm.

"It's Doc Holloway. You better sneak out the back or he'll immediately run to Marshall Fisher," she said and looked worried.

Josh jumped out of bed and ran over to his clothes.

"What time is it?" he asked while he pulled

on his boxer shorts.

“Eight ten,” she replied while she looked at the clock on the dresser.

They both heard Doc Holloway cough up more phlegm on the front porch by the front door.

Josh quickly got dressed on his pants and shirt.

He blew Jenny a kiss while he hopped while putting on his cowboy boots at the same time he headed to the bedroom door.

“If anybody asks, you had a headache,” she said while she got dressed in her nurses uniform.

“I’m falling in love with you,” Josh said while he stood in the doorway.

“Me too,” she replied with a loving smile.

They heard Doc Holloway cough up some more phlegm on the front porch.

Josh looked nervous while Jenny just stared at him.

Josh had a spring in his step while he rushed to the rear door in the main area.

Josh quietly exited the rear door of Doc Holloway’s Office, ran down the back alley and didn’t notice cowboy Butch who was forcing Daniel, a twenty-five year old man to perform oral sex on him in the shadows of the backside of the bank.

Josh ran down the alley and headed to

Fisher's Lane.

Josh rushed down Fisher's Lane and headed to his hotel.

Josh rushed through the lobby of his hotel and bolted up the stairs.

Bud worked behind the front desk during the night shift and thought it was peculiar the way Josh dashed into the hotel room.

Josh went inside his room, got undressed and jumped under the bed covers. He lay staring at the ceiling and couldn't stop thinking about the beautiful time he just spent with Jenny. He closed his eyes with a huge smile on his face happy to be in love with her.

Back at Doc Holloway's Office, Jenny watched while Doc Holloway plopped on the other bed to sleep off the booze he drank all day.

Jenny quietly walked out of the doctor's office to avoid waking up Doc Holloway.

"Hey darling," Marshall Fisher's voice was heard the second she stepped off the front porch and into the dirt street.

"Hey baby," she replied pretending to be happy to see him while she watched him walk over with Anita.

"Darling, I want you to meet my daughter, Anita," he said while they walked up to Jenny.

"Hello," Anita said with a smile.

"You look familiar," Jenny said while she

shook Anita's hand.

"She worked at the counter back at the mansion for the Train House selling tickets and being the general caretaker," Marshall Fisher replied.

"Oh yeah, what brings you here to Paradise?" Jenny asked.

"Daddy's going to find me a husband," Anita replied with sparkles in her eyes.

"That's wonderful," Jenny said but she knew the Marshall would force someone to marry her daughter.

"Come my sweetness, let's go to the house," Marshall Fisher said then grabbed Jenny's arm and walked her and Anita back down Paradise Lane toward the mansion.

Jenny was forced to stay at the mansion where the band played music for the Marshall.

They all drank some expensive brandy while they listened to eh classic music.

Jenny hated every minute she spent in the place and was so happy to head back to her hotel at ten that night.

It was five that Monday morning.

Josh woke up before the sound of the irritating bell of Maggie.

He stepped out of his room the second Maggie was about to enter to wake him up. She looked a little pissed that she didn't get to rattle Josh out of his sleep while she watched him

walk down to the bathroom.

A little while later, Josh walked down Fisher's Lane and headed down Paradise Lane.

Josh soon walked into the Paradise Dining Hall where he was greeted by Abby at the door with her clipboard.

"Josh Bryant," he told her.

Abby looked at the names on her clipboard and checked off Josh's name and smiled at him.

Josh went into the dining room and looked at Jenny's table and noticed she was eating breakfast.

He walked over to his table and sat down.

James walked over to the table. "You beat me to the table for once," he said while he sat down.

"Yeah," Josh replied with a little grin while he thought about his last night naked romp with Jenny while he glanced back at her table.

After five minutes of waiting, Walt brought Josh and James their scrambled eggs, bacon dinner.

Kimmy soon placed two glasses of apple juice on front of the two guys.

"So, did you hear about Bob Jackson?"

James asked then ate some scrambled eggs.

"Yep, I was there on Paradise Lane when it happened," Josh replied then he ate some scrambled eggs.

"What a shame," James said then he drank

some of his apple juice.

“Yeah,” Josh said thought about yesterday’s shooting.

After breakfast, Josh left the Dining Hall and walked toward the General Store for his garden duty while Jenny headed down to Doc Holloway’s Office.

Cowboys Butch, with a black eye from Marshall Fisher, and Tim walked down from Paradise Lane from Marshall Fisher’s mansion and headed toward Josh.

“We need to see you for a little private talk,” Tim said the second Butch grabbed one of Josh’s arms.

“But I need to get to my garden detail,” Josh quickly replied and tried to squirm out of their grips.

Butch gripped harder on Josh’s arm to let him know that wasn’t going to happen.

Cowboys Tim and Butch escorted Josh between the Dining Hall building and the General Store building.

They rushed him to the rear of the Dining Hall building and slammed his back up against the wall.

“Marshall Fisher wants to know why you were coming out of Doc Holloway’s Office last night?” Tim asked while he got in Josh’s face.

“What were you doing in there?” Tim asked while he got in Josh’s face.

Josh sweated and started to shake in fear. “I

ah, I ah," Josh stammered then he noticed Butch's black eye.

"I ah, what?" Butch replied while he glared into Josh's eyes.

"I had a throbbing headache and she gave me something for it," Josh nervously answered.

"The Marshall punched me because I didn't report your time with Jenny until this morning. So you're going to pay," Butch said while he glared into Josh's eyes then he swiftly punched Josh in his stomach.

Josh fell to the dirt while dropped to his knees and buckled over in pain.

"Butch here has a headache and you're the aspirin he needs," Tim said while he picked Josh up by his collar and brought him to his feet.

"He sure looks like pretty piece of aspirin and he's exactly what I need to cure my ache," Butch said while he lightly touched Josh's cheek and blew him a little kiss.

Josh had fear in his eyes while he recalled Willard's tale of why he wanted to leave Paradise.

Tim spun Josh around and slammed him face first into the wall of the Dining Hall.

Butch reached around and unbuckled Josh's belt.

"No!" Josh yelled out and tried to squirm away from Tim's grips but Tim had pressed hard into Josh's back.

"Please no!" Josh yelled out while Butch lowered Josh's pants down to his ankles.

Tim placed his hand over Josh's mouth.

"No!" Josh muffled out his cry into Tim's hand when Butch lowered Josh's boxer shorts to his ankles leaving his bare ass cheeks exposed.

Butch squeezed Josh's butt cheeks. "I like them nice and tight and I can imagine he's a virgin," he said then smacked Josh's butt cheeks.

Josh cringed in fear when he heard Butch unbuckle his belt and lowered his pants.

"I'm going to make this boy my new bitch," Butch said while he leaned forward and licked Josh's face cheek.

A shovel came out from behind the Cowboys and whacked Butch hard on the back of his head. Butch's eyes crossed and he dropped to the dirt passed out.

Tim looked a little baffled at Butch and the second he opened his mouth to say something the shovel whacked Tim hard on the back of his head. Tim's eyes crossed and he dropped to the dirt passed out.

The pressure against Josh's back suddenly disappeared and he curiously turned around and saw James standing there with a shovel in his hand.

"Get the hell out of here," James said then he turned around and headed to the rear door of the General Store.

Josh quickly pulled up his boxer shorts, pants and buckled his belt.

He picked up his cowboy hat, placed it on his head then rushed away and headed to the front of the General Store.

James stood in the doorway of the rear door to the General Store and looked at Butch and Tim still passed out in the dirt. He knew he could get into trouble, but he felt it was worth the risk to save a friend from being raped.

James went inside the store as if nothing happened outside.

Josh ran to the front of the General Store and saw Bo drive the wagon down Paradise Lane. He ran after the wagons in a panic.

Anita walked down Paradise Lane from the mansion and she looked in awe at the town her father built. Then she saw Josh while he chased after the wagon. "Hi Josh," she called out with a loving smile.

Josh saw Anita but didn't recognize her and tipped his cowboy hat while he chased after Bo's wagon.

From the back of the wagon, Harold spotted Anita walking down the street and was immediately smitten by the sight of her.

Josh picked up speed and raced to the rear of Bo's wagon. He almost gave up, as he was out of breath but then Gary's hand finally grabbed Josh's hand. Gary and Harold pulled Josh into the back of the wagon.

"Thanks," Josh replied out of breath while he sat down in the back of the wagon.

Bo looked back when he sensed the commotion. "You're late, Bryant!" he yelled.

"Sorry. I got detained," Josh replied still out of breath.

"Don't let it happen again," Bo scolded.

"Yes sir," Josh replied.

Bo drove the wagon toward the main entrance of town.

Josh fought hard to block out of his mind with the attempted rape.

Bo drove the wagon out of Paradise and headed toward the gardens.

Twenty minutes later, Jenny swept the floor of the Doctor's Office with a bristle broom to kill some time.

The front door slammed open, which startled Jenny. She turned around and Marshall Fisher stormed inside with Cowboys Mark and Tony tagging behind like obedient servants.

Cowboys Steve and Dan walked Cowboys Butch and Tim inside who both were in pain with severe headaches and large goose eggs on the back of their heads

"What's wrong?" Jenny asked the second she saw Marshall Fisher's pissed look and the two Cowboys in pain.

Marshall Fisher grabbed Jenny by her hair and brought her face an inch from his face.

"What the hell were you doing with that Bryant punk last night?" he blew his words into her face

and glared into her eyes.

“He had a headache and needed some aspirin,” she replied while she pointed at the medicine cabinet with glass doors.

Marshall Fisher glanced at the medicine cabinet then he pulled harder on Jenny’s hair.

She cringed in pain.

“Are you lying to me?”

“No baby, I swear! He had a headache,” she pleaded.

“You know the consequences if I find out otherwise,” he threatened. Marshall Fisher forced a kiss hard on Jenny’s lips then he threw her down to the floor.

“Where’s Doc Holloway?” he asked while he towered over her body.

“I believe he’s having his morning drink,” she replied and looked intimidated with him.

“Go get the drunk,” he looked back and told Cowboys Steve and Dan who immediately dashed out the door.

“My two Cowboys were hit by an unidentified assailant,” Marshall Fisher told Jenny.

Jenny got up off the floor and walked over to Butch and Tim. She immediately looked at the goose eggs on the back of their heads. “I’ll give them some pain medicine and they can rest here,” she told Marshall Fisher.

“Do that,” he replied.

Jenny walked over to the medicine cabinet and removed a bottle of pain pills. She removed four pills and walked over to Butch and Tim. “I’ll

get you some water,” she said while he handed each of them two pills.

She poured them some water in a glass and they both took the pills. She then placed Butch and Tim both in the bedrooms where they could rest.

“You’re moving into my mansion so I can keep an eye on you,” he said then he stormed out of the office with his Cowboys following.

Jenny silently cried the second the door was closed.

The rest of the day was uneventful for Josh. After he helped unload the baskets from the wagons and dropped them off in the kitchen of the Dining Hall, he relaxed in his hotel room.

It was now time for dinner and Josh and James ate their steak dinners and remained quiet.

While Josh chewed in his steak, he glanced over and saw Jenny while she ate her steak dinner at her table. He felt relieved that Marshall Fisher didn’t learn about their lovemaking session last night.

“If I can have everybody’s attention,” Marshall Fisher called out from the doorway of the room.

Everybody looked at Marshall Fisher, Cowboys Tony, Steve, Mark Ray, and Charlie standing behind him.

“Someone attacked two of my men this

morning behind the Dining Hall. Therefore, I'm conducting an investigation and the culprit will regret his dastardly deed. I'm also imposing a revised curfew to start in one hour," Marshall Fisher addressed everybody and looked serious.

Josh and James looked down at their steak dinners and got scared.

Josh looked while Marshall Fisher walked over to Jenny at her table.

Cowboy Steve walked over with a dozen roses in hand and gave them to Marshall Fisher who in turn gave them to Jenny. This was his way to say he was sorry for this morning's encounter in the Doctor's Office.

Josh looked away and was depressed. "Why is it always me?" he said under his breath.

Josh ate for a few more seconds then he heard footsteps coming up from behind him. He looked and Anita walked up and sat down at one of the empty table seats.

"Hello, remember me?" Anita asked Josh with a loving smile.

Josh looked at Anita and he didn't recognize her at all.

"I'm from the lobby of the mansion where you came to pay to visit the Train House. I'm Marshall Fisher's daughter, Anita," she said with a gleam in her eyes.

Josh looked at her then his eyes widened when he remembered. "Ah yes, why did you come here?"

"To find a man to marry. I don't have much

luck with men back home, so daddy said he'll help me," she replied with love in her eyes while she looked at Josh.

Josh looked away and glanced over at Jenny.

James looked at Anita and he instantly knew she was hot for Josh's love.

Josh then looked upset when he saw Marshall Fisher escort Jenny out of the dining room.

Anita leaned over and gave Josh a quick kiss on his cheek. "I'll see you later, Josh," she said then got and walked away from the table.

"I think she really likes you," James said while he ate the rest of his steak.

"I'm not interested in her," Josh said then drank his milk and looked upset that Marshall Fisher left with Jenny.

"You may not have a choice," said James while he cut off a new piece of steak.

Josh looked depressed.

It was quiet during the rest of their meal.

After dinner, Josh walked down Paradise Lane and headed in the direction of the Marshall's mansion.

Josh walked down to the end of Paradise Lane where the dirt road went through the grassy field with the entrance to Marshall Fisher's mansion to the right. He stopped when he saw Cowboys Willy, Kurt, Richie, and Howie

at the campfire guarding the entrance trail to the mansion with Winchester rifles and bottles of whiskey.

Cowboy Willy saw Josh and walked closer to him. "What do you want?" he asked in a concerned voice.

"Nothing, I'm just taking a walk and enjoying the beautiful evening," Josh replied while he looked at Willy and he saw a shadowy figure walk from the dirt driveway of the mansion and headed toward the Cowboys.

Josh turned around and started walking back into Paradise.

Cowboy Hal rode up on a horse and stopped at Josh. "Curfew's about to begin so you better get your ass back to your hotel room," he threatened.

"I'll walk him back to his room," Anita's voice was heard from behind Josh.

Josh turned and saw Anita walking up to him from the campfire.

"Yes ma-am," Hal replied politely at Anita and tipped his hat, turned his horse around and rode back into town.

Anita placed one of her arms around Josh's arm and escorted him down Paradise Lane.

"Daddy did a beautiful job with the night sky. Don't you think?" she asked while she reached over and held Josh's hand.

He accepted holding hands with her because he was afraid if he didn't the Marshall would hang him.

“He sure did,” Josh replied with a fake smile.

“Yep, daddy’s a genius!” said Anita then she snuggled closer to Josh and he looked uneasy.

“You make me feel like a queen,” she said with a gleam in her eyes.

Josh hated every second of Anita’s flirting while they walked down the street.

Harold walked on the other side of Paradise Lane and he saw Josh and Anita and looked jealous. “Why can’t I get a beautiful woman?” he quietly said to himself then he moped down the street and headed to Blaine Lane for his hotel.

Josh and Anita eventually walked down Fisher’s Lane, head to Josh’s Hotel and stopped.

“Well, you’re home, she said with love in her eyes then gave Josh a kiss on his cheek. “I’m so lucky to have you as my boyfriend.”

“You’re what?” Josh replied a little shocked.

“You’re my boyfriend,” she repeated with love in her eyes.

“I ah,” Josh stuttered.

“I love you,” she quickly blurted out like a shy schoolgirl and released him from her hand and gave him a kiss on his lips.

“You what?” he replied the second their lips separated.

“You’re my boyfriend and I love you,” she called out while she skipped down the street leaving a little trail of dust.

Wendy and Eric, a middle aged couple from Minnesota, looked at Josh with a smile while they heard Anita's comment while they entered the hotel.

"I should have known," Jenny's voice called out from behind Josh.

Josh's eyes widen in fear, turned around and watched while Jenny walked up to him visibly upset.

"No, it's not what it appears," Josh pleaded.

"They all say that," Jenny replied.

Jenny walked past Josh and head down the street.

"Let me explain Jenny."

Jenny ignored him while she walked away down Fisher's Lane.

Josh rushed after Jenny.

Cowboy Hal rode up on his horse. "It's curfew time. Get your ass in your hotel," Hal said with a serious look while he placed his right hand on the grip of his Colt 45 pistol.

"Yes sir," Josh said while he walked to the front door of his hotel and glanced back at Jenny who rushed down the street.

Jenny's eyes well up as she walked to the rear door of Doc Holloway's Office building.

Later that night, Josh lay in his bed and stared at the ceiling. His thoughts tossed between his love for Jenny and Anita's forced love on him.

His room door slammed opened, he jumped

up startled and got scared when he saw Cowboys Steve, Tony, Mark and Ray rush inside his room.

“Marshall Fisher wants a word with you,” Steve said while the Cowboys approached Josh’s bed.

Steve and Tony grabbed on of Josh’s arms and yanked him off the bed.

They rushed Josh out of his room.

A little while later, Cowboys Steve, Tony, Mark and Ray rushed Josh over to the Marshall’s Office.

Inside the office, Marshall Fisher and Charlie waited behind the desk while they drank some coffee.

The door opened and the Cowboys entered with Josh in their grips.

Josh looked scared to death when he saw Marshall Fisher and Charlie stand up from their desks.

Cowboys Steve and Tony threw Josh to the floor.

Marshall Fisher walked over and grabbed Josh by his hair and pulled up to his feet. “Who attacked my men?” he said while he got nose to nose with Josh.

Josh looked scared to death and fought from peeing in his pants. “I didn’t see who did it.” They had my face up against the wall of the building,” he cried out.

Charlie walked up and punched Josh in his stomach.

Josh dropped to the floor in pain.

Marshall Fisher grabbed Josh by his hair and painfully brought him to his feet. "I think your ears are clogged," he said then smacked both of Josh's ears. "I said, who attacked my men?"

