Eleanor woke and started her day.

She went to her father’s office and went through the telegrams.

She double checked all the papers that they had money to complete the new railroad extension.

She calculated the railroad extension would be self supporting for three years and then after they would get profits and put it in their personal trust.

Then she would expand the railroad further especially with Percy riding shotgun.

She grinned.

She could see this tall and skinny boy riding shotgun on the back of the trains.

Eleanor stopped smiling and thought, “We have to do something about the mob and the rest of criminals on our trains. I’ll send daddy a telegram for suggestions besides shotgun Percy.”

Eleanor worked late into the night during her projections for the next five years.

She was happy to be busy with work and not personal family problems.

She slept through the night and woke the next day and decided to go to church.

She did not eat breakfast.

Eleanor bathed and put on an outfit she never wore.

She picked up her bag to replenish it and saw Shirley’s earrings.

She did not let her mind dwell on Shirley.

Eleanor was pushing Shirley away from her.

Shirley could feel it.

Brenda could feel it.

Dr. Ralph knew it was t0aking place.

Dr. Greene and Debra and their son prayed for Eleanor and Shirley everyday.

Hutch and Dr. Parker watched Lorraine and Meredith.

Dr. Woodson looked at Brenda.

He saw Brenda and her face showed she knew Eleanor was finished with her own child.

Patrick and Ben arrived back at the hospital on Thursday.

He brought a large amount of seafood back to the hospital.

Brenda had the hospital cooks to prepare and serve the seafood.

Dr. Greene said, “Debra could prepare their food.”

Debra was standing in the hospital administrator’s doorway.

She was angry and had turned beet red.

Gen saw her and she heard Dr. Greene.

Gen said, “Hey”

Debra turned and saw Gen point for her to come to her.

Debra walked to the door, thinking Gen was sick.

Debra was angry and said, “Yes.”

Gen said, “Close the door.”

Debra started closing the door.

Gen laughed and said, “No. You come in and close the door.”

Mag and Roger saw Debra.

Debra said, “Yes.”

Gen said, “You came to my wedding. I went to your Christmas wedding on the train. It was fun and wild. No one can say they had a fun and whimsical wedding like yours. You and your baby stayed with us for a while. You have not brought him to see me.”

Debra said, “I am sorry Miss Gen.

Gen said, “Are you still in love with Dr. Greene?”

Debra kind of turned her head.

Gen said, “Don’t let the little stuff you don’t like build into the bigger things that can divide your marriage.”

Debra said, “Everything is a problem. And he is so righteous about everything. I see why his first wife left him.”

Debra looked around.

Gen knew Debra was about to spill the beans.

Gen sat up in the bed and raised up on her elbows to fully get the details.

Debra walked to Gen and said, “The year Tony’s wife left.”

Gen said, “Yeah.”

Debra said, “She was here and staying with a younger man.”

Gen opened her mouth in shock.

Debra said, “She told Tony she wanted a divorce so she could go to the man she loved.”

Gen said, “It was not him wanting a divorce.”

Debra said, “No ma am.”

Debra turned her head to listened.

Gen was listening.

Debra said, “She stayed and took the divorce papers to the lawyers and judge and the clerk. She came here and gave Tony his copy.”

Gen was hitting the bed in excitement.

Dr. Greene opened Gen’s door.

Debra said, “GOD we pray…”

Gen quickly bowed her head.

Debra continued, ”…that You touch Eleanor’s heart to bring it back to Shirley. Help them be the two peas in the pod that I saw and loved. In JESUS’ name. Amen.”

Dr. Greene was standing by the door in reverence.

Debra said, “I love those two.”

Dr. Greene coughed.

Debra turned and saw Tony standing.

She looked surprised.

Gen peeped around at Tony.

Dr. Greene said, “I am sorry. Debra the cooks were saying to pick out the seafood you wanted to carry home.”

Debra said, “JESUS help me.”

Gen looked at Dr. Greene.

Debra said, “Tony you know I don’t know how to cook seafood.”

Dr. Greene said, “I’ll help you.”

He opened the door for Debra to leave.

Debra slammed the door shut.

Sr. parker jerked his head and Hutch looked at Gen’s door and Dr. Woodson said, “Why did the door slam.”

Dr. Parker said, “Husband and wife.”

Dr. Woodson said, “Gen and Ben?”

Roger stood and tiptoed to Gen’s room and put his hear to the door.

Dr. Parker said, “Tony and Debra.”

Dr. Woodson put down his chart and walked to Gen’s door and saw Roger listening.

Roger looked back and saw Dr. Woodson.

He looked at Dr. Woodson and stepped from the door.

Dr. Woodson started to knock on the door and put his hand on the doorknob to open the door.

Roger looked at Dr. Woodson.

Dr. Greene said, “What is this about?”

Debra said, “Why you don’t want others to give you anything or reward you or be friendly towards you. That is what is going to divide us Tony. You are a good man and there are times when GOD will send a little shower to you or send a little helper on your way like me. Thank Him. Don’t fight Him and push His hand back with a gift He has given to you. By the time we get our boy and get home we both are tired and get ready for bed. You either get that dinner or my dinner.”

Gen looked around at Dr. Greene and nodded her head towards Debra.

Dr. Greene looked at Gen then back at Debra.

He said, “Can we talk at home?”

Debra said, “You decide Tony. Dinner or me.”

Dr. Greene had his hand on the doorknob he said, “You.”

Debra walked to him and patted his cheek and kissed him.

Dr. Greene was opening the door.

Roger and Dr. Woodson ran into Mag’s room and closed the door.

Debra walked out Gen’s room.

Dr. Greene looked at Mag’s door and grabbed Debra and kissed her passionately.

Debra was happy.

Hutch and Dr. Parker looked at Dr. Greene who walked behind Debra and was looking at her.

