Brenda and Patrick had a light breakfast with the boys and Eleanor and a distraught count.

William brought a picnic basket with a light lunch and placed it on the credenza.

Brenda and Patrick stood and walked out the family dining room. The count stood as they left the dining room.

Patrick looked at the count and said, “We will be back.”

Eleanor looked at her parents.

Brenda picked up her shawl and placed it on and her gloves and her hat.

Patrick went to the wine room and got a bottle of Gen and Ben favorite wine and walked back to Brenda.

Eleanor and the boys and the count were standing in the beautiful foyer and waited for them to leave.

Patrick put on his top coat, hat and gloves and he looked at the count and Eleanor and said, “We will be back before dinner.”

Brenda snickered.

She said, “I want a hundred balloons for Shirley and Michael tomorrow. And William I will make the chicken salad. Just make a green salad and a pound cake and tea. I am sure Shirley and Michael want to take a nap. I want a spaghetti dinner and garlic bread. I hope that is still their favorite and Michael one lamb chop, no more. Have to break him out of those lamb chops. I leave the rest of the dinner to the cook.”

Brenda looked at Eleanor and the count and snickered.

Stanley had their buggy waiting.

The count said, “When will get a chance to cook?”

William sighed at the count.

The count looked at William.

The boys said, “Count Joseph can cook good.”

Thomas said, “Yes he can. I like his cooking. Can we go and ride our horses?”

Eleanor slightly walked away.

She was worried and looked at the messages that need to go out.

Eleanor slightly looked up and saw everyone looking at her.

She thought and said,”What?”

William said, “Are you going to put in the order for the hundred balloons when the messages are taken to town or you going to send a telegram for them to be delivered?”

Eleanor said, “I’ll send a telegram now.”

Percy raised his hand.

Eleanor looked at Percy and said, “What Percy?”

Percy said, “Can we go and ride our horses?”

Eleanor said, “No.”

The count raised his hand and shook his head for yes.

Eleanor thought as Percy was screaming up the upstairs.

William was shaking his head.

Eleanor said, “Thomas go and tell Percy I said, come here.”

There was a knock on the door.

Everyone looked at the door.

William opened the door and it was the coal man to collect.

Eleanor heard the coal man.

She said to William, “Let him in.”

The man walked in the house and stood and looked around the grand foyer and whistle.”

The count smiled at the man.

Bruce looked at the coal man and said, “I thought you were to go to the kitchen?”

The man looked at Bruce.

William watched the man because Bruce was right.

Eleanor was walking back with the invoice she received by telegram and said, “My son is right. This the payment per this invoice for the coal to be delivered here and the ton for the orphanage.”

The man took the payment and left.

William stood and looked out the window at the man.

Eleanor walked to the window and watched the man.

Bruce walked to the door and looked out at the man.

Eleanor rubbed Bruce head.

The count looked at their worried faces and said, “Is there something wrong?”

Eleanor said, “Mr. Guss never send anyone out to collect. We send our payments per workers or messengers.”

William said, “He is a scout.”

The count said, “What is a scout?”

Bruce said, “A thief.”

Percy and Thomas ran downstairs with their coats.

They saw everyone looking out the windows and door and saw the man leave.

Percy said, “Who was that?”

Bruce said, “A thief that said he was sent to get the coal money.”

Thomas said, “Why. They never come to the house?”

Nathan walked into the dining room.

William turned and saw Nathan.

Eleanor looked and said, “Nathan, can you put in an order for a hundred balloons to be delivered tomorrow?”

Nathan said, “Yes.”

Eleanor ran to her study and got the money to pay for the balloons and messages.

She gave Nathan the money and messages.

Once Nathan take the messages and order the balloons he is finished for the day.

Eleanor stared at him.

William and the count looked at Eleanor.

Nathan looked at Eleanor and said, “Ma am.”

Eleanor said, “That’s all you do make a trip to town if need be?”

Nathan said, “Yes.”

Do you want to take on more chores?”

Nathan said, “Yes. Get with William some time during the holiday.”

Eleanor said, “Oh God!”

William looked.

Eleanor said, “Has the turkeys been ordered for the servants?”

William thought and held his head down and said, “No ma am. I was to do that yesterday.”

Eleanor said, “Fine. Nathan can you go to the poultry shop and order the turkeys for the workers?”

Thomas said, “El.”

Eleanor balled her fist.

Percy and Bruce bucked their eyes.

Thomas knew he only call her Eleanor, if they were hurt or in danger.”

