

Alcatraz: The Grand Escape

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Chapter:1

The Arrests

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On a dark stormy night on June 26 1962 two brothers, Clarence and John Anglin, walked down 33rd street and walked into San Francisco's Reserve Bank with toy guns in their coats. As they waited in line to get to the front desk, the brothers examined the place to find all the exits in case the police got called and came in with force. When they finally got to the desk a woman said, "How may I help you?"

"This is a hold up!" the brothers said croakily as they put the toy gun to her neck. Then in a flash her hand went under her desk and hit the emergency button. In a split second the sirens went off and the whole place went into panic. It was berserk, the place was like a zoo. Mums were carrying their children and then rushing to the door.

The brothers widened their eyes to take in the madness they were witnessing, then they also sprinted for the door but they were too late, the police were already outside waiting for them. The police hid behind their cars with their guns on the car hoods aiming at the door. The brothers pushed through the door and started to sprint down the road. The police started to fire their guns at the brothers, and Clarence collapsed as a bullet hit him in the leg. John stopped and kneeled down next to his brother who was in tremendous pain. Clarence said with his dying words "Run!" But as John got up a bullet struck him in the shoulder. The police finally picked up the men and took them to hospital. The nurse x-rayed John's shoulder. The bullet had broken his clavicle bone and shattered his tibia. As the brothers watched television while lying on their hospital beds a breaking story came on, there had been a bank robbery on 29th street at 11:14am. It was the same time that the brothers had attempted their robbery, and then the news broadcaster said, "The police had caught the man behind one of the two bank robberies, it was Frank Lee Morris".

Chapter:2

The Trail

The brothers woke up in their hospital beds dreading that the day had come when they had to go to court for their attempted robbery of San Francisco's Reserve Bank. As the brothers stood up and walked with the police down the hospital corridor out the front door to the hospital the streets were full of paparazzi shoving each other trying to take a shot of the brothers.

"I wanted to have a mob want to take pics and interview me but not like this heading to court on a Saturday morning," Clarence said. John agreed with a little smirk.

As the brothers walked to the police car they had big smiles on their faces as if they were going to space or wonderland. The brothers sat in the police car still with the big smile on their faces but then the smile broke when the policeman said, "I wouldn't have that smile on your face you not going to be getting out of this one."

The car finally stopped and the two brothers got out and got shot with more cameras and interviewers the police pushed through them and got to the entrance with the brothers. The police showed the brothers where they had to stand for the court hearing.

It was time as the brothers stood nervously relying all on their lawyer Mark Robinson. Mark was an incredible lawyer but the brothers were still nervous. As the court came to a stand Mark was doing well until Sam Willis the bank managers lawyer asked, "Why was Clarence and John Anglin in the bank with a toy gun?" Mark froze as he said, "because because because." Then the judge came to a decision that John and Clarence Anglin were guilty for the attempted robbery of San Francisco's Reserved Bank and sentenced to 25 years with no parole time for up to 20 years at Alcatraz jail.

Chapter:3

Alcatraz

The brothers were shocked that they were guilty, they thought they would get away with it, and as they walked out of the courtroom, they got back in the car with despair. The brothers sat in the back watching the scenery flash by as they travelled to Alcatraz. Then the car stopped suddenly as the driver hit the brakes, the brothers snapped forward then the driver hit the accelerator again the car started swerving. "The driver is berserk!" the brothers said in sync.

"It was just a cat wandering on the road" replied the driver.

The car stopped. "Get out, we're here!" the driver said angrily. The brothers stepped out with their hands locked with handcuffs behind their backs, there was an old man standing by the docks. "All aboard, all aboard!" he said. The brothers walked slowly to the docks their hands trembled uncontrollably and their cuffs rattled. The brothers got to the boat and climbed aboard, the captain asked if there were anything that they wanted to say before they set sail it was only a joke we didn't mean to hurt nobody it was just a joke please," the brothers pleaded. "Right, that's what they all say," the captain replied, the brothers sat there sulking, as the boat set sail to Alcatraz.

The trip was rough over the ocean and it was pouring down with rain the brothers sat at the back not making a sound, not even a peep. The boat suddenly hit a wave then the boat tipped over and the brothers fell out, luckily they were wearing lifejackets. They floated up to the surface but they couldn't swim their hands were still in the handcuffs. They just floated there getting hit by every wave, then suddenly a boat came and picked them up. The brothers sat on the boat coughing, the men on the boat asked was there anybody else on the boat they said "no!"

