The younger doctor waited for the quilts.

The candle woman did not come.

He left the hotel with his belongings (which were more than he previously had).

He met the stable worker and Pat.

Pat elbowed her son.

The younger doctor saw her, but decided to speak because the boy had taken very good care of his horse.

The day was breaking and the streets were filled with workers.

The younger doctor looked at the crowds of people hoping to see the candle lady.

Pat’s son passed the younger doctor and looked up at him and continued to the stable.

Pat wondered who the younger doctor was looking for.

When he did not see the candle woman he turned and walked to the stable.

The stable worker lit the lamps and went and got water and oats for the horses.

The younger doctor walked to his horse and greeted him.

The worker looked at the younger doctor and gave his horse the first water and oats since they would be leaving first.

The worker kept looking at the younger doctor and the younger doctor turned and looked at the worker.

The worker said, “My mom told me you’re a physician.”

The younger doctor looked at the worker and continued to greet his horse said, “Who is your mom?”

The boy said, “Pat.”

The younger doctor stopped rubbing his horse and looked at the boy.

The boy said, “You don’t like my mom?”

The younger doctor looked at the boy’s eyes and knew the child loved his mother.

The younger doctor said,”I didn’t know she had a child.”

He looked away back to his horse to come up with a response, he said, “No I do not hate your mother.”

He that was the truth and he looked at the boy who was studying the younger doctor face to see if he was lying.

The younger doctor figured the boy was trying to tell if he was lying.

He said to the boy, “What’s your name?”

The boy looked at him and continued to work on his horse and did not look at the younger doctor said,”Zach. Zachery.”

The younger doctor thought for the boy to ask him if he was a doctor he wanted to be one, he said,”I am a surgeon. I cut…”

Zachery said, “I know what a surgeon is.”

The younger doctor was intrigued and said, “How do know?”

Zachery said, “Because that’s what I want to do.”

The younger doctor thought, “Improve your grammar.”

The younger doctor took his pen and note paper out of his breast pocket.

Zachery looked at him and walked away to the next horse.

The younger doctor went and sat on a bale of hay next to the shop’s instruments.

He drafted a letter of introduction to Dr. Obersteen for Zachery and signed and dated the letter.

He walked over to Zachery and reached him the paper.

Zachery had a pail in one hand and reached for the paper and said, “What’s this?”

The younger doctor said, “Read it.”

Pat ran into the stable and holding her chest because she was out of breath.

The younger doctor turned to see who was running into the stable and saw Pat.

Zachery read the note and looked at the younger doctor and then his mother.

He ran to his mother and said, “Mom are you ok?”

Pat waved yes to her son and pushed him towards the door.

Pat said, “Tell them he is in here.”

Zachery went to the door and looked out and said, “He’s here.”

The younger doctor looked at Pat and then Zachery.

He questioned Zachery, “Who …?

The candle woman ran into the stable with a couple of quilts.

She was out of breath.

She leaned against the wall.

Then her entire family ran into the stable with the quilts.

She looked at the younger doctor and said in between breaths,”Sorry I am late.”

The younger doctor felt a smile from his heart come up and across his face.

The candle woman said, “I told you were…”

The younger doctor walked over to the family and passing Zachery, he said, “Zach get them some water.”

Zach ran and got cup and dipped it not the pail of water and gave them to drank.

The younger doctor watched Zachery and thought, “Not from the horses’ water pail.”

He smiled.

The candle woman waved her hand and said, “This my family.”

Pat looked at her son and he waved the note from the younger doctor.

Pat had a slight frown on her face that she didn’t understand.

Zachery walked to his mother and gave her the letter.

The younger doctor watched them and saw a look of disbelief on Pat’s face.

Pat looked at her son and touched his face in adoration.

Then she looked at the younger doctor and said .”Thank You.”

Zachery said, “Thank you,” to the younger doctor.

The younger doctor looked at the family and said, “Thank you all, but how am I going to get these to the supply wagons.”

He looked around the stable.

Everyone looked around the stable.

The younger doctor said, “Stay here and I’ll go to the hired wagons and bring one back.”

The younger doctor got on hos horse and rode the mile to the merchants and within an hour one of the supply wagons drove up to the stable.

