

Eleanor, Percy, Bruce and Thomas slept to afternoon.

Percy ran downstairs for lunch.

He looked in the family dining and there was no buffet.

Robert walked in the dining room and said, "Excuse me."

He started setting the table for dinner.

Percy said, "Sir, what are you doing?"

Robert said, "I'm setting the table for dinner."

Percy said, "What about lunch? the mid-day meal."

Robert said, "Normally Mr. and Mrs. Stith have a sandwich and tea, but today they went to visit friends and will be back for dinner."

Percy said, "What time is that?"

Robert said, "Formal dinner is at six pm."

Percy dropped his shoulders and turned and screamed, "Eleanor!!"

Robert jumped.

The two maids working in the formal dining room and bringing the dishes to set the table in the family dining room jumped.

They ran and peeped around the door and looked at Percy screaming and running upstairs.

Robert walked out the family dining room and stood and watched the screaming Percy.

They saw Eleanor stand and said, "What Percy."

Percy told her, "No food. No lunch."

Eleanor walked to the balcony and realized most of the servants were new.

She said, "Where is Mr. and Mrs. Stith?"

Robert said, "Visiting fiends and will be back in time for dinner at six pm."

Percy fell out on the floor.

Bruce and Thomas stood at the rail with Eleanor and listened.

Eleanor looked at Percy.

She said, "Bruce and Thomas do you want anything to eat?"

Thomas said, "Yes."

Bruce said, "I can wait."

Eleanor looked at Percy on the floor and turned to Robert.

Robert hunch his shoulders up and held up his hands for he did not know.

Eleanor knew she had to be kind and said, "Robert, Correct?"

Robert said, "Yes ma am."

Eleanor said, "You don't know, Percy is the thin one and he likes to eat. Bruce likes bread and Thomas will eat whatever is provided. Make them whatever sandwiches you have and milk and some fruit. That should tie them over until dinner."

Robert said, "Yes ma am."

Robert shook his head for 'whoa'.

The maids were still peeping out the formal dining room.

Eleanor looked at them and said, "Have hot water brought up inn an hour for our baths."

One of the maids said, "Yes ma am."

Eleanor looked down at Percy and said, "You are the eldest and you are crying over food?"

Percy said, "I am not the oldest."

Eleanor said, "Percy you have to stop screaming. You are no longer a baby. All you had to do was ask Robert for food."

Percy stood off the floor.

Thomas was still hanging over the rail looking at the maids who were shocked at Percy screaming.

Bruce watched Percy and his mother.

Eleanor said, "Percy you must stop. I do not every want to hear this outburst again. This was something simple you could resolve yourself by simply requesting something to eat."

Eleanor exhaled.

She said, "We have been gone over two years and things around have changed. We have changed. We are not the same people we were when we left. Look one of us loves scones."

Bruce raised his hand.

Thomas said, "I like riding horses all the time and you Percy like the symphony."

Eleanor said, "Let us get to know the staff and let them get to know us."

Robert was walking back with a tray.

He walked in the family dining room.

Eleanor saw Robert.

Percy saw Robert and ran downstairs.

Eleanor yelled over the rail and said, "Apologize."

Percy looked back at Eleanor with a facial expression he was not going to apologize about food.

Thomas ran downstairs to the family dining room.

Bruce ran down the stairs to the dining room.

He saw Robert setting the sandwiches on the table.

He looked at Percy with a stout face.

Bruce said, "Percy did you apologize to Mr. Robert for screaming over food?"

Robert looked at Percy.

Percy turned his head and ate his watercress sandwich.

Thomas said, "Sir thank you."

Robert said, "It is my pleasure."

Bruce said, "Yes, thank you."

Robert bowed at Bruce and looked at Percy and walked out the dining room.

Thomas said, "Percy when Eleanor find out you did not apologize to Mr. Robert she is going to snatch you."

Robert heard Thomas.

He took his time and walked across the hall and he checked on the liquor table to give Percy time to catch him.

Percy jumped up and ran out the dining room and saw Robert and walked to him.

Eleanor was at the top of the stairs listening.

Percy looked at Eleanor and he turned to Robert and said, "I apologize for screaming. But I want lunch everyday I am here."

Robert said, "I accept your apology and I will pass along your request for daily lunch."

Eleanor rolled her eyes at Percy.

Percy looked at Eleanor and turned and walked back to the family dining room.

Robert looked at Eleanor and bowed his head and went to the guests' suites.

Robert was thinking, "Oh God. That boy acted liked somebody had killed him. I see Eleanor is kind of hard. She has to be with boys. Whoa."

The maid came back and saw Eleanor and said, "Ma am your water will be ready in an hour."

Eleanor said, "Thank you."

She turned and walked back to her bedroom.

Bruce said, "Percy we are not going to have problems from you."

Thomas said, "Yeah, because I am not going to daddy."

Bruce said, "Especially if she marries the count."

Thomas said, "You will not come."

The maids were listening.

One maid said, "A count. We got to keep our ears opened."

The other maid nodded and pushed the other back to the kitchen where they shared the boys conversation.

Robert walked in and heard them.

Robert said, "Percy wants lunch everyday when he is here. So fix it for the others too. I don't want that scene again."

The maid said, "He did apologize."

Robert said, "Again. I don't want that scene again. "

One cook said, "What does he like for lunch?"

Eleanor had come down the back stairs and said, "Regular lunch fair is fine."

The servants all jumped because they were not used to anyone using the backstairs.