Debra walked down to the kitchen and got two plates and brought them to Mag and Roger.

Dr. Greene looked at Debra as she gave the plates out.

Debra walked back to Gen’s room and said, “Miss Gen what you have?”

Gen was rattled.

She said, “Debra life is short. I know they told you I have a short time to live. I need you to listen to me if you love that man you two fight to stay together. Learn what please and don’t please each other. Raise your son in love. That is what I saw in you two. You are the seed and he is your sunshine and GOD is your water. Don’t mistake that ever. Let him think he is ruling. Ask GOD what your part is and give you the strength to do what HE…”

Gen pointed to the ceiling.

Debra begin to tear up.

Gen said, “…wants you to be in HIM.”

Gen turned on her side and said, “Go and bring me a little of everything.”

Dr. Woodson looked at Mag and Roger plates and waked to Gen and stepped in the room and said, “I’ll fix you a plate Mrs. Olsen.”

Gen fell back onto the bed and said, “No.”

Dr. Woodson looked at the big spoiled Gen and said, “I’ll be back.”

Dr. Woodson begin to close her door.

Gen said, “Don’t close the door.”

Dr. Woodson said, “I am closing this door to keep you from going across their begging for their food.”

Gen said, “Beg.”

She looked at Debra and pointed at Dr. Woodson.

Debra gave a sad smile.

Dr. Woodson said, “You are to be up and walking tomorrow.”

They walked out Gen’s room.

Ben was watching Patrick and Brenda.

He saw Dr. Woodson passing and said, “Dr. Woodson some bd stuff happen here?”

Dr. Woodson looked outside at Brenda and Patrick and said, “Come with me.”

Hutch looked.

Dr. Parker was hoping the composed Dr. Greene and the hot Debra would fight.

Hutch looked at D. Parker and kept reviewing the patient’s chart.

Dr. Parker said, “She probably can take him in two rounds.”

The nurse shook her head and said, “Maybe three.”

Hutch walked away.

Dr. parker and the nurse laughed.

Dr. Parker followed Hutch to Mrs. Cobbs.

Mrs. Cobb said, “Tell them I only want chowder.”

The nurse walked down to the kitchen to tell the cooks to give her a bowl of chowder for Mrs. Cobb.

Dr. Woodson told of the fights, Brenda slapping Bruce, Eleanor nearly strangling Shirley, somebody trying to rob Eleanor of Shirley’s earrings. Eleanor left and spent some time with her sons.

Dr. Woodson said, “Ben.”

Ben turned his head and looked at the back door.

Dr. Woodson realized Ben knew what he was going to say.

Dr. Woodson said, “Spend your time with the woman GOD gave to you.”

Come and get some seafood. It really smell good.”

Ben said, “I am sick of seafood. I ate enough for a lifetime.”

Dr. Woodson said, “What are you going to eat?”

Ben said, “Steak.”

Dr. Woodson said, “Where?”

Ben said, “I had it packed in ice and the cooks are grilling it you don’t smell it? Patrick got him that porter house over there.”

Ben pointed to the steaks.

Dr. Woodson laughed.

The nurse walked in and peeped at the steaks.

Dr. Woodson looked at her.

Ben looked at the nurse.

Debra was getting she and Tony’s plates to take home.

She said, “Dr. Woodson, “What about Gen’s food?’

Dr. Woodson said, “Yes. I forgot.”

Everybody including the cooks and the dishwashers looked at Dr. Woodson.

Dr. Woodson, “I am sorry. I don’t forget medical procedures.”

Everyone looked at him.

Dr. Woodson was embarrassed.

He walked to the cooks and said, “Ben what does Gen likes.”

The cooks looked at Dr. Woodson.

Dr. Woodson stood and looked at the cooks and said, “He is not here?”

The cooks said, “Who?’

Dr. Woodson rolled his eyes at them. He looked back at Ben who was getting his steak and grinning.

He turned and saw Dr. Woodson and the other cooks looking at him.

Ben walked over to them.

Dr. Woodson, “They I am crazy.”

Ben said, “We all are.”

Dr. Woodson said, “Tell them what food to give Gen.”

Ben shook from fear of Dr. Woodson.

The cooks laughed.

Dr. Woodson said, “I am a joke.”

Ben said, “Chowder, cod and flounder. No bread.”

Ben looked at Dr. Woodson and walked out the kitchen.

Sara and Vince were sitting in the corner eating.

They got Betsy a bowl of chowder to take home to her.

The nurse got a tray and place hot tea and chowder and biscuits for Mrs. Cobb.

One of the cooks said, “It is a lot of food left over.”

Mabel walked in the kitchen and everyone looked at her.

Mabel threw the mop down.

The cooks said, “Food. Mabel. Don’t be afraid. We want to give you food to take home and share.”

Debra said, “Mabel got the food. Mr. Patrick brought it back for all of us.”

The cooks fixed up the food for her to back to the shelter.

One of the cooks worked there on the week-end.

He showed Mabel his face and pointed at himself.

Mabel remembered him.

The cooks looked around and they had all the food they want and the dishwashers got all of the food they want.

One of the cooks turned to Sara and said, “We have bible study tonight are you going?”

Vince said, “We can drop it off.”

Sara said, “I can take some by Sam’s.”

The cook said, “Good. That may do it.”

Brenda and Patrick walked in the kitchen.

Everyone froze.

Jose told the cooks Brenda and Patrick always walked in the kitchen.

The cook brought Patrick’s plate and porter house steak took up his plate.

Patrick said, “Yeah. Thank You.”

Brenda smiled and turned her head.

She walked over and ask for a small bowl of chowder.

Sara and Vince stood and Sara wiped the table and chairs.

Vince said, “You can sit here.”

Brenda took her bowl of chowder and went and sit.

Patrick had the cook to saute him onions and peppers and the mushrooms he brought.

