Eleanor, Brenda and Lorraine went to the motel and Eleanor walked through the hotel and was pleased.

She saw the few extra things in the motel and looked at Brenda.

Brenda was standing back grinning.

Lorraine was looking at the motel and thought it was nice for the railroad workers and families that would be going to the bone hospital.

Eleanor went to her mother and hugged her.

Eleanor sent a telegram to the railroad from the hotel that morning to make sure Mr. Long reached the railroad and they gave him preferential treatment and to send their response to the hospital.

They heard the church bells ringing.

They left the motel and went to the hospital.

The nurses watched Eleanor and Brenda.

They were dressed with money.

Eleanor, Brenda and Lorraine spoke to the staff.

Brenda had a bunch of flowers she was taking to Gen and Mag.

Brenda spoke to the nurses and Dr. Woodson.

Eleanor had a dress in her hand.

She spoke to the nurses and Dr. Ralph and Dr. Greene.

She did not see Dr. Parker.

Dr. Parker was going to Mr. Jackson’s funeral and would come to work later.

Dr. Woodson watched the nurses as they turned and watched Brenda walk pass them.

Dr. Woodson grinned and thought, “You need to see her house.”

The nurses watched Eleanor with her European flair.

Brenda spoke to Gen and Mag and Roger.

A nurse brought two vases to Brenda.

Brenda said, “Thank you.”

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

She looked at Gen and saw she was upset.

Brenda put the flowers into the vase and walked over to Mag and talked for a few minutes.

Brenda looked at Mag.

Mag shrugged her shoulders.

Roger walked over and whispered, “Gen cried all night.”

Mag said, “Bren you are fancy today.”

Brenda said, “I am going to church. I rarely go. But I am going to start going. I believe this is a good day to start.”

They heard Shirley yelling no.

Brenda said, “I want to snatch her. She is hurting because she is not normal. She is faulting Eleanor. Eleanor is feeling guilt. But I better get down therefore Eleanor hurt Shirley.”

Gen said, “You better run.”

Dr. Woodson looked as Brenda was running across the hall.

Dr. Ralph and the nurse ran to Shirley’s room.

Lorraine walked out the room.

Dr. Woodson and Dr. Greene stood and looked.

The other nurses were coming out of the patients’ room.

Dr. Greene yelled, “Eleanor no!!!”

Dr. Ralph rushed in the room.

Lorraine ran out the door.

Bruce was walking up to the hospital.

Lorraine yelled, “Bruce!!! Eleanor, Bruce!!!”

Brenda stopped but kept going to deal with Shirley before Eleanor hurt her.

Dr. Woodson walked to the hallway.

Gen was throwing the cover off her and was running to the hallway to see.

Roger and Mag walked and stood beside Gen and looked.

Lorraine turned the door loose and Bruce let the door closed.

Bruce looked at Lorraine.

He turned and stepped inside the hospital.

Dr. Woodson walked to Bruce and said, “No trouble Bruce.”

Bruce said, “I know.”

Dr. Woodson said, “Why are you here?”

Bruce looked at Roger, Mag and Gen and he saw how the staff was watching him.

Dr. Greene was about to run to Shirley’s room and help Dr. Ralph.

He slowed to look at Dr. Woodson and Bruce.

Hutch rushed out the back with Meredith.

Gen said, “I’m going to report you two.”

Meredith did not know what to say.

Gen said, “On a Sunday. Shame on you.”

Meredith held her head down.

She heard Eleanor cussing.

Meredith ran to Shirley’s room.

Gen said, “Yeah gone over there.”

Mag and Roger watched Meredith.

Meredith slowed.

Hutch looked at Meredith.

Dr. Woodson looked at Hutch.

Hutch said, “I am sorry.”

Dr. Woodson said, “We will talk later.”

Bruce looked at everyone watching him.

He had to be brave and said, “To make up for me if I can.”

Dr. Woodson looked at Bruce.

They heard Shirley yelled no.

Then they heard Eleanor yell, “Turn me loose!”

Bruce went and sat down in the hall.

Mag, Roger and Gen looked at Bruce.

He looked at them and stood up and walked to the door.

He opened the door.

Dr. Woodson turned and looked at Bruce.

He went back to the nurses’ desk.

Two of his patients were about to fall out of bed to look in the hall and see what was about to happen.

Dr. Woodson went and said, “Good morning Mrs. Cobb I’ll be with you in a little bit.”

She was raised up on her elbow and sat and looked at Dr. Woodson.

Dr. Woodson closed her door.

She was mad because the staff ate all the sweets yesterday and did not give her any.

She told them she only had a broken hip and no other health issue.

Nurse Jackson gave her a plate of fried chicken and mashed potatoes.

Mrs. Cobb ate it but was mad about not having sweets.

Nurse Jackson went to Mr. Jackson’s funeral.

Craig pulled her to him.

She walked in the funeral with Craig.

