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LIFE IN

Before we can resume our journey, we must first take account of where we have been. Dan became our focus, or we could say our guide for our travels and through his eyes we left Boston. He had previously owned and operated a photo shop and selling it to friends he took the money to the bank and while depositing it had an offer from the banker for his family farm. Having lost his mother and father he took the money and sold the farm.

Not knowing that others were aware of the large amounts of cash he had received he took what he needed to travel and deposited the rest in a different bank. After purchasing those things and without haste left within a few days on a journey which would take him into a world he had not experienced or expected.

His travels were interrupted by those wanting his possessions and cash. After being confronted with fighting or running he threw a guy down the town water well. Leaving from there he was forced to kill two more when crossing a bridge heading out of town, he had been faced by a large number on horses intending to stop him. They had not expected the resistance he offered when they faced him in such overpowering numbers. He forced two riders on their mounts over the edge to death.

Later in a small town in Kansas they again met him in a local bar and tried to kill him and he was forced to confront

two while the others were outside waiting for him to be escorted out by those that would teach Dan that they were an imposing force to be dealt with. Dan had shot two while trying to drink a beer and while the Sheriff was outside questioning the others had allowed Dan to leave unnoticed.

Trying to overtake him and get even for losing members of this group they had forced him to climb to the top of a mountain West of Denver where he had laid in wait hoping to end this confrontation. Having covered himself with his ground cloth he had tied it down with small branches along the edges, enabling him to tie his rope beneath the ground cloth and lay on the rope leaving his hands free and giving him relaxation from holding the cover down. The wind was violent when he fell asleep. He awoke floating out over the valley the ground cloth had become a kite that he was hanging from. He watched those chasing him raise rifles to shoot him become ashes after lightning had cremated them. At this unfortunate act he asks God why he had not just run them over with a herd of turtles and not hit them with a bolt of lightning which would be hard to explain sense there was only one small cloud in the sky.

Traveling on he lands safely and meets an Indian warrior, his wife and daughter. Having watched him come

from the sky figured he was a God and became friends whereby they took him to their village to meet their family and friends. While talking with the villagers the villains that had chased him all the way from home now to get even shot him. While spending weeks recovering, he spends time outside the teepee he is living in and is set in a makeshift chair allowing him to comfortably visit and meet members of the Ute Tribe who are helping him to recover. During this time, he teaches them of his God and the ways of his people. The friends he meets are curious about how he came from the sky and how it was possible to do such things as this. They felt for sure he must be a God for this to have happened.

Dan meets many friends, and he gives them names in English the same as they gave him the name of Great Eagle in their language. They accept his names as tokens of love and affection and many meet with him just to receive this new name. One of those he meets is Mary whom he later marries, and they spend their honeymoon in a special teepee prepared for them by the villagers. During his honeymoon with Mary, he finds that she has a gift whereby she can see the future and tells him about three sons and two daughters that will arrive during their lives together.

CHAPTER ONE

WHERE IT BEGAN

On our first morning after of our wedding I said Mary, before we leave our village, I would like to offer a prayer to my God and to your creator for our journey through life together. Well Dan, Mary says to begin with I would like to join my creator and your God and agree that from now on it shall be just one and the same your God shall forever be my God, and we will not speak of them separately. So may it be Mary, as our lives become one our God is one and our children shall know of this God.

As we have vowed in our wedding ritual, I pray our journey through life shall be blessed and guided by our God, and I would like to offer that we call him Father also. Let our father be at our sides and in our hearts together always and forever. May we and our children always be healthy, safe, and have food and shelter. Amen

We must plan our departure together and rather Tom, your brother wants to go with us or not. Nuzzle our wolf will not allow us to leave him and we will also need to take Shadow my horse and friend along with Dusty the mule and we will need to choose another one for you.

Mary, do you remember Little Jack that lives down by the river? Yes, I do, Dan. Well Mary every time I mention God; he has a negative response and does not believe in a God or a creator. I think that he is so into himself that he cannot think someone could be greater than him. He would

never admit to anything that could be more important than himself. I think that if I were to go through life with only one arm it would be easier than without my God. I have been saved from death so many times that to believe no one helps me would be about as self-centered as an earth worm. Sorry to bring those bad memories to the surface but it was on my mind so strongly I had to speak of it.

As Dan and Mary are enjoying the sun rising over the Eastern mountains and drinking a first morning cup of coffee. Jaw walks up and says it's good that you are up, and I do not have to shake your robes to get you going today. What brings you to our honeymoon camp today, Jaw? Our village is running out of meat, and we have been searching for it in all directions and cannot find where the animals are, and we have talked about having you help find them and were worried that you could be enjoying the time in the robes so much we would not see you till our people starved.

Jaw, we truly enjoyed our time together, but we know we have a lifetime to spend together and if we can help our people we would surely do so. What do you have in mind? We were wondering if you could fly up high and travel around and find where the large herds have gone. We have spoken with all our leaders, and everyone feels that with your wings you could save days of our search. I will be glad to do this Jaw, but I feel that for me to do this we must have

wind I do not know for sure because this is new to me but when there is wind it seems to be easier to go where I want. Let us prepare our breakfast and we will join you at the chief's fire. That will not be necessary, Great Eagle, the village has prepared a special meal for you and many of our family and friends will be attending, and the food is ready and waiting for you.

On arrival at the Chiefs fire many faces, and family smiles were shown and pats on the back and hugs not normally expressed were shown to Mary and me, but we accepted it gracefully. Upon receiving bowls of elk meat and mushroom cooked in a combination of vegetables and different herbs the meal was very good and tasty. Meals were shared but not broken with any verbal communications because eating was a Salome thing with everyone in attendance.

After eating Chief Yogi stepped forward and raised his arms over the fire and those in attendance kneeled or moved back and became silent waiting for the Chief to speak. Speaking to Dan he said many lodges have gone without meat for several days and our warriors have been all directions hunting for them and with the cold about to overtake our village and our homes without food we have offered our God many dances and sent many smoke signals asking for guidance to help us in our needs. We feel that

your wisdom and ability to join our feathered friends could lead us to find the animal heard. I have asked that a high mountain top be found, and the brush and vegetation be removed so that I could begin my flight above the trees and make my flight begin high. Has this been found? Yes, Great Eagle, the mountain directly to the sun, has been prepared for you and we have a good trail to the top. I will go up with someone who will show me the way and let me look and with the proper wind I will begin my search to see if all is as spoken.

After looking over the valley from the mountain top the only thing that was necessary for a successful lift-off was to remove any of the small rocks and roots that could cause me to stumble before reaching the edge of the mountain. The area around the top had been cleaned with plenty of room for my kite and someone to be on each side to help me run to the edge for lift off. Up on top looking at the side of the mountain Mary asks, “are you sure you want to jump off this edge, Dan? You are maybe eating the crazy weeds of the valley that cause the horses to stumble and become wild.” We call that local weed, but no Mary, I have faith and believe I have the ability of joining the Eagles in the sky. Had I not watched you from the ground looking up I would not believe this to be so, Dan, but I will be standing by your side when you jump to join our feathered friends.

We will have the kite ready before the sun sets this afternoon so anytime you think it is wise to do so we will be prepared. We will wait for the wind to blow and then I will feel the strength and will ask my God to protect me and make my flight a worthy one, Mary.

Running to the edge of the mountain and jumping off looks stupid or a lot of belief in oneself and someone to make sure from heaven would surely be necessary also. Getting prepared to do this is a soul-searching experience. If someone had done it before and could tell me not to worry would have helped but never ever in the years of my experience have I ever heard of anyone being this dumb. Having flown before makes one know that it can be but not having left the ground by being pulled like a kite is a lot different than this. What must I be thinking that would create such a belief in my head? I hope I have not let the fact that I am looked upon by my village as a great and wise leader have influenced me to believe in something to do with my reasoning. Before I attempt to jump off the edge, I feel it is necessary to have a strong wind to assist me so that is a big factor facing me for tomorrow morning's flight.

Here it is almost daylight, and the wind is blowing hard now. What is my excuse? I have none and I spent most of the night visualizing my flight over the trees and

watching the animals run. I am excited to do this. I feel it will be a great success that I will accomplish. Many villagers are gathered at the mountain's base to watch me either make history or fail dramatically. The team of men that I had agreed to help me at the final moments of lift off have taken the kite to the top of the mountain and have built a fence on each side of where I will leave the mountain to gain flight but those holding up the tips of the wings will run into the fence and not trip over the edge in helping me. We have signals worked out between us telling us what I need to convey the location of the game and the type of animals I see. The number of animals is to be indicated by up and down movements of my legs. I will circle over the herds showing where they are and continue to do so till those on the ground can find them. If I am too far away, I will fly back to where they are then by flexing my wings will return and circle the herds. Those on the ground will know then to follow me. We have worked and discussed the possible things that may be important for those on the ground to know such as enemies or when I can find nothing to hunt in this area I will return and land.

We have had our morning meal and are now in final preparations for the actual lift-off so the excitement can almost be felt in the air around us. The kite was brought out of a protected small cave created by others to house it and

keep it from wind and rain. Once I had stepped over the ropes that held my seat so I was standing in front of a small seat with a back rest and making sure my water and a few pieces of elk jerky were where I could get to them when hungry. I had a pistol in a holster at my side and tied a rifle to the center of kite directly over my head so I could get to it, if necessary, also in a bag in front of me were extra shot and powder should I need them. I did not carry much for fear of the weight, not knowing what my limits were and did not want to find out. If I had too much of course I could drop them and lighten the load.

Once in the proper position I saw I had a friend on the left holding up the wing and turning to the right I saw another friend waiting for my signal to carry me to the edge. Holding on to the kite and saying a short prayer I nodded my head (we had practiced this over and over in the meadow below, so we all knew the routine well) and off we went running as fast as necessary knowing I had to clear the mountain far enough the tail did not catch and forced me to drop.

At the last moment Jaw walked up and said Dan, if you have any problems, I want you to know how very special you were to us. Thanks Jaw but I really didn't need to hear that at this last moment. I turned and signaled to others to run, and I ran till my legs passed the edge and I continued

to run even though I was no longer on the ground. My friends ran into a fence they had put on each side to prevent their going over the edge and I noticed they had a rope around their waste also. As I cleared the bank, I could see the trees way below me and as I left the mountain my flight only lowered a few feet and then it just kind of took to the air in such a way it felt graceful but there was a moment there where my stomach was in my mouth so to speak.

As I felt the air lifting my wings and I could hear the movement of our soaring and swishing air movement but was peach full and very pretty looking out over the treetops with the many lakes providing additional coloring and astonishing view. I just allowed the wind to carry me, and I did not try to turn or move in any direction, but I did notice all the people on the ground waving and could even hear the yelling as I left that valley and flew into the next. Making myself comfortable by sliding back onto the seat helped a lot from other flights. I leaned one way then the other just feeling the kite respond to my commands which were very satisfying to say the least.

Thank you, Father, for your continued guidance and protection. Now I have a little favor I need to ask of you. Could you guide me to an area where our brothers, the elk, deer and buffalo are hiding? I love this feeling of flight and seeing what has never been seen by anyone before.

Wouldn't it be great if somehow, I could take a picture of this like I did in my studio in Boston? Hey, maybe with a little thought I may be able to figure out a way to do that. It is clear to me that the birds do not fear me and seem to just give me space and not crowd me as I move over the mountains. Things look so different from up here; I had traveled many miles on my trusty horse Shadow just so I would be familiar with this area so when I flew over, I could return to where I started when ready. The best way for me to get here is to look at the lakes and I must name them so I know where I am always just by knowing each and naming them should help but for now, I have a good idea because I am just following the mountain ridge and staying on this side of the biggest mountain.

I can see a few deer in a meadow but only three or four, but I am not sure if from up here are they deer or elk? Does not matter I will continue to look for more before signaling those watching from below. The Chief of the hunters was wise when he put scouts out in different areas where they could watch me and prepared to signal to those on other high places so word could be spread fast as to my signals. I can see a warrior waving at me from a high point of view right now which makes me smile knowing he is excited seeing me wave and return his signals. Such an adrenalin rush to be up here and see others waving and excited just

watching me. I have only been up here a little bit, but it is kind of cold and next time I must remember to have a coat with me. I do not see many animals so I must move further down the mountain area further away from here to find where they are. I have traveled many ground miles in the time I have been up here.

I can see another village with many teepees. Let me get closer and maybe I can identify who they are and see if they are friends or not. They are all out watching and looking at me they think I am a very large bird, and they must be able to see my legs hanging down, so they know it is a man up here. That is a village of Black feet for sure. I must notify my Ute friends of this village so I will hang a red flag under my seat as I circle the village which will indicate as to the enemy being in this area.

I continue to travel to many hills and valleys but no game anywhere that I have located. Maybe further East will help as I turn and pick up an up draft taking me higher and I can see a lot further, but I am so high I don't know if I could see a herd of buffalo from up here. I think I must get a little lower as I go over this next hill. I can see a party of hunters carrying something over their shoulders and by the looks of the horses and men I would figure they had a very successful hunt. Going in the direction, they came from I see off in the far side of the big valley many animals so I

have found what we have been looking for I will hang a white and brown flag under my seat as I circle this area letting others watch that I have found where the game is feeding. As I continue to circle, I see movement and looking closer I see the red and white flag showing me they know and acknowledge my signals. Now they know where the game is I will return to the village and enjoy a warm meal and a little relaxation.

On flying toward our village, I see many of the enemy on the trails heading toward our village and they are painted for war. The horses, even from this height I can see the war paint standing out. I swing around so I am between them and our village and drop toward them flying like I was going to run into them, and I am making the sound of the Raven and screaming it loud. I know for a fact that Indians are very superstitious, and they believe the Raven to be bad medicine and afraid it causes their Gods to turn against them and the fact that a great big Raven was hovering and attacking them was taken right to heart. They turned around and without even speaking to each other just started running back to where they had come from. They are looking over their shoulders afraid I will follow them. I turn and head toward my touch down point in the meadow. I will let others know what is happening.

Seeing the meadow below I circle the area a few times making sure all is well even though I know it is because now I see a large crowd of people waving at me. I fly past the meadow and turn back and as I push myself toward the front of the kite it tips toward the ground, and I start my descend towards the ground not going down as fast as I want, I pull myself forward more and the kite drops to fast so I move back a little and let the slope of approach be even and I descend smoothly toward the meadow. As I touch down there are many grasping my wings keeping them level and helping to stop me. Never have I had such a smooth and even landing and with all the cheering and screaming it makes for even more excitement.

As it turns out many of the warriors were after the game we had found and had left the village unprotected with only the old men and women left at camp. Somehow, they knew what I had done in turning the enemy had protected their homes and old ones. Here I thought they were excited from finding the wild game and it turned out the big deal was the latter. I was a hero in the eyes of all my friends, and I wanted them to see that it was an opportunity offered to me, and it was created by my father to bring me to this point. There was no doubt in my mind that this would be told repeatedly in every village and the story would have dancing and singing to match the story.

When I got to Mary, I asked her if she knew this was going to happen. She told me that she did not know but she had the feeling that my flight was going to happen, and it was going to be a great thing.

The next morning when I spent my time with my creator I spent time thanking him and letting him know that it was obvious that he had taken a hand in all that had happened and that I was thankful and humbled by all that had happened and was also very happy that the lives spared because of my ability to fly was turning into not only a lifesaving thing but a belief and gathering of those who believed in the spirits of our Gods. It is amazing to me that by just following and not trying to force this to happen I was almost guided to flying and helping in my trials and worries about the whole thing. How much of what happens in our everyday life is the same way, father is our destiny planned for us? Do you have more of this in my future that will offer lifesaving opportunities for me and others? Where does my future lie? I will continue to keep praying for your guidance and hopefully can learn to listen as always. Amen.

The hunting party returned with ten horses loaded with meat and the excitement was so strong that it could be felt. Chief Yogi insisted that we have a two-day fiesta (he called it Piatukkanana) and celebration thanking both our creator

and Dan for guiding us to the winter's meat and the protection of our village. It amazed me to see that someone could eat and dance from morning to night and then get up and do it again. The drums sounded letting the spirits know the people were happy for and this made me think of the Bible and the Lord telling us to speak in tongues and let the spirits know of our true feelings. Coming from a city in the East and thinking how intelligent the people were and not understanding that even though these people had no formal education they had values taught by the family, village and customs tying all together. These people were looked on as barbaric and dumb when compared to what whites thought of themselves. But the Indian has a culture that is working for them and in their way, it held on to truth and honesty among the families. The forest and streams are not harmed by these people even after generations. All those I meet have a great and powerful desire to worship and sing, dance, and talk to their gods it was a unity to be admired.

Everyone added food and drink to the celebration and frankly I was so tired and worn down that it was hard to hold my head up and Nuzzle, my constant companion, would be at my side when I attempted to imitate the others dancing around the fire. Nuzzle seemed to have a step sideways which was really eye drawing to see a wolf stepping and lifting and keeping time to the drums. He had

been at my side so much that everyone in the area accepted him as part of the family and was looked upon as just another member of the tribe.

As Mary and I retired to our little teepee we crashed and hardly moved after lying in our robes. Thank full that we didn't have to build a fire or prepare meals we were already stuffed and could not eat we just collapsed and knew nothing till someone was sliding something up and down the walls of our home and I could hear a familiar voice saying, "Are you going to sleep past the sunrise?" To sleep beyond the sun rise was a show of sickness or laziness to the members of the tribe. I usually got up and had gone to my spot of worship and was talking to my father by now so the fact I was still in my robes showed others of my laziness. I raised my head and told Frank you had better get past that loneliness and accept that you have a weakness for my company, and you will miss me terribly when I leave for the great waters in the West. I will join you when I can get my eyes open, and my honey is ready for us to see the world together. Go find someone with a weakness for your company and leave us to be. "I will be back in a little bit with others if you have not joined our gathering at the fire in a short time".

