Patrick and Brenda were standing in the parlor.

The photography took a lot of photographs of Patrick and Brenda and the family.

They took photographs of their guests.

Gen and Ben arrived with current governor and his wife.

Patrick and Brenda walked out the parlor to the grand hall and greeted their guests.

Gen saw Brenda’s necklace and earrings and jumped for joy and laughed.

The current governor’s wife looked at the necklace and earrings and laughed.

She said, “Those can finance the state.

Everyone was laughing.

The governor handed his overnight bag to Jose.

Jose nodded and walked down the hall.

He placed the governor’s overnight bag with the red flowers and peppermint candy.

Mag, Josiah and Natalie were the next to arrived.

Gen looked at Shirley and said, “My God girl you look good.”

Shirley was grinning and happy.

Shirley liked for people to tell her she looks look.

The photographer threw up his hands and said, “I ran out of film. Don’t panic. I am panicking for everybody. Don’t move.”

The photographer ran through the kitchen out to the woods and brought his bag back and took out two rolls of film.

He put one roll of film in his pocket and ran back to the hallway and continued to take pictures of the spectacularly dressed guests and workers.

Ellen and Natalie ran to each other and screamed.

Ellen introduced Mag, Josiah and Natalie to her husband, Captain Moss.

The photographer took several pictures of them.

The current mayor and his wife arrived.

They were photograph with the governors and their wives and Patrick and Brenda.

Everyone was stunned with Brenda’s necklace and earrings.

The mayor’s wife elbowed the mayor and nodded towards Brenda’s necklace.

The mayor looked at his wife and said, “Very sweet honey.”

He rolled his eyes at Patrick.

Patrick and Brenda laughed so hard.

The photographer was changing his film.

The mayor told Patrick, “You weren’t here but those attackers their money was taken.”

The security man heard them and looked at the photographer.

Patrick said, “What does that mean. They are honorable or something? They are cold blooded killers and need to be executed.”

The mayor whispered and said, “I agree.”

The photographer looked back at the other security man.

The security men saw between Patrick and the mayor they were not concerned about the money.

The photographer took some photographs of Brenda’s necklace and earrings.

Shirley was standing near Brenda and watching the photographer every move.

Gen elbowed Patrick and nodded her head at Shirley.

Patrick laughed and said, “I see.”

Eleanor walked over and stood behind them to see what they were talking about.

Eleanor put her chin on Gen’s shoulder.

Patrick looked at Eleanor and Gen patted her head and said, “That little Shirley is not letting that necklace and earrings out of her sight.”

Eleanor laughed.

Patrick looked back at Eleanor she sounded like the person he use to love.

There was a knocked on the door.

Everyone was peeping.

Jose had his clipboard.

Jose opened the door and six well uniformed soldiers stepped in.

Michael and Thomas were standing in the parlor and peeping out the door.

They saw Skip and Jake and yelled, “Skip! Jake!”

Thomas and Michael yelled so loud that it scared Shirley jumped.

Everyone turned to look at the impeccable dressed and uniform soldiers.

Stephanie was running through the formal dining room.

She caught Robert’s hand and he turned and looked in her brown eyes and her brown hair he fell in love all over again.

Thomas and Michael ran to Jake and hug him.

Percy and Bruce ran to Skip.

Eleanor said, “Hun.”

Brenda looked at Eleanor.

Patrick said, “He’s my grandson-in-law.”

Eleanor said, “That’s incorrect.”

Patrick walked to Brenda and stood so he could get a better view.

Thomas and Michael ran to Skip and gave him a hug.

Eleanor said, “That’s weird.”

Brenda and Patrick looked at Eleanor.

Gen said, “What?”

Eleanor said, “No one ever told Thomas and Michael tat Jake was the one who saved them. They always greet him first then Skip.”

Gen said, “God put it in them.”

Steve knocked on the door with a corsage.

Jose opened the door and Steve and Alicia stepped in the house.

Shirley was so excited to see them.

Alice was standing back on the wall behind Lance and Hilary.

Alice jumped off the wall and Shirley walked to Alice looking at Skip and grinning.

Shirley was excited because Alice’s date was there.

The soldiers looked back at Steve and Alicia.

Steve and Alicia were scared.

Jose was scared and he could not help them.

The governor looked and said, “You look fellows look familiar.”

Robert stepped forward with Stephanie.

Patrick, Brenda, Eleanor, the governors, the mayor, Gen and Ben were standing in a reception line.

Robert greeted Patrick and Brenda.

Stephanie was holding to Robert arm.

Stephanie was shocked at Brenda’s necklace and leaned around Robert and pointed at Brenda’s necklace and said, “September.”

Robert looked surprised at Stephanie.

Brenda said, “Heifer.”

Patrick was watching Skip.

He liked the way he and Jake played with the boys. Manly.

Ben looked back at Alicia and said, “Good evening ma am.”

Alicia grinned.

Ben held out his arm.

Alicia took his arm and said, “Excuse me to Steve.”

They walked to the reception line and greeted everyone.

Brenda said, “Where is Emilou with Nadine”

Alicia frowned and said, “With Aunt Sue and Uncle Jason.”

Brenda did not know them but apparently they did not want to leave Emilou with Nadine and Peter.

Skip walked to the reception line and held his arm for Shirley.

Shirley was grinning and happy. She caught Skip’s arm.

Michael said, “Shirley we wanted to walk in with Skip. You get behind us.”

Eleanor said, “Michael.”

Thomas said, “We are military.”

Shirley looked back at Thomas, Michael, Percy and Bruce and stuck out her tongue.

Jake said, “You men can walk in with us.”

Percy said, “OK.”

Jake, Will and Jason greeted everyone in the line and walked to the ballroom.

Jake was admiring the house.

He looked at Will and Jason and said, “Billiards.”

Michael said, “Only the adults can play.”

Will laughed.

Lorraine, Meredith, Denise, Mabel walked to the ballroom.

Dr. Charles and Vivienne were at the end of the reception line.

Mag, Josiah and Natalie walked behind Lorraine.

Lorraine looked and saw a strange man running down the hall.

She stopped and looked and it was Gary.

Everyone said, “Gary?”

Gary had a corsage in his hand and walked to Denise and handed her the corsage.

Denise was shocked she did not know what to say.

Dan said, “Please take that corsage and let him escort you to the ballroom.”

Denise looked around and everyone was waiting for them to enter the ballroom.

Gary held out his arm.

Denise took Gary’s arm and walked into the ballroom.

The single women entered and found tables.

Dan was standing to take Patrick and Brenda to their table.

Steve ran to Alice and held each other hands like little children.

Lance and Hilary watched Alice and Steve.

Patrick and Brenda nodded.

They grinned all down the reception line.

Another knock on the door.

Jose opened the door and Bryce and Stephen entered.

Patrick nearly went to his knees.

They hugged each other.

A knocked on the door.

Jose opened the door and Daniel entered.

The women said, “Whoa.”

Lance and Hilary looked at the women.

Ginger was standing with her grandparents and grinning.

Daniel spoke to her grandparents.

Daniel and Ginger greeted Patrick and Brenda.

Gen said, “I want one of you.”

Captain Moss hollered.

Ben turned and said, “Gen!”

Hilary covered her face.

Gail was stunned and speechless.

Bryson turned to Gail and said, “Close your mouth.”

Dr. Charles grinned.

The current governor’s wife could not talk.

The knocked on the door and Jose opened it and Timothy and Laura walked and saw the women’s reaction to Danie.

They greeted Patrick and Brenda and went down the reception line.

The current governor’s wife said, “You’re his parents?”

Timothy said, “No first lady, we are his grandparents.”

The governor whispered in his wife, “\*#\*@\*>”

The first lady said, “It will be worth it.”

Brenda nearly hit the floor.

Patrick had to catch her.

Jose looked over his clip board and said, “All are here and plus five soldiers.”

Patrick grinned.

Jose locked the door and put the bar on the door.

He installed that while Patrick and Brenda were in Europe.

Patrick told him to keep it installed after the attack on Eleanor’s children.

Patrick said, “We can precede to the ball.”

Dr. Charles looked for a minute.

Vivienne slightly tugged him.

He looked at her and followed her lead.

Captain Moss nodded his head at Ellen.

They walked behind Dr. Charles and Vivienne.

Then Al and Beverly, Gen and Ben, the mayor and his wife, Gail and Bryson, the current governor and his wife.

Eleanor and Dan escorted her to her seat.

Patrick and Brenda walked slowly to take in this moment in their life.

Dan walked back to the door.

Patrick and Brenda walked to the door.

Brenda was looking up to Patrick with a smile of pure love.

Gail touched her heart.

Eleanor said, “You deserve this.”

Gen patted Eleanor.

Everyone was standing.

Jose grabbed a glass and filled it with whiskey and ran through the house to the ballroom.

The security man looked at Jose.

Then he looked at the liquor table.

Everyone clapped for Patrick and Brenda.

Jose and Dan walked in behind Patrick and Brenda.

Jose hid his full whiskey glass behind his clipboard.

Patrick and Brenda walked in the ballroom and waved at all of their friends and families.

Dan was over the program.

Jose sat at the table with Lorraine, Meredith and Mabel.

Lorraine saw Jose’s whiskey glass and said, “Give me some.”

Jose did not look at Lorraine but got up and move to the table with Denise and Gary.

Jose looked at the two of them and said, “Get use to being by yourselves.”

Jose took a big swallow of whiskey.

Denise looked at Jose with bucked eyes.

Dan thought he was sophisticated.

Jose was sitting in the back with his whiskey.

Dan said, “Good evening Ladies and gentlemen. We are here to celebrate the Stiths thirty fifth anniversary ball.”

Dan said, “There is a program for this evening ball.”

Everyone picked up the program,

Dan said, “We start with a prayer from former Governor Bryson.”

The ballroom door cracked open.

The Mc Clendon’s peeped in ballroom and ran to the back of the ballroom.

Brenda blew them a kiss and Patrick smiled.

Jose turned his head and looked away because he knew their names were not on the RSVP list.

He stood and walked to them and directed them to his table.

Mr. Mc Clendon whispered to Jose and said, “We crashed the party our niece Sarah wanted to go to a ball. So we at the last minute borrowed clothes and came.”

Jake was sitting and watching Sarah.

Jose said, “You’re not the only ones.”

They looked at the sarcastic Jose.

Jose added them to his guest list along with Alicia and the five additional soldiers.

Former Governor Bryson, said, “Patrick and Brenda have been my friends for twenty- two years. They have been great friends of me and my wife for seventeen years. I will reveal to you all the prayer that I prayed to GOD for them everyday.”

Gail nodded her head for yes.

Brenda and Patrick were shocked at Bryson.

Former Governor Bryson said, “Bow your heads please.”

Everyone bowed their heads.

Lorraine was looking at Jose whiskey glass.

Jose moved his whiskey glass on the side with Mr. Mc Clendon.

Lorraine glared at Jose.

Former Governor Bryson said, “LORD GOD Almighty YOU choose me to be a friend of two of YOUR earthly angels. They put their lives on the line everyday for good. Give me courage, wisdom, strength and love as those two and continue to bless them in JESUS’ name.”

Michael and Thomas had sneak by Brenda and Patrick and was kneeling on the floor.

Michael said, “Amen.”

Thomas said, “Amen and amen.”

Bryson looked and saw them.

Everyone was looking to see who said that.

Brenda and Patrick looked around and saw Michael and Thomas.

Gen laughed.

Brenda reached for them.

Thomas jumped in Patrick’s lap.

Patrick kissed Thomas on his head.

Patrick was crying from the prayer Bryson prayed for them.

He shook Bryson’s hand as he patted Patrick on his shoulder.

Michael jumped in Brenda’s lap.

He looked at Brenda and frowned.

Eleanor looked at Michael.

Michael looked at Brenda and held her by her chin and said, “Kiss.”

Eleanor looked at Michael and turned her head.

Dr. Charles was sitting at the table with Eleanor and her children.

He was amazed at Eleanor how she was embarrassed by her children. Especially the two babies.

Dan walked up front and said, “The mayor will read a proclamation.”

Everyone clapped.

The mayor walked up and gave a proclamation that day was the Stith’s Thirty fifth Wedding Anniversary date for the town.

Everyone clapped.

The mayor gave the proclamation to Patrick.

Dan walked up and said, “Governor will speak.”

The governor walked up and pulled out his index cards.

He looked at them and put them down.

The governor said, “I wrote down words that described the people Patrick and Brenda are. I don’t need those cards. I can tell you from my heart.”

Thomas said, “Amen now.”

Gen nearly hit the floor.

Ben had to catch her.

Dr. Charles and Vivienne looked over at Gen and laughed.

Harriet and Monica were watching the doctor and Vivienne.

Shirley looked at Eleanor who was very formal.

Michael said, “Amen.”

Beverly was laughing so hard she and Captain Moss was falling into each other.

Brenda hugged and kissed Michael.

Eleanor’s face was stern.

Skip watched Eleanor.

He saw she was stern and went by protocol.

The governor looked over at the Thomas and Michael and said, “You should know because you have been with them your whole life.”

Michael looked at Eleanor.

Eleanor gave him a stern look.

Dr. Charles thought, ”All he has to do is his baby face.”

Michael looked up at Eleanor.

Dr. Charles, “There it is.”

He looked at Eleanor and she melted.

Vivienne grinned at Michael.

She said, “Michael knows how to pull Eleanor’s string.”

Percy and Bruce were whispering.

Elanor looked at Vivienne and said, “Vivienne you look lovely.”

Dr. Charles smiled.

Vivienne said, “Thank you.”

Everyone was laughing at the governor’s comments.

He stepped down and handed Patrick a proclamation for the state.

Dan stepped and said, “Eleanor.”

Eleanor took a deep breath.

She stood with European beauty and walked to the platform.

Dr. Charles watched Eleanor and thought, “That count groomed her to be royalty.”

Eleanor looked around the ballroom and spoke to everyone.

She wanted to make Patrick and Brenda proud of her.

She took a deep breath and said, “Their God help me.”

Lorraine was sitting in aisle coaching Eleanor.

Eleanor saw Lorraine and said, “I see you Lorraine. We really grew up together here.”

Eleanor looked at Patrick and Brenda and her two spoiled boys.

She said, “I have a written speech. Much like the honorable Governor Neil.”

Everyone smiled.

Eleanor said, “I don’t need something written to express my love and respect for two people who dedicated their lives to helping me and all their children and grandchildren to be whole persons. I love my parents because they love God. One day I want to know their God. He gives them strength to love me.”

Eleanor was quiet and nodded her head.

Gen heart broke for Eleanor and started crying.

Vivienne and Dr. Charles looked at Gen.

Eleanor said, “Daddy. Momma I know you as momma and daddy. I never knew a day of my life you were not there for me. From the time I jumped out the hundred feet tree down on Uncle John and only received a broken nose.”

Beverly yelled, “I remembered that s…”

Everyone said, “Beverly.”

Dr. Charles grinned and said, “I wondered how she got a broken nose.”

Percy yelled, “Where’s the tree?”

Gail hollered.

Eleanor said, “Mysteriously the tree was said to be stroke by lighting.”

Eleanor turned her head all the way round.

Everyone was laughing.

Brenda said, “That’s the truth. I did not have anything to do with that.”

Bruce said, “I want that tree.”

Eleanor said, “I remember when I landed on my Uncle John, daddy just stood and I was shaking my head and said, ‘oh that was fun’.”

People was laughing.

Dr. Charles was shocked and his mouth was opened.

Eleanor said, “My loving father who took me to business meetings and family meetings left me alone with all of birthday gifts in his buggy on my birthday and went home.”

People were laughing.

Eleanor said, “My favorite person sent for the local doctor who just moved in town who later became my uncle. My aunt Beverly had traveled to be with me for my twelfth birthday party. She met the new doctor and they later married.”

Al waved at everyone.

Beverly smiled. But her heart was going out to Eleanor.

Eleanor said, “He waited until I came home. Shirley said She could not understand the time of death or injury I received. When my loving father returned home he could not talk. He went to the famous table and drank. And would not put down the bottle. All daddy could do was make the motion of me falling and flying through the air.”

Patrick used his hand and made the motion of falling and flying.

Percy and Bruce stood up to see their grandfather’s hand motion.

The mayor said, “Who would?”

Eleanor said, “Mother was in shock. I walked in the door with my grandfather and my uncles and my favorite person said all of you go to the family room. I knew enough to keep walking and talking to my uncles like she was not talking to me. My grandfather stopped at the liquor table and got a glass for he and my favorite person. She refused to drink. She wanted to know my condition. Uncle Al examined me and said I was fine. My mother said she was taking the doctor home but detoured and went to the tree. She fainted when she saw the tree.”

Everyone was listening.

Eleanor said, “I said all of that to say, I know all of you are wonderful people and great parents and grandparents. I love these two people their God made me and gave to them. There may have been times they may have pushed me back towards God.”

Lorraine yelled, “Amen.”

Jose said, “Amen and amen.”

Eleanor said, “That story demonstrates my life. I laid it bare before you all. Whenever I made the worst possible decisions, daddy would go to the liquor table and Momma would faint. They get together and pray and commit my problem which has become their problem to their Great God. He helps them all the time. I depend on their God showing them how to help me. Even now I depend on their God to help me and my five children. If I did not have parents who love their God and love one another I would be lost and my children. It almost at times seem that their God used me and my life...”

Eleanor exhaled and swallowed with much pain and grief.

Eleanor continued, “… for them to trust and believe Him more and lay aside their human feelings and allow Him to give them more of Him.”

Eleanor looked at Patrick and Brenda.

She said, “It is a simple word, but it is with all of my heart, Thanks. Thanks for not spanking me.”

Ben yelled, “Should have.”

Patrick slightly turn his head to hear Ben.

Ben said, “A hundred foot tree.”

Bruce said, “I want that tree.”

People laughed.

Vivienne looked at Bruce and smiled.

Skip and Dr. Charles looked at Bruce.

Eleanor continued, “Thanks for not sending me to boarding school but keeping me close to help develop and grow me. Thanks, when I made the worst decision of my life that you did not throw me away but you helped me grow through it with your much prayer and love...”’

Everyone knew Eleanor was talking about being pregnant.

Skip watched Shirley’s face.

Dr. Charles watched Shirley.

Shirley sat dignified and smiled.

Eleanor said, “Thanks for being with my children nearly everyday of their lives and showing them also how to live and have fun.”

Brenda and Patrick were so moved and shocked by Eleanor’s speech of passion and love.

Michael was watching his momma.

He got out of Brenda’s lap and walked to the platform and escorted Eleanor to her seat.

Gen and Gail stood and clapped.

Bryson and Governor Neil stood and clapped.

Ben stood and clapped but said, “I still would have torn up her butt.”

Michael sat next to Eleanor.

Shirley said, “Momma what was your favorite person’s name.”

Eleanor said, “Shirley.”

Shirley grinned her beautiful smile.

Michael rolled his eyes.