Mr. Jackson’s funeral was at the largest church in the city.

The mayor and his wife attended, along with the whole city council and a large number of the military.

Craig sat Nurse Jackson to his mother.

Nurse Jackson was about to jump up.

Craig’s mother held her hand.

Craig walked to the podium.

Mrs. Jackson leaned over and said to Nurse Jackson and said, “This is Craig’s church.”

She looked at Nurse Jackson got sick.

She turned her head and saw Ryan and Alice.

They waved to her.

Nurse Jackson thought, “What is this crap?”

Mrs. Jackson nodded and said, “There are some of your friends.”

Nurse Jackson saw Ryan and Alice, but when she looked again she saw Dr. Parker and she assumed his wife sitting behind Ryan and Alice.

Mrs. Jackson leaned to Nurse Jackson and said, “You look nice.”

Nurse Jackson knew she meant she looked wealthy.

She was numb for the whole service.

Dr. Parker looked at Nurse Jackson and knew she was out of place.

He thought about her hot nature and everybody knew if a man walked in the door she was going to have him before he left.

Dr. Parker held his head down and laughed.

Alice looked back at Dr. Parker and knew what he was laughing about.

Alice started laughing.

Ryan was not paying Alice much attention.

He was thinking about Craig being the only child and having to take care of his mother.

Alice was about to burst her kidneys sitting and laughing.

Ryan hit her thigh.

That made it worst.

He finally turned and looked at Alice. Then he saw Dr. Parker laughing.

Ryan saw a woman sitting next to Dr. Parker he assumed was Dr. Parker’s wife.

The woman was blonde and slim a very attractive face and well behaved, not like Alice.

Ryan’s parents were looking at Alice and the man behind them.

Ryan looked at Nurse Jackson and her sick look.

Ryan became concern about her until Alice continued laughter took over his ear.

Ryan realized how hot Nurse Jackson was and now she suppose to marry a minister.

He smiled. He really felt sorry her.

Alice put her head on Ryan and laughed until she went to sleep.

Ryan’s parents looked at him.

Him looked at them and looked at Alice and leaned his head on her head.

Ryan was letting his parents know Alice is mine’s leave her alone.

He heard his mother tell his father she wanted to invite Eleanor and Brenda and Gen to dinner.

Ryan said, “Mother Alice wanted to invite them to tea. Because they are with Shirley all the time.”

Alice looked at Ryan.

Ryan shook her hand.

Ryan’s father saw him and did not say anything.

His mother looked at Alice and huffed and walked to the bar.

Alice was stunned and walking to the bar.

Ryan said, “Alice.”

Alice kept walking.

Ryan begin to walk to the bar.

His father said, “Ryan I’ll give you that one.”

Ryan looked his father in his eyes and said, “Sir.”

His father said, “She is still my wife who I love.”

Ryan walked and took the glass out of Alice’s hands.

Ryan gave the glass to his father and grabbed Alice by her hand and pulled her upstairs.

His father yelled, “This is whiskey. I want scotch.”

Ryan looked down the stairs at his father and walked Alice upstairs.

Ryan’s father, Dennis said, “If they come we have to have security. Two of the richest women in the country.”

Ryan said, “Exactly.”

Beverly said, “Hush Ryan.”

Beverly stood and looked at Dennis.

Dennis said, “It is up to you.”

Ryan was closing his bedroom door and coughed.

Dennis said, “Good night Ryan and Alice.”

Beverly looked up the stairs at her gorgeous son closing his bedroom door.

Dennis said, “What was thought about the Stiths?”

Beverly said, “I never saw Eleanor. I spoke to Brenda, she was in the room talking to Genevia.”

Dennis said, “Genevia! What was she doing there again?”

Beverly said, “I …”

Ryan opened his bedroom door and said, “She and Ben are going to Europe and wanted to get therapy before they left.”

Dennis did not turn around and kept looking at Beverly.

He and Beverly turned and walked to the sitting room.

Dennis said, “He’ll be down here in a minute.”

Beverly was sitting and giggled.

Ryan every since he was a little boy would eavesdrop and if they moved from the hall he would run down the stairs to be included in the conversation.

They waited Ryan did not come.

Beverly said, “I guess he is busy.”

She and Dennis laughed.

Dennis said, “As you were saying.”

Beverly said, “Brenda Stith is black.”

Dennis said, “I knew that.”

Beverly said, “She has beautiful skin, thick long hair, she had it down and plaited laying on her shoulder. Pearl earrings and single strand pearl necklace. Very plain blouse and skirt, and belt but expensive.”

Dennis, “Now how was she as a person.”

Beverly looked at Dennis and shook herself out of what she was saying.

She said, “I don’t know.”

Dennis said, “You don’t know. But you want to invite them to our home just so you can say they were here.”

Beverly said, “Yes.”

They laughed.

Beverly said, “Brenda was very quiet and not friendly but pleasant.”

