Eleanor and Brenda placed the Christmas tree in the grand hall.

Mable helped with decorations.

She was placing designs on the napkins for the Christmas brunch, when Thomas saw her freeze.

Peter was about to start baking his breads and rolls and stopped.

Robert was about to walk out the kitchen and he noticed Mable not moving.

Mable ran out the kitchen passed Patrick and Stanley.

Denise ran after Mable.

Patrick and Stanley stood and watched.

Nathan was in the barn.

The only thing he had to do was light the torches.

Jose and Nancy were still at the house. They could not find work.

Jose was thinking that Eleanor needed a cook and they would be in Europe for two years at a time.

He volunteered to work for Christmas.

There would only be about fifty workers.

He could easily cook their food.

Patrick bought each worker a ham and gave them fifty dollars each.

Patrick, Brenda and Eleanor talked to Tom.

Tom admitted his boys’ mother was from society and he did not fit in and he took them for a year from their mother.

Brenda looked at Tom in his eyes and said, “Give them back.”

Patrick looked at Brenda.

Eleanor looked at Brenda.

Brenda had Tom to communicate with the wife.

Margaret and her entire family travelled from Boston there to get her boys, Caleb and Stewart.

Eleanor had them bathed and new clothes were put on them.

Patrick and Brenda opened their home and allowed Tom’s wife family to spend several nights in their home.

Brenda and Patrick did not say anything around the children because they did not want Tom to take the children and run.

When they arrived, Tom and Patrick, Brenda and Eleanor sat while Margaret and her family told him how they felt about his selfishness.

Once the adults finish their conversation.

Eleanor told Nathan to bring the Caleb and Stewart for an early dinner.

William, Nadine, Wyonna, Natalie, Monica, Tracy and Mellissa were in the dining room.

The Caleb and Stewart came in and saw their family and their mother and were screaming and hollering with excitement.

They eventually sat for dinner.

The Caleb and Stewart were running through the house with Thomas and Michael.

They left the next day.

They were excited and wanted to take the boys back home for all their Christmas festivities.

They invited Tom.

They said, they would not press charges against Tom, and if he did not want to be a family then give Margaret a divorce so she could marry.

Tom left and went back to Boston with them.

So their several days stay turned into an overnight stay.

Brenda and Lillian got along great.

Lillian brought the Stiths a very large gift basket.

When they returned home they sent a nice thank you forever friends note.

Brenda and Patrick cherished the note.

They found out that their two boys would be going to the same military academy with Percy, Bruce, Thomas and Michael.

Everyone was excited but Michael.

Lillian saw Michael’s face and she leaned to Brenda and said, “We have one unhappy trooper.”

Eleanor looked at Michael.

The count did not like Lillian’s son Gregory.

He liked the other two sons and their wives.

When the family left the next day.

The count stood out of politeness to wave good-bye.

He immediately walked in the house and had whiskey.

Patrick already told Roger to delay the train until they boarded, but don’t tell them they are delayed for them.

Brenda felt good about the ending of that story.

Dr. Parker wrote and asked Hutch if he would come to the hospital and be trained in that special field.

Hutch did not know.

Meredith wanted to go back to Philadelphia to visit with the nurses and to show off Hutch.

Hutch adjusted, Patrick, Brenda, Shirley, Stanley and several former soldiers.

He tried to adjust Mable and Denise they would not let him come close to them.

Meredith and Hutch left to spend Christmas Eve and Christmas with her family.

Mable was running through the field.

She was running fast.

Nathan saw her and ran out the barn to try to catch her.

Jose ran out the re-modeled supply shed to try to catch Mable.

Patrick looked at Jose and said, “He’s so drunk he can’t even stumble.”

Stanley snickered.

Patrick said, “His heart is in the right place not the rest of his body.

Gary was walking from the stables.

He looked and saw Mable running and Denise running after her.

He dropped his bucket and ran and caught Mable.

Mable just laid there and stared in space.

Nathan picked her up and carried her back to her room.

Jose was bent over and trying to catch his breathe.

Nancy ran out and helped him.

Denise held the door for Nathan.

Nancy and Jose walked back inside.

A lot of the workers were standing out watching.

Patrick said, “Only prayer can help.”

They had a nice Christmas brunch that lead into dinner.

Brenda was prepared.

They had a light dinner.

She had Thomas to make one of his famous soups and Peter his cornbread and rolls.

Jose and Nancy cooked and served the fifty workers and Earle and Gary.

Gary had not seen Denise in several days.

Patrick told Brenda what happened.

Brenda went to check on Mable.

Brenda said, “Mable I want to take you with my granddaughter to Philadelphia to the hospital to see if they can help you.

Denise perked up because Philadelphia was the city she and Mable were running to.

Jose did a great job on the workers dinner.

Eleanor and Brenda walked to checked on the workers food.

Shirley had chosen the beautiful dress from Paris and her sapphire earrings.

After Christmas they all dressed and went to the governor’s New Year’s Eve ball.

Brenda wore here pearl necklace and her diamond and pearls earrings.

Everyone had a grand time.

They went to the mayor’s New Year’s day brunch and stayed until late.

The count would leave in two days to go to New York.

