

Escape From Crossings Camp

Get your grub, get your grub, shouted the man, as he spooned out the grub and put it in a bowl.

Sir may I please have more, said a woman. Get out of here, shouted the man. He shoved her and she fell, dumping the grub.

Next!

This was Crossings Camp, and I didn't want to be here. I was only here because I was turned in for allegedly doing something wrong. My life was not pretty right then, but I assure you it ended pretty.

Exchanging Stories

The guard opened the cell door, hauled the woman in, and locked the door behind her. What is your name, said a woman in the cell? Rachel Brown, she answered. I'm Raspberry Jennings. She extended her hand, and Rachel shook it.

A few hours later, a guard let Rachel outside and tied her to a post. Immediately another guard untied her. Go axe some logs, he said. Rachel walked over and picked up an axe. She swung the axe on the log, and it didn't break. The guy next to her took the axe and said, let me help you. Thank you, said Rachel.

Only ladies axe logs! Guys get over here, said one of the guards. The man handed the axe back to her and walked away. Rachel kept swinging the axe on the log, but it wasn't breaking. Suddenly, the guard ran up to her and dragged her to a barn with no doors. There was a huge white post located in the front of the barn.

You don't work harder, then, you pay for it, growled the guard. He slammed her face against the post, and everyone stopped working and watched, including the men. He kept slamming her face against the post. Next time you will learn your lesson, growled the guard, still slamming her face against the post. As quickly as he'd started, he released Rachel, and she fell to the ground. Now get back to work everyone, he shouted! He pointed a finger at Raspberry Jennings and said, you get her inside and clean her up.

Raspberry dabbed Rachel's face with a cotton ball and alcohol in the cafeteria. Are

you alright, said the man coming up to her? I'm fine, said Rachel. I hope you're not hurt too bad. I'm sure I'll be fine said Rachel. The man gave a weak smile and turned to walk away.

Jeremiah, called Raspberry, getting up from the chair and chasing after him. It's going to be very hard for her to work later, so what are we going to do about it? There's nothing we can do about it said Jeremiah, and he continued to walk away.

Raspberry walked back over to where she was sitting and sat down again. She saw Rachel looking at Jeremiah. Handsome isn't he, said Raspberry? Yes, but the last thing I need in my life is romance right now, said Rachel.

Back at their cell, Raspberry was reading a book. What are you reading, said Rachel? It's a book I wrote before I came to this prison, said Raspberry. How did you come to this prison, said Rachel? Why don't you tell me your story first, said Raspberry.

My mom had seven children. I had two older brothers, and four younger sisters. My dad left when I was ten, and my mom died when I was nineteen. Both my brothers died when I was twenty, and my sister died in a car crash shortly after that. I swore then I would protect my three other sisters.

When I was twenty-one I heard my dad had died. A year later, one of my sisters, Teresa was diagnosed with a fatal disease. I was mad because I couldn't prevent my sister from getting a disease, but fortunately, she is still with us today. Now, I'm twenty-four.

A couple of days ago, I was engaged to be married, and trying on my wedding dress. Jews came to my door, asked me to help them, and I did. My fiancé found out and turned me in. My sisters were mad and they were trying to prevent them

from arresting me, and one of the soldiers shot my sister Elizabeth. I had to watch her die, said Rachel, wiping away the tears. I'm so sorry, said Raspberry.

Well, that's the horrible story of my life, and it continues, because now I'm locked up, and away from my two remaining sisters. What's your story, said Rachel?

Thirty-four years ago, I met my future husband. Twenty-seven years ago, I got married, said Raspberry. Twenty-five years ago I had a son, whom I called Nathan. Twenty years ago, when my husband got thrown in jail, I helped him escape. They caught me, and killed my husband. Sadly, they took my son to a different place. I was expecting again, and they killed the baby, and threw me in this prison. I don't even know if my son is still alive, said Raspberry, and that's the tragic story of my life. I'm so sorry, said Rachel.

Just then, Rachel heard a guard yell her name. Yeah, that's me, said Rachel, getting up from the cot. A letter came for you, he said, and he tossed it to her. Rachel caught the letter, and opened it quickly. After she finished reading it, she took a closer look and found a hidden note, and then she said to Raspberry my sisters are safe, and doing well.

Later at the barn, Raspberry, another woman, and Rachel were sitting at a table tying hay knots and putting them in a bowl. Rachel picked up the bowl and got up from her seat. She walked to a sink at the back of the barn, set the bowl down and picked up a dishpan. Then she picked up a jug and poured water in the dishpan. After that, she took out a letter from her pocket and put it in the dishpan with water.

Raspberry came over and set the hay bowl on the counter and Rachel jumped! What are you doing, said Raspberry? She looked down at the letter in the dishpan and immediately, she understood.

Hurry and I'll finish this up, said Rasberry. Rachel moved the letter around in the dishpan. Rasberry dumped the hay knots out of the bowl, and into a bucket. Rachel picked up the letter and held it up. It said, we're finding a way for you to escape.

Rasberry dumped the hay knots out of another bowl, and into a bucket. Out of the corner of Rachel's eye, she saw a guard closely watching her. When the guard looked away, she quickly lit a match and crumpled the letter, putting the lit match on it, and tossing it in the garbage can. Rachel quickly put the dishpan in the sink. She looked at the guard again, and he was staring at her. Rasberry picked up the two bowls and handed one to Rachel. Hurry! Come on let's go, said Rasberry. Both of them walked away quickly.

Two hours later, when they were back in their cell, Rasberry asked Rachel, what did the letter say? It said they are trying to find a way for me to escape, said Rachel. You have good sisters. By the way, tomorrow all the guards are leaving. They are locking all of us in a room, where we can get to know everyone, said Rasberry.

Sounds like fun, said Rachel. It is. Sometimes the guys play card tricks, said Rasberry. How often do they do this, said Rachel? Once a month, said Rasberry. I used to have parties all the time, said Rachel. What stopped you, said Rasberry? My best friend was murdered at my birthday party, said Rachel.

The Decision

Cheers! Cheers!, said the men, as they clinked their cups together. You want to deal out the cards, said Jeremiah? Sure, said Rachel, taking them.

We got a letter for Rachel Brown, yelled a man! That's me, said Rachel, laying down the cards and getting up from the table. Rachel took the letter and opened it. My sister! gasped Rachel, and she fell on the floor sobbing. Raspberry ran to Rachel and put her arms around her.

