Dr. Greene and Debra were up and dressing for work.

Barry was running through the house.

Debra was quiet and she went and sat on the bed.

She was half dressed.

Dr. Greene was tying his tie.

He stopped and stared at Debra in the mirror.

He saw she was sick.

Dr. Greene thought, “About what? What has she done?”

He turned and looked at her. He stopped tying his tie.

Dr. Greene stepped back and sat next to Debra on the bed.

He bumped into her.

She looked up at him and tried to bump into him.

He said, “Debra…”

Barry ran in the room and yelled. “Breakfast.”

Debra looked at Barry and smiled.

Dr. Greene still stared at Debra.

Debra knew he was staring at her.

She jumped from the bed and reached for Barry’s hand.

Dr. Greene sat and looked at Debra.

Barry looked back at Dr. Greene and said, “Daddy.”

He reached his hand to Dr. Greene.

Dr. Greene smiled and said, “I’m late.”

Barry looked at his daddy.

Debra and Barry walked to the kitchen.

Dr. Greene stood and walked back to the mirror and tried to tie his tie.

His eyes watered.

Dr. Greene held his head down and rested his hands on the dresser.

He stopped himself from crying out and he sniffed.

Debra took Barry’s bowl from the already set table.

She would set the table at night and have everything ready to cook the next morning.

She let Barry crawl into his chair and smiled and said, “Big boy Barry.”

Barry would laugh.

Dr. Greene heard Barry clap.

Debra gave Barry some oatmeal, with sliced apples and raisins on the side of his oatmeal.

Dr. Greene grinned and walked in the sitting room and picked up his coat, hat, scarf and gloves that was next to Debra and Barry.

He them in order on the sofa each night while Debra set the table.

Barry said, “Bye daddy.”

Dr. Greene’s heart broke.

Dr. Greene walked into the kitchen and looked at Debra who was smiling and looking at Barry.

Barry had lifted his head up so Dr. Greene could kiss him on his head.

Dr. Greene bent down and kissed Barry on his forehead.

Dr. Greene walked to Debra, she stepped away.

He stared at her.

Barry said, “Bye daddy.”

Dr. Greene turned and smiled at Barry.

He walked out the kitchen and out of the house.

Dr. Greene untied his shores and started his forty minutes ride to work.

He had time to compose himself before he got to work.

He looked and saw the main hospital and briefly thought of Laura.

His mind went back to whatever his problem was with Debra.

She had her back to Tony all night.

He knew that was a problem.

He cried all the way to work.

Dr. Greene saw Dr. Woodson in front of him, he continued his pace for fifteen minutes until they reached the hospital.

Dr. Woodson tied his horse and looked up as Dr. Greene pulled next to him

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He saw Dr. Greene’s face and knew he was troubled.

Dr. Woodson thought about the workers meeting later that morning.

He looked around and did not see Debra pulling in.

Dr. Woodson nodded his head at Dr. Greene.

Dr. Greene was still sitting on his horse and nodded his head at Dr. Woodson.

Dr. Woodson stopped and looked up at the new sign and grinned.

He walked in the hospital and spoke to the nurses leaving for the day.

The nurses were reporting for the day.

The cooks were making rounds with the patients’ breakfasts.

Dr. Woodson saw Hutch coming from the workers’ break area with his bowl and cup.

He knew he ate breakfast and was ready for work.

Dr. Woodson walked around the hospital and walked back to the hospital administrator’s office and unlocked the door.

H went into the office and retrieved the telegrams from the day before and last night.

Most of the telegrams were for Eleanor from Jose.

Dr. Woodson laughed.

He stood and walked out the office and locked the door back.

He was about to walk away and stopped and walked to the nurses’ desk and asked for the medicine cabinet key.

Nurse Sharon had just arrived at work and looked on the desk for the key.

She picked up the key and gave it to Dr. Woodson.

Hutch was standing at the desk and pulled the patients’ charts to start reviewing the nurses’ notes from last night.

Hutch looked at Dr. Woodson.

Dr. Woodson unlocked the medicine cabinet and check for the medicine he told Debra to go and get.

Hutch looked at Dr. Woodson’s face.

He said, “Bradley what is wrong?”

Nurse Sharon and her four nurses were hanging up their coats and scarves.

They stopped and looked at Dr. Woodson.

Dr. Woodson kept the medicine in his hand and the key he locked the medicine cabinet back and walked to the other nurses’ desk.

He asked the nurse for the key to the medicine cabinet.

The nurses gave him the key.

He heard Sally yelling for Vivienne.

He did not stop to check on Sally.

Dr. Greene was walking into the hospital.

Hutch and the nurses were looking at Dr. Woodson.

Vivienne and Dr. Charles were walk9ning into the hospital with Dr. Ralph.

They greeted everyone.

Dr. Ralph saw Hutch watching something. He followed his eyes and saw Dr. Woodson and the nurses watching Bradley.

Dr. Ralph knew something was wrong.

He had a restful night with Lorraine.

Lorraine sleep the entire night.

Dr. Ralph would get up and check her vitals every two hours and he thought they were stronger.

The nurses thought they were stronger.

Ryan was arriving when Dr. Ralph was leaving.

They greeted each other.

Dr. Ralph rode the thirty minutes to the bone hospital.

He prayed his morning prayer.

He was sick to his stomach and had to pray for relief.

Dr. Dr. Ralph heard Sally.

Vivienne ran to Sally and closed her room door.

Dr. Charles laughed and walked to the workers’ area and put up his coat and gloves.

Vivienne placed her coat, scarf and gloves on the dresser.

She walked to Sally and bent down and said, “Good morning Sally. I told you yesterday I would spend the night with Dr. Charles. You know I don’t leave you. The nurses are here all the time and they can walk over to get me. You hurt. We all know. Everyone here hurts. They are not rude as you. You must stop. You will be getting the rest of your teeth pulled this week-end. We are going to France with Dr. Charles. You understand me Sally. I do love you but you will stop hurting other people. No one is responsible for your pain and hurt.”

Sally was primping her mouth.

Vivienne walked to Sally and kissed her on her forehead and hugged her.

Vivienne took Sally’s bowl of creamy oatmeal and slowly fed her the oatmeal.

Patrick and Brenda were walking in the hospital.

Dr. Greene was standing at the nurses’ desk staring in space.

The nurses stood and looked at Dr. Greene.

Hutch was turned around watching Dr. Woodson.

Hutch was thinking about Ryan and his father and their hospitals fighting the mob over their medication.

Dr. Charles was returning from hanging up his coat, scarf and gloves.

He was thinking of the lovely night he and Vivienne had.

They talked about she and Sally moving to France with him.

They liked the restaurant in the hotel where the railroad workers stay.

It was quiet and quaint.

They were drinking coffee.

He was hesitant and looked at Vivienne and held his head down and looked at his coffee.

Vivienne saw Charles had a question that was painful to him.

Vivienne reached and touched his hand.

She said, “Ask your question.”

He held his head up and looked away.

Vivienne kept holding his hand.

He felt the warmth of her hands and finally turned and let the warmth of her eyes give him peace to trust her answer.

Charles stuttered and said, “Vivienne.”

She was hoping he was not letting her go.

She finally started remembering her family.

Dr. Charles would lay still as Vivienne would fight all night and relieving the massacre of her family and their slaves and how the slave children surrounded her to protect her and was murdered in her place.

He would cry every night.

Charles would reach over and hold Vivienne’s hand all night. He could do nothing else.

Vivienne would wake every morning restful and refreshed.

Charles would smile and say, ”Good morning Vivienne.”’

He would get up and about to pass out for exhaustion.

Dr. Charles would say, “God help me to get through this day.”

He and Vivienne would have a simple breakfast at the hotel’s lobby.

They enjoyed their walk to the bone hospital.

His heavy days where he would be at the different hospitals or work through the night, Vivienne would stay with Sally.

Sally was angry with Dr. Charles for taking Vivienne from her and was very mean and rude to him.

He and Vivienne talked about Sally’s rudeness.

Dr. Charles and Vivienne prayed before their room.

They held hands and walked to the hospital in hot weather, rainy weather or cold weather.

As they sat drinking their coffee Dr. Charles had to know if he could pursue his desire.

He looked into her warm eyes and bit his lips.

She started getting afraid.

He saw fear began to rise in her.

He tighten her grip in his hand and said, “I want to have a child…”

He tried to say something, but he did not think of what he could say.

Vivienne looked at him and said, “Yes.”

Dr. Charles was still stuttering.

He realized what Vivienne said.

He was stunned and shock.

He stared at her.

She looked deep into his eyes and he leaned across the grabbed her face with both of his hands and kissed her hard and long.

The patrons looked on in amazement.

The owner of the restaurant grinned and tried to laugh it off.

Vivienne grinned and said, “I have thought about baring you a child for a long time.”

Charles grinned.

Vivienne said, “I am honored that you have asked an old woman to bare your child. It will be hard and I will need your help every day.”

Charles said, “Vivienne I will be there. I will never leave you.”

They both exhaled.

They realized they both were thinking about the same thing and did not know how to express it.

Vivienne was a Christian woman who believed in being chaste before GOD.

Though she slept in the same bed with Dr. Charles they did not engage in any bad behavior.

They enjoyed each other company.

Vivienne did not like being poor.

She was thinking a lot of how she could earn money in France.

She did not know how Dr. Charles live in France.

She said, “Charles that seals the child issue. I need to know what type of job I can get in France. I did complete finishing school and…”

She begin to cry.

Charles grabbed her hand and held it. Vivienne said, “I married my husband a month after I graduated. I worked on the plantation and helped papa run the business with my husband.”

Vivienne turned her head and held her head down.

Charles could not believe the human pain he was witnessing.

And he loved the woman.

He shook Vivienne’s hand and said, “Vivienne I am not poor. I love my work as a doctor and I am too busy to keep up with my other businesses. I have a large farm and I did not tell Eleanor, but suggested she go to a winery that produce champagne. She fell in love with the champagne.”

He loved at Vivienne and said, “It was my family’s label. My sister runs the business. She and her husband.”

Vivienne laughed.

She said, “I had a sip and if I could remember how champagne taste it was good.”

Dr. Charles said, “I own the hospital I work at. Vivienne I can make you very comfortable.”

Vivienne held her head and cried.”

Charles said, I like the simple life but make no mistake I love my money. My soon to be ex-wife did not know about the any of my businesses and the apartment houses I own. I was about to tell her one day while we were at Felipe’s wedding, but I could not.”

Vivienne said, “GOD would not let you. She would never let you go.”

Dr. Charles said, “Nor Felipe.”

They laughed.

Everyone was at the hospital that morning.

Shirley and Eleanor were leaving the train.

The train engineers were taking their suite car and attaching it to the train that would leave that evening for Cedartown.
Monica and Shirley’s bags were in their carriage.

Eleanor was to ride back to the train station with Patrick and Brenda in their carriage.

Shirley was to be dropped off at school and Monica was to go to Shirley’s apartment.

She wanted to go and see Lorraine.

Shirley told Monica she wanted to see Lorraine also and the carriage can pick up Monica then her and take them to the hospital.

Monica was satisfied.

She could see Vivienne and Sally and maybe Meredith before they left later that morning.

Eleanor wanted to own carriages for their train guests to use like the hotels provide for their guests.

She was talking to the owner of the carriage company they use to purchase his business and keep him on as the manager.

Eleanor had been thinking about what to do about the manager of the coal distribution company.

Patrick and Brenda were waiting to see what Eleanor was going to resolve that business issue.

Dr. Woodson unlocked the medicine cabinet and searched for the medicine and only half the order was there.

He was angry and confused.

He locked the medicine cabinet back and gave the key to the nurses.

Dr. Woodson walked back to the other nurses’ desk and ran into Patrick and Brenda.

They spoke and said, “Good morning.”

Dr. Greene was in a stupor.

Patrick and Brenda saw Dr. Woodson’s face.

He walked to Dr. Greene.

Bradley wanted to say something to Tony but had to talk to Debra first.

Patrick and Brenda looked at Bradley.

They looked at Dr. Greene and saw him in a state of being completely upset.

They looked at the nurses.

The nurses were scared.

Dr. Woodson looked at the nurses and said, “Everything is fine.”

Dr. Greene was still in the state of stupor.

Patrick and Brenda pointed to Leon’s room.

They passed the hospital administrator’s office and saw Debra was not there.

Leon was being bathed by another nurse that morning.

Patrick and Brenda sat across at the other room that Ben occupied where he wooed Gen.

Brenda looked at the room and said, “I wonder how Gen.”

Patrick said, “You will know in three days.”

Brenda grinned big.

Patrick thought, “That is who Shirley gets that beautiful big grin from.”

The nurse walked out of Leon’s room and said, “Leon you have guests, but I am going to help you eat first.”

Leon said, “Who is it?”

The nurse said, “A surprise.”

The nurse left and came back with a tray of oatmeal, sliced apples, raisins and walnuts, orange juice and black coffee.

Brenda said, “That looks good.”

The nurse smiled and walked to Leon and sat and fed him.

The nurse and Leon talked and laughed.

She would be the nurse that helped him if Meredith was not there.

Debra arrived at work.

Dr. Greene and Hutch were working on the other side that morning with Felipe.

Charles was working with Dr. Woodson and Ralph on the side by the hospital’s administrator’s office.

They started with Leon that morning.

Brenda and Patrick could not take Leon’s pain.

They stood to go to sit in the lobby.

Then they heard Sally screaming.

Patrick closed the room door.

He said, “Brenda I am going to have an adjustment before I leave today. We won’t be back until after the holidays. I guess.”

Brenda said, “After this business I want to go to the south hospital and see Lorraine.”

Patrick said, “We have a few hours.”

Hutch, Felipe and Dr. Greene completed another patient’s therapy.

They discussed the cases and notated the patients’ charts.

Elanor and Shirley were walking in the hospital with books.

They were walking and talking.

Eleanor and Shirley spoke to everyone.

Dr. Woodson was walking out of Leon’s room and said, “Good morning Eleanor and Shirley.”

Patrick looked at Brenda and leaned back and peeped in the hall.

Dr. Woodson looked at the necklace he gave to Eleanor.

He realized she wore it everyday.

Eleanor and Shirley sat in the lobby.

Shirley was going through her books.

Everyone including the grounds keepers, custodian and cooks walked to the meeting.

Leon was cooling off from his therapy.

Patrick and Brenda were standing in his door.

He looked up at them and said, “Surprise.”

Brenda smiled and nodded yes.

Leon said, “I’m in pain. Maybe your next trip up here.”

Brenda and Patrick said, “Take care Leon. Is there any person or anything we can do for you?”

Leon said, “No. I am actually improving.”

He was uncomfortable.

Patrick and Brenda walked out of Leon’s room and saw everyone standing and did not want to leave.

They saw Debra in her office.

Patrick knocked on her door and said, “Debra they are having a meeting out here.”

Dr. Greene was still in his stupor.

Shirley stood and said, “Good morning. “

Everyone spoke.

Shirley said, “This will be brief.”

Monica walked in the room with Vivienne and Sally.

Charles saw Monica enter the room.

Meredith was arriving at the hospital.

Shirley said, “I want to thank you all for your support on yesterday. I know some of you were as excited as I was. Dr. Greene…”

Bradley grinned at Gr. Greene.

Everyone laughed.

Eleanor peeped at Dr. Greene and she saw he was distress.

She wondered did he know.

Shirley said, “I left two years ago. I set up the hospital basically to ruin it business on it’s own. I stated at two years I would give everyone a salary increase. I knew the hospital would not make money. It is not a profit hospital, but what I was looking at if it could maintain itself…”

Patrick looked at Brenda.

Shirley said, “I believe from what I have seen the hospital can maintain itself. I am increasing your salary. I have letters for each of you. In the letters it tells you what the dollar amount your salary will be increased. It also includes your Christmas bonus. I will be writing bank notes from now on. You will have your bank notes for the next two weeks. We are moving to a two week pay schedule.”

Everyone looked around at each other.

Shirley said, “The bank for the hospital is aware or you can take the bank notes to your bank. This the first day of December I hope it was not too early to give you your Christmas bonus.”

One of the grounds keeper said, “No ma am.”

The security man looked at him.

Patrick and Brenda heard Leon snoring.

Nurse Sharon walked and closed his door.

She stood back by Debra.

Shirley said, “Does anyone have any questions?”

The grounds keeper said, “On the first and the fifteenth?”

Shirley said, “Yes. I will not be here on January first and January fifteenth but I have those bank notes included in the envelope along with your December fifteenth salary bank notes.”

The grounds keeper raised his hand again.

Shirley said, “No the bank will not honor the bank notes before it’s written date.”

The grounds keeper said, “Shucks.”

Brenda grinned.

Hutch watched Brenda and Patrick. He knew they were there because something big was taking place. They wanted it done right.

Hutch thought, “They are watching Shirley to see if they taught her how to run a business.”

Shirley said, “I ordered your Christmas dinner. I cancelled the one from the caterer from yesterday.

Brenda said, “Thank God.”

Bradley looked at Brenda.

Shirley said, “The cooks here will pick up the dinner and serve it to you. I have ordered a Christmas tree and several poinsettias and wreaths for the door and the grounds keepers will pick them up and decorate the hospital.”

The grounds keeper saluted Shirley.

Patrick was tickle at the grounds keeper comfortable attitude.

Shirley said, “Any other questions?”

No one said anything.

Shirley said, “Thank you. I really mean thank you. You are invaluable.”

She and Eleanor started passing out the envelopes.

Shirley had the book for everyone to sign for the contents of the envelopes.

Shirley gave Hutch two envelopes and one was for his back pay for two and a half years.

Hutch counted the contents and he counted it again.

He signed the receipt book.

Hutch immediately went and put on his coat, scarf and gloves and went to the bank and put all the money in the bank.

He moved in the rooming house where Dr. Woodson lives, but on first floor.

He returned to work.

The hospital was quiet he knew something bad happened.

He did not see Dr. Greene.

He looked at Nurse Sharon.

Nurse Sharon shook her head.

Hutch went and put his coat up.

He saw Felipe and nodded.

Felipe walked to Hutch and said, “I don’t know what happened. Shirley and Eleanor called Bradley, Tony and Debra into a meeting. Dr. Greene walked out and went and got his coat and left. Debra left right after Dr. Greene. No one knows what happened. You know Bradley he will not tell anything.”

Hutch said, “I believe it had to do with me.”

Felipe said, “You weren’t in the meeting.”

Hutch said, “I had not been paid in nearly two and a half years.”

Felipe jumped.

Felipe said, “Brenda and Patrick gave Meredith a bank note for the past two months, this month and January. They gave her a fifty dollar Christmas bonus. Meredith left work after she checked on Leon. She had baby shopped and had everything held. She is going to pay for everything and take it to the house. She is going to the bank, because the coal and water bills have to be paid.”

Hutch said, “How was Debra when she left?’

Felipe said, “I did not see her face, because I was working on the other side.”

Hutch said, “I’m going to find out from Eleanor what happened, especially if it has to do with my pay. Were you and Charles paid from this hospital?”

Felipe said, “Yes. Charles was happy.”

He walked in Sally’s room and gave Vivienne money and gave Sally a dollar. She asked for two dollars.”

Hutch laughed and they walked to the nurses’ desk and continued their rounds.

Hutch sat and was reviewing a chart.

Dr. Woodson, Felipe and Hutch continued.

Shirley was leaving and said, “Merry Christmas and Happy New York.”

The nurses said, “Merry Christmas to you.”

Shirley walked to the other side and knocked on Sally’s door and spoke.

Shirley said, “Monica we have to leave.”

Monica stood and walked out Sally’s room.

Sally was laying in her bed counting her two dollars over and over.

Vivienne walked to the hospital’s door with Monica and Shirley.

Brenda and Patrick were sitting in the hospital administrator’s office.

Patrick turned and saw Hutch sitting going over his patient’s chart.

Hutch looked up.

Patrick said, “Hutch can you adjust me. I won’t be back until after the holidays.”

Hutch was thinking about the patient’s chart he had and nodded his head at Patrick.

Patrick looked at Brenda.

She turned her head.

He looked at Eleanor and she pretended she did not see him.

Hutch said, “You three come to the room across from Leon.”

Brenda did not move.

Patrick went first and Hutch had to concentrate on Patrick.

Hutch completed Patrick adjustment.

Patrick was in pain, but he knew in a few days. He will be fine.

Patrick said, “Brenda get in here.”

Brenda looked at Patrick and walked to Hutch.

She saw Hutch was determined about a patient.

Brenda walked and laid down on the bed and Hutch adjusted her,

Brenda wanted to jump up and scream, but she could not move.

Hutch had to help her up.

She limped out the room to the lobby with Patrick.

The nurses looked at Brenda.

Hutch walked to the hospital administrator’s office and said, “Eleanor.”

Eleanor could not get around Hutch’s demanding demeanor.

She stood and closed all the books and locked the door.

She followed Hutch to the next room and he adjusted Eleanor.

Eleanor yelled a few times.

Hutch said, “Eleanor is Debra fired?”

Eleanor said, “Yes.”

Hutch said, “Was she fired over my money?”

Eleanor said, “Yes.”

Hutch said, “What else. Can you tell me?”

Eleanor said, “Debra was taking your salary and giving it to Tony. “

Hutch said, “What? Tony?”

Eleanor, “Tony did not know because Debra would keep his salary.”

Hutch said, “Why was the medicine short?”

Eleanor said, “She was stealing that money also.”

Hutch said, “What was she doing with the money?”

Eleanor said, “Debra said, she was spending the money buying better quality of clothes and household items.”

Hutch said, “I can see that Tony would not notice that. Are you rather Shirley going to make Debra pay anything back?”

Eleanor said, “Shirley made the decisions. She will not persecute Debra nor make her pay any money back. Shirley fired her and told her we were no longer friends. Shirley is tight about money, because she had to go into her trust fund to pay you and catch up with Felipe and Charles. She is not happy. She won’t be back here until the middle of January. She will be thinking over Christmas how to pay the hospital workers’ salary. Until she hires someone.”

Hutch said, “What about the medicine Bradley ordered?”

Eleanor said, “Bradley sent a nurse to get it. I ordered everything you should need for the next two months. There should be no problems and you should have enough medicine to last to February.”

Hutch said, “What is going to happen to Debra and Tony?”

Eleanor said, “Tony was devastated. Bradley gave him time off to resolve any problems with Debra.”

Hutch sat on the bed next to Hutch.

Eleanor said, “Hutch you can keep me informed by sending me telegrams. I hope you have a wonderful Christmas and New Year.”

Hutch smiled and said, “I will.”

He stood and opened the door.

He walked Eleanor out the room to the hospital’s administrator’s office.

Bradley looked up and continued to go over the patient’s charts with Felipe.

Eleanor put on her coat and gloves and took all the accounting books and checked the office.

She closed the door and walked out the office and said, “Merry Christmas.”

Patrick stood up and shook Hutch’s hand.

Brenda shook his hand.

They walked out he hospital and went to the carriage.

They rode the thirty minutes to the south hospital and stay with Lorraine for several hours before they go back to the train.

Patrick and Eleanor were reading all the telegrams.

Eleanor said, “Jose told Gen about Lorraine. Our Christmas tree came on Monday, he went and picked it up along with our Christmas decorations. Daddy this is for you. Bryson is sick.”

Patrick was shaking and reached for the telegram.

He read it,

That was all the telegram said.

Brenda touched Patrick’s arm.

Patrick said, “I can’t do anything until I get there.”

Brenda said, “Shirley is becoming a hard business woman.”

Eleanor said, “Shirley was trying to get to class and she was not going to let anything interfere with that goal. She did well today and yesterday.”

Patrick said, “Yes she did.”

Brenda nodded her head for yes.

They sat for three hours with Lorraine.

Eleanor went into the room and touched Lorraine’s arm and said, “We have to go Lorraine, but we are leaving you in the hands of Shirley. I know you are getting better now.”

She patted Lorraine’s hand and left out the room.

Shirley was finished with her classes at two pm.