Skip saw Michael and grinned at him.

Skip watched Eleanor and he watched the joy Shirley had.

Dr. Charles watched Shirley and Eleanor.

Michael turned around in his seat and looked back and said, “Is that Shirley?”

Eleanor looked back and said, “Yes Michael. That’s your grandpa’s mother.”

Michael scooted out his chair.

He, Percy and Bruce went and stared at the portraits.

Dan told the band to play.

Thomas had the servers at the door and Dan opened the door and the ten servers walked in with the plates of Cornish hens or sole.

The servers placed the plates in front of each guess.

Thomas went back to his chair next to Eleanor.

The servers came to their table. Everyone asked for fish.

Michael was so shocked he did not have his lamb chop.

He looked at Eleanor and then at Brenda.

Brenda smiled.

Dr. Charles watched Michael.

Michael folded his arms and would not eat.

His mouth was poked out.

Vivienne was about to get up and go in the kitchen.

Eleanor looked at Vivienne and shook her head for no.

Skip was so tickled at spoiled little Michael.

Skip looked at all of Eleanor’s children. He saw Shirley, Percy and Bruce were white with blond hair and blue eyes, but the babies, Thomas and Michael had blue eyes and heads full of hair that women love to played in.

Skip thought, “That’s going to be a problem. They are spoiled and cute.”

Skip watched Michael.

Eleanor leaned over to a pouting Michael and said, “Baby. Momma’s baby eat your dinner without the lamb chop for your grandparents special night.”

Michael’s arms were folded and he was not having it.

Thomas opened the door and handed Dan a plate with a lamb chop on it.

Dan brought the lamb chop to Michael and put it on his plate and gave the plate to a server.

Eleanor was outdone.

Dr. Charles looked at Eleanor and smiled.

He thought, “It’s too late now.”

She stared at the lamb chop for a minute and then turned her head and looked at her children and tried to smile.

Dan went to his seat near Olivia and her sons. He like Olivia because he loved she could sing and her boys were talented also.

Michael unfolded his arms and sat and begin to eat his lamb chop.

He looked at Eleanor and said, “Thanks.”

He was mimicking what she said to her parents.

Eleanor said, “I did not order the lamb chop because you have to learn to eat what is set before you at a dinner.”

Michael looked over at Brenda and Patrick.

Brenda was talking to Al.

She looked at Michael and he said, “Thanks.”

Brenda smiled.

The three bands performed.

The servers brough the cake and punch into the ballroom.

The photographer took a more photographs.

Jake walked to the table with Gary and Jose and he introduced himself to Sarah.

Sarah smiled at this strikingly handsome and tall uniformed soldier and her heart stopped.

Jake asked Sarah to dance.

They danced for most of the night.

Brenda asked Patrick, “Who is that lady?”

Patrick said, “She’s with Joe and Peggy.”

Brenda jerked and looked at Patrick and looked back at Joe and Peggy.

The Mc Clendons were enjoying their dinner.

They were talking to Denise and Gary.

Brenda saw Jose did not care what they were talking about.

He was drinking his liquor.

Brenda heartily laughed.

Jose looked at whiskey glass and looked at Joe Mc Clendon.

Lorraine laughed at Jose because his whiskey was nearly gone.

Jose eased up from table.

Joe Mc Clendon said, “Bring me one and the wife one please.”

Lorraine said, “Me too please.”

Jose did not say anything.

He eased back in the ballroom with four glasses of whiskey.

Patrick watched Jose give the Mc Clendon’s glasses of liquor.

He could not tell if it was whiskey or brandy.

After dinner the dance band begin to play.

Patrick and Brenda led the dance.

Then Beverly and Al.

The current governor and his wife and then Bryson and Gail.

Everyone else followed.

Gen was trying to finish her Cornish hen.

She took half of Ben’s Cornish hen.

Ben said, “I should have gotten sole.”

Gen laughed.

Ben said, “Woman put down that bone. There is nothing else on it and come and dance with me.”

Gen begin to Laugh.

Ben stood up and reached for Gen’s hand.

Dr. Charles was watching what everyone ate.

Shirley looked at her plate.

She looked at Dr. Charles and said, “I know to eat a tablespoon of rice and a quarter of the sole.”

Skip looked at Shirley and then her plate.

He looked at Eleanor who looked at Shirley’s plate.

Eleanor caught one of the servers and said, “There are special diet plates for some of the quests. Tell Thomas to come here. “

Skip looked at Eleanor.

He noticed she never said please or could you. She was always the boss but not rude.

Thomas walked in the ballroom and bent down to Eleanor.

Eleanor said, “Thomas how is the food?”

Thomas said, “Fine.”

Eleanor said, “I requested Shirley to have a quarter of cup of mashed sweet potatoes and chopped green beans, and for Gen to have sole and mashed potatoes.”

Thomas said, “I saw those plates. I’ll bring them back.”

Everyone looked at Eleanor.

Thomas brought Shirley the sweet potatoes and chopped up green beans.

Dr. Charles said, “Thomas don’t take that plate to Gen. She has eaten her dinner.”

Thomas looked at Eleanor.

Eleanor nodded her head to Thomas.

Thomas walked by the table and Michael tapped his plate.

Thomas said, “No.”

Skip looked at Michael trying to be slick and requested another lamb chop.

When Michael turned he looked directly in Eleanor’s face.

Percy and Bruce sat and looked at Michael.

Percy whispered to Bruce.

Bruce looked at Michael and shook his head.

Michael looked at his two brothers because he was ashamed.

He looked back into Eleanor’s face.

Meredith walked to Eleanor’s table and saw Michael was still eating.

Eleanor looked at Meredith.

Michael looked at Meredith.

Meredith said, “Thomas let’s dance.”

Thomas put his napkin on the table and stood and bowed and took Meredith’s hand and he escorted her to the dance floor.

Everybody at the table smiled.

Dr. Charles was watching to see who needed a dance partner.

Lorraine walked to Eleanor’s table and held her hand out to Michael.

Patrick and Brenda were dancing.

Their eyes fell on Lorraine and Eleanor at the same time.

Patrick whispered, “She’s not mines.”

Brenda stared at Lorraine for nearly eighteen years he never saw the likeness between Eleanor and Lorraine.

Patrick thought, “I better hurry and resolve this mystery.”

Michael was relishing the last bite of his lamb chop.

He was trying to rush eating his lamb chop.

He kissed Eleanor on the cheek and said, “You are next. I’ll be back.”

Vivienne smiled.

Skip looked at Vivienne and felt sadness from her.

Harriette and Monica walked to Eleanor’s table and got Vivienne and walked to the ladies’ room.

Skip looked at Dr. Charles and said, “They are going to talk about you.”

Dr. Charles looked at them.

Eleanor was looking at Skip.

Skip saw Eleanor staring at him and he thought, “She thinks I want to use Shirley.”

Alicia and Ben passed the table to go to the dance floor.

Alicia, tap Shirley’s shoulder and pointed to Skip.

Skip looked at Alicia.

Shirley smiled.

Bruce said, “Dr. Charles, Miss Vivienne is sad.”

Skip looked at Bruce.

Dr. Charles looked at Bruce.

Eleanor was watching Skip.

Percy said, “She is really nice. But the slaves’ owners killed all her family when her father let his slaves go free.”

Skip stood to escort Shirley to the dance floor.

He stopped and stared at Percy.

Eleanor noticed Skip’s reaction to what Percy said about Vivienne’s family being massacred.

Skip walked to Shirley and escorted her to the dance floor.

Patrick and Brenda were in their own world.

Dr. Charles said, “I heard.”

Bruce said, “Miss Vivienne, really really miss her family.”

Dr. Charles said, “Thank you Percy and Bruce.”

Vivienne, Monica were walking back to the table.

Dr. Charles, Percy and Bruce stood.

Dr. Charles reached for Vivienne’s hand.

He escorted her to the dance floor.

Stephanie was dancing with Robert but winked at Bruce.

Robert smiled at Bruce.

Bruce turned and walked to Eleanor and reached out his little hand.

Eleanor looked in the eyes of pure love.

Bruce looked at her.

Eleanor stood and Bruce escorted her to the dance floor.

Percy sat and was looking at everyone.

He slipped to the cake and had them to cut him another piece.

He liked both punches.

He carried one punch and his cake to the table.

Percy placed them on the table and went back and got a cup of the other punch.

He was trying to drink and eat as much sugar as he could before Eleanor put a stop to it.

He was sitting at the table enjoying his punch and cake.

Brenda walked over and held her hand to Percy.

Percy saw someone passed his table as his head was down eating the cake.

He looked up and saw Brenda with her hand out.

He laughed and stood and walked to her.

He saw Patrick going to the table with Jose.

Jose was eating his cake and drinking his liquor.

Jose did not see Patrick walked to their table.

Joe Mc Clendon and Peggy Mc Clendon were drinking their whiskey and eating their cake.

They were having a grand time.

Sarah and Jake were on the dance floor.

Many people were taking a romantic walk to Brenda’s garden.

The security man had to remove the bar and unlock the front door.

The lights were in the garden made it romantic.

Gail and Bryson were sitting on a bench.

Jake was leaving the dance floor with Sarah and leaned to Robert and said, “We’re going to the garden.”

Stephanie looked at Robert and said, “Where are they going?”

Robert was twirling Stephanie and held her close to his cheek.

Stephanie was looking back and saw other people walking out the ballroom.

Stephanie stopped dancing with Robert and walked out the ballroom and followed the people.

Brenda and Percy were walking to the dance floor.

Robert smiled at Brenda and followed Stephanie.

Patrick was sitting at the table talking with the Mc Clendons.

Patrick said, “Go dance you two when was the last time you danced?”

Joe and Peggy looked at each other and laughed.

They stood and went to the dance floor.

Patrick said, “Jose what are they drinking?”

Jose stopped eating and stared straight.

Patrick said, “Jose I did not say what are you drinking. I said what are they drinking?”

Jose said, “Whiskey.”

Patrick said, “Is there another unopened bottled?”

Jose thought, “I can hide the bottle we are drinking from.”

Jose said, “There has to be one in storage.”

Patrick said, “I want to give the Mc Clendons a bottle for a gift. I’ll go and get a bottle.”

Patrick lean to stand.

Jose said, “No sir. I’ll go and get it.”

Patrick looked at Jose and said, “You are off.”

Jose said, “I can go and get it. Do you want it wrapped or card?”

Patrick knew Jose was planning something with the liquor.

Patrick looked at Jose and said, “I know you are planning something with the liquor. I don’t care what. We have plenty of liquor.”

Patrick stood and walked away from the table.

Jose stood and rushed behind Patrick.

People were standing in the hallway laughing and having a good time.

Al and Ben and the mayor were playing billiards.

Patrick walked through the room.

The mayor had his pool stick in his hand and pointed at Al and Ben said, “That’s them.”

Patrick laughed and kept walking and he saw Jose running behind him.

Patrick walked to the liquor table and saw the half empty bottle of whiskey and he gave it to Jose.

He saw people walking out the front door and the security man standing at the front door.

Patrick said, “Are they leaving?”

The security man down the hall at Patrick.

Stephanie was running through the formal dining room and Robert followed her.

Patrick looked.

Stephanie went and stood on the porch and looked.

Robert walked her to the garden.

Sarah and Jake danced around the garden.

Stephanie was about to yell at Jake and Sarah to get out the garden when she saw the the former governor and his wife sitting out there holding each other and kissing and drinking their punch.

Stephanie smiled and Robert escorted her around the garden.

Patrick and Jose walked from the liquor table.

Jose was holding onto the half empty bottle of whiskey.

The security man looked at Jose and the half empty bottle of whiskey.

Jose held the bottle close to his chest.

He and Patrick walked outside.

They saw Gail and Bryson and others walking in the garden.

Dr. Charles and Vivienne walked from the back of the house to the garden.

Dr. Charles and Vivienne stayed in the garden most of the evening with many other couples.

Patrick tuned and walked back to the house.

He told the security man, “I did not think about people may want a walk in the garden.

The security man nodded at Patrick and looked at Jose.

Patrick looked at Jose.

Ellen and Captain Moss were walking through the hall.

Patrick held the door open and said, “You are going to the garden?”

Ellen said, “Yes sir.”

They passed Patrick to the garden.

Gail and Bryson were walking on the porch.

Patrick held the door for them.

Gail had her cup and looked at Jose with the half empty bottle of whiskey.

Patrick said, “That’s his. Come on.”

Gail said, “Patrick the garden is beautiful and so peaceful.”

Bryson said, “A lady came out there with a soldier and ran us out the garden. She said she will be marrying in the garden in September.”

Patrick nearly hit the floor.

Jose was laughing.

Patrick could only whisper and said, “Jose.”

Jose was laughing because Stephanie was running people out of Brenda’s garden.

Jose walked to Patrick.

Patrick was laughing so hard he could not talk.

Gail said, “Heifer.”

Patrick was nodding his head for yes he said, “That’s what Brenda calls her.”

The security man looked at Jose and balled his fist at Jose.

Patrick said, “Tell Stephanie to come here.”

Patrick started trying to get his composure back.

Jose walked out the door and walked fast to garden and yelled, “Stephanie, Patrick wants to see you now.”

Stephanie was smiling and about to walk to another couple.

Robert was following behind her.

Jose stood and waited for Stephanie and Robert.

Stephanie looked at Jose holding the half bottle of whiskey.

Robert looked at Jose with the whiskey bottle.

Stephanie walked in the house followed by Robert.

The former governor and first lady were standing by Patrick.

Patrick was just able to stand up and stop laughing.

Bryson and Gail were not laughing.

Stephanie tried to fake a smile.

Robert was being a soldier walked with Stephanie to face the consequences of their actions to Patrick.

Patrick said, “Stephanie did you run the governor and the first lady out the garden because you did not want them to damage the flowers?”

Robert was looking at Bryson who was not smiling but looking straight at Stephanie.

Stephanie tried to smile at Patrick but looking down at Gail’s big feet.

Patrick was biting his lips.

Because Gen and Brenda said Gail had big feet.

Patrick knew Stephanie was looking at Gail’s feet damaging the flowers.

Robert said, “Sir we apologize.”

Bryson said, “Fine sir. We accept your apology.”

Gail looked around in Bryson’s face and said, “Who accept their apology?”

Patrick could only point to Stephanie.

He pointed for she and Robert to leave.

Patrick, Bryson and Gail walked to the liquor table.

Jose went into the family dining room and got a glass and nearly filled it with whiskey and gave it to the security man.

The security man took a big swallow and realized it was not the cheap stuff and he had to drink a little at a time.

He put the glass on the stand in the family dining room so he could easily get to it.

Jose went and got to bottles of whiskey.

One for the Mc Clendons and one for the liquor table.

Patrick said, “Jose, we don’t have a bag or paper to put this in?”

Jose went into the storage area and brought a whiskey bag to put it in.

Jose went to his room and put the whiskey bottle in his room and sat on his bed and untied his boots.

He woke the next morning.

He was laying on his bed and fully clothed.

He woke and thought and said, “I wanted to see what happened with Vivienne and Monica.”

He fell back on his bed and slept for another hour.

Peter arrived at work with Nadine.

They saw everyone was sleep.

Peter looked at that morning breakfast request.

He said, “Nadine, they want a buffet and want a pancake platter to impress both governors who are guests. Nobody is here. So I need your help.”

Nadine did not say anything but walked out the kitchen and went looking for Jose and Thomas.

She was not going to walk out to the barn and look for Dan.

Nadine knocked on Jose’s door until he got up.

She pointed to the kitchen and said, “Peter needs your help.”

Jose said, “I know. Give me thirty minutes to take a hot bath.”

Nadine said, “Whose bringing you hot water?”

Jose opened the door and stood against the door.

Nadine was walking down the hall to get Thomas.

Jose knew that’s what Nadine was about to do he said, “Nadine he is off until tomorrow leave him alone.”

Nadine walked back to Jose and stood.

Jose said, “Nadine go and get several dozens of eggs. I left a note for the livestock workers to bring the milk. I have to have a hot bath so I’ll check on the water. Start a lot of coffee for everyone. The house is full.”

Ruth and twelve workers were walking in the house.

It was eight am and no one was up in the house.

Ruth said, “How many people are here?”

Jose said, “Ruth, I don’t know but set up for a buffet breakfast in the formal dining room.”

Jose said, “Five of you start washing the dishes. Three of you start cleaning the ball room. It will take a couple of days. I know it is a lot but we all will help.”

Five of the workers went and started washing the dishes.

The three workers opened the ball room doors and stood in disbelief.

Jose started the hot water.

Peter told two of the workers to make the orange juice.

He thought, “Well the beverage part is over.”

Jose walked through the house as the water was heating.

He put the billiards sticks up and cleared the billiards room.

He looked at the alcohol storage area and found nothing was opened.

He thought, “Maybe there’s some leftovers.”

He checked the liquor table.

He walked down the hall and went to the family dining room and the security man was sleep on the floor.

Jose saw the glass was empty.

Jose opened the unlocked front door and looked around on the front porch and walked back in the house and locked the front door and got the empty glass and woke the security man.

The security man jumped and sat on the floor.

He shook his head and stood.

Jose did not say anything.

The security man checked his guns and nodded at Jose and walked through the house and left.

Jose started picking up punch cups and glasses from the formal dining room to the parlor to the sitting room.

Sue was walking through the house with a tray.

Jose put his many glasses on Sue’s tray.

Ruth was cleaning the formal dining room and putting the tablecloth and napkins on the table.

Sabrina was helping with the silverware and glasses and cups and saucers.

Jose went to Brenda’s office and got liquor glasses.

Jose said, “I need to look again at that liquor table.”

He went to Patrick’s office and he checked the spare bedroom.

Jose walked to the end of the hall and at the settee and picked up a half of bottle of brady and several glasses.

Sue was walking down the hall with the tray.

Jose put all the glasses of the tray and kept the bottle of brandy.

Jose walked to the liquor table and he saw several near empty bottles with only a swallow of liquor. He poured the swallow of brandy in the half full bottle of brandy and the nearly empty bottles and took them to his room.

Eleanor woke and was walking to the hot water room.

Jose heard her and ran to his room and dropped off his liquor.

He ran back into the liquor storage area and grabbed new bottles of brandy, scotch and rum and put them on the table.

Eleanor walked to the staircase and said, “Jose.”

Jose did not look at Eleanor and said, “What?”

Eleanor said, “I want a hot bath.”

Jose said, “I’m not going to look for Gary. I started the hot water. Why can’t you use that spare room and bathe while everyone is sleep. Then I will come and empty the tub Eleanor.”

Eleanor said, “Fine.”

Jose turned and went downstairs and took him a hot bath and shaved and put on his uniform and went to his room and put on his socks and shoes.

Jose like to wear slippers from the bath to his room.

One of the workers was washing the fruit and preparing it and the pecans and walnuts.

Jose was walking back to his room and said, “Peter no sugar.”