There there child, said Raspberry. She was fine yesterday. It's only been a day and now Teresa's dead, sobbed Rachel. She shoved Raspberry away, got up to walk over to a platform located in the far left corner of the room. She wiped away her tears, and shouted, everyone listen to me! I have lost two brothers and three sisters. I have one more sister left and I'm not about to lose her too. She's only fifteen, and she has nobody to care for her. I am going to escape from this place, and I want to know who's with me! I am said Raspberry. So am I said Jeremiah.

She waited for a moment, and when no one else responded, she continued. If nobody else is going to escape with us then I could use your help. What do you want me to do, said Raspberry? I need you two men to pull that pit cooker out. I need you to lay it down and open the cage. Raspberry I need you to put two pieces of duct tape on the top of each cage. It will hold it steady. Jeremiah, follow me. She got off the platform and went to the back of the wall. She handed Jeremiah a marker. She took out the letter and a piece of paper. She put the paper on the wall and put the letter under it. I need you to write today's date and tomorrow's date, then under that write my name. Why said Jeremiah? We're escaping tomorrow night, and I want everyone to know that, said Rachel. I'm done, said Raspberry, coming up to them. That looks perfect Raspberry, said Rachel. I just finished too said Jeremiah. Great job! Jeremiah, I need you to write a letter for me, said Rachel. Jeremiah took out a piece of paper and a pen. What do you want it to say, said Jeremiah? This is to my sister Veresa, and you can start the letter with this;

Dear Veresa.

I am escaping with a couple of friends. I heard about Teresa and I am grieved by it. I want you to meet me at the train station in a couple of days. If I am not there by noon, then just wait for me. I could have been detained. I love you and miss you very much.

Love, Your sister

Rachel

Great job! Now, put it in that slot, and then I need both of you outside, said Rachel. Outside, but we can't go outside, the doors are locked, said Raspberry. That's where picking the lock comes in handy, said Rachel, picking up a needle. I need 2 sacks, a pail, and a bucket, said Rachel. We'll get that right away said Raspberry. Jeremiah slid the letter in the slot and went to get the things. Rachel

went to the door and knelt down, picking the lock. She finished and slowly opened the door. There they are, said Raspberry. Raspberry, keep the sacks and get the fruit in the barn. Jeremiah, keep the pail and get some water. Give me the bucket and I'll get the water bottles, said Rachel. All of them went to the door to get out of the building.

Raspberry tried to open the door, but it was locked. Rachel knelt down and started picking the lock, and once she finished she opened the door. When are the guards coming back, said Rachel? In about an hour, said Raspberry. Okay let's go to the barn and grab the things, said Rachel. They all sped to the barn. Jeremiah went to get the water. Rachel went to get the water bottles, and Raspberry went to get the fruit. As they were about done gathering things they heard a noise. They all rushed to the entrance of the barn. They saw all the guards coming on wagons. Hurry run to the building said Rachel. They all ran in the darkness. Quickly, we can't let them see us said Rachel. They opened the door, ran in and shut it. Rachel knelt down to pick the lock again. Go into the other room hurry said Rachel. Rachel finished, ran into the other room, shut the door and locked it. She ran over to the wall where Jeremiah had written everything down. She took the letter and the blank sheet of paper. Then she did a slit of tape to cover the writing. She ran to the back of the room and sat down by the fireplace. Just then then the door opened and a general walked in. The general slowly walked to Rachel. Why do you look so gloomy? said the general. My sister just died said Rachel. She pulled out the paper and handed it to him. It's blank said the general looking at it. Blank I must have given you the wrong one said Rachel pulling out another sheet. Here it is said Rachel. The general took the sheet and looked at it. Yes well we'll be praying for you said the general crumbling the paper and tossing it on the floor. As well as watching you. The general turned on his heel and walked away.

Next Morning

Rachel slowly opened the cell door she had picked from inside. Rachel and Raspberry tip toed out. Here Raspberry whispered Rachel taking out a clip. Go pick the lock of Jeremiah's cell all the way down the hall whispered Rachel. I can't pick the lock. I've never done it before whispered Raspberry. It's very simple. Just try it. And I didn't see the stuff we gathered from the barn last night whispered Rachel. We put them in the closest cell door. Her name is Margurite House whispered Raspberry. Okay. Now go whispered Rachel. Rachel ran very softly to Margurite House's cell door. The room they were in last night was right beside it. She picked the lock to the cell door and opened it. Margurite House stood up. Hello. Can you help bring this stuff to the room right beside you whispered Rachel. Of course. And I've decided I'm going with you whispered Margurite. Going with us whispered Rachel. I need to learn to trust people in my life and I'm going to start by trusting you whispered Margurite. Great. Carry these things by the door and I'll pick the lock whispered Rachel. Rachel knelt down and picked the lock and opened the door. Raspberry came running softly up to her. Jeremiah is getting frustrated. I can't pick the lock whispered Raspberry.

Margurite is coming with us. Help her bring the stuff into this room. I'll pick the lock for Jeremiah whispered Rachel. Rachel ran away softly. She ran to Jeremiah's cell and then softly gasped. Guards were lying on benches sleeping right by his cell. It's ok, they are asleep. Hurry up, whispered Jeremiah. Rachel slowly picked the lock. Jeremiah slipped out of the cell. Rachel saw the guard's eye open. Run, shouted Rachel. They both started running. The guard jumped up and started barking orders to everyone else, and then he took off after them. Rachel and Jeremiah ran into the room and slammed the door shut and locked it. Hurry they are coming after us. Jeremiah, get the small backpacks. Raspberry, fill each backpack with fruit as much as you can, but leave room for the water bottles. Margurite, get the water bottles and fill them with water, and put them in the backpacks. Put two in each, said Rachel. Here are the backpacks said Jeremiah. Hurry Jeremiah, take that tape off the wall, and make sure you don't break the

paper underneath said Rachel. Rachel ran to the back of the room and grabbed the small boxes filled with money. The guards were banging on the door trying to get in. Rachel placed in each bag a box of money. She ran to a cupboard and pulled out some blankets. We're done said Rasberry. Good, here each of you take a blanket and tie it around the bag on the outside, said Rachel.

