Early night, Ryan, Robert, Samuel and Peters arrived at the dock.

Lou greeted them.

Samuel said, “Where are my men?”

Lou stared at him for a good minute and said, “They pursued the mobsters that were here.”

Ryan rode up so he could hear.

He said, “Sir, lets proceed.”

Lou said, “I agree.”

He looked at Samuel and Peters and said, “Sirs we will speak about those renegades.”

Lou rode fast to the ship.

Ryan rode next Lou.

Ryan said, “I am a physician I need to see Oliver first then I will check Lorraine and Michael.”

Lou dismounted his horse and said to Ryan, “You are mighty young to be a doctor.”

Ryan dismounted his horse and grabbed his medical bag and said, “Not only am I a physician, but I am a surgeon and served four years in the Civil war as a surgeon. And I am damn brilliant. You can ask my momma.”

Lou stared at Ryan and said, “I don’t know what to make of that comment. Whether you wet behind the ears boy is being smart. You are no older than my daughter.”

Ryan was staring at Lou, like he could whip him.

Lou said, “Steve take this brat to see the Police Officer. Looking at me like he can whip me.”

Robert jumped out the wagon tried to run up the stairs.

Barney stepped in front of him.

Lou said, “Let him pass.”

He watched Ryan.

Samuel and Peters stepped out the wagon and walked to Lou.

Lou looked at them.

Samuel said, “I am Samuel Knight. I brought those men to Mr. Simons. I knew them in war and I knew they would protect Mr. Simons and his property. What happen?”

Lou looked at Peters and said, “Who are you?”

Peters said, “I am Jerome Peters. I was a corporal in the Civil war and trained four of the men you called renegades.”

Lou looked at Barney.

Barney said, “I was in the war also.”

Samuel said, “Sir, what happened?”

Lou was watching Robert.

He turned and said, “I guess those eight thought they were still on the battlefield. They snooped around here for several weeks. They would break in the offices and go through the files and be in custom and hiding out around here. They apparently found out some of the mobsters and beat them to a pulp and got information. They had eighteen jailed under all types of charges. Then they found twenty one that were on the ships as crewmen, they were to set afire the ships if Mr. Simons did not pay the mob money.”

Peters said, “Where are those twenty one mobsters?’

Lou stared at Peters then said, “I don’t know.”

Samuel said, “You are finished? I knew to see Mr. Simons.”

Lou stared at Samuel and said, “Go ahead I can’t stop you.”

He looked at Barney and said, “Let them pass.”

Peters said, “I don’t understand why you call the renegades.”

He and Samuel walked up the plank to the ship.

The captain and a few crewmen were watching and listening.

They greeted Samuel and Peters.

The captain had a crewman escorted them to Mr. Simons’ suite.

Bruce was sitting at his desk and going through each book.

He had a very large glass of scotch at his left hand.

The manager over the dock and his assistant were seated in Mr. Simons’ study going over all the records to finalize the year.

The other workers were at the seafood feast.

They did not know there was a death on the ship.

The crewman knocked on the suite door.

Bruce looked at the time and thought, “They made good time.”

The assistant to the dock manager, stood and went to the door and opened it.

Bruce put up his folders and shook the hand of the dock manager.

They walked into the foyer.

Samuel and Peters turned around and looked at the foyer.

The dock manager grinned.

Bruce said, “Good evening Samuel and Peters. Thank you for coming.”

Samuel and Peters saw Robert moving in the rooms.

Bruce looked back at Robert.

He kept the door opened in the room with Lorraine and Michael.

He could see them from his study.

Bruce watched them all day and evening.

He said, “Samuel and Peters this is Mr. Morgan. He is the manager of my docks. If you ever come here tell him you are my employees. He will treat you will at the restaurants and inns.”

Mr. Morgan reached and shook Samuel and Peters hand.

He pointed and said, “This is my assistant Tyler. If I am not here, he will help you. Usually I take my vacation Christmas through New years. They have a very good New Years celebration here if you are interested.”

Samuel and peters said, “Thank you.”

They turned to watch Mr. Morgan and Tyler leave.

They looked at each other.