Josh cringed in pain. "I don't know!"

Fisher nodded at Charlie who grabbed one of Josh's arms and rushed him over to one of the empty jail cells.

Charlie threw Josh into the empty cell where he slammed to the floor then slammed the door shut.

"You'll stay locked up until you give me a name," Marshall Fisher said then left his office with the four Cowboys.

Charlie sat back down at this desk and started playing his harmonica.

Later that night, Cowboy Kirby had guard duty in the Marshall's Office.

Josh tossed and turned in his bunk while he tried to sleep.

Over in the saloon, Charlie had some shots of whiskey with Cowboys Mitch and Alan at the bar.

Cowboys Ned, Clint, Glen, and Chester sat at one of the tables with Rodney the stagecoach driver and played poker while they drank their

shots of whiskey.

Doc Holloway was again passed out drunk at another table.

At the bar, Charlie gulped down his shot of whiskey.

Wendell spat tobacco into the brass spittoon poured the Charlie and the Cowboys another shot of whiskey and listened to the rest of Charlie's story.

"And so the Marshall will hang that Josh Bryant punk even if he squeals on who attacked his men. He's going to be dead soon," Charlie said while he gulped down his whiskey.

"Good, I love those hangings," Cowboy Mitch said with a smirk then he gulped down his shot of whiskey.

Cowboy Alan gulped down his shot of whiskey with a smile over having another hanging.

"Another round," Charlie told Wendell.

Wendell walked over and poured them another shot of whiskey.

"Leave the bottle," Charlie said.

Wendell left the bottle and walked away to the other end of the bar.

Chapter 14

It was Tuesday morning in Paradise.

Everybody ate breakfast and then went to work at their daily work duties except for Josh who lay in the jail cell.

Charlie entered the Marshall's Office where cowboy Sam had the night watch over their prisoner.

"How's our prisoner?" Charlie asked Sam while he walked up to the jail cell.

"The pussy was quiet all night," Sam replied while he got up and poured another cup of coffee from the coffee pot sitting on the pot belly stove.

"Well boy, are you going to tell me who beat our Cowboys?" Charlie asked through the cell door bars.

Josh looked at Charlie then he looked at the floor and couldn't turn in James. Josh figured Marshall Fisher would still hang him even if he gave up James. He smiled when he thought about the sexual night he had with Jenny and figured it was a good memory to recall just before he died.

Charlie glared at Josh and soon realized he wasn't going to squeal. "Okay boy, you can eat when you provide me with a name," Charlie said

then walked away and left the Marshall's Office.

Josh's stomach growled while he lay in his bunk and stared at the ceiling and pondered how much longer he had in this crappy world.

At Doc Holloway's Office, Cowboys Tim and Butch were released and walked down Paradise Lane.

"I'm going to ask the Marshall if I can pull the lever at the gallows when they put a noose around the neck of the guy that hit me," Butch told Tim still pissed about being sucker smacked with an unidentified object.

"I'll helping," Tim replied still pissed about being sucker smacked with an unidentified object.

At the General Store, James swept the floor with his broom.

Melvin worked at the cash register while Harriet was buying some toothpaste and shampoo.

"Thank you ma-am," Melvin said while he placed her items in a paper bag and handed it over to her.

She smiled a Melvin and walked out of the store.

"Ma-am," Wendell said while he removed his cowboy hat at the door and let Harriet walk through the doorway.

Wendell walked up to the cash register.

"Give me a pack of chewing tobacco," Wendell

told Melvin.

Melvin walked down the counter to some shelves.

“I heard there will be another hanging soon,” Wendell told Melvin while he removed a pack of Redman Chewing tobacco off the shelf.

“Oh really? Who tried to escape this time?” Melvin asked while he walked back to the cash register.

“Nobody tried to escape. The Marshall has Josh Bryant locked up for not telling who attacked two of his Cowboys,” Wendell responded.

“Attacked his Cowboys? When?” Melvin asked a little surprised, as the town folk were afraid of the Cowboys since they carry two pistols.

“It happened at the rear of the dining hall yesterday morning. The Cowboys were integrating Josh Bryant when someone hit them on the back of their heads with some object,” Melvin said while he paid for the tobacco.

Wendell looked curiously at James who was still sweeping the floor. “James, did you hear or see anything yesterday morning?”

“No sir.” James replied while he looked at Wendell and Melvin with a straight face.

“Don’t worry, Marshall Fisher will get it out of that Josh kid and Charlie said he’ll still hang even if he does sing like a canary. I heard he was also seen coming out of Doc Holloway’s Office the other evening and Jenny was there,”

Wendell said while he shoved a wad of tobacco into his mouth.

“That’s the way it goes,” Melvin replied.

James looked guilty while he swept the floor and watched Wendell leave the store.

It was high noon, and Charlie ate a ham sandwich and drank coffee at this desk.

“This sure is a good ham sandwich,” Charlie called out to Josh to taunt him.

In his jail cell, Josh’s stomach growled louder but he wasn’t going to let Marshall Fisher have the satisfaction of hanging another man.

While Charlie ate his ham sandwich, Marshall Fisher entered the office with Anita by his side.

“Did our prisoner say anything yet?”

Marshall Fisher asked Charlie while he walked up to the desk and looked at the jail cell.

“Nope,” Charlie replied then took a drink of his coffee.

Anita looked over at the jail cell and her eyes lit up the second she realized it was Josh. “What’s he doing in there?” she asked while she ran up to the jail cell.

“He won’t tell me who attacked my Cowboys, so he’ll rot in jail until he does,” Marshall Fisher replied while he glared at Josh.

The door opened and James entered the Marshall’s Office looking nervous.

“I attacked your men,” he confessed the second Marshall Fisher looked at him.

From his jail cell, Josh got up from his bunk and rushed to the cell bars. He looked at James and couldn't believe his ears he came in and confessed.

Marshall Fisher looked furious with James. "I gave you a cushy job at the store and this is how you repay me?" he yelled then punched James in his stomach.

"Daddy!" Anita called out, as she didn't like what she saw.

"Sorry baby, but he performed a criminal act and I must be tough on criminals," Marshall Fisher replied.

Anita accepted but disagreed with his rationale.

"Put this piece of shit in the other cell," he told Charlie.

Charlie got up from behind his desk and brought James up to his feet. He escorted James to the other open cell and threw him inside and slammed the door shut.

"You'll both be found guilty of assault and battery. You'll be hung after my wedding," Marshall Fisher told Josh and James.

Anita's eyes welled up at the thought of losing her boyfriend. "No daddy! Not Josh."

She walked over and stood on her toes while she got to his ear. "I love him, and want to marry him, so let him go," Anita whispered in his ear.

Fisher looked at her and shook his head in disagreement.

She threw one of her temper tantrums and stomped her feet and gave him her best pouty lips. "Please daddy! I know you want grand kids. I can run the tours of the set during the day and return here at night to be with my family," she whimpered out while she crossed her arms then pouted.

"I don't know," Marshall Fisher replied.

"I will give you five grand kids!" she responded while she looked at Josh.

"What the hell is she talking about?" Josh said under his breath while he looked at Anita and Marshall Fisher.

"Please! Please! Please! *Please!*" she said with pleading eyes.

Marshall Fisher looked at Anita then back at Josh. Then an idea popped in his head. An evil idea that maybe he could use Josh for another plan he had in his thoughts for years. Marshall Fisher walked over, removed a key from his pants pocket. "You can report to your normal work detail tomorrow morning," he said while he unlocked the cell door.

Josh cautiously stepped out of the jail cell intimidated of the Marshall.

"Get the hell out of here before I change my mind," he said to Josh.

"Yes sir," Josh replied then he rushed out of the office.

Anita rushed over and hugged Marshall Fisher. "I love you daddy."

Anita gave Marshall Fisher a quick kiss on

his cheek then she rushed to the door and left the office.

James sat down on his bunk and knew he would be hung in a few days, but he knew he did the right thing by coming forward. Then he figured that having a noose around his neck would be the only way he could get to freedom.

He lay down on his bunk and stared at the ceiling of his cell.

Outside the Marshall's Office, Anita looked up and down Paradise Lane for Josh. She got upset when he was not in sight, so she moped toward the mansion.

In the main area of Doc Holloway's Office, Jenny was taking inventory of the medicine cabinet when there was a tapping sound on the glass window of the rear door.

She looked and saw Josh. "Can we talk?" he mouthed the words from outside.

The front door opened and Jenny looked in that direction.

Marshall Fisher stepped inside the Doctor's Office. He looked at Jenny but saw Josh's head quickly disappear from outside of the rear door window.

He rushed over to the rear door and opened it up. He peaked outside and Josh wasn't in sight.

He closed the rear door and stormed over to Jenny. "What the hell was Josh doing at the

rear door?" he yelled at her.

Jenny looked at the rear door and saw Josh was gone. "I didn't realize he was there," she replied.

Marshall Fisher slapped her hard across her cheek. "You better be telling the truth," he said and looked pissed.

Jenny's eyes welled up. "I am."

"I better not catch you within five feet of that man. Do you understand?" he barked at her.

Jenny nodded in agreement.

"Good," he said then he stormed over to the front door and left the office.

Jenny walked into one of the bedrooms, sat down on the bed, and started sobbing.

Outside Doc Holloway's Office, Marshall Fisher walked up to Cowboys Steve, Mark, Tony and Ray. "I changed my mind. Go find that Josh Bryant and have him work with Wilbur today to teach him another lesson about being disloyal," he ordered.

"Yes sir," Cowboy Steve replied then he ran off with Mark, Tony and Ray.

Josh rushed back to his hotel room and decided he probably should hang out there to stay out of trouble.

Twenty minutes later, the door of Josh's hotel room slammed open and Cowboys Steve, Mark, Tony and Ray rushed inside while he

relaxed on his bed.

“Marshall Fisher changed his mind and he wants you to work today,” Steve said while the four Cowboys marched over to Josh’s bed.

Steve and Mark each grabbed on of Josh’s arms and yanked him off his bed.

They marched Josh out of his room and out of the hotel.

Five minutes later, Cowboys Steve, Mark, Tony, and Ray marched Josh over to Wilbur who started removing the buckets of waste from the outhouses on the south side of Paradise.

“Wilbur, Marshall Fisher wants this turd to help you today,” Steve said then he threw Josh into the dirt.

Wilbur looked down at Josh and felt sorry for him. “Yes sir,” he replied to cowboy Steve.

“Have a shitty day,” Steve said with a chuckle.

The four Cowboys walked away and headed back to the mansion.

“What did you do now?” Wilbur asked while Josh got up from the dirt.

“He saw me trying to talk with his fiancé,” he told Wilbur.

“Come on, lets get to work,” Wilbur said while he walked over and opened the bottom rear door of an outhouse.

Josh fought from vomiting the second he smelled the stench coming from that bucket.

Josh had the dry heaves while he removed

the bucket of waste and they carried it to the rear of the wagon.

It was now four forty-five that afternoon and Josh was done with his outhouse duty with Wilbur. He only vomited once this time.

After he took a bath and changed into some fresh clothes, he headed out of the hotel to drop his dirty clothes off at the Paradise Laundry.

Josh sat alone at the table in the Dining Hall and was the object of stares and gossip from other folks at nearby tables. Walt had just dropped off their steak dinners with green beans and mashed potatoes and then Kimmy dropped off their glasses of milk.

Josh had a hard time eating, as all he could think about was the buckets of human wastes he unloaded with Wilbur.

Josh glanced over at Jenny's table, saw her seat was empty and looked a little depressed.

Josh forced himself to eat his steak dinner while he tried to push out the smelly sights of his work detail.

After dinner it was a beautiful sunset and Josh moped down Paradise Lane to kill some time. He was down by the stables.

"Hey sweetie," Anita's voice came from behind Josh.

Josh cringed with the sound of her voice.

He turned around and saw Anita while she rushed up to him from the main entrance to the town.

Down the street, Josh saw Marshall Fisher escort Jenny out Doc Holloway's Office and they headed to the mansion for the evening.

Anita had a loving smile while she placed an arm around Josh's arm the she walked him down the street.

"I'm so happy Daddy let you free to be with me," she said then kissed Josh's cheek.

Josh looked at Anita like he preferred to be hung by a rope.

Anita walked Josh to the street back toward the Saloon and she looked at the sunset by the mountains. "Isn't that a beautiful sunset?"

"Yeah, beautiful."

"Daddy sure made a very romantic sunset. Don't you think?" she said with love in her eyes.

Josh discreetly rolled his eyes. "Ah, sure, it's very romantic."

Anita snuggled closer to Josh while they walked past the Saloon where the piano player played a song and there was the sound of laughter inside the establishment.

Anita saw Jenny and her father heading to the mansion. "I need to get home for dinner and good news will come soon. Good night, my darling," she said with gave Josh a quick kiss on his lips.

Josh watched while she skipped in the dirt leaving a small dust trail and headed to the

mansion.

“My life sucks,” he said under his breath while he headed to a side street taking a glance over his shoulder to see Jenny with Marshall Fisher.

Later that night, Josh relaxed in his hotel room bed and wished Paradise had a movie theater to kill some time.

His room door slammed open and Maggie appeared in the doorway. “There’s mandatory cake and coffee in the dining hall in twenty minutes,” she said then left and slammed the door behind her.

Later that evening, Josh sat alone at Table 12 with the rest of the town folk.

Everybody chatted and wondered why they were having cake and coffee, as this had never happened before.

Josh’s eyes lit up when he saw Jenny enter the dining room but he soon frowned when Marshall Fisher walked in behind her with Cowboys Steve, Mark, Tony and Ray.

Anita strutted in behind the four Cowboys with a huge grin and sat down with her father and Jenny at her assigned table.

The waiters started bringing plates of chocolate cake to their tables.

Walt walked over and dropped a piece of chocolate cake then Kimmy dropped off a mug of coffee.

Marshall Fisher got up and walked over to the doorway. "May I have your attention before we dig into our delicious desert?" he called out to the dining room.

All eyes of the dining room were on Marshall Fisher while he walked over and got Jenny up from her table.

He then walked Jenny in the direction of Josh's table.

Anita eyed Josh with a coy smile, while she got up from the table and walked behind Jenny and her father.

Marshall Fisher walked to Josh and motioned for him to stand up.

Josh obeyed and got up from the table and was a little nervous.

"It gives me a warm pleasure to welcome Josh into my family," he told everybody.

Josh looked confused.

Anita looked extremely happy.

"We're having a double wedding on this coming Saturday morning, as Josh will be marrying my daughter, Anita while I marry Jenny. I'm throwing a big engagement party in the center of Paradise Lane on Friday at high noon and then we'll have our wedding reception Saturday after the wedding in the Dining Hall," Marshall Fisher told everybody.

Everybody clapped over the good news.

Jenny looked like she wanted to cry but she was able to put on a fake smile.

Harold sat at his table and looked like he

wanted to cry over the news that Anita would be marrying Josh.

Marshall Fisher leaned over to Josh's ear. "First thing, you will keep your fucking ass away from Jenny. If I catch you two together, you'll be hung. Second, if you give Anita any grief, I'll put a bullet in your head myself. Do you understand?" Marshall Fisher whispered in a threatening tone into Josh's ear.

Josh nodded he was in complete understanding of his two demands.

Marshall Fisher placed an arm around Josh and faked a smile to everybody but deep inside he loathed the kid.

Anita rushed over and gave Josh a huge kiss on his lips.

Everybody clapped over the loving sight of Josh and Anita.

Jenny faked being happy while she clapped, but deep inside she wanted to cry since she was falling in love with Josh.

Marshall Fisher smiled at Anita being so happy.

"Let's eat some of this delicious cake," Marshall Fisher called out to the dining room then he walked Jenny and Anita back to their table.

Josh sat down and started eating his cake when he heard footsteps behind him.

"Hey sweetie. Daddy said this can be my table," Anita said while she sat down next to Josh with her plate of cake and glass of milk in

hand.

Josh looked over and saw Jenny eating cake with Marshall Fisher at her table.

Anita scooted her chair in a cozy position next to Josh's chair while she ate her cake.

Josh wished he were dead while he ate his cake and drank his milk.

A little while later, Anita escorted Josh out of the Dining Hall and insisted they take a train ride.

She snuggled by his side while they waited at the dock for the Paradise Express to pull into the station.

"Congratulations on your upcoming marriage," Kelly a middle aged woman said while she walked up with her husband Bob.

"Why thank you!" Anita replied while she gleamed from ear to ear.

The Paradise Express blew its train whistle while the train pulled into the station.

As soon as the train stopped, Kelly and Bob got aboard the passenger car.

Anita and Josh got aboard the passenger car and she moved him to the front since Kelly and Bob sat near the rear.

Cowboy Doug was on train duty tonight and he sat in the rear seat and looked half asleep.

Anita immediately snuggled next to Josh the second they sat down in their seat.

The train blew its whistle then it bucked while it pulled out of the station.

Anita rested her head on Josh's shoulder while the train rolled down the tracks and headed out of Paradise.

"We'll live in daddy's mansion with his beautiful new bride," she told Josh when the train headed near the mansion.

"That's nice," he said to be polite but he started to think about how can he get out of his predicament.

The Paradise Express rolled down the tracks through the grassy field.

The Paradise Express rolled down the tracks and headed into the forest.

Anita made her move and planted a kiss on Josh's lips and slipped her tongue into this mouth.

Josh fought from gagging while her tongue probed inside his mouth.

She passionately kissed Josh and he played along knowing he didn't have a choice.

The rest of the train ride was unbearable for Josh but he survived and after another passionate goodnight kiss at the train station, he headed back to his hotel and Anita headed back to her father's mansion.

Josh tossed and turned the whole night while he thought about Jenny and then thought about Anita.

Chapter 15

It was four that Wednesday morning.

Josh was deep in another dream, Josh was now forty-seven years old and plowed a field with a horse. He looked older with his weather worn skin from working the hot sun and freezing weather for the past fifteen years.