All of them tied a blanket on the outside of the bag. Jeremiah, put a bag on your shoulder, said Rachel. All of them swung a bag on their shoulders. Rachel grabbed a match and went to the cooker stove. She lit the match just as a gun shot rang out. The guards burst in the door and started running. Rachel threw the match in the cooker stove and it exploded, and there was an opening and they started running. The guards grabbed Margurite and clung on. The others kept running. Jump in the wagon yelled Rachel. Rasberry jumped in the back and Rachel and Jeremiah jumped in the front. Ya Ya Ya!!! Yelled Rachel, and the wagon was off. Rachel spied three horses and shouted, jump on the horses! All of them jumped from the wagon and onto the horses. Ya! Screamed all of them, and they were off. The guards jumped onto their horses and started racing after them. Come on! Ya! Yelled Rachel. Rachel was in the lead, then it was Jeremiah, and then it was Rasberry. Something slipped out of Rasberry's backpack. My Bible, said Rasberry. She halted her horse and jumped off. She picked up her Bible from the road. The guards were about to grab her, when Rachel sped over and grabbed her first. The chase was still on. There was a cliff ahead and water was below. The horses ran off the cliff and they were falling.

Aaaaaaaah They all yelled. The guards had stopped. SPLASH!! Rachel swam to Rasberry, who was unconscious. She swam her to shore and pulled her up. Jeremiah was already there. Rasberry started coughing. Are you alright, said Jeremiah? I'm fine said Rasberry. She took off her backpack. These blankets are supposed to keep you warm and now they are drenched. Next time I'm putting it

in my backpack, said Raspberry. Well I didn't know we were jumping a cliff. You can still put it outside your backpack, said Rachel. How do you know we won't be jumping another cliff, I'm putting it inside said Raspberry. Do what you want, said Rachel. And my bible, my bible is in the bottom of the river, said Raspberry. I think you should be thanking me that I saved you twice, said Rachel. I lost my bible. It meant everything to me, said Raspberry. Well, did you lose the book that you wrote, said Rachel? No, but I'd rather lose the book than my bible, said Raspberry. I saved your life! I think you should be grateful, said Rachel. The next town, I'm buying a bible, said Raspberry. We have money to buy food and clothing, not bibles, said Rachel.

Well, I'll just have to use that money, now won't I, said Raspberry. I need to gather sticks for the fire. We will stay here for the night, said Rachel. You need help, said Jeremiah? I think it's best to stay here with Raspberry, said Rachel, as she walked off. That bible meant everything to me. It was given to me by my grandfather, said Raspberry. I know said Jeremiah. Help me lay the blankets on the ground. They will dry faster, said Raspberry. Both of them laid the blankets out. It's too bad about Margurite. I wonder what they will do to her, said Raspberry. You might as well pick up those blankets. We have a fire that will dry them faster, said Rachel. Jeremiah, go and find a long stick that will hold the trees together. We will put the blankets up there, said Rachel. Jeremiah left. I'm sorry I yelled at you, said Raspberry. I'm not said Rachel, placing the sticks down. I did yell at you and they were pretty nasty things, said Raspberry. I probably did deserve to be yelled at said Rachel. My bible meant a great deal to me said Raspberry. So did my sister said Rachel. I guess it's not your fault my bible is at the bottom of the water said Raspberry. The fire is made. Why don't you rinse the blankets in the water first, said Rachel. Of course said Raspberry. Make sure you get all the muck out and when you come back I can teach you how to roast your apples said Rachel. Is this stick long enough said Jeremiah? That's perfect. Connect it to those 2 trees over there said Rachel. Here are the blankets said Raspberry holding them. Jeremiah

are you done Said Rachel? Yeah said Jeremiah just swing them over the stick. It's by the fire. It'll dry said Rachel. Raspberry swung all 3 on the stick. Each of you take this small stick said Rachel handing it to them. What are we doing with it? Said Jeremiah? roasting apples. Both of you take a fruit from your bag and stick it at the end of your stick. Put it over the fire. Once you think your apple is roasted enough just eat it said Rachel. Where did you learn this stuff said Jeremiah. Tell me when your apple taste good said Rachel

The Salvation

The Next Day

Are the blankets dry? Said Raspberry sitting up on the ground as she watched Rachel fold them up. I've been in wooded areas. I'd think I'd know when said

Rachel tossing her a blanket. So you do have experience said Raspberry. Just get ready said Rachel. Where's Jeremiah? Said Raspberry. He's getting fish for breakfast said Rachel. Sounds great said Raspberry getting up. Don't worry about that. I've already made you a roasted apple. It's by the fire said Rachel. I don't feel like roasted apple for breakfast said Raspberry. If you don't like it just say so said Rachel. I think I'll have one actually. Let me go by the water first to freshen up. It's just a little ways from here said Raspberry. Be careful said Rachel.

Raspberry walked down to the water and undid her pony tail. She dunked her head in and pulled it out. Nice and good said Raspberry. She pulled her hair back into a pony tail and walked back where Rachel was. I just need to comb my hair and smooth out my dress and I'll be ready to go said Raspberry. Roasted apples by the fire said Rachel. I'm not hungry right now Rachel said Raspberry walking away.

As soon as everyone was ready to go. They started on their journey again and came to a town.

Jeremiah come with me and we'll buy the bibles said Raspberry. I'll buy the food said Rachel. Hello. I'd like to buy 3 bibles said Raspberry at the counter. Certainly. It'll be 60 dollars said the man. Raspberry handed him 60 dollars. Jeremiah get the bibles. I'll wait for you outside said Raspberry.

Raspberry walked towards the exit, she suddenly stopped. She was stunned to see a wanted poster with a picture of Rachel. She slowly walked towards the wanted poster and read the sign. It said. Rachel Brown wanted dead or alive for escaping Crossings camp. If found please notify Crossings camp and ask for Cornel Edwards. Will reward 100 dollars for the person who finds her dead or alive.

Jeremiah hurry up with the bibles said Raspberry. I put the bibles in my back pack. What's the hurry said Jeremiah coming up to her. Look at that wanted poster. It's a picture of Rachel. She's wanted dead or alive and the person who turns her over will be rewarded 100 dollars. We've got to find Rachel before somebody else does

said Jeremiah. Both of them ran out of the store. Rachel, Rachel screamed Raspberry as she saw Rachel walk out of a store. Rachel ran over to them. What's happening cried out Rachel. It's a wanted poster. Their after you. We have to get out of here. Let's go over to that to that tree. Nobody will be able to see us there said Raspberry.