Bruce walked Mr. Morgan and Tyler to the door and they were escorted back by the crewman.

Bruce watched them down the hall.

He looked up and down the hall.

Samuel and Peters looked at Bruce.

They could tell he was suspicious of someone.

Bruce closed and locked the door.

Samuel was peeping towards the room with the opened door.

Bruce looked towards the room and shook his head.

Robert had packed Michael’s room.

He cleaned the room where Police Officer Oliver was.

He went into Bruce’s room.

Bruce said, “Come into my study.”

They walked into the study.

Bruce was reluctant to close the door.

Samuel said, “You can close the door. We can hear if they move.”

Bruce sat in his chair and reached Samuel and Peters the papers he gave Police Officer.

Samuel read the papers.

Peters leaned over and read the papers.

Peters said corruption from the top to the bottom.

Samuel took the papers and folded them up and put them in his chest pocket and said, “Bruce you never saw these papers.”

Bruce swallow a large amount of scotch and said, “No I haven’t heard anything about any papers. Where are your men?”

Samuel said, “Doing their job.”

Peters said, “Which is upsetting to Lou.”

Bruce nodded his head.

He took another big swallow of scotch.

Peters said, “We are leaving tonight. Do not drink anymore scotch.”

Bruce looked at the glass.

A knock was on the door.

Bruce stood and opened the door.

Robert was rushing to the door Bruce said, “Robert I can open the door.”

Peters and Samuel stood.

Samuel drank a big swallow of the scotch.

Peters looked at him.

Samuel had to bend over on Bruce’s desk for a minute.

Peters stared at Samuel because he did not believe he drank the liquor.

Peters thought, “You now it was not the cheap kind.”

Bruce opened the door and it was Ryan.

He was escorted by the captain to Bruce’s suite.

Ryan had some papers in his hand.

Bruce said, “Hi Ryan.”

Ryan said, “Hey Bruce.”

He looked around and said, “Very nice. I meet that Eleanor. She’s tough.”

Bruce looked at Ryan.

Ryan said, “I need to sign these papers. Oliver died from heart disease.”

Bruce said, “How do you know that?”

Ryan said, “I examined his nails both fingernails and toenails. I learned that from my father who is a great heart surgeon.”

Ryan bent over the hallway table and begin to sign the forms.

He said, “I believe the procedure is any deaths must be reported and caused of death must be reported before a ship can sail.”

Ryan sorted the signed papers and gave the captain his set and handed Bruce his signed copies.

The captain looked at Bruce.

Bruce said, Thank you Captain Moss.”

Captain Moss looked over the papers and walked out.

Robert said, “Mr. Simons help with the bags and who is going to carry Oliver’s body to the wagon?”

Captain Moss said, “I’ll have someone come for the bags, you still has to tell him which wagon to put the bags.”

Samuel and Peters walked out of Bruce’s study.

Bruce said, “Samuel it was strong?”

Peters looked at Bruce and did not care that he caught Samuel drinking his scotch.

He was angry the mob killed Sharon and her entire family because they did not do what they wanted to them to.

He was thinking he was going after the one that killed Oliver, until Ryan said, it was heart disease.

Peters thought, “Samuel think I did not memorize the names on that list. I remember each name. I will go after each one over my life.”

Bruce said, “Ryan explain yourself.”

Ryan said, “What? That I am a brilliant surgeon. I believe me and my family sailed on one of your ships.”

Bruce said, “No doubt.”

Peters said, “Rich men talk. We need to get Oliver back.”

Samuel said, “Ryan what funeral home?”

Ryan said, “Mc Kenzie’s. My father is making all the arrangements.”

Peters looked in at the opened door.

Michael was sitting up in the bed.

Peters said, “Bruce.”

Bruce looked at Peters and then turned.

He saw Michael walk and stand in the door.

Michael said, “Tell Lorraine why Oliver died. So she can be better.”

Ryan looked at Bruce.

Bruce was stunned at Michael’s maturity.

Robert was looking at Michael as he folded Bruce’s sweaters.

Ryan said, “Bruce may I examine Lorraine and Michael?”

Bruce said, “Examine?”

Peters pointed to the head.

Michael said, “I’m not crazy nor is Lorraine. She is sad.”

