



That night there was an inch of snow on the rooftops of Warsaw; Ruth and Bronia were asleep in the bedroom next to their mother's. Edek's room was on the top floor, below the attic. Bronia couldn't get to sleep because it was so cold. Then the sound of a loud engine roared up the road. It stopped and it sounded like the vehicle was right outside their house.

Footsteps were getting closer and closer to the small and cold house. Suddenly a loud and heavy knock was heard at the door. The second time of knocking was actually a soldier forcing the door open. The children were so scared because they didn't know who it was. Margrit knew exactly who it was and she rushed to hide her children so they couldn't see what was about to happen. The Nazi storm troopers broke into the bedroom and took Margrit outside.

Margrit tried to break free but the badge the Nazi was wearing on his uniform scraped her cheek. She winced in pain. The children, hearing all the noise, broke free out of their hiding place and ran to the window to see their mother being dragged to the Nazi's truck. Edek ran downstairs to get to his mum but Ruth grabbed him before he could. Edek turned round and saw his father's rifle hanging on the wall.

He picked it up and ran upstairs to the attic with it and shot at the tyre of the van with it. The bullet reflected off the tyre and hit one of the storm troopers in the shoulder. Edek did not mean to hit the soldier, but at least it stopped the soldier hurting his mother. The storm troopers shoved Margrit into the van and drove off.

Ruth found a letter on the floor with their names written on it. It said:

*I will miss you all and do be careful. I want you to travel to Switzerland, where you will be safe. Don't worry about me I will be ok. Ruth can you look after Bronia for me and Edek can you be my brave, little hero and save yourself. I think the Nazi's are going to take me to Germany to work on the land. Please run and hide.*

*Love from your Mother xxx*

The children decided that they must leave their home in Warsaw, before they went Ruth packed some food and some clothing for each of them to wear. They ran down to the street wearing dark, black clothing to make sure that they weren't seen by any of the Nazi's on patrol and jumped onto the back of a passing truck.

A few hours later another truck came with a boot load of explosives. In one light of a match the whole house was demolished. There was no turning back for the children. Everyone who lived in their neighbourhood did not know if the three brave children were dead or alive.

**Writing in the style of an author – By Emily E P6**

**My version of Chapter 8 – 'The Night of the Storm troopers' – from the novel 'The Silver Sword' by Ian Serraillier**