All of them ran behind the tree. Jeremiah hand me a bible said Raspberry. Jeremiah handed it to her. She opened it. What are you doing? said Rachel. Rachel you've got to hear me out said Raspberry. I don't understand said Rachel. Rachel listen to me. You've got to understand that there's a better life that you can live then your living now. God made you Rachel. God didn't leave you out on something big. Rachel. In this book it tells about a savior who took his life for you and everyone else. He was beat, he was tortured on a cross for your sins and my sins for something he didn't even do. That's how much he loves you Rachel. No matter what you've done he'll always love you. He loves you and wants you to love him back. I believe Rachel that you were brought on this earth to do something grand. I knew it since the moment I met you and I know you've had a hard life but I know that with God he can make it better. Rachel I also know that with people that don't have God their lost. They don't know where to go or to turn. But we have Jesus and we can turn to him. With God all things are possible. Rachel. God will keep going after you until you realize he is the messiah. Rachel glanced down at the bible Raspberry was holding. She gently took the bible from her. Is my family in heaven? Said Rachel. Rachel I'm not going to lie to you. Your family didn't except Jesus in their hearts so no they wouldn't be in heaven said Raspberry. I want what you have Raspberry. I want faith. I want Jesus. I want in my heart to pray to Jesus that no matter what happens I will be free. I except Jesus Christ into my heart and I'll never let go said Rachel. Rachel I'm so happy but you must remember you'll go through hard times and you will until you die and go to heaven. I know you might not understand but you must never lose your faith. I want you to do great things because I know with God you can and with God all

things are possible. Now when I count to three were going to run. Whatever you do don't let them see you. I love you both very much. One. Two. Three.

RUN!!!! Said Rasberry. All three of them took off running. Just then somebody saw them and yelled. Hey Stop!!! He took out a gun and shot it. It hit Rasberry and she fell down, realizing he had shot the wrong person. He dropped the gun and ran off. Rachel ran over to Rasberry. She knelt down. Rasberry are you all right? Said Rachel. Rachel murmured Rasberry. Rachel looked down at the wounded spot. It was streaming with blood. Rasberry you're going to be all right said Rachel wiping tears away from her eyes. Rachel no I'm dying murmured Rasberry. No you're not going to said Rachel crying. Rachel bad things happen even to good people. You need to remember that and even though those things happen you just need to keep having faith no matter what comes your way murmured Rasberry. Rasberry. I'm so sorry I've done this said Rachel. Rachel it wasn't your fault. Keep spreading the word and never give up murmured Rasberry. She closed her eyes and breathed her last. Rasberry cried Rachel. She looked down at the bible she was holding. She gently laid it in Rasberry's hand. I know I'll see you again. Forever I will remember you. Forever I'll hold you in my heart. I love you said Rachel getting up. Both of them started running away before anybody else saw them.

The Truth That Everybody Can Have

I want to say life went on as it was but it didn't. Raspberry was always in my heart. I never forgot her. I want to say nothing else went wrong on that trip but I can't. I read the bible daily. And I kept Raspberry's words in my heart. I want to say I never went through hard times. But the truth is I always went through hard times and I will until I die and go to heaven. I knew that now I had Jesus my life was changed. Narrated Rachel.

There's the station we said we'd meet your sister on said Jeremiah. A lady in a white and black dress with a brown covering on and high heel shoes with her blond hair up in a bun came out of the station. Veresa screamed Rachel. Rachel shouted Veresa. They started running to each other and embraced. Veresa thank God your safe said Rachel hugging her tightly. I'm so happy to see you. It's been a week since you said you'd be at the station said Veresa still embracing her. They finally stopped and looked at each other. Your only 15 and yet you look as if your twenty-five said Rachel. I was so afraid I might never see you again Rachel said Veresa. Don't think that. Now were together said Rachel.

After Teresa died I didn't know what to do. I was alone in the world and you were in prison. I was so scared said Veresa. Veresa your with me now and we'll stay together said Rachel. And who's this man? Said Veresa. He's a friend and his name is Jeremiah said Rachel. Hello said Veresa. Hi said Jeremiah. We better get in the station. We have a lot to discuss about. but we have to get on the move as well said Rachel. All three of them walked in the statin. Jeremiah would you stay

at this table. I want to talk to Veresa alone in the restroom said Rachel. Sure said Jeremiah. They walked in the restroom. He is handsome said Veresa. What said Rachel. Jeremiah is. I see the way you look at him and I see the way he looks at you said Veresa. Veresa listen said Rachel but she didn't finish because just then there was a scream and a gun shot rang out. Veresa and Rachel ran out of the restroom. Jeremiah said Rachel running to him. He was lying on the table blood streaming out. Rachel. You have to take Veresa and leave. They'll kill you if they see you murmured Jeremiah. I'm not leaving you here said Rachel. You have to go murmured Jeremiah. Rachel he's right. We have to go said Veresa. Tears trickled down her face. I'll come back for you when I can said Rachel. No don't. You must escape now and don't come back said Jeremiah. Rachel we have to leave now said Veresa. Both of them ran out of the building and started running. Their escaping get them screamed a guard. As they kept running to the left of them was a river. Rachel I'm scared said Veresa. Just keep on running said Rachel. A gun shot rang out and it hit Veresa and she toppled in the river. Veresa shouted Rachel. Aaaaaaaah screamed Veresa as she went over a waterfall. Rachel stopped horrified then she started running to get down at the bottom of the river. Rachel fell on the floor and burst into tears at the bottom of the river. After she had found her sisters dead body. The guards came down and picked her up and led her away.

As soon as they were up at the top again. Rachel saw Jeremiah on a rolling bed. Rachel yanked out of their hands and ran to him. Jeremiah said Rachel. The guards grabbed her again. If he dies. I swear I'll kill all of you screamed Rachel. Don't you think that's a bit hard said Colonel Dickinson. NOOOOO shrieked Rachel If he dies I swear I'll start with you screamed Rachel. Lock her up in that cage said Colonel Dickinson

I knew what I said was wrong but I realized for the first time since I met Jeremiah, I was in love. But I wondered if the truth would tear me apart. As soon as we got back to Crossing's camp Jeremiah went to the hospital and me working again. But

this time I was alone in my cell. Every day I prayed and prayed and prayed that Jeremiah would be all right. Sometimes when I was alone in my cell I would cry. I would think of Rasberry and wishing that she was still here with me. I would think of Jeremiah dying in the hospital and thinking if I hadn't escaped none of this would have happened. I would think of my sisters and brothers and how they died and even my parents thinking I was so lonely in this world but still I had Jesus which didn't make me lonely narrated Rachel.