Ryan said, “Michael come to me.”

Michael said, “No. You come to me. I won’t leave Lorraine.”

Ryan held his head down and smiled.

He walked over to Michael.

He kneeled down in front of Michael and looked in the room at a sleeping Lorraine.

Ryan held Michael’s hands.

He looked into Michael’s eyes and Michael looked into his eyes.

Ryan was watching Michael intently and said, “How do you feel that your friend Lorraine is not feeling good?”

Michael said, “I don’t like people not to feel good. Especially not my friend.”

Ryan said, “How do you think we can get Lorraine to feel better?”

Michael leaned forward gazed into Ryan’s eyes and said, “Tell her she did not do anything wrong. Even though daddy said she whore hop.”

Ryan looked at Michael for a few minutes and turned and looked at Bruce.

Bruce closed his eyes and turned beet red.

Samuel looked at the beet red Bruce.

Peters looked at the embarrassed Bruce.

The stunned Robert slowly looked at Bruce.

Samuel said, “Bruce you know me and Lorraine dated?”

Bruce eyes were shut.

Ryan said, “Michael do you know what ‘whore hop’ mean?”

Bruce said, “Ryan.”

Ryan held up his hand at Bruce to stop.

Michael said, “Sure.”

Ryan said, “What?”

Michael said, “To be mommy and daddy.”

Ryan said, “So Michael you believe if we tell Lorraine…”

Ryan cleared his throat.

He continued, “because she whore hopped and was not here that did not cause Oliver to die. But Oliver died from a bad heart. You think that will make Lorraine feel better.”

Michael said, “Right.”

Ryan said, “This your boy!! Ain’t nothing wrong with him. He is just protecting his friend.”

Bruce exhaled.

Ryan stood and Michael pushed him to Lorraine.

Ryan walked to Lorraine and took her vitals.

Michael said, “You did not do that to me. Why?”

Ryan looked at Michael and said, “You are healthy. Better yet let me check your heart.”

Ryan checked Michael’s heart.

He said, “You are fine Michael.”

Michael took Ryan’s stethoscope.

Bruce and Samuel walked to the room.

Peters got the glass of scotch and was drinking it.

Robert grabbed the glass of scoth and took a big swallow.

He turned and went back to Mr. Simons’ room and packed.

They heard the noise from the fireworks.

Bruce said, “Michael let’s go and see the fireworks.”

Michael looked at Bruce and said, “No dad. I promised Lorraine we would look at the fireworks. A promise dad is a promise.”

Bruce looked at Michael.

He reached and got the glass of scotch from Peters and it was nearly gone.

Peters stared at Bruce.

Bruce sipped the rest and sighed.

Lorraine was sleep.

Ryan said, “Lorraine wake up. I need to see your mental state and Michael said, you promised him to the fireworks.”

Michael was twisting Ryan’s stethoscope and listening to his heart and said, You promise me Lorraine. A promise is a promise.”

Lorraine started reaching for Michael.

Robert said, “Is that good enough that she is ok?”

Michael yelled, “She has to wake up. Right dad?”Bruce was sipping the scotch and said, “Michael I don’t know.”

Michael begin to scream, “Eleanor!!!!Eleanor!!!! Daddy is drunk.”

Bruce was stunned and yelled, “Shut up boy.”

Ryan looked at Michael and laughed.

He said, “Lorraine, wake up so I can go and get some seafood.”

He started softly shaking her hands.

Lorraine said, “What can of seafood?”

Ryan grinned.

Samuel rushed to Lorraine and kissed her.

Michael said, “Dad is that whore hop?”

Bruce pulled Michael by his head out of the room.”

Lorraine put her arms around Samuel’s neck and kissed him.

She said, “Peters.”

Ryan stood from the bed and Bruce looked back and pulled Michael into the hallway.

Robert ran out of Mr. Simons and peeped over in the room at Lorraine.

Samuel was so shock he sat there and stared at Lorraine.

Peters stood and looked and thought, “I know that whore did not call my name.”

Lorraine started laughing.

Samuel said, “You better say it.”

Lorraine said, “I’m playing Peters.”