Mary, as you heard before we joined them, I would like to talk about our leaving on our trip and what is left to do

before we leave. We have decided which animals to take with us. Dan I have very few possessions that I want to take with us so the packing will be mostly camp cooking and robes and whatever we will be taking for shelter. The guns, bows and arrows that you have will be yours to get together and sense most of them are hanging here in our shelter it should be easy for us to be prepared. How soon do you wish to leave Dan? I know the longer we put it off the harder it will be to leave but I have a great desire to see the great ocean and I have an entering feeling that our journey will be of great value, and we will meet other people that will be an inspiration to our future. Somehow, I have a pulling toward the West that has been inside of me for years and now I have many friends to share the journey with which makes it more exciting. What do you mean by that Great Eagle? There is only me to side with you and I have spoken with John, my brother, and he has not made up his mind as to rather to join us or not he is undecided so who else do you speak of? Well, I only had Shadow when I got here now, I have Nuzzle, you and two other horses plus Buster which offer me friendship and warnings of approaching danger. If John joined us, we would have him and his horse also and maybe with him we should consider another back animal. Now that I think of it, we will need room for the kite and the things necessary for my flight. So, another pack animal is most necessary. When I traveled alone the

kite rolled very small and took up little room. Now, I have bamboo for the edges and a seat that was added to my possessions. When you call me Great Eagle, I know that you are very serious, and something is going to be said more important than normal.

Well Dan, I have been thinking about the kite and I know that you wanted it to look as a Raven to put fear into our enemy's but know that is past I would like to suggest that the kite be made to look as you are named the Great Eagle and it should look that way from the sky and all will know when they see the Great Eagle that a great warrior is looking down upon them and that can have a great impact on the friendship and admiration they will shower upon you. Very wise Sunshine and I will have to think about this for a few days and ask my father for his advice. One thing is certain the women and men who helped make the Raven will have a great impact on a new kite toward it looking like an Eagle. Jaw suggested that I should hang in the kite like I would hang from a tree and not sit on ropes. It brings another thought possible and that is the fact that maybe I could have more freedom to swing and change the course of my kite easier. I think I would like to try taking another flight and seeing what the change would make. If the only difference between the Raven and the Eagle kite is the hide which is made to be very thin and light, it would not be

hard to travel with both and only God would know what I should do so I will pray about the changes.

This has been an easy time of the cold for us, and I am happy we had friends and family to share our time with, and I have learned the language and customs well and I am very thankful for that. Nuzzles is growing so fast and becoming such a valuable tool in our lives. No one can approach us without his warning and the fact he has learned to be quiet and still let us know will become a very valuable thing for us. The other day without thinking I pointed to a possum and said attack and before I could take a breath Nuzzle had the possum by the throat and was about to kill him, but he stopped when I said stop. So, both of us have learned a lesson and I am impressed he listens as well as he does. But I will not do that again unless an enemy endangers us. Nuzzle seems to know what I want before I even speak to him, I ask him to go get Shadow and without further speech he took off and returned with my horse and he was on his heels pushing him to run faster. Now I must see if Shadow can go get Nuzzle but that is hard to do because Nuzzle very seldom leaves us.

Mary, as we prepare for our travels toward the ocean to the West, we must learn what is possible for us to have as easy time in our new surroundings. On the way here I did several things right and some wrong, but the outcome

was perfect. Had I doubted I should do it I would be back behind a plow horse for the rest of my life growing crops to get by. I believed that my father would protect and guide me, but I had doubts about myself. I did not feel that I could overcome my enemies and that fear is what drove me to the top of the mountain I told you about. When I was on top of the mountain with nowhere else to go and nothing, I could see doing that would allow me to get out of that situation. I was far from any possible way of surviving and at that point I asked my father for help, and I went to sleep knowing that he was watching over me. You must understand that when I went to sleep, I was in as deep a trouble as I had ever been. I had allowed my doubt of personally fighting and killing the enemy to overcome me and I had little faith I could step away from that and live. I turned to my father at that point and without a doubt knew he would overcome the impossible. From that low of no possible way, I could survive and live I found next to be the highest point in my life. Please understand Mary because I had no doubt, he would protect me; he not only brought me through that to a new horizon, way beyond my wildest dreams.

From a mountain top to an Indian village with more friends and family than anyone would ever think possible. Now I have not just a wonderful friend, a beautiful wife but

a princess of my very own. From the very bottom of a depth of survival to the top of the highest, brightest life I could have ever imagined in a thousand years. I had lost my mother and father and had no one left who would care if I lived or died to a world with more friends and family than I had ever heard of. After being snatched from the very bowls of hell to the garden of Eden in one night, it is beyond the realm of one's expectations. We will tell this story to our children and their children will hear about it over and over and perhaps because of my faith I can teach our children to know our father.

Mary, I am going to teach you and all our children to read, and you will come to know my father as I do and because you already know of the great one it will be easy for you to accept him as I do. As we travel to the great ocean we will be traveling through our life as a family, and we will have the future of our children so close we can teach them and guide them and as they go through life, they will have what we have taught them without outside influences. Having our friends and family is a wonderful blessing but the more of them that are around us the less our children will learn from us they will balance what we say against what our friends say and even with the best of intentions they would not be the same as ours.

We must teach our children to take pride in what they do and learn that what they have they had to earn not to expect it to be handed to them. The Buddies I had back home had been lazy and did not want to work, they had all been handed everything from their parents and they did not find the true happiness that only comes from within our hearts when we complete our own goals. We will teach our children the value of hunting one's own food and following a path that has both snow and heat. Together Mary we can build a future as bright as we want it to be, and we know the value of letting our father influence and guide us.

We must learn what is necessary now while the teachers are around us, that will help us to gain that knowledge. Part of that will be for me to learn to help you bring our children into the world because we may not have others at that time to help. We must gather those herbs and spices that are necessary for our health and well-being. There is much to do and learn while it is available to us, and we must ask for advice from all that will offer it. I must ask for any who knows the trails we must follow to reach the great ocean but so far no one knows what is beyond the great salt sea. I stood on the shore of the Atlantic Ocean and looked to the East and knew what it is like to look and not see the other side of the water. So, it will not be a new thing for me but you have never looked upon such a great

body of water before so it will be exciting for you to see this. The time will go by fast, and our travels will begin before we know it so we must take advantage of the time left.

I have taught both Nuzzle and Shadow to obey both voice and hand signals and they can do things beyond what would be imagined possible. I told you of the little guy who rode the big dog and was named Trainer that taught me to train Buster to follow us and because of his time in teaching me to teach has allowed me to get the minds of our beast of burden and our family wolf to move as we wish both silently and as noisy as we would want them to. Anyone who dares to climb on Shadow and expects him to obey will get a surprise when he puts them in the dirt, he has learned to only allow those he knows to ride him and that could be a blessing for us.

Ata, Mary, and I have a wish to be taught how to bring someone into the world if we were to have no one else present to help deliver them. That is easy, Ata says just push on my nose and the child will drop out the bottom. What if there is a problem with us when it is to drop out and nothing is there, Dan asks. Well then you have several choices, one and the biggest is to ask the great creator for help, or you can be the one to help receive this child. That is why we are here for advice. If nothing goes wrong, we can handle

that but what are we to do if the child does not want to join us. That cannot be known before it happens but it is important to know that regardless when the time comes and rather stubborn or not at the time it will come rather wanted or not so all you can do is make sure nothing is in the way of it happening and then do what is necessary to make right that which could have been and it will not be what you want but what the great one above wants. It will be what it will be and remember you are only there to help as necessary, and nature will determine the results.

We are only waiting for the cold to pass so we can start our journey to the future of our life together. If you teach the young ones to love you and have respect for you, they will know how to do the same when it comes time for them to do as you are doing. Teach each birth that they are here as a gift! They are not here for anything they did but what you did for them to be here and if they want to please you with that gift, they must show it by the way they live their life for you. If a child grows up and has not been taught that someone is more important than they are, their lives will be lived for nothing. Bringing a life into the world is a gift to all and no one is more important than those that came first. If taught young, wisdom will be engrained into the very enter part of that child and they will live to please you, which will please them also. Thank you, Ata, we are very

lucky to have someone wise and caring to give us this wisdom. We will think of you often and you will always be in our hearts. Well thank you Mary and please remember you are among those of you in your own families and remember to return often. It will not be till after we have stood on the shores of the great ocean where the sun sets each night.

Dan, John, has said he will travel with us for a few days and then he will return to the village with his friends and when we return, he will be grown enough to decide what he wants to do in the future but for now he wants to be among many. Mary, I never imagined it would be so hard to leave and the closer we get to leaving the more ceremonies the village seems to create. If we do not put an end to this and get going, we will have to take part in a ceremony celebrating the birth of our first child. For this reason, I am telling you so all can hear we are leaving on the morning after the first full moon. That will be soon Dan. Yes, and that is why I picked that time.

CHAPTER TWO

LEAVING THE VILLAGE

Here we are on our first day of travel and I do believe we have so many traveling with us that the village will be empty. I am hoping many will return every day since we have departed, they will only stay till they know we are on our way and have no need for anything. We have been offered everything we could possibly want or need for our travels by those from our village just to show their love and care. Nuzzle my friendly wolf has grown and seems to understand what is going on but regardless he will not leave our side and stays very close. He has turned out to be a big part of our lives and we just love to find him under our feet even with the problems it causes Shadow or Buster when he gets in the way.

Jaw and Sunshine were so very sweet and caring to name their first-born boy after you Dan. I was a little surprised when he did but the boy has turned out to be a blessing to them and though they call him Dan he may want to use he is known in the village as a little wolf. I will miss him he will be something I will think of often.

Over half of those following us dropped out of our group and returned to the village but we still had many to help us on the last few days of travel. We are getting far enough away that those with us are dropping after hugs, smiles and hand signals. We have found a spot for our camp and with the trees surrounding us and the small stream it

will be enjoyable to stop early and take advantage of such a good location. Those that hung on till the last are finally gone and without a doubt we will miss them but being alone really is satisfying.

This is our first week and we have adjusted to the trail and found that if I am out in front watching for the best route and any campgrounds, we want to take advantage of like I had a hard time deciding rather to stop at the small lake that was close to our traveling but decided we should take advantage of the easy trails and warm weather so I continued on. We are dropping to a lower elevation, and the trees are getting further and further apart. Nuzzle has stayed out in front of us most of the time and he returns during the day, but he seems to be watching out for us, and he has a bark that has a howl to it, so we know he is in front of us, and he lets us know. After making camp and Mary has prepared us a warm meal which Nuzzle seems to smell from wherever he is because he shows up when it is done, and he will sit and just wait for Mary to throw his meal to him. After feeding him Mary looks up and says Dan, have you noticed that Nuzzle stays out front and I really believe he is watching for us and is it not strange that he has that bark to let us know where he is and that there is no danger in front of us, did you train him to do that? No Mary, I did not, he just seems to know what we need, and he does it on

his own. I wondered what he would do if someone were to be out there, and we didn't know what would happen then? Are we giving him too much credit for something that he maybe is not doing what we think he is, but we will know after a few days of travel. He does help with the meals because it is unusual when he does not return with a rabbit or something to add to our meal.

After these many days of travel Mary, are you getting sore from so much riding? Well Dan, I have never had to ride a horse every day like we have been doing and my bottom is starting to let me know it is ready to stop but you seem to know when that is happening, and we have had a few breaks, but I think I would like to find a place we could spend a few days and just rest. I will look for the next river where we can catch a few fish, do a little swimming and it should be cooler next to the water so I will keep an eye out for it.

How is this spot Mary it is like God built this just for us and heard our wishes and has prepared it for us. We will be here for a few days so let's make a good fire pit and I will build a small area where we can get out of the sunshine in the day and if it rain, we will be comfortable. I have been trying to remember what was told to me about our direction to travel and they have warned me of the great salt in this lake we are passing, and I am told on the other side we will

have four or five days without water if we do not go far enough to the North to miss it. Before we are away from this lake I would like to go jump into the water and see if it is as they have told me. What have you heard Dan? Well, I was told you cannot sink because it has so much salt you float without trying to. Do the fish float on top? Laughing Dan tells Mary that he was told there are not any fish in the lake, but they do have some shrimp they call brine that are very small. Let's go to the lake tomorrow and see if it is so. Watch this Mary I say and while getting Nuzzles attention I raise my arm over my head and make a circle with my finger in the air and Nuzzle takes off and leaves in a run. What is he doing Dan? I have told him to circle the camp and make sure no one or anything of danger is in our area. How does he know this, Dan? I have been teaching him as we travel. When he returns to us, I have had him circle us then I have taught him to go further and further and now he knows with only hand signals. Also notice Mary that when he gets out so far, he barks and gives us that howl again as he circles us. He is such a smart puppy that I am amazed by his understanding. Also, Dan, when we sleep, I notice he watches the horses, and he even gets up and wonders around our area like he is doing guard duty. I have been told that the old men of the mountains that had a dog would make a backpack put extra footwear on the dog so if they

needed a change the dog would have it. So, dogs have been used for as long as men have been able to get them.

The last one in the water is the looser Dan. Mary says as she runs laughing and splashing into the lake and down, she goes face first into the water. Oh! Dan came to help. She says I can't see the salt has gotten into my eyes and they burn bad. We should have known better and taken more time when entering the water, I had not thought of that, but it should have been obvious to us. Notice that Nuzzle had not entered the water. He stayed on the bank and was barking all the time we were running toward the lake. Do you think he smelled it, or something warned him about the lake. I have brought water to drink so I will wash your eyes, and we can see if you float. After washing out Mary's eyes she found that by lying on her back she could keep her head above the water and her body did not even try to sink. We are like children laughing and playing in the water. Now that we had tired of the newness of the salt water we stepped out and our skins were drawn and shrank to us like the skin had grown smaller and it was not very uncomfortable feeling the salt all over our bodies. We used what water was in the bladder we had with us but ran to the river on returning to camp and dove into the clear stream. That was fun and different than anything I had ever imagined but I would not do that again after what it felt like

when I got out. Yes, Dan, I will stay far away from that in the future and not want to try that again.

Returning to camp, we were so tired from the swim and washing that we found some beef jerky and that was our supper for now washed down with cold clear water seemed to satisfy us for the day. We were too tired to even build a fire, and it was not cold anyway, so we just crashed and let the stars twinkle overhead making our wishes come true and thanking our father we were again safe and sound.

I don't know how long Nuzzle had been at my side pushing me and whining trying to get my attention when I finally came around and realized he was wanting my attention. Suddenly, I was not a bit tired, and the sleep left at once as he turned from me and gave a low growl as he looked toward the horses. I could hear Shadow pawing the ground and knew Buster would be at her side, but it was still too dark to see anything clearly. Mary rolled over so she could put her mouth next to my ear, and she asked what was out there. I shook my head to let her know I knew nothing. I did not know but was glad she was awake. We had made a practice of always having a gun by our side, so I slipped on my moccasins, picked up my rifle and as quiet as possible I jacked a shell into the barrel, so I was ready for whatever was out there. Staying close to the ground so I could put whatever was out there against the night sky for

any possible way I could see what it was. Nuzzle stayed at my side as I moved forward toward Shadow and together, we crawled very slowly advancing only when I knew I was not stepping on something that would snap or break afraid of making any unnecessary noise. Shadow was standing on his hind legs, pawing with his front legs at the air before him that I could see. Buster was braying and showing his ability to warn him that he was going to fight right along with Shadow. The noise from the other horses added to the noise and the stamping and running around back and forth had caused me to get excited also and up till now I had no idea what the problem was. I was sure it had to be a cat or something of that nature, but I could not see it and Nuzzle took off from my side and growled and running into what appeared to be something of his size. Now I could hear the cat screaming and briefly saw it rare back and swipe at Nuzzle which scared me for fear he would be hurt. I could not shoot with all the animals and commotion going on, all I could do was bring my rifle to my shoulder and wait for an opportunity of a shot. All at once I could see the eyes shining and without a moment's hesitation brought up the barrel and fired. Only God could have guided my bullet that found the area directly between those eyes in the dark of the night. Nuzzle was at the throat of the big cat in a heartbeat and I could barely make out the cat laying there

on its side and knew for a fact it was dead. Stop Nuzzle it is dead, good boy.

I went to the cat and felt behind its front shoulder with the barrel of my gun and if it were alive, I am sure it would have moved. I turned to the horses they had ran away and I found no reason to chase after them tonight, so I just called Nuzzle back and we returned to the camp and Mary had built up the fire, so we had a cup of coffee and I told Mary what had happened and after talking it over we went back to bed and didn't know anything till just before the sun came up.

As Mary was preparing our morning meal, I could not resist walking out and looking at the cat we had killed the night before. Nuzzle was running back and forth from the cat to me and back to the cat all excited like he was the only one who knew of the cat. As I looked, I could immediately see that the back right foot of the cat was gone, and it was a horrible looking thing which must have been painful for the cat which I also noticed was wet. She had been nursing babies because the nipples were large, and they were all obvious. The cat had to have been Hungary and with the bad foot would not have been able to hunt so to feed those young ones that she must have had somewhere would have been hard to do. I felt bad looking down on that mother and had no pleasure in what I had done.

Joining Mary as she placed a plate of food in front of me, I was not as jovial as normal, which she picked up on right away. What is it that bothers you, Dan? The cat I killed last night had a foot missing and she had to have been in real pain and desperate to try to attack the horses. I also noticed that Nuzzle had cuts on his chest where the cat had made a swipe and only touched his chest, but he left blood, and he was very lucky to have been fast enough to avoid really getting cut up. How did you know it was the cat you were shooting and not Nuzzle Mary ask. I had saw Shadow when she raised up trying to stamp on the cat so I knew where she was on my left and the cat had made a swipe at Nuzzle which I could barely see but nuzzle had moved away and to my right and when the cat looked at me, I saw the eyes shining and didn't hesitate when shooting. The amazing thing was I had the gun part way to my shoulder and only took a second to finish aligning to those eyes and looking this morning the bullet hit her right between the eyes. She could not hunt because of the lost leg and that crippling would limit her, but she had no choice, and I feel bad for what I had done but it in the past so I can do nothing about that.

Maybe we can find babies and help them, do you think that is possible Dan? Nuzzle can you find those babies? Nuzzle jumped up barked as if he knew and off, he ran.

Mary watched him leave and said, “you don’t think he knows what you said do you?” God works in many ways of which I cannot or will not attempt to figure out so all I can do is wait and watch what the future brings. Nuzzle has already proven to me to be way beyond anything I would have expected an animal to know or understand. Let’s enjoy our meal and we will see what Nuzzle does. We know that he has a nose for smelling cats and if he understands what we wanted he would be able to follow the cat back to where she had been so yes, it is possible he can do it.

