Hutch checked on Eleanor throughout the night.

Brenda sat and watched Eleanor.

Hutch watched Brenda.

Genevia snored all through the night.

A couple of times Eleanor caused Hutch concern.

He got on his knees and prayed for Eleanor.

Brenda looked at Hutch.

Brenda had stopped praying, she wanted to kill Sharon.

Hutch stood and was about to sit in his chair he saw Brenda.

He walked to Brenda and said, “You need to pray. Eleanor is fighting to stay alive. She keeps mumbling Michael. I don’t know if Michael needs help or not. He is her baby right?”

Brenda sat and did not look at Hutch.

Hutch said, “Please Brenda. Don’t hate. It is not time to think about revenge. I need you to help me pray for Eleanor and whatever she is concerned about Michael. You know. Speak peace to her.”

Brenda eyes blinked.

Hutch stooped down and said, “LORD GOD Almighty I ask YOU to hear our prayer for Eleanor. YOU know man has not invented what we need to diagnosis what is wrong with Eleanor. Therefore, I am totally relying on YOU. I ask YOU LORD GOD Almighty please heal and bring Eleanor out of this…”

Genevia was snoring.

Hutch continued, “Touch Michael, YOU know why she is concerned about him. Speak peace to every cell of her body and let her live and not be affected by this attack in her body. Help Brenda to let go of the hate and the her wanting revenge on Bruce or Sharon, because YOU only hear the pure in heart. In JESUS’ name. Amen.”

Genevia continued to snore.

Hutch stood and walked to Genevia and laid his hand on her forehead and prayed silently,

Brenda turned to look back at Hutch.

She moved the blanket off her and walked to Eleanor.

Brenda sat on Eleanor’s bed and patted her hand.

Brenda raised Eleanor’s hand to her mouth and kissed it.

She said, “You are a very good mother Eleanor.”

Hutch walked in the room and sat in his chair and watched Eleanor.

He was nervous.

A nurse ran to get Dr. Woodson.

Mr. Jackson’s wife and son were in the room with him when started taking his last breathe.

Hutch and Brenda heard when the wife called his name.

Hutch turned and looked at the door.

No one ran to the door.

He jumped and ran out in the hall and saw Mr. Jackson’s son standing and crying.

Hutch ran into the room and begin to examine Mr. Jackson.

His wife was crying and.

Dr. Woodson was barefoot and ran into the room.

Mr. Jackson’s wife touched Dr. Woodson and Dr. Hutch hands and shook her head for no.

She stood and walked to her son.

They held onto each other.

Dr. Woodson and Dr. Hutch looked at the time.

They walked out the room and started filling out the paper.

Some other patients heard what was going on.

Brenda stood and walked to the nurses’ desk and realized that the patient had died.

Hutch was sitting in the chair filling out paper.

Dr. Woodson was standing at the nurses’ desk filling out paper work.

Hutch looked at Brenda and raised the papers to her.

Brenda turned and walked back to Eleanor.

Dr. Woodson saw Hutch and said, “Why you did that?”

Hutch said, “I need Brenda to stand in the hedge of the gap for Eleanor. All Brenda is thinking about is how Eleanor got in that position. I need her to fight with me for Eleanor.”

The nurse looked at Hutch.

Dr. Woodson looked at Hutch.

Dr. Woodson spent the night at the hospital to be there for Eleanor and Brenda.

He was scared for Eleanor.

When Brenda saw Dr. Woodson, she knew Eleanor’s condition was serious.

She sat on Eleanor’s bed and closed her eyes.

She said, “Dear GOD YOU have done so much good in my life. I have a testimony. I hate Sharon and Bruce, Danielle and Richard. I have never seen people like them ever in my life. They are worst than the mob. They want our money YOU gave us and helped us to work and earn. They want to take over our homes and push us out. YOU know GOD Patrick built that house for me. I hate them. YOU are the only one who can remove this hate of them out of my heart. Gen is my best friend and she believes YOU are going to take her home soon...”

Hutch and Dr. Woodson were standing in Eleanor’s door and turned and looked at the sleeping Genevia.

Brenda said, “She is my best friend. YOU gave her to me to be friends for life. If it is YOUR to take her home. I ask that it doesn’t be painful and her heart is clean and pure before. LORD don’t take Eleanor. She has five children and me and Patrick are old. You know my sons are evil and would have her children out being evil. Please clean my heart of this enormous hate that has built up in it and let me pray to YOU for Eleanor and Gen the way YOU want me to. I remember praying to YOU on missions and the hopeless situations YOU gave hope and an expected end for good. In JESUS’ name. Amen.”

Hutch was touched.

He handed his paper to Dr. Woodson.

He sat in his chair and put on his boots.

Dr. Woodson took the paperwork to the nurses’ desk and put it in a folder and placed it on the nurses’ desk.

The other nurses were standing and looking over there at the nurse

Dr. Woodson went and put his boots on.

His door was opened.

He sat and was bent over and looked he looked down.

He went and unlocked the back door and got the key to the place they kept bodies until the undertaker would come.

He stood in the shed and looked around and thought, “Lord only two have died since I have been here. I could not help either one but make their days a little less painful.”

Dr. Woodson kneeled for a long minute.

Hutch walked out the back door and saw the shed and the torch light in the shed.

He walked to the shed and saw Dr. Woodson kneeling.

He looked around and saw it was a shed they don’t use.

Hutch walked back into the hospital.