"what were you doing in this weather," the men said, "we were just trying our

new boat out” the brothers replied. Then the captain yelled out “there’s another, there’s another” the man in the water was the captain, the men pulled him aboard he was choking on water the men started to push his chest the water came out in a blast then he spoke “they ,they are prisoners, there criminals!”.

The men turned around and they looked at the brothers the brothers looked scared they started saying that he was crazy and his mental. “ I was taking them to Alcatraz until a wave hit us and we all went overboard” the captain yelled , the men were shocked.

Then the men said “we will take them to the front gate of Alcatraz and let the guards do the rest”.

Chapter 4: **Big Tony**

As the brothers got off at the front gate they walked up the drive with the guards. The brothers were terrified they saw the big iron gates as the guards pushed them open and the gates creaked mysteriously. The brother’s heads shifted as the lights of the sentry towers light gleamed towards them. Then they walked through the main office while getting shuffled on by the guards, there were pictures of different types of ships and buildings the brothers glared at them with amazement. Then the guards spoke to the lady at the reception desk “here are the brothers who attempted to rob the Reserved Bank of San Francisco”
“oh yes, these ones are in cell block C” she replied.
“Through here Clarence and John,” the guards said, the guards went through door and walked down the hallway. The brothers looked left and right as they walked

down the hallway looking at the frightening faces of the prisoners.

The brothers finally got block C they were put in two different cells which were opposite sides of each other. “The Warden will be through in a minute lights out at 10” one of the guards said.

“How you guys get in?” a big bloke said, the brothers didn’t answer.

Then he asked again “hello,i’m talkin to ya how ya get in?”

“we attempted to rob the Reserved Bank of San Francisco” John said, then there was silence, “that’s pathetic I got in here because i killed 12 men and 4 women because I was a bit mad, anyway the names Tony Henderson, but everyone calls me Big Tony” the bloke said breaking the silence,

“i’m Clarence Anglin and his my brother John” said Clarence.

The door suddenly swung open it was the warden. He was big he stood 6ft tall and was 350 pounds he was a monster. He came in marching ,“hey big man hows the wife and kids?” Big Tony asked, but the warden just stood there looking at the brothers, then he spoke “so these little shrimps are the Anglin brothers , ha your not gonna last a day,” his voice was like thunder. The brothers were scared ,their eyes told it all “ lights out at ten!” he roared again ,then he stormed off through the steel doors. “ That’s the warden nice isn’t he, i’ve got a feeling he’s not gonna like you guys he doesn’t like the newbees” Big Tony said.

“ well i don’t think i’m gonna like him either” John said,Clarence laughed, then in a flash it went dark it was now 10.

Chapter 5: **Good Morning**

BANG BANG BANG!!!!!!! the brothers woke up to gunshots. "What's that racket!?" Clarence asked, then the door swung open it was the warden .

"Rise and shine shrimps," he said.

"To early, get us up in an hour" Big Tony said, the warden then stormed over to his cell "sure Tony you can sleep for another hour when you're dead" the warden roared, Tony just stood there looking at his toes.

"At 10am you will be let out of your cells for breakfast and then outside , but if you try to escape you will be for supper understand?" the warden said, everyone even Big Tony Nodded their heads. Then the warden stormed out.

At 10 the doors swung open and a whole bunch of guards came out with AK-47 's and handcuffs."well this doesn't look good," Clarence said.

"they are just opening the cell doors so we can go to breakfast" Big Tony said ,the brothers were relieved they thought they were gonna get executed. The doors open with a sound of an alarm and the brothers were shoved out of their cells by one of the guards Big Tony caused a fuss "lay off me I know the drill come on i've been in here for 12 years i'm not stupid," he demanded, John and Clarence both laughed.

Then Big Tony spoke again "yo Allen, Allen West get over here meet john and Clarence Anglin"

"hi i'm Allen West nice to meet you how did you guys get in this dump?" I said

"oh we tried to rob a bank, but it didn't go to plan, how about you?" John replied

"oh i carjacked a few hundred people nothing much" I replied. John and Clarence then started walking out the doors followed by Big Tony.