We had not even finished breakfast when Nuzzle came running back and sat before us growling and whining and looking back and forth between Mary and me. The turning and running a little way stopped and turned back to us, indicating that we were to follow him. He wants us to follow him, but I have no idea how far that may be Mary. Nuzzle go get the horses and just as well bring Buster while at it. We must be close because otherwise the cat would not have been able to get to us but close to an animal could be a long way to go for us.

After saddling and putting a few things together we told Nuzzle we were ready, so he ran out and sure enough took off. Not over a mile later we came to a small outcropping of stone and one large rock was just behind others but larger by far and under it as we looked and as

Nuzzle showed us was a small opening and getting down on my knees and looking into the hollow, I could see kittens and hear the fussing. They were not beyond my arms reach but I was hesitant to reach in for fear of them attacking me even with their eyes closed. Mary, I am not sure if I should reach in, or not my scent maybe an unpleasant odor to them? Perhaps Dan, you should wrap something around your hand to protect you, and it may make it easier for them to accept you. How many are there? I cannot tell but more than one.

Taking off my jacket and slipping my arm into the sleeve then into the pocket and holding it with my other arm I reached in, and the first kitten put the nose against the jacket probably smelling and as it did, I took ahold of it which was hard to do because the jacket keeps me from feeling it as gentle as I wanted to be. Bringing out the first kitten, Mary was waiting at my side with her arms outstretched asking for the kitten. Oh, Dan, have you ever seen such a pretty little thing in your life? Look, its eyes are barley open, and she is looking around like where is mom.

Having passed the first kitten to Mary I turned and reached back into the hole and another kitten came into my hand maybe because the first kitten had been there and left the scent. Turning, I handed the second kitten to Mary and

Nuzzle was smelling and growling at the kittens, so I had to tell him to stop scaring them. Just like he understood he stopped and just put his nose as close as I would allow, he wanted to smell that kitten. Turning back and looking in I could see one more who had pushed itself against the wall trying to hide from me or maybe just the bashful one of the kittens. But as I scratched the ground in front of it, she made the forward movement which allowed me to get ahold and bring it out of the small cave. Again, Nuzzle had to smell it before I was allowed to hand this one to Mary. Turning back, I looked but could see no more kittens.

The first thing Mary said is how are we going to feed them? They will need milk because they are not old enough to eat meat yet. As I rose to my feet, I explained to Mary that the God who took me from the mountain and danger, the God who delivered me from death when I was shot at the village meeting, the God who delivered a princess to me is the same God who delivered these kittens to us to survive will answer that as sure as he meets all our other needs.

When bringing the kittens to Shadow he pulled away and did not want the kittens brought to him. As he pulled away, I spoke reassuring words to him and held one of the kittens high in the air so Shadow could see the small thing and get a good look. As I held it toward him, I said are you

afraid of such a little thing just because of the smell? Shadow raised her head and lowered it then raised it again as if to say yes, I do not like the smell take it away. I refused to accept that, so I kept the kitten in his face and walked closer and kept talking and holding the kitten in front of him. Finally, after several minutes of his stamping, snorting, and pulling away with Mary holding the rope around his neck, he finally calmed down and allowed us to bring the cat within smelling distance, which he did but the hesitation was obvious.

Nuzzle had accepted them after his smelling and growling and smelling and barking at the small kittens but he finally calmed down, but he also didn't like the cats but then they were a natural enemy to him as they were to Shadow. Where they could possibly fit into our world was beyond my imagination but if they were put into my care, I had no choice but to accept responsibility and go with it.

Mary took a small blanket she had been wearing over her shoulder and placed the three kittens into it and then brought the ends up and tied them together which made it look like a large sack with three little kittens sticking their heads out and the eyes were partway open. And as she approached her horse it stepped back not wanting her to get into the saddle. I took the sack of kittens, and she climbed onto the back of Dawn, and I held them as Mary settled in

then she forced Dawn to advance to me, and I held the package toward the horse and stood still while she reluctantly smelled and finally calmed down enough to allow me to hand the kittens to Mary. I hope we don't have to go through this every morning with all our friends.

As we were returning to our camp site with the little kittens, we noticed several vultures circling and decided to investigate. We switched direction a small amount and turned toward the area where we could see where they were circling and landing. As we neared the edge of the lake and next to a small growth of willows, we could see what was left of the body of a small deer it was not very big must have been caught by the cat I had killed the night before. As we got upon the area I could plainly see where the cat had attacked the fawn and must have stayed a day or two by the looks of the amount of activity directly around the fawn. Nuzzle kept looking toward the lake and tried to follow the tracks of another deer heading toward the lake but the mud and water were such that he barked and howled but would not go any further. I could see the deer out toward the lake but as I watched I could see it was buried to the front shoulders in the muck and was just standing there maybe twenty yards beyond us. Nuzzle could smell it but could not see it because of the willows but me setting on Shadow was high enough I could see the deer and knew

immediately that she had to have been the mother of the one who had been eaten by the wounded cougar.

Mary, can you see that deer out there? She is stuck in the mud and must have fought it to the point where she is not able to move any further and has given up struggling any more. If Nuzzle is afraid to go any further, then I would not attempt either. It is so clear to me that she is a wet doe and has been placed in this swamp for our needs so I must figure out a way of rescuing her to feed the kittens. Let me find a place out of the mud and we will have to get down and find the way to accomplish this.

After building a small fire that seems to bring comfort and rest, we are passing ideal moments when it finally comes to me, I will approach the deer in snowshoes which will hold me up and enable me to approach her. Mary, if you return to the camp and get the ropes, the ones we use to raise the kite into the air, we can use those to pull the deer out of the mud. I will build the snowshoes out of the willows we have available and tie them on my shoes with the pigpen strings I always carry. We will have to tie the rope around the deer not just tie it around her neck for fear of choking her.

When Mary returned, I had the snowshoes complete and asked her what she had done with the kittens. She told me she had put them in our bed and told Nuzzle to protect

them and not let anyone near them till we returned. And upon telling him he barked twice as he did and immediately sat down as if to say to her, I should not worry. Dan, it is not a wonder that Nuzzle seems to understand what we want even before we tell him. No wonder it is so hard to hunt wolves when they seem to read what we are thinking. I have brought all the ropes and there should be more than enough to even double them.

Putting the ropes over my shoulder I advance toward the deer and as I do I use my knife to cut away several of the willows so that I make a straight path toward the deer. As I draw near to her, she throws her head back and forth trying to frighten me away, but she cannot do any more than that because she is down into the mud so far, her legs are useless and obviously very tired from already fighting the most obvious ending, she would have to face. Trying to get away from the big cat that she knew would be death she took the only route she had and ran till she could go no further.

Before getting close I cut a willow that had a fork at the bottom and was the biggest one I could find. I tied a knot in the rope and placed it over the fork at the bottom of the stick then very slowly I approached her and talking very gently I told her I was going to help her not to be afraid and I walked right up and pushed the stick down in the mud

behind her till I knew it was lower than her belly. So, the rope was over her back and down in the back now I had another willow with a fork like the first one and I stood back and by judging the angle to the first stick I very slowly and carefully pushed the second stick towards the other one. By twisting the stick, I rolled it till I felt it hit the first stick then pulling very gently I brought the rope under her belly and up till I had a hold of the end of the rope. Now I had the rope all the way around the deer's belly but had to tie the head so that when we pulled on the rope, she would be forced to turn the direction we wanted her to go. After tying it off on her to not put extra strain on her neck I backed away from her and that seemed to calm her down some, I turned and walked back to the sold ground feeding the rope out as I went.

After reaching Shadow I tied the rope to the saddle horn and then asked Shadow to back up and as we did the rope tightened and when it became almost to the breaking point I was about to stop and double the line when all at once the deer started to move in our direction very slowly. Shadow could see what was happening and keep a tight rope backing slowly as the deer came out of the mud, she tried to use her feet, but they just raised her a very small amount, but she wanted the freedom and seeing it possibly caused her to thrash around and try to get out on her own.

The further she got the more freedom she felt and the more she rose above the mud the faster she threw her feet and had she had more strength she would have made it by herself, but she was so worn out she finally just allowed us to drag her to us.

After finally reaching solid ground, the deer stood on wobbly legs and just looked at us. She was so worn out she didn't attempt to do any more than just look at us. She was covered in mud from head to tail and it was so thick it was hard to imagine she would ever come clean. I knew better than to release her from the rope for fear she would run away and that would have been a disaster to say the least.

After all our efforts were over and we finally calmed her down to the point of accepting us we had completed our job. Mary started to laugh and the more she laughed I finally started to laugh and did not even know why. Mary, why are we laughing? She said have you looked at what we have in our world now? We have a wolf, three couthers, and now a deer where will it end? That is an easy question for me, you have not counted the little bambino's we will eventually be receiving.

CHAPTER THREE

LIVES TREASURES

Then she really started to laugh, what will our family think when they come to visit? When we return with half the forest creatures you will not have to fly to get their attention, the family will get their attention for you. Mary's laughter caused me to laugh and as we laughed and enjoyed the moment it came to me as maybe it was meant to. I was brought from death several times and each time something happened that was better than I had before. Mary, I was just thinking that every time we have a change, that is obvious to us, it turns out to be better afterword.

A natural enemy of ours is the wolf and we have a great friend now because the fear of the wolf caused a woman to give me Nuzzle. Now we have three baby kittens, cute as ever and a natural enemy to the wolf and to us what will the outcome be from sharing our knowledge, or food and our love to a natural enemy? Interestingly, these little kittens are known by various names: Puma, Mountain Lion, and Cougar—all referring to the same animal.

The deeper I think and the more I talk the more I believe that we are handed a gift as great as we have ever had and for us to doubt how wonderful it would be a big mistake, so I want us together to take a few minutes before continuing our journey and thank our father for giving us the opportunity of growth and the responsibility handed to

us. Getting down on their knees Dan and Mary gave thanks for the wolf, the three kittens, the deer, and the horses.

Returning to camp, Nuzzle was beside the blanket watching the three kittens and it was so amazing to see that one had to stop and admire the scene. Well Mary said we must find a name for the three little ones. I can see it now we have Eeny, Meeny and Miny and hopefully there is no Moe. Let us clean up the doe and see how hard it will be to milk her and feed our new friends.

Taking the deer by the rope, I led her to the river and just walked in, but she did not want to follow right from the start and going into the water was no different. I had to pull hard and even then, had Nuzzle not got behind her and growled she would never have taken those steps that allowed me to wash and clean her but upon leaving the water she followed me ashore just like a trained horse would do. Walking up to Mary I said well I named the kittens you name the deer. Let me think about that for a little bit and I will find something to put the milk in. Trapping the deer between a tree and holding tight on the rope she allowed us to get one bowl full, but we had tipped it and spilled it several times, but we finally were rewarded for our efforts.

The bowl we had received as a wedding gift was a perfect answer for capturing the milk. Mary had turned to

a plant beside the camp area and pulled a leaf from it and coming over with the bowl of milk rolled the leaf into a funnel shape and I held that while she poured milk into it, and I held it over a kitten, and it immediately knew and started to lick the milk. The other kittens started fussing and wanting their turn, so I changed from one kitten to the next and as I did, I asked Mary how we would be able to tell one from the other. As you pointed out when bringing them from the den, Miny held back and was bashful so look now at them. Sure enough, one kitten was laying back not pushing as the other two fought to get to the milk. Knowing she is hungry but still holds back from the others I wonder how long that will last. Did you notice that bashful Miny is a female? No, I did not but you are right Dan, let's look at the others. We have two females and one male that is interesting.

Nuzzle sat and watched just like a proud father and at that moment I happened to notice all the horses had joined us and were watching as we fed the little ones. I had to comment that nature has a strange way sometimes. Look at all these who are enemies and the attention they are giving to the little ones, even the deer seems to understand what is happening and looking on like a proud mother. Where all this was going in the future was not for me to know but as I watched the kittens suck in the milk, I had deep

satisfaction and felt a love for those little kittens that one day could be a danger to us all.

After feeding each till, they were no longer hungry, they lay down and went right to sleep. Each kitten was laying either on the next or right next to each other but there was no space between any of them. The deer wondered over as much as she could with the rope attached and started to eat the green grass around the tree. I had an idea that it may work so getting up I went to the deer and untied the rope from the tree and tied it around her neck and undone that which went around the body. This allowed the deer the same movements the horses had. Taking the other end of the rope giving her about twenty feet of slack I cut the rope and tied it around Shadows neck. The deer could not run off because Shadow would not allow that, so I just watched them eat together and went back to add wood to the fire pit.

You know Mary we have a lot of different animals here and I will not mention ones that we could add to our family because I know that God is listening, and he would have us feeding strange fowls and other things not normal, but I know he hears and acts just like he had a right to. Careful what you say Dan he may decide we need a bigger family. We will not be able to travel for a few days will we, Dan? Well, we do have a few problems to solve first, but we do

not have to wait till we can figure out how to pass the days across the desert we are told we face. It may be easier to travel with small kittens than if they were allowed to grow bigger. Can we teach the deer to carry a few things such as water or food even if it were only enough for her? It would help. We know it will take over three days and maybe as many as five to get beyond the dry area.

The next few days went by fast as we were teaching the deer to accept us and not show fear every time we neared her. Mary had been calling her Te-ah because that was the word in her language for deer. As the days went by, I found myself saying Teyah do this or that and before long the name was so much a part of her that she becomes Teyah forever. It was hard to say how old Teyah was, but my best guess was two years old, so she adjusted to our presence fast which helped our workload a bunch. Also not knowing if there was a supreme being involved here, helping her to adjust and be a part of our family.

Eating together and spending a lot of time around the kittens and the family of enemy's brought together and becoming a family of understanding and love. How can one express the unity that was created between all of us. Can one train a cat? I have heard from Trainer that anything that eats can be trained so I must accept that it can be done but for how long and how much can they retain? It is so much

fun, and time consuming to just sit and watch the kittens play and roll around teasing each other, hissing, and swatting at one another. They took to both Mary and I as if we were their natural parents. They climb on us they sleep on us they want us to be right in their every movement night and day. We have never seen any animal that has as much love and affection toward us as these three. Even Nuzzle didn't have to have us as close as these three keep us.

In the morning Mary, we should be ready to leave so the meat we have prepared should be on one place and I will fill all the water bladders in the morning so we will have fresh water on the trip I believe we can start early but we will have to find a place to stop and rest so we can change our traveling from day to night. For us to cross the desert even though we will be going North and West to avoid what we can do, night travel will allow less heat and more mileage per day. I would like to try and maintain at least 25 miles a day so that four days should find us on the other side of the hard part. This should be an interesting group to see if anyone should come across us on our travels, they would have a hard time adjusting to our family.

Finding a few small trees and a shallow stream turned our first night into a blessing and a good campsite we will

be lucky to have such again. After the sun dropped and the temperature did the same, we packed up and headed out having made 25 miles the first day. I felt we should be able to do that again and were moving along with no one saying anything and even Nuzzle accepted the travel speed to be agreeable with him. Having stopped often to check the packs on the horses so that they did not get sores and we also checked often for stone bruises making sure all we travel without being hurt. Because of the heat we tried to put something on Nuzzles feet, but he would have no part of that.

This being our second day I felt when reaching 30 miles we could have gone further but that was enough knowing that once one was tired the chances of an accident would be greater. We stopped and found no place we could have shaded and luckily, we had no wind but rather that would stay calm was not for me to know but being prepared to use our ground clothes and some bamboo we built an area that all could get beneath even the horses were protected from the coming sun rise. We shared a few hands full of corn with the horses and Teyah even enjoyed that, which should not have surprised me because a deer eats that kind of stuff whenever it is found. Sleep came slowly for all except Nuzzle which dropped down and put his head on its front feet and never moved again for several hours.

Mary and I shared a few pieces of jerky we had prepared for the trip and drank a little water which was shared with all. We had a bucket tied to the side of our pack horse which allowed us to get it without a lot of trouble. We unpacked all the animals and laid another ground cloth over the packs to protect them from the sun. We knew that each day we would have to do this to keep the sun from destroying everything, so we had figured out the easiest way to unload and lay in an order of such that made for easy loading when the time came. Tipping the side of the shelter on the side of the sun allowed us to stay out of the direct sunshine and we never got much sleep because of the heat but we did get rest and that was helpful. Even the kittens seemed to rest more than normal, which eased the burden on all of us.

As we started out as the sun went below the horizon we loaded up and without many comments, we started knowing we had another day of this to contend with and as such there was no sense in wasted talking. When the moon finally came out, we were all thankful and appreciative of it because it did allow us to see any rocks or holes in the trail we were following. We stopped this night every two hours just to have a short break to drink a little bit of water and check for any possible problems on the backs of the horses and we even had a small sack on Tayah that she had traveled with and did not seem to mind. The terrane

changed tonight, and we found that we had mountains on the horizon as it became lighter, and we could see further in front of us. I figured we had maybe four or five hours of travel left to get into the hills and others could see the same thing, so the pace picked up a little bit without my encouragement.

When I stopped the group for a break it was not appreciated as I would have expected all wanted to continue and get over it with even buster the mule did not want to stop, he could see what all could see and did not want to stop. The sun had come up and it was starting to heat up, so it was a hard decision on my part as to rather to continue in the heat or stop and take shelter. The horses seemed to want to travel faster and Nuzzle took off in front of us and ran ahead. Finally, I could tell the horses could smell water and that is where Nuzzle went without a doubt. That took the decision away from me. I could not have stopped the group if I had tried, I was lucky to just slow them down to a fast walk. All I could think of was an accident could be really bad on us out here away from everything, but the thought of water eased my mind considerably.

As we passed a few short trees and low brush I could see what the horses could smell, and it was a pond of clear water and as we approached all ran to the edge and began

to drink. I had to grab the horses to keep them from rolling in the water with their packs on so as fast as possible Mary and I unloaded everything right on the bank and never worried about order of or location, just get the animals free of the burden. We just dropped the packs and let the horse wade into the water and did as they pleased. After enjoying the swim in which we had all joined in frolicking and splashing on each other we finally joined all our friends on the shore laughing and laying out like we had just conquered the world.

