

Tori Shepherd

Ms.Martell

Creative Writing

The nurse gently pushed Catherine, who sat bright eyed in her wheelchair, into a small living room. A soft pink shawl adorned catherine's frail shoulders as she waited for her grandchildren to come and visit. Catherine looked forward to these visits every week as she was alone in her small house besides the nurse that was payed to stay with her.

Her oldest grandson arrived first. Catherine was embraced in a hug and welcomed with a greeting. An odd smell was in the air but she ignored it, knowing it was not in her place to lecture him about the use of drugs. Instead she asked Jason how his degree in college was going. To her dismay he explained about how in the past week he had quit college and decided to travel across the state in a minivan with other drop outs. Slightly shaking her head Catherine told him about how he should have finished his degree then went cross country traveling. Jason explained when they returned he would finish college, but they would be lucky if he even came home.

Walking into the room Elena and Eva, a set of twins, cut Jason off like a storm silencing a small child. Noticing the appearance of Elena first, Catherine analyzed the slightly too small shorts and low hanging shirt to be the rebellious nature of a girl who is fighting a dress code. Catherine could respect this as she had done the same thing when she was younger. Elena was immediately disengage thinking about god knows which boyfriend, so answers to Catherine's questions were short yes and nos. Catherine was able to conclude that Elena was still in college,

was getting a degree in social science, had a new boyfriend and was moving in with him next week.

Catherine turned her attention to the patiently waiting Eva. Unlike her twin Eva had brought her full attention as these weekly visits with her grandma brightened her face with a smile. Eva was a valedictorian who got a full ride to Cornell University and was studying literature. Catherine asked how Eva's relationship was going and was delighted to hear that her longterm boyfriend had just accepted an internship in a hospital which allowed them to consider getting an apartment together. Pulling a silver necklace out of her bag Eva handed it to her grandmother. The pendant, small and silver, was placed into the shaky hand of Catherine. Eva helped clasp the necklace behind Catherine's neck as the final grandchild arrived.

The blankets squirmed and giggled in Catherine's daughters embrace. Catherine had adopted her daughter who married and had three children, but when the nest was empty she decided to open her home to one more. Adopted just a month earlier Lily was new to these weekly meetings. She had been dropped off on the steps off a firehouse as a newborn and needed a home. Wisps of blonde hair and green eyes accompanied Lily's rosy cheeks as she cuddled into the soft baby blue blankets she was wrapped in. Catherine opened her frail arms to hold Lily in her lap. Generations were spread between them with thousands of memories to be told. Catherine hoped she lived long enough to be able to share these memories with Lily. To tell her of what it was like to live in New York City during the prohibition and the scandalous stories of her secret lover. Oh what a world awaited Lily, thought Catherine, a world full of wonder.