Shirley slept at the hospital Sunday night.

Patrick and Brenda were in their room.

Lorraine was the same throughout the night.

Ryan and Dennis work all day Sunday to get the patients their medications and stabilize them.

Meredith and Felipe attended Spencer and stayed with him until he became conscious.

Felipe was upset and said to Ryan and Dennis, “This man should have been healed. Who was his doctor?”

Ryan was mad.

He and Dennis were reviewing Spencer’s chart to see the attending physician after they completed his surgery.

Dennis blew he said, “There is no attending physician.”

Felipe frowned and said, “How is that possible?”

Ryan said, “It is not.”

Ryan looked at the nurses’ desk.

He closed Spencer’s door and said, “Dad we got to put an end to this. Spencer could have died if Meredith weren’t coming here attending to him.”

Dennis said, “We got to narrow the workers down and remove the medication from the nurses.”

Felipe said, “May I suggest you see exactly the number of patients you have and the exact number of doctors and divide the patients between the doctors and for thirty days let the doctors be the only ones to give the patients their medications. Let the nurses bathe the patients, clean them and give them their meals. Do you realize how many patients could have died? The number of lawsuits?”

Ryan threw Spencer’s chart on the floor.

Meredith sweetly said, “Hello Spencer.”

Felipe, Ryan and Dennis looked and saw Spencer’s eyes opened and he tried to move and talk.

Felipe shook his head.

Ryan said, “Just a little penicillin. Dad.”

Dennis said, “Ryan I know. Let’s be quiet and finish attending our patients.”

Dennis walked to Spencer’s bed and said, “Hello Spencer. I’m glad to meet you. We are working to get you out of here before the holidays.”

Spencer looked at Meredith and whispered, “Thank you.”

Meredith smiled and patted Spencer.

Felipe was so proud of Meredith.

She looked at Spencer and said, “Sip a swallow of water for me.”

Dennis helped her to lift Spencer’s head and he take several sips of water.

Meredith smiled at him.

Felipe watched Meredith and thought, “She wasted all those years nannying after spoiled Michael and Thomas.”

Ryan earlier changed Spencer’s bandages and cleaned his wounds.

Ryan and Dennis finished their rounds.

Dennis went into his office and begin to go over his records.

Ryan knocked on his door.

Dennis knew it was Ryan from his walk and his knock.

Dennis said, “Come in.”

Ryan walked in and sat in the chair across from his father.

Ryan said, “We still have to go to the smallest hospital. We should close it and move the patients to the south hospital.”

Dennis said, “No. Though it is small, it helps the people in the outer city limits and country. Let me think.”

Ryan said, “I talked to mother last night. I told her to send John Jr and Betty a simple note to say no for the holidays. Mother is upset over whether your friendship was one of their lies. I told her no.”

Dennis huff and kept looking at his records.

Ryan looked at his father and said, “Alice told her problems.”

Dennis looked up from his books and into the blue eyes of his son.

Ryan said, “Case book. I have to get her to someone, but over a period of time. I will not put her away. I will never take her away from Ryan Jr. I know she is the one GOD gave to me as a wife. Out of all of this time, she pushed it so far from her that GOD brought the dirt to the top so we can get rid of it.”

Dennis huff and said, “We. She is your wife. If you have to take time off then you do that, but not we. I am not going to baby sit her and Ryan Jr. And don’t you bring any more babies into this family.”

Ryan said, “Father I don’t won’t anymore. Even before this hell.”

Ryan threw his head back on the chair and looked at the ceiling.

Dennis looked at his books and said, “We have been dealing with s\*\*t all week-end from Lorraine, our money, the patients medication, tempering with patients files, lying on Meredith, John Jr and Betty and the mob. We have to pay Patrick, your mother’s devastation, and Alice.”

Ryan still had his head leaning back.

Dennis looked at Ryan and said, “Straighten your head up before you get a crook. Ryan go to the smallest hospital. I think I see a pattern at his hospital. I am having a mandatory meeting with all doctors and nurses tomorrow. I have to have your mother come and help me tomorrow.”

Ryan said, “She may not feel like it.”

Dennis was flipping through his book and said, “She better feel like. She wants to be with Eleanor and we don’t have any money. I told her not to order Ryan Jr no more clothes from that place that Eleanor had all of her boys’ clothes made.”

Dennis stopped and was thinking.

Ryan did not hear his father’s voice anymore and raised his head up and looked at Dennis.

Dennis looked at Ryan and said, “How in the hell you have baby’s clothes customize.”

Ryan hollered and sat up.

Ryan looked at his father and said, “Dad I thought that was crazy. But Patrick and Brenda act like it was normal and…”

He looked back at the door.

Dennis looked at Ryan.

Ryan said, “Even Meredith and Lorraine act like that was normal.”

Dennis said, “You know how much money Eleanor paid those scammers and she had four boys. You know Alice asked Eleanor for some of the boys’ clothes…”

Ryan stopped laughing and looked at his father.

Dennis said, “Eleanor doesn’t have any sense, she has to run the railroad and the shipping, take care of a hundred plus household and all of her children are bad. She actually found time to get Alice some clothes. Eleanor is crazy too.”

Ryan was laughing.

Ryan said, “Dad, that Christening of that huge ship was something. The casino, the food, the champagne Eleanor brought back from France, the casino and the dignitaries. It was like the queen’s coronation.”

Dennis looked at Ryan.

Dennis said, “Shirley was about to put an end to Eleanor giving away the boys’ clothes.”

Ryan stopped laughing and said, “Really?”

Dennis said, “That Shirley is going to be a handful. She is pretty, smart, very clever…”

Ryan said, “Because she laid around and heard everything and figured out how to attack people emotionally.”

Dennis said, “Brenda looked at the two of them. I thought I was about to see a fight that I saw when I was eight between my mom and my beloved grand mom.”

Dennis slammed his book closed.

Ryan looked at Dennis.

Dennis and “He said, we had a farm. Grand mom was making my mom sit down and sew my clothes for school. Mom did not want to. She wanted to go and spend time with dad at his family farm. Grand mom slapped my mom. I felt that slap. Mom went to her knees. She was on all fours. Mom shook her head and she came and stood, she came back with…”

Dennis made a fist.

Ryan watched his father.

Dennis said, “Mom hit grand mom with that right upper cut. It sent grand mom stumbling backwards. Mom used all her power and nearly slipped, Grand mom as reaching backwards and grabbed the shovel and hit mom on the head and back with the shovel…”

Dennis showed with hands and legs spread open.

He said, “Mom went down flat on the barn floor. I could not move. The two people I love in all the world were fighting like cave women. I heard Uncle Joe and Uncle Right running. All I could say thank You JESUS.”

Dennis shook his head with such pain as he remembered it.

Ryan looked at Dennis.

Dennis said, “Mom shook herself and jumped off the barn floor. Grand mom looked at her…”

Ryan said, “Was your grand mom surprised?”

Dennis looked at Ryan and said, “No. She knew my mom’s exact moves. Mom ran for the pitchfork.

Grand mom hid a pitchfork behind the bales of hay. Uncle Right said, after the first fight with my mom...”

Ryan shook his head.

Dennis said, “Grand mom hid the pitchfork. They started charging at one another with the pitchforks. I passed out. My Uncle Right was carrying me back to the house.”

Ryan said, “What happened?”

Dennis said, “My God that was the worst thing I ever saw. I don’t know what happened.”

Ryan said, “Neither me of them died. Because I remember both of them.”

Dennis said, “Mom stayed with dad for a week and came and got me and we moved with dad and his family. I decided that day that I did not want to work or live on a farm ever. That I would be the doctor that comes and take care of sick people. Mom and grand mom were still close. Shirley looked at Eleanor like my mom looked at my grand mom. I knew that look. Brenda knew it also. She flinched.”

Ryan said, “Some men like girl fights.”

Felipe was walking to knock on the open door.

Dennis and Ryan looked at Felipe.

Dennis said, “Come in Felipe.”

Felipe said, “I like girl fights. I saw one when I was ten and the girls were pulling each other hair. That’s where I fell in love with girl’s with long hair.”

Ryan said, “That was not that type of fight.”

Dennis looked at Felipe and said, “Yes Felipe.”

Felipe said, “I want to leave and get somethings done for the week.”

Dennis and Ryan looked at Felipe.

Felipe said, “Why are you two looking at me like that? You don’t have to bring water and coal in the house and go and get feed for the horses and do washing?”

Dennis and Ryan said, “No.”

Felipe hugged the door and said, “Me nothing. Meredith told me I had to do it. She said, I am used to going to the dining hall to eat or the washrooms to bathe and shave. I used to walk to the hospital. I can’t do this and that. That’s a whole job by itself.”

Dennis said, “Felipe you can’t do both of the jobs. Meredith is getting ready to have her first baby and she will need help for about three months…”

Ryan said, “Six. Meredith is thin.”

Felipe said, “After I did all of that and took my bath I went to bed and slept.”

Ryan said, “Felipe you have to decide how much help you want.”

Felipe said, “All of it. Meredith was talking about killing food and cooking it for two or three hours.”

Ryan held his head down and laughed.

Felipe looked at Ryan.

Dennis said, “Ryan, this is serious to Felipe.”

Ryan held his head up and looked at Felipe to apologize but laughed again.

Felipe looked at Dennis and said, “Who do I talk to get help.”

Dennis said, “Let me ask my butler. Because I am going to let some of my workers go.”

Ryan stopped laughing and said, “Who will be doing their work?”

Dennis said, “You.”

Ryan looked at Dennis.

Felipe said, “I see why so many people eat out or not eat.”

Dennis said, “Ryan go to the smaller hospital and take that box and double check the medications I put in it for each patient.”

Felipe said, “You need more staff.”

Dennis said, “I know.”

Ryan said, “Hutch will leave in two years when the Stiths hospital will open. They have two men that will finish medical school. One this year and the other next year. They were depending on Lorraine, Stephanie and several of their nannies to work as nurses at the hospital. I would not be surprised if they don’t go to the medical schools and hire directly from there.”

Ryan sat up and looked at Dennis and said, “Dad how many doctors do you think we need to keep these three hospitals running?”

Dennis said, “At least thirty. Fifteen here, ten at the south and five at the smallest hospital.”

Ryan said, “How many do we have?”

Dennis said, “Twenty.”

Felipe said, “Good evening.”

He stepped back in and said, “Before you hire some additional doctors, do I get paid for working at your hospitals?”

Ryan and Dennis stared at Felipe.

Felipe said, “You tell me to hire someone to help, but I don’t have any money. Meredith has been paying for everything. She loves me.”

Ryan said, “Felipe don’t tell us you have not been paid?”

Felipe said, “I told you. Now figure it out. I am going to do this hard work.”

Felipe closed the door.

Meredith was sitting with Spencer.

Ryan said, “Ok dad I’m leaving now. I am going to the village hospital until dinner. I have not eaten since breakfast. We have to do something about our wives thinking they should live like the Stiths.”

Dennis exhaled and nodded his head vehemently.

Ryan smiled and said, “What is wrong with Ryan Jr.’s clothes? I see when we go out people admire him.”

Dennis was shifting his book and said, “Nothing. They are not customized.”

Dennis shook his head.

Ryan hollered.

Dennis looked at Ryan as he stood and said, “Ryan. Don’t tell Alice not to take the clothes. Tell her not to ask anymore. I don’t believe she actually ask Eleanor. I believe something was said about giving Ryan Jr some of the customized clothes.”

Ryan was grinning and said, “Yes sir.”

Dennis said, “Until we know Alice mental state, don’t be hard on her. She is a happy and caring person. That is who you married GOD wants you to get her back to her original personality.”

Ryan looked at his father and said, “Yes dad.”

Dennis said, “Your mother is a different story.”

Dennis flipped his book over and looked at the backside.

He said, “This is what I don’t know about. Ryan I may not come to the non-village hospital. There are only six patients out of the ten possible. Be careful and carry your gun. And use it. I can’t handle your mother and Alice.”

Ryan looked at his dad and walked over to the box that was marked for the smallest hospital and reviewed the inventory and picked it up and said, “Where did you get the wagon dad?”

Dennis turned his head and said, “Damn. Patrick.”

Ryan said, “Dad Patrick is not going to charge us for the express train to the capitol and back. I did not know he was allowed to operate the trains.”

Ryan walked out the door looking at Dennis and closed the door.

Dennis slowly looked up at the door.

He thought.

Dennis sent a telegram to his butler and said he and Ryan would be late for dinner. Get their clothes ready for work tomorrow and have his wife ready to work at the hospital all day. And if he knew a maid that need work let him know when he comes home tonight.

Dennis assigned his fifteen doctors at his main hospital ten patients each.

He assigned his five doctors at the south hospital eight patients each.

He and Ryan would rotate at the smallest hospital.

Dennis knew his patients’ charts.

He put in operation that only the doctors would give the patients their medications. The nurses would, clean, dress wounds, bath and wash patients, shave patients and give them their meals and help them to eat.

Dennis established a medication inventory system and temporarily put Nurse Madeline over it.

Dennis telegrammed for her to be at the main hospital in the morning at ten am for the big meeting.

She was shocked and honored.

The other nurses were happy.

Dennis put Dr. Barnes over assigning patients to the doctors.

He put Beverly on payroll and to be over payroll.

He told her to pay each hospital once per month.

To pay the north hospital the first week of the month, the south hospital the second week of the month and the smallest hospital the third week of the month.

She can keep up with the payroll and workers.

Dennis told Beverly they had a hundred workers the same number Brenda had at her house alone.

He told Beverly to start the new pay system the month of January because the workers have already planned their holidays.

Beverly told Dennis she was not going to be responsible for that amount of cash and will write each employee a paper and have them take it to the bank and cash it.

Dennis said, “Good idea.”

Beverly said, “We will have the bank for the hospital cash the workers’ papers.”

Dennis said, “We won’t have a Christmas party.”

Beverly jumped off the foot of the bed.

Dennis stared at her in the mirror as he was tied his tie.

He said, “We have to get control of our hospitals or we will be on the street.”

He removed the two women that were over payroll and offered them to leave or take custodial jobs.

Dennis wanted to see if they worked for the mob, because if they did they would not leave because that hospital was their assigned place.

The two women decided to stay and take the lower jobs.

Dennis told them if he find out they were stealing his money. He would have them arrested.

The women decided to stay.

Dennis telegrammed the police and told them about the medications and the two women.

Felipe went home and struggle and brought in water and put it on the stove.

He brought enough coal for the fireplace, stove and furnace.

He ran to the feed store before it closed and got hay for the horses.

He went to the bar-b-que place they went with Beverly and Al.

They were closing.

But Felipe pleaded that his wife was pregnant and needed to eat.

They told him the church crowd wiped them out.

Felipe said, “Whatever you have left.”

He stood and the people went through the pots.

They gave him the remainder of the collard greens, green beans, crowder pea, cornbread, and a few pieces of baked chicken.

Felipe tried to pay them.

The owner and manager refused to take his money.

The owner wrapped the food and put it in bags.

Felipe thank them and left and went to pick up Meredith.

The owner told the manager, “That doctor’s wife is black.”

They watched Felipe turned around his carriage to go to the hospital.

Meredith was talking to Spencer.

She felt so much better about Spencer doing better.

Spencer ate his chicken broth.

She cleaned his wounds again because they were draining.

She washed his face.

She cleaned his room and took all the trash out.

Dennis was standing at the nurses’ desk watching Meredith.

Felipe saw Dennis and he looked at Meredith.

Dennis saw Felipe looking at him.

Dennis said, “Felipe?”

Felipe walked to Dennis.

Dennis said, “After Meredith is on her feet.”

Felipe said, “I am taking her home.”

He looked at the nurse that falsely accused Meredith of taking Spencer’s chart.

Felipe said, “Slavery, racism and child sexual abuse.”

Dennis close d the patient’s chart and said, “I need to talk to you.”

Felipe looked at Dennis.

Dennis walked Felipe over to a corner to talk.

Felipe said, “I thought there were chairs here?”

Dennis looked and said, “I thought this looked strange.”

Dennis said, “Ryan’s wife just told us her father would rape she and her sister every Christmas and lock them in the wine cellar. How do you help Meredith with what happened to her?”

Meredith was walking back to see Spencer before she left for the night.

Felipe noticed that racism nurse was trying to hear.

He said, “Very gently.”

Felipe walked to Meredith and they went to their carriage.

The racist nurse stood and slowly walked to Spencer’s room.

She watched Meredith and Felipe get in her carriage and drive away.

Everyone watched her.

She touched Spencer’s arm like she was taking care of him.

She kept looking back at the window.

Dennis watched her and said, “Nurse come with me.”

He saw the head nurse about to leave and said, “Nurse Lillian a moment please.”

Nurse Lillian looked at Dennis and said, “Yes sir.”

The other nurses kept working but gave her the eye.

Dennis walked the racist nurse and Lillian down the hall and said, “You stay from that patient and they stay away from his private nurse. You go and find that piece of paper who was the attending doctor to Mr. Spencer. Leave that paper on top of the nurses’ desk tonight.”

The nurse walked away.

Dennis and Lillian her stomp around the other nurses.

He said, “Lillian we have problems with the nurses.”

Lillian said, “I heard. We have a full staff meeting tomorrow at ten am. I will put everything in writing and have it ready by then.”

Lillian looked at Dennis and said, “Dennis you are not closing down?”

Dennis said, “No. It would be easier.”

They looked at the nurse and watched the other nurses looking at her.

Dennis said, “Good night.”

Lillian said, “Good night.”

She passed the nurses and said, “Good night.”

Two of the nurses looked at her.

Lillian left the hospital and walked across the street to her apartment.

When she finished nursing school.

She went from city to city trying to find a job as a nurse, but no one wanted to hire her because she had a limp.

She was thrown by a horse when she was seven and took several years to start walking again.

The hospitals and doctor offices did not want her around their patients.

She was heart broken.

She was walking away from the big hospital in Philadelphia and walked in front of Dennis and Beverly’s carriage.

Dennis had just turned his head from fussing with Beverly and was able to pull the horses back from hitting Lillian.

Beverly grabbed his arm and yelled, “Dennis.”

Lillian fell to the ground.

Everyone came running.

Dennis sat in the seat for a few minutes to gain his composure.

Beverly was nervous and twirling in her seat.

Some people from the big hospital came running.

Dennis jumped out the wagon and saw Lilian lying down in street crying.

He stood and looked at her.

Others ran to Lillian and said, “Ma am are you hurt? Where are you hurt?’

The nurses were searching her body to see blood or broken bones.

Dennis heart was near stopping.

Lillian finally said, “My heart.”

A doctor yanked his stethoscope and was about to listen to her heart.

Dennis bent over to see and hear.

Lillian said, “I am a nurse. Graduated at the top of my class. Pass the yest and am certified. No one wants to hire me because I have a limp. I was thrown by a horse when I was seven and it took me several years to learn how to walk again. The doctors and the nurses were very caring and loving. I promised them I would away to become a nurse and be as a good to my patients as they had been to me. But no one wants me to keep that promise I made to them.”

Beverly was sitting peeping over the front of the carriage.

Dennis stood and held his mouth and turned his back to the woman on the ground.

The nurses held Lillian and tried to comfort her.

The doctor was kneeled in front of her and stared at this hurt beautiful woman.

Dennis had just left the bank and signed the loan to start the south hospital.

He needed staff.

He turned and bent down to the woman.

Beverly looked at Dennis.

She was fussing because she felt he should have continued to work at the big hospital where she could be with her friends.

Dennis said, “Ma am. I am a doctor I am starting my own hospital. Give me a few months to get it organize. You bring your papers to me and I will hire you.”

Lillian turned her head and looked at Dennis.

The young doctor looked at Dennis and said, “I’m a doctor. I will come too.”

Dennis said, “The building is an hour and a half from here. You will need your horse and buggy.”

Beverly was still seated and peeping out the carriage.

Dennis and the young doctor helped Lillian up.