Having drank all we could hold and enjoyed a restful swim we just dropped on the edge of the water and laid out letting the sun warm our tired and weary bodies. The kittens wanted milk, and they did not care rather we were resting or not. Teyah seems to know when it is time, and she willingly stands and allows us to milk her and truthfully, I believe the milk builds up in her and she is glad to get rid of it maybe it hurts inside to be carrying it. I had taken a branch I had found and worked till there were three holes in the branch big enough to slide the leaves into them and each kitten could be fed when holding the feeder over the kittens. They all had their eyes open now and could see but they had not the strength to do much more than get their little noses up to the dripping milk. Mary would hold the

branch, and I would pour the milk into each one and the kittens had no trouble emptying them.

After feeding the kittens I had fallen off to sleep and woke up with this furry feeling about my neck and when finally coming fully awake realized Miny had crawled up on my neck and was snuggling under my chin and on opening my eyes just laid and could feel the heartbeat of the little thing. May said she had been having problems sleeping for fear of hurting one of the kittens because every night they had been crawling under her chin and would not leave. She was afraid of rolling over and hurting one, but they would not accept being put aside, they wanted the closeness of us, and it was becoming a habit with them.

Nuzzle never did get over laying at my feet and if he was not there, I would wake up and wonder where he was. So, after drying off from the swim and the sun started to set making the mosquitoes start to gather, we got up and built a fire right where we were not worrying about it spreading to other areas because it was bare ground for a long way. Mary started supper while I gathered the wood and made the fire. The kittens had gone to sleep with a full belly and Nuzzle was watching them with his head laying on both paws, mostly sleeping also. Teyah had followed Shadow into the tall grass and was content just eating away like no one was around.

After supper and everything was put away for the night, we built up the fire and the horses pulled in close even though Buster was pushing in between the horses getting as much warmth from the fire as possible and I knew it was because the smoke forced the mosquitoes away. So, with our family gathered around the fire pit I offered a prayer for all and gave thanks for the full bellies, the safe trip, and the complete and total love from our father. Even the horses seemed to know and feel the safety and contentment of the family unit.

The next morning after a small meal Mary had prepared and having fed Eeny, Meeny and Miny they were playing among themselves and not feeling we had to push ourselves to be on the way and spent a few minutes drinking a cup of coffee and just relaxing. I offered a suggestion that we maybe should just find a place where we could spend a few days and not try to push as we had done. Mary agreed, however she wanted somewhere so that we could get out of the sun and not have so many mosquitoes. That sounded like a good idea so I saddled up Shadow and taking Nuzzle (like I could stop him) we left our camping area and heading towards the higher mountains I just kept an eye on the horizon and let Shadow go where he would. After finding higher ground I had decided that there was an easier way to do this, so I turned

around and went back camping and told Mary. Why did I do it the hard way when all I had to do was put the kite together and, in a few minutes, I could see miles in each direction, and we would know what was out there.

We unloaded the kite and strapped the bamboo to the sides and pretty much had the kite assembled when the day had slipped past, and the sun was setting so Mary suggested we have something to eat and if the wind was in our favor tomorrow morning would be a good time to take that flight. Both Nuzzle and Shadow came in close knowing what we were doing when we put the kite together.

The kittens had been a real problem when small because of wetting the blankets and the necessary toilet calls but lately they had got the idea that getting out of the blankets and making necessary deposits in the dirt surrounding them just seemed to become a habit with them. Nuzzle had been a big help in this because at one time he had picked up Eeny and carried him to the side and waited and then by picking him up by the neck took him back to the others. He took turns with each one and then he let them be while he just sat and watched. Amazing to watch knowing that he just seemed to know what to do and when to do it.

Taking Shadow out into the top of the open area beside our camp Mary took one side of the kite and I carried the

other and we set it down and would you believe Shadow backed up to the kite and neither Mary or I had done anything to move her there she just knew what was coming and was looking back over her shoulder at us indicating, “what are you waiting for”. We tied the rope to the kite with the slip knot for easy release and I placed the water blander for drinking beside me and a few pieces of jerky not knowing how long I would be up there.

After getting all ready we tied the rope to Shadow, and I just told her O.K. go slow and she did then when the rope was tight, I yelled for her to run fast, and she took off and I don’t think I made two steps before I was off the ground. The wind was blowing into my face, and my eyes were watering badly at that moment but there was nothing to do or see so I just hung on and waited to be higher than the trees, which happened really fast. Untying the rope, I could hear Mary yelling at Shadow to stop so I didn’t have to worry about that. As I climbed, I turned the kite away from the mountain top in front of me and just followed the mountain keeping it on my right as I just floated along.

It came to me how relaxed I was and not worrying about anything I have been up here so many times that it is like second nature to me. I passed over two small mountain ridges and was looking toward the West because that was the direction we were going to be traveling, so that is the

direction I wanted to find the right camping place for us. Off in the distance, further than I was hoping to find it, I could see a large lake which drew my attention. As I approached the lake, I could see a small stream feeding into the lake and on the mountain side above the lake looked like a cave so I glided toward the cave for a closer look and sure enough it was and if I were not above all the trees, I would have never known it was there.

I circled the area for a few minutes looking for anything that would make our lives easier or something I should know but it was so inviting an area that I felt it was perfect for our needs. Along the shore was a perfect place to land if I wanted to but it was also green grass that animals will take advantage of. One side of the lake had rocks going into the water from the mountain side so for fishing it would be nice to set on those rocks and fish and no doubt there would be deep water there also. As I circled, I could see small patches of timber, smaller meadows with grass another stream going into the lake it was a beautiful thing to see and I knew Mary would love this place so turning back toward our camp I played close attention to how we would travel to get here.

The deer and elk had gone to this lake so many times the trail leading to it was clear from the air so watching and following it I went to the first mountain ridge, and it just

seemed to stop but looking toward our camp I could see how I could easily find a way to travel too here. I continued to go directly East, and I could see Mary and Shadow out in the meadow waving at me well maybe only Mary, but no doubt Shadow would if she could. I flew directly over Mary and when well downhill from her I turned around and pulled myself toward the front of the kite and as it pointed to the meadow, I just moved forward a little and I had a very smooth glide right to Mary. As I came to the ground Mary took ahold of one side of the kite and kept it from hitting the ground.

I wish I could do that, Mary said as I climbed out from under the kite. If you would like to do it, I will explain all I know and there is no reason in my mind why you can't do that just as well as I can. We will talk about it till you feel safe, then we will give you the opportunity to do it. That is all good and well, but did you find us a camp site? Mary, I have found a place so good you may never want to leave it. I found a large lake for fish and a cave for our home. I have no idea how deep into the mountain side goes but it will keep us out of the wind and rain, and we can turn our kitten loose and not worry about the great birds taking them away from us. The only problem is the distance to the place, I think it will take a long day to get there and maybe two days' travel, but it will be worth it.

After taking the kite apart and rolling it back into a tight bundle we tied it behind the saddle and went back to camp. Nuzzle came running to us and ran around and around us like we had been gone for days. The kittens were fusing and letting us know it was time to feed them. So we went to the tree that May had tied Teyah to and filled the milk bowl. As friendly as Teyah was, I suspected we could quit tying her up all the time but not being sure we did not want to risk losing her at this point. The kittens were getting big but not ready for solid food, yet we will continue as we are for now.

After supper we sat back having our nightly coffee and just enjoyed the campfire while watching the kittens roll and play with each other and anything that they could find. Nuzzle stood over them like a big brother and was content to just watch. He was getting to be a big fellow now, not old but big. He came up above my knees and when he pushed against me would make me take steps back, he was so powerful and yet so gentle. We will leave early in the morning so for now we just enjoy the beauty of watching the deer and elk moving into the meadow and as it became darker, we could just make out the antelope that were moving into the meadow as it got dark. With the quiet time it was so easy to just lay back and relax and enjoy Gods peace full world.

After giving thanks to our father in heaven and putting away the leftover food from breakfast we fed the kittens and gave a good-sized chunk of meat to Nuzzle and started to pack the rest. I gathered the packs from the edge of the trees where they had been laying and loaded Buster that had moved right over to me and was just waiting to know what was expected of him. Having traveled so much everyone knew what was expected of them and we didn't have to chase any of the animals; they just walked right up and waited their turn.

I started out as always being first in the line of travel but this time it was obvious because I had seen the direction necessary to get to the new camp site. The horses were fresh and ready to travel and with the birds singing to us we moved along, it was a very enjoyable trip, and it went by fast. First thing you know was time for a break. Setting by a stream and passing around a few pieces of jerky we just had a quite meal and I handed Nuzzle a couple of the larger jerky strips we had cured just for that reason. Not wanting to spend too much time when we knew what was in front of us, we continued and after climbing the last hill we could look down on the lake in the distance and it was such a beautiful site that even the horses stood and looked as if to say they agreed.

Passing the lake and climbing a small hill I asked Nuzzle to go into the cave and make sure we were not sharing it with a bear or any of the kitten's family. It seemed like a long time before Nuzzle came back out but as I stood at the entrance he came out and started to growl and show his teeth toward me. As I walked to him to find what had made him so vicious towards me, he kind of pulled back and the hair on the back of him stood up and he was avoiding me, which was very unusual to say the least. Cut that out and act decent or I will slap you. As I got closer, he moved back against the edge of the cave wall and started to crouch and from appearance he was about to attack me. I scolded him again and told him it was okay to be angry but not with me. He must have remembered that we were friends and not let whatever was in that cave bother him. I pointed to the trees and told him to go take a walk and when he could get over whatever was bothering him, he could come back. He moved sideways to me to avoid getting close and ran into the woods. Turning to Mary, I said maybe I had better go into the cave and see what bothered him so much. Just before I could enter the cave here came Nuzzle walking out and sat down in front of me like I have checked it out for you. Wow! Mary, did you see that if this is Nuzzle that other one must have been a wild Wolf and no wonder, he didn't like me I am lucky he didn't take my arm off. He looked exactly like Nuzzle.

I couldn't tell the difference but now it is over I should have known by his actions.

Okay Nuzzle let's go into the cave together I think I need you by my side in order to check it out. As I entered and looked up the first thing, I noticed that the ceiling of the cave was way over my head and the room we were entering was very big. There was room for all the horses, the mule and all our packs to be stored. In the center was a large fire pit that had been used before but by looking closer I could see it had been many years sense. Along the wall on the left were spikes drove into the wall and there was a bear skin coat hanging on one of them. There was room for many more and it even had a shelf below it and along the wall allowing for pots to be placed for easy storage. I knew because there were a few bowls still setting there and a jar with designs on it. Turning I heard Mary say look Dan there is a spring back here with a small pool of water. Someone has lived here before and made it very livable for us.

Notice the torch over there and another one towards the back of the water. We will have it nice here for a while. So, bringing in the animals we unloaded them and set all the packs where we could get to them, and they would be out of the way. What was truly strange about the cave was it was not cold or damp but a very comfortable temperature.

The way the fire pit had been constructed when a fire was going on there was a place to set things so that the flames would heat whatever was on the little shelf. Someone had a real imagination to build such a fire pit I will remember this for future use.

Let us give thanks for this home but remember we are only using it for a limited time before moving on so don't fall in love with it too much, I told Mary. Gathering up the fishing line I left the cave while Mary was getting the food gathered around close, I wanted to try the fishing and hopefully add a little fresh meat to the meal. Mary said she wanted to check out the very back of the cave and see where it went. Setting down my small pack I realized that it had not been to the back and didn't want Mary to run into another wolf or any other strangers. As I got to the back wall, I could see jars of something sitting on another table that was very old and dried up. Picking up one of the jars while looking closely at it because of how heavy it was. Tipping it into my hand I could see what appeared to be several small rocks, but they were very heavy. Because of the darkness of the area, I walked towards the front where I could see better and looking at the stones found them to be gold. Look Mary, what I have found. Oh! She said those yellow rocks were in the steam as we passed them, I happen to notice. If all those jars back there are full of these, we

will be able to live like kings when we join the white man's villages.

If we were in a large city where I came from Mary, we would not be able to rest for fear of the strangers trying to take them from us. What makes them so valuable Dan? Because they are so rare to find, and they can be made into jewelry very easily. It melts and can be poured into whatever shape one could imagine. We will have to hide these so that anyone who may come along will not find them and take them from us. We will do that later right now I want to go down and try my luck at fishing and see if I can bring back a few fish for supper. You get the kittens comfortable, and I will make sure Teyah is available for easy milking before I go.

Gathering up my fishing stuff again I strolled down to the lake and grabbed a grasshopper that was standing there and in no time at all he was floating out in the clear blue water. I had not even got comfortable when I had a large fish fighting for survival. He must have weighed 7 or 8 pounds, and he was a beauty. By the time I returned to the camp I had a string of seven fish all over five pounds and Nuzzle was jumping at my side wanting to share his now.

When I entered the cave, I went to the kittens and put the fish in front of them and they only moved over to smell them and didn't show any signs of wanting them to eat but

did play with them, so I knew what I had expected, to soon eat solid food, but the day would come. We had a great meal and after supper we sat back and watched the reflection of the fire on the cave walls and that was fun because even Nuzzle understood what they were after running around like a small puppy and watching the shadows. Laying down next to the fire, the kittens took no time at all after being feed in crawling up onto my neck and purring like a house cat. Meeny was a male cat, and he had crawled under Nuzzles chin and was sound asleep before anyone else. The kittens were so affectionate that you had to smile every time they got close because they seemed to live only to be close to either each other or to us.

The next day we spent walking around the area looking at all the things that we could eat. There were red berries, and a tree with a small apple and even a few grapes were growing alongside the trail to the lake. We were amazed at the things that were available to us even mushrooms were in abundance around the trees. Mary had found some wild onions and was gathering those for a soup she said she was going to make. We never saw the wild wolf again so he must have decided he wanted no part of us. The kittens were big enough that they were starting to climb out of the hide Mary had made for them to play in so

we could see they were doing good and growing faster than we had expected.

The horses were not content staying inside of the cave and were eating grass along the trail and Teyah was making time in the greenery that was hanging down from the apple tree. Seems as though she liked anything that was green. We spent a week just looking and goofing off and doing nothing but wasting time. I went to the lake daily for my early morning prayers with my father then a swim seemed to just be natural and before long we had all of us gathering at the lake and enjoying the water.

Time just floated by, and the kittens were getting around, but we kept them away from the water for fear of them drowning but they were not afraid of it. They did want to be held and when I came into the cave at night, they would pull on my pants leg wanting to be held. It was strange in one way all these animals were natural enemies and yet even Teyah would sniff at the kittens and watch them play. Nuzzles would pick them up one at a time by the neck and move them here or there if they were not where he thought they should be.

At night we would have bats by the hundreds going past our heads leaving the cave and we just got used to it and it was so noisy that you could not talk at times. I knew I had found one more item to help me build the gun powder

and had dried out a few bladders from the deer and elk we had killed and was storing the dung for future use. I had taken some of the gold outside and buried it in different locations, making sure both Mary and I could remember and find it later if we should need it.

Somewhere in the back of my mind I knew of a trading post that was in this area and was hoping to find it we were just about out of coffee and there were several other things we could use but Mary had never seen a trading post and I wanted her to see one. We prayed that someone would stop by, and we could learn where one was but so far, we were the only ones and had not even saw an Indian or any other two-legged stranger. I continued to fly looking for an indication of someone or something in the area but had not even seen anything out of the normal sights of the area. We were starting to get restless and thinking of leaving the area and travelling toward the West but giving up the comforts of everything we had here was hard to do. I had woven some gold into the bottom of my saddle bags in such a way that even if you were to look you could not see it. And we had done the same thing to other items like I had hollowed out a knife which had a deer antler for a handle and filled it with gold. We had gold hid in so many things we would joke about the value of our things.

The kittens were big enough to walk, and we had turned Teyah loose to roam as she wanted to, but she stayed close and never left very far. We did see a big buck come to the edge of our camp and he knew she was there, and we laughed at the two of them. We wondered if they would follow us to the West or stay in this area but that would be up to them. We had dried out fish and red meat over the fire making jerky as we knew we would need it in the future when traveling. Finally, we picked a day to leave and had everything packed and ready for the sunrise to leave. We truly loved this area and wondered if we would ever find another place that would offer us the things this one did.

CHAPTER FOUR

SPECIAL GUESTS

The first morning after leaving the cave we were not in the usual habits we had before the long rest so things were not as smooth traveling as they should have been, so we didn't try to make many miles just get on the way and make the habits return we had before the long rest. Mary had made a special pack for Buster to hold the kittens and they were not happy when we headed out, so they were continually climbing up and out and falling to the ground so we had to stop and put them back so much that I finally found a place in front of me between the saddle horn and my lap that I carried Eeny and she was satisfied for a while. And Mary did the same thing with Meeny so Miny being alone was not happy, but she did not jump out after the first time crashing to the ground. So, after a few miles things kind of settled into a routine and we started to make a few miles.

I had spent much time teaching each kitten to growl when I held up a finger. If I held up one Eeny would growl and when I held up two Meeny would growl and the same with Miny. I enjoyed the laughter and fun of even with a fist I could make all stay quiet and Nuzzle learned to set on command and growl and follow his commands so on the tail I could have all watching me and every so often just to keep all active I would have growl or be quiet. The games

keep everyone doing something so that the miles past and the time seems to fly by.

We would stop every couple of hours rather to eat or just have a drink of water. We would try to find a stream or lake for our night camp so we could have a warm meal and a swim to get rid of the dust we always had to contend with. As hard to believe as it was Teyah (the deer) had stayed with us all the way and she had come into camp each night- and spent time shoulder to shoulder with Shadow just like she was still tied to her.

Setting around the campfire waiting for supper to be completed Nuzzle jumped up and was growling and looking at the bushes. The kittens ran to Mary and jumped for her to pick each one up and they were obviously excited and wanting attention. At that time, I heard a voice ask if he could come to our fire. If it would have been a mistake for a person to enter another's camp site without permission. That could get someone shot if not careful in this situation. Nuzzle would have attacked them before they knew of the problem. I reached down and took the strap that held my pistol and knew I could get it free in a hurry and at the same time had Nuzzle set and not make any noise by holding my fist he immediately quieted down and with a signal from me just set watching the brush.

