

The morning was sunny and bright.

Brenda was standing in the mirror and putting on her fine pearl earrings she said to Patrick, "I am glad today is not going to rain."

Patrick walked and sat on their bed.

Brenda was watching him in the mirror.

Patrick lifted up his legs and said, "Go and get one of those doctors."

Brenda turned and looked at Patrick in panic.

Patrick said, "Bren don't panic. There are three doctors in the house, go and get one."

Brenda flung the door open.

Dr. Parker and Dr. Greene were talking and about to step on the stairwell to walk downstairs, when Brenda screamed, "Help!!"

Dr. Woodson was downstairs looking out the windows.

He heard about Mrs. Perkins beautiful flowers and he wanted to go and see these flowers.

He was rushing Dr. Parker and Dr. Greene since breakfast.

He saw Jose and one of the nurses playing around.

Jose saw Dr. Woodson and tried to straighten up.

Jose tried to smile and speak to Dr. Woodson, but he was too enthralled with Danielle to switch his thoughts.

When Brenda ran out of her bedroom and screamed.

Dr. Woodson completely jumped and looked up the stairs at Brenda.

He saw Dr. Parker and Dr. Greene running to her.

Several maids ran to the foyer and stood.

William, the head butler ran out the kitchen into the foyer and slowly walked up the stairs.

Danielle heard the scream and ran into the kitchen.

Dr. Woodson ran upstairs and passed William.

When walked into Brenda's bedroom. He ran to Dr. Parker and Dr. Greene.

He watched them and saw it was not a heart attack nor stroke.

Dr. Parker said, "A blood clot in his leg."

He examined the other foot and leg.

He went to work to ease the pain and stabilize the blood clot.

Dr. Parker looked around and said to Brenda, "Mrs. Stith I need a pair of hose or a gridle."

Brenda was standing and William was holding onto her. They both were afraid and breathing heavy.

Patrick was lying on the bed and said, "Get the man a pair of your hose.

Brenda turned to go to her hosiery chest. She turned and said, "Dr. Parker is Patrick going to be ok?"

Dr. Parker said, "I do believe so."

He reached for the hose.

Brenda turned and go the ugliest pair of hose she had.

Patrick said, "Bren what the hell is that You got the ugliest pair of hose you had?"

Brenda said, "You keep your pants leg down nobody will see it."

Dr. Parker looked at Brenda.

Dr. Greene stood and looked at Brenda.

Dr. Woodson was holding Patrick leg up.

Brenda hit William on the chest and said, "Let's go. He's fine."

William had both arms across his chest trying to calm dow.

He rolled his eyes at Patrick.

Patrick said, "William what the hell you are rolling your eyes at me for..."

William thought, "This man is going to fire me."

Patrick said, "It was Brenda running out of here and screaming like a lunatic that scared everybody to death. Even me. Shucks."

Patrick sit up on the bed and Dr. Woodson put on his boots.

Dr. Parker was checking Patrick.

Dr. Greene stood and watched.

He said, "Dr. Parker I am glad you were here."

Patrick said, "I agree."

Dr. Parker continued to work on Patrick.

Patrick was feeling good.

Brenda yelled, "William!!"

William turned and ran to Brenda.

Patrick said, "That's the one be around here giving the rest of us heart attacks."

Patrick looked at the serious faces of the doctors and saw they were not light hearted about their work.

He was glad Shirley was with them.

He thought about the little business man Michael.

Patrick smiled.

He heard the front door closed.

He and Brenda invited Shirley's nurse who used to work at the hospital.

She was standing downstairs with her son.

He was cooing and all the maids ran and were playing with him.

Dr. Woodson heard all the talking downstairs.

He stood and walked out the bedroom and looked downstairs and saw the nurse.

He said, "Debra!"

Her husband was walking in the door with Brenda.

Brenda turned around and wanted to spring the surprise on the doctors.

Patrick stood and said, "Whoa this feels good. What kind of doctor are you?"

Dr. Parker, "I specialize in blood and heart."

Patrick said, "You can make a killing here."

Dr. Greene said, "We really need him at the hospital."

Patrick said, "Why? Yall are there."

Dr. Parker laughed as he helped Patrick put on his coat.

Dr. Greene said, "If a patient is having a blood clot or heart problem that could kill them, especially with their bone problems they can die before we can isolate problem or try to get them to the hospital with heart specialists."

Patrick said, "Like Shirley."

Dr. Greene looked at Patrick.

Patrick looked at Dr. Parker and back to Dr. Greene and said, "I am sorry."

Patrick said, "Dr. parker do you think you can spend a few months here?"

Dr. parker laughed.

Dr. Greene did not laugh.

Patrick said, "Look at Dr. Greene he doesn't like my question at all."

Dr. Parker looked at Dr. Greene and continued to help Patrick down the steps.

Dr. Greene looked down at the group in the foyer and saw Brenda holding a baby.

He wondered who the baby belong to.

He was scanning the group and finally saw Debra.

She laughed and her husband stood and held her waist.

Patrick said, "Several of those maids are certified nurses and they did not move. You know Eleanor only hired nurses to be her children nannies."

Dr. Greene was happy to see Debra.

He said, "I heard that yes."

He looked at Patrick and ran down the few steps to greet her and her husband and reached and touched the cooing baby's hand.

Patrick waved his hand and said, "I did this reunion."

Brenda rolled her eyes at Patrick.

Dr. Parker and Dr. Woodson grinned.

Jose and the wagons were leaving with the food.

Brenda said, "We must go."

The maids walked out on the porch and waved bye.

William escorted Patrick and Brenda to their carriage.

Dr. Greene was holding Debra and Barry's baby and he was going to the carriage with Patrick and Brenda.

Patrick said, "He needs to go to the next carriage."

Brenda hit Patrick leg.

She said, "Patrick!"

Patrick said, "I was trying to get Dr. Parker to move here, because he is a blood and heart doctor and he got mad."

Brenda said, "Patrick our children are there at the hospital and if anything goes wrong they could die."

Patrick exhaled and said, "I tried to apologize but he did not like it."

William escorted him to another carriage followed by Debra and Barry.

Dr. Woodson and Dr. Parker walked to the carriage.

William said, "Sorry, but they liked to ride alone."

Dr. Greene said, "Understand."

Debra reached for the baby and Dr. Greene was about to protest and saw the look on Dr. Parker and Dr. Woodson's face.