Brenda and Patrick sat and talk.

The cooks looked at them like they were on a date.

Patrick looked at Brenda and he looked at her face.

Brenda looked at her husband of thirty three years.

Patrick said, “Brenda.”

She stopped and looked at Patrick.

Patrick took her hand and kissed and said, “I truly missed you.”

The nosey nurse was back to get food to take home.

She touched her heart and reached a plate to the cook.

The cook looked at her.

The staff finished cleaning the kitchen.

Vince, Sara and the cook took the food to their church and to Sam’s (which was a shelter their church supported).

Everyone saw Patrick and how he pulled Brenda to him and he kissed her.

The nurse said to the cook, “That is love after all of those years.”

Debra walked back to her son some chowder.

She saw Patrick and Brenda and grinned.

She said, “They are like that.”

The cook said, “I can be like that.”

The nurse said, “To who?”

She and Debra walked out and talked all the way back up the hall.

The nurse looked at Dr. Woodson and said, “Dr. Woodson you did not get anything to eat you and Hutch.”

Dr. Woodson said, “They embarrassed me. I don’t won’t anything to eat.”

Hutch turned and walked to the kitchen.

He saw Patrick and Brenda in the corner and happy.

He thought, “I cannot keep thinking about Meredith. I want medicine and I want her. I can’t have the two.”

Meredith was standing behind Hutch and said, “Yes you can.”

Hutch jumped and turned and saw Meredith standing behind him.

The cook said, “You were talking out loud, like the other doctor.”

Hutch was embarrassed and did not what to think.

The cook said, “Anyone else?’

Meredith said, “I think maybe two.”

Hutch could not say anything.

The cook said, “Doc how many plates?”

Hutch muttered, “Two.”

The cooks made two plates.

He walked out the kitchen and took one plate to Dr. Woodson.

Meredith waited until Hutch walked out.

Meredith danced all through the kitchen.

Brenda said, “That heifer think she is the only that can dance.”

Patrick looked at Meredith and looked back at Brenda and smiled he said, “We keep Shirley.”

Brenda said, “Yes my eternal love.”

She reached for Patrick’s hand and they stood and danced to their own music.

Meredith continued to dance.

Dr. Ralph walked in the kitchen to get a plate to go.

He saw Patrick and Brenda dancing in the corner.

He saw Meredith dancing in the middle of the floor.

The cooks were scraping the pans and pots.

Dr. Ralph said, “That is alright if there is nothing left.”

The cooks gave him a large bowl of chowder and several biscuits and some flounder and cod.

Dr. Ralph sat and watched Meredith. Then he saw Patrick and Brenda and thought about all the problems they have everyday. He thought their hearts are full of love for each other that’s how they can love and live through their tremendous problems.

The cooks were trying to leave.

They looked at Meredith and she danced over to the cooks.

One said, “This is it.”

Meredith looked and said, the fish on two plates and the corn and potatoes on two plates.

Dr. Ralph was enjoying his chowder until Lorraine walked in.

Lorraine did not see Dr. Ralph sitting on the rail eating.

He sat and watched Lorraine.

Lorraine has been solemn all week.

Dr. Ralph said, “She knows Eleanor is going to give up Shirley.”

He turned his head and thought, “What are you going to do?”

Meredith and Lorraine turned and walked out the kitchen.

Patrick and Brenda took their plate and bowl and utensils to the dishwashers.

The dishwashers looked around and the kitchen was clean, but for a few plates left.

Patrick and Brenda saw Dr. Ralph finishing his dinner.

Patrick said, “I hope the seafood was enough for the staff and patients?”

Dr. Ralph stood to take his dishes to the sink.

He said, “It was more than enough.”

Patrick said, “I saw Lorraine walk out and she did not see you.”

Brenda looked at Patrick.

Patrick said, “Brenda go to Shirley, I’ll be there shortly.”

Brenda continued to look at Patrick.

She looked at Dr. Ralph and walked out.

Patrick said, “Let’s talk.”

Patrick and Dr. Ralph walked out in the hall.

Patrick said, “I was told there were some problems over the past week. I do not approve of fighting. I was told that Eleanor nearly had hold on Shirley to strangle her. I knew Eleanor was at her breaking point. I know Shirley that she would push to the end.”

Dr. Ralph said, “What about Shirley?”

Patrick said, “I know Eleanor, she is thinking deep and hard about this life change. She is either going to put Shirley in a sanatorium or buy her a cottage somewhere with helpers.”

Dr Ralph turned his head.

Patrick looked at Dr. Ralph and said, “Eleanor will not let her go to Bruce.”

Dr. Ralph said, “Why not? I like Bruce.”

Patrick, “Because he would drain Shirley’s money and put her on the street.”

Dr. Ralph looked at Patrick.

Patrick said, “Me and Brenda will take Shirley and raise her until we die. There should be enough money to last her until she dies.”

Dr. Ralph looked at Patrick and said, “Thank you for telling me of your plans.”

Dr. Ralph saw Lorraine leaving.

Patrick looked to see who Dr. Ralph was looking at.

He said, “Lorraine will be leaving us.”

Dr. Ralph said, “where would she work?”

Patrick heard Dr. Ralph’s nasty tone.

He remembered Brenda said, “Dr. Ralph he would not marry Lorraine and put his patients first.

Patrick said, “Lorraine is a certified nurse. But she is independently wealthy.”

Dr. Ralph nearly fell into the wall.

Patrick said, “When Shirley was born, Eleanor had these helpers twenty four hours per day plus me and her mother. Lorraine was one of the helpers. Shirley would be sick all the time. Eleanor wanted nurses. Lorraine went to nursing school and became certified so she could be with Shirley. She is a member of our family. Brenda and I helped her with investments and her own businesses. She does not ever have to work again ever.”

Patrick looked at a shocked Dr. Ralph.