Dennis said, “She is black. Think of that being in a white world while her people were in slavery. Can you imagine how many times she was under attack and her family?”

Ryan was standing on the top of the staircase and listened.

He never thought about that.

He turned and walked back in his room to his wife Alice.

The butler passed and looked up at Ryan and continued to the Wades.

Dennis said, “We are going to Mr. Jackson’s funeral in the morning…”

He said, “Ryan are you and Alice riding with us or are you going to have your own?”

Ryan was closing his door and said, “Ride with you and mother.”

They heard his door closed.

Dennis looked at the butler and said, “Get the larger carriage out.”

The butler said, “Sir.”

Dennis looked at him nd said, “Yes.”

Beverly looked at the butler.

The butler said, “I was at the market today and heard other workers saying their employers are going to Mr. Jackson’s funeral and the town is full of the military.”

Ryan cracked his door and was listening.

Beverly sat.

Ryan walked to the staircase and said, “What time is Mr. Jackson’s funeral?”

The butler said, “Ten am.”

Ryan said, “We need to leave here at eight am.”

Beverly jumped up and started cursing.

She said, “I am not leaving here at that time.”

Ryan ran down the stairs.

Dennis sat and looked up at Beverly and grabbed her scotch glass.

He said, “You are cursing about leaving the house an hour early. Get upstairs and go to bed.”

Beverly looked at Dennis.

Dennis gave the butler their half drunk glasses or whiskey and scotch.

Ryan turned to the butler and said, “Have a very light breakfast of eggs, fruit and bacon. At seven am.”

Ryan grabbed the scotch and drank it fast and gave the glass to the butler.

Dennis said, “And muffins.”

Ryan said, “Four muffins.”

Dennis said, “Who is he telling how many muffins to have?”

The butler looked at Ryan and said, “I wanted the scotch.”

The butler drank the whiskey.

Ryan walked to the scotch and looked up the stairs and the butler walked to Ryan.

Ryan filled both glasses with scotch.

He ran upstairs to Alice.

The butler walked in the kitchen and put one glass of scotch on the cabinet.

The three kitchen workers took a swallow each.

The butler wrote the breakfast menu.

He walked to the stables and told them to have the one of the large carriages ready to leave at eight am.

He went into the house and sat and drank his scotch.

He read a book until it was time to go to bed.

He put out the lights and went downstairs to his bedroom and went to sleep.

Dr. Woodson looked at Bruce standing by the door.

He saw Dr. Ralph picked up Eleanor and carrying her out of Shirley’s room.

Dr. Woodson saw Mag and Gen pointing at the door.

He walked over and saw Gen hand her umbrella in her hand.

He said, “Gen give me the umbrella.”

Gen turned and walked to her room.

Bruce opened the door.

Lorraine stepped in front of the delivery man.

The nurse was walking to see about Shirley.

She saw Lorraine step in front of the delivery man.

The nurse said, “Oh sweets.”

Dr. Woodson turned to walk back to see what was going on.

Gen tossed the umbrella back on her bed and walked behind Dr. Woodson.

He looked back and saw Gen walking behind him.

He stood and saw Bruce was holding the door open for the delivery man.

Lorraine got two cupcakes.

Bruce was rolling his eyes at her.

Lorraine was hiding the other cupcake and she turned and saw Bruce.

She yelled, “Brenda!!”

Dr. Woodson knew she called Brenda because she slapped Bruce.

The delivery man brought the large baskets of sweets to the hospital.

The nurse rushed to get the basket.

The delivery man looked at the nurse.

He said, “Where is Nurse Jackson?’

Dr. Woodson nearly hit the floor with laughter.

The delivery man handed Dr. Woodson the delivery slip.

Dr. Woodson tried to compose himself.

He signed the slip.

Dr. Hutch picked up the patients’ charts and begin to review them.

A nurse from the other side walked across with a plate to get their share.

Bruce opened the door for the delivery man to exit.

Another delivery man was coming with a bunch of balloons.

Lorraine was walking behind him.

Bruce opened he door for the delivery man.

Meredith was washing Shirley to get her dressed to go to church with Brenda and Eleanor.

Eleanor walked in the room and said, “Good morning Shirley.”

Shirley saw the dress in Eleanor’s hand.

Eleanor said, ”I brought this dress and another one with me, so we can go to church.”

Shirley yelled, “No.”

That’s when Brenda went running across the hallway and the nurse from the desk jumped up.

Lorraine was shocked but she quickly moved to the door.

Dr. Ralph and Dr. Greene were talking and looked up and saw Lorraine quickly moving to the door.

Dr. Ralph rushed to Shirley’s room along with the nurse.

Dr. Greene yelled, “Eleanor no!”

Brenda ran into the room.

Lorraine was running out the room and out the hospital.

When Dr. Ralph and the nurse and Brenda ran into Shirley’s room, Eleanor nearly had Shirley by the throat.