She was walking and talking to her bourgeois friends.

Steve was going to test Shirley’s attitude since Eleanor was not with her.

He told some of the other wheelchair and cane walking students about the hospital and Shirley’s mother.

He told the students how Dr. Greene worked on his neck and his spine and he got relief within thirty minutes from what he was suffering with daily for years.

He rolled up to the group of bourgeois students.

Shirley was laughing and talking.

Steve saw a different side of Shirley on yesterday and wished she could be that person all the time.

They were passing Steve and Shirley saw Lorraine standing and looking at her.

Her heart attacked her.

She knew Lorraine left her because of her evil treatment of the handicap students.

Shirley stopped walking and stood in her tracks.

The group of well dressed bourgeois students was walking. A few stopped and looked back at Shirley.

The overweight young woman and a tall slim young woman looked back at Shirley.

The tall slim young woman said, “What is she doing?”

The boy that invited Shirley to the ‘modern group’ the envy of the school saw the fat young woman and the tall slim young woman looking back at Shirley.

He turned and looked back and saw Shirley standing still.

He saw Steve and several handicap students a few feet behind Shirley.

He saw the dean standing in his large window watching them.

He waited to see what Shirley was going to do.

The handicapped students waited to see what Shirley was going to do.

The dean waited to see what Shirley was going to do.

Monica stood at the path with the carriage and waited to see what Shirley was going to do.

Shirley lifted her eyes up and looked pass her group of bourgeois friends to Lorraine who was standing and watching her.

Shirley said, “Never again Lorraine.”

She turned and walked to the handicap students and shook their hands and said, “Good afternoon.”

The male student who invited Shirley to the “it group” watched her work her delightful personality and talked with the students.

Shirley was flashing her big grin.

The group kept walking.

The overweight girl said, “She better not invite them to join us.”

The young man turned and looked at her.

The tall slim young woman said, “I agree.”

The tall blonde curly hair young man in the group was laughing with another dark hair young man and he saw them.

He saw the dean watching them.

He saw Shirley laughing and talking to the handicapped students.

He saw how she easily made the handicap students feel comfortable and at ease.

He looked at the two young women in their group.

He walked back and put his hand on the young man’s shoulder and whispered in his ears.

He said, “You lost her. She was never yours. Come on.”

Th dean watched the two young men.

The dean peeped around them and saw Steven’s father sitting in his wagon watching everyone.

Shirley said, “Fellowes I have to go. But you all have a good afternoon.”

Everyone said, “Bye Shirley.”

Shirley turned and saw Monica and not Lorraine.

She stopped and looked at Monica.

Monica looked at Shirley.

Monica was scared and turned and looked around to see what Shirley was looking at.

Then Shirley shook herself and ran to Monica and the carriage.

Monica helped Shirley into the carriage.

The carriage driver stepped out the carriage and helped both women into the carriage.

They rode the hour to the south hospital.

Shirley saw Eleanor, Patrick and Brenda for an hour before they left and went to the train station to leave for home.

 Shirley laid on Brenda’s chest for that time and held her hand.

She told them what happened to her that afternoon with the handicap students.

Eleanor held her breath because if Shirley would have said she ignored them Eleanor was going to beat her.

Patrick did not know what Shirley was going to say. He held his breath.

Monica was sitting next to Lora on the other sofa.

Monica smelled Lora and knew she had to been there a long time.

She looked at the woman and whispered, “Ma am how long have you been here?”

Ryan was standing at the nurses’ desk and looked at Monica then Lora.

The nurses looked at Lora.

Lora said, “Since Sunday.”

Monica stared at Lora and said, “That’s four days. You to bathe and eat.”

Lora said, “I can’t leave my daughter. I have no one else.”

Monica said, “I heard that all the time from people who makes up excuses for not wanting to do things. You smell and you are weak. You need to bathe and change clothes and eat. I am sure these doctors and nurses won’t let your daughter die.”

Monica stood and walked to Eleanor and sat next to Shirley.

Patrick peeped around Eleanor at Lora.

Ryan was looking at Lora.

The nurses turned around and finished their shift.

Ryan stared at Lora.

He did not know what type of person she was.

Shirley told them what happened that she thought she saw Lorraine, but it was Monica.

The warning Lorraine gave her haunted her mind and heart.

That gave her strength to turn around and go back to Steve and the other handicapped students and talk with them.

Eleanor breathe a sigh of relief.

Patrick exhaled and thought, “Oh GOD thank YOU.”

Monica realized Shirley was having a vision when she was looking at her.

Ryan looked over at Lora and walked to her and said, “Step over here.”

Lora was scared.

Ryan picked her up by her arm.

He said, “Lora I we are working on Myriah. We are going to heal her. You are smelling and you hve not eaten. The nurses say they told you to go and bath or wash and change clothes and come back. You have littered this lobby. I am telling you to leave and go home or wherever and bath and change clothes and come back.”

Lora was trying to say something but she was mumbling and turning to look back towards Myriah’s room.

Ryan said, “I don’t feel sorry for you. I have no empathy for you because you want us to baby you. We are not going to do that. I am telling you to go and take care of yourself. If not I will contact the sheriff and have them come and remove you and have Myriah put in the state’s care. I don’t trust you with your fake concern for her.”

Lora stared at Ryan.

Ryan stared at her and walked away.

He looked at Patrick.

Lora stood and looked back at the three blankets.

Patrick and Eleanor watched Lora.

Patrick looked at Brenda and said, “Is Morgan at work today?”

Brenda thought and said, “I think so.”

Patrick said, “Let’s leave a minute early and say bye to Lorraine.”

Brenda said, “That woman over there?”

Patrick said, “Yes.”

Monica did not look back at Lora.

Eleanor looked at Monica and said, “Monica, I will give Jose the dresses for you. You need to buy your other things.”

Monica said, “Thank you.”

Eleanor looked at Monica’s shoes and the fact she did not have a coat.

Eleanor said, “You are welcome.”

Brenda said, “Monica where is your coat and gloves? It is freezing here and will be like this for the whole winter.”

Monica did not say anything.

Shirley leaned off Brenda and looked at Monica and said, “That’s right Monica. You have not worn a coat since you got here.”

Monica said, “I have one and left it with Jose.”

Brenda said, “Monica go tomorrow and buy you a coat, hat, scarf and gloves.”

Brenda looked at Shirley and said, “Shirley what is the name of the store Lorraine bought Steven things?”

Shirley grinned and said, “Monica after I am dropped off at school tomorrow I’ll tell the carriage driver to take you to the store and wait for you and take you wherever you want to go. Until two pm.”

Monica saw they were angry with her. Because she was acting poor and she had enough money to buy her a coat.

Monica said, “Ok.”

Patrick just stared at Monica.

Then he looked back at Lora who was sitting on the sofa and folding up Morgan’s blankets.

He said, “Eleanor looked at Patrick then followed his glaze to Lora and said, “let’s drop her off at your hotel and have the manager to get her a carriage ride back here tomorrow.”

Monica said, “And bath.”

Patrick said, “Monica is that what you and Ryan were talking to her about?”

Monica said, “I don’t know Ryan. But I was telling her she needed to bath or wash and change her clothes.”

Eleanor looked at Monica from her feet to her head.

Monica looked at Eleanor.

Eleanor said, “You who do not have covering for this harsh winter told some else what they need to do?”

Monica saw Patrick, Brenda and Shirley did not come to her defense.

Monica said, “I will buy me a coat Eleanor.”

Eleanor looked at Monica and stood.

She, Patrick, Brenda and Shirley walked in to see Lorraine.

They came out from Lorraine Shirley was weeping.

Eleanor put on her coat and gloves and looked at Monica.

Monica looked at Eleanor.

Brenda put on her scarf, hat, coat and gloves.

Patrick put of his hat, scarf, coat and gloves.

He was looking at Lora.

He walked over to Lora and Brenda and Eleanor followed.

Brenda said, “Monica if you need anything go to Shirley.”

Brenda looked at a crying Shirley and said, “Shirley, you hear me.”

Shirley nodded her head for yes.

Brenda said, “Eleanor pay Monica for this week, so she can go and buy her a coat and gloves.”

Monica looked at Eleanor.

Eleanor went into her bag and counted thirty dollars and reached them to Monica.

Monica counted the thirty dollars.

And put them in her bag.

Monica said, “If Lorraine, can’t come home then I want to stay here with her.”

Eleanor looked at Monica and said, “Fine. But I won’t know what is left in Shirley’s budget to provide coal, fuel and water and carriage rides here and back.”

Brenda watched Patrick walk over to Lora.

Brenda said, “it should be enough until Shirley returns in the middle of January.”

She walked to Patrick and stood and listened to Patrick offer assistance to Lora.

Ryan was doing rounds again.

He looked at Lora and said, “You need to accept whatever help they are offering to you. Because I meant I will contact the sheriff and the state to take Myriah from you.”

Brenda slowly looked at Ryan.

Patrick stared at Lora to watch her every move.

Lora stood and said, “Thank you.”

Eleanor walked over to Patrick and Brenda.

The nurses watched one of the richest women in the world dressed in high style.

They noticed Shirley dressed in the young lady high style.

Shirley was sitting on the sofa crying.

Monica stood and looked at Shirley.

She looked back at Lora.

Monica walked to Lorraine’s room and stood and held her hand.

Monica said, “Lorraine I want to pray for you.”

The nurses looked at Monica.

Monica said, “LORD GOD Almighty I ask you to heal Lorraine and that she be whole. Whoever is responsible for this attack be found that they cannot ever hurt another woman or person. GOD help Lorraine she wanted to enjoy this holiday and attend festivities. It is the time we celebrate JESUS. YOUR promise of new life. Give her JESUS. The One who gives us new life. And change her forever. In JESUS’ name. Amen. And GOD whatever is that lady’s problem in the lobby help her please.”

One of the nurse’s mumble, “She stinks.”

Monica stood and looked at Lorraine and thought she saw he eyes move under her eye lids.

Monica said, “I saw that red dress you had your name on. It is beautiful. Where were you going to wear that?”

Monica was thinking.

She said, “I met Stephen for lunch last Monday. It was nice. He was slow to ask a lot of questions. I knew he wanted to know more about me. He is so intelligent for a coal digger.”

Monica laughed.

Patrick, Brenda, Eleanor sat in the back of the carriage and put Lora in front with the driver.

The driver looked around.

Brenda snickered.

They passed the Stith’s hospital and continued to the hotel.

Patrick stepped out and help Lora and walked in the hotel and told the manager to give her a room for several days and hot baths and at least one meal per day and send them a telegram of the charges and they will pay them.

Lora stood and looked in amazement at Patrick.

She could not think because all she could hear was Ryan telling her she was a fake and did not care about Myriah.

Lora nodded her head at Patrick.

Patrick turned and walked out the hotel.

The manager smelled Lora and told his assistant, “Get her a bath started right away.”

The manager gave her the room key and told her where to go.

Lora began to see people were not going to help her and hold her hand.

She walked in the simply furnished room and felt heat.

She sat on the bed and looked out the window.

The manager and his assistant brought her a tub of hot water.

He knocked on the door.

Lora sat on the bed.

The assistant opened the door.

The assistant and the manager looked at Lora.

The manager saw she had nothing but the blankets.

He and his assistant walked out and he left the door open.

The manager went to the back and came back with a bar of soap, washcloth and towel.

He put them on the bed and said, “When you finish your bath come and tell us so we can take the tub out of the room.”

Lora sat on the bed and looked in space.

The manager yelled at her, “You heard me. Don’t come here with that pitiful me attitude. It is plenty of people here who needs help.”

He walked out the room and slammed the door.

Lora slowly turned and looked at the door.

She looked at the tub of hot water.

She kept seeing an angry doctor in her mind telling her she did not love nor care for Myriah but she was faking.

Lora finally got in the tub and bathed.

The manager watched the time.

The assistant finished his work for the day and said, “Where’s the tub?”

The manager said, “Let’s go and get it.”

They walked to Lora’s room and knocked on the door.

Lora said, “Yes.”

The manager opened the door and he and the assistant walked in as she wrapped in a towel.

They picked up the tub of filthy water and walked out and went and dumped the water.

The manager yelled at Lora, “Close the door.”

Lora slammed the door and locked it.

She sat on the bed and cried.

She said, “These people think I am evil and wicked.”

She laid on the bed and slept with the towel on her half wet body.

Lora put the bag of money under her head.

She woke at daybreak.

Lora laid on the bed and saw the sun rise.

She reached for Myriah but she was not there.

Lora said, “God have I been using that sweet baby to make people like me and hate Jeremiah?”

She cried and said, “Help me God.”

She smelled her dress and stockings she had nothing else.

She could not comb her hair because she did not have a comb and brush.

She put the same dress and stockings on and the raggedy boots.

She took the bag of money and knew she could not leave it there.

She walked out her room to the manager of the hotel and said, “Carriage.”

The manger said, “They will be here in a few minutes.”

The manager wife stared at Lora.

The manager’s wife said, “Ma am you need some clothes, It is freezing outside. “

Lora looked at her and stood and stared at the manager’s wife.

Lora turned and walked to the door.

The manager said to his wife, “A fool.”

His wife said, “Shush.”

One of the carriages arrived.

The manager said, “Take that carriage and go. Get out of here.”

His wife said, “Billy why are you talking to her like that? Stop it.”

The manager said, “She’s wicked. I am doing what my boss told me to do.”

Lora heard the manager.

The manager’s wife said, “Ma am, tell the carriage to take to Smith’s to buy you things.”

Lora walked out the door.

She did not want to turn around other people were walking in the lobby to leave and some of them were eating breakfast in the restaurant.

She walked out to the carriage and said, “Smiths.”

The man looked at Lora and said, “Good morning.”

He looked at her and said, “Ma am where is your coat and scarf?”

Lora did not say anything.

The carriage driver said, “To take you to Smith and back is fifty cents. Do you have fifty cents.”

Lora said, ‘Yes.”

The carriage driver looked back at Lora and turned up his nose.

They went to Smith’s and he looked at her.

He stepped out the carriage and helped Lora out the carriage.

Lora never been on that side of town.

She stepped out the carriage and said nothing to the carriage driver.

He stood and watched Lora and shook his head.

He looked at her blankets that were smelly.

He took them and placed them in the luggage box on the back of the carriage.

Lora went into Smiths and stood in the doorway of the store.

The store clerks looked at her.

One of the clerks finally walked up to her and said, “You are here to shop for what?”

The manager said, “A fool.”

The store clerks snickered.

Lora said, “This is all I have.”

The store clerk said, “Do you have money?”

Lora nodded her head.

He said, “Underwear and stockings first then comb and brush.”

Lora heard comb and brush she said, “Purple.”

The store clerk stopped and turned and looked at Lora.

They went to the underwear and stockings and got several changes.

He said, “let me see your money.”

Lora looked at him.

He said, “I don’t want your money. I need to know how much you can buy.”

Lora looked in her bag and brought out a hundred dollars.

The store clerk looked and said, “Good.”

He put er things in a room.

They went to the shoes and he got her two pairs of shoes.

Lora was scared and nervous.

He looked at her and thought, “She is poor and scared to buy anything.”

The started counting the money.

He took Lora to the coats and picked out a coat, hat, scarf and gloves.

The sales clerk was counting Lora’s money and said, “You can buy five dresses.”

He took Lora to the dresses and she looked.

He shook his head and picked out five dresses and took them to the room.

Lora stood and looked at the room full of things.

The store manager shook his head.

Monica and Vivienne walked in the store.

Monica dropped Shirley at school and rode to the Stith’s hospital and asked Vivienne to go with her shopping for a coat.

Monica liked the store.

She looked around and told Vivienne, “This is where Lorraine brought Steven to shop.”

Vivienne said, “I like it.”

The store manager saw them and said, “Ladies, may I help you?”

Monica said softly, “I need to buy a coat and accessories.”

He saw Monica’s uniform.

The manager said, “I see a lot of uniforms here. I am not familiar with yours.”

Monica looked at him.

Vivienne said, “We are not allowed to tell who we work for.”

The manager looked at Vivienne.

He said, “Only the high society workers come in here to shop.”

Monica said, “Then show us your coats.”

The manager was walking them to the coats.

Monia saw Lora standing in the door of the fitting room.

Vivienne looked at her.

Monica spoke softly and said, “That’s that lady.”

The manager looked at Lora.

The store clerk held out his hand.

And Lora looked at him.

He said, “The hundred dollars.”

Monica said, “A hundred dollars.”

The store manager was watching as he led them upstairs to the coats.

Monica saw a black coat with polished buttons she tried it on and loved it.

Vivienne saw a blue coat and tried it on and love it.

Monica bought a hat and scarf and gloves.

She looked at her feet and said, “Sir your shoes.”

They walked downstairs to the boots.

She and Vivienne bought two pairs of boots a piece.

The manager leaned over and said, “You know that lady?”

Monica said, “I saw her at the hospital yesterday.”

Vivienne said, “Why is she standing there?”

The store clerk was ringing Lora’s item and they came to a hundred dollars.

He said, “I forgot she wanted a purple comb and brush.”

Monica was paying for her items and said, “Sir I need underwear.”

The sales clerk was walking back to Lora and said, “Ma am they are over here.”

Monica went and purchase several pairs and stockings.

She walked back and paid for them.

Vivienne saw another scarf that would match her coat and bought it.

She told Monica, “I got to buy Sally something. When we left Eleanor gave her so many of Shirley’s gowns and new socks and new underwear. She doesn’t ever have to get anymore. But Sally is getting spoiled. Yesterday Charles gave me some money. Sally held her hand out. He gave her a dollar. She started rubbing her hand and said ‘another dollar’.”

Vivienne said, “I was embarrassed.”

The manager grinned.

Monica said, “What did the doctor say?”

Vivienne said, “He laughed at her.”

The store manager thought, “A doctor. Who?”

Vivienne looked back at Lora.

The sales clerk sorted out her clothes and put underwear and stockings for her to put on.

He put the other in the bag.

He raised up her dresses and said, “Choose one.”

Lora stood.

He gave her the brown one and he put the other dresses in bags.

Monica said, “I like that brown dress.”

Vivienne said, “Uh huh.”

He gave her the brown boots and put the black boots in the bag.

The salesclerk was about to walk out and Lora said, “Purple comb and brush.”

The salesclerk said, “You did not have any money left. And we have only one purple comb set left.”

Monica and Vivienne were listening.

The store manager watched them.

He thought, “They are older, but they have some sophistication. And a doctor. Which hospital?”

The store clerk finished bagging Lora’s clothes and she was still standing and looking at him.

He looked at her.

He said, “Do you know how to put your clothes on?”

Lora looked at the clothes and looked back at the store clerk.

He was taken a back that Lora did not know how to put on her clothes.

He told her how to put on the clothes.

Monica frowned up and was puzzled.

Vivienne went and found Sally some ribbons.

She was paying for the ribbons when the salesclerk walked back with Lora’s bags.

He looked at the store manager and the store manager looked at him.

Monica said, “What does she want?”

The sale clerk said, “The only purple comb and brush set we have until the new year.”

Monica said, “I’ll buy it for her.”

The salesclerk took the comb and brush set and gave it to the manager.

The manager was about to ring up the comb and brush set for the salesclerk to give to Monica for Lora.

Lora had on her clothes and looked decent but for her hair.

She saw the salesclerk reaching the purple comb and brush set to the manager.

She screamed, “No!”

Everyone in the store jumped.

The salesclerk said, “This lady is buying this for you. You know you need to comb and brush your hair. And your money is spent.”

Lora handed her smelly dress to the salesclerk.

He threw it in the trash.

Lora was shocked and her mouth dropped open.

Monica and Vivienne grabbed their bags to leave.

Lora said, “I have money.”

The salesclerk said, “Show me.”

Lora took out another hundred dollars.

The clerk smiled and reached for the money.

He gave it to the manager.

The clerk was about to open the set and Lora yelled, “No.”

Monica and Vivienne looked at Lora.

The salesclerk said, “No more screaming.”

Lora said, “For my daughter.”

Vivienne were so stunned she could not move.

The salesclerk said, “You need comb and brush for you too. What color?”

Lora looked and saw Vivienne’s new blue coat and said, “Blue.”

The salesclerk went and returned with the blue set.

He started to open it and looked at Lora.

Lora did not say anything.

The manager rung her sale.

The salesclerk reached Lora the comb and she took it and started combing her hair.

Then the salesclerk reached her the brush,

She brusher her hair for a long time.

The manger reached Lora her money.

Monica and Vivienne rushed out the store.

They stop at the railroad workers’ hotel and had lunch of soup and toasted bread.

They were finishing lunch and saw Lora walking into the hotel.

Monica and Vivienne were peeping out the window and watched here.

Vivienne stood and had her new coat and scarf.

Monica said, “Where are you going?”

Vivienne said, “To see which room she is in.”

Lora was weighed down with her bags and went to her room.

Vivienne passed and saw her room that was two doors from Charles and four doors from hers.

Vivienne took her coat and scarf and put them in her room.

She returned to the restaurant after Lora walked out.

The carriage driver smelled her blankets from the luggage bin and gave them to Lora.

Lora took the blankets and walked back to the manager and reached them to him.

He looked at her his wife was in the office and peeped out and saw it was Lora.

She was shocked at how decent Lora looked.

She walked out the office and took the blankets from Lora and said to the assistant, “Wash them please.”

The manager’s wife said, “They will be ready tomorrow.”

Lora did not say anything but turned and went back to the carriage and went to the hospital.

She spent the night at the hospital with Myriah.

Morgan saw Patrick and Brenda the evening they were leaving.

They talked about Lora’s strange behavior.

Morgan said, “Mr. Stith don’t know why she is acting like that. I am off tomorrow I will go to the hospital and see what is going happening with her. Her husband been running around the neighborhood asking have anyone seen she and his daughter.”

Brenda said, “He doesn’t know to go to the hospitals to check?”

Patrick said, “Sometimes people don’t use their common sense. I get the impression from this woman that she wants everyone to think she is good and the husband is bad. No one is accepting her behavior around at the hospital.”

The train whistle blew.

Eleanor looked at the train to see who dare blew the whistle.

Morgan looked.

Patrick and Brenda looked and saw Charlie waving at them and grinning bigger than Shirley.

They laughed.

He was their first black conductor.

That was his first train.

They all went to the train.

Charlie was grinning and was happy.

His family was at the train station.

He pointed them out to Patrick, Brenda and Eleanor.

Charlie bowed and said, “Thank You. Thank you. Thank you.”

Patrick, Brenda and Eleanor boarded the train.

Charlie waved to his family and the train pulled off.

His children were running to beat the train and Charlie was running through the train and made it to the last car and waved at his sons as the train sped out of Philadelphia.

Eleanor looked back at Charlie and walked into the owners’ suite.

She looked at the pile of items Shirley bought for her shop.

She saw the red dress Lorraine put her name on.

Brenda looked at it.

Patrick looked at Brenda and said, “Brenda.”

Eleanor was sitting and looking at the items. She looked up at Brenda.

Brenda walked into she and Patrick’s bedroom and closed the door.

Eleanor and Patrick went to the dining hall.

They enjoyed their dinner.

Monica took Vivienne back to the hospital and she turned the carriage around and sped to pick up Shirley.

Monica decided she could drive to do her errands but that evening for the driver to take over.

Monica arrived in time to pick up Shirley.

They left and Monica went by the stables and picked up the driver.

They saw Lora when they arrived at the hospital.

They stay for several hours with Lorraine.

Dr. Ralph entered the hospital early and sat with Shirley and Monica.

Shirley had a lot of homework to complete.

She and Monica left after two hours.

Monica put a stew on for Shirley from that morning and changed her sheets.

When they returned to the apartment that evening at dark.

Monica put coal in the fireplace and coal in the stove.

Shirley was undressing and putting on her nightgown.

Monica warmed Shirley’s stew and gave her a small bowl and bread.

Shirley loved it.

She mased the potatoes and carrots up and sat at the table and studied and ate.

Monica locked all the doors and windows.