Thomas said, “Momma what about us? You know Shirley loves turkey and dressing.”

Eleanor looked at William.

William said, “I did not put in the order yesterday and he might not have a hundred and two turkeys.”

Eleanor said, “Nathan you and William do a quick survey of the servants that are here and see if they will take nother bird instead of the turkey if we can’t get a hundred turkeys. Because William will have to deliver the birds to the servants that are not here.”

She turned her head sideways and gave William a snarl look.

The count loved it.

He loved the way Eleanor took over and he especially loved for she put William in his place.

The count thought, “Earle will love this.”

The count smiled.

William looked at the count.

Percy said, “Momma you wanted me?”

Eleanor said, “That strange man came to collect the money for the coal. He came to the front door. I let him in so I could see his face, in case he means to hurt us. This is the holiday season, bad people are out to do bad things. I don’t like that he had nerves to come here. I want you all to enjoy the horses. Thomas I will beat you and beat you if you, Bruce and Percy go beyond the outer gates. You can ride from the house to the outer gates all day. Someone can see you and can see if anyone is lurking nearby.”

Thomas said, “Momma how long will you hold that one time?”

The count nearly hit the floor.

Eleanor looked at Thomas and said, “Boy. I will hold it forever.”

The count said, “Would you feel better if I had Gary to watch out for them until we get back.”

Eleanor looked at the count and he smiled and raised his eyebrows up.

Eleanor began to grin and cut it off and put her mean momma look on her face.

Alice was walking into the parlor.

Eleanor said, “Alice?”

Alice looked at Eleanor.

Eleanor said, “Can you ask the cooks to have a plate dinner tonight and prepare the chicken for Mrs. Stith’s chicken salad. And can you tell Gary to prepare the horses for Thomas, Bruce and Percy.”

The count said, “And to watch them.”

Alice turned and mumbled, “Now I am taking orders from him.”

Eleanor heard her mumbling and figured out what she must have been saying.

Eleanor cut her eyes at the count.

He stood stunned by Alice with his mouth opened.

Eleanor said, “I got to find all of my children maids. I have to decide if they are going to have governesses…”

Percy and Bruce grinned.

Eleanor said, “Or if they go to military academy.”

Bruce said, “I’ll go to the same military academy with Shirley.”

The count looked at Bruce and then Eleanor.

Eleanor stood and rolled her eyes at Bruce.

Percy just stood and said to Bruce, “And what about you?? Now you say something else.”

Bruce swallowed.

William and Alice were talking coming into the foyer.

Eleanor went upstairs and got her cape, gloves and hat.

The count watched her go up the stairs and back down.

She looked beautiful to the count.

Eleanor stopped in her study and got her bag and counted the money.

Eleanor scolded William and said, “William do we need anything else? Why Nathan does not have his coat, scarf and gloves?”

William said, “I saw that Mrs. Simons. I asked Nathan and he said no one gave him his coat. So I went into the store room and gave him his coat, scarf and gloves.”

Eleanor said, “William who was over that inventory and was to give out the coats?”

William stood for a minute.

The count looked at William.

Percy, Thomas and Percy looked at William.

Alice said, “Stanley.”

Eleanor said, “Thank you Alice.

Eleanor said, “William we have problems. What was the number?”

William said, “The servants said, it did not matter to them.”

Eleanor looked at William.

Nathan walked back into the foyer and he looked better and not so poor.

The count wondered if Stanley did not give Nathan his coat because he was black.

The count thought, “Eleanor is on fire. Nathan’s countenance is better than before. I have to remember this.”

Eleanor said, “Nathan where do you live?”

Nathan did not respond.

Thomas walked to Nathan and looked in his eyes and reached his hand to Nathan.

Eleanor knew that Nathan was special because Thomas only talk to special people and especially not touch them.

Eleanor said, “Nathan, give me the messages and the money for the balloons. I will run the errands, that William did not do yesterday. I want you Nathan to go riding with my boys until I lunch time. Then they come in the house until dinner.”

Eleanor looked at Thomas, Bruce and Percy and said, “You heard me, Now say yes ma am.”

Thomas said, “Yes ma am.” Still holding Nathan’s hand.

Bruce said, “Yes ma am.”

Bruce elbowed Percy.

Percy said, “Yes ma am.”

The count watched the boys.

William said, “I’ll go and bring the carriage around.”