They were checking and double checking their plans.

He and Eleanor had found places in the house for their private time.

Brenda had not heard from her three sons during the holidays she was happy.

A week later, Patrick, Brenda, Shirley, Mable, Hutch, Meredith, Gen and Ben left for Philadelphia.

Everyone was settled into their hospital rooms.

Patrick, Brenda and Lorraine settled into Bruce’s motel.

They went to the motel in walking distance to the hospital.

They sent Eleanor a telegram to buy the hotel.

She would use the motel for the families of the patients.

Patrick arranged the contract.

He bought the motel and ordered for all the work.

Dr. Parker and Dr. Woodson were showing Hutch the different techniques to use on Shirley.

The count and Earle left and went to New York.

Gary was hired by Eleanor to take care of Percy, Bruce and Thomas horses.

Eleanor carried Percy, Bruce, Thomas and Michael to the military academy.

Patrick went to the docks and ships.

Mable had terrible damage.

But they worked on her and helped her over the three months.

Mable told Brenda she did not want to go back.

Shirley hired Mable as a housekeeper.

Ben told Brenda of a place for Mable.

Mable liked the place.

Patrick stood behind Brenda and held her by her shoulders and spoke in her ear and said, “You have set another one free.”

Patrick kissed Brenda on her temple.

Brenda cried silent tears.

Patrick and Brenda stood in Shirley’s window and watched a grinning Mable run to the wagon to go to her new home with other freed slaves.

She was at the same place with the freed slave children Eleanor helped.

Patrick and Brenda told Eleanor how well the freed children were doing and adjusting to life.

Eleanor had a moment because she remembered the big smile baby, Joe Jr.

Shirley said, “Momma you saved the ones that GOD wanted you to help. HE got the rest of them.”

Eleanor covered her mouth and went to the floor in pain and grief.

Eleanor was getting all their papers together.

Gen and Ben were in the hospital and they felt great.

Mable loved gardening.

She worked on Shirley’s sweet peas.

She planted many blooming flowers.

Brenda looked and walked to Mable and said, “My God Mable. The flowers and the gardens are beautiful.”

Mable grinned and said, “Thank you. For everything.”

Brenda said, “You are quiet welcome.”

Mable heard of Brenda, Patrick and Gen’s roles in the underground railroad.

Dr. Ralph and Dr. Greene were concerned about Shirley’s continued therapy.

Dr. Ralph worked on Shirley’s internal organ.

He worked on her internal organs and intestines.

Shirley was in so much pain.

She slept until the next day.

All she can think of going through the extreme pain, what Hutch said she will have two boys.

She wanted her body to be ready to have a husband and have two boys.

Dr. Hutch was learning from Dr. Ralph the type of therapy Shirley needed.

Meredith made sure she introduced Dr. Hutch to the other nurses.

The nurses dropped their mouths open.

Brenda and Patrick looked at the nurses and walked down to see Ben and Gen.

They told Gen she had competition for Dr. Hutch.

Gen huffed and turned her head and looked in the face of Ben.

Ben had rolled his wheelchair to her door like he did in the past.

Patrick and Brenda saw Ben’s facial expression and was surprised.

Ben said, “I hope that Ms. Prissy marry him before we go to Europe.

Gen raised up in her bed and said, “Ben if he is good looking he is good looking. You give him a run for his money when you put on your admiral uniform.”

Ben turned and rolled down the hall.

He went out the front door.

Gen said to Patrick, “Where he go?”

Patrick said, “Out the front door.”

Gen said, “Good. I love him with all of my heart, but I love that Dr. Hutch, with his good looking self.”

Patrick said, “Gen you need to watch when you say things and see where Ben is. I’m going outside to find him.”

Patrick walked out the door and turned and stood for a minute.

Gen said, “Shirley?”

Brenda said, “Yes.”

Patrick turned and walked out the door and out of the hospital.

Gen said, “It hurts like hell, but when they finish your body feels great.”

Brenda said, “I never thought Shirley would live. I would to her room and hold her all night. She would cry all night. Then Eleanor had her legs broken so she could walk. That’s why Bruce left. Shirley nearly died. I see her now I raise my hands up to GOD that HE is giving a better life. Her intestines were blocking some of her other organs. That’s why she has a cycle and her kidneys are much better.”

Brenda sat down.

Gen looked at her best friend and said, “Shirley almost look normal.”

Brenda looked at Gen.

Gen said, “Bren I did not mean harm. I meant that she looks pretty much like anybody but with the side of her head from the fall. But she is smart as anybody.

Brenda stood and shut the door.

She did not want her screaming anymore.

Gen said, “On the ship is there a room, we can go that other passengers won’t hear us?”

Brenda said, “I don’t know I will talk to Patrick.”

The door opened and Patrick knocked.

Gen said, “Come in.”

Patrick and Ben came in.

Brenda said, “Gen…”

Brenda looked at Patrick and said, “Patrick is there a room on the ship where we all can therapy and the passengers won’t hear some of us?”

Patrick said, “That’s amazing me and Ben were talking about the same thing. I’m leaving tomorrow to go to dock. I will check the ship we will be sailing on. I’ll find something.”

