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## The Agony in the Garden

*And when he had dipped the bread, he gave it to Judas Iscariot, the son of Simon. And after the morsel, Satan entered into him. And Jesus said to him: That which thou dost, do quickly. He therefore having received the morsel, went out immediately. And it was night.*

- John 13:26b-27, 30

While we were waiting in the Garden for Jesus to finish with his prayers, Peter, James, and I leaned against an olive tree and began discussing the evenings events. The evening had excitement in the air. The Passover was always like that though. Everything was pretty much normal but something didn't feel right. I was beside Jesus, reclining on His chest, when He told us that one of us would betray him. Everyone sat upright instantly. We all began to reassure Him that it wouldn't be us. But we also had to ask because we knew that He would know. Even if we couldn't see it coming in ourselves He would know. This questioning went on for a while. Peter told me to ask Jesus point blank who it was. I was young and didn't really know any better so I did. He told me it would be the person who dipped his hand in the same dish as He did. I told Peter and we both watched for a while. As we continued with the meal Judas stood and began toward Jesus. Jesus whispered something to Judas and he left. I figured Jesus had told him to give some money to the poor so I didn't question the activity. After Judas had left Jesus did a very peculiar thing. He stood and told everyone else to remain at table. He took off His robe and put on an apron that was hanging nearby on a nail. He then took a basin of water and began washing all of our feet. He and Peter began to argue as usual but the rest of us just watched in awe. After we finished with the dinner and sang the traditional songs the four of us walked out to Mount Olivet for evening prayers. Once we entered the Garden on Olivet Jesus told us to stay together and pray while He went on further. I was slightly frightened being out there on the hill so I placed myself between James and Peter with my back against the tree. I think we had too much wine because the conversation quickly died off and we all fell asleep. When I awoke I was terrified. Jesus was standing overtop of us, His eyes were afire while He was speaking to Peter and rebuking us all for sleeping. Some torches approached from behind us and I saw that Jesus was soaked from head to toe with sweat. He looked like a man that had just returned from battle.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be, Etc.

Additional clause: ...of thy womb, Jesus, who sweat blood in agony.

# The Scourging at the Pillar

*Then therefore, Pilate took Jesus, and scourged him.  
And I have been scourged all the day; and my chastisement hath been in the  
mornings.*

*John 19:1, Psalm 72:14*

I secretly followed the group that took Jesus to Caiphas, the high priest. I stood quietly outside minding my own business and listening attentively. I thought I saw Peter there but he hid his face when Jesus looked at him and ran off. I followed them on to the palace of Pontius Pilate. I could hear Pilate speaking. He was loud as men can be when they are scared. He asked Jesus some questions but I could not hear our Lord's reply. Then I heard some laughter coming down the steps that emptied into the courtyard where I was standing. I stepped back in the shadows and caught my cloak on a thorn bush. Six men came out into the courtyard and they were surrounding Jesus. One of the soldiers began to remove Jesus' clothing while another bent down and picked up a whip. I shivered at the sight of the black leather whip. I had been told of how each strip of leather was weighed down by nails. The nails were meant to tear open the flesh of the person being scourged. They took Jesus who was now naked and placed his bound hands on a peg nailed to the pillar just out of normal reach. His feet barely touched the ground. I began to weep and had to cover my mouth to keep from being found when the first streaks of blood ran down Jesus' back. I could barely hear the whip. I helplessly watched as more streaks of dark red blood appeared on his back with each lash of the whip. I hid my eyes in my cloak.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be, Etc.

Additional clause: ...of thy womb, Jesus, who was scourged for our offenses.

# The Crowning of Thorns

*And the soldiers plating a crown of thorns, put it upon his head; and they put on him a purple garment. And they came to him, and said: Hail, king of the Jews; and they gave him blows.*

*And they brought out the king's son, and put the crown upon him, and the testimony, and gave him the law to hold in his hand, and they made him king:*

*I will thresh your flesh with the thorns and briers of the desert.*

*- John 19:2-3, 2 Chronicles 23:11, Judges*

8:7b

Silence filled the courtyard and I looked up. The soldiers had placed an old purple cloak on Jesus and were spitting at him and smacking him. He did not make a sound. They continued to taunt him. One soldier blindfolded him with a piece of cloth and the rest told Jesus to prophesy and tell them who had hit him. I stood motionless in the shadows. I was frozen with fear and I was caught by the thorn bush. One of the soldiers noticed me standing by the bush and began to walk in my direction. I wanted to stay but I was too afraid. I began to run but my cloak was caught. It eventually ripped and I made my escape. The soldier yelled in my direction but he didn't chase me. I ran crying to Jesus' mothers' house.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be, Etc.

Additional clause: ...of thy womb, Jesus, who was crowned with thorns.

# The Carrying of the Cross

*And bearing his own cross, he went forth to that place which is called Calvary, but in Hebrew Golgotha.*

*All we like sheep have gone astray, every one hath turned aside into his own way: and the Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.*

*John 19:17, Isaiah 53:6*

After I had woke Mary we went to find the other Mary who had washed Jesus' feet with her hair. The three of us walked toward Jerusalem. It was tough to get through the crowds that were there for the Passover. We asked if anyone knew where Jesus of Nazareth might be. Some said that He had been freed but we found out that it was another Jesus. A short while later a rumor spread through the crowd that the Romans were executing some men outside of the city and Jesus was one of them. We immediately headed out towards Golgotha. On the way there we met the crowd. There was a whole Roman cohort following a man carrying a cross. I watched the cross He was carrying drop to the ground as He fell. I knelt down and saw that it was Jesus through the legs of the soldiers. We pushed Mary through the crowd shouting that the prisoners mother would like to see Her son. The guards halted the procession for a moment and gave Mary a chance to talk to Jesus. I don't know what was said between them. When she returned to us she simply said, "let us follow him to the end."

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be, Etc.

Additional clause: ...of thy womb, Jesus, who was made to carry the cross.

# The Crucifixion and Death of Jesus

*Now there stood by the cross of Jesus, his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary of Cleophas, and Mary Magdalen. When Jesus therefore had seen his mother and the disciple standing whom he loved, he saith to his mother: Woman, behold thy son. After that, he saith to the disciple: Behold thy mother. And from that hour, the disciple took her to his own. Afterwards, Jesus knowing that all things were now accomplished, that the scripture might be fulfilled, said: I thirst. Now there was a vessel set there full of vinegar. And they, putting a sponge full of vinegar and hyssop, put it to his mouth. Jesus therefore, when he had taken the vinegar, said: It is consummated. And bowing his head, he gave up the ghost.*

*John 19:25-30*

When we arrived at the execution place the guards pushed the people back from the area. There were two other men hanging on crosses already. I felt sick to my stomach when I heard the steel hammer strike the nail. It is a sound I will never forget. Mary wrapped her arm around me and I buried my face in her mantle. When I finally looked up I saw Jesus had been placed between the other two men. The guards had moved on to the other side of the hill and were playing some sort of game so we moved closer. Jesus and the man on His right were having a conversation. We couldn't hear so we moved closer. Some men were taunting Jesus from the ground and even one of the other crucified men shouted nasty things at Him. He hung there for a long time before He lifted His head and made eye contact with Mary and me. Tears streamed down my face as I looked at the man I loved so much. He had a crown of thorns embedded into His hair and bloody nails in His hands and feet. On one of the thorns hung a small piece of cloth, I looked at my cloak and realized it belonged to me. He smiled and began to pray.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be, Etc.

Additional clause: ...of thy womb, Jesus, who died on the cross for us.

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