"wait up" I said, they stop and stared as I ran to catch up, as we walked through the hallway of cell block D I saw many different men some tall and some fat I hadn't seen them before and i have been here for a couple of years now. I walk further down the hallway and saw a man who was smoking a cigarette and had his hair slicked back with a leather jacket on, he stared at me and i stared back, "isn't that the guy from the t.v at the hospital isn't his name Frank Lee Morrison?"John asked,

then the guy looked he looked in to John eyes and said “who do we have here the Anglin brothers, you guys attempted to rob San Francisco Bank the same day I tried to rob the North Harbour Bank just a few blocks away, since the cops were just a few blocks away i didn’t have time to make a run for it,”

“ really thats funny”Big Tony said

“ sorry we didn’t mean to get you caught or anything” John said

“ it’s alright this cell is better than my apartment anyway”Frank replied.

We all walked into the cafeteria there were already guards breaking up fights.

“where do we get our food?, there are no lines anywhere” John asked

“ right over here” I answered, I walked to the food station and they followed. “ I know the cafeteria lady pretty well i can get gourmet meals in an instant, do you guys want anything in peculiar?” Big Tony said

we all shrugged and said “ we will be fine” then Big Tony walked off. I got to the front of the line and the food was still the same as last years porridge and toast.

We were sitting down and then Big Tony came up to us with nice pancakes and bacon and even eggs. We all stared especially Frank we were all jealous we regretted not taking his offer.

Chapter 6: **The Idea**

After breakfast we went outdoors to work out but we just played chess until I said

“ we should plan an escape” Everybody’s eyes looked at me then
“ did you just say that we should plan an escape route out of this dump?”J hn asked
“ yea it will be a piece of cake” I replied “besides sailing across the ocean!” john added.
“ i’m not gonna try escape you guys can but I won’t be coming” Big Tony said , then he walked off.
“ who’s in and who's out?”I said , Frank was in straight away followed by John , but Clarence didn’t say anything
“ come on Clarence I need you to do this with me please, Clarence please” John said
“ i’m in” Clarence added.

DING DING DING!!! “ that’s the bell it’s time to go inside, we will sort out the escape tomorrow after breakfast”I said. We all agreed and went back inside and we saw the warden he was looking ferocious like he was a rhino charging at his rival the warden stood there like he was Goliath (well he practically was) he shouted “Allen West did you steal my key from my office!?”
“ nope I don’t think i did” I replied
“ right the who did?” the warden replied
“ I don’t know maybe you dropped while you danced to The Beatles with the broom from the closet”I added
“ how did you know that?” the warden replied,
John, Clarence and Frank laughed
“ fine, i guess you don’t have it at all”the warden lastly added. He walked away and we laughed again
“ that was cool seeing a little guy stand up to a goliath”Clarence said
“yea that was pretty cool” John added.

We walked to our cells and sat on our rock solid beds and waited till dinner. We talked about the plan a little, I was saying that somebody needs to get a couple of weapons from the weapon room and another make a raft out of different materials around the place. Then the warden came in, “dinner is at 6 just to let

you newbies” he said.

DING DING DING!!!! it was 6, the guards came in again like they did this morning and they unlocked the cell doors we all moved slowly through cell block D and we got in the food line. We all got mash potatoes and peas and a pork chop. “ This is pretty good for a prison” John said

“yeah it is we sometimes get macaroni and cheese and thats always good” I replied. We all finished our meals and we went back to our cells. It was 7 now and we kept on talking about who was doing what. We decided to make the Anglin brothers get the weapons from the weapon the weapon room and that Frank would help me put the raft together. By the time we finished discussing about it, it was 10 and the lights flashed out.

Chapter 7: **Plan In Progress**

I woke up and realized it was still dark but i couldn’t get back to sleep I was too happy because we were gonna escape this place. Then I heard a noise, it was John he started talking “ is that you Allen”

“ yeah it’s me” I replied

“ it’s still dark go back to sleep we’ve got a big day today” John replied. I tried to get back to sleep, but i couldn’t stop thinking about the escape and if we did it what I would do as a wanted man. I finally got to sleep, but wasn’t for long I woke up again to a gunshot the same one that woke us up yesterday morning it was 9 in the morning. Big Tony was still snoring away i was surprised because the everybody else was awake and the gunshot was loud as. Then the door suddenly swung open and the warden came through looking as terrifying as ever

“BREAKFAST NOW!” he shouted

“but its only 9, breakfast isn’t till 10” I replied “DO YOU THINK I CARE?, and get up Tony” the warden replied

Tony flew his head up “ yes sir”.