The family loaded the twenty five quilts onto the wagon.

The younger doctor said, “No.”

He took three quilts off the supply wagon.

He took out his pencil and note pad and wrote Dr. Obersteen at city hospital.

The candle woman’s teenage son was watching the younger doctor’s every move, because he wanted to be a surgeon also.

While the younger doctor was gone, Zachery told them he was a surgeon.

Pat told them the story of the slim rowdy woman and that the younger doctor does not know.

Pat told them the younger doctor loved a common woman who bakes and makes preserves.

The grandmother smiled and looked at her fifteen year old granddaughter who wanted to be a lady.

The younger doctor asked the candle woman could she deliver the quilts to dr. Obersteen at city hospital. She said yes. He gave her a large tip. She was so surprised and waved the tip for the family to see.

The younger doctor noticed Zachery and the other teenager looking at him and he stopped.

Zachery elbowed the other boy and they walked to the younger doctor.

Zachery saw the younger doctor believed in introductions and he introduced Samuel and said he wanted to be a surgeon also.

The younger doctor said, “Samuel you want a letter of introduction to Dr. Obersteen?”

Samuel shook his head for yes and elbowed a grinning Zachery.

His family was grinning and happy.

The younger doctor said, “No.”

Everyone stopped grinning and the hurt came on their faces.

The younger doctor looked at Samuel and said, “Samuel you must verbally answer at all times. If you are in surgery and need an instrument and your assistant ask which one you cannot nod but verbally give direction. Do you understand?”

Samuel shook his head for yes.

The younger doctor sighed.

Everyone looked at Samuel and then he said, “Yes sir.”The younger doctor took out his pencil and paper and looked at Samuel and said, “Samuel what is your last name?”

Samuel said, “Wilson.”

The younger doctor finished his letter of introduction and gave it to a beaming Samuel.

Samuel’s sister walked to the younger doctor and bowed her head with her hands cradle inside each other and greeted the doctor.

The hired wagon drivers yelled, “We got to go!”

The younger doctor walked outside the stable and looked around and said, “You can go on. I’ll catch you later. I don’t think I will buy any additional supplies.”

The hired wagon pulled off.

The younger doctor walked back in the stable and looked at the teenage girl and said, “I don’t do letters of introduction for young ladies. What are you asking?”

The girl said, “I don’t want to be a doctor but an opera singer and dancer.”

The younger doctor burst out with laughter.

Everyone looked at him.

He pulled out his pencil and paper and began to write a note.

He handed the note to the girl and she read it and waved to her family.

Her family said “Dr.Obersteen.”

The younger doctor gave the Zachery a very nice tip.

Zachery smiled.

The younger doctor left.

The stable was full, but they left out as he rode down the street.

Pat said to Zachery, “Zach I prayed for you to get some help, but I never thought it would be from him.”

Samuel’s mother shook her head and then quickly said, “You never know who God got to help you.”

Everyone laughed and agreed.

Zachery said, “Mom, don’t you think we need a few quilts and underwear?”

The candle woman said, “You come to the right place.”

Pat said, “The Nat told us the winter is to be very very bad and most people will not survive.”

The grandmother said, “Oh my God. I have been dreaming of a bad winter.”

Zachery asked the candle woman what a quilt cost and she said twenty five dollars.

Zachery handed her the fifty dollar tip for two quilts. One for him and one for his mother.

Everyone was quiet.

Pat said, “Zach I have stored enough money for us some underwear and socks.”

The teenage girl said, “I make socks. You can buy them from me. I am cheaper than the market. But I think we should hurry because no body knows about the bad weather coming and they will want socks and gloves.”

Her mother said, “Well said April. Let’s get started. But first our friend Dr. Obersteen.”

Everyone laughed.

Zachery, Samuel and April shook hands.

April waved at Pat.

Dr, Obersteen was working when he received a note he had guests in the lobby.

He thought it was the younger doctor who changed his mind to stay in the city.

Dr. Obersteen ran down stairs and went into the lobby area and looked for the younger doctor and did not see him.

He ran out into the hall way and still did not see him.

Dr. Obersteen was perplexed, he stood with one hand on his hip and thumping his bottom lip with his hand.

