



The Serpent

Chapter 4

I grew up on a farm and a ranch. One summer, my father and I took our D4 Caterpillar bulldozer out to the ranch to clear out tanks.

These tanks were built by making a small dirt dam in smaller canyons and washes. When the rainwater would run down the wash, this dirt dam would catch the water for the cows to drink. These were called tanks.

As with nature, that water would also bring with it dirt and fill up the bottom of these tanks. It was our job to push this dirt out, in turn making a taller bigger tank. When one tank was cleaned out, we were off to the next tank.

The bulldozer went slow but strong and nothing would stand in its way. Sometimes it would take nearly a day to get from one tank to the next.