The young doctor said, “I am Brain Barnes. I am studying to be a surgeon.”

Dennis said, “Well I am a surgeon. Maybe you can get certified under me.”

Barnes was happy and ran back across the street to the big hospital and said, “Two months” and pointed down the street.

Dennis tried to smile but he blew and his forehead frown up.

He was so very nervous about failing.

He did not like how the biggest hospital in the state treated people who could not pay.

Dennis was bothered by that practice. He asked God if He opened the door for him to start a hospital that he would treat them all. If he only had enough to keep the doors opened that he would be satisfied.

Beverly wanted to continue to live in the fine apartments a block from the hospital.

Ryan was in the prestigious boy’s academy in the city and he was very athletic. He kept Dennis and Beverly running from one side of town to the other.

Lillian was shocked and said, “Sir you would hire me?”

Dennis said, “Of course. Anyone with those qualifications should be hired immediately. Two months.”

He pointed down the street.

Lillian started crying over again and hugged Dennis.

Beverly was sitting straight in the carriage seat with one hand on the back of the seat.

She was listening intently ready to put a stop to Dennis disrupting their privilege lives.

Beverly’s selfishness was halted by Lillian story and her promise.

Two months later Dennis opened the hospital and hired Dr. Barnes and Lillian.

They have been with Dennis ever since.

Lillian moved to the north hospital ten years later when Dennis bought the building and renovated it.

She and Dr. Barnes.

Lillian bought the building across the street and re-modeled it into high class apartments.

She lived on the first floor and sold the other four apartments.

She made more money and bought several more buildings over the years and re-model those buildings and sold them.

Lillian travelled to Europe twice with her family.

She made enough money to take the doctors who healed her and their wives and the nurses that were with her all the way and their husbands.

Lillian felt that was not enough to pay them for what they did for her.

Lillian was going to turn another building into high class apartments but decided to turn her attention to the country area at the smallest hospital.

She sold the building to a former doctor, Albert and his wife Beverly.

She loved them very much for how good they were to her.

Dennis was going over the last patient’s chart that evening.

He posted on the bulletin boards, that there would be an all workers meeting in the main lobby at ten am.

The staff wondered what the meeting was about.

Dennis went upstairs to his office and checked the medication and locked the boxes in his secret closet.

He gathered his books and notes and looked over everything and decided he would take it all to Beverly and let her organize everything.

Ryan arrived at the smallest hospital.

He entered the building with the box of medication.

Ryan rode all the way to the hospital with the box of medication on his lap.

He greeted the nurses and took the charts of the six patients and sat.

He started reviewing the charts.

He noticed the two nurses watching the box he held onto.

One of the nurses walked over and said, “Dr. Wade I can take the box. Is this the medication?”

Ryan was angry.

He wanted to tell her off.

He looked up at her and said, “This is the medication. I will give it to the patients. Make sure you are at the main hospital in the morning at ten am for an all worker meeting.”

The nurse looked at Ryan.

Ryan stood and attended to each patient and he gave them their shots and pills.

Ryan told the patients they would receive the next dosage in the morning.

The patients were happy.

Ryan asked them about their food.

The patients said, “They were fed once a day.”

Ryan could not believe the patients’ food were being stolen.

Ryan told the older man. “I suggested to my father today to close this hospital and transport everyone to the south hospital. He said, this area needed to have medical service.”

The older man said, “Please don’t close this hospital because of them. Some of us don’t have a way to get to another doctor. And your father let us pay as we get the money.”

Ryan stared in space.

The older patient said, “We are forgotten out here. We don’t have to have but one meal a day.”

Ryan lifted his finger up to the man.

Ryan said, “God made you. He made you to be honored and respected, HE did not make you for some thief to mistreat you and steal even your food from you.”

The older man was yawning from his pain medication.

Ryan sat and watched the older patient fall asleep.

He prayed and said, “GOD I know I am the least to come before you. I pray for this constant evil of the mob be rooted out of these hospitals. YOUR people can’t have nothing to get well from not even food.”

Ryan stood with the box of medication.

He walked and checked on all the patients.

The patients were sleeping.

Ryan thought, “They will be sleep until the morning. I need to be here and see their breakfast and give them their medication.”

Ryan handed the nurses the patients’ charts.

The nurses looked at him.

One of the nurses reached for the box.

Ryan took out the bag of medication and reached her the empty box and said, “See to it that you put it in the trash.”

The nurses’ mouth dropped open.

Ryan said, “Good evening.

He walked to the door with the bag of medications.

The two evil looking men were walking to the door and looked at Ryan.

Ryan was angry and he opened the door for them.

They hesitated when they saw Ryan with the bag.

Ryan stared at the two men.

He said, “You fellows have a nice evening.

Ryan walked out the door and made it to his horse and tied the bag to his saddle.

He pulled out his shotgun and loaded it.

He saw the two nurses talking to the two men.

The nurse with the box showed them the empty box.

Ryan had his shot gun pointed at the door.

He thought, “If I shot that glass door mother will have a fit. I may not have a choice.”

He saw the other nurse walkaway and came back to the men and reached them a box.

Ryan said, “The patients’ food.”

Ryan got on his horse with his shot gun over his shoulder.

He sped down the steep hill and rode fast to his house.

The normally two hour trip took him an hour and a half.

Ryan said, “God I got to get away from those killers. I will kill them. I need You to help me. I have a son and a wife I do not want to go to prison. I need to help father attend these patients. Please send him someone who can watch the money and the medication.”

Ryan looked back and saw the two men in the distance but like they were catching up to him.

Ryan leaned down to his horse and said, “Buddy you know to take over now.”

The horse neighed.

Dennis arrived home.

He stood on the back porch and looked for Ryan.

He thought, “He should be here now.”

The butler saw Dennis standing on the back porch and took the shotgun in the kitchen and walked out on the back porch and said, “Sir.”

Dennis looked at Robert and looked at the shotgun and said, “Thank You.”

Dennis took the shotgun and begin to load it.

He walked to one of the horses they keep tied to the house in case anyone needs to leave.

Buddy was speeding through the fields with Ryan.

Ryan pulled out his service revolver and had his feet securely in the stirrups.

Dennis and Ryan had developed their emergency route if they were hurt or in danger.

Dennis knew exactly where to meet Ryan.

Beverly walked to the kitchen because she thought she heard Dennis.

The maid was in the kitchen and had her head down and cut her eyes at Beverly and nodded to the back door.

Beverly ran to the back porch and saw Dennis with the shotgun and mounting the horse.

She said, “Dennis!”

Dennis turned around and looked at Beverly and said, “I’m going to get Ryan. Stay here.”

The second Dennis stormed out the back yard.

The maid ran out and handed Beverly her favorite gun and the holster filled with bullets.

Beverly ran and jumped on one of the horses and waited for Dennis to exit the yard.

She was putting on her holster.

She stormed out the yard.

The worker over the stables, the butler and his wife watched her leave the property.

They looked at each other.

The two men were gaining on Ryan.

People in the neighborhoods saw the chase and ran in their houses.

The men left the box at the hospital so they could pursue Ryan for the bag of medication he had.

Dennis was riding with all of his heart.

Ryan saw Dennis in the distance.

Dennis squinted his eyes and knew how Ryan rides his horses.

Ryan kept ridding fast.

Dennis was riding fast.

Ryan got near to Dennis.

Dennis yelled, “Ryan keep going!”

Ryan said, “No!”

Dennis had his shotgun up and aiming.

The horse kept going.

Beverly looked at Ryan and sped to Dennis.

She held her gun up and passed Dennis.

Dennis shook his head in shock.

Beverly started shooting.

The men turned and fled.

Beverly kept chasing them and shooting at them.

The men split and started riding through people’s yards and fields to get away from the woman.

Beverly was mad.

She sat and watched the men flee.

She wanted to know who was behind the mob.

She thought as she sat on her horse and listened for the men’s horses fleeing.

She thought, “One of the tentacles was cut down. Who are the rest? John Jr and Betty. Or someone like them.”

Dennis rode to Beverly and sat on his horse with his shotgun on his shoulder.

Ryan reached the house and jumped off Buddy and said, “Buddy I told you to stop!”

Buddy pushed Ryan.

He walked to the stables.

Ryan looked at the horse.

The butler and his wife were on the back porch waiting for the family to return.

The butler’s wife said, “You trained that horse to bring you home. He did his job. Go and apologize.”

Ryan said, “To a horse.”

They heard Beverly and Dennis riding back in the yard.

The stable worker walked to get the horses.

Ryan walked to the stables and patted Buddy.

He put his face on Buddy’s face.

Ryan groomed Buddy and gave him feed and water.

Ryan sat on a bale of hay and said, “It was exciting wasn’t it?”

Buddy held his head up and neighed.

Ryan laughed and stayed in the barn with Buddy until Buddy went to sleep.

Dennis and Beverly were in the family dining room.

She was sitting and talking to Dennis about the hospital.

She was going over his notes and begin to organize the agenda for the next morning.

Ryan walked in the house.

The butler handed him his plate because they put all the food up and washed the dishes.

Ryan said, “Thank you.”

He walked to the family dining room and sat.

Dennis and Beverly turned and looked at Ryan.

Ryan pushed from the table and stomped to the washroom, where the butler was waiting with water and soap and a towel.

Ryan washed his hands and dried them.

The butler looked around and was not going all the way through the house to dump that small amount of water he opened the window and dumped it out.

He looked around at his wife who was watching him.

He closed the window and locked it.

His wife held up her hands as she walked downstairs.

She had poured them liquor.

Robert was excited and had the hand towel on his shoulder and ran down the stairs behind his wife.

She told her husband, “Ryan has been doing that for twenty years.”

The butler and his wife made it to their room.

His wife said, “Three of the maids are leaving.”

Robert said, “What are they going to do?”

She said, “I don’t know. That would leave eighteen of us. Ten on the outside of the house. I am not doing washing. I’ll have to quit also.”

Robert turned and looked at his wife.

He said, “We have bought your mom and dad a small cottage they have retired to and enjoy.”

She was pulling off her uniform and smiled.

He said, “We sent our children through college. Two are ministers, one nurse and one teacher.”

She grinned.

Robert said, “We bought us a small retirement cottage not far from your parents and have furnished it.”

She grinned even more.

Robert said, “We travel once per year and take your parents. If you quit you have to be with your parents all the time. We can’t travel but every other year. We won’t be able to order our holidays food with them. You want get Beverly’s old clothes that you wear to church and with your friends. You want have time for yourself.”

His wife had put on her nightgown.

She stood and stared at Robert and said, “Good night Robert.”

Robert cut his eyes at his wife and said, “No night cap?”

She said, “Not tonight. This will be our retirement.”

He rolled his eyes at her.

He dressed for bed.

He took a book the book he was reading and sat on the bed and drank his scotch.

He looked at his sleep wife and turned the page of the book.

Ryan stood to take his plate in the kitchen, Dennis reached him his plate.

Ryan took their plates in the kitchen.

He went upstairs to his son who was sleep.

He went to Alice who was reading her bible.

She wanted to smile at Ryan.

Ryan walked to her and leaned on the bead and said, “Alice you can smile.”

Alice grinned and grabbed Ryan by his neck and hugged him tightly nearly choking him.

And cried.

Ryan held her close and laid on the bed with her.

He listened to her hurt heart.

They fell asleep holding each other.

Beverly stayed up late making copies of the agendas, the budget, the new assignments.

She wrote letters of termination for many employees.

Dennis and Ryan decided to close the smallest hospital until January.

They will be there three days a week to attend to anyone who comes.

Ryan told of Beverly’s husband who is a retired doctor.

Beverly was thinking about Al and the smallest hospital.

She knew Dennis did not want to close the hospital at all.

The three had to think about the cooks and why the patients were not being fed.

Beverly said, “I will meet with them tomorrow. I leave some of the letters of termination blank.”

Ryan said, “What mother fill in the blank.”

Beverly looked at Ryan.

Ryan said, “Remember mother whoever we terminate we have to do their job until we get replacements. That is why father is closing the smallest hospital to get rid of all of employees.”

Ryan looked at Dennis and said, “I believe there are two nurses at the south hospital.”

Beverly was looking at Ryan and said, “How is Lorraine?”

Ryan was sitting sideways and said, “She was still unresponsive today. Tomorrow will be the third day of receiving the shots. I don’t want to give her anymore after the third day. I need her to come out of where she is and start coming back.”

Dennis said, “I received a telegram about the shots from several hospitals.”

Ryan jerked his head back and said, “How did anyone know about the shot?”

Dennis said, “That’s my fault. I wrote a brief one page summary of Thomas’s treatment for the medical journal’s summer issue.

Beverly said, “You did not use that baby’s name.”

Dennis said, “Of course not.”

Ryan sat and stared at Beverly.

Beverly looked at Ryan.

Dennis was staring at Ryan.

Ryan said, “Dad we have been giving Lorraine…”

Dennis finished the sentence, “baby doses.”

Dennis jumped up from the table and began walking.

Beverly looked after Dennis and turned and looked at Ryan.

Ryan stared into the distance.

Dennis walked back into the family dining room.

He looked at Beverly and said, “You are gone for more than one thing.”

Beverly grinned.

Dennis leaned down and kissed her.

She grinned and was bashing.

Ryan turned his head.

He said, “First I am the one who thought about. Second I don’t like for you and mom to talk like that around me.”

Dennis said, “Why?”

Ryan said, “You are old.”

Dennis said, “I want to be there when you give her the larger doses.”

Ryan said, “I have to release Patrick and Brenda in the morning.”

Dennis said, “How are they?”

Ryan shook his head for no.

Beverly looked at Ryan.

Ryan said, “I believe Eleanor has invited Alice to lunch with her tomorrow.”

Beverly said, “I believe so. But I will be at the hospital and won’t be able to attend.”

Dennis said, “Beverly she invited Alice so she could give her the baby’s clothes.”

Ryan had turned around and had his elbows on the table and his moth in his hands.

He was thinking.

He said, “Dad I have to calculate the does of the medicine in the shot. I think I am going to triple the dosage.”

Dennis was thinking and said, “Not the last two medications somebody stole.”

Beverly turned her head and said, “Shuh.”

She rubbed her thighs.

Ryan looked at his mother who rode passed him to get to his father and did all the shooting.

Ryan said, “Mother I hope you did not hit any innocent people tonight.”

Beverly said, “I did hear a dog yelp.”

Dennis laughed.

Ryan stared at his mother.

Who was calm and acted like shooting did not faze her.

Beverly was as cool as a cucumber and said, “Ryan I had to make a decision a long time ago you or your father.”

Ryan looked at his mother.

She said, “We fight and call each other out our names. But we love each other deeply. I will not let anyone ham you nor your daddy. I can’t sleep with you. I sleep with your daddy. You just get out of the way. This is not the first time we had trouble with the mob. They kidnapped your father and threaten to cut off his fingers everyday until I gave them money and they controlled our hospitals. I had Robert to show me how to shot a gun. Everyone was running and dunking the whole week-end. I kept at it for three days. I told the mob I had to get the money from the bank and it was a Friday. I sent the mob a message that I better not have any damage good. I knew the bank teller worked for the mob. The mob pushed me to become a person I did not want to be. But that is my husband.”

Dennis looked at Beverly.

Beverly said, “They sent me word where to meet them. I knew I was being set up and they would take the money and me and Dennis. I did not know if Dennis was half dead or dead. I strapped two six shooters to my inside thighs along with the ammunitions and had sewn the bullets in the belt I had on.

I had several knives in my hair bun. They searched me and tried to go between my legs I told them they better not touch my special place for my husband. They wanted to shot me then. I was angry but tried to keep my head. I say a beaten and confused Dennis I ran to him in the field. I did not give them the saddle of money until I got Dennis. They pushed Dennis to me and I was falling and he was stumbling. I said…”

Dennis said, “Fall.”

Ryan looked at his father who was staring at Beverly.

Beverly said, I grabbed your father. We were going to live and they were going to die. I did not pray to go. I hollered and cried all that first day. I had a baby. As we fell I pulled up my desk and pulled the two six shooters and the ammunition belt. I shot and killed seventeen mobsters. I shot several times the one that had our money. He fell off his horse and held up the money bag for one of the other two to get it. I looked up and the bank teller was off a distance. I shot at her and the several men with her. They fled. The head of the mob is a woman. I believe she will select her successor who will be another woman. I believe she is dead and her successor is beginning to flex her muscle. I believe she is young, clever and shrewd. She will not be an out going person, but sweet and simple to win the trust of the people. But she is deadly. “

Ryan said, “What about death certificates?”

Beverly said, “I don’t think she would have been pronounced.”

Beverly burst out in laughter.

Ryan looked at Dennis.

Dennis eyes were still on Beverly.

Ryan said, “Mother?”

Beverly said, “It would be funny if we treated her and she died at our hospitals. Then we can see if anyone paid her bill and trace them from there.”

Beverly continued to laugh.

Ryan and Dennis looked at each other.

Dennis went to his bedroom and undressed and sat on the side of the bed and thought about that awful kidnapping.

His love for Beverly started all over again as she told Ryan about that time in their lives and how she killed seventeen of the mobsters and shot another.

Dennis thought, “God she kept shooting at the men until they dropped the bag of her money. She got a good look at that woman. Please kill her GOD and all her workers, especially the young woman Beverly say she has anointed to take over. Please put an end to them and every one that is helping to cover them. Let us know it is over. In JESUS’ name.”

Dennis heard Ryan walk up the stairs.

Dennis went to bed.

He knew Beverly would do more than what he asked.

He had to believe GOD and JESUS would do more than he could ask.

Morgan was awake all Saturday night, thinking about that young woman upstairs.

He had a sick feeling about her.

He wondered why he felt to bring her in to the rooming house.

He kept hearing walking outside.

Morgan knew the neighborhood and the neighbors.

He always helped the neighbors and got to know them.

He trusted the neighbors and the neighbors trusted him and knew he would not bring bad people into their neighborhood.

Morgan was sick.

He turned from side to side and could not sleep.

He never felt this way in his life ever.

He started going over all the details of meeting the young woman that evening.

Morgan said, “She looks poor but she had on a pin. Which was strange looking. I never seen one like that before.”

He said, “God I don’t know You enough but I feel You had me to bring that young woman here for a reason. I felt someone else was watching. Please don’t let me have brought harm to these men nor anyone else.”

Morgan was thinking about every detail of the young woman.

He stopped.

He turned his head and looked towards the front door and said, “She was not looking for a room. I should not have stopped.”

God stroke Morgan’s heart.

Morgan sat up and looked around and was surprised at his feelings and said, “God was that you? Who is she what was she doing at my house?’

God brought back to Morgan’s memory how quickly the young woman picked up her bags to keep him from touching them.

He said, “What is in those bags. The stagecoach is so far from here. How did she pass all of hotels and rooming houses and end up here. “

Morgan thought, “She is looking for someone to do harm to. The bags probably had guns and ammunition in them. Everyone in this neighborhood own their homes. My three roomies don’t.”

He thought I am usually at work at the time she showed up. But because I went to the hospital that delayed me returning here. I caught her as I was about to unlock the door. She was coming here. She is a killer. Sweet and young with that strange pin that looks like double horseshoes. Somebody knew my schedule. Somebody knew the three men that were staying here. She was concerned about the room not having a window. She thought she would kill and escape through the window. I wonder if that is the reason God showed me to use that room HE knew she would come one day and that it was slow her down.

Morgan stopped thinking and was quiet.

He said, “God that is that cricket again.”

He laid on the sofa because he could hear everything from upstairs down to a crack.

Morgan had rigged the steps outside the corner room so they could hear when someone comes out the door.

He thought, “She came to kill those men. I got to get them out of here.”

Morgan said, “That’s that cricket again. I don’t know how many there is.”

He eased off the sofa and eased to the windows.