He looked very distinguished with his white doctor’s coat and his pen and pad in the pocket.

Samuel stood up and walked to him.

He said, “Dr.Obersteen.”

Dr.Obersteen still thumping his lip did not looking at the person said, “Yes”.

Samuel walked in front of him to get his attention.

His mother and sister stood.

His mother holding the quilts with a bow on them she made.

Dr. Obersteen looked at the boy then the two females.

Samuel remembered the younger doctor’s manner and said, “I’m Samuel Wilson. This is my mother and sister April.”

April bowed.

His mother smiled.

Samuel reached Dr. Obersteen the letter from the younger doctor.

Dr. Obersteen said, “So he decided to go back.”

He smirked and shook his head.

He sat in a chair in front of a window and crossed his legs.

He studied the youth before him.

April ran to Dr. Obersteen and reached her letter to him and smiled at her brother who rolled his eyes at her.

Dr. Obersteen laughed.

April looked at him and ran to her mother.

Dr, Obesteen said, “Young lady. April?”

April shook her head as her head was on her mother’s chest.

Dr. Obersteen looked at the quilts and leaned forward and said. “are those for me?”

The mother shoved them to him.

Dr. Obersteen took the quilts and said, “Young lady I have the right to laugh and not share the reason. But I will share the reason so you will know I might no disrespect. I have a female friend who is an opera singer. That’s why he wrote a note to see if we can help you. I’ll be in touch. Give me your contact information.”

He handed April his pen and note pad.

Dr. Obersteen looked at the quilts and felt the heaviness.

Samuel said, “Dr. Obersteen?”

D. Obersteen still examining the quality and workmanship of the quilts looked at Samuel and said “I will contact you. Leave your information.”

He looked at the mother and said, “Who made these quilts?”

She said, “My mother.”

Dr. Obersteen said, “Is she still alive?”

The candle woman said, “Of course sir.”

Dr. Obersteen said, “I want twelve in two weeks. Can she do it?”

The candle woman said mumble thinking in her head, “I can guarantee four.”

Dr.Obersteen “You want me to help your boy.”

The mother looked and said you count your three and the two new ones five, what about seven?”

Dr. Obersteen stood up and said “No.”

A nurse came running to Dr. Obersteen and whispered in his ears.

Dr. Obersteen said, “I will be right there. He may require surgery alert the surgeons.”

Samuel smiled.

Dr. Obersteen saw Samuel.

Samuel’s mother saw him.

April begin to smile again.

Dr.Obersteen turned and ran up the stairs with the quilts.

The candle woman said, “He did not say where to deliver the quilts?”

Dr.Obersteen opened the door to the floor and said ”Here.”

She and her children said that’s spookey and walked fast out the hospital and ran home and told the mother of the order for the twelve quilts.

The grandmother said, “I can’t do twelve quits in two weeks.

Samuel pounding on the table said, “You have to for him to help me.”

The candle woman said, “Mother he is right.”

The grandmother looked at the two new quilts she did for her grandchildren.

The grandchildren looked at the quilts and April went and gave her quilt to the grandmother and Samuel swallowed hard and went and gave his quilt to the grandmother.

The grandmother said, “We maybe able to do this. You kids have to help. You have to skip school for two weeks.”

April and Samuel held their heads down, because they loved school and being with their friends.

Their mother looked and said, “Skip today and lets get all the supplies Grann needs. I wont go to the candle stand until next week.

The kids were happy.

The grandmother said, “This means something. God is opening a door of blessing and we must show Him we appreciate it.”

April said, “Let’s pray.”

They held hands and bowed their heads.

No one said anything.

The mother said, “April you ask for prayer so you pray.”

April said, “God, we have more money now than we ever had. Let us go to school and let Dr. Obersteen help us. And please help us to make twelve quilts. In JESUS’ name. Amen.”

Samuel said, “Amen.”

Dr. Obersteen was pouring through the city hospital codes and regulation.

He began to take notes.

He ran to the city hospital administrator’s office and asked for an appointment.

Just as he thought his secretary said would be in two weeks.

He accepted the appointment and left the office.

He went home and spread one of the quilts on his bed.