How many of you are there, I ask. Two was the response just me and my wife is all. Make sure your hands are free of any weapons, and you are welcome to enter, I said very loudly. A man with a full beard down to his chest and part grey and part white came forward and a little gal not much over five feet tall followed him and she was completely clothed in buckskins. He also was wearing buckskin, but it was so common I had not paid much attention to him. She smiled and said her name was Mayone and her husband was Joseph. Welcome to our camp, Mary said and started to introduce herself when Mayone said "I know who you are Mary. I also know Daniel, Adam, David, Soloman Clark and I know the cats and the wolf Nuzzle.

Dan had been kneeling next to the firepit where he had several weapons close to his hand. Upon hearing Mayone speak he stood and looking first at Mayone, then to Joseph he then looked at Mary and found his thoughts running ahead of his mouth. Mary looked at Dan, and she also could not speak, she was dumb founded and speechless. Finally, after what seemed like several minutes but was only a few breaths later Dan found his thoughts and asked Joseph how they could know all this. Perhaps both of you should sit down and let us explain why we are here and who sent us Joseph said.

Mary, the gift you have of being able to see into the future has been given to your family because of their faith and deep devotion to values that are in the ways of the world in which we live and teach others of this obedience to the creator of the universe. Because of your prayers, which you did not call prayers but were under any other name you used to call them, we have been sent to explain and reward you both for continually holding to those values and not letting those of this world influence you away from those values.

Dan, it was no secret to you that you were spared several times when you could have lost your life and never met Mary. You have been led by your personal spirit to this point in time and to Mary who you have also shown, love and affection that has been recognized. Because both of you have lived and put forth love and affection to others, we have been allowed to share with your certain information not normally gave to others on this earth. You will remember what we will teach you, but you will find you cannot speak to others about this because your tongue will not be allowed that privilege.

Joseph, I believe what you are telling us, but you must know we have a little doubt about all this. How long will you stay and what is the purpose of your visit? In answer to your question Dan, we will stay as long as necessary to

guide you to your intended purpose. Both of you have a destiny that will bring happiness to many and save lives with some that are to be brought close to death and make them understand that a spirit watches over them also. You have been chosen to be the ones bringing forth that light and we will not be here continually, but we will come and go as you ask in your prayers. You are not the only ones that we visit, we are available to all who ask and believe.

Can you make the coughers and Nuzzle understand what we say and give them the ability to act with this knowledge? Have you not noticed they already do and why else would Teyah stay and be so gentle to you. Because of your love and caring that was given to them upon their delivery to you. Have no worry about the future, your faith has made them your servants. All who walk with this belief have that same ability if they will but ask.

We will leave you now but know we are your spirits and are available whenever you should but ask and with that they just disappeared and both Mary and I just looked at each other. How can this be Mary? I have never heard of this before and now I can see why they said we will not be able to tell others about this so we will share this secret forever. I am glad you saw what I did so I know I am not crazy Mary said. One thing this did was prove once again to me that my prayers were Mary.

We had not reached a point in our travels that we felt the need to stop and waste time doing nothing, so we continued traveling 25 to 35 miles a day and we camped at those places that gave us the most facilities for the evening like water and wind protection. We did find it valuable to say our prayers each morning after having those special guests and we spent many hours trying to decide if there was something we wanted to do other than see the ocean.

The cougars had grown so much they were walking and playing full, and they were starting to eat a little bit of meat at least they were playing with it. Nuzzles would bring small animals and drop them before the cats watching and waiting to see if they would eat it. Mary had made the pack saddle for Buster for the cats to ride in, and they were now big enough they could climb up and get into the bag without any help from us, in fact they would be waiting for us to go they had got so used to traveling.

We found a small trading post when we neared the Sierra Mountains (we learned the name of the mountains from those running the trading post). The man who owned the store said he had started it when he found this river and a mountain man must have spent some time here because he had constructed a cabin which was not in bad shape. He had a wagon full of supplies he was heading to Sacramento with but decided to stop here and gave up going on.

When I first walked up to the cabin, I had Meeny on one side of me and Nuzzle on the other walking along right in step with me. I walked up and stopped in front of the cabin and was just looking when Sam walked out onto the porch and started to lift his rifle up toward us when I told him stop, don't make the mistake of pointing that gun at us or you would not live to talk about it. What kind of a feller would travel with a couger and a timber wolf as pets? If you set the gun down, we can talk about it but please don't make any attempts to show aggression towards us. My friends are very protective, and I know they would take exception to it.

My name is Sam he said and what do you go by? I am Dan and this is Meeny on my left and Nuzzle on my right. Eeny, Miny and Mary are just waiting to see if things are safe and if I should yell, they will join us. Do you have coffee, sugar, flour, and salt, I ask. Yes, he said I have all of that and have another wagon load of stuff that should be here later this month if you have cash money to pay for it. We can give you cash or gold nuggets if you don't want the cash. Where would you get the nuggets, he asks? Way back there many miles from here but have not had a place to use them in months. Where did you leave from, he asks? I started in Boston but that was many months ago. You crossed through the Ute Indian territory? Yes, I said Mary is a full

blood Ute I said as she joined us at the porch. Well, he said I can see she is all that but have never saw such a beautiful woman in all my life. How did you ever get such a woman to leave her family and follow you he ask? Well marriage helped and she is exceptionally smart for another thing. Always admired a bashful guy he said.

We have come to a far today and would like to set up camp, would you mind if we were to go down there under the trees next to the river and make camp, I ask. You make yourself right to home and I would not worry about any visitors at night; we are left alone most of the time. Oh, I don't worry with the friends I keep three coughers, and a timber wolf would make a stranger look at his hole card awfully fast when he found us. I will make sure that I do not sleepwalk and find myself in your camp by mistake. Robert, my son, is out hunting. We have run out of meat so he left this morning and should be back later today, and I will advise him when he gets here. With that we left and went to the river to camp.

After unloading the animals, I built a fire pit, and the three cats lined up around the pit and were helping me to dig it by throwing the dirt between their legs and helping us by bringing in branches and small twigs to start the fire. No one would believe that a wild animal could understand but they all had watched and learned over the time we had

been traveling. Nuzzles had been bringing in larger branches and even stacked them alongside the fire pit. Mary had laid out the saddle packs, so we had everything in order in a very short time. Mary said she would like to go up to the store and get some coffee for later and as she stated that Nuzzle jumped up and walked right alongside her as they left. One thing I knew is I did not have to worry about Mary with Nuzzle to protect her no one with eyes would dare even touch her. She later told me when she entered the store Sam had looked at Nuzzle and was about to say something about him coming into the store, but she said he looked over and started to open his mouth. When Nuzzle looked up at him Sam immediately shut his mouth. Robert the son had come in the back door and saw Mary and she said he couldn't get his tongue right, he was stammering and stuttering and jabbering and not making any sense. Sam laughed and told him to stop and start all over and try to be a gentleman when speaking to the lady. Robert said I have never saw such an incredible looking woman in all my life is she a Ute he asks? Yes, Robert Mary said and thank you for the nice words I am sure we will be friends, and you may enjoy coming to our fire and learning our ways. I want you to know you are welcome to join us anytime you should decide but know that you must speak before waking up to our camp.

Just before Mary entered the camp Miny the youngest cougar jump up and ran to greet her and in an that instant a Bald Eagle dropped from the sky and hooked onto the cat and as hit enormous wings struck the ground to lift off with it Nuzzle was upon the bird so fast and had the neck of the Eagle in his mouth and feathers flue and the Eagle was dead before I could catch my breath. Thank you, Father, for having Nuzzle right here and protecting Miny from that Eagle. Mary continued to tell that she would gather the feathers to make a special head gear up and would store them with the necklace she had made with cougar mothers' toenails when she had passed away.

After supper we built a small fire and had just sat down with a cup of coffee when Sam and Robert yelled, they would like to join us and visit for a while. The three cats sat side by side watching both men like they were someone to protect us from. Nuzzle sat at my side as always so he just watched Sam as he sat upon the log we had pulled up for seating. Dan Sam said it is a little nerve racking having these cats and a timber wolf setting around, but we will get use to it I am sure he says.

Sam starts off by telling us the river is called Truckee, and it feeds from a large lake high up in the mountains and that lake is called Tahoe and it has commercial fisher men up there catching some of the biggest fish you have ever

saw. He told me the lake was surrounded by mountains, and the water was so clear you could see the bottom hundreds of feet down. What is downstream from us, I ask. He told us there was another large lake known as Pyramid and it also was a very large lake with many very big fish. He told of the huge trout that would be traveling up this river every year and they had to be at least fifteen pounds or bigger. He told of a town called Genoa that was South and West of us that had another small trading post and many Piute Indians that had large villages close by and where they were located. He told of the mines in the area directly West of us and the fact that there were many white people who traveled through this area, and it was not a bit unusually for them to stop into the store.

After he left for home Mary turned to me and said you do know that the Eagle that attacked Miny was no doubt hunting for her little ones. What are you telling me Mary, how could you know this, and you surely don't expect us to find and raise a baby Eagle, do you? How many babies would an Eagle have and where would the nest be? This is surely not our future to care for birds of prey now. Mary said the Eagle has a large nest that they add onto every year, and they are born in the nest and the young come back to that nest and raise their young, so the nest gets bigger and bigger. Young Bull my cousin climbed up the side of a

mountain and killed an Eagle years ago and they still sing songs about his bravery to this day. Well Mary I have news for you this boy is not climbing no mountain to fight a live Eagle to prove nothing to no one so forget that idea. Well Dan, you do have something no one else has ever had. You can fly your kite and find the nest from the air that no one else has ever been able to do. But Mary, I can't just stop the kite in midair and walk over to a nest. I must stay in the kite and then I may be able to see the nest but would not be able to do more than just look. I think in the morning we should prepare for another flight if I am to ever hear the end of this.

The next morning after breakfast we took the kite that was a copy of the bald Eagle built by our friends and relatives, back at Mary's home village. Sam and Robert joined us and were amazed when we told them about our intended fight. He thought we were joking until he saw the large kite laid out and being assembled. This would be an impressive flight for sure with the white eagle's head tied to the front, but I could see no reason to wear it, but Mary pointed out that if there were eyes watching me from the ground it would be better to appear as a large Eagle as much as possible. So, agreeing and lining up Shadow we tied the rope to Shadow and Mary handed me a small amount of jerky and some water to allow me to be comfortable while

looking. We had discussed this so many times on our travels that I would let her know when I found it was not needed to retell again.

After getting ready and having Shadow lined up and ready, I said ok slow and easy Shadow and off she went and when the rope got tight, I yelled hit it run and before I could take two steps the kite rose and started to climb skyward. I forgot to even watch to make sure there was a wind but thinking back as I lifted there was a wind blowing and I had just not paid attention to it. Up I went it was so easy and because I had done it so many times I was relaxed and knew where I wanted to go. The Eagles nest would have to be either in the top of a tall tree or on the side of a mountain, so I just allowed the kite to circle the area just kind of lazy like just gliding along watching.

I had not been up ten minutes when I could see a large nest at the top of a pine tree and the top of the tree had broken off and the nest was Hugh, it must have been over fifteen feet across it. As I flew over the top, I could see a baby Eagle and it had gotten big enough I knew it could see me as I circled just above it. I flew directly over and as I did; I dropped a hand full of deer jerky into the nest hard to miss when the nest was that big. A large branch stuck out just below the nest, and it was tempting to try and land on that branch. It came to me that if the kite caught in that nest

I would drop like a rock. It would be prudent to recognize that I am not equipped for flight and return to the camp.

From the nest to the camp only took me a few minutes and I guessed the distance on the ground to only be a mile or so from the camp. Turning past as usual and turning back towards the camp, I don't think it was two minutes, and I had returned to the ground. This had happened so many times I just took it into the habits of past experiences and was gathering up my stuff when Nuzzle was standing at my side wanting attention as usual. Mary was first to be at my side, but Sam and Robert were not far behind.

Robert couldn't get the questions out before Sam had asked him and before I could answer Robert, they were talking over each other. Hold on these guys, we have lots of time to answer and before we do, I would like to gather roll up the kite and get it put away before the wind has a chance to destroy it. After showing them how to untie the bamboo on the sides it took very little time, and we had everything put away and were heading back to camp.

We saw you drop things toward the nest in fact I went over and gathered up a few sticks of jerky that had missed and fell to the ground below the tree, so we know there had to be some babies in the nest. How many were there? Only one was my answer but then it is possible there was another, but it looked to me like one other eagle was alive

and one dead in the nest. Did it have a white head, Mary asks? No, it was more of a brown head but no doubt it was an Eagle, but the feathers were not white, and nothing showed but I just knew it was an Eagle. Did it eat the jerky was one of the questions. Yes, I said in fact when I dropped the first one it fell right into the mouth of that little chick. I cannot say that it was very cute though it was not like a baby goose, it was kind of different in that regard. How often do you think you will have to go up there to feed it? Whoa too many questions I don't know much about Eagles or their babies so we will have to learn together. I do think I should find something besides jerky to feed the baby that is not as hard to eat. Also, I would guess that they get water from the meat and jerky offers none. I think it took the jerky because it fell just right but tomorrow, I think I need to take a rabbit or something like that up there. That will be easy, I will just tell Nuzzle to get me something and he will. What I wonder about is water for it. I wonder how they get a drink up there, but I bet it is from the food like I said and that is why the jerky is not a good idea, it is too dry.

After supper and things were put away out of the dark came Sam and Robert and after giving notice, they joined Mary and I for a discussion of today's activities. You know Sam that both of you are welcome to join us anytime for supper. We know that and we thank you, but we have things

to take care of at the post, so it allows us to clean up and lock up. We do have many questions to ask about today's flight though. First, we both would like to know how you figured this out. Well, that was easy God did it for me I had no choice when it happened, and Dan went on to explain how he had found himself floating above the treetops. After landing and finding that I could fly and live I was forced to do it to save a friend's daughter and after that it became easier and easier to do. I must admit that having a deep faith in God helps.

As the conversation continued during the evening Sam thought that he should mention that rumor was the Paiutes were in the area and were not happy because the government was trying to force them into a treaty which they had no use for and did not trust the white man's words. Dan did not think that would have anything to do with him or his family but was not sure because they had never been to this area and had no knowledge of the Paiutes. Sometimes just being in the wrong area at the right time can get one killed when it comes to Indians Sam told him.

If the wind blows tomorrow, I will try to drop a rabbit or something like that to the Eagle and hope he can eat it without the help of the mother. I did not see another Eagle but maybe the father will take over and watch out for it. As I remember when an Eagle loses a mate, they will try to

find another one to replace the first and join in raising the young. Of course, you can read many things but rather they are true or not is another matter. Where will you get the rabbit to feed the bird, Sam asks? That is the easy part, I will tell Nuzzle to go get one and he will bring it to me. How will he know what you want and how will you keep him from eating the rabbit when he catches it? Nuzzle was sitting next to Dan looking at Sam and when Sam asked Dan the question he barked and threw his head back and forth indicating that he knew what was said and was disagreeing. That's incredible Dan. I think he understood what I said and knew. Without a doubt he knows, and he will not stop till he shows up with the rabbit. I believe the cats are learning the same way rather it is coming from Nuzzle or what they are becoming familiar with us and seem to be understanding us. OK Robert let's get to bed and we will see you both in the morning for coffee.

The wind was blowing not hard, but Dan felt enough he could take flight, and he had the rabbit on a shingle waiting for the Eagle. Mary told Dan she was not going to give him any jerky or water sense she did not think he would be flying that long. That's good, Dan said because I am not taking a gun tomorrow either sense it should not take me an hour to make the flight. Shadow was in the meadow waiting and Dan had already put the saddle on him

and had the rope wrapped and laying over the saddle horn when Dan got to the meadow. Mary held one corner of the kite, and all three kittens were side by side watching as Dan prepared to take off. Nuzzle never missed his chance of running alongside of Dan so it was not any different this morning when Dan said slow and easy as Shadow took up the loose rope and when Dan yelled hit it run Nuzzle took off and was faster than Dan until Dan left the ground and a few minutes later dropped the rope which Dan knew Nuzzle would gather it and take back to Mary. That was another thing that Mary helped with, she stopped Shadow and brought her back to camp.

Dan lifted as normal and went directly to the Eagles nest where he dropped the right wing to get lower to the nest making sure that he was close enough to drop the rabbit in exactly the right spot for the bird to feed on it. The young Eagle looked up at Dan like he knew him and was waiting for breakfast. Dan was so memorized by the sight he was not looking at the wing tip as it was just over the top of the tree. The edge of the kite hooked the top of the tree and pulled Dan into the tree and before he could do anything the kite ripped and crashed into the branches below and it dropped and fell. The kite had been spinning as it fell but after hooking one or two branches it ripped the kite, and it fell hooking each branch on the way down. The speed of

the drop was slow because of the ripping and taring of the material in the kite but when the kite came to a stop it was hanging on the very bottom branches of the tree and Dan was tied in a knot with robe tied around him and he was barely conscious when he raised his head to look. Blood was running down his face and his chest was covered with blood. He could feel his ribs hurt when he first hit the tree. Trying to take inventory of his pains and see if he was able to get untied from this and get out of the tree when it finally came to him that someone was speaking and there was more than one, but he could not see them. Dan could not understand the language but knew there several Indians below him and as he looked down saw so many, he could not count them.

As Dan hung there, he could feel the rope jerking back and forth someone was cutting the rope where it was tied to the tree. When the rope gave free Dan dropped maybe fifteen feet to the ground and hit on his legs, which gave way, and he fell right on his nose in the dirt. His hands had been tied from the rope, and he couldn't get free fast enough to get his arms out to slow the fall. He was jerked to his feet by two very big Indians, and they cut the ropes around him, but the freedom was short lived because they tied his hands behind him. They threw him over the back of a horse on his belly and tied him so he could not move

and before he could get his breath, he was pounding away on his stomach, hurting and breathing in short chunks of air. OH, how this hurts Dan thought and he had tried to talk to them, but no one even paid him any attention.

Nuzzle saw Dan falling from branch to branch and as soon as it happened Nuzzle took off and never saw the Indians that were not very far away from the base of the tree. Nuzzle was not under the tree but was close enough to see when Dan went crashing down the tree. Nuzzle went as fast as he could run to let Mary know of the problem and to let her know to come help Dan.