Peters waved his hand for he was alright.

Michael heard the fireworks and said, “Lorraine come on!”

Lorraine was trying to get up and look for her boots.

Samuel put Lorraine boots on her feet.

Ryan said, “I need to tell you Lorraine that Oliver died from a bad heart. He must have had it from a child up. Whether you were here or not no one could help him. You did him a favor. All of you. You gave him good. A beautiful place to go to sleep. Try not to feel bad for him. Grieve and let it go.”

Lorraine stood and said, “Who are you?”

Samuel started laughing.

Peters said, “Can we get some food?”

Michael ran to Lorraine and he held onto her and she held onto him.

She said, “You brought me back wonderful boy.”

Michael said, “Yes, I am wonderful.”

They were about to walk out the door, when Bruce said, “Wait.”

He pulled back the curtain and opened the door.

They all worked out on the deck to a magnificent display of fireworks.

Michael was so excited.

He was going from Lorraine to his daddy.

Bruce put Michael up on the rail.

Ryan and Peters did a double take.

Robert walked out and looked at the beautiful scene.

They were in awe for about thirty minutes.

Michael said, “Dad, I am hungry.”

Robert walked off the deck back into the suite.

He packed up the bags.

There was a knock on the door.

Robert went to the door and the captain sent three crewmen to get the bags.

Robert said, “Put them in the wagon with the black horses.

Bruce said, “Michael can you by pass the lamb chop and try something else or vegetables.”

Michael said, “Where is Eleanor?”

Bruce put Michael down and said, “You better…”

Michael screamed, “Eleanor!! Eleanor!!”

Bruce said, “Shut up boy!”

Lorraine was wrapped in Samuel’s arm and she turned and reached her hand to Michael and said, “Come on. I think it is one lamb chop left. If not you have to eat vegetables.”

Michael was in a state of shock of how Bruce yelled at him.

Robert was coming out Bruce’s study and said to Lorraine,” Are you able to pack or do I need to do it?”

Lorraine said, “Let me see how I feel.”

She looked and said, “Michael no lamb chop.”

Michael said, “Let me see.”

Bruce walked in the suite with Peters.

He stopped and looked at Michael.

Michael looked up at Lorraine and said, “How did you forget my lamb chop?”

Lorraine said, “I am sorry Michael. I was not well today.”

Samuel said to Ryan, “That’s a butt whipping.”

Ryan said, “He’s a smart boy. As long as he gets what he wants.”

Bruce grabbed Michael from behind and carried him into his room.

Robert walked out the room.

He looked at Peters and a shocked Lorraine.

He said, “Let’s go and get some seafood.”

They heard Bruce popping Michael’s butt.

Robert and Peters walked out the suite.

Samuel and Ryan saw Peters and Roberts walking towards the fireworks.

Samuel and Ryan walked back into the suite and saw a screaming Michael.

Who ran to Lorraine and grabbed her waist.

Lorraine patted Michael.

Bruce said, “Michael what are you going to say to your friend?”

Michael said, “I’m sorry.”

Bruce said, “Michael I am disappointed with you.”

Michael said, “Me too.”

Bruce frowned up because he knew Michael was being smart, but he could not put his finger on it.

Ryan said, “I need to eat.”

Samuel said, “I’m going to stay with Lorraine.”

Michael said, “Me too.”

Lorraine was patting him and holding him.

Ryan said, “Boss.” He pointed at the door.

Bruce picked up his coat and walked out the door with Ryan.

Samuel stood on the deck and watched Ryan and Bruce walked towards the fireworks.

Lorraine walked to the deck and said Samuel, “I’m going to walk to the captain and ask the cook if he has a lamb chop for Michael.”

Lorraine said, “Michael stay…”

Michael grabbed Lorraine’s hand and looked back at the room where Oliver was.

The three of them walked out the suite and Samuel locked the door.

The went to the captain.

Lorraine said, “Good evening sir. Is your cook on board?”

Captain Moss was looking over his maps and said, “No. He is cooking at the seafood feast.”

They went back to the suite.

Lorraine made omelets, toast and orange juice.

They wrapped in blankets and sat on the deck and ate.

They the four walking back to the ship.

