People leaving the big city to travel across state started running into Betsy’s hometown screaming.

The towns people ran out to see what was wrong.

Emma and Mattie ran out when they heard all the screams.

The travelers said there was a lot of gunfire.

The towns people ran out in the road that lead to the new settlement and they could hear some of the gunfire.

Emma saw Mattie in the crowd, they had not seen each other since they want to confirm Bill was dead and buried.

They had kept themselves from each other.

They had no family no more.

Wes saw to that. They were alone in this world by themselves.

Emma and Mattie sat each one by the fire at night and cried and was sorrowful for a worthless life they had lived.

Their lives were full of deceitfulness and lies and harm.

Emma tried to think where her life went wrong.

Everything in her life was centered around Bill.

She had nothing but the income that was coming in from the farm.

She would lay on her bed or the old sofa and cry herself asleep every night.

Emma would toss and turn every night.

She was lonely. She was guilty of her actions that pushed everyone in her family from her.

She thought about Bruce all the time and she became angry that Wes pushed her away from him when he needed her and she needed him.

Hatred and bitterness of Wes began to boil up in her mind and her heart.

She would hear Bruce’s voice deep inside of calling her name.

Sometimes she would be asleep and sometimes she knew she was awake.

She worried about Bruce everyday.

Emma was tormented.

She would walk a lot of days from their town to the no man’s land.

Emma would walk aimlessly crying every step.

The town’s people said Emma lost her mind when Bill died.

She would walk and sit down in the dirt road by the no man’s land.

The soldiers at the post at the beginning of the new settlement would use their telescope and watch Emma.

They just assumed she was crazy.

She would lay in the dirt road and cry over Bruce.

She would get up and walk home.

The soldiers watched her.

They expected her trip twice per week.

Emma would not dare come to the new settlement because Wes banned her and Mattie.

Emma was poor.

Her grandmother’s cottage, Bill and Joshua lived was paid. The furniture and everything in it was old and worn.

She received income from their farm.

She would split the money in three parts and put Betsy and Mattie in separate envelopes.

Sometimes there was no money and she would run people to the big city and sleep in the wagon to earn enough money to buy hay for the horses and an apple for her.

She was sitting on the foot rest on the back of the wagon and thought about how poor she was.

With Bill she had food, she did not know how he got the money. She knew he got it from selling pots and pans.

With Dr. Obersteen she could have what she wanted. She would never be poor, but he loved Thelma.

Emma took a bite of her apple and exhaled.

She thought, “I was kind of hurt when John said he was in love with Thelma. But I am in love with Bruce forever.”

With Bruce she would have a good life. No children, no hard work. But taking care of Bruce only and making him happy every day.

Emma laughed because she knew what she had to do.

She earned just enough to take care of her horses, she had to keep them healthy to use them for the transportation business.

She went out to their family farm and asked the farmers could she get some vegetables.

The farmers would allow her to get some of the vegetables because they all thought she was crazy.

Emma would make a soup that would last a week.

And then she would worry the next week how she would eat.

She decided to move on and go across the state to another city.

She did not know what she would do nor how to make ends meet.

Emma sold everything out the house, but a few blankets and pots and pan.

Emma had lost a lot of weight.

She took the family pictures down and boxed them up and set them on the front porch and Betsy’s name on the box.

Emma said, “Maybe one day she will come back for them.”

She put her grandmother’s cottage up for sale. She loved the cottage. It was rustic but charming.

Her grandmother had a beautiful flower garden on both sides of the walkway to the house.

She thought, “Grandma I am so sorry. I don’t won’t to sale this cottage.”

JESUS was watching Emma.

She had not understood her decisions to be manipulated was part of her destruction.

Emma had started to let hate for Wes to seep in her heart and mind.

She put the family farm up for sale.

The farmers asked Emma to give them time to get the money to pay her for the farm.

Emma told the realtor the city she was moving to and that she would check once per month for any telegrams.

Emma clothes were old ragged and worn.

She wanted to see Bruce for the last time.

She loaded her wagon and walked through the house.

She made herself a hot bath.