We waited in line for breakfast and started talking about the plan. John and Clarence would go tonight to get the weapons. “How are we gonna get out of our cells?”John asked

“ You know how the warden asked me if i had his key well I do and that is how we are gonna open our cell doors and the weapons will help us take out the guards” I replied.

“which way are we gonna go and which doors are we opening?” Frank asked

“we are going out the cell door then through the door to get to here, then we are gonna go upstairs and open the roof door, then make the raft then climb down the ladder to the front of Alcatraz, then run to the bay and put the raft in the water and sailed north-east to the Golden Gate Bridge”

“ that sounds confusing” Frank replied. We got to the front of the line and we got the same, porridge and toast.

DING DING DING!!!! the alarm went again it was time for community service we had to make birdhouses for the rest home in San Francisco. The workshop was full of different criminals there was even a michette who had killed 20 odd people because they were mocking his size, he also wore a leprechaun outfit while he killed them (just to be creepier). The workshop was boring because i kept hitting my thumb with the hammer and I had glue all over my hands and arms. The brothers and Frank though looked like they were having loads of fun, but the fun stopped though after the alarm went again to say it was time to go back to our cells.

Chapter 8:

The Weapon Grab

I walked back to my cell with a sore as thumb and sticky hands but i didn't mind because it was the night John and Clarence were gonna get the guns from the guns room. I sat on my bed saying where the gun room was and the best route to take i said " go to the breakfast room and take your left , then take the second right, then go through the big steel doors and then you will be in the gun room , just remember to watch out for the guards and you are gonna have to use the warden's key to open the gun room door"

" I don't think i'm up to this anymore" John said

"don't be a wuss we planned this and if this works we can live as wanted men forever and we will be on television every night and I will be there with you the whole time" Clarence replied.

DING DING DING!!!!!! the alarm went again for dinner we all got taken by the guards to the cafeteria. The food wa the same pork chops and mashed potatoes. We all ate it anyway because we didn't want to look suspicious. The brothers finished their dinner fast and they went back to their cells to get ready for the the gun raid. They got back to their cells and asked each other " I believe we can get the weapons and get off this island" John was nervous he thought he was gonna get caught and get life imprisonment. Clarence wasn't though he thought it would be easy and that he would be off the island in no time . Frank and I finished our dinner ands got back to the cells to give The brothers the warden's key. I gave it to Clarence and said " good luck if you're not back by 12 we will come for you" "I will be back mate no doubts about it this will be easy" Clarence replied.

The lights flashed out it was 10 John and Clarence unlocked their cell doors with the wardens key and walked out the door very quietly they tiptoed slowly to the cafeteria, then they stopped and crouch as a guard trolled past when he was out of sight they got up and tiptoed to the left and went through the door. They

suddenly stop as they watched another guard go past, then they started again looking for the second door on the right they got to the door and slowly opened it. Inside it was pitch black they couldn't see anything , but they still carried on walking searching hard for the big steel doors then Clarence hit into something it was the steel doors Clarence opened the doors and was in the gun room John was nowhere to be seen though he silently called John " John where are you ?I found the gun room"

" right behind you I see you in the light" John replied. They saw guns everywhere on every wall there was AK-47s, RPGs, sniper rifles you name it they had it Clarence and John's mouths dropped at the amazement , then they carefully picked a few weapons they picked one RPG , two sniper rifles and a couple of AK-47s.

They ran the whole way back on the tips of their toes so they didn't make a sound. They finally got back to their cells and hid the weapons under their beds and they went to sleep.

Chapter 9: **The Escape**

I woke up at 6 in the morning and asked straight away "did you get the weapons" but the brothers were still asleep but then i saw an AK-47 under the bed and I knew they had got the weapons and we will be off this island in no time. I sat on my bed thinking about what materials I should get to make the raft, then it came to me rain jackets we had lots of rain jackets in the shed outside if we glued them

together and blew air into them we could make a raft.

8 in the morning now I was still waiting for one of the brothers to wake up, then Clarence eyes opened and he sat up and looked around like he was dazed or something. “ Did you get the weapons, did ya?” I said

“ yes we did we got plenty” Clarence replied tiredly.

“ was John ok the whole time?” I asked

“ yea he was fine” Clarence replied. Then John woke up followed by Frank, they said exactly at the same time “ what are you guys doing?”

“ talking about the success last night” I replied.