He gave her their baby and let them enter the large carriage.

William said, "Here sir."

Another carriage pulled up and Dr. Greene, Dr. Parker and Dr. Woodson got into the carriage and rode to the wedding.

Dr. Greene said, "What is wronging?"

Dr. Woodson said, "I don't think Debra is well."

Dr. Parker looked at Dr. Woodson then Dr. Greene.

Dr. Greene said, "What are you saying Bradley?"

Dr. Woodson said, "I went to hug Debra, she flinched and swirled in pain."

Dr. Parker said, "Are you saying she is beaten?"

Dr. Woodson said, "Yes."

Dr. Greene said to Dr. Parker, "Johnathan you believe this. Not that Bradley is speaking the truth, but does Barry seem the type to do this sort of thing?"

Dr. Parker said, "I do not know. I do know that as I was walking with Patrick and her husband was holding her by the waist she was in pain by her facial expressions."

Dr. Greene sat and looked at the two doctors he knew they would never lie about someone health.

He thought about sweet Debra.

Nearly an hour later they arrived at Mrs. Perkins' house.

The guests were arriving.

Everyone was being directed to walk by the great house to get to the carriage house.

Brenda and Patrick were greeted and helped out their carriage.

The doctors stepped out the carriage.

The governor and his wife were greeted by the doctors and they walked to Brenda and Patrick.

Patrick told the governor and his wife what happened to him and how Dr. Parker was there and diagnosis him and got him back up.

The governor's wife turned and said, "Dr. Parker we might have to convince you to stay."

Patrick looked at Dr. Greene who stared at him.

Brenda said, "Not while my grandchildren are there. Maybe we can persuade Dr. Parker to hold classes for other doctors and nurses or better yet internships."

Brenda looked at Dr. Parker and said, "Kenneth what do you think about that?"

Dr. Parker was excited about teaching and said, "That's sound fine to me."

Brenda said, "we will talk today because you all leave in the morning. Were accommodations acceptable?"

The doctors said, "Most wonderful."

The governor said, "They won't let anybody stay in the owner's suite."

Patrick said, "Owners."

They laughed and continued to the wedding venue.

The governor said, "Let's speak to the preacher over there."

His wife said, "He will say you are ignoring him again."

The governor said, "He says that at each function we attend."

The giggled and walked over to the preacher.

Brenda had ordered hundreds of colorful balloons.

The balloons were a whimsical display against all the floral arrangements and set a fun atmosphere.

Patrick laughed and said, "This is wonderful Brenda."

He leaned down and kissed her on her lips.

Dr. Greene, Dr. Woodson and Dr. Parker looked at the delightful couple who had not been to see Shirley.

Dr. Greene was trying to figure out why they had not been to see their beloved granddaughter.

They had the means and they were not incapacitated.

He thought Brenda was much younger than he imagined.

Dr. Greene saw Barry holding onto Debra.

Debra was holding onto their healthy baby.

Dr. Parker said, "Debra has a healthy baby."

Dr. Woodson said, "I was thinking that."

Brenda said, "Oh God Eleanor was as big until she turned one. My back would hurt for days when I tried to hold her."

Dr. Greene and Dr. Parker looked at Dr. Woodson.

Dr. Woodson knew in his heart that Barry was beating Debra.

She act just like his mother and sister.

His mother would stumble through the house for days trying to do her chores and then she married his fifteen old sister to his daddy's brother.

They both were welders and he was very muscular and would his sister terribly over anything. He would threaten her even more if she told anybody.

Dr. Woodson saw it in their eyes.

He left home at fifteen and went to college. It has been a very hard life, but he loved his work and helping people to use their limbs.

Bradley left home that day and he stared at his mother and sister who looked old.

His sister was only seventeen and had been married only two years to that beast. She was so beaten that she walked as a cripple. She had to sit that short time Bradley went and got into the preacher's wagon and he pulled off.

Bradley hated his mother and was mad with his sister for not running away.

Then he thought the young woman he used to pay for him to go to college and medical school. He thought "Oh GOD I am no better than the ones that beat my mother and sister. I got to make this right."

Brenda looked back and saw the look on Bradley's face she knew something was wrong.

Betty and John Jr. were standing and greeting everyone trying to give the impression they were paying for everything, when it was Brenda and Patrick who gave the wedding to Mrs. Perkins and Ben as their wedding present.

Olivia and her children set their musical instruments.

Patrick looked and saw the mayor talking to several admirals.

Patrick said, "Oh my. I have to meet them Brenda."

Brenda giggled and said, "I know. You love your navy."

Patrick and Brenda greeted Betty and John Jr.

Betty tried to guide Brenda and Patrick towards the back row.

Patrick looked at Betty and he sat Brenda on the first row.

Patrick away and stared at Betty.

Betty tried to straighten her face.

The governor's wife saw Betty and was mad.

She told the governor what Betty did.

He guided his wife and sat her next to Brenda.

He stood and saw Patrick talking to the admirals and laughed.

He walked over to the group and introduced himself.

The governor whispered and told the mayor what Betty did.

The mayor's wife walked casually and sat on the front row with Brenda.

Dr. Parker and Dr. Greene were watching the intensely developing situation.

Brenda nodded for the doctors to sit on the groom side.

Dr. Greene did not know what to do.

He pointed at the second row.

The governor's wife stood and walked to the doctors and said, "Doctors you are honored guests please sit here."

She had Sylvia to give her some flowers and she made buttoneers and gave one to her husband, one to Brenda for Patrick and one to the mayor's wife for the mayor.

She pinned the buttoneers on Dr. Parker, Dr. Woodson and Dr. Greene.

Dr. Greene smiled and said, "I feel rather dapper."

They all laughed.

The governor's wife waved to the front row and said, "Doctors please sit."

She saw other people on the next row and spoke to them.

She high society sluts walking in and looked.

Martha was seated next to her husband and said to the governor's wife, "The slut brigade."

Her husband started looking around and said, "Where?"

She hit her husband.

He said, "Ouch. That was hard."

The governor's wife said, touched Dr. Woodson's back and said, "Here are three of the best doctors in this country."

Martha said, "You don't say. They need to go and sit all the way in the back."

The three women sat on the row with Martha and spoke to the governor's wife.

Martha went into her fake greeting and said, "Good morning young ladies. A perfect day for a perfect wedding."