Emma was on her knees making her bath and used the last amount of her bubble bath Bruce’s bought her.

She cried because she truly love Bruce.

She covered her mouth and said, “Since I am crazy is what I feel in my heart for Bruce a lie.”

Emma kept saying, “Bruce I love you, I think. Please forgive me if I don’t love you. You are smart and can figure this out.”

JESUS was watching Emma.

HE said, “She still has not come to the point of asking forgiveness for her allowing herself to be deceived. She is holding on to the guilt of what she has done in her past and think she should be destroyed and does not want Bruce to be harm by her evil deeds.”

Emma slid in the tub of hot water she was being burned by the hot water, but felt it was her punishment for being evil and crazy.

JESUS said, “Strange man go and cool her water down and remove the burns.”

The strange man had returned from Laura running behind the horses. He walked into Emma’s kitchen and blow cool air into her scolding hot water.

He looked at her second degree burns and frowned and he looked at the burns and fire from his eyes went into the burns and healed the burns.

He blew air in Emma’s face and she fell asleep.

JESUS said, “Do not think harshly she has a long way to go. It is very difficult for her now. She feels self-destruction is her rightful punishment.”

Bruce in the unconscious state was calling, ”Emma. Emma.”

JESUS and the strange man heard Bruce calling Emma.

JESUS said, “Bruce loves her and he can feel in his heart she is in trouble.”

JESUS was standing by the strange man watching a sleeping Emma.

JESUS turned and called Emma’s angel.

The angel appeared.

JESUS said, “She is very weak. The principalities of hell are mounting a terrible attack against her mind. Destroy all of them. Angelica is praying but she is preparing to face a satanic army.”

Emma’s angel bowed to JESUS.

He stood by the backdoor and pulled out his sword and disappeared.

JESUS and the strange man walked out the house.

They stood and saw the evil spirits raging to the new settlement.

JESUS and the strange man walked through Betsy’s town.

They looked at Mattie.

Mattie had started drinking very heavily.

Her condition was worst than Emma.

Mattie would not think. She only drank herself to sleep.

She would try to read and her heart and mind would go to her son Joshua.

She thought about she did not have him for nearly ten years and she was so weak she could not take him and run. Now when she finally got him Wes told her she was crazy and for her to leave and never come back to her son.

She hated Wes.

She could not think.

Mattie had no life and she had been robbed by Bill and Emma and now Wes.

Mattie took a large swallow of brandy and thought, “It least I have a check coming from you Bill.”

She raised her glass and tried to think.

She held her head down, “I can’t think of my son’s name.”

Mattie began to cry.

She would walk through her beautiful two bedroom cottage style house.

She finally though of Joshua’s name.

She ran to her desk and took pen and paper and wrote the name ’Joshua’ on eight pieces of paper.

Mattie walked through her house and place a piece of paper on her front door, back door, both bedroom doors and the kitchen wall she faced when she is drinking her tea.

She rarely eats.

She walked and piece a piece of paper on her desk and turned and put a piece of paper on two of her windows.

She sat by the fire and saw the piece of paper on her windows and said, “Joshua. Who is that?’

The strange man did a double take because Mattie’s mind was messed up.

The strange man said, “JESUS.”

JESUS was watching Mattie.

HE said, “She is shutting down living. I cannot let satan steal her mind.”

JESUS said, “Mattie.”

Mattie sat and was looking at Joshua’s name on the paper.

She cried and said, “That’s my son I do not have. Why? I love him. I can’t have my own son.”

Matie sat in her chair by the fire.

She picked up her full glass of brandy and drank it as water.

JESUS took the alcohol.

Mattie looked at the glass of brandy and wondered why it was not dulling her mind.

She stood and walked to her desk and poured the remainder of the brandy in her glass and she looked up and saw that name again.

She turned her head to remember, “What was it about that name?”

The strange man blew air to her and she remembered.

Mattie looked back at the name and touched her heart and said, “Joshua my son. I want to remember you. If I never see you again can you remember me?”

Mattie sat and stared at the name on that piece and drank the last of her brandy.