Debra, Shirley’s private duty nurse now Dr. Greene’s wife walked in and knocked on the door and said, “Good morning. Mr. Stith this telegram just came in for you.”

Gen was grinning and said, “How’s you and Dr. Greene doing?”

Debra grinned a big grin and walked out the room.

Ben and Patrick looked at Gen.

Brenda cut off her grin.

Ben said, “You just got to know about somebody’s else bed.”

Gen could not think fast enough to say anything.

Ben said, “I’ll be going with Patrick tomorrow. Give you time to cool off.”

Brenda dropped her mouth opened.

Gen could not fake an apology.

Ben looked at her and walked to his room and slammed the door.

Gen jumped and said, “That was a big slam.”

Dr. Woodson saw Ben and walked back to his room to see what was wrong.

Patrick looked at Dr. Woodson as he knocked on Ben’s door.

Dr. Woodson walked in Ben’s room and said, “Are you sick or in pain?”

Ben was still sitting in the wheelchair.

Patrick was cutting his eyes at Dr. Woodson.

Ben said, “I am fine. I am leaving in the morning with Patrick.”

Patrick turned his back to the door and tried to read his telegram.

Patrick handed the telegram to Brenda.

Brenda looked at Patrick and took the telegram.

Dr. Woodson stepped in Gen’s room and said, “Good morning. Are you in pain or sick?”

Gen said, “I wont’ be in pain until you come.”

Brenda started laughing.

Patrick said, “Read the damn telegram.”

Brenda stopped laughing and looked at Patrick.

Patrick put his hands on his hip.

Dr. Woodson was still staying in the door.

Gen said, “Good bye Dr. Woodson.”

Dr. Woodson said, “You know I am nosey.”

Gen said, “That’s the reason you are not married.”

Dr. Woodson said, “You won’t be for long.”

Gen cried out.

Ben rolled and opened his door.

Dr. Woodson looked at Gen and walked away.

Ben rolled in her room and looked at her.

Brenda held the paper to Patrick and said, “Is Bruce saying he has control over our ships.”

Patrick said, “I am going tomorrow. You stay here and look after things here. I am sending Eleanor a telegram to send her lawyer to the dock. I am going to tell her shut all bank accounts for the businesses.”

Patrick stomped out Gen’s room and went to the hospital administrator’s office and sent Eleanor the telegram.

Eleanor was walking out the lawyer’s office.

She was thinking about her children away from her. She figured Shirley was fine with her grandparents with her. Then she had Gen and Ben, if they weren’t fighting.

She felt sorry for Michael. He held onto her the most. They saw Caleb and Stewart and the four begin to run over the campus.

When Eleanor left she stood and looked back and saw Michael standing in the window watching her.

He waved.

She waved back.

Then Bruce grabbed Michael and they looked at Eleanor and ran from the window.

Eleanor started crying.

Margaret grabbed Eleanor by the shoulders and Tom walked beside Eleanor.

Margaret’s parents stood and waited for them.

Eleanor walked to her carriage.

She left and went to the train station and went home.

The next day she met with the lawyer.

She was sad about her children.

She decided to stop at their office and spoke to the clerk.

The telegram was coming in from Patrick.

She smiled when she saw his name.

Then she became angry.

She rushed out the office and went to the different banks and shut down the access to any money.

She saw the lawyer leaving for the day.

She called to Mr. Long and ran to him.

She showed him the telegram.

Mr. Long said, “Does he know you are planning to leave in three months?”

Eleanor said, “I haven’t said anything to him.”

Mr. Long said, “This is a stunt to keep your money bound up so he can have leverage in court. Shut down the bank accounts.”

Eleanor said, “I just did.”

Mr. Long said, “I don’t have anything until next week. I can leave tomorrow and go and file claims with the court and be back next Wednesday for my court case.”

Eleanor said, “Thank you Mr. Long. I’ll be waiting for you at the train station.”

Mr. Long said, “It’s not necessary for you to go.”

Eleanor said, “It is. The train leaves at nine am. I can’t hold the train.”

Mr. Long said, “I’ll be there.”

Eleanor went home and called William, Wyonna and Nadine.

She told them she would be going to Philadelphia in the morning.

She said, “William any telegrams send them to the hospital and I’ll pick them up when I get there. Rule the house William. I don’t want any watered down liquor when I get back and no sex throughout the house.”

William thought, “You mean Robert.”

William was still trying to see who Thomas was having sex with.

Thomas and Nathan, Louis and Peter were standing in the formal dining room listening.

All of them were dancing but Nathan.

Nathan was concerned about the mob trying to come and take over some of the property.

Gary was still running behind Denise.

Denise was afraid of Gary and all white people.

She wanted to go to Philadelphia.

She walked through the formal dining room to go down the hall to Eleanor.

She nearly screamed when she saw all of them standing in the dining room.

They did not say anything she ran out and down the hall.

She saw Eleanor and William talking.

She stopped and stood still, twisting her hands.

Eleanor saw Denise.

William saw Denise he knew Denise did not move he thought, “I hope those bas\*\*\*s have not done something to her.”

William said, “Yes Denise.”

Denise said, “I wanted to ask Mrs. Simons a question.”