He hit Dr. Ralph on the arm and said, “Go home and rest, that’s what me and Brenda will do.”

Patrick winked his eye at Dr. Ralph laughed.

They walked to the front of the hospital.

The cooks and dishwashers were locking the backdoor and putting out he lights when Meredith was running with her and Lorraine dishes and two patients dishes.

Hutch and the nurses and Dr. Woodson gave Meredith all the dishes.

One nurse stood and got some of the dishes and she and Meredith went and washed the dishes and dried the dishes.

Hutch and Dr. Woodson checked on all the patients.

Dr. Woodson went to his rented room.

He told Hutch he would be late in the morning.

Hutch brushed his teeth and went to his room.

He turned and walked back to the back door and double checked the door.

He tried to pass the kitchen where Meredith and the other nurse were laughing and talking.

Hutch stood outside the kitchen and until they finished the dishes.

He checked the other rooms.

The nurses saw him and walked back up front.

Hutch went in his room and fell onto his knees.

He was there for a long time.

He did not say anything.

He stood and pulled off his pants and got under the covers and laid awake and prayed over each patient.

He said, “God can You. I know You can. Please heal Gen so she can enjoy life with Ben. Give her body and her heart peace, just as You calmed the raging sea by speaking peace to it. Calm Gen’s raging sea that her heart can have peace. Bless little Shirley. Give her peace. You have blessed her body so greatly she is a testament to others. But give Your peace to her mind so she won’t blame Eleanor foe her condition, who could have let her die when she was born but loved Shirley with the love You put in her heart to love Shirley, like You love her. Help me. I am trouble. Give me peace.”

Dr. Ralph woke the next morning.

He looked around and realized he fell asleep while praying.

He said, “God I thank You for answering my prayers. I know if you would not have answered I would not have fallen asleep. Thank You. In JESUS’ name amen.”

Patrick and Benda stayed with Shirley until six pm.

They left and went to the hotel.

They returned to the hospital at nine am the next morning.

Meredith stayed until they returned with Lorraine.

Lorraine was looking better, but she was still quiet.

She made her bath oils and bath gels and soaps.

She brought Shirley different scented soaps.

Brenda and Patrick watched Shirley.

Shirley reached the for the pretty wrapped soaps.

Usually she flash her beautiful grin but she was broken.

She did not look in Lorraine like she normally does.

Shirley said, “Thank you Miss Lorraine.”

Not Lorraine nor Momma Lorraine.

Lorraine heard Shirley being formal, which meant to Patrick, Brenda and Lorraine that Shirley knew they relationship was over.

Lorraine said, “You are welcomed Miss Shirley.”

Shirley kept her head down and looked at the soaps and smelled the soaps.

Lorraine walked out the room and went to deliver her soaps to the nurses.

Dr. Ralph looked at Lorraine, he saw she was more refined than he noticed from them dating for nearly two years.

He watched Lorraine deliver her products to the nurses and then to Debra, Mag and Gen.

Lorraine walked out of the hospital and light hit her.

Dr. Ralph shook his head and then wondered here the light came from.

Lorraine had customers.

She went to the woman at the medical supply who bought a lot of products. She met Alice who love the rose and jasmin scented soaps.

Ryan was not going out to the hospital for a long time so she and Lorraine at the hotel.

Alice asked Lorraine if Brenda and Eleanor would come to her home for tea.

Lorraine said, “You can ask them. They have a circle of friends they socialize with. Because so many people try to scam them or get money from them all the time. Eleanor is no longer here and Brenda will not go someplace if she does not anybody.”

Alice said, “I did not know all of this stuff. Until I heard Ryan’s say to his wife…”

Lorraine said, “Your mother in law.”

Alice smirked, “I have not thought about Eleanor and Brenda to anything. But after dinner last week, Ryan’s mother said she wanted to invite Brenda and Eleanor to dinner and Ryan lied and said I wanted to invite to tea. I was stunned and looked at Ryan.”

Lorraine laughed.

She had not laughed in a long time.

Alice said, “What?”

Lorraine said, “Ryan was trying to establish you before your in laws.”

Alice looked at a laughing Lorraine.

Lorraine said, “Ryan wanted his parents to know that you had class and you knew people in high society also.”

Alice said, “I want to move and get our place…”

Lorraine laughed.

Alice said, “What now Lorraine?”

Lorraine said, “I have worked around high society people. Their children live in the family mansion and take over the mansion when they parents either die or move to a smaller house or cottage on the grounds.”

Alice said, “A smaller house.”

Lorraine said, “Yes. Some people have the house in case they will guests for a long time. The cottage or house will have a parlor, kitchen, two wash rooms, two or three bedrooms and a room for the servant.”  
Alice sipped tea and was thinking.

Lorraine said, “Alice don’t try to move in there. Ryan is heir to all his parents. He is just to that life and moving out the main house can drive a wedge between and his parents. This is their first grand baby and they will want to spend all their spare time with Ryan’s child. I have such problems and divided families.”

Alice looked around in the lounge and said, “What about Brenda and Patrick?”

Lorraine said, “First they have twenty five bedrooms…”

Alice mouth dropped.

Lorraine said was surprised and said, “How bedrooms does Ryan’s parents have?”

Alice said, “Fifteen.”

Lorraine said, “Then they have six guest suites downstairs. They do not have a cottage or smaller house.”

Alice said, “I heard, you know it is rumored Eleanor has put Shirley out.”

Lorraine said, “That hurts me. I have been with Shirley from the first week she was born. We have bent over backwards to help make her life better. She wants to use her sickness and hold it over all of heads a s guilt. She does that to her brothers. Thomas don’t let her. Michael will tolerate so much. Percy and Bruce tell Shirley what they will do and not do.”

Alice said, “I saw that side of Shirley for the time I worked with her.”