Mattie cried and put her head on the desk.

She held her head up and looked into her cash box, only a dollar and some change.

She stood and walked in the kitchen and rambled through the kitchen and had no food.

Mattie had lost a lot of weight.

She went and sat in her chair and looked at the fire.

She looked around and went into the kitchen and got the boxes she brought from the storage.

She packed her books she loved.

Mattie would stop packing and start reading the books.

She reached for her glass of brandy and realized she was by the fireplace and her brandy glass was at her desk.

Mattie wanted to die.

JESUS said to Mattie’s angel who was standing by the window, “Keep her from committing suicide and destroy the nervous breakdown demons that ae coming.”

Mattie’s angel bowed to JESUS and he pulled out his sword and disappeared by the window.

JESUS touched her cash box and a few dollars appeared.

JESUS called an angel to HIM and said, “Speed the process for Mattie and Betsy to receive the checks from Bill’s death.”

JESUS walked to each member of the mob that attacked Angelica and threw her into the well to die.

The strange man had cut them up with a sickle Joshua had.

JESUS looked at each of them and saw several were at the point to die and the others were in tremendous pain and suffering.

JESUS looked at the strange man and said, “Good job.”

The strange man bowed.

JESUS and the strange man walked to Betsy’s, Emma and Mattie’s farm.

JESUS blew HIS breath of Life on the ground.

The ground started having life cruising through it.

JESUS saw healed ground that was ready to be planted and to bring forth abundant fruits and vegetables.

JESUS and the strange man walked to the new settlement.

JESUS stood at the no man land and looked at it.

They continued to walk to the cute house.

Gabriel and Michael were standing in the yard.

Emma woke in the tub of cool water from the yells of the towns people.

She jumped up and dried off and put on a dress and her boots.

She pulled the tub to the kitchen door and poured out the water.

Emma locked the door back and turned and looked at the spot where she first met Bruce.

She shook her head.

She ran to the front door and unlocked the door and walked out on the front porch.

A great sense of regret and sorrow filled her heart to be leaving a place that she loved.

JESUS felt Emma’s heart for the cute cottage.

Neighbors were rushing pass Emma.

Emma locked the door and ran with the neighbors.

They ran to the center of town and listened as the travelers told of the gunfire.

Some people rushed out on the dirt road to see for themselves.

Emma ran out on the dirt road and they could faintly hear the massive amount of shooting.

Emma’s heart sank.

She stood and listen because she knew she could not see Bruce and be with him.

Mattie was at home, packing.

Most of her house was packed when they left several months before, the only things she had to pack was some books, that she was reading as she packed them.

She heard all the shatter and turned to look at the front door.

She heard people running.

Mattie grabbed her house keys and ran out the front door and locked the door.

She ran into the crowd and listened as they said, the governor was being attacked again.

There were several newspaper reporters that were staying in their town trying to figure out how to get to the new settlement.

The newspaper reporters were offering money to anyone who could get them in.

They saw Mattie and remembered she left and returned with the other woman.

No one said where she went but the newspaper reporters believe she had access to the governor.

The newspaper reporters walked up to Mattie.

One newspaper reporter said, “Hey you the lady that knows where the governor is. Is that right?”

Mattie was very angry.

She’s slipping between killing herself and going completely crazy and this fool thinks she is totally crazy so he could take advantage of her.

Another walked to Mattie and said, “I can give you an amount if you take me to the governor.”

Mattie walked away to the town’s entrance.

She tried to think of her son’s name.

JESUS was standing at the cute house and said, “Joshua.”

Mattie said, “Joshua.”

Some of the neighbors saw Mattie and turned up their noses.

A neighbor said, “She thinks she is somebody. I heard that boy was her cousin’s husband.”

Another man said, “Yeah he raped and left her for dead.”

One neighbor said, “She thought she was going to go and meet some men. She came back the way she left poor and without anything.”

Mattie heard them talking she did not know who they were talking about until they stared at her.

Mattie thought, “I need to keep my mind on those six letters. J,o,s,h,u,a.”

She continued to spell the name in her head over and over.