Peter turned up his nose at Jose.

Lorraine woke and made her bed with clean linens and she picked up her bags and looked around and made everything fine and walked through the kitchen and left.

She left the door open and dropped the linens in the back hallway.

Lorraine went home and made a fire and heated her hot water.

Lorraine took a hot bathe and shampooed her hair and went to bed.

She did not have to go back to work until Monday.

Meredith, Denise, Mabel and Gary played cards for hours that night.

They were sleep until late morning.

Dan was out in barn.

He helped load Olivia’s wagon.

He and Olivia walked and sat on the back porch and talked late into the night.

Brenda did not want Olivia and her sons to leave and had two rooms for them next to Lorraine.

Harriet, Vivienne and Monica washed and dressed.

They were off until Monday and they cleaned their rooms and left right behind Lorraine.

They saw Lorraine in front of them.

Samantha, Alice and her other four friends woke and washed and dressed.

They cleaned the six rooms they were in and walked outside and waited until Stephen to take them home.

The security guard was about to leave and said, “Ma am I apologize for being rude.”

Samantha said, “I accept your apology.”

The security man pointed to her dress and said, “Did you get a chance to wear the dress?”

Samantha said, “Yes.”

The security man said, “I bet you looked real pretty.”

Stephen walked out and everyone jumped and ran to the wagon.

Alice giggled and looked at Samantha.

Samantha turned her head and said, “I want to stop working and sew dresses.”

Alice looked back at the security man and turned back to Samantha.

Olivia and her three sons got up and left.

Sue went into their rooms and put clean linen on their beds and dusted.

Sue was happy.

That means she had to do only the boy’s whenever they woke.

She had her special place to go and sleep or read until her tour was over.

Jose started walking upstairs to check the bedrooms.

He was happy with Sue, because she was sitting in the hot water room and reading her bible.

She saw Jose inspecting the upstairs.

Eleanor had bathed and emptied the tub of water.

He thought, “she needs to do something.”

He saw her bedroom door and he saw the boy’s doors were cracked.

He knew Eleanor would cracked their doors open I she thinks they have slept a long time.

She knew Percy and Michael would jump up out of sleep.

Eleanor was sitting out on her patio and enjoying the quietness of the morning.

Shirley’s door was closed.

Eleanor usually kept Shirley’s door because she was sick.

Jose went to the linen area upstairs and got a sheet set for Eleanor’s room and gave it to Sue.

Sue put her bible down and stood and took the sheets.

Jose said, “Eleanor. I’m going downstairs and see if anyone is up for a hot bath and linens to be changed.”

Michael ran out of his room in front of Jose and Sue and did not see them.

Jose was used to Michael doing that.

Michael ran straight to Eleanor’s room and out to her patio and jumped in her lap and went back to sleep.

Sue was tickle.

She knocked on Eleanor’s door and Eleanor looked back and saw Sue.

Sue entered in and changed Eleanor’s linen and made the bed.

Percy woke and ran pass Sue to Eleanor’s room.

Sue was taking he linens down to the washer room.

She stopped and got linen and changed Percy’s sheets and made his bed, swept and dusted.

Eleanor reached and kissed Percy’s cheek.

Percy was stretching and yawning.

Eleanor said, “Percy did you enjoy your grandparents’ ball?”

Percy was yawning and nodded his head for yes.”

The two new stable workers were beginning to feed and groom the horses.

The horses were neighing.

Percy ran to the balcony because that was his horse.

Michael woke and turned his head to see the horse.

Eleanor thought, “God these boys know their horses neigh.”

Michael was enjoying Eleanor’s lap he did not run to the balcony but turned and watched his horse.

Bruce walked out to the balcony and looked at the horses.

He turned and looked at Eleanor and said, “Momma I want to ride for most of the day.”

Eleanor looked at Bruce and said, “Good morning Bruce. Did you enjoy your grandparents’ ball?”

Bruce looked at Eleanor and said, “Good morning momma. Yes. I want to ride most of the day.”

Eleanor said, “Once Gary is up.”

Percy said, “We can ride by ourselves.”

Eleanor looked at Percy and said, “Percy I am not ready for you all to be by yourselves.”

Bruce said, “I’m going to take a hot bath.”

Bruce looked at Eleanor’s door and saw Sue into his room.

Bruce said, “Can Sue get my water or do I have to find Jose?”

Eleanor turned to look back at Sue.

Eleanor said, “Percy do you think you and Bruce can fill your tubs with hot water?”

Bruce and Percy stared at Eleanor.

Eleanor laughed and laughed.

She said, “You are getting big. You have to learn and you have to do somethings for yourself.”

Percy and Bruce stared at Eleanor and made no gestures or said a word.

Michael leaned up and looked at Sue.

He jumped out Eleanor’s lap and ran down the hall to Lorraine’s room.

Jose was walking up the backstairs to get the linen Sue had placed on the floor.

Sue was cleaning up Bruce bedroom and sweeping and dusting.

Michael ran pass Jose to Lorraine’s bedroom and he stood in her doorway and said, “Jose where is Lorraine?”

Jose said, “She’s gone home. She will be back Monday.”

Michael started hollering and ran to Eleanor.

Eleanor looked back and saw Michael and said, “What is it?’

Michael said, “Lorraine is gone.”

Eleanor said, “Michael you are getting big. Lorraine only work five days a week. She is off on the week-ends. She is not here to be playmate.”

Michael walked over to the balcony and put his elbows on the balcony and poked out his mouth and looked at his horse.

Bruce said, “Miss Sue be tired. Her granddaughter is like Shirley.”

Percy said, “She be tired all the time.”

Eleanor was looking at spoiled Michael and she could not figure out where he got spoiled from. She heard Bruce.

Eleanor said, “Come on boys. I am going to show you how to get your hot water.”

Eleanor stood and was walking out her room when she saw Thomas run out his room.

She said, “Oh God this boy is going to start hollering because he is ready to eat.”

Jose and Sue were standing behind the sleeping Thomas.

Sue eased in his room and Jose walked behind Sue.

Eleanor continued to walk to Thomas she walked to him and hugged him and kissed him on top of his head.

Percy and Bruce ran to the hot water room.

Bruce said, “Let’s throw the water through the crack in the wall.”

Jose flew out of Thomas’ bedroom and yelled, “I’ll get your hot water. All you’ll are going to do is food the house.”

Eleanor looked at Jose.

Michael walked to Eleanor.

They walked to the room with the tubs.

Eleanor and Jose filled the tubs with hot water.

Percy said, “Momma Lorraine put my clothes on the bench. I don’t want to put them on.”

Eleanor said, “Percy they are clothes.”

Percy said, “They are too little.”

Eleanor said, “What? Percy are you saying you have grown out of your clothes?”

Bruce said, “Me too.”

Eleanor said, “I’ll go through your clothes this week and see you need until school starts.”

Michael turn to the door and said, “Momma are we going back to the military academy with Stewart and Caleb?

Jose was standing by Eleanor looking at Michael.

Eleanor broke down and fell to the floor and cried and cried.

Jose did not know what to do.

Michael and Thomas stood paralyzed.

Percy and Bruce ran downstairs to their grandparents.

Brenda and Patrick were praying.

Percy and Bruce were knocking on their door.

Patrick and Brenda stopped praying.

Patrick yelled, “Come in.”

He was getting off his knees.

Percy and Bruce opened the door and said, “Momma.”

Brenda got off her knew and ran behind Patrick upstairs.

They got to the top floor and saw Jose standing and looking down at Eleanor.

Sue was standing with the linens to take to the washer room.

Thomas and Michael were standing in the hot bathroom.

Patrick ran to Eleanor and grabbed her.

Eleanor was distraught.

Brenda kneeled down by Eleanor and looked at Jose and said, “Jose what happened?”

Jose stood and did not say anything.

Patrick was holding Eleanor.

Shirley cracked her door and eased down the hall to see what was going on.

Sue said, “Percy and Bruce said they had outgrown their clothes. Eleanor said she would go through their clothes to get ready for school. Michael said, momma will we be going back to the military academy with Stewart and Caleb?”

Brenda looked at Eleanor.

Patrick was holding her and could not console her.

Sue said, “That is a grieving spirit. Whatever she is grieving GOD has to heal her.”

Brenda looked back at Sue.

Brenda turned back to Eleanor and said, “Eleanor, you are not weak like you think.”

Jose said, “Eleanor stop. You and I fight all the time. But you trusted me and sent me away with your children to Philadelphia and we kept you informed about what was happening with them. Not many parents would do that.”

Eleanor said, “I lost them. I lost them. I lost Brenda.”

Brenda said, “What?”

Bruce said, “The baby’s name was Brenda.”

Brenda held her head down.”

Eleanor said, “I lost Shirley at the beginning. They took my two babies from me and were trying to get Shirley.”

Patrick said, “Eleanor I told at George’s funeral to come out the darkness. Yes people have done wickedly about you. I am sorry for the lost of Brenda. You ran away and you kept running. You feel you can not protect your children. You are torn up inside. You try to keep them locked up. You have to let them go Eleanor. You have to seek GOD yourself to let the guilt that is eating you up that you be delivered and set free.”

Brenda did not like how Patrick spoke to Eleanor.

Brenda thought, “GOD I don’t know what to say or do.”

Eleanor was wailing and moaning.

Brenda looked at Eleanor and stood.

She looked at her grandchildren.

Bruce kneeled by Eleanor and took her hand and said, “Momma we know how to fight.”

Michael said, “Momma I’m sorry.”

Thomas said, Me too.”

Sue said, JESUS!”

Brenda grabbed Michael and Thomas and held them.

She said, “You Michael and Thomas did nothing wrong. Your momma is hurting because she could not stop the bad things from hurting you.”

Percy said, “Momma bad things are a part of life. Especially when you have money. Kids at school talk about bad things all the time.”

Brenda looked at Shirley who was watching Eleanor.

Jose said, “Boys your momma is fine. Go and bathe because peter is clanking the bowls which means he is about to pour the last of whatever he is making in the oven.”

Thomas said, “I smell cheese.”

Jose said, “I think that is new, it is a grits casserole.”

Percy and Michael said, “Yuck.”

Patrick held Eleanor for a few more minutes

Eleanor looked at Sue and said, “Sue.”

Sue looked at Eleanor and said, “What?”

Eleanor said, “I’m sorry about your granddaughter.”

Sue held her head down and looked at Eleanor and said, “She is my daughter. I told people she was my granddaughter because how old I am.”

Bruce said, “It’s a doctor downstairs that help her like they did Shirley.”

Brenda looked at Bruce and said, “Bruce you have become nosey.”

Sue said, “That’s already Bruce. I ran from the town I was living in when my husband died. We prayed for a child and when I had the baby she was born with a twisted and gnarly body and could not see nor hear. People were blaming me because I was too old to have a baby. My husband was much younger than me. I felt he deserved a child. He died in the civil war. But I felt in my heart if GOD did not want me to have a baby HE would not give the child to me. Then with unknown problems.”

Sue stood and looked in space.

Shirley looked at Sue.

Patrick was holding a crying Eleanor onto the floor.

Sue turned and walked down the backstairs to the washer room.

Brenda tipped to the stairs with Thomas and Michael holding onto her to watch Sue.

Jose made the boys bath water.

Brenda went into their rooms and saw their clothes.

She took the boys their clothes and took them to the boys.

Percy said, “Grandma since we know momma is scared of losing us, but it’s four of us…”

Patrick looked towards the door at Percy.

Percy said, “Can we going riding by ourselves?”

Brenda said, “No.”

She and Jose got a tub of hot water for Shirley and carried it to her room.

Shirley walked behind Brenda and Jose.

Jose walked with Brenda to get the water for the guests.

He yelled and said, “Eleanor get up and attend your children.”

Brenda hit Jose.

Jose grabbed his arm and said, “Ouch.”

Eleanor sat up.

Patrick was on his knees and helped Eleanor to stand.

Sue walked back to get the other linen.

Patrick watched Sue.

Eleanor was still sniffing and said, “We will help you with your daughter.”

Patrick said, “Eleanor you are strong enough to help Sue. You don’t need us.”

Eleanor looked up at her strong daddy.

He kissed Eleanor on her forehead.

Sue wet back downstairs.

Patrick go to the top of the stairs and saw Brenda over Jose beating him.

Patrick stood at the top of the stairs and watched Brenda punch Jose.

Captain Moss and Ellen were walking up the hall with Dr. Charles they stared at Brenda.

Brenda looked up and saw everyone looking at her.

Peter was standing outside the formal dining room and he stared at Brenda.

Patrick was at the top of the stairs.

Patrick saw everyone looking at Brenda.

He said, “Brenda I told you about that.”

Jose had his head covered.

Patrick yelled and said, “Get up Jose. You indulge her with that.”

Jose said, “Will you pay for me to go to Europe?”

Patrick yelled, “Hell no and get you’re a\*\* up.”

Brenda stood up and walked pass her guests as if she was a champion fighter.

Captain Moss, Ellen and Dr. Charles turned and watched Brenda walked down the hall and go into her bedroom.

Patrick walked down the staircase.

They looked at Patrick.

Jose sat on the floor.

Patrick said, “You still be sitting on the floor when I get there.”

Jose jumped and ran to the back of the house.

Captain Moss, Ellen and Dr. Charles looked at Patrick.

Beverly and Al were walking down the hall.

Dr. Charles looked upstairs and nodded and said, “Everyone is ok?”

Patrick said, “Eleanor went through guilt about the harm the children went through. I think we handled that.”

Captain Moss said, “She was not beating up her worker?”

Patrick said, “Brenda did that several weeks. I told her to stop. Jose fall out on the floor and claim worker injury and try to blackmail me to send him to Europe.”

Ellen started laughing and said, “That’s Jose.”

Captain Moss looked at Ellen.

He said, “Brenda looked like she was really punching him.”

Beverly said, “No. She was barely touching him. She learned that from Joe our father’s drunk brother. He let people pretend they were beating him so he could get paid.”

Patrick said, “Please sit in the parlor or sitting room and give us thirty minutes to dress. Gentlemen we are going golfing after breakfast and the staff will set up the seafood feast for this evening.”

Patrick said, “Mayor, I did not know you were here.”

Everyone turned and looked at the mayor.

The mayor said, “I was too drunk to go home. One of the workers saw me stumbling and I was not moving. My wife was no better.”

Everyone laughed.

Th mayor said, “She is still sleep.”

Patrick said, “I believe breakfast will be ready in a few minutes.”

The mayor said, “Please let her sleep.”

Patrick laughed.

The mayor said, “You are going golfing?”

Patrick said. “Yes sir. You can come.”

The mayor said, “I’m still drunk. You can easily beat me.”

Patrick said, “Let’s go.”

They laughed.

Gary and one of the dish washers were walking passed them.

Patrick said, “Gary take the boys riding after breakfast.”

Gary said, “I have to take Mabel to catch the noon train and drop Denise at the rest stop. You want me to take them riding after breakfast until eleven and then get them after lunch?”

Patrick said, “That’s good.”

Gary said, “Yes sir.”

Dr. Charles said, “Where’s Vivienne.”

Gary said, “All of them are gone home. They left this morning.”

Dr. Charles said, “I wanted to have breakfast with her.”

Gary looked at Dr. Charles and thought, “I have nothing to do with you and her.”

Gen and Ben came through the front door.

Patrick looked at the door opening and said, “Jose who is that?”

Gen and Ben popped in.

Gen said, “Good morning.”

Patrick laughed and said, “Good morning.”

Gail and Bryson and Governor Neil and his wife were coming out of their rooms.

Patrick said, “I have a house full of guests and not dressed,

Michael was standing at the top of the stairs with Bruce.

They ran down the staircase.

Michael said, “Good morning.”

Bruce said, “Good morning.”

Patrick rushed to his bedroom.

Everyone was in the parlor laughing and talking.

Jose served everyone mimosas.

Michael and Bruce reached for one.

Jose got the mimosas and kept on walking.

Gen was about to holler. Michael kept her laughing.

Captain Moss said, “Have you ever seen Brenda jumped on a worker?”

Gen said, “It’s several I want to jump on.”

Gail was laughing.

Beverly said, “Brenda was punching Jose.”

Gen said, “I know with fake punches. We used to do that on missions.”

Captain Moss drank his mimosas.

Jose brought Michael and Bruce chilled apple juice.

Gen said, “That looks good.”

Michael walked over to Gen and said, “We can switch.”

Jose said, “Michael sit.”

Michael turned and looked at Jose and said, “You are not Lorraine. You are Jose.”

Gail her mimosa to her lips and stared at Michael.

She saw that though they were the youngest that he and Thomas were ruling the family and the workers.

Bryson watched Gail.

Percy and Thomas were walking Shirley down the stairs.

Eleanor combed and brushed her hair and put some pins in her hair.

She felt better.

Dr. Charles saw Eleanor walking to the parlor door but looking down the hall.

She walked to the formal dining room.

She walked out back to the parlor.

Eleanor said, “Good morning. I know it is late for breakfast, but we all slept a little more this morning.”

Dr. Charles looked at Shirley and said very sternly, “Shirley why didn’t you sit?”

Eleanor looked at Shirley.

Shirley said, “Because I wanted to dance.”

Dr. Charles said, “I’ll adjust you after breakfast.”

Shirley primped her mouth.

Gen said, “I know how you feel Shirley. But I sat down. Did I not Ben?”

Dr. Charles said, “Gen what are you doing?”

Gen did not say anything.

Ben stared at Dr. Charles.

Dr. Charles stood and walked to Eleanor and said, “Let me speak to you.”

Eleanor knew it was about her.

She looked at Dr. Charles.

He saw a younger version of Shirley but with beautiful brown hair and green eyes.

He saw Eleanor had tighten up and said, “It’s not about you nor your children. But Shirley has to work slowly on being her normal. I like Vivienne and I thought she would breakfast with us. I want to go to her and spend time with her today. We leave tomorrow.”

Eleanor said, “I thought you were going golfing?”

Dr. Charles said, “Vivienne is more important.”

Eleanor said, “I’m glad you are not mad with me. You just can’t go unannounced to her residence. Why don’t you go and golf. Send a message to Vivienne inviting her for dinner in the garden tonight. She can stay overnight and have breakfast with you tomorrow before you leave.”

Dr. Charles was thinking and said, “Wonderful.”

Bruce saw Sue walk pass Eleanor and he ran to Sue and said, “Excuse me Miss Sue I want you to meet the doctor.”

Dr. Charles turned and looked at Bruce.

Eleanor peeped around Dr. Charles at Bruce.

Sue said, “Bruce you have to have breakfast.”

Eleanor said, “Sue I will talk to the doctor.”

Dr. Charles watched Bruce as he walked back to the parlor.

Jose said, walked and said, “Breakfast is served.

Patrick and Eleanor were walking around the corner and joined their guests.

Jose brought Patrick and Brenda mimosas.

Patrick said, “That apple juice look good. Bring us apple juice Jose.”