Hours later, after following sounds of several horses in front of him and horses behind him Dan was finally cut free from the horse and fell on his head in a stream of water that allowed him to finally get a drink and catch his breath. Forcing him to set up on the horse was a step above being tied across it but he was in such pain from his ribs he was going in and out of consciousness and had no idea how long he was tied to the horse, but they stopped and built a fire and he was tied to a tree with his hands behind him when the sky became light enough to see. They gave him a small piece of meat and put him back onto the horse and off they went again. Two days later he guessed as best he could he

was tied to a stump at the edge of a small village of maybe twenty teepees.

Dan's right eye was closed, and he thought it was because of the blood that had run down into it and he thought if it were cleaned, he would be able to see. No one washed him or gave him any water or food and the blood on him was not cleaned off but must have scabbed over because he was not bleeding any longer, at least not on the face. A warrior stood in front of Dan and tried to talk with him, but his language was not making any sense to Dan. Dan spoke in Shoshoni and the warrior turned and spoke to others and finally a woman walked up and said how is it you can speak as a Ute? Dan explained he had lived with the Ute for several years and his woman was a Ute.

The Ute stole horses from Paiute, and they were not enemies but were not at peace with them either. The woman explained her name was Dawn and she had been stolen from the Utes and had lived with the Paiutes for many years now. Dan wanted to know why they had captured him and what they wanted from him. She explained the white man had been trying to force the Paiute from their rightful lands and when he flew over, they had been watching him. When he crashed into the tree, they figured the great spirit had done it for them and they were going to use him as a

sacrifice to the great spirit showing devotion to him for delivering the big bird to them.

Dawn explained to Dan that he was not fed because he would not be alive long enough to need food. His hands were tied together so tight he had lost all feeling in his fingers, and he knew he was in trouble. Dan was saying prayers as fast as he could to put words into his mind. Father, he said if you get me out of this one you are really going to have an imagination the way it looks, they are going to burn me to the stake, and I am not afraid to die but not liking the idea of burning to death. Dan had his eyes closed as he was praying and when he finished, he opened his eyes and standing before him was Joseph the very man who had shown up at his fire pit one night and dumb founded him with information. Joseph Dan said, “is it really you? Yes, Dan, I told you that I was your personal guide and that all you had to do was ask and I would be here. Can you not see the situation I am in? Dan asks. I see you have your hands tied, does that disturb you that much? It’s not just that it is what they have in mind that bothers me. Have you not had your hands tied before? Of course, I have. Then what makes this so big a deal? I have told you they have me intended to be burnt alive. Is that what you want Dan? No of course not. How many times must you be

saved before you can see the power you have Dan? And with that Joseph was no longer there.

Nuzzle ran into the camp and jumped up and down and running around Mary, barking, howling, and raising all the fuss he could. What is wrong with you Nuzzle what has happened to get you so excited. Has something happened to Dan? When she said that, Nuzzle stopped and sat in front of her and barked twice. OH, Sam Dan has had an accident, and he needs me, I must run. Nuzzle go get Shadow and Dawn and I will get the weapons.

Sam said I will join you, but I must go get my horse and tell Robert we will be leaving. I will join you as fast as I can. Sam turned and ran toward the cabin and Mary ran into the small shelter to get things as fast as she could. Mary's mind was racing so fast she was almost in tears with worry and excitement it was hard to pay attention to the things she must do and take. Gathering all she could think she would need she ran to the horses and climbing on Dawn, she turned him and holding the rifle and sack of bullets in one hand she yelled to Shadow let's go and together they took off running toward where she knew Dan had to be.

Sam joined her just as they left the meadow and were following her as she made her way through the tall pine trees. As Mary arrived, she could see the kite hanging from

the tree but could not see Dan. Dan, where are you? Jumping down at the base of the tree Mary could see many tracks and she was confused about what all this meant. While she was looking Sam jumped down beside her and he said look at the ropes on the kite, they had been cut with a knife. Look at all these tracks Mary someone has been here and taken Dan.

After further looking it was found where Dans feet hit the ground when cut from the ropes but there were so many tracks it was confusing as to what exactly had happened, but one thing was for sure he was gone, and someone had taken him. Walking away from the tree a line of tracks going to the North was obviously where they had gone. The track had no shoes, so the horses were Indian, and they had Dan and was leaving with him.

What are we going to do Mary we can't follow and expect to fight this many Indians alone. Nuzzle had returned from following the tracks and stood in front of Mary and sat waiting for her command. Nuzzle, Mary said you must follow and do what you can to protect Dan, and I will return to the camp and get food and blankets and more weapons. With that Nuzzle turned and ran off following the trail to the North.

Mary you are not going to follow all those tracks and expect to face all those Indians alone or you? You know

that just the two of us could do nothing against that many don't you? Sam, I know that if it were me that were taken Dan would not doubt one moment before he would follow, and I will do no less. We will return to camp, and I will get things necessary to follow till I am with Dan.

After returning to the camp Mary put the pack saddle on Buster and loaded what food and blankets, she everything she thought would be necessary to follow. She put Dans saddle on Shadow then put his rifle in the saddle holster. Then put her own saddle on Dawn, which she had not done before. She had just left in a hurry without a saddle but now, she would expect to be more than one day following. As she turned looking for anything else that would be necessary, she saw Mayone standing before her and said I did not hear you approach. Smiling Mayone said I did not walk up is the reason, but I am here to advise you that you must take your wedding dress with you, the Eagle feather head dress, and the Cougar claw neckless you have made with you. Thank you, Mayone, I would never have thought of that. Also, you must take Eeny and Meeny with you. I will do as you say, may I ask if Dan is hurt? Dan is not hurt bad he has small problems from falling to the ground but not badly. I will be at your side as you need me so fear not Mary. With that she was no longer there so Mary turning finished loading the animals, putting the special

saddle for the kittens on Shadow and pointing to it telling the cats to get in and they did.

It was almost dark before Mary could get on the trail heading out, but she wanted to get as far as fast as possible, so she left camp and followed the trail to the Eagles Nest and on the way past said to herself I hope Dan feed the little one the rabbit before he had the accident. Little one, your life is now in your own hands we can do no more till we return. Passing the tree, Mary found it hard to continue because of the darkness and did not want to lose the tracks she was following. Stopping and unloading took only a few minutes and thankful she had several bladders of water because she did not look for a camping area she just went as far as she could before dark.

Nuzzle had no trouble following the obvious trail left by so many and the scent was so strong he never slowed down till he came upon the party of Indians who had Dan. Hiding in the trees as close as possible without being seen by them Nuzzle crawled up close to Dan and when it got dark, and no one could see him Nuzzle came up behind Dan and as he had been taught untied Dans hands. Then he left Dan and went back into the woods to rest.

After Nuzzle left Dan leaned down and untied his feet then just stood up and walked to the open fire where the Utes were standing around eating and talking. As they

looked and started pointing and yelling among themselves. Dan pointed to his mouth and indicated he wanted something to eat. Off to the side Dan saw Dawn running through the crowd and she ran up to him, he said to her. Would you ask these great warriors if together they should be afraid of him. She turned to the crowd and told them what Dan had said. He told them with that many he would not punish them for what they had done. She said they were not afraid of him. He then asked them why they had tied my hands and were they afraid I would hurt them. Several men stepped forward and one hit Dan and knocked him down. When he got up, he told them that they would not sleep until he was released and fed as he should be.

Dan held up his hand with four fingers to the sky and Nuzzle started to howl and he continued to howl. Several men grabbed Dan and took him back to the tree he was tied to but Nuzzle must have gotten friends to help because all around the camp the wolfs could be heard growling and howling and barking as if the moon was out. The Chief turned to the men about the fire and said why are the wolfs howling without the moon? He was told what Dan had told them, and he said do not pay attention to an enemy he knows nothing. Put him back to the burning post and be done with him. Chief the ropes looked like they had been

chewed by a wolf and the area around where he was tied has prints of a wolf having been there.

Does the prisoner have you doubting your ability as a warrior? Why do you believe these things? The men returned from tying Dan to the post and when they did, he was told that when they turned Dan toward the post several wolfs stepped forward and forced them to leave. Was he tied up before you left? No, he was not, we had no weapons, so we ran. Let us go back and bring your bow and a few arrows. When they got to the post Dan was standing beside the post but there were many wolves beside him and as they walked up Dan stepped back into the brush and was gone from sight. Get him, the Chief said and when they went to step into the brush many wolves started to growl and there were so many warriors withdrew from the attack.

Immediately all around the village the wolfs began to howl and it was so loud that the women and children came forward point and asking what was happening. We will talk about this in the morning. There were so many wolves howling that no one could talk, it was so noisy. One woman ran up and said I tried to go into the bushes to do my duty and the wolfs would not let me leave enter the bushes. Another said I tried to go get water and the wolves would not allow it.

Mary had finally found the village and was looking toward the village when Mayone stepped up in front of her and Mary looked down at her from the saddle and asked her what was to be done. Mayone told Mary that the moon would be up in two hours and in the meantime, she wanted Mary to go back to the creek she had crossed and bath and wash her hair and brush it and put on her wedding dress and then put the Eagle feather head dress she had made and the Cougar Claw necklace and return to where they were. Mary ask why all the wolf were howling and Mayone told her it was Nuzzle and all his friend protecting Dan not to worry.

The Chief had gone to his teepee to sleep and the howling from all the wolfs were so loud he could not rest so he returned to the center of the circle of men standing and talking about what was to be done when the Chief walked up. The enemy Great Eagle had told us this was to be, but we did not believe him what kind of a man have we bought into our village the Chief ask? I don't know but no one can leave the village without facing a wolf. They are everywhere, there must be hundreds of them, they are on all sides of the village, and we cannot get close to Great Eagle for fear of the wolves. It will be daylight in a little while and we will see what happens then. With all the clouds it may not get light for a little bit longer because the

clouds will cover the sunrise. All were voicing what they thought should be done but all showed a fear of the unknown.

Mary completed dressing and had only to put the Eagle head dress on when Mayone walked up to her. Mary places the headdress on and ask Eeny, Meeny and Miny to follow you to the large rock at the entrance overlooking the village. Please have one on each side of you and one in front and ask them to set while you address the Villagers. Mayone what will I say to the people? Do not concern yourself Mary your Spirit will know what to say at the time.

While Mary was speaking with Mayone Joseph had come to Dan and told Dan to walk to the side of the large rock that overlooked the village and please take Shadow with you and have him set beside you. I would encourage you to hold your hand fist up as you have taught Shadow to silence and then have him howl as you would then when Mary appears she will have silence for her to speak. Mary is here; Dan asks Joseph. Why do you doubt me now Dan? I am sorry, please forgive me for my doubt.

As Marry approached the rock and just before stepping upon it the sun found a hole in the cloud cover and a bright light appeared from the sky illuminating Mary and in her white dress with the Eagle Feather Head Dress, she was breath taking to all. In all her beauty she stood in a halo of

light and the white dress with the Eagle Feathers was such that all who beheld her was speechless. The wolves stopped howling, and silence was throughout the village not a sound was to be heard. The villagers knelt in unison, starting from the front to the back, paying homage to Mary.

After all was silenced from any movements and Mary had full attention, she held up both arms to the sky and in a calm, but forceful voice said I am Mary Princess of the Ute Nation daughter to the great chief Yogi and Granddaughter to the Great Chief Bold Buffalo and Great Eagle is my personal Warrior. The Cougars are my friends, and the Wolves are my guards. We have come to your lands to make friends and share the wisdom of the creator. You have no fear of us, we are not your enemy, we are your friends. With that said Mary lowered her arms and the light was dimmed as the cloud cover began to displace the sun.

As Mary spoke standing beside her was Mayone who translated as Mary spoke. Mayone used her hands to make jesters, and her voice was calming to all. Mayone was not under the bright light but off to one side allowing all attention to upon Mary. When Mary finished speaking Mayone stepped up beside Mary and as the women came forth with questions Mayone would translate for Mary and then answer whatever Mary had said.

At first there were only a few but the more that approached Mary the more joined the group. At one point there were so many gathered around Mary that she could not move. Finally, after a few minutes Maylone held up her arms to the heavens and said loud enough all could hear. Would you please join us at the great counsel fire so all can have room and hear Mary when she speaks? The ladies turned and went into the area and sat on the ground and waited for Mary to join them. When orderly and noise lowered to a minimum level Mary stood before them and when they all wanted to speak at the same time Mary would point to one and with a smile ask her for her question. Maylone explained to the group that Mary would be glad to answer the questions, but they would have to ask one at a time and allow Mary time to answer them. All this time the kittens stayed at Mary's feet and as she moved so did the cats and when Mary finally stood in one place all three cats joined and lay down and went to sleep.

While Mary was busy with the women of the village the warriors had surrounded Dan from all directions and when one would try to get to close Shadow would growl and that brave would step back. Joseph was at Dans side and as the warriors ask Dan questions Joseph would translate and answer the questions for Dan. At one point Dan thought that Joseph was answering questions that he

had not even heard but knowing Joseph understood more than Dan did he just smiled and let things happen as they would. Finally, from total exhaustion, Dan had to sit down and when he did Joseph explained to them that Dan had, as they had known, fallen from a great height, and needed rest. Joseph went on to explain that the next day Dan continued the meeting if they would find him a place to rest and something to eat for the evening. If his health would allow it and answer more questions but they should understand his needs now.

Immediately the Chief stepped forward and explained to all that he Mad Calf Chief of the village offered the teepee held for special visitors should be prepared for this special quest and his woman. Between Joseph and Mad Calf Dan was taken to a Teepee and to a small fire that was prepared inside and helped to set, and food was brought to him immediately.

As Dan was getting comfortable Mary joined him while Maylone and Joseph stood to the side smiling at the couple as they had obviously relaxed. We will join you in the morning when we are needed and with that both just disappeared. Dan had been holding Mary and when they were alone again Dan took ahold of Mary and without any bystanders placed her onto the robes and began to smother her with kisses. It is so nice to have you with me, Dan said.

Mary told him she was in wild worries until Mayone showed up and began to organize things. I was so worried and Mayone had explained that you were hurt but not bad and that you would return to your normal healthy person. Mary, I began my journey with very little guidance to me, but I did have a knowledge of the great creator and the book I told you about by the great creator tells the whole truth and has been my guide. In this book are many stories and one of those says the secret things belong to the lord our God, but those things which are revealed belong to us and to our children forever. We cannot explain who are where Mayone and Joseph came to us, but we can agree they were necessary for us to be where we are on our journey today. We are given those from our God and because he gave them to us, they belong to us but the secretes are his.

Dan, I was in tears and torn between thoughts when Mayone appeared and when she did, I had a calming come over me that was beyond words. I felt her way inside of me, not just standing before me but from the very inside of me I knew she was special. Mary we both know they came from our creator to guide us and to allow us to accomplish something we have no knowledge of and as I just told you those things from our creator cannot be explained so we will just accept them and know that we have something in our future that is meant to be and as we follow this journey

I personally know that I was on a mountain top when he first became a reality to me but sense then the mountain was not as high as the knowledge I have felt sense then. From thinking I was alone when in fact I had the power guiding me to my princess and without a doubt the future for us has happened for a purpose.

Your people, Mary are many and spread over a large area and we are a part of them and now we have another people that are just as many and just as large an area of power and we have now been allowed to become a part of their family also and God forbid that I should boast about it. Dan, the friends, and families we have met make my heart swell with happiness and joy. I feel as though we have known them forever and the brightness in the eyes, the smiles on the faces and the words of their greetings are as real as the sun is in the morning. Mary, I am just beginning to see that the journey to the ocean is going to be a joining of worlds brought together for a purpose beyond our understanding.

CHAPTER FIVE

ACCEPTED BY THE PAIUTE

I have yet to ask about the kite and the crashing into the tree. All the questions have been about Shadow and the wolves howling all night long and not letting anyone sleep.

When I held up my hand and the wolves stopped howling made a bigger impression on them than the kite did.

The next morning as we got ready to go Mayone and Joseph appeared to tell us goodbye, and they would be as always; our support and our spirit leaders should we need them. Just a minute here I said how are we going to speak to those waiting out there for us? Well Joseph said the first thing I would do is open my mouth that allows the sound to get out. Then I would engage the brain and think about what is to be said before anything comes out. Many don't do that, and they say things they shouldn't, so I caution you on that. You have been cautioned. Before that what comes out of the mouth should be pleasing to the lord as your meditation should be good for the heart. For some reason you are avoiding the most obvious problem we have at that is they speak Numu as in Uto-Aztecan as I recall from my talking with Sam and Robert at the trading post. When you stand before them to speak you will find that you have both been given the knowledge to speak and understand their language because of your faith. Please accept that as God has protected you in the past, he will reward you in the future by your obedience to him. With that both Mayone and Joseph were gone.

Why do I have the feeling I have been here before Mary? Was it looking down from the mountain top or was

it looking at the trees from the kite for the first time? Is this what Peter felt as he stepped out of the boat on the sea of Galileo? Like many things in this world, it has already been handed to me now all I must do is accept it so I will and that will add a slayer of worship in those that we are about to face.

Come with me Nuzzle as I face the people of nation of Paiute Indians, I don't want to be alone. There must be some humor in that somewhere Mary. The two of us shall face them together just me and my wolf. I may not be David, but I sure feel like I am about to face Golath. So, when you are ready Mary, please join me at the counsel of fire. With that Dan threw back the skin that covered the opening and stepped out to greet the world.

As I stood up after leaving the short opening of the Tee pee several men and women were standing there waiting for me. As I stood no less than five started talking at the same time and so I held up my hand and said, Good Morning to all. And they responded in like manor and were all smiles. I greeted each other as we moved toward the fire pit, but they were asking so many questions that I had to stop them and tell them we would have to find a better way of doing this I could not keep up with them they were more questions than I could answer at the same time.

Another of the Chiefs, Crazy Horse showed up and he said he would like to ask many questions also but wanted to know if I would join him at his lodge for breakfast and we could talk. I said as soon as Mary was ready, we would be glad to join them. He told the group that we would be eating together this morning, and he would talk to us about a counsel fire this afternoon. Nuzzle was standing by my side as usual and the Chief looked down and asked if he was tame. Yes, I said he is tame if I am treated friendly, but should someone show aggression toward me he would not be friendly. As he was speaking Eeny stuck her head out of the doorway and gave a low growl. He smiled and said I have never been this close to a Puma and not been afraid how had we tamed all these animals? Hunger I said will tame man or beast, but the great creator has been a part of that.