He liked the doctors and the small hospital.

But he is a surgeon and he thought, “I’ve been running from God. I don’t now about Meredith, if she is to be my wife. They call her Miss Prissy.”

Hutch chuckle and shook his head.

The nurse had pulled the bed out the supply room they put the dead on.

It had never been used for that. Now she can’t eat her lunch on it.

She felt pain for Craig and his mother.

Ryan was a childhood friend of Craig.

Craig’s father was in the military and seriously injured in the civil war and Ryan told them of the bone hospital.

Mr. Jackson liked the hospital and the doctors and staff.

Craig opened the door and walked out with his crying mother.

Dr. Woodson, Hutch and the nurse went into the room and put Mr. Jackson onto the rolling bed.

Dr. Woodson covered Mr. Jackson’s face.

He and Hutch rolled Mr. Jackson outside to the shed.

Craig asked if he could use the telegram machine.

Dr. Woodson said, “Yes.”

Craig sent out a number of telegrams.

Sara walked and held Mrs. Jackson.

The nurse did not know what to do.

She was dating Craig for the past several months.

Mr. Jackson knew and called the nurse into his room in night and told her to close his door and sit down.

Mr. Jackson told her everything he wanted her to know,

She sat and listened.

She did not know what to think about Mr. Jackson’s talk.

She walked out his room with her head slightly down and a confused look on her face.

Craig was smiling when he saw her and Mrs. Jackson was walking in the room.

Craig cut the grin off his face and he and his mother went into his father’s room and closed the door.

They asked him if he said anything to that nurse.

He said, “Yes.”

He told them what he said.

Craig and his mother were surprised.

They did not know what to think.

Lorraine nor Shirley slept at all that night.

They heard what was taking place with Mr. Jackson.

Lorraine stood up and cleaned up Shirley’s room.

She left to get clean linens.

She heard someone knocking on the front door.

She looked back and it was Dr. Ralph.

She kept on walking and went to the linen closet.

The nurse looked saw Lorraine and knew it had to be Dr. Ralph.

She walked to the door and unlocked it.

She whispered Mr. Jackson had passed.

Dr. Ralph nodded.

He looked and saw Craig and Mrs. Jackson.

He walked to them and offered his condolences.

Lorraine went back to Shirley and dropped off the clean bed linen.

She went back to the wash closet and washed her face.

She took down her long black hair. She did not care.

She walked back to Shirley.

Dr. Ralph looked at Lorraine and wondered why her hair was down and what did it mean.

Lorraine got Shirley up and Shirley washed herself.

Lorraine put clean linen on Shirley’s bed.

Shirley said, “I want to see momma.”

Lorraine was cleaning up her rom and said, “Shirley you can you walk down there she is across from Gen.”

Shirley said, “I need help with my hair.”

Lorraine stopped her cleaning and took Shirley’s plaits loose and combed and brusher her hair and put her socks and slippers on.

Lorraine helped Shirley to stand and walked her to her door.

Lorraine was getting everything together to take back to the hotel.

She counted every dish, knife and fork

Meredith sent Patrick a very long telegram when she got back to the hotel that night.

Patrick and Ben were to continued their inspection of the boat that day and finish by the next day.

The boat he sent out to sea, was to return that day.

Patrick did not receive a telegram from Brenda.

He had to continue his business.

Which would take another week.

He was not leaving the dock.

He knew Brenda was taking care of everybody.

He sent a telegram to the hospital to Brenda.

When Debra was not at work, Dr. Woodson would check the telegrams.

Normally they would have no telegrams.

Ryan sent Craig a telegram that he and Alice would come to the hospital that morning.

The undertaker sent a telegram he would come after noon.

Mr. Jackson’s two military brothers and wives were on their way.

Patrick sent Brenda a telegram to hold on he would be back in a week. But his prayers are always with her.

Dr. Woodson had washed, shaved and changed clothes.

He was hungry, but he did not want to eat the oatmeal, grits and crème of wheat the cooks make everyday for the patients.

He knew that and fresh fruit was best for the patents and not that day for him.

Dr. Woodson started passing out the telegrams.

He always looked around when he exited a room.

He learned that years ago when he opened a door and knocked out several people at one time.

He looked and saw Shirley walking pretty good.

She was holding onto the wall.

When she got to the end of the wall.

Lorraine was like clockwork.

She rushed out Shirley’s room with her wheelchair.

Dr. Ralph was looking.

Lorraine sturdy the wheelchair and Shirley continued her walk to the other side.

Dr. Woodson was watching her and Dr. Ralph.

Craig saw Dr. Woodson with telegrams in his hand.

He walked out his father’s room and walked to Dr. Woodson.

Dr. Ralph was watching Shirley.

Lorraine was behind Shirley but stopped several feet behind her.

The night shift nurses were clearing paper and the desk.

Hutch was in the room with Eleanor.

Brenda was still sitting on Eleanor’s bed holding Eleanor’s hand with her eyes closed.

The telegram machine started.

Dr. Woodson heard the telegram machine and walked back into the office.

Craig was reaching for the telegrams, while Dr. Woodson was turning to go in the office.

Meredith sent a telegram she was bring a large breakfast for everyone and she needed Lorraine to come out in an hour to help her.

Dr. Woodson sent Meredith a telegram and said, “Include me in the breakfast.”

The front desk clerk ran and gave the telegram to Meredith.

Meredith said, “Thank you.”

