

Josiah Quinlan 2019

A Journey I Would Like to Take; Part 2

You think bad dreams are scary. Try to live in a nightmare where all you hear is screams and get attacked out of nowhere every single day. The year is 1971, my name Chris Williams US Marine and I am 20 years old. My Father and Mother are, John and Jenny Williams. My Wife is, Rachial, pregnant with my child. My location -- Vietnam can't tell you where in Vietnam. It's classified, but now I'm on my way back to base in a helicopter from a battle that lasted a couple days against the Vietcong. I'm the youngest out of 3. Only one serving in the military right now. But I guess I always wanted to get out of the country and explore.

The mission wasn't bad except the fact that the enemy won't face us like a man. Instead they ambush us like little punks. Once at the base Lieutenant called me up to his office. Which basically his office is like a small shed area with an electric box and satellite poking out. The Lieutenant invited me inside. There is something off with him, he has this big grin on his face, he never smiles.

"Please sit-down Williams, I have great news for you." He said, "Your wife is going to have your kid next week."

I felt a sudden jolt in my body. A jolt of joy, and happiness that I get to finally be a father.

"The bad news is that you have to stay guard of this base next week." He said

"Why I'm sure the base can handle one man gone." I said in responds

"Negative Sergeant, I'm already sending some other man home to see his family next week. I'm sorry son, but this is a war and it is your duty to stay here to fight."

"That's bull!" I yelled "You sent the other guy home to his kids which was already born! And you're just going to let me miss my kids' birth, I haven't seen my wife in months now. I was supposed to be home 2 days ago!"

"ENOUGH, you're going to stay here and fight that is all Sergeant!" The Lieutenant finally said and walked off.

I'm so mad right now. How could he do this to me, that is my wife I haven't seen her in a long time. Then I walked out of his little shed and walked out to the barrack I was staying in. I didn't even bother to talk to any of the other guys. I just threw my gear on the ground and laid down on my cot. Just why does someone get to go home early, and I'm just going to miss out on once in a life time opportunity. When I reached down to grab a picture of my wife out of my helmet. I end up grabbing a different picture. Instead of me putting the picture back. I took another look. The picture was a man named Josiah Quinlan. It was a picture that my mom had during world war 2 of him. I have always been curious who he was, but my mom wouldn't say who he is. But every time I asked tears always come down her face.

I guess she had some history with this man. The only thing she said is that he is a lot like me. I guess my father didn't like him. I grew tired then I finally feel asleep. For the past week now I just been walking around the perimeter checking if the enemy is not trying to sneak attack us. Which never

happens. Today is the week Rachial is supposed to be giving birth to our child. I got called in to go into the Lieutenant office. I was excited to hear that my wife had our kid.

Once inside the tension felt high and the look on Lieutenant face was sad. "I'm sorry William, but your wife and kid died during child birth and there was nothing the doctors could have done."

I just stood there, not even blinking or breathing. I felt like had a dagger had gone straight through my throat and run down through my body. The air started get cold and I can't think anymore. Next thing I knew I was on back in my barrack. I couldn't even cry, no matter how bad I wanted to. Now I have nothing to live for. I knew Rachial since middle school. And she is just gone like that I didn't even have the chance to see her.

"WHY GOD WHY!" I yelled. Then I took my pistol to my head. I gave one final yell and pulled the trigger. Everything turned white, then I was in the clouds. I see Rachial talking with Josiah Quinlan. Then he walked up to me and said, "Hi, I'm Josiah Quinlan and I used to be your mom girlfriend, and I am your family guardian angel."

I was going to say something to him but then I ended back to my mom place. I see her crying, and she had a gun in her hand. She pointed it to her head.

"MOM STOP!" I yelled knowing that she probably couldn't hear me "Don't do it, please don't."

She stopped and looked up, "Son, why did you do this to me. Why did you have to kill yourself?"

I can't believe she could see or hear me but looking at her hurts. Seeing tears coming down her face like a water fall. "I'm sorry mom but you have to understand that I lost everything."

"Don't give me that crap, you don't know what's it like to lose everything you love and have to live with it every single day and see ghost of the love ones you lost around you!"

Right as I was about to say something, I ended up back in the clouds. Then I heard a gunshot.