

Chapter Two

18 July 1943

RAB Eastchurch

York, England

06:23 Hours

The rain was cold in the early morning and the light fog gave the airbase an eerie look and feel. The planes were ghosts in the distance as the group made their way down the flight line.

“Once you get everything load on the plane, I want us to meet here for a quick briefing before we get underway.” Caleb was not comfortable at all, but he couldn’t quite figure out what was making him uneasy.

Lt. Kann could see that his Captain was uneasy and that made him nervous. He didn’t like this mission any more than anyone else on the team, but he truly hated not having all the information needed. That, he decided, was why his Captain was uneasy.

Once assembled in the hangar, Caleb started going over the basics of the mission. The group was still coming out of sleep and in need of a cup of coffee to get them started for the day.

“We will be flying on the transport plane heading for Ramitelli Air Base, but we will be jumping out once we are over...”

The plane that their equipment was loaded on exploded with such great force that it knocked them all off their feet and blew shards of glass and metal everywhere. The pilot and crew were dead instantly. Caleb now knew that there was at least one traitor in the small group of people that knew about the mission. “Get on that plane and get whatever we can off before it is destroyed!” Caleb was shouting orders on instinct. “Close the base!” “Let’s go to work, gentlemen!”

Caleb decided to make it look like some of them were injured by leaving behind some bits of clothes with blood on them. He also decided to not call this in to HQ to see how they responded. He now had enemies on both sides and that was not good. That had him asking even more questions about the mission and why people on his own side would want him dead.

They were able to get most of their equipment off because the bomb has been planted in the front of the plane and left the rear section mostly intact. Caleb ordered the equipment loaded on another aircraft that was sitting close by. It wasn’t the one they were supposed to use, but right now, Caleb wanted nothing more than to get out