She went o her room and undressed and put on her only nightgown and prayed and thought about Lora.

Monica read her bible and went to sleep.

Shirley stayed up late and wrote on her papers.

Vivienne stayed at the hospital with Sally.

They were pulling her teeth on Friday and not Saturday.

Dr. Woodson wanted the dentists to wait until Monday. but they decided to go ahead.

Dr. Woodson stayed at the hospital overnight.

He and Hutch were present when the two dentists pulled the six teeth out of the bottom of Sally’s mouth.

Vivienne was nervous.

Dr. Charles and Dr. Felipe were working all day at the main hospital.

Beverly had tracked down their money and a few more workers money and paid them.

Dennis was so glad.

Felipe wanted to hire someone to do the heavy work.

Dennis told Felipe about Aaron.

Felipe met Aaron later that day and told him he wanted the horses feed and groom, water brought into the house and coal and fuel brought into the house and their laundry taken to the wash people and brought back.

They agreed on a price.

Felipe felt good that he money Dennis gave him could pay for Aaron for the next two months.

Aaron started the next day.

Aaron had several clients that lived in the same block.

Aaron was finished and at school before ten am.

He loved the job.

Morgan was at the south hospital waiting for Lora.

He saw her enter and was shocked.

The nurses were shocked.

Ryan just looked at her.

They were decreasing the amount of medicine they were placing in Myriah’s IVs.

Myriah was sleep for four days.

Ryan wanted her to be still and sleep through the week-end until Monday.

He figured she would be hungry and the pain would still be there.

Ryan was trying to think.

Morgan said, “Lora you look different.”

Lora starred at Morgan.

Morgan said, “Jeremiah is running down all the neighbors trying to find out where you have taken his daughter.”

Lora stared at Morgan like she kidnapped Myriah.

Morgan said, “He wants the money back. I told him I did not know anything about money.”

Lora said, “I have to think about Myriah.”

Morgan looked around and said, “Where are my blankets?”

Lora said, “The hotel is washing them.”

Morgan said, “I’ll come back Sunday and get them.”

Morgan rode home and put coal on the fire in the fireplace and coal in the stove.

He walked through his house and check all the rooms.

He ran outside and feed his horses and gave them water.

He ran back in the house and locked all the doors.

He settled in the parlor before the fireplace.

He went to sleep.

The dentist were at the Stith hospital at six am.

Dr. Woodson did not like it but he and Hutch were up.

Hutch numb Sally’s mouth.

The two dentists went into Sally’s room at seven am and were finished at eight am.

Sally was upset.

The dentist were leaving the hospital at eight thirty am and back in their office by nine thirty and was getting prepared for their long week-end with their out of town friends.

They wrote the bill for all of Sally’s dental care and sent it by messenger to Dr. Woodson.

Dr. Woodson received the bill before four thirty pm.

He smirked and shook his head.

Sally slept most of the day.

Dr. Woodson wanted her to wake and eat something.

He had to attend to her mouth for the next week.

He started thinking.

Dr. Woodson looked at Hutch.

Hutch looked at Dr. Woodson.

Dr. Woodson said, “Baby teeth.”

Nurse Sharon said, “They would have come out with the year.”

Hutch looked at Nurse Sharon.

Dr. Woodson said, “Sally’s healing should be much faster.”

Hutch said, “I wasn’t thinking. We may have been able to stop it so she would not be in pain.”

Vivienne walked over to speak to Nurse Sharon and said, “I rather for it to be done. I want as much corrected to Sally’s body as possible.”

Nurse Sharon and Vivienne walked to the worker’s room and had a cup of tea.

Lora was up early and counted the money out. She deducted the money she spent out and gave Jeremiah the greater portion.

She dressed and got the first carriage out.

The manager’s assistant saw Lora leaving and said, “Ma am. Blankets.”

Lora heard the word ‘blankets’.

She turned and walked to the assistant and took the blankets and walked out the hotel.

The manager shook his head.

His wife looked t Lora.

She told her husband, “She looks better than yesterday.”

The hotel manager said, “I don’t care.”

Lora went to the carriage and stepped in it.

The carriage driver from the day before stepped in the carriage and looked back at Lora and said, “Where?”

Lora turned and looked back like she did not know where she was.

The carriage driver said, “I am not moving until you give me an address.”

Lora said, “I don’t know.”

The carriage driver said, “No more.”

He stepped out the carriage.

Lora looked at him and said, “I can show you.”

The carriage driver stared at her and said, “Where to start. You are going to pay me every stop I make.”

Lora said, “I can tell you back at the hospital.”

The manager and his wife walked outside and looked at the carriage driver.

He shook his head at them.

The carriage driver sped back to the south hospital.

Ryan was arriving at the hospital. He would spend the afternoon at the smallest hospital.

He saw the carriage when it pulled up and saw Lora peeping out.

Ryan stood and stared at her.

The carriage driver yelled, “Where?”

Ryan jumped.

The carriage driver yelled, “My money.”

Lora reached in her bag and gave him fifty cents.

Ryan and Dr. Jim looked at the carriage driver and waited for Lora.

The carriage driver pulled off.

Ryan and Dr. Jim looked at the carriage.

Ryan opened the hospital’s door and he and Dr. Jim walked into the hospital.

The carriage driver sped through the community for about thirty minutes.

Lora said, “Here.”

The carriage driver said, “Here where?”

Lora sat and looked around.

The carriage driver yelled, “A stop. Fifty cent.”

Lora was turned around in the back seat looking at the houses.

The carriage driver said, “F-i-f-t-y cent.”

Lora was trying to go in her bag and get fifty cents when money fell out.

The carriage driver saw the money and was hoping she would forget it and he could have it.

Lora snapped around and picked up the paper money.

The carriage driver primped his mouth.

Lora found fifty cent.

She said the apple tree the lightning struck and she and Myriah ran down the street and looked at.

Lora pointed and said, “This street.”

The carriage driver primped his mouth and looked back at Lora and on the floor and saw he had gotten all the paper money.

Lora was looking around and saw the familiar houses.

The carriage driver turned up his nose at the neighborhood and the houses.

Lora saw Morgan’s house and she looked across the street and saw her house and yelled, “Stop!”

The carriage driver stopped.

He looked back at Lora.

He said, “Fifty cent.”

Lora was getting and searching for his fifty cent.

She found fifty cent and reached it to the carriage driver.

She said, “Wait.”

The carriage driver looked around the neighborhood.

He stepped out the carriage to get a better look at this bizarre nejghborhood.

He saw Morgan’s house.

Lora ran back to the carriage and grabbed the three blankets and ran to Morgan’s house.

Myriah’s grandfather was looking out his kitchen window and partially see the carriage.

But he did not know the well dressed woman running to Morgan’s house with blankets in her arms.

He stopped and said, “Blankets.”

Myriah’s grandfather began to think.

He slowly said, “Myriah.”

He was knocking over the kitchen chairs trying to get to the front door.

He was shaking and trembling.

His wife was walking into the kitchen and he bumped into her and continued to try to unlock the front door.

She looked at her husband and then ran into the kitchen and saw the carriage.

She peeped and saw a woman standing on Morgan’s porch and knocking on his door.

Morgan was in the kitchen.

He peeped out the kitchen door and saw a woman in the glass of his windows.

He walked up to the front of the house with his cup of coffee.

He a woman’s figure and thought it should be Lora.

Morgan opened his door and saw Lora.

Lora reached Morgan his blankets.

She turned and ran off the porch.

Morgan saw the carriage.

He saw how the carriage driver was watching Lora.

Morgan took another swallow of coffee and said, “Good morning to you too Lora.”

The carriage driver turned all the way around to watch Lora.

Lora did not say anything.

Morgan swallow his coffee.

The carriage driver heard someone at the door next to the carriage.

He peeped around the back of the carriage and saw Lora run to the porch and knock on the door.

The grandfather’s wife ran to the front door and pushed her husband away.

He looked at her.

She said, “Lora.”

Lora heard them and put her head to the door to listen.

The wife unlocked the front door.

The husband finally stopped staring his wife.

He saw out the front door and saw the unrecognizable woman standing on his front porch.

His wife said, “Lora.”

Lora was twisting with excitement.

The carriage driver walked to the end of the carriage and watched.

He looked back and saw Morgan watching Lora.

He noticed Morgan had a nice house and two other neighbors.

The carriage driver wondered about the neighborhood.

The wife looked at Lora up and down and said, “Myriah. Where is Myriah?”

Lora said, “Hospital.”

The wife said, “Where?”

Lora stopped and her mouth dropped open.

She turned and looked back at the carriage driver.

The carriage driver looked at Lora.

The grandfather stepped out on the front porch and stood by his wife.

The grandfather and his wife looked at Lora up and down.

Lora looked at them and then at the carriage driver.

The carriage driver said, “Idiot.”

He walked to the front porch and titled his hat.

The carriage driver said, “Good morning.”

The grandfather said to the carriage driver, “Where is my granddaughter?”

The carriage driver thought, “The village of idiots.”

Morgan walked over and said, “Good morning Mr. and Mrs. Hall. Myriah is at the south hospital.”

The carriage driver looked at Morgan.

Morgan looked at the carriage driver.

Morgan took another swallow of his coffee and titled his cup at the carriage driver and said, “Good morning.”

The carriage driver said, “Good morning to you sir.”

The grandfather said, “I don’t know where that is.”

The carriage driver walked away with Morgan.

He said, “Idiots.”

Morgan said, “Yeap.”

Morgan walked away to his house and closed his door.

He checked the inside of his house and put his coat and gloves on.

He came back out and locked his front door.

Morgan walked around the back of his house.

He went to the stables and got a horse and feed all the horses and gave them water.

Morgan closed the stables door.

He saddled his horse and jumped on the horse.

He closed his coat and took his scarf out of the saddle and tied it around his neck.

Morgan put on his gloves.

He laughed when he thought about the carriage driver called them ‘idiots’.

He rode to the end of his yard and passed the carriage driver and nodded at him.

Morgan rode to the railroad on that Friday morning.

He arrived a little after seven that morning.

He began to immediately look at the train schedules and where they should be.

He knew Patrick’s train should be pulling in the small city with Mag around noon, then into Cedartown by nine am on Saturday morning.

Morgan smiled at the thought of Mag.

He met her when she taught them a two week course on customer service.

He liked her calmness and pleasant attitude.

Morgan stood and pulled off his coat, scarf and gloves.

He started a fire in the stove.

Mike that works the night shift like the office cold to stay awake.

Morgan keeps his coat on until he makes a fire in the stove.

Morgan stepped outside the office and locked the door.

He went to the water barrel and got water for his coffee pot.

He was whistling and put the top back on his coffee pot.

As he was walking back to the office he looked and saw Peter.

He was shaken but he was not afraid.

Morgan was trying to figure out why Peter was there the train to New York would not leave until ten am.

Morgan thought, “I have to be calm.”

He said, “Good morning Peter.”

Peter looked at Morgan slyly and said, “Morning Morgan.”

Morgan thought, “I got my guns. I got the keys in my pants pocket I have to shift the coffee pot to reach for the keys and the gun.”

A thought came to Morgan to stand still do not let Peter follow him in the office.

Morgan stopped and thought about the young mobster woman. He looked for the double horseshoe symbol on Peter.

Peter looked at Morgan.

Morgan said, “Peter you want something.”

Peter said, “Some of your coffee when it is ready.”

Morgan said, “I don’t share. Anything else?”

Peter looked at Morgan and tried to figure out what he was thinking.

Peter said, “Did you let Patrick and B-r-e-n-d-a know I wanted cash for my retirement and not a party.”

Morgan said, “Yeap.”

Peter said, “When did you tell them?”

Morgan was standing by the door and thought, “That’s it. You want to know if I knew where they were and where Lorraine is.”

Morgan said, “They left yesterday. I talked to them before they boarded the train. You want me to send them a telegram and tell them you want five hundred dollars?”

Peter thought, “Slick.”

Peter shook his head for no and primped his mouth.

Morgan shifted the coffee pot to his left hand and went in his pocket for the keys.

He looked at Peter and said, “Good morning Peter.”

Peter looked at Morgan.

Morgan unlocked the office door.

He watched Peter walk away.

Morgan saw Peter was angry with him.

Morgan thought, “I am not going to be involved with whatever this murder plot is about.”

He put his coffee pot on the stove.

He sat down at his desk.

Morgan stood and walked to the door.

He peeped out the door.

 He saw Peter standing and talking to some workers.

Morgan was getting flashes in his mind.

He could not think.

He could not see what the flashes were.

They appeared to be scenes.

Morgan said, “God I am going crazy.”

He held onto the doorknob and slid to the floor.

His coffee put had boiled out all the water and he heard the popping sound.

The popping sound brought Morgan back.

He crawled to the stove,

He stood and took the coffee pot off the stove.

He was sniffing his nose and tears he thought he was losing his mind again.

When he was a young boy, he would see flashes all the time.

Everybody was scared of him and rejected him.

He had no playmates.

His mother and father sent him to live with his grandparents on their farm.

Morgan thought it was all gone now the flashes are back.

He could not control the flashes then and he know he cannot control them now.

The telegram machine began.

He looked at the telegram machine.

He looked at all the telegrams that came in overnight.

He stomped and said, “Why didn’t Mike do this!”

There was a hard knock on the door.

Morgan ran to the door and it was Peter again.

Morgan was frowned up and said, “Peter I am busy.”

Peter looked around and heard the telegram machine. He saw the telegrams on the floor.

Peter said, “I came for coffee.”

Morgan was angry and said, “I told you I do not share my coffee. Don’t come back here Peter. I don’t know what you are doing, but whatever you are doing keep me out of it. I do not gamble.”

Morgan slammed the door in Peter’s face and locked the door.

Morgan shook his head and said, “Gamble. Where did that come from?”

He ran to the telegram machine and begin to read each.

He had several telegrams saying they had emergencies and need help.

Morgan was able to telegram the next train stations and get coal and fuel and food to the trains.

He sent several telegrams to Patrick.

One telegram he titled “Personal”

Eleanor was impressed with how quick Morgan got the trains helped at the next train station.

She got the telegram that stated, “Personal to Mr. Stith.”

Eleanor looked at the telegram’s title.

She wanted to read it.

She tore off the telegram and walked to Patrick.

Patrick and Brenda were eating breakfast in the suite.

Eleanor said, “Daddy this telegram is marked ‘Personal’ for you alone”.

Eleanor sat next to Patrick and looked at him.

Brenda looked at Patrick.

Eleanor was sitting sideways looking at Patrick.

Patrick stared at Eleanor.

Brenda said, “Eleanor the telegram is personal for your daddy.”

Eleanor looked at Patrick and batted her eyes.

Patrick stared at Eleanor.

Brenda looked at Eleanor and said, “If the telegram came in over our telegram it is business but if it says personal Eleanor. It is personal.”

Eleanor sat next to Patrick and cried and hollered.

Patrick and Brenda looked at Eleanor in shock.

Eleanor said, “I got to know.”

Brenda said, “Eleanor are you crazy?”

Patrick said, “That’s where all of your children get their bad behavior from.”

Eleanor said, “Bruce.”

Brenda said, “Everything is not on Bruce, even though I want to put everything on him.”

Patrick began to read the telegram.

Eleanor said, “Momma you tell me that you don’t want to know what that telegram is about?”

Brenda said, “Eleanor when something is private it is private. If your father wants me to know he …”

Patrick reached the telegram to Brenda.

He stood and walked from the table.

He walked to the balcony door and opened it.

He walked and stood on the balcony.

Eleanor and Brenda looked at Patrick.

Eleanor tried to take the telegram from Brenda.

Brenda hit Eleanor’s hand several times.

Eleanor rubbed her hand and said, “Momma what’s wrong with you? That hurt.”

Brenda looked back at Patrick on the balcony.

She was nervous and did not want to read the telegram.

Eleanor was angry with Brenda.

She saw Brenda was worried about Patrick.

Eleanor kept her eyes on the telegram.

Brenda picked up the telegram and read it.

She read it again.

Brenda scooted her chair from the table and stood.

Eleanor looked up at her mother and said, “Momma what it say?”

Brenda took the telegram and walked to the balcony with Patrick.

They stood and talked.

Patrick said, “I don’t know how to help Morgan.”

Brenda read the telegram again.

She said, “Patrick I believe Morgan has a gift from GOD…”

Patrick turned and looked at Brenda.

She said, “I believe the flashes are scenes of what has happened or will happen”

Patrick said, “Then the flashes may have to do with Lorraine and whoever it is that tried to kill her.”

Brenda said, “I believe so. Especially since Morgan said, he told Peter he does not gamble.”

Patrick said, “That was strange that he would know something like that about Peter.”

Brenda said, “I believe Morgan saw it in some of the flashes.”

Patrick stomped his foot.

Brenda knew that meant Patrick was torn between two decisions.

She looked at her husband and waited for his decision.

Brenda sat in chair on the balcony.

Patrick said, “We can’t tell anyone.”

Brenda said, “The killer could be next to Morgan and not Peter.”

Patrick looked at Brenda with a questioning expression.

Brenda turned and saw Patrick looking at her and jumped.

Brenda said, “Patrick! What are you looking at me like that?”

Patrick said, “Why did you say the killer may not be Peter?”

Brenda said, “What? Peter was on the train. Peter knew Lorraine had money. Peter was interested in Lorraine’s condition. The scene Shirley described of Lorraine’s hotel room.”

Patrick said, “Brenda it was the mob. Lorraine is not small. Two people had to carry her out the hotel and carry her body to dump it. Not only that suppose whoever it was killed Lorraine earlier and dumped her body in the river and got her hotel key and went to the hotel with her coat and boots on, the reason why the hotel clerk did not notice anything strange. They ramble through the hotel looking for money and did not find. And they walked out the hotel that night. Laughing and talking as someone on a date.”

Brenda looked at Patrick and said, “You know I did not want it to be the mob. I wanted peace from them.”

Patrick said, “Remember Morgan said a young woman came to his house and would not let him to help her with her bags because she had guns in them. He gave the bags to the sheriff and the police they have to work out who gets what.”

Brenda said, “Ryan said Beverly said the new mob boss is a young woman. It is amazing how GOD is putting the pieces of this puzzle together.”

Patrick said, “Morgan think he is losing his mind. He needs help. I trust Ryan and Hutch. The other doctors have too much to do.”

Brenda said, “Ryan has a family. I don’t want him to get hurt.”

Patrick looked at Brenda and said, “I don’t want Hutch to get hurt. Nor Morgan.”

Brenda said, “Patrick you know what this means the mob is rooted in our businesses.”

Patrick said, “Yes Brenda.”

He turned his back to Brenda and leaned over the rail.

Eleanor went back to the sofa and sat and read the other telegrams

She watched Patrick and Brenda.

Patrick and Brenda turned to walk in the suite.

Patrick took the chair Brenda was sitting in and put it against the wall.

He said, “We will be seeing Mag in a hour.”

Brenda grinned.

Patrick said, “Morgan said to tell Mag hello.”

Brenda grinned.

Patrick said, “That will be interesting.”

They turned and was about to open the suite door and step in when they saw Eleanor having a fit with a telegram in her hand and stomping in the suite.

Patrick and Brenda stared at Eleanor.

Patrick said, “Which one of her crazy kids?”

Brenda said, “I bet it is that Michael demanding two lamb chops. The others are scared she will ship them to Bruce. Unless it is Percy being drunk at school.”

Patrick opened the door and he and Brenda stepped in.

Brenda walked to their bedroom.

Patrick was locking the door back and looked at Eleanor who was trying to catch her composure and ease her temper.

Brenda was standing in their bedroom giggling.

Patrick said, “Eleanor is everything alright. What does that telegram say?”

Brenda hollered.

Patrick ran to their bedroom and closed and locked the door.

He sat in his chair and laughed.

He said, “Watch she come and bam…”

Eleanor walked to their bedroom door and bam on it.

Brenda looked at Patrick and said, “Every since she was three I told her not to bam on my damn door.”

Patrick said, “Woman get the door.”

Brenda looked around for something to hit Eleanor.

Patrick sat up in the chair and said, “Brenda, if you hit her and hurt her we have to take care of her five bad ass kids.”

Brenda sashayed the door.

Patrick looked at his attractive wife and grinned.

Brenda looked back at him and flirted and threw her head in the air.

Patrick put his hands behind his head and leaned backwards in the chair.

Brenda opened the door and said, “Eleanor!”

Eleanor handed Brenda the telegrams and walked away.

Patrick sat up and looked at Brenda.

Brenda stepped out the bedroom and looked at Eleanor.

Eleanor was sitting back at the telegram machine sending messages back.

She was going through her books and writing down her responses.

Brenda looked down at the telegrams.

She read the first telegram.

Patrick said, “Brenda what?”

She said, “The railroad wants donations for Ty and Skip’s son.”

Patrick said, “Why?”

Brenda said, “They don’t have enough money to finish semester in medical school.”

Patrick said, “Skip’s son is to graduate in the spring right? I thought Ty was still in undergraduate school.”

Brenda was heart broken and looked at Patrick with tears in her eyes and said, “No. Remember Skips son said, he was in medical school like Ty.”

Patrick said, “How far along is Ty?”

Brenda was looking up at the ceiling and said he has two more years.”

Patrick said, “hey both said they will work at our hospital. Let’s send them the money.”

Brenda tried to smile through her tears and nodded her head for yes.

Patrick said, “Next.”

Brenda was nervous and shaking.

She read the next telegram and looked at Patrick.

Patrick stood and walked to Brenda.

He looked at the telegram and said, “No.”

Brenda went to the next telegram and Patrick said, “Hell no.”

Patrick read the next three telegrams and said, “No, No and hell no.”

They read the last telegram and he looked at Brenda.

Brenda said, “I never want to have anything to do with them.”

Patrick said, “No.”

Patrick walked out to Eleanor and Brenda sat in the chair.

Patrick sat next to Eleanor and wrote his responses to each telegram.

Eleanor was calming down.

She said, “Daddy are you and momma going to help Ty and Skip’s son?”

Patrick said, “Yes.”

Eleanor was looking at Patrick as he was sending back telegram responses.

He sent a ‘Personal’ response back to Morgan. He told him he believe the flashes is a gift from GOD. HE is showing him to do and how to do it. Patrick told Morgan to not say anything to anyone but act normal and pray and ask GOD to slow the flashes down so he can see what they are and give him wisdom to know what to do and who to trust. They are pulling into the small city and tell Mag he said. Hello.”

He sent two telegrams to the prison and said, “No we will not sign for John and his wife and sons to be released for the holidays.

He sent a telegram to Jose and said, “Send a “no” message to Christopher’s wife and her family and a ‘no’ message to Patrick Jr’s wife and children and her family.

The train whistle blew.

Patrick was determined to finish with the telegrams before they entered in the small city.

He said, “Brenda didn’t Lorraine buy Natalie something for their baby?”

Brenda sniffed and turned her head and looked at the stack of things in the corner.

Patrick said, “Eleanor go over there and get the thing or whatever it is Lorraine bought for Natalie and give it to her while I finish these telegrams.”

Eleanor said, “Daddy I pulled it last night it is over here by the sofa.”

Patrick looked up and said, “Thank you. Your mother is going into depression over Lorraine. “

The train was stopping.

Patrick looked at Brenda.

Eleanor was looking at her daddy and saw he was concerned for her mother.

She peeped over at Brenda.

Patrick sent a telegram to the prison where the former mayor and his wife were and said, “No. He would not give them a recommendation for an early release.”

The train stopped.

Eleanor stood.

She picked up Brenda’s coat to help her put it on.

Brenda was sitting with her arms folded looking at all of the things Shirley bought.

Eleanor looked back at Patrick.

Patrick picked up Eleanor’s stack of telegrams.

He started looking through them.

Eleanor said, “Daddy I finished all of the telegrams.”

She looked at him and said, “Bruce.”

Patrick said, “Hell nall.”

Eleanor said, “Thank you.”

Patrick was sending the telegram back to Bruce.

