

# A Mother's Worst Nightmare

Bullets were whizzing past, faster than the speed of lighting and the smell of smoke was making my insides wither in fear. The panicked screams of the other poor souls trapped inside were making me feel more and more distraught and the smell of terror lingered in the air. Never had I been so fearful in my life. My thoughts flooded with worry for my poor innocent baby trapped in here, with the others not knowing what's going on. Were we going to make it out safe?

Dawn's light was nearly upon us as the siege raged on outside and I didn't know how long I could hold on. Never before had I been so consumed by the idea of dying. There were petrified people huddled around me screaming in desperation with fears that they were going to die and desperately praying for it to end. My heart was pounding as fast as a wild horse. My baby's screams pierced through the solid thuds of gunfire. What was I going to do?

Just when we thought the horror had stopped, we were fooled. The shooting began again but far more furious than it was before. The gunfire was unforgiving, the screams were painful and the yells were more desperately intense. The bullets were starting to penetrate the walls and were making their way in. People screamed in agony as they were innocently injured. Lifeless faces laid peacefully on the cold hard floor. Hopelessly I stared at the poor souls taking their last breaths of life.

Trying to take cover from the rain shower of bullets, my baby's screams intensified. I looked down at her to quickly realise that she had fallen victim to the gunfire. I froze in shock, my eyes swelling with tears, not knowing what to do. We all frantically screamed in desperation as loud as we could to the police to stop shooting at the inn but they ignored our pleas. I didn't know what to do. I was trying everything that came to my mind but nevertheless I was left feeling hopeless.

I prayed the madness would soon end.

*Dorothy Mills*

Mother of one. Hostage and survivor of the Glenrowan Siege.

By Kaylah Binkins