Dr. Greene ran into the room.

Dr. Ralph grabbed Eleanor by the waist and carried her out of Shirley’s room.

He was angry with both Shirley and Eleanor.

Then he heard Lorraine again yelling for Brenda.

Dr. Ralph continued to review his patients’ charts.

Mr. Smith walked out his room and said, “Dr. Ralph put her down.“

Dr. Ralph looked at Mr. Smith and said, “Why?”

Mr. Smith said, “She needs to go and beat that ex-husband.”

Bruce heard Mr. Smith and walked out the hospital and to the carriage.

Gen thought, “Sharon.”

She looked around and eased out the door of the hospital.

Dr. Woodson and Hutch were going into Mrs. Cobb’s room.

Gen walked out the hospital and Lorraine looked around and eased a cupcake to Gen.

Gen hid the cupcake behind the umbrella and walked back in the hospital to her room.

Dr. Ralph said, “See Eleanor you are entertainment to my patients.”

Eleanor was quiet.

Dr. Ralph got scared.

He stood Eleanor in front of him and looked at her.

Dr. Ralph begin to check Eleanor’s vitals.

He saw she was alright.

He looked at her.

Eleanor said, “I was pregnant with Shirley at fourteen. My parents were sending me away to give birth and leave her in an uncivilized country. I could not put my sin away. I fell one day and caused this great damage to my own flesh and blood. I have carried this guilt everyday. I cannot undo my sin and make her whole, I wish I could. I have allowed Shirley to use the guilt against me everyday.”

Brenda had walked out the room with Dr. Greene.

The other nurse walked to get hot water so Meredith could wash Shirley.

Brenda and Dr. Greene stood and heard Eleanor.

They heard the pain of a woman, a mother who was a failure and that had no hope.

Brenda walked over to Mag and Roger.

She saw Brenda with the cupcake behind the umbrella.

Brenda rolled her eyes at Lorraine.

Brenda walked behind Gen and as Gen was closing the door.

Brenda pushed it open.

Gen said, “Bren come in and finish my flowers. I saw Mag’s flowers you did a good job. Mabel is rubbing off on you.”

Brenda did not say anything but reached her hand to Gen.

Gen said, “No.”

Brenda said, “You are my best friend. You are my sister. I want you to be around for a long time. If a cupcake would take you from me, then I will take the cupcake away.”

Gen looked at Bren and reached her the cupcake.

Gen said, “Who told you?”

Brenda said, “You did with the dreams of angels. I am not ready for you to go. And I got so much going in my life I don’t want to leave until I got the resolutions.”

Gen was about to talk, when there was a knock on her door.

Brenda turned and looked at the door.

Gen said, “Open.”

It was Mag and Roger they opened the door and walked in.

Roger said, “We can come back.”

Mag said, “You can come back.”

Gen said, “You two come on in.”

Gen told them of the dreams of angels and that Dr. Woodson explained how bad her heart was.

Dr. Woodson and Hutch were at the nurses’ desk.

They listened to Gen.

Gen cried.

The nurses heard Gen cry.

Brenda finished with her flowers.

Dr. Ralph looked around to find Eleanor a chair.

The nurse moved the chair to Eleanor.

The nurses were looking at Eleanor’s outfit.

Dr. Greene shook his head at the nurses.

He never saw Shirley with clothes on.

He knew the dress was new because Meredith was removing the tags.

One of the nurses.

Sat still as she heard Eleanor.

The other nurse said, “Why are you still?”

The nurse said, “Six years ago.”

Dr. Ralph and Dr. Greene looked at the nurse.

The nurse said, “Six years ago what?”

The other nurse stood and walked out the hospital and left everything.

Dr. Greene, Dr. Ralph and the nurse were shocked and stood and looked as the nurse exit the hospital.

Dr. Greene and Dr. Ralph continued their patient’s therapies.

Lorraine walked and sat in Shirley’s room.

Dr. Ralph wanted to say something to Lorraine.

She sat and ate her cupcake.

She looked over at Eleanor.

She said, “Eleanor you should be alright. All that fighting you and me use to do.”

Dr. Ralph looked at Lorraine who was relaxed and eating her cupcake.

Eleanor simply shook her head.

Dr. Greene looked at Lorraine.

Meredith helped Shirley walk to the door.

Shirley stood in the doorway and looked like a princess.

Meredith had comb and brushed Shirley’s hair like it was during Christmas.

Meredith walked to Eleanor and reached her hands out.

Eleanor went in her pocket and pulled out the pearl and diamond earrings.

The nurses stood up to look.

Meredith stopped and showed the nurses the earrings.

The nurses said, “Whoa.”

Meredith went and stooped down and put Shirley’s earrings in her ears.

Shirley started to walk to Eleanor.

Eleanor pointed to the door.

Eleanor was tired and she was sick of her sin being threw up in her face all day, every day.

She was thinking.