Eleanor walked and looked and smiled.

Patrick stood and walked and put on his scarf and coat.

He said, “Brenda I need you to get up so we can see our friends before the holiday. Because we may not be able to see them during the holidays. GOD is taking care of Lorraine and HE is going to take care of whoever hurt her and the mob that is trying to get root in our business. We are not having any of our sons, children and their wives’ families this holiday and the New Year. Get up Brenda. We fight together. We stand together.”

The telegram machine started again.

Eleanor was putting on her gloves and walked to the telegram machine.

She said, “Morgan said, Will do.”

Jose said, “He sent messages to Christopher’s wife and Patrick Jr’s wives with one word ‘no.”

Patrick said, “I like that Jose.”

Brenda stood.

Patrick reached Brenda her coat.

She looked at him.

Patrick said, “You want it take it.”

Brenda snatched her coat from Patrick.

Patrick picked up her gloves and said, “No snatching.”

Eleanor looked up from the telegram machine and thought, “Is this their kind of playing. I need to get off this train. Where is that gift?”

Eleanor stood from the telegram machine and looked at the last telegram and said, “Yes.”

Brenda peeped around Patrick at Eleanor.

Eleanor tore the telegram off and hopped to Brenda and Patrick.

Patrick was still looking at Brenda.

Eleanor said, “Everything is set for our African vacation next year. We can take the smaller ship and sail from the three countries and stay on our ship and stay inside camps when we go into the deep parts of the countries.”

Patrick looked at the excited Eleanor and said, “Thank You. But Michael wanted another horse.”

Eleanor said, “He’s at school demanding two lamb chops. I know it is substituting for the gambling.”

Brenda yelled and said, “Patrick didn’t I tell you.”

Patrick said, “Eleanor it is only a week and a half left, let him have two lamb chops so he can concentrate on his work.”

Eleanor looked at Patrick and blew.

She walked back to the telegram machine and sent a telegram to the school to give Michael Simmons two lamb chops until the end of the year.

Brenda put on her scarf and gloves.

She peeped at the window and walked to Patrick.

He held her by the waist.

They kissed.

Eleanor looked at them and rolled her eyes.

She said, “That’s all the business so far. Lets’ go and see this small city.”

The three walked out the owner’s suite and off the train.

Mag and Natalie were standing and watching for them.

Mag and Natalie grinned.

Mattie was waiting with her children and taking passengers to the camping and fishing site.

Brenda and Mag hugged.

Patrick hugged Mag.

Eleanor hugged Natalie and said, “Lorraine.”

Natalie looked at Eleanor.

Brenda and Mag were still holding each other, they looked at Natalie.

Patrick looked at Natalie.

Eleanor said, “Shirley found your name on the things in this bag. We all felt you should have them now.”

Natalie held her lips tight.

She said, “Before Josiah, me, Lorraine, Monica and Meredith and Chasity when she was free would get together and spend the week-ends together, shopping, eating and drinking.”

She held her lips tight.

Natalie said, “I love her.”

Natalie began to cry.

Mag said, “Natalie she is not dead. Let us give GOD time to finish HIS work on Lorraine.”

They all looked at Mag.

Mag looked at them and said, “Yes. GOD is working on Lorraine. HE needed her to be still so she could hear HIM and give up all that sadness that drove her to drink.”

Natalie said, “She was very lonely.”

Mag said, “I was where Lorraine is. After a mission that Gen I were caught and tortured…”

Brenda said, “I remember.”

Mag said, “When Gen got me out the south. Roger met us and cared for Gen two weeks until she was able to keep moving. It took her four weeks to get to Washington with John.”

Brenda was shaking her head.

Mag said, “But what you don’t know is this little city is where Roger brought us. No one was here then. The creek where they tried to kill your babies is where John kept me until the spring. He brought me back from death here.”

Mag’s breathing was labored.

She said, “I never mentioned it.”

Mag fell into Brenda.

Patrick held his hand out to catch Mag.

Patrick said, “That’s why you were hesitant to come here. Mag you should have told me.”

Brenda said, “Yall come on home. You have been faithful. We can find someone to fill in until we get a permanent person.”

Eleanor jumped and said, “Morgan. What about Morgan. We have plenty of people in Philadelphia. He likes the freezing cold and wilderness.”

Patrick looked at Eleanor and he turned his head and looked at Mag and cleared his throat and said, “This is not appropriate but Mag he said to tell you ‘hello’.”

Mag quivering said, “Thank you.”

Brenda looked at Patrick and said, “He might need to leave the city for a time.”

Patrick looked at Brenda.

Brenda said, “We will see who we can get. Pack up what you want to carry and come back for later.”

Mag said, “Josiah really likes this little city. He was conceived here after we thought that would never be possible.”

Brenda said, “Isn’t that something.”

Mag said, “For those four months when Roger thought he had to bury me by that creek, GOD was doing something inside of me. I know HE was removing hatred. Roger said my eyes were closed but he could see my eyes moving fast under my eye lids.”

Eleanor said, “I know I saw Lorraine do that for a split second.”

Mag said, “Lorraine is fine. She may miss Christmas but she will be a better person when she wakes.”

Natalie hugged Mag.

Natalie said, “I know Josiah loves this little city.”

They heard Mattie bringing the passengers back to the train.

Patrick said, “We’ve been here talking that long?”

Natalie reached the heavy bag back to Eleanor and said, “Keep it until we get back.”

Eleanor took the bag.

Brenda said, “Mag your house may not be in order like you want it. Come and stay with us until you get everything like you want.”

Eleanor said, “I don’t like for anyone to stay with us.”

Everyone looked at Eleanor.

She said, “My children.”

She put her hand to her head.

Natalie reached for Eleanor.

Patrick rubbed her arm.

He was looking at a few passengers and said, “We just have to order a few more lamb chops to keep Michael obedient.”

Natalie said, “Me too. Michael and I would sneak and eat a lamb chop after lunch.”

Eleanor yelled.

They all jumped.

Natalie ran behind Mag.

She said, “You won’t hurt Mag’s grandchild.”

Eleanor said, “I accuse Jose.”

Brenda said, “I know that did not go well.”

Eleanor said, “No. We actually fought. Natalie you didn’t say a word.”

Natalie said, “NO. I could not fight you. I was full.”

Natalie ran away from them to the rest stop holding her stomach.

They laughed.

Eleanor said, “Now I have to apologize to Jose or let sleeping dogs lie.”

Patrick said, “Let sleeping dogs lie.”

Eleanor said, “I accused someone falsely. I have grown. He probably want a bottle of whiskey.”

Eleanor looked away.

Patrick looked at her.

He said, “Mag.”

He nodded down the street.

Mag looked back and said, “I haven’t seen nor heard anything.”

Patrick smacked his lips and shook his head.

He said, “I really want to know something about that.”

Eleanor said, “IF that a secret about money I don’t want to know.”

Brenda smiled at stingy Eleanor.

Eleanor said, “Mag we are giving Christmas gifts, so don’t feel you are obligated.”

Mag said, “I’m thinking the only thing we don’t have at my house is coal and water.”

Brenda said, “We can help get that for you.”

Brenda peeped at Eleanor and said, “Eleanor is any coal left?”

Eleanor said, “Momma I don’t know. I will check time we get home. You know I had to tell one of the grounds keeper at the hospital I was going to fire him for stealing the coal from the hospital?”

Patrick said, “The one that was doing all the talk?”

Eleanor said, “Yes.”

Brenda was stunned.

Eleanor said, “Mabel told me which one he was. She said, every evening he would go to the coal shed and filled a bucket and tie it to his saddle and leave from the back to keep anyone from seeing him. I telegrammed Dr. Woodson and asked him to check and see. I didn’t hear from Bradly…”

Mag and Brenda looked at each other.

Eleanor said, “My heart belongs forever to Joseph. If I would ever want a husband it would be Bradley.”

Patrick looked at Eleanor because that meant Bruce would be coming back. He was sick.

Dr. Woodson saw me and Al when we walked in and said, “Yes Eleanor every evening.”

Mag shook her head.

Eleanor said, “He acted as if it was his coal and it was alright for him to steal it. I told him if he does it again not only I will fire him but have him arrested.”

Mag said, “What did he say?”

Eleanor held her head down and said, “Yes Miss Stith.”

Mag laughed.

Eleanor was watching the conductor and said, “At least he got my name right.”

The conductor looked around and said, “All aboard.”

Patrick and Brenda hugged Mag.

Eleanor hugged Mag.

Natalie walked over.

They all hugged Natalie.

Eleanor said, “Natalie I am going to put this in my office so it won’t get missing.”

Natalie said, “Thank you. But Josiah is going to be disappointed.”

Mag said, “He to come with the family.”

Natalie raised her eyebrows.

Patrick held Brenda’s hand and Eleanor walked with them to the train.

All the passengers were running back to the train.

The train whistle blew.

Patrick, Brenda and Eleanor went to the owners’ suite.

Patrick immediately sent Morgan a telegram that Mag said hello and whether he could spend the next thirty days at Mag’s post while she resettle in her hometown and they find someone to take over her position at the small town?

Patrick sent Hutch a telegram at the Stith hospital the African trip was final. They would be leaving from Philadelphia on March first. That his financial part was taken care.

Patrick and Eleanor read all of the other telegrams and put them in books.

An hour later Morgan telegrammed Patrick and said, “He would come but he needed much coffee.”

Patrick read the telegram and laughed.

He telegrammed Jose and said, “Jose we will be at the train station at ten am. Purchase ten pounds of the robust coffee and have it at the train station in the morning.”

Jose read the telegram and rolled his eyes.

He telegrammed the grocery and requested the ten pounds of robust coffee for the morning.

Jose said, “They are on their way back.”

He looked around the room with disappointment.

Jose thought, “I was having a good time with Briana. Damn.”

He sent a telegram back to Morgan and said, “Thank you. Mag will show you around. Telegram her and tell her when you will arrive so she can come home. Tell no one where you are going, but you are taking the holidays off.”

Patrick sent a telegram to Mag to get the ten pounds of coffee from the train on Sunday morning for Morgan and tell no one he is coming.

Mag knew it was important for no one to know where Morgan was.

He did not have to greet the train and the train conductor but sit in the office and monitor the telegram machine for reports and messages.

Natalie sent Josiah a telegram they would be in Cedartown for Christmas and he should stop there.

Morgan was excited about leaving for the holidays.

He sent Mag a telegram he would be there Sunday.

Mag laughed and sent him a telegram it is very cold and he will staying in their shack for the time and to bring blankets and his favorite pillow and books and dress warmly. There is a pot belly stove and they would leave all the kitchen items.

Morgan sent a telegram back and said thank you.

Patrick sat next to Brenda on the sofa and held her by her shoulders.

Eleanor was finishing her books for the day.

She said, “What are we doing for dinner?”

Patrick said, “For some reason the train is crowded. Let the guests have the dining car and we can eat in here.”
Brenda said, “Fine. I want soup or stew.”

She looked at Eleanor and said, “Eleanor?”

Eleanor said, Daddy you said the liver was good?”

Patrick said, “That’s what I want.”

Eleanor turned up her nose and said, “Soup”.

Morgan waited for Mike and told him he was going away for the holidays and Dan would take over in his slot.

Morgan said, “Mike don’t let those telegram pile up like last night. There were some emergencies I was able to catch before they became problems. Dan goes by the book and will report you to Patrick. You know Patrick will terminate you.”

Mike said, “Where you going? Vermont.”

Morgan never told anyone but Patrick where he bought a house.

Morgan started having flashes and fell to the floor and his coffee pot went one way and his saddle landed on him.

Mike did not know what to do.

He ran to the door and called for help.

Several of the workers ran into the office and saw Morgan sprawled on the floor they helped him sat up.

Morgan was confused and it took them a few minutes to get him conscious.

He sat on the floor and got his consciousness back.

He tried to stand but he could not.

The workers helped Morgan to stand.

Mike said, “Morgan you are taking off for the holidays. Go to the doctor.”

Morgan nodded his head.

Mike picked up his coffee put and walked out the door with Morgan.

Morgan got on his horse and rode home.

He sent a telegram to the local stables to come and get his horses the next morning and take care of them for thirty days. He wanted his horses, but it would take three to four days to get to the small city in the freezing cold. He could not do that to his horses.

Morgan had all his telegrams from Patrick in his coat pocket.

He thought about what was really going on with him.

Patrick told him to pray and ask GOD to slow it down for him.

Morgan said, “God Patrick said for me to pray and ask You to slow done the flashes so I can see what You are showing me and give me wisdom to know what to do. So that’s what I am asking You to do. Help me with this move for the next month and can You please put an end to this mob. Amen.”

He arrived home and saw a carriage in front of his house.

He rode to the carriage and peeped in it.

He looked on his porch.

The carriage driver was sitting on his porch and waved.

Morgan looked around for Lora.

The carriage driver said, “She’s at the hospital with her daughter.”

Morgan said, “What do you want?”

The carriage driver pointed to the sign that side ‘Rooms’.

Morgan peeped and said, “Mistake I did not take it out the window this morning.”

The carriage driver stood and walked to Morgan and said, “Me and Lora needs a place to stay.”

Morgan said, “No.”

The carriage driver said, “Out of this entire neighborhood there is only six nice homes and yours is the nicest. I need a place for the winter. I don’t know anything about Lora but that she is an idiot and most of the people in this village.”

Morgan said, “That maybe so, but they are nice folk.”

Morgan rode to the back of his stables and looked at his horses.

He did not want to put them in the stables.

Morgan had everything for the horses for the winter.

He looked at his full coal shed.

He had one of the few wells in the neighborhood, no one asked him for water and he did not want them to. He did not want them coming in and out of his yard.

Most of the neighbors went to the preacher or Mr. Hall for their water.

After the mob attack he did not want to leave his home and especially not having anyone living in it.

Morgan was patting his horses and he was feeding them.

The carriage driver saw Morgan’s love for his horses and he said, “I can take good care of your horses. I’ll feed and groom them in the morning and at the evening.”

Morgan looked at the carriage driver.

The carriage driver was looking at the full coal shed.

Morgan said, “I’ll give you a one month trial. Where did you live this morning?”

The carriage driver on seventh near the college.”

Morgan said, “Why do you need to move?”
The carriage driver said, “They get more money from the college students.”

Morgan said, “What is your name and I need a reference.”

The carriage driver said, “Marvin Wilson. I join the military at age sixteen and did fifteen years. I retired two months ago. Until my pension start I drive the carriage.”

Morgan was looking at him and realized he can shoot a gun.

Marvin looked at Morgan and was rocking back and forth on hi shill nervously and said, “How much a week.”

Morgan said, “Ten per month.”

Marvin hissed and turned his head.

Morgan said, “That’s two dollars and fifty cents a week. Come in and see if you want to stay here. And what do you mean and Lora?”
Marvin looked around and said, “Can we talk inside?”

Morgan pointed and said, “Lora has a home.”

Mr. and Mrs. Hall were in the window peeping out.

Morgan saw them.

Morgan and Marvin passed the loaded carriage.

Morgan stopped and looked at the loaded carriage.

Marvin tried to grin at Morgan and saw Morgan was not a friendly person.

Morgan walked up the porch to the door and thought, “Should I or not?”

Morgan unlocked the door and stepped inside the house with his coffee pot in one hand and his saddle over his shoulder.

He immediately snatched the ‘Rooms’ sign out the window.

Marvin twisted his mouth.

Morgan walked in the parlor and lit the large candle he kept on the mantel.

The candle lit the entire parlor and part of the hall.

Morgan said, “Wait here.”

He walked to the kitchen and lit the large candle in the kitchen.

Marvin saw the light that came into the hall.

He thought that was nice.

He looked around the simple furnished house but with good furnishings.

Morgan stood in the hallway and said, “Marvin come and look in the kitchen.”

Marvin passed the dining room.

He walked pass Morgan into the modern kitchen.

He like the kitchen.

Morgan a large pot belly stove that could heat the back of the house.

Morgan pointed to the back door and said, “I keep that locked until the summer. I go out the front door and get what I need. Let’s go upstairs. There are three available bedrooms.”

Morgan lit the candle he had in his hand and they walked upstairs.

Morgan gave the candle to Marvin.

Morgan had the doors opened and said, “You can go and look.”

Morgan was straightening the pictures he hung on the wall.

Marvin walked in the three rooms and looked around.

He pointed at the fourth room.

Morgan said, “That’s my room…”

He nodded and said, “And the upstairs.”

Marvin said, “I liked the three rooms. That bedroom is by the stables. I love horses but don’t want to smell them. If Lora move in she and her daughter would want to be together and those two rooms are together. Where do I bathe?”

Morgan said, “The room across the hall from the kitchen. And you need to talk quick about Lora.”

Marvin said, “Today she came out the hotel across from the bone hospital.”

Morgan said, “That is the Stiths’ hotel for their railroad workers and their families.”

Marvin shrugged his shoulders and said, “I was the first carriage at the hotel and the manager told me to take her to Smiths. She was rude and ignorant and stinky. I waited she came to the carriage like a new person. The salesclerk brought all her bags to the carriage. I took to the south hospital and left her. She told me to pick her first thing this morning from the hospital. I picked her up and took her back to the hotel. She went in and came out about thirty minutes and the somebody gave her some blankets.”

Morgan said, “Mines.”

He thought, “I better take them with me.”

Marvin said, “I did not want to carry around today, but no one else was walking out. She did not where she lived…”

Morgan said, “I can see that.”

Marvin said, “What?”

Morgan said, “Talk fast.”

Marvin said, “When she finally realized she was close we came here and she ran to your house with the blankets. She ran to the barely decent across the street. They asked her where her daughter she told them the hospital. They asked her which one she did not know I had to tell them.”

Morgan said, “I was there.”

Marvin said, “Right.”

He looked at Morgan and said, “She gave the old couple a hundred dollars…”

Morgan raised his eyebrows.

Marvin said, “She told them it was for the coal and water they got from them.”

Morgan sighed.

Marvin looked at Morgan.

Marvin said, “You sighed but the old man took the hundred dollars and folded it and put it in his pocket. The old woman looked at him. Lora said, ‘I told you I would make good’. They talked for thirty minutes. She walked off their front porch and ran next door.”

Morgan said, “Her house.”

Marvin looked at Morgan and said, “The old couple was calling her to come back. But she did not. Later a man came to the door. He stared at Lora. Lora counted money out in his hand. The old man ran off his porch and rn onto the porch with Lora. The old woman was hanging over the banister to see the money.”

Morgan said, “And you.”

Marvin looked at Morgan and said, “The man was holding his hand out and laughing. He was telling her to give him more. The old man yelled ‘no’. He grabbed Lora and pulled her off the porch.”

Morgan frowned up.

Marvin saw Morgan’s face and said, “You don’t like them?”

Morgan said, “Continue.”

The old man was trying to get the bag from Lora.

The younger man ran off the porch and was to grab the bag from Lora. Lora fell to the ground. Neighbors started running. Lora crawled to the carriage. I jumped in the carriage and she jumped in and I sped away. She told me to take her to the hotel. I took her to the hotel and she ran out with all her bags. She told me to take her to the hospital. I took her to the hospital, I took her to the hospital. She asked me to come to you and ask for her and Myiah a room...”

Morgan said, “Myriah.”

Marvin stared at Morgan because he did not care.

Marvin said, “Then I thought I will ask for a room for myself. That’s all the truth.”

Morgan said, “Which neighbor were they calling?”

Marvin said, “Preacher. Are you going to let me have a room?”

Morgan said, “I need to know what happened with Lora and her husband and why Myriah’s mother’s parents were fighting over Lora’s money. Lora doesn’t have to live in this neighborhood.”

Marvin said, “I agree.”

Morgan turned and started walking down the stairs and said to Marvin, “Let’s go.”

Marvin said, “Where?”

Morgan said, “To the preacher.”

Marvin said, “Why? You don’t believe me?”

Morgan said, “I believe you, but I really don’t Lora in my house but I really want to know why she wants to stay in neighborhood. I don’t want them sat my house. You see how their houses looked.”

Marvin looked and ran out the front door with Morgan.

Morgan did not lock his front door.

Morgan to the preacher’s house.

Marvin ran behind him.

Morgan knocked on the preacher’s door.

He came to the door and looked at Morgan and Marvin.

He said, “Good evening. We are about to eat come and join us.”

Morgan said, “No thanks.”

Marvin was peeping in the house.

Morgan said, “This is Marvin Wilson and he asked for a room. I want you to tell me what happened today with Lora and Jeremiah because she asked for a room.”

The preacher’s wife came to the door and stood by her husband.

The preacher told the same story that Marvin said.

Marvin said, “I told you.”

Morgan said, “Did Jeremiah ask about Myriah?”

The preacher said, “I did not hear him.”

Marvin said, “No.”

Morgan said, “Why was Mr. Hall trying to take Lora’s money?”

The preacher said, “He is an old dirty man.”

The preacher’s wife said, “He is wicked. He tried to steal our horse after we went and got it that night.”

The preacher said, “We gave him one but he tried to get both of them. I snatched the saddle off the horse and let him have the horse.
The preacher’s wife said, “He was mad with us. He heard there was money in the saddles and he wanted that money.”

The preacher said, “All Hall wants to do is drain Lora and leave her in the same pitiful state. We got the money out the saddles and are taking care of our church and parishioners that have been out of work and those that are sick.”

Morgan said, “Tell them to go to the south hospital. They take care of people with no money. I don’t want Lora back here.”

The preacher said, “God gave some of us this money and not all. He knew His reason. Watch Jeremiah he is going to drink his up. He got those two horses and he won’t go to work. I think Lora paid the Halls for the things she got from them.”

Marvin said, “Lora gave Mr. Hall a hundred dollars and he took it and put it in his pocket.”

The preacher was stunned and said, “A hundred dollars.”

His wife said, “For what. That little coal and water Lora got nearly everyday does not mount to a hundred dollars.”

She looked at her husband and he looked at her.

Morgan said, “I don’t want Lora, Myriah, Jeremiah nor the halls to set foot on my property.”

Marvin said, “What about me?”

Morgan said, “I told you I will try you for a month. You are to see about my horses and my house. No one else should be coming there. When are you suppose to pick up Lora?”

The carriage driver said, “In the morning.”

Morgan was thinking about where she go.

The preacher’s turned and looked at her husband and smacked him on his arm.

He frowned and looked at her.

She said, “Mrs. Clay.”

The preacher was thinking.

He said, “Yeah. Mrs. Clay.”

They both looked at Morgan and said, “Mrs. Clay attend our humble church. She has a nice house over on Abbey. Her husband was in the military and was killed and her only son joined the military and he was killed.”

Marvin said, “She gets two checks.”

Morgan turned and looked at Marvin.

The preacher eyes lit up and said, “Yeah.”

His wife said, “Stop it Mr. Hall.”

Morgan said, “I am leaving on holiday tomorrow and will not be back until the beginning of the New Year.”

Marvin said, “You knew that. You wanted me to house sit.”

Morgan said, “Yes and you buy your own food and don’t come down here even on Christmas and beg them for food.”

Marvin looked at the preacher and his wife and said, “I’ll pay.”

The preacher’s wife stepped aside to let Marvin in the house.

The preacher turned and looked back at them and said, “Honey, fifty cent.”

Marvin went in this coat pocket and took one of Lora’s fifty cents out his chest pocket and reached to the preacher’s wife.

He said, “White and navy beans mixed, with fat back and cornbread. Now that is a meal.”

The preacher’s wife was blushing and giggling.

The preacher sighed and said, “She does all of that over a compliment over her food.”

Morgan leaned to the preacher and said, “Watch Marvin.”

They peeped in the kitchen at the preacher’s wife and Marvin.

The preacher whispered and said, “I kept a few hundred dollars for bad times. I now they are coming that’s why God gave us this money to prepare.”

Morgan said,” Please have Marvin to take Lora over to the woman’s house. Can you write her a letter for Lora.”

The preacher said, “Lora is kind of stupid. I will see Mrs. Clay in church Sunday, if not I will go by there and tell her.”