Lorraine said, “Eleanor cannot take any more of the guilt every day. Shirley’s sickness and pain and suffering she would go all the way, because she feel responsible for because she did fall and that is what caused Shirley to be born twisted and Eleanor’s parents decided to keep Shirley as to have her die.”

Alice said, “I did not know.”

Lorraine said, “You be careful and take care of yourself. Let the servants do their jobs.”

Alice said, “That is what Ryan telling me.”

Lorraine said, “You are tolerating you now. Because they know you are not used to their life style and their way. Let them pamper you, because when the baby comes that will end your papering. You spend more time with your husband. That’s I have learned from Patrick and Brenda. They have been married over thirty years. They sit and play with the grandchildren, but they go to their bedroom and do not allow anyone to come there. Eleanor’s eventually found their bedrooms and would knock on the door and play up and down the hall until Patrick and Brenda would open the door.”

Alice said, “With all that space, why put Shirley away?”

Lorraine, “I believe Patrick and Brenda will take Shirley. Because they feel guilty too because they were fussing with Eleanor for going and having sex with Bruce. Their arch enemy son.”

Alice said, “What?”  
Lorraine, “Eleanor said she was having fun.”

Alice laughed.

Lorraine said, “Patrick went into rage. He had made arrangements to send Eleanor to go to South America to have the baby and leave the baby there until she locked her bedroom door and Brenda was knocking on the door and Eleanor got up to open the door and tripped out of bed and knocked herself out and fell on her stomach. They had to break down to get to her and call for the doctor. Eleanor was unconscious for about a week. She lost her last baby about two years and she has not really been right since then. It was a girl.”

Alice said, “Plus Shirley holding guilt.”

Lorraine said, “Patrick won’t take too much guilt. Brenda has been tolerating the guilt. She is just about at the end of that she normally be on Eleanor. I think the other week when Eleanor and Brenda came to take Shirley to church and she screamed ‘no’ at Eleanor and Eleanor jumped on the bed to strangling Shirley. Dr. Greene and that other one caught her and took her out of Shirley’s room.”

Alice said, “Is there hope for you and that other one?”

Lorraine said, “I want to move on and I know it is too late to have a child…”

Alice reached and held a tearful Lorraine’s hand.

Lorraine said, “I will work on expanding my soap and bath business. That will keep me business. Brenda and Patrick will guide me where I need to go. They are really good. They have helped so many people to start their businesses and all of them are still business or have died over these seventeen years I have been.”

Alice smiled.

Lorraine said, “You need to talk to Gen. She has good advice for dealing with the high society. She use to be married to an ambassador. Brenda as always in high society as a free black. Both of parents were medical doctors.”

Alice said, “Her mother too?”

Lorraine said, “And a surgeon. They had nearly all white patients and they kept them at parties and when they sold their homes and moved to other bigger houses they gave their big houses to Brenda’s parents. Brenda went to school to become a teacher. Her sister decided not to school but to take care of the houses. Brenda parents died the year before she married Patrick. Her sister sold all the houses their parents were given over the years and she sold their medical practices they had over the city. She took all the money and gave Brenda none. Brenda lived off her teacher’s salary. She was a conductor of he underground railroad.”

Alice said, “What?”

Lorraine said, “Always stay busy. Don’t depend on Ryan to be your life. If I ever get married. I have this soap business.”

Lorraine looked and saw the hotel workers waving at her.

Loraine said, “Money calls.”

Alice said, “I got somethings to think about. Lorraine you are wiser than you know. Thank you.”

Lorraine said, “Thank you.”

She walked to the workers with basket and went upstairs and filled the basket and came back down to the front desk.

One of the clerks bought the jasmine soap and put it up.

Lorraine made a lot of bath products to keep her mind busy and not thinking about Shirley.

She knew Brenda would talk to Patrick about Shirley.

Lorraine was going back upstairs and counted her money when she got back upstairs.

She had secret hiding place under her rug.

She thought she wanted she wanted a hot bath she went to the front desk and ordered her hot bath.

She went to Meredith and asked if she would leave and use the wagon to take back to Patrick and Brenda.

Meredith was getting Hutch some clean clothes together.

Lorraine said, “You are doing Hutch clothes?’

Meredith said, “He is like Dr. Ralph and told me he choose medicine over me. I was not well with his decision. But I had decided I would home and get another life, but my heart was not settled and last evening I was standing behind him to get food and he said out loud that he can’t have both. Me and the cooks heard him.”

Lorraine said, “What?”

Meredith said, “I said yes you can.”

Lorraine laughed.

Meredith started dancing again and said, “I don’t know it is going to be whether we can only a few months together each year. But I know he will be working. I don’t know if we will have kids. If kids only one. I know God will work it out. God made Hutch to be a surgeon. I will not interfere with God work. I know my place and it is behind God.”

Lorraine said, “Thank you Meredith. I am behind God, not in front of Him nor on the side of Him. Thank you very much Meredith.”

Meredith smiled.

Lorraine walked out and went to her room as the housekeepers were bring her hot water.

Lorraine relaxed in hot water with the scraps from her soaps.

She felt better.

She thought on her behind God not in front of Him nor on His side.

Lorraine dressed for bed.

She picked went to her bag and got her bible and read it.

Meredith left and went to the hospital to spend the night with Shirley.

She thought Shirley was not as pitiful once Patrick got back.

Shirley knew Patrick would be spending his evenings and nights with Brenda.

Meredith would be going back to her dayshift on Sunday and leave the nightshift to Lorraine.

Patrick and Brenda closed the door to Shirley’s room and gave her the painting sets, needle points and a large print bible to Shirley from Eleanor.

Shirley said, “Thank you.”

She did not look up.

Brenda held onto Patrick’s arm.

Patrick to Shirley’s bed and sat he said, “Your mother Eleanor left these for you. She was rushing to catch the train. She went to see your brothers.”