A dinner bell was heard coming from his one story farmhouse.

“Dinner!” a female yelled out from the front porch of the house.

Josh slowly walked away exhausted from the plow and headed to the farmhouse.

James got inside the farmhouse where was Anita his wife with their ten kids ranging from one year old to ten years old.

“Daddy!” the kids all called out.

Josh looked at Anita who was nine months pregnant while she stirred the pot with their beef stew dinner on the wood burning stove.

The door of the farmhouse opened and Marshall Fisher walked inside with five more kids ranging from two years old to eight years old.

“Daddy!” all five kids yelled out the second they saw Josh.

Josh felt trapped while he looked at Anita and all of his kids.

A bell ringing was heard inside the farmhouse.

Josh looked around for the source of the sound but it wasn't visible.

The sound of the bell ringing got louder and louder and Josh looked confused.

"Get your ass out of bed!" a female's voice filled the farmhouse that only Josh heard.

Back to Josh's life in Paradise, Josh jumped up startled to find Maggie standing over his bed ringing her bell.

"Why can't you wake up?" she yelled at him then left his room with a smirk happy she startled him again.

Josh bit his tongue to avoid another beating by Charlie while he got out of bed and was happy his life with Anita was so far a bad dream.

After Josh took his fifteen minute bath, he headed to breakfast at the Dining Hall where he wolfed down his scrambled eggs and bacon and rushed through the table.

While he rushed out of the room he saw Paul the waiter bring Doc Holloway his breakfast plate at his table.

Josh ran down the back alley behind the Dining Hall and headed to the rear of Doc Holloway's Office building.

He peeked inside the window of the rear door and saw Jenny cleaning the medicine

cabinet.

Josh tapped on the door window.

Jenny looked over and saw his head motioning that he needed to talk with her.

She walked over and cracked opened the rear door.

“Doc Holloway could be here any minute,” she replied and looked a little concerned.

“He’s eating his breakfast, so we have a few minutes,” he replied.

“He’ll probably stop off for a few shots at the saloon to wash down those eggs,” Jenny replied then opened the door to let Josh inside.

“Anita’s forcing herself on me,” he told her while he started pacing.

“You could have avoided her,” he replied and looked a little nervous.

“I couldn’t. Marshall Fisher was going to hang James and me for him hitting two of his Cowboys. She talked him into letting me out of jail, hence our wedding,” he said.

“Why did James hit those Cowboys?” she curiously asked.

“To save my ass from being raped by one of the cowboy’s. The same cowboy that kept on forcing Willard to perform oral sex on him,” he told her while he paced back and forth.

“Oh my! I had no idea that type of stuff was really going on around here,” she replied in shock.

“I bet there were a few other guys that tried to escape because of Butch,” Josh said while he

paced.

Jenny thought for a few seconds. “There was this young kid named Irvin that was hung for trying to shoot one of the Cowboys in the forest,” she recalled.

“The cowboy that tried to rape me had a face full of acne scars,” he told her.

Jenny thought about that description for a few seconds. “That would be Butch,” she said.

“We need to do something,” he told her.”

“It’s no use. We don’t stand a chance against him. We’ll just have to live the rest of our lives in his hell hole or feel a rope around our neck,” she replied and looked worried.

Josh eyed the medicine cabinet with bottles of chemicals while he paced back and forth. “It now sounds like you’ll be my step mommy,” he said to bring a little humor to their dilemma.

Jenny cracked a smile. “Now that’s weird.”

He thought for a few seconds. His eyes lit up with an idea. “Maybe Fisher has instructions hidden in his mansion on how to use that machine?” he asked.

“We’ll never make it inside the cave,” she replied but wished there was a way to safely escape.

“I won’t give up on finding a way out of this hell hole,” he told her and looked determined.

“Let me get my beautiful bride to be and we’ll meet later at my place,” Marshall Fisher’s voice was heard outside the front door.

Josh’s eyes widen with fear at the sound of

his voice.

“I need to get to work,” he said then rushed over, gave Jenny a quick kiss and bolted to the rear door.

He quietly opened up the rear door and left. Jenny rushed into the nearby bedroom.

Marshall Fisher entered through the front door. “Hey darling,” he called out when he didn’t see her in the room.

Jenny came out of the bedroom. “Hi sweetie,” she said while she played the game.

Marshall Fisher walked up and planted a kiss on her lips.

“We’re having breakfast in my mansion,” he instructed her and held out his hand.

“I would love that,” she said faking it.

Marshall Fisher escorted Jenny out of the doctor’s office.

Josh ran down Paradise Lane where everybody waited for the wagons at the General Store, which were fortunately late this morning.

Bo and the convoy of wagons drove down the street and stopped by the General Store.

Josh hopped in the back of the wagon with Ernie, Gail, Dave, Harold, and Gary.

“Wait Josh,” Anita called out while she rushed over to the wagons from the mansion.

“Good morning ma’am,” Bo said while he tipped his cowboy hat.

“I’m taking Josh with me. I’m going to have daddy give him another job,” she told Bo.

“Yes ma’am,” Bo replied knowing that an order from Anita was just like an order from Marshall Fisher.

Josh got out of the wagon where Anita immediately placed her arm around his arm.

Bo snapped his reins and his wagon pulled away.

While Anita walked Josh away, he noticed a wagon being driven by Charlie with Cowboys Chester and Bubba sitting on top of four boxes of Jack Daniels whiskey bottles in the back of the wagon.

Josh saw Charlie stop the wagon at the General Store and a light bulb went off inside Josh’s head with an idea.

“Hey baby, could you get me a job in the General Store?” he asked her and gave her a kiss on his cheek then watched while the Cowboys unloaded the boxes and stacked them on the front porch of the General Store.

“Sure, sweetie,” she replied with a smile.

Josh looked hesitant then placed his arm around Anita’s arms.

She loved it and snuggled closer to him.

Josh saw Marshall Fisher and Jenny standing outside the Saloon chatting with a couple. “This place is beautiful,” Anita said then gave him a kiss on her cheek. “I can imagine your father had to write down instructions for operating the device to transport supplies.”

“I wrote them for him. I have a copy, and daddy keeps a copy here in his mansion. Why

are you asking?" she curiously asked.

"Oh, I'm just curious. I want to know about things since we're going to be husband and wife," he replied then gave her a kiss on her lips, which melted her heart and she immediately forgot about his question.

"Well, well, there's our two love birds," Marshall Fisher said while he walked up with Jenny.

Jenny was jealous with Anita and Josh being so loving.

"Daddy, can my fiancé work at the General Store instead of the garden? I don't want him out there in the heat getting all dirty," she asked him with pleading eyes.

"Sure darling," Marshall Fisher replied. "Now, do a good job for me," he added while he patted Josh's shoulder and gave him a stern look that he still didn't care for Josh.

"He will daddy," Anita replied with a gleam in her eyes.

"Come baby, we're going to breakfast," Marshall Fisher told Anita. "You better get to work," he told Josh.

"Okay daddy," she said then gave Josh a quick kiss on his lips. "I'll see you later my love," she said then walked away with Jenny and Marshall Fisher with a spring in her step.

Josh had a smirk while he pondered a scheme during his walk over to the General Store.

Josh walked inside the General Store where Melvin waited on Wilma an older lady.

“I’m James’ replacement, according to my fiancé, Anita Fisher,” he told Melvin.

Melvin looked at Josh for a few seconds then remembered the announcement of Anita’s wedding. “Okay, move those whiskey boxes off the front porch and stack them by the rear door,” Melvin instructed.

Josh walked outside to the porch, grabbed a whiskey box, walked it back inside the store and placed by the rear door.

A few minutes later, Josh had all four boxes of whiskey stacked by the rear door.

He started sweeping the dirt off the floor that people tracked inside from the street.

“I’m heading out. Watch the store for me,” Melvin said then walked out from behind the counter and left the store.

“This sure beats picking corn and carrying buckets of crap,” Josh said to himself while he walked over to the cash register.

While he minded the cash register and waited on customers, Anita was visible while she occasionally walked up and down Paradise Lane to catch a glimpse of her lover. She would occasionally blow Josh a kiss. He felt he should role-play and blow her a return kiss.

It was four thirty that afternoon and Josh was off duty and headed back to his hotel room

to relax for dinner.

After he freshened up in the bathroom, he returned to his room and relaxed in the bed.

While he stared at the ceiling, he thought of a safe was to get Jenny and himself safely out of Paradise.

It was now time for dinner and Josh headed out of the hotel to the Dining Hall.

Josh checked-in with Abby and sat down at his lonely table.

Walt brought the standard steak dinner with corn on the cob, and green beans.

Kimmy dropped off his glass of milk.

Josh started eating his dinner and prayed that Anita wouldn't join him.

Josh was able to eat his dinner alone and the second he was finished, he rushed out of the Dining Hall.

He rushed to the back alley of the building and took the back way to the train station.

Josh was able to sneak in the back alleys and streets then board the Paradise Express without being seen by Anita.

Josh sat alone in the passenger car of the Paradise Express while the whistle blew and the train pulled away from the station.

While the Paradise Express rolled down the

track and headed toward the mansion, Josh saw Anita while she walked down the dirt driveway and headed into Paradise. He ducked down in his seat so she wouldn't see him and try to board the train.

The Paradise Express rolled down the tracks through the grassy field.

The Paradise Express rolled down the tracks and headed to the forest.

While the train went through the forest, Josh saw Butch while he was raping another young man in the Moonlit woods.

Josh looked determined to get out of Paradise and hopefully bring justice to the old western town.

The Paradise Express rolled out of the forest then rolled down the tracks and headed to the mountains.

While the Paradise Express rolled down the tracks and turned by the cave, Josh saw four Indians camped out with a campfire while they guarded the cave.

The Paradise Express rolled down the tracks and went alongside the base of the mountains.

The Paradise Express turned and Josh saw the Indian camp where the males were dancing and he saw Sara and Diana sitting alongside Chief Merijildo's outside his teepee.

While the Paradise Express rolled down the tracks and headed through the desert toward the forest, Josh started pondering how could he

sneak past the Indians to the cave.

The Paradise Express rolled down the tracks and went through the forest.

The Paradise Express rolled down the tracks and rolled through the grassy field and headed back to the station in Paradise.

The Paradise Express blew its whistle while it pulled into the station.

The train stopped at the dock and a young couple stepped aboard the passenger car.

Josh decided to stay on the train to avoid seeing Anita tonight.

Five minutes later, the Paradise Express blew its whistle and the train pulled away from the station.

Josh watched out his window while the Paradise Express rolled down the tracks through the grassy field, forest and the desert.

He watched while the Indians at the cave drank whiskey by their campfire.

While the Paradise Express rolled around the bend by the Indian camp, Josh saw Sara naked on a blanket with Chief Merijildo naked on top of her. The rest of the Indians watched while Chief Merijildo huffed and puffed trying to knock up Sara.

Josh closed his eyes and couldn't stomach the sight of the Indian Chief on top of Sara.

The Paradise Express rolled through the

desert.

The Paradise Express rolled through the forest.

The Paradise Express rolled through the grassy field.

The Paradise Express blew its whistle when it pulled into the station.

Josh got off the train and took the back alleys and side streets to his hotel.

Twenty minutes later and Josh was in his underwear and under the covers for bed. He stared at the ceiling when his door slowly creaked open. He looked nervous that maybe Cowboy Butch was coming to pay him a visit. His eyes widened when he saw Anita enter his room and close the door behind her.

She looked amorous when she saw him in bed. "Hey baby," she said while she walked over to his bed.

"Why are you in my room?" Josh asked while he sat up and looked irritated.

"I'm a little lonely and wanted to spend some time alone with the man I love," Anita softly spoke while she lovingly touched Josh's cheeks.

"But," Josh said but he couldn't finish because Anita quickly planted her lips on his lips then she slipped her tongue deep into his mouth.

Josh pulled her away. "Listen darling, we better wait until our honeymoon. I don't want your father finding out we had sex. He'll hang

me for sure,” he said.

Anita pouted with being turned down.

“I want our honeymoon to be so special,” Josh said then he kissed Anita and turned it into a passionate kiss so she wouldn’t get mad.

“Okay,” she replied but still had pouty lips.

“You better get home before he suspects something,” Josh said while he got out of bed in his tee shirt and boxer shorts.

Anita reached behind Josh and grabbed a handful of butt cheek. “Nice! I really can’t wait until our honeymoon,” she said while she squeezed his butt cheeks harder digger the tips of her fingers deeper into the meat of his butt. Josh wondered how long the indentations of her fingers would last in his cheeks. He cringed with that feeling but he played the game while he walked her to the door.

“Good night sweetheart,” he said then gave her a loving kiss on the lips. She removed her hand from his butt.

“Good night my love,” Anita replied then she opened the door, blew him a kiss and stepped out into the hallway.

Josh closed and leaned against his door. “Help me!” he quietly said while he looked up at the ceiling.

He walked over, got back under the covers and closed his eyes.

Chapter 16

It was now five that Thursday morning.

Josh woke up without Maggie's bell ringing alarm clock above his head.

After his morning bath, Josh headed off to the Dining Hall for breakfast.

Meanwhile, over in Marshall Fisher's mansion, Marshall Fisher, Jenny and Anita ate breakfast in his dining room where a crystal chandelier hung above the wooden table.

Bernard was a seventy year old tall and lanky bald headed butler that waited at one of the corners of the room for the Marshall's orders.

They all had some pouched eggs, French toast, muffins, orange juice and coffee on expensive fancy China plates.

"We'll get married at three on Saturday. I've talked with Preacher Stan and he'll perform the ceremony," Marshall Fisher said then he sipped his coffee.

Like he doesn't have a choice. Jenny said in her mind while she picked at her food.

Marshall Fisher noticed Jenny and looked concerned. "What's the matter, darling?"

"I guess I'm just a little nervous about our wedding," she replied.

Marshall Fisher chuckled. "There's nothing to be nervous about. I am the biggest catch here in Paradise," he said then chuckled again with an air of arrogance.

Over in the corner of the room, Bernard rolled his eyes over the Marshall's comment.

Anita curiously looked at her father. "Daddy, did you give my idea any thought?" she asked him.

Fisher took a sip of coffee. "I did," he said then he ate some French toast.

Anita's eyes widen with anticipation of a positive response.

"I believe it's the stupidest idea I've ever heard in my entire life. Case closed," he said then sipped some more coffee.

Anita looked deeply hurt. "If mom was alive, she would have loved my idea."

"Well, she's not here now and I still think it's stupid."

Marshall Fisher drank the rest of his coffee and got up from the table. "Jenny, after we're married, you're no longer the town's nurse. I'll find someone else to perform that task," he told her.

"But," she said.

"It's final. I need you here in our house raising our children. I'm thinking we'll have five little Fisher's running around here," he said interrupting her then he looked at Anita.

"And after the wedding Anita, I want you back at the Train House monitoring things. You

can close it on Sunday and Monday to return here to Paradise. But then I want you living there from Tuesday through Saturday. Do you understand?" he told Anita in a raised tone.

"Can Josh be with me after we're married?"

"No! I want him here with me," replied Marshall Fisher still not trusting Josh.

"Yes daddy," Anita replied knowing she wouldn't win this argument at this time. But she knew she could eventually work on changing her daddy's mind in the future.

Marshall Fisher walked out of the dining room.

Anita remained seated at the table. She looked hurt and upset with not being able to spend seven days a week with Josh.

Jenny looked miserable with the thought of bearing his children. She started to look determined on finding a safe way out of Paradise.

Bernard walked over to the table and picked up the Marshall's dirty dishes. He looked at the two ladies and felt sorry for them while he walked out of the dining room.

In the General Store, Josh swept the floor, which was almost a continuous function with the dirt streets in the town.

Josh swept the floor and headed to the wooden boxes of whiskey. He looked at them while he recalled the train rides last night and came up with an escape idea.

Cowboys Mitch and Dale walked into the store and to the cash register where Melvin waited.

“Tell Marshall Fisher that the whiskey for his party is all here and I’ll have my boy deliver it to the mansion tomorrow,” he told the Cowboys who nodded they got the message then walked out of the store.

Josh continued to slowly sweep the floor with a smirk.

“I’m going to the outhouse,” Josh called out from across the store at Melvin.

“Okay,” Melvin replied while he sat on a stool by the cash register and waited for a customer.

Josh walked to the rear door, leaned the broom up against the wall and walked out of the store.

Josh rushed down the alley and went past the row of outhouses.

Josh continued to rush down the alley and headed to Doc Holloway’s Office building.

Doc Holloway walked out of the examination room and walked up to Jenny who was dusting the main area.

“I’m going over to the Marshall’s Office. We’re going to pick out a new nurse and it was nice working with you, Misses Fisher,” Doc Holloway said with a smirk.

Jenny continued to dust and watched while

Doc Holloway went out through the front door.

She heard a tapping sound coming from the window of the rear door and saw Josh outside.

She glanced around the office and then the front door. The coast was clear. She motioned for Josh to come inside the office.

Josh entered the office and Jenny rushed over to him.

“Marshall Fisher is removing me as the town nurse. He wants me to stay in his mansion and raise five kids,” she said then her body shivered at the thought of the Marshall’s naked body on top of her body. “He makes my skin crawl!”

Josh put his arms around Jenny and hugged her to show he cared. “I think I know how we can get out of his hell hole,” he quietly told her.

Jenny looked interested why their bodies separated from the hug. “How?”

He looked over at the medicine cabinet with a smirk. “I’m thinking we could spike the bottles of whiskey just before the party and then while the Cowboys and Fisher and his trusted crooks are passed out, we sneak into the cave and escape,” he told her with a look of confidence.

She looked over at the medicine cabinet and smiled liking his idea. “You’re on, because I can’t stand the thought of that scum bag impregnating me,” she said then looked curious. “How will we get the bottles?” she asked.

“That’s easy, Anita got me a job working at the General Store and the boxes of whiskey are stored there. I can quickly spike them in the

middle of the night,” he said.