Dr. Parker was laughing so hard he nearly hit the ground.

Dr. Greene was grinning.

He looked back and saw Barry pinched Debra.

He shook his head to shake the image out of his head.

He looked and saw Debra tearing up.

Brenda was watching Dr. Greene and she leaned over and told the governor's wife and the mayor's wife and said, "I believe Debra's husband is beating her."

The governor's wife jumped up and started looking around.

The governor's wife said, "Who is Debra?"

Dr. Woodson looked up and saw the governor's wife ready to fight.

He stood and escorted her back to her seat and said, "Ma am."

Brenda said, "It's my fault I told them I believe Debra's husband is beating her."

Dr. Woodson said, "I do too. But I have to think and figure this thing out."

The men were walking back to their wives.

The governor's wife went and sat next to Brenda.

Martha's husband leaned forward and said to Dr. Greene, "Are you the doctors that healed Genevia?"

Dr. Woodson was walking back to his seat and turned to the man.

The man pointed and said, "This is my wife Martha. She broke her hip over a year ago she has been in pain for over a year and so have I."

The man was shaking his head.

Patrick passed the man and patted him on his shoulder.

Martha said, "I am going to see Genevia in a few minutes. To see if you are miracle workers like people are saying you are."

Dr. Woodson said, "Ma am, Martha it is very hard and extremely painful. We have to check and see if there are any beds, because people are beginning to come from all over the states."

The admirals walked up and the governor directed them to the front row next to the doctors.

The music started.

Olivia was playing the violin.

Brenda was excited, "Brenda was exclaiming she's playing the violin."

Everyone was laughing at Brenda because she was so excited.

Ben walked up with his navy admiral's suite on.

The admirals gave him a shout.

Patrick whispered to Brenda and said, "I know something you don't."

The mayor's wife said, "What?"

They laughed.

Patrick said, "Ben is seven years younger than Genevia."

Brenda said, "Oh!"

Patrick looked at Brenda.

Mrs. Perkins walked down the aisle and everyone stood but Martha.

Dr. Greene and Dr. Woodson looked at Martha.

Mrs. Perkins had on a cream color semiformal dress and a beautiful floral bouquet that brought out the beautiful lace of her dress.

She had Olivia twist and tie cream colored ribbons throughout her hair.

Mrs. Perkins walked herself down the aisle and saw Dr. Woodson, Dr. Parker and Dr. Greene standing and watching her every step.

She smiled at them and blew a kiss at them.

They grinned.

The governor's wife leaned to Brenda and said, "I'm so glad you brought those doctors."

Patrick and the governor nodded their heads for their approval.

The wedding was so festive and casual people continued to stand for the vows.

Mrs. Perkins walked to Ben and held his face and they kissed.

Martha was peeping through Dr. Greene and Dr. Woodson and saw the kiss before the vows were said.

Martha bit her lips and said, "I'm coming to that hospital."

Her husband looked down at her and said, "I don't know if I want that kind of affection."

His brother, the governor, said, "Harold sit down. Mom always told you about that."

Dr. Woodson and Dr. Greene looked at each other.

The preacher said, "Please take a seat so we can commence the vows."

The people sat.

The preacher gave a very nice and short speech.

The preacher looked over at the governor and said, "Is that short enough for you governor?"

His wife laughed.

The governor was so embarrassed.

He tried to smile and looked around to see if anybody was listening.

Everyone laughed.

The admirals laughed.

Mrs. Perkins gave Ben a solid gold band with Proverbs 18:22, "Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing and obtaineth favour of the LORD."

Mrs. Perkins read the engraving.

Ben begin to cry.

He gave Mrs. Perkins her ring of rare black diamonds surrounded by pearls.

Mrs. Perkins saw the ring and threw her hand to her heart and gasped for air.

Ben said, "Each year I added more jewels and pearls to this ring, because I knew you existed."

Martha said, "What he said?"

The preacher said, "I pronounce you husband and wife."

Everyone jumped up and cheered.

Brenda rested on Patrick's chest and said, "It's been a long time a coming."

Brenda was not only talking about Genevia, but also about slavery being over.

No one knew of Brenda's unknown and great role as an abolitionist.

Patrick did not fully know what Brenda was doing.

He knew when he left town for weeks to do work on the ships or railroads, Brenda would leave.

Sometimes Brenda would be gone for weeks.

Patrick's parents would ask him where Brenda was.

Patrick would be so afraid for Brenda.

He would think she was kidnapped and dragged into slavery.

Patrick would think some racist would have killed her, especially because of her mouth.

He would think she had a black lover and would spend that time with him.

After two years of marriage, he told Brenda he was through with whatever she was doing.

Patrick said, "I want a divorce. You can go and do whatever you have been doing. You have used me Brenda."

He told her he was allowing the family businesses to suffer because he was worrying so bad after her.

He said he could not do his work for worrying himself sick over her.

Brenda saw Patrick was hurt and he meant he was finished with her.

Brenda said, "Patrick I would visit my sister Beverly.

Patrick told Brenda she was a liar.

Brenda said, "What? How dare you call me a liar."

Patrick's parents were at the door listening.

Patrick said, "I dare. I followed you two nights after I went out of town to work on the railroad. I saw after midnight a group of blacks running across a field. They ran and caught the train at the second train to the last one. Brenda I was about to shoot those people until I saw your face..."

Patrick's parents could not be quiet they said, "What?"

Patrick and Brenda heard them.

Patrick continued, "... You helped thirty two blacks steal away on my train. There were seventeen children. The train security wanted to know what I wanted to do. I let no one know it was you. I could have had all of those people killed including you. Those children Brenda!!! I could have the sheriff or bounty slave hunters loosed."

Brenda said, "Death would have been better than the life of a slave!"

Patrick said, "You put my whole family lives in danger. They could have taken my railroad business and our shipping business. How dare you?"

Brenda said, "They are my people I dare!"

Brenda was sick.

She leaned her head on the rice bed poster and held onto it.

She slid onto the floor and stared in space.

She thought about the times the children ran away without their parents and were hunted and killed by dogs.

How the teenage boys were shot to death.

How they boys were castrated and lynched.

Her heart was grieved.

Patrick's parents turned the doorknob and Patrick had locked the door.

They yelled for Patrick to unlock the door.