He stood and looked at her and she walked back to the kitchen.

Mr. Long came out of his room and had breakfast.

He saw Meredith loading up the carriage and he thought, “I should have gone with her.”

Dr. Woodson stood in the opened door of the hospital administrator’s office and watched Shirley walk.

Craig stood back.

Dr. Woodson smiled and said, “Good morning Shirley.”

Brenda heard Dr. Woodson speak to Shirley.

Shirley smiled and made a mis-step but she was fine and kept on walking.

Brenda patted Eleanor’s hand and said, “You baby is here to see you.”

Lorraine stood and watched Shirley.

Dr. Ralph watched Lorraine. He did not want her to see him watching her.

The nurses looked at Dr. Ralph.

He thought, “Lorraine is a good nurse and she loves that Shirley. I don’t want to mistreat her.”

Dr. Woodson stood and let her pass him.

He looked at Craig and and handed him his telegrams.

He handed the telegram from Meredith to Lorraine.

Lorraine took the paper but watched Shirley until she reached Eleanor’s door.

Dr. Woodson watched Lorraine and thought that was a good trait and that Eleanor is paying her a high salary.

Lorraine read the message and looked at the time.

Hutch watched Shirley walk in the room.

Shirley stood and looked at Eleanor and yelled, “Eleanor!”

Dr. Hutch looked at the spoiled brat and was about to tell her to be quite.”

Dr. Woodson ran to the door and was about to tell Shirley to be quiet.

Eleanor jerked and twisted and woke up.

She looked and saw a smiling Shirley.

Eleanor said, “Shirley you better be in trouble.”

Hutch stood up and looked at Eleanor.

Brenda fell into the doorframe.

Dr. Woodson stepped into the room and handed Brenda here telegram.

Eleanor was holding her left hand to her head.

Shirley said, “I was in trouble of loosing my momma.”

Eleanor covered her face and cried.

Lorraine turned around and went back to Shirley’s room sniffing.

Dr. Ralph looked at her and looked over the hall.

Dr. Parker and Dr. Greene walked into the hospital along with the dayshift nurses.

Sara told them of Mr. Jackson, Shirley and Eleanor.

They all went to their duty stations.

Shirley sat in her wheelchair.

Lorraine loaded the carriage and looked around Shirley’s room.

Sara left for the day.

The night shift nurses left for the day.

Hutch went and washed and shaved and changed clothes.

Brenda stood and looked at a sleeping Gen and went to Shirley’s room and got her clothes.

Brenda walked down to the wash closet as the cooks were rolling the breakfast carts.

Brenda used to love oatmeal for breakfast.

She knew the patients were on strict diets and Dr. Woodson and Dr. Ralph would get so angry if the patients had anything else for breakfast.

Brenda washed and changed clothes.

She brushed her long black hair and thought about the terrible yesterday and Patrick’s telegram that morning.

She said, “I married the right one.”

Dr. Woodson heard Brenda because he was going to lie down for a few minutes until Meredith got there.

He wondered who could have been the other one that Patrick beat out.

He giggled and went to his room.

Eleanor sat up in bed and looked at Shirley and said, “Hey my girl.”

Shirley grinned and said, “Hey momma.”

Brenda took her dirty clothes and gave them to Lorraine.

The nurses looked at Brenda.

Brenda knew the nurses were watching how she dressed.

Eleanor was now more fancy.

Brenda was plain and simple and expensive.

Brenda was walking back to check on Eleanor, Shirley and Gen when Meredith pulled up.

Lorraine was watching for Meredith out of Shirley’s room.

Brenda thought, “Our workers are not bad people, but drunks and whores.”

Brenda saw Meredith and kept on walking to Eleanor.

The nurses watched Brenda’s strict regal attitude and that she did not help a servant.

Alice told them she was learning that the servants know their jobs and don’t need help.

She was scolded several times by Ryan’s mother.

Alice has demanded that she and Ryan move.

Ryan was calm and looked at her and said, “Move. This is my house. I am not going to go and get another house and pay mortgage or use my inheritance because you want to move.”

Ryan and Alice had just reached the hospital to se Craig and Mrs. Jackson.

Ryan’s mother was a friend of Mrs. Jackson and she wanted to come to the hospital.

Alice pretended she did not know and pulled off in her buggy to get out of the yard and to the hospital.

Ryan saw Alice and he knew she purposefully left his mother behind.

Ryan’s mother was walking out the house with her bag and telling the butler what to cook for dinner.

She had her head down.

Ryan and the head of her stables looked at her.

She looked up and was trying to step to the buggy but it was gone.

She looked up and saw Alice exiting the yard.

She looked at Ryan.

Ryan looked at his mother.

He could not say anything.

He finally said, “You can ride with me.---Momma”

She exhaled and blew and said, “You think I won’t.”

The stable hand said, “Do you want a buggy ma am?”

Ryan shook his head for no.

They turned and rode fast out the yard.

Alice looked back and thought she saw his mother on his horse and screamed.

She sped up and beat them to the hospital about fifteen minutes.

The nurses saw Alice when she arrived.

She rushed and spoke to Craig and Mrs. Jackson.

The nurses knew Alice was mad.

Alice walked to the nurses’ desk and said, “I realized Ryan is a spoiled little rich kid. Now we have a baby on the way and I don’t know who will need most attention.”

Brenda was passing by and said, “Both.”

Alice pointed at Brenda.