He went from window to window and looked for shadows and thought they are hiding good. I got to get those men out of here. They have to get their horses. Who told her the men were staying here.“

Morgan thought, “The same person who told her my work schedule. I never told none of the neighbors. She bought somebody.”

He thought about Patrick and Brenda and Eleanor’s children.

He said, “I can kill her and what this to an end now. She is very young. She should not be allowed to live to kill and destroy people.”

Morgan turned quickly and saw the three men standing at the door fully dressed with their saddles.

He tipped to them and said, “She is looking for you?”

The three men nodded.

He whispered, “Who is she? The mob?”

The three men nodded for yes.

One said, “She is it. She is over all of it. We know somethings and left you instructions for your safety. She will come after you.”

Morgan gasped.

He nodded outside.

One of the other men said, “We slipped out the back window earlier and loaded our horses. Where we are going she can’t come.”

The first man said, “We have to make it there keep us in prayer.”

A few neighbors shot out their windows.

Morgan said, “Go.”

He unlocked the door and took off the bar.

The three men ran out the front door.

Morgan went and jumped on the sofa and he instantly went to sleep.

Other neighbors joined the shooting.

The young woman ran downstairs fast.

She jumped to the front door with a gun in her hand and looked at a snoring Morgan.

She was confident that he was really sleep.

She ran out on the front porch and took a position and shoot at the three men. She did not hit them.

She was furious.

One of the neighbors shot her in the arm.

She dropped her gun and held her arm.

Six men rode to the house and had a seventh horse.

She ran off the porch and leaped on the horse and sped away with the men.

Neighbors up and down the street were shooting at them.

The neighbors shot her again and she fell off the horse.

The six men stopped and circled her and put her on one of their horses.

The neighbors re-loaded and ran behind the six men and woman and continued to shoot.

The neighbors shot three of the men who fell dead.

They wounded the other three.

They could not pursue the three men who left from Morgan.

The neighbors ran to Morgan’s house and entered.

They saw he was fast asleep.

They woke Morgan.

The neighbors told Morgan everything that happened that night.

One of the neighbors picked up the young woman’s gun.

It was engraved and had the double horseshoe.

Morgan and his neighbors went upstairs to her room.

They went through her bags and found more guns with the engravement and the double horseshoe.

One of the neighbors was a preacher and said, “That is a sign of the devil. We have to be careful from now on.”

Morgan told the neighbors the thought that she was evil and that he could her that night and put an end to whatever she was going to do.

The preacher said, “God did not want you to. He has another way. He might bring all the bad seed to her and destroy all of them at the same time. We all remember the young woman’s face and height. Let’s pray everyday that God’s will be done.”

One of the women was standing with her eight year old daughter and said, “God has a plan.”

Another woman said, “We just don’t know what.”

She raised her shotgun up and said, “We just have to be prepared.” The preacher said she was shot twice. Maybe that would slow her down from chasing after Eric.”

Everyone looked at the preacher.

The preacher shrugged his shoulders and said, “He liked me.”

His wife said, “He liked my blueberry pie you took him every Sunday.”

The preacher shrugged his shoulders.

Several men were standing there by the dead bodies.

One of the men walked up to Morgan and saw everyone standing around said, “What are we going to do with these dead bodies?”

One neighbor said, “I am out of work. I want one of those horses, two if nobody else wants one.”

The preacher made a motion and said, “Morgan you should have seen that young woman. You can tell they groomed her from a baby to be evil.”

One of the neighbors at the dead bodies yelled, “Money.”

Everyone ran out of Morgan’s house down the street.

The jobless man out ran everybody and tried to get to the bodies but others were coming.

He grabbed two horses and ran home with them.

Morgan, the woman and her eight year old daughter were standing on his porch and only could see movement, because it was dark.

The preacher grabbed one of the mob’s wallet and before he turn around someone was grabbing it and he was trying to push their hands back and turned and saw it was his wife.

He knew he could not beat her.

He handed her the wallet.

He saw the double horseshoe symbol and told the people not to tough anything with the double horseshoe.

The wallet crossed in front of the preacher.

His wife had gone through the wallet and grabbed the cash and tossed the wallet in the air.

She nearly hit her husband in the face with the wallet.

He looked at her as she counted her cash.

The preacher said, “Whatever you get pay God the tenth tomorrow when you go to church.”

One of the neighbors yelled, “Thirty six dollars.”

The preacher’s wife looked over her shoulder at him.

Another neighbor said, “God does not want this filthy money. Seventeen dollars.”

The preacher’s wife sneakily looked back at that neighbor and continued to count her money.

The preacher frowned and looked at his wife.

The preacher’s wife started to walk off.

The preacher followed her home.

The man with the two horses was laughing running up the street with the horses.

The preacher’s wife ran in the house.

The preacher ran behind her.

She turned and looked at her husband and threw the money up in the air.

The preacher said, “How much?”

She threw the money up in the air and said, “Thirty six dollars”.

The preacher was mumbling and said, “What?”

His wife said, “The exact amount you prayed to God about.”

The preacher was shocked.

His wife said, “From now on pray for way more than covers our needs. We can pay the tax on the house and the church, pay for the coal and water for our house and God’s house, buy you a new pair of boots and scarf and gloves and replaced that broken window in the back of the church. Then we are back at zero dollars.”

They heard a yell.

They turned and ran out the house and saw Jeremiah with the two horses running up and down the street with both hands full of money.

The preacher’s wife ran to get his money.

His wife was running from Morgan’s porch with their eight year old daughter.

Jeremiah said, “The money was in the saddle.”

The preacher and his wife ran to get the other two horses.

The neighbors were fussing over the money they found in the wallets.

Jeremiah said, “Get in the house.”

His wife and daughter ran in the house and locked the door.

Jeremiah ran to the door and kicked on it.

His wife peeped out the door.

His daughter was standing back looking.

His wife opened the door and he handed her the money.

He ran to the side of the house and grabbed both horses and took them around the back of the house and closed the torn down gate.

The preacher and his wife ran pass Morgan with one of the horses.

Morgan was shocked at his nice neighbors.

He did not know they were so destitute.

Jeremiah ran to the back porch with both saddles and knocked on the backdoor.

His wife and daughter ran from the front room to the kitchen and opened the backdoor.

Jeremiah jumped inside the door with the saddles.

He sat on the floor his daughter sat on the floor next to him and giggled.

His wife stood and looked at him.

She said, “The preacher said the double horseshoe is a sign of the devil and not to use their stuff.”

Jeremiah was so excited about the money and said to his wife, “Where’s the money.”

She ran to the front room and grabbed the money.

Jeremiah kissed the top of his giggling daughter’s head.

His wife returned and sat on the rugged rug in front of them.

She put the two handfuls of money on the floor.

Jeremiah went the first saddle again and there was a few dollars left.

He tossed the saddle.

He looked at the saddle.

His wife said, “No. Put it out there for the sheriff or the police whoever is going to come.”

He looked at his wife.

She said, “Jeremiah it is evil. I will not say that about the money.”

Jeremiah said, “I know.”

She laughed.

Their daughter laughed.

Jeremiah went into the saddle’s pockets and found more money.

He emptied the saddle.

The little girl said, “Daddy can I go to the doctor now?”

Jeremiah cried and said, “You are first. You go to the doctor Monday. We go to church in the morning. Can you wait until Monday?”

The little girl curled up her shoulders and wiggled her feet and looked at her mother.

Her mother said, “No. She goes to the doctor in the morning. Jeremiah you go to church for us. You go and prepare one of those horses so I can carry her.”

Jeremiah said, “One day.”

His wife said, “One day can mean life or death. God sent this money today. She goes to the hospital at daybreak. You stay here or go to church or whatever. I told you she better not be harmed. Because of your sorriness.”

He looked at his wife and down at his little girl sitting next to him.

He said, “Let’s count the money baby.”

She looked at her mother who was staring hard at Jeremiah.

He looked around at their broken down house and then back to his wife who had no love nor warmth in her eyes.

She swore to him if the little girl did not go to the doctor she would take her and leave him and never return.

He held his head and put all the money on the floor and they counted the money over and over.

His wife was so happy.

The little girl looked at her mother then at her daddy.

Her mother said, “All of this goes to the doctor for you.”

The little girl was nervous and hitching up her shoulders and nervously laying her legs out and picking them up.

She had no shoes nor socks.

Jeremiah said, “What happens we take her to the doctor without clothes?”

The mother stood and picked up the little girl.

She carried her to the sofa in the front room and laid her down.

His wife laid next to the little girl.

The little looked at her mother and said, “Mommie am I going to die and leave you and daddy?”

Her mother looked in her face and said, “Baby I am going to fight for you to live. I am happy you are finally going to the doctor tomorrow after being sick for months.”

Held her daughter tight to her chest and kissed the top of her head.

She looked in the kitchen and saw her husband sitting on the floor with his head down.

The mother was woke all night holding her baby and crying over her.

She could not wait until four am.

She wanted to know which hospital to take her to.

She looked at her husband who was sleep with his back to the door.

She said, “Jeremiah go to Morgan and ask him which is the best hospital to take Myriah to.”

He woke and sat on the floor and was sleepy.

She said, “Now. And take those saddles back to the bodies and get back her and get a horse so I can take her to the hospital.”

Jeremiah was sleep.

His daughter peeped over her mother and looked in the kitchen at her daddy.

Her mother kissed her on her head.

She was getting up.

Her daughter grabbed onto her mother and would not let her go.

Jeremiah laid on the floor and slept for another hour.

She told her daughter to lay on the sofa until she gets back.

Her mother put on h er boots and went out the front door and picked up one of the pails for water and went next door and filled the pail of water.

She struggled and brought the pail back to the house.

Her neighbor was watching her out of his window.

His wife said, “Lora?”

Her husband said, “Yeah. If it wasn’t for the baby I would have been put a stop to it.”

His wife said, “She is a good woman.”

Her husband said, “She is wearing down. I see he did go and get two horses last night.”

His wife was sleeping on her side facing the wall and said, “Watch he wants us to give him feed.”

The dogs were used to Lora coming in the yard and getting water and coal.

Lora carried the water in the kitchen and poured most of it in the pot on the stove and she poured the rest into two tin pitchers for them to drink during the day.

She walked back to the main room and her daughter was looking at her.

Lora smiled at her daughter and walked out the door and picked up the coal bucket from the porch and walked back to her neighbors and filled the coal bucket.’

The man said, “She got her coal ration for today.”

His wife said, “I am sick of them.”

He looked back at his wife.

Lora went home and carried the coal bucket into the kitchen and made a fire to heat the water.

She did not look at Jeremiah.

She saw the money and her eyes drifted to the saddles.

She heard noise outside.

She grabbed the saddles and ran out the house.

Her daughter was sick but raised her head and said, “Momma.”

Lora ran fast up the street and saw the men had moved the bodies out the street.

She threw the saddles by the bodies and ran fast to Morgan and knocked on the door Morgan was peeping out the windows.

He hurried and opened the door and let her in.

He said, “Lora you are up and about early.”

She was out of breathe.

She was bent over and said, “I have no help. We have enough money to take Myriah to the hospital, which one?”

Morgan said, “My friends are at the south hospital. They only go to the best.”

Lora was weak.

Morgan looked at her and said, “When are you going?”

Lora said, “Time we wash and put on our only clothes and I told Jeremiah to get a horse ready for us. He is still sleep. I can’t live like this anymore. I have done it for Myriah. She is so sick. A child should not be sick.”

Morgan thought he needed to see Patrick and Brenda and tell them what happened.

He said, “I’ll take you and Myriah to the south hospital.”

Lora was shocked and said, “Really?”

Morgan said, “You go and get ready and get your money and put it up. I’ll get my wagon and horses and take you. I’ll come across and wait for you and Myriah.”

Lora covered her face and cried.

She shook her head and walked out the house.

Her daughter was standing on the front porch waiting for her.

Lora walked across the street and saw her daughter and smiled.

The neighbor saw the little girl standing on the porch waiting for Lora.

He saw the little girl but held her stomach.

His countenance changed and he became angry.

Lora ran to her and picked her up and carried her in the house.

Jeremiah was still in the floor sleep.

Lora made the wash water and washed Myriah and put her on the only clothes she had and comb and brushed her hair.

The comb and brush broke.

Lora sat and looked at the comb and brush.

Myriah got hysterical and said, “Mommie I am sorry. Mommie I am sorry.”

Lora grabbed Myriah and said, “Shut up. Why are you saying that liked I beat you Myriah. It is just a comb and brush.”

Myriah said, “Because you were combing and brushing my hair.”

Lora said, “I was looking at the comb and brush because I felt it was a sign from God to throw those things that are broken away and get new stuff.”

Myriah said, “Like daddy?”

Lora thought, “God she caught on quickly.”

Lora said, “Like a new comb and brush. I will get you a bright pink comb and brush.”

Myriah said, “I want purple.”

Lora said, “That’s hard to find. But I will look everywhere.”

Myriah grinned.

Lora said, “Myriah don’t ever scream and cry out like that again. I will never hurt you. “

Myriah said, “I know mommie.”

Lora kissed her on the top of her head.

Lora said, “Now what about me?”

They laughed.

Myriah looked at her sleeping daddy on the floor.

Lora washed and dressed in her only dress and comber her hair the best she could.

She got her wrap and covered Myriah.

She walked in the kitchen and took all the money.

She walked to Myriah and picked her up and walked to the front door.

Myriah knew what to do, she opened the front door.

She looked back as Lora stepped out the door.

She saw her father still sleep on the floor.

Myriah closed the door and put her head on Lora.

They walked out to Morgan.

The neighbor was standing on the porch watching them.

Morgan spoke to the neighbor.

He jumped out the wagon and grabbed Myriah.

Myriah was crying.

The neighbor cried for the sick child.

He would hear her all night long crying.

He did not have the money to take her to the doctor.

He and his wife would do extra work to get money to help her but the money always went somewhere else.

Lora waved at the neighbor and said, “I came to visit this morning. I will make everything right.”

The neighbor nodded.

He thought, “Just take care of my child.”

Morgan looked at Lora and said, “It is freezing.”

He looked back at Myriah and saw she had no coat.

Morgan said, “I am going to get a few blankets. It is freezing cold out here.”

He ran to his house and unlocked the door and left it opened.

He ran into the storage room and got three blankets. He ran out the house and back across the street.

Morgan put two blankets on Myriah and gave one to Lora.

The neighbor shook his head.

Morgan sped to the south hospital.

He looked back at a crying Myriah and said, “Lora why you and the baby don’t have clothes.”

Lora said, “We sold everything to keep the house.”

Morgan said, “I thought the house was paid.”

Lora said, “I thought so until Jeremih told me there was another loan on it.”

Morgan said, “What do you have in your house?”

Lora shook her head sorryfully and said, “Nothing.”

She stared in space.

Morgan said, “I will visit my friends while you are seeing about Myriah. I won’t leave you there unless I go and get something to eat and come back. I think a few stores are opened today because they want to get ready for Christmas.”

Lora threw her face into her hands and tried to cry silently.

Morgan reached over and tried to comfort Lora.

Myriah in the back of the wagon was screaming from pain.

Lora tried to reach back and touch Myriah.

Morgan was pulling up in the yard of the south hospital.

Ryan was there early because he knew he had to spend a lot of time at the main hospital.

Ryan was thinking about Lorraine.

Then he was thinking about Patrick and Brenda’s test which he did not like.

Ryan heard screaming as he walked to the entrance.

Doctor Jim was arriving also.

They turned and looked back and saw Lora with her face in her hands.

They stood and watched Morgan jump out the wagon.

He grabbed Myriah and ran towards the hospital.

Ryan opened the door.

Morgan ran into the lobby.

Patrick and Brenda were sitting in the lobby waiting for Lorraine’s update.

They looked at Morgan.

The nurses ran and grabbed Myriah.

Dr. Jim said, “Take her to room two.”

Ryan looked back at Lora.

Everyone ran to room two.

Morgan stood and watched the nurses take Myriah out of his hands.

He turned and walked to Patrick and Brenda.

He shook their hands and sat down with them.

Ryan saw Morgan and realized he knew Patrick and Brenda and the three were huddled on the sofa talking secretively.

Ryan held the door for Lora.

Lora walked in the hospital and was crying.

Dr. Jim walked out room two.

He and Ryan started asking Lora a lot of questions.

Ryan looked at the fat nurse that Dennis put as supervisor of the medication.

She was already starting a chart for Myriah and rushed it to Dr. Jim.

She ran and got IVs ready in case they needed some.

She put together testing kits for different sickness and illness. Dennis was very impressed with it.

Head Nurse Lillian loved it.

She took the three test kits and put them on the nurses’ desk.

Ryan and Dr. Jim went into room two with a screaming Myriah.

Morgan, Patrick and Brenda sat for over an hour and talked.

Ryan came out and talked to Lora.

He wrote in Myriah’s chart.

He told the fat nurse which test kits to take to Dr. Jim.

Ryan told Lora, “She is in bad shape. Why did you wait so long to bring her for help?”

Ryan said, “We accept all people.”

Lora stared at Ryan.

The fat nurse walked over to Ryan with the three tests kits.

Ryan was filing out the paperwork and the orders for the tests.

He looked at the nurse and said, “You go and do the tests.”

The nurse turned and ran and picked up her rubber gloves and the test kits and ran to room two.

Ryan saw Brenda bent all the way over listening to Morgan.

Ryan thought, “God I want to know what that is about? It is serious.”

He could hardly concentrate on Myriah’s paperwork.

He looked at a stunned Lora.

Ryan said, “Ma am.”

Lora did not respond.

Ryan sat and straight at Lora and said, “Ma am.”

Lora slowly looked at Ryan and said, “I could have let her die. I did not know I could bring her here.”

Ryan said, “Now you know. Tell your neighbors. We can help her but it will be very hard. You might as well get ready for a very long and hard road.”

Lora said, “As long as she can live and be alright.”

Ryan said, “She is crooked over.”

Lora said, “That is the way she sleep. I tried to straighten her out.”

Hutch walked out the room with Lorraine.

Ryan looked at Hutch.

Hutch looked at Patrick and Brenda and shook his head for no.

Ryan exhaled.

Hutch picked up his coat to leave the hospital to go to the bone hospital to sleep and wash and come back on Monday.

Ryan stood and said, “Hutch I know you are leaving to get some rest, but can you give me one minute to look at this child?”

Lora was looking up at Hutch. She knew he had to be important to Myriah’s health for the doctor to stop him from leaving.

Hutch said, “Alright.”

Ryan ran to room two.

They opened the door and the screaming Myriah’s voice flooded the lobby.

Other patients were turning around to leave.

The nurses rushed and brought the patients back and put them in rooms.

Lora covered her ears and cried and rocked.

Hutch left after five minutes.

He looked at Lora as he left.

Brenda looked at a tired Hutch and said, “We have to get him a home and a maid.”

Patrick sat up and looked at a tired Hutch.

Ryan walked out room two and went to the nurses’ desk and asked for Lorraine’s medication chart.

He started pulling the medication together to put it in Lorraine’s chart.

He went outside to horse and brought the bag of medication into the hospital.

He started distributing the medication for the patients.

He finished Lorraine’s shot and handed the medications to a nurse and said, “You come with me.”

The nurse looked at Ryan and the other nurses and walked with Ryan.

He went into Lorraine and gave her the shot and waited for a few minutes.

He left when the two relief nurses came in.

Ryan and the nurse made medication rounds.

When Ryan completed the medication rounds he completed the rounds for all the patients.

He sat and notated the patients’ charts.

Brenda was watching Lora and said, “Morgan who is that lady?”

Morgan turned and looked back and told Patrick and Brenda that she was a neighbor, who meet Myriah’s dad three years ago and married her. He married her two years after Myriah’s mother from what they think was cancer. Myriah was three when her mother died after two years Lora has been with her every day.”

Morgan said, “She is ready to leave him and take Myriah with her. Myriah’s grand parents live next door and they are tired of them and want them to go.”