Patrick looked at Brenda and stepped over her to the door.

He unlocked the door, his parents pushed him out of the way.

They closed the door and saw Brenda on the floor.

His parents looked at Brenda, she was a good daughter-in-law when she was there.

Brenda could not talk, but motioning with her hand and used her hands and broke something.

Patrick's mother looked at Patrick and said, "What is that Patrick?"

Patrick was so angry with Brenda.

He bent down and said, "What Brenda?"

Brenda said, "They break the baby's necks. I saw them. Yes I did."

Patrick's mother put her hands to her mouth and held her stomach.

Brenda looked in space.

Patrick's anger began to fade into grief for his wife and the pain she was experiencing, he could nothing to help her.

Patrick's father said, "Son. Let's talk."

Patrick could not think.

He stood from Brenda who was looking off in space.

Patrick's mother looked at Brenda.

She walked over to her husband and Patrick.

They knew the servants were trying to listen.

The three of them whispered in the corner of the room.

His parents left and opened the door and saw the butler trying to run down the stairs and another maid tried to hide in the conclave upstairs.

Patrick's mother said, "Bertha Mae not one word."

Bertha Mae walked out the conclave and said, "I did not hear anything this time."

Patrick's parents went downstairs to dinner.

Patrick was confused.

He wanted a divorce from Brenda.

He could not understand how her love betrayed him for her people.

He sat in the chair by the window.

Patrick sat and thought throughout the night until daybreak.

Brenda was still holding onto the leg of the poster bed staring off into space.

There was a knock on the door.

Patrick turned and said, "What?"

Bertha Mae said, "Your daddy said, bring fresh milk and water."

Patrick said, "Bring it in and put it on the dresser and leave."

Bertha Mae opened the door and walked into the room and said, "Good morning. She saw Brenda sitting on the floor and looking off in space."

Bertha Mae knew the bad side of Patrick.

She put the tray down and ran to the door and closed the door behind her as she peeped back at Brenda on the floor.

Bertha Mae ran downstairs passing Patrick's parents who were going downstairs to breakfast.

Patrick's mother said, "Good morning Bertha Mae."

Bertha Mae said, "Good morning" and continued to run.

Patrick sat in the chair most of the morning.

He looked out the window and saw a beautiful blue sky with white clouds.

He finally walked over to Brenda and stooped down and saw his wife was staring off in space.

Patrick did not know if she had a nervous breakdown or gone mad.

He picked her up and put her on the bed.

He laid on the next side of her and fell a sleep.

Patrick woke to a knock on his door in the darkness of his room.

He jumped and sat in the bed and felt for Brenda.

She was still next to him.

Patrick said, "What?"

His father opened the door and could not see in the room because it was dark and said, "Son you are not coming to dinner?"

Patrick said, "No."

His father said, "You want food sent up to you?"

Patrick, "No".

His father closed the door back.

Patrick stood and reached for the lamp and lit it.

He stood and looked at Brenda.

He went back to his favorite chair and sat and looked out at the night.

He heard the servants rushing and cleaning up and feeding the horses and going to their lodges for the night.

He walked back over to his bed and sat.

He realized he slept in his boots.

He pulled off his boots and socks.

He was about to slipped off his pants and Brenda flipped on her back.

She was still mumbling and Patrick looked at her.

He pulled his pants back up and ran to his father.

His father sent for the doctor.

The doctor came two hours later.

Patrick was sitting in the parlor with no shirt.

His father and mother walked the doctor to Patrick's and Brenda's bedroom.

The doctor examined an unconscious Brenda.

The doctor said, "She's mumbling something. She's almost in shock. How long has she been like this?"

Patrick's mother and father looked at each other.

The doctor said, "She better not been like this for twenty four hours."

Patrick's parents did not answer.

The doctor jumped off the bed and yelled, "Get out!!"

Patrick's parents ran out of the bedroom.

Patrick saw his parents running downstairs.

The doctor brought Brenda to and gave her some water

He said, "Your secret is safe with me. I need you to rest and carry this baby the full term."

Brenda drank some water and fell back on the pillow.

The doctor grabbed the glass and to keep the water from spilling.

He turned to put the glass on the tray and saw Patrick.

Patrick ran upstairs and eased in the bedroom and closed the door.

Patrick said, "What secret is that doctor?"

Doctor said, "Patrick you know I never tell."

Patrick nodded his head towards Brenda.

The doctor said, "Brenda your wife is pregnant. My guess is a little over two months. She is exhausted and mentally need peace and quiet."

Patrick smirked when the doctor said she was exhausted.

The next day Brenda woke.

She and Patrick spent the next two days in their room talking.

Patrick said, "If the baby is mine I will not divorce you Brenda maybe put her away."

Brenda said, "If."

Patrick said, "I don't trust you anymore. You have destroyed trust in my heart for you."

She and Patrick fought and argued for seven months.

Eleanor was born whole and healthy.

The doctor delivered Eleanor and handed her to her mother.

The servants cried when they heard the crying baby.

They cheered.

Some of the workers had quit.

Patrick and Brenda cussing and arguing and constant fighting made all the servants nervous.

Some of the servants could not do their work because Patrick and Brenda would get mad with the other and knock over the workers pails.

Sometimes they would throw the fresh eggs at each other the workers just got from the hen house.

They would be so mad with each other, they would out the cows, goats or chickens.

One day Patrick's father and mother were ducking and peeping out the windows with some of the house workers.

Patrick's father said, "Enough."

He walked outside and yelled, "Patrick!"

Patrick and Brenda were in each other's face yelling.

They finally turned their heads and saw their father, mother and most of the servants (who were not riding away because they had quit) standing outside looking at them.

Patrick said to Brenda, "Come on."

Brenda said, "That's your daddy and mamma."

Patrick reached and grabbed Brenda's hand and she fell backwards.

Patrick's mother reached for her husband's arm, out of fear the baby was hurt.

Patrick's father was so angry.

Patrick pulled Brenda on the ground until they reached the house with his father and mother.

Patrick turned Brenda loose.

Brenda was so shocked at Patrick she grabbed his leg and bit him, until he pushed her back.

He looked at her lying on the ground with dirt all in her hair and over her face and dirty and ripped clothes.

All the servants were shocked at Patrick, but not Bertha Mae.

She saw an evil side of Patrick she never told anyone about.

She knew Patrick would kill her.

