

A SPY IN THE MIDST

Written by

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INT. OFFICE - DAY (JUNE 26, 1863)

TITLE: June 26, 1863

GENERAL GEORGE MEADE, 50's, Spanish male, stands behind a desk waiting. He is wearing his usual Union General's uniform.

KNOCK KNOCK KNOCK

MEADE

Enter!

In walks CORPORAL JAMES CONNER, Mid-20's, wearing a union uniform as well.

James walks up to the desk and the two men shake hands over the desk.

MEADE (CONT'D)

Sit!

The 2 men take their seats.

MEADE (CONT'D)

I have seen your records as of lately, very impressive.

CONNOR

Thank You sir!

MEADE

I have a mission for you that could easily change the entire scope of this war. Have you every been to Gettysburg?

CONNOR

No but I've read about it in the papers, if that counts.

Meade ponders on this for a moment.

MEADE

We've had spies report that General Lee is planning to hit there soon. We don't know when but I've got orders from President Lincoln to intercept Lee at Gettysburg.

CONNOR

But I was under the impression that General Hooker was leading the Union Army that direction.

MEADE

Yeah... I'm replacing him.

CONNOR

Interesting. I'm sure you'll do great.

General Meade gives Connor a dead stare.

MEADE

Let's cut to the chase. You've been called in here because you have been one of the Union's best spies during this war.

CONNOR

I just do my job.

MEADE

I'm moving my armies out in 2 days. We have some Confederate uniforms we took from a Confederate patrol a week ago. You're going to take one of the uniforms and infiltrate Lee's Army.

Connor's eyes go wide when he hears this.

CONNOR

Lee's Army, and how do you suppose I do that?

MEADE

We've constructed mock documents from Confederate President Davis that shows you to be a new Artillery Soldier sent in from Kentucky.

CONNOR

You think these will work?

MEADE

You've been able to get good intel in the past. I don't see any reason why you can't do it again.

Connor sighs

CONNOR

The mission seems impossible but I guess we can't all live forever.

MEADE

It's imperative that you discover Lee's plans for his attack. If he takes Gettysburg, he could easily take Washington and the war will be lost.

CONNOR

Understood, I'll do my best not to be discovered.

EXT. LEE'S CAMP - DAY

TITLE: June 30th, 1863

Several TENTS have been pitched, several Confederate Soldiers are sitting outside the tents doing numerous tasks and hobbies.

EXT. LEE'S TENT

GENERAL LEE, 70, sits under his canopy top, brushing his teeth.

A Confederate Lieutenant approaches with Corporal Connor, now with a false identity known as Private Francis Jackson, new Artillery Soldier.

The Confederate LT salutes General Lee, who salutes back without leaving his chair.

CONFEDERATE LT

General Lee sir. New recruit from Kentucky sir.

The LT hands a set of rolled up DOCUMENTS to General Lee.

General Lee looks over the documents.

GENERAL LEE

Thank you Lieutenant, that will be all.

The LT and the General exchange salutes and the LT leaves.

GENERAL LEE (CONT'D)

Private Francis Jackson from Kentucky. You wouldn't happen to be related to General Jackson now, would you?

JACKSON

I was told by my Momma when I was a little one that he was my uncle on my daddy's side. But I never met the man.

GENERAL LEE

How much experience do you have with Artillery?

JACKSON

Not very much sir!

GENERAL LEE

I'm kind of surprised they didn't just stick you with the infantry.

General Lee stops to think for a moment.

GENERAL LEE (CONT'D)

That's fine! General Longstreet has a fine Artillery section. You'll report to him later on this evening and he'll place you with an Artillery section that will teach you what you need to know.

JACKSON

With all due respect sir. As a member of the Jackson family, and with My Uncle being out of action, don't you think it would be wise to maybe have another member of the Jackson family working by your side?

GENERAL LEE

Nonsense, you'll work with Longstreet. We've got a big battle starting tomorrow morning and I need my best men ready to go into battle if we are to win the day.

The two men salute and Jackson(Connor) leaves.

EXT. GENERAL LONGSTREET'S CAMP - DAY

TITLE: July 1st, 1863

A group of war torn Confederate soldiers slowly walk back into camp.

GENERAL LONGSTREET, 40, Rides into the camp on horseback.

Private Jackson, walks up to the General on horseback.

JACKSON
General Longstreet sir!

LONGSTREET
Yes, son. Hurry up. I don't have
all day, I got wounded soldiers to
take care of.

JACKSON
I'm Private Jackson, Lee sent me
over to train on Artillery.

Jackson hands the papers to Longstreet.

LONGSTREET
Ah, A nephew to ole Stonewall Eh.
We could use more men on the
Cannons, we lose some good ones
today.

Longstreet climbs off of his horse.

LONGSTREET (CONT'D)
I'll take you over to the Cannons
and have one of our guys give you a
quick tutorial on how these things
work. We can hopefully have you out
at the battlefield tomorrow.

EXT. EDGE OF CAMP - DAY

Longstreet and Jackson walk up to the Cannons where another
Artillery soldier has just finished rolling the Cannons in.

LONGSTREET
Sergeant.

The Artillery Sergeant turns around

SERGEANT
Sir!

LONGSTREET
This is Private Jackson, your new
Artillery Soldier. Show him what
you know and have him ready to go
for tomorrow. We need all the extra
hands we can get.