Jenny thought about his proposal for a few seconds then she looked at the medicine cabinet. “I can come up with something that will react fast,” she replied.

“I also thought we would give some bottles to the Indians so they’ll be passed out,” he added.

“Your plan sounds doable and it’s our only chance,” she said and looked happy over the thought of getting out of his town.

Then Josh’s look of confidence turned to a look of concern. “But we have one huge obstacle to climb and that’s obtaining the instructions for the machine in the cave. According to Anita, the Marshall has a copy of those instructions in his mansion,” he added.

Jenny thought for a few seconds. “He probably has them kept in his desk in his den,” she told him.

“I hate to ask you this, but do you think you can write down the instructions in the middle of the night?”

Jenny thought about his request. “It’s worth getting hung over,” she replied and looked determined.

“Great!” Now, I better get back to the store before Melvin starts asking too many questions,” he said then gave her a quick kiss on the lips. “Make the concoction and hide it under the bed,” he added while he pointed to the bedroom near the back door.

Josh gave her a kiss on the lips. "We'll have to meet in the rear of the General Store after I deliver the whiskey bottles and the Cowboys start drinking," he said then gave her another quick kiss on the lips.

Josh went out the back door, rushed through the alley and headed to the General Store.

Josh entered the General Store and picked up his broom.

"What took you so long?" Melvin asked from behind the cash register.

"Ah, sorry, there was a line of people," Josh fibbed.

"What ever, I'm taking a break," Melvin said then removed his apron and headed to the front door. "Take over the register," he added while he walked out of the store.

Josh leaned the broom up against the wall by the rear door and he headed over to the front door.

Josh watched while Melvin rushed down Paradise Lane and headed to the Paradise House for his daily dose of one of the whores. "Please don't let it be Linda," Josh said under his breath while he watched Melvin go inside the Paradise House of Pleasure.

Josh spotted Anita while she strolled down the street and he gave her a wave to catch her attention.

Anita spotted Josh, waved back and rushed

down the street toward the General Store.

“Hey baby,” Anita said the second she stepped on the porch.

Josh gave her a light kiss on the lips.

“I can’t wait to be your wife on Saturday. We’re going to have a great life!” she said with sparkles in her eyes.

Across Paradise Lane, Harold glanced over at the General Store and he looked jealous over the sight of Anita and Josh. He moped down the street and headed toward the Saloon to drink away his depression over not being able to have Anita.

Josh escorted Anita inside the store where she stayed with him until Melvin returned from the Paradise House of Pleasure.

He kissed her to role-play for a few minutes.

“I better get back to work so your daddy doesn’t get pissed. I can’t wait to get you pregnant with our first child,” he said playing it up then kissed her on his lips again.

Anita’s heart raced over the thought of having sex with Josh. “I better get back to the mansion,” she said then gave Josh a smile and headed out of the store.

Josh returned to waiting behind the cash register for the next customer.

After Josh finished working at the General Store, he returned to his hotel room and relaxed for a little while.

Josh ate all by himself at the Dining Hall while Jenny and Anita ate dinner in the mansion. Anita talked to Marshall Fisher and he agreed to let Josh eat breakfast in the mansion in the morning.

After dinner, Anita rushed out of the mansion and waited for Josh to exit the Dining Hall.

“Josh!” she called out and ran over to him.

“Hey baby,” he said and cringed inside with having to play along and call her that.

They kissed.

“Let’s take a stroll,” she said while she wrapped her left arm around Josh’s right arm.

He smiled in agreement.

They took a stroll around Paradise where the music of hammers pounding filled the air while workers built a wooden stage at the far end of Paradise Lane by the Undertaker and Laundry buildings.

While they walked up and down Paradise Lane, Josh saw the kerosene lanterns burning in Doc Holloway’s Office. He knew Jenny was inside working on her end of their plan.

After they strolled down the streets, they cuddled while they took a ride on the Paradise Express. All during the ride, Josh checked out the Indians at the cave and in their camp.

After the ride, Josh gave her a goodnight kiss then he told her he wanted to get a good night’s sleep for tomorrow’s party.

She skipped off down the dirt streets and headed back to the mansion.

Josh went into his hotel room where he relaxed and started feeling a little guilty about misleading Anita. Even though he wasn't in love with her, he kind of liked her and didn't want to hurt her feelings. But he felt that would be one of the casualties of war.

Meanwhile, Jenny lay awake in her nightgown on top of her bed in her temporary bedroom in Marshall Fisher's mansion. She stared at the ceiling and listened to make sure everybody was sound asleep before she started snooping around the den.

It had been quiet for the past hour and she felt the coast was clear since she knew Anita was out in town and Marshall Fisher was supervising the construction at the end of Paradise Lane.

She quietly got out of bed and rushed across the wooden floor.

She opened her door ever so slowly and peeked out in the hallway. It was quiet so she tiptoed out into the hallway.

She rushed past Marshall Fisher's bedroom and the floor squeaked a little but she didn't care.

She rushed down the stairs and the coast was still clear.

She rushed down first floor hallway and got to the den.

She rushed over to the huge mahogany desk in the center of the room.

She quickly sat down, opened up the top drawer and saw it contained a Colt 45 pistol, holster and a box of bullets.

She closed that drawer and opened up the middle drawer and saw a bottle of whiskey and a shot glass.

She closed that drawer and opened up the bottom larger drawer and saw a bunch of file folders. She pulled out the file folders and opened one of the folders and saw it contained a copy of a rap sheet for Tony Moore for raping women.

She opened up another file folder and saw it contained a copy of a rap sheet for Butch Harrison for raping young boys.

She opened up the other folders and they contained rap sheets for all the Cowboys for robbery, rape, or assault and battery.

"This doesn't surprise me," she quietly said to herself while she placed them back in the bottom drawer.

"No!" a woman's voice screamed out in the hallway near the den.

Jenny quickly ducked under the desk.

"Please don't!" the woman cried out.

Jenny was curious about that woman's cries for help but she also wanted those instructions.

She quietly opened up and rummaged through another drawer on the other side of the desk. She found some pages and her eyes

widened when she found the instructions for operating the machine.

“Oh please let me go!” the woman’s voice got louder.

Jenny stayed ducked down and peeked around the bottom of the desk.

From the doorway, she saw Cowboys Tony, Dave, Bart, and Jesse manhandle Nora Norris, a twenty-nine year old beautiful brunette woman down the hallway. Nora fought to get freed but the Cowboys were too strong.

Jenny heard Nora’s shoes while the tips of them dragged up the stairs.

Jenny quietly got out of from under the desk, folded the instructions and tucked them into the bosom of her nightgown.

She cautiously and quietly walked out of the den.

She tiptoed down the hallway and headed to the stairs.

Jenny tiptoed down the hallway.

“You can’t so this!” Nora screamed out from a closed bedroom door across the hall from Marshall Fisher’s bedroom.

Jenny stopped and placed her ear on the door to hear what was going on inside the bedroom.

“Shut up!” Marshall Fisher yelled out then the sound of him slapping Nora was heard from the room.

“Remove your clothes!” Marshall Fisher yelled from the bedroom.

Jenny listened in horror and couldn't believe her eyes.

"What are you doing?" Anita asked while she walked up behind Jenny and saw her ear plastered to the bedroom door.

Jenny turned around and got nervous when she saw Anita behind her.

"I think your father and some of the Cowboys are raping a woman," Jenny told Anita.

"Yeah right," Anita replied and looked suspicious of Jenny. "No way."

Jenny and Anita both heard Nora's scream from the bedroom and the sound of clothes being torn while Cowboys Tony and Dave ripped her dress off her body.

"Please let me go back to my room," Nora pleaded from inside the bedroom.

Jenny and Anita heard Nora being slapped a few times inside the room.

Anita couldn't believe her ears so she also plastered her ear to the door.

They heard some shuffling inside the room then it got quiet.

"Go Blaine! Go Blaine!" Cowboy Tony was heard coaching Marshall Fisher.

"Fuck that bitch, Blaine," Cowboy Dave was heard from inside the room.

Jenny and Anita listened in horror to Nora being raped inside the bedroom.

"Ahhh!" Marshall Fisher cried out when he had an orgasm.

"I'm next!" Cowboy Bart called out from the

room.

Anita and Jenny listened while Bart grunted during his raping of Nora who remained silent.

Anita and Jenny stepped away from the bedroom door stunned.

Jenny grabbed Anita's hand and walked her down the hallway.

She walked Anita into her bedroom and closed the door.

Anita paced around the bedroom in disbelief. "I can't believe daddy would do this."

"I'm sorry to say this, but he's not the person you think he is."

Anita stopped pacing and thought for a few seconds while they knew Nora was being gang raped in that bedroom. She would never want to be in that position.

Jenny looked hesitant and pondered if she could say be the bearer of more horrible news. "I believe all the woman who are pregnant in Paradise, were raped by your father and or by his sleazy Cowboys," she decided to tell.

Anita thought about that news for a few seconds. "Daddy got out of a rape case five years ago," she told Jenny while she paced some more then it dawned on her. "He must have bought his way out of it," she said then thought about that for a few more seconds. "Damn it. I thought he was really innocent," she added and got furious.

Jenny looked curiously at Anita. "What happened to your mother?"

“Blaine Fisher isn’t my real father. My real father died in a car accident due to a leaky brake line. I was two years old at the time. Then a few months later, my mom married Blaine. Then she died after being beaten and raped while at a shopping mall parking lot at night. I was eighteen years old at that time. The mansion and her millions of money were from my mother’s family but she left me fifty-five percent of the estate. Blaine got the other forty-five percent,” Anita said while her eyes welled up. “I miss mom.”

“But you treat Blaine like he was your real father.”

“I know, he actually treated me with love and he was the only father figure I knew,” replied Anita while her eyes welled up.

Jenny hugged Anita for support but something about that story was suspicious. “He needs to be stopped,” she said then wondered if Blaine had something to do with the death of Anita’s real mother and father.

Anita thought about Jenny’s comment for a few seconds. “I know, but we don’t have the Calvary to call.”

Jenny thought for a few seconds then she smiled with an idea. “You just never know.”

Anita looked hurt. “He thought my new idea for turning this place into a fantasy vacation spot was stupid.”

“Don’t give up on your dreams just yet. Things can change,” Jenny replied with an air of

confidence.

“We could do other historical places. Just make a model and his machine invention will make it come alive. Medieval times with knights would be awesome,” Anita said with a spark in her eyes on visualizing that dream some true.

Jenny got a smirk while she looked at Anita. “You better get to your room before your father sees you out and about,” Jenny told her.

“You’re right,” Anita said then walked to the door, quietly left and headed to her room.

Jenny walked over and got under the covers.

Anita rushed to her bed and plopped down and sobbed into her pillow over the thoughts of her stepfather being a rapist.

Then she heard the commotion of the Cowboys taking Nora, who wept, out of the bedroom and escorted her down the hallway.

Anita’s eyes welled up in sympathy for Nora.

Chapter 17

It was two thirty that Friday morning.

Paradise was quiet and the sound of hammers finished four hours ago.

Josh crept out of his hotel room and his shadowy figure gingerly walked down the back streets and got to the rear of Doc Holloway's Office building. He rushed inside the building.

Josh rushed into the bedroom by the back door, peeked under the bed and saw six bottles with clear liquid. He smiled knowing Jenny finished her end of their plan.

He grabbed all the bottles and rushed out of the doctor's building.

Josh rushed back to the General Store with the six bottles of clear concoction and went inside.

Josh quickly opened up one of the boxes of whiskey and removed a bottle.

He unscrewed the cap of the whiskey bottle then he opened up the rear door and poured some of the whiskey out into the dirt. He removed the cork out of one of the concoction bottles and poured some into the whiskey bottle then screwed on the cap.

Josh repeated this process for all the whiskey bottles all four boxes.

He also went outside and raked fresh dirt over the puddle of whiskey.

After the boxes were restacked inside the General Store, Josh rushed over to the closest outhouse and he dropped all the empty concoction bottles into a bucket of waste.

He ran back to his hotel room in the quiet night and tried to get some sleep.

It was five that morning and Josh woke up when he heard the sound of Maggie ringing her bell down the hallway. He quickly gathered up his towel and other toiletry items and headed out of his room to the bathroom.

After his bath, Josh sat alone at his table in the Dining Hall and ate the standard scrambled eggs, bacon and milk.

Back in Marshall Fisher's mansion, Jenny, Anita and Marshall Fisher sat at the dining room table eating their breakfast, which consisted of a ham omelet, grits, coffee and toast.

Jenny and Anita picked at their omelets and looked upset.

"I hope everybody had a good night's sleep. I know I did," Marshall Fisher told the ladies with a smile then he sipped some of his coffee.

Anita wanted so bad to confront him about what she heard last night, but she recalled that when she questioned about that rape case, and how he slapped her and told her to mind her

own business. She just kept quiet and picked at her omelet with her fork.

Marshall Fisher noticed that both Jenny and Anita picking at their omelets. "What's the matter, you're not eating?"

"Ah, I guess I'm nervous about the big day tomorrow," Anita replied then she sipped some of her coffee.

"Me too," Jenny added then she ate a small piece of her omelet.

Bernard entered with two different styles of white old fashion white wedding dresses in hand. He walked up to Fisher. "Sir, these arrived from the dress maker," he said then held up the two dresses.

Marshall Fisher looked the dresses over. "Jenny's dress will be the one the left. And Anita's dress will be the one on the right," he told Bernard.

"As you wish sir," Bernard replied then walked out of the room with the dresses.

Fisher gulped down the rest of his coffee. "I need you both on stage for a toast with everybody. We'll do it at high noon. And Anita, make sure shit for brains Josh knows about this," he told the two ladies.

Jenny nodded that she understood his orders.

"Yes daddy," she replied and didn't take too kindly to him calling Josh names.

Fisher got up from the table and walked out of the room.

Anita and Jenny eyed each other and were afraid on saying anything.

After breakfast, Josh walked down Paradise Lane and saw Nora while she walked like a zombie down the street.

He looked concerned and walked over to her. "Are you okay?" he asked.

Nora looked at Josh and looked lifeless. "It doesn't matter anymore. It's going to happen again and again. I can't stop it," she quietly replied then she moped down the street and headed to the Saloon.

Josh looked concerned while he watched Nora mope down the street. He knew Marshall Fisher didn't something horrible to Nora and he figured she was raped. His blood boiled and he wanted to make Marshall Fisher pay.

Josh rushed back to the General Store and looked so determined to get out of Paradise so he could turn this place around.

Josh walked inside the General Store where Melvin looked anxious from behind the cash register. "Take over the store. I'm heading out for a couple of hours. And don't forget to deliver the boxes of whiskey for the party. The wagon is parked out back," he said then walked out from behind the register.

"Yes sir," Josh replied then he watched Melvin rush out the door with a horny grin on his face.

Anita walked into the General Store and still looked bothered from last night.

“Good morning,” Josh said the second he saw her and noticed her bothered stare in her eyes. “Are you okay?” he asked a little concerned.

“Yeah, just a little wedding jitters,” she replied, as she didn’t want to tell Josh about Nora’s rape.

Josh looked at Anita and felt like a jerk knowing she would be deeply hurt when he left her at the altar tomorrow.

“Oh, father wants you at the stage at high noon for a toast,” she said.

“A toast?” he asked.

The sound of a Colt 45 being fired was heard outside on the street.

Anita and Josh looked concerned and rushed outside to the street.

A crowd rushed down Paradise Lane and headed to the Saloon where another crowd gathered.

Josh and Anita rushed over to the crowd outside the Saloon where people stood in a circle and looked down at the dirt.

“What happened?” Anita asked.

“Nora grabbed a pistol from one of the Cowboys and rushed outside and shot herself in the heart,” a middle-aged woman said.

Anita instantly knew why Nora ended her life and her eyes welled up.

Josh had an inkling of what could be the reason and he fumed inside.

Anita stepped away from the crowd. "I'm not feeling too well so I'm going to the mansion," she told Josh then rushed away down the street.

Josh glanced at Anita while she rushed off to the mansion then he glanced down at Nora's dead body.

He glanced back at Anita while she rushed off down the street. He knew something bugged her, as she wasn't all over him with kisses and hugs.

A little while later, Josh stood behind the cash register and business was slow at the General Store.

The rear door of the store opened and Jenny peeked inside.

Josh saw her and rushed over to the door.

"Someone named Nora just shot herself an hour ago," Josh told her and looked upset.

"I heard Marshall Fisher and some of his goons raping her last night in the mansion," Jenny said and she looked pissed.

"More reason why we need to get out of here and turn this place around," he told her and gave her a quick kiss on her lips.

Jenny reached inside one of her pockets of her dress and removed a folded piece of paper. "Here's the instructions for the machine," she said and handed him the paper.

Josh unfolded the paper and glanced at the

paper. "We'll leave this hell hole right after the toast," he told her then gave her another kiss.

"Just make sure you don't drink any of that stuff," Jenny told him.

"I will," he replied and then they kissed.

While they kissed, they didn't notice Maggie who stood in the store and heard their entire conversation. Maggie rushed away in a panic and headed out the front door.

Josh closed the door after Jenny rushed away down the back alley.

He walked over and waited behind the cash register.

It was now nine fifty-six that morning.

Melvin returned from his romp at the Paradise House and some shots in the Saloon.

"You best get to taking the whiskey over to the stage. Then you're done for the day," Melvin said while he walked through the door.

Josh walked through the store and opened the back door. He grabbed one of the boxes of whiskey and took it outside.

After all four boxes of whiskey were loaded into the wagon, Josh climbed aboard and drove off down the alley.

Josh drove the wagon down toward the end of Paradise Lane and saw a couple of workers putting on the finishing touches to the wooden stage.

He stopped the wagon by a table to the one

side of the stage. He got out and immediately started unloading the bottles out of the boxes and placing them on the top of the table. He opened up one of the boxes and started removing the whiskey bottles

Jenny walked out of Doc Holloway's Office with her suitcase with all of her clothes in hand.