Morgan said, “Lora needs a place until Monday.”

The preacher said, “Where was she before?”

Morgan said, “The railroad hotel.”

The preacher said, “Send her back there.”

Marvin was sitting at the table enjoying his white beans and said, “I can take her back and forth from there.”

Morgan said, “See.”

The preacher shook his head and said, “He’s bare watching.”

Morgan peeped inside the house and said, “Marvin I lock up at eight pm.”

Marvin said, “Until tomorrow.”

The preacher looked at Morgan and said, “You can send him to Mrs. Clay too.”

Morgan said, “The Lord sent him here for a reason. I just don’t want to shoot him when I get back.”

Marvin said, “Thank you ma am. I love buttermilk.”

Morgan said, “I’m glad he is upstairs. I have to go and pack. You ever heard of Smiths.”

Marvin said, “Smith’s.”

The preacher shook his head.

Morgan said, “What time do they open in the morning Marvin?”

Marvin said, “Tomorrow is Saturday about eight in the morning.”

Morgan said, “You take me there and then to the train station. You resolve Lora tonight and take her back to the hotel until preacher West and Mrs. West speak to Mrs. Clay. Take Lora to the bank and put all her money in it.”

Marvin scooted from the table and the preacher’s wife looked at him.

Marvin walked to the door and looked at Morgan sternly and said, “I handle no money Morgan. I will give you your ten dollars tonight When we leave IN THE MORNING. We pick up Lora, because the hotel is very near the hotel because a lot of rich people shop there. You take that idiot to the bank and open an account for her. And you manage her money until you get back. Understand?”

Morgan was shocked at how Marvin’s personality changed.

Morgan said, “Yes sir.”

Marvin looked hard at Morgan and the preacher and walked back to the table to join Mrs. West for dinner.

She was peeping and listening to Marvin.

She and Marvin started back eating and talking.

They were laughing.

Morgan and the preacher slowly looked at each other.

He preacher shrugged his shoulders at Morgan and said, “Happy holidays.”

He closed the door,

Morgan was watching Marvin and heard him tell Mrs. West he knew this slaughterhouse on the other side of town and he would go and get them pig ears for Sunday’s dinner.

Mrs. West was happy and clapping her hands.

Marvin. “I’ll pay for the pig ears. Do I have to pay for dinner?”

The preacher looked at Marvin as he sat to the table and smirked.

He thought, “Morgan is right about this one. He’ll be gone in a month.”

The preacher smiled at Marvin and his wife.

Morgan went home and took a box and packed his three blankets, bible, underwear and plenty of socks and his heaviest shirts and pants.

He took the box downstairs and placed it by the door.

He closed the box.

He went to the kitchen and got his coffee pot and cup.

Morgan thought and went back upstairs and got two quilts.

He came downstairs and put the quilts in the box.

Marvin walked in the door.

Morgan looked at him.

Marvin patted his stomach.

Morgan said, “The store you said the rich women shop there?”

Marvin sat on the sofa with his head back and said, “Yes.”

He reached in his pocket and handed Morgan ten dollars.

Marvin said, “You gonna need this.”

Morgan took the ten dollars.

He gave Marvin the key to the front door.

Marvin rested for about a half hour and stood and left to go and pick up Lora.

Morgan listened.

Marvin told Lora, “Morgan said, you and your daughter can’t live there because he doesn’t want any trouble. For me to take you back to the hotel, until the preacher and his wife talk to one of their church members not far from here. You stay at the hotel Lora until they find you some place to go. Morgan said to put your money in the bank. He is leaving for the holidays in the morning. I will pick him up and then you and take you to the bank and him to Smith’s to shop. Then I will take him to the train and you to the hospital.”

Lora fell back in the carriage and sighed.

Marvin looked at her and sped back to the hotel an went into the hotel and asked if Lora could have a room.

He carried her things to the room.

She followed him.

He ran out her room and closed the door and ran out the hotel and jumped in his carriage and sped away.

The manager and his wife looked at the carriage driver.

The carriage driver arrived at Morgan’s house in a half hour of a forty five minute drive.

Morgan was trying to remember the color he saw Mag wear for those two weeks.

He could not think.

Morgan had his arms folded and his head down and his left hand up to his head trying to think.

Marvin walked to the little bedroom without windows and saw Morgan standing there.

He watched him for a moment and turned and tipped back to the room at the beginning of the stairs that he wanted.

Marvin laid in bed and thought, “He didn’t look good. Does he have family if not then who gets this house and the furnishing.?”

Marvin turned over and went to sleep.

Morgan heard a voice said ‘blue’.

Morgan removed his hand from his head and lifted his head up and looked around the room.

He knew he heard a voice.

He thought, “I love the holidays maybe she would like red or green. I will be working and won’t be able to see her in the dress. I have never bought a woman anything. I don’t want to mess up. God what color?”

Morgan looked around the room.

He heard nothing and twisted his lips and smirked.

He went to bed.

Morgan dreamed through the night. The dreams were fast flashes, but they were a little slower.

Morgan could see colors and shapes of things far away.

But he recognized none of the shapes and colors.

Morgan heard noise in his kitchen.

He jumped and sat in the bed.

He turned to sit and listen.

Morgan reached for his gun and realized it was Marvin in the kitchen.

He said, “Green.”

Morgan stood and walked downstairs and walked in the kitchen.

Marvin was heating water.

He looked at Morgan and said, “Good morning.”

Morgan looked around and said, “Good morning.”

Morgan walked into the kitchen and was looking around.

Marvin said, “I brought enough water for the two of us. I really like the well right outside. I gave the horses feed and water already and hooked up my horses to the carriage. Can I use…”

Morgan said, “You better not touch one of my horses. The way you feel about you handling money is the same way I feel about anybody touching my horses. You can exercise them but not work them.”

Morgan walked to the stove and looked at Marvin.

Marvin saw Morgan maybe sick but he is evil.

Marvin said, “I understand.”

Morgan did not make coffee that morning.

Mrs. West told Marvin about Morgan being a great coffee lover.

Marvin looked at the coffee.

Morgan looked at him and walked out the room.

Morgan washed and dressed and took his box to the carriage. And he had his saddle on one shoulder and his coffee pot and cup in a bag on top of the large box.

He went to the horses and petted them.

Marvin walked out the house.

Morgan said, “Did you lock the door.”

Marvin turned and ran back to lock the front door.

Morgan said to his horses, “I don’t like this guy.”

The horses neighed.

Marvin ran back and said, “Sure I locked the front door.”

Morgan said to the horses, “See.”

Morgan jumped in the carriage.

The horses watched as they left.

Marvin looked at Morgan and said, “They looked sad.”

Morgan looked at Marvin and said, “I will be back Marvin.”

Marvin looked at Morgan.

Morgan showed Marvin a street to cut through and they were fifteen minutes ahead of schedule.

Marvin pulled up to the hotel.

He went in and got Lora.

Lora walked out and looking disgruntled.

Morgan turned and said, “Lora you sleep in those clothes?” Why didn’t you pull off your clothes and sleep in a nightgown. I told you no body will feel sorry for you. Look at your hair.”

Lora sat in the back seat and stared straight ahead.

Marvin looked back at her.

They went to the bank first.

Morgan jumped out the carriage and looked at Lora and said, “Lora come and put your money in the bank so you can have something for you and Myriah.”

They walked to the bank.

Marvin stared at Lora.

Morgan looked at Marvin.

Marvin shook his head and turned and looked out the carriage.

Morgan said, “Lora you have to do better. You gave Mr. and Mrs. Hall money yesterday. How much money did you give Jeremiah?”

Morgan opened the bank door for Lora.

Lora said, “I don’t know I was just counting and handing him the money.
Everyone was looking at Lora.

Morgan pointed and said, “Lora, go to that lady and tell her you want to open a bank account.”

The manager looked at Morgan and Lora.

Morgan went and sat down.

Lora looked at Morgan.

Morgan looked at Lora.

She just stood in the middle of the floor.

Morgan stared at her.

He was thinking, “Idiot.”

Marvin walked in the bank and went to the clerk and got some money and he looked at Lora as he counted his money and walked back out the bank.

Morgan was angry.

His mind said calm down and go and help her now.

Morgan stood and walked to the manager and pointed at Lora and said, “She needs to open a bank account.”

The manager looked at Morgan and said, “You work for the railroad.”

Morgan said, “Yes sir.”

The manager said, “I recognize you.”

Morgan said, “This lady…”

He turned his head.

The manager looked at Lora.

The clerk peeped around Morgan and looked at Lora up and down.

The clerk said, “She was in Smith’s the other day and they had to help her with putting on her clothes and everything.”

Morgan said, “Is Smith’s a fine shop for women?”

The clerk said, “Yes sir.”

Morgan said, “I am going on holiday. I am afraid when I get back everyone who knows she has come into money will bleed her dry.”

Shirley and Monica walked into the bank to get money for she wanted to have a function at the school for the handicapped students and needed additional money for Monica.

The manager saw Shirley.

He knew she was the Stith’s heiress and he grinned big.

Morgan turned and saw Shirley.

Shirley grinned and waved at Morgan.

Morgan said, “Good morning Shirley and Monica.”

Monica was walking to Morgan and she saw Lora.

She turned her head and did a big turned of her back.

The clerk said, “That lady was in the store also.”

Morgan said, “Lora come here and fill out this paperwork and open an account.”

Lora did not move.

Morgan walked to Lora and pushed her to the manager.

The manager went to his desk and held out his hand for them to sit.

Morgan pushed Lora to the manager’s office and said, “Lora I told you people will not tolerate this behavior.”

Morgan said, “Sir I have a train to catch can you speed this up?”

Morgan stared at Lora and turned his head to keep from getting angry.

The manager said, “Ma am write your name and address.”

Lora looked at Morgan.

Morgan said, “Lora you know your first and last name. Put the address for the hotel.”

Lora wrote her name and did not know the address of the hotel.

Morgan was losing patience he took the paper and wrote the address for the hotel.

The manager said, “How much are you depositing?”

Lora took her raggedy bag and dumped all of her money on the manager’s desk.

The manager looked at Morgan.

Morgan turned his head.

The clerk was looking at Lora.

Monica walked and peeped at Lora.

She shook her head.

Shirley was busy transferring money.

Morgan reached on the desk and he and the manager counted the paper money twice.

The manager said, “One thousand dollars. We can put that in one account, where she has to have two signatures to get the money out. Let’s see how much this is.”

The manager and Morgan counted the coins over again twice.

The manager said, “This is two hundred dollars and thirty six cents.”

The manager said, “Here.”

He gave the change back to Lora.

The manager said, “Will you be with her to make withdrawals?”

Morgan said, “I am a neighbor. I am leaving for my holiday vacation in an hour or so. I don’t want her family to take the money from her. Can she make a five dollar a week withdrawal until I get back?”

The bank manager said, “She needs more than five dollar a week.”

Morgan leaned back and said, “Shirley.”

Shirley walked to the door.

The bank manager looked at the well dressed Shirley.

She said, “Yes Mr. Morgan.”

Morgan said, “How much does a lady need per week to live off?”

Shirley said, “I don’t know.”

Morgan looked at Shirley.

Shirley looked and saw it was Lora.

Shirley looked Lora up and down.

She said, “Good morning Lora.”

Lora did not say anything.

The bank manager wanted to see how Shirley was going to react.

Shirley walked in and stooped and looked in Lora’s face and said, “Remember me from the hospital. I gave you the soup.”

Lora still did not say anything.’

Shirley said, “I like your coat.”

Lora blinked and looked at Shirley.

Shirley said, “We are going to the hospital after we leave the bank. Do you want to ride with us to the hospital?”

Lora nodded her head for yes.

Monica was in the doorway having a fit.

Shirley stood and Monica stopped.

The manager was watching Monica.

He saw that Shirley commanded respect from her employees.

Shirley said, “Excuse me. Morgan you said you are going to the train for vacation. Can you send something to my momma and grandpa?”

Morgan said, “If you have it with you.”

Shirley said, “It’s in the carriage. I’ll go and get it.”

Morgan said, “How much of a weekly withdrawal?”

Monica said, “They gave me thirty and not fifty.”

Shirley looked at Monica and said, “That was an agreement between you and Eleanor.”

Morgan looked at Lora and picked up a withdrawal slip and touched her arm and said, “Each week you come and give them this slip for thirty dollars.”

Lora looked at the slip.

Morgan filled out most of the slip but not her name.

He gave it to her.

He said, “Lora that is a lot of money in change I don’t know who gave it to you.”

Lora did not say anything.

Morgan shook the manager’s hand and jumped up to rush to Smith’s.

Monica had calm down.

Shirley had a receipt book and handed it to Morgan.

Morgan said, “Happy holidays ladies.”

He rushed out the bank.

Shirley said, “Oh Lora have a seat for a minute and let me take care of this business.”

Lora said, “Him. Where he go?”

Monica did not look at Lora.

Shirley said, “I think to …”

The manager said, “Smith’s a few doors down.”

Lora jumped and ran behind Morgan.

Shirley was stunned and stood.

She said, “Monica can you see where Lora is going? I don’t want to leave her.”

Monica looked at Shirley.

Shirley looked at Monica.

Monica said, “She is going shopping.”

Shirley looked at Monica.

Monica said, “Can I be advanced for next week.”

The bank manager turned his head.

The clerk was looking.

Shirley went in her purse and counted thirty dollars and gave it to Monica.

Monica walked out the bank.

Shirley was stunned for a minute.

She was next in line.

The clerk looked at Shirley’s smashed in face and smile.

She thought, “She is really pretty. I can tell she is smart.”

Monica walked to Smith’s.

She saw Lora in front of her and Morgan in front of Lora.

He opened the door and walked in the store.

Monica liked the store.

Monica walked in the store and went to the shoes.

She saw some expensive boots that were on sale.

You bought two pairs.

She put the remainder of her money in her bag.

She saw Lora wandering through the store.

Then she saw Shirley pull up in the carriage.

Morgan had selected two green dresses.

The salesclerk who helped Lora the other day was helping Morgan.

Lora saw them and walked to the salesclerk.

The salesclerk saw Lora,

He said, “Good morning. You want help?”

Lora stood and looked at the salesclerk.

He looked at her up and down.

Morgan was angry and said, “Lora stop. You can talk. Respect other people by talking to them and answering them when they ask you a question. Tell him what you want.”

Lora snatched one of the dresses out of Morgan’s hand.

The salesclerk batted his eyes.

The manager looked up the stairs at Lora and then Morgan.

Monica looked at Lora.

Shirley walked in the door.

The salesclerks and the manager watched her.

Shirley greeted everybody and sat next to Monica.

The manager walked from the counter and looked at Shirley up and down.

He looked at her beautiful slightly curly hair she had down and wrapped around her shoulder.

Monica looked at Shirley and continued to watch Lora.

She said, “Lora walked and snatched one of the dresses out of Morgan’s hands.”

Shirley said, “Why?’

Monica exhaled and looked slightly at Shirley and turned her head.

Morgan said, “Go with her.”

The salesclerk said, “I want my sale.”

Lora was walking down the stairs.

Morgan yelled, “I didn’t want that one anyway.”

He had the receipt book under his arm.

Shirley loved shopping and said, “Morgan who are you buying that dress for. It is lovely.”

She looked back at the dress Lora had and said, “That’s pretty too.”

Morgan smiled and said, “I am glad a classy and stylish young lady agree with my choice.”

Shirley smiled.

The manager was standing and waiting for the drama.

They all knew the way Shirley was dressed and her worker had on a uniform she was an heiress.

They just did not know who.

Morgan looked at Shirley and handed the dress to the manager.

The salesclerk ran and took the dress out of Morgan’s hand and handed it to the manager.

Manager was still watching Shirley.

Lora was walking with the other green dress to the underwear.

The salesclerk ran passed Monica and saw her bag and looked back at the manager.

The manager said, “She helped herself.”

The salesclerk ran to Lora.

He selected several nightgowns for her.

He said, “Did you sleep in your clothes because you did not have a nightgown?”

Lora looked at the salesclerk.

She walked to the little girl’s clothes.

She cried.

The salesclerks gave her time.

He went and picked up several nightgowns.

Lora nodded her head for yes.

She walked and saw a beautiful dark blue coat, matching hat, muff and gloves.

She clutched that coat and she walked down the stairs.

Monica looked at Lora.

Shirley said, “Lora that is beautiful. You are buying that for your little girl?”

Lora did not say anything.

The manager looked at Lora.

The salesclerk had clothes in his hands.

He leaned over to Monica and said, “You ask for me from now on.”

Shirley looked at him.

Monica smiled at the salesclerk.

The manager called the salesclerk.

Lora would not give the manager the coat set.

The salesclerk walked and saw the manager nod at Lora.

The salesclerk took the coat from Lora.

And he turned and took the four nightgowns for her and the green dress.

The manager added them to the three little girl’s nightgowns.

The manager gave the total of sixty dollars.

Lora was crying.

She emptied her bag on the counter.

The manager counted sixty dollars.

He said, “Who gave you all of this money in change?”

The salesclerk walked away.

Shirley stood and walked to the coin purses and walked to the counter and reached a pretty blue one to the manager.

The manager put all of Lora’s change in the change purse.

He handed it to Lora.

Shirley went in her bag to pay for it.

The manager said, “No. She has spent enough money here to get it as a gift.”

Shirley said, “Sir I have to pay for it.“

Shirley paid for the coin purse.

The salesclerk carried Lora’s bags to the carriage.

Shirley and Monica left with Lora.

They stepped in the carriage.

The salesclerk returned to the store.

He walked to the manager and the other salesclerks and said, “We know now she is suffering over a child. Her mind is gone until that child gets better.”

The manager said, “Yes.”

The manager looked at the salesclerk and said, “Did you give her all those coins?”

The salesclerk stood still and did not look at the manager.

The other salesclerks started laughing.

The carriage driver took them to the hotel.

Lora stepped out and carried her bags in the hotel.

The carriage driver stepped out to stretch his legs.

Monica said, “Shirley why didn’t you accept the coin purse from the manager.”

Shirley said, “I heard the nurses complained about one person may give them something as a gift then another come and claim they stole it. Then they had to go through so much to prove the other person gave it to them. Momma always say buy it.”

Monica said, “The restaurant in this hotel has really good soup.”

Shirley said, “Monica you have really helped me this week. I thank you.”

Monica was surprised and said, “You are welcome.”

Lora came out the hotel and stepped in the carriage.

They arrived at the hospital.

Ryan was grinning when they walked in the door.

Shirley begin to grin and cry.

Dr. Ralph walked out to the lobby he had his things and were leaving to go to work.

Dr. Ralph looked at Shirley and grinned.

Monica touched her chest.

Ryan looked at Monica and said, “Monica sit. I remembered you from this summer.”

Monica sat next to Lora.

Ryan said, “Lorraine is awake.”

Shirley passed out.

Dr. Ralph saw Ryan catching Shirley he ran back in the hospital.

Lora jumped up to run to Myriah.

Ryan said, “Jason catch her.”

Shirley came to from Ryan slapping her on her face.

Monica was seated on the sofa crying looking at Shirley.

Shirley shook her head.

Ryan carried her to the sofa by Lorraine’s door.

Monica followed.

Ryan said, “She wakes and she sleeps. She is sleeping now. Dr. Felipe is in there with her. I was glad he was there because he wanted to be here when she came out of the sleep stage. She is extremely weak. Shirley. I need you to be strong and eat and finish your work for this semester. I sent Patrick and Brenda a telegram a minute ago.”

He looked over at Lora and Dr. Ralph.

He said, “I have to talk to her about Myriah. I will leave and go to the smallest hospital for the rest of the day. The nurses will you know when Lorraine is awake again. But Dr. Ralph will be here tonight.”

Ryan walked over to Lora.

He looked at Dr. Ralph and said, “Thank you doctor” he shook Dr. Ralph’s hand.

Dr. Ralph grinned and walked out the door.

Ryan sat next to Lora and said, “Lora, Myriah is sleep now. She was terribly sick and weak when she arrived. Each day the medicine is fighting for her and pushing out all the infections that were in her body.”

Ryan looked in Lora’s eyes and saw guilt.

He thought, “That is what is causing her to act like an idiot. The guilt of nearly letting this baby die. But GOD has another plan for Myriah. They got her just in time.”

Ryan said, “I’ll let you see her for a minute. As long as she sleeps the medicine is doing what it suppose to do. You see the nurses go in every hour and check on her.”

Lora stood.

Ryan stood and looked at her.

He touched her elbow and said, “You got her here in time.”

For the first time Lora looked at Ryan.

Her green eyes and light chestnut hair reminded him of Eleanor.

He took Lora by the arm and walked her to Myriah’s room.

He stood back and watched Lora touched Myriah and cry.

Myriah blinked.

Ryan saw Myriah’s eye movement.

He waited for a minute and said, “Lora tell Myriah you are sitting outside.”

Lora tried to speak but could not and she nodded her head.

Myriah was trying to come awake.

Ryan walked to Lora and took her by her shoulders and walked her to the door.

Ryan looked at the nurses and said, “Nurse come here.”

He pointed to Lora and pointed to the sofa.

He saw Shirley and Monica sitting on the sofa.

Ryan walked back to Myriah and said,”Sweetie.”

He touched Myriah’s shoulder and said, “Myriah your momma is sitting right outside this door. She has been here waiting for you to get better. All you have to do is sleep and let the medicine help you to get better. Then you can wake and talk to momma.”

Ryan patted her shoulder.

Nurse Stephanie walked in.

Ryan looked at Myriah and picked up her chart and nodded toward s the door.

Ryan said, “Watch her every thirty minutes. She was trying to come out of the sleep. I am going to the smallest hospital for the remainder of the day. Dr. Jim is here and Dr. Thornton. Dr. Jim has been with Myriah from the beginning. Send me a telegram at the smallest hospital if any changes.”

Ryan wrote in Myriah’s chart and left the hospital.

Felipe walked out Lorraine’s room and saw Monica and Shirley and smiled.

He left the hospital a few minutes after Ryan.

He went to the bone hospital to help Dr. Woodson, Dr. Ralph and Hutch.

Charles was there helping them with rounds.

They were moving along their rounds well.

Shirley and Monica stayed at the hospital most of the evening.

They stood to leave.

The nurse ran to the door and opened it.

She looked at Shirley and Monica and said, “She’s awake. Hurry.”

Monica and Shirley stood they were scared.

The nurse said, “Don’t be scared. She is only awake for a few minutes.”

Monica walked in and saw Lorraine’s eyes were opened.

Monica inhaled and she teared up and nearly cried but caught it.

She walked to Lorraine and took her hand.

Lorraine turned her head slightly to look.

Monica bent down and said, “Hey Lorraine. It’s me Monica.”

Lorraine started crying.

Monica took out her lace handkerchief and dabbed her tears.

Monica started buying lace handkerchiefs after seeing Brenda always stuffing one under her sleeve.

She patted Lorraine’s hand and said, “Welcome back.”

Finally, Shirley walked in the room and went to the other side of Lorraine’s bed and touched her hand and said, “Hey momma number two.”

Lorraine smiled and went to sleep.

Shirley stood and looked at Lorraine then Monica.

Shirley said, “Can she see?”

Monica looked at Shirley.

Monica said, “Why Lorraine can’t move her neck. Did they break her neck?”

The nurse walked to the bed and looked at the sleeping Lorraine and she wondered.

Shirley and Monica left at seven pm.

They went home and started a fire and heated the apartment.

There was enough stew left for both of them to have a full bowl.

Shirley stayed up most of the night trying to catch up on her work.

She completed a complicated paper.

She was happy.

She sat back and thought, “I need a teIegram machine.”

Shirley was too sleepy to think about her social function for the handicapped students and their families and friends.

Lora stayed all night at the hospital.

She was able to sleep for a few hours.

She had not slept but closed her eyes.

Morgan was at the train station.

He took his box and coffeepot and Mag’s dress and walked to the train.

He did not complete the passenger’s registration because he did not want anyone to know where he was going.