One of the newspaper reporters walked to Mattie and grabbed her by her armed with force and pulled her out the crowd and shook her and said, “You are going to take me to the governor. And you are going to do it tonight.”

Emma was standing and watching Mattie and the newspaper reporter.

She saw the other three newspaper reporters watching him.

Mattie said, “Ok! Turn my arm loose.”

The newspaper reporter violently turned Mattie’s arm loose.

He yelled at Mattie and said, “Let’s leave now.”

The other newspaper reporters ran over and said,”We’re going too.”

The first said, “To Mattie and you better take us to the governor tonight.”

Mattie turned to walk away.

They grabbed her.

The first one grabbed her by her hair and Mattie screamed.

Some of the men ran and began to fight with the newspaper reporters.

Emma looked around and saw some sharp rocks.

Two of the newspaper reporters ran to Mattie and forced her to leave the crowd with them.

The first reporter grabbed her hair.

Emma ran and said, “Mattie.”

The other newspaper reporter looked at Emma and yelled, “You’re the one that drove. You come here.”

He ran to Emma.

The other newspaper reporter that had Mattie by her thick red hair grinned and laughed.

The towns men beat the other two newspaper reporters.

Emma ran a few steps and pretended to fall.

The newspaper reporter reached down to pick up Emma and he laughed to the other newspaper reporter.

Emma used both of the sharp rocks.

She beat the newspaper reporter in his temples over and over with all of her might.

Then she begin alternating between his eyes and his temples.

The newspaper reporter begin to scream.

The towns men saw Emma beating the newspaper reporter merciless.

The newspaper reporter’s girlfriend was a neighbor house where they were boarding.

The newspaper reporter was trying to call her screamed, “Daisy.”

She heard him and looked out the window.

She saw Emma beating him with rocks and the towns men holding the other reporters and one of the reporters grabbing Mattie by her hair.

Emma continued to bust the newspaper reporter in his head.

Emma saw him and the woman around town and they thought they were big shots and she knew she had to be ready for that damn woman when she came to his rescue.

Emma threw one of the rocks to Mattie.

Mattie caught and came down in the eye of the newspaper reporters’ eyes over and over again until he let her hair go.

The newspaper reporter fell backwards and Mattie got on top of him and bashed his head over and over again.

The sheriff came and grabbed Mattie up off the newspaper reporter.

The sheriff yelled at the newspaper reporter, “Get up and get out of my town tonight. You can’t kidnap nobody and make them carry you no place.”

Daisy was running to Emma with her umbrella.

Mattie threw her rock and hit Daisy in the eye.

Daisy began to scream.

Emma turned and began to beat Daisy in the other eye.

The sheriff said, “Better yet take them to jail Roy I said lock them up for attempted kidnapping and battery.”

The sheriff kicked the one that grabbed Mattie by the hair and looked down at him and said, “You go to jail too.”

The newspaper reporter was holding his eyes and said, “You said for me to leave town tonight.”

The sheriff yelled, “I changed my mind.”

Several men walked over and picked off the ground and walked him to jail.

Daisy was fighting Emma with the umbrella.

The sheriff stood and watch.

The newspaper reporter that Emma beat was trying to crawl pass the sheriff.

The sheriff put out his foot.

The newspaper reporter stopped crawling and two men picked him off the ground and walked him to the jail.

Emma and Daisy were fighting.

Both of them were tomboyish.

Emma was taking licks from Daisy’s umbrella.

Emma thought, “I better not lose this fight.”

Then she thought, “I will never see Bruce again.”

Emma went into wild woman mode.

The sheriff laughed and looked back at Mattie who was pinning up her hair.

The sheriff walked up and pulled Emma back.

He grabbed Daisy’s umbrella with one arm and pulled her away from the crowd and walked her to jail.

Emma said, “Thank you sheriff.”

The sheriff said nothing but walked Daisy to jail.

The sheriff had a time with Daisy who was pulling away from him.

Emma sat on the well and caught her breath.

Mattie looked at Emma and said, “Thanks.”