The others were placed on the sofa.

He walked to his dresser and opened the drawer.

Staring he picked up the Holy Bible.

Dr. Obersteen sat in his chair and read the Bible.

He looked out over the city’s lights and dressed for bed.

Dr. Obersteen’s mind was all over the place.

He was thinking if his younger doctor friend made it to the first town for shelter; whether he had all the supplies and how can they make it living unsheltered.

How he was going to help those children.

He thought about the woman and if she could deliver the twelve quilts for the board’s twelve people because they weren’t getting his quilts.

He was thinking supposed the attendant is right and the winter is going to be very very bad what kind of illness and sickness will they encounter and would they have the supply of medicine on hand.

And there is the problem of food and keeping the patients warm.

He said all of these are problems only God can solve.

Then he thought about Thelma coming there and he shook all over and threw the quilt over his head and went to sleep.

The Wilson’s home was a miniature factory.

Each of their beds had part of the quilts from the batting to the pieces to be stitched and the backing.

The adults sat at the family table and each stitched the pieces together for a quilt.

The outing and batting were on the kids’ bed in the main room where the family table was.

April sat n her bed and darned thick socks for Zachery and Pat.

Samuel helped his mother by making the candles.

He would use the scrapes and make candles for his family.

The kids would fall asleep and their father would come and take the needles and tools form his children’s hands and put them in bed.

He would sit on their bed’s and kiss April’s cheek and Samuel’s forehead.

He stood and walked to the table and said, “This man better help us because I don’t want my kids to work this hard in life and still be poor.”

His wife said, “Shut up and finish your pieces.”

The mother and the grandfather would be up when day was breaking.

They would cook breakfast and wake everyone to start their day.

They would soak the grandmother’s hand and rubbed them down in alcohol before she began to stitch and at the end of the day.

At the end of the first week they made six and a half quilts.

They were impressed with their own workmanship.

Samuel had completed most of his mother’s candle orders and he shaved off a dozen candles for the family and put them up for the bad winter.

April had competed three pairs of heavy socks for Zachery and three pairs for Pat.

She made a pair of socks for Samuel and her father and slipped them in their beds for a surprise.

Their grandmother and grandfather smiled.

Their mother told April and Samuel to leave early for school and drop off the socks to Zachery and Pat.

Samuel could take no more oatmeal.

His grandparents looked at him when he put his bowl and pushed it away.

His mother touched his head and peeped in his face and said,”We can’t stop now and spend. We have to wait for a while.”

Samuel got up from the table and got his books and walked out the door and waited for April outside.

The kids walked to the hotel in silence and gave Pat her socks and showed her Zachery socks.

Ronald was smiling.

Pat was so well please and tried them on and told Ronald how great they were.

Pat gave April six dollars.

April was well pleased.

She and Samuel were walking out the door when Ronald called her and they turned and he said make me two pairs just like them and bring them back in a week.

April was so excited that she jumped and said, “Yes sir.”

Samuel had a sullen face.

As they walked to school she put a dollar in her brother’s hand.

He looked at the dollar and said, “Why?”

April said, “To get a bite”.

After school she went and spent a dollar on yarn and Samuel bought a large muffin.

April walked to him and tried to bite a piece and he moved it.

She said, “Can I have a bite?

Samuel said “No.”

April was about to cry and he handed her a muffin.

She burst into laughter and they talked all the way home.

Samuel said, “We have a big math test Friday. I don’t want to miss it.”

April said, “How many more quilts are left for them to do?”

Samuel said, “I don’t know?”

April said, “I’ll count when we get home.”

When the kids arrived at home a pot of cabbage soup was on.

Samuel went to his bed and began to study for his math test.

April said Pat paid her for the socks and she got another order.

Her father said, “Why are you’ll late?”

April said. “I went and bought more yarn. See.”

Samuel was sitting on his bed and looked at his father.

Their father said, “How much money do you have left?”

His father said, “Why? That’s the child’s money.”

Her father very stern said, “Give it to me.”

April shook her head for no and then remembered what the younger doctor said and screamed, “No!”

Samuel stood up and said, “April come to me.”

Their father looked at his children.

The mother said, “Robert you got to go.”