Jose said, “Yes sir.”

Gail said, “Brenda did Patrick tell you one of your workers ran us out the garden last night?”

Brenda said, “Really. People were in the garden?”

Patrick started laughing all over again.

Brenda was so tickle Patrick tried to talk but he could not.

Gen started laughing.

Ben said, “I got to hear this.”

Bryson sipped his mimosa and said, “I’m still not laughing.”

Gat Patrick she started laughing.

Percy got tickle and he started laughing.

Eleanor walked up so she could hear.

Gail said, “It was a lot of people walking through the garden. Bryson and I went out and sat in the garden and I was drinking punch. Brenda the garden was beautiful…”

Patrick nearly hit the floor.

Michael and Thomas looked at Patrick.

Dr. Charles looked at Thomas and Michael and thought, “They will be with him and Brenda until the end.”

Gail said, “This woman came rushing to the garden and looking around at the number of people that were sitting in the garden and strolling in the garden…”

Brenda said, “Sorry Gail. I did not think about opening the garden for people to walk and get fresh air.”

Gail said, “That’s fine Brenda but this heifer walked up with a soldier and looked at my feet…”

Patrick fell into the door.

Gen was laughing so hard at Patrick that when Gail said her feet,

Gen lost her balance and Ben had to catch her.

Then Ben looked down at Gail’s feet.

Bryson was still not happy.

Brenda stopped giggling and looked at Patrick and then at Gail.

Gail said, “That heifer said, we can go back to the ballroom because she was having her wedding in the garden in September.”

Brenda said, “Stephanie ran you out of my garden?”

Gail said, “Yes.”

Brenda said, “Little heifer.”

Gen hit the floor.

Patrick was already sliding down the door.

Jose came back to get them and he laughed and he laughed.

He tried to get Patrick up and could not.

Percy and Bruce went to Patrick to get him up.

Eleanor laughed and said, “Stephanie is serious about that garden Gail. I’m sorry she ran you out.”

Ben could not get Gen up.

He kept looking at Gail’s feet and said, “Gail why did she look at your feet?”

Gail pulled up her skirt and said, “She was saying my feet were so big they were damaging the flowers.”

Gen laid out on the floor.

The mayor looked at Gail’s feet and he rolled. He never looked at her feet before.

Ellen was shocked and she sat on Captain Moss’s leg and shielded his face while he laughed.

Beverly was sitting with her mouth opened.

Al pushed Beverly off his lap and walked to the formal dining room.

He and captain Moss walked to the formal dining room where they hollered.

Nadine, Ruth and Briana looked at them.

The formal dining room was beautiful.

Nadine and Ruth brought the flowers from the ballroom and put many in the formal dining room.

Percy and Bruce ran to the formal dining room.

Shirley and Dr. Charles followed.

Brenda did not speak for a few minutes.

Brenda said, “I’ll speak to Stephanie when I see her.”

Gail said, “I started break a rose limb to really upset her, but I remembered it was your garden.”

Brenda walked towards Patrick.

Thomas and Michael waited with Brenda and Patrick.

Jose helped Patrick up.

Ellen and Eleanor walked to the formal dining room.

Beverly walked with the mayor and his wife.

Beverly said, “Is she saying the woman ran her out the garden because her feet are big enough to damage the flowers?”

The mayor fell into the table. His wife was laughing and tried to catch him.

But she was just about in hysterics and barely could talk and said, “Yes,” she looked back to see where Gail was.

Beverly still could not understand why the worker ran Gail out of the garden.

Ben said, “Gen I am going to try one more time and then I am going to leave you there.”

Brenda looked at Gen and quickly turned her head because she would be laying next to Patrick.

The current governor and the first lady walked out with Bryson and Gail.

Thomas and Michael were standing waiting for Brenda and Patrick.

Brenda whispered to Gen, “Get up.”

Gen fell back down on her knees.

Brenda peeped down the hall and heard Gail still fussing.

Ben said, “Is she still fussing?”

Gen hollered.

Ben walked out the parlor door.

Gen struggled and got up.

Michael and Thomas walked with Patrick and Brenda.

Patrick was holding Thomas and Michael had Brenda by her waist.

Patrick, Brenda, Ben and Gen finally reached the formal dining room.

Brenda was so happy with how Nadine and Briana used the left flowers to make the dining room beautiful.

Peter brought in the pancake platter and he said, “No sugar.”

Peter made egg cps, with cheese and bacon and grits casserole.

Everyone filled their plates and sat to the table.

Patrick said, “Captain Moss would you bless our food.”

Captain Moss said, “I’ll try. It is already bless.”

Everyone giggled.

Captain Moss said, “LORD GOD Almighty thank YOU for these good good people. Bless the hands that prepared and cooked the food and let it nourish our bodies. In JESUS’ name. Amen.”

Michael looked around for a plate with his lamb chop.

Eleanor knew she had to fight with Michael.

Peter was looking over the table at the food.

He saw Michael was staring at him.

Dr. Charles was watching Michael.

Patrick was watching Dr. Charles.

Eleanor was ignoring Michael.

Peter turned and went to the kitchen and came back with a plate with Michael’s lamb chop on it.

Dr. Charles giggled and said, “Quiet resilience.”

Patrick smiled and looked at Michael.

Michael reached for the plate and took his lamb chop off and put it in the his plate.

He reached his plate to Nadine.

Nadine was on her way to get the plate.

Michael looked at Eleanor.

Eleanor looked at Michael and kissed his forehead.

Thomas made a pancake with strawberry and whipped cream.

Shirley ate her spinach, tomato and onion omelet.

Michael ate his lamb chop and got some of Eleanor’s grits bake.

He looked at Eleanor and said, “Good but not better than my lamb chop.”

Gen said, “Oh my God this grits casserole is delicious.”

The governor said, “Yes it is. I want some more.”

Gen looked around the tables at everyone’s plate and they had a tablespoon.

Beverly looked back at the buffet and pushed her chair back.

She looked around to see why her chair was not moving.

Al was holding it to keep Beverly from going to the buffet.

Peter was bringing in some apple juice and he smiled.

He smiled and said, “‘ll get you some governor.”

Beverly looked at Al.

Brenda and Patrick were watching them.

Brenda put her head down.

Gail was sitting next to Brenda and saw Brenda and Patrick looking at Beverly.

Gail leaned back to see what Patrick and Brenda were looking at.

Gail said to Brenda, “Is Al holding Brenda’s chair?”

Brenda held her head down and looked up at Beverly and whispered, “Yes.”

Patrick looked at Al.

Peter scrapped the last of the grits casserole and put it on a plate and gave it to Nadine.

Nadine walked to the governor with the plate he said, “Just put it here on the corner.”

Nadine use the serving spoon.

Peter took the tray with the empty apple juice glasses and walked back towards the kitchen.

Patrick said, “Peter.”

Peter leaned down and said, “Sir?”

Patrick said, “Is there anymore apple juice?”

Peter said, “No sir.”

Patrick looked around the table and said, “Are you able to prepare another grits casserole?”

Peter said, “No sir.”

Patrick said, “It was very good. Add it to our special breakfasts.”

Peter nodded his head and said, “Yes sir.”

The current governor saw Percy make him elf a banana pancake with whip cream.

The governor said, “My God I have not seen that. May I have a piece.”

Percy stood.

Nadine walked and took Percy’s plate and cut the governor a taste.

The governor looked at Percy and said, “Percy you have discovered something.”

The governor asked for me and he and his wife shared a pancake.

Percy grinned.

Shirley said, “Michael if you give me your grits casserole I ‘ll give you half my omelet.”

Michael was stretching and said, “I don’t like you anymore. The answer is always going to be no.”

Patrick looked at Michael and then Shirley’s head bow.

Gary walked to the door and looked.

Eleanor knew Gary had to take Mabel to the train and he had to take them riding when he returned.

Eleanor looked at Michael and said, “Michael you apologize to Shirley now or you won’t go riding.”

Michael looked at Eleanor.

Eleanor looked at Michael.

Bryson was sitting a few chairs from Michael and he looked at Shirley.

Shirley’s feeling was hurt.

Dr. Charles was seated next to Shirley.

He knew why Michael was being mean to Shirley and he knew it was going to take time for him to get over it.

Thomas and Bruce looked at Shirley.

Thomas looked at Eleanor.

Eleanor was pushing her chair back from the table.

Michael looked at Eleanor.

Patrick was putting his napkin down and pushing his chair back.

Brenda and Gail looked at Patrick.

Eleanor looked at Michael and said, “Come on.”

Michael said, “Where?”

Thomas said, “Momma is going to spank you.”

Michael looked at Thomas and said, “Why?”

Bruce said, “You won’t apologize when momma told you to.”

Michael sat and looked at Thomas and Bruce.

Percy looked across the table and said, “Michael say you are sorry.”

Michael looked up at the standing Eleanor and said, “Sorry momma.”

Eleanor said, “To Shirley.”

Michael stared at Shirley.

He said, “Shirley was evil to me.”

Michael started crying and he jumped from the table and ran out the dining room.

They heard Michael screaming running upstairs.

Eleanor walked out the dining room.

Percy stood and walked out the dining room behind Eleanor.

Thomas eased out the chair and then Bruce.

Brenda was baffled and said, “Where are you all going?”

Bruce looked back at Brenda and did not say anything.

Patrick sat back in his chair and pulled his chair to the table.

Dr. Charles was talking to Shirley and Bryson.

He said, “I know what happened. You have to give Michael time to forgive you. When someone loves you and follow you and do what you want them to and when you treat them mean that is a hurt that lasts a long time.”

Bryson was talking to Shirley.

He was thinking back over his life as a young boy.

How brutal his stepfather was to him and his sister.

Until his stepfather’s death he hated him.

His sister ran away from home at fourteen and never returned.

Bryson was older and wanted to finish school.

He finished his school and the day he finished school he did not go home.

His parents had a celebration for him at their home.

Bryson rode to the next state and went to school and made a life for himself in another state.

He wants to see his sister and know her welfare.

She looked at Bryson and smiled to keep tears from falling.

Bryson said, “My father died when I was five and my sister was three. My mother rushed and married a brutal older man. No one knew why, because my father left her money to take care of us. He was evil and hated me and my sister. He would beat us over and over again for nothing. My mother would not stop him. She said, we did something to make him beat us. My sister ran away when she was fourteen and I rode away when I was sixteen after my finishing school ceremony. I never looked back. I now you and Michael are not there.”

Gail whispered and told Brenda, “I’ve have been trying to find his siter for fifteen years. I haven’t found anything.”

Patrick looked at Gail.

Gen looked around and sighed.

Ben was surprised and said, “Michael stuck to his guns.”

Gen said, “Let me have Michael’s grits.”

Dr. Charles said, “No.”

Ben sat down.

Gail peeped down at Dr. Charles and saw Beverly.

Gail said, “Why Al does not want Beverly to eat?”

Brenda said, “I don’t know. I think he believes we think he can’t take care of her.”

Gail said, “Over meat?”

The governor started laughing.

Brenda was snickering.

Patrick said, “I sure hope Eleanor is not beating Michael.”

Jose and Nadine walked to the end of the dining room so they could look upstairs.

Gen said, “But he is so cute.”

Ben said, “Gen every man is cute to you young old and in between.”

The governor’s wife said, “But cute is the one that came in last.”

Gail pointed and said, “I could not talk.”

Beverly said, “Yall talking about that gorgeous young man with all of that hair?”

Alfred turned his head and looked at Beverly.

Gail said, “I’m never at a last for words. I think I was shocked to see such a fine young man. One time …”

Brenda whispered, “Gail.”

The governor and his wife were looking at Gail.

Gail looked at Brenda and saw the governor and his wife looking at her and she turned her head and saw Bryson staring at her.

Gail did not know what to say.

Patrick said, “Bryson don’t take it to heart. I’m use to it. Ever since he was born it seem like every grown woman was running in behind him.”

Brenda said, “But that little Ginger got him wrapped up. They are at the same school.”

Shirley lifted up her head to look at Brenda and Patrick.

Shirley said, “Grandma, grandpa you have not said anything about Skip. Do you like him?”

Patrick put a piece of pancake in his mouth.

Gail cut her eyes at Patrick.

Brenda said, “Shirley what I have seen of Skip I like.”

Shirley flashed her beautiful smile.

Patrick looked at Shirley and knew what he and Brenda thought were the world to her.

Patrick leaned his head and looked at Brenda and nodded his head.

Shirley grinned and was so happy.

Ellen eased from the table and walked to the buffet and stepped out the formal dining room.

Captain Moss watched Ellen.

Ellen tipped back in the formal dining room.

Everyone looked at her even Nadine and Briana.

Ellen shrugged her shoulders and said, “I got use to them those two years in Europe, not Michael. Eleanor sons stick together. Sometimes they were able to persuade Eleanor and then sometimes they could not.”

Dr. Charles said, “What factors did they used to persuade Eleanor to do what they wanted her to do.”

Ellen looked at Dr. Charles and said, “When she was near death.”

Patrick and Brenda stared at Ellen.

The Governor stared at Ellen.

His wife looked at Ellen.

Brenda said, “Ellen tell me what you are saying.

Ellen said, “The first year the doctors stayed with us. We never knew if she would make it through the night.”

Brenda jumped up and threw her napkin on the table.

Gail jumped up and went to Brenda and hugged her.

Brenda said, “My child was at death’s door for a year and no one told me?”

Patrick looked at Ellen.

Captain Moss shook his head.

Patrick said, “Moss you knew?”

Captain Moss said, “I knew her condition on the ship. Whenever I went to Europe Ellen would tell me.”

Ellen looked at Patrick and then Brenda and said, “Eleanor felt you two did not love her anymore.”

Shirley looked at Brenda and said, “Grandma, momma told me she disappointed you and daddy and was going away to live.”

Patrick said, “Why?”

Shirley said, “Because of her and daddy separating.”

Ellen said, “That made the boys close. Percy would send telegrams weekly.”

Patrick exhaled and looked at a disturbed Brenda and said, “Sit baby. GOD has worked all of this out. It is worked out.”

Patrick pulled Brenda’s chair under her.

He said, ”Brenda trust me. We have trusted GOD our whole life. We gave HIM all of our children. HE took Eleanor away while her brothers were plotting all their evil. HE took her away from Bruce and his evil family trying to get my money.”

Governor Neil’s wife said, “Huh.”

Gen looked at her, because she felt the governor’s wife knew something about Bruce’s family.

Gen thought, “I got to get to her.”

Patrick said, “HE did not fail us. HE healed her and brought her back to us. Of course we have gone to her but did not want us and HE took over her life and our lives.”

Ellen said, “Sorry.”

Patrick looked at Ellen and said, “You did the best you knew.”

Brenda sit and twisted in her chair.

Her eyes went to Patrick.

He leaned over and kissed Brenda.

Gail sat and looked at Bryson and puckered her lips and tried to kiss him.

Dr. Charles looked at Bryson.

Bryson sat with a stern look at Gail and did not smile.

Gail inhaled and looked at Patrick and said, “You all are going golfing.”

Ellen felt bad. She held her head down.

Captain Moss touched her back and moved closer to her.

Patrick saw Captain Moss and said, “Ellen don’t feel bad. GOD has worked all of this out. We just have to wait until HE brings the pieces together. But you and Steven and Brenda did a good job.”

Brenda said, “You all really did. The way I can tell is how none of the children said anything bad. Not even Percy about the bacon.”

Gen laughed and said, “That boy is still eating four strips of bacon?”

Dr. Charles looked at Gen and huffed.

Gen turned her head.

The governor’s wife looked at Gen and snickered.

Ben looked at Dr. Charles and back to Bryson.

Ben said, “Bryson are you alright? We have to beat these rascals.”

Brenda said, “Ellen I thank GOD HE surrounded my family with people who were GODLY and had integrity and honor and loved my children and helped them when Patrick and I were not there for them.”

Brenda leaned over and grabbed Patrick.

Nadine and Briana were listening.

There was a knock on the door.

Jose was standing in hallway.

The governor looked towards the door.

Jose opened the door.

He said, “Alright.”

Jose closed the door and locked it.

He walked in the family dining room and put the letter on a tray and brought int to the formal dining room.

He walked to Shirley and said, “Miss Shirley.”

Shirley looked up at Jose and looked at the tray.

She picked up the message and looked at the envelope and grinned.

She opened the envelope and read the note.

Shirley grinned and looked up.

Gen sat back and said, “Shirley.”

Shirley looked at Gen and then Patrick and Brenda and said, “Skip will meet me at church tomorrow.”

Brenda was leaning her head on Patrick.

Patrick said, “Jose is everything ready for the seafood for dinner?”

Jose said, “Yes sir. Dan is coking it.”

Gen said, “What you got?”

Dr. Charles looked at Gen.

The governor looked at Dr. Charles.

The governor’s wife saw Gen’s face and nearly fell out her chair.

Beverly as angry with Alfred.

Gail said, “GOD forbid you eat in your own garden.”

Gen’s head hit the table.

The governor and his wife laughed at Gail who was still hot over it.

Gail said, “The nerve of that little heifer.”

The governor’s wife was laughing so hard and said, “And it’s not her garden.”

Gail said, “The nerve.”

Gen could not take anymore.

The governor’s wife was laughing so hard she was crying.

She looked at Beverly and Beverly’s face was no better.

The governor looked at Beverly and hollered.

Alfred was eating his grapefruit and looked up at everybody.

He said, “I’ll be finished in a sec and we can go to the golf course.”

Beverly was rolling her eyes at him.

Gail kept her head turned.

Ben said, “Well.”

Captain Moss and Ellen were giggling to themselves.

Captain Moss was holding Ellen while she ate.

Dr. Charles said, “Patrick may I invite Vivienne to the dinner tonight?”

Patrick said, “Sure.”

He looked at Brenda and said, “Is she here?”

Brenda looked at Nadine and said, “Nadine is Vivienne here?’

Nadine said, “Vivienne is not here and will be off until Monday.”

Dr. Charles said, “How do I message her?”

Patrick said, “It maybe too late.”

Patrick said, “Jose who is here that can go to Vivienne and give her Dr. Charles invitation and wait for her to bring her back here if she wants to come?”

Shirley looked at Dr. Charles and said, “Dr. Charles have you written the invitation for Vivienne?”

Dr. Charles jumped in his chair and said, “No I haven’t.”

Shirley tied to push her chair back to get up.

Bryson was still mad.

Beverly was angry.

The governor’s wife was still laughing.

Jose stepped out the formal dining room and walked down the hall with Sue.

Dr. Charles helped Shirley out of her chair.

Shirley said, “Thank you. We can go to the writing you and you can select the paper and ink you want.”

Dr. Charles said, “You got a room of paper?”

Shirley laughed and said, “It’s a small room. Momma liked the different colors.”

Shirley and Dr. Charles walked out the formal dining room.

Gen said, “Get him on out of here and give him something to do.”

The governor and his wife hollered.