Mary stepped out as we were speaking and Meeny and Miny were with her as she stood up, they sat to her side. Do they go everywhere with you, he asks? No, I told him we can leave Nuzzle to watch over them. Are you not comfortable with them being at our joint meal. He said he would prefer they did not attend so I turned to the cats and said go into the shelter and wait for us. We will be back shortly and Nuzzle can watch over you. With that they turned and went into the Tee pee and Nuzzle followed

them. Mary said she had fed the kittens so they should be alright for a while. As we left others started to drift away and when I looked back no one was around our place so I felt the kittens would lay down and sleep again so no one would hear them playing.

When we entered Crazy Horse's home his wife was standing at the door with the flap tied back and told us to enter. In the center of the Tee pee was a fire pit with a small fire burning and two gals were arranging things so we could have a place to sit. Crazy Horse introduced his wife small flower, and she told us to be settled, and she would bring us our meals. As we sat down, she told us the two girls were Snowflake and her sister Blue Sky.

I was handed a bowl of a warm liquid with some kind of meat in it, and it was very tender and delicious. That is a very good Small Flower. What is that meat? And she told me it was roasted raccoon and to get it that tender she had to boil it slowly for several hours. The dish had wild onions and a berry of some kind plus something I could not identify but was sure it was a herb of some kind. Mary was also very interested in what was in the bowl and asked Small Flower if she would teach her how to make it. As the ladies talked of how to prepare the soup which is what I called it Crazy Horse and I just eat our meals and from the way Crazy Horse acted he didn't like the women talking

while we eat but he said nothing, and I believe it was because we were there, or he may have said something. When the meal was finished, and we were leaning back relaxing, the Chief asked me how it was that we could speak their language this morning but last night we had to have help. I explained that my Father in heaven blessed us with the ability to speak their language. The next question was where were Mayone and Joseph? I told them they had left in the night not wanting to have to try and explain that one. Crazy Horse said they had guards out and no one said anything about seeing either of them leave. It was very late I explained and let it go at that. He was still wondering how we could speak that fast I again told him of the great spirit and his ability to protect and teach us. And that is one of the subjects that I would like to talk to you about Chief.

I went on to explain that we had come to their land on our way to the great ocean under the setting sun. I would like to have a great counsel where all the people could hear my story, and I would like Mary to also explain some of the things that those in the village were asking. The Chief thought that would be a very good idea and he would call for counsel from the tribe and ask for their blessings and ask that it be so.

Mary and Small Flower had formed a very good friendship in such a short time and as we stood to leave,

they hugged and agreed to meet again as soon as they were through with their chores. I returned to the lodge with Mary, and we walked along I told her of what the Chief had asked me and told her how hard I thought it would have been to explain who Mayone and Joseph was, and could she imagine what he would have said if I had told him they just left like that. Some things are better not said than to speak about something so far over their head that it is not understood. I do believe that they have a better understanding of the spirit world than most, but I want to both share and learn from them and I think telling them how we got here or explaining my travels from Boston to here would help in their understanding. When we get to your people and you, I will stop and bring you up and let you explain how you came to be here. I don't know if they even saw me up in the sky, they may have thought the kite was just a big Eagle and never knew it was me so if I don't learn more on that subject it is going to be a really big deal when I explain about flying. We are not living the normal life as these people know it, we have animal friends they have never saw living with anyone ever now we come along with a Wolf and three Cougars, and I don't think they even know about Teyah would they believe we have a trained deer to give milk to the little ones? This meeting is going to be very interesting to say, and I sure hope it goes as good as I pray it can. Perhaps Dan, I should walk out and

take Nuzzle with me and see if I can get some more milk for the little ones. They are almost big enough to eat solid food, but I am not sure they will yet. Perhaps when I go out for the milk I can have Nuzzle, get a rabbit or something that we can give to the cats and see if they are ready to eat it or not.

Crazy Horse came by our camp and told me he had been in a meeting with several of the other Chiefs and they had agreed that it would be a good thing to have us tell the whole village of our travels and it would be entertaining to them also. They use things like this as a diversion to keep the people active and it brings harmony to the village. He told me that after the last meal of the day they would build a large fire and invite all to attend so just at about dark we would join them again. He said that the Small Flower had wanted to prepare a special meal and several of her friends wanted to help so they would bring it to us later this afternoon.

Mary and I just sat around a small fire outside of our lodge and discussed what we would be speaking of during the meeting and in this discussion it had come to me that Mary had not been born again and now was a good time to discuss what that meant and so I started to explain then I said no maybe I should talk to all about this and you will learn with the others.

Mary had gone with Nuzzle so I just laid back in the sunshine and took advantage of the warm sun and no one bothered me made nap time a great and wonderful idea. I had just given the best speech the world had ever heard when I felt Mary shaking me to wake up and help feed the little ones. Well, it was a great speech, but I had just not delivered it yet except in my dreams.

As the time neared, I walked with Nuzzle to the council fire and as I grew near, I heard the Chief tell those in attendance that here he is now, so I just continued up till I was standing before the Chief and greeted him in voice and in eye contact. He held his arm out toward the crowd, and I turned to face the village.

Momentarily I was petrified and did not know if I could find it in me to speak. As I stood there calmness overcame me, I could hear the cheering and the yelling of greetings from the crowd. As I waited for the noise to quiet down, I felt more comfortable as the noise settled down and so did my heart rate and fear. My name is Daniel, Adam, David, Soloman, Clark, but I go by the name of Dan in the world I came from but in this world, I am known as Great Eagle and that story is why I am standing before you. I came from where the sun rises in the morning, and my journey took two hands of moons to travel this far. To have you understand what I am saying, how many of you have

left this village and traveled from one full moon to the next without turning around and coming back?

In that land there is a body of water that if one were to take a canoe and travel it would take as long to cross as it took me to get here. That is how big that water is, and it is called an ocean and there is one where the sun settles in the West and that is where my journey leads me.

I traded all that I had for those things I would need to make that journey and when I left there were those that saw my worldly possessions and wanted to take them from me. After several fights and I had killed many of them I climbed a very high mountain to the very top where I was going to make my last stand to fight those that were left of my enemies. I had a robe that was very thin, allowing me to carry it on my horse easily and I had laid that over me to keep the wind and rain off while I slept. The wind was blowing so hard I could not sleep and hold down the skin so I had tied the edges with sticks I had and then I tied a walking stick from side to side which I laid on and by body held down the sides so I could sleep but even then I could not completely rest so I took a rope and tied from the top by my head to the bottom and I did that three times then I fell to sleep after giving my great creator who I call Father thanks and knew no more because I went to sleep,.

I awoke floating out over the mountain and trees and I was up in the air like a bird in the sky. With this I stopped for those to understand what I was telling them and the murmurers, the aweing, and whispers were so loud I waited for it to quiet down. When it became silent, I again told them Yes, I was floating up in the sky like a leaf in the wind. I did not know till I reached for my hat, and it fell so as I turned to pick it up it was gone and so was the mountain I was laying on.

When your warriors found me hanging in a tree it was because I had hooked the tree with my kite and had been torn from the sky and blunged to the ground with the tree limbs slowing my fall. Those that took me prisoner had not known I had come from the sky they must have not seen me flying with the birds in the sky.

My God had taken me from the mountain and allowed me to fly then he took me from the sky and crashed me into a tree where I was to be found by your people, and he protected me from your torture and bondage and forced you to set me free. These are true words that you must know because you faced the wrath of holding me prisoner and mistreating me.

Because of my ability to fly I was also allowed to speak to the Ute Nation and because of my powerful God was awarded a princess of special honors and, I became a

member of their tribes. I believe that the Paiute Nation is so powerful and respectful of the great creator he has allowed me to bring word of his presents to you through me. I am not a God but a massager for him and as such would like to spend time with your people and tell of the powerful God I speak of. We are not here to represent the Ute Nation we are not here to make less of the Paiute Nation, but we are here to bring understanding and knowledge of another God you should learn to respect. I am not an ordained minister only a man who has experienced the glory and love of a special God and as such would like to share that with you.

If your people allow it, we will continue this as you may wish but for now let me introduce you to my wonderful partner and wife as called by my tongue. Mary, please come up here and say a few words to these people.

With that Mary stepped up onto the large rock that had been placed there for that reason. The crowd went wild the women danced and waved their arms the men shouted, and Mary's name was shouted by most and the laughter and jovial passion was so strong in the area that one would think Mary had stepped right of a cloud from heaven the way she was accepted. After several minutes of total causes Mary raised her arms and held her hands open before the village and as she stood there, they became silent. Thank

you, my newfound friends, for the warm and friendly welcome you have shown us. I had stepped to the side and Nuzzle was at my hip all the time and now he just sat and watched the crowd. The three kittens were not fully grown, but they sat to the side of Mary as she was speaking, and they also just sat and watched the crowd.

Mary started out by explaining that she had been living in the village of Chief Yogi of the Ute Nation and as a young girl she had known the great creator of her people and had a belief in him the same as all of her friends and family did but along came the Great Eagle and spoke of a God of his people. I later found this God to be a truthful God and found he was not just Great Eagles God but a God of all people not just those of the white skin but of all skins. I found this God to be a loving living God and the more I learned the deeper was my love and faith in this God who I have grown to admire. As you have found he has saved the Great Eagle from a death by fire to a warrior to be respected. The Great Eagle has not only told us of this great spirit, but he has shown us he is real, and he is father to all who would worship him. Our journey to the great ocean in the West has brought us into your village and into our hearts the love you have shared with us. While in my village back home the Great Eagle explained to all the ways of his God and as he has told not all even his people do not

always live as his God has told us we should. Our people do not always do as our creator's spirit leads us, but we all agree he is guiding us every day.

Great Eagle please come back up here, and we will say a prayer together and ask for our lives to be joined and knowledge shared together. I joined Mary and when I did the three cats stood like they had come to attention and with that it came to me. I raised one finger and Eeny growled at the crowd. I raised two fingers and Meeny growled at the crowd. I then raised three fingers and Miny growled then I raised all, and the three cats growled as Nuzzle howled and the crowd went wild. I held up a fist and sat down and looked at those in the crowd like a singer taking a bow.

With that finished we all joined the villagers as they crowded around us, and everyone tried to speak at the same time. Much laughter and smiles were shared by all who were there. Even the children were laughing and sharing the time together. The women brought out food they had prepared, and the men started a large fire, and the drums began to sound and with that the party began. Those participating in the festivities were either dancing around the fire or singing. Meanwhile, those who were not engaged in dancing or singing were enjoying their meals and the overall celebratory atmosphere.

When I had stepped down from the rock and was standing among the crowd the thing I heard most was, they wanted to see me fly. If you can do this, would you please show us? Yes, I said but I must have the things that allow it to happen, and they are partly in the tree where you found me. I will need to repair the kite that must be in the tree and for me to show you I will need that and let me explain to you what must be done after gathering the remains of what is in the tree. Someone must go to that tree and take it down and bring it back to be repaired.

When Chief Crazy Horse heard this, he turned to several and instructed them to go to that tree and take what is there down and bring it to us. Is that all that is necessary, he asked me. No, I said I will have to repair it when it gets here, and I need things that are at the camp we were staying at. I can return to that camp and gather all our possessions and return there. It took us two days to get here from where you found me so it will take two days to go and two days to return. It will take but a few hours to gather those things and prepare to return. Let me talk with Mary and we will leave as soon as possible.

Let it be so the Chief said, and he directed us to a lodge that was in the center of the village for special guests when they came to the village. As I looked at the lodge, I told the Chief that we would prefer not to be in the center of the

village, we had the animals to be conserved with, and they would need to be away from the mass of people that would crowd the lodge he had suggested we use. The Chief heard what I said and agreed to allow us another lodge that was on the very edge of the village, and we went to that, and I agreed this would be much better for all. He told us he would see that we received food for our immediate needs, and we could join them for the evening meal, and we could talk about the return trip at that time.

When Mary joined me at the location, I was shown we spent very little time moving in because we have very little with us. WE discussed rather she should go with me on the return trip or not and she told me she would like to go but felt it would not be necessary sense I would only gather that which was there and bring it back. She pointed out that it would be much better if the animals could travel back with me on the trip. As we talked further it was obvious that if she were to go with me, she could care for the kittens, and it would be better as a family to stay together as we knew how to travel as a unit better than for me to try and care for the kittens and the nighttime would be made easier if things were as we had learned to do coming this far. So, after taking it over it was decided she would join me on the return trip, and we would keep the family together as we had done in the past.

While we were talking about the trip two lads showed up with arms full of food and robes for our lodge. We would need those for comfort tonight and when we returned, they would be necessary. We thanked them and were rewarded with a very friendly visit and Kately asked if we join them for the evening meal at the counsel fire. Kately was the Chiefs daughter and had many questions she would like to ask us. We answered her and told her when we returned, we would spend a lot of time together and she would have time with us alone and each would be allowed time with us. Kately sister Morning Star was just as full of questions, and she wanted to know personal things about Mary and would like to talk with her when I was not there. Mary told her she would make time and that they would become very good friends and she was very excited they had met.

After the girls left, we sat down and enjoyed our time alone and shared the meal that had been brought to us. Thankfully the kittens were starting to eat a little meat, and they were satisfied partly playing with the solid food and yet eating it at the same time. Having never been around young cats before we had no idea whether they were to be forced off the milk and onto solid food or not so we just kind of made it available and hoped it would work out. Nuzzle had slipped out when we had not noticed and the

first, we knew was when he entered with a sage hen he had in his mouth, and he placed it in front of the three kittens like here take this and just stepped back and sat down.

The kittens swatted the bird like testing to see if it was alive or dead and another would nuzzle up to the bird and push it with her nose and watch to see if it moved. It was very entertaining to watch and see what they did with the bird, but they eventually got a taste and as one ate a little so did the next, so the feathers flew, and the bird disappeared. We gave an extra thanks to our heavenly father for the kittens and that they had finally found solid food and that we may not have to hand feed them any longer. It was an exciting time for all of us, being alone and having new friends in the high lodge and village to protect us.

Mary we are facing a dangerous point in our relationship with the Paiute people when they see me fly, they are going to think of me as a God not as a man and that is a bad thing to create. It is going to be very important that I teach them that God controls this and he is the reason for the ability to fly not me not the kite, but they will see it from their wisdom, and I must increase that knowledge so when I fly, they see beyond the flight and see the truth. Well Dan, you did a good job back home teaching every morning, maybe you should do that again. These people

have a belief in a spirit and in a creator, but they know not the true one because no one has been accepted by them to the point they would believe but this will be a balancing act of truth and wisdom and visual stimulation. I have explained to Crazy Horse how the kite is to be built the thinness of the material and the tying of the bamboo along the sides. I have asked that it be made to look like an Eagle and the size of the whole thing, so he has a good idea of what is necessary to build. We will leave in the morning, and we should be back in a week, but they will get the kite from the tree and be back faster because they will ride night and day to do it.

The next morning Snowflake and Blue Sky arrived early and had brought us breakfast and had a sack of food to carry us on our journey and they were excited to tell us how much they were looking forward to our joining their village. We assured them the feelings were mutual and were looking forward to friendship and meeting a having more friends. After a short meal we loaded Buster and saddled Shadow and Dawn, and we gone within an hour. The first day went fast and we were enjoying our after-supper coffee when we heard the yell from outside of our camp. It was Porcupine and Badger. Are you heading to the tree to get the kite I ask? No, they said we were on our way back we would have been faster, but Badger was unable to

climb the tree like a true Badger would have and it took much longer to get all the pieces down. Wow I told them you guys had a really good time how did you do it so fast? Well, he said you can see we have two horses each and we trade back and forth and besides that we have not slept in two days. Climb down and we will give you something warm to eat. No Snowflake said we must be on our way we just stopped to say hi. We will see you in the village next week and with that they were off and running.

It is amazing how far they went in that length of time, but did you notice that all three cats ran to the side of our camp and hid? They must have known they were friends because they made no noise and never showed themselves. Yes, Dan said I would hate to be someone wanting to harm us and have three cougars and a wolf attack without warning. Let us turn in the morning will come early, and we must make what time we can to be back within the week.

The next day we arrived at our old camp, and nothing had be disturbed from when we left it, We built up the fire and ate a warm meal and decided that with everything already laid out we just as well enjoyed one night here before returning to the village. The kittens knew their beds and after eating all three were like a nest of snakes, they were wrapped around each other and sound asleep

immediately. Nuzzle had just sat to the side of the cats when three men on horses pulled up to our fire pit without having gave us any warning they were coming.

Looking up I told the one in front who appeared to be the leader of the group that it was not good manners to just walk up to a man's fire without notice. He said he could care less about manners they would do as they pleased and to forget what everyone else thought if they didn't like it that would be tuff. The men were dirty and had not saw water in months from what they looked like, and the clothing was old and well worn. The overall appearance of all three of them was offensive and I could smell them this far away. I said we had not saw any white men in months where had they been hiding. He told me it was none of my business he was going to enjoy my pretty lady then he was going to eat all the grub we had in camp.

Well, I said that is going to be amazing to see without the use of your arms and being bloody would not make eating much fun. While I was talking, I had watched the three cats circle the horse and the horses had started to jump and stamp they had smelt the cats and were wanting to get out of there. The men did not notice their horse were getting uncontrollable and because of it they could not bring the riffles to point at either Mary or me. I held up all fingers and the three cats growled and Nuzzle howled and growled

making the horses go wild one threw his rider before he could get ahold of the saddle horn and the other two had turned and ran leaving the area and both had lost the guns they had in their hands because they were busy trying to hang on. The one that was the leader found himself with Nuzzle standing on his chest and his teeth right in front of the man's face. The guy was screaming and yelling to get the wolf off him. Why should I do that, I ask when he was there to do us harm. We were just joking we were not going to do anything we just wanted to scare you folks.