Patrick said, He should be over his wife’s death now, especially after he re-married. Is this her first marriage?”

Morgan said, “Yes.”

Ryan could not take any more.

He was walking down the stairs and heard Myriah still screaming.

He looked at Lora.

He looked at Patrick and Brenda and said, “We won’t know nothing about Lorraine until after twenty four hours.”

Ryan looked at Morgan and said, “Sir you brought Myriah to the hospital?”

Ryan said, “Thank you. We accept everybody here whether they have money or not be sure to tell your neighbors and friends.”

Brenda was watching Ryan because she knew he was being noisy.

Morgan looked at the time and looked back at Lora.

He said, “I know she has not eaten for days. I am going down to Jim’s and get some breakfast. Last night twisted me.”

Ryan was listening and standing still.

Brenda watched noisy Ryan.

Morgan said, “Can I bring you folks breakfast back?”

Patrick and Brenda looked at Ryan.

Ryan was full from his hearty breakfast that morning.

He said, “No thank you.”

Everyone looked at him.

Patrick took as his cue to request what he wanted.

Patrick said, “Bring me corn beef hash, grits, two fried eggs and two biscuits and orange juice and coffee.”

They looked at Ryan.

Ryan shook his head and shrugged his shoulders.

Brenda said, “Salmon croquets instead of the corn beef hash. And everything Patrick ordered.”

He looked back at Lora and said, “Doc can I take her with me or does she need to stay here?”

Ryan said, “She needs to stay here. If she has not eaten in a few days was it because she had a nervous stomach…”

Morgan said, “Because she doesn’t have food.”

Ryan said, “No orange juice and coffee, grits and boiled eggs.”

Morgan said, “I’ll eat there and have your food cooked as I am leaving.”

Patrick said, “Thanks.”

Brenda said, “Thank you.”

Patrick said, “I’ll take care of you tomorrow.”

They laughed because they were talking about a worker.

Morgan said, “You will not pay me back.”

Patrick said, “Jim’s make the best corn beef has on the planet.”

Brenda laughed.

Ryan watched Morgan.

Morgan talked with Lora.

Lora shook her head for no.

Morgan walked out the door.

Ryan ran and sat in his spot and watched the door to make sure he was not coming back in.

Brenda said, “Ryan, you are nosey as hell.”

She sat back on the sofa.

Ryan looked at Brenda and then Patrick.

Patrick said, “I am going to tell you because this may affect your hospital business.”

Patrick told Ryan what Morgan told him.

Patrick said, “It is the same mob with the symbol of the double horseshoe. Be careful. Morgan said the young woman was no more than fifteen or sixteen and had military training. She was shot twice but still was trying to shoot and pursue the three men who knew who she was.”

Ryan said, “Whoa. My mother told me last night a story I never heard and she said the head was a woman. And the head is now dead and she has selected a young woman to take over.”

Brenda looked and shook her head.

She said, “I am sick of them. Not only are they the mob they are devil worshippers. I know GOD’s power is over them. I need HIM to show up.”

Ryan looked at Brenda and said, “Am I still nosey Mrs. Stith?”

Brenda leaned her head back on the sofa and said, “Yeah Ryan. But I still love you. What about our tests.”

Ryan was quiet for a minute.

He exhaled.

Brenda said, “We have had the bad news. Let’s hear some worst news.”

She looked at Patrick and laughed.

Ryan said, “I love you both. But if stop drinking, smoking Patrick and cut back on your intake of pork. I can guarantee about four or five years.”

Patrick spit at his mouth and looked at Brenda.

Brenda burst out laughing.

Ryan was shocked and said, “Are you two going to do it?”

Patrick was sitting with his arms folded and looked at Ryan and said, “No.”

Brenda was laughing so hard she nearly fell off the sofa.

The nurses were running that morning.

They hospital lobby was full of people.

Ryan looked around at the full lobby.

He said, “Whoa.”

Brenda lifted up her head and continued to laugh.

She said, “Patrick you better not eat that corn beef hash.”

Patrick huffed again.

Brenda hollered and fell off the sofa.

Patrick continued to sit.

Ryan stood and walked and picked Brenda off the floor.

Brenda put her hand on Ryan’s face and said, “Ryan this life is promised to us to accept JESUS the Christ as our Savior. After that you make it what you want. Patrick and I prayed for many years that our railroad and shipping businesses would grow and become large and successful. We did not know why it did not happened. It did not happen until all of rotten sons and their families were out of our lives and we gave it over to Eleanor. She was the one GOD put our vision in. We did not know of our sons evil. GOD did and HE was not going to put HIS blessing in unfit and unclean vessels. HE made all the filth come to the top and then HE got rid of it. So now within a year our money has triple. Thanks to GOD’s answer to our decades of prayers for growth. HE put our dream in Eleanor, because she is the one that was to carry our torch not our sons. She can handle Bruce, if she lets him come back for the children’s sake. She found her true love…”

Ryan said, “Joseph.”

Brenda said, “Me and Patrick loved him too. So Eleanor has come out of that mind binding and mind control from Bruce and his family. She can handle him, his family, the railroad and shipping businesses until the children grow up.”

Ryan was looking at Patrick who seemed happy.

Brenda reached over and grabbed Patrick’s arm.

She said, “See Ryan we have done what GOD wanted us to do and HE gave us what we wanted. We have seen the railroad and shipping businesses grow. But”

She stopped and said, “We have seen our grandchildren grow not to be selfish. They used their money to help others.”

Ryan said, “Right. What time is the re-naming ceremony Tuesday?”

Brenda said, “Eleven.”

Ryan nodded his head.

Brenda said, “Patrick and I have fought a good fight and we are ready to see JESUS. Whenever HE decides to take us. Now will be fine with us, because we have done what HE wanted.”

Ryan nearly cried.

Patrick said, “Whiskey and cigars are my only sins and I will ask HIM for forgiveness and to stop me when it is my time to go. That’s when I will know.”

Brenda smiled.

Dr. Jim walked out of room two with the screaming Myriah.

Ryan looked over and saw Dr. Jim beckoning for him.

He looked at Patrick and spoiled Brenda and walked away.

He and Dr. Jim stood and talked.

They went to Lora and talked to her.

Ryan continued the rounds.

He and the other three doctors cleared out the patients from the lobby.

Morgan came back with their hot foods.

Patrick and Brenda ran into the dining room and sat and talked to Morgan.

Morgan looked back at Lora and took her food to eat.

Ryan looked at Lora and Morgan.

He left for the day and went to the main hospital and worked until early evening.

Ryan rode to the smallest hospital and worked there for several hours.

He left the hospital and was chased home.

Shirley came to the hospital and sat with Patrick and Brenda.

Patrick and Brenda a went upstairs to their room.

Shirley slept on the sofa.

She liked the idea of having soft and comfortable sofas to rest and sleep on.

Lora was on the other sofa.

She was exhausted and could not sleep.

The nurses looked at her.

Shirley was lying with her back to Lorraine’s door.

She did not want to see if anything was wrong with Lorraine.

Shirley would sleep and wake up every hour.

She knew to pray. Brenda showed her that when she would hold Shirley throughout the night.

Shirley’s heart was trouble and she thought over the days before to think about what wrong she had done.

She could not think.

So she whispered, “JESUS. JESUS. JESUS.”

 After she said that she would fall asleep.

Shirley continued all night and she heard Lora crying.

It hit Shirley.

She was not being awake to pray for Lorraine but for that lady across from her.

Shirley sat up on the sofa and looked at Lora.

The nurses saw Shirley and thought she was going to fuss.

Shirley got up and went into the dining room and got a glass of water and took it to Lora.

Shirley sat next to Lora and said, “Ma am, here is some water for you to drink.”

Lora shook her head for no.

Shirley said, “I have been sick all my life and most of it was in the hospitals. I know one thing you have to have water to drink. Because you don’t want to be sick. I am going to leave the water here for you.”

Shirley stood and patted Lora on her shoulder.

She walked back to her sofa and laid and use her bag as a pillow and her coat as a covering.

Patrick and Brenda were full from brunch and they had soup at dinner.

They prayed together and went to bed and slept throughout the night.

Shirley smiled and thought, “God used me. He has forgiven me for hurting Michael and the handicap students.”

Shirley grinned her big beautiful grin and went to sleep.

Sunday Eleanor and her four boys met the school administrators and had a two hour meeting.

The administrators decided to let them finish the fall semester and they will make a final decision over the Christmas holiday.

Eleanor gave the commander the signed telegram from Skip.

He looked at it and he looked at the four fatherless boys.

Eleanor thought, “I need to take them home and hire tutors.”

But Bruce and Michael really wanted to stay.

She knew she had to put Percy somewhere.

Thomas wanted to come home and be with Eleanor.

Eleanor met the other boys’ parents and apologize for the trouble her sons caused them.

They saw Gail and Bryson who was there with Caleb and Stewart.

Eleanor went with Michael and she paid the workers the hundred dollars and said, “Sirs don’t gamble with my son again.”

She looked down at Michael.

Michael looked up at Eleanor and saw a look he had not seen before.

The men said, “They would not gamble with Michael anymore.

Eleanor went to their rooms and looked around.

She said, “I swear you act up again all four of you are going to your father. You will be home in two weeks. That’s all you have to do is do good for two weeks.”

Percy looked at Eleanor.

Eleanor wondered about Percy.

Bruce wanted to an ambassador and he wanted the military background.

Eleanor kissed all of them and left.

She went to here waiting carriage.

Gail saw her leaving and she and Bryson walked her to the carriage.

Eleanor told of the ambassador being back. The ground-breaking festivities, Michael’s gambling problem.

Bryson could not react he just stood still.

Gail snickered because she thought Eleanor was joking and she saw it was a problem.

Eleanor told them of Ben and John Jr.

Bryson turned his back for a minute and turned around.

He said, “Gen is by herself?”

Eleanor said, “Until Saturday. Jose and Nadine suppose to be keeping up with her.”

She told them about Lorraine and she broke down and cried.

Eleanor told of the mob taking the medications out the hospitals.

Bryson said, “My Lord. I am a doctor I hate to hear that. The hospitals have to come up with a plan. I want to return to medicine.”

Eleanor was excited and said, “Come to our hospital.”

Bryson mocked Eleanor’s excited jump and landed in her face and said, “I will.”

Gail laughed.

Bryson said, “Bring Lorraine home I will take care of her. I wanted to work at the bone hospital until your hospital is built. I think their work is fascinating.”

Gail said, “Bry she will be there in Philadelphia you can still learn at the bone hospital and be with Lorraine.”

Eleanor said, “Oh we are re-naming the hospital Tuesday to Shirley Stith Simmons Hospital of Bone Medicine.”

Gail said, “Will Patrick and Brenda be there?”

Eleanor said, “Yes. They will be released tomorrow.”

Bryson said, “Released?”

Eleanor said, “Hutch demanded they get complete physicals. It will be a week tomorrow.”

Gail said, “Are you at Bruce’s hotel?”

Eleanor said, “No. We are staying in the owner’s suite on one of the cars. The trains had to be serviced for the holidays. We had them to disconnect that car and put it on a separate track.

Gail stood in awe.

Bryson giggled.

Eleanor said, “Since Lorraine is not with Shirley. I suggested to her to stay at her father’s hotel, where she can eat and take hot bathes daily. She went into some type of emotional breakdown. I thought about and told her she could stay in that car, but I know Shirley, she will not sleep there if no one else is there. Monica should be here Monday. I’ll try to get Monica to stay here to help Shirley.”

Gail said, “I thought she had an apartment near the school.”

Eleanor said, “She does but Shirley can’t do no work. I know Monica will get things done. Shirley is picky over her clothes, jewelry, hair and bed linens. Otherwise she can take the food, the disarrayed room and even cold.”

Eleanor said, “I told you all bad things. How are you two doing?”

Gail said, “I am embarrassed to say.”

Bryson said, “We are having a great time. I am thinking to cut it down. We are suppose to come home the second week of January. I want to meet the ambassador. But heart is for Gen and Lorraine.”

Eleanor held her head down.

Gail frowned up and said, “Eleanor none of this is your fault.”

Eleanor said, “I should have been stronger instead of going through my mental issues with Bruce.”

Bryson said, “Patrick and Brenda told us you knocked Bruce over his hotel railings onto the sofa in the lounge.”

Gail laughed and said, “Good girl.”

Bryson said, “That should help.”

Bryson said, “It’s only a day to get to Philadelphia from here. We have to leave tomorrow to get to the re-naming ceremony and see Lorraine and ask the doctors what I have to do to work there for at least a year. Yall can put in a good word for me.”

Gail laughed.

Eleanor said, “The train leaves here at ten am. I’ll tell them to let you on in first class. You can stay on the car with us in the other suite.”

Gail said, “I was going to the club and play cards with the ladies tomorrow. I am getting good. I can’t beat Michael.”

Eleanor started crying.

Bryson and Gail hugged her and said, “We are playing.”

Bryson looked at Gail and said, “You!”

They hugged and Eleanor got in the carriage and left and she went to the two car train and the train conductor immediately took off and arrived in Philadelphia around two thirty am.

Eleanor got off the train and she and the conductor and the engineers walked across the tracks to the other car.

Eleanor locked the doors and went to bed.

She placed her gun under her pillow.

Eleanor woke when she thought she heard someone at the balcony.

She thought about Lorraine and got her gun.

Eleanor walked to the sitting room and peeped out the window.

She saw several workers cleaning the trains.

Eleanor wondered what time it was.

She looked at the clock and said, “I get to get some sleep. Shirley needs to get back here and get dressed for this ten am meeting with her school administrators. I have to have a carriage to take Monica to the hospital and she will decide if she wants to be bothered with Shirley. If not Shirley has to go to the hotel for two weeks. She doesn’t want to pay her daddy. God she is stingy.”

Eleanor laid on the sofa and slept until she heard knocking on the door.

She jumped and ran to the door and peeped it was Shirley.

Shirley grinned her beautiful smile.

Eleanor’s heart melt.

She hugged Shirley.

The stewards were bringing their hot water for baths.

Eleanor ordered tea and grapefruit and an omelet for Shirley.

Shirley told Eleanor about what happened in New York.

She pointed to all the clothes.

Eleanor was upset that Lorraine fought so hard.

She slowly turned and looked at all the bags she did not see that morning.

She and Shirley ate breakfast.

They took their baths and dressed for the day.

Shirley looked extremely nice.

Eleanor was proud of Shirley.

Eleanor was dressed as European royalty.

She had on Joseph’s pearl earrings and Dr. Woodson’s necklace she wore every day.

Brenda mentioned it to Patrick.

Patrick said, “I would have loved to have Bradley as my son-in-law, but of course Joseph was my best choice.”

Eleanor and Shirley went to the waiting carriage and went to the school.

They met with the school administrators.

Shirley presented her request to the administrator.

Eleanor sat with dignity and watched Shirley and listened to her presentation.

The administrators were looking at Eleanor.

They heard the Stiths were in the hundred richest Americans and how this woman caused her family fortune to triple in less than a year.

The administrators decided to allow the changes to the buildings and told Shirley she had to pay for it.

Eleanor did not flinch.

Shirley presented the administrators with the drawings of the proposed changes.

They were impressed with her thoughtfulness.

The head dean said, “Miss Simmons is there anything else?”

Shirley said, “Yes.”

Eleanor looked at Shirley.

Shirley said, “The dean said none of my semester’s work was turned in. I was in the hospital for three days and I gave it to my nanny.”

The administrators snickered.

Shirley looked at them.

Eleanor looked at the administrators.

Shirley said, “She stated she found the dean at the holiday event in the lounge and handed him all my work for all my classes.”

The dean said, “He did find the work. He has graded your work. You have to write essays and turned them in before the semester ends in two weeks.”

Shirley exhaled.

She was relieved and said, “Thank you.”

The dean was looking on a piece of paper and said, “Miss Simmons do you want to know your grades in all the classes?”

Shirley was scared and looked at Eleanor.

Eleanor thought, “She gave a brilliant presentation to these esteemed men and now looking back at me as a child for my opinion.”

She stared at Shirley.

Shirley realized Eleanor was not going to answer.

Shirley turned and flashed her beautiful smile to the administrators and said, “Yes sir.”

He looked at the paper and said, “You received all ‘A”s with an average of ninety.”

Shirley grinned and said, “Thank you.”

Shirley said, “Sirs I invite you to a re-naming ceremony tomorrow morning at eleven am at the hospital that saved my life. The hospital is on seventh street.”

The dean said, “Thank you.”

She and Eleanor left the meeting.

They walked on the campus.

Shirley saw a few of the handicap students who did not speak to her.

Eleanor rolled her eyes at Shirley.

Shirley ran and caught the handicapped students and told of the meeting with the administrators.

Eleanor walked to the students and introduced herself as Shirley’s mother.

She told them she was informed Shirley had been rude and disrespectful. She needs to apologize.

Shirley turned from looking at Eleanor.

She knew she had to apologize.

She prayed to God for the opportunity to apologize to the handicapped students.

Shirley told them she wanted to be normal and felt that being with them would stop her from being normal.

Steve said, “Shirley we all do that. You can at least walk. The rest of us can’t. Thanks for going to the administration.

The other student said, “The only reason why they said yes was because you are spending your own money.”

Eleanor laughed.

Shirley said, “We are having a re-naming ceremony at the hospital on seventh street in the morning at eleven am. I invite you to attend.”

Eleanor told the young men it was a pleasure meeting them.

They both were studying to be lawyers.

Shirley asked about the girl she prayed about.

They were quiet for a moment and told Shirley they were told she was in bed and were not expected to live out the week.

Shirley was sick and asked them if they knew where she lived.

Steve said, “Sure. She’s the president’s daughter. She lives over there in the president’s cottage.”

Shirley turned and started running to the president’s cottage.

Steve said, “She can run?”

Eleanor looked at Steve.

She followed Shirley.

Shirley knocked on the door and the president came to the door and saw Shirley.

He saw the elegant Eleanor walking to the cottage.

He opened the door and allowed both of them to enter.

Shirley told them her name and introduced Eleanor.

Shirley asked if she could see her if not to tell her she apologized to her.

Shirley told them her story and asked for forgiveness.

Eleanor looked at Shirley and watched the girl’s parents non facial expression.

The president did not address Shirley and said, “How did your presentation go with the board. I told them to allow the changes.”

Shirley looked at the president.

He stood.

Eleanor wanted if he was telling them to leave.

He reached his hand to Shirley.

Eleanor stood.

The president walked to his daughter’s room.

Eleanor walked with her mother.

Shirley nearly turned and ran.

The president said, “You wanted to see her to apologize. I did not do anything against her. You did. You apologize. Let her hear your voice.”

Shirley walked to her bed.

There was a nurse in the room with her.

Shirley walked to the bed and told her who she was and apologized.

Shirley looked at her and covered her face and rushed out the room and went outside and sat on the porch.

The butler looked at Shirley.

Eleanor turned and walked out the room and looked for Shirley.

The butler said, “She is on the porch.”

The president and his wife were about to walk out their daughter’s room and the nurse said, “She moved her eyelids.”

The mother and father rushed back to her.

Eleanor stood she wanted to thank her parents for letting Shirley see her.

The butler waited, but he was admiring Eleanor’s dress.

The president and his rushed into the parlor and were grinning they said, “She opened her eyes.”

The butler was shocked.

He went to see.

The mother looked back at the butler.

Eleanor was shocked.

She said, “I know you have great doctors. Can I recommend some doctors. I’ll take care of the expense. No one has to know.”

She looked back at Shirley and told them of Shirley and how the doctors worked on her insides and her bones. She told them the bad doctors removed some bones out of Shirley’s body and she could never walk.

The president said, “I saw her running.”

Eleanor said, “Please.”

His wife was very stern and said, “No.”

The president said, “What’s the difference dear.”

His wife looked at him and then Eleanor up and down.

She turned and walked to her daughter’s room.

The president said, “Yes.”

He showed Eleanor out.