She saw the stage and Josh setting up the whiskey bottles on the table.

Josh turned around and saw Jenny.

Their eyes made a brief contact while he placed some more bottles of whiskey on the table.

She walked away and headed down Paradise Lane toward the mansion.

A little while later, Josh had the whiskey bottles placed on the table and saved six for the Indians.

He drove the wagon down Paradise Lane and parked it behind the General Store.

He went inside the store and hid the six whiskey bottles for the Indians under the steps that led to the rear door.

He returned back to his hotel room to relax for a little while before the party started.

Down at the end of Paradise Lane, Marshall Fisher walked around with Cowboys Tony, Steve, Mark, Tony and Ray and checked out the wooden stage.

"Nice job," he said while he walked up the

steps and stood on the stage.

Maggie rushed down Paradise Lane with Cowboys Wesley and Paul.

“Marshall, Marshall!” Maggie called out.

Marshall Fisher saw Maggie and the two Cowboys run over to the stage. “What?” he asked while he walked down the steps of the stage.

“Marshall, I overheard Jenny and Josh talking inside the General Store. They’re planning on sneaking out of Paradise after the toast,” she sang like a canary.

“What?” Marshall Fisher asked to make sure he heard correctly.

“I overheard Jenny and Josh talking in the General Store about escaping Paradise right after the toast,” Maggie told him again.

“Find that turd Josh Bryant and bring him to me at my office!” Marshall Fisher ordered his Cowboys.

Cowboys Steve, Tony, Steve, Mark, Tony and Ray rushed off down Paradise Lane.

Maggie strutted back down Paradise Lane proud that she earned some brownie points with the Marshall.

Josh sat on his bed and glanced over the instructions that Jenny stole from the mansion.

His hotel room door slammed opened and Josh jumped up startled and let go of the instructions. The paper floated down to the floor.

Cowboys Tony, Steve, Mark, Tony and Ray stormed inside Josh's hotel room.

Josh saw the instructions on the floor and tried to grab it with his boot and move it under his bed. He couldn't and the paper was exposed.

Steve and Mark each grabbed one of Josh's arms and brought him to his feet.

"The Marshall wants a kind word with you," Steve said while they walked Josh to the door.

Tony saw the paper on the floor, picked it up and checked it out. He looked pissed when he shoved the paper in pants pocket and walked to the door.

Cowboys Tony, Steve, Mark, Tony and Ray marched Josh down Paradise Lane.

Harold walked down Paradise Lane and he saw the Cowboys while they marched Josh to the Marshall's Office.

Inside the Marshall's Office, Marshall Fisher was pissed while he paced back and forth furious while Charlie sat at his desk.

The door opened and Cowboys Tony, Steve, Mark, and Ray marched Josh inside.

"We found the turd," Cowboy Steve said then threw Josh to the floor.

Marshall Fisher pulled Josh up by his hair to his feet then he got in Josh's face. "What's this I hear you're running off with Jenny?" he yelled and sprayed a little spit in Josh's face.

Josh shook with fear while he looked into the fire in the Marshall's eyes. "I, ah, I ah."

Marshall Fisher punched Josh in his stomach.

Josh dropped to his knees in pain.

"Here Marshall. I found this on the floor of Josh's room while we were leaving," he said the second he removed the instructions from his pants pocket.

Marshall Fisher looked at the paper Cowboy Tony handed him and he got furious when he realized they were the instructions for the glass booth. He punched Josh in his stomach again.

Josh dropped to the floor and buckled over in extreme pain.

"Put that turd in the other jail cell," Marshall Fisher instructed his Cowboys. "Come Charlie," he said then he stormed over to the door.

Charlie got up from behind his desk and walked over to the door.

Cowboys and Mark and Steve picked Josh up from the floor and walked him to the other jail cell.

James watched while they threw Josh into the cell door at the same time Marshall Fisher left through the door with Cowboys Mark and Ray.

Cowboy Steve slammed the cell door shut and he left the office with cowboy Tony.

It was quiet in the Marshall's Office.

"What did you do now?" James asked from his cell.

“Marshall Fisher learned that Jenny and I were planning to escape from Paradise,” Josh replied from his cell.

“And you were going to leave me here?”

“No. We would come back and rescue everybody,” Josh replied.

“Well, I guess that won’t happen now and the only way we’ll escape is by a rope tight around our necks,” James replied.

Josh and James sat down on their jail cell beds and looked scared.

Chapter 18

Jenny waited in the chair in her bedroom inside the mansion.

Her bedroom door slammed opened and Marshall Fisher stormed inside with Cowboys Charlie, Tony, Steve, Ray, and Tony.

Jenny got scared when she saw the fire in Marshall Fisher's eyes.

"Hi honey," she said to appease the Marshall.

It didn't work as he continued to march over to her with fire in his eyes. "How the hell did Josh get this?" he yelled at her while he flashed the instructions in her face.

Jenny shook in fear knowing she was caught.

Fisher slapped her hard across her face knocking her and the chair over to the floor. His hand imprint was a red mark on her left cheek.

Marshall Fisher reached down and grabbed a handful of hair. He painfully brought her up to her feet. He slapped her hard again sending her down to the floor.

Jenny sobbed while she lay on the floor scared to death.

"What should we do with the bitch?" cowboy Tony asked the Marshall.

Marshall Fisher just stared down at Jenny while he pondered her fate.

Outside on Paradise Lane, Anita walked up and down the street in search of Josh.

She walked over and peeked inside the General Store and saw it was void of town folk.

She rushed down to the wooden stage at the end of the street and searched for Josh, but he wasn't there.

Anita slowly walked down the street wondering what happened to the love of her life.

Harold rushed up to Anita. "Anita, I need to speak to you," he said and looked worried.

Anita looked irritated with Harold. "I'm busy," she replied with a snap.

"It's important. It's about Josh."

Anita looked concerned. "What is it?"

"I saw your father and some Cowboys take Josh to the Marshall's Office.

She got concerned while she glanced over at the Marshall's Office.

"Thank you."

"Ah Anita, I was hoping," he said but stopped when Anita bolted off toward the mansion.

Harold ran after Anita.

In Jenny's bedroom inside the mansion, she sobbed on the floor while Marshall Fisher, Charlie, and Cowboys Tony, Steve, and Tony towered over her.

"How dare you betray me!" Marshall Fisher yelled at Jenny then he leaned down and

grabbed a handful of hair then painfully brought her back up to her feet.

“I need to get rid of you, but in a different way. Hanging is too easy,” Marshall Fisher said while he got in her face and pulled hard on her hair from the back of her head.

The bedroom door quietly cracked opened and Anita listened.

Cowboy Tony got a huge grin while he had an evil idea. “Why don’t we tie her to the train tracks. Way out in the grassy field.

Marshall Fisher looked a little baffled at his comment.

“You know, like in the old silent movies,” cowboy Tony replied with a grin.

Cowboy Steve’s eyes widen with joy. “Yeah, just like Snidely Whiplash!”

Marshall Fisher thought about his suggestion for a few seconds while he stared down at Jenny then he smiled. “I like that plan, but I’m still going to hang that Josh piece of shit,” he added with a larger grin.

A little while later, Anita ran out the front door of the mansion and ran down the steps in a panic.

She ran across the front yard and zipped past the Cowboys guarding the entrance to the mansion.

She ran down the dirt trail that led to the mansion.

She ran through the entrance of Paradise.

She ran down Paradise Lane where Harold waited for her on the porch of the General Store.

Harold looked concerned for Anita and ran after her.

Inside Jenny's bedroom in the mansion, Marshall Fisher glared into Jenny's eyes causing her to pee in her bloomers.

"At high noon, take her out the back door and tie her at the tracks while I'm socializing at the party," he told his Cowboys. He had another idea pop in his head. "I now don't have a choice. Anita can no longer be allowed to breath. We'll kill her then I'll say that Josh was her murderer," he said and the more he thought about it he liked that idea. Then he realized that would give him an extra benefit. "I'll now have one hundred percent of her share of everything," he said knowing he could expand his train set with more towns and more people to control.

Marshall Fisher had a huge grin while he left the bedroom with Charlie.

Cowboys Steve, Mark, Ray, and Tony stayed behind and guarded Jenny while she sat on the floor scared to death.

The door to the Marshall's Office opened and Anita rushed inside. She immediately peeked out of the window curtains and saw her father, and Charlie walking down Paradise Lane toward the party area.

She ran over to Josh's cell while he sat on

his bed and looked scared.

The door to the Marshall's Office opened and Harold stepped inside.

"What happened, Josh?"

Josh got off his cell bunk and rushed over to the cell bars.

"Your father found out Jenny and I were going to leave Paradise," he confessed.

Anita's eyes welled up and looked hurt. "Why do men always want to leave me? Is it because I'm fat?"

"Anita, I'm sorry. I can't marry someone I don't love. I love Jenny. I don't want to hurt you. I do like you but only as a friend," he replied and looked sorry for her.

Anita's eyes continued to well up. "I'm always the friend."

Harold stood by the closed door with a smile.

"All I've ever wanted was to get married and raise some kids," Anita said.

"I'll marry you Anita and I'll never leave you," Harold said by the door after deciding to become brave.

Anita turned around and saw Harold.

"What?"

Harold walked up and grabbed Anita's hand. "I fell in love with you the minute I saw you in the lobby of your father's mansion for the Train House tour. You're the reason I kept coming back. You're the reason I wanted to come to Paradise. To marry you," Harold said with

admiration for Anita in his eyes.

“But you didn’t say a word to me when you bought your ticket,” she replied a little shocked over his confession.

Harold looked ashamed. “I was scared. I didn’t think a beautiful woman like you could find a guy like me attractive,” he said while he looked down at the floor.

Anita had a gleam in her eye while she looked at Harold. “I didn’t know.”

“You two should be together,” Josh said from his jail cell.

Harold had a sparkle in his eye thinking about Anita being his woman forever.

“Enough of this romantic crap, you’re father’s going to hang the both of us. We need your help!” James cried out in a panic from his jail cell.

“What can I do?” Anita asked.

“You mean, what can we do?” Harold replied.

Anita looked at Harold.

He held her hand and smiled.

“What can we do?” she said with a hint of a smile while she thought about Harold.

“I know your father probably has Jenny. So I need to find her,” Josh replied.

“He has her in the mansion. I overheard that they’re going to tie her to the train track in the grassy field,” Anita said.

Josh banged his head against the cell bars. “I need to get out of here!”

“Don’t forget about me!” James called out from his jail cell.

“Daddy and Uncle Charlie keeps the keys to the jail cells with them,” Anita told everybody.

Josh thought for a second then motioned for Anita and Harold to get closer to his cell bars. The second they got then he whispered his plan into their ears.

Anita and Harold nodded in agreement and rushed over to the door and left the Marshall’s Office.

“Are you going to fill me in with your plan?” James asked from his cell.

Josh proceeded to explain his plan to James.

Anita and Harold ran behind the General Store and got inside the wagon parked there.

She and Harold reached under the steps to the rear door and removed the six bottle of whiskey.

They carried the bottles and got in the seat of the wagon.

She snapped the reins and the wagon took off down the back alley.

Anita drove the wagon and stopped by the four Cowboys camped out by the entrance to the mansion.

“Daddy said you can head over to the party now,” she told them.

The four Cowboys looked excited about doing some partying and they quickly stood up

and walked off toward Paradise.

Anita snapped the reins and drove the wagon down the dirt road and headed toward the grassy field.

Anita raced the wagon down the dirt road through the grassy field.

Anita raced the wagon down the dirt road through the forest.

Anita raced the wagon down the dirt road through the desert.

The four Indians camped out near the cave in the base of the mountains stood up the second they saw the wagon racing at them.

Anita stopped the wagon by the cave. "Father wants you to have this and wants you to drink today to celebrate his wedding," she told the Indians.

Harold held up a bottle of whiskey and the eyes of the Indians lit up.

"We drink to celebrate Marshall's wedding!" one of the Indians said while he walked over to Harold.

The other three Indians' licked their lips in anticipation of drinking some whiskey.

"Yaaaa!" Anita called out while she snapped the reins.

The horses pulled the wagon away from the cave and Anita turned it in the direction of the Indian Camp.

A little while later, Anita arrived at the Indian Camp where two Indians greeted the wagon.

“Here’s some whiskey my father wants you to drink to celebrate his upcoming wedding. Drink it now as he’s having a town party,” Anita told the Indian while Harold held up five bottles of whiskey.

“We will drink!” the Indian said while he grabbed the bottles from Harold.

Anita snapped the reins and turned the wagon around and headed back to the cave.

Anita and Harold drove by the cave where the four Indians were sitting down and looked lethargic while they passed around the whiskey bottle.

“It’s working,” she told Harold while she headed the wagon back down the dirt road toward the forest.

Anita raced the wagon down the dirt road through the forest.

Anita raced the wagon down the dirt road through the grassy field.

Anita raced the wagon back into Paradise and went down the back alley behind the Marshall’s Office.

At the rear of the mansion, Charlie, and Cowboys Steve, Mark, Ray, and Tony dragged Jenny bounded in rope out of the rear door and plopped her into the back of a wagon.

Anita parked the wagon by the rear of the Marshall’s Office.

“I’m going to get two horses out of the

stables. I want you to get some rope out of the General Store," she told Harold while she got down out of the wagon.

"Yes dear,' he replied while he climbed down out of the wagon.

Anita ran down the alley and headed toward the Stable.

Harold ran down through the alley and ran across the street to the General Store.

A few minutes later, Anita rode a horse and held the reins to a second horse while she headed back to the Marshall's Office.

At the railroad tracks in the grassy field, Cowboys Mark, Ray, Steve and Tony finished tying bounded Jenny to the track.

"No!' Jenny screamed out.

Steve leaned down and slapped her hard across her cheek. "Shut up!"

Cowboys Ray, Mark, Steve, and Tony mounted their horses and galloped off toward Paradise.

Jenny tried to wiggle off the rails but she couldn't. Her eyes welled up thinking this was how she would finally depart this world.

Harold waited by the wagon behind the Marshall's Office with some rope in hand.

Anita soon arrived with the two horses. "Let's tie the rope between the bars of the cell windows and the wagon's horse," she told

Harold while she dismounted her horse.

Harold immediately snaked the rope through the bars of the two cell windows and Anita assisted while they tied the other end around one of the horses.

At the wooden stage on Paradise Lane, the street was full of all the town folk.

Marshall Fisher walked up on the stage, and faced everybody. "May I have everyone's attention," he called out and looked saddened.

All eyes were on the Marshall while he faked wiping a tear. "The start of the party will be delayed," he said then faked wiping away another tear. "My beautiful fiancé has disappeared. She was last seen with Mister Bryant who is now in a cell waiting questioning. It appears he wanted her all to himself," he told everybody and faked wiping away another tear.

Most of the audience believed his story and felt sorry for him, but the rest were a little suspicious.

"I can't continue this party until she's found," he said while he looked at all of the waiting town folk.

Over at the table, the Cowboys started passing around four opened whiskey bottles and started drinking.

Marshall Fisher walked down the steps off the stage and was immediately surrounded by some of the town butt kissers who offered help with finding Jenny. Marshall Fisher let them

know that his Cowboys are taking care of searching for Jenny. He wanted everybody to stay and have a grand time.

The Marshall decided to stay and chat with these people since he knew the train would be soon running over Jenny.

Inside the Marshall's Office, Josh and James stood by their cell bar doors and looked at the windows with the rope snaked through the bars.

They watched while the rope tightened around the bars.

The back wall creaked.

The back wall started to move outward.

The sound of wood cracking filled the jail cells.

The wall for Josh and James' jail cell came crashing down.

Once the dust settled outside the rear of the Marshall's Office, Josh and James ran through the hole to freedom.

Wilbur drove his crap wagon down the alley and saw the pile of rubble behind the Marshall's Office.

He stopped his wagon by the other wagon where Harold was removing the rope from the horse.

"What the hell is going on here?" Wilbur asked while he stared at the hole in the back of the Marshall's Office.

Josh ran up to Wilbur. "We're getting out of this hell hole," he told Wilbur.

"Please don't tell," Anita said while she walked up to Wilbur's wagon.

Wilbur smiled. "I can slow that jerk down for you," he said then looked at Anita. "Sorry about my choice of words, Miss Fisher," he added.

"No problem. I'm thinking of calling him a name worse than that," she replied while she climbed up inside the wagon.

"Thanks Wilbur," Josh said while he mounted his horse.

James mounted his horse.

Josh and James galloped their horses off down the street.

Harold climbed up in the wagon and sat next to Anita. She moved her wagon around and headed down the alley.

Wilbur moved his wagon and headed down the alley next to the Marshall's Office and headed toward Paradise Lane.

At the train station, Cowboy Tony waited at the dock for the Paradise Express to roll into the station.

Wilbur stopped his wagon by the alley entrance into Paradise Lane by the Marshall's Office.

Wilbur quickly climbed down the wagon then opened up a small wood storage bin on the side. He removed a sledge hammer and bent down

by one of the wheels. He started pounding on one of the spokes of the wheel with the hammer. The spoke cracked in half and he quickly started pounding on another spoke on the same wheel.

Chapter 19

Josh and James rode their horses down Paradise Lane and passed by the Paradise House of Pleasure.

Josh glanced back at the house and couldn't resist.

He stopped then turned his horse around and galloped back to the Paradise House of Pleasure.

James stopped his horse and looked back at Josh. "We don't have time for you to get your rocks off."

Josh jumped off his horse. "It'll only take a couple of minutes," he yelled out while he ran into the building.

James felt vulnerable while he anxiously waited for Josh to return.

Josh ran past the whores that waited in the lobby of the Paradise House of Pleasure.

"Hey baby, I'm available," one of the whores called out while Josh ran up the stairs.

Josh ran down the hallway and opened up a door and peeked inside the room.

He closed the door and ran over to another door and opened it and peeked inside.

