**Daniel/1000 words**

It was June 4, 1941. Britain was in the middle of World War 2. Daniel and his friends Shane, Melvin, and Abraham worked on the British Cargo Ship, The Alfred Jones.

Daniel was a 19-year-old from Fortich who had joined the crew of the Alfred Jones the year before because there were no other seafaring jobs available near his home.

On Wednesday, June 4, 1941, the Alfred Jones was in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean.

Daniel was running down the steps to the galley for his lunch break. Suddenly he heard a loud thud. “What was that?” The lights went out and Daniel found himself deep inside the ship in complete darkness. The ship started to turn over. As it was turning Daniel started running back toward the top deck. He got about one or two decks up. He knew he couldn't possibly get out of there by his own strength. He started running again but this time he prayed. “Oh God in heaven help me, help us! If you spare my life, I will dedicate it to you! Whatever you ask I’ll do but please spare me! Just then a huge crack appeared in the side of the ship. Water started pouring in. Daniel fought his way against the water and through the crack. He swam as far away from the ship as he could so as not to be sucked down with it. Finally, he stopped to tread water and looked back. The Alfred Jones was gone. All that was left were some stray parts and what looked like most of the crew. Then Daniel heard a motor. “We are saved!” thought Daniel.  But then he heard voices, German voices! It must be a German patrol boat! Daniel tried to swim away from the boat, but it was useless. A strong hand grabbed him roughly and pulled him into the boat. He tried to struggle but it was impossible to get away. Then everything went black.

  When Daniel woke up, he was in a dark cell. He was surprised to see his friends Shane, Melvin, Abraham, and 10 other people in the room with him. Then a man came down the corridor, swinging a ring of keys around his finger. He unlocked their door and motioned for several Nazi soldiers to come forward. The prisoners were escorted down the corridor and up through a trapdoor. Daniel was surprised to see a nice parlor. A German general and another man sat on a sofa. The general motioned for the prisoners to be seated on the floor. The general said something in German then the man beside him nodded. “My name is Arnim-Boitzenburg, and this is general Rudolf Graf. Would you like some tea?”  The man said in perfect English. Daniel was parched, but he would never accept anything from these people. He saw that the others refused as well. For starters, let’s give you new names. I despise English names.” He pointed to Daniel. “You, we will call Ernst.” He pointed to Shane. “You will be Albrecht. And you will be Joachim.” He said pointing to Melvin.” He paused at Abraham. “I will call you Rüdiger.” He gave the rest of the men names as well.  “Now you might be wondering why you are here.

There is a war going on. We need information to win the war. We believe you have some of that information. You can make this easy, and give us the information we want, and we will safely transport you somewhere where the Brits will find you. If you don’t give us the information we seek, well, no one will like what happens then. So. Any volunteers?” No one raised their hand.

“Very well then! No food or water for 10 days!” Put them back in their cells!”

 10 days later the men were brought up again. The man and general were whispering furiously together in German. “So, what is your secret?” Said the man. “How do you all look better now than 10 days ago?!” Daniel had no idea. He didn’t feel like he hadn’t had any food or water in 10 days. Whatever the case was, he knew God was watching over him, ever since his prayer on the boat.  “Well then. You must be smarter than I thought at first. We shall try something different. Bring them into the courtyard! As they were brought into the courtyard Daniel offered up a prayer. “God, I now dedicate my life to you. Use me for your will. But please, help us get out of here!” Daniel noticed a giant statue of Hitler glowering down at him. It looked like it was made out of gold. “You have three options.” The man spat. “You can give us your information, and you shall be transported to safety. Or you can die in the fiery furnace! Or if you prefer, you can die in the lion's den. You will be brought forward one by one, and when you are summoned, you must make your decision!” To Daniel’s dismay, Abraham was called first. To his horror, He was marched by a Nazi guard over to the furnace, and thrown in. “Noo!” screamed Melvin. He was then dragged over, followed by Shane. They were both thrown in the furnace. One by one the men were brought forward then thrown in the furnace. Finally, Daniel was summoned. “So, what is it going to be?” The man snarled. Daniel choked back a sob. “The den.” He couldn’t bear to see… The next thing he knew he was falling into a dark pit bracing for-

Suddenly he was yanked back up by a strong hand and he heard an English voice!? He was saved! But… What about his friends? They were hugging him?! “What, how…” “We all survived and there was another man I don’t know how…”

Daniel awoke to find himself in a hospital somewhere in Britain. A doctor came in and smiled at him. “How did you sleep?” “Good thank you… I just had some very strange dreams.”