Eleanor and Shirley walked off the porch and walked across the campus to their waiting carriage.

They went to the south hospital and saw Lora still waiting on news of Myriah.

Patrick and Brenda were dressed and waiting in the lobby.

Ryan told Patrick and Brenda he increased the dosage of the medicines in the shot to reflect a grown up and not a child like Thomas.

All the doctors and two nurses left the hospital and went to the hour long meeting.

Brenda was watching Lora and said, “She needs to eat.”

Patrick said, “I told Morgan to tell the cook to bring lunch today.”

Eleanor said, “They let the boys back to finish this semester. I started to take them home. All of this for two weeks. But Bruce’s heart is set on becoming an ambassador with a military background. Michael wants to stay. Thomas wants to come home with me. I’m going to send Percy to his daddy.”

Patrick blinked.

Brenda made no expression.

Eleanor said, “Shirley tell your grandparents of your morning.

Shirley told them of all what happened.

Felipe walked out Lorraine’s room.

Eleanor stood and walked to Felipe and about the president’s daughter.

Felipe stood and listened.

He said, “Eleanor I do not want to be away from Lorraine. There is not another doctor in this hospital.”

Eleanor looked at Felipe and said, “Thank you for being such a carrying and loving person.”

Felipe went and sat next to Lora.

Meredith attended to Spencer first thing that morning.

She helped him up.

She helped him wash himself and shave,

She helped hi feed himself.

Dennis check on Spencer that morning and gave him his full prescriptions.

Meredith was satisfied with Spencer’s turn around.

After three hours she left and went to Leon.

She spent time with Leon and helped him.

She visited Vivienne and Sally.

Meredith saw the plate from the train that Vivienne washed and placed in the dresser for Meredith.

Dr. Woodson and Dr. Ralph walked in the room and said, “We have good news Sally we are going to remove a lot of the bandages today.”

Vivienne was surprised and said, “Really.”

The nurses walked in with basins and new bandages.

Meredith looked back at Sally and smiled.

Meredith picked up the plate, fork and napkin and left.

She was thinking about how to get Felipe food at home. She can buy eggs and toast and oranges.

She never had to cook.

Whenever she ate it was the food at the house or she, Lorraine and Monica would go out and eat.

She cried all the way to the hospital about Lorraine.

Meredith drove up and Felipe peeped and saw it was Meredith.

She looked at her wiping her eyes.

He waited for a minute.

She sat and tried to practice a smile before getting out the carriage.

Felipe stood and walked outside and helped Meredith out the carriage.

He walked her inside.

She looked at Lora and speak to her.

Lora was so grieved she could hardly look up at Meredith.

Brenda said, “Meredith needs to be home.”

Eleanor looked at Meredith.

Meredith walked over to them and said, “Eleanor you look great. You look like royalty.”

Eleanor smiled and said, “Thank you. Meredith when are you going to stop working and sit down.?”

Meredith said, “When Leon and Spencer are released.”

Patrick said, “How are they?”

Meredith said, “Spencer is doing so much better since yesterday. They were not giving him any medication and did not have a doctor assigned to him. So I was the only person changing his bandages. Ryan and his father started giving Spencer his medicine just one last night and all of them this morning before I left. Spencer could have been gone home. I do not understand what was wrong.”

Felipe moved the carriage and sat back down by Lora.

The nurse ran out of Myriah’s room and yelled for the doctor.

Lora did not move but held her head.

Eleanor thought, “I am glad Felipe told me no.”

Felipe jumped and ran into Myriah’s room.

Shirley stood and walked to Lora and sat next to her and held her hand.

Meredith turned and walked into Lorraine’s room.

Alice walked in the lobby of the hotel.

Eleanor said, “I forgot to tell Alice where to meet me for lunch. I have the baby clothes in the carriage outside.”

Alice walked over with Ryan Jr and greeted everyone.

Ryan Jr waved and said, “Hello.”

Everyone grinned.

Eleanor said, “Alice I was so busy I did not message you to tell you where to meet me for lunch.

Alice smiled and said, “We can lunch another time.”

Eleanor said and saw the train’s cook and two of his assistants walking in.

They spoke to everyone and walked in the dining room.

The cook was in the back and walked out when he heard talking.

The train cook told the hospital’s cook to ask Dr. Wade.

Eleanor said, “Come and joined us here for lunch.

She stood and walked Alice into the dining room.

Patrick and Brenda walked in the dining room.

Shirley said, “You need something to eat. I am going to see what they have and bring you something. You won’t be any good to Myriah if you become sick.”

Shirley walked and stood in line.

Brenda looked back at Lora and said, “Shirley Ryan said because she has no food for several days she need something soft.”

Ryan Jr. looked back at Brenda and Shirley and said, “Daddy.”

Everybody laughed.

Alice said, “Can I have the lamb chop and apples?”

Eleanor got green beans and apples.

Shirley got tomato soup for Lora.

Shirley walked to Lora who was about to faint.

One of the nurses ran to Lora and fanned her.

The nurse looked at Shirley and said, “Feed her tat soup. There are no doctors here to help he. They told her to eat and drink.”

Shirley looked at the nurse.

Shirley looked at Brenda, because she thought the nurse was harsh.

Brenda did not say anything.

Shirley gave Lora the soup.

Lora sipped a few spoonfulls of soup.

The nurse looked at Lora and said, “Drink that soup so you can have some nourishment in your body.”

Shirley felt better at the nurse’s attitude.

Shirley went and got a thin slice of quiche and a thin slice of apple.

She walked back to Lora and ate it with great manners.

Ryan and Dr. Jim sped back to the hospital.

They walked in the lobby and saw Lora with the soup.

Ryan looked at her and looked at Shirley who was enjoying her meal.

Ryan and Dr. Jim went to check on Myriah.

Felipe came out and wand was walking over to check on Lorraine.

Meredith wimped and shook her head for no.

Felipe looked and saw lunch.

He pulled Meredith by her hand to the dining room and got in line.

Meredith got tomato soup.

Felipe wanted to tell her no.

Patrick looked at Felipe and turned his head.

Patrick learned never to complain about what Eleanor ate.

Felipe looked at Eleanor’s plate.

Eleanor looked at Felipe.

Felipe turned his head.

He got green beans, apples and breaded fried veal.

Felipe sat with a sad Meredith.

Ryan saw a little improvement in Myriah.

Finally, Myriah was sleep.

Lora was holding the soup bowl to her month and tuned her said, “Myriah is not crying.”

Ryan was at the nurses’ desk and looked at Lora and said, “The medicine is in her body. It took twenty four hours for it to start healing her body. She should sleep for the rest of the day. We will give her some tonight.”

Ryan looked at the soup bowl and said, “You need to eat and take a nap so you can be alert.”

Ryan Jr. yelled, “Daddy.”

The nurses looked at Ryan.

Ryan continued to write in Myriah’s chart.

Ryan finished and reached Myriah’s chart to the nurse.

He walked into the dining room and got beef stew and biscuits.

He went and took Ryan Jr from Alice.

He kissed Alice.

Ryan looked at Eleanor and said, “Whoa.”

Alice looked at Eleanor and grinned.

Ryan said, “That’s right Alice. You have something to be happy about.”

Ryan Jr. had the lamb chop in his hand.

Eleanor laughed.

Ryan sat with Patrick and Brenda and told them about his chase from the smallest hospital.

Monica walked in the hospital lobby.

She saw Shirley eating and enjoying her food.

Monica greeted everyone in the lobby.

Shirley recognized the voice and turned and looked.

Shirley waved to Monia and stood and said, “Hello Monica they are in here.”

Monica walked in the dining room and saw everyone eating.

The cook looked at Monica.

Patrick and Brenda looked at the cook.

The cook said, “Ma am what can I get for you?”

Monica was taking off her wrap and said, “I am fine thank you.”

Monica looked around and said, “How is Lorraine?”

Patrick said, “No change.”

Monica saw Meredith waving.

Monica said, “Hey precious.”

Ryan Jr said, “Hey.”

They all laughed.

Monica said, “Sir I think I do need something to warm me up.”

The cook said, “I get off at four pm.”

Ryan and Felipe hollered.

Monica looked at the cook and said, “May I have a half of bowl of soup.”

Monica took the bowl of soup and said, “Thank you.”

She passed Eleanor and Alice and said, “Good afternoon.”

She walked to Meredith and Felipe and said, “Hello I am not going to disturb your lunch. I am going to sit over here.”

Felipe looked at Meredith and said, “Ma am please sit with us.”

Felipe stood and pull out the chair.

Monica hesitantly sat with them.

Shirley walked in the dining room with an empty plate.

Meredith looked at Shirley and said, “Shirley is taller.”

Eleanor turned and looked hard at Shirley.

Patrick looked at Shirley and said, “Yeap she is going to be tall like me.”

Eleanor was overcomed with God’s goodness towards Shirley and her family.

Felipe said, “Meredith what can I get you to eat before I go back to Lorraine?”

Felipe stood.

Meredith smiled and said, “Nothing. I just had soup and it was filing.”

Felipe was upset and walked away.

Ryan looked at Felipe and said, “You better take something home for tonight.”

Felipe said, “Meredith ate soup. Tomato soup at that.”

Ryan slightly looked back.

The cook was looking back at Monica.

Patrick looked at the cook and said, “I got off at four. Give the doctor what he wants so he can see attend to Lorraine.”

The cook snickered.

Ryan giggle.

Ryan Jr. laughed.

Brenda peeped around at Ryan Jr and laughed.

She said, “He is enjoying lunch with his daddy.”

Dr. Jim and several nurses walked in the dining room and aske if there was any food left.

The cook looked at Felipe and served them the last veal, green beans and apples and biscuits.

They nurses sat with Dr. Jim and enjoyed the food.

The head nurse nodded at Brenda and said, “She wears the most simple but eloquent clothes.”

Eleanor heard the nurses and kept talking to Alice.

Eleanor said, “We are re\*naming the hospital tomorrow after Shirley.”

Alice smiled.

Eleanor said, “It will be the Shirley Stith Simmons Bone Medicine Hospital.”

Meredith grinned.

Meredith said, “Will there be food?”

Eleanor looked back for Felipe.

Meredith waved her hand at Eleanor.

Eleanor said, “Meredith he is right. You maybe satisfied but the baby has to eat to. Try eating a piece of fruit some time during the day.”

Alice said, “I ate so much I gained twenty pounds and I just got that off this year.”

Ryan was feeding Ryan Jr. and said, “Huh huh.”

Alice looked at Ryan.

Patrick said, “Ryan you don’t know any better than to talk about your wife’s weight or agree with her about her weight gain.”

Ryan looked at Patrick.

Ryan Jr. grabbed Ryan’s hand and tried to bring the spoon with stew to his mouth.

Everyone giggled.

Felipe was looking at Meredith.

The cook filled a bowl with stew and wrapped several biscuits in a napkin and gave it to Felipe.

Brenda said, “Ryan, Meredith tells us that Spencer is doing great.”

Ryan said, “He is much better. We are trying to get him well enough to leave before Christmas.”

Ryan Jr. looked at Ryan and said, “Toys.”

Patrick looked back at Alice.

Ryan looked back at Alice.

Eleanor looked at Alice then over at Ryan and Patrick.

She turned and kept talking to Alice.

Ryan said, “I don’t want him…”

He nodded at Ryan Jr.

Ryan continued, “to grow up thinking about stuff.”

Brenda said, “The grandparents will.”

Patrick said, “We had to stop Eleanor and Bruce from spending all of our money at Christmas. That no good son…”

Brenda grabbed Patrick’s arm.

Ryan said, “Baby.”

Patrick looked at Ryan Jr and smiled.

Ryan Jr said, “Baby.”

Patrick said, “That’s a good looking baby.”

Ryan said, “Thank you.”

Alice heard Patrick and smiled.

She leaned over and told Eleanor, “Ryan doesn’t want anymore children.”

Shirley was passing their table with another slice of apple and went and sat with Meredith and Monica and ate her apple.

Eleanor said, “I can understand why.”

Alice stared at Eleanor.

Felipe put his food in the corner.

He walked out and looked at Meredith.

Alice saw Felipe.

Meredith smiled at Felipe as he walked out.

She leaned over and told Monica, “Felipe wants me to eat more food.”

Monica looked at Meredith.

Eleanor looked back to see where Felipe was.

The cook said, “Do I need to bring any food here any more.”

Dr. Jim said, “Yes.”

The cook and his assistants laughed.

The cook said to his assistants, “Let’s go.”

Ryan smiled.

Brenda said, “No. We are released today. Do you have all you need for the reception tomorrow at the hospital?”

The cook said, “Yes ma am. I checked with the restaurant owner on the way here. He is catering for fifty people.”

Eleanor was talking to Alice and heard fifty.

She jumped up and said, “Fifty people?”

She walked over to the cook and looked back at Shirley and said, “Shirley did you change the number of people to fifty?”

Shirley said, “Yes momma?”

Eleanor said, “Why. With us and the staff from the hospital and you invited all of those esteemed educators today.”

Shirley said, “I did not think we needed that much food.”

Eleanor said, “I rather have more than enough than not to have enough.”

Patrick and Brenda looked back at Shirley.

Eleanor was getting angry, “Everybody does not eat like her. I won’t never forget the grand opening of the capitol rail station where we ran out of food.”

Patrick said, “That was embarrassing Eleanor.”

Ryan snickered.

Shirley stood and walked over to Eleanor.

Eleanor said, “Whatever is left the hospital can keep or people can take with them.”

Shirley said to the cook, “Can you make enough reception food for seventy five people?”

The cook looked at Eleanor and said, “Now I have these workers help me to get that amount of food.”

Dr. Jim and the nurses were listening.

Eleanor said, “No make it for a hundred people.”

The cook said, “The punch, tea and hot apple cider is fine. I will bake two large cakes. My assistant is great decorating cakes, what do you want on the cakes?”

Eleanor looked around for a pen.

Patrick reached in his chest pocket and got a pen.

Brenda reached in her skirt pocket and got her note pad.

Alice noticed how they always carried pen and paper.

Eleanor turned and wrote what she wanted on the cakes and said, “What color Shirley?”

Shirley stood and everyone looked at her.

Shirley grinned and said, “Sweet pea colors.”

The decorator said, “My mother’s favorite.”

Shirley grinned at the decorator.

The cook said, “I was going to bake a hundred cookies I will bake two hundred cookies and yes make coffee. I ill stop and see if the cater can double his order. I understand it is to be finger sandwiches and sliced pork and greens.”

Brenda sat.

Eleanor was speechless.

Patrick looked at the cook and said, “What is that?”

Shirley was about to cry.

Brenda said, “Shirley stop. This is your first event. We are here to help you, that is what we are doing.”

The cook said, “I don’t know. I will see.”

Brenda said, “Do you have about ten chickens, grapes, apples and walnuts?”

The cook said, “We are getting the food today. I will check when I get back. We should have all of that.”

Brenda said, “I can make chicken salad. Ten chickens will be enough for fifty people. Is there round bread there?”

The cook looked at his assistants.

One of them said, “Yes ma am.”

They looked at Eleanor.

Eleanor said, “I don’t cook.”

Brenda said, “Monica?”

Monica stood and walked over to Brenda and said, “Yes ma am.”

Brenda said, “I need your help this evening. I don’t want to leave Lorraine, but I need to make this chicken salad and I need you to help me cut up everything.”

The cook said, “I want you to stay with Lorraine.”

Ryan looked at the fresh cook.

The cook said, “I’ll stop by the caterer and see what this pork and greens are. Do you want me to make the decision to have it or not?”

Eleanor jumped and said, “Yes.”

The cook said, “We can put the chickens on and boiled them and chop everything up. You would have to stir t everything together. Tell them how thick or cubes and straight the vegetables. What about beef soup?”

Dr. Jim said, “Sure.”

Ryan laughed.

The cook said, “I love French onion. I can make that in no time.”

Brenda said, “You do the beverages and sweets and soups. I will make my chicken salad and cut up bread. Monica.”

Monica said, “Ma am?”

The cook smiled at Monica.

Ryan snickered and held his head down and was talking to Ryan Jr.

Patrick looked at the cook.

Eleanor said, “Mabel is coming in the morning and decorating the table and bring the name plate I ordered.”

Shirley stared at Eleanor.

Eleanor looked at Eleanor and said, “Momma.”

Eleanor looked at Shirley and thought, “This is a simple reception and she is making it hard.”

Eleanor said, “yes Shirley.”

Patrick and Brenda looked at Shirley.

Ryan Jr said, “Yes.”

Shirley stared at Eleanor.

The cook looked at Shirley.

His assistants looked at Shirley.

Monica stepped back and looked at Shirley.

Shirley said, “I don’t want the hospital name Stith Simmons.”

Eleanor said, “Too late. The paper work says that.”

Shirley said, “I’ll close it.”

Dr. Jim looked.

Ryan held up his head and looked at Shirley.

Patrick blinked and turned his head.

Brenda said, “Shirley what name do you want it to say?”

Shirley said, “I hate daddy and his family. I don’t want their name tied to anything that is good.”

Elanor stumbled backwards.

Ryan looked at Eleanor.

Meredith and Alice listened.

Shirley said, “I want the name to be The Stiths Bone Medicine Hospital.”

Patrick leaned forward and looked at Shirley and said, “Shirley are you sure?”

Shirley looked at him and said, “Yes Grandpa. You and grandma are who I know.”

Brenda said, “Now Shirley, we and got you and your momma from them and brought you to our house and forbid them from coming to our home to see you.”

Shirley said, “While I was in the hospitals they did not come. When daddy brought me here they did not come.”

Brenda looked at Eleanor.

Eleanor was saying nothing.

Patrick said, “Shirley, go and get your coat and lets go to the clerk’s office. You have to sign all the papers. Why did you wait so long Shirley?”

Ryan looked at Shirley.

Shirley said, “I was hoping I could remember some where his family showed care for me not even love. I wanted something good to come to my memory.”

Patrick was getting up out of his seat and said, “Nall. I could have told you that.

Shirley ran to the lobby and picked up her coat, scarf and gloves.

Eleanor stood by the cook.

Patrick patted Eleanor on her shoulder and said, “You and your momma bring this special reception together.”

Patrick picked up his coat and gloves and walked out the door with Shirley.

Eleanor thought and turned and ran behind them.

She came back in with a large bag.

Ryan looked up and knew what it was.

Monica went and helped Eleanor.

One the assistants said, “What are we cooking?”

The cook said, “Chickens.”

They laughed and walked out the dining room.

The cook walked out and looked and saw everyone was eating.

Eleanor and Alice started going through the boy’s outfit.

Eleanor was laughing and telling Alice when she got the outfits.

Ryan looked back and said, ”She remembers when she bought those clothes?”

Brenda said, “Yes.”

Brenda looked back at Monica who was sitting with Meredith and said, “Monica you and Eleanor come here.”

Eleanor looked at Brenda and she and Monica stood and walked over to Brenda.

Brenda said, “Monica . me and Mr. Stith are released from the hospital. We will leave on Wednesday to go home. Shirley will need help to stay in her apartment for two weeks. She doesn’t want to be at her father’s hotel. I will pay you to stay here with Shirley for the next two weeks. And you can come back with her. What she will need is hot bath water in the morning, two hot meals daily. Coal on the fire and clean linen everyday. She hates soiled linen, because when she was sick. She would soil her linens and we changed them all through the day.”

Eleanor said, “Monica you would have no expenses. Shirley has two bedrooms. One was Lorraine, she has her own budget for rent, coal, fuel, water and carriage. You get her up and help her dress and comb her hair and out to school. You are free for the rest of the day. You can visit Lorraine. I hate to leave her here. Bryson said to bring Lorraine home and he would see after her.”

Ryan said, “That’s the former governor?” He’s a doctor?”

Eleanor said, “Yes.”

She looked at Monica and said, “Jose said he paid you thirty dollars. I will give you thirty dollars a week for these two weeks.”