They were talking and having a good conversation.

Lorraine said, “Let me wash me dishes, because I am not steer the horses back. I see they brought the wagon for me and Michael to sleep in.”

Michael stood and peeped over the rail to see the wagons.

Peters and Ryan looked up at the deck.

Bruce said, “They are planning something.”

Robert grinned.

Lorraine ran into the kitchen and washed the dishes.

She ran through the suite and double checked everything.

Michael was still drinking his orange juice when they walked into the suite.

Lorraine threw must of her stuff into her large bag.

Bruce looked around the opulent suite and stood for a minute in the doorway of the room where Oliver died.

He placed his files and folders in a secret place.

He took a bag and put them in it.

Lorraine was listening.

Bruce said, “Lorraine start out and I will take a nap.”

Lorraine walked out her room and was dragging her suitcase.

She looked at Robert.

Robert rolled his eyes at Lorraine.

He picked up her heavy bag and mumbled and walked out the door.

Lorraine said, “Bruce I was sick. You want me to start out?”

Bruce said, “I know nothing is wrong with you.”

Michael finished drinking his orange juice and handed Lorraine his glass.

Lorraine wash the glass out and put it on the counter.

Samuel brought the three blankets in from the deck.

He locked the door and closed the curtains.

He handed Lorraine the blankets.

Michael took Lorraine’s hand and they walked out the suite.

Bruce said, “I told you they were planning something.”

Ryan laughed.

Peters grinned.

Samuel said, “Peters can you handle the wagon back?”

Peters said, “Yes.”

Samuel said, “I will take them back. I am refreshed I can make it.”

Bruce said, “If you start out and let me take a nap then I can take over.”

Samuel said, “We will see.”

They all walked out the suite.

Captain Moss and his crew greeted Mr. Simons, they all walked down to the dock with Bruce.

Captain Moss said, “They put the body of Oliver in the wagon with the brown horses.

Peters nodded his head.

He and Ryan walked away.

Samuel walked over to Lou.

Lou was looking at the boy.

Samuel shook his hand and walked to the wagon with Lorraine and Michael.

He put the three blankets on Lorraine and Michael.

Lorraine and Michael put their heads on the pillows and went to sleep.

Michael and Lorraine were hugging each other and slept all the way back to the city.

Eleanor was at the hotel when they arrived back.

Eleanor spent the whole day calming Shirley down.

She told Shirley was going away for some time to get her life together.

Eleanor, ordered new mattresses for all the rooms, for the hospital to be painted inside and out. For Shirley to decide on the paint for her room. She paid for Mrs. Perkins stay and set up the books for Shirley to pay the employees each week.

Eleanor established the accounts for the hospital business.

She wanted to see Michael before she left.

She telegrammed her parents to have her luggage and the boys at the train at a specific time.

Eleanor was standing out front of the hotel when they arrived.

Eleanor watched the wagon carrying Police Officer Oliver passed.

She nodded at Ryan as he followed the wagon.

Robert pulled in front of the hotel and looked at Eleanor.

Eleanor looked at Robert.

She walked to the back of the wagon and saw a sleeping Michael.

She saw the woman she selected to be with her children cared for them.

Samuel jumped down and saw Eleanor and said, “Good morning.”

Eleanor said, “Good morning.”

Michael heard his mother’s voice and struggled and woke up.

Samuel smiled and walked to help Robert with the luggage.

Michael sat up in the wagon and said, “Momma?”

Eleanor reached out her arms to him.

He ran to her arms and she picked him up and kissed him.

Lorraine woke and looked at Eleanor and said, “Hey.”

Eleanor said, “You are ok?”

Lorraine said, “Yes.”

Eleanor said, “Lorraine stay with Shirley at the hospital everyday. Meredith is here for Michael and Bethany to run the household.”

Lorraine did not know what Eleanor was talking about. She knew she was up to something.

Eleanor hugged and kissed Michael.

He held onto her.

Bruce saw Eleanor and walked to the hotel door and waited.

Eleanor carried Michael to Bruce for him to carry Michael.

Bruce looked at Eleanor and said, “Put him down, he can walk.”

Eleanor put Michael down and she stooped down and whispered in his ears and kissed him.