Shirley head was held down and said, “Can I go and see them?”

Patrick said, “Only if you lift your head up.”

Shirley fought to lift her head up.

Brenda nearly lost all her emotions.

Patrick took his right hand and lifted Shirley’s head up but Shirley kept her eyes closed.

Patrick said, “Shirley you are loved. It was my decision whether you were to live or die. I told the doctor you were a gift from God and that you should live. I am not sorry for my decision for you to live. You were and still are a gift from God. I can’t make you see that only He can. I will always cherish you as that precious gift of God. I will not throw you away. Your grandma and me will take you home and you will stay with us.”

Shirley was crying and looked at Patrick and her grandma and said, “Momma don’t want me because I am not normal?”

Patrick said, “Shirley always wanted you. She has never stop loving you. She does live with the guilt everyday of falling and hurting you. Over your life she put you through hell not to make you normal but to try to give you of the things she took from you. You suffered terribly. If she did not love you, you know momma she would not spend a dime.”

Brenda walked and sat on the other side of Shirley’s bed.

She smiled at Shirley and held her hand.

Brenda said, “I’ll arrange for you to be away for a week.”

Shirley said, “Will Lorraine came?”

Brenda knew that was Shirley’s test question if Lorraine was mad with her.

Patrick looked at Shirley.

Brenda said, “Me and your grandpa can bathe you and dress you. But Shirley you can walk, I do not know you choose to lay in this bed.”

Shirley said, “Because I want people to wait on me.”

Patrick said, “Gift of God. Do better. How are you gonna be walking around that school to see your brothers when you walk. Push your own wheelchair and sit when you are tired. You need to let people see you are a gift of God and give them hope.”

Shirley was about to get up when Dr. Greene and Hutch were standing in the door they were standing outside and heard all their conversation.

Brenda and Patrick walked out her room and made it to Gen and Mag for those forty minutes before Shirley started screaming.

Shirley was screaming and letting out the pain and misery she had bottled up in her.

Hutch looked at Dr. Greene and they finished her therapy.

Shirley continued to lay on her stomach and cry.

Dr. Greene looked at Shirley and walked and went to the other patients.

Hutch said, “Shirley you are doing great.”

He was talking to be healed in her heart.

Brenda looked at Patrick and said, “Her screaming is not as is not as it had been.”

Patrick looked at Brenda.

He went and got Roger they went outside.

They were able to walk to the motel and walked around. The manager walked with them and explained the progress.

The manager said, “Normally this would not be completed until the summer, but because you had the supplies sent, we will be finished in a few more weeks. The shipping really helped out.”

Patrick and Roger came back two hours later.

Mag and gen had finished their therapy and were sleep.

Roger sat and looked at Mag.

Bn was staying with friends.

He would spend the night with Gen.

Patrick and Brenda checked on Shirley and she was sleep.

Nurse Jackson was back at work and not saying too much.

Dr. Parker was snickering at Nurse Jackson.

Dr. Woodson looked at Nurse Jackson and then Dr. Parker because he knew why Dr. Parker was snickering.

Nurse Jackson told Betsy to bake her wedding cak. Craig went from there one cake to several cakes.

Nurse Jackson invited her family from their dairy farm to come to Philadelphia for the wedding.

Her parents could not get their products to the different markets because of the shipping.

Nurse Jackson looked and stared at Brenda and Patrick as they pass.

Patrick and Brenda looked at her.

Nurse Jackson, “Hello. Who do my father talk to about your railroad to ship their dairy products?”

Patrick said, “Eleanor.”

Nurse Jackson looked around for Eleanor.

Patrick said, “She is gone. Send her a telegram.”

He and Brenda continued to walk through the hospital.

Debra saw them as she was coming back from the toilet.

She asked them if she could help them.

Patrick said, “We are just looking around to see what need to be done.”

Debra said, “I think Shirley was working on a workers room, where we can sit and eat. Then the next was the washroom and the linen room. Dr. Woodson was talking about the medical and patients supplies over to this side so these last ten rooms for additional patients. But because they have not received more than thirty patients at a time they did not have to use these rooms.”

As they were standing and looking around, a family walked in and the man was carrying the boy.

Dr. Woodson was sitting going over a patient chart.

The family froze when they heard people screaming.

Nurse Brono walked from behind the desk and walked to them.

She greeted the family and directed them to the hospital administrator’s office, where Nurse Jackson was sending a telegram to Eleanor and to her parents.

Nurse Jackson looked at the family and the crying boy and smiled.

Debra ran to the office.

Dr. Woodson finished his review and walked in the office and greeted the family.

The boy was crying.

The father explained the damage to the boy’s leg.

Dr. Woodson said, “I need to see the damaged leg.”

Vince was walking through the hall to go and get Sara to take home for the day.

The father said, “Vince.”

Vince turned and walked over to the man and said, “Hello.”

He said, “What is wrong with Charlie Jr.”

While Vince and Charlie talked, Dr. Woodson and got Hutch.

They took the crying child to the Mr. Jackson’s old room.

Vince said, “These doctors can help. I’m the security here and mom work as a nurse here. She normally works nights, but they don’t have that many patients. Where Martha?”

Charlie was walking with Dr. Woodson and Hutch and said, “In the office.”

Martha and Sarah were leaning back in the comfortable chairs to see who was asking about them.

Vince walked in and Martha and Sarah hugged him.

Martha said, “I heard you were better. I have not seen you in nearly two years,”

Vince said, “I took me over a year to be healed. I stayed right here until they got me better.”

Sara heard Vince’s voice and walked to the hospital administrator’s office and hugged her niece and grandniece.

They told what happened to Charlie Jr.

Sara said, “If he can be helped, they will help him.”

Hutch begin to examine Charlie Jr.

Charlie Jr. begin to scream.

Martha and Sarah covered their ears.