Brenda was walking out of Gen’s room with Roger.

Roger spoke to Shirley and walked to Lorraine and said, “Where is Shirley’s wheelchair?”

Lorraine pointed to the room.

Roger looked at her.

He walked in the room and got Shirley’s wheelchair.

He walked out and put it on the back of the carriage.

Dr. Woodson and Hutch looked at Shirley.

Brenda walked passed Shirley to get her and Eleanor’s coats.

Hutch walked to Shirley who was studying herself.

Hutch kneeled down to Shirley and looked her in her eyes.

Shirley started crying.

Hutch hugged Shirley.

Hutch looked up.

Meredith gave Shirley a handkerchief to dry her tears.

Brenda walked out Shirley’s room and watched Hutch and Shirley.

Brenda gave Lorraine Eleanor’s coat and gloves.

Lorraine reached Eleanor her clothes.

She continued to eat her cupcake.

Dr. Greene looked at a lean back relaxed Lorraine.

Dr. Ralph looked at Lorraine.

He never seen that personality. He wondered what was wrong with Lorraine.

He wondered if Eleanor and Shirley finally got the best of her.

Eleanor stood and walked to Lorraine and slowly put on her coat, hat, scarf and loves.

She looked outstanding.

The nurses watched Eleanor leave.

Shirley whispered, “Momma and grandma hate me.”

Hutch held her close and said, “I know they don’t.”

Meredith looked at Hutch.

Hutch saw Brenda and Eleanor walk up and he walked Shirley to the carriage.

Meredith said, “How am I going to get to the hotel?”

Vince was in the back.

Hutch said, “Let me ask Vince if he can take you. Can you bring me clean underwear and clean clothes.”

Dr. Woodson looked at Hutch.

He looked at the door and saw the carriage pass.

The other nurse walked over with all of the balloons that were delivered for Shirley.

She reached the balloons to Lorraine.

Lorraine pointed to the room.

The nurse tied the balloons to the dresser.

She looked back at Lorraine.

Hutch and Vince came up to the hallway.

Roger was watching.

Hutch said, “Meredith Vince said, he will take you to the hotel.”

Roger said, “What about me? I can ride?”

Vince said, “Sure.”

Roger ran and grabbed his bag and his bag and kissed Mag and Gen ran to Vince.

The three left the hospital for the hotel.

Meredith and Roger thank Vince and got out the wagon.

Roger walked to the front desk and ordered his bath water.

He asked Meredith if she wanted hot water for a bath.

She said yes.

Roger said, “Can I have a wagon for later?”

The front desk clerk said, “Yes.”

Meredith said, “We should order them food for today.”

Roger stepped back for her to order them food.

She said, “What do you have that can be ready in five hours?”

The front desk clerk said, “Mrs. Stith and Mrs. Simons ordered dinner before they left. It is to be delivered to the hospital at three pm.”

Roger said, “Good.”

Meredith said, “What?”

The clerk said, “Complete turkey dinners.”

Meredith said, “How many?”

The clerk said, “Two.”

Roger said, “Meredith I am going back to the hospital in about five hours, you want to ride back with me. Maybe something will be left.”

He laughed.

Meredith was scared Brenda was going to fire her for not being in the room with Shirley.

Roger looked at Meredith and said, “If you are scared of Brenda. Don’t be.”

Meredith went to her room and got Hutch clothes together.

Roger went upstairs to his room.

He got on his knees and prayed until the housekeepers knocked on his door.

He got up and opened the door and they walked in with his hot tub of water.

Roger tipped them and thank them.

He sat on the bed and thought.

He shaved and took his hot bath and fell asleep in the tub.

He woke and dressed and went to bed.

He slept until the housekeepers came and knocked on the door to get the bathtub.

Roger woke and walked and opened the door.

He said, “What time is it?”

The housekeepers said, “Three pm.”

Roger was puzzled.

He went and dressed and knocked on Meredith door and she walked out with Hutch clean clothes in a sack.

They went to the hospital.

Lorraine sat in the chair until she heard Eleanor pull off.

She raised up to try to peep out Shirley’s window.

She could not see.

Lorraine went in her pocket and pulled out a pint of liquor.

Dr. Ralph, Dr. Greene and one of the nurses saw her.

Lorraine struggled and got up.

She went in Shirley’s room and laid in Shirley’s bed and drank and went to sleep.

Dr. Greene and Dr. Ralph continued to work on the patients.

Dr. Greene left early to have Sunday dinner with Debra and their son.

Dr. Greene walked in his door.

Debra and their son greeted him at the door.

Dr. Greene reached for their son.

He and Debra kissed.

He walked their son through the house.

Debra had the table set but put the food on the table.

Dr. Greene came to the table to sit for dinner.

He saw the dishes and said, “Are these new?”

Debra said, “No. Eleanor and Brenda brought these here. I loved these dishes when I worked for them.”

Dr. Greene frowned.

