

The Wurtherington Diary

Tammy meets William Tell

All Ages 9-adult Color Print Edition



“This book is available in print at many online retailers.”

The novel is a work of fiction. Names, characters, places and incidents either are the product of the author’s imagination or are used fictitiously. Any resemblance to actual events, locales, organizations, or persons, living or dead, is entirely coincidental and beyond the intent of the author or publisher. The Author and the Publisher specifically disclaim any liability, loss, or risk, personal or otherwise, which is incurred as a consequence, directly or indirectly, of the use and application of any of the contents of this work.

The Wurtherington Diary: Tammy Meets William Tell

Book

Five in the
Series



Copyright 2015 by Reynold Jay
Confectionery World:
Restoration & Publishing Division
3024 Blossom Circle
Saginaw, Mi 48603
All rights reserved
1st edition
ISBN- 13: 978-1511839594
ISBN- 10:1511839597
Flesch-Kincaid Reading Grade
Level is 4.1 suitable for 9 to adult.
This edition is the full length 24,000 word edition. An abbreviated edition for 8-10 is available with 15,000 words.

Chapter One

October 7, 1883

Dear Diary,

I awoke to the sound of "pandemonium unleashed" in my bedroom this morning. This was nothing unusual when you owned a flying opossum, a mischievous mongoose, and a cackling bird.

"Ride'm cowboy!" They were all playing "rootin' tootin' cowboys." Feathers were flying all about my bedroom again. Cedric the mongoose was sitting on Polly the vulture as though she were a bucking bronco.

She was flapping her wings and cackling, "Caw, caw, caw!"

Rattlesnake Cedric and Mad Dog Zeke were wearing their cowboy outfits. Cedric was about to lasso Zeke. The rope wound around his neck.

"AKKKK!" said poor Zeke who was being unmercifully choked.

I sat up in my bed and shouted, "That's enough out of all of you!" I clapped my hands and spit feathers from my mouth. Polly had broken open her pillow and was

caught red-handed with the evidence in her beak. She tried her best to look innocent – not an easy thing for a vulture to do. She looked about like I did when Aunt May caught me with my hand in the cookie jar.

Zeke said, "You said we could play cowboy today, Mistress Tammy." He hung his head and wrung his cowboy hat in his hands.

Cedric jumped off Polly. He said, "We were just havin' some fun, Mistress Tammy."

I knew they all loved to play and I was often the leader of all the devilry. I said, "Come here and let me give all of you a good morning hug." I embraced each one with hugs and kisses. I told them to run outside and play. It was time for school and I would play with them after I returned from school.

"Yes, mum," they said. "We will see you this afternoon." They ran out back toward the river.

Aunt May served hotcakes and sausages at the breakfast table. Lord Wixby



gave me a good morning kiss as he always did and read the morning paper while he ate. Mark was wearing a strange outfit with suspenders and a feathered hat. It should have dawned on me that the space-time continuum had been disrupted again. However; I paid little attention to it until I opened the front door and saw that the town had a Bavarian look to it with cute little houses and pointed roofs. A pair of soldiers sat behind sandbags on the street corner wielding bows and arrows. Mark gave a salute and nudged me. "Tammy, you must salute them," he said.



"Oh," I said, "I nearly forgot." I smiled and gave the salute as we passed by.

We passed by the store windows and I could see that it was like stepping back in time. I really have no other way to say it. They were selling things that had gone out of fashion long before I was born. When it came time to say the pledge, I saw we had a red and white flag that was not the one that was always there. Those around me said, "I pledge allegiance to the Austrian flag and for all for which it stands."

Our teacher, Mrs. Prescott instructed us to get out our science books. I leafed through it and could see that it was very different. It had a drawing of the Sun

revolving around the Earth and a chapter explaining how earthquakes were caused by vengeful gods. I raised my hand. "Mrs. Prescott, the book seems to be out of date. I see it has the Sun revolving around the Earth and I always thought it was the other way around."



"No," said Mrs. Prescott. "You are such a silly girl to suggest such a thing." Everyone laughed at my remark.

Later I took my best friend, Nancy aside and told her that I was having one of my forgetful days. She told me that we were a colony of Austria and that we were all serfs that must be loyal to Emperor Sigismund the VI. I had not heard of a serf. "You must have been hit on the head, Tammy," she said. "We are under the care of the prince elector, the Duke of Bavaria who owns all of

Ohio."