William beat Eleanor and said, “About what?”

Eleanor looked at William.

William felt Eleanor looking at him and said, “I’m sorry.”

He walked back to the kitchen.

Eleanor walked to Denise and said, “Yes Denise.”

Denise said, “Can I go to Philadelphia at place with Mabel?”

Eleanor said, “Sure Denise. I was hoping you would stay and run the center for the other freed men I am opening up in the spring.”

Denise looked at Eleanor and pointed to her chest and said, “Me?”

Denise stood in the floor.

Eleanor turned and went upstairs to pack.

William was in the billiards room listening.

First, he thought about the dishes.

Then he said, “No one is here.”

Eleanor finished packing.

She went to the Patrick’s home office and reviewed all the papers.

She a telegram from Joseph, in their coded language.

Eleanor put the telegram to her chest and laughed.

She looked at it again and fanned the paper and laughed.

She looked around and slipped the telegram in her blouse.

She looked in her parent’s bedroom and stopped by and looked in the count’s room.

She went to the other part of the house and stayed in there for hours.

She walked into the kitchen.

William was going over his schedule and heard her familiar footsteps and he looked up.

Eleanor said, “No dinner today. Have someone get my bags outside my door. Have someone take me to the train station at eight am.”

Eleanor turned and went back upstairs.

Thomas looked at the chicken soup he made.

He put it on the stove.

William looked and was still, he thought, “Is that who Thomas?”

William had to walk.

He walked through the house.

He walked upstairs and checked all the boys’ room.

William thought about Michael and said, “No lamb chops not one nor two.”

He saw Eleanor’s door closed and saw her bags.

He carried her bags downstairs.

William was eyeing the liquor table and he could feel Eleanor’s eyes on him and her precious sherry.

He said, “Wait until tomorrow.”

Eleanor was tossing and turning.

She got up and went on her knees but said nothing.

She stood up and grabbed a quilt and wrapped up and went and sat on the balcony.

Nathan and Stanley were patrolling the property.

Patrick requested them to patrol the property until he returned.

They were returning from the field where the seventeen field hands were.

Eleanor became cold and went back inside and stood at the fireplace and turned and walked to her bed and fell on her knees but still did not say anything.

She went to sleep on her knees and woke with the knocking on her door of Louis and Gary bringing her hot water.

She looked at the time it was seven thirty.

The whole house was up working but her.

She stood and went to the door and unlocked it.

She looked for bags and stepped out the door for them to bring her water in.

She saw her bags at the door.

They walked out the room and Eleanor stepped in and took her bath and hurried dressed and sat at her vanity and was brushing her hair.

Shirley liked Eleanor’s hair down.

Eleanor brushed her hair and put her hat on and her gloves.

She stood and walked out her room.

She looked at the telegram form Joseph. She rushed back and put it in her bag and hurried down the stairs.

William, Wyonna, Nadine, Thomas and Peter were standing downstairs as she was leaving.

Eleanor nodded her head at them and walked out the door.

They all watched her as William opened the door and walked her out.

Gary was at the carriage.

Gary pulled out with speed because Eleanor was late.

William stood back and watched.

Wyonna and Nadine were in the formal dining room windows watching her leave.

Thomas walked in and looked out the window.

William watched Thomas.

William locked the front door.

They all turned and walked back to the kitchen, but William.

He hid new bottles of rum and sherry from Christmas.

Eleanor had watched the liquor before she went upstairs last night.

William went and got the extra bottles and took them to his and Wyonna’s room.

Wyonna had went back and got in the bed.

Nadine was out in their workers area playing cards with Peter, Max and Samantha.

The field hands had come to the stables and got horses and went riding all day and came back at night, while Gary and Nathan were lighting the torches.

Thomas was sitting in the billiards room reading. Then he would get up and shoot pool until Nathan and Louis came.

Denise went to the re-modeled supply shed and knitted until she was tired and she would read and go to sleep. She wondered if Mable was keeping up with her reading.

She would rarely eat until she was hungry.

Everyone would watch her and Mable.

Nadine could not understand that part of slavery starving people who had to work to use food as a method to control people.

Alice did not get up she slept until late.

Samantha went back to Stanley while Earle was gone.

Stanley had gone into town a few times to see the salesclerk in Shirley’s dress shop.

He was thinking about a family. He knew he was poor and to marry her they would never have anything.

Stanley was riding back from town with Nathan and they saw Eleanor’s rest place for slaves and the supplies that were delivered.

Stanley said, “I like that salesclerk back there over Samantha. I want to marry her, but we are poor. I need another line of work. Maybe securing stuff.”

Nathan said, “I have been thinking about getting another job. Josiah went off to college to become a teacher and he took Natalie with him.”

Stanley turned in his seat and said, “Really. I wondered where Natalie was.”

Nathan said, “Nadine said, they will have a June wedding. Josiah had a year to go.”

Stanley said, “Will they move back here?”

Nathan said, “Nadine said, they will stay in the college town.”

Stanley said, “Natalie will like that. She wants to be high society.”

He and Nathan rode back to the house.

Nathan was thinking about Samantha.

William looked in the kitchen and saw the dishes Denise washed.