Dr. Charles said, “I know Gen have said something.”

They passed Sue and Jose talking.

Shirley and Dr. Charles walked through the billiards and went into the hall and a small room across from the ballroom was painted a pretty blue and a desk and chair was in the room with papers and envelopes.

Dr. Charles looked around the room.

Dr. Charles said, “White paper and envelope.”

Jose was walking through the hallway with Sue.

He was telling her I had to get someone to take her home since she was leaving early.

The workers washing the dishes had washed half the dishes and were putting them in the ballroom.

Shirley heard Jose and walked to the hallway with a limp.

Dr. Charles saw Shirley and finished his invitation to Vivienne.

Shirley said, “Jose do you know where Vivienne lives?”

Jose turned and looked at Shirley and said, “Yeah.”

Shirley started laughing.

Jose said, “She lives near Sue. She has to go and see about her daughter.”

Dr. Charles walked out the writing room with the envelope.

He reached the envelope to Jose.

There was a knock on the door.

Jose turned and was running through the hallway.

Patrick went to the door and opened it.

It was the governor’s carriage driver.

The governor walked to the door and said, “I’ll be out soon.”

The man said, “Yes sir.”

The governor and Patrick were talking amongst themselves.

The governor’s wife walked out the dining room with Brenda and said, “Gen, Gail, Beverly whenever you come back and Brenda it was a beautiful ball and breakfast. You all have to come to the state capitol and stay at the mansion. Gail you are use to it. I am not a garden person but you can sit in our garden.”

They all laughed.

Alfred and Captain Moss stood to go and get their things from their rooms.

They shook the governor’s hand.

The mayor and his wife were walking down the hall from the spare room and gathered their things.

The mayor and his wife shook the governor’s hand and hugged the first lady.

They walked out the house to their carriage.

A worker had groomed their horses and feed and gave the horses water.

The mayor looked back at Patrick and nodded his head.

Patrick grinned and waved at them.

Jose walked to the governor’s room and got his bags and walked back to the door and walked out the door and took the governor’s bag and his wife’s bag to the carriage.

The governor and Patrick were watching the exchange of the governor’s bags.

Jose turned and walked back in the house.

Jose walked in the formal dining room and said, “Nadine I am taking Sue home she is sick.”

Nadine said, “She’s hunger.”

Beverly said, “She’s not the only one.”

Brenda turned around and looked at Beverly.

Beverly had turned all around in her chair and had her elbow on the next chair.

Bryson looked at an angry Beverly.

Bryson said, “Beverly why are you hungry when there is plenty of food here?”

Beverly said, “I believe Al is trying to starve me to death.”

Gen and Gail fell on the table.

Beverly’s facial expression did not change.

Bryson stood and picked up a plate put a slice of ham and eggs on it.

Brenda stared at Beverly.

The governor’s hugged Brenda.

Brenda and Patrick walked the governor and his wife outside to their carriage and went back in the house.

Brenda said, “Patrick, Beverly said she believes Al is trying to starve her to death.”

Patrick leaned his head and looked at Brenda.

They walked in the house.

Bryson was walking out the formal dining room to go and get he and Gail bags.

Beverly was eating the ham and eggs.

She drank a second glass of apple juice.

Gail looked to make sure Bryson was out of her hear shot and told Gen, “I’m sick of him.”

Gen said, “We are married to them for life.”

Gen said, :That Dr. Charles is getting me mad. And he is not my husband. He even has my husband obeying him.”

Brenda heard Gen and walked in the formal dining room grinning.

Gen was pulling down her top and sighing.

Brenda was laughing.

She walked to Beverly and sat and said, “Eat what you want. You see the kids are gone.”

Gen said, “Did she whip Michael?”

Brenda said, “She better not.”

Gail said, “Yall call her weak. Now you are talking about she better not whip cutie.”

Brenda was sitting facing Beverly and leaned backwards and looked Gen and Gail and said, “I know I should not say this, but he is cute.”

Gen said, “I know. He took Meredith’s wedding.”

Gail laughed and said, “He sure did.”

Patrick was laughing because he knew they were talking about Michael.

Beverly was eating the eggs and said, “Did yall see what I had in my plate?”

Gen folded her arms on her stomach and said, “Gul eat what you want. At least you ain’t married to that doctor.”

Dr. Charles walked upstairs with Shirley and did her adjustment.

Shirley laid on her bed.

Dr. Charles covered her with blankets.

He said, “Shirley don’t do that again. Rest and later dance another dance and sit down.”

Shirley was in great pain.

Dr. Charles said, “Where is Gary. I want those hot rocks.”

Shirley said, “He’s at the train.”

Shirley cried.

Eleanor heard her and she was in Bruce’s room with Michael, Thomas and Percy.

Michael walked to the door behind Eleanor and heard Shirley crying.

He said, “Good that it hurts.”

Eleanor turned and looked at Michael and he looked at Eleanor and walked back and sat on the floor.

Eleanor walked down to Shirley’s room.

Percy said, “Michael momma just talked to you about Shirley.”

Thomas said, “You made me miss breakfast.”

Bruce said, “Gary should be back soon so we can go riding for most of the day.”

Eleanor walked in Shirley’s room.

Dr. Charles looked at Eleanor and said, “I need Gary to heat the rocks for me.”

Eleanor said, “He’s gone to the train station and won’t be back for a while. When he comes back I’ll tell him.”

Shirley said, “Momma Skip sent me a message he will see me at church tomorrow.”

Eleanor turned up her nose and said, “Not if you are not better.”

Dr. Charles was walking down the stairs.

Thomas and Bruce ran pass him to the formal dining room.

Jose walked to Nadine and said, “Why you say that Nadine?”

Briana said, “She only works part time and her daughter’s medicine and doctor charges take all of that. Have you seen her house?’

Brenda was listening.

Dr. Charles walked into the door after Thomas and Bruce.

Patrick walked to the buffet with them.

Thomas and Brue got scrambled eggs, sausages and biscuits.

Dr. Charles walked in the dining room and looked at Gen and said, “Me?”

Gen was sucking her teeth and turned her head.

Gail hollered and fell out on the table.

Bryson walked in the door and said, “Gail I am ready.”

Gail composed herself and walked from the table and hugged Beverly and Brenda.

Gail said, “I am coming to this wedding.”

Gen said, “Me too.”

Bryson looked at Gail and said, “You can’t go to somebody’s wedding.”

Gen said, “Bet.”

Dr. Charles looked at Gen.

Thomas and Bruce were eating their breakfast when Al and Ben walked in the dining room.

Beverly slide the plate to Brenda.

Brenda stood and went to the buffet.

She looked back at Beverly and said, “Beverly you want to try these cinnamon rolls Peter baked?”

Al said, “No.”

Dr. Charles looked at Al.

Patrick looked and did not say anything.

Thomas looked back and said, “Are those the ones with pecans in them?”

Nadine said, “No.”

Jose started breaking down the buffet.

He had Dr. Charles invitation.

Jose took the food in the kitchen.

He made Sue a very large plate of the meat and breads and cinnamon rolls.

He walked out the back door and handed Sue the full plate covered with a towel.

They walked out to a wagon.

Sue stepped up in the wagon and cried all the way home.

Jose said, “I know you live around here but I don’t know exactly.”

Sue pointed to a broken down house with hanging window screens and front door.

Jose stopped in front of the house and he heard someone crying.

Jose jumped and said, “Sue who is that?”

Sue said, “My daughter. She is hungry and weak.”

Jose said, “And you would have been at work all day with this child in this condition.”

Sue said, “The neighbors watch out and they know it is nothing we can do.”

Jose walked Sue to the door.

He walked back to the carriage and looked up and saw Vivienne’s house was directly across the street.

He walked over to the house and knocked on the door.

The homeowner came to the door and Jose asked for Vivienne.

The lady went and got Vivienne.

Jose handed Vivienne the note from Dr. Charles.

Vivienne stood and stared into space.

Jose waited a minute and said, “I need an answer.”

Vivienne said, “Alright.”

Jose said, “Vivienne alright what?”

Vivienne looked at Jose and said, “I’ll come to dinner.”

Jose said, “Do you need me to wait for you?”

Vivienne said, “Is he there?”

Jose said, “They went to play golf.”

Vivienne said, “I’ll be back in a minute.”

Jose said, “I’ll pull the carriage over here.”

Vivienne looked out the door and saw the carriage in front of Sue’s house.

Vivienne twisted her mouth.

Jose walked back across the street and got in the carriage and looked at Sue’s house.

He drove over to Vivienne and waited in the carriage.

Gen and Beverly were helping Brenda out in the garden.

Gary returned from the train station and from taking Denise to work.

Eleanor told Gary to heat the rocks for Shirley.

Gary showed Eleanor how to heat the rocks.

Eleanor looked at Gary to let him know that was his job.

She put the rocks on Shirley’s blankets.

Shirley was in pain and said, “Thank you momma.”

Eleanor said, “You are welcome Shirley. Try to take a nap.”

Shirley slowly fell asleep.

The boys were outside with their horses waiting for Gary.

Gary walked out the house and mounted his horse.

He and the boys went riding for over four hours.

They saw Jose and Vivienne going to the house.

Gary was glad Denise was going to stay at the Rest stop.

Mabel was gone and Meredith was sleeping.

Gary took Meredith a sausage and a biscuit before he mounted his horse.

Meredith woke as Gary was leaving.

She saw the napkin.

Meredith got out of bed and walked to the dresser and opened the napkin and saw the biscuit and sausage and ate and went back to sleep.

Ellen went to visit old friends.

She did not like her family and stayed away from them.

Jose was quiet and thinking about Sue.

Jose said, “Vivienne, what do you know about Sue and her daughter?”

Vivienne said, “I know she has a daughter like Shirley. I have never seen her. Sue is bad off. I think she used all of her money when she moved here to buy that house. As you can see it needs to be repaired.”

Jose said, “This is the most I ever heard you talk.”

Vivienne said, “Because you are not a woman.”

Sue unwrapped the plate.

Jose had piled food on the plate.

He put six sausages, ten slices of bacon, six biscuits, ham slices, the egg cups and fried potatoes.

Sue went and heated the food and gave her hungry daughter something to eat.

Later Sue got her daughter out of bed and washed the bedsores and sat her on the back porch, while she washed their sheets and hung them up.

They sat on the back porch and Sue held her daughter and rocked her and prayed and read the bible.

Sue had peace.

She felt things were turning around for her and her daughter.

Jose walked through the house to see what has to be done.

Dan was preparing dinner and he was making a salad, coleslaw, applesauce, french fries, fried beans, hushpuppies and biscuits.

Dan had cut up the vegetables for his boil and had mixed the seasons and spices.

He made tea, lemonade and punch.

Jose walked back in the kitchen and said, “Brenda wanted to eat in the garden this evening.”

Dan walked with Jose.

They walked in the garden and saw the women working.

Jose had the dish washers to take four tables outside and eighteen chairs.

They had tables for the beverages and hot foods and one for the cold foods.

The dish washers took hot water to all the rooms around four pm.

Jose placed lanterns around the garden.

The ballroom was swept and mopped.

The dishes were washed and placed in the ballroom.

Six workers were in the washer room all day.

They washed all the linens and a lot of the towels and tablecloths and napkins.

The boys came back and took hot baths and shampooed their hair.

They changed clothes.

Shirley was able to sit in the bed and she changed her dress and Eleanor brushed her hair and put pins in it.

Shirley put on her everyday pearl earrings.

Everyone was bathing.

Brenda walked outside with Shirley and looked at the setting.

It was very nice.

Gary and the dish washers emptied the tubs and they lit the outdoor torches two hours early.

Gary went downstairs to the workers area and soaked in the hot water and shaved and shampooed.

He stopped in the kitchen and said, “Dan is there anything Meredith can have?”

Dan looked at Gary.

He took a plate and placed an ear of corn, a whole fried catfish, coleslaw and hushpuppies and he sent a glass of lemonade.

Gary said, “Thank you.”

He went to the re-modeled supply shed and knocked on Meredith’s door and gave her the plate.

Gary said, “Mabel is gone and Denise will stay at the rest stop tonight. I am locking the door and going to bed.”

Meredith said, “I will sit on the porch for a little while and come back in and locked the door.”

Gary went to bed and to sleep.

Meredith took her plate and lemonade and went outside and sat in a chair Gary brought from the house storage.

Meredith sat and ate her food and drank her lemonade.

She thought about Felipe and since it was Saturday, how he spent his day.

She thought, “I will send him one of the photographs from our wedding. So he could put it in his room and remember me. “

She thought, “I miss him. I can write him and tell him about the ball. The fun I had and what I wore and I was not sick, like today. I will give the letter and photograph to Charles to take to him, because it would take a month for him to get it.”

Meredith was so excited about writing Felipe she finished her meal.

She stood and walked to the house to return the plate and glass.

Ellen drove up.

She stopped and waited for Ellen.

One of the stable workers walked to Ellen and took the horse.

They were walking to the back porch Meredith cleaned her plate in the thrash.

Ellen opened the door and they walked and talked.

Meredith walked in the kitchen and said, “Thank you Dan.”

Dan was busy he looked up and said, “You’re welcome.”

Meredith was looking around the kitchen.

Dan was peeling a potato and said, “What are you looking for?”

Meredith said, “I want to see Jose.”

Ellen was standing in the hall waiting for Meredith and saw Jose walking from the ballroom and said, “Meredith here is Jose.”

Meredith turned and walked out the kitchen.

Dan shook his head because he thought Meredith was a little lightheaded.

But he quickly remembered how she and Lorraine ran through the hotel and check everyone and got to Eleanor and saved her life.

He shook his head again and said, “GOD uses who HE wants to do what HE wants. I never would have thought she and Lorraine could move that fast and find out who was in danger and use their nursing skills to help save a life.”

Dan looked up and saw Meredith talking to Jose.

Dan shook his head and thought, “What an amazing GOD.”

Jose heard Ellen telling Meredith Jose was walking down the hall and he was thinking, “God this is a busy job but easy. When will William and Wyonna come back they may stay there and then they may come back, but Robert is gone. He is the loose one I better plan my job out.”

Meredith saw Jose and said, “Jose I want to write to Felipe.”

Jose looked at Meredith.

Ellen laughed.

Jose looked at Meredith and said, “Meredith you do not complete your thoughts and sentences. I will not read your mind. You tell me in a complete sentence what you want.”

Dan was listening to the arrogant Jose talk to Meredith like she was stupid.

Meredith looked at Jose and said, “I want to write my husband Felipe. I want you to give me pen and paper to write to him. I want you to give the letter that I will write to my husband to Dr. Charles along with one of our wedding photographs, so Charles can give it to my husband when he returns to Philadelphia next week. Is that plain?”

Ellen was grinning.

The workers in the kitchen were watching.

Jose said, “Meredith that was clear and better than you want to write Felipe.”

Meredith looked at Jose.

Dan was standing and peeling his vegetables for the seafood boiled and grinned at Meredith.

He and Felipe had become very good friends. He watch out for Meredith for Felipe.

Dan was talking to Olivia at the Fourth of July Celebration.

Felipe saw him and he and Dan talked about Olivia.

Dan thought, “I’ll send Felipe a letter about the ball and how pretty Meredith looked and she is fine.”

Jose overheard something the doctors were talking about Meredith during the Fourth of Celebration.

He prayed for Meredith and asked God to help her and let no more danger or damage whatever the doctors were saying come to Meredith because she is a good person and bad people did bad things to her.

Jose said, “God I know You exist. I see You every day. But I don’t know You like other people. I want to accept Your Son one day. You know I like the alcohol and the women. When the day comes that You will allow me to accept Your Son Jesus allow me to pray to You about these people here and allow me to help them. As Michael and Thomas say, Amen and Amen.”

Jose said, “Follow me.”

Meredith and Ellen followed Jose.

Ellen was nosey and she and Captain Moss were alone in Philadelphia.

She and he were getting to know each other.

She saw Brenda and Patrick one day praying together before they started each day.

Ellen asked Captain Moss to start their day together in prayer.

They would pray together each day and have breakfast they would walk the beach each morning for exercise.

They started a small garden and he taught Ellen how to swim.

They would go boating and fishing.

Ellen was happy to be alone with Captain Moss.

She would see her sister Belinda, Steve and their twins every four to six weeks.

She and Captain Moss would go into Philadelphia and spend three to five days with them.

Steve and Belinda took all their earnings from being in Europe with Eleanor and bought a very nice house and furnished it in a young and up and coming area of the city.

Steve and Belinda both went to school to become teachers and they would finish in May.

Since Ellen and Belinda had nothing to do with their family, Steve and Belinda made one of the bedrooms a guest room for Ellen and Captain Moss.

Ellen put her money from her Europe earnings in the bank.

Captain Moss bought his house when he first started sailing.

Brenda and Eleanor gave Ellen many blankets and quilts and curtains because of the cold weather.

Ellen had a room she placed all of her linens.

She was really happy with Captain Moss.

She walked with Meredith and Jose down the hallway.

Jose opened a door and stepped in.

Meredith and Ellen mouths dropped opened.

It was the writing room.

Jose did not know that room was there until earlier when Shirley brought Dr. Charles there to write an invitation to Vivienne for dinner.

Jose was embarrassed because he has been in that house five years and did not know that room was there.

Jose looked at Meredith and Ellen’s faces and knew they had never seen anything like it.

He said, “Meredith you can sit in here and write. You can not take any of this out of the house. Buy your own from the general store. Since you will be writing Felipe.”

Meredith said, “I want to send a wedding photograph is there an envelope big enough to put it in?”

Jose did not know he was ashamed that he did not know.

He was about to yell at Meredith because he did not know.

A thought came to Jose to walk and look around.

Jose begin to walk around the room and look.

He pointed to a shelf with different sizes of envelopes.

Jose, Meredith and Ellen heard the boys running down the stairs and down the hall.

Bruce saw the door opened and ran to the door and saw Meredith, Ellen and Jose.

He walked in the room and looked around.

Percy ran behind Bruce and looked at the room.

Michael and Thomas ran into the room.

Michael ran and hugged Meredith.

Thomas hugged Ellen.

Thomas said, “What is this room?”  
Jose said, “A writing room. If you want to write someone you come in here.”

Percy said, “Star.”

Bruce said, “Let’s go and see what is in the other rooms.”

Percy, Bruce, Thomas and Michael ran out the writing room and went to the next room it was completely empty.

Jose, Ellen and Meredith were walking behind the boys to see if there were any other rooms in the house.

The boys went to the other two rooms. They were empty.

They went to the last room across from Eleanor’s office.

Eleanor heard them running and talking in the hallway.

She folded her paper and stood and walked and opened her door.

Jose, Meredith and Ellen turned and looked at Eleanor.

Eleanor saw her boys open the last door and they screamed and ran in.

Jose, Meredith and Ellen ran down and entered the room.

Eleanor just looked at them and she thought and rushed to the room.

The boys were about to tear up the stuff going from one thing to the next.