Marvin looked at Morgan and said, “A dollar.”

Morgan said, “Take it out of your horses eating my hay.”

Marvin tried to smile. He looked around at all the people and was embarrassed.

He thought.

Patrick was sitting and looking over the telegrams.

He jumped up and yelled.

Eleanor was sitting at the table eating soup and dropped her spoon.

Brenda ran out their bedroom.

Eleanor yelled, “Which one daddy?”

Patrick had the telegram in his hand and said, “Ryan said Lorraine is awake.”

Eleanor sat for a minute.

Brenda fell to her knees and on all fours she began to mumble and cry before GOD.

Patrick held the telegram up in the air and screamed and ran around in the suite.

Eleanor stood and sent a telegram to the school for Percy, Bruce, Thomas and Michael that Lorraine was awake.

The dean was manning the telegram.

He knew Eleanor said she would communicate with them any change and she wanted the administrators to give her sons her telegrams.

The administrator looked at their schedules and they were all in horseback riding.

He left and rode out to the field.

He stood by one of the instructors and waited.

When the class was over.

The students were leaving the field.

The instructor yelled, “Simmons come here.”

Thomas looked back at Michael, as if he had done something wrong.

Michael looked at Thomas.

Percy, Bruce, Thomas and Michael rode to the instructor.

The instructor said, “The dean wants to see you four.”

They all looked at Percy and rode to the dean.

The dean said, “Your mother sent this telegram for you. He read it, “Lorraine is awake.”

Thomas took off and rode hi shores for a long time.

The instructors looked and said, “He should have been doing that in class.”

Michael was happy but did not show any emotions.

Percy and Bruce were yelling and rode back to the school.

The dean said, “Michael why you are not happy about Lorraine?”

Michael said, “I just believed she was dead.”

The dean looked at him and he rode back to the school.

Thomas was riding around the field.

The dean waited for the instructors.

They cleared all the students off the field.

The instructors caught Thomas told him to return to the school buildings.

The dean sent Eleanor a telegram the boys were happy, but Michael he said he believed Lorraine was dead.

Eleanor received the telegram late that evening and said, “God has to help Michael. I don’t know what this means.”

Brenda reached for the telegram.

Eleanor gave Brenda the telegram.

Patrick leaned over and was reading it.

Patrick said, “Michael accepted that Lorraine was dead. He only believes she is dead. Until she is up and walking and he see her face to face he will not see her any other way but dead.”

Brenda tossed the telegram and said, “Happy holidays.”

Eleanor got angry and jumped from the table and went to her room and slammed the door.

Patrick looked at Eleanor.

Then he looked at Brenda and said, “Brenda they are children that have been through hell the pass two years. You had no right to speak that. You made Eleanor feel that her children damn your holiday celebration. She has not once brought up Christopher nor Patrick Jr. You need to apologize.”

Brenda looked down at her plate.

Marvin rushed to the slaughterhouse which was not far from the train station.

Marvin had to stand in line.

He got the pig’s ear and sped back to the neighborhood and went to the West’s house and took the pig ears.

Marvin knocked on the door.

Mrs. West opened the door.

Marvin reached her the pig ears and turned to leave.

She said, “Come in so I can see what you got.

Marvin walked in the house.

Mr. West was walking in from the back and looked at the package of pig’s ears.

He and Mrs. West looked at Marvin.

Marvin was smiling.

Mr. and Mrs. West looked at Marvin.

Marvin got scared and said, “What is it? What is wrong?”

The preacher broke and ran to their bedroom.

Mrs. West ran behind her husband.

Marvin was running out the house.

The preacher had his coat on and hat he was trying to put on his gloves.

He yelled, “Marvin.”

Marvin had jumped into the carriage and was about to pull off.

Marvin peeped and saw Mrs. Wes running down the steps with her coat on and putting on her gloves.

Mr. West said, “No the pig ears are great and fresh. I want some more.”

Mrs. West said, “I want to see what else they got.”

Mr. West said, “Honey you got money?”

Mrs. West said, “A hundred dollars.”

Mr. West was dumfounded and said, “Honey we are NOT going to buy that amount of meat.”

Marvin said, “I got to go and earn money.”

Mr. West handed Marvin five dollars.”

Marvin sped to the slaughterhouse.

There was a long line.

Mrs. West jumped out and saw several people she knew.

They told her they had been coming there for years.

Mrs. West smiled and thought, “Heifer. You would not tell me.”

Marvin told Mr. West, “Yall will be here for a while. I’ll come back to get you.”

Two customers walked up to Marvin and asked to be taken home.

Marvin looked at Mr. West and the two different customers jumped in the carriage.

The two customers did not know each other but shopped once per month at the slaughterhouse.

They were talking about what they bought.

Marvin was peeping back at them.

He took the customer that lived the furthest and then he turned around and took the other customer to his house.

Marvin turned to sped back to the slaughterhouse and pick up Mr. and Mrs. West.

He was stopped at different times and picked up customers.

He made it back to the slaughterhouse and saw Mr. and Mrs. West walking out with their arms full of meat.

Marvin laughed and pulled up to them.

He was laughing and jumped out to help them.

Mrs. West sat in the back and Mr. West sat up front with Marvin.

Marvin was laughing.

Mr. West said, “I have been in Philadelphia my whole life. I never been on this side of town.”

Mrs. West waved and spoke to the two ladies as she and her husband passed them.

The women looked and tried to smile.

Mr. West said, “Whose that?”

Mrs. West said, “A damn cousin and her low life friend.”

Mr. West turned and looked back at his wife.

Marvin said, “I want to go this way. I need to eat. I had nothing all day.”

Mrs. West said, “What’s over here Marvin?”

Marvin said, “This is the main hospital and the prestigious college with all the rich kids. They kicked me out my room so they could double the price for the rich students.”

Mrs. West said, “Preacher we got an extra room that we can fix up as a bedroom and rent it for the students. But we have to make it nice. Because if we had children we would want them to have a nice room.”

Mr. West cut his eyes at Marvin.

Marvin said, “This is the legendary bar b que place. I found out about this one day I was at the slaughterhouse and the owners were in front of me to get their ribs. They told me where they were and come back in three hours. I have never been disappointed.”

Mr. West said, “We got enough pork. What is the next place?”

Marvin said, “The fish restaurant. This is the last of the season.”

Mrs. West said, “Let’s go there.”

Marvin passed the bar-b-que place and ran into a huge line.

Mrs. West leaned forward and laughed.

She said, “This is so exciting.”

Mr. West said, “We have to start exploring our town.”

Several people walked up to the carriage and asked for rides.

Mr. West and Mrs. West jumped out the carriage and put all their packages up front with Marvin.

Marvin dropped the customers at different locations and it back in time to eat.

The Wests had gotten the last of all the fish, hushpuppies, corn and lemonade.

Marvin saw them.

He tied his carriage and ran to them.

He saw others being turned away.

The Wests passed Marvin his food.

Marvin said his grace and sat in the cold with everybody and ate his fish and drank his lemonade.

They enjoyed their food.

Mrs. West was drinking her last sip of lemonade and said, “They said, they won’t open again until March.”

They enjoyed the company of other people.

Mrs. West heard a familiar voice.

She leaned over and looked and said, “Mrs. Clay.”

Mr. West turned around and grinned.

Mrs. Clay was leaving.

She and several ladies walked over to the Wests table.

Mrs. Clay looked at Marvin and said, “Good evening everyone. I don’t know you.”

Marvin said, “I just moved to the neighborhood last night.”

Mrs. Clay said, “You still have a name.”

Marvin held his head down and laughed

He said, “Marvin.”

Mrs. West said, “Mrs. Clay, why didn’t you tell us about this seafood place?”

Mrs. Clay said, “Every time I come to church I tell you all to come over to this side of town.”

Mr. West said, “That is true.”

Mrs. Clay’s ladies returned to the table and Mrs. Clay introduced them she said, “Mrs. Stephens and Mrs. Mac Pherson this is my pastor Mr. West…”

Mr. West and Marvin stood.

Mrs. Clay said, “… Mrs. West and a new neighbor Marvin. Will you be at church tomorrow Marvin?”

Marvin was caught off guard. He could not respond.

Mrs. West said, “What did you have?”

Mrs. West said, “I love their seafood chowder and they had clam chowder.”

Mrs. Clay, Mrs. Stephens and Mrs. Mac Pherson said, “Good evening.”

They walked home.

They enjoyed walking home after dinner at the beginning of night, when everyone is out dining and going to social events.

Marvin turned and looked at Mrs. Stephens.

Mr. West was seated and Marvin was still standing and looking at Mrs. Stephens.

Mrs. West looked at her husband.

He shrugged his shoulders and looked at Marvin.

Mr. West said, “Marvin sit down. You are lusting now.”

Mrs. Stephens looked back at Marvin.

Marvin sat down.

He looked at the table next to them the men were snickering.

Marvin was embarrassed.

Mrs. West said, “The only way you will see her again is either at this place next year or maybe at our church as Mrs. Clay’s guest.”

Marvin was quiet.

Mrs. West said, “it’s late. I have to put this pork up. Marvin thank you for introducing us to this side of town.”

Marvin said, “Let me pay you for my food.”

Mr. West said, “Sternly put it up. We needed this. We had fun and excitement today.”

Mrs. West was sitting next to Marvin and put her hands on her thighs and giggled and said, “Uh huh.”

Mr. West looked at Marvin and said, “You see where they live. You see how they dress. Where they eat. You have to get a better job than driving a carriage.”

Marvin said, “I finished school at the age of sixteen and joined the military. I spent fifteen years serving my nation. I just retired two months ago and came home to relax and think about what I plan on doing next.”

Mrs. West said, “You have time to be by yourself and think.”

Mr. West said, “Let’s go so we can get settled in for tonight and prepare for tomorrow.”

They stood to leave.

Marvin put a five dollar tip on the table and smiled and wink at the table boy.

He grinned and rushed to the table and got the five dollars.

Mrs. West sat in the back of the carriage.

Mr. West sat on the front seat with Marvin.

Marvin took thee Wests home.

They enjoyed the lights and merchants had started putting up Christmas decorations.

They made it home.

Marvin helped take their packages in the house.

Marvin, “Don’t forget Mrs. West to cook the pig ears in vinegar, onions red pepper and black pepper.”

Mr. West said, “That sounds good. I probably have to cut my sermon short.”

Marvin turned and walked off the porch.

He drove the carriage into the back yard and unhooked the horses.

He feed and gave water to the horses and groomed them.

Marvin felt for the key.

He thought he lost it.

He walked to the house and unlocked the front door.

Marvin walked to the parlor and felt for the matches.

He lit the candle in the parlor and walked with the matches to the kitchen.

He felt for the candle in the kitchen and lit it.

Marvin picked up the water pail and when came back to the parlor he picked up the coal bucket.

He went outside and got water and coal.

He struggled with the buckets and walked to the front door and put them on the porch.

Marvin got angry because he forgot to lock the front door.

He went into the house and locked the front door.

He started a fire in the parlor’s fireplace.

Marvin went to the kitchen and filled the water barrel.

He took the kitchen candle and went upstairs and checked all the rooms.

He went upstairs to the attic and checked the attic.

Marvin saw the attic was where Morgan put his clothes.

Marvin dressed for bed.

He took a blanket from Morgan’s room and went downstairs and slept on the sofa.

He was comfortable and went to sleep thinking about how he could make the evening chores less taxing.

Morgan was in second class and slept all the way to the small city.

He heard the train whistle blow.

It woke him.

He was confused he went to wash his face and he did not have water,

When the train stopped Morgan jumped off the train and picked up the box and carried it a few fet.

Mag saw him and came and helped Morgan with a cart.

She carried him to the shed.

Morgan looked around and said, “Not fancy but nice.”

He saw Mag and Natalie’s boxes and bags at the door.

Morgan said, “Mag when are you leaving?”

Mag was putting the last things in bags.

She slightly turned and looked at Morgan and said, “In the morning. I want to show you around first. I want to introduce you to the neighbors.”

Morgan laughed and said, “I didn’t think the railroad had neighbors.”

Mag turned to look Morgan in his face and thought, “Not bad.”

She said, “Morgan the people in this very small city are very poor. But they live off of hunting and fishing. We had more than they. Can you imagine? Mattie has some type of mental condition. When she was having her last child in the hospital they did something to her and she acts…”

Mag sat on the sofa.

Morgan walked and sat next to her.

Mag turned to him and said, “…foolish. I don’t mean that harshly but that is the only way I can describe her behavior.”

Morgan said, “I just left someone like that. Her stepdaughter was very ill and she got that bad because the mother and father had no money and the child is at the point of death.”

Mag said, “Oh GOD.”

Morgan said, “The mother feels guilty and wants everyone to pat her and feel sorry for her.”

Morgan looked away because he felt bad that he was mad with Lora.

Mag looked at him.

Morgan turned back and looked at Mag and said, “Shirley gave me a book to send to Patrick and Eleanor for them to review. I didn’t tell anyone I was coming here. I took all the telegrams…”

Morgan pulled them out of his coat pocket.

He stood and walked to the pot belly stove and open the drawer and tossed the telegrams in the fire.

He looked at the telegrams burn.

Mag looked at the paper burn.

Morgan closed the drawer and walked to his box and gave Mag the book Shirley gave to him and he said, “Please give this book to Patrick or Eleanor.”

Mag reached for the book and said, “I will. They will be taking me and Natalie home Monday morning.”

Mag looked at the book and said, “Whew.”

Morgan sat back next to Mag and looked at Mag and said, “What?”

Mag said, “I did not know when I was going home. Brenda and Patrick told me to come home. I am thankful. Natalie has been here with me. I believe she was concerned about having her baby in the wilderness. She is a city girl. Now my son has taken a liking to this wilderness and the people especially the children.”

They laughed.

Morgan said, “You feel like showing me around.”

Mag said, “Sure.”

She stood and said, “We are nearly out of all of the food. Write a list of food you want and telegram to Jose, he is Patrick and Brenda’s butler. He is really good. He’ll go to the store and put the items on the next train back here.”

Morgan said, “Whoa.”

They heard the train passengers returning to the train depot.

Mag said, “That’s Mattie she’ll meet the train and carry the passengers to the lake area that the governor loves. He and his wife decided to retire here, but that is a secret. Tell no one.”

Morgan walked to the door and opened it.

Natalie was rushing in and ran to the fire and held her hands out over the stove to warm herself.

Morgan said, “You cold?”

Mag smiled and looked back at Morgan as he held the door open for her

Natalie could not talk because she was so cold.

Mag said, “Well Monday we will be home, but it is cold there too.”

Natalie was lifting her feet up one at a time to keep her blood flowing.

Mag looked at her.

She and Morgan walked out the door.

She nodded her head and said, “Steven and seventeen men built that shack in less than two days.”

Morgan stopped and looked at Mag in amazement.

Mag looked at Morgan’s facial expression and giggled.

She raised her eyebrow and smiled.

Morgan said, “My God they worked hard and as far as I see they did a good job.”

Mag saw Mattie and yelled, “Mattie”, was about to turn the horse around.

Mag looked back at the train and watched the people get on board.

She scanned the area for any one and turned back around and said, “Mattie, me and Natalie will be leaving tomorrow to go home. This is Morgan he will be here working for the railroad.”

Morgan reached his hand to Mattie and said, “Hello Mattie. Can you give us a lift and show me around your beautiful city?”

Mag said, “Hold on Morgan.”

She walked back to the rest stop and went inside and checked to make sure no one was there.

She walked around the yard and did not see anyone.

The train conductor waved at Mag.

She waved at him.

He said, “All aboard.”

The train whistle blew and rolled out.

Mag held her chest and grinned.

She lifted her head up to heaven and closed her eyes.

She said, “Thank you GOD.”

Natalie was standing in the door and saw Mag’s face.

She knew Mag wanted to go home.

Natalie knew Patrick and Brenda hired Mag to give her a salary.

Natalie thought, “She can now retire and have good money to live off and see about our son while I go to school. All of my friends have finished college. Chasity, Meredith and Lorraine. I don’t know about Monica.”

Morgan stood and looked at Mag.

Mag turned and was grinning.

She walked to Morgan.

He heard horses he turned and said, “Horses?”

Mag laughed and said, “Yes. Patrick sent them so we could go ride from the back to the train everyday. Then he sent those wagons.”

Mattie said, “Come on.”

Mag said, “See.”

Morgan cut his eyes at Mattie.

He helped Mag onto the wagon and Mattie sped down the only made road.

They made the road from constant travel on the dirt and grass.

Mattie said, “Bears down here.”

Morgan said, “Serious?”

Mag shook her head and said, “That’s why Patrick had us to move from back here to the tracks.”

Morgan pointed back and said, “Children.”

Mag said, “They have been told not to come down here without an adult.”

Morgan turned and was looking out over the land and the sky and said, “Breath taking.”

Mag cut her eyes at the creek and said nothing.

They approached the lake.

Morgan jumped off the wagon and ran to the lake.

Mag laughed because of Morgan’s excitement.

Mg hoped off the wagon and ran to Morgan.

Morgan stood and looked out over the lake.

He inhaled the fresh air and he heard a flop.

Mag looked at Morgan’s face.

Morgan looked and saw a ripple in the lake.

Mag said, “Fish. There are so many. The governor and his party take nets and scoop them up each day they want to eat.”

Morgan said, “Patrick and Brenda were talking about seafood, when I saw them. Do you have anything to transport fish to them?”

Mag said, “Patrick has a trout pond on his property. He was more than likely saying that because he could not have fish.”

Morgan laughed.

He and Mag turned and walked back to Mattie and her wagon.

Mattie said, “You can pay me now.”

Morgan sighed and went in his pocket and handed Mattie five-dollars.

He said, “That’s for me and Mag.”

Mattie reached the five dollars to Mag and said, “Miss Mag take this five dollar and buy my kids toys for Christmas and bring them back to me on the train. They have never had a toy.”

Morgan looked at Mattie and his heart broke.

He thought, “She is in this world by herself.”

Morgan said, “Mattie how many children you have?”

Mattie said, “Six.”

Morgan reached in his pocket and got a dollar and reached it to Mag.

Mag rolled her eyes at Morgan.

He shrugged his shoulders and said, “For Christmas.”

Mag took the five dollars from Mattie and the one dollar from Morgan.

Mattie was so excited.

She was stomping and clapping her hands and laughing.

Mattie yelled, “Thank you Miss Mag.”

Morgan pointed to Mattie.

He and Mag smiled.

He helped Mag into the wagon.

Mattie took them to the shed.

Morgan helped Mag out of the wagon and said, “Good evening Mattie.”

Mattie was still grinning and laughing.

They heard her riding away and saying, “My children gonna have toys for Christmas.”

Mag said, “Dirt poor and crazy.”

Mag stomped off to the shed.

Morgan stood and looked around in shame.

He slowly walked to the shed and said, “I’ll sleep in the parlor on the floor.”

He looked down to make sure there was a floor and not dirt.

Mag said, “Morgan you’re going to sleep in here with us ladies?”

Morgan said, “Bears.”

Natalie grinned.

She looked at Mag and Mag smirked.

Natalie had peeped in the bag from Smith’s one of Lorraine’s favorite stores.

She saw the beautiful green dress and placed it up against her.

She wondered who Morgan got the dress for.

Mag took Shirley’s book and put it in her bag.

Natalie pretended that she was finishing packing and said, “Morgan is this your bag?”

Mag was bent over and looked back at Natalie and said, “Smith’s?”

Morgan had his hands on his hips and rolled his eyes at Natalie.

Natalie stopped and looked at Morgan than Mag.

Her mouth dropped open in shock.

She did not know whether to put the bag down or not.

Morgan walked to Natalie and took the bag.

He was nervous and looked down at the bag.

Natalie touched his hand that he was holding the bag in.

Morgan had his head down and exhaled.

Mag said, “Morgan I am going to write a grocery list to get you started and whatever you want you can telegram Jose. What do you eat?”

Morgan said, “Just about anything.”

Mag said, “Jose don’t go for that kind of talk. Beans, rice, potatoes, sugar…”

Morgan said, “No sugar.”

Mag looked at Natalie then at Morgan and said, “You two are up to something.”

Morgan stood.

Natalie stood.

Mag stood.

Morgan walked to Mag and reached her the dress.

Mag had the paper and pencil in her hand.

She looked at Morgan whose hand was shaking.

She said, “Morgan what is that and why are you giving me something?”

Morgan said, “I am old.”

Mag said, “I see.”

Natalie turned her back to Mag.

Morgan said, “I saw you during the summer teaching that class on customer service. I like your style. I came here instead of Vermont to see you and try to see if there is any possible chance…”

Mag exhaled and looked and saw Natalie had turned her back on her.

Mag said, “Morgan I have to think. My husband of many years died this year. I miss him bad. I don’t want to take that gift and disappoint you.”

Morgan said, “You can’t.”

Mag said, “I’m going to the office to send this telegram to Jose. He can pick up these items Sunday. The grocer is open until church during the holidays. He then closes the grocery store and go to church.”

Mag looked at Morgan and walked out the shed.

Natalie turned and looked at Morgan.

Morgan sat on the sofa.

Natalie went and stirred the vegetable stew and flipped the corn bread over.

She set the table.

She did not know what to say.

Natalie looked at the disappointed Morgan who was staring into space.

He looked and saw Natalie looking at him.

Morgan started having the flashes.

He could see red all over the flashes.

He fell to the floor.

Natalie ran out the shack and ran to the office and screamed for Mag.

Mag had just telegrammed Jose a short grocer list.

Natalie screamed, “Morgan.”

Mag turned around and was scared and looked at Natalie.

Mag jumped and ran out the office and locked the door.

She ran ahead of Natalie into the shack.

She saw Morgan on the floor and reaching to feel for the sofa.

Mag ran to him and helped him off the floor.

Natalie ran over to help Morgan off the floor.

Mag said, “Move Natalie. If it takes me all night I will put him on the sofa.”

Mag looked at Natalie and gave her a dare look.

Natalie had never seen that look.

She thought, “God that must be one of the slave freeman’s look.”

Morgan was trying to reach the sofa.

He said, “Floor. Cool.”

Mag realized he was saying let him lay on the floor because it was cool.

She left him there and went to his box and grabbed his pillow and put it under his head

She went back and got a blanket and put it on top of him.

She went into the kitchen area and got a cup of water and came back and sat next to Morgan and had him to sip the water.

Morgan went to sleep and dreamed of swirling greens and blues.

He remembered what Patrick said.

Morgan said, “Slow God.”

Natalie and Mag sat at the table and ate dinner.

They sat at the table to face Morgan.

Natalie washed the dishes.

Morgan started moving.

Mag sat at the table with her glasses on and needlepointed.

Morgan sat up.

Natalie stood and looked at him.

Mag stopped needlepointing and put it down.

Mag said, “Morgan all of this over a dress.”

Natalie looked at Mag.

Morgan slightly turned his head and said, “Did it work?”

Natalie giggled and covered her mouth.

Morgan was sitting and trying to get his balance.

He said, “I’m sorry for scaring you.”

Natalie said, “Explanation please.”

Morgan said, “I don’t have one.”

He laid back on the floor and said, “It started this week.”

Mag said, “What?”

Morgan said, “I don’t know. It’s really fast flashes of color. I am here where it is not busy to get a handle on it.”

Mag said, “Morgan should you be here. There are two trains per day.”

Morgan raised his hand up for Mag to stop.

He said, “Get the bag woman.”

Mag looked at Morgan and then Natalie.

Natalie was excitedly shaking her head.

She ran and grabbed the bag and ran back to Mag.

Mage said, “Natalie I guess you already saw the dress?”

Morgan said, “You did too.”

Natalie looked at Morgan.

Mag said, “Yeap.”

Natalie said, “Mag when did you see?”

Mag said, “When he was putting down his box.”

Mag held her tongue out and was grinning and lightly tapping her feet on the floor.

Natalie was excited and said, “Try it on. That’s one of Lorraine’s favorite stores.”