Debra smiled waned and she said, “Why are you frowning?”

Dr. Greene said, “Are we suppose to be taking something from our patients?”

Debra said, “I am not their doctor. They are not patients at the hospital. They are my friends. I did not know they saw me admiring their table settings. I would never be able to afford these dishes. Even if you left and went to another hospital .You take a paycheck from Shirley’s trust fund every week. She is a patient at the hospital.”

Dr. Greene sat and looked at an angry Debra.

He looked at their son who was eating.

Debra stood and walked from the table and stepped in the kitchen.

Dr. Greene sat and he was surprised at what he said and what Dbra’s reaction was.

They really never fight.

He was not going to start.

He stood and walked into the kitchen and grabbed Debra by her shoulders and kissed her on her temple and said, “Let’s figure out how not to argue. I want you and our son forever.”

Debra said, “Sit down and let’s have Sunday dinner. You got off early let us enjoy this day.”

They walked to the table.

Their son had spilled the green peas over the table.

Debra and Tony laughed and got the peas up.

Debra said, “Tony I want to know why were they so early at the hospital.”

Tony said, “To go to church and take Shirley. Shirley had a fit. I had to catch Eleanor.”

Debra laughed.

Dr. Greene looked at his wife and said, “Why you laugh. I think it was a serious situation.”

Debra was laughing so hard she was crying and tried to wipe her eyes.

She said, “Shirley is the only one that can push Eleanor to that point.”

Dr. Greene said, “Then Bruce showed up.”

Debra said, “Today?”

Dr. Greene said, “Yes.”

Debra said, “Why?”

Dr. Greene said, “He said to make amends.”

Debra was still crying with laughter and said, “Brenda and Eleanor did not double team him?”

Dr. Greene could not understand what was funny.

Debra reached over and touched Tony’s hand and said, “You got to know them. The children are bad as hell. Eleanor hired young certified nurses to be with her children. They are always climbing and crawling and missing with the animals and drink.”

Dr. Greene looked at their son.

Debra said, “That’s why they are calm. Then Shirley throw a horseshoe in there and send them all off.”

Debra was hollering.

Dr. Greene and his son were eating and watching a tickled Debra.

Dr. Greene said, “Shirley told Brenda the other day she was not normal and that was feeling. Eleanor said today it was her sin that caused Shirley to be deformed.”

Debra said, “I told you Shirley will throw every thing off. I knew Shirley hated Eleanor because she was deformed. And she would use Eleanor’ guilt to bring her down. And Eleanor will never let anyone bring her down. I bet Bruce got out that hospital quick.”

Dr. Greene looked t his wife and said, “That is amazing. Bruce did run out the hospital.”

Debra leaned back in her chair and hollered.

Dr. Greene said, “I think they are going to put Shirley away.”

Debra head was back.

She raised her head up and looked at Tony.

Tony said, “This good dear.”

Debra said, “Jose taught me how to blend different spices for fish, chicken, beef and lamb.”

She reached and grabbed Tony’s hand and looked into his eyes.

She said, “I never want plain and boring with you.”

Tony said, “You will never get it.”

Debra smiled.

She ate dinner quietly.

Tony watched her.

He and their son played a few hours, while Debra put the food away and washed the dishes.

They put their son to bed.

They went to their bedroom.

They spent several hours together and went to sleep.

Dr. Greene left the hospital and heard someone snoring.

The nurses grinned.

Lorraine was drunk and was sleep in Shirley’s room.

Dr. Ralph finished the two patients remaining.

Brenda, Eleanor and Shirley went to church and they stayed until one thirty pm.

They walked through town.

Shirley said, “I’m not ready to go back. Can we find daddy’s house. I have not seen it.”

Eleanor rode straight to it.

Brenda looked at Eleanor.

Brenda said, “Eleanor don’t come back here.”

Eleanor was quiet the whole day.

Shirley looked at the house and said, “I like it.”

Bruce was standing in the front door and saw Shirley peeping out the back.

He smiled and was about to walk to the door when they pulled away.

He thought, “Shirley never saw the house. I did not want Eleanor to see it and I did not want my own children here. God what was I thinking? My children hate me because I did not want them in my house. God how do I fix this?”

He drank his scotch and turned the curtain loose and walked to his office.

He sat in his chair and looked at his empty desk.

He threw all the papers off his desk.

He only had the papers from the hotel.

He has lost everything.

He sat and held his hands to his head.

Sharon walked in and picked up the papers.

Her mother and father were in the kitchen cooking dinner.

They had no servants.

The only time there were servants is when they needed extra work.

And Bruce would get the workers from the hotel to come and work round his house.

He had them to do their laundry all the time.

He would order the liquor for the hotel and take a bottle of everything home.

He was glad the Stiths were at his hotel.

The hotel would function for another month from their bill alone.

Sharon closed his office door.

Bruce held his head down and cried.