Eleanor said, “No William. You stay and get everything ready for Shirley and Michael. And have a plate dinner tonight and give the boys, a sandwich, apple and milk.”

Percy said, “A..”

Bruce said, “Shut up. I will give you half of my sandwich.”

Eleanor said, “Nathan that is all.”

She looked at her three boys and said, “I will see you three when I and the count get back from town.”

The count was standing waiting for his instructions from Eleanor.

Then he heard his name and ran into his suite and got his coat, hat and gloves and ran back to Eleanor and saluted.

Alice grinned and walked away.

William walked to get a carriage.

Eleanor and the count were exiting the house when William drove around with the carriage.

Eleanor and the count left for town.

They arrived in town two and a half hours later.

Eleanor rushed to the poultry shop and Eleanor placed her order for what he had left.

The count introduced himself to the shop manager.

Mr. Guss walked into the shop for his order.

He ordered two capons and two turkeys.

Eleanor introduced him to the count.

Mr. Guss was impressed and said. “If any wedding bells you must invite me and my wife.”

Eleanor laughed.

Mr. Guss said, “I am serious.”

Eleanor said, “Mr. Guss why did you send that man to our house early this morning to collect your payment? That is not the way we conduct business.”

Mr. Guss looked scared and was looking around.

The count started looking around.

Mr. Guss said, “I’ll tell you outside.”

Eleanor put her order in and waited.

Eleanor was wondering what was Mr. Guss’s dilemma.

The count was standing looking out at Mr. Guss.

The manager walked back and said, “Fifty three turkeys, twenty seven capons and push twenty two ducks.”

Eleanor exhaled and said, “Well then that is what you have. Can they be delivered today or tomorrow. “

The manager said, “We can prepare them, but we can’t deliver them. All of our wagons will be out today and tomorrow. You have to send at least two wagons.”

Eleanor said, “What time do you open in the morning?”

The manager said, “Seven am.”

Eleanor said, “I will send Nathan and another servant. Nathan is black and I don’t want any problems. I have been hearing things.”

The manager looked back in the store and said, “I have several black workers and I look out for them. You won’t have any problems with me.”

Eleanor said, “What is the cost?”

The manager added everything up and gave Eleanor the total.

Eleanor paid the cost and waited for her receipt.

The count opened the door and Eleanor was going over her tab and nearly forget Mr. Guss.

The count looked at Mr. Guss and touched Eleanor’s elbow and said, “Eleanor.”

Eleanor looked up from her paper and remembered Mr. Guss.

She said, “Mr. Guss I am sorry. What is wrong?”

Mr. Guss said, “See that fellow over there with brown coat and top hat?”

The count said, “he has been standing over there watching you.”

Mr. Guss was boisterously laughing.

Eleanor looked at Mr. Guss.

Mr. Guss said, “I think he is the mob. He has approached me two times to buy my coal distribution for much less than what’s it worth. Then my coal orders started decreasing and then this fellow who came to your place this morning showed up to offer to work and go and get the money. I am glad you sent paper.”

Eleanor said, “I’ll buy your business have the papers ready tomorrow.”

The count said, “Or Friday!”

Eleanor knew what the count was saying.

She said, “This is business.”

She looked at the count.

She told Mr. Guss, “I’ll buy it at what you put on the paper and you continued to work on salary and manage the business.”

Mr. Guss nearly cried and he took his hat off and bid them good day.

Eleanor said, “Ten thirty am sharp.”

Mr. Guss ran most of the way home with his Thanksgiving dinner.

Eleanor said, “Joseph, we got to hurry.”

The count was fast to keep up with Eleanor.

He watched Mr. Guss and he watched the mob man crossing the street towards Mr. Guss who spoke to the man and kept walking.

The count noticed two other men watching he and Eleanor.

Eleanor stopped at the message center and sent the messages.

They had to run to the balloon shop.

She made the shop in time to have the balloons delivered.

They were happy and she and the count walked out the balloon shop.

Eleanor stopped in her tracks.

The count bumped not her.

The other people were stopped and looking at the group of former slaves.

Some of the people rolled their eyes at the former slaves and others were amazed.

There were seven small kids and ten teenage boys and two men and three women.

Eleanor stood shocked.

The little boy looked at Eleanor and grinned a big grinned.

The count held Eleanor by the waist and looked into her face and he smiled at the little boy.

Eleanor looked up and saw the evil people looking.

She ran behind the group of wore and torn former slaves and said, “Please wait.”

The former slaves stopped.