SERGEANT
Yes Sir!

The two salute and Longstreet walks away.

SERGEANT (CONT'D)
New recruit. Pretty hyped huh?

JACKSON
I'd like to think so, I mean, we've
been winning so far, haven't we.

SERGEANT
After that last win at
Chancellorsville, I'd say we're
definitely winning.

JACKSON
Why invade Gettysburg?

The Sergeant looks at him as if he doesn't know.

SERGEANT
You mean, you don't know.

JACKSON
Know what?

SERGEANT
Lee is trying to invade
Philadelphia. He wants to convince
politicians to give up prosecuting
the war. I'm pretty sure Harrisburg
is next after this.

JACKSON
Philadelphia is a pretty big city.

SERGEANT
Yeah but we got a pretty big Army,
if you haven't noticed.

EXT. RIVER - NIGHT

In a nearby river outside of Gettysburg, a UNION OFFICER
waits. He lits up a handmade cigarette and takes some drags
from the cigarette.

Private Jackson emerges from the tree line and tip toes
across the shallow waters of the river to meet with the Union
Officer.

UNION OFFICER
So what have you found out?

JACKSON

(whispering)

Apparently Lee's plan is to capture Philadelphia by going through Gettysburg and eventually hitting Harrisburg before finally capitalizing on Philadelphia itself.

UNION OFFICER

Interesting!

JACKSON

It gets better... I'm meeting up with an Artillery division tomorrow morning. We're supposed to march on the left flank of the Union.

A sudden realization comes over the Officer's face as he realizes where that is.

UNION OFFICER

That's near Emmitsburg Road.

JACKSON

Precisely.

UNION OFFICER

Good Work Corporal. I'll relay this information back and meet with you again after the battle is over.

The two shake hands and go their separate ways.

Meanwhile in the woodline, The Confederate Artillery Sergeant eavesdrops on the conversation.

EXT. GENERAL LONGSTREET'S CAMP - DAY

TITLE: July 2nd, 1863

Confederate soldiers are prepared to move out.

The Artillery Sergeant finds Jackson.

SERGEANT

Private Jackson!

JACKSON

Yes!

SERGEANT

General Longstreet would like to see you really quick before you head out to battle.

JACKSON

Yes sir!

Jackson departs company and heads to General Longstreet's tent.

INT. GENERAL LONGSTREET'S TENT

Jackson walks inside Longstreet's tent. Longstreet sits on his bunk.

JACKSON

Sir! You wanted to see me.

LONGSTREET

Yes, come in!

Jackson steps inside the tent. 2 confederate soldiers appear behind him, blocking the only entry/exit of the tent.

Longstreet sits in quiet, staring behind Jackson

Jackson notices this and turns around to see the 2 Confederate soldiers, who immediately grab Jackson.

Longstreet stands up from his bunk as Jackson struggles to break free from the grip of the 2 soldiers.

LONGSTREET (CONT'D)

Last Night, one of our soldiers followed you out to a place where he saw you interacting with a Union Officer.

JACKSON

It was a good friend of mine from the past, we're now on opposite sides.

LONGSTREET

I see, it's mighty convenient that you being 1st day on the job, just so happen to have business with someone from the Union side of the table.

JACKSON

Sir I assure you, it's not what it-

LONGSTREET

I'm a Confederate General son, I wasn't born yesterday. You don't think that I didn't recognize that forged signature on your enlistment papers yesterday.

An awkward silence fills the air.

LONGSTREET (CONT'D)

Now the way I see it. You met with a Union Officer last night. You brought in a forged document that got you past General Lee, but not past me. Normally, you put these two together and it spells trouble.

Jackson lowers his head in shame.

LONGSTREET (CONT'D)

But I'm offering you a reprieve. From what I gather, you're supposed to meet with this Union General tonight. You can save yourself from being treated as a traitor, if you meet with him tonight.

Jackson smiles.

LONGSTREET (CONT'D)

But you're going to give him this information instead.

Longstreet hands Jackson a document.

LONGSTREET (CONT'D)

You do this, and you will not only be in my good graces, but you'll earn a permanent place in the Confederate Army, free of persecution.

Jackson nods and turns to leave the tent.

EXT. RIVER - NIGHT

The Union Officer waits, as he did previously, Jackson appears again.

UNION OFFICER

What's the word?

Jackson hands him the document

UNION OFFICER (CONT'D)
(Reading the Document)
Confederate Troops to converge on
Federal Right Flank, noon tomorrow.
Son, this is incredible

Jackson, stands with his head down.

UNION OFFICER (CONT'D)
What's wrong son?

Jackson, struggling with his internal conflict, reaches forward and grabs the document, throwing down in the water.

JACKSON
It's a lie!

UNION OFFICER
What?

JACKSON
They found out about me talking to
you last night. They told me I
needed to give you that document to
save myself from punishment. For a
moment, I actually considered it.

UNION OFFICER
Come son, quickly before-

Gun shots are fired, and Jackson goes down.

More gunshots are fired at the Union Officer but the officer flees.

The Sergeant appears, Standing over Jackson.

SERGEANT
That was a real dumb move kid.

JACKSON
Come here.

The Sergeant leans down to listen to the kid.

JACKSON (CONT'D)
God bless America

SERGEANT
What?

Jackson leans down and grabs a knife from inside his pants and stabs the Sergeant in the gut. Jackson smiles and dies.