She turned him around to walk into the hotel.

Michael walked into the hotel with Bruce.

Samuel, Robert and Lorraine walked into the hotel.

Michael looked back for Eleanor and she was gone.

Michael said, “Momma.”

He ran out the door and looked up and down the street and said, “Eleanor!!!! Eleanor!!!!”

Eleanor had walked along the dark side of the street when Michael begin to call her.

All of her children call her Eleanor when they need her or need help.

Eleanor bit her arm to kept from crying out for her dear Michael.

She cried all the way to the train station.

She picked up her bag of hidden customs and checked them and changed clothes along the way.

She entered the train and was escorted to the owner’s suite.

She took a hot bath and cried all the way home.

She was dressed and waiting at the door when the train pulled into the station.

Her boys jumped on the train in excitement.

Eleanor jumped off the train and hugged and kissed Brenda and Patrick.

She said, “Please try to spend the holidays with Shirley and Michael. I love you both. I paid for Mrs. Perkins’ hospital stay. I know Bruce will not pay for the freeloaders stay at the hotel, so you may have to pay for that. I love you two. She hugged them again and cried.”

Eleanor walked away and her mother said, “Eleanor!”

Eleanor was wiping tears and stopped and turned around and her mother handed her a handbag.

Eleanor looked in the bag and saw the money.

She said, “Mother no. I have plenty.”

Patrick walked up and stared his beloved daughter in her eyes and said, “I love you.”

Eleanor ran to the train and jumped on it.

The boys were already on the train’s deck and waving at their grandparents.

The two maids and butler were running to get on the train.

Patrick said, “Steve.”

Steve nodded his head.

Steve was joining his wife Belinda and her sister Ellen.

They were excited to be traveling to Europe.

Their families gave them a big bon voyage party.

The two teachers ran behind Steve.

Roderick and Sheryl were happy and excited.

They greeted Patrick and Brenda and ran to the train.

Eleanor stood on the platform with her children and waved to her staff and her beloved parents.

She held her heart for them.

Patrick held onto Brenda and said, “She’s dying.”

Brenda was sobbing and held onto her husbands’ hands and said, “I know.”

Bruce had a time trying to calm Michael down.

Later that morning they went to see Shirley.

Shirley was crying.

Nurse Alice introduced herself to Bruce.

Lorraine looked around and said, “Whoa.”

She and Bruce waked through the hospital.

Bruce went and talk to Mrs. Perkins.

Mrs. Perkins said, “Close the door Bruce.”

Bruce smirked and thought, “Now here is this nosey ass woman going to tell me about that damn Eleanor.”

He and Mrs. Perkins had a good talk about life, family and friends.

Dr. Ralph, Dr. Greene and Dr. Woodson and Ryan were returning from Oliver’s service.

They saw Bruce exiting Mrs. Perkins’ room.

Bruce saw the doctors and said, “Ryan you really did push this funeral. Did anyone come?”

Ryan said, “Most of the police department, the lady over his rooming house and his long lost brother. His brother said his mother gave them up and put them in an orphanage. The rats, poverty, prostitution and selling of child sex brides. No food and beatings. That explained why Oliver had a bad heart. I felt good that we gave him a nice send off.”

Dr. Woodson reached over and patted Ryan on his shoulder to comfort him.

Dr. Greene said, “Dr. Parker will be here tomorrow and my wife. I need help finding a place for them where is Eleanor?”

Bruce said, “She’s gone.”

Dr. Ralph looked at Bruce.

Dr. Woodson knew Bruce sent her home.

Ryan said, “Maybe she can sit her bossy pregnant self down.”

Bruce stared at Ryan.

Dr. Ralph saw Bruce’s reaction that he did not know Eleanor was pregnant.

He walked away and saw Lorraine and stood and talked to her.

Samuel walked in the hospital with some flowers and saw Lorraine.

Lorraine smiled.

Samuel walked up to Lorraine and said, “Don’t be mad the flowers are for her.”

Lorraine stood for a moment and nodded her head for ok.

Lorraine turned to get a good look at her replacement.

Dr. Ralph smiled and he and Lorraine begin their two year affair.