Eleanor put her hands up to her head.

Jose, Meredith and Ellen looked at Eleanor and knew the things had to be of great value.

Eleanor could not move but whispered, “Stop.”

Michael and Bruce turned and saw their mother in shock.

Bruce whispered to Percy and Thomas, “Momma.”

Percy and Thomas stopped and looked at Eleanor.

Eleanor was so upset everyone stopped and looked at her.

Michael put down the sailboat he had in his hands.

Thomas dropped the metal bicycle he had on the floor.

Percy put the train down he had.

Bruce was still holding the small scale of his grandfather’s first ship.

He refused to put it down.

Eleanor whispered, “Please Bruce.”

Bruce ran pass Eleanor and ran through the house screaming, “Eleanor.”

Patrick and Dr. Charles were standing at the liquor table and Brenda and Beverly were walking from the bedrooms.

Captain Moss and Alfred were sitting in the parlor have a good time and drinking whiskey

They were talking about how bad they were beaten in golf, when they heard one of the boys screaming and saying “Eleanor.”

Brenda and Beverly stopped and were peeping and trying to see who it was screaming like that.

Patrick and Dr. Charles turned.

Bruce had the ship’s model in his hand and ran to Patrick and turned to watch for Eleanor.

Captain Moss and Alfred walked out to the liquor table.

Brenda walked fast to Patrick to see what was going on.

Beverly walked with her.

Eleanor appeared through the billiards room, followed by Thomas, Michael, Percy, Ellen, Jose and Meredith.

Bruce pulled the ship back and yelled, “No Eleanor!!”

Shirley was standing at the top of the staircase, watching everyone.

Patrick looked at Eleanor’s shocked face.

He said, “Bruce let me see what you have.”

Bruce looked at Patrick.

Dr. Charles looked at everyone looking at Bruce.

Brenda and Beverly rushed to Patrick.

Eleanor was quiet and tears were failing.

Patrick looked at the model of the ship.

He said, “Bruce how did you find this?”

Bruce said, “We were exploring and found this in the last room.”

Patrick looked back at Eleanor and said, “This is very very valuable. It is your mothers. She designed my very first ship and had it patented and went with me to have the ship built. That’s where we first begin to work on the shipping business. The shipping business was your mother’s idea. Give it to her Bruce.”

Dan and Nadine were standing in the front hallway to take the food outdoors they were standing in shock because they rarely saw Bruce act angrily.

Bruce was crying so hard.

Bruce said, “No. It’s mines.”

Patrick kneeled down in front of Bruce.

Bruce looked up at Brenda and raised the model and said, “Grandma.”

Brenda was about to cry and said, “Bruce it’s your mothers. She was about your age. She had a vision to help the family out with our own ships. She studied ships and we went to see them being built. For a year she worked on it. We took all the family’s money from the railroad and coal mining and put it into the ship. We were scared that we could lose everything. The first ship was completed the day you were born. Eleanor said, to name the first ship after you. Do you know the name of the first ship Bruce?”

Bruce was looking at Brenda and said., “NO!”

Patrick laughed.

Patrick knew Bruce did not care about the name of the ship all he wanted was get that ship.

Dr. Charles grinned.

Beverly looked at Dr. Charles.

She thought, “If I get rid of Alfred I would go after him.”

Brenda said, “Your mother named it after you, S.S. Bruce.”

Brenda looked at Bruce and said, “The shipping business is your business. It was created by your mother for you. It does not belong to anyone else but you.”

Brenda pointed at Eleanor and said, “Bruce go and apologize to your mother and give her her ship and let’s go to dinner.”

Bruce looked at Brenda and then he looked at Patrick.

Bruce stared at the ship and twisted and turned the ship.

He looked at Patrick and said, “Is that why I love ships?”

Patrick said, “You love ships because they produce money.”

Bruce belted out a laugh.

Bruce said, “I want this house too.”

Patrick said, “We will see.”

Bruce walked over to Eleanor and reached her the ship.

Eleanor was shaking and said, “Jose.”

Jose said, “Me. Suppose I drop it?”

Brenda balled up her fists like she would punch Jose.

Jose said, “I am serious.”

Brenda walked and took the model of the ship from Bruce.

Shirley was at the top of the staircase and said, “Bruce will have to talk about this house.”

Bruce pointed and said, “I told you Shirley you can have the suite sections.”

Shirley said, “You don’t decide that.”

Brenda looked at Shirley and Bruce.

Beverly said, “Brenda, let me help you.”

Captain Moss rushed to Brenda and said, “I never seen the model of the ship.”

Brenda and Beverly stood and Captain Moss stooped down and looked at the model.

He said, “Bruce this is the storage area the engine room, waste…”

Bruce cut off Captain Moss and said, “Why do I need to know all of that. I hire people like you who knows all that.”

Captain Moss said, “Bruce you will be totally responsible for lost of life or goods. You will know if someone is cheating you and stealing from you or planning on destroying your ship. Your mother t your age was brilliant to study the ship and design her own. You should be proud of her. Since you want this shipping business you have to learn every piece of this ship and how to make it better and don’t depend on people you pay. Many of the people you pay is not for your benefit but for your harm.”

Captain Moss stood and walked out the front door.

Patrick and Dr. Charles looked at him.

Ellen peeped around the doorway to see where Captain Moss had gone.

Alfred looked at Beverly who rolled her eyes at him.

Alfred turned and walked down the hall to see where Captain Moss was.

Shirley at the top of the staircase said, “Now since we are finished with Bruce’s business. I want to invite Skip to supper tomorrow.”

Patrick and Brenda said together, “Fine.”

Eleanor said, “No.”

Patrick said, “Two pm. See to it Jose.”

Jose walked back to the kitchen.

Vivienne passed Jose.

He looked at her and saw she was descent.

Jose thought, “The dress she has on is old but it is fine for a Saturday garden dinner.”

He continued to the kitchen to see what type of food was prepared.

Jose saw greens and cabbage.

He began a menu.

He and Dan clashed all the time about the menus.

Jose wrote greens, cabbage, cornbread, punch, tea, cake.

Dan heard Patrick.

He walked in the kitchen to get the fried foods and saw the note Jose wrote.

Dan walked quickly and looked in the cold places and looked at the menu and agreed and put the note down and walked through the house to the outside.

Briana had done a magnificent job on setting up the outside.

She cleaned up the formal dining room, the family dining room and she helped clean the ballroom

The dishes were washed and placed in the ballroom.

The day workers were leaving while everyone was going outside to eat.

Patrick turned to Dr. Charles and said, “Scotch?”

Bruce ran over and slipped by Patrick and said, “Brandy.”

Brenda and Beverly were walking through the billiards room with the model of the ship.

Brenda yelled, “Bruce! Get you’re a\*\* from that table.”

Dr. Charles looked at how slick Bruce moved to get to the liquor table.

Patrick was caught off guard.

Shirley walked down the staircase.

Dr. Charles watched her.

Percy walked to the stairs to help Shirley down.

They walked pass Bruce.

Shirley smirked at Bruce.

Bruce said, “Let’s see how you are going to get up the stairs.”

Patrick looked at them and saw Thomas and Michael following Brenda and Beverly.

Ellen was walking down the hall to see where Captain Moss was.

Eleanor and Meredith were talking about her wedding photographs.

Eleanor said she would love to see them.

Meredith went to the re-model supply shed and got the photographs.

She walked back in the house and saw Jose and said, “Jose why there are no lights light for the back of the house?”

Leon was in the workers area and heard Meredith.

He frowned and walked to the back door and then onto the back porch.

The other two security men walked out with Leon and looked around.

Leon walked to look up the front of the house and the lights were not light.

They could hear the family and guests faint laughing and talking.

Leon did not like it.

He had a whistle he blew it once for the six men in the field. He blew it twice for the three men, including the photographer. He blew three times it was for the men on the right side of the house.

He blew the whistle once for the men in the field to be on alert.

He blew it twice for the men of the side of the house to be on alert. He blew the whistle three times for the men on the other side to be on alert.

All the men had become wealthy by taking the money from the attackers.

The six men left in the field had a pattern, which was zigzag, one face one way and the other face the other way to cover each other backs.

Jose realized something was wrong.

He was walking through the hallway when he heard the whistles.

Dan was walking out the door when he heard the whistles.

He looked at Jose.

Jose said, “Continue.”

Jose ran back to his room and got the two guns he had. And put both of the guns on.

Patrick heard the whistles.

He looked at Brenda.

Brenda looked at Patrick.

Dan already placed a rifle behind his table earlier. He did not trust anybody and he was determined to see if he and Olivia were meant to be together.

He would be spending his off days of Tuesday through Thursday with her. He thought about taking her to Harold’s restaurant he introduced Olivia to him and Bethany at the ball.

Dan smiled as he thought about Robert and Bethany had a good time talking and dancing with their former co-workers and said, they wish it would be once a year.

Meredith went into the writing room.

She wrote Felipe a long letter and she looked through the photographs and found a duplicate photograph and put it in the envelope with the letter.

She looked around and found the perfect color envelope.

Eleanor saw Meredith in the writing she forgot about that room.

Shirley helped her put it together when she was smaller.

Eleanor saw Meredith looking at the photographs.

She walked in the room and was looking at Meredith’s wedding photographs.

They Jose running through the house.

Meredith looked Eleanor at the door.

Eleanor walked to the door and saw Jose walked back with his guns.

Eleanor was frozen.

She turned and walked to Meredith and said, “You ‘re coming to dinner?”

Meredith said, “I have eaten already.”

Eleanor did not know whether to push it on not with Jose putting on his guns.

Meredith stood from the writing desk and said, “I need to give this to Dr. Charles to give to Felipe.”

Eleanor said, “He may lose it. His mind is on Vivienne.”

Meredith said, “Really.”

She walked with Eleanor out the room.

Leon got on his horse and went to the re-modeled barn and lit the torches. The workers were in their rooms playing cards. Leon heard them and realized they had not looked outside.

Leon went to the stables and lit the torches.

He went to the re-modeled supply shed and lit the torches.

The three dish washers were looking around.

The two security men with Leon went to their positions.

The three dish washers called to Leon when he was about to ride to the front of the house.

Leon was mad and roe to the back porch.

The three dish washers got more money than the rest of the security men.

One of them said, “We saw Gary lighting those torches, because he said he was going to bed.”

Leon unhinged his gun and looked around.

The Patrick set up the torches to light the entire back.

The torches lit from the livestock to all the buildings.

He made it easy to see shadows and movement.

The three dish washers saw Leon unhinged his gun.

They waited until Leon rode away to light the torches at the beginning of the house.

The three ran to their horses that they got from the attackers.

They hid the horses and told the military they did not know about the horses.

The three dish washers ran and got their guns and put the holsters on and went back in the house and finished the dinner’s pot and pans.

One of the three dish washers were sitting on a cabinet with his feet up and reading a book.

He said, “Nall he is mad his money is gone and he is planning on coming to get it back. The hell with that.”

The other two dishwashers looked at him and continued to wash the dishes.

The one drying the dishes said, “God sent us here intime to get that money and the horses. This is coming to an end now.”

The other dish washer who was drying the pots and pans and said, “We saw Gary go and light the torches, either the oil is defective or someone wanted us to believe the torches were lit and not pay them any mind until too late.”

The one that was sitting on the cabinet said, “Where is that oil kept?”

They all looked out the window at the re-modeled barn.

The dish washer that was washing the dishes said, “I told my girl to find us a pretty nice house so we can get married and move in before winter.”

The dish washer sat on the cabinet said, “I am going to start my own business and buy me a house and live away from my greedy family. Do you know they had rigged my military pay where they got ninety five percent of my pay. When I got out I thought they were saving up my money, my momma and daddy were giving my money to my older brothers and I did not have a penny to my name. I just drifted and was homeless and was out in the pouring rain and the freezing cold for three years. I am going to put an end to this murderer.”

The dish washer who was drying the dishes said, “You know whoever he is kidnapped and really killed those two little boys. He beat the youngest to death and drowned the other. They had the trains and rushed them to Philadelphia. Those doctors brought them back to life. I want to be a doctor. I am old but that is what I want to do with my money.”

The one that was sitting on the cabinet, “Bastard. All of this killing over these people’s money. I was listening when they were talking to the other boy how they put all their money behind one ship. I want to be a businessman I just don’t know how and where to start.”

There was silence in the kitchen.

They continued until all the dishes were washed.

Peter was finishing with the cakes and cupcakes.

Nadine started bringing in the dishes and glasses.

She walked to Peter and he kissed her and kept working.

The dish washer that was washing the dishes and smirked.

He got up and got the dishes from Nadine and started washing them.

The other two dish washers were sitting on the back porch watching the re-modeled barn.

One stood so he could go back in the house and saw a shadow over at the stables and he stood on the back porch and watched and said, “I forgot about the three in the stables. Ben selected them but I don’t trust them.”

Leon rode back and the two dish washers told him what they suspect.

Leon looked at them and said, “We will see in two hours if the lights go out.”

Leon looked at his time.

He said, “I am glad they started dinner while it was light. They should be in the house when night falls good.”

Jose was walking around the front yard.

He knew the security men said they would leave at winter.

Jose said, “God reveal who this man is and who is behind this evil. I saw Gary light these lights.”

Leon went back in the house and went to the washer room and looked at how the guns were dropped behind the wall.

Peter and Nadine were watching Leon.

They knew something was wrong.

Nadine and Peter looked at the three dish washers.

The three dish washers turned their heads.

Dan was sleeping in the re-modeled barn.

Leon went upstairs and examine the hole in the wall that Bruce found.

He stooped down and he measured the entire area with his hand.

He thought and he thought.

Dan was bringing all his dishes in the house.

Briana was clearing all the dishes from outside.

Peter was about to take the dessert outside.

Leon said, “Serve it inside in the parlor.”

Peter said, “Do you go and tell Patrick and Brenda, or do I tell them you said it.”

Leon said, “Tell them I said it.”

Leon stared at Peter.

Dan looked.

Leon said, “Dan where are you sleeping?”

Dan was nervous and said, “The re-modeled barn.”

Leon said, “Sleep here tonight.”

Dan said, “My stuff.”

Leon said, “I’m sure it will be find.”

Dan looked at the three dish washers.

Then he looked at Peter and Nadine.

Peter flew through the house and ran out the front door to the garden.

He stood and looked around and everything was in the house but the tables, chairs and tablecloths.

Patrick looked at Peter.

Peter said, “Sir Leon wants you to be served dessert inside “

Peter said, “Now.”

Patrick and Brenda were laughing and getting the guests inside the house.

Shirley said, “I’m going to stay out here for a while.”

Brenda looked at Patrick and said, “Get everyone else in the house.”

Ellen said, “I thought about that too.”

Brenda walked to Ellen and Captain Moss and said, “In the house.”

Captain Moss grabbed Shirley and picked her up and ran in the house and Ellen followed.

Eleanor, Michael, Thomas and Meredith went in the house first, followed by Beverly, Al, Dr. Charles, Vivienne and Patrick.

Patrick stood in the door and waited for Bruce and Percy and then he saw Captain Moss with Shirley and Ellen behind them.

Brenda and Peter looked around.

Brenda went and grabbed the tablecloths.

Peter grabbed four chairs and they walked fast to the house.

Everyone was laughing and talking.

No one anything was wrong but Patrick, Eleanor, Brenda, Ellen and Captain Moss.

Shirley was confused.

Jose walked to the garden area once everyone was in the house and he got four chairs.

The three dish washers walked outside and brought the tables in through the front and they cleared the garden.

They heard everyone laughing and talking.

The three dish washers saw the torches dimming.

They put everything in the house and walked through to the kitchen.

Jose locked and bolted the front door.

Patrick pretended to be going to the liquor table so he could get a drank.

He was watching Jose.

Jose was peeping out the door and turned and saw Patrick watching him.

Jose turned his head and continued to stand and peeped sideways out the door.

Leon walked through the billiards room and saw Patrick and motioned for Patrick.

Eleanor was nervous when she saw Patrick move she and Captain Moss walked out the parlor and followed Patrick.

Briana passed them with flowers and put the flowers in the ballroom.

She went to her room and got her bath things and went downstairs to take a bath.

Leon looked at her.

Leon said, “Gary lit all the torches before he went to his room, two hours ago and they were not. Meredith told Jose. I went back and lit the torches. Now they are going back out.”

Captain Moss said, “Someone is sabotaging the yard to get into the house.”

Leon said, “We believe it is the two men in the re-modeled barn and the three men in the stables. I went to the stables a few minutes ago and found kerosene. I poured the kerosene out and put water in the tin cans.”

Patrick said, “You poured the kerosene out where?”

Leon said, “I did not have time. In the outhouse.”

Patrick looked at Leon.

Leon said, “I saw a figure move in the stables after I returned from lighting he torches and I thought and went to the washer room and then upstairs where the guns were dropped. A slim person had to fit in that space and have access to the house. One of those men is that slim.”

Captain Moss said, “How were those men hired?”

Patrick said, “I hired them based on Ben giving me his word.”

Leon said, “I don’t believe Ben is involved in this.”

Eleanor heard some noise and Meredith getting ready to leave.

Leon said, “Meredith sleep in the house tonight.”

Meredith said, “I am fine.”

Leon said, “I said sleep in the house tonight.”

Meredith went to the first room and opened the door and it was empty.

She went in and closed and locked the door.

She thought about Gary and unlocked her door and said, “Gary.”

Leon said, “I know.”

She undressed for bed and went to her knees and prayed for Felipe and she smiled and forgot she was praying and then she remembered to continue to pray.

She prayed for her baby to be normal and live a long life and for God to heal her body she. So she would not die, because she wanted Felipe and did not want him to live with losing another wife and or child because he was really a good person.

The three dish washers continued to wash the dishes and put the tables and chairs in the ballroom.

Briana walked up the stairs with her robe on and went in her room next to Meredith.

She knew something was wrong but went to her room and locked the door.

The three dish washers close the shutters and left a small crack to peep out.

The one that sat on the cabinet said, “We need to stay around the back since those five are on the back. There goes the lights.”

Leon ran out the backdoor.

Jose was standing in the doors and windows watching.

Peter was serving dessert.

Eleanor, Captain Moss and Patrick walked back in the parlor.

Brenda looked at Patrick.

Patrick said, “We may have unexpected company tonight.”

Shirley said, “Who I should have stayed in the garden.”

Eleanor made a move to Shirley.

Patrick caught Eleanor’s arm.

Patrick was thinking and said, “We need to leave out of the parlor.”

Al said, “Why?”

Beverly was watching Brenda and knew it was bad.

Dr. Charles said, “Where do they need to go?”

He was having a good time with Vivienne.

Michael and Thomas were sitting in front of them asking Dr. Charles and Vivienne all types of questions.

Dr. Charles said, “Ware you sure you are nine and ten?”

Captain Moss said, “A storm shelter?”

Shirley said, “Why?”