Brenda finally sit on the ground, spitting dirt out of her mouth.

Patrick's father said, "Patrick pick up your wife off the ground."

Patrick turned to Brenda and said, "Get up."

Brenda looked at Patrick.

Then Patrick feel to his knees and covered his head.

His daddy was hitting him with a bull whip.

Patrick jumped up and ran.

Brenda was afraid as she watched a screaming Patrick.

She turned and slowly looked at Patrick's father with the bullwhip in his hand.

He walked to Brenda and she covered her head.

He reached one hand to her and had the bullwhip in the other hand.

Patrick's father said, "Child I am not going to hit you. Give me your hand."

Brenda was hesitant and reached her hand to Patrick's father.

He pulled her up from the ground.

He called, "Patrick".

Patrick stood five feet away from his father.

His father said, "I have had enough from you and Brenda."

Brenda was cutting her eyes at Patrick's father.

He said, "You and Brenda have embarrassed me and your mother. Now your other brothers disrespect me and your mother and our house by thinking it is alright to fight their wives. You either stop at this moment or move out of our home and never return. Give me your answer now."

Patrick looked at his father and then his mother and said, "I'm sorry. I won't fight in front of you again and disrespect your house."

Patrick's father hit him again with the bullwhip.

Brenda tried to run.

Patrick screamed.

His father said, "You know what I mean."

Patrick looked at Brenda who was still trying to run to the carriage and leave.

Patrick's mother was watching Brenda.

His father said, "You go and get your wife and bring her back to me and your mother now."

Patrick was angry and went and grabbed Brenda's arm .

Brenda fell on the ground to keep from going.

Patrick said, "You are getting up, because my father will not hit me again because of you."

Patrick picked up Brenda and carried her to his mother and father.

Patrick's father saw his son Ethan smirking.

He hit him with the bullwhip twice.

The servants scattered.

Ethan said, "Why me?"

Patrick's father said, "You are a racist and beat your wife. It stops now. You leave now."

Patrick heard his father called Ethan a racist.

Patrick knew Ethan must have said or done something against Brenda.

Ethan walked into the house.

Patrick's father was in a foul mood.

He turned and looked at Patrick and Brenda.

Patrick dropped Brenda to the ground so she could stand.

Brenda was nervous and ducking from Patrick's father.

Patrick's father said, "You two have embarrassed me and wife before this whole town and in front of our servants. You two apologize to each of these servants and you two go and get all of my servants back. Then Patrick you will go to the coal mine and stay there until after your baby is born."

Patrick held his head down.

He took Brenda's hand and they walked to each servant and apologized.

They got in a buggy and went to each servant that quit because of them and apologize and asked if they would come back to work.

Some of the workers had other jobs and said, "No."

They told Patrick and Brenda they accepted their apology.

Patrick and Brenda went back home looking like people playing in the dirt.

His mother and father looked at them.

Patrick said, "We apologized, three said, they had jobs and Tom and hank said they would come back next week.

Patrick's father said, "The weeks pay they missed will come out of your pay."

Patrick said, "Why? They are your workers."

Patrick's father said, "You and Brenda ran them away. And it shows good faith. Go and pack. We leave at daybreak."

Patrick said, "We."

Patrick's father said, "I will be at the coal mine with you."

Patrick got mad all over again.

The servants got Brenda and Patrick's hot baths.

Brenda shampooed her long hair.

And was sitting and brushing her hair and thinking, "MY husband is leaving."

Brenda packed a bag.

And slipped it downstairs by the front door.

Patrick's mother and father heard Patrick's door open and closed.

They got up and opened their bedroom door and peeped down the stairs.

Brenda looked around and pushed the bag back against the wall.

Patrick's father shook his head at Brenda and walked back to his bedroom.

Patrick's mother said, "Look at that. They fight like hell."

Patrick's father said, "Leave them alone."

She turned and walked back in the bedroom and they talked about Brenda and Patrick for some time and went to sleep.

The next morning Brenda overslept.

She turned to touch Patrick and he was not in the bed.

Panic struck Brenda.

She jumped out the bed and wobbled over to the window.

Brenda did not see Patrick's horse nor the supply wagon.

She was sick.

She grabbed her boots and tried to put them on and look at the time.

She was thinking, "How could I oversleep for two hours?"

She ran down the stairs and saw her bag. She grabbed her bag and screamed, "Patrick!"

And opened the front door.

The entire family was seated in the dining watching her.

Patrick heard her running from upstairs and down to the front door.

When Brenda reached the front door and reached down, he saw her bag she had packed and hid.

The butler and the dining room maids shook their heads.

Patrick saw the servants looking at Brenda like she was crazy.

Patrick was drinking his orange juice and said, "What?"

Brenda was startled and jerked around and looked in the dining room into the eyes of Patrick.

Patrick's father was standing behind Patrick to get some more oatmeal.

He shook his head at Brenda.

The butler shook his head.

The maids sighed.

Patrick saw Brenda's face and he saw the way the sunshine beamed on her stomach.

He looked at her stomach and then back to her startled face.

His brothers smirked.

Patrick's father bumped hard into Ryan.

Ryan looked at his father and said, "Why you do that?"

Patrick turned to look at Ryan.

Patrick's father said, "Not one thing."

Patrick stood and walked out to the butler and said, "A little oatmeal, a boiled egg, bacon and orange juice."

The butler put the food on the plate and poured a juice glass of orange juice.

Patrick walked by Ryan and bumped into him and stared him down.

Patrick father saw Patrick and Ryan and he sat next to his wife.

She watched them.

She and their father sat a seat from everyone and whispered.

Patrick walked to Brenda and said, "Let's sit on the stairs."

He fed Brenda.

His father and mother walked out the dining room and saw Patrick feeding Brenda.

His father shook his head.

Patrick's mother said, "Now remember that Patrick in old age."

His father said, "Come on boy let's go. She'll be fine here with your mother."

Patrick kissed Brenda several times.

He walked to door and looked at Brenda's bag and back at the butler and handed him Brenda's plate and orange juice glass.

Brenda and Patrick's mother walked out on the porch and waved at Patrick and his father and the two workers.

The butler put Brenda's plate and glass in the dining room.

He picked up her bag and took it to her room.

Patrick turned in his horse saddle looking back at Brenda.

His father said, "You don't have time for that. You should have done that last night."