The nurses said, “Probably the richest woman in the country.”

Alice mouth dropped open in surprise and nearly fell to her knees and then she heard the front door opening and ran to the first room with the door opened.

Gen raised up and said, “I smell food.”

She looked at the pregnant blonde and said, “Who are you?”

Alice was trying to quietly close the door and Shirley yelled. “Hey Alice.”

Alice smirked and looked at Shirley and looked at Shirley.

She walked out the room.

Gen pointed her finger and said, “You the one that married that gorgeous Ryan.”

Brenda was standing n the hall and laughed.

She stepped back to Gen’s door and said, “Good morning. You snored all last night. Meredith is bringing food.”

Gen said, “Did I really?”

Gen said, “Mrs. Gorgeous. You need to see Hutch.”

Brenda grinned.

Hutch finished examining Eleanor.

He heard Gen and shook his head.

Shirley laughed.

Hutch pulled Shirley’s wheelchair from Eleanor’s bed.

Shirley was catching Eleanor’s sheet to try to stop her from being wheeled out by Hutch.

Brenda looked at pitiful Shirley.

Eleanor raised up and looked at Shirley.

Hutch opened the door wide.

Alice stood with her mouth open.

Gen started laughing.

She raised her eyebrows up at Alice and said, “I told you.”

Brenda laughed.

Shirley tried to catch on to Brenda and pitifully said, “Grandma.”

Brenda said, “I’ll be here when you finish.”

Hutch said, “Good morning.”

Alice got weak in the knees.

Gen nodded her head and said, “Didn’t I tell you.”

Hutch looked in at Genevia and said, “Good morning Genevia.”

Gen sit in bed and grinned.

Shirley was looking back and said, “Where’s Meredith?”

Eleanor laughed and tried to get up.

Alice was looking so hard at Hutch she did not see Ryan looking at her.

The other nurses tried to get Alice’s attention.

Ryan rolled his eyes at Alice.

He walked behind his mother and spoke to Craig and Mrs. Jackson.

Alice finally saw Ryan’s face and she jumped.

Brenda laughed.

Shirley was being wheeled by the front door and saw Lorraine and Meredith walking in with baskets.

Shirley pitifully said, “Meredith. Please. Tell him no.”

Meredith said, “Shirley I can’t he is your doctor.”

Hutch smiled at Meredith.

Meredith rolled her eyes at Hutch and walked to the other nurses’ station.

Hutch looked at Meredith.

Dr. Woodson was walking out his room and he said, “Breakfast.”

Meredith dropped a freshly baked tray of cinnamon buns at the nurses’ desk and coffee and orange juice.

Lorraine dropped off the different pastry tray at the other nurses’ desk.

Gen said, “Oh God, I smell cinnamon. What is that?”

Brenda looked and said, “Meredith is bringing breakfast.”

Gen looked at Alice and said, “You hope you had waited.”

Brenda looked at Alice.

Alice looked at back at Gen.

Brenda said, “You are married. That is who you chose.”

Alice had a confused look on her face.

She said, “Are you Eleanor’s mother?”

Brenda looked at Alice and said, “Yes.”

Eleanor was laying on the bed with her hand to her head and said, “Hello Alice.”

Alice peeped and said, ”Why are you laying in bed?”

Dr. Woodson walked up and said, “Fighting.”

Alice looked confused.

Brenda looked at Dr. Woodson and walked behind him into her room.

Meredith had two baskets.

She gave Dr. Woodson a plate, Eleanor and Brenda.

Meredith passed by Gen’s room.

Gen nodded at Meredith and said, “That’s Miss Prissy that goes with Hutch. I’ll fight her over him.”

Alice was stunned at Hutch’s looks.

Gen raised up and said, “I want breakfast.”

Meredith ignored Gen and turned and said, “Hello Alice.”

Alice was dressed very nice and nodded her head.

Meredith said, “You can have Hutch’s plate.”

Gen said, “Ok.”

Brenda heard Gen and stepped out of Eleanor’s room and stepped into Gen’s room.

Gen was straightening out her clothes and looked at Bren and said, “I don’t care. That is between them two. That does not have anything to do with me having breakfast.”

Brenda said, “Gen if you were not snoring and sleeping so hard this morning you would not have missed breakfast.”

Dr. Woodson help sit Eleanor up in bed so she could at breakfast.

He looked at the plates.

They were different, one was ham, eggs, hash browns, biscuits, jam and butter.

Eleanor said, “Too much.”

Brenda looked.

Dr. Woodson opened the next, it was an omelet, tomatoes, bacon, toast, butter and jams.

Brenda did not say anything.

The next plate was hotcakes, sausages, eggs, syrup.

Brenda said, “Too much food.”

Gen said, “What you got Bren?”

Brenda was about to ask Gen what she wanted until Meredith walked back with two more plates.

Dr. Woodson liked all the plates.

Gen raised up and said, “What are on those plates?”

Meredith did not say anything to Gen.

Gen said, “Prissy heifer.”

Brenda said, “Gen you know the rules.”

Alice heard Brenda’s comment. About the rules.

Alice was still overwhelmed by Dr. Hutch.

Meredith took the plates to Dr. Woodson.

Both plates were filled with salmon croquets, grits, eggs and biscuits, butter and apple butter.

Brenda said, “Salmon.”

Dr. Woodson handed Brenda the plate.

He decided he wanted salmon also, but said, “This is a lot for breakfast.”