Sara looked at her namesake and said, “You have to get used to that here.”

Nurse Jackson was talking to Debra and said, “My wedding.”

Martha heard the word wedding and turned her head to listen to Debra and Nurse Jackson.

She said, “Who is getting married?”

Nurse Jackson said, “I am.”

Martha said, “Do you have your wedding dress?”

Nurse Jackson said, “Not yet.”

Martha said, “When is it?”

Nurse Jackson looked at the nosey woman.

Sara laughed and said, “She makes wedding dresses.”

Debra and Nurse Jackson grinned and kept talking.

Nurse Jackson walked to Martha and said, I want to see if my mother has her wedding dress that I can wear. Then I’ll talk to you.”

Gen was awake and yelled. “Hot momma.”

Dr. Parker started uncontrollably laughing.

Nurse Jackson walked to Gen and said, “Yes.”

Gen said, “I got a wedding that I kept in case I had a daughter or a niece that would wear it.”

Nurse Jackson said, “I sent a telegram to mother for her to send her wedding dress by post so I can get it and see whether I want it.”

Gen huffed and turned her head.

Nurse Jackson said, “Thank You.”

Gen continued to look out the window,

Mrs. Cobb said, “I can’t have anyone next to me screaming louder than me.”

Dr. Parker closed her door.

Dr. Greene looked at Dr. Parker.

While Dr. Ralph was getting ready for their next patient Dr. Greene walked down the hall and stood and thought.

He walked to the last room and looked at the back door.

Dr. Woodson walked out the room with Charlie Jr.

Hutch walked out and went and got all the medical supplied he needed.

They had Dr. Parker to check Charlie’s heart and veins.

Dr. parker re-check them and the boy’s vital.

Hutch was standing with the medical supplies.

Debra was getting all the paperwork together.

She walked to the mother and said, “I will give these papers to you to read and I will take to your husband to sign.”

Martha said, “He’ll give them to me.”

Debra said, “I need the papers signed because it look like they can help him.”

Sara walked over and talked to Dr. Woodson and Dr. Greene and said, “She needs to sign the papers are you ready to work on Charlie Jr?”

Dr. Greene said, “Yes.”

Martha signed the papers.

She and Sarah covered their ears.

Dr. Woodson left for the day.

Dr. Ralph for the day and Dr. Greene was leaving for the day.

She escorted Martha and Sarah to the hall and comfortable chairs.

Patrick and Brenda were in with Shirley.

Martha told Nurse Jackson, “Charlie Jr was screaming from for the past week. We did not know what to do. The doctors at the hospital the Bennettes said was wrong with him.

Dr. Greene said, “Jerome Bennette and his wife?”

Martha said, “You know them.”

Sara looked at Vince.

Vince said, “Which hospital was that?”

Martha said, “General. We could not take our son was in that type of pain and he is hot. We remembered you Vince and found out where this hospital and came here.”

Vince was thinking, “The doctors can help.”

Dr. Greene was looking around.

Vince said, “Dr. Greene.”

Dr. Greene said, “I’m thinking about a room to move Charlie Jr to.”

Sara walked down the hall and came back and said, “Dr. Greene what about this first room for him and move the doctor to the last room. No one can get pass your room to go out the door until the morning. And those next two rooms would be for surgical supplies and surgical procedures.”

Dr. Greene said, “I agree.”

Sara said, “You want us to help move all of this stuff around?”

Dr. Greene said, “We make do for this evening.”

Mrs. Cobb yelled with her door closed, “No you can’t!”

Martha started crying.

Dr. Greene looked at Martha and said, “You got to get tougher here. We don’t use pain killers because the pain help us gauge where and what is causing the pain. The patients out of pain and angry yell and scream all day.”

Mr. Moore and said, “And all night.”

Martha sat with Sarah in her lap.

Meredith walked in the hospital and spoke and said, “Good evening.”

She went to Shirley’s room.

Patrick and Brenda left and spoke to Martha and Sarah as they left for the evening.

Ryan was walking in the door as they Patrick and Brenda were leaving.

Ryan opened the door and let them out.

He heard the screams of a child.

He saw the woman and child sitting in the chairs.

Dr. Greene was walking out the door.

He said, “Ryan I need to talk to you.”

Ryan closed the door.

Ryan said, “Mr. and Mrs. Stith my wife came by the hospital today and demanded that I invite you to tea or dinner. Since Eleanor is gone she wanted to entertain somebody. I count it to her being pregnant. I don’t want to get mad with her for coming to my job and hunting me down.”

Patrick and Dr. Greene burst out laughing.

Ryan looked at them.

Patrick pointed at Brenda and said, “Travelled two days to the coal mine.”

Brenda stood and smirked.

Dr. Greene said, “Debra burst in on a couple therapy sessions to tell me what I did not do right, if you understand what I am saying.”

Patrick said, “Tell your wife you delivered the message. We always spend the evening together and alone. Have her send us an invitation and we will let her know.”

Ryan said, “Thank you. Thank both of you.”

Patrick and Brenda left for the evening.

Dr. Greene waited until Patrick and Brenda were in the carriage and said, “Ryan that lady took her son to your hospital a week ago and the doctors told her the son was fine.”

Ryan shrugged his shoulders and said, “And.”

Dr. Greene said, “The Bennettes.”

Ryan stood for a minute and said, “Who hired them? I am the only person who can hire a surgeon.”

They heard Charlie screaming again.”

Dr. Greene said, “I am going home to see if I can do it right tonight.”

Dr. Greene got on his rode and rode home to Debra and their son.

Ryan looked in space and thought, “The mob has slipped into our hospitals I have to tell dad.”

Ryan walked into the hospital and went into the hospital administrator’s office and turned the telegram machine on and sent a telegram home to his father.

Ryan cut off the telegram machine.

He walked to the screaming child.