Are you the nurse looking after Jeremiah? Said Rachel at the hospital 3 weeks later. Yes said the nurse. I would like to see him said Rachel. I'm sorry there are no visitors said the nurse. I am his friend. He would see me said Rachel. All right. This way said the nurse. The nurse led her to a room where Jeremiah was lying on the bed unconscious. He is stable. He goes into unconsciousness and then he regains consciousness said the nurse. Will he live? Said Rachel. That's up to him. It's out of our hands now said the nurse. If he dies I'll kill you second said Rachel walking away. Rachel said a guard as she was leaving the hospital. She turned to him. Conerson want to see you in his office right away said the guard. Rachel walked to his office and came in. Please take a seat said Conerson. Rachel sat down. I heard you sent a letter a couple of weeks ago said Conerson. Yes said Rachel. It just arrived said Conerson handing it to her. Rachel opened it and read it. Not bad news I hope said Conerson. I asked Jacobson in charge of the government to give me a trial for helping the Jews and he says he can't come until next year said Rachel. You will have to stay in prison until then at least said Conerson.

I must admit I was disappointed. I couldn't bear being here for another year narrated Rachel.

Rachel, Rachel, screamed a women. Rachel got up from the floor of her cell door.

You might not know me that much. But I'm Tina and I work here said Tina at her cell door she pulled out the keys and unlocked it. Follow me said Tina leading the way. Tina led the way outdoors. Rachel said a man coming up to her. Jeremiah said Rachel. She hugged him. Your all right said Rachel looking at him. It took me awhile but I'll be fine said Jeremiah. Rachel smiled.

Isn't it a wonderful day said Rachel turning to Jeremiah and smiling the next day. They both were sitting on a log. Yeah I haven't the sun in forever said Jeremiah. Rachel looked down. Rachel what's wrong? Said Jeremiah. Rachel looked up again. My sister died said Rachel. Your sister I forgot said Jeremiah. That's all right. You were preoccupied said Rachel. I'm sorry about her said Jeremiah. She was a good sister. She was the one that kept me going before I met God. She was the one that influenced you spoke Jeremiah. She never knew God, now that I'm a Christian I would think she was one. She did nice things, she would save food for us, she would try to stop us fighting or doing things we shouldn't be doing and most importantly she would love our enemies. The day. I was taken away she didn't fight, instead she said I love you Rachel, but I need to love my enemies too. Later that night, at the get together, for the prisoners. Rachel went to a corner of the wall and sat down. Jeremiah walked in and took a place at a table and started playing cards with friends. A girl named Rebecca walked to Rachel and sat down. . What are you doing? Said Rebecca. I'm thinking said Rachel. About what? Said Rebecca. My sister. I wish I had told her about my life now and about God and how he changed my life. I wish so much that I could've done that so that she wouldn't be in hell. Oh so your one of those Rebecca rolled her eyes. One of what? Said Rachel. A Christian with your religion said Rebecca. Rachel stood up. How dare you say that? She screamed. Jeremiah stood up from his chair. Rachel turned. Everyone was staring at her. I'm sorry. You said the word religion. What I have in my heart is not a religion. It's truth. My heart knows the truth. Hundreds of years ago a man died. His name was Jesus. He died because he wanted us to live

longer and go to heaven. He died because he loved us. This is not a religion. This is truth. Mormonism, Cathlism and everything else is a religion but this; this is truth that belongs in my heart. That can go in all of your hearts. He was beat he was tortured but you know what. He loved them just the same. Look at the people that are torturing us. That are having us in this prison. We need to love them just like Jesus loved the ones who tortured him. I know bad things happen. I know I lost my entire family, I know I lost my best friend, I know I almost lost my other best friend but still he still loves us. And he still has a great plan and hope for us. Do you want to live the rest of your life sinning and thinking no body loved or cared for you? Or do you want to spend the rest of your life knowing absolutely knowing that somebody loved and died for you? No matter what you've done there is absolutely nothing that God will love you anymore or any less. Don't call what I have in my heart a religion because it's not. Its truth. We were brought on this earth to reach people out to God. If anybody wants this in their heart. Truth. Then say so. Everyone cheered. Which meant they wanted it in their hearts. After everyone said a prayer Jeremiah went over to Rachel. You know what you did up there. I think you did a amazing job. God showed me the way. I couldn't have done it without him. It is amazing how you just barely became a Christian and yet you've already changed lives. Rachel was right. She believed that God had a great plan for me spoke up Rachel. So do I. Rachel smiled. Rachel said Rebecca coming up to her. I'm so sorry I called your belief a religion. It's alright Rebecca. I forgive you. The point is that I want what you have in my heart. Rebecca that's wonderful. But I don't know where to start or what am I to do. Rebecca all you have to do is a prayer. Tell God that you want him in your heart. That your ready to repent your sins. That your ready to believe that he died for you. And that's all you have to do. If I were you I would go and spend a little time with him. I will. Thank you so much for actually giving me a life. I didn't but God did. Rachel turned to everyone I have something to tell everyone. Everybody listen said Rachel. Everybody turned to her. Were going to escape said Rachel. What said Jeremiah. I know we tried it once before but that was with just three. Listen. I received a letter. The judge that