Dr. Greene saw Bruce’s face and realized he did not know Eleanor was pregnant.

He and Dr. Woodson walked away.

Ryan saw Bruce’s face.

Then Nurse Sharon pass and said, “Good afternoon Dr. Ryan.”

She smiled at Bruce and continued to Mrs. Perkins.

Bruce was thinking, “It has been about three months. That’s the reason her face looked swollen. I had her in garbage and running and ducking bullets.”

He looked at the hospital administrator’s office.

He unlocked the door and sent a telegram to Eleanor.

Eleanor and her three boys and five servants boarded the ship.

The boys were very excited.

Nurse Sharon’s parents came and spent most of the day with Mrs. Perkins.

Ryan manage to sit in the hospital administrator’s office so he could hear them and watch the type of people they were.

Nurse Sharon’s father was retired military and was in insurance and banking.

Her mother was a concert pianist.

He started thinking.

Dr. Woodson watched him and said, “Ryan are you ready for marriage?”

Ryan said, “Maybe dating.”

Nurse Sharon’s father heard Ryan.

Mrs. Perkins heard Ryan and said, “He is a young rich doctor. I think he is smitten with Sharon.”

Her mother leaned forward and peeped around her husband and saw Ryan walked out the hospital administrator’s office.

She begin to fan and said, “My God he is gorgeous.”

Her father said, “Sharon is beautiful too, now.”

Her mother said, “Think of the beautiful children.”

Her father said, “How many servants?”

Ryan looked in Mrs. Perkins’ room.

Ryan walked to Dr. Woodson and said, “I did not know Bruce did not know Eleanor was expecting.”

Dr. Woodson said, “How do you know.”

Ryan took his stethoscope and wiggle it in Dr. Woodson’s face.

Dr. Greene said, “In your defense Ryan, Eleanor never denied being expecting.”

Dr. Woodson said, “What is Bruce doing?”

Ryan said, “Trying to get her back.”

Dr. Greene said, “I don’t want my wife back. All those nights I were lonely she was not there. She left me because I was making no money, but how did she live for over a year with hardly a dime from me? I just don’t want her back.”

Ryan said, “Tell her. Divorce her and move on.”

Mrs. Perkins said, “Ryan?”

Dr. Woodson started giggling and said, “Your future in-laws- await.”

Ryan said, “You saw all of this Albert?”

Dr. Woodson continued to giggle.

Ryan tried to straighten out his clothes.

The nurses at the desk turned and watched Ryan walked to Mrs. Perkins’ room.

Ryan walked to the door and he looked at Nurse Sharon’s mother and father and said, “Good afternoon. Mrs. Perkins, how are you? What do you need something?”

Mrs. Perkins said, “I want to introduce you to my sister and brother-in-law. Nurse Sharon’s parent.”

Ryan said, “Hello. How are you?”

He heard Bruce coming out the hospital administrator’s office.

He leaned back out the door to watch Bruce.

When Bruce walked across the hall to Shirley’s room.

Ryan quickly said, “It was a pleasure, but I have to go. Maybe another time.”

Ryan ran and put down Vince’s chart and grabbed his coat and ran out the hospital.

Dr. Greene and Dr. Woodson laughed.

Dr. Woodson said, “He didn’t run from Eleanor, but he runs from Bruce.”

The telegram machine started.

Dr. Greene and Dr. Woodson did not say a word but walked to their patients.

Bruce came back later to lock the office.

He saw a telegram.

He went to the telegram machine and read the message.

Bruce was sick and had to sit at the desk.

He leaned his head back and said, “Six weeks. Christmas at sea. My God can this be fixed. Can this be repaired? I was planning on going back home for the holidays with the children. You knew that God. Eleanor never been away from home and she is pregnant and alone. She thinks I hate her. Well I do, but I want my child. Now I have to wait to whenever she decides to come back if ever. Patrick and Brenda why would you betray me?”

Bruce leaned his head further back on the chair, “That’s why Michael was screaming for her this morning.”

He sit up and thought, “That’s why Shirley is crying. God I need to fix this. My children hate me.”

Bruce closed his eyes and screamed, “Eleanor!!!”