Eleanor rubbed her eyes and said, “Lorraine. Lorraine.”

Brenda said, “Eleanor let’s try to keep our mind on business. We can’t do anything but pray. I believe GOD heard our prayers for Lorraine.”

Monica shook her head and cried.

Eleanor said, “Monica, I am sorry.”

Ryan looked at Monica.

He told Ryan Jr. “No more stew.”

Ryan Jr. looked in the bowl and said, “No more.”

Brenda grinned at Ryan Jr.

Ryan Jr. fell back and hollered.

He scared Ryan.

Alice looked at Ryan and kept looking at the outfits Eleanor brought for the baby. She brought different sizes so he had some to grow in.

Ryan said, “Stop.”

The nurses were talking to Dr. Jim and saying Eleanor was to marry a count a couple of hours before the ceremony he died.

Dr. Jim looked at Eleanor.

He said, “She is dressed like royalty.”

Ryan looked back at them because they were talking loud.

Ryan said, “I need to talk to the former governor. Will he be at the ceremony tomorrow?”

Eleanor said, “They may.”

Dr. Jim said, “I am going to that ceremony tomorrow.”

The head nurse said, “Bring us lunch back. No Dr. Jim.”

Another nurse said, “Why not?”

The head nurse said, “We are going to get use to this. And they will be gone and we have to learn to start fending for ourselves.”

They all laughed.

Monica said, “Yes I will stay with Shirley for two weeks. I can stay with Lorraine until Shirley gets home. Eleanor do you think I can stay in Shirley’s apartment until she comes back from holiday?”

Eleanor said, “You have to ask Shirley.”

Eleanor said, “I’ll feel better that someone is here with Lorraine. She bought her dress to wear for Christmas.”

Eleanor turned and walked out the dining room.

Ryan looked at Eleanor and was trying to stop Ryan Jr from falling out.

Ryan stood and waked to Alice.

Alice was putting the outfits up.

She looked at Ryan Jr. and said, “Stop Ryan Jr.”

He stopped.

Ryan stared at him.

Ryan said, “You take him. I’ll take the clothes that you are not going to suggest again. Right Alice?

Alice did not say anything.

She put on Ryan Jr.’s hat and coat.

She stood and put on her coat and gloves.

She said, “Bye Meredith.”

Alice looked at a sad Monica and said, “Nice to meet you Monica.”

Monica looked at Alice and smiled and nodded and said, “Likewise.”

Ryan walked out with Alice holding Ryan Jr.

Brenda was sitting and watching.

Ryan Jr. waved at Brenda.

Brenda waved at Ryan Jr.

Alice looked around and said, Ryan where is Eleanor? I want to say thank you.”

Ryan looked in the lobby and did not see Eleanor.

He said, Alice go straight home. You and Ryan Jr. had your outing for today. There are evil people about and anyone who looks like that got a penny. They are attacking. Do you understand?”

Alice showed Ryan her bag. She had a gun in it.

Ryan was holding the door for her and Ryan Jr.

Alice said, “Your daddy and momma gave it to me this morning. I know how to shoot because I was raised on a farm.”

Ryan said, “Look out for…”

Alice said, “The double horseshoe symbol.”

Ryan walked her and Ryan Jr. to the carriage and put the bag of clothes in it.

He stood and looked for Eleanor.

Alice looked and said, “You don’t see Eleanor?”

Ryan said, “No.”

Alice looked and saw Eleanor walking back from the side of the hospital.

Ryan said, “That ds the one that hasn’t realized she is not free anymore.”

Alice said, “What are you saying Ryan?”

Ryan looked at Alice like she was stupid.

He said, “Alice the Stiths, especially Eleanor is one of the hundred richest families of the world. People will always be after them to steal from them and marry into their family or try to take over their businesses.”

Alice looked at Eleanor.

Ryan said, “I decided I don’t want to be rich, to keep you and Ryan Jr. safe.”

Alice said, “Don’t mind that. We will be safe.”

She walked from Ryan to Eleanor and hugged her and thank her for the clothes.

She turned and walked back to Ryan who was trying to figure out what Alice was saying.

Eleanor walked into the hospital.

Alice said, “Ryan I want to start back working after the holidays. Love you.”

She pulled away with Ryan Jr. sleep in the back of the carriage.

Ryan said, “I don’t think so. You are still crazy.”

He watched them out of sight.

Ryan walked back into the hospital.

He looked at Lora who fell back on the sofa and was sleep.

She had Morgan’s three blankets over her and covered her face.

Eleanor was sitting on the other sofa.

Brenda was walking out the dining room.

She told the cook the bowl and biscuits belonged to Dr. Felipe.

He nodded at her.

Meredith and Monica sat and talked for a long time.

Dr. Jim and the nurses walked out and return to their workstations.

The other three doctors and the nurses were returning to the hospital from the meeting at the main hospital.

Ryan went in to Myriah.

He checked her and looked at her test results.

Dr. Jim walked in Myriah’s room and looked at her.

He and Ryan went over her tests results.

They decided to add some additional medications to her IV.

Dr. Jim went to the locked medicine cabinet and got the doses and put the medicine back and locked the cabinet

He returned to Myriah’s room and added the medicine to her IV.

He and Ryan started timing her.

Dr. Jim and Ryan checked on the other patients in the lobby.

They went upstairs and meet with the other three doctors and completed their rounds for that day.

Felipe walked from Lorraine’s room and into the lobby.

Ryan was leaning over the rail looking at Felipe in case he had information about Lorraine.

Felipe looked around the lobby and did not see Meredith.

He walked into the dining room and saw she and Monica talking.

He smiled and went and sat on the other end of the sofa with Lora.

Brenda said, “There is not enough seating in here. They brought extra sofas out a few days ago.”

Eleanor said, “I like how the lobby is set up. Have this as the emergency room area and move everyone up to the next floor after surgery or whatever.”

Brenda said, “I kind of like having all the hospital as one level and a suite for the doctors and nurses to sleep. You have to have the laundry, kitchen, custodians and grounds keepers, and the bookkeepers.”

Eleanor said, “Don’t forget the laboratory.”

Brenda said, “Thank GOD it is next to the military headquarters.”

Eleanor said, “Huh. How did it end up there?”

Brenda laughed at Eleanor.

They held each other hands and talked.

Ryan was looking at them.

He could only think, “All that money. All that danger.”

He thought about Alice.

Alice was pulling in their backyard with Ryan Jr.

The butler walked out and helped her out the carriage.

He gave her Ryan Jr. and he picked up the bag of clothes.

Alice prayed all the way home.

She thank God for her husband and his family.

She wanted to go back to work, if she had to use all of pay to pay for a sitter she would do so.

Alice said, “I have to use my mind for something complex instead of Ryan Jr.’s bedtime or diaper changing or his play time.

Ryan was thinking about what he thought Alice meant, was that she wanted money. Forget the danger.

He looked across lobby at Lora and how poor she is.

He looked underneath him and saw two of the richest women in the country and how generous they are. The more they give the more they get and they are not afraid of the constant danger because they are doing things to help mankind.

Ryan was thinking.

Patrick and Shirley were walking back in the lobby.

They looked at Lora and walked to Eleanor and Brenda.

Felipe cracked his eyes at them and closed his eyes again.

Shirley said, “I told grandpa I was to be in class today and tomorrow.”

Eleanor and Brenda looked at Shirley then Patrick.

Patrick was pulling off his coat.

He said, “Don’t look at me. She is a grown woman and has her own businesses.”

Shirley looked at Patrick.

She said, “OH. I changed the hospital’s name on all the records to The Stith Bone Medicine Hospital.”

Eleanor said, “That would be a second hospital at home.”

Brenda said, “That is right.”

She looked at Patrick who was sitting next to her.

The nurse opened Lorraine’s door and yelled, “Dr. Felipe.”

Shirley was about to sit.

She ran into the room.

Ryan ran down the stairs.

Eleanor was too scared to move.

Brenda was scared.

Monica heard them and saw Felipe running.

She said, “Meredith. Lorraine.”

They jumped and ran out the dining room to Lorraine’s room.

Monica saw a scared Eleanor, Brenda and Patrick.

She stayed with them.

Shirley ran to Lorraine and grabbed her hand.

Lorraine squeezed her hand,

Shirley started grinning.

Ryan looked at Shirley’s big grin.

He looked at Lorraine.

He moved Shirley out of the way of his way.

He and Felipe started checking Lorraine.

Shirley was at the foot of Lorraine’s bed and had her hands to her mouth.

Shirley was praying Lorraine was coming out and would be back home with them for the holidays.

The nurses were running.

Shirley backed up to the wall next to Meredith.

They held each other hand.

Ryan looked at Felipe.

Shirley and Meredith did not know what the look meant.

Ryan said, “Welcome back Lorraine.”

He stood and walked to Meredith and Shirley.

He said nothing the two looking up at him.

He escorted them out the room to Patrick and Brenda.

Eleanor nervously stood, Brenda remained seated, Patrick looked at Brenda.

Monica was breathing fast.

Ryan said, “Lorraine responded to

the shot.”

Meredith turned and looked at Ryan.

Felipe walked out Lorraine’s room.

The nurses were watching.

Patrick looked at everyone else and said, “Ryan what does that mean?”

Ryan said, “The medicine is working. Eleanor fell on the sofa.

Ryan looked at her and said, “I don’t know how long it will take for us to see better results. We can’t give her anymore for the next twenty four hours. I will give her the shot about nine thirty in the morning. She may show some more results after we get back from the ceremony.”

Shirley went and sat with Lora.

Brenda shook herself.

Patrick breathed out.

Monica was sick.

Patrick, Brenda, Eleanor and Monica left and went to the train.

Shirley said she would stay with Lorraine that night and send the carriage back for her at seven and have her hot bath water ready.

Monica said, “Can we stop and Vivienne?”

Meredith said, “I am leaving now I will stop and tell her.”

Felipe said, “Meredith please go home after that and take my stew and biscuits.”

He went into the dining room and got his food and walked with her to the carriage.

Meredith went to the bone hospital and told Vivienne that Lorraine was responding to the shot.

Dr. Ralph and Dr. Greene were standing at the nurse’s desk and head Meredith.

Dr. Greene looked at Dr. Ralph.

Dr. Ralph held his head down and said, “Thank You God.”

Meredith walked and checked on Leon.

She sat and talked to him about thirty minutes.

Felipe was on his horse and saw her carriage.

He knew he better not say anything but continued home.

Meredith left was riding behind Felipe.

She saw him and grinned.

He looked back and saw her.

He loved her grin.

He grinned back and continued home.

She pulled in their yard.

Felipe immediately feed and water the horses.

Meredith took his food in the house.

She started the fire in the fireplace and put his food on the tray that Al showed her and she was heating his stew.

Meredith could not move the pail of water to the stove.

She thought, “Oh God I don’t want to have the baby now. Give me a week or two. Please. In JESUS’ name.”

Felipe was bringing the water in the house for tomorrow he saw Meredith standing in the floor.

He knew something was wrong.

He carried her to the cold bedroom and examined her.

He could not tell anything.

He asked he what she was doing?”

He looked around the house.

Meredith said, “I tried to pick up the water pail and put it on the stove.”

Felipe said, “Don’t move again. I will not lose you and my baby Meredith. I told that over and over.”

Felipe was angry.

He pulled off her coat and hat and gloves and boots.

Meredith knew he was angry.

Felipe walked out the room.

Meredith said, “Thank you.”

Felipe kept walking.

He brought a full bucket of coal.

He filed the stove and made a fire in the furnace and filled the furnace.

He went back outside and filled the coal bucket again.

He stood and looked at the horses and shook his head and said, “Why?”

He carried the full bucket in the house.

The house started to get stop freezing.

He locked the door and pulled off his coat, hat, scarves and gloves.

He washed his face and hands.

He sat in the sitting room and looked at the tray Al had made to heat food in the fireplace.

He looked at his stew.

He stood and went into the kitchen and got a spoon and went back and sat in the sitting room.

He stared into the fire for a longtime.

Meredith was scared and would not say anything to Felipe.

She did not want him to leave her and the baby.

She turned her back to the door and quietly cried.

Felipe heard her.

He was not moved by Meredith’s crying. He told her he would that work. She was too frail and thin to do that work.

Meredith fell asleep.

Felipe was thinking about that terrible night fifteen years ago that both his loves died one after another.

He existed each day with that deadly reminder.

He did not know how he made it.

But Meredith helped him to live again and now she is acting like she can do this hard work.

Felipe said, “I already told Dennis to pay me. I can use that money to hire a housekeeper. I have to give him time to straighten out that mess in his hospitals.”

He put some stew in his mouth and begin to chew it.

He looked down at the stew and said, “Good stew.”

After about an hour he put the bowl and spoon in the kitchen.

He walked back into the sunken sitting room and looked up at the many books Al collected. He saw a book and pulled the ladder and reached it.

He sat and pulled Meredith’s blanket on him and read for another hour.

He curled up on the sofa and slept until daybreak.

He got off the sofa and onto his knees.

He prayed.

He felted rested.

He started the fire in the stove last night so the water could be warm the next morning.

Felipe washed the bowl and spoon and put them in the napkin.

He started a half pot of coffee and washed and shaved.

He went into the bedroom and dressed.

He sat on the side of the bed with Meredith and checked her vitals.

Felipe was glad she was not dead.

He made her a boil egg and gave her a biscuit from last night.

Meredith sat up in the bed and knew she better eat the egg and biscuit.

Felipe drank his black coffee and ate two boiled eggs.

He just looked at Meredith.

Meredith said, “I wanted to help you Felipe.”

Felipe said, “I know. That is not an excuse for doing what I told you not to. Meredith this hard headiness must stop.”

Meredith saw her husband had a mean side.

She ate in silence and laid her head down on the pillow.

Felipe finished dressing and put washed his coffee cup.

He made Meredith her wash water and took the basin in the washroom.

He said, “Meredith, “I gave you something to eat and made your wash water. Anything else?”

Meredith said, “My horses and carriage.”

She knew Felipe had forgotten.

Felipe walked out the house and went and hooked up her horses and her carriage.

Felipe was embarrassed.

He left and went to work.

He checked on Spencer.

Spencer was just waking.

Felipe told him he was Meredith’s husband.

Felipe said she would deliver their baby soon and he was holding her up.

They laughed.

Felipe was looking over Spencer’s chart and said, “Spencer I am impressed with your healing.”

He said, “Meredith will be here sometime today to check on you.”

Felipe left and went to the south hospital.

He arrived in time when Ryan made up the shot and gave it to Lorraine.

Shirley left and went to the train and bathed and changed clothes.

She looked very high style with her daily pearl earrings on.

Eleanor was dressed countess style.

Patrick and Brenda were dressed old money style.

Monica had on her other uniform.

She has happy Lorraine was responding and wanted her to improve so they could go home.

She thought about Meredith having her first child with a foreign husband and having no family.

Monica said, “What am I talking about none of us have families.”

She decided to give Vivienne twenty dollars, because she knew she did not have any money and she wanted her to give Charles and Sally something for Christmas.

Mabel and Aunt Beverly were at the bone hospital early that morning.

They decorated the front of the building within a few minutes with the ribbon.

They decorated the long table and the shorter table.

Shirley asked Patrick, Brenda and Eleanor when she talk to Dr. Woodson about the money.

They told her to wait until the next day.

Shirley said, “I have to go to class.”

Eleanor said, “Shirley, do not let bad business ruin a great event, You just have the money ready to pay Hutch and if you want to give the staff their Christmas bonus tomorrow you can do so. Or you can wait and give the staff their Christmas bonus when you get ready to come home for Christmas.”

Shirley said, “Momma, that is too much. You heard the dean say the I have to turn in those papers for each class. That is a lot of work for two weeks. You all will be catching the ten am train back home?”

Patrick said, “Yes.”

Benda said, “We will go to the hospital around eight am to visit Leon. That way you and Eleanor can resolve this business about the money.”

Eleanor said, “Momma, this is Shirley’s hospital. It is her business. She needs to learn how to resolve stealing in her business.”

Brenda said, “It involves someone who was a friend.”

Shirley said, “Grandma, you said ‘was’. That’s what I have a problem with.”

Patrick said, “Shirley, this is life. You will find out that many people will become your friend to use you, your money or name for their benefit. There are people we recently found out were not our true friends, but they were friends to receive any benefit they could get from us. For years we thought these people were our friends. It hurts at this age. But you have to let them go. They will be fine. You have to think about what was wrong with you that you did not see earlier or want to believe what you were seeing. Shirley began now to ask GOD to remove all people who are not your friends and not to let them come to you. Ask GOD for the gift of discerning of the spirit. It is for your benefit. Start now you will miss some but it won’t hurt so bad.”

They completed eating breakfast.

Monica rode to the hospital a little earlier with the cook and his assistants.

They arrived at the hospital and et up the tables with the food.

The cook knew how to make a beautiful presentation of the food.

Monica heard Sally screaming.

The cook and his assistants stopped and looked.

They saw the staff and patients acting like nothing was wrong.

The cook and his assistants hurried and set the tables.

They covered the tables and ran outside.

Dr. Greene turned and looked at the cook and his assistants.

Mabel and Beverly were already sitting outside in their carriage with Al.

They were covered up in blankets.

Beverly wanted to leave and come back.

Al told her no and they were staying.

Beverly said, “Al you are a doctor. You are used to this.”

Al said, “Look at Mabel she used to work here and she is fine.”

Beverly turned around and looked at Mabel.

Mabel looked at Beverly.

Beverly turned back to Al and said, “Mabel blocked out the scream of the patients.”

Mabel was still looking at Beverly.

Beverly said, “Didn’t you Mabel?”

Mabel said, “What?”

Beverly said, “Block out the screams and pain of the patients.”
Mabel said, “I am a slave. I did it all the time especially with babies and children. It was gut wrenching.”

Mabel looked out the carriage, “Especially when you knew the slave masters loved to hear the pain. You could not save them.”

Al turned and looked at Mabel.

Mabel said, “Excuse me.”

Al stepped out the carriage and helped Mabel out.

Mabel said, “I wonder what is going to happen to me. Will my mind ever be free.”

Al looked at Mabel.

Beverly touched her chest.

She thought about those slaves she, Eleanor, Patrick and Al took to college and whether they could ever for a moment live and have peace from their memories.

Al looked at Beverly.

Beverly reached over and touched his arm.

She looked at him and realized he had on the ugly suit.

They started arguing.

Beverly said, “Al I hate that suit. Why did you wear that one?”

Al said, “I like it Beverly.”

Beverly said, “That’s the photographer. You stand behind everybody to hide that suit.”

Al said, “No. I like this suit.”

Beverly said, “But it is ugly. Al.”

The cooks and his assistants heard them arguing.

They were watching the young black woman who was walking and messing with the flowers.

She was talking to herself as she was stooping over.

Monica went in the back of the hospital to the kitchen and sat down.

The workers looked at her.

She said, “Good morning.”

Monica pointed outside.

They nodded their heads.

One of the dish washers said, “It takes getting use. But they all get better and leave.”

Monica tried to smile.

Beverly was helping Mabel to dress.

Mabel had a great eye for color and matching things up.

Dr. Woodson was in the hospital administrator’s office looking out the window at Mabel tending to the flowers and talking to herself.

He wondered if she and the other slaves will ever be free of the memories that were tormenting them.

He knew he could only help the flesh if they came to him.

Debra was looking over the records for the medicine Dr. Woodson ordered.

She did not put the order in.

Dr. Woodson looked at her and said, “Debra we are out of that medicine for the patients. I need you to order it and go and get it today.”

Dr. Greene was standing at the nurses’ desk listening.

Nurse Sharon and the other nurse turned around and listened.

They watched an angry Dr. Woodson leave the office.

They rarely saw Dr. Woodson or any of the doctors angry.

They knew it was serious.

Debra sent a telegram to the medical supply merchant.

They had the medicine.