Brenda said, “Eleanor, what do you want?”

Shirley had been screaming but stopped while Hutch walked out the room.

Ryan’s mother grabbed on his arm and was about to pulled him down.

Ryan grabbed his mother’s hand and moved it from twisting his shirt and cutting off his circulation.

He said, “Mother that is what the doctors do here they manipulate the bones.”

Dr. Greene and Dr. Parker was giving therapy to someone else and she heard them scream.

Ryan said, “Mother go to the carriage and wait for Alice.”

Mrs. Jackson said, “Beverly it takes some getting use to the screaming.”

She became weak.

She said, “I can’t get use to this type of screaming.

Dr. Woodson looked at Eleanor and said, “You have to eat something Eleanor.”

Brenda walked in and took an extra plate and napkin with fork, spoon and knife.

She walked in Gen’s room and split the plate with Gen.

Alice was coming out of her fog when Hutch walked back.

He smiled at Alice.

Alice just stood still.

Gen nodded at Alice.

Brenda smiled.

Hutch looked at the loaded plates and said, “This is too much food.”

Meredith turned and looked at Hutch.

Dr. Woodson sat and was about to eat.

He and Eleanor looked at the slim Meredith.

Hutch saw Meredith look and said, “I did not say that to complain. It is just more than I expected.”

Brenda leaned back to look in Eleanor’s room.

Dr. Woodson said, “No more fighting in this hospital.”

Hutch said, “I would never do that.”

Alice moved to the other side of the door to get a better look at Hutch.

Hutch said, “Eleanor I am going to serve you a plate, you are going to eat it.”

Hutch gave her the tomatoes and part of the omelet.

He gave Meredith the other part of the omelet, bacon, toast butter and jams.

He reached the plate to Eleanor and then to Meredith.

Meredith stood and would not take the plate.

Hutch said, “Please. Take the plate Meredith. I did not play over the food.”

Brenda whispered, “Take the plate.”

Gen yelled, “Bring me the plate.”

Hutch stepped out of Eleanor’s room into Gen’s room.

Brenda was flinching because Hutch was already fussing about her eating starch.

Gen did not see Hutch as she was licking her spoon of apple butter.

Hutch was standing next to the pregnant Alice.

Gen looked up and jumped when he saw Hutch staring at her.

Brenda looked at Gen.

Hutch looked at Alice and said, “Alice you care for breakfast?”

Alice shook her head for no and smiled.

Gen said, “You better cut that smile off. Miss prissy will be over here in a minute.”

Brenda was trying not to grin.

Eleanor and Dr. Woodson were watching Meredith and Hutch.

Hutch walked over to Craig and Mrs. Jackson and asked if they wanted breakfast.

Craig said, “No thank you. I had a couple of cinnamon rolls and coffee.”

The nurses rolled her eyes at him.

One of the nurses from the other side walked over and wanted to swap pastry.

She had a crème cheese Danish and wanted a cinnamon.

Craig looked and he and Ryan walked to the other side.

Hutch said, “Ma am please eat something. You want hot cakes or ham and eggs?”

Mrs. Jackson teared up and said, “Hot cakes.”

Meredith took the plate from Hutch.

Hutch walked back and got the plate of hotcakes and took it to Mrs. Jackson.

He got the plate of ham and eggs.

Beverly turned to Alice and said, “I’m ready to leave Alice.”

Alice slightly heard Beverly.

She said, “Mrs. Wade I want to stay for a while and talk to Mrs. Simons and Mrs. Stith.”

Beverly said, “Simons and Mrs. Stith?”

Brenda looked at Gen and shook her head.

Gen laughed.

Hutch said to Meredith and said, ”Meredith smell nice. Come and sit with me.”

Hutch said, “Dr. Woodson can I have the key to go into the hospital administrator’s office?”

Brenda was looking back at them.

Dr. Woodson said, “It’s opened.”

Gen said, “They got any food left?”

Brenda shook her head for no.

Gen shook herself and said, “Lunch.”

Brenda smiled.

Dr. Woodson, “It was a lot of food. I glad they did not fight. I might had to let them fight for a minute.”

Beverly tried to press her clothes and straighten her posture and Ryan was watching his mother.

She walked with her shoulders held back.

Alice said, “Damn, her she comes.”

Brenda knew she had to put forth her most sophisticated air.

Gen sat and looked at Brenda and she saw the lady walked in the hall and peeped.

Beverly recognized Genevia because they were great friends of her son and his wife.

Genevis looked and said, “Hi Beverly.”

Beverly was trying to peep in Brenda’s face.

She had this lady was a free black person.

Genevia said, “Come in for a minute.”

Alice began to listen how these two society ladies handled her mother-in-law.

Beverly reached her hand to Brenda.

Brenda looked at Beverly and said, “Hello.”

Beverly was surprised.

Genevia said, “How are you and Dennis doing?”

Beverly turned her attention to Genevia and said, “This is Alice our newest member of our family and she is due this spring with our first grandchild. We are already spoiling him.”

Genevia said, “I know you are excited. What are you and Alice planning? When are you two having a shower? Am I invited” I probably will be here until I sail?”

Beverly looked at Genevia who was so excited about her news and wanted to be a part of it.

Brenda said, “Excuse me.”

She stood and walked over to Eleanor and closed the door.

Dr. Woodson looked at Brenda and finished most of his breakfast.

He said, “This was a lot of food.”