They were smelly and nasty and their clothes were completely torn and the count could see the whipping scars on the children and he was overcome.

Eleanor said, “Hi I am Eleanor.”

The former slaves were afraid.

The little boy with the big grin ran and looked at Eleanor and grinned.

Eleanor said, “Where are you going?”

One of the women was pregnant and barefoot.

She said, “Phil. Penn.”

Eleanor was mumbling to herself to figure out what she meant.

Eleanor realized what she was saying.

Eleanor said, “Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.”

The young woman said, “Yes em.”

Eleanor said, “Why there?”

One of the teenage boys said, “To know we are free.”

Eleanor buckled.

The count grabbed Eleanor by the waist to keep her from falling.

He looked round and smiled and nodded at the people.

Eleanor looked around and said, “You will never make it walking.”

One of the men said, “We been walking from Alabama for three months. Some have died along the way and we had to bury them. But they were walking towards their freedom. And we gonna continue.”

They turned to continue to walk.

Eleanor realized these are my people.

She ran and said, “I did not mean it like that you will need help and I will help you.”

She looked around.

She said, “You need clothes, especially coats, boots and hats.”

One of the teenage boys said, “We ever had boots and coats.”

The count turned his head.

He saw the clothing store.

He said, “Eleanor.”

Eleanor looked and saw the store and said, “Come let me buy you clothes.”

The group of twenty two followed them into the clothing store.

Eleanor walked into the store and told the store manager, “I am Eleanor Stith Simons, cloth and shoe these people and I am paying.”

Eleanor smiled at the little boy with the big grin.

One of the black men from the poultry shop saw the group of former slaves.

He peeped in the clothing shop and tipped in the store.

The count and Eleanor watched him.

He grabbed one of the boys.

The boy ducked in fear.

He saw his father.

The man had escaped from another state and made his way there to the town and he was hired at the poultry shop because he used to run the chicken coop on the plantation.

The count walked outside.

Eleanor walked up and said, “Sir who are you?”

The boy pointed at himself and said, “My daddy. Momma and Stella died on the way but told me to keep walking to freedom.”

Joe said, “There’s freedom in this town. I hate to hear that you momma and my Stella passed. They are with the Lord. He’s taking care of them now.”

Eleanor was sick.

The little boy with the big grin walked up and looked at Joe and grinned.

Joe said, “I can take you, but I can’t help no one else.”

Eleanor said, “Where do you live?”

Joe said, “I sleep in a barn.”

Eleanor said, “Finish getting your clothes.”

She walked to the store manager and said, “Is there a hotel or rooming house where they can sleep and bathe?”

The store manager said, “My wife has a rooming house. I think there are three bedrooms.”

Eleanor said, “They need to bath and sleep. How far away is the rooming house?”

The manager said, “I’ll take them Mrs. Simons. I know who you are. My daddy worked on your trains until he died and he left my momma well off until she died. My wife and myself moved into their house and my wife rent out her family house. She’s looking for someone to keep it up. You know clean it and keep fires going that sort of thing.”

He looked at the slaves.

Eleanor said, “Make sure to give each one two pair of boots, underwear, socks, three pairs of pants, five shirts, coat, scarf, hat and gloves. The females five dresses I am giving you two hundred for their clothes. One hundred for the rooming house and if you don’t mind a hundred for their food.”
The manager looked at Eleanor.

Eleanor said, “I know it is a lot to ask you. But I have so much to do.”

The manager said, “I am happy to help. I have three sons. They all work on your ships. They will holiday with us here. We only see them this time of year.”

Eleanor said, “Thank you. I will be back in the morning and tell me what I owe you and give them bags to carry their stuff in.”

Eleanor walked over the people and said, “Mr. Tom is going to help you from here. He is going to take you to a place to sleep and bath. They will get you something to eat.”

The teenage boy said, “Joe momma told me to stay with them. I am gonna stay with them.”

Joe said, “You are my son.”

The little boy that stole Eleanor’s heart walked to Danny and looked at Joe.

Danny said, “This is Joe Jr. Mommy had in Alabama.”

Joe fell back out the door and nearly fell on the count who was sitting on the steps.

The count turned because he was listening to the story, and he moved and let Joe stumbled down the road.

Eleanor looked. She was confused. She needed Patrick.

She tried to be strong.

Danny and Joe Jr. stood and watched Joe walk away.

Eleanor turned and the manager and his helper were looking after Joe.

Eleanor bent down and rubbed the grinning boys head and said, “They are going to get you something to eat.”