Patrick was shocked his father knew what he was thinking.

Patrick received a telegram from the local office for him to come home.

Patrick's father saw when the telegram was given to Patrick.

Patrick said nothing, but ran to his horse and jumped on it.

His father ran out his office and said, to one of the workers.

"Bring me my horse and plenty of water."

He waked back into his office and said, "What did the telegram say."

The worker who gave the telegram to Patrick said, "Sir I did not read it."

Patrick's father said, "Sure you did not."

His father said, "You all know what to do. I don't want any problems when I get back."

The worker brought his horse.

Patrick's father walked out his office with his shotgun and his pistols.

He mounted his horse and rode behind Patrick.

He finally saw Patrick flying through what they call the cut.

His father said, "I know it is about Brenda and the baby otherwise they would have sent the telegram to me. He need to rest that horse tonight."

His father caught Patrick and they rested two hours and gave the horses water and feed.

They got up at daybreak and made it to the house as Brenda was delivering the baby.

Patrick ran upstairs to his bedroom.

The doctor and Bertha Mae looked at him.

Brenda was not doing good so good.

She saw Patrick and new life came into her.

She delivered the baby.

The servants were relieved the baby was finally there.

The baby had brownish hair and green eyes.

Patrick fell in love with Eleanor from his first look upon her.

She looked exactly like his favorite grandmother, his father's mother.

The doctor said, "What is her name?"

Before Brenda could say anything, Patrick said, "Eleanor."

Brenda laid there and watched the love in Patrick's eyes for his baby.

Patrick took Eleanor to his father and mother.

His father held his first grandchild.

His eyes filled with tears of love.

Patrick's mother was grinning.

Patrick's father said, "Patrick have you named her?"

Patrick said, "Eleanor."

His father started crying.

His father loved his mother so much and this was a great tribute to her.

Patrick's father said, "She looks just like Eleanor."

Patrick's mother held her husband on his shoulder and leaned her head on his face and grinned as he cried.

Patrick put his hand on his father's shoulder.

Brenda wobbled to the top of the stairs with the aid of the doctor to see her husband and father-in-law.

She turned and walked back to their bedroom.

Brenda said, "GOD I love my people and I love this man and this baby. Show me how I can continue to help my people be free."

Brenda and Patrick talked in secret.

He agreed if she never go away to free slaves he would take his money and his power to help get laws passed to help free the slaves.

Brenda and Patrick agreed.

That was their birth gift to Eleanor.

The preacher said, Mr. and Mrs. Olsen.

The couple turned and greeted their families and friends.

Jose and the staff quickly set the food.

Olivia and her three boys played music.

One son was on the piano, one son was playing the harp and one son played the flute and she was on the violin.

Genevia and Ben danced while the chairs were being placed at the tables.

Everyone was seated but Genevia and Ben.

Others joined the dance and seated when they were ready.

Dr. Greene saw Debra and watched her.

He saw she was in pain and could hardly carry her baby.

He walked over to she and Barry and said, "Come and sit with us."

Barry said, "We are sitting over there."

Dr. Greene said, "Fine. I will follow you. "

Barry looked at Dr. Greene.

Dr. Greene said, "May I hold this absolutely beautiful baby."

He grabbed the baby from Debra and walked to the table Barry pointed to.

Debra was very nervous.

She was surprised Barry let her out the house.

Brenda was having a good time.

She saw Debra and pointed her out to the governor's wife.

The governor's wife had been an orphaned and sexually abused all of her life until she walked away.

The man who paid her master for sex ran out of the building yell at her.

The master walked out the building and started running behind her.

The people on the street started throwing sticks and stones at him.

He was being hit with the sticks and stones and tried to cover his head.

He was knocked out and fell in the street.

The people picked up sticks and stones and rocks and ran towards the buyer and beat him unconscious.

They set the building on fire and let loose the girls he had bought and prostituted out.

The girls grabbed their babies and ran.

Many ran to the church.

The people tied up the buyers and telegraphed the next town to send the sheriff.

The sheriff and his deputies arrived the next night and hauled the man, the buyers and his wife and children off to jail.

Angelina kept walking for states.

She stood in a downpour of rain and saw a church.

She went into the church and asked for a piece of bread and passed out.

She was unconscious for days.

The church sent for the doctor.

He said, "She is exhausted and malnourished. When she awakes give her milk to drink."

After ten days Angelina begin to wake.

The doctor was asleep in the corner in a chair.

He woke and helped Angelina come back to life.

He has never left her and she has never left him.

He has been a great governor and has extremely improved the orphanages in the state and went after and killed child sexual abuse.

The mob was really mad.

The good people of the state started to shake fear of the mob and stand up and fight the mob.

Now since the war was over, the mob has recruited more men.

So did the governor and he sent a visible force of deputies into communities farthest away and established very good communications for the citizens.

He was ready to leave politics and get back to medicine.

He was intrigued with the three doctors who came all the way to Mrs. Olsen's wedding.

He saw the doctors watching every move of their former patients.

His wife and the other women ran to Genevia to see the new ring.

They all gasped

He and Angelina knew they always had to be careful because of the mob and the contracts to kill both of them. They refused to let fear block them from doing good works for the innocent, poor and weak.

Angelina had been so sexually abused she could not have children. She and the governor decided they would have no children and dedicated their lives to one another.

Angelina worked tirelessly to get the orphanages re-vamped.

She found Brenda and the mayor's wife to be relentless friends with her.

All the women wanted to see Genevia's ring and they all gasped at its unique beauty.

Dr. Greene was walking to the table holding Tim, Debra's baby when people started running behind him.

He saw Dr. Parker jumped from the table and he turned and saw Debra passed out on the ground.

Dr. Greene froze.

Angelina and Brenda ran to Debra.

Dr. Parker had a hard time bringing Debra back.

They looked around for Barry and he could not be found.

Dr. Parker and Dr. Greene left the wedding and rode back in the carriage to the mansion with Debra and her baby Tim.

Brenda said, "I can't leave now. William know what to do."

Dr. Parker said, "Stay and enjoy yourself. We know what to do."

He kissed Brenda's cheek.

The governor's wife turned her cheek.

The governor said, "You better kiss her, if not she will want me to."

Dr. Parker kissed Angelina on her cheek and immediately turned to Debra and walked her to the carriage.

Danielle ran with the doctors.