He heard Dr. Woodson’s voice, it was full of angry.

Dr. Woodson walked out the office and closed the door.

He did not look at Tony.

Tony looked at Dr. Woodson and continued to review his chart.

Dr. Woodson went to the other side and finished and helped Dr. Ralph finish with Sally.

They doctors were trying to get to the loud screamers first that morning before the guests arrived.

Leon’s room was closest to the hospital’s administrator’s door and he heard Dr. Woodson’s angry.

Leon thought, “I hope he is not coming to me next.”

Leon said, “GOD I thank YOU for helping me. I wish I could become a doctor. I would work here. Not too many doctors can do what they do. I can move.”

Meredith was leaving the main hospital from attending to Spencer.

She helped him wash and shave and change nightshirts.

Spencer ate a little oatmeal and fruit and drank coffee.

Meredith smiled.

Spencer said, “Your smile means everything.”

Dr. Wade walked in and checked Spencer.

Meredith was standing back waiting.

Dr. Wade cleaned Spencer’s wound and said, “In a few days this wound is healing and closing. Great Spencer.”

Spencer winked at Meredith.

Dr. Wade looked back at Meredith and said, “She is a very good nurse.”

Spencer said, “Doctor.”

Dr. Wade looked at Spencer and said, “That is a good thought Spencer.”

Dennis was walking out the room and stopped at Meredith and said, “Think about it Meredith. It is a hard education, but you have the background already and you can work here.”

Meredith’s mouth dropped open and she could not think.

Spencer laughed.

Meredith left and rode the hour to the bone hospital to attend to Leon and be there for the re-naming ceremony.

Dr. Greene ordered a plaque to put on Sally’s room door for the re-naming ceremony.

He saw Debra with her coat and gloves on leaving to go and get the medicine.

Dr. Greene rushed to Debra and said, “Debra where is the plaque to put on the door.”

He pointed back to Shirley’s room.

Dr. Woodson was staring at Debra.

Debra was nervous and said, “Tony I’ll order it. I was busy.”
Tony looked at Debra as she walked out the door.

Dr. Ralph was happy.

Meredith said Lorraine was responding to the medication.

Dr. Ralph planned to go and spend the night at the hospital with Lorraine.

He had his blankets and pillow ready.

Dr. Ralph looked at an angry Dr. Woodson and said, “let’s finish this side before the ceremony.”

Dr. Woodson and Dr. Ralph looked at a frozen Dr. Greene.

Dr. Greene was looking out the door as Debra left to go across town to get the medicine.

She was walking out the hospital.

While Patrick pulled into the hospital.

Brenda looked and saw Mabel walking out in the gardens talking to herself.

Brenda watched her.

Patrick saw Beverly and Al.

They heard them fussing before they got to them.

Brenda said, “My LORD what are they fussing about first thing this morning?”

Eleanor and Shirley were seated in the back of the carriage peeping at their aunt and uncle fuss.

Al stepped out the wagon to greet them.

Patrick said, “The suit.”

Brenda looked at the suit and her mouth dropped open.

Patrick looked at Brenda and said, “Don’t you say a word.”

Brenda looked at Patrick and said, “It is ugly.”

Eleanor and Shirley snickered.

Patrick said, “Brenda.”

Al walked to their carriage and said, “Good morning.”

Patrick stepped out the carriage as Debra was passing them.

Patrick looked at her.

He looked at Al and said, “Good morning. You all are here early.”

Al said, “Beverly and Mabel added a few touches to the decorations.

Brenda heard the name ‘Mabel’ that caused her to grin because Mabel had a good eye for flowers.

Patrick walked around and helped Brenda out of the carriage and then Shirley.

Al helped Eleanor out the carriage.

Al looked at how Eleanor was dressed and he said, “All of you are dressed like money.”

He laughed and said, “You are money.”

They all laughed.

Brenda looked at Beverly huffing in their carriage.

She slightly shook Patrick’s hand.

Patrick looked at Beverly and said, “Al, you need to help Beverly out the carriage.”

Al looked back at Beverly and said, “She can get out.”

Brenda walked to the carriage.

Shirley grinned and said, “Good morning Aunt Bev.”

Beverly smiled and said, “Good morning Shirley. You look beautiful and holiday festive.”

Brenda shook her head.

Because all Shirley thinks about is Skip and her clothes.

Shirley giggled and said, “Thank You.”

Eleanor and Al were walking to the hospital’s entrance.

Eleanor looked at Beverly and said, “Good morning. Beautiful floral arrangement.”

Brenda looked towards the hospital and saw the floral arrangements on each side of the door and smiled.

She looked back at Mabel.

Patrick helped Beverly out the carriage.

Beverly said, “A gentleman.”

Al did not turn around and waved his hand at Beverly.

Beverly rolled her eyes at Al.

Brenda and Beverly hugged.

Patrick saw the cook and his assistants sitting in the wagon wrapped in blankets.

Brenda and Beverly walked to Mabel.

Shirley was walked to the front of the hospital and looked up at the name on the hospital.

She grinned.

Patrick walked and stood next to Shirley and looked up at the name on the building.

He said, “Someone had a vision a decade ago to help people with bone and muscle problems. They trained a handful of doctors who left and went across this country to as many as they could.”

Patrick turned to Shirley and said, “Shirley.”

Shirley looked at Patrick.

He said, “Let the hospital remain a place where doctors can come and learn and take what the doctors here teach them back to the world.”

Shirley said, “Grandpa how do I do that. I want it to remain small and for doctors to come here and learn like Hutch, Charles and Felipe.”

Patrick turned and looked at Shirley and said, “You are going to have to put your money into this hospital and you all hospital at home. Your brothers have they said they want both hospitals. Especially Percy because Star came here.”

Shirley stared at Patrick.

She looked back at Brenda.

Brenda and Beverly were talking to Mabel and they were walking back to the hospital’s entrance.

Patrick said, “Shirley I know you love money. If you marry Skip, he has none because he is a soldier. You have your house and jewelry. You can live. But above all Shirley, you will be fulfilling GOD’s will for your life.”

Shirley looked at Patrick.

Patrick smiled and said, “Yes Shirley GOD’s a plan and purpose for your life. HE will not away all the money HE gave you. But HE will watch and see if you are being wise and helping others. Your children will be honorable and work. GOD will honor HIS word. HE will bless your generations to come.”

Shirley looked from Patrick to the hospital’s building.

She grinned and starred at the building.

A carriage arrived.

The president of the college and the dean and their wives.

The president of the college wife was not happy.

Patrick said, “Shirley who are those?”

Shirley said, “I did not know they were actually going to come.”

Patrick said, “Who Shirley?”

Shirley said, “The president of the college and the dean of the college.”

The president pulled over by the freezing cook and his assistants.

The caterer and his wagon and assistants pulled up and immediately started unloading their food.

Patrick took out his pocket watch and stared at them.

The caterer nodded his head at Patrick.

The president saw Patrick’s sternness.

He helped his wife out the carriage.

The dean saw the three black women walking from the gardens.

He knew the very wealthy dressed had to Mrs. Stith.

The president and the dean nodded at Patrick and Shirley.

Shirley flashed her beautiful grin.

Brenda, Beverly and Mabel stopped and greeted the president and the dean.

Beverly saw them arrived.

She knew the president from a seminar she and Al went to.

Dr. Greene looked outside and saw the president of the college.

He walked to Dr. Woodson and Dr. Ralph and said, “We have some dignitaries arriving.”

Dr. Woodson looked at Dr. Greene.

Dr. Greene said, “Dr. Ralph, the president of your college.”

Dr. Ralph looked up and looked back at his chart and continue to write.

Meredith was thinking about being a doctor all the way to the bone hospital.

She rode into the yard of the hospital.

Mabel made it look grand for the ceremony.

Brenda and Beverly looked at Meredith.

Meredith pulled her carriage around the back and to allow the guests to park around the front.

Dennis and Beverly arrived.

Brenda was surprised.

But she was getting to know Beverly will not let an opportunity to pass her for a dree up day.

Alice and Ryan Jr, were in the back of the carriage.

Dennis stepped out the carriage and helped Beverly, Alice and Ryan Jr. out.

Dennis walked over to the president and greeted him and the dean of the college and their wives.

Beverly ran to Brenda and greeted her.

Ryan Jr. waved at everybody and said, “Hey.”

Brenda grinned.

Beverly and Brenda waved and said, “Hey Ryan Jr.”

Hutch had just woke and washed and shaved.

He dressed and walked to the lobby and saw Dennis and the other people.

Charles looked walking and he was walking to the hospital from around the corner from the hotel Eleanor established for her railroad workers.

He greeted everyone and walked into the hospital’s lobby.

He went into the back and put up his coat and gloves.

He got a cup of coffee and went to see Vivienne.

Sally was mad and yelled, “Leave!”

They heard her outside,

Vivienne said, “Apologize.”

Sally yelled, “I hurt!”

Charles mouthed, “Good.”

Sally looked at Vivienne.

Vivienne said, “I mean it Sally”

Sally yelled. “I’m sorry.”

The president laughed and said, “That sounds like my Laura.”

They all smiled.

Charles looked around and said, “We may have to close this door.”

Vivienne laughed.

Sally looked at Charles.

Patrick touched Shirley’s arm.

Shirley looked at Patrick.

Patrick said, “Let’s go to them so we can go inside for a minute.”

The cook and his assistants went inside to see what the caterer was doing.

The cook was angry.

Eleanor looked at the cook.

The cook had to re-arrange the tables from the caterer.

Meredith walked pass the group of dignitaries and spoke.

Felipe, Ryan and Dr. Jim rode up.

Meredith stopped and grinned.

The president’s wife and the dean’s wife watched Meredith to see which man she was smiling at.

Ryan Jr. looked and waved and said, “Hey daddy.”

Ryan jumped off the horse and walked to Ryan Jr. and picked him up.

He said, “It’s cold out here.”

Ryan Jr. said, “Cold.”

Ryan spoke to everyone.

Dennis introduced Felipe and Dr. Jim to the president and his company.

Beverly remembered the president’s wife because they went o finishing school together.

Felipe walked to Meredith and they held hands and he opened the door they walked inside and could smell food.

Meredith inhaled and said, “Huh.”

Felipe said, “You better eat Meredith.”

Meredith and Felipe shook to the nurses.

Felipe walked to Dr. Greene and Dr. Woodson.

Meredith pulled off her coat, hat, scarf and gloves and went to the hospital administrator’s door which was locked to place her coat.

Dr. Woodson looked at Meredith.

Meredith took her coat and put it across the hall from Len.

Dr. Woodson said, “I did not think about that.”

Dr. Greene was smiling and looking out the door said, “What?”

Dr. Woodson looked at him and said, “To put their coats.”

He walked to the hospital administrator’s office and unlocked the door.

He told nurse Sharon, “If anyone want to pull off their coats take them and put them in here.”

Nurse Sharon said, “Yes sir.”

Dr. Greene was peeping out the door.

Nurse Sharon said, “It is something going on with Debra.”

The other nurse looked at here.

Meredith went into Leon’s room and started attending to him.

He was moving the parts he could move better.

Meredith smiled at him.

Monica walked from the kitchen and tried to be pleasant.

She stopped in the staff’s washroom and splashed water on her face and pressed her hair.

Bryson and Gail rode up.

Beverly and Brenda were shocked to see them.

Dr. Greene was walking from the door and saw Bryson and Gail.

He said, “Eleanor I see Bryson and Gail are here.”

Eleanor jumped in excitement.

The photographer was taking pictures of the food.

He sneaked a cookie and was walking out the door to take pictures of the dignitaries.

Bryson and Gail walked to the small group and introduced themselves.

Alvin and Claressa were leaving from Washington DC where Alvin received his new assignment and the train came through an hour before the ceremony.

They decide to surprise Eleanor and come by.

Eleanor was peeping and saw some men.

She stepped towards the door and saw the United States seal on the carriage and she grinned.

Eleanor stepped outside the hospital.

Claressa and Alvin saw their best friend this dignified rough girl walk out he hospital.

Alvin walked to Patrick and shook his Patrick’s hand.

Patrick introduce he and Claressa to the group.

Patrick said, “This ambassador Alvin and his wife Claressa. They are Shirley’s god parents.”

Shirley did not know. No one never told Shirley.

The presidents and his wife looked at Shirley.

The security men were standing close to Alvin and Claressa.

Alvin kissed Brenda on her cheek.

Claressa kissed Brenda n her cheek.

Alvin took Shirley’s hand and looked at the hospital and said, “A big moment Shirley.”

Shirley grinned.

Steve and his father arrived.

Eleanor walked to the group with an outstanding outfit on.

She and Claressa had an international flair.

Eleanor whispered to Shirley, “Go to Steven.”

Shirley did not know why she should go. She wanted more information about her god parents the ambassador and his wife.

Shirley walked over to Steven’s carriage said, “Hello Steve. Hi sir.”

Steve said, “This my father, Mr. Hale we decide to come to your hospital.”

Shirley grinned and said, “Welcome.”

Alvin and Claressa and Eleanor hugged each other.

Claressa said, “We can’t stay we have to leave to catch the train.”

Eleanor laughed.

Claressa looked at Eleanor.

The president and his wife looked at Eleanor.

Eleanor said, “I’ll telegram them to wait.”

Alvin laughed and looked at Claressa.

Claressa said, “I forgot.”

Everyone laughed.

Patrick said, “We are leaving on that train in the morning. Do you have to go back today?”

Claressa blew and looked at Alvin.

Alvin said, “Yes. We have a new assignment, but we will be here most of the holiday.”

Patrick said, “Good enough. “

Patrick looked at Eleanor and said, “Eleanor a two hour delay.”

Eleanor and Clarssa turned and were still holding each other and walked into the hospital’s lobby.

Dr. Greene was peeping and did not know who this elegant lady was.

Eleanor walked to him and Dr. Woodson and said, “This is Claressa and her husband is Alvin, they are my best friends and Shirley’s god parents.”

Claressa said, “You all are the miracle workers?”

The group was walking into the hospital.

The president and his wife Claressa say to the doctor’s they were miracle workers.

Dr. Greene and Dr. Woodson nodded.

Eleanor said, “Dr. Woodson may I use the telegram machine?”

Dr. Woodson was writing in a patient’s chart and said, “Miss Sim…”

Eleanor looked at him.

Dr. Woodson looked at Eleanor and saw the necklace he gave to her.

He said, “Miss Stith the office is open and the telegram machine should be on.”

Claressa was looking around at the quaint hospital.

She smelled the food and said to the cook, “That’s smell delicious.”

The cook grinned at Claressa and said, “Thank you.”

Eleanor looked at the cook and grabbed Claressa by her hand and said, “Come on Claressa.”

The cook laughed.

Dr. Greene looked at the cook.

Eleanor and Claressa spoke to the nurses.

The nurses turned to see their outfits.

Shirley waited and walked in with Steve and his father.

The mayor and his wife arrived.

The governor was on his way back to the capitol after his morning meeting with the mayor.

The mayor told him he was going to the r-naming ceremony for the hospital.

The governor decided to come with his party, especially since they had to ride their train to the capitol.

The governor and mayor were walking to the hospital’s door.

The dean looked and said, “Th governor. I have tried all year to see him.”

Patrick and Brenda looked the dean.

Patrick and Brenda spoke to the nurses and the doctors.

Brenda looked around and loved Mabel’s decorations.

Monica was bringing the last of the dishes out to use for serving.

Brenda walked over to Vivienne and spoke to Vivienne and Sally.

Sally was acting up.

The president was watching the staff.

The hospital was calm but busy.

He heard Sally being rude to Brenda.

Brenda said, “Sally you have to come better than that. I had Shirley all of her life. I only thing that I spank on is spitting. You don’t know pain until I spank.”

Patrick tried to grin and walked and to Sally’s room and spoke.

He grabbed Brenda by the shoulders and walked out.

Dr. Ralph, Hutch and Felipe continued to work.

They were disrupted by Sally nor Brenda.

The president liked what he saw.

The president’s wife did not like the quaint poor hospital.

The governor and the ambassador were talking.

The dean was nervously prancing wanting to talk to the governor.

Eleanor and Claressa were walking out the hospital administrator’s office.

She Meredith standing in Leon’s door.

She walked and spoke to Meredith and Leon.

Claressa walked over and Eleanor introduced her to them.

Eleanor looked at the time and said, “Claressa we have less than five minutes.”

Shirley saw a few more handicap students arrive.

She and Patrick went outside and greeted them.

The dean was looking how easily the wheelchairs came up the porch and the doors were wide enough to accommodate the wheelchairs.

He and the president were talking about the facility.

Eleanor walked to the lobby.

Claressa walked to Alvin.

Alvin introduced Claressa to the governor, mayor and their wives.

The president looked at how distinguished Alvin and Claressa looked.

Eleanor said, “Monica I have some clothes you may have. You need to purchase your own shoes.”

Monica looked at Eleanor and said, “Thank you.”

Eleanor walked away.

Monica thought, “That Jose was right that Eleanor would say something about me looking poor. I did not think I looked that bad today with my uniform on. At least she did not fire me.”

The president of the college said, “Miss Stith is the doctor here you want to recommend for our doctor?”

Eleanor turned and said, “Any of these.”

Ryan was looking and listening.

Eleanor said, “Dr. Woodson is over the hospital, Dr. Greene, Dr. Ralph are permanent. Dr. Charles and Dr. Felipe are here from France. They specialize in the heart and internal organs. Hutch is a surgeon, who is here learning the techniques of the internal organs and the bones and muscles. Dr. Wade and his son Ryan are surgeons.”

The president looked at Ryan.

His wife said, “You are Beverly’s son?”

Ryan walked over and said, “Yes ma am.”

She looked at him.

Eleanor said, “You two talk to the doctors after the ceremony which is starting now.”

They all went outside.

The mayor read the proclamation.

Eleanor introduced all the doctors.

The dean’s wife whispered to the president’s, “That Hutch is too handsome.”

The president’s wife looked at Hutch very hard and long and did not make a comment.

Shirley cut the ribbon.

The ground keepers held up the new sign with the hospital’s name on it until the permanent sign came.

They all clapped and ran back inside.

The cook uncovered the tables of food.

Alvin and Claressa were the first in line.

The governor and his wife were standing with them.

Alvin said, “The Stiths believe in feeding you.”

He looked at Claressa and said, “We would eat at home and then run and see what Eleanor had for dinner.”

The governor laughed.

Alvin said, “Mom Brenda I smell your chicken salad. Where is it?”

Brenda walked over to look and the cook showed him he chicken salad.

The governor said, “My wife and I just had breakfast with the mayor. But we can take something to drink.”

Eleanor turned and said, “Come with me.”

She walked them to the beverage station.

One of the cook’s assistants was winking at Nurse Sharon who was giggling.

Eleanor looked at him.

The governor and his wife looked over at Nurse Sharon.

She held her head down.

The dean took a chance and walked over to the governor and introduce he and his wife.

The handicapped students wanted to tour the hospital.

Steve said, “Shirley can we see the hospital?”

Dr. Woodson and Dr. Greene heard him.

Shirley said, “How can you tour the hospital when all the rooms are occupied with patients?”

The president said, “Sen him to that little girl.”

Vivienne heard them.

The small group laughed.

Vivienne said, “Sally you may get guests. Don’t be rude.”

Dr. Greene walked over and said, “I’ll show you around. But as Shirley said, the rooms are occupied.”

Steve said, “Where is your equipment and devices and stuff?”

The president and his wife were listening.

Dr. Greene smiled at them and said, “We are hands on doctors. When patients come to us. They have been to the surgeons and other doctors. They have completed that course of their healings. When they come to us. They have problems with their bones, spine, neck, legs and arms that have to be corrected. That cannot be done with tool or devices. It has to be done with the human hands knowing what the bone should feel like or when a tissue has a growth or not that should not be there.”

Steve and his father looked at Dr. Greene.

The president was listening.

His wife was watching Hutch.