He said, “Where am I suppose to put these dishes?”

Nadine looked around at William and said, “If you are talking about the Lorraine’s dishes? In the storage area.”

William went and started carrying the dishes in the storage area.

He saw several dozens of dishes.

He shook his head and said, “She needs to fired.”

Lorraine stayed away from Dr. Ralph.

She would spend the night with Shirley and leave before day.

Because Dr. Ralph would get to the hospital at daybreak.

Lorraine was getting ready to leave.

Shirley began to weakly call on Lorraine.

Lorraine stopped and looked at Shirley.

Lorraine had all her stuff in her hand to walk out.

She would check Shirley’s vitals every hour, but Shirley had a fever and her blood pressure was high.

Dr. Ralph saw Lorraine was sleeping over night with Shirley.

He came early to work and walked in and saw Lorraine sleeping in the chair in Shirley’s room.

He would check Shirley and leave.

Lorraine ran out Shirley’s room.

She looked at the clock.

Dr. Ralph was walking into the hospital.

He heard Lorraine and he turned and looked.

The night nurse jumped up.

Dr. Ralph ran to Shirley’s room and he began to work on Shirley.

Lorraine and the night nurse ran into Shirley’s room.

Ben was up to visit Gen and saw tm rushing into Shirley.

He saw Dr. Woodson and Dr. Greene walking in and saw everyone running to Shirley.

They ran to Shirley.

Ben turned around and ran to Gen and told her, “Everyone is running to Shirley. It’s bad.”

Gen’s heart dropped.

She reached for Ben’s hands and they prayed.

Gen said, “Patrick and Brenda will not be here for hours.”

Ben sat down and pushed his chair to the doorway.

They sat in silence for hours.

Patrick and Brenda arrived at the hospital.

Brenda had the hotel to do a big breakfast basket for the nurses.

Patrick opened the door and they saw everyone standing at Shirley’s door.

They saw Lorraine crying.

Brenda started falling to her knees.

Patrick picked up Brenda.

A couple of nurses ran to help Patrick and Brenda.

One moved the basket to the nurses’ station.

Ben and Gen walked up.

Dr. Hutch, Dr. Parker and Dr. Greene walked out.

Several nurses walked out.

The three doctors walked a little distance and were talking.

Patrick and Brenda did not move.

Gen walked up and hugged Brenda.

Patrick did not have strength to move.

The other nurses walked out and hugged Lorraine.

They spoke to Patrick and Brenda and went to their station.

Mable walked in with some flowers for Shirley.

Eleanor was at the train station waiting for Mr. Long.

He made it at nine am on the dot.

Dr. Woodson walked out and Dr. Ralph stood in the door and looked back at Shirley.

Lorraine walked in.

Dr. Ralph was about to walk to the other doctors but saw Patrick and Brenda he walked over to them and said, “Good morning. Shirley is better now. She had a blood clot in her stomach area and it took us some time to get it under control.“

Lorraine passed them to walk outside for a minute.

Dr. Ralph looked at Lorraine.

Patrick said, “Our daughter is alive?”

Dr. Ralph looked back at them and said, “Yes. Shirley won’t have any therapy today.”

Gen said, “Thank YOU LORD. I can skip mine’s today to.”

Ben stared at Gen.

He was thinking, “You better get better if we are going to Europe for a year or more.”

Dr. Ralph said, “Mrs. Genevia let’s go so I can give you your therapy.”

She turned and looked at Ben.

Ben did not say anything because he wanted to skip his therapy.

Dr. Ralph nodded towards Lorraine and said, ” It was a good thing Lorraine spend the nights with Shirley. She caught it and alerted me. I dare say if it was a few minutes later. I think one of us doctors will start spending the night at the hospital.”

Brenda said, “Please do.”

Dr. Ralph grabbed Ben and Gen and walked them across to their rooms.

Brenda was scared to move.

She and Patrick looked at Lorraine who was standing on the porch looking off in space.

A nurse exited with a pail of blood.

Brenda turned her head.

The nurse said, “Sorry, you can go in now she is awake.”

The nurse walked down the hall and disposed of the pail of items.

They heard Gen screamed.

Patrick beat Brenda running to Shirley.

Brenda opened the window to let fresh air in.

They kissed Shirley.

Shirley cried and said, “Grandma I was so scared…”

Brenda ran to Shirley and sat on the bed.

Shirley grabbed Brenda’s neck so tight and hollered.

Brenda and Patrick cried.

Shirley said, “I wondered if anyone was here beside Lorraine. Grandma I remembered when I was born you said, if I go you would be with me. I cried because you were not here.”

Patrick rubbed Shirley’s head.

Brenda looked Shirley and said, “How could you remember that? I wasn’t here because it was you’re your time to go.”

Meredith made it to the hospital and saw Lorraine.

Patrick stepped out the room.

He walked and saw Meredith and Lorraine crying and hugging each other.

He heard Ben and rushed out the door.

Patrick put his hands on each of their backs and thank them for looking after his grandchildren.

Patrick went inside and stayed until Ben was ready to leave.

Both of them kissed Shirley and left.

Patrick hollered and cried all the way to the ships.

Ben did not say anything.