Emma laughed and said, “That’s how I fought Curtis one day with the rocks. I don’t know how I remembered that.”

Mattie said, “I could not think. My mind was gone.”

Emma said, “You have been through a lot.”

Mattie said, “No more than you. What are you thinking about the shooting that is going on now?”

Emma said, “I plan on moving on tomorrow.”

Mattie was in shock and said, “What Emma?”

Emma said, “Yes. I have your share and Betsy’s share from the farm. You can wait here or I’ll go and get it and bring it back to you?”

Mattie sat and thought, “Whoa she was just going to leave and say nothing. I don’t have any friends or family. I don’t have a son or a job. I have to see the attorney and leave Bill’s insurance and my house to Joshua. I can’t die in the house because Joshua may not want to live in it or he may decide to sell it or rent.”

Emma ran home and got both envelopes and ran back.

She handed Mattie both envelopes, one with her name and one with Betsy’s name.

Mattie did not say anything and handed Emma the envelope with Betsy’s name.

Emma said, “We have to get pass our feelings about Wes and Betsy. I am not doing good about my hatred for them, maybe I can be healed and move on.”

Mattie counted the money and shook the envelope and said, “I can buy me some grocery.”

Emma said, “Brandy. Neighbors talk.”

Mattie had her head leaning over and said,”It does not matter because we are crazy and the rottenness people on this whole earth.”

Emma pointed backwards and said, “I have grandma’s cottage for sale and the farm. When they sell, I will split the money with you and Betsy.”

Mattie look back and she looked at Emma and said, “You love grandma’s cottage.”

Emma said, “I sold everything out of it. I have the bathtub left and I will sleep on the floor tonight and leave in the morning.”

Mattie said, “Emma where are going?”

Emma nodded in front of her and said, “I will go that way and settle in a larger town or city, where nobody knows me.”

Emma started crying.

Mattie was thinking and said, “Emma you have never been out of this town. Sure you went to the big city several times and the new settlement. Why don’t you go to the capitol. It’s a very big city and you can get lost there. If you don’t like it there, there are several large cities you can move to.”

Emma continued to cry.

Mattie said, “Emma you don’t have any money. What are you going to do to earn money? You are too old to be a prostitute.”

Emma laughed.

Mattie sat up and said, “I have a friend.”

Emma looked at Mattie and said, “Mattie why do you think you have no friends. You are young. You can contact them and travel to visit them. That will give you a chance to think about where you might want to live.”

Mattie said, “Peter McLarin, is the doctor that came with Skip.”

Emma thought and said, “I remember him. He ‘s too young for me.”

She laughed.

Mattie elbowed Emma and said, “You have a sense of humor.”

Emma said, “We have not spoken and seen one another sense we came back from Bill’s burial. Are you angry with me?”

Mattie said, “Yes. I take longer to let things go. I can send Peter McLarin a telegram to headquarters and they will get it to him. Emma I think you should not sleep on the road, but in a hotel. When you get to the capitol there is an area you can live in the wagon. I am proud of you.”

Mattie stood and walked home.

Emma looked and frowned up and said to herself, “Now that’s crazy.”

Emma said, “You going to the new settlement?”

Mattie said, “For what? I don’t have anything or anyone in that place.”

Emma’s heart actually pained her.

She sit back and thought, “Oh, that must have been all that fighting. I am too old for that.”

Emma sat on the well for a few more minutes.

She stood and walked home.

She went in the house and locked the door.

Emma passed out on the mat she had on the floor.

Her chest was really hurting while she was sleep.

She tried to wake but could not.

Emma knew she was dying.

She said, “Please GOD forgive me for every sin I committed and let me enter into YOUR heavenly kingdom. Can YOU tell Bruce I really really love him and I want him to love and live?”

Emma laid still.

She took a deep breath.

Her angel looked because she was not to die.

JESUS was in heaven with Wes.

HE looked at Emma and saw damage to her heart.

JESUS told Emma’s angel to repair the damaged blood vessels.

The angel walked to Emma and kneeled.

He pulled the damaged blood vessels out of Emma’s chest.