I wondered, "What about the capital? Is it in Columbus?"

Nancy said, "I don't know what you are talking about. The Duke is our lord and rules the land from his castle in Lakewood."

She explained that serfs did not own anything at all and that the Duke controlled everything in Ohio.

"What about my house?" I inquired. "Does Lord Wixby own his house?"

"No, silly girl," she said. "No one owns anything other than the Duke. If anyone upsets the Duke he would send soldiers to carry those people away. I had an uncle who spoke up against the Duke and we never saw him again."

"What happened to him?"

"I can only guess," she said. "I imagine the soldiers came and arrested him in the night and they either killed him or threw him in prison. It happens all the time. Be careful not to ever say anything or it could happen to you. Mrs. Prescott says we live in a monarchy and we should be thankful that the duke is so kind to us. They had an uprising in Indiana and thousands of people were beheaded."

"That sounds ghastly," I said. "What were they upset about?"

"The Duke of Indiana confiscated the harvest and the people were starving. Thousands of children died. We only know of it because of the underground movement. Nothing is ever said of these things in the news."



When I returned home, my head was nearly spinning from the upside-down world in which I was living. I figured that it would not be long and I would be called upon to set the world back in order. I gathered Cedric, Zeke, and Polly in the shed out in back of the house and we played with my doll house. Soon Alfred, the mouse (the king of Kira) appeared in a cloud of sprinkle dust. He said, "We must all go at once! Lucinda says that we must hasten to Kira and fix the space-time continuum before it is too late."

I gathered up my sewing machine and basket while he searched his pockets and found the magic hourglass. He said the words that would take us to Kira.

"Magic sands of time, hear our words today,
And whisk us back to Kira, up and away!"

Zeke said, "Let's hope we make it in one piece this time!" I hoped so too. Although the last time trip went well; we had some bumpy rides in the past.

I always closed my eyes whenever we did this. I think the experience was too much for me to do it



with open eyes.

A whirlwind swept all about us and the shed hurled into the air. When I opened my eyes, we were all standing in the palace garden in Kira. Lucinda and Queen Betty greeted us. Alfred became a human as he always did when we returned to Kira. We stepped out of the shed that was still smoking from the trip.

Kakuna elves served us gobble berry cake and pink lemonade while we settled under an oak tree. Lucinda said, "Hi Tammy! I see you brought your sewing machine with you. That is good. I trust your trip was pleasant this afternoon?"

I assured her that it had gone well. I said, "I must tell you that this is one time I am glad to be here. River Falls has been turned into a medieval Bavarian village and Ohio is a monarchy ruled by an Austrian Duke."

Lucinda said, "That is not surprising to me from all that I have learned this morning." She brought out the crystal ball and sat it on the table where we could all view it.

She waved her hands over the crystal ball and said, "Take us this day to August 1 in 1291. Take us to Lake Lucerne; the meadow where the deed should be done."

Zeke stared in amazement at the ball as he always did. It made him dizzy. He turned green; then spun around and fell to the floor. "What should we see?" asked Cedric while he fanned poor Zeke and had him sip on gobble berry juice.

Lucinda said, "This is the day that freedom was declared by three of the bravest men you could ever hope to meet. We are being taken to Switzerland where freedom was born. Two weeks before they met, Rudolf I of Hapsburg died and this gave the cantons of Switzerland an opportunity like no other. While the Hapsburg Empire was in disarray, they seized the moment to declare that they were freemen. They declared their lands free of the wrath of the Hapsburgs."

Alfred explained, "The Hapsburgs ruled Austria and much of Europe with an iron hand. According to their laws, most everyone was a "serf" which is another name for "slave." No one could own any land at all. If you were a farmer, they owned your land and took the harvest. Anyone who attempted free enterprise was killed. They were merciless powerful lords that ruled their lands at the point of a blade."

Lucinda said, "The concept of freedom was new. This is the Dark Ages and the Swiss declared themselves to be freemen many years earlier. They saw it being taken from them a little at a time and this declaration turned it around."

Alfred wondered, "Isn't this about the time of William Tell?"

Lucinda said, "Yes it is. He was a young man then and was invited to this meeting. He declined as he was a man who believed that each man should defend his own land. He did not believe in joining together for the common good."

Zeke said, "I did hear of a legend where he shot an apple off his son's head."

"Wait," said Lucinda. She raised her hand into the air and pointed. "Take a look at the crystal ball. What do you see?"