He went and washed his hands and went back and helped Hutch.

They worked on Charlie for a long time.

Dr. Parker stayed for a long time.

Sara and Vince went and straighten out the three back rooms.

They moved everything out the doctor’s room.

Nurse Jackson and Nurse Brono helped them.

Sara moped the rooms and washed down all the tables, beds and dressers and sanitize them.

Everyone was busy.

Ryan helped with Charlie Jr.

Ryan and Hutch cleaned up the bloody mess and all the infection and scraped and cleaned down to the bone.

They finished.

And left the wound opened.

Hutch said, “He will need a cast in about ten days.”

Ryan said, “About two weeks to let out all this infection.”

Ryan turned to Charlie Jr.’s and said, “He is over surgery at all the hospitals and he hire every surgeon. He did not know who hired the Bennets. But he will get to the bottom of it.”

Charlie Sr. said, “What? You mean to tell me that some impostors nearly killed my son.”

Ryan said, “I can’t tell you anymore than that until later. I am going to get to the bottom of this.”

Ryan had his gun strapped to his thigh.

Ryan said, “I have a screaming pregnant wife. I better get to.”

Charlie Sr. stood and said, “I see you carry a gun.”

Ryan said, “A habit from the war.”

Charlie Sr. said, “I am a police officer if you need my help. That sounds like the mob.”

Ryan did not say anything but they shook hands and Ryan left.

Ryan got home an hour later and his father was up and drinking scotch.

Ryan looked at his daddy and walked and got whiskey.

His father said, “Lets go to my office.”

Alice walked to the top of the stairs and called, “Ryan.”

Ryan said, “In a little bit.”

Ryan’s mother had eased out of her bedroom and stood against the wall and saw both her husband and son got liquor. She knew whatever the situation is it was bad.

She looked at Alice and walked to her bedroom and got on her knees.

She was on her knees when Dennis came in. He sat on the bed at first.

Beverly did not look up at Dennis but held her hand out to him.

Dennis took her hand then he got on his knees.

Beverly continued to pray for a few minutes.

Beverly got up the next morning and went out to General hospital.

Dennis told her that night, he suspected the Bennettes worked for the mob. They must show their credentials and he had to find out who hired them and if they were really on his payroll books.

Beverly went in disguise.

She got one of her worker dresses and left and got to the hospital by eight am.

She stood back and watched to see who the Bennettes were.

She saw a man and a woman walk into the hospital with their heads up and their noses up

Beverly eased out the closet and looked around and walked to the nurses’ desk and said, “Who are they ?”

One nurse said the Bennettes.

Beverly turned her head to the side and said, “I haven’t heard Dr. Wade mention them when I am cleaning his office.  
Beverly saw the housekeeper coming in.

Beverly said “How long have they been here?’

The other nurse said, “About a month. They are nasty.”

Beverly said, “Who brought them in?”

Both nurses stood and looked and said they did not know.

Beverly put the mop and down and ran out the building.

She went to Dennis office.

Ryan saw his mother and followed her to his father’s office.

Her husband walked in and Beverly told him no one know who brought them to the hospital and they had been there about a month.

Dennis said, “I need security at all of my hospitals, I need you Beverly to go to the different hospitals and introduce anyone that me and Ryan hire.”

Ryan said, “I met a police officer last night. Dad can you cover for me and let me go out to the bone hospital to talk to him.”

Beverly said, “You yelled at me not to call it that.”

Ryan said, “I said it so you can know where I am going.”

Ryan left and went to the hospital and he and Hutch drained Charlie Jr’s wound and cleaned him up.

Charlie Sr. was sitting there all night.

Dr. Parker came in and checked Charlie Jr’s vitals and heart and of veins.

He looked at his wound and said, “Start an iv.”

Ryan turned around to hear what type of iv.

Dr. parker told Hutch what to put in the iv.

Hutch said, “I agree.”

Ryan said, “I agree.”

Ryan looked at Charlie Sr. and opened the door for them to step out.

Charlie Sr. looked for his wife and daughter.

Nurse William said, “They are in room two sleep.”

Ryan and Charlie Sr. stepped outside and talked.

Charlie Sr., “I want to be a part of this, but I am going to stay with my son.”

Charlie Sr. looked around.

Ryan wandered what he was looking for.

Charlie Sr. “I need to let them know to go and arrest them. But it would take a long time.”

Ryan said, “They have a telegram machine in the office.”

Charlie Sr., “Can we use it?”

Ryan said, “Sure.”

They walked back in the hospital.

Ryan knocked on the door and said, “Debra we need to use the telegram machine.”

She said, “Sure. I have mail to give out to the patients.”

Charlie Sr. sent the telegram and gave Ryan and Dennis Wade as the contact.

Ryan shook Charlie’s hand and left he went back to work and work a few hours and left and went to bed.

The police went to the hospital and arrested the Bennettes.

Ryan’s father assigned him to General hospital until they hired other surgeons and they wanted to know what happened to the surgeon they had there.

Ryan said, “It is too far for me to be travelling everyday.”

Beverly said, get a small apartment and come home for a few days at a time.”

Alice was ginning and ready to move.

Ryan was packing and as he packed Alice packed.

Ryan finally looked at Alice and saw she was packing her stuff not his stuff.

He said, “You stay here with mom and dad. I should not be gone more than two months. I have to find surgeon for that hospital. I will be working all the. I will not have time to spend with you and then we will be made with each other.”

Alice cried.

Ryan looked at her and continued to pack.

He said, “Think what it was like growing up here and I didn’t have anyone to shift some of this to.”

He looked up at Alice and said, “I don’t want but one child.”

Alice was sitting at the foot of bed with her face plastered against the poster of the bed.

Ryan looked at Alice and continued to pack.

Ryan left and made it to the hospital in nearly two hours.

The hospital an extra room he took the room.