Eleanor said, “When the cooks and servers find out the meals are going to rich people they add a little bit more.”

Dr. Woodson said, “Little bit more!”

He stood and leaned his ear to the wall to hear Hutch and Meredith.

He could not hear anything.

He said, “Eleanor rest and stay off your feet.”

Eleanor said, “I have a lot to do.”

Dr. Woodson said, “I don’t want any arguments. Brenda can run things until your father returns. Ven Shirley can run a company. She is doing a great job here.”

Brenda puffed her chest out with pride.

Eleanor was jealous and said, “She is a child.”

Brenda said, “Jealous. I told you about that. Tell me what else has to be done.”

Dr. Woodson left and continued his routine.

Lorraine was leaving and collecting the dishes for the hotel.

Lorraine knocked on Eleanor’s door.

Eleanor said, “Come in.”

Lorraine opened the door and said, “I’m collecting the dishes.”

She looked at Brenda and Brenda looked at her.

Lorraine collected the dishes.

Meredith and Hutch saw Lorraine and Meredith jumped up and gave Lorraine her dishes.

She helped Lorraine carry the dishes to the carriage.

Meredith came back in the hospital and went to Shirley’s room.

Eleanor and Brenda walked down to Shirley and talked for a few minutes.

Eleanor left with Lorraine and went back to the hospital.

Brenda was standing in Shirley’s room looking out the window.

Beverly left the hospital and went home with Alice.

Alice smiled all the way home.

Ryan watched his mother and wife as they left.

The undertaker was at the hospital early.

Ryan went and got the key to the shed.

The undertaker pulled the wagon around the back.

Dr. Woodson and Dr. Greene were at the nurses’ desk and signed off on the papers.

Craig walked outside with the undertakers.

Craig stood in the hallway and cried.

Ryan came back into the hospital.

He put the key back and looked at Craig at the door crying over his daddy.

Mr. Long saw Eleanor and Lorraine returning from the hospital.

He said to Eleanor, “I need to speak to you. You are doing fine?”

Eleanor smiled and said, “Yes.”

Mr.Long had the lawsuit against, Michael, Shirley and hospital dismissed. He filed a counter suit, while the dead boy’s parents were filing another lawsuit for more money.

Their lawyer was surprised. Mr. Long was there in the city.

He knew Mr. Long would dragged the case out forever and at the end no one will get paid.

Mr. Long said, “I think Bruce sees you will not give him any money. This is a nice hotel. I went to his house…”

Eleanor held her down for a second and giggled.

Mr. Long said,” It is a grand house. I believe he can live from this hotel.”

Eleanor laughed.

She said, “The children were ready to fight their daddy”

Mr. Long said, “Really.”

Eleanor grinned, “Especially my baby Michael.”

Eleanor a waiter walked over and asked if they wanted anything.

Mr. Long said, “No.”

Eleanor said, “Tea and a hot bath. I want a pot of chicken soup and cornbread and rolls and bowls and utensils and sweet bread ready around five pm and given to the lady in room 336. Put it on my bill.”

The waiter nodded and walked to the front desk and then to the kitchen.

Eleanor watched him.

Mr. Long thought Eleanor was swift and clever.

Mr. Long said, “I’m going to write your divorce demands, can you think of anything else to be included?”

Eleanor said, “No.”

She went to her room.

Mr. Long went to his room and wrote the divorce details and left ad had everything notarized and messengered to Bruce’s attorney.

Mr. Long had two more days in town.

He felt he had accomplished some things.

He finished the contracts for the coal distribution, the dress shop and the jewelry shop and the Freed men rest home.

He had to review the contracts for the work to be done at the Freed men rest center and the work at their new rail stop.

Eleanor and Lorraine went to their separate rooms.

Eleanor took a hot bath and went to sleep.

Lorraine woke with a knock on her door.

She went to the door and the front desk clerk said, “Ma am Eleanor said to take the chicken soup and breads to the hospital.”

Lorraine was confused and looked around and said, “What time is it?”

The clerk said, “Four twenty three pm.”

Lorraine said, “Can I have a carriage and have all the food and utensils be packed.”

Lorraine closed the door and washed off in cold water and dressed and ran to Brenda’s suite and got a few outfits and locked the door.

She ran back to her room and checked for all things.

She ran out her room and down the stairs.

She ran out the hotel with Brenda’s clothes and her large bag.

She drove the carriage fast to the hospital.

She was fifteen minutes late.

Meredith ran out to help Lorraine.

Lorraine took Brenda’s clothes in first.

The nurses noticed Brenda’s clothes are taken very good care of.

They noticed Brenda was not impressed with Ryan’s mother.

They noticed how Ryan’s mother was looking at Brenda’s clothes.

Alice learned how to slowly take control and not let anyone know.

Meredith took the kettle of soup of chicken soup in the hospital.

Lorraine took the other basket.

They put the food in the hospital administrator’s office.

The nurse who went with Craig came to work early.

She said, “Meredith I was out looking for a black dress, I did not make lunch is there enough for me.”

Meredith said, “Probably so.”

Meredith said, “Marrying a minister you are going to fast a lot.”

Brenda stopped and looked at the nurse.

The nurse said, “Meredith what?”

Everyone looked at the nurse and “Meredith said he is a minister.”

Nurse Jackson was paralyzed.

Brenda looked at the nurse.

Hutch looked up because Dr. Parker looked at the still nurse.

Brenda walked to Gen and closed the door.