Brenda said, "Look at that whore. She's trying to make sure she is back for Jose."

The mayor's wife laughed.

She grabbed one of Brenda's arms and the governor's wife grabbed Brenda's other arm and walked back to Geneva.

Dr. Woodson sat and enjoyed the beautiful gardens he heard much about.

Jose walked to Dr. Woodson and said, "You are enjoying yourself?"

Dr. Woodson said, "Very much so."

Jose said, "I leave in the morning."

Dr. Woodson said, "We will be on the same train."

Jose said, "I can sleep. I have been too busy to catch up with my friends."

Dr. Woodson said, "I saw Danielle leave with Dr. Greene and Dr. Parker."

They heard someone said, "Oh God."

Dr. Woodson and Jose turned and looked it was Martha.

Dr. Woodson said, "I wonder if she is going to be on the train in the morning?"

Jose pointed and said, "Her?"

Dr. Woodson looked at Jose.

Jose said, "You know she is the governor's sister-in-law. Y'all have to get security at the hospital with the rich people coming. Her family owns nearly all the banks in the state. And she drinks heavily."

Dr. Woodson looked at Jose.

Dr. Woodson danced with Mrs. Olsen.

He sat and talked with Mr. Olsen and his admirals.

Brenda kept Dr. Woodson in her view.

Dr. Parker and Dr. Greene walked Debra into the mansion.

Danielle was holding baby Tim.

The carriage driver pulled the carriage around the back.

He prepared the covered wagon to take the doctors to the train station in the morning.

Dr. Greene was surprised no one opened the door.

He opened the door and they walked in the house.

Several maids were playing bridge and smoking.

William was sitting in the parlor with two glasses of liquor on each side of him.

Dr. Parker was shocked.

Danielle said, "Come this way to the guests' rooms."

She looked at the drunk staff and walked to the guests' rooms.

Dr. Parker said, "I don't understand why Debra is not conscious."

Dr. Greene said, "Nice rooms."

Danielle opened a door and they walked Debra into the room and laid her on the bed.

Danielle handed the baby to Dr. Greene and ran.

She sneaked past all the staff and went to her room and got dressed for Jose.

Dr. Greene looked at Dr. Parker and said, "Debra."

Debra opened her eyes.

Dr. Greene looked at Dr. Parker and said, "Why do you fall for that each time?"

Dr. Parker walked over to the dresser and leaned on the dresser.

Dr. Greene put baby Tim on the bed with Debra.

Both doctors stood and looked at Debra.

Debra kissed her baby and sat up on the bed.

She said, "He beats me. I can't live like this anymore."

She kissed baby Tim.

Dr. Parker said, "Debra why did you marry him?"

Debra held her head down and said, "Because I could not marry my first choice. I left the hospital and met Tim on the train coming here and he seemed to be nice. I did not love him, but he treated me ok. I was getting older."

Dr. Greene said, "Debra who was your first choice?"

Debra closed her eyes.

Dr. Parker looked at Debra.

He walked out the room and closed the door.

He tipped upstairs and went to his room and packed.

He did not want to disturb Brenda's servant.

He thought, "Brenda is going to disturb them enough when she catches them."

He kneeled down at the bed and prayed.

He laid in his bed and read his bible.

He heard a lot of running he knew Patrick and Brenda must be returning to the house.

He thought about he and his wife weren't doing great.

He was not interested in money, but he liked what he saw this pass week.

He and his wife were renting an apartment.

Dr. Ralph bought an old house for nothing

It was not far from the hospital.

He could walk to the hospital if he had to.

But he has been working on the house for months.

Dr. Greene bought Mr. Olsen's place.

He had not started working on it yet.

Dr. Parker thought, "That's a mess. Debra could not have Dr. Greene, because he was married. She leaves and meet a perfect stranger on the train and marry him and get pregnant and he beats her. I really want to know what is going to happen there."

Dr. Parker heard Patrick and Brenda laughing and walking up the stairs.

He opened his door and said, "Good night."

Patrick and Brenda turned and said, "Good night."

Brenda said, "Breakfast at eight am."

Dr. Parker said, "Right."

He went back in his room and dressed for bed.

Jose came back before Patrick and Brenda.

He sneaked in the house and packed and put his bags out in the wagon that was going to the train station the next morning.

He spent the whole night with Danielle.

Later that night, there was a knock on Jose's door.

Jose got up and dressed.

He went to the stables and played cards and gamble and drink until daybreak.

He runs back to Daniel and takes a bath and runs and get into the wagon going to the train station.

One of the gamblers went in the house and collected the bags from the three doctors.

Everyone was heading downstairs to breakfast.

Patrick and Dr. Parker were walking down the stairs and talking.

Brenda ran to Dr. Woodson's room.

Brenda cornered Dr. Woodson and said, "We don't have much time what is your story."

Dr. Woodson knew exactly what Brenda meant.

Dr. Woodson said, "My mother and sister were beaten by their husbands. I left when I was fifteen and hated them and vowed never to return. I purposefully found a rich unattractive girl and dated her all through college so she could pay for my education. I treated her like my father and brother-in-law treated my mother and sister. Not beating her of course. But messing with her mind and heart. Everyday I repent of the hurt I inflicted upon that lovely soul. I pray she is not dead, lost her mind, or married or not married. I want to continue my work at the hospital but I want to pay her every penny back and then some."

Brenda looked at Dr. Woodson and opened the door and walked out his bedroom.

He followed her downstairs to breakfast.

Brenda said, "I did not see Dr. Greene."

Dr. Greene spent the night in the guest room with Debra.

Brenda said, "There you two are."

Dr. Woodson looked as he walked the stairs.

He thought, "Look at this mess."

Debra was holding her baby.

A knock on the door and William went to the door and Barry rushed in the door and said, "I am looking for Debra and Tim."

Everyone stopped and looked at Barry.

Patrick and Dr. Parker walked out the dining room and stood and watched Barry.

Dr. Parker walked back into the family dining and asked for an omelet and orange juice.

Patrick turned around and said, "That's sound good. Me too and of course black coffee."

Brenda did not know what to say.

She looked at Debra and Dr. Greene and said, "Everyone into the dining room for breakfast."

Barry said, "I'm in a rush."

Brenda said, "A rush. For what. Today is Saturday. You were not in a rush yesterday nor last night not even first thing this morning."