will see if I'm free or not can't come until next year. I can't wait that long. I need everyone to escape with me. It'll be harder if there are multiple people said Rachel. We can't endanger the lives of these people said Jeremiah. Look if you die you can go to heaven. You'll be safe said Rachel. Everyone started cheering. Rachel smiled. Okay. The guards are going to be checking up on us. I want somebody to go beside the door, once one of the guards come in and opens the door. I want that person to hit him with the door. Then I want somebody to scream. Hopefully a guard will come, somebody will grab his gun and force him to open the other door. Then we'll all run out. Somebody stood behind the door, once a guard opened the door, he slammed the door on the guards face. He slumped down. Then a lady let out a piercing scream. Guys alright there's more then one guard coming. I'll distract one of them to open the door. You guys need to fight the rest. Go Shouted Rachel. Rachel grabbed a gun from somebody and punched him. She pushed him towards the door. Open the door or I'll shoot you. You wouldn't shoot me. Actually I would now open the door. The guard slowly reached for his keys. But just then he twirled around and grabbed Rachel. Aah screamed Rachel as he grabbed her. The gun went off. He held her in a tight hold. You will do as I say. I don't think so Rachel elbowed him and twisted out of his grasp. The guard reached for the gun and picked it up. Rachel pushed him and grabbed the gun. She pulled the trigger, it hit the guard. Rachel fell on the ground totally caught off guard by the weight. The guard fell down. Rachel they placed bombs on the building. We have to get out of here. A lady let out a scream. There's fire coming she shrieked. Rachel got up. She quickly reached for the guards keys and tried it on the lock. They won't work shouted Rachel. What are we going to do? The fire's getting closer yelled Jeremiah. There's a vent where there's a opening on the ceiling. Were going to have to climb. Rachel ran over to the wall. I'm not climbing that spoke a woman. Then you can stay here and die said Rachel. Rachel grabbed a piece of rope and swung it up. It hooked on a piece of nail on the ceiling. She started climbing and reached the ceiling. Then Jeremiah climbed up on the rope. I found a key that works yelled a woman down below. Alright go through that way

yelled Rachel. Alright let's climb down then said Jeremiah. No. We don't have time. We're going to have to jump. That's funny. I thought I heard you say we were going to have to jump. I did. Now let's go. Both of them started running. They both jumped as the whole building exploded.

Rasberry's Unfinished Story and the marriage

2 days later

I want to try and find Rasberry's son. I think some of this might clear up said Rachel. Like what? Said Jeremiah. I don't think Rasberry told us all about her son. She got a letter from him seven years ago saying he was getting married said Rachel. She said she hadn't seen him for twenty years said Jeremiah. She lied not only that but I think she was at the wedding said Rachel. Where do you think you'll be able to find him? Said Jeremiah. There's a barn close by. That's what the letter said, said Rachel.

Hello said Rachel entering the barn building with Jeremiah. Anybody here? Said Jeremiah. A woman with 2 boys came in the room. What can I do for you, said the woman. My name is Rachel Brown said Rachel extending her hand. I'm Margurite Browning said Margurite. I'm looking for Nathan Jennings said Rachel. Why, said Margurite. I'm sorry to say but his mother recently passed away said Rachel. And I'm sorry to say that Nathan passed away last year. I'm looking after his 2 boys said Margurite. What about their mother? said Rachel. A year after their marriage she was told she couldn't have children.

Two years after that she couldn't take it any longer and adopted 2 boys. A year after that they divorced. And a year after that she died. And then a year after that Nathan died and now it's been a year said Margurite. And these must be their boys said Rachel. Yes Mathew and Kurt said Margurite. Margurite have you ever met their Grandma? Said Rachel. She came down for the wedding. But I never saw her

after that said Margurite. How old are the boys? Said Rachel. Seven and five said Margurite. Nathan's mother wanted desperately to know if he was alive. After all it had been seven years or twenty she told me said Rachel. She got a letter from him every week said Margurite. What did the letters say? Said Rachel. About their lives. She did know that they adopted 2 boys said Margurite. And why didn't she tell me this? Said Rachel. I don't know. They adopted a girl with the 2 boys. But she passed away said Margurite. I don't understand. Did she lose a baby during pregnancy said Rachel. No. She had a healthy baby girl named Veranza said Margurite. Is she still alive? Said Rachel. Yes.

She's thirty-two now. She has 5 boys and a girl said Margurite. What and how old would Nathan be said Rachel. 37. There's another boy as well Jimmy. He has a girl. He's 29 said Margurite. Was Nathan ever married more than once? Said Rachel. Yes. He was married at 22 and had a baby girl at 24. His wife died a year after that. She uh lives in Missouri with her uncle said Margurite. And what's her name? said Rachel. Michaela and she's 13 said Margurite. I feel like Raspberry didn't tell me the whole story said Rachel. I'm sure she had a reason said Margurite. Thank you Margurite for your help said Rachel. Yes. Though you might want to read this letter that Raspberry sent me awhile ago said Margurite handing it to her. Rachel took it and opened it.

Dear Rachel,

I didn't know what would happen to me whether we got caught or not. Sometime or later I would have to die. And I knew you would come looking for the whole story looking for my son. From the time I met you I knew I could trust you. I'm telling you I'm trusting you now. I am sorry I lied to you about my life. As you now may know my son is dead. At the time I wrote this letter. It's only been a year. As you may know I have two other children who are alive and well. One who has six children and the other one who has a daughter. My son Nathan married who had

a daughter. His wife died and he remarried. He adopted two boys and a girl. But sadly the girl died. I am asking you to take the two boys off Margurite's care and look after as if they were your own. Again I am truly sorry for not telling you of my true life before. If I died escaping then I pray and hope you escaped and if I died because of old age. I pray that your life is good.

Truly your friend,

Rasberry Jennings

Rachel folded the letter up. My guess is she probably had a reason for not telling you before said Margurite. What are you going to do Rachel, said Jeremiah. I'll pack the boys things and you can take them along with you said Margurite. Rachel nodded and they left. Are you really going to take care of these boys? said Jeremiah. I can't let Rasberry down said Rachel. Is that what's really bothering you or do you think that you can really take care of these boys properly said Jeremiah. What do you suggest said Rachel.

I suggest you forget the letters and leave it be, said Jeremiah. I can't do that. She says she needs me to do it, said Rachel. She said she wanted you to, said Jeremiah? Alright, I will just throw them on the street and see if they can take care of themselves. What if that was you, said Rachel? I've been on the streets before, said Jeremiah. What, said Rachel? Listen, Interrupted Jeremiah. I was born on the streets. I accepted Christ on the streets. But you, I met you in prison, and I fell in love. The day I saw you, it made my mind float. When I saw you reach those people to Christ in that prison, I wanted to hold on to you forever. Rachel, it's not just a life we live. It's a life we do together. A life we reach people to Christ together. And if you marry me, we could be those parents to those boys, said Jeremiah. That's all you wanted to say. You wanted me to marry you. You didn't want to throw those boys out on the streets, said Rachel? Rachel. I want to prove my love to you, said Jeremiah.

These boys are already to go, said Margurite, coming with them. First, we want a wedding, said Rachel.

The next day.

You may now kiss the bride, said Margurite. They kissed.

