**Chapter 1**

*The Beginning to the Journey Ahead.*

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1952 / 7:30 pm 🕢

[Lieutenant] Onoda:

All of us, we are prey in these woods,

our armies have now either been killed or have vanished.

So now we can not give in, because if we do they kill us,

All of us!

Our orders state that under no circumstances we are to surrender.

Akatsu (Private):

I agree,

it must be their next move to get rid of us all at once,

This one of their ways of luring us into our graves.

Kinzu (Private first class):

But what about the pictures of our families that they have sent?

And the note from the emperor himself about there being peace,

do you think that they are lies?

Shimada (Corpral):

The countless number of leaflets we have come across are enough, and they all read the same thing! "The war has ended in August 15th come down from the mountain." They want us all dead!

Onoda:

I refuse to believe in this false information, it is another trick by the Americans;

So If you still think of this deception as truth, then you must leave at once. This is war! So stand your ground, and fight like men.

\*They all nod and agree\*

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light flashes.

everything changes, I find myself laying in the desert.

I try and stand but my body slams me back onto the sand. I feel like a corpse, and I must say that im quite surprised to still be alive. I must have been having one of those dreams again, the dreams of my past life. I have always wanted them to go away, but things have changed.

 My throat is dry and I am in need of water. It feels like i’ve been laying here forever. I hope that I don’t  lose everything due to my past mistakes, I always tend to ruin the good things that happen to me, do I even deserve this life that I’ve been granted?

Bad habits have brought me nothing but only short pleasure.

I like to think that i'm a simple man living a normal life. I’ve always liked art, music, and all the beauty in life itself. And it would have been nice if I was a painter, musician or even a writer! I would want to leave something behind in this life before making it to the next, but the urge of biting my nails has always caught up to me…

Many hours later...

Dtk..dtk..dtk….dtdtk.dt       “Horse escalating from far”

I know that sound,

Seabiscuit, Is that you?

Seabiscuit: “heeyeheiugheyrf”

Note:

The horse speaks things that only its master can understand,

"heeyeheiugheyrf” would translate to;

"I been running around looking for your dumbass for 2 days homie, you got me fucked up, better hop on so we get up on out of here fool.”

Seab can be a pain in the ass sometimes, but today I am very much glad to see him.

After all, he loves to follow my footsteps when he loses track of me, and he always seems to figure a way out into being a complete jackass when he finds me.

I grab and hold on to the saddle with my remaining strength to stand, and I throws myself on to his back.

\*Seabiscuit takes off with speed\* “ddttkkk..dttkk”

I see that we have finally arrived at a nearby river, I see different animals all drinking from that same river. I assume I fit in well with my situation being, I'm starting to think a cat had taken a shit on me at some point when I was passed out.

I drink all the water that I can And clean myself up before it is time to leave.

As we begin to take off, I avoid making any eye contact, because quite frankly, there's a fucking tiger staring at me. And the rest of these animals are weird as hell homie.

Seabiscuit: "lets bounce bruh, I ain't got no more time for your thirsty ass

I gots to get to the family, Nahmsaynn?!"

-Alright, chill Seab we can go eat then we can go wherever u want because, to be honest with you, I could eat a whole horse right now!

Seabiscuit: "Alright bet, we gon slide now."

I've lost all my concentration due to my hunger, but I start to see a glimpse of the town from far away.. I am sure that it is the town of Oz. Where my home is.

Seabiscuit: "Yo wifey better be feeding my baby mamma, I ain't got no time for that weak shit... I need my baby fed!"

-You better change that tone before I whip you, you know damn well jasmine is responsible when it comes to yo girl son!

Seabiscuit: "I hope you right man."

As we arrive home, I reach to open the door and I get hit in the face by my wife’s sandal. I can’t believe she got me from the fucking window. Who knows how long she's been waiting there...

Jasmine: Where have you been! I have been worried sick. You need to stop running off like that.

-I'm sorry Jaz, don't be mad at me, you know I hate it when we fight.

Jasmine: if you pull something like that again, I am done, DONE with you.

She leaves to the bedroom and on her way she says “I have given you too many chances! You have to know that our love is not a game.“ \*slams door\*

-You know that I love you more than anything! I'm just going through some shit right now, we will speak tomorrow!

I'm thinking to myself that she's right, she is a woman after all! But it is also not my fault that I have gotten caught up in this situation, where I’ve had to travel 2 nights to a destination. Only to turn back because I got stolen from by a stranger from the town of Salem.

The thief had ripped the sack of diamonds off my satchel as I was horse riding by the bar, and now I must get them back.

But without losing the love of my life, my Jasmine. Maybe I should stay and collect as many men as I can so that I could go back and set up some sort of agreement with the king.

 I shouldn't have gone on the quest alone, that was very dumb of me.

My lack of good choices had left me half dead in the middle of the desert, with my horse coming to save me. So I have to make my choices clear now.

Oh well, I wonder what Seabiscuit is doing right now.

I'm assuming his wife was being fed while he was gone.

I can tell because he hasn't taken a shit on the doorstep, He does that when he's angry.. such a bitch for a horse,

I wish I got a dog instead.

Home sweet home! I guess I'm sleeping on the couch tonight.

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1955 / 12:00 a.m. 🕛

Kinzu has had enough of seeing those around him suffer, and at night, he cannot sleep because he stares at pictures of his wife and kids. His family is not with him right now, but the memory of them still remain in his mind and in his heart.

He decides that he must leave, to face the chances of uniting back with his family.

throughout the years his companions became his family and his rifle had turned into his best friend.

He realizes that he is stuck in his past, and now he must leave to find a new beginning.

 Kinzu puts his families pictures in his coat pocket, picks up the notes he had written over the years, and leaves his rifle behind.