She stood up and held Danny.

Danny cried.

He said, “It’s just us. We don’t got nobody else.”

Eleanor said, “You got me. I will help you. I will help all of you.”

Eleanor said, “I will find you tomorrow. I can put you on the train to Philadelphia. I will pay for it. Do you know where you will leave?”

The smart former slave said, “We were told they got places there for us.”

Eleanor begin to think.

They heard the coco man.

The little boy waked out and looked at the man.

The man stared at the boy then the people in the store.

Eleanor rubbed the little boy head.

She walked to the coco man and said twenty five cups for my friends.

The store manager walked to bring the little boy back in the shop to finish his shopping.

Eleanor said, “He’s bringing all of you coco.”

She walked away with the count holding her waist.

They walked to their carriage and the mobster with the brown coat was standing by their carriage.

The count and Eleanor stopped and looked at the man.

The man turned and saw them staring at him.

He tried to smile.

The sheriff was told about the man.

The man said, “I wanted to introduce myself to you.”

The count said, “No sir. Move.”

The man looked back at the sheriff and walked away.

The sheriff looked at Eleanor and followed the man.

The count helped Eleanor in the carriage.

Then he jumped in it.

Eleanor was quiet.

The count reached over and touched her hand.

Eleanor was thinking.

She looked up before she passed it.

The old motel was for sale.

She stopped the carriage and ran to the old motel and ran around the motel and peeped in the windows and tried to go in but the door was locked.

The count stepped out the carriage and looked around.

He called to her several times.

Eleanor emerged from around the back and dusting off her clothes.

The count was trying to pick spider webs off her.

He said, “Your parents will swear I did something. Earlier.”

He kissed her.

He and Eleanor leaned on the carriage and stared at the old motel.

Eleanor looked up at the sky and said, “we have to get back in time for dinner.”

They got in the carriage rode very fast to get back for dinner.

Wallace was lighting the entrance lights when they pulled up and she looked and did not stop until they were at the front door.

William saw them pulled up.

Patrick and Brenda were walking down the hall to the family dining room and saw Eleanor and the count.

Eleanor ran to Patrick.

He held her and said, “Eleanor.”

The count ran up.

Brenda looked at him.

Patrick said, “Eleanor, you are shaking.”

The count said, “Me too.”

Patrick did not look at him.

Brenda looked at him.

Eleanor said, “Slaves.”

The count shook his head.

Patrick said, “What is all of this on you?”

He looked at the count.

Eleanor said, “I climb through a window at the old motel.”

Patrick said, “The old motel?”

He looked at the count.

The count was becoming angry.

Eleanor said, “I saw it on the way back home. I went in to see the condition.”

Brenda said, “Why?”

Eleanor said, “To have it for the slaves who are going up north. So they can rest.”

Brenda put her hands up to her mouth.

The count looked at Brenda’s wedding ring and he walked and looked at it and said, “Very nice.”

Brenda looked at the count.

Eleanor said, “Momma there were children and teens that held onto each other and they had no families. They died on the way to freedom. They had to bury them on the road and fields. Momma. But they are holding onto each other.”

Eleanor was in pain.

She begin to stomp and cry.

Brenda could not help her daughter.

Patrick was holding onto Eleanor.

Percy, Bruce and Thomas walked out the family dining and ran to Eleanor.

Thomas held onto the count while Eleanor was telling about the little children and the big grin little boy who the daddy ran from.

William and the maids and the cooks were standing and listening.

Patrick said, “Eleanor, he doesn’t know how to be a father. That was taken away from they. Someone else decided where their children would work. When their children would eat. When they would sleep. That they would not be educated. They would work for free and taken from their family. Every aspect of their God given right to live another determined. They decided the children lives. All the father did was produce children. He could not stop them from being sold, beaten or lynched. Don’t let that destroy you. You can help them as much as GOD will allow. I will help you.”

William brought hot water for the count and Eleanor to wash their faces and hands.

They all went into the family dining room.

Eleanor nor the count could eat.

They sat and stared in space.

The boys looked at Eleanor and then the count.

Patrick and Brenda watched the two.

Brenda said, “Eleanor, Shirley and Michael get in at noon. Are you going to pick them up?”

Eleanor stared at her sons.

Bruce, Percy and Thomas stared at Eleanor.

Eleanor said, “You boys are blessed. I want you to start being light bearers. Changers of bad things into good things.”

Eleanor looked at them.

The boys said nothing.