Mag looked and jumped up and went into their bedroom and tried on the dress.

She loved it.

She walked back out and Natalie was excited.

Morgan said, “Show me.”

Mag walked over to Morgan and showed him the dress.

She said, “Where are we going?”

Morgan was still on the floor.

He said, “No where. I am still on the floor.”

Natalie sat at the table and smiled at the two.

Morgan said, “Mag you like?”

Mag said, “Yes. You have to take me out so I can wear it.”

Natalie said, “They seem to have fun.”

Morgan said, “Now doesn’t count?”

Natalie giggled.

Then she thought about Josiah.

Natalie thought, “He is not going to be happy that a man has taken interest in his momma and so soon after his father’s death.”

Mag said, “I’ll wear this again at Pat and Bren’s Christmas dinner.”

Natalie jumped and said, “I thought you said we were going to celebrate at home.”

Mag said to Natalie, “Hush girl.”

Mag batted her eyes at Morgan and smiled.

Natalie said, “I’m expecting and don’t have anything to wear.”

Mag said, “You’re cute put a red ribbon in your hair.”

Morgan laughed.

Mag sat near Morgan on the sofa.

Morgan said, “You won’t sit next to me?’

Mag shook her head for no.

Morgan said, “Right the dress.”

Mag nodded her head for yes.

Natalie smiled and thought, “Maybe now she won’t be lonely.”

Morgan was finally able to stand.

Mag watched him.

She stood and went and pulled off the dress and put on her nightgown.

Natalie put the vegetable stew in the center of the stove to keep warm.

She moved it to the eye to be completely hot and gave Morgan a bowl with the corn bread.

Morgan sat and bowed his head and said grace.

Mag came out of their bedroom with her night gown and wrap on.

Morgan said, “It’s over?”

Mag said, “Until I get another dress.”

She sat across from Morgan with her glasses on and picked up her needlepoint and worked on her design while he ate his vegetable stew and cornbread.

Morgan watched Mag.

Natalie watched Morgan watching Mag.

She had her bible and sat and read it.

She finished reading her bible and said, “Good night.”

Morgan said, “Night Natalie.”

Mag watched Natalie waked into their bedroom and closed the door.

Mag put up her needlepoint and put it in her bag along side Shirley’s book.

Morgan washed his bowl and fork,

He washed the small pot Natalie cooked the stew in.

Mag liked that Morgan washed the dishes.

Morgan and Mag sat and talked for a few hours.

Mag said, “Morgan had you ever experienced what happened to you tonight?”

Morgan was quiet for a minute and said, “Yes.”

Mag said, “When and do you recall anything.

Morgan said, “When I was a child. No one wanted anything to do with me.”

Mag said, “I believe the flashes are from GOD. They could be from the past present or Future. Ask Him why now and how to interpret them.”

Morgan sat and thought.

Morgan said, “Thank you.”

Mag decided to go to bed.

Morgan said, “It’s only eight thirty.”

Mag stood and said, “I know. I told you to bring your books.”

Morgan laughed.

He said, “I brought a few.”

Mag said, “The time does not go by fast.”

Morgan smirked.

She saw he was worried about the flashes.

Mag said, “Do you recognized anything?”

Morgan said, “This time the flashes were slow enough for me to the color red. Then later I saw swirls of blue and green. I had the flashes starting around ten to twelve. My parents sent me away to live with my grandparents on their farm. I lived with them until I was sixteen then I left. The flashes stopped when I lived with my grandparents and has started back twenty five years later.”

Morgan thought, “Dog, now she knows how old I am.”

Mag now knows Morgan’s age. He is younger than she.

Mag felt proud that a younger good man thought she was attractive.

She said, “Morgan I believe the flashes are from GOD. It is very important for you to be still and listen. Foer HIM to start the flashes back means that what HE was showing you thirty years ago is not finished or about to happen and you have been assigned by HIM to attend to it. So you need to be here alone so you cannot be interrupted by the city and all of its’ distractions.”

Morgan breathed and said, “Thank you.”

Mag said, “I like to pray for you. Natalie.”

Natalie was laying down but listening.

She got up and walked in the living area.

Mag said, “Natalie and I learned that living in this wilderness we need to pray every night as one. Natalie is a prayer warrior.”

Natalie looked at Morgan and said, “I did not know that was what GOD was separating me from my family and friends to do. We have seen some of the things GOD wants to do in these people lives. One lady gave herself in to the authorities for murders she committed twenty years ago. We don’t know the outcome yet. But GOD has given her enough strength to admit it and ask for forgiveness so she can receive JESUS as her SAVIOR.”

Morgan was looking at Natalie and nodded and said, “Amen. Salvation is the only important thing

Mag said, “I believe one of those murdered people’s family has been praying to GOD to find the person who murdered them and let them know why they were murdered. This is going to be interesting.”

Morgan was looking at Natalie and nodded and said, “Amen. Salvation is the only important thing in this life.”

Natalie said, “We have seen this city is getting a school, which is my husband in the new year. The mob seed it was planting here I believe is totally destroyed. It was Patrick Jr and Christopher.”

Morgan stopped and stared at Natalie.

Natalie and Mag looked at Morgan.

Morgan said, “Why? They did not produce bad seed.”

Mag said, “Money. Greed. They are the ones that tried to kill Michael and Thomas and tried to bury them until the military caught them. They tried to kidnap Shirley off the train at the same time.”

Morgan shook his head and said, “My God. They have been through a lot in one year.”

Mag said. “To whom much is given much is required.”

Natalie said, “Patrick said something interested.”

Mag and Morgan looked at Natalie.

She said, “They prayed for decades for GOD to increase their businesses. They did not see it. They wanted to give the businesses to their sons. Bit GOD was not going to their businesses to their sons because they were wicked and evil. GOD what his and Brenda’s vision in Eleanor. Time Eleanor took over their businesses tripled. GOD answered them so they could see and enjoyed it before they die. They are happy in the midst of the bad that happened to them.”

Mag was nodding and said, “They held on until they saw the vision that GOD put in them came to life. They were down to their last penny while they were in Europe. GOD led them home and their fortune was made. The people who stood with Patrick and Brenda GOD rewarded them with money they found in the mobsters’ saddles. Abraham said, GOD bless those who bless him and curse those who curse him.”

Natalie touching her stomach said, “One thing I have learned from their lives. My dreams I may not complete, because it is not for me. But my heir may complete it. Like David and Solomon. I live a life of repentance daily so GOD can use me for what HE wants. Let’s pray.”

Natalie prayed and said, “LORD GOD Almighty touch each of us daily to et us know YOUR will. Give us courage to do what YOU want and let us always be obedient to YOUR will. Help Mattie and her family and help her mind oh GOD. If it is something simple where the doctors can it or if it is something that YOU have to fix. Her children needs her, her common law husband is tiered of her. Send her family to get her and help her Oh GOD. Bring these people out of poverty. Give them business ideas to make money. Let Josiah be a great blessing to these children Oh GOD. Peter said, he wanted to live here and sell the state property to make money. Help these people to claim land for their growth. Touch Morgan that the flashes will be still so he can see what they are. Give him courage to face it. Give him the victory. In JESUS’ name.”

Morgan said, “God don’t let Peter come here. Keep the mob and evil workers of iniquity from here and away from those who come to live here. Amen.”

Natalie and Mag said, “In JESUS’ name.”

Everyone went to bed.

Morgan laid on the sofa and thought until he went to sleep.

Natalie laid down and thought about Josiah.

Mag double checked the double lock on the door and looked at Morgan and went to the bedroom and closed the door.

She smiled at her bag with the beautiful green dress in it.

Natalie giggled.

Mag put out the light.

Morgan slept through the night.

He heard birds chirping.

He turned over and looked at the daylight peeping through the crack of the side of the curtains.

Morgan grinned and said, “They really work on this place.”

He woke and sat on the sofa and put on his boots and scarf.

Morgan picked up the two water buckets and walked around to the side of the shed and caught water in the pails.

He thought, “This is heavy. How did they carry this water?”

He looked and saw a cart.

Morgan smirked and grinned and said, “They thought of a lot.”

He carried the water in the shed and put it in the water barrel.

The water barrel was full.

He picked up the coal bucket and went to the coal shed next to the house and filled it.

We walked back to the house and put the coal in the pot belly stove and started a fire.

Morgan put a large pail of water on the stove to heat for their baths.

He did not like to get water and coal several times a day. He turned and went back to the coal shed and filed up the coal bucket and locked the shed and came back to the shed.

Morgan started taking Mag and Natalie’s things to the train station.

He pulled the cart he saw to the shed’s door and loaded it up and took it to the train station’s rest stop.

When he returned to the shack, Mag had started the oatmeal and used his coffee pot to start the hot water for coffee.

Morgan walked in the shack and looked at Mag.

He said, “Good morning.”

Mag turned and looked at him and said, “Good morning. I hope you don’t mind me using your coffee pot. Ours is boxed up.”

Morgan said, “Mot at all.”

Mag said, “We have three hours before the train arrive here for Cedartown to arrive. You take over now. Here is the key to the office. I believe Patrick is sending you ten pounds of coffee on that terrain that will be going back to Philadelphia in an hour. I’ll get it off the train for you. We have to check the telegram machine.”

Morgan said, “How often do you check it?”

Mag said, “In this cold twice a day.”

Morgan turned around and folded his blanket.

Mag said, “Morgan I will show you where to store the blankets and things on the shelves in the bedroom.

Morgan was about to sit on the sofa and he thought about the horses.

He ran out the door around back to the stables and gave the horses feed and water.

Morgan saw the horses had plenty of feed until the spring.

He patted the horses and walked around the front of the shack.

Morgan came back around the front and entered the front door.

Natalie had washed and dressed.

Mag was going into the bedroom to wash.

She and Natalie looked at Morgan and pointed at the back door.

Morgan looked at the back door and laughed.

He knows that can save him time and footsteps.

He pulled off his coat and gloves.

He got a pail and washed his face and hands and comb his hair.

He sat at the table and looked around.

He smiled.

Natalie set oatmeal before him and said, “We used all the food we had here because we were leaving and did not know what the other person wanted to eat or bring with them. Patrick and Brenda tried to make this comfortable for us. But it is time to go.”

Morgn grinned.

He bowed his head and said grace.

Natalie boweed her head and folded her hands for grace and looked at Morgan who was finished and about to eat his oatmeal.

Natalie looked at him and smiled.

Morgan looked at Natalie.

Natalie said, “I was waiting for you to say the grace out loud.”

Morgan had the spoon in the air to begin eating his oatmeal.

Mag yelled, “Morgan she wants you to say grace out loud. We know you are by yourself but grace and nightly prayer is what we do together.”

Morgan was looking at the bedroom door.

He put down his spoon and looked at the lovely smiling Natalie and said, “God bless this food You have given to us to eat. Bless those who do not have any food and let us never turn one away that has nothing to eat but bless them with Your food. In JESUS’ name.”

Mag said, “Lovely.”

Natalie grinned and said, “Yes.”

They ate their oatmeal.

Mag came out the bedroom with the pail of water.

Morgan jumped to help Mag.

Mag said, “No Morgan let me do this last chore. Because I won’t have to do this again. It is my weway of saying good bye.

Mag went to the back door and walked down the one step and poured out the wash water.

Morgan was thinking, “I only have to go to the creek about twice per week. I don’t want to go daily to the coal shed.:

Natalie grinned and said, “Morgan you will be glad to do those simple chores because there is nothing else to do.:

Morgan had placed his guns on the sofa chair.

Natalie looked and said, “Well.”

Morgan said, “Bears.”

Mag sat and looked at the guns and bowed her head and said her grace.

She ate her oatmeal.

Natalie stood and gather all the dishes and washed and dried them.

She put the dishes up on shelves Steven made in the kitchen area for the dishes.

Natalie and Mag had taken the sheets and blankets off the bed and folded them and placed them on the shelves in the bedroom.

They were leaving them for Morgan until the person or persons came to take over. They had plenty at home.

Mag and Morgan were walking to the railroad office when the train from Cedartown was pulling in.

Mag went to meet the train and received the coffee for Morgan.

She put in on the cart and told the conductor she and Natalie were leaving and returning home to Cedartown that day.

Morgan checked the telegram machine.

He saw the telegram from Jose.

Jose said he received the grocery list and will place the food on the Sunday train and Morgan should receive it on Monday.

Morgan said, “I won’t die in two days I have my coffee.”

Mag walked to the cart and put the coffee on the cart and thought, “I have one hour to spend with him.”

She walked into the office and sat and looked around the office and went over the records with him.

Mag and Morgan locked the office door and walked to the shack.

Natalie was standing and looking around.

Mag was looking around and said, “We got everything.”

The train whistle blew.

Mag was happy and jumped in excitement.

Natalie said, “Me too.”

Mag gave Morgan the key to the shack.

Morgan walked with them to the train.

Mattie was waiting for the passengers.

Morgan looked back at Mattie and said, “When are you sending her the toys?”

Mag and Natalie walked back to Mattie and told her they were leaving for good and that Morgan would be there through Christmas.

Mag said, “I will send your children toys on the train and Morgan will get and give them to you.”

The passengers were off the train and rushing to Mattie’s wagon.

The train conductor told them a woman would be waiting to carry them to the governor’s vacation area.

Morgan started putting Mag and Natalie’s boxes and bags on the train.

He completed and took the cart back to the shack.

He took his coffee off the cart and carried it in the house.

Mattie was gone with a wagon full of passengers.

Morgan reached in his pocket and said, “Mag add this to her toys.”

Mag said, “No.”

Morgan looked at her.

Natalie said, “We are taking our last salary payments from the railroad and buying the kids boots and coats, scarves and gloves. That should last them to the spring.”

Morgan stared at Natalie and then at Mag.

He said, “How are you going to get all of that to the right kids?”

Mag said, “I guess I have to bring it.”

Morgan grinned.

Natalie grinned.

They walked to the train and Morgan escorted them to the first class car and helped settled in.

The train conductor came and said, “No.”

They got up to move to the second class car.

Mike the train conductor said, “Mr. and Mrs. Stith said to put you in the owner’s suite.

They followed Mike to the owner’s suite and he opened the door.

Mag, Natalie and Morgan stepped inside and were shocked at the opulence of it.

Mike said, “There is only one key. The Stith’s keep the key. Shirley came to the train station and unlocked this door. And gave us the telegram the Stith’s sent her. So Surprise.”

Morgan laughed.

Natalie said, “I need to go to first class.”

Mike said, “Why?”

Natalie looked around and said, “I don’t want this if I can’t have this everyday.”

Mag said, “You worked in their house.”

Natalie said, “I never thought about their things only what I was suppose to be doing.”

Mag turned to Mike and said, “Thank you Mike. I am retiring. Natalie is terminating her employment so she can be a momma. Morgan is here for a few days to help before he goes on vacation.”

Mike said, “What type of person are the Stiths looking to manage this train station?”

Mag said, “The first thing is a person who can live here with nothing and a person who has integrity. The suppliers ship here all the time and the manger has to make sure the merchandise won’t be damage or stolen.”

Mike said, “That’s it?’

Mag said, “Yes.”

Mike looked at Morgan and said, “I want to do that. Me and my wife want to move to a little town.”

He looked at Morgan.

Morgan said, “Well send Mr. Stith a telegram that you are interested and let your employment record stand for you.”

Mike said, “I will.”

He looked at Mag and said, “What about the pay?”

Mag said, “You make about the same, because you have to take care of the business part of the railroad.”

Mike turned and walked out the suite.

Natalie was still in shock.

Morgan said, “You two can stand in this parlor in shock I am going to look around this suite.”

Morgan toured each room.

He was impressed.

The train whistle blew.

He ran and hugged Natalie and Mag and ran off the train.

He waved as the passengers were leaving the rest area and running back to the train.

Mike yelled, “All aboard.”

Morgan stood and waved at the passengers.

He waved at Mag as she stood on the balcony.

He could see Natalie still standing in the suite.

Morgan turned and watched the train out of sight.

He checked the rest stop and the rest area and cleaned the outhouse.

He checked the office and clean the office.

Morgan walked out the office and locked the door.

He thought, “I am hunger.”

He looked at the time it was two pm.

Morgan thought and went t the shack and looked in the kitchen.

He saw some pinto beans left.

Morgan put the pinto beans in a pot and added the last piece of fat back and water to them.

He that would not hold him.

Morgan looked around the shack and saw Natalie and Mag left nothing.

He made Mag’s bed and put three blankets and her pillows and his pillow on the bed.

He looked at the time and it was three fifteen pm.

Morgan thought, “I should have brought more books.”

He walked in the kitchen and looked at the pinto beans and fat back.

He said, “I have two hours before these beans are cooked. I don’t want to be watching the beans to cook as part of my routine to waste time. And what did Mag mean I was here for a few days? Will Patrick hire before the holidays? Will she and I spend the holidays together? I need some meat.”

Morgan walked over to his hat, scarf and coat.

He took one set of guns and locked the front door and went out the back door.

He went to the stables and put his saddle on one of the horses and grabbed a pail that Mag and Natalie had outside.

He jumped on the horse and sped down to the lake to fish.

On his way he saw a rabbit and shot it.

He started to turn around then but decided to get him some fish for a few days.

Morgan put the pail on top of the water and begin to skin and clean the rabbi.

He knew he heard something in the woods.

Morgan took out one gun and finished cleaning the rabbit.

He put the rabbit on the ground and grabbed the pail on the water and waited for a few minutes and three fish passed and he grabbed them with his bare hands and threw them in the pail.

Morgan scaled and gutted the fish and cleaned up the area by burying everything in the ground.

He stood and looked around and swore he saw something in the woods.

Morgan did not want to panic.

He took the rabbit and tied it to his saddle and put the fish in the pail and mounted his horse and kept the gun from the ground on his lap.

He sped back to the shack.

The horse sensed something was wrong and he sped Morgan quickly to the shack and the horse ran into the stables.

Morgan looked at the horse and said, ”You were scarier than me. I can’t ride you no more. Give me my saddle. You shame my horses back home.”

The horse looked at Morgan.

Morgan smelled his beans.

He ran into the kitchen and caught the beans in time and pulled them to the center of the stove.

Morgan went back outside and washed the rabbit and soaked it overnight so he can make a stew the next day.

Morgan took the last of the shortening and put in the skillet he placed on the stove.

He put the three fish and was frying them.

Morgan walked back outside and gave the horses water and petter them.

He walked around the house and saw everything was fine.

He walked to the railroad office and walked around the office and it was fine.

Morgan walked back to the shack and went into the house.

He locked the back door and pulled off his coat, hat, scarf and gloves.

He stopped and looked at the backdoor and walked to the door and put the metal bar across it.

Morgan looked at the rabbit he had soaking.

He looked around and saw baking soda and put a little with the rabbit.

He turned over his fish.

Morgan had an eerie feeling.

He walked to each window and peeped out.

Morgan took out his guns and placed one in the kitchen, one in the sitting area, two in the bedroom.

He thought, “I should have brought my shotgun. I wasn’t thinking. This is the wilderness. They should not have been here in the first place. Why did Patrick and Brenda send them out here?”

He ate his dinner and enjoyed it.

Morgan washed and sanitized the kitchen because he did not want a bear to come to the shack and he did not know how stable the building was.

He peeped out at the horses.

Morgan did not light any candles or lanterns.

He put a little coal on the fire that would take him into the morning.

He went and dressed for bed.

He laughed at Mag and Natalie who told him about how boring it was there.

Morgan bent down at Mag’s bed and prayed.

He did not want to be close to the window.

Natalie’s bed was on the wall and the window was between the two beds.

Morgan finished praying and went to the sitting area and light a candle and read his bed for hours.

He stood and went to the bedroom and covered up and slept.

He thought he heard something the horses were neighing at.

Morgan was so sleepy he could not wake.

He laid down and had his gun in his hand.

Marvin and the preacher and his wife were lying around after Sunday dinner.

They enjoyed their dinner of pig ears and pig feet cooked like Marvin told them.

They had cornbread, cabbage and candied yams and black-eyed peas.

They ate and could not move Marvin finally got off the floor to walk up the street to Morgan’s house.

He helped Mrs. West wash and dry the dishes.

The preacher was glad because he could not move.

Mrs. West said, “I can’t believe my cousin Judith did not tell me about the slaughterhouse.

Mr. West was leaning on the sofa and said, “I can. They never wanted you to have nothing. Not even something you have to pay for.”

Marvin smirked and shook his head as he continued to dry the dishes.

Mr. West said, “We can’t go back there.”

Mrs. West and Marvin looked at each other and they slowly turned and looked at Mr. West.

Mr. West was now laying on the sofa with his arm behind his head.

He saw how Marvin and his wife were looking at him.

He jumped and sat on the sofa in case he had to run.

Mr. West knew his wife loves to eat and also cook.

He sat and looked at them and said, “Why are yall looking at me like that?”

Mrs. West said, “The first time since I have been married to you that I have enough money to go and buy food and you want to take that enjoyment from me. I got the money out of the saddle. But you are spending it like you really worked for it. You want to deny me that simple pleasure so you can look like a big shot at the church.”

There was a knock on the front door.

Mr. West looked at his wife.

She took the drying cloth form Marvin and dried her hands and reached the drying cloth to Marvin.

Mrs. West walked to the front door.

Marvin watched Mrs. West walked to the front door.

He looked at Mr. West who was watching his wife.

Marvin put down the drying cloth and walked to the sofa and picked up his scarf, hat and coat.

Mr. West looked at Marvin.

He saw Marvin was upset and said, “Wait a minute.”

Mr. West looked back at the front door.

His wife opened the door.

Mr. Hall was knocking and said, “Hey there. You got some of that dinner left?”

Mrs. West stood and looked at Mr. Hall.

She said, “Lora gave you at least a hundred dollars the other day. What did you do with that money. You sure did not buy you no food.”

She pushed the door up and said, “James get to the door!”

Mr. West said, “Tell him to come in and make him a plate.”

She looked at her husband

Mrs. West decided to obey her husband for the last time.

She walked in the kitchen and used one of her beat up cake pans and put Mr. Hall all the pig ears and feet.

She walked to the door and pushed the pan towards Mr. Hall.

He tried to grin his slick grin.

Marvin was looking at him.

Marvin walked out the house.

Mr. West looked at Marvin.

Marvin looked at Mr. Hall and kept walking.

He took his time and walked up the road to Morgan.

Mr. Hall yelled, “Hey fellow where is Lora?”

Mr. West finally stood and walked to the door.

He looked at his wife.

She walked from the door and went into their bedroom.

She looked around and said, “Twenty years of marriage.”

She teared up and said, “God I don’t want to be here anymore. I don’t want James anymore. Before I married him he swore he would love me and take care of me. Every penny I get go into that church.”

She heard Mr. West and Mr. Hall walking in the kitchen.

Mr. Hall said, “What else did yall have. I told my wife to come on down.”

Etta said, “God I don’t want to be around these dirty evil people. They have used me, to cook and take care of them because I was the preacher wife. You was there when James promised me a better life. He loved Mary and no one could ever take her place. I told him about the constant comparing of how great Eula was over me. Them he stopped, but I am no more than a slave to him.”

Mr. West was standing in the door and heard Etta’s words to God.

He came and sat next to her on the bed.

Etta moved down.

He looked at her in the mirror on the chest and said, “They want what you cooked.”

Etta turned her head and looked at James with all the hate she had in her heart for him.

He was scared.

Etta said, “Give it to them.”

James said, “You know to come and set the food before them.”

Etta walked in the kitchen and took out all the food and put it on the table and did not look at Eula and Clifford.

Clifford said, “Yeah that is the food I smelled.”

Ela laughed.

Mr. West laughed.

Etta was walking back in the bedroom.

She could only hear the clanking of forks and spoons.

Mr. West said, “Etta come and sit with our guests. I have told you about that.”

Etta looked up to the ceiling.

She continued to walk to their bedroom.

She took her pillowcase and filled it with the few pieces of clothing she had.

She started to leave the clothes but she had nothing to wear.