Cedric peered into it. He said, "I see an empty meadow that borders on Lake Lucerne. Where are the three canton leaders?"



"They are not there," said Alfred. "This must be the beginning of an ugly turn in the space-time continuum."

"Apparently so," said Lucinda. "From this point the Austrians conquered lands all across Europe and then all of North America as well. The Swiss citizens were all murdered and the concept of freedom disappeared altogether."

"What are we to do?" I wondered.

Alfred leafed through a history book and thought he knew the answer. "We must see that the Rütlichschwur is signed by the three canton leaders. We must go to them

and do everything we can to get them to agree to it. The exact date is not known; however it is during the first week of August. I imagine that we will meet William Tell as a part of our mission." He wrote down the names of the canton chiefs.

Zeke peered over his shoulder at a drawing of William Tell shooting an apple off his son's head. "That looks like him. Mistress Tammy, we must dress like William Tell and his son."

I said, "We can go to Sakuna and pick up outfits for all of us there. All the Kakuna elves would have children your size and they all dress in outfits like we see in the book."

Lucinda said, "You should take the book with you as there is much to learn and it will be helpful."

Alfred pointed to the book. "It says that Rudolf I of Hapsburg died the fifteenth of July. We should get there right about then and get to work." We studied the History of the Dark Ages book and discovered that the Uri

cantons acquired a "Rent Freedom Charter" in 1231 from the Hapsburgs. This was the first concept of peasants owning their own land. In 1240 the Faenza Charter declared that Uri was free from all taxes from the Hapsburgs. Alfred showed me what he had written:

Werner Stauffacher: Schwyz canton magistrate

Konrad ab Yberg: Uri magistrate

Konrad Baumgarten: Unterwaldon magistrate

He said, "We'll take the book with us. These are the three magistrates that we must get to sign the Rütli Schwur."

Lucinda said, "I'll send you to Uri and you should look up William Tell while you are there. He was a highly respected man and very much involved in the fight for freedom in later years."

We all agreed that we wanted to meet the man who had become a legendary freedom fighter. I said, "We must go to Sakuna and get dressed for our adventure in 1291. Let's allow the bees to take us there and then Polly can give us all a ride back here." Polly flapped her wings and said, "Caw, caw, caw!" She



loved the idea.

Zeke said, "I like riding Polly!"



We wound our way down a spiral staircase and boarded several bees. With little fanfare we were sailing high over Capira and then the Oxboar forest where the mighty Hoarggs ruled. We waved at several that were busy at a mill and then we made a left turn over Polynesia where millions of bees were quite busy. We landed in the center of Sakuna. Chief Wanakuka and his wife, Lanacua came running down the stairway to greet us and offered us hugs and kisses. Many Kakuna elves gathered round. Chief Wanakuka said, "We are happy to see you! What brings you here today?"

I explained that we all needed outfits and we were quickly ushered into a fine haberdashery. Zeke and Cedric loved standing in front of the mirror admiring their new look. We purchased Bavarian clothing that would suit our time traveling adventure. In a short time we looked very much like the Kakuna elves with pointed feathered hats and short pants. Polly found a hat too. "Caw, caw, caw!" she said when she looked into the mirror.



Zeke agreed, "That hat is perfect for you, Polly!"

We were ready to fly back to Capira on Polly.

I said, "Turn around three times and close your eyes

And soon you will be close to the skies.

Make that which was small,

Grow and be so very tall.

Alakazim, Alakazam!"

Polly circled around three times and became a giant vulture. "Caw, caw, caw!"

Cedric said, "She says we should get aboard!"

We waved goodbye to the Kakuna and soon we were back at the palace garden.

We decided to go to July 18, 1291 to Konrad ab Yberg of Uri to give the news and suggest the cantons get together.

I said, "This is much like we did with getting John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, and Benjamin Franklin together to sign the Declaration of Independence."

Zeke said, "We are becoming freedom fighters for the entire world." We all

agreed.

We had ten days to set the space-time continuum back on course.

Lucinda placed the magic red jasper necklace around my neck and said the magic words.

"Magic necklace of time and space

Take our freedom fighters back to

Switzerland where freedom was born.

Find the Freemen who toil by day,

And fight the tyrant who would steal it away.

Close your eyes and feel the rush upon your face.

Now be gone!

Pass through time and space!"

~*~

End of Sample