Eleanor said, “Father, a man came here to collect the coal money.”

Patrick and Brenda stopped eating and looked.

William was standing in the door.

Patrick looked at William.

Eleanor said, “I told William to let the man in.”

Brenda said, “Why?”

Eleanor said, “I wanted a good look at his face. In case there was any trouble. Bruce told him he was to go around to the kitchen.”

Patrick looked at Bruce.

Brenda said, “You told him that Bruce? You are so right.”

Eleanor said, “I sent the paper not cash. He was shock but tried to play it off. I saw Mr. Guss at the poultry shop.”

Patrick said, “Why did you leave the house with all of the things that have to be done. And at the poultry shop?”

Patrick looked at the count.

The count was unfazed.

Eleanor said, “To order the poultry, pay for the balloons and send the messages.”

Patrick looked at William.

Eleanor said, “Mr. Guss said he belong to the mob was trying to put him out of business. I bought his coal distribution company.”

Brenda and Patrick sat and looked at Eleanor.

Eleanor said, “I buy it tomorrow. I don’t want no known business with the mob.”

The count said, “He was at the carriage waiting for us when we got back.”

Brenda and Patrick looked at Eleanor.

Patrick said, “Tomorrow, I will go with you Eleanor to sign the contract for the company. You have not bought a business before. Then we will leave and check on the former slaves. Then go and pick up Shirley and Michael from the train station. William send Nathan and Stanley to pick up the poultry in two separate wagons. You boys and the count stay here tomorrow and no horse riding tomorrow.”

Patrick lifted his red wine glass to his mouth and whispered to Brenda, “Just a mess.”

The boys heard him and looked at Patrick.

The count said, “May I have brandy please?”

William was about to go and get the brandy.

Patrick said, “It’s in the hall.”

The count said, “Eleanor. Sherry?”

Before Eleanor could answer the count, Patrick said, “No.”

Eleanor turned and looked at her father.

Patrick said, “Your head has to be clear tomorrow. Mob, contract for a business, former slaves, buying a motel and picking up run a way kids. Just a mess.”

Eleanor started crying.

Brenda said, “Hush Eleanor. Your daddy is not saying you are a mess, but problems we have to resolve. We have done this all of our lives and we will do it now. I will be here with the boys and get the balloons and do my chicken salad.”

Brenda looked at William and said, “Did they cook the chicken?”

William said, “Yes ma am. Mrs. Simons gave that instruction before she left.”

Brenda said, “I will check Shirley’s and Mike’s room to make them up. William put in for hot baths in their rooms. Tomorrow’s lunch and dinner are simple.”

The count said, “I will like to cook for you.”

No one said anything.

The boys looked at the count.

He was sitting down.

William saw the count pour a large glass of brady and took several large swallows and re-fresh his glass before he returned to the family dining room.

Eleanor stood and walked to her study and was in there most of the night.

She went into Shirley’s bedroom and selected a dress for the dinner.

She thought, “Shirley has changed after two years. I will let her select her own clothes.”

She walked to Michael’s room and selected what he was wear to dinner, especially since they were having spaghetti.

Eleanor picked an outfit that the count bought her.

Eleanor dressed for bed.

She kneeled down at the foot of her bed and held her head down and had her hands folded in prayer.

She could not say anything to God.

After a long time she got up and laid in her bed.

Then she thought and got up and looked out the window at the re-model supply shed, “No lights.”

Eleanor went to bed.

Patrick finished the work in his office.

He walked out and went down the hall to his suite.

He looked at the count’s suite.

Patrick opened his door and walked and looked out the back.

He saw no lights were on at the re-modeled supply shed.

Brenda begin to toss in the bed.

Patrick cut his eyes at Brenda.

Brenda woke and looked around.

Her eyes finally fell on found him and she said, “Patrick?”

Patrick said, “No lights at the re-modeled supply shed.”

The count drank all of his brandy and wanted more.

He stood and tipped to his door and ran down the hall and poured the brandy.

Patrick said, “Listen to him. Running down the hall to the liquor like a child.”

Brenda said, “At least he is not running to my baby.”

Patrick said, “William told me when she and the count left and I looked at the written time on the receipt. There is over an hour and a half missing.”

Patrick laid in the bed.

Brenda said, “At least they were not in our house.”

They heard the count running down the hall.

Patrick yelled, “Good night count!”

The count was startled and said, “Good night.”

Brenda said, “Patrick?”

Patrick said, “I know.”