She put on the old worn boots and the old holey scarf and the ripped up on the inside coat.

She looked back at the door.

She slipped to a hole in the wall and counted the eight hundred dollars she hid from James from the mobster girl.

She eased it in her coat pocket with the hole that she had stitched.

She went to the dresser drawer and took out the eighteen hundred dollars she told him she got from the saddles.

James walked in as she was counting the money.

He looked at her with her coat on and the pillowcase on the bed.

Etta said. “Was two thousand. You know we spent money at the church and slaughterhouse. There is eighteen hundred dollars left. You have nine hundred and I have nine hundred”

He said, “Etta come in here and sit with your guests.”

James walked out and he did not think about Etta again.

He sat with the Halls and laughed and talked as they ate all the food for Wests Monday dinner.

Mr. Hall said, “That fellow up there with Morgan just kept walking like I did not say nothing. I told him to come back to me and tell me where Lora was.”

James sat and looked at them.

He noticed he did not mention Myriah.

Eula was chewing on a pig’s feet and said, “What he do?”

Clifford said, “Kept walking. Didn’t he brother James.”

Etta told James the Halls call him preacher or brother when they want to keep up mess in the neighborhood.

Etta walked out the bedroom and out the front door.

Her husband did not pay her any attention.

The Halls were eating so fast to stop James and Etta from telling them not to eat their food.

After the Halls had completely eaten up all the food.

Mr. Hall said, “Where is that woman of yours.”

They all laughed.

Etta had begun her walk.

Marvin showed her a new life that James promised her but never intended on giving to her.

The only person he would ever do anything for was Mary.

Etta cried through the neighborhoods as she walked to the other side of town.

She found Mrs. Clay’s house and knocked on the door.

Mrs. Clay was sitting at her dining room table reading her bible.

She was about to go to bed.

She was startled and jumped.

Mrs. Clay slowly stood and walked to the window and peeped out the window.

She saw Mrs. West at her door and was stunned.

She could not think why she was there and how she got there.

Mrs. Clay did not see a carriage or horses.

She hesitated and opened the door.

Mrs. West tried to smile but was heavily crying.

Mrs. Clay opened the door and stepped back to let Etta in the house.

Etta tried to step in the house but slightly stepped back.

Mrs. Clay grabbed her by the hand and pulled her in the house.

Mrs. Clay looked around.

Etta said, “No one is out there.”

Mrs. Clay closed and locked the front door and said, “Come Mrs. West and sit in the parlor.”

Mrs. West walked in the parlor and looked at how nice it was. Modern and light.

She began to cry all over again.

Mrs. Clay ran into the kitchen and made tea.

She could not think what was wrong with Mrs. West.

Mrs. Clay made the tea and put it on a tray and carried it into the parlor and set it on the table and poured Mrs. West some tea.

Etta said, “You have a room?”

Mrs. Clay said, “Two.”

Etta said, “I want one room and you cannot tell Mr. West that I am here. And Lora needs a room.”

Mrs. Clay put down her teacup and said, “Lora? Who is Lora?”

Mrs. West said, “One of my neighbors who left her husband and her daughter is in the hospital.”

Mrs. Clay said, “Etta how long will you be here?”

Mrs. West said, “At least a week. I have to think.”

Mrs. Clay said, “I understand. What about Lora?”

Mrs. West said, “I don’t know. She has been at the hospital with her child.”

Mrs. Clay said, “How would you tell Lora she can come here?”

Mrs. West said, “I think I know where she is. I will find out tomorrow. Where is my room?”

Mrs. Clay was shocked at Mrs. West crass behavior.

She stood and said, “Follow me.”

Mrs. West followed Mrs. Clay and saw the house was nice all the way through.

Mrs. Clay did not want Mrs. West that close to her and put her in the last bedroom that was in the back of the house.

Mrs. Clay opened the door to the bedroom.

Mrs. West smiled and said, “Nice.”

Mrs. Clay said, “Thank you.”

Mrs. Clay turned and walked in the hallway and was going in the armoire to get a blanket and pillows for Mrs. West.

Mrs. West was sleep on the bed.

Mrs. Clay smiled and put the blanket and pillows down on the dresser.

She walked out the bedroom and closed the door.

She walked through her house and checked the windows and doors.

Mrs. Clay thought, “I’ll find out tomorrow about her and this Lora.”

She went to her room and dressed for bed and prayed and went to bed.

Shirley and Monica stayed at the hospital all Sunday with Lorraine.

Vivienne came for several hours and left with Charles and went back to the Stith’s hospital and spent Sunday night with Sally.

Dr. Charles was proud of Vivienne. She acted like a groomed lady. He saw more of her prior life begin to bloom in her again.

Lora had gone to the hotel early that morning and bathed and ate and came back to the hospital.

She had on another new dress and she slept on a blanket.

The nurses watched her.

They did not trust her.

But Lora was scared of Ryan.

Shirley and Monica did not get to see Lorraine open her eyes, but they went into her room and spoke to her.

Shirley and Monica left and went to her apartment.

Shirley worked on another paper all night.

She finished in the wee hours of the morning.

Monica had not drank her whiskey in over a week and was sleepless.

 She heard Shirley flipping paper and reading the same lines over and over.

Monica put her hands to her ears to drown out Shirley.

She sat on the bed and rocked until it was time to get Shirley’s bath water ready.

Monica walked out her room with her nightgown on and went to the water barrel and begin to fill the pot to boil the water.

Shirley saw Monica and said, “Good morning Monica.”

Monica heard Shirley but did not respond.

Shirley knew Monica was an alcoholic.

She continued to get her papers ready for school.

She stood and put the two papers he finished in her bag.

They were her most difficult.

Shirley went into her room and got her clothes together for Monday and Tuesday.

She went into the kitchen and Monica had prepared her bath and bathed.

Monica had a wash pan of hot water and went into the other bedroom and washed and dressed.

Shirley was finished in the kitchen.

Monica took her wash pan and Shirley’s water and opened the door and dumped the water and clean the wash pan and the bath tub and brought them back in the apartment.

Shirley was getting dressed and was having difficulty because her back was hurting.

Monica was cooking Shirley her omelet.

Monica looked at the table and Shirley was not seated.

Monica took her omelet off the stove and walked to her door and said, “Shirley.”

Shirley did not respond.

Monica opened the door.

Shirley was seated on her bed and shaking.

Monica walked over and helped Shirley finished dressing.

Monica put on Shirley’s boots and combed and brushed her hair.

Shirley had laid out the bows to put in her hair.

Monica put the bows in Shirley’s hair.

Monica thought, “She looks nice.”

She walked Shirley to the table and gave her the omelet and apple juice.

Shirley took a bite of the omelet.

Monica went and got her wheelchair and put her books in her bag and rolled the wheelchair in the eat in area.

Monica went and got Shirley’s coat, hat, muff and scarf and gloves.

The carriage driver knocked on the door.

Monica opened the door and said, “We have to take her wheelchair.”

The carriage driver peeped at the always cheerful Shirley.

He walked in the kitchen area and picked up the wheelchair and carried it to the carriage.

Monica put on her scarf, hat and coat.

Shirley was sitting still.

Monica walked to Shirley and put on her the scarf and hat.

She stood Shirley up and put her on the wrap.

Monica handed Shirley her gloves.

The carriage driver walked in and picked up Shirley and carried her to the carriage.

Monica grabbed her bag and walked out the apartment and locked the door.

Monica said, “Shirley you give these two papers you wrote to the two professors. And I am taking you to Dr. Woodson. I will check on Lorraine while Dr. Woodson is working on you. I will pull together the holiday celebration you planned for the handicapped students. The only thing is the balloons and decorations.”

Monica turned around and looked at the carriage driver and said, “You heard?”

He nodded at Monica.

He liked Monica because she always gave him a good tip.

The carriage driver started putting her tips aside to save.

He already had ten dollars.

Monica knew how hard it was to get money as a worker.

She had another week or not with Shirley.

She thought, “I bought another coat, hat, scarf, gloves, four pairs of shoes. Two for work and two for my dress up times. I have ten dollars left.”

She looked back at Shirley.

Shirley was grunting.

Monica knew she was in pain.

Monica was thinking and said, “Shirley do you have to sit in a class today to keep from being mark absent?”

The carriage driver looked back at Shirley as he pulled up in front of the school.

Shirley said, “Yes.”

Monica said, “You sit in this first class and after that we will leave. While you are sitting in that class I will go to the other teacher and hand him your paper. Is your name on the paper?”

The driver sat and listened.

Shirley said, “Yes.”

Steven and his father pulled up behind Shirley.

The president and the dean were walking and talking.

The president wanted to thank Dr. Greene for his help.

Dr. Wade told him Dr. Greene had come to the hospital to check on Laura over the past few days.

The president was so impressed with Dr. Greene and all the doctors.

He wanted to start a program to encourage more students to go into the medical field.

They were standing in the path and were greeting students and staff.

They recognized Shirley’s carriage.

The carriage driver jumped out.

Steven was out his wagon and was in his wheelchair and he rolled over to Shirley’s carriage.

His father was standing grinning at Shirley and Monica.

Monica stepped out the carriage and greeted them.

Mr. Hall liked the servants they were polite.

Patrick and Brenda warned all their workers that while they wore their uniforms to be respectful and polite.

The president was waiting for Shirley.

He saw Steven’s face changed.

He and the dean looked.

The dean said, “Sir, I am preparing everything I want to talk to the governor about. I will be able to present to him my concern and the answer.”

The president looked at the dean and said, “Very good.”

The carriage driver took Shirley’s wheelchair from the back of the carriage.

The president looked and said, “Oh my.”

They continued to greet everyone passing.

The president said, “I believe in miracles. Laura was dying. She was dying slowly and painfully. I did not believe my Laura was dying but all those doctors said yes. God gave me a miracle.”

The carriage driver took Shirley out the carriage and put her in the wheelchair.

Steven looked at her and said, “Shirley you have to follow me.”

Shirley smiled.

Steven looked back at his father.

The carriage driver began to push Shirley to her first class.

Monica was going in Shirley bag to get her papers out.

She saw the president and the dean standing.

They saw Shirley and knew she was in pain.

The president and the dean said, “Good morning Shirley and Steven.”

Steven was worried and said, “Good morning.”

Shirley smiled and whispered, “Good morning.”

Monica looked at the president and said, “Good morning.”

The president and dean looked at Monica.

Monica said, “I am Shirley Stith’s worker. She is not well today. After her first class I am taking her to the hospital. She may not be back this week, but these are two papers she completed for two of her classes. I need to find these professors and give them her papers.”

The dean reached for the papers and said, “I am Shirley’s last teacher today from twelve thirty to two.”

Monica handed the dean the papers.

The president looked at Monica and back to Shirley’s papers.

They saw the other professor passing by rushing to his class.

The dean said, “Professor Wright, this is Shirley’s Stith’s final paper for your class.”

He reached for it and rushed to his class.

Monica said, “Thank you sir.”

She walked away and sat on the bench outside.

The came out the building and sat next to Monica.

The president and the dean looked at them.

They walked away to their offices.

After an hour the carriage driver walked back to Shirley’s classroom and waited for the class to end.

The professor dismissed the class on time.

The bourgeois group was smirking at Shirley as they passed her.

The carriage driver saw them.

The boy that was nice to Shirley was concerned about her.

He walked over and smiled at Shirley and stooped down and said, “Hey Shirley.”

Shirley smiled.

The carriage driver stepped between them and wheeled Shirley out the classroom.

Steven and Ben were coming out their classes.

They saw Shirley and said, “Bye Shirley.”

Shirley waved at them.

The carriage driver ran out the building with Shirley.

Shirley giggled.

Monica was standing and waiting for them.

The dean was watching out of his office.

He thought, “The Stiths’ workers are professional.”

The carriage driver rushed to the carriage.

The dean was peeping at Shirley and saw she tried to smile.

He saw Ben and Steven rolled out the building and looked at Shirley.

He saw the bourgeois group come out and smirked at Shirley.

The blood student and the dark hair friend of Shirley were looking at Shirley and one of the young women.

The fat young woman and the slim tall woman were looking at Shirley and smirking.

The dean’s secretary was watching the dean.

He looked at her and said, “What do you make of them.?”

The secretary stood and watched the bourgeois students.

She said, “Sir. They hate that young lady because she has spirit that they don’t have. They don’t like her for something she does not know she has and they don’t and they won’t ever have it.”

The dean turned from his secretary and said, “Huh.”

He thought abought Shirley’s hospital and the good people her family put in her life. How the doctors said she was a miracle. How they are breaking ground to build a world class hospital and provide grants for doctors and medical students.

The dean said, “To be young and wicked. That is terrible. What do they think of the president’s daughter?”

His secretary said, “They are bare watching but they don’t have the power to become any one great in society.”

The carriage pulled off,

The driver sped to the Stith hospital.

Vivienne was looking out Sally’s window.

Dr. Hutch had just cleaned her mouth and put new gauze and bandages in her mouth.

He was happy to see that her mouth was not as bad as he and Dr. Woodson thought it would be.

Vivienne saw the carriage pulled up and saw Monica jumped and run out.

Vivienne ran out Sally’s room.

Hutch looked at her.

Sally looked at her.

Hutch walked to the room and saw the driver carrying Shirley into the hospital.

He finished attending to Sally and cleaned her room.

Monica ran into the hospital and ran to the nurses’ desk and said, “Ma am Shirley needs to see a doctor.”

Vivienne was rushing from Sally over to Monica.

Dr. Charles looked at Vivienne and saw the driver carrying Shirley.

Dr. Woodson and Dr. Ralph were coming from Leon when they saw Shirley.

Dr. Woodson said, “Bring her to this room.”

The driver turned and rushed Shirley to the room.

Vivienne stood behind Monica.

Monica rushed with the driver and Shirley to the room.

Vivienne stood and watched.

Dr. Woodson and Dr, Ralph sent Monica and the driver out of the room.

They closed the door with Shirley.

Leon saw people standing in the hallway and said, “Please close my door.”

The carriage driver was puzzled and Monica walked and closed the door.

She said, “Hello Leon.”

Leon looked at her and said, “I remember your face.”

Meredith was walking in the hospital to attend to Leon and she was going to sit with Lorraine for a while and then go home.

Meredith slowly walked in and the hospital and spoke to everyone.

Meredith pointed and said, “Whose carriage?”

Vivienne said, “Shirley’s.”

Then they heard Shirley screaming.

The carriage driver ran pass Dr. Charles.

He giggled.

The nurses looked at the carriage driver.

Dr. Charles looked at Meredith and said, “Meredith you need to stop work until after the baby comes.”

Leon was talking to Monica and yelled and said, “No she does not.”

Meredith smiled at Dr. Charles and walked to Leon and she saw Monica and hugged her.

Monica said, “I’m going to check on Lorraine and come back here in about two hours. I need to send Eleanor some telegrams.”

Dr. Woodson opened the door and they heard a crying Shirley.

He heard Monica say she was coming back to send Eleanor some telegrams.

He said, “Who are you?”

Meredith looked at Dr. Woodson.

Monica said, “I am Shirley’s maid.”

Dr. Woodson said, “I need some tasks to be done today. We are under staff I need help. I want you to help.”

Monica looked at Dr. Woodson.

Dr. Charles looked at Monica.

Vivienne was nodding her head at Monica for yes.

Dr. Charles looked at Vivienne.

Monica said, “I will try but my job is to attend to Shirley.”

Vivienne smiled at Monia’s polite but professional response.

Dr. Charles looked at Vivienne and smiled and turned and looked back at Monica.

Monica said, “I am going to my friend Lorraine and I’ll be back in two hours.”

Dr. Ralph opened the door and heard Monica said she was going to Lorraine.

Dr. Ralph said, “Ma am what happened to Shirley?”

Monica said, “What?”

Dr. Ralph said, “Did she fall or pick up something heavy.”

Monica said, “Shirley is not going to fall in her clothes.”

Shirley laughed.

Meredith grinned and turned and looked at Shirley who was dressed well.

Meredith was about to walk to Shirley and Dr. Ralph caught her by her hand.

She stopped.

Monica said, “Shirley has not picked up anything heavy but her bag.”

Shirley laughed.

Vivienne was liking the way Monica was responding. She knew Monica was having a hard time giving up the whiskey. She was proud of her.

Meredith giggled.

Dr. Woodson walked back with bars in his hand.

He looked at Monica and said, “Go and see Lorraine and come back in two hours. You need to be adjusted when you come back.”

Terror hit Monica’s face.

Dr. Ralph looked at Meredith and said, “You have been laying crooked in the chairs at the hospital.”

Monica turned and walked out the hospital.

Vivienne ran and got her hat and coat and ran out of the door.

Sally was sleep.

Monica and Vivienne stayed at the hospital for an hour and went in to see Lorraine before they left.

They saw Lora. She was acting better.

Felipe was working on Lorraine.

Ryan watched him.

The nurse told them of Shirley and Monica’s concern that her neck was broken and she was blind.

Everyday Felipe would heck Lorraine.

He was checking Lorraine’s eyes when Monica and Vivienne walked in to see bye.

Monica touched Lorraine’s foot.

Lorraine wiggled her foot.

Dr. Felipe looked.

Ryan was stunned and he looked.

Vivienne stepped back.

Ryan said, “Do her other foot.”

The nurses were watching.

Monica wiggled right foot.

Lorraine wiggled back.

Ryan was stunned and looked at Lorraine.

Dr. Felipe was bent over and looking into Lorraine’s eyes and stared at her reflex.

Vivienne said, “See you tomorrow. Meredith will come to see you.”

Dr. Felipe was watching Lorraine.

Lorraine blinked her eyes.

Dr. Felipe grinned.

Ryan walked to Lorraine’s head and said, “Lorraine I need this bed for someone who is sick. You have to attend the Christmas festivities Patrick and Brenda have planned.”

Lorraine grinned.

Monica dropped to the floor.

Vivienne slightly turned to Monica but kept her eyes on Lorraine.

Ryan held Lorraine’s hand and she went back to sleep.

Dr. Felipe was amazed.

Monica and Vivienne rushed back to the Stith’s hospital.

They were excited.

Dr. Ralph and Hutch saw and said, “What?’

Monica said, “Lorraine wiggle her feet. The doctor was telling about Christmas she grinned.”

Dr. Ralph dropped everything.

Dr. Woodson was coming from Shirley’s room and heard Lorraine’s good report.

Dr. Woodson looked at Dr. Ralph.

It was like a ton of bricks lifted off him.

Dr. Hutch said, I will be there this evening to do rounds I will check on her.”

Dr. Hutch said, “I will spend the night. I’ll show you and Shirley how to sleep in a chair. You can come with me to adjust your neck.”

Vivienne turned and rushed to Sally’s room.

Sally was about to start screaming.

Vivienne passed Dr. Charles who was reviewing a patient’s chart.”

He was learning tolerance at that hospital with the pain the patients were experiencing.

Meredith was leaving Leon and peeped over at Shirley and said, “Good evening Shirley.”

Shirley was crying and waved.

Meredith said, “Good day.”

Monica told her of Lorraine.

Meredith was happy.

She drove her carriage to the south hospital.

Dr. Felipe looked at Meredith and said, “Meredith you must stop and start getting rest.”

Monica followed Dr. Ralph to the room across from the nurses’ desk.

He adjusted her Monica’s neck and back.

She was in pain and said, “I have to work. I have to take care of Shirley.”

Dr. Ralph said, “Shirley for a few days.”

Monica woke two hours later.

She jumped off the bed and put her boots on.

Her feet were hurting.

She snatched her hat, scarf, coat and gloves.

The nurses cut their eyes at Monica and smirked.

Vivienne and Nurse Sharon was walking to the workers area to drink their afternoon tea.

Monica walked over to Shirley and said, “Shirley the doctor said you will be here for a few days. Cancel your holiday celebration for the handicapped students and their families?”

Shirley said, “No. I want to do it for them whether I am there are not. Bring me at economics book and paper and pen. I have to turn that paper in Thursday.”

Monica said, “Ok. I am sending Eleanor a telegram you want to say something?”

Shirley said, “Ask them did they get the accounts book I told Morgan to send to them.”

Monica turned and said, “I’ll bring you a gown and robe and slippers. Let me see what this doctor want me to do.”

Dr. Woodson heard Monica and said, “A lot.”

Monica looked back at Shirley.

Shirley said, “I’ll pay you Monica.”

Dr. Woodson walked over and unlocked the hospital’s administrator’s office and turned on the telegram machine.

He wrote the names of the companies and individuals and for them to the hospital and pick up their money.

Monica sent all the telegrams.

She sent Eleanor a telegram that Shirley was in the hospital and planned a holiday celebration for the handicapped kids and their families. But Shirley had the company that did the pork and greens to do the holiday celebration. But she wanted her to pick someone she pick the train cook and his staff. Shirley wanted to know if she received the account book that she sent? She said Lorraine wiggle both feet today and grinned. The doctors were amazed.

Dr. Woodson told Monica that he wanted her to pay the merchants.

He showed her the book with the money in and for the people to sign the receipts.

Dr. Woodson, “I want have to do this again until January.”

Monica looked at him.

The telegrams started to come back. All their responses they would be there first thing in the morning.

Monica walked to Dr. Woodson and said, “I guess you want me to be hurry in the morning to pay these people?”

Dr. Charles looked at Monica.

Dr. Woodson said, “Please.”

He and Dr. Charles completed their rounds.

Monica went and talked to Sally foe a few minutes.

She went back to the office to get her coat so she could leave.

Eleanor was receiving Monica’s telegram at the time Patrick was receiving one from Ryan.

Eleanor ran to Brenda and saw Patrick running to Brenda.

They were excited.

Brenda said, “If she comes before Christmas she has to stay here or if she wants she can stay at her home with Monica and another.

Eleanor said, “Shirley is in the hospital for a few days. And this holiday celebration and planned to have the caterer with the pork roast and greens do the celebration.”

Brenda said, “No.”

Eleanor said, “She might not have enough time to get a caterer. But Monic said, the cook from the train can do it…”

Brenda said, “Use him.”

Eleanor said, “… And Shirley wanted to know if Morgan sent an accounts book to us?

Brenda said, “We got the book this morning when we met Mag and Natalie at the train.”

Monica received the telegram back from Eleanor.

She read it and walked to Shirley and said, “Yes Eleanor got the account book. They said go with the cook from the train or cancel the celebration. I will go to the railroad now.”

Monica said, “I’ll help you undress and take your clothes back and bring your economics book. Paper and pen back with a nightgown.”

Shirley was laying straight and said, “Ok.”

Monica walked out the hospital and went to the waiting carriage.

She went to the railroad and found the cook.

She told him to do Shirley’s holiday celebration on Thursday at four pm. She told him whatever he wanted to cook and bring some type of decorations.

She left and went to the apartment and light the stove and the candle on the table.

She found Shirley’s economics book, paper and pens and put them in a bag and she went and got one nightgown, robe and slippers.

The carriage was picking up customers all day while he was waiting on Monica.

He was not upset with the long day because he made ten dollars.

Monica went back to the hospital and helped Shirley into her nightgown and gave her the book.

Monica went into the hospital’s administrator’s office and sent a telegram to the caterer that he was cancelled.

Monica walked back to Shirley and said, “Good night. I have to be back in the morning to pay everybody.”

Shirley could barely talk, but said, “Ok.”

Monica walked to Leon and said, “Good night Leon.”

Leon said, “Good night.”

Monic had to wait for the carriage driver to return.

He returned and took her back to the apartment.

Monica said, “The same time tomorrow but back to the hospital.”

Dr. Woodson was walking om checking on the patients before he left for the night.

He saw Shirley sitting up in the bed reading and working on her paper.

He looked at her and thought, “She could have been my step daughter.”

Shirley laid down and was reading.

Dr. Woodson said, “Not all night Shirley.”

She said, “I won’t.”

He left the hospital and the nurse locked the door behind him.

Shirley worked most of the night on the paper.

Monica resisted whiskey and cleaned the apartment and went to bed.