Later he said, “Shirley is tough. She wants to live and is willing to face death to live. She is very brave.”

Patrick stopped crying and was sniffing.

He said, “That Bruce is trying with all of his might to stop food from going into his own children’s mouths.”

The staff enjoyed the large basket of breads and rolls and preserves and jams and honey and butter.

Meredith brought coffee and tea.

Hutch was walking across the hall with Dr. Parker and saw Meredith and Lorraine crying.

He and Dr. Parker were talking about the other patients’ treatments.

One of the nurses saw Meredith’s basket and walked outside and said, “Come in and sit.”

They sat in the chairs that Shirley had to line the hallways.

Brenda stayed at the hospital all night in Shirley’s room along with Lorraine.

Meredith said she would be Shirley’s private duty nurse from seven am to seven pm.

Debra heard what happened to Shirley and was crying.

Dr. Greene looked at her and said, “Not in front of the patients.”

She went into the office and closed the door.

It took her about fifteen minutes to be calm.

She took the telegram to Brenda.

She handed Brenda the telegram and went and kissed Shirley’s forehead and held her hand and kissed it.

Brenda said, “Michael is having a fit he can’t have a lamb chop. He is ready to home.”

Shirley was lying on her side and tried to laugh.

Brenda said, “We keep the butcher rich.”

Debra and Meredith laughed.

Dr. Greene watched Debra leave Shirley’s room.

He looked at her.

He new she loved Shirley ad he did not want her to show any actions around Shirley.

Genevia moved her bed so she could see something in the hallway since Ben was angry with her and left with Patrick.

She and Ben’s rooms were at the end of that hall.

They only saw each other.

She was still in pan from her therapy that morning and went to sleep.

Dr. Greene waked back to check on her and saw she was sleep and that she had moved her bed to keep her from being lonely since Ben was gone.

Hutch and Meredith went to the hotel.

Lorraine came back to the hospital early and sat in the hallway while Meredith was in the room with Shirley.

Dr. Ralph looked at Lorraine.

Dr. Parker looked at Dr. Ralph.

Dr. Greene and Debra were leaving. They were going to get their son and go to church.

Debra did not work each day, but every other day.

She and Dr. Greene loved their house and the neighborhood.

Dr. Greene’s wife divorced him and moved out to the farmland in another state and married a younger minister. They had one son.

She wrote Dr. Greene and told him of her life and he was shocked she could have a child.

Eleanor put Mr. Long in first class accommodations.

She was in the owner’s suite.

She met him each morning for business and then later for dinner.

Eleanor arrived in Philadelphia and went straight to the hospital to see Shirleey.

Dr. Ralph told her everything that happened.

Eleanor became weak and reached to sit.

She at there for a minute.

Brenda walked out to go and get washed.

Meredith was in the room with Shirley.

Mr. Long was standing next to Eleanor.

Eleanor stood and stumbled.

She walked to Brenda.

Ryan walked in the hospital and saw Dr. Ralph and was whispered about what happened to Shirley.

Dr. Ralph introduced him to Dr. Hutch.

Ryan said, “I told my wife I had to meet Eleanor and she told to make sure I see this Dr. Hutch. Somebody got word to her about this Dr. Hutch.”

Ryan reached and shook Hutch’s hand.

Mr. Long sat and grinned.

Shirley stayed in the room with Shirley for at an half of hour.

Ryan went into Shirley’s room and closed the door.

Ryan introduce himself to Brenda.

Brenda looked at the gorgeous Ryan.

He checked Shirley.

And rubbed her head.

Brenda reached Eleanor the telegram from Michael’s school.

Eleanor read it three times.

Brenda said, “It did not change.”

Eleanor said, “He stays. I went through all of that emotional turmoil and he has been there a week and demanding two lamb chops.”

Shirley tried to laugh but it hurt.

Ryan looked back at her.

He walked to Eleanor and said, “I got the contracts out in my saddle.”

Eleanor said, “My lawyer, Mr. Long is here and sitting in the hall.”

Ryan shook Shirley’s feet and walked out the room.

Brenda said, “Oh God, Shirley.”

Shirley weakly said, “Grandma you have to stop.”

Brenda said, “I am going to see Gen until you leave.”

Eleanor was walking to sit on Eleanor’s bed and said, “Gen. Where is Ben?”

Brenda said, “They argued and he left with Patrick and went to the dock.”

Eleanor stopped and looked through Shirley’s clothes.

She smelled the bath oils Lorraine brought for her.

Shirley said, “I like the strawberry.”

Eleanor said, “Yeah it smells great. Smell momma.”

Brenda said, “Lorraine made that?”

Eleanor said, “Yes.”

She walked back to sit by Shirley.

Eleanor said, “What could they be arguing about in a hospital?”

Brenda said, “Hutch.”

Eleanor laughed.

Shirley whispered, “Grandma.”

Brenda said, “I’m going to see Gen. I’ll be back.”

Eleanor said, “I did not think you can walk out a hospital.”

Brenda said, “He did.”

Shirley looked at her grandma.

Brenda looked at Shirley and said, “I’m gone.”

Shirley said, “Momma why are you here?”

Eleanor said, “Apparently God wanted me to be here with you. I came for Bruce.”

