

# A Nurse in War

The year was 1914 when the Prime Minister declared war on Germany, after a calm time the people were extremely excited to fight. So, my husband Charles and I decided to volunteer to fight for the triple entente but unfortunately, we were not prepared for what was to come. In this little time that we had we solved everything that was missing at home, we gathered a little money to leave with James our eldest son who was charge in taking care of his other four brothers and we did a train for our functions in the war with the help of the government. My job in the war is to be a nurse since women cannot fight and Charles enlisted in the army.

After a few days, Germany started with the attacks and we had to leave in a hurry. The last thing I heard before getting into one of the tanks was my husband's voice:

- Margaret, if something happens remember that I will always be by your side.

The only reaction I managed to have was a smile, I did not think it would be possible for something to happen as England was very well prepared. I really didn't know what was about to happen. We've been here for a week now; bodies keep coming and the team is overloaded. But my thoughts are about Charlie, I haven't seen him since the war started, I feel like there is something wrong I can't explain what exactly it is but it's like a tightness in my heart, like he needs help... and I was right, he really needed help. In the same second that I think of Charlie I see his body entering our base with blood spread all over his body and I went into complete despair:

- Someone shot him! They shot my husband!

At that moment I could only cry because there was nothing we could do for him until I heard his voice in a tone well below normal:

- hey, look at me do not cry, I will always be here. Remember when we first met? I fell in love in the same second that I saw you staring at that flower and since that day I never stopped buying one of those.

I smile slightly with tears falling under my face when I see Charlie take a wrinkled rose from his pocket:

- I hope you always remember me when you see one of these...

Charlie, my Charlie is dead.

I felt destroyed; I do not know how to continue my life without him. That is the end, I do not have any money to take care of my children. But Charlie would not like to see me suffer, I must be strong and do my best. After Charlie's death, I still had to face the war to the end. I spent four years away from home, away from my children, keeping the pain of losing my husband to myself. But I finally managed to get home, totally broken, finished. And for sure the hardest part of getting home was explaining to them why Daddy did not come along...

- Mommy! We miss you!

All of them came to greet me with a smile on their face and a hug.

- Where's daddy?

When James said that, I felt an uncontrollable pain, I started to cry and soon the elders understood.

- I- I can't believe...

- I'm sorry James.

I just wish I could be okay with my family; I wish he was here.

This really was the most difficult moment of my life; my children were starving some action needs to be taken so I decided to divide the tasks:

- James, you need to get a job and Rose, since you are not old enough to work, I need you to take care of the triplets. I will look for some old stuff that we can sell.

Everyone agreed. And so, the work started, James left the house every day at five in the morning to distribute the newspapers around the neighborhood, Rose took care of the triplets for me while I turned our house around looking for something. Nothing was good ... I just found a broken record player that was worth almost nothing since it was in pieces. I was almost giving up but that was when I saw something shine in the bottom of my closet, it was an alliance that Charles gave me when he proposed to me with a giant diamond on the end, I never thought I would sell it, but it was the only solution. I went door to door in the wealthiest neighborhood in the city trying to sell my ring. I spent

the whole afternoon walking around the neighborhood, when I arrived at the last house a lady answered me and said she needed this ring and gave me a hundred thousand pounds for it:

- Finally, my family and I will be able to live in peace!

I looked at the sky and smiled. I know that from now on it will be different, but it will be all for him.  
My Charlie.