Brenda stood and stared at Barry.

There was a knock on the door.

William opened the door.

Brenda said, "Welcome judge."

Barry jumped.

Judge and his wife looked around and said, "Is everything alright?"

Brenda said, "Judge I believe Barry here and Debra need to be talked to by you. But first breakfast."

Brenda said, "Barry, in the dining room."

Debra was very scared.

Patrick said, "Judge come on in you two and have breakfast."

The judge said, "What are you having?"

His wife said, "Oh that omelet look great, so does that corn beef hash and grits."

The judge said, "I know what I want and my decision is final."

He looked at Barry.

Barry turned and walked out the house.

The judge's wife said, "Is that tobacco ash?"

William said, "Bitch."

Brenda said, "William."

William walked in the dining room and bowed.

Brenda said, "Clean whatever that is that Nanette see."

Dr. Greene and Dr. Woodson walked into the dining room.

They ate breakfast.

The wagon was driven around front with the baggage and Jose sat in the front seat next to the driver.

The carriage was brought around for the doctors to ride to the train station.

The doctors exited the house.

Dr. Greene looked at Debra.

Dr. Parker and Dr. Woodson looked at Dr. Greene.

Brenda said, "Dr. Parker decide when you want your first intern and let us know. We will take care of everything else."

Dr. Greene run back up the stairs and said, "Thank you for your truly gracious hospitality."

Patrick said, "What is it?"

Dr. Greene said, "Why have you not been to see Shirley?"

Patrick said, "Guilt. Our guilt of not making the right decisions about Shirley and her life. Especially now you said she could have walked if we did not have her legs broken. How can we face her? It's hard just like your decision of whether it is Debra and her son or your wife."

Dr. Greene said, "I have made up my mind. Debra knows my decision. Again thank you."

Brenda said, "You are truly welcome."

The doctors go into the carriage and left with some servants standing outside waving at the doctors.

The judge sat and listened to Debra.

He said, "You go and get what you want out of your apartment and leave him. I will send a sheriff with you today."

Debra sat lifeless.

The judge said, "Who can stay with?" Where can you stay?"

Brenda said, "Mr. and Mrs. Olsen said she and the baby can stay with them until she gets her life together."

Brenda looked at Debra and said, "Yes they saw your situation even at their wedding."

Later that day the sheriff came to the mansion and escorted Debra to her apartment and she rushed in and got her stuff and the wagon Patrick and Brenda and the two workers hurried and put her and baby Tim's stuff in the wagon.

The sheriff handed Barry with the order from the judge.

Barry signed it and stepped aside for Debra to get her stuff.

Debra could hardly move from her injuries.

The wagon went to the Olsen's.

They were seated outside.

They saw the wagon pulled up in their yard.

They stood and welcomed their guests.

Debra was directed to lay down.

She bathed baby Tim and feed him and the two sleep until the next morning.

The doctors and Jose boarded the train.

They watched the people and the scenery.

They all had very nice first class accommodations.

They all sleep throughout the night.

Brenda sat at her desk in her study and wrote notes for her projects.

She wrote Dr. Woodson's name at the top of the list.

Martha was on the train with her husband.

She was miserable with much pain.

The doctors did not see her until they were all dismounting the train.

Martha's husband was ready to get rid of her and tried to get her to go with the doctors.

The doctors told the couple to go to the hospital because they were going home and be at the hospital the next morning at nine am.

Brenda sent Shirley a telegram to raise the doctor's salary by a dollar a week and the nurses by fifty cents and the rest of the workers by twenty five cents.

Shirley told Michael what Brenda said about the workers salaries.

Michael said, "Whose money is she using?"

Shirley laughed and said, "She and granddaddy are sending their money. They want to help the doctors get homes. They are sending my nurse Debra back to the hospital administrator."

Michael was laying on Shirley's bed and sucking his lollipop he said, "Good. I was tired of going down there to sit and suck my lollipop."

Shirley burst out in laughter.

Lorraine and Dr. Ralph walked in.

Lorraine said, "Come on Michael. Good night Shirley."

Dr. Ralph walked and got the books from Shirley and put them on the small table Bruce brought into Shirley's room.

Shirley began to straighten herself out and laid in her bed.

Dr. Ralph stood and Shirley do as much as she could on her own.

Shirley said, "Good night."

They said, "Good night."

Meredith took the lollipop from Michael.

Michael looked at Lorraine and then at Dr. Ralph.

Michael could not believe she took his lollipop.

Michael said, "Meredith who told you to take my sucker?"

Meredith said, "Eleanor."

Michael said, "What else did Eleanor say?"

Meredith said, "If you are talking about the lamb chops? She said, only one for each meal or all vegetables."

Michael stopped walking and starting screaming.

Shirley knew was fussing about his lollipop.

Dr. Greene went to the rented apartment.

He walked and put down his bag.

His wife looked at him.

She said, "Let's sit."

Dr. Greene sat and talked until the daybreak.

She wanted to live in the next state.

She meet someone who had his own business and he was helping her when she left Dr. Greene.

They laid on their sides on the bed.

Dr. Greene's wife said, "She did not want to come back but will go to the judge and sign the papers for a divorce so she can have a better life with the man she met.

Dr. Greene agreed.

His wife sad, she did not want anything and she would go the next day to get all the papers.

Dr. Greene was numbed.

He washed and shaved and went to work.

Dr. Parker and Dr. Woodson looked at Dr. Greene when he arrived at work.

Dr. Parker told Dr. Ralph about Dr. Greene and Debra.

Dr. Greene went to see Mr. Olsen's house after work.

He was surprise at the house.

It was large and spacious.

It had a very large yard and a separate area for the stables.

Dr. Greene unlocked the door and there was a large kitchen and two wash closets and a large parlor with bookshelves made into the walls.

The room had walls of windows that gave a perfect view of the night sky and they could teach baby Tim about the stars.

Dr. Greene was pleased with the downstairs and he walked upstairs.

The two rooms were large and open and had windows where they could see the night sky.

Dr. Greene thought, "Just as a sailor want to see the sky."

Dr. Greene was well pleased with the house.

He stood for a long time until it became dark and he grinned as the night sky was blanketed with the night stars.

Dr. Greene kneeled down in the midst of the floor and bowed his head and prayed.

He said, "God if it is to be, if Debra wants me let her and baby Tim come to me."