He closed the door and ran over to another door and opened it. Josh bolted inside that room where Cowboy Tim grunted while he lay

naked on top of Linda who looked lethargic while she stared at the ceiling.

Josh saw Tim's holster hanging on the bed post. He walked over to the bed and the floor creaked. Josh rushed over to the holster the second Tim looked back at the source of the creaking floorboard.

Tim's eyes widened with shock when he saw Josh. "What the hell are you doing here?" Tim yelled.

"Pay back," Josh replied while he whipped out one of Tim's Colt 45's from his holster.

"What?" Tim replied then he got off Linda but Josh whacked Tim upside his head knocking him to the floor out cold.

Josh grabbed Linda's arm. "We're getting out of here," he said while he pulled her off the bed.

He rushed her naked over to the dress hanging on the wall.

He looked the other way while Linda quickly got dressed.

Outside in Paradise Lane, James looked nervous while he waited on his horse with Josh.

Josh rushed Linda out of the Paradise House of Pleasure and over to James' horse.

He assisted Linda on the back of James horse then he got on his own horse.

"Let's get the hell out of here," James said.

They galloped their horses off down Paradise Lane while Linda wrapped her arms

around James' body.

Way down the other end of Paradise Lane by the wooden stage, Marshall Fisher finished talking with some people then he glanced over at the table and saw that most of his Cowboys were passed out in the dirt from the spiked whiskey.

He rushed over to the Cowboys. "Wake up!" he yelled out and kicked cowboy Wesley in his butt.

Wesley didn't wake up and Marshall Fisher got suspicious.

Cowboys Jesse, Saul, and Dale rushed down Paradise Lane.

"Marshall, someone broke your two prisoners out of the jail," cowboy Jesse called out.

Marshall Fisher glanced down the street and saw Josh and James galloping away on the horses.

"Get some horses and stop those two!" Marshall Fisher yelled out at the three Cowboys.

Cowboys Jesse, Saul, and Dale rushed off toward a side street and headed to the stable.

At the train station, Cowboy Tony boarded the engine of the Paradise Express where engineer Elmer was about to shut down the engine so he could join the party.

"Don't," cowboy Tony said the second he boarded the engine compartment.

“But the party is about to begin,” Elmer replied and looked a little confused.

“You’re to take the Paradise Express for one more ride and then you can shut it down,” Cowboy Tony explained.

“Okay,” Elmer responded, as he knew not to argue with the Cowboys. He moved the throttle forward and the Paradise Express moved away from the station. Cowboy Tony kept a watchful eye on Elmer to make sure he kept the train moving down the tracks.

Anita and Harold raced their wagon down the dirt trail through the forest and headed toward the desert.

Josh and James galloped their horses down the dirt trail through the grassy field. Linda remained a little lethargic while she hugged James’ body during the ride.

Josh and James heard the Paradise Express while it raced down the track behind them.

Josh glanced back. “Yaaaa,” he yelled while he snapped the reins against the horse. His horse picked up speed. “She should be close by, so look for her,” Josh yelled at James.

From inside the engine of the Paradise Express, Cowboy Tony saw Josh and James’ horses while they raced down the dirt road. “Make this train move faster!” he yelled at Elmer.

“What’s the hurry?” Elmer replied.

“Just do what I say,” Cowboy Tony snapped back with some authority.

Elmer gave the train more throttle and the Paradise Express picked up speed while it raced down the tracks.

Jenny’s eyes were widened with fear while she felt the vibration of the train in the rails through her back while the Paradise Express raced down the tracks.

“There’s Jenny!” Josh called out the second he saw a hump in the tracks way off to the right and pointed at her location.

Josh and James turned their horses off the dirt trail, galloped through the grassy field and raced toward Jenny on the railroad tracks.

The Paradise Express raced down the tracks toward Jenny.

Inside the Paradise Express engine, Elmer saw Jenny tried to the tracks and grabbed the brake handle.

“Touch that and I’ll put a bullet in the back of your head,” Cowboy Tony threatened Elmer by shoving the barrel of one of his Colt 45s into the back of Elmer’s head.

Elmer swallowed hard then he removed his hand off the brake and looked sick at the thought of the train running over a human being.

Josh and James galloped their horses through the grassy field and headed to Jenny tied on the tracks.

Inside the Paradise Express engine, Cowboy Tony glanced over to this left and saw Josh and James galloping on horses to Jenny.

He rushed over to the left side of the engine, aimed his Colt 45 pistol out the window and fired a shot.

Josh and James galloped their horses toward Jenny and a bullet zinged past them.

Josh and James galloped their horses through the field while more bullets zinged past them.

Inside the Paradise Express engine, Elmer didn't like the fact that cowboy Tony was trying to kill some other people while he was being forced to allow his train to kill someone on the railroad track.

Josh and James galloped their horses closer to Jenny on the tracks.

The Paradise Express raced down the tracks and was getting closer and closer to Jenny.

Cowboy Tony saw Josh and James' horses come to a screeching stop by Jenny.

He leaned out of the left window of the engine and aimed his Colt 45 at Josh and

James while they jumped off their horses.

“Not with my train,” Elmer quietly said while he grabbed the brake handle and applied the brakes.

Cowboy Tony flew forward in the train and smacked his head on the side of the window.

Josh and James watched in horror while the Paradise Express came screeching down the rails.

Josh frantically tried to free the ropes from around Jenny while the train came screeching at them.

James joined in and frantically tried to free the ropes from around Jenny while the train came screeching at them.

The Paradise Express came screeching down the tracks and got closer and closer.

Josh and James loosened the ropes and Josh grabbed Jenny’s hands and yanked her off the tracks where the train screeched to a stop two inches from them.

They looked up in relief at the train and suddenly saw Cowboy Tony being tossed out of engine compartment and hit the ground with a thud.

“Get the hell out of here before he becomes conscious,” Elmer yelled out from the train window.

James got back on his horse where Linda immediately wrapped her arms around his waist.

Josh assisted Jenny on his horse then got

on the horse in front of her. She wrapped her arms around Josh's waist while he turned his horse around.

Josh and James galloped their horses through the grassy field and headed toward the dirt trail.

"You're my hero," Jenny said by Josh's ear while she hugged his body then kissed his cheek.

Josh looked proud.

Linda saw this from James' horse and she smiled while she came to life realizing she could be free soon.

Elmer moved the Paradise Express down the tracks leaving Cowboy Tony passed out in the grassy field.

Anita and Harold raced their wagon down the dirt trail and headed to the cave at the base of the mountains.

Back in Paradise, Wilbur was ready while he looked down the street and saw Marshall Fisher and Cowboys Jesse, Saul, and Dale on horses while they jumped in the saddle of some horses.

"Yaaaa," Marshall Fisher yelled out while he smacked his horses with the sides of his boots.

Marshall Fisher and Cowboys Jesse, Saul, and Dale galloped their horses down Paradise Lane.

Wilbur waited for a few seconds then he

snapped the reins and the horse pulled the wagon onto the street and he abruptly turned the wagon to the left in front of the galloping horses.

The wagon wheels on Wilbur's side of the wagon broke off, the wagon tipped over and the four buckets of human waste spilled out into the dirt street.

Wilbur flew out of the wagon splashed into the huge pond of human waste.

Marshall Fisher and his Cowboys stopped their horses in a hurry in the pond of waste.

The empty concoction bottles were visible floating in the post of waste.

Marshall Fisher glared down at Wilbur.
"You're dead!"

Wilbur got up and rushed over to Marshall Fisher's horse. He grabbed the Marshall's left pant leg and yanked him off his horse. Marshall Fisher splashed in the waste and some of it splashed on the Cowboys.

Cowboy Jesse started having the dry heaves the second he felt a chunk of human waste on his face.

Cowboys Saul and Dale laughed at Jesse.

Wilbur laughed at the sight of Marshall Fisher in the pond of waste.

Some of the town folk gathered on both sides of the street and discreetly snickered at the sight of Marshall Fisher.

Marshall Fisher got up with fire in his eyes.

Wilbur punched Marshall Fisher in his face and he splashed back in the pond of waste.

Some splashed on Cowboys Saul and Dale's face and they immediately had the dry heaves.

Marshall Fisher got up red faced furious.

Wilbur stood his ground with two clinched fists ready for the fight he's always wanted.

Marshall Fisher looked furious and whipped out his pistol and pressed it into Wilbur's forehead. "Put this ancient turd in our jail cell. And get me some clean clothes."

Cowboy Tim staggered down the street and looked a little dazed.

"What the hell happened to you?" Marshall Fisher asked.

"That Josh kid whacked me while I was having my way with one of the whores. He ran off with her," Cowboy Tim said while he cringed in pain over the throbbing headache.

"We don't have time to change clothes," Marshall Fisher said while he climbed up on his horse.

"Hang me. I don't care anymore," Wilbur said while he walked out of the pond of waste.

Tim started to grab Wilbur's arm but smell the stench and whipped out a Colt 45 and aimed it at Wilbur's head instead.

Back in the desert, Josh and James galloped their horses and headed toward the Indian Camp.

Marshall Fisher and Cowboys Jesse, Saul

and Dale galloped their horses down the dirt trail through the grassy field.

They saw Cowboy Tony who walked in the grassy field in a bit of a daze.

Marshall Fisher and the Cowboys stopped their horses.

“What the hell is wrong with you Tony?” Marshall Fisher asked.

Cowboy Tony walked over to Marshall Fisher.

“That stupid train engineer stopped the train just before it arrived to Jenny then that Josh and James you had locked up took her away.”

“Get on the back of Jesse’s horse,” Marshall Fisher ordered Tony.

Jesse extended out his hand and assisted Tony to the back of his horse.

Marshall Fisher and his Cowboys galloped off down the dirt trail toward the forest.

Cowboy Tony caught a whiff of Jesse. “You smell like shit,” he said.

Marshall Fisher and the other Cowboys ignored Tony’s comment, as they were still pissed with Wilbur.

Anita and Wilbur drove the wagon to the mountains and parked by the cave where they waited.

Josh, Linda, James and Jenny soon arrived at the Indian Camp where they immediately saw all the Indians were passed out in the dirt.

Josh got down off his horse and walked over and peeked inside the Chief's teepee.

Inside he saw Chief Merijildo face down in the dirt passed out with an empty bottle of whiskey in hand. Next to the Chief's side was Diana naked and passed out on her back in the dirt.

Josh saw Sara cowered in the teepee wearing a female's Indian dress. Sara quietly sobbed in the fetal position.

"Sara," he called out.

Sara looked up and saw Josh's head in the door flap of the teepee and her eyes lit up at the sight of a friendly human. "Josh!" she cried out then got up and went over to him.

"What are you doing here? They could kill you," she said while they hugged.

"We're escaping from Paradise," he told her while they separated from their hug.

"That scum bag old Indian had his way with me!" Sara told him and looked like she was going to be sick thinking about those times.

"No more," he said while he walked Sara out of the teepee.

When Josh walked Sara by Chief Merijildo, she kicked him hard in his groin as payback.

Josh rushed her over to the horses. It was a tight fit, but Josh was able to get Sara on his horse with Jenny.

Josh and James galloped their horses through the desert and headed to the cave.

Marshall Fisher and his Cowboys galloped their horses on the dirt trail out of the forest and headed toward the cave in the desert.

Josh and James galloped their horses in the desert and headed to the cave.

Marshall Fisher and his Cowboys galloped their horses through the desert and headed toward the cave.

Josh and James galloped their horses closer to the cave and saw Anita and Harold waiting in the wagon.

“Everything’s clicking in place,” Josh said while they galloped on their horses.

Josh and James galloped their horses in the desert then their eyes widen in fear when they heard the faint sound of horses behind him.

He glanced over his shoulder and saw Marshall Fisher and his Cowboys getting closer to the cave.

Anita and Harold looked scared when they saw Marshall Fisher and the Cowboys racing their horses toward the cave.

“Hurry up!” she yelled at Josh and James while they raced their horses closer to the cave.

Josh and James stopped their horses at the

wagon and everybody quickly dismounted.

“We don’t have much time,” Anita said while Josh, James, Linda, Jenny, and Sara ran toward the cave.

They all ran to the cave opening where the sound of a Colt 45 firing was heard and a bullet ricocheted off the top of the cave opening.

They rushed inside the cave where some more Colt 45 gunfire was heard and more bullets ricocheted off the top and sides of the cave opening.

Anita, Harold, Josh, James, Linda, Sara, and Jenny all ran through the inside of the cave where the sound of the Marshall and cowboy’s horses was louder outside the cave.

They all stopped by the glass booth.

Josh walked over and gave Anita a kiss on her cheek. “Thank you.”

Anita removed a piece of paper from her bosom. “Here’s my copy of the instructions on how to use the device,” she said then handed the paper to Josh.

Josh took the paper and looked at it. “Are you going?”

Anita placed an arm around Harold’s arm. “Yes, with my true love. You better go first. Daddy won’t harm me,” she said.

Jenny, Sara, Linda and Josh all squeezed inside the booth.

James, Anita and Harold waited where the sound of horses stopping outside the cave was

heard.

The sound of footsteps running inside cave was heard bouncing off the dirt walls.

Anita looked at the glass booth and motioned for Josh to hurry up while he typed on the keyboard.

“Stop!” Marshall Fisher yelled out then fired a bullet from his Colt 45 into the ceiling of the cave.

Dirt rained on Anita, Wilbur and James.

“Get out of my booth!” Marshall Fisher yelled while he ran to the booth to stop Josh while he continued to type on the keyboard inside the booth.

Anita jumped in front of her father to stop him. “Enough!” she yelled at him.

Marshall Fisher looked surprised with Anita, as this was the first time she’s ever yelled at him. He got furious and slapped her hard across her face then pushed her to the dirt.

Harold saw Anita in the dirt and got furious. He jumped on Marshall Fisher where they both fell to the dirt and his gun fell out of his hand.

They wrestled and Marshall Fisher punched Harold repeatedly in his face.

Cowboy Tony came to Marshall Fisher’s rescue but James tackled him to the dirt where they tumbled and fists flew at each other.

Marshall Fisher reached for his Colt 45 in the dirt and was able to grab it.

Anita scampered over and chomped down on her father’s hand.

He cried out in pain and let go of the Colt 45. Anita grabbed it and aimed it at her father's head. "I swear I'll kill him if you don't back off," she yelled out in a threatening tone.

The psychedelic colors from the glass of the booth caught their attention. They stopped fighting and stared at the colorful sight.

They all watched while the glass booth started spinning.

Marshall Fisher stood up and was pissed then the spinning stopped, the psychedelic colors dissipated and the glass booth was empty.

Cowboy Jesse snuck over and kicked the pistol out of Anita's hand where it bounced off the cave wall.

"I should have placed you in your father's car the day he died," Marshall Fisher snapped at Anita

Anita thought for a minute and then it dawned on her.

She dropped to her knees and sobbed. "You killed my father," she sobbed into her hands.

"Don't forget about her mother, as I had a blast raping then kicking the shit out of her," Cowboy Tony added and looked proud.

Anita's eyes widened in shock over the news Cowboy Tony said and she got up and charged after him.

Cowboy Tony punched Anita in her face the second she got to him knocking her down to the

ground.

Harold rushed over to Anita's side and comforted her while she sobbed.

"You'll be arrested for murder," Anita sobbed out while Harold assisted her to her feet.

"No, because dead witnesses can't testify," Marshall Fisher said while motioned at Cowboys Jesse, Saul, and Dale to get them out of the cave.

Cowboys Jesse, Saul, and Dale removed their Colt 45s from their holsters and motioned for Anita, Harold, and James to come with them.

The Cowboys escorted Anita, Harold and James out of the cave.

"Go back and kill Josh and those women," Marshall Fisher told Cowboy Tony while he handed him his copy of the instructions.

Cowboy Tony went inside the glass booth with the instructions.

Marshall Fisher waited and nothing happened while Cowboy Tony typed on the keyboard and Marshall Fisher started to get concerned.

Cowboy Tony stepped out of the glass booth. "It won't work," he said.

"That fat bitch," Marshall Fisher yelled and it echoed in the cave.

"Let's go," Marshall Fisher said while he stormed away to the cave opening and cowboy Tony followed.

Marshall Fisher and Cowboy Tony walked

out of the cave.

Marshall Fisher marched over to Anita. “I need you to unlock that booth!” he yelled at her.

“I’m sorry, but Josh has those details,” Anita replied.

Marshall Fisher slapped her hard across her face knocking her down on the ground.

Harold lunged at Marshall Fisher but Cowboy Tony was quick and whacked Harold on the back of his head and he dropped to the ground passed out.

“Get these turds in the back of the wagon and take them back to Paradise,” Marshall Fisher told his Cowboys.

Cowboy Jesse grabbed James by his arm and walked him back to the wagon.

Cowboy Saul picked Anita up by one of her arms and walked her over to the wagon.

Cowboys Tony and Dale picked up Harold by his arms and legs and carried him over to the wagon.

Back in the real world, Josh, Sara, Linda, and Jenny rushed out of the electrical room and went inside the Train House using the cipher code in Anita’s instructions.

Josh, Sara, Linda, and Jenny rushed into the Train House and looked at the train set.

Josh saw the wagon with people in the back and two black shirt Cowboys in the seat while it was on the dirt trail headed toward Paradise.

Two Cowboys were on horses in front of the wagon with another horse trailing behind them.

“We better hurry up and get what we need to save everybody,” Josh told the girls.

They rushed out of the Train House and headed back into the mansion.

Chapter 20

Marshall Fisher and his Cowboys drove the wagon with Anita, James and Harold back into Paradise.

Marshall Fisher and his Cowboys drove the wagon back down Paradise Lane where Cowboys Frank, Paul, Bubba, Lester, Sam, Jimmy, Allan, Mitch, Harry, Tim, Kirby, and Carl all sat or stood on the porch of the Marshall's Office. The Cowboys also looked like they had a horrific hangover.

"What the hell are you guys doing goofing off? Marshall Fisher yelled out while his horse rode up to this office building with the wagon. The Marshall then noticed they all looked sick. "Are you guys drunk or hung-over?" he added while he dismounted from his horse.