Shirley jerked in the bed to laugh.

Ryan walked in and looked at Shirley and said, “Be still.”

Eleanor said, “It’s my fault.”

Ryan said, “Fault sign these papers so I can back to my daddy and his hospital.”

Mr. Long walked in and Eleanor signed the papers.

Ryan signed the papers.

Eleanor said, “Debra the hospital administrator is a notary. That was Shirley’s idea to have an employer that was certified.”

Ryan was shaking Shirley’s feet and stared at her and said, “I believe the worst is over Shirley. I believe God has a beautiful life for you.”

Eleanor teared up.

Ryan said, “Eleanor give me a hug. One day maybe will all get together.”

Mr. Long where is the notary.

Ryan had his hat in one hand and said, “I need my copies. I’ll show you where the office is.”

They walked out.

Ryan looked at Shirley.

His heart was for Shirley to get better.

Shirley said, “Momma get Meredith or the nurse.”

Eleanor flew out the door.

Everyone looked at Eleanor.

Ryan was walking out the hospital administrator’s office.

He ran to Eleanor.

Mr. Long sat in the chair.

Meredith was having lunch with Hutch.

Hutch had walked to the door when he saw Ryan running.

Hutch ran behind Ryan.

Brenda was standing in Gen’s door and saw Eleanor run out Shirley’s room.

Brenda ran.

Meredith ran.

Hutch and the nurses clean up Shirley.

All of the waste was coming out her body.

Dr. Parker and Dr. Greene were on rounds.

Dr. Woodson and Dr. Ralph were on rounds.

Dr. Greene walked out a patient and saw the nurse standing and looking.

He turned and saw everyone at Shirley’s door and he ran to her.

Dr. Ralph saw everyone.

He slowly walked over.

He was wondering what was wrong.

Eleanor was becoming weak.

Brenda held onto Eleanor.

Eleanor sat in the chair and Brenda sat in Eleanor’s lap.

Eleanor looked at Brenda.

Mr. Long thought, “She has a lot on her now.”

He thought about the lawsuit against Shirley and Michael.

He got up and started walking through the hospital.

He thought it was a good small hospital specialty hospital.

He went back to the hospital administrator’s office and told her he represent Shirley and Michael.

Debra said, “Where is Ryan?”

Mr. Long said, “They are all with Shirley.”

Debra sat for a minute and stood and walked out her door.

She walked down to Shirley’s room.

She waited outside until they finished with Shirley.

Shirley laid on her side for three days.

All the waste that was I her body came out.

Dr. Greene and Dr. Ralph said, “Shirley you are fine.”

Dr. Greene walked out Shirley’s room and saw Debra and smiled.

He went to wash his hands.

Dr. Parker and Dr. Woodson saw everyone at Shirley’s room.

Then they saw Dr. Greene leave out and smile at Debra.

Debra turned and walked back to her office.

Mr. Long turned around and said, “How is Shirley?”

Debra said, “Good.”

Mr. Long said, “How did you know Shirley?”

Debra said, “I was her private nurse. I told Eleanor about this place and the doctors here could help Shirley. I came with them when they brought Shirley here. Before she was twisted and knolled up. But you should see her now.”

Mr. Long said, “The doctors are miracle workers. So you stayed to work as the hospital administrator?’

Debra said, “It’s a long story. I left, because I was in love with one of the doctors here. He did not know and he was married so I left so no one would know how I felt about him. Met a man on the train. Married him and had a baby and he was abusive. I finally told Dr. Greene at a Gen and Ben’s wedding. He and his wife were getting a divorce, which I did not know. He came and got me and baby son last December and we married on the train that was about to leave to come back here but Patrick told them to wait. I have been here for over a year with a loving husband and a son and a job.”

Mr. Long said, “That’s a wonderful story. When did the money start coming to this hospital?’

Debra said, “I was not here. Shirley bought the hospital from her father. She and Michael put their trust fund into this hospital to keep it open. It was chivalrous.”

Mr. on was thinking. He was putting together his argument.

He went to Dr. Woodson and they sat and talked.

Mr. Long was making notes.

He was going through his mail.

He received the letter dropping the lawsuit against Thomas.

Mr. Long requested for Bruce and Eleanor’s divorce hearing to be held in the town.

The court granted it.

He said, “Two wins. That means the rest are fights.”

Debra walked out the office and walked to Eleanor and reached her the telegram.

Brenda looked down at Eleanor and said, “What?”

Eleanor said, “Michael is getting one lamb chop for each meal, now he wants two.”

Brenda said, “My boy.”

Eleanor pushed Brenda and said, “Momma you are heavy.”

Shirley heard Eleanor and giggled.

Meredith cleaned Shirley and put clean clothes on her and clean bedsheets.

They took all the blooded and stain sheets to the laundry area and soak them.

Mr. Long saw the bloodied sheet and turned his head.

Brenda said, “I like sitting in your lap.”

Eleanor said, “Move.”

Ryan and Hutch walked out and went and washed their hands.

Ryan spoke to Mr. Long and walked out the hospital.

He looked over at the motel Eleanor bought for her workers and their families.