After the Wedding

Are we going to go home now, said Matthew? We have to go back and change and then we have something we have to do first, said Rachel. They went back to the barn and changed. What do we have to do, said Kurt. Your father and I have to prove we're innocent, said Rachel. from what, said Matthew? Just then there was a huge noise. Rachel ran outside and gasped.

the tornado and the judge

Everybody stay inside, said Rachel, rushing in. There's a big tornado. Get to the back of the room, shouted Jeremiah. Jeremiah, we have nothing to cover us up in, said Rachel. Yes we do, we have Jesus, said Jeremiah. Rachel smiled. The tornado started ripping through the barn. We need to leave this building. Run!!, shouted Jeremiah. All of them ran out another door. Keep running, shouted Rachel. Look, there are tornadoes everywhere, shouted Matthew. Matthew, watch out, shouted Jeremiah. Rachel screamed. Matthew turned and stared as a tornado grabbed him and started to twirl away.

Matthew! shouted Rachel. Kurt come here. Stay behind this tree, we'll be back. Rachel let's go, said Jeremiah. They started running. Matthew was swallowed by a tornadoe, said Rachel. God will protect him. Get into this building and stay here, said Jeremiah. Jeremiah, what are you going to do, said Rachel. Stay here, said Jeremiah. Jeremiah ran out of the building. Rachel saw a rope hanging from the

ceiling. She hurried around, grabbing boxes and placing them under the rope. She slowly climbed on to the top of the boxes and grabbed the rope. She started climbing on the rope and all of a sudden she slipped and started falling. Aaaaaah! screamed Rachel. Rachel fell into Jeremiahs arms. Don't you ever do that agai, said Jeremiah, setting her down. We need to get up on the roof . We can see things more clearly, said Rachel. It's too dangerous. We don't need to see things more clearly. We just need to run, said Jeremiah. Please. I need to get up there, said Rachel. Be careful. Let's just stack the boxes so you don't have to climb on a rope, said Jeremiah. They stacked the boxes. She climbed on the boxes and pulled herself on the roof. The wind started pushing her off. She screamed and grabbed the end of the roof. Jeremiah ran out of the building. Rachel! screamed, Jeremiah as he saw her holding on with all her might.

Jeremiah I can't hold on much longer, said Rachel. Jeremiah started running as the wind whipped further. Rachel's hand slipped from the end of the roof and she started falling. Jeremiah continued running. A lot of things went through my mind at the time. I wasn't sure if I was going to live. I wasn't sure if I was going to die. I wanted more than anything to stay in this world to teach more people about Jesus so they too could go to heaven, but like I said, God is always with you and he was with me at that time. I didn't scream because I knew there would always be somebody to catch me, Jesus Christ and I knew my husband Jeremiah he'd try and protect me too, said Rachel. Jeremiah opened his arms and slid on the floor. Rachel fell into his arms. I'm alright said Rachel, getting up and dusting off herself. I am never going to let you do that again, said Jeremiah. Where's Kurt and what happened to Matthew, said Rachel. Rachel, they are both dead, said Jeremiah. What, said Rachel? I found their bodies further up, said Jeremiah. I guess we still know that bad things happen, said Rachel. I know said Jeremiah. I promised Raspberry I'd take care of them and now, I let her down, said Rachel. She knows you tried, said Jeremiah.

Hold your hands up, said a soldier, rushing at them with other soldiers, all of them carrying guns. I'm General Valvetin, said the General coming up to them. What do you want, said Rachel. To take you back to prison, said the General. Well we're not going back, said Rachel. I meant for your trial. There's a trial, said General. Really? When is it said Rachel. Tomorrow, it'll be at the Casper Wood village. Just an hour from here. Be there and you better have something good to say, said the General. All the soldiers walked away.

The next day.

Rachel Brown, please stand up, said the Judge. Rachel stood up. It's Rachel Karens. I married, said Rachel. Alright Rachel Karens, state why we're here, said the Judge. Well we're here for two reasons. One, my husband was put into prison for stealing an apple. I mean, how crazy is that. Second, I was put in prison for helping Jews escape. I did it because Jews don't deserve to be tortured. Nobody does. Put yourself in their place. I don't think anybody who did that would want to be tortured, said Rachel.

Which case are we starting first Rachel Karens, said the Judge. The apple, said Rachel. And why don't you think people should be put in prison for stealing an apple, said the Judge. Because that's ludacrist! He was a kid. Again, put yourself in his place. What would you have done, said Rachel. Rachel Karens, it's not a matter of what we would have done, said Judge. Yes it is! If you were him, you would say the exact same thing I am saying, said Rachel. But I am not, said the Judge. Stealing an apple should not mean he should be thrown in a prison and for so many years, said Rachel. Alright, he has payed his price. He may be set free, said the Judge. Rachel smiled.

But you, you have a different story. Escaping Jews is a crime, said the Judge. I still

have a trial, said Rachel. Good luck with that, said the Judge. Mr. Judge, may I start my trial, said Rachel? Go right ahead said the Judge. I was put in prison for helping Jews escape. Now I know that may sound bad, but it's not. Look at what they did in the bible. Jesus was tortured to death on a cross, but were they put in prison? Let me think about that, no they weren't. Now I know people are saying that Jesus is a sinner, that he is not the Messiah, but the truth is, he is the Messiah. People were put into prison because they believed. They believed that He wasn't the Messiah, he was a sinner and people and all the guards believed that so they went ahead with it, but you know what all the guards believed that he needed to be dead. He was innocent. He truly was the Messiah. But the guards didn't throw themselves in prison because they killed a man that was innocent. Jews are just like us. You've killed Jews and innocent people before, but are you going to throw yourself in prison, said Rachel. The Judge sighed, no I'm not, said the judge. I helped Jews escape, but if you believed that was the right thing to do and you did it, you wouldn't throw yourself in prison, said Rachel. Rachel Karens, you are now a free women, said the Judge. Jeremiah screamed Rachel. Jeremiah jumped up and ran over to her and hugged her. Congratulations to you both, you are now free people, said the Judge.

That was one of the happiest moments of my life. I was free. I prayed to God that this would happen and it has. God will always answer your prayers. It won't always be yes, it could be no, it could be maybe, but this time it was yes. But I have not finished my story yet.

Meeting Veranza

Two days later.