Dr. Charles looked t Shirley and then at Patrick and said, “A wine shelter?”

Brenda said, “Yes. We have not been in there for years.”

Al laughed and said, “The wine should be good.”

Beverly jumped up and rushed to Al and said, “What is wrong with you fool. Were you hit on the head with a ball today or got too much sun. There is something wrong with you Al. You have never acted like this before. Do I have to put you someplace?”

Dr. Charles looked at a distraught Beverly and said, “Let’s get through this and work on Al after.”

Brenda and Patrick looked at Al.

Brenda said, “I’ll go and get the torches and lanterns and you all meet in the billiards room.”

Brenda rushed through the hall.

Shirley said, “Why are we going to the cellar with wine we can’t drink any.”

Dr. Charles stared at Shirley.

Bruce and Percy jumped up and went to the billiards room.

Dr. Charles thought, “Percy and Bruce did n’ argue or say a word but the first in line to go to liquor. It would be funny if not for this mess.”

Eleanor said, “Shirley is going to the same place Al is going.”

Patrick looked at an angry Eleanor.

Beverly was crying she walked to Al and she and Dr. Charles helped him up.

Jose yelled back and said, “Move!!”

The servants were in their rooms for the night.

Peter and Nadine ran to their room and locked their door.

Vivienne jumped up.

Dr. Charles thought, “Good.”

Vivienne ran through the house to her room.

She locked her door and pushed the dresser behind the door and sat on the floor all night.

She was afraid and could not pray but rocked and rocked.

She was about to go back to the plantation massacre.

She kept hearing a man’s voice saying, “No.”

She fell asleep on the floor.

Thomas and Michael were running by Beverly, Al and Dr. Charles.

Ellen was running behind them.

Patrick said, “Eleanor why you are not moving?”

Eleanor said, “Rats.”

Thomas, Michael and Ellen turned without saying anything to one another and ran back to Eleanor.

Captain Moss knew Ellen would rather die than to be near a rat.

Thomas and Michael saw rats on the ship and how they ate through stuff. They were terrified.

Captain Moss said, “Patrick guns?”

Patrick ran to Brenda’s office and got her keys and unlocked her file cabinet and pulled it out from the wall.

Michael and Thomas looked at each other.

Dr. Charles was running back to the hall and said, “Hey!”

Captain Moss stepped out Brenda’s office and said here.”

Captain Moss said, “Ellen, Michael, Thomas and Eleanor go to one of the bedrooms.”

Dr. Charles ran to the room.

Patrick passed a shotgun to Ellen.

Ellen pulled the shotgun and checked it.

Captain Moss and Dr. Charles looked at Ellen.

Ellen looked at her shocked husband and said, “Patrick used to take me hunting.”

Patrick said, “Gentlemen thank you and what is your pleasure.”

Dr. Charles nodded his head towards Ellen and said, “I‘ll have one of those.”

Jose yelled, “I see movement.”

Dr. Charles checked his shotgun and got ammunition and ran up the hall with Jose.

He said, “Jose I don’t want to shoot this expensive glass.”

Jose looked at Dr. Charles.

Captain Moss took two guns and ammunition and he and Ellen ran to the guest bedroom area.

Ellen closed all the bedroom doors and she ran back to Captain Moss at the end of the hall with the window.

Captain Moss kissed Ellen hard and said, “My girl.”

Ellen grinned and ducked down.

Eleanor reached for a gun.

Patrick looked at Eleanor.

He handed her a gun.

Patrick pushed the hidden guns cabinet back in and locked it and tossed the keys back on Brenda’s desk.

Thomas and Michael watched where the keys were put.

Eleanor, Michael and Thomas were in Brenda’s study.

Patrick was concerned about where to put them.

A thought came to Eleanor she said, “Grandma.”

She turned and ran to the sitting room and moved the sofa and hit a few panels and they came loose.

Eleanor looked in her secret hiding place and said, “No rats. Come on boys.”

She threw Michael and Thomas in her secret place.

Patrick said, “Eleanor?”

Eleanor said, “Daddy I stand with you. My children will be fine. Let’s end this.”

She put out the torch lights and lanterns on that side of the house.

The three dish washers ran out the backdoor.

The one drying the dishes told Dan, “Lock this door and only shoot if they break in. That means we are dead.”

He looked around and said, “Put out the hallway lights. Now!!”

Dan ran and locked the backdoor and turned and was running down the hall with his rifle.

He saw all of them running down a closet door in the billiards room.”

Dan ran and put out the lights.

He thought about Meredith and that she was so light headed she might come out of her room.

Briana was laying on her bed reading.

Meredith was lying on her bed tossing and turning.

Peter and Nadine were seating on the floor.

The other workers were in their rooms laying on the floor.

Gary was asleep.

The photographer moved all his film and dug a hole and put them in.

He thought, “No he just can’t leave. He wants that money back. He knows we got. He knows the family did not get the money but us.”

The photographer got two rifles and loaded them and three guns and loaded them and check them.

He had a very good view of any approach.

Patrick ran through the billiards room to the wine cellar.

He heard Brenda yell and say, “What that wine down!!!”

Patrick yelled, “Percy and Bruce don’t misbehave.”

Brenda said, “It’s that damn Al.”

Patrick said, “We’ll laugh about that later. Here take these, one for you and for Beverly. Don’t come out.”

Brenda said, “Where is everybody?”

Patrick said, “Later.”

He kissed Brenda.

Beverly yelled and said, “I’ll kick your a\*\*. Do it again!”

Patrick was brushing Brenda’s hair down while she leaned back to see who Brenda was talking to.

Patrick said, “Al?”

Brenda said, “Percy.”

Patrick held his head down.

Brenda said, “Let me give her a gun so she can play with it and not kill my grandchildren.”

Patrick was about to laughed.

When they heard gunfire.

Patrick said, “Go.”

Brenda closed door to the well hidden wine cellar.

Patrick ran to the hallway where the workers were.

Dan said, “Patrick!”

Patrick looked back and said, “Dan!”

Dan said, “Yes. I see about thirty of them riding through the side. The security men just mowed them down.”

Patrick said, “That means there are more.”

Patrick heard gunfire towards the bedrooms.

Then there was gunfire all around the house.

The three attackers that were in the barn ran out and grabbed the kerosene cans and lit them and threw the cans in the stables and Leon shot all three of them, especially when they saw there was no fire.

The two attackers ran out of the re-modeled barn and grabbed their kerosene cans.

Leon said, “Damn I did not think about them.”

The three dish washers watched Leon.

Leon jumped off the ground and ran fast to the two men and shot them down when they lit the kerosene cans.

The kerosene cans fell on them and they burned up.

Screaming from the gunshots and the burning kerosene.

Leon heard massive gunfire where his men were in the fields.

Leon kneeled down and bowed his head.

Then he took his shotguns and loaded them with quick fire bullets.

He only had six men in the fields and he did not want any of them to be dead.

Leon closed his eyes and begin to listened.

Gary ran out of his room and screamed.

He ran back into his room and put his boots on and got both guns and ran to the back of the re-modeled supply shed.

He ran out towards the re-modeled barn to the fields.

He was shooting as he went.

Leon could hear Gary shooting.

Gary kept running and shooting the shadows he saw.

He used all of his bullets.

He saw one of the wounded attackers.

He ran to him and grabbed his gun and shot him and kept running and shooting.

Gary would empty a gun and run and grab the gun from an attacker.

The security men in the field were shot but not dead.

Gary knew a doctor was in house but if he was alive or not he did not know.

Gary behave enraged.

He was grabbing guns and running behind the attackers and shooting them.

He slipped and fell and shot about two or three.

Then he realized how he could fall and shoot at the same time.

He thought, “All those hunting trips with the count is paying off.”

Then Gary heard another massive gunfire and it scared him.

He knew the attackers were at the house.

He thought the boys and Eleanor and yelled, “Joseph I won’t fail.”

Gary ran through the burning fields and was shooting all the way through the fire.

Leon was running and ducking and he shot about seventy attackers.

The three dish washers yelled to Leon and said, “Fall.”

Leon being military knew that meant for him to stop and rest for a minute.

Gary was running into the yard.

He saw Leon on his knees.

Gary ran to Leon and got him up and took him to the well and gave him water that they always had available.

Leon and Gary reloaded their guns.

Gary ran to the house the three dish washers saw Gary.

The three dish washers killed about thirty men and wounded six.

The three dish washers ran and got the guns of the three wounded attackers.

The soldiers on each side of the house shot all the attackers.

Ellen and Captain Moss shot about twenty attackers that were close to the house.

Dr. Charles could not shoot through the expensive glass he eased the windows up and begin to shoot.

Jose looked at him Dr. Charles.

He saw a few attackers jumped off their horses and ran to the flower garden.

Jose thought, “Why are they going to the flower garden.”

Jose eased the door opened and looked around and ran behind the six men and shot them down.

Jose ran and hid in the rose bushes.

He was looking trying to see what the attackers were trying to do.

He looked and thought probably trying to get into the house by house through Patrick’s window.

Jose was on his knees looking around the garden.

He saw one of the windows the guests stayed in was cracked at the bottom.

He thought, “I should have looked closer when they left. Patrick is going to be destroyed.”

The Gibsons heard the massive shooting and went into town and got the sheriff.

The sheriff sent a telegram to the commander of the new military headquarters.

The commander called the troop that cleaned up the bodies and sent them double time to help Patrick.

Jake and Skip were laying on their beds talking about the Sundays after church dinners.

Robert ran and hollered and them to mount up because the attackers were back at the Stiths.

At first Jake, Skip, Ben and Will thought it was a bad joke.

Robert hollered at them.

Ben thought, “I am getting me some of that money.”

He jumped up and put on his boots and put his guns on and they ran into the other troop members.

The military had drawn a plan and told them to go and surround the Stith’s property and then advance and encircle.

He said to bring back alive as many as surrender.

The soldiers said yes sir.

Skip and Jake looked at each other.

Robert said rode to the troop and said, “I hope the flower garden is good. Let’s go.”

The troop tore through town.

Robert, Bethany and Robert Jr were returning home from a long walk.

They heard the troop who was silent and they stood and looked at them.

Bethany said, “Where in the world are they going this evening?”

Robert and Bethany stood and the two thought at the same time and said, “Patrick.”

Robert unlocked the door and they ran into the store.

He told Bethany, “I am going to see. I know this is important.”

Bethany was holding Robert Jr., “Why are they keep coming after Patrick?”

Robert went and grabbed his holster and his two guns and were putting it on.

He said, “Bethany, Patrick just added a rail station and adding two more rail stations and commissioned another new ship. They want his businesses and they want his money. They figure that if they break him they will take over all the businesses in the state.”

Bethany was holding Robert Jr and looking at him.

She said, “Robert I am not running. What you have to do do it and keep your mouth shut. I heard some of the workers said the attackers had a lot of money on them and the military won’t say nothing.”

Robert Jr was looking at Bethany as he was buckling his holster.

Robert said, “I want to know who he is.”

Bethany said, “Yeah, but also…”

Robert cut Bethany off and said, “I understand what you are saying.”

Robert walked out their living quarters above the restaurant and went downstairs and out the backdoor and put his saddle on his horse and mounted the horse and left.

He flew behind the troop.

He nearly caught them.

His horse was excited.

The troop was quiet as possible. They made the forty- minute ride in less than thirty minutes.

The heard the gunfire before they got there.

Robert said, “Jake take twenty- five men and go around the back and the side. Skip go towards the town and take twenty soldiers.

Skip said, “Sir may I stay with you?”

Robert said, “Fine.”

He called Ben and said, “Take twenty- five soldiers to the east and Will twenty- five soldiers to the west.”

They all rode fast with their guns shooting the attackers.

They did not sound the alarm.

Skip was determined to save Shirley and the boys.

Robert was riding behind them.

Skip heard him and put his gun on Robert.

Robert yelled, “It’s me Robert the butler.”

Skip said, “What are you doing?”

Robert was shooting as he saw several men jumping off their horses and running towards the garden.

Robert was fierce he was shooting them.

Robert said, “I’m here to help!”

Skip said, “Stay where you are and if anymore come you shoot in the air.”

Robert stopped.

The three security men in high grass ran out and there were twenty horses standing around them.

They looked at Robert and said, “Can you take these horses and hid them for us?”

Robert said, “I want two horses.”

One of the security men started going through the saddles and pulling out money.

Robert jumped off his horse and ran to his two horses and got the money out of the saddles.

He and one of the security men took the twenty horses and disappeared.

The security man rode back on Robert’s horse.

They hid the twenty horses in Robert’s backyard.

Robert opened the back window and threw his money in the window.

Bethany ran and grabbed the money.

She sat on the sofa and started counting the money. It was seven hundred and fifty dollars.

Bethany started grinning and stomping her feet.

She looked out the window and saw all the horses and her grin disappeared and her mind was blank.

The security man said, “We will come back tomorrow at dawn to get them.”

Robert said, “You better. I am not far from the military headquarters.”

Robert rode back to the entrance of the house and the security man jumped off the horse and ran back into the high grass.

Bethany ran and searched and got paper and pencil.

She wrote down all their bills and kept looking at the seven hundred fifty dollars.

She fell on her knees and folded her hands and said, “God, let Robert get more money. We need it.”

Bethany looked around and said, “I don’t have anything to give to You.”

She thought, “I’ll start going to church…”

She said, “I can’t make Robert go. Amen.”

Bethany was getting off her knees and fell back to her knees and said, “God please help the Stiths and put this to an end and…”

She cut her eyes around and embarrassed said, “Help Robert get some more money. We really need it. Amen.”

Robert was still on his horse and he hand his gun out the holster.

He heard a quiet noise he could not make out the sound.

Robert rode his horse over to the high grass.

By the time he settled in his position about a hundred surrounded a man and they rode onto the Sitith’s property Robert was shocked and the three security men knew they were overpowered.

Robert was scared and finally raised his gun in the air and shot in the air three times.

He took off and rode behind the men.

Robert’s eyes were on the man they were surrounding.

The three security men begin shooting.

Robert was shooting at the man in the middle and he shot three men who fell.

Skip was at the house and he and Robert heard Robert.

They turned and mounted their horses.

Jake and his soldiers were at the backyard when Robert shot three times.

Jake and five soldiers rode to the front of the house.

Jake told his men to secure the back.

Robert put up his gun and pulled the second gun out and continued to aim for the man in the center.

The soldiers went to the stables and tied the three men.

They put out the fire in the fields and got the security men.

One of the security men was a brother of one of the soldiers. They had not seen each other in over five years.

Leon was hurt and he was laying next to the well.

Gary and the three dish washers ran to Leon.

The soldiers bound Leon up and laid him on the back porch.

The sheriff and his deputies were at the Gibson’s property line because the commander told him not to go on the property while the troop was there.

Mr. Gibson was on his horse and standing with the sheriff and his deputies.

The sheriff said, “That sounds like a war.”

Mr. Gibson said, “Those men are military trained. That’s why the commander sent them here. He wants to know who they are.”

The sheriff and his deputies looked at Mr. Gibson.”

They waited at the property line.

Robert shot his six bullets.

Several of the men turned to ride and shoot Robert.

Robert rode towards the men and mingled with them.

The attackers were turning around to keep from shooting each other.

Jake and six of his men rode into the group of attackers shooting with their rifles and guns.

The three security men were running in the yard.

They were shooting at the attackers that were shooting at Robert.

The three security men shoot the five attackers and when they fell off their horses and onto the ground.

They ran and took their guns and tied them up in the yard.

The three security men ran to their horses and went into the saddles and took the money.

Robert was so shock he watched the security men.

Robert loaded both of his guns and turned to the battle.

He saw the men shot on the ground some were dead and a few were alive and wounded.

Bethany kept coming to Robert’s mind.

He jumped off his horse and ran to three horses that were standing near the men.

Robert went into the addles and got every dollar and gold coins.

He was scared and nervous.

Robert ran to his horse and securely put the money and the gold coins.

He mounted his horse and did not look at the three wounded men.

The security men ran down to that group of attackers.

They tied up the attackers and left them in the yard.

Jake and his six soldiers were shooting the group.

Robert was riding and still aiming at the man in the middle that was surrounded by the men.

Skip and Robert rode from the house and engaged in the gunfight.

Jose was watching from the garden.

He was shooting at the men with no uniforms on.

Jose thought.

He ran to the dead attackers in the garden.

Jose started getting their money, then he realized their real money was on their horses.

He put the money in his pants pockets and ran back to his hiding positions.

Ellen hollered, “Jose what are you doing?”

Jose said, “Shush.”

Captain Moss said, “He is getting their money.”

Captain Moss turned his back and was re-loading his shot gun.

He felt Ellen knee on his shoulder.

He turned and Ellen was out the window and had to drop because she did not know the window was that far from the ground.

Captain Moss was on his knees peeping out the window with his mouth opened.

Ellen said, “William cover me.”  
Ellen ran to the twenty men they shot.

She was getting their money.

Jose looked and said, “Ellen the real money is in the horses’ saddles.”

Ellen turned to run to the horses and she fell.

She could not understand what happened.

She looked and saw one of the attackers holding to her boot.

Ellen sat up and boot the boot off and crawled to him and beat him with her fists.

Captain Moss rolled his eyes and said, “Ellen go!”

Ellen got her boot back and looked at her poor clothes and said to the attacker, “You just bought me new clothes.”

Ellen crawled to the horses and started going through the saddles.

She tied her dress bottom and started stuffing her bosom with the money.

She could not stuff anymore.

Jose was watching Ellen and counting the horses she went in the saddles.

Ellen ran back to the window and Captain Moss pulled Ellen up in the window.

Ellen ran to their bedroom and dumped the money on their bed.

Captain Moss was laughing and kicking his legs.

Ellen closed their bedroom door and ran back to the window with Captain Moss.

Ellen slipped out the window and saw Jose running to the horses.

Ellen yelled, “Jose get back over there. These are our horses.”

Captain Moss said, “Can I wing him?”

He looked around and said, “They won’t believe one of the attackers shot him. He finally will get that trip to Europe to recover.”

Captain Moss said, “Jose those are our horses.”

Jose looked up at the window at Captain Moss and ran back to his rose bush.

There was so much shooting.

The soldiers on the side of the house started rounding up the attackers.

Ellen heard a noise.

Jose turned and looked and yelled to Ellen “Move.”

Ellen ran and jumped to the window and Captain Moss pulled her in.

She was scared and saw several horses with no riders.

Captain Moss saw the horses and said, “No Ellen. The soldiers will shoot you.”

Ellen crawled to their bedroom and put the rest of the money on their bed.

Captain Moss closed the window and locked it.

He crawled to their bedroom.

He and Ellen sat on the floor and counted the money several times.

He looked at Ellen.

Ellen grinned and nodded her head at him for yes.

Captain Moss grabbed their bag and put all the money in it and put it under their bed.

They kissed for a long time.

They heard more shooting and crawled up the hall and saw Eleanor laying on the floor in the sitting room with her gun pointed.