The damaged blood vessels burned up in his hand.

The angel created new blood vessels and in Emma’s chest.

Wes was looking on and he said, “They really hate me.”

JESUS looked at Wes and said, “It will take time for all the scars to heal.”

Wes said, “JESUS can I ask that we, rather them start doing what the angel just did to Emma’s heart.”

JESUS said, “The procedure is being released to humans later this year.”

Mattie went home and locked her door and went to sleep.

The next morning Emma was awaken by Mattie knocking on her door.

Emma sat up on the mat and finally stood and walked to the door.

She saw Mattie’s silhouette and unlocked the front door.

Mattie reached Emma the envelop and said, “Here take this money and use it for your hotels. It ‘s going to take you at least four days to get to the capitol. I don’t remember the name of the area where you can live in your wagon. But Peter will know. If you are going to the capitol go there and Peter will eventually find you. He can help you out.”

Emma rubbed her chest and looked down at her chest.

Mattie looked at Emma and said, “What are you doing?”

Emma said, “My chest hurts.”

Mattie looked at Emma.

Emma’s angel was standing by her mat where he stood all night and watched over her.

He was looking into Emma’s heart at her newly created blood vessels.

He did not see anything that she could cause her hurt.

JESUS said, “She needs to rest today. Send her through the new settlement to find out that Wes is dead. Betsy and Joshua will need her.”

JESUS sat and watched them.

Mattie said, “I know you plan on leaving today but maybe you need to lay down and sleep and tomorrow. I’ll get something to eat and bring it to you today.”

Emma could barely stand up.

Mattie stood and covered her mouth she thought, “It was that fight last night.”

Emma said, “What time is it?”

Mattie said after ten am.

Emma said, “What? I slept that late. Take my wagon. It is loaded down. I need to lie down.”

Emma turned and got her knitted coverings and covered herself and dropped on her knees and laid down.

Mattie thought, “She looks like she is about to die. I am jealous.”

Mattie stepped inside the house and peeped at Emma.

Emma saw her peeping at her and thought, “Ok Mattie.”

Mattie stepped out the door and went around the back of the house.

She hitched the two horses to the wagon.

She saw the loaded wagon, with the horses’ feed.

Mattie went into the big city and returned that night.

Emma was sleep.

The house was cold.

Mattie knew she could go to the entrance into the big city in six hours and get some food and turned around in a hour.

A neighbor rode with Mattie.

They got back close to midnight.

Mattie bought eggs, bread, milk and apples and oranges.

She took the neighbor home and she went home and got a skillet and a few blankets.

Mattie stopped at her coal and filled a bucket.

She went back to Emma.

Mattie opened the door and locked it after her.

She dropped her blankets on the floor.

She tipped passed Emma and put the food on the cabinet.

Mattie put coal in the stove and light the stove so it could warm to cook the eggs.

She walked back into the living room and spread her blankets and made a pallet.

Mattie pulled off her shoes and coat.

She laid down and fell hard to sleep.

Emma and Mattie did not wake until around nine am.

They jumped up and the house was warm.

They brought water in from the outside and put some in the bathtub and they washed themselves and Mattie scrambled some eggs and they ate fruit and bread with the eggs.

Emma said, “Thank you Mattie.”

They sat on their mats and ate egg sandwiches and had fruit.

Mattie put on her boots and coat and said, “Emma use Betsy’s money I will replace it when I get the money from the insurance. It is too dangerous to be sleeping on the road. I don’t want you to fight like you did the other night.”

Emma said, “Mattie what are you doing?”

Mattie said, “About what?”

Emma said, “Why you don’t have plans?”

Mattie said, “I am waiting on that money first. I have been packing.”

Emma said, “You completely packed when we first left.”

Mattie had her hand on the doorknob.

She walked out the house and walked home and went into her house and locked the door and went and laid across the bed and went back to sleep.

Emma looked at the eggs that were boiling in the pan that Mattie put them.

Emma turned and looked back at the door and said, “Mattie don’t. Whatever is in your mind, just don’t. I am not a good person, but I know for you not to do whatever you are thinking about.”