Jeremiah do you have my bag said Rachel? Right here, said Jeremiah, coming in and handing it to her. Thank you. Margurite Browning gave me a piece of paper of where Rasberry's two other children live, said Rachel. Where, said Jeremiah. Wisconsin. I was hoping we could go there. I wrote Rasberry's daughter Veranza. She says that's great and Rasberry's granddaughter will be visiting them so I'll get to see her too, said Rachel. I suppose we could use that trip, said Jeremiah. Oh Jeremiah, Thank you, said Rachel, hugging him.

One week later

My name is Rachel Karens, said Rachel, extending her hand out to a women sitting on a chair at a house in Wisconsin. Nice to meet you, I'm Veranza, she said, shaking her hand. I wrote you a letter that I was coming said Rachel. Oh yes, how could I have forgotten, said Veranza. This is my husband Jeremiah, said Rachel. Hello said Veranza. It's a nice place you got here, said Rachel. Thank you. I read your letter, and it said my mother passed away, said Veranza. Yes, I was greatly fond of her. I'm terribly sorry, said Rachel. Veranza stood up. It happens, said Veranza. Aunt Veranza, said a girl named Michaela, running out of the house. What is it Michaela, said Veranza. Look at what I found, it's a grasshopper, said Michaela. Yes, what a huge one!

Rachel, Jeremiah, I would like you to meet my niece Michaela, said Veranza. Hello said Michaela. Hello Michaela. I knew your grandmother, said Rachel. You did, said Michaela? Well, why don't we get inside. You probably want to meet my

children, said Veranza. Oh, I'm comfortable outside, said Rachel. Michaela, please go inside. I'd like a word alone with Rachel and Jeremiah, said Veranza. Okay. Nice to have met you, said Michaela, running inside the house. I'm frightened said Veranza. About what, said Rachel? I got a letter . It was from my mother. It was several months ago. I can't get my mind off of it said Veranza. What did it say, said Rachel. Something about waiting for the right one. A while after I got that letter, I got another one from my mother saying a girl named Rachel Brown was in the prison. And she believed she was the right one. And you were. You saved millions of lives. But how did she know, said Veranza. Rasberry and Veranza were right. I came to that prison for a reason. I didn't know it, but God had a plan for me. You may not know why He sent you to a prison, you may not know why you were adopted, you may not know why you moved to a different state, but God has a plan for you. You may not know what that plan is, but it's not to harm you. I was brought to that prison to change lives, but I couldn't have done it without God. For those of you that don't know Gods plan, for those of you who don't even know God. God has a plan for you. You just have to find it Rachel. Veranza, God showed her the plan. Because she believed that God can work all miracles said Rachel. Rachel, I know my mom believed the truth. But I didn't, but I want to now, said Veranza. Veranza, all you have to do is ask Him to come into your heart and tell him that you believe that He died for you said Rachel. I do Rachel. I believe that with all heart said Veranza. Then you are done Veranza. You will go to heaven said Rachel. Thank you Rachel.

As Rachel and Jeremiah climbed into the carriage and the horses started driving away, Rachel said, maybe I better tell you something I didn't tell you. What said Jeremiah? Remember when we were escaping with Rasberry? You guys asked me, how did you learn how to fry apples and be in the woods, said Rachel? I remember you avoided the question, said Jeremiah. When I was a kid, my dad took me and

the entire family camping. I loved those moments. One day I was eight, and I took along a friend. I promised my friend the best trip ever. But instead, she drowned. I was so mad, and frustrated that I didn't ever go camping after that. I blamed myself. It was my fault, but she believed that she could do things by herself, and that she didn't need anybody to help her. I backed off after that, and the next day, she drowned. I probably should have watched her more carefully, but I didn't, and of course my dad left two years later. I haven't been camping since, said Rachel. Thank you for telling me Rachel. At least now somebody other than you, knows the truth, said Jeremiah. There was one other that knew the truth. His name is God, said Rachel.

Rachel opened a box at their house 3 weeks later. She gently took out something's. She picked up a small book and opened it. Veresa's diary she murmured. She started reading it.

Dear Diary

I write in this book of the momentous occasions I have in my life. My momentous occasions aren't secret, their worth writing down. The happiest day of my life was when I was 8, the day was when I accepted Jesus Christ into my heart.

Rachel stopped reading. Jeremiah, Jeremiah yelled Rachel running upstairs.

Jeremiah ran to her. What? He said. Veresa's diary says she excepted Christ. Look I'll read more. She continued to read.

My life was totally messed up until I knew why. When I finally excepted what I needed my life was changed. I had finally found hope. Just before my sister Teresa died I led her to the Lord and now she knows the truth. God showed me in a dream of what Rachel did ever since she left and how she changed lives. And I know God had a big, amazing plan for her. And I know one day she'll change the world. I was happy that the day before Elizabeth died I was able to lead her to the Lord too.

Jeremiah some of my sisters were saved spoke Rachel. I'm glad and now you can

see them in heaven. Rachel smiled.

1 year later

Rachel walked onto a platform and walked where a microphone was. She looked ahead. Millions of people were standing there. Hello everyone my name is Rachel Karens and I have come here today to tell everyone something you need to know. But first I want to tell you about my life. I was born and raised in Canada. I have lived a hard life that is until I met one person who changed my life completely. His name is God. Before I met him my life was a mess. But then I realized he was the only way. I realized I needed him more than anything in my entire life. I needed him. I couldn't live without him. But even though I have God in my life not everything is going to go perfect. Look at yourselves now, you might be poor, but God didn't just put it on you. It happens because there's sin in the world. Were not going to know everything. We may have been saved 50 years your still not going to know everything. What God did for us is amazing. None of us can compare to what he did for us. He died for us, he took his life for something he didn't even do. That's how much he loves us. What I think is amazing is that he died for our past, present, and future sins. We haven't even done them yet. No matter what you've done he will still love you. But it's not just a salvation when you accept it. You need to keep ministering to people. So what I want to know is do you want to join the fun. The whole crowd started shouting. I want you to say a prayer and I want you to mean it.

Seven years later.

Seven years had finally passed. I was given two girls and then a son. A six year-old

girl, a five- year old girl, and a three-year old boy. Sadly, when my second child, whom we named after Raspberry drowned, I didn't yell at God. Even though I was sad, I got right back up and praised God. Whenever something bad happens, don't complain or throw a fit, you praise God for He truly is the Messiah said Rachel.

The End