He was remorseful and said, “What have I done?”

Brenda, Eleanor and Shirley drove back to the hospital.

Lorraine woke up and changed Shirley’s sheets.

She took the dirty sheets to the laundry and walked back to Shirley’s room.

Everyone watched Lorraine.

She opened Shirley’s window and got the extra pillow and fell asleep on the dresser.

Dr. Ralph did not look at Lorraine.

The hotel brought the turkey dinners.

The nurses were excited.

Eleanor and Brenda and Shirley walked in the hospital with Shirley.

They walked Shirley to her room.

Brenda walked and closed the window and tried to wake Lorraine.

Shirley looked at Lorraine and said, “Can I go to see Gen?”

Eleanor walked Shirley to see Gen.

Hutch walked to the carriage and got Shirley’s wheelchair and took it to her.

Shirley sat in the wheelchair.

Eleanor sat in the chair at the hallway.

Dr. Woodson sat in the chair at the hall that lead to Gen’s room.

He watched a quiet Eleanor. He knew she was thinking.

He reviewed the last patient’s chart.

He pulled out the letter he received yesterday out of his pocket.

The nurses made him a plate of turkey, dressing, green beans and peas and beets.

He laughed because Eleanor was a beet person.

They made Gen and Mag a plate.

The patients had chicken soup and cornbread and rolls.

The patients were happy.

Gen and Mag did not eat the hospital dinner but waited for what Brenda and Eleanor ordered.

They made Hutch and Dr. Ralph plates and the other two nurses.

They did not know what to give to Shirley.

They asked Dr. Woodson what to give Shirley to eat.

He looked up and saw the cooks leaving.

Dr. Ralph and Hutch walked over to the hospital administrator’s office to eat.

Shirley had four comfortable chairs placed in there and new tables.

Dr. Woodson sighed and he stood up and made a saucer for Shirley.

He gave her a tablespoon of dressing, slice of turkey and he mashed a tablespoon of green peas.

Dr. Ralph said, “Is that for Shirley?”

Gen said, “Listen they are taking about your food.”

Shirley was listening.

Dr. Woodson walked into Gen’s room and reached Shirley a plate.

He stooped down in her face and said, “Shirley no more screaming at this hospital. I don’t care if you do owe it. Cornbread infects your intestines and keep them swollen. We are trying to see what else does so you can afford them and let your intestines heal. Understand. Dr. Ralph believe you can have this.”

Shirley looked down at her plate and grinned big.

Dr. Woodson kissed her on her cheeks and patted her head and walked out.

Brenda walked across and saw Eleanor sitting and being quiet.

The nurses made their plates and sat down to eat.

They looked at Brenda.

Brenda said, “I’ll eat whatever.”

The nurses continued to eat.

Brenda walked in the hospital administrator’s office and made a plate and got two napkins.

She sat next to Eleanor.

Eleanor would not eat.

She would not talk.

Brenda could not eat.

Gen’s room was full.

Brenda sat next to Dr. Woodson.

She could see Eleanor.

Dr. Woodson reached in his pocket and gave Brenda his letter.

Brenda hesitantly took the letter.

She slowly opened it and her check fell out.

She read the letter.

The lady that Dr. Woodson used to pay for his medical school education returned the check.

She thank Dr. Woodson for thinking about her and his letter of apologizing.

She told him she is a missionary and spend most of her time in South America.

That is why she is just responding to him.

She told him she has no malice and because of him doing the work he is doing for good.

She will take it as investing in his missionary work.

She told him not to kick himself. If another man would have tried to destroy her but he only took what he needed, She was glad he was there for that period of time when she needed to become strong and make up her mind about her future, he was there in her life at the time to help her decide. She loved him for who he was in that time. But she pray he will let go of the guilt and live a life free of guilt.”

Brenda put the check in the letter and put them in the envelope.

Brenda reached Dr. Woodson the envelope.

Dr. Woodson looked at Brenda.

Brenda said, “A very well written letter of freedom.”

Dr. Woodson said, “Brenda please take your check.”

Brenda did not.

Dr. Woodson said, “Please.”

Brenda knew he did not want to beholden to another woman.

She took the check out the letter and gave it back to Dr. Woodson.

Shirley rolled out Gen’s room and saw Brenda talking to Dr. Woodson.

She looked in the hospital administrator’s office and flashed her big grin at Dr. Ralph and Hutch.

Shirley was peeping around at Eleanor who had not moved.

Brenda said, “Shirley you want something to eat?”

Dr. Ralph said, “She can’t have anything?”

Shirley rolled to Eleanor and sat next to Eleanor.

Brenda watched.

Dr. Woodson saw Brenda and said, “What is it Brenda?”

Brenda leaned and whispered and said, “I think Eleanor is going to put Shirley away forever.”

Dr. Woodson turned and looked at Brenda.

Brenda said, “I think she is thinking the divorce will give her total custody of her children. Now she has to fight with Bruce. I will talk with Patrick once he gets back here.”