He gets on his horse,takes one last look at his sleeping fellow soldiers and says “Goodbye brothers.”

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\*Light flashes\*

I open my eyes with my heart filled with anger more than sadness.

Kinzu had grown old fighting among these men, and now at a time like this he leaves because of his fear, and doubt! To chase one of his stupid dreams of love. How selfish can a man be? To only to care about himself?

One thing I have learned over the years is to never let emotions take control, because we are the ones who controls them. So my actions must not act through my emotions. They must form through thoughts and strategies for the next step that’s being taken. I close my eyes and rest for a bit more.

Minutes later;

Jasmine: wake up shithead, its time for breakfast.

-Good morning to you too, my love.

I get up and take a seat with her at the kitchen table.

“I had the best shower iv had in years yesterday night, I really feel like a new man." I said as I bit into a red apple.

Jasmine: do you really feel like a new man? Do you really? How about telling me about why you were gone for so long, are you cheating on me?

Shes' got the deadliest look in her eyes, I feel like if I tell her the truth she might just believe me this time.

- Listen Jaz, I was on a very important quest to deliver some precious stones to a marksman, and his job was to engrave these diamonds onto the kings sword, and that is all I was told.

I was riding through the town of Salem as I had these diamonds taken off of me by a thief!

I did not realize that they were not there anymore until I had arrived at the marksman's shop. And next thing I knew, I being taken away to be executed by the Kings' orders.

The town people were screaming and throwing things at me, and at one point during that time somebody crumbled up a newspaper and threw it at my face, which I think actually had cat shit inside!

Like, how the fuck did your cat shit in a newspaper anyway? Cats don't roll like that…

Jasmine: you're going off topic, you idiot! Get back to telling your story, did you actually get executed?

Note: Jaz likes to act blonde sometimes, but I know she is only joking, obviously I am not dead. Or am I?

-No, but I was about to be, I was shown mercy by the king and had been placed under an oath to get the diamonds back, all of them.

Jasmine: So how are you going to get them back? Since you don't know who stole them, and since your wife is going to leave you if you’re leaving her at home again with a fat, hungry horse!

Note: Seabiscuits' baby mamma has been pregnant for as long as we remember, we keep thinking sometimes that she has just went way too fat and has just lead herself to believe that she is actually pregnant. And we can't speak of it because Seabiscuit shits on our doorstep. At one point, me and Jasmine had to take turns cleaning because he was just so angry all the time!

-Okay listen to me Jasmine, I don’t know who stole the stones but I have to find out and that's why I have to leave. I need to put myself in the thieves shoes in order to know his next move. And that is why I need to start this journey now before it is too late.

Jasmine: You are not leaving this house-

-Whaa..!?

Jasmine: Without me;

You are not leaving this house without me.

It could be very dangerous.

But I know she does not care, she likes the rush of being on an adventure with me, and at the same time in trouble. So I refuse to break her heart.

-Of course, you can come Jaz. But we have to move now because I only have 33 days to find all of the diamonds and hand them over back to the marksman. And I want to ask you something my love, the reason you want to come.. Is it because you don't trust me?

Jasmine: of course it’s not that! No woman would like that face of yours anyway, besides me of course.

-Then why do you want to come?

Jasmine: the food is running out at home, and the horse doesn't feed itself you know...

At least there are crops and trees ahead of our way that they could eat out of. You don't want us to go hungry, do you?

-Of course not, I promise you that I will make everything better for us; to live a better life.

Jasmine: Okay good.

-Now if you'll excuse me, I have to go and talk to Seabiscuit about our “little” trip.

Jasmine: Talk to Seabiscuit? Hahaha! Okay dumbass go speak to your horse, I can't believe you just said that stupid!

-Haha, you know I was joking, I'm just tired, I don't know what I'm saying.

Damn that was close, she wouldn't believe me anyway if I told her that only I can understand what Seab says.

I finish off my breakfast and start walking towards the barn...

-Hmm Seabiscuit?! Wake up sunshine, it's a beautiful day outside.

-Come on get up! We need to move.

Seabiscuit: "Ayo you better chill homie! You know I don't play around like that! My baby sleeping and she got a baby in that belly, what are you screaming for you fool? I'm finna whoop yo ass."

-You need to change your attitude and wake up that fat wife of yours so we can move. Come on, she’s coming too!

Seabiscuit: "What you mean tho, my baby needs to rest at the crib bruh she got a baby on the way, trust me! Just look how fat she has gotten."

-She's been resting for 2 years now Seab, maybe you need to let her go out and take a walk or something, get those muscles loose a little. She must be tired of resting so much!

Seabiscuit: Fool imma say this one more time and then imma kick yo a...

Seabbabymamma: “auskewmshaygajw.”

Seabiscuits' face now has changed completely.

Seabiscuit: "We are all going to get them stupid diamonds back from that dumbass town aren't we."

-Why yes, yes we are! What a smart horse you are, who's my little horsey?

Seabiscuit: "You ugly as hell when you speak like that, shut yo ass up fool."

-Damn okay, you don't have to be so vulgar, you naughty horse.

I knew that one day, Seab would let his wife come out of the barn. But I did not know it would be for my sake.

He is a good horse, and so is she.

I leave the barn and go over to the house to see Jasmine waiting for me in front with some water in hand, some fruits, and some things in her bag. The wind is blowing through her hair, and the sun is shining on her skin.

As I move closer I begin to realize how much I have missed the love of my life,

her eyes started to make me wonder how life would have been if she just wasn't there anymore, and so I go and tell her that I love her. Because maybe one day I won't be there to say it to anymore.

Jasmine: you’re only saying that because you have missed me, and I missed you too, handsome.

She leans over to me and she says “I love you too, stupid". She chuckles, and so do I.

We kiss.