Gen said, “I smell soup.”

Brenda said, “Gen you can have soup or whatever. But you know these doctors are very strict about the food you eat.”

Gen looked at Brenda and said, “You are scared of them.”

Brenda said, “Hell yell.”

Gen said, “I can’t believe you. The fearless Bren.”

Brenda sat in the chair and Gen stared at her.

Brenda looked at Gen.

Gen said, “You can be bad with me but not with Dr. Woodson.”

Brenda said, “And Hutch.”

Gen was stunned.

Brenda ignored Gen and said, “That man died today and the nurse I believe is to marry him. Meredith told her the man is a minister.”

Gen said, “Yeah.”

Brenda said, “The nurse did not know he was a minister.”

Gen said, “Oh Bren she is a hot thing. She is a thousand times hotter than me. I know when I was here two years ago before a man left this building she had him.”

Brenda said, “What?”

Gen said, “The man brought me some flowers from Ben. I told him to get me some water, fifteen minutes, thirty minutes it was an hour later he brought me some water. I said I don’t want this water I don’t know where it came from. She could not wait until the flower man delivered my flowers. I did not wait my flowers. She came in later to apologize. I told her to get out my room.”

Gen folded her arms and was huffing.

Brenda laughed at Gen’s attitude and not at the situation.

Gen said, “She better get ready to not be so hot. He’s one of those busy ministers.”

They heard the nurse screamed.

Brenda said, “I guess the reality hit.”

Dr. Parker and Hutch looked at the nurse.

She hit the floor and sat there.

Meredith said, ”I know exactly how you feel.”

Gen said, “Was that Miss Prissy?”

Brenda said, “Meredith, yes.”

Gen said, “She’s on the way out with Hutch.”

Gen started rubbing her hands together.

Brenda said, “Stop. You need to repair the damage with Ben.”

Gen turned on her side to face Brenda and said, “I got a plan.”

Brenda said, “I have told you about those plans.”

Gen said, “They worked in the past.”

Brenda shook her head.

Dr. Woodson was sitting in the chair writing his notes but listening.

He still wanted to know who Patrick beat out.

He thought, “Maybe if I am quiet I can hear and find out.”

Dr. Woodson nodded his head in satisfaction.

Gen said, “I got to find someone for Dr. Woodson.”

The hot nurse was still on the floor.

Dr. Woodson said, “Nope.”

Hutch and Dr. Parker looked at Dr. Woodson.

Gen said, “Did somebody say nope.”

Brenda nodded her head for yes.

Gen looked at Brenda and Brenda laughed.

There was a knock on Gen’s door.

Gen said, “Come in.”

Meredith opened the door and brought two bowls of chicken soup and a plate of cornbread, sweet breads and rolls.

Gen sat up in the bed and reached Brenda her bowl and then Gen a bowl’

Gen was rubbing her hands together and said, “Hot damn. My favorite.”

Dr. Woodson stood and went in Gen’s room and took the bowl of chicken soup and gave it to the nurse who was sitting on the floor.

Brenda was shocked.

Dr. Woodson said, “Give Mrs. Olsen a bowl of chicken broth.”

The nurses ran to the kitchen and had the cooks to give them two bowls of chicken broth.

Gen was so angry she folded her arms and turned her head to the wall.

Meredith stood in the door shocked.

Brenda sat in the chair with the plate of corn breads, sweet bread and rolls.

She reached her bowl to Meredith and said, “I’ll with Shirley.”

Shirley yelled, “Give me cornbread!”

Brenda stood and said, “I’ll come back.”

Gen still had her head turned to the wall and huffed.

Brenda was so shocked at Dr. Woodson. She knew they all took medicine seriously.

Brenda ran to Shirley before she yelled again.

Dr. Woodson looked at Brenda running to keep Shirley quiet.

Dr. Woodson continued to write his notes until the nurses came back with the bowls of chicken broth.

He stood and took a tray to Gen and he walked in the door and put the tray of chicken broth on the dresser.

He said, “Mrs. Olsen when you are ready for the chicken broth you can walked to it.”

Gen did not turn around.

She waited until Dr. Woodson walked out.

She looked back at the door and pulled out the piece of cornbread she snatched before Brenda gave her bowl and the plate of breads to Meredith.

Shirley was about to scream again at Dr. Ralph.

Brenda ran in the door with grace and closed Shirley’s door and said, “Shut up. Don’t you scream in this hospital again ever. You know what you can eat. And grainy foods are not allowed now…”

Shirley had her arms folded and kicking in the bed.

Dr. Ralph stood and looked at spoiled Shirley.

Brenda said, “I know corn bread is your favorite but you have to wait until your body say it can digest this food. You are to apologize to Dr. Ralph now.”

Dr. Ralph said, “Lorraine.”

Brenda turned and looked at Lorraine and she turned and looked at Shirley.

Brenda said, “Are you crazy. You know you cannot talk to Lorraine like that nor any of the workers. You are to show respect at all times. l will not tolerate this disrespectful attitude and especially over a piece of brad Shirley.”

Shirley started crying and using both hands to dry her tears.

Brenda was very firm and said, “I told you Shirley to apologize to Lorraine now!”

Shirley said, “I’m sorry Lorraine.”

Lorraine said, “Shirley I told you before if you scream at me and show disrespect I will quit and work at the children’s hospital. This is it Shirley. You have used up all of your chances.”

Brenda was surprised at Lorraine and Shirley’s relationship.