Eleanor caught her watching Hutch.

Nurse Sharon saw her watching Hutch.

Her sometimes beau.

Dr. Greene said, “I saw you Steve. That is your name?”

Steve said, “Yes.”

Dr. Greene said, “Your neck is tilted to right. I will explain why your neck is tilted and what we can do about it.”

Sally yelled, “It hurts.”

Vivienne slammed the door.

Dr. Charles laughed.

Brenda said, “Bad a\*\* Sally.”

Patrick laughed.

Dr. Greene said, “We are naming that room after Shirley. We never seen a person like that before. We did not know what to do…”

Shirley was looking at Dr. Greene.

He looked at Shirley.

Dr. Greene said, “We put our heads together and we read and read. Each GOD showed us what to do. It took a little over a year but she is better than before. She can tell you her story. I can’t.”

Dr. Greene explained Steve’s condition in detail.

Ryan and Dennis stood in amazement at Dr. Greene.

Beverly was talking to the mayor’s wife.

Shirley walked to Eleanor and hugged her and said, “Momma how come you never told me I had god parents?”

Alvin walked up behind Shirley and whispered, “Your daddy didn’t like us and did not want us around.”

Shirley looked at Patrick and Brenda.

She nodded at Alvin and excused herself.

Eleanor and Alvin watched Shirley.

Bryson and Gail were talking to Beverly and Al.

Beverly got quiche and French onion soup.

The mayor followed Beverly and got French onion soup.

Shirley looked over the food.

Eleanor walked up and tried the pork with greens.

She handed her plate to the cook.

The governor saw Eleanor.

Shirley said, “Thanks momma.”

Eleanor said, “For what?’

The cook was making Eleanor a plate of quiche and fruit. And he put a cup of French onion soup on her plate.

The governor watched Eleanor.

Shirley said, “You ordered enough food so everyone can eat.”

Eleanor was walking away to sit and said, “After that mess at the grand opening I will never not have enough food.”

Shirley giggled.

The photographer took their photograph.

He put Patrick and Brenda in one then he added Beverly and Al and Eleanor, Alvin and Claressa.

The photographer saw Meredith standing and talking to some.

He said, “Is that Leon? Can I see him?”

Leon said, “Who is that?”

Meredith said, “The photographer. I can’t remember his name.”

Leon said, “Tell him to come on.”

Eleanor sat in one of the chairs.

Alvin sat next to her and they laughed and talked.

Claressa walked over with a small plate of fruit and sat in Alvin’s lap.

The governor watched how playful they were.

His wife looked at him and then Alvin and Claressa.

She knew he missed his first wife and two sons.

The dean had an appointment to go and see the governor in a week.

The governor’s assistant finished making the appointment.

Claressa leaned over and said, “Eleanor. Shu.”

Eleanor looked at Claressa.

Claressa said, “These doctors are good looking. Especially that Hutch and Dr. Ralph. That Dr. Woodson is plain but handsome. If I weren’t with Alvin I’ll go after that Hutch.”

Alvin looked at Claresa and said, “I don’t believe you. Move.”

Claressa stood.

Eleanor said, “They are momma’s.”

Alvin looked at Eleanor.

Claressa giggled and said, “What?”

Eleanor said, “Momma don’t want them to be married. She wants them to be dedicated to their patients.”

Alvin said, “Control.”

Claressa said, “Eleanor are the earrings from Joseph?”

Eleanor was a little quiet and said, “Yes.”

Claressa said, “You had the same earrings and necklace on the two time before. Who is the necklace from?”

Eleanor said, “The plain one.”

Alvin turned and looked at Dr. Woodson.

He looked back at Eleanor.

Claressa put her hand to her mouth and said, “I’m sorry.”

Eleanor said, “No it is alright. He would be the only person on earth I would marry. But Joseph is my eternal heart. I can only have the plain one as a dear friend.”

The ambassador security man walked in the lobby to the ambassador and whispered in his ear.

Alvin said, “Claressa we have to go.”

Eleanor stood.

They all hugged.

Shirley saw them hugging.

She rushed over and hugged her god parents.

Alvin and Claressa walked to Patrick and Brenda and hugged them.

They shook the governor and his wife’s hands and left.

The governor, his wife and several assistants left to catch their train.

Dennis, Beverly, Alice and Ryan Jr. left.

Eleanor laughed because Ryan Jr. was wearing one of Michael’s outfits.

Dr. Jim sat and talked to Felipe and Charles.

Dr. Jim walked to the cook and said, “May take some food back to the hospital?”

The cook sent the whole pork roast and greens and all the food the caterer brought.

They gave the patients at the bone hospital all the coup, fruit and chicken salad and quiche.

The cooks were glad they did not have to cook a large dinner.

Dr. Jim and Ryan rode back to the hospital and dropped off the food and went to work.

They attended to Lorraine.

The president and his wife talked to Dr. Greene and Dr. Woodson.

Dr. Woodson said, “We have half the patients to take care. I can’t leave. You can go Dr. Greene.”

Dr. Greene looked at the president and his wife and said, “Let me get me coat and I will ride…”

He stopped and said, “Debra hasn’t returned.”

Dr. Greene walked to Felipe and asked if he was going to be at the hospital for several hours.

Felipe said yes.

Dr. Greene asked, “My I borrow your horse for a house call. I don’t know where Debra is.”

De. Felipe said, “Sure.”

Dr. green put on his coat, hat, scarf and gloves and put his doctor’s bag in their carriage.

He followed them an hour away.

He thought, “It’s cold and they are having a joy ride.”

The dean was happy to be meeting with the governor.

They arrived the president’s cottage.

Dr. Greene loved the college life.

He followed the president and his wife in the college.

The wife said, “Dr. Greene I am only you to see our daughter for my husband’s sake.”

Dr. Greene looked at her.

They escorted Dr. Greene to their daughter’s room.

They stood and watched Dr. Greene examined their daughter.

He stood and explained everything he saw. ‘Dr. Greene said, “She is not sick unto death. You need to have transported to Dr. Wade’s son. He can cure her and then she can come to us so we have her walking like Shirley. You have to hurry because she needs a lot of medicine. I don’t understand why she does not have medicines.”

Dr. Greene was looking around the room for medicine.

The president’s wife said, “I don’t believe you. We had the best doctors to examine her for years. Didn’t we honey.”

The president said, “William.”

The butler walked and he said, ”Get a wagon and pad it we are taking Laura to the hospital.”

The mother said, “No you are not.”

Dr. Greene said, “Ma am, why do you want her to die?”

The butler felt that way also.

The president turned and looked at Dr. Greene then at his wife.

She looked angrily at Dr. Greene and yelled, “Get out my house.”

The president looked at her.

He reached for Dr. Greene and they walked out.

The butler pulled the wagon around the front.

The maids ran and filled the wagon with blankets.

The butler ran in the house and picked up Laura and ran out to the president.

The president sped to the hospital.

Dr. Greene rode fast.

Dr. Greene called for Dr. Wade.

Dennis ran downstairs.

He saw a half-Dead Laura.

Dr. Greene told him and his staff what was wrong and whatever they found.

Dr. Greene left the main hospital.

Dennis and the president of the college were in consultation over Laura.

Dr. Greene rode back to the bone hospital.

He thought about Debra all the way back.

He was not aware of Dr. Woodson told her the medicine was out and to get some more.

Dr. Greene thought, “What was she thinking. She knows that is the only medication we give the patients for pain.”

He shook his head trying to understand why Debra did not keep a supply for a month at a time like Bradley said.

He was confused.

Dr. Greene arrived back to the bone hospital and looked and saw the new temporary sign of the Stiths Bone Medicine Hospital.

He grinned.

He tied Felipe’s horse on the rail and got his doctor’s bag from the saddle.

As he walked in the hospital he saw their carriage.

He knew Debra was looking out the window.

Dr. Greene did not look at the window.

He said, “Debra, whatever you are doing is about to fall and crash.”

He walked in the hospital and spoke to everyone.

Felipe completed his rounds with Hutch and Dr. Ralph.

Dr. Ralph was leaving a little early to get settled at the south hospital, where he will spend the night with Lorraine.

Meredith fed Leon his supper.

Monica gave Vivienne and Sally plates of food.

She helped the cook and his assistants clean up.

She rode back to the railroad station with them.

Meredith and Felipe went to the kitchen and made them plates and sat in the back and ate dinner together.

Dr. Greene was telling Charles, Hutch, Dr. Ralph and Dr. Woodson about the president’s daughter that she was fine. Without medication she would have died. That her mother was angry and the butler had to grab the daughter and run out the cottage.

Dr. Greene said, “She called me no good. Dr. Wade immediately came downstairs with several doctors and nurses they started working on Laura.”

Hutch said, “Why let your child die.”

Dr. Ralph said, “Because she is not your child and good riddens to her.”

They all looked at Dr. Ralph.

Dr. Ralph was walking towards the door and said, “There were rumors.”

Nurse Sharon and the other nurses were listening.

Nurse Sharon angrily whispered, “She better stay away from Hutch.”

The nurses looked at her.

Hutch heard Nurse Sharon and did not look at her.

Dr. Woodson looked at Nurse Sharon.

He did not she and Hutch were having an affair.

He thought, “He’s the reason she turned down Ryan for the position of head nurse at the south hospital.”

Dr. Charles and Dr. Greene heard her even though she whispered.

They all completed reviewing the patients’ chart.

Hutch said, “I like this. Reviewing and discussing the patients at the end of the day.”

Dr. Greene said, “I do also.”

Dr. Charles was looking over at ally’s room.

Dr. Woodson said, “Charles, what are you going to do?”

Charles turned around and said, “About what?”

They all laughed.

He thought and grin.

He walked to Sally’s room and knocked on the door.

Dr. Greene and Dr. Woodson laughed.

Hutch said, “Why is he knocking on Sally’s open door?”

Dr. Greene and Dr. Woodson laughed.

The nurses giggled.

Hutch looked at the nurses and back to the laughing Dr. Greene and Dr. Woodson.

Nurse Sharon said, “Dr. Hutch.”

Hutch looked at Nurse Sharon she said, “Sally told Dr. Charles for him not to come in her room unless knock.”

Hutch looked at Nurse Sharon.

Dr. Woodson looked at Hutch.

Nurse Sharon said, “Sally does not want Dr. Charles near her mother and wants to drive him away.”

Hutch looked at Nurse Sharon and back to Sally’s door where Dr. Charles were standing in the doorway.

Dr. Greene and Dr. Woodson were laughing.

Dr. Greene turned to Dr. Woodson and said, “Did Debra get the medicine?”

Dr. Woodson’s face changed colors and he did not look at Dr. Greene and said, “Yes. He said, we have a staff meeting with Shirley in the morning at nine am.”

Dr. Greene said, “Why so early?”

Shirley has to be in class by eleven am.”

Dr. Greene stared at Dr. Woodson.

Dr. Woodson looked Dr. Greene.

Dr. Greene just kept shaking his head.

Dr. Woodson looked at Tony.

The nurses looked at Dr. Greene.

Dr. Woodson patted Dr. Greene on his back.

He asked Nurse Sharon, “Is there any food left?”

Nurse Sharon said, “I believe so Dr. Woodson. I heard The Stith’s cook was so dissatisfied with the caterer he sent all of his food to the south hospital.”

Dr. Woodson said, “Whoa. Even their workers got superior attitudes.”

Dr. Greene hollered and said, “They really do.”

Dr. Woodson, “I have not found one humble Stith worker.”

Tony burst out laughing.

He said, “I had a good day. I was excited to see this hospital was being visited by dignitaries and being back on a college campus made me miss my days running from class to class.”

Dr. Woodson said, “Dr. Greene did you finish your anatomy class?”

The nurses were looking at Dr. Greene.

Dr. Greene smirked and looked at the nurses.

He turned and looked at Dr. Woodson and said, “I most definitely finished my anatomy class.”

Dr. Woodson studied Dr. Greene’s face and said, “Well then, what was your grade?”

Dr. Greene firmly close the patient’s chart and said, “I absolutely pass the class. That’s all I will say.”

The nurses laughed.

Dr. Woodson looked at Dr. Greene and grinned.

Hutch grinned and walked away towards the kitchen.

Dr. Woodson said, “Wait Hutch.”

Dr. Greene laughed and walked to the hospital’s administrator’s office.

Debra heard Tony walk in the office.

She tried to quickly turn around from the window and get her papers together.

Dr. Greene was smiling when he entered her office.

He knew he had to stay calm and wait for whatever she has been doing to come to the light.

He prayed all the way to the president’s house and all the way back to the hospital.

He loved Debra and will be with her.

Debra could not look at Tony.

He looked around the office and said, “I will bring the carriage to the front door.”

Debra had her head down she tried to smile.

Tony exhaled and walked out.

The nurses were watching but they were leaving for the day.

They said, “Good evening Dr. Greene.”

Tony said, “Good evening.”

He walked in the back and picked up his coat, hat, scarf and gloves.

His heart was heavy over Debra.

She did not trust him to tell him what was wrong.

Dr. Greene closed his eyes and said, “GOD help me. I love her. YOU would not have given her to me if she was not the right person.”

Dr. Woodson cut his eyes at Dr. Greene and continued to talk to Hutch.

Dr. Greene slowly put on his coat and hat and said, “Good evening.”

Everyone said, “Good evening.”

Hutch looked at Tony and then at Dr. Woodson.

Dr. Woodson finished his soup.

He left for the night.

He put on his coat, scarf and gloves.

He walked out the hospital to his horse.

He saw Tony get out the carriage and helped Debra into the carriage.

They pulled off.

Dr. Woodson mounted his horse and watched Tony and Debra turn to go home.

Meredith and Felipe were walking out the hospital.

Felipe looked around and said, “Meredith where is your carriage?”

Meredith said, “It’s around back. I did that so everyone else can park around front.”

Felipe said, “Meredith you are not walking around the back of this hospital pregnant and in the cold. Go back and stay inside until I bring your carriage around.”

Meredith stood for a minute.

Dr. Woodson was putting on his gloves and watched them.

He thought, “Meredith stop and go inside and wait.”

Felipe opened the door.

Meredith turned and walked back in the lobby and stood and waited for Felipe.

Dr. Woodson looked at Felipe as he passed him.

Dr. Woodson said, “He is good and mad. Meredith has been taking care of herself for so long. It is going to be hard on them. Help them LORD GOD Almighty and Tony and Debra.”

Dr. Charles and Vivienne were leaving for the night.

Dr. Woodson laughed.

He thought about Sally and how rough Brenda was with her today about spitting.

Dr. Charles and Vivienne like to walk.

They were walking down the steps when Felipe pulled around the front with Meredith’s carriage.

Meredith walked out the hospital to the carriage.

Felipe said, “Meredith I was coming to get you and walk you to the carriage.”

Meredith looked at Felipe and said, “Thank You.”

Dr. Woodson laughed.

He saw Dr. Charles and Vivienne turning the corner to walk to the hotel.

Hutch was standing in the door watching everyone leave for the night.

He locked the door and put the bar across it and put out the lights in the lobby.

Hutch walked and checked on the patients and talked to Leon for a while.

He went in the back of the hospital and to his room.

Hutch sat and read his bible and prayed.

He dressed for bed and slept all night.

Dr. Woodson laughed at Hutch and Nurse Sharon and he laughed at how coy Meredith was with Felipe.

Dr. Woodson made it to his rooming house and went inside.

He went upstairs to his room and pulled off his coat and gloves.

He locked his door and fell on his knees and interceded for Tony and Debra.

He prayed for each patient and their family and for all the workers at the hospital.

Dr. Woodson held his head up and saw the time.

He crawled on the bed and went to sleep.

Felipe was thinking about his day at work.

He thought about Meredith not allowing him to help her.

A thought came to Felipe she has learn everyone is not against her and she has help.

Felipe thought, “I did not have that thought. God are You talking to me?”

Meredith was thinking that she wants her baby to wait until, Lorraine was out the hospital and Spencer and they would get a very good nurse for Leon.

Meredith got home a few before Felipe.

Her mind was telling her to wait for him.

Felipe was purposefully behind Meredith to see if she would wait for him to help her.

He thought about how coy Meredith is with her words.

He saw her stop the carriage in front of the door, but he did not see her get out the carriage.

He thought, “God is something wrong?”
He rode to Meredith and peeped in the carriage and saw sitting smiling at him.

Felipe said, “See God she is coy. But I deeply love her.”

He jumped from his horse and tied their horses.

He walked to the carriage and bowed to Meredith.

Meredith giggled. She reached her hand to Felipe.

Felipe took her hand and helped her out the carriage and walked her to do and unlocked it and walked her in the house he looked around.

He stepped out the door.

He thought, “There is nothing hard for her to do. She can light the candles.”

Felipe hurried and took care of the horses and took them to the stables and feed them and gave them water. He got a large water bucket and filled it. He took the water in the house and saw Meredith sitting on her side of the bed.

He thought, “She has been thinking about something all day.”

Felipe emptied the water in the inside pail and put the large pail for bath water on the stove.

He walked out the kitchen and peeped at Meredith she was still sitting thinking.

He walked out the door and fill the water pail again and took it in the house.

Meredith was fading into the darkness of the house because she had not lit any candles.

Felipe thought, “I won’t be able to see.”

He put the pail down and went to the fireplace and took the matches and lit the candles at the fireplace.

He lit the few pieces of coal that were in the fireplace.

Felipe walked to the sitting area and lit the candles that were in it.

He said, “Meredith I am coming with your light.”

Meredith said, “Felipe, my darling you always bring light to me.”

Felipe stopped in his tracks and slightly bent over and said, “God she touches my heart. Make me worthy of her.”

He stood and lit the candles over their fireplace.

He sat next to Meredith and looked at her.

Meredith looked straight ahead.

Felipe stood and walked to the sitting and took the water back in the kitchen and went and brought a bucket of coal into the house from the shed.

He locked the house and went into their and undressed and helped Meredith undressed.

They spent the night talking.

Felipe said, “Meredith what are you thinking about?”

Meredith said, “Is that what being is you sharing my thoughts>”

Felipe said, “Only if the thoughts could put a wedge between us.”

Meredith said, “I want to become a doctor.”

Felipe laughed.

Meredith raised her head up and looked at Felipe.

She got out of bed and stood by the fireplace.

Felipe leaned up in the bed said, “Meredith.”

Meredith did not say anything.

Felipe looked at her and said, “Meredith, I know you believe that what we share in our bed makes us one. I am not laughing at your want to become a doctor.”

Meredith said, “What then?”

Felipe got out of bed and walked to Meredith and grabbed her by her shoulders and turned her to him.

Felipe said, “Meredith, you are my wife. The person I absolutely love. I would never laugh at any of your desires.”

Meredith stared at Felipe.

Felipe said, “Please Meredith, don’t look at me like that. I laugh because it is a dream we can pull off. You can cheat, by asking the answer. Everyone know you are an outstanding nurse who is smart and caring. Dennis wants you to work for him. I told him, because it is your decision what you want to do. I am glad you have chosen to a doctor. We can practice together.”

Meredith stared at Felipe and turned her head.

Felipe picked up the thin Meredith and carried her to their bed where they talked her getting in medical school.

Patrick and Brenda sat in the parlor of their train car and talked and they drank a half glass of whiskey.

Patrick laughed at their changing their behavior to help ease Ryan’s burden.

Eleanor was checking all the telegrams and the reports from the shipping busines.

She looked over the railroad telegrams and reports.

Eleanor did not where Ben continued to New York.

She thought, “He got off in Philadelphia.”

Shirley was in her room looking over the books for the hospital.

She was making a list of things to do for the hospital and the dress shop.

Shirley started thinking, “I can go to Europe once per year and shop. I can spend a month each way. And two months shopping or the dress shop. No, I can spend three months shopping for the dress shop.”

She stared at the wall as she was in deep thought.

Eleanor was looking for telegrams from the military academy, but she did not have any yet.