They crawled to Dr. Charles and he was on his knees peeping out at the soldiers.

He was staring out the window in shock.

Captain Moss and Ellen looked at Dr, Charles and said, “What is it?”

Dr. Charles pointed and said, “That fellow is going to the saddles of the horses and taking money out.”

Captain Moss and Ellen crawled fast to the window and bumped their heads looking for the fellow.

Ellen said, “Robert.”

She and Captain Moss crawled to the front door.

Captain Moss got on his knees and opened the front door.

Eleanor held her head up and wondered where were they going.

She saw Charles crawled behind Ellen and Captain Moss.

Eleanor was puzzle and confused.

Jose saw Ellen and Captain Moss running out the front door and said, “Pigs.”

Then Jose looked and Charles running down the stairs behind Ellen and Captain Moss.

Jose thought, “I may have to get that change off the dead bodies.”

He looked back at the attackers were laying in Brenda’s garden.

Jose saw the soldiers were walking in the garden.

Ben said, “Jose go in the house. We have control over this side of the house.”

Jose looked at the garden and said, “Stephanie is going to be upset.”

Ben said, “She will get over it.”

Jose turned and slipped out the garden and ran into the house.

Eleanor had the gun pointed at the door.

Jose saw Eleanor and said, “The soldiers are here and they have secured the side of the house.”

He ran through the house to put his money up and ran into the hallway and saw Patrick in the hall by the kitchen.

Jose said, “The soldiers secured the side of the house.”

Patrick said, “Soldiers?”

Jose said, “Yeah.”

Patrick said, “How did they know?”

Jose said, “I don’t know.”

One of the three dish washers opened the back door.

Patrick saw Gary on the back porch bending down.

The dish washer said, “Leon is really hurt where is that doctor?”

Jose said sarcastically, “Outside.”

Patrick was confused and said, “Why?”

Jose said, “I don’t know.”

Robert saw Ellen and her husband and the doctor run to the yard.

He jumped on his horse and fled home.

Robert was scared and nervous.

The dish washer said, “The soldiers have secured the back of the house.”

Jose turned and went into his room and put the money in his drawer.

He sat on the floor and stared.

The dish washer said, “Are you alright?”

Jose was rubbing his head and said, “Yeah.”

Patrick went out the backdoor and saw Leon.

He bent down and said, “Leon I’ll help you.”

Gary and the two other dish washers slipped out to the field and went into the saddles of the attackers and hid the money in the re-modeled supply shed.

They got money for Leon and the other six security men.

They pretended they were trying to put out the fire.

The horses ran to the other end of the field.

Gary and the two dish washers ran and started beating the fire out.

The soldiers searched the stables and saw the kerosene can.

They went through the stables and got the attackers bags and searched the entire stables and found hidden money.

Gary and the two dish washers stopped beating the fire and saw the soldiers coming out with bags.

Gary and the two dish washers slightly hit at the flames for watching the soldiers.

They eased from the flames and passed the burned bodies of the attackers to go to the re-modeled barn to search for money.

The soldier yelled at them and said, “Where are you going. Get back and put out the fire.”

Patrick looked up and saw through the fire Gary and the two dish washers.”

Patrick walked to the other six security men and talked to each one.

He told them Dr. Charles was coming.

Patrick walked to the stables and looked at the three dead workers and he stared.

One of the soldiers walked to him and said, “Sir you know him?”

Patrick said, “One grandson order me some trout about three weeks ago, this one was one of the delivery men.”

The soldier said, “What about any of these others?”

Patrick walked and looked at the other two and pointe and said, “This is the other one.”

The soldier said, “This is the mob. How were able to intercept your order?”

Patrick looked at the re-modeled barn.

He and the soldier walked out to the re-modeled barn.

The soldier said, “They are dead and they are severely burned.”

Patrick said, “You don’t know burned until you see it in the coal mine.”

Patrick walked to the two men and the soldiers were tearing apart the re-modeled barn.

Patrick stopped and looked at them.

He said, “What are they looking for?”

The soldier was embarrassed and said, “Any information about them.”

Patrick said, “This one was in town with my youngest son. And this one seemed familiar. I have to think about him.”

The soldier said, “You think your wife may recognize him.”

Patrick turned his head from the re-modeled barn and looked the soldier squarely in the eyes and said. “This is enough for my family. None of them will see these bodies.”

The soldier looked in Patrick eyes and said, “I understand.”

The dish washer ran through the house and yelled and said, “Doctor!”

Eleanor did not say anything until she recognized him.

She said, “He’s outside.”

The dish washer jumped around and looked around and saw Eleanor on the floor with a gun on him.

The front door opened and Captain Moss, Ellen and Dr. Charles ran in the house.

They heard the soldiers yelling at them to put the money back.

They pretended they putt the money back but kept it.

The dish washer jumped and looked at them.

He said, “Damn.”

Eleanor got off the floor and looked at Ellen, Captain Moss and Dr. Charles and said, “Yall were stealing money?”

Dr. Charles said, “The spoils of war lady.”

He turned to walk to his bedroom.

The dish washer said, “We need a doctor. Which one of you is the doctor. Patrick said, you were in the house.”

Dr. Charles said, “I am the doctor. I’m going to get my medical bag and be back with you.”

Eleanor was nervous and jumping from the sound of the shooting outside.

She did not want to give the location of Thomas and Michael, because she did not trust anybody.

Ellen and Captain Moss went to their bedroom and counted their money and they grinned.

Dr. Charles put his money in his bag and picked up his medical bag and saw Ellen and Captain Moss kissing.

He thought about Vivienne and looked around and he remembered not seeing her.

Dr. Charles yelled, “Ellen and Moss I need help.

They jumped from the bed and rushed to Dr. Charles.

They walked to the dish washer.

They ran through the house to get to the back porch.

Dr. Charles looked at Leon and frowned and said, “Let me check the other men and I’ll be back.”

Dr. Charles checked the six security men.

He said, “Moss I need you to boil hot water and I need alcohol or whiskey.”

Ellen said, “Meredith is a nurse. I’ll go and get her.”

Dr. Charles said, “No.”

Ellen said, “What about Alfred? He is a doctor.”

Captain Moss was looking at Charles.

Dr. Charles said, “I think he had a stroke.”

Captain Moss was shaken.

Ellen reached over to him and rubbed his arm.

She said, “Charles we are here.”

Dr. Charles said, “Where is Gary?”

The dish washer ran to the field and called Gary.

Gary ran out the field.

Dr. Charles turned to Gary and said, “Gary I need you. Don’t disappear.”

Gary nodded his head and said, “What you want keep boiling water coming.”

Gary went and started the fire and he and Captain Moss boiled the water.

Dr. Charles looked at one security man and said, “Flesh wound. I see the wound and I feel the bullet. I can take it out without medicine.”

Dr. Charles gave Gary the instruments to boil.

Ellen burst out the back door with a bottle of whiskey to her mouth and the alcohol and gauze that Eleanor had stored in the house.

Meredith put on her dress and boots and ran out the house.

Ellen slipped and fell off the porch.

Meredith looked at Leon and bent down and was examining his wounds.

She twisted her mouth.

Dr. Charles was looking at the drunk Ellen.

He said, “William go to Ellen.”

Dr. Charles said, “Meredith go in the house.”

Meredith said, “I am a nurse.”

She looked back and grabbed the bottle of whiskey from Ellen and gave it to Leon and lifted up his head.

Leon looked at the light head Meredith and a drank the whiskey.

The soldiers were standing guard.

Meredith hit Leon’s shoulder and popped it back in place.

Leon screamed.

Meredith worked on his rib cage and said, “Charles he has sixteen broken ribs.”

Leon said, “Wrapped then until we get him to the hospital.”

He looked at the drunk Ellen who was passed out on the ground.

Ellen was upsetting to Dr. Charles.

He did not like to see any woman drunk and on the ground.

Dr. Charles said, “William take your wife inside out of this.”

William looked over at Ellen and handed Dr. Charles the boiled instruments.

Dr. Charles said, “Gary go and get that whiskey and bring it here and don’t drink none.”

Gary looked at Dr. Charles and smirked and went to Meredith and got the whiskey.

The security man looked at Gary.

Gary him the bottled to drink.

And Dr. Charles quickly cut the security man and took out the bullet and packed his wound with gauze.

The security man passed out from the pain.

Dr. Charles was watching Meredith.

He said, “Gary tell those three fellows to come here and take him to the remodeled-supply shed and one of them, not you stay with him.”

Gary ran to re-modeled shed and hid the money under the floor and ran pass Dr. Charles and told them to help with the security man.

Dr. Charles looked at Gary.

Briana finally opened her door.

She tipped to Jose’s room and saw Jose sitting on the floor with his hands to his head.

Briana said, “Jose are you already?”

Jose stared in space and said, “Fine.”

Briana went in and sat next to Jose and held his hand.

Dan crawled down the hall when he saw Captain Moss carrying a passed out Ellen down the hall.

Patrick stood to the side and let them pass.

Patrick went to Jose’s room and Dan stood and ran to Patrick.

They both saw Jose and Briana trying to comfort him.

Patrick said, “I never wanted any of this to happen.”

Briana said, “It would have happened to somebody. I’m just glad that it is over.”

Jose said, “The mayor.”

Patrick stood and said, “I figured it was him. Because he decided to stay last night and he was searching the house for the hiding places. I saw how the man from the stable looked at him and the mayor gave him a signal. Brenda saw it also.”

Briana said, “Everybody who says they are your friend is not your friend.”

She looked at Jose and patted his hand and stood and walked out his room.

They heard Leon screamed.

Meredith was not fazed and continued to work on Leon.

Dan said, “What happened to Leon?”

Patrick said, “Trampled by the horses.”

Jose and Dan looked at Patrick.

The commander sent ten wagons to the house.

The wagons passed a scared and nervous Robert.

He sped up his ride and looked back at the passing wagon.

He got home and left his horse outfront and rand grabbed his saddle and ran in the house.

Bethany jumped and when she saw it was Robert she stood.

Robert could not breathed.

He fell on the door and had his saddle bag thrown over his shoulder.

Bethany saw he did not have blood on him and she pointed at his saddle bag.

Robert was blowing and exhaling trying to catch his breath.

He was walking away from the door and Bethany was shaking her hand for him to lock the door.

Robert locked the door and looked upstairs.

Bethany ran upstairs.

Robert caught his breath and walked up the stairs.

He stepped in their large room and looked at their sleeping son.

He walked to Bethany and fell to the floor.

Bethany sat on the floor and took Robert’s saddle bag.

She showed no emotions and counted the money over and over again.

Robert had shot people whether he killed them or not he did not know.

He stood and walked to the mantel and picked up his prized whiskey Patrick sent them for a wedding gift.

Robert turned the bottle up.

He stopped to hear a noise.

It was the horses outside.

He went and looked and said, “God get rid of these horses.”

Bethany looked at Robert.

Robert came and sat on the floor next to Bethany.

Bethany said, “Robert I told God if He help you to get money tonight we would go to church.”

Robert said, “You know I am not a church goer.”

Bethany said, “Four thousand dollars.”

Robert said, “We are going tomorrow.”

Robert went and crawled to their bed and climbed on top of it and went to sleep.

Bethany clutched the money in her hands and held it to her chest and said, “Thank You God. We can pay off all the bills here and buy that house in the nice neighbor down the street and buy a wagon and buggy and have a savings.”

Bethany held her head down in quiet humbleness.

She slept that way until the next morning.

Robert got up and got their hot water and they bathed and ate breakfast and when Robert went to get their wagon the horses were gone but his two.

He hitched them to his wagon and feed them and gave them water and went to the front and feed his horse and gave him water.

Robert, Bethany and Robert Jr. went to church that morning.

The three security men left when the soldiers brought the wagons and got the horses and took them to Ben.

Ben was asking questions about what happened.

The three security men did not like it and said, “Ben we are at the front of the house. We don’t know what happen.”

One of the three said, “We got to go. Sign this paper.”

Ben signed the paper that those three added eighteen horses to the lot.

Ben said, “Was there money in the saddles?”

One of the three said, “The soldiers were closed by and we did not get a chance to look. I don’t think so. If you find any. We share.”

Ben said, “Of course.”

The three security men mounted their horses they kept near them in the high grass and rode fast back to the house and put the horses back towards the beginning the property.

Meredith worked on a screaming Leon most of the night.

The soldiers were watching Meredith wo was emotionless.

Dr. Charles had another flesh wound.

He quickly removed the two bullets from the screaming security man.

Gary and the three dish washers carried him to the remodeled supply shed.

The first injured security man they put in Mable room, this second security man they put in Denise’s room.

Gary ran and locked the back door and put the bolt on it.

Dr. Charles was looking around and he was examining the four soldiers that had hard wounds.

He said, “God I need help.”

Bryson and Gail had arrived home from dinner with some associates.

The neighbors ran and waved them down and said, “The army was sent to somebody’s house about two hours ago.”

Gail said, “Bryson.”

Bryson said, “I’m going to get my bag if there are any wounded.”

Bryson ran in the house and got his doctor’s bag and ran back to Gail.

Their housekeeper peeped out the door and locked it.

Bryson and Gail jumped in their buggy and sped to Patrick’s house.

Gail was so upset that she was cringing and holding onto her stomach.

The normal forty- five minutes ride took thirty minutes.

When Bryson turned to go to the house they heard heavy gunfire.

Gail panicked and started screaming.

Bryson kept going.

He rode into the yard and saw dead bodies and he said, “Gail close your eyes.”

The soldiers pulled their guns on Bryson and Gail.

Gail leaned back in the carriage and was crying.

Bryson said, “I’m former governor and this is my wife. The Stiths are our friends and I also am A medical doctor.”

The soldiers said, “We have to escort you to the house. Get out the buggy here.”

Bryson and Gail jumped out the buggy.

Gail ran pass all the bodies on the ground.

She was screaming all the way.

The soldiers looked at Gail.

Gail had pulled her dress up and was running really fast.

She ran to the door of the house and opened it.

Eleanor still had her gun pointing at the door.

Gail ran to Eleanor and hugged her.

Gail said, “Bren?”

Eleanor said, “She’s safe.”

The soldiers ran in the house with Bryson.

Bryson touched Eleanor’s arm and said, “Patrick?”

Eleanor said, “Kitchen.”

Bryson looked at Eleanor.

Eleanor said, “By the ballroom.”

Patrick ran through the house with his medical bag.

Patrick saw Bryson run with his doctor’s bag towards the ballroom.

He called him.

Bryson turned and ran to Patrick.

Patrick said, “Leon was trampled by the horses and Meredith is working on him. Charles is working on gunshots. Two were just flesh wounds the other are major.”

Patrick patted Bryson on his shoulder.

Bryson ran through the house to the back porch he stooped and looked at Meredith and a screaming Leon.

Charles said, “It is dark.”

Gary looked around and ran and got several torches and lit them.

He took the torches and put them in the ground around Dr. Charles.

Bryson watched Meredith and saw she knew what she was doing.

Bryson said, “She’s doing a good job.”

He stood and ran to Charles.

Dr. Charles pointed to the other security men who were unconscious.

Bryson put his doctor’s bag down and examined the three security men and analyzed their wounds.

He started surgery on the worst one who was already unconscious.

The soldiers watched the doctors.

The wagons came around back to put the dead attackers in them.

The soldiers told them to go to the field and get them and then come back and get the ones in the backyard.

Dr. Charles heard them and did not know why they decided that.

Dr. Charles and Bryson worked on the four security all night.

Jake rode back to the backyard and watched the doctors stitch up the security men.

The lead soldier said, “How many alive?”

Jake said, “None from both sides. But we got him and forty of hi men. Some of his men are wounded.”

The soldier looked at Jake and said, “These doctors are working hard so it will be some time before they get to them.”

Jake turned his head and looked at the soldier.

The other soldiers looked at the soldier.

Dr. Charles did not pay their conversation any attention.

He continued to work.

Skip went into the house and saw Patrick.

Patrick extended his hand to Skip.

Skip shook Patrick’s hand.

Skip said, “Is everyone safe?”

Patrick said, “Yes.”

Skip said, “I can’t stay.”

He turned and walked outside.

The commander sent additional troops and wagons.

The military took two horses and carried them down the street to the military headquarters.

Mr. Gibson heard the horses and he and the sheriff and the deputies heard the horses.

Mr. Gibson, the sheriff and the deputies rode to the entrance to the house.

Jose finally stood and passed Patrick and Dan.

He closed his door and went to Eleanor.

Eleanor saw Jose.

She said, “Jose help me carry Thomas and Michael upstairs to their bedrooms.”

Gail poured her a full glass of scotch and went to the parlor and laid on one of the sofas.

Within a few minutes they heard Gail snoring.

Eleanor opened the secret compartment and got her sleeping boys.

She pulled out Michael and Jose pulled out Thomas.

Jose and Eleanor walked upstairs with Thomas and Michael.

Eleanor looked down the hall and said, “No. Bring Thomas to my bedroom.:

Jose put Thomas on Eleanor’s bed and pulled off his shoes.

Eleanor put Michael on her bed and pulled off his shoes.

Eleanor pulled off her shoes.

Jose walked to Eleanor’s balcony and opened the patio door.

He saw the military wagons and the soldiers picking up the dead attackers and throwing them into the covered wagons.

Eleanor saw Dr. Charles and Bryson attending the security men.

She saw the soldiers throwing the dead bodies, she jumped and ran into the house.

Jose went into the house and said, “Open or close?’

Eleanor said, “Close.”

Jose close and locked the patio door.

He went out Eleanor’s room and closed the door.

Eleanor was sitting on the edge of the bed with Thomas and Michael sleeping on the other side.

She was holding her head and thinking.

Jose was glad.

He went downstairs and to the parlor and attempted to get the scotch out of Gail’s hand.

She sat up and drank all the scotch.

Gail reached the empty glass to Jose wand went back to sleep.

Jose looked at the glass and walked out the parlor and went to the liquor table and got the scotch bottle and poured him a full glass of scotch.

He heard the soldiers talking outside.

He walked down the hall and sat on the settee and watched the military load the wagons with the dead bodies.

Patrick went to the wine cellar and brought everybody out.

He took the guns from Brenda and Beverly.

He told them it was the mayor who set them up with the mob.

Brenda looked and said, “I thought so.”

Beverly said, “That’s why he was in here playing billiards so he could spy out the house.

Beverly walked Al to their room.

Jose was sitting on the settee at the end of the hall.

He looked at Beverly walking with Alfred.

Beverly looked at Jose.

Percy and Bruce were tired and ran to the sitting room and laid on the sofas and went to sleep.

Patrick and Brenda walked to the parlor and saw a sleeping Gail on one sofa.

They sat on the other sofa and talked.

The commander of the headquarters arrived before ten pm.

Robert opened the front door.

The commander and several of his soldiers walked in the house.

Jose was finally coming to himself and was walking up the hall and saw when they entered the house.