"Someone drugged the whiskey," cowboy Jimmy said while he rubbed his forehead to soothe his pounding headache.

"What?" Marshall Fisher replied and looked pissed with that news.

"We drank the whiskey at the table and then we all passed out," cowboy Lester said.

"Plus there's another problem," cowboy Jimmy added.

"What's that?" Marshall Fisher curiously asked and looked bothered with hearing more

bad news.

“There’s a gaping hole in the rear of this building where your two jail birds escaped,” cowboy Kirby responded.

Marshall Fisher stormed to the front door of his office, opened it then peeked inside. He had fire in his eyes when he saw the huge hole in the wall now making the two jail cells useless.

Marshall Fisher stormed off the porch and headed to the wagon.

He reached in the back of the wagon and grabbed Anita by her dress and yanked her out of the wagon. He threw her down to the dirt street.

“Tony, Bubba and Lester, after I hang these two turds, you have my permission to take this piece of fat ass and have your way with in her in the Paradise House of Pleasure. Then she’ll be a regular whore for the remaining time of her short life. This will be her punishment for crossing me,” he told the two Cowboys.

Cowboys Tony, Bubba and Lester drooled at the thought of screwing Anita.

The other Cowboys looked jealous but knew better than to say anything to the Marshall.

“Take these prisoners to the mansion and keep them in separate rooms with two Cowboys as guards,” he said.

“Yes sir,” Cowboy Tony replied and he gathered up Cowboys Kirby, Jimmy, Frank, Paul, Carl, and Sam.

Those Cowboys grabbed Anita, James, and

Harold by their arms and escorted them off toward the mansion.

“I want an extra noose added to the gallows for a hanging at eight in the morning,” Marshall told the rest of the Cowboys

They nodded then ran down the alley by the Marshall’s Office to head down the side street where the gallows was kept in a wooden storage building.

Marshall Fisher got back on his horse and rode off back to his mansion. He was steaming mad and his heart raced with fury.

Back in reality, Josh, Sara, Linda, and Jenny saw the miniature people and Cowboys that appeared to be headed back to the mansion.

Then they saw a cowboy on a horse heading back to the mansion.

“The Marshall must be keeping them in the mansion since his jail is ruined,” Josh told the ladies.

“What are we going to do?” Sara asked.

“We need to find a place where we can get some things to rescue everybody,” Josh replied then looked at Jenny and smiled. “Come, let’s get out of here,” he added then held Jenny’s hand and they headed to the main door of the Train House.

Back in Fisher’s mansion, Josh, Jenny, Linda and Sara powered up a computer in an

office and found a store in Miami that had a huge selection of miniature trains and accessories.

Josh looked in the drawers of the desk and found a bunch of cell phones. They took turns turning them on until they found two that worked.

Jenny found a cash box and removed all the cash.

Josh found his car keys and they all rushed out of the mansion.

Once they got outside, Josh, Jenny, Linda, and Sara rushed to the employee's parking lot where it was empty.

"They towed our cars away," Josh said and looked pissed.

"How can we get down to Miami?"

Josh looked that area around then spotted a two-car garage at the rear of the mansion. That garage caught his interest then he remembered something Anita told him. "I know where we can get a car," he told the ladies then rushed back to the mansion.

"Linda, Sara, and Jenny didn't have a clue what he was talking about but followed him anyway to the mansion.

Back inside Fisher's mansion, Josh, Jenny, Linda, and Sara looked in the drawers of the counter.

"I found a key," Linda said while she showed Josh.

“That’s it,” he said then snatched the key out of her hand and headed to the door.

The ladies followed Josh out of the mansion.

Fifteen minutes later, Josh had the ladies piled in Fisher’s 1939 Buick and they headed south down Interstate I-95 to Miami.

Back at the made up land of Paradise, it was nine that morning and the sound of hammering filled the air in town while the gallows was being modified with an extra noose.

In the mansion, Anita, James, and Harold were in private rooms with two Cowboys stood outside their doors as guards. Marshall Fisher also had numerous Cowboys that roamed around the mansion making the place look like a prison.

In one bedroom, Anita lay on her back on the bed with her hands and ankles tied to the bedpost and she cried.

In another bedroom, Harold lay on his back on the bed with his hands and ankles tied to the bedpost and worried about Anita.

In another bedroom James lay in the bed with his hands and ankles tied to the bedpost and regretted stepping into that glass booth thinking he would be living a better life.

Back in reality, Josh, Linda, Sara, and Jenny

walked out of a train store in Miami with everything they needed to save Paradise from Marshall Fisher.

But they were shocked to discover that Fisher's 1939 Buick was hot wired and stolen from the parking lot.

"Now what?" Sara asked worried.

"We have to walk back to the mansion, unless someone has some extra cash," he replied.

"I guess we're walking," Jenny responded. They all walked away down the street.

Back in the land of Paradise, it was two thirty that Saturday afternoon.

Anita was sound asleep when her room door slowly opened and Cowboys Tony, Bubba and Lester tiptoed inside.

They tiptoed over to Anita's bed where she lay on her back under the covers.

Bubba quickly covered Anita's mouth with his hand causing Anita to wake up. It took a few seconds but she realized the Cowboys were towering over her body her eyes widened with fear.

"Ahhh!" her screams were muffled under Bubba's hand.

Tony leaned down and brought his mouth to Anita's right ear. "We are going to have a great time with your fat ass," he whispered then he sucked on her ear lobe.

"Ahhh!" Anita screams were muffled under

Bubba's hand and she tried to squirm out from under the bonds of the ropes, but it was pointless.

Anita's eyes welled up believing she was going to be raped in a few minutes.

Tony and Lester ran their hands down the inside of Anita's leg toward her crotch while Bubba slipped his free hand down underneath her dress heading toward her breasts.

Anita squirmed and her muffled screams were heard under Bubba's hand while he fondled her breasts, and Lester and Tony groped her crotch.

The three Cowboys removed their hands from Anita's body and glared at her.

She shook in fear of her clothes being ripped off at any second and then they would each take their turns raping her.

Tony leaned down to her right ear again. "We'll be back after the hanging, so I hope you enjoyed our little preview show," Tony whispered in her ear then sucked on her ear lobe again.

Lester and Bubba covered Anita's body with the bedspread and covers.

They all walked out of the room with a smirk.

They stepped in the hallway where Marshall Fisher stood he lit up another Cuban cigar.

"What's going on?"

Cowboys Kirby, Jimmy, Frank, Paul, Carl, and Sam who guarded the prisoner's rooms looked with interest.

“We’re just giving her a little foreplay,” Cowboy Tony replied.

Marshall Fisher smiled at the thought that Anita lay there in fear.

“Can we have a little fun? Put some more fear in her eyes?” Cowboy Kirby asked while he drooled at the thought of groping Anita.

“Sure, but foreplay only. She’ll be a whore tomorrow afternoon then you can really have some fun with her,” Marshall Fisher replied then he puffed on his cigar and headed to his bedroom and went inside.

Cowboys Kirby, Jimmy, Frank, Paul, Carl, and Sam rushed over and went inside Anita’s bedroom with horny grins.

Cowboys Tony, Bubba, and Lester listened at the door and smiled when they heard the muffled screams of Anita while all six Cowboys ripped off her clothes. Her muffled screams got louder while they groped Anita’s naked body.

Cowboys Tony, Bubba, and Lester chuckled while they walked down the hallway and headed down the stairs.

Meanwhile, back in reality, Josh, Jenny, Sara, and Linda walked in the dark while they headed back to Fisher’s mansion. They were all exhausted and stopped off at a Wal-Mart to find a place where they could relax and get a drink of water.

It was six thirty that morning.

Everybody was in the Dining Hall finishing their standard scrambled eggs, bacon and milk breakfast.

“May I have your attention,” Charlie called out from the doorway of the room.

All eyes of the room were fixed on Charlie and Cowboys Dwayne, Chester, Bart, and Alfred in the doorway.

“We just learned that some of our fine folks were found dead out in the desert,” he said.

Numerous folks in the room looked stunned while some looked suspicious of the news.

“We captured the two killers, therefore, Marshall Fisher would like everybody out in the street at this time,” Charlie called out to everybody.

Everybody got up from their tables and headed to the door.

It didn't take long before Paradise Lane was filled with the town folk who stared at the gallows that were previously moved to the middle of the street by the Court House.

Cowboys were staggered on both sides of the crowd and watched the town folk with a eagle eye.

A wagon drove down Paradise Lane from the mansion with Cowboys Kirby, and Jimmy in the drivers seat. In the rear of the wagon sat James and Harold with Cowboys Bubba and Lester guarding them with their Colt 45s.

Cowboys Frank, Paul, Carl and Sam walked

on both sides of the wagon as guards.

Marshall Fisher rode his horse smoking his cigar behind the wagon.

Back in the mansion, Anita lay naked and still tied to her bed. Her eyes were red and puffy from crying all night. All she could think about was jumping in the shower and scrubbing her body for hours to get the feel of those cowboy's hands off her skin.

The wagon stopped behind the gallows.

Marshall Fisher stopped his horse behind the gallows and dismounted.

He walked around, headed up the side steps to the platform of the gallows and waited by the two hanging nooses.

Cowboys Bubba and Lester grabbed James and Harold out from the rear of the wagon, marched them up the steps and down the platform.

Marshall Fisher puffed on his cigar while he watched Cowboys Bubba and Lester place James and Harold behind the noose that will soon end their lives.

Marshall Fisher faked wiping away tears from his eyes while he faced the town folks. "It crushed my heart when I learned that my fiancé was killed by these two men. It further crushed my heart when I also learned that these two scoundrels also killed my daughter's fiancé. She's now in my mansion devastated that her

true love was murdered. Therefore, it gives me great satisfaction to find Harold Nicholson and James Abramson guilty of murder and will be hanged for their punishment,” Marshall Fisher addressed the town folk then he puffed on his cigar.

The faint sound of horses was heard coming from the grassy field.

Marshall Fisher puffed on his cigar while he looked down the street toward his mansion for the source of that sound. He shrugged it off and motioned for Cowboys Bubba and Lester to place the nooses around the necks of James and Harold.

Cowboys Bubba and Lester placed the nooses around James and Harold’s necks then tighten the rope.

The sound of numerous horses got louder and louder and all the town folk turned around and looked down Paradise Lane toward the mansion.

Outside the mansion, one hundred Army Cavalry soldiers on horses galloped through the grassy field and headed toward Paradise.

These soldiers and horses were alive but had this plastic look about their skin and always had a serious look about them. They were miniatures that came to life suddenly.

Miniatures that were injected into the land of Paradise by Josh, Jenny, Linda and Sara.

“Cover all the side streets,” the Army

Captain yelled at his troops in a monotone almost computer generated sounding voice.

Some of the one hundred Army Cavalry soldiers split up and headed toward the side streets of Paradise.

Back at the gallows, the air was filled with the thump, thump, thump sound of the galloping horses and all eyes were fixed down Paradise Lane.

The eyes of all the town folks widen with shock the second they saw fifty Army Cavalry soldiers on horses' race down Paradise Lane all wearing black Cavalry hat with yellow Acorn bands.

Half of the Cowboys that monitored the crowd scattered between buildings for a safe haven the second they sensed the huge Cavalry was big trouble.

Marshall Fisher's mouth opened and his cigar dropped out of his mouth and fell to the platform of the gallows. "Oh shit," he said and looked stunned at the sight of the huge force of the Cavalry. For the first time with running Paradise he was scared.

The vast majority of the town folk cheered at the sight of the Cavalry racing into town.

The town folk of Paradise separated and created a path for the Army Captain to ride his horse to the gallows.

The Army Captain stopped his horse near the gallows in a cloud of dust.

“Marshall Fisher, you and your Cowboys are here under arrest for rape, murder, and kidnapping,” the Army Captain called out.

James and Harold looked relieved while four Army soldiers jumped off their horses and ran over to the gallows.

All of the remaining Cowboys and Marshall Fisher whipped out their Colt 45s and looked ready to fight.

A Cavalry Sergeant fired his Winchester rifle at Bubba hitting him in the shoulder.

Cowboy Bubba dropped to the platform of the gallows in pain.

Marshall Fisher looked pissed and aimed his Colt 45 at the Army Captain, but an Army Corporal fired his Winchester rifle and shot the Marshall in his hand sending his pistol into the air.

Marshall Fisher raised his arms in the air when he saw all fifty Army soldiers with their Winchester rifles aimed at him and his Cowboys.

“Arrest all those Cowboys!” the Army Captain yelled out to his troops.

The town folk all cheered when they saw all the Army soldiers get off their horses and pursued the Cowboys.

The Army Captain and another soldier got off their horses and rushed up to the gallows and handcuffed Marshall Fisher.

Another soldier rushed up to the gallows and freed James and Harold who looked like they wanted to hug the soldiers.

The vast majority of the town folk all looked happy they were finally freed from the bonds of Marshall Fisher.

Meanwhile back in reality, Josh, Sara, Jenny and Linda were at the Train House.

Josh placed an Army Fort made out of logs in the desert not too far from the cave.

Josh then placed an old western style prison in the desert not too far from the Army Fort.

Josh then placed a miniature horse by the cave at the base of the mountains.

“That should keep them until we can get the police involved,” Josh told the ladies.

He then removed Anita’s instructions from his back pocket rushed over to the side door.

Sara, Linda, and Jenny followed Josh out the side door.

At the outside of the electrical room, Josh punched in the cipher code and went inside the room.

Sara, Linda, and Jenny followed Josh into the electrical room.

Josh sat down at the computer in the room and started typing the instructions for making the Army Fort and old western prison come to live in the land of Paradise.

“Okay Jenny, could you please call the Palm Beach county sheriff’s department down here,” he told her.

“Are you sure the Cavalry idea worked?”

Jenny asked with a look of doubt.

“I sure hope so, but if it didn’t, use your copy of the instructions and bring a couple of Sheriff Deputies into Paradise to save me,” he said.

“Are you sure our cell phones will work?” Jenny replied.

“They probably will, as that’s why they confiscated them from us,” he said then gave Jenny a quick kiss on the lips and stepped into the booth.

Jenny, Sara, and Linda rushed to the exit door of the electrical room and left the electrical room.

Josh closed the door of the glass booth and started the sequence to return to Paradise.

Chapter 21

Back in the land of Paradise, the Cavalry rounded up all thirty-four Cowboys and had them handcuffed and sitting in the middle of the street in Paradise Lane with Marshall Fisher and Charlie outside the Marshall's Office. The Cavalry soldiers circled around the Cowboys with their Winchester rifles ready to shoot if they tried to escape.

The Army Captain and his Sergeants waited inside the Marshall's Office.

Back in the mansion, Anita was still bounded naked to her bed inside her bedroom. She got scared thinking that Harold was probably dead by now and the Cowboys would soon burst inside the room any second and repeatedly rape her for hours.

Her bedroom slowly opened and Anita's eyes widened with fear. She screamed as loud as she could.

Harold rushed inside her bedroom in a panic. "It's me Anita!" he called out while he rushed over to her bed.

Anita screamed while she looked at Harold then she quickly stopped when she recognized him. "You're alive!" she cried out in joy.

Harold kissed Anita on the lips to show he loved her and she accepted his love ever so

happy she finally found a man.

Then he saw she was naked. He blushed and diverted his eyes being a gentleman.

He looked around the room and saw her ripped up dress on the floor. He picked it up and covered her body.

Harold started to untie Anita from the bed.

She looked at him with love in her eyes and could care less he briefly saw her naked.

Josh rushed out of the cave and went over to the horse he staged there.

He jumped in the saddle like a cowboy. "Yaaaa," he snapped the reins and the horse galloped off in the desert toward Paradise.

Josh galloped his horse down the dirt trail in the desert and headed to the forest.

Josh galloped his horse down the dirt trail through the forest.

Josh galloped his horse down the dirt trail through the grassy field.

Josh slowed his horse down on the dirt trail when he got near the mansion. He noticed that the town appeared quiet and that concerned him.

Josh rode his horse to the entrance of Paradise and looked down Paradise Lane. His eyes widen with joy the second he spotted the whole gang of Cowboys still sitting in the middle of Paradise Lane with the Cavalry guard.

Josh rode his horse down Paradise Lane and gave the Cowboys a smirk while he rode up

to them.

Cowboy Tim saw Josh's smirk and jumped up to come after him. But a Cavalry Private aimed his Winchester rifle at Cowboy Tim so he immediately sat down.

Josh flipped cowboy the finger while he rode past Marshall Fisher and the Cowboys.

Marshall Fisher saw Josh flipping the finger and was furious.

Josh stopped his horse at the Marshall's Office and dismounted. He tied the reins to the hitching post.

He rushed off to the door of the Marshall's office.

Josh stepped inside the Marshall's Office where the Army Captain and his three Sergeants sat at the desk and waited.

"Hello Captain." I'm Secret Agent Josh Bryant for the Supreme Commander of the land of Paradise," he replied while he returned a salute. "Great job Captain on rustling up our prisoners," he said then he looked worried. "Were you able to stop the hanging?" he added.

"Yes sir," the Army Captain snapped out his answer.

"Good, now I'm planning on having some deputy sheriff's arriving here to take our prisoners to court for their rightful punishment. But in the interim, take them all to the prison that was recently placed in the desert," Josh ordered the Captain.

“Yes sir,” the Army Captain snapped out his answer, as he had this strange hunch that he worked for Josh.

“Very good. Now carry on,” Josh replied.

“Yes sir,” the Army Captain snapped out his answer and saluted.

The Sergeants all saluted Josh who returned a salute then turned around and left the office.

Josh walked down Paradise Lane in search of Anita, James and Harold.

Meanwhile, back in reality, Jenny, Sara, and Linda stood by the front entrance of the Fisher mansion and waited. Jenny had previously called the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Department requesting assistance from a Deputy Sheriff since crimes, that included rape and murder had occurred at the mansion.