Lorraine appeared happy go lucky, but she was always observant and cautious about Shirley’s heath.

Brenda thought, “Eleanor picked the right people to be with her children.”

Dr. Woodson took the bowl of chicken broth to Shirley.

Dr. Woodson saw all the sour faces and handed Lorraine the tray with the bowl of chicken broth.

Brenda said, “That’s dinner Shirley.”

Brenda reached for the tray from Meredith.

And sat at he dresser and ate.

Brenda looked down at the cornbread and it was gone.

She smiled, because she knew Gen had swipe it and the piece of sweet bread.

DR. Ralph was still staring at Shirley and said, “Good night”.

He left and went home.

He stopped by the restaurant and ordered a liver dinner.

He took it home and went to bed.

Shirley had gotten on his nerves that day.

Dr. Woodson packed up his stuff and went to the room he was renting.

Dr. Greene and Dr. Parker finished their routes and left and went home.

Meredith made Hutch a nice tray and gave him his soup.

He asked Meredith to stay and have dinner with him.

They sat in the hospital administrator’s office and ate dinner.

Meredith left an hour later.

Lorraine was sitting out at the nurses’ desk.

She did want anything to eat.

Brenda finished her dinner.

She looked at Shirley and said, “Shirley if you were not sick I would whip your so and so. You do not have any privilege because you are rich. I do not like that attitude. I do not know where you got that attitude from. I am going to tell Eleanor.”

Shirley started crying and shaking her legs and said, “No grandma. Don’t tell Eleanor. Tell daddy.”

Brenda said, “See what you just did Shirley. Where did you get that type of mind from. Your momma told all of you do not call her Eleanor unless you are in danger or it is an emergency. You know every child holler momma. She told you all to call her by her first name so she would know you are talking to her. I am going to tell her you are calling her Eleanor. You know she will sit and think of how to punish you.”

Shirley said, “I apologize to Lorraine.”

Brenda said, “You should not have to apologize to nobody if you were in a child’s’ place. Shirley I would not have believe your momma, your grandpa nor Gen if they told me you acted dis respect to Lorraine or anyone else and especially over food Shirley. Look at you. If it were not for these heaven sent people you would be a mess.”

Shirley was crying.

Hutch and Meredith walked up to collect the other dishes and listened to Brenda.

Shirley’s door was open and everybody heard everything.

Brenda said, “I thank GOD every day that HE has people on this earth that take care of others. Then you gonna come up here acting like a fool. I am going to tell your momma.”

Shirley said, “She may take businesses away grandma or my earrings that make me look normal.”

Hutch heard.

Lorraine did not care.

The night nurses heard it.

Brenda said, “What Shirley?”

Shirley said, “Don’t tell momma because…”

Brenda cut Shirley odd and said, “You said why you are rude and disrespectful. Because you use it to fee normal. You have no business trying to be little anyone so you can feel normal.”

Meredith listen.

The night shift nurses listened.

Brenda said, “No one caused one to born twisted Shirley. Your mother fell. She was unconscious for nearly a week. We, me and your grandpa had to make a decision if you were to live or die. We gamble and said, Live because that is who GOD is. A GOD of life. We asked GOD to let you be normal Shirley. But HE did not. We used the money HE gave us to help as much as possible. Since you have been here you can walk. Your stomach has gone to normal. Your intestines are healing, you have a cycle. You can hear and hear better, your eyes have uncrossed. Your back is becoming straighter. You have always had beautiful skin and hair. GOD gave you business sense and as a child you have started using it. Be thankful for what you have. If GOD wanted you here before now, you would have been here. This is the time HE wanted you to be here.”

Shirley sat and looked at Brenda.

Brenda said, “I am going to sleep down by Gen tonight. I want you to be by yourself so you can think and thank GOD for what HE has given to you.”

Shirley was sniffing and said, “Grandma I am so sorry.”

Meredith ran to the door.

Hutch looked at Meredith.

Lorraine was leaning back in the chair with a blanket up to her neck

Brenda walked out Shirley and the staff was so surprised at Brenda they could

Brenda looked at Lorraine.

Hutch and the nurses looked at Lorraine.

Lorraine moved the blanket from her and stood and walked in Shirley’s room and cleaned it up.

Gave all the dishes to Meredith,

She went and got Shirley’s water to brush her teeth,

Lorraine looked around the room and closed and locked the window.

She said, “Shirley I will be at the nurses’ desk if you need me.”

Shirley said, “I am sorry Lorraine.”

Lorraine felt Shirley was genuine.

She walked out the door and pulled her chair close to Shirley’s door and wrapped in her blanket ad went to sleep.

Hutch made sure all the dishes and Brenda’s clothes were in the carriage.

He kissed Meredith and she left to go back to the hotel.

He went into the hospital and locked the door.

Meredith got to the hospital had all the dishes taken out and be accounted for.

She ordered fried chicken, mashed potatoes, green peas and carrots and breads for the next day.

Brenda prayed for a long time that night.

Gen ate her sweet bread and read a book.

Eleanor was restless.

Mr. Long reviewed all his work and smiled.

He was proud of his work.

Shirley laid in her bed and prayed and asked GOD to forgive her being mad that she was not normal. She asked HIM to help her be the person HE wants her to be. She asked HIM to let everybody forgive her. She saw how Dr. Ralph looked at her and how Lorraine looked at her. She did not want to loose their love, respect and friendship.