DING DING DING!!! the alarm went off for breakfast it was 10 we walked out of our cells to the cafeteria, but I walked through another door to get to the shed outside to get the rain jackets. I opened the shed door and grabbed as many jackets as i could there was probably more than 30 jackets. I then shut the door and ran straight to my cell to put the jackets away, I put them under my mattress so they would be hidden by anyone who came past and looked in my cell. All I had to do now was to get some glue from the workshop and we would be set for tonight. I went back to the cafeteria and sat down next to John, Clarence and Frank, “ did ya get the jackets?” they asked me

“ yes I did, all we need now is glue so we can stick them together” I replied. We all walked out of the cafeteria sand we went to the workshop[and unlocked the door with the warden’s key. We went into the workshop and took three bottles of glue then we ran out of the door slamming it behind us.

I sat on my bed thinking about what would happen if we got caught would we get life imprisonment or even executed I didn’t know what would happen.

“ what are we gonna do if we escape we won’t be able to get a job we will be criminals forever” I asked John,

“ we will stay hidden out of sight of the police and we will stay in my old

apartment nobody knew that I lived there it will be safe” he replied. I shrugged , then the alarm went DING DING DING!!! we stood up and waited until the guards came over and unlocked our cell doors they came unlocked them, then they shoved us through the doors, through cell block D into the cafeteria. I waited in line like normal, then got my food but I didn’t eat it I was too worried about what we had to do tonight. We walked back to our cells and waited for lights out.

In a flash the lights went out I knew it was time we all sat up on our beds I got the key out and unlocked my door then I unlocked the others , then I went back and grabbed the glue and rain jackets then Clarence chucked me a Sniper and a AK-47 Then he gave Frank the RPG and a Sniper. The brothers got an AK-47 each . We walked through cell block D as slowly and quietly as possibly we were halfway through then we heard a voice

“ why are you guards patrolling at this time of night?”

“ oh we are just checking everybody is in bed” I replied. He then went back to his bed we walked to the door and unlocked it. We were in the cafeteria we ran to the stairs there was no guards around. We made to the stairs and ran up them we got to the top and unlocked the roof door , then we saw a guard looking over the building edge. Frank snuck up behind him and cracked his neck. We then started gluing the rain jackets together it was a 5 by 7 frame and there was plenty of space. We then started blowing air into the sides so it would float on the water. We kept on having to stop because it was real tiring blowing heaps and heaps of air into the sides. We finished and it was all ready 11 we were getting worried about the sail to The Golden Gate Bridge. We went one by one down the ladder with John and I carrying the raft, it was a long ladder when we finally got to the bottom it was 11:45. Then we ran as fast as we could to the bay, we put our raft into the water got in and sailed about 20 metres then the sirens went off they knew we escaped. We still sailed as fast as we could, we always checked our back if they were already in the ocean looking for us but we saw no sign of them.

20 metres away from the Golden Gate Bridge then we heard sirens behind us it was the warden. They started shooting at us we sailed as hard as we could. Then we hit the rocks next to the Golden gate Bridge we jumped off and ran, but John sat on the shoreline bleeding he had been shot by the warden Clarence walked over to him he was in pain he told Clarence to “ run, run save yourself”
“ no i’m not leaving you” Clarence replied
“ you have to go, go” John replied
“ ok but have this hide it and never let it go” Clarence said
“ I will, I will” John replied. Clarence gave him the wardens key then Clarence ran. Frank and I waited for Clarence and John but only Clarence came we asked
“where's john?”
“got shot, he ain’t coming” Clarence replied sadly.

Chapter 10: **Safety**

We got to the top of the bridge and we saw a parked car and I went over and carjacked it we all got in and drove away. We drove over the bridge then I realized we have no safe house John wasn’t here to tell us where his apartment was now we were stuck. Then we saw an abandoned warehouse and so we drove up the driveway and got out of the car and tried the warehouse door, it was unlocked.

We sat inside listening to the police sirens going past the warehouse, it was nerve racking you never knew if they were gonna open the door and find us. The sirens went on forever but they never came through the door. We all sat in silence then I broke the silence “we did it we actually did it” I said shivering
“ I can’t believe it I was only in for about 3 days” Clarence replied

“ me too” Frank added. Then we laid down and went to sleep.

I woke up to hear Clarence crying I asked “ what happened?”

“ John he's gone and he ain't coming back” Clarence replied whimpering
“ at least up there up there in heaven he will know we had escaped Alcatraz”.