Debra gave Eleanor the papers for the hospital to be contracted for her workers.

Eleanor and Dr. Woodson signed the papers and Debra notarized the contract.

Eleanor and Brenda walked in Shirley’s room.

Shirley was sitting up in bed and smiling.

Brenda went and opened the window.

She looked down at the flowers Mable brought to Shirley she just threw them over on the dress.

Brenda took the flowers and took them to Mable to fix.

Mable gave the flowers some water.

Mable was still had her head down and said, “Your baby is ok?”

Brenda remembered Mable’s five dead children solemnly said, “She is better. Thank you for the flowers I’ll tell her you sent them to her.”

Dr. Ralph said, “Mable you are my last patient for today.”

Mable looked at Dr. Ralph and looked down.

He said, “Put down the mop and throw out the water and come in here.”

Brenda said, “Mable they can help you and I have paid for your therapy.”

Mable pointed to herself.

Brenda said, “Yes I paid for this for you so you can live better.”

Dr. Ralph looked at Mable.

Mable went and threw out the dirty water and put the mop and bucket up.

The doctors took the supply room and used it for patients that did not stay at the hospital.

Shirley was smiling.

They gave Shirley a cup of chicken broth.

Shirley said,” This good. I haven’t eaten in three days.”

Eleanor was upset and tried to smile.

Lorraine brought food from the hotels.

Brenda walked in and said, “Lorraine you take all those dishes back to the hotel. Come getting my dishes over all of these years. Like I did not know.”

Shirley smiled.

Eleanor was looking and said, “Lorraine that is my lawyer out there did you bring enough food for us?”

Lorraine said, “I am sorry Mrs. Stith.”

Brenda said, “Where dd you put all of those dishes?”

Eleanor looked at Shirley and said, “Momma stop that around Shirley.”

Brenda looked at Shirley and then Lorraine and said, “I’m sorry Shirley.”

Eleanor kissed Shirley on the forehead and said, “I need to see this motel before it is dark. I’ll be back tomorrow.”

Shirley enjoyed her chicken broth.

Mable was crying and leaving the hospital.

Brenda was eating bake chicken, green beans beets and carrots.

Lorraine had chicken salad and salad.

Dr. Ralph in to check on Shirley for the night.

He looked at Lorraine and Lorraine would not look at him.

Shirley looked at Dr. Ralph.

Dr. Ralph said, “Good night Lorraine.”

Lorraine was looking out the window and was crying.

Dr. Ralph looked at Shirley and Brenda and nodded and walked out.

Dr. Greene and Debra were leaving the hospital for the evening and they seemed happy.

Lorraine saw Eleanor and Mr. Long walked out the hospital a little boy ran to Eleanor.

Eleanor looked down and saw the little freed boy with the big grin.

Eleanor screamed, “Joe Jr.”

She hugged her and Mable walked out the hospital.

Joe Jr’s brother walked over.

Eleanor hugged him.

She introduced them to Mr. Long.

She asked how then were doing, the older brother said good.

He told her the girl had the baby but kept the little boy.

Eleanor was so happy to see them.

Mable was walking better and walked to the wagon.

Eleanor walked Joe Jr and his brother to the wagon.

She and Mr. Long went to the hotel to see the progress.

She was satisfied when she introduced herself to the workers, they showed her where they were nearly finished.

Some of the workers were black.

Eleanor and Mr. Long went back to the hospital.

He had a bath and went to bed.

She was too weak to eat.

Mr. Long stayed up most of the night drafting the papers and responses to the lawsuits.

Eleanor woke the next morning and had her hot bath.

She ordered breakfast to take to Shirley and Brenda.

She was leaving as Lorraine was coming in.

Lorraine said, “Your mother wants some more clothes.

Eleanor waited in the lobby until Lorraine returned.

Eleanor was thinking about Shirley.

Eleanor said, “Shirley.”

Lorraine said, “Sleep through the night and I did not know your mother snored.”

Eleanor said, “The dishes Lorraine?”

Lorraine said, “Out in the buggy.”

The man was coming in and Lorraine said, “Sir can you bring the dishes out the buggy back to the desk.”

The man said, “Yes.”

Eleanor went to the hospital.

She gave Shirley her egg and sweet milk and a cup of oatmeal.

Shirley said, “Momma this is a cup of oatmeal.”

Dr. Ralph said, “You can have a cup of cereal now.”

Shirley was happy.

Eleanor gave Brenda an omelet, bacon and tomatoes.

Brenda looked and said, “Eleanor I don’t like vegetables in the morning.”

Dr. Ralph looked.

Eleanor had a soft boiled egg an a dry toast.

She reached over and got the tomatoes from Brenda’s plate.”

Eleanor walked to take Gen her plate.

She heard Gen holler.

She turned and went back to Shirley.

Brenda looked at Shirley.

They offered Dr. Ralph breakfast.

He said, “No thank you. I eat a cup of oatmeal, one boiled egg and one dried toast, a cup of orange juice and a cup of black coffee.”

He walked out.

Brenda leaned back and said, “I guess he told me off.”

Shirley laughed.

Eleanor smiled.

Eleanor stood and took Gen her pastries and a hot cup of tea and a cup of coffee.