Perhaps the next time you want to scare someone if we should decide to allow you to leave that is you will think of this as a lesson in manors. With only a word or two you would have been the next meal for our animals. I really didn't want them to eat you for fear of spoiled meat though because you stank so badly that I think you are rotten. Nuzzle let him up, he is going to run down to the lake and take a swim and clean up a little. With that Nuzzle sat and just looked at the guy who was shaking from fear. He stood and started to walk to the lake when I said no run does not walk and with that Nuzzle bit him on the back side and that guy almost flew to the lake and dove in. Nuzzle was standing watching him but so were all three of the cats so the guy swam out from the bank and as he did, he was taking off his jacket and outer garments which was

stopping him from swimming as fast as he wanted. I said you stay out there tonight so we know where you are while we get a little sleep. If you try to reach the bank our friends will make a meal of you. Eeny, Meeny, Miny and Nuzzle do not let them on the bank if they do you have my permission to eat them. With that I turned and joined Mary in our robes.

The next morning while having coffee we could hear the guy yelling and begging to be allowed to come on shore. Do you hear something Mary? No, she said I heard nothing but the wind. That's all I hear so let us finish and get on the way as soon as possible. When we left, I looked back, and the guy was swimming toward the shore and his partners had never showed up, so I guess they just keep going.

On our return, Mary, I want to stop by the eagle's nest and make a short flight over the nest and if everything is as it should be I will drop more food. Dan, did you say Moe food or more food? What do you mean Mary? You said Moe is what I heard, like Eeny, Meeny, Miny & now Moe. Do you think that is an indication of what is coming Dan? I have learned not to try and out guess our father he arranges what is necessary for our journey so what is to come will be as he wishes.

Upon reaching the tree which was not far from the original camp site we stood back and watched, and we could see the baby eagle's head appear as it moved around in the nest. So, we took the Ravens kite out, but the bamboo was gone because Porcupine and Badger had taken them down when they came. We gathered a few small branches and used them for the outside of the kite and tying them on we stretched out the rope and Shadow backed up immediately knowing what we had in mind. I had not noticed but there was a small wind blowing but as I prepared to take off, we had a gust of wind and when Shadow started to run the wind picked up helping me take off. The rabbits Nuzzle had gotten for us were tied in a bundle so I could drop the two rabbits and the sage hen in one drop.

Mary and I had talked of the problem I had last time I flew over the nest, but I told her I learned my lesson this time I would not try to get so close so as I turned and lined up with the nest I got the food ready and as I came over the top of the nest looking down I saw Moe looking at me like what's for lunch Dad? Directly overhead I dropped the bundle, and it fell right into the nest almost on top of the eagle and I noted he had head feathers, but they were not white as I had expected them to be. I heard a cry from the baby like he knew who I was, which made me smile. I had

already accepted him as Moe and wondered how that had come about.

Landing was like settling in the front porch swing on Saturday night. I just dropped down, and it was over without incident. The first thing Mary wanted to know was if the baby looked healthy and was alright. I informed her, but he looked up like he knew me, and I dropped the bundle and said to myself I had fed Moe, and it was like his name came to me easily. We gathered up the Kite wrapping it as before and just threw the sticks away. Rolled up the rope and put it inside of the kite as before.

Returning to the Paiute Village was an easier ride than the one I had when going to that village the first time. It is much better to ride upright on the horse than lying over and tied down. As we rode along Mary agreed with me that we had to teach them of our father in heaven a little bit at a time and we did not feel it wise to push them they had been following their great creator for their whole life now we were offering a different view and a different living God. They had never heard of a God still alive they thought of a God as being dead or in another world never hearing of being dead and coming back to life. This was a new thing to them, one that did not seem possible, but I wanted to explain and not be tied to a burn post when I did. I was anticipating having time to explain and inform them what

was available to everyone regardless of white, black, or red, so when we returned, we would approach the subject carefully.

We enjoyed the last night of camping before we were surrounded by others wanting to ask questions and all, so the evening was very comforting, and we took our time eating and then resting. We laid on the ropes looking at the stars and dreaming of what it would be like to see the pacific ocean and hear the waves pounding the shore. We had been told the weather was always warm and they did not have frost or snow. We were looking forward to a new experience and wanted to know if all we had heard was really true.

We arrived at the village in the early afternoon and by the time we made the middle of the village we had a group of maybe twenty or so children, women and a few warriors walking along with us. The cougars stayed almost inside of the backpack made for them. The only thing showing we the eyes watching but Nuzzle walked right along with us and stayed beside Shadow and Buster followed as usual with no tie rope.

We decided to go right on through the middle and continue to our lodge so we could put the stuff we had brought with us and the animals could be comfortable in

the lodge or if they should decide to join us, they could do that also.

As we passed Chief Crazy Horses lodge he stepped out and we our hellos and friendly jesters but explained we would return after putting away our possessions which he said was a good idea and we were invited to the village meeting just a finger above sundown. That told us he had ten to fifteen minutes before sundown set as to the time of the meeting. We later learned that the meeting was intended for us to explain how the flight of the Eagle was to take place, and they wanted to present the new kite they had made for me. We could tell they were excited and looking forward to our comments on what they had built, and we could tell them had worked tirelessly to get it done before we returned.

We went to the counsel fire area before the designed time because we were hungry and knew there would be food available. As it happened, we had no idea there would be the amount of people there or the amount of food there would be, the Chief had criticized the ceremony trying to conceal the excitement throughout the village. Everyone was talking about the flight, and it turned out they had family and friends coming from other villages wanting to see if this was true. Is the Great Eagle capable of flying like a bird.

Eating our supper was almost impossible because of the children hanging on us wanting our attention to them and the questions continued to the point that I finally set down the meat I was trying to eat and stood before all and explained that we had to look at the kite and before I could say more a group of men walked up with a long bundle tied tight and was on the shoulders of three men stepping in time and they stopped in front of us. I had not noticed but as the men *was* approaching *us* the *drums had been beating the villagers were clapping and* chanting right up till the men stopped in front of us and at that moment all noise stopped, and the Chief dressed in full head dress appeared from the counsel lodge in all glory and it was almost breath taking the way they had created this moment of excitement.

I was presented with the most beautiful kite anyone could ever imagine. It was the size I had instructed them to build but the material was so soft you wanted to lay it against your checks to feel the softness. The wings were shaped just like an eagle and the white on the wings and the tail feathers were so real it was amazing. I was awed by the quality of the workmanship and told Crazy Horse that very thing. I told him I was speech less it was so beautiful and the craftsmanship was perfect. I will be proud to fly with the eagles when I look just like one of them.

Everyone wanted to know if I would fly the next morning and I explained to them that if it was Gods will, but I wanted them to know it was not me that they should be looking to but my father in heaven that enabled me to fly in the sky with the birds. If there was wind, I would show them, but it would be all according to the weather. As we were standing around the fire and all eyes were on Mary and me I told them to turn away from the fire and look at all the stars in the heavens and as we did I explained to them that our father in heaven was so big he could put our world and all the stars in the palm of his hands and that he had made everything they saw just by saying it was to be so. Then I went on to explain not only is he that big he is also so knowledgeable that he knew every one of us as his children and looked at us with the same love you would for your personal child. I would explain all this in the days to come but I wanted them to know that what they saw was because of him I was allowed to show what he could do for us if we would obey and listen to his wisdom. I wanted all of you to know that his power was why I could fly, it was like the stars in the heavens he made so we could all see what he could do.

That night as Mary and I said our prayers together and I as usual spent a few minutes in her schooling of the alphabet so she could read we spoke of the coming flight.

It is important that they do not think of me as a God flying in the heavens but that I am but an instrument in his hands and I believe I have started the mental imagery necessary to accomplish this. Mary, if we can become friends and be with the Paiute the same as we are with the Ute, we will have a large area of friends to visit on our way back from the ocean.

The next morning, we joined the villagers for our morning meal and together we all went to the meadow just below the village for the flight. I told Nuzzle to get Shadow and he took off immediately and before we knew he was back, and as usual Buster was following Shadow. Mary came and had a small package in a leather case with a rabbit and a few other small game animals and as she handed it to me, she said it was only a few days ago sense you feed Moe, but I think while you are up there you should go past and drop another meal for our latest friend. Yes, I told her I had thought of going past and seeing but what would make it even more exciting is with this new kite I believe our friend will think of me as daddy. Mary laughed and said just as long as I stay away from that tree and return fast so she knows I am ok she is good with it.

I had explained to all how the takeoff would go and how Shadow had been trained to go slow then speed up and how the wings of the kite should be held off the ground till

I was in flight so when we go ready I noticed the ones to hold the wing tips were on horses that were painted to the hilt with fancy eagles and even had eagle feathers tied to the horses tail. The riders had eagle feathers in their hair, and they also were painted up not as they would when going to war but with different and bright ornaments that made one smile when observing. As I looked down at the meadow, I saw it was lined with people and their drums, and anything they thought would make a noise to bring excitement to the moment.

I had explained I would go by the eagle's nest and told them from the air it would not take very long but I would be out of sight for a little bit so not to get worried I would be back. As I got under the kite and those on each side had a hold of the wings Shadow was tied to the kite and all was ready, I stopped and said a prayer not silent but loud enough that all could hear, and I did this for several reasons. One and the most important thing was I needed his blessings and a safe flight and another thing almost as important was to let all know that I valued my words to my father, letting him know I needed his blessings. This was not unusual for these people, they all had a reference and it showed in many ways. Another important thing was to make all who sees or hears of this flight to know it was the

glory of God that allowed me to do this, and all should know when they see or hear of what happened.

After the prayer I turned to Shadow and said alright let's take up the slack and she did then as it got tight, I yelled go and again instantly I could take but a few steps and I was going too fast to run so I picked up my feet and up I went. I saw out of the corners of my eyes the warriors waving their arms and yelling. As I left the ground it was exciting to see it as it happened.

Climbing above the trees and into the blue sky was again a humbling experience, the fact I had done this before did not make it less of an experience. I felt so exalted that I wanted to try and do more to show the greatness of God's blessing as I rose above the mountain. I turned to the East and went directly to the eagle's nest, and I brought the front of the kite toward the nest so I could drop another meal and as I did, I saw the baby eagle watching me and as I flew over, he raised his head and looked me directly in the eye. I let go just perfect for the bundle to land right at the feet of Moe. As I went over, I could not refrain myself. I put forth the loudest cry of an eagle as Jaw had taught me and it was justifying, and I had an adrenaline rush just experience it. I immediately climbed as the wind allowed and headed to the Paiute Village.

I could see all the people there was such a large group they stood out from this far away and just seeing them caused a showoff type of feeling inside of me I just could not help but feel I wanted to more than just fly over and wave I wanted to show off for some crazy reason. I approached the village and went over them then turning when was well past them I tipped the kite toward the ground and headed right for the main body of viewers. As I neared the ground my speed increased and when I was barely over their heads I leveled out and went past so fast, they had to turn, and I could hear the screaming and yelling as I went past. Having never done any of these things was kind of scary yet satisfying in a strange way. Not knowing what would happen if I were to use that speed to climb faster so I sat back in my seat causing the back of the kite to lower and the front went higher and with jaw dropping amazement I went up faster than I had ever experienced in all my flights. Playing around and showing off I had learned something that I did not know that by going down and gaining speed I could use that speed to go up fast I will remember that one. I again flew over the head but at a lot higher this time and as I did, I waved and tipped the kite from side to side like I was waving with the kite. I turned the kite into a tight circle and went around and around the village watching and enjoying the excitement of all. I finally pointed to the meadow and let out a screeching

crying eagles sound after passing the meadow I turned so, I would be going uphill when I landed, and I set the point of the kite to where I wanted to land and just waited as the kite neared the ground.

Just as I was ready to touch the ground with my feet a horse and rider ran alongside my kite and the Warriors each took ahold of my wing tips and holding me up as they ran the horses, they gently sat me on the meadow grass. They had timed it, so it was a beautiful thing to see just as if we had rehearsed it several times before.

The questions I had before were nothing compared to what I heard when I was among the crowd. They wanted to know if my God could allow them to fly as I had and what else could my God do. I stopped all and told them give me time to thank my God for his deliverance and safe landing and I told my father that I especially was thankful they understood that the flight was not me, but that God had aloud and helped it happen. Everyone in attendance understood fully well that it was not me alone but my father in heaven who had brought this to be. I believe everyone in the crowd got the full effect of the revelation they had witnessed.

Even though I was surrounded by many Nuzzle pushed and shoved till he was at my side and then he was content just to be at my side. I looked up and Mary was

watching and each of the kittens was standing watching all the excitement and if a cat could smile, I would say I saw four of the biggest brightest smiles just like they had captured a lighting bug and put it into a jar. I was pulled and pushed so much I lost track of May and the little ones and did not see them again until we were united around the fire later that afternoon. Crazy Horse told me not to be concerned about the kite, horses, or anything else they would take care of all and just wanted me to join the celebration at the community council fire area.

With all that I am not sure if I walked or was carried but it was maybe part of each, but the yelling and screaming was beyond imagination. The excitement was so strong I could not have cut it with a sharp knife. I had become an important man in this village and those that could wanted to touch me, and all wanted me to speak. As the noise grew I had less and less chance of slowing it down, my voice had become too small, and I had shouted so much I became horse and could barely speak above a whisper. The food was everywhere and one thing I can say about those Indians they knew how to cook and how to celebrate. Before you knew it the camp became dark, and we were still eating and celebrating, and I think my shoulder would be days getting healed from all the pats I received. They wanted to hear of my God of my father of

everything, and they were questions on questions that came wanting to know more. I assured them I would offer a morning prayer, and all were invited to attend and assuming my voice had returned I would explain each morning as much as they wanted to learn what I would teach.

Joining Mary in our lodge that night I told her of my fears that because I had been led into a flight, because I had been spared from death, I had become a minister without guidance, and it was a burden I was not sure I could follow. These people are expecting me to give them information that I do not have and tell them things I have not been told, only those which I have experienced. How can I stand before them and teach when I have not been trained to teach. What if what I tell them is false? I did not leave home to preach the gospel to the natives or anyone else I have stepped into a roll I am not sure I am capable of filling. When we leave here Mary, I would like them to think of me as a friend not as a God. I do not want to tell lies or stretch the truth at all.

Dan Mary said you do not have to lie you do not have to make up things all you can do is tell the facts of what has happened in our world what it was like to find a living spirit that was helping you Mayone and Joseph are as real as Shadow and Nuzzle we saw and we talked with them I have

saw what can only be described as beyond normal people and what has been allowed to happen to us is not really explainable to those of doubt but what is real can only be understood by those that want to believe. Dan, you can only tell what you know not what someone else wants to hear. Tell them what you know to be true and those that doubt or do not believe will have to follow their own spirit. Those that look at the stars in the daytime cannot see them but those who believe will know and will believe the stars are there. Dan let us value the time we have with these people and then we will move on and see what our destiny will bring, let us not worry about the time now I believe it will be solved for us. You have taught me to trust and be faithful so now is that time and we together will wait and let our creator do as he will. Mary, you are so good to me, and you are right if we are to believe in a kite what is that to the world? I will not doubt again but try to do as I feel is right and tomorrow, we will tell what is true and what has happened to us.

Mr. Daniel, Adam, David, Soloman Clark, another thing that is important that you must know is that I am with a child. I have within me the beginnings of Adam, your first son. Mary, you drop this information on me like it is incidental and not important, and it is the greatest news I have ever heard in all my life. This is a gift so awesome

and wonderful I want to tell the world as if it were the first child ever born. Well Mary said it is my first and yours too so how many before only matters to others and we shall enjoy this as a reward for our faith in our father in heaven.

After joining the villagers for breakfast, the next morning, I could not hide my pride and joy that had been foretold to me by Mary. Others thought I wanted to talk about the flight, and it was the furthest thing in my mind. I had never imagined being a father would be qualified to handle this. I could not contain my feelings and pride. I told everyone who would listen about Mary's gift of seeing the future and her telling me of my forthcoming sons and daughters but even then, I did not fully understand the impact it would have on me. My prayers this morning were thanks and humbling stumbling mumblings of what was in my mind. I was overcome with joy and incredible worshiping feelings for the lord for this blessing. I could not express words to tell of my excitement. I had more to say than I was qualified to say. I found my mouth could not find words to match what I felt in my heart.

CHAPTER SIX

LIFE IN THE PAIUTE VILLAGE

As I thought about this, I realized I could not leave the village as I had intended, I must stay and wait for the delivery of my son. I must stay and allow those who knew the ways of a woman and especially this first time was not a choice I wanted to make. We would stay for the great event, and I knew that it would be a daily thanks to my father, which I wanted to shake his hand and personally tell him thanks so without a doubt he would know my thanks and I would continually let him know.

As I was speaking Mary walked up holding Miny and I jumped up, taking the cat from her and asking her to sit down and not be lifting or staining herself. Before Mary could say anything, Little Fawn jumped up and stood right in my face and told me without missing a beat that my son would not be the first child born in the village and he would certainly not be the last so accept that as a fact and know that Mary was not going to deliver the child this afternoon so back off and allow her to live. She did continue to say that she would be counting the days when such a son would join our village because she felt he would be greater than the parents because he would have part of each and part of the great creator.

The village was overjoyed with the excitement I had created maybe it was the fact that I was so excited, but they said they were wanting me to tell them more of my God

that allowed such great and wonderful things to happen. Then Crazy Horse came forward and wanted to know more about the eagle that I was feeding high in a nest. He wanted to know if I had thought about the possibility of trying to befriend this eagle. We talked about it, but we couldn't stay on the subject because others wanted to talk about the baby then next would come someone wanting to talk about the amazing Great Eagle's flying around in the sky. Some wanted to know about the possibilities of the next flight. The cougars had joined us along with Mary and Shadow, but the humor of the whole thing was here come Shadow with Buster following and wanting attention also. It appears everyone wanted part of our time to talk about what their personal interests were and even the animals could feel the excitement of the village to the point they had to join us.

Look, I told them we have a lot of time to talk and discuss the future. I started to tell them when at the last second, I decided that I would have to continue this discussion at another time.

Only those who have a real appreciation of God and enjoy reading of blessings available to those who care can understand that the story can only be told as it comes to the writer. The spirit within us can teach us the past and that history can help us see the future so as Jesus taught us

patience, willingly, we will look forward to receiving another book with Moe (bald Eagle) the three cougars, the wolf, horses, mules, and now joining us will be Adam the first born and other insights into the Clark family travels.

Verl K.