Back in the land of Paradise, Josh walked all over the streets of Paradise and searched the hotels, the Saloon, the General Store and could not locate Anita, James and Harold. He started to get concerned that they might all be dead but then he forgot about the mansion.

While Josh rushed over to the mansion and stepped inside the foyer. “Anita?” he yelled out.

After a few seconds, Anita, Harold and James walked out of the living room of the

mansion after hearing Josh's voice.

Anita ran over to Josh. "Thank you for saving our lives," he said then hugged him tight.

James and Harold walked and shook Josh's hand.

"I'm so glad you didn't get hung," Josh said.

"Bringing in the Calvary was a great idea," James said. "Something I never would have thought of."

"Very old western," Anita added.

Harold nodded in agreement with Anita and James' comments.

"Where's my father?" Anita curiously asked.

"The Army will take him and his Cowboys to the prison I placed in the desert and hopefully the West Palm Beach Deputy Sheriffs will arrive soon," Josh replied.

Anita looked happy that Blaine Fisher would be going to jail.

The Army Cavalry Captain rode his horse down the dirt trail in the grassy field and was near the entrance of the forest.

Behind him marched Marshall Fisher, Charlie and all the Cowboys still handcuffed down the trail with the entire Cavalry guarding their prisoners.

Back in reality, from the front entrance of Fisher's mansion, Jenny, Sara, and Linda watched while a West Palm Beach Deputy Sheriff's car while he drove down driveway.

The sheriff's car parked and Deputy Sheriff Andy Powell got out of the car and headed toward the front doors of the mansion.

"What kind of crime would you like to report?" deputy Powell asked the second he arrived at the front entrance.

"Well, it involves rape and murder," Jenny replied to the deputy.

Deputy Powell's eyes widened the second he heard Jenny's answer. "Where?"

"Please follow me," Jenny replied and turned around and went to the front door.

Deputy Powell followed Jenny, Sara, and Linda into the mansion.

Deputy Powell followed Jenny, Sara, and Linda through the backyard and headed to the Train House.

Deputy Powell followed Jenny, Sara, and Linda into the Train House.

Deputy Powell stepped into the Train House with the ladies and looked in awe at the huge train set. "Wow! I'm impressed," he said while the child inside him came out and went into a childlike trance. "So, where was the rape and murder committed?" he said while he snapped out of his child like trance.

"There in Paradise," Jenny said while she pointed at the town.

Sara and Linda nodded in agreement with Linda's response.

Deputy Powell looked at the ladies and then

back at the train set. "I'm not following, I mean, it's a train set. A kids toy," deputy Powell replied.

"From here it looks like a train set, but there's a device at the other end of this building that will transform you into that train set where it comes alive," Sara said.

Deputy Powell looked at Sara then back at the train set where the Cavalry and their prisoners were on the dirt trail in the forest.

"Dispatch, this is unit five, I need two additional units for assistance here at the Fisher mansion," he quickly said into his radio mike thinking the three ladies were actually loony and had the intention of arresting them for making a false crime report. He wanted some witnesses.

Jenny, Sara and Linda smiled knowing that additional help was on the way but didn't know the real reason.

While they waited for the additional units to arrive, Deputy Powell walked around the train set checking it out "I'm finding all this a little hard to believe," deputy Powell told the ladies while he stared at the town of Paradise.

Deputy Powell walked around and headed toward the desert end of the train set. He spotted the Cavalry and formation of Cowboys on the dirt trail not too far from the edge of the forest. "This train set sure is spectacular," he said while he glanced at the Army fort and old western prison.

He turned around and walked back toward the Paradise town end of the set in awe.

Jenny got concerned with the deputy just spending time looking at the train set like a child at Christmas time. "What are you going to do about those crimes being committed?" she asked.

"Well, frankly, I'm having a hard time believing that there's been crime committed here, so I'm going to have some other deputies assist me in this matter," Deputy Powell replied while he walked around the train set and checked out the town of Paradise.

Jenny got this gut feeling the deputy didn't believe him. "I'm thinking you're not believing me, so why don't I prove it," she told him.

"That would be extremely helpful, because making a false report is also illegal," Deputy Powell told her while he walked down the far right walkway and headed toward the other end of the train set.

"Please come with me deputy," Jenny told him and walked to the door at the end of the walkway.

Deputy Powell started to follow her then he stopped when he felt he could be walking into a trap. "I'm going to wait until my other units arrive," he said while he placed his hand on his Glock that was in his holster.

After they waited for a few minutes, Deputies Jack White and Juan Martinez arrived

at the Train House. Deputy Powell talked with his two coworkers and told them he believed these ladies are providing a false police report. All three deputies agreed to further investigate their claim before arresting them.

“Okay, show us,” deputy Powell told Jenny.

“Great, follow me,” she replied with a warm smile.

The three deputies followed the ladies out of the Train House and went inside the electrical room.

The three deputies looked in awe at all the electrical equipment inside the room and knew all this technology couldn't have been needed to operate a train set.

“Okay, my curiosity is getting a little more peaked,” deputy Powell told Jenny.

“Are you ready for a trip to the land of Paradise?” she asked him while she pointed at the glass booth.

Deputy Powell walked over and looked at the booth for any obvious hazards. “What is this thing?”

“It's the transporting device to take us to the land of Paradise,” she replied.

Deputy Powell looked at Jenny and believed she was really loony but then he had this feeling that she might be telling the truth. “Okay, show me.”

Deputies Martinez and White thought deputy Powell was nuts while they watched him step

inside the booth with Jenny.

“I wouldn’t do that,” Deputy Martinez told Deputy Powell.

Deputy Powell looked at his coworker and smiled while Jenny closed the door of the glass booth.

The deputies watched while bright lights filled the glass of the booth like fireworks.

A whirling sound filled the inside of the booth.

The entire booth vibrated.

Then psychedelic colors filled the glass of the booth.

The glass booth started spinning.

Deputies Martinez and White were baffled when they saw that the glass booth was now empty.

“What form do we fill out for this scenario?” deputy Martinez asked deputy White.

“I don’t have a clue,” deputy White replied while he stared at the glass booth in disbelief.

Back in the land of Paradise, Jenny walked a baffled Deputy Powell out of the glass booth and down the cave with the lighted torches.

Jenny walked Deputy Powell out of the cave where he saw the desert and mountains behind him. His mouth dropped open and was speechless.

“Powell, where are you?” Deputy Martinez’s voice came across Powell’s radio.

“Ah, I think I’m inside this train set,” Deputy Powell replied while he looked around the desert and saw the Army fort and prison off in the desert.

“What?” deputy Martinez’s voice replied from the radio.

“I said, I think I’m in the train set,” Deputy Powell said again from the radio

“Tell them to go back to the train set and look at the cave for two miniature people, which is us,” Jenny instructed the deputy.

“Ah, go back at the train set and you should see two miniature people by the cave opening,” deputy Powell said into his radio.

Back in the real world, Deputies Martinez and White rushed out of the electrical room and rushed back inside the Train House.

They immediately looked at the cave at the base of the mountains and saw two miniature people and one resembled a deputy.

“No way?” deputy Martinez replied in disbelief.

Sara and Linda entered the Train House.

“It’s for real,” she told the deputies.

“Hey guys, if you go back to the glass booth, Jenny here will bring you this amazing place,” deputy Powell told them from the radio.

Deputies Martinez and White didn’t say a word while they rushed out of the Train House and went back inside the electrical room.

The two deputies stared at the glass booth.

A whirling sound filled the inside of the booth.

The entire booth vibrated.

Then psychedelic colors filled the glass of the booth.

The glass booth started spinning.

The spinning of the booth dissipated.

The psychedelic colors in the glass dissipated.

The vibration of the boot dissipated.

The lights from the glass dissipated.

There was silence looked in awe at Jenny who suddenly appeared inside the booth.

The door to the booth opened and Jenny poked her head outside. "The next trip to Paradise is now leaving," Jenny called out with a smile.

Deputies Martinez and White rushed over and stepped inside the booth.

Jenny closed the door and started the sequence for the trip to Paradise.

Back in the land of Paradise, Deputies Martinez and White were in awe while they walked through the cave to the opening where Deputy Powell waited.

Deputies Martinez and White stepped out of the cave and stared in awe at the desert.

"I don't believe it," Deputy White replied while he bent down and scooped up a handful of dirt to see if it was real, and it was real desert dirt.

“Me neither,” Deputy Martinez replied.

“Now, what’s with this report of rape and murder?” deputy Powell asked Linda.

Jenny removed her cell phone from her jeans pocket. She opened it up and made a phone call using the number Josh gave her. “Josh,” she said with a smile when he answered and was happy her cell phone worked.

“It works, where are you?” Josh answered her call.

“I’m here at the cave with two Deputy Sheriff’s that want to know more about the rape and murder that occurred in Paradise,” Jenny replied.

“I’m on my way,” Josh responded then disconnected his end of the call.

“Josh Bryant is on his way to take us to Paradise,” Jenny told the deputies.

The three deputies waited at the cave with Jenny for twenty minutes and they started to wonder if this Josh Bryant character really existed. Then they saw a stagecoach with Josh and Anita in the drivers seat.

Anita pulled the stagecoach over and stopped by Jenny and the three deputies.

“Hello deputies. I’m Josh Bryant and this is Anita Fisher. Her father is Blaine Fisher and boy do we have some information and witnesses about crimes in this land of Paradise. Information that would make a good movie,” Josh told the deputies.

The three deputies rushed over and got inside the stagecoach with Jenny.

Anita snapped the reins and drove the stagecoach back down the dirt trail to Paradise.

Deputies Martinez, Powell, and White stared out of the stagecoach windows in awe while the coach drove down the dirt trail through the desert, the forest and then the grassy field.

Deputies Martinez, Powell, and White stared out the stagecoach windows in awe over the sight of the town of Paradise.

“It’s the train set. The train set came alive,” Deputy Powell said and looked like a young boy after opening a Christmas present he’s always wanted.

“This place was amazing until Blaine Fisher and his Cowboys kept everybody here like prisoners,” Jenny told the deputies.

Her comment peaked the interest of the three deputies.

“Where’s Blaine Fisher and his Cowboys now?” deputy Powell asked Jenny.

“The Cavalry has them under guard,” she replied.

“The Cavalry? You mean old west Cavalry?” Deputy Martinez replied and looked interested since he was fascinated the old west Cavalry and Indian movies.

Anita stopped the stagecoach by the Dining Hall where Josh and Anita got down from the

drivers seat.

Jenny opened up the coach door and stepped outside.

“Come deputies, we’ve gathered most of the town folk that want to tell what they saw here in Paradise,” Josh said.

The three deputies got out of the stagecoach and followed Josh, Anita, and Jenny into the Dining Hall.

Inside the dining room of the Dining Hall, the three deputies saw seventy town folk of Paradise who all looked anxious to sing like a canary.

“We need backup,” Deputy Powell said while he looked at the crowd.

“Lots of backup,” Deputy Martinez replied and deputy nodded in agreement.

Deputy Powell stepped out to the porch of the Dining Hall. “Dispatch, unit five needs major assistance at the Fisher mansion,” he said into his radio.

“How many, unit five?” the female dispatcher replied from the radio.

All three deputies looked at each other.

“We could use about ten,” Deputy Martinez replied and Deputy White nodded in agreement.

“Send in ten units,” Deputy Powell responded into his radio.

“Ten units?” the dispatcher replied unsure from the radio.

“Yeah, ten units, we have about seventy

witnesses to potential rape and murder at the Fisher mansion,” Deputy Powell responded into his radio.

“Okay unit five, those additional units will be on their way shortly,” the dispatcher replied from the radio.

The deputies looked around the dining room at all the witnesses.

“We better head to the real mansion and greet your fellow deputies,” Josh told deputy Powell.

“You’re right,” Deputy Powell replied.

Anita and Josh escorted Deputy Powell to the stagecoach.

Deputies Martinez and White started interviewing the town folk in the Saloon.

During the stagecoach ride back to the cave, Josh rode in the coach with deputy Powell and told him everything he saw during his time in Paradise.

Chapter 22

Three hours later, the thirteen West Palm County deputy sheriff's had taken all the statements from the seventy town folk in the dining room.

The deputies took statements about the suicide of Mindy Stone because she was raped by Marshall Fisher, the hanging of Jerry Barrow because he tried to escape because he was raped by cowboy Butch, the shooting death of Bob Jackson, the hanging of Willard Peabody because he tried to escape because he was raped by cowboy Butch, the suicide of Nora because she was raped by Marshall Fisher and the other Cowboys, a couple of other hangings and the raping of Abby Willis.

Anita also let the deputies search the mansion where they found the files Blaine Fisher kept on all the Cowboys that provided evidence that some of them were on the lamb from different states. One of them was Tony Moore who was profiled on that TV show "We'll Find Ya."

Two hours later, the thirteen deputies arrested Marshall Fisher, his Cowboys, and Chief Merijildo and Josh helped transport them all back to the reality of jail time.

At Fisher's West Palm mansion, they were loaded to a bus that transported them to the county jail to await their trial for rape, kidnapping and murder.

The next day, a West Palm Beach county Crime Scene Unit was established in the land of Paradise where they dug up the dead bodies of Mindy Stone, Jerry Barrow, Bob Jackson, Willard Peabody, Nora Norris, Kent Paul, and Irwin Ulrich.

The next day was the day for the town folk of Paradise to return back to reality if they so desired and everybody desired to get out of Paradise.

The next day, all talk of the rape, kidnapping and murder in the fantasy land of Paradise was all over the major news networks all around the world.

This worked in the favor of Anita, as it was free advertising for her idea of turning Paradise into a fantasy vacation place.

A few weeks later and Josh and Jenny moved in together in his place in Orlando. But discussions were held with Anita and she wanted them to join her back in West Palm Beach with a nice job offer. Since Josh and Jenny were unemployed, they decided to take Anita up on her offer and moved down to West

Palm Beach and moved into Fisher's mansion.

During the next four weeks, Anita, Josh and Jenny started planning and implementing the "Old West Paradise Vacation" idea with the land of Paradise. Anita figured that the publicity of the upcoming trial of her father and the Cowboys would be free advertising.

The Paradise vacation spot kept some of the old western ways with the outhouses and lack of running water to give it that old western feel.

The Dining Hall was upgraded to include more options for breakfast, lunch, and dinner.

People had the option of being Indians where some real Seminole Indians were hired to head up that option.

There was the option of joining the Cavalry where some retired Army folks headed up that option where fake guns fights occurred with the Indian vacationers.

There was also a cowboy option where you could move a heard of cattle through the desert and camp out under the stars.

There was an option where you could be the Marshall or one of the five deputies of Paradise where some paid actors pretended to be the outlaws and besides robbing the stagecoach, they would rob the bank.

And then there was the option of just being plain ole town folk of Paradise with dances and other parties.

When arriving into the land of Paradise, the

stagecoach still took the vacationers into town where the actor outlaws pretended to rob you, but without any violence.

Plus the Paradise Express still ran down the tracks through the land of Paradise for enjoyment.

You can't forget the Saturday night old western dance that would be held inside the Dining Hall.

The chefs, waiters, hotel workers, etc., were all paid employees with benefits. Plus there was an agreement with the West Palm Beach Sheriff's Department where they could pop in at any time for a quick check.

Anita placed her website on the Internet offering a old west vacation in Paradise for one thousand a person for seven days. The website allowed people to register where there were one hundred slots per week. The vacationers would arrived in Paradise on Sunday night and leave the following Sunday morning.

A week later and she had one year of reservations filled and had the potential of this turning into six million dollars a year business. She was elated and made Harold, Josh, and Jenny equal partners. With the potential earnings of six million dollars a year, Anita discussed with Harold, Josh and Jenny the idea of a Medieval Times type of vacation place with Knights, sword fights, jousting, etc. They all

agreed and projected that might come along in five years.

During the first week the old west Paradise vacations started, there was a wedding in the Dining Hall where Anita married Harold fulfilling her childhood dream.

Two more months had passed and the vacation weeks in Paradise were a hit and the vacationers had a ball.

Then one Sunday evening at five, Josh stood by the counter in the lobby of the Fisher mansion where the vacationers would report to start their week. Above the counter was the "Old West Fantasy Vacations" banner and off on the nearby wall hung a "Medieval Times Fantasy Coming In Near Future" poster.

"Hi Josh," Kathy's voice was heard while Josh looked down at the list of vacationers for this week.

Josh turned around and saw Kathy walking toward the counter.

"Hi Kathy," he replied and appeared disinterested in seeing her.

Kathy looked up at the banner above the counter. "Ricky told me about your new job here."

She walked over to Josh and gave him a kiss on his lips.

Josh pushed her away. "What do you want

Kathy?"

Kathy got close to Josh and cuddled with him. "I'm so sorry for the way I treated you. I thought we could start all over again?" she said while getting flirty with him.

Josh pushed Kathy away again. "I thought you were seeing Paul?" he asked her.

Kathy looked sad. "He cheated on me with Becky down in finance."

Josh smiled knowing that Kathy was finally at the receiving end of that scene.

Jenny walked up to Josh and kissed his cheek.

"Kathy, meet Jenny, my fiancé," he said with a huge grin.

Kathy looked rejected.

"Oh, you must be that girl. Well, thank you for giving me such a great man," she told her with a smile.

Kathy walked away sad.

Jenny looked at the list of vacationers for this week while a couple walked up to them. The man picked the Cavalry option and his wife picked the living in Paradise option.

Kathy watched from the front entrance while Josh and Jenny processed that couple. She looked like she could kick herself in her butt for screwing up with Josh.

Three more months had passed and the trial for Marshall Fisher, his Cowboys and Chief Merijildo was over and all were found guilty of

rape, kidnapping and some were found guilty of murder. They would never be set free on society again and got what they deserved.

During following week, Josh and Jenny stayed in Paradise and they were married in the desert with the beautiful sunset and one hundred and fifty vacationers as guests.

The reception party that followed was awesome.