Eleanor said, "I want some hot tea."

The maid said, "I will bring it to you ma am."

Eleanor walked through the kitchen and examined it.

She turned and walked back up the stairs.

The maid looked around at the other servants and bucked her eyes.

Eleanor told the maid to have the luggage brought up and unpacked.

Eleanor saw the boys' luggage were unpacked.

She looked in their drawers and closets.

The maid, "She is thorough and very detail."

Eleanor turned and reached for the teacup from the maid.

Eleanor went into each boy's room and took out their clothes for dinner and laid them on their beds.

Eleanor went into her room and the servants brought her luggage upstairs and lined them against the wall.

The maids came and begin to unpack Eleanor's clothes.

Eleanor went back to sleep for an hour.

Her hot water was brought in her bedroom.

She told the maids to finish on tomorrow.

Eleanor could hear her boys down the hall in the wash closets taking their baths.

She was thinking about how to update their house as she saw in Europe.

She selected her clothes for dinner and bathed.

She lost a few pounds when she was sick and had not gained them back.

Eleanor learned the proper way to swim and swam everyday or took very long walks.

Her clothes fitted and looked very nice on her.

She was not slim nor thin.

But muscular.

She thought about her lost child everyday.

She wondered if it was a boy or a sister for Shirley.

Eleanor smiled when thought about Shirley walking and how Michael had grown.

She thought, "I want them here for the holidays. I will have to fight with Bruce, but I will win this time."

She thought about Bruce and said, "I'm stronger than before."

She heard her parents entering the house.

Eleanor continued her bath and got dressed for the evening.

The boys ran downstairs for dinner.

Eleanor had many thoughts flowing their head.

She was determined to win all of her fights.

Eleanor put on a beautiful brown dress she bought in Vienna and had her thick brownish hair down and wrapped on her shoulder and her pearl earrings the count gave her.

As descended the stairs for dinner, the maids watched her.

They went and took the water out her bedroom.

Eleanor walked in the dining room at exactly at six pm.

Her mother and father had washed and were seated at the head of the table.

Brenda and Patrick looked at Eleanor.

She looked beautiful to Brenda.

Patrick thought, "My princess looked like a princess."

Percy and Bruce sat on the side with Brenda.

Thomas sat on the side with Patrick.

Eleanor sat next to Thomas.

She looked at her boys and said, "Good evening. Everyone looks nice."

Percy said, "You picked out our clothes."

Eleanor laughed and said, "Yes. I wanted you to look good for your grandparents."

Eleanor turned and looked at her parents and said, "Who did you visit today?"

Brenda was in awe of her daughter and watched her.

Patrick said, "The former mayor and his wife."

Eleanor said, "You had a lovely time with your friends?"

Brenda said, "Yes we did."

Eleanor looked at the buffet server and said, "Oh the food smell lovely."

Patrick looked at Eleanor and said, "Is that a new word you learned?"

Eleanor looked at Patrick and thought about what he was talking about.

She laughed.

Thomas looked at her.

Thomas said, "Those the earrings the count gave you?"

Brenda said, "I saw them. They are nice. You say the count bought them for you?"

William began to serve dinner.

Brenda said, "We eat a little more vegetables now for dinner."

Bruce said, "Yes grandma we learned to eat more vegetables while we were in Europe."

William serve baked chicken, rice, green beans and carrots and an assortment of breads and butter.

They had a very lively dinner.

The boys were telling Brenda and Patrick about the languages they learned.

Patrick kept staring at the pearl earrings Eleanor was wearing.

Patrick was not pleased with Eleanor for accepting those very expensive earrings.

He thought, "A man does not give a woman a gift like that. She could have pay for them."

Eleanor felt Brenda and Patrick staring at the earrings.

She knew they knew.

She looked at them and smile.

She thought, "Now they know I had a sexual affair with the count. And I have not ruled him out."

After dinner they all went into the parlor.

The boys were on the floor putting their puzzle together.

Thomas was like Michael, he liked to read.

Eleanor bought new encyclopedias for her brothers and for Brenda and Patrick.

William walked into the parlor and said, "Mrs. Simons, where to place the books?"

Eleanor was about to sit by Brenda, she stood and said, "Three sets of the encyclopedias are gifts to my brothers. One set is for the orphanage and one set is for Mr. and Mrs. Stith."

Patrick loved to read and learn about different places and its' people.

Patrick said, "Lovely. Thank you."

Eleanor laughed, because he was mocking her new word of 'lovely'.

Thomas crawled over to Patrick and showed him the book with pictures of African animals.

They enjoyed their evening.

Eleanor stood and said, "Percy, Bruce and Thomas say good night to your grandparents."

The boys jumped up and put away their puzzles and gave their grandparents a big hug and kiss and ran upstairs to bed.

Eleanor was going upstairs when William said, "Mrs. Simons a telegram."

Eleanor took the telegram from the tray.

Brenda was peeping and said, "I wondered who that is from."

Patrick sipped his brandy and continued to look in the book of African animals.

He said, "Heifer looked at us about those earrings. To let us know she was having sex with that count."

Brenda said, "I am disappointed. That just makes her more confused whether she wants Bruce or not."

Eleanor's telegram stated she will meet with her attorney on Monday.

She was thinking and dressed for bed.

She checked on the boys and went to bed.

She saw William clearing the dining room and cutting off the lights.

Eleanor said, "No sherry tonight."

She went to bed.