Robert said, “Not until she gives me that money.”

Her mother looked at April and said, “Baby, I’ll make it right with you.”

April screamed “No”.

Robert sat at the family table with his legs crossed.

The grandmother said, “Why are you doing this Robert.? Why are you putting my daughter and her children through this?”

Robert said, “Because I hate them. I didn’t want them but she got pregnant.”

He casually said, “I told her to get rid of them, even after they were born and she wouldn’t.”

He turned around and looked back at the crying April.

Samuel said, “Give him the money so he can go.”

April ran to her father and threw the money to him.

He ducked his head and counted and said, “It’s only four dollars.”

His father said, “Robert take the money and good. Now.”

Robert looked at his father and went into his bedroom and kneeled down to get his bag he packed.

His wife said, “Robert your bag is out here.”

He walked out and passed the family table to get his bag and his wife dropped it.

He looked at the bag and at his wife and said, “Pick it up and place it in my hand or I am not going anywhere.”

His wife picked up the bag and put it in his hand.

He looked at her and kissed her on the lips.

Samuel was in shock because it seemed as if his mother was falling for it.

Robert said, “I’ll be back in a few days for my share of the quilt money.”

He looked back at April and Samuel and said, “And the money from the socks.”

Robert went out the door ad closed it. They could hear him laughing going down the street.

His father said, “Lock the door.”

Their mother did not move.

She was mesmerized by his kiss.

Her mother hit her on her leg.

Her daughter said, “Ouched.”

Her mother said, “Lock the door.”

Samuel and April were in shock.

Their mother sat at the family table to stitch.

Her mother was watching the terrified children and said, “Ola.”

Ola still mesmerized by her husband’s kiss said, “What?”

Her mother nodded at her children.

Ola said, “They will be alright.”

Their grandfather turned and looked at the kids.

He got up and walked to them and said “I’m so sorry for this.”

April and Samuel said your just like them because he is your son.

April ran into the parents’ bedroom and got the pair of socks she made for their daddy.

Her mother reaching for the socks said,”Gve me those socks. You made them for your daddy.

April gave the socks to Samuel.

She pulled Samuel’s cover back and his pair of socks were gone.

The mother and grandmother laugh because of how slick Robert was.

Samuel and April sat across from each other and whispered all night.

April was busy knitting hats to sell.

The mother and their grandmother were watching them.

The ids went to sleep and refused to help them finish the quilts.

When Friday morning came, April had knitted ten hats to sell.

She and Samuel did not help with the quilts.

They got dressed and left before their mother woke up from her nap.

The mother, grandmother and grandfather to carried the quits to the city hospital and delivered them to Dr. Obersteen.

Dr. Obersteen paid the twenty five dollars per quilt.

The mother smiled because her husband was coming back to get his portion of the money.

He was very impressed with the quilts.

He went to the board meeting and gave each member a quilt.

He leaned on the table and presented his side of if a terrible winter storm came how would the hospital cope. He told them the governor would be in town and they could impressed him with such a contingency plan that he would be impressed and probably invite some to be on his staff as an advisor.

The board members asked that Dr. Obersteen step out the room.

He stepped out and said, “God, you know what you want.”

The city hospital administrator’s secretary opened the door and gave a quick smile to Dr. Obersteen.

Dr. Obersteen said, “Doctors.”

The city hospital administrator said, “Very good foresight. You draw up the particulars of this plan and give them to us immediately.”

Dr. Obersteen ran and opened the door.

The board members watched him.

Dr.Obersteen picked up a folder he left put outside and walked back to the table and explained the plan for food, he passed it around the table. He explained the plan for coal and fuel. He explained to have very comfortable sleeping quarters for physicians and nurses on duty. He explained they had to be the first in the state to anticipate what illness or sickness would come from the weather and have physicians trained in the area.

The board was very impressed.

The board voted in his presence to establish a seat and have a physician over the development plan.

Dr. Obersteen smiled.

The city hospital administrator said, “Do I have any Nays?”

Dr. Obersteen looked and they said you are it.

He was so shocked and could hardly speak and shook his head for no.

The chief of staff looked at him and said,”Where did you get these quilts? They are excellent.”