He watched Shirley lean her head towards Eleanor.

Eleanor did not respond.

Shirley rolled to her room and closed her door.

Lorraine woke and helped Shirley dressed for bed.

Lorraine walked out the room and walked to Eleanor and gave her Shirley’s earrings.

Lorraine walked and got Shirley’s water to brush her teeth.

Lorraine walked from Shirley’s room and stood and looked at Elenor.

Dr. Woodson and Brenda watched the drunk Lorraine.

Lorraine discarded Shirley’s water.

She walked back to Shirley’s room and closed the door.

She closed the window.

Lorraine stood at the foot of Shirley’s bed and said, “I think your mother is thinking about what she is going to do about Shirley. You have got out of hand and disrespectful. I think Eleanor’s decision is going to be hard. You need to pray hard Shirley. She came so you all can build a bridge together. She brought those special earrings with the three diamonds to show you, her and your grandmother. Shirley you need to pray. I’ll be back tomorrow.”

Lorraine saw Meredith and Roger pull up.

Lorraine looked around the room and underneath the bed and walked out Shirley’s room.

Roger and Meredith walked in the hospital.

Some more visitors walked in and went to their relatives.

Lorraine walked up and said, “Can I use the horse and wagon to go back to the hotel.

Eleanor stood and said, “I want to go back also.”

Eleanor walked back to say bye to Mag and Gen.

Roger looked at Brenda.

Brenda shook her head.

Meredith walked to Shirley’s room.

Shirley was on her knees and had her hands in the folded in prayer.

Fist Meredith thought Shirley had fallen out of bed until she saw her hands in folded in prayer.

Meredith sat and watched this thrown away child.

Gen and talked about how nice Eleanor looked.

Lorraine gathered all the plates and dishes and made two trips to the wagon.

Dr. Ralph and Hutch watched Lorraine.

Brenda was quiet.

Dr. Woodson looked around in the hospital administrator’s office and saw in the basket a letter.

He wondered when the letter arrived.

He looked at it.

The letter was addressed to Shirley.

He gave it to Brenda.

Brenda smiled and said, “From Ginger another teenager she invited to her first tea party.”

Brenda turned her head.

Dr. Woodson could not say anything.

He checked the hospital.

And locked up everything.

Hutch was walking back to the doctor’s room so he could rest.

Dr. Woodson said, “Step on back here.”

Hutch said, “I am sorry.”

Dr. Woodson said, “You have to make up your mind. When you are at work you are at work. When you are at home you are at work. Decide Hutch.”

Hutch said, “I am trying to decide.”

Dr. Woodson said, “Good night.”

Brenda put the letter in her pocket and walked Eleanor and Lorraine to the wagon.

She told Lorraine to bring her two outfits in the morning.

Lorraine took off.

Dr. Ralph was leaving for the day.

Dr. Woodson walked out and was leaving for the day.

Hutch walked over to Shirley’s room.

They spoke to Brenda.

Brenda said, “Good night.”

She walked back in the hospital and locked the door.

She checked the hospital administrator’s office and she checked on Gen and Mag.

She walked to Shirley and looked at Meredith sitting in the chair looking.

She saw Hutch sitting next to her.

Brenda stepped in the room and saw Shirley on her knees praying.

Brenda reached the letter to Meredith.

Brenda got her blanket and clothes and walked to the room next to Hutch and went to bed.

She got on her knees and said, “GOD I can’t say anything else. You know all things and I want YOUR will in all things. Help Eleanor she is at her breaking point. Give her some points LORD GOD Almighty. Heal Gen and Mag. Help Michael, all four of them. I don’t know what Michael is going through. I don’t want Bruce in my family. I saw him looking out the window when we went by. I need YOU dear GOD. In JESUS’ name.”

Eleanor went to bed.

Lorraine went to Brenda’s suite and pulled three outfits together and locked the door and went to her room and locked her door and went to bed.

Hutch watched the pitiful Shirley.

He stood and walked out her room.

Hutch checked on the other patients.

He saw the nurses indulging in the sweets that were left for them.

The nurses watched Meredith’s man.

One of the nurses whispered, “We are not patients.”

Meredith walked out Shirley’s room and whispered, “He can hear you.”

The nurses looked at Meredith.

Meredith walked back in Shirley’s room and closed the door.

Meredith made her pallet and put a blanket on it and took another pillow and put it on her pallet she made with the mattress Eleanor had put in that room.

Meredith prayed and asked God to hear Shirley’s pray.

Meredith said, “Because I sin.”

Meredith put the letter on Shirley’s pillow.

She laid on her pallet and thought about Hutch.

She knew he loved being a doctor.

Would he be like Dr. Woodson and Dr. Ralph. She needs to know now. Because she did not want to be like Lorraine sad every day and drinking. She thought she was not going to spend her money on alcohol.”