Dr. Obersteen, said “Gentlemen I brought this to your attention for what you did to enact it, but doctors please I do not want to be the person to do.”

The board members said, “Too late.”

The chief of staff got up and slapped Dr. Obersteen on the back and walked out with his quilt.

Dr. Oberstten was left alone in the board room.

The younger doctor entered into Betsy’s town at first dark.

He had his eyes on the supply wagons in front of him.

He saw someone leaving the town and going in the direction of the new settlement.

He caught the wagon and it was Joshua’s family and he rode with them to the new settlement.

The other five hired wagons were in the new settlement.

The younger doctor asked for the latest on Betsy.

He watched Joshua sigh and put his hand under his jaw.

They told him of the fight involving the strange man and the sheriff telling them to get out of town.

The younger doctor said, “Whoa. All of this stuff happened.”

The he told of what happened the slim rowdy woman.

They talked until they got to the new settlement.

The younger doctor continued to the cute house.

The attendant was standing on the front porch.

It had began to get cold.

The younger doctor saw the attendant’s horse that the slim rowdy woman rode.

He dismounted his horse and walking up to the house he peeped inside at Betsy, who was talking to Natalie.

The younger doctor stepped on the porch and greeted the attendant and handed him the supply list and the money.

The attendant said, “You did not spend all the money?”

The younger doctor was watching Betsy and caught the end of “...you did not spend all the money?”

And was putting the money in his pocket and looked at the attendant and said,” May I?”

The attendant said, “That’s community property.”

The younger doctor reached the attendant the envelope.

The attendant said, “I’ll go at first light to divide the supplies.”

Harold walked into the yard.

The younger doctor looked at Harold.

Harold looked at the younger doctor and sat on the porch.

The attendant watched both and continued to go through the supply list.

The younger doctor said, “It doesn’t seem that any preparations have been made.”

The attendant looked at Harold who was listening and said,”No.”

The attendant walked in the house followed by the younger doctor.

Betsy turned and saw the younger doctor and ran to him.

Harold stood and walked to the door and saw his wife and love run to another he left and went home.

The slim rowdy woman did not turn around, the younger doctor did not speak to her but peeped around at he little girl.

He saw the knot on Betsy’s forehead and said “How did that happen?”

Betsy wiggled her head for I don’t know.

The attendant said, “She passed out and fell off the porch.”

Betsy rolled her eyes at the attendant.

The attendant looked at her.

The younger doctor said, “And you were in here and couldn’t catch her?”

The attendant said, “Right.”

The younger doctor said, “I got something for you.”

He ran to his horse and looked for Harold and he wasn’t nowhere about.

The younger doctor was getting his packages he placed in his travel bag, and he began to mumble, “He better be gone and that one let my woman fall off the porch. How can that happen? And Ms. Stank pot sitting in there like she never left. Running around telling people I hate her, which is true. I don’t think I hate her anymore. I’m neutral. Let me give her this dress. I wish I knew to spend up all that money.

The attendant was standing on the watching the younger doctor.

The younger doctor didn’t notice him but walked up the steps and nearly walked into him.

He jumped.

The attendant said, “She has been crying since she has been back.”

The younger doctor shrugged his shoulders and walked in the cute house.

The attendant said, “What happened?”

The younger doctor said “She heard me talking to myself when I said I hate her.”

The younger doctor walked in the house and walked into the bedroom and saw the doll at the top of the

Little girl’s bed.

Without looking at the slim rowdy woman he tapped her on the shoulder and handed her a package.

The attendant watched them.

The younger doctor walked to Betsy who was seated on the sofa and he gave her the two dresses.

She was very impressed.

Betsy placed her head on the younger doctor’s shoulder and they talked quietly for along time until they fell asleep.

The attendant watched the slim rowdy woman.

She looked for a place to put the package but could only put it on the floor.

He said, “Open the package.”

She didn’t want to but he was watching.

The slim rowdy woman opened the package, pulled it out the wrap and put it on the floor.

The attendant watched her.

Harold was back at his spot, balled up lying on his ragged blanket crying.

Joshua and Mattie sleep under the wagon and his mother and father sleep by the wheels.

The fat thief laid awake all night.